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| *ACFB* | Adams County Farm Bureau Newsletter |
| January, February, March | Volume 7, Number2 |
| In This Issue   * Scholarship application * Spring Meeting * Annual Meeting * From the State   Board of Directors  Brian Davis  President 717-528-4485  Debra Stock - Secretary /Treasurer- 717-624-2592  Sally Scholle First Vice -President 717-359-9472  Earl Stock Second Vice- President 717-476-5920  Brock Widerman 717-752-5402  Robert Niner 717-334-1937  Bob Clowney 717-334-7269    Frank Penning 717-465-8115  Gene Moose  717-334-5684  Amy Welker  717-580-0562  Margaret Barra  717-624-3899  District 9 Director  Kevin Mountz  717-377-0297    ROD Ken Sechrist  717-409-9170    Calendar of Events  January  1- New Year’s Day  7 -13- PA Farm Show  9-12- Keystone Farm Show  15- Martin Luther King Day  19-24- AFBF Annual Meeting  February  1- Monthly Meeting  2- Groudhog Day  14- Ash Wednesday  14- Valentine’s Day  19- Presidents’ Day  29 Farm Bureau Days  March  7- Monthly Meeting  10- Daylight Savings Time  17- St. Patrick’s Day  18-22- Ag Literacy Week  24- Palm Sunday  29- Good Friday  31- Easter  Service Provider  Quick Reference  Nationwide Insurance Providers  Pabody Insurance  Larry Blount  147 N. Fourth St. Gettysburg  717-339-0055  Jillian A. Mylet Insurance  Jillian Struble  147 Carlisle St.  Gettysburg  717-334-1161  Adamik Insurance Agency  Wilson Bounds  5356 Baltimore Pike  Littlestown, PA. 17340  717-359-7380    PFB Health Services  1-800-522-2375  Check us out of Facebook  Visit our web page.  [www.pfb.com/adams](http://www.pfb.com/adams)  Newsletter Editor  Deb Stock  359 Brickcrafter Rd  New Oxford, PA. 7350  717-624-2592  [edstock1005@gmail.com](mailto:edstock1005@gmail.com)    BE SAFE!  Farming is a profession of hope.  Brian Brett  I’d rather be on my farm than be emperor of the world.  George Washington  No one works harder than a farmer except maybe their spouse.    If you don’t love farming or your land, you shouldn’t be a farmer.  Jannie Struis  Good farmers, who take seriously their duties as stewards of creation and of their land’s inheritors, contribute to the welfare of society in more ways than society usually acknowledges, or even know. These farmers produce valuable goods, of course; but they also conserve soil, they conserve water, they conserve wildlife, the conserve open space, the conserve scenery.  Wendell Berry  Agriculture… It’s moe than a part of life, it’s a passion, a lifestyle, a resilient community that works hard to feed the world.  Ryan Goodman  Life on a farm is a school of patience; you can’t hurry the crops or make an ox in two days.  Henri Alain  Money can’t buy happiness, but it can buy tractors…… which is pretty much the same thing. Tractor outline | Local News First!  Adams County Activity  Adams County’s  SAFEMARK DEALER  John J. Hess  200 Tall Oaks Road  Gettysburg, PA. 17325  717-334-8553  Local farmers working together  Welcome New Members:Zack Martin, Ronda Hockenbury, Douglas Sentz, Allison Wahl, Rudy Molzahn, Joshua Novotny, Jared Widerman, Dane Schoenbaum, Jack Harris Jr., Gordon Long, Todd Nein, Allan Eccles, Dale Brauning, Jeffrey Shenefelt, Charissa Ruth  Spring Meeting  Mark your calendar for **Thursday, April 4, 2024** to join us for our annual Spring meeting. Once again it will be held at the Great Conewago Presbyterian Church Social Room, 174 Red Bridge Road, Gettysburg, PA. 17325 with the Hunterstown Ruratin Club providing the meal. Social time will start at 6:00 pm. **Cost of meal is $25.00 per person**, **payable at the door.** The meal will consist of Roast pork loin, chicken, roasted potatoes, vegetables and dessert. A speaker or entertainment is in the looks but not finalized yet. There will be good food and door prizes. Hope to see you there.  Please RSVP to Deb Stock, [edstock1005@gmail.com](mailto:edstock1005@gmail.com) or 717-476-5921 to seserve your seat by March 26, 2024  Scholarship is Available  The Adams County Farm Bureau is currently accepting applications for the new Timothy Brown Scholarship. Any College student or high school senior from Adams County, planning on studying in the agriculture field is elegiable. The schoarship is worth $1500.00. Go to pfb.com/adams-county for application or contack secretary Deb Stock at [edstock1005@gmail.com](mailto:edstock1005@gmail.com).  