

DATES TO REMEMBER

—2023—

October 1

- Junior Fair Person of the Year apps.
Due

Oct. 12

PSACF Board Meeting-Centre Hall

October 15

- Showcase apps. Due
- 2024 Request for Fair info material,
PSACF

Associate Dues Invoices, PSACF/PSSA
Convention material, Trade Show
apps. mailed.

Oct. 18

Zone 4 Mtg. -Yoder's

Oct. 19

Zone 3 Mtg. - Westmoreland Fair

Oct. 20

Zone 1 Mtg. - Jefferson County Fair

Oct. 21

Zone 2 Mtg. - Montour-Delong

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 26—29

- IAFE Convention and Trade Show
Salt Lake City, Utah

November 30

FAIRTALK material for December is-
sue due

—2024—

January 6—13

- PA Farm Show

January 17—20

- 111th Annual Convention Hershey

May 16—18

- IAFE Zone 1 meeting Springfield MA

PA County Fairs:

**GROWING
THE FUTURE**



VOL. 37

June 2023

NO. 2

SEMINAR / TABLE TOPIC COMMITTEE CONVENTION PLANNING IN PROCESS

BY: KEVIN D. BIBER

As usual for this time of the year, your convention seminar and table topic committee is hard at work in putting together another strong lineup of seminars and table topics. To date we have had two "brain storming" conference calls to present ideas on what we feel would be good topics for the seminars and table topics that are presented in Hershey.

As we continue to work on our line-up for the 2024 convention, I can assure you that our Keynote Speaker has been identified and we are preparing for her visit. We are very excited to tell you that our own Marla Calico, IAFE President and CEO is coming to Hershey to present our Keynote. Better yet, she will be addressing us with a seminar and possibly participating in other ways while in Hershey.

I must say that I have been thrilled with all the feedback and suggestions I have been receiving regarding seminars and table topic topics. The unfortunate part is that we only have so much time while in Hershey. We are doing our very best to fit in as much as we can during our time at convention. Please know that if your suggestion is not on the list this year, it will not be forgotten for the future.

Although I know this is a short article with not much information on the topics and speakers, I ask that you please tune into the next edition as that will highlight much more of what you can expect at Hershey come January.

Until then, our committee wishes you the best fair season you can possibly have !!!!!

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FAIRTALK published four times per year by the Association. Send information for the publication to:
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MEMBERS AT LARGE

From our President



Thanks to all the great fair people that make up our state board of directors, I made it through my first full board meeting as president of our association. As we work together to make sure our 107 local fairs active and growing, we keep coming back to our theme this year... PA County Fairs – Growing the Future. One of my goals this year is to help

our local fairs to not just survive, but to thrive and grow. As your fair board is planning for the upcoming fair season, keep this theme in the front of your mind. What does your fair need to grow this year? Do you need more support from you County Commissioners or local Legislators? Do we need more non-monetary support from local businesses? Things like volunteers, canopies, bedding for animals, flowers, food for volunteers, etc. If we want the business community to support our fair, we need to give it opportunities to do so.

Keep Growing

You may strike a day or two when the world looks very blue; Keep Growing.

Good hard work kills mighty few, probably twill not hurt you; Keep Growing

If you have a willing hand. Orders you are sure to land; Keep Growing

If the merchant turns you down, do not leave him with a frown; Keep Growing

If "that draft" (of the fair book) does not arrive, don't you fret, you will survive, and Keep Growing

One of the things that I continue to enjoy is traveling to the 4 zone meetings that are held across PA twice a year. One of the things that make these so enjoyable for me is meeting "fair people", you're most likely one of those "fair people". Fair people love sharing ideas, successes, and even failures – these zone meeting are a time for us all to share and take some new ideas back to our own fairs.

Besides sharing ideas, these meeting are held to keep you, informed about what's going happening at the state level that may affect your fair. This might include legislative concerns that you need to reach out to your local representative about; funding and/or regulation changes from the Department of Agriculture, and exciting previews of 2024 Convention. I hope to see all of you at the next zone meeting in your neck of the Commonwealth. Congratulations to those of you who've already hosted successful fair, and best of luck to those of you in the middle of preparing for your. Have a great fair season and keep growing the PA Fairs.

Martha



Youth Day 2024

**Stay tuned for
much exciting
information in the
September
newsletter**

Msgr. John W. Mignot PSACF Scholarship Program June 30 – Student to member fair

The 2023 scholarship material has been posted to the association's website. Funds are available for re-leasing all 6 scholarships. Thanks to the number of individuals and Fairs that have donated, also to the Spouse Program at Convention.

It is time for fairs to communicate with agricultural organizations and school counselors about the Mignot Scholarship which is for those who are seeking higher education and have a relationship with the local fair.

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Goshen Country Fair

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www.goshencountryfair.org

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October 19-22, 2023
Holiday Inn Morgantown - \$129 + tax / night

The Grange story began in Pennsylvania with the organization of Eagle Grange #1 near Williamsport on March 4, 1871. More than two years later, the State Grange was officially organized in Reading, PA on September 18, 1873, after 25 local Granges scattered throughout the state had formed. The celebration of the 150th anniversary of Grange in the Keystone State began in 2021 with a kick-off event and continues throughout 2022 and 2023. The special observance will culminate with the annual State Session in Morgantown (Berks County) during October 2023.

iafe[®] THE NETWORK!



