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Century Farms to be honored in Chester County on Mon.

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WEST CHESTER - Chester County's rural heritage and its commitment to open space and agriculture will be recognized November 21, when the Chester County Commissioners honor the owners of some 60 "Century Farms" in the county.

Awards will be presented to the owners of these Century Farms by the commissioners at the 19th Annual Farm-City Night dinner at the West Chester Treadway Inn on Route 202. The dinner is sponsored annually by the Kiwanis Club of West Chester and the Chamber of Commerce of Greater West Chester.

A Century Farm is one which has been owned by the same family for a continuous period of 100 years or more. The farm must be at least 10 acres in size or gross over \$1000 a year in farm income.

The award ceremony is being made possible by

grants from the commissioners and several Chester County banks including Elverson National Bank, First National Bank of Honeybrook, First National Bank of West Chester, National Bank and Trust Co. of Kennett Square, National Central Bank, Peoples Bank of Oxford, and Southeast National Bank.

The award ceremony will only be a part of the night's activities at the dinner. The Kiwanis Club and the Chamber of Commerce have also planned a sing-a-long featuring Mrs. Donna Beech at the piano and the main entertainment will be provided by the Holy Trinity Boys Choir, which is well known in the area and last year performed throughout Europe.

The concept of honoring Century Farms is not unique to Chester County. Other counties in the state have honored Century Farmers.

Members of that committee were Robert Powers, county agricultural Extension agent; Charles Gable of Elverson; Leon Wilkinson of Landenburg; John McCausland of Downingtown; Marshall Jones of Westtown; Ira Hicks of West Chester; G. Pownell Jones of Toughkenamon; Harold Martin of Oxford; and Eugene McDowell of New London.

"The farm families of Chester County have contributed more than we could ever estimate to the economy, culture and character of Chester County," said Earl M.

Baker, chairman of the county commissioners, "and it is proper that they are recognized for their commitment."

The list of Century Farms offers a cross-section of agricultural types in Chester County. They range from dairy farms to mushroom farms to general crop farms. Also, there are Century farms in all sections of the county with the majority of them located in the southern, western, and northern sections of the county.

For information on the Farm-City dinner call the Chamber of Commerce of Greater West Chester at 215-696-4046.

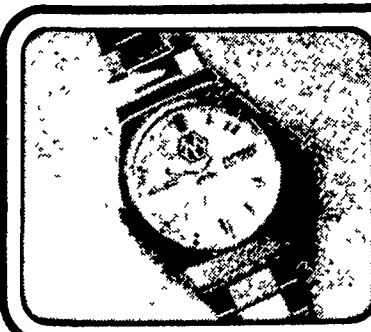


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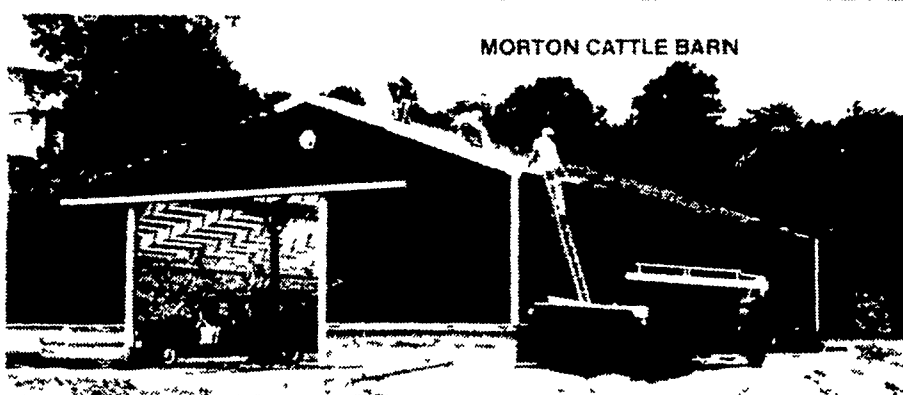
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