

Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner
Steve Jensen, Editor



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
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Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky speaks while Governor Dannel P. Malloy, (left), Deputy Labor Commissioner Dennis Murphy, (right), and others listen at a press conference highlighting the expansion of a wholesale distribution business at the Hartford Regional Market, aided by a state employment-support program.

GROWING BUSINESSES, JOBS AT THE HARTFORD REGIONAL MARKET

By Steve Jensen, Office of Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky

It all started with a single pallet of loaned space in the back of a cooler at the Hartford Regional Market.

Twenty years later, Alan Hemingway's wholesale distribution business serves 350 supermarkets throughout the Northeast, and is touted as an example of how the Regional Market can serve as a springboard to new jobs and economic growth.

Governor Dannel P. Malloy, Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky and Deputy Labor Commissioner Dennis Murphy recently joined Hemingway and a group of officials and farmers to mark the business' participation in the state's Step Up hiring program after being named exclusive distributor of The Farmers' Cow product line.

Hemingway has expanded his workforce from four to 22 employees since the collaboration with The Farmer's Cow began last spring. Ten were hired under the state's Step Up program that offers wage and job-training subsidies.

"This program is made for companies like ours," Hemingway said during the November 20 press conference held in a chilly

warehouse area of his firm, Hemingway's LLC. "As a startup company trying to build some infrastructure it was fantastic. We are expanding at an astronomical rate and we are absolutely hiring more people."

Administered by the state Department of Labor, the Step Up program was created in 2012 to help small businesses – including farms – hire unemployed workers. Subsidies are available to cover up to \$12,000 of the first six months of a workers' salary, and up to \$12,500 of training costs over a 6-month period.

So far, nearly 700 companies have used the program to hire more than 2,700 unemployed workers, including 284 military veterans.

Qualified participants typically have some of the necessary job qualifications but require on-the-job training to meet the specific needs of the company.

"Connecticut has some of the most talented, educated and skilled workers in the nation," Malloy said. "This program helps

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PA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Avg. Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:		
breakers 75-80% lean	107.00	112.50
boners 80-85% lean	104.25	109.00
lean 85-90% lean	97.00	103.00
CALVES graded bull		
No 1 95-120lbs	408.25	461.00
No 2 95-120lbs	370.00	420.00
No 3 80-120lbs	294.50	366.50
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
HiCh/Prm3-4	170.50	173.75
Ch2-3	158.75	164.25
Sel1-2	155.00	160.00
SLAUGHTER STEERS.		
HiCh/prm3-4	171.75	176.00
Ch2-3	162.50	166.25
Sel2-3	159.25	163.00
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
HiCh/prm3-4	154.00	159.00
Ch2-3	144.25	149.00
Sel1-2	132.00	138.00
VEALERS	60.75	139.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: ch/pr 2-3		
70-90 lbs	188.00	230.00
80-100lbs	230.00	234.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: good 2-3		
130-160lbs	100.00	112.00
160-190lbs	107.00	110.00
Bucks		
170-200.lbs	n/a	
230-250lbs	70.00	92.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS:Sel.1, by head, est.		
40-60lb	152.00	175.00
50-60lb	n/a	
60-80lb	216.00	257.00
80-100	230.00	270.00
Nannies/Does:80-130lbs	182.00	200.00
130-170lbs	187.00	240.00
Bucks/Billies: 110-150lbs	255.00	375.00
150-180lbs	295.00	375.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

Sold by actual weights; prices quoted by hundred wt.

