

## Robinson Calls Farmland Trust Expert On "Transfer Of Heritage Planning"

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your heritage is preserving farmland. "Lancaster County agriculture is great because of our heritage," Robinson said. "Our farmers don't hoe the weeds in the cornfield along the edge of the road or keep their houses neat because of the profit in that labor. They do it because of the heritage that has been passed on to them. But heritage without a future is history," Robinson said. "It dies when the present generation dies."

Robinson listed two major reasons why farmers don't want to preserve their land. The poor farmer wants to sell out at a big profit to prove he's not a failure and the successful farmer wants to indulge in self gratification to show just how important he is.

"To sell the farm to the next generation or to another farmer for \$3,000 to \$5,000 per acre is a pretty good retirement," Robinson said. "Greed is when they want

the farm heritage, the farm family you are consulting may just consider some of the options your organization offers," Robinson said. "Then you are in the driver's seat to discuss these options."

Robinson linked a direct relationship between preservation and conservation. He said that sons can sense their dad's long range inten-

happening in the way of conservation easements."

The Trust recognized Stuart Herr for his work in the corporate and key gift campaign and Paul Krantz for his community conservation action.

Rod Harnish and Herbert and Sharon Garber were recognized for land conservation, and Marilyn

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tions as they relate to this issue. "You would not buy and restore an antique car and take it to the demolition derby," he said. "That would be conservation without preservation. And you would not put deed restrictions on a farm and let the soil erode away. That would be preservation without conservation.

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\$20,000 or more per acre."

Robinson said the real threat to farmland preservation is when no one is available to take over the farm. What really threatens us is when there is no one to pass the heritage to or no heritage to pass on. He blamed the present generation for not making the heritage attractive enough to its children. "How many farms get sold even though there is an eager child ready to take over?" he asked.

Robinson listed three R's for involving children in the farming operation--respect, responsibility and resources. "You can't expect the public to respect your son as a farmer if you don't respect him as a person," Robinson said. "He's not your hired boy, he's your son. Put him in charge of something. Involve him in record keeping. Give him facilities and equipment that entice him to stay on the farm. See that he earns enough to be proud to be a farmer, enough to court a wife. Let him build equity into the farming business."

Robinson said that to preserve a heritage you need to set goals. "If you don't know where you are going, you'll likely end up somewhere else," he said.

Estate planning needs to be part of a farmer's long range goals but

"When you do both--install conservation practices and put deed restrictions on your farm, you tell your children your heritage is valuable. You show that you mean business. You tell them you expect your heritage to be around longer than you are. You show your children that you are counting on them to continue the heritage. And you show them that no one is going to pull this farm out from under them to make a fast buck.

"I believe the programs offered by the Lancaster Farmland trust preserves heritage just as much as they preserve farmland," Robinson said. "And we need to work hard to identify and communicate our heritage--not only to our children but also to our community. Let's work even harder to preserve our future farmers by showing them a proud heritage they will want to follow. Let them see in your actions how important preserving farmland and the heritage of farming really is."

In the business meeting, Alan Musselman, executive director said the past year was one of organization and listed the development of a conservation center in Lancaster and the establishment of a revolving fund to buy farms as major achievements. He said the

### "He's not your hired boy, he's your son. Put him in charge of something."

Robinson likes to call this "transfer of heritage planning." And he urged the Lancaster Farmland Trust to expand its consulting service to show parents how their future can be reasonably secure while providing the children with an opportunity to take over the farm at a reasonable price.

Most farmers are not greedy," Robinson said. "They are scared of what might happen. Good transfer of heritage planning can ease these fears and open the doors to all kinds of opportunities. Farm families need creative and innovative methods to pass on the farm and satisfy all the children and special circumstances involved in the farm estate.

"Who could better become the leading consultant experts that farm families could depend on for this. With Lancaster Farmland Trust's unselfish goal to preserve

local campaign to raise funds to apply to the challenge grant of \$300,000 from the William Penn Foundation was on target. When completed over a two year period, \$450,000 will be available to be used exclusively for land conservation projects in Lancaster County.

