

Lancaster Farming

Vol. 42 No. 28

Four Sections

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, May 17, 1997

\$28.50 Per Year

60¢ Per Copy

Sam Hayes Jr. To Become New State Agriculture Secretary

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Gov. Tom Ridge on Monday officially announced his nomination of Samuel E. Hayes Jr., 56, of Warrior's Mark, to serve as state agriculture secretary.

According to a news release from Ridge's press office, Hayes is to start as acting secretary on June 1.

If confirmed by the Senate, as is expected, Hayes would then serve as agriculture secretary for the less than two years remaining in Gov. Tom Ridge's term of office.

The announcement of Hayes as a nominee has been met with sup-

port and praise from representatives of agricultural organizations, legislators and policy leaders.

It has not, however, been met

with much surprise, especially when considered in comparison to the event that led to the need to find a new agriculture secretary.

Hayes is a former state representative who served for 22 years, and whose service included holding several key Republican leadership

positions.

He has a strong resume and is considered a vigorous advocate of

(Turn to Page A29)

FFA Members Learn To Be Eagles

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff

EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.) —

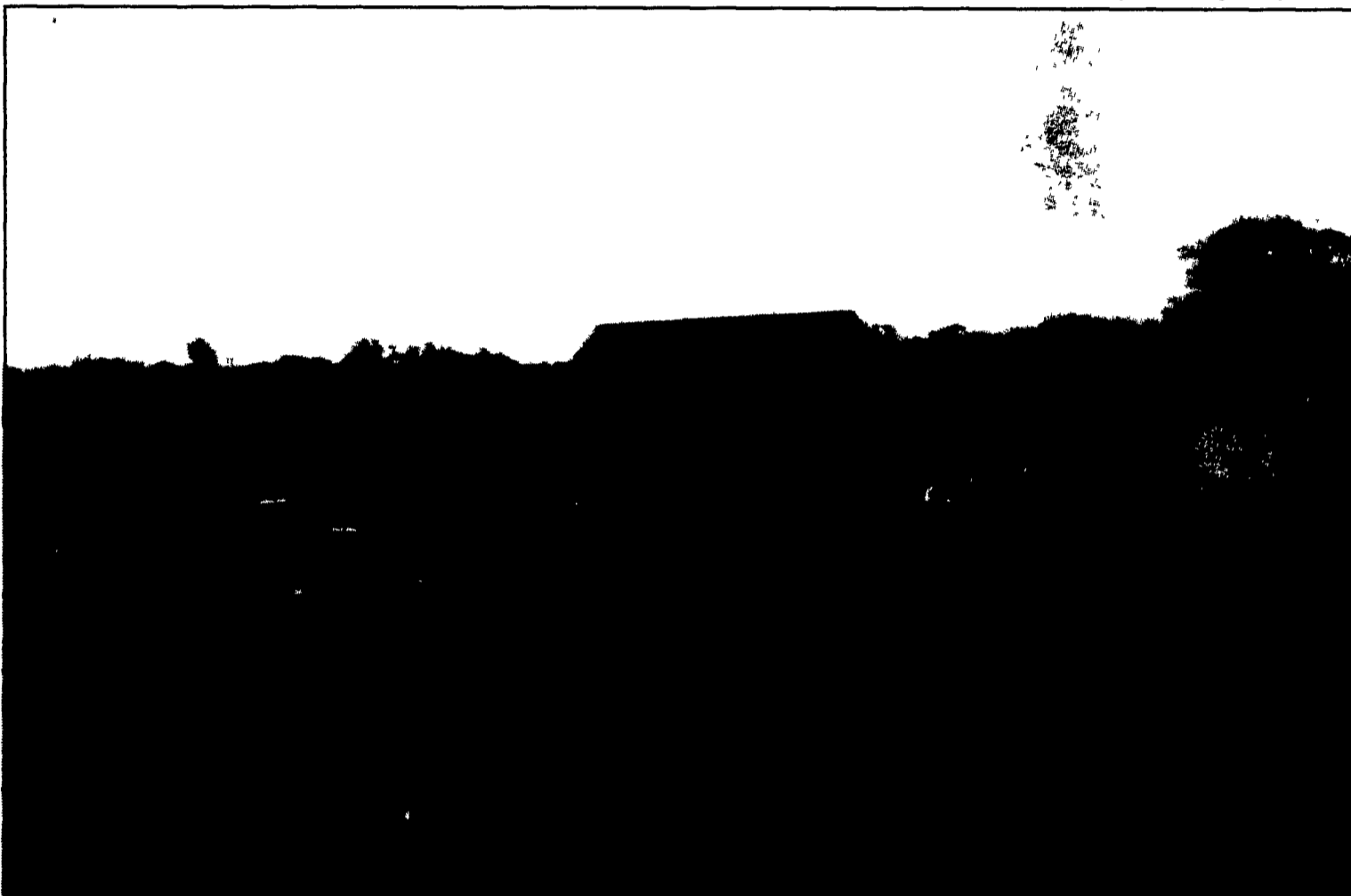
Many young people, said a retiring high school performing arts director, think they are turkeys.

