

Families Stick Together At Grange Fair

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Special Correspondent
CENTRE HALL (Centre Co.) Harold Harpster has been at the Grange Fair for more than 50 years.

Harpster, the owner of End-Ru Jerseys, Boalsburg, brings the whole family to the Grange Fair, including his 91-year-old father Russell Harpster who came for the chocolate milk and to watch the kids.

"I can't believe it's been this long," Harpster said. "I have been showing since I was 10."

The 2003 fair was a little different for Harpster, whose wife Shirley passed away earlier this year.

"It is definitely an adjustment," Harpster said. "We are getting through it."

He still pushes along. He brought 26 dairy registered Jerseys to the fair. Lollie, a 9-year-old from his 75 head homebred Jersey farm, won champion Jersey at the open dairy show.

Daughters, sons-in-laws, and grandchildren all come to the fair and take a part in showing the animals. Harpster is happy to help out and make it a family operation.

His father owned the farm and raised Holsteins until the '70s, when he took it on with Jerseys and named it End-Ru after his mother Edna and father Russell. Harpster attributes his success in farming to simplicity.

"We are not over our heads in debt and we are able to stay in business because we keep it simple," he said, referring to their surge pale or belt milking process.

"Milking hasn't been done that way since the 50s," he said. "Those things are antiques."

Harpster's granddaughter, 16-year-old Jessica McMurtrie,

took the family's success to the sheep show.

Jessica won reserve champion market lamb and her Shropshire won supreme ram.

The Wise family helped each other out as well.

Michael Wise didn't get to show his Southdown ewe because he was on his way to college at California University of Pennsylvania. With a little help from the family, his Southdown ewe won supreme ewe. The news came with a phone call from his mom Michelle.

"Oh, he was happy," she said of the 18-year-old. "He came last week to trim her, but he was upset he couldn't be here."

Michael's sister Jennifer, 16, stepped right up to show the sheep.

Regarding the sheep, "That girl likes to be shown," Michael's mom Michelle said. "She is a good ewe, more like a pet."

The Wise family lives on Whippen Hill Farm, Spring Mills.

The 129th Grange Fair truly was a family affair. More than 2,000 families set up in tents and campers right on the fairgrounds in Centre Hall, with plenty of food, rides, games and crafts to keep them occupied for the seven days.

"Farming and fairs," Harpster said. "It is all about being passed down from generation to generation."

JUNIOR DAIRY SHOW

BROWN SWISS
Spring junior calf: 1. Courtney Klingler.
Summer yearling: 1. Elizabeth Cloninger.
Winter intermediate yearling: 1. Elizabeth Cloninger.

Fall senior yearling: 1. Tammi Deibler.
Dry cow senior: 1. Tammi Deibler.
Junior 2-year-old: 1. Holly Heinrichs.

JUNIOR CHAMPION
Elizabeth Cloninger

RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION
Elizabeth Cloninger

GUERNSEY
Spring junior calf: 1. Pam Heinrichs.

JUNIOR CHAMPION
Pam Heinrichs

GRAND CHAMPION
Pam Heinrichs

JERSEY
Spring junior calf: 1. Mary Martz. 2. Gregory McMurtrie. 3. Dustin Harter.

Winter intermediate calf: 1. Mary Martz. 2. Michelle Carbonara. 3. Jessica McMurtrie.

Fall senior calf: 1. Michelle Carbonara.
Summer yearling: 1. Jessica McMurtrie. 2. Dustin Harter.

Spring junior yearling: 1. Gregory McMurtrie. 2. Mary Martz. 3. Cassandra Richards.

Winter intermediate yearling: 1. Michelle Carbonara. 2. Selena Richards.
Fall senior yearling: 1. Gregory McMurtrie.

Junior 2-year-old: 1. Jessica McMurtrie.
Senior 3-year-old: 1. Michelle Carbonara.

Five-year-old: 1. Jessica McMurtrie. 2. Mary Martz.
Six years and older: 1. Gregory McMurtrie.

Dam and daughter: 1. Jessica N. McMurtrie. 2. Gregory McMurtrie.

JUNIOR CHAMPION
Mary Martz

RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION
Mary Martz



Jennifer Wise holds her brother Michael's supreme ewe, a Southdown. Mary Martz holds her cousin Jessica McMurtrie's supreme ram, a Shropshire.



Harold Harpster milks the champion Jersey cow, Lollie, at the 2003 Grange Fair Open Dairy show using a surge pale or belt milker.

SENIOR CHAMPION

Jessica McMurtrie

RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION
Mary Martz

GRAND CHAMPION
Jessica McMurtrie

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION
Mary Martz

RED AND WHITE
Summer yearling: 1. Pam Heinrichs. 2. Jacob Haagen. 3. Marie Kocher.

Fall senior yearling: 1. Amanda Corl. 2. Pam Heinrichs.

Dry cow: 1. Amanda Gates.
Junior 3-year-old: 1. Dustin Gates.

