

AGRIVIEW



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Vermonters Get a Taste of Dairy Farming at First Annual “Breakfast on the Farm”

Nea-tocht Farm in Ferrisburg, VT Holds First Free Breakfast and Farm Tour

By: Laura Hardie,
New England Dairy Promotion Board

Hundreds of people experienced a day in the life of a dairy farmer and got a delicious meal at Vermont’s first Breakfast on the Farm on Saturday, August 22 at Nea-Tocht Farm in Ferrisburg, VT.

The free, public event included a pancake breakfast served from 9 a.m. to noon, self-guided tours of the dairy farm and a peek into the life and business of dairy farming in Vermont where 63% of the milk in New England is produced, according to USDA data.

The Nea-Tocht Farm is a family farm, owned and operated



by Raymond and Linda Vander Wey, their five children and their grandchildren. With the third generation growing up on the farm and taking on more responsibility,

they hope to have many more generations to come. The farm has won many awards for their high quality milk and was honored with the 2000 Dairy Farm of the Year

Breakfast on the Farm gave Vermonters a close-up look at a real dairy farm.

award. The Vander Wey family houses 500 cows in free stall barns on 800 acres of land.

“The Breakfast on the Farm event gave us the opportunity to show the public how our family farm is traditional in some sense, but also embraces new technologies like our wind turbine and robotic milker,” Raymond Vander Wey said. “The community was excited to learn about our passion for farming, caring for our animals and the land, and our commitment to pass this legacy to the next generation.”

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AGRIVIEW

Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets

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Water Quality is a Priority

Water Quality issues are front-and-center for the Agency of Agriculture, and farmers all across the state. Cleaning up Lake Champlain is a top priority of this Administration, as evidenced by the passage of the Clean Water Act. The Agency of Agriculture is committed to working with farmers

to ensure they have the information and resources they need to protect water quality and navigate the regulatory landscape.

That's why we have recently re-launched the Water Quality section of our website. Our new Water Quality section includes the current regulations, resources for

farmers, water quality research, and more. Updates to these pages are made on an on-going basis.

So, please bookmark <http://agriculture.vermont.gov/water-quality>. We have a lot of work to do over the next year to implement the Clean Water Act. We are committed to keeping you updated and informed,

and will use the website as a key tool in meeting that goal.

Thank you for your on-going support of Vermont agriculture, and your commitment to protecting our environment for future generations.

Charles R. Ross

Applications now available online!

5th Annual Vermont Buy Local Market Taste, Learn, and Buy Vermont Agricultural Products

January 27, 2016 • 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

"Consumer Night" at the Vermont Farm Show

Blue Ribbon Pavilion Building, Champlain Valley Exhibition, Essex Jct., Vermont

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets, in conjunction with the Vermont Farm Show, is pleased to announce the fifth annual Buy Local Market to be held during "Consumer Night" at the Vermont Farm Show on January 27, 2016. The Buy Local

Market, located in the Blue Ribbon Pavilion Building, will present consumers with an ideal occasion to "taste, learn and buy Vermont agricultural products" from across our state in one convenient location. There is no fee to vend at the market, but producers must apply to participate by November 2, 2015.

The Buy Local Market will showcase a variety of agricultural products from all corners of Vermont, including cheeses, meats, spirits, grains,

fruits and vegetables, fiber, and value-added goods. Vendors will be able to sell products, provide samples, and build new connections with customers. All products for sale must meet State and Federal regulatory requirements.

The Buy Local Market features the best agricultural products that Vermont communities have to offer and is an excellent opportunity for producers expand their market and customer base. In addition, products

from the Buy Local Market will be featured in the "Capital Cook-Off" held concurrently in the Blue Ribbon Pavilion. Both events will be covered by local radio and television.

Download the application at: http://agriculture.vermont.gov/producer_partner_resources/market_access_development/buylocalmarkets

For questions or more information, contact Abbey Willard: 802-272-2885, Ali Zipparo: 802-505-1822 or Faith Raymond: 802-828-1619.

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Editor's Note

This month, Dan Scruton and Dennis Parker,

two long-time VAAFM employees, retired. Over the years, Dennis has played an important role, behind-the-scenes, in our business office. Dan's role, on the other hand, has been very public – as

a leader in Vermont's dairy industry, working directly with farmers to help improve their operations. We



wish them well in their retirement, and thank them for their years of service!

Summer has come to a close, but we are still waiting for the tomatoes in the Agency's vegetable garden to ripen! Here, you can see Deputy Secretary Diane Bothfeld's parking marker doubles as a tomato trellis!

Wishing you a fruitful harvest season!

— Alison Kosakowski

Follow VAAFM on Twitter @VTAgencyof Ag and follow me @VTFarmGirl

Vermont Farm Safety Program Open to All Producers

By Louise Waterman, VAAFM

The Vermont Farm Safety Program provides ways to strengthen and improve your on-farm safety program, including bilingual tools to support your needs.

The program is open to all farmers, and provides participants with the tools they need to develop a farm safety program.

Applications for this year-long program are being accepted now and there is limited space available; contact Louise Waterman at the VT Agency of Agriculture, (802) 373-3352 or Louise.Waterman@state.vt.us for an application or more information.

Participation in the Vermont Farm Safety Program requirements:

- \$90.00 program registration fee
- Attend the Vermont Farm Safety Program orientation meeting on November 12, 2015 at the UVM Extension office in Berlin VT and at least one additional meeting via phone conference call or webinar
- Agree to a farm safety check/audit on your

.....
"Participating in the Vermont Farm Safety Program has been an extremely positive and successful experience. Being able to tap into the program team's guidance, expertise and support has been invaluable and we look forward to a long relationship with them."

— Bill Suhr,
Champlain Orchards

farm during November or December

- Follow through on recommendations for 'hazard reduction' from the audit
- Identify a farm 'Safety Manager'
- Develop and implement an individualized Farm Safety Plan
- Conduct monthly on-farm employee safety trainings

The Vermont Farm Safety Program was developed by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture in conjunction with UVM Extension, the Vermont Department of Labor and Co-operative Insurance. The Vermont

Farm Safety Program is a voluntary program and all information is confidential.

This program will help farmers understand Vermont Occupational Safety and Health Administration ((V)OSHA) regulations. (V) OSHA has clarified what is, and is not, exempt from inspections under the small farm and farming enforcement policy. Farms with 10 or fewer employees and without a temporary labor camp are exempt from (V)OSHA inspection. (V) OSHA's new policy states that all food manufacturing that takes place on farms, regardless of size, is subject to (V)OSHA inspection. For example, an apple orchard may be exempt from (V) OSHA inspections; however, if they turn their apples into cider onsite, the cider-making operation would be non-exempt; subject to OSHA inspections. This program will help farmers understand OSHA rules.

It is important to note that even though farms with 10 or fewer employees are exempt from OSHA inspection; they are not exempt from OSHA regulations. Every farm needs to have a written safety

program in place.

Numerous farms that have participated in the farm safety program have received

discounts on their workers' compensation and property insurance premiums.

USDA Extends Dairy Program Deadline

By Jake Jacobs, UVM

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that the deadline to enroll for the dairy Margin Protection Program for coverage in 2016 has been extended until Nov. 20, 2015. The voluntary program, established by the 2014 Farm Bill, provides financial assistance to participating farmers when the margin – the difference between the price of milk and feed costs – falls below the coverage level selected by the farmer.

Vilsack encouraged producers to use the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Agency Service (FSA) online Web resource at www.fsa.usda.gov/mpptool to calculate the best levels of coverage for their dairy operation. The secure website can be accessed via computer, smartphone or tablet.

He also reminds producers that were enrolled in 2015 that they need to make a coverage election for 2016 and pay the \$100 administration fee. Although any unpaid premium balances for 2015 must be paid in full by the enrollment deadline to remain eligible for higher coverage levels in 2016, premiums for 2016 are not due until Sept. 1, 2016. Also, producers can work with milk marketing companies to remit premiums on their behalf.

To enroll in the Margin Protection Program for Dairy, contact your local FSA county office. To find your local FSA county office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

Payments under the program may be reduced by a certain percentage due to a sequester order required by Congress and issued pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985. Should a payment reduction be necessary, FSA will reduce the payment by the required amount.

The Margin Protection Program for Dairy was made possible through the 2014 Farm Bill, which builds on historic economic gains in rural America over the past six years, while achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for the taxpayer. For more information, visit www.usda.gov/farmbill.

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Vermont Fairs & Field Days Promote Ag Literacy

By Hannah Reid,
VAAFM

Last month Vermont Secretary of Agriculture Chuck Ross joined Vermont Fair Association Members and legislators for the annual fair organizers picnic dinner at the Caledonia Country fair grounds in Lyndonville. The Caledonia fairgrounds, which officially celebrated its 130th year running, were a fitting backdrop for Ross and his remarks honoring Vermont's fairs and field days and the important role they play in preserving our agricultural heritage, and promoting agricultural literacy.

"Drawing over 700,000 visitors and exhibitors every year, Vermont's fairs and field days represent an important opportunity to promote agricultural literacy and provide insight into our unique cultural heritage," Vermont Secretary of Agriculture, Chuck Ross, said. "They're also a great source of entertainment and fun for the whole family."

Ross went on to highlight the critical role of the Vermont Agricultural Fairs Capital Project Grants Program which has invested over \$680,000 over the last three years in Vermont fair



"Drawing over 700,000 visitors and exhibitors every year, Vermont's fairs and field days represent an important opportunity to promote agricultural literacy and provide insight into our unique cultural heritage."

