



Butler County Farm Bureau

Planting for the Future

SPRING 2025

EDITOR: LINDA HALSTEAD

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

James Thiele, Pres.	Evelyn Minter, V. Pres.	Linda Halstead, Sec.	Rachel Altman, Co-Sec., Dir.
Guy Daubenspeck, Dir.	William Thiele, Dir.	James Halstead, Dir.	Tom Goldscheitter, Treas, Dir.
	Bill Duncan, Director	Jed Wilbur, Dir.	

SAVE THE DATE

Mars New Year	June 7, 2025	Mars PA
Westfest	June 20-21, 2025	Sprinklewoods
Summer Picnic	July 20, 2025	Farm Show
Farm Show	August 4 – 9 2025	Farm Show
Maifest	TBD	Sprinklewoods
Fall Meeting	September 25, 2025	Prospect FH

President's Message

James Thiele, President

Hello Butler County Farm Bureau Members! 2025 is upon us; it is time to look toward the future of Farm Bureau. Be excited! We have some great events planned for 2025 and would love our members (and non- members) to be a part of them!

This year will bring challenges to us as an organization; we need to make sure our voice is heard in Harrisburg and Washington DC, if you have an issue, you think needs changed, please reach out to us!

Do you want to get involved?

Do you want to make a difference?

Now is the time!

I strongly encourage you to get involved in
Butler County Farm Bureau!

Together we Can!

- James Thiele

President of Butler County Farm Bureau



**Looking forward
to a strong and
successful year for
Butler County
Farm Bureau
Members**

YOU MIGHT ASK "HOW DOES BUTLER COUNTY FARM BUREAU, PLANT FOR THE FUTURE?"

WE WISH YOU WOULD, WE WOULD LOVE TO SHARE SOME OF THE WAYS WE PLANT FOR THE FUTURE

WE

EDUCATE * ADVOCATE * PROMOTE

"TELL US MORE", YOU SAY, "HAPPY TO", WE SAY!



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AFBF Annual Meeting January 22 – January 29	Penn State Trustee Election May 8
Fusion March 7 -11	Planting for the Future May 16 - 17
State of the County March 20	Pennsylvania State Legislative Conference April 18
Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Town Hall March 26	Pennsylvania Federal Affairs Trip May 21 - 22



Left back– Zach Speer, Jim Halstead, Linda Halstead, James Thiele, William Thiele, Left Front, Brittany Speer, Evelyn Minter





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EDUCATE

Ag Literacy Week - March 13 -19, 2025

In Butler County we are fortunate to have Amy Metrick, Butler County 4H Extension. Amy makes arrangements with the schools, **60 classrooms** to read an educational Agricultural Book. This year the book, "The Soil in Jackie's Garden"



Do you have a love of Agriculture?

Do you want to Educate, Advocate and/or Promote Agriculture?

Give us a call? There are many opportunities available through Farm Bureau.

Linda Halstead – 724-272-5595, bcbf.secretary@gmail.com



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Planting for the Future

May 16-17, 2025

POWER PRESENTATIONS

FRIDAY, MAY 16

- 2:00 PM Mary Snow
- 3:00 PM Kathy Wilderoter, MG Veg, Summer Succession
- 4:00 PM Tom Goldschietter Christmas Trees
- 4:30 PM Carolyn Glendening, MG Spotted Lantern Fly

SATURDAY, MAY 17

- 10:00 AM Mary Snow
- 10:30 AM Hannah Durkin, MG - Bees
- 11:00 AM Kari Thompson - Sheep
- 11:30 AM William Thiele - Drone Guy
- 12:30 PM Tim Oesterling - Tim's Worms
- 1:00 PM Zaleigh Wade - Butcher
- 1:30 PM Disabled Veterans - Armed Forces Day Presentation
- 2:00 PM Toni Fennick, MG - Hydrangea
- 2:30 PM Suzanne Shea - Soil Scientist
- 3:00 PM Doug Sprankle - Grocer's connection to Ag

STAGE AREA BUILDING 11



INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE

HAVE IDEAS

WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE

PLEASE CONTACT

LINDA HALSTEAD

AT

724-272-5595

OR

BCFB.SECRETARY@GMAIL.COM



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We can't thank enough our many sponsors for the "Planting for the Future" event, this was year 2 and we are so very grateful for the support we received. In addition to those below, thank you to our many Basket Raffle contributors.

