

DATES TO REMEMBER - 2015

August 31

- Baking Contest checks (PA Preferred, Angel Food)
- FAIRTALK material for Sept issue due

September 1

- Showcase apps. For 2016 Convention mailed

September 24 (week of)

- 3rd Quarter FAIRTALK emailed

September 30

- Zone Junior Fair Person nominations due to Zones

October 14

- PSACF Board Meeting

October 15

- Showcase apps. Due
- 2016 Request for Fair info material, PSACF Associate Dues Invoices, PSACF/PSSA Convention material, Trade Show apps. mailed.
- IAFE Zone 1 Bus trip to Carolina State Fairs

October 21

- PSACF Zone 4 Mtg. - Shady Maple

October 22

- PSACF Zone 3 Mtg. - Huntingdon County Fair

October 23

- PSACF Zone 1 Mtg. - Scrubgrass Grange

October 24

- PSACF Zone 2 Mtg. - Schuylkill County Fair

November 1

- Fair Person Of the Year apps. Due
- Communications Competition apps due
- Queen Competition Applications due

November 15

- Reimbursement apps.—Fair Fund due
- Baking Contests Summaries due

November 20

- FAIRTALK material for December issue due

November 29—December 2

- IAFE Convention - Las Vegas

November 30

- FAIRTALK material for December issue due

2016

January 9—16

- PA Farm Show

January 20 - 23

- 104th Annual Convention

May 5—8

- IAFE Zone 1 Conference—Concord NH



FAIRTALK



"News From The PA State Association of County Fairs"
"THE VOICE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA FAIR INDUSTRY"

VOL. 29

June 2015

NO. 2

DR. RICK RIGSBY TO DELIVER OUR KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT THE 2016 CONVENTION

SUBMITTED BY : Kevin D. Bieber



Dr. Rick Rigsby, a well known motivational speaker will be at Hershey addressing us for the opening of the 2016 convention. Does that name sound familiar? Dr. Rigsby addressed us in 2006 and back by popular demand (and recommendations) he is back again to inspire us all. Dr. Rigsby has an incredible resume and has travelled all over the world presenting too many organizations and companies.

The seminar committee has been working very hard once again to bring a full slate of profes-

sional and educational seminars to you while in Hershey. We all certainly hope you will consider taking the time to come to the convention and partake of the many seminar opportunities that we have prepared to give you.

For the past two years on a Wednesday, we have run the Consumer Protection Class as well as either Judges School or Superintendent's School. This year we will explore something different. However, stay tuned as the committee continues to work on the details of a program.

The seminar committee promises that once again our convention will continue to be a fun filled, educational day as we welcome Michael Bradley, Executive Director of the Arizona National Livestock Show to Hershey. Michael came highly recommended by our friend Barney Cosner who spent the last two conventions with us as a speaker. Mike will be presenting on two topics to be named later. State Trooper Todd Murlina who is an expert in the rules and regulations of Small Games of Chance will also be presenting a seminar at convention. Some, if not most of our fairs conduct Small Games of Chance and now is the perfect time to get answers to those often thought about legal questions.

See Convention next page

PSACF OFFICERS - 2015-2016

President

David Reese, DVM
10 Dry Run Rd. - Left Branch
Pine City, NY 14871
(607) 733-3154

Exec. Secretary/Treasurer

Harry Reffner
128 Cumberland Road
Bedford, PA 15522
(866) 814-6985

Vice President

David Hallstrom
482 East 8th St
Clearfield, PA 16830
(814) 765-8366

Immediate Past President

John D. Blaney, Jr.
247 Curfew Rd.
Perryopolis, PA 15473
(724) 677-2228

PSACF DIRECTORS - 2015-2016

C. Sherman Allen
903 Diamond Square
Meadville, PA 16835
(814) 382-2922

Dale LeVan
380 Rte. 442
Muncy, PA 17756
(570) 546-5515

John Berne
PO Box 141
Crosby, PA 16724
(814) 887-5396

John McMullen
363 E. Phila. St. (Box 175)
Armagh, PA 15920
(814) 446-6692

Kevin D Bieber
PO Box 105 613 Main St.
Oley, PA 19547
(610) 987-6529

Jeanne Miller
299 Riley Dr.
Girard, PA 16417
(814) 774-5703

Luke E Bruckhart
1063 Shelly Rd
Manheim, PA 17545
(717) 665-5198

Tom Murray
PO Box 173
Chalk Hill, PA 15421
(724) 323-7129

James H Davis
6176 Shavers Creek Rd
Petersburg, PA 16669
(814) 669-4268

Dr. Sally K Nolt
25 Iris Circle
Elizabethtown, PA 17022
(717) 367-7256

Roger Dirlam
250 Sunrise Ave.
Honesdale, PA 18431
(570) 253-3540

Rodman Ralston
7015 Old Berwick Rd.
Bloomsburg, PA 17815
(570) 759-0406

Karen Dobson
9 Ebelhare Rd
Pottstown, PA 19465
(610) 469-0263

Jeff Romesberg
169 Romesberg Rd.
Rockwood, PA 15557
(814) 926-2313

Martha Ebersole
640 Dellville Rd.
Duncannon, PA 17020
(717) 834-4435

Debbie Stephenson
667 Washington Rd.
Prosperity, PA 15329
(724) 627-4752

Susan Hahn
1424 Church Rd.
Pen Argyl, PA 18072
(610) 863-6816

George Witherite
150 Mountain View Ln.
Spring Mills, PA 16875
(814) 387-4916

Judy Kmetz
353 Smith Pond Rd.
Shavertown, PA 18708
(570) 675-2952

Samuel J. Zaffuto
355 N. Park St.
Sykesville, PA 15865
(814) 894-5723

Craig Lash
246 Dairy Ln
West Newton, PA 15089
(724) 872-8967

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Milliron & Goodman LLC
Andrew Goodman
200 N. 3rd Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101
(717) 232-5322

Galla Higinbotham
5075 Wrenwood Ln
Alexandria, PA 16611
(814) 669-4443

Zach Gihorski
Fair Coordinator
2301 N. Cameron St.
PDA Department of Market
Development
Harrisburg, PA 17110
(717) 649-9482

FAIRTALK published four
times per year by the
Association. Send
information for the
publication to:
Harry Reffner
128 Cumberland Rd,
Bedford, PA 15522

From Convention — previous page

For those of you waiting to hear the latest on the Special Baking Contest, Karen and Kevin will be there to give you all the information you will need to prepare for the 2016 fair season.

As in the past, we are also looking to bring back the typical Food Safety Seminar as well as Trucking Seminar as we all know these industries continue to change and new regulations are born each year.

Each year this committee works hard to make sure that our seminars bring you the education you need and the new ideas that will continue to help your fair grow. There are a few other seminars that we are currently working on to bring to Hershey. Stay tuned for the next Fairtalk to bring you that full schedule.

As always, we look forward to seeing you in Hershey !!!!!

Convention Rooms for 2016

SUBMITTED BY : Dr. Sally Nolt

Hershey Lodge is now accepting room reservations for our 2016 Convention. The room rate is \$107 single and \$110 double (plus 11% tax).

Rooms are available by 4:00 pm and check-out is 11:00 am.

Cancellations must be made three (3) days prior to your arrival date, or your credit card will be charged for a one night's stay.

Reservations made after the January 5, 2016 deadline will be made on a space and rate availability basis.

Reservations can be made at 1-800-HERSHEY (437-7439). To receive the convention rate, tell reservations you are with the "PA Fairs and Showmen Convention."

Queen Contestants are to use the code
FAIRQUEEN2016.