— Vermont Secretary of Agriculture, Chuck Ross

grounds, which are owned by individual non-profit organizations. Infrastructure investment project proposals ranging from electrical updates to barn restorations are submitted by fair organizations for review by the Agricultural Fairs & Field Days Capital Program Advisory Committee. Once approved, grant dollars are distributed from the Capital Construction Bill to fairs which must generate matching funds and complete their proposed projects within 2 years. Funded projects provide increased accessibility, efficiency, and public safety for human and animal fair-goers alike.

Recent examples of projects funded by capital grants program include a new electrical distribution system at Franklin County



Field Days, upgraded grandstand arena for the Guilford Fair, milking parlor capacity upgrade at the Addison County Field Days, installing light towers for the Bradford Fair, and purchasing additional acreage for expansion of the Orleans County Fairgrounds.

"Most people don't realize that Vermont's fairgrounds are owned by nonprofit organizations, and operated largely on a volunteer basis," says Capital Project Grant Coordinator Sylvia Jensen. "Vermont's fairs and field days rely on public support provided by this Capital Project Program

to offer safe, educational and entertainment opportunities to the public year after year."

For more information about the Vermont Agricultural Fairs Capital Project Grants Program, contact Reg Godin 802-522-3648, Reg.Godin@vermont.gov.

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Dairy Section Chief Dan Scruton Retires after Three Decades of Service to Vermont Ag Community

By Hannah Reid, VAAFM

After 30 years of commitment and service to the Vermont Agricultural community, Dairy Section Chief Dan Scruton will be retiring from the Agency of Agriculture this month. Throughout his three decades of service to the Vermont agricultural community, Dan cultivated deep expertise in areas of agricultural technology, energy policy, farm viability, and even foreign relations, while maintaining a steadfast commitment to Vermont's farmers, animals and the environment.

Almost as soon as he was hired by the agency in 1985, Dan began driving positive change within Vermont's dairy industry by developing a groundbreaking milk quality program focused on reducing the prevalence of mastitis in dairy animals—a common inflammation of tissue in affecting mammary glands usually caused by bacteria. Dan helped design the mastitis control program in collaboration with extension workers and researchers from UVM, and working closely with Vermont veterinarians to prevent infections on dairy farms throughout the state. Within five years of the program launch the average somatic cell counts (or white blood cell counts indicative of infection) among Vermont cattle had dropped by about 50%. When the program was phased out last year, somatic cell counts were



Dan Scruton

a third of what they were then the program started – about 200,000 on average – representing some of the lowest counts reported across the country.

Dan's dairy expertise is not, however, limited to cows. Dan helped advance the small ruminant (sheep and goat) industry in Vermont, creating a foundation for what is now a thriving industry of goat and sheep farms responsible for dozens of award winning cheeses and other dairy products.

In addition to being one of the foremost dairy experts in Vermont, Dan is also recognized for his passion and understanding of agricultural energy issues. In the 1990s Dan was instrumental in engaging Vermont utility companies in a proactive effort to reduce "stray voltage" on Vermont

dairy farms, extraneous voltage that appears on grounded surfaces in buildings, barns and other structures. While usually imperceptible to humans, stray voltage can have a severely negative effect on animals. Thanks in large part to Dan, Vermont has the first and only proactive stray voltage program in the country in which utility companies are an equal partner in protecting animals. Dan's ongoing commitment to addressing agricultural energy issues collaboratively with farmers, legislators and utility companies has led to extensive research and testing of anaerobic digesters on farms, which, along with

net metering, enables farms to generate their own power to be used throughout their farm facilities. Dan was also involved in the development of the pricing models for the farm side of the Vermont Standard Offer Program which allows farms to generate power and sell it to the utilities at a set price that is concurrent with production cost rather than tied to wholesale prices. The resulting reduction in energy price swings, along with utility renewable programs, has made Vermont home to more anaerobic digesters on a per farm basis than any other state in the country.

Other career highlights
continued on page 6

Agriculture on a Quilt

By Hannah Reid, VAAFM

The unique quilt pictured at right was handcrafted by Mrs. Pauline Scruton, mother of outgoing Dairy Programs Section Chief Dan Scruton. The quilt, currently on display at the Agency of Ag, boasts vintage black and white photos (transferred onto fabric) of Dan's father, Mr. Frank Scruton and several of his pulling teams of steer and oxen from Farmington, New Hampshire. Incorporated throughout the quilt are dozens of ribbons won by Frank and his pulling teams at fairs and field days throughout New England and New York in the 1960s and 70s. Mr. Frank Scruton, who passed away in November, 2013, trained his first pair of oxen when he was about 10 years old and continued exhibiting pulling oxen at the fairs throughout his life, including a pair he showed in September of 2013.

Pauline Scruton, an accomplished quilter, made many quilts in her life time, including quilts for all 18 grandchildren in honor of their graduation from high school.

Sincere thanks to Dan and his family for sharing this work of art with all of us at the VAAFM and for his three decades of dedicated service to the Vermont agricultural community.



Long Time VAAFM Financial Specialist Dennis Parker Retires

By Hannah Reid, VAAFM

After over 27 years of distinguished service, Financial Specialist III Dennis Parker will be retiring from his post in the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets (VAAFM) Business Office. The longest serving staff member in the business office, Dennis' wide range of responsibilities have included accounts payable and receivable, asset management, invoicing, supply ordering, meat inspection, cross utilization and VDPC financial management, as well as acting as the building maintenance liaison.

"Throughout his years of service, Dennis has been an true asset to the VAAFM business office," according to Secretary Chuck Ross. "His wealth of knowledge and extensive experience will be very much missed."

Dennis began his career at the VAAFM as an Administrative Assistant in 1988 under Commission Ronald Allbee. Parker entered the VAAFM business office at the end of the era of typewriters when all financial work was type written on four-part forms. "What a pain if you made a mistake!" recalled Parker, "you had to go back and correct it on each of the four forms. Thankfully we switched over to electronic systems shortly thereafter."

In addition to staggering technological advances, Parker has witnessed vast changes in Vermont's



Dennis Parker

agricultural economy. "When I was first starting out, ag in Vermont was all about cow dairies," remembers Parker. "There were very

few commercial vegetable operations, few poultry or other meat businesses, and even the dairy industry was focused on producing fluid milk, other than Cabot there was no one making cheese or ice cream. Now there are small produce farmers and cheesemakers everywhere you turn. The diversification of Agriculture in Vermont has always been a hot topic in state government, but it has really come to fruition in recent years. It has been an exciting trend to watch."

So too, the VAAFM itself has undergone great change since Parker's first days of employment. "The scope of the agency is

Dan Scruton Retires *continued from page 5*

for Dan included working with Governor Snelling to lead a team of agency staffers, UVM extension workers, and private industry to increase farm viability through business planning; and several agricultural technology exchange trips to Israel, Russia, and twice to China. "Those were eye opening experiences," recalled Scruton, "our trip to Russia right around the fall of the Soviet Union was a particularity fascinating experience. It was a great privilege to represent Vermont and the United States internationally, and to have the opportunity to share best ag practices with other cultures."

In 2009 Dan took over the post of Dairy Section

Chief at the agency of agriculture where he has been overseeing the state's dairy regulatory programs, while still trying to keep in touch with the technical side of the industry. "I grew up on a dairy farm in New Hampshire, and since then I've always wanted to help the dairy industry grow and advance." Says Scruton, "I've worked on every issue you can imagine, from technology, to milk prices, to animal health issues – my goal has always been to make sure the dairy industry has the tools and resources it needs to excel."

"His vast knowledge of the dairy industry and depth of experience gained over the last three decades has made Dan a true asset to the Agency of Ag and to our mission." said Deputy Secretary Diane Bothfeld,

much broader than it used to be." Says Parker. "The Food Safety and Animal Health programs are far more robust than they used to be, as is the Agricultural Development Division – it's mission has expanded so much over the years, which I think has contributed to the increase in ag diversity across the state. There is also a much greater emphasis on environmental conservation now, and protecting Vermont's natural landscapes."

While he is looking forward to having more free time to travel, spend time with his grandchildren, and possibly take on some volunteer work in his retirement, Dennis admitted he will miss his VAAFM colleagues. "In my experience, the people who work for the Agency of Ag

are a dedicated bunch of folks and always have been – from the top down. I don't think agriculture in Vermont would be as strong as it is today without the support of this agency, and I'm grateful to have had a hand in it."

Likewise, his colleagues at the VAAFM are grateful for Dennis' years of committed work and will miss his presence at 116 State Street.

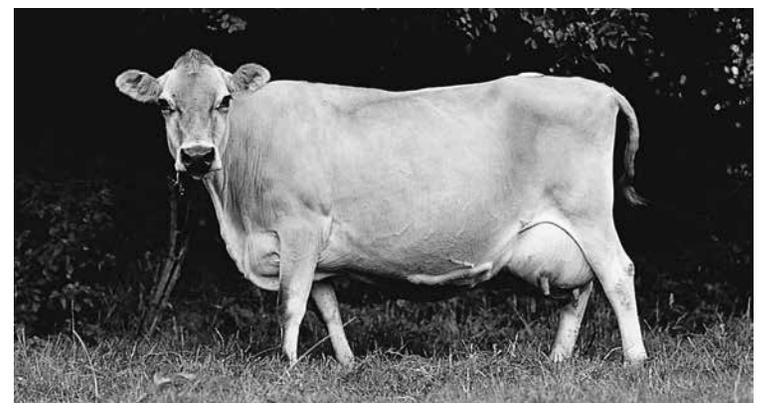
"For almost three decades Dennis Parker has been the anchor of the Agency's Business Office." says VAAFM Financial Director Marcey Hodgdon. "The level of knowledge and sincere appreciation Dennis has of and for agriculture in Vermont is admirable to say the least. Dennis – We will certainly miss you and wish you much happiness and joy in your retirement!"

