

Lancaster Farming

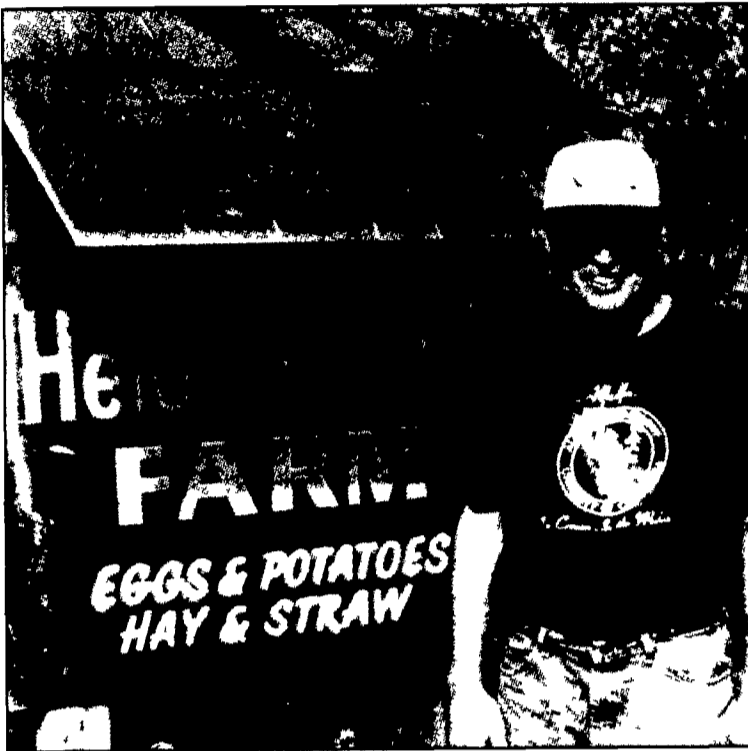
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Five Sections

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David Fink, owner of Heidel Hollow Farm in Germansville, is a large-scale hay producer who serves on the International Market Development Committee for the National Hay Association. See Fink's work in this issue's special section, *Foraging Around*.

United Voice Raised For Homestead Exemption

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)

— The Lancaster County commissioners called a news conference Thursday morning to present united support for a "yes" vote on the Homestead Exemption referendum that will be on Pennsylvania's ballots next Tuesday.

All the commissioners, Paul Thibault, vice chairman, who conducted the news conference, Terry Kauffman, chairman, and Ron Ford, agreed that the present method of using only real estate taxes to raise county revenues was unfair and antiquated. They emphasized that if an affirmative vote is not achieved now, the

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Lancaster Farming Turns 42!

Lancaster Farming began to appear in rural mailboxes in southeast Pennsylvania 42 years ago on Nov. 4, 1955. Every week since then Lancaster Farming has supplied farm news, advertising, market and production reports, regular columns, and special features to our growing number of loyal rural readers. Today, farmers and agri-industry representatives really depend on us for the farm news each week. Thanks!

Pennsylvania Grange Celebrates 125-Year History

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff
LEESPORT (Berks Co.) — Janet Fishovitz of Freedom was named the Pennsylvania State Granger of the Year Tuesday during the 125th All-Granger Banquet at the Leesport Farmers Market in Leesport.

The awards banquet served as the climax of the rural organization's several days of festivities, contests and events held as part of its historic convention.

The banquet hall facility of the livestock and farm products auction business was filled by Grangers from around the state for the Tuesday buffet dinner and awards program.

For the days of the state organization's historic 125th anniversary convention leading up to the banquet, most activities occurred either at the Scottish Rite Cathedral in Reading, or at The Inn at Reading, which served as convention headquarters.

Twelve Berks County granges served as convention hosts and used the farmers market site as a

change of venue. With the long banquet hall, and six long rows of end-to-end tables, a stage at one end and a buffet line at the other, the site seemed to suit well the 600 members in attendance.

State Grange Master William Steel served as master of ceremonies and welcomed the members, with Jean Hollabaugh providing the invocation prior to dinner.

Following the meal featuring roast beef fillets and crab cakes, as well as potato filling (a regional culinary specialty) and other side dishes, the program included a presentation from Tom Gajewski, a staff member for U.S. Rep. Tim Holden, who presented a proclamation from the U.S. House of Representatives recognizing the

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Poultry Accomplishments, Plans Noted

LOU ANN GOOD

Lancaster Farming Staff

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)

— At its annual banquet held at Willow Valley Convention Center on Tuesday evening, Lancaster County Poultry Association noted its accomplishments and offered a peep into promotional plans for the upcoming year.

Lancaster County Poultry Ambassador Kendra Weaver

greeted the 350 members in attendance. She said, "Small family farms, especially poultry farms, are close to my heart since I come from one."

The 18-year-old daughter of Keith and JoAnne Weaver, who have a broiler operation in Reinholds, was presented with a \$1,000 scholarship in appreciation for

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Fall harvest is well under way, with reports of crop yields greatly varied across the region because of weather conditions. For example, in areas of south central Pennsylvania, the corn crop is almost a total loss, while the southeast part of the state has only 20 to 30 percent lower yields. Maryland also has great variation from county to county. In some fields the stalks were shorter, but the ears filled out, making better silage than normal.

For J. R. Arnold, Jefferson, Md., driving the tractor in the photo, the crop was very poor. In fact, it took the corn planted in the spring a month to sprout, and for most of the

year the crop was expected to be a total loss. But on Tuesday, Arnold was harvesting the corn on Joe Long's farm, and the field was at least providing some forage. Of course, it took many more acres than usual to fill the silos. Many farmers have already started to purchase forages in anticipation of shortages next spring. The photo was taken along Rt. 180, looking north, just west of Jefferson, Md., at the junction of Rt. 383. Jefferson View Farm, owned by Charles C. Smith & Sons, can be seen in the background. Photo by Everett Newswanger, managing editor.