

## Lebanon County Awards 4-H Scholarships



Lebanon County 4-H members, from left, Susan Leed, Meredith Zackey, and Rachael Phillips are presented scholarships by Laura Jean Watson, chairperson of the Lebanon County 4-H board of directors.

LEBANON (Lebanon Co.) — Three Lebanon County 4-H members were awarded \$1,000 scholarships recently by the Lebanon County 4-H board of directors.

Susan Leed, Rachael Phillips, and Meredith Zackey were selected based on their 4-H experience, community involvement, and academic achievement. This is the ninth year the scholarships have been awarded.

This year's winners are:

- Susan Leed, daughter of Robert and Nancy Leed, Myers-town. She will be a freshman at West Virginia University majoring in forensic science. A member of the 4-H Sheep and Swine Clubs, Susan has participated in the 4-H program for the past 10 years. She has exhibited her projects at the Lebanon Area Fair, Farm Show, and the Keystone International Livestock Exposi-

tion. A senior at Elco High School, Susan is a member of the National Honor Society, Elco FFA, Girl Scouts, and her church youth group.

- Rachael Phillips, daughter of Terry and Kathy Phillips, Palmyra. She will be a freshman at Penn State University majoring in science. A member of the Hoof and Horns 4-H Club, Rachael has been an active 4-H member for 10 years holding several offices and serving on numerous committees in her club. Rachael has excelled in the 4-H horse project area and participated in many club community service projects. A senior at Palmyra Area High School, Rachael is a member of the National Honor Society, Envirothon Team and Tri-M Music Honors Society.

- Meredith Zackey, daughter of Leslie and Catherine Zackey, Lebanon. She will be a freshman at Haverford University majoring

in liberal arts. A member of the 4-H Friends Club, Meredith has been an active 4-H member for six years participating in numerous community service projects with her club and completing 4-H projects in clothing and textiles, quilting, cross-stitch, ceramics, and foods and nutrition. A senior at Cedar Crest High School, Meredith is a member of the National Honor Society, Varsity Quiz Bowl Team, French Club, the music program and Hershey Symphony Orchestra.

Each 4-H member received a \$1,000 check and a certificate from the Lebanon County 4-H Trust Fund. Youth between the ages of 8 and 18 are eligible to become members of the 4-H program. 4-H offers a wide variety of "learn-by-doing" projects and activities. For more information, contact the Lebanon County Cooperative Extension Office at (717) 270-4391.

## Penn-Mar Ethanol Picks Plant Site

BAINBRIDGE (Lancaster Co.) — Planners of a new ethanol facility in southcentral Pennsylvania recently reached a purchase agreement for a 65 acre site adjacent to Lancaster County's solid waste incinerator in the western part of the county along the Susquehanna River.

The Lancaster County Solid Waste Authority approved a \$25,000 purchase option with Penn-Mar Ethanol, giving the company a year to purchase the property for \$2.7 million.

Penn-Mar hopes to break ground early next year for an \$80 million facility that would convert corn into about 50 million gallons of ethanol per year.

The Conoy Township site was chosen after consideration of several locations in Adams, Lancaster, and York counties.

The site's proximity to Norfolk Southern Rail lines would allow corn from the Midwest to be delivered to the facility by train.

Penn-Mar Ethanol includes about 50 farmer and agribusiness investors from Pennsylvania and Maryland.

Whether the plant gets built may hinge on whether Conoy Township supervisors rezone the farmland along the Susquehanna River to accommodate the project.

The chairman of the supervisors, Stephen Mohr, has indicated that the township was agreeable. But Mohr

said he first wanted to spend a day at an existing ethanol plant and talk candidly to workers and neighbors.

James Warner, executive director of the waste authority, said a trip to a new Madison, Wis., ethanol plant is being arranged for late June.

Mohr said he has fielded no concerns about the project from residents and has gotten encouraging comments from several local farmers and farm-business officials.

"If this ethanol plant proves to have the same type of community response and awareness, and is as community-friendly as the incinerator, there will be no problems," Mohr said.

Scott Welsh, Penn-Mar project manager, said the company would be submitting land-use applications to Conoy Township within days and would begin detailed analysis of the site to make sure it is suitable.

The company would like to break ground in early 2004. Construction would take 12-15 months, Welsh said.

The authority's Warner emphasized this morning that the ultimate say on whether the project becomes a reality is a "local land-use issue" that rests with Conoy supervisors.