"But most importantly, Dan has been an invaluable resource to Vermont's farmers and has helped to improve the health, safety, and sustainability of all Vermont farms over the course of his career."

Said Scruton, "I am truly grateful to the Vermont Agency of Agriculture for providing me with this platform from which I was able to pursue many of my goals for the advancement of the dairy industry. I think farmers are in a better place

than they were when I first joined the agency in 1985. I'm not sure I can take any of the credit, but I hope I was a positive contributor."

Upon retirement Dan looks forward to spending more time fishing and enjoying the company of his children and grandchildren. "I may be retiring from state government", said Scruton, "but I look forward to continuing to provide technical assistance to Vermont farmers for as long as I can be useful."



New England Dairy Promotion Board Expands Vermont Staff

Laura Hardie Appointed to Newly Created Vermont Public Relations Position

By Jennifer Karl,
New England Dairy
Promotion Board



Laura Hardie

The New England Dairy Promotion Board announced today the appointment of Laura Stebbins Hardie of Waterbury, Vermont to the newly-created position of Public Relations and Communications Specialist.

Hardie will be based in the organization's Winooski, Vermont office and will work directly with Vermont's dairy farmers to help them connect with the general public about who they are, what they do and why dairy farming is so unique and important to the state of Vermont.

"Laura brings the best of two worlds to our com-

pany. She has valuable public relations and communications know-how and a personal understanding of the everyday challenges Vermont farmers face due

to her family's deep-rooted history of dairy farming in both Franklin and Chittenden County," said Gary Wheelock, chief executive officer of New England Dairy Promotion Board.

Laura has a broad background in marketing and communications. A graduate of the University of Connecticut with a B.A. in Broadcast Journalism and Political Science, she has previously worked as a news producer for WHDH-TV, Channel 7 in Boston, and as a Project Manager in Marketing & Communications for Kaza/Hagan Associates in Burlington, Vermont. Most recently, she has served the last three years with Keurig Green Mountain, Inc. as an Associate Manager of

Business Communications.

Hardie brings to the position a personal understanding of the dairy industry and the everyday challenges Vermont farmers face. Her parents and brother operate Meadowbrook Acres Inc. in Milton where Laura helps manage marketing efforts for their dairy and maple syrup business. Her father-in-law is David "Skip" Hardie of Hardie Farms in Lansing, NY. Skip is an officer of the national board of directors for Dairy Management Inc., and longtime Chairman

of the New York Dairy Advisory Board.

ABOUT NEW ENGLAND DAIRY PROMOTION BOARD
The New England Dairy Promotion Board (NEDPB) is the local affiliate of the American Dairy Association and directs advertising, sales promotions and marketing programs on behalf of local dairy farmers in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. Offices are located in Boston and Uxbridge, MA and Winooski, VT.



For Immediate Release

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets have received an application for a Milk Handlers license from the following entity: Adena Rose Ayurveda, LLC. of Jericho, Vermont to sell, process and package butter in the State of Vermont. If anyone has germane information as to why or why not this company should or should not be licensed those comments are to be sent to:

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture Food and Markets
Dairy Section Office
116 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05620-2901

All written comments must be received by October 15th, 2015.

At that time the Agency will make a determination as to whether a hearing will be held. If we determine that a hearing is necessary and you wish to attend please write to the above address attention Dairy Section.

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SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans Available in Vermont Following Disaster Declaration

By Michael Lampton, U.S. S.B.A

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has announced that federal Economic Injury Disaster Loans are available to small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and private nonprofit organizations located in Addison, Bennington and Rutland counties in Vermont as a result of the drought that began on June 1, 2015.

"These counties are eligible because they are contiguous to one or more primary counties in New York. The Small Business Administration recognizes that disasters do not usually stop at county or state lines. For that reason, counties adjacent to primary counties named in the declaration are included," said Frank Skaggs, director of SBA's Field Operations Center East in

Atlanta.

Under this declaration, the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan program is available to eligible farm-related and nonfarm-related entities that suffered financial losses as a direct result of this disaster. With the exception of aquaculture enterprises, SBA cannot provide disaster loans to agricultural producers, farmers, or ranchers. Nurseries are eligible to apply for economic injury disaster loans for losses caused by drought conditions.

The loan amount can be

up to \$2 million with interest rates of 2.625 percent for private nonprofit organizations and 4 percent for small businesses, with terms up to 30 years. The SBA determines eligibility based on the size of the applicant, type of activity and its financial resources. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant's financial condition. These working capital loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable, and other bills that could have been paid had the disaster

not occurred. The loans are not intended to replace lost sales or profits.

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

Disaster loan information and application forms may also be obtained by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing) or by sending an email to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Loan applications can be downloaded from the SBA's website at www.sba.gov/disaster. Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

Completed loan applications must be returned to SBA no later than May 9, 2016.

For more information about the SBA's Disaster Loan Program, visit our website at www.sba.gov/disaster.

Statewide Efforts Continue to Get More Local Food in Vermont Retail and Grocery Stores

By Rachel Carter, VT Farm to Plate

The most immediate opportunity for local grocery and retail stores to increase the amount of Vermont food available to Vermonters is to stock shelves with more local dairy, coffee, bakery, beer, and wine. Consumer demand and competitive price points currently exist for these products, and this is a key step to ensure Vermonters have access to more local products – one of the goals of Vermont's Farm to Plate food system plan.

The Farm to Plate Network (responsible for implementing Vermont's Farm to Plate food system plan) is working diligently to open market channels into independently owned gro-

cery stores. By opening lines of communication between grocers and retailers, the grocers association, distributors and food hubs, producers and farmers, and regulators; the Farm to Plate Network helps build relationships between multiple stakeholders to work towards a common agenda – in this case, to increase the amount of local food at retail markets.

Over the next five years, the Farm to Plate Network will focus on a 3-pronged approach to increasing the availability of locally produced food (fresh and/or processed) where the average Vermonter typically shops:

1. Work with independently owned grocery store owners to increase the amount of local food they source and provide access to technical / business assistance

to improve displays, merchandising, signage, and point of sale tracking of local products.

2. Work with farmers and food producers to increase the volume of local food products they produce and over a longer growing season (or year round for meat, cheese, dairy, etc.) and prepare producers to sell into wholesale market channels (i.e., independent grocers and institutions).
3. Develop, launch and administer a grassroots local food campaign to increase purchases, participation, and awareness in Vermont's local food economy through consistent visuals and messaging carried across Vermont media and food market channels. Messaging will be targeted to consumers in differ-

ent Vermont regions to increase consumer demand at a time when Vermont's farm and food economy is growing and Vermont's statewide Farm to Plate food system plan aims for local food consumption to become mainstream in the next 5-10 years.

Are you interested in getting involved in any of these areas? Stipends are available for farmers, producers, and entrepreneurs to participate in Farm to Plate meetings, panels, and focus groups. Contact Erica Campbell, Farm to Plate Network Director, at 802-828-3745, farm2plate@vsjf.org.

Learn more about the state's food system plan and the folks working together to relocalize food production and distribution in Vermont at www.VTFarmtoPlate.com.

58 ACRE FARM FOR SALE

18 Justin Morrill Mem Hwy

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Working Lands Enterprise Board Announces Upcoming Grant Availability

The Working Lands Enterprise Board (WLEB) is pleased to announce the availability of over \$500,000 in grant funds for the 2016 program year. The application period will open on October 1, 2016, with grants targeting essential, catalytic investments in Vermont's farm and forest economy. Grants will be available to Vermont agriculture and forest sector businesses, as well as service providers that provide the

critical technical assistance needed for business growth. The two investment areas are as follows:

1. Business Investments

Projects may include, but are not limited to: Infrastructure (project-specific planning, permitting, and/or engineering/architectural plans; and/or building and equipment costs); Marketing (accessing new markets and securing new customers); Research and Development

(testing new systems or technologies or developing innovative solutions). Projects focused on scaling up to meet new market opportunities are encouraged. Working capital is an eligible use of funds.

2. Service Provider Investments

Projects should show direct impacts on Vermont Working Lands businesses. Types of technical assistance provided may include scaling up, market development, marketing

plans and sales, business and financial planning, succession planning, access to capital, manufacturing efficiencies or process flow.

Information sessions will be scheduled for the week of October 12th and will be held as webinars with opportunities to attend in person. The dates, times, and locations of these sessions will be announced on October 1st.

All business investment applicants selected to submit a full application will be

required to include a business plan. Applicants are encouraged to visit our Resources for Businesses page at <http://workinglands.vermont.gov/apply/ta/tools>.

The WLEB began operations in August 2012 and to date has awarded over \$3 million in grant funds to 110 grantees, leveraging an additional \$4.3 million of matching and outside funds. The WLEB looks forward to continuing this impressive track record in Fiscal Year 2016.

