

# ACCENT ON AGRICULTURE

News from the **Chester/Delaware County Farm Bureau (CDCFB)**  
(also serving western Philadelphia County)

Affiliated with **Pennsylvania Farm Bureau (PFB)** and **American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF)**

January 2008



## RONALD McDONALD GOES TO THE FARM

The “Food Check-Out Day” celebration will take place at Freddy Hill Farms, Lansdale on Wednesday, Feb.6th when Ronald McDonald comes to the farm.

“Food Check-Out Day” commemorates the time of year when the average American has earned enough income to pay for their entire year’s food supply. “Food Check-Out Day” also emphasizes that Americans enjoy the safest, most abundant and most affordable food supply.

As a way of celebrating in our area, food and money are collected and donated to the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House.



The Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House provides a much needed home for families whose children are receiving medical treatment for serious illness. They provide the comfort, care, food, necessities, and support families need to help get them through such stressful times.

You are invited to share in the celebration at Freddy Hill Farms and contribute food or money.

If you cannot attend and would like to support this worthy cause, make your checks payable to: The Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House, and mail to: Chester/Delaware County Farm Bureau, 736 Catamount Road, Oxford, Pa. 19363.

The CDCFB Board of Directors, on behalf of the membership, contributed \$500 to this worthy cause this year.

**“The best way to forget your own problems is to help someone else solve theirs.”**

## MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT BOB YARNALL, JR.



Dear Members,

The 2007 “grass-roots” policy development process really works!

Policies submitted by our Chester/Delaware County Farm Bureau (CDCFB) members in August and September 2007 were voted on at our 2007 Fall Banquet. Those policies that passed then became CDCFB’s official stance for lobbying efforts in Chester, Delaware and Philadelphia Co.

Our board of directors then selected delegates to represent CDCFB’s views at the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau’s (PFB) annual convention in November 2007 at the Hershey Lodge.

Delegates from 54 county farm bureau’s voted on state and federal policies that were adopted at all of the 54 county’s Farm Bureau banquets. Many of CDCFB’s policies were voted on and adopted as official policies of PFB.

The PFB board of directors then selected PFB delegates to represent Pennsylvania at the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) annual meeting. Delegates from all 50 states and Puerto Rico brought their own policies forth.

I am proud to say that I was selected to represent Pennsylvania and that some of our CDCFB policies were voted on and adopted at the national stance of AFBF!

This is why every member of CDCFB has a strong voice that Farm Bureau listens to. It is you who has the ability to influence and make a difference! 2008 has started off to be a great year!

Sincerely,

**Chester/Delaware County Farm Bureau  
welcomes the following new regular  
members:**

**James & Katherine Bartlett**, Elverson  
**Daniel B. Borkoski**, Cochranville  
**Barbara A. Dunn**, Chester Springs  
**William H. Edwards**, Landenberg  
**H. B. Eskin**, Ambler  
**Daniel Foraker**, Oxford  
**Melissa E. Gallagher**, West Grove  
**John Gibson**, Media  
**Matthew Goin**, Cochranville  
**Dan Greig**, Coatesville  
**Jonathan Howe**, Glenmoore  
**Jay Meany**, Wilmington  
**Frank Sill**, Boothwyn  
**Steven W. Stettner**, Marietta  
**Daniel R. Yeager**, West Chester

**CDCFB Board of Directors  
Meeting in Progress**



[You are invited to join the Board of Directors at their meetings the first Wednesday of each month at the Gov't Services Building in West Chester.]

**GEN. COLIN POWELL  
SPEAKS AT AFBF  
MEETING**



“America is still a place of hope, dreams and opportunities,” according to General Colin Powell, USA (Ret.) and former Secretary of State, addressing a receptive audience of farmers at American Farm Bureau Federation’s (AFBF) Annual Meeting in New Orleans recently.

Pres. Bob Stallman welcomed more than 4,000 Farm Bureau members to the AFBF Annual Meeting. “Once again, we will use this national gathering to discuss some of the most important issues our industry faces: farm labor, the farm economy, farm policy, environmental issues, animal welfare and food safety,” Stallman said.

“I want to thank all Farm Bureau members who have participated in the grassroots policy process in 2007 and helped bring us to this point,” he said.