Rooms in the Showmen's Hall must be booked at one of the following numbers:

Michele Maxwell – (717) 534-8696

Ashlee McCann – (717) 520-5433

Michelle Lutzkanin – (717) 534-8636



FROM THE PRESIDENT

By the time this newsletter reaches you, the fair season will be upon us.

The state association wishes all fairs good weather and a successful and profitable fair. I plan to attend as many as possible, especially many of those I have not had the opportunity to visit in the past.

We have just finished the pre-convention planning meeting. I believe we will have another exciting and information filled convention planned. As usual, Kevin Bieber is hard at work scheduling some very fine speakers and seminars. The Queen Committee is planning for another great Queen Coronation Program. The Spouses Committee is completing plans for the spouse program. Dick Horstman is sure to have another full Trade Show. It should be a great

convention. Plan on sending as many representatives from your fair as possible.

The association along with Milliron Associates has been following the progress on the state budget. The budget has \$3 million for fairs as proposed. Rep. David Millard as offered an amendment to raise it to \$4 million. Please continue to encourage your legislators to support the fair program.

All fairs have many individuals who should be honored for their long time efforts. Now is the time to make your nominations for the Fair Ambassador Award. Zach Gihorski is trying to schedule his visits at the most appropriate times to present the awards. Also remember to nominate those deserving Zone Person of the Year, Junior Zone Person of the Year and State Fair Person of the Year awards.

As I usually say, see you at the fair!

Doc

FAMILY FUED IS BACK AT CONVENTION SIGN UP NOW !!!!

BY: KEVIN D. BIEBER

What would the PSACF and PSSA convention be without a little fun amongst our fair families? Well, to satisfy that "fun" part, we are bringing back Family Fued on Saturday afternoon. Last year presented lots of laughing, stiff competition and yes, silly answers. However it was all in fun. The Huntingdon County Fair took the championship last year, who is going to try to be the champion this year?

I was amazed at how many fairs wanted to participate again last year, so this year I am once again asking for you to sign up ahead of time. Unfortunately due to time on Saturday afternoon, we have to limit the game to 4 teams of 5 people. If more than 4 teams sign up, we will hold a drawing to see which 4 fairs will be on stage this year.

Sign your fair up now, the deadline is December 1st. How do you sign up? It is easy, please e-mail me at kevin.bieber@nationalpenn.com or call my cell at 484-256-8009 and I will put you on the list. Make sure you have 5 willing players from your fair who will participate. If I have more than 4 fairs that would like to participate, the PSACF Board will hold a drawing to see who will be on the Fued !!!!! If your fair has already participated, please allow a new fair to have a turn at all the fun.

SURVEY SAYS See you at Hershey !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



ASSOCIATE MEMBERS REPORT

-Galla
Higinbotham

This is always such an exciting time of year with everyone getting ready for the fair season here in Pennsylvania. Associates who have been in the south for the colder months look forward to their annual trek north.

At April's annual board meeting at Centre County Grange Fair, January's 2015 convention was reviewed and new business was discussed for the upcoming fair season. New Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Fair Fund Administrator Zachary k. Gihorski was introduced.

Just this past week, I attended the pre-planning meeting in Hershey (for the 2016 convention). All those intending to go are encouraged to book their rooms early and you may do so at this time.

I would like to welcome all the new associate members of the PSACF. If you have any questions, please contact me, your associate rep and I will be happy to help in any way I can.

For the associates who will be submitting an application to showcase at the annual convention in

Hershey in January, if you haven't already done so, do get video clips of your performances at your upcoming venues. **A DVD of you performing live is required as part of your packet, not just an audio CD or a produced "music video".** The entertainment decision-makers want to see what your actual live performance would be like at their venue. Due to the many acts to review, your submitted DVD should be short – 3 to 5 minutes of your best material (not complete songs/routines but segments). **Please do not use paper labels; each year several of the DVDs do not play.** Make sure your DVD demo plays in something other than your computer.

The next showcase will take place on Wednesday evening (January 20, 2016) and is a highlight of the convention, featuring a diverse and top notch array of entertainment: magicians, jugglers, bands and musical acts, tribute bands and more. Each eligible act (you are eligible to apply if you have not showcased in the last 3 years) will receive an application in the mail later this year. Additionally, strolling acts/street musicians/grounds entertainers are encouraged to apply for entertainment spots prior to the banquets on Thursday and Friday evenings in the Chocolate Ballroom lobby.

I wish all associates and fairs a great season.

See you on the road!

Galla www.gallaanddan.com

I want to share a note that I received in the office. It gives credit to our youth, the Queen and Scholarship programs. — Harry

My name is Sarah Jefferis I'm the 2014-2015 Huntingdon County Fair Queen. For my community service project, I organized a 5K run/walk entitled "It's an AG-venture!". My Fair Queen Committee and I were able to have 10 sponsors and 35 runners and walkers. We raised \$1,000 for the John Mignot Scholarship fund and the check is enclosed. I would like to thank the association for making this scholarship available every year!

Sincerely Sarah Jefferis



Pennsylvania
Farm Show
Jan. 9-16, 2016

PA Farm Show Complex
and Expo Center
Harrisburg, PA

THE
Fair
PUBLISHING HOUSE



Phone: 800-824-3247 • Fax: 800-340-9988
Email: orders@fairsupplies.com • www.fairsupplies.com

Made
in the
U.S.A.

June 2015 IAFE Update

Upcoming IAFE T3 Specialty Seminar

The next IAFE Specialty Seminar (formerly known as the IAFE Spring Seminar) is known as the IAFE T3 Specialty Seminar and will be held Sept. 23-25 at the Holiday Inn Springfield/Enfield in Enfield, Conn. The T3 stands for Trade, Treats, and Traditions and will focus on Commercial Exhibits, Concessions, and Competitive Exhibits. This year's Specialty Seminar will feature engaging workshops topics, round table opportunities, and a visit to the Eastern States Exposition (The Big E) annual event all during the beautiful New England autumn. To register for the IAFE T3 Specialty Seminar, go to www.fairsandexpos.com and click on "T3 Specialty Seminar" under the Events tab.

The 2016 Specialty Seminar will be known as the IAFE Tools of the Trade Specialty Seminar and will focus on agriculture, physical plant operations, and year-round facility usage. The 2017 IAFE Impacts and Impressions Specialty Seminar will focus on sponsorship and advertising/PR.

Show Us Your Fun Contest!

In honor of the 2015 IAFE Annual Convention theme "Have All the Fun You Want! (We'll Make More)," the IAFE is holding the Show Us Your Fun contest for a FREE Convention delegate registration. To participate, e-mail a photo of yourself showing your FUN to Rebekah Lee (rebekahl@fairsandexpos.com) on or before July 31. The photos are posted in the "Show Us Your Fun" photo album on the IAFE Facebook page. The photo with the most Likes by Aug. 7 will be declared the winner of the FREE delegate registration.

IAFE Offering Free Memberships

The second installment of the Great IAFE Invite Event is pushing IAFE membership to levels that haven't been seen in 15 years! Coca-Cola Refreshments believes in the future of our industry, and has again sponsored 100 FREE memberships in 2015. Eligible recruits include agricultural fairs qualifying for IAFE membership, annual events that qualify as associate members, and venues. The invited prospects must be new members (not a previous IAFE member in the past two years). Recipients of a 2014 free membership are not eligible. Recruit one new member and earn a chance at winning a \$3,000 travel voucher! To access the form for a free membership, contact IAFE Membership Development Manager Cameron Hance (cameronh@fairsandexpos.com) or go to <http://bit.ly/174Xkci>.

Payment of royalties on music at an Agricultural Fair.

One of our Fairs received a music license agreement that it was asked to sign from a Nashville firm. Below is the exemption from the Federal Copyright Law for agricultural and horticultural fairs. If you receive a letter, please return a written letter explaining that your Fair is exempt, including the statement of the law below. This exemption applies only to the duration of your annual Fair, performances other than during the Fair are not exempt.

