

Happy New Year!

FARM SHINE

We rise every week to cover farmers and agribusinesses



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January 5, 2025



The Wolfe Family operates their Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania dairy farm with a passionate desire and unique approach. Sixty cows, no field work and off-farm jobs to get a break. The farm's namesake founders, Mark and Amy, stand on the left with their younger son, Ethan. On the right are Mark and Emily. And not to be missed as the center of attention, a very energetic and cute Welsh Corgi named Shamsky. Photo by Dieter Krieg

Quality cows, and varied opportunities define lifestyle of the Wolfe family

'This is what I want; this is my future'

By DIETER KRIEG
Farmshine Editor

PINE GROVE, Pa. — "I love the cows," 27-year old Ryan Wolfe admitted in a convincing tone. Describing himself as an intensely interested student of pedigrees, bulls, bull mothers and all that comes after, Ryan is first and foremost a breeder of Registered Holsteins. He learned to breed cows when he was 14 and took over all mating decisions at his parents' Mar-Am Farm four years later.

Ryan's focused ambition has resulted in a current crop of 2-year olds that is better than any group of first-lactation heifers that he's ever had before. His approach is simple, yet also very calculated. The simple part is that he uses only sexed or beef semen. Sexed semen on the above average cows; beef semen on below average cud-chewers.

The more thoughtful process for above average cows considers the so-called "complete cow" and for that, Ryan takes no shortcuts. Instead, he'll take his time and spend the extra minutes and miles. He'll visit with other breeders in person

or on the phone; he'll attend shows and sales. "I like seeing a lot of cows to observe what they're doing in the real world," he explained. "I like a real cow, not just an index cow. And I want to breed an honest, hard-working cow that scores well and lasts."

Ryan's description of a truly excellent type cow is a "towards 95-point individual across the board. A balanced cow. I don't want to see a 98-point udder and 82-point legs," he stated.

"Whatever is a cow's worst trait, I mate accordingly to

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PERIODICAL • DO NOT DELAY

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Gary Mithoefer and Larry Hawkins hope to see you in Okeechobee, Fla. on Feb. 2, 2024.

Snowbirds!

**Old-Timers Breakfast
slated in Fla., Feb. 2**

OKEECHOBEE, Fla. — The long-running but in recent years interrupted Dairy Old-Timers Breakfast is back. However, with notable changes.

Instead of Tampa, Okeechobee in southern Florida will be the place to be. And instead of breakfast, it will be lunch. The camaraderie will be the same, regardless.

Scheduled on Groundhog's Day, February 2, the event has moved to Lightsey's Seafood Company, 1506 South Parrott Avenue in Okeechobee. (Yes, they serve alligator, but you can still order beef!)

Previously held at the Florida State Fair in Tampa for well over 40 years, the changes had to be made due to scheduling and other related difficulties at that venue. Okeechobee is the most concentrated dairy area in Florida.

The luncheon will start at noon with coffee and greetings to old friends and new acquaintances. And, actually, you don't even have to be a "old" to attend. Most of us are in our "new" 40s and 50s! You just have to be in Florida in February and be connected to the dairy industry.

The speaker for the day will be Melissa Syfrett from the Syfrett Feed Company, who will tell the assembled group how the feed industry operates in Florida. Members of the Syfrett family have been regular attendees at the Old Timer's Breakfast for years.

To register for the lunch, simply call, email, or text Gary Mithoefer or Larry Hawkins at the numbers below:

- Gary Mithoefer: 317-225-9025 or gmithoefer@comcast.net
- Larry Hawkins: 608-516-0101 or larry@forageinnovations.guru

Gary Mithoefer of Indiana and Larry Hawkins of Wisconsin are long-time attendees and are simply interested in promoting this event to other snowbirds. Please let your friends know about this event.

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— Jill and Josh Wiser



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"We learned about the Udder Comfort Battery-Operated Backpack Sprayer at Keystone Farm Show," says Josh.

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'The Center' celebrates 20 years

Pennsylvania's ground-breaking Center for Dairy Excellence celebrated 20 years of service last month. Much was shared through fellowship and words during the

occasion. Pictured are Pennsylvania dairy princess Charlotte Wallace of Berks County and her alternates Sadie Innerst of Perry County, and Morgan Larson of Erie County,

who led the 60 attendees in a celebratory milk toast before the anniversary luncheon. Please turn to page 5 for the story.

Photo by Sherry Bunting



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Farmshine Editorials

By Dieter Krieg
Farmshine Editor



“Gratitude is the fairest blossom which springs from the soul.”

— Henry Ward Beecher

To all the people to whom I failed to send a Christmas card

We celebrate Christmas first and foremost to honor and glorify the birth of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. That’s how it’s supposed to be.

Secondly, we remember our friends near and far, some of whom we may never have even met. I’ve got a lot of them in the latter category, at least one in every state, a few more in Canada and even beyond.

Although I routinely start my list with friends who are 90+ years of age (23 of them in 2024) I was shocked to realize that I failed to send a card to the oldest one of them all! My very dear friend, Jack Remsberg, who turned 98 on October 2nd. Easily one of the men I admire the most for the way he structured and lived his life, Jack, is a role model I wish I had met even sooner than I did.

And although I did send a card to another very dear friend, Tom Armstrong, who for many years provided the Li’l Luke cartoon strip for *Farmshine*, he deserves special mention. In his personal Christmas letter to me last month, he humorously noted that he was no longer “old.” He is “ancient,” he wrote. We see him as inspiring and sharp as ever; proof that laughter is indeed the best “medicine” for a healthy mind and body.

Another dear friend I didn’t forget to send card to is 97-year old Art Nesbitt, a native Pennsylvanian who served as PHA executive director before Bill Nichol. Bill turns 95 next month and yes, we did exchange cards, as we’ve done every year for over four decades.

Ron Eustice’s Christmas card to me arrived on the Second Day of Christmas. I slapped myself when I realized I had for-

gotten to send him one. For what it’s worth, he has over a decade to go before he’s 90; but that’s no excuse.

Fred Hendricks of Ohio never fails to send a unique Christmas greeting that lasts all year; a kind-of picture-card calendar. Always very appreciated. Somehow, I missed sending him one; another head-slapper that had my noggin oscillating in disbelief.

Duane Young, who wrote a book about Guernseys a few years ago, sent a card and when it arrived I once again wondered: “How could I have forgotten Duane and his wife, Kathy?”

And how in the world did I overlook the name Ayars? I mean, it starts with an A! I felt like a real goofball when that omission surfaced in my head. John and Bonnie of Ohio have been friends and supporters of *Farmshine* since Day 1. Their prized Guernseys got attention back in the day.

The list could go on and on. I’ll name a few who were on the list (or pile). The intent was there; but I failed.

William McChesney, Jacob L. King, Vince Phillips, Kenneth Stover, Jeff Wriglesworth and Lawrence Zimmerman Jr. of Pennsylvania; J. Burkholder and Duane Spaulding of New York, Calvin Covington of South Carolina, Pete Hardin of Wisconsin, J.D. Dickenson and David Sacra of Virginia, Crist Yoder of Ohio, Frank Baffi of Michigan and Charlie Spencer, long retired, whose aerial photo of your farm may be in your home.

In this “business” of being a writer and editor, people are my source of genuine job satisfaction, and surely even enjoyment. Phone calls, text messages, emails, snailmails and es-

pecially Christmas greetings convey the warmth, appreciation, loyalty and reason to keep on doing what we do. It’s essential and very special.

So, I want to thank everyone — and I do mean *everyone* — to whom I failed to send a Christmas card. Granted, it would be impossible to do; but please know that the sentiment is there. All of our readers and advertisers too, are very appreciated because without you, there would be no *Farmshine*. We want to keep rising like the sun; that’s why it became our logo 45-plus years ago. Thanks again, everyone.

We wish you a New Year filled with God’s full range of blessings.

KEYSTONE FARM SHOW CDE to host HPAI and Biosecurity Resource Center in York, Jan. 7-9

HARRISBURG, Pa. — The Center for Dairy Excellence will host a HPAI and Biosecurity Resource Center at the Keystone Farm Show in York, Pennsylvania from January 7-9.

Staff from the Center for Dairy Excellence, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and Penn State Extension will be available for walk-ins from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day at the Resource Center. No appointments are needed. Dairy producers who visit the HPAI and Biosecurity Resource Center can:

- Start creating a biosecurity plan for their operation.
- Ask candid questions and sign up for voluntary testing.
- Get free biosecurity material such as: “No Trespassing Signs”; Lysol concentrate; scrub brushes; wash tubs; PPE samples like boot covers, gloves, masks, coveralls and more.

“With the large number of dairy herds and poultry flocks in Pennsylvania, and their close proximity to each other, early detection is important to controlling the spread in the event of a positive HPAI case. It’s clear that biosecurity is important to Pennsylvania agriculture, but our goal with this Resource Center is to make it less intimidating for producers,” said Valerie Mason-Faith, risk education program manager at the Center for Dairy Excellence. “We have a large inventory of signage and free PPE equipment, including wash kits, to share with producers who drop in to the Resource Center. We’ll also have staff available to give honest answers to your questions and help you take the first steps to creating your biosecurity plan.”

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Center for Dairy Excellence celebrates 20 years

By SHERRY BUNTING
Special for Farmshine

MOUNT JOY, Pa. — It all began more than two decades ago with the Pennsylvania Dairy Task Force of over 100 people — from the farms to the processing and the professionals in between. It was created under then Governor Ed Rendell and his then Secretary of Agriculture Denny Wolff, and charted a course for dairy in the Commonwealth, set goals, and eventually created in 2004 the public-private partnership known as the Center for Dairy Excellence.

This 20th anniversary milestone was celebrated on Dec. 13 at Melhorn Manor in Mount Joy, Lancaster County. Past and present Center and Foundation board members, founding pioneers, partners, consultants, producers, and supporters were recognized. This meant nearly every one of the over 60 people attending eventually ended up on their feet.

Executive Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Greg Hostetter and Deputy Secretary Lisa Graybeal presented to the Center via Jayne Sebright, its director, a proclamation from Governor Shapiro and Ag Secretary Redding for their work in serving Pennsylvania dairy farm families.

One could say that Sebright has been the heart of the Center from its inception, serving early on in communications, with the unique perspective as an Adams County dairy farmer, herself. Yes, she still milks cows every day, but has also served as the Center's executive director since 2016.

As others noted during the celebration, a hallmark of the Center is coordination, where no one worries about getting the credit. Sebright exemplifies this humility.

The 20th anniversary luncheon was a time for reflection on progress and vision that started with the key words of people, part-



Lisa Graybeal, deputy secretary of agriculture (left) and Greg Hostetter, executive deputy secretary presented Pennsylvania Governor Shapiro's proclamation observing the 20th anniversary of the Center for Dairy Excellence to Jayne Sebright, who has served as the CDE's executive director since 2016. Photos by Sherry Bunting

ners, resources, and profits and has leveraged into core values of collaboration, leadership, legacy, stewardship, and adaptability.

The mission was and is simple: Empower, support, and strengthen Pennsylvania dairy. But today's Center has become more complex in the way the core team serves that mission through a multitude of partnerships and opportunities possible.

In fact, dairy producers from across the Commonwealth submitted their own cell-phone-captured videos talking about how their farm benefited from the Center. What is striking in these videos is the diversity of

dairy management styles and experiences and the number of young, next-generation farm families, some going back as far as 10 generations. They spoke from the heart, so check it out at this link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JfHS-Xori7E&t=1s>

The Center has harnessed for dairy farm families many opportunities well beyond the original profit teams to include transition teams, transformation teams, dairy decision consultants, benchmarking tools, financial and risk management education for dairy farms, branding, innovation, and marketing grants in processing, as well as collaborating with academia.

While the key early goal of getting Pennsylvania's annual milk production back up to 10.8 billion pounds was never quite reached, the effort did help bring it back to 10.7 billion pounds in 2014, and provides stability today amid a rapidly changing global industry, where Pennsylvania produces just under 10 billion pounds of milk annually (9.86 bil. in 2023).

During the luncheon program, a panel of founding pioneers, along with a next generation dairy farmer serving on the board today, talked about the evolution.

The Center's first executive director, Gary Heckman, recalled the origins that started with identifying key challenges, and which were the ones they could work on.

"Not everyone sees things the same way, but we found what we could work on together," he said.

"At the time, we had lots of farms, lots of talent, we had professional resources, we had Extension, we had all this stuff, but nobody was talking to each other. And if you weren't paying attention, it was hard to pick it up. We needed a point of access for farmers, and a desire to start sharing," said panelist Lolly Leshner of Way-Har Farms, Bernville, explaining how so many donate much of their time and effort to identify and prioritize and eventually coordinate around key goals.

Leshner also recalled the early fundraising, the bus rides to the Capitol, and discussions with state lawmakers and private industry to secure the means to get this started.

On the panel was State Rep. Mark Keller of Perry County who noted: "One thing this group did really well was to explain those challenges, what could be done about them, and why it was important for Pennsylvania."

Dr. Brian Reed, a now retired veterinarian, recalled his early skepticism. He saw challenges firsthand working with dairy farms

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Leonard Polzin

Dairy market outlook up for discussion

FORT ATKINSON, Wis. — The next Hoard's Dairyman webinar will take place on Monday, January 13 at 1 p.m. (Eastern time). Leonard Polzin, a dairy markets and policy outreach specialist with the University of Wisconsin-Madison, will discuss the dairy market outlook for 2025.

There is no cost to register or view the webinars. To sign up, please visit www.hoards.com/webinars. Once registered, an email reminder is sent with future webinar dates and times, and there is no need to register again.

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Georgia Dairy Conference features symposium, Jan. 20

SAVANNAH, Ga. — The Georgia Dairy Conference in January is open for all farmers and guests. It will be preceded again in 2025 by the GDC Pre-Conference Symposium. The 2-hour informal session will take place on Monday, January 20, starting at 9:30 a.m.

Sponsored by Balchem, smaXtec, and Church & Dwight, the pre-conference symposium will focus on new technology and services that are driving Georgia's dairy industry for-

ward. Producers and related dairy industry professionals are invited to stop by the symposium to hear from an outstanding lineup of speakers.

The Georgia Dairy Conference is a 3-day event, to be held from Monday, January 20, to Wednesday, January 22, at the Marriott Savannah Riverfront Hotel & Conference Center, 100 General McIntosh Boulevard, Savannah, Ga.



2025 DAIRY MEETING

February 7, 2025

9 AM - 2 PM

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Dairy Specialist at Pioneer Corteva

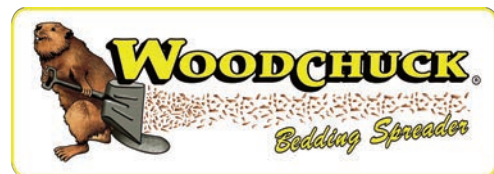


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Auction Guide

- JAN. 8**, 10:30 a.m. Dairy Cow & Heifer Sale, New Holland Sales Stables, New Holland, Pa. Sale managed by New Holland Sales Stables.
- JAN. 16**, 11 a.m. Eberly Holstein Dairy Herd Dispersal, Newville, Pa. Sale managed by Melvin Sensenig.
- JAN. 17**, 12 p.m. Special Horse Sale, New Holland Sales Stables, New Holland, Pa. Sale managed by New Holland Sales Stables.
- JAN. 23**, 10 a.m. Special Dairy Cow & Heifer Sale, Brubacker's Quality Dairy Sales, Shippensburg, Pa. Sale managed by Brubacker's Quality Dairy Sales.
- FEB. 8**, Pa. Holstein Convention Sale, Gettysburg, Pa. Sale managed by Pa. Holstein Association.
- MARCH 6**, 10 a.m. Know What You Buy Heifer Sale, Middletown, Pa. Sale managed by Pa. Holstein Association.
- MARCH 22**, DVU Green & Gold Sale, Doylestown, Pa. Sale managed by Pa. Holstein Association.

