

Saratoga County Farm Bureau News

September 2022



President's Message:

Hello Saratoga County Farm Bureau members.



I hope you are having a good growing season this year and have gotten at least a few drops of rain. In the spring we participated in a virtual lobby week to lobby our politicians on issues

important to Saratoga County farmers. Over the summer we supported several Cornell Cooperative Extension events including the Equine Symposium. We also welcomed the return of the Saratoga County Fair and hope you stopped by our booth.

As always, I encourage you all to attend our County Annual Meeting. During this time, we will have the business meeting of our organization and discussing proposed policy resolutions for 2023. Join us to shape the direction of Saratoga County Farm Bureau for the next year.

We hope to see you soon! Until the next time,
BE STRONG and FARM ON!

*Sincerely,
Jamie Pettis, President*

County Annual Meeting

**Thursday, October 20
6 p.m.**

**The Hideaway
35 Gracemoore Rd, Saratoga Springs**

Speaker

*Julie Suarez
Cornell CALS*

Associate Dean for Land-Grant Affairs

Dinner- \$25/person/payable at the door.

**Saratoga County Farm Bureau and
Saratoga County Cornell Cooperative
Extension are trying something new and
have teamed up for a joint annual meeting.**

**Please RSVP to Saratoga CCE
at 518-885-8995 and specify you are
attending as a Farm Bureau member.**



More Information Inside:



2022 Saratoga County Fair display complete with board of directors biographies as shown in the background.

NEW YORK FARM BUREAU PODCAST



New York Farm Bureau is excited to announce its new podcast “News Bytes,” a weekly podcast that will include the latest news and information regarding NYFB and agriculture.

The latest edition of New York Farm Bureau News Bytes Podcast is available now. NYFB takes you to the State Fair and talks to Eileen Jensen, Executive Director of the New York Animal Agriculture Coalition, about the conversations happening with fairgoers inside the Dairy Cow Birthing Center.

In the coming months, we look at issues impacting farmers and long form interviews about food and farming will be available. We also welcome any topic ideas or feedback. Please email us at communications@nyfb.org.

You can find New York Farm Bureau News Bytes Podcast in your favorite podcast app, like iTunes, Spotify, or iHeartRadio. Make sure to subscribe and never miss an episode!

JOIN AN NYFB ISSUE COMMITTEE

New York Farm Bureau recently opened its Issue Committees to all NYFB members.

Join an Issue Committee now to receive targeted agricultural industry-specific updates about the latest news and inside scoop on legislation, regulation, and related events. This is your one-stop-shop to gain valuable insights and information on the issues you care about most.

NYFB Issue Committees: Advisory members of each committee are appointed by the NYFB Board of Directors annually. To sign up, go to the NYFB.org website. Under the Programs tab go to the Issues Committees Tab. You will need to be logged in as a NYFB member.*

*To do so, click on the member login tab and then enter your username and password. If you have forgotten either, click on the links for «forgot username» or «forgot password.» You can also call member support services for assistance at 518-436-8495.

2023 Proposed Resolutions

Below are resolutions that will be discussed at the County Annual Meeting.

Reaffirmations

Local

We recommend Saratoga County funded institutions adopt a policy to annually report the purchase of food and Agricultural products from NYS farms.

We encourage every town in Saratoga County to adopt right to farm laws to protect agricultural activities including farm direct marketing.

We support continued full funding of the Cornell Cooperative Extension in Saratoga County.

We support the extension of the sewer system around Ballston Lake, but we oppose the system extending into agricultural districts.

We strongly oppose lateral extensions of county water into agricultural districts.

We support continued full funding of Saratoga County Soil and Water Conservation District by the board of supervisors.

We encourage Saratoga County and municipalities in the county to proactively maintain and replace bridges, roads, and other infrastructure, such as the Nelson Avenue Extension Bridge, needed to support the viability of agriculture in Saratoga County.

New Policies

Local

Saratoga County should allocate the funding and staff resources necessary to update the county's Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan by 2025 with an emphasis on agricultural economic development and strengthening the long-term viability of the county's agricultural Industry.

State

Internal Policy: We support the Bottle Bill legislation if it means the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program bill does not pass.

We support farms continuing to provide workers' compensation for farm workers secured by labor contractors.

When roads are being reconstructed, they should be constructed to withstand the weight of modern farm equipment

Bridges should be constructed with a minimum width to allow for farm equipment to pass.

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.

We oppose adding a line item for fair promotion in the Ag and Markets budget.

National

We support developing a definition of "regenerative agriculture" which allows farms to financially benefit.

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	n/a
Bud South	882-171
Katie Vail	573-3683
Joe Battaglia	664-9070
Kristie Beals	n/a
Josh Fontaine	802-380-9400
Kim Trombly NYFB County Manager	935-8569
Dean Casey, NYFB Director	796-4874
NYFB Support Office	431-5650



**Workers' Compensation
Safety Group 486**

SERVING OUR MEMBERS SINCE 1967

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

- Over 9% Average Rate Decrease in 2022
- Cumulative rate decrease of over 60% in the past five years.
- Five year average dividend of 41%*
- Up front discount up to 25%
- Low Group Managers' Fee
- Licensed, professional staff to serve all your workers' compensation needs and act as your liaison with the New York State Insurance Fund

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

wcinfo@nyfb.org • 1-800-342-4143
www.nyfb.org/programs/workers-compensation

STARTED BY FARMERS FOR FARMERS

Eligibility for insurance is subject to the New York State Insurance Fund's underwriting requirements. *Percentage is based on dividends paid 2016 through 2020. Dividends are not guaranteed. Continued membership in NYFB is required to participate in Safety Group 486. NYFB and its subsidiaries have no authority to bind coverage for any member.