		Low	High
48-52	200-400 lbs	62.00	67.00
	300-350 lbs	n/a	
52-56	200-400 lbs	65.00	70.00
Sows,US1-3	300-500 lbs	72.00	77.00
	500-700 lbs	72.00	78.00
Boars	400-800 lbs	35.00	36.00

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES**NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	LOW	HIGH
SQUASH,BUTTERCUP,1 1/9	12.00	15.00
LETTUCE,BOSTON,GH,12/4OZ	15.00	17.00
CIDER9/1/2 GAL	18.00	20.00
KALE 24'S	10.00	12.00
CRANBERRIES,24/12OZ	32.00	35.00
POTATOES,10LB	2.00	2.10
BEAN SPROUTS,10LB	4.50	6.00
POTATOES,RUSSET,70CT	15.00	17.00
POTATOES,YELLOW,CHF50LB	15.00	15.00
CABBAGE,GREEN,BOX	8.00	10.00
SQUASH,ACORN,1 1/9	12.00	14.00
POTATOES,RED,SZ A,50LB	12.00	12.00
BROCCOLI,20 IB,CROWN	14.00	16.00
SQUASH,BUTTERNUT,1 1/9	12.00	14.00
SQUASH,SPAGHETTI,1 1/9	18.00	20.00
TURNIP,PURPLE,1 1/9	10.00	10.00
PARSNIPS,25LB	20.00	20.00
POTATOES,CHEF,50LB	10.00	11.00
TOMATOES,10IB,HEIRLOOM	26.00	30.00
APPLE,MCINTOSH,US#1,120CT	17.00	18.00
APPLE,MCINTOSH,100CT XFCY	24.00	26.00
APPLE,MCINTOSH,80 CT FCY	20.00	20.00
APPLE,MCINTOSH,120,US#1	17.00	18.00
APPLE,GALA,80CT,XFCY	24.00	28.00
HONEY CRSP,72CT,XFCY	40.00	45.00
APPLE,MCINTOSH,12/3	17.00	18.00
APPLE,FUJI,80CT,XFCY	26.00	30.00
APPLE,CORT,BU,FCY	18.00	18.00
APPLE,MACOUN,100CTX,FCY	26.00	28.00

**NEW ENGLAND GROWN
WHOLESALE CUT FLOWERS**

AMRNTHUS,PR BNCH,LNG	12.50	12.50
GARDENIA,PR BLOOM	5.00	5.50
LILIES,3-5 BLMS,ASIATC,LNG	32.00	32.00
LILIES,MS,ASIATC,LNG	20.00	25.00
LISNTHUS,BNCHED 10'S,LNG	16.50	18.50
SNAPDRAGN,BUNCHED 10'S	12.50	13.50
SUNFLWER,BNCHED 5'S,LNG	6.50	6.50

HAY**LANCASTER,PA/PRICE PER TON**

	PREMIUM	GOOD
ALFALFA	290.00-365.00	N/A
MIXED HAY	225.00-400.00	180.00-210.00
TIMOTHY	240.00-305.00	170.00-185.00
STRAW	125.00-225.00	N/A

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, Dec. 1, 2014

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	60.00	70.00
61-75 lbs.	80.00	170.00
76-90 lbs.	330.00	340.00
91-105 lbs.	350.00	360.00
106 lbs. & up	365.00	370.00
Farm Calves	380.00	420.00
Starter Calves	50.00	55.00
Veal Calves	120.00	180.00
Open Heifers	140.00	165.00
Beef Heifers	120.00	135.50
Feeder Steers	130.00	212.50
Beef Steers	128.00	167.50
Stock Bulls	180.00	220.00
Beef Bulls	134.00	165.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	1 at	10.00
Sows	1 at	60.00
Butcher Hogs	85.00	90.00
Feeder Pigs	82.00	86.00
Sheep	140.00	180.00
Lambs	80.00	230.00
Goats each	95.00	200.00
Kid Goats	n/a	n/a
Canners	up to	111.00
Cutters	112.00	116.00
Utility Grade Cows	117.00	120.00
Rabbits each	5.00	27.50
Chickens each	3.00	23.00
Ducks each	9.00	25.00

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA

Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	2.22	2.34
LARGE	2.21	2.33
MEDIUM	1.42	1.55

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Per doz. Grade A brown in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.72	1.76
LARGE	1.70	1.74
MEDIUM	1.19	1.23