Vermont Weekly Farmers Market Report

For week ending Sunday August 28th, 2015

Commodity	Produce			Meats/Proteins		
	Not Certified Organic			Certified Organic		
	Low	High	Average	Low	High	Average
Apples (per lb)	\$1.00	\$2.50	\$1.58	\$2.00	\$3.50	\$3.00
Beets (per bunch)	\$2.75	\$3.50	\$3.06	\$2.00	\$3.00	\$2.69
Blueberries (per pint)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$4.95	\$5.00	\$4.98
Broccoli (per lb)	\$1.98	\$3.00	\$2.58	\$2.75	\$3.50	\$3.13
Carrots (per bunch)	\$2.00	\$3.00	\$2.33	\$2.75	\$3.00	\$2.92
Chard (per bunch)	\$1.50	\$3.00	\$2.19	\$2.00	\$3.50	\$2.75
Cucumbers (each)	\$0.25	\$1.00	\$0.62	\$0.25	\$2.25	\$0.86
Garlic (per lb)	\$8.00	\$10.00	\$8.90	\$3.00	\$12.00	\$9.29
Green Beans (per lb)	\$1.98	\$4.00	\$2.89	\$2.00	\$6.00	\$3.75
Kale (per bunch)	\$1.50	\$3.00	\$2.31	\$2.00	\$3.00	\$2.81
Lettuce (per head)	\$2.00	\$2.50	\$2.13	\$1.25	\$2.75	\$1.83
Peppers (each)	\$0.50	\$1.50	\$1.00	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.50
Potatoes (per lb)	\$1.50	\$3.50	\$2.34	\$2.00	\$5.00	\$2.88
Radishes (per bunch)	\$1.50	\$2.50	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$3.00	\$2.42
Raspberries (per pint)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$3.50	\$5.00	\$4.17
Spinach (per bag)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$3.00	\$4.00	\$3.33
Strawberries (per quart)	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$8.00
Summer Squash (per lb)	\$1.25	\$2.50	\$1.95	\$1.50	\$3.00	\$2.38
Tomatoes (per lb)	\$2.50	\$5.00	\$3.58	\$2.50	\$5.00	\$3.49
Zucchini (per lb)	\$1.98	\$2.50	\$2.12	\$1.50	\$3.00	\$2.21
Corn (Dozen)	\$4.00	\$10.00	\$6.19	\$5.00	\$8.00	\$6.50
Cabbage (per head)	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Basil (bunch)	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$1.75	\$3.00	\$2.25
Parsley (bunch)	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.75	\$2.00	\$1.88
Eggplant (per lb)	\$2.25	\$2.25	\$2.25	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Onions (per lb)	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$2.00	\$2.50	\$2.25

	Meats/Proteins		
	Low	High	Average
Lamb Chops	\$16.50	\$16.50	\$16.50
Rack of Lamb	\$16.50	\$20.00	\$18.25
Leg of Lamb	\$13.00	\$17.90	\$15.45
Ground Lamb	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$10.50
Ground Beef	\$5.90	\$17.00	\$8.56
Ribeye	\$12.00	\$23.50	\$17.31
Sirloin	\$9.00	\$17.25	\$13.79
Round Roast	\$6.00	\$12.00	\$9.25
Chuck Roast	\$6.00	\$11.00	\$8.56
Eggs (dozen)	\$4.00	\$5.75	\$4.89
Whole Chickens	\$4.00	\$5.00	\$4.65
Ground Pork	\$7.00	\$8.75	\$7.88
Pork Chops	\$5.50	\$17.99	\$11.65
Pork Loin	\$10.99	\$18.99	\$13.75
Pork Tenderloin	\$11.85	\$20.00	\$16.14
Shoulder Roast	\$7.99	\$11.00	\$9.76
Ham	\$7.00	\$12.00	\$8.99
Baby Back Ribs	\$5.60	\$10.99	\$8.24

Source: VT Agency of Ag - USDA, New Holland-Lancaster County, PA.
Hailee May, Market Reporter / P. 802-828-5445
E. Hailee.May@state.vt.us
http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/mp_lo101.txt

Market Comments

SEASONALITY:

About the same amount of crops that there were last week. Apples are starting to come in more, strawberries less.

WEATHER CONDITIONS:

Most markets reported very hot, humid weather.

ATTENDANCE:

Due to the weather, the majority of the markets reported that attendance was average. Also, due to the holiday weekend, all but one market reported more traffic, with one market reporting less due to the holiday weekend.

VENDOR COMMENTS:

Vendors noted that they had more produce this week than previous. Also that sales were generally great for them overall this year.

VERMONT VEGETABLE AND BERRY NEWS



Compiled by Vern Grubinger,
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vernon.grubinger@uvm.edu
www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry

Reports From The Field

(Westminster West) Great harvest weather for sure! All winter squash finally loaded into bins and moved into barn for curing and safekeeping. Good yields and very little loss from disease or random field animals. Pumpkins had some loss however with quite a few showing stress from disease, a first here. Pie pumpkins seem fine and a good crop was harvested. All other crops looking great and sales are holding steady with prices about the same as last year. Huge amount of onions dried and ready to run thru the topper this week, with some sun scald on the red varieties. Very little disease on the yellow storage types with large, solid heads. Heavy pressure from cabbage moths, most I have ever seen on a field of late Napa cabbage; finally getting it under control with a tighter spray schedule with Dipel. Haven't kept up with clearing the fields of plastic mulch and drip lines so unable to get cover crops on in a timely way, hope with major crops in we can put some labor into cleanup before it's too late.

(Starksboro) Sweet potatoes, winter squash and onions are all out of the field. We went to the Cornell meeting about Leek Moth because we had it in our garlic, onions and leeks this season. The meeting was excellent and we feel prepared to do battle with this pest next year. There was also great information on garlic harvest/storage that helped explain some weird drying we had (extra crinkly garlic skins). Fall crops are looking good, mostly thanks to

the irrigation system that has been sitting around waiting to be used for 3 years. It was 39 degrees here last night, so we are making plans for the inevitable first frost warning.

(Londonderry) Leaf mold struck hard in our tomato house this August. Heavy pruning, fixing drip line leaks and Oxidate held it off. Another round of pruning and regular application of Oxidate has allowed 90% of the plants to thrive and continue to fruit! Tiny bit of frost this am. Just about the longest season between frosts for us in 18 years! Waiting for cold temps to sweeten the Liberty apple crop. Good set of late raspberries. Nice and dry for winter cover cropping ground work, we'll take it. September harvest and sales very strong. More weddings and events then usual have increased the often slow wholesale-to-inns after school has started. All in all an awesome season with the 2015 bills paid. Good leg up on 2016.

(Burlington) Harvest is swinging into fall storage, shuffling bins, and wondering whether we'll have enough cooler and warm storage space. Nice to have a dry September and warm evenings; very little concern about chilling injury this year, as fully mature squash will be out of the field before they've seen much for cold nights. After a terrible downy mildew outbreak in our long term storage onions, things are looking OK post-curing. Despite having thick necks when the tops went down, we left them in the ground for quite a while (contrary to many recommendations.) After a few weeks the necks thinned out, and most have cured well. Size is a bit small, but given that I'd written them off entirely, we'll be able to grade out for many nice 2 to 3.5" onions with tight necks. Maybe we'll see more soft rot out of storage due to longer exposure to pathogens in the field, but so far leaving them in the field longer looks like a good choice.

(Brattleboro) Last night we had a few patches of frost in the lowest points in our pasture - luckily none of our veggie fields felt it, but a good reminder it was of all the work to do before it really hits! Gotta fix those

greenhouse doors and windows. Pulled most of the tomatoes last week in the high tunnel to prep beds for winter greens — this year the hornworms have been the worst I've seen. The deer have severely damaged one of our fields, moving most recently into our fall beets and carrots and green beans. I guess deer fencing is our next project on the ever-growing list. More than half our fields are cover cropped, and it is feeling good to getting closer to hitting "reset" on what has been a tough year for us. We're focusing on getting the roof on our new farm stand/ wash station / walk-in cooler, and look forward to not hauling all our root crops down into the basement root cellar this year, and turning off the many fridges we've got running at all times. All the squashes and pumpkins are out of the fields and looking good.

(Williston) Looks like a good stretch of warm frost free weather ahead of us. Last year my first frost was Sept 19th! Field basil (thai, lemon, pistou, purple) is finally showing signs of downy mildew. I will be pulling most annual herbs and seeding down with pea, oat, vetch for the winter. Weeds were incredible this year and hard to keep up with. I may be dealing with them next year but hope that the buckwheat I plant will smother them out. Rosemary is still going strong with incredible growth in late summer. No powdery mildew on rosemary or tarragon this year. With the shorter days mint is flowering even on the shortest stems. It had a slow start in the spring with cool/wet conditions but flourished with warm weather and sunshine. Harvesting the last of the cherry tomatoes today in hoop house and will be transplanting kale and spinach soon. I am also going to try spinach direct seeded this year. I did not have great luck with my pinpoint seeder last year due to rocky soil. Peppers in the hoop house went wild this year and sounds like everyone else had a good year too. Sales are slow due to the abundance but I will keep them in as long as I can till the direct spinach goes in. I attended the Allium class last week in Burlington which was fantastic. Learned lots about the leek moth,

garlic harvesting tips and more.

(Proctorsville) First light frost last night. All in all an excellent harvest this season, despite the lack of rain mostly. Brussels sprouts crop was disappointing. Barely any sprouts formed, even after pulling leaves off. Disease is our suspicion, small black dots started to appear all over the plants mid-August. Tomato crop was prolific. Downy mildew hit all squash and cucumber plants. Most fields are ready for winter; only our high tunnel, cold frame, and root vegetables are left for the season, and that is ok with us!

