

Jefferson County Farm Bureau Caps Off Successful Year at State Annual Meeting

Jefferson County Farm Bureau received recognition for its hard work and dedication in advocating, educating and promoting agriculture at New York Farm Bureau's State Annual Meeting in Albany in December. The county Farm Bureau was presented with nine Silver Key Awards for attaining outstanding achievements by involving leaders and members in programs serving agriculture. The awards were presented for excellence in the following categories:

Membership, Agricultural Education & Promotion, County Financial Management, Information and Public Relations, Leadership Development, Policy Development & Implementation – Local, Policy Development & Implementation – State and National, Young Farmers and Ranchers, Distinguished President.

For its achievements, county Farm Bureau received a check for \$1,150 from New York Farm Bureau.

Farmer members also took part in the grassroots process of laying the groundwork for the year ahead. Delegates from across the state proposed, discussed and voted on resolutions that set New York Farm Bureau's public policy agenda for 2018. "We are committed to advancing sound policy that will keep our farm doors not only open, but thriving. Our contribution to the economy and health of our state is vitally important and the policies our diverse membership put in place for the coming year will help keep New York an agricultural leader," said Jefferson County Farm Bureau President Adam Miner.



JCFB Vice President and YF&R State Committee Member Devon Shelmidine emcees the Young Farmer Award Banquet at State Annual Meeting.

New York Farm Bureau's Taste of New York Reception is Monday, March 5 in Albany. If you have a farm product you would like to showcase in the Jefferson County booth, please contact Adam Miner at 315-775-3774 or John Wagner at 315-761-9770. This is a great opportunity to show elected officials from across the state the diversity and importance of Jefferson County agriculture.



Jefferson County Farm Bureau was proud to present **Community Service to Agriculture** Awards to Ken Hughs and Randy Jerome at its County Annual Meeting in October. The award signifies distinguished service and commitment to agriculture and dedication to Farm Bureau and the agricultural community.

Pictured from left to right Ken Hughs, JCFB President Adam Miner and Randy Jerome.

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



New York Farm Bureau
Young Farmers & Ranchers

YOUNG FARMERS -
AGRICULTURE'S LINK TO THE FUTURE

MARCH 16-17, 2018
HOLIDAY INN, AUBURN



Keynote Speaker - Matt Lohr

All Young Farmers are invited to attend:

- Agricultural Tours
- Motivational Keynote Speaker
- Workshops to benefit you and your business
- Networking with other young agriculturalists
- Updates on State & National issues affecting Agriculture

More details coming soon

800-342-4143

NYFB.org

There are a limited number of special discounts available to cover \$100 in costs.
Contact John Wagner at 315-761-9770 or jwagner@nyfb.org for more information.

Jefferson County 4-H
wants your input! Visit

ccejefferson.org/4-h-youth to take an anonymous survey or register to win a \$100 Visa gift card. Studies confirm 4-H

members are likely to excel in school, lead their peers and give to their communities. Your input will help 4-H learn how to strengthen and meet the needs of the youth they serve.

Through Nov. 2017, ***nine million pounds of fresh food and farm products have been donated by farmers to regional food banks. That translates into nearly seven million meals being provided to New Yorkers in need.***



Keep an eye on your mailbox or check NYFB.org for a host of issues that you can easily advocate for. ***Your voice truly makes a difference!*** Here are a few of the priority issues that New York Farm Bureau will be fighting for in 2018:

- Double the minimum wage tax credit for farmers starting in 2018.
- Oppose unworkable farm labor mandates and make much needed updates and reforms to New York State labor laws and regulations.
- Increase school meal reimbursements to incentivize the purchase of fresh and minimally processed local food.
- Support the removal of an acreage requirement for farms in the agricultural assessment program as long as they meet income eligibility requirements.

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"To Serve And Strengthen Agriculture"
As a member of New York Farm Bureau, your voice is valued.

FARM BUREAU NEW YORK

Member Login

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How to E-Lobby—It's fast and easy:

- Go to www.nyfb.org and click on the green "eLobby-Take Action!" button on the left side of the page under the banner photos, or by clicking the green "Take Action! Advocacy" button.
- Find the letter you want to send and click "Take Action."
- The action alert description will appear followed by the recipients and the letter text. Type in your name and address and press "Send Message" at the bottom of the page.
- Your letter is sent directly to lawmakers and you are helping to impact farm public policy! Encourage your friends to E-Lobby by typing in their e-mail addresses.



Take Action!

Advocacy

If you have any problems using the E-Lobby feature, call the NYFB office at 1-800-342-4143.

159 Wolf Road
Albany, NY 12205



Jefferson County
Farm Bureau News



Jefferson County Farm Bureau News



January 2018

President’s Report



Adam Miner

Happy 2018! The end of 2017 was busy and productive and I look forward to continuing that momentum into this new year.

In October, we held our County Annual Meeting at the Adams VFW. It was great to see so many members taking part in our grassroots policy process. There was quality discussion and debate, time to celebrate accomplishments and enjoy a good meal with great friends. At the New York Farm Bureau State Annual Meeting in December,

we set an ambitious agenda for 2018 to benefit every farmer. We will keep a close eye as the governor unveils his budget and will take our cause to Albany in early March to lobby for a final package that addresses major obstacles facing our family farms and our rural community. There is strength in numbers and we encourage anyone interested to join the Jefferson County delegation for this important trip to Albany. We have impactful visits with not only our elected officials, but decision makers from across the state who tend to be removed from our everyday challenges. Please contact me or any board member for more information. We are also seeking locally produced products that we can showcase at the Taste of New York Reception the evening before our meetings. This is a well-attended event that helps start this important discussion with decision makers in a more casual, relaxed atmosphere while showcasing the diversity and scope of our industry.

Upcoming Events

March 5– Taste of NY
Albany

March 6– NYFB Lobby Day
Albany

March 16-17– YF&R
Leadership Conference
Auburn

For more information,
NYFB.org or



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The Jefferson County Farm Bureau Board meets each month on the first Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Jefferson County Community College in Watertown.