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Dairyman's Datebook

- JANUARY 7-9**, PDP Managers Academy at the Marriot Quorum Dallas Addison in Dallas, Texas.
- JANUARY 11**, noon, Annual meeting of the New Jersey Holstein-Friesian Association, Amwell Valley Fire House, 22 County Road 579, Ringoes, N.J.
- JANUARY 17-18**, New York Holstein Senior Convention, Double Tree by Hilton, 6301 State Route 298, East Syracuse.
- JANUARY 18-19** New York Holstein Junior Convention, Double Tree by Hilton, 6301 State Route 298, East Syracuse.
- JANUARY 22**, 9:30 a.m. Calf management discussion, Lancaster Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, Pa.
- JANUARY 20**, 9:30 a.m. Georgia Dairy Conference, Marriott Savannah Riverfront, 100 General McIntosh Boulevard, Savannah, Ga.
- JANUARY 29**, 11 a.m. Premier Select Sires customer appreciation meeting, Shady Maple Smorgasbord, 1324 Main Street, East Earl, Lancaster County, Pa.
- JANUARY 30**, 9 a.m. Allied Milk Producers Cooperative meeting, (east) Yoder's Restaurant, New Holland, Pa.
- FEBRUARY 5-6**, Pennsylvania Dairy Summit, Penn Stater Hotel & Conference Center, 215 Innovation Boulevard, State College.
- FEBRUARY 6**, 6:30 p.m. Taste of Maryland Agriculture gala at Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland at Arundel Mills in Hanover, Md.
- FEBRUARY 7**, 1 p.m. Pennsylvania Holstein Association Annual Meeting at the Wyndham Gettysburg Hotel & Conference Center, 95 Presidential Circle, Gettysburg, Pa. Lunch will be available prior to the meeting from 11:30 to 12:30. Lunch tickets must be purchased through PHA Convention Registration.
- FEBRUARY 12**, 9 a.m. Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland (PFGC) annual conference, West Overton Village & Museum, 109 West Overton Road, Scottsdale, Pa.
- FEBRUARY 17**, 1 p.m. Dairy Old Timers Luncheon, O'Brien's Irish Pub, 701 West Lumsden Road, Tampa, Fla.
- FEBRUARY 20**, 9 a.m. Wenger Feeds / Hooper Feeds "Milk Metrics" meeting "Learning Today for a Better Tomorrow" at Shady Maple Smorgasbord, 1324 Main Street, East Earl, Pa.



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Dairy Summit to showcase ‘Designing Your Tomorrow Today’

HARRISBURG, Pa. – Dairy producers, professionals, and young dairy leaders looking to start designing their tomorrow today will not want to miss the Pennsylvania Dairy Summit. Featuring more than 16 dynamic speakers, the 2025 event will take place on February 5-6 at the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center in State College, Pa.

“The most important thing for ‘designing your tomorrow today’ (the theme of this year’s Dairy Summit) is vision. With no vision, there is no goal to strive for. Find your vision, write it down, and begin planning what you must do to reach that vision,” said Brooks Long of Deliteful Dairy, one of the dairy producer panelists at the upcoming Dairy Summit.

Hosted by the Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania and Center for Dairy Excellence, the Dairy Summit will feature keynote speakers who will lead timely sessions on a variety of topics, including finding your purpose and how it fits into the future of dairy, farming with a people-first culture, emerging markets for fluid dairy, and interfacing with consumers.

Several dairy producers from Pennsylvania, Maryland and beyond will also lead sessions focused on public perception, climate-smart practices, cropping strategies and more. The following sessions will feature dairy producers:

- ***Building for Tomorrow Today***, a producer showcase with Caleb and Alice Crothers of Long Green Farms. When it comes to designing your tomorrow, the pathway to chasing dreams and achieving goals is never linear. Marylanders Caleb and Alice both have nontraditional journeys and careers that eventually led them back to their family’s eighth-generation, 150-cow dairy farm. Learn from their experience interfacing with consumers, farming with sustainability and heritage in mind, and their mindset for achieving goals.

- ***Farming for the future in a world where people know their farmers***, a producer showcase with David Moser of Oakridge Dairy where a rotary milking parlor, environmental responsibility, and the idea of supplying milk direct to consumers are the notions driving change. It’s all part of their mindset of staying ahead of the curve and building a future where people know their farmers.

- ***Does climate-smart equal farm-smart?*** a producer panel with Paul Mason of Mason’s Chrome View and Others (Breakout Session). From incorporating NOP3 into your ration to changing how you handle your cow manure, dairy farms are being inundated by opportunities to embrace “climate-smart” on your dairy. But is it really right for you? Hear from three producers who will share what they did and how it impacted their bottom line.

- ***Feeding for fat: Do high-oleic soybeans fit?*** Panel with Dr. Harvatine and dairy producers. High-oleic soybeans have been around for more than 10 years, but are they making their way into more and more dairy rations – especially with the current drive toward higher components?

- ***The power of public perception: The good & bad of interacting with consumers***, a producer panel discussion with Brooks Long, Alice and Caleb Crothers, and Beth Meyer. From navigating through a crisis situation to knowing what to say and what not to say to the public, these producers will give their firsthand experience interacting with consumers in their community.

At the opening night Young Dairy Professionals Reception, attendees will hear from a panel of young professionals who will share their experiences and career advice in the dairy industry. Casi Long, a dairy producer and owner of Kolb’s Farm Store in Chester County, Pa. will

be one of the panelists. She plans to share her story as a young, first-generation dairy farmer who is actively involved in her community.

“If there is one thing I have learned as a first-generation farmer, it is that even the biggest and wildest dreams are obtainable. The biggest piece of advice I can give is to never give up. Even if your path takes a few turns you weren’t expecting, or you encounter a roadblock, that doesn’t mean you won’t reach your goal in the end,” said Casi Long, one of the dairy producer panelists at the Dairy Summit. “Whether your goal is to increase your herd size, change over from a parlor to robots,

or become a better dairy leader, being able to adapt and overcome challenges is vital.”

Visit www.padairysummit.org to register today and view the full program. Producer discounts will automatically be applied during the registration process. To apply for the Young Dairy Professionals scholarship, applications must be submitted by January 16. Visit www.padairysummit.org and click on “Young Professionals” on the top right.

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Good news may trump 2024's bad nutrition policies for dairy

By SHERRY BUNTING
Special for Farmshine

EAST EARL, Pa. — Year 2024 was tumultuous, and 2025 is shaping up to be equally, if not more so. Spilling over from 2024 into 2025 are these three areas of potential for good news to trump bad nutrition policies that are having negative impacts on dairy farmers and consumers.

Farm bill and whole milk bill

Both the farm bill and the whole milk bill showed promise at the start of 2024. No one championed the two pieces of legislation more than House Ag Committee Chairman Glenn 'GT' Thompson (R-15th-Pa.). He even

found a way to tie them together -- on the House side.

The Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act made it farther than it ever has in the four legislative sessions in which Thompson introduced it over the past 8 to 10 years. It reached the U.S. House floor for the first time! But even the overwhelming bipartisan House vote to approve it 330 to 99 at the end of 2023 was not enough to seal the deal in 2024.

That's because over in the U.S. Senate, then Ag Committee Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow (D-Mich.) blocked it from consideration -- despite over half her committee signing on as cosponsors.

GT Thompson, found a workaround to include it in the House farm bill, which passed his Ag Committee on a bipartisan vote in

May. The language was also part of the Senate Republicans' draft farm bill under Ranking Member John Boozman (R-Ark.)

It too fell victim to Stabenow dragging her feet in the Senate. By the time the Ag Chairwoman released a full-text version of the Senate Democrats' farm bill, little more than 30 days remained in the 2023-24 legislative session.

Key sticking points were the House focus on dollars for the farm side of the five-year package. It put the extra USDA-approved Thrifty Food Plan funding into the overall baseline for SNAP dollars and brought Inflation Reduction Act climate-smart funds under the farm bill umbrella while removing the methane mandates to allow states and regions to prioritize other conservation goals, like the popular and oversubscribed EQIP program.

Attempts to broker a farm bill deal failed, and on Dec. 20, another one-year extension of the current 2018 farm bill was passed in the continuing resolution that keeps the government funded into the first part of 2025, without amendments for things like whole milk in schools. However, Congress did manage to provide \$110 billion of disaster relief for 2022-24 hurricanes, wildfires, and other events. Of this, roughly \$25 billion will go to affected farmers and ranchers, plus another \$10 billion in economic disaster relief for agriculture.

Looking ahead, there is good news for the farm bill and whole milk bill in the new 2025-26 legislative session. The House Ag Committee will continue under Rep. GT Thompson's leadership as Chairman. On the Senate side, whole milk friendly Boozman will chair the Ag Committee. With Stabenow retiring, Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) will serve as Ranking Member, and she previously signed on as a Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act cosponsor in March 2024.

It is unclear whether the whole milk bill can be rolled into the new farm bill this session without first going through the Education and Workforce Committee and another vote on the House floor. It was enthusiastically supported by prior Education Committee Chairwoman Virginia Foxx (R-5th-N.C.). Her years of chairing this committee have expired, but the good news is Rep. Tim Walberg (R-5th-Mich.) will step in, and he was an early cosponsor of the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act in the 2021-22 and 2023-24 legislative sessions.

New Dietary Guidelines

The 2025-30 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee (DGAC) submitted its 'Scientific Report' to the outgoing USDA and HHS Secretaries on Dec. 10, 2024 -- just 40 days before they head out the door to be replaced by incoming Trump appointees.

The Report is the guidance of the so-called 'expert committee' that reviews evidence and makes recommendations for the Secretaries of USDA and HHS to formalize into the 2025-30 Dietary Guidelines for Americans (DGAs). This process occurs every five years.

The DGAs are used in all USDA feeding programs, including school lunch, childhood daycare, and eldercare institutional feeding, as well as military mess halls. They also inform food offerings in many other controlled settings.

The bad news is the Report has gone from being increasingly pro-plants over the past nine cycles to being outright anti-animal in this 10th cycle.

The good news is that dairy keeps its special spot on the so-called 'My Plate.' The bad news is that despite acknowledging evidence about the benefits of milkfat in nutrient dense milk and dairy foods, the DGAC rated

turn to page 9

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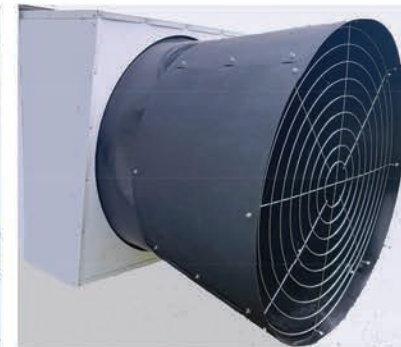
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Good news from page 8

the evidence as 'limited' – largely because USDA screened much of it out of the review process.

In the section on under-consumed nutrients of public health concern, especially for children and elders, the DGAC noted that whole and 2% milk were top sources of three of the four: Vit. D, calcium and potassium. Even this was not enough to persuade them to loosen the anti-fat grip that governs milk in schools, daycares and eldercare.

The DGAC states in its Report that their 'limited access' to research showing positive relationships between higher fat dairy and health outcomes was "too limited to change the Guidelines."

They even doubled-down on the beverage category by recommending against flavor-sweetened fat-free and low-fat milk and that water be pushed as the primary beverage.

In the Report, the DGAC also doubled-down on saturated fat with recommendations to "reduce butter, processed and unprocessed red meat, and dairy for replacement with a wide range of plant-based food sources, including plant-based protein foods, whole grains, vegetables, vegetable (seed) oils and spreads."

This opens the door for more non-dairy substitutes beyond soy-milk, which is already allowed in the dairy category. In fact, the Report looks ahead to future cycles changing the name of the dairy category to broaden what qualifies as makers of new dairy alternatives improve their nutrition profiles via ultra-processing. At the same time, the DGAC punted the ball on the question they were given about "ultraprocessed" foods and beverages, stating they didn't have access to enough evidence on health outcomes to answer that question. (The next HHS Secretary might have something to say about that.)

Other animal-based foods such as meat and eggs took a big hit this cycle. The 2025-30 Report uses stronger methods for discouraging consumption. They recommend moving peas, beans and lentils out of the vegetable category and into the protein category and listing them FIRST, followed by nuts and seeds, followed by seafood, then eggs, and lastly meat.

Once again 'red meat' is mentioned throughout the report as being lumped in with 'processed meat' even though not one stitch of research about negative health relationships with processed meats included any unprocessed red meat in the studies! Clearly, consumption of whole, healthy foods from cattle is in the crosshairs. This 10th edition of the Sci-

entific Report just continues the trend.

As in past cycles, a whole core of research on the neutral to beneficial relationships between consumption of saturated fat in high-protein, nutrient-dense foods was screened out of the DGAC's review process by current Ag Secretary Vilsack's USDA.

This Report essentially sets the stage for ultra-processed plant-based and bioengineered alternative proteins to play a larger role in the institutional meal preps of American schools, daycares, eldercare, and military.

But here's the good news! The DGAC was late in finishing its 2025-30 Scientific Report!

The law requires a 60-day public comment period before USDA and HHS formulate the actual Guidelines for 2025-30. This mandatory comment period ends Feb. 10, 2025. Comments can be made at the Federal Register link at <https://www.regulations.gov/document/HHS-OASH-2024-0017-0001>

By the time the comment period ends, Vilsack and company will have left town. Let's hope Senators confirm Trump appointees before the public comment period ends on Feb. 10 so their eyes are on this before the bureaucracy finishes the job.

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Jim Akam, Concord Valley Farms, Spartansburg, PA

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Sam Weber, Mexico, NY

stock sectors, along with health and nutrition professionals and health-conscious citizens to weigh-in. (Look for ways to participate in a future Farmshine.)

Meanwhile, commenters can remind the incoming Secretaries of how flawed the DGA process has become; how Americans, especially children, have become increasingly obese with increasing rates of chronic illness and underconsumption of key fat-soluble nutrients during the decades of the DGA's increasingly restrictive anti-fat, anti-animal dogma.

Commenters should point out the fact that the Committee was not provided with all of the evidence on saturated fat. This is a message that is likely to land well with USDA Secretary designate Brooke Rollins and HHS Secretary designate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. In fact, RFK Jr. is on record opposing the low-fat dictates and has said nutrition will be among his first priorities, if he is confirmed by the Senate for the HHS post.

FDA's final rule on 'healthy' labeling

In the mad rush at the end of 2024, the FDA released its final rule about using the term "healthy" on the label of foods and beverages.

This process was outlined in the White House National [turn to page 10](#)

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Good news _____ from page 9

Strategy on Hunger, Nutrition and Health. FDA's preliminary 'healthy' labeling rule was released on Sept. 28, 2022, on the first day of the first White House Nutrition Conference since the 1980s.

At that Conference, Ag Secretary Vilsack said: "The National Strategy's approach is a whole of government approach that involves the entire federal family." And President Biden said: "We have to give families a tool to keep them healthy. People need to know what they should be eating, and the FDA is using its authority around healthy labeling so you know what to eat."

In short, the FDA's role here is to restrict healthy label claims to foods and beverages that meet its criteria and allow them to also use a new FDA 'healthy' symbol that is still under development.

"Nutrient-dense foods that are encouraged by the Dietary Guidelines – vegetables, fruits, whole grains, fat-free and low-fat dairy, lean game meat, seafood, eggs, beans, peas, lentils, nuts, and seeds – with no added ingredients except for water,

automatically qualify for the 'healthy' claim because of their nutrient profile and positive contribution to an overall healthy diet," the FDA final rule states.

No surprise that whole milk (3.25% fat) will not qualify, nor will real full fat cheeses, yogurts, and other dairy foods that are not fat-free or low-fat (1%). Natural, unprocessed beef, pork and poultry are off the 'healthy' list too.

Specifically, the FDA's final rule states: "To meet the updated criteria for the 'healthy' claim, a food product must: 1) contain a certain amount of food from at least one of the food groups or subgroups (such as fruit, vegetables, grains, fat-free and low-fat dairy and protein foods) as recommended by the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, and 2) meet specific limits for added sugars, saturated fat, and sodium.

The fat and sodium criteria are a double-whammy against most real dairy cheeses. A single 1-oz slice of American, Swiss, or Cheddar won't make the cut on saturated fat or sodium; even part-skim Mozzarella is slightly over the limit. Furthermore, low-fat, high-protein cottage cheese barely makes the cut on saturated fat, but far exceeds the new limit on sodium. Likewise, a typical yogurt cup only qualifies if it is low-fat or non-fat, and fruited yogurts must steer clear of

added sugars.

Dairy can't win in this labeling scheme unless products are made with virtually no saturated fat and far less sodium. To sell flavorless cardboard and chalk water that fails to deliver key fat-soluble nutrients, products will undergo more ultra-processing, and Americans will consume more artificial sweeteners.

Under dairy products, FDA's final rule for 'healthy' label claims states: 1) Must contain a minimum of 2/3 cup food group equivalent of dairy, which includes soy; and 2) Each serving must have under 2.5 g of added sugar, under 230 mg sodium, and under 2 g saturated fat.

This means even a serving size of exactly 2/3 cup (6 oz) of 2% milk might barely squeak by, and a full cup (8 oz) of 1% or fat-free milk would be – you guessed it – 'healthy'. Flavoring the fat-free and low-fat milk will not qualify, except by using artificial sweeteners to stay within added sugar limits.

Under protein foods, the FDA is even more restrictive. The only protein foods listed in the 'healthy' labeling final rule are: game meat, seafood, eggs, beans, peas, lentils, seeds, nuts, and soy products. Furthermore, these options must meet the criteria of less than 1 g added sugars, less than 230 mg sodium and less than 1 to 2 g saturated fat.