Some of the national resolutions that evolved from Chester/Delaware County Farm Bureau’s (CDCFB) grassroots Policy Development meetings became national AFBF policies during the event.

Gen. Powell predicted exports of U.S. farm products to foreign nations such as China and India would increase as those countries create wealth and a middle class that wants a better standard of living, “a better standard of eating.”

“It’s a bright future for American farming, as you take advantage of this rapidly changing world,” Powell said.

More than 60 Pennsylvania Farm Bureau (PFB) members attended. Robert Yarnall, Lercy Alvarez, Marcia Solda, Janet and Howard Robinson attended from Chester County.

**ANNUAL AUDIT COMPLETED**

The CDCFB Board of Directors would like to thank the following Farm Bureau members who served on the 2007 Audit Committee:

**Timothy Barlow**  
**David Bartels**  
**Susan Breckbill**  
**Martha Lair**

## WHO BUYS UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS?



\$11.9 billion of U.S. agricultural exports go to Canada  
\$10.9 billion goes to Mexico  
\$ 8.4 billion to Japan  
\$ 7.3 billion to the European Union  
\$ 6.7 billion to China.

Canada and the United States enjoy the largest bilateral trading relationship in the world. With more than \$1.5 billion in goods crossing their borders every day, Canada and the U.S. are each other's largest trading partner.

The United States is also an excellent customer of Canada's agricultural products. Canadian exporters ship more than half of their agricultural exports to the U.S., and supply it with almost one-fifth of its imported agri-food products.

Trade in grains and oilseeds significantly benefit both countries.

### CDCFB Members during Delegate Session at PFB Annual Meeting in Hershey



### Delegates Voting on Policies



## BROODMARE SOLD FOR WORLD-RECORD – \$10.5 MILLION



The ruler of Dubai paid \$10.5 million to buy Irish-bred *Playful Act* at Keeneland's Breeding Stock Sale in Lexington, KY.

John Sikura of Hill 'n' Dale Bloodstock, who consigned the horse for Swettenhem Stud of Australia said he was expecting a price topping \$5 million but had no idea the bidding would go so high. {The second-highest price of the day was \$4.5 million for *Spun Sugar* bought by Rick Nichols, general manager of Shadwell Stud.}

Until those two high-dollar prices, the first day of Keeneland's 15-day sale was more noted for a horse that didn't sell than the ones that did.

*Fleet Indian* drew a bid of \$3.9 million, but that didn't quite meet the reserve to pry her away from Taylor Made Sales Agency.

"She was the best mare in the sale," said Duncan Taylor, president of Taylor Made. *Fleet Indian*, by former Santa Anita Derby champion *Indian Charlie* and out of *Hustleeta*, had won 13 of 19 starts in her racing career.

Taylor said the lower-than-expected price for the 6-year-old champion stakes winner, pregnant to top sire *Storm Cat*, reflected a somewhat sluggish market for the top breeding prospects.

[Taken from Lancaster Farming, Dec. 2007]

## "MOVING TO THE COUNTRY"

As we all know, increasing residential development in rural areas can create headaches for agriculture if farm production practices are not understood by the new neighbors.

Greg Hostetter of Lebanon County, chairman of PFB's Promotion & Education Committee, recently spoke during the Pennsylvania Farm Show about what farmers are doing to reduce the potential conflicts, and what prospective homebuyers should know before they re-locate to the countryside.

PFB recently developed a brochure entitled, "Moving to the Country," which is available from PFB's website at [www.pfb.com](http://www.pfb.com).

## AGRICULTURAL GRANT OFFERED

The Chester County Agricultural Development Council (ADC) is accepting applications for the 2008 Chester County Agricultural Scholarship.



The scholarship is offered to one high school senior who will begin college 2008 in the field of agriculture, or pursue an agriculture-related major. The selected recipient receives a \$1,000 grant.

Applications must be received on or before March 1, 2008. The applicant's parent(s) or guardian(s) must live in Chester County.

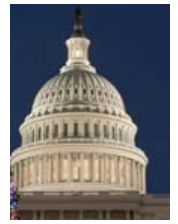
An application, information about selection criteria, and application procedures are available on the website at [www.chesco.org/agriculture](http://www.chesco.org/agriculture) under Educational Grants.

Applications can also be picked up from the ADC Office, Suite 270, Government Services Center, 601 Westtown Rd., West Chester.

