



BLUE & GOLD NEWS

Pennsylvania FFA Happenings



National FFA Week Brings Fundraisers, Fun and Donkeys

Donkey basketball is a slam dunk activity for one FFA chapter. During National FFA Week each year, the Wilmington Area FFA Chapter works to implement unique activities and fundraisers. But one event always makes the roster — Donkey Basketball.

The 20-year-old tradition unites students, faculty and donkeys in a spirited game of hoops.

Through a contract with an Ohio-based company, Wilmington Area FFA brings in donkeys adorned in rubber shoes. Then, seniors pick a staff member to compete against.

But the players' commitment runs longer than a single game. Throughout the whole week, faculty members and seniors raise money by participating in all kinds of interactive competitions and some pranks. Whoever has the most money in their jar by the end of the week receives a pie to the face.

Throughout 2024's National FFA Week, Wilmington Area FFA raised money for a local pantry project. They were able to donate \$1,335.



Donkey basketball is a 20-year tradition for Wilmington Area FFA.

Donkey basketball participants watch as a player shoots.



Facilitating Volunteerism to Support FFA

The Pennsylvania FFA Foundation cultivates partnerships and secures resources to enhance agricultural education across the state.

Foundation members work to gather funds to support activities, such as conferences, conventions, competitive events, grants and hands-on learning experiences for FFA members.

In addition to aiding chapters with financial resources, the Foundation also provides opportunities for members to enhance their soft skills, communication skills and self-confidence by creating volunteer opportunities for students.

Their biggest fundraiser is a concession food booth at the Pennsylvania Farm Show. The Foundation staffs the booth through a unique program — Scholar Dollars.

Through the program, students, educators, parents, alumni and supporters can sign up to earn \$10 per hour for their chapter. Volunteer work at the booth includes operating the cash registers, interacting with customers, preparing food items and cleaning as needed.



Red Lion FFA members volunteer at the Pennsylvania FFA Foundation's 2024 concession booth at the Pennsylvania Farm Show.

Funds earned by volunteering at a concessions event can be used toward attendance at conferences or conventions, purchasing educational equipment, completing a community service event, or something else.

At the 2024 Pennsylvania Farm Show, 24 chapters from across the

state participated in the Scholar Dollars program.

For chapters that are interested in signing up for future events, reach out to the Foundation's executive director Sarah Sparks at ssparks@paffafoundation.org.



Members of the Blackhawk FFA Chapter take a break from volunteering through the Scholar Dollars program at the 2024 Pennsylvania Farm Show.

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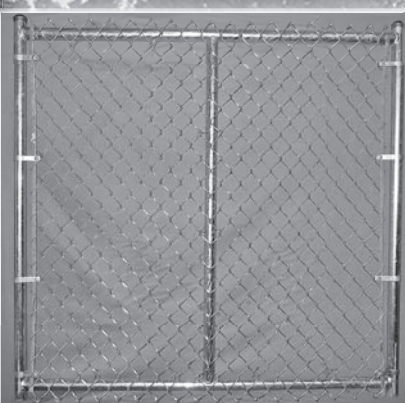
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