

Lancaster Farming

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Happy New Year

g completely at random, snow decorates the countryside with magical beauty, as it did here along Muddy Creek in York County.

Lancaster Farming Photo
by Dieter Krieg

1976 prices, challenges outlined

DIETER KRIEG
LANCASTER — "The farm will be here in Lancaster County for as long as there is any open space as we have solid farms — good managers, citizens — capable of being an efficient unit as long as there's any space. But I think farms will continue to be larger for the sake of efficiency."

Smith, in part, is the way agricultural extension director, sees the road ahead, however, free of obstacles and challenges. "We'd like to urge farmers to accept responsibilities on local planning bodies — zoning, decision-making — so that agriculture have a part in setting regulations," Smith emphasized.

Although problems are throughout most of Pennsylvania's farming areas, Lancaster County is active with its agricultural activity and some of its challenges for the coming year. According to Smith, a assessment program is in the mill now and will

result, no doubt, in higher taxation."

This, along with a host of other pressing economic and environmental factors will continue to emphasize the need "for greater effort in

farm management as a business because of increasing costs — fuel, machinery, labor, and possibly lower prices on the other end," Smith predicted. "Land use is a problem in Lancaster County," the agricultural extension director continued. In his opinion, it's the present owners of farm land who should determine whether their land stays productive in farming or not. Admitting very readily that this is a touchy situation, he said farmers are the ones who will decide how much land

By DIETER KRIEG
YORK — In what has become an annual event in recent years, Sinking Spring Farm and David Stewart finished another close race for the crown in the York County DHIA program. Leading the rest of the pack by more than 3,000 pounds of milk and 100 pounds of butterfat, the two perennial rivals for the No. 1 spot split the honors by each taking a first place in either the milk or butterfat category.

Sinking Springs Farm of York R5, managed by Herman Stebbins, won the butterfat race by three pounds — 785 pounds to 782 pounds. The herd of 67 registered Holsteins produced 19,823 pounds of milk to go along with it.

The average production slate for Stewart's herd

reads: 19,898 M and 782F on 54 registered Holsteins. A winner in the 1975 Outstanding Young Cooperator Contest, sponsored by Interstate Milk Producers,

Stewart and his farm near Delta were featured in the July 12 issue of Lancaster Farming. The banquet, held earlier this month, marked the end

of the 54th year of DHIA testing in York County. The herd average for the year just completed reads: 4,762

By MELISSA PIPER
FREDERICKSBURG — While many consumers think that agriculture is on its way out, five FFA members in northern Lebanon County are proving that at least dairying is here to stay. All members of the Northern Lebanon FFA Chapter here, Gary Lentz, Francis Bragg, Daniel Bausher,

several youths from Lancaster County to be awarded the Keystone Farming Degree. The Warwick High School senior, is currently serving

as president of his local FFA chapter and has chaired a number of committees throughout the past year. Lee lives on a farm outside of Lititz with his parents Mr.

received their Keystone Farming degree. Four of the group are currently serving as officers of the local FFA

end Mrs. A. L. Witmer and helps with raising steers and hogs along with tending some 51 acres of corn, tobacco and wheat.

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FFA'ers support dairying

Student to receive award