



York County Newsletter

Quarterly Newsletter of York County Farm Bureau



Issue 49

July 2023

York County Farm Bureau Annual Membership Dinner Meeting

Sunday, August 27, 2023

Wisehaven Hall, 2985 E. Prospect Rd, York, PA 17402

12:00 PM—1:00 PM	Arrival/Fellowship Enjoy a game of cornhole and bid on Silent Auction!
1:00 PM—2:30 PM	Buffet Meal
2:30 PM—3:00 PM	Meeting
3:00 PM—4:30 PM	Entertainment

Cost per person is \$25.00 for adults & \$16.00 for children ages 3-10.
Family Friendly Event!



RSVP: Deb Macklin (717)891-4963 / E-mail: dmackfarms@aol.com

From the President's Desk

Dolores Krick
York County Farm Bureau President

Happy Summer!

We are thankful for the much-needed rain for our crops! Barley and Wheat harvest for most have been wonderful even with a lot of it going down this year. As the year progresses, we look forward to great yields of hay and vegetables and the small grains in the fall!

Lots of changes are going on with Farm Bureau now, we are trying to work through all the past disappointments and hope to improve as time moves on. As new leadership is in place, we are processing many changes and working through this transition.

We are disappointed with the Ag Lab registrations being closed due to not enough teachers; York County has been one of the top counties that get the lab in so many schools. Do you know any teachers that may want to apply to work in our labs? It's a great part time job for retired teachers. Contact Charlene Espenshade at 717-724-9499

We hope to see you at our annual meeting on August 27th. We had an amazing turnout last year, let's do it again this year.

As always if you know of anything Farm Bureau can do for you, let me know. Call me at 717-487-4556 or email sjkrick@gmail.com

Dolores Krick

Women's Leadership Boot Camp

It's that time of year again! Applications are being accepted now until August 7, 2023 for the upcoming Women's Leadership Boot Camp held in Washington DC at the AFBF headquarters October 16-19, 2023. This event is open to all Farm Bureau women and is an empowering experience to help make you a stronger, better leader, speaker, and woman! I know you are thinking you don't have the time, but trust me you do! This is worth every minute spent. You will create new friends from across the US, learn from educated, well spoken women of AFBF, and take home skills you can use within Farm Bureau as well as any organization you are involved in such as the local school board, church committee, municipal leaders, and so much more!

Click here for the link for the application. Only 30 women are accepted each round (twice a year, spring and fall). 7 women from PA have attended this event, will you be the next?!

<https://www.fb.org/program/womens-leadership>

Farm Night at York Revolution!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 9 at York Revolutions for the Ag & Farm Night sponsored by Apple Valley Creamery! Fireworks will be held this night as well! Tickets are only \$12 and 50% of the ticket cost will be donated to the York County Agricultural Society Ag Education Fund!

Go to this link to purchase yours now!

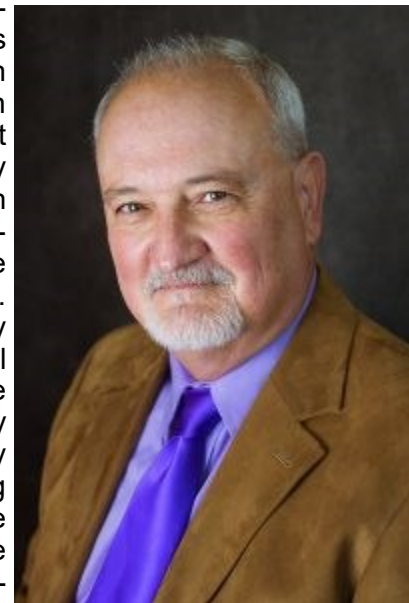
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Welcome our new ROD

PFB is making the work load more equal among the ROD's (Regional Organizational Directors) that are the paid staff that works directly with the County Boards. As of July, York County has a new ROD who is a native to York County, Kenny Sechrist! Kenny grew up in Red Lion, attending Red Lion High School, where he was very active in the Vo Ag and FFA programs. Kenny and his wife Lisa now reside in Wellsville, and he is in his second year at PFB. Kenny previously worked 41 years in manufacturing management, 25 of those at Pfaltzgraff Pottery. He also currently serves as School Board President for the Northern York County School District. Kenny looks forward to getting back to his agriculture roots and helping the York County Farm Bureau be successful in their mission to help our farmers succeed. Welcome Kenny!!