Call Curtis Lammey at 610-344-6285 for more information.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE FARM BILL?

Farm Bureau reports that Congressional staff members are working on the differences between the House and Senate versions and are trying to limit those to major issues to be resolved by lawmakers.



Big issues are expected to include payment limits, funding of conservation programs, counter-cyclical revenue programs and livestock competition.

Farm Bureau hopes to see the Farm Bill wrapped up by March. Meanwhile, the possibility of a presidential veto still exists over opposition to tax increases and program expansion contained in the bills.

## FARM BUREAU OPTIMISTIC ABOUT E.P.A EXEMPTION

Farm Bureau is cautiously optimistic about a proposal from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to exempt farms from reporting air releases of hazardous substances – primarily ammonia and hydrogen sulfide – generated from animal waste.

Details of the proposal have not yet been published. The proposed exemption would not resolve the question of whether liability under CERCLA, the Superfund law, rightfully extends to animal manure and does not lessen the need for legislative clarification, called for by Farm Bureau, that livestock manure is not a hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant.



**Nationwide**  
On Your Side

Nationwide Insurance offers Farm Bureau members a 10% premium discount plus increased coverage amounts for certain types of personal property, plus "identity theft" coverage, all at no additional cost! **Be sure to get a no-obligation quote to compare to your current farm policy!**

Contact one of the Nationwide agents listed on back of this newsletter for more information.

## President Bob Yarnall "on the job" at the PFB Policy Development Meeting



## YF&R IN BALTIMORE

The 2008 National YF&R Leadership Conference will be held Feb. 16-18 at the Marriott Waterfront Hotel in Baltimore.

Several young couples from CDCFB plan to attend. This is a great opportunity for active men and women between the ages of 18 and 35 to learn valuable leadership skills while interacting with folks in their similar situations.

For more information and how to become more involved with the YF&R program, please contact Howard Reyburn at 717-572-7957.

## DID YOU KNOW . . .

. . . that you are invited to **Farm Bureau Day on Feb. 12 at Shady Maple?** Call Janet Robinson at 717-529-2508 if interested in attending.

. . . a **Farm Bureau-supported energy bill was approved and signed by the President?** It requires use of 36 billion gallons of ethanol and other renewables by 2022 – a nearly six-fold increase over current usage.

. . . that **MSC Business Services makes your job as an employer easier?** MSC is accepting new clients. Sign up for their skilled business services and keep your business running smoothly and efficiently. [Contact an MSC Account Supervisor listed on back page for more information.

. . . that **Farm Bureau members have a new car rental discount?** Avis Rent-a-Car is discount code A298838 at [www.avis.com](http://www.avis.com) and Budget discount code is Y775738 at [www.budget.com](http://www.budget.com). You can save up to 30% using your Farm Bureau discount.]

. . . that **Case-IH offers \$300-\$500 rebates on new tractors?** Save a fistful of cash when you grab your new tractor!

## NEW EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR PA TEACHERS

As Americans become more removed from farming, the need to provide materials that accurately depict modern dairy farming is needed.

Two educational series were recently launched by the Mid-Atlantic Dairy Association.

\* *Milk: It Does a Student Body Good!* is an elementary classroom education program focusing on cows, milk and good nutrition. The kits are housed in Pennsylvania's public elementary school libraries.

\* *Discover Dairy* is a free interactive, Web-based lesson series available to teachers. The dairy-focused series is targeted to third and fourth graders and includes engaging videos of Pennsylvania farms.

Teachers are encouraged to download lessons at [www.discoverdairy.com](http://www.discoverdairy.com). (Call 717-346-0849 for a program brochure you can share with teachers.

## THANKS, THANKS, THANKS!

**Renewals are coming in! New members are signing up!**

Harold Kulp, CDCFB membership co-chairman, and I appreciate each and every one of you. At last count we need less than 20 to reach our annual goal of 700 regular members.

Keep up the good work and if you haven't already sent in your 2008 dues, please do so today! Make my day!

Thanks also to the membership workers who continue to do a great job.

-Howard Robinson, Membership Co-chairman

## STUDIES SHOW THAT "4-H"

### ENHANCES LIFE

**Young people who participate in 4-H develop enhanced life skills, become better leaders and give back to their local communities,** so reveals studies done by Penn State, as well as a national study.