(Elmore) So many pears and so little time to gather them! Our customers and friends still think you can't grow pears or plums or so many kinds of apples up here in northern Vermont but when they stop over and see the 15 gallon buckets that are full of them and the bending over trees loaded up with succulent fruits they seem to have a new outlook on life. We are hoping this is simply a gift from the universe, and not a precursor to a very long and challenging winter. I have emailed or called or visited all our usual buyers for our fall harvest marketing of fresh fruit and spreadable jam but I have not received any calls or emails back; it is very frustrating and sad. It used to be that coop buyers were so happy and excited when local growers had good things. now they don't give us the time of day. This is the first year I can remember that we have so many peppers turning red and the Jerusalem artichokes are already in full milk chocolate scented bright yellow flowers, contrasted against the deep blue clear skies. There is a lot to be grateful for...

(Plainfield) Growing season is ending with a flood of red and yellow sweet peppers. Best are Camen and Gourmet. Quite a bit of rot due to corn borers and sunscald. Lots of color in the hot peppers, especially Hot Paper Lantern and Devil Serrano. Late May planted hybrid carrots all sized up. Digging them now as they are starting to split. Rutabagas and daikon still sizing up. Kale going strong. Some

continued on page 14

MARKET REPORT

Wholesale Prices

September 2015

Wholesale prices paid per dozen for Vermont Grade A brown eggs delivered to retail stores.

Vermont Egg Prices:

Jumbo	\$3.30
X-Large	\$2.89
Large	\$2.80
Medium	\$1.94

Market is steady
and supply is good.

You can find more reports
online at

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm>

This is the web source for
USDA Market News



Vermont Agency of Agriculture - USDA Market News

Addison County Commission Sales — East Middlebury, VT

Livestock Auction Report for September 10, 2015

	Cattle	Calves
This Week:	129	189
Last Week:	124	184

Compared to last sale, slaughter cows sold \$5.00 - \$10.00 lower with good demand. Slaughter cattle supply included 123 cows and 6 bulls. All prices quoted per cwt.

SLAUGHTER COWS:

	% Lean	Avg. Dressing	High Dressing	Low Dressing	Very Low
Premium White	65-75	97.00	—	—	—
Breakers	75-80	92.00-95.50	—	85.00 - 90.00	—
Boners	80-85	82.00- 86.50	91.00	76.00 - 82.00	—
Lean	85-90	80.00-83.00	—	75.00 - 80.00	65.00- 74.00

SLAUGHTER BULLS: 765-1970 lbs 85 - 115.00

CALVES: When compared to last sale Holstein bull calves sold \$50.00-\$100.00 lower with good demand. All prices per cwt.

HOLSTEIN BULL CALVES:

Number 1: 100-120lbs 375.00; 90-100lbs 360.00; 80-90lbs 350.00- 370.00; 70-80lbs 350 - 365.00.

Number 2: 100-120lbs 325.00-360.00; 90-100lbs 325.00-355.00; 80-90lbs 280.00-355.00; 70-80lbs 245.00-280.00.

Number 3: 100-120lbs 220.00-300.00; 90-100lbs 200.00-350.00; 80-90lbs 235.00-355.00; 70-80lbs 200.00-290.00.

Utility: 100-120lbs Not tested; 90-100lbs 200.00-300.00; 80-90lbs 71.00-150.00; 70-80lbs 60.00-150.00.

HOLSTEIN HEIFER CALVES: 84-100 lbs \$125.00 - \$335.00.

Price and grade information is reported by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture-USDA Market News Service. While market reports reflect the majority of livestock sold at each sale, there are instances where animals do not fit reporting categories and are not included in this report.

SOURCE:

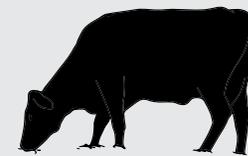
VT Agency of Ag-USDA
New Holland-Lancaster County, PA

Darryl Kuehne
Market Reporter
Cell: 802-793-5348

Levi Geyer, OIC
Cell 717-406-7350 / Office 717-354-2391

http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/MP_LS141.txt

For all USDA Livestock and Grain market reports:
<http://www.ams.usda.gov/LSMNPubs/index.htm>



CLASSIFIEDS

Advertising in Agriview

Classified Ads: **Free to subscribers only.** Limited to two ads per issue, ads will run for two issues. **Must include subscriber number with ad request** (number appears at the top of the mailing label)

Deadline For Ads: 10 days prior to the publication date.

Display Ads: Information available upon request

Classified advertisements must be sent:

- By mail: (see address on page 2)
- By e-mail: (to Ag-agriview@state.vt.us)
- Online at: <http://www.vermontagriculture.com/Agriview/agriviewclassified.html>
- We do not accept ads over the phone.

Only items of an agricultural nature will be listed. The only real estate which will be listed are tracts of Vermont land two to five acres or more which are being used or can be used for agricultural purposes. All Feed, Hay and Forage ads must have county, town, and phone number, **and must be renewed each month.**

The Secretary reserves the right to make a final decision on the eligibility of items listed. The editor reserves the right to censor and edit ads. The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets assumes no responsibility for transactions resulting through advertising in *Agriview*. Advertisers are cautioned that it is **against the law** to misrepresent any product or service offered in a public notice or an advertisement carried in any publication delivered by the U.S. Mail.

Ads must be limited to 40 words or less.

Agriview Subscribers can Now Submit Classifieds Online

Agriview subscribers now have the ability to submit their classified ads online.

Subscribers can log on to http://agriculture.vermont.gov/news_media/agriview and submit their ad using the online form.

Classified ads are free to all subscribers — limit two ads per issue. Ads must be 40 words or less. You must include your subscriber number when submitting your ad.

Please take advantage of this service, which will help streamline the classifieds process. For those who are unable to access the Internet, we will still accept classifieds by mail.

If you have questions about classified ads, please contact Faith Raymond at 802-828-1619 or Faith.Raymond@state.vt.us.

Cattle

Red Lowline full-blood bull calf born 6/11/15. Take when weaned \$4000. Have 2 1/2 yr old Lowline 1st calf heifer available to go with the bull calf \$6,000 for the pair or B/O Tel 603-848-2477. (9/15)

Hereford & Hereford Cross Cows, some with calves at side. Please call Jon at 802-868-7097 (evening) or 802-868-3327 (day). (9/15)

Jersey heifer born 5/13/15. Certified organic polled can

be registered \$275 802-426-3331 carpfarm@fairpoint.net (9/15)

Two Jersey Cross 1st calf heifers due late 2015. To AI Jersey Sire, Vet confirmed pregnant. Quiet and easy to handle. Asking \$1250 each or consider trade for 1-1 1/2 HP vacuum pump, milk pail and pulsator. 413-687-7180 (10/15)

Registered American Milking Devon herd for sale. 8 cows, 3 heifers – bred and open; 4 young heifers; 2 proven

bulls, 10 steers. Sell herd or individuals. 802-484-5229 windgatefarm1229@gmail.com (10/15)

One white face cow with heifer calf and one shorthorn cow with heifer calf. \$1200 per pair Wardsboro, VT 802 896 6272 can deliver local (10/15)

2 black angus bulls for sale. 1 born in early January (6 to 700) pounds, 2nd born in april of 2014 11 to 1200 pounds, call for more info (802) 558-8196. (10/15)

CLASSIFIEDS

Cows w/calves for sale. Two Holsteins, one Jersey and one Ashire. Calves all fathered by Dutch Belt bull. Have been handled and milked. Great family cows or 4-H project. Contact Don by tel by 9 PM, may leave message. (802) 463-4909 (10/15)

13 Holstein Heifers. Due August 1 – October 31, 2015. Don Pettis – (802) 265-4566 (10/15)

Registered Jersey cow, \$1000 Tested negative to TB and brucellosis. Currently dry; calf born 4/2013. Running with Jersey bull this summer; hasn't cycled back. Good price to keep or put her in your freezer. Call 802-477-2941. (11/15)

Two Alpine does in milk: \$225 each Also 4 Alpine/angora cross kids; study, intelligent with soft coats that brush out (like Cashmere) and can be milked as well. \$45-70 each. Ryegate. Call 803-477-2941. (11/15)

Registered Jersey Heifer. Born 02/03/15 Sired by Madden. Nice temperament and size. Asking \$800. Also have a 3 month old Registered Jersey calf. Weaned and ready to go. Sired by Allstar. asking \$500. West Newbury, Vermont Call 802-431-5413 (11/15)

Registered Holstein heifer for sale. born 8/23/2014. Sire is Pax Red, Dam is Super X Toystory. Call 802-379-8018 (11/15)

Two year old Highland heifer to a good home. Very Tame. \$800.00 (802) 446-2118 (11/15)

6 Devon and Devon Cross heifers for sale. Ages 10 months to 2 yrs. Well grown and calm beef animals accustomed to rotational grazing. Also, yearling Devon bull, \$7000 for the group (7), will also sell separately, Plainfield 802-454-8614 (11/15)

3 4-H registered Jerseys for sale. Perfect for small farm or homesteading. One 2 yr old in milk and bred back. One 4 month old "heifer" all tame and lead well. 802-222-4769 (11/15)

Registered American Milking Devon herd for sale. 8 cows, 3 heifers – bred and open; 4 young heifers; 2 proven bulls, 10 steers. Sell herd or individually 802-484-5229 email windgatefarm1229@gmail.com (11/15)

