



# Friends of the Farm Show News



Volume 10 Issue 2

**May is time to celebrate  
National Beef and Egg Month**

**Harvesting More - Meet the  
Faces of the 2022 PA Farm  
Show**

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Foundation Programs**

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Friends of Farm Show News April/May 2022

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The Friends of the  
Pennsylvania Farm Show  
Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-  
profit that was developed to  
stimulate, facilitate, and  
support educational  
programs, incentives, and  
events relating to the annual  
Farm Show event.

## **Morgan Firestine promoted to Commercial & Competitive Events Manager**



**Morgan Firestine**

Morgan Firestine has been promoted to Commercial & Competitive Events Manager of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex & Expo Center. The merger of the Commercial and Competitive Events divisions will provide a higher level of customer service by providing better communication, collaboration and event success.

Morgan is a graduate of the

Pennsylvania State University where she received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agribusiness Management and from Delaware Valley College with a Masters of Business Administration.

Previously, she worked as the Executive Assistant to the Deputy Secretaries at the Department of Agriculture and for Penn State Extension as a multi-county Extension Educator.

Morgan is a farm girl at heart, growing up on a cattle, sheep and pumpkin farm in Berks County. Morgan resides in Berks County with her husband Kyle, son Hudson and two dogs Bennie and Jett. She enjoys helping out on her family's farm in her spare time.

Morgan is looking forward to working closely with Friends of the Farm Show Foundation as well as all of the commodity groups in her new role.

We are looking for articles and pictures to publish in the Friends of the Farm Show News.

June/July - Due by May 15  
August/Sept. - Due by July 15  
Oct./Nov. - Due by September 15  
Dec./Jan - Due by November 15

Newsletter Editor: Lizzie Bailey  
**Questions?** Please call (717)254-9550.  
**Email articles:** fofsnewsletter@gmail.com

**June-July  
Newsletter  
Deadline  
is  
May 15, 2022**

**Cover Photograph:** 2022 PA Farm Show Junior Beef Breeding Show

**Reserve Champion Maine-Anjou exhibited by Zoey Baker of Huntington County at the 106th PA Farm Show.**

**Photo Credit:** PA Farm Show, PA Department of Agriculture.

### **Foundation Contact Information**

**Email:** farmshowfriends@gmail.com. **Website:** www.friendsoffarmshow.com  
**Like us on Facebook:** FriendsOfPAFarmShow



## May is National Beef and Egg Month!

The month of May marks the celebration of two important agricultural industries in Pennsylvania; Beef and Eggs.

The Pennsylvania Farm Show was home to 356 head of cattle throughout the 8-day event. Representatives from many of the 13,176 beef cattle operations across the Commonwealth exhibited at the show. The Farm Show hosts competitive breeding and market classes.

Did you know that Pennsylvania is the top cattle producing state in the Northeast United States? 57% of PA beef producers own their cattle from birth to slaughter and the industry creates 14,000 jobs in the state.

Join the Pennsylvania Beef Council on May 10 as they hold a blood drive at the PA Farm Show Complex and Expo Center Cameron Street Lobby.

So, you ask – Where's the Beef? It's right here in Pennsylvania's backyard. And if YOUR backyard isn't big enough to raise a heifer for show at the Farm Show, try out the egg-stra special Angel Food Cake contest!



**2022 Pa Farm Show Angel Food Cake Entries.**

Grab a handful of Pennsylvania's 804.9 million eggs that are produced annually to start perfecting your recipe now. The contest is open to any individual amateur baker who is a Pennsylvania resident and is the certified winner in the Incredible Angel Food Cake contest at an approved PA agricultural fair during the 2022 fair season.

Pennsylvania is ranked 4th in the nation in egg production with each hen producing approximately 300 eggs per year.

Listen up all you rotten eggs, let us unscramble your bird brains; this is a contest you don't want to whisk! All yolks aside, get crackin' on that recipe.

## Angel Food Cake Contest

### INCREDIBLE ANGEL FOOD CAKE CONTEST

Sponsored by PA Egg Farmers and The Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs

This contest is open to any individual amateur baker who is a Pennsylvania resident and is the certified winner in the Incredible Angel Food Cake contest at an approved PA agricultural fair during the 2021 fair season. Each individual is permitted one entry which only that individual prepared. Entrants will be required to bring

**1)** the signed Certification Entry Form from the fair as proof of eligibility **2)** the recipes for the cake and any icing listing the ingredients, quantities and preparation instructions on an 8-1/2"x11" sheet of paper with exhibitor's name, address, and phone number on the back side; and **3)** the entire cake on cardboard or other food safe disposable setting. All pans, plates, and dishes are considered disposable and will not be returned. Pennsylvania produced and packed eggs are requested to be used, if possible. Look for the PEQAP, PA Preferred® logo, or PA packaging dates on the carton.

**All ingredients** and decorations must be edible. Refrigeration is not available at the PA Farm Show. Recipes must indicate if baked entry requires refrigeration after baking.

**All recipes** and cakes will become the property of the Farm Show and will not be returned. Entries accepted in the Farm Show's Family Living Area from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Sunday, January 9, 2022.

**Judging** will take place Sunday, January 9, 2022, at 12:00 noon on the Family Living Contest Stage in the Main Hall of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex & Expo Center. Judging will be based on the following: Flavor (smell, taste, flavoring); Inside Characteristics (texture and lightness); Overall Appearance (surface, size, color); Creativity; Topping, Icing, or Decoration.

**Premiums** will be paid directly to the winners by the PA Egg Farmers.

**Premiums:** 1st - \$500, 2nd - \$300, 3rd - \$200, 4th - Ribbon, 5th - Ribbon

**Contact** Kevin Bieber (484-256-8009) for contest questions.

**<https://www.farmshow.pa.gov/pafarmshow/exhibit/rules-regulations>**



*Join us this fall for*

# ALL-AMERICAN DAIRY SHOW WALK OF FAME

ALL-AMERICAN DAIRY SHOW,  
PREMIER NATIONAL JUNIOR SHOW &  
ALL-AMERICAN EVENTS  
SEPTEMBER 17-21, 2022

PA FARM SHOW COMPLEX, HARRISBURG, PA

[ALLAMERICANDAIRYSHOW.COM](http://ALLAMERICANDAIRYSHOW.COM)



**All American Dairy Show is proud to announce  
their 2022 slate of judges.**

The All-American Dairy Show features nearly 2,000 of the top dairy cattle shown by over 1,000 of the best exhibitors in the U.S. and Canada. With 23 dairy shows in five days, including four days dedicated to youth shows, contests and programs, the All-American Dairy Show is the premier stop on the tanbark trail!



