

Susquehanna County Farm Bureau Directors

David DeLeon, President.....	570-853-3520	John Benscoter.....	570-833-4250
Jim Barbour, 1st V. President.....	607-435-0830	Joseph Decker.....	570-756-2657
William Shay, 2nd V. President.....	570-396-4752	Karen Harmer.....	570-289-4128
Michelene Klim, Secretary.....	570-289-4756	Joseph Plonski.....	570-765-2901
Emma Hinkley, Women's Leadership.....	570-289-4943	Mike Russell Jr.....	607-972-3842
		Donna Williams.....	570-942-6348

Non-Director
Jessica Prusinowski, Treasurer.....908-310-0905

People Serving You

Nationwide Appointed Agencies

R. Leet Agency.....	18 Como Rd. PO Box 300, Lakewood, PA	570-789-2666
	321 Main St., Hallstead, PA.....	570-465-3296
Little & Nelson Ins.....	66 Public Ave, Montrose, PA.....	570-278-1151
	1344 Main St, Susquehanna, PA.....	570-853-3372
Manci Ins. Agency.....	35 E Tioga St., Tunkhannock, PA	570-836-3372

Susquehanna County Farm Bureau
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SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY
FARM BUREAU

April 2025

Welcoming Katelyn Cole, ROD

We welcome Kate Cole to PA Farm Bureau, Susquehanna County and Region 8 consisting of 6 county farm bureaus. She becomes our new ROD, Regional Organization Director. Wishing her the best, we look forward to working with Kate and hope for a long tenure as our ROD.

Katelyn Cole is a 4th generation dairy and crop farmer from Warren County, NJ. Her and her family milk over 250 registered cows between 2 farms. After graduating from Delaware Valley College, Katelyn went on to work in multiple agricultural related careers including the livestock pharmacovigilance department for Merck Animal Health, installing herd health/heat monitoring systems on dairy cattle for Allflex on the east coast and her most recent job with Browns Feeds as a dairy nutrition specialist. Katelyn and her husband Dan reside in Bangor, PA where they run a small beef operation. They are expecting their first daughter to be born this year in August and are excited to raise the next generation to farm! In her free time she enjoys showing cows, riding her horse Dozer and partaking in the many clubs she is a board member of which include the Plainfield farmers fair, Northampton 4-H dairy club, Northampton County Holstein Association and the colored breed cattle club.

Kate Cole
Regional Organization Director, Region 8

Comings and Goings

We would like to thank Jessica Prusinowski for being our treasurer for a little over the last three years. With accurate and complete monthly reports, attendance at Board meetings to answer any questions, while keeping our Directors up to date on everything financial, our organization is most appreciative for everything that Jess has handled in a most professional way. We wish her the very best as her journey takes her to Florida and a new adventure.

Once again we are most fortunate to have Aileen Shay move into this position as our new Susquehanna Farm Bureau treasurer.

With plenty of experience in these matters we are most confident in Aileen in taking on this position. We thank her for agreeing to do so and realize the job is in most capable hands.

Local Discounts for Farm Bureau Members in Susquehanna County

SCFB Members - show your membership card at these participating businesses and ask about the Farm Bureau discount.
www.pfb.com/localdiscounts