6 P.B. Angus heifers, approx. 6 mo's. old - \$5,500.00 / Lot. Individual prices on request. Schroeder Farm, S.Newbury, NH, (603)938-5911. (11/15)

Employment

Butterworks Farm seeks Production Assistant to handle cleaning, storage, processing and bagging of grains and flours. Includes maintenance and regular cleaning of granary facility plus some dairy plant responsibilities. Email orders@butterworksfarm.com or call 802-744-6023 leave name and address for application. (9/15)

Jasper Hill Farm is a leader in the artisan cheese industry, located in Greensboro VT. We're looking for a Herdsperson to manage dairy operations and help us produce high quality milk for cheesemaking. Contact work@jasperhillfarm.com to apply. (11/15)

PIG LLC is a collaboration between Jasper Hill Farm and Pete's Greens, raising pastured pigs fed on cheese whey & vegetables. We're hiring an Animal Manager to oversee our 30 breeding sows, design & build fencing and feeding systems. Contact work@jasperhillfarm.com to apply. (11/15)

Equipment

1990 Featherlite Aluminum trailer 7x18 air over hydraulic breaks used only to take pair of oxen to six or eight fairs per year, good condition \$5500 firm. Ox yokes 8 to 11" \$250 - \$300 each. Large Stone boat steal, excellent condition, can be pulled by either end, \$250. 603-542-7626 (10/15)

Allis Chalmers 185, 75 hp, low hours, new tires and rims, good transmission, \$7500. Allis Chalmers 180 with Allied loader, 65 hp, wheel weights, 3 pt hitch cement

weight, new tires and rims, good transmission, \$7500. Contact 802-848-3885 or fleurymaple@hughes.net. (9/15)

NI 5209- 9' Disk mower/cond..\$5500. NH 408- 8' Disk mower/cond..\$5500. NH 256 Rake w/dolly wheels, exc...\$2150. NH 310 Baler- nice...\$3800. Several Harrows & Plows- 3btm plows/ 8-10' Disk har/ 16'-3ph Spr tooth har-\$850. Each. Woods 6' Finish mower- 3ph-Used only 1 yr..\$1650. Woods 5' Finish mower- 3ph..\$750. 802-376-5262 www.youngsmilkyway-farm.com (9/15)

1979 F-700, 2 1/2 ton Ford Dump Truck. Very good tin, very good tires. Needs Alternator and break line, and it will need a fuel pump. Hear it run. Make good farm truck. \$600.00. 802.222.5123. (9/15)

2 Trelleborg radial tractor tires 9.5 x 24 like new. \$450. 72" JD 540 utility bucket for 5000 tractors worn \$200.00. 1 set JD 3 point hitch link arms for 5000 series tractors, new unused \$150.00. Call Mark 802-879-0391 Westford (9/15)

Gehl CB865 Chopper and 2 heads; 1000 PTO; tandems; electric controls; good shape \$7500 (9/15)

Anderson RB 9000 inline bale wrapper. Really beautiful condition, ready to work. \$17,000. 110 tlb with backhoe. \$20,500. Nice shape. email pete@petesgreens.com for photos of either. (9/15)

Attention veggie farmers. Demaitere NM89-30 soil blocker with seeder and vermiculite applicator, very little use. These are very hard to find in the U.S. \$13,000. Email pete@petesgreens.com for photos. (9/15)

1988 Ford 2110 Tractor, 4x4, Loader, 3 point hitch, good tires, 2575 hours, runs and works well, has been well maintained. \$11750 o.b.o. Double ring chains are included with the tractor. Please call 603 252 0063 (9/15)

JD 346 baler w#30 ejector, 2 steel 9'x8' hay wagons, 40' hay elevator, 100' hay mow elevator w/hangers & diverters. Call 802-438-5720 (9/15)

Kubota tractor m9000 cab 2wd 3800hrs \$15000. H&S manure spreader 175 bushel 2yrs old \$5000. New Holland #790 2 heads very good \$5500. 802-472-5022 (9/15)

28 ft Hay elevator excellent condition. 82 ft Hay elevator New Holland. 9 to 10 ton grain bin excellent shape. 11 to 12 ton grain bin good shape. International corn planter 56 excellent shape. 7.5 Horse power universal pump good shape. 802-895-4683 (9/15)

New Holland 892 Chopper both hay and two row corn heads. International NO 56 silo blower short hopper with auger feed. For price 802-372-4513 (9/15)

Deerborn 3 pt site delivery rake with extra new teeth \$600 OBO. New Idea pull type side delivery rake needs some new teeth \$600 OBO 802-254-6982 (9/15)

Int 826 4 new tires \$6500. Int 140 cultivation plow harrows loader \$125000. Pettibone super 10 cary lift \$7000. 9 ton equ trl \$1000. JD 2 beater wagon \$1000. 2008 load max trl 12 ton \$7000. 802-948-2627. (9/15)

2 wheel horse harrow excellent shape \$150. Mitsubishi sap or water pump 1" 1742 gals PH \$100. 015 Stile chainsaw 90. 802-674-5044 after 5. (9/15)

1971 John Deere 2520. 65-70 HP. In Excellent Shape. Asking \$8,500. Phone: 802-377 - 5455 (9/15)

Rear utility box for a 3 pt hitch. Welded steel frame, pressure treated wood bed & sides, very rugged & like new, \$395. Call 802-685-3321 evenings. (10/15)

1 revolving rake \$150. 1 kuhn knight 5127 TR verticle maxx mixer \$8500. 3 round metal hay feeders \$75 each. 802-222-4547 (10/15)

Agri-metal 530 feed cart good

working condition. Best offer. 802-948-2767. (10/15)

JD Hay elevator 28' new chain \$650. 802-276-3385 (10/15)

Two fifty Ford Diesel truck with nine foot cooler freezer box, equipped with ThermomKing Cooling Unit. Runs off the truck or by plugging into one ten. Makes good storage unit as well as for delivering. Unit can controls. Whole outfit truck and all is in excellent condition and works very well. 802-472-6308 (10/15)

1952 super C tractor with 2 bottom plow and cultivator and a 1945 super A with mower and one bottom plow. Best offer. 802-287-9063 (10/15)

Two JD 2 cylinder tractors. JD 520- tricycle front end in running condition, asking \$2400 OBO. JD 720 wide front end in running condition, asking \$4400 OBO. 802-249-1206 (10/15)

Pioneer Forecart in good condition. Two farm seats, drum brakes, good tires. Braintree, VT \$750 OBRO. Call 802-578-7956. (10/15)

14T John Deere baler, w/extra parts baler, new knotter, power take off driven, good shape. \$2500 or OBO. NH cutter crimper, 7 ft., rolls decent shape. 2 extra cutter bars. \$1400 or OBO. 802-875-3659, evenings best. (10/15)

7.5 HP Universal variable Speed Vacuum Pump model 306364 (Suterbilt Pump) new 11/2005

Used for 7.5 years Asking \$4500 Call Roger Wood 802-695-8818 in Concord, Vermont (10/15)

ORIGINAL PLANET JR. WHEEL HOE, in excellent condition, made in USA, used during the WWII "Victory Garden" era, with all of its parts: pair of sweeps, pair of plows, 12" oscillating attachment. Today's reproduction costs \$324. Asking \$195 for Planet Jr. Call 802-948-2211. (10/15)

NH H7220 discbine mower, new in 2012, low usage,

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excellent condition, \$15,000. NH 782 forage chopper with hay head and electric controls, \$2000. Dion forage wagon, new auger, \$2000. NH 28 blower, \$350. Sold the cows. (802)848-3885 or email fleurymaple@hughes.net (11/15)

Antique revolving rake \$150. 1 Kwhun knight 5127 TR Vertical Maxx mixer \$8500. 3 round metal hay feeders \$75 each. (11/15)

2014 New Holland 488 Haybine 9 ft 3 in cut sickle cut regular guards light kit 540 PTO unit is brand new \$16995. 802-453-3417 Leave Message (11/15)

GMC Sierra 3500 - 2013 dump truck with only 24k miles, also with 10' Fisher V plow, used only one season. Asking \$36000 OBO. Call 201 886 2828 (11/15)

Stewart cow clippers \$75. #56 New Holland rake \$600. 802-877-3297. (11/15)

Stainless steel bulk tank for sale 2700 gallons \$2100. (802) 558-8196 (11/15)

For sale/trade-Fort round baler, makes 4x5 wet or dry bale, twine tie-want trade / buy same type baler that makes a 4x4 bale. Call 802-7480-0558 (11/15)

Massey Ferguson 283 loader only; tractor is sold (came off 236; fits other Masseys), loader is for sale. Hydraulic pump, good hoses, tractor mounts \$2700 obo 518-645-2697 or info@northcountrycreamery.com (11/15)

Farm & Farmland

MR Harvest Farm for Sale-16 acres. Organic Market Farm. Ready to go with equipment. Large Pole Barn, 2 large coolers, prep-room, 5 hoop houses and more. Impressive revenue. Grand Isle. Call Tom at 802-372-8922 or email tom@mrharvest.com (9/15)

Farm for Sale or Lease in Randolph, VT - 93 acres - includes 50 acres productive hay and pasture land. Duplex farmhouse, dairy barn, sheds. Land protected by conservation easement and option to

purchase at ag value. Vermont Land Trust seeks buyers who will farm commercially. Call (802) 533-7705 or www.vlt.org/greenacres (10/15)

