



Moyer's Improvements To Junge Farms Net Conservation Honors

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff
NEW TRIPOLI (Lehigh Co.) —

Ray Moyer believes you should leave the farm in better shape than you find it.

Since he began managing the farm complex owned by the Robert Junge family 28 years ago, Moyer has incorporated smart conservation on the farm in the form of terraces, waterways, diversions, and all the items necessary to ensure a more improved farm with better soil.

Moyer believes that he doesn't want to take good farmland and simply milk it and, he said, "let the next guy worry about it."

For their farm conservation policies, Junge Farms was honored in mid-December last year as the Lehigh County Conservation Farmer of the Year.

Moyer cares for six farms owned by the Junge family in Lynn Township. The Moyer family includes Ray's wife Karen, sons Jason, 27 with wife Keena and

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Preserving Our Most Valuable Resources

BOYD E. WOLFF

Former Pennsylvania
Secretary of Agriculture

In the eight years since the Pennsylvania Farmland Protection Program was created in 1989, Pennsylvania has preserved more acres of farmland than any other state in the nation. At the end of 1997, the amount of land preserved in perpetuity was 107,748 acres at a total cost of \$217.7 mil-

lion in state and county funds.

It is interesting to note that 48,325 acres — or 44.8 percent — of those acres were saved in the eight county South Central Assembly for Effective Governance area. This assembly area includes Franklin, Perry, Cumberland, Adams, Dauphin, Lebanon, York and Lancaster counties. And over

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For his farm conservation policies, Ray Moyer, left, was honored in mid-December last year as the Lehigh County Conservation Farmer of the Year. Moyer manages the six farms owned by the Rev. Robert Junge family in Lynn Township. The Moyer family includes, from left, Ray and Karen Moyer, Jay Garls, Robin Bedford, and Suzann. In front are Suzann's children, Jordan and Levi. Photo by Andy Andrews.

Grange Members Urged To Support Lawsuit Abuse Reform

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.

Lancaster Farming Staff
UNION DEPOSIT (Dauphin

Co.) — Several years ago, someone claimed to have found a needle in a can of Pepsi.

A lawsuit seemed pending.

Within hours of being televised nationwide, similar reports were being reported across the nation.

It was all a lie, an attempt to rip off a global business giant.

Some consider the incident a

national embarrassment; a testament to the concept that more and more Americans are that unethical and immoral that they will do anything and say anything to get their hands on undeserved riches.

Others consider that the ruse, if successful, wouldn't have hurt anyone, since a company that size could afford to lose a couple hundred thousand or million and not suffer.

Victimless crime?

What if an attorney filed a lawsuit against his mother, claiming that poor lighting conditions and steps in disrepair not only were to blame for his wife's fall and subsequent injuries, but prevented the son from enjoying his wife's company, and therefore his mother ought to not only pay doctor bills, but more for pain and suffering?

Is it frivolous? Or is it an acceptable practice, because it isn't illegal to be repugnantly greedy?

Such a scenario defies common sense and logic, but can it be, and should it be controlled?

If such a thing were to occur between a mother and a son who are close and mutually respectful, it can be assumed that most people would interpret such a claim as merely a son's collaborative effort with mother to capture a greater settlement from the mother's insurance company.

Otherwise, most would probably wonder why the son wasn't able to help out and fix mother's steps, or at least be smart enough to exit the house via a known safe passage.

Scenarios aside, the court records are filling up with actual cases where claims stretch the limits of understanding, according to

many reports over the past 10 to 20 years.

They are being called an abuse of the judicial system — the filing of frivolous lawsuits.

According to George Wolff, a private consultant and lobbyist, the years of failed effort by the Pennsylvania Legislature to pass effective tort reform legislation has not lessened the need for the reform.

Wolff was one of several speakers Monday at the Pennsylvania State Grange Legislative Day and Grange Week celebration.

The General Assembly and state Gov. Tom Ridge proclaimed Monday, April 27, as state Grange Day, in recognition of the rural and agricultural organization. National

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Penn State Dairy Science Club Presents Awards, Holds Expo

JUDITH PATTON

Union Co. Correspondent
STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — Meet a cow, adopt a cow, milk a cow, or show a cow. The Penn State Dairy Science Club had something for everyone at its 73 Dairy Expo here in the Ag Arena last week.

On Meet-A-Cow Day, 500 Centre County second graders answered the club's invitation to learn about what cows eat, and how milk is marketed, as well as how to milk cows, and feed calves,

Another part of the Dairy Science Club public outreach is the Adopt-A-Cow program in which 230 people submitted four empty milk and yogurt cartons from the University Creamery and an application to adopt a cow in the university herd. They receive an adoption certificate with the cow's name and can visit their adopted cow at the Dairy Expo. Penn State students who adopt a cow are invited to show in the Expo competition. Jen Davis and Terri Snook co-chaired this event.

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Jim and Barb McMath's milk bottle collection includes rare finds from Knagy's Superior from Big Valley, Opperhome Dairy from Newton-Hamilton, Shirley-Ayre Farms, and one imprinted with the words "Keep 'em Flyin' Buy a War Bond Today." Read more about the McMaths' quest to keep farm history alive through antique collecting on page B2. Article and photos by Gail Strook.