Water and electricity generated at the incinerator could be sold to the ethanol plant, Warner said.

The ethanol plant would use local and shipped-in corn from the Midwest to produce ethanol, which is in growing demand as a gasoline additive. The distillation process also would produce carbon dioxide that could be sold to bottling companies and leftover high-quality grain that could be marketed as a premium feed for livestock.

The Penn-Mar facility would produce 50 million gallons of ethanol a year for eastern markets.

Ethanol production has become a boon for strapped corn producers and is now the third-largest use of corn in the U.S.

Once built, the plant would need 30 to 35 workers to operate it.

The complex would have about 20 acres of buildings. The grain storage tanks and elevator would be the tallest structures, at 150 to 175 feet.

The agreement gives the authority the option of re-purchasing the property if an ethanol plant is not built. The authority also could refuse to sell the property if it is determined that air emissions from the ethanol plant would preclude the authority — under state and federal pollution limits — from expanding the incinerator some day.

Warner stressed that he did not think the plant's emissions would impact the incinerator.

From a Lancaster New Era report.

## Pork Checkoff To Showcase Activities At World Pork Expo

DES MOINES, Iowa — The Pork Checkoff will showcase activities at World Pork Expo, scheduled June 5-7 at the Iowa State Fairgrounds in Des Moines.

"Pork producers will want to visit the Pork Checkoff Showcase to learn more about programs funded through the Pork Checkoff, sample free food, and register for prizes," said Hugh Dorminy, a pork producer from Russellville, Ark., president of the National Pork Board.

Every 45 minutes, pork producers can enter the Pork Checkoff's air-conditioned theater, where they can view a video of the Pork Checkoff in action on the big screen, then proceed to the open-air Checkoff Cafe where they can sample pork provided by a co-marketing partner in foodservice promotions. In the past, Culver's has provided samples of their pork tenderloin product.

Within the Pork Checkoff Showcase, pork producers can learn more about activities funded by the Pork Checkoff, including:

- Demand-enhancing programs, including Celebrated

Chefs, foreign market development, foodservice marketing, retail marketing, advertising and consumer information programs of the Pork Information Bureau.

- Environment information programs, including Comprehensive Nutrient Management Program (CNMP) video and pictures, Environmental Stewards video and pictures, and results of Checkoff-funded research.

- Producer communications research and information programs.

- Science-based research and programs, including swine health, animal welfare, and pork safety as well as a demonstration of a hoop building.

In addition to the Showcase, the Pork Checkoff is sponsoring other events at World Pork Expo, including the Big Grill, the Great Pork BarbeQlossal™ contest and Educational Seminars. Also, the Pork Checkoff will provide the Producers Opportunity for Revenue and Knowledge (PORK) Academy June 4.

For more information, contact World Pork Expo; P.O. Box 10383, Des Moines, IA 50306, (847) 838-6772. For complete details and to download a brochure, log on to [www.porkboard.org](http://www.porkboard.org).

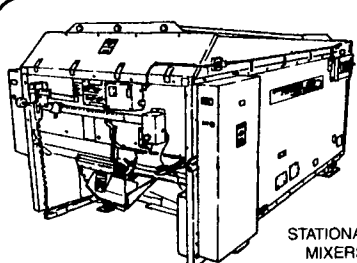
## USDA Revises Bioenergy Program

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman recently announced key revisions to the Bioenergy Program to expand industrial consumption of agricultural commodities by promoting their use in the production of ethanol and biodiesel.

Veneman also announced that sign-up for the program was scheduled to begin May 7 and end June 6. Output of both products beginning Oct. 1, 2002 will be eligible for payments this fiscal year.

Under the program, the secretary of agriculture makes payments through the Commodity Credit Corporation to eligible producers to encourage increased purchases of eligible commodities (energy feedstocks) for the purpose of expanding production of bioenergy and supporting new production capacity. Payments to eligible producers are based on the increase in quantity of bioenergy they produce during a fiscal year over the quantity they produced during the preceding fiscal year.

Producers wishing to enroll in the program should obtain a Bioenergy Program Agreement, Form CCC 850, (Agreement), a Bioenergy Program Annual Production Information Form CCC-850 Supplement, and related instructions from either the Kansas City Commodity Office, Contract Reconciliation Division, P.O. Box 419205, STOP 8758, Kansas City, MO 64141 6205, telephone (816) 926-6525; or via the Internet at [www.fsa.usda.gov/daco/](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/daco/). Additional terms and conditions are available in the applicable regulations.



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