

Albany County Farm Bureau News

June 2024



To Serve and Strengthen Agriculture

President's Message On July 17, Albany County Farm Bureau will be hosting a summer picnic at the Westerlo Town Park. Invitations will be sent to all ACFB members as well as targeted farming non-members. These could be farms whose membership have lapsed, new farms, or farms that have been overlooked. Along with good food and drink, this will be a great opportunity for any member or prospective member



to get to know the Board of Directors for Albany County. Board members can discuss any legislative issues of concern and members can tell the Board of any policy concerns or direction they would like to

see from the Board. Members can also discuss with potential members the importance of Farm Bureau and how it can make a difference to them and their business. Farm Bureau has much to offer!

This will be a relaxing setting where we can share the benefits of being a Farm Bureau Member. Hope to see you there! *Thank you, James Gade*

A huge THANK YOU to the farms that supplied us with the ingredients to hand out at the NYFB Taste of NY event.

8 Mile Creek-micro greens * Mountain Winds Farms-maple dressing * Feura Farm-sparkling cider * Gade Farm-cider donuts * Stanton Farms- straw

MORE ON GETTING TO KNOW YOUR BOARD

This time it's Mike Waldenmaier's turn. "I grew up on my family's farm, it was known as Sunny Brook Farm. My father purchased the farm in the early 1940's. We had an apple orchard and fields of hay that we sold. My father and uncles also had a slaughter house on the property. This craft was passed on from my grandparents that descended from Germany. My father also had a milk route. I worked with him picking up milk until bulk tanks became the future. While I chose a career on the railroad I was still involved with the farm as the voice and advocate. I continue in that role



today. This is why I have been a farm bureau member for over 29 years and have served on the board for over 20 years.



I have been with my wife Michelle for 43 years and we enjoy vacationing and keeping active. I have a son and three grandsons who also keep us busy. My son and his family hope to be living on the farm in the near future."

Take a look at what Berne Knox Westerlo FFA has been up to!

Back in March, Albany County Farm Bureau sponsored two students to attend the State Leadership Experience in Albany where they participated in leadership building exercises, heard from a panel of speakers from all different professions in agriculture. They were encouraged to keep a strong voice and to advocate for AG in the community. These activities they were able to participate in will be helpful in their academic and everyday lives. The second day of the leadership experience the students got to meet with and interact with legislators. They were able to voice there concerns and thoughts involving AG and

FFA. The FFA students formed many new friends and acquaintances at this event.

The students thought from this experience they were able to use what was learned and brought the skills to the New York Farm Bureau Taste of NY. During that night's event, BKW FFA members passed out samples all from local Albany county farms. They had a wonderful experience connecting with the public, legislators and their staff. Educating them the importance of NY AG and FFA.



New York Farm Bureau
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Albany County Farm Bureau

Also in March, BKW FFA had another successful maple pancake breakfast that sold approximately 150 breakfasts.

May 1st-4th, twenty students went to NYS FFA convention in Buffalo and competed in competitions.

On May 31st was the BKW FFA year end awards night, three seniors received scholarships. Good luck to the seniors in there future in agriculture.

On June 7th, BKW FFA had their ag day and the students can drive there tractors to school.

The Greenville and BKW FFA chapters has joined together to work the ag barn at the altamont fair in August 13th-18th. So make sure you stop in to see them all.

Now the FFA is planning and preparing for the National FFA convention towards end of year.

ALBANY COUNTY FARM BUREAU	
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