

Life  
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## Event Highlights Legislative Accomplishments, Goals

**SHELLE KUNJAPPU**  
*Lancaster Farming Staff*

**CAMP HILL** (Cumberland) — The Pennsylvania State Grange conducted its legislative session this year under the banner of April 2003 as "Grange Month," as designated by the new administration and received by Pennsylvania's House of Representatives.

Chris Wolff, secretary of agriculture designee, read a proclamation from Governor Rendell which was followed by citations to the Grange from Sen. Waugh (R-28) and Rep. Miller (R-129).

The luncheon drew about 400 guests and a total of about 100 speakers to the Radisson Penn Hotel in Camp Hill Monday.

Ma Shambaugh, state legislative director, gave a five-minute update "to give you a glimpse to talk about during the month with your legislators," she said.

The Grange worked on the bill for premium pooling legislation with Senate Bill 1413 this year, she said. The or-

ganization also urged change for property and inheritance tax relief.

In addition the Grange worked to limit liability for landowners allowing horseback riders onto their property. They also pressed to get a resolution passed to promote Pennsylvania products in school lunch programs.

The Grange was also involved in a resolution that allows producers to advertise their seasonal crops on their own property,

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### Inside The Farmer

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- ✓ Farm Bureau Announces Contests page A35.
- ✓ Dairy Recipe Contest page B2.



The Martin family in Reinholds milks 650 cows three times daily and served as host to a recent Ag In The Classroom tour. Read more about their farm on page B10. Photo by Lou Ann Good, food and family features editor

## Animal Exhibitors Compete At Conference

**HARRISBURG** (Dauphin) — Members of the Eastern Pennsylvania Farm Show Association gathered for the Harrisburg's Farm Show to exhibit animals and learn how to improve their

management. The conference, March 13-15, featured informational seminars, membership meeting, banquet, and fun auc-

tion. On Monday, almost 70 bison were sold and commented on before an auction

and owners came

from Pennsylvania, Maine, Kentucky, Wisconsin, Delaware, Connecticut, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Virginia, Illinois, and New York.

Thirteen heifer calves were sold with an average price of \$715. Seven yearling heifers were sold at a price of \$1,189. Four 2-year-old bred heifers averaged \$1,425. Four 3-4-year old bred cows averaged \$1,288. Five mature bred cows averaged \$1,256.

The eight "pair of aces" average price was \$850.

Fourteen bull calves averaged \$748. Seven yearling bulls aver-

aged \$1,507. Two 2-year-old bulls averaged \$3,000.

In all, the 62 head averaged \$1,074.

The grand champion bull was consigned by Colvine Bison Farm, Bobby Collins and family, Greenwood, Del. The reserve champion bull was consigned by Grimm Construction, Rob and Karla Grimm, Waymart.

The grand champion female was consigned by 191 Livestock Company, Tupper Sverduk, Lake Ariel. Grimm Construction and

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## "Basically" Farming



Helpful hints for new and existing farmers



College of Agricultural Sciences  
Cooperative Extension - Southeast Region

**BUYING A USED TRACTOR**  
Andrew Frankenfield  
Agricultural Agent  
Montgomery County  
Cooperative Extension

For the small or part-time farmer, buying a used tractor may be the most practical and economical way to get the power

you need without shelling out a lot of money. But how do you know what to buy and how to make the right purchase?

First you need to know what your needs are for the tractor so you can determine what to start

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## Gentle, Domesticated Alpacas Delight Jubilee-Goers

**ANDY ANDREWS**  
*Editor*

**HARRISBURG** (Dauphin Co.) — Alpacas anyone?

Some still think that Pennsylvania only sports traditional agriculture, the "cows and plows syndrome," but they should think again: alternative animal husbandry is taking hold in the state and the region.

About 276 breeder farms and 31 vendors representing 1,100 alpacas were on hand last weekend during the seventh annual Mid-Atlantic Alpaca Association (MAPACA) Eastern Jubilee in the new Exhibit Hall at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex.

The three-day event, open to the public, represented the fourth

time at the Farm Show Complex and the first for the new Exhibit Hall, which was filled with many exhibitors, shows, and seminars.

Exhibit Manager Nick Melfi, Melfi Farm Alpacas in Hillsborough, N.J., noted MAPACA has 225 members. At the show, breeders came from as far away as Oregon, Canada, Texas, and Maine.

The event is the "largest alpaca show in North America," Melfi said.

On Friday, events included halter, performance, and fleece classes with free seminars. Saturday's events included more classes, free seminars, and a dinner

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About 276 breeder farms and 31 vendors representing 1,100 alpacas were on hand last weekend during the seventh annual Mid-Atlantic Alpaca Association (MAPACA) Eastern Jubilee in the new Exhibit Hall at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex. From left, exhibiting "Wyoming," a 1.5-year-old female alpaca, are Exhibit Manager Nick Melfi, Melfi Farm Alpacas in Hillsborough, N.J., and Alan Anderson, Wild Rose Suri Ranch, Havre De Grace, Md. Photo by Andy Andrews, editor