



Accent on Agriculture

Chester/Delaware County Farm Bureau

(also serving western Philadelphia County)

Affiliated with Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and the American Farm Bureau Federation

May/June 2018

Chester-Delaware County Farm Bureau Member Appreciation



Saturday, June 30th
Noon - 3pm

Romano 4H Center

1841 Horseshoe Pike
Honey Brook, PA

No charge, just bring your appetite and
favorite dessert to share

RSVP by June 20th

ChesterCountyFarmBureau@gmail.com
610-932-7363



Larry Roney and Friends
will be providing live music from 12:30 - 2pm



FIRE Demo

by **Fire Protection Services, Inc.**
Test your skill at putting out an active fire!

*Stay tuned for more exciting demo's
focusing on SAFETY on the farm*



Message from CDCFB President Daniel Miller

Spring has finally come to Chester County. It is great to be able to be outside in short sleeves again! It also is great to see farming getting in gear with planting and harvesting of early crops going on all over the county.

This edition of the CDCFB newsletter tells a lot about what we do as an organization. There are many stories about the youth involved in agriculture who benefit from our organization's involvement with 4-H and FFA. I have had the pleasure of attending many of their events this spring as the school year comes to an end. I always get emotional at these events because I am overwhelmed by how much commitment these young adults have to agriculture.

It takes me back to the days when I was in 4-H during my school years. I know that my involvement in our 4-H club and the agricultural community made a big impact on my life and my commitment to agriculture throughout my life. I was lucky enough to be selected as president of our club for a few years and will be forever grateful for the lessons that I learned by being in that position. I am sure that many of the kids involved in these organizations will have the same reflections when they are my age.

Members of the CDCFB Board of Directors visited the W.B. Saul High School in Philadelphia a few weeks ago. Saul is the largest agricultural farm school in the United States and has the largest FFA in PA. Talk about being overwhelmed! Can you imagine being in a high school that has up to 800 students – all of whom are involved in agriculture? And, all of whom must have a “B” average in eighth grade to apply to that school for the next four years?

What amazed me was how courteous these kids were to us and the excitement they had in showing us all the areas of agricultural study that they get to participate in. The students are given a voucher for public transportation and must get to and from school on their own. Some of them use two or three different forms of public transit to make the commute each day and some spend up to two hours each way – to and from school. I don't know if I would have that much commitment.

Dr. Tom Newcome, retiring Superintendent of Octorara School District, made an insightful presentation at the Octorara FFA Banquet last evening. He asked all of those in attendance to “tell your story” about agriculture and your involvement in it. We all need to do that!

[Continued on page 2]

2018 Membership Update

CDCFB has had a very successful membership year – thanks to all of you! We are again the “Number One” county in the state currently with over 7,600 total members, 950 of whom are farmer members. We are especially proud of our 84 new members who joined our organization this year.

CDCFB Awards Scholarships to Nine Students in Ag-related Careers

The Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau Board of Directors is proud to announce that nine students will be awarded scholarships this year. The awards will be presented at the CDCFB Picnic on June 30 (Picnic details on page one).

- ♦ Sarah Buckley, from Oxford and currently a student at Bloomsburg University, will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to continue her education in field of environmental conservation.
- ♦ Vincent Gatti, Henderson High School, \$1,000 award to attend Penn State's Brandywine campus, and major in Fishery Science.
- ♦ Francis Reith, Avon Grove High School, \$1,000 for his study in Plant Genetics at Virginia Tech
- ♦ Torianna LaBare, Kennett High School, \$1,000 to attend Delaware Valley University studying Veterinary Science.
- ♦ Ellen Stroud, from Oxford Area High School, \$1,000 to study Equine Science and Management at Delaware Valley University.
- ♦ Serena Valvardi, Downingtown West High School, will receive \$1,000 award to attend Colorado State University where she will study Equine Science and Management.
- ♦ Anna Reyburn, from Lancaster Mennonite High School, \$1,000 to Penn State University – Main campus, to study Veterinary Science.
- ♦ Abraham Yoder, from the Bayard Rustin High School, \$1,000 award to attend Delaware Valley University in field of Agricultural Business.
- ♦ Kayla Parham, from Downingtown East High School, a \$500 scholarship to attend Delaware Valley University where she will study Equine Science and Management.

