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Happy New Year

FARM SHINE

We rise every week to cover farmers and agribusinesses

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January 5, 2024



Young lovers find purpose, happiness and hope with cows

Dylan and Jenna (Simpson) Brantner came from extraordinary Registered Holstein backgrounds in western Penn-

sylvania and are inspired to continue the legacies in their own right. But it required an opportunity, which they found

at Glenn Ranck's farm in southern Chester County. Their story appears in the centerfold. *Photo by Dieter Krieg*

PERIODICAL • DO NOT DELAY

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THE WEEKLY DAIRY FARM FAMILY MAGAZINE

I appreciate the very straightforward information.
Keep it coming!
 — B.C.C., Ohio

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Spanish course discount offered

HARRISBURG, Pa. — To assist dairy farm families in enhancing communication and building rapport with Spanish-speaking employees, the Center for Dairy Excellence is offering \$100 discounts to dairy producers who sign up for the “Spanish for Agriculture” (Dairy Beginners or Intermediate) online course with Katie Dotterer of AgvoKate this winter. The course will be held from January 16 through March 7. Individuals who sign up will have 24/7 access to all course content through April 19.

Sign up no later than January 11 to receive the discount.

Dairy producers will receive \$100 off the cost of registration and access to 16 online, interactive classes along with all the resources the instructor provides. The \$100 discount is available for both the Beginners and Intermediate course.

- **Cost:** The course is \$598 per person, which includes a \$100 discount from the Center for Dairy Excellence for dairy producers. The course is designed to track individual progress, not a couple or family.

- **How to sign up:** Dairy producers should visit www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/spanish-basics to sign up and receive the discount. You will receive details on how to access the course after registering.

Led by Katie Dotterer of AgvoKate, a lifelong dairy farmer and former Spanish teacher, the online Spanish course will be held live on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from January 16 through March 7, from 7:45 to 8:45 p.m. for the Beginners course. All Beginners classes are recorded and readily accessible to accommodate dairy producers' schedules.

The Intermediate course will include recordings from a recent live class. Individuals will have access to the instructor for one-on-one help at any point as they view the recordings.

“I loved getting back into the Spanish language. For any dairy that works with Spanish-speaking personnel and are sweating the communication gap, this course will help alleviate the stress of communication. Learning the proper terms of all things dairy around the farm has been a great benefit to communicating with our Spanish-speaking employees,” said Pamela Barnes of Maple Knoll Farm in Pennsylvania.

To learn more about this opportunity, visit centerfordairyexcellence.org/spanish-basics Or call 717-346-0849.

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— Jeff King



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(Clockwise) Jonathan, Jeff, and Jan King with Kings-Ransom Casp Daze-ET EX94 95MS, dam of popular sires Dropbox and Dreamy. Jonathan, Pandora, Jan, Becky, and Jeff King with their award-winning ‘Drink Like a King’ milk! Daze udder at 21 DIM.

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“It’s easy to love the great ones but when you have cows walk in the freestall barn with good feet and legs and udders full of milk, cows the kids enjoy showing and do well with and learn from, that’s what it’s all about,” adds Jan King.

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Pa. Farm Bureau was a 'fence sitter' until final minute

Editor:

I received a call to action from the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau (PFB) on Wednesday, December 13th at 9 a.m. I was asked (via this mass e-mail) to contact my U.S. House Representative and urge him to support H.R. 1147, The Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act.

Well, the Bill was to be voted on ... you guessed it ... on that same day, Wednesday, December 13, 2023. What time of the day or night, I don't know.

What great timing! I'll bet not many got this message in time to contact their House member to urge them to vote YES for H.R. 1147. Even if they did, their House rep. was most likely already on his/her way to the Chamber. Oh, what timing here!

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau really didn't get on board with

bringing whole milk back into the schools, until the 97 Milk group got action going with their round bale campaign and got G.T. Thompson's attention/involvement.

Now since this action by another group to move the Bill forward, lo and behold, PFB finally got on the wagon to get the law changed!

Some may be thinking that if I, Sherman Allen, has ill/bad feelings about PFB, why am I a member?

Well, so I can still come to meetings and voice my opinions/concerns about any agricultural issues. Example: A few years ago at our Crawford County PFB membership meeting, I introduced / presented a policy about this whole milk subject. And guess what?

It got shut down! And those that spoke against it were a past Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture and his wife. Most,

but maybe two, on our County Board were not even close to the dairy, (deriving their income as dairy farmers).

Oh, and I will tell you that this County Board has now made "guidelines" for anyone to address the County's two membership meetings (Spring and Fall). Well, that's just another way to shut me and others down who have concerns about agriculture and related topics. I don't go along ... to get along!

I have been called radical, crazy, not right in the head and it's even been rumored that I was on my death bed. Well, I'm not dead yet! That's a question of when not if. If being outspoken is another description for me, I am that for sure. I am not the smartest person, but I know I have a great amount of "common sense".

C. Sherman Allen
Conneaut Lake, Pa.

Ongoing negativity from Lancaster Farming is disturbing

Editor:

I don't understand why the *Lancaster Farming* clings to its campaign of negativity towards the movement to bring whole milk back to schools and the masses. Why would a paper written for farmers continuously throw dairy farmers and what they produce under the bus? These are some of my thoughts after reading the front page article in the December 23rd edition of said publication.

Does skim milk provide the same nutrition as whole milk? While both types of milk might have comparable nutrient levels on the surface, there is a big difference in the actual nutrition value and delivery.

Let's start with Vitamin A. This is a fat-soluble vitamin. That means the vitamin needs fat in order to be absorbed and utilized by the body. Skim milk does not provide fat for Vitamin A, or any fat-soluble vitamin, to be absorbed.

Another interesting fact about Vitamin A in milk is that Vitamin A is only found naturally in the butterfat of the milk. Reduced-fat milk is required to have synthetic Vitamin A added in order to match what is found naturally in whole milk. Obviously skim milk would contain the most synthetic Vitamin A. Whole milk would not contain any synthetic Vitamin A but only everything natural.

Vitamin D is another fat-soluble vitamin found in milk. This vitamin is not naturally found in milk but it has been added

to most milk because a vast majority of Americans are deficient in Vitamin D. Even though it has been added, skim milk may render the vitamin null and void to the body without the fat to absorb it. Whole milk would readily provide the fat needed for the body to do what it needs to do with the Vitamin D in the milk.

Riding on the heels of sufficient Vitamin D absorption is the body's use of the main nutrient in milk - calcium. Not only does the fat in whole milk aid the body's absorption of calcium but sufficient Vitamin D levels are also another part of the body using and storing the calcium properly. The lack of fat in skim milk would not guarantee the body using either the Vitamin D or the calcium in the milk to the fullest, or at all, because the body needs fat for the calcium and fat for the Vitamin D, which is needed by the calcium.

Some people assert that the fat needed to actually utilize the nutrition in milk will come from eating other foods and does not have to come from the fat naturally present in whole milk. But how likely is it that the right kind of fat will be consumed at the right time of the digestive process for that to happen? Since most Americans eat a diet high in carbohydrates, that likelihood is doubtful. Two of the four "nutrients of concern" that many Americans are lacking are Vitamin D and calcium, which also might suggest this fat theory isn't working.

The nutrition and needed fat comes conveniently all pack-

aged together in whole milk but somehow we feel the need to alter that. Whole milk's fat is also available to absorb other fat-soluble vitamins like E and K.

Something else that is as different as skim milk and whole milk is children and adults. The dietary needs of children can not be compared to adults, yet that is what the Federal Dietary Guidelines do. Children must have copious amounts of the fat found in whole milk to support their rapid brain and body growth. This is in addition to the need for the fat in milk to assimilate so many vitamins and minerals in milk and other foods. To deny children such a delicious and satiating nutrient-dense food product like whole milk, and instead condemn them to skim milk is nothing short of an infuriating and unjust travesty.

You know what kind of milk contains no nutritional benefit at all? The kind that isn't consumed. Children don't like the taste of skim milk. They throw it in the trash. At least *Lancaster Farming* acknowledged that whole milk is the best tasting milk. Does skim milk provide the same nutrition as whole milk? I think the answer is a definite no.

I'm thankful we have the *Farmshine* to affirm whole milk, not only for the benefit of what's left of the dairy industry, but for the nourishment and health of children, youth, and everyone.

Renee Troutman
Myerstown, Pa.

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The Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act needs your help

By SHERRY BUNTING
Special for Farmshine

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act passed the U.S. House 330 to 99 on Dec. 13, 2023. We need YOUR HELP to get H.R. 1147 or S. 1957 to the U.S. Senate floor for a successful vote!

PLEASE MAKE THESE CALLS TO THE U.S. SENATE to get the choice of Whole Milk as an option for schools.

Who to call:

If you live in Pennsylvania:
Call U.S. Senator Robert Casey, Jr.
Washington, DC office: 202-224-6324

State your name and your spouse's name and where you live/work/farm in Pennsylvania. Urge Sen. Casey to co-sponsor Senate Bill S. 1957 to bring back the CHOICE of Whole Milk in schools. Remind them that this bill is not a mandate, it is about CHOICE, so students have the delicious Whole Milk OPTION to benefit nutritionally from milk they will love. Refer to points below.

No matter where you live, call:

- U.S. Senate Agriculture Chair Debbie Stabenow (Michigan)
Washington, DC office: 202-224-4822

State your name and your spouse's name. Tell her you want to see the delicious choice of Whole Milk offered in public schools. Remind her that both H.R. 1147 and S. 1957 are about CHOICE, not a mandate, and refer to the points below.

- U.S. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (New York)
Washington, DC office 202-224-6542

State your name and your spouse's name and where you live/work/farm (especially if you live in New York). Urge Sen. Schumer to make good on his verbal support for whole milk choice in schools by asking him to co-sponsor Senate Bill S.



1957 and to work with Senate Ag Chair Debbie Stabenow to bring this bill or the House-passed H.R. 1147 to the Senate floor. Remind him that this bill is not a mandate, it is about CHOICE, so students have the delicious Whole Milk OPTION to benefit nutritionally from milk they will love. Refer to points below.

- The two U.S. Senators who represent your State

State your name and your spouse's name and where you live/work/farm. Urge your Senators to co-sponsor Senate Bill S. 1957 to bring back the CHOICE of Whole Milk in schools. Remind them that this bill is not a mandate, it is about CHOICE, so students have the delicious Whole Milk OPTION to benefit nutritionally from milk they will love. Refer to points below.

Current sponsors of S. 1957 in the Senate are: Roger Marshall of Kansas, Peter Welch of Vermont, Ron Johnson of Wisconsin, John Fetterman of Pennsylvania, both James Risch and Mike Crapo of Idaho, both Susan Collins and Angus King of Maine, Kirsten Gillibrand of New York, Cindy Hyde-Smith of Mississippi, Chuck Grassley of Iowa, J.D. Vance of Ohio.

Points to mention:

- H.R. 1147 and S. 1957 are about CHOICE. This is not a mandate, rather it is to provide schools with the OPTION of offering Whole Milk (3.25% fat) as a CHOICE, instead of forcing schools to only offer 1% low-fat and fat-free skim milk.

- As Dairy Farmers, we produce delicious, nutrient-dense Whole Milk, not skimmed milk.

- Scientific evidence supports consumption of whole milk, especially for young people. The Dietary Guidelines process is structured in a way that ignores this evidence.

- Adults can choose Whole Milk, but children are federally prohibited from this choice at school, where they consume 2 meals a day, 5 days a week, 9 to 10 months a year.

- Trials have shown more milk is consumed and less is thrown away when students have the OPTION of Whole Milk at school, which means more students benefit nutritionally.

- Whole Milk contains complete protein and 13 essential nutrients, 4 are nutrients that even the Dietary Guidelines admit are under-consumed, including Vitamin D, which is fat-soluble, meaning it is more absorbed in Whole Milk (3.25 to 3.5% fat).

This message is brought to you by the Grassroots PA Dairy Advisory Committee

- Bernie Morrissey, chair
- Nelson Troutman, originator of the Drink Whole Milk 97% Fat Free Baleboards

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CALL 202-224-3121 and tell your Congressmen and Senators to co-sponsor. Vote yes to HR1147 & S1957 "WHOLE MILK FOR HEALTHY KIDS ACT"

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Speakers and topics revealed for Pa. Dairy Summit

HARRISBURG, Pa. — The 2024 Pennsylvania Dairy Summit has a line-up of dynamic keynote sessions planned for both dairy producers and allied-industry representatives who want to “unlock their potential” and drive performance within their herds, their employee teams, and the future of their family businesses. Hosted by the Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania and Center for Dairy Excellence, the event will take place on February 7-8 at the Wyndham Lancaster Resort and Convention Center in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Registration is now open for the in-person event.

“The keynote speakers for the Summit are

taking their years of experience serving the agriculture industry to deliver dynamic sessions on real-time issues that are affecting today’s dairy farm families. These sessions should not only motivate us on and off the farm, but also help us learn from other dairy producers who are going to describe some of their successes and learning curves in different areas of business,” said Andy Bollinger, the 2024 Pennsylvania Dairy Summit Chair and a dairy farmer from Lancaster County.

The featured speakers are:

- **Roxi Beck** from the Center for Food Integrity, who will speak on “Building Trust Inside and Outside the Farm Gate.” Attendees

will hear about the varied pressure points that shape today’s food system and ways we can build deeper transparency.

- **Sarah Moag** and Rob Noble of Noblehurst Farms will share about “Cultivating a Multi-Faceted Family Farm.” Noblehurst Farms is a seventh-generation dairy farm near Linwood, N.Y., milking 1800 cows. With a focus on long-range planning and profitability, their family thrives on being environmentally conscious, fostering teamwork, promoting agriculture, and ensuring good stewardship of their natural resources and community. They intentionally focus on employee management and incorporate biodigestion, solar panels, and sustainability into their dairy operation.

- **Ken Smith** (Cool Lawn Farms) and Jason Frye (Pleasant Lane Farms), titled their presentation “Innovating a Producer-Led Marketplace.” Dairy producers might envision what it is like to create a producer-led milk market, but bringing an idea like this to fruition takes cohesiveness, creativity and persistence. During this keynote session, panelists will share how they approached the idea, found a market, and formed a cohesive group of producers.

- **Ken Smith** is a dairy farmer at Cool Lawn Farms near Remington, Virginia. A family-operated dairy operation with over 900 cows and 17 employees. The Smiths make cow comfort a priority with everything they do, and their cows are housed in a freestall barn that is bedded with composted solids. The Smiths started their own retail business called Moo Thru in 2010, and it has been growing ever since with three locations today. Located just two miles away from their family farm, the original ice cream store sells handmade ice cream, bottled milk, and lunch items.

- **Jason Frye** is a dairy farmer and processor at the Creamery at Pleasant Lane Farms. The dairy operation was founded in 1976,

and it is still family-owned and operated by their sons, Todd, Jason, Chad, and their families along with Craig Deuel and Family. In late 2020, a new creamery was added for the production of artisan farmstead cheese, and in early 2021, a new Smart Barn and robotic milking facility was added to milk the 50+ dairy cows. Pleasant Lane Farms also has an apiary, and their hives are home to more than 50,000 honeybees.

- **Cayuga Marketing** will also be part of the discussion. This enterprise was born from the vision of a dedicated group of farmers in Central New York and is owned by passionate farmers with absolute commitment to producing the highest quality milk. It consists of 29 member owners, who own and manage dairy farm businesses. Cayuga Marketing is the 24th largest cooperative in the country and markets approximately 1 billion pounds of milk per year.

- **Phil Plourd**, head of market intelligence at Ever.Ag will present: “Navigating Shifting Market Dynamics.” When the only constant in dairy markets is the never-ending shifts, learning how to navigate change and uncertainty is crucial. Attendees will hear about the latest updates on shifting market dynamics and factors they can control. He is a popular speaker who engages audiences on a variety of topics.

Thanks to grants and support from the Center for Dairy Excellence, Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania, and Summit sponsors, registration fees for dairy producers are set to be as affordable as possible. To register for the conference and view the full program, visit padairysummit.org or call 814-355-2467.

Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Contact the Pennsylvania Dairy Summit Business Office at 814-355-2467 or email info@padairysummit.org for more information.

HAUSA award nominations due

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. — Outstanding Holstein breeders and dairy industry leaders are recognized each year with Holstein Association USA’s annual awards. These include the prestigious Distinguished Young Holstein Breeder, Distinguished Leadership, and Elite Breeder recognitions.

