

Life Sci

Lancaster Farming

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Four Sections

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CHARLENE M. SHUPP ESPENSHADE Lancaster Farming Staff

banks of the Susquehanna River, Bennie's Nurseries, owned by the Barziloski family, believes in selling the Christmas experience on their Wyoming County Christmas tree farm.

From families heading into the fields to select their "perfect" Christmas tree or wedding pro-
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Above, Veto Barziloski, center, and his sons Michael, left, and Adam work year-round to prepare for the Christmas tree harvest. At left, a view of the 75 acres of Christmas trees the Barziloskis manage near Tunkhannock. Photos by Charlene Shupp Espenshade



Pennsylvania Dairy Princess Alternate Emily Grove, left, and her sister Laura, state FFA sentinel, crisscross the state fulfilling official requirements while continuing to help on the family's Shippensburg farm. Turn to page B6 to read more about the sisters and their family, where laughter, cooperation, and responsibility are a way of life. Photo by Lou Ann Good, food and family features editor

Lawmakers Reverse Decision On Farmland Bill

CHARLENE M. SHUPP ESPENSHADE Lancaster Farming Staff

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — In a dramatic turn of events, the House of Representatives reversed their position on House Bill 66 (HB 66) in a 106-89 vote Tuesday after critics claim legislators received pressure from House leadership and the governor's office.

The Senate cleared the bill out of its State Government Committee Wednesday night. At presstime, the bill is on track for a full Senate vote.

This vote marks a reversal of a

House vote taken three weeks ago, defeating this bill that has potential to set precedent, essentially disregarding farmland preservation on state-owned farmland.

This bill introduced by State Rep. Jim Lynch (R-Warren County) is set to remove the agriculture use restriction on 22.7 acres of land outside of North Warren, clearing the way for the commercial development of the land.

The projected plan for the farmland is for the construction of a Wal-Mart.

Agriculture organizations who

have lobbied hard to defeat the bill are disappointed with the change in decision.

"One hundred fifty-two House Representatives voted against the same legislation only 21 days

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Merry Christmas



From The Staff At Lancaster Farming

Scholarship Committee Ready For Farm Show

ANDY ANDREWS Editor

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Count 'em: three weeks, three days.

That's the number of days until the 2004 Farm Show Junior Livestock Sale of Champions.

It's also the same date, Jan. 13, when the Farm Show youth scholarship winners are announced. For 2004, each student who applies could get a \$2,000 check — or more.

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Office Closed New Year's

On New Year's Day, Thursday, Jan. 1, Lancaster Farming office is closed. The office will reopen Friday, Jan. 2. For the Jan. 3 issue, there are some early deadline changes: Public Sale and Mailbox ads, 5 p.m., Friday, Dec. 26. Classified, Section D display ads — 5 p.m., Monday, Dec. 29. Classified, Section C, Farm Equipment ads, 5 p.m., Monday, Dec. 29. Sect. A ads, 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 29. All classified liners Tuesday, Dec. 30, 9 a.m. General news — noon, Wednesday, Dec. 31.