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outstanding job of representing the dairy industry within her county. It is based on the number and kinds of appearances under which she has served.

High bidder for the Winross truck was Paul and Louise Brown of Huntingdon County. Brown, who bid \$525, heads Paul W. Brown Excavating Inc. and operates a swine and beef farm.

Brown grew up on a dairy farm and has four brothers who are dairy farmers. Although Brown is not a dairy farmer, he said all generations on both sides of his family have been farmers since settling in Huntingdon Valley in 1780.

Brown purchased the Winross truck because of his belief in the continuation of the dairy princess program. His niece Crystal Couch is the dairy princess for Huntingdon County, his sister was a former county dairy princess, and several other sisters have served as alternates.

The Browns' children were in 4-H with Tina Shultz for whom the award is given in memory. Tina was the 1985-86 Huntingdon Dairy Princess who served her county's dairy industry while fighting a losing battle with cancer.

This year's winner of the Tina M. Shultz Memorial Award went to Rachel Tanis of Centre County.

Wanda Yoder, central district coordinator, who presented the award to Rachel Tanis called her the "Iron Lady in Dairy Promotion," and recounted a Top 10 List of why Rachel deserved the award. In her farewell speech, retiring

princess Natalie Welch challenged the dairy princesses to give all you can, that it is the ambition of the girls that pushes the dairy industry forward.

Judges for the event included Dr. J. Lee Majeskie from Maryland, Susan Crowell of Ohio, Jason Devino of Vermont, and Betty Emerling of New York.

Speech judges included Joyce Bupp from York, Paul Miller from Harrisburg, and Betty Rode from Harrisburg.

Scrapbook judges were Stephanie Meyers of New York and Norma Lash of McConnellsburg.

Dairy princesses must come from a dairy farm or dairy-related background, own dairy animals or they or their parents must be employed in the dairy industry or an agribusiness that serves it. They must be single and be between the ages of 16 and 24, and possess the knowledge, poise, and speaking ability necessary to carry out their many duties as spokespersons for the dairy industry.

The new dairy princess and her family own a 100-acre farm in Wattsburg, called 4R Farm, named for parents Richard and Robin, Rhonda, and a sister Renee, 19. The family has 75 Holsteins and raise oats, corn, and hay.

Rhonda is a senior at Seneca High School, where she is president of her class, editor-in-chief of the yearbook, a member of the National Honor Society and Student Council, and a cheerleader.

Her expertise at "winning everything at the pageant" evidently carries over into other areas. Recently, classmates voted her "Best all Around," "Most School Spirit," "Class Clown," and "Loudest." In keeping with school

**All Gardens
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After a wet spring and dry summer trees are already shedding their leaves. A recent article in "Organic Gardening" magazine reminds us what a wonderful resource those falling leaves are. Their advice is to "Dig, Cover, and Layer."

Here are ideas that may work in your backyard. Dig you leaves into the top 8 inches of soil. Rutgers University found that leaves used as a soil amendment can significantly reduce problems caused by

policy, a student is allowed only one title, so Rhonda must choose one from those four titles.

She is a member of her church youth group, enjoys long walks in the woods and through the pasture, and collecting antiques. She also enjoys hunting and has bagged a 9-point buck twice in her hunting history.

"I love everything," Rhonda said, "but I realize something in my schedule is going to need to go since I won the state title. I suspect that I'll be doing plenty of studying in the car while traveling to dairy promotions."

pest nematodes. Three to 6 inches of leaves worked into the soil in the fall helps reduce drought stress during the following hot, dry summer.

Cover the soil surface of flower beds with leaves. Tuck a layer of shredded leaves around young perennials after the ground has frozen to protect them from frost heaving.

Layer leaves into your compost pile. Dr. Harry Hoitink, plant pathologist at Ohio State University suggests there are no leaves that can't be composted-including black walnut leaves. Composting will destroy the walnut toxin called juglone in black walnut leaves in one month.

In addition, mulch leaves with a lawn mower onto your lawn. Mulching mowers, including the new rechargeable electric mowers run several times over a layer of leaves shred them fine enough for disbursement over the lawn. If more leaves are present then suitable for mulching use a bagger attachment. Shred leaves in the yard for a make-shift compost pile.

The Penn State Master Garden-

ers at the Compost Park at Springettsbury Township Park (across from the Galleria Mall in York) are holding free composting classes on Saturday, October 14. Classes will be held starting at 9 a.m. and concluding at 3 p.m. For more information, call the Extension office at (717) 840-7408.

In addition to the classes, the York County Solid Waste Authority is distributing low cost backyard compost bins. Residents of York County can purchase bins from the Authority for \$8 on Saturday, October 14 at the Authority's Management Center at 2700 Blackbridge Road, York from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This cost is a reduced cost, offset by a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources. The Authority sold more than 1,000 bins during its first Saturday sale held on Earth Day last April.

The bins are made from 100 percent post-consumer plastic recycled from South Central Pennsylvania. The circular bin adjusts to three or four feet in diameter depending on your composting needs making it perfect for urban as well as rural backyards. It assembles with four stainless steel bolts and is anchored to the ground by three plastic pegs. Instructional brochures are included with each bin. For more information about the compost bin purchase program call the Authority at (717) 845-1066.



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