

RURAL LIVING

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS



U-Pick Harvest

Oct. ' 88

As sure as apples aren't oranges...



If you're offered health insurance for less than Farm Bureau rates, first read the fine print.

As sure as commonsense, there's something missing. Only Farm Bureau offers you the buying strength of three and a half million farming families and other independent businesses, to provide you with health care insurance at down-to-earth membership rates.

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Each plan offers you Blue Cross Blue Shield comprehensive major medical insurance at down-to-earth membership rates. The main difference is: as the deductible goes up, the premium goes down. But, whichever plan you choose, you'll be able to afford the regular health care you need to stay viable by avoiding unscheduled time off.

**FB MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU
FAMILY OF COMPANIES**



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call 1 (800) 292-2680 extension 3239/3240

*available in some counties

BECAUSE YOU CAN'T CALL IN SICK

MACMA HOLIDAY CITRUS SALE

FREE Baker's Special

2 1/2 lb. **APPLE SLICES**, individually quick frozen, Jonathan, citric acid and Vitamin C added to prevent browning.

2 1/2 lb. **RED TART PITTED CHERRIES**, individually quick frozen in a strong plastic storage bag.

Receive both of the above when you purchase \$100 worth of frozen fruit and/or vegetables.

**Order Deadline for
HOLIDAY CITRUS SALE
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For information on the HOLIDAY GIFT PACK, DIRECT SHIP PROGRAM, See p. 8.



**MICHIGAN'S
FARM BEST**

RURAL LIVING

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

A Publication of the Michigan Farm Bureau

About the Cover

Michigan's U-Pick Markets are both a fun and fruitful activity for the whole family. U-picks are close to home and a pleasant way to spend an autumn day.

Cover art by Ray Hilton.



Of Special Interest

The People's Choice Be prepared for the Nov. 8 General Election by reviewing the key issues and voting records of incumbents used by MFB AgriPac in making "Friend of Agriculture" endorsements....page 5

U-Pick Harvest You and your family can enjoy a plentiful harvest of food and fun at U-Pick Markets like The Country Mill in Eaton County....page 9

Rural Leader Newsletter Read this special section of news and information about issues that affect Farm Bureau and the families who make their living in the state's second largest industry -- agriculture.

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Officers: Michigan Farm Bureau President, Jack Laurie, Cass City; Vice President, Wayne Wood, Marlette; Administrative Director, Charles Burkett; Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer, Tom Parker; Secretary, William S. Wilkinson.

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Fall Session Opens With A Replay Agenda

P.A. 116 Revocable Trusts And Other Issues — Farmers in P.A. 116 who have a revocable trust face a serious problem. The treasury department suddenly changed policy and decided that any refunds should be made through the single business tax instead of the personal income tax. This would usually result in a much lower refund, and in some cases none. The IRS recognizes a revocable trust as no different than an individual.

Another serious problem resulting from the treasury department's sudden change in procedure is that some farms have other names on the deed as

a means to pass the farm on. Those in this situation are receiving bills to pay back tax refunds plus interest. The reason being that the deed shows more than one owner and the refund application should be made by each person. Farm Bureau has challenged this regulation change.

Rep. Niederstadt, D-Saginaw, introduced H.B. 5839 to resolve this issue. FB met with treasury department and House Taxation Committee staff to try to solve these issues by amending the law as necessary. The bill is expected to be considered during the fall legislative session.

Ag Budget — The General Fund appropriation for 1988-89 is \$28,192,400. This is \$2.8 million less than the 1987-88 budget. The total budget, which includes federal funds, fees and other revenue, is \$54.9 million, which is \$2.6 million less than last year. FFA and 4-H funding remained about the same. This, as most of the state budget, is very tight. In addition, the state's agriculture department is required to make discretionary reductions of \$570,000. The hiring freeze is continued, i.e., only one person can be hired for each three vacancies.

A Michigan Department of Agriculture supplemental bill provides an additional \$6.1 million for the current year. Included was \$600,000 for the MSU Cooperative Extension and Ag Experiment Station to expand the EMAT program and other drought related services to farmers. The teams provide aid to farm families in the areas of finance, stress management and future planning.

School Finance Program — It is now definite that this issue will not be on the November ballot. It may be a special election in March or April of 1989. However, the Legislature should pass the proposal by December 31, 1988, to be placed on a spring ballot.

This was a major issue throughout the entire session. Dozens of proposals and variations were considered by regular and special committees. As the session ended, the issue was before a conference committee of senators and representatives. SJR "K", the finance proposal that must be approved or rejected by the voters, was the main issue. Some of the tentative agreements were:

(continued on page 19)

Environmental Bonds Proposed on November Ballot

Ballot proposals "C" and "D" will be on the November ballot. They comprised an \$800 million bonding to be used for various environmental problems.

The bonding approval is split into two ballot issues.

Proposal C contains \$660 million for environmental protection. This includes the clean-up of Michigan's 1,800 toxic waste sites, some of which have been found in farming areas. All of them threaten ground water quality. Up to \$425 million would be used for this purpose.

The proposal also contains \$150 million to be used for solid waste projects which could include incineration, recycling, and other techniques to handle the growing problem of landfills which are an issue in every county. Farmers are often affected by landfill problems.

A Clean Water Revolving Fund would receive up to \$60 million, which in turn will generate \$365 million in federal

funds for water pollution clean-up.

Up to \$25 million would be for the Great Lakes Protection Fund. Up to 10% could be used for economic development. This would include developments connected with environmental projects.

Proposal D contains \$140 million for public recreation. Seventy million dollars would be used for renovation of state parks and facilities. Another \$70 million would be allocated for local use. The Michigan tourist industry continues to grow, creating a large number of jobs and generating a great deal of state and local revenue from out-of-state tourists.

This bond package has had months of negotiations by legislative committees. Agreement was reached by splitting the issues. The Legislature returned on Sept. 7 and in less than 2 hours, overwhelmingly passed both proposals in order to have them on the November ballot.

The PEOPLE'S CHOICE!

Some pundits say that Americans don't become interested in the election until The last out of the World Series is recorded. With the baseball season now lasting until nearly Halloween, that is clearly too late.

In contrast, it is never too early for farmers to bone up on the issues of this year's campaign.

A Look at the Record

For incumbents, a look at their voting records is the evidence used by FB to select Michigan's "Friends of Agriculture." County FB Candidate Evaluation Committees and the MFB AgriPac Committee, the organization's political action committee, selected several key issues to establish a rating system for candidates.

The following describes key issues in the U.S. and Michigan legislative bodies. Refer to the accompanying list of endorsed candidates to see the percentage of votes cast which support the FB position.