“A highlight of every National Holstein Convention is recognizing our deserving award recipients for their contributions to the Holstein breed, Holstein Association USA, and the greater dairy community,” says Holstein Association USA CEO John Meyer. “We look forward to continuing to add to the high-caliber list of award recipients and encourage you to nominate people you feel are deserving.”

Holstein enthusiasts are invited to submit nominations for the Elite Breeder and Distinguished Leadership awards. Applications for the Elite Breeder and Distinguished Leadership awards are considered for three years after initial submission. Current Holstein breeders between the ages of 21 and 40 are encouraged to apply for the Distinguished Young Holstein Breeder award.

About the awards:

- The Elite Breeder Award honors a living Holstein Association USA member, family, partnership, or corporation who has bred outstanding animals and thereby made a notable contribution to the advancement of U.S. Registered Holsteins.

- The Distinguished Leadership Award is given to an individual who has provided outstanding and unselfish leadership that has contributed to the improvement of Holstein Association USA and/or the dairy industry.

- The Distinguished Young Holstein Breeder Award recognizes significant accomplishments of young Registered Holstein® breeders ages 21 to 40. Submissions can be made for individuals, a couple, or business partners. The winning applicant will receive travel and lodging expenses (for up to two people) to National Holstein Convention, complimentary tickets to the Convention banquet, and a \$2000 cash award.

Award applications are available on the Holstein Association USA website at www.holsteinusa.com/awards/individuals

Nomination applications must be post-marked by January 31, 2024.

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Dairyman's Datebook

JANUARY 6, 1 p.m. Listening Session with Glenn ('GT') Thompson, Delaware Room, Farm Show Building, Harrisburg, Pa.

JANUARY 6, 5-7 p.m. Reception in support of Congressman 'GT' Thompson, hosted by the Scott Sechler Family at The Millworks, 340 Verbeke Street, Harrisburg, Pa. Admission: \$150 per person.

JANUARY 6-12, Pennsylvania Farm Show, Farm Show Building, Harrisburg.

JANUARY 9-11, Keystone Farm Show, York Fairgrounds & Expo Center, York, Pa.

JANUARY 9-11, PDPW Managers Academy for Dairy Professionals® presented by Professional Dairy Producers® (PDPW) at the Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center, Baton Rouge, La.

JANUARY 9-11, Maine Agricultural Trades Show, Augusta Civic Center, 76 Community Drive, Augusta.

JANUARY 13, noon, Annual luncheon and meeting of the New Jersey State Holstein Association, Amwell Fire House, 22 County Road 579, Ringoes.

JANUARY 15-17, Georgia Dairy Conference, Marriott Savannah Riverfront Hotel & Conference Center, Savannah.

JANUARY 16, 10:30 a.m. Pennsylvania Holstein Association Central District meeting, at the PHA Office, 839 Benner Pike, State College.

JANUARY 17, 10:30 a.m. Pennsylvania Holstein Association Southeast District meeting at the Crossroads Family Restaurant, 4643 Pottsville Pike, Reading, Pa.

JANUARY 23, 11 a.m. Premier Select Sires Customer Appreciation meeting, Shady Maple Smorgasbord, East Earl, Pa.

JANUARY 25-26, Northcentral Ohio Grazing Conference, Mt. Hope Event Center, 8074 State Route 241, Mt. Hope.

JANUARY 27, Maryland Holstein Junior Jamboree, Carroll County Extension Office, 700 Agricultural Center Drive, Westminster.

JANUARY 30, 9 a.m. Franklin County Crops Day, Kauffman Ruritan Community Center, 7289 Ruritan Drive, Chambersburg, Pa.

JANUARY 30, 9 a.m. King's Agriseeds informational meeting at The Rail Center, 224 Young Road, Lewisburg, Pa.

JANUARY 31, 9 a.m. King's Agriseeds informational meeting at Garden Spot Fire Company Station 1, 339 East Main Street, New Holland, Pa.

FEBRUARY 1, 9 a.m. King's Agriseeds informational meeting at Woodsmen of the World, 3045 John Wayland Highway, Dayton, Va.

FEBRUARY 1, 6:30 p.m. Taste of Maryland Agriculture Celebration at Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland at Arundel Mills, 7002 Arundel Mills Circle 7777, Hanover, Md. For more information, please call Gail Yeiser: 410-353-3069.

FEBRUARY 2, 9 a.m. King's Agriseeds informational meeting at Middletown Fire Department, 1 Fireman's Lane, Middletown, Md.

FEBRUARY 9-11, Pennsylvania Holstein Convention, Hilton Scranton & Conference Center, 100 Adams Avenue, Scranton.

FEBRUARY 24, 6:30 p.m. Maryland Dairy Shrine banquet, Howard County Fairgrounds, 2210 Fairgrounds Road, West Friendship.

FEBRUARY 28, 9 a.m. Pa. Forage & Grassland (PFGC) annual conference, Centre Hall Fire Station, 134 Witmer Avenue, Centre Hall.

MARCH 22, Maryland Holstein banquet at the fire hall, 101 High Street, New Windsor.

APRIL 13, 9:30 a.m. Maryland Holstein Spring Show, Howard County Fairgrounds.

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Auction Guide

JAN. 9, 9 a.m. Public Auction, Christiana, Pa. Sale managed by Tim Weaver Auction Service.

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

JAN. 16, 9 a.m. King Farm Auction, Lititz, Pa. Sale managed by Tim Weaver Auction Service.

JAN. 18, 9 a.m. La-Foster Dairy Milking Herd & Springer Heifer Dispersal, Cleveland, N.C. Sale managed by Tradition Auction Services.

JAN. 19, 11 a.m. Special Dairy Sale, Fisher's Quality Dairy Sales, Ronks, Pa. Sale managed by Fisher's Quality Dairy Sales.

JAN. 19, 12 & 4 p.m. Special

Driving & Draft Horse Sale, New Holland Sales Stables, New Holland, Pa. Sale managed by New Holland Sales Stables.

JAN. 22, 6 p.m. Woodmohr Northern Lights Online Dairy Sale, cowbuyer.com. Sale managed by Wendy and Jon Schmidt.

JAN. 25, 10 a.m. Special Dairy Cow & Heifer Sale, Brubaker's Quality Dairy Sales, Shippensburg, Pa. Sale managed by Brubaker's Quality Dairy Sales.

FEB. 10, Pa. Holstein Convention Sale, Scranton, Pa. Sale managed by Pa. Holstein Association.

MARCH 23, DVU Green & Gold Spring Spectacular, Doylestown, Pa. Sale managed by Pa. Holstein Association.

PHA District meeting is in Reading, Jan. 17

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — The Southeast District of the Pennsylvania Holstein Association will hold a meeting on Wednesday, January 17, to nominate members to serve on the Executive Committee. The meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m. at Crossroads Family Restaurant, 4643 Pottsville Pike, Reading, Pa.

Tim Seipt has completed his term on the Executive Committee. Any Pennsylvania Holstein Association member from Berks, Bucks, Chester, Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton, and Schuylkill counties can make nominations. Up to three nominees can be submitted from this meeting to the state directors for election to the Executive Committee at the Pennsylvania Holstein Convention to be held next month at the Hilton Scranton, Scranton, Pa.

Potential nominees for this Executive Committee post must have served their respective county as a state director on the Pennsylvania Holstein Association Board of Directors. Below is a list of Southeast directors from 2011-current.

The group will also discuss the 2024 Southeast Championship Show. Anyone interested in discussing the Southeast Championship Show and/or other issues is encouraged to attend this meeting.

Below is a list of eligible former and current county association state directors from 2011 to the present:

Berks: James Younker, Jason Rice, Brent Schuler, Duane Stump

Bucks: Josh Geissinger

Chester: Jane Pepple, Glenn Ranck, Ken Umble

Lehigh: Paul Semmel

Northampton: Tim Seipt, Adam Tanis, W. Douglas Seipt

Schuylkill: Garth Campbell, James Dunn

N.J. Holstein enthusiasts invited to meeting, Jan. 13

RINGOES, N.J. — The New Jersey State Holstein Association will hold its annual luncheon meeting at the Amwell Valley Firehouse, 22 County Road 579, on Saturday, January 13th. A family style dinner will be served at noon with the annual meeting to follow.

Association members are also reminded that Futurity entries are due to Christian Tice by March 1.



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Three steps to take for a more productive year

Now is the time to conduct a year-in-review with your herd health veterinarian

By LACEY FAHRMEIER, DVM,
Valley Vet Supply Technical Service

MARYSVILLE, Kan. — Help progress your operation forward into the New Year. It's really important to make a conscious effort to analyze this past year's herd health and objectively reflect on what worked and what didn't. Doing so will help guide decisions for an even better year ahead and maximize the success of your operation from an animal health perspective.

Now is the time to have these conversations – you really don't want to be discussing your neonatal calf health plan when you have three scouring calves on your mudroom floor in January.

During what I refer to as the 'offseason' for veterinarians – when the dust settles on fall work – is the best time for you and your veterinarian to invest time in planning for the coming year. Now is the ideal time to have these conversations, not when you're in the middle of a herd health outbreak or are running on fumes during the heat of calving season.

Having two-way communication is the foundation to a productive veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR). With that in mind, let's go over the three steps I feel are invaluable.

Step 1: Review outcomes from the previous year's health protocol, successes and any room for improvement.

Telling your veterinarian about any issues you are facing will allow them to help you address those concerns and solve problems. To enhance your operation's overall health and profitability, here is a quick checklist of things I feel should be evaluated every year.



Now is the time to have these conversations – you really don't want to be discussing your neonatal calf health plan when you have three scouring calves on your mudroom floor in January.

Cow herd

- Conception rate from the previous year compared to others
- Reproductive goals for the herd and whether they were met
- Any increased rate of abortions or stillbirths
- Level of body condition
- Any increase in diseases, such as pinkeye or foot rot

Calf crop

- Overall neonatal health; mortality, sickness, response to treatment, vigor, etc.
- Any specific disease challenges, such as

summer pneumonia while out on pasture

- Calf performance, including weaning weight
- If you retained ownership, how calves performed at the next sector of the industry
- Any feedback from buyers relating to calf health, all the way to the rail or breeding

Overall herd health protocol (vaccinations, deworming and antibiotics)

- Efficacy of programs based on year's performance
- Any adjustments you feel may be needed
- Administration logistics and timing

• Whether the first line of antibiotic treatment remains effective, or if any additional treatment options were necessary

• Any new marketing strategies that may impact the program, for example moving to an all-natural program

Step 2: Explore new technologies available on the market, and outline any questions you may have for your veterinarian.

As veterinarians, we want to be a resource for you and we hope that you feel comfortable coming to us with questions. Because of this, I feel inquiry is another important aspect of this conversation with your veterinarian. This is a good time to share whatever is top of mind for you as a producer. Maybe you have heard about a new technology; speak with your veterinarian about their opinion. Could it be a good fit for your program and is it cost effective? Prep a list of questions you may have about the science behind it while you have that expert in the room.

In addition to asking about any new technologies in the market, inquire about any new research. Things are constantly evolving, especially in the arena of immunology. Employing evidence-based medicine is paramount for any operation to help ensure herd health and productivity. It's important to sit down and find out if we have learned anything new in the past year that might alter your current plan.

Asking us questions is not a hindrance by any means – we want to help. The clients that I enjoy working with the most are the ones who push me to continually raise the bar. They are the ones who ask the hard questions and are constantly wanting to do better.

Step 3: Develop a plan for the coming year, **turn to page 11**

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New owner is global giant with a \$47 billion portfolio

Danone's sale of Horizon Organic fulfills transition to fake-milk brands

By SHERRY BUNTING
Special for Farmshine

PARIS, France -- On the first day of 2024, another brand of fluid milk was sold to a private equity firm.

This time was no surprise: Paris, France-based Danone announced on Jan. 1st its agreement to sell organic dairy businesses, including flagship Horizon Organic, to Platinum Equity, based in Los Angeles, California.

The sale is said to be part of the Renew Danone strategy announced in March 2022 and is mentioned in Danone's 2023 Climate Transition Plan.

The company reported its organic dairy sector represented approximately 3% of its global revenues in 2022 and had a "dilutive impact" on sales growth and operating margin.

But mainly, said CEO Antoine de Saint-Affrique, the organic dairy business "fell outside our priority growth areas of focus," he said, reiterating his very words to investors a year ago when he first announced "eyeing sale" of Horizon Organic and Wallaby.

Terms of sale were not disclosed, but Danone will retain a non-consolidated minority stake in the business, executives said. The closing of the transaction is subject to customary conditions and regulatory approvals.

"Today marks an important milestone in delivering this (Renew Danone) commitment



After investing heavily in its strategy to accelerate new plant-based and AI-engineered fake-milk offerings like Silk NextMilk (left), and a year after terminating contracts with 89 Northeast organic dairy farms, Danone announced on Jan. 1, 2024 it will sell Horizon Organic (right) to a global equity firm to be run as a standalone business. Both Horizon and Silk were part of Danone's 2017 purchase of WhiteWave from the former Dean Foods.

Website product photos



while giving the Horizon Organic and Wallaby businesses the opportunity to thrive under new leadership. This sale, once completed, will allow us to concentrate further on our current portfolio of strong, health-focused brands and reinvest in our growth priorities," said de Saint-Affrique.

According to Platinum Equity's New Year's Day announcement of the acquisition, Horizon Organic is deemed the largest organic fluid milk company in the world and the first brand of organic milk available coast to coast in the United States. It has since grown to include organic creamers, yogurt, cheese and butter.

Platinum Equity Co-President Louis Samson said the acquisition will "build on that legacy and support Horizon Organic's growth as a standalone company."

Horizon Organic became the first public organic food company in 1994 and was purchased by Dean Foods in 2004, where it became part of WhiteWave holdings alongside International Delight, Silk and other fake-milk brands. A 2012 spin-off separated WhiteWave from Dean, taking former Dean CEO Gregg Engles with it as the WhiteWave CEO. In April of 2017, Danone purchased WhiteWave, and Engles continued as a current Danone S.A. board member.

Wallaby is an Australian-style organic yogurt found mostly in natural food stores as well as the Whole Foods chain throughout the U.S.

Platinum Equity estimates that the total U.S. dairy category is valued at \$68 billion in sales with fluid milk comprising approximately \$17 billion of that total. Of that \$17 billion in packaged fluid milk sales, organic milk sales comprised 6.7% of the volume for

the first 10 months of 2023, according to the most recent USDA Monthly Packaged Fluid Milk Sales Report.

Meanwhile, Danone has launched full-force into expanding the fake side of its 2017 WhiteWave purchase, adding products and launching new brands of plant-based and AI-engineered biological concoctions of fake-milk, fake-yogurt, fake-cheese, and other fake-dairy products in its quest for so-called "Climate Transition" and "Food Transformation."

The sale of Horizon to a global private equity firm that specializes in mergers and acquisitions also comes on the heels of Danone's December 2021 decision to end contracts with all of its New England and eastern New York dairy farms after sourcing milk from larger organic farms to the west and south.

After the sale of Horizon Organic is completed, Danone will be able to completely withdraw from Federal Milk Marketing Orders (FMMO) to do Cost Performance Model (CPM) pricing with a much smaller number of dairy farms, just like with other ingredient sources. Only Class I fluid milk sales are required to participate in FMMOs, and the sale of Horizon Organic to Platinum Equity ends Class I milk sales for Danone because the rest of their former WhiteWave beverage holdings are plant-based.

While Danone moves on to grow its fake-dairy business, owning the largest plant-based manufacturing facility in the world located in northern Pennsylvania and launching new plant-based alternatives to disrupt the dairy case, the Managing Director of Horizon Organic's new owner, Adam Cooper, sees organic and value-added products as the "premium offerings" that are "driving growth in the dairy milk category."

"Horizon Organic is a pioneer of that segment to page 9

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Danone from page 8

ment and is in position to continue capitalizing on and accelerating the trend,” said Cooper.

Platinum Equity has completed more than 450 acquisitions over the past 28 years, and today operates about 50 global businesses that have been shaken loose from larger corporate entities. The global firm’s current \$47 billion portfolio includes a few other companies in the food and beverage sector, such as biscuits, wine, seafood, packaged meat and bakery products, and food ingredients distribution.

