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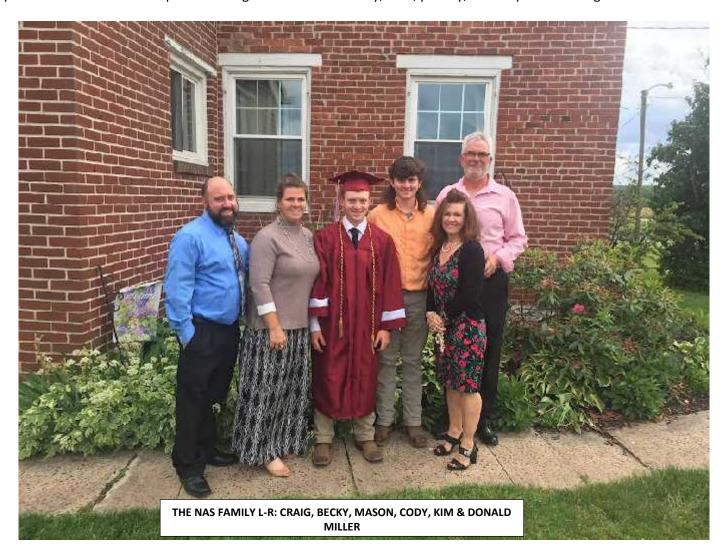


#### MEET YOUR NORMANDE BREEDER "FLYING DIAMOND FARM"



In the central bottom of the state in Pennsylvania is the town of Gettysburg. Gettysburg is the county seat of Adams County. Adams County was created on January 22, 1800, from part of York County. It was named after the second president of the United States, John Adams. On July 1, 1863, a very crucial three day battle of the Civil War was fought near Gettysburg. As a result of this battle, Adams County is a center for Civil War Tourism. Gettysburg National Battlefield is the site where President Abraham Lincoln made his historical Gettysburg Address. Amongst all this history, Adams County has a very rich

agricultural presence. Top commodities include many orchards. Apple and peach orchards thrive on the south facing mountain slopes. This area is known as the South Mountain Fruit Belt. Adams County boasts 20,000 acres in orchard production. Other areas of production agriculture include dairy, beef, poultry, row crops and small grains.



Becky and Craig Nas, along with their two sons, Mason and Cody, and Becky's parents, Donald and Kim Miller, own and operate Flying Diamond Farm. The farm is situated in the rolling foothills and expansive valleys of the South Mountains.

The farm is approximately 5 miles north of Gettysburg's Center Square. The Center Square is across the street from The Wills House. The Wills House is where President Lincoln wrote his Gettysburg Address.

Becky's grandparents, Philip and Nellie Miller, purchased the farm in 1942. On the farm they raised five children along with beef cattle and row crops. Philip not only farmed but he was a professional auctioneer as well. Philip was also a pilot and owned his own plane. Philip would often use his plane to conduct auctions some distance away from the farm. Philip, became known in the area as the "The Flying Auctioneer". Philip and Nellie resided on the farm until their passing at ages of 92, Philip, and 94, Nellie.

Of the five children Philip & Nellie had, there was a son named Donald. Donald worked the farm along with his parents. Through friends, Donald met a young lady named Kim Clabaugh. They were married in 1978. Through their union Donald and Kim had 4 daughters



named Mandy, Heidi, Julia and Becky. Becky attended schools in Gettysburg. She graduated from Gettysburg High School in 1999. While in high school, Becky met Craig Nas through mutual friends. They dated through graduation from high school and through Craig's time spent serving in the Army. Becky attended The Baltimore School of Massage York Campus, while Craig was in the Army. Becky graduated in 2001 with a degree in Massage Therapy. After Craig's discharge from the Army, Becky and Craig married in 2002 in Gettysburg.

Following their marriage they moved to Laramie, Wyoming where Craig attended school at WyoTech studying diesel mechanics. Craig graduated in 2003. They made the decision to move back to Gettysburg. There they welcomed their first son, Mason. Craig landed a job at Schneider National Carriers in Carlisle, Pa.



Becky was always a farm girl at heart. When she returned from Wyoming, her grandfather was aging. It was obvious that

help was needed on the farm. Becky took on a more consistent role helping her father & grandfather. In 2008, Becky made a fulltime commitment to the farm. After their second son, Cody, was born they moved onto the farm.

Their farmstead has great history as well. The home and barn were built pre-Civil War. Upon Becky and Craig's arrival they began to upgrade and make improvements to the buildings. The barn is what is known as a bank barn. A bank barn is a barn standing in an open area. Soil and fill is then brought in to build a ramp up the side of the barn. This ramp allows the capability to drive horses pulling the wagons of hay up into the barn and fill the hay loft.



