



**For Immediate Release**

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**ANNUAL 'TOAST TO DAIRY' EVENT DRAWS 400 PEOPLE TO CELEBRATE PA DAIRY AND  
SUPPORT DAIRY EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION**

*Close to 400 People Attended the Farm-to-Fork Event With All Proceeds Supporting Foundation*

**Harrisburg, Pa.** – The Dairy Excellence Foundation’s “A Toast to Dairy” fundraiser event drew close to 400 people from across the dairy industry to Melhorn Manor in Mount Joy this June. Featuring meal stations sourced with Pennsylvania Preferred ingredients, artisan cheese sampling from the PA Cheese Guild, and a casual, upbeat atmosphere, all proceeds from the event support the Dairy Excellence Foundation’s mission to empower the next generation of dairy.

“Our ‘Toast to Dairy’ event has grown over the last few years to be such a memorable and beautiful evening for celebrating Pennsylvania dairy. Because of everyone who supported the event, we were able to raise close to \$80,000 that will directly impact our on-farm internship program, provide scholarship opportunities, and offer dairy education programming for students of all ages this school year,” said Emily Barge, Communications and Marketing Manager at the Dairy Excellence Foundation. “From artisan cheese and beef brisket to cheese fondue, root beer floats, and ice cream, we’re grateful for the local businesses who support this event every year and allow our attendees to get a true taste of Pennsylvania dairy.”

This year’s event featured farm-to-fork food stations sourced with local products from 45 food donors, artisan cheeses from the Pennsylvania Cheese Guild, and beverages from local wineries, breweries and distilleries – several of which are owned by dairy farmers. Attendees also enjoyed desserts, a photo booth, live artists, and a live raffle.

“The evening is a wonderfully social event that supports the dairy industry and the family farms we so desperately need in Pennsylvania,” shared one attendee.

“I enjoyed the various food stations, connecting with industry members, and the overall passion and excitement of the evening,” added another attendee.

Thank you to the following businesses who sponsored the 2026 event: 4Ward Ag, Acuity Advisors and CPAs, Agri-Applicators, AgVets Associates, Apex Ag-Tek Solutions, Balsbaugh Insurance Agency, Cargill Animal Nutrition, Cherry Bekaert Advisory LLC, Colebrook Crossing, Cornerstone HR & Management Consulting, Corteva Seeds/Pioneer, Dairy Farmers of America, Dairy One, David and Janet Hileman Family Foundation, Farmer Boy, Feedworks USA, First Citizens Community Bank, Fisher & Thompson Inc., Fulton Bank, G5 Agency, Good Roots Consulting, Harvest Rock Investments, Horizon Farm Credit, Hostetter & Hostetter CPA, JBZ Dairy Advantage, K&K Feeds, KDR, Lancaster DHIA, Land O’ Lakes, Maola Local Dairies, Mark Hershey Farms, Messick’s, Milky

Haven Farms, Morrissey Insurance, New Holland Agriculture, PA Preferred, Pennian Bank, Pennsylvania Beef Council, Peter Ressler (Wells Fargo), Progressive Dairy Solutions, Red Barn Ag, Savencia Cheese, Scotch Hill Solutions, Simon & Lever, TeamAg, The Foundation for Enhancing Communities, The Giant Company, The North Group, True Edge Consulting, Univest, Valley Grange, and Weaver Associates.

A total of 30 dairy farms also sponsored the event: Apple Shamrock Dairy Farms, Ar-Joy Farms LLC, Brubaker Farms, Cool Springs Farm, Dry Creek Farms, Evergreen Farms, Franklin View Farms, Furnace Hill Holsteins, Jobo Holsteins, Jubilee Dairy LLC, Kish-View Farms, Meadow Spring Farm, Meadow Vista Farms, Misty Mountain Dairy, Mount Rock Dairy, Orchard Crest Farm, Oregon Dairy Farmstead, Penn England Farms, Pleasant Lane Farms, Pleasant View Farms, Reinford Farms, Ricecrest Farms, Rohrer Dairy Farms, S&A Kreider and Sons, Schrack Farms, Star Rock Farms, Stoner Hijos Farms, Talview Dairy LLC, Walmoore Holsteins, and Zugstead Farms.

