

A Note from the County President

It has become a cliché to say that the only constant is change. Some changes we just have to accept, like the weather this month. Every farmer in the county has been impacted by the wild swing from crystal blue and dry skies, to near constant moisture for nearly two weeks straight, just as harvest should begin.

Change has also come to our local York County Farm Bureau this fall as we welcome several new officers to the board. Ellie Barley has taken on the role of Secretary, and Brian Smyser now serves as First Vice-President. Julie Schrum, who also serves as our region's Representative on the state board, will fill the role of Second Vice-President, and I have been elected as President. We all look forward to a productive new year together, and thank outgoing President Kate Livingston-Menges who has worked so hard on the board over the last 6 years.

Other changes are more expected. No matter who wins the coming presidential election, we can be sure that it will be a new administration with new priorities and new ideas about the way farms should be run in the 21st Century. No matter who wins the election, Farm Bureau will be there in Washington helping to

inform policy decisions to benefit farmers.

Farm Bureau is more than just its officers and professional staff; it is every member who is concerned about the future of farming. If you see changes on the horizon that concern you, please contact a board member or come to one of our monthly meetings. We'd love to hear what's on your mind, and help our Many Voices become One Vision.

Barron Shaw



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York Revolution Ag Night

The York Revolution had Ag Night on Friday, September 6! We saw several members there and spoke with many non members about what we are doing! One of our members grandson's event caught a fly ball for the night! Todd from Shipley Oil was there to speak to members and two ROD's, Kenny Sechrist and Neil Dembeck were present. Smyser's had a tractor at the entrance and you could even ride the mechanical bull! 50% of the ticket proceeds this night went to the Ag Education Fund at the York Fair. This fund is who bought all the books to be read across York County Elementary Schools in March of this year! Thank you to all those who came out and supported Ag in this fun way!

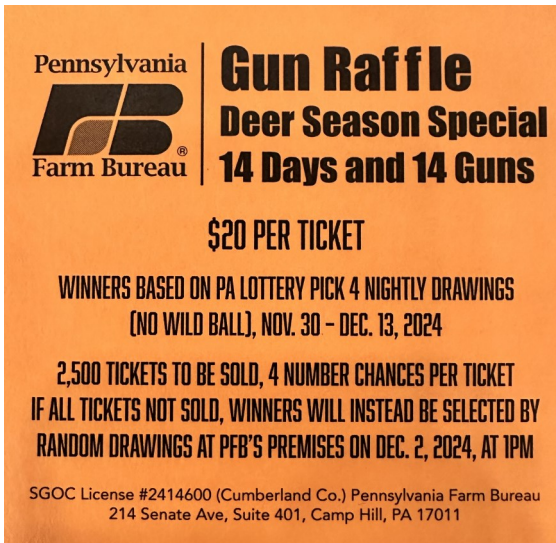


PFB Wildlife Committee Gun Raffle

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau's Wildlife and Fisheries Committee is having a gun raffle to benefit public interest purposes related to outdoor and recreational educational efforts.

This is part of our ongoing effort to strengthen relationships with the hunting and conservation community. Proceeds from the raffle will be donated to organizations that educate Pennsylvania's citizens about the state's diverse wildlife. Special emphasis will be placed on groups that promote understanding of time-honored management principles, such as the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation.

Tickets are \$20 giving you 4 number chances! Winners are based on PA Lottery Pick 4 Nightly Drawings from November 30-December 13, 2024. Your winning ticket will give you a gift card for Bass Pro Shop in the amount of winning gun prize so you can pickup that gun, exchange for another, or use the gift card for shopping! What a great gift idea and opportunity right before Christmas! Reach out to a Board Member listed on Page 3 to get yours today!



Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

Gun Raffle

Deer Season Special

14 Days and 14 Guns

\$20 PER TICKET

WINNERS BASED ON PA LOTTERY PICK 4 NIGHTLY DRAWINGS
(NO WILD BALL), NOV. 30 - DEC. 13, 2024

2,500 TICKETS TO BE SOLD, 4 NUMBER CHANCES PER TICKET
IF ALL TICKETS NOT SOLD, WINNERS WILL INSTEAD BE SELECTED BY
RANDOM DRAWINGS AT PFB'S PREMISES ON DEC. 2, 2024, AT 1PM

SGOC License #2414600 (Cumberland Co.) Pennsylvania Farm Bureau
214 Senate Ave, Suite 401, Camp Hill, PA 17011

Welcome New York County FB Members!

We want to welcome the new members that have joined York County Farm Bureau since July 1, 2024!

Raven Eisenhour	Matthew Sechrist
Brett John Frey	W. Boggs Shoemaker
John Louis Davids	Rebecca Countess
Adam J Ross	Laura Peeling
Matthew T Miller	Steven A. Venable
Katie Elisabeth Sentz	Lee O. Godfrey
Jessica McKay	Kennady Laird
Judith Krenzel	

York County YAP Agrotourism Tour Coming

Thank you to everyone who came out and attended the first YAP event of York County at South County Brewing on Sunday, August 18. This was a great time for everyone to get to know one another and get a free tour of the Brewery! We heard a lot of great ideas for future events and learned what is important to this group of Ag Professionals!



York County Farm Bureau is hosting the 2nd YAP event of 2024 on Sunday, November 3, 2024 at 3 PM at Maple Lawn Farms, New Park, PA. Members can arrive between 1-6 PM for free admission to the famous Maize Quest and enjoy the bamboo maize, corn maize (daylight or flashlight beginning at 5 PM), kids events and much more! Food & drink will be on your own. At 3 PM we will meet in the Red Barn for a Q&A session with operator Hugh McPherson on how he got started as an entrepreneur and what is involved in Agrotourism.

RSVP is required so reach out to Anna at (717) 916-8599 or email yorkcountyfarmbureau-pa@gmail.com to save your spot! Space is limited so don't miss out on a fun social evening of like minded ag professionals!



York County Farm Bureau 2025 Board of Directors

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Caleb Staples (717) 916-9459
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Charles Brown (717) 225-1461
charlesbrownforestry@gmail.com

Scholarship Winners

This year York County Farm Bureau had 6 applicants for scholarship awards!! We were able to award 2 of the entrants a \$1,000 scholarship each. Congratulations to these 2 young ladies!



- Grace Benton from Dover. Attending University of Kentucky for Biological & Agriculture Engineering
- Allison Macklin from Airville. Attending Kansas State University for Agriculture Communications

York County Legislative Breakfast

Every year while the legislators are out of session, Farm Bureau's across the state hold Legislative events in their Counties. This year, the York County event was held at Lynn Godfrey's Farm in Felton, PA with The Mill present to do a drone demonstration of cover crop application. We were pleasantly surprised on the amount of questions and discussion held during this presentation and grateful for the active engagement of the legislators.



Those present were Representative Wendy Fink, Joe D'Orsie, Mike Jones & Carol Hill-Evans, County Commissioner Doug Hoke, US Congressman Scott Perry & Larissa from Congressman Lloyd Smucker's office. Bailey Fisher, PFB Federal Affairs Specialist, Mitchell Kurek, PFB State & Local Affairs Specialist, and Kenny Sechrist, ROD were also present. Thank you to Shaw Orchards for the peach donation as part of our breakfast!



Did you know as a Farm Bureau member you receive a 10% discount on your Lancaster Farming subscription? Call 717-721-4412 to apply your discount on renewal.



York County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

The Annual York County Farm Bureau meeting was held on Sunday, September 8 at the Red Lion Rec Center. Thank you to all those who attended for the luncheon and annual meeting. York County is submitting 4 policies for PFB Annual Meeting listed below. Thank you to Senator Kristin Phillips-Hill for attending and updating those in attendance what is happening at the Capital as well as Todd Horner from Shipley who explained the discounts offered to Farm Bureau members! Contact Todd directly at (717) 825-5100 or thorner@shipleyenergy.com to get your quote today before harvest is in full swing or you need to refill heating oil, propane or diesel fuel!

