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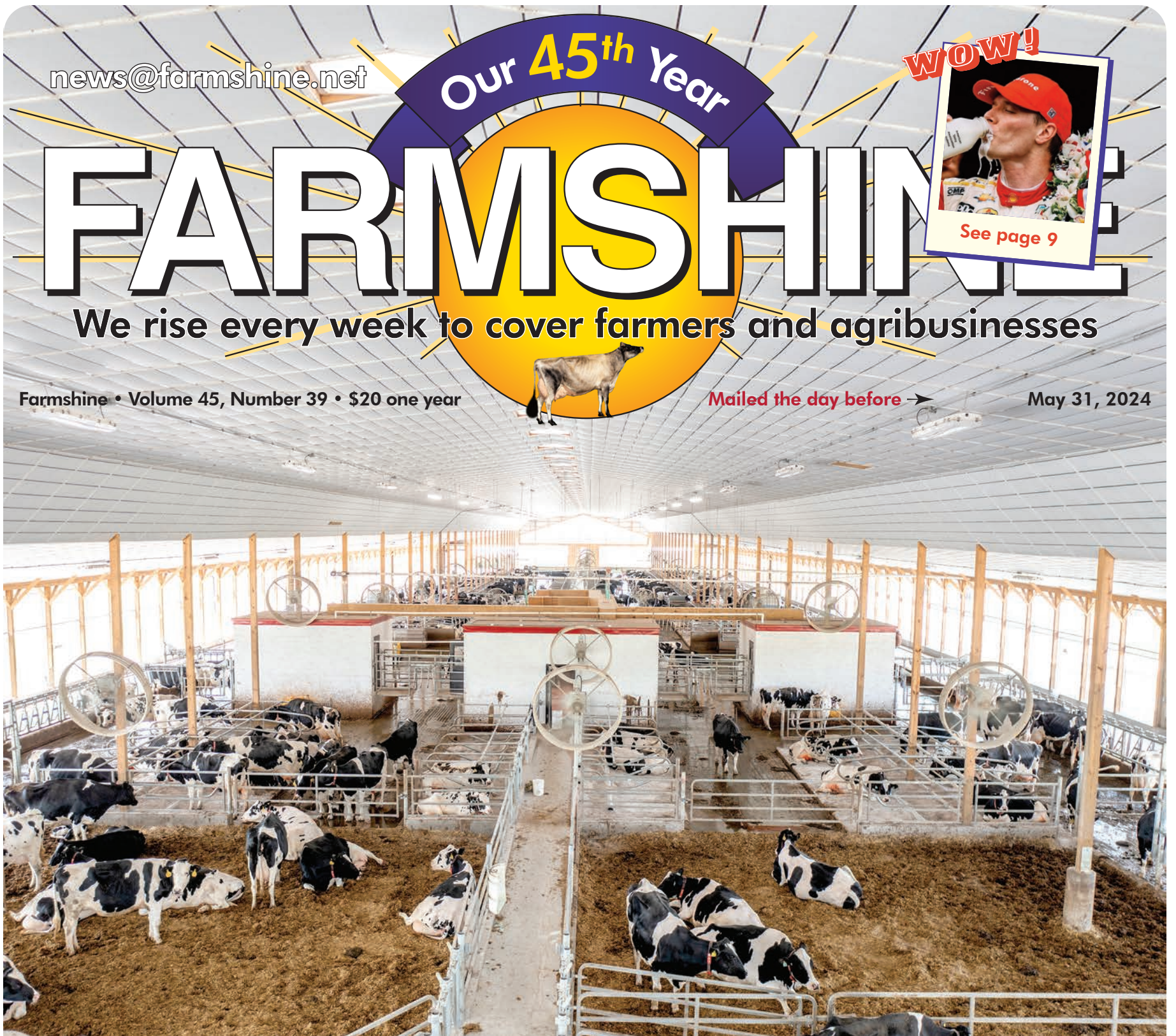
FARMSHINE

We rise every week to cover farmers and agribusinesses

Farmshine • Volume 45, Number 39 • \$20 one year

Mailed the day before →

May 31, 2024



Just about everything is visible in this overview of the "cow palace" at Skyline Dairy near Smithsburg, Md. Special needs areas are in the foreground while the milking herd is housed through the center, including the far side. Feed lanes are at the extreme left and right. Photo provided by White Horse Construction

Open house for mid-size dairy featured a 'cow palace'

By DIETER KRIEG
Farmshine Editor

SMITHSBURG, Md. — "Cow palace" is what best defines the new barn at Skyline Dairy, near here. Indeed, that's exactly how many visitors described what they saw at an open house on March 28th.

The event, which drew hundreds of people from several states, had numerous sponsors including:

- Anytime Electric, LLC
- Farm Credit
- Farmer Boy
- Lely Center Mid-Atlantic
- Martin's Elevator, Inc.
- Mid-Maryland Dairy Vets
- Seneca Dairy Systems, LLC
- Stein-Way Equipment

- Sturdy-Built Manufacturing, LLC
- White Horse Construction

While all of the above businesses had "a hand or word" in the facilities' concept and/or construction, it was the robotics supplied by Lely and the absolute awesomeness of the state-of-the-art dairy complex that were endlessly impressive.

"It's all about the cow ... air quality, cow comfort ... and making the whole process easy to use," observed Chris Stoltzfus of White Horse Construction, who was very involved with the project from start to finish. Among other individuals taking part in the discussions, revisions and planning was Glenn Flickinger, a dairy nutritionist based in Lititz, Pa.

For sure, everything was thought of. Joel Strite and Lyndon Miller, co-owners of this

impressive new dairy, had visited numerous other modern dairies in the U.S. and Canada over a period of over two years. Then they discussed their findings with advisors, builders, contractors, engineers, nutritionists and so on, which resulted in either accepting, tweaking or trashing of ideas. They took their time to arrive at a final design that can best be described as a combination of the very best ideas for what they had in mind.

Construction began in August of 2021 and was completed in April of 2022.

Although the "new" dairy complex featured at last March's open house was, in fact, already two years old, one would never know it by its appearance. It still looked quite new. No doubt some "elbow grease" was involved to achieve the palatial cleanliness on all levels, every corner and even the ceiling, which

at its highest reaches 28 feet above the floor. Most of the work, however, is done robotically and automatically.

"The Future of Dairy"™ is how the Lely folks describe what went into the 456' x 136' barn.

It began with a partnership. Two neighbors. One with expertise in crop production; the other with a focus on producing top quality milk.

"Two different farm families came together to pool their resources in order to produce a truckload of milk every other day," is how White Horse Construction's Chris Stoltzfus sees it.

Strite runs a custom farming business. **turn to page 4**

PERIODICAL • DO NOT DELAY

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Reservations are due June 5th
Jersey breeders reminded of annual meeting

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio — Registration for the annual meetings of the American Jersey Cattle Association (AJCA) and National All-Jersey Inc. (NAJ), is open. The meetings will be held June 19-22 in Springfield, Mass., at the Sheraton Springfield Monarch Place.

The registration website – USJerseyAnnualMeeting.com – is open for Jersey breeders and enthusiasts from across the United States. Hotel reservations are also open. The cost to attend is \$200 for adults and \$100 for youth through June 5th. Room rates are \$139/night.

The AJCA annual membership meeting will be held on Saturday, June 22. The NAJ annual meeting is slated for Friday, June 21. Award winners for Master Breeder, Distinguished Service, Meritorious Service and six Young Jersey Breeders will be recognized. The AJCC Research Foundation Benefit Auction will be held on Thursday, June 20.

An amendment to the constitution regarding redistricting of the AJCA will also be voted on. Information available on the USJerseyJournal.com website.

Jersey Marketing Service will host the virtual National Heifer Sale on Friday, June 21 at the Eastern States Exposition Center. The annual sale will feature 40 of the country's most elite heifers.

Included in the schedule are farm visits to the University of Connecticut, Powder Mill Farm, High Lawn Farm and Mapleline Farm. Additional trips are planned for Yankee Candle and Tree House Brewing to experience a couple of local attractions. Stay a day longer and visit Boston as a post-meeting tour and experience a walk-through American history with the many sites.

Youth events include a pizza and pool party and contests throughout the week including a judging contest. A panel of speakers will talk about the many opportunities available to Jersey youths. Rounding out the Junior schedule will be a trip to Sonny's Place for go-karts, a zipline, batting cages and mini golf.

The meeting is hosted by the New England Jersey Breeders Association and chaired by Moira Poitras and Julie Jacque.

For more information on the meetings contact the AJCA office at 614-861-3636 or info@usjersey.com. Updates will be made on the www.USJersey.com website as meeting times draw closer.

“We got more regimented in our use of Udder Comfort and saw SCC drop to 120,000.”

— Kyle Hirt



MITHVA FARMS, NEW WOODSTOCK, NEW YORK, 85 Holsteins, 2021 BAA 106.7 *SCC 120,000*
 Kyle Hirt with Lane, Abby and Maggie stopped by at Empire Farm Days to report even better results!

“Talking to veterinarian Doug Evans and the team at the Udder Comfort™ booth, we got more regimented in our use of Udder Comfort and saw SCC drop from 200,000 to 120,000. We started making sure we sprayed every fresh udder after each milking for the full 3 to 4 days after calving and watched our somatic cell counts respond. We saw SCC on our fresh cows drop right down collectively by 10 to 12 days in milk,” says Kyle Hirt, Mithva Farms, New Woodstock, New York.

“We were already using Udder Comfort for 4 years on swelling in fresh cows and mastitis. We knew it reduced edema faster and better than anything else,” Kyle adds.

“By getting more regimented on the full routine of Udder Comfort for every fresh animal, we saw even better results. It works,” he reports.

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'Sadly, our small dairy farms are dying'

By CHARLOTTE QUICK

Alternate Susquehanna County Dairy Princess

Small dairy farms. They're rooted in tradition. In family values, in the love of the farm. Years ago, tourists and visitors to Pennsylvania would see rolling fields and woods, with big barns and cows speckled across the fields, like something on the front of a "Wish You Were Here" card. Now, the same tourists would see the same rolling fields, the same woods ... but where are the cows? Why are the barns so empty, and the fields absent of cows?

Because, sadly, our small dairy farms are slowly dying. In 2020, according to Pennsylvania's Center For Dairy Excellence, cow numbers were estimated at 482,000, which is 1.6% less than 2019. In fact, in the past 10 years, our state's herd size has dropped by 11%.

One of the biggest reasons for this, unfortunately, is the education of our youths and our consumers. You see, as our kids, the next potential generation of dairy farmers, leave our farms, they're not sharing their story and experience with our consumers. In fact, many of them hide their farm heritage out of shame of coming from such a low-class en-



Charlotte Quick, pictured with one of her show animals, fears that small farms — the backbones of their communities — might become a thing of the past.

vironment.

Fewer and fewer farm kids are teaching the outside world, the consumers, about our story. Consumers nowadays aren't informed or taught as much about their dairy products, and the lack of education about dairy even extends all the way into schools, where a survey by the Center for Dairy Excellence

shows that only one in three children knows that cheese is made from milk. Can you believe that?

The key is to start educating our consumers better. We need to tell our story of the dairy industry, tell our consumers why they should drink dairy and how well we take care of the animals on our farms. When we leave our small dairy farms, we need to take our story with us. When consumers hear our story, they'll be more interested in hearing about the other things we have to say.

We may not be doctors or scientists, or a famous news reporter, but we're experts in our field! We know the real inside story of our dairy farms; not the picture that the media paints to turn consumers away.

So what do you think? Are our small dairy farms worth saving? And are we going to work to protect them? Or are these small farms, the backbones of their communities, going to become a thing of the past, with only the massive barns standing as a memorial to the past times? It's up to us to defend our farms and keep them alive.

Letter: Reader sounds off on ultrasounding

Editor:

As a dairy farm owner for over 50 years in upstate New York, I do not think dairy farmers should be required to have a veterinary license to ultrasound for pregnancy in dairy cattle. My son and I have used ultrasound for pregnancy for many years. It's easy to use, following simple instructions and our vet was always glad to work with us when any

medications were needed.

I am hoping Mr. Herr and Mr. Wentworth are out of jail by the time this letter comes out. It sounds like they are helping many small dairy farmers in Pennsylvania. But there are many good vets in Pennsylvania and New York for sure.

Mervyn Tryon
Brooksville, Fla.

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The 'cow palace', 456 feet long and 136 feet wide, was designed and built with cow comfort not only in mind, but as the highest priority. Adequate ventilation is paramount as evi-

denced by the wide-open walls and 37 chimneys protruding from the 28-foot high peak of the roof. Offices, lunch, utility and milk rooms are detached from the barn, center. The feed

center is pictured at left, also detached.

Photo provided by White Horse Construction

Open house _____ from page 1

Miller's interest is the cows. Together, they operate what is widely seen as a model of cooperation and efficiency. Labor requirements are minimal, thanks to six Lely Astronaut A5s doing the milking and six Lely Discovery manure collectors keeping six manure alleys reasonably clean. Not to be over-

looked are the six Lely Luna cow brushes which provide additional cow comfort while also promoting better health. Two Lely Vectors deliver the TMR to one of two feed alleys which are located at each side of the 456-foot-long barn. "This design allowed us to cluster the robots in the center," explained Stoltzfus.

