



MDA Director Dean Pridgeon showed a winner's style in the 1981 Bay County Agriculture Day Milking Contest. The event was one of several

agriculture-oriented competitions at the Bay County Fair on Aug. 19.
Photo by Marcia Ditchie

Ag Fairs Back to Basics

Putting the emphasis of county fairs back on agriculture has been a priority of the Michigan Department of Agriculture since Dean Pridgeon has been director.

A special incentive program initiated last year provided grants to groups that developed innovative exhibits with the accent on agriculture. While budget cuts prohibited awarding the grants this year, Margaret McCall, MDA's chief of information, believes the program stimulated an interest that has carried through this fair season.

"Much of the credit has to go to Ralph Kirch, chief of MDA's Fair and Racing Division," McCall said. "He spent a lot of time talking to county fair boards, convincing them they should re-emphasize agriculture."

Kirch keeps sending that same message to fair boards several times a year through regular newsletters.

The Bay and Ogemaw County Fairs (reported in this issue) are examples of successful efforts to recapture agriculture's starring role in these annual summer events.

At the Michigan State Fair in Detroit, the spotlight was on agriculture throughout the grand opening parade which included scores of farm animals and the world's largest farm tractors. During the State Fair, Aug. 28-Sept. 7, thousands of city people will visit the "Amazing Acre," Michigan's new agricultural showcase.

From the Desk of the President

Leading the Green Revolution!

Every year about this time, I search for some new words, stronger reasons, more effective illustrations, on why farmer members should take time from their busy schedules to get involved in Farm Bureau's policy development process.

With something as basic to our organization, as proven and highly-respected as it has been in the legislative arena, it would seem selling involvement in the PD process would be easy. But farmers ARE busy. They do take our unique process of developing policies for granted and many are willing to let it happen without their input.

A review of some recent happenings, on both the state and national levels, provided me with a convincing tool, I believe, and that's climate! No, not the rain, drought, heat-wave or freeze kind of climate that farmers face in the production of food and fibre. What I'm talking about is the political and public environment that farmers face in the development and execution of policies which will benefit their industry.

If there was ever a time during which we have the climate best suited for agriculture and Farm Bureau's PD/PX process, it is now!

At the national level, we have an administration that reflects the philosophies of our farmer members - dignity of the individual, the right of every person to choose his occupation and be rewarded according to his contribution to society, and belief in our competitive enterprise system.

We've seen, in the past few months, an administration that takes a strong, aggressive stand on issues that are consistent with our Farm Bureau policies, such as the lifting of the grain embargo and giant steps toward curbing agriculture's number one enemy - inflation.

Here, in our own state, we've seen a growing awareness, on the part of the general public and our elected officials, of the vital importance of agriculture to Michigan's economy. We have an administration that has taken strong, aggressive stands on issues that are consistent with our policies, for example, on agricultural research, right-to-farm, and ag land preservation.

There has not been a time, in many, many years, when agriculture has had a better climate both here at home and in Washington, D.C., and that climate spells opportunity - and responsibility - to us.

We must not allow this climate to breed complacency. Political climate is as uncertain and fickle as Mother Nature's climate. Our leadership in Lansing and Washington needs the continued support and guidance of experienced, forward-looking, knowledgeable farmers if they are to follow through on their commitments.

I strongly urge you, as you go about your farm chores, to be thinking about the concerns and needs of agriculture and what direction your organization should be providing the decision-makers. Share your



thoughts with your Community Action Group members and your county Policy Development Committee. Attend your county annual meeting and contribute to the policy recommendation discussion.

I call your attention to the report in this issue of Gov. Milliken's remarks at the Ionia Free Fair, in which he recognized that "Michigan, with its natural and human resources and its research and technological capability, has unique potential for leadership in America's green revolution."

Farmers shout "Amen!" to that statement because we believe we do have that potential. But we have to do more than believe. We must recognize that WE are the human resources that will help lead the green revolution. So, let's build a strong policy foundation for that leadership.

Elton R. Smith



DONNA

This Baby Doesn't Need Booties

Our voting delegates had the foresight, a couple years ago, to recognize the importance of information to members. They called for a study that would determine members' communications needs and analyze just how the organization measured up in meeting those needs.

Taking you to FB's "backstage" (as I often do in this column), when delegates to the state annual meeting adopt their slate of policies on state and national affairs, we know we're going to get involved, providing support services to you to see that those policies are executed.

But the ones that really hit close to home, right where we make our living, are those under the Farm Bureau section. That's where delegates either hand out praise for a program, call for its continuance, give it top priority... or issue a challenge.

Depending upon the tone of the policy, we either momentarily bask in the glory and then rededicate ourselves to the task of maintaining what the membership has blessed - or get off our buns and hustle. The policy

calling for a communications study made me and my co-workers snap to attention.

Communications is a pretty broad area. The *Farm News* is just a part of the total effort and, frankly, its editors were pretty confident that this part of the information program would fare well. It did, but not well enough, considering that it's the only information piece that goes to all members.

This, in itself, was enough to rock our socks. Other data from the study sent up a signal we couldn't ignore. It was frustrating for the editors. As we studied the list of what members considered vital information, we found we were delivering it to them through the *Farm News*, so we had to assume (beating our breastplates in agony) that they weren't reading it.

Then, as we looked at the other leading sources of information to members, we discovered that the MFN editors, in their other job responsibilities, were servicing their "competitors" - county Farm Bureau newsletters, the Michigan Farm Radio Network, farm

magazines and the public media. In other words, we were serving several masters, all of whom we considered pretty important to the total communications picture.

The survey gave us lots of data. It was, after all, a benchmark study, the first time the organization had attempted to survey the communications needs and perceptions of its members. It did not, however, tell us why the *Farm News*, as the organization's "flagship," did not rank way out in front as the leading source of informa-

tion for Farm Bureau members.

So we set out to find the answers, through personal contacts. Our researcher interviewed some of you at county fairs last year, asking what you read and why, in what format you liked your information delivered to you, and if you'd like your *Farm News* to be more like some other publications.

We found that your farm magazines are vitally important to you and that appearance, color and ease in handling, as

(continued on page 7)

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

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Governor Outlines Action Plan for Michigan's Agricultural Expansion

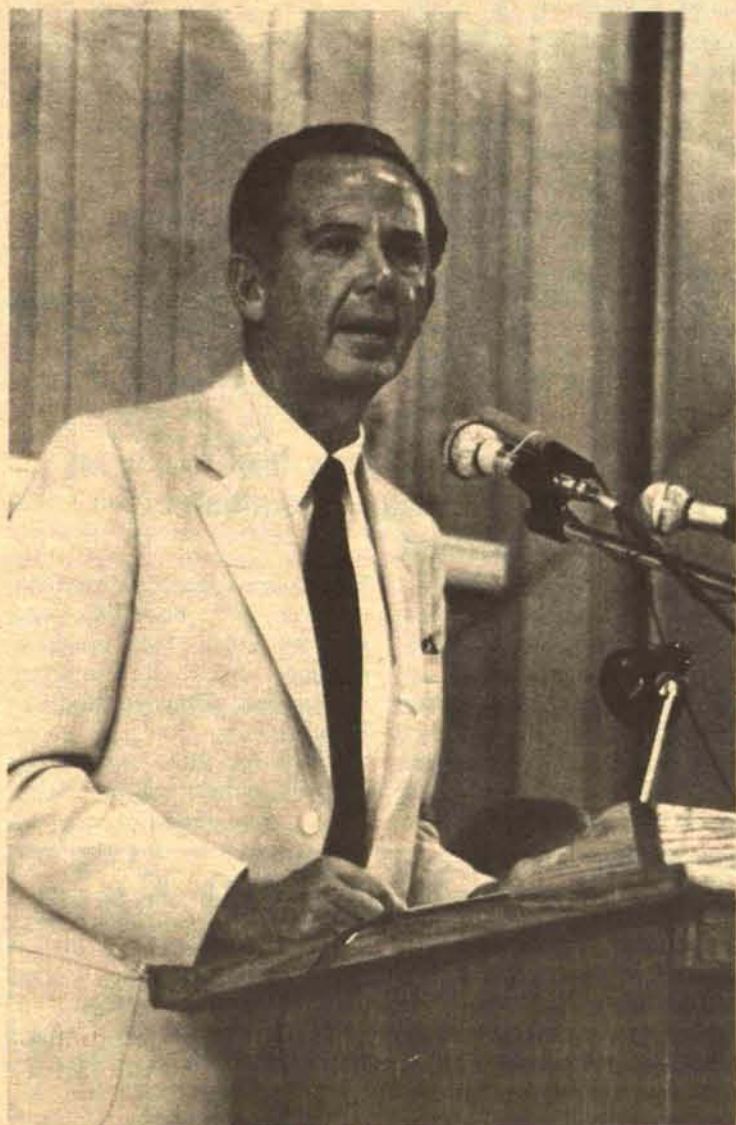


Photo by Jeff Ellsworth, Ionia Sentinel-Standard

"Whomever could make two ears of corn, or two blades of grass, to grow upon a spot of ground where only one grew before, would deserve better of mankind, and do more essential service to his country than the whole race of politicians put together."

Jonathon Swift

Using this quote from "Gulliver's Travels" as a springboard, Gov. William Milliken, at the Ionia Free Fair Governor's Day luncheon Aug. 5, spelled out his commitment to the state's agricultural industry as the greatest strength in Michigan's economic revival.

"Michigan long has been a significant agricultural state, leading the nation in production of some commodities and increasingly exporting its agricultural products abroad. Exports of Michigan agricultural products abroad increased last year by over 50 percent from the previous year to a record \$742.5 million. Our increase of 50 percent compared to the overall national increase of 27 percent," the governor said.

"Our exports go all over the world and involve most of the 50 different commodities we raise in Michigan. They range from the \$70 million navy bean

sale which we completed with Mexico to the sale of 1,000 tons of hay to the royal stables in England. In a sense, we can say that Michigan contributed to the horsepower for the marriage of Lady Diana and Prince Charles.

"But we can do much more, both to strengthen our agricultural economy in the short run and to prepare for the changing resource base which will confront us further down the road.

"If state government did not lift a finger to help agriculture in the coming year, Michigan farmers would continue to grow and sell. Good things are going to grow in Michigan regardless of what government at any level does or fails to do.

"But if ever we should give a helping hand to agriculture, it is now. It is now because as we seek to accelerate Michigan's economic recovery, we can

find great salvation in our economic roots and the basic industry that agriculture always has been.

"It is now because the pressures on our land and on those who till our land are beginning to take their toll on individual farmers.

"And it is now because Michigan, with its natural and human resources and its research and technological capability, has unique potential for leadership in America's green revolution," he said.

The governor outlined his five top goals for Michigan agriculture during the next 12 months.

Expansion of Agribusiness

Referring to the Governor's Conference on Agriculture report which emphasized "the lucrative potential for development of additional jobs and income for Michigan by expansion of production and marketing of agricultural products," Milliken said he was directing the MDA to give immediate priority to six growth areas.

These included establishing a soybean processing plant in Michigan, increasing pork production, re-establishing the state's poultry (broiler) industry, establishing a regional beef processing plant, increasing hard cheese production, and developing and promoting the renewable energy industry as it relates to agriculture.

Accelerated Agricultural Research

"I concur in the strong recommendation of the Governor's Conference on Agriculture that there be expanded support for accelerated agricultural research at Michigan State University's Agricultural Experiment Station, as well as further development and improvement of its outlying sub-stations," Milliken said.

The governor said he would recommend further increases in funding for the next fiscal year.

He also proposed not only a "firm commitment but also a specific timetable for construction of MSU's Plant and Soil Science Building as an integral part of enhancing the agricultural research impact on the Michigan economy."

The governor also gave strong support for veterinary medicine as being in the "forefront of research efforts to improve the productivity and efficiency in animal agriculture."

Cooperative Extension

The Governor's Conference on Agriculture report emphasized that a strong outreach

program through MSU's Cooperative Extension Service must be maintained and augmented by transfer of data to commercial agriculture. Concern was expressed about the time lag between research findings and agricultural adaptation.

