



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

James L. Seward

Seward Takes to the Showring at the Delaware County Fair

JEFF BISHOP, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR August 17, 2018

| ISSUE: **AGRICULTURE, FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA, COUNTY FAIRS**



WALTON, 08//17/18 -- State Senator James L. Seward (R/C/I/Ref–Oneonta) today visited the Delaware County Fair and took part in the VIP Dairy Showmanship event hosted by Future Farmers of America (FFA) Chapters from Delaware County.

“Agriculture is our state’s number one industry and in order to preserve and advance this time-honored tradition, we need programs like the FFA,” said Senator Seward. **“The students not only learn about traditional farming, but engineering, science, and business as well. It was inspiring to meet with several of our Delaware County FFA students at the Delaware County Fair and learn from them during the VIP Dairy Showmanship event.”**

This was the second consecutive year that Senator Seward took part in the VIP Dairy Showmanship event at the Delaware County Fair, showing with Anna Post of Bovina.

“I have met with Anna on my home turf at the state Capitol as part of Future Farmers of America (FFA) Day, and it is great to reconnect with her in the showring. Anna and her fellow FFA members work hard on the farm year-round and our county fairs are a terrific way for them to showcase their efforts,” Seward added.

Senator Seward is a long-standing member of the Senate Agriculture Committee and has consistently advocated in favor of programs to assist the next generation of farmers. As part of the 2018-19 state budget he successfully fought for an additional \$112,000 above the governor’s proposal (for a total of \$842,000) to expand FFA and help prepare young New Yorkers to become leaders in agriculture.

Additionally, Senator Seward helped secured \$5 million in each of the last three state budgets to fund renovation projects and other upgrades at county fairgrounds.