

Tompkins County Farm Bureau

April 2022



10 Gallon Challenge 5K Run & Walk

May 1, 2022

Stewart Park

1 James L Gibbs Drive

Ithaca, NY 14850

DESCRIPTION

The Ten Gallon Challenge was started to fund milk purchases at the Food Bank of the Southern Tier for our county's food pantries. The need is great in our community and this a great way to lend a helping hand. This year the Tompkins County Farm Bureau wanted to put on a 5K Run and Walk. It will be held in Stewart Park on May 1 at 9 a.m. The sign-up for the race is \$20 per person. We will have bibs for you at the race when you sign in. The course will be on the Cayuga Finger Lakes Trail and go all the way to the Ithaca Farmers Market turn around and come back to the park. We will have timing, but it isn't going to be official. There will be prizes for the age groups. If you don't want to run or walk, you can still make a donation by using the link below.

The Tompkins County Dairy Princess/Ambassador and team will also be hosting a Fuel Up to Play Fun Run for kids.

Come out for some great fun!

RACE CONTACT INFO

<https://runsignup.com/Race/NY/Ithaca/TenGallonChallenge5k>

AGRICULTURAL LITERACY WEEK

Celebrated March 21-25, 2022



Agriculture is a unifying factor for communities all over. Whether you have 100 acres or a rooftop, there are opportunities for growing food and sharing the journey from soil to table with those around, as illustrated in *Farmer Will Allen and the Growing Table*. This book will take students on an explorative journey to learn

about community gardens and inspire them to build communities through food, even if they only have a pot on their porch to cultivate.

Will Allen is no ordinary farmer. A former basketball star, he's as tall as his truck, and he can hold a cabbage, or a basketball, in one hand. But what is most special about Farmer Will is that he can see what others can't see. When he looked at an abandoned city lot he saw a huge table, big enough to feed the whole world. No space, no problem. Poor soil, there's

a solution. Need help, found it. Farmer Will is a genius in solving problems. Jacqueline Briggs Martin tells the inspiring story of an innovator, educator, and community builder. Combined with artist Eric-Shabazz Larkin's striking artwork, readers will share Will Allen's optimism and determination to bring good food to every table. This story also showcases the unique diversity of agricultural operations that is especially applicable to New York's combination of rural, suburban, and urban landscapes.

FFA members Addie Clore of the Groton FFA and Abby Thomas of the TST BOCES FFA have been visiting classrooms all over the county reading the book and teaching all about worms and their importance in agriculture. They will be doing a session with the Lansing Recreation Department and Lansing Loves to Read. The Ithaca Farmers Market will also host them at a Saturday market for market-goers to learn all about worms.

2022 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Below are the New York Farm Bureau 2022 Legislative Priorities. These priorities are a culmination of the grassroots efforts which began last fall at county annual meetings and culminated at the State Annual Meeting held in December. These priorities reflect the collective interest of our members and rural communities and will determine the focus of our advocacy discussion and action for the year ahead.

- Double the Agricultural Workforce Retention Tax Credit
- Establish a refundable investment tax credit for agriculture.
- Support critical funding for current agricultural animal health (such as the Avian Disease Program), promotion, research, and environmental programs in the final FY 22/23 state budget, including a \$500 million Environmental Protection Fund.
- Support legislation that adjusts New York's unemployment insurance employer contribution rate, which would allow New York to replenish the UI trust fund without overburdening businesses with high UI tax bills as they recover from the pandemic.
- Support legislation allowing direct to consumer shipping for all New York-produced farm beverages, including beer, cider, and distillates.
- Support farmers in their efforts to adapt to and mitigate climate change through funding of critical programs in the Environmental Protection Fund and legislative programs that support on-farm renewable energy.
- Support the development of solar energy that balances private property rights and current and future land needs of agriculture in the state. Whenever possible, prime soils and actively farmed lands should be avoided in favor of previously disturbed or fallow lands and rooftop development for distributed generation. Power should be generated more closely to where it is going to be used.
- Support investment in new meat, vegetable, fruit and seafood processing facilities in New York.
- Oppose legislation that prohibits the use of agricultural pesticides.
- Oppose Extended Producer Responsibility legislation that doesn't require consumer responsibility of packaging they receive.
- Ensure a common-sense resolution to DEC's water withdrawal regulatory actions for farms.
- Pursue legislation that would require utilities to maintain a minimum height of 20 feet for power lines and 18 feet for other lines over farm fields upon request of landowner or farmer who is leasing the land.



