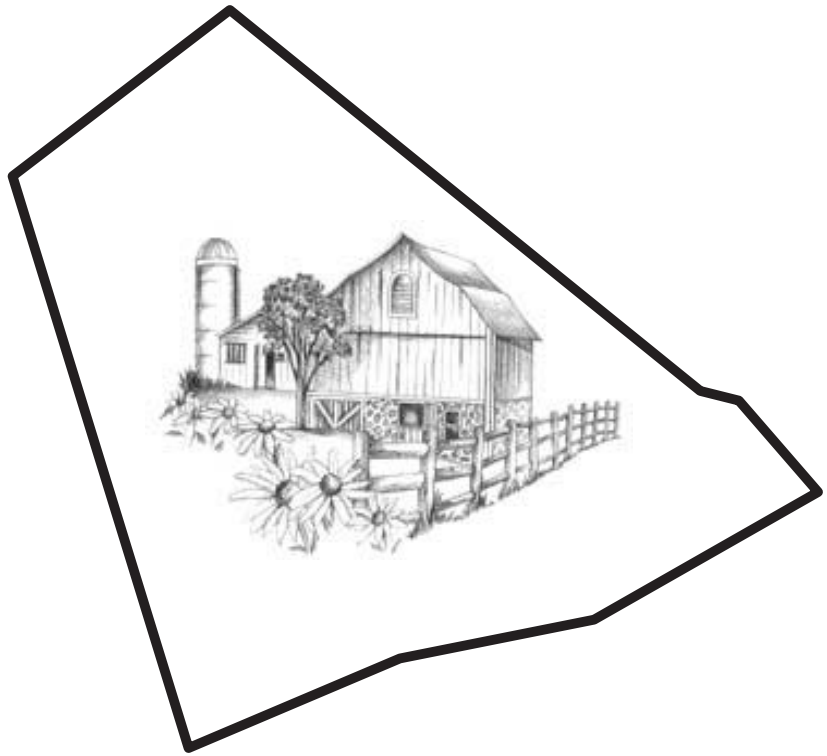


**Lebanon County Farm Bureau**

David Zimmerman-Editor

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# Lebanon County Farm Bureau

## Winter , 2022

### Newsletter

#### In This Issue:

- ~ PA Farm Bureau Annual Meeting Re-Cap
- ~Membership Picnic Success at Cowrageous Picnic Grove
- ~ County Board Names New President

#### Dates To Remember:

- ~ Lebanon County Crops Day February 16
- ~ Ag Literacy Week March 14-18
- ~ Region 2 Farm Bureau Day March 15

## County Membership Picnic Review

On Saturday August 28th the Lebanon County Farm Bureau hosted their annual membership picnic/annual meeting. The meeting gives members an opportunity to conduct the important business of the organization as well as fellowship with fellow members

This year's event was held once again at Cowrageous picnic grove near Rexmont. President Curtis Martin started the meeting by welcoming everyone and introducing distinguished guests.

Our members voted on 3 policies which were then discussed and voted on at the PFB Annual Meeting in November. Long time board president Curtis Martin announced that he would be stepping away from the board after 12 years serving as president. A huge thank you goes out to Curtis for his many years of volunteer service and the many relationships he strengthened between Farm Bureau and other organizations during his time as president. Recent LVC grad Bailey Thumm was elected to fill the vacant director position.

A delicious catered meal was enjoyed by all. We could not have made this event a success without the support of our many business sponsors and our dedicated picnic planning committee. We would love to see you in attendance at our 2022 picnic!



## Zimmerman Elected County Board President

The County Farm Bureau met on September 21st to reorganize after new officers were elected at the annual member picnic and meeting in August.

Board member David Zimmerman was elected by the board to serve as the 2021-2022 County President. David grew up in Northern Lebanon County raising horses and working on a Black Angus beef farm. He is a 2010 graduate of Northern Lebanon High School where he was active in FFA and received his American Farmer Degree.

Zimmerman is also a 2014 graduate of Penn State University where he majored in Animal Science and minored in Agribusiness Management. In addition to his agricultural endeavors, David is employed full-time as an Ag and General Equipment Salesman for Messick Farm Equipment in Mount Joy.

Additionally, Board Director Tim Crouse was elected Vice-President and Dale Heagy was elected to serve as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President. The team looks forward to serving the county organization in 2022.