Sometimes he sees them walking down the hall in school, their arms listlessly at their sides, defeated. With heads down, they arrive in his English class, crestfallen, hope torn away from them.

When he asks the students what they would like to learn and experience today, they reply apathetically, "We'd like to sleep."

Stan Deen, who has taught English at Garden Spot High School in New Holland for 30 years and who founded the highly renowned Garden Spot Perform-

(Turn to Page A30)



A red barn, and farmers working the field and garden help create this rustic scene west of Manheim in Lancaster County Wednesday afternoon. Jay Hershey, beef farmer along Colebrook Road west of Manheim in Lancaster County, works the corn ground while the Evan Cargill family plant their garden. According to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service, corn planting continued ahead of the

five-year average with some of the early corn starting to emerge. But gardeners planting vegetables are behind schedule because of cool soil temperatures. The cool weather kept the growth of pastures and small grains slow too. Hershey feeds 500 steers and farms 250 acres. Photo by Everett Newswanger, managing editor.

Carl Shaffer Thrives On Diversification, Ag Awareness



Carl Shaffer farms 1,000 acres near Mifflinville in Columbia County. A farm leader, Shaffer is vice president of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and president of the Ag Awareness Foundation.

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

MIFFLINVILLE (Columbia Co.) — The crackle of static from the remote radio unit on the dash of the suburban farm vehicle interrupts conversation and draws an immediate reach of the hand from the driver to pick it up. Now a major farming operation decision must be made.

It's mid-morning and the wind has increased. One of the workers located six miles down the valley on this 1,000 acre operation located near Mifflinville in Columbia County, is calling in to ask if he should continue to spray fields. Material drift may become a problem.

Reluctantly the farm owner calls off the spraying operation and puts his man to work repairing a broken piece on the chisel plow. Welcome to the world of Carl Shaffer, age 47, and vice president of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau.

When Shaffer's family purchased the local farms back in the '40s, they had a diverse operation that included cows, hogs, and chickens like most farms of that

era. Today diversity is still the rule, but all the animals and poultry are gone. Everything revolves around field crops that includes 300 acres of snap beans.

"I still believe diversification of some sort is necessary in the farming operation," Shaffer said. "Not off-farm work, but enterprises that lend themselves to what you are doing on the farm. Even diversification of crops is good because if you have some dry periods during the summer, hopefully the rains you do get will be timely for at least some of crops."

Along with the snap beans, Shaffer farms corn and wheat, and oats for a cover crop in winter. His other farm enterprises include some custom bean harvesting, rental of wheat storage bins to a local flour mill, trucking, and removing the liquid waste water used to wash food processing equipment at a nearby pet food company. The liquid is a good injected fertilizer that is high in organic matter and nitrogen. But Shaffer is also paid to haul it away

(Turn to Page A20)

June 7 Is Dairy Issue

June is when special tribute is paid to the dairy industry. *Lancaster Farming's* annual June Dairy Month issue is scheduled to be published on the first Saturday of the Month, June 7. We are again working to bring the dairy story to you in a special way through visits with farm families, DHIA reports, farm management reports, dairy recipes, and messages from our advertisers.

If you have a news story or an advertising message to be placed in this special June Dairy Month issue, please contact our office, any day, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.. Our phone numbers are (717) 394-3047 or (717) 626-1164. Our fax is (717) 733-6058.