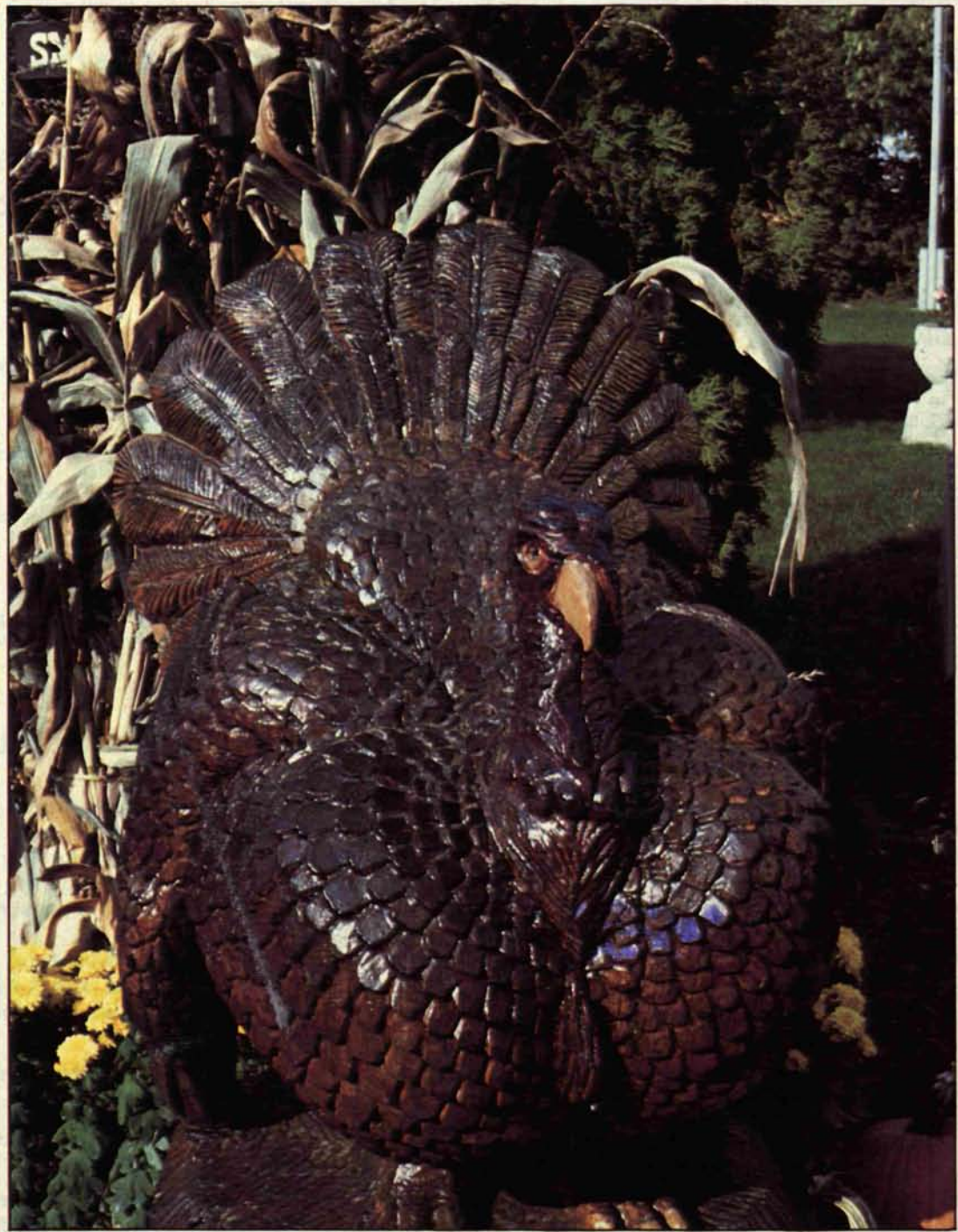


# RURAL LIVING



**Happy Thanksgiving!**

# MACMA Member-to-Member 1983 Christmas Citrus Sale

Featuring . . . Fresh Florida citrus, concentrates and nuts . . .  
Wisconsin cheeses . . . Michigan concentrates, meats and . . .

**ANNOUNCING** delightful, delectable "Michigan Farm Best" gift packs containing taste-tempting treats from Michigan producers.

## Michigan's Farm Best Supreme Gift Pack

### INCLUDES

1 ¼ lb. Smoked Turkey Breast  
1 lb. Hickory Stick  
4 ¼ lb. MACMA Vintage Ham  
½ lb. MSU Colby Cheese  
½ lb. MSU Smoked Cheddar Cheese  
½ lb. MSU Dagano Cheese  
1 pint Pure Maple Syrup  
1 pint Pure Wild Honey  
10 oz. Cherry Butter  
10 oz. Red Raspberry Seedless Preserves

**\$39.70**

*Over 11 pounds of premium  
Michigan product!*



## Michigan's Farm Best Gift Pack

### INCLUDES

1 ¼ lb. Smoked Turkey Breast  
1 lb. Hickory Stick  
½ lb. MSU Colby Cheese  
½ lb. MSU Smoked Cheddar Cheese  
1 pint Pure Wild Honey  
10 oz. Cherry Butter

**\$18.50**

*Over 5 ½ pounds of premium  
Michigan product!*

## A Memorable Way to Please Everyone on Your Gift List

**MACMA Ham by Farmer Peet's** — a name long associated with premium quality. No water added, hickory smoked and honey cured for a juicy country ham taste long to be remembered. Boneless, full cooked and vacuum packed to seal in freshness. Truly a table centerpiece for the holidays!

The **Hickory Stick** is a German-style sausage blended with fresh natural spices and choice cuts of lean meat; then slowly and deeply smoked for days over fragrant hickory embers, giving a zesty flavor that is irresistible.

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•The **Colby Cheese** is light cream to yellow

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•The **Smoked Cheddar** is smoked by a specially developed MSU process, giving it a delicately smoked flavor while preserving the golden color.

•The **Dagano Cheese** is a swiss-type cheese with a pleasing mild, sweet nut-like flavor. It has holes, or "eyes," that develop as the cheese ripens.

**Pure Northern Michigan Maple Syrup** produced in the Grand Traverse Bay area.

**Pure Wild Honey** produced and packed in northern Michigan.

**Cherry Butter & Red Raspberry Seedless Preserves** from Rocky Top Farms in northern Michigan. They keep a close involvement in the making of their gourmet products.

**Order Deadline: Tuesday, November 22, 1983**  
**Delivery Date: Beginning Week of December 12**

*See the county newsletter section of Rural Living magazine or your own county's newsletter to see if your county Farm Bureau is participating in the sale.*

# RURAL LIVING

## FARM NEWS

A publication  
of the  
Michigan  
Farm Bureau

Michigan Farm News  
**RURAL LIVING**



Happy Thanksgiving!

NOVEMBER 1983  
VOL. 62 NO. 11

### THE COVER

Jerry Ward of Delton fashioned this wood-hewn symbol of "Turkeyville USA" for the Cornwell family. Story on page 8. Photo by Cathy Kirvan

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### Aloha From Grand Rapids

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### Mean Ole Allis —

#### Not Getting Older, Getting Better

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**Michigan Farm News RURAL LIVING (ISSN 0026-2161):** Michigan Farm News Rural Living is published monthly, on the first day, by the Michigan Farm Bureau Information and Public Relations Division. Publication and editorial offices at 7373 West Saginaw Highway, Lansing, Mich. 48909. Post Office Box 30960; telephone, Lansing 517-323-7000, Extension 508. **SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:** \$1.50 per year to members, included in annual dues. \$5.00 per year non-members in Michigan. \$5.00 per year non-members out of state. Publication No. 345040. Established Jan. 13, 1923 as Michigan Farm News, name changed to Michigan Farm News Rural Living Dec. 1, 1981. Third-class postage paid at Lansing, Michigan and at additional mailing offices. **EDITORIAL:** Connie Turbin, Editor; Marcia Ditchie, Associate Editor and Business Manager; Donna Wilber, Contributing Editor; Cathy J. Kirvan, Associate Editor. **OFFICERS:** Michigan Farm Bureau: President, Elton R. Smith, Caledonia; Vice President, Jack Laurie, Cass City; Administrative Director, Robert Braden, Lansing; Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer, Max D. Dean, Secretary, William S. Wilkinson. **DIRECTORS:** District 1, Arthur Bailey, Schoolcraft; District 2, Lowell Eisenmann, Blissfield; District 3, James Sayre, Belleville; District 4, Elton R. Smith, Caledonia; District 5, Albert Cook, Mason; District 6, Jack Laurie, Cass City; District 7, Robert Rider, Hart; District 8, Lyle LeCronier, Freeland; District 9, Donald Nugent, Frankfort; District 10, Margaret Kartes, West Branch; District 11, Bernard Doll, Dafer. **DIRECTORS AT LARGE:** Dave Conklin, Corunna; Michael Pridgen, Montgomery; Robert Rottler, Fremont. **FARM BUREAU WOMEN:** Faye Adam, Snover. **FARM BUREAU YOUNG FARMERS:** Mark Smuts, Charlotte. **POSTMASTER:** In using form 3579, mail to: Michigan Farm News Rural Living, P.O. Box 30960, 7373 West Saginaw Highway, Lansing, Mich. 48909.



## Cooperation Will Lay Firm Base for Economic Expansion

I believe most farmers of this state were pleased with the decision of the Michigan Agriculture Commission to hire Dr. Paul Kindinger as the new MDA director. His intense belief in the future of Michigan agriculture and his enthusiasm for the industry's tremendous growth potential have gained him broad respect as an effective spokesperson.

Let's hope that, with the naming of a new director, the non-productive controversy that has surrounded this issue can be set aside so "on-hold" action to make it happen for Michigan agriculture can get underway.

Throughout this controversy, it has been the independence of the commission which has concerned farmers the most. Had the commission's choice been any of the three final candidates, the farming community would have accepted that choice — so long as it was the commission's choice. Making that decision is a right and responsibility given to them by law and we strongly defend that system.

We believe the major initiatives the governor has indicated he has in mind for agriculture will be in good hands if the new director is given the opportunity to prove himself. Kindinger's experience with the Governor's Conference on Agriculture and the subsequent Governor's Conference on the Horse Industry

should certainly be valuable to the governor as he reaches toward his goal of economic expansion for our state. With foreign trade so vital to our farmers, Kindinger's expertise in this area should be especially beneficial to Michigan.

Kindinger is currently serving on the food processing and forestry committees that are working with the governor's staff to develop recommendations for Blanchard's jobs and economic development package.

While Dr. Kindinger may have all the qualifications needed to be an effective MDA director, we must face the fact that he was not the governor's choice. When appointments to the commission are made in January, that body may decide he is not their choice, either. It would be a tragic mistake if that happens!

We strongly urge the governor and the new commission to be appreciative of the new director's own special qualifications. He deserves the chance to prove himself as he meets the challenges of program initiatives the governor may charge to the department and carries out the policies established by the commission, to which he is accountable.

This can happen only if political interference is kept at a minimum — and it will if the governor is really committed to the goals he has set forth to the citizens of Michigan.

I sincerely hope the governor and the new commission members, whoever they might be, have learned from events of the past several months: (1) that a solid block of voters are committed to saving the commission system; (2) that the confidence of the agricultural community in the governor and the commission is on shaky ground now, and (3) if the new director is not given a chance to prove his worth, that confidence will be completely destroyed!

As the editor of a weekly newspaper in the Thumb said in a recent editorial: "... in recent years, the awareness of agriculture as an important economic force in this state has grown. A move against agriculture in Michigan is no longer a move against just two percent of the state's population tucked neatly away in the hinterlands. . . ."

That two percent has the potential and the power to help the governor meet his goals of economic expansion for Michigan. Let's hope he and the new commission realize that.

*Elton R. Smith*

President  
Michigan Farm Bureau

## Holiday Traditions Enrich 'Homecomings'

Holiday traditions are the shared history of the family in your home and in mine. At our family homecomings, the long past and recent history is told in a nearly ritualistic series of anecdotes. The youngest family members delight in the tale of five-year-old Uncle Al asleep in the clothes basket while mother and sisters frantically searched the neighborhood for the missing boy, or how great-grandma changed her name from Margaret Alice to Alice Margaret in the family bible many years ago. Their high, excited giggles cannot be contained when they hear their own name entered into the weaving of the familiar and comforting fabric.

With each year's retelling, the small tears and fraying edges of the piecework are lovingly mended and the "heirloom" displayed for the youngsters who will add their own stories and join in the telling and retelling.

Such family traditions are precious keepsakes of assurance for each of us that, however tumultuous the world outside, there is a center of unwavering care and love handed down from heart to heart in our families.

But it is not an effortless loving that binds families and friends together. The richness of the fabric we weave comes from the daily gestures and the "thank you's" that reward the helping hand or the comforting heart. It is strengthened by the firm "no" to that which is unfair, unsafe or unforgiving. Among the bright threads are the reflected light of shared laughter and joy lending their particular colors to the cloth.