Fundraiser Chicken BBQ will be held this May. Look in the next newsletter for more details.  **Farm Bureau Day is** planned for February 29, 2024. This year it will be held at the Bongiorno Conferece Center, 430 Union Hall Rd, Carlslie, PA. 17013. It will be held from 9:00 am. To 2:30 pm. Spray points will be earned. Contact Ken Sechrist at [kesechrist@pfb.com](mailto:kesechrist@pfb.com) or 717-409-9170 by February 14.  The monthly board meeting will be held on January 7, and February 1, and March 7 at the Ag Center in Gettysburg, PA.  **Looking for a few good policies**  One of Farm Bureau’s most important activities is policy development. Members of each county Farm Bureau submit ideas and suggestions regarding issues that affect the farming community. These ideas are written as resolutions and voted on at the county annual meeting in November. Topics cover a wide range of ag issues including wetland management, wild game, commodities, animal health, vehicles, health and safety, taxes and water quality. If an issue involves ag in any way, it can be developed for policy.  After the county meeting, voting delegates from each county attend the state annual meeting and decide by majority vote which resolutions will be adopted as Pennsylvania Farm Bureau policy. While policies are not laws, they’re supported legislatively by Farm Bureau at either the state or national level.  Ideas, issues, and topics can be submitted at any time of the year via anyone on the county Farm Bureau board of directors or to policy chair Sally Scholle at 717-359-9472.  **Remember to Renew your Membership.**  Farm Bureau affects so many areas besides crop and livestock farmers. The policies that are passed and brought to the attention of the Pennsylvania legislators affect so many people from wineries, horse owners, to produce owners and sellers to commodity companies. If you know someone that isn’t but should be a member, ask them to join, Farm Bureau is there to help all the agricultural community. Renewal notices will be going out soon, so remember to renew your membership and check with your neighbor to see if they renewed their membership or would like to become a member. July is the start of the membership drive.  **.**  **Save the Date for the annual Soil Quality Meeting**  **Although all the details are still not worked out, the annual Soil Quality Meeting sponsored by the Adams County Conservation District is starting to come together. This year’s meeting will be a little different as we are doing it in collaboration with Penn State Extension staff. The meeting will be held on Friday, April 12, 2024. The morning’s program will be held at the Agricultural and Natural Resources Center and the afternoon’s program will be held at Don Miller’s farm just west of the Ag Center. The morning topics of discussion will include tar spot and it’s management, nutrient stratification in no till and drone technology use in agriculture. In the afternoon, we will visit some cover crop test plots on the**  **Miller farm and maybe even have a drone demonstration. Some additional agenda items are being discussed as well. Again, all the details are still being developed. But save the date: Friday, April 12, 2024, and keep an eye out for further details and registration information in the coming weeks.**  **Brian Sneeringer is the Agricultural Conservation Supervisor with the Adams County Conservation District.**  **From the State**  In 2018, California’s (CA) voters passed a law called Proposition 12 that requires veal, pork, and egg raised in confined areas to have a certain space minimum. Unfortunately, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of CA (5-4), when AFBF and National Pork sued CA claiming a violation of the Interstate Commerce Clause. California’s proposition 12 has set a dangerous precedent for animal agriculture. Another state should not get to determine other state’s growing practices. Our producers know what is best for their animals, so Farm Bureau opposes any laws or regulations which mandate specific farming practices in livestock production.  