

Ontario County Farm Bureau

August 2024



I'M BULLISH ON ONTARIO COUNTY AGRICULTURE!



Thanks to Farm Bureau.

When I think about all the places to farm in our country, there are not many places better than right here in Ontario County.

Let's check off the list

1. Great soils from the glaciers.
2. Rain. Comes out of the sky for us, not underground lakes.
3. Ag value assessing that lowers our local property taxes.
4. Property tax refunds from the state that lowers our property taxes even more.
5. Local "Right to Farm" law that protects our modern farming practices.
6. Certified Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) permit. Only one for the whole state not individual farms.
7. No hearing process for building barns. In other

states it can take years to add a new barn.

8. No sales tax on products and equipment used for food production.
9. 20% Investment tax credit on farm equipment, improvements and repairs.
10. 118% overtime credits for agricultural employees who work more than 40 hours but less than 60.
11. Positive working relationship with the Department of Environmental Conservation. No one likes a DEC inspection but at least they are nice about it.
12. Strong support from New York State Ag and Markets.
13. Ontario County Cornell Cooperative Extension helping farmers and their neighbors be the best that they can be.

In addition to these 13 points, we had the county fair last month. A great place for agriculture's youth to show their stuff. Where the farming community

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Last-minute Bills Offer Up Big Wins for New York Farmers

New York Farm Bureau is happy to share that when the New York legislative session came to a close this past June, we were successful in pushing for fair representation of New York agriculture in a flurry of bills that passed or failed.

Our legislative wins for this session include:

- The **PASSAGE** of direct-to-consumer shipping legislation that provides parity to our craft spirits and cider makers in New York.
- The **PASSAGE** of farmworker overtime tax credit, ensuring all farms have access to this important state investment.
- The **STOPPAGE** of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Act, which prevents burdensome, expensive measures on our

agricultural producers and makes food more expensive for New York families.

- The **STOPPAGE** of the TEMP Act, which would impose superfluous health and safety measures on our farms.
- The **PASSAGE** of commodity crop status for cannabis in New York, opening new economic pathways for agriculture.

These victories are a direct result of NYFB's tireless lobbying efforts on behalf of our members. We understand the challenges faced by New York's farms and producers, and we are committed to advocating for policies that promote economic growth and opportunity.

SAVE THE DATES

Fun on the Farm

Saturday, September 28; 11-4; Hemdale Farms, 2810 Orleans Rd., Seneca Castle, NY

Ontario County's largest educational event returns, it will be at Hemdale Farms for the 3rd time since Fun on the Farm began. Volunteer signup will begin after September 1st and will be done online, please check out the social media and website for links to that. For donation or volunteer questions please contact Julie Maslyn at juliemaslyn13@gmail.com

This event is free to attend – bring your friends!

Kitchen Conferences

- **Thursday, October 3** (1st conference); Begins at 5 PM; at Rooted by Amberg, 100 Castle St., Geneva, NY
- **Thursday, October 10** (2nd conference); Begins at 5 PM at Other Half Brewing Lakeshore (formerly Young Lion Brewing), 24 Lakeshore Dr, Canandaigua, NY.

Our Kitchen Conferences are informal meetings to discuss Farm Bureau priorities before the State Annual meeting. We would like to invite current members and prospective members to voice what Farm Bureau could do for them and how we can lobby for farmers' best interest when creating new legislation.

Ontario County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

Friday, October 18; Begins at 5:00 PM; at New York Kitchen, 800 S. Main St. Canandaigua, NY

Cost to you: FREE! Please join us for our Annual Meeting. This is a valuable time to make sure that we are addressing all the important issues in our county, we have decided to comp this dinner for all Farm Bureau members. Please come and participate in some great discussions.

PASTURE WALK AT TAMBERLANE

We had an amazing event at Tamberlane Farm on June 28, 2024! Thank you to Tamberlane Farm and their family for their amazing hospitality and all of the hard work they did to host this workshop. Ontario County Farm Bureau sponsored the dinner which was burgers from Tamberlane Farm and sides from Finger Lakes Plates. Tucker from Ontario County SWCD presented on the new barnyard area completed recently on Tamberlane Farm and all about our Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) program. Thank you to Nancy Glazier from the Northwest New York Dairy, Livestock and Field Cops Team for leading the pasture walk and thank you to Jacob Maslyn from Ontario County CCE for partnering on this event's coordination and planning. We had about 65 attendees and the weather was perfect for an evening out in the pasture.



Presidents Report Continued

comes together for a pig show, giant ice cream sundae, a tractor pull, a livestock auction and a rooster crowing contest!