Under Public Law 94-553, of the Federal Copyright Law, which was effective January 1, 1978, non-profit fairs are exempt from the payment of any royalties on music.

The exemption is included under Section 110:

"Limitations on exclusive rights: Exemption of certain performances and displays," and reads as follows:

"(6) performance of a non-dramatic musical work by a government body or a nonprofit agricultural or horticultural organization, in the course of an annual agricultural or horticultural fair or exhibition conducted by such body or organization; the exemption provided by this clause shall extend to any liability for copyright infringement that would otherwise be imposed on such body or organization, under doctrines of vicarious liability or related infringement, for a performance by a concessionaire, business establishment, or other person at such fair or exhibition, but shall not excuse any such person from liability for the performance."

IAFE Zone 1 Conference 2015

SUBMITTED BY: Karen Dobson

Positive attitudes...one-on-one sponsorship proposal reviews...Walgreens advance discount ticket program...social marketing in a changing world...volunteer pitfalls...responding to patrons with disabilities...and Hands On Minds On Agriculture...these were just a few of the take-aways that PSACF delegates got from attending the recent IAFE Zone 1 Conference hosted by Erie County Fair in Buffalo, New York in May 2015.

Friday's agenda began with humorist and author Juli Burney from Nebraska who used her stories and witty insights to get everyone in a positive attitude. Jen Puente, CFE from the Wisconsin State Fair met one-on-one with fairs to review their sponsorship program and offer helpful suggestions on how to take it to the next level. Panel workshops about all things Livestock, Concessions and Entertainment rounded out the morning activities. Following lunch, Chris Fesko from New York shared photos and information about her On The Farm Discovery Center, an educational facility that provides hands-on learning activities about agriculture. Then break-out workshops social media marketing, security planning, insurance, neighborhood relations, volunteers and judges schools were held the rest of the afternoon. The highlight of the evening was a trip to the Erie County Fairgrounds to tour their brand new, state-of-the art Agriculture Discovery Center that offers visitors a true ag-sperience! The evening ended with an impressive appetizer hour and buffet dinner in the Grange building on the Fairgrounds.

Breakfast speaker Dave Whalen from New York started the next day sharing about how to properly respond to patrons with various disabilities and limitations. Chana Mannen from San Diego, CA gave a 'blue ribbon' presentation on creative competitive exhibits ideas. And more workshops were made available on rising costs, pricing and the PA Fair Queen Contest. The conference concluded with Becky Brashear (Maryland State Fair) presenting an IAFE Institute Fair Management Course about the who, when, where, what of developing a cutting edge ag education programs. Delegates then enjoyed dinner overlooking the expansive grounds at the Hidden Valley Animal Adventure lodge.

PSACF had an impressive showing at the convention – 2nd highest number of attendees and 3 workshop and roundtable presenters (Kevin Bieber, Karen Dobson and Bev Gruber). Thank you to Erie County Fair for its hospitality and to the other state fair association and vendor sponsors for making this worthwhile event possible. Mark your calendars for the 2016 Conference to be held May 5 – 8 in Concord, New Hampshire.



2015 PENNSYLVANIA STATE FAIR QUEEN

— Alana Eisenhower



The Fair Season has begun, and I've already had some great opportunities to promote PA Fairs and Agriculture. In March I was invited to attend the York County Ag Recognition Banquet where the York County Business Council awarded me with the

2015 Tony Dobrosky Future Leaders Award. The award is in remembrance of Tony Dobrosky and his contribution to the industry. This event highlighted how my connection with PA Fairs and the Queen Program have given me a platform for sharing my passion for ag education.

In May I attended the Gifford Pinchott FFA Banquet for the Northern York County School District. I also was able to spend time with the 4th graders from Northern Elementary School as they toured the Mobile Ag Education Lab. These were wonderful opportunities to spend time with youth and influence them to be-

come involved in the ag industry.

My fair visitation schedule began with Kempton Country Fair in early June. I had a great time and I was greeted with amazing hospitality. I also got to meet all the talented young ladies who were running for the Little Miss, Jr. Little Miss, and Miss Kempton Fair Queen titles. Next was an invitation to participate in the 32nd Annual Schnecksville Community Fair and take part in their Opening Ceremony. It was a fun evening and I enjoyed meeting the tight-knit community that works so hard to pull off a wonderful fair.

I would love to be a part of your fair as well. If your fair is interested, have an official representative submit the PA Fair Queen Appearance Request Form to the PA Fair Queen Events and Publicity Coordinator Martha Ebersole. Forms are available on PSACF's webpage or Fairs can contact Martha directly.

Best wishes for your Fair's success, and I look forward to joining you in harvesting the fun at our PA Fairs this summer!





Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs

2015 JUNIOR Fair Person Award

We all know that our Fairs would not be possible without our many volunteers. We also know that, if our Fairs are to continue to survive and thrive, we must look ahead to the future and start including more youth in our planning and operational efforts.

Last year PSACF had some amazing young people nominated for the Junior Fair Person of the Year award. They not only demonstrated significant involvement in their fairs, but they also stepped up and took the lead with several fair projects: promotional (*websites, banner design*); contests; events (*barn dance, princess tea, chick hatching and duck slide exhibits*); Junior Fair Boards; and sponsor recruitment. Our fairs are in good hands with youth volunteers of this caliber!

PSACF is seeking nominees for the 2015 State Junior Fair Person of the year. The award will recognize and honor a youth Fair volunteer for his or her outstanding efforts and contributions in making a difference at their fair. Each Zone will choose one Junior Fair Person from nominations received by their respective fairs. Then one State Junior Fair Person will be chosen by the PSACF committee from those four winners and recognized at the 2016 Convention. All nominees will be judged on fair participation, number of years of fair involvement, a written endorsement by their Fair, and other awards, activities and community involvement.

As you go through your 2015 Fair year, pay special attention to the volunteers. Do you have a youth volunteer who came up with a new contest? ...Helped organize your fair office or exhibit entries? ... Assisted with data entry for your auctions or livestock shows? ... Created artwork for your fair publications? ... Took charge of your fair's social media efforts? Then consider nominating that young person for the Junior Fair Person award. A little recognition goes a long way in encouraging them to continue their involvement in our Fairs.

Nominations forms have been distributed at the Spring zone meetings and are available from PSACF's website for download.

Please Note: 2015 Directory Changes

The Waterford Community Fair President Michael Jenkins has resigned and Donald Chapman Vice President is conducting meetings. This is was not an adversarial situation. Mike just felt that with his busy schedule that he could no longer do justice to the fair. A new President will not be named until their Fall elections.



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Hello, I'm Zach Gihorski, your Pennsylvania Fair Coordinator. I enjoyed learning about Pennsylvania's agricultural fairs last

year as PA Preferred™ Coordinator for the Department of Agriculture, and was honored when Secretary Russell Redding tapped me to serve as fair coordinator. Since then, I've met many great volunteers, attended several fairs, and gotten a taste for how special this fair season will be. I'm looking forward to visiting your fair, as we work together to build momentum to the 100th Pennsylvania Farm Show in January!

Heightened Biosecurity against H5N2 Avian Influenza

Thirty-two years ago, Pennsylvania faced a highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) which caused the death of 17 million birds and resulted in \$65 million in economic damage to the industry. We know we don't want to face this same scenario in 2015.

