

We'd Love to See Ya'll Again at the CVF Annual Spring Meeting

Tuesday, March 28, 2023

Trinity Point Church of God

180 West Trinity Drive, Clarion

Doors Open at 5:30 PM. Dinner at 6 PM.

\$20 for adults -- \$10 for children under 10

Payable at the door



<http://www.coloringpages.com>



Buffet Dinner Menu

Catered by Daddy's Main Street

Rolls, Fresh Fruit, Toss Salad, Chicken, Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Noodles, Green Beans with Bacon, Cupcakes and Ice Cream as well as Beverages.

Meeting Agenda

Recap of Our CVF year

Policy Development Ideas

Drawing for three \$500 scholarships

Silent Auction

Please bring an item for our Silent Auction.

All money raised goes into our AG Education Fund.

Kindly RSVP by March 22 to Linda Stahlman phone 814-365-5161,
Text 814-319-4318, or email to plstahlman@gmail.com

CVF County Farm Bureau

Board of Directors

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District 13 Woman's Leadership Cmte

Michele McMinn 814-594-7747

District 13 State Ag Promotion

Amanda Balon 814-335-0804



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Clarion/Venango/Forest County Farm Bureau
c/o Linda Stahlman
175 Marks Lane, Fairmount City, PA 16224

Board Meetings

The regular meeting of the CVF Board was changed to the third Tuesday of every month. The Board is currently meeting at Eat 'n Park. Changes in the meeting locations will be posted on the CVF Facebook page and website: www.cvffarmbureau.com. **All CVF members are welcome to attend the meetings to express their ideas and to become involved in the county work.**

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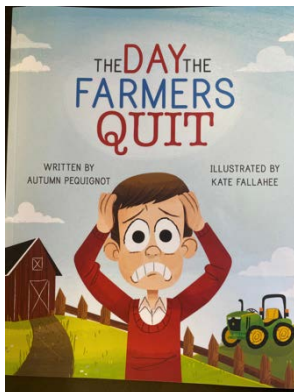
Lisa Goth

Lgoth@leachagency.com

814-275-3224.

AG Literacy Week

CVF will celebrate AG Literacy week (March 13-17) by reading to kindergarten students at Redbank Primary and at grades 1-3 at the Leatherwood Academy in New Bethlehem. The book this year is:



The Day The Farmers Quit

Written by Autumn Pequinot, and Illustrated by Kate Fallahee

The Pennsylvania Friends of Agriculture Foundation's 2023 Ag Literacy Week

book, *The Day The Farmers Quit* is an encouraging story of a boy that learns he can't live without the hard work of his farmer friends.

You won't believe what this young boy wakes up to in his community when Farmer Bob and his farmer friends decide to take a vacation. He panics when he realizes the farmers and all the things they provide are gone. Find out how this young boy sets out to save his town and get the farmers to return from their vacation.

This heartwarming book helps children of all ages appreciate the importance of farmers in their community.

CVF Farm Bureau

Mission Statement

To be an active and unified voice of the Clarion Venango Forest County Farm Bureau membership through policy development, education, political engagement and community enhancement endeavors.

CVF Meets with Legislators in Knox

Members of the CVF Board met with county, state and federal legislators on February 17 over breakfast at the Big Country Restaurant in Knox. Governmental Relations Director, Bud Wills welcomed the participants and handed out papers outlining the public policy directives that are the priority focus in 2023.



The state issues include broadband, dairy, MS4/stormwater, solar, transportation and wildlife & crop damage. Federal issues include ag labor, dairy, environment & sustainability, 2023 Farm Bill, PFAS and WOTUS. Detailed information on each of these subjects can be obtained from Bud.

Legislators present included 21st District State Senator, Scott Hutchinson, Outreach Specialist Theresa Hurrelbrink representing 63rd District State Representative Donna Oberlander, 64th District Representative R. Lee James, Brad Moore, District Director for Senator Glenn "GT" Thompson, Clarion County Commissioners, Ed Heasley, Ted Tharan and Wayne Brosius, and Venango County Commissioners Chip Abramovic, Sam Breene and Mike Dulaney.

Most of the conversation centered around broadband delivery to our area, the leasing of land for solar panels, and mental health issues. Rural broadband took center stage right at the start. Millions have been allotted but it's going to be up to local authorities to spend it. Brad Moore said it best, "It's a national problem with a local solution". Concerning solar panels, it was emphasized that the local township supervisors need to have ordinances in place now so that valuable farmland can't be used for that purpose. The Clarion County commissioners have a model ordinance that the township supervisors could follow. The discussion also turned to what a problem we have as a state with mental health which leads to homelessness, crime, and other issues. It was noted that our local state representatives fought to keep the Polk Center open.



