

Saratoga County Farm Bureau News

September 2023



Cordially Invited to:
County Annual Meeting

Thurs. Oct. 26

Elks Lodge

1 Elks Lane, Saratoga Springs

Starting at 6 p.m.

Cost: \$25. per person, payable at the door.

**This year's meeting is in conjunction with
Saratoga County Farm Bureau, Saratoga
County Cornell Cooperative Extension and
Saratoga Fairgrounds.**

**RSVP to the County Support Office
at: eny@nyfb.org or 518-431-5650.**

President's Message: Hello Saratoga County Farm Bureau members. As always, Mother Nature has been challenging to all of us, but when hasn't she?

This is that important and busy time of year, not only for harvest season but also preparations for winter, and in addition to this, it is the time of the year where your input can shape the future of agriculture in our county, state, and country.

Member engagement is key to what we do here at Farm Bureau. Our voices are stronger together and that's what this organization does. Bringing together everyone who cares for their land, their food, their community, and gives us the power to shape the future.

With that in mind, I cordially invite you to our Annual Meeting on October 26th.

Sincerely, Jamie Pettis, III

2024 New Proposed Resolutions

Here is some of the ones that will be voted on.

Local

We support the extension of the sewer system Ballston Spa in Saratoga County, but we oppose the system extending into agricultural districts.

State

1. Saratoga CFB supports legislation that would require solar and wind companies to offer a 12.5% royalty on all profits made off farmers' lands from solar panels and wind turbines to the landowner.

2. Saratoga CFB supports legislation that would prohibit any foreign government from purchasing agricultural land in New York State.

3. Saratoga CFB opposes all the labor related questions:

I. Collective bargaining to be included in the license agreements for cannabis production.

II. Invalidating any union card or vote which takes place on foreign soil as the regulatory agencies do not have jurisdiction in these locations.

III. Decertifying unions through the same procedures allowed to certify unions.

IV. Including unions in the same regulations and standards employers must follow with regards to bullying, lying and coercion in their unionization efforts.

V. Establishing a moratorium on new union petitions until PERB has bilingual resources in place to facilitate union decertification.

VI. Allowing employees to file coercion and bullying complaints against unions.

VII. Requiring unions to reimburse employers for all legal fees incurred when their union petition is proven to be out of order.

VIII. Exempting H2A employees from unions as they are under a contract negotiated by the state and federal Departments of Labor.

4. Saratoga CFB supports the limit on how many times farm commercial vehicles have to stop at a DOT inspection checkpoint in a certain time period, especially if that vehicle is carrying livestock, fish, bees or any perishable produce.

Cont'd on the back:

5. Saratoga CFB supports a real property tax abatement on perennial farm crops for one year during state or federally declared disaster area.

6. Saratoga CFB supports NYS establishing a Brand Owners License under the alcoholic beverage control law.

7. Saratoga CFB support the need of NYFB to look further into rules, regulations and laws regarding cannabis, conservation and tax breaks.

8. General Issues/ Transportation and Motor Vehicle Concerns/ Roads and Bridges

a. When roads and bridges are being reconstructed, they should be constructed to withstand the weight and width of modern farm equipment.

b. Roads should be constructed with operator or equipment safety as a priority. Examples include lines of sight, areas to safely pull over, or potentially increased road width.

9. We support additional funding for livestock education, research, and program development at any post-secondary agricultural educational institution.

Any proposed resolutions from the floor will be accepted.



New York Farm Bureau
159 Wolf Road, Suite 300
Albany, NY 12205



Saratoga County Farm Bureau

**Saratoga County Farm Bureau
Board of Directors - Dial 518 first.**

Jamie Pettis, President	695-4725
Mike Schwerd, Vice President	699-3173
Jeremy Knight, Treasurer	399-6503
Nicolina Foti	542-4796
Leland Bunting	618-445-7117
Bud South	882-1571
Katie Vail	573-3683
Joe Battaglia	664-9070
Kristie Beals	928-9332
Nataly Batiston, County Manager	937-0269
Paul Molesky NYFB Director	487-1769
County Support Office	431-5650

New Enterprise Membership program replaces previous Stakeholders Membership

Enterprise Membership is available to companies/farms/ organizations. It allows companies to add associated Individual Memberships connected to the company/ Enterprise Membership.

Enterprise Membership Dues, and the number of associated individual membership are based on tiers related to gross revenue.

For additional details or answers to questions please contact NYFB at 1-800-342-4143