



# 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 2019

YOU are invited to attend the  
Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau  
"Member Appreciation"  
**Picnic**

Sunday, July 14, 2019  
12:30 - 3:30 p.m.

at the Romano 4-H Center  
1841 Horseshoe Pike, Honey Brook, PA

Menu: Pulled pork, meatballs, provolone cheese, rolls,  
baked beans, potato salad, pasta salad, and coleslaw

Food will be served at 1 p.m.

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

Larry Roney and Friends  
will be providing live music from 1-3 p.m.

This year our Safety Demo will focus on  
"Rural Road Safety"

RSVP by July 7<sup>th</sup> to:  
ChesterCountyFarmBureau@gmail.com  
610-932-7363



### Message from CDCFB President Daniel Miller

I hope you are enjoying the beautiful spring weather that we are experiencing this year. Crops are being planted at a fast and furious pace – an annual sign of spring in Chester and Delaware counties. Hopefully, the weather this summer will allow for a good growing season and bountiful harvest this fall.

Please be cautious and safe during this busy time no matter what type of farming you are engaged in. Long hours require persistent vigilance to be safe in your agricultural pursuits. We are always conscious of our members' safety and try to do everything we can to help agriculture be as safe as possible.

Rural Road Safety is one of the things that Farm Bureau advocates for each spring. Notices are sent out to newspapers and media events are held each year to alert the public to the fact that it is the time of year for agricultural equipment to be on the roads once again. [The CDCFB Picnic on July 14<sup>th</sup> will also include a Safety Demonstration; hope you will attend.]

We ask drivers to be cautious and patient when they encounter farm equipment on the roads. Farmers must do their part also to be as courteous as possible to traffic.

Some of the things we hear about most from farmers are highway obstacles to equipment movement and unsafe intersections for farmers to navigate. The Chester County Planning Commission will have a meeting in June about the transportation needs and priorities in the county. The planning commission has invited Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau to send a representative for agriculture to their meeting.

To be effective in representing agriculture relating to transportation, we need to know from you what highway issues you encounter in the county while performing the normal functions of your farming business.

Please send us information about bridges, roads, intersections or any other issues that you are dealing with in your area relating to roadways. You may send your emails to: [chestercountyfarmbureau@gmail.com](mailto:chestercountyfarmbureau@gmail.com) or send a letter to Chester/Delaware County Farm Bureau, 425 Connor Road, Oxford, PA 19363. We need to receive this information by June 1, 2019. We will compile all of the information that we receive to forward to the planning commission.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

### CDCFB Awards Scholarships to 11 Students in Ag-related Careers

The Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau Board of Directors is proud to announce that eleven students will be awarded scholarships this year. The awards will be presented at the CDCFB Picnic on July 14 (picnic details above).

- ♦ Seline Stoop, Unionville High School, will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to the University of Delaware studying Pre-vet medicine/Bioscience.
- ♦ Kaitlin Bell, Oxford Area High School, \$1,000 award to attend Kansas State University, and major in Ag Business and Bioscience.
- ♦ Natalie D'Antonio, Henderson High School, \$1,000 scholarship to Delaware County Community College to study Animal Science.
- ♦ Brock Rohrer, Lancaster Mennonite High School, will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to study Ag Business at Penn State University.

[Scholarships continued on Page 2]

## Kudos to our Members . . .

. . . Michael L. Pia, Director of South Mill Champs has been inducted into the Chester County Business Hall of Fame. Pia is a third-generation mushroom farmer whose grandfather began growing mushrooms in Chester County in 1932. Today, Pia's son – Michael Jr., represents the family's fourth generation in the business.



South Mill Champs supplies more than 2,000,000 pounds of mushrooms each week to retail, wholesale, foodservice and industrial customers throughout North America. The business is fully integrated with state-of-the art composting facilities, growing operations, automated packaging, freezing and processing and a nationwide distribution network.