Farm for Sale in Brownington, VT - 134 acres - includes 45 acres tillage and 15 acres pasture. House and barns. Certified organic. Land protected by conservation easement and option to purchase at ag value. Vermont Land Trust seeks buyers who will farm commercially. \$220,000. Call (802) 533-7705 or http://www.vlt.org/initiatives/perry-farm-for-sale (11/15)

Farm for Sale or Lease in Wheelock, VT - 256 acres - includes 130 acres cropland. Two houses and barns. Certified organic. Land protected by conservation easement and option to purchase at ag value. Vermont Land Trust seeks buyers who will farm commercially. \$520,000. Call (802) 533-7705 or http://www.vlt.org/chandler (11/15)

General

Timbers for a 24' x 28' building located in Peru, Vt. Asking 3750.00 or best offer, cutting available. Also have a snow roller we used for sleigh ride trails. 400.00. 802 297 1468 or 802 855 1939 (9/15)

GARLAND ELECTRIC STOVE -6 burner, 2 ovens. Great for sugar house or camp. \$100; aluminum 14 gallon gas fuel tank ; 27"x18"x72 " \$50; goulds 20 gallon pressure tank - 32" x19 " with jet pump on top \$100; Call 802-948-2211 (10/15)

Goats

AlpineGlo Farm has several 2015 dairy goat bucklings for sale as well as two 2014 bucks which are ready for this fall's breeding season. All will be ADGA registerable, vaccinated, disbudded, and come from CAE, TB, and Brucellosis free herd. Superior dairy genetics. Visit www.vthorsheshoer.com/sales for details, or call 802-463-2018. Prices start at \$150. (11/15)

Nubian X Alpine goats for sale



from small organic herd with top milking lines. Healthy, handsome, black with white markings and horns: sweet-heart yearling buck; yearling doe; 3-year old mother/April daughter combo; gorgeous April buckling. 802-723-4014 (11/15)

Hay, Feed & Forage

Square Baled Hay. 2015 crop. Excellent quality, mixed grass with some clover. \$3/bale in the field. \$4/bale in the barn. South Woodstock, 802-457-3779. (9/15)

Hay for sale round bales 802.446.2435 (11/15)

ADDISON COUNTY

Excellent hay, small square bales \$3.85 per bale. Delivery possible. New Haven 802-377 - 5455 (9/15)

2015 crop. 1st and 2nd cut wrapped round bales. 1st and 2nd cut dry round bales. 2nd cut small square bales. Delivery available anywhere. 802-342-1131 (10/15)

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Good quality first and second cut hay and organic first and second cut. Straw and 9 day Large and small squares bales whole or probed by bales at farm we load or direct delivery by trailer load. 802-849-6266

Horse Equipment

1 set leather draft horse harness bio-plastic tigs with bridles and reins, \$350. 1 set bio-plastic draft horse harness with the bridles and reins, \$500. 802-334-6463 or 802-323-4251 (11/15)

Sheep

2 yr. old proven registered shetland ram (fawn color). 2 yr. old twin borderleicester/shetland wethers Fritz and Franklin. Noah 1 yr. old borderleicester/cormo/shetland wether. Norman 1 yr. old black/white spotted border-

leicester/shetland wether. 3 month old white shetland ram lamb, 3 month old twin gulmoget ram lambs, 3 month old chocolate merino/shetland ram lamb. Call or e-mail for more information or pictures. Maybelle Farm LLC, 14 Melbourne Rd. Wardsboro, Vt. 802 896-6218 or 896-6013 maybellefarm@gmail.com (10/15)

Jacob Sheep - From the original imported Jacob's Ladder flock. Several ewes, rams, and lambs. \$250-\$400. Call 802-897-7861 or email: hescoc@sover.net or visit: www.jacob-sladdersheep.com (10/15)

Merino sheep - flock of 27 includes 4 rams all with excellent wool \$4,725.00 for all - will not separate Call 802-537-3167 (11/15)

Seven and Eight month old registered BORDER LEICESTER'S for sale. Rams and ewes with excellent genetics, breed characteristics, and wool. Handled frequently, halter trained and grain trained \$250 each. 802-233-2640 or katherineknox11@gmail.com (11/15)

Seven and Eight month old registered ROMNEY'S for sale. Rams and ewes with excellent genetics, breed characteristics, and wool. Handled frequently, halter trained and grain trained \$250 each. 802-233-2640 or katherineknox11@gmail.com (11/15)

For Sale - Yearling Ram, Old English Southdown X. Natural Colored. Very Friendly. \$125.00 Call 802-483-2479 or email holden-hillvt@hotmail.com (11/15)

Sugaring Equipment

Leader 4x12" arch stake griman woodsaver blower, also Leader preheater to fit 4x7 flue pans. Best offer. Used 2015 season pans. 802-948-2767 (10/15)

40" x 5' Leader Stainless front pans \$400 802-276-3385 (10/15)

Purebred Corriedale sheep flock. All young stock from championship bloodlines. Excellent fleeces, with very

large, fast-growing lambs. (200 pounds at twelve months). 10 ewes; 10 lambs; 1 ram. Very healthy, well-conditioned animals. Must sell for health. \$4,900 OBO (802) 673-4852 (10/15)

Maple Syrup Press, 10", cast iron. Very good condition. \$1,500. (Hartland) Call: 802-436-3127. (11/15)

30 Barrel galvanized steel sap tank with a wooden exterior frame. \$800. [Hartland] Call: 802-436-3127. (11/15)

Wanted

Wanted Used 16 foot silo unloader in good working condition Wanted 300 feet of Jamesway gutter cleaner chain in good condition Phone 802-746-8979 Robert Ketchum (9/15)

Small to medium PTO or belt driven corn sheller. 802-316-7815 (9/15)

Mccormick 100 manure spreader in decent shape does not have to be working.) phone # is 802-765-4823 (9/15)

5' horse-drawn single-action disc harrow with 15-16" discs, can be with tongue or with draw bar to tow behind forecart. Call 802-436-1448 or email fjordworks@yahoo.com (10/15)

Looking for a buzz saw or cord wood saw to mount on a Farmall Super A. 802-765-4823 or Chevydp@aol.com (11/15)

Looking for a descent McCormick-Deering 100 manure spreader, does not have to be working. 802-765-4823 Chevydp@aol.com (11/15)

Wanted: Black angus or black baldy cattle. Weaned calves or yearlings call Laplatte River Angus Farm 802-985-3295 (11/15)

Sickle bar for McCormick deer-ing mowers, either 6ft or 7 ft. 802-877-3297 (11/15)

Squeeze chute for cattle, needing repair ok. Wanted-2x4 or 2x6 wood fired evaporator w/s.s. pans. (802) 748-0558 (11/15)

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Vermont Vegetable and Berry News*continued from page 10*

splitting heads in cabbage, summer varieties held too long. Some cabbage failing to size, indicating some fertility dead spots in our most sandy soils. Great fall raspberry crop, making up for total failure last season. Still way too dry to plant cover crops.

Update From The UVM Plant Diagnostic Clinic*by Ann Hazelrigg*

For some good info on harvesting and curing potatoes, use of low tunnels for overwintering vegetables and other pest info go to https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/newsletters/sep-tember_17_2015_vegetable_notes.pdf

In general now is the time for harvest, curing and storage. As nights are getting colder, pumpkins can be damaged by temps below 50°F so if they are ready and orange get them out of the field and protected. Be sure to know the requirements for curing and storage for each of your crops to ensure they last as long as you need them to. Cull at harvest anything that does not look intact/healthy. Ticks should be making an appearance again soon so check yourself after a day in the field.

Brassicas: seeing a lot of Alternaria leaf spot (round black spots) and black rot (V-shaped lesions in from the leaf edges) in crops.

Beets/spinach/Swiss chard: Lots of circular leaf spots caused by *Cercospora* spp. plus leafminer damage.

Cucurbits: Received a sample of *Phytophthora* fruit rot on spaghetti squash. This soil borne disease is usually triggered when soils remain saturated for 24 hrs. The grower felt the

infection occurred earlier in the season when it was wet and then got moved to other squash fields by walking through infected fields before it was noticed. The pathogen can also move on wind-dispersed spores that are present on infected fruit. Symptoms look like a water-soaked spot on the fruit followed by yeasty looking spores. It often shows up in low parts of the field or wetter areas. If you notice it in a low area, you can till under infected fruit/plants asap to limit air borne spread. Don't move the infested/contaminated equipment to a healthy fields of squash, tomatoes, eggplant, peppers or beans. No one good control, just soil drainage management, some cultivar selections and limit of spread. <https://ag.umass.edu/fact-sheets/cucurbits-phytophthora-blight>

Tomato: All the hot dry weather has certainly slowed down late blight. I suspect it will pick back up with the cool nights, fogs and dews. There is also a lot of scorch out there on leaf edges of tomatoes due to the dry conditions. Leaf mold (yellow spots on leaf surface, velvety brown underneath) still a problem in high tunnels. Alternaria and septoria common. Seeing some two-spotted spider mites in high tunnels due to hot dry conditions.

