

LEWIS COUNTY FARM BUREAU ANNOUNCES SENIOR FARMER AWARD WINNERS

Lewis County Farm Bureau is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2019 Senior Farmer Award are Rob and Cindy Wendt of Constableville, NY. Rob and Cindy are the fourth generation on the 300-acre dairy farm located in Lewis County. Working together for the past 43 years, they have modernized the farm to its current 180-cow combination tie-stall and free-stall dairy with 160 tillable acres. They rent an additional 340 acres.

When Rob and Cindy were first married 46 years ago, Rob took a job as a loan officer for the USDA Farm Home Administration (FHA) after receiving his Agricultural Economics degree from Cornell University. He was at FHA for three years before the two returned to Constableville to help out with the family farm. Rob and Cindy have resided there ever since. "Cindy didn't know what she was in for when she came along for the ride", said Rob. He continued, "It's been a true partnership for the two of us, with both of us working together all these years."

Rob and Cindy were presented the Senior Farmer Award by Lewis County Farm Bureau President Jen Karelus at the Annual Farmer Client Appreciation Picnic held in late August by Countryside Veterinary Clinic. Helping to present the award was good friend and Countryside Veterinary Clinic's large animal veterinarian, Pete Ostrum. Pete has worked with Rob and Cindy helping to maintain their herd for over 35 years. "Rob and Cindy are an incredible couple who



Presented with the Lewis County Farm Bureau 2019 Senior Farmer Award are Rob and Cindy Wendt (center), along with Pete Ostrum (l) and Lewis County Farm Bureau President, Jen Lewis.

are always willing to help other people", said Pete. "They are the most positive people you will ever meet." As a special gift, Loretta Lepkowski, local artist and wife of Pete Ostrum, created a watercolor and pastel portrait honoring the Wendt's which was also presented to them at event.

In its 41st year, Lewis County Farm Bureau's Senior Farmer Award recognizes a farmer or farming couple who is at least 60 years of age, actively involved in farming and active in the community.

2019 Promotion & Education Summit

THE POWER OF MAKING CONNECTIONS

Nov. 2-3, 2019

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON, SYRACUSE, NY

- Explore resources and ideas to engage those around us
- Share tools to connect with consumers who are eager to learn about food and farming

Workshops on:

- Social Media
- Consumer Engagement
- GMO's
- Telling Your Story
- Tools and Resources

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Kim Bremmer

from Ag Inspirations in Wisconsin



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER:

800-342-4143 * NYFB.ORG/EVENTS

WE WANT YOU!

Lewis County Farm Bureau is currently looking to fill openings on their board of directors. By becoming a participating board member you can help to add your voice and expertise to Lewis County Farm Bureau. You can help define and address issues affecting agriculture, support member programming and educate the public and elected officials on important agriculture-related topics.

If you are interested in learning more, contact John Wagner at 315-761-9770



LABOR ROAD SHOW ANNOUNCED

All New York farm employers are affected by new laws that take effect beginning January 1, 2020! The Agricultural Workforce Development Council, which New York Farm Bureau is a member of, has announced plans for Labor Road Show III. The series of day-long workshops held throughout the state in November will focus on educating farmers about the Farmworkers Fair Labor Practices Act to help them prepare and comply with the new law that takes effect on January 1.

DATE & LOCATION: Wednesday, Nov. 20, at the Ramada by Wyndham, 21000 NY State Route 3, Watertown, NY. The Road Show runs from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. For additional dates and times, contact the Agricultural Workforce Development Council at 315-433-0100 ext. 5595.

COST: \$55 per person, payable at the door.

REGISTRATION: Register at <http://agworkforce.cals.cornell.edu/> or call 315-433-0100, ext. 5595.

FEATURED SPEAKERS:

Charles Palmer—Chuck is a go-to lawyer for complex cases involving OSHA, employment law, labor negotiations, independent contractor and joint employment matters.

Joshua Viau—Josh works with a variety of national and local clients including employers in agriculture, manufacturing, construction, hospitality and retail.

FEATURED TOPICS:

- Compliance with Wage and Hour Laws: Overtime and Day-of-Rest Requirements
- Understanding Unions and Labor Organizing
- Managing the Collective Bargaining Process
- The Increasing Importance of Farm Supervisors
- Sexual Harassment Prevention: Updates to the NY Law
- Compliance Priorities and Enforcement Plans for 2020, NYS Department of Labor
- Industry Quality Assurance Program Updates
- Insurance Update: Disability, Paid Family Leave, and Employment Practices Liability, What is Available?



REMEMBER TO E-LOBBY!

Now more than ever it's important to show your support for agriculture with the e-lobbying efforts of New York Farm Bureau. To participate in the e-lobby action items that New York Farm Bureau 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 New York agriculture!

Tell the Governor to Veto the Ban on Chlorpyrifos

Legislation has been passed by both the Senate and the Assembly 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. Please write to the governor and urge him to veto this bill!



**BELIEVE
ENGAGE
CONNECT**

Pay your Farm Bureau dues

By Nov. 1 and save \$11.

1-800-342-4143 or NYFB.org



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.



New York Farm Bureau
159 Wolf Road
Albany, NY 12205

A CELEBRATION OF
LEWIS COUNTY AGRICULTURE
set for **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29**
FIND ALL THE DETAILS INSIDE!



Lewis County
Farm Bureau News

This edition of Lewis County Farm Bureau News provided by:



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Lewis County Farm Bureau board meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month @ 7:30 p.m. in the Soil & Water Conference Room at the County Office Building on Outer Stowe Street, Lowville.

Lewis County Farm Bureau News

October 2019



All are cordially invited to attend
**A CELEBRATION OF
LEWIS COUNTY AGRICULTURE
TUESDAY, OCT. 29**

**TUG HILL VINEYARDS
4051 Yancey Road, Lowville, NY**

• 6:30 p.m. Business Session • 7 p.m. Dinner • 8:30 p.m. Pie Auction
\$20 per person

Cash or check accepted at the door

Checks payable to: Lewis County Soil and Water Conservation District

Please join us as we come together with our partners at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Lewis County and the Lewis County Soil and Water Conservation District to celebrate our diverse industry and the hard work and dedication of our farmers. We will begin the night with our annual business meetings and then join our friends for some good food, great company and thoughtful discussion.

Please RSVP by Thursday, Oct. 24, to the New York Farm Bureau Eastern Regional Office at 1-866-995-7300 or eny@nyfb.org. Please refer to "**A Celebration of Lewis County Agriculture**" when making your reservation.

DON'T FORGET THE PIE AUCTION

Show off your culinary skills and join the fight against hunger. We will be auctioning off pies and other desserts donated by our members. Please consider bringing a pie or dessert to donate. All proceeds will go to our local food pantries.