But here's the good news! This FDA final rule (21 CFR Part 101, RIN 0910-A113) falls under the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). It's not likely to sit well with HHS Secretary designate RFK Jr. The rule becomes effective Feb. 25, 2025. The compliance date is three years later, so there is hope of requesting HHS initiate a new rulemaking process under new HHS leadership.

Bottom line is all three of these bad nutrition policies impact consumer health and dairy farm economic health and are rooted in the flawed Dietary Guidelines process.

There is good news on that front in Congress as well. House Ag Committee Chairman GT Thompson included DGA reform and oversight in the farm bill that had passed his Committee in the 2023-24 legislative session. It is critical that this issue be part of the new farm bill that moves forward in the 2025-26 legislative session.

Part II in a future Farmshine will look at the tumultuous 2024 dairy markets and margins spilling over into 2025.

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Marcia Remsberg was married to husband, 'Jack', for 73 years

FREDERICK, Md. — Marcia Ellis Remsberg, 94, passed away on December 21, at Somerford Place Memory Care in Frederick. She was the wife of pioneering dairy cattle photographer John "Jack" Homer Remsberg, Jr. to whom she was married for 73 years. He survives at age 98.

Born on January 19, 1930, in New Jersey, Marcia was the daughter of Clarence and Elizabeth Ellis. She attended the University of Maryland where she met and married her husband, Jack. Together, they raised four daughters, loving life on the family farm outside of Middletown.

A devoted, loving mother, Marcia leaves behind her three daughters, Valerie Remsberg Main (Eddie), Barbara Remsberg Fisher (Charles), and Jill Remsberg Brandenburg (Perry). A fourth daughter, Gail Remsberg Waerber preceded her in death.

Marcia is known affectionately as "Granny" to 13 grandchildren, Matt, Mark, Amy, Kate, Kim, Kristen, Ros, Ashley, Charity, John, Justin "Buck", Will, and Jake. She will also be remembered by her 27 great grandchildren.

Marcia was dedicated to be-

Maryland's ag celebration set for Feb. 6

MONROVIA, Md. — The 55th Taste of Maryland Agriculture gala is set for February 6, at Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland at Arundel Mills in Hanover, Md., starting at 6:30 p.m.

Sponsored by the Maryland Agriculture Council Inc., more than 900 are expected to attend. Agriculture education grants will be awarded and Governor Wes Moore is expected to introduce the state's Agricultural Hall of Fame honoree.

"Our mission for this event is to promote our vital and diverse agricultural industry and educate lawmakers about its importance to every citizen in Maryland," said Council President Faith Elliott Rossing. "As farmers, we are proud to produce food, fiber and fuel. We are proud to create jobs. We are proud to safely sustain and preserve and protect our land and natural resources. But it takes cooperation and mutual understanding and respect with our elected officials to keep us viable and strong."

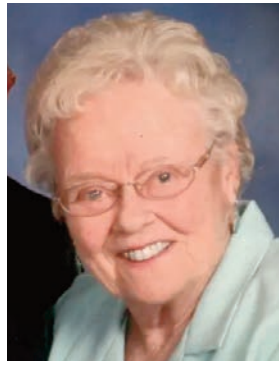
Gala attendees will enjoy a smorgasbord of Maryland-produced foods and beverages and will learn and see firsthand the financial commitment that the Council has made to agriculture education programs across the state. Several initiatives will be recognized with the awarding of almost \$10,000 in grants to individuals and organizations.

The Governor's Agriculture Hall of Fame award will be presented to a farm family that has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to agriculture and the community in which they live and work.

Tickets for the event are \$100 per person if ordered before January 10; individual ticket prices are \$130 after January 10. To order tickets online, go to www.mdagcouncil.com. A discounted overnight room block is available at Taste of Maryland Agriculture.

ing at home when her children were young. As the girls grew and became more independent, Marcia had many hobbies including golfing, cooking, tennis, swimming, knitting, reading, Garden Club, 4-H leader. She was an avid bridge player and played in various bridge clubs.

Marcia was devoted to her husband and they enjoyed many activities together. She and Jack attended University of Maryland football and bas-



Marcia E. Remsberg

ketball games and numerous sporting events of their grandchildren. They often played golf and participated in numerous golf leagues at Holly Hills Country Club in Ijamsville where they were members. Both Marcia and Jack loved traveling to Florida during the winter months. Marcia had a special love of the beach and would relax, read, and take swims in the ocean. Golfing was a bonus several times a week.

Marcia, Mom, Granny, will be remembered as a kind, loving, generous person with the most amazing smile and contagious laugh.

The family thanks the staff and caregivers at Somerford Place for the loving care shown to Marcia over the past two years.

A funeral service celebrating Marcia's life took place on Thursday, January 2, at Christ Reformed United Church of Christ, where she had been a member since her marriage to Jack.

In lieu of flowers the family requests considering a donation to Christ Reformed UCC Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 333, Middletown, MD 21769 or the charity of your choice in Marcia's memory.

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PDP's Carbon Conference 3.0 slated for Madison, Wis.

JUNEAU, Wis. — Conversations about carbon continue to drive dairy producer choices and the way their businesses operate. As markets expand and opportunities take shape, the breadth of information necessary for farmers to make informed choices becomes increasingly layered and complex.

Presented by Professional Dairy Producers® (PDP), the PDP Carbon Conference 3.0 will give dairy producers the opportunity to engage with experts in sustainability and carbon markets so the dairy industry can prepare for the future and maintain a competitive edge in this emerging space.

Scheduled for Tuesday, January 28, at the Sheraton Hotel in Madison, Wis., the conference will begin at 9:30 a.m. and conclude at 4:30 p.m.

"Carbon Conference 3.0 is the must-attend event for dairy producers to learn about the latest developments and build their strategies to navigate the rapidly evolving carbon space," said Shelly Mayer, Slinger, Wis., dairy producer and executive director of PDP. "It is absolutely critical that each of us understands how to prepare our businesses for the future."

Conference presenters will bring first-hand

experience in every aspect of the carbon market arena, from working with farmers to measure and reduce on-farm emissions, to developing market programs and working with dairy customers to meet consumers' growing demand for sustainable dairy products. Presenters include:

- Jenny Bockhahn and Kevin Ogorzalek, co-owners of Concord Agriculture Partners
- John Goeser, director of Animal Nutrition, Research and Innovation at Rock River Laboratory.
- Jeff Monstma and Jacqueline Stroud, representing Agropur

• Hansel New, AVP of Sustainability Strategy and Programs at Dairy Farmers of America

- John Jacobs, dairy producer, Green Valley Dairy
- Dr. Paul Rapnicki, DVM, veterinarian and director of Producer Services at Grande Cheese Company
- Patrick Wood, founder of Ag Methane Advisors

The conference will address the foundational differences between carbon offsets and insets, explore the evolving role of biodiversity **turn to page 21**

Center _____ from page 5

and didn't want to see another organization just talk about the problems.

"There was a need for coordination, where it didn't matter who got the credit," he said describing what he saw about this effort that made it different.

From the board to the staff, that has been a hallmark of the Center. Through the many

relationships formed over two decades, success has come from people working together toward a common goal, feeding off of each other's ideas, without regard for who gets the credit.

"I wasn't one of these pioneers," said panelist Jared Kurtz of Kurtland Farm, Elverson. He serves on the Center's board today, but recalled back in 2010, hearing his father Tim talk about expanding their dairy. At the time, he was younger and didn't know exactly

what his future might hold.

Their dairy utilized a profit team and later a transition team, and as he grew to become more involved in the dairy, "I saw these resources working and wanted to be a part of it," he said.

Around that time, the Center had expanded into youth education. In 2011, the Allies for Advancement was formed, and by 2015, the Dairy Excellence Foundation, a separate 501(c)3 non-profit entity, was formed.

The Foundation brought a full-time position focused on the education and workforce programs created around the flagship Discover Dairy curriculum. This includes Adopt-A-Cow, now reaching over 70,000 elementary classrooms, as well as the Dairy Leaders of Tomorrow (DLT), igniting interest in dairy careers among farm and non-farm high school students.

In fact, two years ago, a fully accredited and registered Dairy Herd Manager Apprenticeship program was developed, and this year, a pre-apprenticeship program was launched as a curriculum pathway.

In 2016, a relationship was formed with Team Pennsylvania for dairy development support and a partnership with Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association helped expand the Center's grant offerings. They also worked with Saint Joseph's University and the PA Preferred program in 2013-14, which led to processing and marketing grants.

By 2017, the Center's statewide producer surveys gained insights on trends in the dairy farming community, and the separate Foundation worked with the Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association to introduce the Calving Corner at the Pennsylvania Farm Show for more public outreach.

In 2018, the Choose PA Dairy Campaign got underway, and the Ag Excellence line was added to the Governor's budget, which today includes Centers for beef and other Pennsylvania farm commodities.

The year 2020 was a pivotal time with the Center becoming instrumental in coordinating resources through the disruptions of the Covid-19 pandemic.

From 2020 to 2023, the Center received grants from USDA to work with other Centers on a Mental Health Campaign for farmers, and began hosting animal care workshops with partners, including the Pennsylvania Beef Council.

Most recently, the Center worked with Penn State University to apply for a USDA Climate Smart Grant to implement the CARAT project on 69 farms that will measure the methane reduction and carbon sequestration results of various practices, including feed additives being studied at Penn State that alter digestion, to document reductions in methane emissions.

It was these latest multi-partner grants that have significantly increased the Center's budget from \$800,000 in 2006 to the \$3 to \$6 million level today.

Perhaps Dr. Reed said it best when he observed early-on in this 20-year history the need for coordination around so many aspects of a challenging industry to give dairy farmers access to resources and inspiration as well — that it comes without regard for who gets the credit.

To learn more about the Center's 20-year milestones, visit <https://www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/20years/>

Editor's note: We congratulate the Center for Dairy Excellence on this 20-year milestone and director Jayne Sebright and her team, and those before them. Their work does not go unnoticed, despite their humbleness. In service to dairy farm families, we are pleased to be an associated partner, providing the Center's page monthly and working together to deliver the Markets and Management Update every week in Farmshine. Congratulations on 20 years and best wishes on 20 more.



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Oct. fluid milk sales up 1.3%!

Year-to-date fluid milk sales are still tracking just shy of 1% higher in 2024 vs. 2023, with 10 months of data on record. Most months of 2024 have sold more fluid milk than year ago. After big gains of 1.6% and 4.3% year-over-year (YOY) in July and August, fluid milk sales took a 1.6% YOY dip in September, but came right back with a 1.3% YOY gain in October, according to USDA's Estimated Fluid Milk Product Sales Report on December 12. When adjusted for the extra Leap Year day in February, the year-to-date (YTD) sales of fluid milk products for the first 10 months of 2024 are up 0.8% YOY on a rolling daily basis with total unadjusted sales up 0.9% YOY.

The Northeast, which includes eastern Pennsylvania, was up 0.5% YOY in October and 0.4% higher YTD. The Mideast Order (33), which includes western Pennsylvania continued showing significant YOY gains in fluid milk sales, up 5% in October and up 4% YTD. Florida's sales were up 1.4% in October and up 1.8% YTD while the Appalachian marketing area saw October sales gain 0.9% YOY, the YTD sales are down by 0.4%. The Southeast milk marketing area reported fluid milk sales down 1.6% in October and down 0.7% YTD.

In the West, California made gains of 2.6% in October, up 0.7% YTD. Arizona sales were up a whopping 10% YOY for the month, with YTD sales up 3.4%. The Southwest and Pacific Northwest saw October sales gain 1.6% and 1.2%, respectively.

On the national level, whole milk sales were the big mover, with conventional whole milk sales up 3.6% YOY in October, organic up 10.1% for YTD totals that are up 2.2% and 12.9%, respectively. More flavored whole milk was offered to consumers by processors and retailers in October, pushing those sales higher by 1.8% for the month and essentially flat on a YTD basis. In the organic sector, flavored whole milk sales were up a whopping 23.7% in October and up 2.9% YTD. Total organic milk sales were up 5.9% in October, tracking 6.5% higher YTD.

In the 'other fluid milk products' category, October sales were up 16.5% YOY for conventional products and up 204.3% for organic. According to USDA AMS Dairy Division, this so-called 'other' category "includes eggnog, (some) drinkable yogurt, Lactaid, and other products that may not fit into one of the main published categories. A2 and ESL milks would be included in the category that matches their fat content. For example, whole A2 milk would be included in the whole milk category. Chocolate A2 milk would be reported in the flavored milk category."

There is no separate accounting of fluid milk sales by conventional pasteurization vs. ultra-pasteurization. This would be a useful way to do this report in the future, as the USDA aims to use an Extended Shelf Life (ESL) price adjuster when it implements the FMMO changes next year, meaning the Class I market will have essentially two different mover prices every month -- one for conventional HTST fluid milk and one for ultra-pasteurized ESL milk. It would be nice to track sales accordingly!

Dairy prices, milk futures rally into New Year

Light trade sent 2024 packing with a bang as dairy product prices rallied on the CME daily spot market while milk futures also made big gains across the board.

Class III milk futures averaged \$19.46 for the next 12 months, up a 36 cents/cwt compared with pre-holidays. Class IV milk futures averaged \$20.75, up 26 cents.

The daily CME spot market for dry whey continued to hold firm at the multi-year high of 75 cents/lb with just 2 loads trading across 5 days from Dec. 22nd to 30th. Meanwhile, the whey price in the USDA AMS weekly National Dairy Product Sales Report (NDPSR) moved 3 cents higher for the week ending Dec. 21 at 65 cents/lb -- still fully 5 to 10 cents below the market clearing spot price of the past 8 to 10 weeks. The tardy NDPSR is used in FMMO price formulas, lagging market-clearing levels all year.

The CME spot cheese market rallied with 40-lb block cheddar up a nickel at \$1.91/lb with 6 loads trading. Pegged at \$1.8075/lb, the 500-lb barrel cheese price was up 2 cents with 10 loads trading. Spot butter prices gained 6 cents at \$2.57/lb with 12 loads changing hands. Grade A nonfat dry milk gained a penny at \$1.3825/lb on 11 loads.

U.S. milk production down 1% in November

NASS report shows Calif. output down bigtime 9.2%

APHIS data show 'bird flu' hit 70% of Calif. dairies

USDA APHIS statistics show that 697 California dairy herds have wrestled with HPAI (H5N1) since mid-September, 222 of them detected within the past 30 days, the most recent on Dec. 27th. That's about 70% of all dairies in the top milk producing state, and the most recent milk production report for November reflects what producers say are substantial milk losses.

During a producer-to-producer webinar in mid-December, dairy owners that had H5N1 on multiple sites in Idaho and California questioned the validity of earlier production reports, noting key processors in their respective states were seeing milk receipts drop 10 to 15%. A producer from California, for example, noted the October USDA production report showed their state's output down 3.8% with a Z behind the number, meaning only half the herds were counted. Of course, there was considerable depooling of milk in California, the Pacific Northwest, and Upper Midwest in October due to class price relationships. Depooling trends make it more difficult to estimate milk production because FMMO data is used along with producer surveys in statistical estimating formulas.

The very next day after that webinar, USDA NASS released the November U.S. milk production report showing total output nationally was down 1% year-over-year (YOY) -- interrupting the fractionally higher trend that had emerged a few months ago to pressure fall cheese prices and milk futures lower.

Milk Market Moos

by Sherry Bunting
agrite2011@gmail.com

Indeed, milk supplies are tighter than the trade has believed, and dairy product inventories are also tight to adequate, according to Cold Storage reports.

But the big mover influencing the 1% milk production drop for the nation in November is the 9.2% drop in California's output year-over-year (YOY). The national trend on cow numbers is up 20,000 head YOY, whereas California lost 1000 head vs. year ago. The real dent in California's milk production came from the 9.2% loss in milk output per cow, which fell 175 pounds (about 6 pounds/cow/day) from 1905 pounds in Nov. 2023 to 1730 pounds in Nov. 2024. Milk output per cow was mostly steady to a bit higher for most other states in November, with the U.S. average output per cow down 23 pounds or 0.7% YOY.

This does not come as a surprise to California dairies living through the impact of HPAI (H5N1) in their herds, given these producers report a 30 to 40% herd-level milk production loss that comes back just half-way after 6 to 8 weeks (shaved peaks). Producers and veterinarians also report some next lactation impacts in states that had the virus earlier, but these observations are limited at this stage of the game.

In fact, they say, the virus does not discriminate. All ages and stages of lactation; even dry cows with collars showed the same drop in rumination minutes. Mortalities increased by 1.5 to 2% at the herd level, according to producers who've compared losses to prior years, and longer term impacts of early culling, aborted pregnancies and other repro issues are additional.