U.S. Senate (1983-88 Sen. Don Riegle)

Fiscal Year 1984 Budget (H.C.R. 91) -- Vote on approval of the Conference Report setting budget targets for FY 1984 with a deficit of \$169.9 billion and relying on new tax increases for revenues. The U.S. Senate approved the resolution June 23,

1983. Farm Bureau favored a no vote.

1981 Farm Bill Amendments (H.R. 4072) -- Vote on passage of a bill to reduce 1984 and 1985 target prices for wheat and freeze the 1985 target price for corn at the 1984 level, set terms for a 1984 and 1985 wheat acreage reduction program, require a 1984 corn acreage reduction program if certain levels of surplus are reached and expand farm export programs. The U.S. Senate passed the bill March 22, 1984. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

Vehicle Recordkeeping Requirements (H.R. 1869) -- Vote on passage of a bill to repeal IRS rules requiring detailed written records of business and personal use of motor vehicles used in farm and other business activities to qualify for tax deductions. The U.S. Senate passed the bill April 3, 1985. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

Deficit Reduction Measure (H.J.R. 372) -- Vote on Gramm-Rudman amendment to limit the federal deficit to certain levels each year through 1991 when it would reach zero and if projected deficits exceed those allowed require the president to issue an emergency order reducing all federal spending except Social Security and interest on the federal debt as well as other contractual obligations by an amount necessary to meet the established deficits. The U.S.

Senate passed the amendment October 9, 1985. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

Cargo Preference (S. 1714) -- Vote on amendment to exempt government-generated commercial agricultural exports from cargo preference requirements that one-half of such exports be carried on U.S. flag vessels, and to require that 75% of government-donated exports such as P.L. 480 be covered by cargo preference. The U.S. Senate passed the amendment October 29, 1985. Farm Bureau favored a no vote.

Mandatory Production Controls (S. 1714) -- Vote on amendment to establish producer-approved wheat and feedgrain referendums to determine if producers favored mandatory production controls. The U.S. Senate defeated the amendment November 22, 1985. Farm Bureau favored a no vote.

1985 Farm Bill (H.R. 2100) -- Vote on adoption of Conference Report on the 1985 Farm Bill to revise and extend agriculture programs through FY 1990; to modify price supports by reducing loan rates in 1986 and thereafter; to maintain farm income supports by freezing target prices at 1985 levels through 1987 and reduce them by a total of 10% over the three remaining years; to provide for agricultural exports, soil conservation, farm credit and agricultural research programs. The U.S. Senate

passed the Conference Report December 18, 1985. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

Farm Disaster Aid (H.J.R. 738) -- Vote on whether to allow consideration of an amendment authorizing PIK payments to farmers who experienced drought, flood or other disaster damage in 1986. The U.S. Senate voted to allow consideration of the amendment on October 2, 1986. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote. The amendment was later passed by a voice vote.

Farm Credit Act (H.R. 3030) -- Vote on adoption of Conference Report on the bill to provide up to \$4 billion in federally guaranteed bonds to stabilize Farm Credit System finances; guarantee borrower stock; require FCS unit mergers; allow for shareholder vote of district mergers; create a secondary market for farm real estate loans; and establish loan restructuring rights for FCS and FmHA borrowers. The U.S. Senate passed the Conference Report on December 19, 1987. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

Trade Reform Act (H.R. 3) -- Vote on adoption of Conference Report on a bill to deal with unfair foreign trade practices and import damage to U.S. businesses, authorize U.S. participation in the GATT negotiations, repeal the oil windfall profits tax and generally enhance trade opportunities for U.S. products.

U.S. Representatives (Michigan)

Farm Disaster Assistance (H.R. 1157) -- Vote on passage of a bill to provide PIK payments to grain producers who suffered crop losses in 1986 because of weather disasters, to make hay farmers and apple growers eligible for benefits under a previously enacted 1986 disaster payment program and to authorize increased spending for the disaster program subject to further appropriations. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the bill March 17, 1987. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

Trade Retaliation (H.R. 3) -- Vote on the Gephardt Amendment to the Trade Reform Act.

The amendment would require retaliation against nations that do not reduce their excessive trade surpluses with the U.S. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the amendment April 29, 1987. Farm Bureau favored a no vote because the amendment targeted nations that are large customers of U.S. farm products and invited retaliation.

FY 1988 Budget Resolution (H.C.R. 93) -- Vote on adoption of the Conference Report on the concurrent budget resolution which set spending and revenue limits for the FY beginning October 1, 1987. The \$1 trillion budget called for \$65 billion in new taxes. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the Conference Report on June 23, 1987. Farm Bureau favored a no vote.

Textile Imports (H.R. 1154) -- Vote on passage of a bill to limit imports of textiles and apparel to 1% annual increases beginning with 1986 levels, and to freeze imports of certain categories of shoes at 1986 levels. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the bill September 16, 1987.

U.S. PRESIDENT		% FB POLICY SUPPORT	DISTRICT	% POLICY SUPPORT		
George Bush (R)			15	Joe Young, Jr. (D-Detroit)	90%	
			17	Raymond Murphy (D-Detroit)	80%	
U.S. SENATE			18	Sidney Ouwinga (R-Marion)	80%	
Donald Riegle (D-Flint)		70%	19	Donald Van Singel (R-Grant)	100%	
			20	Claude Trim (R-Waterford)	90%	
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES			21	Lynn Owen (D-Maybee)	90%	
DISTRICT			23	Philip Hoffman (R-Hoffman)	100%	
	2	Carl Pursell (R-Plymouth)	100%	24	David Honigman (R-West Bloomfield)	100%
	3	Howard Wolpe (D-Lansing)	50%	25	Dennis Dutko (D-Warren)	90%
	4	Fred Upton (R-St. Joseph)	100%	26	William Browne (D-Utica)	90%
	5	Paul Henry (R-Grand Rapids)	80%	27	Vincent Porreca (D-Trenton)	80%
	6	Bob Carr (D-East Lansing)	60%	36	Gerald Law (R-Plymouth)	100%
	8	Bob Traxler (D-Bay City)	50%	37	James Kosteva (D-Canton)	90%
	9	Guy Vander Jagt (R-Luther)	70%	38	Justine Barns (D-Westland)	80%
	10	Bill Schuette (R-Sanford)	80%	39	Jerry Bartnik (D-Temperance)	100%
	11	Robert Davis (R-Gaylord)	60%	40	Timothy Walberg (R-Tipton)	80%
	18	William Broomfield (R-Birmingham)	80%	41	Michael Nye (R-Litchfield)	80%
				42	Glenn Oxender (R-Sturgis)	90%
				43	Carl Gnodtke (R-Sawyer)	80%
				44	Lad Stacey (R-Berrien Springs)	100%
				45	James Middaugh (R-PawPaw)	90%
				46	Randy Mason (R-Kalamazoo)	Non-incumbent
				47	Paul Wartner (R-Portage)	100%
				48	Donald Gilmer (R-Augusta)	90%
				49	Bill Martin (R-Battle Creek)	80%
				50	Michael Griffin (D-Jackson)	80%
				51	Susan Munsell (R-Fowlerville)	100%
				52	Margaret O'Connor (R-Ann Arbor)	80%
				54	Paul Hillemonds (R-Holland)	100%
				55	William VanRegenmorter (R-Jenison)	90%
STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES						
	5	Teola Hunter (D-Detroit)	70%			
	6	Morris Hood (D-Detroit)	60%			
	8	Carolyn Kilpatrick (D-Detroit)	90%			
	11	Stanley Stopczynski (D-Detroit)	70%			
	12	Curtis Hertel (D-Detroit)	90%			
	13	William Bryant, Jr. (R-Grosse Pointe Farms)	70%			

Farm Bureau favored a no vote because of likely retaliation against U.S. agricultural exports.

