

Issue 56

July 2025

A Note from the County President

Chances are good if you are a professional farmer, you have been impacted by deer damage.

Those of us that have been blessed to live here for a long time know how the times have changed. Colonists and extreme weather eliminated the deer population from York County in the 1700's. My grandfather told me he could distinctly remember a time when there were NO deer here; it was a big deal when he saw his first. Even as a boy, I remember being surprised to see deer because it was infrequent.

Today, you can see deer pretty much every evening if you are paying attention. And because the population has grown, damage from deer has become a top priority for farmers. Many farmers rate deer as their most damaging pest, with some fields near me being abandoned because of the severe damage.

Farm Bureau has lobbied hard for changes, and those efforts have paid off. Bills have been passed last month and rules have been changed that streamline crop damage permits, ease the regulations around carcass removal, and ensure that agriculture is represented on the PA Game Commission. In exchange for these improvements, Farm Bureau dropped opposition to Sunday hunting.

I believe this is just a start. I would like to see much higher bag limits, and part of me wonders why we need bag limits at all. It is hard to imagine that the diminishing supply of distracted hunters could ever push the deer population back to levels seen just 100 years ago. But at least we can have that conversation now that we are working closely with the Game Commission and our legislators.

And that's the value of Farm Bureau. Identifying issues, working with the right people, and driving toward solutions. As we kick off our new fiscal year, watch for your York County Farm Bureau renewal form and feel good that your contribution makes a difference!

Barron Shaw

Immersion Lab Coming to York Fair!

York County Farm Bureau is sponsoring the Immersion Lab to be at the York Fair this year! The fair runs July 18-27, 2025 at the York Expo Center. Last year we had a booth for the first time, and did daily updates on social media of what to see and eat while visiting the fair! This year, you can bring your kids to walk through the Immersion Lab that will be staffed from 1-8 PM daily in Memorial Hall.

America's first fair, held in the historic old town of York in 1765, eleven years before the nation was founded! Join us to celebrate the 260th Year of the Fair!

Would you like free admission? Contact Julie via call or text to (717) 324-3410 and sign up for 2 hours to work the Farm Bureau booth, and you will receive admission tickets for helping! Or if you are there showing animals or entering any of the contests, let us know so we can come see you during the week!



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Welcome Board Member Mark Gingrich

We would like to welcome the newest member to the York County Board of Directors, Mark Gingrich from Dover, PA. Mark Gingrich is a commercial sideline beekeeper and the owner of Gingrich Apiaries, LLC in Dover, PA where he manages in excess of 250 colonies for pollination, honey production, and queen rearing. The operation produces an average of 300 mated queens annually sold across the US. He is the President of the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association and is a founding member and Co-Chair for the Pennsylvania Queen Bee Improvement Project. Mark is certified as an EAS Master Beekeeper, member of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture apiary advisory board, stake holder in the COMB and CARE projects, long-time participant in numerous USDA-funded SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education) grants focused on bee genetics. We welcome Mark and the diversity he brings to the York County Board showing what all Ag can do here in York County!



Annual Strawberry Social Recap

Thank you to everyone who came out for the annual Strawberry Social held at Perrydell Farms in June. What a wonderful turnout of over 80 people! After days of rain, we ended up with a beautiful day of sunshine, Perrydell ice cream, and strawberries from Shaw Orchards! We enjoyed company from local legislators & County Commissioners, but most importantly we enjoyed having you, our members, there to fellowship while we were able to say thank you for being a member!



York County YAP Event at Mad Radish!