- Andre & Son, Inc. - True Value** (Montrose) - 5% off any in-stock store items not already on clearance or promotional pricing
- Auto Plus** (Great Bend) 10% off
- Barhites Sales & Rentals** (Clifford) 10% off all rentals, 5% off all sale items in-stock/shop repairs, 5% off parts, 15% off labor
- Blue Stone Pizzeria** (Hallstead) 10% off all menu items
- Flynn’s Hardware/Flynn’s Stone Castle** 10% off animal feed, Lawton
- Gerard E. Shinn Construction** (Uniondale) 5% off any contracted work
- Glezen’s Power Equipment Inc.** (Hallstead) 10% off parts
- J&J Springs** (New Milford) 10% off all water delivery to homes
- JDE Salon** (Montrose) 20% off all retail products
- Liberty Carpet, Inc.** (Hallstead) 10% off in-stock & special-order flooring, 5% off hardwood
- Little Leaf Natural Products** (Montrose) 10% off everything; must show membership card
- Maloney’s Pub & Restaurant** (Hallstead) 10% off food on Sunday and Monday only
- New Milford Hardware** (New Milford) Trade Discount - up to 10% off depending on item
- Nicholson Tire Service** 5% off tires and labor, Nicholson. Available to Susquehanna and Wyoming County Farm Bureaus
- Pump N Pantry** All stores except Troy - buy one get one free hotdogs (Kunzler’s from Lancaster)
- Rhonda’s Country Heart Décor** (Montrose) 10% off everything in store
- Russell Farms** (Brackney) 5% discount
- Rustic Roost Café** free drink with meal purchase, Kingsley. Available to Susquehanna and Lackawanna Farm Bureaus
- Scarfalloto’s Hometown Market** (Montrose) 5% off total order
- Speakeasy Saloon & Resort** (Union Dale) 10% off any dinner and room rental
- Stone’s Trustworthy Hardware** (Great Bend) 10% regular priced items; some exclusions apply
- Strauss Chiropractic/Northeast Nutrition** (Kingsley) Initial consult, complete exam & x-rays for \$25 (normally \$175-250)
- Summit Workwear** (New Milford) 15% off boots and workwear
- Timberline Lawn and RV** (Montrose) 10% off in-stock or ordered parts; \$100 minimum purchase
- Wandering Trails Veterinary Care** 10% off services excluding medications, Towanda. Available to Susquehanna, Wayne, Bradford, and Wyoming Farm Bureaus
- William Shay Flagstone** 10% off 10 by 10 Patio Package, Thompson. Available to Susquehanna and Wayne/Pike Farm Bureaus

2025 Spring Environmental Tour

Saturday, May 3rd, 10:30 to 2:30

Everyone is welcome to our upcoming Spring Event. We will meet at the scenic overlook overseeing the Kingsley Viaduct, built from 1912 to 1914 in Kingsley, PA. The following topics and areas of interest will be covered. A guided tour and educational presentation by historian David Palmer of the Kingsley Railroad Viaduct. 10:30-11:00.

Tour and presentation of the Harford Orphan School (Civil War Era) by the Harford Historical Society. 11:15-12 noon.

Lunch from 12 to 1pm at the Orphan School as a fundraiser for the Orphan School Society and furnished by the SCFB.

A guided tour and presentation of a working Feed Mill at Ross Feeds in Hop Bottom. This will feature how a ton of feed is produced from start to finish. 1:30 to 2:20, approx. Any questions please call John at 570-833-4250. Please RSVP to John or to David at 607-768-9893. We look forward to seeing everyone at this worthwhile event.



Are You Turning 65 This Year and Going on Medicare?

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



Let’s talk about **ATV safety**



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.

¹ U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.
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Knowledgeable. Helpful. Dedicated.
To check availability in your county call **800.522.2375**.

Susquehanna County's 35th Annual Ag Day

Dairy Day, Ag Day, Farm and Home Day and finally the return to its earlier name, Ag Day. This year on March 21st was special to have not only a celebration of the return to an accurate title of what this get together celebrates but for the first time a new venue, Montrose High School. A return to March and an increase in participation with over 75 vendors in attendance with anticipation of bringing in even more going forward was such a good sign of things to come.



Susquehanna Farm Bureau has over the years taken advantage of this opportunity by putting together an hour prior to the official 10 am kickoff, inviting legislators to meet with us to discuss policies and upcoming legislation. Locally our commissioners, Allan Hall, David Darrow and Bob McNamara, along with Representative Dan Meuser, state Representative Jonathan Fritz and state Senator Lisa Baker attended and gave our government relations director Bill Shay to question and at the same time advance some of our policies on the local, state and federal level. We appreciate each of these folks spending time with us out of a very busy schedule for each that day.

