



The Rohrer homestead is preserved for generations to come.

## Rohrer Family Preserves Heritage

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — In the center of the living room stands a frame which holds the quilt presently being hand-stitched by Grace Rohrer. The intricate heartburst pattern epitomizes the love that Daniel and Grace Rohrer have shared with family and friends over the years. Just as she is stitching quilts to pass on to each grandchild, she and her husband have insured that their farmland will be protected and used for agriculture by future generations.

Daniel and Grace Rohrer, of East Hempfield Township, have recently donated a conservation easement on their historic, 63-acre Century Farm to the Lancaster Farmland Trust, the non-profit, farmland preservation organization. The Rohrer farm, site of the well-known Rohrer's Farm Market, is the first in East Hempfield to be preserved, and the easement donation protects the land from being developed well into the 21st century. The Rohrers have now passed the home farm on to their son Dwight and his wife Rosanne, the sixth generation of Rohrers to farm the property. They will continue in the elder Rohrer's footsteps.

Daniel Rohrer cited the land's history and meaning, as well as its fertile soil, as some of his many reasons for donating the easement. "I don't think I could see it being developed, knowing the richness of the soil here . . ." he said. Lancaster Farmland Trust president, Daniel Herr, openly expressed his appreciation of the Rohrer's gift. "We're very grateful to have this opportunity to protect an important part of the County's landscape and the heritage of the Rohrer family. This easement highlights the Lancaster Farmland Trust's ability to work with farm

families and assist with their transfer of heritage planning, a process of preparing and a next generation of Lancaster County farmers by combining farmland preservation with estate planning."

Daniel and Grace Rohrer have a special love of this soil and for the 63-acre farm that possesses such a vibrant history. It was this love, and their concern for the future of agriculture, that first led them to consider donating an easement in East Hempfield to the Lancaster Farmland Trust.

"I never cease to thrill each spring," he said, "seeing new soil turned, the possibilities of a new crop . . . that would be the hardest part of the year, if I was to be taken away from the land."

Mr. and Mrs. Rohrer added, "We know there are a lot of people in the world who go to bed hungry every night because their land was not conserved. We feel this could happen in America as well. There is a price the farmer has to pay preserving his land, but someone has to take a stand or we could wind up hungry in generations to come." The Trust's executive director, Alan Musselman, added, "With their easement donation to the Trust, Daniel and Grace Rohrer have assured that their heritage will remain intact, and their home farm productive, for years to come."

The home farm where Daniel and Grace Rohrer have lived, raised their children and farmed is a special place, filled with the history and values of a hard working family. The first Rohrer farmed here in 1829, living in a stone house in the north field that time and the elements have since destroyed. In 1876 Daniel Rohrer's great grandfather built the farmhouse in which Daniel and

Grace live today. The original 1829 deed hangs on the family room wall, the same room that was once a summer kitchen for Daniel Rohrer's ancestors, a room considered quite modern at the time as it was actually connected to the main house. A smoke house is in the yard, and the old horse power barn that was used to generate energy to thrash wheat is in use today. A landmark maple tree, well over 100 years old, stands vigilant, looking out over the orchards that are filled with apple, cherry, nectarine, peach and apricot trees. The old maple has slowly decayed over the years, but the Rohrers have planted a new one by its side. The farm looks very much the same way it did back when the first Daniel Rohrer turned his first furrow with his hand plow.

The Lancaster Farmland trust is a member supported organization dedicated to preserving farms like the Rohrers, farms that are an integral part of Lancaster County's cultural heritage, beauty and agricultural productivity. Persons interested in preservation or membership information may contact the Trust at the Lancaster Conservation Center, 128 East Marion Street, Lancaster, 17603. For further information please call 293-0707.

## Landscape With Native Plants

LEESPORT (Berks Co.) — The widespread development of our woodlands and countryside has resulted in the decimation of many native plant and wildlife species. An encouraging trend in the "green" industry is to re-establish native plants in the home landscape. The Pennsylvania Bureau of State Parks, Nolde Forest Environmental Education Center, and Penn State Cooperative Extension, Berks County, are co-sponsoring a lecture on landscaping with Native Plants.