**Michael Creek**  
PNJS Ayrshire &  
AADS Guernsey  
Judge



**Michael Duckett**  
PNJS Jersey & AADS  
Red & White  
Judge



**Matt Hawbaker**  
PNJS Red & White &  
AADS Ayrshire  
Judge



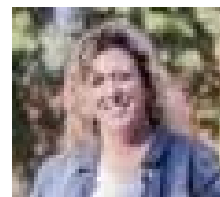
**Chris Lahmers**  
PNJS Brown Swiss  
& AADS Holstein  
Judge



**Tyler Reynolds**  
PNJS Holstein &  
AADS Jersey  
Judge



**Rob Kite**  
PNJS Guernsey  
& AADS Milking  
Shorthorn Judge



**Jenny Thomas**  
AADS Holstein  
Associate  
Judge



**Josh Sanders**  
PNJS Milking  
Shorthorn  
Judge





## KEYSTONE INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK EXPOSITION

PENNSYLVANIA FARM SHOW COMPLEX & EXPO CENTER  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA



### Keystone International Livestock Expo

Keystone International Livestock Expo will be held **September 30–October 9, 2022**. It is one of the nation's premier livestock shows featuring more than 800 national competitors showing 3,000 cattle, goats, sheep, swine and horses. The show also holds a national judging competition, a Kansas City Barbecue Society sanctioned competition and more. Be sure to visit the trade show to stock up on all your livestock show needs.

### Opening Ceremony

Opening Ceremonies will be held on **October 6 at 3:00 pm** where the Pennsylvania Livestock Association and Keystone International Livestock Expo will present awards to the Livestock Hall of Fame winner and all of the youth scholarship awards.

The 6 horse hitch show is a huge hit and will be held on **Friday, October 7 and Saturday, October 8**.

### Agri-Kid Olympics

Back by popular demand by the kids- Agri-Kid Olympics held on **Saturday, October 8 at noon** in the trade show.

### Supreme Champion Beef Pageant

The Supreme Champion Beef Pageant will be **Saturday evening, October 8**.

### New this year

The breeding swine and barrow on-foot swine shows will be held the first weekend- **September 29 to October 2** along with the market goat, boer goat and ranch riding shows.

### Keystone Classic BBQ

The Keystone Classic BBQ event will also house a Steak Cook-off event on **Friday, October 7** sanctioned by the Steak Cook-off Association.

### Sheep and Lamb Youth Showmanship

The Junior Breeding Sheep Youth Showmanship and Market Lambs Youth Showmanship will be held **Saturday, October 8**.

### Draft Horses

The Draft Horse, Haflinger, Draft Pony Show will be held in the Equine Arena on **Saturday, October 8**.

Visit website at: <https://www.keystonelivestockexpo.com>



## Pennsylvania 4-H Members Excel in National 4-H Shooting Sports Quiz Bowl

Fifteen Pennsylvania youth participated in the virtual National 4-H Shooting Sports Quiz Bowl the week of January 17-21.

The competition focused on the mechanics and safety of firearms, as well as specific trivia related to each of the disciplines taught in the 4-H Shooting Sports program. Members competed as individuals and in teams of up to four to represent Pennsylvania.

Elizabeth Bruner, a senior member from Indiana County, placed second nationally and first in the Northeast region.

Sadie Palfrey, a senior member from Indiana County, placed fourth in the Northeast region.

Cooper Steele, a junior member from Indiana County, placed fifth in the Northeast region.

The Indiana County PA Shooting Sports Seniors team — Elizabeth Bruner, John Bruner, Logan Barnhart and Sadie Palfrey — placed second nationally and first in the Northeast region.

The Indiana County PA Shooting Sports Juniors team — Cooper Steele, Emmy McLaughlin, Kamrey Steele and Maggie Palfrey — placed third nationally and first in the Northeast region.

Other members who participated include Thomas Gibson III of Susquehanna County, Patricia Shively of Union County, Kaden Pisarcik of Indiana County, Ben Marble of Susquehanna County, Katelyn Supanick of Susquehanna County, Sydney Seman of Susquehanna County and Travis Skovira of Westmoreland County.

### Volunteers

4-H needs positive, caring, dedicated volunteers. We need you. Volunteers help young people feel free to be themselves and accept challenges that promote growth. They offer windows into professional possibilities many young people would never experience outside 4-H. Careers are launched and lives are transformed through 4-H, thanks to people like you.



<https://extension.psu.edu/programs/4-h>

### Clover Bud Program

4-H Cloverbuds is our program for 5- to 7-year-olds. Like the 4-H program for older youth, the Cloverbud program can help youngsters grow into competent, caring, and contributing members of their families and communities. The program offers noncompetitive, age-appropriate activities designed to help children learn about life.

### 4-H Members

4-H members join local clubs where they complete projects in particular areas of interest. A project helps members build skills, expand their knowledge, and learn about careers. Screened adult volunteers provide club leadership and facilitation of educational programs. Any child between 5 and 18 years old can become a Pennsylvania 4-H member.

# Center For Dairy Excellence Foundation

## Discover Dairy Programs Bring Dairy Farming to Life for Students of All Ages

With the educational landscape changing day by day, teachers and parents have been searching for creative, technology-driven programming that can meet them where they are at. Over the last two years, the Discover Dairy and Adopt a Cow programs have risen to the challenge to meet these needs and helped expose more than 800,000 students – from Pennsylvania and across the globe – to the world of dairy farming. From comprehensive lessons that can be incorporated in both in-classroom and at-home settings to the immersive Adopt a Cow experience, the programs help future consumers develop a clearer understanding of where their food comes. Learn more about how these programs are impacting the next generation of dairy.