Tompkins County Dairy Princess Program

Dear Dairy Industry Supporter:

The Tompkins County Dairy Princess Program delivers boots-on-the-ground dairy promotion and outreach under three main themes:

- Dairy foods are an important part of a healthy diet
- Dairy farmers take good care of their cows
- Dairy farmers are excellent stewards of the environment

Dairy promotion in recent years has been different due to COVID-19; however, the young women in the program have continued to work diligently to promote nature’s perfect drink. When promotion in person was not an option, they began making promotional videos to post online and share with schools, and as gatherings and events started opening again, these young women were eager to get back to in-person promotions. Soon they will be headed into elementary schools to read to classes outside their district for the first time in two years. These young women will continue to stand up for agriculture long after they leave the program, even if they do not end up with a career in agriculture – although many of them do.

We are thrilled to invite you to celebrate and thank the young women who’ve worked through the changing times to promote dairy in new ways. We hope you will join us at the annual **Dairy Promotion Banquet, Saturday, April 30 at the Dryden VFW. Milk punch at 6 p.m., dinner to follow at 6:30 p.m.** Your attendance is very appreciated by the court and committee, and we can’t wait to see your smiling faces again.

The banquet is not a fundraiser for the program, and the cost of the event exceeds the price of individual dinners. However, the generous donations of farmers and support service providers helps make up the difference and keep the program afloat. Please consider a donation, whether you can attend the banquet or not. As we begin a new era of the Tompkins County Dairy Promotion Program, we will rely on fundraising and donations more than ever before.

The Tompkins County Dairy Promotion Committee provides leadership for our county’s Dairy Princess/Ambassador Program and invites youth and young adults (age 12 to 24) interested in promoting the dairy industry to join the program. The experience is fun, challenging, provides a wide range of public relations activities, and offers the chance to work as a team with a great group of youth and young adults. We often hear from past program participants that the Dairy Princess program helped them develop and sharpen skills that have contributed to their success as adults. If you know of any interested individuals who might want to participate, please have them contact me at the number below.

As we get back into the swing of in-person events, if you have an event you would like a court member to attend, please reach out to me or our booking chair at the contact below. Additionally, if you have an interest in sharing your time and interest, you can be part of the committee that is working hard to keep the program going in Tompkins County. Thank you very much, and we hope to see you on April 30. Have a DAIRY nice day!

Diedra Harkenrider, Chair

Tompkins County Dairy Promotion Committee

607-279-0335 dharkenrider@ithaca.edu or tompkinsdairy@gmail.com (Booking Chair)

***2022 Tompkins County Dairy Promotion Banquet
Saturday, April 30, 6:00 p.m., Dryden VFW***

____ Yes, we will be attending the Dairy Promotion Banquet on April 30:

Name(s) _____

____ Adults, \$25 each \$ _____

____ Children (age 4-11) \$13 each \$ _____

____ Enclosed is a donation for the Dairy Princess Program \$ _____

____ No, unfortunately we are unable to attend Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please make checks payable to **Tompkins County Dairy Princess Program** and mail to: Diedra Harkenrider

1987 Peruville Rd
Freeville, NY 13068

***** Please reply no later than April 20 *****

The goal of the Tompkins County Dairy Princess Program is to promote the number one industry in New York, dairy farming, through public appearances and educational programs about dairy farming and dairy nutrition.

New York Farm Bureau
 159 Wolf Road, Suite 300
 Albany, NY 12205



Tompkins County Farm Bureau

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 Lindsay Wickham 607-227-2547
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Tompkins County Farm Bureau board meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Town Barn in Ithaca.