Thanks for attending the IAFE Zone 1 meeting in Albany ! What a great event and a huge thanks to Amy Anderson, the Altamont Fair and the other regional fairs that were the organizing/hosting committee. Everything went so smoothly, the networking was fabulous, and the education excellent! — Marla

Left were the 15 Pennsylvania attendees,

Save the date

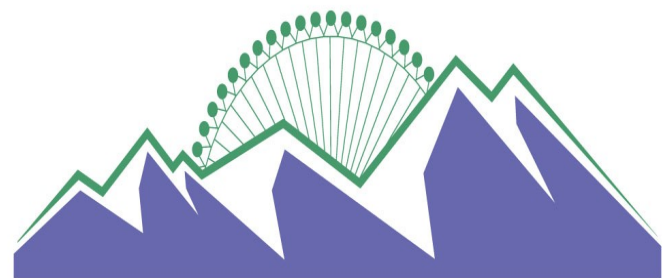
The Big E and Greater Springfield
Welcome

2024 IAFE Zone 1 Meeting



MAY 16-18
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FAIRS RISE

REUNITE, INSPIRE, SUPPORT, EDUCATE

IAFE 2023 - SALT LAKE CITY, UT

Pennsylvania Fair Queen Program

June 2023
Submitted by Karen Dobson

PA Fair Queen Program

Fair queens are more than “*crowns and gowns*”. They are the ambassadors who put a face and a voice to PA fairs and agriculture. They are our fair cheerleaders, advocates, and influencers. They are an important part of our PA fair story.

We welcome the new 2023 fair queens as competitions are held throughout the state. The newly crowned queens become eligible to compete at the state finals in Hershey in January.

The PA Fair Queen Program requires each Fair interested in conducting a fair queen contest in the 2023 Fair season to complete and submit an Intent Form. The information will be used to update the Program's database and ensure that the fair receives contest news and updates.

Fair Queen Coordinators need to download the ***Fair Queen Contest Packet*** from the website - <https://www.pafairs.org/p/members/queen-program> and click on the link to be re-directed to the Pennsylvania Fair Queen Program's website.

Make sure the 2023 contest rules, behavior and dress code policies, and judging criteria are reflected in their premium book, website, and other contest advertisements. An important rule to follow is that **all contestants must be at least 16 years old by June 1, 2023**. Check contestants' applications to make sure they meet the age and other eligibility requirements.

The 2024 state competition will be held from Thursday, January 18 through Saturday, January 20 at Hershey Lodge & Convention Center. The application process will be done entirely online, with a deadline of November 15, 2023. The application link will be made available to all registered fairs during June.

An important note: *It was discussed and agreed with the fair queen coordinators that a separate “Queen Contestant Convention Registration Form” will not be a mandatory State Application attachment document. Instead, each Fair will be responsible for registering everyone who is attending convention – including the queen contestant, family, chaperones, board members, etc. – using the PSACF Convention Registration Form.*

NEW PROGRAM FEATURES:

A new fundraising item – a quarter-zip pullover with a PA Fair Queen logo. Order forms will be included with the State Application and accepted through November 15 for those wanting to pick up the items at convention.

Tentative - “Fair Queen Judges School” for Convention.

See Queen on following page

From Queen previous page...

NEW PROGRAM FEATURES: cont'd

Fair Queen Scrapbook Display at Convention – a display area will be made available at the 2024 Convention. There will be a “People’s Choice” vote and a prize awarded to the contestant whose scrapbook receives the most votes. The Communications Contest committee will consider adding it as a judged competition in future years.



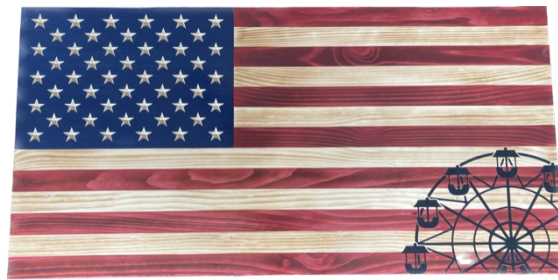
The Fair Queen Program is gearing up for another exciting fundraising event at the 2024 convention. It will include basket raffles, a live auction, 50/50 raffle, and donations and sponsorships. But we need everyone’s help to make it successful.

We encourage all fairs to either donate an item for the Basket Raffle table or the live auction. Reach out to potential sponsors, donors, and vendors from your fair or community to procure items that will support our mission to provide scholarships to worthy young ladies in PA. Ideas include household décor items, fashion accessories, artwork, handyman tools, celebrity memorabilia, gift certificates, tickets to PA attractions, or electronic technology. Just remember, the one thing we cannot accept is any baskets con-

taining liquor or wine per Hershey Lodge’s rules.



There are already some awesome prizes that have been donated including a gold Michael Kors clutch handbag, a metal art rooster, and a wooden American fair flag wall hanging.