JUNIOR CHAMPION
Amanda Corl

RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION
Pam Heinrichs

SENIOR CHAMPION
Amanda Gates

RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION
Dustin Gates

GRAND CHAMPION
Amanda Gates

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION
Dustin Gates

LINEBACK
Spring junior calf: 1. Kaitlynn Rearick.

JUNIOR CHAMPION
Kaitlynn Rearick

HOLSTEIN
Spring junior calf: 1. Katie Brown. 2. Megan Brown. 3. Amanda Corl.

Winter intermediate calf: 1. Holly Heinrichs. 2. Casie Kocher. 3. Isaac Haagen.

Fall senior calf: 1. Ben Cloninger. 2. Keri Connelly. 3. Dustin Gates.

Summer yearling: 1. Marie Kocher. 2. Tonya Kocher. 3. Mark Zimmerman.

Spring junior yearling: 1. Amanda Corl. 2. Nicole Wasson.

Winter intermediate yearling: 1. Holly Heinrichs. 2. April Hartle. 3. Tonya Kocher.

Fall senior yearling: 1. Rebecca Cloninger. 2. Ashley Hartle. 3. April Hartle.

Junior 2-year-old: 1. Ashley Hartle. 2. Casie Kocher.

Senior 2-year-old: 1. Marie Kocher. 2. Ben Cloninger. 3. Pam Heinrichs.

Junior 3-year-old: 1. Elizabeth Cloninger. 2. Ben Cloninger.

Senior 3-year-old: 1. Amy Hartle. 2. Alisa Hartle.

Four-year-old: 1. Ben Cloninger. 2. Troy Hartle. 3. Rebecca Cloninger.

Five-year-old: 1. Scott Stringer.
Six years and older: 1. April Hartle. 2. Amy Hartle. 3. Amanda Corl.

Dam and daughter: 1. Casie Kocher. 2. Amanda Corl. 3. Alisa Hartle.

JUNIOR CHAMPION
Rebecca Cloninger

RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION
Katie Brown

SENIOR CHAMPION
Ben Cloninger

RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION
Troy Hartle

GRAND CHAMPION
Ben Cloninger

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION
Troy Hartle

SHOWMANSHIP
Youth Champion: Tonya Kocher.
Reserve: Isaac Haagen.

Junior Champion: Elizabeth Cloninger.
Reserve: Mary Martz.
Intermediate Champion: Amanda Corl.
Reserve: Courtney Klingler.

Senior Champion: Keri Connelly.
Reserve: Ben Cloninger.

GRAND CHAMPION
Keri Connelly

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION
Ben Cloninger

JUNIOR MARKET SWINE SHOW

CROSSBRED
Light lightweight: 1. Lucas Yocum. 2. Pam Heinrichs. 3. Teri Shaffer.
Medium lightweight: 1. Holly Heinrichs.

2. Jordan Frank. 3. Shawn Frank.
Heavy lightweight: 1. Chris Alters. 2. Luke Harding. 3. Zach Harding.

Champion: Chris Alters.
Reserve: Holly Heinrichs.

Light mediumweight: 1. Lisa Zimmerman. 2. Lisa Zimmerman. 3. Haley Brown.

Medium mediumweight: 1. Jennifer Ashcraft. 2. Jacob Gates. 3. Rachelle Miller.

Heavy mediumweight: 1. Kerston Miller. 2. Bethany Wasson. 3. Jay Harding.

Champion: Jennifer Ashcraft.
Reserve: Kerston Miller.

Light lighthheavyweight: 1. Jay Harding. 2. Trish Bracken. 3. Chelsea Martin.

Medium lighthheavyweight: 1. Derek Wasson. 2. Hunter Casher. 3. Chris Zimmerman.

Heavy lighthheavyweight: 1. George Peters. 2. Kelly Strouse. 3. Keri Connelly.

Champion: Derek Wasson.
Reserve: George Peters.

Light heavyweight: 1. Ben Cloninger. 2. Amber Grove. 3. Elizabeth Cloninger.

Medium heavyweight: 1. David Grove. 2. Emilie Campbell. 3. Cloninger.

Heavy heavyweight: 1. Chelsea Martin. 2. Deborah McAllister. 3. Deborah McAllister.

Champion: Chelsea Martin.
Reserve: Deborah McAllister.

CROSSBRED GRAND CHAMPION
Chelsea Martin

CROSSBRED RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION
Deborah McAllister

DUROC
Lightweight: 1. Bethany Wasson. 2. Rachelle Miller. 3. Chris Zimmerman.

Mediumweight: 1. Tess Deardorff. 2. Brandon Coakley. 3. Andy Harding.

Heavyweight: 1. Derek Wasson. 2. Bradley Wasson. 3. Kelly Strouse.

Champion: Derek Wasson.
Reserve: Bradley Wasson.

HAMPSHIRE
Mediumweight: 1. Josh Bartley. 2. Dustin Coakley. 3. Russell Mark.

Champion: Josh Bartley.
Reserve: Dustin Coakley.

YORKSHIRE
Lightweight: 1. Dustin Fleck. 2. Benner Hall. 3. Trish Bracken.

Mediumweight: 1. Cassie Deardorff. 2. Kerston Miller. 3. Josh Bartley.

