

New programs announced at Lancaster Extension annual meeting

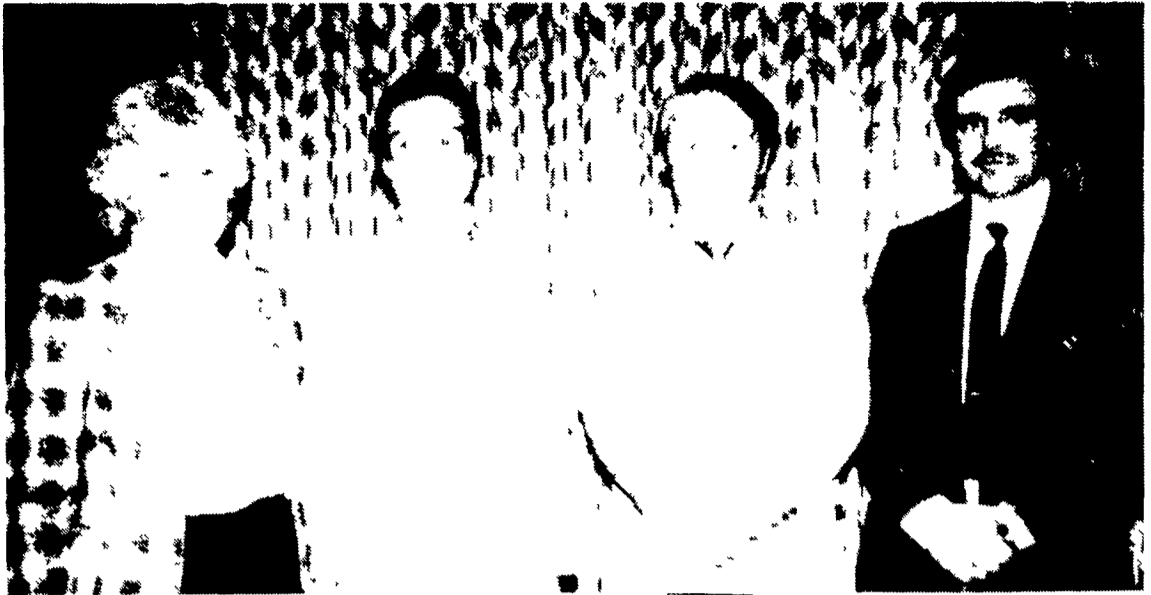
BY TRISH WILLIAMS
LANCASTER — Financial planning, coping with stress, manure management, and the use of personal computers are timely concerns to many of Lancaster County's residents and will be the subject of just a few of the new programs to be conducted this year by the county Extension Service.

Extension staff members briefly outlined these plans for the upcoming year and reviewed activities of the past year Thursday night at the annual meeting of the Lancaster County Agricultural and

Home Economics Extension Association.

An Apple computer was recently purchased by the Extension office which allows staff members to conduct programs in farm and home management. County Extension Director, Jay Irwin and Extension Association President, Kenneth Meck, expressed appreciation to the county commissioners and local agribusinesses that contributed funds for the purchase of the microcomputer.

Home Economist, Doris Thomas, and Livestock Agent,



Newly elected directors to the Lancaster Extension Association are, Mildred Nissley, Doris Zimmerman, Greg Landis, and C. Martin. Missing from the picture is Donald Rohrer.



Home Economist Doris Thomas and Livestock Agent Chet Hughes presented the staff highlights at the annual meeting of the Lancaster Extension Association.

Chet Hughes, presented the staff highlights and the Extension report card. Last year the eight member staff gave individual assistance to 37,702 persons in the county, and wrote nearly 1500 newspaper articles. They made 3,246 radio broadcasts and over 1000 TV programs. In 4-H club work alone 3,257 boys and girls carried over 4,507 projects with the assistance of the staff and 564 volunteer 4-H leaders.

Mrs. Thomas reported the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program reached 396 low-income families last year thanks to the seven EFNEP staff members.

"Reports indicated the success of this program," Mrs. Thomas said. "As a result these families are eating a more nutritious diet."

Michele Rodgers is seeing results of seeds she planted in her first two years on staff, Thomas reported. The family planning, family strength and stress programs are doing well.

Thomas said, the crafts classes she has conducted have been well attended. Some of the participants have developed these crafts into

cottage industries, others are consigning their crafts to local shops, thus resulting in increased income. Thomas also indicated a great interest in financial management programs.

Chet Hughes reported that the unusual events of the past year have kept the agricultural agents busy. They have helped farmers to better cope with extreme weather conditions and crop damage, the avian influenza, and changes in the dairy program.

Five directors were elected to each serve a 3-year term on the association's board. Elected directors are: Mildred Nissley, R5 Manheim; Doris Zimmerman, R1 Enhrata; Greg Landis, R2 Willow

Street, Donald Rohrer, Lane Valley Rd, Lancaster, and C. Martin Greenleaf, Mt Eden Rd., Oxford.

Retiring directors are Kathryn Fry, Kenneth Meck, Bob Kendig, and Carlton Groff.

A special slide presentation was given in honoring two of Lancaster County's outstanding farmers who were selected as Master Farmers this year. Honored were Claude Hess and his wife, Irene, and Kenneth Rutt and his wife, Connie.

Musical entertainment was provided by the Hempfield singers. Carl Nolt gave a sneak preview of spring wildflowers with a set of beautiful color slides.

Avian flu meetings set

LANCASTER — Two public meetings to address avian influenza issues have been scheduled for next week by task force personnel.

The meetings are set for Feb. 13, beginning at 1 p.m., at the Bart Township firehouse in Georgetown, and on Feb. 16 at 7

p.m. at the Shady Lane Dairy Sales Building in Quarryville.

The purpose of the meetings is to discuss disease prevention, the poultry watch program and to answer questions concerning avian flu. For more information, please call the task force at 717-295-1800.

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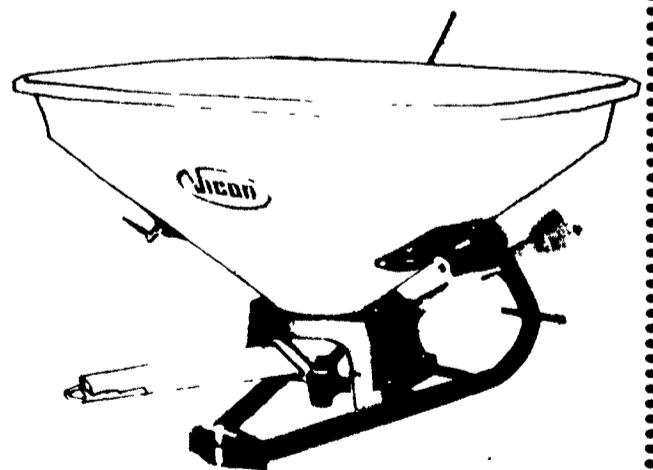
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