## **Rodgers Named Cooperative Extension Director**

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Dr. Michelle S. Rodgers has been appointed director of Penn State Cooperative Extension and Outreach for the Capital Region, effective immediately.

As regional director, Rodgers will provide programmatic and administrative leadership for co-

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operative extension and coordination for university outreach programs in the region's seven counties: Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York.

"The Capital Region, which encompasses Pennsylvania's agricultural bread basket as well as

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several urban centers, faces a unique set of issues," Rodgers says.

"With receipts totaling more than \$2.5 billion, agriculture is the leading industry in the region," she explains. "The size of this industry means that there is intense demand for educational program-

FOR WOMEN

ming to help agricultural producers maintain cutting edge management and production skills and stay competitive in today's global economy.

"At the same time, these counties are home to more than 1.5 million people who have diverse program needs in youth development, family relationships and community development," she adds. "I hope to foster extension education efforts that will focus on these issues in a balanced way."

After receiving her B.S. in home economics education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1980, Rodgers spent about nine years as a Penn State Cooperative Extension home economics agent in Lancaster and Berks counties. From 1989 until her appointment as regional director, she served a combined eight years as assistant to the regional directors of the Capital and Southeast regions. In that capacity, she assisted in staff development, program planning and development, budgeting and personnel matters. From July 1994 to April 1995, she was interim regional director for the Capital Region.

Rodgers received her M.S. in rural sociology in 1988 and her Ph.D. in agricultural education with a minor in public administration in 1997, both from Penn State. She is a member of numerous professional organizations



**Dr. Michelle Rodgers** 

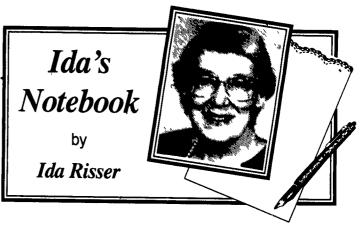
and has received several national and regional awards and honors, including a National Extension Leadership Development internship in 1996-97.

A resident of Akron, Rodgers will be based at the Capital Region cooperative extension office at Penn State Harrisburg.

The Capital Region was one of eight restructured regions created as part of an overall effort to enhance cooperative extension and engage the entire university in a broadened outreach effort. Cooperative extension, with offices in each of Pennsylvania's 67 counties, transfers research-based information to Pennsylvania's citizens through non-formal educational programs designed to meet locally identified needs.



King



Our oldest daughter has a birthday this first week in December. If I write about her, I know that I cannot do justice to her and all of her activities.

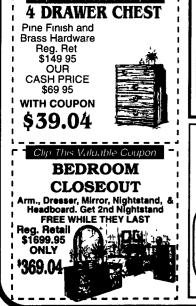
She always was an independent child and when she started school she happily skipped to the bus leaving me feeling sad and forsaken.

In sixth grade she ran the school library as there was no librarian that year. She was easily able to do school work and tend the library. As I remember, she was second in a class of several hundred when she graduated from high school.

Her exuberance really showed

tional committees as she is a nurse practitioner and sees patients all day. She traveled to Washington, D.C. to help write the tests for other nurse practititioners. And, she also writes for a Nurse Practitioner magazine by condensing articles pertaining to the nursing profession. This summer when our family was in the mountains, she had a two-hour telephone conference as a group planned the rules for treating asthma.

She has come a long way from the little girl who lived on a dairy farm and fed the calves.





the day she came into the kitchen with a letter from Alfred University in New York state telling her that she had a full scholarship. They paid everything during her four years while she earned her B.S. degree and also an R.N. degree. From the time that she was five years old, she intended to be a nurse. After graduation she worked in Rochester for a year and then traveled to Seattle to get a master's degree in medical and surgical nursing. She had a house along Lake Washington and owned a sailboat. We visited her several times as she lived there and raised a family in the next 20 years. Due to her husband's work, they moved several times.

Now that she lives in New Jersey she has been on several na-



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