"I will recommend additional budget support beyond the nearly \$12 million appropriated for the Cooperative Extension Service in the current fiscal year - which represented an increase of about \$1.5 million over the previous year," the governor said.

Regulatory and Tax Relief

"There is widespread concern that government overregulation is a severe constraint to Michigan's agricultural economic expansion," the governor said. "I will be announcing a regulation review process that will include close consultation with the agricultural industry."

The governor said increased awareness and sensitivity to this issue was reflected in Michigan's Right to Farm Act, signed into law recently. He noted that he was also developing tax relief proposals for submission to the Legislature this fall that would include relief for Michigan farmers.

Expanded International Trade

"A dramatic 50 percent increase in Michigan's agriculture exports last year underscores our potential for international

trade," Milliken said. "Every dollar in farm exports is believed to generate an additional \$1.05 in other parts of the economy.

"As part of an accelerated promotional and marketing effort to significantly expand the sale of Michigan products abroad, increased emphasis will be given to Michigan farm products."

MFB President Hails Message

In a letter to Milliken, MFB President Elton R. Smith praised him for what he called an extraordinary speech on agriculture.

"As a farmer, I was extremely pleased to hear the governor of Michigan speak out so positively about agriculture in this state. You pointed out many facts of which citizens need to be aware. Your comments give credibility to the views of farmers and have helped create anew an urban-farmer understanding," Smith told the governor.

"Your commitment to progress within agriculture is greatly appreciated by farmers. It was especially gratifying for you to spell out your five goals for Michigan agriculture. The attainment of these goals will not be easy, but you have demonstrated many times that you work hard for - and achieve - goals which you set," he said.

Smith offered the assistance of MFB in working toward those goals.



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MACMA County Coordinators Visit NW Growers, Packers



Forty-five county coordinators of the MACMA Member-to-Member Program participated in the annual Grower-Packer Tour held this year in the Traverse City area. The day-long tour began at Morrison's Orchard near Acme where Julie Veliquette conducted a tour for the coordinators through Morrison's Processing Plant.

Following a demonstration of a cherry shaker in one of the orchards, the group's next stop was the MSU Agricultural Research station in southwest Leelanau County. Prior to touring the facilities, the coordinators participated in a pig roast, sponsored by the Northwest Michigan Farm Bureau.

The final stop on the day-long tour was the Manitou Farm Market and Good Harbor Vineyards on the Leelanau Peninsula.

Growers and Researchers Cooperate at MSU Station

Concerns about restrictions on private farms for experimental testing of insecticides and pesticides prompted a group of Northwestern Michigan cherry growers to purchase an 80-acre farm in southwestern Leelanau County three years ago which would be devoted to research.

"The growers felt they had to come up with something that would be exclusively research oriented to get away from any potential limitations that the government puts on the testing of chemicals," says Robert Gregory, a cherry grower in the Traverse City area and president of the Northwest Michigan Farm Bureau.

It was also important to the growers, Gregory says, to have the research farm located in a prime cherry production area to allow them to get the best data on which to base decisions.

"There was no other area in Michigan that had better potential for doing good, basic research on cherry cultural practices," he says.

A three-week fund-raising drive was undertaken in September 1978, conducted primarily by the cherry industry of Northwest Michigan. Over \$350,000 in cash and pledges was received.

In November 1978, an 80-acre farm located approximately 10 miles north of Traverse City in the southwest corner of Leelanau County was purchased for \$165,000. By the summer of 1979, an office and storage facility was constructed for \$125,000 and the facility was opened. The first trees for research were planted in the spring of 1980 and additional trees were planted last spring.

The Northwest Horticulture Research Foundation owns the facilities and real estate and has leased the facilities to Michigan State University for a nominal amount. In return, MSU conducts horticultural research at the station under the supervision of Dr. Charles Kesner, district Extension horticulturist for MSU, and Steve Fouch, farm superintendent.

According to Fouch, a lot of research is going on now and will be continued as the trees get older.

"We're evaluating different root stocks and varieties of cherries. For example, with sour, there's a heavy push to find root stocks that will do a good job of dwarfing the tops of the trees to keep them smaller so more trees can be planted per acre, and hopefully, raise yields," Fouch says. "In sweets, we're looking for a

dark canning variety that holds up well, that doesn't split and get quite so brown, sort of the ideal type of cherry."

In other blocks on the farm, researchers are evaluating different mulching materials, pruning techniques other than just tipping and training of young trees, as well as different growth regulators, sprays and cover crops to suppress nematode activity and weed development.

"The growers felt they had to come up with something... exclusively research oriented."

There is also substantial research being done on irrigation. "We've got almost every type of emitter that you can buy. The researchers are doing some studies on the relationship between water and growth and yield of the trees," says Fouch. "That's something that

not very many people have done because it's probably about a 20-year project. The question is, how much water do the trees really need under varying conditions."

The researchers are also evaluating injection of fertilizers on another block at the station. "They're evaluating three different injectors to see if there's any difference because there is a tremendous difference in price among the three. The growers are waiting for a good

break where they can trust the injectors and, hopefully, our systems will be set up long enough so they're uniform across the different blocks," Fouch said.

When the trees begin bearing, researchers will be studying. (continued on page 9)

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Members Begin Consideration of Key Policy Issues

"In Farm Bureau, policy development is the basis of the direction for our future," said MFB President Elton R. Smith as he opened the Policy Development Conference and statewide cabinet meeting at Long's Convention Center in Lansing Aug. 20.

Smith challenged the county Farm Bureau leaders participating in the 16th annual conference to put forth "nothing less than your very best effort" in shaping the direction the organization will take on issues during the coming year.

Resource people focused on several issues including property tax reform proposals, agricultural economics, animal care and farmland preservation.

"Farm Bureau will be very active and involved in deciding the outcome of these issues," Smith said. "But the approach taken on these issues must originate from you and your fellow members back home in your county Farm Bureau."

"I challenge you to do whatever is necessary as you go back to your counties and provide every member with the



The recommendations of the MFB Rural Tax Task Force, reported by chairman Bill Spike, received careful consideration by participants at the statewide policy development conference.

opportunity to have input on what Farm Bureau policy for 1982 should be on the major issues."

Smith urged county boards to arrange the agendas of their county annuals so that resolutions are presented early in the meeting rather than at the end of the agenda. "This is very important if policies are to receive good discussion and the importance they deserve," he said.

The statewide conference officially kicked off the organization's policy development process. District policy development meetings are scheduled

throughout the state during late August and September. County Farm Bureau policy development committees will present slates of policy recommendations for consideration at county annual meetings in September and October.

Resolutions adopted at county annuals dealing with state and national issues will be forwarded to the MFB Policy Development Committee. This body reviews and correlates the county recommendations and prepares a package to present to voting delegates at the MFB annual meeting being held in Grand Rapids Dec. 1-4.



A presentation on the animals rights issue stimulated many questions from the audience. Other topics covered included economic issues and farmland development rights.

Tax Cut Victory Called 'Great News for Farmers'

On July 29 the U.S. Senate approved H.J. Res. 266, the tax bill reflecting the recommendations of President Reagan's Economic Recovery Program.

According to Al Almy, MFB Public Affairs director, Farm Bureau favored a "yea" vote because the bill provided for a three-year tax cut, significant federal estate tax reform and other provisions beneficial to agriculture and the economic recovery of the nation.

Following are the votes of Michigan's two U.S. senators:

Donald Riegle (D) Yea
Carl Levin (D) Nay

On July 29 the U.S. House of Representatives voted to substitute the Conable-Hance Tax Bill, H.R. 4260, for the House Ways and Means Committee Bill. The substitute bill was the focus of the president's message to the nation on Monday evening, July 27.

The substitute bill provided for a three-year 25 percent tax cut and significant federal estate tax relief and indexed tax rates to prevent bracket creep beginning in 1985. It also included other provisions beneficial to agriculture and the overall economy, Almy said. Farm Bureau favored a "yea" vote on this key issue.

Following is how members of the U.S. House of Representatives from Michigan voted:

John Conyers (D)	Nay
Carl Pursell (R)	Yea
Howard Wolpe (D)	Nay
Mark Siljander (R)	Yea
Harold Sawyer (R)	Yea
Jim Dunn (R)	Yea
Dale Kildee (D)	Nay
Bob Traxler (D)	Nay
Guy VanderJagt (R)	Yea
Don Albosta (D)	Nay
Robert Davis (R)	Yea
David Bonior (D)	Nay
George Crockett (D)	Nay
Dennis Hertel (D)	Nay
William Ford (D)	Nay
John Dingell (D)	Nay
William Broadhead (D)	Nay
Jim Blanchard (D)	Nay
William Broomfield (R)	Yea

"The tax cut victory moves us closer to realizing the goals of the president's Economic Recovery Program - and that's great news for farmers," said MFB President Elton R. Smith.

"Farmers, more than any other economic group, are likely to use a tax cut to invest in and improve their farm operations," Smith said, "and when they do, they strengthen Michigan's most important and productive industry, which ultimately benefits all Michigan consumers."

The farm leader credited the grassroots efforts of Farm Bureau members in Michigan and those throughout the nation for convincing their congressmen that a substantial, multi-year, across-the-board tax cut was vital because it would encourage build-up in savings and investment.

"Our Washington office informs us that the volume of phone calls, letters and telegrams overwhelmed Capitol Hill. The vote proved that our elected representatives do respond to the will of the people if we just take the time to tell them what that will is," Smith said.

Farm Bureau members are urged to write those congressmen who voted "yea" on these key economic issues and thank them for their support.

For Your Information

An indepth report on the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981 and how it affects agriculture is available to interested Farm Bureau members.

Requests should be directed to Michigan Farm Bureau, Public Affairs Division, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909 (phone 517-323-7000, ext. 558).



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Yale	Farm Bureau Services, Inc.	313-387-2202

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County Fairs Pitchin' Good, Clean Fun!



Pitching for Agriculture - Rep. Mike Hayes (R-Midland) winds up for the toss in the Cow Chip Throwing Contest. In the background, Sen. Lewis Dodak (D-Montrose) awaits his turn. Hayes, Dodak and other area legislators competed with Bay County news media representatives in the contest.

Members of the Bay County Fair Board planned, promoted, cajoled, begged, borrowed and stole talent from community volunteers in every walk of life until they had gathered the people and ideas that would make fair days in Bay County (Aug. 17-22) a special week of old fashioned fun.

According to Duff Zube, fair board president, the organizers weren't really looking for an "all new fair" as much as they were trying to recapture the family fun and country atmosphere that was part of a traditional county fair.

"We're trying to get away from so much emphasis on the midway attractions," Zube said. "Instead, by planning special events on each day of the fair, we hoped to get people in-

involved with activities beyond the midway."

Activities like the agricultural olympics on Wednesday, Aug. 19, were typical of the "make your own fun" attitude that the fair board was trying to achieve.

An afternoon of old-time competitions, hosted by Herb Schmidt, county Farm Bureau member and WXOX radio newperson, included a sugar beet toss, agricultural spelling bee, cow chip pitching contest, potato peeling contests for both men and women, a mini-tractor race and a milking contest.

Contenders in these events were state legislators from the area, county sheriff's deputies, school administrators, mothers of area school children, news media representatives, farmers and the director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture, Dean M. Pridgeon.

Other activities on Agriculture Day included the Bay County Bean Queen contest and presentation of the county's Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award.

From a field of 13 candi-

dates, Cheryl Oswald of Bay City was selected as the 1981 Bay County Bean Queen. She is the daughter of Elmer and Mary Ann Oswald, Bay County Farm Bureau members. Cheryl's mother, the former Mary Ann Knoerr, was the county's first Bean Queen in 1951.

Runners-up were Sherry Duyck of Essexville, Barbara Szeszalski of Bay City and Pamela Leanens of Linwood.

Winners of the county's DSA award were Hugo and Marie Schwab. The Schwabs are retired livestock and dairy farmers from the northwest part of the county. Selected for their long time contributions to the county and to agriculture, the couple has been active in Farm Bureau, township government, Cooperative Extension, 4-H and in community organizations. They are members of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Standish.

