

**MIFFLIN COUNTY
FARM BUREAU
BOARD OF
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- **Region 1:**
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- Stan Dunk
- (717) 250-3419
- **Region 2:**
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- **Region 4:**
- Ernie Harrop
- (717) 437-3448
- Lucas Parkes
- (717) 250-7017
- **Secretary:**
- Taylor White
- **Treasurer:**
- Robert Harrop



Mifflin County Farm Bureau

MAY 19TH 2025

Over Order Premium Bill

Senate Bill 689, which reforms Pennsylvania's Over-Order Premium (OOP) system for dairy farmers, was unanimously approved today by the Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee and now moves to the full Senate. Pennsylvania Farm Bureau supports the bill as a long-overdue update to ensure the system fairly supports in-state dairy producers.

Created in 1988, the OOP was meant to stabilize milk prices and support local farmers, but shifting milk markets have led to an outdated and inequitable distribution of premium dollars with a portion historically not making its way back to Pennsylvania producers. This has been a point of frustration for many farmers who do not receive the intended benefit of the premiums paid by Pennsylvania consumers. SB 689 addresses this by allowing the Milk Marketing Board to set a uniform premium rate for milk sold at retail in the state and requires coordination with the Department of Revenue to ensure transparency and fair application.

We will continue to advocate for Senate Bill 689 and urge all senators to support this important legislation on the Senate floor to ensure a stronger future for Pennsylvania's dairy industry.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

OOP Reformation Bill Passed	1
President's Column	2
Mifflin County FB Summer Picnic	2
Policy Development Update	2
Blessing of the Balers	2
Women's Committee Update	3
Mifflin County FB Discounts	3
Tariff Update Article	3
District 10 YAP Updates	4
Ag Crates & Ag Literacy Week Updates	4
Member Benefits	4
Rural Road Safety Week	5
Chair Persons and other Offices	5
Up Coming Events	5

President's Column

Thank you to all those who attended the Spring meeting at Hoss's. It was a nice evening to get everyone together to enjoy a meal and our great speaker, Jesse Cunningham from the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

Our next big county event is the Summer Picnic coming up next month. (See panel on right). Please join us at Reeds Gap State Park on June 29th!

As spring is in full swing, please remember to keep an eye out for farmers/lawn mowers on the road. We can all do our part to keep everyone safe this summer!

Lastly, please continue to invite new members to join or old members to renew. Memberships are what help drive all we do!

Best Regards,

Tim Goss, President



Mifflin County
Farm Bureau
Annual
SUMMER PICNIC

REEDS GAP STATE PARK
 PAVILION #2
JUNE 29TH | 6PM

Drinks and entree will be provided.
 Please bring a covered dish/dessert to share along with place settings!

please RSVP by June 20th to
Sonietta @ 717.437.5818
Tina @ 717.250.5562

Policy Development Update

I have set the following dates for Meetings to develop policy recommendations.

June 9th, 7:00 pm at Milroy Presbyterian Church

July 21st, 7:00 pm TBD

I have already received a couple suggestions for Policy Recommendations. If you have ideas or just want to see how the process works, please feel free to attend.

Ernie Harrop

Blessing of the Balers

May 6, 2025

Today PA State Rep. Bud Cook held his third annual Blessing of the Balers event outside the Pennsylvania Capitol building. Pennsylvania Farm Bureau was honored to have the opportunity to once again be a part of this special ceremony.

Agriculture organizations, state officials, beef farmers and others gathered to bless the balers with the hope of a productive and safe hay season.

The event also celebrated May as Beef Month! To celebrate, after the ceremony beef industry members made and served burgers from local PA beef farmers.



Women's Committee Update

The WLC State Committee met April 17 th , 2025.

Farmers Care Day at Hershey RMH turned out very well. The in-person event was very nice this year and I'm looking forward to continuing with in person events in the future. We collected \$12,742.00 in items and monetary donations. Well done everyone!