Farm families, working closely together, have the opportuni-

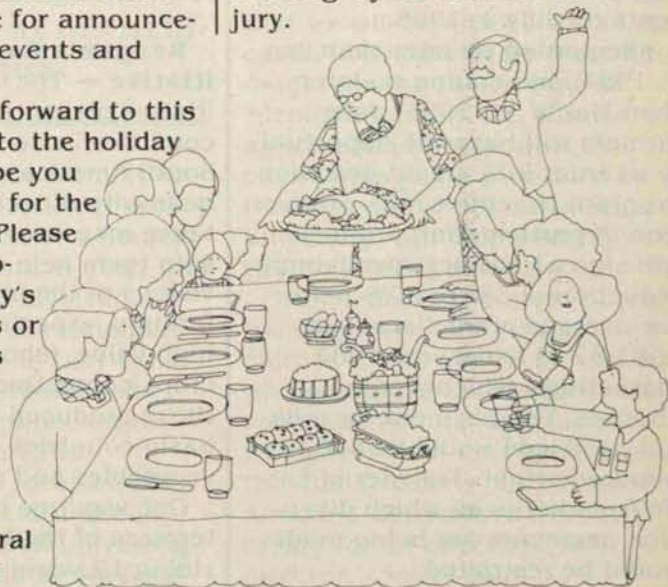
ty to bring this richness and strength to every facet of their home and worklife. By the very nature of their family enterprise, they are interdependent as are few other contemporary families.

There is much to be thankful for in our daily lives on the farm and in the small events that are strung together throughout the year. Such everyday happenings bring joy in the retelling as we remember a special moment and share it with a family member or friend. With this in mind, we are beginning a new column in the December issue of *Rural Living*, and we are inviting you to share the anecdotes of your family and neighbors with Farm Bureau readers throughout the state. Your stories of farm families at work and at play will be part of a regular column called "Rural Exchange" — a sort of swapping place for the unusual, humorous or tender happenings of farm life. There will also be space for announcements of special events and photos.

We are looking forward to this new column and to the holiday anecdotes we hope you will share with us for the December issue. Please send your description of your family's holiday traditions or special Christmas story to *Rural Living Magazine*, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909 by Nov. 5. And watch for Rural Exchange in next month's issue of *Rural Living* magazine.

Because your families and their safety are of concern throughout the farm sector, this month's issue of *Rural Living* features an article reminding farm operators to exercise caution and safe practices during the harvest season. In the article, which appears on page 23, MSU agricultural safety specialist Howard Doss reminds farm family members to "be careful out there." The safety practices and precautions he outlines recognize that tensions may run high, the hours long, and the potential for risktaking very likely. It is a time to cloak our families with the protections of patience and a watchful eye for safety because, as Doss reminds us, machinery and parts can be replaced; lives and limbs cannot.

Be sure to read and follow the harvest safety tips outlined in the article so that your family homecomings in this holiday season will not be marked by the tragedy of accident or injury.



## WASHINGTON

### National Dairy Legislation

— On Oct. 7, the U.S. Senate passed the dairy compromise legislation opposed by Farm Bureau.

The bill would lower the milk price support to \$12.60 until Sept. 30, 1985, but provides for the following adjustments:

- Not later than March 31, 1985, the price support may be lowered to \$12.10 if the projected annual CCC purchases for the coming 12 months will exceed six billion pounds of milk equivalent.

- On July 1, 1985, the price support may be lowered to \$11.60 if projected annual CCC purchases for the coming 12 months will exceed five billion pounds of milk equivalent. Conversely, if annual CCC purchases for the coming 12 months are projected to be less than five billion pounds milk equivalent, the price support may be increased by at least 50 cents on July 1, 1985.

- Beginning no later than Jan. 1, 1984, and ending no later than March 31, 1985, dairy farmers will have the opportunity to enter into a paid diversion program to reduce milk production. A participating producer will sign a contract specifying a reduction of 5% to 30% below the average of his fiscal year 1981-82 or fiscal year 1982 marketings, whichever he chooses. The payment for milk not produced would be \$10 per hundredweight. Transfer of cattle from herds on which diversion payments are being made would be restricted.

- A mandatory 50 cents per hundredweight assessment on all milk marketed will be collected from producers to offset the costs of the \$10 per hundredweight diversion payment. The 50 cent assessment will end on the termination date of the diversion program.

- Dairy farmers will pay a mandatory 15 cents per hundredweight on all milk marketed to finance a national dairy product promotion program. Producers can receive up to 10 cents per hundredweight credit for payments they are making to qualified state and regional dairy product promotion or nutritional education programs. There will be no prior producer referendum for approval of the national dairy product promotion program.

The above dairy provisions were attached to a House bill passed previously dealing with a cotton PIK program. The bill may now go directly to a House-Senate conference committee rather than to the House floor for full debate on the dairy provisions.

**Reagan's Caribbean Initiative** — The Caribbean initiative presents 28 developing countries in Central America, South America and the Caribbean with a package of assistance measures designed to help them help themselves. Provisions of the initiative worry farmers, especially growers of high value, labor intensive crops competing head-on with those produced in the Caribbean basin countries, i.e., fruits, vegetables and ornamentals.

One way free trade is the centerpiece of the initiative, providing 12 years of duty free access to U.S. markets by Caribbean and South and Central

American developing countries. The duty free access covers virtually everything grown, manufactured and sold. Exceptions include textiles and apparel, canned tuna, petroleum, shoes and certain leather goods.

Theoretically, these countries have small productive capacity and it is considered unlikely that the duty free competition will injure any sector of our economy. However, U.S. farmers say, "Don't bet on it." Of particular concern is the potential for shipment of imports through a Caribbean country, with some "semiprocessing" or some form of "manufacturing" before duty free shipment to the United States.

President Reagan can withdraw the duty free provision of the initiative at any time. Short of that, on the recommendation of the secretary of agriculture, the president can take emergency action to stop movement of perishable crops which might flood domestic markets while a full investigation is underway. Regardless, farmers have served notice that they will monitor import levels and are working to clear a "fast track" system for import relief.

## LANSING

A great deal of legislation is in progress during the fall session. Numerous new bills have been introduced, many of which are of particular importance to farmers and rural areas. Summaries of such legislation follow.

**Strategic Fund** — This proposal has passed both houses, S.B. 386 in the Senate and H.B.

4753 in the House. The legislation coordinates the current Job Development Authority and Economic Development Authority, but broadens what can be done. Each establishes a board to administer the act.

One role of the fund, for example, will be to issue bonds, generally not more than 5% of the fund's assets, to finance projects for local governments, public colleges, utilities, industrial development, etc.

Also passed was H.B. 4762 which establishes a loan insurance center for economic development and H.B. 4763, creating a center for assistance to local governments using the fund. Several other pieces of legislation will be needed to complete the eight-part proposal including a Center for Research and Development.

The governor's proposals on agriculture and the food industry, to be announced later, would be able to use the funds.

#### **PCB Contaminated Silos —**

Legislation is finally moving to make it possible for affected farmers to receive compensation when those silos that are in use are removed. Action was taken when the House-Senate Joint Rules Committee rejected the MDA's permanent rules, which would extend the emergency rules which prohibited the use of the silos after Sept. 1, 1983. A special session of the House Agriculture Committee was held and H.B. 4958 (Dodak) was approved. It is identical to S.B. 365 (N. Smith) which was introduced last June.

The bill authorizes the MDA to use regular condemnation procedures to remove the contaminated silos. This includes paying the costs of removal and disposal, appraisal and compensation and the right of the own-

*(continued on page 34)*

## **Commission Selects Kindinger for MDA Director's Post**

The Michigan Agriculture Commission voted along party lines, 3 to 2, on Oct. 13 to appoint Dr. Paul Kindinger as director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. Kindinger will assume his new responsibilities on Nov. 1, replacing Dean Pridgeon, whose resignation was accepted by the commission on Aug. 31.

Kindinger had served under Pridgeon as the assistant MDA director until he accepted his recent position as MSU's Cooperative Extension Service assistant director in 1981. Before joining the MDA as chief of marketing and international trade, he directed Michigan Farm Bureau's Commodity Activities and Research Division.

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**We are confident that we will be able to work very constructively with Dr. Paul Kindinger for the betterment of Michigan agriculture.**

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During his tenure with MDA, Kindinger served as co-coordinator of the Governor's Conference on Agriculture in 1981 and has been actively involved in the follow-up of recommendations resulting from that conference. He later chaired the Governor's Conference on the Horse Industry in 1982.

Kindinger, who received his doctorate in agricultural economics from Cornell University, says that although he was not



**DR. PAUL KINDINGER**

the governor's choice for the MDA director's position, he is confident they can work effectively together toward the goals they share for Michigan agriculture.

In a statement following the announcement of Kindinger's selection, MFB President Elton R. Smith said: "We are confident that we will be able to work very constructively with Dr. Paul Kindinger for the betterment of Michigan agriculture. His strong agricultural background, including his years of service in the MDA and at Michigan State University, will be especially valuable in his new role.

"His belief in the great potential of growth for Michigan agriculture is well-known to farmers who recognize his abilities as a spokesperson for agriculture. We believe Paul Kindinger meets the qualifications our board of directors determined were necessary for an effective MDA director," Smith said.

(See President Smith's Rural Route message on page 4.)

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## Turkeyville, U.S.A.

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# Where Every Day is Thanksgiving

*By Cathy J. Kirvan*

Autumn . . . cool days and cooler nights . . . leaves changing color and falling from the trees . . . jack-o-lanterns . . . goblins threatening tricks if they get no treats . . . pumpkin pie . . . turkey and dressing and cranberry sauce with grandma's homemade rolls . . . Thanksgiving . . . and families.

Families . . . what would Thanksgiving be without them? Just another Thursday in autumn.

Families are also the essential ingredient in the success of Turkeyville, where it is Thanksgiving every day from early March through late November.

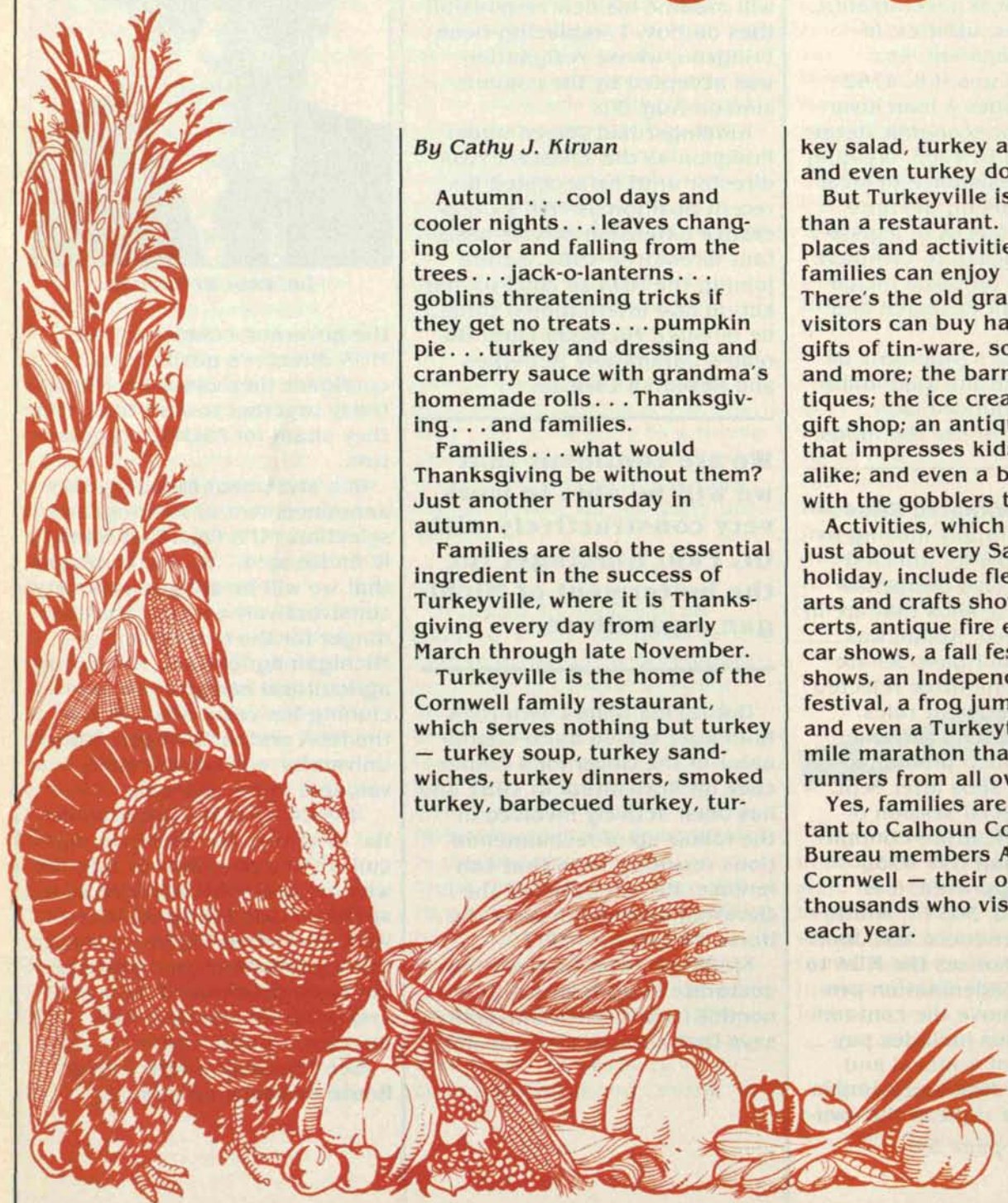
Turkeyville is the home of the Cornwell family restaurant, which serves nothing but turkey — turkey soup, turkey sandwiches, turkey dinners, smoked turkey, barbecued turkey, tur-

key salad, turkey and noodles and even turkey dogs.