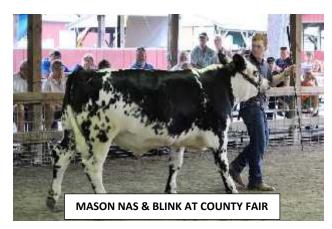
In 2013, Becky decided she wanted to put some beef cattle back into the farm operation. Some of you may remember Walter and Deborah Bittenbender of Gettysburg, PA. The Bittenbenders were neighbors to Becky and Craig. The Bittenbenders had a very fine quality herd of Normandes in the 2000's. They purchased their first foundation Normandes from the Muellers of Rewey, Wis. Becky was always attracted to the Normandes in the Bittenbender pasture. Doing research about the Normande breed, Becky made the decision that she was going to purchase some Normandes to begin her cattle operation. In the fall of 2012 Walter Bittenbender passed away. In 2013 Debra Bittenbender decided to downsize her herd due to Walt's death. Becky purchased her first two cows and three heifers from the Bittenbender Farm in 2013. Becky transferred

the registrations of those cattle purchased to her name. That same year Becky and Craig became NANA members.

Presently, there are only three cows and two heifers in the Flying Diamond Farm herd. In the past they had up to 12

brood cows and usually 4 to 6 steers on feed. The decision to downsize their Normande herd was made due to their lives being full with the activities of Mason and Cody. Becky breeds her cattle artificially using Normande sires available to her in the USA.

Mason is a freshman at Penn State University where he is majoring in Agronomy and minoring in animal science. Mason is also active in the Block and Bridle Club, and works part time at the University Farm. This past year at the 2021 South Mountain Fair, Mason entered a Normande show steer. To the families pleasure the steer placed first in the Bred and Owned Class. In the Market Class, Mason's steer placed 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 8 entries. That Normande steer created a lot of interest from fairgoers. Becky and Mason spent a lot of time answering questions about the Normande Breed.



Cody is attending Gettysburg High School. His schedule is full with his interests and high school activities.

Flying Diamond Farm consists of 350 acres of owned land and 200 acres of rented. They grow corn, soybeans, wheat and hay. They employ conservation practices such as no-till planting and the use of cover crops. Becky's long-range goals are to begin to build back their Normande herd numbers. Becky, has the vision that Mason will return home after college and get involved in the future of the farm.

Becky's advice to potential new owners of Normande Cattle is this: "I would encourage anyone to incorporate Normande's into their herd. If you have brood stock or are feeding steers you cannot go wrong with the quality of the animal raised."



I am sure that the Normande Cattle being raised on the Flying Diamond Farm are of the utmost quality. That is an easy statement to make knowing that the cattle's genetics trace back to Walt & Deborah Bittenbender. Visiting with Becky over the phone to gather information to write this article, I have the impression that the Flying Diamond Normandes are going to continue to be excellent cattle.

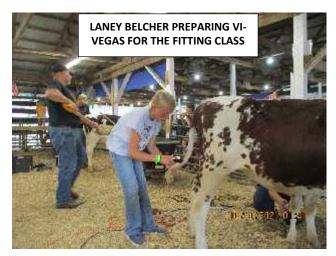
Becky has a passion for these Normande Cattle. With the breeding program that she is mapping out, do not be surprised that over time "Flying Diamond Farm" will become the home of elite Normandes.

I, so appreciate Becky taking the time to speak with me and to allow me to write a short story about her family and farm.

Jeff Bock, writer of article.

#### NANA YOUTH 2021 SHOW SEASON-PART 2

Our January, February, March issue of Normande Happenings, featured NANA youth who had shown Normandes during the 2021 show season. Unfortunately we did not have space for all the youth in that issue so here is part 2.



During the first week of August in the state of Pennsylvania, cousins Laney Belcher, Keeley Alcorn, and Anna Alcorn exhibited their Normandes at the 90th Warren County Fair in Pittsfield, PA. These three cousins, and additional cousins, exhibit a wide variety of animals through their 4-H projects. Besides exhibiting Normandes in the dairy show, they also exhibited horses, sheep, pigs, and rabbits.

In the 4-H/FFA dairy show Laney and Keeley started the week of the fair participating in a Fitting Class. The fitting class is a rather unique class. Depending upon your age you are expected to clip parts of your animal's body or the entire body, as well as "clean up" your clipping job before showing your animal. What makes this even more challenging for the young exhibitors is the clipping and cleaning up has to be done within a specific time frame for your age group. Laney

and Keeley's age group had to clip their animal's tail, tail head, back legs, and blend their clipping into the rest of the animal's body. Both cousins placed well in the Fitting Show.



