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The barley harvest began late Tuesday afternoon under perfect weather conditions at the Merle Groff farm located along Leaman Road between Lancaster and Strasburg. Groff recalled that the 1988 small grain crop was the best ever. Last year, because of the excess moisture, small grain yields were very poor. Therefore, farmers appreciate the excellent crop this year.

In addition to the grain, straw is quite valuable. Local farmers have planted fewer acres of small grains and recent prices for straw have soared to \$100 per ton at local hay and straw auctions.

In the photo, Groff checks the first bin of barley being loaded onto the truck from the opening rounds of the field. Groff has a steer and poultry operation and does custom harvesting for neighbors. *Photo by Everett Newswanger.*

Lancaster County Names Manager Of Ag Services

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
 Managing Editor

QUARRYVILLE (Lancaster Co.)—To help enhance agriculture's economic position in the community, the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and Industry announced early this week the appointment of James E. (Jay) Howes to the position of manager of agriculture services.

After discussions and a selection process that took more than two years, Howes will assume his duties on Monday. The newly created position is the first of its kind in any chamber of commerce and will be funded cooperatively by more than 30 area businesses and the county of Lancaster.

An Elizabethtown resident, Howes has been owner and chief operations officer of Backus Associates, Inc., with sales of dairy cattle and embryos nationally and internationally through the management of auctions. Prior to operating Backus, Howe was a farmer with a registered Holstein herd at Warriors Mark. He has also served as the director of promotions for the Pennsylvania Holstein Association in State College and graduated from Cornell University with a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics.

The hiring of Howes as the first "Lancaster County Secretary of

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'One Of A Kind Center' For Animal Health

ANDY ANDREWS
 Lancaster Farming Staff

(This is the first of a series.)

KENNETT SQUARE (Chester Co.) — Over the intercom system comes the voice of Michael Jackson singing "Human Nature." And the horses listen quietly in their stalls.

The room is spacious, towering about 60 feet. It is painted a mellow pink and blue, what psychologists consider "soft" colors. It is air conditioned and has a skidless flooring to protect horses from slipping.

Horses of various breeds recover in a few of the stalls, which are

equipped with oxygen and vacuum lines; a feed bin; and dividers. To keep the entire area sanitary, a special high-pressure cleaning system has been installed. A monorail runs along the ceiling.

It sounds very much like what you'd expect for a large animal intensive care unit (ICU), complete with 24-hour nurses' station — and that's exactly what's in store for "patients" of the George D. Widener Hospital For Large Animals at the New Bolton Center.

School of Vet Medicine

New Bolton Center is funded and operated by the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary

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Dairy Board Reorganizes

WASHINGTON D.C. — The National Dairy Promotion and Research Board recently held a reorganizational meeting here.

Officers elected included chairman, Lester M. Evans, Lebanon, Mo.; vice chairman, Robert W. Giacomini, Point Reyes Station, Calif.; secretary, Sylvia Hemauer, Plymouth Wisc.; and treasurer, Leo O'Brien Jr., South Burlington, Vt.

As chairman, Evans told the board that the main focus of the board's efforts this year is to help with cooperation of dairy promotion efforts.

"This year, I hope that we will make a diligent effort to implement the findings and plans of the

Strategic Marketing Alliance with respect to industry-wide cooperation among the dairy promotion groups.

"To be successful, it will take all of us working together," he said.

In other business, a number of committees were formed.

On the advertising committee are Elwood Kirkpatrick, of Missouri, chairman; Thomas Snyder, New York, vice chairman; William Bugg, Oklahoma; Francis Gregerson, Colorado; Sylvia Hemauer, Wisconsin; Steve Hofman, California; Buckey Jones, Mississippi; Timothy O'Harrow, Wisconsin; William Underwood, New York.

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Berks County Recycles Newsprint, Criminals

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.

Lancaster Farming Staff
 LEESPORT (Berks Co.) — An experimental newspaper recycling program here not only solves a garbage problem, but also gives prisoners a chance to prove themselves.

Started at the end of January,

just how long the project remains in existence depends on a number of issues not yet decided, officials said. But for now, the project appears to more than pay for itself.

Clyde Myers, a dairy agent with the Penn State Cooperative Extension office in Berks County, said the project is a joint effort between

his office, the county prison warden, farmers, county commissioners and the state Department of Environmental Resources (DER).

"Not only are we taking the newspaper out of the landfill, but we are providing an opportunity for inmates," he said.

In short, the Berks County

Newsprint Recycling Project consists of three or four activities: loading and unloading, storing, and shredding and baling newsprint.

At length, the program revolves around a 50-foot by 100-foot barn owned by the county and about 90 percent funding from DER.

The barn, located adjacent to the county prison and with good roadway access, houses all activities involved in the recycling process.

About five inmates, paid \$4 a day, perform the work.

The inmates are not forced to do the labor, rather the job is an

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