

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



Schoharie County  
Farm Bureau News

NYFB members can now save up to \$2,500 on new CAT machines.

Including: wheel loaders, skid steers, backhoes, excavators and more.

Members must provide a valid Member Verification certificate at the time of purchase.

Go to [NYFB.org/member-benefits](http://NYFB.org/member-benefits) to obtain your certificate.

1.800.342.4143  
NYFB.org

Schoharie County Farm Bureau Board of Directors	
John VanDerwerken, President.....	868-9320
Richard Benninger, VP.....	868-9933
Ethel Benninger, Treasurer.....	868-9933
Mark Vanderwerken, Secretary.....	868-9320
Winnie Nelson.....	598-3123
Linda Cross.....	868-9303
John Radliff.....	234-2820
Nancy Nally.....	331-0559
District 9 Director-Darin Hickling.....	(607)267-0703
Field Advisor, Todd Heyn.....	431-9338

# Schoharie County Farm Bureau News



February 2019

To Serve and Strengthen Agriculture

## 2018-19 Board of Directors

The Board of Directors for Schoharie County Farm Bureau has had a lot of changes for the coming year with a brand new executive committee. Three board members carrying over from the previous year include Nancy Nally, Winnie Nelson (former treasurer) and Linda Cross (former secretary). Schoharie County Farm Bureau is very grateful for these three ladies and their years of service and continued support on the board. Thank you!

The new members to the board and executive committee include:

- John VanDerwerken, President
- Richard Benninger, Vice President
- Ethel Benninger, Treasurer
- Mark VanDerwerken, Secretary

The VanDerwerkens own and operate Central Bridge Farms on State Route 30A in Central Bridge. The farm sells feeder calves, and quarters and halves of beef and pork. Mark is the third generation and John the fourth.

The Benningers own and operate the Olde Tater Barn in Central Bridge, a well-known venue in the county where Schoharie County Farm Bureau has been fortunate to be able to hold its annual meeting in September for the past several years. They have also undertaken a start-up dairy farm that continues to expand, with the end goal of selling veal calves.

The board has definitely had some major changes, and it is excited for what the coming year will bring. If there are any issues or ideas that you have for Schoharie County Farm Bureau’s board members, please don’t hesitate to reach out.

Happy New Year!

## Lobby Day 2019

On Tues., March 5, join Schoharie County Farm Bureau for New York Farm Bureau’s 2019 Lobby Day in Albany! It is a critical time to engage in agricultural advocacy and there are a lot of new legislators that need farmers’ insights on agricultural policy. Farm Bureau advocacy efforts are based on appointments with your legislators and urban “Adopted Legislators”. You may be the only farmer, and possibly the only rural New Yorker, to visit with urban legislators this year. Please make the most of these meetings. All the appointments with legislators are made for you and all you need to do is show up and be prepared with the background materials on the important agricultural issues that are being discussed in the state legislature this session. If you are interested in joining the rest of your county Farm Bureau board in this important legislative advocacy day, please reach out to Schoharie County Farm Bureau President John VanDerwerken at 518-231-8087 or [john\\_vanderwerken@yahoo.com](mailto:john_vanderwerken@yahoo.com) to reserve your spot.

## Schoharie County Farm Bureau Pancake Breakfast

A sure sign of springtime in New York is the bountiful maple industry. Soon it will be in full swing, and what better way to celebrate than with a pancake breakfast!

Schoharie County Farm Bureau invites you to a pancake breakfast on March 16, 2019 from 12-2 p.m. at the Stone House Farm, located at 305 Lynk Road, Sharon Springs, NY.

We will be offering a **FREE** breakfast for any county Farm Bureau member and we will cover part of the cost for your guests/non-members. Their total share will be \$5 per person.

We need to let Stone House know how many will be attending.

Please RSVP to Linda Cross at (518-868-9303 or [crosslk@midtel.net](mailto:crosslk@midtel.net)) by Mon., March 11.

Not a member? Sign up! Not only will you get to enjoy the breakfast, but also by signing up after March 1, you will have membership paid all the way through the end of 2020. That gives you almost two years of membership and you can take advantage of everything else Farm Bureau has to offer!