On Wednesday of the fair the heifer classes are shown. As is the usual practice of county fairs, the Normandes were shown in the Any Other Breed Classes. Laney showed her heifer, Vicks Pride Vi-Vegas, in the Fall Senior Calf class. Vi-Vegas

**KEELEY ALCORN PREPARING VEL-**

**VOODOO FOR FITTING CLASS** 

is an 88% Normande sired by the French bull, Horleans. The dam of Vi-Vegas is Vicks Pride Vel-Vivian, a daughter of the French bull Viveco.

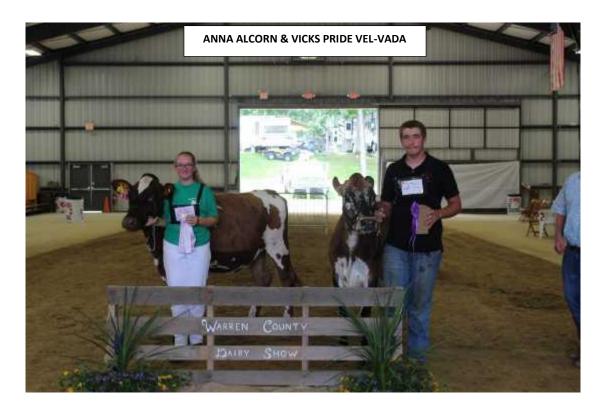
Keeley showed her heifer, Vicks Pride Vel-VooDoo, in the Summer Yearling Class. Vel-VooDoo is a 75% Normande sired by New Hope Telerama Riley. Her dam is Vicks Singleton Velvet, a daughter of the French bull Singleton. When the selections were made for the Junior Champion Females of the Any Other Breed Show, Vicks Pride Vi-Vegas was selected as Reserve Junior Champion Female.

The dairy cow show for the Junior Show of the fair was held on Thursday and it was Anna Alcorn's turn to show. Anna showed Vicks Pride Vel-Vada, an un-freshened junior two year old. Vel-Vada is a 75% Normande sired by New-Hope Primate Montgomery-ET. And her dam is also Vicks Singleton Velvet. Thus Vel-VooDoo and Vel-Vada are maternal sisters. Vicks Pride Vel-Vada was eventually selected as the Reserve Grand Champion of the Any Other Breed Show.

**VICKS PRIDE VI-VEGAS & LANEY BELCHER** 



The three cousins reported they received a lot of compliments on their "speckled cows" and many people stopped to pet them!



## **JOSUE GALLEGOS**

**Be mindful of this name.** NANA does not know if this is a real individual, but we want you to be aware there is an individual who has identified himself by the above name and has presented himself wanting to buy some Normande animals. In the past year he has contacted two NANA members (that we know of) via email with the following message: "Am interested in a Heifers

Calving date weight price do you have any pictures text 410-559-4641"

Another thing not known about Gallegos is where he lives or where he is calling/texting/emailing from. For all we know, Gallegos could be operating from another country (He has an accent.). The 410 area code is for the Baltimore, MD, metropolitan area. When the NANA members responded they received a text with a 347 area code (for portions of New York City.) Pictures and information requested of available animals were sent to him via text or email.

The response the breeders received regarding the animal information they had provided was he selected a couple of animals for the price quoted. He then wanted to know who the check should be made out to and to what bank he should have his financial institution send the check. In each instance the "check for the animals" arrived at the member's bank. BUT, the check was for more than what had been quoted as a price. In one case, the breeder was contacted by Gallegos via text within an hour after the check had arrived at their bank. The reason he gave for the contact was he thought his bank had made a mistake in the amount they had sent. Sure enough it had. A \$4,000.00 mistake of over payment.

By now, hopefully, you know where this is going. Gallegos asked the breeders to return the over payment in the form of two cashier's checks (of equal amounts) to a person and address in Michigan. By then both breeders knew it all was a scam and neither one lost any animals or money.

When law enforcement was contacted they understood the desire of the breeders to report the attempted fraud and desire for Gallegos to suffer some consequences. But, law enforcement is limited in what they can do in this kind of situation. For law enforcement to be able to get access to an IP address (An IP address would have revealed if the email originated in the U.S. or was from another country. If it was from a foreign country the investigation would have ended because these individuals are pretty much untouchable law enforcement wise.), text messages, and emails, a search warrant is needed. And unless someone has actually lost money or property, judges are very reluctant to grant search warrants to obtain those records. (If you have been a victim of this type of scam, please report it to law enforcement even though it may be embarrassing. Judges are more willing to grant search warrants if money/property has been fraudulently taken.)

