



Berks County Farm Bureau Berks Newsletter

Robin Lincoln, Editor

October Edition 🍂 2024

The newsletter is always available online at www.pfb.com/berks

Thanks to those of you who have opted to receive your newsletter electronically. So far, 2% of our members have agreed to stop their paper/snail-mail newsletters. We encourage you to help us move into the 21st century by letting us know that you want electronic only, or that you'd still prefer the paper version.

Please e-mail robinl@ptd.net to let us know your preference: paper vs. email/online.

Meet Ayla Blatt



Ayla Blatt is the Young Ag Professional (YAP) representative. She grew up on a small farm in Kutztown, raising Guernsey cows and market/dairy goats with her family. Ayla was also very active in 4-H, FFA, and multiple dairy breed associations. In 2021, she graduated from Penn State with a major in Animal Science and a minor in Agribusiness Management. Currently, she is the agriculture teacher and FFA advisor at Kutztown High School, her alma mater. Ayla has a deep-rooted passion for agriculture and bridging the gap between producer and consumer.

Berks County Farm Bureau

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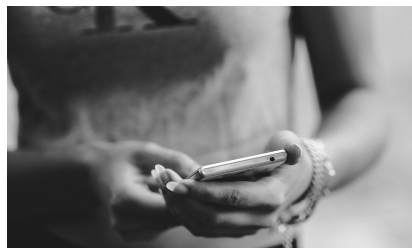
State Director District 3

Paul Hartman _____ 484-955-8590

SAVE THE DATE!

Save The Date for our Spring Banquet:
April 4, 2025 Oley Valley Fair Center

Sign Up for PFB Text Alerts



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Signing up is easy. Simply text "PFBALERTS" to 833.554.0849 or sign up online at <https://pfb.com/text-alerts/>.

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**Policies as approved at the
Berks County Farm Bureau Banquet
September 27, 2024**

1. We recommend implementing a PMB-established premium per gallon of milk retailed in Pennsylvania, no less than 95% of the proceeds evenly distributed to all Pennsylvania producers per CWT shipped per year, regardless of where the milk was produced or processed.
2. We recommend deleting the following: that the name of the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board be changed to the Pennsylvania Milk Regulatory Board.
3. We recommend a PMB established premium that (1) distributes premium dollars uniformly per CWT among all Pennsylvania dairy products, (2) the amount charged to Pennsylvania consumers not be substantially more than is distributed back to Pennsylvania dairy farmers, and (3) the distributing system must not provide incentives to move raw milk across state lines to avoid the premium from reaching Pennsylvania dairy producers; and is not supported indefinitely in the event this cannot be achieved.
4. We recommend fewer regulations for farmers who want to do retail marketing of products from their own farms including raw milk.
5. We recommend that registration stickers on license plates be required.
6. We recommend that the YAP age be amended to 16-35. Under 18 would have a supervisor with the proper credentials.
7. We recommend increased funding to all the Centers of Excellence funded through the ag excellence line of the state budget.
8. We recommend there be a ban on certain foreign entities from owning agricultural land in PA (like Arkansas law).
9. We recommend any PMB premium decision be based partly on some PA dairy sector trends and local impact, such as national dairy statistical ranks and number of PA dairy farms trend.
10. We recommend there be a ban on certain foreign entities from owning agricultural land in the U.S.



Berks County Nationwide Agents

**Kathy Barry
Agency LLC**
Douglassville
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**Spotts Insurance
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Reading
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Agency LLC**
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**Are You Turning
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and Going
on Medicare?**



Choosing your Medicare plan can be overwhelming. It can be hard to figure out what you want, or more important, what you need.

Farm Bureau's experienced and trained staff are ready to help. At no cost to you, we can:

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To check availability in your county call **800.522.2375**.

Rosetree Consulting
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Rosetree Consulting provides soil sampling, crop consulting, and government regulatory documents for agricultural operations of all sizes. Our goal is to provide clients with the information and understanding needed to make better decisions and have a more profitable operation. Rosetree Consulting offers a 5% discount on regulatory services (manure management plans, nutrient management plans, conservation plans, odor management plans) to Berks County Farm Bureau members.

Contact Eric Rosenbaum | 484-788-7263



Member Benefits

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau knows you work hard for your money and your membership should too. Visit www.pfb.com/services or scan the QR code to see how to get your share of **\$2.7 million** in **annual savings**.



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Member Benefits are subject to change without notice. Membership Dues Are Non-Refundable

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Additional Benefits

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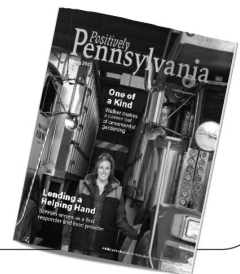


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Publication

PFB adds value to membership and keeps members informed through a variety of print and digital publications. Members receive 5% off advertising rates in our print publications. Contact advertising coordinator for details.

A total \$6 portion of annual member dues covers subscriptions to Positively Pennsylvania. Members receive 4 issues of Positively Pennsylvania per year on a quarterly basis. Publication frequency and details are subject to change.



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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME
December 13	Membership Kickoff	Ag Center	7:00 p.m.
January 10	Board Meeting	Ag Center	7:30 p.m.
February 14	Board Meeting	Ag Center	7:30 p.m.
March 14	Board Meeting	Ag Center	7:30 p.m.
April 4	Spring Banquet	Oley Fairgrounds	6:30 p.m.



Interested in receiving the online version of our Newsletter?

So far, 2% of our members have agreed to stop their paper/snail-mail newsletters.

We encourage you to help us move into the 21st century by
letting us know that you want electronic only!

Please e-mail robinl@ptd.net to let us know!



Check out Berks County Farm Bureau website:

www.pfb.com/berks

See more information in the
online version of the newsletter!!