

Lancaster Farming

25 No. 45

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, September 6, 1980

\$7.50 Per Year

Farmers and ag reps jam Pequea zoning meeting

BY PAT KAUFFMAN
WILLOW STREET — Nearly 100 farmers and residents of Pequea Township (Lancaster County) packed the Township Building Thursday evening to protest the proposed zoning changes at the first Pequea Planning Commission hearing on the proposals.

Township Solicitor, Charles B. Grove Jr., opened the discussion with an admission that "several statements should never have gotten in there to start with."

With a standing room only crowd, and some resourceful farmers toting their own lawn chairs, the proposed changes were reviewed briefly item by item with the flood plain proposals and all others not pertaining to agriculture receiving little comment. The agricultural

proposals, however, were hotly debated.

Amos H. Funk, chairman of the county ag preservation board said, "You put everything in the ag district that you didn't have any other use for." Funk was referring to permitted uses in the agricultural district which include campgrounds, mobile home parks, airports and many others, and he also was referring to the land which was designated in the proposal as an ag district.

Attorney for the farmers

present was James H. Thomas who said, "Our point is quite simple. We ask that you defer action on this zoning ordinance." Thomas said that the law requires that zoning regulations be formulated in accordance with a comprehensive plan and that Pequea Township's comprehensive plan is badly outdated.

Thomas said that the planning commission must grapple with the problems of establishing ag districts and maintaining them. He said it

appeared that the township had taken all the leftover land and colored it green (for the ag district). He said that the proposals may preserve farmland but get rid of agriculture in the township.

Thomas noted areas in the proposals where the wording simply went too far and changes could be made simply by deleting the offensive verbage, but he left no doubt that he and the farmers present are in favor

(Turn to Page A37)



George Rettew, the township engineer, said he and the township officials were being unjustly criticized for their intent in making the proposed zoning changes now.

In Lehigh Valley

Losses top \$30 million

BY VIVIAN PAUL
Staff Correspondent

WATH — Crop losses due to severe drought in Lehigh and Northampton counties are estimated at \$31.3 million by farmers and government officials during last week and both counties have been termed "disaster areas" by county emergency boards.

State confirmation of the

disaster status in Northampton County is expected within the week. It has already been given for Lehigh County.

The action will allow farmers to apply for low-interest loans from Farmers Home Administration and emergency feed and low yield programs at ASCS.

Losses in Lehigh County have been estimated at \$15

million and in Northampton at \$16.3 million. In Northampton worst hit was the potato crop recording an 85 percent loss with a value of \$1,713,600. The largest dollar loss was corn. Officials estimate \$10,034,280 will be lost on 48,900 acres. Eighty percent of the soybean crop and 60 per cent of the alfalfa and hay crops have also been lost.

The drought has been called the worst in at least 15 years. Rainfall since April is 6 to 7 inches below normal. August precipitation was the lowest since 1916.

The emergency board estimated more than 200 farmers will apply for FmHA loans totaling \$4 million and another \$1.5 million will be paid through ASCS.

"Most farmers will hold off," said Michael Angerson of FmHA. "They don't want

(Turn to Page A33)



"AJK", the 160 pound Holstein calf, towers over her barn buddy who was born about the same time. Park Myers, salesman for Melvin Kolb, Lancaster, says he believes this is a record calf for the area — perhaps the U.S.

Labor Day calf tips scales at 160 lbs.

BY SHEILA MILLER

LANCASTER — Labor Day lived up to its name for a Holstein cow named Rowe-Spring Jenny Lou. The good plus daughter of Selling Rockman gave birth early that holiday morning to a calf that tipped the scales at 160 pounds.

Giving birth to a calf that

size was no piece of cake for the four-year-old cow. According to Park Myers, salesman for the cow's owner Melvin Kolb, he had to pull the calf.

"When I reached up inside of her, I knew she was going to need some help. With the size of that calf's feet, I just knew it was going to be an enormous bull calf."

Through the whole ordeal, 'Jenny Lou' managed to stay on her feet, Myers boasted. "She didn't pinch a nerve or go down afterwards, either," he added. He noted most cows have problems with calves weighing in the 100 pound range.

To everyone's surprise, 'Jenny Lou' gave birth to a healthy heifer calf. Her proud papa is Atlantic Breeders Cooperative's Proud Performer.

The calf, who was just a bit shaky on her legs (veterinarians said her muscles weren't quite strong enough to support all that weight at first), was named after Melvin Kolb's wife Alma Jean Kolb — her birthday was celebrated on Monday, also. Myers was quick to point out that Alma, however, never weighed 160 pounds in her life.

AJK became an overnight celebrity, blinking her soft bovine eyes at the bright television camera lights, and seeing stars after the news papar reporters popped off several frames of the calf. She even posed for pictures taken by visitors from other countries before she was sold at the Thursday evening sale.

Her new owner is John M. Lefever, Lancaster.

Averages up at MD.

State Fair auction

MONIUM — Top prices for individual animals edged behind last year, but overall average prices were considerably improved in week's 4-H and FFA stock sale at the Maryland State Fair in Annapolis.

See 4-H hogs page C22; 4-H sheep page C16; poultry page C31; parade of floats page C23.

Market lambs continued in their role as favorites with buyers, going at an average price that was almost double the prevailing market price. The average price for 38 lbs was \$1.20; last year's average was \$1.04.

This year's grand champion market lamb sold for \$3.35 per pound to Acme Markets, Inc., an East Coast

supermarket chain. It was a 115-pound Suffolk wether owned by Jeffrey Hevner, 14, of Keymar (Frederick county). Jeff also had the grand champion lamb at the state fair in 1975, 1978 and 1979.

Gary Ruby of Hampstead (Carroll county) sold his reserve champion market lamb for \$2.10 to Franklin E. Feeser of Taneytown, a Carroll county swine breeder. Like the champion, it was a 115-pound wether. Last year, Gary's brother, Mike Ruby, also had the reserve champion lamb. That one brought \$2 per pound.

As usual, the last lamb in the sale order sold well above the sale average. That

(Turn to Page A39)

In this Issue

SECTION A: Editorial, 10; Fibreglass Charolais, 15; Legislative roundup, 22; Lancaster County Commissioners peep, 23; Quarter horse winner, 24; York chemical dump fight, 28.
SECTION B: South Mountain Fair, 2; Classifieds, 7.
SECTION C: French ag student, 2; Joyce Bupp, 4; Home on the Range, 6; Corn hybrids or sports cars, 14; Upper Susquehanna DHIA, 28; Ask VMD, 32; Wild mustangs, 38.
SECTION D: Bradford DHIA, 8; Franklin DHIA, 12; Adams DHIA, 14; She's happy with hogs, 20.