Other pieces that provided evidence Gallegos was attempting a scam/fraud. 1-He sent his check via United Parcel Service with a tracking number. That is how he knew to call the breeder soon after his check had arrived at the bank. 2-The return address on the check's envelope was for King Lumber in Gladwin, MI. 3-The name of the company on the check was Digital Management, Inc., with a 6701 Democracy Blvd. address in Bethesda, MD 20817. Digital Management Inc. is a legitimate company in Bethesda, MD. 6701 Democracy Blvd is a commercial building currently on the real estate market in Bethesda, MD, and used to be Digital Management's former address. 4-Even though Gallegos claimed to be very busy doing farm work during phone conversations, he was very evasive with and/or outright ignored questions about his farm, etc.

With 21<sup>st</sup> Century digital/electronic/computer capabilities it has become much easier for scammers to ply their criminal activity. Within the agricultural community we tend to be a little more trusting than general society. Unfortunately, criminals try to take advantage of that trusting, so be cautious and even questioning to avoid becoming a victim.

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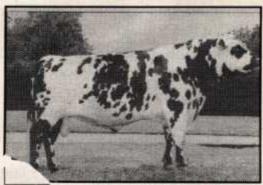
#### A COUPLE OF BLASTS FROM THE PAST

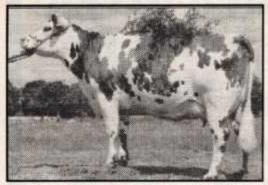
In the early 1970's semen from ten French Normande bulls was imported. One of those bulls was **CALVADOS**. Calvados was used extensively and as far as we know there is no semen left. The most famous American bred son of Calvados was SGF Calvados Kid 831Y. Bred by Brian Toivola of Hibbing, MN, "Calvados Kid" set the all-time record rate of gain for the St. Croix Valley Bull Test in the 1991-1992 test. As far as we know there is no more Calvados Kid semen available.



In the 1990's semen and embryos could once again be imported from France. For years NANA had been promoting the Normande breed to dairy producers with little success even though Normandes are a dual purpose breed. In the 1990's some dairy producers focused their dairy operations on grazing and crossbreeding. NANA had been placing ads promoting the Normande breed in "The Stockman Grassfarmer" periodical. This is one of those ads.

# Normande: THE NEW OPTION FOR U.S. GRAZIERS





# NORMANDE COWS ON HIGH FORAGE FEEDING SYSTEMS IN FRANCE AVERAGE 14,000 LBS. OF THE WORLD'S BEST MILK FOR CHEESE PRODUCTION.

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#### **CIRCLE D JACKSON 7YJ**

DOB: 04-24-2021

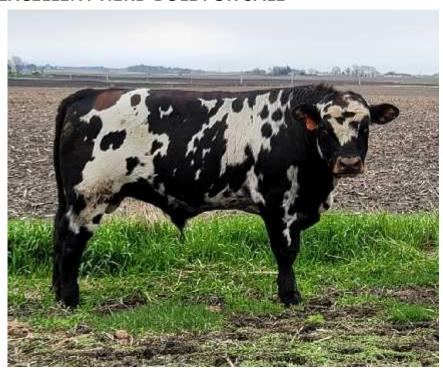
Birth Weight: 86#

Sire: Circle D Empire Ridge 7E

**Dam: Circle D Miss Foolerman** 

Yahtzee

Call Wayne: 641-373-0413





# mande Spring breeding 2022





















check our new catalog at https://normandegenetics.com/catalog/



**Normande Genetics** has been the main provider of French Normande genetics since 1997. We import semen and embryos from France, and we ship all across the U.S.

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#### **CIRCLE D HAWK TANK**

NANA HAS BEEN GIFTED SEMEN FROM THIS NORMANDE BEEF SIRE. "TANK" IS BLACK HIDED AND HIS CALVES ARE OFTEN BLACK HIDED. HE IS DEFINITELY A CALVING EASE SIRE WITH BIRTH WEIGHTS IN THE 70 POUND RANGE. \$10.00/UNIT

MINIMUM ORDER OF 5 UNITS YOU PAY SHIPPING

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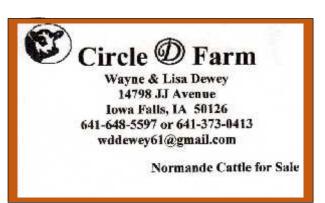
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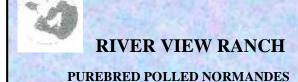
#### **NANA REGISTRATION, TRANSFER & MEMBERSHIP FEES**