Having the PA Fair Queen at your Fair is a great way to publicize your special events. But dates are filling up fast! So download the **PA Fair Queen Appearance Request** form and submit your request now to Bryndil Kemler - <https://www.pafairs.org/p/members/queen-program> and click on the link to be redirected to the Pennsylvania Fair Queen Program’s website. Requests are handled in the order they are received and the PA Fair Queen’s availability.

Zones 1 and 3 must elect a representative to serve on the PA Fair Queen Program’s board of directors at their Fall Zone meeting. Candidates must be from a fair that is a member of the PSACF and be able to serve a 2-year term (2024-2025) as Director. Specific nomination deadlines can be obtained from the Zone chairpersons.

The Pennsylvania Fair Queen Board and Committees are honored to have the opportunity to keep the tradition of the Pennsylvania State Fair Queen alive. As we move into the 2023 fair season with the PSACF theme - *PA County Fairs: Growing The Future*, we look forward to sharing the PA Fair Queen Program with the next generation of young women who desire to be leaders and advocates for PA fairs and agriculture.

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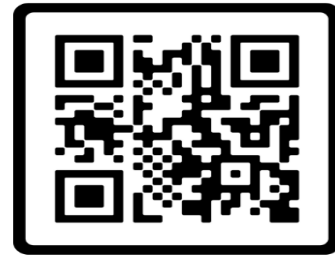


**DEADLINE
OCTOBER 1**

JUNIOR FAIR PERSON NOMINATIONS

Recognize and honor a youth Fair volunteer for his/her **blue-ribbon** efforts and achievements, and for making a difference at your fair!

**Application available at
www.pafairs.org
on the Home Page**



SCAN ME

John Blaney, Jr



John was unable to attend the Convention and is receiving his recognition plaque at the Spring Directors meeting. John was on the State Board of Directors since 1998, where he had served on various committees, was elected Vice-President and served as President of the PSACF Board 2013-2014.



From the PA State Fair Queen

It is hard to believe that my reign is already 6 months in. This year has truly been amazing, and I can't wait to start going to fairs over the next few months. Though the first few months aren't very busy, I did have a few events that I had the opportunity to go to. The first event was the Cornucopia event held at the Pennsylvania State Capital. At this event, we had a PSACF table set up where I handed out fair pamphlets and stickers. I also had the opportunity to talk with multiple local and state legislators and commissioners while I was there. My next state event was the zone 4 meeting on April 19th. At this meeting, Sarah, the State Alternate Fair Queen, and I had a chance to talk to member fairs from the zone about our year so far and the events we had planned for the upcoming months. This was a great opportunity to talk with local fairboards and get to know people before I visit their fairs this summer. Another state event I went to was the Farm City Day on May 24th at the Eco Village Greenhouse. This event was special because I had the opportunity to meet and greet with elementary students from around Harrisburg as they came to learn about many agricultural topics, from plants to dairy.

In between these state events, I had the opportunity to attend a few other local events. The first local event was my county commissioners meeting where I gave my speech on the topic "Why You Should Come to My Fair". Then, I had the chance to attend the Miss Keystone Rodeo Bullride Mania Finals. In May, I attended the ELCO FFA banquet and participated in my hometown memorial day parade. The most recent local event was my county 4-H friends meeting where I talked about becoming a local fair queen and what that role entails.

What is super exciting however, is that I have officially started my fair visits/corontions. On June 11th, I attended the Bloomsburg Fair Queen Coronation. I was honored to be a part of their coronation and cannot wait for what the rest of the summer has in store.

With all of this being said, it is summer and so many youth across the state are preparing for the upcoming fairs by working with livestock, preparing their indoor projects, or watching their vegetables sprout out of the ground hoping they'll do good at their county fair. Everyone's projects look a little bit different. For me, I am preparing for my county fairs by working with my dairy heifer Mozley, and my three market hogs Pupper, Piper, and Popper. This year's theme, "Growing the Future" could not be any more fitting for county fairs across Pennsylvania. Fairs might be one week long, however exhibitors put countless hours into their projects leading up to that one week. Commitment, responsibility, devotion, and sportsmanship are just a few of the many qualities youth learn through these projects. The future of agriculture here in Pennsylvania is so bright because of county and community fairs. I am excited to meet with many people who share the agricultural and tourism passion that I do all while promoting the importance each and every one of our county fairs has on our communities.

~Chloe Bomgardner
2023 PA State Fair Queen



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PA Fairs On Parade

A review of 2023 Pennsylvania Fairs

PA Fairs on Parade was a huge success at this year's convention so we are bringing it back for 2024. During the PSACF Banquet at the 2024 convention on Thursday January 18, 2024, we will present "PA Fairs on Parade", a picture review of our fairs. All fairs are invited to submit 7 photos from your 2023 fair.

Look for a good variety of high quality, high-resolution photos that best represent your fair. Submit 7 photos and a logo. Photos must be in .jpeg format. Your best 5 photos will be included in the presentation. Your logo will precede your photos so that everyone will be able to identify your fair.