Nicholas Elizalde was a student at Walter B. Saul High School, a special admissions agricultural high school in the School District of Philadelphia, when he was gunned down during an ambush by juveniles as he left a football scrimmage.



The 14-year-old was enrolled in a natural resources management course — one of four subject areas including animal science, plant science and food processing — that Saul students rotate through before choosing their focus.

The 130-acre school campus includes a working farm and instills leadership skills and an appreciation for agriculture in urban students.

When MeeCee Baker, a former Pennsylvania high school agriculture teacher, heard the news, she felt it deeply. Baker reached out to Gail Koskela, Saul's livestock teacher, who, after talking with the administration and faculty, suggested creating an [FFA Official Dress](#) closet. The school tries to keep a supply of FFA jackets available for students to borrow, but the jackets were becoming "well loved," Koskela says. With more than 500 students, all of whom are FFA members, acquiring full Official Dress can be a barrier to participation for students.

Working with the school, Baker set a goal: to provide 100 sets of Official Dress, including jackets, shirts, ties/scarves, pants, belts, socks and shoes, as well as clothing racks and shelves, storage tubs, sturdy hangers, garment bags, a steamer and signage to designate the closet as "Nick's Closet."

As a second goal, Baker wanted to provide polo shirts for all 550 students, faculty and staff members to wear during other school and leadership activities.

Baker started a GoFundMe campaign in October 2022 with the goal of raising \$45,000 for the project. Soon, she started receiving calls and checks from individuals and agricultural organizations across the country.

After just two months of fundraising, generous donors have pushed Baker over her goal. The PFB leadership asked each region to donate \$500 to this cause and overall has raised \$8000 to support this school. Our local CVF chapter gave \$200.



Mark your calendars to come to the CVF Farm Bureau Farm Fest being planned for August 11, 12 & 13 at Guntown Park in New Bethlehem.

The Board decided to do a festival event to connect the community with local producers and to showcase our local food supply while fundraising for the Ag Education Funds.

The committee is looking for farm related craft vendors and farm products as well as food vendors. Included in the plan is a tractor show, petting zoo, children's activities, a 5 K race, coloring contest and musical entertainment on the Friday and Saturday evenings. Charlie Wyant will present his Sermon on the Mount on Sunday afternoon.

The festival committee is headed by Dave Yeany and includes Jordan Siegel, Steve Reichard, Tyler Fraser, Bud Wills, Allison Beichner, Paul Stahlman and Randy Hagofsky. Contact any of these people if you would like to be a vendor or help in any way.

Conservation District Events

Western PA Grazing Conference

Friday, March 15. 6:30-8PM

Thursday, March 16 8:30 AM-5 PM

Trinity Point Church of God, Clarion

Keynote speaker, Troy Bishopp manages a hundred-acre farm in Deansboro, NY, where he raises grass fed beef. He works with the Madison County SWCD/Upper Susquehanna Coalition and writes for Lee Newspapers and OnPasture.com. His work can be found at

www.thegrasswhisperer.com.

Deadline for registration is March 8.

Fees are \$20 for Friday and \$45 for Thursday.

Register online at www.westernpagrazing.com

Or mail a check to Clarion Conservation District,
249 S. Second Ave., Clarion, PA 16214.

Conservation Workshop for Farmers and Landowners

Wednesday, March 22. 12-3 PM

DCNR Forestry Bureau

158 S. 2nd Ave. Clarion

Register by March 15 at 814-393-6147 or
hbequeathccd@gmail.com

Free Lunch and Soil Test kit included.

Topics:

Conservation Reserve Enhancement
Program (CREP)

Clean and Green Assessment Program

Keystone 10 Million Trees Partnership

Riparian Buffers & Invasive Species

No-Till, Nutrient Management and

Erosion & Sediment Controls

3:30-5:30 PM Thank a Farmer Event

Local farmers will have tables set up representing their farm and the products they produce. Community member will be welcome to come and check out the tables. To have a table, contact Hannah Bequeath at 814-393-6147.

Are You Turning 65 This Year and Going on Medicare?

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- Help with informed Medicare coverage decisions

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

Yeany Maple Open House March 18 from 9 AM to 5 PM

113 Chestnut St., Marienville, PA 16239

Ph. 814-221-4360



As the only producer of maple syrup in Forest County, Dave & Zenobia welcomes you to visit their sugar house to see how sap is boiled and to taste

samples of their products. Maple syrup products will be available and they will also have maple kettle corn and maple cotton candy, weather permitting.