Nationally, there have been 913 dairy herds affected in 16 states since the outbreak began in Texas in March 2024. Within the past 30 days, the count is 224 herds in 3 states. California with 222, Nevada 1, Texas 1.

Other HPAI (H5N1) developments

In addition to USDA's mandatory bulk milk testing before pasteurization across the country to identify herds with the virus, the FDA this month began a domestic sampling assignment to collect and test aged raw cow's milk cheese for HPAI (H5N1). The objectives are to determine whether viable H5N1 virus is present in the cheese; and to take follow-up action(s) as needed to address potential contaminated product and protect consumers. There are several types of commercially manufactured cheeses that are considered "raw milk aged cheeses" because pasteurization can interfere with the type of fermentation producing such cheese. Aging and fermentation take care of potential pathogens in these cheeses, so the FDA wants to make sure H5N1 is also neutralized, if present.

Meanwhile, another more severe human case of H5N1 was identified in a human patient in Louisiana. It is from the same clade circulating in migratory birds and domestic poultry, and this patient was exposed to infected poultry, but the genome sequencing shows it is the D1.11 strain moving between wild migratory birds and poultry, not the B3.13 strain that is spreading cow to cow on dairies and between dairies as well as between dairies and domestic poultry operations.

Some in the dairy, poultry, and medical world are beginning to raise questions about "gain of function" research on this clade of H5N1 reportedly conducted previously at laboratories in Georgia, Wisconsin, and The Netherlands. This earlier research was said to have been ended several years ago, where conditions were manipulated to identify viral mutations that correspond to mammal to mammal or aerosolized spread in order to be able to identify these changes if they occur in nature. What, if any, influence such questions have on the current situation is unknown.

USDA, FDA, and CDC still deem the risk to humans to be low, and dairy products safe to consume.

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An already fine herd of Registered Holsteins is growing. Not in size, but in quality. That's the ambition of the herd's owners and caretakers, from left: Ethan, Emily and Ryan Wolfe. Kneeling is Ryan's cousin, Austin, 13, who enjoys farm life and helps with the chores. Time spent with "Shamsky," the very alert, energetic and playful Welsh Corgi, is a special treat. Photo by Dieter Krieg

Wolfe Family _____ from page 1

make genetic progress in my next generation. I also take into consideration the bull's strengths and weaknesses and make sure it is a good match for my cow. I take my breeding very seriously and I try to be very picky."

"I have a crazy fascination with breeding," he admits. "I like to dig into pedigrees of show winners to see how they were bred." Trips to the World Dairy Exposition with like-minded friends provide additional inspiration for this third-generation dairy farmer.

Just shy of four years ago, in February of 2020, the young do-it-yourselfer got interested in placing embryos from his

best cows into his own recipients to accelerate genetic progress.

"I don't use too much new stuff," he continued. "I want to see the calves before I use a bull."

Asked to name some of his favorite service sires, and explaining why, he named the following:

- Yeti. "I like his pedigree and the width that I see in a lot of his daughters. He is a Hanans son out of a 96-point Yoder.
- Luster-P and Renegade. "I've seen a lot of 2-year olds that are really correct.
- Chief and Delta Lambda. "Both are really highly proven bulls and their daughters are some of the strongest 2-year olds that I have ever seen, with really good udders.
- Destination and Boom. "They are two of my favorite

bulls. I like Destination's length of frame and the cow family that he's from. Boom is a very dairy bull who goes back to Regancrest Barbie, one of my favorite cows. He (Boom) is working very well in my herd.

"Longevity, a good DPR and low SCC are what I look for in all of my service sires. Longevity is very important to me," Ryan pointed out.

Continuing on about his own pedigree or roots in dairy farming, Ryan mentioned that his grandfather, Marvin Wolfe, milked Registered Holsteins. "But he didn't really do much with them," Ryan shared. "I guess you could say progress came in stages. My father became more active and now it's me. I'd like to say that I'm really into it."

Ryan's parents, Mark and Amy, established Mar-Am Farm in 2004 and they continue to be involved to this day, as are Ryan's wife Emily and his younger brother, Ethan. Their working together as a family is uniquely different from most small family farm operations in that each of them also has an off-farm job. Ethan, in fact, has his own landscaping business.

"We all have the farming mind-set ... we want to farm, and obviously we're not getting rich," Ryan observed, referring to their humble farmstead. "We work together every morning to get everything done that must be done and then we leave for our other jobs." Afternoon/evening chores are more

turn to page 15

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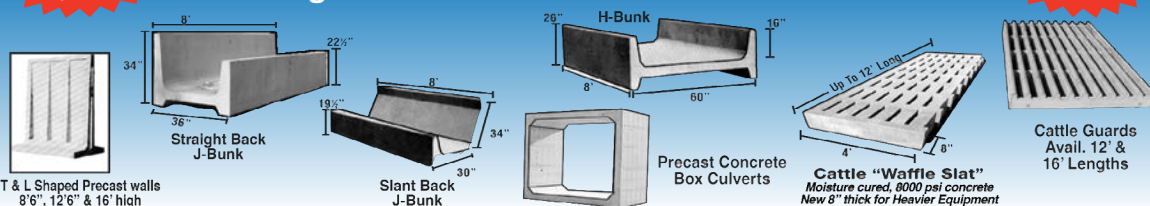
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Wolfe Family from page 14

streamlined with two people handling seven units to milk 55 cows in a tie-stall barn.

Ryan and Emily are the only two in the family with off-farm “cow” jobs. Ryan works with NoBull as an A.I. technician and Emily had been employed by Select Sires prior to becoming the new regional representative for Holstein Association USA in late October. Originally from Maryland, she met Ryan at a line dance in Robesonia, located roughly 25 miles south of their farm. Sharing a passion for cows and life on a dairy farm, they tied the knot this past August.

Meanwhile, the family had also been dealt the agony and depression that comes when a serious illness strikes. Mark, Ryan’s 49-year old father, has cancer and it became necessary for him to slow down. He still comes to the barn, however, to see the steady progress being made right before his eyes. He is, after all, the person who set the stage for dreams to come true for his son.

Ryan is very much aware that his father’s illness accelerated a transition in the farm’s operations. They started to talk about it in October of 2023 and a mutually agreeable “take over” plan went into effect on January 1, 2024. They’re all on the same page, which is why they’re able to work together as they do. “We have a really fair deal,” Ryan affirmed, adding appreciatively that “a slow tongue” helps whenever a concern beckons attention.

The original farm itself is only 20 acres in size and the herd numbers around 120 head, counting cows, heifers and calves. “We don’t want to get bigger ... we want to get better,” Ryan



Milking daughters of Mar-Am GC Artic-ET (EX-92) are in the herd. She is from the Tri-Day Ashlyn-ET family.



VT-Pond-View DB Loyal is from the Twin-Wind-TC Broker Lass-ET family and has milking daughters in the herd.



Mar-Am Farm, as seen from a nearby hill, is located less than five miles northeast

of Pine Grove, where flat land is scarce and deer are plentiful. Photo by Dieter Krieg

shared, speaking for the entire family.

However, to feed their herd efficiently, more cropland made sense. Therefore 90 additional acres were purchased and another parcel is rented. But the Wolfes farm none of it. Instead, they hire custom operators to do it all, including planting, spraying, combining and chopping. “It makes sense for us and it’s perfect for me,” Ryan said with a big smile. “I’m not like most farmers,” he exclaimed. “I love cows, yes; but the other stuff not so much.” All of the crops that they harvest (corn, triticale and hay) are used to feed the herd. Their November DHIA average

Milk from Mar-Am Farm goes to Guers Dairy, a small, independent processor located just east of Pottsville, (25 miles away) and in business since 1930.



reads: 23,685M, 900F, 740P on 57 cows. Milk is shipped to Guers Dairy, a small, independent processor located just east of Pottsville, (25 miles away) and in business since 1930.

Herd improvement begins with mating decisions and Ryan is keen on seeing that improvement in his heifer calves. “Every calf has to get off to a good start and prove itself. We try to make every calf count,” he stated. “If we have more than we need,” we can sell them,” he added, noting that they won’t be milking more than 62 cows for the simple reason of having only 62 tie-stalls.

“This is what I want and this is my future,” the young man declared happily. All of the family likes the idea of being able to get away during the day. “We all get a break,” Ryan grinned.

Happy New Year!

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 Tuesday, January 21, 2025
 Thursday, January 23, 2025

Keynote Speaker
Jay Fuhrer at both meetings

January 21, 2025
 East Grove Church - 1167 Belmar Road
 Franklin, PA 16323 (Venango County)

8:00-8:45 – Registration and visit with sponsors/exhibitors
 8:45-9:00 – Welcome and Announcements – Jim Hershey
 9:00-10:00 – Keynote, Jay Fuhrer: “Why Healthy Soils Matter”
 10:00-10:45 – Mike Ohler: “My Journey with No-Till and Cover Crops”
 10:45-11:15 – Dean James: “Fencing to Reduce Deer Damage”
 11:15 -12:00 – Sjoerd Duiker, PSU Extension & AJ O’Neil: “Grazing Cover Crops”
 12:00-1:00 – Lunch and Visit with Exhibitors
 1:00-1:30 – Venango Co. Conservation District Programs
 - Sponsor Comments, Polk Demonstration Property (Jane)
 1:30-2:15 – Jay Furher: “Managing Your Soils for Weather Extremes”
 2:15-3:00 – Farmer Panel: “Changes We’ve Seen Since No-till & Cover Crops”
 3:00 -3:45 – Local Panel: The Western PA Experience with No-Till & Cover Crops
 3:45 – 4:00 – Closing Comments

January 23, 2025
 Buffalo Community Church- 4445 Hoffa Mill Road
 Lewisburg, PA 17837

8:00-8:45 – Registration and visit with sponsors/vendors
 8:45-9:00 – Welcome and Announcements – Jim Hershey
 9:00-10:00 – Keynote – Jay Fuhrer: “Why Healthy Soils Matter”
 10:00-10:45 – “Effective weed control: Getting Ahead of Palmer Amaranth”
 10:45-11:15 – “Fencing to Reduce Deer Damage”
 11:15-11:30 – “A Look at the Country View Feed Processing Plant”
 11:30 -12:00 – “Managing Spring Covers & Planting Green”
 12:00-12:45 – Lunch and Visit with Exhibitors
 12:45-1:00 – Sponsor Comments
 1:00-1:30 – Recognition of “No-Till Pioneers”
 1:30-2:15 – Jay Furher: “Managing Your Soil for Weather Extremes”
 2:15-3:00 – Rob Meinen: “The Pros and Cons of Manure Injection”
 3:00 -3:45 – Farmer Panel: Making Small Management Changes
 Based on Testing Results
 3:45 – 4:00 – Closing Comments
 4:00 – Adjourn

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 January 21
 January 23

Questions? Contact Jay Howes @ jhowes@pennag.com or 717-574-4510.

PHA offers suggested by-law changes to be reviewed by members

Introduction

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — In 2024, Pennsylvania Holstein Association (PHA) President Patricia Kitchen, with full support from the Executive Committee, appointed Tim Seipt to chair a Redistricting/Governance Committee. They were tasked to formulate a plan for consolidating the Association's structure which will allow opportunity for more representation on the Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

The following plan was approved by the Board of Directors on December 12th.

1. Consolidate to three Association Districts down from six.

2. New structure of the Executive Committee will include

- President, Vice-President, Treasurer, immediate Past President, and one non-officer member representing each of the three Association districts on 3-year terms plus one overall At-Large member with a 2-year term.

3. The At-Large Executive Committee members will be elected every two years in conjunction with the election of officers.

This plan requires a change in the By-Laws of the Association. Upon approval of these proposed Bylaw revisions the transition plan is as follows:

In 2025 Northwest and Southwest districts will elect their new Executive Committee members who will serve three years as currently.

In 2026 the members of the Central and Northeast districts will elect one person to represent the "new" Central district along with electing new officers and one person to the new At-Large Executive Committee position.

Any questions please contact President Kitchen or Executive Director David Lentz.

BYLAWS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA HOLSTEIN ASSOCIATION, INC.

As Amended
February 20, 2004
February 26, 2009
February 28, 2013
March 6, 2020
February 7, 2025

BYLAWS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA HOLSTEIN ASSOCIATION
As Amended ~~March 6, 2020~~ February 7, 2025
Incorporated September 25, 1949 under the Nonprofit Corporation Law of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

ARTICLE I - NAME

Section 1. This Association shall be known as the Pennsylvania Holstein Association. Its principal office shall be at such place as may be designated by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

Section 1. Pennsylvania Holstein Association shall promote the Holstein dairy industry through ethical and lawful activities, to enhance the profitability of Holstein dairy producers and encourage the development of youth in Pennsylvania and beyond.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERS

Section 1. Any individual, partnership, corporation or institution engaged in the breeding or interested in the welfare of breeders of Holstein cattle may, upon payment of the required fee, become a member of this Association. An applicant for membership shall make application on a form provided by the Association for that purpose.

Section 2. Any member found violating any of the provisions of the Bylaws may be expelled from membership upon a two-thirds vote of the Directors of the Association and thereupon the membership shall cease, providing however, that a thirty-day written notice from the Executive Director has been mailed to such member at the post office address as it shall appear on the books of the Association, advising of the contemplated action giving the reasons therefore, and extending an opportunity to such member to appear before the Association Executive Committee for a hearing.

Section 3. If any member shall fail to pay the dues of the Association, having received notice from the Executive Director, the membership of such member shall cease as determined by the Board of Directors. No person shall exercise the privilege of voting at the annual meeting unless said member's dues are paid.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP FEES

Section 1. The annual membership fee shall be established by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. A membership refund shall be made to affiliated local associations, the amount and conditions as established by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Any payments by new members after July 1 shall be applied to the ensuing year. Renewal memberships will be applied to the fiscal year during which payment is made and for which payment is due.

ARTICLE V - FISCAL YEAR

Section 1. The fiscal year of the Association shall commence on the first day of October each year and end of September 30th of the following year.

ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS OF MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The Annual Meeting of the Association shall be held following the end of the fiscal year at a time and place determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Special meetings of the Association may be held at such time and place as the Directors may determine upon no less than fifteen (15) days advance notice to the membership.

Section 3. Twenty-five (25) members of the Association in good standing as provided in these Bylaws, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any membership meeting called by the President.

ARTICLE VII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. There shall be a Board of Directors which shall consist of representatives of the affiliated local associations. One Director shall be elected by each association. **Ideally, no Director should serve for more than six consecutive years. However, in counties with limited membership, representation on the Board of Directors is vital. If a Director has served more than six years the Executive Committee shall encourage another individual to represent the county so as to keep new ideas and "new blood" coming into the Association. No Director shall serve for more than six consecutive years.**

Section 2. Only members of the Pennsylvania Holstein Association are eligible for election to the Board of Directors.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall be the governing body of this Association and shall determine the policies of the Association. The Board may delegate the administration of policies to the Executive Committee.

Section 4. The Board of Directors shall be responsible for employment of the Executive Director.

Section 5. The Board of Directors shall meet at least three times each year, one of which meeting shall be during the Annual Convention. Special meetings shall be held on the call of the President or upon written request of five or more

members of the Board of Directors submitted to the President and the Executive Director. Notices will be **mailed emailed and/or written mailed** by the Executive Director at least ten days in advance of the meeting.

Section 6. No Director, Officer or member of this Association shall receive, directly or indirectly, any salary or compensation for services rendered this Association either as such Director or Officer or in any other membership capacity unless authorized by the Board of Directors.

Section 7. The Board of Directors shall have the power and authority to purchase, convey, mortgage, lease, or otherwise acquire, dispose of, or encumber real or personal property, for and on behalf of the Association, by resolution duly adopted at any regular or special meeting.

Section 8. A majority of the Board of Directors, from active local Associations, shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board. State directors representing each local association or the designated alternate shall be eligible to vote.

Section 9. Present Executive Committee members shall be non-voting members of the Board of Directors **unless an Executive Board member is needed to represent his/her local Association.**

ARTICLE VIII - DUTIES OF BOARD MEMBERS

Section 1. It shall be the duty of each Board Member to attend all meetings of the Board of Directors. When attendance is impossible, the local association or State Director shall designate a representative for the association.

Section 2. The Board Member shall keep fully informed of all Association activities, accept personal responsibility for keeping the members of the local association likewise so informed and see that annual membership campaigns are conducted in the territory of the association.

Section 3. Board Members shall call to the attention of the Executive Director or Executive Committee member, any special problems or situations in the territory of the local association as may require attention and shall render assistance as may be practical.

ARTICLE IX - VACANCIES

Section 1. Vacancies on the Board of Directors shall be declared by the Board for (1) death, (2) resignation, (3) prolonged absences (three consecutive meetings), (4) failure to fulfill duties of a Board Member, and (5) inactivation of a local association.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall request the local or affiliated association to fill any vacancy.

