

## Waxing poetic over soy-based candles

### Local business owner provides environmentally friendly scents

By MEGAN VEIT  
Staff Writer

Helping people find a little bit of enjoyment from her products is the goal of a local candle maker.

"Happy is good," Sheila Doering said, describing

the philosophy of her approach regarding her work and her customers.

The soy-based products found at Angel Scents Candles on Main Street Road in Botkins are made to please customers and provide Doering with a creative outlet.

"You should love what you do," Doering said.

Beginning in 2000, she and a friend began purchasing soy wax flakes and scents.

"Soy is a renewable resource," Doering said of the product's many positives.

Also listed among the positives are the clean emissions,

lack of carcinogens emitted and an increase in burning time as long as 50 percent.

Since its beginning, Doering worked on expanding the business and its inventory.

Soy whip body butters are among the newest additions and are provided in various popular scents.

"It doesn't take much and goes right into your skin," Doering said of the body butter's ability to absorb without leaving a greasy residue. The scents Doering provides vary seasonally and come from any of five suppliers all in the area.

"I try to stay in Ohio," Doering said.



Sheila Doering displays some of her seasonal soy candles. The Botkins woman began making the environmentally friendly scented candles in 2000.

Staff photo/ Annie Linder

Scents are a mix of her own creations, designer duplicates and ordered perfumes. Her own creations include lime-coconut and summer angel, two scents for summer.

Doering says most candle sales occur during the fall months as people begin to spend more time indoors. Her most popular scents include cinnamon

overtones, such as pecan pie and coffee cake.

"It's all about the food scents," Doering said, describing the popular candles based around festive pies and baked goods.

Most fragrances come from essential oils.

"The oils are more expensive, but customers have requested them," Doering said.

Pleasing the customer is

one of Doering's top priorities, she said.

Doering provides her customers with flameless candles, heated with low watt bulbs, as well as electric tart warmers in an attempt to meet all requests.

In another show of her appreciation, Doering shields

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## Family farm facilitates learning

By LAURA MAZUR  
Staff Writer

Tradition and learning are what have kept the Othmar Dairy Farm going — through three generations.

"I like being outside in the open and being in control of my own destiny," said Dan Fullenkamp, who tends the farm with his wife, Beck.

Born and raised on this Maria Stein farm, Fullenkamp is the third generation of his family to farm the land. His father, Othmar, whom part of the farm's name originates, was born and raised on the farm.

Othmar's father, Ben, farmed the land, as well. The farm is also named for Fullenkamp's mother, Mary.

The farm, situated along Huwer Road, consists of more than 300 acres, most of which have been in the family for all of these generations. Corn, beans, wheat, hay, oats and other grains are among the crops farmed, along with the 70 dairy cattle that are milked on a regular basis.

Fullenkamp's father used to tend to hogs, chickens and other barnyard animals, but empha-

Beck Fullenkamp said she had aspirations of going to school to become a teacher, but instead she

decided to help out on the farm when she married.

Combining her desire to teach and her husband's knowledge and enjoyment of the dairy industry, the couple teamed up

to educate groups about dairy by donating to local groups at events such as banquets, parties and church youth groups to promote dairy products.

They wondered if at least one of their children would stay home and

farm, but found that possibly their own paths are better.

Their daughter, Julie,

is a teacher, and through her family working and educating on the farm, she was able to teach her inner-city students about the process of how milk goes from cows to the