“This year we reached more than \$55,000 in sponsorships and had more than 83 generous sponsors and donors. We are truly grateful for this support,” shared Jayne Sebright, Executive Director at the Dairy Excellence Foundation. “Many of this year’s sponsors were directly from the dairy farm, demonstrating just how much our farm community believes in supporting the next generation of dairy. By supporting this event, these dairy farms are helping the Foundation continue to reach more students who are passionate about a future career in dairy farming.”

In addition to these financial sponsors, several businesses made in-kind contributions by donating artisan cheese, food products, flowers, raffle baskets, and more. Thank you to these businesses for their in-kind donations: AHS Dairy Goat Farm, Appalachian Brewing Company, Ashcombe Farm and Greenhouses, Bell & Evans, Cabot Creamery, Center for Dairy Excellence (Staff and Board), Colebrook Crossing, Country Corner Meat Market, Crystal Imagery and Julie Noel Design, Crystal Spring Farm, Dairy Farmers of America, DelGrosso’s, Deliteful Dairy, Flinchbaugh’s Orchard and Farm Market, Foltz’s Pretzels, Four Seasons Produce, Fox Meadows Creamery, Giorgio Fresh, Golden Guernsey Soap, Hallowed Ground Honey, Hall’s Ice Cream, Hillacres Pride, Homestead Cultures, Homestead Nutrition, JDK Catering, June Kocher, Karn’s Quality Foods, Klein Farms, Kreider Farms, Lake Tobias, Lancaster DHIA, Lancaster Pie and Coffee, Lancaster Stormers, Lanco-Pennland Quality Producers, Lapp Valley Farms, Living Smart Granola, Maple Bottom Farm, Martin’s Potato Rolls, Masonic Village Farm Market, Melissa Mattilio - Dairy Girls Giant Cow Rental, Merrymead Farms, Molly Pitcher Milk LLC, Moore Meats LLC, Mud Luv Pottery, Nauvoo Farm’s Produce Stand, Old Mill Creamery, Oregon Dairy, Pampered Chef, Patches Family Creamery, Patterson Farm, Penn Ag Industries, Pennian Bank, Pennsylvania Potato Cooperative, Pepe Saya Buttery, Pike Creek Coffee Roasters, Renewal Kombucha, Ritchey’s Dairy, Riverside Blooms, Rocky Ridge Meats, Roots Beer Distributor, Rutter’s, S Clyde Weaver, Inc., Savencia Cheese, Talking Breads Bakery, The Foundation for Enhancing Communities, The Hershey Company, The Marketplace at John Gross and Hatfield Meats, The Painterland Sisters, The Pennsylvania Bakery, The Pennsylvania Cheese Guild, The Savory Gourmet, Troegs Independent Brewing, Utz, Way-Har Farms, Weaver Insurance Associates, WEIS Markets, Wilbur Chocolate and Cargill, Windy Ridge Dairy, Yoder’s Country Market, and Zinpro.

Learn more about the annual fundraiser event at [centerfordairyexcellence.org/toasttodairy](https://centerfordairyexcellence.org/toasttodairy). To see how you can get involved in the 2027 event, contact Emily Barge at [ebarge@centerfordairyexcellence.org](mailto:ebarge@centerfordairyexcellence.org) or call 717-788-0300.

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The Center for Dairy Excellence Foundation of Pennsylvania is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax deductible organization that is Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) approved. Established in 2010, the foundation's mission is to build and invest in programs that cultivate and empower the next generation of producers, consumers, and advocates for the Pennsylvania dairy industry. Learn more at [centerfordairyexcellence.org/our-foundation/](http://centerfordairyexcellence.org/our-foundation/).

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