The Distinguished Service to Agriculture presentation was made by Dean M. Pridgeon, MDA director, who was a special guest for the day.



County deputies have big fun on little tractors.



Hugo and Marie Schwab were honored for Distinguished Service to Agriculture.



A farmers' market on the fairgrounds gave visitors a chance to take home bundles of fresh fruits and vegetables, flowers and plants. These and other ag-oriented exhibits and activities put the emphasis on agriculture throughout the Bay County fair week.



Inching toward a win in the potato peeling contest required concentration and a sharp paring knife.

Cooperative Effort Aims for 'Old-Fashioned' Ag Fair

It was the first county fair in 20 years for the residents of Ogemaw County, but with the establishment of the Ogemaw County Agricultural Society to lead the effort, the residents set out to bring back an old fashioned county fair to West Branch.

County residents pitched in to clean up the temporary

grounds at the Fairview Stockyards and Surline School and they participated, too, in fundraisers to pay for show ribbons and premiums.

This year's fair board was not eligible for state funding which would have partially paid for ribbons and premiums, but will be eligible in 1983.

To meet this year's expenses, fair board members conducted money making events that included a Detroit Lions basketball game, donkey basketball, fair button sales and they also offered memberships in the Ogemaw County Agricultural Society for fair boosters.

Proceeds from the fundrais-

ers and future events will be used during the coming year for construction of facilities, exhibit areas and a campground area on a 96-acre site in Churchhill Township which they hope will be the permanent fairgrounds. The Ogemaw County Agricultural Society is awaiting final approval of the site.

The newly established fair board in Ogemaw County recognizes that they have only just begun to make their way back to the kind of old-fashioned agricultural fair that was so much a part of rural Michigan in the past, but they are committed and have the support of the county residents.

1981 County Annual Dates

County	Date	Time	Place
Alcona	Oct. 19		not available
Allegan	Oct. 15	8:00 p.m.	Griswold Auditorium, Allegan
Alpena	Oct. 14		not available
Antrim	Oct. 14		Bellaire
Bay	Sept. 24	6:30 p.m.	Monitor Township Hall, Bay City
Benzie	Oct. 12		Blaine Christian Church, Arcadia
Berrien	Nov. 4	7:00 p.m.	County FB Office, Berrien Springs
Branch	Sept. 21	7:00 p.m.	Branch County Career Center
Calhoun	Oct. 5	6:30 p.m.	B. E. Henry Building, Marshall
Cass	Oct. 21	6:30 p.m.	Cassopolis High School
Charlevoix	Oct. 7	8:00 p.m.	Whiting Park, Boyne City
Cheboygan	Oct. 20	7:30 p.m.	Wesleyan Church, Cheboygan
Clare	Oct. 16	7:00 p.m.	Clare Elementary School
Clinton	Oct. 13	7:00 p.m.	St. Johns High School Cafeteria
Eaton	Oct. 7	7:00 p.m.	4-H Building, Charlotte
Emmet	Oct. 5	7:00 p.m.	Harbor Springs High School Cafeteria
Genesee	Oct. 15	7:00 p.m.	Mundy Township Hall, Rankin
Gladwin	Oct. 6		Gladwin High School
Grafton	Oct. 7	6:00 p.m.	not available
Hiawathaland	Oct. 7	6:30 p.m.	Congregational Parrish Hall Rapid River
Hillsdale	Oct. 13	7:00 p.m.	4-H Building, Fairgrounds
Huron	Sept. 22	6:30 p.m.	County FB Office, Bad Axe
Ingham	Oct. 14	7:00 p.m.	Harley House, Lansing
Iosco	Oct. 28		not available
Iron Range	Oct. 30	7:00 p.m.	Mansfield Town Hall, Sagola
Jackson	Oct. 10	7:30 p.m.	Hanover-Horton High School
Kalamazoo	Oct. 13	6:30 p.m.	Kalamazoo County Center Bldg.
Kalkaska	Oct. 15		Carol's Hall, M-66 south of Kalkaska
Kent	Oct. 6		not available
Lapeer	Oct. 8	7:30 p.m.	American Legion, North Branch
Lenawee	Sept. 15	6:30 p.m.	Adrian College
Livingston	Oct. 28	7:00 p.m.	First United Methodist Church Howell
Macomb	Oct. 8	7:00 p.m.	Romeo Masonic Hall, Romeo
Manistee	Oct. 19		Farr Center, Onkama
Mason	Oct. 6	7:30 p.m.	Optimist Hall, Scottville
Mecosta	Oct. 5	7:30 p.m.	Morley-Stanwood High School
Menominee	Oct. 8		not available
Midland	Oct. 20		not available
Missaukee	Oct. 8		Cadillac State Bank, Falmouth
Monroe	Sept. 15	7:00 p.m.	Monroe Fairgrounds
Montcalm	Oct. 30	6:30 p.m.	Middle School, Stanton
Montmorency	Oct. 15		not available
Muskegon	Oct. 15	7:30 p.m.	not available
Newaygo	Oct. 8	7:30 p.m.	Fremont Christian School
Northwest	Oct. 7		Twin Lakes 4-H Gilbert Lodge Traverse City
Michigan			
Oakland	Oct. 22	7:15 p.m.	Clarkston United Methodist Church
Oceana	Oct. 19	7:30 p.m.	Shelby High School
Ogemaw	Oct. 29	7:30 p.m.	Ogemaw Township Hall, W. Branch
Osceola	Oct. 20	8:00 p.m.	Marion Bank, Marion
Ottawa	Oct. 8	7:45 p.m.	Allendale Christian School, Allendale
Saginaw	Oct. 8		not available
St. Clair	Oct. 6	7:00 p.m.	Community Building, Goodells
St. Joseph	Oct. 12	7:00 p.m.	County FB Office, Centreville
Sanilac	Oct. 7	7:15 p.m.	Sanilac Career Center, Sandusky
Shiawassee	Oct. 5	7:00 p.m.	Rod & Gun Club, Corunna
Tuscola	Sept. 24	7:00 p.m.	Caro High School
Van Buren	Oct. 24	6:30 p.m.	County FB Office, Paw Paw
Washtenaw	Oct. 1	6:30 p.m.	not available
Wayne	Oct. 13		Cooperative Extension Service Bldg.
Wexford	Oct. 13		Sweitzers Restaurant, Cadillac

FBS Reports Million-Dollar Year

Before final figures were completed, it was apparent that Farm Bureau Services, Inc. would be reporting record sales for the 1980-81 fiscal year which ended June 30. Total sales for the year are expected to exceed a 23 percent increase over the previous year.

According to Newton Allen, chief executive officer and executive vice president of the cooperative, several major increases marked the sales year:

Farm Supply Division

•Fertilizer sales were the largest in the history of the company; tonnage was up 25 percent over the last year.

•Feed and animal health sales were 18 percent above last year's level.

•Chemical sales showed a record 18 percent increase in sales during the year, higher than in any previous year.

•The 1980 Dealer Buyers Expo produced more than \$1.5 million in wholesale sales.

•The Service Centers recorded one of their finest profit years in 1980-81 with a 15 percent sales increase over the previous year, a 25 percent increase in grain marketing and a 21 percent increase in fertilizer sales.

Michigan Elevator Exchange Division

•MEE's Grain Department topped all previous high sales records with a 22 percent increase in sales this year.

•MEE's Bean Department achieved a 28 percent increase in volume, which included participation in the contracted sale of 112,000 metric tons of colored beans to Mexico.

"These accomplishments contributed to an overall increase in profitability for the company," Allen said. He further reported that despite a non-recurring soybean loss of approximately \$2 million, FBS will be recording an approximate \$1 million profit before tax.

Allen assumed responsibilities as chief executive officer and executive vice president of FBS in September 1980.

'A Good Deal' Idea Still Growing

Describing the early days of the Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company, veteran Ogemaw County agent Junior Clemens commented, "We didn't know everything about life insurance at the time, but people knew we had a good deal and that's all it took."

That was three decades ago. Now, on Sept. 20, 1981, Farm Bureau Life will celebrate its 30th birthday.

Born in 1951 with 3,000 charter policyholders, Farm Bureau Life was the first company ever to specialize in the rural life insurance market in Michigan, offering programs designed especially for Michigan farm families. Most of the early agents were farmers themselves.

"Farm Bureau members really welcomed the Life Company," said Ed Oeschger, CLU, a Farm Bureau Insurance agent in Huron County

since 1949. "Farm Bureau Mutual was only two years old at the time, but it was doing such a good job that people knew they could trust us."

From that strong beginning, Farm Bureau Life has grown into one of the state's major life insurance companies and the statewide leader in farm estate

planning, now providing over \$1.23 billion in life insurance protection for Michigan residents.

Farm Bureau Life and its subsidiary, FB Annuity Company, have assets of over \$200 million and serve nearly 100,000 Michigan policyholders.

Donna Column, continued from page 2

well as content, are factors on your scoreboards.

While most statistics are cold, we found out some warm things about Farm Bureau members, like you understand budget and policy restrictions and have faith that we'll do the best we can for the organization. We found that many of you good FB members read some things because you feel you should KNOW and other things because you ENJOY, and we realized we were light on the latter.

Based on what we learned from you, there will be some changes made. Beginning with the December issue, the *Michigan Farm News* will become a

magazine called *Rural Living*. Our goal won't change, but we hope it will have broader readership appeal and be a publication all members will look forward to receiving each month. It won't replace the other magazines that are important to you, but it will be unique.

One of the things that will make it unique is that the center two pages (if you live in a participating county) will be YOUR county newsletter.

County Farm Bureau newsletters ranked very high in the communications study as a source of information for members and we hope being the center spread of a magazine will enhance their value.

If you hold a leadership position in your county or state Farm Bureau, you'll start receiving (about December 15) a newsletter called *Rural Leader*. This will contain organizational news, legislative updates, calls for action, program information - all those things good leaders need to know to be truly effective.

Several years ago, I was kind of a supporting midwife when our current tabloid was born to replace the old-fashioned broadsheet *Farm News*. With this change, from tabloid to magazine, I'll be one of its mothers, going through the labor pains.

Be there to hold my hand...

Your Membership In The
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Now Makes Available

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GOVERNMENT *16.25%

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SACHS & CO.**

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A prospectus containing more complete information including management fees and expenses, will be sent upon receipt of the attached coupon. Send the coupon to Michigan National Bank, Trust Department, 77 Monroe Center, P.O. Box 2804, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49501. Read the prospectus carefully before you invest or send money. For current yield information call toll free 800-621-2550.

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Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Membership No. _____

Mail to: Money Market Fund Program
for Michigan Farm Bureau Members
Michigan National Bank, Trust Department
P.O. Box 2804, 77 Monroe Center
Grand Rapids, MI 49501

**Goldman
Sachs**

Wanted: Ag Leaders

Farm Bureau Women are planning a State Leader Conference for Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 at Midland's Valley Plaza Ramada Inn.

Speakers and workshops will highlight leader and self-development instruction.

Keynote speaker will be Karen Kaiser Clark of St. Paul, Minn., a professional consultant and lecturer on interpersonal relationships. Marsha Herndon, director of AFBF's women's activities, will also speak.

The various workshops include legislative action, tech-

niques for public speaking, human relations, effective meetings, women's opportunities in Farm Bureau and priorities for Farm Bureau Women.

A highlight of the conference will be an AgriPac auction on Wednesday evening, Sept. 30.

The conference cost is \$65 per person, which includes hotel, meals and registration. Reservations are due by Sept. 2 and may be made through county Farm Bureau Women's Committee chairpersons, county secretaries or the Women's Department, Michigan Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909.

BC-BS Reopening Sept. 1-15

Dimension III Plan Offers Alternative

Recognizing that higher rates for Comprehensive Blue Cross - Blue Shield coverage could pose financial hardships for some member-subscribers, Farm Bureau will hold a special reopening period from Sept. 1 to 15 to allow subscribers to switch to one of two more economical plans.

During this period, subscribers may transfer to the Econo plan or the new Dimension III plan.

The Econo plan costs less because the subscriber pays part of the cost when it is used.