### Expanding reach through hybrid learning experiences.

As classrooms continue to adapt to ever-changing learning environments, the Discover Dairy program provides elementary and middle school teachers with meaningful ways to bring agriculture into the classroom –whether students are in-person, virtual, or in a home school setting. Even as schools return to in-person instruction, Discover Dairy continues to offer a mix of both hands-on and virtual experiences, including farm tour field trips and virtual live chats. More than 10,500 classrooms are enrolled in the Discover Dairy program, impacting 347,000 students.

“I like the farm tour field trips because they are hands-on, and I think kids need to learn about agriculture and where their milk comes from. The whole hands-on experience is really beneficial to them,” said Chrissy

Blycheck, a first-grade teacher in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania who received a grant for a farm tour field trip.

### Reinforcing the importance of dairy in school nutrition.

The Adopt a Cow program not only impacts elementary and middle school classrooms, but a variety of other groups find the program to be beneficial as well, including school cafeterias. When Apache Smothers, an elementary school lunch-room manager in Rainbow City, Alabama, heard about the program, she knew it would be an exciting way to educate students and families on school nutrition. Her goal with the Adopt a Cow program is to teach her students where their milk comes from and how it benefits their bodies and minds.

“Our kids drink about 6,400 ounces of milk a day. To me, that’s pretty impressive,” she shared. “For a child to know where it comes from, that makes them appreciate it and teaches them the importance of drinking milk. I’ve had a lot of support at my school to make this all happen, and we plan on doing many more activities with Adopt a Cow.”

### How to Sign Up for Adopt a Cow

Registration for the Adopt a Cow program will open on May 1, 2022. If you would like to submit your contact information and get notified when sign-ups are open, visit [www.discoverdairy.com/adopt](http://www.discoverdairy.com/adopt).



Discover Dairy is an educational series managed by the Center for Dairy Excellence Foundation of Pennsylvania in partnership with support from farmer-funded dairy checkoff organizations across the country. To learn more about the Dairy Excellence Foundation and how you can support programs like Discover Dairy and Adopt a Cow, visit [www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/what-is-the-foundation](http://www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/what-is-the-foundation).





# Harvesting More - Meet the Faces of the 2022 PA Farm Show

By: Pennsylvania Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding



Returning to the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex to celebrate the opening of the 106th Pennsylvania Farm Show was a humbling and gratifying experience.

Standing on the Maclay Street steps for the official ribbon cutting, it was a moment to reflect, remembering how we arrived at this point and the people who got us here. It was also a moment of hope. Being surrounded by youth commodity representatives in front of a building that has stood the tests of time, it was a reminder of our resiliency and the bright future that is ahead. This year's Farm Show theme was Harvesting More.

In agriculture, it is only natural to harvest after you cultivate. Following the 2021 Virtual Farm Show theme of Cultivating Tomorrow, we wanted to showcase how the industry is Harvesting More in 2022. Pennsylvania agriculture continues Harvesting More to create a more bountiful, food-secure, and sustainable world – harvesting more innovation, more conservation, more economic growth, more diversity, more education, more food and more connections.

Over the eight days of the Pennsylvania Farm Show, it was a privilege to meet the individuals who embody what it means to be Harvesting More. The faces of Pennsylvania agriculture are rural and urban. They are dairy and livestock producers, urban gardeners, food processors, charitable food system partners, youth showman and so many more.

Each story is unique, but there is commonality in our mission. Together, we are feeding the commonwealth and the world. We are Harvesting More, together. These stories, captured by our talented Farm Show communications interns, embody the best of the Pennsylvania Farm Show and Pennsylvania agriculture. We are honored to share them with you. Meet the faces who are Harvesting More. I hope they inspire you as much they have inspired me.



**Cassel Family of Dauphin County received the 2022 Farm Show Century Farm designation.**

## Harvesting Community – The Cassel Family

By: Lydia Sigman, George Mason University

The Cassel Family of Dauphin County were honored at the 2022 Farm Show for their Century Farm, which has stayed in the family since the land was purchased in 1903. The current stewards of the land, Cleon and Dorothy Cassel, take care of around 25 horses while helping the next generation of Cassels operate a vineyard.

"From pigs, to cattle, to a vineyard and horses," Cleon Cassel has worked the farm through many changes. "I was a wrestling coach and teacher for a number of years," Cleon noted, "but always the farm was my roots, and it was my community and the greatest people I know have been in agriculture."

Growing up attending the Farm Show, Cleon has decades of experience showcasing his role in Pennsylvania agriculture.

"When I was about eight or nine years-old I used to sleep here every night when we had the dairy cattle," Cleon recalled about those years of experience. "We switched over to horses," he continued, "because you don't have to milk them twice a day and now the boys have added the vineyard."

Each of Cleon's unique agricultural ventures have been marked by the amazing farming community the Cassels belong to in Pennsylvania.

Reflecting on his family's century old farm, Cleon says, "It's the bond that kept the family together. We've all been involved in it. It's more than just an occupation, it's a life." For Cleon Cassel, "agriculture is a refreshing breath of air," a sentiment which continues to be passed down through the Cassel family for generations.



**Miriam Miller**

## Harvesting Opportunity – Miriam Miller

By: Dana Nunemacher, Penn State University

Miriam Miller is no stranger to the PA Farm Show. How could she be when she was practically born right into it? With her birthday falling on January 9, Miriam has spent almost every birthday at the PA Farm Show, including the 2022 show!

Miller grew up on her family's dairy farm in Blair County, where she became an active member of 4-H and the Pennsylvania Junior Holstein Association. Her passion for dairy led Miller to pursue a bachelor's degree in dairy science from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and her master's degree in nutritional physiology from Cornell University.

When the idea of bringing the Calving Corner came about, Miller jumped on board as the Project Manager in December 2016, providing time for the planning needed to coordinate the Calving Corner for the 2018 PA Farm Show. Now, nearly five years later, the Calving Corner is a Farm Show fan favorite.

Each year, Miller works with PA dairy farmers to select cows to feature in the Calving Corner. She manages Calving Corner outreach, organizes educational programming and coordinates a team of interns, all to ensure the Calving Corner runs smoothly for the "moms to be" and PA Farm Show visitors.

At Farm Show, you are most likely to find Miller with a smile on her face, connecting with consumers through the gift of life and its connections to agriculture.