But Turkeyville is much more than a restaurant. It is full of places and activities which families can enjoy together. There's the old granary where visitors can buy hand-crafted gifts of tin-ware, soaps, candles and more; the barn full of antiques; the ice cream parlor and gift shop; an antique fire engine that impresses kids and adults alike; and even a barn filled with the gobblers themselves.

Activities, which take place just about every Saturday and holiday, include flea markets, arts and crafts shows, band concerts, antique fire engine and car shows, a fall festival, quilt shows, an Independence Day festival, a frog jumping contest and even a Turkeytrot — a four mile marathon that brings in runners from all over the state.

Yes, families are very important to Calhoun County Farm Bureau members Alan & Joellyn Cornwell — their own and the thousands who visit Turkeyville each year.





## Government Regulations Help Change Farm into Restaurant

The centennial farm at the corner of N Drive North (now Turkeyville Road) and 15½ Mile Road, Marshall, has been in Alan's mother's family for 148 years, only the last 16 as a restaurant/family gathering place.

"When I was real small, my dad was a dairy farmer. But that was before state inspections, and when we unknowingly bought some cows that were

milk by-product somewhat like white cheese with their feed — it makes all the difference in the world."

The "elite" turkeys brought them a steady clientele that liked the way their turkeys tasted.

With all those gobblers on the farm, Alan's mother, Marjorie, and wife, Joellyn, had lots of practice preparing various forms of turkey sandwiches and other dishes. So, in 1961, the family opened a food booth at the Calhoun County Fair in Marshall. It proved successful, and



Bryan Cornwell manages the kitchen and also enjoys preparing the food when needed.



No turkeys are allowed in the ice cream parlor at Turkeyville, but Joellyn and Alan Cornwell serve a variety of turkey dishes next door in the restaurant.

diseased, we lost the entire herd," Alan says. "At that time we also had about 50 turkeys, and a couple bigger turkey growers in the area talked my dad into going into it full time."

Turkey farming agreed with Wayne Cornwell and son Alan, and soon they opened a processing facility to freeze and package 8,000 to 9,000 fresh turkeys every holiday. "That's as many as we could get out," Alan says. "We specialized in milk-fed turkeys. We mixed a

they continued it for six more years.

About that time, Michigan decided to end its poultry inspections and the farm processing plant was to fall under federal jurisdiction.

"Our plant was fine," says Alan, who was working in the family processing plant and also at Kellogg's in Battle Creek. "But to comply with federal regulations, we would have had to build the inspector

*(continued on page 25)*



Patti Cornwell dishes up another piece of homemade pie at Cornwell's Turkey House restaurant.

# ALOHA!

## from Grand Rapids

There may be a bone-chilling Michigan blizzard outside the Amway Grand Plaza and Grand Center in Grand Rapids during the Farm Bureau annual meetings, Nov. 29-Dec. 2, but inside there will be a touch of balmy Hawaii. Building anticipation for the January 1985 American Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting, the focus of several activities will be on Hawaii.

Good-will ambassadors from Hawaii will provide entertainment for the 1983 award-winning presidents and their cheering sections during the Tuesday evening awards program, with well-earned fanfare for the top county Farm Bureau of the year. A drawing for a free trip to Hawaii will be a highlight of the evening's activities. Those eligible for the drawing include every committee chairperson who submitted award entries, the presidents of each county Farm Bureau that submitted an entry, plus all FB members in attendance (MFB and affiliate company employees and directors excluded).

Leis flown in from Hawaii will clearly identify award-winning county presidents so members

attending a reception following the awards program can offer their congratulations for program achievements and take notes on "How'd you do that?" The reception will feature Hawaiian "munchies," travel information and an opportunity to make early reservations for the January 1985 AFBF annual meeting trip to the islands.

The "touch of Hawaii" will also be in evidence at the Wednesday evening delegate reception, banquet and hoedown. Members are encouraged to exchange their boots for sandals, their square dance outfits for muumuus, and their western shirts for colorful Hawaiian toppers. But, for those with special attachment to their western gear, remember that Hawaii is a premium blend of all the world's cultures and, geographically, it is definitely west. A lei around your neck, a flower in your hair (furnished at the banquet), and you won't be able to tell a cowhand from an island native!

The Hawaiian trip drawing won't be the only opportunity to win a prize. During the Wednesday evening delegate reception,



drawings will be held for Community Action Group members and non-group members interested in joining or forming a group. (See advertisement on page 13).

With no Farm Bureau Services annual meeting and no Product Show this year, a major change in the overall program will be the call to order of the delegate body on Tuesday afternoon. Convention planners are hopeful that this early start will allow an early adjournment on Friday, erasing any delegate concerns about not arriving home in time for high school basketball games.

### **Tuesday, Nov. 29**

Registration for the Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc. and Subsidiary annual meeting will begin at 9 a.m. The meeting will be called to order at 10 a.m. and will include operations and financial reports, the president's address and election of directors.

Registration for the MFB annual meeting will be open from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and registration for the MACMA annual meeting will be from 11 a.m. to noon.

The Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association annual will open with a luncheon at noon for MACMA members, followed by the business meeting and program. To fortify them for the afternoon's business, MFB voting delegates will be treated to refreshments sponsored by MACMA's Direct Marketing Division from 2 to 3 p.m.

The opening delegate session of the MFB annual meeting will be called to order at 3 p.m., with business running until a 5 p.m. adjournment. "Farm Bureau — It's Happening Because of You" will be the theme throughout the annual meeting.

Those who made it happen in membership will be honored during a County Presidents' and Campaign Managers' Banquet Tuesday evening beginning at 6 p.m. Sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance Group, the banquet will feature recognition of the "Fabulous 15," Director's Key Club members and other membership achievement winners.

Immediately following the County Presidents' and Campaign Managers' Banquet, at 8:30 p.m., will be the 1983 county Farm Bureau awards program. Hawaiian entertainment, recognition of star award county presidents, and a drawing for a free trip to Hawaii in January 1985 will be included on the program. Opportunities to congratulate the many winners of this evening's recognition activities will take place during a special Hawaiian reception following the awards program.

### **Wednesday, Nov. 30**

"Farm Bureau — It's Happening Because of You" will be the theme of an address by AFBF President Robert Delano at the Delegate Breakfast sponsored by Farm Bureau Women at 7:30 a.m. The program will include highlights of the past year's activities by FB Women.

This is also Young Farmer Day, with contestants vying for the titles of Distinguished Young Farmer, Outstanding Young Farm Woman and Discussion Meet winner. Winners of the Distinguished Young Farmer and Discussion Meet contests will win trips to Orlando, Florida, to compete in the national contests at the 1984 AFBF annual meeting. The Discussion Meet winner will also be awarded the use of a Chevy S-10 pick-up truck for one year and the Distinguished Young

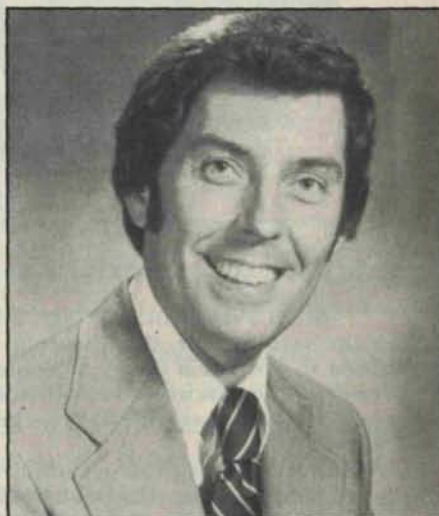
Farmer will win the use of an Allis-Chalmers tractor for one year. The Outstanding Young Farm Woman will win a trip to Washington, D.C., in April for the annual legislative seminar.

All members are encouraged to view the Discussion Meet semi-finals at 10:30 a.m. and the finals at 1:30 p.m. Winners of the various contests will be honored during a Young Farmer awards program at 4:30 p.m.

The commodity session, beginning at 10 a.m. Wednesday morning, will feature Dr. William Leshner, USDA assistant secretary for economics. Leshner is the top agricultural economist for the Reagan administration



**ROBERT DELANO**  
MFB DELEGATE BREAKFAST



**DAVID R. LANDSWERK**  
MFB ANNUAL BANQUET SPEAKER

## YF Contestants Vie for Valuable Awards



The winner of the Distinguished Young Farmer competition will receive an Allis Chalmers 6000 series tractor for one year of free use. The winner will also receive an expense paid trip for two to the AFBF national convention at Orlando, Florida, in January.



For the second year, the Chevrolet Division of General Motors Corp. has agreed to provide a Chevy S-10 pick-up for one year of free use to the winner of the Discussion Meet finals. The MFB winner will also compete in national Discussion Meet competition at the AFBF convention in January.

Michigan's Outstanding Young Farm Woman, to be selected during Young Farmer competition at the state annual meeting, will receive an expense paid trip for two to the MFB Washington Legislative Seminar.

and was a key architect for the PIK program. He will take a look forward to the 1985 farm bill and discuss policy options for dairy, wheat and feed grains programs.

The Safemark meeting will start at 9:45 a.m. It will include a panel discussion on building the Safemark program in county Farm Bureaus. Guest speaker Keith Todd, director of AFBF marketing, will discuss the future of the member-only program.

The President's Luncheon, scheduled for noon, will feature the annual address of MFB President Elton R. Smith.

The resolutions session will begin at 2:30, with adjournment of the delegate body set for 4:30 p.m.

The Hawaiian Round-Up Reception will start at 6 p.m., highlighting a special Community Action Group promotion with drawings for prizes. The banquet is set for 7 p.m., followed by the Hawaiian Hoedown from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Music will be furnished by the Petal Fall Variety Band.

### Thursday, Dec. 1

"Can AgriPac support make a difference in election results?" That question will be addressed by state Rep. Robert Bender and state Sen. Richard Posthumus during the AgriPac Breakfast which begins at 7:15 a.m. Advance reservations are advised; however, if tickets are still available, they may be purchased at the AgriPac exhibit at the annual meeting. Members attending the AgriPac Breakfast can receive a special AGRIPAC'er button by showing their tickets at the AgriPac exhibit. Others can support "Friends of Agriculture" by purchasing the buttons at the AgriPac exhibit.

The resolutions session will begin at 8:30 a.m. and continue through until 4 p.m. Thursday with a break for the Governor's

Luncheon. Gov. James Blanchard is expected to address the delegates during the luncheon. (At this writing, his appearance is still tentative.) Caucuses for odd-numbered district elections will begin immediately following adjournment of the resolutions session at 4 p.m.

The MFB Annual Banquet will bring members and their special guests together for an evening of inspiration and fellowship. The guest speaker will be David R. Landsverk, superintendent of schools, Owatonna, Minnesota.

The dinner will be followed by a dance with music furnished by Lee Talboys, popular Lansing musician whose past appearances at annual meetings have gained him many Farm Bureau fans.

#### **Friday, Dec. 2**

The final resolutions session will begin at 8:30 a.m. and continue until completion in the afternoon.

Election of directors in odd-numbered districts, one director at large, one director representing the FB Women's Committee, and one director representing the Young Farmer Committee, will take place.

The president of the Michigan Farm Bureau will be nominated by the delegate body and elected during a reorganizational meeting of the board following the annual meeting.

#### **Delegate News**

Highlights of the annual meeting activities will be available to delegates each morning of the annual meeting. The "Delegate News" will be distributed to each county delegation in the resolutions session. In addition, a Grand Plaza hotel television channel has been reserved to carry afternoon reports of annual meeting events.

## **Annual Meeting Highlights**

### **Tuesday, November 29**

- 10:00 a.m. Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc. and Subsidiary Annual Meeting
- 12:00 noon Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association Luncheon and Annual Meeting
- 3:00 p.m. Resolutions Session
- 6:00 p.m. Presidents' and Campaign Managers' Banquet
- 8:30 p.m. Star Awards Program
- 10:00 p.m. Hawaiian Reception

### **Wednesday, November 30**

- 7:30 a.m. Delegate Breakfast
- 9:45 a.m. Young Farmer Contests
- 10:00 a.m. Commodity Session
- 10:00 a.m. Safemark Conference
- 12:00 noon President's Luncheon
- 1:30 p.m. Discussion Meet Finals
- 2:30 p.m. Resolutions Session
- 4:30 p.m. Young Farmer Awards Reception
- 7:00 p.m. Dinner
- 9:00 p.m. Hawaiian Hoedown

### **Thursday, December 1**

- 7:30 a.m. AgriPac Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m. Resolutions Session
- 12:15 p.m. Delegate Luncheon
- 4:00 p.m. District Caucuses
- 6:30 p.m. Annual Banquet and Dance

### **Friday, December 2**

- 8:30 a.m. Resolutions Session
- 12:00 noon Luncheon
- 1:30 p.m. Resolutions Session

### **Identify yourself as a Community Action**

**Group member** at the CAG registration table in the Grand Center when you arrive at the MFB annual meeting. Group members will receive an ID button and portfolio for annual meeting materials. Be sure to **sign in** for the Wednesday evening, Nov. 30, prize drawing. The drawing is limited to Community Action Group members and Farm Bureau members interested in joining or starting a group in their area.

# Mean Ole Allis — Not Getting Older, Getting Better

By Connie Turbin

The jigsaw puzzle of metal parts, steel casings, turbo chargers and pistons in the Simpson farm shop is no mystery to Max Simpson of Charlotte. He's pulled off, rebuilt or replaced nearly every part on the Allis-Chalmers D-21 chassis

of "Mean Ole Allis" in the 16 years since he and his partners "hooked" in their first county fair tractor pull.