ARTICLE X - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall be comprised of: The President, Vice President, Treasurer, the immediate Past President, **plus** a member representing the **convention Association** districts as set forth in Article XX, **and one At-**



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Section 2. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the administration of policies of the Association as established by the Board of Directors, which shall include:

- A) All business affairs of the Association.
- B) Employment of field staff (excluding the Executive Director)
- C) Determining all salaries and employee benefits.
- D) The operation and maintenance of all facilities.

Section 3. ~~Each non-officer Executive Committee member shall be elected for a three-year term and cannot succeed to a second three-year term until an interval of one year has elapsed from completion of term of office. A maximum of three nominees shall be presented for election to each non-officer position on the Executive Committee. Each nominee must be a present or past member of the State Board of Directors at the time of the Executive Committee election. Each nonofficer Executive Committee member must be a present or past member of the State Board of Directors at the time of the Executive Committee election.~~

A) Each District non-officer Executive Committee member shall be elected for a three-year term and cannot succeed to a second three-year term until an interval of one year has elapsed from completion of term of office.

B) ~~The At-Large Executive Committee member shall be elected for a two-year term and can be re-elected for a second consecutive two-year term. The At-Large Executive Committee member cannot succeed to a consecutive third two-year term until an interval of one year has elapsed from completion of term of office.~~

Section 4. ~~Terms of two~~ The term of one District non-officer Executive Committee members will expire at the conclusion of each annual convention.

Section 5. ~~Nominees shall be presented for election each year on a rotating basis for each District non-officer position on the Executive Committee.~~

A) The retiring Executive Committee member from the district involved shall be responsible for calling a district nominating meeting. The retiring Executive Committee member shall present the nominees for the election at the State Convention. State Directors from the district involved shall be the only directors eligible to vote. In the event of a tie, the retiring Executive Committee member shall be entitled to vote to break the tie.

~~A) B) The Nominating Committee shall select the nominees for the At-Large Executive Committee Member. The Board of Directors shall vote and select the At-Large representative at the Annual Convention bi-annually in the same year as officer elections.~~

Section 6. All members of the Executive Committee shall, upon election thereto, relinquish their right to serve as a State Director, and their association will elect a new State Director.

Section 7. The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the President or upon written request of two members of the Executive committee. A majority of members shall constitute a quorum.

Section 8. Unless requested to remain, the salaried officers shall retire from all meetings of the Executive Committee when the committee by vote shall decide to go into Executive Session and thereupon a Secretary Pro-Tem shall be elected to record the proceedings of such Executive Sessions and only the resolutions adopted and the action taken shall be reported and recorded as the proceedings of the meeting.

Section 9. Vacancies on the Executive Committee other than those caused by normal expiration shall be filled by the Board of Directors from the district involved with the vacancies.

ARTICLE XI - OFFICERS AND DUTIES

Section 1. The officers of the Association shall be a President, Vice President, Executive Director, and Treasurer.

Section 2. The officers with the exception of the Executive Director shall be elected from members or former members of the Board of Directors. The offices of President, Vice President, and Treasurer shall be for a two-year term. The election shall take place at the Board meeting held during the annual convention.

Section 3. The President shall:

A) Preside over all meetings of the Association of the Board of Directors and of the Executive Committee.

B) Sign as President, with the Treasurer, all notes, deeds and other instruments on behalf of the Association.

C) Call special meetings of the Association, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee.

D) Serve as an Ex-Officio member of all committees of the Board.

E) Be authorized to sign checks with the Executive Director, Vice-President, ~~Director of Sales~~ and/or Treasurer.

F) Perform all acts and duties required of an Executive and presiding Officer.

Section 4. The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of or at the request of the President.

Section 5. The Executive Director shall:

A) Carry out all policies of the Board of Directors as directed by the Executive Committee.

B) Make all disbursements countersigned by the Treasurer, Vice-President or President ~~or Director of Sales~~.

C) Be responsible for the employment of the Clerical Staff.

D) Supervise the work of the entire staff.

Section 6. The Treasurer shall:

A) Keep continuously informed of the financial status of the Association.

B) Cause the records of the Association to be independently reviewed, audited or any other procedures that are in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.

C) Make a full report of all matters and business pertaining to this office to the members at the Annual Meeting and to the Directors whenever required.

ARTICLE XII - AFFILIATED LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

Section 1. Each local association shall have Bylaws.

Section 2. Said Bylaws shall be periodically reviewed by the local association and maintained in a current status.

Section 3. A State Director must be elected annually or periodically as set forth in the Bylaws.

Section 4. An annual activity should be held by the local association each year.

Section 5. ~~Local Association Board of Directors should meet at least three times per year. Be is advised that Local Association Board of Directors should meet at least three times a year.~~

Section 6. Local associations shall maintain adequate books and records of financial affairs and submit proof of annual review to the State Board of Directors in order to qualify for financial benefits of affiliation.

Section 7. ~~Associations failing to comply with Sections one through six may be declared inactive following due warning from the State Board of Directors and will forfeit all privileges of a duly organized and affiliated local association. Associations struggling to comply with Sections one through six should seek assistance from the Executive Committee. A team of PHA staff, Directors, Executive Committee member(s) and local Holstein members will be formed to encourage and restructure a local Association within the county or by combining county organizations.~~

ARTICLE XIII - DUTIES AND RIGHTS OF MEMBERS

Section 1. Any member may withdraw from the Association at any time by submitting a statement to that effect addressed to the Executive Director. Such withdrawal shall not affect any right which the Association has against the retiring member with respect to any indebtedness to the Association which said member may have.

Section 2. Unless otherwise provided by law or by these Bylaws, all the rights, title and interests of a member of the Association in or to the Corporation or its property, shall cease on the termination of his membership.

ARTICLE XIV Limitation of Director Monetary Liability; Indemnification of Officers, Directors, and Others

Section 1. A director of the Association shall not be personally liable, as such, for monetary damages for any action taken, or for any failure to take any action, unless (1) the director has breached or failed to perform the duties of his or her office and (2) the breach or failure to perform constitutes self-dealing, willful misconduct or recklessness. This bylaw shall not apply to the responsibility or liability of a director pursuant to any criminal statute. No amendment to or repeal of this bylaw shall apply to or have any effect on the personal liability for monetary damages of any director of the Association for, or with respect to, any act or omission of such director occurring prior to such amendment or repeal.

Section 2. The Association shall indemnify any director or officer, and may indemnify any other employee or agent, who was or is a party to, or is threatened to be made a party to or who is called as a witness in connection with any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or

investigative, including an action by or in the right of this Association by reason of the fact that he or she is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of this Association or is or was serving at the request of this Association as a director, officer, employee or agent of another Association, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses, including attorneys' fees, judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by him or her in connection with such action, suit or proceeding unless the act or failure to act giving rise to the claim for indemnification is determined by a court to have constituted willful misconduct or recklessness.

Section 3. The indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by, or granted pursuant to, this Article XIV shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those seeking indemnification or advancement of expenses may be entitled under any bylaw, agreement contract, vote of members or directors or pursuant to the direction howsoever embodied, of any court of competent jurisdiction or otherwise, both as to action in his or her official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding such office. It is the policy of this Association that indemnification of, and advancement of expenses to, directors and officers of this Association shall be made to the fullest extent permitted by law. To this end, the provisions of this Article XIV shall be deemed to have been amended for the benefit of directors and officers of this Association effective immediately upon any modification of the Nonprofit Association Law of 1988 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (the "NPCL") which expands or enlarges the power or obligation of Associations organized under the NPCL to indemnify, or advance expenses to, directors and officers of this Association.

Section 4. This Association shall pay expenses incurred by an officer or director, and may pay expenses incurred by any other employee or agent, in defending a civil or criminal action, suit or proceeding in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of such person to repay such amount if it shall ultimately be determined that he or she is not entitled to be indemnified by this Association.

Section 5. The indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by, or granted pursuant to, this Article XIV shall, unless otherwise provided when authorized or ratified, continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, employee or agent and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such person.

Section 6. This Association shall have the authority to create a fund of any nature, which may, but need not be, under the control of any trustee, or otherwise secure or insure in any manner, its indemnification obligations, whether arising under these bylaws or otherwise. This authority shall include, without limitation, the authority to (i) deposit funds in trust or in escrow, (ii) establish any

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form of self-insurance, (iii) secure its indemnity obligation by grant of a security interest, mortgage or other lien on the assets of this Association or (iv) establish a letter of credit, guaranty or surety arrangement for the benefit of such persons in connection with the anticipated indemnification or advancement of expenses contemplated by this Article XIV. The provisions of this Article XIV shall not be deemed to preclude the indemnification of, or advancement of expenses to, any person who is not specified in Section 2 of this Article XIV but whom this Association has the power or obligation to indemnify, or to advance expenses for, under the provisions of the NPCL or otherwise. The authority granted by this Section 6 shall be exercised by the Board of Directors of this Association.

Section 7. The repeal of this Article XIV or any amendment thereof which may impair or otherwise diminish the protection afforded hereby to the persons described herein shall be effective only with respect to acts or omissions by such persons which occur after the effective date of such repeal or amendment and shall have no effect whatsoever with respect to acts or omissions occurring prior to such effective date.

ARTICLE XV - SEAL

Section 1. The seal of this Association shall bear the name of the Association and year of organization and year of incorporation.

ARTICLE XVI - CONTRACTS

Section 1. This Association shall become a party to no contracts or incur any indebtedness against the Association greater than the total net worth of the Association except by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XVII - MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings of the Association shall be governed in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order, latest edition.

ARTICLE XVIII - COMMITTEES

Section 1. The suggested standing committees or others as deemed necessary shall be appointed by the Executive Committee: **S**ale, **S**how, **m**embership **a**Activities, **Y**outh, **p**ersonnel and **f**inance.

Section 2. Such committees shall observe generally the duties that their title represents and be responsible for developing, administering, and/or promoting Association activities within the Committee's assigned area of responsibility, subject to the direction of the Board of Directors and in accordance with these By-laws. **Section 3.** The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of six individuals, **one ideally two** from each

convention Association district as set forth in Article XX for the purpose of nominating officers. Said committee shall meet at least **45 days one year** prior to the Board Meeting held during the annual convention.

ARTICLE XIX - DISCIPLINE AND DUE PROCESS

Section 1. Rationale. The Association exists to carry on lawful activities, the purpose of which is to foster and promote the Holstein Dairy Industry in Pennsylvania. Illegal conduct or conduct that is inappropriate behavior which takes place at, or in connection with, any Association event shall be deemed to detract from the Association's purpose and its reputation and is, therefore, subject to disciplinary action by the Association. This Article describes the procedures pursuant to which the Association will administer discipline and affords those facing potential discipline the right to notice and an opportunity to be heard.

Section 2. Disciplinary Committee. The Executive Committee of the Association shall serve as the Disciplinary Committee of the Association.

Section 3. Responsibilities of the Disciplinary Committee. The Disciplinary Committee will investigate, on its own motion, or upon the request of a member or officer of the Association, violations of Association rules, regulations, standards, or procedures. Where sufficient evidence of a violation exists, as determined by the Disciplinary Committee, disciplinary sanctions will be imposed by that Committee. Hearsay evidence is not considered sufficient evidence on which to base disciplinary action.

Section 4. Common Sense and Fairness. Common sense and fairness shall be the guide for decision making by the Disciplinary Committee.

Section 5. Complaint Procedure.

A) Complainant. Any member or officer of the Association (a "complainant") may request the Disciplinary Committee to investigate an incident of alleged misconduct and, in the event that misconduct is found to have occurred, to take appropriate disciplinary action.

B) Initiating a Complaint. A complainant seeking Disciplinary Committee review of an alleged incident of misconduct shall deliver a written complaint to the Chair of the Executive Committee. The complaint shall: Identify the complainant by name, address, telephone number and e-mail address; Clearly identify the person accused of misconduct ("subject"); Provide a detailed and objective description and account of the conduct giving rise to the complaint; Provide as many names and telephone numbers of witnesses to the incident as are in the possession of the complainant; and Request the Disciplinary Committee review of the incident.

Section 6. Initial Contact.

The Disciplinary Committee shall, within 20 days of receiving a written complaint seeking Disciplinary Committee review of an alleged incident of misconduct, serve written notice to all parties involved of the initiation of formal disciplinary review and to inform all

concerned of the "Discipline and Due Process" provisions set forth in this Article by delivering to all parties involved a copy of this Article.

Section 7. Investigation. The Disciplinary Committee shall investigate any complaint of alleged misconduct. The investigation shall include face-to-face or telephonic interviews of the complainant and any persons who would be subject to disciplinary action if the complaint is well-founded. The Disciplinary Committee shall also include interviews of witnesses, to the extent practicable. The investigation may proceed without the cooperation of the complainant or the subject of the investigation. The Disciplinary Committee may, at its discretion, provide affected persons notice and opportunity for an evidentiary hearing, if requested by the complainant, the subject of the action, or any member of the Disciplinary Committee.

Section 8. Deliberation and Decision. Once the Disciplinary Committee has completed its investigation, it shall review the evidence before it, deliberate and render a decision as to the appropriate disciplinary action, or non-action, in keeping with this Article. The decision shall be rendered as promptly as possible, but no later than 60 days after receipt of the complaint.

Section 9. Notice of Decision. A decision of the Disciplinary Committee shall be in writing, and shall be mailed to both the complainant and the subject of the disciplinary action, or non-action imposed by the Disciplinary Committee no later than 60 days after the receipt of the complaint. The decision directed to the complainant and the subject shall be hand-delivered or sent certified mail, return receipt requested.

Section 10. Right to Appeal; Procedure. A person who is subject to a disciplinary action by decision of the Disciplinary Committee is entitled to due process, and may appeal the decision to the Board of Directors by a written notice of appeal delivered to the Secretary of the Board of Directors within 10 days of actual receipt of the Disciplinary Committee's decision by the subject of such decision.

Section 11. Review by the Board of Directors.

A) General. The Board of Directors will hear an appeal of a decision of the Disciplinary Committee at the date, time and place of its next regularly scheduled meeting, if the appeal notice is received 10 days or more before that scheduled meeting. If the appeal notice is received less than 10 days before the next scheduled meeting, the Board of Directors may, at its discretion, elect to hear the appeal at the meeting following the next regularly scheduled meeting.

B) Board of Directors' Options. The Board of Directors may affirm the disciplinary action taken by the Disciplinary Committee or modify that action by imposing a less-severe disciplinary sanction or a more severe disciplinary sanction.

Section 12. Voting; Notice of Decision. The Board of Directors shall conduct a hearing and uphold or change decisions of the Disciplinary Committee appealed to the

Board by a simple majority vote. This appellate decision of the Board will be reduced to writing and mailed to the person subject to the disciplinary action within 3 days of the meeting at which the appellate decision is made.

Section 13. Defining Misconduct and Determining Appropriate Disciplinary Measures.

A) General. The Association may take reasonable disciplinary action against any person who does one or more of the following:

- Engages in assaultive or intimidating behavior, or conduct that otherwise harms, threatens or endangers any Association member or other person attending an Association event;
- Engages in actions that would, if known, tend to subject the good name of the Association to disrepute or scandal;
- Engages in disorderly conduct; or
- Engages in practices that violate standards of conduct established by the Association, or its duly authorized committees, for its activities and programs.

B) Specific Incidents of Misconduct and Recommended Progressive Penalties. The Board of Directors may, but need not, establish recommended guidelines for progressively severe penalties for specific violations of conduct to guide the Disciplinary Committee in its actions. Such penalty guidelines may identify specific violations, prescribe degrees of appropriate disciplinary actions, and may impose progressively more severe disciplinary measures for repeated violations.

Section 14. Clarifications and Miscellaneous matters.

A) Recusal of Directors. In the event that a Director of the Association is involved in the investigation or consideration of any disciplinary action by the Disciplinary Committee, that Director may not participate in the deliberation or vote of the Board of Directors with respect to a review of the Disciplinary Committee's decision.

B) Criminal Prosecutions and/or Civil Proceedings. Penalties, disciplinary actions and decisions of the Disciplinary Committee or the Board of Directors do not exclude, prohibit or limit the Association, any member of the Association or any other person from pursuing civil or criminal legal action against the subject based upon conduct resulting in disciplinary action by the Association under this Article and the By-laws of the Association.