Lyme Disease Awareness Meetings

will be held at the Kennett Friends Meeting House, at 7 p.m., 125 W. Sickle Street, Kennett Square, PA (located along Route #82, one mile south of Route #1)

June 20: Program to be determined

July 18: Program to be determined

– Doug Fearn, Lyme Disease Association of SE PA
For details, directions, maps: www.lymepa.org

President's Message . . . continued from Page 1

Tell your story about how agriculture and the agricultural community affected your life and how it affects the lives of all Americans who eat food.

To sum up my recent experiences – agriculture is alive and well! The happenings here in Chester County with our young folks are great examples of that.

Sincerely,



CDCFB Presents Oxford FFA Students With Their New FFA Jackets

Dan Miller, CDCFB President and Howard Robinson, Oxford Area School District (OASD) Director and PA Farm Bureau (PFB) Director, recently presented the new Oxford Chapter of Future Farmers of America with their blue jackets.



Top, left to right: Dan Miller (CDCFB president), Kyle Stanley, Parker Baer, Justin Ward, Alex Mace, Sam Reyburn, Jack England, Chris Burns, Joey DiFabrizio, Chrissy McMichael, Gavra Goldie, Michael Hovanec (Oxford High School Assistant Principal), Howard Robinson (OASD and PFB Director) and Diane Miller (FFA Advisor). Seated, left to right: Liz Ward (FFA assistant), Zach Holmes, Joanne Herr, Taylor Todd, Emily Krivanich, Rhett (mascot), Claire Taylor, Kaitlin Bell, and Heather Mullins.

After several years without an FFA program, the OASD Board of Directors decided there was much enthusiasm and interest to initiate an FFA program in Oxford. Diane Miller is the FFA advisor and Liz Ward is her assistant.

The new Oxford FFA Chapter is actively involved with county FFA projects and also participates at local events including 4-H, Farm Bureau, Tractor Supply, Oxford Feed & Lumber, Oxford Mainstreet, Inc., Highway trash pick-up, etc.

CDCFB is excited for Oxford's new FFA Chapter and is happy to help in supporting their endeavors.



Does a Cold Winter Kill Ticks?

The winter of 2017-18 was strange, with some very cold days in January and a very warm February, with several relatively small snowstorms, mostly in March. What happens to the deer tick population during the winter? Usually, not much. Ticks are extremely hardy and can survive most harsh conditions—except drying out. They need moisture to survive. Snow cover provides a good environment for tick survival.

What does this mean for the tick season this year? Nobody knows for sure, but the evidence suggests that it will be average or worse. Ticks in our area carry many diseases, including Lyme disease. Ticks are active now, so take the proper precautions whenever you are in tick habitat.

Experts recommend clothing treated with Permethrin. Permethrin does not work on your skin – it must be applied to clothing. You can do it yourself (which is effective several weeks), or purchase permanently-treated clothing (effective through at least through 70 washings).

Insect Shield Repellent Technology is offering a 20% discount off tick repellent clothing and gear to farm bureau members. Visit their website: www.insectshield.com/basics and select the item you wish to purchase, use the code: "PFB" and you will receive the 20% discount.

– by Doug Fearn, Lyme Disease Association of SE PA

Kudos to our Members . . .



. . . Marilyn Hershey has recently been appointed chairwoman of Dairy Management Inc.– the dairy industry’s checkoff organization. Marilyn and her husband, Duane, operate Ar-Joy Farms, LLC in Cochranville shipping milk from 800 cows to Land O’ Lakes cooperative. Dairy Management Inc., which manages the National Dairy Council and the American Dairy Ass’n., also founded the U.S. Dairy Export Council and the Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy.

. . . Bill MacCauley, owner of the John Rock Inc. pallet factory was recently featured in Time magazine. 20,000 pallets are nailed together a day, making it one of the top five pallet-making facilities in the country. “Pallets are a better barometer of the economy than anything else,” Bill contends. “Everything in this country moves on a pallet.”

. . . Mary Ann Plankinton, a partner at Gawthrop Greenwood, has been named chairperson of the firm’s Wilmington-area office. Mary Ann has a multi-jurisdictional practice focusing on family law. She is also on Hope Springs Equestrian’s Board of Directors.