Together we raised \$1,000 for Ronald McDonald House

 **PLANTING FOR THE FUTURE**
THANKS OUR SPONSORS

PLANTERS • CULTIVATORS • HARVESTER



**THANK YOU TO OUR
STEP SPONSORS**



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ADVOCATE

August 16, 2024

Goldscheitter Christmas Tree Farm



Pennsylvania Farm Bureau State Legislative Conference

April 18, 2025

Advocating for Butler County

William Thiele, Thomas Goldscheitter, Bill Duncan, Alan





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Pennsylvania Federal Affairs Trip

May 21 – 22



Members on the trip included Sarah Miller (Berks County), Bonnie Wenger (Lebanon County), Ray Geissinger (Juniata County), Megan Hostetler (Somerset County), Linda Halstead (Butler County), Jeremiah Pfadt (Erie County), Tim Wood (Tioga/Potter County) and Josiah Meck (Schuylkill County) along with PFB staff members Bailey Fisher, Federal Affairs Specialist and Justin Clapper, Manager of Government Affairs and Communications.

Policy Development

Contact Evelyn Minteer, 724-679-8169

Policy Development and You

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

Step 1
A policy idea comes from you.

Step 2
The idea is developed into a formal resolution.

Step 3
County Farm Bureau members vote on resolutions. Approved local resolutions become county policy. Endorsed state and national resolutions are submitted for further consideration.

Step 4
The State Policy Development Committee ensures submitted resolutions are suitable for consideration by the state's voting delegates.

Step 5
State Delegates vote on resolutions. Approved state resolutions become state policy. Endorsed national resolutions are submitted for consideration to the American Farm Bureau.

Step 6
Farm Bureau members and select employees advocate for our policy positions.



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PROMOTE

We strive to promote our local businesses and Farmers with the use of the following tools:

Buy Local Flyer



BUY LOCAL

2024 MEMBER BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Butler County Farm Bureau would like to
thank our sponsors
Dave's Country Meats and Penn United

NURSERIES/GREENHOUSES/ORCHARDS

Bachman's Greenhouse and Nursery - 2905 Freeport Road, Natrona Hgts., PA 15065	724-575-5666
Eisler Landscapes - 1031 New Castle Road, PO Box 465, Prospect, PA 16052-0465	724-865-2830
Erich Gumbo Greenhouses, Inc. - 1060 Meridian Road, Renfrew, PA 16053	724-586-7765
Every Season Blooms - 135 Isaac Lane, Renfrew, PA 16053	724-581-8312
Gardner's Farm and Greenhouse - 1003 Perry Highway, Harmony, PA 16037	724-368-4010
Grupp's Christmas Trees - 147 Grupp Lane, Harmony, PA 16037	724-368-3249
Heasley's Nurseries, Inc. - 247 Freeport Road, Butler, PA 16002	724-287-1963
Hill's Tree Care & Nursery LLC - 177 Helper Road, Sarver, PA 16055	724-353-1747
Jestadt's Greenhouse - 223 Grindel Road, Prospect, PA 16052	724-865-2277
Kellar Farm Nursery - 285 Royal Oak Dr., Butler, PA 16002	724-586-2191
Rabold's Nursery, Landscaping & Garden Center - 874 Rockdale Road, Butler, PA 16002	724-352-8080
Schnur's Greenhouse - 175 Schnur Road, Butler, PA 16002	724-427-3273
Skylar's Greenhouse - 454 North Main St., Harrisville, PA 16038	724-421-9492
Soergel Greenhouses - 2573 Brandt School Road, Wexford, PA 15090	724-935-2090
Sunshine Greenhouse - Box 69, Route 228, Saxenburg, PA 16066	724-352-4270
Quality Gardens - 409 PA 288, Valencia, PA 16059	724-625-2770

