

FARM LABOR WAGE BOARD DECISION TO MAINTAIN OVERTIME THRESHOLD SUPPORTS ALL WHO DEPEND ON NY AGRICULTURE

The Farm Labor Wage Board made the right decision to delay consideration of lowering the 60-hour farm labor overtime threshold during this unprecedented year. New York Farm Bureau President David Fisher supported Chair Brenda McDuffie's position of delaying a decision and avoiding any unintended consequences that could negatively impact New York's farmworkers, family farms and access to local food.

"I had encouraged giving the process more time to fully evaluate what a lower threshold would mean for all involved, especially with such limited data from this challenging year. I'd like to thank my fellow wage board members for their time and professionalism and encourage the Department of Labor to continue to work with the farming community to do what is best for our farms and employees. We need each other for agricultural production and our rural economies to flourish," said NYFB President Fisher.

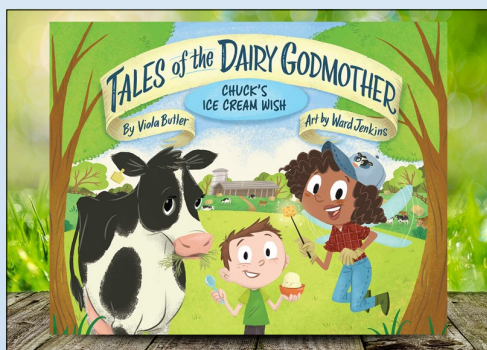
New York Farm Bureau also thanks its members who testified and submitted written comments. The care they have for the men and women who are essential workers on their farms is evident. We all value their work and want the very best for farm employees, that includes the ability to earn a good livelihood in the profession they have chosen.

AGRICULTURAL LITERACY WEEK MARCH 15-19, 2021

Each year, for one week in March, a *Celebration of Agriculture* is brought into classrooms throughout the United States. Agricultural Literacy Week is intended to introduce children to the importance of the agricultural industry and helps them to have an awareness of where their food comes from. Introducing children to agricultural literacy is done through pre-selected books read to classrooms with additional activities reinforcing the ideas that are introduced.

This year's selection is "Chuck's Ice Cream Wish (Tales of the Dairy Godmother)". Written by Viola Butler with illustrations by Ward Jenkins, the story has Chuck's dairy godmother take his wish for ice cream and introduce him to the work that farmers do everyday taking care of the cows to get the milk to make the ice cream.

This year, Wyoming County Farm Bureau is pleased once again to support Agricultural Literacy Week by purchasing the books being read to classes. These books will then be donated to school and classroom libraries so that all children can learn the importance and value that agriculture brings to our communities.



EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNTS FOR FARM BUREAU MEMBERS
Farm Bureau protects the future of your farm and your neighbors farms all year long. Today, membership can save you up to \$500 on new Case IH tractors and equipment!

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on Farmall® Compact A & C series, Farmall utility A series, Farmall 100A series, Farmall utility C & U series, Farmall V series, and Farmall N series tractors as well as round and small square balers, disc mower conditioners

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A current Farm Bureau membership verification certificate must be presented to the Case IH dealer in advance of product delivery to receive the incentive discount. Members can download a certificate at www.nyfb.org/member-benefits

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1.800.342.4143

WE'VE MOVED



The WNY Regional Farm Bureau Office serving Wyoming County has moved. Our new office is located in the Cornell Cooperative Extension Genesee County offices located at 420 East Main Street, Batavia, NY 14020

AFBF AWARDS LETCHWORTH FFA WASTE NOT WANT NOT PURPLE PLOW WINNER

The American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture recently announced the Fall 2020 Waste Not, Want Not Purple Plow Challenge winners. Winning the senior division was Letchworth Central FFA in Gainesville, New York. The team found creative uses for old items by building a chicken coop out of a boat and a generator out of a car alternator.



WYOMING COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY



Wyoming County Farm Bureau will award one \$1500 scholarship to a high school senior or current college student who will be enrolled as a full time student in an approved college/university or technical/vocational program for the 2021-2022 school year.

Applicants or their parent/guardian must reside in Wyoming County and be a member of the Wyoming County Farm Bureau.

Applications are due to our office by May 7, 2021

If you have any questions about the application process, joining WCFB or would like a blank application sent to you to apply for membership, contact Alton Rudgers at 585-297-3152



GOOD LUCK!



Workers' Compensation Safety Group 486

Take a look at what NYFB Safety Group 486 has to offer.