Occupational Disease Notification Act (H.R. 162) -- Vote on passage of a bill to create a Risk Assessment Board to identify workers considered at risk of developing occupational diseases, require notification of such workers, provide for employer-paid monitoring and testing of such workers, and allow workers with symptoms of disease to be transferred to other jobs or be given a paid leave of absence if another job is not available. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the bill on October 15, 1987. Farm Bureau favored a no vote.

FY 1988 Budget Reconciliation (H.R. 3545) -- Vote on passage of FY 1988 budget reconciliation bill aimed at reducing the federal budget deficit. The bill requires \$14 billion in new taxes, \$1.5 billion in spending cuts and \$1.1 billion in delayed spending achieved by cutting the proportion of advance deficiency payments made to farmers. The U.S. House of Representatives passed

the bill October 29, 1987. Farm Bureau favored a no vote.

Cargo Preference (H.R. 3100) -- Vote on amendment to exempt agricultural commodities from a proposed cargo preference requirement that U.S. goods purchased by countries receiving cash transfers be shipped on U.S. flagships. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the amendment November 19, 1987. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

Alternative Motor Fuels (H.R. 3399) -- Vote on passage of a bill to encourage, through incentives to automakers and a demonstration project, production and use of cars, trucks and buses that can run on alternative fuels including ethanol. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the bill December 14, 1987. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

Farm Credit Act (H.R. 3030) -- Vote on adoption of the Conference Report on the bill to provide up to \$4 billion in federally guaranteed bonds to stabilize Farm Credit system finances; guarantee borrower stock; require FCS unit mergers; allow for shareholder vote of district mergers; create a secondary

market for farm real estate loans; and establish loan restructuring rights for FCS and FmHA borrowers. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the Conference Report on December 18, 1987. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

Trade Reform Act (H.R. 3) -- Vote on adoption of the Conference Report on a bill to deal with unfair foreign trade practices and import damage to U.S. businesses, authorize U.S. participation in the GATT negotiations, repeal the oil windfall profits tax and generally enhance trade opportunities for U.S. products. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the Conference Report on April 21, 1988. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

Michigan House of Representatives

Agriculture Loans (S.B. 81) -- Vote on passage of a bill to deposit surplus state funds in financial institutions for making loans to farmers and grain dealers who experienced and

(continued on page 20)

DISTRICT	% POLICY SUPPORT		DISTRICT	% POLICY SUPPORT	
56	Frank Fitzgerald (R-Grand Ledge)	100%	101	Tom Hickner (D-Bay City)	100%
58	Debbie Stabenow (D-Lansing)	90%	102	David Camp (R-Midland)	Non-incumbent
60	Willis Bullard, Jr. (R-Milford)	90%	103	Ralph Ostling (R-Roscommon)	90%
61	Mat Dunaskiss (R-Lake Orion)	80%	104	Thomas Power (R-Traverse City)	80%
62	Charlie Harrison (D-Pontiac)	80%	105	Thomas Alley (D-West Branch)	90%
64	Maxine Berman (D-Southfield)	90%	106	John Pridnia (R-Harrisville)	90%
70	Lloyd Weeks (D-Warren)	90%	107	Pat Gagliardi (D-Drummond Island)	100%
71	Sal Rocca (D-Sterling Heights)	90%	109	Jim Connors (R-Iron Mountain)	80%
74	John Maynard (D-St. Clair Shores)	100%	110	Richard Sofio (D-Bessemer)	90%
75	Ken DeBeaussaert (D-New Baltimore)	100%	STATE COURT OF APPEALS		
76	James Docherty (D-Port Huron)	100%	1st	Maureen Reilly	
77	Dick Allen (R-Caro)	100%	2nd	Richard Kuhn	
78	Keith Muxlow (R-Brown City)	90%	3rd	Richard Griffin	
83	Kay Hart (D-Swartz Creek)	90%	3rd	Tom Koernke	
84	John Strand (R-Lapeer)	100%	MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES		
85	James O'Neill (D-Saginaw)	70%		Tom Reed (R-DeWitt)	
86	Lewis Dodak (D-Montrose)	80%		Ed Liebler (R-Lansing)	
87	Francis Spaniola (D-Corunna)	90%	STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION		
88	Robert Bender (R-Middleville)	90%		Barbara Dumouchelle (R-Grosse Isle)	
89	Gary Randall (R-Elwell)	90%	STATE SUPREME COURT		
90	Victor Krause (R-Rockford)	90%		James Brickley (Non-Partisan)	
91	Walter DeLange (R-Kentwood)	80%		Charles Levin (Non-Partisan)	
92	Thomas Mathieu (D-Grand Rapids)	100%			
93	Richard Bandstra (R-Grand Rapids)	80%			
94	Ken Sikkema (R-Grandville)	80%			
95	Alvin Hoekman (R-Holland)	100%			
96	Mickey Knight (R-Muskegon)	90%			
97	Debbie Farhat (D-Muskegon)	100%			
98	Ed Giese (R-Manistee)	100%			
99	Joanne Emmons (R-Big Rapids)	100%			
100	Roland Niederstadt (D-Saginaw)	100%			



**MICHIGAN'S
FARM BEST**

MACMA TASTEFULLY MICHIGAN FOOD SAMPLERS

**Have the Good Taste to Share the Great Taste
Send Some Michigan Home for the Holidays**

Champion Summer Sausage 3 lb.
\$14.95

MSU Cheddar Cheese 2 1/2 lb. block
\$14.75

Old Fashion Apple Variety Pack

Twelve different varieties from a Winter Banana to a Red Gravenstein. One dozen different apples with a history and story for each.
\$21.95

Great Lakes Cutting Board

Maple board from Northern Michigan (1" thick) laminated with a satellite photo image of the Five Great Lakes and other major Michigan lakes in dark blue. Includes Cherry Almondine Sauce (10 oz.), Red Raspberry Seedless Preserves (10 oz.), and our nationally famous Michigan Farm Bureau super concentrated Apple Cider Concentrate.