“We are excited about Horizon Organic’s potential as an independent business with a renewed sense of focus and a commitment to investing in its success,” said Cooper. “We look forward to partnering with Horizon Organic’s management team to ensure a seamless transition and chart a path for continued growth and expansion.”

Already deemed a “component stock of leading sustainability indexes,” Danone’s ambitions are entrenched with ESG investors, the Global Methane Pledge, Climate Transition, Food Transformation and aspirations to be the publicly-traded global company that is B-Corp certified at the global level in 2025. (Danone is already B-Corp certified in the U.S.)

Over the past seven years, Danone North America has moved toward branding its ‘sustainability’ as increasingly plant-based.

In 2022, Danone North America received a \$70 million USDA Climate-Smart grant, which the company says will be used to: 1) reduce methane emissions for dairy through innovative manure management, 2) create infrastructure to sustainably grow and trace U.S. food-grade oats and soybeans, and 3) build processing for traceable organic soy.

During the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health in September 2022, Danone announced a \$22 million investment by 2030 to improve access to, and

availability of, “nutritious and health-promoting foods,” the bulk of these funds will be used to “educate consumers and health-care providers” (aka, marketing).

Shortly thereafter, the FDA Milk Labeling Proposed Rule hit the Federal Register for comment requiring only voluntary compliance for nutrition comparisons on labels of fake-milk using the term ‘milk.’ This rule has not been finalized as FDA continues to look the other way when it comes to milk and dairy label standards of identity abuses.

(Rest assured, Danone’s big goal is to become ‘net zero’ by 2050 by transforming food. Sound familiar?)

DANONE FOOD TRANSFORMATION TIMELINE

- July 2016, Danone launched the Dannon Pledge for non-GMO verified, positioning its conventional milk supply around a concept of ‘almost-organic.’

- Apr. 2017, Danone purchased the Dean WhiteWave spinoff, which included *Horizon Organic* and *Silk*, *So Delicious*, and *Alpro* plant-based brands. The DOJ Antitrust Division required Danone to simultaneously divest its *Stonyfield Farms* subsidiary.

- Apr. 2018, Danone quietly notified smaller Horizon Organic dairy farms in the western states that their future contracts would not be renewed amid a glut of organic milk and differences in how USDA’s organic livestock origin rules were being applied. Some of these producers were offered conventional non-GMO milk contracts using Danone’s proprietary Cost Performance Model (CPM). Some found other markets, and many exited the business. According to Danone’s 2021 Regenerative Agriculture Report, more than half of all U.S. milk collected by Danone now comes from farms with CPM contracts.

- Feb. 2019, Danone completed construction of the world’s largest plant-based yogurt factory in Dubois, Pennsylvania, where other non-dairy look-alike products are also made.

- Feb. 2020, Danone told investors the rising global temperature is a business opportunity, and the company would accelerate food transformation with climate at the core of its growth strategy.

- Oct. 2020, Danone announced its partnership with a bioscience startup to use artificial intelligence to explore new formulations to improve taste and texture of plant-based dairy alternatives.

- Jan. 2021, Danone’s *So Delicious* launched its first plant-based cheese and Danone S.A. was acknowledged as the largest plant-based company in the world with 10% of total sales coming from plant-based dairy alternatives. The company told investors it would grow this with further acquisitions and a “plant-based acceleration unit.”

- Apr. 2021, Danone and the EAT Lancet Commission announced a strategic partnership to promote a so-called “healthier and more sustainable food system by driving a change to planetary diets.” Danone pledged to use its ‘One Planet. One Health’ framework to “accelerate this food revolution.”

- July 2021, Danone announced three new plant-based fake-milk launches for 2022, along with a list of other lookalikes. During the July 2021 earnings call, Danone executives identified the U.S. as a “key plant-based market,” but noted 60% of U.S. consumers are not in the category because of product taste and texture. They announced a plan to win them over “with new dairy-like technology under *Silk NextMilk*, under *So Delicious Wondermilk* and under *Alpro Not Milk*.”

- Aug. 2021, Danone sent letters notifying all 89 of its organic dairy farms in New England and eastern New York that their milk contracts would be terminated in 12 months’ time. Later, under pressure from organic groups, officials and consumers, Danone agreed to a Feb. 2023 extension.

- Jan. 2022, Danone launched the three new fake-milks: *NextMilk*, *Wondermilk*, and *Not Milk*. (Interestingly, the *Silk NextMilk Whole Fat* has 6 grams of saturated fat from processed coconut and seed oils. That’s more saturated fat per serving than real whole dairy milk naturally from cows. Danone’s *Silk NextMilk* is packaged in red and white cartons with the words ‘Whole Fat’ appearing directly under the brand name to mimic

the *Whole Milk* appearance. Interestingly, the FDA’s proposed healthy labeling rule sets a tougher threshold for saturated fat in dairy products compared to saturated fats from plant-sources.)

- Mar. 2022, Danone described its Horizon Organic and “traditional dairy” holdings as “troubled offerings,” telling investors: “There are no sacred cows,” as they “keep pruning” the portfolio to “boost growth” and “distance” the company from “underperformance”... by investing more in “winning products” and selling existing brands or buying new ones.

- May 2022, Danone launched its “Dairy & Plants Blend” baby formula (60% plant-based, 40% dairy) “to expose children to food tastes early in life that can help shape their future food preferences... while shifting toward plant-rich diets and embracing alternative sources of protein to help reduce carbon emissions.”

- Sept. 2022, Danone joined the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health to announce a \$22 million ‘nutrition and health’ investment by 2030 with \$15 of the \$22 mil. Earmarked “to further nutrition education for consumers and healthcare providers.” (Sounds like marketing). This includes Danone’s new pledge to increase the nutrient density of its plant-based beverages.

- Sept. 2022 – Danone was part of a team that was awarded a \$70 million USDA Climate Smart grant for projects that include: 1) Reducing methane emissions for dairy through innovative manure management, 2) Creating the infrastructure to sustainably grow and trace U.S. food-grade oats and soybeans, 3) Building processing for traceable organic soy.

- Oct. 2022, Danone announced it would use artificial intelligence through its bioscience partner BrightSeed, to reformulate over 70% of its plant-based fake-milk alternatives to reduce added sugars and increase nutrient density. At the same time, it allocated \$15 million to “partner with retailers on healthy eating education” and

turn to page 10



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I had an opportunity to talk about dairy cows and farmers

By **BARB LUMLEY**
Ohio Farm Wife

I recently made an unexpected trip to the emergency room at a hospital. With family members working in the medical field, I have learned that patience is needed. However, when you are in pain and misery it is not always easy to come by.

Patience can become especially important in the ER. While as you look out your door, some people may not look like they are doing anything because they are sitting at computers, others are involved in life and death. So when a nurse stuck her head in the door and said, "Please be patient," I did my best.

It took several hours in the ER, but testing positive for Covid-19 and with breathing problems, the decision was made to admit me to the hospital and a room was found for me. Then came the steady procession of people, each one with their specific job to do in caring for me.

One of the first was a young woman with her computer and a lot of questions. She sat down in a chair and we talked. It was 1:30 in the morning. I learned that she had already worked a shift during the day, went home for a couple hours' sleep and was then called back to work. I was her last patient, so she could take her time and we talked. When she learned that I was a retired dairy farmer still living on my farm, it brought to mind a special memory from her early days in elementary school when her class had visited a dairy farm.

She told me that she knew that some cows give tan milk. I was a bit taken back and asked her to repeat what she said.

"Some cows give tan milk."

I then explained to her that all dairy cows give white milk! She was reluctant to accept what I was telling her, but we moved on to more questions. Two days later, what she said she had seen and remembered finally made sense to me! I am reasonably certain that when she visited that dairy farm, the first milk from a cow that had given birth to a new baby calf was put in a bottle and the children were allowed to feed the calf. That first milk is called "colostrum" and is colored. After three or four days it becomes white. I didn't get to see her again to let her know she was right — a cow can give tan milk!

As she asked questions and fed the information into the computer, I asked her questions. She is a single mother raising three children, with one to graduate high school soon and planning to continue his education. Another son is also in high school and her youngest child wants to be a doctor. They live in the city and know very little about farming. She thought that "prime rib" also came from a cow. So we had a discussion about the farmers who raise beef. She is a hard worker, doing her best for both her family and her patients. It was a joy to meet her and she certainly earned my respect.

On another day, a tall, lanky young man entered my room and said: "I am Abram from Therapy and I am here to pester you." He sat down, asked a question or two and quickly learned I was from a dairy farm.

His next question: "What is the bad stuff that is being put in the milk that I buy?" I asked what he meant by "bad stuff"

but he did not explain his question! I then told him there was no "bad stuff" being put in the milk he was buying. I then went on to explain what a milk inspector is and discuss some of the many rules and regulations dairy farmers must obey in order to sell milk. I talked about how samples are taken from every tank of milk before it leaves the farm, safety with medications used on the cows, care of the dairy cow, etc. He then told me he was the father of seven children and he bought a lot of milk! Following a test or two on how I was moving, he said he didn't need to see me again and he left. I hope I convinced him that the milk he was buying for his seven children was safe and good for them!

During my care in the hospital I met a lot of different people. Many of them are referred to as "floaters" and travel to a different hospital or work in a different area of a hospital every day, so I seldom saw some of them twice. The majority lived in outlying towns or the city. Very few knew much about farming or how the food they buy is produced.

I feel that it is very important that not only dairy farmers, but farmers of all kinds, do everything they can to educate the people who will be buying and consuming their product. I think one of the best places to do that is the early elementary schools. The information learned there seems to stay with children for the rest of their lives. It is very important that the programs that are presented and the information they learn is correct and understood. More education about farming is needed. It will benefit not only the farmer but also the consumer and families.

Danone from page 9

\$7 million to partner with community-based programs that provide nutritious foods.

(Timing is everything: Danone is among the financial supporters of the infamous Tufts University Food Compass, launched recently into the federal nutrition policy arena through the Biden-Harris Hunger, Health and Nutrition Strategy and the FDA proposed rule on "healthy labeling." The Food Compass nutrition profiling algorithm rates nonfat dairy yogurt high as an encouraged food, along with plant-based fake-milks; but real milk and cheese are rated lower as foods to moderate or discourage. More artificial intelligence, to be sure.)

- Jan. 2023, Danone announced it was looking for a buyer for Horizon Organic, saying it fell outside of their growth areas of focus.
- Feb. 2023, Contract extensions ended for terminated Horizon Organic dairy farms in the Northeast. Some have gone out of business. Others have gone to Stonyfield or Organic Valley, which eventually agreed to take on the remaining Northeast farms facing Horizon termination, along with 40 organic dairies cut last year by Maple Hill in New York.
- Mar. 2023, Danone launched a fake-milk-mustache campaign for its Silk NextMilk brand using children, nieces, and nephews of three original real-milk-mustache celebrities to twist the knife.
- Apr. 2023, Danone launched an organic alternative beverage: 'So Delicious Organic Oatmilk' in 'original' and 'extra creamy'
- May 2023, Danone launched So Delicious Dairy-Free Yogurt
- Jan. 2024, Danone announced its agreement to sell organic dairy businesses -- Horizon Organic fluid milk and Wallaby yogurt to Platinum Equity.

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Dog owners reminded to license

HARRISBURG, Pa. — Pennsylvania dog owners are reminded to purchase a 2024 license from their county treasurer by January 1, 2024. Licenses are not just a legal responsibility of owning a dog, they protect all Pennsylvania dogs and are the best way to bring your pet home quickly if it's lost.

"If you love your dog, license your dog," said Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding. "It's simple. The best way to protect the dogs we love is with a license. Even if a dog has a chip, a license on their collar is clearly visible and helps ensure they will be brought home rather than ending up in a shelter."

All dogs three months of age and older are required to be licensed in Pennsylvania. An annual license is \$8.70, and a lifetime license



"Milkyway" enjoys the company of his best friend, Emily.

is \$51.70. If the animal is spayed or neutered, the annual fee is \$6.70, and lifetime is \$31.70. Lifetime licenses require that the dog have a microchip or tattoo. Discounts are available to older adults and people with disabilities.

Your dog license purchase keeps all Pennsylvania dogs and communities safe by funding the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement's work:

- Inspecting Pennsylvania's boarding and breeding kennels and ensuring the health and wellbeing of dogs housed there;
- Investigating and prosecuting illegal kennel operators;
- Ensuring that dogs in breeding operations don't go without veterinary care;
- Protecting the public by monitoring dan-

gerous dogs, investigating dog bites, and holding owners responsible;

- Reuniting licensed lost dogs with their families; and
- Helping unlicensed lost dogs find shelter.

Fines for unlicensed dogs range from \$50 to \$300, plus court costs — far more than the cost of a license.

Licenses can be purchased through Pennsylvania's county treasurers.

On January 21, 2024, Act 18 of 2023, The Dog Law Modernization Act, will take effect, bringing added protections for Pennsylvania's dogs, consumers and communities. Learn details of these changes and more about Pennsylvania's Dog Law at agriculture.pa.gov.

Three steps _____ from page 7

or make any adjustments necessary to the previous year's plan, to ensure success and positive strides.

So, you have reviewed the past year's wins and losses, and you have talked about potential new technologies with your veterinarian. Now, in the final component of the discussion, utilize all of this information to develop a plan for the upcoming year, if you did not have a protocol in place — or make any necessary changes to the previous year's plan to better serve you moving forward.

I encourage you to walk away from this process with actionable tasks; you don't want to let those ideas and the enthusiasm that you have for your program fizzle out after the meeting. Have some actionable items such as three main goals we are going to try to improve upon this year, here's how we're going to do it and when.

To make things easier on you both, adhering to schedules and timelines, go ahead and look to calendars to schedule out important herd work with your veterinarian.

One last thought is that having this nice, beautiful herd health plan provides a great baseline to guide us. But, keep in mind that things can happen, challenges can arise that we cannot foresee, and we have to be willing to be adaptable and pivot. Having this baseline will help to guide you, help you remain profitable and help to maximize animal health.

I encourage producers to ask questions and to not blindly adhere to a protocol just because it's the way we have always done it. Review outcomes, ask questions and work closely with your veterinarian in a year-in-review to ensure a more productive year ahead.

Continue learning at ValleyVet.com.

About the author: Lacey Fahrmeier, DVM, is a graduate of Kansas State University's College of Veterinary Medicine. In addition to her role on the Valley Vet Supply Technical Service veterinary team, Dr. Fahrmeier is a practicing veterinarian at a Southern Montana veterinary clinic, serving animals small and large. She places special interest in large animal reproduction and bovine lameness. Recently appointed to the American Veterinary Medical Association's Council on Veterinary Service, Dr. Fahrmeier represents the Private-Practice Predominantly Food Animal interests of the Association.

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Adrian Davis and Rebekah Aldrich recognized at 4-H gathering

CHAMBERSBURG, Pa. — Franklin County 4-H members work hard within their 4-H clubs and county and state 4-H programs and opportunities to fulfill the 4-H motto: "To Make the Best Better." Their hard work is recognized each year at the annual Franklin County 4-H Recognition Night.

Adrian Davis was recognized as the 2023 "I Dare You" Award recipient. The "I Dare You!" Leadership Award was first offered in 1941 by William H. Danforth. Mr. Danforth was a successful businessman who dared young people to achieve their highest potential and to influence others through lives

of leadership and service. The "I Dare You!" Award recognizes those who, with a little encouragement, are ready to see themselves as leaders. The award recognizes youth who strive to be their personal best and make a positive difference in the organizations they are involved in. Adrian has demonstrated growing leadership qualities over their past few years in 4-H. She takes advantage of every opportunity to improve her leadership skills, and she challenges herself while seeking out individuals that she can learn from.

Rebekah Aldrich was presented with the 2023 Outstanding



Adrian Davis



Rebekah Aldrich

4-H'er Award. This award goes to a 4-H member who is 14 or older who has committed themselves to a variety of 4-H projects throughout their 4-H career. The award also takes into consideration involvement in county, district, state, and national 4-H events. Rebekah has truly served her club, community, country, and world. She has completed a wide variety of 4-H projects throughout her career and has served in leadership roles within several clubs. Rebekah has also volunteered her time to serve as a teen counselor for many 4-H camps and retreats. She has been a champion for younger members, encouraging them to get involved and try their best. Rebekah has also gone on to represent Franklin County 4-H positively at both state and national 4-H events.