Miriam's favorite part of the Farm Show is, "Giving people the opportunity to see live dairy production right in front of their eyes. It's opportunity for consumers to learn and connect to dairy and Pennsylvania agriculture."





**Lewis and Jackson Hilbert**

#### **Harvesting Traditions – Lewis Hilbert**

**By: Luke Waldner, Susquehanna University**

If 2022 is your first time visiting the PA Farm Show you might get lost roaming the various halls, arenas and other areas in the complex.

However, if your name is Lewis Hilbert, you have been walking these halls your entire life. Lewis is 51 years old and has made the journey to the PA Farm Show every year of his life.

“My parents brought me up when I was in a stroller, years ago, and I’ve been here 51 straight years,” said Hilbert.

Fifty-one straight years is an incredible feat, but to Hilbert, it is a “labor of love.” Lewis said even when he was working in Virginia, he still found time to come up for a weekend at the PA Farm Show.

A lot of people refer to the PA Farm Show as the “Super Bowl.” Hilbert wholeheartedly agreed, calling it “the real deal.”

When asked what his favorite part about the PA Farm Show is, Lewis’ son Jackson said, “it is simply all about the process of coming up every year, bringing animals and helping others out along the way.”

If you attend the PA Farm Show this week and are looking for two people dedicated to their craft, look no further than Lewis and Jackson Hilbert.



**Maple Syrup Council**

#### **Harvesting Consumer Connections – PA Maple Syrup Producers Council** **By: Dylan Bowman, Central Penn College**

Best known for their pure maple syrup, maple sugar candy, maple flavored frozen yogurt and their most popular product, maple sugar-spun cotton candy, The Pennsylvania Maple Syrup Producers Council brings a healthy and delicious twist to 2022 PA Farm Show visitors.

“Maple is a unique flavor,” said Gary Bilek of Erie County. “Most people have grown up with imitation sugar; I’m a maple producer and never had real maple syrup until we started producing it. But once people get an opportunity to taste what that flavor is and what that quality is compared to the imitation, they appreciate it.”

The PA Maple Syrup Producers Council is the mother organization to six regional maple producers in PA, one of which is the business seen at the PA Farm Show. This popular stop for Farm Show visitors started as a family operation in the early 1970s by Ed Curtis of Wayne County, Bob McConnel of Potter County and Bob Hess of Susquehanna County, to sell their product and teach communities about the process and importance of maple production.

Its popularity has kept it alive and well for nearly 50 years.

“After Penn State competitions, exhibitors would set up and sell their product,” said Jim Tice of Tioga County. “We sent our leftovers to the Farm Show.”

Bilek continued concerning why agriculture matters.

“We’ve seen society change in the past several years,” said Bilek. “You used to be able to just go to the store and buy products, now people want to know what’s in it. We have an opportunity to come here and preach a little bit about our agriculture. You know where it came from; almost everyone here this week made this syrup. You’re supporting people in your community.”

#### **Harvesting the Future – Emma Copenhaver**

**By: Amy Wampler, Penn State University**



**Emma Copenhaver**

The New Holland Arena turned into a sea of blue Monday, January 10 as 432 FFA members put on their new FFA jackets for the first time at the PA FFA Mid-Winter Convention.

Emma Copenhaver, Little Dutchmen FFA member from Lebanon County, was one of those students. The jacket is more than just an article of clothing to members. Wearing the blue corduroy jacket instills a sense of pride and responsibility to young agriculture leaders across the country.

FFA is a national student organization that prepares the next generation of agricultural leaders. To receive her jacket, Copenhaver was required to fill out an application and write several essays to show her commitment and interest in the agriculture industry.

“My love for dairy farming and agriculture all started because I grew up on a dairy farm,” said Copenhaver. “I love educating consumers about agriculture, and I am excited to use this new leadership opportunity and gain life skills through FFA.”

Young people are the future of the agriculture industry. Copenhaver is sure to leave her mark both in and out of her blue jacket.



**Cathy Vorisek**

**Harvesting Connections – Cathy Vorisek**  
**By: Kayla Young, Millersville University**

“This is a fantastic place to interact with the public and make a connection!”

Cathy “Bee Lady” Vorisek is extremely excited to be back for the 2022 PA Farm Show. Vorisek takes great pride serving in the State Bee Keeping Association and sharing bee wisdom with the community. Vorisek has participated in the Farm Show for roughly 18 years and has implemented new ways to share bee facts and information with Farm Show visitors.

Vorisek is a substitute teacher from Northwestern PA whose history with bees began when her two daughters began beekeeping in the 1990s. Since then, Vorisek has been beekeeping and spreading the buzz about bees nationwide. She has even participated in the Eastern Apicultural Society, an international organization that promotes beekeeping knowledge, research and membership.

Vorisek has a passion for connecting with the community and providing exciting ways to learn about bees through crafts, baking and more!



**Dan Dailey**

**Harvesting Friendships – Dan Dailey**  
**By: Allyson Ritchey, Shippensburg University**

With 51 years of shearing under his belt, it is no surprise that Shearer Dan Dailey of Franklin County won First Place with his Sheep to Shawl team, Friends Thru Fibers, at the 42nd Annual Sheep to Shawl Competition at the PA Farm Show.

Dan began his legacy as a teenager, shearing a few thousand sheep every year, initially to pay his way through his time at Penn State University. In fact, the reason his team is named “Friends Thru Fibers” is because of Dan’s shearing skills! His teammates met, became friends and formed a team because Dan sheared their sheep. Now, they just competed in their 13th Sheep to Shawl Competition.

Dan has been coming to the Farm Show longer than he has been competing. He has grown to love the PA Farm Show and the Sheep to Shawl contest. Through Sheep to Shawl, Dan has gained lifelong friends, unforgettable experiences and even a fan club.

Dan Dailey’s advice to young people is, “Don’t quit learning.” The PA Farm Show is a great opportunity for everyone to learn something new every day.



**Nathan Tallman**

**Harvesting Commodities – Nathan Tallman**  
**By: Kasey Ferrick, Saint Joseph’s University**

“It’s the one week all year when potatoes are kind of a celebrity,” said Nathan Tallman of the Pennsylvania Co-Operative Potato Growers.

