

# Lancaster Farming

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\$2.00 Per Year

## We Salute Dairying June 3

Dairying is approximately a \$45 million a year business in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania's most productive agricultural county. Dairying is also important in neighboring counties.

Lancaster Farming will recognize the area's dynamic dairy industry in its June 3 Special Annual Dairy Issue.

Lancaster Farming extends a special invitation to dairy groups and organizations, as well as individuals, to submit articles and news on dairying for the Dairy Issue.

Advertisers are invited to make their own appeal to a large segment of the Southeastern Pennsylvania dairy market.

To be sure to make the Dairy Issue, please submit all material by Wednesday, May 31.

Call us at 394-3047 or 626-2191 (ask for Lancaster Farming). Or write to Lancaster Farming, P.O. Box 266, Lititz, Pa. 17543.

## Reminder on Hiring Youth for Farm Work

Many farmers are now hiring or soon will be hiring youth for summer employment.

Farmers are reminded of the necessity for youths under 16 years of age to have secured a special operators license which enables them to operate and work around machinery and equipment. These permits are obtained by taking a course available through local vo-ag departments at the local schools or through the local Extension office, where offered.

The license is your protection if an accident should happen to the youth while working on your farm. You, as the employer, are

in violation of Federal law if employing youth without first being trained for hazardous occupations.

local Extension office, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, 394-6851, or the vocational agriculture department in your school district.

Roger Lehman

## A Youth Certain of his Future

This is the time of year when high school seniors must look into the mirror of life and ask a fateful question: What am I to become?

For some, there is no answer. For others there may be uncertainty. But for young Roger D. Lehman there is a definite answer. "I am going to be a farmer."

Roger is typical of many young boys who have lived on a farm all their lives and choose to live there in the future. "I guess I've always wanted to be a farmer," said the Pequea Valley senior who will graduate in a few days. "My grandfather moved onto this farm when he was 13 years old, my father was born and raised here and I want to live here too." The answers to the questions were slow in coming but definite



Working as a team, Merv Bruckhart (left) and Richard Kauffman captured first place for the Manheim FFA team in the Small Gas Engines Contest at Elizabethtown Area High School last week. Here they reassemble an engine, being judged on speed and accuracy.

Lancaster County FFA Chapters have been busily preparing and competing for the right to represent Lancaster County in various contest areas when FFA Week at Penn State rolls around June 28 to 30.

Girls as well as boys have been engaged in seeking the honor of representing their particular Chapter in the State Contest, and hope to continue on to National contests.

Three contests were held within the past week. It was a week full of anticipation, often surprises, and occasionally disappointment, as many youth found there were still many areas to be explored in depth until another year rolls around and new contests are held.

### Gas Engine Event

The Manheim Central FFA Chapter small gas engine team won the area FFA contest at Elizabethtown last Friday.

The team members were Richard Kauffman and Merv Bruckhart.

Six teams participated in this year's competition. Other teams were Cloister Chapter, second; Elizabethtown Chapter, third;

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## Farm Calendar

Monday, May 22

8 p.m. — DHIA Board of Directors meeting, Farm and Home Center.

Fulton Grange meeting, Oakryn. Thursday, May 25

Lancaster County Swine Producers Board of Directors meeting, Farm and Home Center.

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Hogs will play a large part in the future farming efforts of Roger Lehman. The Lehmans hope to double their hog production over the next few years.

in tone. "I've never really thought about doing anything else. I love the outdoors and working with animals. Where else can you get this wrapped up in one job?"

Roger lives with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Lehman, on a 90 acre farm at Ronks RD1. Approximately 60 to 65 acres are planted in corn although there is some rye. There are around 500 chickens on the farm and some steers. The Lehman's also raise pigs.

"My earliest recollection of farm life is gathering eggs, recalled the tall, blonde-haired future farmer. "I've always had my chores to do and rather enjoyed them. I never looked on them as work—you know, the kind of work you hated to do. I never minded them."

In his freshman year at Pequea Valley Roger joined the FFA. He also enrolled in the schools vo-ag course. "I've learned a lot about farming at PV. I've had four good teachers who have helped me to come to the realization that I do want to stay on the farm and earn my living there," noted Roger.

Still, in this fast moving world we live in many young people who have lived on farms all their lives are learning for other vocations. Why stay?

"It's hard to put into words," commented Roger "For many years now we have been taking in tourists here at the farm. I've met a number of fellows from New York and other cities. There's something different about them. I can't quite put it



Roger Lehman looks out over the scenic 95 acre farm which has been in the family for three generations.

into words but there is something different I guess, through them, I've come to appreciate what kind of life I have here."

Pigs play a big role in the future of Roger Lehman. "We have about 35 sows and 2 boars. About 90 per cent of the pigs were raised right here. We sell around 50 to 60 a month and my dad and I hope to double our potential in the next few years. We hope to build a sow house in a few months and a farrowing house in a few years. We do hope to grow."

The Lehmans have doubled their hog production over the past three years and if hopes are a stepping stone to the future will do so over the next few years as well.

"Prices on the hog market have looked real good lately," said Roger "Last month we got 28 cents a pound on the hogs we sold. We raise almost all our own replacements and watch our costs so that a reasonable profit can be made. I don't believe that too many young farmers are going into raising hogs in a big way. I know of another fellow who has a rather large operation who will graduate this year. Other than him I don't know of too many young farmers who concentrate on raising hogs. Maybe I can corner the market," he laughed.

Roger was president of the FFA Chapter, vice-president of

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