ANNUAL ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP	\$40.00
ANNUAL ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP (NON-VOTING)	20.00
ANNUAL JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP	10.00
REGISTRATION AT 0-6 MONTHS OF AGE	10.00
REGISTRATION AT 7-12 MONTHS OF AGE	15.00
REGISTRATION AT 13-24 MONTHS OF AGE	20.00
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*NON-MEMBER REGISTRATION FEES ARE DOUBLE THE ABOVE	
TRANSFER WITHIN 60 DAYS OF SALE	10.00
TRANSFER AFTER 60 DAYS OF SALE	15.00

2021 YEAR CODE WAS J

#### **CLASSIFIEDS**



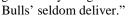


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- \*Polled Fullblood Genetics
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"The Normande breed has a level of consistent quality grade and yield grade balance that crossbred 'Balancer





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**BRIAN TOIVOLA NGS President** 11544 Spudville Rd. Hibbing, MN 55746

#### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

\*????-YOUR SPOUSE'S BIRTHDAY

\*?????-YOUR ANNIVERSARY

\*JULY 12-14, 2022: WISCONSIN FARM

**TECHNOLOGY DAYS, LOYAL, WI** 

\*SEPTEMBER 22-25, 2022: WORLD BEEF

**EXPO, MILWAUKEE, WI** 

\*SEPTEMBER 30, 2022: NANA ANNUAL

MEMBERSHIP MEETING, MINERAL POINT,

\*OCTOBER 1, 2022: NANTIONAL

NORMANDE SHOW, MINERAL POINT, WI

\*OCTOBER 2-7, 2022: WORLD DAIRY EXPO,

MADISON, WI

#### **THE COVER**

Pictured on the cover of this issue of Normande Happenings are three Normande yearling heifers in the herd of new Normande breeder, Tiffany Pease, of Council Bluff, IA. Tiffany purchased the entire herd of Ray & Marj Stonecypher during their dispersal. These three heifers were part of that purchase

The NANA office is looking for eye catching and attractive pictures of Normande cattle to use on the cover of future issues of "Normande Happenings". Please submit your picture(s) to the NANA office and if the editorial advisory board (my family) should choose your picture it will be on the cover of a "Normande Happenings".

#### **THANK YOU!**

**NORMANDE HAPPENINGS** is the official newsletter of the North American Normande Association published by the Association office four times per year. Active, associate and junior NANA members receive the newsletter as part of their dues. Non-members may subscribe for a cost of \$15.00/year.

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www.normandeassociation.com

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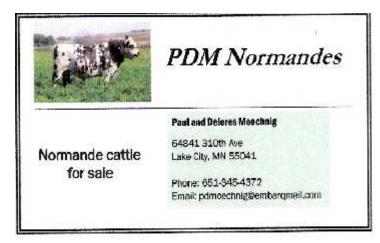
ONE-QUARTER PAGE: \$25.00/ISSUE OR \$80.00/YEAR

ONE-HALF PAGE: \$40.00/ISSUE OR \$120.00/YEAR

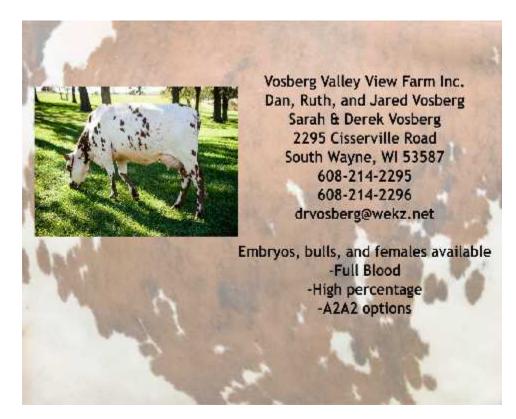
FULL PAGE: \$50.00/ISSUE OR \$150.00/YEAR

\*\*\*WANTED ADS ARE FREE.

\*\*\*NO EXTRA COST FOR PHOTOS IN ADS







## >>>>>PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE!<

The date of the 2022 National Normande Show and Annual Membership Meeting has been changed to one week later in the September, 2022. The date of the Annual Membership Meeting is September 30, 2022, at 7:00 pm in the Schimming Building at the Iowa County Fairgrounds in Mineral Point, WI. The show will be held the following day on October 1, 2022, beginning at 11:00 am in the Schimming Building as well.