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



ing 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 Mon-

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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 Col-

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 agroterrorism 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 "un-deniably 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 effiency 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.

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This group of beef producers and industry representatives toured Taylor Excel Pack-

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

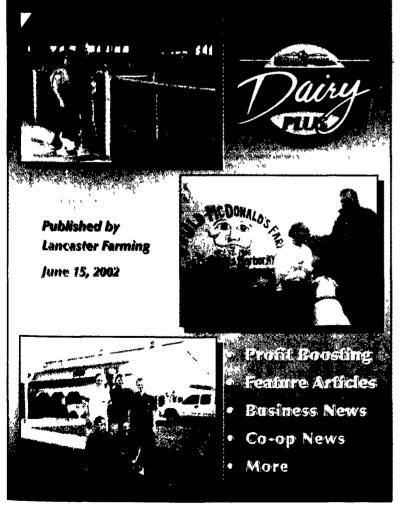
Busy Acres. So when one of the stipulations to a contest Laura was considering entering was to show the prize lamb in at least two shows in the next year, Laura didn't have to think very long before she completed and mailed the necessary paperwork.

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

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Booklet Features N.Y., Va. Producers



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.



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.



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