

*Life See*

# Lancaster Farming

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## FARMER Members Care, Make A Difference

**VERNON ACHENBACH JR.**  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
HERSHEY (Dauphin Co.) — The political action committee of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau held its 18th annual banquet program Monday at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center.

The PFB political committee is called FARMER and it selects, endorses and supports farmer-friendly political candidates. Following a meal, the event featured a special presentation of a certificate of appreciation to PFB President Guy Donaldson from Bill Werby, chairman of the state

committee of the Pennsylvania office of the USDA Farm Service Agency, on behalf of the USDA, for the generous contributions made by members of PFB in the USDA Farm Service Agency's national drive to build stocks in food banks across the nation. The contributions arranged

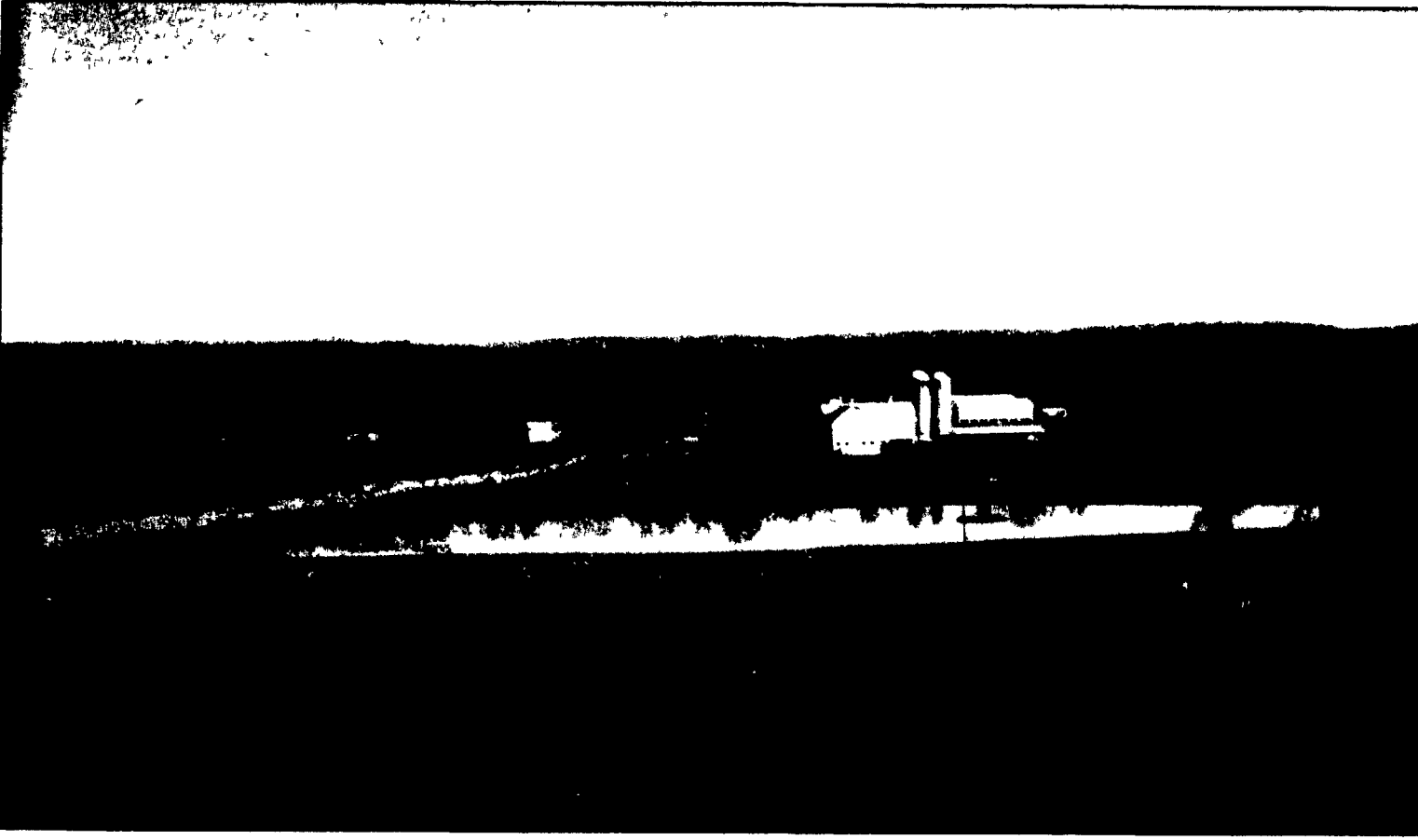
through PFB made up the bulk of foods collected in Pennsylvania through a special U.S. Department of Agriculture program earlier this year. Originally, the USDA food drive program was all inhouse and was unexpected, initiated just after the New Year.

That gave only about a month's time for the national agency to notify all the state agencies and for the state agencies to notify all the regional offices and employees, and then collect the food and distribute it.

Given the short notice of the food drive, most USDA employees at most state offices had little time to make allowances to donated food items for local food banks.

After the first deadline arrived, a second deadline was created, but as that began to close down to about a week away, USDA began contacting some state farm organizations to see if they could help out.

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## Land Preserved In Nick Of Time For Farm Viability

**ANDY ANDREWS**  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
TOPTON (Berks Co.) — Noel and Elizabeth Schlegel were hard pressed to come up with enough land, literally, to be able to raise enough feed for their dairy herd and for land to spread manure on. After all, they had 60 cows to milk and another 45 replacements to take care of.

And the new nutrient management law had Noel worried —

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Calves in the pasture make grazers' thoughts turn to spring. With warm weather and plenty of moisture, pastures are now growing well in most parts of the Northeast. According to the Pennsylvania Agriculture Statistics Service, corn planting is approximately one week ahead of the average completed at this time. Wheat and barley look good, and oats are reported in good condition too. Current listed activities include planting small grains, spreading lime, plowing fields, harvesting and chopping ryelage, machinery maintenance, hauling manure, and caring for livestock.

The Nittany Farms, located along Route 322 near Penn State on the way to State College, always provide a picturesque setting. With the calves scattered out over the foreground as captured early one morning last week, it was impossible to drive by without taking this picture. *Photo by Everett Newswanger, managing editor.*

## Penn State Poultry Club Holds Annual Meeting

**JUDITH PATTON**  
Union Co. Correspondent  
STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — At the eighth Penn State Poultry Science Club banquet held May 1, John Hoffman, Pennsylvania Poultry Council's executive director, told students their biggest career challenges will be resolving environmental, food safety, and animal rightist's issues.

agricultural economy these challenges must be met. Consumers now only pay nine percent of their disposable net income for food. "The most serious challenge of your careers will be making high-density farm operations compatible with a safe and healthy environment," Hoffman said.

Because the Susquehanna River flows through the heart of Pennsylvania farm areas into the Chesapeake Bay, farm nutrients and waste runoff is overly blamed for pollution in the bay. Some states

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Noel and Elizabeth Schlegel have been farming the property since 1983 and purchased the property from Elizabeth's parents, Harry and Thelma Herbert, in 1986. A preservation ceremony was held Friday morning on their farm. The farm sign reads "Shaynah Kee," Dutch for "nice cows," said Noel. *Photo by Andy Andrews*