

Lancaster Farming

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

VOL. 25 No. 4

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, November 24, 1979

\$7.00 Per Year

Lancaster deed restriction plan taking form as HB 1983

BY CURTHARLER
HARRISBURG — First steps have been taken in the long process of making Lancaster County's deed restriction proposal for saving farmland become a reality.

The bill, designated HB 1983, was introduced by Gibson E. Armstrong, 100th District representative.

Representatives Noah W. Wenger, 99th district; Kenneth E. Brandt, 98th district; June N. Honaman, 97th district; Marvin E. Miller, 96th district; Nicholas B. Moehlmann, 102nd district; Joseph R. Pitts, 158th district; Vern Pyles, 151st district; Earl H. Smith, 13th district; Peter R. Vroon, 157th district; and

Paul J. Yahner, 73rd district, also signed the measure.

Reno H. Thomas, the House Ag Committee Chairman from the 85th district, so far has not added his name to the list of sponsors. Supporters of the measure say they plan to meet with Thomas next

Tuesday in an attempt to enlist his help.

The bill basically would give the legal mechanism needed to implement the deed restriction proposals of Aaron Stauffer and Amos Funk.

The proposal would allow the county to purchase a farm property which was sold for commercial use for \$1 more than the bid price on the property.

County commissioners then could insert a deed restriction in the property assuring its use in agriculture forever.

The property would be resold immediately, perhaps to the original bidder.

The proposal also would allow the county to offer incentives to farmers who voluntarily place deed restrictions on their own properties.

Funk said the intent of the law would be to have the county step in on a sale only if the land were to change use. There would be no interference with father-son sales.

He said the purpose of the program is to protect remaining large areas of good farmland.

HB 1983 is needed to define the financial arrangements to buy the deed restrictions.

The measure also would allow other counties in the state to start similar programs but they would not be forced to do so.

"Act 319 is not doing the job it was meant to do," Funk said. "It does little more than thank the farmer for keeping his land in agriculture for one more year."

He said the differential between selling land off for development and the rollback penalty often is not a major financial hardship.

Under the proposed HB 1983, no agricultural preserve act ordinance

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Two of the winners of production records in milk and fat were Nelson H. Wenger, left, and Robert Gruber.

Holstein breeders note top producing cows

BY SALLY BAIR
Staff Correspondent

NEW DANVILLE — Nearly 280 Lancaster County Holstein breeders attended the 29th annual banquet of their association at the Youth for Christ Center here Tuesday night which featured the presentation of production awards for high records in milk and fat for members and juniors.

Richard N. Sauder, Reinholds R1, was recognized in the junior two-year-old fat category for his cow Sandra, with a 795 pound record. In milk, Samuel E. Beiler, Strasburg R1, received the award for Dillie with a 23,360 record.

In the senior two-year-old fat contest, the award went to Christian Zook, Gap R2, for Darlene, with 765 fat. In milk, the senior two-year-old winner was Benuel Z. Lapp, New Holland R2, with Linda, with a 24,613 record. Lapp won the milk category for three-year-olds with Karen, with a 27,528 record. In three-year-olds, for fat, the

winner was Naaman W. Stoltzfus, Kinzer R1, whose Lilly, made a 944 pound fat record.

Nelson H. Wenger, Manheim R6, won the four-year-old milk award for Puppy, with 29,710 pounds of milk. Wenger said Puppy was sired by Heatherdon Lucky Type Blazer and scored 79 points.

Robert L. Gruber, Mount Joy R3, received the award for Dane, with a 1046 fat

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Ernie Frey of R2 Quarryville exhibited the grand champion steer, Road Runner, at the Lancaster County Beef Club roundup on November 19. Road Runner was chosen the champion in the light heavyweight competition, and had been named champion at the Chianina Field Day.

Frey takes top honors at Lancaster beef show

BY DEBRA STRICKLER
LANCASTER — Sunny skies and Indian Summer weather was on hand for the annual Red Rose Beef Club Roundup held on Monday, November 19.

Two Chianina-Angus steers exhibited by Ernie Frey and Jeff Hess took the top honors.

Road Runner, Frey's light heavyweight champion, was chosen the grand champion of the show by Judge Lester Haller.

This grand champion was also named champion of the Summer's Chianina Field Day held at Lauxmont Farms, York County. It had taken second place class honors at the Solanco Fair.

Ernie Frey has been a member of the Red Rose Beef Club for six years. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Frey. He was proud of his first County grand

championship and is looking forward to Farm Show competition.

The reserve champion named Amos was exhibited by Jeff Hess of R2 Strasburg. Jeff is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elvin Hess and has shown steers as a 4-H project for six years.

Jeff purchased the steer from Frey's uncle. Amos was named the grand champion at the West Lampeter Community Fair.

This annual roundup was a step towards the Pennsylvania State Farm Show competition for 25 of the 81 4-H exhibitors.

Lester Haller, judge; Max Smith, County Extension agent; and county leaders chose the 4-H'ers and their steers who were eligible to compete at the Farm Show.

For the other 56 exhibitors the roundup was the conclusion of another year's 4-H

project. These exhibitors competed and sold their animals at the district show and sale on Tuesday.

A showmanship contest was held to conclude the Roundup. The champion showman, Wayne Hess, was awarded a calf from the

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Chester Co. dominates District Show

BY SHEILA MILLER

LANCASTER — What's it like to be on top of the world on one day, and knocked down the next? To find out, ask Nelson Beam of Chester County.

Nelson exhibited the grand champion steer at the Chester County roundup on Monday in the heavyweight division. The very next day his steer was unseated by a

steer that placed fourth in the previous day's class.

A 1350 pound three-quarter Angus x one-quarter Chianina steer named "Blackie" snatched the grand champion's crown. Blackie was shown by Chester Countian Gordon Smith.

Gordon, son of Howard and Pat Smith of R.D. 1 Landenberg, has been in the

4-H club for five years. This is his first grand championship.

The cattle business is not new to the junior at Avon Grove High School. His family raises purebred Charolais on their small farm.

Nelson Beam was still happy with "Chocolate", his 1290 pound Simmental x Angus steer, taking the

reserve grand championship. This was his first win in the reserve honors since he's been in 4-H...eight years.

And Nelson didn't leave the District competition without a grand championship. He was selected by judge Tony Debrosky as the grand champion showman over all.

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