

Monroe County Farm Bureau
29 Liberty St., Suite 212
Batavia, NY 14020



Monroe County
Farm Bureau News

Started by Farmers for Farmers

Serving the Agricultural Community for 50 Years.

Safety Group 486

Workers' Compensation

25% UPFRONT DISCOUNT <small>*subject to eligibility</small>	PAYING YEARLY DIVIDENDS TO OUR MEMBERS SINCE 1967
COVERAGE FOR 20 AGRICULTURAL CLASSIFICATIONS	28% AVERAGE DIVIDEND**

** Represents an average dividend over the last 5 years. Dividend levels are not guaranteed.

CONTACT MICHELE OR BECKY
ABOUT OUR WORKERS'
COMPENSATION PROGRAM!

1.800.342.4143
NYFB.org

WHY IS FARM BUREAU SO IMPORTANT?

Here are a few past successes
and current issues on the state level

- Enactment of a 2% tax cap and agricultural assessment cap.
- Enactment of the farmers' school property tax exemption, saving farmers millions on their tax bill.
- Ten-year real property tax exemption on new farm buildings to facilitate farm updates and growth.
- Led the charge to accomplish inherent risk reforms for equine, u-pick and agritourism industry.
- Expanded the ability for farms to use renewable energy installations, such as anaerobic digesters, solar arrays and wind.
- Leading the charge to increase the estate tax threshold in New York to over \$5,000,000.
- Working to combat expanded labor mandates, improve access to agricultural education and implement infrastructure parity between downstate and upstate.
- Maintained exemption for 150 air mile radius in relation to "hours of service" trucking requirements.
- Working to maintain the agricultural sales tax and diesel fuel tax exemptions.

Monroe County Farm Bureau News

April 2018



President's Message

" It is not the most intellectual of the species that survives: it is not the strongest that survives; but the species that survives is the one that is able to adapt to and to adjust best to the changing environment in which it finds itself." *Charles Darwin: Origin of the Species.*



As I ponder the plight of our farmers, I consider the wisdom of Charles Darwin.

How can the farming industry survive the highs and lows of the market, the fad diets and government regulations? How can the farming industry prompt young people to enter the market and fill boots?

How can we adapt to survive?

As you reflect, please consider sharing your thoughts with Monroe County Farm Bureau by emailing your responses to the Western New York Regional Office at wny@nyfb.org

Jenny Lundberg

FARM TO TABLE DINNER

The Celebrate Agriculture Dinner Committee is looking to procure local ingredients that will be featured in our "Farm to Table" dinner presentation. We would also appreciate volunteers to help with the event preparation and dinner. To learn more, please contact us at: MonroeCountyFarmBureau@gmail.com



Check out Monroe County Farm Bureau's new website
www.MonroeCountyFarmBureauNY.com



Find us at
"Monroe County Farm Bureau"

Calendar of Events

May 3:

Monroe County Farm Bureau Board Meeting

May 17 - 19:

New York FFA Convention
Rochester Convention Center

Aug. 3 - 5:

Monroe County Fair

Aug 12:

Celebrate Ag Dinner

Board Meetings:

All members are welcome to attend board meetings, normally held on the first Thursday of the month (subject to change). Call the office at 585-343-3489 for details if you would like to attend.

Monroe County Farm Bureau Board of Directors

Jenny Lundberg, President 802-5222

Elizabeth Woodward, Vice President....., 880-3026

Cathy Martin,637-3047

Kim Zuber293-1750

Brenda Avedisian509-2275

Martin Schutt872-6779

Marilyn De Meyer281-4952

John Burch764-7658

Dan Heckman.....506-8035

Samantha Baxter, Secretary.....281-7922

Kathy Klein, Pro-Ed Chair.....409-5635

John Steeves, YF&R Chair.....354-2577

Amanda Krenning-Muoio, Field Advisor..... 749-9508


Monroe Co Farm Bureau..... 343-3489

Or toll free.....1-877-383-7663

Pat McCormick, District 2 Director..... 716-984-0085

NYFB Office1-800-342-4143

FARM TO TABLE DINNER



~ CELEBRATE AGRICULTURE ~

August 12, 2018

at the Clubhouse at Durand Eastman Park

**\$25 per person - \$30 at the door - limited seating so get your tickets early -
RSVP by calling 585-343-3489 or order online at MonroeCountyFarmBureauNY.org - Payment is required to reserve your seat**