Musselman reported that another person will be added to the Trust's staff as a field person. The funds to expand the staff came from another separate grant from the William Penn Foundation. "What we have in mind for this person to do is exactly what Don Robinson proposed in his Keynote address," Musselman said. "We had not thought of the term "transfer of heritage planning," but that is what we have in mind for this person to do in this land conservancy and counseling position. We want to let people know what is



Don Robinson

W. Lewis and Elaine Ewing Holden were given distinguished service awards.

Donald Collins, Eugene Garber II, Earl Newcomer and Robert Campbell were reelected to the board of trustees. Darwin Boyd, Edward Burton and Debra Karche-

## Sale Reports

### PAIGE SALE

A Public Auction of antiques and farm related items was held at R.D. #1, Mt. Pleasant Mills, Snyder County, PA, on November 4, 1989, for the Estate of Ray D. Paige.

Some prices received were: sm. early hook rug w/cat \$500, woven basket w/handles \$190, butter churn \$170, 6 pressed back chairs \$40 ea., wooden butcher tub \$80, kerosene lamp w/ green base \$150, stone-ware pitcher \$205, Cinderella 6 lid cookstove \$455, wooden toy tractor (lettered Future Farmer) \$100, 1955 Ford car \$315, flour chest \$1150, sideboard buffet \$800, twig rocker \$230, bucket bench \$450, 2 pc. 4 door blind corner cupboard \$2050, dry sink w/3 drawers across top \$1850, drop lid writing desk \$1925, cast iron butcher kettle \$130, Ford 8N red belly tractor \$1600, 2 bottom 3 point plow \$120, IH #9 wheel driven sickle bar mower \$175.

There were 338 registered bidders plus many others present. Auction was conducted by Longacre & Lauver Auctioneering.

## Penn State Receives Grant To Study Use Of Newsprint

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Recycling newspapers into animal bedding may be one way to reduce pressures on limited landfill space and reduce production costs to farmers as well, and Penn State researchers are exploring the options.

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has awarded a \$56,463 grant to Penn State's College of Agriculture to determine the value of newsprint as a bedding material for animals.

"It costs from \$100 to \$200 per ton to dispose of waste newspaper in landfills," says Stephen B. Spencer, professor of dairy science at Penn State. "At a time when landfill space is dwindling, developing alternative uses for newsprint could help alleviate some of the state's waste problems."

There are about 3.5 million tons of paper for disposal in Pennsylvania each year, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources.

At the same time, conventional bedding materials, such as straw and sawdust, are in short supply and increasing in price for the state's 2.5 million dairy and beef cattle and other livestock, Spencer notes. Recycling newsprint could reduce bedding costs to farmers, thereby lowering food prices for consumers.

To date, limited research has been done on newsprint as bedding material. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture-funded, two-year research project,

ski were newly elected to the board of trustees.

The officers for the coming year include: Daniel Herr, president; Marilyn Lewis, vice president; Barbara Skelly, secretary; and Paul Whipple, treasurer.

which runs through 1991, will study in-depth a number of factors associated with newsprint as bedding.

The project involves eight College of Agriculture faculty members from dairy and animal science, agricultural economics, agricultural engineering and veterinary science disciplines.

The objectives are to evaluate the feasibility of using newsprint for bedding materials for various classes of livestock, analyze the cost of the processing equipment available for converting newsprint into bedding material and assess the effects of newsprint on manure handling systems.

The researchers will be looking at optimum size for shredded newsprint, its impact on the bacterial population in dairy stables and its effect on heavy metal accumulation in the liver, muscle and fatty tissue of livestock.

"The results of this study will be applicable in many areas. There is a possible beneficial impact on water quality, since newsprint appears to have a high absorbency of potential pollutants," Spencer says.

Research results will be distributed to county extension agents, rural development representatives, waste recycling coordinators and farmers.

Project researchers, in addition to Spencer, are James G. Beierlein, associate professor of agricultural economics; John Comerford, assistant professor of dairy and animal science; Robert J. Eberhart, professor of veterinary science; Robert E. Graves, professor of agricultural engineering; Lester C. Griel Jr., associate professor of veterinary science; James W. Hilton, associate professor of agricultural engineering; and Earl J. Partenheimer,

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