

Saratoga County Farm Bureau News February 2018



To Serve And Strengthen Agriculture

President's Report



Hello folks! It has been a while since I have written to you. I had good intentions of writing to you before the holiday season, but that has come and gone. I hope that every one of you had a safe and happy holiday season with friends and family. Now I hope that you

are all staying warm and preparing for the busy spring ahead. As you all know, it will be here before we are ready for it. With that being said, I will get you updated on what Saratoga County Farm Bureau has been doing over the last few months.

The last time I wrote you was in October before the county annual meeting. The officers of the board of directors for Saratoga County Farm Bureau were all re-elected for the coming year. We also reaffirmed many old policies and passed with much discussion many new policies. In November, we had our normal business meeting and we had a District 8 resolutions meeting at CCE in Ballston Spa. I was the only one that attended the resolutions meeting. I followed up with our vice president, Mike Schwerd, after the meeting and before the State Annual Meeting. So, November was a busy month.

In December, Saratoga County Farm Bureau was represented at the State Annual Meeting by Mike Schwerd, Jim Pettis, Jr., myself and my fiancée Kimberly McCormick. Saratoga County Farm Bureau won all eight Silver Key Awards and I received the Distinguished President award. Unfortunately, we weren't able to get any of the resolutions from Saratoga County passed at the State Annual Meeting. At our December board meeting we discussed membership and started planning for the upcoming year. This included lobby days, the Rural Urban Dinner at Panza's and getting non-renewals signed up. December was also a busy month.

In January, we had a shorter board meeting. We confirmed the Rural Urban Dinner will be at Panza's on Mar. 3 at 6 p.m. This year we will also be raising money for the

Saratoga County Farm Bureau Rural Urban Dinner

**Saturday, March 3
Panza's Restaurant
510 NY-9P, Saratoga Springs
Starting at 6 p.m. - Dinner 7 p.m.
\$35 pp/payable at the door.**

**Speaker: *Congresswoman Elise Stefanik
on 2018 Farm Bill***

**This event serves as a bridge for
individuals outside the agricultural
community to learn and interact with
farmers in their neighborhood. Everyone
is encouraged to attend and bring your
non-farmer neighbor**

***Raising money for Regional Food
Bank of Northeastern NY.***

**To ensure yourself a seat, RSVP before Feb.
23 to Eastern NYFB Regional Office:
eny@nyfb.org /1-866-995-7300**

Regional Food Bank of Northeastern NY by doing raffle drawings for local products and to local restaurants. We will also be presenting the Conservation Farm of the Year award with the help of Saratoga County Soil and Water. The program this year is going to be on the 2018 Farm Bill and it will be presented by Congresswoman Elise Stefanik. We also discussed lobby days and came up with a game plan for Saratoga County Farm Bureau's representatives. John Arnold attended the Saratoga Plan Conference this year representing Saratoga County Farm Bureau.

We also had a program at the Saratoga Plan Conference presented by NYFB. We also discussed membership again and how to get the non-renewals to rejoin the organization. This concluded our January meeting.

(cont'd on back)

President's Report (cont'd)

As you may have noticed, I have mentioned membership several times in this newsletter. Farm Bureau is only as strong as it is because of its membership. If you like the good things Farm Bureau has done for us this past year, I encourage you to sign up new members or go out and remind the non-renewals about the good things the organization has done. I want to personally thank all of you for being members of this great organization. Without you we wouldn't have been able to score the legislative victories we did last year. Until the next time, stay strong and farm on.

Sincerely,

Jamie Pettis III



159 Wolf Road
Albany, NY 12205

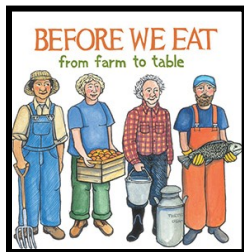
Saratoga County Farm Bureau Board of Directors *Remember to dial 518 first.*

Jamie Pettis, President	695-4725
Mike Schwerd, Vice President	699-3173
Amy Larmon, Secretary	755-3781
Jeremy Knight, Treasurer	399-6503
John Arnold, Membership Chair	743-8473
Bud South	882-1571
Joe Battaglia	664-9070
Amy Larmon	755-3781
Kim Trombly NYFB Field Advisor	935-8569
Dean Casey, NYFB Director	796-4874
NYFB Regional Office	866-995-7300

Ag Literacy Week-March 19-23

Book: *Before We Eat: From Farm to Table*

By Pat Brisson and Illustrated by Mary Azarian



From the busy hub of New York City, to the mountains of the Adirondacks, and to the fertility of the Finger Lakes, our state is expansive and encompasses all types of agricultural industries

New York Farm Bureau Website

Check out the new and improved NYFB website www.nyfb.org. It's easier to navigate and improves access to NYFB programs and services for members.



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