

Life Sci



*****5-DIGIT 16802
B23 P4
056034 980430
PERIODICALS DIVISION
PENN STATE UNIVERSITY
W209 PATTE LIBRARY
UNIV PARK PA 16802
048

Vol. 43 No. 28 Four Sections Lancaster Farming, Saturday, May 16, 1998 \$29.50 Per Year 60¢ Per Copy



Nina and James Burdette own and operate Windy Knoll View Farm, Mercersburg. James is the new Pennsylvania Holstein Association president. Photo by Joyce Bupp, York County correspondent.

Pennsylvania Holstein President Says Job Is To Steady The Course

JOYCE BUPP
York Co. Correspondent
MERCERSBURG (Franklin Co.) — Real people. Real cattle. Real money.

Those are the three legs of the platform from which newly-elected Pennsylvania Holstein Association (PHA) president Jim Burdette plans to lead the state's largest dairy breed organization.

Burdette, his wife Nina, and their sons Justin and Kyle, own and operate Windy Knoll View Farm, Mercersburg. Their milking herd of 76 head and its offspring is internationally known and repeatedly All-American honored for type and showing accom-

plishments, along with ongoing breed recognition for bloodlines and overall performance.

In late February, at its annual state meeting and convention, the PHA board elected Burdette for a two-year term as its head. He came to the position well-prepared, having served as Franklin County's state director for five years before his election to the executive board four years ago, the last two as the state vice president.

Burdette's involvement with the breed association has grown and matured in part through the family's showing and merchandising activities as well as his

early participation in PHA's Programs Development and Education committee.

"One trip working with that committee and I was hooked," he says of the quality of people and the exchange of ideas he was exposed to among the organization's pool of leadership and volunteers. He also credits several local Franklin County fellow breeders, like Harold Crider and Paul Eckstine, with encouraging him to become involved. As PHA's president, Burdette sees personal involvement as the key to a member's getting the most out of what the organization offers.

(Turn to Page A21)

Lebanon Youth Plant Riparian Buffer

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff
SOUTH ANNVILLE (Lebanon Co.) — Those who walk, jog or drive along Bricker Lane in South Annville Township will see something strange bordering Beck Creek.

Lining the banks of the stream, from the bridge downstream, are egg-shell colored, 4-foot "sticks."

The light colored sticks are in stark contrast to the soft, lush

greenery of the alfalfa fields on either side of the stream, the tall grasses along the stream edge, and the watercress and aquatic plants undulating in the clear stream.

The sticks are tree protectors. A closer look reveals they are actually corrugated plastic sleeves, slipped over a stake, used to protect tree seedlings.

They were placed there by more than a hundred school students from four Lebanon County public

schools, along with some parochial and home-schooled students, who participated in a recent Lebanon County Conservation District riparian buffer planting project.

Doug Wolfgang, district conservationist, along with Andrea Long, district nutrient management specialist, spent a day recently at the streamside, as different groups of students arrived in automobiles

(Turn to Page A22)

Chester County Orchardist Moves Focus Away From Strawberries, Onto Tree Fruit

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff
WEST CHESTER (Chester Co.) — In suburban areas, strawberry picking isn't what it used to be.

The large-scale customers — those who hand-pick dozens of quarts from pick-your-own operations — may be the norm in areas of Lancaster County. But for the more urbanized parts of southeastern Pennsylvania, especially near the big cities, consumers want only a day or two serving of pre-picked