Scholarships awarded

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Four Pennsylvania 4-H'ers were named recipients of the Allen L. and Richard H. Baker Memorial 4-H Scholarship last year: Nina Coolidge of Tioga County, Caleb Antram of Somerset County, Elizabeth Bruner of Indiana County and Taylor Rafferty, of Jefferson County.

- Nina Coolidge, who was awarded \$1935, is pursuing a bachelor's degree in agricultural and extension education.
- Caleb Antram, an animal science major, was awarded \$1850.
- Elizabeth Bruner, who is majoring in forest ecosystem management was awarded \$1000.
- Taylor Rafferty, studying agricultural and extension education, received \$1000.

The annual scholarship was established to honor a father, Professor Allen L. Baker, and his son, Richard H. Baker, for their years of dedicated service to Penn State University.

Professor Allen L. Baker was involved in 4-H club work for 38 years and was the state 4-H club leader for 37 years. Starting in 1946, Richard H. Baker worked for the University for 38 years, serving as assistant treasurer and director of financial management from 1976 to 1984.



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New year, new hope: 2024 will be year of reckoning

From whole milk in schools to farm bill to climate-warped food transformation, scientists and lawmakers are getting busy, farmers need to get busy too

By **SHERRY BUNTING**
Special for Farmshine

EAST EARL, Pa. — It's a New Year, and we have new hope on several fronts that are all linked together, in my analysis.

Headlines for dairy farmers in 2023 revolved around dairy markets that underper-

formed, successes and challenges in the quest to get Whole Milk choice back in schools, a plethora of draft USDA and FDA proposals that dilute real dairy, farm losses and governmental hearings on federal milk pricing, negotiations and extensions for the farm bill, and acceleration of 'climate-smart' positives and negatives buckling down for

business in an area where political science is trumping real science on the rollercoaster ride ahead.

All of these headlines are inextricably linked. There is a global anti-animal assault underway, but people are wising up to the not-so-hidden agenda that is grounded in climate transitions and food transformation

that give more power and control over food to global corporations while diminishing what little power farmers have in Rural America where our national security is at risk.

Real science locks horns with political science

As we head into 2024, a bit of good news is emerging as scientists are mobilizing to defend the nutritional, environmental and social honor of livestock — especially the much-maligned cow.

After an international summit of scientists in October 2022, work has been underway to bring together an international pact.

Dubbed the Dublin Declaration of Scientists, experts around the world have authored and are getting colleagues to sign-on to this document that calls for governments, companies, and NGOs to stop ignoring important scientific arguments when pushing their anti-animal agendas in the name of climate, transformation, and the Global Methane Pledge.

To date, nearly 1200 scientists have signed the Dublin Declaration, aimed foremost at the Irish government's proposal to slaughter cows to meet methane targets. The

turn to page 15

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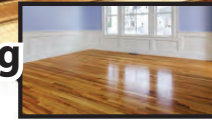
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New year, new hope

from page 14

Dublin Declaration represents the work of scientists across the globe for a global audience beyond Ireland.

Here in the U.S., we are sitting on the cusp of Scope 3 emissions targets of global milk buyers that have been hastily formulated based on the science of greed, not the science of greenhouse gas emissions. It's time for the dairy organizations and land grant universities that represent, serve and rely on farmers to drink up on their milk and strengthen their spines.

Farmshine has brought readers the news about what has been happening in Europe, such as in the Netherlands and Ireland, regarding proposed farm seizures and cow slaughter, and the response of farmers there has been to challenge the political establishment.

The U.S. is not far behind. At COP28 recently, American cattle industries were criticized, and even Congressional Ag Leaders are miffed by what they heard.

Still, some of our dairy organizations brag about being at COP26, 27, 28 and taking part. Even the dairy farmers' own checkoff program is caught flat-footed. They've already caved to the Danone's, the Nestles, the Unilevers, and such.

In fact, DMI's yearend review touted its increase in U.S. Dairy Stewardship Commitment adopters to 39 companies representing 75% of the milk supply with membership in the Dairy Sustainability Alliance standing at 200 member companies and organizations. But what are they doing with those relationships to STAND UP ON SCIENCE FOR THE COWS?

The Stewardship Commitment includes DMI's Net-Zero Initiative, where the cyclical short-lived nature of methane and the role of cattle in the carbon cycle is still not appropriately accounted for and is one of the points made in the Dublin Declaration of Scientists.

In the U.S. dairy industry, the trend on GHG revolves around DMI's Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy, which placates large multinational corporations in the development of voluntary programs, telling farmers they are in control with their organizations as a sort of gatekeeper. That is, until those programs become mandatorily enforced by those milk buying corporations, while the science on methane and the cow's role in the carbon cycle as well as U.S. data vs. global data continue to be ignored when they are sitting in the midst of UN Food Transformation Summits, COP26, 27 and 28, and the WEF at Davos.

In fact, during the annual meeting webinar of American Dairy Coalition in December, U.S. House Ag Chairman G.T. Thompson of Pennsylvania was asked his thoughts on some of the statements that came out of COP28 recently criticizing American dairy and livestock consumption.

"My first response was to find it laughable because it really shows you the difference between political science and real science," he said. "It's sad when people are so illiterate about the industry that provides food and fiber that they don't understand how livestock contribute to carbon sequestration.

"We have a real battle," Thompson said, adding that those putting out such statements criticizing American livestock "don't even know which end the methane comes from. The world needs more U.S. farmers and less UN if we want a better world. The facts and the science are on our side. Let's not let the other side control the narrative."

Bottomline for Thompson is this: "The American farmers are climate heroes sequestering 10% more carbon than we emit. No one does it better anywhere in the world. Let's be speaking up and speaking out. We can push it back with the facts and the science. I would encourage each of us to do that and become effective just telling that story."

In the same ADC webinar in December, Trey Forsythe, professional staff for Senate Ag Committee Ranking Member John Boozman of Arkansas agreed.

"The language coming out of COP28, a likely European-led effort, shows what we are up against from people with no background on the role of dairy and livestock. We have to keep beating that drum on the efficiency of U.S. dairy and livestock farms," he said.

In the same accord, scientists are getting busy, and we all need to get more involved.

In a dynamic white paper released last year, scientists made 10 critical arguments on this topic of livestock greenhouse gas emissions (GHG). Here's what the scientists behind the Dublin Declaration are saying and why it's so important for our land grant university scientists to sign on.

"Livestock agriculture creates GHG emissions, which is a serious challenge for future food systems. However, arguing that climate change mitigation requires a radical dietary transition to either veganism or vegetarianism, or the restriction of meat and dairy consumption to very small amounts is overly simplistic and possibly counterproductive," the scientists wrote in a recent description of the Dublin Declaration.

"Such reasoning overlooks that dietary change has only a modest impact on fossil fuel-intensive lifestyle budgets, that enteric methane is part of a natural carbon cycle and has different global warming kinetics than CO₂, that the rewilding of agricultural land would generate its own emissions and that afforestation comes with many limitations, that global data should not be generalized to evaluate local contexts, that there are still ample opportunities to improve livestock efficiency, that livestock not only emit but also sequester carbon, and that foods should be compared based on nutritional value. Such calls for nuance are often ignored by those arguing for a shift to plant-based diets," they continued, listing these 10 Arguments with scientific explanations for each one.

Here is how the growing number of international scientists, including Dr. Frank Mitloehner of UC-Davis, situate the problem:

Argument 1 - Global data should not be

used to evaluate local contexts

Argument 2 - Further mitigation is possible and ongoing

Argument 3 - Only a relatively small gain can be obtained from restricting animal source foods

Argument 4 - Dietary focus distracts from more impactful interventions

Argument 5 - Nutritional quality should not be overlooked when comparing foods

Argument 6 - Co-product benefits of livestock agriculture should be accounted for

Argument 7 - Livestock farming also sequesters carbon, partially offsetting its emissions

Argument 8 - Rewilding comes with its own climate impact

Argument 9 - Large-scale afforestation of grasslands is not a panacea

Argument 10 - Methane should be evaluated differently than CO₂

These arguments take nothing away from the technologies that are being developed to help dairy and livestock producers further reduce emissions and sequester carbon. Technology has a role in amplifying the cow's position as a solution, not to cure a problem she does not have! And farmers deserve to get credit for what they've already achieved.

Farm, food, and national security are interdependent

The 2018 Farm Bill was extended for another year at the end of 2023, but the urgency to complete a new one continues as a big priority for House Ag Committee Chairman G.T. Thompson. In the recent ADC annual meeting webinar, he said: "You don't want us writing farm bill legislation – or any legislation – just listening to voices inside the Beltway in Washington. It would not work out well."

He thanked and encouraged farmers for being part of the process, saying there's more to do.

"We're building this farm bill listening to

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Fran Burns

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Donna Myers elected to Maryland State Fair & Agricultural Society chair

TIMONIUM, Md. — Donna G. Myers of the well-known Windsor-Manor Farm, Westminster, has been elected chairman of the Maryland State Fair & Agricultural Society, Inc. Board of Directors. She is the first female chairman since the Maryland State Fair & Agricultural Society's incorporation in 1878 and has served the Fair with great distinction and accomplishment for 24 years on various Board committees and as its president for the last six years.

Myers, a retired Carroll County dairy farmer, whose family has participated in the Maryland State Fair for five generations, has an extensive background in agriculture. She was honored at the World Dairy Expo in 2011 as Dairy Woman of the Year, and along with her husband Jason was inducted into the Maryland Dairy Shrine.

She has served as Maryland Agriculture Council president; Maryland State Fair 4-H dairy superintendent; Maryland Holstein Association president and vice president; chairman of the Carroll County 4-H & FFA Fair; National Junior Holstein Advisory Committee member; and more.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to continue to work for the Maryland State Fair & Agricultural Society, Inc. as chairman of the board," said Myers. "We will continue the historical traditions of agriculture, horse racing, rides and entertainment showcased at the Fair for the last 143 years, as well as strive to offer educational opportunities for fairgoers and 4-H and FFA youth to learn and participate in during the Fair. I am pleased to serve with our new president, Fran Burns and the other officers and directors of the Maryland State Fair & Agricultural Society. Fran will be an outstanding president, particularly with her knowledge of Maryland's horse and Thoroughbred horse racing industries."

Burns follows in the footsteps of her great grandfather, the late John M. Dennis, who was president of the Maryland State Fair from 1923-1936. She grew up on his 100+ acre Happy Hopeful Farm riding and showing ponies, and currently owns and operates Boxwood Farm, a thoroughbred boarding farm in Baltimore County. She has been involved with the Maryland State Fair since childhood as an exhibitor, volunteer, supporter, and founder of the Hellen Burns Smyth Award in memory of her late sister who also had a passion for the Maryland State Fair.

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New year, new hope

from page 15

your voices, the voices of those who produce, those who process, and those who consume -- all around the country," said Thompson, noting nearly 40 states were visited for nearly 80 listening sessions over 2.5 years on the House side.

"This farm bill is about farm security. It's about food security. And it's about national security -- all three of those are interdependent," he added.

The extension and funding of the current farm bill for another year -- while Congress works on the new one -- means programs like Dairy Margin Coverage will continue for 2024, but the enrollment announcement has not yet been made by USDA.

In past years, the enrollment began in October of the previous year and ended at the end of January for that program year. When DMC first replaced the precursor MPP, enrollment was announced late and continued into March of the first program year (2019). At that time, farms could sign up for five years through 2023 or do it annually.

In 2023, DMC paid out a total of \$1.27 billion in DMC payments for the first 10 months of the year.

Chairman Thompson noted that effective farm policy is the key, and the extension means no disruptions, he said: "We attached good data for dairy with policy changes, including for DMC, and some positive changes for the nutrition title within the debt ceiling discussion."

On DMC, the supplemental production history was added in the legislation extending the current farm bill that was signed by the President at the end of November.

"It provides our dairy farmers the certainty that their additional production will be covered moving forward," Thompson confirmed, adding that they are looking at moving up the tier one cap to be more reflective of the industry.

The farm bill is also being crafted to use no new tax dollars by reworking priorities, looking at the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funds, administrative funds and shoring up funds from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) priorities to secure the farm bill baseline for the future.

The \$20 billion in IRA funds being thrown about for conservation and environmental programs as well as 'climate-smart' grants is already down to \$15 billion without spending a dime because of how it is designed to phase down and go away in 2031 and the fact that USDA is believed to not have the authority to keep these funds outside of the farm bill, Thompson explained. Negotiations are considering bringing this into the farm bill baseline so that it is there -- and used for farmers -- now and in the future.

"(The IRA) is not a victory if agriculture does not get the full benefit of these dollars. We can make that happen in this farm bill," said Thompson. "Reinvesting the IRA dollars into the farm bill baseline will allow us to perpetually fund conservation in the future."

Conservation programs are historically oversubscribed and underfunded.

Thompson expects crafting and advancing of the next farm bill to continue in earnest. He hopes to have a chairman's mark of the bill released by the end of January and have it before the House by the end of February. Much of this timeline depends on House leadership, and the Senate has its own time frame, said Thompson.

He urged dairy farmers to spread the word to their members of Congress that farm security and food security are national security.

He also noted that the nutrition title had some of its toughest elements ironed out during the continuing resolution process in which the farm bill was extended.

"I've managed this in such a way that we've accomplished already the hard things in that title," said Thompson.

Deploying dairy farmers on legislative efforts

"Passage of the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act is good for kids good for the dairy industry, and good for the economy. It simply restores the option, the choice, of whole milk and flavored whole milk, and holds harmless our hardworking school cafeteria folks by making sure the milkfat does not count toward the meal recipe limitations," Thompson reported.

He wanted well over 300 votes for H.R. 1147 in the House to send a strong message to the Senate. On Dec. 13, the House gave him 330 'yes' votes for Whole Milk for Healthy Kids.

"I would like to deploy you now on the Senate. The bill in the Senate (S. 1957) has the same language and it is tri-partisan with Republican Senator Roger Marshall, a medical doctor, Democrat Peter Welch and Independent Angus King as original sponsors," said Thompson to dairy farmers gathered virtually for the ADC annual meeting webinar.

"There are other co-sponsors as well (12), and from my state of Pennsylvania, Senator John Fetterman is a cosponsor. Our other Senator (Bob Casey, Jr.) has not cosponsored and seems to be in opposition to it," he said. "We need you to weigh in with your senators that this is about nutrition and health of our kids and the health of our rural communities. You are in a good position to tell the story of what happened in 2010 when fat was taken out of the milk in schools."

Thompson noted that, "As you are doing that, you are developing relationships that will help us in the farm bill also. On the farm bill, talk about return on investment, the number of jobs and economic activity and taxes from agribusinesses, about the food security and national security and environmental benefits, science, technology and innovation in agriculture," he said.

"Less than 1.75% of what we spend nationally is the farm bill. That's a big return on investment, again, for food security and national security."

Questioned about the milk labeling bill of Pennsylvania Congressman John Joyce, a doctor, Thompson said it is a strong bill. He confessed his dismay with USDA caving on this question and called FDA "a problem child" on milk labeling.

"This bill is not self-serving for dairy. This is about consumers having the information to make proper decisions on their nutrition," he said.

To be continued

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Dietary phosphorus' impact on hypocalcemia explained

By MICHELLE KUNJAPPU
Special for Farmshine

NEW HOLLAND, Pa. -- Area dairy farmers made good use of a cold-season day as about 100 producers gathered for Homestead Nutrition's Dairy Seminar at Yoder's Restaurant in New Holland on Dec. 5th.

Meghan Connelly, Dairy Research and Technical Services, Protekta, Inc., discussed "Dietary Phosphorus' Impact on Hypocalcemia." She specializes in dietary phosphorus and explained phosphorus and its impact on hypocalcemia.

Traditionally, said Connelly, dietary phosphorus "just wasn't a mineral that we paid a lot of attention to, but one of the really big players is the fact that we started feeding a lot of byproducts," she noted. "So, by default we've increased dietary phosphorus."

Not well studied until the 2000s, dietary phosphorus was a bit overlooked in the dairy sector until an A.B. Peterson study in 2005.

Peterson fed a few different levels of dietary phosphorus and came up with results that showed "as he decreased the dietary phosphorus, he actually had higher blood calcium concentrations, so as he increased it, blood calcium went lower, and they saw more incidences of milk fever," Connelly explained.

