**PA NEN News:**

**You’re Invited to PA NEN’s Board Meeting!**

PA NEN members are invited to attend all Board meetings as guests. Find out what PA NEN has on their plate! The next PA NEN Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 2, 2016, from 10:00 AM-2:30 PM, at the Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP by Wednesday, April 13 to Julie at jbartol@phmc.org.

For more details, visit PA NEN’s Board Meeting page.

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**International News:**

In 2014 the arsenic level in brown rice scared people from eating it. Here is one nutrition expert’s response to this outcry and another on YouTube. More recently, the issue was addressed again when the Food and Drug Administration found that ½ of infant rice cereals did not meet their proposed product safety limit on in-organic arsenic.

A nutrition expert comments on Bisphenol-A (BPA) in our canned foods.

A large commission of health professionals supports the vegetarian or plant-based diet.

This brief is an amazing primer to the newest Dietary Guidelines. See all that it entails.

The systems approach to reducing obesity recognizes that there is no one-size-fits-all method to reducing obesity in each community.

Leftover food from this Indian restaurant is given to the hungry through a “community fridge”.

What’s the role of a supermarket dietitian, you ask?

What is in that banana? Beta-carotene to help the hungry fight off blindness. This article expands on the pros, cons, challenges, and much more that comes with creating and distributing them.
National News:

A rural grocery store failed, so the local community banded together to save it.

Colorado’s food waste turns into electric.

Unhealthy eating starts in the toddler years. The beautiful charts in this article support this point.

Home healthcare opens opportunities for registered dietitians.

Local News:

Philadelphia: On your mark, get set...Seniors (75+) race for the finish during Penn Relays. You can watch their inspiring stories in this video.

Philadelphia: Philadelphia is on the verge of making the tax on soda more politically feasible.

Resources:

The Food and Nutrition Service published the final rule on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) nutrition education and obesity prevention grant. It outlines how grants are awarded, any amendments, and implements the physical activity section of 2014 Farm Bill which allows both exercise and healthy food choices to be promoted.

The Journal of the American Medical Association printed this report, "Lifespan weighed down by diet."

The 2017 SNAP-Ed Plan Guidance and templates are available.

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) released an updated report on how to incorporate USDA Foods into school lunch, how to receive funding for these foods, a list of foods available, their nutritional content, and much more!
The **Consumer Price Index** (CPI) for food shares changes in retail food prices. The Economic Research Service regularly updates food price forecasts.

**Back to top**

**Social Media:**

A national food policy conference was held by the Consumer Federation of America this week. Follow the #FPC2016 hashtag for insights and resources from the event.

Are you living near a safe place to be active? Is your house close to a grocery store? Do you have easy access to healthcare, if need be? This [infographic](#) shares how your living circumstances impacts your health.

It’s National Public Health Week (NPHW), and the American Public Health Association hosted its sixth annual [NPHW Twitter Chat](#) on April 6. Follow the [@NPHW](#) Twitter page to learn more about their 2016 Twitter Chat! Or, see all the posts with the #NPHWchat hashtag in your twitter feed to easily search for what others have contributed.

**Back to top**

**Webinars:**

*NEW*-The "**Food Sommelier**" podcast is made by a sensory scientist and registered dietitian. During this episode, her guest shares various ways to get kids involved in the grocery store.

*NEW*-Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Members can attend this recorded webinar, "Changing the Way We Look at Agriculture". It’s a one-hour recording put on by the Academy’s Future of Food initiative. It covers the U.S. and international farming practices, along with innovative ways to feed the world. One Continuing Education Credit is available to Registered Dietitians and Dietetic Technicians. Find out more details [here](#).

*NEW-* "Kids Eat Right” is an hour-long, recorded webinar that shares all the resources available to those who are a part of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics’ "Kids Eat Right” initiative. Their website houses presentation toolkits, articles, video-recorded recipes, and more! One Continuing Education Credit is available to Registered Dietitians and Dietetic Technicians. [Watch it today](#).

*NEW*-The Society of Nutrition Education and Behavior (SNEB) is putting on a webinar titled, "About Eating: An Online Program with Evidence of Increased
Food Resource Management Skills”. It will cover an online health and nutrition program targeting low-income people. The webinar will take place on Monday, April 11, 2016 from 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET). It’s free to SNEB members and $25 for non-members. Find out more, [here](#).

In February, the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management held a meeting, "Rethinking Food Assistance Policy: New Experimental Evidence on Improving Food Security and Nutrition among Low-Income Families and Implications for Policy.” It focused on the results of evaluations of two pilot assistance programs: the Healthy Incentive Pilot (HIP) and Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer Children Demonstration (SEBTC). Both programs had positive results. You can listen to a recording and gain resources from this event at this [website](#).