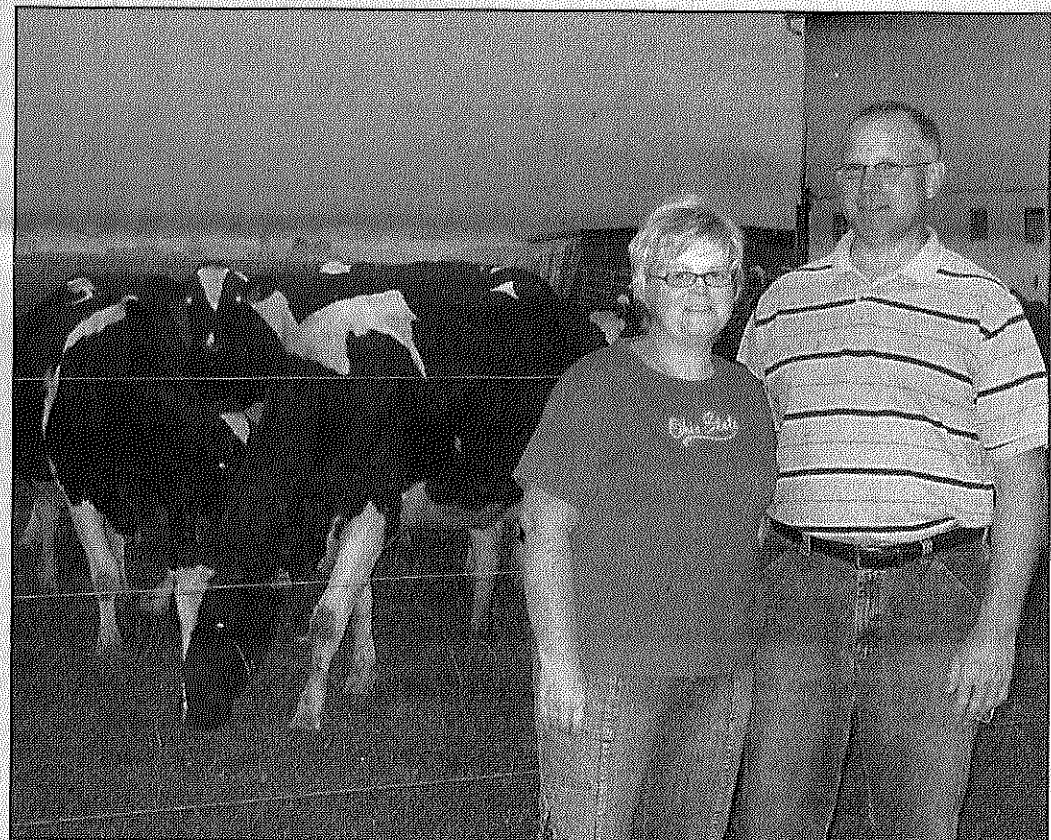
drinking glass. "Maybe it's better she didn't farm," Beck Fullenkamp said. "Then we have contact with kids this way."

Dan Fullenkamp said

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“Every day's different. I don't get bored. I'm surprised every day.”

— Dan Fullenkamp



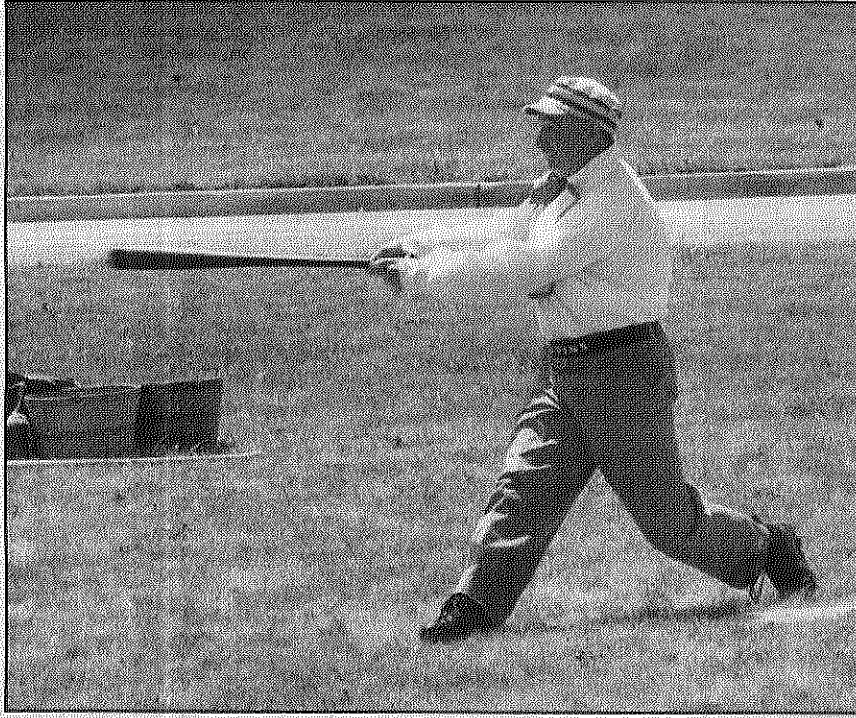
Staff photo/ Laura Mazur

The Othmar Dairy Farm has been in the family for three generations, and is now tended by Beck, left, and Dan Fullenkamp.