\$23.50

Michigan Wood Box

Reusable Wooden Box
Red Raspberry (10 oz.)
Cherry Almondine Sauce (10 oz.)
Summer Sausage (1 lb.)
Dried Tart Cherries (1/4 lb.)
Pinconning Cheese (1/2 lb.)
\$24.50

Michigan Cherry Pack

Wood Crate
2 bottles of Cherry Royale (25.4 oz. each)
Dried Cherries (1/4 lb.)
White Chocolate Cherry Clusters (1/4 lb.)
Dark Chocolate Cherry Clusters (1/4 lb.)
\$24.50

Michigan's Best

Boneless Ham, fully cooked (2 1/2 lb.)
Hickory Stick (summer sausage) (1 lb.)
MSU Cheddar Cheese (1/2 lb.)
Red Raspberry Seedless Preserves (10 oz.)
Cherry Mustard (10 oz.)
Dried Cherries (4 oz.)
\$24.75

Michigan Supreme Pack

Mug of Wild Honey (1 pt.)
Maple Syrup (1/2 pt.)
Boneless Ham (2 1/2 lb.)
Hickory Stick (Summer Sausage) (1 lb.)
Smoked Turkey Breast (1 1/2 lb.)
Red Raspberry Seedless Preserves (10 oz.)
Cherry Mustard (10 oz.)
MSU Smoked Cheddar Cheese (1/2 lb.)
MSU Tillsetter (1/2 lb.)
Honey Cream (10 oz.)
\$48.50

Tastefully Yes

National Champion Summer Sausage (3 lb.)
MSU Cheddar Cheese, wax dip (2 1/2 lb.)
Vintage Ham (long cure, pre-cooked boneless) (4 1/2 lb.)
Cherry Mustard (10 oz.)
Red Raspberry Seedless Preserves (10 oz.)
Honey Cream (10 oz.)
Jug of Apple Cider Concentrate (mix 5 to 1) (16 oz.)
\$64.00

All above prices include UPS handling and shipping anywhere in the continental U.S.

DEADLINE: Order by December 9, 1988, to guarantee the pre-Christmas delivery. Dial 517-323-7000 or, in Michigan 1-800-292-2680, and ask for GIFT PACK extension to order. VISA and MasterCharge accepted.

Gift packs available without shipping through county Farm Bureaus.
For county order deadline and Holiday Citrus Sale information, see p. 3.

All products 100% satisfaction guaranteed



U-Pick Harvest

By Kimberly Marshall Neumann

When the air turns crisp and cool, people naturally start craving fresh, juicy Michigan apples. And if you have never had the experience of picking your own apples, you are missing out on a lot of Fall fun!

There are many outstanding u-picks and farm markets throughout the state. One, in Eaton County, is The Country Mill, family owned and operated by Bernie and Ann Tennes. It opens in August and closes the Sunday before Christmas.

"This year's busy season started earlier because of the cool weather at the end of

August," said Ann. "We had not even started to advertise, except with the newsletter we send out. As soon as the weather turned cool, the business started turning out. People just start thinking about apples and cider when the weather cools off."

The Country Mill fruit farm has a long history. The apple orchard was planted sometime after the Civil War. Several of the original Northern Spy trees continue to produce and serve as a link to history. The cider mill was established in 1963 and the bakery developed almost immediately.

The Tennes' bought the farm in the early 1970s. Since then, they have continued to replant most of the orchard with semi-dwarf trees. Over 12,000 small, easy to harvest apple trees flourish with 22 varieties to choose from.

Drought Effects

"The apple crop was down to begin with because of the dry weather we had last year, how much more it will be down because of this year's drought, I don't know," said Ann. "We did cover the whole orchard with the equivalent to at least an inch of

water three times this summer and we kept most of the apples hanging on. We have some apples that really sized up nice.

Ann said they would be short on Matsu, and that Red Delicious, Golden Delicious, Jonathans, and Northern Spys would be little light. On the other hand, there is going to be a nice crop of Ida Reds and Mac-Intoshes.



You don't have to be from the city to enjoy a day at The Country Mill. Eaton County dairy wife, Denise Droscha and her son, tried their hand at apple picking and paring.

"We hope that we got enough water on the trees this summer that we will have a good crop for next year," said Ann. "We already have the irrigation pipe on the farm to bury. We are starting to work seriously towards trickle irrigation. I don't know if we will have it all in place by next spring or not, but at least to some degree part of the farm will be covered. We see that this dry weather could very well be a trend for years to come, which is what everybody is talking about. So for us trickle irrigation is a must. We have already lost some Douglas Firs that were ready to be table top Christmas trees this year."

How A U-Pick Works

When you arrive at The Country Mill a large blackboard is in plain sight listing what is available to pick. At the u-pick check out counter picking guidelines are explained. You will be asked to sign a card agreeing to abide by the guidelines.

At the end of each row, a sign identifies the variety growing there. Little red wagons are available for you to use in transporting your harvest and are large enough so that small children can ride, too. Or, on the weekends, your whole family can ride a farm wagon out to the orchard.

"So many of the people who come here, are not just here to pick a bag of apples. They are here for the walk, for the experience of being here on the farm," said Ann. "There is a pond, with an overlooking hill, the pumpkin patch, and the orchard for everyone to enjoy."

After you have finished your harvest, just return to the u-pick check out register and pay.

Inside The Market

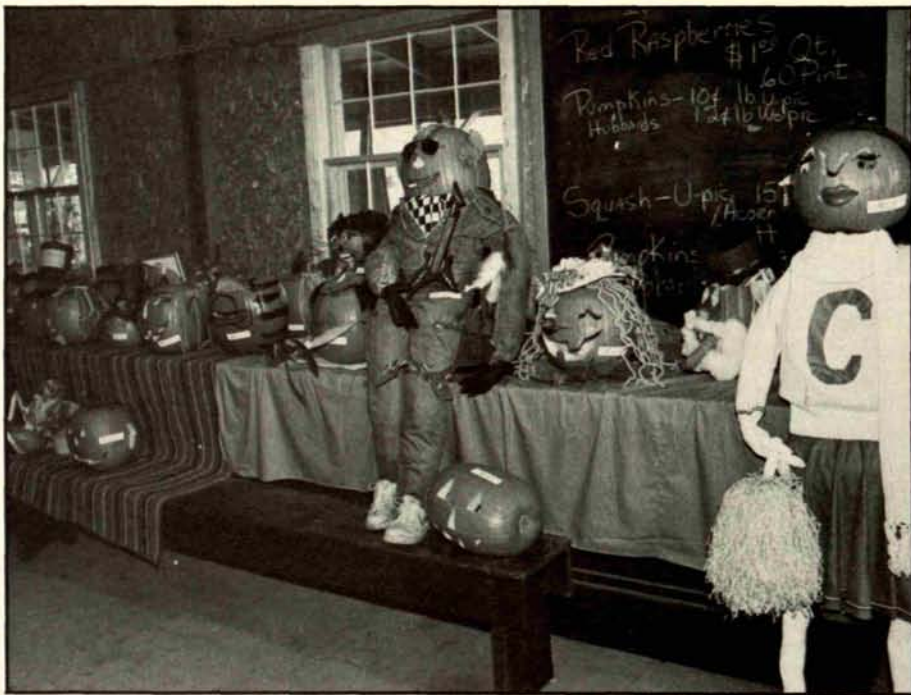
Browsing around the inside The Country Mill is a special experience, too. Ann has handwritten signs throughout the store

relating a behind the scenes story about an item, a helpful hint, a cooking tip, or just a bit of humor.