Mark your calendars for the next York County YAP event on Saturday, August 2 beginning at 3 PM at Mad Radish Farm in Dover, PA! Mad Radish grows vegetables and pasteurized chickens and eggs with a Farm Stand and CSA program. Come with us to learn how they do it, what their growing pains were, what their ideas for success are, and see how their operation is ran behind the scenes! YAP members are those between the age of 18-35 but all are welcome to attend. For more information or to

RSVP, please contact Anna Benton at (717) 916-8599



Highland Cattle & Sunflower Fest

Mark your calendars and come see York County Farm Bureau at the Miniature Highland Cow & Sunflower Fest held at Maple Spring Farms in Airville, PA July 26 & 27. As a Farm Bureau member, the Burchett family has graciously offered York County Farm Bureau to be present during the event to educate those in attendance what we at Farm Bureau do! Stop out and say hello! There will be something for the whole family from touch a tractor, calf cuddles, sunflowers, educational activities and more! If you would like to have Farm Bureau at your next event, please reach out to a board member! For more information about this event, email them at maplespringfarms@gmail.com



York County Farm Bureau Scholarship

The annual York County Farm Bureau Scholarship application period is now open until August 15. If you are a member who has a child enrolled in college or trade school, you are eligible to apply for one of the (2) \$500 scholarships we are handing out at the Annual Picnic on Sunday, September 7, 2025. Click this link to access or contact a board member to have one mailed to you!

<https://yorkcountyfarmbureau.square.site/scholarship-application>



SCHOLARSHIPS

York County Farm Bureau 2025 Board of Directors

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barron@shaworchards.com

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District 8 P&E Representative

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charlesbrownforestry@gmail.com

Mark Gingrich (717) 292-1249
mgingrich@gingrichapiaries.com

York County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

Join us Sunday, September 7, 2025 at 1 PM at the Red Lion Rec Center for our annual meeting where we will vote on policy, review the year, and have a wonderful meal and fellowship. It has become the new tradition to bring a dessert to share, or side if you'd prefer, as we seem to never go hungry at an event and enjoy trying everything! Please RSVP to Kate (717) 655-1248 or Julie at (717) 324-3410 or email at yorkcountymfbureauupa@gmail.com

Ag Progress Days Returns!

Ag Progress Days returns once again August 12-14, 2025 at Pennsylvania Furnace, right outside of State College, PA. You can't beat free admission and free parking to explore over 400 exhibitors including plenty of good food to eat! Make sure to come out to support Penn State Extension, your local suppliers, and of course stop by the PFB Booth on the corner of 5th & Main and follow the new PFB Blimp!



York County Hosts Manure Pit Training

York County Farm Bureau hosted a Manure Pit Safety & Training class for first responders Memorial Day weekend at Wellsville Fire Company. 30 first responders attended the class to learn about the hazards and mitigations needed during a manure pit rescue scenario. There was a classroom portion then hands on in the Nationwide simulator put on by NECAS. Thank you to Wellsville Fire Company for hosting and providing breakfast to all those in attendance! Do you have an emergency plan in place on your farm? Are you using safety equipment when entering confined space or dangerous air quality? We all become complacent but this training was a great reminder of how quickly an accident can happen!



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



Scan code to get
safety tips for your
young riders.

1 U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.
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FSA Executive Director Appointed

Former PFB President, Rick Ebert, was appointed State Executive Director for the (FSA) Farm Service Agency in Pennsylvania. A farmer from Blairsville, PA, he previously served as President of Pennsylvania Farm Bureau from 2014 to 2022. He also served on the American Farm Bureau board of directors from 2018 to 2022. The Ebert family has a diversified farm operation of beef, sheep, and vegetables. PFB looks forward to working with Ebert in his new role, and hope to see the State FSA Committee appointed shortly.

York County FB at Rev's Game

Tuesday, July 1 was Ag Night at York Revolution where they played against the Lancaster Barnstormers with a slight rain delay. York County Farm Bureau was present with a stand and answered a few questions and talked to a few patrons on farming in the area. Yes, it is hay season, but the goal was to spread the news of the upcoming York Fair and how Ag is such an important role of that fair! If you made it out, thank you for supporting as proceeds from tickets went to the Ag Education Fund! If you didn't make it, we hope to see you at the Fair!



