



THE BUREAU BUZZ

ALL THE NEWS FIT TO PRINT FROM CATTARAUGUS COUNTY FARM BUREAU

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Hold the Phone!

Last Minute Date Change for County Annual Meeting!

Due to a conflict with another agricultural organization that would affect several of our board members' and regular members' availability to attend, we have decided to move annual meeting to **October 16th**. We apologize for any inconvenience and hope to see you all there!

This year's annual meeting will again be held at the Cooperative Extension building in Ellicottville. Doors open at 6:30 with snacks and social time. Don't bother with dinner at home. Several local businesses have donated more than enough food to make a meal. At 7:00 we will begin our business meeting with voting on proposed resolutions and election of Board members and officers. Our Speaker will begin his presentation at about 7:30. This year's speaker will be Chris Baker, the head of Cattaraugus County Emergency Services.

Come and join us! See what Farm Bureau is all about and how you can help by voicing your opinion!



Top Row, left to right: The Dairy Princess & her Court with the Giant Ice Cream Sundae; The "corn box" and tractors were a hit at the Ag Discovery tent; Playing the "Chicken Chat" game and the chicken visor; Red pedal tractor winner; Blue pedal tractor winner; The "Berry Informational" poster at the tent

Bottom Row, left to right: Watching the antics of the newly hatched chicks; A well loved tractor on loan to the corn box

A Look Back at Summer with Farm Bureau

What a summer it has been! June was wet, July was dry, August was HOT, and Farm Bureau was busy!

Our Annual Picnic was once again well attended and included fabulous barbecued chicken provided by the Hollamby Agency, corn on the cob provided by the Coutures, drinks and the awesome facility provided by John Gibbs, and all sorts of other fabulous dishes provided by our members. There were also many great door prizes donated by various generous Farm Bureau members and our annual legislative update by Cathy Young and Joe Giglio. If you missed out, make a note to attend next July!

The Ag Discovery Tent once again educated and entertained Cattaraugus County fairgoers. Always changing things up, this year the tent concentrated on chickens, beef, and berries. There was an incubator that was hatching eggs all week-and, of course, the resulting chicks to watch; a "corn box" full of toy tractors for the kids to play with; and pedal tractors to test drive. The pedal tractors were donated by Larry Romance & Son and Lamb & Webster. For a dollar, visitors to the tent got to "vote" on whether they preferred the blue or red tractor. At the end of the week a "vote" was drawn for each of the tractors and two lucky winners got to take them home. The proceeds from the voting benefitted the Cattaraugus County Farm Bureau scholarship fund. The Ag Discovery Tent also hosted the annual giant ice cream sundae served by the Dairy Princess and her court. This year 250 people were served the 16 gallon ice cream Sundae!

Thank you so much to Katie Hill and all the MANY people that helped make the discovery tent happen this year and thank you, once again, to Larry Romance & Son and Lamb & Webster for the donation of the pedal tractors.



A Fireside Chat with the County President

Dear Fellow Farm Bureau Members,

Thank you to everyone that has participated in Farm Bureau activities this summer. Our picnic at Gibbs' Bee Barn in July set a new record for attendance at 71! Thank you to John Gibbs and his family for hosting this event. The Ag Discovery tent at the fair also went extremely well. There was hardly a dull moment all week. This year's main attractions were the chick hatching station, little kids corn box, and the pedal tractors. Thank you to Larry Romance and Son AND Lamb & Webster for donating these tractors. Proceeds from them went into our scholarship fund. On Thursday of Fair week we once again, worked with the Dairy Princess and her court and constructed a "Giant Ice Cream Sundae". 16 gallons of ice cream disappeared in less than 20 minutes!

