

Friends Rally To Help Farm Girl Injured By Hit-And-Run Driver

LOU ANN GOOD

Lancaster Farming Staff
EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.) — Customers at the Horst Produce Stand along Route 322 between Ephrata and Clay will recall a pretty 17-year-old girl who rang up produce while bantering with customers. Tendrils, which escaped from a mass of brown hair tightly drawn back from her face, accented the merriment in her eyes and the healthy tan achieved from working on the 20 acres of produce grown on the family farm.

But many are unaware that on a snowy night in January, Martha was hit by a hit-and-run driver and hurled 88 feet from the impact.

The night of Jan. 24, Martha had been working in the kitchen at the Horst Auction, a few miles from her home. After cleaning up the kitchen, Martha and a girlfriend left. Generally they rode their bikes home, but because it was snowing, they decided to push them.

A short distance from Martha's home, she was struck by a hit and run vehicle. Amazingly, Martha had no broken bones or external injuries—not even a skull fracture. Instead the injuries were much deeper.

"Doctors said that her brain looks like it's been brush burned and some of the connecting tendons have been torn loose," Martha's mother said of her namesake.

Exactly how much damage is permanent, only time will determine. Martha lay in a coma in the neuro-trauma unit for two weeks at the Lancaster General Hospital

before being transferred to the critical care unit. Recently, Martha was transferred to the rehabilitation unit.

At this point, the family isn't sure how much Martha understands.

"Some days she seems alert and smiles a lot, but the next time she doesn't respond," her mother said.

The day this article was written the family was delighted by an incident that had happened the day before.

While an older sister was helping put a housecoat on Martha, she leaned forward. The sister jumped in fear that Martha was going to bite her (a behavior that she exhibits sometimes since the accident). Instead, Martha kissed her sister on the shoulder.

"Then Martha laughed and laughed so hard her whole body shook," her mother said. "That was the first time that she laughed like that."

Also, for the first time on Tuesday, Martha was fed a few spoonfuls of food.

"Doctors were amazed that she swallowed it because she still has a trac tube in," her mom said.

Doctors tell the family not to expect too rapid an improvement.

They say it will be at least a year or more of rehabilitation.

Aware of this, the family said that they will not plant as much acreage in produce this year.

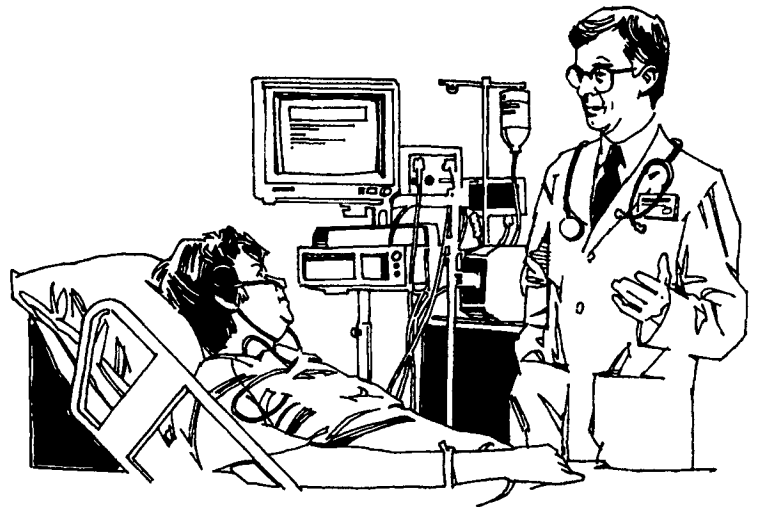
"We only want to put out as much as we can take care of ourselves. We don't want the neighbors to help because they have their own work to do," her mother said.

Because the family are conservative Mennonites who use horse and buggy transportation, they need to rely on transportation to the hospital located about 20 miles from their home. Every day, the parents and some of the children have been able to go to the hospital.

The Horsts have three married children. At home are Nelson, 21; Curvin, 15; Arlene, 13; Eugene, 11, Dorothy, 7, and Sharon, 2. Another daughter died in a farm accident several years ago.

"We are really grateful to the many people who have been providing meals for our six children at home, transportation to the hospital, and encouragement," the mother said.

The family has no insurance coverage. Although their church and they themselves will pay what



they can, more help is needed to meet the astronomical expenses.

A concerned family friend, Delma Layton of Lititz, has set up an expense fund for Martha. Donations may be made to the Martha Horst Rehabilitation Fund at Ephrata National Bank, Main St., Ephrata, PA 17522 or dropped off at the Horst Auction Center along Route 322, Ephrata.

In addition, several fund raisers are planned. A Bluegrass Benefit Show is planned by Jim Good, a blue grass promoter, to be held on April 4, at the Horst Auction Center. Bluegrass performers will include the Keystone Bluegrass, Penn-Del Mountain Boys, New Found Grass, and a special appearance from the Larkin Family from

Tenn. Doors will open at 5 p.m. and the show will begin at 6 p.m. Tickets sold at the door are \$10 for adults, 6-12 years are \$5, and under 6 years are free. The entire price at the door will be given toward the hospital bills.

For more information, call Jim Good (717) 738-0379.