Please email your photos and logo to Pafairsonparade@gmail.com. In the subject line of your email please enter the name of your fair. To be included in the "Fairs on Parade", we must receive your photos no later than December 15, 2023, in order to allow time to produce the presentation.

Please plan to share the best from your fair with everyone at our banquet!

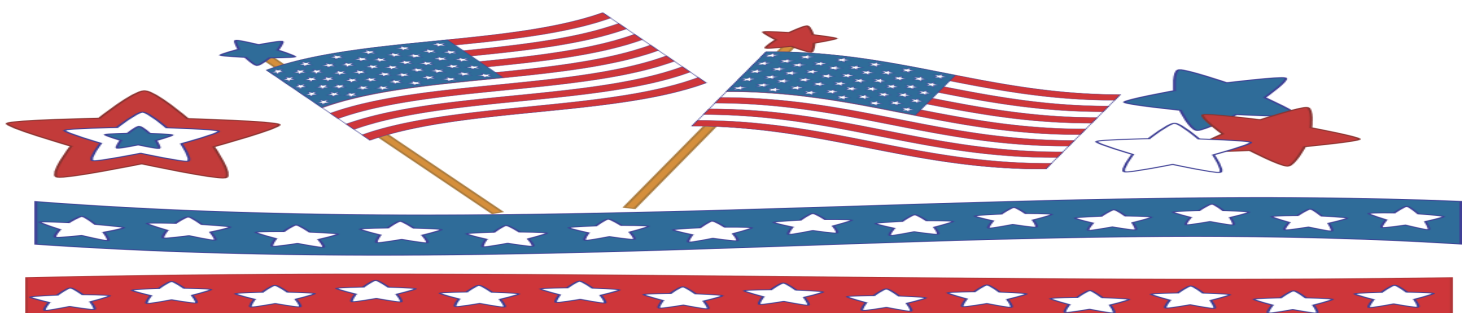


Russell Redding

Russell Redding was unanimously confirmed by the Pennsylvania Senate to serve as Pennsylvania's 27th Secretary of Agriculture on May 10, 2023. Governor Josh Shapiro nominated Redding to continue serving as secretary, after he served from 2015 – 2022 under Governor Tom Wolf. He is the former dean of the School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences at Delaware Valley University.

Redding has extensive experience as a public servant, having spent more than 30 years serving Pennsylvania in Harrisburg and Washington D.C. He worked on Capitol Hill as Ag Policy Advisor to U.S. Senator Harris Wofford and served for nearly 25 years in the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, serving as secretary from 2009-2011 under Governor Ed Rendell, and from 2015-2022 under Governor Tom Wolf. He currently serves on the Agriculture subcommittee of the USDA's Equity Commission.

He earned his B.S. in Agriculture Education and M.S. in Agriculture and Extension Education from Penn State University. In addition, he is a graduate of the Agribusiness Executive program. A native of Pennsylvania, Redding has an innate understanding of food and agriculture, stemming from his youth on his family's dairy farm and his time as a dairy farm operator. He and his wife Nina have two adult sons and own and operate a farm in Gettysburg.



Nothing “*beats*” homemade baked goods! PA Fairs are the place to go to see a great “*mix*” of scratch baker talent in communities across the state. The Special Baking contests are “*whipping*” into action with preliminary competitions for Apple Pie, Angel Food Cake, Chocolate Cake and Junior Baker Cookies/Brownies/Bars. Then the competitions will “*heat*” up as the qualified first-place winners from eligible fairs earn the opportunity to compete at the state finals at the 2024 PA Farm Show.

All fairs interested in conducting the special baking contests this year should have already submitted their Participation Form. Baking contest coordinators should **download the *Special Baking Contest Packet*** from <https://www.pafairs.org/p/members/baking-contest> This packet contains the updated 2023 contest rules, press releases and contest summary submission instructions.

Below are some reminders as we “preheat” for the 2023 baking contest season:

Fairs are responsible for any ribbons, trophies, etc. for all special baking contests.

Display the Angel Food Cake and PA Preferred Junior Baking sponsor banners. Store your banners in a safe place after the fair. The PA Special Baking Contest Committee is in the process of sending replacement banners to fairs that requested such on their Participation Form.

Fairs are encouraged to display their own signage to show that PSACF sponsors the Apple Pie and Chocolate Cake contests (*there is no special banner provided by PSACF for these contests*)

The PA Preferred Junior Baking contest is only for cookies, brownies, or bars entries.

Every participating fair must submit the Contest Summary Report by November 15 either through the Google Form <https://forms.gle/hVZAxuVU41wiQRjYA> or by paper form. It will help us communicate better about the PA Farm Show finals if fairs can provide their winners’ email addresses.

There are only sponsored premiums for the Angel Food Cake and the PA Preferred Junior Baking Cookies, Brownies, Bars contests. Fairs are responsible for premiums for Apple Pie and Chocolate Cake contests.

Fairs are **no** longer responsible for filling out the Farm Show Certification Entry forms. This is now handed by the PA Special Baking Contest Committee. Fairs will be contacted if no summary report has been received within thirty (30) days of their fair.

