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Lancaster Farming

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Maryland Cattlemen Hold Annual Meeting

BY SHARON B. SCHUSTER
Maryland Correspondent
HAGERSTOWN, MD. —

"The more things change the more they stay the same." That was the underlying theme in Leon Locke's address to members of the Maryland Cattlemen's Association at their annual meeting on Saturday at the Hagerstown Sheraton Inn.

Locke, the chairman elect of the National Livestock and Meat Board told the approximately 200 people in attendance that the Board "is the industry's best kept secret." He likened its development to the miracle of the mustard seed - an entity so large as the mustard tree which sprang from something so small.

Thomas E. Wilson is credited for having "planted the seed" for the idea of the formation of "a proper organization to represent the united industry." In 1919, at a time when just about the only standard for quality of meat was "corn-fed," there was a great demand for beef with grass-fat cattle being shipped to the corn-belt for finishing.

Meat packers enjoyed fat profits during this era when producers had few alternatives for marketing their cattle and retailers had few other suppliers. Wilson urged those involved in the meat industry to "band together for the common good. Somebody has got to

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Brilliant colors and fragrant woodland aroma greeted those who visited the Philadelphia Flower Show held this week at the Civic Center, Philadelphia. This spring garden features the beauty of pink tulips, daffodils, grape hyacinths, English daisies, and Iris, accented by pastel pansies. Called "Color Through the Season," it was designed by Waterloo Gardens, Exton.

Lancaster Farming staff writer, Lou Ann Good, visited the show on Tuesday. Her photo essay and report is on page B6.

Farm Credit Is 'Going To Market' With Improved Customer Service

BY PAT PURCELL

BALTIMORE, MD — "Going To Market" was the slogan of the 1989 Annual Meeting of the Farm Credit Bank of Baltimore. More than 250 directors representing Farm Credit Associations from West Virginia, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware and Puerto Rico attended the meeting held Wednesday at the Hyatt Regency in Baltimore.

"Going To Market" signifies Farm Credit's approach to better

customer service through improved efficiency and productivity with a continued emphasis at cutting costs. Farm Credit has gotten some help in the form of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987.

The Agricultural Credit Act of 1987 which went into effect January 1, 1988, has brought about many changes in the Farm Credit system. It not only affected the way the Farm Credit Bank of Baltimore (FCBB) and the Farm Cre-

dit Associations do business with their customers, but it also affected the way they do business with each other.

Some changes have already taken place. Last year the merger of the Federal Land Bank of Baltimore and the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank of Baltimore formed the Farm Credit Bank of Baltimore. And the Federal Land Bank Associations and the Production Credit Associations merged on

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Farmers Should Regulate Manure Usage Before They're Forced To

BY LISA RISSER

LANCASTER — More and more public attention is focusing on the environment, and here in the Northeast, a major concern is the Chesapeake Bay. As the general

populace seeks answers to the sources of its pollution and ways to get it cleaned up, they are looking at farming.

"The public sees that the sewage plants and industry are being regulated, and they are asking 'why isn't farming regulated?'" said Gerald Heistand, administrative assistant for the Lancaster County Conservation District (LCCD). "I feel it's better to regulate ourselves than have public regulations."

Speaking before dairy farmers at the county's Dairy Day this week, Heistand explained the motives behind drafting a manure ordinance guide.

The guide was submitted to Lancaster County townships last fall, and since that time Warwick Township in northern Lancaster

County has used it to draw up their own ordinance, which was passed last December.

The primary motivation behind the guide was to show the public that the farming community is just as concerned about ground water contamination. "I feel it's important to show that we're doing something about the situation," said Heistand. "If we don't (do something), the public probably will force us to."

Proposed legislation in the state legislature also motivated the LCCD to write the guide. House Bill 2616, which called for farmers to adopt a mandatory nutrient-management plan, died last year when the legislature adjourned. (Turn to Page A26)



MT. JOY (Lancaster)—Little two-year-old Nathan Lager captured the hearts and applause of the banquet crowd here Wednesday, when he went up front representing his mom and dad, Kathy and Gene Lager, Maple Lawn Farm, Fulton, Md., to receive their Pennfield dairy award. Nathan was very serious through the whole ordeal and didn't smile at all until the photographer asked about his pets. That brought a twinkle to his eye and a faint smile. Nathan will have his third birthday in about six weeks.

The event was the annual awards banquet. Pictures of other award winners are on pages A30-31.

PFA In Washington To Talk Ag

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Members of the Pennsylvania Farmers' Association (PFA) delivered a message of "No To More Taxes" loud and clear to Pennsylvania's congressional delegation during a visit to Washington, D.C., this week.

About 180 farmers from throughout the state met with legislators during PFA's annual Washington Tour to discuss national issues of concern to

Pennsylvania agriculture.

In a breakfast address March 9 to the farmers and their congressmen, PFA president Keith Eckel said, "History has demonstrated that tax increases result in spending increases." PFA is calling for balancing the budget without tax increases, through an across-the-board spending freeze and a reform of federal entitlement programs.

Since 1980 prices have

increased some 37%, Eckel said. "In that same period of time, taxes have gone up by 63%, while federal spending has risen by 72%."

"The record speaks for itself. Tax revenues have increased and the deficit has not been eliminated. Because a tax increase is likely to be a vehicle for additional government spending rather than less, as history indicates, it is highly unlikely that any future tax

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