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 Fair, York, PA

July 18-27, 2025

Maple Spring Farms Event, Airville, PA

July 26-27, 2025

Ag Progress Days

August 12-14, 2025

York County FB Annual Meeting, Red Lion, PA

September 7, 2025

PFB Annual Meeting, Hershey, PA

November 16-18, 2025

New Healthcare Options for Members

PFB is excited to announce the kickoff of a new partnership with R&B Insurance Services to offer more services and better rates for our members!

R&B is offering a range of solutions that address the diverse insurance and benefit needs of all Pennsylvania Farm Bureau members:

1. **Health Insurance** Solo and family plans, and group coverage for farms/businesses with employees.
2. **Dental and Vision Coverage** Solo and family plans, and group coverage for farms/businesses with employees.
3. **Life & Disability Coverage** Life insurance and disability plans designed to protect the income of members and their families finances
4. **Ancillary & Specialized Solutions** Ancillary benefits like supplemental accident, critical illness, hospital indemnity, or telemedicine, and specialized solutions like Traditional IRA setups.
5. **Medicare Consulting** Guidance from licensed and experienced agents
6. **Benefits Navigation & Support** Personal consultations for selecting the right plans, help with enrollment windows, ongoing support throughout the policy year, and proactive plan reviews as life and business needs evolve.

Next Steps for Members

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau members are invited to schedule a free benefits consultation with R&B Insurance. These sessions are designed to review existing coverage and identify any gap, help choose or adjust plans based on individual or farm/business demographics and budget, and navigate open enrollments and other enrollment deadlines.

To book a consultation, members can call (800) 473-6807, email support@rbinsuranceservice.com, or visit <https://www.rbinsuranceservice.com/contact>

Campaign School for PFB Members

PFB will be hosting AFBF's Campaign School on September 25 and 26, 2025 at the Penn Stater Hotel & Conference Center located at 215 Innovation Blvd, State College, PA 16803. The campaign school is for anyone interested in running for elected offices at the local, state, or federal level. Candidates' spouses and/or their campaign staff are encouraged to attend the school as well. This is a unique and rare opportunity for Farm Bureau members you won't want to miss!

New Membership Year Kickoff!

July 1 begins the new season of membership! If you know of someone who is not a member, this is the perfect time to join as they get 18 months for the cost of 12! Your annual membership cost of \$100 is not much to ask to join the largest grassroots organization on behalf of farmers and ranchers across the US! First let's talk discounts because that's easy. You have access to discounts across the US for hotels, rentals, restaurants, businesses, and more! Turn to page 7 to see all the options you have access to. You can easily save \$100 throughout the year by using them!

Now the important part. You have access to the agricultural community to help in any of your needs on your farm. From beekeepers to backyard farmettes, livestock, grain, dairy, produce, fruits and much more we are here to help. Do you have questions on something you don't know where to find? Are you trying to get started and don't know where to begin? Are you having issues that need resources? We are here to help you.


Legislation is the final leg. We are a grassroots based organization meaning we work from the ground up. We start at local County level, to state level, then to national level with policy. If it is not in our policy book, we cannot fight for it. That book holds our beliefs and status on where we stand with key issues. This is what is our framework when we go to our local legislators, or to Harrisburg Capitol, or even to Washington DC to speak on behalf of agriculture right here in York County and the state of Pennsylvania. You may not want to be that person to speak publicly, so we can be your voice! You may not know how to reach the right person, and we have those resources!

Finally, locally here in York County, we are so proud to be involved in our community and want to grow that even more. We use our local funds to host events such as the Strawberry Social, the Manure Pit Training, and bringing the Immersion Lab to The York Fair!

So remember to renew and share with your neighbors or family how important it is to belong to this organization that works for you, with you, and along side of you!

Renew or join now!