. . . Larry Welsch, the Chester County Food Bank and their partners (whose goal is securing, managing, distributing food to people in need) distribute more than 2.7 million pounds of food a year. What a difference they all make!



Kathi Cozzone - A Reader During Ag Literacy Week

As part of National Ag Literacy Week, Kathi Cozzone (Chester Co. Commissioner) visited kindergarteners at West Chester Area Daycare Center to read the book Tyler Makes Pancakes that explores how common ingredients begin on the farm and end up on our plate. Cozzone talked about the important role farmers and food products from their farms are essential in our daily lives.

“Agriculture provides almost everything we eat, use and wear,” said Cozzone. “It’s Chester County’s number one industry and I’m delighted to have the opportunity to help children in our community learn more about where our food comes from. My fellow Commissioners and I appreciate all of the farmers and agriculture professionals in Chester County who work hard to provide food for us.”

The book Cozzone read was chosen by PA Farm Bureau’s Friends of Agriculture Foundation and distributed to volunteer classroom readers all over the state to increase student knowledge about the importance of agriculture.



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Looking to Get More Involved and Assist an Industry We All Love?

Consider being a nominee for the Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau (CDCFB) Board of Directors.

If you are a regular member in good standing, and have been a CDCFB member for at least one year, you are eligible to be a candidate. CDCFB is an organization for our farmers and support/supply industries, run by those involved and who understand today’s challenges.

The commitment is a three-year term; monthly Board meetings are held at the Romano 4-H Center near Honey Brook at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month.

The election will be held at the fall banquet in September, voted on by the membership in attendance.

If you are interested in running, or in getting more information, please contact Hillary Krummrich at hkrummrich@chesco.org or phone 610-344-6285.

Thank you Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau

. . . from the Oxford Future Farmers of America:

We the Oxford FFA wanted to send you a big “THANKS.” Helping us get our FFA jackets is a big deal! We will wear them with pride. Please remember we are here; and feel free to call on us.

– Parker Baer, Chris Burns, Ben Carey, Joseph DiPabrizio, Gavra Goldie, Zach Holmes. Chrissie McMichael, Heather Mullins, Sam Reyburn, Kyle Stanley, Claire Taylor, Taylor Todd and Justin Ward. Advisors: Diane Miller and Liz Ward.

. . . from FFA program at Pennocks Bridge Technical College High School



On behalf of the FFA program at TCHS-PB, I would like to extend gratitude to the Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau for the generous donation of FFA jackets for our members.

Our Chapter prides itself on being well-prepared and professionally dressed. The FFA jackets are a symbol of their hard work and dedication. Our members will wear them proudly! Thank you! – Liz DiSabatino, Advisor

PA Friends of Ag Golf Tournament - June 18

The PA Friends of Agriculture’s 26th Annual Richard Prether Golf Classic will be held on June 18 at the Hershey Country Club, West Course. The golf outing proceeds help to support agriculture education outreach including the Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab, Ag on the Go, Educator’s Ag Institute, Ag Literacy Week, our Scholarship programs, and other ag literacy outreach events.

CDCFB golfers participating include: Robert Pepple, Franny Sharon, Joe Fecondo, George Yarrish, David Woods, Michael Katch, Michael Garrison and Barry Hostetter.

Good Luck to our golfers! Have a great day!



Halle Becker, Former Scholarship Winner, Reports on College Life

Let me start by saying that I loved college life! I finished my first year at Messiah College and it has been exciting to be “on my own” for the first time. I loved living in a dorm setting, surrounded by people.

College academic life is much different than high school! You need to be self-disciplined to make studying your top priority. My major is molecular biology since I am pursuing a career in veterinary medicine. This major takes a lot more time and effort than most other majors but dedicating this time has been essential since I regularly need to spend three or four hours studying for every hour that I am in class.

Not only have I learned to be more independent but also a lot about how to study and learn in a lecture setting. The biggest thing I have realized is to take notes on what the professor is saying, more than what they are writing. Developing a routine takes a lot of thought and effort but is critical to succeeding and balancing school and friends!

I am so thankful for the Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau scholarship that I was awarded in 2017 which has allowed me to have so many amazing, fun and rewarding memories at Messiah College!