"I don't just stock whatever comes along that looks like its going to sell. I try to stock only quality items that are related to apples -- preparing apples or apple uses. Many of these items have little stories behind them, or a reason that we are selling it."

Finding it impossible to be able to share this information with every customer, Ann found the signs to be the perfect way "to put a little bit of ourselves with the product to explain what is behind it for everyone.

"I always try to listen to the customers, and pick up little hints from them as to what works or is popular, because they are the ones who keep this market going," said Ann. "When I hear a customer say 'this is my first trip out this year, but I'll be back, because I always like to come without the kids so I can read all your signs,' it lets me know they appreciate it. Or I'll see the men stand and read the signs while their wives are looking around thing, and they will start grinning at some amusing story. I just like the flavor that the signs add to the market."



Fresh Bakery Products Made On Site

Baked fresh at The Country Market are fried cakes, apple pies, including Dutch apple, sugar-free (sweetened with MACMA's apple concentrate), and caramel apple pie. The apple, Dutch apple and sugar-free pies can be purchased frozen, ready for you to bake.

"We sell more frozen, ready-to-bake pies than we actually bake ourselves," said Ann. "People really seem to like the idea of baking their own pie."

Also available is apple cinnamon pull-apart bread, fruit leather made with sugar-free applesauce, and giant cinnamon rolls with many, many swirls of cinnamon and apple. Something new this year is apple peanut butter fudge, a recipe that Ann created last winter.

School Tour Program

At The Country Mill the school tour season starts about mid-September continues right on through to Halloween. Last year 3,500 children toured the orchard in seven weeks.

"We've been conducting tours ever since we opened up in 1971," said Ann. "We started off by having the retired gentleman we bought the farm from conduct the tours for the first three years, then I did them until we started getting up to a couple of thousand kids, it was just impossible for me to keep up with everything so, for the last six years I've hired someone."

"There is an apple costume that the person who takes them to the orchard usually gets into. Every year we have a theme for the orchard tour, last year it was using the five senses to experience the orchard. The children also see and learn all about the equipment that we use here inside of the building, and we give them a glass of cider and a doughnut to enjoy, then its off to the pumpkin patch.

"At the pumpkin patch this year the kids will get a trick or treat bag, with the safety rules on one side, and a coupon on the

How They Carry On!



other, so that when they get home their parents can see where they went and they can come back to get their pumpkins for a dollar off.

"I think we do a good job with the children, we take time with them, and we don't over-schedule. Each group is here for almost two hours.

"A rainy day version was developed in the fall of 1986, when the rains came and didn't stop. The first couple of rainy days we just canceled, but when we realized that the rain wasn't going to stop, we decided to do the whole tour inside and talk about the uses of apples.

"The kids sort of eat their way around the market. For example, we give them a sample of the apple butter, talk about how and why the butter is made, the fruit leather that we make here, which is made from dry applesauce, and of course, the dried apples themselves. They also can watch the electric peeling and coring machine that we use in making pies in action. The tour inside is just as informative as the outside tour.

"The tours are good public relations and help to promote the business."

Don't Miss Out

The Tennes' goal at The Country Mill is to share the farm experience with families who visit. They want their farm guests to have a good time harvesting or choosing fresh farm produce and quality, Michigan products. They have various recipe sheets and folders available to assist you in easy preparation and preservation of their products. They welcome any questions and give free advice.

To find out what farm markets and u-picks are available near you contact Bob Eppelheimer, manager of the Michigan Certified Farm Markets Division of the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association, 1-517-323-7000, extension 2304, or the Center for Agricultural Innovation and Development, 1-517-373-1058.

Ripe For The Picking Harvest Festivals



FALL FESTIVAL FINDS

include cornucopia of activities ranging from tasting homegrown treats to entering the past. Taste bud tempters are arriving by the bushels, containing apples, apple-butter, cider, wine, peaches, potatoes and pumpkins. Hands-on fun involves sorghum-making in Three Oaks. Bessemer's Pumpkin Fest challenges runners with a 5-mile harvest marathon.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Oktoberfest, Copper Harbor, Oct. 10-11. | 11. Oktoberfest, Port Huron, Oct. 7-8. |
| 2. Autumnfest, Bloomfield Hills, Sept. 17-18, 24-25, Oct. 1-2. | 12. Pumpkin Fest, Bessemer, Oct. 7-8. |
| 3. Whitelake Oktoberfest, Whitehall, Sept. 29-Oct. 1. | 13. Color Cruise and Island Fest, Grand Ledge, Oct. 7-9. |
| 4. Autumn Harvest Fest, Dearborn, Sept. 30-Oct. 2. | 14. Oktoberfest, Grand Haven, Oct. 7-9. |
| 5. Harvest Fest, Rockford, Sept. 30-Oct. 2. | 15. Pumpkinfest, South Lyon, Oct. 7-9. |
| 6. Fall Harvest Day, Alpena, Oct. 1. | 16. White Pine Village Autumn Fest, Ludington, Oct. 8-9. |
| 7. Sorghum Fest, Three Oaks, Oct. 1-2. | 17. Apple Fest, Bangor, Oct. 14-17. |
| 8. Apple Festival, Belding, Oct. 2. | 18. Oktoberfest, Gaylord, Oct. 15. |
| 9. Fall Harvest Day, Jackson, Oct. 2. | 19. Fall Harvest Jubilee, Flint, Oct. 15-16. |
| 10. Pumpkin Festival, Caro, Oct. 6-9. | 20. Applebutter Fest, Lansing, Oct. 29-30. |

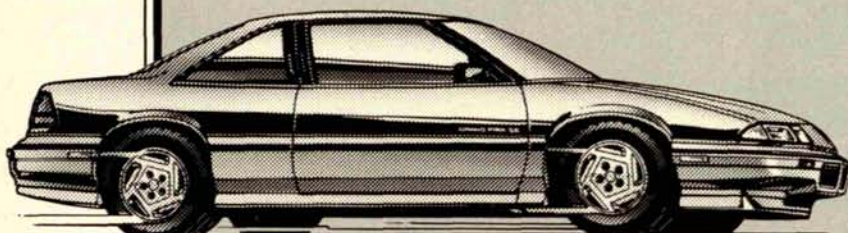
Editor's note: Since dates may change or events may be canceled, check before going.