**Help support the Monroe County Farm Bureau
Scholarship Fund & the promotion and education of
Agriculture in our community.**

NY FarmNet is Available to Help Farm Families

New York State farm families are experiencing higher levels of financial and emotional stress due in part to several years of low commodity prices. This is an especially difficult time for dairy farmers because regional conditions in dairy markets have further reduced farm revenues. One program in New York that is ready and able to help farm families is NY FarmNet.

The NY FarmNet program has consultants located across New York State who meet directly with the farm family, right on the farm. There is never any cost and the services are 100% confidential. Their consultants are either personal/family consultants or financial consultants. Personal/family consultants work with farmers who are experiencing personal stress, family stress and/or communication problems. Financial consultants help farmers and their families develop a plan for the future by reviewing and evaluating farm business options. Their consultants assist farmers in preparing their own business plan. Personal consulting services include resolving intergenerational conflict, family communication issues, employee issues, farm retirement, transfer or exit adjustment, and additional areas focused on personal well being. Their consultants work on teams comprised of one personal and one financial consultant. All consultants have a similar overall objective of helping farmers identify the problem(s), outlining possible solutions, and developing a plan that will be implemented.

NY FarmNet's phone lines are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to help. Farm families can also go to NYFarmNet.org and fill out a form to request assistance. They can expect a follow-up call from a consultant to set up the first meeting within 24 hours.

**For more information or to request services
please contact NY FarmNet at:
www.NYFarmNet.org or call 1-800-547-FARM**



New York Farm Bureau Annual Lobby Days

Monroe County Farm Bureau members traveled to Albany on March 5-6 for NYFB's annual Lobby Days. When they arrived in Albany on March 5, they participated in NYFB's Taste of New York Reception and Issues Forum where more than 80 county Farm Bureaus and agricultural organizations offered the best in New York-grown and produced food and beverages. It was an opportunity to showcase the diversity of agriculture in our state while also making personal connections with lawmakers, agency staff and media. Over 200 state officials attended the reception to taste New York grown products. On March 6, county Farm Bureau members attended their legislative appointments along with more than 200 other farmer members. They discussed NYFB priorities for the year including advocating for promotion and research budget funding, reduced regulations and increased access for New York grown food.

We want to thank our members who took time from their busy schedules for this important event. This year Robert Colby, John Steeves, Jenny Lundberg and Elizabeth Woodward advocated for New York Farm Bureau on behalf of Monroe County Farm Bureau.



Monroe and Livingston County Farm Bureau members at their appointment with Assemblyman Joseph Errigo



Senator Rich Funke meets with Monroe and Ontario County Farm Bureaus at Lobby Days.

Taste of Monroe County

Monroe County Farm Bureau hosted its annual "Taste of Monroe County" reception for the Monroe County legislators on Feb. 13. The event was well attended and is always a great opportunity for Monroe CFB to educate its local legislators about the importance of agriculture to the Monroe County economy.



New York State FFA Convention

May 17 - 19 at the Rochester Convention Center
Looking for volunteers

The annual FFA convention is coming to the Rochester Convention Center on May 17-19 and they are looking for volunteers to help make the convention the best possible experience for their members. More information about the convention can be found at:

<http://www.nysffa.org/state-convention>.

Please feel free to e-mail Kelsy O'Hare with any questions at: kko8@cornell.edu

Ag Literacy Week - March 19-23

We want to thank all the volunteers who read to students at schools throughout Monroe County to share with them this year's Agricultural Literacy Week book, "Before We Eat: from Farm to Table" by Pat Brisson. This book shows the



vast opportunities and diversity that New York agriculture encompasses. Students are taken on a journey from farm to table to understand the different aspects of agriculture and the many possible careers involved. This is a captivating glimpse into what it takes to bring the food we eat to us in order to nourish our bodies and spirits.

Kim Zuber reads to a class during Ag Literacy Week

