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**NEWS RELEASE**  
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### **West Virginia Department of Agriculture to Host Beef for Fathers' Day Event**

**Charleston, W.Va.** – The West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) announced it will be hosting the annual Beef for Fathers' Day Event Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Capitol Market in Charleston. The event will showcase the best of what the beef industry in West Virginia has to offer.

"Beef is our second largest agricultural industry behind poultry. Our cattle farmers bring in millions of dollars every year to the Mountain State," stated Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt. "In lieu of flat land, West Virginia has always thrived in raising livestock."

The agenda includes comments from local elected officials, the West Virginia Beef Council and the West Virginia Beef Queen. West Virginia is the 38<sup>th</sup> largest beef producing state in the nation, grossing \$217,411,000 in 2016.

"Those who attend will be able to sample some of the best beef grown in the United States. It will be a great event, and we hope to see everyone out. Plus, what father does not love a big, juicy steak on their special day," continued Commissioner Leonhardt.

This event is free and open to the public.

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