

Schenectady County Farm Bureau News September 2018



To Serve And Strengthen Agriculture

County Annual Meeting ~ All Welcome

Tuesday, October 23

**Turf Tavern
40 Mohawk Ave., Scotia**

\$30 per person, payable at the door.

Gathering – 6:30 p.m. Dinner/Meeting – 7 p.m.

Guest Speaker

Mark Russo - Meat Middleman

Cash Bar and Door Prizes.

**Please bring your own door prizes to add
to the evening's bounty.**

**Please RSVP to Felicia at 1-866-995-7300
or eny@nyfb.org.**

2019 Resolutions to be discussed and voted upon:

We believe that the Department of Agriculture and Markets should act more as a consultative agency with regard to food safety rather than a punitive agency. They should be able to respond to proactive requests for assistance rather than fining for issues that could have been settled before the fact.

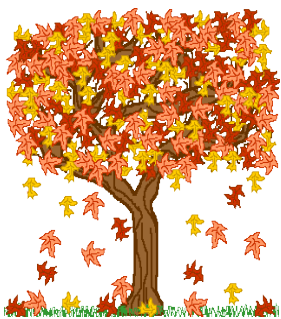
If you would like to bring your own resolution to the floor at the County Annual Meeting, please contact the Field Advisor, Todd Heyn, at 518-431-9338 so that he can work with you to assure your ideas are ready for discussion and in resolution form.

Field Advisor Report

By Todd Heyn

You have probably heard that there have been quite a few discussions about what should happen with the dues structure within New York Farm Bureau. Over the past few months, hopefully you took the opportunity to have your voice heard by participating in one of the surveys that were sent out, the in-person roundtables that were held across the state or shared your thoughts with a member of your county board of directors. Regardless of how this issue turns out in the end, it is a perfect example of how our grassroots process is driven by its members.

There is an old adage that states, those who show up make the rules. That is true with NYFB. If you would like to see NYFB support new policies, you need to speak with your county board of directors and present those ideas at the County Annual Meeting. If you would like to change one of NYFB's existing policies, the same process needs to occur. NYFB's policies are voted on each year by NYFB members. NYFB operates on a "one member, one vote" system. If you want to create the change that you believe will benefit you and agriculture in



Serving our Members Since 1967



**Workers' Compensation
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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.

[Cont'd on back]:

Field Advisor Report [cont'd]: the state and/or country, you need to show up and bring your member friends that agree with you. As Smokey Bear was misquoted in saying, "Only you can create the change you want." I hope to see each and every one of you at the County Annual Meeting this year.



Left: Schenectady County Farm Bureau President, Mike Nally, educates and talks with potential members at the CCE "Compost Fair" held during July. The Schenectady County Farm Bureau Board of Directors made contact with over 200 people during the course of the event .

Schenectady County Farm Bureau Board of Directors Dial 1-518 first

Michael Nally, President	384-1535
Anne Vernoooy, Treasurer	384-1729
Ken Gibbons	225-3909
Michel Diana	694-6411
Erica Welch	605-2891
Lyle Brown	355-2955
Frances Brown, Pro-Ed Chair	355-2955
Dean Casey, NYFB Director	796-4878
Todd Heyn, Field Advisor	431-9338
Eastern Regional Office	866-995-7300

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



Schenectady County
Farm Bureau News

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 in 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.