. . . Duncan Allison is being honored this year by Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau dedicating their organization's "Farmers Care" donation to the Chester County Food Bank in Duncan's name. Duncan has worked tirelessly in Chester County to further the interests of agriculture in the county. Duncan has also been the chairman of CDCFB's very successful equine committee and the economic impact study recently completed for southeastern PA. Thank you Duncan!



. . . Bernard Baily (Pocopson Meadow Farm) and his daughters – Meredith Baily Parsons and Rebecca Baily are a fourth-generation family dairy business producing 100-percent-natural, hormone-free milk and dairy products.

The herd produces between 1,500-1,600 gallons of raw milk each week, most of which is being sold to Land O'Lakes Co-op. The rest is bottled and sold to local markets and restaurants, and in their own Pocopson Meadow Farm Store. To stay competitive, the Baily's are planning to convert from traditional A1 milk to an A2 protein supply, which is less likely to trigger allergies for those who are lactose intolerant.

At the Pocopson Meadow Farm, they sell milk, ice cream, brown eggs, cheese and seasonal produce in their farm store. You can visit and experience the Baily's historic, 122-acre farm at 1821 Lenape Unionville Road, West Chester, PA and see the entire process of milk and ice cream going from cattle to carton right before your eyes.

## Having Your Business Involved in Tourism??

The Chester County Conference and Visitors Bureau is conducting an analysis of agricultural-related businesses in Chester County with a goal to discover those businesses that are interested in being involved in tourism. Beginning in May, the Bureau's staff will be reaching out by phone to ask questions about whether your farm is currently open to the public or if you rent space for private events.

Later this summer, they will conduct site visits to those interested to best understand how the Visitors Bureau may be able to bring more visitors to your farm or help bring your farm products to a greater audience through tourism if you aren't open to the public but would still like to participate.

Look out for a phone call from Jan or Mary from the Visitors Bureau in the coming weeks. If you do not hear from them and would like to be involved, you are welcome to email Jan at [jan@brandywinevalley.com](mailto:jan@brandywinevalley.com).

– Submitted by Ann Lane, Ag Development Council

## 2019 Scholarships . . . [continued from first page]

- ♦ William Carnevale, from Phoenixville High School, \$1,000 for Pre-Veterinarian and Animal Science study at the University of Delaware.
- ♦ Kaitlin Crawford, Kennett High School, a \$1,000 award to attend Delaware University (Doylestown) to study Animal Science/Pre-Professional.
- ♦ Bailey Prasad, from Garnet Valley High School, will receive a \$1,000 award to University of New Hampshire for studies in Equine Industry and Management.
- ♦ Taylor Sandy, from the Bayard Rustin High School, \$1,000 award to attend Harcum College for studies in Veterinary Nursing.
- ♦ Michaela Piper, Octorara High School and Pennocks Bridge Technical College High School (TCHS) , a \$1,000 scholarship to Wilson College to study Veterinary Medical Technology/Pre Vet.
- ♦ Katelyn Stoltzfus, Coatesville, was home-schooled, and will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to PATH International (Denver, CO) to study Equine Management.
- ♦ Mindy Beam, from Elverson, and currently a junior at Penn State University, will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to continue studies in the field of Ag Science & International Agriculture.



## Protect Yourself from Tick-borne Diseases

Warmer weather is here – and so are the ticks! It is important to arm yourself with approved prevention methods to decrease your chances of a tick bite: use an insect repellent containing 20-30% DEET, 20% picaridin, or 30% oil of lemon eucalyptus. Treat your clothing and gear (shoes, socks, backpack, hammock, outdoor rugs, etc.) with an insecticide, like permethrin, for additional protection during outdoor activity.

Shower soon after being outdoors, and always check yourself, children, and pets for ticks. If you find a tick attached to your body, use tweezers or a tick lifter for easy removal. It is recommended to put the tick between two pieces of tape, or put the tick in a small jar of rubbing alcohol. You can save the tick to show your doctor or send out for tick testing.

