



# Words of Windham

July 2008

A Newsletter For People Who Care About Agriculture

## ***Towns of Windham County Highlights of an Agricultural Town and a local Farmer in Scotland, Connecticut***

The Town of Scotland was founded by Isaac Magoon who in 1700 purchased 1,950 acres of land from the Town of Windham and named it after his ancestral home. There are many places of historic interest to visit in Scotland, such as the march route of Rochambeau's Army in the Revolutionary War, which took place on Palmer Road, from the intersection with Miller Road to East of the junction with Pudding Hill Road. There is the Samuel Huntington Birthplace which is now a National Historic Landmark. Samuel Huntington was a signer of the Declaration of Independence and a distinguished statesman during the Revolutionary War and early Republic. He also served as a 10 term Governor for the State of Connecticut. The Huntington Homestead is located at 36 Huntington Road (Rt. 14 just west of Rt. 97 intersection), is open to visitors from May through October on the first and third Saturdays of each month from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. In May of 1857 the town was incorporated and today the population is approximately 1,835 people residing on approximately 18.7 square miles. Agriculture is still the principle industry of this small town. (information taken from the Town of Scotland website)

When visiting Scotland you may wish to take a ride past one of our local producers who operates a 1,000 acre dairy farm located at 135 Bass Road! The Bass Family has owned and operated Bass farm since 1710. It began as a 130 acre farm and has grown throughout the years. Today, it is run by Stephen, his son Robin and daughter Jenny who handles the books and payroll. They have a herd of 500 cows most of which are Holsteins and he has a few Holstein Jersey crosses. They use most of their fields to provide grazing, corn and hay for their herd. Each day the fresh milk is transported from their farm to another location to be processed. At one time Stephen's grandparents and parents had a huge apple orchard on the farm and during the Hurricane of 1938 all of the apples were blown off the trees. Today, there are no longer any apple trees, the focus of this farm is on the dairy herd.

Some of the other producers who are located in Scotland are:

Sarah Pappenheimer, Brown Farm, Devotion Road, Rt. 97  
Charlie Hurd, Dairy Farm, Rt. 14  
Dennis Shea, Goat Farm, Hanover Road  
Doug Stearns, Hillyland Dairy Farm, Murphy Hill Road  
Keri Boucher, Iris Creek Farm, Longwool producers, Hanover Road  
Robert Brautigam, Oak Hurst Orchard, Khourie, Road  
Joe Savino, Chief Supervisor, Twin Hill Farm, Rt. 14



## **County Committee Elections “FSA Counts on You”**

This year elections are taking place in Local Administrative Area 3; Brooklyn, Killingly, Plainfield, Putnam and Sterling. The person elected will serve a three year term representing LAA-3 on the Windham County Farm Service Agency Committee. The committee meets monthly to act on FSA applications and program needs.

Candidate nominations will be accepted June 15 through Aug. 1, 2008. Form FSA-669A can be submitted by the candidate or another producer or organizations representing socially disadvantaged minorities and woman farmers. Call the office for the form or print one from: [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov); type Elections in upper left corner, click on Elections and scroll down to print off the form. Nominees must sign the form agreeing to serve if elected, they have to be residents in LAA-3 and participate or cooperate with FSA programs and be of legal voting age.

## ***2008 Compliance***

Compliance and spot checks will once again be utilized during the 2008 crop year. A nationwide selection is used to achieve a statistical sampling of participating producers. Spot check selections are based on a producer's participation in Conservation Reserve Program, Direct and Counter cyclical Program, Loan Deficiency Program, etc.

## **Online Services**

If you have internet access you can electronically log on, fill out and print a variety of FSA forms in the comfort of your home as your schedule allows. You can also register for secure electronic access that will allow you to electronically sign and transmit some forms directly to the county office staff. If you are new to the website, first you will want to obtain a Level 2 USDA Service Center Customer ID and password at: <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/> and then click on “*Create an Account Page*” link.

USDA eAuthentication enables customers to access USDA Web applications and services via the Internet; submitting forms electronically, completing surveys online, and checking the status of your USDA accounts.

## ***SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS***

Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment to attend or participate in meetings or events sponsored by the Farm Service Agency. If you require special accommodations to attend or participate in one of our events, please call the FSA county office at (860) 774-8397, ext. 1, and we will make any needed arrangements.

