

YOUNG FARMERS & RANCHERS MEETINGS



Over 35 young farmers recently gathered for the second meeting of the Oneida County Young Farmers & Ranchers

Discussion Group. The group is being led through a discussion of farm issues by coordinator Marylynn Collins, Livestock Educator for Cornell Cooperative Extension of Oneida County (CCE Oneida). Oneida County Farm Bureau is pleased to partner with CCE Oneida to sponsor these gatherings.

Next Young Farmers & Ranchers Group Meeting Scheduled

Date/Time/Location: Tuesday, April 23 at 7:30 p.m. at CCE of Oneida County Farm and Home Center, 121 Second St., Oriskany, NY.

Guest Speaker: Johanna Bossard, Hamilton Central School agriculture education teacher and FFA advisor.

Topic: Tips for Advocating and Engaging on Social Media. Any member between the ages of 18-35 can attend.

Reservations are required by Friday, April 19. Please call 315-736-3394 ext. 132 if you plan to attend.

WORKWEAR PROGRAM



All Farm Bureau members and farm employees have to do is either tell the person at the customer service desk they are a New York Farm Bureau member or show any type of proof—that's it. Members will bring their purchases to customer service, mention that, and they will get the discount of *10% off Herb's Already Low Regular Prices!*

Present your Farm Bureau membership card or pay stub at checkout for your discount on all qualified purchases. It's that simple, no fees, no cost.

- **Work Clothing-** Jeans, Jackets, Shirts, Hats, Gloves and Socks
- **Scrubs-** Various Styles Including Cargo, Flexible and V-Neck
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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 its 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 Oneida County are:

ONEIDA COUNTY LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES

District 1

Keith Schiebel
315-335-0887
kschiebel@ocgov.net

District 2

Colin Idzi
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District 22

Rose Ann Convertino
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District 23

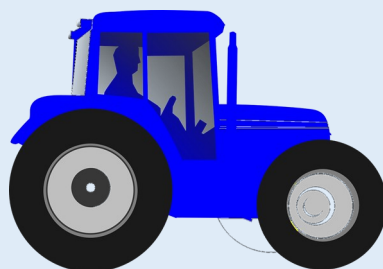
Emil R. Paparella
315-735-8973
epaparella@ocgov.net

SMV TRACTOR SAFETY WORKSHOP SCHEDULED

Friday, April 26 at 1:30 p.m. OR Saturday, April 27 at 11 a.m.

At Clinton Tractor, 31 Meadow St., Rt 12B, Clinton, NY

Oneida County Farm Bureau is pleased to announce that it will be partnering with County Executive Anthony Picente, Jr., County Sheriff Rob Maciol and Clinton Tractor on an SMV traffic safety workshop on **April 26 at 1:30 p.m.** and again on **April 27 at 11 a.m.** The location for both sessions will be Clinton Tractor in Clinton, NY. The workshops will feature a presentation



by New York State Police Sgt. Bernie Kennett on the newest regulations involving the proper usage of the SMV signage. Each session is only 30 minutes in length, so please be prompt in your attendance. For more details you can contact Oneida County Farm Bureau member Ben Simons at 315-525-6432.

159 Wolf Road
Albany, NY 12205



Oneida County
Farm Bureau News



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.

ONEIDA COUNTY FARM BUREAU

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NYFB Director: Jacob Schieferstine ..

315-829-5582

NYFB Office

800-342-4143

CNYFB Regional Office

315-252-1367

The board usually meets on the third Monday

of the month at the Cornell Cooperative

Extension of Oneida County in Oriskany, NY.

Oneida County Farm Bureau Hi-Lite

April 2019



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Oneida County Farm Bureau members Ben Simons, Pat vanLieshout, Karen Lohr, Dave Schieferstine and NYFB Director Jacob Schieferstine spent two days in Albany visiting with lawmakers on March 4-5 to highlight the organization's state public policy priorities for the year.

The evening of March 4 kicked off the trip with Oneida County Farm Bureau hosting a booth at NYFB's Taste of New York Reception. Held every year for lawmakers, commissioners and staff, Oneida County Farm Bureau's table featured local products from Copper City Brewing, Grassy Cow Cheese Curd and Jake's Gouda Cheese. Thank you to these supporting members for their donations. It really helped us showcase the diversity and importance of Oneida County agriculture.

On March 5, Oneida County Farm Bureau members participated in the annual Lobby Day event. The day was filled with meetings with local Senators and Assembly members, as well as New York City lawmakers that the county Farm Bureau "adopted." It is imperative that all of our elected officials are aware of the issues we face in Oneida 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!

It was a successful trip, and I'd encourage any Farm Bureau member to make the journey at least once to meet with elected officials and promote New York State agriculture.



Oneida County Farm Bureau members at their booth stocked with samples from Copper City Brewing, Grassy Cow Cheese Curd and Jake's Gouda Cheese during NYFB's Taste of New York Reception.



Oneida County Farm Bureau representatives and FFA students meeting with Assemblyman John Salka (3rd from left) during Lobby Day.

Kevin Angell
President

URGENT! HEARINGS SCHEDULED ON FARM LABOR LEGISLATION

April 25, 2019 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. SUNY Morrisville - 9 Skyline Drive Morrisville, NY 13408

Those who would like to attend and/or testify at the Morrisville hearings are asked to register at bumpus@nysenate.gov or by calling 315-478-8745

Senate hearings are scheduled to hear from farmers and farmworkers about the impacts of the Farmworkers Fair Labor Practices Act (S.2837). Senate Agriculture Committee Chair Jen Metzger (SD-42) and Senate Labor Chair Jessica Ramos (SD-3) will hold hearings in the Catskills/Hudson Valley, Long Island, and in **Morrisville** to hear public testimony. NYFB members are encouraged to attend, testify and bring farmworkers as well who understand the implications of the proposed legislation.

Some of the main provisions of the Farmworkers Fair Labor Practices Act include:

- Allowing for collective bargaining for farmworkers
- Mandating overtime pay to farmworkers after eight hours of work per day and 40 hours per week
- Voluntary day off each week
- New housing regulations

The hearings are free and open to the public, but **you must register to testify**. After you register, please also inform New York Farm Bureau's Public Policy Director, Jeff Williams, at jwilliams@nyfb.org about your plans to testify. NYFB can provide you materials that may help you prepare for the event.