Natural ventilation inside the structure is enhanced through the height and slope of the paneled ceiling and 37

chimneys placed 12 feet apart. More than 50 Seneca fans also help to circulate the air. Automatic temperature and speed controls are on each fan, individually, thus saving on energy costs.

Cows are grouped within either six rows of stalls or box areas, depending on stage of lactation or special needs. Two pens with a combined capacity for over 40 cows are close to **turn to page 10**

Agriculture census data confirms decline of dairy industry

By SAMANTHA GEHRETT
Penn State Extension Dairy Educator

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) conducts a Census of Agriculture every five years to collect comprehensive data on various aspects of farming, including dairy farming, which is a significant part of Pennsylvania's economy and culture.

The 2017 Census of Agriculture provided valuable insights into the state of Pennsylvania's dairy industry.

- The average dairy farm in the survey supported 1.25 households and derived 85 percent of its income from milk sales.

- The average participating farm milked 87.1 cows, selling 20,435 pounds of milk per cow per year, with a total herd of 100.8 cows and 83.4 heifers.

The 2022 Census of Agriculture data revealed some significant changes in Pennsylvania's dairy industry. Here are some key findings from the 2022 census:

- The total number of farms decreased by 8 percent from 2017. The decrease was most notable farms ranging from 50 to 179 acres.
- The average age of all producers increased slightly to 55.4 years, up from 54.8 years in 2017.
- The average net income per farm increased from \$42,020

in 2017 to \$66,626 in 2022.

- The total value of production of all products increased to \$10.3 billion, a 33% increase over \$7.8 billion in 2017.

- The number of organic farms decreased by 11 percent from 2017. Additionally, the value of sales for organic farming decreased from \$708 million in 2017 to \$628 million in 2022.

Key differences and trends

The decrease in the number of farms, particularly mid-size farms, suggests a consolidation trend. This trend is often driven by economies of scale, where larger farms can spread their fixed costs over a larger number of cows, reducing the cost per unit of milk produced. This allows larger farms to be more competitive in the market, potentially driving smaller farms out of business. However, this consolidation can have negative impacts on rural communities, as the loss of farms can lead to job losses and reduced economic activity.

The increase in the average age of producers is a concern for the future of the dairy industry. This trend underscores the need for programs that support new and young farmers, such as training programs, mentorship opportunities and financial incentives.

Despite these challenges, there are positive trends as well. The increase in average net income per farm and the total value of production suggest that the industry remains robust and profitable. It indicates that despite the challenges, dairy farming can provide a viable livelihood.

The decrease in organic farms and their sales value may indicate challenges in the organic dairy sector. Organic farming practices can be more costly and labor-intensive than conventional farming, which can make it difficult for organic farms to compete on price. Additionally, the market for organic milk may be limited, making it harder for these farms to find buyers for their products. This trend suggests that there may be a need for more support and resources for organic dairy farmers, such as technical assistance, marketing support, and financial incentives.

Thanks for reading **FARMSHINE**

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A reminder: 2024 SCC CHALLENGE ends 11-30-2024. If your herd is on .50 oz. minimum IMMU-PRO from alphagenetics.com since 7-1-2024, you are already entered FREE! ★ After 12-1-2024, just have your dairy plant email your JULY & NOV. 2024 HERD AVG. SCC by 12-15-2024 to staff@alphageneticsinc.com or mail to Alpha Genetics Inc., P.O. Box 360, Whitewater, WI 53190.

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL/TEXT 920-650-1631. Keep up the good work!

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Auction Guide

JUNE 5, 10:30 a.m. Dairy Cow & Heifer Sale, New Holland Sales Stables, New Holland, Pa. Sale managed by New Holland Sales Stables.

JUNE 7, 6 p.m. Special Feeder Cattle Sale, New Holland Sales Stables, New Holland, Pa. Sale managed by New Holland Sales Stables.

JUNE 8, 11 a.m. Built To Last at Brigeen Farms, Turner, Me. Sale managed by Borderview Genetics.

JUNE 13, 11 a.m. Pursuit of Excellents Sale, Leola, Pa. Sale managed by Landis Marketing and Stohaven Holsteins.

JUNE 14, 10:30 a.m. Triple-Hil Sires Progeny Classic II, Smithsburg, Md. Sale managed by Triple-Hil Sires.

JUNE 18, 10 a.m. Compass Point Farm Herd Dispersal, Gap, Pa. Sale managed by Tim Weaver Auction Service.

JUNE 20, 7:15 p.m. Special Dairy Cow & Heifer Sale, Brubaker's Quality Dairy Sales, Shippensburg, Pa. Sale managed by Brubaker's Quality Dairy Sales.

JUNE 28, Special Pony Sale, Penns Valley Livestock, Centre Hall, Pa. Sale managed by Penns Valley Livestock.

JULY 6, PHA Summer Sensation Sale & Picnic, Somerset, Pa. Sale managed by Pa. Holstein Association.

JULY 12, 10:30 a.m. Know What You Buy Heifer Sale, Middletown, Pa. Sale managed by Pa. Holstein Association.

JULY 18, 7:15 p.m. Special Mid-Summer Dairy Cow & Heifer Sale, Brubaker's Quality Dairy Sales, Shippensburg, Pa. Sale managed by Brubaker's Quality Dairy Sales.

NASDA is pleased

ARLINGTON, Va. -- National Association of State Departments of Agriculture CEO Ted McKinney praised U.S. House Agriculture Committee Chairman Glenn "GT" Thompson for releasing the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024 with the following statement:

"NASDA applauds Chairman Thompson for beginning the process of creating the next farm bill. With the release of the legislative text, NASDA remains committed to advocating for a bipartisan farm bill that will secure a commitment to American agriculture and the critical food and nutritional assistance programs for those who need it most. Signing a farm bill into law is vital to the food and agriculture sector which benefits our economy, accounting for roughly one-fifth of U.S. economic activity and supporting nearly 23 million jobs. We welcome the opportunity to work with the House Agriculture Committee as they begin debating the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024."

NASDA is a nonpartisan, nonprofit association which represents the elected and appointed commissioners, secretaries and directors of the departments of agriculture in all 50 states and four U.S. territories.



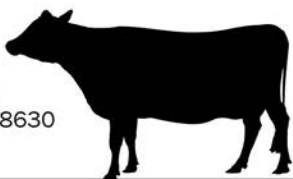
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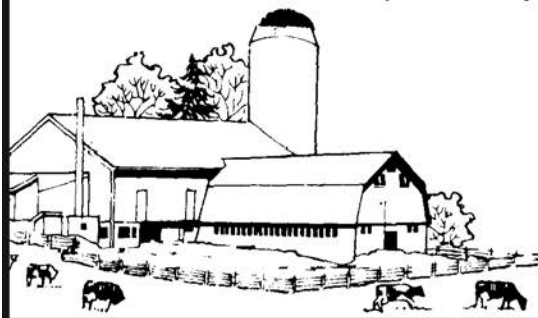
Scholarship offered

BOVINA CENTER, N.Y. — Livestock Foundation's annual Agriculture Scholarship awards \$1000 to one or more graduating Delaware County, N.Y. high school students with acceptance to a college or university where they will pursue a career in agriculture. Applications are due on Sunday, June 16.

Applicants must fill out the application form at livestockfoundation.org/agriculture-scholarship and email proof of college acceptance and a 500-word essay that answers the following question: "Why have you chosen to pursue a career in agriculture?" to info@livestockfoundation.org. Be sure to include the area of agriculture that you plan to study and why it is important to local farming.

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Dairyman's Datebook

JUNE 7-9, Kids & Calves Clinic and Show, Norwich, N.Y. Contact Zack Proskine for more information: 607-435-0051.

JUNE 8-9, Western New York Summer Showcase, Wyoming County Fairgrounds, Pike.

JUNE 13, 6 p.m. Annual Toast to Dairy Celebration, Melhorn Manor, 977 West Main St., Mount Joy, Pa.

JUNE 20, 9:30 a.m. Hoof management workshop at Maier Farms LLC, 7085 Schumacher Road, Waunakee Wis. Sponsored by Professional Dairy Producers. Registration and more information is available by visiting www.pdpw.org or calling 800-947-7379.

JUNE 18-21, National Ayrshire Convention, Comfort Inn & Suites, 840 Sean Drive, Fremont, Ohio.

JUNE 18-22, National Guernsey Convention, Chula Vista Resort, 1000 Chula Vista Parkway, Wisconsin Dells, Wis.

JUNE 19-22, American Jersey Cattle Association (AJCA) and National All-Jersey, Inc. (NAJ) annual meetings, Sheraton Springfield Monarch Place, Springfield, Mass.

JUNE 22, 8 a.m. to noon, Breakfast on the Farm at Iowa's Dairy Center, 1527 Highway 150 South, Calmar.

JUNE 24-27, National Holstein Convention, Salt Lake City, Utah.

JUNE 25-29, National Milking Shorthorn Convention, Fireside Inn & Suites, 25 Airport Road, West Lebanon, N.H.

JULY 3-6, National Brown Swiss Convention, Hyatt Regency Hotel, 333 Main Street, Green Bay, Wis.

JULY 6, Pennsylvania Holstein Picnic, McWilliams Farm,

JULY 12, 10 a.m. Virginia Dairy Expo, Shenandoah Valley Produce Auction, 2839 Lumber Mill Road, Dayton.

JULY 14, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. New York State Holstein Picnic, hosted by George Farm, 320 Genesee Road, Arcade.

JULY 16, 9 a.m. Lancaster County Holstein show, Solanco Fairgrounds, Quarryville, Pa. Deadline for entries is July 1. Call Bob Wenger, 717-471-3790 for additional information.

JULY 26, 9 a.m. rain or shine, Dairy Industry Golf Outing, Hales Mills Country Club, 146 Steele Road, Johnstown, N.Y. Register by July 10 to N.Y. Holstein Association.

AUGUST 16 - 24, The 150th Centre County Grange Fair, Centre Hall, Pa.

OCTOBER 1-4, World Dairy Exposition, Alliant Energy Center, Madison, Wis.

EMPTY BARN (or not)

Jeff Corle would like to perform in your barn

WINDBER, Pa. — Country music song writer and singer Jeff Corle, who lives on a farm near here, is willing to come to your barn and perform. Yes, your barn. He'll sing his signature song, "Empty Barn," the viral hit song on YouTube. The song was born, he says, "of the heartache and pain I experienced after economic circumstances forced me to shut down my dairy and sell my beloved Guernsey cows last spring."

Jeff knows that his pain is common among dairy farmers. Whether you have an empty (cow) barn or not, he would welcome the opportunity to perform at your place. For free.

Yes, there is a catch. He'd like to have the host farmer invite friends and neighbors. "I'd like to see at least 20 people," he says. And if you happen to know about a fair or other event where he might be welcomed as a performer, he would appreciate knowing about it.

"The initial success of *Empty Barn* and all that encouragement for my music prompted me to keep writing and to go to Nashville to record my debut album, *Farm Animal*. I call it an album written by a farmer for farmers!" Jeff noted.

"I now play live and also do speaking engagements on the topic of farmer mental health and overcoming adversity; two things that became central to my own life in the run up to and in the aftermath of selling my cows.

"I incorporate *Empty Barn* and other original songs into my speaking appearances providing a unique, emotionally stirring, and engaging audience experience - especially when that audience is farmers or farm related folks."

Jeff welcomes your call: 814-467-4771. For more information, please visit his website: jeffcorlemusic.com

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Dive deeper into data to uncover solutions for your clients

MADISON, Wis. — It is no secret that a dairy farm's data is valuable for profitable decision-making and performance. As a dairy consultant, having the ability to directly interact with a farm's data puts you in a stronger position to deliver more value to your clients.

"Thirty years ago, I heard Steve Eicher, DairyComp co-founder, explain that whoever has access to the data and knows what to do with it holds the keys," says Dr. Jack Hansen, a veterinarian at Valley Veterinary Clinic in Seymour, Wisconsin. "That's been true for me in my career. That's how you become more valuable to the dairy — it elevates your position to help solve their problems."

Hansen, who has been a large animal veterinarian for 45 years, credits his success to his ability to interact with his clients' data. He learned the basics of the DairyComp herd management system early in his career while working with herds of about 200 cows. He's continued exploring and working with even more data points as his clients' herds grew — most today are 20 times the size.

Here's how Hansen recommends using a herd management solution to deliver more value to your farms.

Start small

Every day, a significant amount of data is recorded on a dairy. While analyzing and applying the data can seem like a daunting task, Hansen suggests starting small.

"Start with a work list — whether that's a list of cows to check for pregnancy, fresh check or dry-off," says Hansen. "Review the list and ask yourself, 'Does this list make sense? Is there anything else that should be included?'"

While it sounds rudimentary, ensuring the list you're using includes all the information you need to make a decision on individual animals can greatly improve your efficiency.

From there, you can customize the list and reports to make them work for your needs.

Find a better way

Always be looking for a better way to do things.

"Always be thinking about: How can we do this differently? Is there something else we should be doing? Is there something we're doing that we shouldn't be doing anymore?" says Hansen.

Revisiting workflows for routine tasks is a great place to find new efficiencies. Perhaps your client doesn't use an RFID reader but has RFID tags and facilities to safely secure animals, such as headlocks, palpation rails or parlor stalls. Pairing mobile herd management with an RFID reader can make your vet checks and worklists easier, faster and more accurate.