Ticks are small, but the diseases they carry are big. Lyme disease is caused by bacteria spread through the bite of a blacklegged tick (deer tick). Lyme and other tick-borne diseases are present throughout the state; in 2017, there were 628 confirmed cases of Lyme disease in Chester County. If untreated, Lyme disease can cause serious health complications for individuals, including musculoskeletal, neurological and cardiac problems.

The Lyme Disease Association of Southeastern Pennsylvania hotline is available for urgent issues: 610-388-7333 or [lymepa@lymepa.org](mailto:lymepa@lymepa.org), and the Chester County Health Department is available for prevention programs and health fairs: [lsmith@chesco.org](mailto:lsmith@chesco.org) or 610-344-5209.

– Submitted by Lindsay Smith, Chester Co. Health Department



Insect Shield Repellent Technology offers Farm Bureau members a 20% discount off tick repellent clothing and gear. Contact website: [www.insectshield.com/basics](http://www.insectshield.com/basics) and use the code: "PFB" to receive discount.



## Delaware County 4-H Summer Activities

Did you know that the Delaware County 4-H operates a 17-acre cooperative farm with over 100 animals, ranging from steers and dairy, sheep and pigs to alpacas, horses, and a veggie garden with honey bees? Our 4-H projects reside and grow at the 4-H Cooperative Farm at Garrett Williamson in Newtown Square, about 15 miles from Centre City, Philadelphia.

Every morning and evening our 4-H members, ranging in age from 8 to 18, come out to the 4-H Cooperative Farm to care for their 4-H project animal. In an area where agricultural land is almost non-existent, our 4-H Cooperative Farm provides 290 urban youth with the opportunity to learn about and fully engage with sustainable agriculture. This includes mucking out pens and stalls, being on call during lambing season, visiting with the vet when an animal is sick, protecting our pasture wetlands, and so much more! As the only 4-H Farm in Pennsylvania, this property is supported by the efforts of our 4-H members, volunteers, and their families.

We love showing off all our hard work and passion, so please come visit us during our 4-H Summer Fair, beginning on Thursday, August 8 at 5 p.m. with our Poultry Show and Poster Demonstrations. On Friday, August 9 at 1 p.m. is the Horse Show & Archery Competition, wrapping up the evening with Alpaca & Beef Showmanship. On Saturday, August 10 the day starts bright and early at 8:30 a.m. with our Sheep, Pig, and Dairy Showmanship; Vegetable and Baked Good judging round out the afternoon.

We wrap things up at 2:45 p.m. with our Auction when we sell our 4-H raised Pigs and Lambs to the highest bidder! For those looking for something more unique, the auction also provides an opportunity for our Garden, Alpaca, Archery, and Poultry Clubs to sell items ranging from fresh vegetables to drop spindles & fiber; from archery equipment to fresh eggs!

Though we may be a small farm, we provide a unique opportunity to engage with our urban community and share with them the importance of agriculture. We hope you will come out for the 4-H Summer Fair and experience the magic for yourself! – Submitted by Rebecca McCafferty

## Chester County 4-H Farm Adventure Day

All Children ages 8-12 (no need to be a 4-H member) are invited to join us for the Chester County 4-H Farm Adventure Day Camp to discover what's beyond your plate!

Throughout the Adventure, campers will: Identify different breeds and purposes of cows, along with the products they produce; Learn about the science behind ice cream and make some of their own; Discover the importance of plants to our earth and our food; Identify ways to ensure that the water supply stays safe while using pesticides in the yard and garden; Understand the importance of the landscape and the plants that make it; and Interact with equine to learn about their emotions, body structure, and breeds.

**When:** Tuesday, July 9, and Wednesday, July 10, drop-off is no earlier than 8:00 a.m., and pick up is at 12 noon

**Where:** Camp will be held at the Romano 4-H Center, located at: 1841 Horseshoe Pike, Honey Brook, PA 19344

For more info, go to: <https://extension.psu.edu/programs/4-h/counties/chester> – Submitted by Stephanie Shirk



## 4-H Youth Leaders Represent Chester County at State 4-H Conference

Nearly 30 Chester County 4-H youth (some pictured above) represented the Penn State Extension's 4-H Youth Development program at the 2019 PA 4-H State Leadership Conference – "Leadership in Overtime" at the Penn State Hotel and Conference Center in State College, PA.