The Allis-Chalmers D-21 super stock tractor and team members Max and Roy Simpson, Steve Davidson and Keith Haynes have come a long way from their 1967 Grand Champion win at the Ingham County Fair. In 1982, Mean Ole Allis

pulled her way to a Grand National Championship in the 7,000 pound super stock class and second place positions in the 9,500 pound and 12,200 pound classes.

"That kind of national win is a once in a lifetime happening," says Simpson. "Chances are that'll never happen again for us." But it was quite a showing for Mean Ole Allis with only one previous national circuit season under her belt, and it has gained respect for both the machine and the drivers among pullers and fans.

Among pullers, respect is coupled with a sense of sharp competition. Leafing through the 1983 issues of a tractor pullers' magazine, Simpson points out "the guys to beat." The names and faces of super stock drivers John Klug of Iowa, Bret Berg and Esdon Lehn of Minnesota and hometown competitor Jerry VanDorpe of Charlotte are well known to enthusiastic fans of tractor pulling.

Such outstanding regional and national circuit drivers are friends as well as fellow com-



petitors, and Simpson is looking forward to seeing these familiar faces next February at the Silverdome Tractor Pull in Pontiac.



**Damage repairs are expensive, attests Simpson. A cracked engine block, discovered before the last pull of the summer season, will mean a \$2,000 expenditure for replacement and aluminum reinforcement.**

The central Michigan native is enthusiastic about the Silverdome pull in 1984. "It's a darned good pull and the organizers are working to make each year better for the drivers and for the spectators. This year with the national sanction (by the National Tractor Pullers Association), the Silverdome will be the first national circuit pull in Michigan for many years. I think it's a great event for pullers and for the state; and the potential is there for the Silverdome pull to rival the granddaddy of them all — the

Indy Invitational Pull," says Simpson.

The Silverdome Invitational Tractor Pull, in two show events, will be a non-point, nationally sanctioned pull for the top four tractors and their drivers from the 1983 Grand National Circuit and the top two regional pullers in super stocks and modified. The rest of the entries will be competing in invitation of the pull organizers.

What makes these tractors and their drivers so good?

"Naturally, they're a highly competitive bunch of people," says Simpson, "and they're never satisfied with their last performance. They'll keep on working and redesigning and adjusting until the machine is cranking out every ounce of horsepower it can give." That kind of performance demands long hours, teamwork and money.

Right now there isn't much sponsorship of individual drivers or machines in tractor pulling, and, consequently, most drivers are financing their participation in the sport independently. Repairs, maintenance and improvements on the big machines can cost big money, even if the owners have the farm shop facilities available, as does Simpson, for making most of the parts.

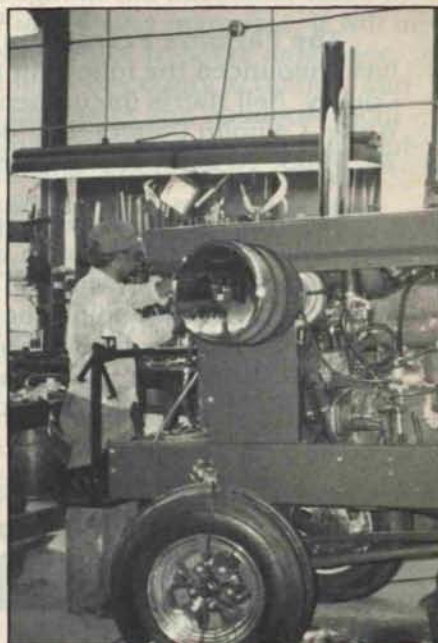
"I look at it this way," he says, "some guys spend a lot of money for speedboats and hunting trips and come home with nothing. I spend a lot of money on tractor pulling. That's my hobby. The difference is I make enough income from the sport to support my hobby."

Enough is the nearly \$25,000 Mean Ole Allis brings in each year from the purses of regional and national circuit pulls. That's an impressive income for a hobby, but Simpson explains that travel for team members and their wives, fees, parts and repairs eat up about 98% of that figure.

Simpson admits he's hooked on the sport "although I never thought tractor pulling would be this exciting or challenging before I got into it," he says.

Partner Keith Haynes of Williamston really got things going back in 1966 when he bought "Allis" and talked Simpson into giving up "a few nights" to help install the clutch system.

"Keith ran 'Allis' in the farm stock pull at the Eaton County Fair. Naturally, I was there to see how we'd do. I've been there ever since. I guess Keith knew if he could get me to work on the tractor, he'd have me. He was right about that!"



**Simpson, who is a farm equipment service manager, relaxes in the evenings by working on the Allis Chalmers D-21 super stock tractor in the Simpson farm shop.**

Farm stock pulls were the only competition that "Allis" saw from 1966 to 1975, until she was retired from farm work. In 1975, the chassis and engine block were registered for the super stock class and Mean Ole Allis became a competition-only tractor. "Now, after supper I'm

*(continued on page 27)*

**A grower referendum to approve five-year funding for Michigan's Plum Advisory Board** will be held Oct. 31 through Nov. 14. The \$2.50 per ton check-off on fresh and processed plums would raise monies to continue research projects and an aggressive promotion campaign for the commodity.

**FB members planning to seek elected office in 1984** can get training on effective campaigning at a campaign management seminar in March 1984. Political specialists and office holders will guide the planning and information session. For more information contact Ron Gaskill, MFB Public Affairs Division, phone 517-323-7000, ext. 559.

**Farm Bureau Services, Inc. received approval of the company's proposed reorganization plan** by the creditors' committees and the court at Bay City on Oct. 18. This action allows FBS to solicit favorable votes from the co-op's creditors. Confirmation of the plan by the court, expected around Nov. 21, will result in a new, viable Michigan cooperative, according to FBS chief executive officer Newton Allen.

**The Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc. Annual Meeting Nominating Committee** has announced the following nominees for the board of directors: Gordon Albright, Branch County; Neil Harris (incumbent), Saginaw County; George Landheer, Ottawa County; and Hugh White, Calhoun County. FPC delegates will elect two directors at the annual meeting on Nov. 29, 1983, 10 a.m., at the Grand Plaza in Grand Rapids.

**MACMA has received reports that the U.S. Supreme Court will review the Michigan Supreme Court's decision on P.A. 344**, Michigan's Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining Act. Extensive state litigation culminated last February with a decision by the Michigan Supreme Court upholding the act by a 6-0 vote. The Michigan Cannery and Freezers Association, which initially filed the suit, maintains the provisions of the state law are preempted by the Agricultural Fair Practices Act of 1967. Their appeal went immediately to the U.S. Supreme Court. MACMA will continue to defend P.A. 344, according to MACMA General Manager Noel Stuckman.

**Project AIM (Agriculture Involved in Michigan) has drawn to a close** after providing agricultural produce and food products to needy people throughout Michigan. Frank Madaski, secretary-manager of the Michigan Agricultural Conference, who made the announcement, said that with economic conditions improving, AIM has accomplished its goal of responding to what was a critical situation.

**Today's low prices, coupled with higher feed costs, are forcing pork and beef farmers to cut back production**, according to MFB commodity specialists. The market re-adjustment action will mean higher supplies of pork and beef at lower prices for consumers until early 1984. Consumers are advised to take advantage of the bargain prices to stock their freezers.

**EPA orders to cancel the use of EDB (ethylene bromide)** could cost farmers export grain sales. The chemical is used as a soil fumigant for crops and for stored grain. The loss of this protective measure could mean refusal of grain in foreign markets in which U.S. exports must be shipped free of contamination.



## LETTERS TO RURAL LIVING

### You Said It!

My husband and I would like to applaud Donna Wilber on her article, "Good Guys Don't Always Win," in the October *Rural Living*.

She knew just the right words to put our feelings on paper concerning the shameful way Dean Pridgeon was treated.

Thanks!

Myra Hand  
Afton

### High Scores for Leader Conference

*(Editor's Note: The on the spot evaluations of the State Leader Conference, Sept. 20-21, make interesting reading. These comments were shared by conference participants and forwarded to the Rural Living editors by MFB Women's Department manager, Rosemary Kartes.)*

•Encourage county boards to select someone to come to this leadership conference — men. Women's Committees tradition-

ally select women to come. We do need a leadership conference for men also to fill the gap after the Young Farmer Leader Conference and before the Presidents' Conference. There is plenty of room for growth in this area.

•This was my first leadership conference and I feel it was very worthwhile. I have many new ideas to bring back to our county board.

•I thoroughly enjoyed being exposed to new projects and ideas to take back to my county and learning how, as a leader, to carry out programs more effectively.

•Mary Jane Nelson (Wisconsin FB Women's Committee chairperson) was one of the most interesting and down to earth speakers I have heard in quite a while. The "Patterns for Successful Communications" (AFBF spokesperson training) was an excellent program. I was disappointed that all of us could not be on TV videotape, but I realize that time was a factor.

•I wish I had recordings of these excellent speakers to take home to share with members who won't come to a good thing like leadership conference. The word "leadership" scares a lot of people. On the whole this was an excellent two days. I have learned so much and hope I can put it to good use.

### New Column in December

Rural Exchange, a column for county news and events, will begin in the December issue of *Rural Living* magazine. It will be your place to share announcements of county activities, and comments and opinions about your Farm Bureau. On the lighter side, Rural Exchange will publish your humorous anecdotes of farm life in words or pictures.

Please limit your written materials to 200 words. Type-written and clearly printed contributions are preferred. Submit materials for Rural Exchange by the 8th of the month preceding publication.

## FARMERS OF THE WEEK

The Farmer of the Week program, co-sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance Group and the Michigan Farm Radio Network, honors Michigan farmers for their contributions to the community and the agriculture industry. Four farmers were honored in September 1983:

**Sept. 5 — Walter Rochowiak**, 38, a cash crop farmer and greenhouse operator, farms 300 acres and has two acres of greenhouses near Belleville. He serves on the Detroit Flower Growers board; is Wayne County FB vice president; is active in St. Anthony's Church and the church Men's Club; and received an outstanding service citation from the Boy Scouts of St. Anthony's Parish.

**Sept. 12 — Charles Berger**, 50, operates a 1,000-acre farm and milks 200 cows near Carney. Berger, who also

raises forest products, is active in St. Bruno Catholic Church; is a member of the Menominee County FB and UPWARD, an agricultural service organization; served on the ASCS committee; was named Outstanding Farmer by the Menominee Jaycees; and received the Progressive Farmer of the Year Award and the Outstanding Conservation Farmer Award.

**Sept. 19 — Robert Carter**, 75, is a livestock farmer from Clare, specializing in beef cattle breeding and raising sheep. He farms 3,800 acres. Carter is Clare County ASCS chairperson; a member of the Cattleman's Association and the Clare County FB; a past member of the local school board and past president of the county board of education; and belongs to the United Brethren Church.

**Sept. 26 — Ann Trudell**, raises registered "elite" dairy cattle on 105 acres near Ishpeming. The cattle she breeds and raises are used to upgrade dairy herds and as show animals. She has been a 4-H leader for 22 years; is a member of the township planning and zoning board; is a Cub Scout den mother and Explorer Scout ski advisor; serves as a coach for both the area youth ski league and the U.S. Ski Association; leads a 4-H dairy club in summer and a 4-H ski club with 521 members in the winter; is active in the Iron Range FB; and serves as a volunteer for the Marquette County Probation Office and is involved in many other projects benefiting youth, senior citizens, agriculture and community development.

## FB Members Urged to Educate Decision-Makers About Farming

By Dennis Hoxsie, President  
Northwest Michigan Farm Bureau

As I'm sure most of you are aware, the number of people involved in production agriculture represents a gradually decreasing percentage of the electorate and is inevitably given proportional consideration by governmental leaders when they are considering political decisions.

However, the economic impact of your agricultural production has an effect on every sector of our nation, and on a wider scope, is a significant factor in the world economy.

Unfortunately, since many of our governmental leaders have very little knowledge of the business of farming, they are faced with the necessity of having to make decisions without an awareness of the poten-

tial effect of any particular decision on the farm economy.

If you consider the economic impact of government on the potential for success of your farming operation, I am certain that you can appreciate the importance of our governmental leaders' awareness and understanding of the business of farming.

There is a critical need for all those who depend on agricultural production for their livelihood to make a concerted effort to educate our present governmental leadership and the non-farm public, as the source of our future leadership, about the business of producing food and fiber for our nation and the world.

If the business of agricultural production is to be preserved and assur-

ed of a future as an economically viable and productive, efficient enterprise, it is apparent that the farm community will need to act together to educate and inform our present governmental leadership as well as the general public so that intelligent decisions can be made on issues that ultimately affect the health of our nation.

The Northwest Michigan Farm Bureau, along with Michigan Farm Bureau and American Farm Bureau, is working to inform our leaders in government and the non-farm public of the business requirements of agricultural production.

When the decisions are made that affect the future of your farming business and your way of life, will you help to make sure that informed and intelligent choices are made?

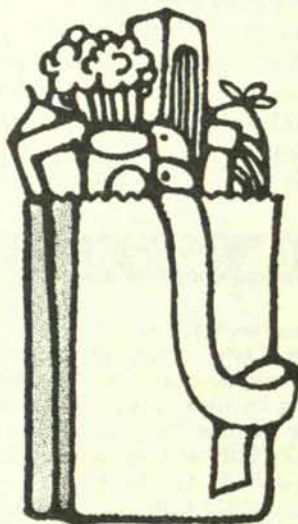
## Ag Expo '83 Drawing Winner Discovers — 'They Really Do Give Out Those Prizes!'

By Myra Hand, Newsletter Editor  
Cheboygan County Farm Bureau

I had always felt that when I dropped my name in a "drawing" box the only thing I was going to get was my name on some salesman's list. But surprise — they really do give out those prizes!