Think about the tasks your clients perform repetitively. Is there a way to combine them for more efficiency? Often, this means tackling various tasks in one pass through a pen — such as herd health protocols, move day, dry-off, hoof trimming and vaccinations.

"The part I love about DairyComp is that you can customize it to do anything that you want — it's so flexible," says Hansen. "I like looking at the software from a user standpoint to figure out how I can customize it to meet my client's needs."

Dig into the data

Data helps you identify problems and opportunities and then supports the recommendations you make to your clients. It can also foster collaboration with other consultants the farm works with since there's often crossover in all areas of expertise.

"I was working with a farm's nutritionist who was not happy with the milking per-

formance of the two-year-olds," says Hansen. "By digging into the farm's herd data, we were able to review age at first calving to show that the more mature heifers perform better in later lactation. The farm needs to see the data to back that up because they're investing about \$100 per month to grow that heifer longer."

Often, it's the little things Hansen finds himself investigating with the data.

"On one farm, we were chasing calf pneumonia, trying different treatments and not getting great results," he shares. "By digging into the data, we were able to review different age groups of calves to pinpoint where the issue began. We found it went all the way back to the maternity pen and required re-training the staff on how to tube colostrum to calves, as they were dribbling some milk down the trachea, causing aspiration pneumonia."

If this farm hadn't been using herd management software to record who's feeding calves, what age they got pneumonia and ultrasound lung scores, it likely would have taken much longer to find the root cause, if at all.

By using data to research an issue a client is having, you can pinpoint where the issue

stems from and offer solutions to address the problem.

Be timely with a solution

Maybe you find that there's a problem with a farm's reproduction program, a milk quality issue or even a protocol to adjust. Take the time to thoroughly investigate the problem and think through the best solution.

"Farmers have problems every day that they need to solve — something broke in the parlor, a tractor needs repair, an employee issue needs addressing," says Hansen. "Don't bring them more problems. Investigate the problem and be ready to bring them a solution."

Remember to be sensitive to the timing of when you bring the solutions to them as well.

"Timing is everything. The day they're out planting corn probably isn't the day to bring it up," says Hansen.

Just as you continually reevaluate how you run your business, the same holds true for herd management software. Keep asking questions. Dig in and find an answer.

"Make yourself valuable — the data is all in there," adds Hansen.

Learn more at VAS.com.

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Chad Dechow cited for his cow health research findings

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Chad Dechow, associate professor of dairy cattle genetics at Penn State, has been named recipient of the Research Innovator of the Year Award. It's given by Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences to recognize faculty and staff who have made notable efforts to commercialize their Penn State research.

Dechow received the award, which includes a stipend, at a celebration of research innovation hosted by the college's Entrepreneurship and Innovation program on May 9th at the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center in State College.

He was honored for his research program focusing on improving dairy cow health and well-being amidst continuous efforts to breed for higher levels of milk yield and production efficiency. Most notably, his work led to a commercial test to identify animals carrying a gene variant causing a condition known as calf recumbency.

During the presentation, Dechow told at-

tendees that in the autumn of 2020, veterinarians in New York observed an unusual condition affecting Holstein calves on two farms.

"The calves displayed weakness, struggling to stand at birth or shortly after, and unfortunately, most did not survive beyond six weeks of age," Dechow said. "Despite thorough examination, the vets found no neurologic, infectious or metabolic abnormalities in these young animals, leaving the situation in mystery."

Dechow's lab was asked to help unravel the mystery. Using tissue



Chad Dechow

samples from two herds in New York, a herd in Florida and a herd in Pennsylvania, the scientists conducted a genome-wide association using thousands of DNA markers and pedigree analysis to determine if a genetic origin for recumbency was plausible.

To locate the region of DNA triggering the condition, Dechow needed to genotype calves with recumbency and a group of unaffected relatives so that the region of the genome that was different between the two groups. The careful genetic record-keeping main-

tained by Holstein breeders internationally aided the research.

Ultimately, Dechow and colleagues determined that the 18 affected calves carried two copies of a 2 million DNA base pair region on chromosome 16, whereas the 26 unaffected calves did not. The research team subsequently looked more deeply at the DNA sequence in that region and discovered a mutation in a calcium channel gene involved with muscle contractions.

Dechow devised a simple genetic test based on that research to identify Holsteins that harbor the mutation. Farmers need only mail the lab a hair, blood or tissue sample to find out if the animal in question is healthy, a carrier of the mutation or afflicted by recumbency. He then pursued a provisional patent and finalized three nonexclusive license agreements, with a fourth pending.

"There is a lot of tremendous research conducted in the college, so to be recognized in this manner is truly humbling," Dechow said.

"While the lead investigator often gets the most credit, the reality is that this test could not have been developed without the support of the college, Penn State's Office of Technology Transfer, and most importantly the farmers and the veterinarians who recorded the condition. It is an honor to have worked with them all to develop this test to eradicate the defect."

"Dr. Dechow really drove the success of this technology, first through his expertise in bovine genetics and then through his sophisticated understanding of the economics of genotyping for this industry," said Blair Siegfried, associate dean for research and graduate education and director of the Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Station. "From the beginning, Dr. Dechow was a champion for this technology, and his work will result in a distinct improvement in animal welfare, as well as economic benefit for farmers and the University."

Dechow holds a bachelor's degree in animal science, with honors, from Cornell University, a master's degree in animal science from Penn State, and a doctorate in animal science from the University of Tennessee. Before joining Penn State in 2003, he was a student in the Traveling Scholar Program at the University of Wisconsin at Madison and was an instructor in dairy science at SUNY Morrisville in New York.



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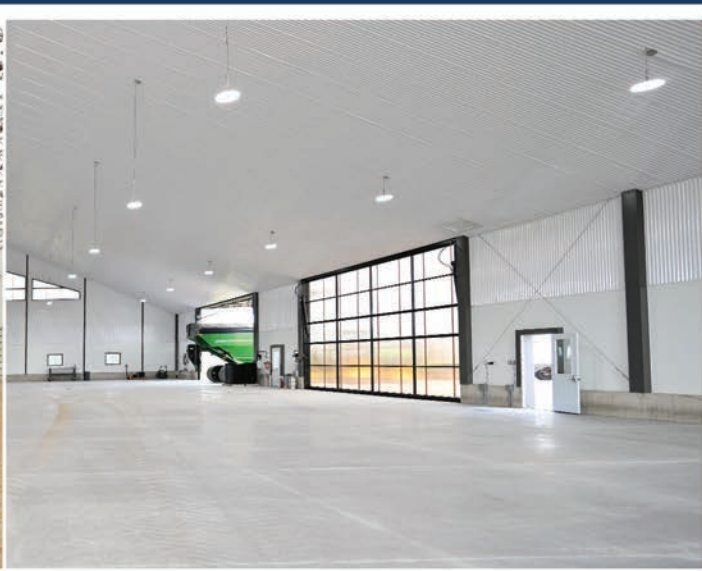
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'MILK is my victory fuel'

Josef Newgarden becomes first back-to-back Indy 500 winner in over 20 years

By SHERRY BUNTING
Special for Farmshine

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Was it the milk? Whole milk, that is. Or was it the cows? For Josef Newgarden, winner of his second consecutive Indianapolis 500 on Sunday, May 26, it was both.

“Milk is really my secret. The key to my success is milk. Milk is my ‘victory fuel.’ It drives me further,” said Newgarden.

Newgarden, of Nashville, Tennessee, held a position in the top 5 during the entire 108th running of the greatest spectacle in racing with the coolest trophy (milk) in sports. He led several of the 200 laps around the 2.5 mile oval at speeds of 225 mph-plus.

In the jostling of the final laps, Newgarden was passed by Pato O’Ward of Mexico, but in a final-lap shoot-out, Newgarden made a dramatic last-lap move to take back the lead and become the first back-to-back Indy 500 winner in two decades, and the first American to do back-to-back since Al Unser in 1970-71.

The race was delayed by storms but managed to be completed by the track’s 8:15 p.m. curfew with what was perhaps one of the most exciting finishes in the race’s history, and Newgarden being the Winner (who Drinks (the) Milk.

And, yes, he definitely drinks milk, whole milk – loves it, in fact.

As a loyal whole milk fan and dairy supporter, Newgarden takes time to visit Indiana dairy farms to meet the cows, talk to them, and do Youtube videos and podcasts about them.

In addition, he is the only Indy 500 winner to jump from his car into the stands to celebrate with raceday fans before driving to Vic-



After a historic finish to the 108th running of the Indianapolis 500 on May 26, dairy farmer Alex Neuschwander of Neu Hope Dairy, Bluffton, Indiana hands off the iconic bottle of milk to back-to-back winner and whole milk lover Josef Newgarden. *IMS Photo*

tory Circle, and he is the first Indy 500 winner to give big credit to... Milk.

In a recently released video, Newgarden talks about how he wanted to take things to “the next level” after his first Indy 500 win last year. He decided to take it back to the farm. He talked about the farm to table concept being so important, diving into what it means to be a farmer.

“It’s really an important cause: A lot of people think about the table, but they forget about the farm,” said Newgarden, “but without a farm, you can’t have a table.”

In this year’s Victory Circle, veteran Milk Presenter and Indiana dairy producer Alex Neuschwander of Neu Hope Dairy, Bluffton

cheered as he handed off the iconic bottle of milk to Newgarden with rookie presenter Abby Herr of Herr Dairy, Kendallville right behind him.

“We are proud of the international spotlight shown on our dairy farmers and the work they put in to bring this trophy of excellence to the victory podium each year,” states ADA Indiana in an email.

Newgarden held the milk high and then promptly surprised onlookers by DRINKING every drop, instead of dousing it over his head after a first sip as most drivers have done in the past.

In fact, Newgarden took time to relish the refreshingly meaningful milk. After his first

few gulps, he gestured to his wife for his cell phone and promptly captured a selfie with The Milk, before continuing to chug it down.

The Indy 500 on Memorial Day weekend is big on tradition. All branches of the military are honored, taps are played, Blue Angels do a flyover, the National Anthem of course is played, along with God Bless America and Back Home in Indiana.

The Milk – ready in a special Winners Drink Milk bottle – provided by American Dairy Association of Indiana is also a big part of tradition for 88 of the famous race’s 108 years. What really makes this year’s story cool is that the coolest trophy in sports – the drink of milk in the Indy500 Victory Circle – is as big a deal to Newgarden as it is to the dairy farmers.

Milk always wins at the Indy 500, and increasingly, the drivers choose whole milk. In the field of 33 drivers, 26 chose whole milk this year, five chose 2% reduced-fat milk, and two chose fat-free milk in this year’s Milk Preference Poll.

Newgarden is not only now listed among only six drivers since 1911 to ever achieve a back-to-back Indy 500 win... this, my friends, is a win-win-win for dairy farmers, their cows, and the whole milk they produce for all of us.

Learn more about the many angles and events that are part of the Indy 500 milk tradition and what ADA of Indiana is doing to spread the Winners Drink Message at winnersdrinkmilk.com

A few of Newgarden’s videos on milk and dairy farming can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F3DnKR6bL4A> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bS19xzX5pS8>

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Open house _____ from page 4

the robotic milking center. The special needs pen is quite roomy, easily adequate for 25 cows. The total number of stalls is 318.

While numerous unique features can be found in this “cow palace,” such as the walkway down through the center of the barn, it is perhaps the tunnel beneath the robot boxes that is most unusual. “It allowed us to disconnect the milk-house,” explained Stoltzfus, adding that the idea came from Canada.

The feed center is also unique. Two stationary mixer boxes are filled by front-end loaders and augers to mix the rations which are then transported by the Lely Vector to the feed alleys. When finished, it parks itself at the charging station to be ready for the next round.

And so it goes at Skyline Dairy, day in and day out.

The feed room at Skyline Dairy proved to be very interesting for visitors. To begin with, there are two levels. The upper level is ground level, making it easy to bring in forages which are dumped into mixing boxes, while other ingredients are added via augers. Two Lely robotic units deliver the finished ration to feed lanes that are at the sides of the barn.

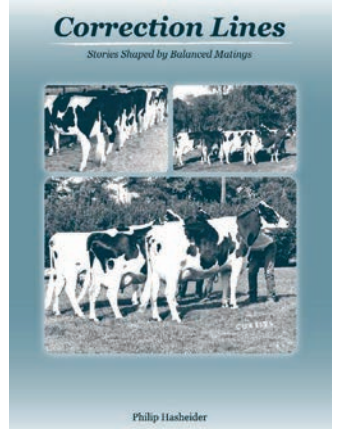
Photo by Dieter Krieg

Book on balanced matings written by Phil Hasheider

SAUK CITY Wis. — A popular book about the age-old question of how to breed a good herd of cows is once again available in print. *Correction Lines* details herd stories shaped by balanced matings with 800 photographs to illustrate the history of the 27 featured Holstein herd breeding programs.

Stories are told, in the breeder’s own words, by those involved in creating such breed influencing sires as Walkway Chief Mark, Carlin-M Ivanhoe Bell, Mowry Ivanhoe Prince, Heatherstone Lucky Typeblazer, Burket Falls ABC, Man-O-War BF Crescent Combine and others.

