

ARE YOUR AG INSURANCE NEEDS BEING MET?

Nationwide Agribusiness has a long history of working with farmers. Our company was started by farmers and to this day is led by farmers. We have a strong desire to help protect your farm business and service New York Farm Bureau members and their agricultural enterprises.

Kyle Gehrke, with the Kevin M. Daniels Agency, is the agent here to help you with your agricultural insurance needs. We at the Kevin M. Daniels Agency understand that agribusiness has its own unique set of exposures and that having a farm agent with a deep background in agriculture is a great first step towards a lasting relationship.

Coming from an active farming family in Jefferson County and being a member on the Jefferson County Farm Bureau board himself, Kyle is a great resource who knows agribusiness and can sit down with you and review your policy needs.

We encourage you to give Kyle a call and let us quote your farm business. New York Farm Bureau members can take advantage of the 10% Farm Policy Discount that Nationwide offers.

Let us work with you to be sure you and your farm business are properly covered coming into the busy spring season. Thank you!

Kyle Gehrke
Kevin M Daniels Agency
Master Farm Certified
315-386-4335 ext. 5



Nationwide®

WELCOME ERICKA VROOMAN NEW OSWEGO COUNTY FARM BUREAU BOARD MEMBER AND YOUNG FARMERS & RANCHERS CHAIR

Ericka Vrooman has joined the OCFB board and has agreed to revive the Young Farmers & Ranchers group in Oswego County! Any OCFB member between the ages of 18-35 can join! If you are interested in:

- Acquiring cutting edge information through participation in educational conferences.
- Building a network with fellow young farmers and agricultural enthusiasts.
- Earning recognition for achievements in business excellence and leadership success.
- Continuing professional development and personal growth.
- Providing workable solutions for issues affecting agriculture.
- Influencing public policies that affect agriculture now and in the future.
- Stepping up and telling the story of agriculture.
- Serving your community by volunteering and making a difference.

Give Ericka a call at 315-456-8878. This is an exciting opportunity for all young farmers in Oswego County. Thank you, Ericka!

NEW YORK FARM BUREAU 2019 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

New York Farm Bureau works every day to advocate for agricultural industry and our rural communities.

NYFB identifies key issues that directly and indirectly impact agriculture through a structured, grassroots policy development process that reflects the collective interests of our members. These policies determine the focus of advocacy discussion and action for the year ahead.

New York Farm Bureau's Board of Directors has established the following state and national priority issues for 2019:

- Support critical funding for current agricultural animal health, promotion, research and environmental programs in the final FY 19/20 budget.
- Strong opposition to unworkable employer mandates in New York State.
- Ensure staff funding for critical positions at the Department of Agriculture and Markets.
- Fund farm tire cost-share disposal (from DEC Part 360 regulations) through the EPF.
- Expand the Farm Workforce Retention Tax Credit to Christmas tree, maple, farm wineries and cideries and increase overall funding.
- Remove unemployment insurance requirements for H-2A workers.
- Amend General Municipal Law 247 to allow farms with conservation easements to construct necessary farm buildings and structures.
- Support training for police and district attorneys on animal cruelty laws pursuant to current law.
- Funding for research and eradication of tick-borne illnesses.



BE A LOCAL LEADER BY CONNECTING WITH THEM

Contacting your local legislative leaders and informing them about the state of your operation can bridge the gap between economic downfalls and local legislation. These representatives are also aware of a larger network and up and coming programs that farms can take advantage of.

Making the contact and making them “your leader” can make you their “go-to” for questions they may have on specific issues in the future. Break the barrier and bridge the gap to make the local and state leaders informed. Elected officials representing Oswego County are:

District 1

Margaret Kastler
315-387-5209
margaret.kastler@oswegocounty.com

District 2

Milferd Potter
315-298-5359
Milferd.Potter@oswegocounty.com

District 3

Edward Gilson
315-382-1905
Edward.Gilson@oswegocounty.com

District 4

David M. Holst
315-964-2679
david.holst@oswegocounty.com

District 5

Roy Reehil
315-675-3625
roy.reehil@oswegocounty.com

District 6

John J. Martino
315-668-1540
john.martino@oswegocounty.com

District 7

Bradley Trudell
315-963-4850
bradley.trudell@oswegocounty.com

District 8

Paul House
315-263-8814
paul.house@oswegocounty.com

District 9

James Weatherup, Chair
315-668-3271
james.weatherup@oswegocounty.com

District 10

Mary E. Chesbro
315-532-2492
mary.chesbro@oswegocounty.com

District 11

Linda Lockwood, Vice Chair
315-593-6857
linda.lockwood@oswegocounty.com

District 12

Richard Kline
315-668-9830
richard.kline@oswegocounty.com

District 13

Patrick Twiss
315-236-6210
patrick.twiss@oswegocounty.com

District 14

Stephan Walpole
315-532-5930
stephen.walpole@oswegocounty.com

District 15

Nathan Emmons
315-719-4494
nathan.emmons@oswegocounty.com

District 16

Thomas Drumm
607-244-2917
thomas.drumm@oswegocounty.com

District 17

Shane Broadwell
315-343-2461
shane.broadwell@oswegocounty.com

District 18

Heather DelConte
315-342-7070
heather.delconte@oswegocounty.com

District 19

Marie C. Schadt
315-343-5158
marie.schadt@oswegocounty.com

District 20

Tim Stahl, Majority Whip
315-532-5341
tim.stahl@oswegocounty.com

District 21

Terry Wilbur, Majority Leader
315-591-4846
terry.wilbur@oswegocounty.com

District 22

James Karasek
315-593-7903
James.Karasek@oswegocounty.com

District 23

Morris Sorbello
315-592-9469
morris.sorbello@oswegocounty.com

District 24

Daniel T. Farfaglia, Minority Whip
315-297-4485
dan.farfaglia@oswegocounty.com

District 25

Frank Castiglia Jr., Minority Leader
315-593-8637
frank.castiglia@oswegocounty.com

REMEMBER TO E-LOBBY!