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

Angel Food Cake and Apple Pie Contests –

Kevin Bieber (484-256-8009, email kbieber1123@comcast.net)

Junior Baking and Chocolate Cake Contests –

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

Follow us on Facebook at @pafairsbaking where we will share information about different fairs’ contests and the PA Farm Show. Fairs are encouraged to “like” and “share” the page to generate excitement about the special baking contests.

#

M&G LEGISLATIVE UPDATE-PSACF

HARRISBURG OVERVIEW

The General Assembly will spend the remainder of June focused on negotiating a final budget package. The Constitution of Pennsylvania requires the legislature to pass a budget by June 30th.

On June 5th, the Democrat-led House quickly voted on HB 611, the General Appropriations Act of 2023. The total proposed expenditure is \$46.5 billion, which is a 13% increase over last year's budget and nearly \$1 billion more than Governor Josh Shapiro's budget proposal. The bill passed the House along party lines (102-101), with all Republicans voting against the bill. It now waits for consideration by the Republican-led Senate, where many anticipate budget cuts.

There are several other budget bills in the final package, including a fiscal code, education code, and tax code, that further outline how the budget appropriation is to be distributed and spent. The code bills are currently being negotiated by House and Senate leadership.

Shapiro Administration

Although there is a new administration, Governor Shapiro opted to retain several of the Wolf administration's cabinet members. Russell Redding was nominated to continue to serve as the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture. As you know, Redding served as Secretary under both Governor Tom Wolf and Governor Ed Rendell and previously served as Agriculture Policy Advisor to U.S. Senator Harris Wofford.

Rick Siger was appointed to become the next Secretary of Community and Economic Development (DCED). Siger was most recently the Chief of Staff to the President of Carnegie Mellon University and previously served as Chief of Staff at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy under the Obama Administration.

Both cabinet appointees were recently confirmed by the Senate with a two-thirds majority.

BUDGET LINE ITEM

So far, so good! Governor Shapiro's 2023-24 budget proposal level funded the county fairs line item at \$4,000,000.

To maintain this line item in the final budget package, we will have to continue to advocate for it with House and Senate leadership and various fair champions, including Representative Robert Leadbeter (R-Columbia) and Representative Mike Schlossberg (D-Lehigh).

As noted above, the House already moved an appropriations budget bill, HB 611. This bill also fully funded fairs at \$4,000,000. Below is a screenshot of the line item.

Please keep in mind, this is just the beginning of budget negotiations and the numbers could change again. We'll keep you updated as we move forward.

LEGISLATION

Foos Safety Mandates for Nonprofits Serving Food 12 Times a Year or Less

SB 160 (Brooks, R-Mercer): Amends Title 3 (Agriculture) by exempting nonprofits from retail food facility licensing if they operate on no more than 12 days per year.

If this legislation passed, fairs that operate concessions for more than 12 days would still need to have a license, but those that operate for less than 12 days wouldn't need a license.

The bill was introduced and referred to the Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee on January 19th, 2023. Keep in mind, similar language has been introduced several times and never received consideration in committee, so all previous introductions have died.

See M&G next page.....

From M&G previous page.....

We are expecting to see session schedules and committee chairmanships after the February special elections. In the meantime, the House seems to be at a standstill.

When the incoming House Agriculture and Tourism Committee Chairs are announced, we will make introductions (either virtually or in-person) and ensure that they are familiar with the PSACF board and all legislative concerns.

Senate

Republicans will continue to hold the majority in the Senate (28-22). They recently announced their 2023-24 leadership team:

Senator Kim Ward (Westmoreland)- *President Pro Tempore*
Senate Joe Pittman (Indiana)- *Majority Leader*
Senator Ryan Aument (Lancaster)- *Majority Whip*
Senator Scott Martin (Lancaster)- *Majority Appropriations Chair*
Senator Kristin Phillips-Hill (York)- *Majority Caucus Chair*
Senator Camera Bartolotta (Washington)- *Majority Caucus Secretary*

On the Democratic side, the leadership team is comprised of the following members:

Senator Jay Costa (Allegheny)- *Minority Leader*
Senator Tina Tartaglione (Philadelphia)- *Minority Caucus Whip*
Senator Vincent Hughes (Philadelphia)- *Minority Appropriations Chair*
Wayne D. Fontana (Allegheny)- *Minority Caucus Chair*
Maria Collett (Montgomery)- *Minority Caucus Secretary*

The Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee Chairs will continue to be Majority Chair Elder Vogel (R-Beaver) and Minority Chair Judy Schwank (D-Berks). The tourism committee, also known as the Senate Community, Economic and Recreational Development Committee (CERD), has two new chairs this session: Majority Chair Chris Gebhard (R-Lebanon) and Minority Chair Anthony Williams (D-Philadelphia).

Shapiro Administration

On Tuesday, January 17th, Josh Shapiro was sworn-in as the 48th Governor of Pennsylvania and has already started nominating his cabinet members. **Of interest to the fairs, Russell Redding was nominated to continue to serve as the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture.** As you know, Redding served as Secretary of Agriculture under both Governor Tom Wolf and Governor Ed Rendell and previously served as Agriculture Policy Advisor to U.S. Senator Harris Wofford.