From Feb 9 to the 14th, Dave reports that he's harvested 30,000 gallons of sap from the trees on the 113 acres that he leases. He estimates that this sap will boil down to 450 gallons of pure maple syrup. That's just the beginning. The season started early this year and he hopes to be boiling yet in March.

Please Renew Your Membership Every Voice Counts!



We welcome these New Members to CVF

Clarion County

W Scott Port Edwin Wagner
John Gruber Bob Glenn
Chris Shaffer Kerry Mapes
Marshall Whitmer Donald Hager
Elizabeth Beal

Forest County

Joseph Nader

Venango County

Janet Mangel Kemp Scales
Preston Yanssens

Please Renew Your Membership Every Voice Counts

News from the PA Senate

The PA Senate passed several pieces of Farm Bureau supported legislation in January.

Senate Bill 35, sponsored by Sen. Wayne Langerholc, passed with a 29-19 vote. This bill stops the automatic gas tax increase.

Senate Bill 95, also sponsored by Sen. Langerholc, streamlines the home delivery of milk and other agricultural products

Washington: EPA Issues Updated “Waters of the U. S.” Rule

On Dec. 30, EPA issued its new “Waters of the U.S.” Rule, which will replace the Navigable Waters Protection Rule put in place during the Trump Administration. **Farm Bureau is extremely disappointed in the content of the new rule**, which not only does not provide the needed clarity and certainty that the regulated community has long called for, but also allows the federal

government to expand its jurisdictional reach over private property. EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) have doubled down on their use of the troubling “significant nexus” test, which will require landowners to hire environmental consultants, attorneys and engineers to ensure that they are in compliance.

Furthermore, since this rule relies on case-by-case determinations and ambiguously defined terms, it is incredibly difficult for a farmer to understand if they have a jurisdictional feature on their property. With civil and criminal liabilities attached to Clean Water Act compliance, it is critically important to have a clear line of jurisdiction.

The new WOTUS rule now goes into effect 60 days after its Jan. 18 publication in the Federal Register (March 20, 2023). Farm Bureau will be looking to the Supreme Court for a decision in the Sackett case, which will provide some clarity on the use of the “significant nexus” test. It is hoped that the agencies will have to amend the rule in response to a decision from the high court next year.

Farm Bureau Participates on Columbia Gas Advisory Panel

Columbia Gas of PA held its two final “Your Energy, Your Future” stakeholder meetings during December 2022 and January 2023. The purpose of this initiative is for Columbia to gather input from industry, government, academia, and non-profit groups about their future energy needs as Columbia seeks to transition to a de-carbonized future.

Environmental Specialist Grant Gulibon was invited to represent Farm Bureau on the panel, and discussed Pennsylvania agriculture’s continuing need for affordable, reliable, plentiful energy in all of our members’ operations, as well as and the reality that there is no alternative to conventional energy sources on the near-term horizon. Farm Bureau members are also increasing usage of alternative energy sources as environmental enhancements and power/income generators for their operations. There is a continuing need to make sure that solar and wind facilities are properly sited, with provisions made for their long-term disposal that do not burden landowners.

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

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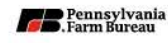
Publications

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 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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CVF County Farm Bureau
175 Marks Lane
Fairmount City, PA 16224

Address Correction Requested

Mailing Address
Street Number and Name
City, PA 98765-4321

Notable Events in 2023

March 7—Farm Bureau Day, Wolf's Den

March 10-11—Ag Promotion T.A.S.K. Conference, Penn Stater Hotel,

March 15—Deadline for Scholarship applications

March 16—Western PA Grazing Conference, 8:30 AM--5PM. Trinity Point

March 20-24—Ag Literacy Week

March 21-27—National Ag Week

March 21 - CVF Board Meeting, 7:00 PM. Eat 'N Park, Clarion

March 22—Conservation Workshop, 12-3PM, DCNR Forestry Bureau, Clarion (RSVP by 3/15/23)

March 28—CVF Annual Spring Meeting, 5:30 PM. Trinity Point

April 4—Harrisburg Legislative Day

April 16-22—Rural Road Safety Week

April 18-- CVF Board Meeting, 7:00 PM. Eat 'N Park, Clarion

May 4—PSU Trustee Election

May 16-- CVF Board Meeting, 7:00 PM. Eat 'N Park, Clarion



NOTE: Any last-minute changes in meeting locations and times will be posted on the CVF Facebook page and website: www.cvffarmbureau.com