

# Wendall Landis Is Shepherd of the Year

**ANDY ANDREWS**  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
MOUNT JOY (Lancaster Co.) — A "really surprised" Wendall Landis, 15, Manheim was honored with the prestigious 1990 Shepherd of the Year Award at the Lancaster Co. 4-H livestock banquet Thursday night.

Wendall, who raises about 40 sheep and is a member of the Lancaster Woolies Club, is a 6-year member of 4-H. A freshman at Lancaster Mennonite High School, Wendall participated on

the Livestock Judging Team this year. He also won several awards, including champion breeding ewe at Elizabethtown, champion breeding sheep at Manheim, and placed second and third place in the Hampshire ewe lamb division at the Harrisburg Farm Show.

Kera Allen, 9, Mastersonville, won the Novice Shepherd Award. Kera raises about eight sheep (one Dorset, three Cheviots, and four Suffolks) and several horses, and has been showing since she was 3 years old. She was "completely

surprised and kind of embarrassed" when her name was announced, but has really enjoyed showing at several area fairs, including Elizabethtown and Manheim. In addition, Sean Kopp was honored with the Red Rose 4-H Award.

Chet Hughes, Lancaster 4-H adviser and a coach of the Livestock Judging and Meats Judging teams, spoke to more than 200 who attended the event.

"Our Lancaster County 4-H Program is successful because of the over 500 dedicated leaders who work with and encourage over 4,000 members of strong, active families and very supportive parents," he said.

Hughes thanked those who supported 4-H with purchases of livestock projects, those who sponsored awards, and those who contributed by opening "your farms, homes, and businesses to host our meetings, educate our members, and train our judging teams."

The county 4-H program involves 25 leaders, 165 club members, and more than 800 head of livestock. At the 1991 Pennsylvania Farm Show, said Hughes, 48 of the members (one-third of the total) "competed in junior livestock shows and did very well!"

Without the champions, the steers at this year's Farm Show averaged \$.96, a record, according to Hughes. "This was our first attempt at selling 4-H steers at our local fairs and we appreciate the



**Kera Allen, 9, Mastersonville, won the Novice Shepherd Award at the Lancaster Co. 4-H livestock banquet.**

support from our buyers." Others honored at the banquet include:

#### BEEF AWARDS

##### County 4-H Beef Roundup

Grand Champ, Steer: (J.C. Snively & Sons, Inc.), Kristin Chupp, Reserve Champion Steer Casey High, Champion Showman Brad Linton, Reserve Champion Showman Dwain Lvengood

##### Pennsylvania Farm Show (1991)

Reserve Grand Champion Steer Kristin Chupp, Lightweight Champion Vicki Hess, Reserve Lightweight Champion Heidi Quance, Champion Angus Heifer Casey High, Reserve Champion Angus Heifer Kristin Chupp, Best Beef Record Book Dwain Lvengood; Red Rose 4-H Award, Sean Kopp, Jason L. Weaver Memorial Leadership Award: Anita Meck; 4-H Beef & Sheep Club's Appreciation Award, Darwin Boyd

#### SHEEP AWARDS

##### County 4-H Sheep Roundup

Champion Market Lamb Jodie Weaver, Reserve Champion Market Lamb Lyndon Reiff, Supreme Champion Ewe Mark Tracy, Champion Bred & Owned Mark Tracy, Champion Novice Showman Jessica Hill, Champion Showman Jodie Weaver, Reserve Champion Showman Wendall Landis; Jr Ladies Lead Line Karl Harnish, Sr Ladies Lead Line Arlisa Snively

**Pennsylvania State Farm Show - 1991**  
Reserve Champion Market Lamb Lisa Reiff; Champion Lightweight Market Lamb Ryan Tracy

##### Other Awards

Woolies Club President Award Arlisa Snively; best Woolies Club Record Book Jerry Bollinger; Novice Shepherd Award Kera Allen, 1989 Shepherd of the Year Diane Musser, 1990 Shepherd of the Year Wendall Landis; Woolies Club Scholarship, Arlisa Snively.



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## Proposed State Ag Budget Receives Critical Review From Assembly

**VERNON ACHENBACH, JR.**  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — The state agriculture budget is a "mixed bag" at best, according to reviews from the chairs of the General Assembly's agriculture and rural affairs committees.

However, according to state agriculture department Press Secretary Gene Schenck, "We can maintain our programs with what we are getting."

"We're convinced we can continue to maintain. We think we are doing a good job for the farmers and consumers of Pennsylvania," Schenck said.

"We also realize that every department has to make some sacrifices and that no area can be overlooked when it comes to improving efficiencies, if Pennsylvania is going to deal with a very serious national economic situation."

On Wednesday, Gov. Robert Casey unveiled a \$24.663 billion state budget proposal, which includes income generated from a proposed \$13.12 billion general fund budget.

General funds are those raised primarily through taxes. In order to create \$13.12 billion in general funds, taxes need to be increased by about \$1.695 billion.

Other portions of the total state budget are to come from \$5.381 billion in federal funds, \$1.577 billion in motor license funds and about \$4.6 billion in other funds.

The general fund increase is to come in the form of increased taxes, called "proposed revenue changes" from several sources, but not from income taxes.