We in the department have received many phone calls on the subject. I wanted to follow up regarding the Department of Agriculture's decision to suspend all poultry shows and related activities at the state-sponsored fairs this fair season. This decision was not made lightly. It was made as part of our efforts to safeguard our state's poultry industry – which positively benefits Pennsylvania's economy to the tune of \$13 billion – against the threat of avian influenza. That suspension includes live bird shows, egg competitions, carcass classes, petting zoo birds, feather distributors and any other avian-related activities.

We appreciate your willingness to help us in our preparedness efforts against HPAI. We feel that the avian show suspension is in the best interest of our state's residents, birds, and poultry producers.

We want to reiterate that HPAI has not entered Pennsylvania to date, but it continues to move eastward across the country. One of the most recent confirmed cases was in eastern Michigan – just 150 miles across Lake Erie from Pennsylvania's shoreline. The proximity of the disease, coupled with the reality that the Mississippi flyway,

where infected birds have been found, intersects *Fair Coordinator* with the Atlantic flyway, which overlies Pennsylvania, warrants extra vigilance and thorough preparation. We

at the department are proactively working to safeguard our state, and we appreciate your support.

Outstanding Fair Ambassador Awards

The department will again honor some of your fair's finest folks as part of its Outstanding Fair Ambassador program. The department realizes the hard work and dedication put forth by fair volunteers and would like to acknowledge their efforts. Help us recognize an individual or group from your fair who has demonstrated outstanding leadership, volunteerism and dedication.

Download an Outstanding Fair Ambassador nomination form at www.agriculture.state.pa.us by searching "fair ambassador". New this year, we're asking for fairs to firm up your nominations early and submit them by **July 15**.

All Roads Lead to the 100th Pennsylvania Farm Show

I'm excited to join the department and the fair family in hosting our milestone PA Farm Show. You may have heard that we unveiled the special PA Farm Show logo and theme – 100th Pennsylvania Farm Show: Our Commonwealth's Blue Ribbon Experience. So far, we have some great plans in the works, and we'll need the help of our fairs to make this show a reality. The PA Farm Show has always been considered our state fair, and since the best from our county and community fairs are represented at the PA Farm Show, we created a special theme for fairs: All Roads Lead to the Pennsylvania Farm Show.

We developed a communications toolkit that you can use to not only get the word out about your fair, but about the 100th PA Farm Show. Visit www.agriculture.state.pa.us and search "fair toolkit" to download the toolkit. Stay tuned for more information on how you can help make the 100th PA Farm Show the best one yet!

I'm looking forward to meeting the rest of the fair family throughout the summer. See you at the fair!



The Secretary's Notepad

— Harry Reffner

Fair Season

Fairs should now be aware of the ban of poultry at our fairs, including eggs and feathers. An email was sent to all fairs from Zach regarding the ban.

Milliron & Goodman

A reminder Milliron & Goodman are the Associations Lobbyist, they are not legal advisors. Please do not contact them with legal issues. Legal issues should be directed to your fair's legal counsel.

Msgr. John W. Mignot/PSACF Scholarship Program

Funds are currently available to release all 6 scholarships. The Spouse's program from Convention was a major contributor to the effort; however, several Fairs and individuals also supported the program. Please see a letter (page 4) from a young lady and her effort and contribution. Although this year's scholarships are funded, please consider a donation to the program for future scholarships.

Fair Person of the Year

Remember to nominate a person from your Fair for the Fair Person of the Year award. The application is on our website under the "Fairs Only" section. Completed applications must be postmarked no later than November 1st.

Communications Competition

Completed applications must be postmarked no later than November 1st for the competition. The application can be found in the "Fairs Only" section of our website.

Junior Fair Person

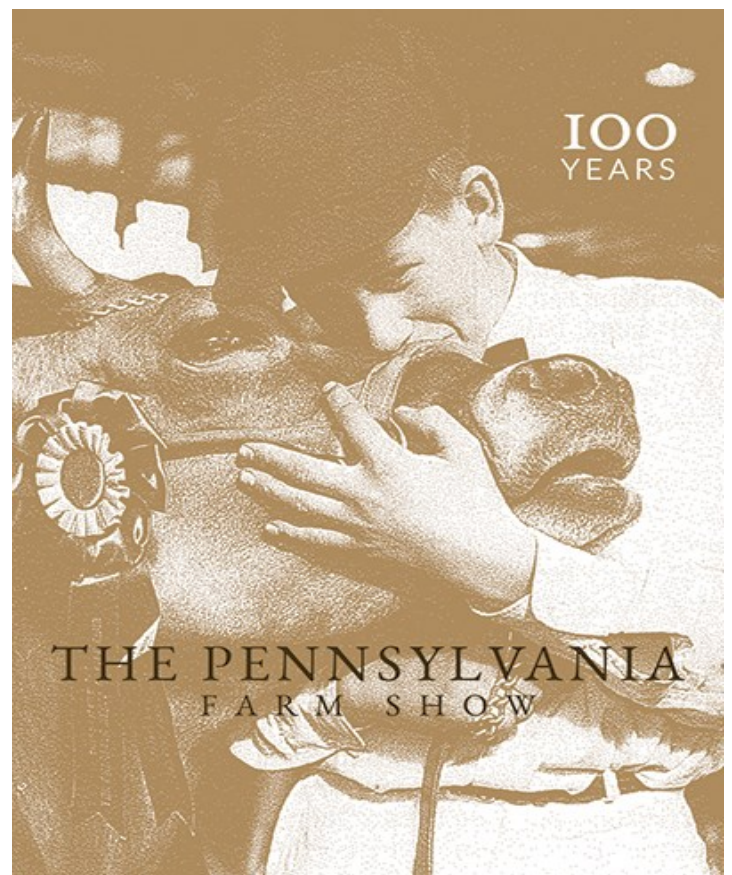
Recognize one of your youth and nominate them for the Junior Fair Person award. This application can also be found in the "Fairs Only" section of our website.

2016 Convention

The planning Committee met with Hershey in June. Our long time contact with Hershey Patrick Uffner has moved into another position with Hershey, our new contact will be Steven Walters. Due to cost the Saturday breakfast buffet was omitted from the Convention. Hershey room reservations are now open, make your reservation early, it is easier to cancel a reservation as to book a room when the hotel is full. Hershey is remodeling their indoor pool, and necessitates the moving of some of the Showmen's suites. More details as they become available. Lisa Bartlebaugh is working with the Hershey personnel with regards to the move.

Fair Funding

At this writing the Budget has not been approved. Efforts are being made in an attempt to increase the funds, however negotiations with the Governor continue. An email will be sent to Fair offices once the Budget has been approved with the line for Fairs



Pennsylvania State Fair Queen

Program

Submitted by: Karen Dobson

The Annual Meeting of the PA Fair Queen Program was held on Feb 10. 2015 Officers were appointed as follows: Chairman: John Berne; Vice Chairman: Bitsey Kopfinger; Secretary: Karen Dobson; Treasurer: Gary Moore. Committee appointments were Contest Correspondence: Bitsey Kopfinger; State Contest: Karen Dobson and Shelly Shaffer; Events/Publicity: Martha Ebersole; and Fundraising: John Berne, Judy Kmetz, Ruth Trumbetta and Charlotte Williams.

Zones 1 and 3 will be holding elections at their 2015 Fall Zone meetings to appoint a member to serve a two-year term on the PA Fair Queen Board of Directors, beginning March 1, 2016. Nominations must be submitted in writing to the respective Zone Chairperson by that zone's designated deadline.

The PA Fair Queen Program was invited in May to moderate a round table discussion at the IAFE Spring Conference in Buffalo, NY. It was an honor to share with fairs from Delaware to Maine about the growing success of the Program, and about the genuine, well-spoken and gifted young women who continue to promote PA Fairs and Agriculture during their reigns and beyond. It was not hard to do this presentation because we have witnessed so many Fair Queens who have grown personally and professionally as a result of the Program. Thank you to all the PA Fairs who invest in the future of our fairs by conducting a fair queen contest.

