

Policy Development Meeting
Wednesday, September 5 at 6:30 p.m.
Jefferson Community College • 1220 Coffeen St., Watertown
Refreshments Provided
Open to ALL Farm Bureau members

One of the ***most valuable benefits*** of your Farm Bureau membership is the ability to develop and shape policy for the organization. NYFB’s policy, approved each December at the State Annual Meeting, is what all Farm Bureau members and staff use as a guide to act on legislation and regulations that deal with farm business and landowner issues. ***It all starts with you!***

You have an idea about how to improve agriculture:

- * Talk with your fellow members
- * Attend county policy development meeting
- * Submit your idea to the county policy development committee

Your county considers your idea:

- * Provide background information to the committee
- * County policy development committee considers your idea and makes a recommendation



Attend your County Annual Meeting to support your idea:

- * County votes on your policy resolution at the annual meeting in the fall
- * Local resolutions become county Farm Bureau policy and are submitted to NYFB Resolutions Committee to be considered at the State Annual Meeting in December.

We ***strongly encourage*** you to bring *your* ideas, issues and concerns for consideration. We will also be discussing issues including:

Should New York State Department of Environmental Conservation have a streamlined permitting process for farmers to complete work in water bodies?

Should New York Farm Bureau support legislation offering undocumented residents the ability to obtain a “standard” driver’s license?

Should the quarterly employer payroll threshold for unemployment insurance for agricultural labor be increased from \$20,000? If so, what should it be increased to?

If New York State legalizes the recreational use of marijuana, how should New York farmers play a role, if any, in the regulatory process, production and distribution?

Should a milk support program be created similar to the Cotton Ginning Cost Share program?

Additional discussion topics can be found in the July issue of Grassroots which is available at NYFB.org, when logged in. If you have questions or are unable to attend, but want to be involved, please feel free to reach out to any county Farm Bureau board member.



Mike Kiechle presents Indian River’s **Hayden Mattice** with an official FFA Blue Jacket on behalf of Jefferson County Farm Bureau. Hayden was among the deserving recipients of the county’s Blue Jacket Award Program.

Youth Spotlight

Congratulations to **Karley Mason**, the 2018-2019 Jefferson County Farm Bureau Scholarship winner. Karley is enrolled in A.S. program, majoring in business administration, at Jefferson Community College. In appreciation, Karley said “Thank you for the investment in students like me. I hope I am able to someday give back to SUNY Jefferson and help a future student reach their education goals.”

For more information about the Jefferson Community College scholarship, visit SUNYJefferson.edu and click on Foundation and Alumni.

2019 Jefferson County graduating high school seniors who have been involved with agriculture and plan on continuing studies in this field with a student Farm Bureau membership or family Farm Bureau membership are encouraged to apply for the New York Farm Bureau Agricultural Youth Scholarship.

Applications and information are available at NYFB.org or by calling 1-800-342-4143. Completed applications must be submitted by March 1, 2019.



Jefferson County Farm Bureau was proud to take part in the Belleville-Henderson Field Days. County Farm Bureau volunteers love to be out in the community connecting with members and creating lasting relationships with the non-farm public.

Jefferson County Farm Bureau members and their families pictured with this year's first place float in the adult agriculture class at the Jefferson County Dairy Festival Parade. Thank you to the members of the Belleville-Henderson FFA for assisting in constructing this year's new float and to the Kevin M. Daniels Agency for your partnership in sponsoring.



159 Wolf Road
Albany, NY 12205



Jefferson County
Farm Bureau News



Jefferson County Farm Bureau News



August 2018

President’s Report



Adam Miner

Thanks to your continued membership, we were able to get a number of public policy priorities passed during the 2017-2018 state legislative session that will have a direct benefit on family farms. From the renewal of the 10-year real property tax exemption on new farm construction, measures aimed at road safety for farm vehicles and help to move the craft beverage industry forward, to critical funding for agricultural programs that will help boost our bottom lines. Your grassroots advocacy truly makes a difference. I encourage you to visit NYFB.org to see a full list of victories and keep up to date with pending issues on the national level and find easy ways that you can lend your voice to the discussion. I also invite you to join us on **Sept. 5** (details inside) as we begin to lay the groundwork for 2019. Your ideas and solutions for the challenges we face every day could become Farm Bureau policy. If you want to participate but cannot attend the meeting, please contact me or any county Farm Bureau board member to have your ideas considered.

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details inside



"Our strength comes from our grassroots at Farm Bureau, and this process is living proof. You know better than anyone the impact that policies and regulations coming out of your state capitals and our nation’s capital have on your individual farm and ranch. This is your opportunity to bring those issues to the table, so we can all speak with one voice to protect our businesses and way of life," said **AFBF President Zippy Duvall**.



WE WANT YOU



We are looking for members to fill vacancies on Jefferson County Farm Bureau’s board of directors. We work for solutions to problems facing our local farm economy and represent the interests of members to determine policies that guide the direction and programs of the organization. Join us as we promote and protect Jefferson County agriculture. We welcome members with diverse backgrounds. If you are interested, please reach out to Adam Miner at 315-775-3774.



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Nationwide® is proud to be the exclusive insurance provider of the New York Farm Bureau Member Services, offering NYFB members significant savings on farm insurance, and a full range of insurance and financial services, including:

- Farm Insurance*
- Automobile Insurance*
- Pet & Travel Insurance*
- Commercial & Home Insurance
- Powersports Insurance
- Life Insurance
- Farm Transition Planning

** Select savings may apply*

To LEARN MORE, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL NATIONWIDE AGENT, OR VISIT NATIONWIDE.COM/NYFB

1.800.342.4143
NYFB.org



Jefferson County Farm Bureau
Board of Directors

Adam Miner, President.....	315-775-3774
Devon Shelmidine, Vice President	315-486-8959
Matt Laisdell, Vice-President	315-408-5041
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John Wagner, Field Advisor	315-495-2258
CNYFB Regional Office	315-252-1367
NYFB Office	800-342-4143

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