

Farm Bureau Annual Meetings End a Busy Year

Cayuga County Farm Bureau was proud to welcome New York Farm Bureau President David Fisher to its annual meeting in October at the Springside Inn in Auburn. Fisher addressed attendees during an evening filled with thoughtful discussion, grassroots advocacy and a celebration of Cayuga County agriculture.



In December, Ray Lockwood, Jim Young and Ed Staehr joined farmers from across the state at New York Farm Bureau's State Annual Meeting in Albany to set the public policy priorities for 2018.

CCFB's Jim Young addresses delegates from 52 county Farm Bureaus in Albany.

NYFB President David Fisher speaks at the 2017 CCFB Annual Meeting.



For more on the annual meetings



Follow Cayuga County Farm Bureau at www.facebook.com/CayugaCountyFarmBureau and be part of the conversation. If you have ideas or questions, please contact Abigail Young at ajyoung0224@hotmail.com.

Hundreds of farmers from across the state will visit Albany in March as part of NYFB's annual Lobby Day to advocate on behalf of New York's farm families. Here are a few of the priority issues they will be fighting for in 2018:

- Double the minimum wage tax credit for farmers starting in 2018.
- Oppose unworkable farm labor mandates and make much needed updates and reforms to NYS labor laws and regulations.
- Increase school meal reimbursements to incentivize the purchase of fresh and minimally processed local food.
- Support the removal of an acreage requirement for farms in the agricultural assessment program as long as they meet income eligibility requirements.

Visit NYFB.org to learn how you can add your voice.

How to E-Lobby—It's fast and easy:

- Go to www.nyfb.org and click on the green "eLobby-Take Action!" button on the left side of the page under the banner photos, or by clicking the green "Take Action! Advocacy" button.
- Find the letter you want to send and click "Take Action."
- The action alert description will appear followed by the recipients and the letter text. Type in your name and address and press "Send Message" at the bottom of the page.
- Your letter is sent directly to lawmakers and you are helping to impact farm public policy! Encourage your friends to E-Lobby by typing in their e-mail addresses.

If you have any problems using the E-Lobby feature, call the NYFB office at 1-800-342-4143.

Agricultural Agency Awareness Day Open House

Thurs., Feb. 15

10 a.m.— 2 p.m.

Natural Resource Center

7413 County House Road, Auburn

Stop by anytime between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

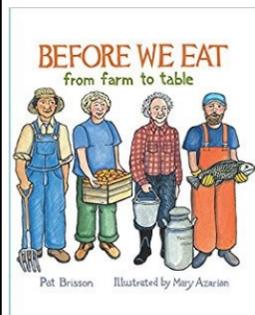
Representatives from the following agencies will be available to provide information on their programs and services and answer questions:

- Agricultural Engineering Services (AES)
- Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE)
- Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE)
- Farm Service Agency (FSA)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- New York Farm Bureau (NYFB)
- Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)

Refreshments will be provided!

For more details call Cayuga County Farm Service Agency at 315-253-8471 ext.2. Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Krista Tyrell at 315-253-8471 ext. 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

Help Bring Ag into the Classroom



In celebration of agriculture, we are once again taking an active role in **Ag Literacy Week**. It is such a rewarding program to be involved in and hope you will join us this year. During the week of **March 19-23**, we are looking for volunteers to read *Before We Eat: From Farm to Table*, by Pat Brisson, to elementary school children. The book displays the vast opportunities and diversity that New York agriculture encompasses. Students will be taken on a journey from farm to table to understand the different aspects of agriculture and the many possible careers involved. There are also fun, hands-on related activities to keep them learning and engaged. If you are interested in participating, please contact CCE Cayuga County at 315-255-1183.

NYFB Scores Two Key Victories for Farm Families *(To find out more, visit NYFB.org)*

✓ **Inherent Risk Reform**— The new law (Chapter 338 of 2017) will amend the general obligations law to clarify responsibilities for both farm operators and visitors alike. Agricultural tourism and outdoor recreation activities that include horseback riding, u-pick Christmas trees and fruit orchards, along with tours of wineries and maple operations, all now have a new line of defense against frivolous lawsuits.

✓ **Lawsuit Dismissed**— Judge Richard McNally has granted NYFB's request to dismiss the New York Civil Liberties Union's baseless lawsuit that sought to create collective bargaining rights for farmworkers. NYFB argued in State Supreme Court in Albany last July that our system of government requires that the legislature change state law, not the courts.