Later, other researchers found the same thing. They noticed that the lower the dietary phosphorus levels, the better the blood calcium and milk fever incidences.

"As we feed dietary phosphorus and subsequently increase blood phosphorus, we actually shut down vitamin D synthesis. So, they saw that there was a lot of these kinds of relationships with dietary phosphorus and blood calcium," said Connelly.

In the past five years, Connelly noted, researchers have



Research in Germany and The Netherlands revealed that cows fed a low dietary phosphorus had significantly higher blood calcium concentrations across the 72 hours after they calved.
Photo by Dieter Krieg

been asking: What if we just hit the bare minimum of phosphorus?

In 2021, a group in the Netherlands put cows on dietary phosphorus at only the basic requirement vs. control group. "They saw cows fed 0.21 dietary phosphorus had significantly higher blood calcium concentrations across the 72 hours after they calved," she said.

In Germany, researchers wondered: What if we actually restrict it? They did a study giving pre-fresh cows "low, low - into what we could consider a deficient phosphorus diet" - and found that the lower the dietary phosphorus, the higher the blood calcium and calcium homeostasis.

A repeat of the study found the same thing, that a restricted phosphorus diet showed cows exhibiting significantly reduced blood phosphorus.

"But as soon as cows calve and go onto the lactation diet, the blood phosphorus pops right back up and they refill their systems, essentially," said Connelly.

Synthetic zeolite A can bind phosphorus, she added, noting studies that showed "when a phosphorus binder was fed, we saw a reduction in blood phosphorus concentration. Then they looked at blood calcium concentrations, and cows that had lower blood phosphorus had significantly higher blood calcium concentrations than control diet cows," said Connelly.

Noting there are ways to consider reducing dietary phosphorus that can provide benefits to blood calcium concentrations in pre-fresh diets.

As farms feed more byproducts by default today, dietary phosphorus levels may have crept up, she said. In view of this, phosphorus restriction or Zeolite-A supplementation is an alternative strategy to improve blood calcium and minimize hypoglycemia.

"We care about blood calcium concentrations. Cows fed a restricted phosphorus diet had significantly higher blood calcium concentration relative to cows fed an adequate amount of phosphorus during the pre-fresh period," concluded Connelly.

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Young lovers find purpose, ho

By DIETER KRIEG
Farmshine Editor

COCHRANVILLE, Pa. — This is a love story involving a beautiful young woman of Italian heritage, an ambitious and modest 22-year old dairyman, and — you guessed it — a herd of Registered Holsteins.

Jenna is the granddaughter of the late Roy Simpson, and daughter of Justin and Desiree (Carducci) Simpson, owners of Simpsons' Holsteins, which has a long and distinguished history in Holstein circles. Roy bred scores of Excellent Holsteins, owned and developed many more and sent numerous bulls into A.I., some of which went on to be Gold Medal Sires. He is also credited with owning the first two cows in the state to have the 4E designation. His accomplishments, involvement and contributions more than qualified him to be welcomed into the Pennsylvania Holstein Association's Hall of Fame in 2013.

Needless to say, Jenna is proud and happy of her heritage and enthusiastically determined to continue the legacy.

Dylan is the son of Mark and Jelena Brantner, Saegertown, Pa. Their *Show-Mar* prefix is well known, having earned national recognition numerous times. In 2022, for example, Holstein Association USA presented the Brantners with their third Herd of Excellence Award. The herd is 100% homebred, boasting an ME average of: 38,394M 1562F 1181P and an AACs of 89.5 points. Also, that same year, one of the Brantners' cows — Show-Mar Crush Everyone — was named "Star of the Breed" by HAUSA. The award is an elite accolade that recognizes a Registered Holstein® cow with outstanding production and exceptional type.

"Winning the award means a lot because it shows you are on the right track to better cows," said Dylan's younger brother and owner, Wesley, at the time. "I appreciate that the Star of the Breed award looks at both the way she is classified and the way she's milking."

Bottom line: Dylan's interest, dedication, keen eyes and love for fine cattle are without question a part of



Cow comfort is evident in the spacious pens and loafing area at Glenn Ranck's farm in southern Chester County where Dylan and Jenna Brantner are launching their career with Registered Holsteins. Photos by Dieter Krieg

his DNA.

Dylan and Jenna met at the Butler Fair in 2018 and have been a couple ever since, as they share a passion for each other as well as the cows. They were married in October of 2023.

Asked why they chose to be dairy farmers at a time when there is so much negativity encircling animal agriculture, Dylan didn't hesitate to answer: "Before this, I just had a job as an A.I. technician and when I came home, I missed the cows."

"Absolutely!" was Jenna's immediate response to

her husband's reply.

"But, we wouldn't have done it if we hadn't been given the opportunity," Dylan added. Explaining, he told of a dinner they had with their friends, Mark and Kris Welk, in early December of 2021. They mentioned that Glenn Ranck of Cochrانville might consider an arrangement. They met with him and looked at the cows on Christmas Eve, learning that the well-known Chester County Holstein breeder would be willing to sell them his entire herd and have them stay at his well-manicured, 150-acre Dairy of Distinction.

Excitement flowed, he said. Next step: Talk it over with his parents in western Pennsylvania. So, over the next few days, discussed it, thought about it, and then came to the Cochrانville area with a plan of action. A loan to buy the cows was secured from Farm Credit.

And so it came to be. Corbin and Jenna have been milking diligently at the Ranck Dairy for one day purchase a farm



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Jenna and Dylan stand with 9-year old Glennview Buxton Ping (EX-91-2E) who has lifetime credits of 253,637M, 8851F, and 6823P.

“He has taught us a lot of stuff,” Dylan pointed out appreciatively. “Any time we have a problem and don’t know what to do, like a breakdown or anything, he’s right here.”

Dylan and Jenna provide all the labor for the herd and also help as needed with the crops, which are Glenn’s domain. Instead of paying rent, the milk check is split 50/50 and the home-grown supply of forages is free.

The breeding program relies substantially on aAa recommendations, but is “tweaked” if preferred. Both Dylan and Jenna know what an all-around good cow is supposed to look like and do. And they also enjoy seeing steady improvements. With that in mind, the bulls that they prefer using are primarily from St. Jacobs, Blondin Sires and NoBull Solutions, which local Holstein breeder Rusty Herr founded a few years ago.

Dylan met Rusty when the latter was preparing his Legacy of Golden Rose Genetics sale in 2019. He was still in his teens but already a top-notch fitter. Impressed with what he saw and experienced, he took a job with NoBull Solutions that same year. Jenna followed him to Chester County a year or so later.

“We don’t look for numbers,” (other than aAa) Dylan said of his breeding philosophy. “We like a solid, conventionally functioning cow that lasts. If you breed for that, you’ll have a cow that milks.” He also noted that there’s something to be said for “breeding for type and feeding for milk”.

Among their preferred bulls are Yeti and Beauty at St. Jacobs; Fitters Choice and Artist at NoBull and Dynasty and Legend at Blondin.

While there’s no Excellent cow (yet) occupying the stalls that the Brantners bred, there are a couple that they like to show to visitors. One is a 13-year old, Brackleyfarm Chelios Cheerio, that they’re flushing. The other is a 9-year old, Glennview Buxton Ping (EX-91-2E) with lifetime credits of 253,637M, 8851F, and 6823P. “She was the first to go Excellent since we bought the cows and also the first to get an ‘E,’” Dylan

turn to page 29

aring that proposal from over with their parents in they went home for a few some more, and returned with their families’ encour- the entire herd was secured

ne March of this year, it will and Jenna have been work- farm while building equity n of their own. Noteworthy

is the fact that each of them brought about half a dozen cows from home to add to Glenn’s herd. And they’ve chosen a prefix ... one that is easy to remember: DB&J.

The 80 cows that Dylan and Jenna now work with day in and day out, are housed in a free-stall barn, with ample loose housing and pens available for dry cows, heifers and calves. The couple’s workload is split, but when it comes to milking twice each day, they’re a team. He feeds the cows; she feeds the youngstock, with special attention to the younger calves; plus she

handles the bookwork. “I take a look at it so that I know where we’re at,” Dylan grinned.

“We think of this as our college,” Jenna quipped, chuckling — perhaps trying to humorously acknowledge that they’re facing a learning curve. Dillon was more direct, stating that he was pretty knowledgeable about showing and fitting, but beyond that, his experience was a bit lean.

“We really hit the jackpot with Glenn,” Jenna stated emphatically. “He’s a great teacher, easy to get along with and flexible.”

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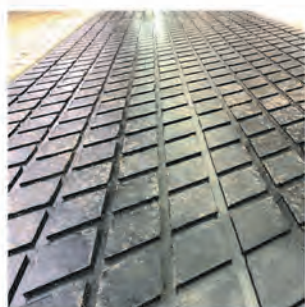
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World Dairy Expo seeks nominations for awards

MADISON, Wis. — Nominations for the 2024 World Dairy Expo® Recognition Awards are now being accepted through February 1. Expo is once again honoring dairy industry leaders in three different categories:

- Dairy Producer of the Year,

- Industry Person of the Year, and
 - International Person of the Year
- Organizations, academic staff, producers and others involved in the dairy industry are encouraged to nominate individuals to recognize their outstanding work and dedication

to the dairy industry.

Qualifications for each of the three awards being presented include:

Dairy Producer(s) of the Year: Presented to an active dairy producer whose primary source of income is derived from his or her dairy enterprise. This producer excels in efficient production and the breeding of quality dairy animals while incorporating progressive management practices. Award recipient's community, government, marketing and World Dairy Expo involvement will also be considered.

Industry Person(s) of the Year: This award is presented in recognition of an individual's excellence in research, development, education, marketing, manufacturing or other fields, which are a part of an industry or institution that provides goods or services to the dairy industry. A resident of the United States, this award recipient may be an active dairy producer whose primary achievements are industry focused.

International Person(s) of the Year: Living primarily outside of the United States, the individual who receives this award will be recognized for his or her contribution to international research, development, education, marketing, manufacturing or other fields, which are a part of an industry or institution that provides goods or services to the international dairy industry.

- The proper nomination form is available at worlddairy-expo.com or by contacting the Expo office at 608-224-6455 or wde@wdexpo.com

The individuals selected to receive these prestigious awards will be recognized on Wednesday, October 2 during World Dairy Expo 2024 at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison.

Purdue ranked No. 1

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Purdue University's Agricultural and Biological Engineering (ABE) undergraduate program is ranked No. 1 in its category in the 2024 *U.S. News & World Report* undergraduate program rankings, released Monday (Sept. 18). The ranking marks the 13th consecutive year the program has earned a spot in the top two.

ABE's key areas of research align with the Department's degree programs: agricultural systems management; biological and bioprocess engineering; data science and digital applications; environmental and natural resource engineering; and machine systems engineering.

Last year the 32 members of ABE's faculty garnered 82 awards for research, totaling \$15.4 million. ABE's 378 undergraduate students represent 64 counties in Indiana, 29 states and 11 countries. Over 95% of last year's graduates either accepted a full-time position or are continuing their education after graduation.

Purdue's undergraduate national ranking jumped 8 spots, with 13 undergraduate programs in the top 10 in the U.S.

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Representative David Zimmerman corrals support for whole milk

DARLACH, Pa. — Inspired by *Farmshine* correspondent Renee Troutman at the 97 Milk meeting held at the Durlach-Mount Airy Fire Hall on November 17th, Pennsylvania Repre-

sentative David Zimmerman was successful in getting the signatures of 14 of the State's 203 Representatives (including himself) to urge Senator Robert Casey to support Senate Bill

1957, the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act. Zimmerman asked everyone present at the meeting to also write to the Senator, requesting that he become a co-sponsor of the Bill.

Representative Zimmerman's letter to Senator Casey was persuasive:

"As state representatives in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, we respectfully request that you co-sponsor S. 1957, sponsored by Senator Roger Marshall from Kansas, providing whole milk access to children in schools.

"The Dietary Guidelines for Americans (DGA) reports that approximately 90% of Americans do not meet their daily dairy intake recommendations. S. 1957 expands healthy milk options for students to improve their nutrition intake and improve health outcomes.

"Whole milk is a healthy nutritional option for children that contains high quality complete proteins and all nine amino acid building blocks. Whole milk contains essential nutrients to support the immune system which include calcium, vitamin D, phosphorus and potassium to build and maintain strong bones.

With these considerations in mind, we urge you to co-sponsor and support S. 1957. Sincerely, Representatives (signing):

David Zimmerman, Eddie Day Pashinski, Dan Moul, Eric Nelson, Bryan Cutler, Keith Greiner, Marla Brown, Perry Stambaugh, Paul Schemel, Johanny Cepeda-Freytiz, Mike Armanini, Brian Smith, Kate Klunk, Joanne Stehr.



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2023 dairy margins hit record lows, 2024 starts off shaky and mixed

Milk income was much lower in 2023 than 2022 on dairy farms across the country. The DMC program calculations of dairy margin fell to record lows in June and July at \$3.65/cwt and \$3.52/cwt, respectively -- well below the catastrophic loss margin level of \$4.

Analysts expected that to be the bottom and to see the markets move solidly higher in the last quarter of 2023 into 2024. Instead, we have seen markets move erratically in fits and starts between product types, producing a wide divergence between Classes III and IV, with IV over III for more than two years vs. the prior 'normal' pattern of Class III beating Class IV more modestly most of the time.

We are hearing conflicting analysis of the problem. It's not the supply side as the U.S. and other dairy exporting countries are seeing production decline. It's not demand because we are not seeing a buildup in dairy product inventories.

My guess is we are seeing the impact of a 2% creep in alternative bioengineered dairy protein analogs or other 'extenders' in the marketplace keeping a lid on dairy recovery.

It's something to think about as we know these Frankenfoods are being marketed B2B (business to business) instead of B2C (business to consumer). They are marketed as a medium to reduce carbon footprint and extend traditional dairy ingredient supplies.

These ingredients have been given the FDA GRAS designation without testing or evidence of their safety. They are not tracked the way that milk production is tracked and reported.

One way to watch this in the future is to see if we continue to have lack of agreement between consumption, production and storage and if we continue to see USDA come back and revise lower their earlier milk production figures, as USDA did in the October report for those months when milk margins had slipped to record lows under the weight of what was earlier believed to be more milk and more cows.

As we move into 2024, the Global Dairy Trade (GDT) biweekly internet auction saw the all-product index gain 1.2% compared with pre-holiday trade. Fat products gained and protein products lost: butter up 2.1%, anhydrous milkfat powder up 0.2%, and whole milk powder up 2.5%; while bulk industrial cheddar fell 2.4% and skim milk powder was off nearly 1%.

Milk futures continue splitting trends Cl. III down \$0.20-0.30, Cl. IV up \$0.30-0.50

In the first week of 2024, Class III milk futures lost ground while Class IV gained. Q1 2024 Class III milk contracts dipped into the low \$15s, about 75 cents lower than where the December 2023 contract went off the board and \$2 below the average Class III price for 2023. Meanwhile Q1 Class IV milk futures pushed well into the \$19s, with \$20s on the board in the second half of the year.

On the close Wed., Jan. 3, Class III futures for the next 12 months (Jan-Dec 2024) averaged \$17.52, unchanged compared with the Dec 2023-Nov. 2024 average two weeks ago.

Class IV on Wednesday's close averaged \$19.68 for the 12 months of 2024, up 12 cents.

At the levels where milk futures markets closed Wednesday, it looks like every month in 2024 could have a divergence of Class IV over Class III of more than \$1.42 per cwt., meaning Class I fluid milk value losses in every month under the 'averaging' formula used since May 2019 vs. the previous 'higher of' formula used for the previous nearly 20 years.

The first quarter 2024 divergences currently stand at \$3 to \$4 per cwt if the futures are right.

Spot dairy products start year on higher note

The good news this first week in 2024 is that the CME spot cash dairy product markets were higher this week compared with two weeks ago on everything but cheddar blocks.

CME spot butter was up 8 cents/lb at \$2.6850/lb with zero loads trading on Wed., Jan. 3. Grade A nonfat dry milk gained 3 cents, pegged at \$1.18/lb with one load traded.

On the Class III side, 40-lb cheddar blocks were steady, pegged at \$1.4550/lb with a single load trading; 500-lb barrels gained 2 cents at \$1.4150/lb, with 2 loads trading. Dry whey at 40 cents/lb was 2 cents higher with zero loads trading.

