

Rensselaer County Farm Bureau News September 2018



To Serve And Strengthen Agriculture

County Annual Meeting
Wednesday, October 17, 2018
Giuseppe's Restaurant
450 3rd Ave., Watervliet

6:30 p.m. Social * 7 p.m. Dinner
Business meeting to follow.
\$12 per person, payable at the door.

RSVP to NYFB Eastern Regional Office before Oct. 10
at 1-866-995-7300 or eny@nyfb.org.

Meet the Candidates Night

**All are welcome to attend and
meet the candidates.**

**The evening will start with a meet and greet
followed by a town hall forum.**

Watch for details in future mailing.

Check Out Our Facebook Page

If you haven't been to our page, please check it out at
www.facebook.com/renscofarmbureau/

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

STARTED BY FARMERS FOR FARMERS

* 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.

2019 Proposed Resolutions

Below are resolutions that will be discussed at the annual meeting. Resolutions will also be accepted from the floor the night of the meeting. If you have a proposed resolution that you would like to present from the floor at the County Annual Meeting, please have it written beforehand. This will enable the meeting to run smoothly.

State Reaffirmations

Rural Health Care pg. 130

Entire section on rural health care.

Economic Issues/Liability Insurance

We recommend the repeal of Labor Law 200, 240 and 241 and the strict liability placed upon contractors and owners of commercial property.

State New

Transportation/EDL

We support overhauling the EDL guidelines to exempt all agricultural commodities.

Agricultural Economic Development

We support the expansion of state budget funding used for new and beginning farmers and veteran farmers to be expanded to other agricultural economic development programs including allowing current farmers to use these funds to diversify or expand into new agricultural enterprises.

(Cont'd on back):

**Rensselaer County Farm Bureau
Board of Directors
*Need to dial 518 first.***

Tim Marbot, President	281-3432
Paul Molesky, VP & YFR Co-Chair.....	487-1769
Sandy Washburn, Secretary	618-5857
John Betts, Treasurer.....	753-6072
Matthew Grab.....	810-9500
Zach Metzger	821-8449
Nicole Childrose.....	605-4880
Ken Johnson.....	339-9402
Michael Swartz.....	331-0830
Matthew Trzcinski, YF Co-Chair.....	441-7917
Nancy Trzcinski, Pro-Ed Chair.....	279-1738
Dean Casey, NYFB Director.....	796-4874
Renee Ciardi, NYFB Field Advisor	461-8659
ENYFB Regional Office	866-995-7300

New York Farm Bureau
P.O. Box 5330
Albany, NY 12205



**Rensselaer County
Farm Bureau News**

Resolutions (cont'd):

Labor

We oppose the proposal for three-month bereavement pay.

We support companies that are committed to “social justice” to take it upon themselves to provide paid time off for employees as part of their compensation and benefit package, but oppose any effort to mandate it for all companies within the state.

Cooperative Extension

We support doubling the funding level from \$4 million to \$8 million for county cooperative extension associations through county law 224, which has remained unchanged since 1994 in the SUNY system budget.

New York Farm Bureau 2018 Legislative Successes

New York Farm Bureau had a very productive legislative session this year. A number of priority issues became law or were funded in the state budget. Here are the highlights:

- Extension of the 10-year property tax exemption on new or partially reconstructed farm buildings.
- Renters of leased farmland can now submit their agricultural assessment renewals electronically.
- Increased the speed limit at which slow moving vehicles with an attached SMV emblem may travel on roadways.
- Inherent risk legislation which will limit liability on equine, u-pick Christmas trees and agritainment operations.
- A six-year property tax exemption for newly-planted hopyards.
- Legislation that will allow craft beverage makers to produce and sell beer and cider infused ice cream.
- Five million dollars to improve infrastructure at county fairs.
- A nine percent increase in funding for NY FarmNet.
- Increased funding for the Environmental Protection Fund.