The 4-H youth county delegates were among nearly 600 attendees, representing county 4-H programs from across Pennsylvania, at the state-level leadership conference.

The PA 4-H State Leadership Conference was open to all 4-H teens, 13 years and older, and the PA 4-H State Leadership Conference–*Junior* was open to all 4-H youth, 10-13 years old. During the conference, 4-H youth participated in interactive workshops to develop and strengthen their team-building, decision-making, and communication skills. The skills gained will be used in their 4-H clubs, schools, community, and future endeavors. The conference included motivational speaker Clint Pulver, as well as PA Agriculture Secretary Russell C. Redding and his wife, Nina.

Closing ceremonies of the conference, included the installation of the new Pennsylvania 4-H State Council. The council is a premier group of young people selected from around the Commonwealth to be the official spokespersons for the Pennsylvania 4-H program.

– Submitted by Toni Stuetz. Extension Education



## 4-H Engaging Students in STEM Education

4-H leads the nation in driving an early youth interest in science education and careers. Our nation has fallen behind other countries in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)," said Donald Floyd, former president and CEO of the National 4-H Council.

"However, we believe that the solution to this problem lies in engaging youth early and often in exciting, hands-on exploration of timely scientific subjects to demonstrate that STEM isn't scary or intimidating – instead it is approachable and interesting," Floyd continued.

The Chester County 4-H program is looking for several volunteers to help them engage our youth in STEM education with an emphasis on robotics and computer sciences. Volunteers would work directly with youth on short-term projects or in on-going 4-H clubs. Volunteer training is provided. Chester County 4-H has established robotics clubs that provide fun, hands-on learning opportunities for youth ages 8-18.

To find out more about the opportunities available, please contact Toni Stuetz at [tstuetz@psu.edu](mailto:tstuetz@psu.edu) or 610-696-3500.

## Record Attendance at CDCFB Spring Banquet

Russell Redding, the PA Secretary of Agriculture, was the featured speaker at the annual spring banquet of the Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau at Octorara High School on March 14. The audience at the spring banquet included many hard-working farmers from an area that has a long and rich agricultural history, our three county commissioners and other officials who play a part in shaping agricultural policy.



Also in attendance were numerous 4-H and Future Farmers of America (FFA) members who will be the next generation to carry on Pennsylvania's farming traditions. Also, Little Miss Agriculture USA – Ellie Harrop was there [in photo on left]. This audience was invested and engaged in what the state's Secretary of Agriculture might have to say.

But, while Redding said that he always appreciates the opportunity to share updates about the efforts to promote and protect agriculture, he viewed the event not as an opportunity to deliver a speech to an audience, but an opportunity to listen. He wanted to hear about some of the issues that local farmers are facing, whether it was the workforce challenges of the mushroom industry or pricing concerns of the dairy industry.

He wanted to learn about the impact that state and federal policies are having on farming operations. In attendance was Rep. Christina Sappey (in photo with Redding on right). He wanted to benefit from spending time among the people who make farming their life's work because the state's agricultural community is as varied as it is vast, and there are plenty of lessons to be learned at the grassroots level represented by the Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau.



[Rep. John Lawrence, is pictured at left with Artie Needham, Joe Fecondo, Sec. Redding and Barry Hostetter].

After all, the grassroots level is where seeds of success must be planted. Daniel Miller, the president of the Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau, said that the spring banquet offered a good opportunity to discuss issues impacting the agriculture industry, such as commodity prices being low for products like milk and grains. The challenges and changes that the agriculture industry faces makes collaboration and communication essential.

Howard Robinson is a retired teacher and Oxford School Board member. He and his wife, Janet, own a farm and they have, for years, been tireless advocates for both the Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau and the PA Farm Bureau. Robinson said that it's always good to have the state's Secretary of Agriculture at an event. Indeed, the turnout for the event was strong (156+) even though the spring banquet was held a little earlier than is typical. "This is the largest crowd that we've had in years," explained Robinson.

