

Kingsbury Farmhouse transformed

By Sandra Hutchinson

Chronicle Home Editor

When Kingsbury dairy farmers Denise and John Dickinson bought an old farm with a rundown 19th century faded red farmhouse on Dean Road in 2002, they could not have envisioned what the house would look like today — or that they would end up living there.

“Mom and Dad had purchased the property for the farm land, and the house and barns just came with it,” remarks their daughter Crystal Grimaldi.

The Dickinson family are deeply rooted dairy farmers in Kingsbury. Denise, John and Crystal,

Dickinson dairy farm family doubles down on its roots



The 19th century house was gutted down to its studs, renovated and reimagined. The porch, the plantings and a wing were subsequently added.

Chronicle photo/Sandra Hutchinson



with cousins Luke and Kyle Getty, own and operate Ideal Dairy, which milks more than 2,000 cows.

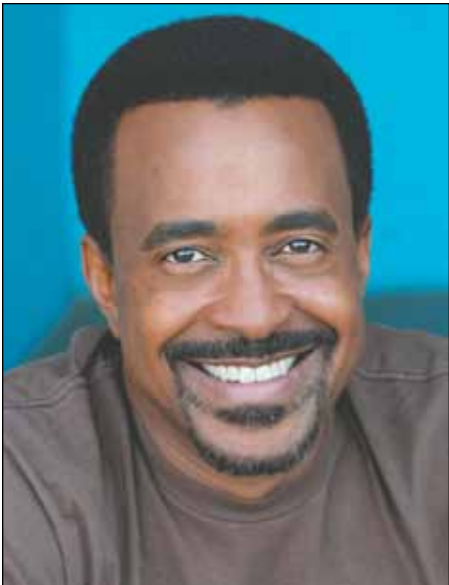
Crystal is a sixth generation Dickinson family dairy farmer.

As for the Dean Road house, John and Denise, and Crystal and her husband Rich Grimaldi, undertook a renovation in 2004.

They gutted the interior down to the studs; Crystal and Rich did the demolition themselves.

The house was just 24 by 24 feet square. “It was a complete money pit,” says Denise. The original stone fireplace remains in place in the living room. The renovation ex-

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Cathy DeDe interview ▶ 34

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From left: First-semester Culinary students **David Ruiz, Rebekah Andrews, Daniel Martin**, who is also the chef at Battle Hill Brewery, and **Mike Zalenski**.



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