ARTICLE XX - CONVENTION ASSOCIATION DISTRICTS

Section 1. For the purpose of serving as host for an annual convention and Executive Committee Membership, the State shall be divided into ~~six~~ **three** districts. Subject to any future changes which may be made by the Board of Directors under Section 2 of this Article, **turn to page 21**



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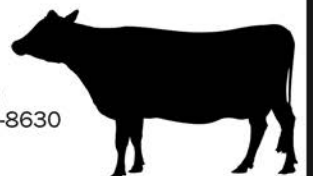
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Stress-free cattle handling is all about training and habit

By SHERRY BUNTING
Special for Farmshine

NEW HOLLAND, Pa. — Herd health and nutrition, farm economics, stockmanship, cattle handling and evaluation of automation technologies were topics on the menu for Homestead Nutrition's annual dairy seminar with 160 people attending the event at Yoder's banquet facility in New Holland on Dec. 4.

Todd Ward, PAS, of Direct Dairy Nutrition Services, LLC, discussed stockmanship, cattle handling, and evaluation of automation during the afternoon's slate of speakers. Normally Ward goes around the country doing several-day-long sessions teaching the stockmanship process. What he gave Homestead Nutrition seminar attendees was the tip of the iceberg — but immediately useful tips, nonetheless.

Ward noted that automation has come a long way, and so has the understanding of cow behavior to optimize it. He is a nutrition consultant who specializes in robotic milking and training. He started in the robot world 11 years ago, saying he had to learn how to handle cattle a little differently than in a conventional dairy.

"If you would've started this robotic process 11 years ago, you would not have been happy. That was 42 farms ago for

me. The first three days (of a startup) with no sleep, working with the people... the cows train pretty easily, it's the people that train pretty hard," he joked.

Ward currently works with over 35 robot dairies as a nutritionist and a consultant and has over 12 conventional parlors he works with also. Either way — cattle handling and stockmanship come down to basics, he said. The difference with automation is "the robot doesn't lie to me, I can look at that information and really tell what's going on and work on things."

First, he said: "We have to understand what we're dealing with. Cow defenses are hearing, seeing, and smelling. Cows are slow-moving range animals, that's what they are. They are worried about predators coming to eat them. (Even in a facility), she still thinks there's lions and tigers and bears coming to eat her. Cows can smell you coming, and they know each and every one of you guys. So, you need to be thinking about that when you're dealing with the animals on the farm."

One of Ward's rules is "absolutely no yelling or whistling! Their hearing is way more sensitive than ours. They will get used to a box fan because (the noise) is consistent, but not to yelling, whistling, hitting, poking, strapping, or electronic stimulations. Once you understand how to handle the cow properly and understand what's going on inside her head

and her hormones, you don't need to do these things."

Good stockmanship leads to reduced stress, increased production, increased fertility. This means working with the natural behavior of cows to get them to do what you want them to do.

Ward explained that cows emit pheromones in their urine and manure. When they are under stress, these pheromones communicate "danger" through smell to the rest of the herd.

"So, if we get a cow worked up getting into the parlor, every time you bring up the rest of the herd... what are they going to be smelling?" he asked. "Their noses will tell them if this is a safe place or not."

He gave the example of trying to get a cow onto a cattle truck. Why is she sniffing? Because all of those cattle that were stressed going into the truck before her left those pheromones.

What are we as humans making this cow go through, and what are they seeing on a daily basis?

Ward noted the work of Temple Grandin and Bud Williams, the inventor of the Bud Box Cattle Handling System — a rectangular pen used for cattle to help ranchers manage their livestock safely.

"We need to use a system that we can understand how to

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Conference from page 12

sity projects and provide practical insights into monetizing and leveraging a farm's data. Processor representatives will also share insights on the programs in which they are involved, the data they are collecting and how they work with farmers to showcase progress.

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the counties in each district shall be:

A) ~~South-Central East~~ - Adams, Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Franklin, Fulton, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, Perry, Philadelphia, Schuylkill, and York Counties.

B) ~~Northwest-Beaver, Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Venango and Warren Counties.~~

C) ~~Central~~ - Bedford, Blair, Bradford, Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Lycoming, McKean, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Pike, Potter, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, and Union, Wayne, and Wyoming Counties.

D) ~~West~~ - Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Cambria, Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Fayette, Forest, Greene, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, Mercer, Somerset, Venango, Warren, Washington, and Westmoreland Counties.

E) ~~Southeast-Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Delaware, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia, and Schuylkill Counties.~~

F) ~~Southwest~~ - Allegheny, Armstrong, Butler, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Somerset, Washington, and Westmoreland Counties.

G) ~~Northeast~~ - Bradford, Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Pike, Potter, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wayne, and Wyoming Counties.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall have authority to change any local association or county to a different district if deemed necessary.

ARTICLE XXI - DISSOLUTION

Section 1. In case of dissolution of the Association, its assets will revert to the active adult membership.

ARTICLE XXII - AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended at any special or regular meeting of the Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present, thirty (30) days' notice of the proposed amendments having been given in the notice of meeting.

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move a cow without a problem. The cows always want to go back to safety. Understanding cattle flow can help us think through our own facilities,” he said. “Any place we’re moving them, in a pen situation, we want to be thinking about how we’re moving her.”

Whether moving onto the cattle truck, getting ready for the hoof trimmer, whatever it is, said Ward: “It doesn’t need to be a rodeo. It comes down to the pressure points of the cow and the point of balance. Know where you are in the flight zone of the cow. Know the blind spot in the back. If you’re back there, you can startle the cow because she can’t see you, and the further back you are, the more she can’t see you.”

“When you startle a cow, she gets adrenaline pheromone going, and it takes 25 minutes to get rid of it. You work her out before the parlor. The best thing you can do is go away and come back 25 or 30 minutes later, she’ll be a totally different cow.”

In the holding area of a milking parlor,

cows are pushing against each other. Ward urged farmers to not be aggressive with their crowd gates or use it as a “bulldozer.”

“That’s very stressful on the cow, and then what does she do in the holding area? She leaves a scent. The next group comes up and knows ‘this is a bad place,’” he explained.

Cows are generally curious, and they’re looking at the humans down there (in the parlor pit). Putting up panels can make a difference on better cow flow into the parlor, but the main thing is “how you’re handling the cow. If you have someone getting them all worked up when you’re bringing them to the parlor, panels aren’t going to change much.”

What else happens to the cow when the adrenaline is high? It slows milk letdown speed, so milking speed may not be just an equipment problem, but how the cows are being handled.

In robotic herds, especially on startup or when training groups to the robot, Ward said it is very important to focus on how you are fetching cows to bring them to the robot.

“If you handle a cow in a robot system like you do in a conventional dairy, it will not

work as well as you want it to work,” Ward related.

“We’re taught, in our world, to line up and follow orders, but in the robot world we don’t want to do that. Too many cows pushing up trying to get through that door, no, we want one cow there. If we bring them all up the same time, they’re standing around waiting for too long.”

It’s all about training and habit.

“Are you going out with a list and bringing all the fetch cows at the same time? They may be trained now to wait for you to go fetch them all at the same time. In a robot situation, I want to see one cow standing behind and one cow being milked.”

To correct the ‘group thing,’ everyone on the farm must be on the same page.

“If you want to get a cow out of that group to do something and not disturb the rest of the cows, stop every time that there is more than one cow moving. Wait for the group to stop. Let the whole herd of cows stop, and then move forward again. If everybody on the farm does this for about three days, those cows will stop doing the group thing,” he said.

“It takes a new mindset,” Ward acknowledged about the management differences and upfront costs of putting in robots or adding automation, versus the payback over time.

The goals of robotic milking are to achieve three or more milkings per day without extra labor, information systems improve heat detection for better breeding statistics.

On the nutrition side, Ward said that pushing feed twice per hour instead of once per hour gets four more pounds of feed into a cow. “We can set the (automatic feed pusher) to do that and not even think about it. I think those things are worth their weight in gold, it increases dry matter intake. They do the job super consistently.”

Ward also shared some benefits of automatic feeders in terms of mixing smaller batches, delivering fresher feed and having a recording system.

For calves, the automatic feeders “intensify nutrition and increase feedings with less labor.” He says the newer models are easier to keep clean.

Michelle Kunjappu contributed to this report.

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Pennsylvania State Holstein Convention set for February 7-9

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — The South Central District of the Pennsylvania Holstein Association (PHA) invites Pennsylvania Holstein Association adult and junior members to their 2025 convention. To be held at the Wyndham Hotel & Conference Center in Gettysburg, the convention will begin on Friday, February 7 with the PHA Board of Directors, and Annual Meeting, not to mention many junior contests.

A group of commercial exhibitors and a dairy bar packed with goodies will be available for attendees to enjoy with friends from across the state.

The Pennsylvania Holstein Dignitaries Award dinner is set for Friday evening, February 7 and will honor Hall of Fame Award winner(s), the Distinguished Supporter recipient, Pioneer Award recipient, and the Distinguished

Young Breeder Award winner. Prior to dinner, winners of the Prepared Public Speaking Contest will be announced and they will be invited to share their speech with those in attendance. Line dancing lessons and a mixer are on the schedule for the Juniors on Friday evening. There will also be a fun auction with items donated by Holstein breeders and businesses from across the state with the proceeds to benefit Pennsylvania Junior Holstein activities.

Junior contests will continue Saturday, February 8 with Dairy Bowl, Extemporaneous Speech and the On the Street contests. There will be a Junior outing in the afternoon with a trip to a local bowling alley.

Saturday's agenda will also include farm tours with stops lined up at Jobo Holsteins, Walk-Le Farm, Peace & Plenty Farm, and

Pheasant Echos. The day will conclude with the annual convention sale which will be a multi-media video and picture sale; there will not be live cattle at the sale. Consignments are being finalized, and sale information will be highlighted on the PHA Facebook page. Juniors will conclude the evening with the always popular Saturday night dance.

The convention will close on Sunday, February 9 with the awards banquet and breakfast. During this time, Junior members will

be recognized for their achievements and accomplishments throughout the past year. In addition, All-Pennsylvania and Junior All-Pennsylvania winners will be recognized.

Room reservations are due by January 16, and can be made by contacting the Wyndham Gettysburg at 717-339-0020. In addition to being printed here in *Farmshine*, ticket order forms and room reservation information are also available online at www.paholsteins.com

PHA annual meeting set for Feb. 7

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — The Pennsylvania Holstein Association invites all paid members and supporters of the Association to their 112th Annual Meeting on Friday, February 7, at the Wyndham Gettysburg Hotel & Conference Center, 95 Presidential Circle, Gettysburg, Pa., starting at 1 p.m. Lunch will be available prior to the meeting from 11:30 to 12:30. Lunch tickets must be purchased through Convention Registration.

Please see ticket order forms on page 25. This notice of the Annual Meeting is given

so that PHA members can be advised to plan on attending. The Annual Meeting will be combined with the Board of Directors meeting and will include Bylaws Revisions (see full proposed Bylaw Revisions (printed on pages 16-17+ or on the Association's website), Resolutions Committee, President, and Executive Director reports.

The Pennsylvania Holstein Association encourages your attendance. Please direct any questions to contact@paholsteins.com or call 814-234-0364.

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TUNKHANNOCK, Pa.—To honor their valued member-customers, Premier Select Sires Inc. will hold a customer appreciation meeting on Wednesday, January 29, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Shady Maple Smorgasbord in East Earl, Pa. The meeting will provide an enjoyable, educational opportunity for members of the cooperative.

Attendees can enjoy a meal, cooperative updates, door prizes, and more. Kirk Sat-

tazahn, Premier Select Sires vice president of marketing and development, and Rick VerBeek, Select Sires senior Holstein sire analyst, will provide a brief program.

An RSVP is appreciated by January 15. Please call (855) 209-0388 and indicate your name and the number of guests who will be in attendance. This toll-free number will also serve as an update line in the event of inclement weather.

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A. Dale Herr Jr. wins soybean contest with 117.3 bushels per acre

HARRISBURG, Pa. — A. Dale Herr, Jr., who farms in the Black Rock area of southern Lancaster County, was Pennsylvania's top soybean producer in 2024, according to the Pennsylvania Soybean Board. His winning yield topped 33 other entrants with a contest record-breaking 117.30 bushels per acre.

Timely mid- and late-summer rains, soil water-holding capacity and April planting dates were the keys that helped all regional Pennsylvania Soybean contest winners last year. Six farms surpassed the 100 bushel-per-acre level: four in the South-Central Region, one in the Southeastern Region and one in the Northern Region.

Like most seasons, the 2024 growing season had ups and downs. Many of the contest entries were planted in late April and early



A. Dale Herr Jr. farms in the Black Rock region north of Kirkwood in Lancaster County.

May due to a cool April across the state. Rain-fall was generally below average all summer, and temperatures over the growing season were average. Over the course of the year, temperatures averaged five to 15 percent higher, with most of those higher temperatures occurring in early spring and fall. Generally, harvest weather was favorable, but soybean dry down was not as early as previous years due to a wet first half of September. Strong wheat prices prompted many farmers to plant wheat immediately after soybean harvest again this year.

The Pennsylvania Soybean Yield contest recognizes not only the state-wide grand champion, but also the top growers in each of five production regions in Pennsylvania, based on maturity maps:

- South-Central Region: A. Dale Herr Jr, (Lancaster County); 117.30 bu./acre
- Southeastern Region: Brad Keifer, (Northampton County); 100.54 bu./acre
- Central Region: Eric Myers, (Franklin County); 88.21 bu./acre
- Northern Region: John Tebbs, (Lycoming County); 102.18 bu./acre
- Western Region: Ricky Telesz, (Lawrence County); 86.31 bu./acre
- Irrigated Class: Steve Chapin, (Columbia County); 85.06 bu./acre

As the state's winner, Herr will receive an educational trip for two to the Commodity Classic, the annual joint convention of the American Soybean Association, National Corn Growers Association, National Association of Wheat Growers, and the National Grain Sorghum Producers. The regional winners will also receive an educational trip to the Commodity Classic.

The contest was introduced by the Pennsylvania Soybean Board to showcase crop management practices of some of the top soybean producers in the state. A summary of the crop production practices from the 2024 contest entrants is available from Penn State Extension educators and at pasoybean.org

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2025 PA Holstein Convention Ticket Order Form

Friday, February 7, 2025

11:30am – 12:30pm Buffet lunch No. _____ at \$33.00 = \$ _____

6:30pm Dinner with Speech Winner Presentations & Adult Awards No. _____ at \$55.00 = \$ _____

7:00pm Junior Mixer & Activities No. _____ at \$20.00 = \$ _____

Saturday, February 8, 2025

9:00am – 4:00pm Farm Tours No. _____ at \$30.00 = \$ _____
*Jobo Holsteins, Walk-Le Farm, Peace & Plenty Farm, Pheasant Echos Farm
 Lunch provided*

11:30am – 12:30pm Boxed Lunch No. _____ at \$20.00 = \$ _____

2:00pm – 4:00pm Junior Fun Activity No. _____ at \$16.00 = \$ _____
Bowling & More at Rockwell Lanes

6:30pm Pre-Sale Meal No. _____ at \$31.00 = \$ _____

Sunday, February 9, 2025

7:30am Breakfast and Awards Program No. _____ at \$27.00 = \$ _____

Order Total \$ _____

Convention T-Shirts (Adult Size)

Thank you to generous sponsorship from ADM, there is no cost for tshirts this year. Sizes are still needed for ordering purposes (one shirt/person).

_____ small _____ medium

_____ large _____ x-large _____ xx-large

Ticket orders must be received by **Friday, January 17, 2025**

Name(s) _____ Junior Age(s) _____

Address _____

County _____

Phone (____) _____ E-mail: _____
 (ticket order conformation will be emailed)

If a junior, adult chaperone: _____

Send Ticket Order Form with Check Payable to: "Pennsylvania Holstein Association"
 Please put "2025 Convention" in the memo
 c/o Aaron Cornman
 828 Baltimore Pike
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 717-448-1707

For lodging reservations, contact:

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Junior Convention Rules

1) All juniors must be in their rooms by 12:30 a.m. on Friday and 1:00 a.m. on Saturday.

2) Doors will be open at all times when mixed company is in the room.

3) **ABSOLUTELY NO DRUGS OR ALCOHOL WILL BE USED OR CONSUMED.**

4) Upon registration, each junior will name a chaperone that is responsible for his or her action. If you do not name one, there will be chaperones at the hotel.

5) Anyone found destroying hotel property will be charged for damages.

6) The Convention Committee will not be responsible for anyone leaving the Convention facilities without permission of the Convention Chaperone.

7) Any violators of these rules will not be eligible for any state awards for a period of one year, and they will be sent home at the parents' cost.