Policies:

1. Amendment to Federal Policy 1.14: A state by state deprecation order for the taking of predatory (Insert) >and biosecurity risk of< Black Vultures.
2. Whereas, the states of Virginia and Maryland have decommissioned a large portion of their fossil fuel power plants and now produce less reliable electricity, and Whereas Virginia's current data center plans would consume more power than New York City, and Whereas every kilowatt of exported power increase the cost of power to PA residents, and Whereas new transmission lines have always relief on threats of eminent domain, be it resolved that the York County Farm Bureau urges Pennsylvania to enact policy that would reject calls from grid operator PJM to construct any additional transmission lines solely for the purposes of providing power to Maryland and Virginia.
3. The flying of drones or any kind of photo or video equipment without landowner or property manager consent over agriculture animal operations and commercial food processing facilities such as meat packing plants) should be treated in the same manner as physical trespass.

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**.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

York County YAP Agrotourism Tour New Park, PA

November 3, 2024 1-6 PM, 3 PM Speaker

PFB Annual Meeting, Hershey, PA

November 17-19, 2024

PA Farm Show, Harrisburg, PA

January 4-11, 2025

Keystone State Farm Show, York, PA

January 7-9, 2025

Ag Promo/YAP Conference, Harrisburg, PA

January 14-16, 2025

AFBF Annual Convention, San Antonio, TX

January 24-29, 2025



York County Farm Bureau makes debut at York Fair!

This year the York County Farm Bureau had a booth in Memorial Hall to engage the public and meet new and existing Farm Bureau members! Not all events are about gaining new members, but also about consumer education and connection with the general public! We certainly did that with over 455,000 people in attendance! We also stayed on top of social media with daily posts on what was going on at the fair, the animals, people and food! Thank you to those who volunteered their time to help out, those who stopped by to say hello, and especially those who showed their animals, vegetables, fruits, grains, baked goods and so much more which is what makes this Fair Great!

Member Spotlight: Caleb Staples & Anna Benton

Caleb Staples & Anna Benton were married in October 2023 so Happy 1 Year Anniversary to this lovely couple! Caleb was raised on his family's fifth-generation farm, helping to grow corn, soybeans, small grains, hay, and hogs. He began his commercial goat operation in 2018, partnering with his grandfather to form Shady Nook Meat Goats. At its peak, the operation managed thirty commercial breeding does. In 2022, after selling the business, Caleb shifted his focus to raising registered Boer goats, bringing his experience into a new business model at NovaRoot Farm. Anna grew up riding horses from age five and joined Caleb in his commercial goat operation in 2020. She applied much of her past equine management practices to Shady Nook's and now NovaRoot's operations. Today, Caleb and Anna work side by side to manage and grow the farm. They have plans to expand their business in the upcoming season by leasing more ground, purchasing and breeding higher quality does, and obtaining new feed customers. Together, they are dedicated to the farm's day-to-day success and long-term growth.



NovaRoot Farm LLC is a proud first-generation farm owned and operated by Caleb Staples and his wife, Anna Benton. Like many in agriculture, Caleb had to forge his own path when the family farm wasn't an option. Through God, hard work, and love, Caleb and Anna have built a successful operation, NovaRoot Farm. The couple farms approximately 20 acres of hay fields, producing quality small square bales while breeding and showing registered ABGA Boer goats. They also serve the local agricultural community by selling ADM and MoorMans ShowTec feed. By offering ADM feed products, Caleb and An-

na strive to provide nutrition solutions tailored to benefit each customer's farming operation.

Founded in 2024 after purchasing their farm, Caleb and Anna chose the name "NovaRoot" to symbolize their commitment to innovation while staying rooted in the foundation of agriculture. The couple aims to promote nontraditional operations, advocate for the young farmer, and implement more family farm succession plans, firmly believing in the importance of family farms. Farming is not just a business but a lifestyle the couple is blessed to be a part of.

Caleb joined the York County Farm Bureau Board in 2024 attending the PFB Legislative Day in Harrisburg! Anna has spearheaded the YAP (Young Ag Professionals) for York County with two events for 2024 already growing!