Nov. DMC margin makes slight gain, just over \$9.50 mark, All Milk price \$21.70

The Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) margin for November 2023 was announced at \$9.68 per cwt., up 14 cents



Milk Market Moos

by Sherry Bunting
agrite2011@gmail.com



from October, and the first month in 2024 that the DMC program will not pay out an indemnity as the margin was just 8 cents above highest insurable margin level of \$9.50.

The All Milk price at \$21.70 for November was up a dime from October.

FMMO hearing to resume Jan. 16

The Federal Milk Marketing Order hearing that began in August and recessed on December 8 will reconvene on Tues., Jan. 16, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. at the 502 Event Center,

The hearing will be held from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. each weekday.

A notice of this information and outlining hearing procedures for the reconvened weeks will be published in the Federal Register.

The hearing livestream can be viewed while in session at <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1604805748>

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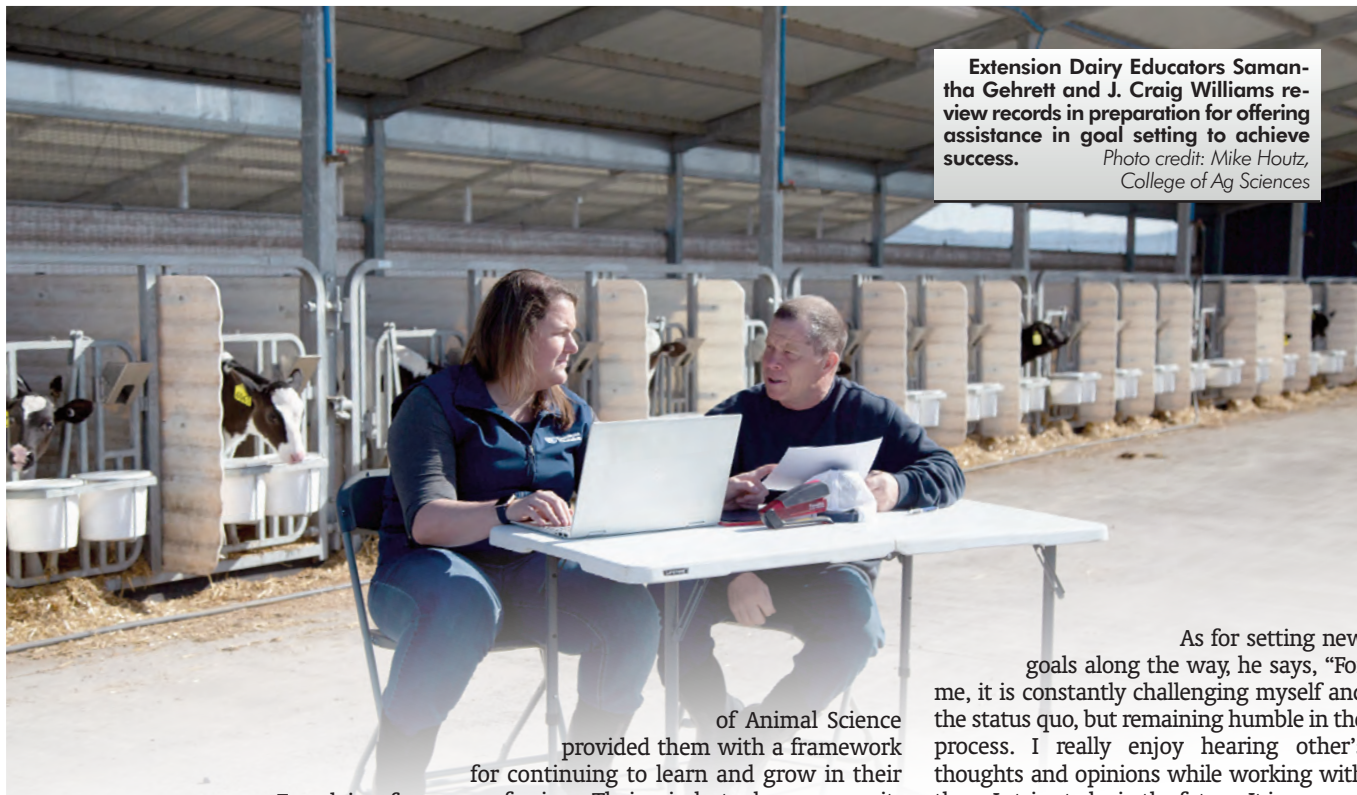
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New year, new goals – powerful tools



Extension Dairy Educators Samantha Gehrett and J. Craig Williams review records in preparation for offering assistance in goal setting to achieve success.

Photo credit: Mike Houtz,
College of Ag Sciences

For dairy farm owners and employees alike, a new year is a chance to review, re-evaluate or reset some goals. Often, we hear about setting SMART – Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Timed – goals for our business and ourselves. A number of years back, Lonnie Well spoke at the Pennsylvania Dairy Summit about goals and “bulltproofing” your balance sheet (Kitchen, S. 2015). Another type of goal highlighted by author, Jim Collins (2009) is the BHAG – Big, Hairy, Audacious Goal – that helps to focus efforts. Goals can be short term – by the end of the week, month, or year. Goals can be long term and require some steps along the way to achieve.

Whatever types of goals that you prefer, the process of goal setting for oneself and one’s business can lead to high-achieving results – and serve as a lodestar to keep objectives in the forefront in the decision-making process. Goals help to continue to learn and grow and seek out research and opinions are important for the future. Dairy farms and dairy industry leaders alike often set, reset and look toward goals for guidance as times change in their business and their careers. Changing the calendar from one year to the next can be a good time to review or set new goals, but it can also be beneficial to look back over time at how your goals were achieved and how they changed. This reflection and discernment can also be a benefit for future growth.

Goals Set by Penn State Alums

A few Penn State alumni shared the goals they had hoped to achieve upon graduation, and how their education in the Department

of Animal Science provided them with a framework for continuing to learn and grow in their professions. Their mindsets show a commitment to continuing to improve and change as challenges and opportunities arise.

For Emily Yeiser Stepp, a 2007 graduate, her goals in college were to support dairy farmers in accomplishing their business goals. She explained that the dairy community had a great influence on her life, saying, “I wanted to ensure that I was able to give back to that community through my career selection.”

Now working as executive director of the National Dairy FARM program at the National Milk Producers Federation, she knows the importance of being a life-long learner. She said it is important to acknowledge that there is always something new to learn, even from familiar experiences. “Being curious about how individuals that you respect and admire have achieved what they have, further gives you tidbits to curate and form into your own objectives. I think there is also a tremendous amount of learning that comes from not achieving goals. Any failure allows you to learn, pivot, and be more honest with yourself about what and how to take the next step forward.”

Josh Ebert, 2011, Senior Account Manager, Phibro Animal Health Corporation, said his career goals while at Penn State were to “work within the dairy industry and remain close to the dairy level in some way, shape or form.”



Yeiser Stepp



Ebert

As for setting new goals along the way, he says, “For me, it is constantly challenging myself and the status quo, but remaining humble in the process. I really enjoy hearing other’s thoughts and opinions while working with those I strive to be in the future. It is an ever-changing world and what works today may not work tomorrow.”

Katie Sattazahn, a dairy producer from Womelsdorf and 2007 graduate, said as an undergraduate her goal was to learn even more and develop her talent while assisting dairy farms to achieve their goals. Currently serving as first vice chairperson of the Center for Dairy Excellence, she is supporting their programs which offer many opportunities to help dairy producers thrive.

As she continued to set goals, she said, “Learning and improving never stop! I make time to read (for learning, not pleasure) regularly to continue to broaden my horizons. I enjoy learning from others and hoping to learn from their mistakes. It is helpful to bounce ideas off of others and also to help others. We must be happy with how far we have come while improving for the future. We should also be willing to recognize that we simply do not know much and can always learn by being exposed to other ideas.”

How Penn State Played a Role

As for how her time at Penn State as an undergraduate helped her, Yeiser Stepp said, “My time at Penn State provided me with endless opportunities to shape the goal of working and supporting the dairy industry professionally. Whether it was as a member of the dairy judging team, dairy science club activities or simply introducing me to a broad network of individuals (classmates, alumni,

etc.), each door that Penn State opened helped me to identify what I valued most personally and helped me translate that into a professional path.”

Ebert said, “The education piece was very important, but even more important were the people I met during my time at Penn State. The people I have met along the way have provided me with many opportunities pushing me outside of my comfort zone. These opportunities have guided me to achieve my current goals. I recommend trying something you normally wouldn’t try and introducing yourself to someone you don’t know. You never know what kind of impact they will have on your future. Without my Penn State education and the people, I would not be where I am today.”

Sattazahn said, “Penn State gave me the ability to network with others and, most importantly, laid a foundation so that I could analyze situations/data/etc. While management tactics and ways to do things may change, being able to analyze & apply core concepts to management/situations will always help to make progress toward future goals.”

The insight shared by these alums shows how goal setting played a key role in their successes following graduation and throughout their careers. If learning and improving never stop, then neither should setting new goals. Hockey great Wayne Gretzky has been quoted about “skating to where the puck is going to be, not where it has been.” Goals help to look ahead and focus on “where the puck” in our industry is headed. Even in the busiest of times, it is critical to “take stock” and make some time for goal setting for a brighter and more productive future.

References

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The New Year offers fresh opportunities to expand horizons, evaluate past successes and set new goals for efficiency and profitability. Penn State’s Dairy Extension Team offers the latest in research and the most up-to-date, relevant information and resources to assist producers, employees and others who support the dairy industry. To find in-person meetings, webinars, articles, news, courses, tools and apps to guide you as you seek to improve your operation, visit <https://extension.psu.edu/animals-and-livestock/dairy>.

A start to financial planning could be the virtual live seminar on January 11, “4 Ways to Financially Prepare for 2024.”

If you want to consider a Dairy Advisory Team, a Dairy Team member can assist.

Online resources

Department of Animal Science: animalscience.psu.edu
College of Agricultural Sciences: agsci.psu.edu
Cooperative Extension: extension.psu.edu

Contact information

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DVU speeds learning through Dairy Leaders of Tomorrow

HARRISBURG, Pa. — Through a new articulation agreement between Delaware Valley University and the Dairy Leaders of Tomorrow (DLT) program, Pennsylvania high school students can earn up to six college credits to Delaware Valley University after completing approved DLT courses throughout their high school career.



Natasha Maddox, now a freshman at Delaware Valley University, was the first student to earn college credits through the Dairy Leaders of Tomorrow articulation agreement.

DLT courses include Introduction to Dairy, Introduction to Dairy Herd Management, Introduction to Dairy Business Management and Introduction to Dairy Technologies.

“This articulation agreement is an exciting and advantageous opportunity for high school students who might be considering a degree in dairy science, animal science, or some realm of agriculture at Delaware Valley University,” said Michelle Shearer, workforce development manager at the Dairy Excellence Foundation. “The foundation that students gain through the DLT courses not only prepares them for

their college-level agriculture courses, but they can now earn college credits and reduce their debt load as well.”

Dairy Leaders of Tomorrow is a program designed specifically to prepare high school students to work in the dairy industry. The four DLT course modules, lesson plans and

Expo applauds ‘Friends’

MADISON, Wis. — World Dairy Expo hosted its annual Friends of Expo celebration on December 13th, honoring the hundreds of volunteers, paid workers, and partners who make World Dairy Expo possible. Highlighting the evening was the presentation of the 2023 Friends of Expo awards. Receiving recognition this year were Lee Haag and Katie Palmer, John Salzwedel and Dave Bollig.

Lee Haag and Katie Palmer, Mount Horeb, Wis., are a couple of Brown Swiss lovers who have dedicated the past 11 years to the International Brown Swiss Show at Expo. From checking in each Brown Swiss on grounds to entering placings and confirming official results, they have helped no matter the weather conditions or how late the show goes. During their time, they have been a part of 133 hours on the colored shavings in the Showring and have entered placings for 3,828 beautiful Brown Swiss cows.

For 18 years, ExpoTV has acquainted people from around the globe with World Dairy Expo. Without John Salzwedel, of Waunakee, Wis., and a chance meeting at the Alliant Energy Center with the General Manager of World Dairy Expo at the time, ExpoTV would not have grown into what it is today. Salzwedel has been at the forefront of the efforts onsite each year, ensuring not only superb customer service for the Expo team and its stakeholders but also producing a high-quality livestream, setting the standard for other national and international shows. During Salzwedel’s tenure, more than 2,600 World Dairy Expo videos have been posted to YouTube.

The final friend honored was Dave Bollig, Belleville, Wis., who has been involved with Expo for over 30 years and has been on the Dairy Cattle Show Superintendent team for the past 10 years. As the current overall Dairy Cattle Show Superintendent, Bollig works hard to ensure all parts of both his superintendent team and the world-class Dairy Cattle Show are running smoothly and in perfect harmony. He takes his role very personally and seriously, making it a point to get to know each of the superintendents to best identify and understand each person’s strengths to form a cohesive group, as well as working with the dairy cattle exhibitors to provide a great experience for all.

Young lovers

from page 21

reported with a modest smile.

Meanwhile, things have gotten even better. Their most recent classification presented three new Excellents, including a 93-pointer, Glennview Crushed Girty. The herd now includes eight Excellent cows and tallied a very respectable BAA of 108.8.

As for production, the RHA reported in *Farmshine* last month was 28,974M 1114F 926P on 84 head. “Good feed and good water are most important to achieve good production,” says Dylan.

Asked if they use a nutritionist, Dylan answered: “Oh yeah! That’s what makes this so much easier! He (Rick Lawrence) is an independent nutritionist and does really good for us.”

As they continue their journey, Dylan and Jenna hope to be able to find a farm to buy in western Pennsylvania in a few years. Preferably in Butler County, they say. It’s where their roots are. It’s where they met and fell in love. It’s home.

associated resources can all be accessed online and downloaded once educators or students complete the DLT registration. The DLT program and courses are available at no cost to agricultural educators and students thanks to donors and partners.

“With the DLT articulation agreement, students are receiving credit toward their degree completion at Delaware Valley University. It often eliminates students from having to go in the summer to pick up additional courses,” said Thomas Speakman, Ed.D, executive director of admission at Delaware Valley University. “It’s also a huge financial advantage for students. Each three-credit class is \$3000. Right off the top, if they complete the four DLT courses, that’s six credits. That’s huge. It really gives students a leg up in terms of [having time to do] internships and other experiences in dairy science.”

Industry recognized certificates are also available to students who receive a minimum of 80% on certificate examinations for any of the DLT courses. Natasha Maddox of

Wellsboro Area High School in Tioga County, Pennsylvania is the first student to earn college credits to Delaware Valley University through the DLT articulation agreement. She is currently a freshman there, studying animal science in the pre-veterinary track.

“I really like working independently on topics I’m passionate about. I liked how the DLT courses were self-paced,” Natasha shared. “It helped me gain a lot of credits for just starting out in college. I’m currently a semester ahead as far as I’m aware. Even though I already had a strong foundation with my own livestock, DLT helped me have a better understanding to bring over to what I want to do after college.”

To learn more about the Dairy Leaders of Tomorrow program and curriculum, visit dairyleadersoftomorrow.com

If you have questions about the articulation agreement with Delaware Valley University, contact Michelle Shearer at mshearer@centerfordairyexcellence.org or by phone at 570-768-8316.

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If your business is not listed here and you have not donated or volunteered in these team efforts that began Jan. 2019, please consider supporting this grassroots, progressive, dedicated, volunteer effort that continues having national impact, telling the good news about MILK, answering consumer questions, making sure nutritious, delicious Whole Milk gets the positive attention and freedom of choice it deserves and has long lacked in programs run overseen by USDA, such as school lunch and traditional dairy promotion.

As Pennsylvania dairy farmer and 97 Milk Baleboard Originator Nelson Troutman said: "SOMEONE's got to do it!"



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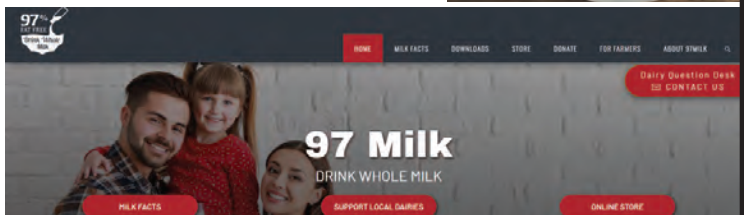
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Chiffon Cake

by Cheryl Beachy

I'm hoping these step-by-step directions will convince you to try baking a chiffon cake even if you've never made one before. Best wishes!

