

Finding the "American Dream"

(Continued from Page A1)

then they have expanded by buying some neighboring farms.

The couple made the decision to start farming because they both loved it. "I have always loved to see things grow and loved livestock, and I thought it was a great way to raise a family," said Laszlo. "My wife liked farming, too, so it was a joint decision."

Laszlo and Lana raised five children: Laszlo T., who is an airplane mechanic; Raymond, a business man; Peter, a welder; Marta, a homemaker; and Benjamin, B.J., who is a senior

in high school. They also have five grandchildren. The family belongs to the Lutheran Church in Greenville and all five children were active in 4-H.

Lana is a tax preparer and financial adviser and, as her husband proudly pointed out she recently received her masters in business administration.

When the children all lived at home, the family raised fruits and vegetables and ran a farm market in addition to the 50-cow dairy and corn and hay crops. However, the market was discontinued last year because of lack of time and not enough



Growthy helpers and well conditioned dry cows provide a good start for the next year's milk production.



Laszlo and B.J. at the farm sign.

help.

"It was nice when the whole family was home to help, but it is too much now," said Laszlo.

So today they focus on the dairy. They are milking primarily registered Holsteins with a few grades and a few Jerseys. The herd average is close to 20,000 pounds of milk, 700 pounds of fat, and 600 pounds of protein. Laszlo has been active in several agricultural organizations and is a past president of the Pennsylvania Holstein Association.

Like all farmers, Laszlo has faced challenges and he claims the greatest has been to keep moving ahead and raise the children without problems.

"I don't think I would do it any other way than what I've done," he said. "I just wish I had more energy now."

He likes America. "It is the land of opportunity," he said, "if you want to get somewhere it is up to you." And the people are nice. He doesn't really have any dislikes and is pretty happy. "There're some cloudy days, but after clouds come sunshine."

You have to take chances in order to get ahead, Laszlo said. "You never see a turtle move ahead unless he sticks his head out."

Laszlo wishes that the young people today who want to farm could have the opportunity to start like he did, and voices concern about the difficulties they face just getting started.

Finally, Laszlo points out the secret to his success. "My success is not because of myself I think it's because of the family together," he said, proudly. "Everybody worked hard in this family."



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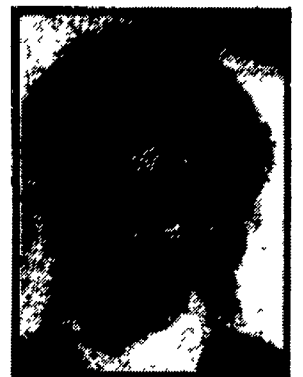
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