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Brosius Nominated Pennsylvania Agricultural Secretary

EVERETT NEWSWANGER

Managing Editor

WEST GROVE (Chester Co.) — Pennsylvania's Gov. Tom Ridge and his nominee for the cabinet position of Agriculture Secretary, Charles Brosius, agree. The major mission of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) must be to increase the net family income of Pennsylvania farmers. All other things, such as getting government off your back, making DER farmer friendly, preserving good farmland and making strong farm communities, work up to this over-all goal. We need to make farming profitable so that these people can contribute to the economy of their surrounding communities.

In a lengthy interview Wednesday morning on the farm that dates back in the family to 1823, Brosius said that when he was interviewed for the position, Gov. Ridge expressed the goal to increase farm income. The goal was exactly what Brosius had listed as his mission statement for PDA.

"The only way I know to measure success in the state ag department is in the farmer's pocketbook," Brosius said. "When you put it all together, Gov. Ridge promised farmers that he would raise their standard of living and increase their family income. I think farmers sincerely believe that Gov. Ridge will make a difference, and I'm delighted to have the opportunity to represent farmers on the governor's team to help make that difference.

"Over the years, one of the principles we used here on our farm is that you cannot keep the farm in the family if you can't keep the family on the farm," Brosius said. "Farm boys and girls must be able to come home and have the standard of living that uses their skill and education as in any other occupation. Farmers are not second class citizens. I look at the farm as a place to capture all this ambition and energy of young farmers. We have to be able to pay them, afford them a standard of living everyone else has. There is nothing worse than to have your buddies or college classmates have it better.

"Four years from now farmers will vote with their pocketbook, and the measurement of our success will be that if after counting the votes Ridge is still governor. This will



Charles Brosius, the new nominee for Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture, and sons are at home on their Marlboro Mushrooms farm in Chester County. From left, Mickey, Charles, Tom, and Harold. Photo by Everett Newswanger, managing editor.

be a measurement of success and that he was serious about what he said to farmers.

"You don't say, 'I'm a successful loser.' I think the governor is sincere, and I'm excited to be part of that winning team."

DID NOT SEEK THE JOB

While Brosius believes he has the education, the ability, and the experience to help him be secretary of agriculture, he did not seek the job. He said his Quaker background discourages him from blowing his own horn or telling

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National Holstein Director Hoff: A Farm Profile



Marlin Hoff, national Holstein director from Maryland, poses with Md-Oak View Mark Kix, EX-93, the All-Maryland four year-old.

LOIS SZYMANSKI

Maryland Correspondent

NEW WINDSOR, Md. — At the upcoming 1995 Maryland Holstein Convention, to be held in Westminster, Maryland, March 3 and 4, Carroll countian, Marlin Hoff, will certainly be in attendance. Hoff has been a national director of the National Holstein Association since 1989, but his farming career stretches back . . . long before 1989.

Hoff was born into farming. His family dairy farm, Cold Spring Farms has been in the family for 125 years. He says that his interest in breeding, and in (raising) registered cows, developed while he was a boy in 4-H.

"I grew up in 4-H," Hoff recalls. His wife, Kathy was also a former 4-H'er. The pair had seen each other around for years, but it wasn't until one day when Mr. Hoff stopped at her family farm while hauling cattle, that the two got to know each other. "She was milking cows," he says. "and I got kind of interested!" They had their first date on milk check day!

As a high school lad, Marlin Hoff made the Maryland State 4-H Cattle Judging team. In the fall of 1959 he won the State, and the National 4-H Cattle Judging

contest!

After high school, he was uncertain what his future should hold. He had been taking voice lessons in New York City and "played with the idea of singing as a career." But, by 1960 Hoff had decided that the farm was a part of him, and that singing could be a shaky career! He headed off to college at the University of Maryland. With a 4-H background and

a lifetime of farming experience under his belt he quickly began to excel, becoming part of the national (college) cattle judging contest. He took fifth out of 150 contestants that year. Shortly thereafter, Marlin and Kathy were married. He spent his last year of college, before receiving his bachelor's degree in Dairy Science, rising in the morning to

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Ag Representatives Support Proposed SRBC Regulations

No Consumptive Rules Yet

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Farmers in the Susquehanna River Basin who use an average of 10,000 gallons of water per day (over a 30-day period), or have ever used that much water or more at any time, will find it in their best interest to register that use with the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC).

That message is the core of what Keith Masser, chairman of the SRBC Agricultural Advisory Committee, told a group of interested farmers during a Penn State

Extension Service sponsored water rights and irrigation management meeting held Wednesday at the Sheraton Inn Harrisburg, in Harrisburg.

The agenda of the meeting included presentations on drought patterns in Pennsylvania by Leon Ressler, Lancaster County extension agent, and designing and managing efficient and un wasteful overhead irrigation systems by Herb Brodie, an University of Maryland Extension agricultural engineer.

Brodie also discussed Mary-

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