Emotion and a lack of education of industry practices were the reasons for prop 12’s implementation. Animal welfare was a goal of prop 12. However, California’s Department of Food and Agriculture recognized that the mortality rates of breeding sows will increase with prop 12 so the state is creating a severe animal welfare issue, rather than trying to make a better life for these animals.  Additionally, the market has already taken a hit. Pork purchased in California from June to August this year was down [**23%**](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/www.porkbusiness.com/news/ag-policy/prop-12-blame-californias-high-prices-and-low-sales-fresh-pork-august*:*:text=*22The*20volume*20of*20pork*20purchased,August*20from*202020*20to*202022.*22__;I34lJSUlJSUlJSUl!!Bg5easoyC-OII2vlEqY8mTBrtW-N4OJKAQ!OtFYrmLUhk2D0EyC2eNu0ysfun4PH4etEugvX1c2Ip6r1feIEhiUdxUuvkgEED5nKuS6nTlsI3LUr2mv-ZHG2qlP$)**.** We already are seeing consumers go to other proteins, such as chicken, because with the record-high inflation we are experiencing, people cannot afford prop 12 pork. Farm Bureau is working with Congress Members to find a federal preemption to prop 12 that both sides of the aisle can get behind. We simply cannot have a patchwork of regulations for producers to try and follow across the nation.  DEP Dog Law Advisory Board Meets, Reviews Newly Enacted Changes to PA Dog LawThe PDA Dog Law Advisory Board, on which Farm Bureau is represented, met on Dec. 14 tor eview recently enacted changes to the state’s Dog Law resulting from the passage of the Dog Law Modernization Act (Act 18 of 2023), sponsored by Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Elder Vogel (R-Beaver). In the words of Sec. Russell Redding, the changes will “allow the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement to do the things it is required to do by statute.” Act 18, which has been called “the most comprehensive animal welfare bill in Pennsylvania in the past 25 years,” takes effect on Jan. 21, 2024 and includes the following provisions:   The law “closes the gap” between when a dog is transferred to a new owner and when it must be licensed, allowing dog owners to apply for a dog license at the time of transfer rather than waiting. This is expected to greatly increase dog licensing numbers by providing education about dog licensing at the time of purchase or adoption.   The law allows for dog owners in all counties to purchase dog licenses online, which is also expected to greatly improve licensing compliance statewide by adding convenience.   Sellers and adopters of dogs will be required to provide new owners with a copy of the dog license application along with a brochure regarding dog licensing and the benefits it provides.   The law addresses issues of insolvency with the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement, allowing the Department to hire additional wardens for understaffed regions, and helping ensure that there is sufficient staff to oversee kennels and dangerous dog follow-up.   The law requires dogs quarantined after attacks on humans to be muzzled, leashed, and under physical restraint by a reasonable person, makes it easier for law enforcement to make a dangerous dog determination, and simplifies the filing and prosecution of dangerous dog charges.   The law puts financial responsibility on the dog owner in situations in which a dog is to be seized and held pending an appeal, keeping communities safer from dangerous dogs.   The law requires kennels to obtain the appropriate type and class of license for their operation.   The law provides stiffer penalties for those found operating illegal kennels, and increased penalties for all dog law violators.   The law provides for isolation requirements after a dog is imported as a proactive step in disease control and prevention, providing increased protection from disease for dogs, and preventing consumers from bringing sick dogs into their homes.   The law allows the Department to revoke a kennel’s license or refuse a kennel license application from individuals convicted of animal cruelty.   