

# Lancaster Farming

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

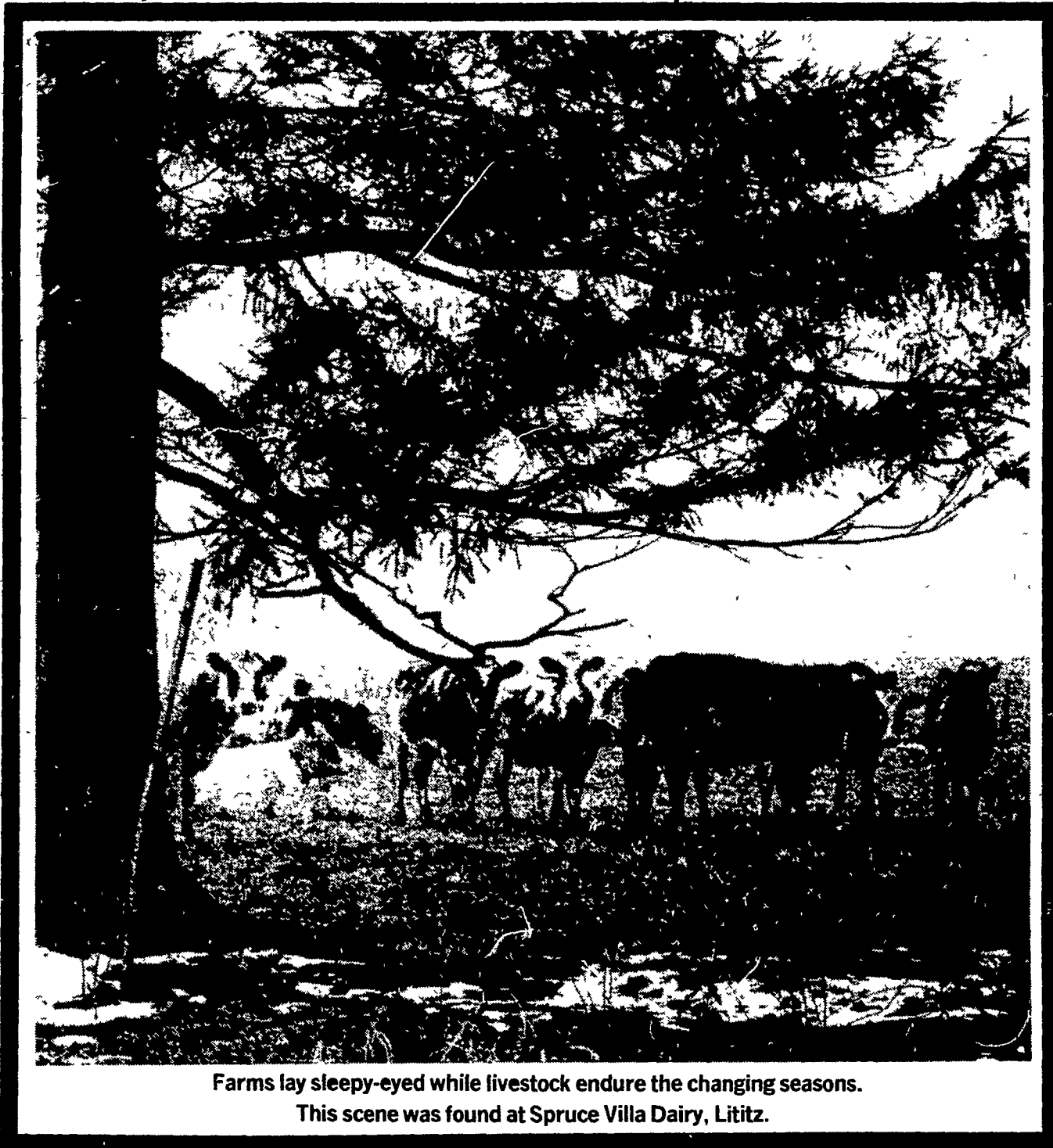
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## Deadline nears for Farm Show issue

LANCASTER FARMING's annual Farm Show Issue will be distributed on January 6, two days before the Pennsylvania Farm Show gets underway in Harrisburg. We're getting ready to prepare material for that issue and are printing this reminder to readers and advertisers alike to send material of interest. The Farm Show Issue will have advance publicity on some of the folks who'll be there, short biographies on Keystone FA degree winners, a list of Farm Show exhibitors, new product releases and pictures, and much more. Please contact us if you have something to contribute.