<https://members.pfb.com>

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION'S CAMPAIGN SCHOOL	
<p>DO YOU WANT TO RUN FOR POLITICAL OFFICE?</p> <p>AFBF's Campaign School will help set you up for success with interactive training sessions that cover all aspects of a campaign! Candidates are encouraged to attend with their spouses and campaign staff.</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER 25 & 26, 2025</p> <p>Location: The Penn Stater Hotel & Conference Center, 215 Innovation Blvd, State College, PA 16803</p>
<p>Registration</p>  <p>Due by August 22nd</p>	<p>ANY QUESTIONS?</p> <p>Contact Bailey Fisher at bmfisher@pfb.com or 717-731-3585</p>
	

Member Incentives!

July 1, 2025 begins a new campaign year for membership and we are celebrating 75 years of Pennsylvania Farm Bureau!

Here are the kickoff incentives this year:

- Renew by end of July: 5 chances to win \$50
- Drawing for \$1,000 for any new signup for auto renewal received by October 31.
- Drawing of \$1,000 for any new member sign up by October 31st.
- For all new and renewal sign-ups by September 30th to be entered into a drawing for the following: cash prizes of \$2000, \$1000, and (3) \$500 cash prizes.

One Big Beautiful Act Bill

On Friday, July 4 2025, the **House passed H.R.1, the One Big, Beautiful Bill Act** with a vote of 218-214 after holding marathon sessions and President Trump signed it into law that day. Representatives Fitzpatrick (R-PA) and Massie (R-KY) joined the Democrats in opposition. The bill now goes to the President's desk where he is expected to sign it here very soon – meeting his July 4th deadline. This was a huge win for agriculture due to the investments in farm programs and tax provisions!

The following Representatives voted YES on the bill from PA: Bresnahan, Joyce, Kelly, Mackenzie, Meuser, Perry, Reschenthaler, Smucker, and Thompson. PFB will be sending out a thank you letter to those who voted in the affirmative, and we ask that you do as well!

PFB President Hoffman stated “Pennsylvania Farm Bureau applauds the House and Senate for passing H.R. 1, the One Big, Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) that delivers much-needed stability to our nation’s farmers and ranchers. This bill’s updated farm safety nets and making permanent tax provisions that our family farms rely upon to keep their operations running so grocery store shelves can remain stocked. With so many farmers struggling financially, higher reference prices are essential, and these tax measures will empower them to plan confidently for both the immediate future and the next generation. The passage of the One, Big Beautiful Bill Act ensures American families continue to have access to a safe and abundant food



supply. Now, we look forward to President Trump signing the legislation into law.”

This 800 plus page package includes \$66 Billion for farm programs. The final Senate bill provides additional investments in agricultural support programs and additional certainty for farmers’ and ranchers’ tax bills. It provides a stronger safety net in lieu of a new Farm Bill by increasing reference pricing which will apply to this years crop. It also includes key tax provisions such as permanent \$15M estate tax exemption, permanently \$2.5M Section 179 expensing, plus bonus depreciation and qualified business income deductions. The extension of 45Z or the Clean Fuels Production Credit was also a win for biofuels, and it also saw some key improvements. All of this will help farmers be able to make the investments and spend money and make decisions while giving rural America surety and stability.

Submitted by: Julie Schrum

MAHA Movement

The MAHA (Make American Healthy Again) movement has been shaping views in a way that portrays agriculture and farming as part of the problem. We have come along way over the years and the crops we grow are more productive than ever. There are organic crops grown without the use of Herbicides (weed control), insecticides (insect control), and fungicides (prevents fungal diseases), however conventional crops do require these safe products.

On May 22, 2025, the MAHA Commission released a report that pointed the finger at farmers for childhood chronic diseases . This report seems to not be based on sound science and damaging to consumer confidence in our safe and reliable food system. Farm Journal reported this report is misleading, even suggesting glyphosate, atrazine and other pesticides essential to farmers are potentially contributing to health ailments. These are effective herbicides, and very safe. Glyphosate is one of the safest ones we work with. We need to keep these tools. The EPA reviews these herbicides, and the US has long been considered the gold standard when it comes to food safety in the world. We are backed by the American Heart Association with data to prove that oil seeds are safe.

