

York County Newsletter



Quarterly Newsletter of York County Farm Bureau

Issue 50 October 2023



Thank you for your Service

The York County Farm Bureau calendar year runs from October—September for board members who serve term limits. As October quickly approaches, it is time for that change. New board members will be voted on at the York County Annual Meeting held October 15, which all members are welcome to attend and have a voice as a grassroots organization.

We would like to thank the following York County Farm Bureau Board members for their years of service!

- * Wayne Hoffman (Dover)
 - * Ed Livingston (Dover)
- * Matt Kessler (Spring Grove)
 - * Mike Ritz (Spring Grove)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

York County Annual Meeting

October 15, 2023, Red Lion, PA

PFB Annual Meeting

November 12-15, 2023, Hershey, PA

PA Farm Show, Harrisburg, PA

January 6-13, 2024

Keystone Farm Show, York, PA

January 9-11, 2024

Intro to York County YAP

January 14, 2024

Ag Promo TASK Conference, Gettysburg

February 9-10, 2024

Successful Farm to Table Gala Event!

York County Farm Bureau pulled off a successful Farm to Table Gala on the evening of August 10. This first-time event hosted by Green Valley Farms owned by John Marsteller, Jr and Corey and Heather Grove near Stewartstown attracted 66 participants. The evening began with a cocktail hour during which attendees could view educational displays and farm equipment followed by a diverse selection of appetizers, dinner items and desserts. The meal featured locally grown meats, vegetables and fruits, including beef brisket with coffee cocoa rub, roasted pork with peach and blackberry BBQ sauce, potato salad with fresh corn and basil, green bean vegetable salad, honeydew and fennel salad with basil, along with assorted fruit pies and ice cream. No one went away hungry!!

The evening concluded with brief commen-



taries by County President Dolores Krick, chef Bruce Baker, Green Valley Farms co-owner Corey Grove, and PA Farm Bureau President Chris Hoffman. Door prizes and VIP bags were also presented.

In addition to highlighting locally produced foods, networking and socializing were a huge benefit of the Gala. Key state and local dignitaries were present and offered the opportunities for interaction and networking.

Here is the link to view photos from the event! Enter your email to view the photos once you go to the link.

https://kathrynthomasphotos.pixieset.com/ yorkcountyfarmbureau-farmtotable/



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

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

PFB Annual Meeting in Hershey

November is right around the corner and that means it is time for the PFB Annual Meeting. It is once again held at the Hershey Lodge in Hershey, PA. This is a great place for a mini family vacation as they have an indoor water park!

The agenda this year has changed a but from years past in our transition to a new format coming in 2024. The event will be held Sunday, November 12— Wednesday, November 15. Sunday night begins with a welcome reception at 7 PM for those coming in the night prior. Monday begins with the Women's Leadership Inspirational Pause at 8 AM followed by Opening Business Meeting & Voting Delegate Session at 8:30 AM. If you are not a delegate, you are welcome to come in and watch how the policy development happens on the floor. This is a 2 day process with Monday being the first reading of policy and Tuesday being the second and final reading. If you are not on the delegate floor, you can attend the Women's Leadership Luncheon! The infamous YAP Auction will be at 8:15 Monday evening. Tuesday rounds out the Delegate Session and Closing Business Session beginning at 8:30 AM. There are sessions going on throughout the day Monday & Tuesday to attend and learn along side of your fellow farmers! Tuesday evening concludes with the 73rd Annual Banquet followed by an Ice Cream Social and Trivia Night. All members are asked to stay for the County Celebrations and Closing Remarks on Wednesday and then you will be back home by Wednesday afternoon!

For a more detailed agenda or to book your stay, go to 2023 Annual Meeting - Pennsylvania Farm Bureau (pfb.com)

`Ag Labor Update

HIRE Act: Representatives Tony Gonzales (R-TX) and Henry Cuellar (D-TX) introduced the *H-2 Improvements to Relieve Employers (HIRE) Act.* This bill would codify visa interview waiver authority for H-2 workers and extend the validity of a company's visa petitions and labor certifications. PFB is in support and asking for co-sponsors.

House Agriculture Committee's Ag Labor Working Group Stakeholder Survey: On June 21st, Chairman "GT" Thompson and Ranking Member David Scott announced the Committee's bi-partisan Agricultural Labor Working Group. The working group's purpose is to collect input from the agricultural workforce on problems with the current H-2A program, then submit a report to the full committee with their findings on a possible legislative solution based on recommendations from stakeholders. Due to House rules, they have a deadline of 6 months (December 2023). You are encouraged to complete this stakeholder survey: https:// agriculture.house.gov/policy/agricultural-laborworking-group.htm The working group has not published a deadline for the survey.



PFB Annual Dues

It is that time of year when the mailings have gone out asking for your \$100.00 annual renewal of your PFB membership. So where exactly does that \$100 go? Here is the breakdown:

\$20.00 York County Farm Bureau

York County Annual Meeting, Ice Cream Social, Farm to Table, sponsoring FFA Jackets, educational opportunities for Board Members, Ag Literacy Books distributed to schools, monthly board meetings, newsletter mailings, annual membership mailings, legislative events to be a unified voice.

\$70.15 Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

Mission of Farm Bureau to promote agriculture throughout the state, staffing, hosting the Annual Meeting, YAP Committee, Women's Leadership Committee, Ag Promo Committee, MyDeals App, and the legislative work helping farmers have a seat at the table.