Heavyweight: 1. Chris Alters. 2. Joshua Kelleman. 3. Russell Mark.

Champion: Chris Alters.
Reserve: Dustin Fleck.

GRAND CHAMPION MARKET HOG
Chris Alters

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION MARKET HOG
Chelsea Martin

SHOWMANSHIP
Youth Champion: Vance Brown.

Reserve: Maggie Harding.
Junior Champion: Branna Stover.
Reserve: Tara Baney.

Intermediate Champion: Benner Hall.
Reserve: Trish Bracken.

Senior Champion: 1. Keri Connelly.
Reserve: Deborah McAllister.

GRAND CHAMPION
Keri Connelly

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION
Benner Hall

DUROC CHAMPION SOW
Chris Zimmerman.

DUROC RESERVE CHAMPION SOW
Lisa Zimmerman

HAMPSHIRE CHAMPION SOW
Kelly Strouse

YORKSHIRE CHAMPION SOW
Alexandra Strouse

YORKSHIRE RESERVE CHAMPION SOW
Kelly Strouse

JUNIOR BEEF SHOW

MAINE ANJOU CHAMPION
Erin Knepp

SHORTHORN CHAMPION
Jessi Bruss

MARKET STEER
Lightweight: 1. Andy Harding. 2. Blake Owens-Brown. 3. Courtney Mathiesen.

Medium lightweight: 1. Claire Peters. 2. Jordan Frank. 3. Sam Peters.

Heavy lightweight: 1. Deborah McAllister. 2. Tammi Deibler. 3. Toni Capparelle.

Champion lightweight: Claire Peters.
Reserve Champion lightweight: Deborah McAllister.

Light middleweight: 1. Christina Kline. 2. Brandon Coakley. 3. Danielle Peters.

Medium middleweight: 1. Josie Capparelle. 2. Sam Peters. 3. Robert Harpster.

Heavy middleweight: 1. Megan Brown. 2. Trish Bracken. 3. Amanda Stover.

Champion middleweight: Josie Capparelle.
Reserve Champion middleweight: Megan Brown.

Light lighthheavyweight: 1. Erin Knepp. 2. Danielle Peters. 3. Kelli Jo Lucas.

Medium lighthheavyweight: 1. Zach Harding. 2. Jaysun Harpster. 3. Laura Bracken.

Heavy lighthheavyweight: 1. Deborah McAllister. 2. Kelli Jo Lucas. 3. Shawn Frank.

Champion lighthheavyweight: Deborah McAllister.
Reserve Champion lighthheavyweight: Erin Knepp.

Light heavyweight: 1. Thomas Bruss. 2. Andy Harding. 3. Blake Owens-Brown.

Medium heavyweight: 1. Ryan Knepp. 2. Will Bracken. 3. Cindy Kline.

Heavyweight: 1. Jamie Kline. 2. Christina Kline. 3. Will Bracken.

Champion heavyweight: Ryan Knepp.
Reserve Champion heavyweight: Thomas Bruss.

GRAND CHAMPION
Ryan Knepp

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION
Deborah McAllister

SHOWMANSHIP
Youth Champion: Emilie Campbell.
Youth Reserve Champion: Claire Peters.

Junior Champion: Andy Harding.
Junior Reserve Champion: Josie Capparelle.

Intermediate Champion: Sam Peters.
Intermediate Reserve Champion: Shannon Knepp.

Senior Champion: Deb McAllister.
Senior Reserve Champion: Christina Kline.

GRAND CHAMPION
Sam Peters

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION
Emilie Campbell

JUNIOR MARKET GOAT SHOW

MARKET GOAT
Light lightweight: 1. Clayton Kessling. 2. Liza Kessling. 3. Jessica Stover.

Medium lightweight: 1. Tara Baney. 2. Nicholas Cox. 3. Liza Kessling.

Heavy lightweight: 1. Michelle Carbonara. 2. Bridget Kocher. 3. Travis Corl.

Champion: Michelle Carbonara.
Reserve: Tara Baney.

Light mediumweight: 1. Lauren Owens. 2. Amanda Stover. 3. Michelle Carbonara.

Medium mediumweight: 1. Ellen Kolos. 2. Brianna Stover. 3. Tyler Corl.

Heavy mediumweight: 1. Alan Stover. 2. Ryan Singer. 3. Erica Bierly.

Champion: Alan Stover.
Reserve: Ryan Singer.

Light heavyweight: 1. Garrett Singer. 2. Makala Gordon. 3. Jody Weaver.

Medium heavyweight: 1. Jacob Bierly. 2. Dustin Harter. 3. Michelle Dunlap.

Heavy heavyweight: 1. Jody Weaver. 2. Garrett Singer. 3. Lindsay Stover.

Champion: Garrett Singer.
Reserve: Jody Weaver.

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All photos by Nicki Lefever, special correspondent



Jessica McMurtrie's Uncle, Greg Martz, holds her reserve champion market lamb, a Suffolk cross.



Joyce Martz represents End-Ru Jerseys with Lollie the champion Jersey cow at the 2003 Grange Fair.