

## Susquehanna County Farm Bureau Directors

David DeLeon, President.....570-853-3520	John Bencoter.....570-833-4250
Jim Barbour, 1st V. President.....607-435-0830	Joseph Decker.....570-756-2657
William Shay, 2nd V. President.....570-396-4752	Karen Harmer.....570-289-4128
Michelene Klim, Secretary.....570-289-4756	Joseph Plonski.....570-765-2901
Emma Hinkley, Women's Leadership.....570-289-4943	Mike Russell Jr.....607-972-3842
	Donna Williams.....570-942-6348

Non-Director  
Jessica Prusinowski, Treasurer.....908-310-0905

## People Serving You

### Nationwide Appointed Agencies

R. Leet Agency.....18 Como Rd. PO Box 300, Lakewood, PA .....	570-789-2666
.....321 Main St., Hallstead, PA.....	570-465-3296
Little & Nelson Ins.....66 Public Ave, Montrose, PA.....	570-278-1151
.....1344 Main St, Susquehanna, PA.....	570-853-3372
Manci Ins. Agency.....35 E Tioga St., Tunkhannock, PA .....	570-836-3372

## Susquehanna County Farm Bureau

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# SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY FARM BUREAU

January 2025

### Big Wins at PA Farm Show for Blue Ridge FFA from Adele Bennett, intro by Dave DeLeon



As many of you know, Adele Bennett, high school teacher in Blue Ridge has been making huge strides in putting together an Ag Education curriculum at her school. On January 6th, her program took an enormous step in recognition by being awarded an FFA charter at the PA Farm Show. We congratulate Adele and wish her and her students all the success in this important accomplishment for Blue Ridge and Susquehanna County. The following article by Adele gives each of us an insight into her excitement in her program and the big honor it just received.

The roads to victory are paved with slush and snow! That is what Blue Ridge's newly chartered chapter faced for this year's 96th FFA Mid-Winter Convention at the PA Farm Show. The school field trip was cancelled due to the wintery conditions. Students were obviously saddened to not be attending. However, I braved the storm and drove down on behalf of the Blue Ridge FFA members to accept this honor. Knowing that I would not have my officers, I made a few phone calls to connect with Blue Ridge students who were already there showing animals. We were blessed to have three youth competitors showcasing their own animals who graciously volunteered to stand with me to accept our FFA Chapter Charter, paperwork, and jackets. What an honor it was to stand before thousands of people to accept a chance at growing the FFA and a love of agriculture. We were able to hear from Department of Agriculture Secretary Russel C. Redding as well as our state FFA officers. It was an amazing experience, and I look forward to hopefully taking our students next year for a few days to get the full experience. I returned home with precious items in tow, charter documents and jackets to bestow on our students. They excitedly dressed to have our picture taken to provide the community a glimpse of the faces that would be helping to build our program through its beginning stages. May this experience help to continue to fuel their fire and passion for agriculture and illustrate to our community the excitement in the air.



## Local Discounts for Farm Bureau Members in Susquehanna County

SCFB Members - show your membership card at these participating businesses and ask about the Farm Bureau discount.  
[www.pfb.com/localdiscounts](http://www.pfb.com/localdiscounts)

**Andre & Son, Inc. - True Value** (Montrose) - 5% off any in-stock store items not already on clearance or promotional pricing

**Auto Plus** (Great Bend) 10% off

**Barhites Sales & Rentals** (Clifford) 10% off all rentals, 5% off all sale items in-stock/shop repairs, 5% off parts, 15% off labor

