

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
Donna Williams, 2nd V. President.....	570-942-6348	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
		William Shay.....	570-396-4752

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

August 2024

A Note on Bob Perhacs’ Retirement  
from Dave DeLeon, SCFB President

Since I’ve been associated with Susquehanna County Farm Bureau I’ve only known and worked with one Regional Organization Director and that has been Bob Perhacs. Our county Board has been extremely fortunate in this relationship. Bob has been the ROD for 6 county boards in this region and they spread over quite a geographic area. An ROD acts as the link between the state organization and each county Board; often reminding each county through its president of certain guidelines we need to follow yet giving us the leeway to increase our footprint in the county.

As many know Susquehanna County Farm Bureau has been quite successful when compared to other counties and are proud of these accomplishments. To be in this position our ROD has had an important role. We often introduce Bob at our gatherings as “The best ROD in the state.” We sincerely believe that and I as your county President, our entire Board of Directors, and our valued members will certainly miss Bob. We all wish him the very best and a long, healthy, well deserved retirement.

A Note from Bob Perhacs,  
Member Relations Manager  
Eastern Regional Coordinator

Hi everyone,

I have decided after 17 years of being your Regional Organization Director that it was time to step down to be able to spend more time with my children and grandchildren and to do some traveling with my wife. It has been an honor and a pleasure working with all of you over the years and I have truly enjoyed the journey. Your county has been extremely successful with your programming during that time, and I know that you will keep up that tradition. You are in very good hands with Dave DeLeon as your President and Jim Barbour and Donna Williams as your Vice Presidents and a very fine group of directors on your board. I will be staying on in a part-time role training my successor Tony Crisanti and mentoring the other 4 Regional Directors in the eastern part of the state. I hope to see you in the future at some of your county events.

Sincerely,  
Bob Perhacs

Introducing Antonio Crisanti, Regional Organization Director

Antonio Crisanti is a seasoned professional with over 12 years of leadership experience in the dental field. With an extensive background in business development, Antonio has consistently driven success in fast-paced environments, demonstrating a deep understanding of dental terminology and practice management. Throughout his career, Antonio has been instrumental in initiating treatment plans worth millions of dollars, showcasing his ability to blend clinical knowledge with strategic business acumen. His expertise extends beyond dental practices, making him a versatile leader capable of managing and developing medical practices as well. In addition to his professional accomplishments, Antonio's personal life is marked by a decade of cherished memories vacationing with his family in Cape Cod, where they stayed at the same home every year, creating lifelong bonds and traditions.

# 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](http://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/Flymm’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

## Upcoming Events: SCFB Picnic, August 29th

All Farm Bureau members and everyone interested in Agriculture and issues affecting Ag are invited to our county picnic coming up very soon on Thursday, August 29th at 5pm.

As in recent years our picnic will be at the Belchers Pavilion near S Gibson. The actual address for navigation purposes is 1014, Barlow Road, Uniondale.



We will have a chicken barbecue along with sweet corn. There is no charge for this get together but dishes to share are appreciated so there’s never a shortage of food.

Along with other counties we are in the process of putting together policies to take with us to our Annual Meeting in Hershey in November so we ask our members to think about various polices you believe we need to propose and the reasons why they are important. Please bring them to the picnic.

As most know our PFB Wildlife and Fisheries Committee has been very active, especially focusing on making crop damage a high priority issue. And as has been mentioned in earlier newsletters we presently have 4 bills in front of our legislators.

We are very fortunate to have 2 gentlemen with direct involvement with these critical issues attending our picnic this year. Jonathan Bowman our Game Warden and Stanley Knick, Commissioner on the PA Game Commission are both planning to attend. This is a great opportunity to listen and to ask questions of each. Officer Bowman having the everyday field experience and Commissioner Knick in the important position of decision making from his seat on the Game Commission.

This promises to be a great evening to socialize with friends and to share some thoughts on policies to help each of us in agriculture and rural affairs. Plus an added feature of hearing from 2 folks that have a direct relationship in curbing crop damage from wildlife while standing up for conservation and the hunting community.



## 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



## Protect your next with the Ag Insight Center

We feed your need for insights and information with access to the Ag Insight Center, providing members with the latest resources, innovations and information to help drive your future business success.

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

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*Harford Fair 2024*

Once again we had a busy week at the Harford Fair. Anyone who works the booth for the first time is amazed as to how many people stop for the fresh whole white and chocolate milk. In addition the stories from folks who stop by every year and share stories of not only how many years each have stopped but the generations of family members who have. That alone makes it all so worthwhile. And of course to be able to talk about agriculture and everything Farm Bureau does for all of us who eat food ( isn't that everyone?) is always a treat.



Special thanks this year to our Director, Mike Russell Jr who did a fabulous job in painting and sprucing up the booth. It really looks great and we heard many complements. Mike also chairs our YAP group of young ag professionals for SCFB.

Also a huge thank you to Aileen Shay for her tireless effort in the overall organization of keeping it all together. Rounding up volunteers to handle the duties of the 4 hour shifts, donating the cups and making sure everything ran smoothly.

And finally to all the volunteers who took time out of their schedules to spend 4 or 8 or those special 2 ladies in the photo, Joanne DiPalma and Cindy Frick who covered 12 hours in our booth. All the other folks who deserve a big thank you will be recognized in next month's newsletter before the Annual Dinner meeting.



*Upcoming Event: Annual Legislative Tour  
Saturday, Sept. 7th*

On Saturday, Sept the 7th we are having a Legislative Tour by starting with something a little different. This year we are featuring something I see every day, the Starrucca Viaduct in Lanesboro and Barbour Farms in Hallstead.