And we also want to thank everyone who attended, asked questions and provided an attentive audience for our guests. As usual SCFB also was well represented with our decorated table and a beautiful pull down display which was used at the farm bureau/wildlife table at the Sportsman Show in Harrisburg in February. Folks had an opportunity to ask questions about PA and Susquehanna Farm Bureau and those on the other side of the table had very informative discussions with many. Special thanks to Emma Hinkley, Mania DeLeon and Kate Cole who represented our organization so well all day.



SCFB Annual Spring Brunch and Meet the Candidates

Saturday, April 26th
9am Social 10am Buffet

We would like to invite everyone to our Annual Spring Brunch at the Montrose Bible Conference on Lake Avenue in Montrose. As usual we are looking forward to having candidates running for office to have an opportunity to present their reasons for running and why each is looking for our vote.

In addition we will be presenting the Susquehanna County Farm Bureau scholarship winners from this year's county's seniors. Of course we will have a delicious full buffet of breakfast/brunch items as usual. The cost for our Spring get together is \$18 per person. Please pay at the door. And don't forget to get tickets for the Brown Bag fundraiser with some great items.

We will get started with a social time at 9am followed by the buffet at 10. Please reserve your place by calling or texting David at 607-768-9893, Jim at 607-435-0830 or Bill at 570-396-4752 by April 20th.

Governmental Update

By: William Shay

On March 4, the county attended a legislative update meeting where attendees received reports on state and federal issues currently under consideration by lawmakers. It was noted that federal legislative activity is significantly more active compared to the state level.

Regular monthly meetings have been held at the county level, during which a monthly report on ongoing issues and new information is provided. On March 21, the County Ag Days event took place, featuring a legislative update session attended by key legislators including State Representative Jonathon Fritz, Senator Lisa Baker, Congressman Dan Meuser, County Commissioner Allen Hall, David Darrow, and Robert McNamara. The session included a productive discussion on various issues affecting each branch.

Additionally, a small group is scheduled to travel to Harrisburg on April 8 to meet with legislators at the Capitol.

Susquehanna County Ag Literacy 2025

Ag Literacy is a program offered to elementary students in PA through the efforts of PA Farm Bureau and the Friends of Ag Foundation. However it is the responsibility of county farm bureaus to step up to purchase the books and someone in the community such as proud Farm Bureau member Evie Goff, chairperson of the Dairy Princess and Promotion Committee for our county, to actually put a schedule together and round up enough volunteers to make the program successful. And yes in 2025 it was once again a most worthwhile endeavor.

This year the book was “The Soil in Jackie’s Garden” written by Peggy Thomas and illustrated by Neely Daggett. Children get to listen to a reader and see beautiful pictures of the joy in planting a garden, taking care of and harvesting their plants. They each have an opportunity to learn about the plant life cycle, the power of pollinators and finally the importance of composting. An activity in moving stickers of various items and deciding if each is to be trashed, recycled or put in a compost bin concludes the session.

Once again we were able this year to get into each of 74 classrooms in 8 schools and involve almost 1400 students in grades K-2. A book is left for each of the 74 rooms to be a part of the classroom’s library. It is a great experience to participate in this activity and I urge anyone interested in helping in the future to contact Evie Goff or any Director of Susquehanna Farm Bureau.

In addition to Evie we would like to thank the following volunteers: Madalyn, Evelyn and Annalyn Cleveland, Amanda, Colby and Kipton Ruark, Steven Newhart, Holly and Maria Klim, Willow, Rudy, Kevin and Amy Borove, Abbey Mack, Charley Smith, Debbie Easley, Maci, Holly and Kali Harvatine, Dave DeLeon, Peggy Empet, Naomi Cross, Kathy and Kaylee Walker, Chelse and Alexa Empet, Natalie Bailey, Samantha Griffen, Kayla Loby, Payton Conlon, Trista Laude, Owen Cook, Ben Fiske, Susan Harvatine, Laura and Mark Nebzydoski, Rose Burleigh, Emily Carney, Jonathan Conolgue, Nicole Non, Lynsey and Olivia Zawuski, Naomi Earley, Emmory Coy- Puzo, Ava Hughes, Hannah and Emma Fearnley and a tremendous shout out and thank you to Evie Goff once again.

