

# Lancaster Farming

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## Annual trek to Kansas City begins

LANCASTER, Pa. - Beginning this Saturday, many FFA chapters across the state and nation will be making an annual trek to the 49th national FFA convention to be held in Kansas City from Nov. 9-12. For many of those attending, the trip will be a much deserved reward for hard work and achievements throughout the years. For others, the pilgrimage will mean competition and awards.

Several Lancaster Countians are taking part in the convention.

Lynn Ray Groff, 211 S. State St., Ephrata, a member of the Grassland Chapter, is one of four regional star agribusinessmen who were chosen by the Board of Directors to be eligible for the Star Agribusinessman of America award. A committee of judges including leaders in business, agriculture, and education will evaluate Groff's work.

Several other youths throughout Lancaster County will be receiving their American Farmer degrees. They are Clifford L. Charles, Lancaster R2, from the Manor Chapter; Robin Ginder, Denver R2, from the Cloister Chapter; Russel L. Kline, Denver R3 from the Cloister Chapter; and Delmar Lee Weaver, New Holland R1, from the Grassland Chapter.

The American Farmer degree is the highest degree presented by the National FFA organization, and the members were nominated for the degree by the Pennsylvania FFA Association. The nomination was approved at a recent meeting of the National Board of Directors in Alexandria, Va. The degree is highly coveted

because it is presented to approximately one member in 700 of the total 500,385 FFA membership.

Each American Farmer

Degree recipient will be presented a gold key and certificate by the National FFA organization.

To qualify for the

American Farmer Degree, FFA members must have advanced through a system of degrees unique to the FFA organization. FFA members

begin as Greenhands and after one year of membership may be advanced by the local chapter to the degree of "Chapter Far-

mer". The third degree, that of "State Farmer," is presented by the State FFA Association to two per cent of the state's FFA membership in any one year. Only students who have earned the State Farmer Degree are eligible for the American Farmer Degree.

Randy Ranck, Quarryville, president of the Pennsylvania FFA Association, and a member of the Solanco FFA, will also be attending the convention, representing Pennsylvania as an official delegate. Ranck is one of two such delegates who will be a part of a 121 FFA member delegation that will conduct the business of the National FFA organization during the business sessions at the convention.

In addition, Ranck will serve as co-chairman of the FFA calendar committee which will review the means of obtaining better public relations for Vo-Ag and FFA.

Tuesday afternoon, the delegates will be together for the first time on the convention floor for the first official business session which will be chaired by the National FFA president, Bobby Tucker, of Mineola, Tex.

For the delegates, the business of the national organization will conclude at noon on Friday with the election of the six national FFA officers.

Lancaster County will also have two other state officers attending the convention. Ruby Ginder and Earl Geib, of Manheim FFA, will attend



Indian Summer on the Mason Dixon Line near Nottingham.

Lancaster Farming photo by Dieter Krieg

## Milk processing plant okayed

By JOYCE BUPP  
York County Correspondent

NEW PARK, Pa. - Maryland Cooperative Milk Producers of Baltimore has announced tentative plans to build a manufacturing plant jointly with Inter-State Milk

Producers Cooperative, Southampton, Pa.

The proposed construction plan was presented to MCMP members at the District 7 meeting, October 26, at Centre Presbyterian Church, here. The dinner was the first of the

cooperative's series of meetings held each Fall in MCMP's 12 districts to acquaint members with the overall operating status of the business.

President Herbert Wessel, Hampstead, Md., introduced the proposal and explained that the Board has given its approval to begin studies on the cost and feasibility of the move.

The facility would be a manufacturing plant, with the ability to utilize excess production during peak periods for the manufacture of whole milk powder, butter, skim milk powder and other dried milk products. The cooperative is currently experiencing difficulty finding plants that will take their milk shipments on weekends and holiday periods.

"If we had a manufacturing plant today, we could fill it tomorrow," said Ralph Strook, manager of MCMP. Strook indicated that more "homes" are needed for a rapidly climbing production level; and he cited the

problem of most Class II users being relatively far away from production areas.

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## York farm women give \$6000 to 4-H

YORK, Pa. - The York County Society of Farm Women on Thursday donated \$6000 to their County 4-H Center, raising their total donation over the last several years to \$21,000.

The check for \$6000 was presented to Mrs. Marcy Seckman, representing the York County Cooperative Extension Service, during the Farm Women Society's annual county meeting. The York County Society consists of 33 groups.

Money for the donation was raised through two primary projects, both of which were chaired by Mrs. Harold Gross of Manchester. A quilting project, held earlier this year, brought in funds totaling \$2210. In addition gifts amounting to \$175 were given by groups which did not make quilts. Of the 12 quilts made, one reportedly commanded a price of \$300. They were sold this Fall during the "Peachilicious Weekend," held annually at Maple Lawn Farms, Gatchellville.

The remainder of the \$6000 was earned through the sale of the York County Farm Women's cookbook. Originally published three years ago, the culinary manual had to be printed a second time to meet the demand. The second printing is just about sold out too, it was reported.

Of the \$15,000 given to the 4-H Center previously, \$7000 went for building and equipping the kitchen. The \$6000 presented to the Center on Thursday are earmarked for similar purposes.



Elizabeth Sperry is Pa. Poultry Queen see page 98

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