We encourage Fairs to invite the **2015 PA Fair Queen Alana Eisenhower** to their event this summer. She can be a wonderful asset by participating in special ceremonies, contests, parades and ag-related events. Thanks to PSACF's continued sponsorship of the PA Fair Queen's mileage expenses, the inviting Fairs is only responsible for her meal expenses while she is on the fairgrounds and any overnight hotel accommodations (if necessary). Inviting fairs only need to sign a Voucher verifying the correct mileage and the visitation

date. If your fair is interested in inviting the State Queen or Alternate, simply submit the "PA Fair Queen Appearance Request Form" to Martha Ebersole. The form can be downloaded from <http://www.pafairs.org/p/members/267>.

62 fairs submitted a request to receive the 2016 State Competition application. Application Packets were distributed at the Spring Zone meetings, or mailed to any non-attending fairs.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

State Contestant Application deadline -

Completed Applications must be returned, postmarked **no later than November 1** to Bitsey Kopfinger.

Coronation Banquet Seating –

Banquet seating for the Coronation ceremony has become very popular. Seating is assigned based on when paid registrations are received. **So please make sure your Fair orders tickets through PSACF's convention registration as early as possible.** Deadline is December 15.

Our Convention fundraisers are very important for the success of the Queen Program. Therefore we encourage ALL fairs to participate. Flyers explaining the need for monetary contributions or gift basket, auction and raffle items for the Convention Table were distributed at the Spring Zone meetings, but can also be downloaded from PSACF's website under the Convention-Queen Program link at <http://www.pafairs.org/p/convention/193>. Sponsorships are also available. This past January we had 37 themed baskets donated along with a handmade shawl, a wooden bench, a framed print and an autographed guitar. We are already planning the next guitar auction item which will be signed by famous music artists. All proceeds from the raffles and auction allow us to continue to grow the Program to new heights and maintain our high standards of excellence. Any Fair or individual interested in donating a basket or raffle item, or in becoming a recognized program sponsor, should contact John Berne (McKean County Fair) or Judy Kmetz (Luzerne County Fair) for the information.

See Fair Queen—Next Page

The 2016 contest will be held January 21-23. Judged events include interviews, speeches and stage introductions in evening gowns. There will also be activities scheduled for the queen contestants including assisting with fundraising, special seminars and the Queens' Pizza Party. Informational sessions are planned for Fair Boards and Queen Coordinators interested in starting a queen program at their Fair or just learning about new ideas that could benefit their existing program.

Questions or requests for additional information on any other aspect of the PA Fair Queen Program should be directed to the appropriate committee person:

Applications/Banquet Seating - Bitsey Kopfinger, 570-296-8790
Fundraising - John Berne, 814-887-5396 or Judy Kmetz, 570-675-2952
PA Fair Queen's Events and Fair Visitations – Martha Ebersole, 717-834-4435
State Contest - Karen Dobson, 610-212-6180.

SPECIAL BAKING CONTESTS

— Karen Dobson

The preliminary competitions for the best apple pie, angel food cake, and chocolate cake and cookies/brownies/bars across PA have begun! 104 fairs are participating this year, and we hope to see many of these local fair winners at the 2016 PA Farm Show state competition in January!

The Baking Contest committee will be working in conjunction with the PA Farm Show's 100th theme of "*All Roads Lead to Farm Show and a Blue Ribbon Experience*". Our fair bakers who participate in the state bake-offs can certainly attest to the great thrill of being part of the Farm Show experience! So we are excited to be included in the Farm Show's Anniversary planning for 2016.

Remember to send in your Contest Summaries to the appropriate contest chairperson as soon as your Fair is over. Kudos to Kempton Country Fair for already sending in their 2015 paperwork! All contest packets and ribbons were distributed at the Spring Zone meetings but the packet can also be downloaded from PSACF's website at <http://www.pafairs.org/p/members/266>.

When completing your fair's post-contest summary paperwork, pay special attention to the updated form for the PA Preferred Chocolate contests. That paperwork has been expanded to now collect information about the number of counties represented by the contestants at each fair, as well as a listing of the various PA Preferred ingredients that those contestants used in their recipes.

Once last checklist before your Fair's special baking contests take place:

Once a contestant wins 1st place at a 2015 Fair in a particular PSACF Special Baking contest, they are no longer eligible to compete in that same baking contest at any other Fair in 2015.

Communicate all the special baking contest rules and requirements to your contest volunteers and judges so that winners are properly certified for the next PA Farm Show competition.

Obtain ribbons for Apple Pie and Angel Food Cake winners. Ribbons for the special Chocolate contests were sponsored by PA Preferred and already distributed to Fairs in April.

Display the sponsored Angel Food Cake and PA Preferred banners at the contest area.

Just fax, email or snail mail your Fair's Contest Summary forms – no premium books, photos, recipes required.

The sponsored prize monies obtained by PSACF will be sent to participating fairs in the summer. Any of this sponsored prize money that is not awarded must be returned to PSACF, Attn: Harry Reffner.

If there are any questions, contact the appropriate committee chairpersons:

Angel Food Cake and Apple Pie Contests - **Kevin Bieber** (484-256-8009, email kevin.bieber@nationalpenn.com)

Chocolate Contests - **Karen Dobson** (610-212-6180, email kardob@msn.com)

J. R. Sellman Co., LLC

Phone: 610-337-0130

Fax: 610-337-0131

jrsellmanco@verizon.net

Equipment Specialists

Phone: 610-337-0130

Fax: 610-337-0131

jrsellmanco@verizon.net

P.O. BOX 2527

KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406

SINCE 1961

SALES

INSTALLATION

SERVICE

SINCE 1961

**PERMANENT GRANDSTANDS • PORTABLE BLEACHERS
ALUMINUM REPLACEMENT PLANKING**

**ALUMINUM BENCHES • ALUMINUM TABLES
ALUMINUM PORTABLE STAGES**

**GYMNASIUM SEATING • FOLDING PARTITIONS
ROLL-UP DIVIDERS • BASKETBALL BACKSTOPS**

**GYMNASIUM AND ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT
WRESTLING MAT STORAGE SYSTEMS**



"Specializing in Quality"



WEST END FAIR, GILBERT, PA

Msgr. John W. Mignot PSACF Scholarship

by Jim Davis

A maximum of six strong applicants from each zone can be submitted to the PSACF scholarship committee. The committee should have a maximum of 24 candidates to evaluate.

Use technology, if at all possible, when submitting applications to the next level.

PSACF has committed to six one-thousand dollar scholarships. In order to help maintain the fund, each fair should consider a line item in its budget or sponsor a fundraiser.

Deadlines for all levels to follow to adhere to the application process:

1. **July 31**—applications due to the Zone chairperson
2. **August 31**—maximum of six applications from each zone due to the chairperson of the PSACF scholarship committee
3. **September 30**—application rankings by each PSACF committee member due to the state chairperson
4. **October 1**—state committee chairperson identifies the top six candidates to the state secretary, local fairs of selected recipients, and each individual recipient



Pre-Order Now –
100 Years of the PA
Farm Show – Com-
memorative Book

To commemorate this
milestone the Friends
of the Farm Show are
publishing a 176-page

hardbound collectible book.

This distinctive book will record the rich history of the nation's largest indoor agricultural exposition. It will be filled with inspiring stories, interviews and photos that chronicle its unique 100-year history.

This is a special keepsake that you and your family will enjoy for generations to come.

Use the following link to order:

www.pafarmshowbook.com



Saffire[®]

EVENTS

SEE WHY OVER 150 EVENTS, VENUES
AND DESTINATIONS TRUST SAFFIRE FOR
BEAUTIFUL, INTERACTIVE WEBSITES
THEY MANAGE THEMSELVES!

