



Orange County Government
Office of County Executive Steven M. Neuhaus
NEWS RELEASE

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County Executive Neuhaus recognizes National Dairy Month

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Goshen, N.Y. – Orange County Executive Steven M. Neuhaus is recognizing National Dairy Month and the contributions that dairy farmers make to Orange County’s agriculture and economy.

“Orange County has a rich agricultural history,” Neuhaus said. “Our dairy farms are an important part of Orange County’s landscape and we are committed to ensuring a bright future for dairy farmers. These farms are often family operated and these hard-working men and women play a crucial role in the fabric of our communities.”

Milk is New York’s leading agricultural product and New York is the third leading producer of it in the country. Orange County dairy farms have produced 76 million pounds of milk this year, generating \$11.7 million dollars for the local economy. There are 38 active dairy farms in Orange County with more than 3,000 milking cows and almost the same number of heifers (animals less than two-years-old not producing milk).

Neuhaus and the Orange County Legislature recognized National Dairy Month, which will run through June, and the Dairy Promotional Court at this month’s Legislative session. Through educational outreach programs funded by the American Dairy Association and Dairy Council and with the support of Cornell

Cooperative Extension, the Dairy Promotion Court informs the public about dairy families, farms, the wholesome products that are produced using milk, and their nutritional value.

The 2017-2018 Orange County Dairy Promotional Court include Dairy Ambassadors: Julie Goldsmith, Teddi Matthews, Kieran McCarthy, Gabriella Miyoshi, Olivia Parkin, Erin Ackerly, Hannah Oaks and Joey Wickham and Milk Maids Hannah Wieboldt, Sophia Parkin and Onoria Demarest.

National Dairy Month began as National Milk Month in 1937 to promote drinking milk, but has developed into a celebration of all the contributions the dairy industry makes. From calcium to potassium, dairy products contain nine essential nutrients which may help to better manage your weight and reduce your risk for high blood pressure, osteoporosis and certain cancers.

“Consuming more local dairy products provides nutritional benefits and helps support the industry that keeps much of the open space we enjoy economically productive,” said Lucy Joyce, Executive Director of the Cornell Cooperative Extension. “We’re glad that County Executive Neuhaus is recognizing National Dairy Month and we appreciate his continued support of our local dairy farmers and agricultural industry.”

For more information, contact Justin Rodriguez, Assistant to the County Executive for Communications and Media Relations at 845.291.3255 or jrodriguez@orangecountygov.com.

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