Spam Email

Do you receive emails from other farm organizations or groups asking for your support or to send letters to your representative on their behalf? Do you belong to that group? If so, then you know it is from a safe source. However, if you are unsure, always feel free to check with a local Board Member or call into the PFB main office to verify it's validity. Recently, an email was circulated asking farmers to send their letter to Representative GT Thompson regarding the EATS Act. This group is not aligned with AFBF in their stance on agriculture, so not really something a Farm Bureau member would like to have their name attached to.

Just remember, not all emails are valid. If you feel it is important, make sure to research the sender, the company, and the bill or topic they are referring to before acting! The more you know!



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A WOTUS Win!

In *Sackett v. EPA*, the United States Supreme Court finally ruled that the EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers wrongfully claimed oversight on wetlands owned by Chantell and Michael Sackett. The verdict was issued on Thursday, May 25. The Court ruled unanimously, 9-0, that the Clean Water Act did not apply to the wetlands on the Sacketts' property, striking down the "significant nexus" test in determining what is considered a Waters of the United States (WOTUS).

Additionally, by a 5-4 vote, the Court adopted a more stringent test for what qualifies as an "adjacent wetland" subject to the Clean Water Act jurisdiction. Writing for the majority, Justice Alito concluded that the Clean Water Act applies to wetlands that are "as a practical matter indistinguishable from waters of the United States" because they have a "continuous surface connection" with a larger body of water.

The decision will have positive, far-reaching consequences for those in the agricultural industry. Pennsylvania Farm Bureau President Chris Hoffman commented on the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *Sackett v. EPA*: "It's a good day for Pennsylvania agriculture. We thank the Supreme Court for giving farmers clarity about how they manage their land," Hoffman said. "We need a common-sense rule that works for agriculture and helps farmers do their job and protects water quality. We're grateful that the Court acted to rein in the huge overreach of the authority of the EPA and Army Corps of Engineers. The decision in *Sackett v. EPA* is as a win for our farmers, who protect their soil, air and water every day, as their legacy to the next generation."

American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall shared the sentiment. "AFBF appreciates the Supreme Court justices for their careful consideration of the implications of *Sackett v. EPA*. The EPA clearly overstepped its authority under the Clean Water Act by restricting private property owners from developing their land despite being far from the nearest navigable water. "The justices respect private property rights. It's now time for the Biden administration to do the same and rewrite the Waters of the United States rule. Farmers and ranchers share the goal of protecting the resources they're entrusted with, but they deserve a rule that provides clarity and doesn't require a team of attorneys to properly care for their land."

U.S. Congressman and Chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture Glenn "GT" Thompson added the following thoughts on the current WOTUS rule. "(Thursday's) unanimous ruling in *Sackett v EPA* is a victory for America's farmers, ranchers, and landowners. The decision reaffirms the rights of property owners and provides long-needed clarity to rural America. In light of this decision, the Biden Administration should withdraw its flawed final WOTUS rule.

2024 Membership Kickoff!

July 1 begins the new season of membership! Don't forget to renew your membership by December 31 in order to keep your AD&D. Also, do you have a neighbor, friend, family member who has a farm, small backyard animals, land in Clean & Green? Ask them to join Farm Bureau! You will be entered into a drawing for each new member you sign up! New members who sign up in July/ August go into a \$1,000 drawing! All new and renewal memberships received by September 30th will be part of a drawing for the following prizes: cash prizes of \$2,000, \$1,000, \$500, and two \$500 gift cards. Anyone signing up with Auto Renewal by September 30th will be part of a separate \$1,000 drawing. The more that join, the stronger our voice is for Agriculture!

Don't forget to use your local discounts as well throughout the year you receive for being a member. There are discounts on hotels, rental cars, restaurants, movies and more! Use the MyDeals App to access these discounts.




Finally, within York County, show your card and you receive \$3 off at Brown's Orchards!

You can renew online at <https://members.pfb.com> or bring your membership to the annual meeting on Sunday, August 27 at Wisheaven Hall! Make sure to RSVP to Debbie by 8/20 at dmackfarms@aol.com

The membership year is the same as the calendar year. Persons who join the Farm Bureau for the first time between July 1-December 31 of any year will become members for the rest of that calendar year and for the entire next calendar year! 18 months for the cost of 12!! Sign up your friends and family today to join the largest voice for agriculture!

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**.

