

# ROCKIN'

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sisting of three numbers; a round dance, a rock and roll dance, a polka and three more squares. Dancers are treated to songs such as "Okey Dokey Polka," "Hot Time the Old Town Tonight," "Just Because," "Red Wing" and "She'll Be Comin' Round the Mountain."

Mary Ann Furman, 62, attends every dance. The Furmans have been married for 17 years and teach private square dance lessons on the side. They have also instructed square dance

classes twice at the Dietrich Theater in Tunkhannock.

"Mary Ann is our right-hand man," Roger said.

The Furmans' three children - Julie Downs, of Beaumont; Jeff Furman, of Jenningsville; and Cathy Laird, of Lem-on - also attend the dances as do his five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The Furmans are trying to get more children involved in square dancing. Last year, the couple gave a demonstration to several classes at Evans Falls Elementary School in Tunkhannock.

"There are not that many callers left," Furman said. "I've been trying to get the kids interested in calling, but

no luck so far. Square dancing, I think, is kind of a lost art."

Furman welcomes anyone who doesn't know how to square dance but is interested in learning to attend one of his dances. He says that following what the caller says will guide a person through the steps. Participants are encouraged to work with an experienced couple whenever possible.

"Just listen to the caller," Furman said. "We walk through it if it's something difficult. If they don't know what they're doing, they won't come back again. That's my philosophy. People have got to have a good time."

Rebecca Bria, a staff writer for The Dallas Post, may be reached at 970-7436.



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/FOR THE DALLAS POST

Roger Furman plays the drums and calls a square dance on Saturday, Nov. 22, at the old Noxen Schoolhouse.



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/FOR THE DALLAS POST

Herdsmen Cecil Martin, Lands at Hillside, leads this heifer into a cage to get her hooves clipped, adding many years to her life.

# HOOVES

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"If their feet are trimmed and the cow's comfortable, what happens is they eat better and they'll produce more milk," Bentley said. "A lame cow, if the farmer doesn't take care of it, ends up going for beef. By doing their feet, it makes their life span that much longer."

In order to trim the hooves, Bentley lays each cow down on a rubber mat that is on a machine and restrains the animal. The trimming process takes about five to seven minutes on a cow with healthy hooves. Bentley charges \$10 a cow and an additional \$5 if there are complications with the hooves.

Bentley became involved with the hoof trimming profession because two of his uncles were hoof trimmers. Hoof trimmers are somewhat rare and, with more farms closing, Bentley is willing to make the hour and a half trip to Trucksville from his home.

"Farms are getting to be quite

scarce nowadays," Bentley said. "You've got to travel more."

Chuck Beome has been the farm manager at The Lands at Hillside Farm for three months and understands the importance of trimming cows' hooves often.

"We try to do them every six months," Beome said. "This way, they lift them up so we can make sure they don't have any abscesses or stones that cause sores. Doing their feet is almost like getting a new pair of shoes."

Beome came across Bentley's business card recently at the Harford Fair. About two months ago, Beome decided to have Bentley work on 17 of the cows at The Lands at Hillside Farms. Because Bentley did a good job, Beome asked him to return the week of November 3.

Bentley found three cows with problems - one with an abscess and two with warts - and was able to treat the problems. He will now be the regular hoof trimmer for the farm's 75 Jersey and Holstein dairy cows.

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