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# OUTPATIENT THERAPY





Above, member of the Ohio Village Muffins follows through on his swing during Saturday's old-fashioned baseball game. Below, Todd Tschuor warms up.

Staff photos/  
Joshua Keeran

## Soy From Page 3

customers as much as possible from increased prices for shipping.

"I don't want to extend [the increased cost] to the customer," Doering said of the increased cost of production.

Her clientele also provides Doering with valuable feedback with new scent combinations.

"Sometimes [scents] work, and sometimes they

don't," Doering said.

Without their feedback, she would not be able to make the proper adjustments to fragrances.

It was through a customer's special request that Doering also began her "Older than Dirt" candle, a black candle with a scent resembling dirt.

She explained the candle was designed as a gag gift for birthdays.

Doering said her work allows her to meet new people and she "enjoys that aspect the most."

At several craft shows she participates in each year, fellow candle makers share scents and exchange ideas. Doering also said she is always looking for new soy-based products to share with her friends and customers.

## Tradition From Page 8

In her time, Noykos Leonard Wuebker, who tried to implement new music annually, even though some of the members have not budged from being a member in more than five decades.

Some families have even passed down the tradition throughout the years. Director Anthony Knapke passed the torch to his son, Luke, upon his passing, leading the choir for more than 60 years between the two men.

The Moorman family has had five brothers singing throughout the years. Several other families have also had three generations of choir membership.

Dave Moorman, the youngest of his family's brothers to sing in the choir and the youngest of 15 children, said he joined 42 years ago because he liked to sing and his brothers had joined.

"We would sing every place we would go and close down many a party," Moorman said. "God gave our family good voices. That's why we loved to sing."

Of the 100 years the choir has existed, some members have even put in more than half of a century of singing with it.

“

**But we sang it all for the honor and glory of God. I never leave church without thanking God for our blessings to continue.**

— Leonard Wuebker

”

### Sing to the King:

Members of the St. Augustine Catholic Church Men's Choir practice two hours each week and perform on Sundays at the church's 10 a.m. Mass, 48 N. Hanover St., Minster.

Wuebker said. "We had a player piano at home, and I would play and sing along when I came home from church."

The singer also recalls back to the time before Vatican II when hymns were sung in Latin. Now only "Gloria" is sung in this way. He said this formerly used language was easier to sing than those in English, however.

The choir used to sing the whole year.

Now, the members have the summer months off.

Wuebker said priests have either promoted or ignored the choir throughout the years. Before Vatican II, a particular priest told the choir that the closing hymns would be sung after the conclusion of Mass. By

this time, the priest gone, the altar were putting the c out and most of parishioners had le church.

"But we sang it the honor and gl God," Wuebker sa never leave church out thanking God f blessings to continu

The Rev. Rick Ni ing, on the other sees the choir as plus in a variety of Approximately 75 p of the volunteers church are wome with the choir the ber of men volunt increases by a ha and sets the tone for mitment to the chur a group and with its tors.

"It shows long Nieberding said. "In 100 years, each di has put in over 10 some even 20-30 With directors like [Noykos] and Luke ke over the years, it tone. With a rev door, it really affect ministries and the c tone.

"It sets a nice ton said. "We're here to and the director se tone."

Nieberding said in day's homily that approached recently branding company f village of what icons out about the tow mentioned the twir ers of the church, a other things. He said day that the Men's could be compared these icons because stood the test of tim

Seniority not comes with years i choir, but years on l Of the 31 member age range is eve reaching, the you being 42 and the being 77.

Members practic hours per week and on Sundays at the 10 Mass.

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