

Farmfest gaining interest of many

LAKE CRYSTAL, MINN. — FARMFEST '76 - a 1200-acre, seven-day extravaganza destined to be the nation's top bicentennial ag event - is growing faster and bigger than its sponsors ever dreamed ... and it's still about a year away. Here's a brief look at what's happening:

-The 91-acre exhibit area is sold out.

-Reservations are being taken for probable exhibit area expansion.

-Nearly 500 companies and organizations are already participating.

-Official ARBA recognition makes FARMFEST '76 America's Bicentennial Salute to Agriculture.

-Thousands of contacts have been made for historical and educational contributions.

-Some 50 chambers of commerce are represented on Advisory Council.

-The nation's 465,000 FFA members soon will launch a massive advance ticket sales.

-\$200,000 is being invested in the site preparation.

-Prospects of one million FARMFEST visitors are becoming more likely each day.

"FARMFEST '76 is proving that the spirit of '76 is more alive in rural America than anywhere else," says Ed Hart executive director of the event set for September 13-19, 1976, near Lake Crystal, Minnesota. "We're just amazed at the enthusiastic acceptance and national support for FARMFEST '76."

FARMFEST '76 is sponsored by Agricultural Promotions, Inc. (API), a non-profit public corporation of farmers, educators, agribusiness leaders and others. API sponsored FARMFEST U.S.A. in 1972, which attracted 350,000 persons.

"We've had tremendous participation in two preliminary events already," Del Hodgkins,

president of API, reports. "Last spring, as a preview of crop conditions, we launched the 1975 National Crops Test Center right here at the site. Ed Hart and his crews planted 106 corn hybrids and 28 soybean varieties in a 300-acre area - the largest demonstration of its kind anywhere in the nation."

"And in July, we were proud to have John W. Warner, head of the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration, here to help us dedicate the site," Hodgkins says. "The ARBA's official recognition is very important to FARMFEST '76. Mr. Warner's appearance highlighted an exciting day-long program with bands, flag-raising by a historic volunteer infantry, 21 shot cannon salute and the kick-off meeting of our broad-based Advisory Council."

This fall will also mark the start of a nationwide advance ticket sales effort by the Future Farmers of America. FFA chapters across the nation will earn commissions by selling tickets at discounted early-purchase prices. At last fall's national convention the FFA designated FARMFEST '76 as its official national bicentennial activity.

According to Hart, dozens of major events and activities are shaping up for FARMFEST '76, including:

AG COMPETITIONS GALORE - 20th World Championship Tractor Pull with \$40,000 purse, World Championship Horse Pulling Contest with \$10,000 purse, National Horse Plowing Contest, chuck wagon races, FARMFEST '76 Invitational Horseshoe Pitching Contest, and contests in tractor plowing, mechanical corn picking, and hand corn husking.

ONE THOUSAND acres of field and farmstead demonstrations - harvesting, plowing, grain drying, tillage, weed and insect control, seed plots, growing

examples of crops from every part of America, livestock breed exhibits, rural homes and living, farm credit, farm buildings, states, cities, and educational institutions.

PERMANENT MEMORIAL to the American Farmer atop a 40-foot knoll overlooking the event, containing a 100-200 year "time capsule" with a memento from each FARMFEST '76 participant.

FREE STAGE SHOWS - top-name entertainers and political leaders appearing before vast audience in the five-acre natural amphitheater northeast of "American Farmer Monument Hill," and a massive final Sunday church service.

HISTORICAL DISPLAYS - antique farm equipment and tools, demonstrations of historic trades and crafts, every tractor ever made, and pageants re-creating the epic story of American Agriculture.

MUCH, MUCH MORE - women's activity center, a working 1900 farmstead,

education hall with seminars and programs, possible network television documentary, and commemorative postage stamps, books and albums.

