



National Ag Day, March 20, 2018



RAISING GOATS — The Balkman Farm started out as a hobby farm in 2007 and is slowly growing into a boer goat-raising farm in Weakley County. The children – son Trace and daughter Erica – spend their spare time working with the Weakley County Junior Livestock Association and 4-H. Jody and Robin Balkman encourage their children to work hands on with their livestock. Erica is shown with her goat Tarragon during a 4-H regional show in 2012. Trace is pictured with his lamb Popcorn and the team has earned several ribbons over the years.

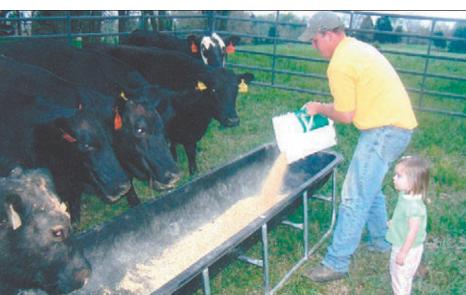




YOUNG FARMER — In the early 60s, Donnie Barner was already passionate about farming and was sure to follow in his father James' footsteps. The Barners of Weakley County began their operation more than 50 years ago in Kenton before moving their dairy farm to Martin. Barner and Sons Dairy Farms was recognized by State Rep. John Tanner in the early-2000s for creating what had become the largest dairy farm in West







A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A FARMER — The Chester children are growing up on their family's farm and getting a first-hand look at the cattle and row-crop operation. John and Mary Margaret Chester were the recipients of the Young Farmers and Ranchers Award through the Farm Bureau Federation. John Chester is a fifth-generation farmer. The couple has about 600 acres of farmland in Weakley County.



