

## Chester County Agriculture Development Council honored

WEST CHESTER — Furman Gyger Jr., chairman of the Chester County Agricultural Development Council, announced at the July 3 meeting of the Council that the group's Farm Analysis Program has been cited for a National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Award.

One or more programs from 150 counties were selected by NACo for an award. The awards are intended to honor county governments for their efforts at im-

proving county structure, management and service delivery. Gyger said he wanted to "thank everyone on the Council who was involved" in designing and implementing the program.

The Farm Analysis is a free service provided by the Agricultural Development Council. It is designed to help a farmer retain his farm while, at the same time, realize a good financial return on his investment. Through a mix of easements, tax

deductions and good land planning, the program provides farmers with an alternative to the sale of complete development of the farm. Robert McRae, the Council member principally responsible for the program said he welcomed the news and hopes it generates greater awareness of the Council's efforts.

In other business, the Council approved plans for two large educational presentations in the fall, designed to heighten un-

derstanding of the County's farming industry. A new flyer entitled "Chester County Agriculture — More Than Just A Pretty Face" will be distributed as part of the education effort.

The Council also reviewed a plan to focus the County's farmland retention effort. A recently completed inventory of County farmland serves as the basis for defining the most valuable concentration of agricultural land. Coupled with local comprehensive

plans, large regions of the County are prepared for keying on the County farmland retention program. The proposal will be taken before the County Commissioners later this year for their review and hopefully their adoption.



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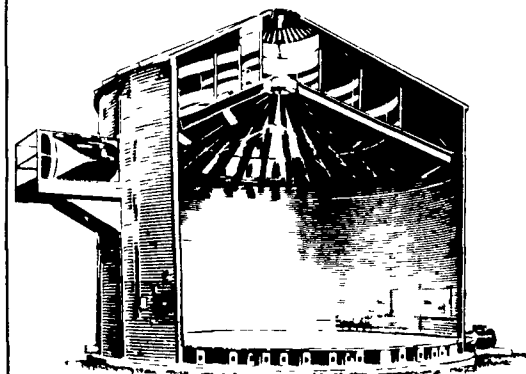
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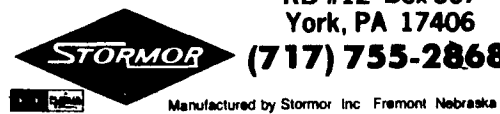
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