Entries for the Safety Contest are due to your county presidents by May 1 st . June 1 st is the deadline for counties to submit their county winners to PFB office.

We have our 2026 Farmtastic Book picked out and order forms are available on the PFB website. Please contact Tina Goss or myself if you wish to order books.

We are collecting orders early this year so the books will definitely be available at Hershey.

Be thinking about your county Outstanding Woman in Ag nominations.

Deadline to submit nominations to your county WLC is July 1 st . I'm sure there are many worthy women in our county. . Please consid-

er nominating one.

If you need assistance filling out the application, please let me know.

Respectfully yours,

Sonietta L Harrop
PFB WLC District #10
717-437-5818
slharrop61@gmail.com

2026 Farmtastic Book

"In the month of the Maple Sugar Moon, the snow's too wet for angel making, icicles rain from Grandpa's porch roof, and something is stirring in the woods. It's sugarbush spring—time to tap the trees, prepare the bottles, then gather round the cook fire to eat chicken and dumplings, roast marshmallows, and tell stories while the cold sap heats through, thickens, and boils to make syrup."

Cost is \$12. Orders will be due by Aug. 1.



Mifflin County FB 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

Additional Tariffs will Pinch Pennsylvania Farmers

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau President Chris Hoffman commented today on President Donald Trump's announcement that the United States will impose reciprocal tariffs on trading partners.

"Agriculture relies on robust trade agreements. Pennsylvania Farm Bureau (PFB) thanks the Trump Administration for promoting America's agricultural goods by prioritizing new and existing trade agreements. At the same time though, we do have concerns on the impact increased tariffs would have on farms who are struggling to stay afloat given recent natural disasters and high input costs among other factors.

Over 20% of U.S. agricultural goods are exported, so retaliatory tariffs do pose a threat to farmer's profits. While we understand and appreciate the goal of these tariffs bolstering American-grown products, these tariffs will inevitably further drive-up input costs, which will make agricultural products more expensive globally. Unfortunately, farmers are going to experience short-term competitive disadvantages, but these tariffs may also cause long-term impacts regarding market share losses.

Recognizing the recent stagnation in trade agreement enforcement and expansion, PFB appreciates President Trump's ambitious attitude to take action regarding our trade agreements with other countries, but we urge the administration to pursue alternative strategies, rather than tariffs, to protect farmers from retaliation."

Article from PFB website

District 10 YAP Updates:

- ◆ Annual Blast Away Hunger Shoot
September 2nd

EASTERN YAP SUMMER PICNIC REGION

Paulus Farm Market
August 10, 2025
11am-2pm
Food Provided
Family Friendly
RSVP by July 24th, 2025
Using the link or QR code
or email mmk5337@gmail.com
Charcuterie Board Contest

1216 S YORK ST
MECHANICSBURG, PA

SCAN ME

Join Young Ag Professionals For Our
2nd Annual
CENTRAL PA YAP NIGHT
at the
ALTOONA CURVE

PEOPLES NATURAL GAS FIELD • \$12 PER TICKET

RSVP BY JUNE 15TH USING THE LINK OR QR CODE
<https://form.jotform.com/241194332178153>

SATURDAY AUGUST 9TH • GAME BEGINS AT 6:30PM
FIREWORKS TO FOLLOW

Questions?
Kaytee Tew • 814-494-2692
Megan Keller • 717-372-7713
Curtis Chambers • 814-577-1107