Farms lay sleepy-eyed while livestock endure the changing seasons. This scene was found at Spruce Villa Dairy, Lititz.

## In this issue

Adams County once again has the distinction of recording the highest price paid for a 4-H capon in Pennsylvania. The record price of \$17 per pound was paid by Adams County Home Beverage. See page 114 for details.

A farm-reared young man who spent six years as a captive in Viet Nam has an interesting story to tell on page 126.

The beef and sheep 4-H round-up for eastern Pennsylvania was held recently. See page 101 for results.

Hydroponics is a unique way of growing plants. Find out more on page 110.

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## Dairylea declares confidence in finance plan

PEARL RIVER, N.Y. — Dairy farmers who are members of Dairylea Cooperative, Inc., headquartered here, have given approval to a capital financing plan which is designed to give the 70-year

old organization a firm financial footing. The financing project was two years in the making, and according to Dairylea president Clyde E. Rutherford, was successfully completed Nov. 20.

Dairylea, as the Northeast's largest farm-to-consumer milk marketing cooperative, has 5500 members, with a quarter of them being in Pennsylvania. The capital financing program is putting \$20

million of members' equity into the organization, says Rutherford, a dairyman from Ortego, N.Y. He calls the plan "an outstanding success and the first of its type among farmers in the northeastern United States."

According to telephone interviews conducted by Lancaster Farming this week, most of the credit for the new enthusiasm found at Dairylea is going to the cooperative's new general manager, Robert Merz.

Described by members as a tough, intelligent, aggressive, and highly capable individual, he holds the office of executive vice president. He joined Dairylea a year ago.

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## Funk named chairman of ag preservation group

LANCASTER — Amos Funk, Millersville, was elected chairman of the recently formed agricultural preservation task force at its November 28 meeting. The group held their first

meeting and agreed to ask the Lancaster County Commissioners to appoint a member from the county homebuilders association to the task force. They voted unanimously for the addition

to their membership after hearing that there had been a complaint that the homebuilders were not represented on the committee.

Besides electing Funk,

the committee named Walden S. Randall, Holtwood R2, from the Lancaster County Planning Commission, vice chairman, and Phyllis Whitesell, Lancaster, League of Women

Voters, was chosen secretary.

The first meeting was spent discussing the force tasks goals and asking questions.

Commissioner Jack F.

Tracy opened the meeting by asking the group to develop a criteria for preserving selected farmland by February. He also asked the task force to work out legal

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## Broiler industry sees more expansion in 1979

By KENDACE BORRY LITITZ — The broiler industry in Lancaster County has had a good year in 1978, according to reports received, and is hoping for an even better one in 1979. Constantly growing

throughout the U.S., the broiler type chick hatch for October 1978 totaled 309.7 million chicks, up six per cent from a year earlier, according to the USDA. And that made the 14th straight month that the hatch has

been above that of a corresponding month a year earlier.

This brought the January through October chick hatch up to 3.24 billion, up six per cent from a year earlier. And that figure is higher

than the number of chicks hatched in any full year prior to 1971.

Lancaster County, which is first in the state in broiler production, has good established markets showing growth now, ac-

ording to Jay Irwin, Lancaster County Extension agent. He saw 1978 as a good year, with no real problems.

Looking to the future, he thinks that the growth may level off slightly, with future growth depending on the

market. The supply of broilers available will affect the market, and he cautioned the poultrymen not to overproduce. He added that most broiler

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