At Ag Expo '83 in East Lansing, in July, I put my name in a drawing that was jointly sponsored by the Federal Land Bank Associations and Production Credit Associations of Michigan. I received notice in August that my name had been drawn to receive \$100 worth of Michigan products! I was told I could go to a store of my choice, select the food I wanted and they would pay the bill.

In September, I went to Ken's Village Market in Indian River to select the food. Since Michigan produces such a variety of foods, it was fun filling the cart with all kinds of fruits, vegetables, meats, dairy products and cereals. I'm glad they stressed Michigan produced foods. Perhaps if we all tried to buy more



Michigan products, it would help our own state's farmers economically. Kim Heisler of the Traverse City Branch of the Federal Land Bank Association of Clare and Jerry Pickler of the Gaylord Branch of the Production Credit Association of Traverse City were there to pay the bill as they had promised!

I'll keep on dropping my name in those "drawing" boxes (and let my husband worry about the salesman), because I know they really do give out those prizes!

## Well Water Should be Tested Annually

The water we drink is as important as the food we eat, but unless the supply gives out or it smells bad, we often ignore it.

Iron is a major cause of taste and odor in well water in Michigan, but it is not harmful. An odor of chlorine is unpleasant, but can be expected in water that has been disinfected.

Hydrogen sulfide, a dissolved gas that smells like rotten eggs, occurs in some places in Michigan. It may be removed by chlorination or aeration.

Leaks from gasoline or fuel oil tanks will cause an odor in the water and are dangerous. The well may need to be abandoned.

If a well is near a barnyard, it will probably be heavily contaminated by the time a musty odor is noticed.

To have your water tested, contact your local public health department and they'll make arrangements for testing. A small fee may be charged, but the cost is small compared to the health risk involved in drinking contaminated water.

Water you drink should not pass through a water-softener.

## New Products Offered in MACMA Christmas Sale

New to MACMA's annual Christmas Citrus Sale are gift packs featuring taste tempting treats produced and packed in Michigan. Attractively displayed in gift boxes, they are perfect for those hard-to-please people on your Christmas list.

"A Taste of Michigan-Supreme Gift Pack" costs \$39.70 and includes smoked turkey breast, hickory stick, MACMA vintage ham, colby cheese, smoked cheddar cheese, dagano cheese (Swiss type), pure maple syrup, pure wild honey, cherry butter and red raspberry seedless preserves.

"Michigan's Farm Best Gift Pack" costs \$18.50 and includes smoked turkey breast, hickory stick, colby cheese, smoked cheddar cheese, pure wild honey and cherry butter.

Another relatively new item is cream of asparagus soup, made from all Michigan ingredients by Hobies of East Lansing. Offered for the first time in the summer sale, it is now available in a one-quart re-useable container. It comes frozen, ready to heat and may be repacked in smaller containers. The soup should be thawed in the refrigerator rather than at room temperature.

Use the order blank in this newsletter to order these and other MACMA member-to-member products.

## 'Generic' Newsletter Ends

This is the last issue of the "generic" newsletter. Look for news of county activities in the "Rural Exchange" column, beginning in the December issue of *Rural Living*.

## FARMETTE

By Andrea Hofmeister



"Now that harvest is over, we can re-paper the bedroom, repair that leak under the sink, clean closets..."



# MICHIGAN'S FARM BEST

## MACMA Christmas Citrus Sale Deadline Nov. 22

The deadline for ordering products in MACMA's December Christmas Sale is Nov. 22, with delivery the weeks of Dec. 12 and Dec. 19.

Contact your county Farm Bureau secretary to see if your county is participating in MACMA's Christmas Citrus Sale.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity	Commodity Description	Price	Amount
_____	Florida Navel Oranges, 4/5 bushel	\$11.60	_____
_____	Florida Tangelos, 4/5 bushel	\$ 9.80	_____
_____	Florida Pink Seedless Grapefruit, 4/5 bushel	\$ 8.70	_____
_____	Michigan Apple Concentrate (Hi-Density, 5+1), 24/12 oz. cans	\$27.00	_____
_____	Michigan Grape Juice Concentrate (3+1), 24/12 oz. cans	\$27.00	_____
_____	Michigan Farm Best "Supreme" Gift Pack	\$39.70	_____
	<i>(includes the following: 1 1/4 lb. smoked turkey breast, 1 lb. hickory stick, 4 1/4 lb. MACMA vintage ham, 1/2 lb. MSU colby cheese, 1/2 lb. MSU smoked cheddar cheese, 1/2 lb. MSU dagano cheese (Swiss type), 1 pint pure maple syrup, 1 pint pure wild honey, 10 oz. gourmet cherry butter, 10 oz. gourmet red raspberry seedless preserves)</i>		
_____	Michigan Farm Best Gift Pack	\$18.50	_____
	<i>(includes 1 1/4 lb. smoked turkey breast, 1 lb. hickory stick, 1/2 lb. MSU colby cheese, 1/2 lb. MSU smoked cheddar cheese, 1 pint pure wild honey, 10 oz. gourmet cherry butter)</i>		
_____	Dried Tart Cherry Nuggets, 1 lb. package	\$ 5.00	_____
_____	Dried Tart Cherry Nuggets (Yogurt Covered), 1 lb. package	\$ 5.00	_____
_____	Florida Orange Juice Concentrate (5+1), 24/12 oz. cans	\$32.80	_____
_____	Florida Grapefruit Juice Concentrate (5+1), 24/12 oz. cans	\$19.80	_____
_____	Florida Skinless Jumbo Peanuts, 20 oz. can	\$ 2.55	_____
_____	Florida Redskin Jumbo Peanuts, 20 oz. can	\$ 2.40	_____
_____	Florida Pecans, Roasted and Seasoned, 9 oz. can	\$ 2.65	_____
_____	Florida Pecan Halves, 1 lb. bag	\$ 3.45	_____
_____	Florida Grapefruit Sections, 24/16 oz. cans	\$16.25	_____
_____	MACMA Vintage Ham, 4/4 lb. average weight	\$2.69 per lb.	_____
_____	MACMA Thick-Cut Bacon, 10/1 1/2 lb. packages	\$23.41	_____
_____	Hickory Stick, 4 1/2 lb.	\$10.25	_____
_____	Hobies' Cream of Asparagus Soup, 6/1 qt. containers	\$12.65	_____
_____	Indiana Gourmet, Yellow, Hullless Popcorn, 2 lb. bag	\$ .98	_____
_____	Wisconsin Sharp Cheddar Cheese, 4/1 lb. packages	\$11.95	_____
_____	Wisconsin Medium Cheddar Cheese, 4/1 lb. packages	\$11.95	_____
_____	Wisconsin Colby Cheese, 4/1 lb. packages	\$11.05	_____
_____	Wisconsin Monterey Jack Cheese, 4/1 lb. packages	\$11.05	_____
_____	Variety Cheese Pack, 4/1 lb. (sharp, medium, colby, caraway)	\$12.95	_____
_____	Wisconsin Swiss Almond Cheese Spread, 6/1 lb. tubs	\$17.20	_____
_____	Wisconsin Sharp Cheddar Cheese Spread, 6/1 lb. tubs	\$17.20	_____
_____	Wisconsin Cheddar With Wine Cheese Spread, 6/1 lb. tubs	\$17.20	_____
_____	Wisconsin Cheddar With Onion Cheese Spread, 6/1 lb. tubs	\$17.20	_____
_____	Wyoming Gift Pack	\$18.50	_____
	<i>(includes 12 oz. buffalo salami, 12 oz. beef salami, 8 oz. honey, 8 oz. pecan pearls candy, 1 lb. Star Valley Swiss cheese)</i>		
_____	Wisconsin Gift Pack	\$13.50	_____
	<i>(includes one 8 oz. package each of the following cheeses: mild cheddar, sharp cheddar, monterey jack, brick, colby)</i>		
_____	<b>TOTAL UNITS</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b> _____

## CLASSIFIED AD POLICY

Members pay 10¢ per word for non-commercial ads and 15¢ per word for ads which promote a commercial business other than agriculture. All other advertisers pay 20¢ per word for one insertion and 15¢ per word for two or more consecutive insertions.

The deadline for advertisements is the **first Monday of the month preceding publication** and the publisher has the right to reject any advertising copy submitted. **All ads must be pre-paid** and may be pre-paid up to one year in advance. Please indicate if you are a Farm Bureau member. 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 Rural Living, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909. No ads will be taken over the phone.**

## FARM EQUIPMENT

**Wanted to Buy:** John Deere 999 corn planter, John Deere Van Brunt grain drill on steel, and milk cans for shipping milk. John Spezia, Leonard, Mich. 48038. 313-628-4147. (11-27p)

**New Steel Special Sale:** 15¢ per lb., new air compressor, ¾ hp oil-less with tank, plastic & steel 55 gallon barrels. Ida, Mich. 313-269-2868. Closed Saturday. (9-3t-25p)

**For Sale — Ford Tractor 1948,** power takeoff attachment, \$45, 4x19 front tire, \$7; dump rake, \$35; heavy chains with swivel and hooks, \$2 per foot. Call 517-592-2704. (11-22p)

**Scales and parts,** new, used, rebuilt, all types, scale service. Phone 517-585-3321. (11-11p)

**2-ton electric hoist for sale:** Excellent condition, less than 15 months old. Good for wood or grain. Can be seen on truck. New \$1,100, asking \$500. Makes farming a little easier. Call 616-646-9617 for more information. (11-35p)

**For Sale:** Van Dale 12-inch feed bunk auger, 100 feet long with motor. Harold Hoffmaster and Sons, Hopkins, Mich. Phone 616-793-4371. (11-2t-25p-b)

**For Sale — M.F. 260 forage chopper** with electric controls. Has 2 row corn head, 2 row adjustable corn snapper head and Windrow pickup. Used very little. Will trade for H.M.S. corn. (11-2t-35p)

**Ideal Christmas Gifts!** New "Farm Power," "Farm Inventions" and "Farm Animals in the Making of America." Three beautiful collectors volumes with over 600 rare engravings and photos of steam engines, gas-oil tractors, gas engines, threshing machines, hay machines, horses, cattle, etc., with complete descriptions and information. Color section, 392 pages, quality soft covers. Special \$25.85 value, all three volumes \$19.95 postpaid. Diamond Farm Book Publishers, Dept. MFN, Box 537, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607. (11-2t-71p-ts)

**New "American Gasoline Engines Since 1872"** by Charles Wendel. Most comprehensive book on stationary engines available. Cross reference (company to engine). All known manufacturers. 2,100 illustrations, patent office references and numbers on hundreds of components. 2,100 illustrations, 584 large pages, hard leatherette cover, \$35.95 postpaid. Diamond Farm Book Publishers, Dept. MFN, Box 537, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607. Phone 613-475-1771 (11-2t-58p-ts)

## FARM EQUIPMENT

**Super T.M.T. — Total Motor Treatment.** 1. Better gas mileage. 2. Greater engine power and efficiency. 3. Extended engine — parts wear and tear protect. 4. Extra miles of dependable trouble free engine life. \$14.95. Contact Howard Miller, 1732 Sheick Road, Monroe, Mich., 313-587-2252. (11-41p)

**New Tractor Books!** "Allis Chalmers Catalog" covers classic tractors and machinery of all kinds, 80-illustrated pages, \$7.95. "Oliver an Advertising History," 1929-1940, 36 pages, tractors machinery, \$4.95. "Case Power Farming Machinery 1922," 112 pages, many photos, full line tractors, machinery, \$8.95. "Case Machinery," hundreds of illustrations of tractors and equipment, descriptions, parts, beautiful classic reprint, 112 pages, \$9.95. "McCormick-Deering Tractor Power," 31 illustrated pages, specifications, \$4.95. "Massey-Harris Co. (1929)," Wallis tractors, 64 pages, \$5.95. "Advance-Rumley Power Farming Machinery," 100 pages, \$7.95. Special Complete above collectors classic library, quality softcover books, \$45.95 postpaid. Diamond Farm Book Publishers, Dept. MFN, Box 537, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607. (11-2t-105p-ts)

**Ideal Christmas Gifts!** New! John Deere Tractor and Machinery. "John Deere Tractors 1918-1976," 75 illustrations and charts listing serial numbers, 54 pages, \$7.95. "Power Farming With Greater Profits," John Deere's 100th anniversary, hundreds photos of tractors, implements, specifications, 112 pages, \$9.45. "John Deere Advertising Book," 36 pages, \$4.95. "John Deere General Purpose," 35 pages, \$4.95. Above are softcovers. "Farm Tractors in Color," (8-John Deere) 118 true color photos, 183 pages, quality hard cover, \$11.95. Special Complete above library, 5 books for \$39.25 value for \$32.65 postpaid. Diamond Farm Book Publishers, Dept. MFN, Box 537, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607. 613-475-1771. (11-2t-96p-ts)

## LIVESTOCK

**Corriedale sheep breeding stock.** 313-429-7874. (11-12t-5p)

**Sheep, C & S Curtis.** Reg. Suffolks and Reg. Southdowns. Helping small flock owners and 4-H'ers our special interest. 204 N. Williams, Stockbridge, Mich. 517-851-7043 — 517-851-8017. (7-12t-22p)

