



The Freund & Jacquier Families

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There are over 4,000 cows living in Canaan. That means there are more cows in our town than people! In this farm newsletter, read about the farming families that care for those cows!

Local

Postal Customer



Spring 2016

WE ARE FARMERS & WE OWN CABOT

The Great American MILK DRIVE

Join Feeding America® and local dairy farmers in support of The Great American Milk Drive.

Milk is the **most requested** food item at pantries and food banks around the country but is **rarely donated**. For National Dairy Month our farm families are supporting The Great American Milk Drive. **1 in 7** Americans are food insecure. In our own community, Fishes and Loaves served 10,000 meals during the month of March. There is a local need for nutritious food, especially milk which provides 9 essential nutrients and vitamins including protein, calcium, Vitamin D and more! Participate in The Great American Milk Drive and donate online at: milklife.com/give

A Cooperative of Farm Families



Both of our farm families are members of the Cabot Cooperative. Our cooperative picks up and markets the milk produced on our farms.

We're proud of the award winning cheeses, yogurts, butters and whipped cream made in our creameries and we thank you for supporting our brand and our cooperative! 100% of the profits are returned to the 1100 farm families.

Spring Newsletter COUPON

Good for 1 Cabot 'Serious Snack' cheddar (3/4 oz)



Cut this coupon out and redeem it at **Freund's Farm Market**, 324 Norfolk Road, East Canaan, CT

Expires 12/16

Hi Neighbors!

JUNE is National Dairy Month

We were excited to receive such positive feedback following our first farm newsletter back in November! In this newsletter we are delighted to include updates from 2 family farms in East Canaan; Freund's Farm and the Freund family and Laurelbrook Farm and the Jacquier family.

We are especially eager to share our farm news with you this month as June is National Dairy Month! As you will read in this newsletter, our farms are unique with different family dynamics, diversified farm businesses and generations farming. Our families work closely together and have found opportunities to share our expertise with one another as we work to meet the same goals. First and foremost we take care of the cows on our farms so that they continue to produce high quality, healthy, nutritious milk.

Also make sure to read the dairy farmer features that will be printed in The Lakeville Journal each week in June. Amanda interviewed 4 farmers for the month long series. We hope you enjoy this 2nd newsletter as well as the weekly farmer profiles this month. As always, feel free to contact us with questions. We're grateful for your support and hope you will celebrate Dairy Month with us!

Sincerely,

The farming families from Freund's Farm and Laurelbrook Farm



Mark your Calendar—10/9/2016

We invite you to come visit our cows, our new barns and ask us your questions about dairy farming during our **Open Farm Sunday on October 9!**

Laurelbrook Farm—Family, Farm & Natural Resources

“Bob’s dream was to be a great farmer in Connecticut”, Dottie Jacquier

Family During a recent interview about why she started farming with her late husband Robert; Dottie Jacquier (Gram) reflected on a life filled with family, farming and pie.

For over 50 years Gram served lunch, pie and ice cream to our growing family. Today, we have 4 generations of family living and working together at Laurelbrook Farm in East Canaan.

Photo credit: Cabot Creamery



Members of the family from L to R:

Colby, Jennifer, Morgan, Cricket, Jean, Peter, Robert, Dottie, Bobby, Teresa, Kayla, Austin, Shelby, Dalton and Bailey Jacquier

Farm Dottie and Robert started our family farm in 1948 with 18 cows. Today, with more family members involved, we milk 1,050 cows, three times/day.

New Barn

We replaced a 50 year old structure with this modernized barn to offer the best cow comfort. The new barn includes:

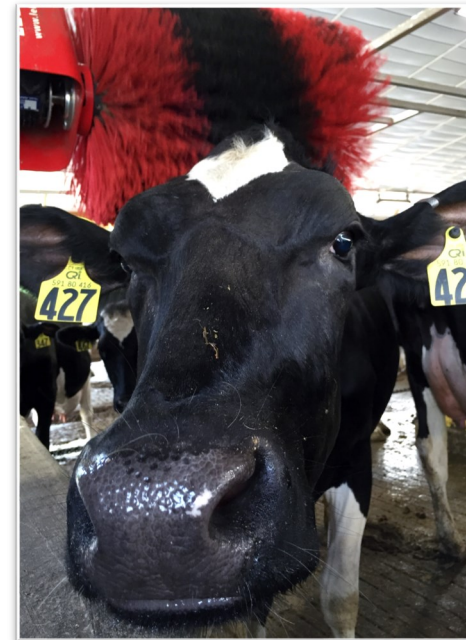
- Thermostat controlled fans for cooling
- Waterbeds for every cow for comfort when resting
- Pedometers for each cow to track daily activity
- Cow brushes for those ‘hard to reach’ spots
- 24 hour access to fresh feed and water

Baby Calves and Nutrition

All of the calves on our farm are raised to join the herd of milking cows. They stay in white calf hutches until weaning; these houses provide shade from the sun and protection from the wind. Cynthia “Sam” Simmons has been raising our calves for 15 years, we are proud of the great job she does!

Our cows’ nutritionist and veterinarian visit the farm weekly. Animal health is our first priority and it starts with newborn calves, they are the future of our farm, after all.

Freund’s Farm—A Family Farming For 3 Generations



Milking Cows with Lely Robots This spring our 270 milking cows moved into a new barn equipped with 5 robotic milking units. Cows now choose their milking routine and frequency of visits. This technology allows us to focus our time more productively. It is already proving to be a great benefit to both cows and farmers!

Interesting facts about our robots:

Our cows average 3 visits to the robot per day. Average robot visits last 6.5 minutes; that’s less than 20 minutes per day that each cow is being milked. The robot maintains daily record of individual cow’s milk production and quality.

Features in our new barn for cow care:

Cows rest on waterbeds. Five rotating cow brushes provide back scratches. Misting fans keep cows cool when it heats up! The feed pusher robot, “Juno” keeps feed close and fresh.

Freund’s Farm Market & Bakery Bzzzzzzz... We have a new ‘animal’ addition to our farm. Rachel and Cole set up a bee box this spring and we’re looking forward to their first honey harvest this Fall. Did you know that, bees collect pollen all over their body? Even their eyeballs have fine hairs to gather up pollen.



The first tomatoes of the season are RIPE AND RED! Our tomato seeds are started in the farmhouse kitchen in February so that they are ready for transplanting into CowPots by March and we began picking the end of May. If you are as excited as we are for some *fresh, local, juicy, delicious* tomatoes (over 20 varieties)—which Rachel’s new bee colony helped to pollinate, stop by any day of the week from 9 am—6 pm!



Laurelbrook Natural Resources

To continue to grow our compost business, reclaim land into production agriculture and provide opportunities for the future generation we have diversified our family business to include Laurelbrook Natural Resources. We sell compost, mulches, gravel, stone, sand and top soil.



Contact the Jacquier family at:
laurelbrookfarm@sbcglobal.net



Solar Panels We installed 699 solar panels this year to generate 240 kw of electricity, enough energy to run the barn and CowPots facility. Renewable energy is very important on our farm; our methane digester provides biogas for heating and these solar panels generate electricity from the sun!

If you have questions about Freund’s Farm, contact us: Amanda@cowpots.com