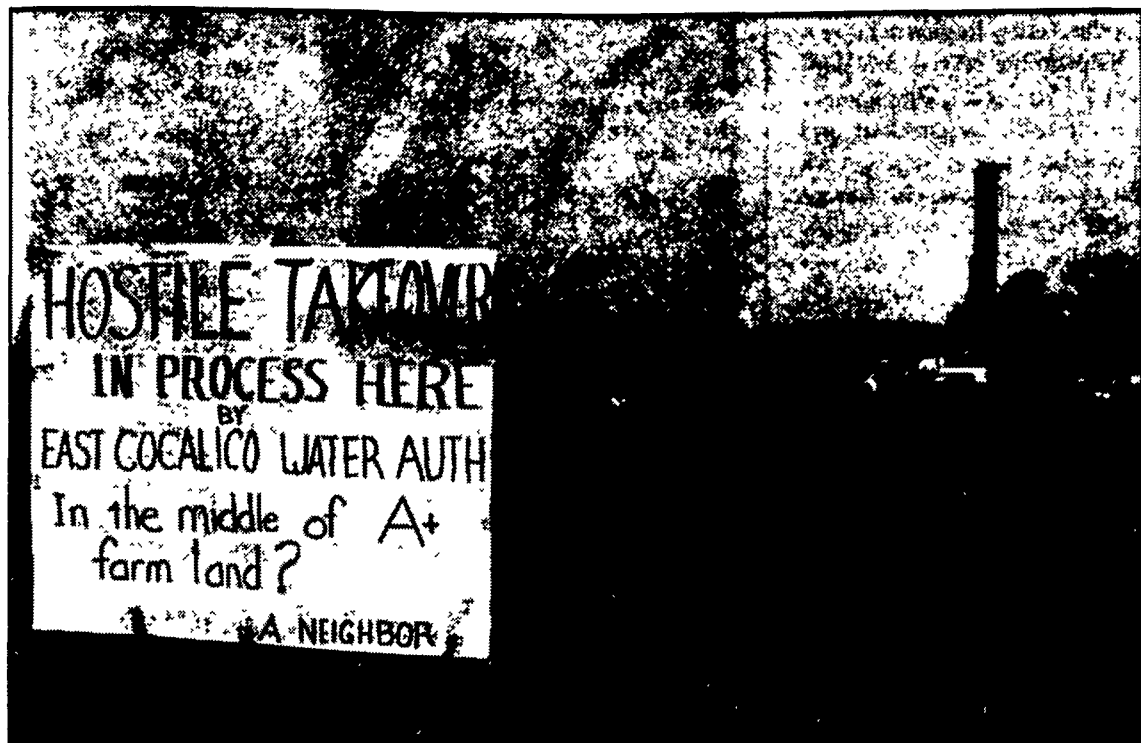


# A Bigger Problem Than The Rainy Weather



**EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.)** — For farmer Paul B. Zimmerman, getting into the fields between rain showers is the least of his worries this spring.

East Cocalico Township began drilling a municipal test well Tuesday on Zimmerman's farm near Ephrata. The sign pictured in the foreground portrays local response to the drilling.

Zimmerman, along with his attorney Paula Leicht and Pennsylvania Farm Bureau's Counsel of Government Affairs, John Bell, say the township's eminent domain action is illegal because the farm is located in an Ag Security Area comprised of 500 acres within the township.

Zimmerman and his son Paul Jr. grow corn and alfalfa on about 50 acres of prime limestone cropland on the farm and manage a herd of 65 high-type Holsteins. They recently harvested the first cutting of alfalfa on part of the field adjacent to where the drilling rig is set up.

If the well proves successful, the Zimmermans would be required to cease normal production on 10-12 acres of land surrounding the wellhead. According to Zimmerman, that "would just demolish the value of the farm."

The East Cocalico Sewer and Water Authority can be reached at (717) 336-1731. *Photo by Dave Lefever*

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## June Dairy Month Kicks Off With Sundae Celebration

**CARLISLE (Cumberland Co.)** — Pennsylvania's dairy promotion organizations will kick off June Dairy Month with the creation of a colossal ice cream sundae on the steps of the Capitol Building in Harrisburg on June 3.

The public is invited to join the celebration as the dairy industry marks the 66th anniversary of honoring our nation's hard-working dairy farmers. Dairy is the largest segment of Pennsylvania's agriculture industry, generating an estimated \$1.79 billion in economic activity.

"By celebrating June Dairy Month, we are giving Pennsylvanians the opportunity to thank the commonwealth's nearly 9,300 dairy farmers who work diligently year-round to provide consumers with a fresh supply of milk and quality dairy products," said Logan Bower, Perry County dairy farmer and dairy farmer spokesperson for Mid-Atlantic Dairy Association.

Joining Mid-Atlantic Dairy Association in the celebration are America Dairy Association and Dairy Council Mid East and the Pennsylvania Dairy Promotion Program. Consumers and dairy farmers alike are invited to join the festivities on the Capitol steps from noon until 1 p.m.

To kick off the celebration, local dignitaries including Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Dennis C. Wolff, Pennsylvania State Dairy Princess Raechel Kilgore, and Logan Bower will say a few words before the creation of the colossal sundae.

Following the opening remarks, several county dairy princesses will join dairy promotion staff to create a giant sundae using 90 gallons of Turkey Hill Dairy vanilla ice cream. The sundae will be covered with six gallons of chocolate fudge, six gallons of strawberries and 30 pounds of chopped pecans, all donated by

Turkey Hill Dairy of Lancaster. The sundae will be topped off with real whipped cream and a giant 12-inch ball of cherries.

According to Bower, this event reinforces the common goals shared by farmers and milk processors.

"We are working together to bolster dairy's image and build its future," he said. "This event is among the dairy promotion checkoff programs that are working to increase demand for dairy products."

American Dairy Association and Dairy Council Mid East, Mid-Atlantic Dairy Association and Pennsylvania Dairy Promotion Program are the local planning and management organizations funded by dairy farmer checkoff dollars. They work closely with Dairy Management Inc. and are responsible for increasing demand for U.S. produced dairy products on behalf of Pennsylvania's dairy farmers.

Our Dairy Plus Special Technology issue on June 28 focuses on ways producers can use the latest technology to aid them in improving efficiency and expanding the bottom line. Included are reports on a freestall sand separator, robotic milking, and other new items. Also included are a stray voltage update, veterinary reports, cooperative and dairy business news, and a calendar of events.



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