CDCFB Members Receive Discounts:



Sweet Savings Return in 2018 for PA Farm Bureau Members

PA Farm Bureau members save up to 48% off their 2018 Summer season gate admission rates with this valuable benefit! With prices locked in the entire season, enjoy family favorite coasters and rides, water attractions and an 11-acre walk-through zoo for one low price!

Pre-purchase seasonal event tickets through our Members Only site, just like your summer tickets. Go to Hersheypark’s website for dates and details about seasonal events.

For ticket order: Log in to PFB’s Members Only site. Select Resources/Member Discount Codes/Hersheypark.



Don’t forget: Farm Bureau members receive a 10% discount when renewing your Lancaster Farming subscription! Use the code: PAFB.

Ford Motor Company is extending their \$1,000 savings to CDCFB members now through July 7th.

Sherwin-Williams Paint Need to spruce up a dingy-looking combine or put a fresh coat of paint on a barn roof? Sherwin-Williams offers a wide variety of paints and sealants for use on just about everything around the home or farm from tractors, equipment and machinery to barns, fences and buildings. Show your Farm Bureau membership card to receive a 25% discount and up to 40% off on some items.

Celebrating Career and Technical Education

We are most fortunate in Chester County to have three Career and Technical Education (CTE) schools – one in Downingtown, Phoenixville and one in southern Chester County near West Grove. These schools have cutting-edge, rigorous and relevant curriculums that help youth and adults prepare for a wide range of high-wage, high-skill, high-demand careers.

CTE programs cover many different fields including: Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources; STEM; Health Science; Information Technology; Advanced Manufacturing; and Hospitality and Tourism.

Simply put, careers that touch virtually every sector of the economy are available to students who pursue career and technical education. From livestock geneticist to nuclear engineer and everything in between, career clusters and a multitude of related pathways help guide students to the career of their dreams.

Looking for another reason to consider this type of education? Consider this: More than 80% of manufacturers face a talent shortage, and nearly half of talent recruiters at Fortune 1000 companies report trouble finding qualified candidates with a two-year STEM degree. Also, between now and 2024, 48% of all job openings will require education beyond high school, but less than a four-year degree.

Taking one CTE class for every two academic classes minimizes risk of students dropping out of high school. The average high school graduation rate for students concentrating in CTE programs is 93%, compared to an average national freshman graduation rate of 80%. Reports show that 91% of high school graduates who earned two to three CTE credits enrolled in college.

A strong incentive during challenging economic times is that students can attend public community and technical colleges for a fraction of cost of tuition at other institutions: \$3,520, on average, in 2016-2017.

Career and technical education programs are delivered in a variety of ways. At the secondary level, the program is available in comprehensive high schools, magnet schools, area CTE centers, career academies, early college high schools and other unique models.

CTE programs are closely related to the Future Farmers of America (FFA) programs, the national leadership organization which makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. – by Cyndie Shearing From Vista Today

Note: CDCFB supports three county FFA programs – Octorara High School, Oxford Area High School, Pennocks Bridge Technical College High School – and also Hans Herr FFA – with donations for FFA jackets, conference trips, etc.

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If you shop on Amazon, make sure you shop with a “smile” using *Amazon Smile – You Shop. Amazon donates.*

Use the link: smile.amazon.com/ch/22-2699958 to start shopping and supporting the Pennsylvania Friends of Agriculture Foundation today!



County Farm Bureau Members Visit Legislators in Harrisburg

CDCFB members recently visited with their legislators discussing issues facing farmers at the PA Farm Bureau Legislative Conference in Harrisburg.

Thanks to attendees: Daniel Miller, Howard Reyburn, Harold Hallman, Don Hannum, Doug Fearn, Joe Fecondo, Melissa and Paul Harrop, Janet and Howard Robinson, Arthur Needham, Julie Brady, Charlie Humphreys, and Elizabeth Chandler for their commitment to agriculture.

Legislators visited included: Senators Andrew Dinniman, Thomas Killion, John Rafferty, Jr., and Representatives Stephen Barrar, Carolyn Comitta, Becky Corbin, Leanne Krueger-Braneky, John Lawrence, Duane Milne, and former Representative Art Hershey who allowed time in their busy schedules to meet with our county farm bureau members!