**The photo above shows Bradley Nafziger with the hog he had as his 4-H project.** (CDCFB supported Bradley's project by purchasing the hog at the 4-H Auction.)

The studies found a strong association between 4-H participation and increases in the youths' abilities in decision-making, critical thinking, communication, goal setting and problem solving.

Previous studies have demonstrated that these and other life skills are directly linked to academic success and positive behaviors such as giving back to the community.

The research also shows that access to high-quality, structured, out-of-school programs such as 4-H – when combined with sustained adult interaction and mentoring – benefits both the youth and their communities.

Not only are young people who participate in these programs more likely to exhibit positive behaviors, they are less likely to engage in risk behaviors such as underage drinking, smoking and bullying.



**CHESTER-DELAWARE COUNTY FARM BUREAU  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

President:	Robert Yarnall, Jr.	610-935-2302
Vice Pres:	Robert Hewitt	610-495-7927
Sec/Treas:	Janet Robinson	717-529-2508
	Randy Bates	610-459-0647
	Dennis Breckbill	610-932-9567
	Edgar Cannon	610-444-1176
	Joseph Fecondo	610-358-0330
	Donald H. Hannum	610-384-2249
	James Kirkpatrick	610-869-4412
	Daniel Miller	610-869-2604
	Arthur Needham	610-869-9735
	Robert Ray	610-942-2539
	Howard Reyburn	717-529-2269
	Marcia Solda	610-935-2545

County Board Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Government Services Building, West Chester. **You are welcome to attend.**

**FARM MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT SUPERVISORS**

<b>Tim Ard</b> , Lancaster,	717-392-6626
<b>Christopher Besette</b> , Hershey,	717-534-2519
<b>Carl D. Ganster</b> , Wyomissing,	610-678-1816
<b>Tracy L. Garofalo</b> , Brogue,	717-927-9109
<b>Robert Lathrop</b> , Landisville,	717-892-3771

**PFB PREFERRED NATIONWIDE AGENTS**

<b>Jeffrey L. Bartlett</b> , Downingtown,	610-269-5887
<b>Lynn Conner</b> , Parkesburg,	610-857-3343
<b>John R. Ferullo</b> , West Chester,	215-468-4116
<b>David Gosselin</b> , West Chester,	610-696-3894
<b>Melba King</b> , Lincoln University,	610-932-3260
<b>Susan M. Lambert</b> , Coatesville,	610-384-3844
<b>Tom Simperts, Jr.</b> , Kennett Square,	610-444-2610
<b>Kurt A. Thompson</b> , Downingtown,	610-269-1544
<b>Konstantinos Andreadis</b> , Springfield,	610-328-2480
<b>Daniel K. Burke</b> , Drexel Hill,	610-449-4800
<b>Robert J. Cellucci</b> , Drexel Hill,	610-449-5900
<b>Lawrence Cellucci, Jr.</b> , Drexel Hill,	610-449-5900
<b>Russel A. Cording, Jr.</b> , Philadelphia,	215-483-4040
<b>Charles E. Courtney</b> , Media,	610-891-7900
<b>John L. Dimeglio</b> , Aston,	610-485-5858
<b>Lois R. Erb</b> , Boothwyn,	610-485-2543
<b>James P. Falls</b> , Media,	610-565-6522
<b>Gene J. Giello</b> , Springfield,	610-544-8585
<b>Earl W. Hagerty, Jr.</b> , Glen Mills,	610-358-9111
<b>Elaine C. Hanscom</b> , Thorndale,	610-384-2884
<b>Brenda E. Hurley</b> , Concordville,	610-358-9422
<b>Christopher Lamoureux</b> , Morton,	610-544-8070
<b>Anthony G. Naab</b> , Drexel Hill,	610-789-6250
<b>Diane L. Pluff</b> , Newtown Square,	610-353-6116
<b>Margaret R. Smith</b> , Gradyville,	610-358-2200
<b>Dean D. Young, Jr.</b> , Newtown Square,	610-353-6116

*Please send any items for the newsletter to:  
Janet Robinson at [jrob@epix.net](mailto:jrob@epix.net)*

Chester/Delaware County Farm Bureau  
Janet E. Robinson, Newsletter Editor  
736 Catamount Road  
Oxford, Pa. 19363