Some firms deserve to be singled out for particularly generous contributions, according to Hart. Big dollar sponsors of special events and contributors of free materials and equipment

include: Pioneer Hi-Bred, Trojan Seed, DeKalb AgResearch, Farm Credit Banks of St. Paul, Midland Cooperatives, Farm Wife News, Harvestore, Morton Buildings, Ford Tractor, Chevrolet, P-A-G, Peterson Seed, Moews, Melroe, Crystal Co-op, Ciba Geigy, Monsanto, Feeken Manufacturing, and Snapper Mower.

Seed companies contributing to the 1975 National Crops Test Center are Acco, Asgrow, Cargill, Dairyland, DeKalb, Edward J. Funk, Funk Int'l, Gutwein,

Jacques, Kaltenberg, McCurdy, Midland, Moews, Northrup King, O's Gold, P-A-G, Payco, Peterson, Pioneer, Pride, Ramy (Embro), Renk, Robinson (Golden Harvest), Security, Sokota, Teweles (Americana), Trojan and Weathermaster.

FARMFEST '76 is seeking help - ideas about historical materials, projects, and volunteer effort for special promotions - from throughout the nation. The address is FARMFEST '76, Box 76, Lake Crystal, Minnesota 56055.

CALL US FOR "ON-THE-SPOT" FARM TIRE SERVICE

**IN-THE-FIELD!
ON-THE-ROAD!
ON-THE-FARM!**

Our fully equipped farm service truck brings you fast on the spot tire REPAIRS, REPLACEMENTS and HYDRO FLATION

WHEN AND WHERE YOU NEED IT



Our trucks are radio dispatched for faster service when you need it!

SWEIGART TIRE SERVICE

Formerly Sweigart Firestone

677 W. HIGH ST.
MANHEIM, PA

PHONE 665-2258
HOME 665-3603

if you're a farmer, we have the money you need.

As a farmer, you know that today's agri-business proves that it really takes money to make money. You're constantly updating equipment ... investing in stock and supplies ... improving your buildings. And the Friendly First FARM LOAN CORPORATION has the money you need.

There are advantages to financing your needs with us because:

- You can arrange a long-term loan to reduce the size of your payments.
- You can get a loan for any size farm—whether you have 50 acres or even 500
- You discuss your needs with local people who have both farming and banking know-how. A talk with our Bob Badger or Darwin Mowery can be helpful with current requirements and they'll also help you plan for the future.

Funds are available now. Stop at any office of the Friendly First for complete details on this new service that's already helping farmers like you.



**The Friendly First
FARM LOAN CORPORATION**
a subsidiary of

**The First National
Bank of Strasburg**

THE BANK THAT ALWAYS HAD NO-SERVICE-CHARGE CHECKING ACCOUNTS

STRASBURG 687-8611	EAST KING STREET LANCASTER 397-4732	WILLOW STREET 464-3421	BUCK 284-4175
-----------------------	---	---------------------------	------------------

MEMBER F.D.I.C.



4-H program gets award

CHICAGO — The 4-H Wheels program, a pre-driver education course for teens, will receive an Award of Honor from the National Safety Council at the Council's National Safety Congress here on Sept. 30.

The award is the highest recognition given by the council for an innovative safety program undertaken by a youth-serving organization.

Wheels was developed jointly by The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company, the Cooperative Extension Service and the National 4-H Service Committee. Each of the three groups will receive a citation plaque at special presentation ceremonies during the youth sessions of the congress at Chicago's Midland Hotel.

Designed to promote safety consciousness among young persons 14-16, Wheels is part of the national 4-H automotive program sponsored by Firestone and conducted by the Extension Service. Enrollment in the

course is open to all teens without charge through the local county extension office.

Educational materials in the Wheels program include color slides, scripts, tape cassettes, teaching outlines, and member activity sheets geared to pre-drivers and beginning drivers. An organizational guide and promotional materials are also included in the Wheels kit.

The 12-session course is supervised on the local level by community volunteers and covers such topics as the driver's responsibilities, causes and cures of automobile accidents, how the car's engine works, and safe trip planning.

The National Safety Council's Award of Honor is part of the council's youth safety awards program, which recognizes youth and youth-serving organizations and individuals for meritorious activities in preventing accidents and promoting safety by and among young persons.