Registering around 9:30 AM, we plan on getting started at 10. We will meet at Luciana Park right off Depot street in Lanesboro. A real treat awaits as our local historian, John Burdick will educate each of us with the incredible history behind this 176 year old, man-made wondrous structure which remains in use today. At the same time we'll be able to see how the former D&H rail line has been converted to a walking and biking 7 mile RailTrail.

From there we'll venture to Barbour Farms located at 1250 Barbour Hill Rd in Hallstead. There we will see how Jim and Kim have diversified their farming operation through selling "A2A2" Raw Milk sales, Meat and Vegetable production and Glamping on the farm. A light lunch will be provided by the Barbours and SCFB.

Please register by Sept 4th to John Benscoter, 570-833-4250 or johnbenscoter@yahoo.com

*Attention Hunters: DMAP Permits Now Available*

Pennsylvania hunters may now purchase Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) permits on an array of public and private lands.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) is offering 7,000 DMAP permits on 41 game lands encompassing more than 360,000 acres. View PGC's available DMAP areas [here](#).

The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) is offering 30,328 permits in 101 units totaling more than 1.3 million acres. View DCNR's available DMAP areas [here](#).

Permits are also available on participating private lands. The goal of the program is to help landowners better manage the deer population and habitat on their properties.

DMAP permits cost \$10.97 for Pennsylvania residents and \$35.97 for nonresidents. They can be purchased from any license issuing agent or online at [huntfish.pa.gov](http://huntfish.pa.gov). Hunters must identify the DMAP unit number when purchasing a permit.

*MEMBERSHIP GIVEAWAY*

NEW members who join by October 31st will be entered to win \$1000. ALL who sign-up for auto-renewal by October 31st will be entered to win \$1000.

NEW and all renewals submitted by September 30th will be entered to win \$2000, \$1000, \$500.

Sign up on our website: [www.pfb.com/reasons-to-join](http://www.pfb.com/reasons-to-join) or see any SCFB Director  
Added local bonus: any SCFB member signing up for auto- renewal by Sept 20th is our guest at our Annual Dinner Meeting on October 4th at the Montrose Bible Conference, 5:30pm Social, 6:30pm Dinner.



## 12 Jul 2024 Press Release

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) is celebrating that \$50 million in new annual funding for the Clean Streams Fund, which extends the Agriculture Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP), is included in Pennsylvania's General Fund budget for fiscal year 2024-25.

The \$47.6 billion budget was signed by Governor Josh Shapiro on Thursday.

The legislature took the historic step of creating the Clean Streams Fund in 2022, funded initially by a comprehensive package of \$220 million in federal investments from the American Rescue Plan. The fund dedicated \$154 million to ACAP as investments to be passed through conservation districts to help farmers design and pay the costs of implementing conservation practices.

"We are thrilled that the Governor and legislators have made increased and sustained investments in the new budget for family farms and cleaner rivers and streams. It is a watershed moment like no other for Pennsylvania," said Julia Krall, Pennsylvania Executive Director for CBF.

"It was a historic day when the General Assembly created the Clean Streams Fund, which invested in ACAP," Ms. Krall added. "The extension in the new budget is momentous. Our elected leaders have shown their commitment to creating a legacy of clean water, healthy soils, and resilient communities for future generations."

The new funding in the fiscal year 2024-25 plan extends ACAP. Otherwise, the initial historic federal investments would have been exhausted by the end of 2026.

On Tuesday, Governor Shapiro praised Pennsylvania's progress in reducing pollution to local waters and the Chesapeake Bay as noted in a recent report. "We are seeing real results and improvement in the Chesapeake Bay," the Governor said. "We're not talking about fixing the Bay anymore, we are fixing the Bay, and we are making sure Pennsylvania does its fair share."

Governor Shapiro also made it clear that the Commonwealth plans to continue its clean water work for the long haul. "You have my commitment that this work will continue," he added. "Pennsylvania is all in."

The Clean Streams Fund tackles the top three sources of stream impairment in the Commonwealth: some agricultural activities, acid mine drainage, and urban/suburban stormwater runoff.

ACAP will receive \$35.75 million (71.5 percent) of the \$50 million the new budget allocates for the Clean Streams Fund. Other allocations of that funding include: \$6 million for the Clean Water Procurement Program; \$5 million for the Nutrient Management Fund; \$2 million for Stormwater grants and reimbursements; \$1 million to the Acid Mine Drainage Abatement and Treatment Fund; and \$250,000 to the Keystone Tree Restricted Account.

A statewide cost-share program did not exist in Pennsylvania before ACAP. The State Conservation Commission distributes ACAP funds to all 67 counties in the Commonwealth. Importantly, under ACAP, project decisions on local agricultural practices to reduce polluted runoff are made locally.

Farmers appreciate the value and importance of keeping soil and nutrients on the land instead of running off into the water. But they cannot be expected to implement needed measures on their own.

In just over 16 months since the program was launched, more than 500 conservation projects statewide, totaling more than \$73 million, are in the early stages of design because of ACAP.

The design of the legislation that created ACAP was a collaborative effort between CBF, the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, and the Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences. The Clean Streams Fund and ACAP were introduced by State Senator Gene Yaw (R-Lycoming).

# Membership Giveaway

# Have a chance to win up to \$2,000!

- ▶ New members who join by October 31 will be entered to win **\$1,000**
- ▶ All members who sign-up for auto-renewal by October 31 will be entered to win **\$1,000**
- ▶ New members and all renewals submitted by September 30 will be entered to win **\$2,000, \$1,000, and \$500**

Sign up on our website  
[www.pfb.com/reasons-to-join](http://www.pfb.com/reasons-to-join)

 Pennsylvania Farm Bureau