If you have any questions regarding the event or Farm Bureau, please contact John VanDerwerken at (518) 231-8087.

We hope to see you there!

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## Thank You To Members

Thank you for supporting Schoharie County farmers with your membership in NYFB and for your support of the many and diverse faces of agriculture in New York State!

Schoharie County is still a rural county with farms and other businesses that help support the local economy and share the dreams and concerns of a better life for ourselves, our families and our neighbors.

New York State continues to lose population and large and small businesses, including farms, that have provided employment and income for us and our neighbors.

In January, the New York State Legislature convened a new legislative session under some new leadership. Democrats now control majorities in both houses of the legislature as well as all four elected statewide offices. With this comes a balance of power that shifts toward more “downstate” issues, leaving many to wonder what this new balance of power will do on issues concerning rural upstate communities, like Schoharie County.

More now than ever, it is important to educate our lawmakers, both local and state, on the issues that face our rural and agricultural communities. New York Farm Bureau’s theme of the year is Believe-Engage-Connect, something we all as members of this organization believe in. Believe in our industry, our organization and our community. It is important that our NYFB members engage our lawmakers on the issues facing our communities and connect what you do as farmers to the broader Schoharie County community and to the state as a whole.

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# SIGN UP NEW FARM BUREAU MEMBERS AND RECEIVE AWARDS

## 2019 MEMBERSHIP INDIVIDUAL AWARDS & INCENTIVES

### QUARTERLY RECRUITER DRAWING

Each quarter there will be a drawing for a cash prize. For every member you sign up that quarter, you will be entered in the drawing.

### HIGH FIVE AWARD

Write 5 new memberships and NYFB will show its appreciation for your hard work by awarding you special Farm Bureau apparel.

### 3 STAR HONOR AWARD

Sign up 3 new members and NYFB will recognize your increased level of commitment to membership with a special award at your County Annual Meeting.

### HONOR CLUB

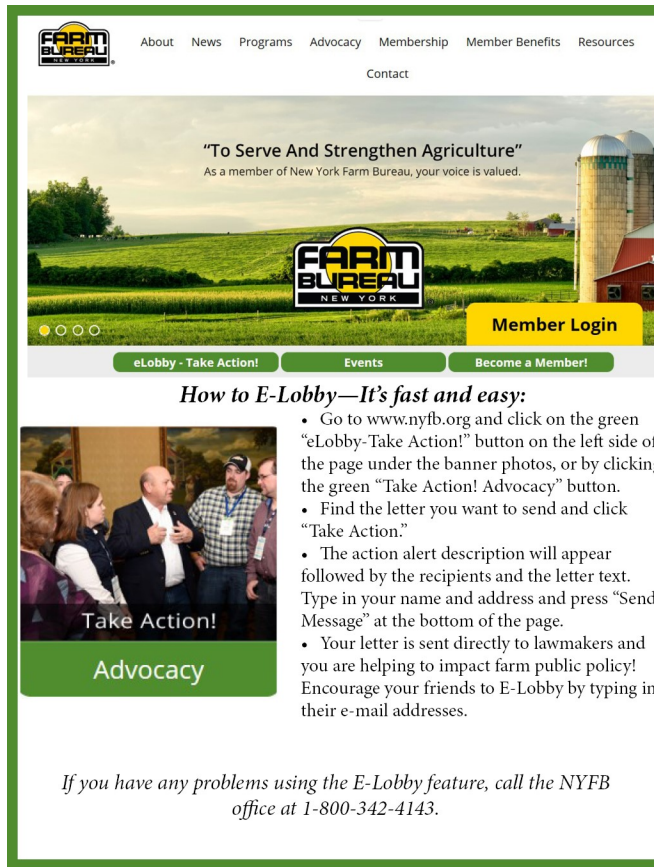
Write 1 new membership and NYFB will recognize your accomplishment by awarding you a special gift at your county annual meeting.

**NYFB.org**  
**1.800.342.4143**



*Contact your Local  
Field Advisor with  
any questions.*

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\* Percentage is based on dividends paid 2013 through 2017. 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.