

Life Sci

Lancaster Farming

Vol. 45 No. 26

Four Sections

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, April 29, 2000

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Open Communications Key To Passing Down Farm

JAYNE SEBRIGHT
Lancaster Farming Staff

BETHEL TOWNSHIP (Lebanon Co.) — Jim and Billy Hill wanted to see their children, Rich, Terry, and Terry's husband Kevin Shuey, stay in farming. So they made the transition from one generation to the next as smooth as possible.

Some farmers take 20 to 30 years to do what the Hills did in just five years. In fact, some farms are sold before the parents and children can agree.

In 1995, when Jim and Billy purchased a country store in town, Kevin, Terry, and Rich co-purchased the cows. At that

point, Jim and Billy left the younger generation in charge of milking the cows and managing the farm. Then, this January, the children purchased the land and buildings from their parents.

"Since the kids took full responsibility of the farm during the transition years and were doing such a good job, we decided to turn over the farm sooner than we planned to give them chance to really have something," said Jim.

Both Jim and Billy, who are in their mid fifties, wanted to give their children every oppor-

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Three generations work together on Little Hill Farms in Lebanon County. Parents Billy and Jim Hill recently passed down the farm to children, Kevin and Terry Shuey and Rich Hill. Kevin and Terry's children Kyle and Allison also enjoy helping on the farm. Photo by Jayne Sebright

Hilbert Receives Recognition From Beef Producers

JANET WILLIAMS
Adams Co. Correspondent
BONNEAUVILLE (Adams Co.) — A Littlestown farmer who has been involved with the beef producers association for almost 15 years received special recognition last week from the Adams County Beef Producers Associa-

tion at their annual meeting in Bonneauville.

Harry Hilbert of Littlestown in Mount Joy Township has a long history of raising beef cattle. He currently has five Angus on the farm, and has a hog operation. Hilbert said he was surprised to be recognized

by his fellow farmers. "It makes it all worthwhile," he said. "given all the hours you put into it."

He said he was most active with the association when his two children were in 4-H and

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Barbara Wiand, new PPPC president from Mifflinburg, succeeds former PPPC president David Reinecker, York Springs. Wiand operates Wiand Enterprises, a 300-sow farrow-to-finish herd in Union County. Wiand, with help from husband Glenn and sons Justin, 7, and Michael, 5, in addition to two full-time employees, produce about 7,000 feeder pigs per year.

New PPPC President: While Pork Prices Recover, New Programs On The Way

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff
MIFFLINBURG (Union Co.) — Pork producers could see some exciting programs in the months ahead, as prices improve and new marketing strategies are explored, according to

new Pennsylvania Pork Producers Council (PPPC) president.

And even if producers decide to eliminate the national pork checkoff, programs such as the Keystone Pork Expo, conducted each winter in Lebanon, will

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The Omelet King, Howard Helmut, was in Lancaster Tuesday evening to show consumer science teacher how to prepare eggs. The event was sponsored by the Lancaster County Poultry Association. See story page B6. Photo by Lou Ann Good