

# Lancaster Farming

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## Pork Expo Program Listed For Feb. 14

**ANDY ANDREWS**  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
NORTH CORNWALL (Lebanon Co.) — Registration is free for pork producers at the 18th annual Keystone Pork Expo (formerly Keystone Pork Congress) on Wednesday, Feb. 14 at the Lebanon Valley Expo Center at the Lebanon Fairgrounds.

A highlight of the Expo, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Pork Producers Council (PPPC), is a new silent auction, held in conjunction with the annual Legislative Activity Fund Auction, scheduled for the expo center's West Hall. The live auction, to feature a variety of items for business and home, is scheduled for 1:15 p.m. Harry Bachman is auctioneer.

At the silent auction, bidders can indicate in writing their bid. Top bid takes the item, to be conducted after the live auction. Bidding for the silent auction closes at 1:45 p.m.

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Seventy-one-year-old Bob Bishop loads another calf on the truck for market. This is the story of his life.

## At 71, Bishop Keeps On Hauling

**JOANNE E. MORVAY**  
Adams Co. Correspondent  
GETTYSBURG (Adams Co.) — Bob Bishop celebrated his 71st birthday with 26 calves, a few unruly steers, and a slice of raisin pie.

While that might not sound like much of a party to some, you don't become one of the area's busiest livestock haulers by taking time off to mark the passing of another year.

Livestock auctions have a schedule, and Bishop learned long ago not to let the events in his life interfere with it.

He's been trucking stock since he was just a boy. Of course, back then it was his feet that absorbed the wear and tear of driving cattle to auction.

"My dad had cows out everywhere — for the calves," Bishop said. When the late Mervin B. Bishop was ready to move some of

his animals, "we used to start before daylight to go any distance. "At that time, everybody had fence, so after you got 'em on the road, they had nowhere to go," Bob said.

But getting the herd to cross a bridge was another story.

Mervin Bishop drove on ahead in a car, dropping back to help his son only through the toughest spots.

The experience taught Bob at a young age how to push through life's troubled waters. He also learned the true meaning of hard work.

"We'd come home and I can remember him saying, 'The cattle's played out and the boy is too,'" Bob Bishop said with a laugh.

The first father-son livestock hauling team in the Bishop family got its first truck in 1942. Up to

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## Grazing Livestock Is Combination Art, Technical Application

**VERNON ACHENBACH JR.**  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — The definition of a "grazier" is "a person who grazes cattle," according to Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary.

It doesn't say how much. The reality of using grazing to reduce dairy and livestock production costs has been maturing into more than a fringe, back-to-nature movement of a herdsman or shepherd following the animals and moving them from pasture to

pasture. But is some of that, according to a speakers at the two-day Southeast Pennsylvania Grazing Conference.

Held Monday afternoon and all day Tuesday, the event is sponsored by the Lancaster County Grazers, and carried a theme of, "Profitable Grass Farming."

Speakers were Richard Triumpho, a New York dairyman who switched to grazing after visiting New Zealand and who also is a columnist for Hoard's Dairyman;

Tom Calvert, a retired consultant for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, who also practices grazing; and Alan Henning, a grazing consultant who has his own grazing dairy operation and cheese business in Wisconsin.

Two other speakers were locally practicing dairymen who have switched to relying more on grazing to feed their milking string and replacements — John Ocker, and Forrest Strickler.

Dairy farming is not the only application where grazing has

been receiving increasing attention, but it is probably the most significant.

While the concept of grazing is not new, the presentation of it has contrasted sharply with the prescribed dairying practices that have developed in southern Pennsylvania.

With smaller average farm sizes, decreased profit per hundredweight of milk sold, many have gone to high-density confinement operations in an attempt to maximize milk production per acre

and thus cash flow.

However, some with limited ground have been significantly reducing the amount of crop land devoted to traditional grains and forages and converting prior row crop areas into grazing beds.

Again, while some have been advising the practice of grazing any grass species that grows when first converting to grazing, others

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## State Farm Council Meets, Hosts Cornucopia



At Cornucopia '96 are from left, Rep. Bill Lloyd, Jr., Laura England, Council president and Sen. Patrick Stapleton.

**EVERETT NEWSWANGER**  
Managing Editor  
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — The Pennsylvania State Council of Farm Organizations held its annual meeting and Cornucopia for state legislators Monday in the East Wing of the Capitol Building.

In the business meeting, Laura England, president, announced that Patricia Sueck, the executive director of the Agriculture Awareness Foundation of Pennsylvania, has been named to fill the position of executive director of the council. Ken Brandt had announced last year that he wanted to step down from the position and a search committee had been named to review possible candidates.

Sueck has close ties to the Council through the Ag Awareness Foundation, and she also serves many other organizations, as well. Sueck is president of Penn's Agri-Women and a member of the planning commission of the USDA Ag in the Classroom National Conference. The first vice president of the

Pa. Association of Conservation Districts, Sueck is also a director of the York County Conservation District where she serves on the stewardship, awards and Chesapeake Bay committees and the York County Farm Bureau as the information and government relations directors.

In the past, Sueck has served on the York County board of the Farm and Natural Lands Trust Company and the Penn State Extension Family Living Committee and the American Farm Bureau Rural Health Committee for three terms.

As a nurse, Sueck has many areas of service to the community that include the court appointed special advocate for abused children. She is a member of the alumnae association of the St. Joseph Hospital, and an Eucharistic Minister of St. Joseph Church.

The Council recognized Brandt in appreciation for his three-year term as executive director.

Candidates for the state office of attorney general, treasurer, and

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Dan Wolf is one of the newest directors of the Pennsylvania Master Corn Growers Association. "Corn is king" where the Wolf family farm in York County. Read about this operation and a lot more "Corn Talk" in the special section with this issue.