## Lebanon County Farm Bureau Board:

President: David Zimmerman  
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[dsz5020@gmail.com](mailto:dsz5020@gmail.com)

ROD (Region 2)  
Justin Clapper  
Cell: 570-971-2289  
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Vice-President: Tim Crouse  
717-454-9956  
[timcrouse46@yahoo.com](mailto:timcrouse46@yahoo.com)

Second Vice-President: Dale Heagy  
717-865-0703  
[dtheagy6@gmail.com](mailto:dtheagy6@gmail.com)

Secretary/ Treasurer: Tracy Heagy  
769 Ono Rd  
Annville, PA 17003  
717-865-0703  
[dtheagy6@gmail.com](mailto:dtheagy6@gmail.com)

Membership Chairman : Robert Smith  
605 Plaza Drive  
Annville, PA 17003  
717-838-2488

### Directors:

Bill Bennetch - 717-949-2448  
Cliff Berger- 717-933-5352  
Nelson Heagy- 717-867-4611  
Dale Himmelberger- 717-867-2725  
Chloe Powell- 717-673-5935  
Clyde Meyer- 717-821-7100  
Steve Wenger- 717-949-3215  
Jeffrey Werner- 717-865-5727  
Bailey Thumm

## DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR FARM BUREAU MEMBERSHIP FOR 2022

If you are a Nationwide Insurance customer paying your membership when the renewal first comes insures you keep your discounts on the farm and auto policy.

When you renew your membership by January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, \$300.00 goes towards your family accidental death and dismemberment policy. The maximum value of this policy is \$3,100.00

The newest member benefit is a discount program that offers deep discounts at over 300,000 restaurants, retailers, and more. Most of the deals can be accessed through the savings portal located at <http://pfb.enjoymydeals.com>. You can also download the "MY DEALS" app for free on any Android or ISO device.

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## Farm Bureau Opposes Build Back Better Act

The American Farm Bureau Federation sent a letter to the U.S. House of Representatives stating its opposition to the Build Back Better Act prior to the House passing the bill on a mostly party-line vote of 220-213.

The bill now moves to the Senate, where it is expected to change substantially if it is to pass out of that chamber.

“After watching months of contentious, partisan debate surrounding the Build Back Better Act, AFBF stands in opposition to the legislation,” AFBF President Zippy Duvall said in a statement. “While some elements of the reconciliation package would benefit agriculture, the massive amount of spending and tax increases required to pay for the plan outweigh the gains we would see in rural America. We appreciate House efforts to protect farmers and ranchers by leaving key tax provisions untouched. Thousands of small businesses, however, would still be affected by tax increases, forcing them to pass increased costs to families across the nation.”

“The economy is still recovering from the pandemic, supply chains are stressed, and inflation is putting pressure on America’s pocketbooks,” Duvall continued. “Now is not the time to put an additional burden on families struggling to make ends meet. We urge lawmakers to find common ground and work in a bipartisan manner to address the challenges facing our nation.”



AFBF President Zippy Duvall, a third generation farmer from Georgia

## 71<sup>st</sup> PFB Annual Meeting Review

The 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau was held at Hershey Lodge in Hershey, PA November 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>. The multi-day event features many things from breakout sessions and health fairs to delegate sessions and contests for young farmers and ranchers.

The annual meeting delegate session is where the rubber meets the road for farm bureau’s policy development process. It is at the delegate session, that farmer members from across the state discuss proposed policies and ultimately vote to accept them into our policy book or vote against their inclusion. This year, there were over 120 proposed policies before the delegate body. Topics ranged widely from the ever popular dairy market to landowner rights to transportation and health issues. Several members represented Lebanon County on the delegate floor and spoke passionately for the best interests of agriculture in our state and county.

On Monday evening, attendees heard from Greg Peterson of the famed Peterson Farm Brothers. The Peterson Farm Brothers are known for using their farm based parodies of popular music to share the story of agriculture. At Tuesday’s Member Reception, state awards were given for Distinguished Service, Local Affairs Leader, and Young Ag Professional contest winners. Additionally, American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall was present and addressed the room. Zippy shared of his small town roots growing up farming in Georgia. He also went on to encourage us that Farm Bureau is making sure our voice is heard in Washington DC.



## **Farm Bureau Seeks Revision to Cattle Transparency Act**

The American Farm Bureau Federation announced today its support of the Cattle Price Discovery and Transparency Act of 2021, with the exception of the bill's establishment of mandatory minimums for negotiated purchases.

AFBF delegates voted last week in Atlanta to revise 2022 Farm Bureau policy. While Farm Bureau supports robust negotiated sales, delegates voted to oppose government mandates that force livestock processing facilities to purchase a set percentage of their live animal supply via cash bids.

"AFBF appreciates the hard work that has been done on both sides of the issue to address the pressing needs facing America's cattle industry," said AFBF President Zippy Duvall. "The Cattle Price Discovery and Transparency Act takes positive steps toward ensuring fairness for America's farmers and ranchers as they work to feed this country's families."

