



Michelle Ryan, Dauphin County Dairy Princess, with five-year old Jersey Cow, Echo, at the Bryncoed Farm.

Adopt-A-Cow Programs Shapes Future Career

MIDDLETOWN (Dauphin Co.) — Tom and Tiz Williams own the Bryncoed Farm. It is because of their dedication to and value of youth that teens like Michelle Ryan gain a working taste of rural farm life. They support 4-H youth through their "Adopt a Cow" Program. All five youth are members of the Lower Dauphin Dairy 4-H Club. The Williams give the youth an open-door policy to come and work on the farm anytime. In addition to time and hours spent on the farm, they also support each youngster by paying for the first 4-H cow registration.

Michelle commutes 20 minutes from her home in Linglestown to the Bryncoed farm in Middletown. She's been working on the farm for seven years since she was in 6th grade. Her love of the farm and farm animals has proven to be more than a fleeting fancy. This past summer her efforts came into fruition as she became Dauphin County Dairy Princess.

Michelle is the daughter of Mary Ann and Bob Chavey of Linglestown. She became interested in the farm in sixth grade when a friend did a dairy demonstration in school. She began going to the Bryncoed Farm and the rest is history.

She has three cows: a Danish Jersey Cow, Echo; a heifer, Juanita; and a calf, Emerald. Emerald is a joy for Michelle because she is Echo's daughter. She's the first heifer calf born to one of her animals. She enjoys working with the cows and likes the Williams' invitation to come out to the farm anytime.

Michelle is a senior at Lower Dauphin High School. She attends by choice because of the agriculture program they offer. While at school she combines agriculture with her academic classes. She's presently doing an independent study at school for credit. Over the course of a year, she's compiling a summary of many different areas of the dairy industry. She's especially interested in the management portion of dairy farming.

As president of FFA, Michelle enjoys going to seminars and doing public speaking for FFA and 4-H. She's a member of the Pennsylvania Junior Jersey Cow Club for youth members of Jerseys. In her spare time, Michelle enjoys riding horses and is a

member of the C.D. Young Riders 4-H Club. Every weekend she rides the horse. She enjoys helping younger kids show in the Dauphin County 4-H Fair.

The support she has received from her parents and from the Williams has helped her to decide that she'd like to be involved in dairy science and management in a few years as an adult. Her goal is to go to Penn State or to Delaware Valley College to help achieve her dream. Then she'd like to buy a dairy farm or study to become a college professor of dairy science.

When asked why she likes working on the farm, Michelle's answer was that she thinks farmers are well-rounded and likes the way they use constructive criticism. She admires the way the Williams are always testing new ways to do things and are always learning. Presently they own 190 milk cows and are expanding by building a new barn. She's also thankful for all of the questions they have answered about dairy farming in general because it has given her an opportunity which has shaped her dreams for the future.



Sarah Lynn Hill, Bidwell, Ohio, was crowned 1992 Miss American Angus at the 1992 National Angus Roll of Victory (ROV) Show held during the 1991 North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Kentucky. The 17-year-old daughter of Paul and Lynn Hill will serve as an ambassador for the Angus breed at various national and regional Angus events. Sponsored by the American Angus Auxiliary, the Miss American Angus contest is open to the top five winners in the girl's division of the Auxiliary's scholarship contest. The top five then compete in areas of public speaking, impromptu questioning, interview, and a written test. Hill is currently studying pre-med at the University of Virginia.

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