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Local News First!

Adams County Activity [▫]

Local farmers working together

Welcome New Members: Alfred Leer, Paul Kaschak, Justin Yost, Dana Frymoyer, Wendy Stoner, Wade Harbaugh, Kelly Kuhn, and Sarah Zost

Chicken BBQ

On Saturday, May 20, 2023 we will be holding a chicken BBQ to support our scholarship program. We would like to be able to help more students with their education in the Ag field. The BBQ will be held at the Ag Center Pavillion, 670 Old Harrisburg Rd, Gettysburg, PA. from 11:00 am – sold out. We are looking for some baked goods to sell. If you are interested in selling some presale tickets, volunteering your time or donating some baked goods, contact Deb Stock at 717-624-2592 or edstock1005@gmail.com or any board member.

Scholarship is Available

Do you know a high school senior or college student in need of money? If that student is majoring in a field pertaining to agriculture, they might be eligible for a \$1000.00 scholarship. Their parents or guardians need to be a Farm Bureau member or they themselves can join, (if they are 18 or older). Applications can be found at adamscountyfarmbureau.com. Click on the county news tab and it is there. Or you may contact Deb Stock at edstock1005@gmail.com.

ROD Ken Sechrist

717-409-9170

Calendar of Events

April

2- Palm Sunday

6- No Board Meeting-
Maundy Thursday

7- Good Friday

9- Easter

15-22 -Rural Road Week

17- Income tax deadline

May

4- Board Meeting and PSU
Trustee Election

14- Mother's Day

16- Primary election

20- Armed Forces Day

29- Memorial Day

June

1- Board Meeting

14- Flag Day Conference

18- Father's Day

25-29- Educator's Ag
Institute

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Hunterstown Ruritan Club's breakfast – April 8,2023 \$10.00 @ Great Conewago Presbyterian Church

The monthly board meeting will be held on May 4, and June 1st 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 of 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.

There are two openings for a Board Member. If you are interested in sitting on the Board, contact President Brian Davis at 717-528-4485.

Rural Roads Safety Week is planned for April 16-22. We are encouraging motorists to travel safely on roadways this spring and throughout the year and also encourage farmers to be extra mindful of motorists while on the road.

Region 3 Farm Bureau Day was held on March 15, 2023, at the Strock Enterprises in Mechanicsburg, PA. There were roughly 50 people in attendance with interesting topics including farmland preservation, soil

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Farming is a profession
of hope.

Brian Brett

The most wasted of all
days is one without
laughter.

microbes, Agri Tourism, Dewatering & Denitrifying Manure and Legislative and Environmental Updates. If you have never gone to one of these meetings, you should try to go next year.

Ag Literacy Week

Several Members of Farm Bureau across the state participated in the Ag Literacy Week reading the book titled "The Day the Farmer Quit" written by Autumn Pequignot and illustrated by Kate Fallahee. Secretary Deb Stock read to first graders at Conewago Elementary School and to kindergarteners at New Oxford Elementary.



From the State

PA Senate

The PA Senate has moved several pieces of Farm Bureau supported legislation in February:

Senate Bill 254 passed out of the Environmental Resources and Energy Committee. This bill, sponsored by Sen. Gene Yaw, addresses the issue of new California Air Resources Board (CARB) 2022 Engine Requirements for diesel emissions and warranty periods in Pennsylvania.

Since 2002, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Heavy-Duty Diesel Emissions Control Program has required heavy-duty highway diesel engines sold in the Commonwealth to have CARB certification. Ending this requirement, which DEP has suspended since Nov. 8 th , 2021, will protect individuals and businesses from having to pay thousands of dollars more to purchase, register, or title new vehicles in Pennsylvania simply because California adopted a warranty provision as part of their new requirements. Farm Bureau opposes any state legislation or regulations, such as the (DEP) Heavy-Duty Diesel Emissions Control Program requirement that heavy-duty highway diesel engines sold in the Commonwealth have CARB certification, that would inhibit interstate transportation based on emissions standards.

Senate Bill 211, sponsored by Sen. Gene Yaw, also passed out of the Environmental Resources and Energy Committee. This bill establishes decommissioning and bonding requirements for project developers who seek to install or operate commercial solar electric generation facilities in Pennsylvania. Establishing reasonable decommissioning and bonding amounts will help to address challenges as to how to properly decommission

The present moment is filled with joy and happiness. If you are attentive, you will see it

Thich Nhat Hanh

Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.

William James

The farmer has to be an optimist or he/she wouldn't still be a farmer

Will Rogers

The story of family farming underscores a legacy of sustainability

Amanda Zaluckyj

Strength and growth come only through continuous effort and struggle.

Napoleon Hill

A good farmer is nothing more or less than a handyman with a sense of humor.

E. B. White

a site or handle associated waste. As an organization we realize the potential of solar energy development and the opportunities it brings for agriculture but believe strong protections must be in place to ensure that farmland can be restored after solar leases expire.