Econo plan quarterly rates (effective Aug. 20, 1981) for semi-private family coverage are \$233.16.

The new Dimension III plan is a co-pay program in which the member pays a portion of any health care service charge incurred during a 12-month period. Farm Bureau is the first major group in the state to offer this new plan.

After a subscriber's annual deductible is met (\$250 per person, \$500 family), services are covered on an 80/20 percent co-payment for all items

except private duty nursing and psychiatric services which are payable on a 50/50 percent basis.

There is also a \$1,000 stop-loss feature in the Dimension III plan which means after the deductible is met, families will not be required to pay more than \$1,000 of out-of-pocket expenses during the year.

A prescription drug rider has been added to the contract which will enable subscribers to purchase prescription drugs at a cost not to exceed \$3.

For the Dimension III plan, with the drug rider, quarterly rates (effective Nov. 20, 1981) are: one person, \$163.74; two persons, \$375.66; family, \$398.64; family continuation rider, \$109.26.

Farm Bureau members and their dependents who are eligible for Medicare may not enroll in the Dimension III plan or the prescription drug program.

Eligible members who wish to change from the high option Comprehensive plan to either the Econo plan or Dimension III plan, must have an active contract. The changes will take effect Nov. 20, 1981.

Contact your Farm Bureau secretary during the reopening period (Sept. 1-15) to change your coverage or for more information.

FBIG Cuts Ag Work Comp Rate

Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance, Michigan's largest farm insurer, has reduced its rates for agricultural workers compensation insurance, effective with all new and renewal policies as of Sept. 1, 1981.

This newest rate reduction means that Farm Bureau Mutual's rates in all farm classifications are now 25 percent lower than the standard rates set by the Michigan Workers Compensation Rating and Inspection Association. Farm Bureau Mutual has reduced its ag work comp rates four times in the past two and a half years.

The latest rate reduction comes just two weeks after the company's announcement of a \$713,000 dividend for MFB members participating in the agricultural workers compensation Safety Group.

Farm Bureau Mutual also announced that it will continue to offer reduced minimum premiums, designed to cut ag work comp costs for farmers with small payrolls.

Local Farm Bureau Insurance Group agents can provide details on Farm Bureau Mutual's ag work comp rate reductions.



In Good Times and Bad...

Farmers Petroleum Keeps You Going!

We've been lucky these last few seasons because the energy crisis has eased up a bit. But, our fuel problems aren't going to go away. So we're going to have to work for our fair share . . . to keep food on America's tables during the **good times and the bad!**

Farmers Petroleum is working by your side. Our efforts and the efforts of other cooperatives resulted in farmers receiving a priority rating when fuel was allocated during the last energy crisis. And, it was Farmers Petroleum who shut down retail pumps to guarantee you the fuel supply you needed to keep your machinery in operation. Right now there's a glut of fuel on the market so it's easy to get. Big oil refineries are dumping millions of gallons into storage and agriculture. But that's now. Will they be around to supply you with enough fuel when things get

rough again? It's anybody's guess. One thing's for sure . . . Farmers Petroleum is staying here in Michigan to **keep you going!**

We made a commitment to supply you with the fuel you need to plant the fields and harvest your crops. You're our number one priority. Because, you are the cooperative. Just look at our name.

The emergency priority policy we worked so hard for in '79 is going to expire by the 30th of September. We can't let that happen. Join with us in letting Washington know that no fuel for farmers means no food for America. Write your congressman in support of a law to guarantee farmers fuel priority in a crisis.

Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc.

Controversy Expected Over Proposal to Require Selected Intermediate School Redistricting

Controversy over a proposal to force reorganization of most intermediate school districts is expected to erupt when the legislation is introduced by Sen. Kammer (D-Pontiac) during the next legislative session, opening in September.

goal will be attained.

Mandatory legislation of this kind has always failed in the past, and the present law, which permits intermediate districts to voluntarily combine if local people believe it to be desirable, has already resulted

- Allegan and Ottawa area
- Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona and the Cheboygan-Otsego-Presque Isle area
- Barry, Calhoun and Branch
- Bay-Arenac and Iosco
- Berrien and Cass
- Charlevoix-Emmet and the Traverse Bay area
- Clare-Gladwin, Midland and Gratiot-Isabella
- Clinton and Eaton
- Hillsdale and Jackson
- Huron and Tuscola
- Ionia and Montcalm
- Kalamazoo Valley, St. Joseph and Van Buren
- Lake, Manistee and Mason
- Lapeer and Sanilac
- Lenawee and Monroe
- Livingston and Shiawassee
- Mecosta-Osceola and Wexford-Missaukee
- Newaygo and Oceana

Exempted areas include: Wayne, Washtenaw, St. Clair, Saginaw, Crawford-Oscoda-Ogemaw-Roscommon, Muskegon, Menominee, Marquette-Alger, Macomb, Kent, Ingham, Copper Country, Gogebic-Ontonagon, Genesee, Dickinson-Iron, Delta-Schoolcraft, Eastern Upper Peninsula and Oakland.

Efficiency and Cost Savings Questionable

As for cost cutting and efficiency, one provision mandates that **all** employees continue to be employed for a period of five years! Various accumulated benefits could not

be "abrogated, diminished or impaired." Employees in the same or similar jobs shall receive the "same wages and job benefits."

This apparently means that all wages and salaries would be raised to the level of the district having the highest wage structure. In the case of superintendents, for example, it is likely that the person chosen as the superintendent of the larger reorganized district would qualify for a much higher salary and the superintendents of the eliminated districts would become deputies or assistant superintendents at the same salary or higher.

The proposal makes it very clear that all such provisions could be "altered by future collective bargaining agreements." Many employee groups in the present intermediate districts have not chosen to unionize. They may be forced to join if one of the districts in the reorganization has a formal bargaining group.

There are also numerous problems in the financing of a reorganized district. For example, the draft provides that if the joining districts have different tax levies, then the original districts would continue as a unit for only the purpose of collecting the tax until such

CAPITOL REPORT

By
Robert E. Smith

time as a uniform tax levy is approved by the voters of the reorganized district.

Reorganization Plan Ignores Need for New Local Board

Still another serious problem is that no provision is made to assure representation on the new board of all of the reorganized area.

A seven-member State Intermediate School District Reorganization Committee would be established with its members appointed by the State Board of Education to carry out the mandate of the law and report to the governor and Legislature.

There are numerous other concerns, however, the question is whether mandatory reorganization is needed when over the years local people using their right of local control and vote have decided when to reorganize their schools, including elementary, K-12 and intermediate districts.

Also, if such intermediate reorganization is desirable why are so many districts, both large and small, exempted?

Present Farm Bureau policy states that reorganization should continue to be voluntary.

What is your opinion?

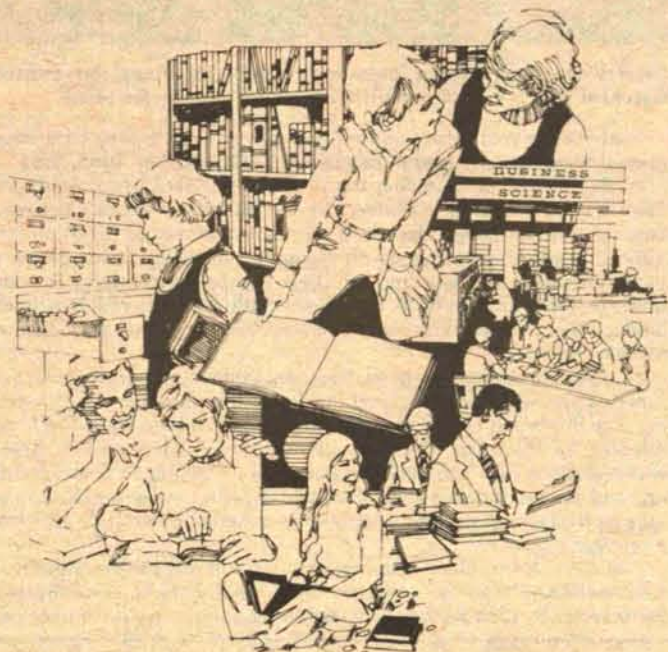
Growers, MSU Cooperate

(continued from page 4)

ing tree diseases and insects and some biological controls.

Although the research station is primarily devoted to cherries, research is also being done on some alternative fruit crops. According to Fouch, researchers are looking at about 30 varieties of strawberries, not only for "pick-your-own," but also to find some good varieties for mechanical harvesting. Researchers are also looking at 40 varieties of raspberries and blackberries for another minor crop, as growers are starting to look more toward diversification.

"Almost anything that can be done with horticulture, we are doing or will do in the next five years. What's going to dictate it, though, is that someone at MSU has got to want to do the research, and that there is a cooperative effort in this whole project between the growers and MSU," Fouch says.



The draft of the legislative proposal, which has been considered in hearings around the state, would reduce the number of Michigan intermediate school districts from 57 to 36. It is claimed that reorganization is necessary to achieve efficiency and to cut costs, however, in its preliminary form, the bill does not give any assurance that the

in the voluntary reorganization of districts in some areas of the state.

However, the new proposal would exempt many of the larger metropolitan intermediate districts and require that the following intermediate school districts *shall dissolve and reorganize as follows:*

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SPECIFICATIONS

- **Heating Capacity:** 152,000 BTU/hr. bottom drum 243,000 BTU/hr. double drum.
- **Construction:** Door, door frame, flue collar, draft control, internal draft channel of 13 ga. steel legs, 1/8 in. steel hinges, latch, catch of 3/16 in. steel nuts and bolts. Top Drum: Connector flanges, pipe assembly, 4 nesting brackets, nuts and bolts.
- **Guarantee:** 1-year trial offer, 10 years against failure.
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Kit converts a 55 gallon drum (not supplied) into a high capacity wood burner. Features large 11 1/4" square door opening, cam-lock door catch, and spark-proof design. Patented internal draft channel, draft control, and airtight design allow controlled, efficient heat, while limiting metal temperatures of barrel to prevent burnup.

Use of draft control allows you to heat large or small areas. Basement installation heats your entire home. Great for your garage, workshop, or cabin. Top drum squeezes 60% more BTU's from heat normally lost up the chimney. Heavy steel kit bolts together quick and easy.

Thousands in use by U.S. Army, Navy, Depts. of Nat. Resources, Agriculture, Federal, state and local government agencies.

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Health Fair Project Renews Hopes for Thunder Bay Clinic

"If federal funding had come through last year, we'd be opening the doors of the new Thunder Bay health clinic right about now," says Alvin Bartow, Montmorency County Farm Bureau member and vice president of the Thunder Bay Community Health Service, Inc.

"As it is we still don't have the clinic, but we did host a 10-day health clinic at the Hillman Elementary School."

About 400 people in the area participated in the health fair, receiving thorough physical examinations, immunizations and inoculations and health awareness education - all free of charge.

"The tremendous success of the health fair demonstrated that residents in this area want and would use such a clinic facility," Bartow says.

He points out that adequate facilities for primary health care are not presently available in the area. "We have a small clinic operating now, but it simply is not equipped to handle the number of clients in the area."

The new clinic would offer residents of Montmorency, western Alpena and southern Presque Isle counties full physician services, an immunization clinic, mental health services and drug abuse and alcohol treatment.

"We hope to have a clinic that will serve the total health care needs of this area; not for surgery, of course, but good preventative and primary care services for children, pregnant women, the elderly and others," says Garnet Tripp, Thunder Bay Community Health Service president and mayor of Hillman.

Health Fair Was Catalyst

Tripp, Bartow and eight other community leaders who comprise the Thunder Bay Community Health Service first sought funding and developed a grant proposal for a clinic in 1979. After 13 months of research, budgeting and documentation, they submitted their proposal.

"We were very highly complimented on the thoroughness and quality of our proposal and it was approved," says Tripp.

"Then in October, we were told funds had been cut back. So did we. We trimmed our budget closely, almost unrealistically, in the hope that we would still be funded and could begin construction in the spring of 1981." Tripp says the final blow was a notice in January 1981 that the project would not be funded because of federal budget cutbacks.