"We support the majority of this legislation, but we cannot support mandatory cash sales. We are committed to working with the sponsors of the bill to make revisions to ensure it aligns with the priorities outlined by our membership."

The Cattle Price Discovery and Transparency Act is sponsored by Sen. Deb Fischer (R-Neb.) and Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa), and cosponsored by 14 other senators from both sides of the aisle. The legislation would also equip farmers with more information by establishing a cattle contract library, updating mandatory price reporting and increasing fines for companies that violate the Packers and Stockyards Act.

## **Governor Signs Bill Clarifying Farmer's Driver's License Exemptions**

Governor Tom Wolf has signed into law Senate Bill 725, which clarifies farmers' use of Class C driver's licenses.

SB 725 clarifies the types of driver's licenses farmers can use when operating farm vehicles. It specifically clarifies Act 170, which the General Assembly unanimously passed in 2014. That legislation says that farmers do not need a commercial driver's license (CDL) to operate a farm vehicle, or combination, with a gross vehicle weight of 26,000 pounds or greater.

SB 725 allows farmers with Class A, B or C licenses to operate trucks, or truck combinations, with a GVW more than 26,000 pounds. PFB supported SB 725, which was introduced by Sen. Camera Bartolotta and unanimously passed by both the Senate and House. SB 725 goes into effect immediately.



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## Summer Legislative Tour Success at Snavely's Mill

Back in August, legislators met with Lebanon County Farm Bureau members at Snavely's Mill in Palmyra, PA. The event provided an opportunity to tour the unique flour mill and also discuss a wide variety of issues with our elected officials. Snavely's is a family owned business in operation since 1875. They purchased the Palmyra location which was formerly Curry's Mill in 2020. The Palmyra location can produce 2,500 cwt. Of flour per day and has around 60,000 bushels of wheat storage. Milling soft red winter wheat, the finished product is a soft pastry flour perfect for cookies, crackers, muffins, pastries, pie crusts, pretzels, biscuits, and more. The mill uses primarily Central Pennsylvania wheat and even has a kosher product line. After the tour, members and legislators met outside the nearby Palmyra railroad station for a discussion on current issues in agriculture and Farm Bureau's policy position. State Representative Frank Ryan spoke briefly and specifically highlighted the milestone celebration of 600,000 acres of preserved farmland in Pennsylvania. Also discussed was the importance of local stream cleanups and making sure we are being credited for those projects in regards to MS4 requirements. A special thanks to Codie Snavely for being an excellent tour guide!



## Lebanon County Announces Conservation Excellence Grant Program for Agricultural Operations

The Conservation Excellence Grant (CEG) Program is a state funded program to provide financial and technical assistance for the implementation of best management practices (BMPs) on agricultural operations. Eligible BMPs include, but are not limited to, manure storage facilities, cover crops, barnyard runoff control, livestock exclusion fencing, stream crossing, riparian buffers and others. Combining multiple priority practices improves application scoring. The State Conservation Commission (SCC) administers the program with assistance from county conservation districts, like Lebanon County Conservation District (LCCD). Financial assistance is provided to program applicants through grants, loans and tax credits, or a combination of all three.

A single CEG grant awarded by the district to an eligible applicant may not exceed \$250,000. CEG applications will be available from the Lebanon County Conservation District (see website or contact the district). Applicants can also find more details on eligibility, priority projects, and program guidelines and requirements for program participants on the Lebanon County CAP website, [LebanonCleanWaterActionTeam.com](http://LebanonCleanWaterActionTeam.com). For more information or assistance with completing an application, contact MaryKate Gallagher at [marykate.gallagher@lccd.org](mailto:marykate.gallagher@lccd.org) or (717) 277-5275 ext. 150.





PennState Extension

# CROPS DAY

February 16, 2022



\*Credits Available (Core & Category)\*

\*Pesticide

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\*Nutrient Management

TIME: 9:00 A.M. TO 3:15 P.M.

Lebanon Valley Expo Center  
80 Rocherty Road  
Lebanon, PA 17042

[extension.psu.edu](http://extension.psu.edu)

## Registration Information

# CROPS DAY

February 16, 2022

9:00 am - 3:15 pm

**Cost: \$10.00 Per Person**

**Registration Deadline: February 15, 2022**

Register Online:

<https://extension.psu.edu/crops-days>

Payment accepted:

American Express, Discover, MasterCard, Visa

NO REFUNDS less than 7 days prior to event.

**Central Registration Center**  
**WALK-INS ACCEPTED**

### Registrations by Phone:

1-877-345-0691

Monday—Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### Registrations In-Person:

Penn State Lebanon Extension  
2120 Cornwall Road  
Lebanon, PA 17042

Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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### Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

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Lebanon County Farm Bureau  
769 Ono Rd  
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- Help with informed Medicare coverage decisions