

Saratoga County Farm Bureau News September 2017



To Serve And Strengthen Agriculture

President's Report



Hello Folks! As of this newsletter, many of you are getting ready to start fall harvest. Saratoga County Farm Bureau has had a busy summer! We had a successful Sundae on the Farm at Kings Ransom Farm, our annual county board picnic at Bud and Cathy South's house and Saratoga County Fair. I would like to thank Jan and Jeff King and their families for hosting Sundae on the Farm, Bud and Cathy South for hosting the picnic and Sue and Ted Beebe for helping us out at the fair.

In August, we started policy development. In September, we finished our policy development process with some long discussion and came up with several new policies and reaffirmed many old ones. These policies will be discussed and voted on at our annual meeting.

This brings me right into our next topic. Our annual meeting will be held at the Saratoga-Wilton Elks on Thursday Oct. 19 at 6:30 pm. We will have a wonderful buffet dinner and then we will get to our meeting. We will vote on the policies that are presented that night and any new ones that we may have missed and are brought to the floor. Please be sure to join us, as this is where our staff in Albany gets their ideas to help our beloved industry move forward. It is extremely important that we get our voices heard and Farm Bureau is the best way to do this. With that being said, have a safe harvest this fall and I'll see you at the annual meeting. *Sincerely, Jamie Pettis III*

2018 Proposed Resolutions

State

Agricultural Issues/Agricultural Outreach Program

We support state-level funding to the New York State Agricultural Mediation Program through the Department of Agriculture and Markets budget.

Agricultural Issues/Animal Care/Animal Cruelty Issues

We believe shelter should be defined in the animal cruelty statute as "shelter means adequate protection from the elements and weather conditions suitable for the age, species, and physical condition of the animal to maintain the animal in a state of good health. Shelter for livestock includes structures or natural features such as trees or topography."

Agricultural Issues/Department of

Agriculture and Markets/General

We encourage New York State Agencies being required to seek an opinion from the Commissioner of Agriculture about impacts to agriculture if they are going to remove bridges, roads, or other public infrastructure in or near an agricultural district.

Commodity Issues/Brewery and Distillery Issues

We support alcoholic beverage producers being able to electronically file their tax returns.

We support ensuring that farm brewery licensees comply with the provisions to use New York State grown products, as noted in the existing statute.

Commodity Issues/Equine Issues

We support a maximum of a \$5,000 tax credit for equines declared "unwanted." Such credit

shall be documented contingent on adequacy of shelter, veterinary care, and feed programs.

Cont'd on back: →

Saratoga County Farm Bureau County Annual Meeting

All are welcome

Thursday, October 19, 2017

Saratoga Wilton Elks

1 Elks Lane, Saratoga

Social at 6:30 p.m. / Dinner 7 p.m.

Cost: \$25 per person, payable at the door.

**In order for proper meal counts, please
RSVP before 10/13 to New York Farm
Bureau Regional Office at 1-866-995-7300
or eny@nyfb.org**

SAVE THE DATE

Trivia Night Challenge

Friday, Nov. 10, 2017

The 1925 Barn, Hudson Falls

Appetizers start at 6 p.m.

Dinner at 6:45, Trivia starts at 7:30

Catered by DJ Herrington

RSVP your team of up to 8 people to:

Tricia Lockwood at 518-275-6054

or email:

patricia.lockwood@farmcrediteast.com

\$25/person by Oct. 28

Stay tuned to our Facebook page

for more details

Proceeds to benefit local FFA chapters

New York Farm Bureau Website

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

John Deere



JOHN DEERE

New York Farm Bureau members can now receive **special access** to the John Deere's GreenFleet™ Loyalty Rewards program, providing members with a free two-year Platinum 2 membership.

It's easy to become a GreenFleet member too! Just sign up for John Deere GreenFleet Loyalty Rewards program using a valid member ID and zip code for membership verification, and become a Platinum 2 level by visiting www.JohnDeere.com/FarmBureau



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Saratoga County Farm Bureau Board of Directors

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Kim Trombly NYFB Field Advisor	935-8569
Dean Casey, NYFB Director	796-4874
NYFB Regional Office	866-995-7300

Resolutions Cont'd:

Economic Issues/Private Property Rights

We believe unmanned drones operating under 400 feet should be treated and prosecuted as trespassing and an invasion of privacy.

Economic Issues/Taxes/Real Property Taxes

We support extending RP-483, the exemption for agricultural buildings

Environmental Issues/Wildlife Management-Nuisance Wildlife Controls

Move to delete: We believe farmers are best able to assess wildlife damage

on their own property and should have the prerogative to determine appropriate humane control on their own property.

Environmental Issues/Wildlife Management/ Hunting Issues

We support prohibiting the use of unmanned aerial vehicles for hunting of wildlife.

General Issues/State Fiscal & Monetary Policy/Budget Process Recommendations

We oppose reinstating funding for the New York State Barn Restoration and Preservation Program.

General Issues/ State Fiscal and Monetary Policy/ Tax Code Recommendations

We oppose allowing insurance corporations to receive tax credits for investing in rural business growth funds nor do we support establishing a fund for investment in agriculture and rural enterprises.

National

Section 2/ Farm Policy/Farm Program/ 237-National Conservation and Environmental Policy

Farmers should not be required to complete all practices described in their CNMP within an EQIP contract period.