

Opening ceremonies Sunday at Farm Show

HARRISBURG — Governor Dick Thornburgh and his wife Ginny will officially open the Pa. Farm Show in the large arena at noon on Sunday.

The opening ceremonies, which are free and open to the public, will feature the many food and agricultural products produced by the state's 59,000 family farms.

The theme for the 1985 show is "Agriculture: The Pride of Pennsylvania," recognizing the status of the food and fiber system as the Commonwealth's number one industry.

Representatives of 25 Pennsylvania commodity associations will present gifts to the governor and Mrs. Thornburgh and provide visitors with an opportunity to sample "The Pride of Pennsylvania." Each association will have a booth in the arena for distribution of food samples throughout the afternoon.

The main exhibition areas of the Farm Show Complex will be open from 1-6 p.m. on Sunday.

The large arena will open at 10:30 a.m. to accommodate visitors attending a non-denominational worship service, which begins at 11:15 a.m., and the grand opening.

Use corn stalks for winter bedding

CHAMBERSBURG — Mr. Farmer, have you baled up your corn stalks? Don't bale them up unless you really have to have the bedding, advises John R. Akers, district conservationist with the Chambersburg office of the USDA Soil Conservation Service.

It is essential to protect the corn fields from this winter's excessive freezing, thawing, rainstorms and wind. For those farmers who pick their corn and let the stalk residue in the field, their soil will be better protected.

In addition, those farmers who wish to plant by the no-till planting system next spring will have an adequate cover of residue on the soil for this planting. To be doing a proper job of no-till planting, it is to be done in a residue that covers 30 percent of the surface after planting is completed.

If stalks must be removed for bedding, take them from the more level fields first. It is helpful on sloping fields when removing the

stalk residue to cut off a couple of rows, skip a couple of rows, and continue this up the hillside. This method does provide some protection to the hillside from erosion that would occur if the whole hillside is left bare for the winter storms to attack the field.

For further information, contact the SCS office at 550 Cleveland Ave., Chambersburg, PA 17201, phone 717-264-7013.

Bechtel Farms wins award



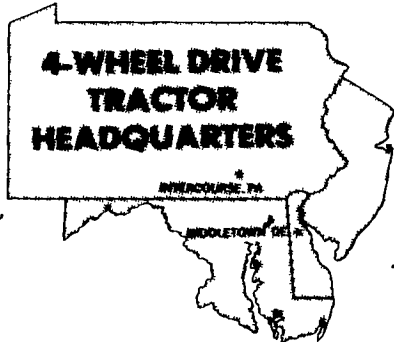
Bechtel Farms in Halifax Township was named the Outstanding Conservation Farm in Dauphin County for 1984 by the Dauphin Co. Conservation District. District Chairman Russel Cassel (left) presents the award to Kenneth Bechtel II (right) and his brother Jay Bechtel (center). The brothers, along with their father, Kenneth Bechtel Sr., farm 610 acres of leased ground and 140 acres on their home farm. They were recognized for using "excellent application of soil and water conservation measures."

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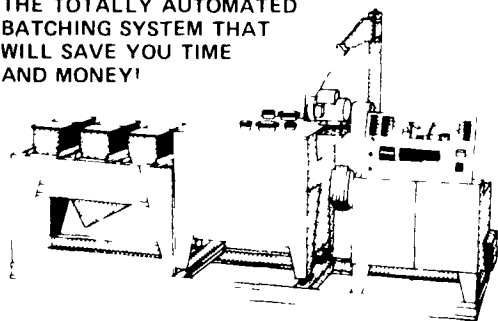
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