Farm Organizations Unite to Combat Opioid Crisis

In a show of unity to address the national opioid epidemic that is disproportionately affecting farming communities, American Farm Bureau President Zippy Duvall and National Farmers Union President Roger Johnson (presidents of the nation's two largest general farm organizations) and Anne Hazlett with the USDA, recently visited the "Prescribed to Death" opioid memorial in Washington, D.C. They toured the exhibit, which memorializes the 22,000 people who died from a prescription opioid overdose in 2015.

"Rural Americans are often ashamed or embarrassed to talk about family members who struggle with addiction," Duvall said. "We know this is a difficult conversation. But we all need to talk about this problem to get help for those we care about. People who are struggling with addiction need to know it's all right to ask for help. Our rural communities are strong enough to overcome this struggle."

"The only way farming communities are going to overcome the opioid epidemic is if local communities and local governments make it a priority," said Johnson. "It needs to be something we talk about in our daily conversation. It needs to be talked about openly, from mother to son, from family to family, and from neighbor to neighbor. Until we get to a point where everyone is comfortable talking about the issue, understands it is a crisis for their communities, and treats the addiction as a disease, the opioid epidemic is going to continue to take far too many lives."

AFBF and NFU are confronting the opioid epidemic in farming communities through their "Farm Town Strong" campaign. Addiction experts and government officials have credited the program for raising awareness of the crisis in farming communities, providing resources and information to help those communities, and encouraging farmer-to-farmer cooperation to overcome the crisis.

The two organizations' survey from late 2017 demonstrates the opioid crisis' disproportionate effects on farmers and farmworkers compared to other rural Americans. While just under half of rural Americans say they have been directly impacted by opioid abuse, 74% of farmers and farmworkers say they have. The survey also indicated that a strong majority of respondents believe increasing public education surrounding resources and reducing the stigma around opioid addiction would help solve the opioid crisis.

Facts about Our Food Supply . . .

Farmers never had to worry about the perception of their industry. Apart from anything else they were busy with all the tasks of the average farm and what and how could they communicate anyway?

Times have changed and there is more awareness of how our food is produced and its safety. Today people need to be confident in the safety and sustainability of their food supply.

The Farm Bureau is the major advocate for the farming and rural community in the U.S. While our major effort is to advocate at the local, state and federal level of government, there is an increasing need to get the message out to the general public about the vital role our farmers are playing in producing our food. Can you play your part in advocating for farmers?

Few families today even have relations who are farming or own a farm, and in fact, public surveys indicate that consumers know very little about farming. 70% say that purchase decisions are affected by how food is grown and raised. Yet there is no indication in the grocery store of where or how the food item was grown or produced.

The majority of press coverage focuses on organic food and health issues. Yet organic food sales currently represent only around 5% of the total food consumed. The rapid growth of organic sales is largely due to lack of knowledge of how efficiently and safely our conventional crops and livestock are produced.

After all, what is the news value of the fact that one farmer today in our country produces enough food for 165 people? How many know that we export as much as 20% of our production and more than we import. Main export countries are Canada, China, Mexico, Japan, European Union and South Korea. Our major export products are #1 soybeans (\$24 billion) followed by corn, tree nuts, beef, pork, wheat, dairy products and fresh fruit. So farmers are definitely helping balance our trade. We can certainly be proud of our farmers for this achievement!

We also spend less of our disposable income on food than any other country – less than 10%, and more than half of that is spent on food eaten away from the home.

These are just some of the facts about our food supply that are not general knowledge. Even less is known about what farmers are doing to produce sustainably and preserve our precious soil, ensure the health and, yes, even comfort of their livestock and ensure crops that are absolutely safe to consume or process. I'll attempt to cover this in the next CDCFB newsletter!

– Duncan Allison

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Helena Martin, 2011 Scholarship Recipient “Tells Her Story”

In the spring of 2011, I received a college scholarship from the Chester/Delaware County Farm Bureau. Recently I looked back on my essay for that scholarship application and I would like to share the following segment with you:

“My hope is to learn the necessities of running a successful farm. I also hope that I can learn to raise and medically treat livestock animals. My goal is to become an organic hobby farmer, and a large animal veterinarian. I plan on attending the Univ. of Delaware to acquire this education.”