Potato: Scabby potatoes are appearing on some cultivars at harvest. Potato scab lesions are variable: russet (superficial corky tissue), erumpent (a raised corky area), and pitted (a shallow-to-deep hole) scab are all caused by the same pathogen. Soils that are compacted, have poor soil structure, and are low in organic matter, tend to have higher incidence of scab. The pathogen is in all soils. Avoid harvesting potatoes during wet weather since it can lead to enlarged lenticels allowing

other pathogens to move in. http://vegetablemndonline.ppath.cornell.edu/factsheets/Potato_Scab.htm

Eggplant: If you see a wilting or severely scorched plant in the field (also tomato, pepper) it may be due to *Verticillium* wilt. Cut deep into the stem tissue at a slanted angle and you will see the diagnostic browning in the vascular system. This is the soil borne fungus plugging up the water-conducting vessels. Grafting onto Vert. resistant tomato rootstocks is a good solution, however, the disease does not usually present that widespread of a problem. <https://ag.umass.edu/fact-sheets/solanaceous-verticillium-wilt>

Garlic/onions: Check drying bulbs for any evidence of onion leek moth larvae. We found some very tiny ones in garlic cloves sent to the clinic last week. To minimize any fungal rots keep up good air circulation with fans to facilitate drying. <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/facts/08-009.htm>. Saw some surface staining on garlic caused by superficial fungi. Cloves underneath were sound.

Small Fruit: Lots of SWD larvae (never say maggots) in untreated blueberries and raspberries. Received a call from a home gardener growing day-neutral strawberries with a lot of larvae.

Soils Workshops At Vermont Technical College

Oct. 8–Practical Soil Science | **Part 1: Soil Nutrient Management** 10:00-3:30
Oct. 28–Practical Soil Science | **Part 2: Supporting Biologically Active Soils** 10:00-3:30

<http://www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry/?Page=meetlist.html>

National Fire Prevention Week: The Rest of the Story*By George Cook, UVM Extension Farm Safety Specialist*

Most people know of the Great Chicago Fire of October 8th - 10th, 1871. From that conflagration, came the establishment of National Fire Prevention Week later on in 1925 by President Coolidge. The fire killed up to 300 people, destroyed roughly 3.3 square miles of Chicago, and left more than 100,000 residents homeless.

Though the fire was one of the largest U.S. disasters of the 19th century, and destroyed much of the city's central business district, Chicago was rebuilt and continued to grow as one of the most populous and economically important American cities.

What most people do not know is the same night the fire broke out, an even deadlier fire wiped out Peshtigo, Wisconsin, and other villages and towns north of Green Bay. It was a firestorm that caused the most deaths by fire in United States history, with estimated deaths of around 1,500 people, possibly as many as 2,500.

In those days, small fires were set to clear forest land for farming and railroad construction. On the day of the Peshtigo Fire, a cold front moved in from the west, bringing strong winds that fanned the small fires out of control. This created a firestorm, a wall of flame, "a mile high, five miles wide, traveling 90 to 100 miles per hour, hot enough to turn sand into glass", according to historical accounts. By the time it was over, 1,875 square miles (1.2 million acres) of forest had been destroyed, an area approximately twice the size of Rhode Island. Twelve communities were gone. An accurate death toll has never been determined because local records were destroyed in the fire. Estimates put it at between 1,200 and 2,500 people thought to have lost their lives.

The Peshtigo fire has been largely forgotten. I do not recall studying this in U.S. History, though we all learned of the Great Chicago Fire and Mrs. O'Leary's cow.

Interestingly, on the same day as the Peshtigo and Chicago fires, the cities of Holland and Manistee Michigan, across Lake Michigan, also burned, as did Port Huron on the southern end Lake Huron.

Take care with fires, be safe around them, and teach youngsters to respect fire at all times. It only takes a moment for fire to grow out of control and consume your homes, farms, communities, or your forests.

The National Fire Prevention Association, NFPA, has been the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week since 1922. Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health and safety observance on record. The President has signed a proclamation proclaiming a national observance during that week every year since 1925.

In the words of the late, great newsman Paul Harvey, "Now you know the rest of the story...Good Day!"

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Agriculture Secretary Issues Public Hearing Notice for the Missisquoi Bay Basin

Blueprint to Implement Best Management Practices on Farms in Vermont Proposed

By Alison Kosakowski, VAAFM

Today, Vermont's Secretary of Agriculture, Chuck Ross, issued a Notice of Public Hearing to provide the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed Revised Secretary's Decision for the Missisquoi Basin.

The proposed decision, which is subject to public input, is an effort between the State and the Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) to provide a framework to settle the impending court litigation related to the Missisquoi Basin.

The public hearing will be held on Friday, October 9, 2015, in St. Albans City,

from 1 PM until 3 PM, at the American Legion, 100 Parah Drive. It is an opportunity for farmers and other affected citizens to be heard and to give consideration to all interests before a final order is issued.

The full Notice, the proposed Revised Secretary's Decision, and the draft Stipulation of the Parties for Remand, which contain background and additional explanatory information, can be accessed here: <http://agriculture.vermont.gov/water-quality/news-events/clf-petition>

"I am pleased that we have made this step forward, and look forward to receiving feedback from Vermonters about this pro-

posed decision," said Ross. "I am hopeful we can put this litigation behind us, and instead continue focusing our resources on the themes central to the state's efforts to clean up the Lake: Stewardship, Partnership, and Accountability."

"We are more than a year removed from when the CLF originally filed its petition and we have a new, comprehensive state law to address water quality," he continued. "I am eager to receive public input on the farm assessment and BMP implementation timelines we negotiated in good faith with CLF that appear in the proposed Revised Secretary's Decision for the Missisquoi Basin. I believe they align

well with the implementation plans required by the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and Act 64, the Vermont Clean Water Act," said Ross.

"If, after public input, I decide the Revised Secretary's Decision is appropriate, we would formally ask the Court to approve the settlement and remand the case," he added.

Although the hearing is related to the CLF's pending appeal for the Missisquoi Bay Watershed, it is also an opportunity for farmers to evaluate a proposed blueprint for requiring BMPs on farms in other watersheds, including South Lake, St. Albans, and Otter Creek, which also address Federal

EPA and TMDL requirements. The draft settlement has other terms that would become commitments of both the Agency and the CLF if the Secretary decides to implement the Revised Secretary's Decision and the remand is approved by the Court.

"We believe the operative terms complement the Agency's on-going, re-focused work in the most troubled areas of the Lake and strike a balance to appropriately hold farmers and the Agency accountable to do our part to improve water quality," said Ross. "Stay tuned. We expect to release preliminary data from our on-going North Lake survey within the next two weeks."

As required by Act 64, the Agency is also updating the Required Agricultural Practices Regulations, developing a small farm certification program, water quality training classes for farm operators, a certification process for custom applicators of manure, and preparing a report with the USDA for the Legislature on sub-surface tile drainage. "We are committed to agricultural water quality and are working hard to implement the intent of the TMDL and Act 64, in the interest of the public," said Ross.

For more information about the Agency's water quality initiatives, please visit <http://agriculture.vermont.gov/water-quality>

For Immediate Release

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets have received an application for a Milk Handlers license from the following entity: Ashley Farr DBA Farr Farms, Richmond, VT 05477 to buy, sell, process and transport milk and milk products in the State of Vermont. If anyone has germane information as to why or why not this company should or should not be licensed those comments are to be sent to:

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture Food and Markets
Dairy Section Office
116 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620-2901

All written comments must be received by October 15, 2015.

At that time the Agency will make a determination as to whether a hearing will be held. If we determine that a hearing is necessary and you wish to attend please write to the above address attention Dairy Section.

For Immediate Release

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets have received an application for a Milk Handlers license from the following entity: Wallingford Locker in Wallingford, Vermont to sell, process and package cheese in the State of Vermont. If anyone has germane information as to why or why not this company should or should not be licensed those comments are to be sent to:

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture Food and Markets
Dairy Section Office
116 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620-2901

All written comments must be received by October 15, 2015.

At that time the Agency will make a determination as to whether a hearing will be held. If we determine that a hearing is necessary and you wish to attend please write to the above address attention Dairy Section.

Breakfast on the Farm

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Vermont Breakfast on the Farm is coordinated by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture and its aim is to provide a first-hand look at modern food production and the farm families who work hard to produce a safe, wholesome food supply for Vermont communities and the world through educational stations that highlight how farmers care for the environment, their animals and their community.

“Opportunities such as this help raise awareness for farm practices and build agricultural literacy – an understanding of where our food comes from, and how it is produced,” according to Chuck Ross, Vermont’s Ag Secretary. “This is one way we can help ensure future generations of Vermonters maintain a connection to the land and an appreciation for the importance of



VDPC

Potential future farmers get an up-close view of agriculture.



agriculture in our state.”

Educational stations were scattered throughout the farm where visitors could see cows being milked by robots, a smaller robot pushing feed to the cows, the free stall barns where the cows enjoy clean and comfortable places to sleep, farm equipment and irrigated crops. Some visitors even got to watch a baby calf being born.

Over 150 volunteers from the community and the Vander Wey family were stationed around the farm to answer visitors’ questions about modern-day farming practices.

“We helped the public understand where their food comes from and a little bit about our story. The backbone of this farm is our family and has been for

almost 40 years,” Raymond Vander Wey said.

The lead organizing partner for Vermont Breakfast on the Farm is the Vermont Agency of Agriculture. Event sponsors include Vermont Feed Dealers, New England Dairy Promotion Board, Poulin Grain, Hall Communications, Farm Credit Northeast Ag

Enhancement, and Coop Insurance.

For more information about the first annual Vermont Breakfast on the Farm, visit www.vermont-breakfastonthefarm.com, email vermontbreakfastonthefarm@gmail.com, or call Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets at (802) 828-2430.



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