

Lancaster Farming

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Brian Harris, back, and his father Eugene Harris stand beside one of their cows.

Jerseys A Family Tradition For Harris Family

CAROLYN N. MOYER
Bradford Co. Correspondent
MILAN (Bradford Co.) —
Jersey cows and the Harris family
have been entwined for many
generations.

"My grandfather and great
grandfather were Jersey farmers.
I'm not sure how far back beyond
that it goes. My dad's younger
brother stayed on the farm and
bought that place," said Brian Har-
ris, owner of Sunset Ridge Farm.

The Harris family is tied for first
place in the 1995 Pennsylvania
DHIA Herd Management Award
contest for Jerseys.

After graduating from the
School of Agriculture in Alfred,
N.Y., Eugene, Brian's father, man-
aged the school's herd for seven
years. In 1945 he decided he
wanted to farm on his own and pur-
chased the farm the Harris family
operates, located about one mile
from the original homestead. He
and his wife, Alice, still live near
the farm.

In 1972, Brian was graduated
from Penn State with a degree in
animal industry and formed a part-
nership with his father.

Since about 1992, Brian has
handled most of the operation but
in many ways he still sees the farm
as a partnership.

"Most of the records still say

Eugene and Brian Harris," said
Harris. "Because Dad's contri-
buted so much to the farm over the
years and still does, his name stays.
He comes over everyday and helps
with the barn work and taking care
of the calves — making sure
everything gets done."

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Farm And Home Elects Directors

LOU ANN GOOD
Lancaster Farming Staff
LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)
— Each year thousands use the
Farm and Home Center located at
1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster. It's
the hub of activity for agricultural-
based groups and for community
services.

Behind the scenes much is
required to keep the building and
grounds presentable in addition to

keeping it profitable. The group
responsible for overseeing the day
to day operations of the Farm and
Home Foundation held their annu-
al banquet on Tuesday night and
took a look at the cash flow and
projects of the center.

The Farm and Home Center is a
living monument to Lancaster
County's agriculture and agribusi-
ness from principal benefactors,

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Suffered An Injury? AgrAbility Provides Answers

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff
STATE COLLEGE (Centre
Co.) — Doug Schaufler would like
to make it easier for farmers who

have suffered an injury or are dis-
abled to make a living.

He wants them to know that he
has a file containing the solutions
to hundreds of problems they may

have — such as getting into a trac-
tor if they've lost the use of their
legs or even doing things like con-
structing simple levers to open
hard-to-turn door knobs.

And his work on a special pro-
gram doesn't just help farmers that
are disabled from injuries, but
those that have suffered from the
ravages of diseases such as cancer
or heart attacks.

The work helps those who are
farming and have suffered from
non-farm related accidents, too.

Schaufler, program manager for
AgrAbility For Pennsylvanians,
spoke to more than 100 producers
and agri-industry representatives
at the Penn State-Berks County
Crops Day on Tuesday in
Leesport.

The program, a joint effort of
the Penn State Department of Ag
and Extension Education, the Penn
State Ag and Biological Engineer-
ing Department, and Easter Seal
Society of Central Pennsylvania,
promotes success in agriculture for
people with disabilities and their
families.

Schaufler, who spoke about the
statewide project begun in March
1995, indicated that AgrAbility is
far-reaching and can help people in
a lot of ways.

Schaufler said that in 1989, an
estimated 120,000 people in ag-
related jobs suffered a disabling
injury. Each year, 250 people in
Pennsylvania become permanen-
tly disabled as a result of accidents
in agriculture.

"There are a lot of programs,
projects, whatever you want to call
them that help folks with disabili-
ties in factories, in office places,
and for a long time, people in agri-
culture were basically ignored and
everyone assumed they were all
fine and jolly," said Schaufler.

AgrAbility started in 1991 as the
result of the U.S. Farm Bill. It has
spread to 18 states. It started in

Indiana and Iowa, primarily.

The program helps not only with
equipment and enabling devices
for those who are handicapped, but
has helped people with cancer,
who have experienced stroke, or
other disabling diseases.

The project even helped some-
one who fell out of a hunting stand
and ended up with a spinal cord
injury. It even helped someone
with a brain injury as a result of
standing up in a shed that was too
low.

"It also points out that not
everybody we're working with has
had a so-called farm injury," said
Schaufler.

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Butler Fair Queen Wins State Title Newport Man Fairperson Of Year

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff
HERSHEY (Dauphin
Co.) — An 18-year-old Universi-
ty of Pittsburgh nursing student
was named the 1996 Pennsylvania
Fair Queen Jan. 20 at the Hershey
Lodge and Convention Center in
conjunction with the 84th annual
convention of the Pennsylvania
State Association of County Fairs
(PSACF).

The event marked the 10th
anniversary for the annual state
fair queen coronation.

Also, Paul Britcher Sr., of Perry
County, was named the PSACF
fairperson of the year, an honor
bestowed annually to a fair person
who is recognized for outstanding
long time service to the betterment
and promotion of county fairs.

Feather Thomas, Butler Coun-
ty's 1995 fair queen, was selected
from a field of 44 contestants for
the title of state queen, an honor
that brings with it a \$1,000 schol-
arship and the obligation to repre-
sent the PSACF at the Feb. 5 Cor-
nucopia event in Harrisburg, at the
mid-August Penn State Ag Pro-
gress Days in Rockspring, at the
January 1997 Pennsylvania State
Farm Show, and next January at
the 11th annual fair queen corona-
tion, as well as any other events
that may arise.

In addition, the state queen is
expected to attend at least 12 coun-
ty fairs — three in each of the four

fair zones into which the PSACF
divides the state.

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Paul Britcher is the 1996 fairperson of the year. Here he stands with wife Ruth in the Hershey Convention Center Ballroom.



Rhonda Kleklak is on the
'moove' as the state dairy
princess. Read about her life
at home and on the road, writ-
ten by Lou Ann Good, on
page B2.