

Lancaster Farming

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The Meyers family and friend gather at their farm lane and signpost. From the left, in the rear row, are Joel Mills, an employee, and Mark, Alan and Kendra Meyers. In the front are Whitney, Ashley and Grant and one of the family dogs.

Family Dairy Focuses On Merchandising

BONNIE BRECHBILL
Franklin Co. Correspondent
GREENCASTLE (Franklin Co.) — Tidy-Brook Farm in southern Franklin County may soon be home to the top cow for protein in the United States.

Tidy-Brook Elton Sonja-ET, a daughter of Emprise Bell Elton, has the potential to rank as the highest protein cow of the breed in the July run. She is up against

more than one million cows for the honor.

A member of the well-known Sally family of Holsteins, Sonja is currently milking 111 pounds a day into her sixth month on test.

Alan Meyers, 28, and his father, Mark, farm Tidy-Brook's 210 acres in partnership. They rent an additional 80 acres, and raise corn, alfalfa, small grains and soybeans.

Alan and his wife, Kendra, and

children Ashley, 7, Whitney, 5, and Grant, 2½, live in the stone and brick farmhouse.

The Sally family has been at Tidy-Brook for as long as anyone can remember.

"The right genetic combination happened. It was nothing we did special, it just showed up here," Alan said. He is on a full-time flushing program with Tidy-

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Strawberry Pay-Off Day

LOU ANN GOOD
Lancaster Farming Staff
LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — How much are two quarts of strawberries worth?

If it's Neil Wenger's strawberries, it is \$200.

At least that's what an anonymous bidder was willing to pay at the annual Lancaster Rotary Club Strawberry Roundup on Wednesday.

Neil's berries were judged the best displayed, most flavorful, and most uniform in size of the 19 entries that county 4-H'ers brought to the Farm and Home Center for judging.

The reserve champion ribbon went to Joel Leaman for his berries that sold for \$50 to David Friedrichs of Lancaster.

Both boys considered the high prices a superlative payoff for the sweat, time, and frustration they invest in maintaining the strawberry patch year-round.

Wenger said that he got up at the crack of dawn to pick berries for

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Lancaster County 4-H'er Neil Wenger, center front, holds the berries that an anonymous bidder bought for \$200. Reserve champion Joel Leaman, center back, earned \$50 for his berries purchased by Dave Friedrichs, left, and auctioned by Harold Keller standing next to 4-H Extension agent, Zoann Parker, right.

Farm Tax Reassessment Topic At Ag Forum

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

"Things without all remedy should be without regard: what's done is done." --Shakespeare.

LEOLA (Lancaster Co.)—This doesn't mean farmers, agribusiness leaders and even county commissioners like the forced property reassessment program that's under way in Lancaster County. In cases brought by the City of Lancaster, several lower courts ruled in favor of the county commissioners who did not believe reassessment was neces-

sary. But the Superior Court overturned the lower court's ruling, and Lancaster City forced Lancaster County to reassess all property to the tune of eight to nine million dollars. One mill represents approximately three million dollars in Lancaster County's economy.

At the Ag Forum Thursday morning, many concerns were voiced about the effects of the reassessment on agriculture in Lancaster County. One of the most forceful statements was made by one of

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Grafting Ensures Delicious Kernels

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff
ELIZABETHTOWN (Lancaster Co.) — What do you get when you cross a hickory nut with a pecan?

A "hickan," of course.

In that combination, the rich, full flavors of both nut tree varieties are accented to produce a truly memorable kind of kernel, according to Jay R. Book, president of the Pennsylvania Nut Growers Association.

There's no better time of year to ensure the nut tree you may be growing produces a fine kernel, with a large edible center, full-flavor quality, and that cracks easily than by learning how to graft properly.

Each year, the third week of

March, the Association holds a Nut Grafting Workshop at the Dauphin County Agriculture and Natural Resources Center. It is scheduled for March 19, 1994 at the Center, 1451 Peters Mountain



Jay R. Book, Pa. Nut Growers Association president, demonstrates grafting a hickory nut tree in a series of steps on page A28.

Rd., in Dauphin, according to Book. There, demonstrations on grafting are given to those who are producing varieties for sale or for those who discover they've inherited a nut tree in the backyard and want to obtain the best kernel available.

The workshop educates nut growers on how "to get a bigger nut, retain the flavor, and look for the quality of nut that's easy to crack," said Book.

The 200-member Association meets regularly to discuss grafting techniques and to learn more about new types of crosses or new grafting techniques.

Grainger hickory
Recently, *Lancaster Farming*
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