In addition, Rick Siger was appointed to become the next Secretary of Community and Economic Development (DCED). Siger is currently Chief of Staff to the President of Carnegie Mellon University and previously served as Chief of Staff at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy under the Obama Administration.

All cabinet appointees must be confirmed by the Senate with a two-thirds majority. In the meantime, they will serve as acting secretaries.

Our office is fully prepared to work with the newly elected and appointed officials and will make sure the fairs continue to have an active voice in the Capitol.

BUDGET LINE ITEM

Good news! The county fairs line item was fully funded in the 2022-23 budget at \$4,000,000.

In addition, it should be noted that **the budget provided an additional \$32 million to combat the avian flu including:**

\$1 million for additional staffing at the Department of Agriculture;
\$25 million for indemnity payments to impacted farms; and
\$6 million for increased laboratory surveillance activities.

See M&G next page.....

From M&G previous page.....

Solicitation of Funds for Volunteer Fire Companies

HB 794 (Ecker, R-Adams): Amends the Solicitation of Funds for Charitable Purposes Act (Act 202 of 1990) by exempting volunteer fire companies from audit requirements regardless of whether they utilize a 3rd party fundraiser, which only handles tasks such as mailers, and the money received goes directly from the contributor to the volunteer fire company.

We've incorporated language to amend the definitions of "professional solicitors" and "solicitation," with the goal of ensuring that showmen are not to be considered "professional solicitors" and would not have to register with the Department.

The bill was introduced and referred to the House State Government Committee on April 3rd, 2023. PSSA is supportive of this bill and will be actively advocating for its support.

Increasing the Minimum Wage

HB 1500 (Dawkins, D-Philadelphia): Amends the Minimum Wage Act requiring the tipped minimum wage to be 60 percent of the cash wage and gradually raising the minimum wage to \$15 per hour by Jan. 1, 2026, and increasing each Jan. 1 based on the Consumer Price Index.

The bill was passed by the House Labor and Industry Committee on June 13th, 2023, with a party-line vote, all Republicans in opposition. It was sent to the House floor for its consideration. Please note that we anticipate some version of a minimum wage increase occurring during this year's budget negotiations.

OTHER

Legislative Reception

PSACF hosted a legislative reception at our office on June 5th. While we originally anticipated about 30 legislators, unfortunately, the House unexpectedly ran a budget bill that night, so all House members had to remain in the Capitol to vote.

We were still able to have a productive event and speak directly with about 10 legislators and staff, including:

Senator John DiSanto's (R-Dauphin) Office

Senator Scott Hutchinson (R-Venango)

Senate Appropriations Chairman Scott Martin's (R-Lancaster) Office

Senator Doug Mastriano's (R-Franklin) Office

Senator Pat Stefano (R-Fayette)

Senate Agriculture & Rural Affairs Committee Chairman Elder Vogel (R-Beaver) and

Senator Judy Ward (R-Blair).

Thank you to each PSACF board member and guest who attended. Your time was well spent and the facetime with the legislators was an especially effective reminder during the budget negotiations.

As always, please feel free to contact our office with any questions or concerns. We look forward to continuing to represent you in the 2023-24 legislative session.

[Huntingdon County Fair Queen Program](#)



The Huntingdon County Fair Queen sponsored a bake sale with proceeds going to the Mignot/PSACF Scholarship Program.

FY 2022-2023

Fair Program Calendar Deadlines



June 1, 2023	Friend of the Fair Award Nominations Due
June 30, 2023	FY 2023-2024 Capital Improvement Project Matching Funds Grant Applications Due
July 1, 2023	FY 2022-2023 Contract Extension Requests Due for Capital Improvement Matching Funds Grants
August 1, 2023	FY 2022-2023 Capital Improvement Matching Fund Grant Projects Complete
August 31, 2023	FY 2022-2023 Capital Improvement Matching Fund Grant Final Report/Certificates of Completion, Photos and Invoices/Proof of Payment Due
November 1, 2023	Last day to submit Fair Poster Contest Entries
November 15, 2023	Fair Premium Reimbursement Applications Due

You don't have to wait until the deadline to submit your reporting paperwork; you can file it with us well in advance. **It will help to speed up the payment process!**

Update from The Zones

1

Zone One –Sam Zaffuto

Our Spring meeting was held at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds on April 21. We had 110 people from Twenty-five of our fairs join us for an informative meeting. A delicious meal that was provided by Shannon Shaffer's Catering was enjoyed by all in attendance.

Our state officers were all present and gave us an update on the state association. Marc Critz our regional Director from the Department of Agriculture joined us for the meeting. Tracy Barone, our fair fund administrator updated everyone on funding and reimbursement issues from the Department of Agriculture.

A raffle in support of the Msgr. John Mignot Scholarship program was sponsored by The Erie County Fair at Wattsburg. Over \$600 was raised that night bringing the total raised at zone one meetings to well over \$6,000. Thank you for your support. Remember that the deadline to apply for the scholarship program for this year is June 30. All the information about the scholarship program can be found on our state Association website: pafairs.org. We are looking for a fair to sponsor the raffle at our fall zone meeting. If you would like to be our sponsor for the fall, please contact me. Most fairs in zone one are busy planning for their fairs. Our zone one directors plan to visit all of our fairs this summer. If you have any questions or concerns or any suggestions for the state association, please let your zone visitor know.

