

Lancaster Farming

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Farmland preservation logo contest opens in Lancaster

LANCASTER — Would you like to get artistically involved in Lancaster County's farmland preservation effort?

And, possibly win a prize to boot.

Then, enter the logo contest being sponsored by the Lancaster County Agricultural Preserve Board. The Board wants to find a logo that artistically and graphically represents agricultural land preservation in a simple manner and also is representative of the beauty and productivity of the county's rich farmland resources.

U.S. Savings Bonds to be awarded

Three prizes will be awarded in U.S. Savings Bonds -- \$200 for first prize, \$100 for second and \$50 for third.

Members of the Agricultural Preserve Board will serve as judges.

Original contest entries must be in a black and white format and be submitted by Friday, Aug. 12.

Entrants' names will only be revealed -- even to the judges -- after the selection of the winners.

Some of the contest rules

The contest is open to any resident of Lancaster County and students are especially encouraged to enter.

Artwork must be original, in a black and white medium and

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The interesting life of a county agent



You'd never imagine the interesting people (?) that a county agent meets while serving his ag constituents. Veteran York County Agent John Smith, who's getting ready to retire, is a good example. Above, he shares center stage with Tu-Tu Tomato. For more of Joyce Bupp's review of his career, turn to A35.



Discussion of dairy legislation drew a crowd to the Lancaster Farm and Home Center this week. At left, Congressman Robert Walker, of Lancaster County, addresses group. In center, Steve Kerr, of the Minority Staff of the House Ag Committee and aide to Rep. James Jeffords, of Vt., explains some of the details of proposed bills. At right, Marian Furman, of PFU, asks question.

Political spotlight on dairy

BY TRISH WILLIAMS

LANCASTER — Dairymen from Lancaster, Lebanon, and Chester counties assembled Tuesday evening at the Lancaster Farm and Home Center to be updated on pending changes in federal dairy legislation. Congressman Bob Walker (R), 16th district, conducted the informational session that drew more than 100 dairymen.

The session focused on House bill 1875, the "Dairy Compromise" bill. H.R. 1875 has been passed by both the House and Senate Agriculture Committees and will be debated in the full Congress sometime during the next month. Congress will recess August 6 until fall. If some form of dairy legislation is not passed during the next month, the current 50 cent assessment will remain in place until at least next April.

Walker called on Steve Kerr, a Republican staff member of the House Agriculture Committee to give the specifics of the compromise plan. Pat Wolf of the Pennsylvania Farmer's Association also gave details about the PFA dairy bill, H. R. 2812.

The Dairy Compromise was designed in January by members of both the House and Senate Agriculture Committees, and Secretary of Agriculture John Block. It is called the Dairy Compromise, said Kerr, because it contains elements of bills proposed

by the different dairy interest groups in hopes that it can pass Congress.

Kerr said, Congress has been wrestling with finding a solution to the dairy surplus problem for two-and-a-half years. Congress has debated everything from a price cut, on the one hand, to a very strict quota system, such as they have in Canada, on the other hand. The two extremes have not found much favor in Congress, and they have continued to be debated. The one thing that Congress seems to agree upon is that the current 50 cents assessment is not the way to go.

There are three co-equal parties involved with dairy legislation,

said Kerr. The House, the Senate, and the Secretary of Agriculture on behalf of the administration. Very simply the Secretary of Agriculture and the majority of the Senate has held out for something simple like a price cut, Kerr said. The House on the other hand has held out for some kind of supply-management program. However, the House has found it difficult to come to a consensus because of the regional differences in preferences of dairymen that are reflected in the House. Congress is no more than a reflection of its constituents, he said.

In January, with the August 1 deadline for the second 50 cents

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Pa. Ag Dept. requiring PRV herd cleanup plan

BY DICK ANGLESTEIN

HARRISBURG — In order to once and for all eradicate pseudorabies from Pennsylvania, the PDA's Bureau of Animal Industry will now require owners of infected swine herds to submit and implement an approved plan of cleanup before a permit is issued permitting movement of animals from quarantined operations.

Heretofore, owners of infected herds could continue movement of animals either directly to slaughter or to quarantined feed lots.

Now, beginning August 1 such movement will be stopped unless the owner of the infected herd has submitted an approved cleanup plan and begins implementation of that plan.

Goal for the elimination of PRV from the herds through the approved cleanup plans is eight months.

Permission to move swine from such herds will be contingent on compliance with the approved cleanup plan and elimination of the PRV virus. Failure to make

reasonable progress towards eradication will result in an absolute quarantine of the operation and refusal to permit any swine to be moved from the farm for any reason.

Nine herds still remain quarantined — all in Lancaster County. They include six breeding herds and three feed lots. Most are located in the northeastern section of the county, but one new herd was found infected in the past couple of weeks in the Columbia area.

The Columbia infestation is believed due to the importation of out-of-state feeder pigs. That operation also suffered the death loss of market-weight beef cattle from the disease.

"Of the infected herds, we have six quarantined for more than a year and three of them for two and one-half to three years," said Dr. Max Van Buskirk Jr., of the Bureau of Animal Industry.

"We feel compelled to bring to bear whatever leverage we can to have these herds cleaned up.

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This week's

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