Right after this farm community event, we have "Fun on the Farm" at Hemdale Farms, where hundreds of volunteers host thousands from the community to showcase what farmers are up to these days.

All of this your local Farm Bureau had a part in developing. This is why I am bullish on Ontario County Agriculture.

John Mueller

Ontario County Farm Bureau President



Follow us on our Facebook page to keep in the loop with all events.

[Facebook.com/OntarioFarmBureau](https://www.facebook.com/OntarioFarmBureau)

MEET THE BOARD A CONTINUATION

Our last edition of Ontario County Farm Bureau News introduced you to our diverse, dedicated group of Board members. Unfortunately, due to the time of year and how busy people get, some photos didn't get submitted in time for publishing. In this issue, so that you can put a face to the name, we're re-introducing those board members who appeared without photos.



JAKE MINNS

Jake and his wife Sarah live in the town of Seneca with their two boys. He owns and operates a fourth generation dairy farm in Seneca Castle with his father Bill and uncle Doug. When he is not farming

he enjoys helping coach lacrosse in the spring, camping, and deer hunting in the fall.



LIBBY EIHOLZER

Libby works for Cargill and focuses on helping farms to professionalize their approach to management. She loves helping farm teams improve their communication and organization to achieve greater success. Libby enjoys spending time with her husband, daughter, and dogs on their farm in Stanley.



CONNER HURST

Conner is the head of sales and operations for Big aLICE Brewing a New York State farm brewery. Conner's interest in agriculture was sparked by working with the head brewers at Big aLICE to utilize more NY state ingredients. Conner has been a board member for 3 years serving as secretary. In his

spare time Conner enjoys spending time with his wife Mackenzie.



MATTHEW WORDEN

Is an owner/ operator of Will-O-Crest Farms, a second generation dairy farm in Clifton Springs. His role as operations manager allows him to build strong teams that focus on quality

and efficiency. When not at work Matt enjoys spending time with his wife and three daughters.



JACOB MASLYN

Jacob works at Cooperative Extension serving local farmers, beginning entrepreneurs, and educating local government about farm activities and events. Jacob serves as our Young Farmer and Rancher chair and has been doing this for over four years hosting trivia nights, and

other casual young farmer events. In his spare time Jacob likes to ski, hike, and generally be outside as much as possible doing adventures.



JULIE MASLYN

Julie has been the Pro-Ed Chair for over 20 years and works diligently at publicizing our scholarships to high school seniors and planning Fun on The Farm every other year. This year is a Fun on The

Farm year which means Julie is busier than ever planning for the event, inviting school groups, and making sure we have plenty of volunteers. In her spare time, Julie enjoys reading and spending time with her family of 4 kids and husband. If you are interested in volunteering for Fun on The Farm and want to be added to the email list please email Julie at Juliemaslyn13@gmail.com and she will add you to her list.



TIMOTHY STRYKER

Tim is the Assistant Farm Manager of his family's grain and hay farm in Canandaigua. He is involved with the Farm Bureau Young Farmer Program (YF&R), where he is on the

state committee. He is passionate about history and agricultural environmental stewardship. In his spare time he likes to participate in antique tractor activities with the Bellona, NY IH club. He also likes to ski and hike.



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

Ontario County Farm Bureau

YOUNG FARMERS MESSAGE

Jacob Maslyn, YF&R Chair

TRIVIA NIGHT

The Young Farmers will once again host trivia night in February at the Cracker Factory in Geneva. Stay tuned for the date and time to come this fall. If you would like to help with planning the event you can reach out to Jacob Maslyn at 585-626-9958.

**YOUNG FARMERS & RANCHERS
COMPETITIONS OPEN FOR REGISTRATION**

Farm Bureau’s strength depends on its members’ abilities to analyze agricultural issues and decide on solutions that best meet their needs. Competitive events provide an opportunity to recognize outstanding members. **Application deadlines are Sept. 15.** State winner of the 2025 New York Competitive events receives an all expense paid trip to compete at the American Farm Bureau Convention Jan 19-24 in San Antonio Texas! For more information on Competitive Events contact YF & R Coordinator Renee Ciardi at RCiardi@nyfb.org.

**ONTARIO COUNTY FARM BUREAU
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

PRESIDENT: John Mueller 315-462-6194

VICE President: John Casey Wood 585-739-2157

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Julie Maslyn, Pro-Ed Chair 585-737-8193

Jacob Maslyn, YF&R Chair 585-626-9958

COUNTY MANAGER: Mark James 585-738-0242

COUNTY SUPPORT OFFICE: Jill Williamson 518-431-5670

Ontario County Farm Bureau board meets the third Monday of each month at 7 pm at the Cooperative Extension Office in Canandaigua.