

SNYDER COUNTY FARM BUREAU

SPRING NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHED MARCH 2025

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Hello
Snyder
County
Farm
Bureau
Members,

I cannot believe that we are in spring already! As quickly as winter went for us, I am certainly ready for warmer weather and longer days, and I hope you are too. Since our last newsletter update, we've had several things go on that I am very excited to tell you about.

As of February, we officially have a new Regional Organization Director from Pennsylvania Farm Bureau in our region: Cody Stoner! Cody is a resident of our county and has been great to work with from day one. He has big plans for future events in our region, so stay tuned for more information!

I also wanted to share that our county board is currently preparing to participate in our state legislative conference, which will be held on April 8. I am excited to say that have a full group of county members that will be participating in

our state legislators in Harrisburg and we look forward to having fruitful discussions with our elected officials. If you would like to be involved with this or any other Farm Bureau program in the future, please reach out to our board. We are always looking for new folks to be actively involved in our organization.

Before I end, I also wanted to make you all aware of our upcoming Trap Shoot at Kreamer Sportsmen's Club on May 2 at 6:30pm. Be sure to read into our newsletter to get more information on this event and how to RSVP. This is the second year we have put this event together and we welcome anyone (member or not) to come by and join us for a fun evening of shooting clay pigeons. Hope to see you there!

As always, thank you for being a member and your continued support. We couldn't advocate for Pennsylvanian agriculture without you.

Sincerely,

Ethan Howard
Snyder County Farm Bureau
President



Snyder County
Farm Bureau

DAIRY

Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act Passed Out of Committee:

On February 12, the House Education and Workforce Committee passed the *Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act* out of committee with a vote of 24-10. This bill would allow for schools to offer the option of unflavored and flavored whole and two percent milk to students.

2025-26 Snyder County Board

President – Ethan Howard

1st VP – Courtney Ewing

2nd VP – Jay Hoover

Secretary/Treasurer –
Esther Martin

Board Member: Nate Bingaman

Board Member: Sam Doak

Board Member: Ryan Smith

State Board - Jason Wolfe

Newsletter Editor - Esther
Martin

ROD – Cody Stoner

ANNUAL MEETING

Our next Snyder County annual meeting will be held on Sunday, October 5 at 1pm at **Grace Covenant Community Church Fellowship Hall**, 99 Café Lane, Middleburg. Make plans now to attend this informational meeting. Lunch is provided.

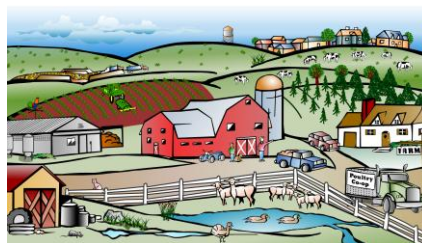
Secretary Redding Champions Agriculture in Budget Hearings

Over the course of two days, Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding testified before both the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, defending the agriculture budget and highlighting the critical investments needed to keep our industry strong. Facing hours of questioning, Secretary Redding made a compelling case for funding programs that support farmers, enhance food security, and drive agricultural innovation. His advocacy reinforces the essential role agriculture plays in Pennsylvania's economy and the well-being of rural communities.

Key proposals in the budget include expanding the Agriculture Innovation Grant

from \$10 million to \$25 million to meet high demand, increasing funding for the Pennsylvania Agricultural Surplus System (PASS) to better connect farmers with food banks, and maintaining strong support for animal health, biosecurity, and agricultural research. These investments not only help farmers but strengthen the broader state economy.

We appreciate Secretary Redding's leadership in championing these priorities and encourage our members to reach out to their state officials to express support for these initiatives. Agriculture remains the backbone of Pennsylvania, and securing this funding will ensure its continued success.





EDUCATION



Family Farm and Small Business Act Reintroduced:

Representatives Tracey Mann (R-KS) and Jimmy Panetta (D-CA) as well as Senators Joni Ernst (R-IA) and Michael Bennet (D-CO) have reintroduced S.469/H.R.1131, the *Family Farm and Small Business Exemption Act*. In 2024, provisions in the Federal Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) Simplification Act, altered the federal needs analysis formula and changed the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) to the Student Aid Index (SAI). The changes require families to report the net worth of a family farm or small business on the FAFSA and therefore include these assets in the calculation of the SAI.

This legislation seeks to restore exemptions that prevent farm and small business assets from being counted as part of a family's net worth when determining federal student aid.

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PFB Alerts

Be the first to know about major developments in Pennsylvania agriculture, state and federal policy, and Pennsylvania Farm Bureau advocacy and engagement by signing up for PFB text message alerts. Simply text **PFBALERTS** to **833-554-0849**. See PA Farm Bureau website for more info.

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CLAY SHOOT

May 2, 2025
6:30pm

At Kreamer Sportsman's Club

1582 Sportsmans Drive
Middleburg

Everyone is invited
(whether or not they are a member of
Snyder County Farm Bureau)

The Snyder County Farm Bureau
will be
providing the clay birds,
pizza and soda.

Bring your own guns and ammunition.



638 Brosius Hill Road
Mt Pleasant Mills, PA 17853

MARCH 2025, ISSUE 7

Join us for a multi-county Farm Bureau Day at Knoebels

on *Thursday, July 17, 2025 at noon*

Registration will start at 11:30am in Pavillion V

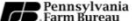
The meal is free and ride tickets are available
for purchase.

Call or text to RSVP by June 23 to Esther Martin 717-875-5522
with your adult and child count.

Raffles will be held again this year. The list of the raffles will be on
the invitation that will be mailed out shortly.

A big thank you to Clair Esbenshade, Tom Strouse and the
planning committee plus all the sponsors who will be recognized
on the T-shirts to make this event happen.

Are You Turning 65 This Year and Going on Medicare?

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Farm Bureau
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be overwhelming.
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