

Lancaster Farming

Serving The Central and Southeastern Pennsylvania Areas - Also Maryland, New Jersey and Delaware

Vol. 22 No. 20

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, April 2, 1977

\$4.00 Per Year

LARA agrees to spare Barley farm

PETER KRIEG
LANCASTER—The Lancaster Area Refuse Authority (LARA) decided this afternoon that

they will refrain from taking the controversial 58 acres of farmland in Manor Township for a landfill. The decision came after weeks of

public pressure — both from the farm and non-farm sectors — and a meeting held earlier in the day in

Harrisburg by the House Agriculture Committee.

The farmland at stake is owned by John and Abram Barley, who operate one of

the largest dairy farms in Lancaster County. If LARA had succeeded in taking 58 acres of the Barleys' home farm, the area would have

been stripped of its soil. The Refuse Authority had filed a declaration of taking by eminent domain, but backed

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Poultry group hosts 1200 to dinner

PETER KRIEG
LANCASTER—The 1977 Poultry and raising banquet in Lancaster, Pa., held here at the Poultry Farm on Thursday

evening, drew another record turnout as ticket sales exceeded their goal by more than 100. John Hoffman, executive secretary of

the Federation noted during his welcome message that a goal of 1100 sold tickets was set. More than 1200 were sold

when the final tally was made.

Credit for the good turnout was given to members themselves, who are sup-

porting their state's poultry industry by participating at events such as this. More than two dozen PPF members stood in a class by themselves, however, and have been recognized by the Federation for outstanding salesmanship. They were the "Gold Feather" recipients, and are listed

within a separate article appearing on page 129.

The large turnout represented an entire industry, with hundreds of representatives present from the producer, processor, and allied industry segments of the

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Lancaster Poultry Queen Elizabeth Sperry and PPF executive director John Hoffman look out at the gathering of 1200 poultry producers who met at Poultry Farm Thursday.

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Moon dust may end rock picking forever

By BARNEY NIXNUTZ

SUBSOIL, VT. — A startling discovery was made public here on April 1 when the famed German-born geologist and breeder of pet rocks, Dr. Wolfgang von Steinfelder, announced the successful sterilization of stones by pollinating them with powdered moon rocks. The revolutionary breakthrough is cautiously rated as being equal in magnitude to the invention of the plow and all other modern farm equipment combined. If von Steinfelder's work proves true in the field, the backbreaking and annoying work of picking stones will be ended forever.

The pet rock trainer's miraculous discovery works similar in principle to the sterilization technique being experimented with to control insects. Von Steinfelder came across the discovery accidentally when he spilled moon dust on male pebbles in his rock garden. He noticed that a unique change took place in the stones' reproductive system, which rendered them sterile when they reached the mature boulder stage. What's more female rocks find these sterilized boulders irresistible.

Von Steinfelder's former personal rock gardener, Rocky ridges, notes, however, that specific conditions are required for the technique to work. A pitch-black clear night under a full moon and an overcast sky is best, he says.

Ridges, recently quit working for von Steinfelder and allegedly took a supply of moon dust with him. He is now reportedly self-employed in his recently established laboratory for the advancement of precious stones, and is feverishly attempting to fertilize gems with powdered moon rocks.

Meanwhile, von Kteinfelder is dividing his time between breeding and training pet rocks and perfecting the rock sterilization technique.

Lancaster Farming's ace foreign correspondent, Harry J. Tripbottom, who is currently stationed in Oslo, Norway, cabled the office late last night that Steinfelder is being considered for a Nobel Prize.

But lest farmers prematurely leap for joy over the earthshaking discovery, it should be noted that a number of obstacles remain before von Steinfelder can market his technique on a wide scale.

First of all, finding rocks in their puberty stage is extremely difficult. Secondly, unless the exploration of the moon is resumed, there isn't going to be enough powdered moon rock around to treat everybody's field.

Also, several agencies in Washington, D.C. are expected to step into the picture. Says I.M. Stoned of OSHA: "We are very much interested in following the rock sterilization procedures, while simultaneously keeping a safe distance to avoid contamination. Safety first, you know."

The Environmental Protection Agency, (EPA) will undoubtedly call for an environmental impact statement. After all, what's a world without rocks.

Despite the obstacles, von Steinfelder is proceeding on course and is hoping to have his technique commercially available by April Fool's Day 1978.

Farmers object to proposed dam

PETER KRIEG
LANCASTER—Lancaster County farmers in the North Valley area, as well as scores of other citizens in the

County, are attempting to stop the possible construction of a dam which may swallow up as many as 17 farms. A public meeting was held Monday evening at

the fire hall, here to bring both sides of the issue to the surface. An estimated 140 people packed the hall, with the crowd on occasion getting a bit noisy.

Most of the questioning was directed at Richard Heiderstadt, an environmental planner and sociologist representing the

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York satisfied with milk price

SALLY BAIR
LANCASTER—Sally Bair, general manager

of Easter Milk Producers Cooperative, called the recent increase in dairy support prices to 83 per cent

of parity a "fair standard." Speaking to members of the New Holland local Thursday night at the Liberty Fire

Hall, York said that in Department of Agriculture hearings in March, Eastern

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12 dairy co-ops combine efforts

PETER KRIEG
LANCASTER—Six of the largest dairy co-ops in the Mid-Atlantic region have joined in an unprecedented effort to provide a better market for farmers, stabilize prices to consumers and ensure a market for

of Lehigh Valley Cooperative Farmers.

The new organization, it was disclosed, will pool milk supplied by each member

and, on a cooperative basis, produce and market cheese products. This arrangement, it was pointed out, will assure a market for the milk

and a consistently fair price to farmer-producers of each cooperative.

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F & H scholarships offered

PETER KRIEG
LANCASTER—One of the objectives of the Lancaster County Farm and Home Foundation is to encourage the higher education of the youth of Lancaster County.

In this respect the Foundation is announcing the offering of scholarship awards in 1977, in the fields of agriculture, home economics, and nursing.

Depending upon the financial need and ability of applicants, a maximum of 12 scholarships may be awarded.

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