Senate Resolution 9, sponsored by Sen. Wayne Langerholc, passed out of the Environmental Resources and Energy Committee. This resolution urges the President of the United States to restart and expedite the completion of the Keystone XL pipeline. PFB supports SR 9 and the funding and completion of the Keystone XL Pipeline. Farm Bureau advocates policies that will create a diverse, domestic energy supply to fuel America's economic growth and prosperity while strengthening our energy security. We understand the importance of a comprehensive approach to fulfilling our energy needs of today and into the future.

Senate Bill 297, which authorizes the provision or sale of Pennsylvania milk in Pennsylvania schools will be voted on in the Senate Education Committee, March 1 st , at 10:30 am.

Senate Resolution 48 will also be voted on at the March 1st meeting. This resolution urges the US Dept. of Ag. to include 2% & whole milk in the Nutrition Standards for the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs. It also urges the US DOH to recommend to the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Comm. to modify standards. Both pieces of legislation are sponsored by Senator Michele Brooks. Farm Bureau supports these efforts.

FACA Releases 2023 Farm Bill Priorities On February 22 nd , the Food and Agriculture Climate Alliance (FACA) released their 2023 Farm Bill priorities. AFBF is a co-chair and founding member of the coalition. There are six categories in FACA's 2023 Farm Bill recommendations: (1) Conservation, Risk Management, and Credit; (2) Energy; (3) Food Waste; (4) Forestry; (5) Livestock and Dairy; and (6) Research, Extension, and Innovation. It is important, as Congress drafts the 2023 Farm Bill, that farmers and ranchers are respected and seen as partners in the development and implementation of climate-smart policies.

New to Farm Bill

There are 260 lawmakers (238 Representatives and 22 Senators) new to the farm bill process. Representatives Dean, Houlihan, Meuser, Lee, Joyce, Reschenthaler, Deluzio, and Senator Fetterman are the members out of PA's delegation new to farm bill. PFB urges members to have conversations with their legislators, especially those who are new to the process, on the importance of farm bill.

AFBF, PFB, and Northeast State Farm Bureaus' 2023 Farm Bill Priorities

At AFBF's 2023 Annual Convention in San Juan, Puerto Rico, the voting delegates made minor changes to Farm Bureau's 2023 Farm Bill priorities that were published in October. The Northeast state Farm Bureaus also compiled their own list of priorities for the 2023 Farm Bill.

Finally, PFB will be paying close attention to Titles I: Commodities and Disaster (specifically dairy), Title II: Conservation, Title IV: Nutrition, and Title XI: Crop Insurance. We are looking for Congress to draft a unified farm bill

In the middle of every difficulty lies opportunity.

Albert Einstein

When tillage begins, other arts follow. The farmers, therefore, are the founders of human civilization.

Daniel Webster

Strong communities are built around local, real food. Food we trust to nourish our bodies, the farmer and planet.

Kimbal Musk

with farm and nutrition programs that meets the needs of producers, processors, and consumers in rural and urban communities.

BROADBAND

PFB's Feedback to PBDA on the PA Broadband Infrastructure Program PBDA recently requested feedback on the PA Broadband Infrastructure Program as they draft grant guidelines. The \$200 million program is a competitive grant program that is funded through the American Rescue Plan Act's Capital Projects Fund. The program will target locations that do not currently have access to 25/3 Mbps reliable service. Eligible applicants include local units of government, non-profits, cooperatives, and private entities. The program will fund extensions of existing last-mile cable modem and fiber-to-the-premise broadband networks, and large-scale regional projects that can transform broadband availability by serving large numbers of eligible addresses. PBDA requested feedback on the definition of affordability, match requirements, maximum award amount, and the challenge. Please email Bailey Thumm (bmthumm@pfb.com) for PFB's comments.

DAIRY

Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act Re-Introduced On February 21 st , Representatives "GT" Thompson (R-PA) and Kim Schrier (D-WA) along with 36 members re-introduced the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act. The bill would allow unflavored and flavored whole milk to be offered again in schools. Since its removal in 2010, both AFBF and PFB have been strong advocates of reinstating the nutritious beverage as an option for kids.

In Representative Thompson's press release, one line summed up why Congress needs to pass this in a timely manner: "No other beverage naturally comes close to this level of nutritional value." It is a scientific-based and pediatrician supported fact. Congress needs to pass the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act of 2023 in a timely manner, so our youth start receiving the necessary vitamins and nutrients for healthy growth and development.

State Conservation Commission Advances Proposed Revisions to Manure Management Regulations

The PDA Nutrient Management Advisory Board (NMAB) met Feb. 22 to consider a first draft of revisions to the state's Chapter 83 regulations governing this activity. The draft will now advance to the agency legal review process, with an updated draft to follow for stakeholder consideration. Farm Bureau continues to provide comments through this process of revising the state's nutrient, manure, and odor management regulations.

EPA Issues Updated "Waters of the U. S." (WOTUS) Rule

The new WOTUS rule now goes into effect 60 days after its Jan. 18 publication in the Federal Register (March 20, 2023). Farm Bureau will be looking to the Supreme Court for a decision in the Sackett case, which will provide some clarity on the use of the "significant nexus" test. It is hoped that the agencies will have to amend the rule in response to a decision from the

high court next year. For more information, please refer to the Farm Bureau Federal Affairs update.



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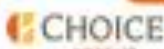


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