B16-Lancester Farming, Saturday, May 22, 1993



Since the Benner family has occupied the house for eight generations, the furnishings were never sold but placed in the attic when no longer used. Susan rescued these antique pieces and numerous others from the attic in order to establish the history of the place.

Benner Homestead

Dairy Princess Candidates Sought In Huntingdon County

HUNTINGDON (Huntingdon Co.) — The Huntingdon County Dairy Promotion Committee is currently seeking candidates for the 1993 dairy princess, dairy maid, dairy miss, or Little Dairy Miss.

The dairy princess program offers the opportunity for qualified young persons to make a personal contribution to the well-being of the dairy industry by devoting their time and talent to the promotion of its products for the period of one year. The dairy representatives present programs in schools and at meetings of both farm and non-farm groups. They conduct demonstrations in grocery stores, malls, banks, and at fairs. They also ride in parades and assist in promoting dairy products.

For more information and application forms, contact Shirley Heeter at (814) 259-3427 or the Extension Office at (814) 643-1660. Deadline for submitting applications is May 15. The pageant is scheduled for June 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lincoln Grange.



(Continued from Page B14)

as is the old-fashioned cookstove. Some of the ceiling light fixtures date back to the 1920s.

The barn has louvered vents, a wooden silo, and a metal windmill that still pumps water for barn use.

Although the Benners call the farm the Benner Homestead Farm, it will be called the Spangler-Benner Farms on the National Register because the house was built by Spangler.

It's Susan who pushed to have the farm approved for the National Register of Historic Places.

Susan said the process to have the farm approved for the National Registrar was a detailed and time-consuming project. Pages of details and pictures were required.

She said, "The honor of being on the National Register goes to my ancestors who had foresight to preserve the family farm. They had many offers to sell because of its valley setting, but it's a home that we will never sell but hope to preserve for future generations."

In addition to farming, D. Edwin has a parttime job as sealer of weight and measures for Adams County and is an auctioneer. He and Susan are board member of the Adams County Farmers' Association .

Susan, who was a highly-involved 4-H'er, was a former national winner in dairy foods. As a national winner, she received a \$1,000 scholarship, which she applied toward her studies for a nursing degree from Messiah College.

Susan said that her husband took her maiden name when they married. "It's not because I'm a woman's libber, it was his idea," she said.

With a heritage like the Benners, it's a name worth carrying on. Daughter Heidi is the eighth generation of Benners to live on the farm.



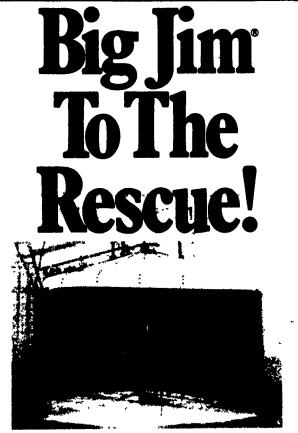
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This 1900s wagon is still used on the Benner farm.

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