**Morgan horses, mares and colts.** Phone 313-727-7679. (8-6t-7p)

## LIVESTOCK

**Faint Horses —** Weanlings, yearlings, bred mares. Lawerance Baumunk, Big Rapids, Mich. 1-616-796-2346. (9-10t-12p)

## DOGS

**Sheltie (Miniature Collie) pups.** AKC, shots and wormed, all colors. Beauties! Ardyth Schroeder, 7080 Billmyer Hwy., Tecumseh, Mich. 49286. 517-423-3069. (10-2t-18p)

## MISCELLANEOUS

**Book Sale!** Hardcover, \$1.00 each! Over 400 titles: fiction, western, mystery, Children's series books and classics. Two 20 cent stamps for list. Glenn Smith, Box 1513, Dept. F-10, Akron, Ohio 44309. (10-2t-30p-ts)

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## MISCELLANEOUS

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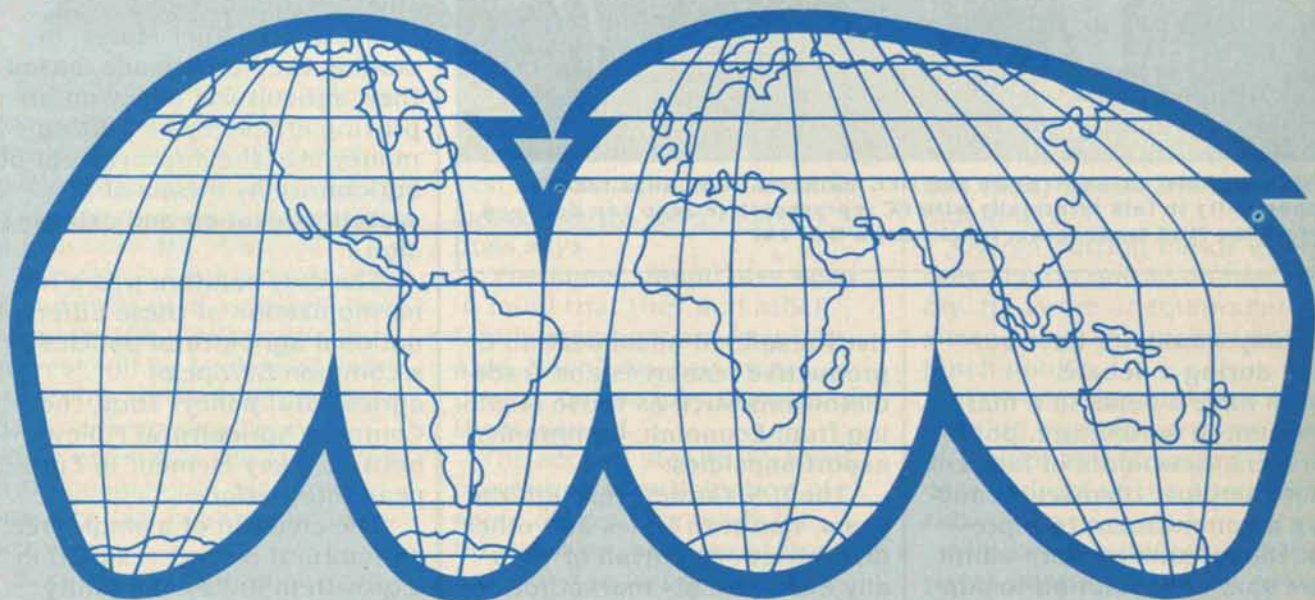
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# Trade Dialogue Opens Doors for Understanding



By Donna Wilber

If Michigan farmer Elton R. Smith and Dutch farmer Jaap van der Veen had the authority to settle the complicated trade disputes between the U.S. and the European Community, the imminent trade war, which many predict, would never happen. Neither has that authority and so they do the next best thing — they open a dialogue between the producers on both sides of the ocean to gain a better understanding of each other's concerns.

Such a dialogue took place in Lansing on Oct. 14 at a luncheon forum sponsored by the Michigan Department of Agriculture. The dialogue included

viewpoints of van der Veen, president of the agricultural board and president of the Christian Farmers' and Growers' Union in the Netherlands; Julien Bruno, French agricultural attache with the Commission of European Communities; Elton R. Smith, president of the Michigan Farm Bureau and vice president of the American Farm Bureau Federation; Michigan Department of Agriculture officials; Michigan State University agricultural economists; and representatives of key Michigan agribusinesses.

Van der Veen and Bruno did not look or sound like the "enemy." Before they spoke, they could have been just average American businessmen having lunch with friends. And

when they did speak, they were forthright, convincing — with that special charm of struggling to overcome a language barrier that makes their listeners want to help.

Van der Veen and Smith were the key spokespersons and each gave convincing arguments for their respective viewpoints on agricultural trade policy. If it had been a debate, judges might have called it a draw. But it was not a debate — it actually was a dialogue. The two farm leaders were not strangers to each other. Farmer Smith had met farmer van der Veen during the AFBF trade mission to the Economic Community in 1982. And they had some common views that surfaced during the dialogue that



MSU economist Glynn McBride and MEE marketer Donn Kunz take the opportunity to talk informally with EC representative Jaap van der Veen before the MDA trade forum luncheon on Oct. 14.

probably would not have surfaced during a debate.

Both have a belief in a market-oriented agriculture. Both represent viewpoints of farmers other than just themselves and have a commitment to represent those farmers. Both admit there's no easy solution to supply/demand imbalance problems for farmers on either side of the ocean. Both have an inherent suspicion of how well politicians can solve the problems of agriculture, and both believe neither side would be the winner in a trade war.

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### **We need to lay our problems with each other's policies on the table and start talking . . .**

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During the formal exchange of viewpoints, Smith said, "Trade built on sound economic principles, involving comparative advantage, permits all consumers to mutually benefit. Trade based on political objec-

tives results in misallocation of productive resources and trade distortions such as those resulting from Economic Community export subsidies.

"The U.S. farmer, through the years, has seen levies and other EC restrictions curtail or virtually eliminate his market for some agricultural exports to the EC and then, too, he has had to face subsidized EC competition in Third World markets.

"Some have suggested that we now are on the brink of a global trade war — a war none of us want, none of us can afford, and which would produce only losers. Certainly, the subsidy issue is placing great strain on normal trade relations at a time when economic conditions in the U.S. are far from normal," Smith said.

Van der Veen, in turn, defended the Common Agricultural Policy of the EC as the backbone of the European Community.

"When the Common Market was established in 1957, it was based on a political deal whereby trade was opened up be-

tween its members, not only in industrial goods but also in farm products. Free trade was achieved in industrial goods by eliminating custom duties between the Community's member states.

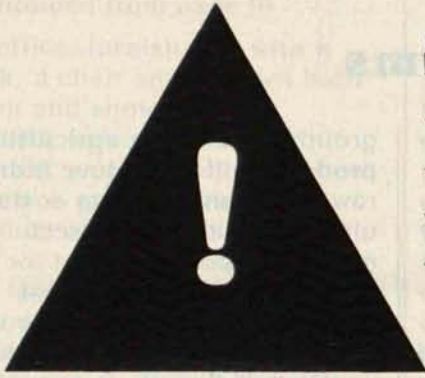
"The different agricultural structures in the member states and the different forms of farm support meant that just cutting duties for agricultural products was not enough. Some members shielded their farmers from competition. Other states, including the Netherlands, based their agricultural policy on improving efficiency by putting money into the improvement of agriculture by means of research, education and extension.

"The only solution was a full harmonization of these different national agricultural policies in a common European agricultural policy. Thus, the Common Agricultural Policy became a key element in European integration.

"The creation of a single free agricultural market resulted in a growth in intra-community trade, far beyond all expectations. Looking at this result, I guess the United States would like to become member of the Common Market, too."

Van der Veen's last statement was, by his own admission, a joke, but it wasn't long before forum participants began exploring the possibility of a North Atlantic Common Market to include the U.S. That may never come, but there was common recognition that the Soviet Union could come out the big winner if trade conflicts are not resolved.

As van der Veen summed it up: "We need to lay our problems with each other's policies on the table and start talking. . . put a lock on the door and then wait until the white smoke comes out of the chimney."



# Safety Precautions Protect Lives During Harvest

Farm families will be able to cope with what may be an increasingly frustrating job of getting this year's corn crop out of the field safely if proper safety practices are observed.

This year's corn harvest is slightly ahead of schedule compared to 1982, although the harvest will be below last year's, according to the Michigan Agricultural Reporting Service, which estimates the 1983 crop at 95 bushels per acre compared to 109 bushels per acre last year.

Because of the smaller crop and the economy, many Michigan farmers will be tense, anxious and under psychological pressure to complete harvest, and that may lead to impatience and risk taking, says a safety specialist with the Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service.

Howard J. Doss says the first step in accident prevention is to avoid taking unnecessary risks that may endanger harvest team members. He says managers should consider the added physical and mental burden that will fall on other members of the harvest team — family members and employees — if a debilitating accident occurs.

Aside from the pain and grief, there are the hidden costs of finding replacement help or the possible inability of other key harvest team members to perform.

"From purely an economic standpoint, a serious accident could mean a default in harvest, hindering cash flow and, subsequently, debt recovery," Doss says.

"Managers should also keep in mind that they and other family members are irreplaceable. Machinery can be replaced, but people, or parts of them, cannot."

The second step in accident prevention is anticipation of some delays. "Be ready for breakdowns, equipment becoming mired in wet ground and the possibility of transportation delays," Doss says.

The third step is prevention. "Family members should work together to help alleviate stress with sensible rest periods, high-energy meals and snacks. Above all, they should communicate the fact that one is indispensable to the other," he says.

Doss offers some additional safety tips.

- During 1982, 68% of all reported farm equipment accidents were on dry roads during daylight hours; 24% occurred in darkness involving farm equipment that did not have lights. Make sure all equipment used in roadway transportation is well lighted with rearward facing, flashing yellow lights and carries the Slow Moving Vehicle sign.

- Wear warm, comfortable but not excessively loose clothing.

Avoid wearing nylon jackets in the field or around machinery — they billow in the wind and can easily become entangled in machinery.

- Avoid putting hands where they should not be on machinery. Be aware of equipment shear-points, nip-points and pinch-points.

- Prevent slips and falls by keeping mud and crop refuse off equipment steps and ladders and out of the operator's cab.

- Unless you understand the stress characteristics of nylon pulling ropes very well, use a chain for pulling mired equipment. Because of their tendency to stretch 25% of their length before they start to pull, nylon ropes under stress store potentially lethal amounts of energy. If they sever or a hitching point breaks, nylon ropes whip at speeds upwards of 800 miles an hour. There are reported cases of these ropes throwing attached hooks through one and a half inches of cast iron. By contrast, a chain will recoil to an extent, but it will not have the violent whipping action of a nylon rope, which can endanger equipment operators or bystanders.

Considering all of the potential hazards of harvest, taking appropriate preventative action may mean the difference between being in farming this time next year and not, Doss says.

# Say Yes to the Best

## From Michigan Farms

By Cathy J. Kirvan

Commodity groups in Michigan have developed a new promotion program for agricultural products produced and processed in the state. The "Say Yes to the Best From Michigan Farms" campaign will be in full swing in grocery store displays, restaurant specials and advertisements during Michigan Week next May.

A recent survey of consumers by the Michigan Department of Agriculture led to the development of the campaign. It indicated that 76% of those surveyed would be more likely to buy Michigan products if they were clearly labeled, and 51% believed it is difficult to identify state-produced products.

Campaign sponsors are also urging processors of Michigan agricultural products to include the theme's logo on packages.

### Member-to-Member Sale Adds New Michigan Products

One program that has long promoted Michigan-produced products is the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association Direct Marketing Division, through member-to-member sales to Farm Bureau members in Michigan and several other states. For the MACMA Christmas Citrus Sale, which is going on now, the

Direct Marketing Division has added several new Michigan produced and processed products in convenient packages for Christmas giving.

"The gift packs feature some familiar Michigan products and some new to our program," said Bob Eppelheimer, Direct Marketing Division manager.

"The Michigan Farm Best Supreme Gift Pack contains one of those delicious Farmer Peet hams, a hickory stick, a turkey breast smoked by Bil-Mar Farms, a selection of three cheeses processed at the MSU dairy plant, pure northern Michigan maple syrup and wild honey, and cherry butter and red raspberry preserves from Rocky Top Farms in Ellsworth, where they grow and process all their own fruit. The Michigan Farm Best Gift Pack includes a smoked turkey breast, a hickory stick, two types of cheese, pure wild honey and cherry butter."

Eppelheimer believes that MACMA's gift packs are a better buy than most. "A lot of times when you buy a gift package, you feel you're not getting enough substance for your money," he said, "but with our reputation for high quality products at reasonable prices, you know what you are getting."

He believes the campaign being organized by commodity

groups to promote agricultural products will help move more raw Michigan products — the ultimate goal of the direct marketing program.

"The 'Say Yes to the Best From Michigan Farms' logo will start appearing on our products next year," Eppelheimer said. "It was developed after our current packaging was prepared."