Nathan Tallman of Kempton, Berks County prepares all year long to showcase the impact of potatoes on Pennsylvania agriculture. Tallman represents potato growers and chip manufacturers by coordinating the Pennsylvania Co-Operative Potato Growers booth.

“We sell fresh table stock potatoes for growers that pack here in Pennsylvania. We also have a potato sorting station where Ag Explorers can learn about the seven different varieties of potatoes,” said Nathan.

Nathan has been attending the PA Farm Show with his booth since 2019. He decided it was important to educate his fellow Pennsylvanians because potatoes are a large economic driver for the commonwealth.

“We’ve been setting up since December 20,” said Nathan. “It takes a lot of planning. We plan throughout the entire year for Farm Show. Once this Farm Show ends, we’ll start planning for the 2023 show.”

Planning for the Farm Show is a commitment, but Nathan believes that agriculture is “hard work, families and food.”

The Farm Show means a lot to the Pennsylvania Co-Operative Potato Growers because it is their biggest fundraiser of the year. It earns money for potato promotions and recognizes their growers’ time and dedication. His favorite part of being at the Farm Show is interfacing with his growers throughout the week, as they are the helping hands of the booth.



**Mike Roberto**

**Harvesting Entrepreneurship – Mike Roberto**  
**By: Kasey Ferrick, Saint Joseph’s University**

Mike Roberto of Harrisburg, Dauphin County has been making sauce his entire life. It all started with his grandmother, who is now 107 years old. She immigrated to the US from Italy and settled on Sixth Street in Harrisburg.

In the 70s, Mike’s grandfather decided to start a pizza business, Roberto’s Pizza. Roberto’s Pizza became hugely successful and was able to open nine locations.

We said to ourselves, well why don’t we just jar the sauce?” said Mike.

They’ve been in grocery stores, including Karns and GIANT, and continue to grow.

“We will always do Farm Show no matter how big we get,” said Mike. He wants to be able to share his recipes with as many people as possible, and says, “We want to bring a lot of those mom-and-pop places back and give them a platform.”

When asked about agriculture, Mike confidently exclaimed, “Agriculture is everything...it’s the foundation for our business. Without it we don’t have our tomatoes, cheeses, poultry and so much more.”

Mike’s business is PA Preferred®. Everything they use is grown or made in PA. Look for the yellow and blue PA Preferred checkmark logo to easily identify their products.





**Beth Lutz**

**Harvesting Passion – Beth Lutz**  
**By: Emma Monismith, Delaware Valley University**

For Beth Lutz, the PA Farm Show is a tradition. Lutz is the owner of Painting Spring Farm Alpacas in York. This is the first year Lutz has her own booth at the Farm Show, after helping with the state alpaca organization for many years.

Lutz has owned alpacas for more than 20 years. “I was interested in hand-spinning and decided to purchase alpacas,” stated Lutz.

Since then, Lutz has been able to expand her farm and create her own products. From creating yarns, to making hats and socks, Lutz crafts “a little bit of everything” with her fiber.

Lutz decided to get her own booth after attending the Farm Show almost every year. Having a booth took a lot of preparation for the show.

“I have been busy making things, dying yarn, just constant (work) pretty much since I knew was going to be here,” said Lutz.

“It just seems like such a tradition. I’ve been doing it for so long, and it’s just really cool to be a part of it,” said Lutz.

As a vendor this year, Lutz has gotten to show her talent to others. She especially enjoys having children watch her demonstrations.

In addition to owning a farm and making products, Lutz is a 4-H leader for the York County Alpaca Club. Lutz has a passion for sharing all she knows about PA agriculture and alpacas to the youth in her club.



**Rebecca Kugler**

**Harvesting Agriculture’s Story – Rebecca Kugler**  
**By: Jasmine Mathis, Lincoln University**

PA Lamb and Wool Queen Rebecca Kugler represents the PA lamb and wool industry. Rebecca lives on a generational crop farm where she started working with Corriedale sheep at just eight years old. After years of progression, she now runs a sheep breeding operation, DeTurk Farm Corriedales.

Kugler’s involvement at the PA Farm Show has allowed her to showcase her passion and educate the community about the growth of agriculture and the all the hard work that comes with it.

“This industry is so important for our future to live a quality life,” said Kugler.

Her advice to those wanting to get involved in the industry: “Get out and talk to people. The Farm Show is a great place to do that! Everyone has a different story that can enrich each and every one of our lives.”



**Kiersten Baker**

**Harvesting Responsibility – Kiersten Baker**  
**By: Abby Yoder, Bloomsburg University**

Exhibiting livestock at the PA Farm Show takes a lot of hard work and dedication. To Kiersten Baker and her family in Huntingdon County, agriculture is a way of life.

Baker explained, “We’ve been raising beef our entire lives.” Baker not only attends the PA Farm Show with her cattle, she also participates in ten to fifteen jackpot shows a year.

For Baker, the show life is a lot of time and involvement.

When asked how far in advance she begins to get ready for the PA Farm Show, she responded, “We prepare pretty much every day.”

She spends countless hours feeding, grooming and prepping her animals for upcoming shows. In addition to showing beef cattle, Baker also raises and exhibits pigs, goats and lambs at her county fair.

Baker’s favorite part about being at the PA Farm Show is displaying how hard work pays off and the time spent with her animals.



**Christa Barfield**

**Harvesting Food Sovereignty – Christa Barfield**  
**By: Lydia Sigman, George Mason**

Boldly proclaiming, “Agriculture is the culture,” Christa Barfield is teaching Farm Show attendees about FarmerJawn’s work in the city of Philadelphia. As an urban farm located in the Germantown neighborhood of Philly, FarmerJawn brings a unique perspective to this year’s show that will educate visitors and cultivate more knowledge about the diverse agriculture industry.

With a mission to teach the community about the origin of food, the urban farming project plants, cultivates and harvests on site in Philly. Farmer Christa Barfield sees a “need for food to be visualized” in an accessible way for all Pennsylvanians, both rural and urban.

“Agriculture is about the origins of food,” said Barfield. “People knowing and understanding where their food comes from is super key, especially in marginalized communities that are primarily made up of black and brown people in metropolitans.”