Specifically, the increases are to come from a 2 percent increase in corporate net income tax; a 1 mil increase in capital stock and franchise taxes; a gross receipts tax; public utility realty tax, and bank shares tax; a sales tax on cable television and interstate telephone calls and on restaurant sales

of liquor; a large cigarette tax; a variety of fee increases and increased tax enforcement and collection.

The total proposed budget for the state department of agriculture, including federal funding and hauling fees, is \$69.128 million.

According to his analysis of the budget, Steve Crawford, executive director of the House Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee and spokesman for Rep. Kenneth Cole, called the governor's proposal, "a mixed bag."

Overall, however, Crawford said, "It's a start, and every budget proposal is just that, it's a start. And now it's up to the legislature to put its fingerprints on the budget."

He predicted, "It's going to be an interesting spring and it might be a long, hot summer."

Crawford listed a number of problems with the budget, ranging from funding of the Milk Marketing Board to agriculture research at universities and New Bolton Center.

Shelia Miller, executive director for the Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs committee and spokesperson for Sen. Edward Helfrick, said that she agrees with the problems Crawford cites, but that there a couple of other problems within the budget.

Crawford, however, who was state deputy secretary of agriculture until January, said he sees both good and bad in the budget proposal.

"There are some positive signs in the budget — particularly given the atmosphere under which we're operating these days — and some things that cause some concern," Crawford said.

"On the positive side, I was glad to see that under the general operations budget of the department of agriculture, they actually received an increase. The governor pointed out in his speech that under his administration, the general fund

appropriations to agriculture have increased 25 percent."

Among the other "positive side" aspects of the proposal, Crawford said, "There was no change in the appropriation for ag research. That remains at \$2.5 million. So that was protected. That line item does end up at Penn State, Rodale, and Delaware University," he said.

"The funding for the animal health commission was \$1.624 million and it is (again) this year.

"The PennAg fund appropriation is maintained at \$1 million. PennAg is a program that provides low interest loans to small agribusinesses that process Pennsylvania products," Crawford said.

Penn State University's budget for its extension services remains at \$19,729,000.

But there is a down side, according to the spokesman for the Democrat-ruled House committee.

"On the negative side, the payments to Pennsylvania fairs was reduced from \$3.75 million to \$2.95 million.

"The difference there is, money for capital construction grants. If a fair wants to put up a pole barn, they could apply to the department for capital construction reimbursement," Crawford said. "There had been quite a backlog of those (requests) dating back to 1987, and the department was able, because of increased appropriations over the last few years, to eliminate that backlog."

Other negative aspects, according to Crawford, include, "The funding for agriculture promotion. The proposal would reduce that from \$495,000 to \$300,000. That one concerns me.

"What they would probably do — in the event it would stay where it is — would be to reduce the domestic promotion programs they have, but continue the export programs they have because it is a critical program that is working very well."

According to Miller, The

\$195,000 cut from agriculture promotion really hurts, because, "He eliminated, on a line item, promotion funds for one of Pennsylvania's top commodities — mushrooms. He's totally eliminated the funding of \$100,000 from promoting Pennsylvania mushrooms."

Also getting a "mixed bag" review from Crawford, "There had been \$225,000 for the swine psuedo rabies program. That money has not been continued, but it is important to note that the department has received authority to continue last year's appropriation, which is real important because they still have that money. It's carryover."

Getting away from the agriculture department's outlook, the state Milk Marketing Board is again to be cut by \$600,000, under the proposal.

Because the state's current budget is failing, Casey's administration created a "hit list" to kill spending and attempt to negate the anticipated deficit of up to \$1 billion.

The Milk Marketing Board, which regulates the state's dairy industry was put on the "hit list," and some have projected that the agency would not be able to function past spring.

"On the Milk Marketing Board side, they reduced it by about \$600,000 again," Crawford said. "(Casey) said the \$600,000 reduced support is due to the increased milk marketing fund revenues, with the objective of self-sufficiency for that agency."

(Editor: The "increased milk marketing fund revenues" were created by self-imposed fee increases the dairy industry requested and got when they were seeking to increase state support from \$900,000 to more than \$1 million. Since then, Casey eliminated that state support. In effect, under Casey's plan, the MMB would become an agency similar

to the state's game commission or fish commission, which always have been autonomously supported.)

"While that's a worthy goal," Crawford said, "I would be concerned about how they are attempting to do that, and the sudden way in which they are attempting to do it."

However, Crawford said that in respect to farmers being citizens and taxpayers too, "There is good news . . . the governor said he is not going to raise personal income tax, he is not going to raise sales taxes and perhaps more importantly, he is not going to raise the gas tax."

However, Crawford did note possible significant cuts to the New Bolton Research Center:

- The School of Veterinary Medicine is to go from \$3.924 million to \$1.502 million.

- Food and animal clinics are to be reduced from \$2.113 million to \$809,000.

- The Center for animal health and productivity went from \$1.29 million to \$494,000.

Miller said the Senate, "Started dialogue with the veterinary school immediately on Wednesday."

According to Miller, the reaction is that with the school getting 54 percent of what it got last year, "Basically it is going to force people to go to southern schools for veterinary medicine, by taking away funds, from what is recognized as one of the best vet schools in the nation.

"We rely on the school for good veterinarians, but we also rely on the center to send very sick animals there, knowing that they have the best technology. These are high-priced cattle in Pennsylvania and most local veterinarians can not afford the same types of facilities.