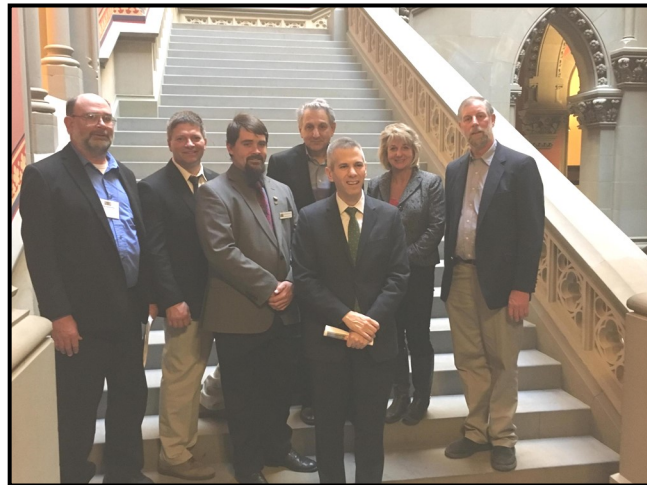


## News from Albany

The 2018-2019 state budget includes dozens of essential programs that support research, promotion and marketing that will allow farmers to adjust to new challenges and expand market opportunities including:

- ✓ Increase in funding for NY FarmNet – this organization is seeing a 50% increase in calls from farmers who are coping with the stresses of a down economy.
- ✓ Additional funding for honeybee research, hops and barley programs and support of the growing craft beverage industry.
- ✓ Full support of the Environmental Protection Fund.
- ✓ \$10 million to increase the school lunch reimbursement rate – expanding opportunities for farmers and putting more locally sourced fresh food onto students' lunch plates.
- ✓ \$5 million to improve infrastructure at county fairs.

To learn more about the state budget and priority legislation still pending, please visit [NYFB.org](http://NYFB.org).



*Oneida County Farm Bureau members met with lawmakers at the Capitol in early March to discuss agricultural priorities. From left to right, Dave Schieferstine, Pat van Lieshout, Jake Schieferstine, Russ Stewart, Karen Lohr, Ben Simons and Assemblyman Anthony Brindisi (front center). Members met with local elected officials along with their "adopted" legislators to discuss priorities and challenges. These meetings are essential in keeping agriculture on a positive path.*

### OCFB Member DiNitto Farms Receives National Recognition

**Congratulations to the DiNitto family**, named among the 2018 Members of Distinction by Dairy Farmers of America!

Dairy Farmers of America (DFA) Members of Distinction program honors members who embody the Cooperative's core values and excel in their operations, in their communities and in the industry. Each year, one member farm from each of DFA's seven regional areas is honored.

**\*\*Mark Your Calendar\*\* 2018 Farm Fest – Friday, June 1**

**DiNitto Farms, Benton Road in Marcy**

**4:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

**Come to a modern operational dairy farm and learn about agriculture.**

**An evening of fun for the entire family!**

**\$2 donation appreciated. Cash only**

## VVS Student Awarded New York Farm Bureau Agricultural Youth Scholarship

### *Frank Finishes Second in Statewide Competition*



*KristiAnn Frank (center) receives a check from Oneida County Farm Bureau for her academic accomplishments. Proudly presenting the check are (from left to right) Karen Lohr, Kevin Angell and Jake Schieferstine.*

KristiAnn Frank, a senior at Vernon-Verona Sherrill, was chosen by New York Farm Bureau's Promotion and Education Committee as the 2018 Agricultural Youth Scholarship Winner from Oneida County. She was also selected as the District 6 winner allowing her to compete at the state level, where she finished second. In total, she has received \$1,400 that she can use toward her higher education. KristiAnn is a very active and well-rounded student, managing a host of activities in school and on her family's farm. Her lifelong love of agriculture stems from her close relationship with her grandfather. His passion, commitment, wisdom and strong work ethic all while overcoming obstacles, including his blindness, inspired her to be involved in agriculture. It also shaped her into the person she is today. After graduation, KristiAnn plans to attend SUNY Cobleskill to pursue a degree in agricultural business with a minor in agricultural education.

### Oneida County Cornell Cooperative Extension Agricultural Spring Programming

#### **April 16: Webinar– Calf and Heifer Management**

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. at CCE Oneida County

FREE webinar will focus on the different strategies for executing the best management practices for your calves and heifers. Reservations are required. 315-736-3394 ext. 132 or [mrm7@cornell.edu](mailto:mrm7@cornell.edu).

#### **April 28: Quick Books for Farmers**

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at CCE Oneida County

You will be introduced to how Quick Books can be used as a management tool to guide in decision making on your farm. RSVP by April 26 at [cceonieda.com/events](http://cceonieda.com/events)

#### **May 1: Public Hearing for Oneida County's NYS Certified Agricultural District Open Enrollment**

1:00 p.m. at CCE Oneida County

#### **May 16: BOCES Agricultural Career Day**

8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Herkimer County Fairgrounds

Over 1,000 students in grades 7-9 from 21 schools will be exposed to a variety of agricultural careers, interacting with vendors from all areas of farming, business and government.

### **NY FarmNet • 1-800-547-3276**

**Services are available to all farms in New York**, large and small, with a diversity of commodities including dairy, crops, livestock, maple, fruit, vegetables, honey, nursery and more.

**Always Free and Confidential**

## Limited Time Offer!

### JOIN NOW

for 2018 & all of 2019

**for \$99**

Available to New  
Members Only

Offer Expires  
June 30th, 2018



1-800-342-4143 • [NYFB.org](http://NYFB.org)



159 Wolf Road  
Albany, NY 12205



Oneida County Hi-Lite

# Oneida County Farm Bureau

## Hi-Lite



April 2018

*President's Report*



Our annual Lobby Day in Albany proved to be time well spent. We had the opportunity to take part in meaningful discussions with state representatives on the issues affecting Oneida County farmers. It was inspiring to see so many farmers take time away from home to share their stories in hopes of making a better tomorrow for *every farmer*. The final state budget does address many of Farm Bureau's priorities (find out more inside), but we still have much to advocate for on the state and national level. I encourage you to visit NYFB.org to find out how your voice can make a difference.

We are hosting a meet and greet this month prior to our monthly board meeting, please join us! Find out what is happening with your county Farm Bureau, meet the directors, your neighbors and support a local farm brewery.

*Kevin Angell*

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!

EVERY FARMER

1.800.342.4143  
NYFB.org

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Mike Candella, Vice President.....	315-736-8782
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Area 1 Garrie Smith.....	315-827-4570
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Area 2 Douglas Larry .....	315-337-3680
Area 3 Pat van Lieshout .....	315-363-9138
Area 3 Jim Collins .....	315-245-0282
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Office Manager, Treasurer:	
Lory van Lieshout .....	315-363-9138
Field Advisor: John Wagner .....	315-761-9770
NYFB State Director: Jacob Schieferstine. ....	315-829-5582
NYFB Office.....	800-342-4143
CNYFB Regional Office.....	315-252-1367

Oneida County Farm Bureau Meet and Greet

Monday, April 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Copper City Brewing Company • 1111 Oneida St., Rome

Our monthly Farm Bureau Board Meeting will follow at 8:00 p.m.

Open to all county Farm Bureau members.

Get to know a local business, find out what's new with Farm Bureau and meet some of your neighbors and colleagues.

We hope you can join us!

Copper City Brewing Company is Rome's first microbrewery.

Chosen by CraftBeer.com readers as one of the best beer bars in America.

Named 2017 Business of the Year (for profit category) by the Rome Area Chamber of Commerce.