The law requires kennels to include their federal, state, or local license number to in any advertisement offering dogs for sale. This will allow the department to quickly determine whether a kennel is operating illegally and allow potential customers to look up the kennel’s inspection history to make informed decisions.   The law requires those selling dogs directly to the public to post the dog’s identifying information, the location of the breeder, state or federal license number, documentation of all vaccinations, and any known bite history.  **Key points from Farm Bureau’s comments include:**   * The implementation of the “interim final environmental justice policy” adds another layer to an already saturated permitting framework (one which the governor, former Sec. Negrin, legislators of both parties, and numerous organizations representing the Commonwealth’s productive sector alike have repeatedly, and correctly, characterized as too complex and taking too much time to navigate). * “Enhanced” community and bureaucratic involvement in agricultural permitting is unnecessary and counterproductive, given that an intensive public process already exists to govern environmental decisions regarding the agriculture industry in Pennsylvania. * Current Pennsylvania law, including the state’s Right to Farm Act and ACRE Law, recognizes both the importance of agriculture to Pennsylvania’s economy and the vital conservation work that the Commonwealth’s farmers already undertake to protect and enhance their communities and safeguards Pennsylvania farmers’ rights to grow and expand their businesses. * The Department’s ability to “opt-in” any project that would not otherwise automatically trigger the policy is likely to promote different treatment of similar projects and will only serve to undermine the productive sector’s confidence in the consistency and fairness of the DEP permitting process. * DEP’s “enhanced public participation” process will likely used to create opposition to fully compliant, community-supported projects that would not otherwise trigger that process. * The Department takes pains to note that the “interim final environmental justice policy” is not a regulation and does not affect existing regulatory processes, but anyone in the productive sector with experience working with DEP knows that policy and guidance documents are often enforced as if they were regulations. * The additional time and cost of the “enhanced” public participation process may discourage new economic activity not just in the designated “environmental justice” areas, but in the Commonwealth as a whole, as businesses seeking to locate or expand in Pennsylvania will likely be hesitant to do so if they fear that their operation will be “opted in” by DEP staff for “enhanced public participation.” * This policy statement has the effect of favoring some Pennsylvanians over others merely due to where they reside in the state, or because of other factors (such as those included by the Department in its “PennEnviroScreen” tool), and is inconsistent with the principle of equal treatment under the law that is the bedrock of the federal and Pennsylvania Constitutions. * Farm Bureau asks that the Department withdraw this “interim final” policy and instead continue to support the important work Pennsylvania farmers have done in the above capacities for centuries to strengthen the entire Commonwealth for all Pennsylvanians.   **Ruritan Breakfast**  **The Hunterstown Ruritan Club will host their monthly breakfasts on February 10, March 9, and April 13 at the Great Conewago Presbyterian Church Social Hall, 174 Red Bridge Road, Gettysburg, PA. 17325. Available 7:00 – 10:30 am.** |
|  | Do you have a Business?Would you like to advertise in the Newsletter? The Adams County Farm Bureau would love for you to advertise in their newsletter. A full page ad cost $100.00, half page ad cost $60.00, and a quarter page cost $40.00 per newsletter.  Your ad will be seen by all Adams County Farm Bureau Members. Contact Deb Stock at edstock1005@gmail.com |

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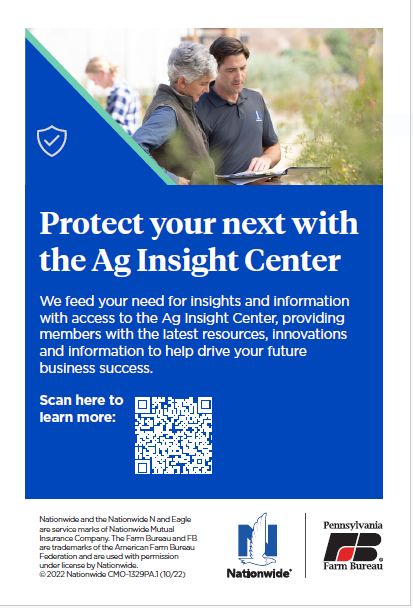
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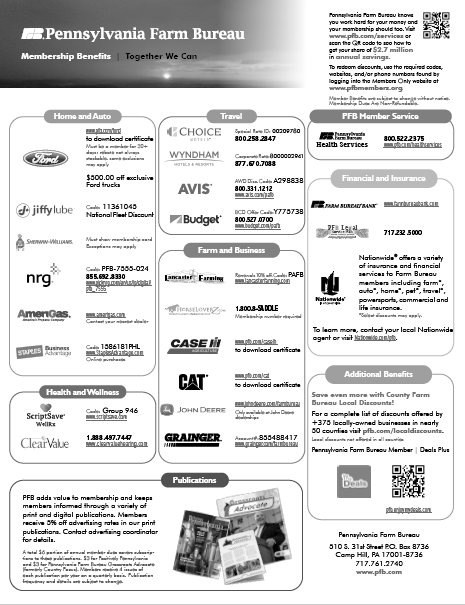
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*717-339-0055*

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