

# Susquehanna County Farm Bureau

December 2018



PennState Extension

## 30th Annual Susquehanna County Ag Day

March 1, 2019 10 AM - 3 PM

Elk Lake High School

For registration information and a list of workshops, turn to Page 2.

### SCFB Monthly Meetings

**\*Please Note  
Time Change\***

Claverack Electric Building in Montrose, PA

January 10, 2019 at 6:30 PM

February 14, 2019 at 6:30



**Look for Harold's 2018 Tax Law Update on Pages 3 & 4!**

### WELCOME TO OUR 2019 NEW MEMBERS!

William Carlsen ~ Daniel Castiglione ~ Glenn Eby ~ Michelle Estabrook ~ Terry Jenner  
Connie M Kane ~ James Kessler ~ Kyle Kilmer ~ Bryan Kostick ~ John Mahen  
Kenneth W Merritt ~ Michael Daniel Pipitone ~ Timothy Ranson ~ Ray Tassiella  
Danny Very ~ Janice K Webster ~ Ronald White ~ Daniel Wood

**Membership - Joe Decker & Joe Loomis** On December 6th, the 2019 Membership Kick Off Rally was held at The Summit. Nineteen membership workers attended.

**Membership Renewals** With your membership each family member has \$1,000 coverage in PFB's *Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance* program. The value of the policy increases by \$300 each year of consecutive renewal to a maximum of \$3,100. **PLEASE NOTE:** The membership dues must be paid by 12/31/2018 to keep the policy in force at the increased level. **SENIORS** - if you have been a member for 10 years or more and you are 65 years old and retired, you are eligible for a \$5 refund. Pay your \$75 dues to PFB. Submit a request to Barbara Roszel, 1873 Conroy Rd., Montrose, PA 18801 for a refund.

**Y F & R - Rick & Holly Klim** The Y F & R Auction at the State Convention raised over \$8,000 for Y F & R programs. Susquehanna County Farm Bureau items sold for \$435.



**PennState Extension**

### **30th Annual Susquehanna County Ag Day**

March 1, 2019 ~ Elk Lake High School ~ 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

#### **LUNCH RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED.**

The Susquehanna County Ag Day planning committee, with the help of Farm Bureau representatives, Barb Roszel and Joann DiPalma, is busy planning several no cost workshops, along with exhibitors, health screenings, lunch, dairy products, and a pie auction to benefit 4-H Dairy Program and Dairy Princess/Promotion Program.

Lunch will be sponsored by Cabot Oil & Gas Company. There is no cost for those who make reservations in advance. There will be a \$5.00 fee for those who do not make reservations.

To make reservations, call 1-877-345-0691 or visit <https://extension.psu.edu/susquehanna-county-ag-day>

#### **Workshops**

**Everyday Wellness Habits**

**Funding for Farmers - Understanding Government Cost Sharing Programs**

**Value and Control of Aquatic Plants and Algae in Ponds and Lakes**

**2019 Agronomic Updates: Pesticide Credits: 1 Core/1 Category (PC, 01, & 18)**

**Planting for Pollinators**

**Wrangling More Days out of the Mid-Atlantic Growing Season**

**Wildlife Habitat in Private Woodlots**

**Manure Management or No-till Cover Crops**

**Spotted Lanternfly**

#### **Session Time**

10:30-11:25 am

10:30-11:25 am

10:30-11:25 am

10:30-11:25 am

or 1:35-2:30 pm

11:30-12:00 pm or 12:45-1:30 pm

12:45-1:30 pm

12:45-1:30 pm

1:35-2:30 pm

1:35-2:30 pm

**Women's Leadership - Emma Hinkley** The 2019 Farmtastic book title is *The Tree Farmer* by Chuck Leavell. To order, call Emma at 570-289-4943 by January 19th. Cost is \$11. each. The 2019 Safety Contests theme is "**Check It Out First**". Ages 4-6 coloring page; Ages 7-9/Ages 10-12 safety poster drawing; Ages 13-15/Ages 16-18 safety photo contest. The guidelines and coloring page are available at [www.pfb.com/safetycontests](http://www.pfb.com/safetycontests). Please contact Emma if you are not able to obtain this information from the website.