The County Annual Meeting is approaching very quickly and with that comes the time to make new resolutions. These are what we try to turn into Farm Bureau policy, which can then become new laws or amendments to current policies. This is probably the most valuable part of Farm Bureau. Because of our grassroots way of business, all of the resolutions are started by our members. We already have a few great ones from our county that we feel will be great conversations at State Annual Meeting in Syracuse. Please let us know if there is something you feel would make a good resolution. Dave Zilker is our Resolutions Committee Chair and can be reached at dave.zilker@era.com or 716-474-5859. Our County Annual Meeting will be similar to last year and is set for Oct 16. To make it clear you can come for just the meeting OR just the speaker OR the meeting and the speaker. There is NO COST for anyone. Everyone is welcome.

Best of luck with fall harvest.

Sincerely,

Darin Hill

darin_hill@live.com
716-801-1950

What's the Bright Idea? We need your thoughts and ideas about what things need to be changed (or not changed) to improve agriculture! Give Dave Zilker a call and tell him what you think! 716-474-5859

Your Farm Bureau

2018 Directors- Serving our county with pride!

President- Darin Hill.....716-801-1950.....Dairy
Vice President-Nathan Blesy.716-435-7474.....Dairy
Treasurer- Carmen Wright.....716-676-2556.....Dairy/Maple
Secretary- Margie Andrews.....716-358-2280.....Dairy
Robin Degenfelder.....716-244-8899.....Dairy
Dave Zilker.....716-474-5859.Rural Landowner
Chuck Couture.....716-942-3710.....Greenhouse
Kevin Herman.....716-397-9183.....Dairy
Jim Finch.....716-372-3023.....Beef
Bruce Rosette.....716-244-3118.....Alpaca
Nadyne Litchfield.....716-244-1568..Vegetable/Berry
Andy Vosburg-YFR chair.....716-697-5758.....Dairy
NY Farm Bureau Field Staff: Tim Bigham.....716-474-6585
NY State Board Member: Richard Kimball.....508-965-6400
County ProEd Chair: Alice Wright.....716-676-9963
Nationwide Insurance Rep- Ben Hollamby.....716-933-7864

Serving our Members Since 1967



Workers' Compensation Safety Group 486

Take a look at what NYFB Safety Group 486 has to offer.

- NYFB lobbying efforts over the past few years have resulted in an average 15% decrease in workers' compensation rates.
- 25% upfront discount
- 28% 5-year average dividend*
- More than 20 agricultural operations

Call today for an apples-to-apples comparison quote!

NYFB.ORG

800-342-4143

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* Percentage is based on dividends paid 2012 through 2016. Dividends are not guaranteed. Continued membership in NYFB is required to participate in Safety Group 486. Eligibility for insurance is subject to the New York State Insurance Fund underwriting requirements. NYFB and its subsidiaries have no authority to bind coverage for any member.

Need More Info? Want to get involved, tell us your opinion, or have questions? Please contact anyone on the Board of Directors list above. You can call or text. You can also get a hold of us at our Facebook page or by email. We are always looking for ideas for new resolutions. Bottom line: Don't be a stranger! Let us know what you are thinking! This is ***YOUR*** Farm Bureau. Help us make it work for you!

Calendar of Events

Your Opportunities to Get Involved!



FARM BUREAU BOARD MEETING

DATE: OCTOBER 8TH @ 7:30PM
PLACE: EXTENSION BUILDING,
28 PARKSIDE DR, ELLICOTTVILLE

We meet the second Monday of each month. All members are welcome! We would enjoy your input.



COUNTY ANNUAL MEETING

DATE: OCTOBER 16 @ 6:30PM
PLACE: EXTENSION BUILDING
28 PARKSIDE DR, ELLICOTTVILLE

Note the date change! Come join us as we enjoy friends, food, and get a little work and education done also! Tonight's the night we start that "grass roots" process!



STATE ANNUAL MEETING

DATE: DECEMBER 4TH & 5TH
PLACE: SYRACUSE, NY

We'd love to have you help represent Cattaraugus County! Great meals, Good Company, a Good Time, and educational too. Come see how passionate people in agriculture can be! Contact any Board Member for more information.

www.nyfb.org

Quickly tell your legislators your opinion!
E-Lobby Today!