FarmerJawn aims to provide access to equitable food and farming resources that are often lacking in urban neighborhoods. By bringing agriculture directly to city residents, Barfield hopes to cultivate “a way to make healthier snacks that pass through less hands” while educating the community on how their food is grown and harvested.

FarmerJawn is actively working to continue to improve equitable access to affordable, high quality produce with community involvement in the future. Redefining the corner store, Barfield describes a city grocer next to an urban farm, “taking land that is unoccupied in the city and creating places where food can be grown, but also giving the community better options of food that is ready to eat.”

As a “multi-site farm with their hands in farming across the city,” FarmerJawn is redefining agriculture.



**State Representative John Hershey  
82nd Legislative District**

State Representative John Hershey greeted guests as they filled the Walker Grange Hall Annex in Mifflintown for the annual Farmers' Breakfast held on March 18, 2022.

Representative Hershey serves as a member of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Appropriations, Government Oversight, Health, and Judiciary Committees. He provided an overview of agriculture issues the committee is working on.

Secretary Russell Redding greeted everyone and talked about the importance of agriculture as everything revolves around it. He acknowledged the challenges over the past two years in dealing with the pandemic. He also thanked those who work of those in agriculture and highlighted the farmers, and the FFA members in attendance and the work that they do in their communities.



David Swartz, retired as assistant director of programs-animal systems at Penn State University.

David Swartz recently retired from his role as assistant director of programs - animal systems at Penn State University. He led the Penn State Extension teams as they addressed the needs of the dairy, poultry, livestock and equine industries. Swartz highlighted Pennsylvania Agriculture products and production levels. He shared threats and concerns for farmers based on statistical analysis.



PA Grange President Wayne Campbell, Rep. John Hershey, Mr. Art Hershey, Secretary Russell Redding.



It's Breakfast! Walker Grange served pancakes, sausage, fruit and sweets.



Sec. Russell Redding, Rep. John Hershey and Junior Grange member Liam Bailey.

## **The Pennsylvania Farm Show Scholarship Foundation 1st Annual Sporting Clays Fundraiser**

**Thursday, May 5, 2022**

**\* Cinco de Mayo \***

Blue Ridge Sportsman Club  
1176 N. Fairville Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA. 17112

**8:00 am** Registration opens

**9:00 am** Safety Briefing

**9:30 am -- Shotgun Start**

Limited to 10 shooters!

Rain or Shine!

(Includes 100 clay targets,  
ammo, lunch & more)

**\* must provide your own  
safety glasses & hearing  
protection!**

**REGISTRATION**

**WEBSITE:**

**<http://delval.edu/farmshowscholarship>**

All proceeds from the event will go  
to the Pennsylvania Farm Show  
Scholarship Foundation to provide  
scholarships for our youth!



## Farm Show Historian Writing Book about War Years in the Complex

The year 2021 wasn't the only time that Pennsylvania didn't hold a regular Farm Show with exhibits, animals, entertainment and food.

Last year, the Covid pandemic interrupted the Farm Show that people know and love. World War II disrupted it from 1943-46 when the Farm Show Complex was used first as a school to train airplane mechanics, then as an Army Air Corps airplane engine repair facility where workers overhauled aircraft engines.

The 2023 Pennsylvania Farm Show marks 80 years since the traditional agricultural exhibition site was used for military, not agricultural, needs. Pennsylvania Farm Show Historian Mary Klaus is writing a book about these years.

"We have dozens of photographs from the 1940s depicting the Pennsylvania State School of Aeronautics in the Farm Show Complex," Klaus said. "I've been researching that time period and even interviewed a 'Rosie the Riveter' who has vivid memories of going to that school. It's a fascinating story."

Klaus and the Friends of The Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation, Inc. plan to release the book in time for the 2023 show. Klaus is the author of "Hold Your Horses! The Pennsylvania Farm Show at 100."

If anybody knows someone who attended the aeronautics school at the Farm Show Complex and or worked in the Army Air Corps airplane engine repair facility there, please e-mail Klaus at [teaparty456@comcast.net](mailto:teaparty456@comcast.net)



### State Representative Perry Stambaugh 86th Legislative District

Representative Perry Stambaugh hosted a Farmers' Breakfast on Friday, March 11, 2022 at the Mennonite Community Center in Perry County.

Everyone enjoyed a home-cooked breakfast and agricultural conversation while networking among the attendees.

Congressman Glenn "GT" Thompson shared that people who are storytellers make great leaders. He continued to say that we have two ears and 1 mouth, was to listen more and talk less. He shared it is important to listen what others are saying to you.

Thompson discussed issues such as dairy and the importance of whole milk returning to school lunch menus. He shared that we are making progress in that arena and hopes to see whole milk return to school lunchrooms.

Secretary Russell Redding shared that he came from a large family with eleven siblings. He shared that he remembered the pipeline milking system. He said that you couldn't wait to graduate to go to college when you were the one carrying the milk.

Secretary Redding highlighted that Pennsylvania is the only state adopted Farm Bill in the nation. The Farm Bill is important to a lot of people. He shared that Avian Flu is very serious and we are extremely concerned and we are highly susceptible here in our state. It is circulating and getting closer to Pennsylvania. Bio-security is imperative and we all need to do our part and be vigilant."

Marel King is the Director of Cheasepeake Water Commission. She shared that the Cheasepeake Bay is very shallow, six feet and light gets to the bottom to support live grasses growing. It is a productive estuary and the algae dies and sucks the oxygen out of the water. The bay has been on a nutrient diet to maintain a healthy balance. She shared that local pa streams are not meeting standards and they are in Phase 3 of their plan using a local approach of tiers and needs.

King highlighted legislative bills to help support the commission's initiatives and are using Federal infrastructure funds.



Rep. Greg Rothman, Rep. Perry Stambaugh, FFA State Officers: Ravyn Bashore-Sentinel; Nina Coolidge - Secretary; Trevor Maxwell - Reporter; Greg Gipe - Vice President; Jordan Anderson - Chaplain; Abigail O'Neil - President; Molly Cessna - Treasurer, Secretary Russell Redding, and Congressman Glenn "GT" Thompson.



