

MOLINARO HONORED BY STATE FARM BUREAU

State's Largest Farm Advocate Bestows "Circle of Friends" Award

October 12, Poughkeepsie – The New York Farm Bureau, the state's largest general farm advocacy organization, announced today that Assemblyman Marc Molinaro, candidate for Dutchess County Executive, is a recipient of their 2011 "Circle of Friends " Award.

The award is given annually to top state lawmaker's who support agriculture and the Farm Bureau. "The Circle of Friends award is based upon each legislator's voting record on issues of importance to New York agriculture and other evidence of legislative support, including sponsorship of bills that Farm Bureau has either supported, or opposed, throughout the Legislative Session," said Dean Norton, New York Farm Bureau president.

"As the son of a former farmer, I'm honored to receive this award. I know first-hand the important role our agricultural industry plays in the health and well being of both our communities and local economy," Molinaro said. "Agriculture remains the largest industry in New York State and a critical component of our region's economy. As County Executive, I will continue to support programs that protect valuable farm lands, open space and more importantly the jobs that are so vital for our economy."

According to the Farm Bureau, selected lawmakers were chosen for their support of New York's family farms. Each has demonstrated they understand the importance of agriculture in their legislative district, and how the industry impacts the economy and the future of New York State.