

Genesee County Farm Bureau
29 Liberty St., Suite 212
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Genesee County
Farm Bureau News

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Calendar of Events

March 18: Genesee County Celebrate Agriculture Dinner,
Alexander

March 20-24: Ag Literacy Week

March 31: Celebrate Agriculture Conference, Syracuse

June 7: Kinderfarmin', Reyncrest Dairy, Corfu

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date with news and events.*

www.geneseecountyfarmbureau.com

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“Genesee County Farm Bureau”

Genesee County Farm Bureau

Winter 2017

Winter 2017

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Message from the President

by Christian Yunker

New York Farm Bureau begins the New Year with a new president. We at Genesee County Farm Bureau would like to welcome Dave Fisher, a dairy farmer from St. Lawrence County as the new president of the organization. Fisher and his family have operated Mapleview Dairy in Madrid, N.Y. for four generations. He has served on the New York Farm Bureau Board of Directors for the past five years and previously was president of St. Lawrence County Farm Bureau. A graduate of Cornell University, Fisher earned a degree in Animal Science.

We would like to thank our very own Genesee County native and outgoing president, Dean Norton, for his many years of service. Norton served as our district state board director prior to becoming President of New York Farm Bureau. Norton served as the leader of NYFB for eight years. Norton was also a member of the executive committee on the American Farm Bureau board of directors. Norton has made countless contributions to the industry we love here in New York State and became a major contributor on the national level as well. We are extremely grateful for his dedication and hard work on behalf of agriculture and wish him the best in the future.

As we reflect on the past and look forward to the future we recognize the need to strengthen the voice of agriculture in New York State and across the nation. Our need to grow membership in New York Farm Bureau is real - to strengthen our voice. We encourage farms to sign up more members - actively engage your employees in the process and share the benefits of being a Farm Bureau member with your neighbors. My hope is that with your help and an increased membership base we can and will strengthen our voice as an organization to benefit the agricultural community.

We'd like to again thank you for your continued support. Feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns. Also please check out our updated website www.geneseecountyfarmbureau.com.

Genesee County Farm Bureau Board of Directors	
Christian Yunker, President.....	356-9151
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Natasha Sutherland, YF&R Chair.....	356-5560
Ann Mowry, Pro-Ed Chair.....	356-5275
Amanda Krenning-Muoio, Field Advisor.....	749-9508
Pat McCormick, Dist 2 Director.....	716-984-0085
Genesee Co Farm Bureau.....	343-3489
NYFB, Albany.....	800-342-4143

Kinderfarmin' 2017

Reyncrest Dairy, Corfu

June 7, 2017

Planning is underway for this year's Kinderfarmin' event. After several successful years at Grassland Dairy in Pavilion, this year's event will be held at Reyncrest Dairy in Corfu. This annual event, held every June, gives over 400 elementary school-aged kids, their teachers, and chaperones the opportunity to see a working dairy. Every school district in the county is represented at this long-standing event.

At this event, in collaboration with Cornell Cooperative Extension, kids are able to learn how cows are milked, they can pet calves and other animals, learn what cows eat, try dairy products and even make butter with the Dairy Princesses. The day includes a guided tour of the dairy, time to browse nearly 15 hands-on stations and a lunch with donated dairy products. This event, run by industry professionals, Farm Bureau members and Cooperative Extension volunteers, provides an opportunity for kids to learn about one of Genesee County's largest industries.

This event takes many hands to plan and carry-out. We are always looking for more Farm Bureau members to help plan and for help the day of. It is a great way to interact with the public about our industry and become more involved with Farm Bureau.

If you are interested in volunteering with this event please contact Ann Mowry-- Promotion & Education Chair at 585-356-5275.



Genesee County Celebrate Agriculture Dinner

Saturday, March 18, 2017

6:00 pm

Alexander Fire Hall

This event is a celebration of Genesee County's number one industry – agriculture. The highlight is a delicious meal using locally grown and produced foods, prepared by Penna's Catering. Soil and Water will also be presenting the Conservation Farm of the Year award. The event is coordinated by Farm Bureau, CCE Genesee County, Soil and Water Conservation District and Genesee County Chamber of Commerce. It is a sold-out crowd annually, so get your tickets as soon as possible! It's an event you don't want to miss!

Cost: \$30.00 each or a table of 10 for \$275

Only 400 tickets will be sold, so order now as the event always sells out! Tickets will not be available at the door.

To reserve your tickets, stop by or call the Genesee County Chamber of Commerce, 210 E. Main Street, Batavia. You can contact them at 585-343-7440, ext. 27 or by email chamber@geneseeny.com.