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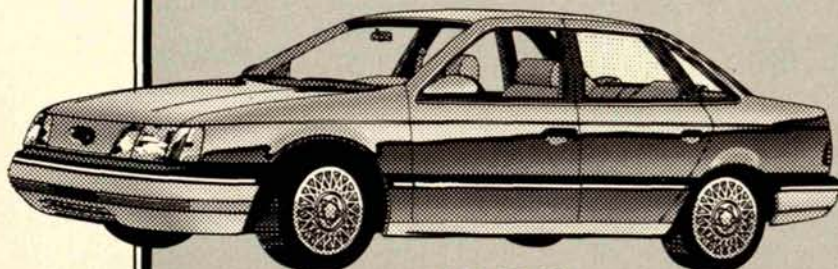
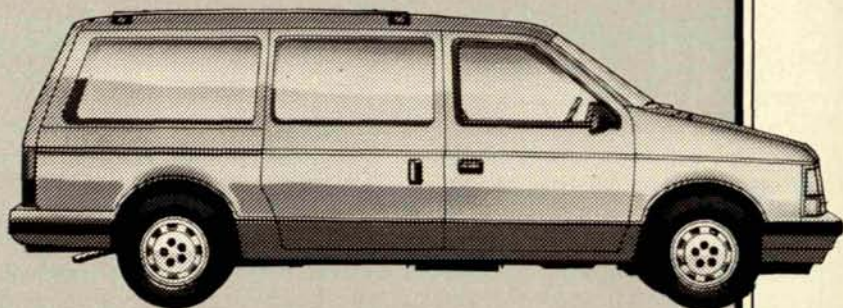
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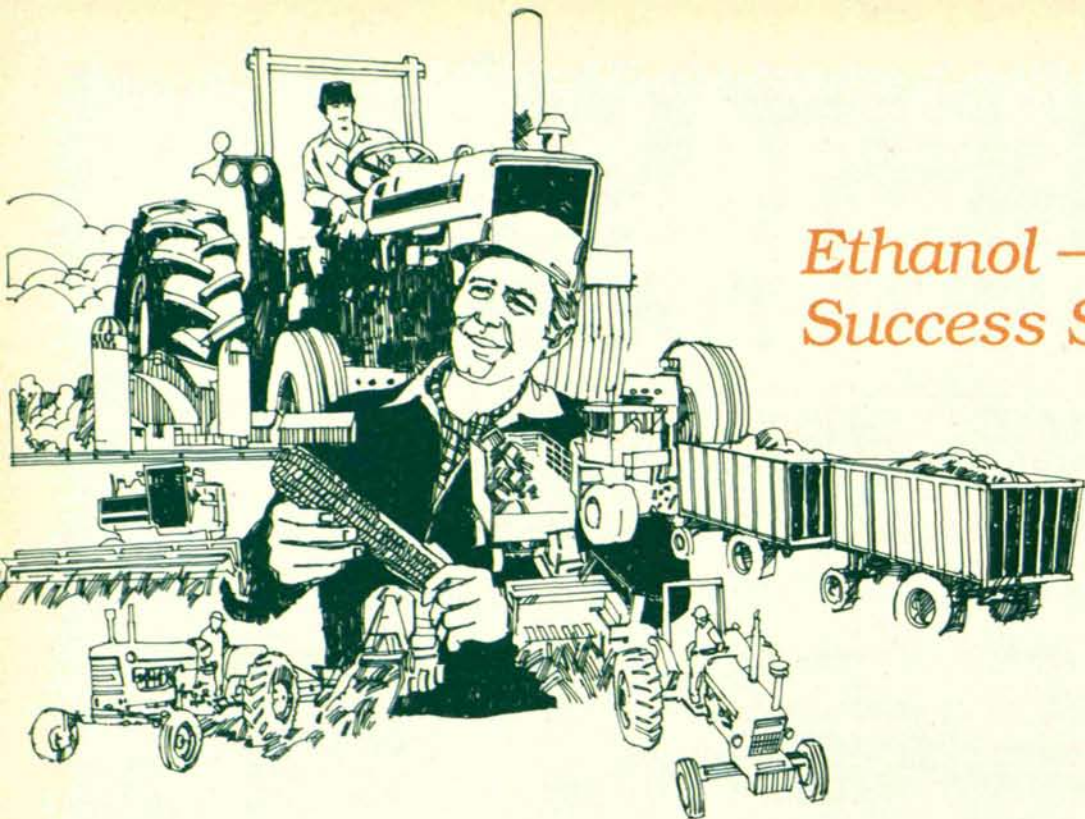


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Ethanol — A Success Story



The American Farm Bureau Federation, in cooperation with *Successful Farming* magazine, National Corn Growers Association, and the Renewable Fuels Association, sponsored the first national conference on ethanol in Nashville, Tenn. in mid-July. Attending from Michigan were MFB Senior Legislative Counsel Bob Smith, and Michigan Corn Growers Association President Roger Himebaugh.

Richard Krumme, editor of *Successful Farming*, chaired the conference. Other speakers included Dean Kleckner, AFBF president; Keith Hora, president NCGA; Bill Swank, Ohio FB executive vice president and chairman of the National Advisory Panel on Ethanol Production; Eric Vaughn, president, Renewable Fuels Association; Barry Carr, Congressional Research Service; Richard Baker, Ford Motor Company; and Barbara Chaines, Coloradans for Clean Air.

A panel included farmers from various states. An Idaho farmer related that a group of farmers had asked a major oil company to make ethanol blended gas available to motorists. When told the alternative fuel wasn't available, the farmers promptly can-

celled their business with the oil company including fuel, fertilizers, chemicals, supplies, etc. The result? Ethanol blended gasoline was available the next day!

Supporters and promoters of ethanol fuel from farm crops exchanged key information during the conference, including:

Oil imports increased from 37.2% in 1978 to 44.5% in 1988. Domestic oil production declined. Use of 10% ethanol would cut imports 12%.

Only 20 million bushels of corn were used for ethanol in 1979. This shot up to over 340 million bushels in 1987. Estimates project over 1 billion bushels by 1995.

Ethanol has proven to be an effective replacement of lead in fuel and a safe octane booster.

Ethanol development has led to numerous other products, e.g., biodegradable plastics, road de-icers, disposable bottles, various filters, super water absorbers, medicines, adhesives, high protein and vitamin feed, etc. Scientists believe that virtually anything made from petroleum can also be made from corn.

All auto companies approve ethanol blends.

Ethanol blend fuels can decrease carbon monoxide emissions by 25-30% resulting in substantial air quality improvements.

Environmental groups are supporting ethanol in gas for reducing air pollution. Colorado mandated the use of oxygenated gasoline for two months last winter and carbon monoxide was reduced 8-11%. Over 90 cities are not meeting EPA standards, some are in Michigan.

Farmers depend on new corn uses such as ethanol for markets.

Less than 30% of the nation's farmers use ethanol blended products.

A modified Ford tractor burning 100% ethanol was demonstrated. It's rated 54 horsepower, but develops 60 horsepower. Eight of them are being used by the Illinois Department of Highways. The only problem is it runs too cool, a bare hand can be held on the manifold and exhaust pipe. Further modifications will be made to use fuel injectors.

They concluded that ethanol from farm crops is a proven, renewable product that is environmentally sound.



Say NO to More Taxes

The American Farm Bureau Federation launched a nationwide "No More Taxes" campaign and, according to Michigan Farm Bureau President Jack Laurie, members in Michigan will be actively involved.

"All Farm Bureau members have had great concern over the past few years about the budget deficit and the lack of fiscal responsibility on the federal level. The 'No More Taxes' campaign is an opportunity to say to those folks who are aspiring to represent us in Congress that now is the time to face up to the issue and to reflect as a Congress that sense of responsibility in addressing the fiscal position of our country," Laurie said.

