## (Continued from Page A1)

the late Mike Stoltzfus, former owner of D.M. Stoltzfus Quarry.

Through the cooperation of the Lancaster Farmland Trust, county Ag Preserve Board, the transferable development rights (TDR) funds from Manheim Township, and the first-ever general appropriation from Warwick Township, negotations were accomplished. Stoltzfus is not being paid the full appraised value of the development rights — she is voluntarily donating a significant portion of the value of those development rights.

In a press release issued by the Trust, it was noted that Nelson Rohrer, chairman of the Manheim Township board of commissioners, said, "Manheim Township is very pleased to be included with the Farmland Trust, Ag Preserve Board, and Warwick Township in furthering the goal of agricultural preservation in the county."

Phyllis C. Whitesell, board of trustees president for the Trust, said, "We are especially pleased at the preservation of this farm, the largest farm in the county to be preserved to date. Its location, close to developing areas around Lancaster city, is extremely significant in terms of furthering preservation efforts."

"The preservation of this farm highlights the critical issue of the preservation of productive farmland in Lancaster County," noted Thomas D. Stouffer, executive director of the Trust. "Given the World Monuments Watch's recent designation of Lancaster County as one of the top 100 Most Endangered Sites, this event has special significance."

According to farm manager Pip

**Melvin Stoltzfus** 

610-869-9627

Ravegum, in addition to tours and other activities related to the preservation membership picnic, supper will be served at 3:30 p.m. in a 7,000-square foot farm implement shed, one of several on the property. Ravegum was busy last week readying the area for the picnic.

The farm is not new to playing host to visitors. Ravegum recalls a time, nearly a decade or so ago, when 300 people, all members of the National Cattlemen's Association, came from every state in the Union except Hawaii to tour the farm. The national group convened at the Hershey Convention Center and toured Greystone Manor Farms later in the day.

At the beef farm, cattle arrive from sales in Virginia and West Virginia at 750-900 pounds and are sold to Dunlap's in Lancaster, Truth Packing in Baltimore, and Moyer Packing in Souderton.

The Stoltzfus family owns two other farms in addition to the original farm off of Rt. 272. Altogether, the farms include 330 acres of corn, 30 acres of wheat, 80 acres of alfalfa hay, 25 acres of grass hay, and 35 acres in pasture.

The home farm boasts a homestead with two-foot thick stone walls constructed in 1775, noted Ravegum. The original farm is more than 200 years old.

At Greystone Manor Farms, there are a total of three full-time employees, in addition to Pip Ravegum. They include Henry Ravegum, Don Montgomery, and Ed Heft.

Karen M. Weiss, director of land preservation for the Lancaster Farmland Trust, noted that a lot of family fun is planned for the picnic. The event includes softball and volleyball games, children's activ-

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ities, a catered dinner featuring a pig roast courtesy of former Rep. Terry Sheetz, watermelons donated by Nelson Rohrer, and homemade vanilla ice cream made on the premises by an oldfashioned hit 'n' miss engine by an Amish farmer who is a Trust member. There will also be an apple pie eating contest, hay wagon rides around the farm, and music by Summitt Hill Bluegrass.

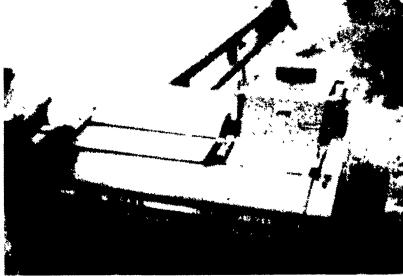
A few tickets will be on sale the day of the picnic at the farm, according to Melissa Cauler, development assistant for the Trust. Cost for the picnic is \$12 a person, age 9 and older. Children 3-8 cost \$6 each. Children 2 and under are free. The public is invited to

Greystone Manor "is a showcase farm, very well recognized in all of northern Lancaster County,'

said Karen Weiss. The farm is also one of the largest farms so close to the city of Lancaster itself — easy commuting distance for Farmland Trust members, family, and friends.

The picnic will provide an opportunity for members and the public to "learn how the Trust works," Weiss said. Information will be available about farmland preservation in the county.

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