The banquet, held at Octorara High School, was very appropriate considering the emphasis that is being placed right now on educating the next generation of rural farmers in this area. Numerous FFA students were in attendance.

– Submitted by Duncan Allison

## Funding Available to Expand Rural Broadband

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is making \$600 million in grants and low-interest loans available to help expand high-speed internet in underserved, rural communities through its ReConnect program. The funding is available to states, local governments (including municipalities and counties), for-profit companies, electric cooperatives and non-profit organizations that are seeking to provide broadband access to underserved areas.

PA Farm Bureau supports expanding rural broadband, noting that high-speed internet is becoming increasingly vital to agriculture, business and everyday life. This funding is offered nationwide. If PA entities don't apply for it, it will not be used to expand high-speed internet access in our state.

Applications are being accepted in three waves. Applicants seeking grants must apply by **May 31**. Those seeking a mix of grants and low-interest loans must apply by **June 21**. And those applying only for loans must do so by **July 12**.

USDA will host online webinars for interested applicants. Visit their website at <https://reconnect.usda.gov> to learn more about the program.

## Chester/Delaware County Farm Bureau Encourages Safe Driving on Rural Roads

As farmers across Pennsylvania return to the fields to plant crops this spring, CDCFB is encouraging county motorists to travel safely on roadways this spring and throughout the year.

As the new season gets underway, tractors, farm trucks and other large equipment are once again traveling on rural roads. We're urging motorists to use caution when approaching farm vehicles and be patient if they are delayed.

To the distracted or impatient motorist, vehicles such as these can pose a threat when safe driving practices are not observed. For example, if a car is traveling 55 mph and comes upon a tractor moving 15 miles per hour, it only takes five seconds to close a gap the length of a football field between the car and the tractor. Make sure to slow down immediately when you see the Slow-Moving-Vehicle (SMV) emblem – an orange triangle with a red border, attached to farm vehicles.

We believe accidents can be prevented if farmers and motorists look out for one another on rural roads. In order to accommodate motorists, drivers of slow moving farm vehicles often pull onto the shoulder of a paved roadway to give other motorists a better view of road conditions and enough room to pass. Keep in mind that if the shoulder is soft, wet or steep, the farmer cannot move aside, because it could cause the equipment to roll over. If the farmer is unable to safely pull the vehicle off the road, and you feel must pass, do so with caution.

If motorists hear our messages and follow safe driving tips, costly accidents can be avoided and lives can be saved. PA Farm Bureau reminds motorists that farmers are legally allowed to operate farm equipment on PA roads, however they must display the SMV on the rear of all vehicles or equipment that consistently travel at speeds of 25 mph or less.

PA Farm Bureau has a Rural Roads Safety brochure, with information and tips for motorists and farmers. View at the link: [www.pfb.com/images/brochures/current-RRS-bro.pdf](http://www.pfb.com/images/brochures/current-RRS-bro.pdf).

– Submitted by Helena Martin, CDCFB Information Director



## Mobile Ag Lab at Westtown-Thornbury School

Students from Westtown-Thornbury Elementary School were given the opportunity to learn about farming, food, fiber, and the environment in a fun, hands-on manner.

The PA Friends of Agriculture's Mobile Ag Lab is a 40-foot trailer complete with 12 workstations where students conduct hands-on science experiments that teach a lesson in agriculture. Kindergarten students learned about pizza making; they discovered that the flour for the dough comes from wheat seeds; the sauce is made from tomatoes; cheese requires milk, which comes from cows.

Fifth-grade students performed an experiment that required them to form a hypothesis. Their task was to determine if glue made from milk can compete with a glue that is made from synthetic materials. Each of the grade levels had a turn in the Ag Lab performing other various experiments.

"With fewer children having a tie to farming, we created the Ag Lab program to help teachers educate more students about the importance of agriculture," said PA Farm Bureau Rick Ebert.