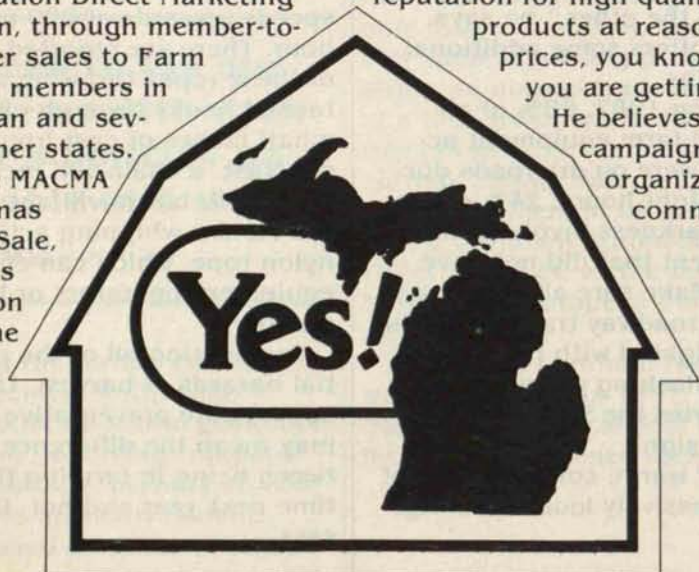
Cream of asparagus soup, available to FB members through MACMA's direct marketing program, is prepared by Hobie's restaurants of Lansing and Kalamazoo.

### Cream of Asparagus Soup Popular with FB Members

Eppelheimer's member-to-member sale added a different kind of Michigan-produced agricultural product last summer when cream of asparagus soup was offered for the first time. The soup is prepared by Hobie's, a chain of four restaurants in the Lansing/East Lansing area and one in Kalamazoo.

Hobie's owner, Ernie St. Pierre of Williamston, a firm believer in promoting Michigan products, is also an asparagus lover. When he was approached by the Michigan Asparagus Advisory Board to develop a cream of

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# Turkeyville

(continued from page 9)

an office, furnish him with a desk, a chair and his own bathroom and shower.

"Well, we're kind of hard headed, and couldn't see where that was going to make our product any better," he says. "So we told them that would be our last year in the retail turkey business. With the success of the sandwich sales at the fair, we knew we would make it in the restaurant business."

The family went whole-heartedly into the sandwich business, opening a small dining room with 16 seats in 1968. The clientele they had built through retail sales and the fair booth were loyal, but it wasn't enough to support Alan's parents, wife and four children, so he continued to work at Kellogg's.

"Everybody thought we were crazy starting the thing way out here," Alan says. "We were way out in the boonies — we opened before I-94 was even built. The president of the local bank told us we were nuts. He comes here quite often now to eat his words — in fact, he's one of our best customers."

"We were confident from the beginning," adds Joellyn. "It was a lot of work preparing, packaging and carting all that food to the fair, so we thought we'd just do it right here and let them come and get it."

"When we added on the first dining room, Kellogg got to be where it was more like a part-time job," Alan says. "I wasn't doing this business justice and I sure wasn't doing justice down there either, so I made the decision to come out here full-time."

Now the restaurant seats 300 on the inside and another 150 on the outside. The Cornwells plan to add a new dining room next year, that can be closed off for group parties.

## Quality of Turkeys Key to Success

Though they no longer raise and process the majority of their turkeys, the Cornwells continue to use only milk-fed turkeys. "We can't go out in the open market and buy the quality of turkeys we need for this type of business, so we have our turkeys grown for us under contract by the Booth Poultry Farm in Orland, Indiana. They use our special feed mixture, which is an expensive way to feed turkeys, but it definitely makes a difference," Alan says.

The grower raises the turkeys, processes and freezes them, and trucks the frozen carcasses to Michigan. "We get whole, 22-week-old turkeys — 25 to 27 pounds average, and we cook about 30 per day," Joellyn says. "We can cook up to 52 at a time if we have to — and we have many times."

The turkeys are cooked during the night, cooled and the meat removed from the bones. "Then we use the same ovens to bake our pies," Alan adds.

Frozen Cornwell turkeys still have a reputation for excellence and they sell many frozen birds to customers.

Turkeyville's reputation is well established in Michigan and surrounding states, and tour buses make up a big share of the business, with about 250 coming per year. "Buses stay anywhere from one to three hours," Alan says. "The people enjoy visiting the various shops, walking around and just plain relaxing."

## Operation Run By Family Members

The various operations at Turkeyville require 36 people besides nine members of the Cornwell family. But the closed corporation will always be run by family members, Alan says.

"Our four children work in it now, and we've got lots of grandchildren coming up."

Wayne & Marjorie Cornwell are semi-retired, spending five to six months in Florida, but still have input into the operation.

Alan oversees all operations and runs the farm, where they keep a few hundred turkeys and grow some crops. Joellyn takes care of the books and helps out wherever she is needed.

Brent manages the ice cream parlor, gift shop and dining rooms. He spent the last year helping to set up the new IBM computer to do inventory, payroll, accounts receivable and accounts payable. His wife, Jody, a dental hygienist, finds time to work in the gift shop on Friday nights and Saturdays.

Bryan manages the kitchen and purchasing of supplies. He also supervises food preparation, helping out when needed. His wife, Annette, works on the food line.

Blain takes after his dad — helping with the farming, in the kitchen, doing repairs and whatever is needed. His wife, Patti, works on the food line.

Their daughter, Vicki Hankey, works in the ice cream parlor and is the main computer operator.

Though the family has turkey just about every day for lunch, they never tire of the taste. "We roast a big turkey on Thanksgiving," says Joellyn, "but we usually have some other meat for Christmas."

Turkeyville opens around March 1 and closes the day before Thanksgiving. It is closed on Sundays. Headed south, take the last exit off I-69 before the junction with I-94. Headed north, take the first exit off I-69 after the junction with I-94. It is one-half mile west of the highway. Hours are 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

## **Animal Care – Still a Priority Issue**

While animal care does not headline the newspapers, magazines and radio waves as frequently as it did only a few months ago, the issue is just as important to agriculture as ever. The supporters of the animal rights movement have begun to concentrate even more emphasis on the political and legislative scene. A case in point is the animal welfare rally organized in our nation's capital only a few weeks ago.

This was just one of several such rallies organized by these groups during recent months and while only a small number of people participated in this activity, the organization and political awareness of these groups have grown and must continue to be monitored.

Few, if any, lobbyists have reportedly attended these rallies; however, congressional aides and others have been hosted at vegetarian meals and receptions as the organizers attempt to relate their story of the animal care issue to policy-makers.

Proposed legislation, which was introduced in Michigan a year ago and then withdrawn, has not appeared this year; however, the possibility of a similar measure is still a very real concern.

On the national level, Congressman Jim Howard's animal welfare legislation, H.R. 3170, has recently added eight additional co-sponsors, making the number 28 at this time. The Howard legislation is similar to the Mottl Animal Welfare Bill of the 97th Congress in that this most recent piece of legislation calls for the formation of a special commission to investi-

gate the effects of modern farm animal production. An added feature of this bill specifically states that the commission will study the use of antibiotics such as tetracycline and penicillin in livestock feeds.

Farm Bureau is opposed to this legislation because studies are underway to measure stress in farm animals housed in confinement operations and to determine whether there is an association between the use of feed antibiotics in animals and the reduction in antibiotic effectiveness in humans. The result of these studies will be available next year. Attempts to pass legislation before the results of these studies are available are premature.

Sen. Dole has introduced legislation (S. 657) aimed at eliminating the use of animals in research. The use of animals for research has been the most active issue as of late, with the Humane Society of the United States and other groups directing a considerable amount of attention to this area. Certainly, we support the proper treatment for research animals; however, to ban the use of this vital research would have a much greater negative impact on human medicine and agricultural research than can be justified at this time.

As you deal with the animal care issue, the following facts can be cited as reasons why this legislation is not needed and will provide you a factual response, if needed.

- In the summer of 1981, \$380,000 was made available by the Agriculture Research Service to eight university research groups to determine if: stress exists in farm animals housed in facilities similar to U.S. enter-

prises; if so, to quantitate it; and to recommend methods of removing the stress. The studies were undertaken with confined swine, caged layers and dairy-veal calves.

- Congress has directed that the Food and Drug Administration undertake epidemiological studies to determine whether there truly exists an association between the use of feed antibiotics in animals and a reduction in antibiotic effectiveness in humans. The results of the studies should be available in 1984. In the meantime, reputable scientific and medical associations have made the following comments:

The American Medical Association said that "the movement of a disease-causing pathogen from an animal to human population is the most unusual occurrence. . . we cannot state at this time that there is sufficient evidence of the transfer of disease-causing, antibiotic resistant bacteria from animals to humans to warrant alarm by physicians or the Congress."

The National Academy of Sciences concluded that human illness has not been demonstrated to occur because of sub-therapeutic feeding of antibiotics to animals.

- Economists have estimated that, because of improved rate of growth and feed efficiency, feed antibiotics save consumers more than \$3.5 million a year. In 1979, Chase Econometric Associates, using data developed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, estimated that if all low level use of antibiotics in agriculture were banned, retail prices for meat could increase as much as 9.5% for beef to 19% for poultry.

## Mean Ole Allis

(continued from page 15)

out in the shop working on the tractor until nine or ten at night," says Simpson.

With all that attention, Mean Ole Allis couldn't ask for better caregivers than the four-man team of farm equipment mechanics. Their 28 years of cumulative experience goes into every redesign and repair.

Since 1977, Simpson has been a partner and service manager at J. R. Fueslein in Charlotte, a dealer point for International Harvester and Versatile farm equipment. His brother, Roy, is also involved in the business as a salesperson for Eaton and surrounding counties.

Haynes, who purchased the tractor in 1966, is a full-time cash crop farmer in Ingham County, raising corn, soybeans and wheat on 2,000 acres near Williamston.

The fourth and youngest member of the Mean Ole Allis team is Steve Davidson, who farms 150 acres of cash crops and is also employed by General Motors Parts Division, Lansing.

Simpson says he spends a lot of time explaining why an International dealer/service manager is running an Allis-Chalmers tractor in competition.

"The answer is pretty simple," he says. "When we got started with Mean Ole Allis, Steve, Roy and I worked for the Allis-Chalmers dealer here in Charlotte. There was certainly no conflict then, and I don't really see one now. There are many more Internationals running, so I continue to run the Allis-Chalmers to give the competition some balanced representation."

Mean Ole Allis has a secure home with her proud owners. In

the next few weeks, she'll be fitted with a new, aluminum girdle reinforced engine block, and a redesigned triple turbo charger. Then the "show dressing" of chrome stack and mag wheels, and polished steel coverings will go into place to make this 1982 Grand Champion lady ready to show at the Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting in Grand Rapids, Nov. 29-Dec. 2. Standing alongside will be the brand new Allis Chalmers 6000 series tractor that will go to MFB's Distinguished Young Farmer for one year of free use.

Young Farmer contestants at the state annual meeting will be given the opportunity to see Mean Ole Allis in action at the Pontiac Silverdome in February. For their participation in the contests, these MFB Young Farmers will be provided with tickets to the Silverdome Tractor Pull for themselves and their spouse.

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Southfield, Michigan 48034  
Phone 313-356-7711

*The Discussion Topic is used by Community Action Groups for monthly policy discussions.*

## Petitions Question Need for Full-time State Legislature

For the third time in as many years, a constitutional amendment has been proposed to change the status of Michigan's Legislature from full-time to part-time. Changing to a part-time Legislature would not be unprecedented, since Michigan's Legislature has only been considered full-time for a little more than a decade.

The change from a part-time Legislature began during Republican Gov. George Romney's administration. He often called special legislative sessions after the lawmakers had adjourned for the year. In such sessions, the governor sets the agenda and thus wields considerable power. The Democrat-controlled Legislature fought back by not adjourning until the last day of the year. The transition to a full-time Legislature was complete by 1972.

From time to time, there have been efforts to return to a part-time Legislature, but none has gotten very far either in the legislative body or by citizen support.

The newest constitutional proposal would limit the Legislature to not more than 60 session days in the regular session and no more than 15 days in all other sessions. The Legislature would convene on the second Monday in January and adjourn no later than the first Monday in May.

In addition, a special three-day session could be called solely for the purpose of reconsidering any bill vetoed by the governor. These days would not be counted against the limit set forth above.

Michigan is currently one of six states that has a full-time

Legislature. The other five are Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania. Although technically Michigan's Legislature is in session year round, this does not mean that it actually convenes every day throughout the year. The Legislature now goes into session in mid-January and recesses for the summer in late June or early July, then reconvenes in mid-September until mid-December. There is time out for holiday periods.

The number of session days averaged by the Michigan Legislature is high compared to other states. In 1979-80, Michigan's Legislature averaged 135 session days a year. During the same year, the Texas Legislature averaged 70 session days, Pennsylvania and Illinois both averaged 80 session days and Florida averaged 60 session days.

It would be misleading, however, not to mention the many committee meetings, skeletal sessions and special sessions held throughout the year by these supposed part-time Legislatures. For example, the Illinois Legislature is recessed from July through December; however, it reconvenes in the fall for a special veto session. The legislators also have committee meetings and receive special per diems for serving on commissions throughout the year.

Florida is another example. The legislative session is very short, but again there are committees which meet throughout the year to prepare the bills that will be considered during the short session.

This type of procedure might save time, but it could be detrimental to an industry such as agriculture, in a state where the Legislature is heavily influenced by a metropolitan area. In this situation, a bill of importance to agriculture might not be introduced before the cut-off time is reached in the short session.

It is difficult to determine how many days are actually needed for a Legislature to function properly. The current constitutional proposal calls for a limit of 60 session days with 15 special session days. This may not be enough considering Michigan is a state that has a huge industrial complex side by side with an agricultural industry that produces over 50 different commodities. Add to this the forest industry and the recreation business of our state, and one can realize the diversity of issues that might arise.

Current Farm Bureau policy supports a "limited legislative session not to exceed six months," with a "pay scale . . . commensurate with the duties and responsibilities of the office" and "sufficient pay to attract a high quality individual who is interested in properly representing a district." Salary levels in states of similar size should be considered.