## ***FSA Signature Policy***

Using the correct signature when doing business with FSA can save time and program benefits. The following are FSA signature guideline:

- A married woman shall sign her given name: Mary Jane Doe, not Mrs. John Doe
- For a minor, FSA requires the minor' signature and one from an eligible parent  
Note, by signing the applicable document, the parent is liable for actions of the minor and may be liable for re funds, liquidated damages, etc.
- When signing on one's behalf the signuature must agree with the name typed or printed on the form, or be a variation that does not cause the name and signature to be in disagreement. Example—John W. Smith is on the form. The signature may be John W. Smith or J. W. Smith or J. Smith.
- Spouses may sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and CCC program in which either has an interest, unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided to the county office.
- Spouses shall not sign on behalf of each other as an authroized signatory for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, or other similar entities
- All members of a general partnership must sign for the general partnership unless an individual is authorized to act on the behalf of the general partnership and bind all members
- Spouses may sign on behalf of each other's individual interest in a partnership, unless notification denying a spouse that authority is provided to the county office
- Acceptable signatures for general partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, estates, and trusts shall consist of an indicator "by" or "for" the individual's name, individual's name and capacity, or individual's name, capacity, and name of entity

## **Eligible CRP Acres Allowed to Hay and Graze**

USDA has authorized certain acreage enrolled under the conservation Reserve Program (CRP) to be available for hay and forage after the primary nesting season ends for grass-nesting birds. Some of the eligible land or forage of the land must be reserved for wildlife and any land that is used under this authority must have a conservation plan. The most environmentally-sensitive land enrolled in CRP will not be eligible. The land will be subject to a site inspection to ensure compliance with the conservation plan. No rental payment reduction will be assessed on contracts being utilized for this critical use. However, a \$75 fee will be charged to process the required contract modification.

Signup began June 2, 2008. This modification for critical feed use is only for 2008. All forage use must be completed no later than November 10, 2008. For more information and to sign up contact our office at (860) 774-8397, ext. 1.

## ***Premise Registration***



The Connecticut Department of Agriculture is accepting "National Premises Identification Number Request" forms for recording the physical address of animal agriculture activity. Animal health officials will use the NPIN to quickly and effectively respond to disease incidents, should they occur. Participation in the program is voluntary.

The next phase of the National Animal Identification System (NAIS), will be to focus on animal identification and traceability. The Connecticut Department of Agriculture is facilitating this USDA cooperative effort. Contact [Elizabeth.Hall@ct.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Hall@ct.gov) or 860-713-2560 to request a copy of the form or for additional information.

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**Correction:** Our apologies to Jonathan Eddy, we incorrectly listed his farm in our June issue! His farm is New Boston Beef, located on Fabyan Woodstock Rd. in Thompson.

### **The 2007 Farm Bill**

Rules and regulations are being written to administer the provisions of this new bill that includes more than just farm aspects.

Visit [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov), type Farm Bill on left, hit search, then click on 2007 Farm Bill.

We will have more detailed information soon.



## **July Events**

### **July 15th: Acreage Reports are due!**

#### **Remember to Shop at local Farmers Markets:**

**Sunday:**

10:00–1:00: **Ashford**, Pompey Hollow Park

**Monday:**

3:00–6:30 p.m.: **Jewett City**, Second Chances Consignment, rear parking lot.

4:00–6:00 p.m.: **Putnam**, Dunkin Donuts Parking Lot on Woodstock Avenue.

**Tuesday:**

4:00–6:00 p.m.: **Plainfield**, Recreation Office, Senior Center.

**Wednesday:**

3:00–6:00 p.m.: **Scotland**, Scotland Green

4:00–6:00 p.m.: **Danielson**, Killingly Memorial Library

**Thursday:**

4:00–6:00 p.m.: **Putnam**, Dunkin Donuts Parking Lot on Woodstock Avenue

**Saturday:**

8:00–Noon: **Willimantic**, corner of Jackson & Union Sts., under the Pavilion

9:00–Noon: **Danielson**, Killingly Memorial Library

9:00–Noon: **Tolland**, Tolland Green

2:00–6:00 p.m.: **Lebanon**, Town Hall Green

3:00–6:00 p.m.: **Storrs**, E O Smith High School, front parking lot.

Last Saturday of every month: 9:00 to 2:00 p.m., **Canterbury**, Josie's General Store.

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#### **OFFICE STAFF:**

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**Diane C. Holowaty**, Program Technician x 111

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Office Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Ron Clark**, Farm Loan Manager

860-887-3604 x 105

#### **COUNTY COMMITTEE:**

**Harold Bishop, Chairman**

**Betsy Molodich,**

**Vice-Chairman**

**Charles Tyler,**

**Regular Member**