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FARM BUREAU
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Mifflin County Farm Bureau

FEBRUARY 5TH 2025

Farmers Head into 2025 with Another Farm Bill Extension, Aid

Passed and signed into law in the early hours of Dec. 21, 2024 – the day a government shutdown would have begun if Congress had not acted – the American Relief Act of 2025 includes \$31 billion in natural and economic disaster aid for farmers and ranchers, a second extension of the 2018 farm bill and \$2.5 billion in additional aid to be distributed through USDA.

The American Relief Act of 2025 will provide much-needed relief to farmers and ranchers across the country. A total of \$31 billion of economic and disaster aid for farmers and an extension of the 2018 farm bill has certainly saved farms. However, an updated farm bill with a functioning safety net would have made much of this ad hoc aid unnecessary. The suspension of funding for the orphan programs also leaves a hole for some important priorities for agriculture. A new farm bill in 2025 could plug these holes and prevent the need for ad hoc economic aid in future years.

Visit www.fb.org to read the full article by Betty Resnick

2025 PA Farm Bureau Priorities

With 2025 well underway, Pennsylvania Farm Bureau remains committed to advocating for policies that support the hardworking farmers and agricultural producers that are the backbone of our state’s economy. Our legislative priorities come from our County Farm Bureaus and our focus is on addressing the key challenges facing agriculture in Pennsylvania.



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Spring Meeting 2025

The Mifflin County Farm Bureau spring meeting will be held March 26th, 2025 at 6:30pm at Hoss's Steakhouse in Lewistown. Everyone attending will be responsible for paying for their meal. Please RSVP to Sonieta (717-437-5818) or Tina (717-250-5562) by March 19th. We hope to see you there!



Reps. Thompson, Schrier Lead Bipartisan, Bicameral Introduction of Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act

U.S. Representatives Glenn "GT" Thompson (R-PA) and Kim Schrier (D-WA) and Senators Roger Marshall (R-KS), Peter Welch (D-VT), Dave McCormick (R-PA), and John Fetterman (D-PA) led the introduction of the bipartisan, bicameral Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act, which will allow for unflavored and flavored whole and reduced fat (2 percent) milk to be offered in school cafeterias.

The Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act of 2025 highlights the many health benefits and nutrients milk provides to young Americans, including better bone health, lower blood pressure, and reduced risk of cardiovascular disease or Type 2 diabetes. According to the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans (DGAs), milk is a source of two under-consumed nutrients – calcium and vitamin D – along with other key nutrients. In order for students to benefit from the nutritional content of milk, they must actually consume the milk, which is more likely to occur with varieties and options.

Farm Bureau Day 2025

Farm Bureau Day 2025 for our region will be held March 3rd at the Bongiorno Conference Center in Carlisle, PA. It will run from 9am-3pm and will include many speakers and a lunch. Topics covered include:

- ◆ Soil crop response, Shallow Compaction, and Managing Ear Molds

- ◆ Funding for Ag Conservation
- ◆ How to Impress Your Lawyer
- ◆ Federal, State, and Environmental Affairs Updates

Please RSVP to

kesechrist@pfb.com or

717-409-9170

no later than February 17th. They hope to have a good turnout!

Senate and House Ag Committee Leadership Positions | 119th Congress:

Leadership for the U.S. Senate and House Ag Committees were chosen. Senator John Boozman (R-AR) was appointed Chair of Senate Ag as the Republicans have the majority in the Senate now. In the House, Representative "GT" Thompson (R-PA) was appointed to his second term for Chair of House Ag. Senate and House Ag Democrats both have new leadership and both Ranking Members are from Minnesota – Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) and Representative Angie Craig (D-MN). Farm Bureau looks forward to working with the Four Corners of House and Senate Ag in 2025 to achieve a new and modernized farm bill.

Ag Crates

Registration is OPEN Get your Spring Ag Crates by March 7!

The Ag Awareness Crates are designed to provide educational resources for teachers, so they can bring agriculture into the classroom. This crate's featured book is My Family's Corn Farm by Katie Olthoff.

COST: \$30.00 per crate

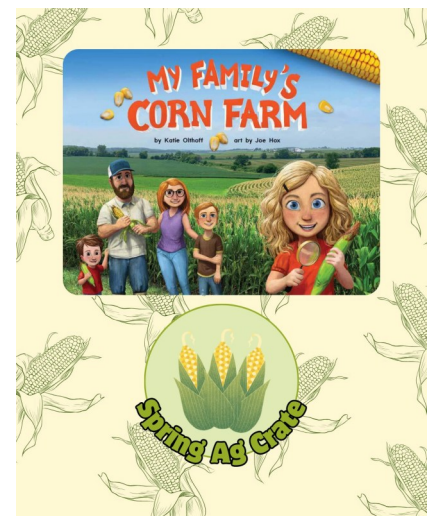
DEADLINE TO ORDER: March 7, 20

Each box will include the following:

Supplies for ONE class of THIRTY students

- ◆ Ag-Accurate Book
- ◆ Educator's Guide
- ◆ Ag Mags
- ◆ Differentiated lesson plan for grades K-5
- ◆ Recipe to share!