Individual copies can be ordered from the author for \$45 each, plus \$10 priority mail from Philip Hasheider at P.O. Box 155, Prairie du Sac, WI 53578.



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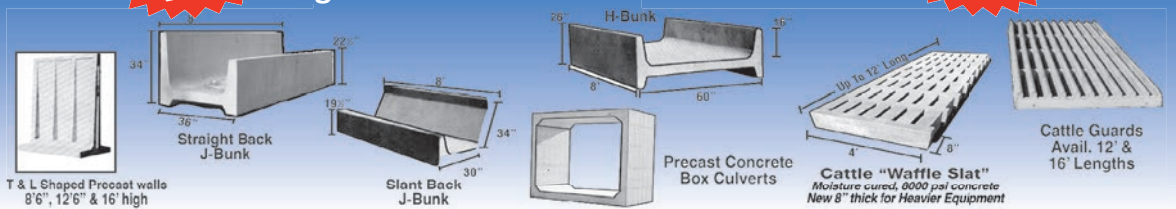
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Junior dairy promoters introduced in Wayne Co.

HONESDALE, Pa. — The Wayne County Dairy Promotion Committee hosted the 77th annual coronation of the Wayne County Dairy Princess and introduction of junior promoters on Saturday, April 27. There were eight young ladies, ages 4 to 13, that joined the court this year during the ceremony held at the Park Street Complex in Honesdale.

Left to right are Dairy Miss Ruth, Dairy Miss Truly, Dairy Miss Chloe, Dairy Maid Zoey, Clarabella the cow, Lil Dairy Miss Teresa, Lil Dairy Miss Alice, Lil Dairy Miss Everly and Lil Dairy Miss Alice.

Outgoing Wayne County Dairy Princess Sydney Roberts was thanked for her dedication and amazing job representing the dairy farmers and the dairy industry in Wayne County and Pennsylvania. She was wished all the best of luck in the future.

Wayne County's junior dairy promoters include Lil Dairy Misses Teresa Tyler, Alice O'Hora, Everly Zablocky and Alice Gold; Dairy Misses Ruth Gold, Truly Zablocky and Chloe Tyler, and Dairy Maid Zoey Tyler. These young ladies are proud to represent the dairy industry by being in parades, doing ice cream sundae competitions, fairs, school promotions, community events and much more.



This show runs 24/7/365; please tune in anytime

MADISON, Wis. — *The Dairy Show*, World Dairy Expo's podcast, is available on Amazon Music, Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, iHeart Radio, Spotify and online at www.world-dairyexpo.com

New episodes of *The Dairy Show* are released on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Expo's podcast features a new guest on every episode discussing topics related to the global dairy industry.

"As the digital meeting place of the global dairy industry, Expo's podcast gives listeners a taste of Expo year-round," shares Katie Schmitt, host of *The Dairy Show*. "The Dairy Show focuses on a variety of topics ranging from cows to the colored shavings to cutting-edge technology while introducing different guests to provide unique perspectives."

Listeners span the globe, representing over 110 countries, all 50 U.S. states, and 12 Canadian provinces and territories. Some of *The Dairy Show's* most popular episodes include "Judging on the Colored Shavings", "Fitting and Grooming Dairy Cattle", "Just Talking Cows" and interviews with Expo Recognition Award winners.

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SAVAGE-LEIGH FARM	25051	1063	777
LAVON YODER	23998	935	737
MIKE & ANITA HAINES	26674	843	765

GLEN-TOCTIN FARM	22886	912	733
THOMAS MULLER JR.	21834	868	689
TOBIE KINSINGER FM.2	21787	880	663
PAUL & HENRY KINSINGER	20813	879	643
VALES - PRIDE HOLSTEIN	20636	850	658
DAVID E. YODER	18125	756	568

Ayrshire

VALES - PRIDE AYRSHIRE	14355	604	451
ROOM-TO-GROW	1458	53	40

Guernsey

WALNUT RIDGE GUERNSEY	15361	708	549
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Jersey

MIKE & ANITA HAINES 2	15799	782	599
SPRING VALLEY JERSEYS	12860	657	481
ELI SWARTZENTRUBER	10408	574	408

Crawford County DHIA

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GOLDSCHETTTER DAIRY	XX	175	224	

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BRENNER DAIRY	143 HO	24964	1065	809
JACOB J. SCHLABACH	154 HO	24293	994	791
RYND HOME FARMS	169 HO	24838	985	785
LYNNWOOD HEAGY	142 HO	23288	941	783
HART FARM	109 HO	23555	892	720
CASH MATT HORNE	94 XX	20318	974	718
TODD & ANN KANTZ	84 JE	19514	958	715
CUSTEAD-VALLEY FARMS	128 HO	23446	830	706

SPRUCE ROW FARMS	215 JE	18078	917	691
MATTHEW & DORATHY IRWI	53 HO	22531	838	680
STEVE MANDL	28 HO	22147	841	657
R DEETER FARM	31 HO	21059	813	636
MATTHEW & DORATHY IRWI	55 XX	18709	822	629
RYND HOME FARMS	12 XX	17190	717	579

HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
STEVE MANDL	HO	46	28	
TODD & ANN KANTZ	HO	71	29	
TODD & ANN KANTZ	JE	74	84	
MATTHEW & DORATHY IRWIN	XX	108	55	
JACOB J. SCHLABACH	HO	110	154	
MARK BRANTNER	HO	140	85	
MATTHEW & DORATHY IRWIN	HO	144	53	
SPRUCE ROW FARMS	JE	156	215	
RYND HOME FARMS	XX	166	12	

Erie County

GREENE SUMMIT FARM	44 HO	16175	609	523
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Lawrence County

CAMPRUN HOLSTEIN	127 HO	23271	948	736
LUKE & CASEY WHITE	48 JE	18456	922	673
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
LUKE & CASEY WHITE	JE	190	48	

Mercer County

KETH REDDICK	91 HO	24733	1043	841
VAN DE JERSEY	300 JE	18961	1129	722
EALY'S HIGHLAND FARM	30 GU	17297	837	590
EALY'S HIGHLAND FARM	14 GU	17488	800	570
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
VAN DE JERSEY	JE	117	300	
KETH REDDICK	HO	117	91	
EALY'S HIGHLAND FARM	GU	167	14	

Venango County

MITCHELL DAIRY	172 HO	24576	1060	781
ROLLING SPRING FARM	121 HO	22759	949	776
PAT & MIKE CAREY	91 HO	23182	892	739
DAN & JENNY GEER	271 HO	19408	874	638
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
PAT & MIKE CAREY	HO	98	91	

OHIO

Ashtabula County

WILSON DAIRY FARM	152 HO	26149	984	791
MILLARD DAIRY LLC.	182 HO	24496	990	772
SPRINGER DAIRY FARMS	124 HO	24416	962	758
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
WILSON DAIRY FARM	HO	91	152	
MILLARD DAIRY LLC.	HO	112	182	
SPRINGER DAIRY FARMS	HO	177	124	

Carroll County

PAUL FISHER	88 XX	21889	1126	783
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Geauga County

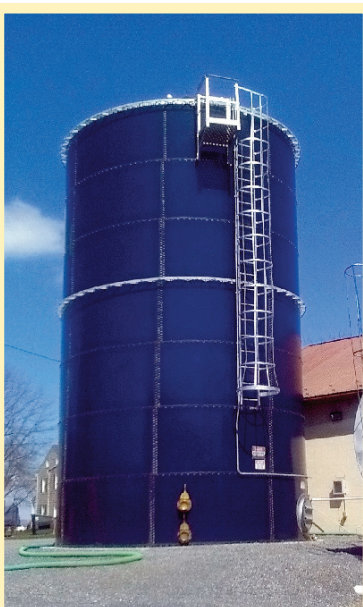
CHARLES SOLTIS	133 HO	26888	1019	866
HERDS WITH A RHA SCC LESS THAN 200,000				
CHARLES SOLTIS	HO	116	133	

Trumbull County

GLENN R. BRUGLER	118 HO	18598	804	625
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Whole milk is wholly embraced

Newsflash! 97-Milk-NY is at the New York State Capitol in Albany for Dairy Day Wednesday, May 29. Volunteers Duane Spaulding (right) and Ann Diefendorf (left), along with Dana Mesick of Ronnybrook Farms Dairy (second from right) are pictured with NYS Assemblyman Chris Tague of Schoharie County, prime sponsor of the whole milk in schools bill in New York. Ronnybrook of Ancramdale and Dygert Farms Creamery of Palatine Bridge, donated the whole milk for their booth. Duane and Ann brought 97 Milk materials, banners, signs, bale caps, and wore their 97 Milk T-shirts, arriving early to meet the milk trucks and set up to greet lawmakers and consumers from 10:30 to 1:30. Northeast Dairy Producers Association (NEDPA) had the booth next door, dipping King Brother's ice cream.

Photo by Lorraine Lewandrowski

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Glenn
Thompson
Congress



Bernie Morrissey and Former State Senator Mike Brubaker invite you to a reception honoring

Congressman Glenn "GT" Thompson

Chairman, Agriculture Committee; Senior Member, Education and Labor Committee; Dean of the PA Congressional Delegation

Wednesday, June 19, 2024 | 5:30 PM

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Or Mike Brubaker at mike@principledstrategiesllc.com

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Pennsylvania Holstein picnic and sale set for July 6

2024 PHA Summer Picnic Ticket Order

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address (for order confirmation): _____

Number attending: _____ x \$5 = \$ _____ total

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — The Pennsylvania Holstein Association invites all interested dairy farmers and their families to a summer picnic and the Summer Sensation Sale on Saturday, July 6th. It will be hosted by the McWilliams family in Somerset County with lunch starting at 11:30 and the sale starting at 12:30. A pre-sale preview will also be hosted at the McWilliams Farm the night of Friday, July 5.

In addition, there will be a “Sharpen your Selection Skills” segment for juniors at 11 a.m. near the sale cattle. It will be led by Ron Hembury of Hembury Farms, home of Cherry-Lor Holsteins. Ron has long-standing partnerships with several significant herds like Pen-Col, Tiger-Lily, and Heart & Soul.

The McWilliams farm is owned by Charlene and Same McWilliams. They milk 70 Registered Holsteins including many boarded cattle. Their prefix is well known on the tan-bark trail as they exhibit at the local, state, and national level. At the 2024 PHA Spring Show, they showed the grand champion and the honorable mention grand champion in addition

to many other top placing animals. In 2023, they built a new barn and step-up parlor and they are looking forward to showcasing it during the summer picnic.

Tickets for the picnic are \$5 and ticket order deadline is Monday, June 17. Tickets are available online at www.paholsteins.com. If needed, please use the ticket order form at left and send into the PHA office.

Ticket orders must be received by Monday, June 17.

Send ticket order form with check payable to “Pennsylvania Holstein Association” to:
Pennsylvania Holstein Association
839 Benner Pike
State College, PA 16801

Regional Holstein position awaits applicants

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. — Holstein Association USA has launched a search for a regional sales representative for eastern Pennsylvania, New England, Delaware, Maryland and New Jersey. The candidate must reside in southeastern Pennsylvania.

The Association is looking for a candidate with:

- A bachelor’s degree in dairy science, animal science, or related field, preferred
 - Five years of dairy industry experience, preferred
 - Three to five years of sales experience, preferred
- Competencies and requirements include:
- Must have a valid driver’s license and insurable driving record
 - Knowledge of the U.S. dairy industry, dairy cattle management, genetics, and the Registered Holstein business
 - Exceptional sales skills
 - Excellent cattle evaluation skills
 - Excellent communication skills
 - Very strong attention to detail and organizational skills
 - Positive, professional, and enthusiastic attitude
 - Ability to travel 75% of work time

Questions can be directed to Human Resources at employment@holstein.com

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Participation invited in six regional Holstein shows

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — The Pennsylvania Holstein Association invites participation in its summer show program, which begins in mid July. Specific information for each of the six regional shows is provided below:

Southwest PA Championship Show

Date and time: July 13, 9 a.m. (earliest move in is July 10)
Place: Somerset County Fairgrounds, Meyersdale
Entry fee: \$25 by July 7; Late entry fee: \$100
Judge: Rudy Kiko
Chairman: Justin Kaufman 814-442-7796
Check-in deadline: July 12 by noon
Submit entries through Showman.app
Youth showmanship contest: July 12, 6 p.m.
*sign-up for showmanship available on Showman.app
Demo by showmanship judge at 5 p.m. on July 12

Central PA Championship Show

Date / time: July 27, 8:30 a.m.; earliest move in: July 25
Place: Grange Fairgrounds, Centre Hall
Entry fee and date: \$15 between June 17 - July 8
Late entry fee / date: \$30 between July 9 - 26
Judge: Jason Lloyd
Chairmen: Wayne Cessna 814-494-1848 and Michael Yoder 717-437-5846
Check-in: July 25, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. / July 26, 9 a.m. to noon
Check-in deadline: July 26, noon

Send entries to: On-Line at Showman.app
Chicken dinner – Cost \$7 / person on July 25th
* RSVP to Trish Hough at 814-571-2860 by July 18th or on Showman App
Youth showmanship contest:
July 26, 6 p.m.; registration from 3-5 p.m.
Red & White Show also being offered to anyone.