Women's Leadership ICE Conference

PFB's Women's Leadership Committee is hosting the ICE (Inspire, Celebrate, Educate) Conference on Saturday, September 16, 2023 at 10 AM. Location for event will be at the Wyndam Garden, State College, PA. The guest speaker will be Margee Wolfe, Vice President of Member Engagement at American Farm Bureau. Mark your calendars!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Ag Progress Days

August 8-10, 2023, Pennsylvania Furnace, PA

York County Farm to Table Gala

August 10, 2023, Stewartstown, PA

York County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

August 27, 2023, Wisheaven Hall, York, PA

Ag Farm Night @ York Revolution Baseball

September 9, 2023, York, PA

Women's Leadership ICE Conference

September 16, 2023, State College, PA

York County FB Board of Directors

September 28, 2023, York, PA

PFB Annual Meeting

November 12-15, 2023, Hershey, PA

Member Spotlight:

Cornerstone Plantation Tree Farm

Thirty-eight years ago, David and Faye Hall purchased a small Christmas tree farm in Glen Rock, PA located in Southern York County. David had grown up on a Christmas tree farm, and had been searching for his own. David, Faye, and their children worked the farm, spending countless hours preparing the trees for Christmas each year. David grew the farm into a wholesale farm, in addition to a retail farm.

As the children grew and began to go their separate ways, they would try to come back around Christmas to help during the busiest time of the season. Eventually David and Faye began to plan for retirement from the farm. Their youngest daughter, Candace, her husband James and their two children began the process to take over the farm.

On an almost weekly basis David is helping James and Candace complete each of these tasks. He brings a wealth of knowledge, that would take years to acquire without him. As James and Candace become more confident at the farm, David will step back from the day to day, but will be there every Christmas, for the customers that look forward to seeing him each year.

If you live in Southern York County, or would love to make a day trip in choosing your Christmas Tree, make sure to check out Cornerstone Plantation this year! They specialize in "Choose and Cut" Christmas Trees but also have live balled trees, wreaths, and garland. Are you wondering how they came up with the name for a tree farm? Look no farther than Psalm 144:12 *That our sons may be as*



plants grown up in their youth; that our daughters may be as corner stones, polished after the similitude of a palace. What a wonderful example of a father/daughter duo

James, and Candace are in the process of learning from David all of the intricate details of running a Christmas tree farm. While many see the intense work it takes during the Christmas season, many miss all of the work behind the scenes.

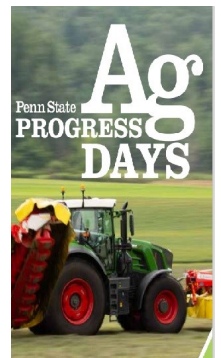
As soon as the Christmas season is over, January and February are the months to clean up from the season, winterize the equipment, and plan for the year. March and April are always busy, clearing old stumps from the field, planting the new seedlings, and implementing weed management strategies. Many times May is full of mowing, nurturing the seedlings, and disease/insect management. June typically brings the need to supplement water for the trees, beginning shearing the trees, and continued weed/insect/disease management. July is busy finishing the shearing, more watering, and lots of mowing. August looks similar to June and July, but in addition it's time to order next year's seedling order. September and October slow down, but depending on the weather it could be a continuation of management strategies, mowing, and watering the seedlings. November quickly arrives and brings prepping the equipment, setting up the shop, digging trees, making wreaths, garland, and opening up for the season! December is non-stop, full of wonderful customers, digging trees, and busy days.

tending to the land and making it better for the future generations! Check them out on Facebook at Cornerstone Plantation or their website <https://cptrees.com>

Source: Candice

Ag Progress Days is Coming!

The annual Penn State Ag Progress Days is fast approaching on August 8-10, 2023 at the Russell E. Larson Agricultural Research Center located at 2710 W. Pine Grove Rd, Pennsylvania Furnace, PA 16865. Times are as follows: Tuesday 9-5, Wednesday 9-7, and Thursday 9-4. This is Pennsylvania's largest outdoor agricultural expo with over 400 exhibitors! There is no cost to park and no admission fee! Come out to see seminars, meet vendors, see new equipment, have a milkshake and yummy food! PFB has a booth there as well you can stop out and meet the staff as well as volunteers from across PA helping out! YAP & Women's Leadership have tables set up within the booth as well!



Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

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A total \$6 portion of annual member dues covers subscriptions to these publications, \$3 for Positively Pennsylvania and \$3 for Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Grassroots Advocate (formerly Country Focus). Members receive 4 issues of each publication per year on a quarterly basis. Publication frequency and details are subject to change.



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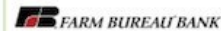
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