

Membership

Steuben County Farm Bureau ranked #6 out of the 52 county Farm Bureaus in New York and reaching its membership goal for 2017. Not too bad — but we can do even better in 2018! Your county Farm Bureau is only as strong as its active members. If you know somebody in agriculture that is not a member, encourage them to join. Your county Farm Bureau works hard at the county, state and national level as a voice for farmers and landowners. Call or email any of the board members listed in this newsletter to sign up. It's quick and it's easy!

Started by Farmers for Farmers

Serving the Agricultural Community for 50 Years.

Safety Group 486 Workers' Compensation

25% UPFRONT DISCOUNT <small>*subject to eligibility</small>	PAYING YEARLY DIVIDENDS TO OUR MEMBERS SINCE 1967
COVERAGE FOR 20 AGRICULTURAL CLASSIFICATIONS	28% AVERAGE DIVIDEND**

** Represents an average dividend over the last 5 years. Dividend levels are not guaranteed.

CONTACT MICHELE OR BECKY
ABOUT OUR WORKERS'
COMPENSATION PROGRAM!



1.800.342.4143
NYFB.org

Minimum Wage Increase Reminder

Employers are reminded that the New York State minimum wage will increase on Dec. 31, 2017. In New York City, the rate is \$12.00 per hour for businesses with 10 or fewer employees, and \$13.00 per hour for businesses with 11 or more employees. In Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester Counties, it is \$11.00 per hour. In the remainder of the state, it is \$10.40 per hour. These rates remain in effect until Dec. 31, 2018.

DOT Drug Testing Update

Effective Jan. 1, 2018, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) drug testing panel that includes marijuana, cocaine, amphetamines, phencyclidine (PCP), and opiates, will require testing for four semi-synthetic opioids: hydrocodone, oxycodone, hydromorphone, oxymorphone.

If a driver tests positive for any of these opioid drugs, then as with any other drug test result that is confirmed by the laboratory, the Medical Review Officer will conduct an interview with the driver to determine if there is a legitimate medical explanation for the result, such as a prescription.

As has been the requirement in the past, when an employer receives a 'positive' drug test result, the employer must immediately remove the employee from performing safety-sensitive functions and provide the employee with a list of qualified Substance Abuse Professionals (SAP) available in the area. In order to return to performing safety-sensitive functions for any DOT-regulated employer, the employee must complete the return-to-duty process that will include an evaluation by a SAP, who will require education and/or treatment.

More information can be found on the USDOT website at: <https://www.transportation.gov/odapc>
[Part 40 DOT Employee Notice 2017](#)

New York Farm Bureau Names 2017 “Circle of Friends” in NYS Legislature

New York Farm Bureau has released its annual “Circle of Friends” naming 172 New York State legislators to the distinguished list. The award is an indication of the individual lawmaker's support of New York agriculture and New York Farm Bureau.

The “Circle of Friends” honor is based upon each legislator's voting record on issues of agricultural importance as well as other evidence of legislative support, including sponsorship of bills that New York Farm Bureau has either supported or opposed during the most recent legislative session.

“New York Farm Bureau selected these Senators and Assembly members because of their commitment to the hard working farm families in New York. We appreciated their support on a whole host of bills and budget items this year, and we look forward to collaborating with them as a new session is about to begin. It is imperative that we work together to support local food production and the agricultural economy that benefit all New Yorkers,” said David Fisher, President of New York Farm Bureau.

The “Circle of Friends” is not an endorsement, and this distinction only recognizes the 2017 legislative session.

All of the Steuben County representatives are once again “Circle of Friends” recipients and they are:

New York Assembly: Joseph Errigo, Phil Palmesano and Joseph Giglio.

New York Senate: Thomas O'Mara.



Be sure to like us on Facebook at “Steuben County Farm Bureau” and on Instagram at “SteubenCountyFB”.

We would like to encourage all of our members to share with us their pictures from their farm and their land as well as their experiences.

State Annual Meeting Report

Steuben County Farm Bureau was represented by delegates Dan Hubbard and Sean and Jenalee Turner at the State Annual Meeting this year. Your representatives were not too shy to share their opinions about the resolutions proposed and spoke to several of the ideas presented to the delegate body. In addition to the formal resolutions process, Dan, Sean and Jenalee benefitted from networking with other members from across the state and enjoyed workshops and other features of this meeting.



