

Mim Kauffman

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Mim teaches public speaking to county dairy princesses during the seminar. She said, "For several years a professional speech teacher was employed to do this but one year he couldn't attend; I was drafted and have been teaching it ever since."

Speech instruction includes how to address different audiences, how to pick a subject and the content of the speech.

Dairy maids and ambassadors assist county princesses in their duties. Mim also teaches at the one-day seminar held for them.

Each September the county dairy princesses participate in a three-day pageant where they are individually interviewed, present a skit and speech, and are judged informally as a group before the banquet coronation where a state princess and two alternates are chosen.

Mim said that PAPPS tries to make the pageant special as they think the girls deserve a nice pageant.

Mim and other dairy princess coordinators do not choose the winners as out-of-state judges are used.

About five years ago, the Kauffmans sold their herd, but not the

110-acre farm. They rent the barns to Rep. John Barley's sons, who are in the process of putting a herd in.

Although the Kauffmans had been planning to sell the farm, Mim said, "I always liked those kids (John Barley's) and I couldn't turn them down."

Mim is glad that their five grandchildren will have the opportunity to enjoy cows in the barns.

In the early years of their life on the farm, the Kauffmans also had chickens.

"But no one liked chickens so we got rid of them," Mim said.

Other activities that Mim enjoys are planning activities for a women's group at Congregational Bible Church, keeping her grandchildren, and this summer planning a cruise to Bermuda with her high school graduation class. She also works part time at a marketing business she and her husband operate.

Although Mim claims she "only dabbles in art," her artistic ability is evident in her paintings of farm scenes. She has sold her paintings at the National Holstein Convention Art Show for the past six years and in several consignments. She prefers oil but does more work in acrylic.

Mim has an extensive collection of coffee mugs and cow collectibles displayed throughout the spacious farmhouse. Springtime on the farm brings fond memories to Mim who recalls that her one son,



As chairperson of the Southeast District for Pennsylvania Dairy Princess and Promotion Services, Mim works to make each pageant special.

when he was a kindergartener, drove the lawn tractor across the fields to the elementary school each day, where he handed the keys to his teacher to keep until his return trip home.

She misses the freshly plowed fields since no-till planting is used. While farming methods change, children grow up and move away, some things never change. For

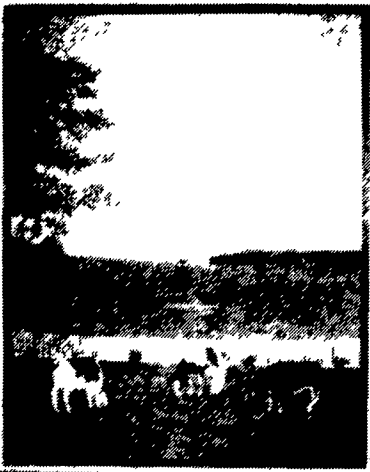
Mim, it's the belief that dairy princesses, maids, and ambassadors are doing an outstanding job at dairy promotion.

"It's a great service to dairy farmers because dairy princesses are out there working for nothing," she said.

For the dairy princesses to do an effective job, they need PDPPS to plan an effective program. People

who work hard at planning the overall program in addition to Mim are other board members: Jan Harding, program director; Mary Herman, northeast district coordinator; Rita Kennedy, northwest district coordinator; Beverly Minor, southwest district coordinator; Wanda Yoder, central district; and Beth Heald Moore, south central district coordinator.

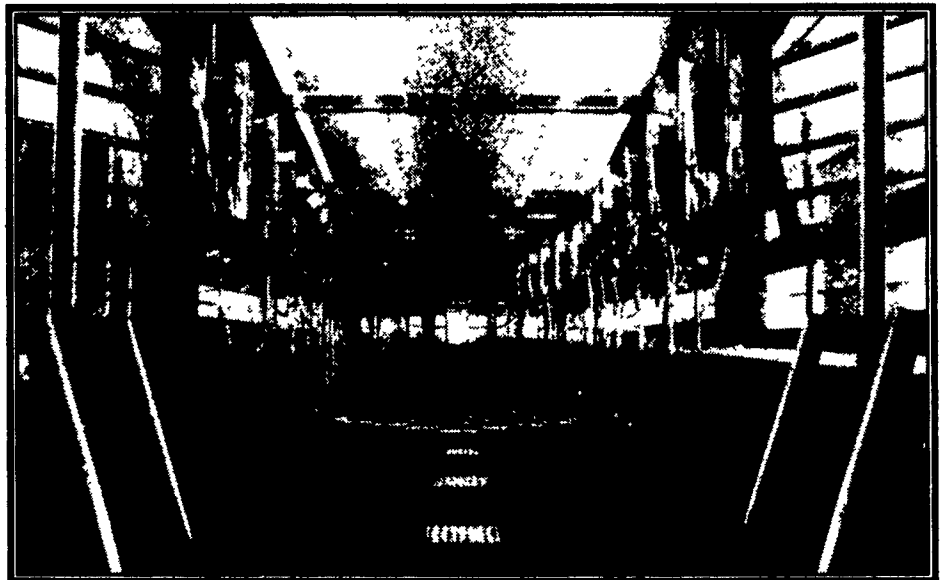
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Mim's artistic talents find expression in painting farm scenes.

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