## American Mushroom Institute Hires New Executive Director

The American Mushroom Institute (AMI), Avondale, has hired Rachel Roberts as Executive Director. Roberts comes to the association with 20 years of experience in policy consulting, government, and non-profit management. She enjoys connecting business leaders, elected officials, and community leaders.



Roberts's primary responsibilities will be overseeing the administration, programs, and strategic plan for AMI, including member engagement, improvements and growth, grants supporting industry knowledge, and community outreach.

Before joining AMI, Roberts led The Land Conservancy for Southern Chester County through a change-management and sustainability process as Interim Executive Director and was Strategy Development Manager at Public Health Management Corporation, where she worked with the executive leadership of Philadelphia's largest nonprofits in developing operational improvements and strategic solutions. She resides in West Nottingham.



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

## Reminder: OABEST Expo June 1st



Remember to attend the OABEST Expo being held June 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. at the Octorara Junior/Senior High School campus located at 228 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.

Octorara Student Council provides hot dogs and burgers, while Kona Ice and the Chester County Dairy Trailer offer delicious ice cream, milkshakes and water ice.

Be sure to stop by and visit the Mobile Ag Lab and also the Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau booth at the event.

Visit OABEST website at [www.oabestexpo.com](http://www.oabestexpo.com)

## Chester County - The State Leader in Funding for Agricultural Land Preservation

The Pennsylvania Agricultural Land Preservation Board awarded Chester County the highest level of funding, \$3.74 million, to preserve farmland in Chester County.

The state board announced an overall spending threshold of \$38 million for the purchase of development rights from farm owners! Chester County's award of state funds, added to certified county funds of \$5 million for farmland preservation in 2019, positions Chester County as the state leader in funding for agricultural land preservation.

Since the start of Chester County's agricultural land preservation program 30 years ago, more than 40,100 acres of farmland have been preserved. Factoring in current agreements of sale, the number exceeds 41,200 acres. Chester County was proud to preserve its 500th farm in December.

"Chester County has invested \$106 million in farmland preservation over 30 years, and that investment ensures that the county's agriculture industry continues to contribute over \$3 billion to our local economy through sales, employment, taxes, and services," said Commissioner Terence Farrell.



## Bill to Help Fight Against Spotted Lanternfly Passes House

The PA State House unanimously approved a Pennsylvania Farm Bureau-supported bill that aims to help the state's effort to combat the invasive spotted lanternfly by adding the plant known as the Tree of Heaven to the state's noxious weeds list. The vote, sponsored by Rep. John Lawrence of Chester County, sends the House Bill #404, to the state Senate for consideration.

Tree of Heaven, an invasive species itself, plays a key role in the lifecycle of the spotted lanternfly. PFB supports its eradication and inclusion on the noxious weeds list as part of the effort to stop the spread of the spotted lanternfly.

The spotted lanternfly was first sighted in the U.S. in Berks County in 2014. It has since spread throughout southeastern PA and is a major threat to several agricultural crops, including hardwoods, grapes, fruit trees and hops. Currently 13 counties in southeastern Pennsylvania, including Chester County, are under quarantine.



## Hello Young Ag Professionals!

– submitted by Elizabeth Chandler

You're invited! Please join Chester/Delaware & Lancaster County Farm Bureau Young Ag Professionals for a light dinner Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

The event will be held at the Farm Credit Ag Community Room located at 15 Eby Chiques Road, Mount Joy, PA 17552. The evening is open to young farmers and Ag professionals ages 18-35. We hope to see you there!

To RSVP, please text or call Elizabeth Chandler at 610.312.9954 or Courtney Meyer at 570.660.1710.

### The Pennsylvania Young Ag Professionals Annual Summer Picnic

will be held July 21, 2019

at David Bentrem's farm located at  
270 Purdy Road, Paris, PA 15021

[Event is open to young farmers and ag professionals]

## AFBF Offers Survey for Women in Agriculture

The American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) Women's Leadership Program is hoping to gauge the goals, aspirations, achievements and needs of women in agriculture through an online survey. The survey is open to women in all areas of agriculture, as long as they live in the United States.

