#### August 2023

#### Mifflin County Farm

Bureau

# N&WSL&TT&R

#### Mifflin County Farm Bureau Directors

#### Region 1 President-

Tim Goss 717-543-6128

Stan Dunk 717-250-3419

#### **Region 2**

Nokota Harpster 717-437-0732

Adam White 717-250-1334

#### **Region 3**

Silas Neer 717-513-3130

JD Spicher 717-437-4168

Region 4

Ernie Harrop 717-437-3448

Lucas Parkes 717-250-7017

**Secretary** Taylor White

**Treasurer** Robert Harrop

#### Supreme Court Reaffirms Limits of the Clean Water Rule



In Sackett v. EPA, the United States Supreme Court ruled that the EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers wrongfully claimed oversight on wetlands owned by Chantell and Michael Sackett. The verdict was issued on Thursday, May 25.

The Court ruled unanimously, 9-0, that the Clean Water Act did not apply to the wetlands on the Sacketts' property, striking down the "significant nexus" test in determining what is considered a Waters of the United States (WOTUS).

Additionally, by a 5-4 vote, the Court adopted a more stringent test for what qualifies as an "adjacent wetland" subject to the Clean Water Act jurisdiction. Writing for the majority, Justice Alito concluded that the Clean Water Act applies to wetlands that are "as a practical matter indistinguishable from waters of the United States" because they have a "continuous surface connection" with a larger body of water.

The decision will have positive, far-reaching consequences for those in the agricultural industry. Pennsylvania Farm Bureau President Chris Hoffman commented on the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Sackett v. EPA:

"It's a good day for Pennsylvania agriculture. We thank the Supreme Court for giving farmers clarity about how they manage their land," Hoffman said. "We need a common-sense rule that works for agriculture and helps farmers do their job and protects water quality. We're grateful that the Court acted to rein in the huge overreach of the authority of the EPA and Army Corps of Engineers. The decision in Sackett v. EPA is as a win for our farmers, who protect their soil, air and water every day, as their legacy to the next generation."

American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall shared the sentiment. "AFBF appreciates the Supreme Court justices for their careful consideration of the implications of Sackett v. EPA. The EPA clearly overstepped its authority under the Clean Water Act by restricting private property owners from developing their land despite being far from the nearest navigable water.

"The justices respect private property rights. It's now time for the Biden administration to do the same and rewrite the Waters of the United States rule. Farmers and ranchers share the goal of protecting the resources they're entrusted with, but they deserve a rule that provides clarity and doesn't require a team of attorneys to properly care for their land."

U.S. Congressman and Chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture Glenn "GT" Thompson added the following thoughts on the current WOTUS rule.

"(Thursday's) unanimous ruling in Sackett v EPA is a victory for America's farmers, ranchers, and landowners. The decision reaffirms the rights of property owners and provides long-needed clarity to rural America. In light of this decision, the Biden Administration should withdraw its flawed final WOTUS rule. It is time to finally put an end to the regulatory whiplash and create a workable rule that promotes clean water while protecting the rights of rural Americans."

### See page 5 for details on Fall Annual Meeting

A

#### **Meet your Mifflin County Committee Chairs**

**Newsletter Editor Membership Processor Governmental Relations** Member Relations **Political Education Program Policy Development Member Services** 

Megan Keller 717-372-7713 Tim Goss 717-543-6128 Mark Ellinger 717-248-1035 Tim Goss 717-543-6128 Mark Ellinger 717-248-1035 Ernest Harrop Sr. 717-437-3448 David Glick dglickfarm@msn.com

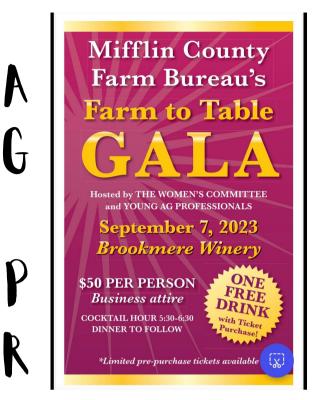
Legislative Committee: 13th U.S. Congressional District (John Joyce) : Chairman: Tim Goss PA 30th Senatorial District (Judy Ward) Chairman: Mark Ellinger PA 85th House District (Dave Rowe) : Chairman: Tim Goss PA 171st House District (Kerry Benninghof): Megan Keller

### **Free Wheeling Day**





Trent Goss and Rebecca Harrop represented the Mifflin County Young Ag Professionals at the Mifflin **County Free Wheeling** Career Day. The Career Day was hosted by the Juniata River Valley Chamber of Commerce for fourth graders in the county. Exhibitors used their workrelated vehicles to speak to the students about their jobs.



## **Ag Awareness** Crates

Ag Awareness Crates are designed to provide educational resources for teachers to utilize and bring agriculture into the classroom. The boxes are managed by the Ag Promotion Committee of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau in partnership with the Pennsylvania Friends of Agriculture Foundation. There will be two crates a year fall and spring seving grades K-5. We are looking for sponsors to get crates donated to classrooms in the county. If you would like to sponsor a crate please reach out to Tina Goss.



