

Jenna Hardy, Calf Manager

Star Rock Farms, Conestoga Township

Support Your Local Farmer

As a young female farmer in Conestoga, I am proud to be part of the small population feeding our families, community and beyond.

National Ag Day is a time to recognize the important role that agriculture plays in providing safe, wholesome and affordable products to our households. The farm I work for is dedicated to producing nutritious milk for our families, our employees and the community surrounding us. Providing our cows with excellent care is the best way to ensure that. Our cows have visits with our nutritionist weekly, new bedding daily, and fresh water consistently – which are not always easy in challenging weather.

Snow days and delays unfortunately do not exist for farmers. In fact, snow, ice and cold often result in skipped meals and longer work days because our cows' comfort comes first. That is why they say that farming is more than just a job, it's a way of life.

You may have heard that dairy farmers are facing tough times right now. I would love and greatly appreciate any support! Think of us when you go to the supermarket and choose real dairy products – milk, cheese, yogurt or ice cream. Not only will it help us, but they are full of great nutrients for you and your family.

Learn more about dairy farms by visiting AmericanDairy.com.

Andy Saylor

PMMB Staff Attorney

The Personality of Pennsylvania

The name of our state means Penn's Woods. We are blessed to have such woods. And we are blessed to have some of the best farmland in the world. Pennsylvania's personality is made up to a large extent by our woods and our farms.

Far too many of our farmers are finding themselves unable to continue or on the brink of having to make that demoralizing decision. Often these are families that have been farming for many generations, which makes it that much harder.

The current challenges to our farmers, including our dairy farmers, are a wake-up call to the rest of us. We must not take our Pennsylvania farms for granted. Try this. When you drive past a

farm, first take notice that it's there. Then imagine that land without the crops or the silos or the barns or the farmhouse or the tractors or the cows or the kids running around.

Pennsylvania's personality will not be the same if we don't help turn the tide for our Pennsylvania farms.

Buy local.

Buy Pennsylvania.

Turner's Dairy

Penn Hills, PA

In April of 1930 Charles G. Turner decided to separate from his father's farm in Wilkesburg and start a dairy farm of his own. Charlie found a farm located in Penn Hills, PA, just east of Wilkesburg, that he was able to lease. Charlie agreed to lease the property and pay the property taxes to prevent it from being repossessed during the Great Depression. Charlie's mission, which still drives us today, was *"Perfect Products, Perfect Service, Treat People Right."* He firmly believed that if he had the highest quality, best tasting bottle of milk consumers would keep coming back. Charlie was passionate about caring for the people around him as well, employees and the community. Charlie had three sons, Jim, Chuck Sr., and Walt, who eventually came to work in the business in various capacities while keeping their eyes on a common goal. Jim was invested in the milk processing and distribution operations. Chuck Sr. oversaw the farm operations, which included production dairy cows, turkeys, and pigs. Along with Turner's dairy products, we distributed whole hog sausage and turkeys to our loyal home delivery customers. Walt oversaw Turner's Sales and Marketing, in addition to our convenience store business.



Turner Dairy employees about 200 team members from surrounding communities including 11 family members, which represent 3 generations of the Turner family. We source raw milk from approximately 40 family owned and operated dairy farms within 70 miles of our facility. The milk we source from these farms is routinely recognized as some of the best in the world. Annually we submit products to the World Dairy Expo and LA

International Dairy Show (the only national competitions for fluid milk) to be judged, earning 8 gold and 3 silver medals in 2018. Our products are distributed regionally throughout Western PA to a variety of partners including retail outlets, food service, schools and health care. In addition to dairy products Turner's produces a variety of 100% juices, drinks, and Pittsburgh's Favorite Iced Tea. In 2017 the Turner family acquired Pittsburgh Special-T Dairy (formerly Colteryahn Dairy) in the Carrick neighborhood of Pittsburgh to produce a variety of by-products and specialty products for Turner Dairy and other customers. As we approach our 89th anniversary we still hold true to Charlie's mission while competing in an ever-changing market.