- **16.3% Average Decrease** in 2019 rates for Safety Group 486 policyholder
- **Cumulative rate decrease of over 51%** in the past four years.
- **36% 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 Amanda Krenning-Muoio for a quote 585-749-9508

* Percentage is based on dividends paid 2014 through 2018. 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.

Krenning-Muoio licensed to sell Workers' Compensation insurance.



New York Farm Bureau Senior Field Advisor, Amanda Krenning-Muoio, is now licensed to sell Workers' Compensation Insurance for NYFB's Group 486 Safety Group. Amanda completed the license training and passed the state exam in 2019. "We are very pleased that Amanda is now a fully licensed property and casualty agent and able to work with our staff in the Albany office to help our members with quotes for their Workers' Compensation insurance needs", said Henry Talmage, Director of Member Relations and Economic Services. Amanda will continue her duties as a Field Advisor serving Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Orleans, Wayne & Wyoming counties.

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STARTED BY FARMERS FOR FARMERS

Wyoming County Farm Bureau
420 E Main St
Batavia, NY 14020



Wyoming County
Farm Bureau News

NYS DOT Regulations for Farm
Trucks & Equipment Presentation

Thursday, April 15, 2021
12:00 PM - 1:15 PM



NYS DOT Regulations for Farm Trucks
and Equipment Presentation with
Trooper Matt Luft, NYSP Commercial Vehicle Unit
Virtual and live attendance, at the Ag Center in Warsaw.
To register contact Debra Welch, Ag Department,
at 585-786-2251 or email djw275@cornell.edu

SIGN UP NEW FARM BUREAU MEMBERS
AND RECEIVE AWARDS

2021 MEMBERSHIP INDIVIDUAL AWARDS & INCENTIVES

HONOR CLUB

Sign up 1 new membership and NYFB will recognize your accomplishment by awarding you a special gift at your County Annual Meeting.

HIGH FIVE AWARD

Sign up 5 new memberships and NYFB will show its appreciation for your hard work by awarding you with a special Farm Bureau apparel item.

MARCH MEMBERSHIP CASH INCENTIVE

For each new membership you sign up during March you will receive a \$20 cash incentive. Valid for new members signed up 3/1/2021 - 3/31/2021

NYFB.org
1.800.342.4143



Contact your Local
Field Advisor with
any questions.

Wyoming County's
Voice for Agriculture
February 2021



To Serve and Strengthen Agriculture

President's Report

By Russell Klein



It's official! The spring season has begun nudging its way back into our lives. A few weeks ago we plowed some snow off a lawn next to the barn, only to find it full of robins the next morning. They were enjoying the small stretch of exposed grass, and enjoying the warmer sun. Not many days after, I spotted some snow drop flowers poking up in my yard. And now... my battle begins... the war I wage each year with the devilish house flies that seem to soak into the deep crevices of the wood in a hundred-year-old farm house, only to reemerge with the spring sun, to tempt their fate against my fly swatter again.

Spring brings many changes to a farm, and the idea of starting a new growing season with a clean slate. The same can probably be said in politics. With a new president, congress, and senate in place, the branches of government with go to work attempting to affect public policy and move forward an agenda determined by the men and women who began the whole process by casting a vote.

Locally Farm bureau likes to take this chance to introduce ourselves to new incoming government representatives. We also take this time to remind old friends and colleagues about what is currently on the minds of Wyoming county Farmers. During the first week of March, the Wyoming County Farm Bureau met with some state senators and representatives from Albany. This year was a bit different because we used the remote technology and did all these meetings on-line via Zoom. Not exactly the same, but we were able to convey our wishes and concerns. It's always good to sit down with the office of Rep. DiPietro, and Senator Gallivan, these two always keep Wyoming county agriculture on their mind and have worked to give

us a voice in Albany. It's always refreshing to meet with someone not from our area. It's a good reminder that common ground can be found with almost anyone with enough open-minded discussion. As members of WyCo Farm Bureau we should all be happy know our thoughts and ideas are being lobbied for in Albany all year long. Next month a few of your local Farm Bureau board members will meet with the County Board of Supervisors, taking a moment to make sure our hometown lawmakers know what is important to Farm Bureau. This annual get together is a great chance to stay in touch with what is happening right here in Wyoming County.

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NYFB Albany Office.....	1-800-342-4143

Our Board of Directors usually meets on the third Tuesday of every month at the Wyoming County Ag Center, Warsaw except for May, June or July.