



Safety Day Sentinel

News from the Progressive Agriculture Foundation

Our Mission:

Provide education, training and resources to make farm, ranch and rural life safer and healthier for children and their communities.

Our Vision:

No child would become ill, injured or die from farm, ranch and rural activities.

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New Faces, Fond Farewells to Progressive Agriculture Foundation Board of Directors

We extend our sincere gratitude to Filemon Guzman, Dr. Aaron Yoder, and Marcel Hacault, members of the Progressive Agriculture Foundation Board of Directors, as their terms concluded at the end of the 2020 calendar year.

Representing 5-star sponsor Nutrien, Filemon Guzman joined the board in 2015. Guzman successfully served two consecutive, 3-year terms serving in the role of board chairperson in 2020. Guzman previously provided leadership in the role of vice-chairperson for two years.

For the past six years, Dr. Aaron Yoder represented one of the board seats reserved for safety & health specialists. In 2020, Yoder provided leadership as the vice-chairperson. He also served as a past board treasurer. Along with fellow board members, Yoder helped co-chair a special ad-hoc committee dealing with the foundation's response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and provide guidance on



a safe return to in-person programming. He will continue to serve on this committee, despite the end of his board tenure.

Since assuming the position of Executive Director of the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA) in 2004, Marcel Hacault has served on our board in an ex-officio role. Since 2002, the Progressive Agriculture Foundation has been partnering with CASA to offer Progressive Agriculture Safety Days throughout Canada. After 18 years, Hacault will be retiring from his role.



With Guzman and Yoder's departure, the board welcomed Jamey Henne (pictured below on left), Vice President of Industrial Operations of Bunge North America, to fill one of the sponsor positions and Dr. Josie Rudolphi (pictured below in center), Assistant Professor of Agricultural and Biological Engineering at the University of Illinois, who will serve as one of the safety and health specialist positions. Both Henne and Rudolphi began serving their term on January 1, 2021. [Andrea Lear](#) (picture below on right), CASA's incoming Chief Executive Officer will replace Hacault in serving in an ex-officio position.



Congratulations to our newest slate of 2021 board officers: Frank Dowdle, Chairperson; Jeanette Dame, Vice-Chairperson; Tyrone Gentry, Secretary; and Jane Graves, Treasurer. For a complete listing of board members and their affiliations, visit our [website](#).

Welcome Logan Hall, Marketing Communications Manager

Please join us as we welcome Logan Hall to the role of Marketing Communications Manager of the Progressive Agriculture Foundation. Previously, Hall served as an Extension Educator for the 4-H Youth Development program with Penn State Extension based in Chester County. Prior to his role in Extension, Hall worked as Deputy Communications Director with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, serving under two Administrations. He also freelances developing print and electronic media to aid in strategic marketing with his clients. Hall will be based out of his home office in the southeast corner of Pennsylvania.



In his new position, which officially began on March 1, 2021, Hall will be managing the foundation's brand and communications across multiple platforms. He will work cross-functionally with both the program and partnership engagement team to ensure that the foundation is effectively targeting prospective Progressive Agriculture Safety Day coordinators, volunteers, supporters, and financial partners.

Click [here](#) for the full press release.

Preparing for a gradual return to in-person Safety Days after April 1, 2021

Last spring, the Progressive Agriculture Foundation (PAF) formed a



special committee to discuss and review guidelines related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including determine when it may be safe to resume to in-person and best practices for the program moving forward. The committee, comprised and led by several PAF Board Members, meet regularly to make decisions based on the best interests of the program while ensuring:

1. ***The safety and health of our staff, volunteers, and Safety Day participants remain our top priority.***
2. ***We never place someone in an uncomfortable situation where they feel unsafe working, volunteering, or participating in a Safety Day.***
3. ***Our volunteers and participants are not placed in a harmful situation during or after a Safety Day.***