F. M. Mooberry, Director of Horticulture at Brandywine Conservancy will speak on Wednesday, March 7, 7:00 P.M. at the Berks County Agricultural Center, RD1, Leesport, Pa. Cost is \$3.00 per person. Mail reservations to Berks Co. Ag Center, P.O. Box 520, Leesport, Pa 19533.

Ms. Mooberry has given many lectures on re-establishing native wild plants to the landscape and is the author of several books on the topic.



The Rohrers hope that generations to come will enjoy the fruits of the orchard that they have painstakingly nurtured.

See your nearest  
**NEW HOLLAND**  
Dealer for Dependable  
Equipment and  
Dependable Service:

### PENNSYLVANIA

**Annville, PA**  
BHM Farm  
Equipment, Inc.  
RD1, Rte. 934  
717-867-2211

**Beavertown, PA**  
B&R Farm  
Equipment, Inc.  
RD 1, Box 217A  
717-658-7024

**Belleville, PA**  
Ivan J. Zook  
Farm Equipment  
Belleville, Pa.  
717-935-2948

**Canton, PA**  
Hess Farm Equipment  
717-673-5143

**Carlisle, PA**  
R&W Equipment Co.  
35 East Willow Street  
717-243-2686

**Chambersburg, PA**  
Clugston  
Implement, Inc.  
R.D. 1  
717-263-4103

**Concordville, PA**  
Wenner Ford Tractor,  
Inc.  
Rt. 202 South  
215-399-9615

**Davidsburg, PA**  
George N Gross, Inc  
RD 2, Dover, PA  
717-292-1673

**Elizabethtown, PA**  
Messick Farm  
Equipment, Inc.  
Rt 283 - Rheem's Exit  
717-367-1319

**Gettysburg, PA**  
Yingling Implements,  
Inc.  
3291 Taneytown Rd.  
717-359-4848

**Greencastle, PA**  
Meyers  
Implement's Inc.  
400 N. Antrim Way  
P.O. Box 97  
717-597-2176

**Hallfax, PA**  
Sweigard Bros.  
R.D. 3, Box 13  
717-896-3414

**Hamburg, PA**  
Shartlesville  
Farm Service  
R.D. 1, Box 1392  
215-488-1025

**Honey Brook, PA**  
Dependable Motor Co.  
East Main Street  
215-273-3131  
215-273-3737

**Honey Grove, PA**  
Norman D. Clark  
& Son, Inc.  
Honey Grove, PA  
717-734-3682

**Hughesville, PA**  
Farnsworth Farm  
Supplies, Inc.  
103 Cemetery Street  
717-584-2106

**Lancaster, PA**  
Lancaster Ford  
Tractor, Inc.  
1655 Rohrerstown Rd.  
717-569-7063

**Loysville, PA**  
Paul Shovers, Inc.  
Loysville, PA  
717-789-3117

**New Holland, PA**  
A.B.C. Groff, Inc.  
110 South Railroad  
717-354-4191

**Oley, PA**  
C.J. Wonsidler Bros.  
R.D. 2  
215-987-6257

**Pitman, PA**  
Schreffler Equipment  
Pitman, PA  
717-648-1120

**Quakertown, PA**  
C.J. Wonsidler Bros.  
R.D. 1  
215-536-1935

**Ringtown, PA**  
Ringtown Farm  
Equipment  
Ringtown, PA  
717-889-3184

**Tamaqua, PA**  
Charles S Snyder, Inc.  
RD 3  
717-386-5945

**West Grove, PA**  
S.G. Lewis & Son, Inc.  
R.D. 2, Box 66  
215-869-2214

### MARYLAND

**Churchville, MD**  
Walter G. Coale, Inc.  
2849-53  
Churchville Rd.  
301-838-6470

**Frederick, MD**  
Ceresville  
Ford New Holland, Inc.  
Rt. 26 East  
301-662-4197  
Outside MD,  
800-331-9122

**Hagerstown, MD**  
Antietam Ford Tractor  
301-791-1200

### NEW JERSEY

**Bridgeton, N.J.**  
Leslie G. Fogg, Inc.  
Canton & Stow Creek  
Landing Rd.  
609-451-2727  
609-935-5145

**Washington, NJ**  
Smith Tractor &  
Equip., Inc.  
15 Hillcrest Ave.  
201-689-7900

**Woodstown, NJ**  
Owen Supply Co.  
Broad Street &  
East Avenue  
609-769-0308