**Mobile Ag Lab - Dave DeLeon** The Mobile Ag Lab visited Elk Lake Elementary Oct. 29-Nov. 2; Forest City Elementary Nov. 12-16; and, Mountain View Elem. on Dec. 2-7.

**Local Affairs - Bill Bayne & Thom Helmacy** Bill and Thom attend monthly Susquehanna County Commissioner meetings. We participated in the Susquehanna County Conservation District nominations for their Board of Directors. A letter of concern was sent to Penn DOT regarding our county roads. Dave DeLeon has been busy serving on the PFB Wildlife Committee.

Susquehanna County Farm Bureau's effort to establish an Ag Education program at our county's career technology center had renewed the need and interest for an Ag/Business Incubator. That was realized this Fall 2018 with grants awarded and the Incubator enacted at the **Susquehanna County Career & Technology Center**.

## Harold's 2018 Tax Law Update

### Big Changes Effecting Families & Individuals Until 2025

- **Capitol Gains:** Everything below \$77,200 taxable income is 0. The 15% rate. It goes from \$77,200 and \$479,000 and 20% w/ incomes over \$479,000 MFJ
- **2018:** 3.8% Obamacare surtax on all investment income, includes interest, dividends, rent, royalty, and capital gains on AGI income over \$250,000.
- **Standard deduction increased:** \$24,000 MFJ; over 65 \$25,300, \$12,000 Single; over 65 \$13,600.
- **Child tax credit** is doubled to \$2,000 & refundable up to \$1,400/child & also allows elderly & disabled adults for \$500 credit
- **All personal exemptions** are repealed.
- **Interest deductions on home equity loans** are disallowed.
- **All state & local property tax deductions** are capped at \$10,000.
- **Write-off's** on job related moves, theft losses, alimony, brokerage fees, IRA fees and tax prep costs are eliminated.
- **Brackets:** 10% \$19,050 MFJ, \$9,525 single w/ 12% bracket at \$77,400 MFJ and \$38,700 single; 22% @ \$165,000 MFJ & \$82,500 single; 24% @ \$315,000 MFJ & \$157,500 single; 32% @ \$400,000 MFJ & single \$200,000; 35% @ \$600,000 MFJ & \$500,000 single; and finally 37% over
- **Individuals without health insurance owe tax:** 2% of income over \$203,000 MFJ penalty is \$675/person. This mandate finally ends 12/31/2018
- **HSA contribution:** still @ \$6,750 for family & \$1,000 more over 65
- **401K's:** \$18,000 under 50 and \$24,000 over 50
- **Lifetime Gift Exemption** at \$11,180,000/person with a tax of 40% tax on everything over that. Annual gifts increased to \$15,000/year/person.
- **Medical expense limitation** is now 7.5% of AGI just for 2018
- **Education Credit:** American Opportunity credit up to \$2,500; and now available for 4 years instead of 2. Must have a 1098T. Student loan interest limit is \$2,500. 529 plans can now be used to pay elementary and secondary education tuition up to \$10,000/year.
- **Social Security:** wage base limit is \$128,500 for 2018; everything over that not subject to SS tax
- **Solar Energy Credit** available until 2019 and the educator \$250 deduction is made permanent
- **AMT:** exemptions jump for 2018 to \$109,400 MFJ
- **Kiddie tax** is revamped to Capital gains rates instead of parent's rate
- **Mileage rate changes:** \$.54/mile for businesses; \$.19 for medical/moving; and \$.14 for charity
- **Medicare tax:** .9% on all earned income over \$250,000 MFJ

## Big New Changes Effecting Businesses Made Permanent

- **New 20% deduction on all pass-through business income.** This new deduction is very complex with lots of limits and restrictions.
- **Section 179:** deduction up to \$1,000,000/year with upper limit at \$2,000,000. This one rule is now made permanent.
- **DPAD deduction** is eliminated.
- NOL carrybacks are eliminated & NOL can only offset up to 80% of taxable income; rest must be carried forward.
- **100% bonus depreciation** is available until 2022.
- **Large employer mandate** is here for employers over 50 employees.
- **7-year depreciation on all farm machinery** purchased except licensed vehicles custom operators depreciation is 5 years
- **Penalties for late filing of Ptr. & S-Corp returns:** increase to \$195/partner/shareholder
- **Tax preparer's penalties:** broadened and made tougher, individual preparers are liable for mistakes, not the firm they work for.
- **Requires all tax preparers** to pass exams before any tax returns can be completed.
- **For 2017, all partnerships and K-1's** must be filed by March 15th
- **IRS announced that it will be cracking down** on the people working as employees but filing as independent contractors (1099 payees). They must meet 3 specific tests.
- **All corrected W-2's and 1099's** must be filed before 1/27/2019.