PA FEEDER PIG SUMMARY

US #1

20-25lb	250.00	250.00
25-30lb	175.00	200.00
30-40lb	195.00	235.00
40-50lb	160.00	160.00
50-60lb	140.00	160.00

FOR SALE

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122-R. Dual Dump Wagon Model 1200, works good, \$1,500. JD 2940 with turbo, \$10,500. JD 6310 4X4 with 740 loader, \$24,000. JD 530, \$5,000. New 11 ft Pequea Rake, \$6,500. NH 1465 haybine, \$8,500. Balers, Rake and Tedders. 203-530-4953.

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GROWING BUSINESSES, JOBS AT THE HARTFORD REGIONAL MARKET

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match our talented workforce with employers to grow new jobs."

Hemingway's is one of the 16 year-round tenants at the Regional Market, which is run by the Department of Agriculture and is perhaps best known for its outdoor farmers' market held in the warmer months.

The market is the largest food-distribution hub between New York and Boston, and plans are currently being explored to greatly modernize and upgrade the facility to expand food aggregation, processing and distribution opportunities.

Reviczky said the partnership between Hemingway's and The Farmer's Cow spotlights how the market can be a catalyst for growth.

"This is what this market's all about," he said. "The synergy of being located close to each other allowed The Farmer's Cow to meet Alan Hemingway and now their partnership has added a great number of employees, put more trucks on the road and made this market a more vital part of the economy."

Robin Chesmer, a Lebanon dairy farmer and managing partner of The Farmer's Cow, said the partnership is another example of Malloy's and Reviczky's efforts to boost the agricultural economy.

Chesmer said most of the six Eastern Connecticut farms in The Farmer's Cow coalition also have transferred their development rights to the state under its Farmland Preservation Program, ensuring that the land will always remain available for agricultural production.

"Governor Malloy has been very supportive of Connecticut agriculture," he said. "Agriculture has a trickle-down effect that adds a lot to our economy and I'm proud to be a part of that."

Hemingway said he is gratified that his recent expansion has produced the economic ripple effect that Chesmer noted, including more business and new hires at a local garage and a tire store that service his fleet of 13 trucks.

Hemingway's first visit to the regional market two decades ago came at the suggestion of a friend. At the time, his sole product was a six-pack of organic eggs.

"I came down here looking for a spot to start and a gentlemen let me use one pallet of space in the back of a cooler," Hemingway recalled. "We're proud to be a part of this market. It's a fantastic operation and it has a lot of potential down the road."

Hemingway now leases 9,500 square feet at the market, including the refrigerated warehouse where he was loaned that first pallet space by the owner of a wholesale produce company housed there at the time.

"I went from one pallet to four pallets to a trailer load and just kept expanding," he said. "Now I have all the room I need and we are definitely poised for more growth."

Evidence of his expansion was in full swing Monday afternoon, as workers loaded refrigerated trucks bearing The Farmer's Cow well-known logo with products including milk, cream, ice cream, eggs, apple cider and locally roasted coffee.

Hemingway has not forgotten the help he received at the market twenty years ago, and wants to return the favor by offering space, advice and even a discounted trucking rate to those just beginning in the business today.

"I'm happy to offer free consulting and space to any manufacturer or small business that might need it," he said. "This opportunity might not have happened for me if someone else didn't give me that chance."

More information on the Hartford Regional Market is available at the Department of Agriculture's website: CTGrown.gov, and on the Step Up program at: Stepct.com.

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Above left: Alan Hemingway unloads boxes from a pallet in a space at the Hartford Regional Market that was loaned to him twenty years ago by a former occupant of the building. Hemingway now leases 9,500 feet of space at the Market for his wholesale distribution company, where employee Ben Danehy, (above right), on Monday loaded a truck with a shipment of milk produced by The Farmer's Cow, which earlier this year hired Hemingway as its exclusive distributor.



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