Southeast PA Championship Show

Date / time: Aug. 6, 9:30 a.m.; earliest move in is Aug. 4
Place: Lebanon Fairgrounds, Lebanon
Entry fee: \$20 by July 28
Late entry fee: \$45 from July 29th to Aug. 2
Judge: Terri Packard
Chairpersons: Brad and Amy Hoover 717-507-7976
Check-in deadline: August 5 by 3 p.m.
Submit entries through: Showman.App

Northwest PA Championship Show

Date / time: July 20, 9 a.m.; earliest move in: July 16, p.m.
Place: Crawford County Fairgrounds, Meadville
Entry fee: \$10 from June 13 to July 11
Late entry fee: \$25 from July 12-16
Judge: Tyler Reynolds
Chairman: Tom Uber: 330-853-9297
Check-in deadline: July 21 by 3 p.m.
Submit entries through: Showman.app

Youth showmanship contest: Fri., July 19, 11 a.m.
Red & White Show also being offered to anyone.

Northern Tier Championship Show

Date / time: July 31, 10 a.m.
Place: Harford Fairgrounds, New Milford
Entry fee: \$15 by July 10; Late entry fee: \$25.
Judge: Matt Hawbaker
B&W chairperson: Denise Pease: 570-955-7131
R&W chairperson: Dana Empet: 570-840-7780
Check-in deadline: July 30 by 3 p.m.
Send entries to: Dana Empet
269 Deer Trail Rd., Kingsely, PA 18826

Southcentral PA Championship Show

Date / time: Aug. 8, 9:30 a.m.
Earliest move in: after 3 p.m. on Aug. 6
Place: South Mountain Fairgrounds, Arendtsville
Entry fee: \$10 by July 31; Late entry fee: \$20 to Aug. 6
Judge: Tyler Peachey
Chairperson: Joy Widerman: 717-752-5871
Check-in deadline: August 7, by 4 p.m.
Send entries to: Lisa Cornman,
828 Baltimore Pike Gardners, PA 17324
Or email entries to: justabeauty@gmail.com
Meal, Wednesday, August 7, 7 p.m. sponsored by:
Adams County Holstein Club

Farm group has concerns with Farm Bill markup

ALBANY, N.Y. — The National Young Farmers Coalition claims that a title-by-title summary of a framework for the upcoming House Farm Bill falls short of needs. The Farm Bill markup hearing took place May 23rd. “Based on the summary, we are concerned that the proposed legislation will miss the mark in addressing the critical challenges facing the new generation of U.S. farmers and ranchers,” declared a spokes-man for the organization.

“We need federal farm policy that addresses the concurrent crises of access to land, capital, and conservation programs that young farmers are up against. The next Farm Bill is our best opportunity to prioritize the needs of the new generation of farmers and ranchers and to build a safe and thriving food system, and we urge Chairman Thompson to better seize this opportunity ... we cannot miss it,” said Michelle Hughes, co-executive director of the National Young Farmers Coalition.

“Chairman G.T. Thompson’s Farm Bill summary does not include federal investment in community-led land access projects – a number one priority for young and Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) farmers across the country – and drops the climate-smart provisions from the expanded permanent baseline funding of critical conservation programs. It also removes buy-protect-sell language from the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), hindering the ability of young and beginning farmers to access land. These are missed opportunities to address systemic inequities in our agricultural system,” Hughes explained.

Entries welcomed for Lancaster County show on July 16

QUARRYVILLE, Pa. — Entries for the Lancaster County Holstein Association’s annual show are due on or before July 1st. The show will be held on

Tuesday, July 16, at the Solanco Fairgrounds in Quarryville, starting at 9 a.m. For additional information or entry forms please contact show com-

mittee chairman Robert Wenger. 717-471-3790 or e-mail wengdale@frontier.com

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Selling from: Hilltop-Haven Holsteins, NY



Hilltop-Haven Lois-Red (VG-86 2yr)
This stunning Airforce One daughter sells fresh with her 2nd calf. Backed by 10 gen VG & EX!



Quality-Ridge Stormi Hazel (EX-96 2E)
Hazel is the 3rd dam of a balanced, bred Whiteout heifer. Dam is a VG-88 Goldchip x EX-91 Aftershock.



Jericho-Dairy Berkley-TW (EX-93 3E)
Berkley is 4th dam of R&W Done Right 2yr old, that sells, along with 10-23 Lu-Tenant heifer. Backed by 11 gen VG and EX.

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120+ Holstein lots sell, including milking
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15 Young Milking Cows | Show-Age Calves
Nearly 30 Red & Whites

Selling from: Welsh-Edge Holsteins, WI



Duchess Talent Admire (EX-94 3E)
AVG-87 Malki sells fresh, from Admire's EX Goldwyn. Backed by 8 EX dams to D-R-A August.

Alisha Syndicate, MD



Welsh-Edge D Ambition (EX-94 4E)
Ambition is 3rd dam of three Felon heifers selling. A 3-23 and 6-23 Felon x EX Absoloute x EX-93 Goldsun.

Selling from: Triple-Hil Sires, MD



Welsh-Edge Goldsun Gimmick (VG-89)
A fancy-uddered Lithium sells fresh, from Gimmick's VG-88 Uno daughter. From the Gingerhearts!



Welsh-Edge Highonlife (EX-91)
A sweet 8-23 Felon heifers sells right out of this incredible Doorman! Potential 7th generation EX!



S-S-I Doc Have Not 8784 (EX-95)
Embryos, sired by Blaze-Red sell from the 'Doc's Lambda daughter, who is due to calve this summer.

Pinetree Dairy, OH



Apple-Pts DR Alisha-Red (EX-91)

Five offerings sell from this beautiful Apple daughter. A 6-23 Pep, 6-23 Lu-Tenant, 12-23 Maneuver (all R&W). Also selling is a choice by Feature P and embryos by McDavid PP. Mt-Glen is sending Alisha's 9-22 Rex daughter, due in September!

Sale Staff

- Jared Martin 301-491-4645
- Lowell Martin 301-491-3154
- Galen Weber 301-331-0674
- Chris Hill (auctioneer) 202-255-7907
- John Burket (pedigrees) 814-239-2260
- Don Welk 717-575-4700
- Glen Peachey 717-320-3330
- Matt Hawbaker 717-360-7848
- Mark Oberholtzer 715-773-2240
- John Ivan Oberholtzer 715-219-2781
- Quinn Dum 717-636-3965



Blondin Goldwyn Subliminal (EX-97 4E)
The one-and-only "Subliminal" is the dam of three special 3-24 calves selling sired by Feature P. Two are polled and all *RC!



Tombeth Linjet Elouise (EX-95 3E)
Elouise is the dam of a beautiful, dairy 3-23 bred heifer, sired by Forrest. Her full-brother coming out soon!

Mitchell Mast, MD



DJ-Purepride Infra-Red (EX-93 2E)
A pair of beautiful, red & white summer yearling Lu-tenant daughters sell, right out of Infra!

Elmer King, PA



Luck-E Doc Azacaboom (EX-92)
Azacaboom's sweet Winter calf sells sired by Pep-Red. Next dam 94 Afro x 94 Asia. Sister to a future THS sire!

Kirk Hillegass, PA



Scenic-Vista Ardels Analise (EX-94 2E)
A stunning 7-23 Atlanta P sells from Analise. Next dam is EX-94 Pronto Lynita, dam of 525HO135 Radix P.



MDF Goldwyn Breezier (EX-94 3E)
A choice of 3 calves, born by sell day, sired by Bravo, sell from Breezier. Next dam is EX-95 Outside Breeze.



Hillmont Durham Lyndi (EX-96 5E)
Lyndi is the 3rd dam of a big-time Cinnamon heifer, due to calve in July. Dam is a VG-88 Solomon.

- Elquest Holsteins sending 5 heifers and one amazing 2nd calf Done Right! All are polled and some homozyous.
- Burket-Falls sends two bred heifers and one is polled lineback Top of the Line. A beautiful 3rd lactation R&W Enlight sells from an EX-92 Dazzler. Will be scored before the sale.
- Two milking Rex daughters coming from Skiles-View. A daughter from Baracuda's EX-91 full sister, and a fresh Rex x VG-88 Doorman x EX-95 Gold Prize x EX-96 Dundee Paige.
- Howe Holsteins in MN selling three great heifers. Two are lineback Aztec-Red daughters from Dun-Did breeding.
- Two heifers from Midnite-Blu - a 6-23 Black Onyx x EX Frizz, and a sweet Feature P x GP-83 Ice Cloud x 93 Pep

Powerful Cow Families! Balanced Mat

This sale has been in the makings for a couple of years, and over the past few extremely excited about this group of consignments! These breeders opened to cattle that met our criteria, both in the quality of their pedigrees and also their consignments from our 2021 sale go on to perform and score well for their ne and begin a new chapter to your breeding program!

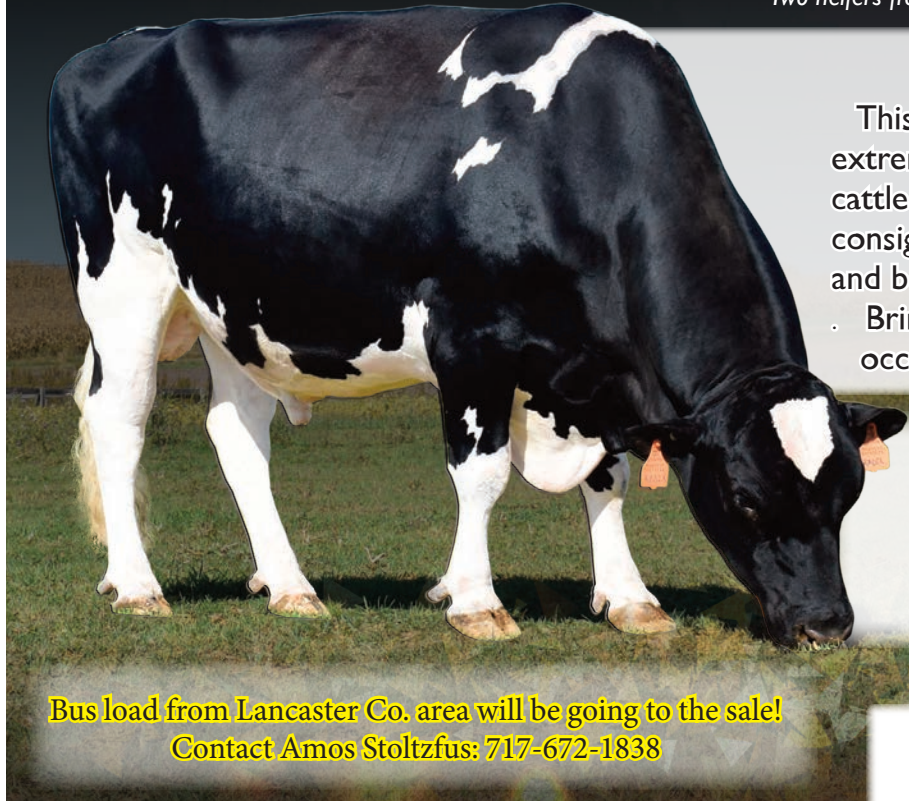
Bring your whole family - we have specifically tailored the event to be family occupied! There will be around 12 stud bulls onsite for you to see including

525HO135 RADIX P *RC

Six daughters sell from this Rex-PP-Red son, including a fancy fresh 2 year old from Cedar-Crest. She's backed by 3 generations of EX cows with big records.

Bus load from Lancaster Co. area will be going to the sale!
Contact Amos Stoltzfus: 717-672-1838

Call 1-855-955-2100 or visit www.triplehilsires.com



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Liddleholme, NY



Macland Hf Yoder Rachel (EX-96 3E)
Incredible opportunity! A fancy-uddered 2 yr Lu-Tenant daughter of 'The Yoder' sells fresh. Mama is fresh again and looks amazing!

Selling from: Mt-Glen Farms, PA



Mt-Glen Jonah Lexi (EX-94 3E)
A spring yearling Black Eagle sells from Lexi's EX-93 Louie daughter. Both cows with records over 35k!

Selling from: Springlake Holsteins, NY



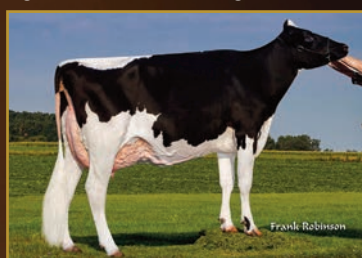
Jericho-Dairy Baracuda (EX-96 2E)
A fancy 12-23 R&W Lu-Tenant calf sells from Baracuda's VG-87 Kenosha daughter, with record over 31k lb!



Jk-Rg Advent Earlene-Red (EX-94 3E)
Earlene is the grand-dam of a 8-23 R&W Challenger heifer that sells. Dam is a VG-87 Altitude. 3rd dam is Greenlea Rub Marlene (EX-94).



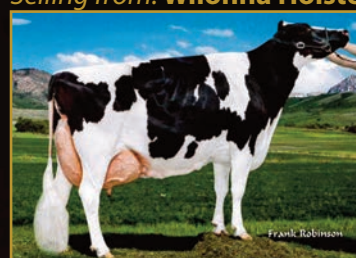
Deep-Valley Action Sara (VG-87)
Sara is a Willona Action from 8 gens VG and EX Deep-Valley breeding. She sells, along with her beautiful Ice Cloud spring calf.



