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# Lancaster Farming

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## Introducing . . .



### Turning On A Dime Kenney's Quarter Horses Set The Pace In Barrel Racing

MICHELLE KUNJAPPU  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
ZUCCHERWILL (M) and  
Kenney's Quarter Horses  
are the stars of the new  
section. The team has  
been successful in barrel  
racing and is looking  
for more opportunities.  
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### New Section Has Survey Info, News From Del Val College

This issue, *Lancaster Farming* launches a brand-new exclusive for horse lovers: *Boarder & Trainer* includes a look at the comprehensive equine industry survey conducted by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, information about the new Equine Center at the Harrisburg Farm Show Complex, calendar of events, and other items. The premier issue features award-winning jumping horses, horse care, and advertising messages. Look for these and other items of *Boarder & Trainer* now and in upcoming months.

## Preservationists Celebrate 51,000 Acres

DAVID GRIFFITH  
Special To Lancaster Farming

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — Several hundred of those involved in farm preservation efforts that recently put Lancaster County at the top of a nationwide list got together here Tuesday evening to celebrate the achievement.

Gathered at the Landis Valley Museum, preservationists joined local and state leaders and others to talk about how it happened and how to keep the movement going.

"Every generation that rises up needs the land," Lancaster County Commissioner Paul Thibault told the crowd. "The good Lord makes us all stewards of the land. We've come a long way in a relatively short period of time. Our challenge is to preserve a resource that forms the root of who and what we are."

Lancaster County has now preserved more than 51,000 acres through the combined efforts of the county's Agricultural

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## Va. Team Tops In Stockman's Contest

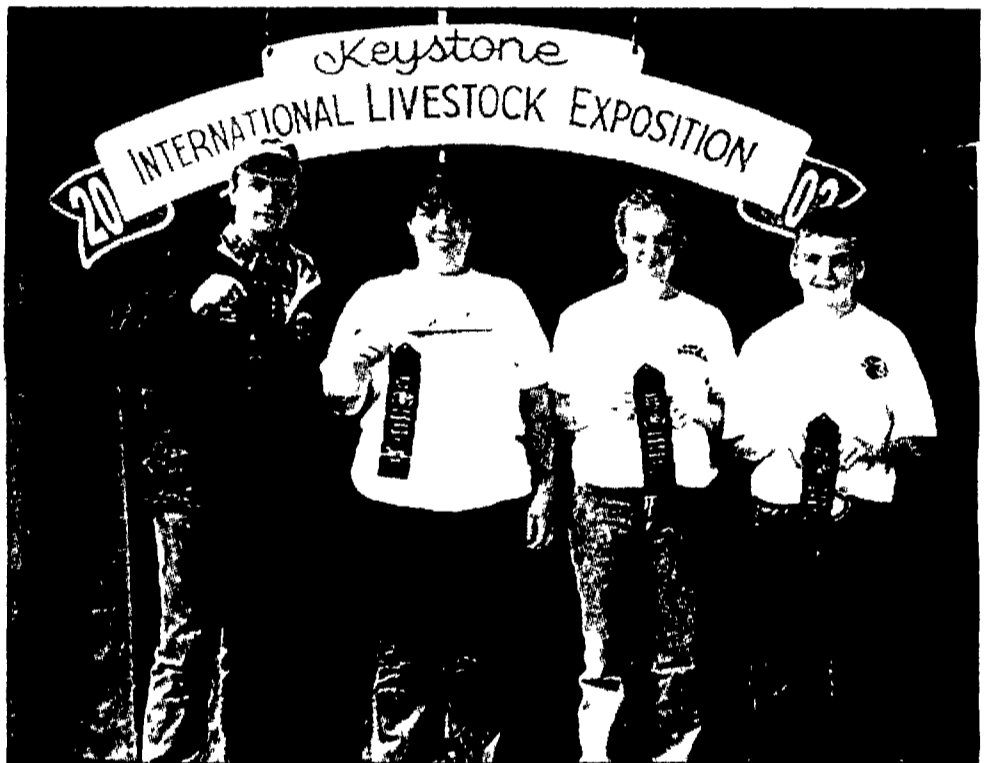
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — More than 45 FFA and 4-H teams competed in the Keystone Stockman's Contest as part of the Keystone International Livestock Exposition (KILE) on Monday here at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex.

The top team was Central FFA Chapter Team Number 1 from Virginia. Central FFA Team Number 1 was the division winner for the meats division and total identification. The management division winner was Steuben County 4-H from New York State. The Livestock division winner was the Tipton 4-H team.

In competition, young people test their beef, sheep, and swine industry knowledge. The contestants participate in tests on their judging skills, meats identification, and livestock management. Team awards were presented on the basis of high scores on the tests.

In the individual competition, top five scoring individuals are interviewed by a panel of three judges, where each contestant is judged on his or her knowledge of the livestock industry and individual

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Keystone Stockman's Contest winners were announced Monday during the Keystone International Livestock Exposition (KILE) at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex. Top team was Central FFA Chapter Team Number 1 from Virginia. Virginia also had a strong representation as the top three individual awards went to that state. From left, winners included Allen Heishman, Nicole Ross, Laura Neff, and Adam Heishman.

## Former Kansas FFA Star Farmer, Rodeo Roper Reports Markets

MILLIE BUNTING  
Market Staff

NEW HOLLAND (Lancaster Co.) — Taylor Cox has traveled far from his roots in the Kansas heartland to Lancaster County's "Garden Spot" to become the Officer in Charge (OIC) of the USDA Market News office in New Holland.

Arriving here at the end of August with his wife and two young daughters, Cox settled in quickly to establish a home for his family and at the same time take on a new job. It helped that he was prepared in advance for both endeavors by Corbett Wall, who formerly worked here and was his boss at the St. Joseph, Mo. USDA office.

Cox was graduated from high school in Anthony, Kan. (south of Wichita) and earned a degree in animal science at nearby Fort Hays College, where he met his wife Maggie. Taylor and an older sister grew up on a 1,000+-acre farm where cattle were grazed on the early wheat.

During high school, Cox was active in FFA, with his activities centered on horses (namely in rodeo competitions), not cattle. He participated in calf roping and team

roping events. He received the Kansas State Star Farmer Award in 1995.

After college graduation, Cox worked on the other side of the fence, so to speak. He worked two years at Excel's Friona, Texas plant, where he was involved in cattle procurement to provide for a 4,200-head-per-day slaughter level. It was a pressured job that involved a six-day workweek.

At age 25, Cox has found his work experience for a packing operation was advantageous to market reporting. He was able to readily work with the USDA's new mandatory price reporting (MPR) system for packers. Technology has enabled the market reports to be quickly disseminated for all — the producers, packers and market analysts, not to mention the traders in the futures market.

Although Cox is new on the job here, he understands the importance of marketing information for the small-sized producer. He said that he uses a laptop computer, and programs have been developed to almost instantly average out weights and

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Taylor Cox is pictured above getting ready to cover the New Holland Sales Stables' Thursday cattle auction. Photo by Michelle Kunjappu