Lame Duck Farm Bill?

A full extension was not included in the recent CR for FY25 appropriations as the hope is to get farm bill done this calendar year. We are optimistic that a lame duck farm bill is possible. Farm Bureau has done numerous sign on coalition letters recently to urge members of Congress to act on farm bill upon return in November. This is our top priority at the moment, so PFB would ask that every County Farm Bureau do their absolute best to actively engage their congressional member on why a farm bill must get passed this year for the sake of food security and family farms.

There is no Food Security without Farm Security!

Sign up for the text Action Alerts to help quickly and easily reach out for our Asks to our legislators!

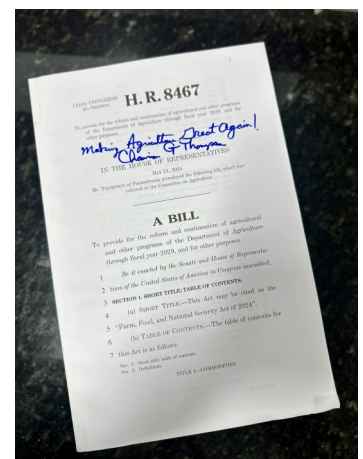
PFB Action Alerts:

<https://pfb.com/advocate-for-policies/actnow/>

AFBF Action Alerts:

<https://www.fb.org/action-alert>

Source: Bailey Fisher,
PFB Federal Affairs
Specialist



Welcome New 2025 York County Board Members

York County Farm Bureau By-Laws state that Board members have term limits. You can hold a maximum of (2) 3 year terms before you have to take a year off. We want to thank Kate Livingston-Menges for her years of service serving several times as County President. Also, thank you to Heather Grove for your term of service with valuable input and participation.

We welcome Ellie Barley and Charles Brown onto the Board for their first 3 year term!

Ellie works for her family's farm, Star Rock Farms, and is fourth generation. In her current roles, she handles all of the crop fertility planning, crop planning, manure/nutrient management, and conservation related items. Additionally, Ellie shares responsibilities for crop scouting, and agronomic decisions. She typically runs a corn planter in the spring and combine during harvest seasons - while filling various other seats when needed. Ellie joined the farm bureau in 2023 through Lynn Godfrey who encouraged her to do so. Ellie is looking forward to getting involved and growing her network and connections to better the ag community.

Charlie and his wife, Cathy own a 22 acre farm in the Pigeon Hills between Spring Grove and Hanover. They raised sheep for a number of years and have two adult children that were in the 4-H lamb club. They also grew and sold conifers for commercial landscaping on 12 acres of our farm. Charlie retired in 2015 from the Glatfelter Company where he worked as a forester and continue to do consulting forestry part time. Charlie looks forward to serving on the Board and helping to promote the mission of the York County Farm Bureau. Charlie attended the Annual Strawberry Social this year and was swept up to volunteer at the York State Fair Booth!

Thank you Charlie & Ellie for volunteering your time to help grow York County agriculture!

We still have a board seat open for a 3 year term, so if you are interested in serving in this way, please reach out to one of the Board members listed on page 3!

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau 74th Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of Pennsylvania Farm Bureau will be held on November 17-19, 2024 at the Hershey Lodge. What happens at the annual meeting? A lot!

This year's schedule is a bit different than in the past. The Annual Meeting Opening Session begins on Sunday at 3 PM. That evening is the Ice Cream Social with the YAP Auction. The Auction includes donated items from each county from pies, home décor, to toy tractors, gift baskets, wine packages, and much more!

Monday is Opening Business Meeting and Voting Delegate Session beginning at 8:30 AM—4:30 PM. Even if you aren't a voting delegate, you must stop in and watch the process of how your county policies are discussed and voted on to make it to the State and/or National level! This day is also the breakout sessions for members to attend, a mini health fair, exhibits, and the YAP & Collegiate Discussion Meet! There is certainly something for everyone to be involved in on Monday. The 74th Annual Banquet is held Monday night with legislators present and PDA Secretary Russell Redding speaking on Ag in PA. AFBF VP Joby Young is our keynote speaker for the evening as well that you won't want to miss. Following that if you are a nightbird you can join in on Karaoke!