8) All attendance of registered participants, attendees, exhibitors, sponsors and guests ("you") at Pennsylvania Holstein Association (PHA) and Pennsylvania Junior Holstein Association (PJHA) conventions, conferences, meetings or related activities ("Events") constitutes an agreement between you and PHA/PJHA regarding the use and distribution of your image, including but not limited to your name, voice and likeness ("Image"). By attending the Events, you acknowledge and agree that photographs, video and/or audio recordings may be taken of you and you grant PHA/PJHA the right to use, in perpetuity, your Image in any electronic or print distribution, or by other means hereinafter cre-

ated, both now and in the future, for any lawful purpose as determined by PHA/PJHA. For any questions or concerns about the use of your Image, please contact PHA/PJHA at contact@paholsteins.com

The above named have permission to participate in PA Junior Holstein Convention activities. The undersigned parent(s) understand that they are the primary insurance providers for this activity and acknowledge that they have adequate medical coverage. Should an accident occur and you cannot be reached, your child will be transported to the nearest hospital. The undersigned parent(s) gives permission to attending doctors to provide emergency care as deemed necessary. The parent(s) understand the Pennsylvania Holstein Association, activity planners and Association employees are not responsible for any injury to my son or daughter. It is the responsibility of the participant to act in a safe and responsible manner.

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CDE DAIRY MARKETS & MANAGEMENT UPDATE

All prices — DEC. 30, 2024 — except where noted

November production report reviewed

Based on the November USDA Milk Production report, we saw a modest increase in Pennsylvania's milk production of 1.0% from 783 million pounds in November 2023 to 791 million pounds in November 2024.

Pennsylvania cow numbers 465,000 head, down 1,000 head from last year's 466,000. Milk output per cow climbed 20 pounds from 1,680 pounds to 1,700 pounds per cow for the month. Even as the total number of milk cows decreased slightly in Pennsylvania, we still saw growth in the milk yield per cow. This is a true testament to Pennsylvania dairy farmers' adaptability in a constantly shifting market environment.

November 2024 U.S. milk production equaled 17.9 billion pounds, a 1.0% drop year over year. We noticed U.S. milk cow numbers climbed 20,000 head from November 2023's levels to 9.37 million head in November 2024. U.S. milk output per cow was down 23 pounds from last year's average to 1,909 pounds per cow this November.

This unexpected drop in U.S. milk production is primarily driven by the severe decline in California's milk production and shows a deviation from the projected 0.2% growth. We observed that other states underwent moderate production declines.

On the other hand, Texas and South Dakota showed 7.3% and 7.2% increases in milk production, respectively, as they increased cow numbers and new dairy processing opportunities continue to come online in those regions.

Shifting our focus to the West Coast, we saw a whopping 9.2%-or 302-million-pound drop in California's milk production from 3.26 million pounds in November 2023 to 2.96 million pounds in November 2024. Milk output per cow decreased 175 pounds from the prior year's 1,905 pounds per cow to this November's 1,730 pounds. We are seeing the negative impacts of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) on California dairy herds being reflected in the monthly milk production reports.

As of Dec. 19, 2024, since California's first detection of HPAI

in their dairy herds in September, the state reached a total of 650 infected dairies with 40.9%, or 266, of those confirmed positive cases occurring within the past 30 days. However, 56 of those affected dairy herds have since been released from quarantine.

While we see some dairies slowly coming out the other side of HPAI, we might not see California's milk production recover to somewhat normal levels until 2025.

HPAI preparedness, see us at Keystone Farm Show

Seeing how quickly HPAI spread through over 60% of California dairies, this makes a strong case for being proactive on your farm to help prevent or slow the spread of HPAI, if it would come to Pennsylvania.

From Jan. 7-9 at the Keystone Farm Show in York, the Center, along with Penn State and Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture staff, will set up an HPAI & Biosecurity Resource Center. The Resource Center will be staffed from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and can be found in Keystone Farm Show Building 3's meeting room. No appointments necessary, just stop in.

At the Resource Center, state dairy producers can get help completing their biosecurity plans, get free biosecurity materials, and ask questions about mandatory and voluntary milk testing.

For more information, please feel free to reach out to me at vmason@centerfordairyexcellence.org or (717) 550-8720.

In case you can't make it to the Keystone Farm Show, the Penn State Extension Dairy Team will host workshops across the Commonwealth on Jan. 27 and 30 to help dairy farmers create a biosecurity plan to meet PDA guidelines. At these no-cost, open-house style workshops, you will get one-on-one help from dairy educators on creating a biosecurity plan to help protect your herds and people.

They'll provide information on biosecurity essential components, how to prepare for potential HPAI outbreaks, and the importance of everyday biosecurity practices.

For more information or to register for a workshop, reach out to your local extension office.

By VALERIE MASON-FAITH
Center for Dairy Excellence
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Prices change daily. This market information is an example for educational purposes. The market data shown below are compiled weekly by Farmshine, via CME & USDA reports.

CME DAILY FUTURES & OPTIONS TRADING — DEC. 30, 2024 AT THE CLOSE

	DEC-24	JAN-25	FEB-25	MAR-25	APR-25	MAY-25	JUN-25	JUL-25	AUG-25	SEP-25	OCT-25	NOV-25	TREND											
CLASS III MILK FUTURES (\$/CWT) vs. wk ago: Dec24 steady; Jan-Apr25 up \$0.50-1.00; Rest of board up \$0.15-0.30.	18.71	20.50	20.67	20.29	19.81	19.36	19.22	19.12	19.02	19.09	19.00	18.75	↑↑											
CLASS IV MILK FUTURES (\$/CWT) vs. wk ago: Dec24 firm; First half 2025 up \$0.40 to mostly \$0.50; second half 2025 up \$0.15-0.30	20.75	21.04	21.00	21.00	20.85	20.70	20.53	20.50	20.54	20.75	20.75	20.60	↑↑											
MILK BASIS (MAILBOX minus CLASS 3 \$/CWT) 2018-23 AVG FOR NORTHEAST & MIDEAST STATES OF PA, NY, NEW ENGL., OH vs. NAT'L AVERAGE - YOUR INDIVIDUAL BASIS WILL VARY	20.25	19.64	19.22	18.75	18.82	18.25	18.96	18.48	18.64	18.27	18.52	18.15	18.68	18.38	18.65	18.35	18.62	18.41	19.27	18.75	20.20	19.76	20.58	20.17
MAILBOX	17.30	17.30	16.81	16.81	16.03	16.03	16.98	16.98	17.31	17.31	17.33	17.33	18.16	18.16	18.16	18.16	17.59	17.59	17.60	17.60	18.72	18.72	19.07	19.07
CLASS III	2.95	2.34	2.41	1.94	2.79	2.22	1.98	1.50	1.33	0.96	1.19	0.82	0.52	0.22	0.49	0.19	1.03	0.82	1.67	1.15	1.48	1.04	1.51	1.10
BASIS																								

	MAR-25	MAY-25	JUL-25	SEP-25	DEC-25	MAR-26	MAY-26	JUL-26	SEP-26	DEC-26	JUL-27	SEP-27	TREND
CORN FUTURES (\$/BU)	4.522	4.600	4.632	4.380	4.390	4.504	4.566	4.594	4.460	4.464	4.560	4.596	↑↑
SOYMEAL FUTURES (\$/TON)	302.6	311.8	317.3	322.3	322.8	322.5	321.5	323.6	324.2	324.6	326.0	328.4	↑↑
U.S. AVG PREMIUM ALFALFA & ALFALFA/GRASS HAY 20-22% CP - Source: USDA Monthly National Dairy Comprehensive Report													
AUG-23	243.50	238.50	217.82	240.41	231.70	254.85	224.50	205.02	220.17	175.00	211.69	185.21	196.44
SEP-23													
OCT-23													
NOV-23													
DEC-23													
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2018													

DMC	JUN-23	JUL-23	AUG-23	SEP-23	OCT-23	NOV-23	DEC-23	JAN-24	FEB-24	MAR-24	APR-24	MAY-24	JUN-24	JUL-24	AUG-24	SEP-24	OCT-24	*NOV-24
DMC OFFICIAL GROSS MARGINS per cwt(USDA All-Milk, com, alfalfa & Ill. soybean, feed for ALL CLASSES of dairy cattle on farm)	3.65	3.52	4.46	8.44	9.44	9.58	8.44	8.48	9.44	9.65	9.60	10.52	11.66	12.33	13.72	15.57	*15.17	↓↓
ALL MILK	17.90	17.40	19.70	21.00	21.60	21.70	20.60	20.10	20.60	20.70	20.50	22.00	22.80	22.80	23.60	25.50	*25.20	↓↓
FEED \$	14.25	13.88	13.24	12.56	12.16	12.12	12.16	11.62	11.16	11.05	10.90	11.48	11.14	10.47	9.88	9.93	*10.03	↑↑

DAIRY COMMODITIES - GLOBAL BIWEEKLY Internet Auction (\$/LB) 12/17/24	U.S. CME SPOT DAILY (\$/LB) 12/30/24	U.S. WEEKLY USDA NIDPSR (\$/LB) WK ENDING 12/21/24*
Weighted Avg. 1 to 6 mo. FORWARD CONTRACTS per metric ton converted to \$/LB	Prev. 5 day Lds	FMMO PROD MIL LBS WTD AVG \$
NEXT GDT AUCTION 01/07/25	Spot price	Weekly Avg
SKIM POWDER (SMP) 1.2509 ↓ 2.9%	NFD 11 1.3825 ↑ 1.3825 ↑↑	NFD 15.1 1.3968 ↓↓
BUTTER 3.0008 ↓ 0.6%	BUTTER 12 2.5700 ↑ 2.5700 ↑↑	BUTTER 4.0 2.5665 ↓↓
ALL-PRODUCT INDEX 1.8820 ↓ 2.8%	CHEDDAR-40 6 1.9100 ↑ 1.9100 ↑↑	CHEESE-40 10.3 1.7451 ↑↑
MILKFAT (AMF) 3.2972 ↓ 3.8%	CHEDDAR-500 10 1.8075 ↑ 1.8075 ↑↑	CHEESE-500 12.9 1.7283 ↑↑
BUTTERMILK POWDER N/A	DRY WHEY 2 0.7500NC 0.7500 ↑↑	DRY WHEY 7.2 0.6517 ↑↑
LACTOSE 0.4152 ↑ 0.5%		

ANNOUNCED FEDERAL ORDER PRICES (\$/CWT) NASS ALL-MILK				CURRENT FEDERAL ORDER VALUES (\$/LB) * = NEW			
CL I ADV ↓↓	CL II ↑↑	CL III ↓↓	CL IV ↑↑	ALL-MILK-U.S.	ALL-MILK-PA	PRODUCT	VALUE
*20.38(JAN)	22.52(NOV)	19.95(NOV)	21.12(NOV)	25.20(OCT) ↓	25.40(OCT) ↓↓	CHEESE	1.9198 0.2003 1.7195 ↓↓
				4.26F	4.21F	BUTTER	2.7002 0.1715 2.5287 ↓↓
						NFD 1.3773 0.1678 1.2095 ↑↑	
						DRY WHEY 0.5922 0.1991 0.3931 ↑↑	

U.S. AVG. BRED COWS & HEIFERS (3rd trimester) per head as reported by USDA Monthly National Dairy Comprehensive Report													
OCT-23	NOV-23	DEC-23	JAN-24	FEB-24	MAR-24	APR-24	MAY-24	JUN-24	JUL-24	AUG-24	SEP-24	OCT-24	*NOV-24
1741	2108	N/A	1635	N/A	N/A	N/A	2115	2016	N/A	N/A	2800	N/A	2250
U.S. AVG. MILKING COWS per head as reported by USDA Monthly National Dairy Comprehensive Report													
1643	1830	1988	N/A	1792	N/A	N/A	2120	2254	1624	N/A	N/A	2800	2489

CATTLE - DAIRY PURPOSES(\$/HD) USDA and other East and Midwest auction reports combined 4-week rolling average as of DEC. 20, 2024											
*MILK COWS (NASS) U.S. Avg.	FRESH	HEIFERS: Springing	Bred	Beef x	OPEN: 300-600 lbs	Beef X	600-900 lbs	Beef X	900-1100 lbs	BULLS(800-1300lbs)	
*\$2600 SEP-24 ↑↑	\$2300 JUL-24	3350	3000	2200	2200	900	1200	1300	N/A	1800	1800
\$1850 SEP-23	\$1760 JUL-23	2075	2100	1650	1400	625	N/A	975	N/A	1350	1200
PA Auction Markets Dec. 26-30, 2024											
CULL MARKET COWS (\$/CWT LIVEWEIGHT)											
Premium White	Breakers	Boners	Lean								
	123.00 ↑↑	117.85 ↑↑	109.85 ↑↑								
WEEK AGO											
	N/A	116.85	110.10	96.50							
YEAR AGO											
	N/A	99.85	90.25	80.25							

Price averages do not include lower-end common
Average to high dressing

brought to you by:

Markets

Morrison's Cove Auction
December 30, 2024

Grass	300-345
Mixed hay	250
Round bales	100-140
Large square bales	130-255
Wrapped hay	110-140

Easy cows	.70 & down
Maiden heifers	1.48-1.58
Feeders:	
Dairy	1.13-1.42
Heifers	1.10-1.24
Steers	1.31
Calves:	
Bull	top 6.90
Heifer	top 6.45

Dewart Auction
Dewart, Pa.
December 30, 2024

Cattle: 124	
Slaughter cattle:	
Holstein steers:	164-170
Choice	
Heifers:	180
Choice	
Slaughter cows:	
PmWhr 65-75% lean	106-112
Breakers 75-80% lean	112-120
Boners 80-85% lean	104-117
Lean 85-90% lean	85-104
Slaughter bulls	135-155
Feeder cattle:	
Holstein steers:	
L-3	140-190
Heifers:	
M/L-1-2	240
Bulls:	
M/L-1-2	220
Calves: 439	
Feeder calves:	
#1 Hol bulls	600-835
#2 Hol bulls	400-575
#3 Hol bulls	325-

barrier and improve parlor performance? Call Adolph Dossman at 240-286-8996.

LOWER SCC & IMPROVE conception. Highly effective, 35 years of time tested results and satisfied dairymen nationwide. No withholding ever feed additive, low cost. Call AG, Inc. today. 920-650-1631. www.alphageneticsinc.com.

INNOVATIVE DAIRY Nutrition - specializing in forage planning to maximize production and optimize herd health through advanced nutrition. To improve your profits, contact Matt at 717-729-4530

REDUCED PRODUCTION? Heat stress? High SCC? Scours? Proven effective solutions to your herd's health needs, no withholding. Call the Dairyman's Helper. 800-829-7512.

CUSTOM COLLECTING - Call for prices. 301-491-3154. Triple-Hil Sires.

RELIEF MILKING-farm siting. Tie stall or parlor. Feeding and young stock care. References available. Adrian Horning 717-466-9099. South-Central, Pa.

KANN'S MILKING SERVICE Franklin & Cumberland Co. 30 years experience, references available. Ryan L. Kann, 717-816-1920.

CUSTOM HEIFER RAISING. Weaned calves to calving. 19 years experience. Modern housing, free stalls, AI breeding, TMR, monthly vet visits. Lebanon Co., Pa. 610-451-3006.

GARDNER CUSTOM HEIFER raising. 40 years experience. TMR in fenceline feeders with lockups, dairy veterinarian manages, adolescent to springers, competitive prices. 540-871-0246, dlggar@aol.com, gardnerheifers.com.

CUSTOM HEIFER RAISING. 300-400 head capacity. AI breeding, hauling available. We do not have state of the art facilities but are committed to an accelerated feeding program. Call for pricing. Reach us at 240-291-0286.

HEIFER RAISING SERVICES offering full health care program, excellent AI breeding program, activity monitor collars, balance ration, pasture for older heifers. Lancaster Co. 717-940-9435.

CUSTOM HEIFER RAISING. Good quality forages. Minerals and hay in TMR. Room for 150-200 head. Troy area. 570-220-4542.

HEIFER BOARDING - Sand bedded freestalls. Corn silage haylage and hay included. \$2/hd/day. 607-382-3633.

HORSE BOARDING available, Willow Street, Pa. area, Lanc. Co. 717-380-7612.

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1000 GALLON TANK, receiver group, detergent pump, pipeline washer control panel. If interested in all or some, contact 717-598-0563. (2/7)

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FRESH 2 YEAR OLD Holsteins, milking up to 85 lbs. Call for pricing. 717-354-6370. (1/24)

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JUST FRESH, 1ST LACTATION Reg. Holstein cows. Good quality, well grown animals. 3-4 generally avail. each month. 570-297-5118.

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REG. GUERNSEY spinger heifer. Due first week of January 2025. Well bred. 440-293-7955. (1/3)

6 Dairy Bulls

B&W AND R&W POLLED homozygous Holsteins, A2A2. Some genomically tested also. Lebanon Co., Pa. Con-Ger Farms. 717-821-1454.

WANTED - Reg. Jersey bull, 12-15 mos. old. 856-478-2942.