Member Benefits

Home and Auto

Ford \$500.00 off exclusive Ford trucks

Jiffy Lube Code: 1136045 National Fleet Discount

SAFARI WILLIAMS Most show membership card (exceptions may apply)

nrg Code: PFB-7555-024 855-692-8330

STAPES Business Advantage Code: 158081941

Affinity Cellular Code: 8418 855-763-8213

CHOICE Code: 00007860 800-258-2847

WYNNDHAM Code: 800002046 877-470-7088

AVIS Code: A208838 800-331-1222

Budget Code: 1775758 800-327-0700

Farm and Business

GRAINGER Account: 855488417

Locust Valley Farm Code: PFB 1800-8-SADDLE

CASE IH Code: 1800-8-SADDLE

CAT Code: 1800-8-SADDLE

JOHN DEERE Code: 1800-8-SADDLE

Shopley Energy Code: 1800-8-SADDLE

Health and Wellness

ScriptSave Code: Group 946

MyEPA Pharmacy Code: 800-974-7036

Publication

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

Additional Benefits

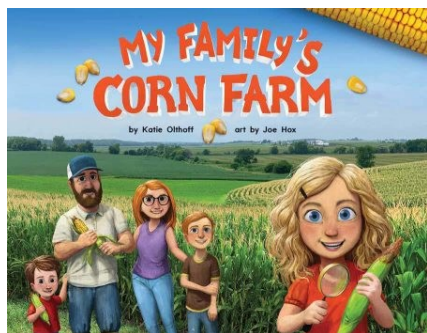
Save even more with County Farm Bureau Local Discount!

Financial and Insurance

Nationwide

Ag Crate and Ag Literacy Week Updates

Thanks to the generosity of the following members Mifflin County farm Bureau was able to deliver an Ag Crate to every kindergarten classroom in Mifflin County - Nokota Harpster, Stan Dunk, Anna



Mackneer, Mike Carson, Tyler Mackneer, Dave and Jane Esh, Nina and Bump Agney, Carey and Jason Goss, Trent Goss, Tim Goss and Tina Goss.

Pennsylvania Ag Literacy Week focuses on connecting volunteers from the agricultural community to local classrooms to share the story of agriculture. This year the PA Friends of Agriculture Foundation chose the book *The Soil* in Jackie's Garden to educate students about composting, recycling, and organic matter in the soil. After the book was read volunteers engaged further with students with an activity developed by the foundation that re-enforces the concepts they learned from the book.

This year members of the Mifflin County Farm Bureau purchased books for all the second grades in the county. Members of Mifflin County 4-H volunteered to read to students this year. This allowed readers to also share the story of 4H.

Thanks to the following Farm Bureau members who helped make this happen by purchasing book - Adam and Taylor White, Ernie Harrop, Sonieta Harrop, Rep. Kerry Benninghoff, Rebecca Harrop, Pam Stern, Megan Keller, Anna Mackneer, Mike Carson, Jeanette Dink, Jake Wagner, Trent Goss, and Tina Goss.

Save the Date

AFBF Campaign School

September 25 & 26, 2025

Interested in running for office at any level? Come learn how to be a successful community leader

Hosted by:
Pennsylvania Farm Bureau
PennAg

Questions:
Bailey Fisher
bmfisher@pfb.com

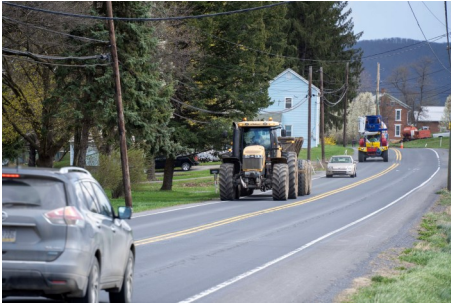


4-H members visit local schools during Pa. Ag Literacy Week

LEWISTOWN - Pennsylvania Ag Literacy Week 2025 was a great success. The program focused on connecting volunteers from the agricultural community with local classrooms to share the story of agriculture. This year, the PA Friends of Agriculture Foundation chose the book *The Soil* in Jackie's Garden to educate students about composting, recycling, and organic matter in the soil. After the book was read, volunteers engaged further with students with an activity developed by the foundation that re-enforces the concepts they learned from the book. This year, members of the Mifflin County Farm Bureau purchased books for all the second grades in the county. Members of Mifflin County 4-H volunteered to read to students this year. This allowed readers to also share the story of 4H.