Chiffon Cake

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Grease and flour a 10 inch tube pan.

- 2 ¼ cup flour
- 1 ½ cup sugar
- 3 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt

Place these dry ingredients in a small bowl and stir to combine. Set aside.(1)

- 5 egg yolks
- ½ cup vegetable oil
- ¾ cup water
- 1 teaspoon orange zest
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Separate 7 egg yolks and whites. You will use 7 egg whites and 5 egg yolks in this recipe.

I like to use 3 small bowls. Crack your egg into one bowl then scoop the yolk out and place it in another bowl and dump your egg white into the 3rd bowl. If the yolk breaks at all set it aside for another use. Even the tiniest bit of egg yolk mixed with the egg white will prevent the egg whites from whipping up.(2)

Place 5 egg yolks in a small mixing bowl.



Add oil, water, orange zest and vanilla. Beat for 2 minutes.(3)Add the dry ingredients and mix until smooth. Set aside.(4)

7 egg whites

Egg whites will whip best if they are at room temperature. Place them in a small mixing bowl. Beat them until they are foamy.(5) Then add:

½ teaspoon cream of tartar

Continue to beat the egg whites until they are very stiff and form peaks when you pull out the beater.(6)

Use a spatula to gently fold them together with the batter. Pour into your prepared tube pan.(7)

Bake for 1 hour and 10 minutes. Remove from the oven and turn the pan upside down to cool. Slice and serve. Shown in photo is chiffon cake with strawberry danish & whipped cream.



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Caroline Novak of PDMP revealed what dairy has been working on for 10 years in Pennsylvania, during the PDMP Fall Forum in Biglerville on Nov. 8.
Photo by Sherry Bunting



- Dairy's dream began with a PDMP Tour of Fair Oaks in 2014 and a dairy stakeholders visit to the Farm Wisconsin Discovery Center in 2019.
- Today, with a cross section of PA agriculture, we have a site picked, cost & attendance projections, preliminary designs and a plan!

Ag Discovery Center revealed at PDMP Forum

By SHERRY BUNTING
Special for Farmshine

BIGLERVILLE, Pa. — Imagine being in a large theater that makes you feel as though you are in your refrigerator, opening doors to where the food on your shelves has come from...

No, we are not talking about an old-fashioned museum of farming history, but rather, an immersive and interactive modern farming experience for hundreds of thousands of Pennsylvanians and tourists each year.

If you build it, they will come, right?

Well, hundreds of thousands already come each year to tour the Gettysburg Battlefields in Adams County, and many come back for repeat visits.

This, and other considerations made Adams County the clear winner in the search for a home for what will be the first-of-its-kind PA Ag Discovery Center.

"Dairy birthed it, but it will be broader," said Caroline Novak for Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania (PDMP) as she unveiled the project for the first time publicly.

The concept of a totally immersive experience, an interactive, agritainment, education, science and technology, career inspiring and much needed dining experience for busloads of battlefield visitors -- showcasing the Keystone State's diverse agriculture and where food really comes from -- began as the brainchild of PDMP's board after a 2014 visit to Fair Oaks Farm in Indiana.

It is now on a 5-year timeline for completion, which includes purchasing the identified 25-acre site and raising over \$36 million in donations and grants for the land, building, planning and development, exhibits and marketing.

This was just one piece of big news that came out of

PDMP's Fall Forum at the Adams County Historical Society Museum in Biglerville, Pennsylvania last Thurs., Nov. 8.

Around 40 dairy producers attended and also learned valuable information about carbon credits, the industry's 'net zero' or 'climate neutral' commitments, Scope 3 data collection, Pennsylvania's CARAT project for measuring and marketing 'climate-smart' practices on pilot dairy farms over the next five years, and the difference between inseting (marketing climate credits inside the dairy value chain) vs. offsetting (selling credits outside the value chain).

But the really big news for farmers of all commodities in the Commonwealth is that the dream of having a PA Ag Discovery Center is off the drawing table and going publicly into action.

"This is our first roll-out, today, sharing publicly for the first time what the dairy industry has been working on and dreaming about for 10 years," said Novak. PDMP was part of the core group that included the Center for Dairy Excellence and the Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association in initiating the project, which now has buy-in from other state ag commodity organizations.

"This will be a destination location to entertain and educate," she explained. "On our tour of Fair Oaks, we came back wondering: 'Why can't we do that in Pennsylvania to attract consumers to learn through immersion and interaction.'"

The core group also visited an ag discovery center built more recently in eastern Wisconsin, and they drew inspiration and validation from the Pennsylvania Farm Show experience, where the food and interactions draw tens of

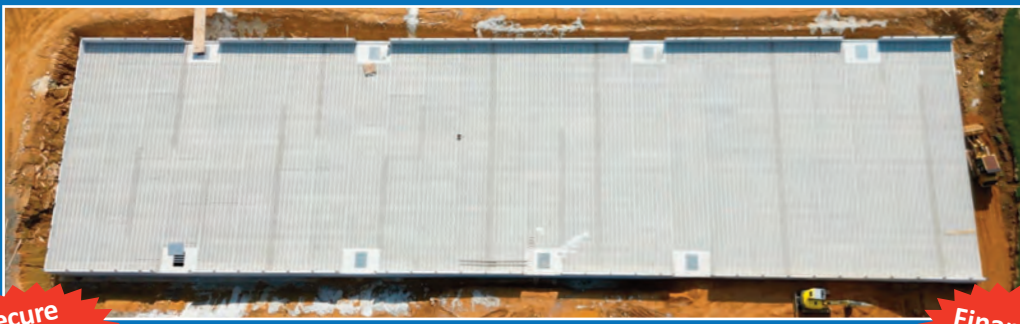
turn to page 33

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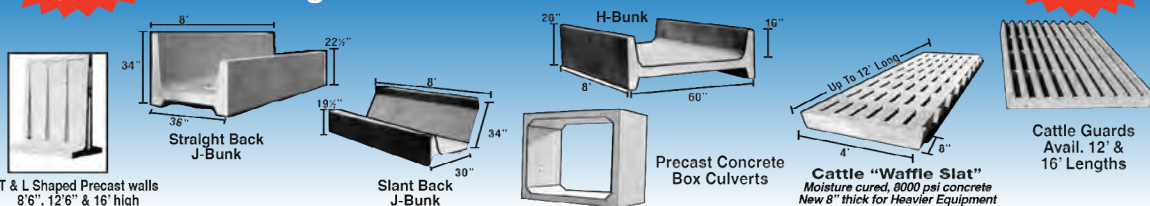
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PDMP unveils from page 32

thousands of visitors each day for a week.

In the past year, the core dairy group brought other ag sectors to the table, as the planning moves further along, to capitalize on the diversity of agriculture in Pennsylvania.

"This will be interactive. It will be immersive," said Novak showing slides depicting some of the visualizations for the future Center. "We also want the experience to be one where the next generation can see the career opportunities in agriculture too."

A feasibility study was done by St. Joseph's University that identified four counties believed to be ideal to site such a center. After market analysis, attendance projections and other considerations such as proximity to other attractions, Adams County was selected.

"We looked at what will draw people to us, and Adams County has been tremendous, the cream of the crop for tourism, and by far the winner," Novak explained.

They are looking to site the Center within a few miles of the Gettysburg Battlefields, which will provide a 'built-in' audience. Knowing that many of those visitors come back to visit again, the Center will provide something new to do on a return trip or give families something additional to do to stay longer.

A 501(c)3 non-profit organization has been set up for the over \$36 million project on a 5-year completion timeline. Already, \$3 million has come in from the private sector. The Center for Dairy Excellence and the Pa. Dairy-men's Association put in the seed money to get the planning to this point.

"We are in a really sweet spot here in Pennsylvania to do this, to have people come and learn about their food," said Novak. "We're integrating STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) into it to show visitors how cool it is to be in agriculture today." To be continued

Crops Day slated in Chambersburg

CHAMBERSBURG, Pa. — Franklin County Crops Day will take place at the Kauffman Ruritan Community Center, 7289 Ruritan Drive, Chambersburg, on Tuesday, January 30, starting at 9 a.m. It's an opportunity to stay informed and prepared for the changing landscape of crop management. Crops Day events, conducted across the state, feature specialists and Penn State Extension educa-

tors with region-specific agendas. These presentations will focus on agronomic topics pertinent to the previous growing season.

Several local agricultural companies, including agricultural lenders, applicators, seed suppliers, equipment dealers, and more, will be in attendance, showcasing their products and providing support while addressing any inquiries you may have.

2024 PREMIER SELECT SIRES CUSTOMER APPRECIATION MEETING

JOIN US!



We are inviting Premier Select Sires member-customers to join us for a meal and a brief program at Shady Maple Smorgasbord. Attendees can enjoy cooperative updates, door prizes, and more.

Tuesday, January 23, 2024 • 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Shady Maple Smorgasbord • 129 Toddy Drive • East Earl, PA 17519

An RSVP is appreciated by January 9, 2024. Please call (855) 209-0388 and tell us your name and number of guests who will be in attendance.

This toll-free number will also serve as an update line in the event of inclement weather.

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Belleville Livestock Market

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R&C Calf Farms, LLC

13071 Emerson Rd., Applecreek, OH 44606
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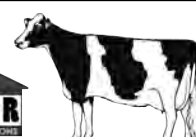
Thursday, January 25 @ 10:00 A.M. Special Dairy Cow & Heifer Sale

- ★ We are expecting a good selection of fresh and fancy, 2 and 3 yr. olds out of local overstocked herds and heifer growers. Mostly A.I. sired with several good Registered cows, with most on test w/ low SCC and lots of milk!! Including eight fresh cows from one farm fresh less than 60 days!!!
- ★ Frey Farms Dairy herd dispersal from Chambersburg, Pa. This is an exciting addition to our sale and the quality will please anyone! Only the best cows are being sold with a great selection of cows recently fresh as well as a scattering in various stages of lactation. On DHIA with cows milking up to 130 lbs. per day including 30-35 in 1st and 2nd lac. Housed in sand bed freestalls and milked in parlor. They are also selling 15 to 20 heifers, due June to Aug. A.I. sired and bred with great frames and excellent udder promise!! Don't miss this opportunity to ad some great cows and heifers to your herd!
- ★ Also a nice selection of heifers from healthy calves to close springers!
- ★ 5 close springers from one farm, w/ nice frames and good feet and legs!
- ★ Several breeding age bulls out of good cow families!
- ★ 13-month-old Crushabull son! Dam EX-91 w/ 30,000 lb. 4.6F! Next eight dams VG or EX!

NOTE: Need that special cow or just a good replacement? Come spend the day with us! We're selling a great selection of dairy cattle right off the farm. All cattle vet checked and vaccinated. Trucking available. Can't make the sale? You can now participate online at Cowbuyer.com. For on-line questions, call Katie Shultz 717-543-7883.

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

For more information, contact dairy reps:

Aaron Martin, 717-445-4825 (home); Bill Hough, 973-224-0204 (cell).

REMINDER:

Friday January 19th. Special driving and draft horse sale.
12:00 noon - Work horse start time.
4:00 p.m. - Driving horse start time.

Thank you - N.H.S.S.

Sale Managed By
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Barn 717-354-4341 Fax 717-355-0706 • David Kolb, Mgr. 61L

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

5 Heifers & Calves

2 A2A2 JERSEY GUERNSEY cross heifer calves. \$85 each. 717-529-1233, ext. 1.

5 REG. HOLSTEIN HEIFERS Top of the line breeding. Starting to calve February 1st. 419-302-3148. (1/5)

6 Dairy Bulls

REG., GENOMICALLY tested Ayrshire bulls. Two July Blackjacks from WDE winning milking yr/g Palmyra Ringer B Rayna VG 87. June Ringer son from Steel Fire Burdette Gracen EX 91 Res AA Sr 2 2021. Palmyra Farm, Hagerstown, Md. Call Mary at 301-471-0726 or Evan at 301-514-4213.

REG. HOLSTEIN BULL, Burket-Falls Fitzzy, 4/11/21, Mr. D Diamondback son, very nice heifer calves. Also, 1 year old angus bull, very nice, calm. Contact me at 570-960-2344 for more information. (1/12)

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

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REG. HOLSTEIN BULLS for sale. Ar-Joy Farms, Cochranville, Pa. 610-637-7423.

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

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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.

91HO5821 MARTIN-DALE Jonah Joseph AAA 426. Sire stack is one of the best in the Holstein industry. Jonah x Mr America x Adolph x Leader x Aerostar. Dam of

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PUBLIC AUCTION

90 Hd. Holstein Herd - 3 Draft Horses
Tractor - TMR Mixer - Farm Machinery
Silage - Baleage - Semen Tank - Pumping Station

Tuesday, January 9 @ 9:00 a.m.

Location: 241 Williams Run Rd., Christiana, PA 17509
- Located between Smyrna Rd. & Gap Rd. -

 Zamboni dau. / 1st lact. / 84 lbs.	 Doc dau./2nd lact./92 lbs./ bred Oct./ Pkd. over 100 lbs.	 Mogul dau./Fr. Oct./ 3rd lac./milking 128 lbs.
 AC 7010	 NEW Pequea Tedder	 Cloverdale 420

- HERD INFO -
90 Hd. Holstein closed herd tie stall dispersal; 46 cows. 44 heifers; (20) 1st lact., (9) 2nd; balance 3rd & up; RHA 24,981. Current Avg. 82 lb. Nov. test. 4.1 BF, 3.2 Pro., 60,000 SCC, 5 hd. milking 102 to 128 lbs; 12 fresh since Nov. - Dec.; 3 due in Jan. 6 in Feb., 5 in March, 2 in April; AI sired & bred w/ Select Sires. Majority bred with Holstein. Sired by Beemer, Pety, Superior, Doc, Yoder & more; **Feed program by Nate Galbreath/4-Ward AG**; On TMR feeding program; Hooves trimmed in Sept., a few touched up in Dec.; **On DHIA program**. Life history sheets ringside; **Zero 3 quartered cows**; Heifers: 44 hd. 3 due in Jan., 5 in Feb., 3 in April. Balance baby calves to shortbred. Sired by Hancock, Phantom & others; **Cattle can be kept until Wednesday to accommodate trucking.**

Auctioneer Note: If you're in need of milk or good genetics - you'll want to attend this auction. The barn is full of good uddered cows! This may be one of the best herds selling this spring. Definitely of the better herds we've sold. Contact Dave Stoltzfus @ 717-768-7526 w/questions OR Alvin Lapp @ 717-768-4689 to order buy cows or heifers.

- SILAGE - BALEAGE -
150 ton silage - kernel processed - in ag bag; 250 md. bales Alfalfa baleage - 4x4 - in-line wrapped. Analysis sale day; (40) 1st, (80) 2nd, (76) 3rd, (66) 4th cutting; Possibly some triticale; **Approx. 70 ton corn silage (processed).**

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'81 Allis Chalmers 7010 tractor w/6 cyl. Cummins w/turbo, 540-1000 PTO, dual hyd., 3 pt., belting wheels - good cond.; Conestoga 1100 gal. spreader w/Honda - good cond.; JD 3970 harvester w/long table & goose-neck; Tonutti 4 star 14' tedder w/13HP Honda; '14 Conestoga MPT 8' portable manure pump w/hyd.; 25' fill pipe; 5" fireman's hose (approx. 1000'); Pequea 110 spreader; 16' flat wagon; Mc 1 row cultivator; 6 1/2' scraper blade w/fork pockets; Lazy Susan lath holder; Antique dirt scoop; MVE Millennium 2000 Semen tank & Angus Semen; 4 Westfalia milkers; (2) 80 lb. buckets; Tank washer w/air motor; 300 lb. Sputnik w/SS chassis (ex. cond.); 2 silage carts; Misc. gates; 1 wagon load misc. items.