“ Saffire Events' software being tailor-made for fairs made it exceptionally easy to organize and present material for our website. The mobile site format was also something that we definitely needed. Knowing that Saffire Events constantly updates their software convinced us that this was an investment we wanted to make. Working with Saffire Events has been phenomenal—not only is their product outstanding, but their employees are incredible! ”

Sue Hill - West End Fair, Gilbert, PA

CONTACT US TODAY! 512.430.1123
WWW.SAFFIREEVENTS.COM INFO@SAFFIREEVENTS.COM

[@saffireevents](https://twitter.com/saffireevents) [f Saffire Events](https://facebook.com/saffireevents) [p saffireevents](https://pinterest.com/saffireevents)

M&G Legislative Update

The 2015-2016 Pennsylvania Legislative Session is in full swing. Over the course of the two-year session thousands of bills will be introduced and hundreds considered. PSACF's lobbying firm, Milliron and Goodman, LLC, is working hard in Harrisburg to protect Pennsylvania's county fairs.

Sales Tax Expansion:

Heading into the homestretch of the state budget, Republican leaders are giving no hint of compromise with new Democratic Gov. Tom Wolf. Early discussions appear to be mere restatements of positions. Complicating matters, there is really no mutual agreement on the baseline numbers. State revenues are up and deficit projections are shrinking, but depending on who you talk to, budget shortfall figures range from \$900 million to \$1.2 billion.

Republican leaders insist that the Wolf team is overestimating the budget deficit by hundreds of millions of dollars. They contend the deficit can largely be filled with liquor privatization and public pension reform. Until the governor takes those issues seriously, they say there is no need for conversations of tax increases on Pennsylvanians. Meanwhile, Wolf is calling for his major budget proposals including a new tax on natural gas production and an increase and expansion of the sales and use tax to bolster funding for education and property tax relief. Starting at different points, there will have to be a compromise on additional revenue sources.

Wolf's tax plan would increase the state sales tax from 6% to 6.6% and expand the tax to dozens of goods and services currently exempt. The huge tax expansion would apply to amusement and recreational activities, including admission to amusement parks and fairs.

House Republicans introduced and advanced their own tax proposal. Unlike the governor's plans, the House measure does not expand the sales tax to county fairs. The House plan calls for increasing the 6 percent sales tax to 7 percent, and the 3.07 percent personal income tax to 3.7 percent.

Areas of disagreement remain. Backers of the plan say it is a rare chance to make significant cuts in a tax system that can subject homeowners to a heavy tax burden. But opponents say there's no guarantee that school boards won't eventually raise property tax rates back to their current levels. Some Republican members criticized the proposal for not going far enough to eliminate school property taxes altogether while others want to use the additional revenue to fill the budget gap.

With the June 30 budget deadline quickly approaching, there are rumblings that Senate leadership would rather separate this issue from the budget altogether and complete it later this session. That being said, Wolf's team is still pushing forward with this as a centerpiece of the budget.

M&G has been busy advocating against this proposed tax expansion on county fairs and will continue to do so as negotiations move forward.

County Fair Funding:

Milliron & Goodman is pleased with the information we are hearing. As in previous years, we are hearing that county fairs will receive funding from the Race Horse Development Fund. County Fair Caucus members are advocating for \$3 million and an additional \$1 million for grants, but we are cautiously optimistic. M&G will continue meeting with key legislators and ask that you continue to contact your legislators on the importance of our fairs and the need for budget dollars.

Child Abuse Background Checks Law (Act 153)

Act 153 requires employees and adult volunteers who are directly involved with children to obtain state police criminal background checks and Department of Human Services (DHS) child abuse clearances, costing \$10 each. In addition, FBI background checks are required for all affected employees and adult volunteers who have lived in Pennsylvania for fewer than 10 continuous years. Background checks and clearances must be every three years.

See Milliron Child — next page

Since taking effect on Dec. 31, an overwhelming number of questions and complaints have been raised about the state's new background checks law being too costly, onerous and far-reaching. Milliron and Goodman is being told that the spirit of the law is not to apply to the county fairs, the performers, the ticket takers or showmen. However, nothing prevents a school or another organization from having additional standards/requirements. As such, if your fair is being held on school grounds, M&G suggests contacting the school business administrator or solicitor for advice.

Legislators and staff in the state House and Senate have been meeting with representatives from the Pennsylvania State Police, Department of Human Services, and Department of Education on revisions to make clear who is subject to the law and the timetables for obtaining background checks. Despite initial pushback, M&G has been working with the various stakeholders to make the process less onerous.

On June 17, the state House approved House Bill 1276 to clarify child abuse background checks for employees and volunteers. Among the proposed changes the House agreed-to are:

- Clarifies that the law applies to employees and volunteers with direct and routine interaction with a child as part of a child care service, a school, or a program, activity or service. Routine interaction is defined as regular and repeated contact that is integral to a person's employment or volunteer responsibilities.
- Permits employers or organizations to accept non-original copies of the required documents on file.
- Portability of the background check certifications applicable to employees who are employed in more than one paid position in which they work directly with children. The portability measure is already in place for volunteers.
- Exemption for minor employees (14-17) from the FBI clearance if the minor has been a PA resident for the previous 10 years.
- Stipulation of the actual calendar dates by which employees and volunteers must be in compliance with the background check requirements. An employee without certifications is required to obtain certifications no later than

December 31, 2015. A volunteer without certifications is required to obtain certifications no later than July 1, 2016.

- Waiver of the fee volunteers must pay to obtain state criminal background and child abuse certifications.
- Exemption for employers who work with minors who are participants in a co-op or internship program if the child participating in the program is at least 16 years of age.
- Exemption for international seasonal workers who have J-1 Visa who already have had background checks done and work in U.S. no more than 90 days.
- Changes the recertification requirement for the FBI background check for employees from every three years to every five years.
- Allowing background checks obtained by school bus drivers who are independent contractors to be portable so they can be used for multiple employment positions that require clearances.
- Exemption for employees of higher education institutions whose job brings them into contact with current and prospective college students age 16 and up.

Earlier this month, Gov. Tom Wolf announced the administration will waive the state background check and clearance fees for volunteers and reduce the fees for employees from \$10 each to \$8 each, effective July 25. Because FBI clearances are administered by the federal government current costs (\$27.50) will continue to apply.

HB 1276 now heads to the state Senate for consideration. While the legislation is a work in progress, there is a push to make the revisions law before the Legislature breaks for the summer. M&G will continue to update you on any new developments. For more information, go to: www.keepkidssafe.pa.gov.

See Milliron Legislation — next page



Legislation:

Milliron & Goodman is closely following several legislative proposals. House Bill 785, sponsored by Rep. Mike Hanna (D-Clinton), would limit the fee imposed by public utility companies on seasonal businesses during periods of nonuse of their electric service. While this is a great bill, we do not anticipate much traction since Republicans hold the majorities in the state House and state Senate and this legislation is sponsored by a democratic member.

M&G is also watching for any amendments to Senate Bill 352, sponsored by Sen. Elder Vogel (R-Beaver). This 175-page bill would amend the Race Horse Industry Act. Specifically, we are looking for any amendments that would affect funding for the county fairs. The bill makes a number of changes to the state's oversight of the horse racing industry. One major change dissolves the separate state commissions under the Department of Agriculture for thoroughbred and harness racing in favor of a single oversight commission. The bill also makes a number of changes to licensure, fines, fees and the pari-mutual tax structure to properly fund regulatory oversight and drug testing.