Contact Tina Goss, the Mifflin County Women's Committee Chair to sign up today!



2025 ICE Summit Leadership Conference



sponsored by
**Pennsylvania Farm Bureau
 Women's Leadership Committee**

A leadership and personal and professional development program available to everyone!

Join us for:

- ✓ TODAY Farm Tour
- ✓ Dinner
- ✓ Speakers
- ✓ Breakfast
- ✓ Keynote Speaker
- ✓ Networking



... and all for just \$65 registration and \$112+tax accommodations
March 28 & 29, 2025

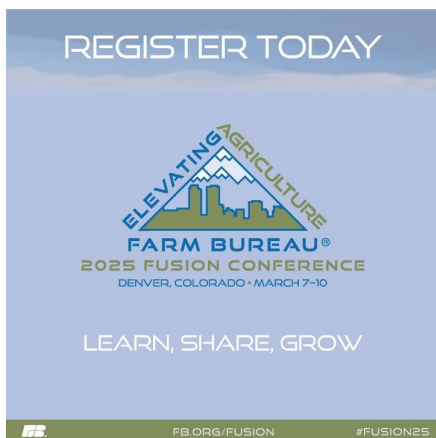
Holiday Inn Express
 Williamsport

Call 570-327-8231 for reservations



Chair Persons and Other Offices:

- Newsletter editor - Melanie Coblentz
- Member relations - Tim Goss
- Policy development - Ernie Harrop
- Member services - Dave Glick
- Promotion and Education - Dave and Jami Glick
- Young Ag Professionals - Chelsea Fultz
- Women's Leadership - Tina Goss
- District 10 WLC - Sonieta Harrop
- AFBF Promotion/Engagement - Rebecca Harrop
- District 10 YAP - Megan Keller
- District 10 State Board - Mike Mowrer
- District 10 P&E Committee - Tonya Schuh



Farmers' Care Day Wish List 2025

- Pantry Items:**
- *Single Serve Chips & Salty Snacks
 - *Juice Boxes
 - *Individual Cookie or Cracker Packs
 - *Mixed Nuts or Trail Mix Packets
 - *Granola Bars
 - *Breakfast Bars
 - *Pop Tarts
- Household Items:**
- *Swiffer Wet Jet Mopping Pads
 - *Swiffer Wet Jet Cleaning Solution
 - *Select-A-Size Paper Towels
 - *Lysol® All Purpose Cleaner
 - *Pledge® Multipurpose Cleaner
 - *Tide® Free & Gentle Laundry Pods
 - *Dryer Sheets
 - *Disinfectant Wipes
- Office Supplies:**
- *8 1/2" x 11" White Copier Paper
 - *Forever Postage Stamps

GIFT CARDS are OUR MOST NEEDED ITEMS!!

SAM'S CLUB
WALMART
AMAZON
STAPLES
UBER

We are UNABLE TO ACCEPT used or outdated/expired items, stuffed animals, baby food & formula, medical supplies, tube feeding formula and many other items that are not on our Wish List.



@RMHCCentralPA

Donations should be dropped off at the **Ronald McDonald House**, 745 West Governor Road, Hershey
 Questions?
 Please call **717-533-4001 x-157**

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During this time of year, the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee works with local farmers and the community to collect monetary, food or other items for the Farmers Care Program. Farmers Care is a program that recognizes the commitment of farm families and our communities across Pennsylvania to raising healthy food for our communities.

Our Farm Communities also volunteer to help those in need, including our ongoing partnership with the Ronald McDonald House Charities. Since 1998 Pennsylvania's County Farm Bureaus have collected donations for the Ronald McDonald Houses located in five cities across the state.

The 2025 Farmers Care Day is set for Tuesday, March 20th. Needed items are listed on the flyer above. The Ronald McDonald House is still accepting magazine and tab donations.

Chances are you probably know someone who has used a Ronald McDonald House in the past. Having had the opportunity to meet some of the families who have used the Ronald McDonald House facilities, I know how much it means to these families to have a place to stay away from home and not have the stress and worry of trying to find a hotel and food all while caring for a seriously ill family member. Ronald McDonald House Charities is able to provide as close to "home" experience as possible.

If you have questions, Contact: Sonieta Harrop (717-437-5818) or Tina Goss (717-250-5562)

2024 Farm to Table Gala

Mifflin County Farm Bureau's Women's Leadership Committee and the Young Agriculture

Professional partnered to hold our third annual Farm to Table Gala on August 15 at Brookmere Winery & Vineyard.

The goal of our event is to bridge the gap between local farmers and consumers by providing a

healthy, nutritious meal almost entirely sourced from our local farmers and an opportunity to meet some local farmers.