SELLING FOR THE BEILERS, 717-471-5499
NH 258 rake w/hyd. unit & 9HP Honda - rebuilt & new paint!; NH 256 rake - solid; Pequea HT4102 4 star 18' tedder w/hyd. fold & 18HP Vanguard eng. on BZ mount - Brand New!; NH 456 mower w/9 bar & 4 cyl. Wisc. eng. w/hyd.; NH455 mower w/7 bar, new 13HP Honda & new knives; **NI grnd. drive spreader - rebuilt;** 7 1/2' x 16' wagon w/new bed on Grove gear w/new 6 lug 8" whls.; 7 1/2' x 18' wagon on Farmbilt gear w/new 8" whls.; 8' x 18' wagon w/sideboards on Pequea gear w/8" whls.; 2 row 6' flail shredder; New 2 prong S/L attach bale spear; New 66" S/L bucket; 300 gal. fuel/gas tank w/pump (cleaned).

- HORSES -
Billy: 15 yr., 16.2H, black Percheron gelding. Can't hitch wrong. Upagainst. Lots of snap. **Brownie:** 6 yr., 16.3H bay gelding. Jockey horse. Good worker. All day. **Chief:** 11 yr., 17.2H black Percheron gelding. Lines either side. Good solid worker.

- FARM MACHINERY -
New Holland hydraulic driven tandem rake package: includes NH 252 tandem hitch w/258 rake w/new Joe's Machinery hyd. unit w/13HP Honda and buyer will have choice of 260 or 258 for 2nd rake (v.g. cond.); **NH 258 grnd. drive rake (good cond.); NH 258 hyd. drive rake - rebuilt - has hyd. unit w/9 HP Honda;** Beiler round bale wagon w/web & dump & hyd. unit w/new 6 1/2 HP Honda.

- TMR MIXER - MILKERS - DAIRY RELATED -
'17 Cloverdale 420 stationary TMR mixer w/new knives, digi. scales & 40" x 7' discharge conveyor - good cond.; 4 milkers w/Westfalia pulsators - just serviced and 300E claw & 80 lb. buckets; (1) 90 & (1) 80 lb. bucket; SS pumping station w/100' hose & air motor; Silage & feed carts; Litter carrier track; Misc. dairy supplies.

- AUCTION INFO. -
Join us for this farm auction. You'll find some TOP Holstein cows & heifers, a few good work horses and some nice farm machinery, Alfalfa baleage & more. Auction begins at 9:00 w/1 or 2 wagon loads misc. smalls followed by baleage. Farm Equip. approx. 11:00 followed by horses & TMR mixer. Dairy Herd at 12:00 - in heated tent. Auction Co. and sellers are not responsible for accidents. Auction day announcements take precedence over all advertising. Payment terms: cash, approved check or credit card w/ 3% fee. Food Stand. **We accept absentee & phone bids. Please call Tim before day of sale to place bids.**

Auction for:
Enos J. & Miriam Rose Zook and others
717-553-3965

Auctioneers:
Tim Weaver 717-354-9524
Dave Stoltzfus 717-768-7526
Lic. # AY2109

Tim Weaver AUCTION SERVICE
717-354-9524
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Steve Schuler 717-666-4381
Matt Martin 717-738-0328
See more @ auctionzip.com, ID#25403

- Clay / Lititz Area -

King FARM AUCTION

7 Mules - Holstein Bull - 52 Holstein Heifers
Tractor - Skidloader - Forklift - Esch Drill - TMR Mixer
Farm Machinery - Power Carts - Baleage - Corn Fodder

Tuesday, January 16 @ 9:00 a.m.

Location: 1300 Clay Road, Lititz, PA 17543 (Lancaster Co.)
Directions: Follow Rt. 772 North of Brownstown to Rothsville. Bear right onto Newport Rd. Continue to Clay Rd. Turn right. Follow approx. 3 miles to auction on right.

 Jenn & Jess	 NH L180 - 3200 hrs.	 Esch No-till 5510
 New Idea 3722	 NH Rollbelt 450	 NI 2R picker/sheller

- 7 MULES -
Jenn & Jess: Pair 17.3H black mollies. Jenn: 9 yr. old lead mule. Broke to all machinery. Can't hitch wrong. Jess: 6 yr. old. Line or jockey. EXCEPTIONAL MULE!
Jim & Jack: Pair 15 yr. old. 17.1H sorrel jacks. The main line team. Steady. Safe
Duchess: 6 yr. old, 17.1H black molly jockey mule. Upa-against all day long.
Ted: 16 yr. old, 17.2H sorrel jack. Strong! Works like a 5 yr. old. One of a KIND!
Red: 18 yr. old, 17H red sorrel jack line mule.

- HOLSTEIN BULL & HEIFERS -
Registered Holstein bull (Delta Lambda son), proven-running w/18 heifers (all confirmed preg.); 52 Holstein heifers: 19 Hd. on service to 7 mo. preg.; 25 hd. 6 mo. to breeding age; 8 hd. calves to 6 mo. old. **All heifers vaccinated w/ Enforce 3.**
TRACTOR - SKIDLOADER - POWER UNIT - FORKLIFT
73 IH 1066 tractor w/turbo, 540/1000 PTO, dual hyd., 3 pt. & belting whls.; NH L180 skidloader, OROPS aux. hyd. & Kivel 6' bucket (3200 hrs. - good cond.); Cat 40 dsl. forklift w/2 stg. Mast, sideshift and 7.00 x 12 solid front whls. (eng. overhaul in 2021); 2 whl. power unit w/JD 4045 4 cyl. 90HP dsl. w/turbo (dsl. rebuilt in '21) Tayloria clutch, dual hyd., torsion axles; Skid-loader attachments: hyd. Rnd. Bale hugger; pallet forks. Plus much more unlisted.

Auction for:
Samuel & Rachel King
717-626-6450 and others

Auctioneers:
Tim Weaver 717-354-9524
Dave Stoltzfus 717-768-7526
Lic. # AY2109

Tim Weaver AUCTION SERVICE
717-354-9524
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Steve Schuler 717-666-4381
Matt Martin 717-738-0328
See more @ auctionzip.com, ID#25403

Joseph Josephine 3E, 91 pts. Just finished her record as a nine year old. 26,772 milk, 4.8 butterfat, 3.7 protein. Use this sire to improve rump, feet and legs and overall strength. Have questions, call Martin-Dale Holsteins 717-445-6548. Need semen call Stolhaven Genetics 717-672-1838.

CUSTOM COLLECTING - WE custom collect your bull at our facility. Semen is processed with high quality standards at very competitive rates. We also offer short-term housing options during collection. Triple-Hil Sires 855-955-2100.

DONEGAL-CREEK BAXTER Pedro-ET, reg # 139932533. He is EX-94 AAA (4352). From 5 EX dams- 94, 90, 91, 91 & 95. Dam is 94 pt. Outside daughter, still in herd at 10 yrs. old & looks half her age. Sire stack is Baxter, Outside, Rudolph, Conquest, Starbuck, Citation R, Elevation. Very well balanced bull siring the right kind. Strength with dairyness. High productive life, low SCC, high conception. Early daughters are milking great & look better than their dams. Priced at \$14 for 20 units or more. Joe Wivell 717-471-5260.

9 Equipment & Machinery

DUNHAM-LEHR 31-15 cultmulcher, \$2300. North of Goodville, Pa. 717-917-8324. (1/5)

CLAAS FORAGE harvester 2012 Jaguar 930 494-series, 4WD, 410HP, 2660 cutter hrs. KP Inspected with warranty. Call for details. \$138,000 or \$155,000 with 6-row head. 717-400-7917. (1/26)

SELF-PROPELLED forage harvesters and heads available. Claas, John Deere and New Holland. Visit www.cvfequipment.com or call 717-400-7917 if looking for a particular model.

WEAVERLINE 430 CART with charger, \$1000; Badger electric roller mill in good condition, \$1500. 717-320-3330. (1/12)

NEW HOLLAND 195 manure spreader, excellent condition, \$20,500. New Holland 258 hay rake, very good condition, \$3000. 570-419-8981. (1/5)

RISSLER 1 YARD self-unloading skid loader bucket with 8" unload auger. Call 717-463-9731.

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

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

10 Feeds

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

BUYING DAMAGED GRAIN. Trucking is available. Call 717-575-5197.

CERTIFIED ORGANIC KELP meal. Redmond minerals. Dealers available in select areas. Hess Farm Supply. 717-354-9492.

FASTRACK - Improve milk production, increase feed utilization and improve herd health with Fastrack direct fed microbials. Contact Karl at 740-504-2859 or email klbss@columbus.rr.com.

11 Hay

ALFALFA, GRASS AND mixed hay small bales, lots of leaves, \$340/t, some very fine \$385/t. North of Goodville, Pa. 717-917-8324.

BROME GRASS TIMOTHY, \$210/ton, big and small square bales; certified organic baleage, 4th and 5th cutting, 3x3x6 bales. \$2/point of RFQ dry matter. Juniata Co., Pa. 814-880-5186. (1/26)

ALFALFA BALEAGE, 4x4 wrapped round bales, \$50 each. Also, small square bales alfalfa or grass, various prices. Richard Trinca, 814-349-8010. (3/29)

CERT. ORGANIC 1ST, 2ND and 3rd cutting balage in tubes; 4x5 dry round bales heifer dry cow hay. Delivery available. 570-250-1725.

GRASS HAY, SMALL BALES horse hay, also large square bales horse hay. Can deliver. 717-203-9679. (1/5)

HIGH QUALITY 1ST & 2ND cutting grass hay, 3x3x7 bales, low potassium.

#1 hay, tested. Lebanon Co., Pa. Con-Ger Farms. 717-821-1454.

CERTIFIED ORGANIC mixed grass and clover hay. Call from 7a.m.-4 p.m. 717-463-9731, leave message.

ROUND BALES OR LARGE squares. Delivered by ton loads. Coons Farms. 717-816-4118.

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

CHOPPED STRAW in 3x3x6 bales. Good for bedding or TMR mixers. Available now. Lebanon Co., Pa. Con-Ger Farms. 717-821-1454.

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.

14 Tractors

NH TS100A, C/H/A, 4WD, PS, deluxe cab, 4 remotes, loader valve, nice, \$32,500 OBO; NH TS115A c/h/a, 4WD, PS, runs good, \$26,500 OBO. Call 223-624-6265. (1/5)

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- Wanted: 160/month! Reg. or sire ID'd open heifers, ready to breed. Must be negative Leucosis, BVD & Neospora. Call today!

Upcoming sales:

- February 10, 2024 – PA Holstein Convention Sale, Scranton, Pa. Selections are underway.
- March 23, 2024 – DVU Green & Gold Spring Spectacular, Doylestown, Pa.

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Contact: David J. Lentz, 717-329-9202, djl1018@pa.net or PHA office, 814-234-0364. Email: director@paholsteins.com

15 Vehicles & Trailers

TRAILER PARTS, TOWING accessories, trailer hitches, and cushion hitches. UPS to your door. Weaver Distributing. 1-800-Weaver-D. Save!

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TIMELESS FENCING - The post is the insulator. Versatile design is self-insulating and easy to install for sheep, goats, cattle & horses. Allegheny Meadows. 814-285-1541.

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SILO DEMOLITION. Contact Beiler Silos. Call 570-745-3574.

HARVESTORE SILO ROOFS, affordable white or stainless. Solve spoilage. Sheet replacement, silo demolition. Parts and repairs on Harvestore and stave silos. 717-517-2080.

HARVESTORE SILO REPAIRS, also demolition and removal. Used replacement blue or white silo roofs, door frames, doors, lids, breather bags. Installation available. 717-768-0452.

BEILER SILOS - SILO PARTS, sales and service. New and used silos. Shotcrete relining. Foundation repair with Shotcrete. Tear

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MANUFACTURERS of silo doors and hardware. Double thick tongue and groove cedar poly and plywood doors. Hardware is powder coated. Agri-Door. Call 717-949-2034.

19 Real Estate

5.2 ACRE FARMETTE for sale in Leesport, Pa. Single family home with 4 bedrooms, 2,674 sq ft. Includes a pole barn and pasture. MLS #PABK2035700. kellyspaydrealtor@gmail.com or kellyspayd.com. (1/26)

10.2 ACRE ORGANIC vegetable farm rent/partnership

for 2024 in Lock Haven, Pa. Guaranteed sale. Looking for an experienced person with flat beans, thin clay peppers, small bell peppers, red meat peppers. 917-865-7658. (1/26)

20 ACRE FARM FOR SALE in Chambersburg, Pa. Duplex home with 6 bedrooms, 3 bath. Bank barn with 56 freestalls, trench silo, completely fenced for livestock. 240-291-3019. (1/12)

NORTHERN PA. year round home with spacial property. Gorgeous mountain views, near State Gamelands and developed bicycle trail. Sits high, dry. 717-856-2024.

THE GET-R-DONE REALTOR. Rodney Rice, 717-729-9501. 50 years serving farmers selling, buying, auctioning. Landfarmrec-JAK Real Estate. 717-753-5510.

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

BEILER-CAMPBELL Realtors and Auction Services, Farm and Land Division. Are you looking to purchase or sell a property in Pa. or Md. Call Chris Taylor, office mgr., 888-786-8715 for an auctioneer or realtor.ctaylorfarms.com.

20 Wanted

PICKUP TRUCK BED CAPS the bigger, the better. Call with size and price. 717-548-0336, ext. 1. (1/12)

QUALITY DAIRY HERDS, springers, open, bred and fresh heifers. 570-504-4443. (1/26)

ROTARY TYPE SELF-PROPELLED tiling machine; used manure screw press; small older/cheap pull camper (like the Scotty's); person that fabricates stainless steel. For more information, call Sherman Allen 814-671-9947, cell/text, works 24/7, has voicemail.

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

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

I AM STILL LOOKING FOR used books and publications about dairy farming, printed early to late 20th century. Interested in all farming related topics. Paying cash. Phone Owen Backus, 608-479-0811.

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

PREMIUM PA FARM SHOW BOOKS. Years needed 1923, 26, 28, 31, 33, 34, 50 and 52. Contact C. Sherman Allen, 11367 St Hwy 285, Conneaut Lake, Pa. 16316, 814-671-9947.

21 Opportunities Wanted

OLDER MAN SEEKS part time/full time work on farm with on-farm housing or nearby. Prefer Franklin Co. area or nearby. Consider other areas. 717-816-9693.

INDIVIDUAL SEEKING herdsman position or looking to rent approx. 50 cow dairy farm. 814-442-5782.

22 Help Wanted

FOREPERSON/HERDSMAN-full time. Care for health management of the school's animal populations and in the general operation of farm equipment. Assists in student's education. Send resume to Ted O'Harte at eoharte@norfolkaggie.org. Norfolk County Agricultural High School, Walpole, MA. 508-668-0268 ext.16112.

FEEDER/GENERAL LABOR help needed on 600 cow

dairy. Equipment experience preferred. Valid drivers license required. Possible housing available. Contact Kyle at 717-644-7879. Halifax, Pa. (1/26)

23 Pets

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

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27 Livestock

ANGUS BEEF, READY FOR slaughter. 570-488-6596.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 19 • 11 A.M.

We will be selling many good, young, fresh cows and heifers from overstocked herds and heifer raisers. **Sample of cattle selling:**

- 6 young, fresh cows from one 27,000 lbs. herd. The right kind!
- 3 Reg., fresh 2 yrs. sell from one top herd all milking in the 90s.
- 8 young, fresh cows and heifers sell from one 25,000 lbs. herd.
- 2 Reg., fresh Jerseys from one herd.

Plus many more good, young cows with lots of milk!
Watch for more details next week.
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Jonas Fisher • 717-768-3297

Auctioneer - Dave Stoltzfus - AU005655 • Pedigrees - Dan Albright



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18

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23

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YOUR SUCCESS
Our Passion.

DAUGHTER PROVEN SIRES		HHP\$	CFP	Yield R%
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7H015233	MILKY <i>New</i>	1,137	205	91
7H014454	LIONEL	1,107	240	99
14H014982	RASHAN <i>New</i>	1,092	164	96
7H014985	RUPERT	1,082	185	97
7H014438	GODDARD	1,077	173	99
14H015179	TROOPER <i>New</i>	1,066	169	94
7H014229	TAHITI	1,061	178	99
7H014990	ROONEY <i>New</i>	1,058	133	94
14H015154	BIGSHOT	1,051	144	97
7H015112	TAOS	1,048	136	98
7H015465	CRUSHER <i>New</i>	1,044	176	91
7H015085	PARFECT	1,038	153	99
7H014578	FOXCATCHER	1,019	126	99
7H015132	MOSCOW	1,014	122	95

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