

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



Broome County
Farm Bureau News

Please include 2 letters of reference

References:

1. Name: _____ Phone # _____

Address: _____

2. Name: _____ Phone # _____

Address: _____

Please attach an essay answering the following question:

1. How have your experiences (4-H, FFA, work and extracurricular activities) defined the person you are today and how will your college education promote agriculture in the future?

Applicant Signature: _____

Broome County Farm Bureau Membership #: _____

Member Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Relationship of member to applicant: ☐ Self ☐ Parent ☐ Legal Guardian

Member Signature: _____

Broome County Farm Bureau News

April 2019



To Serve And Strengthen Agriculture



President’s Message:

Last year was a rough year for agriculture. Low prices, challenging weather and new business regulations drove stress levels to the max for many of us. Farmers, by nature, are optimists. A year ago I had great expectations for the 2018 season. It was going to be exciting because we planned on having our first corn maze. It was going to be the best year ever.

Strawberries were our first crop. Words can’t describe how horrible they were. Strawberries are hard to grow and we’ve had many poor crops in the past. We were still psyched about 2018 because the remaining crops looked outstanding and the corn maze looked fantastic.

We started picking a bumper blueberry crop around July 10. We had big crowds and happy people. Around July 25 it started raining and never stopped. The remaining half of the crop rotted and oozed down to the ground. We were disappointed, but still psyched, because all the rain was turning the apples and corn maze into mega crops.

As we all know the rain never stopped during the fall of 2018. The apple orchard turned into a giant slip and slide and the maze was as muddy as a barnyard. Business was half of what was expected. We've had poor years before, but 2018 was hard to swallow because everything was in place for our best year ever.

I guess I didn't realize how much the stress was affecting me. During November and December I wasn't having much fun and kind of withdrew into a shell. Looking back I now see I could have been a better husband, father and boss. After the first of this year, I decided I've been in this funk long enough and looked for help. I decided to call a popular help group. I called and hung up several times before having the guts to wait for someone to pick up on the other end. This group agreed to examine our situation and work with us until we were satisfied. We’ve had one meeting so far and it is very apparent that our farm needs to improve on our financial and

communication skills. The initial fact gathering process isn't all that pleasant, family stones are turned over that can be quite emotional. On the plus side, we were overwhelmed with new enterprise ideas that they thought we should consider. Let’s just say these people are an enthusiastic bunch that only want the best for us. We have a ways to go, but I can already see the benefit of having outsiders examine our operation. The funk is gone and I'm looking forward to the future. My take-home message is that if things aren't quite right, don't hesitate to get help.

Thanks for listening.

“Farmer” Dave Johnson
President

P.S. - I think 2019 is going to be our best year ever.



New York Farm Bureau
Member Services, Inc.



Serving our members Since 1967

Workers’ Compensation Safety Group 486

Take a look at what NYFB Safety Group 486 has to offer.

- **16.1% Average Decrease** in 2019 rates for Safety Group 486 policyholder
- **Over 35%** Three-year average Decrease in rates
- **32%** five-year **Dividend** Average
- **25%** Maximum Safety Group **Upfront Discount**
- Low **8.5% Group Managers’ Fee**
- **Licensed NYFB staff** services account and acts as liaison with NYSIF

Call or email wcinfo@nyfb.org for a quote.

NYFB.ORG 800-342-4143

STARTED BY FARMERS FOR FARMERS

* 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.



**** AUCTION ANNOUNCEMENT ****
2 DAY AUCTION **

**31st Annual Broome County Farm Bureau
Absolute Consignment Auction
Broome County Fairgrounds
Whitney Point, NY
Friday, April 26, 2019 @ 3 p.m.
Saturday, April 27, 2019 @ 8:30 a.m.**

**The Largest Absolute Consignment Auction
on the East Coast**

Huge Auction of Tractors, Construction and Farm
Equipment, Livestock, Trucks and Trailers,
Lawn and Garden, Etc., Etc.

Membership and Activity Report

Lindsay Wickham, NYFB Field Advisor

Welcome to NYFB's new members for 2019. I hope you have had a chance to engage with your county Farm Bureau, through either the DOT workshop they put on with the New York State Police, or the great social event at Atrio in Endwell, or plan to attend the auction. There will be plenty of other chances throughout the year.