Safe Snow Removal

New York Farm Bureau would like to remind you of the safety issues that can come with unusually heavy snowfalls. Please be aware of the weight load on your structures, and take great care in removing snow that has accumulated on your structures.

Cornell's PRO-DAIRY has created a list of “Do's and Don'ts for safe snow removal.” Please review and share with your neighbors.

<http://eden.cce.cornell.edu/Documents/Snow%20Removal%20Do%27s%20and%20Don%27ts.pdf>

Here is a link to download additional information:
<http://ecommons.library.cornell.edu/>





Steuben County
Farm Bureau News

In This Issue

- SAVE THE DATES!
- Special Meeting at 6:45 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 15, 2018 to elect a county president. Regular meeting to follow.
- 2018 New York Farm Bureau Lobby Days, March 5-6, 2018
- SCFB Celebrates 100 Years!
- New Board Members Elected
- New York Farm Bureau Names 2017 Circle of Friends in NYS Legislature
- State Annual Meeting
- Membership and Social Media

Steuben County Farm Bureau
Board of Directors

Alton Derick, (Acting) President.....	607-776-4320	Livestock, Hay
altonjean@aol.com		
Jenalee Turner, Secretary/Treasurer.....	607-590-6537	Field Crops
turnerjenalee@yahoo.com		
Dan Hubbard.....	607-765-0988	Potatoes
kkbhubbard@gmail.com		
Curt Hopkins.....	585-208-3267	Beef, Grain, Hay
c.hopkins1970@live.com		
Ray Emery, Newsletter.....	315-730-7345	Grapes
raysellskeuka@gmail.com		
Scott Ward.....	607-794-0736	Beef
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Jeff Parker, County S&W.....	607-776-7398	
jgparker@stny.rr.com		
Mark Walker.....	585-330-3358	
mark.walker@farmcrediteast.com		
Mark Squire.....	607-522-7942	Onions, Produce
msquiresproduce@icloud.com		
Shane Slayton, Young Farmers & Ranchers.....	607-661-6237	Field Crops
Slayton.shane@gmail.com		

Steuben County
Farm Bureau News
Winter 2017-18



100 Year Anniversary



Load of hay traveling through downtown Pulteney in 1918.
Photo provided by Duane Bergstresser.

Farm Bureau had its beginnings in Steuben County in 1918. At that time, the impetus for a Farm Bureau organization was to improve agriculture by giving farmers the newest information from agricultural colleges and by working with government to improve the legislative landscape for agriculture. In 1955 the dual roles of Farm Bureau were split, and while the governmental interaction responsibility remained with Farm Bureau, the delivery of information from the agricultural university system became the role of Cornell Cooperative Extension. Next summer Cornell Cooperative Extension and Farm Bureau will celebrate 100 years of service to Steuben County. Watch for special celebratory activities in subsequent newsletters and on our Facebook page – Steuben County Farm Bureau.

Notice of Special Meeting

The Steuben County Farm Bureau Board of Directors has scheduled a special meeting for the purpose of electing a county Farm Bureau president. At the Oct. 21, 2017 annual meeting, the position of president was not filled. The board sought a prospective candidate since then and is putting forth the nomination of Edward Merry of Arkport as president. Edward, together with his brothers, runs a dairy farm in Arkport. He has been a long-time member of Farm Bureau, served at one time on the Farm Bureau board and has attended numerous Farm Bureau events over the years.

Members are encouraged to attend the special meeting at the Mason Building, Chestnut St., Bath – located on the county fairgrounds directly behind the grandstands – at **6:45 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 15, 2018** for this purpose. The regular monthly meeting will be held at 7 p.m. immediately after this special meeting, and any members attending the special meeting are welcome to stay.

County Farm Bureau Leadership
Positions Selected

At the Oct. 21, 2017 county annual meeting held at the Wheeler Community Center, Alton Derick was chosen to serve as county vice president and Shane Slayton was voted to serve as young farmer chair for the 2017-2018 year. Vacancies in the positions of county president and Promotion and Education chair remained after the meeting. At the reorganizational meeting in November, Jenalee Turner was elected to serve as county secretary and treasurer for this year.