I wrote that snippet almost seven years ago and must say, I have achieved many of those goals. I went to the University of Delaware and graduated in 2015 with a Bachelor of Science degree. I had graduated having double majored in Animal and Food Science and also in Agriculture Education. My time spent at UD was priceless where I learned many intellectual and hands-on skills. I think my favorite of all was having been certified to perform artificial insemination on dairy cows.

I also had the experience of working at UDairy Creamery. If you have not been there, I highly recommend that you go. I worked as a production supervisor and learned the ins/outs of making and producing high quality ice cream. I was able to create and design new products, several which are still sold today. I was an avid collegiate 4-H and FFA member, as well as a member of several groups on campus that volunteered in and around the Newark community.

When I graduated from UD I did not know if I wanted to pursue teaching or industry production. Fortunately I was offered a position working for Country View Family Farms (CVFF) which is an affiliate of the Clemens Food Group, most widely known for their Hatfield Pork brand. I moved 2.5 hours west of Oxford to a very small, rural town known as Path Valley, in Franklin County, PA.

There, I worked on a 5600 sow farm in both the farrowing and breeding departments. In farrowing, I helped oversee 960 sows and their litters. With the help of several veterinarians and veteran staff members, I learned how to properly care and maintain healthy hogs and their piglets from 0-21 days old, at which point the piglets would be shipped to the nursery.

I also worked in the breeding department, where I learned to heat check and breed up to 300 gilts and sows each week. We were an open-pen gestation, meaning that the length of the sows pregnancy (112-115 days) was not spent in a stall, but in a large free-roaming pen. Maintaining proper feed and health checks was critical for a successful pregnancy.

This farm produced pigs that, at market weight, would be marketed as CFG’s Farm Promise brand. This means that these animals never ever received antibiotics, growth promotants or animal by-products, and that the animals were raised in free-to-roam environments. I had a wonderful experience working for this company for nearly 2.5 years.

[Continued in next column]

Got Questions? Case I-H Has Answers



With the busy time for being in the fields, you’re sure to have questions about equipment parts, software and more. Case I-H AFS Troubleshooting helps you find the AFS support information you need at <http://bit.ly/2xzTgSo>. Farm Bureau members can save \$300 to \$500 off Case I-H machinery. Be sure to take advantage of this benefit at your state Farm Bureau website: www.fb.org/join.

Pennsylvania Leads the Nation in Number of Farmers Selling to Consumers

More Pennsylvania farmers are selling their products directly to consumers than any other state in the nation, according a nationwide survey conducted by the U.S.D.A.

While Pennsylvania was fourth in the total dollar value of sales, it led in the total number of farmers involved in direct farm sales. Farm to consumer sales, including selling to wholesalers who distribute through food hubs, resulted in \$8.7 billion in revenue for farmers nationwide in 2015.

The USDA survey found that 115,000 farmers were involved in direct-to-consumer sales at stores and farmers markets. California leads the nation with \$2.8 billion in direct marketing sales; while Pennsylvania farmers have \$439 million in direct farm sales. The Keystone State has more than 6,000 farmers engaged in direct to consumer sales.

Helena Martin . . . continued from previous column

In November 2017 I decided to change career and became a member of the staff at the Octorara Senior High School. I am a part of the Career and Technical Program teaching Animal and Plant Production. I am very excited to be part of this program in which I have the support of wonderful colleagues and staff.

Looking back to my goals in 2011 as a senior at Oxford Area High School, I have accomplished many: I have successfully attended the University of Delaware, learned to raise healthy animals, and to run a farm.

All of these goals have been able to be fulfilled by my receiving that scholarship from the Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau. Each and every difference made in one’s life helps lead the path for their future, which this has done for me. I want to thank the Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau today for what it has helped me accomplish thus far, and what it will help me achieve in the future.

- Helena Martin, 2011 CDCFB scholarship recipient

“Best doctor in the world is a veterinarian. He can’t ask his patients what’s the matter. He’s just got to know.”

- Will Rogers

“It isn't what we don't know that gives us trouble, it's what we know that ain't so.”

- Will Rogers



Did You Know . . .

. . . that Pennsylvania's equine population ranked sixth in the nation, according to the results of the American Horse Council's Equine Survey?

. . . that demand for mushrooms has never been higher? The American Mushroom Institute has found record-high consumer demand for fresh mushrooms in early 2018, as the tasty fungus continues to dominate food-trend lists. Also, the trade association said that mushrooms sales had a 9.7% bump in January. The demand is so high that it's outpacing the speed that mushroom growers can respond.