This is our livelihood. We have improved our practices over the years, we live on the same farms we use these products on. We need to grow healthy crops. We implement environmental practices to preserve the land as we are stewards of this land we have left. Our goal is to pass this ground along to the next generation better than we found it. It does us no good if our soil is not healthy enough to grow crops and livestock. Remember, we have the safest, most affordable food supply in the world. Make sure to share your story to your neighbors, consumers, and legislators so people hear straight from us that our practices are safe and improved now more than ever. Growing a Healthier America (GaHA) is agriculture’s proactive, cross-sector initiative to reclaim that narrative without negativity! Grounded in The Center for Food Integrity’s (CFI) belief-based research and partnering with AFBF, GaHA leads with shared values, reframes MAHA issues with science-based clarity and offers constructively positive alternatives that build trust in Agriculture. Being a part of this means to get out there and tell your story. Explain why you use the practices you do, and how you trust what you are growing! People love stories, pictures, and to see videos of ag, so let’s get out there and show the world our great food source!

Submitted by: Julie Schrum

Member Benefits

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



To redeem discounts, use the required codes, websites, and/or phone numbers found by logging into the Members Only website at www.pfbmembers.org.

Member Benefits are subject to change without notice. Membership Dues Are Non-Refundable.

Home and Auto



www.pfb.com/ford
to download certificate
Must be a member for 30+ days,
rebate not always stackable,
some exclusions may apply

**\$500.00 off exclusive
Ford trucks**



Code: 11361045
National Fleet Discount



Must show membership card
Exceptions may apply



Code: PFB-7555-024
855.692.8330
www.picking.com/en/us/lp/digital/pfb_7555



Code: 1586181PHL
www.StaplesAdvantage.com
Online purchases



Code: PAFB
855.763.8213
www.affinitycellular.com/pafb

Travel



Special Rate ID: 00209780
800.258.2847



Corporate Rate: 8000002941
877.670.7088



AWD Disc Code: A298838
800.331.1212
www.avis.com/pafb



BCD Offer Code: Y775738
800.527.0700
www.budget.com/pafb

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P.O. Box 8736
Camp Hill, PA 17001-8736
717-761-2740
www.pfb.com

Farm and Business



Account# 855488417
www.grainger.com/farmbureau



Renewals code: PAFB
New member code: PAFB39
www.lancasterfarming.com
Renewals 10% off



1.800.8-SADDLE
Membership number required
10% off



www.pfb.com/caseih
to download certificate



www.pfb.com/cat
to download certificate
30 day waiting period



www.johndeere.com/farm-bureau
Platinum Membership with John
Deere Rewards Program
30 day waiting period



855.626.4088
www.pfb.com/shipley-energy
Membership number required

Health and Wellness



Code: Group 946
www.scriptsave.com



800.974.7036
www.myfreepharmacy/Pennsylvania

PFB Member Service



800.522.2375
www.pfb.com/healthservices

Financial and Insurance



Nationwide® offers a variety of insurance and financial services to Farm Bureau members including farm*, auto*, home*, pet*, travel*, powersports, commercial and life insurance.
*Select discounts may apply.

To learn more, contact your local Nationwide agent or visit Nationwide.com/pfb.

Additional Benefits

Save even more with County Farm Bureau Local Discounts!

For a complete list of discounts offered by +375 locally-owned businesses in nearly 50 counties visit pfb.com/localdiscounts.
Local discounts not offered in all counties

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Member | Deals Plus

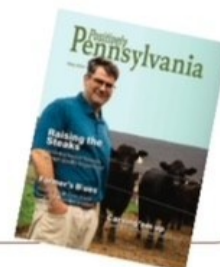


pfb.enjoymydeals.com

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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