## PA Tax Update

- **Reap Credits** can be transferred to wife when approved by PA Dept. of Revenue
- **MSCBS:** Can sell the credits for you as PFB members, but must be held for at least 1 year before selling.
- **Inheritance tax is 0** for farm transfer to farm entity - is retroactive to 1/1/11
- **PA disallows any deductions** against royalty except the Post Production Costs.

For more details and information on these and other tax law changes, contact me at (570)744-1773 or hamoyer@pfb.com .

**Governmental Relations - William Shay** We have responded to three Action Alerts: (1) Ag Labor Reform (2) Potential Enforcement of Milk Labeling Standards (3) Three Bill Small Business Tax Fairness Package. The *Friend of Farm Bureau Award* has been presented to Congressman Tom Marino. On October 27, Congressman Marino held a Q & A meeting at the Franklin Township building.

**Ag Promotion - Jim Barbour** *Trivia Game Night* at the State Convention was great fun! \$1,900. was raised to benefit Pennsylvania Friends of Ag Foundation. Jim is networking with Evie Goff and the Dairy Princess Court to bring agriculture education to all kindergarten, first & second grade classes in our county schools. March 18-22 is *Ag Literacy Week*. If you are interested in volunteering, call Jim at 607-435-0830. On March 9th the *Pennsylvania Farm Bureau County Chair Conference* will be held for Ag Promotion, Women's Leadership and Y F & R.



SCFB Vice President Jim Barbour (center) receives the Premier County Award from PFB President Rick Ebert (right) and Vice President Chris Hoffman (left).

The November 12-14, 2018, 68th Annual **Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Annual Convention** was attended by Jim & Kim Barbour, Dave & Mania DeLeon, Thom & Tootie Helmacy, Rickie & Holly Klim, Emma Hinkley, and Donna Williams.

The Susquehanna County Farm Bureau took home six awards, including the **“Premier County Award”** which is the highest honor given to a county Farm Bureau among Pennsylvania's 54 county Farm Bureaus.

Other awards include:

- Overall Achievement Award for county farm bureaus with 401 or more farmer members in recognition of outstanding performance in the six program areas evaluated by Pennsylvania Farm Bureau.
- President's Award for Policy Development & Implementation
- President's Award for Media Relations & Member Communications
- President's Award for County Board Organization
- President's Award for Services

*“Our farmer volunteers, who organize legislative farm tours, attend our state legislative conference, host children and members of their community on educational farm tours and participate in a variety of other activities, do an amazing job through the leadership of our county Farm Bureaus,”* said PFB President Rick Ebert. *“Over the past year, the Susquehanna County Farm Bureau demonstrated the highest level of excellence in a wide variety of program areas to earn the Farm Bureau Premier County Award.”*



**The Susquehanna County Farm Bureau Annual Fall Meeting** took place on October 4, 2018. Mary Catherine Chidester, Dairy Princess, and Elizabeth Chidester, Dairy Ambassador, served cheese and crackers during the social time and presented the milk toast prior to the roast turkey dinner which was served by the Montrose Bible Conference. John Castrogiovanni was the winner of our Member Incentive drawing. David DeLeon presented the Nationwide Incentive award to Rick Leet Nationwide Agency. Pennsylvania Farm Bureau MSC Account Supervisor, Harold Moyer, shared a 2018 Tax Law update (see pages 3-4). Jim Barbour and Dave DeLeon presented new policy recommendations. Directors re-elected include Jim Barbour, Joe Plonski, Joe Decker, and Donna Williams. Chinese Auction proceeds came to \$465. Many THANKS to all the donors!



Our 2018-2019 Program of Work and Budget has been completed and submitted to PFB.