Beginning next year, Michigan legislators will be making \$33,200. They will be the highest paid state legislators in the nation based on base salary. However, it would again be misleading not to mention the spe-

*(continued on page 30)*



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## Discussion Topic

(continued from page 28)

cial meeting expenses and office expenses that legislators in some other states are allowed. For example, the salary of an Illinois legislator is \$28,000 plus various per diem and mileage, plus \$17,000 for office expense in their districts, plus additional pay for serving on commissions, etc. It is estimated the total is up to \$50,000.

The current constitutional proposal in Michigan states that legislative salaries could not exceed \$15,000 with expenses of not more than \$60 for each legislative day. Some feel this is excessive for the concurrent 60 day session that is proposed.

The arguments for and against a part-time Legislature are endless. Some argue that a part-time Legislature would result in lower costs and fewer bills of little importance, but others counter that any actual savings would be small and that government would be left up to the bureaucrats instead of elected people.

Originally, the Legislature was meant for people who had proven their worthiness through their own experience in the public or private sector. The farmer, the lawyer, the busi-

nessperson, took time off from his or her job in order to tend to the business of the state.

Today, we have full-time legislators, some of whom lack this type of business experience which is vital for running the affairs of the state, but we also have an improving state economy, which may demand the efforts of full-time legislators. We must decide which type of Legislature will best serve our state's needs.

## Discussion Questions

- Do you feel 60 session days (a four-month session) would be enough time to handle the business of a state the size and as diversified as Michigan? If not, how much time do they need?
- With a part-time Legislature, would more qualified or less qualified people be willing to run for office?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of a part-time Legislature?

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See page 13 for details  
of the Community Action  
Group drawing at the MFB  
annual meeting.

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# Sunny Florida to Host AFBF National Convention in January

The first clear winter mornings blanketed by freshly fallen snow may be picturesque to even the most seasoned Michigan resident, but by January, longings for sunny days and warm breezes begin to unravel beneath the woolen muffler and winter cap.

The surefire cure for your warm weather longings lies in central Florida at the American Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting, Jan. 8-12. The location selected for the 65th federation convention is Orlando, Florida, site of Disney World, Epcott Center and other popular winter tourist attractions.

Still not warm enough to dispel that winter chill? Then consider the post convention Caribbean cruise aboard the TSS Carnivale, Jan. 15-22.

There'll be no need to warm up to the convention week activities scheduled by the AFBF for the nearly 8,000 farmers and ranchers expected to attend the annual meeting.

Headquarters hotel for the convention will be the Orlando Marriott Hotel. General convention sessions and special interest conferences will be held in the Orlando Convention Center.

The program gets underway with the Young Farmers and Ranchers Discussion Meet on Sunday afternoon, followed at 3:30 p.m. by vesper services.

General sessions are scheduled for Monday and Tuesday mornings. Special interest conferences on livestock, dairy, soybeans, sugar, citrus and deciduous fruit will be held Monday afternoon. Safemark and Farm Bureau Women's conferences will also be held Monday.

On Tuesday afternoon, conferences will be held on poultry, wheat and feed grains, ornamental horticulture and vegetables, peanuts and tobacco and cotton. Other conferences scheduled that afternoon are rural health, insurance and natural resources.

Several travel packages have been arranged by Michigan Farm Bureau through TM Travel Associates of Grand Rapids, which will receive and confirm all travel arrangements for MFB members.

Following is a brief description of the convention packages available:

## Complete Air/Hotel Package

The convention hotel for the MFB delegation will be the Sheraton Twin Towers, Orlando. This travel package includes hotel accommodations (based on double occupancy) and complete round trip air travel from Detroit, Grand Rapids or Lansing. Also included in the air/hotel package are convention registration fee, awards program and "UP With People" show admission, baggage handling, portage, airport transportation to and from the Sheraton Twin Towers, and services of a travel coordinator and hotel hospitality desk. All tips, taxes and service charges for the above services are included in the package price.

Costs for the complete air/hotel package are as follows: \$529, departing from Detroit; \$567, departing from Lansing; and \$548, departing from Grand Rapids.

## Hotel Only Package

If you wish to travel by car or make other travel arrangements on your own, let TM Travel handle your hotel and convention plans with the hotel only package. This package includes AFBF convention registration fee, awards and "UP With People" show admission, accommodations at the Sheraton Twin Towers, services of a travel coordinator and hotel hospitality desk. All hotel taxes and service charges for the above are included in the package price.

Cost for the hotel only package is \$185 per person based on double occupancy.

Free shuttle bus service to and from convention locations will be available for all registered FB conventioners.

*(continued on next page)*



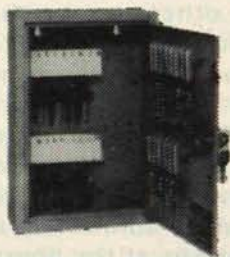
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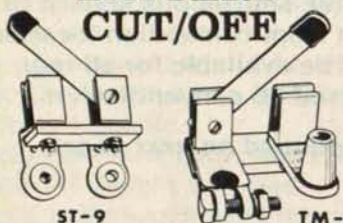
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## AFBF Convention

(continued from previous page)

### Caribbean Cruise

After spending a sunny post convention weekend at Orlando's Sheraton Twin Towers (at the special convention room rates), board the TSS Carnivale in Miami for a week long Caribbean cruise. The cost for the post convention cruise is \$1,169 per person, double occupancy.

### Contact Travel Agency

Contact TM Travel Associates of Grand Rapids for details on these AFBF convention packages, information about camping, Sea World/Florida Festival fun packages, and for brochures on what to see and do in the Orlando area.

Write or call TM Travel Associates, Inc., 4251 Plainfield Ave. NE, Grand Rapids, Mich. 49505; phone 616-364-6231. Charges for your collect call will be accepted by TM Travel.

The deadline for AFBF convention reservations is Nov. 25, 1983.

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## Say Yes to the Best

(continued from page 24)

asparagus soup using Michigan ingredients, he didn't hesitate at all.

He and his staff worked with Eadie Acton of the Michigan Asparagus Advisory Board to prepare the gourmet asparagus soup. Acton suggested test marketing the soup through the MACMA program.

"Hobie's dedication to quality is well known to MSU alumni and those who attend sporting events and meetings in East Lansing," Eppelheimer said, "so we decided to give it a try. Sales were better than expected for a first time offering — we sold about 160 gallons."

In response to suggestions from county member-to-member chairpersons, the asparagus soup is now being sold six quarts to a case instead of in gallon containers.

St. Pierre and Acton have more plans for the cream of asparagus soup.

"The response to the soup in the MACMA sale was very good, so now we're going to be working with some of the grocery chain stores throughout the state to give samples to customers during the holiday season," Acton said. "We're considering marketing it as a gourmet item in grocery stores."

"We are also giving samples of the soup at the MSU Ag and Natural Resources Alumni Autumnfest on Oct. 29 to see what the interest is," she said.

"We're very excited about finding someone like Ernie St. Pierre to work with — he has a real interest in working with Michigan agriculture, and tries to use Michigan products in anything that is prepared for his restaurants," Acton said.

You can bet Hobie's restaurants will be proudly displaying those "Say Yes to the Best From Michigan Farms" signs during Michigan week next May.

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## Legislative Review

(continued from page 7)

er to go to court if dissatisfied. FB has been strongly involved in the issue and said last spring that a procedure must be put in place to assure farmers compensation for their losses through no fault of their own. H.B. 4958 is the first step. The other issues are still to be worked out.

FB has testified that compensation should be based on replacement costs with full payment for costs of removal, disposal, relining, resurfacing, etc.

Another bill, H.B. 4771 (Nash), would provide loans at no interest for the first five years and 3% the next five years. It may be that the final solution to the PCB silo issue will be a combination of legislation. In another action, the circuit court extended the injunction given the six farmers who brought suit last May. The MDA is continuing to inspect all silos in the state. About 17,000 have been inspected so far. There are about 95 contaminated silos that are in use. All inspection samples are way below the EPA limit. Many are nondetectable.

### Medical Cost Deductions —

Three bills have recently been introduced to allow certain medical costs to be deducted from the state income tax. S.B. 467 (Posthumus) would permit the deduction of health care insurance premiums. S.B. 471 (Barcia) would permit the deduction of medical expenses and S.B. 510 (Faxon) would permit a \$2 deduction for each \$1 of additional medical expenses over 50% of the adjusted gross income. These bills have just been introduced.

FB policy has supported such approaches for self-employed people. FB has been successful in getting legislation passed that permits the deduction of health care insurance premiums from the total household in-

come that is used to determine the amount of property tax rebate available to all homeowners and renters, including farm homes and land.

### “Right to Know” Chemicals

— S.B. 373 as introduced is complex legislation that amends the MI-OSHA law and would be burdensome and expensive to employers, including farmers. It concerns better labeling, information, safety requirements, etc., about chemicals used in the work place. OSHA has estimated that a nationwide standard will cost over one-half billion dollars to initiate and over one-quarter billion dollars a year thereafter.

In the case of agriculture, farmers and others are already covered by FIFRA, the Federal Fungicide Insecticide and Rodenticide Act. S.B. 373 is presently being rewritten. FB is urging that those already under FIFRA be excluded.

### Wood Harvesting Equipment

— H.B. 4960 (Garliardi) would exempt all wood harvesting equipment from personal property tax. Farm machinery and equipment have been exempt from personal property tax for many years. In some areas, however, wood harvesting equipment is being assessed. The bill is in line with FB policy on forestry.

**Aircraft Sales Tax** — H.B. 4860 (Nash) would exempt aircraft and equipment used only for agricultural use, such as spraying, fertilizing, seeding, etc., from sales tax the same as other equipment used in agricultural production.

**Summer Property Tax** — S.B. 465 (Posthumus) would amend the law permitting summer property taxes to allow all agricultural land to be deferred from the tax on request, regardless of classification. Presently,

only land classified as agricultural is eligible for deferral. It turns out that in many areas, good full-time farms have been put in some other classification.

### Elimination of Tax Exemptions

— FB has received many calls and letters of concern regarding the six bills that would, if passed, eliminate all tax exemptions and credits from the tax system (see Legislative Review in August and September *Rural Livings* and the discussion topic in October). The bills would include all farm exemptions such as sales tax; farm personal property; P.A. 116; growing crops — fruit trees, bushes, etc.; single business tax; rights-of-way; and homestead property tax relief, to name a few.

The bills as introduced probably will not receive much action. However, it is a serious situation as the chairperson of the taxation subcommittee has stated that every exemption and credit will be closely scrutinized as time goes on. This means that at some time we will have to justify each tax exemption.

### Pick-up Truck Passengers

— H.B. 4964 would prohibit any passenger from riding on a vehicle, in a trailer, open bed, etc., unless there is a seat equipped with a seat belt. There are some exclusions including vehicles owned by the employer transporting workers to and from a work station, or used to permit an employee to do the work, such as harvesting farm produce.

The bill as written will create problems for farmers as the exclusion is limited and unclear. It also conflicts with federal regulations on transporting migrant and seasonal workers.

*Lansing legislative topics are reviewed by Robert E. Smith, senior legislative counsel.*

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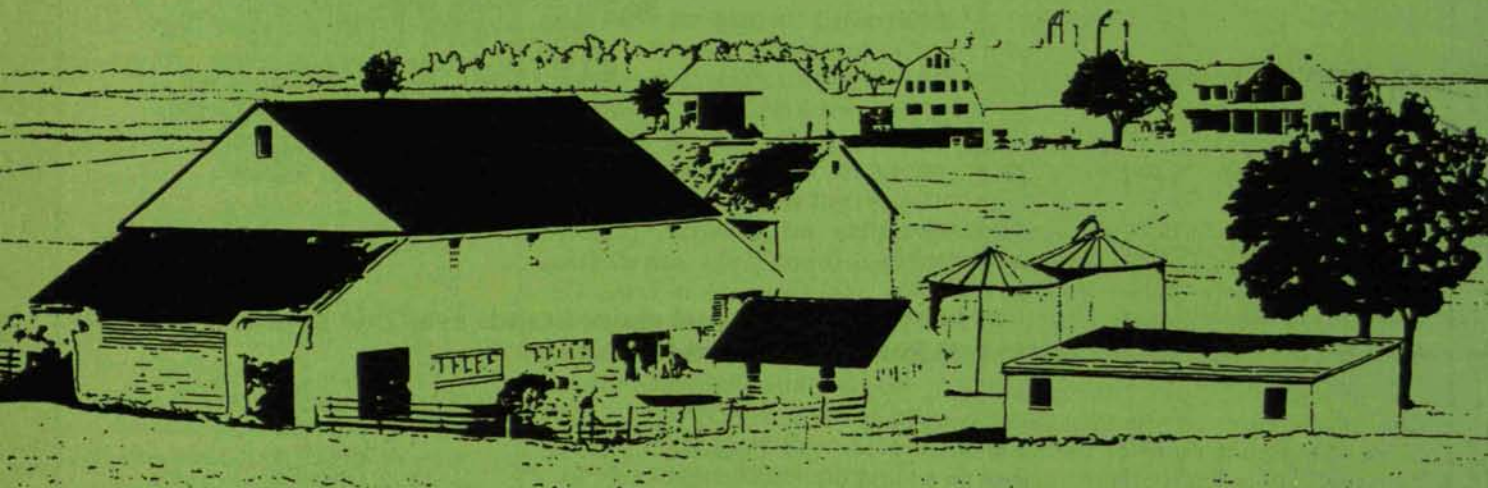
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