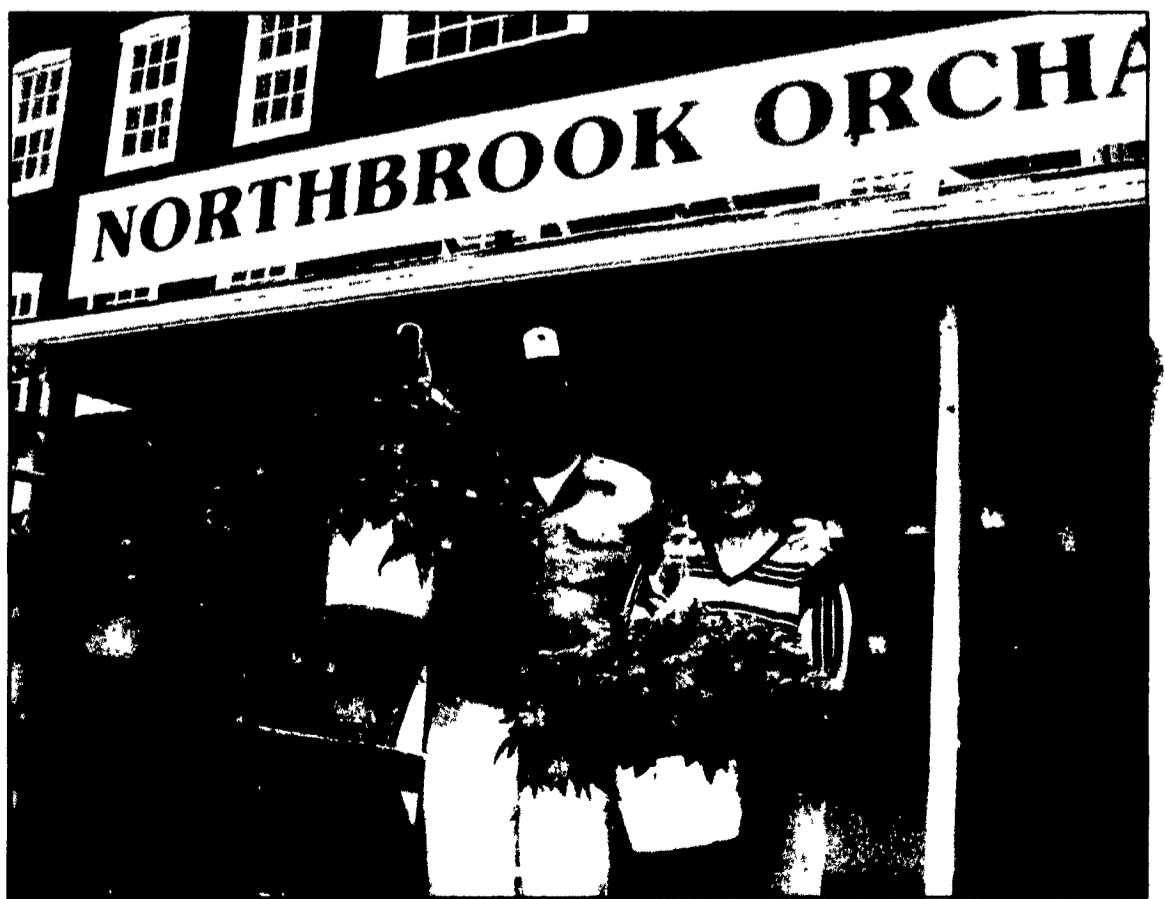
strawberries that don't need to be cut, washed, and prepared.

For growers such as Alan and Paula Johnson of Northbrook Orchards near the town of Unionville, the time has come to "rethink" their operation.

"The strawberry business is a long cry from what it used to be," said Alan Johnson.

In the past, Johnson remembers a thriving business filled with customers who would hand-pick boxes of strawberries and take them

(Turn to Page A28)



Alan and Paula Johnson own Northbrook Orchard near West Chester. "The strawberry business is a long cry from what it used to be," said Alan. In the past, Johnson remembers a thriving business filled with customers who would hand-pick boxes of strawberries and take them home to fill the freezer, bake pies, or make jams and jellies. Now, "people want the quarts picked for them." Photo by Andy Andrews

**June Dairy Month Issue: June 6
Office Closed May 25**

A special tribute to the dairy industry is part of the annual June Dairy Month promotion. *Lancaster Farming* again plans to especially feature dairy in the June 6 issue. We are working to promote the dairy industry through special visits with farm families, DHIA reports, farm management reports, dairy recipes, and messages from our advertisers. Of special note: we plan to introduce the first module of a dairy management course written by a well-known dairy instructor that will be published in 10 weekly lessons and archived on our home page on the Internet for continuing review and use by dairy farmers around the world.

Our office will be closed Monday, May 25, to observe Memorial Day but will open again for business at 8 a.m. Tuesday. If you have a news story or an advertising message to be placed in this special June Dairy Month issue, please contact our office any day, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Our phone number is (717) 626-1164. Our fax is (717) 733-6058.