Please mark your calendars for our fall meeting, which will be held on Friday October 20 at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds. We will elect a representative to the Queen Board from our zone. More information about this will be available as we get closer to the meeting. Awards for zone person of the Year and Jr Fair Person will be presented. Please plan to nominate someone from your fair for these awards.

Let's hope we all have successful fairs this year.

2

Zone Two— Roger Dirlam

I would like to thank West End Fair for hosting the spring zone meeting. Everything went well making for a very successful meeting. We had sixteen fairs in attendance. Eight fairs were absent. Our fair fall zone meeting will be at Montour Delong Community Fair. I am hoping for a better attendance at the fall meeting.

Hopefully Mother Nature cooperates this fair season and everyone can enjoy the summer fairs' fun, food, and entertainment. The directors and I will be out visiting the fairs.

Your Capital Improvement Projects are due June 30, 2023.

Monsignor Mignot Scholarships are also due on June 30, 2023.

With that said, I wish everyone a great fair season and an enjoyable summer.

See you at the fall zone meeting.

3

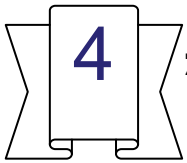
Zone Three— Debbie Stephenson

Hello to all! I hope this finds all our fairs in preparation for their fairs for the upcoming season. We had our zone 3 meeting at the Westmoreland County Fairgrounds on April 27, at 6:00 pm. President Martha Ebersole opened the meeting with a prayer of thanks followed by the pledge of allegiance. PA Dept of Ag Tracy Barone updated us on ticks and tick spray, Capital Improvement Grant deadline June 30, Friend of the Year Award deadline June 1. Regional Director Mark Critz of the Department of Ag was also in attendance. Senator John Fettermans South Western Regional Representative Mitchell Henderson was in attendance and was introduced to all fairs. He stated that he was very impressed with our fairs and was interested in helping fairs and what great importance we are to the industry. He will be going to some of our fairs so look out for him at your fairs. Ruth Trombetta updated us on the Queen and where she has been and what she has to look forward to for the coming year ahead since being crowned.

See Update next page

See Update from previous

Secretary Harry Reffner updated us on items from convention, attendance. Vice President Craig Lash gave a financial report and we have a small amount left in our account. He also stated that we are opening a new checking account for our Zone 3. Jana Malot spoke on Judges School and attendance was good for those who took the course and would be added to the list of judges for PA. Remember also that your zone 3 directors will be coming around to check and see what new things you have updated, constructed and revamped!! We had a wonderful meal and lots of door prizes that we greatly appreciate from all of you! See you next time at the Westmoreland County Fairgrounds on October 26 at 6:00 PM for sign in. Good Luck to all of your fairs for a prosperous season!!



Zone Four — Kevin Bieber

It is so hard to believe, but your Zone 4 Director's are all getting ready for another round of fair visits. While writing this article, two of our Zone 4 fairs have already

had their fair. It is our hope that your fairs experienced good weather and large crowds. Please remember to invite your local legislators to your fair. Take the time to show them around and tell them your fair story. Talk to them about what your fair means to your community as well as make them aware of any challenges you are having. Please remember that these are the individuals that will help us maintain our funding from the state budget.

Thank you to all of you, the volunteers, the individuals that work so hard to put on the best fair you can. Without you, your community would not have a fair. Don't forget to work closely with your Showmen as between the both of you, you can take your fair to the next level.

I assure you that your Zone 4 Directors are ready to get out there and visit your fair. Thank you in advance for all that you do for your fairs. Please also keep in mind of some very important dates that you can find in this issue. Just some of those things to keep in mind include the Scholarship Applications, Zone Fair Person of the Year and Zone Junior Fair Person of the Year.

Once again, thank you for all you do and have a great fair season !!!!!!!



GEORGE MOFFETT PASSES

George Moffett, one of the entertainment industry's most respected and beloved talent buyers passed away on Sunday, May 14 at Genesis Hospital in Zanesville. George was a unique individual, and in the country music community and county fair industry, thousands of people considered him a friend. It would be hard to access the number of lives he touched in his 55-year career.

Not only a fan of music, George also had a love for the circus world, with all of the animals, the high wire performers, the daredevils, and the excitement the circuses brought to small towns. He recognized this and started booking the animal acts and the high wire acts at local and county fairs across the country.

George was a man who found his passion and lived it daily, as he dedicated his entire life to the entertainment business. He had a natural sense of caring for his clients and colleagues. Those who knew him can attest to that.

His legacy will live forever with the George Moffett Scholarship that is endowed at Belmont University in Nashville and awarded annually to a deserving student majoring in an accredited music business class.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the George Moffett Scholarship Fund by going to <https://www.ieba.org/educational-outreach> or contacting Pam Matthews at 615-670-9601

Message from Our Associates



June 2023

And just like that – it's PA fair season again!

