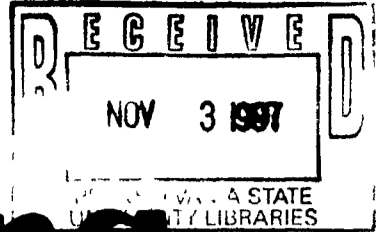


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# Lancaster Farming

Vol. 42 No. 51      4 Sections      Lancaster Farming, Saturday, October 25, 1997      \$28.50 Per Year      60¢ Per Copy



## White House Gets Local Pumpkin

Pumpkins generated a lot of excitement this week at Stauffer Farms in Columbia. Jim Stauffer, fruit and produce seller, shipped a 320-pound pumpkin to the White House. This was the fourth year Stauffer was asked to supply the White House pumpkin. The pumpkin was grown in the backyard of Tammy and John Williams of Fawn Grove. Jim, seated in wagon, and his dad Jay grow 300 acres of produce and contract from other farmers to supply Baltimore-Washington markets with fresh produce. Photo by Lou Ann Good.

## Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board Approves 40-Cent Increase

**VERNON ACHENBACH JR.**  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — The Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board (PMMB) on Tuesday announced it has approved a 40-cent increase in its Class I minimum over-order premium, effective Nov. 1.

The total PMMB over-order premium is to be \$1.20 per hundred pounds (cwt.) of Class I milk, and is to remain until the end of April 1998.

The over-order premium is an amount that Pennsylvania dairy processors must pay Pennsylvania dairy farmers, on top of the federally set minimum price, for using and selling that milk as drinking milk (Class I).

The PMMB over-order premium has been 80 cents per hundredweight (cwt.) since April 1996.

It was due to drop to 50 cents per cwt. on May 1, where it has been for some time.

But the PMMB held a hearing in early April to gather testimony, and followed up with retaining the 30-cents through April 1998.

At the time, the dairy industry experienced an unexpected \$4-drop in the price of milk, officially due to low cheese prices, and extraordinarily high feed prices.

In late September, State Secretary of

Agriculture Samuel Hayes Jr. initiated a request of the PMMB to hold a hearing to consider the over-order premium in light of the current dairy price situation.

The PMMB held that hearing Oct. 10 and gathered testimony.

Then, this week, the board met Tuesday in a special Sunshine meeting. (A state law that defines the public's access to the dealings of government is called the Sunshine law.)

After considering the testimony, they unanimously approved increasing the over-order premium by 40 cents, by amending its previous order.

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## Set Clocks Back Tonight

It's time to change from Daylight Saving Time back to Eastern Standard Time. The official time we "fall back" one hour is at 2 a.m. Sunday morning, Oct. 26. To get that extra hour of sleep, turn the blocks back one hour before you go to bed Saturday night. Animal feeding and milking schedules also need to be adjusted accordingly.

## Dairyalea Cooperative Reviews Year of Growth

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Dairyalea Cooperative Inc. celebrated another year of substantial growth and improved financial position at its 1997 Annual Meeting held October 14 and 15 in Liverpool, N.Y.

During his presentation, Dairyalea Chief Executive Officer Rick Smith reported that the Cooperative had an annual profit of \$1.4 million dollars, increasing 32 percent from the previous year.

Additionally, sales continued trekking upward to almost \$699 million, increasing 17.6 percent, continuing the growth pattern of recent years. Premiums paid to members, over the blend price, totaled close to \$15.6 million, up 29 percent from the previous year. Equity in the Cooperative grew over \$1 million dollars, or 9.3 percent.

"For the last eight years, our milk marketings have grown more

than 10 percent each year. This year, we expect milk marketing volumes to increase again. This growth, combined with other factors across the United States, will likely find Dairyalea ranked as the seventh largest dairy cooperative in the United States," announced Smith.

More than 750 member-farmers and industry guests attended the two-day event, which included Smith's presentation and an annual

address by Dairyalea President Clyde Rutherford.

Smith also reviewed a myriad of Dairyalea's new projects and activities that fulfilled its mission statement of maximizing net returns at the farm through effective milk marketing and providing valuable services and programs.

In outlining the Cooperative's commitment for the coming year, Smith said, "We will relentlessly innovate, upgrade, and improve

our performance and service to our members by 1. enhancing price and reducing costs; 2. doggedly supporting and promoting the Dairy Compact in our region, as well as pursuing all other avenues that are rational to enhance price at the farm; 3. intensifying our efforts to reduce costs at the farm to improve cash flow for farmer members."

In delivering his annual address

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## Lancaster Farmland Trust Launches Funding Campaign

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — Honorary Chairman Noah W. Kreider, Jr. launched Lancaster Farmland Trust's 1997-98 Annual Funding Campaign to save Lancaster County farms. This week Kreider gave Board of Trustees President Phyllis C. Whitesell an envelope containing \$30,000 in donations already received at an Amish preserved farm, located just

North of Greenfield Industrial Park.

Kreider, a Manheim area farmer and businessman who has preserved several farms himself said, "The work of Lancaster Farmland Trust is crucial to ensure that farming remains economically viable for today and for future generations."

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Noah Kreider, Jr., honorary chairman, gives Phyllis C. Whitesell, board of trustees president, an envelope containing \$30,000 in donations already received for the Lancaster Farmland Trust annual funding campaign. The preserved Amish farm pictured is located just north of the Greenfield Industrial Park. In the photo from left, Phillip W. Kimmel, campaign coordinator; Whitesell; Thomas D. Stouffer, executive director; Kreider; and John H. Schwartz, board president elect.

## Graziers Featured

In the next issue of *Lancaster Farming* (Nov. 1) we include *Foraging Around*, a special section dedicated to the forage grower and grazer, with information supplied by the Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council (PFGC).

*Foraging Around* is published four times per year. Look for an interview with a producer who makes use of hay drying technologies, sound advice on pasture and forage management from producers throughout the state, and management tips from cooperative extension. Also included will be information on the state grazing conference, a message from the PFGC president, news of upcoming meetings, research data, and advertising information.