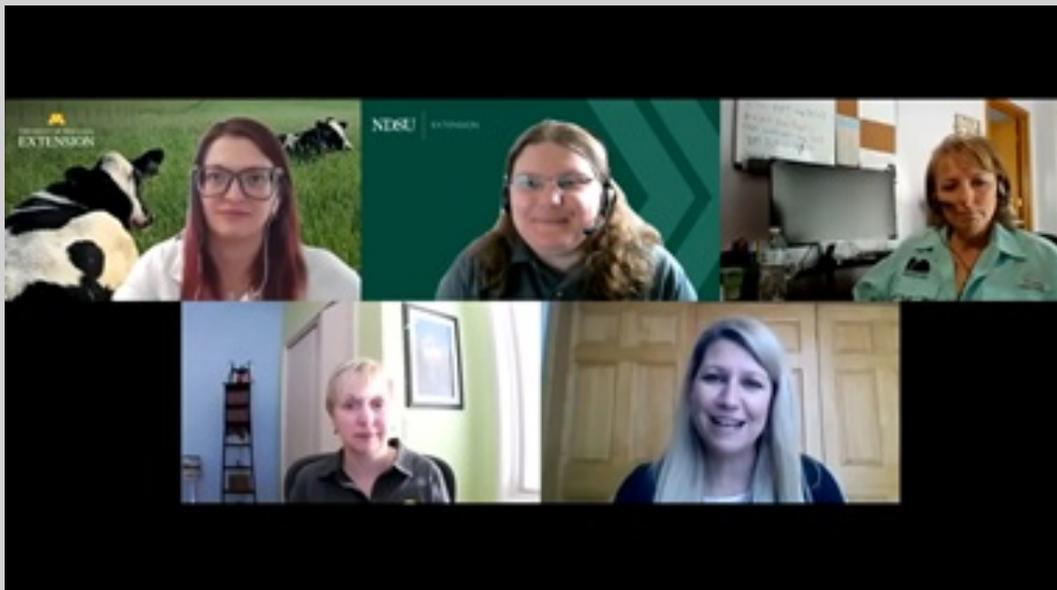
The current stance is that ALL EVENTS held through April 1, 2021 must happen virtually (this includes events for both staff and volunteers). However, plans are being finalized to allow school-based Progressive Agriculture Safety Days to resume in-person events after April 1st with certain safety and health protocols in place around social distancing, face masks, handwashing, disinfecting, and meals/snacks. Community-based events have not been given clearance for in-person at this time, but the committee will continue to evaluate with virtual remaining as an option for 2021. The Foundation is diligently communicating the process of returning to in-person with coordinators through various forms of correspondence, including two recent open calls via Zoom.

Davidson serves as Panelist for Youth Farm Safety Webinar

On February 18, 2021, Progressive Agriculture Foundation's Education Content Specialist, Jana Davidson, was featured as a panelist on a Youth Farm Safety webinar hosted by the University of Minnesota Extension and North Dakota State University Extension, as one session of a 5-part series offered this winter.

In addition to Davidson, other panelists include Marsha Salzwedel with the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety and Diane Rohlman with University of Iowa College of Public Health. The webinar was moderated by Emily Krekelberg, Farm Safety & Health Extension Educator with University of Minnesota Extension, along with Angie Johnson of North Dakota State University. For upcoming March sessions or a look at past webinar topics, click [here](#).

Click [here](#) to view a recording of the Youth Farm Safety webinar.



PAF works with University of Illinois to create, expand mental health resources for farmers and rural families

North Central Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Center



Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture, through the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network grant program, awarded nearly \$7.2 million in investment funding for the North Central Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Center.

The Progressive Agriculture Foundation is both excited and honored to be part of North Central Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Center. This 12-state collaborative will create and expand stress management and mental health resources and services to agricultural producers and stakeholders in the North Central region. The project is led by Dr. Josie Rudolphi, assistant professor in agricultural and biological engineering and in-coming Progressive Agriculture Foundation Board Member, and Dr. Courtney Cuthbertson, assistant professor in human development and family studies, both in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences at the University of Illinois and both specialists with University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

To read more about this project, click [here](#) or view the latest February newsletter [here](#).