The dates for the next convention in Hershey are January 17 – 20, 2024. At the state fair board meeting in April, it was announced that our reserved block of rooms is open to book as of June 1st. We are urged to book early. You can always cancel your room later if you are unable to attend.

Welcome new associate members!

Musicians, bands, jugglers, magicians, tribute bands – any acts who wish to submit an application for the Talent Showcase, now is an ideal time to capture segments of your summer performances (see application information below). The date of the showcase is Wednesday, January 17th, 2024. This has become a highlight of the convention and we thank all fairs who book the showcase acts at their fair, as well as those who are in the Tradeshow.

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 to entertain prior to the banquet on Thursday evening in the Chocolate Ballroom lobby.

Applications to showcase are mailed in the fall and along with that completed application, acts are to submit links to their performances ("live," not produced) for the committee to review. Sending a link to a short segment of the summer shows you are about to do is an ideal way to show potential fairs what you are all about.

As always, thank you everybody for our continued partnership with fairs, associates and showmen!

Have a great fair season!

Galla dangalla@uplink.net

Welcome New Associates!

Attractions, Animal/Zoo

Tree Family Party Piggies

22674 State Highway 285 Cochran PA 16314

Phone: (814) 795-9358

WebSite: www.treefamilypartypiggies.com E-Mail: treefamilypartypiggies@gmail.com

Info: Mini pet pig entertainment offering petting, feeding, and photo opportunities, kissing booth, tricks and shout painting.

Attractions, Miscellaneous

Boston Bachert Entertainment

3611 Old Philadelphia Pike PO Box 331 Intercourse PA 17534

Phone: (717) 304-2407

WebSite: www.bostonbachert.com E-Mail: bdbachert@gmail.com

Info: Boston Bachert combines circus arts, juggling, magic and audience participation to entertain and engage audiences.

Food Concessions

Cals Concessions DBA Taste our Balls

295 Andover St Wilkes-Barre PA 18702

Phone: (570) 709-6705

WebSite: tasteourballs.com E-Mail: calsconcessionsinc@gmail.com

Info: Deep Fried Balls! Flavor include Buffalo Chicken, Bacon Cheeseburger & More!

Musical Attractions

Stephanie & the Wild Hearts

111 Tina Drive Hollidaysburg PA 16648

Phone: (814) 215-5317

WebSite: stephanieAndTheWildHearts.com E-Mail: stephanieandthewildhearts@gmail.com

Info: Danceable, family-friendly classic to modern country and rock & roll music



PSACF Association Update

Msgr. John W. Mignot/PSACF Scholarship Program

Deadlines to remember: applicant must submit completed application to sponsoring fair by June 30; sponsoring fair must complete endorsement section and submit application to zone chairperson by July 31. Funds are currently available to release all 6 scholarships.

Fair Dues

105 Fairs were mailed their yearly packet; if you have not received the packet please contact the Office.

Fair Person of the Year

A Fair Person of the Year application is available in the "Member Fairs Only" section of the association website. Completed applications must be post-marked no later than November 1st.

2024 Convention

Committees met with Hershey on June 15 planning the 2024 Convention. Room rates are \$123 for a single, and \$126 for a double, both plus 11% taxes. Banquet selection and pricing are to be announced. The Friday night PSSA banquet's theme will revolve around a Sock Hop, details will be coming. As you review the article from Kevin, we are very pleased that we will have the dynamic Marla Calico with us at Convention. See room article below.

Junior Fair Person of the Year

Please see article on nomination in this issue.

Legislator Reception

Your officers, board members and a Fair President met with legislators at the Milliron office in Harrisburg. The House was in session late and we were not able to meet with them. However the members of the Senate who attended received the message regarding our 107 Fairs and were very supportive.

IAFE Zone 1 Meeting

16 attendees were from Pennsylvania, 15 from our Fairs and one was the entertainment who came from Elizabethtown. See article in this issue.

Harry

The PA State Association of County Fairs room block is OPEN and guests may begin to reserve their room reservations.

Your guests may begin to reserve their room reservations by calling the **Hershey Lodge Reservation office at 855-729-3108**, and asking for the room block for the **PA State Association of County Fairs, January 16 - 21, 2024.**

The Hershey Lodge Reservation office hours: Monday - Sunday, 8:00am - 8:30pm

Your Group's Room rate is:

One person in Room: \$123.00 per room per night plus 11% taxes
Two or more persons in the Room: \$126.00 per room per night plus 11% taxes

We are asking guests for their credit card numbers to guarantee their reservations, but NO advance deposits are being charged at the time the guest is booking their room reservation.

You're Group's cancellation policy is:

Cancellations must be received by the end of day, Wednesday, January 10, 2024. Any room reservation cancelled after this date, a cancellation fee of one night's room and tax will be charged to the guest's credit card.

Guests who need to reserve their room reservations in the Showmen Hallway, Rooms 2200 - 2250, please have them call me, and I will assist them with reserving their assigned room in this section. Could we ask these guests to contact me by Friday, Oct 27, 2023. I could provide you with the names of the guests who have not reserved their room reservation after this date, giving you time to check to see if the guest will be attending your conference.

(Michele Maxwell - Office Number: 717-534-8696)₂₀