**Blue Stone Pizzeria** (Hallstead) 10% off all menu items

**Flynn's Hardware/Flymm's Stone Castle** 10% off animal feed, Lawton

**Gerard E. Shinn Construction** (Uniondale) 5% off any contracted work

**Glezen's Power Equipment Inc.** (Hallstead) 10% off parts

**J&J Springs** (New Milford) 10% off all water delivery to homes

**JDE Salon** (Montrose) 20% off all retail products

**Liberty Carpet, Inc.** (Hallstead) 10% off in-stock & special-order flooring, 5% off hardwood

**Little Leaf Natural Products** (Montrose) 10% off everything; must show membership card

**Maloney's Pub & Restaurant** (Hallstead) 10% off food on Sunday and Monday only

**New Milford Hardware** (New Milford) Trade Discount - up to 10% off depending on item

**Nicholson Tire Service** 5% off tires and labor, Nicholson. Available to Susquehanna and Wyoming County Farm Bureaus

**Pump N Pantry** All stores except Troy - buy one get one free hotdogs (Kunzler's from Lancaster)

**Rhonda's Country Heart Décor** (Montrose) 10% off everything in store

**Russell Farms** (Brackney) 5% discount

**Rustic Roost Café** free drink with meal purchase, Kingsley. Available to Susquehanna and Lackawanna Farm Bureaus

**Scarfalloto's Hometown Market** (Montrose) 5% off total order

**Speakeasy Saloon & Resort** (Union Dale) 10% off any dinner and room rental

**Stone's Trustworthy Hardware** (Great Bend) 10% regular priced items; some exclusions apply

**Strauss Chiropractic/Northeast Nutrition** (Kingsley) Initial consult, complete exam & x-rays for \$25 (normally \$175-250)

**Summit Workwear** (New Milford) 15% off boots and workwear

**Timberline Lawn and RV** (Montrose) 10% off in-stock or ordered parts; \$100 minimum purchase

**Wandering Trails Veterinary Care** 10% off services excluding medications, Towanda. Available to Susquehanna, Wayne, Bradford, and Wyoming Farm Bureaus

**William Shay Flagstone** 10% off 10 by 10 Patio Package, Thompson. Available to Susquehanna and Wayne/Pike Farm Bureaus

## PFB Annual Meeting

Pa Farm Bureau's Annual Meeting was held in Hershey on Nov 17-19th. As always it was jam packed with a lot to accomplish in what always seems a limited time. Awards were handed out to distinguished farmers, educational seminars for many to attend and of course an important election. This year Chris Hoffman, Juanita County farmer was re-elected to another 2 year term as President of Pa Farm Bureau. We wish Chris all the best in this position representing all of us.

As in every Annual get together the most important is accomplishing what our grassroots association is all about, namely policies. Jim Barbour, William Shay, Dave DeLeon and Mike Russell Jr all took their turn on the delegate floor representing Susquehanna County on the 3 seats based on our membership.

As last year's policies proved to be, once again many focused on wildlife and aiding farmers dealing with crop damage. The policies our county's membership approved at our own county annual dinner meeting did particularly well. Summarizing, our policies allowing a two thirds majority vote on the floor of both the US and State House and Senate to move bills out of committee, PA Game Commission creating a culling program of deer in areas of high population and crop damage and Conversation projects built for Heavy Use Protection including roofs not be taxed. We hope to see some of what was approved in Hershey have legislative approval going forward.

## 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:**

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To check availability in your county call **800.522.2375**.



**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](http://Nationwide.com/ATVsafety)



Scan code to get safety tips for your young riders.

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A new year has arrived, along with a new legislative cycle. What was on the floor and in committee is now thrown out. We start with a clean slate and an opportunity to achieve our goals and policies. The policies we plan on working on are wildlife damage, Pfas or forever chemical testing in biosolids, migratory bird damage.

With the new year we ask you as a member when you receive an action alert you reply. This is our grass roots organization asking for help from the members. We are the largest grass roots lobbying group in PA, without responses to these action alerts we will lose our lobbying power and our ability to protect farming and farming related policies. If you are not receiving action alerts please let me know so I can get this problem fixed. They come to you as a text message or email and only take a few minutes to complete. We all spend on average 4 hours on social media web sites. This is where we can make a difference. Please take 10 minutes out of that time and do the action request. There are many members working as volunteers to achieve our goals. If we want change and protect our farms and businesses, we need to improve on our involvement in these issues. It's critical for our legislators to see a large number of action requests. This is a simple method to show our interest and what is important to each of us. We appreciate those who are working on our behalf and looking forward to meeting new and interesting people going forward to help achieve our goal of 25% return on action requests.

Thank you, William Shay Governmental Relations Director.

### ***Welcome to Our New Members***

We would like to welcome the following new members of Susquehanna County Farm Bureau (and at the same time PA and American Farm Bureau). Our organization is only as strong as our members make it.

