Promotion and Education Award Winner 2020

By Patti Dugan

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In 1997, the New York Farm Bureau Promotion and Education Committee established the “Excellence” pin, which recognizes those who have worked diligently to promote and educate. At the 2020 New York Farm Bureau State Annual Meeting, the committee had the honor to add to this group of devoted supporters of agriculture. The award recognizes a county Farm Bureau’s effort, program creativity and achievement and individuals and organizations for dedication that goes above and beyond the average. The winner receives a check for $200 plus an excellence pin for each of the program committee members.

After consideration, the NYFB Promotion and Education Award was presented to Niagara County Farm Bureau for their “Hemp 101 Educational/Informational Event”. Their goal was to provide education and information about hemp to anyone who was interested and serve as a Farm Bureau Membership Drive. The meeting offered basic knowledge about hemp, its history, the differences between CBD and Grain and Fiber Hemp, an introduction to the Endocannabinoid System, an overview of hemp products and an update on the ever-changing state and federal laws.

Their committee included Jeanette Miller - Project Chair, Gina Miller, Nhi Kha, Crystal Thauer, Penelope Hamilton, Kristin Grohman, Elaine Barnett, Tim Bigham, Eamon Weber, and Kassie Voelpel which served as representation from Niagara County Farm Bureau members, hemp-related businesses, wellness centers, state legislative staff and farmers. Congratulations.

Madison County’s entry “COVID Care Packages for Madison County Farmers” was noted by the judges for special recognition. This project provided much needed rapid relief support to the county’s farmers by providing face coverings, sanitizers, notes of thanks and gift cards from local businesses. Madison County Farm Bureau received a certificate of recognition. All of the entries were amazing programs, which made for a very difficult decision.