

Johnsonville Farm & Garden

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heathy lifestyle in the community.

It is further noted that all work done was provided solely by local contractors primarily Vanderpool Masonry (Leon Vanderpool) and Comunale Construction (Frank Comunale, Jr. and his son Frank Comunale III).

On April 14, 2025, the Johnsonville Farm & Garden will celebrate its 10th year in business and the 100th anniversary of the historical structure still in use today. Aline Haddad extends her thanks to all the local contractors, farmers, community members, Upper Mount Bethel Township, the Bangor Area School District and all its patrons for their continued support.

Johnsonville Farm & Garden, Inc. thanks the Slate Belt Heritage Center, Bangor, PA for its recognition of our restoration of The Johnsonville Farm & Garden building for the 2023 Architectural Preservation Award.

The Cooperative Grange League Federation Exchange, or GLF, was a unique institution of American business enterprise when it was formed in 1920. It had a distinguished ancestry since one of its lines of decent lay in the post Civil War movement of farmers who were known as the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry – or simply the Grange. The GLF founders actually built an edifice of farmer cooperative business adequate to serve the needs of agriculture for decades.

According to Seeds that Grew by Joseph G. Knapp, the real beginning of the cooperative came at a meeting of the Conference Board after a proposal had been presented to the New York State Federation of Farm Bureau Associations. W. L. Bean, the newly-elected Grange president wanted to design a state-wide purchasing association for all farmers in New York State whether they were Grange members or not. After the usual todo, legalities and arguments, the GLF was actually formed on June 22, 1920 when it received its Certificate of Incorporation with its headquarters in Ithaca, NY.

In 1964, Agway was formed through a merger of Eastern States Farmers Exchange (formed in 1918) and the GLF.

Before the Irwin family became involved with Agway, the entire property including the Growmark subdivision was owned by Stanley and Pearl Nepa. The Nepas ran the feed store and were the first ones to grant a right of way to Agway to operate the fertilizer plant. Subsequently, Agway bought the property from the Nepa's and Fred Irwin ran the store as a representative for Agway. I am not sure where the Hartzell's fit in here as owners/managers.

Agway In Johnsonville Closing But May Reopen

March 05, 1993|by FRED WALTER, Special to The Morning Call

The Agway Inc. feed and farm supply store in Johnsonville will close March 31, but efforts are under way to operate it as an independent retail business.

Agway has been leasing the property from William Irwin of Johnsonville for six years.

"Nobody wants to close a store," Arnold said, "but, economically, it just has to be done."

In 2014, the property was purchased by Totts Gap Farm, LLC. and Johnsonville Farm & Garden, Inc. owned by Aline Haddad (BHS '06). Aline oversaw the restoration and reopened the Johnsonville Farm & Garden on April 14, 2015.



Hartzell's Feed Store (the same barrel stands today) constructed in 1925



Johnsonville Farm and Garden 2014 (barrel extended right in 1947)



Johnsonville Farm and Garden 2014 (mill added in 1947)



The 100 year old barrel gets new life January 2015



Aline Haddad and Johnsonville Farm and Garden were featured in an article by Liz Wagner a freelance writer in eastern Pennsylvania.