

Bucolic briefs

The election of pork producer delegate candidates for the 2022 National Pork Producers (Pork Act) Delegate Body will take place at 1 p.m., Aug. 4, in conjunction with a Board of Directors meeting of the N.C. Pork Council at the N.C. State University Club in the Lutz Ballroom, 4200 Hillsborough St., Raleigh, NC 27606. The meeting is open to all North Carolina pork producers.

Any producer, age 18 or older, who is a resident of North Carolina and has paid all assessments due since August 2020 may be considered as a delegate candidate and/or participate in the election. Eligible producers are encouraged to have a sales receipt proving that hogs were sold in their name and the checkoff deducted. For more information, contact the N.C. Pork Council, 1401 Sunday Drive, Suite 116, Raleigh, NC 27607, telephone 919-781-0361 or amy@ncpork.org.

The Fall Equestrian Exchange Tack Consignment Sale will be held Sept 2-6 at the Holshouser Building, State Fairgrounds, 1025 Blue Ridge Road Raleigh. Buy and consign anything related to the equestrian sport, including saddles, tack, driving equipment, show clothing for all disciplines of riding, barn supplies and carts. Sell horse trailers for representation fee only. Consignors drop off priced, tagged items Aug. 31 from 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. and Sept. 1 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. A special premier shopping night open to public will be held Sept. 2 from 5-10 p.m. for \$10 cash only admission (12 under free). Open shopping with free admission is Sept 3-5 from 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. and Sept. 6 from 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. Some items are discounted the final day. Consignors pick up unsold items Sept. 8 from 1:30- 9:30 p.m. or they are donated. Information online about donation efforts. Consignors earn 70 percent. Volunteers shop before consignors, consignors' shop before public. Cash, credit cards with fee/per card transaction accepted. Government regulations for COVID followed for everyone's safety. DROP and GO, no-wait consigning, available, see web site. For more, go to www.EquestrianExchange.com or contact Lynn Beeson 336-362-6248 Tanya Wright 540-977-1950.

The N.C. Simmental Association Fall Harvest Sale featuring bulls, bred cows, bred and open heifers and embryos will be held Sept. 4, at noon at the Shuffler Farms sales facility at 444 Union Grove Rd., Union Grove. For more information, call 336-468-1679 or email ncsa@yadtel.net for a sale catalog.

The Town of Red Oak and the Red Oak Area Historic Preservation Society will host the Red Oak Classis Tractor and Car Show Sept. 10-12. Hours are 5-8 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. Sunday. The event features antique tractors, hit-and-miss engines, classic cars, chainsaw carver, vendors, live music, food trucks and balloon rides. Cost is \$5 per day or \$8 for a three-day pass. For more information, contact Tracy Shearin, 252-443-1239.

As a way to help farmers and agricultural workers stay safe at work, the N.C. Department of Labor offers safety videos on a variety of topics through its YouTube channel. Video topics include: preventing green tobacco sickness, hazard communication, tobacco harvester safety, heat stress, migrant housing requirements, forklift safety, and information about the NCDOL's Gold Star Growers program. The videos are in English and Spanish to increase understanding of safety hazards and preventing accidents. To learn more about the NCDOL and the Agricultural Safety and Health Bureau, go to www.nclabor.com or call 1-800-NC-LABOR (800-625-2267). NCDOL is also on Facebook and Twitter (@NCDOL).

Beekeepers with bees for rent and growers interested in bee pollination services can post their information on the BeeLinked website at www.ncagr.com/beelinked. The site is hosted by the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the N.C. State University Apiculture Program. Anyone interested in listing their information can do so by filling out an online Submit Your Ad form on the BeeLinked page or by contacting NCDA&CS at 919-233-8214 or by email at

NCHoneybee@ncagr.gov or call NCSU at 919-515-1660. The NCDA&CS Plant Industry Division regulates the movement of agricultural or related items capable of spreading harmful insects, diseases, and other pests. Beekeepers participating in this program will be required to comply with all honey and bee industry regulations.

The N.C. Ag Finance Authority provides credit to agriculture in areas where financing is not available at reasonable rates and terms. The agency originates, services and finances farm loans, rural business loans, disaster loans and cotton gin loans. It also offers tax-exempt ag development bonds for agribusiness processing, ag-related manufacturing or ag waste disposal. For more about Ag Finance Authority programs or to request a loan application, call 919-790-3949 or email at RequestLoanInfo@ncagr.gov.
