

Mothers On The Farm

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children, Benjamin, 10, Jacob, 7, Sam, 4, and Abigail, 2.

Sarah said that finding "enough

time in order to do all the work of a farm and that kids require," is her greatest challenge. She also wants to "find a way to allow the

children to be involved and spark their interest, without overwhelming them and scaring them away from it because of the amount of work."

Benjamin described his mother as "helpful, loving, and understanding."

**Sharon Rinehart
Taneytown, Maryland**

Sharon Rinehart is mother to four daughters ranging in age from 18 years to 18 months. This busy mom is also mother to the Maryland Farm Queen, Jenell Rinehart. Sharon and John's other daughters are Jeena, 8, Jeanae, 3, and Jodee, the baby. On 400 acres that comprise Rinehart Farms, Sharon and her family milk 55 cows. The girls are fourth generation on this family farm.

Sharon Rinehart said her greatest challenge as a farm mother is "teaching high ethics and morals. Our kids have so much responsibility. We try to teach them to have high morals to cope with all the responsibilities. I want to teach

my kids that you have to work hard, have respect, and be dedicated, and you have to be self-motivated. We are preparing them for life — they live with stress every day. They are too busy to get into trouble."

The Maryland Farm Queen, Jenell, described her mother as "dedicated — it's hard to juggle a household and the farm, giving — she never hesitates to help any of us kids, and loving."

**Geneva Welch
Flint Hill, Virginia**

Geneva Welch lives with her family on 97 acres in Virginia. She has started a small herd of Scotch Highland cattle and pursues her full-time career as an artist in a converted stone barn studio. Her popular watercolor paintings depict cows, sheep and life. Popular country music performer, Randy Travis, recently purchased three of her Holstein

cow paintings. Geneva is kept busy with her painting, the cows, and two kids, Ryan, 17 and Courtney, 13.

"As kids get older, they need you more," said Geneva. "Keeping up with teenagers is a new challenge, a real eye-opener. And now that they are older and have new interests, I have an extended family of cats and dogs."

Courtney paid her mother the highest of compliments, calling her "understanding, loving and wonderful."

Mother's Day is a special time for those who are mothers, those who have mothers, and those who love someone who is "just like a mother."

Happy Mother's Day to moms everywhere, on the farm and in town. And best of luck to mothers who are trying to meet that greatest of challenges — to find enough time for their kids.



Geneva Welch and daughter Courtney of Virginia pose in front of some of Geneva's popular watercolor paintings.

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Pat Lehmkuhl and her daughter, Holly, pose in front of some of Pat's oil paintings.

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