Looking back, as well as ahead, at Safety Day Coordinator Trainings

On January 28, 2021, the Progressive Agriculture Foundation wrapped up their Safety Day Coordinator Training season, which was offered fully online for 2021 in the new PAF Training Center. In total, 388 individuals completed training this year, including 299 lead coordinators, 85 assistant coordinators, and 4 guests. New coordinators, completing their first or second year in the role, first enrolled in Safety Day Builder, an at-your-own-pace training course aimed at familiarizing volunteers with their role and planning of their event. These coordinators also received one-on-one mentoring with PAF Program Specialist, Bernard Geschke. Both new and experienced coordinators then participated in one of 26 live, two-hour webinars that highlighted important program updates. Look at some of the feedback received:



- *“Positive start to being a coordinator.”* Duane Fisher, Progressive Agriculture Safety Day Coordinator in Vinton, Iowa
- *“The Progressive Agriculture Foundation did a great job adjusting to the demands of COVID. I have used some of your positive “make it happen” approach to some of my own job, so keep inspiring folks!”* Crystal Fullerton, Progressive Agriculture Safety Day Coordinator in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island
- *“The Progressive Agriculture Foundation always does a great job of training their coordinators and making staff available for questions and inquiries. The support for adapting programming within a pandemic environment has been great!”* Shari Hinz, Progressive Agriculture Safety Day Coordinator in Humboldt, Saskatchewan
- *“Best online training I have participated in as a coordinator. Thank you for the detailed explanation of the Virtual Progressive Agriculture Safety Day. It may open the doors for different ways to do safety education.”* Calley Runnels, Progressive Agriculture Safety Day Coordinator in Tulia, Texas

In an effort to continue to both enhance and customize the Safety Day coordinator's experience; ***the Progressive Agriculture Foundation is offering a series of training booster sessions*** Boosters will be offered live in the PAF Training Center as a FREE, one-hour, lunch and learn opportunity for our valued Safety Day coordinators. Registration is open to all Safety Day coordinators that completed their 2021 required training requirements. More than 15 sessions have been planned and will be held weekly from February through April from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Central time. These continuing education opportunities allow coordinators to learn more about a specific topic through a question-and-answer session with special guest panelists. Sessions are optional and will also be recorded for coordinators to view on-demand.

To view the full listing of booster sessions and panelists, click [here](#).

Safety Tip – Always Protect Your Melon from a Brain Injury

In a hazardous workplace, or if you play sports, enjoy riding a horse, bike, or ATV (all-terrain vehicle), wearing a helmet can potentially save your life in the event of an incident and can be your best defense in preventing a brain injury. To bring a greater awareness to this issue, ***Brain Injury Awareness Month is being celebrated throughout the month of March.***



Did you know brain injuries are the leading cause of disability and death in children and adolescents? According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the two age groups at the greatest risk for brain injury are those between the ages of 0-4 and 15-19. Read more about the causes, impairments, and the power of a properly fitted helmet in our recent blog post, [Wear Your Helmet: Protect your Melon from a Brain Injury](#).

For more safety tips, be sure to stay connected with us via social media:



LIKE us on [Facebook](#)
FOLLOW us on [Twitter](#)
FOLLOW us on [Instagram](#)
FOLLOW us on [LinkedIn](#)

SUBSCRIBE to our [YouTube Channel](#)
SUBSCRIBE to our [Safety and Health for Rural Families WordPress Blog](#)

1.8M AND COUNTING.
BUT NOT WITHOUT
YOUR HELP.

► Text the word SAFETYDAY to 44321 ► Click on the Donate Now button at [progressiveag.org](#)



YOU can help send another child to a Progressive Agriculture Safety Day. Gifts, both large and small, are always appreciated and are tax-deductible. Donate either ***in honor of*** or ***in memory of*** a loved one to help us continue our mission of *providing education, training and resources to make farm, ranch and rural life safer and healthier for children and their communities*. Here are three (3) easy ways to give:

1. Text the word "SAFETYDAY" to 44321
2. Click our website's [DONATE NOW](#) button
3. Send a payment via mail to the Progressive Agriculture Foundation, P.O. Box 530425, Birmingham, AL 35253



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