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# Lancaster Farming

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The Tri-Dee-Bee Farm is home to the number five Guernsey herd in the state. The Hemsarths also have the number one Guernsey herd in Columbia County. Pictured (from the left): Doris, Richard, Bruce, Amanda,

Brenda and Dana of the Hemsarth family, and out this outstanding dairy family on D-2.

## Dairy Farmers - The Real Gold Medal Winners

BY EVERETT NEWSWANGER  
 Managing Editor

During this Olympic year, thoughts turn to the athletes who dedicate the better part of their young life training for the moment when they can represent America in the quest for a gold medal.

We marvel at their dedication, their quest for perfection, and their desire to be the best.

During June Dairy Month, we would like to salute another group of champions who possess these same qualities.

Each day, thousands of dairy farmers in the Mid Atlantic states rise to the challenge of providing us with fresh milk and milk products. For most of them, it is a lifelong calling, taking up the torch where their parents left off.

There are no crowds to cheer them on as they go about their task. No television cameras will ask how it feels to be a winner. Yet, again and again the farm families in one of our features this week on page B14 & 15 say they continue to perform, not for the glory, but because it continues to be a rewarding way of life. Because of their dedication and quest for perfection, these families provide consumers with nature's most perfect food - milk.

They are truly worthy of being called gold medal winners. In this special June Dairy Month issue, we pay tribute to dairy farmer families in the Mid Atlantic states and throughout America. You'll find other dairy features as follows:

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Six-month-old Nicole receives a friendly nuzzle from another baby at Will-Lo Farms. Nicole is the child of Willard Jr. and Betsy Yoder who live and work on the family farm in Huntingdon. Betsy also works as a correspondent for "Lancaster Farming." To learn more about the family farm, turn to B20.

## Cow Crazy In Franklin County

By Bonnie Brechbill  
 Franklin County Correspondent

MERCERSBURG (Franklin) — Cows abound at Windy Knoll View farm, home of James and Nina Burdette and sons. Sixty-two registered Holsteins reside in the barn, and likenesses of cows are found almost everywhere throughout the house. Towels and a clock in the kitchen are adorned with cows. Tiny bovines march in orderly rows on the bathroom wallpaper. Cows grace an afghan thrown over a rocking chair, a rug in front of the kitchen fireplace, and many mugs, glasses and potholders.

Jim's den, at the rear of the family's large stone home, is so full of the trophies and ribbons he and his cows have earned that not much of the rustic old panelling is visible.

The only cow-free zones in the house are the living and dining rooms, where family antiques, an organ and a piano create a more formal atmosphere.

The atmosphere in the Burdette's barn is one of cleanliness, good bloodlines and meticulous care for Franklin County's best herd. The herd's BAA is 107.1, the county's highest. In the most recent classification last February, the Burdettes had their first homebred third-generation Excellent: Windy Knoll View Bova Christie. They have a total of 10 Excellent cows and 22 Very Goods. The herd

## Dairymen's Milking Practices Deserve A Second Look

BY PAT PURCELL  
 LITITZ (Lancaster) — "Milking is one of the most abused jobs and one of the most important jobs on the farm," says Rick Thompson, co-owner of Fisher and Thompson, Inc. milking equipment sales and service located in Leola. "There are too many farmers and not enough dairy farmers. Everybody wants to be out on the tractor doing the field work. I think there are many farmers out

there who should decide what they want to do: milk cows or play with the tractors."

Mastitis. Open any dairy publication any season of the year and the odds are ten to one of seeing at least one article on this hot topic. It appears that all that can be said about the topic has already been said, but the majority of the farmers out there are not getting the message. And that's evident by

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