

# He grew up in town and now loves the farm



Kevin Hertzog, a winner of the 1978 American Farmer award, and a member of the Kutztown FFA, knew from the time he was just a child that he wanted to be a farmer.

By KENDACE BORRY  
KUTZTOWN — Kevin L. Hertzog, Oley R1, a 21 year old member of the Kutztown FFA Chapter, is proof that you don't have to be born on a farm to get into farming today. The winner of the 1978 FFA American Farmer award has been farming on his own since he was 19, and yet he grew up as a town boy.

The son of the late Ernest and Mrs. Jean Hertzog, he has been a member of his FFA chapter since ninth grade, and he said he guessed he started to work on a dairy farm when he was about 15.

Today he runs his own dairy farm, 125 acres which he rents. He owns 45 cows, Registered Holsteins, and stated that the main operation of the farm centers around the cows.

"I always wanted to be a dairy farmer, and I tried to become one," he stated. "And I guess that I believe that if you really want to do it, you can. You just have to work harder. And if you try harder, you can do it."

Kevin has been active in his FFA group, serving as vice president and reporter in the past as well as on many committees.

He has competed and won awards for his chapter, competing in land judging and participating in fairs. In the past, he has been named the star-agribusinessman of the Kutztown chapter.

Besides being involved in FFA, he is also a member of the Pioneer Grange, Topton, and was a 4-H member in the dairy and horse clubs.

He is a member of the Pennsylvania Farmers Association, the Berks County Holstein Association, the Kutztown Area Young Farmers Association, and serves on the Pennsylvania Farmers Association Dairy Committee.

He stated that FFA has taught him the importance of keeping good records and how to accurately do so. He also noted that he learned how and when to keep on trying, and the importance of listening to good advice.

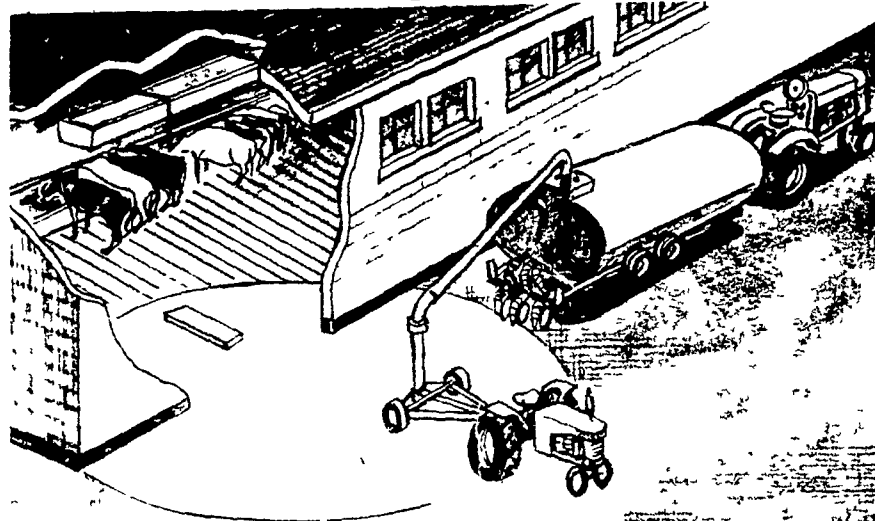
When asked why he leaned towards the direction of dairies cows as his style of farming, Kevin thought for a moment, and then told how his grandfather had cows and he had always liked

them. And even though he grew up in town, he stated that he always knew that he wanted to farm, and that dairy just appealed to him over all the other possibilities available.

And so today, he and his recent bride, have their dairy farm.

But Kevin isn't content with just that. He looks to the future and hopes someday to buy his own farm and continue to expand his herd.

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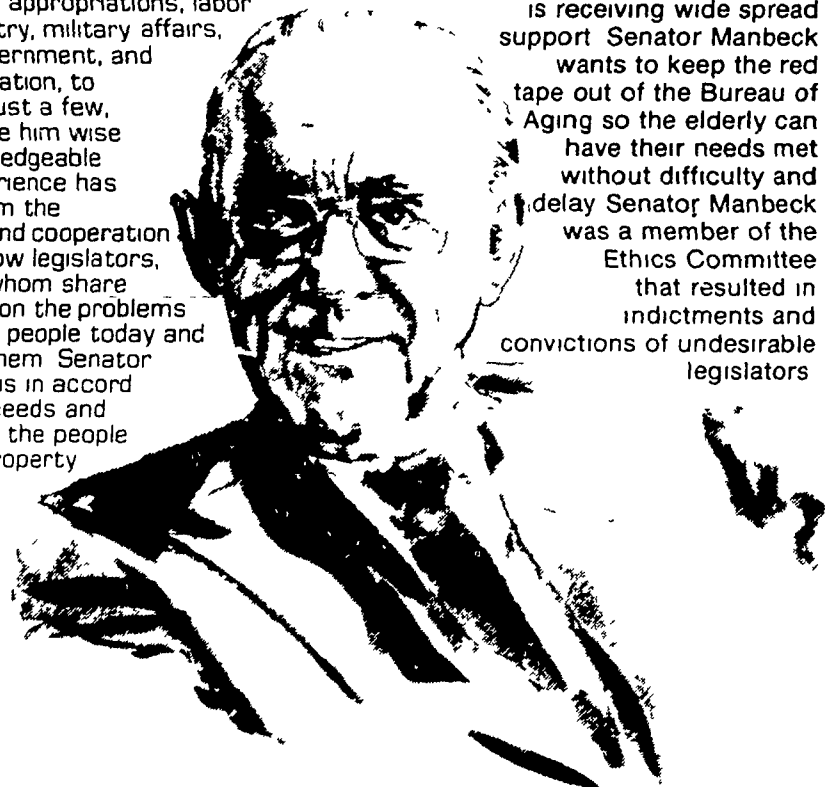
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A plan of his to turn back many roads and highways to local municipalities who could maintain them more efficiently is receiving wide spread support. Senator Manbeck wants to keep the red tape out of the Bureau of Aging so the elderly can have their needs met without difficulty and delay. Senator Manbeck was a member of the Ethics Committee that resulted in indictments and convictions of undesirable legislators.

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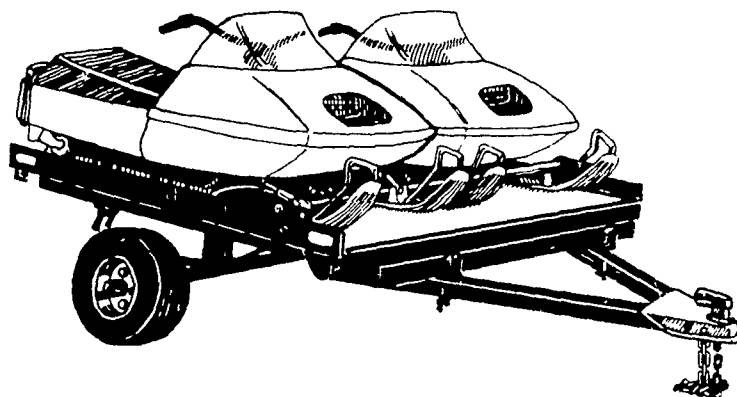
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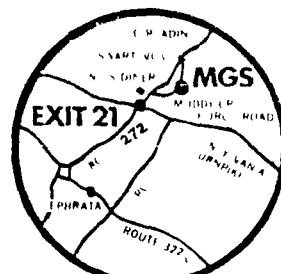
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