

NYFB State Promotion & Education Committee Welcomes Heather Prokop

By Sandie Prokop
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Heather Prokop was recently elected as the District 9 Representative on the NYFB State Promotion and Education Committee, which covers Schoharie, Delaware, Otsego, Greene, and Sullivan County Farm Bureaus. She is not new to promoting and educating and wanted to be more active and increase her ability to share her farming story.

Prokop grew up living in many places as her Dad, Frank Masterson, was a Navy Officer. This gave her the opportunity to see a bit of the US and experience “change” as a very real part of her life. Although her residence changed, her attachment to farming was a constant through her grandparents. Her Dad’s parents were farmers in Schoharie, NY, from 1938 to 1994. Her Mom’s parents were dairy farmers in Columbus, NY, with the family farm operating from 1805 to 2002.

Her hands-on experience began in 2000 when she married Jon Prokop, who owned and operated Crossbrook Farm in Middleburgh, NY, with his parents. She helps when needed and devotes her time to their children and several volunteer roles such as Vice President of the PTO at the Middleburgh Elementary School and as a team member raising funds for The Marathon for A Better Life, which seeks to provide relief and support to distressed Schoharie County residents currently fighting cancer; encourages community solidarity between those who are fighting cancer, those who have fought cancer, and their families, friends, and neighbors; promotes human dignity; and, empowers local residents currently fighting cancer through providing them with financial assistance and other necessary resources to better enable them to overcome personal obstacles, pay for medical treatments and expenses, triumph over cancer, and fight for a better life. She also provides a farm tour opportunity to many requests, which provides time to share the farming story.

Their farm milking herd of Ayrshires) plus some of whom are All-American Dairy World Dairy Expo American Exposition, plus Their three sons, Connor have all ring. Crossbrook include a total of including corn, hay, occasional crop of pumpkins.



enterprise includes a 400 Holsteins (with a few their special Jersey ladies, shown annually at the Show in Harrisburg, The and at the North International Livestock some Canadian Shows. Hunter, Devin, and been active in the show Farm’s main crops almost 1,000 acres and soybeans, plus the

Prokop’s background and experience as a teacher’s assistant for 12 years for special education and behavior modification is a testament to her patience, caring attitude and dedication to education. Those skills are a major asset as she daily works to promote understanding of agriculture through a variety of avenues.

“Farm Bureau is extremely important, a great way to educate and build relationships with those from a non-agricultural background. Agriculture has enriched our lives and added to our “family” network. This

industry is very special, the welcome sign is always out and a helping hand always extended. We value and are thankful for so much,” said Prokop.

We look forward to Heather Prokop’s support and ideas as we embark on a 2017 program to promote and educate!