"We were pretty demoralized, but not down completely. We still continued to write letters to agencies and foundations looking for funding for the clinic. That's how we happened to be in touch with the Rural Health Action Coalition."

The health fair, far from pointing out the discouraging setback in plans for the clinic, helped to reignite hopes that, with community involvement, a clinic facility could become a reality.

"The Michigan Rural Health Action Coalition and the MSU medical student volunteers who put on the health fair were really a catalyst in this community," says Bartow. "When the Health Fair opened Aug. 5, we opened our clinic fundraising campaign and this time we'll have that clinic open for business."



Funding Sought

Money for the clinic building and equipment is available to the Thunder Bay Community

Health Service from the Farmers Home Administration in the form of a community facility loan. According to Tripp, the FmHA will loan 90 percent of the cost, but the community must present money and pledges totalling 10 percent of the total cost of the facility.

"That's \$64,000," says Tripp, but he's optimistic because initial fundraising efforts among residents and businesses in the Hillman area have already brought \$30,000. They will also extend their fundraising campaign into neighboring Alpena and Presque Isle communities in September.

The communities have a common socio-economic base, says Tripp. The area shares many of the same community services like police and fire departments, school districts and many residents work in neighboring communities.

"The clinic would be another service which bonds the communities," adds Bartow, "and that's what we're trying to impress upon citizens in the area. The effects are circular: You help by contributing to the clinic, which helps you, which helps others and so on..."

But help had better come fast if a tri-county facility is to be built at all. According to Tripp, a higher interest rate for the FmHA loan will go into effect in October 1981 and this higher interest rate would practically put such a health care facility out of reach for the community.

American Farm Bureau Federation 1982 Annual Meeting



Located near the Michigan delegation's hotel in San Diego, this restored merchant ship is part of a maritime museum open to the public.

Start making your plans now for the American Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting to be held in San Diego, California, Jan. 10-15, 1982.

In the interest of providing the best possible service for Michigan Farm Bureau members, a United Airlines charter will operate between Lansing and San Diego, departing on Jan. 9 and returning on Jan. 15. Space has also been reserved on regularly scheduled flights between various points in Michigan and San Diego on appropriate dates. In addition, complete arrangements have been made for tours which include, among other features, visits to the famous San Diego Zoo and Tijuana, Mexico.

San Diego's climate has been described as the most nearly perfect in America and will afford an ideal locale for this important AFBF meeting. The lifestyle is casual as is the Holiday Inn Embarcadero, the hotel selected for Michigan. It is conveniently located close to the harbor with a glorious view and interesting activities including fine restaurants and bay cruises. It is just a few short blocks from the restored historical area of Gaslamp that features boutiques, eateries, charming shops and a resident kite flyer.

Complete information, including enrollment forms and description of tour inclusions, can be obtained from your county Farm Bureau secretary or by sending the following coupon to the address indicated.

I am interested in attending the 1982 AFBF annual meeting in San Diego, California. Please send me complete information:

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Address _____

Home Phone _____ Office Phone _____

Mail to: Washburne Travel Center, Inc., Attention: Group Department, 228 Abbott Road, East Lansing, Mich. 48823.

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OUR 25th
YEAR



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Beef Herd Expansion Seen as a 'Dangerous Gamble'

Beef cattle producers were warned recently that aggressive expansion of the national beef herd in the immediate future could be a dangerous financial gamble.

The warning came from four of the nation's top livestock economists who met in the third of a series of cattle cycle forums and advised cattlemen to exercise caution in their herd expansion plans.

Participating in the forum series under the leadership of the American Farm Bureau Federation were Glenn Grimes, professor of agricultural economics, University of Missouri; Dr. Wayne D. Purcell, professor of agricultural economics, Virginia Polytechnic Institute; Dr. Robert J. Reiersen, agricultural economics consultant, Denver, Colo.; and Dr. Edward Uvacek Jr., livestock marketing economist and associate professor, Texas A & M University.

Noting that the USDA's cattle inventory report of July 1 indicated that cattle producers continued to be "bullish" in

their expansion philosophy, the economists said there is little hope for significant improvement in cattle prices through the rest of this year.

While the percentage of increase in cattle numbers for the first half of this year was smaller than it was a year earlier, the economists agreed that consumer demand had not strengthened enough to move the larger beef supplies at prices that would be profitable to both the cow-calf producers and cattle feeders.

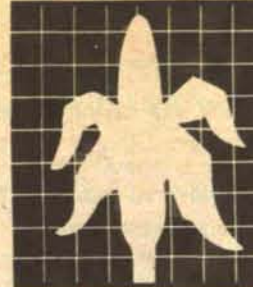
Meeting in the second of the forum series last February, the economists were "on target" when they predicted that unless consumer demand for beef increased, the rapid growth in the national cattle herd could not be justified. They warned that the cattle producers themselves must accept the responsibility of keeping the supply of beef in balance with demand.

"Despite poor prices and considerable market uncertainty, cattlemen continued to expand their herds in the first half of this year," Uvacek said.

"Even with a 4 percent larger cattle slaughter during the January-June period, U.S. cattle inventories on July 1 rose 9 percent over the Jan. 1 level which, however, was below the huge 11 percent recorded in the first six months of 1980.

Uvacek said the current year is the fourth in the herd buildup phase and that he expects the expansion to peak out in 1985, making it the seventh year of expansion in the cattle cycle. For the short-term outlook, he looks for fed cattle prices to be high enough for feedlots to break into the black side of the ledger by the end of the year after many months of losses, which eventually will be reflected in higher prices to producers for their feeder cattle.

Reiersen predicted that total meat supplies, including pork and poultry, will be higher this year, which will hold prices lower at the retail level with a wider margin between the producer and the consumer. Reiersen said he expects beef supplies to be two to four pounds per capita higher this year,



AGRINOMIC UPDATE

Report of the Commodity Activities & Research Department

which will keep producer prices from strengthening in the months immediately ahead.

The impact of pork and poultry supplies on the beef market was reviewed by Grimes who pointed to a marked trend toward larger hog operations with as much as 60 percent of 1981-82 marketings expected to come from those producers selling 1,000 head or more.

Grimes also pointed out that an expected decrease in pork production finally was materializing but that the decrease was at a slower pace than generally had been expected. With poultry prices at the break-even point and hog prices gradually improving, Grimes predicted beef prices would reach their strongest point during the first quarter of 1982.

Purcell said that there is no evidence that the underlying demand for beef on a per capita basis increased during the past 10 years and that current demand is lower than it was during the mid-1970s.

He added that when there is no increase in demand, larger supplies can only be moved through the marketing system by lowering the price. He urged producers to pay more attention to consumer concerns, citing the cholesterol scare and other health issues that likely had caused irreversible damage to beef consumption.

With the prospect of larger total meat supplies competing for the consumer dollar in the next few years, the economists agreed that the beef industry faces uncertainties and must gear itself more effectively to meet consumer demands.

All four economists warned that the beef industry can no longer rely on a growing population - currently at near zero-growth level - and increased consumer incomes alone to provide the market for its product at profitable prices.

The next session in the series of cattle cycle forums will be scheduled for early in February 1982.

Send us photos of your little barn on the prairie. . .

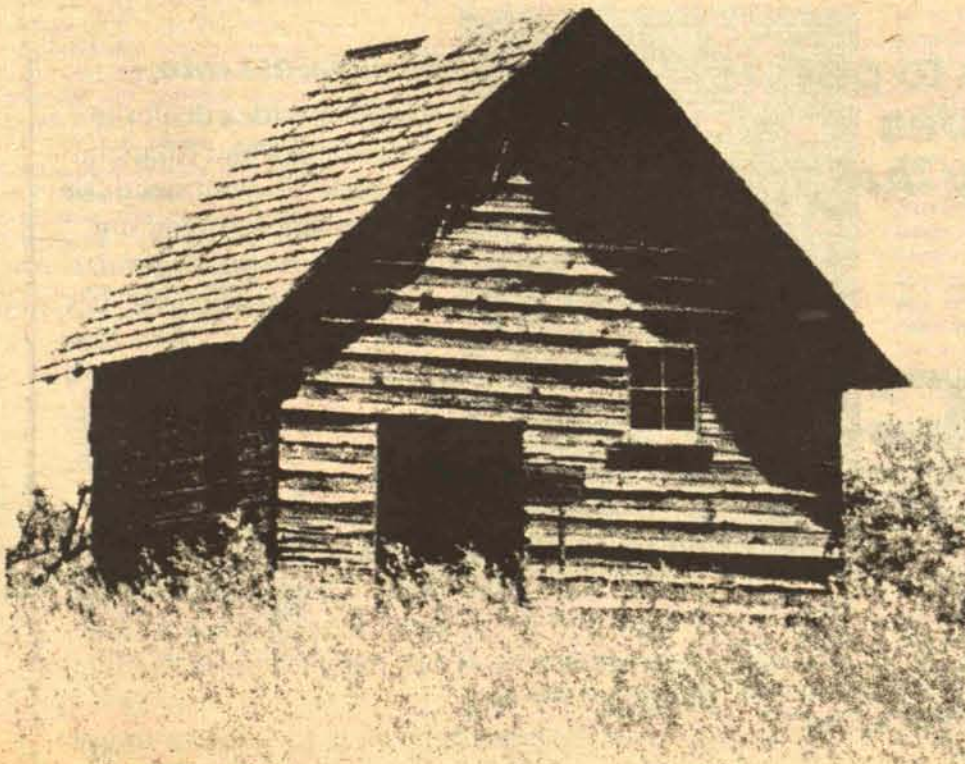
or any other of your favorite photos of Michigan rural life

Load your camera and look around you. If you live in rural Michigan, you're surrounded by endless photo possibilities—just the type of photos you should enter in Farm Bureau Insurance Group's color photo contest.

Send us color photos or slides of harvest scenes, your family working together in the fields or barns, kids in the swimming hole, quiet moments on the farm, the beauty of rural Michigan. We will award several prizes of \$100 bonds and plaques. Award-winning photos may be published in a variety of ways, including advertisements and annual reports. The rules are simple:

- 1) Any resident of Michigan may enter, except employees of Michigan Farm Bureau and its affiliate companies and their immediate families.
- 2) Entries must be color 5x7 prints or color slides reflecting the theme "The good life of rural Michigan." Each person may submit up to three entries. With each entry include your name, address and age, and a brief explanation of where and when you took the photo or slide, and how it reflects the theme.
- 3) Identifiable persons in the photos or slides must sign model releases. Request these releases from Photo Contest Coordinator, Communications Dept., Farm Bureau Insurance Group, 7373 W. Saginaw, Lansing, Mich. 48909.
- 4) Deadline for entries is Oct. 16, 1981. Mail to the address in rule 3. All entries become the property of Farm Bureau Marketing Corporation of Michigan.

Help us capture the spirit of rural Michigan. Start shooting today.



**FARM BUREAU
INSURANCE
GROUP**

FARM BUREAU MUTUAL • FARM BUREAU LIFE • COMMUNITY SERVICE INSURANCE • FIDELITY

Balancing the Budget

"... Like starving creatures, we are as likely to bite off the leg of our keepers as we are to take the food that is offered."

Dear Tom,

I signed your petition to reinstate Michigan meat inspection. I know as a state meat inspector, you are due to lose your present position on Oct. 1. I don't know what more I can do. The government has promised you a job as a federal meat inspector, but has only guaranteed you one year at your present location. With two pre-schoolers, a house half completed and a wife working full-time just to keep things afloat, the prospect of moving to a new location isn't inviting.

The problem is, we've all been so angry. The tax burden which has been mounting since the inception of the Great Society has fueled a slow burn among hard-working Americans. And now, like starving creatures, we are as likely to bite off the leg of our keepers as we are to take the food that is offered. We want budget cuts now and the devil take the hindmost.

What we really need is an end to waste, corruption, mismanagement and the misconception that the government must pamper the lazy and lawless. Unfortunately, there is a degree of corruption in all walks of life and cheaters are clever. We all hope that the present administrations, state and federal, can clean up the mis-managed programs and pinpoint the agencies that squander our tax dollars, but it's a tremendous job and it will take time. We've sent a message to our Legislature and other elected officials that we won't wait, and they are taking it to heart.