FARM MARKET

Buy Local - Eat Healthy

Ambrose Farm Market - 991 Bear Creek Road, Cabot, PA 16023	724-352-3080
Bauldoff Farm (deer processing) - 118 Matthew Lane, Chicora, PA 16025	724-445-3728
Bekah Farms - Saxenburg, PA 16056	724-230-6315
Butler Farm Market Inc. - 901 Evans City Road, Renfrew, PA 16053	724-486-2194
Corrado Farms LLC (farm stand, beef, pork, chicken, veggies) - 957 Deer Creek Rd., Gibsonia, PA 15044	412-812-2317
Cypher Farms (vegetables) - 214 Rennick Road, Butler, PA 16002	724-285-3888
Daubenspeck Farm (beef and feed) -	724-290-6724
Deener's Farm Market - 21255 Perry Highway Route 19, Cranberry Twp., PA 16066	724-452-7944
Eichner's Farm Market - 285 Richard Road, Wexford, PA	724-935-2131
Fairground Market - 1138 New Castle Road, Butler, PA 16001	724-865-9523
Fessides Farm & Apiary - 105 Longvue Dr., Harmony, PA 16037	724-473-5094
Freedom Farms Farmers Market - 795 Pittsburgh Road, Butler, PA 16002	724-586-5551
Halstead Family Farms (soy free chicken and eggs) - 134 Glade Mill Road, Saxenburg, PA 16056	724-882-4253
Harvest Valley Farms - 6003 Cunningham Rd., Gibsonia, PA 15044	724-898-3276
Jones Turkey Farm - 240 Jones Road, Cabot, PA 16023	724-352-2450
Kaelin Farm Market - Brandt School Road, Wexford, PA 15090	724-935-6780
McElhinny Farm (sweet corn) - 766 Brownsdale Road, Evans City, PA 16033	724-316-5488
Metrick's Harvest View Farm & Market - 143 Eagle Mill Road, Butler, PA 16001	724-282-8038
Minteer Farm (eggs, beef and straw) - 362 North Road, Butler, PA 16001	724-679-8169
Molinaro Farm (sweet corn and pumpkins) - 162 Denny Road, Valencia, PA 16059	724-316-1056
Saxon Country Market - 568 Saxenburg Blvd., Saxenburg, PA 16056	724-362-6088
Schnurs' Country Market - 252 Bonniebrook Road, Butler, PA 16002	724-285-3104
Schramm's Market & Greenhouse - 291 Criswell Road, Butler, PA 16001	724-282-3714

Planting for the Future Bag, used to promote local Farmer's Markets at the Butler Hospital Farmer's Market.



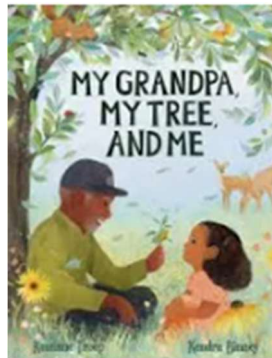


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"FARM-tastic" Book Program
This year's "Book of the Year"