\$5.00 American Farm Bureau

\$1.32 AD&D Insurance

\$3.53 Positively Pennsylvania Publication



Without you, we would not have that seat at the table, or the unified voice advocating for all farmers in your County, across the State, and throughout the US. Farm Bureau is the larg-

est grassroots organization across America working on behalf of all farmers and ranchers. Grassroots is such an important term. This means it all starts with you. The ideas, policies, and issues all start with you the farmer, the member of Farm Bureau.

Key legislative items that have been supported throughout the years from Farm Bureau include Clean & Green, reduction of inheritance tax, ACAP funds, and Farm tags to name a few.

In addition to the important work being done legislatively, you also have an abundance of discounts you can use at your fingertips. Discounts for

Ford, John Deere, Case IH, Grainger, Nationwide Insurance, Lancaster Farming subscription, hotel stays, Disney, local restaurants, and more. Make sure to download the MyDeals App to start experiencing all the discounts that can give you back some if not all of your \$100 dues!



Member Spotlight:

Clover Creek Farm LLC & Young's Farm Service

Clover Creek Farm LLC is owned and operated by Trent & Nicki Young in Brogue, PA. They raise angus cattle, as well as corn, soybeans, rye, and alfalfa & grass hay.

Back in 2018, they started with just a few steers to finish for friends, family, and to have their own beef stocked in the freezer. Through word of mouth, the

interest grew with others that had the same idea of wanting fresh local beef and knowing where the beef came from, how it was raised, etc. Around the same time, they also purchased a few cow/calf pairs to start their cow herd. Through Select Sires A.I., they've chosen high quality genetics that focus on carcass merit, growth, and marbling, as well as calving ease, and continue to grow their cow herd by keeping back several heifers each year. They have plans to expand their pasture area and implement a better rotational grazing system for the coming year.

Clover Creek Farm sells freezer beef yearround by the 1/4, 1/2 or whole. Individual cuts and custom beef bundles are available for pick up at the

farm. Their beef is processed at a USDA inspected butcher in Mount Joy, PA. They enjoy sharing recipes with their customers and introducing them to new cuts they may not have tried before and ways to use them. And you can also find their beef on the menu at the Dandelion Thyme food truck!

Trent & Nicki run a repair shop on the farm as well. Young's Farm Service & Repair LLC opened in 2011. It's a "jack of all trades" type shop serving the local community whether it be a personal vehicle inspection or maintenance, a farm tractor repair, something that needs welded, you name it. Their main specialty is in diesel repair & performance. Some of their work on customer trucks has been featured in Diesel World and Ultimate Diesel Builders Guide magazines. If you have something in need of repair, be sure to stop by and see Trent & Christopher in the shop!

You can find both Clover Creek Farm LLC and Young's Farm Service & Repair LLC on Facebook. Both are located at 148 Muddy Creek Forks Road - Brogue, PA. To reach the shop, call 717-927 -6182. To reach Nicki regarding beef, call/text 717-676-7882. Their email is youngsfarm1510@yahoo.com for additional information. And don't forget when you drop your truck off for service, make sure you pick up some steaks for dinner as well!! Source: Nikki Young



York County Legislative Breakfast

On Tuesday, September 19, members of York County Farm Bureau Board, local farmers, and our local legislators met at 2 Brothers Restaurant in York to discuss what was happening at the Capitol as well as current issues facing agriculture. Among the topics discussed were DEP permitting, regulations surrounding the use of drones in agriculture, cover



crop funding, deer damage and solutions for a better red tag system, continued funding for High Path Avian Influenza, recent bridge closures, and the proposed

York Energy Storage Hydroelectric project. Representatives Seth Grove of the 196th district and Mike Jones of the 93rd District gave an update on the current budget explaining that the main part of the budget is passed, that they are just working on codefining budget bills. Also in attendance was County Commissioner

Doug Hoke, Representative Carol Hill-Evans of the 95th district and staff from Senator Regans office.

Ag Promo TASK Conference

Mark your calendars now for the annual Ag Promo TASK Conference at the new location of Gettysburg, PA! This event will be held Friday, February 9—Saturday, February 10, 2024. Friday will begin with a tour of the Gettysburg Battlefield and only available for the first 100 registered guests! Keynote Speaker will be Paul Moya.

Click on this link to learn more and register!

2024 Ag Promotion Conference - Pennsylvania Farm Bureau (pfb.com)

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

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and \$3 for Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Grassroots Advacate (formerly Country Focus). Members receive 4 issues of each publication per year on a quarterly basis. Publication frequency and details are subject to change.

PFB adds value to membership and keeps

receive 5% off advertising rates in our print

A total \$6 portion of annual member dues covers subscriptions to these publications, \$3 for Positively Pennsylvania

members informed through a variety of print and digital publications. Members

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York County Policy Proposals

November is the PFB Annual Meeting where policy changes are brought to the state level from each county farm bureau. Here are the 3 existing policy changes being proposed from York County which will be voted on to move forward or not at the York County Annual Meeting on October 15. If you have any additional policies you'd like to see submitted, please forward them to a board member or bring them with you at the York County Annual Meeting October 15! Farm Bureau cannot make a stand on an issue if it is not part of our policy book, so make sure we have all our bases covered!

- 1. State Board Recommendation: Consideration to increasing the due fee returning to the home county to \$25 to offset rising costs. Submitted Dolores Krick
- 2. We oppose legislation that creates smart cities or similar communities using information and communication technologies. *Submitted Pattie McCandless*
- 3. We oppose any government regulation or mandates which reduce agricultural operations; livestock numbers or land use acreage. Submitted Pattie McCandless



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