Our Board of Directors meet the 2nd Thursday evening monthly at the Bridgewater church at 7pm on Rt 167 in Montrose. Everyone is always invited to attend. If you have an issue you'd like us to discuss please let a Director know. And please pay attention and plan to attend our Spring Brunch, our Annual Dinner meeting and our County Picnic. And we welcome your suggestions on policies and legislation.

George Stover, Brian Rhone, Scott Smith, Paul Rooney, Jill Slocum, Rep. Dan Meuser, Jill Slocum, Robert Warring, Julie Callahan, Cody Shay, Tony Smith, Richard Graf, Alvin Miller, Brad Sebring, Gavin Bunnell, Sydney Upright, Adam Oakley, Michael Mirabel, Caitlyn Williams, Samantha Ellsworth, Kimberly Tyler, Adele Bennett, Kamdin Maby

### ***Newsletters by Email***

In the last few years we have sent four SCFB newsletters each year to all our county members to keep each up to date on county and often state and national issues concerning agricultural in general and our rural concerns. The good news is that we will continue to do so. But after this print issue which goes to many members, we will only email all future newsletters.

In order to receive our newsletter we ask everyone to check to make certain Pa Farm Bureau has your correct email address. In some cases a few individuals have no email addresses on file. If you know there is no address on file or you're not sure if it is the best current one for you please contact Blake Barrick at [BVbarrick@pfb.com](mailto:BVbarrick@pfb.com) or you may call him at 717-731-3512. For most of our county members you have been receiving this by email anyway. For others I'm sure you welcome the change and for some we apologize but the extra cost in postage and print as well in the steps required to have it put together and mailed is simply not worth the cost and extra effort. Thank you for understanding.

### ***SCFB Dates to Remember***

The following are events that we sponsor or in which we participate

March 21	Ag Day at Montrose High School 10am
April 26	SCFB Spring Brunch at Montrose Bible Conference 10am
May 3	SCFB Environmental Tour 10:30 to 2:30
August 11-16	Harford Fair
August 28	SCFB County Picnic at Palma Gun Club 5pm
Oct 3	SCFB Annual Dinner Meeting Montrose Bible Conference 5:30pm

**Susquehanna County  
Farm Bureau's  
2025 Spring Environmental Event  
4/13/25  
10:30 to 2:30**

The Susquehanna Co. Farm Bureau is proud to announce and present, their upcoming educational “Spring Environmental Event” which will take place on 5/3/25 (Saturday), from 10:30 to 2:30. The Events meeting place will be at the Scenic Outlook overseeing the Kingsley Via-Duct, built from 1912 to 1914--- at Kingsley, Pa. This organized educational event will feature the following topics:

1) A Guided Tour and Educational Presentation of the “Kingsley Railroad Via-Duct” by historian David Palmer.---10:30 to 11:00

2) A Guided Tour and an Education Presentation of the Harford (Civil War Era) Orphan School by the Harford Historical Society.---11:15 to 12:00.

3) The 2nd part of the Event and Meal (A Fund Raiser for the Orphan School Society) ---The “Free Meal” will be furnished by the SCFB.---12:00 to 1:00

4) A Guided Tour and Presentation of an actual working Feed Mill, at Ross Feeds, at Hop Bottom, Pa. This will show how 1 Ton of Feed is produced from start to finish.—1:30 to 2:20 If there are any questions on this “Purposed Event” or to make Reservations, call 570-833-4250 or 607-768-9893.



**PA** Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

# Member Benefits

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau knows you work hard for your money and your membership should too. Visit [www.pfb.com/services](http://www.pfb.com/services) or scan the QR code to see how to get your share of **\$2.7 million** in **annual savings**.



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### Additional Benefits

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Local discounts not offered in all counties

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### Publication

PFB adds value to membership and keeps members informed through a variety of print and digital publications. Members receive 5% off advertising rates in our print publications. Contact advertising coordinator for details.

A total \$6 portion of annual member dues covers subscriptions to Positively Pennsylvania. Members receive 5 issues of Positively Pennsylvania per year. Publication frequency and details are subject to change.



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