Golden-Rose Abs Gloriana (EX-90)
Three heifer calves, sired by Top of the Line sell from this 19th gen EX cow. They could be red and lineback!



Lin-Ro Redburst Jen (EX-94 3E)
Jen's daughter by Challenger-Red sells fresh, with her polled Great Guy heifer calf. From 7 gen. EX-94 or higher!



Wilonna Linjet Avis (EX-95 4E)
Avis is behind two heifers - a 10-23 Denali and a fancy 12-23 Turbo Jet calf out of a VG-88 Atlanta.



Wilonna SB Gay (EX-95 5E)
Gay is the 4th dam of a 10-23 *RC Denali heifer from VG-88 Awesome x EX-91 2E DVC x EX-92 3E Advent.



Wilonna Mid Bobbie Moo (EX-94 3E)
Two embryo lots sell, sired by Cut Right-Red from an EX-94 Jonah. Next dam is 87 Sexation x Moo.

Lowell Martin, MD



Triple-Hil Cloud Alexa (EX-91)
Alexa's 9-23 polled Atlanta heifer sells. Next dam is 92 Armani x VG-89 Perseus from EX-96 Tri-Day Ashlyn.

Million-Heir, OH



Starmark Ad Hotstuff-Red (EX-94 2E)
A spring yearling Cash heifer sells straight from this acclaimed R&W powerhouse brood cow!

Dwayne Martin, PA



Sixcorner Royal Serena (EX-90)
Serena's bred Radix daughter sells. She's followed by 15 generations EX back to Audrey Posch.

- Kinsman Farm sells a bred Whiteout x EX-91 Goldchip back to VT-Pond-View breeding
- McDavid PP first-choice female x amazing EX-92 Firefox sells from Welsh-Edge breeding - J & J Horst, G. Martin
- Weaverhof sends a bred Luxury daughter from an incredible EX-94 McCutchen
- A solid 8-23 Malki heifer sells from VG-88 Diamondback x EX Damion from Ocean-View Sassy's - Galen Weber
- A full sister to 525HO154 Heritage-PP-Red sells, due in July. She's red and PP! - Mark Yeazel
- An impressive Cash springer sells from VG Diamondback x 9 gen EX through the great Barbie - Brant Flier
- IVF session being offered from your choice of Wilonna's best three mature cows in the herd currently!

Schedule of Events:

- Thursday, June 13th All day Open-House and Cattle-viewing. Lunch provided 11:30 AM-1 PM
- Thursday Evening: 6-8 PM Food & Fellowship
- Friday, June 14th 8:30-10 AM Complimentary Pancake Breakfast
- Friday 10:30 SHARP: Sale begins

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y friendly and will be providing a bounce house, etc to keep the children the amazing EX-94 Hillmont Cinnamon-Red who is joining the THS lineup.

525HO143 SUNRISE P-RED

Four daughters of this up-and-coming R&W sire will sell...and they are good! A 9-23 R&W Sunrise heifer sells from 9 gen EX through Talent Tilly. And Springlake sends 2 gorgeous daughters.



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Red hot beef market, do the math

A red hot beef market continues to escalate dairy cull cow prices at a time when all the buzz is about whether and how long it will take for the national dairy herd to grow production to fill billions of dollars in new processing capacity we keep hearing about. With Breaking Utility cows averaging \$138.60, Boning Utility \$137.60, and Lean cows \$120 in pre-holiday trade late last week at livestock auctions in the East, cows that pose problems are too valuable to keep. But then again, farmers are doing the math. Cow slaughter is down vs. year ago. Part of that equation is there are fewer beef and dairy cows to cull in the first place. The other part is the unborn calves are too valuable not to keep – especially the beef-on-dairy week-old calves averaging \$950 to \$1050 per head right now. As far as dairy replacement cattle, bred heifers are not showing up on any reports we can find. Fresh cows are averaging a solid \$3000, springing heifers average \$2500, and open heifers weighing just under 1000 pounds brought over \$1600 in the Upper Midwest last week. Processors may have to up the ante to get the cow factory turned toward making more milk. Maybe they've got a plan for that also. Nestle and Danone are leading the charge in making plant-based + dairy mixtures of beverage milk and infant formula and using precision fermentation proteins as a so-called "sustainable" dilution solution. Now we hear the Israeli startup 'Finally Food' is even genetically engineering potatoes grown in fields as little casein protein bioreactors. My questions are: Will all of these gyrations be labeled so we can choose what kind of agriculture we want to support – Frankenfield or family farm? Will consumers understand what they are even consuming? Will it be safe, and how can this be more sustainable than God's creation? Some things are just a road too far. Bottomline: Follow the money.

Cheese market fumbles, whey stays firm

The CME spot cheese market remains split with barrels trading well over blocks for the third straight week of Mr. Toad's Wild Ride. The previous two straight weeks saw large load counts clearing in the 40-lb block Cheddar market, pushing the spot price 17 cents below the \$1.98/lb peak realized on May 9. Trade was a bit quieter after the Memorial Day holiday with 5 loads of blocks clearing and the spot price pegged at \$1.81/lb Wed., May 29, down 3 cents/lb from the previous Wednesday. The 500-lb barrel cheese market did manage to crest the \$2 mark and stayed there through last Friday, before clearing 5 loads this week, giving up 7 cents pegged at \$1.96/lb Wednesday – still 15 cents higher than the block price. Dry whey held firm this week at 39 1/2 cents/lb with 5 loads changing hands.

Butter melts off 13 cents, inventory up 9%

The butter market melted off 13 cents in the past four trading sessions after Friday's USDA Cold Storage Report showed



stocks up 9% over year ago at the end of April. The spot price was pegged at \$2.9750/lb Wed., May 29, with 8 loads trading over two days. Nonfat dry milk lost a penny, pegged at \$1.1650/lb with just 2 loads trading in two days.

Cl. III milk futures firm up, Cl. IV pulls back

Milk futures were mixed with Class III contracts mostly higher while Class IV contracts were mostly lower. On Wed., May 29, the Class III milk futures for the next 12 months (May24 through Apr25) averaged \$19.13, up 6 cents from the previous Wednesday, gaining back half of last week's loss. At this level, the Class III 12-month average is 63 cents/cwt higher than it was on May 1.

The 12-month Class IV average closed at \$21.08 Wed., May 29, felling losing last week's 37 cent gain. At this level, the average is still 44 cents/cwt higher than it was for the same 12-month period on May 1.

Big fundraising reception for GT June 19

Bernie Morrissey is co-chairing with former State Senator Mike Brubaker, a fundraising reception in honor of Representative Glenn 'GT' Thompson (R-15th) on Wednesday evening, June 19 at Yoder's Restaurant in New Holland.

"We need all agribusinesses to give what they can to make this a special night for the Dean of the Pennsylvania Congressional delegation, who has been a champion for dairy and agriculture, especially on the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act," said Bernie in a phone interview this week. "Dave McCormick, the Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate, has been invited as a guest speaker as well." (See ad on page 13 for information).

Who's in, who's out?

As Farmshine readers know from reading his opinion in the April 12, 2024 edition, U.S. Senate Candidate for the state of Pennsylvania, Dave McCormick, supports the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act. As Farmshine readers also know from reading the updates, the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act has already passed the U.S. House by an overwhelming 330 to 99 bipartisan majority in December and has been included in the House farm bill that went through Ag Committee markup on May 23. But the measure is stalled in the U.S. Senate with 17 cosponsors from 13 states.

Of the two U.S. Senators currently representing Pennsylvania, both of them Democrats, only John Fetterman has signed on as a cosponsor. Bob Casey Jr., has not. Senator Casey has received many emails, letters and phone calls from constituents

about this bill, and his form letter response is always the same. He says he will "keep these views in mind" should the bill ever make it to the floor for a vote, but when it comes to cosponsoring S. 1957 to help get it to the floor, he's on the sidelines, stating in the form letter we received: "I firmly believe that the scientific and nutritional integrity of federal school meal programs is best maintained by deferring to the views of scientists, not politicians. As such, I believe as well that requests for reconsideration or modification of nutrition standards for federal meal programs should be considered by the scientific bodies whose expertise informs federal meal programs."

Trouble is, the "scientific bodies" (aka Dietary Guidelines Committee) is controlled by USDA, screening out the science!

Senator Casey will face off against Senate Candidate McCormick in November for the right to represent Pennsylvania.

Meanwhile, the Pennsylvania House passed the state's whole milk bill authored by Rep. John Lawrence, but the Senate stalled it, and who knows if they'll move it this session? Tennessee beat Pennsylvania to it. They've got a whole milk bill passed and signed into law, enabling the use of whole milk dispensers for students to self-serve separate from the lunch line.

On the farm bill front... whole milk is in, so is 'higher of'

The House Ag Committee marked up their version of the farm bill May 23. The marathon session culminated with the Chairman's Mark remaining virtually intact with a few amendments and some continued discussions to be had. As expected, no one on the committee challenged the inclusion of Chairman Thompson's Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act. It rides with the language that would expand the SNAP Healthy Fluid Milk Incentive (HFMI) to include the full suite of nutritious milk options, including whole and 2% milk there also. IDFA stated its support for this to be preserved as the farm bill moves through its paces.

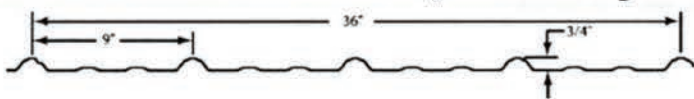
What IDFA objects to, however, is another piece of the House farm bill that deals with how fluid milk is priced. The language would return the Class I base price 'mover' to the 'higher of' within 30 days of farm bill passage, while still respecting the ultimate conclusion of the FMMO hearing process some time in 2025. IDFA states that "Congress should not intervene on one select issue... that has significant impacts across all policies in the FMMO and like many of the hearing proposals, affects many parts of the dairy supply chain."

Here's a newsflash: Congress intervened in 2018 – at IDFA's request – by putting language in that farm bill to abandon the 'higher of' in favor of 'averaging' in the first place, and for 5 years, this had, and continues to have, significant impacts across all policies in the FMMO and farmer milk checks! (Not just during the pandemic, it's happening today with Class IV over Class III, just not as noticeable because farmers don't see it in the PPD.



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Make Homemade Yogurt!

by Cheryl Beachy

Homemade yogurt has become a staple to us. I just realized I've never written a recipe about it. I've tried many different recipes and this is not nearly the only way to make it but it is one easy way that consistently gives me good results. It sounds like it needs to be made with perfect accuracy but it's actually quite forgiving.

Yogurt

Ingredients:

- 1 gallon milk
- 1 cup plain yogurt w/ live cultures

Equipment:

- large saucepan
- thermometer
- 4 quart jars w lids
- small ice chest

For Greek yogurt:

- cheese cloth
- colander
- large bowl



Step 2. Heat milk slowly over medium heat to 180 degrees.

Step 3. Remove from heat and allow the milk to cool to 116 degrees.

Step 4. Mix 1 cup yogurt with a small amount of milk. Whisk into the heated milk.



Step 1. Pour 1 gallon of milk into a large saucepan.



Step 5. Pour into 4 quart jars.

Step 6. Place jars in an ice chest.

Fill the ice chest with warm water -116 degrees is perfect. Cover and incubate for at least 6 hours until it is the consistency of thick cream. (I like to taste mine to be sure it has developed the "sour" yogurt flavor. If it hasn't make sure your water is still warm and continue to incubate several more hours.) Place in refrigerator to cool completely. Then it's all ready to eat!



6.

For Greek yogurt-

Lay several layers of butter muslin, cheese cloth or a piece fabric in the colander. Place colander over a bowl to catch the whey. Pour in the cold yogurt.

Allow to drain. Scoop out the yogurt and whisk or blend until smooth.

This will make a thick creamy yogurt that will not separate. Serve it with granola, or fruit or just enjoy its deliciousness all by itself.



Notes:

I've only made yogurt starting with raw milk but pasteurized will also work.

The most important temperature is when you've combined the yogurt with your milk. Too high of heat will kill the live cultures.

I've tried adding powdered milk, gelatin, or adding instant gelatin when finished and this is the recipe that I like best. But you might like to try it with gelatin: add 1 tablespoon unflavored gelatin dissolved in 1 cup of water to the milk when it is 180 degrees.

Wondering what to do with the leftover whey? Refrigerate it. Then use it instead of buttermilk or milk to make biscuits, bread, and pancakes etc. Or add it to soups or smoothies.

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Bradley Biehl signs deal with 'Bucky' Jones to expand, improve

MASSEY, Md. — Bradley Biehl, owner of AMS Galaxy USA located in Kutztown, Pa., has purchased shares of Jones Dairy Service, dba Innovative Dairy Solutions.

Lester "Bucky" Jones and Michael Brady have both sold their shares of Jones Dairy Service to Bradley, effective April 30, 2024. In addition to Bradley's ownership, service technicians Mark Coates and Mike Hanson, Jr. are shareholders in the business.

Jones Dairy Service, based in Massey, Maryland, was started in January 1979 by Bucky Jones. It currently serves more than 900 dairy farms in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey and Virginia, offering route trucks, milking equipment repair and service and capital equipment sales. Jones Dairy Service sells and services Boumatic milking equipment, as well as a wide selection of chemicals, other dairy farm equipment and animal health products. What's more, Jones Dairy Service has been providing milking robots through AMS Galaxy USA since 2017.

