

Penn State College Of Ag Sciences On Hand At Farm Show

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — More than 150 Penn State faculty and staff will play important roles at the 2002 Pennsylvania Farm Show Jan. 5-10.

A showcase of the state's number-one industry, agriculture, the Farm Show is sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences.

Visitors at the Farm Show will see evidence of Penn State's involvement in virtually every area of the 16-acre complex. At the College of Agricultural Sciences exhibit in the Main Exhibits Hall, the public can learn about a variety of programs:

- Penn State Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners will staff displays on composting and the "secret life of soils." Kids of all ages will be able to navigate the "Worm Tunnel" and receive a ribbon proclaiming, "I squirmed the worm!"

- Visitors will be able to "ask the experts" (Penn State faculty and extension specialists) about food safety and farm biosecurity.

- Staff from AgMap, an e-commerce initiative of Penn State Cooperative Extension, will be on hand to explain the program, which uses the Internet to help farmers, businesses, consumers, and others find various agricultural commodities, goods, and services in their area.

- The School of Forest Resources will offer displays and information about white-tailed deer, urban trees, and Pennsylvania watersheds.

- College of Agricultural Sciences staff and students will provide information about college programs and careers in the agricultural sciences.

- The 4-H youth development program administered by Penn State Cooperative Extension will offer displays and activities to mark the centennial of 4-H in 2002.

The 4-H centennial also will be commemorated with a 4-H "Wall of History" and other exhibits in the Family Living and Agricultural Learning Center on the second floor of the complex's Northeast Building. Pennsylvania's

oldest 4-H alumni will be recognized during the Farm Show's opening ceremonies and hosted at a reception by Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Samuel Hayes.

4-H also plays a large role in the Farm Show youth judging events. Many of the young people who enter animals or products in the various competitions are 4-H members who have been taught and mentored by Penn State Cooperative Extension youth development agents and 4-H volunteer leaders.

Throughout the Farm Show, more than 100 Penn State faculty and extension educators will assist with livestock and commodity judging for everything from dairy cattle to maple syrup to mushrooms. Their duties include weighing in animals, handling entry registrations, and answering questions from the public.

In addition, a team of College of Agricultural Sciences media

relations staff and extension agents will broadcast Farm Show news and judging results to more than 70 radio stations throughout Pennsylvania and beyond.

The Farm Show complex is located on Cameron Street, just off of exit 67 of Interstate 81. Hours are 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. from Saturday, Jan. 5 through Wednesday, Jan. 9; and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on

Thursday, Jan. 10. Admission is free and parking is \$5 per vehicle, including shuttle bus service from the off-site lots.

Because of construction, on-site parking will be limited to exhibitors and vendors. For more information, visit the Web at <http://www.pda.state.pa.us> and click on the Farm Show 2002 link.

Farm And Home Foundation Annual Meeting Jan. 22

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — The Farm and Home Foundation of Lancaster County is planning its 38th annual meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 22 at the Farm and Home Center.

One of the major functions is the awarding of scholarships to students of agriculture and home economics.

The program will feature Luke Brubaker, president of the Farm

and Home Foundation Board, speaking about and showing slides on his recent trip to Ukraine. The banquet is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. in the Farm and Home Center auditorium. The cost is \$18 per person and includes membership dues.

For reservations, contact the Farm and Home Center, at (717) 392-4911 by Jan. 17.

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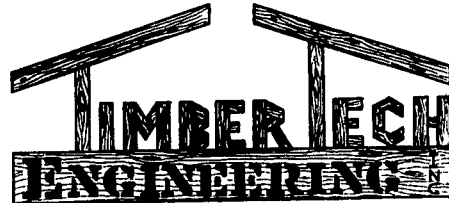
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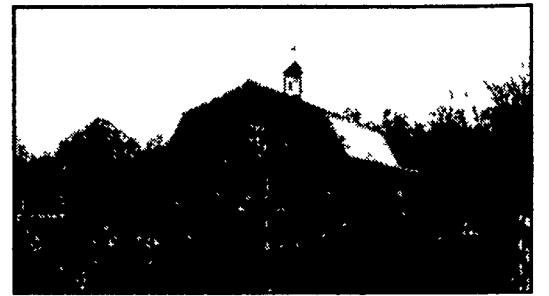
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