

Lancaster Farming



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Farm-City Banquet Provides People Sense Of Community

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NORTH CORNWALL (Lebanon Co.) — At least 650 people attended the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce Farm-City Banquet Tuesday at the Lebanon Expo Fairgrounds in North Cornwall Township.

The event is billed as the largest such event in the state, and for years has been popular in attracting support from many community farmers, agribusinesses, area businesses, families, legislators and state commodity and promotional groups.

Henry Homan, semi-retired Lebanon County radio news reporter, newspaper columnist, and personality, served as master of ceremonies.

State Dairy Princess Jennifer Dotterer, Somerset County Lamb and Wool Queen Casey Svonavec (standing in for her cousin, state Lamb and Wool Queen Heidi Svonavec), Penn State Extension staff, and representatives of the Beef Council were present and mingled with people, and had booths where snacks and promotional offerings were made during the social hour leading up to the actual banquet.

The banquet itself — a buffet featuring large grilled ham steaks, cooked dried corn, sweet potatoes, green beans, etc. — was prepared by Country Fare Restaurant, a family style restaurant located in Myerstown with strong agricultural ties.

Regular and flavored milk

drinks were provided by long-time county program supporter Wengert's Dairy.

For those unfamiliar with the Lebanon Area Fairgrounds, several years ago the Expo Association invested in expanding the facilities to accommodate a variety of conventions, while maintaining a strong

identity to agriculture.

One of the landmarks of the entire grounds is a large high-ceilinged, convention and agricultural hall, designed to resemble a large bank barn.

It can and does easily accommodate large crowds, livestock shows
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Farmers Union Conducts Beef Marketing Study

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MASONTOWN, (Fayette Co.) — The Pennsylvania Family Farm Beef Study Steering Committee recently introduced its marketing test and feasibility study. The objective of the effort, according to Robert C. Junk, president of the Pennsylvania Farmers Union, is to increase farm income.

According to Don Fretts, a production farmer and Fayette County extension agent, this effort could fulfill one of his dreams. He noted that the producer gets about \$.24 out of each \$1 the consumer spends on food. Increasing the contacts for a longer portion of the path to the consumer will help increase the return to the farmer. Currently the production farmer gains income from breeding up to slaughter then turns the product over to others. This study

suggests involvement with the product right up to consumption.

The group, known as the Pennsylvania Family Farm Beef Cooperative, has come together over the last year, sparked by a \$64,000 grant from the USDA and some matching funds from the Pennsylvania Farmers Union and the Family Farm Foundation. The total investment in the study will go over \$100,000, including funds and staff support from the Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture.

At this point, the organization is headed by a team of three co-chairmen, a secretary and includes a steering committee of 60 or so production farmers. The officers, selected at one of the many meetings in the area, have been functioning since August 12. The group includes Secretary Louise D'Isidoro, Fayette County, and co-

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Laszlo and Lana Mozes stand at the driveway marker of their Maple Leaf dairy farm. Laszlo is one of the past presidents of the Pennsylvania Holstein Association. Photo by Marsha Ann Chess, Mercer Co. correspondent.

Finding the 'American Dream'

MARSHA ANN CHESS
Mercer Co. Correspondent
GREENVILLE (Mercer Co.) —

When 21-year-old Laszlo Mozes arrived in the United States in 1957, he was alone in a strange land. He did not know anyone and he did not speak the lan-

guage, but he went to work finding a job and learning English. Today he owns and operates a 300-acre dairy farm near Greenville.

Laszlo left his native Hungary in 1957 following the Hungarian Revolution, in which he took part, for political reasons. Laszlo said, "I had to leave." He chose to come to the United States because, he said, "I always thought I would like to come to the U.S. because there were more opportunities than in any other country. I'd heard a lot about America."

When Laszlo arrived in the U.S., he had no real destination in mind. "I had no place to go,"

he said. "I was single. I decided to stay in Greenville because somebody offered me a job."

Laszlo claims "it was easy to adjust to living in America, easier to adjust to than the wars in Hungary." He admits there were some difficulties. "To start, it was kind of hard. Imagine yourself (going) somewhere you don't know the language or know anybody." He comments that it took some determination to successfully adjust and learn the English language, which he did by going to high school.

Laszlo married Lana and they purchased the farm. Since

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Special Pages/Advertising/News Deadlines For Holidays, Farm Show Issues

A number of special pages are planned for *Lancaster Farming* in the coming weeks. In addition, the Christmas and New Year holidays bring special deadline schedules, too.

Next week we plan to have the semi-annual newsletter for Pennsylvania DHIA. Here the association will present their review of the year and bring news of special interest to their members as well as to all dairy farmers. In the Dec. 26 issue we dedicate a few pages to the introduction of the Pennsylvania Young Farmer convention to be hosted by the Mannheim Chapter in early February. We will have registration forms and an extensive review of the program.

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At the Mercer County 4-H honors night are from left, Ruth Woods presenting the Elizabeth Cooper Fellnagle Memorial Award to Mindy Travares, outstanding 4-H girl and Tom Uber, outstanding 4-H boy receiving the David Anderson Memorial Award from Karen and Ken Anderson. See story Page A25.