"I've worked hard to build a business that serves dairy farmers in my region," says Jones. "It's important to me to hand over my legacy to someone who has the same passion for dairy farmers that I have had over the past 25 years. After partnering with Galaxy for many years, Brad has shown to model a



"I've worked hard to build a business that serves dairy farmers in my region," says Bucky Jones, pictured on the left. "It's important to me to hand over my legacy to someone who has the same passion

for dairy farmers that I have had over the past 25 years. After partnering with Galaxy for many years, Brad has shown to model a strong desire for the success of his customers and the industry as a whole."

strong desire for the success of his customers and the industry as a whole."

Galaxy has been distributing robotic milking and dairy automation equipment since 2011 and Biehl has held ownership since 2012.

"Jones Dairy Service has been a pillar in this region for decades and I have long appreciated the friendship and mentorship that

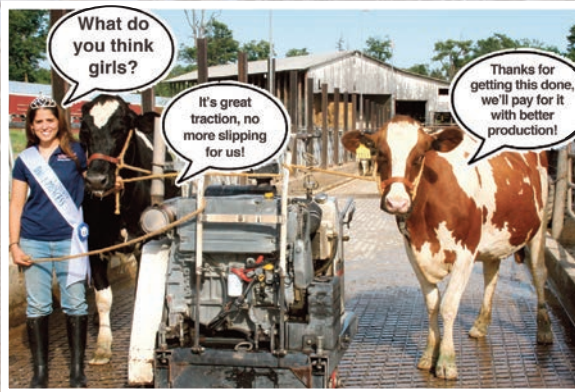
Bucky and Mike have given to me," Biehl shares. "It's a precious gift that these two men would allow me to continue the business, where they have put in many years of blood, sweat and tears."

Jones Dairy Service, dba Innovative Dairy

Solutions, will continue to operate and serve customers in the same fashion that it has in the past, including maintaining a strong partnership with Boumatic. Biehl plans to continue to grow the business, while Jones and Brady plan to ease into retirement.

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Hutjens to speak about feed additives

FORT ATKINSON, Wis. — The Hoard's Dairyman webinar on Monday, June 10 will feature Mike Hutjens, a professor emeritus at the University of Illinois, presenting an update on feed additives.

Feed additives are used by some dairy producers and dropped by others to lower feed costs. This webinar will evaluate uses, economics, and new research on feed additives. Iosacids, zeolite, methane-reducing additives,

and immune stimulators will be discussed. The webinar is sponsored by Huvepharma.

To register for the webinar, which will begin at 1 p.m., Eastern time, please visit www.hoards.com/webinars. There is no cost to register or to view the webinars.

Attendees are encouraged to submit questions before, during, and after the webinar. They will be answered at the conclusion of the presentation.



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NYFB introduces new CEO

ALBANY, N.Y. — New York Farm Bureau's new CEO, Deanna Fox, brings years of leadership and communication experience to the state's largest general farm organization. NYFB's Board of Directors selected Fox last month, and she recently began her new role at the NYFB state office in Albany.

Deanna comes to NYFB from PC Public Affairs in Latham, N.Y. where she was a partner. She has nearly two decades of experience working in leadership roles with different organizations, including having extensive experience in communications, government relations, and media relations. She has also worked as a journalist focusing on food and agriculture. While she lives in the Capital Region, she grew up on her family's farms in Chenango and Madison counties and understands agriculture and the issues NYFB members are facing.

"It is my deep honor to be chosen as the next CEO of New York Farm Bureau. Farm Bureau has provided more than a century of support and leadership for New York's farm-



Deanna Fox

ers and has guided agriculture through numerous challenging times to create new eras of prosperity. I hope my tenure as CEO reflects that legacy and builds on the hard work of New York Farm Bureau members, staff, board directors, stakeholders, and previous executives. I am eager to incorporate my family history in farming into my leadership approach and use the tenacity, dedication and drive I learned as a farm kid in my role as CEO," said Fox.

Fox met with New York State Agriculture Commissioner Richard Ball earlier this month and has plans to tour the state to meet with county Farm Bureau leaders, members, and agricultural partners.

"The State Board is pleased to have Deanna on board as our new CEO, and we look forward to our members getting to know her better. She brings new energy and ideas that will continue to strengthen the organization's reach and create new opportunities for farmers across the state," said David Fisher, a dairy farmer and president of New York Farm Bureau.

Zimmerman introduces legislation to expand raw milk product sales

HARRISBURG, Pa. — Rep. Dave Zimmerman (R-Lancaster/Berks) has introduced legislation that would expand raw milk products farmers can sell with a raw milk permit.

Under current Pennsylvania law, only raw milk and raw milk hard cheese can be sold with the appropriate permits. Zimmerman's legislation would allow holders of a raw milk permit to sell additional raw milk products.

"We are seeing an ever-increasing consumer demand



Dave Zimmerman

for organic and natural food products, including raw milk and raw milk products," said Zimmerman. "People want foods with less processing and fewer chemicals. This legislation would allow for greater access to such products without compromising any of the raw milk safety standards set by the Department of Agriculture."

House Bill 2293 is expected to be referred to the House Agriculture Committee for consideration.



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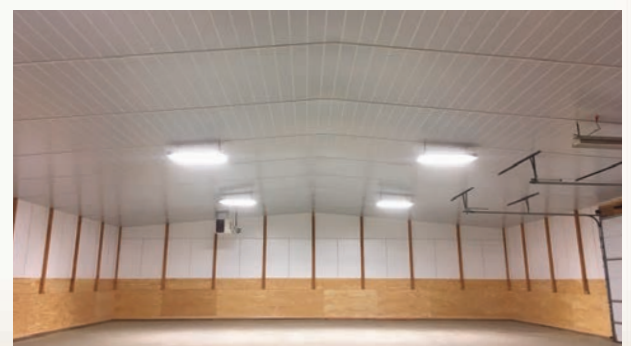
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Members of the new Franklin County Dairy Royalty team are, from left: front — Brynlee Klenzing, Charlee Klenzing, Ashley Ocker, Keri Kuhns, Madilynn Albright, Kaitlyn Albright; back — Ashlyn Albright, Olivia Hartman, Tenley Timmons, Mckenzie Conner, Kendra Keefer, Sarah Aldrich, Lilly Heck, Jaden Princler, Josephine Hughes, Amy Ocker, Ella Hykes, Joey Hartman.

Ashley Ocker reigns as Franklin County Dairy Princess

CHAMBERSBURG, Pa. — Ashley Ocker, 16, was crowned Franklin County Dairy Princess recently during the 57th annual pageant held at the Chambersburg Mennonite Church.

The daughter of Steve and Sharon Ocker, Chambersburg, Ashley is a junior at Shalom Christian Academy. She will be promoting Franklin County's dairy industry for the coming year and represent Franklin County during the state pageant in September.

Assisting with the promotional activities will be Franklin County Alternate Dairy Princess Keri Kuhns of Chambersburg, and a group of Dairy Ambassadors, Dairy Misses and Little Dairy Misses: Sarah Aldrich, Olivia Hartman, Josephine Hughes, Lilly Heck, Amy Ocker, Jaden Princler, Ashlyn Albright, Kaitlyn Albright, Madilynn Albright, Mckenzie Con-

ner, Joey Hartman, Ella Hykes, Kendra Keefer, Tenley Timmons, Charlee Klenzing and Brynlee Klenzing.

During the pageant before an audience of 150 and a panel of judges, the two princess contestants each gave presentations intended for young audiences, speeches and answered impromptu questions.

Ashley used a volleyball theme to present her skit, *Setting Up Dairy*. She related dairy facts to the sport with information spanning from the breeds of dairy cows to the 13 nutrients contained in milk.

In her speech, titled *Timeless Traditions, Modern Ingenuity*, Ashley talked about how the dairy industry contributes to a sustainable planet through innovation with new technologies and practices. She related how

the dairy industry has played a significant role in her family's history, from her great grandfather to today, where her grandfather and uncle operate a fourth-generation dairy farm and her father delivers feed to dairy farms.

"The dairy industry has changed and evolved with the changing of society," Ashley said. "My family is a testament to how farmers are willing to change and adapt to new technology. This way we consumers can be sure we're getting the best quality dairy products every time we go to the grocery store.

"My goal is to give the public an understanding of my ancestors' hard work and dedication. Without their sacrifice yesterday and today, my tomorrow would have been very different."

Keri, 16, the daughter of Gregory and Mandy Kuhns of Chambersburg, presented a *Super Celebration* skit of the heroic work to fend off misconceptions of the dairy industry, accentuating the nutritional value of real dairy products. In her speech, titled *Happy, Healthy Dairy*, she talked about the effectiveness of proper animal care leading to quality dairy products.

Ashley was crowned Dairy Princess by the 2023-2024 princess, Lakin Bingaman. Lakin issued many thanks during her farewell speech. Also presenting farewell speeches were the 2023-2024 Alternate Dairy Princesses Ashley Ocker and Shaylin Reichard.

Jeremy Laman served as the master of ceremony to page 23



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Isn't everyone interested in robotics for dairy farms?

By DIETER KRIEG
Farmshine Editor

MOHNTON, Pa. — “Isn't everyone?” was the answer given by a young dairyman when asked if he was interested in robotic milking systems. Hesitant to have his name included in a newspaper article, he likely spoke for the majority of people — if not all — who attended an AMS Galaxy-sponsored open house at a farm near Mohnton, Berks County, Pa. on Tuesday, March 26th. He was among well over 200 people who signed in during the event's 4-hour time frame. Not signing in were small children; some as young as 1. The presence of teens, tweens and toddlers was remarkable, to say the least.

Second cousins Hazel and Tanisha, both 1, were the youngest in attendance at the open house, not hesitating a bit to get up close and personal with the gentle and friendly bovines. (Unfortunately, either Hazel or Tanisha walked out of the picture!) Just goes to show that there was more to explore and that some folks found the cows most interesting! Incidentally, it should also be noted that robotic barns are known to be calm and quiet.

Photo by Dieter Krieg

Franklin Co. Dairy Princess _____ from page 22

emonies. The judges were Jill Smith and Suzette Truax, both from Fulton County. The audience also heard from Zane Garber of Shippensburg, a board director of the Pennsylvania Dairy Promotion Program.

Longtime Franklin County Dairy Promotion Committee member and outgoing chairperson Patty Hege was honored for her years of service to the program.

“I've seen many young ladies grow in their poise and confidence by being involved in this promotion program,” said Hege. “We've been blessed in Franklin County to have had a dairy princess and a royalty team to repre-

sent the dairy industry for the past 57 years.

“I've seen many changes in the program. It's more important now than ever to reach the consumer and keep them knowledgeable about the importance of dairy products. Thank you to all who are dedicated to keep that story going.”

Members of the dairy promotion team are available to visit public events, schools, meetings or other functions. For information, contact Franklin County Dairy Promotion chairperson/booking chairperson Selina Horst by calling or texting 717-552-0655 or by email at selina.horst13@gmail.com

Difficulty sleeping? Try chocolate milk

By COURTNEY MARVIN
Susquehanna Dairy Princess

SUSQUEHANNA, Pa. — The invention of chocolate milk goes back to the 1680's when a physician named Sir Hans Sloane mixed milk with cocoa. He introduced his mixture of cocoa and milk as a medicine.

Today, chocolate milk is loved by people of all ages. We drink milk because we love the flavor or recognize chocolate milk's link to athletes as a post recovery drink. Chocolate milk is filled with health benefits but did you know that chocolate milk can help you sleep?

Well, it's true and I would like to challenge you to try a glass of chocolate milk in the evening to help you sleep. Chocolate milk contains tryptophan, which is a protein-rich amino acid that creates melatonin and serotonin which are known as the sleepy hormones. When drinking chocolate milk to help you sleep you should drink it about two hours before you go to bed. So, next time you are having a difficult time falling to sleep try adding a glass of chocolate milk to your evening routine. You can drink it cold or heat it up and add some marshmallows for a delicious evening treat.



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The Mid-Atlantic Brown Swiss Invitational Show on June 22 in Frederick, Md.

Brown Swiss enthusiasts invited to enter their best

FREDERICK, Md. -- An invitation is extended to all Brown Swiss enthusiasts from near and far to participate in the Mid-Atlantic Brown Swiss Invitational Show. Hosted annually by the Maryland Brown Swiss Association it will be held on Saturday, June 22, at the Frederick Fairgrounds in Frederick. Tammy Voegeli, a well-known and highly qualified judge with experience on the national level, will place the classes. The showmanship judge will be Emily Yeiser Stepp from Leesburg, Va.

"This show has been known as *"The Little All American,"* and has gained a great reputation for high quality Brown Swiss cattle being exhibited. We are extremely proud how this show has grown to one of the top regional Brown Swiss shows in the U.S. and attracted exhibitors from over 12 states. In each of the past four years we have hosted over 135 animals and 40 youths in some impressive showmanship classes. All of us can be proud of our youth in this industry," noted Cindy Warner, one of the show's organizers.

This year's show will once again be dedicated to Ronnie Heffner, who was a driving force behind this show's growth. The Youth Show shirts will again be sponsored by the Maddie Johnson Memorial Fund and the Deeter/Johnson families. They will also be giving some special awards in the showmanship contests.

