

## Joan Liesau to lead IFYE to Switzerland

HARRISBURG — Joan L. Liesau of Mechanicsburg, Cumberland County, has been selected as the International Foreign Youth Exchange group leader to Switzerland.

The six-week exchange program will emphasize dairy farm practices and daily living.

Liesau will lead twelve 4-H youth from across the United States on the exchange, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Cooperative Extension Service, Friends of 4-H, and National 4-H Council, June 17-July 31.

While in Switzerland, the ambassadors will live and work on dairy farms, visit dairy and agricultural industries, speak to farm groups and participate in

rural youth group activities. The Ambassadors will be hosted in the German speaking areas of Switzerland, with their first stay in Berne, the country's capital city.

The Swiss Federation in west-central Europe is in the same latitudes as the state of Washington, and has a population of 6.4 million persons. It is a landlocked country surrounded by West Germany, Austria, Italy and France.

The mountainous terrain of Switzerland only allows one-fourth of the land for permanent pasture and meadow use.

Liesau said, "Some aspects of Swiss cattle-raising bears a resemblance to practices in

mountainous areas of the United States. Herds range from 10-30 head, of which nearly half are milk cows. They are maintained in the valleys and lowlands during the winter and fed hay. In summer, herds are driven to mountain areas for excellent summer pasture," she said. Swiss farms average approximately 70 acres each.

Liesau, a former Chester County 4-H member, served on Chester County's Livestock and Meats Judging Teams. She was also state 4-H Sheep Winner, Pennsylvania Lamb and Wool Queen and National Hampshire Sheep Queen. She graduated from Penn State University with a B.S. Degree in animal production in 1978.

Following graduation, Liesau was an assistant editor at Lancaster Farming. She joined the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in 1979 as assistant press secretary. In 1982 Liesau became coordinator of the Pennsylvania Meat Marketing Program, a cooperative marketing, promotion and education program among Pennsylvania livestock and agricultural organizations and the Department of Agriculture.

Her previous agricultural studies abroad included a Rotary Exchange to West Germany in 1974, sponsored by the Pottstown

Rotary, and the American Farmers to France and West Germany exchange in 1981.

Liesau will be available for

speaking engagements involving Swiss dairy farms, family life, and cultural experiences, after September 1.



Joan L. Liesau, IFYE Group Leader to Switzerland, demonstrates red meat cookery at the Chester County Tri-Centennial, for her job as coordinator of the Pennsylvania Red Meats Program.

### Fruit meeting on June 7

NEW RINGGOLD — A Twilight Fruit Growers Meeting sponsored by the Schuylkill County Cooperative Extension Service and Schuylkill County Fruit Growers Association will be held at Robert Dunn's Fruit Farm, New Ringgold, on Tuesday, June 7, at 7:00 P.M. Location is 4 miles east of New Ringgold on Route 895.

Guest speaker will be James Travis, Penn State Plant Pathologist, discussing cytospora

canker on stone fruits and sterol inhibiting fungicides.

A walking tour of the orchards along with discussion on current disease and frost problems in the county will take place. For additional information, contact George P. Perry, Jr., County Agent - Horticulture, Schuylkill County Cooperative Extension Service, P.O. Box 250, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972.

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