

Building Bridges

(Continued from Page A1)

have the same values you do." Later in his remarks he said, "Pennsylvania won't be a good place for any of us until it's a good place for all of us."

Governor Casey also addressed the subject of tax reform.

"Today, farm and city dwellers are fighting a common battle--tax reform," he said.

More than a year ago, Governor Casey had called the General Assembly into special session to consider a plan to eliminate nuisance taxes and ease the property tax burden by providing local governments with more-equitable replacement options.

"Farmers are penalized by (local government's) heavy reliance on property tax," he continued. "Tax reform gives you the option of what you think best for your family and locality. Tax reform makes it possible for every group in our society to be a winner."

The House and Senate have passed separate versions of the legislation, but final action on a compromise could be taken before the General Assembly adjourns in November, according to a press release from the governor's office.

"We're close to the first real tax reform in decades," Governor Casey said. "We're close, but time is running out. The next couple of weeks presents the best--and maybe the only--chance we'll have in

years to do something about it.

"If we act now, before the end of November, we have the chance to fix our outmoded and unfair local tax system. We can't stumble into the 21st century burdened with a 19th century tax structure and expect to compete with other states and other nations."

He urged farmers to tell their legislators and senators how important tax reform is to the farmer.

Governor Casey also commended the farm-city job exchange programs, in which rural and urban workers exchange employment for a day to better understand each other's lives.

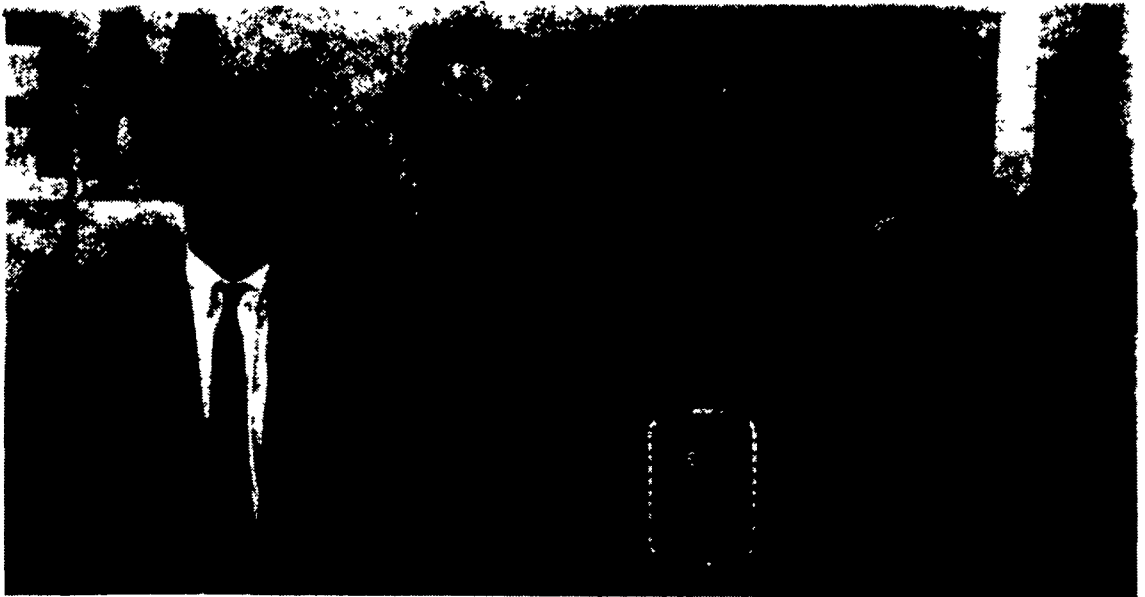
"The fact that people are willing to learn about each other's experiences is unique. Society is moving so fast, we don't take the time to reach out and understand.

"The seeds you are planting today are seeds of understanding to ensure that the family of Pennsylvania stays together as we enter the 21st century," the governor concluded.

The Honorable Boyd E. Wolff, Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture also attended the banquet, and made a few remarks while presenting Governor Casey. Wolff said that he is proud of the support for agriculture from farms and cities. "We're all on the same side



