



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Patty Ritchie

CELEBRATE DAIRY: JUNE IS DAIRY MONTH

PATTY RITCHIE June 9, 2014

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Senator Patty Ritchie, chair of the State Senate's Agriculture Committee, is pictured with New York's 51st Dairy Princess, Casey Porter, of Adams Center, during the annual Dairy Parade, held June 6 in downtown Watertown . The 17-year-old, who grew up on a dairy farm and plans to study agriculture this fall at Cornell, was chosen over 24 other contestants at the Coronation event held in Liverpool in February.

Dairy is the centerpiece of New York's \$5.7 billion agriculture industry, and New York currently ranks third in the US in dairy production, with 5427 dairy farms--and young

farmers, like Casey, will help lead the industry's growth into the future, Senator Ritchie said.

Jefferson and St. Lawrence Counties are among the top counties for dairy production in the state, with 205 and 319 dairy farms, respectively.