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HOLSTEIN BULLS ready for free stalls and younger. High

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7 Semen, Embryos

WELCOME CLASSTOPPER semen. A2/A2 aAa 213645 2-3 VG-85 +2798 GTPI. \$15/unit. Delivery available in some areas, can ship. Streamline Genetics, 607-965-0089 or 706-578-0731.

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9 Equipment & Machinery

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WEDNESDAY, JAN. 8TH • 10:30 A.M.

All quality consignments of cows, heifers and service age bulls wanted!

Recently fresh cows milking 100+ lbs. and with low SCC are in demand.

Good quality open & bred Holstein heifers selling at historical highs!

Consignors: Please send all info with truckers for the catalog. For more information, contact dairy reps: Aaron Martin, 717-445-4825 (home); Bill Hough, 973-224-0204 (cell).

REMINDER: Thank you - N.H.S.S.

• Friday, Jan. 17th - First Special Horse Sale. Start time 12 noon with drafts, followed by driving horses.

Sale Managed By **New Holland Sales Stables, Inc.** Barn 717-354-4341 Fax 717-355-0706 • David Kolb, Mgr. 61L

BRUBACKER'S QUALITY DAIRY SALES LLC 10 BROWN ROAD, SHIPPENSBURG, PA

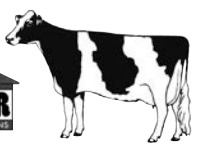
Thursday, January 23 @ 10:00 A.M. Special Dairy Cow & Heifer Sale

- ★ We are expecting a good selection of fresh and fancy, 2 and 3 yr. olds out of local overstocked herds and heifer growers. Mostly A.I. sired with several good Registered cows, with most on test w/ low SCC and lots of milk! Including 8 fresh cows from one farm fresh less than 60 days!!!
- ★ Brandt-View sends 5 fresh and fancy cows, w/ deep ped. & genetics, A2/A2, and milking well!
- ★ Also a nice selection of heifers from healthy calves to close springers!
- ★ 5 close springers from one farm, w/ nice frames and good feet and legs!
- ★ Several breeding age bulls out of good cow families!

NOTE: Fancy fresh cows, and well grown heifers are in high demand! Call early to get free advertising! **Need that special cow or just a good replacement? Come spend the day with us! We're selling a great selection of dairy cattle right off the farm. All cattle vet checked and vaccinated. Trucking available.

Can't make the sale? You can now participate online at Cowbuyer.com. For on-line questions, call Katie Shultz 717-543-7883.

Manager/Auctioneers Jason Brubacker Lic. AU5608 717-729-0173 Darryl Jones Lic. AU5194 717-226-0776



Sale Barn Ivan Brubacker 717-414-6657 **Pedigrees** Art Kling

20' LAIDIG Grain-O-Matic unloader, good condition, \$3500; Weaverline 436, not used since went through shop, \$2000. 717-598-0563. (2/7)

8 FT. DRYHILL LIQUID manure pump. Good working condition. \$2500. 610-334-4885. (1/17)

RISLER 300 MIXER, 10 HP; Oliver OC-4 crawler, blade; 800 gal. Mueller OH. 814-931-5860. (1/3)

SELF-PROPELLED FOR-AGE harvester. 2015 John Deere 7280 with 8-row head. Row guidance, 4WD, ProDrive, 25 mph. 13.5 liter with 440HP. 2350 cutter-head hours. Pre-Def. Many new parts. \$172,500. 717-400-7917. (1/10)

USED WEAVERLINE Series 5 silage cart. Front and side unloading. Needs batteries. \$1,500 OBO. Call Jeremy at 717-437-5215. (1/31)

NH 489 HAYBINE. NH rake. Hydraulic double rake hitch. Hydraulic 3 pt. bale spear. Moisture testers. 814-274-8354.

FOR RENT: E RISLER 330 trailer TMR mixer, \$30/day; IH Rissler 510 TMR cart, \$10/day. Delivery avail. Myerstown, Pa. 484-793-2179.

ROOFERS BUGGY-RENT for \$125/day or \$500/week. Lancaster Co., Pa. Call 717-808-4155.

10 Feeds

CORN FODDER - 4X5 bales, nice and dry. \$30/bale. Centre Co., Pa. 814-206-4379. (1/17)

1ST, 2ND & 4TH ALFALFA tested, 3x4x8' Chinook dried straw. Delivered or FOB. 610-767-2409, heidelhol-lowfarm.com.

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Upcoming sales:

- February 8, 2025 – PA Holstein Convention Sale, Gettysburg, Pa. Selections underway.
- March 6, 2025 – "Know What You Buy" Heifer Sale, Middletown, Pa.
- March 22, 2025 - DVU Green & Gold Sale, Doylestown, Pa. Selections underway!

PA Holstein Sales
Pennsylvania Holstein Association

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Contact: David J. Lentz, 717-329-9202, dj1018@pa.net or PHA office, 814-234-0364. Email: director@pahalsteins.com

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TO BUY/SELL REAL ESTATE in Pa. call Thomas Hershey at 610-209-7096. Hershey Farm Agency, Inc., HersheyAuctionLLC.com. 800-880-3831.

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20 Wanted

I'M LOOKING FOR SOME dairy cattle to buy or lease on a milk assignment. 240-559-6888. (1/17)

USED HARVESTORS AND Slurrystores. 717-993-2373.

LOOKING FOR AYRSHIRE or Lineback heifer calf, Reg. or grade. 223-216-0160.

CERTIFIED ORGANIC dairy heifers. 2 months old to springers. 570-250-1725.

BUYING OLD ISSUES OF Holstein World, Jersey, Brown Swiss, etc. (all other dairy cattle breeds) magazines, sale catalogs and sire directories. 716-255-5625.

BUYING HARVESTORE silos & Slurrystores. Call 717-517-2080.

I BUY TRUCKER HAT collections. 215-896-5609.

21 Opportunities Wanted

I'M SEEKING WORK ON family farm with small house. Most any area. Prefer part-time plus. Call 717-816-9693.

EXPERIENCED PERSON seeking full time employment on dairy, beef or horse farm in Western Pa. or Western Md. Some type of housing needed. 717-487-5170.

YOUNG FARMER looking for a dairy farm to rent. Ideally rent to own situation in Pa. or Md. 717-824-1320.

22 Help Wanted

DAIRY HERD MANAGER- Excellent opportunity to manage a large dairy operation (850-1000 cows) in the Mid-Atlantic region. The ideal candidate is a self-motivated individual driven by results and success that is capable of managing the total operation and motivating employees to perform at a high level to help us improve the performance of our dairy. Compensation commensurate with training and experience. This is a great opportunity for someone who wants a challenge and enjoys developing solutions to make a difference. Interested parties should

send an inquiry and resume to dairyopportunitiesva@gmail.com. (1/24)

23 Pets

BORDER COLLIE PUPPIES. Purebred, ABCA registered. Working parents on site. \$750. 814-350-4428. (1/3)

OUT OF RESPECT FOR animal welfare, "Pets or Dogs Wanted" will not be accepted as classified ads. We will continue to accept household pet "For Sale" ads. Please take care when purchasing, selling or giving away a pet, keeping the animal's well-being in mind.

24 Seeds

SEED GENETICS DIRECT - Roundup corn \$200-\$245 a bag, conventional corn as low as \$133. Enlist E-3 soybeans \$46 a bag. These are top of the line genetics with rock bottom prices. These prices are for ordered and paid by 11/10/24. Martin-Dale Holsteins. 717-445-6548. (2/28)

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25 Miscellaneous

14 HESS TRUCKS. NEW in box, never opened. \$30 each. 717-360-8223. (1/17)

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LAND O'LAKES MILK base for sale. 2600 lbs. 717-803-0999. (1/31)

LAND O'LAKES BASE for sale. Snyder Co., Pa. 570-765-8658. (1/10)

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SEE FARMING IN N.Y. through the eyes of an 11 year old. Visit Youtube and search "4th Gen Dairy Farmer" for videos. Call 716-474-1705 for more information.

HORSE, DONKEY AND calf blankets. Reasonably priced. Dealers welcome. Call 717-361-4474.

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PAINTED MILK CANS - farm scenes \$200 or have one custom painted with cows, horses or any family pet. Carroll County, Md. 410-259-1276.

OLD AERIAL PHOTOS of your farm or home dating back to 1963. Nathan Lewis 888-402-6901 or vintageaerial.com.

27 Livestock

BLACK BALDY HEIFER. 6 months old, 450 lbs. \$1000. Columbia Co., Pa. 570-380-3047. (1/3)

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Holstein Dairy Herd Dispersal
FOR TIMOTHY & RUTH EBERLY
Thursday January 16, 2025 • 11:00 AM

Location: 2096 Pine Rd., Newville PA (Cumberland Co.) Traveling I81 take exit 37 onto Rt. 233 South to Pine Rd. Turn right, follow to sale.

50 Head- 40 milking, 6 dry cows, 4 springing heifers
RHA - 24,384 F - 4.2 P - 3.2 SCC - 175,000
Dec. DHIA - 8 cows milking 100 lbs or more

14 - 1st calf heifers 13 - 2nd calf heifers Balance in 3rd & 4th

All cattle will be vet checked and vaccinated. Catalogs available sale day.
SPECIAL NOTE: 17 cows tested A2/A2

Dairy Equipment
Equipment will be offered prior to dairy cattle. 1250 gal Mueller bulk tank with washer, 7 Demax milker units (West Falia), 2" stainless steel pipeline for 50 cows, West Falia milker pump, Milker track for 50 cows, 4 Can't kicks, 50 used comfort mats






Auctioneers:
Melvin Sensenig - AU005885L 717-226-3994
Les Longenecker - AU002975L 484-256-1323
Pedigrees: Myron Diller

Terms: Cash or honorable check. Not responsible for accidents.
Food stand provided.

Sale for Timothy & Ruth Eberly (Newville PA) 717-776-4200

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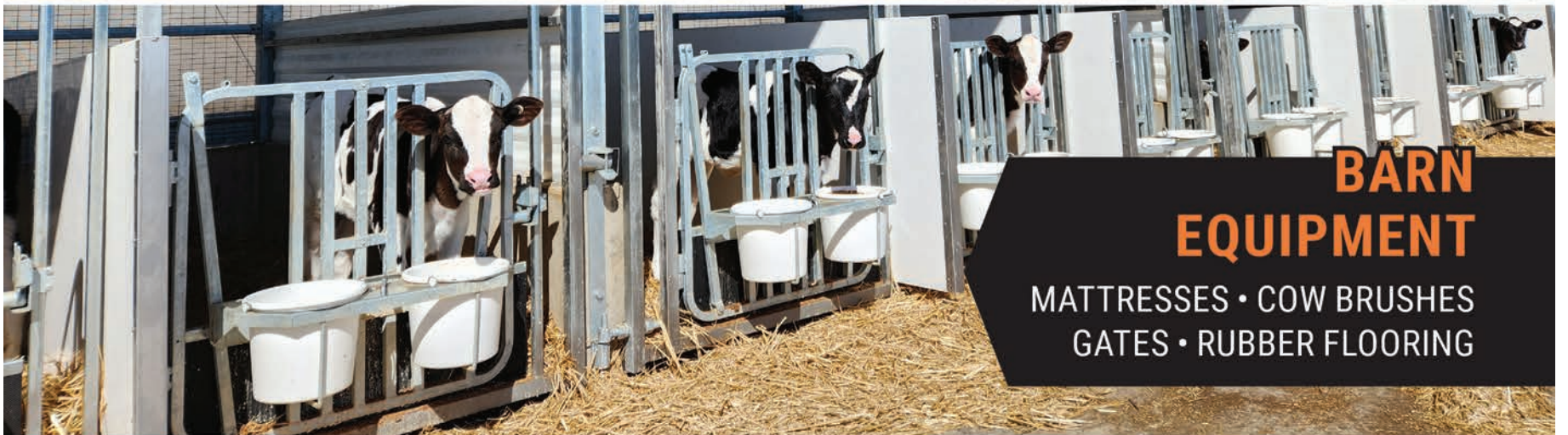
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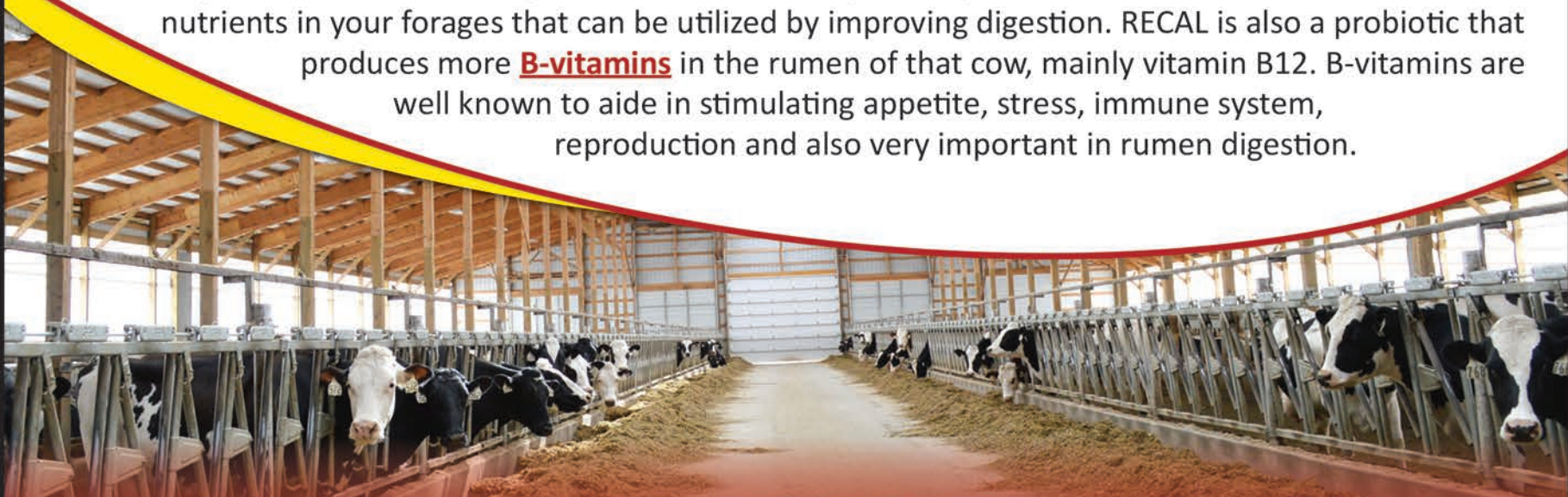


\$ Improving Your Bottom Line \$

As a dairyman, are you looking to improve the way your fresh cows transition, take off, peak and breed back? Looking to improve rumen health, rumen function, overall health, digestion, feed efficiency, and **YOUR BOTTOM LINE???** If so, then...

RECALIBRATE WITH RECAL

The RECAL line of probiotics is **NOT** just another probiotic on the market. RECAL is a probiotic heavily weighted towards better digestion and utilization, primarily **FIBER DIGESTION**. There are a lot of nutrients in your forages that can be utilized by improving digestion. RECAL is also a probiotic that produces more **B-vitamins** in the rumen of that cow, mainly vitamin B12. B-vitamins are well known to aide in stimulating appetite, stress, immune system, reproduction and also very important in rumen digestion.



30-day FREE TRIAL

We offer a thirty-day free trial. What does that consist of you ask?

Well, we will give you enough product for thirty days and tell you what to watch for. If you don't know what to be watching for, how do you know if the product is working and you have to see a difference and a return on investment. Then, at the end of the thirty days if you say that you saw no difference and don't want to continue feeding the RECAL, you pay absolutely nothing. But if you do like what you are seeing and want to continue then you pay for the product you used in that thirty-day trial and we keep doing business together. Now, will you see full benefits of this product in thirty days? Absolutely not. If you don't see enough benefits from any product in thirty days then it's not working for you. Plus, there might be something you are already feeding that could be pulled out. Remember, its not an expense if you see a return on investment. **How often do you see offers like that?**

NUTRITIONISTS DON'T KNOW EVERYTHING. GO BY WHAT THE COWS SAY!!

Our main focus with RECAL probiotics and YOUR cows!!!

#1

To improve rumen health. What is the most important part of that cow???

The RUMEN!!!

#2

To improve the overall immune system of your cow. The immune system starts in the **RUMEN!!!**

#3

To improve digestion and utilization of the feed that the cows are eating. If the feed is going in one end of the cow and coming out the other end of the cow without being digested and utilized, what good is it???

A WASTE!!!

#4

To improve reproduction. Let's face it, you don't make money milking cows unless you are milking **FRESH** cows!!!

#5

To improve **YOUR BOTTOM LINE!!!** It's not about how much milk can we make. It's about how much **MONEY** can we make!!!

Focus on the little things. They mean the most!!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

**RECAL Microbials, LLC • Jamie Troxel
330-601-2142 • www.RECALmicrobials.com**