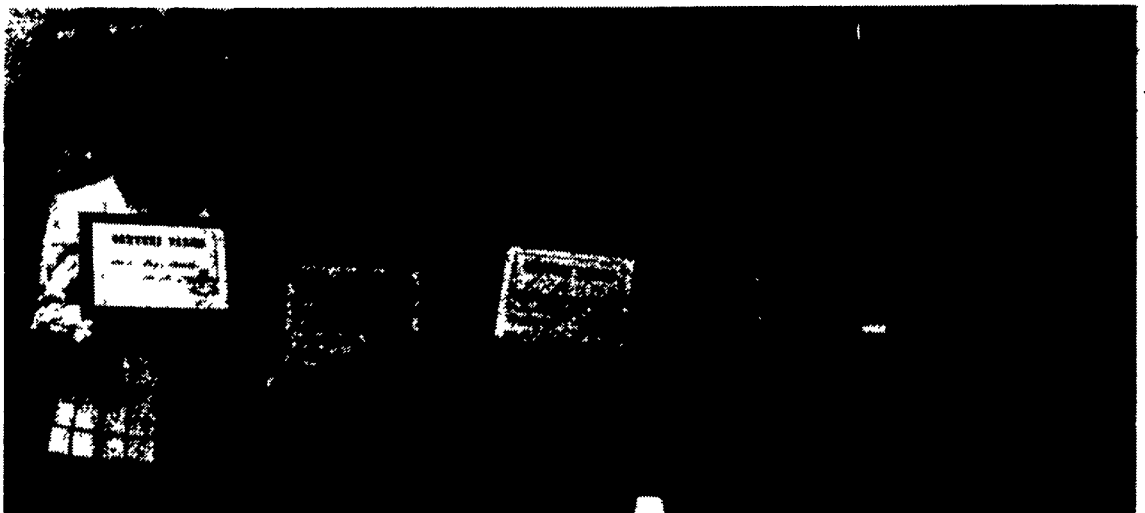
Ernest Turner (right) technician with the Soil Water Conservation Service, presents Richard and Lana Stoner with the 1988 Pennsylvania Conservation Award.



Dave Sciamanna, executive director of the Greater Chambersburg Area Chamber of Commerce, presents the Chamber's 1988 Farm/City Week Award to Janice and Stanley Burkholder.



Franklin County Dairy Princess Denise Martin (left) and Kim Bonzo, Pennsylvania State Dairy Princess, serve refreshments at the Farm/City Week Kick-off Banquet.



Five Franklin County families received Century Farm Awards at the State Farm/City Week Kick-off Banquet. Pictured (from left) are Red and Betty Lehman, Bryan and Nancy Lehman, Clifford and Magdalene Hawbaker, D. Marion and Mildred Benedict, and Joe and Betty Dulebohn.



William Swalles (right) president of the Franklin County Farmer's Association, presents Robert Kessler with the Distinguished Service Award to Franklin County.

these days," he said. The Secretary, a dairy farmer from Westmoreland County, also mentioned proposals currently in front of the legislature that could bring about change to protect producers and consumers.

The Governor and the Secretary were presented with boxes of Franklin County apples by Dalton Paul, chairman of the Pennsylvania Farm/City Council.

Five Century Farm Awards were presented to area farm families. Receiving the awards, and the date at which the farm entered their family were: Joe and Betty Sue Dulebohn, Greencastle, 1885; D. Marion and Mildred Benedict, Waynesboro, 1859; Clifford and Magdalene Hawbaker, Chambersburg, 1857; Bryan E. and Nancy Lehman, Chambersburg, 1853; and Fred and Betty Lehman, Greencastle, 1836.

Dave Sciamanna, Executive Director of the Greater Chambersburg Area Chamber of Commerce, presented the Chamber's annu-

al award to farm couple Stanley and Janice Burkholder. The award is given each year to a family, individual or business that best represents the spirit of cooperation between urban and rural people. The Burkholders are active in many farm organizations. They have helped to bring the urban community to the farm by hosting elementary classes from the Chambersburg School District. Many town-based civic organizations have also visited their 700 acre dairy farm.

Franklin County Extension Agent Robert Kessler received the Franklin County Farmer's Association Award for Distinguished Service to Franklin County. Kessler has been 4-H Extension Agent in the county for 20 years and works with 2000 youths ages 8-19 each year. He was instrumental in starting the county's Horsemanship for the Handicapped program and in establishing the 4-H Center at the Extension Office.

Richard Stoner of Greencastle

received both the 1988 Pennsylvania Conservation Award and the Goodyear Conservation Award of Merit.

Several Commodity Queens gave brief presentations while the crowd awaited the arrival of Governor Casey. Addressing the audience were Kim Bonzo, State Dairy Princess; Denise Martin, Franklin County Dairy Princess; Kelly Boyd, Franklin County Lamb and Wool Queen; and Cindy Hoffeditz, Franklin County Honey Queen.

Local participants in the Job Exchange program were Dr. Ted Rabold, superintendent of the Tuscarora School District, who exchanged jobs with John R. Stoner, Mercersburg dairy farmer; Will Pananes of Olympia Candy Kitchen in Chambersburg, and Victor Wheelock of Wheelock's Hatchery; and Police Sergeant Carl Patla of the Chambersburg sub-station, who exchanged jobs with Edward Rhone of Snavely's Garden Corner.