Chef K from Solid Gold Concessions planned and prepared the meal using locally sourced

ingredients. The menu included the following: Assorted Meat & Cheese Charcuterie Board,

Garden Salad with a Balsamic Reduction or Yogurt Dressing, Honey Butter Cornbread. The

Main Course included Wood Fired Cornish Hens, Roasted Red Potatoes, Roasted Brussel

Sprouts & Cabbage, Roasted Squash, and Corn on the Cob.

Dessert featured Apple or Peach Fruit tarts with Vanilla Ice Cream.

Pre-purchased tickets included a free beverage, appetizers, the entrée, and dessert. Daisy Lane

Flowers provided the centerpieces using flowers grown on their farm.

The following local farmers provided the menu items. Let-Us Grow in Belleville, Reedsville

Creamery in Reedsville, Byler Goat Dairy in Belleville, Bilgers Pumpkins Ferguson Valley Rd,

Horningford Dairy in McVeytown, Yoderway Farm in McVeytown, Peachey Foods in Belleville,

David R Peachey Produce in Belleville, Kish Creek Produce in Belleville, Simon R Peachey in

Belleville, and JAS Farms (Adam & Taylor White) in Ferguson Valley. Hostetler's Country

Market baked the Fruit Tarts with Apple and Peaches provided by Zook's Orchard, Belleville,

DJ Kota J provided DJ services and music for the Gala. Visit her Facebook page as well as the

pages for those who contributed to the success of the Gala.

Our featured entertainment for the evening was "Farm to Table Jeop-

ardy" hosted by "Steve Barley". Teams competed for bragging rights on their Farm knowledge.

The following, Pine Ridge Coffee, Whispering Woods Farm and Horningford Dairy all had a

booth set up and had the opportunity to sell items and meet consumers.

If you are looking for locally grown and produced meats, produce and baked goods, we

encourage you to stop in and see what all these farmers have available.

We would like to thank members of the Mifflin County Poultry Club for serving the buffet meal

and clearing plates afterward.

Special thanks to our sponsors: Gromark FS, Union Mill, Juniata Valley Bank and GVM

Equipment.

Thank You to everyone who attended the Gala or contributed to the meal.

The Farm to Table Committee is already looking forward to next year's Gala.



Presidents Column

As we begin 2025, I hope you all enjoyed the holidays with your families the last few months. We are excited to be starting another year with the Mifflin County Farm Bureau.

Thank you to all who had attended our Fall Meeting at the Heritage Restaurant in Allensville. I hope to see you all again at the Spring Meeting on March 26th, 6:30pm at Hoss's in Lewistown.

Thank you to those who have already renewed their memberships or have become new members, if you have not done so already please complete those as soon as you can. Also, check out the list of other up coming events, as we would like to see more people get involved in what we do, especially locally.

Best Regards,

Tim Goss, President



Young Ag Professionals Updates

Upcoming events

- ◆ Leadership Conference Feb 21 -23
 - ◆ August 10 Eastern Region YAP Summer Picnic at Paulus Farm Market
 - ◆ September 6 2nd Annual Blast Away Hunger Shoot
- Pennsylvania Young Ag Professionals' state Discussion Meet winner Kay Smith advanced to the Round of 16 in the 2025 national Discussion Meet at the American Farm Bureau Convention in San Antonio, Texas.



2025 PA Friends of Ag Foundation Golf Outing

June 9th, 2025



Up Coming Events

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| ◆ Bridging the Future Leadership Conference | February 21st-23rd |
| ◆ Farm Bureau Day | March 3rd |
| ◆ Ag Crate Registration | March 7th |
| ◆ Farm Bureau Fusion Conference | March 7th-10th |
| ◆ Ag Literacy Week | March 17th-21st |
| ◆ Farmer's Care Day | March 20th |
| ◆ Spring Meeting | March 26th |
| ◆ ICE Summit | March 28th-29th |
| ◆ PA Friends of Ag Foundation Golf Outing | June 9th |
| ◆ Eastern Region YAP Summer Picnic | August 10th |
| ◆ Annual Blast Away Hunger Shoot | September 2nd |

Mifflin County Farm Bureau Discounts:

Cen-Pe-Co – Benjamin J. Zook (Juniata) \$0.75 off per gallon on 5 gallons or more; \$1.00 off per gallon on 35 gallons or more of Cenpeco fuel additives. Does not apply to pints and quarts.

Fisher's Shoe & Saddle Shop (Centre) 10% off regular priced footwear & tack

Harsco AgroSil (Butler) 10% off per ton of ag lime



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Milroy, PA 17063

Insurance Agents:

Nationwide- Pam Stern, 814-643-4410 or 866-717-8376

(F) 814-643-1888 (C) 814-599-0758

Pam Stern, Rt. 22 W. PO Box 206, Mill Creek, Pa. 17060

Central Insurers Group Inc. – Lewistown, 21 W. Monument Sq.

Lewistown, Pa. 17044

Central Insurers Group Inc. – State College, 1360 N. Atherton St.

State College, Pa. 16803

The Metz Agency, 4005 E. Main St. Belleville, Pa. 17004

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