There are other slashed budgets on the horizon. I hate to see funding withdrawn from Public Broadcasting which brings Sesame Street to my children. It is sad that the WIC program, which feeds pre-natal and infant children of low income families, must be cut back. The WIC program pro-

vides food for pregnant women and their infants to insure full mental and physical development during these critical few months. Malnutrition at this crucial stage, in addition to being a cruelty to an innocent life, can result in disabilities that make these babies burdens on society for the rest of their lives. Perhaps we cannot afford the present WIC program, but we can't afford permanent dependents either.

I read an article in a Sunday Detroit Free Press recently

about a woman on the verge of a mental breakdown. She had divorced her husband after 30 years of marriage, was nearly broke and had turned to a neighborhood mental health clinic for help. On her way up from the depths of depression, the clinic closed due to a lack of funds. I feel for her. She is not corrupt, lazy, shiftless or criminal. She is just a woman in need. It seems that there must be other sources of help for her, but then, I've never been in her predicament.

OPEN LETTERS

Andrea Hofmeister
1980 Outstanding
Young Farm Woman



What I am trying to say, Tom, is that I don't know all the answers when it comes to balancing the budget. The institutions which the government has established have become inexorably intertwined in our lives, and the decisions facing our elected officials are exceedingly difficult. For your

sake, I hope you get your job back and that life can continue on for you just as you have planned. The fact is that people are going to be deprived of a lot of benefits they've come to expect because of the budget cuts that we have a right to demand. And, as any child can tell you, cuts hurt.

12%

12% interest rate from your local bank. Or get cash refunds direct from Avco New Idea.

Two great ways to get the Avco New Idea farm machinery that you need...NOW.

**AVCO
NEW IDEA**

Avco New Idea
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Coldwater, Ohio 45828

Cash refunds or 12% interest available at participating banks and Avco New Idea dealers only.
Offer Limited.

Local bank 12% interest rate.

Your local Avco New Idea dealer is teaming up with local banks and financial institutions to say "YES" to your need for lower interest farm machinery financing.

You get a rate of 12% on any purchase of new Avco New Idea farm equipment. It's as simple as it sounds. Your Avco New Idea dealer has the details and will be glad to tell you all about it.

Or cash refunds.

If you'd rather make a cash deal for your Avco New Idea machinery, here's a plan you'll like: Select the equipment you want and Avco New Idea pays cash refunds direct to you. It can mean thousands of dollars for you.

See your Avco New Idea dealer today for the machinery you need...NOW.

Camp Kettunen
20th Anniversary
OPEN HOUSE
October 4

For more information, contact the Cooperative Extension Service office in your county.

Farm Bureau Insurance Group, Michigan Farm Radio Network Honor 'Farmers of the Week'

The Farmer of the Week Award, sponsored by the Michigan Farm Radio Network and Farm Bureau Insurance Group, recognizes Michigan farmers for their contributions to the agricultural industry and the community.

Award recipients for July 1981 were:



THOMAS SCHROEDER

Week of July 6 - Thomas Schroeder, a hog farmer from Reading who also raises cash crops on 500 acres. Schroeder is Hillsdale County Pork Producers vice president; active in St. Paul's Catholic Church in Clear Lake, Ind., and St. Paul Parish Boosters Club vice president; a Hillsdale County FB member and he belongs to the county Young Farmers. He actively supports the Reading Schools Chapter of the FFA, aiding them in various agricultural projects; and is a past member of the 4-H and FFA in Lepsig, Ohio, where he held several FFA offices. He moved from Ohio to begin farming in Hillsdale County two years ago. Schroeder and his wife, Margaret, have one child.



JEAN SETZLER

Week of July 13 - Jean Setzler of LaSalle, who runs an egg farm with her family. They farm 315 acres and have a large egg operation, handling every step from raising the poultry to marketing the eggs. She is on the Monroe County Cooperative board; active in her church and was church secretary and treasurer and president of the church ladies' group. She is on the Monroe Child & Family Services board; treasurer of both the Ida Public Schools PTA and the Band Boosters; a Monroe County FB member and county FB Women's Committee chairperson; active in the Monroe County Fair Association; and past president of the WCTU. She and her husband, Ralph, have six children.



JIM KOAN

Week of July 20 - Jim Koan, a Lennon area fruit farmer who sells apples both wholesale and retail. He currently farms 120 acres in partnership with his father. Koan is a Genesee County FB board member; member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Durand; Certified Farm Markets member; Tri-County Sheep Association member; and gave much time in helping with area Special Olympics activities for handicapped youngsters. He received his bachelor's, master's and specialist degrees from the University of Michigan and taught special education in Flint Schools for six years. He left teaching about five years ago to farm full time. He has combined his two areas of expertise - farming and working with special-needs people - by employing several people with various impairments to work on his farm. Koan's wife, Karen, is also on the county FB board. They have two children.

rently farms 120 acres in partnership with his father. Koan is a Genesee County FB board member; member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Durand; Certified Farm Markets member; Tri-County Sheep Association member; and gave much time in helping with area Special Olympics activities for handicapped youngsters. He received his bachelor's, master's and specialist degrees from the University of Michigan and taught special education in Flint Schools for six years. He left teaching about five years ago to farm full time. He has combined his two areas of expertise - farming and working with special-needs people - by employing several people with various impairments to work on his farm. Koan's wife, Karen, is also on the county FB board. They have two children.



TOM WALDRON

Week of July 27 - Tom Waldron, a dairy farmer from Big Rapids who farms 500 acres and milks 70 cows with his brother. Waldron is a Mecosta County ASCS committeeman; a DHIA member; a Michigan Animal Breeders Cooperative member; a Mecosta County FB member and belongs to the county Young Farmers. He served on the Mecosta County Agricultural Council and is a member of the National Wildlife Association and the Sierra Club. Waldron and his wife, Jill, have two children.

Farm Bureau Services Announces Closing of Three Service Centers

Kalamazoo, Saginaw, Bay City Centers Close;
Scottville Farmers Urge Continued Service

Farm Bureau Services, Inc. has announced the closing of three retail service centers at Kalamazoo, Saginaw and Bay City due to the consumer shift from farm to suburban trade and other economic considerations.

"Meetings have been held with the advisory boards and other farmers at Kalamazoo, Saginaw and Bay City to discuss how Farm Bureau Services can better serve the farmers in those areas," said Tim McCarthy, director of Service Center Business.

"This action did not result from any lack of productivity on the part of employees or management of these locations," McCarthy said.

Farm Bureau Services, working through the company's Human Resources Department, will provide the employees at these facilities with career counseling and job placement assistance.

Farm Bureau Services is looking for buyers interested in the Kalamazoo and Bay City facilities. The Saginaw facility

will be maintained as a warehouse.

The Scottville service center was also scheduled to be closed, however, that action is pending due to the considerable interest of farmers in the area.

A market study is planned to determine the needs of the farmers in the Scottville area and to survey their commitment to co-op patronage. The results of the study will be announced within the next 60 days.

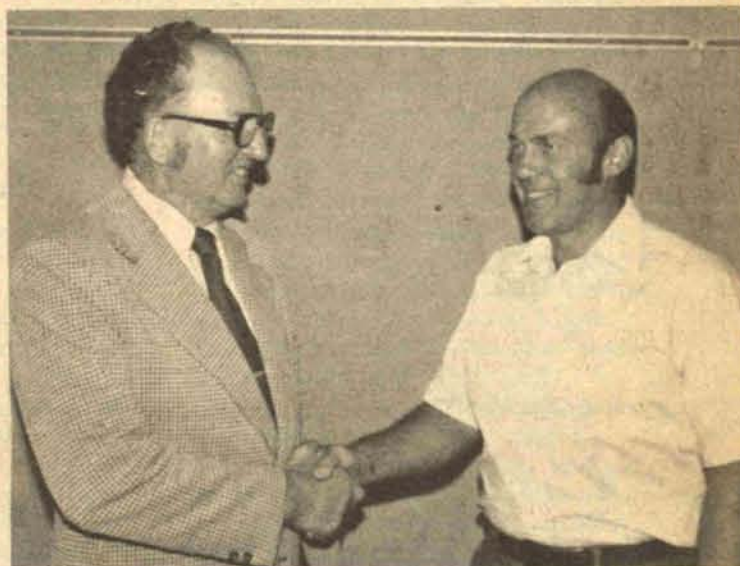
Ag Alumni Invited to Autumnfest '81

Alumni of the Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources are invited to Autumnfest '81 being held Oct. 10.

Starting at 9:30 a.m. in Jenison Field House, the event features displays, a chance to meet former professors, renew acquaintances with classmates and the famous Super Brunch of Michigan agricultural products.

Tickets will be available at the door. To assure a reservation, send a check for \$7.50 per ticket, made payable to Michigan State University, to Bob La Prad, Agriculture Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich. 48824.

Al Cook Elected to MFB Board



Al Cook (left) of Ingham County is congratulated by Bill Spike on his election to the MFB board of directors. Cook, who operates a poultry farm near Mason, was elected to represent District 5. He replaces Spike who was appointed chairman of the Michigan Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee. District 5 is composed of Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Ingham and Shiawassee counties.

WATER FROM OUR OWN BACKYARD WELL



Opelika, Alabama—What can you buy for a nickel and still get some change back? 500 gallons of water, that's what! As a matter of fact, the electricity to pump 500 gallons from your own backyard well costs only four cents! With this reliable, convenient source

of water you can supply your home, your garden, and with a water well heat pump you can even heat and cool your home for a fraction of the cost of conventional systems!

In the past, the cost of drilling a well made it uneconomical for anyone who could hook on to city water mains. However, as city water becomes much more expensive, backyard wells have become more and more popular. To hold the cost of drilling a well to an affordable level, an easy-to-use low-cost machine has been developed for the homeowner who wants to drill his own. Called the HYDRA-DRILL, it is already in use around the world, and an estimated 60,000 Hydra-Drill wells have been drilled to date.

The Hydra-Drill can drill to depths of 200 feet, which puts you within reach of 90% of all the good fresh ground water in the world. The typical Hydra-Drill well can produce over 4,000 gallons of water each day—just compare that with the average U.S. family consumption of 500 gallons of water per day!

The Hydra-Drill is remarkably simple to operate. It is completely portable, and can be operated anywhere ... even in places a truck-mounted drilling rig can't get. Yet it can drill most anything the

big, truck-mounted rigs can drill, and drilling speeds range up to 40 feet per hour.

To find out more about the Hydra-Drill and how you can drill your own water well, send your name and address to: DeepRock Mfg., 5556 Anderson Road, Opelika, Alabama 36802. Or phone toll-free (800) 821-2280 (Ext. 5556). There is no charge or obligation, and no salesman will call. Call anytime including Sundays.

(800) 821-2280

EXT. 5556

CLIP COUPON AND MAIL TODAY!

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Confronting the Issues

*Policy issues for consideration
in the 1981 Farm Bureau Policy
Development Process*

Preserving Farmland The Problem

The loss of Michigan's farmland continues, influenced by factors such as soil erosion, development pressures, dwindling land supply, tax policies, public projects and normal transition.

Background Information

Following is a brief overview of the major issues affecting farmland preservation:

Soil Conservation - The loss of productive soils through erosion is a growing concern. The loss of 6 to 10 tons per acre often is not viewed with alarm. However, its cumulative effect over a period of years can be substantial and even devastating.

There are two current conservation philosophies. The first, cross compliance, would mandate that a farmer would not be eligible for crop insurance, commodity payments, farmland tax benefits, assessment benefits, etc., until he has received his annual conservation certificate. The other approach is voluntary and would provide major incentives for a farm cooperator to benefit. This is a more traditional approach and more widely accepted, but the results are being questioned.

Purchasing Farmland Development Rights - Legislation has been drafted for discussion and possible introduction in the Michigan Legislature which utilizes the concept of purchasing development rights to essential farmland as a means to preserve essential farmland. As proposed, the local Soil Conservation District would be authorized to purchase essential farmland at market value when offered for sale by the owner. Lands would be identified as "essential" farmland by the Michigan Land Inventory Act and the Soil Conservation District.

