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Roth Honored For Lifetime Service To Dairy

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) - When you have spent a lifetime in one industry, you have seen many changes. Harry Roth, Atlantic Breeders general manager before the merger into Genex, is such a man for the AI industry. Roth will be honored at a reception at the

Farm and Home Center today at noon for his work in the dairy industry.

In a recent interview, Roth said many things have changed since he started with the AI industry in 1956. At that time there were five AI organizations in Pennsylvania.

"In the first 25 years of AI, we had to convince ourselves that AI was better than a bull on the farm," Roth said. "The last 25 years after we started to do progeny testing and keeping only the best bulls is

when the genetic progress was made.

"In early years, if a cow milked 50 pounds a day, she was considered very good. Today, two-year-old cows exceed 100 pounds of milk per day. And now the genetics are built into these young cows so that they stay in the herd for a long time too.

"The '60's were the most critical to the industry, and we may be going through a time like it right

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Office Closed July 4

We celebrate the nation's birthday Friday, July 4, when *Lancaster Farming's* offices will be closed. They will reopen on Monday, July 7, at 8 a.m. Deadlines for the holiday week are as follows:

- Public Sale ads — 9 a.m. Tuesday, July 1.
- Classified, Section D — 5 p.m., Tuesday, July 1.
- Classified, Section C, FE & FE Wanted — 9 a.m., Wednesday, July 2.
- General News — Noon, Wednesday, July 2.
- Mailbox Markets — 9 a.m., Monday, June 30.

PennAg, PAPA Announce Merger

EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.) — George Kishbaugh, president of PennAg Industries Association (PennAg), and Duane Hobbs, president of the Pennsylvania Agribusiness Products Association (PAPA), recently signed a merger agreement that will formally bring the two organizations together effective July 1.

This merger culminates a year of discussions and follows the approval of both memberships.

"Merging the two organizations will create synergy and help agribusiness in Pennsylvania to become as strong as possible," according to Kishbaugh. He noted that this merger is a first step in the restructuring of PennAg, part of a long-range effort to unite all of the state's agribusinesses.

"We are delighted to be joining forces to better serve our members," said Hobbs. "We look for-

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Elizabeth Smith of Denver clinches the Lancaster County Dairy Princess title. For pictures and story about the pageant, turn to page B2. Photo by Lou Ann Good.

Ayrshire Breeders Hold Convention In Lancaster

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — About 175 people this week attended the national convention of the Ayrshire Breeders Association at the Willow Valley

Resort in southern Lancaster.

The convention included a sale scheduled for 12:30 p.m. today at the Lampeter Fairgrounds, selection of a national princess Friday night, and an annual meeting and awards luncheon. There was also a

convention banquet, youth awards breakfast held Friday morning, after deadline, and a number of tours to area farms with Ayrshires.

The association also announced the results of its election of directors and officers.

John Reed Rodgers, of Belleville, was re-elected president; David Patrick, of Woodbine, Md., was re-elected vice president; and Barbara Spoon, of Broken Arrow, Okla., was re-elected director-at-large.

According to the association,

523 ballots were mailed and 163 returned, in the election process.

In other election results, Bonnie Wentworth, of Quarryville, was elected to another three-year term as director for Region 1; Mary

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Moyers Tackle Complexities, Mysteries Of Dairying



In the early '90s, Ralph Moyer and his family were honored with a Dairy of Distinction Award for farm upkeep and beautification. The farm is still in tip-top shape — and Moyer continues to recognize the complexities of turning out a product that the consumer demands. From left, Kyle, Crystal, Alicia, Ralph, and Jessica Moyer.

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff
FRYSTOWN (Berks Co.) — Although Ralph Moyer has been a dairy producer all his life, there are some aspects about farming that remain a mystery.

Why, he wonders, if he feeds all his milking animals the same way, cares for them identically, and treats them the same way are there some cows that produce 30,000 pounds of milk and others producing only 20,000?

Another mystery that stumps him: Last year the corn was planted into wet, muddy ground, and still he was able to harvest a small portion with 175 bushels and others at 125 bushels or more. This year the corn was planted into cool, dry ground — and some of it is spotty and looks stunted.

But Ralph understands a great deal about the complexities, nonetheless. With the animals that milk 30,000 pounds, genetics play a crucial role. For them, "every-

thing went right," he said at an interview this week at his farm. They had no foot or teat problems. They were healthy.

As for the ground that is yielding 175-bushel per acre corn: it's the best ground Moyer has, but only measures ¼ of an acre on the side of the pond. Most of the difficult soil, he noted, is the shaley soils, hilly areas, some with clay bottoms.

In the early '90s, Ralph Moyer and his family were honored with a Dairy of Distinction Award for farm upkeep and beautification. The farm is still in tip-top shape — and Moyer continues to recognize the complexities of turning out a product that the consumer demands.

Ralph farms with his wife, Crystal, and their children Alicia, 14; Jessica, 12; and Kyle, 10. Ralph employs one full-time hired man, his brother, Mark, who helps with feeding and milking. Included on

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