Data collected will be used to gauge trends related to women in agriculture and will update a similar survey that was conducted in 2014. Participants will be entered for a chance to win one of five \$100 gift cards after the survey closes on June 21. To respond to the survey, please visit: [fb.org/women](http://fb.org/women).



### My Crystal Ball Was Right: *"The 2019 Membership Year Was a Great One!"*

Thanks so much to all of you for renewing your 2019 Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau membership; YOU helped us go above and beyond our goal.

CDCFB not only met our Regular member goal of 905; we are 56 members over that goal with total of 961 regular members. That is awesome!

Our current total membership this year, which includes our Associate members, is 6,154. I hope you all are using the many great benefits that accompany your membership.

– Submitted by Howard Robinson, Membership Chairman

## Meet CDCFB Member, Lewis Barnard

Lewis Barnard (Barnard Orchards and Greenhouses, Kennett Square) can trace his fourth-generation family farm back to 1726 and his house to 1862 when it was built for \$2,600 using local field stone and Pennsylvania lumber. The farm has undergone major changes over the years as crop cultural methods and marketing environment have changed.



Lewis talks about how life on the farm has had changes, particularly, since he took over the management in 1979. The basics have remained the same, producing high quality, safe fruit and vegetables and colorful flowers but the challenges have been greater.

Fruit used to be supplied to wholesalers and flowers sold to local stores. However prices were often not sufficient to cover production costs. While he still uses wholesalers when he has excess inventory, he can be more confident of covering his costs if both fruit, flowers and vegetables are sold direct to customers at the store on the farm.

Marketing skills had to be learned and constantly re-evaluated so that customers could be encouraged to visit the store by publicizing seasonal offerings on Facebook. Smaller packaging was a trend. Seasonal products such as cider, pumpkins and other farm products including cheese and honey are also sold from local producers and have been added to the inventory. The store obviously required additional customer-friendly staff to package and sell the products throughout the week, particularly at weekends.

Lewis is very aware that the consumer today is much less aware of the complexities and challenges of farming today. His fruit and vegetable crops are dependent on both temperature and rainfall but the weather is uncertain and very variable. He had to spend \$20,000 on one of his greenhouses recently and the deer fence required a major investment but was critical to keep out the deer.

Good labor is needed for the field and greenhouse work around the year – pruning, harvesting, spraying (no apples can be grown in our environment without timely spraying) and harvesting and tending the greenhouse crops – tomatoes, flowers etc.

Lewis is no different from all other farmers in understanding the need for regulations but to ensure compliance they do provide significant effort and work. Like other farmers Lewis wants to be sure he is producing safe products and that his precious soil is being preserved.

Just how many hats can the small farmer successfully wear at the same time? Each one requiring one more layer of responsibility. Lewis has been able to adapt his farm to meet current consumer needs and still stay in business. Don't think it has been easy. He has had to manage a much wider range of operations than his relatives before him. Farming today is high tech and challenging economically.

We can support Lewis by taking advantage of his friendly store with its wide range of fresh and seasonal products. Take time to stop by "Barnard's Orchards" at 1079 Wawaset Road, Kennett Square, PA 19348, to say *Thank you* to a great farmer and purchase some delicious home-grown food.

– Submitted by Duncan Allison



**For all your insurance needs,  
visit [www.nationwide.com](http://www.nationwide.com)**



## Did You Know . . .

. . . that June is National Dairy Month? Since the 1930's, people have been encouraged to drink milk in the month of June to celebrate dairy farmers; June is filled with events related to milk across the United States.

. . . that President Donald J. Trump (at 6'2.6" tall) is the third tallest president of the United States? [Abe Lincoln was the tallest at 6'4", followed by Lyndon Johnson at 6'3.5"].

. . . that for every dollar received from farmland and open space taxes, local government spends only 7 cents on services? In contrast, for every dollar received from residential developments through taxes, local governments spend \$1.11 on services?