THIS IS A  
SPOTTED LANTERNFLY



BUT THEY'LL LOOK  
MORE LIKE THIS  
WHEN YOU SEE THEM



THEY HATCH FROM  
EGG MASSES LIKE THIS,  
THEN LOOK LIKE THIS  
AS THEY MATURE



**SCRAPE THE EGGS. SQUASH THE BUGS.  
REPORT EVERYTHING.**

### Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

The Spotted Lanternfly lays egg masses and covers them in a brown, mud-like substance. They can be found on tree trunks or any outdoor, flat surface (such as lawn furniture, stone, brick or vehicles).

Before it gets warm enough for them to hatch, these egg masses need to be scraped and destroyed. Every egg mass scraped is 30-50 less bugs to hatch.

Use our easy checklist for what to look for & **check before you go**: <https://buff.ly/3whmEZf>

**Report it**: <https://buff.ly/2uCpcD3>





## Avian Influenza

Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) viruses have been detected in commercial poultry flocks, backyard poultry flocks, and in wild waterfowl. As of March 2022, HPAI has been detected in all four North American migration flyways. Wild bird surveillance programs are only able to test a very small subset of the total migratory bird populations. There is a high likelihood that wild birds migrating through Pennsylvania are carrying this virus, and are interacting with resident birds, as indicated by the HPAI positive bald eagle reported on March 24, 2022. These viruses have the potential to cause high mortality in domestic poultry species. All poultry owners, whether you have one bird or one million birds, should be on high alert.

Avian influenza has the potential to be a catastrophic disease in poultry, especially in turkeys and mature chickens. Sometimes the death is so sudden that there are not many (if any) signs of the disease in most of the animals. Mortalities close to 100 % of the flock may occur with HPAI infections. While a milder version of the disease (low pathogenic avian influenza or LPAI) is usually far more common in the United States, right now there is a heightened risk for HPAI along the eastern half of the US.

The avian influenza virus can be introduced in a flock by several mechanisms. Waterfowl and shorebirds are known, natural carriers of Avian Influenza. Despite this infection being a natural disease in waterfowl, they seldom show overt clinical signs. However, they often serve as direct or indirect transmitters of the virus to poultry. The virus is known to be carried over vast distances by wild waterfowl which may have

migratory routes in close proximity to poultry farms or small/backyard flocks. Waterfowl often stop to rest in lakes, streams, and ponds during migration. The virus is shed in large numbers in the feces of infected animals and even though it is not a

### **If you suspect HPAI in your flock, contact:**

#### **Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA)**

emergency number:

**717-772-2852**

(press option 1 to reach the veterinarian on call)

#### **United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)**

toll-free hotline at

**1-866-536-7593**

highly resistant organism, in the presence of organic matter (like mud or fecal material) it can survive for several months. For this reason, freshwater reservoirs could potentially serve to harbor the virus. It has been postulated that either surface water, people, insects, or wild animals can serve to bring the virus from water reservoirs to the poultry farm. As an efficient and easy to follow biosecurity step, never use your personal shoes/boots in the farm and rather keep dedicated farm footwear for all personnel. Once the virus has been introduced into a poultry farm, the transmission is different. The secretions and fecal material will be heavily contaminated with viruses which can be transported to another flock by people, vehicles, equipment, and other material that has not been properly disinfected.

### **Signs and Symptoms**

Clinical signs of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) may include:

- Sudden increase in mortality (may see mortality without any other clinical signs)
- Decreased feed and/or water consumption
- Decreased energy (lethargy, depression)
- Decreased egg production  
Soft-shelled, thin-shelled, or misshapen eggs
- Swelling or purple discoloration of the head, eyelids, or legs (shanks and/or feet)
- Difficulty breathing
- Coughing, sneezing, and/or nasal discharge
- Incoordination, stumbling
- Abnormal position and/or twisting of the head and neck
- Diarrhea

### **Penn State Extension's Response**

Penn State faculty members and extension educators are serving on a statewide avian flu task force chaired by Pennsylvania Agriculture Secretary. The group has developed action plans and procedures related to biosecurity; depopulation and disposal of infected flocks; issues relevant to small or backyard flocks; and other concerns.

### **Website:**

<https://extension.psu.edu/avian-influenza>

## Thank You 2022 PA Farm Show Sponsors!!!

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CUSTOM CABINET RENOVATION



96 • 106th Pennsylvania Farm Show

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Sinclair Communications, LLC DBA WHP CBS 21; Sundance Vacations

### Friends of Farm Show Sponsors

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PA Dairymen's Association; PA Lottery; Penn Hemp; Rohrer Seeds;  
Snyder's Concessions; Straight for You; Uncommon USA; Williams Companies



About Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation, Inc.  
The Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation, Inc. exists in order to stimulate, facilitate, and support educational programs, events, and incentives relating to the annual Pennsylvania Farm Show.

The Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation, Inc. was incorporated in 2010 in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a nonprofit organization. They are recognized as a tax-exempt, charitable organization under section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code. They have contributed over \$1.3 million to the Pennsylvania Farm Show!

For more information on Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation, Inc. visit the website at [www.friendsoffarmshow.com](http://www.friendsoffarmshow.com) or contact **Gerry Reichard at 717-729-7158 or [farmshowfriends@gmail.com](mailto:farmshowfriends@gmail.com)**.

Email Address: [farmshowfriends@gmail.com](mailto:farmshowfriends@gmail.com)

Website: [www.friendsoffarmshow.com](http://www.friendsoffarmshow.com)

Like us on Facebook: [FriendsofPAFarmShow](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofPAFarmShow)

Mailing Address:

Friends of Farm Show Foundation Show, Inc.

c/o Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex & Expo Center

2300 N Cameron St., Harrisburg, PA 17110

Consider Joining the Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation, Inc. [www.friendsoffarmshow.com](http://www.friendsoffarmshow.com)  
We encourage you to become a friend. Contributions are \$65.00 annually or \$500.00 to become a lifetime friend.





### **BECOME A FRIEND:**

An invitation is extended to any person, association, corporate/business or farm/family interested in assisting with our support of the Pennsylvania Farm Show. Contributions to become a friend are \$65 annually or \$500 lifetime. All friends will be included on the Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation, Inc. website and will receive a Friendship card and commemorative pin. As a friend, you are eligible to participate in the organization of educational programs, events, and incentives throughout the duration of the Farm Show. For more information you may visit the website at [www.friendsoffarmshow.com](http://www.friendsoffarmshow.com) or contact Gerald Reichard at 717-729-7158 or [farmshowfriends@gmail.com](mailto:farmshowfriends@gmail.com).