Rural Road Safety Week 2025



Pennsylvania farmers are returning to their fields for spring planting, which means that drivers should be alert for large farm equipment on rural roadways. Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, and our partners in state government, are encouraging motorists to be cautious as part of Rural Roads Safety Week, April 13-19. Each year, Pennsylvania Farm Bureau partners with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) and the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) to spread the message of staying safe on rural roads during the height of the spring planting season.

"Farmers make the safety of other motorists a top priority when we must move equipment on the roadway and we ask that drivers help keep us safe as well," said Pennsylvania Farm Bureau President Chris Hoffman. "We don't want to cause an inconvenience to anyone and will often pull over to allow others to pass when it's safe to do so. We just ask that drivers remain patient when following farm equipment and keep a safe distance. By slowing down and using caution and commonsense, drivers can avoid costly crashes and save lives." According to preliminary PennDOT data, there were 104 crashes involving farm equipment on Pennsylvania roads in 2024, resulting in three fatalities and 13 suspected serious injuries. In total, there were more than 40,000 crashes on rural Pennsylvania roads last year, resulting in 576 fatalities, further stressing the need for safety on rural roads.

Farm equipment can legally be operated on Pennsylvania roadways, including at night, but farmers are required to follow certain safety guidelines depending on the size of equipment moved. All farm equipment that travels at speeds less than 25 miles per hour is required to have a Slow-Moving Vehicle emblem (an orange triangle with red outline) on the back of their equipment. If drivers see the Slow-Moving Vehicle emblem, it is a sign to slow down immediately. It takes only five seconds to close a gap the length of a football field if a vehicle is driving 55 miles per hour and a tractor is moving at 15 miles per hour. Drivers should be alert that farm equipment may be turning at an unexpected place, such as into a field, and may be making a wide left turn if it pulls to the right. Always be sure the oncoming lane is clear and visible before passing large equipment and never pass in a no-passing zone or within 100 feet of any intersection, railroad grade crossing, bridge, elevated structure or tunnel.

PFB, along with representatives from PennDOT, Pennsylvania State Police and Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture held a demonstration and event promoting Rural Roads Safety Week at Dotterer Dairy in Mill Hall, Clinton County, on Tuesday, April 15. County Farm Bureaus across Pennsylvania also hold local events in their communities promoting safe driving on rural roads.




Up Coming Events

◆ Federal Affairs Trip	May 21-22
◆ Mifflin County FB Policy Meeting	June 9th
◆ PA Friends of Ag Foundation Golf Outing	June 9th
◆ Central PA YAP Night @ Curve	June 15th
◆ Educator's Ag Institute 1.0	June 22-26th
◆ Educator's Ag Institute 2.0	June 25-27th
◆ <u>Mifflin County</u> Summer Picnic	June 29th
◆ Mifflin County FB Policy Meeting	July 21st
◆ <u>Eastern Region</u> YAP Summer Picnic	August 10th
◆ Annual Blast Away Hunger Shoot	September 2nd
◆ AFBF Campaign School	September 25-6th

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

Mifflin County **Melanie Coblentz— Editor**

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Milroy, PA 17063
Farm Bureau

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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

Farm Management Supervisor:

Timothy Wirt, 4580 SR 642, PO Box 95 Potts Grove, Pa. 17865

570-742-0319

MSC Supervisor:

Karen Potteiger – 717-908-0952



Having the safety talk with your kids isn't just important—it's essential.

In 2023, 19% of deaths in off-highway vehicle (OHV) accidents were children under 16, with only 2% wearing helmets! The Let's Champion Rider Safety™ campaign, provides tips and resources for effective safety discussions and protection for young riders.

Learn more at Nationwide.com/ATVsafety



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Are You Turning 65 This Year and Going on Medicare?

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Health Services

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:

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

Knowledgeable. Helpful. Dedicated.
To check availability in your county call **800.522.2375**.