. . . that Penn Vet is ranked "fourth in the world" among veterinary schools? 100% of Penn Vet students receive large animal training at New Bolton Center.

. . . that it was recently published in the Medical Journal "Healthcare" that there will likely be an additional one million people infected with Lyme disease in 2018? Pennsylvania has about 30-40% of all cases in the nation, so that would be as many as 400,000 new cases in PA in 2018.

. . . that during the 2018 baseball season, Americans will consume more than 19 million hot dogs and 4.6 million sausages, according to the National Hot Dog and Sausage Council? That's enough to stretch across the U.S. from the Seattle Mariners' Safeco Field to SunTrust Park in Atlanta.

. . . that Costco sold 87 million chickens, last year, compared to 51 million in 2010? That's a huge increase!

. . . that in 2015 the federal government was the largest landowner in the U.S. by a very wide margin, owning nearly 640 million acres in the U.S.? With almost 2.3 billion acres of land in U.S., the federal government owns or administers programs on nearly one-third of the country's land.

. . . that calcium and other vitamins in milk can help prevent osteoporosis in adults and its high protein content helps those over 70 maintain muscle strength? Milk is a great package of nutrients if you want to live to 90 and still have muscle structure and bones that don't crumble.

. . . that one in seven jobs in Pennsylvania is connected to agriculture, and the industry's success, they say, is directly tied to their ability to export their products?

. . . that drug overdoses killed 64,000 people in the United States in 2016? Roughly six out of every 10 of those deaths involved opioids.

. . . that with more than 650,000 members, the Future Farmers of America (FFA) is teaching a new generation dedicated to feeding the world's growing population?

Dates to Remember:

- June 2: OABEST Expo, Octorara High School
- June 6: CDCFB Board Meeting, Romano 4-H Center, Honey Brook, at 7 p.m.
- June 18: PA Friends of Ag Golf Tournament, Hershey
- June 20: Lyme Disease Awareness meeting, at 7 p.m., at the Kennett Friends Meeting House
- June 30: CDCFB "Member Appreciation" Picnic at the Romano 4-H Center, Noon- 3 p.m.

Welcome, New CDCFB Members

Joseph Ballato, Jr., Downingtown
 Steven Boyajian (Cinco en ese Alpacas) West Chester
 Shannon Endvick, (Endvick Genetics), Atglen
 Stephanie Everett, Kennett Square
 Jay Penrose (Fall Line Farm), Landenberg
 Suzanne Kloud (Klounds Farm), Cochranville
 Doug Lapp, (Lapp Farms LLC), Cochranville
 Mary Alice Malone (Iron Spring Farm Inc.) Coatesville
 Dennis Metzger (Southbridge Farm), West Chester
 Tom O'Grady, Romansville
 Stephanie Shirk (Penn State Extension), East Earl
 Robert Todd (Down to Earth Harvest), Downingtown
 Burling Vannote (Hermitage Farm), Kennett Square



Reminder: OABEST Expo on June 2

Mark your calendars to attend the OABEST Expo to be held on Saturday, June 2, from 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. at Octorara School on Highland Road, Atglen.

Food vendors, student demonstrations, science fair exhibits, K-12 art show, First Responder demonstrations, crafts, music, games, animals, hayrides and many more fun-filled activities will take place.

Also, don't miss the 5K Octorara Angels Rainbow Run (in memory of Carly Imbierowicz and Daulton Pointek). New this year is a free Rainbow Dash for toddlers to second-graders. Visit OABEST website at www.oabestexpo.com

Summer Travel Discounts . . .

. . . Save up to 20% on Choice hotels by using PFB's Significant Organization Savings code **(00209780)** when booking. Choice operates more than 6,800 hotels around the world including brands such as Comfort Inn, Quality Inn, Sleep Inn, Clarion Hotel, Econo Lodge and more.

. . . Members receive 10% off the best available rate at Wyndham hotels and Wyndham-owned brands such as Ramada, Days Inn, Super 8 Motel, Howard Johnson and more. Use PFB's savings code **(8000002941)** at booking. Both Choice and Wyndham require advance reservations made either via their 800 numbers or online. Log in to our Members Only site for details.