Brochure available at the Genesee Co. CCE Extension website.

<http://genesee.cce.cornell.edu/events/2017/03/18/2017-celebrate-ag-dinner>

YFR Hosts District-Wide Dinner Dance

The Genesee County Young Farmers and Ranchers hosted the annual YFR District II Dinner Dance again this year on February 18. While aimed at young people in the agricultural industries from District 2 (Genesee, Orleans, Niagara, Wyoming, Monroe and Livingston counties), this event attracts people from all over western New York. With over 150 attendees, there were representatives from every county in the district, as well as Erie County. Dinner was followed by an ice cream bar and live music from the band, Branded, a local country cover band. We are already looking forward to next year's event.

The Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers program includes both men and women between the ages of 18-35. The objective of the Young Farmers and Ranchers program is to provide networking and leadership in building a more effective Farm Bureau to preserve our individual freedoms and expand our opportunities in agriculture.



To stay informed on YFR events happening in our area, please follow our Facebook page, or contact one of the Genesee County co-chairs: Natasha Sutherland at 356-5560 or Emmaline Long at 813-7228.

Celebrate Agriculture Conference

"Meeting the Challenge of Change"

March 31, Syracuse, NY

Change is all around us. How we deal with and adapt to change is both a challenge and opportunity. The Celebration of Agriculture Conference "Meeting the Challenge of Change" will provide you with tools and skills necessary to meet the challenge of change. This is a New York Farm Bureau Leadership Conference for all county Farm Bureau members.

The Celebration of Agriculture Conference will be held on Friday, March 31 at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Syracuse. An extended Young Farmer program will begin Friday evening with an event at the Syracuse Crunch Hockey Game with agricultural tours planned for Saturday, Apr. 1.

Gary Swan, former Pennsylvania Farm Bureau governmental relations staff, will be the keynote speaker on "Fueling Farm Bureau's Engine to Meet the Challenges of Change". Workshops sessions include: Drones in Agriculture, The Changing Face of NYFB Membership, How to Run or Ruin a Meeting, Parliamentary Procedure Tips, and Bridging the Generational Divide.

New this year – there will be two workshops where DEC credits have been applied for: Pesticides and Protecting Your Health and Pesticide Rules & Regulations Overview.

Hotel Reservation Deadline: March 15

Conference Registration: March 17

For detailed agenda: http://www.nyfb.org/news_and_events/



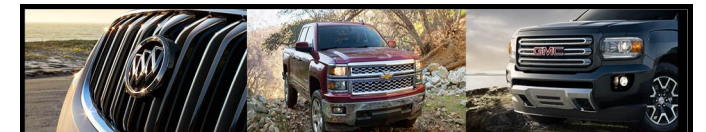
Last year's Genesee County conference attendees.

NYFB Annual Lobby Days

March 6 and 7, 2017, Albany

Genesee County Farm Bureau members traveled to Albany in early March for NYFB's annual lobby days. We participated in NYFB's Taste of New York Reception and Issues Forum. Over 200 state officials attended this reception to taste New York grown products. The following day we had legislative appointments and promoted New York Farm Bureau's priority issues for 2017. For more information on the 2017 priority issues please visit NYFB.org to review the details under Legislative Affairs - Priority Issues.

We want to thank our members who took time from their busy schedules for this important lobbying effort. All members were welcomed to attend! Contact our office if you are interested for next year.



Members Only Discount

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Ag Literacy Week

March 20 - 24, 2017

With the advent of New York's booming grape industries we are proud to feature a book that so wonderfully captures this way of life for over 1,600 family-owned vineyards in our state. New York ranks third nationally in grape production, with 75% of grapes produced being made into grape juice and the other 25% processed into wine and used in the craft beverage industry. STEM careers and post-secondary opportunities related to the grape industry are also growing in our state; from grape production, research, crop management, processing, tourism, and hospitality. It will be essential for our students to understand the importance of grapes as an economic driver in communities across New York, and develop an awareness for future career possibilities.

Genesee County Farm Bureau has purchased 12 books this year, which will be distributed to volunteers who will read to students in area elementary schools. These volunteers play a key role in introducing agriculture to students and providing teachers with lesson plans centered around this educational book!

If you are interested in the opportunity to excite and share the importance of maintaining our viable American agriculture to both teachers and students, please contact Jessica Reisdorf (Genesee CCE) at (585) 343-3040 (ext 131) or via e-mail at jmr398@cornell.edu.

