

Cousins Named State FFA President and Regional Vice President

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Henry Young and his two sons Matthew and David.

There's much camaraderie among the three families who live in separate houses on the farm. The children joke that they aren't sure to which family they belong.

Linda and Matthew also have two daughters, Stacey, 16, and Rebecca, 14.

Dave and Carol's children include David, 19, who is studying diesel mechanics at Northwestern College in Lima, Ohio; Joy, 18; Jason, 16; Elizabeth, 13; and Debbie, 10.

The patriarch of the family, Henry, had been farming in partnership with his own brothers until Matthew was out of high school and Dave was a senior in high school.

In 1974, the father and two sons decided to go into partnership at Red Rock, which has two farm-

houses. Later, the parents built a home at the end of the lane.

"We started small and grew slowly," said Matthew.

In August 1974, they started milking cows, and Matt and Linda married in November of that same year.

"It was a circus," Linda recalled. "Because it was a new herd, we had to push the cows into the milking parlor and it took forever. Those first five years, Matt rarely had any time off. We ate supper at 9 or 10 o'clock every night."

Matthew jokes that he married a city girl. In reality, Linda grew up in the town of Quarryville. She reported that she had no trouble adapting to life on the farm.

"I loved the animals and we were young," Linda said.

Linda enters all the cow and calf records on the computer. Dave's and Matt's mom takes care of all the finances. Carol has an off-the-



The three daughters of David and Linda Young, Joy, 18; Debra, 10; and Elizabeth, 13; excel in 4-H Horse Club. Son Jason, 16, is in 4-H archery.



Jean picks strawberries from her weedless garden. She uses black plastic to keep the weeds down in the cantaloupe and watermelon hills.



As general manager for the operation Matthew said that he and his brother work well together because they complement each other's abilities.



Although they continue to work on the farm, Henry and Jean Young are taking a more supportive role as their sons David and Matthew assume leadership. Notice the water spraying in the background is part of the flush system used with the manure separator.

farm bookkeeping job.

The children all work part time on the farm. Each family is allowed to decide how much or how little each child should work. The children receive working schedules but are allowed to trade off and on with others.

Just as their dad provided a farming opportunity for them, the brothers hope they are able to work something out for any of the children who want to make a career of working on the farm.

At this point, both Andrew and Joy plan some type of career in agriculture. Both were accepted and planned to attend college in the fall, but since both have been elected state FFA officers, they will take the year off to devote time to giving their best to the FFA program. The following year, Joy plans to attend Delaware Valley College to study large animal science. Andrew plans to study ag economics at the University of Delaware and return to the family farm. He would like to combine farming with some pastor work and is considering attending seminary.

Of the cousins excelling in FFA, Joy said, "We work well together. We got an 18-year head start on working together."

"I think its because we have complementing giftings and our Judeo-Christian upbringing helped us developed the philosophy that we are not leading to lead but to serve others," Andrew said.

Both families are active at Faith Reformed Presbyterian Church, where Andrew assists the youth pastor.

Joy said that she, like most children on the farm, started out caring for the calves. "But as I grew older, that became my least favorite job. Now I mostly milk," she said.

Joy has also excelled in 4-H Horse Club.

"My pride and joy is KoKo. I raised him from a baby," she said of the quarter horse throughbred cross.

When it comes to 4-H, Joy has been involved in clubs such as pet care, public speaking, handyman, crossstitch, and Woolies. Although the cows are not registered on the farm, Joy raised a registered cow to show and also shows market lambs at Solanco Fair. Joy has also been active in the 4-H Exchange Club.

"Growing up on a farm, I didn't have a chance to travel much, but



The family of Matthew and Linda Young include children, Rebecca, 14; Stacey, 16, and Andrew, 18.



David is responsible for fixing machinery, maintenance, and building on the farm. Since the partnership was formed, Dave said, "We poured a lot of concrete."

through the Exchange Club I traveled to Kansas and Arizona, and hosted a 4-H'er from Oklahoma," Joy said.

In FFA, Andrew excelled at business management and public speaking, which has reinforced his career choice. Andrew has also

excelled in scholastic studies. At the school's awards ceremony last week, he received 11 awards, more than any other student. These included a \$5,000 University of Delaware Scholarship, a \$1,000 Cargill Scholarship, a \$500 David

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