YAP Chair: Dylan Dietz 717-437-5798 District Chair: Megan Keller 717-372-7713



Young Ag Professionals State Competitions Annual Meeting 2023

1.Acheivement Award

- 2. Excellence in Agriculture Award
  - 3. Social Media Award
- 4. Disscussion Meet Award

Deadline to apply.... TBD

### YAP State Summer Picnic

Thank you to all who attended the YAP Summer Picnic held at the PSU Ag Arena. The ag olympics consisted of 2 man saw, egg race, three legged race, and milk chug flip cup



If you have any ideas of workshops or trainings you want YAP to try to offer please send those to Megan



August 5-12- Youth Fair August 31- District YAP Back Mountain Flower Farm Tour workshop September 7- Farm to Table Gala September 18- 3rd Grade Ag Tour set up September 19- 3rd Grade Ag Tour September 27- Fall Annual Meeting October 4- Reorganizational Meeting November ----- Annual Meeting



#### JD Spicher Region 3 Board Director



JD and his wife Michelle run Spicher Family Farm located just outside of Belleville Pa. They took over operating the farm in the spring of 2018 and are the 2nd Generation. They have 4 children who enjoy being on the farm. They are milking an average of 85 Holstein cows and strive to produce high quality milk.

# Mifflin Gounty Farm Bureau Hello..... from our President

Mifflin County Farm Bureau will hold its annual meeting in September. We would like to see more members there.

We will also have an exhibit at the Mifflin Country Youth Fair in August. Stop by and check out the display set up by our Young Ag Professionals.

You should be receiving membership renewal forms soon. We would appreciate early renewals.

## **Summer Picnic**

We held our county summer picnic on June 25 at Malta Park. Thank you to Darv for preparing the chicken and to all who brought food to share. Thanks to everyone who joined us. The kids had the best time playing in the creek while we conducted business.



#### Best regards, Tim Goss



Ag Progress Days Be sure to visit the Farm Bureau Building August 8-10 for kiddie tractor pulls, corn hole, and more

Women's Leadership Committee Chair: Tina Goss 717-250-5562 District 10 Chair: Cheyenne Hepner cheyennemaben@gmail.com



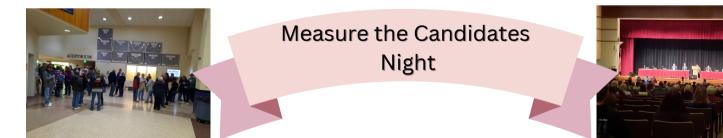
Saturday, September 16, 2023 near State College/ Boalsburg

## Fall Annual Meeting

September 27, 2023 Time: 6:30pm Location: Granville United Methodist Church Cost: \$17.00

Harvest for All Collection YAP will be collecting donations for the harvest for all collection and will donate items to a local food bank/pantry

Please RSVP by September 13, 2023 Megan Keller- mmk5337@gmail.com 717-372-7713 or Dylan Dietz dietzag6@gmail.com or 717-437-5798



Meet the Candidates Night was held on May 3, 2023. Twenty-five candidates were invited, nineteen showed up and partipated. Thank you to everyone who helped from screening questions, timers, refreshments, and everyone who helped spread the word. There were approximately 100 people in attendnace if not more. Huge thank you to Mark Ellinger for overseeing this event!

### Educators Ag Institute

Teachers got a hands-on learning experience with 4-Her's from Mifflin County and their various 4-H animal projects at Penn State's Snider Ag Arena which is hosted by the PA Friends of Agriculture Foundation. We are thankful for the farm bureau members who help their kids or club members who volunteer their time to help education teachers across the state to bring agriculture to their classrooms. Mifflin County had 3 teachers in attendance.











Ag Trivia Night









Hershey PA November 12-15 breakouts, sessions, speakers Watch for more info to come available

### **Buy Local County Directory**

We have a goal to promote locally grown/made products right here in the county. If you are a grower/producer please fill out the form and mail back to Megan at 20 Woods Lane Lewistown PA, 17044 by Sept 15, 2023. The hopes is to have this available at numerous locations across the county and in some publications.

arm/Business Name:
Owners Name:
Are you a Farm Bureau Member?
arm Business/Address:
arm/Business Phone #:
Email
Category (beef, dairy, beeds,
produce?):

# Want to recieve a digital color copy of the newsletter???

If you answered yes, please contact Megan at mmk5337@gmail.com and she will add you to the email list!



Newsletter **Mifflin County Farm Bureau** 20 Woods Lane, Lewistown PA 17044



on Medicare? Choosing your Farm Bureau's experienced Medicare plan can be overwhelming.

Knowledgeable. Helpful. Dedicated.

you want, or more

important, what

you need.

and trained staff are ready to help. At no cost to you, we can: It can be hard to Answer your questions figure out what

- · Explain and compare options
- · Work within your budget · Help with informed Medicare coverage decisions

**Insurance Agents:** Nationwide: 814-643-4410 or 866-717-8376 (F) 814-643-1888 Pam Stern, RT 22 W. PO Box 206, Mill Creek, PA 17060 Central Insurers Group LLC- Lewistown-21 W Monument Sq Lewistown, PA 17044 The Metz Agency, 4005 E Main St Belleville, PA 17004



#### Protect your next with the Ag Insight Center

We feed your need for insights and information with access to the Ag insight Center, providing members with the latest resources, innovations and information to help drive your future





To check availability in your county call 800.522.2375.