"This is a member program. The responsibility is in the hands of the individual member to say to his congressman, 'no more taxes,' and to ask him to carry out campaign promises that we hear being made and become very suspicious about whether there is any sincerity behind the promises," he said.

"Every member will be encouraged to participate in the program, and to deliver the 'no more taxes' message to both incumbents and challengers."

Laurie said the federal budget can be balanced without raising taxes. "We can very simply do it by using the revenue that comes

from increased economic growth of the country due to NOT raising taxes.

"History proves that any tax increase is followed very soon by a recession on the part of the whole country, and unfortunately, agriculture is always impacted first by a recession and probably more dramatically than any other industry in the country. So, consequently, we in agriculture have a real stake in keeping a growth economy as we have now.

Questions for Candidates

As a resource guide for Farm Bureau members, the questions listed below can be used to find out the tax policy positions of congressional candidates, as well as those of the presidential aspirants.

Which of the following farm policies would you pursue?

- (a) Higher guaranteed price supports, coupled with production controls.
- (b) Essentially a continuation of the 1985 Farm Act with only minor changes.
- (c) Phasing out of controls and subsidies.
- (d) Phasing out of controls and subsidies, in return for a reduction of trade barriers through international agreement.

(e) Decoupling farmer program benefits from production.

(f) Targeting farm program benefits to certain size farms.

Which, if any, of the following policies would you favor as a means of dealing with the deficit?

- (a) Constitutional amendment requiring a balanced budget.
 - (b) Line-item veto for the president.
 - (c) Freezing expenditures until Congress reforms all spending programs.
 - (d) Cutting some expenditures and raising some taxes.
 - (e) Cutting expenditures.
 - (f) Raising taxes.
 - (g) Reforming the congressional budget process.
- If you favor new sources of federal tax revenue, which of the following do you favor?
- (a) Increase in the income tax rate on high-income taxpayers.
 - (b) Value-added or other consumption tax.
 - (c) Import tax on petroleum.
 - (d) Increase the highway use tax and other excise taxes.
 - (e) Increasing estate taxes.
 - (f) No new taxes. In light of federal budget constraints, do you favor federal laws requiring businesses to provide employee benefits such as health insurance, parental leave, and others?

Two New Books Celebrate American Country Life

One Day In The Country/USA

One hundred leading photographers. Twenty-four hours. Oct. 1, 1988. On this day, the U.S. countryside will be captured by the eye of the camera: its rural areas, small communities, and people, in all 50 states. The result, a unique photographic document. *One Day In The Country/USA*, will unveil the particular power and beauty of the American countryside.

Robert E. Smith, editor, said, "This publication is designed to increase the sense of consciousness about and appreciation for the special qualities of life in the countryside today." The coffee-table, photo-essay book will be produced by Silver Image Productions, Inc. with corporate support. Distribution will occur in the fall of 1989.


The New Northrup King, in association with Silver Image Productions, Inc., will sponsor a country/USA photo contest for FFA and 4-H members. This contest will be held simultaneously with the professional shoot on Oct. 1. Cash prizes and scholarships totalling \$8,000 will be awarded.

Producer/Director Richard E. Brooks, in describing the vast organization needed to cover all fifty states, explained that "The majority of the professional photographers will be shooting in their own backyard. Regional coordinators will be in place to assist the photographers, news media, and to handle the massive details of this event."



A Look at Rural Life from Reader's Digest

"*Country Ways* captures the essence of American rural life through essays, stories and poems, cooking, crafts, music, and art," said Dana Adkins, the project editor. "It's a book to daydream with. It will take you home, whether you've lived in the country or wish you did." *Country Ways*, published by *Readers Digest*, is available at most retail outlets.



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Center—Satin Award Jacket, 100% DuPont nylon, flannel lined with 100% contrasting stretch nylon trim. Slash pockets, raglan sleeves, machine washable. Silver.
STYLE #886 \$26.00

Right—100% Cotton V-Neck Sweater with saddle shoulders. Grey.
STYLE #837 \$28.50

NOT SHOWN—
V-Neck Sweater
100% Acrylic, set-in sleeves.

STYLE #817 \$20.75

V-Neck Sweater-Vest
100% Orion, interlock fabric. Grey.

LADIES STYLE #804 \$21.70

MENS STYLE #805 \$21.70



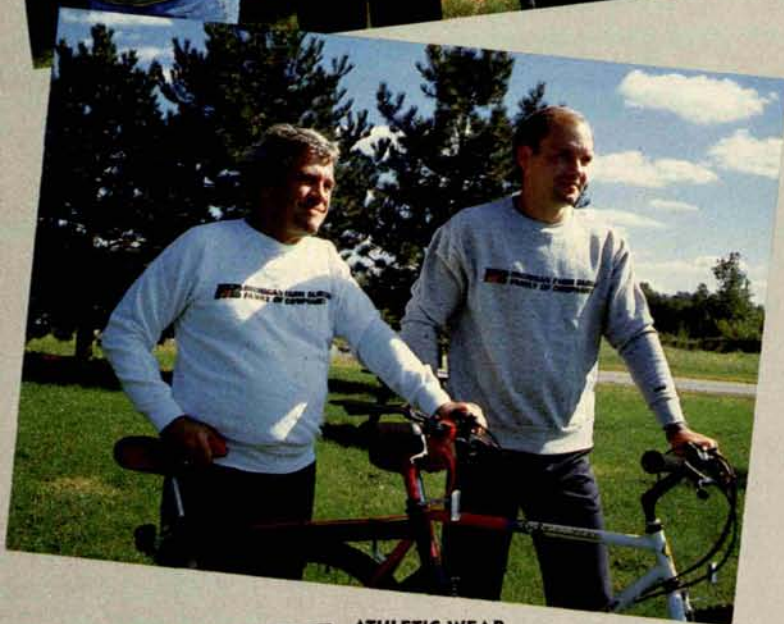
Golf Shirt, heavyweight mesh, 50% cotton-50% polyester, rib cuffs, fashion collar. Grey.
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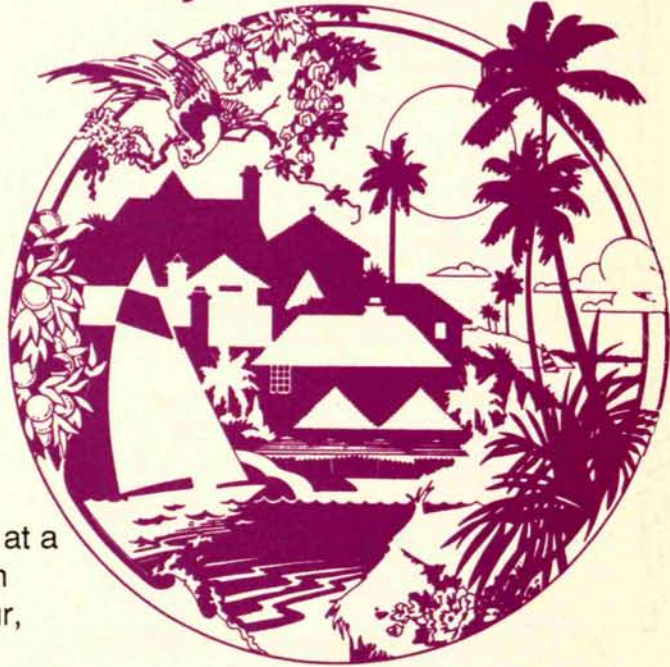
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Legislative Review

(continued from page 4)

-- Increase the sales tax 2% (from 4% to 6%) to replace any school property tax cut.