. . . that the Hoover Dam is one of the great engineering marvels of America – and soon, it may be a 20th century solution for storing renewable energy? The Hoover Dam Proposal aims to build a wind and solar-powered pump station 20 miles south of the dam so that it can pump water from downstream back up to Lake Mead (which feeds the dam).

. . . that farmers and ranchers receive only 15 cents out of every dollar spent on food at home and away from home? The rest goes for costs beyond the farm gate: wages and materials for production, processing, marketing, transportation and distribution. In 1980, farmers and ranchers received 31 cents.

. . . that the millennial generation (aged 34 and under) includes 257,454 farmers? More than 20% of all farmers are beginning farmers (in business less than 10 years).

. . . that farm and ranch families (just two percent of the U.S. population) account for about one percent of the United States gross domestic product?

## May is Lyme Disease Month

The Chester County Commissioners declared the month of May as "Lyme Disease Awareness Month" in the county.

A special meeting was held on May 1<sup>st</sup> to celebrate Lyme Disease Awareness Month with a proclamation presented to the PA Lyme Disease Awareness Committee (PLDAC), which is chaired by Donald Hannum and includes other members of CDCFB and also Chester County Health Department staff.



Pictured (L-R): County Commissioner Terence Farrell; Joseph Fecondo, CDCFB member; Jeanne Casner, Director of Chester County Health Department; Commissioner Michelle Kichline, Clementine Harvey, Lyme patient; Doug Fearn, SE PA Lyme Disease Association; Donald Hannum, PA Lyme Disease Awareness Committee Chairman; Lindsay Smith, Chester County Health Dept.; and Commissioner Kathi Cozzone.

*"Bees do have a smell, you know,  
and if they don't they should, for their feet  
are dusted with spices from a million flowers."*

— Ray Bradbury, Dandelion Wine

## Welcome, New Members

Manoj Bansal, West Chester  
Benjamin R. Bernhardt (Indian Orchards), Media  
Monet Crawley, Philadelphia  
LuAnn Fahndrich, Mount Joy  
Ann & Robert Good (Twin Fox Farm), Oxford  
Jason J. Hill (Carriage House Enterprises), Media  
Tylene Lane, Lansdowne  
Boyd Martin (Windurra Farm), Cochranville  
Jacob Moore, West Grove  
Jeffrey Seder (EQB Farm, Inc.), Coatesville  
Derek Strine, Kennett Square  
Edith Sumner, Oxford

## Don't Forget Your Farm Bureau Discounts While Vacationing

. . . 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)**.



PA Farm Bureau members save up to 48% off their 2019 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.

## Dates to Remember:

June 1: OABEST Expo, Octorara High School

June 5: CDCFB Board Meeting, Romano 4-H Center, Honey Brook, at 7 p.m.

July 9-10: Chester County 4-H Farm Adventure Day

July 14: CDCFB "Member Appreciation" Picnic at the Romano 4-H Center, Noon- 3 p.m.

Aug. 8-10: DE County 4-H Summer Fair

## Chester-Delaware County Farm Bureau

President: Daniel Miller	484-880-6431
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Pres.: Howard Reyburn	610-932-5685
2 <sup>nd</sup> 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
Keith Kanara	610-513-4435
Doug Lapp, Jr.	484-319-9952
Paul Mason	610-806-6923
Arthur Needham	610-869-9735
Jeff Stoltzfus	610-593-5656
Secretary to the Board: Julie Brady	610-932-7363
Elizabeth Chandler, YAP Chairperson	610-312-9954
PFB Regional Organization Director: Ethan Howard	610-533-2558

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
David W. Mory, Bethlehem	610-419-0250
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](mailto:jrob@epix.net) or to  
736 Catamount Rd., Oxford, PA 19363



## 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
Teresa Ledezma, 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
Dean D. Young, Jr., Newtown Square	610-353-6116

\*Farm Certified Agent

“To keep up to date with the happenings in Chester  
Delaware County Farm Bureau”

Visit our new website

[www.ChesterDelawareCountyFarmBureau.com](http://www.ChesterDelawareCountyFarmBureau.com)