Sen. Vogel is also sponsoring Senate Bill 735, which PSACF supports. SB 735 would provide for a statewide food safety inspection for mobile retail food facilities. This would allow them to operate statewide without having to pay multiple fees in each county to operate. The bill is currently in the Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee, chaired by Sen. Vogel.

As legislation is introduced, Milliron & Goodman will continue to notify you of any bills that could have a significant impact on county fairs.

State Senate Confirms Dept. of Agriculture Secretary

The state Senate unanimously confirmed the nomination of Russell Redding as the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. Redding is the former dean of the School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences at Delaware Valley College (DeVal). Prior to joining DeVal, Redding spent a total of 16 years at the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, serving as secretary from 2009 to 2011 under Governor Rendell. Previ-

ously, Redding served as agricultural policy advisor and executive assistant to U.S. Senator Harris Wofford. He has a B.S. in agriculture education and a M.S. in agriculture and extension education from Penn State University.

Post-Election Update:

Several members of the Pennsylvania General Assembly will be on the ballot in November after winning their party's nomination in this year's judicial and municipal primary election held in May.

State **Rep. Tim Krieger** will be on the Republican ticket in the November general election vying for one of three open seats on Westmoreland County's Court of Common Pleas. Serving the 57th House District since 2009, Krieger is a current member of the House Health Committee as well as the House Environmental Resources and Energy, Judiciary, and Liquor Control Committees. Prior to joining the state House, Tim served his country in the United States Naval Reserve and entered private practice of law. He is Of Counsel in the law firm of Strassburger, McKenna Gutnick & Gefsky.

Democratic state **Rep. Thaddeus Kirkland** ousted Chester Mayor John Linder in one of the region's most heated primary battles. Kirkland will face former Mayor Wendell Butler, a Republican, in November's election. Elected in 1992, Kirkland is the current Minority Chairman of the House Tourism and Recreational Development Committee. He previously served on the House Health and Human Services, Intergovernmental Affairs, and Urban Affairs Committees. Before being elected to the state House, Kirkland, a pastor, served as a community service coordinator at Crozer Chester Medical Center conducting outreach and educational programs for teenagers.

State **Sen. Dominic Pileggi** was guaranteed a spot on the Republican ticket in November's election for three Delaware County Court of Common Pleas seats. Known for his legislation that significantly strengthened the state's Right-to-Know Law, Pileggi was elected to the state Senate in 2002. His career took a turn last December when he was unseated as majority leader by Sen. Jake Corman.

See Milliron report — next page

From Milliron Report — previous page

Pileggi is the current Vice-Chairman of the Senate State Government Committee and serves on the Senate Communications and Technology, Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, Education and Judiciary Committees.

Democratic state **Rep. Cherelle Parker** ran unopposed for retiring Philadelphia City Councilwoman Marian Tasco's 9th district seat. Elected in 2005, Parker is a strong advocate for public education and reforms targeted against illegal guns. She currently serves on the House Appropriations, Labor and Industry, Professional Licensure, Rules, and Transportation Committees.

In other election news, state **Rep. John Sabatina, Jr.**, a Democrat, won the special election to fill Philadelphia's 5th Senatorial District seat that was left vacant by Lt. Gov. Mike Stack. Sabatina will join the Democratic minority in the Senate, where Republicans outnumber Democrats 30-20. The former assistant district attorney in Philadelphia represented the state's 174th House District in Northeast Philadelphia since March 2006. He is the Democratic chairman of the House Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee and previously served on the House Appropriations, Health, Professional Licensure, and Transportation Committees. Sabatina is a graduate of West Chester University and Widener University School of Law. He is a great friend of Milliron and Goodman, LLC and we look forward to working with him on behalf of PSACF in the state Senate.

Democratic state **Sen. Matt Smith**, representing parts of Allegheny and Washington Counties, also recently announced that he will resign his Senate seat to take the reins of the Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce. Smith is the Democratic chair of the Senate Banking and Insurance Committee and serves as a member of the Aging and Youth, Appropriations, Judiciary and Transportation committees. Before being elected to the Senate in 2012, he served three terms in the state House. Smith plans to vacate his seat by the end of June. While no decision has been made on plans to fill his seat, it is possible that a special election will be called to coincide with the November general election. The special election will be a race to watch. Smith's departure gives Republicans a chance to take back the Senate seat long

held by the Republicans.

As vacancies occur, Milliron and Goodman will be watching closely and seeking input from Leadership on committee assignments important to PSACF.

House Speaker Announces Special Elections:

State House Speaker Mike Turzai called for special elections to be held August 11 to fill three Philadelphia vacant seats. One of the vacancies was created when Democrat John Sabatina was elected in a Senate special election in May to fill the seat formerly held by Lt. Gov. Mike Stack. The other two vacancies were created by the resignations of former House Democrats Ron Waters and Michelle Brownlee after pleading guilty to public corruption charges. Another special election was called for August 4 to fill vacancies left when Republican Glen Grell resigned his Cumberland County seat to take a position with PSERS, and Republican Joe Hackett resigned to return to the Delaware County District Attorney's Office criminal division.

Grassroots Advocacy

Grassroots advocacy is a powerful tool and an important complement to the lobbying efforts of the Milliron & Goodman team. Elected officials want to hear from their constituents, the people that elected them and can re-elect them. Building strong, personal relationships with legislators and their staff is one of the most important aspects of advocacy.

In the short-term, you are putting a face on an issue that allows legislators to connect beyond the facts and figures. In the long-term, you are developing legislative champions that will seek your advice and be your voice in the Capitol.

With the comings and goings of the Pennsylvania General Assembly, there are fewer legislators with in-depth knowledge of PSACF's issues. This session alone there are over thirty first-term legislators and we anticipate another new wave of faces next year. It is now more important than ever to get to know your legislators and inform them about the economic benefits of Pennsylvania's county fairs.

See Milliron Grassroots — next page

From Milliron Grassroots — previous page

Whether it's a reception to introduce yourself, having coffee or lunch to discuss an issue, or inviting your legislator to your county fair, all are examples of grassroots advocacy and effective ways to build relationships with your legislators.

If you're already engaged, we would like to thank you. If you would like to get involved or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office at 717.232.5322. Milliron and Goodman has an open door policy and are always willing to provide advice or any information that you may require.

PSACF Reception

Many thanks to all those who attended the 2015 County Fair Caucus Reception! There were 24 state House Representatives, 1 state Senator, 2 staff, and 10 PSACF members in attendance – a great turnout! Of those attendees, 19 were County

Fair Caucus members. This gathering was the perfect opportunity for PSACF members to connect with members of the legislative County Fair Caucus to advocate for state funding and oppose the expansion of the sales tax to county fairs.

Legislative attendees included: Rep. R. Brown (R-Monroe), Rep. Carroll (D-Luzerne), Rep. Causer (R-McKean), Rep. Corbin (R-Chester), Rep. Culver (R-Northumberland), Rep. Emrick (R-Northampton), Rep. English (R-Allegheny), Rep. Fee (R-Lancaster), Rep. Greiner (R-Lancaster), Rep. Harhart (R-Northampton), Rep. Heffley (R-Carbon), Rep. Hickernell (R-Lancaster), Rep. James (R-Venango), Rep. Kavulich (D-Lackawanna), Rep. Major (R-Susquehanna), Rep. Masser (R-Northumberland), Rep. Millard, Chair (R-Columbia), Rep. B. Miller (R-Lancaster), Rep. Oberlander (R-Clarion), Rep. Ortity (R-Allegheny), Rep. Peifer (R-Pike), Rep. Topper (R-Bedford), Rep. Ward (R-Blair), Rep. Zimmerman (R-Lancaster), and Senator Scavello, Chair (R-Monroe).