To become a friend, complete the form and send it along with a check made payable to the "Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation, Inc."

As a charitable, non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3), all donations are considered tax deductible charitable contributions.

### **Contribution**

☐ ☐ **Yearly Friend (\$65)**

☐ ☐ **Lifetime Friend Contributions (\$500)**

**Name:**

**Address:**

**City:**

**State:**

**Zip:**

**Phone:**

**Fax:**

**Email:**

☐ ☐ **I am interested in serving as a volunteer at the Farm Show Foundation Booth.**

☐ ☐ **Check Enclosed**

☐ ☐ **More information about the Foundation**



Please make your check payable to:  
Friends of the Farm Show Foundation, Inc.  
mail to  
c/o PA Farm Show Complex & Expo Center,  
2300 North Cameron Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17110



Photo Credit: Penn State Extension Master Gardeners Program

Have you resolved to start eating better? Growing your own food can be one of the best ways to achieve that goal. Your backyard can yield the freshest food, free from pesticides and tailored to your palate. Winter is a good time to plan a garden, so you are ready to plant as early as the spring thaw.

Begin with a garden journal. Answer the following questions:

Why you want to start a garden?  
 How much space do you have?  
 How much time do you have to commit to a garden?  
 How many months of the year would you like to garden? Conceivably you can garden from February and continue to harvest into December!  
 What vegetables do you like to eat?  
 How much food do you want to grow?  
 Once you've determined your goals, explore options for where the garden will be located. Note the sun exposure the site receives. Heat-loving or warm season crops like tomatoes and peppers need at least six hours of sun in mid-summer, but eight to ten hours is ideal. Cool season crops including greens, brassicas and some root crops can grow with four to six hours of sun; some will grow even better in light shade. Cool season crops grow best in the spring and fall.

Obtain a soil test. Soil tests measure the quantity of available nutrients and are used to determine the amount and type of fertilizer needed for the garden. The test will also measure the pH of the soil. Most vegetables grow best in a range of 6.8 to 7.2. This is important because if the pH is too low, plants cannot absorb nutrients from the soil. In addition, for a new site, testing for organic matter can be very useful, giving you a starting point for adding fertilizer and organic matter. If the pH of the soil is too low, lime should be added. The analysis will include the recommended amount. Soil tests can be obtained from your local extension office or at local nurseries and garden centers. Further information, including a form requesting soil test kits, can be found at Penn State Extension Soil Testing .

Know the history of the site. If it included an older building with the potential for lead paint, be sure to check for lead on your soil test. Lead testing is also done by Penn State's Agricultural Analytical Services Laboratory and is detailed via the link provided on soil testing above.

Sites which once held a building or heavy material, might have deeply compacted soil, requiring extra effort in site preparation. Be aware of any

underground obstructions. What is the existing vegetation at the site? After heavy rainfall, locate areas that remain damp for days. Check the soil structure for the presence of clay and shale. Will you need to protect the area from vegetable-loving mammals? How difficult will it be to provide supplemental water to the garden? All are correctable issues, but advance consideration of these obstacles is important.

As with most new projects, it is best to plan ahead and start small. As you gain experience, you can increase the size and variety of your garden. You may purchase seedlings to transplant into your garden from your local garden center or nursery. Most heat-loving vegetables such as tomatoes, peppers and okra are purchased this way, but they can also be started by seed, six to ten weeks ahead of planting outdoors.

There are many vegetables you can start by "direct sowing" into the garden, that is planting seeds straight from the packet into your prepared soil. Winter is the perfect time to order a seed catalog. Most provide helpful growing information and can be a season-long reference. Seed packets include planting and harvest dates on the back; they make their appearance in stores toward the end of winter. As you gain experience, you might want to try some more unusual vegetables or specific varieties which pique your interest.

Soil and air temperature are important in determining the best time to plant seeds or transplant seedlings into the garden. Books, websites and catalogs include charts detailing this information. Planting seeds before the soil reaches an appropriate temperature will delay or decrease germination. Tomatoes, peppers and okra prefer night-time temperatures 50°F or higher. Rushing planting before that time stresses these heat-loving vegetables.

Information on "days to maturity" is helpful in knowing when to harvest your crop and plan for successive plantings to keep the garden producing over a longer period of time.

If you're ready to embark on the adventure of growing your own food, Penn State Master Gardeners are ready and able to help you on that journey. Check your county Penn State Extension office for Master Gardener Garden Hotline hours and classes.



# PA Farm Show Highlights of Pennsylvania Agriculture...



**2022 Farm Show Supreme Champion Market Showmanship Contest**

McKenzie Stadtmiller of Dayton, Armstrong County, showing a market hog during the Supreme Showmanship Contest. Photo Credit: PA Department of Agriculture.

Make sure  
to check  
out all the  
contests  
categories  
that  
**YOU CAN  
ENTER!**

There is a contest category for everyone! Make sure to go check out the website!!!

<https://www.farmshow.pa.gov/pafarmshow/exhibit/rules-regulations/Pages/default.aspx>

Save The  
Date!!!

2023  
Pennsylvania  
Farm Show

January  
7 - 14, 2023



**2022 Farm Show Supreme Champion Ewe Junior Show**

## Upcoming Events at the Farm Show Complex

April 22 - 24	Mid Atlantic Alpaca Association Jubilee Show & Gala
April 23 - 24	Hershey's Open Nationals - Ameri Cheer Competition
April 28 - May 1	Interscholastic Equestrian Association National Finals
May 5 - 8	Intercollegiate Horse Show Association
May 7 - 8	KRVA Girls Volleyball
May 12	Harrisburg University of Science and Technology Graduation
May 20 - 21	Lancaster County Firemen's Association Annual FIRE EXPO
May 23 - June 10	PennDot Apportioned Renewal

Please visit the PA Farm Show website at: <https://www.farmshow.pa.gov/events/Pages/Calendar.aspx>



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& never be bored !**

Apply today at  [employment.pa.gov](https://employment.pa.gov)