-- A 28 mill property tax limitation on school operating millage with full reimbursement by the state the first year. Any millage up to 28 mills would be foundation millage.

-- Three years later allow school districts to levy an additional two mills by vote.

-- In an emergency resulting from a 15% or more increase in operating revenue, allow additional millage if approved by the state Board of Education and a vote of the electors.

-- Provide a \$7,500 SEV homestead exemption for only school operating millage with state reimbursement.

-- Exempt households from sales tax on residential utilities.

-- Increase the circuit-breaker for seniors and renters.

-- Replace the annual General Fund school appropriation with an additional 25% of the existing four cents of non-auto related sales tax and 20% of the existing 4% use tax to the School Aid Fund.

-- Amendments to the Headlee sections of the Constitution to implement the reform proposals.

-- Reimburse local schools from the School Aid Fund. Future reimbursement will be based on SEV growth or increase in School Aid Fund.

School property taxes and other reductions would total \$1.202 billion. The 2 cent sales/use tax increase would be \$1.608 billion leaving a net tax increase of \$406 million. A General Fund increase of \$110 million would provide a total increase for school operation of \$516 million or more.

Other Current Issues

A bill was introduced to provide a state subsidy for federal crop insurance. S. 992, introduced by Sen. Barcia, D-Bay City, would provide incentive for Michigan farmers to buy crop insurance by requiring the

(continued on page 20)

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Based on a Saturday Evening Post illustration by Norman Rockwell

The first issue of "The County Agent" is strictly limited to a manufacturing period of 100 days or a subscription period that will end on December 31, 1988, whichever comes first. The second issue will end its manufacturing period on September 30, 1989. Once the edition is closed, no additional orders will be accepted and no additional plates will ever be made.

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Two authentic reproduction plates of a Norman Rockwell painting titled "The County Agent" are now available from the Michigan 4-H Foundation. These limited edition plates are collectors' items and proceeds from their sales benefit the Michigan 4-H Dairy program. When you buy them, you're not just adding a beautifully crafted item to your home, you're helping young people continue the tradition of 4-H as they learn by doing.

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People's Choice

(continued from page 7)

could prove specific levels of loss due to 1986 weather disasters. The Michigan House of Representatives passed the bill April 15, 1987. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

Farm Operations Liability (H.B. 4202) -- Vote on a bill to provide owners of U-Pick operations, land on which individuals are allowed to glean crops or land on which persons may hunt for a fee with protection against liability for injuries. The Michigan House of Representatives passed the bill June 3, 1987. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

Farm Vehicles (H.B. 4054) -- Vote on passage of a bill to allow the movement of farm equipment of any width on public roads during daylight hours as long as the flow of traffic is not impeded. After dark the equipment must display front lights, rear lights must also be visible or the equipment must be followed by a vehicle displaying rear lights, and the equipment may not legally move left of the road center. The Michigan House of Representatives passed the bill June 4, 1987. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

Corn Detasseling (H.B. 4507) -- Vote on passage of a bill to exempt persons 13 years of age and older who work detasseling corn from permits and other regulations of the Youth Employment Standards Act except hours worked per day or week. The Michigan House of Representatives passed the bill June 5, 1987. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

FY 1988 Agriculture Budget (S.B. 117) -- Vote on passage of Fiscal Year 1988 budget for the Michigan Department of Agriculture. The Michigan House of Representatives passed the bill June 30, 1987. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

Grain Dealers (H.B. 4799) -- Vote on passage of a bill to provide for a 1/10th center check-off on the value of grain sold with proceeds earmarked for a fund to pay producers in the

event of grain dealer bankruptcy. The check-off would not begin until approved by producers voting in a referendum. The Michigan House of Representatives passed the bill Dec. 16, 1987. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

Agricultural Odors (H.B. 5143) -- Vote on passage of a bill to exempt agricultural odors from the definition of air pollution if the farm operation is following generally accepted agricultural and management practices. The Michigan House of Representatives passed the bill November 19, 1988. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

Right-to-Farm (S.B. 534) -- Vote on passage of a bill protecting farm operations conducted in accordance with generally accepted agricultural and management practices from nuisance complaints. The Michigan House of Representatives passed the bill Dec. 1, 1987. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

Farmland and Open Space (H.B. 4918) -- Vote on passage of a bill to allow farmers with land enrolled in P.A. 116 to receive their refund before having to pay property taxes without penalty. The Michigan House of Representatives passed the bill March 9, 1988. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

P.A. 116 Refunds (H.B. 5585) -- Vote on passage of a bill to allow farmers to carry backwards and carry forward farm operational losses and capital losses when computing their P.A. 116 refunds. The Michigan House of Representatives passed the bill May 25, 1988. Farm Bureau favored a yes vote.

Legislative Review

(continued from page 19)

state of Michigan to pay a portion of the premium. The state cost share in the premium would address one of the apparent problems in purchasing crop insurance, that being the high premium.

The pesticide bill, H.B. 4674, remains in the Senate Agriculture Committee. There have been discussions with the sponsor, Rep. Stabenow, D-Lansing, and

chair of the Senate Committee, Sen. Smith, R-Addison, to work out additional amendments. The primary focus of the bill is to provide additional and adequate regulation on commercial applicators. FB was successful in obtaining several key amendments on the bill and continues to work for additional clarification.

The package of truck bills, which includes 20 from the House and four from the Senate, contains many provisions of interest and concern to farmers. The bills address similar or identical issues. FB continues to work with the various sponsors and chairs of both the House and Senate committees to address additional concerns.

A package of bills dealing with water quality received initial hearings in the House. They deal with underground tanks, well drilling requirements, and liability as a result of leaks or spills. Additional bills are anticipated which will deal with a broad spectrum of water quality problems which may be attributed to or impact agriculture. FB will continue to work with the sponsors on the bills which impact agriculture.

A rewrite of the Animal Industry Act, S. 511, remains in the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture. An area of concern deals with the cap on indemnification for livestock which are condemned to protect health of livestock or humans. Currently, the cap is not to exceed \$1,000 for any individual animal based on appraisal of market value of the animal. The bill received considerable input during both Senate and House Ag Committee hearings.

Legislative topics are reviewed and written by MFB Public Affairs staff Robert Smith, senior legislative counsel, and Ron Nelson, legislative counsel.