Continue the 10-Year Real Property Tax Exemption on New Farm Buildings

This Crucial Program Needs to Be Extended to Help Farmers Afford Property Taxes

TAKE ACTION

Mis-labeling of Plant-Based Beverages as Milk

Send your comments to the FDA Today!

TAKE ACTION

Support Electronic Submission of Agricultural Assessments

Urge the Governor to Take Action Now

TAKE ACTION

Go to NYFB.org to E-Lobby on the hot issues you feel strongly about! These issues and more are available to lobby with the click of a button!

Don't Forget! Renew Your Membership Today!

If you have not yet received your renewal form in the mail, it will be there VERY soon! Remember, you get a cheaper rate on membership if you renew BEFORE NOVEMBER 1st. Don't let that bill come and get lost in the shuffle- pay it now before you lose your discount.

Farm Bureau now offers several options for paying your annual dues, including paying online at nyfb.org and the choice to sign up for automatic renewal if you pay with a credit card.

In addition to your regular dues, you have the opportunity to donate an amount of your choice to the NYFB Legal Defense Fund. The Legal funds at NYFB have recently been significantly drained by the courtroom battles with the NYCLU over the collective bargaining rights of farm workers, among others. In today's world it is an unfortunate reality that we need to fight battles in the courtroom almost as often as we do on the house and senate floors. Please help Farm Bureau protect and support agriculture by donating what you can to replenish the Legal Defense Fund so that we can continue to fight for you!

Attention Seniors NYFB scholarship deadline changed

If you are looking for the NYFB scholarship because it used to be due in November, relax. NY Farm Bureau has recently announced a change in the deadline for its scholarship application. **The application is now due March 1st 2019.** Online, fillable applications will be available later in the year at nyfb.org under "Promotion and Education".

Even though the scholarship is not due until March, you can still be thinking about it now. The scholarship is for high school seniors continuing their education in the agriculture field. They must be from a Farm Bureau member family or be student members. A 500 word essay is required. The topic is "Discuss an issue facing agriculture in your county. How do you think NYFB can support members who may deal with this issue?"

The Cattaraugus County winner for the scholarship will receive \$250. The District level winner will receive \$100 and a memento. The third place State winner will receive \$1000, second place will receive \$1200, and first place will receive \$1500.

Scholarships Available

Cattaraugus County Farm Bureau is continuing to offer financial help to youth who participate in 4-H or FFA trips, activities, and projects. Applications are available by contacting Chuck Couture at 716-942-3710 or cpcouture@hotmail.com.

- Funds available will depend on the number of applicants, cost of activity, and the amount of money available from our fund raising activities.
- Maximum amount per applicant per year is \$100 (excluding the NYFB scholarship)
- Projects must be first time, start- up projects (not a continuation of something done before)
- Preference will be given to immediate Farm Bureau family members
- Applicants who are not members of a Farm Bureau family may apply, with sponsorship by a Farm Bureau member.

Please pass this information along to anyone that may be interested in help deferring the cost of a 4-H or FFA trip or start-up project. Applications are accepted all year long and will be awarded on a first come- first served basis until the funds run out.

Visit the NYFB website for more information:
www.NYFB.org

"Like" the *Cattaraugus County Farm Bureau Facebook Page* for local updates!
Check out our Facebook Live Posts!

Newsletter Questions/Comments? Contact the editor, Barb Blesy at n.blesy@gmail.com or 716-435-5400

Going Green: If you would like to receive this newsletter in its electronic form, rather than paper, please send an email to Barb Blesy at n.blesy@gmail.com to sign up!

Done Reading This? When you're done with your newsletter, please pass it on to someone you think should belong to Farm Bureau. We'd love the opportunity to reach one more person that could benefit from a Farm Bureau membership!



Cattaraugus County Farm Bureau
Darin Hill - President
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Cattaraugus, NY 14719