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# Lancaster Farming

Vol. 47 No. 33 www.lancasterfarming.com Four Sections Saturday, June 15, 2002 \$36.00 Per Year \$1.00 Per Copy

## Berks Group Tours Taylor Excel Plant In Wyalusing



This group of beef producers and industry representatives toured Taylor Excel Packing Plant in Wyalusing Monday. Photo by Michelle Kunjappu

**MICHELLE KUNJAPPU**  
*Lancaster Farming Staff*  
WYALUSING (Bradford Co.) — Members of the Berks Southeast Cattlemen's Association and other representatives of the beef industry took the opportunity to see a different facet of beef production when they visited the Taylor Excel packing plant Monday. (Turn to Page A25)

## Forum Speakers: Ag And Food Security Are Critical

**DAVE LEFEVER**  
*Lancaster Farming Staff*  
UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Agriculture and our food supply lie at the "critical cutting edge of homeland security," according to an officer and teacher at the Strategic Studies Institute of the U.S. Army War College. Colonel Peter Menk was one of five speakers, including an assistant U.S. attorney and a USDA medical intelligence agent, who spoke on topics related to ag-terrorist in University Park this week. The program was part of a three-day Great Lakes Forum on Agriculture hosted by Pennsylvania Ag Secretary Sam Hayes. Agriculture and food are "undeniably vulnerable" to terrorist attacks, Menk told a diverse group that included representatives of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food and ag departments from various states in the Great Lakes region. "You're going to start seeing a tremendous amount of attention to ag security in the U.S.," he said. Menk listed field crops, farm animals, food in all stages of processing and distribution, food storage and transportation elements, and ag research facilities as potential targets. The high rate of efficiency in our food system tends to make it vulnerable, according to Menk. He noted that New York City generally has enough food to last about two days — one example of a "just in time and just enough" approach to food distribution in this country. "Food production and delivery in the U.S. is taken for granted," Menk said. (Turn to Page A29)

## As Fair Season Approaches, Carbon Teen Wins Karakul Sheep


**DEANNA CUNFER**  
*Carbon Co. Correspondent*  
WEATHERLY (Carbon Co.) — Driving long distances to attend sheep and wool festivals or compete at show has become a common occurrence for Laura Mazur, 13, of Too Busy Acres. So when one of the stipulations to a contest Laura was considering entering was to show the prize lamb in at least two shows in the next year, Laura didn't have to think very long before she completed and mailed the necessary paperwork. The essay garnered Laura a lamb. The Youth Conservationist Program is administered by The American Livestock Breeds Conservancy, a nonprofit membership organization founded in 1977 that works to protect more than 100 breeds of cattle, goats, horses, sheep, pigs, and poultry from extinction. For each of the past five years, the Youth Conservationist Program gave (Turn to Page A24)

necessary paperwork. The essay garnered Laura a lamb. The Youth Conservationist Program is administered by The American Livestock Breeds Conservancy, a nonprofit membership organization founded in 1977 that works to protect more than 100 breeds of cattle, goats, horses, sheep, pigs, and poultry from extinction. For each of the past five years, the Youth Conservationist Program gave (Turn to Page A24)



Laura Mazur, 13, of Too Busy Acres near Weatherly holds Twilight's Fancy Feet, her purebred Karakul ewe lamb. Laura won the lamb with an essay submitted to the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy. Photo by Deanna Cunfer, Carbon Co. Correspondent.

## Booklet Features N.Y., Va. Producers



Published by Lancaster Farming June 15, 2002

- Profit Boosting
- Feature Articles
- Business News
- Co-op News
- More

Lancaster Farming's Dairy Plus booklet includes a wealth of information for the dairy producer this issue. Included are features from farmers in New York and Virginia, improving the dairy's bottom line, increasing production through more frequent milking, and overall milking center management.



At left Emily Martin, 4, Ephrata, and Natalie Young, 3, Ephrata, enter into the spirit of Family Farm Days sponsored by the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and hosted by Oregon Dairy. The three-day event conducted this week drew thousands of attendees who were treated to a wagon ride tour of the farm, agricultural exhibits, and ice cream and milk samples. Photo by Michelle Kunjappu