. . . For travel, PFB members can save on car rentals from Avis and Budget. Save 5 to 25% off daily, weekend and weekly Avis car rentals with PFB's Avis Worldwide Discount code **(A298838)**. Save up to 20% with Budget by using PFB's Budget Customer Discount code **(Y775738)**.



Together we can Feed the Bees!
Help feed a bee - plant lots of flowers!

Chester-Delaware County Farm Bureau

President: Daniel Miller	484-880-6431
1 st Vice Pres.: Howard Reyburn	610-932-5685
2 nd Vice Pres.: Harold Hallman III	610-827-7808
Treasurer: Janet Robinson	717-529-2508
Steven Barr	484-883-4051
Dennis Breckbill	610-932-9567
Deborah Ellis	610-256-7483
Joseph Fecondo	717-798-6467
Charles Graydus	610-286-0128
Donald Hannum	610-384-2249
Melissa Harrop	484-252-1342
Keith Kanara	610-513-4435
Arthur Needham	610-869-9735
Jeff Stoltzfus	610-593-5656
Secretary to the Board: Julie Brady	610-932-7363

County Board Meetings are held at the Romano 4-H Center, Honey Brook, on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. You are welcome to attend.

Farm Management Account Supervisors

Tim Ard, Oxford	610-467-0016
Connie Flowers, Lancaster	717-397-1021
Carl D. Ganster, Wyomissing	610-678-1816
Tracy L. Garofalo, Dover, DE	717-927-9109
Vance Getz, Lancaster	717-945-6645
John Haggerty, New Cumberland	717-774-2986
Devon Smoker, Conestoga	717-517-6957

Safemark Dealers

Atlantic Tractor, Oxford (Top quality batteries, tires and other vehicle/farm supplies)	610-932-8858
Breck-A-De Farms, Oxford (Safemark twine)	484-239-2657



Please send items for the newsletter to:
Janet Robinson at jrob@epix.net

Nationwide Insurance PFB Agents:

Jeffrey L. Bartlett, Downingtown	610-269-5887
Steven W. Bates, West Chester	610-429-9640
John R. Ferullo, West Chester	610-431-4005
*John Fiorelli, West Chester	610-430-0644
*Maggie Garcia-Taylor, Oxford	610-932-4935
David Gosselin, West Chester	610-696-3894
*Jack Henderson, Kennett Square	610-444-2610
Susan M. Lambert, Coatesville	610-384-3844
Teresa Ledezma, Kennett Square	610-444-2610
*P. Thomas Simperts, Jr., Kennett Square	610-444-2610
*Christopher Sniscak, West Chester	610-696-5130
Kurt A. Thompson, Downingtown	610-269-1544
*Roger Boatwright, Newtown Square	610-359-9270
Daniel K. Burke, Havertown	610-449-4800
Robert J. Cellucci, Drexel Hill	610-449-5900
Charles E. Courtney, Media	610-891-7900
Mark A. Cox, West Chester	610-430-7955
Michele Deery-Thomas, West Chester	610-696-6560
David J. DiMeglio, Havertown	610-789-6131
John L. Dimeglio, Aston	610-485-5858
Diane and Sean Doherty, Aston	610-874-2500
Robert J. Dollfus, Jr., Phoenixville	610-933-6070
*Michael Fiorelli, Jr., Upper Chichester	610-485-2543
Matthew Giello, Drexel Hill	610-623-8880
Earl W. Hagerty, Jr., Glen Mills	610-358-9111
Elaine C. Hanscom, Thorndale	610-384-2884
Brenda E. Hurley, Concordville	610-358-9422
Walter McClelland, Newtown Square	610-353-3000
Brian P. McKendry, Media	610-566-6129
Stephen K. Miller, Woodlyn	610-874-8200
Anthony G. Naab, Havertown	610-789-6250
Jillian O'Brien, Swarthmore	610-534-9229
Lawrence Pellegrino, Folsom	610-237-6550
Rocco J. Polidoro, Springfield	610-544-8900
Sean Price, Morton	610-544-8070
Jennifer D. Thomas, Limerick	610-948-8810
Dean D. Young, Jr., Newtown Square	610-353-6116

*Farm Certified Agent

Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau
736 Catamount Road
Oxford, Pa. 19363