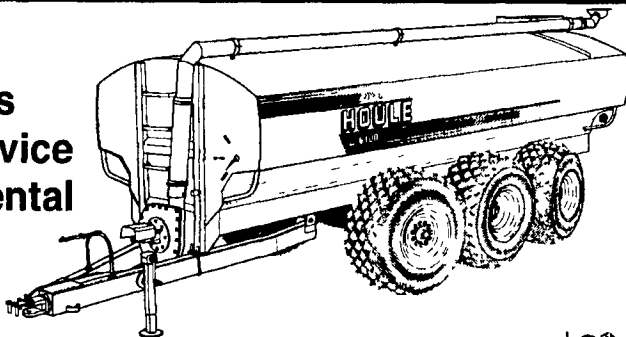
Profits from the food concession stand operated by Edna Martin during the blue grass show will also be donated to Martha's fund.

A benefit soup and sub sale will be held at the Mt. Airy Fire Hall on March 6 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on March 7, from 8 a.m. to noon.

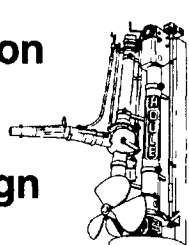
Cards may be sent to Martha in care of her parents at 2011 W. Main St., Ephrata, PA 17522.

YOUR MANURE IS OUR BREAD & BUTTER

- Sales
- Service
- Rental



- Custom Application
- Installation
- Custom Design



Liquid Manure is a valuable resource and a challenge to handle. You need an expert!

At Mid-Atlantic Agrisystems, liquid manure is our bread and butter not a sideline. To solve your problems we carry the most

complete line of equipment in the region, have years of practical hands-on experience, and offer valuable knowledge about products and the latest, most effective manure handling equipment.

Call the experts. Call Mid-Atlantic.

USED/RENTAL LIQUID MANURE EQUIPMENT

March Special

Houle 42' Lagoon SUPER PUMP, 2 mos. old, excellent for thick manure w/sand..... \$8,150

Spreaders
Houle 6,300 gal. w/steering axles & (6) 28Lx26 tires rental..... \$29,250

Houle 4,250 gal., used **SOLD** w/ 23.1x26 tires..... **CALL**

Houle 3,600 w/23.1x26..... \$11,900

Balzer 3,350 vacuum 23.1x26 rental..... \$16,000

Calumet 3750, 1992 w/50x21-20 used..... \$7,000

WIC 3400, used..... **CALL**

WIC 3300 gal. Tank (Used)..... **CALL**

VanDale 3000..... \$4,500

Pumps
Badger Lagoon Pump..... **CALL**

Neseth Lagoon pump..... **CALL**

Houle 42' Multi-purpose Pump . \$11,975

Houle 10' - 12' vertical agi-pump, rental..... \$6,000

Houle pto irrigation pumps, rental unit..... **CALL**

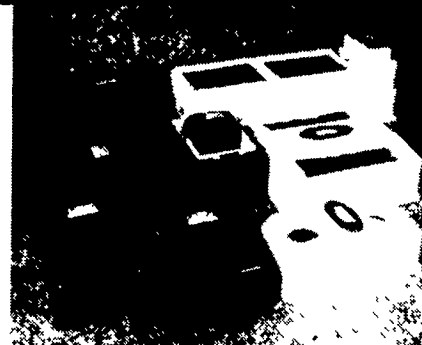
Houle 32' lagoon agi-pump, rebuilt, used..... \$6,000

Houle 42' Agi Pumps, rental **CALL**

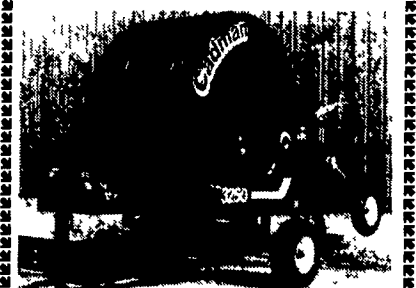
Houle 27' Auger - Agitator \$3,675

State of the art energy efficient and energy free waterers

- A model for every need and every animal
- Unique floating lids and hinged doors
- All units competitively priced
- Most units UPS shippable
- Wide variety in stock for immediate winter installation



Hard Hose Travellers from Cadman



Used for many different water applications and liquid manure.

NEED YOUR FARM BUILDINGS PAINTED?

Let us give you a price!
Write:
Daniel's Painting
637-A Georgetown Rd.
Ronks, PA 17572
(or leave message)
(717) 687-8262
Spray on and Brush in Painting

Top Volume HOULE
Dealer in Northeast Last 5 Years
Second Largest Houle Dealer In The World!

Mid-Atlantic AgriSystems

4019 Ashville Rd., Quarryville, Pa. 17566

800-222-2948

717-529-2782



CLOSED SUNDAYS, NEW YEAR, EASTER MONDAY, ASCENSION DAY, WHIT MONDAY, OCT. 11, THANKSGIVING, CHRISTMAS & DECEMBER 26TH

FISHER'S FURNITURE, INC.

NEW AND USED FURNITURE
USED COAL & WOOD HEATERS
COUNTRY FURNITURE & ANTIQUES

BUS. HRS. BOX 57
MON.-THURS. 8-5 1129 GEORGETOWN RD.
FRI. 8-8, SAT. 8-12 BART, PA 17503

HAY, STRAW, PEANUT HULLS

At farm or delivered in any quantity as you require.

Esbenshade Turkey Farm

(America's oldest Since 1858)
Paradise, Pa.
(717) 687-7631