Funds for the land purchases would be supplied from the Kammer Recreational Land Trust Fund, funded by royalties on minerals extracted from state owned lands.

Once purchased by the SCD, the land would be sold to private owners with a restrictive covenant limiting its future use and improvements to agricultural only. Ownership of development rights would be retained by the SCD.

Subdivision Control Act - This act, P.A. 288 of 1967, requires that when a land description is split into more than four parcels of 10 acres or less, the land must be platted. The act is frequently circumvented by selling parcels of 10.1 acres or more. This has resulted in additional farmland being sold for residential purposes and haphazard development.

Tax Policy - Assessment of farmland at its highest potential value rather than agriculture use value often results in excessive property tax burdens for farmers.

Public Act 116 (Farmland and Open Space Preservation Act) was implemented in 1974. Over 2 million acres are now enrolled in this voluntary program. Enrolled farmland must be maintained in agriculture for a minimum of 10 years. In return, the farmer is assured of a tax credit equal to the amount his property tax exceeds 7 percent of his household income. Enrolled lands are also exempt from special assessments such as water and sewer lines. Owners of enrolled farmland are exempted from paying 50 percent of the state inheritance tax that may be levied on the farmland and have up to 10 years to pay the remaining 50 percent.

DISCUSSION TOPIC

by **KEN WILES**
Manager, Member Relations

Agricultural Impact Statements - While an Environmental Impact Statement is required on major public projects such as highways, airports, etc., the importance of agriculture is often overlooked. An Agricultural Impact Statement would give a broader perspective of the impact to an area due to development projects.

Legislation has been introduced in the Michigan Legislature to require an Agricultural Impact Statement when a project financed wholly or in part by public monies would disturb more than 5 acres of essential farmland. The Michigan Department of Agriculture would review the statement and submit its comments to the appropriate government agency or agencies, however, the MDA could not recommend approval or disapproval of necessary permits or financing for the project.

Current Farm Bureau Policy

Soil Conservation - Current policy supports the landowner as responsible for land management with the cooperation of the Cooperative Extension Service for conservation education, SCS technical staff for conservation planning programs, and locally elected ASCS committeemen to administer conservation payment programs and loan programs to finance soil erosion control structures.

Purchasing Farmland Development Rights - Current policy does not address the purchase of farmland development rights.

Tax Policy - Current tax policy regarding farmland preservation addresses these major provisions:

Supports a constitutional amendment to allow use value assessment of farmland; P.A. 116 and efforts to maintain and improve the program; inclusion of managed forestland under the Local Option Open Space Section of P.A. 116; an increase in the present \$1,200 limit on the Homestead Credit Act to reflect inflation; and the Headlee constitutional amendment which limits property tax increases by unit to not more than the inflation rate.

Opposes enactment of additional agricultural land preservation programs which would confuse farmers and diminish the effectiveness of P.A. 116; and high valuation of land as a result of zoning changes until such time as the land undergoes a change of use.

Agricultural Impact Statements - Current policy supports an Agricultural Impact Statement whenever an Environmental Impact Statement is required.

Questions - Preserving Farmland

1. Is purchase of farmland development rights an effective way to preserve farmland?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

2. Should a government entity own a portion of the property rights to farmland?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

3. Would farmers agree to ownership of farmland that did not include the full bundle of property rights?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

4. Should all subdivisions of land be subject to platting?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

5. Should Farm Bureau continue to oppose enactment of additional farmland preservation programs that would diminish the effectiveness of P.A. 116?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

Property Tax Reform The Problem

At issue is whether property taxes are too high, assessing practices fair and equitable and whether alternative revenue sources for local government units such as townships, counties and school districts are available. There is also concern for maintaining local control.

Background Information

Following is a brief overview of the present Michigan tax system:

Property tax is used exclusively for local purposes (county, township, schools, etc.). The constitution limits assessments, as equalized, to not more than 50 percent of actual cash value and limits the tax rate to not more than 15 to 18 mills. All additional tax millage must be voted by the people in the governmental unit. The property tax rate cannot exceed a total of 50 mills except to guarantee the payment of bonded indebtedness.

The 1978 "Tax Limitation Amendment" to the constitution placed additional limits on property taxes and required a tax rate cut (millage rollback) to prevent property tax revenues from exceeding the previous year plus the inflation factor. It mandates that state aid to local government units not be cut below the percentage in effect in 1978-79.

Previous property tax reforms include:

Exemption from assessment of personal property (livestock, feed, machinery, etc.).

Exemption from assessment on growing agricultural crops, i.e. deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs, plants, bushes or vines.

Property Tax Rebate, called the Circuit Breaker 1973, bases property tax on 3½ percent of household income up to \$1,200. The circuit breaker provision applies only to homesteads including farmland. Many elderly people are rebated all of their taxes. Many others have tax rebates of one-third, one-half or more of their property tax. Health and accident insurance premiums and certain other costs can be deducted from household income for tax rebate purposes.

Special Farmland Tax Relief (P.A. 116) limits all property taxes on farmland to not more than 7 percent of household income and exempts the property from certain special assessments.

Public Rights of Way are exempt from assessment.

Property Classifications include "developmental real property," a class added in 1978 to protect properties from increased valuation due to the sale of property or properties for developmental purposes. Public Act 114 of 1979 requires assessment equalization by classifications.

Homestead Repairs exempted from assessment include numerous residential maintenance repairs such as painting, siding, roofing, porches, sidewalks, drives, insulation or the replacement of storm windows, doors, awnings, gutters, rewiring, plumbing, furnace, hot water heater, woodwork, plaster, ceilings, walls and the removal of partitions.

The law also excludes from the sales data amounts paid for obtaining/financing personal property and surveying property to the extent that they are included in the purchase price of the homestead.

Assessment Appeals must begin with the local Board of Review and then go to the State Tax Tri-

(continued on page 15)

Confronting the Issues, continued from page 14

bunal. In some cases, a further appeal can be made to the Michigan Court of Appeals.

Any "reform" of the property tax or overall tax system is complex because of the interrelation of the existing taxation structure. Since 1972, the voters have turned down at least seven proposals. At the present time, at least 175 bills have been introduced into the Legislature for consideration. In addition, there are numerous "self start" groups that are developing petition proposals.

Current Farm Bureau Policy

Farm Bureau supports these major issues in taxation:

Farmland and Open Space Preservation Act (P.A. 116), promoted and supported by Farm Bureau since its inception, continues to be an effective multipurpose program to provide tax relief and maintain Michigan lands in agriculture.

Circuit Breaker Tax Rebate provides significant tax relief particularly for the elderly. Farmland is included in the rebate formula due to the amendments supported by Farm Bureau. At present, Farm Bureau favors an increase in the \$1,200 income limit which will reflect inflation.

Assessing practices should apply a definition of "cash valuation" as being influenced by "quality of soil, zoning, existing use, present economic income of structures including farm structures and present economic income of land when the land is being farmed or otherwise put to income producing use. . . ." Farm Bureau has also supported amendments to the Michigan Constitution to make it possible to assess farmland according to use.

Farm Bureau supports a **property tax alternative** to allow the use of a local income tax for school financing. Farm Bureau also supports full funding for all state aid formulas.

Property Tax Reform - Questions

1. Many claim that assessment inequities result from poor assessing practices at the local level and that assessing should be a county function. Do you agree? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
2. Some legislative proposals include a "truth in taxation" provision. This would prohibit local units of government (county, township, school, etc.) from collecting additional tax revenue resulting from increased assessments and SEV unless a public hearing is held and the local board votes to collect the additional tax revenue. Do you agree? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
3. What are your suggestions for further property tax reform?

Farm Bureau Market Place

FARM EQUIPMENT

For Sale: Used Storage Tanks, 6000 to 20,000 gallon capacity. Vertical or horizontal. Phone 616-798-1805. (4-6-15p)

Antique Tractor Books! New! "150 YEARS OF INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER." Covers all tractors to 1980 plus serial numbers. Equipment and stationary engines covered in detail. 416 pages. 2,000 photos. Hard leatherette cover, \$26.95. "THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN FARM TRACTORS," covers tractors from 1890s to 1979. 1,500 photos, 352 pages. Hard leatherette cover, \$26.95 postpaid. Diamond Farm Book Publishers, Dept. MFN, Box 537, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607. (7-4-64p)

FARM EQUIPMENT

New Edition! "FARM TRACTORS IN COLOR" 80 years tractor history, 118 full color photos, 183 pages, \$11.95. "STEAM POWER IN AGRICULTURE," 100 years steam power, 103 full color photos, 184 pages, \$11.95. "STEAM TRACTION ENGINES, WAGONS, ROLLERS," 180 pages, 158 full color photos, with descriptive notes on each engine, \$11.95. SPECIAL! Complete collectors library, 3 above hardcover books - \$32.95 postpaid. Diamond Farm Book Publishers, Dept. MFN, Box 537, Alexandria Bay, N.Y. 13607. (7-4-72p)

Fox - One row corn chopper. Good condition. Stockbridge, Mich. 517-851-8106. (9-10p)

FARM EQUIPMENT

New Holland 717 Chopper with corn and hay heads. Badger and Pape 3-beater Forage Wagons on heavy duty gears. Allen, 517-869-2322. (9-22p)

Don't Buy, Sell, Trade Without Marshall's Farm Equipment Guide. New 288 page 4th edition now available. Used tractor and equipment prices, specifications, trade-in values, rental rates, more. \$10 per copy postpaid. Marshall Publications, Box 1190 M, Minnetonka, MN 55343. (9-31-38p)

John Deere 105 Combine; John Deere #1000 - 24 ft. chisel plow - 2 1/2-ton Army truck 6x6 - Eversman #3212 Landlever - 1968 Ford - C700 Truck Tractor. 313-659-6535. (9-26p)

New All Wire Cages and Equipment, also Pedigreed Meat Production New Zealand White Rabbits. Dettmer's Bunny Patch, a full time commercial rabbitry. Carson City, Mich. 517-584-3765. (9-61-25p)

For Sale: Jamesway Gutter Cleaner. Model 500, 240 ft. of chain. Excellent condition. Phone 517-465-6550. Coleman, Mich. (9-19p)

For Sale: '69 GMC V-6 larger truck engine, transmission, radiator. 517-539-7832. (9-11p)

Wanted: Shingle Mill. Marvin Schwab, Standish, Mich. 517-846-6100. (9-41-8p)

For Sale: Farmhand Grinder-Blower, used 40 hours. Phone 517-589-9300. (9-12p)

John Beane Two Row Potato Harvester in good condition. Two unloading wagons. \$1,500 both, \$3,500 all. Mayville, 517-843-5355. (9-18p)

LIVESTOCK

Cattle Books! "VET BOOK FOR STOCK FARMERS." On-the-farm prevention, symptoms, treatments. 176 pages, 300 photos. \$16.95. "CALVING THE COW AND CARE OF THE CALF." 164 pages, 338 photos. \$16.95. "PROFITABLE BEEF PRODUCTION," \$16.95. SPECIAL! Complete beef library, 3 above hardcover books, \$43.95, postpaid. Diamond Farm Book Publishers, Dept. MFN, Box 537, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607. (7-41-57p)

Rams For Sale: Registered Columbia and Suffolk sheep. R. Seelye, R.R. 1, Hersey, Mich. 49639. Phone 616-832-9629. (9-21-16p)

% Simmental Club Calves available for immediate inspection, also some mature females. 517-871-9606. (9-13p)

Seventeen Angus Cows, purebred, bred back, for sale after calves weaned. Emmett H. Davis, 9745 12 Mile Road, Rockford, Mich. 49341. Phone 616-874-6306. (9-21-23p)

For Sale: Flock of registered Suffolk sheep. 13 ewes, 2 ewe lambs and ram with MSU breeding. 313-753-9007. (9-18p)

For Sale: 4 cows, 2 Herefords, 2 Shorthorns, 3 have Heifer calves by side. Exposed to bull. Also Hereford bull. 313-753-9007. (9-21p)