Maddie was an active 4-Her and loved showing her dairy cows (especially her Brown Swiss). She was tragically killed in a car accident in December of 2022. To keep her memory alive, her family and friends have been using the money



raised for her memorial fund to benefit youth just like her, who are active in 4-H and love to show animals.

Any interested youth may participate in Fitting and Showing in accordance with the age requirements, regardless of state residency. The class breakdowns are Novice; then Juniors: 8-10 years; Intermediates: 11-15 years; and Seniors: 16-21. The fitting and showing contest will be held the same morning of the show and will start at 8:30 a.m.

All young people are invited to participate as there will be awards for everyone who is in the fitting and showing

classes! Maryland is working hard to continue the excellent tradition of this growing and prestigious East Coast "Qualifying Show."

Judging of type classes will begin at 9:30 a.m. Cash awards are given to all champions, best bred and owned, Premier Breeder and Premier Exhibitor, as well as prizes for all classes in both open and youth divisions.

The generous support of exhibitors and sponsors will help make this year's show another successful event and allow this show to grow. All donations go towards providing awards for the exhibitors and to help offset show expenses.

"This is a great promotional opportunity and an easy source for farm/business recognition and advertisements. Each sponsor will be recognized and listed in the show program, on Maryland Facebook page, Cowsmopolitan online show coverage, banners at ringside, and on the online show page through the Showman App. Sponsors will be recognized during the show and in news releases with results after the show," stated Cindy Warner.

Maryland hospitality and fellowship with other breeders and friends will be evident on Friday evening, June 21, with food and drinks in the dairy show ring starting at 6 p.m. All are welcome.

The online show entry system is now open: <https://showman.app/show#/mid-atlantic-brown-swiss-invitational>

Class lists, show rules and other information can be found in the Showman App and on the Maryland Brown Swiss website: <https://sites.google.com/site/marylandbrownswiss/> (Click on Invitational Show tab)

The Show Committee consists of Emily Heffner, Jenna Lenhart and Joy Widerman. Do not hesitate to contact them if necessary.

- Emmy Heffner - 240-344-6399 or ehffner@lswg.cpa
- Jenna Lenhart - 814-931-3726 or smithjenna12@gmail.com
- Joy Widerman - 717-752-5871 or brjowiderman@gmail.com

Pursuit of "Excellents" Sale

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024 • 11 A.M. • LEOLA, PA.

SALE HELD AT THE LANDIS-MRK BARN (GPS - 3888 OREGON PIKE, LEOLA, PA. 17540)

Featuring a Dispersal Sale for Stolhaven and Landis-MRK Holsteins.

A "star-studded" lineup with a few elite consignments.

15 Excellent cows sell! 3@94, 2@93, 2@92, 4@91, 5@90.

30+ animals sell from EX-94 or 95 pt. dams!



Ms Ransom-Rail Beth-Red EX-94

Grand Champion Int. R&W Show 2022
Unanimous All-American 2022
Two milking dau's sell by Believe-P!
Three gr'daus sell by Architect!



Apple-Pts Aprisco Red-ET EX-92 3 yr.

R&W All-American Fall Yrlg. 2021
Aprisco sells! Fresh in early May and looks incredible! Two dau's also sell X Tango-Red and Showtime *RC!
2nd choice Hulu sells due June.



Co-Vale Dempsey Dina 4270-ET EX-96,2E EX-97-MS

Grand Champion Royal Winter Fair 2017
Res. Champion Int'l Holstein Show 2017
5x nominated All-American!
12 lots sell from the Dina family!



Ms Gold Chip Dina-ET EX-91

12 lots sell from this emerging brood cow sired by Lambda, Sidekick, Jagger, Fitters Choice and her EX-93 dau. Dilly who was nominated All-American 2020!



Stolhaven Luxurious Rae-ET EX-94

Goldwyn X Liberty-Rae EX-95.
Luxurious sells along with four dau's!



Stolhaven Dempsey Amanda Dempsey x Anastacia EX-94 x Apple EX-96,4E. Amanda sells due November to Diamondback.



Stolhaven Really Amazing RC VG-88

Amazing sells as lot #1 and due in September to Lambda. Also her beautiful fall calf by Late Night also sells! Dam EX-94 Andringa!



Stolhaven Jrd Amanda-Red

Sells bred 5-2 to Late Night. Her full sis is the Unanimous All-Am Spring Calf 2023! Dam Andringa EX-94!

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Alphie & Teresa Stoltzfus
281 White Horse Rd., Gap, PA
Cell: 717-629-3722



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Useful Farm Products

F&T receives national awards serving diverse farms of the East Coast

By **SHERRY BUNTING**
Special for Farmshine

LEOLA, Pa. -- Fisher & Thompson Inc. -- headquartered in Leola, Pennsylvania with 14 branches serving 4000 dairy farms from North Carolina to New York and into New England -- was recognized recently with two prestigious awards from GEA Farming.

The 2023 Diamond Award celebrates dealer excellence in GEA Farm technology product lines, such as milking equipment, robotics and manure equipment; and the 2023 Pinnacle Award celebrates the largest GEA dealer in North America across dairy equipment, route sales, after market, manure equipment, robotics, everything combined.

"We understand that these awards are not earned by one or two people, but by our entire team," said Josh Bare, Fisher & Thompson general manager in a recent *Farmshine* phone interview. "We continue to be proud of the team we have in place, who show up every day and are dedicated to taking care of our hardworking customers."

Bare sees the strength in the collection of everything from parts to consumables, from hygiene to equipment and robotic offerings to cooling, and so forth.

"GEA has a turnkey line from capital investments to parts to consumables, and we have developed unique departments and programs for our diverse customers to represent that full circle," he observes.

What makes this special is that Fisher & Thompson earned the Pinnacle Award with one of the more diverse customer bases and dairy geographies in North America.

"As we look across the U.S. and the North American markets, we see a very diverse customer base, and when we look into our territory, we see that we have that diversity on the East Coast," says Bare. "We have a large collection of small family farms to larger corporate farms. We have a neat collection of customer herds through generations, and our programs and team have leaned into providing the products and services to meet the needs of this entire diverse range."

Where other markets may offer one program to fit a predominant larger dairy model Fisher & Thompson is different, he explains. "We have everything from 30 cows to 3000 cows. Our team is focused on building unique categories and segments that work for them."

There truly is no other market like the East Coast dairy market.

"To know we can stand up from this market and excel in North America is confirmation for the strength of dairy here and the strength of our team," says Bare.

"One of the ways we achieved the numbers is not only regular and repetitive business, but also responding to the change toward more of the highly automated equipment offerings, the larger parlor capital investments and acclimations into the robotic side that producers here are growing into and perhaps starved for. It's neat to see this foundation built on what is constant, our service."

Bare sees a positive mood among their customer base.

"The dairy industry is very resilient. When things are down, we power through, and when things are optimistic, everyone gets excited together," he says. "We foresee continued interest in capital upgrades down the road, more robotic projects happening each year."

"As we see new dairy processing capacity starting up and planned in the East, this fuels our team and customers with the interest and enthusiasm as high as it's ever been in many years."

Mostly, he says, these recent awards remind company leaders of how proud they are of the collection of skilled and talented em-



Pictured at the Fisher & Thompson headquarters in Leola, Pa. with the recent Diamond and Pinnacle Awards from GEA are (l-r) Rick Thompson, Merle Ressler, Jason Waters, and Josh Bare of Fisher & Thompson and Mark Heald and Chad Buchanan with GEA. Photo provided

ployees on board, and the relationships and connections built over time.

"Seeing that group work together on combined projects is fun to watch, and it is also

very humbling. We couldn't do it without them," says Bare.



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Commercial Building Remodel (Before)




Commercial Building Remodel - (After)



NRCS project in Penryn, PA (Before)



NRCS project in Penryn, PA (After)

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DAIRY COW & HEIFER SALE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5TH • 10:30 A.M.

40-cow free stall Holstein herd from Bedford Co.
84 lbs. avg., 4.0 BF, 3.0 Pro, only 73,000 SCC.
DHIA records at ringside. Bred back to Holstein & Angus.
Note: Good, young herd. Several real fancy cows!

All good quality open and bred heifers are selling at historical highs!

Until further notice: Lactating dairy cows from a non-Pa. address need a C.V.I. and a negative A.I. milk test.

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, June 7th, 6 p.m. Special Feeder Cattle Sale.

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, June 20 @ 7:15 P.M.

Special Dairy Cow & Heifer Sale

- ★ We are expecting a great selection of good, young, fresh, dairy cows with top udders!
- ★ Brandt-View sends 10 fresh and fancy cows w/ deep pedigrees & genomics, and milking well!!
- ★ 4-5 Jerseys sell recently fresh from a local farm.
- ★ Nice group of close springing heifers, with many A.I. sired and bred!! Also selling opens and shortbreds.
- ★ 6-10 breeding age bulls sell, some with EX pedigrees and tons of milk in the family!!
- ★ 10 bucket holders with buckets.

June is Dairy Month... Free ice cream for all dairy farmers!!

NOTE: Overstocked? Top quality dairy cows and heifers are in high demand! Call today to discuss options. 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
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Darryl Jones Lic. AU5194
717-226-0776

Sale Barn
Ivan Brubacker
717-414-6657

Pedigrees
Art Kling

Next sale: Special Mid-Summer Dairy Cow and Heifer Sale, July 18 @ 7:15 p.m.

800 GAL. DELAVAL BULK tank and washer, 4 Milk-master take-offs, 42 stall ss pipeline, vacuum pump. Indiana Co., Pa. 724-464-9820. (6/7)

MUELLER ONE PEN chart recorder, \$900; 12 v. agitator motor with mount, \$450; automatic start box for diesel and tank, \$850. 606-303-8916. (5/31)

60 STURDY BUILT STALLS with water bowls. Only used for 5 years. \$1,600. You remove and haul. Located in McVeytown, Pa. Contact Jeremy at 717-437-0223.

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BRED HEREFORD HEIFER 26 months old, 800 lbs., bred by Hereford bull. \$1800 OBO. 570-380-3047. (5/31)

3 HOLSTEIN HEIFERS from 9 months to 1 year old. All out of good cow families with high milk production. 1 Delta Lamba, 1 Analyst Red, 1 Perfect. Call or text 717-860-1711. (6/7)

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LOOKING FOR REG. springing heifers, fresh, 2 and 3 year olds, preferably freestall cows, to expand my herd. 814-386-0609. (9/27)

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

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HOLSTEIN BULLS ready for free stalls and younger. High genomic tested bulls from contract matings and high type cow families. 610-932-6062. Call between 8:00-8:30 a.m.

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7 Semen, Embryos

NORMANDY SEMEN; also, older Ayrshires. Stephen Uhl, 223-216-0160.

FULL BLOOD WAGYU embryos by top sires, including Mayura L10, Gateway Gatekeeper and Aurubial United. Contact Doug at 410-984-5692. (5/31)

HELSEL-HILL HAS expanded. Call or text Keith Helsel for No Bull sires, Blondin sires, Resolution-Red, Furnace Hill Zas Endure, and more. 814-515-5455.

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9 Equipment & Machinery

KUHN 7922 DOUBLE rotary rake. New tires, new electric harness, new hydraulic hoses. Field ready. \$12,000 OBO. 607-434-0403. (6/21)

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FREESTALL SAND LEVELER rake, right hand hydraulic fold up, skid steer mount. \$1500. 724-599-7582. Indiana Co., Pa.

CLAAS FORAGE harvester. 2012 Jaguar 930 with kernel processor. 494 series, 4WD, autolube, rear weights. 2665/3700 hours. New blower paddles and shearbar. 6 row head available. \$134,500. 717-400-7917. (5/31)

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

10 Feeds

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

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HAYBUSTERS - Dairy and beef quality alfalfa, low K hay and straw. Large and small squares. Call Mark at 800-371-7928, or visit www.haybusters.com.

12 Straw & Bedding

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HIGH QUALITY SAWDUST available for delivery. Great sawdust for dairy and beef cattle. Call 301-334-6212 for delivery range, pricing and availability.

USE BALED SHAVING in your dairy barn. You'll love this very fine pine bedding. \$5.50/ 40 lb. bag. 610-273-3602.

HAY OR STRAW-any type or quality. Call 717-253-6049 for pricing.

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INTERNATIONAL 766, \$11,000; Farmall H, 3 pt, year 1950, \$2000; big wheel weight for 66 series; Exmark Quest, 241 hours, excellent, \$3500. Mifflinburg, Pa. 570-966-7151.

15 Vehicles & Trailers

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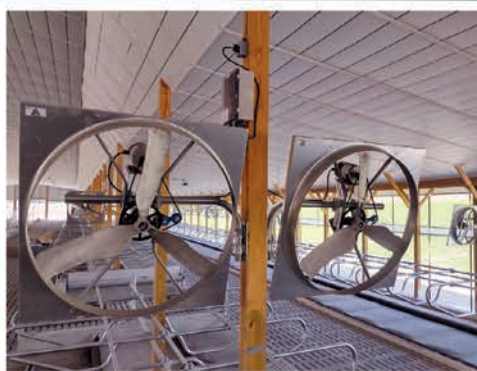


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