(Left to right, back row) Rep. Kurt Masser, David Reese, David Hallstrom, Rep. Mike Carroll, Jeff Romberg, Harry Reffner, Rep. Jesse Topper, Rep. Marcia Hahn, Rep. Rosemary Brown, Rep. Sandy Major, Senator Scavello. *(Left to right, front row)* Rep. Donna Oberlander, Michael Froehlich, Ron Miller, Rep. Dave Millard

Variety Attractions, Inc.

GEORGE MOFFETT - PRESIDENT
TODD BOLTIN - EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT / SHIRLEY MOFFETT - VICE PRESIDENT

Variety Attractions will provide you with only the best
CONCERTS ♦ MOTOR SPORTS ♦ ANIMAL SHOWS
GROUND ACTS ♦ THRILL SHOWS ♦ RODEOS
AND MORE!



The Finest in Entertainment Since 1961

Variety Attractions is a full service talent consulting/concert producing entertainment agency with years of dedication to the entertainment industry and a leader in the fair & festival community.

Our Consulting Staff

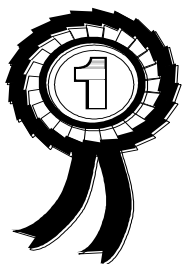
GEORGE MOFFETT
TODD BOLTIN ♦ BILL MAGANN
PHYLLIS GREINER ♦ ANDY GUERRIERO ♦ CHRIS HESSE
FORREST SURBER ♦ KIERAN MANZI ♦ KEN WOODWARD



**OPERATING
IN OVER
25 STATES!**

PO BOX 3330 ZANESVILLE, OH 43702-3330
740.453.0394 ♦ INFO@VARIETYATTRACTIONS.COM
www.varietyattractions.com

Update from The Zones



Zone One –Sam Zaffuto

The Zone One Spring Meeting on Friday April 24 was attended by 26 of our fairs. Our president, Dr. David Reese; Vice- President, Dave Hallstrom; and our Secretary, Harry Reffner presented an update of the state Association to all in attendance.

We were fortunate to have Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, Fred Strathmeyer with us. He talked about changes within the Department of Agriculture and introduced Zach Gihorski, our new Fair Coordinator. Zach talked about how he planned to manage the fair fund program and committed to be a resource for all fairs in the state. He will attend as many fairs as possible this year. If there is anything fairs need his help with, they can contact him at his office in Harrisburg. We congratulate Zach on his new position and we look forward to working with him.

Some of our fairs in zone one will be starting soon. Our zone directors plan to visit all thirty fairs in our zone this year. When the zone director visits your fair please let him/her know if you have any concerns or suggestions for the state association, zone meetings, or convention.

Please mark your calendars for our fall zone meeting. It will be held at Scrubgrass Grange on Friday October 23, 2015 where we will present a Zone Person of the Year award and the Junior Fair Person award. Please watch your mail at the end of August for more information on these awards. Hope you have a great fair season!



Zone Two — Rod Ralston

Zone II Board of Directors filled a vacancy on our Board by appointing Dale LeVan, the President of Lycoming County Fair to that vacancy. He replaced William "Bill" Ritzman from the Juniata County Fair, who passed away unexpectedly.

The 2015 Fair season is here. Let's hope the weatherman co-operates this year. The Northeast Fair begins our fair season for our 25 fairs on June 16 and the Bloomsburg Fair

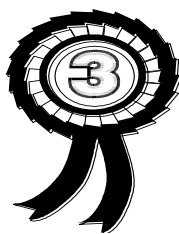
concludes it on October 2.

We of Zone II would like to welcome Zach Gihorski as the new Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Fair Fund Administrator. We hope you have a successful tenure and welcome any advice that you can give us.

We encourage all Fairs to submit nominations for Junior Fair Person of the Year and Fair Person of the Year.

Zone II's Fall meeting will be held on October 24, 2015 and will be hosted by the Schuylkill County Fair.

Best of luck to all Fairs for the 2015 season.



Zone Three-Debbie Stephenson

Spring Zone meeting was held on Thursday, April 23, at 6:45 PM at the Fayette County Fairgrounds with a great meal provided by Myers Catering & Jackson Farms. Great job by both!! We are so thankful that (22 out of 25) fairs attended this meeting. Harry Reffner opened the meeting with an update from PSACF Convention Review along with Poster Program, Dues update, and Promoters License. President Dr. Dave Reese spoke on animal health issues and what all fairs can do as far as health rules for their fair in the coming fair season. These are on the PSACF website to download. Past President John Blaney also introduced our new Deputy Assistant Secretary Fred Strathmeyer to everyone and PA Dept of Ag & Fair Funding Administrator Zachary Gihorski. He hopes to be visiting a lot of your fairs this year and is gearing up for the PA Farm Show as it's hosting it's 100th anniversary this year and the theme for the Farm Show is -All Roads Lead to the Farm Show. Baking Contests updated packets were also handed out so don't forget when your contests are over to get that information into the chairperson as soon as possible. Remember the IAFE Fall bus trip to North Carolina/South Carolina let Harry know if you or someone from your fair is planning to go asap!! 2016 Fair Convention was discussed and some changes will be coming this fall for that as well. We hope that everyone has a fantastic fair season and Harvest the Fun at all your fairs!!

See next page

Update from The Zones



Zone Four — Dr. Sally Nollt

The Fair season is underway throughout Zone 4 and Pennsylvania. Best of luck to everyone for a successful 2015 Fair Season! Hopefully the weather will cooperate!

The Spring Zone 4 Meeting was held at Shady Maple Smorgasbord, East Earl, on Wednesday, April 22nd. Zone 4 members enjoyed a night of great food, fellowship and information.

Zach Gihorski was in attendance. He has been named Pennsylvania Fair Coordinator and will oversee Fair Funding as well as continuing as PA Preferred program coordinator. Welcome Zach - we look forward to working with you!

Please contact your legislators as the budget process continues! Milliron & Goodman and our



officers continue to work for us! Please help them!

The Zone 4 Fall Meeting will be Wednesday, October 21, 2015 at Shady Maple Smorgasbord in East Earl. Mark your calendars and plan to attend this important meeting.

The annual Fair Person of the Year for Zone 4 and Jr. Fair Person of the Year for Zone 4 will be presented at this meeting. Please honor two individuals from your fair by nominating them for these awards! The Zone 4 nominations are due to me by September 15, 2015.

Please support PA Fairs - visit as many fairs as possible this fair season!

DENNIE HUBER



BALLOON ARTIST

MAGICIAN

A Fun Show for the Entire Family

Dennie Huber
814-942-2516 • 814-937-4754
www.denniehuber.com
2547 Union Avenue • Altoona, PA 16602

Audiences love The Belmont Magic Show

"Crowds loved the show. Always a full house!"
North Florida Fair

"Overwhelming success year after year. Showmobile was a perfect fit!"
Middletown Grange Fair

"Big Hit! Big crowds at every show!"
Greater Gulf State Fair

"Glowingly positive comments!"
Broward County Youth Fair

Belmont Magic & Illusions

"Award Winning Showmanship"
belmontmagic@verizon.net — (609) 206-5244

The MidLife Cowboys Band



"Range Rovin" Richard Rupert

"Bluesman" Chris Trasatti

"Too Dang Cool" Ed Scholl

"Miss Alison" Alison Rupert

"Trail Boss" Gary Stoner

"Saddle Sore" Mike Celline

GOT A HANKERIN' FOR THE SINGING COWBOYS OF YESTERYEAR?

The MidLife Cowboys pack a saddlebag-full of Cowboy harmony and western swing not heard since Gene Autry and Roy Rogers. Ride the Happy Trails of the old west!

The MidLife Cowboys Band

www.MidLifeCowboys.com

(570)-768-7383