AQHA - We still have some pleasure horses and show stock for sale. Evergreen Farms, Ltd., Running Quarter Horses, Mason, Mich. 48854. 517-628-2823 or 628-2789. (9-24p)

Polled Hereford bulls and heifers also club calves. Eugene Simpkins, Route 5, Gladwin, 48624. Phone 517-426-4090. (9-21-17p)

Polled Hereford Auction, 70 lots, cows, heifers, calves. Top bloodlines. Some of Michigan's best! Oct. 31, 1981 - 517-426-4090. Eugene Simpkins, Route 5, Gladwin, Mich. 48624. (9-21-24p)

LIVESTOCK

30 large, well bred Holstein heifers. Due in Sept. and Oct. Also rugged Hampshire boars. Byron Waddell, Olivet, Mich. 517-543-3415. (9-20p)

Duroc & Yorkshire Boars and Gilts. Litter mates to the top selling pen at MSU Test Station. 2:18 Daily Gain. Mark Palmreuter, Vassar, Mich. Phone 517-823-3745. (9-21-26p)

MISCELLANEOUS

J-E-E-P-S - \$19.30! - C-A-R-S - \$13.50! - 650,000 ITEMS! - GOVERNMENT SURPLUS - MOST COMPREHENSIVE DIRECTORY AVAILABLE TELLS HOW, WHERE TO BUY - YOUR AREA - \$2 - MONEYBACK GUARANTEE - "GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES," DEPARTMENT EG-9, BOX 99249, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94109. (1-121-31p-k)

Ram Pumps! Water powered, high volume residential and commercial models, free catalog. Tri-Rivers, Inc., Box 502, Waverly Hall, Georgia 31831. (11-121-21p)

Good Clean Rental Type Work Clothes: 6 pants and 6 shirts, \$24.95, postpaid. Send sizes with order to: Wal's Wholesale, 251 Pearl Street, Darlington, S.C. 29532. (6-91-26p)

Large Overhead Doors for farm shops. Any size or material. Operators. Radio controls. We install. Frankenmuth Door Service. 517-652-2143. (7-41-21p)

Timex Watches Repaired for a fraction of the new watch cost. Send any brand watch for free estimate to: Cooper's Fixery, 21 N. 1st Ave. W., Duluth, MN 55802. (8-51-27p)

"50 Ways To See Thru People." Secrets exposed! Protect yourself! Command conditions! \$1. Newlife. Box 684-MF, Boulder City, Nevada 89005. (8-61-19p)

Work Shirts and Pants - reconditioned - low as \$2.35 each. Also, new coveralls, jackets, gloves, boots, shoes. For information catalog, send \$1.00. Sara Glove Co., Box 4069-C-95, Waterbury, Conn. 06704. (9-41-29p)

New Improved Page Size Magnifier helps reduce eye strain. Wafer thin. \$3.49 Postpaid. E & F Sales, Box 41044, Indianapolis, 46241. (9-19p)

FOR HOMEMAKERS

Sewing Supplies, Pearl Snap Fasteners - 191 colors and styles. Free catalog. Bee Lee Company. Box 20558-MF, Dallas, Texas 75220. (2-121-19p)

Now! Frozen Tomato Slices! Enjoy garden fresh flavor, year round! Complete, easy instructions. \$1.00. Hamiltons, Box 652-131, New Ulm, Minn. 56073. (9-20p)

Coldwater Dillpickles! Can in minutes! No hot brine. Delicious, crisp, factory secrets! Recipe \$1.00. Hamiltons, Box 652-131, New Ulm, Minn. 46073. (9-20p)

Make Perfect Gravy Everytime - \$2.00. Serve fluffy rice everytime - \$2.00. How to make fabulous beef stock - \$2.00. All for \$5.00. Hunter, 4623W7 Division, Portland, Oregon 97206. (4-91-26p)

Spices, Herbs & Teas. Discount prices. Free mail-order catalog. Siers Spice Co., 3730 Robinson, Snover, Mich. 48472. (9-17p)

Oven Canning, safe, convenient. For instructions send \$4 to OVEN CANNING, Box 155FN, Sturgis, Mich. 49091. (6-41-16p)

FOR HOMEMAKERS

Pecans: Quart each halves, pieces, meal. Three-quart sampler \$11.95 postpaid. Tenpeco, Box 638, Rutherford, TN 38369. (9-41-17p)

Natural Dried Fruit! Great pies! Delicious snacks! Big 3 lb. box! Apples \$7.95; peaches \$9.95; pears \$10.95; prunes \$7.25; raisins \$7.20; apricots \$12.95; papaya \$7.25; pineapple \$9.95; figs \$8.95; dates \$8.60; fruit mix \$9.90; fruit-nut mix \$10.90. Canecreek Farm, Box 2727-MF, Cookeville, TN 38501. (9-31-45p)

Pecans for Holidays! Other nuts. Free recipes. Carroltrees Farm, Box 428-MFN, Carrollton, GA 30117. (9-31-14p)

Great Sausage Recipes, illustrated book with over 100 recipes explaining sausage making, curing, smoking. Free equipment and supply catalog: SAUSAGEMAKER, 177-56 Military, Buffalo, N.Y. 14207. (9-91-25p)

REAL ESTATE

All Farms - need farms for Midwest and international buyers. Top dollar. Details: John Peck, Four Seasons Realty of Lansing. 517-349-4260. (4-131-20p)

Wayne County Farm! 40 acre corner, quality 3 bedroom home, full basement, 2 story garage 36' x 28', quonset barn 71' x 34'. Near Hwy. 275. Land contract terms. \$125,000. 313-699-2007. (8-21-27p)

Berrien County - Lake Township. 3 acres with 6 room ranch type house 18 years old, 2 car garage, large barn, \$39,400. More farmland available if wanted. Call owner at 616-465-5539 for details. (9-32p)

For Sale: 112 acre farm. Good farmland. Small woods. One mile from Owosso, Norman Kulow, Route 1. 517-725-7081. (9-18p)

Horse Ranch Farm beautiful built large ranch equipped with the best, best kitchen, walkout finished basement, 50 x 70 barn with inside arena, plus 16 x 70, plus 20 x 70, 6 standing, 10 box stall, wood fenced pad docks, yard sprinkler, 47 acres, M-46 five miles Alma. \$190,000. L. D. Decker, Realtor, Associate of Horse Farms of America, 517-463-2515. (9-54p)

Gentleman's Farm: Company Hiway-Active Farm - 575+ acre elegant Tonn farm 4 1/2 miles south of Indian River - picturesque setting - all buildings in excellent repair - can be purchased for \$395,000, or split - main farm and 487 acres for \$327,000. The main house is approximately 3,000 sq. ft. Natural gas, gracious dining room - finely appointed living room w/many extras - large barn, machine shop - greenhouse. Small farm house and 88 acres for \$95,350. Has a cozy guest cottage and garage and storage shed. Offered by: SKI & SHORE SHERWOOD'S, REALTORS,* of Indian River 616-238-9336 or Cheboygan 616-627-9991. (9-94p)

Classified Ad Policy

Due to rising publication and postage expenses, publishers of the *Michigan Farm News* are unable to continue offering Farm Bureau members free classified advertising. Members will, however, receive a special discount on advertising rates.

Beginning with the September 1981 issue, a new classified advertising policy took effect.

Under the new policy, members pay 10 cents per word for non-commercial ads and 15 cents per word for ads which promote a commercial business other than agriculture.

All other advertisers pay 20 cents per word for one insertion and 15 cents per word for two or more consecutive insertions.

The deadline for advertisements is the 15th of the month preceding publication and the publisher has the right to reject any advertising copy submitted.

Advertisements should be submitted on the form below. Additional copies of the form are available upon request. **All ads must be pre-paid** and may be pre-paid up to one year in advance. It is the responsibility of the advertiser to re-insert the ad on a month-by-month or year-by-year basis. **Send ads to Michigan Farm News, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909.** No ads will be taken over the phone.

Please run the following ad in the issue(s) of the *Michigan Farm News*.

- ☐ I am a Farm Bureau member. This is a non-commercial ad and I am enclosing 10 cents per word.
- ☐ I am a Farm Bureau member. This ad promotes a business other than agriculture and I am enclosing 15 cents per word.

AD COPY (please print clearly):

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Name _____

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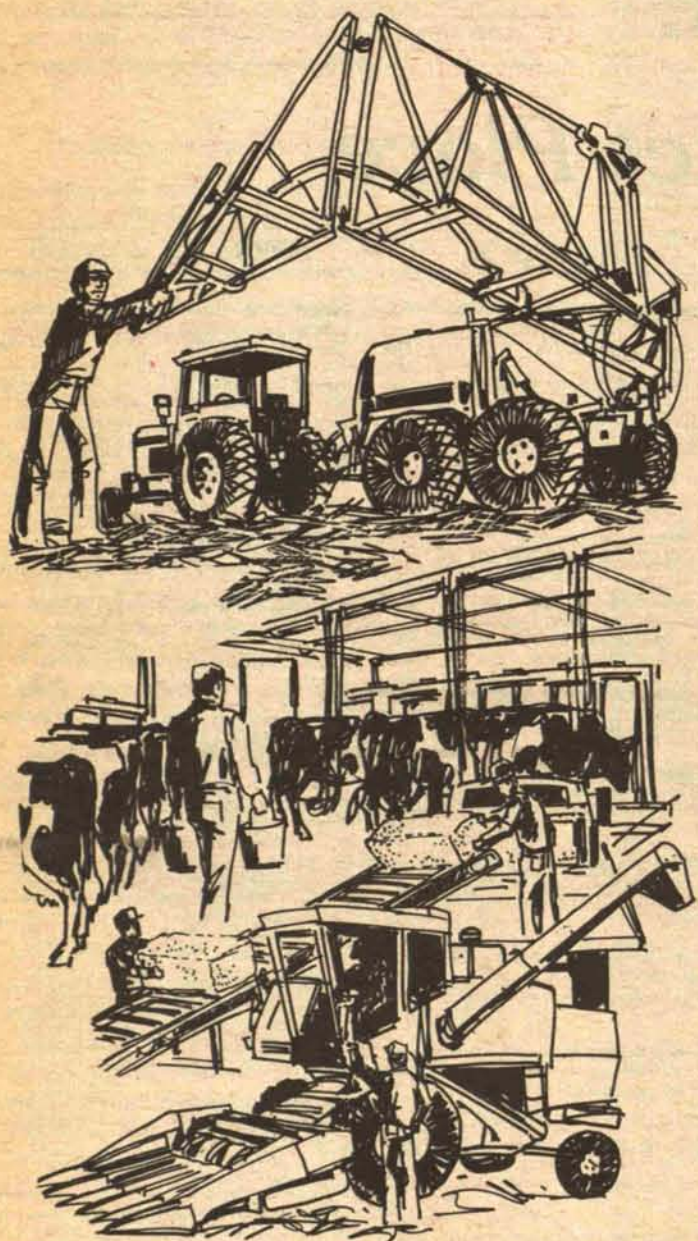
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Dutch Boy & Dutch Girl	\$1.00
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Log Cabin & Fan	\$1.00
Instructions & Patterns	\$1.25

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Ag Work Comp rates reduced again. . .

**Farm Bureau
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For the fourth time in less than two and a half years, Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company of Michigan has reduced rates for agricultural workers compensation insurance. Farm Bureau Mutual's rates in all farm classifications are now 25% lower than the standard rates set by the Michigan Workers Compensation Rating and Inspection Association.

Dairy farmers, fruit growers, cash crop producers, livestock farmers. . .any agricultural employer in Michigan can benefit from Farm Bureau Mutual's new reduced rates. Farm Bureau Mutual also offers reduced minimum premiums for farmers with small payrolls.

Our commitment to low-cost ag work comp coverage has never been stronger. Just last month we paid out over \$713,000 in dividends to Michigan Farm Bureau members participating in our Ag Work Comp Safety Group. And now, effective with all new and renewal policies as of September 1, 1981, comes our latest rate reduction. Find out how much you can cut your costs for ag work comp insurance. Call your Farm Bureau Mutual agent today.

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