

Lancaster County Farm Bureau
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 910 Pinkerton Road
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**LOOK INSIDE FOR AN
 IMPORTANT LETTER
 FROM LANCASTER
 FARM BUREAU
 PRESIDENT
 CONCERNING OUR
 POSITION ON THE
 FARMLAND
 PRESERVATION
 PROGRAM.**

LANCASTER COUNTY FARM BUREAU



AFFILIATED WITH
 Pennsylvania Farm Bureau
 American Farm Bureau Federation

February/March 2013

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Dear Lancaster County Farm Bureau Members,

The Lancaster County Farm Bureau would like to address our organization’s position which was inaccurately explained on December 18th in the *Intelligencer Journal* and at the December County Commissioner Meeting. As the Lancaster County Farm Bureau President, I would like to address the following points:

- We strongly support Pennsylvania’s existing farmland preservation program and Pennsylvania Farm Bureau’s position on farmland preservation.
- At our October Annual Meeting, approximately 5% of our membership voted favorably for a farmland preservation policy change to be considered by the State Voting Delegates, where it was later defeated. The “81 percent vote at the 1400 member Lancaster County Farm Bureau Annual meeting” as mentioned in the December 18th article was a misrepresentation.
- Farmland preservation is a State issue, not only a County initiative. PA Farm Bureau policy is determined by the delegates at the PA Farm Bureau Annual Meeting in November, because the resolution submitted by Lancaster County relative to farmland preservation was not approved by the voting delegates at the State Annual Meeting, any reference to the issue of diverting funds from Farmland Preservation programs to other areas would not be supported at this time by the Lancaster County Farm Bureau.

We want to emphasize that Lancaster County agriculture is our top priority and our members are encouraged to attend our County Annual Meeting on October 11th, 2013 where resolutions are discussed and voted on. Again, we apologize for any confusion and encourage you to attend our March Board Meeting on March 5th, 2013 at 6:30 at the Lancaster Farm & Home Center to share your thoughts and concerns. If you have any further questions, please contact me directly at [yippeeefarms@yahoo.com](mailto:yippeefarms@yahoo.com) or 717-572-3593.

Sincerely,

Deborah Benner,
 President, Lancaster County Farm Bureau

2013 PA FARM BUREAU FACE YOUTH CONFERENCE

The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau is now taking applications for the dynamic Fueling Agriculture and Cultivating Excellence (FACE) Youth Conference at Bucknell University in Lewisburg from June 17th- 21th, 2013. We are looking for current sophomores and juniors in high school with an interest in agriculture, leadership, political science, communication, business, etc.

The students will have an energizing conference which focuses on the legislative system, commodity projects, personal growth and networking. Participants receive hands-on experience in learning the key role Farm Bureau plays in the agricultural industry. The youth focus on specific commodity groups where they develop an educational Facebook page and TV commercial promoting their given commodity.

Other fun activities will include team building activities, recreation time, Ag Olympics and a graffiti dance party.

Applications can be found at www.pfb.com under the Education and Youth Conference section. The deadline to apply is April 1, 2013, so don't wait to send your registration form with the refundable \$50.00 deposit to PA Farm Bureau, FACE Youth Conference, PO Box 8736, Camp Hill, PA 17001-8736! For more information contact Laura Daubert at ledaubert@pfb.com or 717-761-2740.

**Lancaster County Farm Bureau has scholarships
available to attend FACE youth conference.
Please contact Michael Zimmerman at 717-299-9624 for details.**

“HARVEST FOR ALL” PROGRAM

Young Farmers and Ranchers from all across the nation, including Pennsylvania, partner with Feeding America through the “Harvest for All” program. Through Harvest for All, Young Farmers and Ranchers help their neighbors in need through food donations, volunteering, or donating money to local food banks.

Each year at the AFBF Young Farmers and Ranchers Leadership Conference, states are recognized based on their Feeding America time, money, or food donation submissions. If you are a YF & R member and are currently donating products or money or volunteering at your local food bank and have never reported it, please contact Laura Daubert at ledaubert@pfb.com or 717-731-3514 for information on how to report.

And, if throughout the year you are donating and/or volunteering, please do not forget to complete recording sheets so PFB can be credited. If you need additional recording sheets, you can also contact Laura at the above phone number.

CENTER FOR DAIRY EXCELLENCE OFFERING SCHOLARSHIPS

Students interested in applying for one of five \$1,000 Student Leader Scholarships available through the Center for Dairy Excellence must do so by June 1, 2012.

The purpose of the scholarship is to provide recognition, encouragement and financial assistance to outstanding students in academic programs supporting the dairy industry. Selection of the scholarship winners will be based on the completed application within the following criteria: academic performance; apparent commitment to a career related to the dairy industry; evidence of leadership, character, and integrity; and application compliance.

More information, including a scholarship application, is available at www.centerfordairyexcellence.org or by calling 717-346-0849.

MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR THE 2013 FARMER BANQUET!

The 2013 FARMER Banquet will be held March 18th at the Harrisburg Hilton. Tickets are available at \$150 per person or \$225 with spouse. The event starts at 5:30 pm with a reception, followed by dinner at 6:30 pm.

Proceeds from the banquet will be used to fund FARMER, PFB's farmer-controlled, bipartisan political action committee which supports the re-election of friends of agriculture in the General Assembly.

Former Congressman Tim Holden will be the guest speaker. The deadline for reservations is March 13.

Contact Ginny Kever to make reservations at (717) 761-2740 or vkkeever@pfb.com.

PENNSYLVANIA FARM BUREAU RECEIVES AWARDS AT AFBF ANNUAL MEETING

The Penn FB was recognized with five national awards, and was honored by the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture with the Apex Award.

PFB received Awards of Excellence in all five program activity areas, including Agriculture Education and Promotion, Leadership Development, Member Services, Policy Implementation and Public Relations and Information. “The awards demonstrate the hard work and dedication of our grassroots farmer volunteers and organization staff,” said PFB President Carl T. Shaffer. “A huge team effort is needed to address the numerous issues affecting agriculture and farm families across Pennsylvania.”

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau also received recognition for its strong support of the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture. The Apex Award recognizes Farm Bureaus that have increased total investment in the foundation by more than 10 percent from the previous year.

“Like the apex of a plant, it is the generous contributions from individuals and families that nourish the Foundation and fuel its mission of increasing agricultural literacy,” said AFBF President Bob Stallman.

During the event, Stallman challenged Farm Bureau members to make 2013 a record year for donations to the Foundation.

“The donations from dedicated members like you help the Foundation provide programs, curriculums and projects to achieve our mission of building awareness, understanding and a positive perception of agriculture through education,” Stallman said.

MSC BUSINESS SERVICES WEB SITE

Tax season is upon us, and this is a reminder that MSC Business Services is on the internet at www.msc-business.net.

MSC Business Services' staff has over 500 years of experience in every aspect of farm business management, including: bookkeeping software, payroll preparation, finance, tax preparation and much, much more. All of our services are specially tailored toward agriculture, agribusiness and farming.

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Willow Street PA 17584
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Sharon M Dubree
40 Copperfield Cir
Lititz PA 17543
[717-627-3489](tel:717-627-3489)

Kyle Miller & Eric D Gilroy
41 S Market St Ste 201
Elizabethtown PA 17022
[570-259-1857](tel:570-259-1857)

Craig Good
110 E Main St
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