## Getting Action Alerts by Text Message is as easy as 1, 2, 3, 4!

1. Text "PFB" to 50457 2. You will receive a text message thanking you for signing up. Just click on the link highlighted in blue to complete the registration. 3. The link will send you to a registration page. Fill out the information and click SAVE. 4. Start receiving & responding to important Action Alerts from PFB, right from your smartphone!

### Local Discounts for Farm Bureau Members in Susquehanna County

#### Agriculture

**Andre & Son:** 5% off any in-stock store items that are not already on clearance or promotional pricing - Montrose

**Montrose Feed & Supply:** 5% off bedding and feed - Montrose

**New Milford Hardware:** Trade Discount. 0-10% Variable depending item - New Milford

**Stone's Hardware:** 10% off regular priced items - Great Bend

**Glezens Power Equipment:** 10% off parts - Hallstead

**Barhites Sales & Service:** 10% off rentals, 5% off all sale items in stock, shop repairs 5% off parts and 15% off labor-Clifford

**Timberline Lawn and RV:** 10% off in stock or ordered parts over \$100

#### Auto & Other Professional Services

**Auto Plus:** 10% off - Great Bend

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#### Health & Wellness

**Strauss Chiropractic/Northeast Nutrition:** Initial consult, complete exam and X-rays for \$25 (Normally \$175-\$250) - Kingsley

#### Household & Garden

**Gerald E. Shinn Construction:** 5% off any contracted work - Uniondale

**Liberty Carpet:** 10% off carpet and 5% off hardwood - Hallstead

**Rhonda's Country Heart Décor:** 10% off everything in the store - Montrose

**Summit Workwear:** 15% off boots and workwear - New Milford & South Gibson

**Susquehanna Home Center:** 5% off - Susquehanna

**J&J Springs:** 10% off all water delivery to homes



#### Food

**Ray's Supermarket in Montrose:** 5% off grocery order

**Blue Stone Pizzeria in Hallstead:** 10% off all menu items

**Maloney's Pub & Restaurant in Hallstead:** 10% off food on Sunday and Monday

**Montrose Produce:** 5% discount

**Summit Restaurant in New Milford:** 10% off any meal (not alcoholic beverages)

#### Miscellaneous

**EMB Design:** 5% discount on your embroidery or logo items

**JDE Salon:** 20% off all retail products

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## Member Publications



Stay current on ag issues and Farm Bureau news

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A \$3 portion of annual dues covers a one-year subscription to a PFB publication. Farmer ("Regular") members receive 11 issues of the Country Focus newspaper and non-farmer ("Associate") members receive 6 issues of the bi-monthly Positively Pennsylvania magazine. Applicants selecting "Farmer", "part-time farmer" or "agribusiness" on the Membership Application are classified as "regular" members. Should no box be checked and a farm name not be listed, member will be classified as "associate." Please contact your county Farm Bureau with questions regarding membership classification.

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United & Growing

## Susquehanna County Farm Bureau Directors

Donna Williams, President.....	942-6348	Joseph Plonski.....	756-2901
Jim Barbour, 1st V.President.....	607-435-0830	John Benscoter.....	833-4250
David DeLeon, 2nd V. President.....	853-3250	J William Brooks.....	289-4706
Micheline Klim, Secretary.....	289-4756	Joseph Decker.....	756-2657
Emma Hinkley, Women’s Leadership..	289-4943	Thomas Helmacy.....	833-2138
Non Director		Dennis Bunnell.....	934-2340
Barbara Roszel, Treasurer.....	278-2433	Dennis O’Reilly, Jr.....	278-2888

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Richard Kresock.....	414 Main St., Forest City, Pa.....	785-5454
R. Leet Agency.....	18 Como Rd., Box 111, Lakewood, Pa.....	798-2666
	693 Main St., P. O. Box 431, New Milford, Pa.....	465-3296
Manci Ins. Agency.....	35 E. Tioga St., Tunkhannock, Pa. 18657.....	836-3372

#### MSC BUSINESS SERVICES

Harold Moyer, Acct. Supervisor.....	254 Chilson Road, Wyalusing, Pa. 18833.....	744-1773
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#### SCFB The All Star County

Marianne Meyer 570-396-5255 [tmmeyer@nep.net](mailto:tmmeyer@nep.net)  
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