With a new year comes new NYFB e-lobbying efforts. To participate in the e-lobby action items that NYFB is working on, go to www.nyfb.org and click on the E-Lobby—Take Action! icon. Choose your passion and show elected officials you support NY agriculture!

Oppose Farm Labor Mandate Legislation

Legislation has been introduced that would require farms to pay overtime and allow their workers to collectively bargain -- either of which could put a farm out of business through financial stress or worker strike. Please tell legislators that this legislation is extremely harmful for farms in New York.

Oppose Legislative Ban of Lorsban in the State

Legislation has been introduced that would ban the use of Chlorpyrifos in the state. Farms across New York depend on this product to protect their crops from pests and, in many cases, there is no alternative for use. We need your help to voice concerns about this legislation.

159 Wolf Road
Albany, NY 12205



Oswego County
Farm Bureau News

*This issue of the Oswego County Farm Bureau
Newsletter is sponsored by:*



Nationwide®

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Serving Jefferson, Lewis
and Oswego Counties.

**CALL US FOR A FREE REVIEW
OF YOUR INSURANCE POLICY.**

**Oswego County Farm Bureau
Board of Directors**

Eric Behling, President	315-963-8160
Darren Adsit, First V.P.....	315-480-1407
David Rudd, Second V.P.	315-387-5213
Gary Hayden	315-592-7981
Heather DelConte	315-342-7070
Orion Behling	315-391-9555
Lyle Young	315-402-4855
Richard DeGraff.....	315-298-4139
Thomas Bonoffski.....	315-529-1508
Bruce Gibson	585-203-4126
Bethany Wallis	315-806-1180
Ericka Vrooman, YF&R	315-456-8878
Lori Behling, Pro-Ed	315-963-8160
Mark James, Field Advisor.....	585-738-0242
CNYFB Regional Office	315-252-1367
NYFB Office	800-342-4143

*The board usually meets on the first Tuesday of
the month at the Cornell Cooperative Extension
of Oswego County in Mexico, NY.*

Oswego County Farm Bureau News

April 2019



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

New York Farm Bureau Lobby Day in Albany this year was Tues., March 5. I was thrilled to be joined by Angel Convey, an apiary and honey producer and brand new Oswego County Farm Bureau member from Orwell, as well as SUNY Cobleskill FFA student representative Brittany VanDuzer.

As we met with local Senators, Assembly members and "adopted" legislators from New York City, I was reminded how important it is to be an empowered advocate for the agricultural industry. It's imperative that all of our elected officials are aware of the issues we face in Oswego County and throughout New York State as a farmer. For some of our "adopted" legislators we may be the only farmers they meet with this year!

I encourage any Oswego County Farm Bureau member to become an advocate for agriculture and speak about the many challenges your agriculture production operation faces today. I applaud Angel and Brittany for joining me this year during Lobby Day as they stood up for farming and had their voices heard.

Eric Behling

County Farm Bureau President

I'd like to extend a personal shout out to the county businesses that support us and to our two 'new' retail Oswego County Farm Bureau members:

- **Mexico Napa**
- **New Haven Building Supply**

Please try to support these businesses and all the other retail businesses that show their support for Oswego County Farm Bureau!

A MESSAGE FROM CONGRESSMAN JOHN KATKO



As Representative for New York's 24th Congressional District in Washington, it is my honor to advocate on behalf of farmers in Onondaga, Cayuga, Wayne, and Oswego Counties. I'd like to take a moment now to update you on some of the recent accomplishments that impact our local agricultural community.

At the end of the 115th Congress, legislation that improves the New York farming industry was signed into law. The 2018 Farm Bill addresses critical agricultural issues facing Central New York farmers. Importantly, the new Farm Bill protects crops and boosts trading opportunities.

The new Farm Bill expands insurance for a wide variety of crops produced in Central New York. In particular, dairy farmers will benefit tremendously from the implementation of the Dairy Margin Coverage Program. This updated insurance policy provides dairy farmers more efficient coverage and an increased list of options, allowing farmers to be compensated when margins are low or products are spoiled by disaster. It also presents the opportunity to choose the insurance policy that best suits their particular needs as a farmer. Traditional crop

insurance for farmers of all backgrounds is also provided, doubling the disaster assistance coverage options for crops not eligible for insurance. Additionally, \$2.4 billion will be invested in pest research and management, supporting Central New York vegetable and fruit growers, especially apple growers. The application of these various programs will give our farms the ability to better protect their goods in the future.

Next, our local farms receive much needed trade relief under this version of the Farm Bill. Over the next decade, \$500 million will be allocated to help farmers across the country connect with foreign consumers. This will boost export opportunities for Central New York farmers of all kinds and increase sales. I am hopeful this policy, along with the establishment of the new United States-Mexico-Canada trade agreement and the rollback of unfair Canadian dairy tariffs, will bring financial success to Central New York farmers.

Central New York will be greatly impacted by all these new policies in the 2018 Farm Bill. Since coming to Congress, I have made it a priority of mine to support Central New York's agricultural economy in Congress. It was important to me that the policies outlined above were included in this legislation. I firmly believe Central New York will thrive in many ways as a result of this Farm Bill and I look forward to continue legislating in Central New York's best interests in 2019.