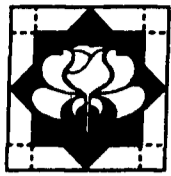


Agriculture Insights



The Lancaster Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Phone: (717) 397-3531

It's Nice to Meet You!

By this time, many of you have noticed that in the past several months this column has had several guest writers from the

Lancaster Chamber's Ag Committee. I would like to thank each of those who have helped during this transition period. As many of you know, Jim Shirk

decided to move on, and passed the torch on to me. I'm Brendon Landis, and I recently joined the Lancaster Chamber as the new agricultural services coordinator.

To give a personal introduction, I was raised on a family-owned custom crop protection business in the eastern part of Lancaster County. It was there that I developed a strong interest in agriculture and formed my career goal. I recently graduated from Penn State University with a bachelor's degree in agricultural business management and a minor in ag economics and rural sociology. While at Penn State I served as an Ag Advocate for the College of Ag Sciences, helping to promote

ag education. I also served as a Vice-President for the National Agri-Marketing Association at Penn State. This past year I was a member of Penn State's team, which placed second in the nation at the annual National Agri-Marketing competition. I am a member of both the Gamma Sigma Delta and Coaly honor societies.

Along with working with my father at the family business, I have worked as a field scout for Brubaker Agronomic Consulting Service and as a sales intern for both Dow AgroSciences and American Cyanamid. During my time at Penn State and through my different internships and work experience, I have developed a strong desire to be part of Lancaster's agriculture and fast changing future.

So, how did I become part of The Lancaster Chamber of Commerce & Industry? I began as the new agricultural services coordinator in January on a part-time basis while finishing up my last semester at Penn State. Following graduation in May, I started full-time.

My largest responsibility is assisting the Lancaster Chamber's Ag Committee. This very knowledgeable group is comprised of six production farmers, five ag lenders, six ag business leaders, and three ex-officio members. Lowell Fry, agricultural lending officer at Fulton Bank, is serving as the current Chairman of the ag committee. The Ex-Officios on the ag committee include Paul Thibault, Lancaster County Commissioner; Dr. Schwartz, director of the Lancaster County

Cooperative Extension; and Tom Stouffer, executive director of the Lancaster Farmland Trust. Each of these ag committee members have a strong background in agriculture and are all working together to promote our ag industry.

The 1999 ag committee goals concentrate on four main areas; the first goal is to educate the non-farm public on agricultural issues, the economic benefits of agriculture, the effect of agriculture on the quality of life, and the realities of modern agriculture. The second goal is to monitor legislation, regulations and public policies impacting agriculture at all levels of government. The third is to sponsor educational programs for the agriculture community. And, the last goal is to build agricultural awareness within the Chamber and grow our agricultural Chamber membership. Our ag committee is always open to new ideas, questions or concerns in the ag community.

I am very excited to serve in this rewarding position and look forward to working with Lancaster's agriculture and the future changes it faces. If you have any suggestions or would like to become involved with this rewarding committee, please contact myself; Brendon Landis, Agricultural Services Coordinator, at The Lancaster Chamber of Commerce & Industry, PO Box 1558, Lancaster, PA 17608-1558. Feel free to call me at (717) 397-3531, ext. 62 or e-mail at blandis@lcci.com.



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Ag Issues Forum Sets Bio-Technology July Meeting

LEOLA (Lanc. Co.) — On July 8, the Ag Issues Forum will have its monthly meeting at the Leola Family Restaurant, Route 23, Leola, from 7:30 a.m.-9 a.m. Breakfast will be served promptly at 7:30 a.m. and is \$8 (with reservations) or \$10 (at the door).

The meeting will start at 8 a.m. and is free. The July topic is Bio-Technology and will be addressed by Dr. Robert Fry (Atlantic Dairy Manager Services), Susan Mora (regional manager of State Government Affairs, Monsanto)

and Dan Gard (Monsanto Animal Health Division). This will be a very informative meeting with the opportunity for attendees to ask questions.

Since 1989, the Ag Issues Forum has met a need within the agricultural community by making available speakers to interact with the Forum attendees in open discussion.

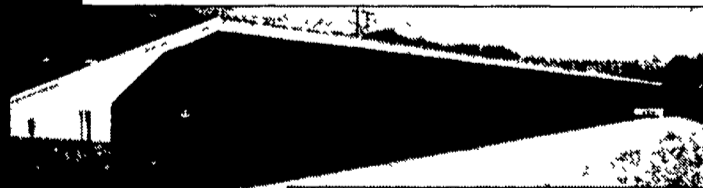
To make a reservation or for more information, call Christina Acosta at (717-859-3276).

From the Department of Dairy and Animal Science

(Continued from Page A24)

to deliver. Our clientele play an integral role in this process. I encourage you to let me know how we can help (email: tde@psu.edu). We are renewing our commitment to dynamically interact with our clientele. In the next few weeks I will be sharing information about some exciting new programs we will be launching that will benefit animal agriculture and demonstrate our commitment to be an engaged department

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