

**Madison County
Farm Bureau
News**

Summer 2024



MADISON COUNTY FARM BUREAU

MEMBER APPRECIATION EVENT

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 2024

COME SEE US AT THE STAMPEDE!

The Madison County Farm Bureau is holding a **Member Appreciation Event** during the 2024 Utica Stampede Rodeo on Saturday, August 3, at the Adirondack Bank Center at Utica Memorial Auditorium in Utica, NY. For this event, all Madison County Farm Bureau members are able to buy discounted admission tickets pre-sale for \$22.00 per person.

Rodeo tickets are available online at empirestatetix.venue.net. In order to get the discount, you must enter the code "FARM" in the Promotions box at the top of the home page. You can also call the box office at 315-790-9070. **The rodeo kicks-off at 7 p.m.**

In addition, a buffet, served from 6-8 p.m. in Zetlin's Lounge, will be offered to Madison County Farm Bureau members, spouses and children under the age of 18 for \$15 per person. Additional buffet tickets for guests can be purchased at \$30 per person. The buffet will include pulled pork, brisket, coleslaw, mac 'n' cheese, baked beans, waffle fries, brownies & cookies, soda and water. A cash bar including beer, wine and mixed drinks will also be available for members. Payment for the buffet will be accepted at the door.

If you've already purchased your Utica Stampede tickets, please feel free to join us for the buffet! To RSVP or for questions: eny@nyfb.org or call 518-431-5650.

See you at the Stampede!





President's Message

I hope you are having a good summer and all is going well on the farm or in your business.

There are many advantages to being a member of Farm Bureau. One of the most important is the group of farmers we have locally to network with and talk about issues important to each of us. This also includes having a say in the direction of the organization at the state and national levels. There is no other place for farmers to turn to for help and feedback than Farm Bureau.

Our successes were on display at the state capitol in Albany. In the end, we had a strong legislative season, in large part because of our member advocacy. New York Farm Bureau secured record budget funding for agriculture which will help the broad diversity of our farms. We also were successful in getting some major legislation across the finish line, including securing the right of our craft cideries and distilleries to directly ship to the customers.

The legislature amended the farmworker overtime tax credit that will ensure all farms have access to this important tool to help minimize rising labor costs. And a bill was passed making cannabis an agricultural crop, opening important resources to members who choose to grow it.

We also defended and stopped some additional bills that could have posed serious challenges to our farms and increased the cost of doing business. The passage of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Act would have upended the state's recycling program and especially burdened agricultural producers and food processors. Likewise, the TEMP Act would have set new workplace standards, reporting requirements and worker health screenings when temperatures top 80 degrees, hardly a heat extreme. Our advocacy made a difference.

With the session behind us, we can begin to focus on public policy for 2025. Over the next few months, I encourage you to think about issues on your farm and any policy changes that could help you and your family. We will gather this fall at the County Annual Meeting to vote on any new resolutions. And you're invited to attend State Annual Convention this December at Turning Stone Resort in Verona, NY where the focus will be on leadership, innovation, and diversification. Registration opens August 1, so be watching for more details.

I'd like to encourage you to plan on attending the Madison County Farm Bureau Ice Cream Social being held at Scott O'Mara's farm in Cazenovia on Wednesday, July 10. You can also attend the Utica Stampede on Saturday, August 3 at the Adirondack Bank Center at Utica Memorial Auditorium in Utica, NY. More information on both of these events is in this newsletter. Both of these events are a great time to come out and meet your Farm Bureau neighbors. I'm looking forward to seeing you all!

Finally, if you have any questions or issues you would like to discuss, please reach out to me. The county Farm Bureau is here for you to help connect you with resources, find answers, and be a source of support. Thank you for being a member and for what you do every day on your farm.

Greg Coon, President
Madison County Farm Bureau

MADISON COUNTY FARM BUREAU BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- PRESIDENT:** Greg Coon 315-396-1549
- VICE PRESIDENT:** Darrell Griff 315-825-5661
- Scott O'Mara 315-243-6489
- Jo Stephenson 315-244-6151
- Kyle Hale 315-697-4870
- Gina Hennington 631-662-7324
- PRO-ED CHAIR:** Johanna Bossard 315-440-1044
- YF&R CHAIR:** Chelsey Mahany 315-480-6849
- COUNTY MANAGER:** John Wagner 315-761-9770
- NYFB COUNTY SUPPORT OFFICES:**
- Jill Williamson 518-431-5670
- Felicia Dougherty 518-431-5650

FFA BLUE JACKET AWARDS

Madison County Farm Bureau is proud to award seven deserving FFA members with their own Blue Jacket. The FFA Blue Jacket is more than the official jacket worn by its members, it is a symbol of faith, honor and pride and reminds them that they are part of something larger than themselves. Congratulations to our Blue Jacket Award recipients.

Pictured are two of the seven award recipients. Alijah Hawver (top photo) from Morrisville-Eaton FFA and Charles Carney (bottom Photo) from Stockbridge Valley FFA.



Madison County Farm Bureau meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at CCE in Morrisville, NY.

KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU TRAVELS TO NEW YORK

Not only did a heat wave roll in this past week, it also brought 55 members of the Kentucky Farm Bureau along with it! Kentucky Farm Bureau's annual Livestock Commodity tour for its members was on the road and visiting New York State June 19 thru the 22.

We at New York Farm Bureau were proud to partner with them in setting up tour stops throughout the state of New York. Not only did we highlight the livestock industry but also other parts of New York's diverse agricultural industry.



Photos

Top left: The Kentucky Farm Bureau's Livestock Commodity 2024 tour group visiting John Madden Sales in Cazenovia.

Top right: Albanese Longhorns in Cazenovia was the first stop on Thursday.

Center left: Albanese Longhorns owner, Mike Albanese (c) receives a Thank You for Hosting basket from Kentucky Farm Bureau. Pictured with Mike are David Taylor (l), a member of the Kentucky State Board of Directors and Kentucky Farm Bureau State President Eddie Melton.

Center right: Madison County Farm Bureau board member Darrell Griff (l), Madison County Board President Greg Coon (c) talking with Kentucky Farm Bureau State President Eddie Melton.

Left: Rebecca Werbela from MJ WAGYU Farm gave an overview of the farm operation and the history of the farm. MJ WAGYU Farm hosted a farm to table dinner with all local food products on Wednesday evening.

THANK YOU
to the Madison County Farm Bureau members who welcomed the Kentucky Farm Bureau Livestock Commodity Tour and opened up their farms to show them just how special and diverse New York agriculture is.

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



*Celebrate National Ice Cream Month
With*

Madison County Farm Bureau

on

Wednesday July 10, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Scott O'Mara

3584 Seneca Tpke, Cazenovia

In recognition of National Ice Cream Month come and enjoy an evening away from the farm. Gather and mingle with fellow Farm Bureau members. Join Madison County Farm Bureau and the Dairy Ambassadors for an ice cream social. Hamburgers and light salads will also be provided.

RSVP before July 3 to:

eny@nyfb.org or call 1-518-431-5650