Communities around the world are sharing their progress in halting and reversing the childhood obesity epidemic. This March and April, the National Collaborative on Childhood Obesity Research (NCCOR) is hosting a series of webinars to examine these strategies. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Even with the healthiest intentions, something (unhealthy) off the grocery list always makes it into the cart. To help us understand how our environment encourages purchases like this, join "Why We Buy What We Buy: Anatomy of a Supermarket Purchase". It’s a webinar by the Society of Nutrition Education and Behavior (SNEB) on April 13, 2016 at 2:00 PM (ET). The webinar is free to SNEB members but cost $25 for non-members.

On Thursday, June 9, 2016 from 12:15-1:30 PM, the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics is hosting a free webinar called, "Let’s Talk - Good and Cheap: delicious, healthful food for families on tight budgets.” The presenter will be Leanne Brown, M.A. – Food studies scholar and author of Good and Cheap, a cookbook for low-income and SNAP recipients. She brings her experience of working with people who are homeless, in shelters, without training in preparing food, without kitchens or cookware, and other factors making life difficult and chaotic. You can [register here](#). Any questions can be emailed to Amy Wishner MSN, RN, APHN-BC.

In February 2016, the Society of Nutrition Education and Behavior (SNEB) is hosting a list of webinars focused on lessons learned during the implementation of various behavioral nutrition interventions. The listing of webinars, presenters, their research, and a link to register can be found [here](#).

**Events:**

The Philadelphia Food Fest is happening on April 10 at the Philadelphia Convention Center. Get details [here](#).

The Gleaning Project of Central Pennsylvania is hosting their Empty Bowls 2016 event on April 15 at Gettysburg College. A soup and bread dinner will be held to raise awareness of hunger and food insecurity in the local area. Find out more [here](#). Register to volunteer at this [website](#).
On April 16-17 the University of Arkansas’ Campus Kitchen Project is hosting a Food Waste & Hunger Summit. Student leaders will share their innovative solutions for ending food insecurity.

The National Farm to Cafeteria conference brings together 1500+ thought leaders in the farm-to-school arena. They’ll attend 40+ conference sessions and workshops. This year, the conference will be held on June 2-4 in Madison, Wisconsin. If you do not have the funds to attend, you can apply for a scholarship here. Or, you can register here.

The Gleaning Project of South Central Pennsylvania serves local foods to food insecure locals in Franklin and Adams County. This non-profit is hosting their Empty Bowl’s Fundraiser on April 15 from 4:30-6:30 PM. Join them at Gettysburg College for a locally-sourced soup and bread dinner to support their cause. More information can be found here.

Stamp Out Hunger is celebrating 24 years! On Saturday, May 14, this Letter Carriers’ Food Drive will take place. Until then, get updates about this event here.

Schools are encouraged to participate in the fourth annual Every Kid Healthy Week celebration on April 25-29. Whether just starting out or celebrating all your school’s health and wellness accomplishments, join the movement by hosting and registering your Every Kid Healthy Week event. Find ideas and resources for Every Kid Healthy Week at this website.

Register to "Walk Against Hunger" in Philadelphia on April 9. This event is celebrating its 20th anniversary by giving you the chance to raise funds for over 100 food pantries and other food assistance across the city. Find out more, and register for the event today!

Grants and Opportunities:

NEW-The US Department of Agriculture announced that $90 million is now available to support local food systems and those growing specialty crops like fruits, vegetables, tree nuts and more. Apply by July 6. Find out details behind this grant in this press release.

NEW-Share Our Strength is presenting a “Cooking Matters at the Store” mini-grant for those who want to connect families to affordable, healthy food within the grocery store. Applications are due on May 13. Find out more information here. There is also an informational webinar being hosted on April 8 at 1:00 PM.

Salud America is forming a national network of leaders working to promote health in schools, especially in Latino communities. By signing up to become a Salud Hero, you can gain critical resources, share your own, and network with other leaders like yourself. Find out more bonuses to signing up here.
$200 mini-grants are available to present the “Tossed Treasures” toolkit by Kids Eat Right and the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Recipients of this grant must be members of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and willing to present twice, between April 11-June 10. The outlined presentations provide tips and tools for reducing food waste. They are intended for adults or mature teens. Applications for this grant are due April 11.

**Project PA’s Mini-grants** are now available to Pennsylvania school systems! Use them to enact some simple adjustments to help kids to choose healthier school lunch choices and to keep meal participation up.

The Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior is calling for research papers on Nutrition Economics. This subject matter could include behavioral economics, consumer food behavior, cost benefits of programs, food budgeting or even how economic status affects what people eat and their access to healthy options. Submissions are due by June 15. Follow the directions from this [website](#).

The National Center for Childhood Obesity Research keeps a running list of grants available. Review all of them [here](#).

[Back to top](#)