

Farm partners: manage money together

LANCASTER — "She does the cooking and I do the money." Are you locked into that old fallacy? "Today more than ever before, husbands and wives must manage their money together," says Marilyn M. Furry, Extension family resource management specialist at Penn State. Tax time is a perfect time to get your money managing skills together, especially if you operate a farm.

Just think of the alternative. Statistically, more women than men are alone in older age to manage on their own. Are you ready? Are you confident that your wife is ready to meet those demands? If either of you answer no, then this reminder is for you! Too many widows and divorcees have suffered monetary losses and personal stress because they were not included in family financial management.

A large percentage of adult

women work for money off the farm. While the amount may not always be a fortune, it is money that needs to be managed. Who makes those decisions? Are you both agreed on your financial priorities and planning? Do you even know what they are?

Managing money is a skill that will not only save you money but will save you time. In today's hectic world it's hard to know which is more important. But the fact remains that each of us who spends money should be responsible for where it goes and how it goes.

While you are doing your taxes, take the extra time necessary to go over returns together. If one doesn't understand a category or the reason behind a deduction, look it up together. Take the time to be clear about your own reporting system. Take clues from this year's returns to be prepared for next year — together.

Thomasville 4-H names officers



YORK — Newly-elected officers of the Thomasville 4-H Community Club in York County are from left, Steven Eisenhart, news reporter; Renee Richards, secretary; Michelle Lehigh, vice-president; Mike Welsh, president; Ellen Bentzel, historian; Jenelle Boyer, song and game leader and Susan Eisenhart, treasurer.

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