There is also a lot of good work being done by your board and other members, including helping with updating the county Farmland Protection Plan, serving on the county Agriculture Task Force, working with CCE on a number of initiatives like economic development and marketing, going to Albany and Washington, D.C. and lobbying on your behalf, and serving on numerous boards including Soil and Water and CCE. We are here as a resource for any issues that may arise at your business or in your community. Please don't hesitate to give a call.

Being that NYFB is a membership organization, we can always use your help to maintain our great organization. This is the best time of year to sign up a new member because for \$99 you get the rest of 2019 and all of 2020. We all know neighbors, family or businesses who should be members. Joining is easy and convenient. You can mail your \$99 check to NYFB, or go online to NYFB.org or call 1-800-342-4143 to pay with a credit card. It's that easy! We all need to pitch in and stick together as a group to have success.

Member Savings Programs

Lindsay Wickham, NYFB Field Advisor

Don't forget all the great programs NYFB offers that can save you considerable cash, starting with the exceptional Workers' Compensation Safety Group 486. If you use or need workers' compensation insurance or have an agriculture-related business, you need to give NYFB a call. Quotes are easy and free.

NYFB's Grainger discount program continues to grow. Last year, members saved on average over 26% with free shipping. This now also applies to phone orders, not just online orders. For those of us who still use the phone, this is a big bonus. Grainger has pretty much anything you will ever need from tools to safety equipment to electric motors, etc. Typically it is one day shipping, so check them out.

NYFB still has discount programs for John Deere, Caterpillar, Case IH, Choice Hotels, Wyndham Hotels, Nationwide Insurance, Thruway tolls through Bestpass, horse tack at Horseloverz.com, Regal Cinemas movie tickets, and Avis and Budget rental cars. Travel discounts at Darien Lake, Water Safari and Enchanted Forest, Great Escape and Splashwater Kingdom, Orlando attractions, and TripBeat. Health programs for prescription drugs through ScriptSave, My Wellness/ Teledoc, health insurance information, and a free Accidental Death and Specific Loss policy through your membership. Also, don't forget NYFB's legal referral service, issue fact sheets, resource books for labor and transportation, Farm Bureau clothing, and free classified ads in Grassroots (also a great resource publication).

All can be found at NYFB.org or you can call the NYFB office at 1-800-342-4143 and talk with one of our Member Benefits staff. These programs really add value to your membership, they can easily pay for your membership and are a great selling tool for new memberships.

**Broome County Farm Bureau
Board of Directors**

President, David Johnson 607-725-5176
Vice President, Andrea Eichhorn 607-427-3895
Bill Olin 607-693-2854
Brian Aukema 607-648-9533
Steve Livingston 607-849-6395
Gary Cornell 607-849-6644
Derek Pavelski 607-723-7063
Dusty Niemann 607-221-2815
Doug Smith 607-849-3028
Judi Whittaker 607-692-3479
Scott Whittaker 607-692-3479
Eric Winsor, YF&R Chair 607-206-0378
Carol De Young 607-221-6629
State Board Director, Paul Fouts 607-423-6045
NYFB Field Staff, Lindsay Wickham 607-227-2547
Broome County Farm Bureau Office 607-722-4586

**Broome County Farm Bureau, Inc.
First Farm Bureau in the U.S.A.**

840 Upper Front Street
Binghamton, New York 13905
(607) 722-4586

BROOME COUNTY FARM BUREAU SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Up to six \$750 scholarships will be awarded to Farm Bureau junior members or sons/daughters of current Broome County Farm Bureau members to assist students who will be enrolled in an undergraduate college program in the upcoming school year. One scholarship of \$1,000 will be given in memory of Rance Livingston. Student must be going into the agriculture field.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MAY 1, 2019. Absolutely no applications postmarked after May 1 will be accepted. Selection and notification will be made by June 1. Presentation will be made at the Broome County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting in October.

Please attach additional sheets if more space is needed for your responses.

Applicant's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ School to Attend: _____

Area of Study: _____

Future Plans: _____

What year of school are you in now? _____ Academic Average: _____

School Presently Attending: _____

Leadership Activities: _____

Work Experience: _____

Agricultural Experience: _____