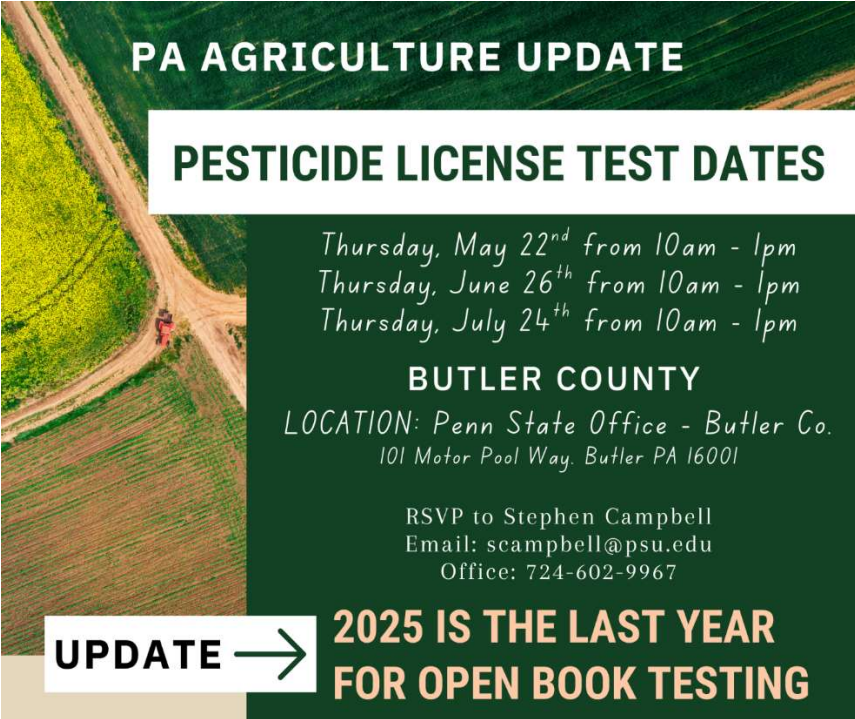
MY GRANDPA MY TREE AND ME

By Roxanne Troup - Kendra Binney,

Cost \$12.00 per book.

Purchase a book(s) for your elementary school library, Public libraries, your children, grandchildren, and friends.

Contact Evelyn Minter at 724-679-8169 To order your books.



PA AGRICULTURE UPDATE

PESTICIDE LICENSE TEST DATES

Thursday, May 22nd from 10am - 1pm
Thursday, June 26th from 10am - 1pm
Thursday, July 24th from 10am - 1pm

BUTLER COUNTY
LOCATION: Penn State Office - Butler Co.
101 Motor Pool Way, Butler PA 16001

RSVP to Stephen Campbell
Email: scampbell@psu.edu
Office: 724-602-9967

**UPDATE → 2025 IS THE LAST YEAR
FOR OPEN BOOK TESTING**

UPDATE YOUR BUTLER COUNTY FARM BUREAU ANNUAL DIRECTORY BUSINESS CARD ADS:

Update your Butler County Farm Bureau Annual **Directory Card** Article, Add a New, revised/edit or removal your present card. Members are entitled to One free business card with your membership, what a great way to promote your farm or business. Contact Evelyn Minter at 724-679-8169 about your card for the d



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THANK YOU – THANK YOU – THANK YOU – THANK YOU

The board of Directors of Butler County Farm Bureau would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your membership.

Without it, we would not be able to do what we do.

If you are a member and you are not able to answer these questions:

What is Butler County Farm Bureau?

What do they do?

Please reach out to a board member. We are anxious to change that.

We welcome your thoughts on how we can enhance our efforts to educate people about the importance of agriculture to our community and our country.

Please also consider renewing your membership early. Butler County receives \$15 of the \$95 membership dues you pay. From that, we pay the postage for our 929 members to receive multiple reminders. By paying early, we can save on postage and do more to EDUCATE, ADVOCATE AND PROMOTE.

Another tidbit, did you know with your \$95 membership you also belong to Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and American Farm Bureau?



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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 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
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Code: 1586181PHL
www.StaplesAdvantage.com
Online purchases



Code: PAFB
855.763.8213
www.affinitycellular.com/pafb

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
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10% off



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Platinum Membership with John Deere Rewards Program
30 day waiting period



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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

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

Health and Wellness



Code: Group 946
www.scriptsavewellrx.com



800.974.7036
www.myfreepharmacy/Pennsylvania

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.



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



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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.¹ 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.

¹U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

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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**.

Butler County Farm Certified Nationwide Agents

30963	Michael J Raisley	1120 N Main St Ext	Butler	PA	16001	Butler
66236	Daniel Conville Agency LLC	308 E Main St	Evans City	PA	16033	Butler
66403	Richard W Kotch Jr	201 S Duffy Rd	Butler	PA	16001	Butler
67813	Keystone Insurance Brokers	1074 Pittsburgh Rd	Valencia	PA	16059	Butler
68277	Raisley Insurance	1120 N Main Street Ext	Butler	PA	16001	Butler
68278	Raisley Insurance	1120 N Main Street Ext	Butler	PA	16001	Butler
80611	Richard W Kotch Jr	201 S Duffy Road	Butler	PA	16001	Butler
97398	Keystone Insurance Brokers	1074 Pittsburgh Road	Valencia	PA	16059	Butler
98871	Daniel Conville Agency LLC	308 E Main Street	Evans City	PA	16033	Butler