Pesticide Training Series Offered for NYS DEC Test

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cayuga County (CCE Cayuga County) is offering a Pesticide Certification Training Series for those wishing to prepare for the Pesticide CORE and Category exams as required by the New York State DEC to obtain a restricted use pesticide license. The two session training has been scheduled for **Tues., Feb. 20 and Tues., Feb. 27** from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Each session will be held at the CCE Cayuga County Education Center, 248 Grant Avenue in Auburn. Cost to attend both classes will be \$25 with an additional cost for training manuals. Training manuals are a critical portion of the two-session training and each student should have their own copy at each of the classes, as well as the test. To **register** for the training series contact Peggy Lillie (psb4@cornell.edu) at 315-255-1183 ext. 238. For **questions** to determine proper study materials, contact Keith Severson (kvs5@cornell.edu) at 315-255-1183 ext. 225.

159 Wolf Road
Albany, NY 12205



Cayuga County
Farm Bureau News

Cayuga County Farm Bureau News

February 2018



President's Report



Cayuga County farmers have a wealth of programming available over the next few months that will help educate, inspire and keep agriculture moving in the

right direction. Your continued support of our great organization has brought about positive change over the last year and we look to build on that momentum in 2018. Every farmer *needs* Farm Bureau and Farm Bureau *needs* every farmer.

Ray Lockwood

Upcoming Events to Note

Agricultural Agency Awareness Day Open House
Feb. 15 from 10 a.m.— 2 p.m.
Natural Resource Center
7413 County House Road • Auburn
See inside for details

NYFB Mid-Winter Regional Meeting
Feb. 20 from 11 a.m.— 2 p.m.
NYFB Central NY Office
7413 County House Road • Auburn
Come hear important updates from NYFB's management team including 2018 priority issues, NYS budget update, membership, NYFB SG 486 Workers' Compensation Program and more.
To register, visit NYFB.org or call 315-252-1367.

New York Farm Show
Feb. 22-24 from 8:30 a.m.— 4 p.m.
NYS Fairgrounds
\$5 at the door, under 18 free
Free tickets are available by sending a request along with a self-addressed stamped envelope by Feb. 15 to NY Farm Show • PO Box 3470 • Syracuse, NY 13220
nyfarmshow.org

NYFB Taste of NY Reception and Lobby Day
March 5-6 • Albany
Farmers will visit the Capitol to meet with legislators to advocate for 2018 public policy priorities.
NYFB.org

Young Farmers Leadership Conference
March 16-17 • Holiday Inn, Auburn
Keynote Speaker: Matt Lohr
All young farmers are invited to attend.
1-800-342-4143 or NYFB.org

There are a limited number of special discounts available to cover \$100 in costs. Contact Skip Jensen at sjensen@nyfb.org for more.

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



New York Farm Bureau
Young Farmers & Ranchers

YOUNG FARMERS - AGRICULTURE'S LINK TO THE FUTURE

MARCH 16-17, 2018
HOLIDAY INN, AUBURN



SESSIONS INCLUDE:

- Keynote Speaker - Matt Lohr, Lifting the Limits, The Strongest Link
- Know Your Beef Beyond the Label
- YF&R Competitive Events 101
- How an Idea gets from the Kitchen Table to the Delegate floor

Registration Costs
NYFB Members: Young Farmer
Package = \$125

Hotel Costs:
\$100.57 per room [includes taxes]
Call Holiday Inn, 315-255-4531 for your hotel reservation

REGISTRATION DEADLINE
MARCH 7, 2018

To Register:
800-342-4143 • NYFB.org

Cayuga County Farm Bureau Board of Directors

Raymond Lockwood, President315-252-4975
Charles Kyle, Vice President315-626-3656
Andrew Fish, Secretary315-664-0124
Jim Young, Treasurer.....315-727-1367
Steve Barski315-246-7376
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Edward Staehr315-730-9925
Michael Dennis315-730-4137
Bob Dickman, YF Chair315-253-3030
Rebecca Staehr, Pro-Ed Chair.....315-283-3664
John Sorbello, State Director315-730-2670
Skip Jensen, Field Advisor.....315-536-1437
CNYFB Regional Office.....315-252-1367
NYFB Office.....800-342-4143

The board usually meets every second Wednesday of the month at the CNYFB Regional Office located at 7413 County House Road in Auburn.



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- Powersports Insurance
- Life Insurance
- Farm Transition Planning

* Select savings may apply

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1.800.342.4143
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