Tuesday begins with Friends of Ag Breakfast which is a fundraiser for the Friends of Ag division of Farm Bureau. This is the group that organizes the Ag Mobiles and education that happens throughout the state. Final Voting Delegate Session begins at 8:15—12 PM. There are seminars that run during this time as well. Closing Business Session will wrap up the 3 day event.

Click on this link for additional information, to register for meals, hotel, and see schedule! Even if you can't stay, York County is close enough to make a drop in visit to see what is happening at the State Level!

<https://www.pfb.com/events-landing-page/2024-annual-meeting/>

Why New Power Lines?

The spring issue of your YCFB newsletter described the \$5.4 billion proposed project to build new high voltage lines intended to carry power to Northern Virginia. Since then, we have seen some of those projects go “public”, with the proposal of the Maryland Piedmont Reliability Project (MPRP) that would build a new 500kv line across Baltimore, Carrol, and Fredrick counties. Chances are good if you drive anywhere in the northern parts of those counties you will see protest signs along the roads. The Maryland Farm Bureau has reacted quickly and condemned the project.

So why the new lines?

As the internet has grown over the last three decades, Louden County Virginia has grown to have the largest concentration of data centers in the country. But recently, the advent of artificial intelligence (AI), has caused a step change in both the demand for, and power consumption of new data centers in Louden. Goldman Sachs forecasts a 160% increase in demand in the next 5 years. In fact, the current PJM forecast for Virginia data center demand is the equivalent to TWO New York Cities' worth of power!

The grid planner, PJM, treats this demand the same way that it would treat proposed demand from organic growth of a city, or a huge cluster of hospitals, or any other worthy cause. It takes the forecast, looks to see if there is sufficient generation in the area, and if there is a shortfall, it asks member utility companies to propose transmission solutions from any place that has sufficient generation. Why transmission? Because PJM has no authority to order generation.

The obsolete but current state of the rules implies that America's most affluent companies can propose as many data centers as they like in Virginia, resulting in eminent domain claims on your land in

Pennsylvania, much higher power costs for PA consumers, and would force PA ratepayers to help pay for construction of those new lines. Scared yet?



That's why at this year's annual meeting, the YCFB approved policy that would encourage our legislators to adopt legislation that would prevent any new lines built to export power to Maryland and Virginia. We feel that enough is enough.

Future articles will examine impacts on your electric bills.

Submitted by: Barron Shaw

Wildlife Update

Voting on SB67 takes place October 1st in Game & Fishers House Committee! House Version of Sunday Hunting and Wildlife Crop Damage Package Passed House: The House successfully passed Representative Steele's package of wildlife bills, HB 2106-2108, the week of June 24. HB 2106 – 2108 would accomplish the following:

- Increase hunting trespass penalties.
- Streamline crop damage mitigation programs.
- Require at least one member of the PA Game Commission to be defined as a farmer.
- Create a system by which licensed hunters can easily be contacted by farmers.
- Repeal the Sunday hunting prohibition.

Farm Bureau thanks the House for working with PFB to craft and pass this legislation. This could not have been possible without working with multiple wildlife and sportsman organizations to find an effective solution for all parties involved. PFB is thankful to see the passage of these bills in the House and looks forward to the Senate acting soon. See below for the number of votes each bill received and links to their exact language. • HB 2106 (129-73) • HB 2107 (164 – 38) • HB 2108 (132-70) Senate Version of Sunday Hunting and Wildlife Crop Damage Package: The Senate successfully passed SB 67 (which also includes the crop damage package of SBs 1086- 1089) with a vote of 33-17. This comprehensive bill addresses crop damage mitigation and allows for Sunday hunting. More specifically, it includes stricter trespass penalties and streamlined deer carcass removal. SB 67 now awaits action by the House Game and Fisheries Committee.

*Source: Mitchell Kurek
PFB State & Local Affairs Specialist*

York County Farm Bureau
Newsletter Editor
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