

Ag Land Preservation Board Approves 20 Easements

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — The Agricultural Land Preservation Board recently approved easement purchases for 20 farms across the commonwealth.

Agriculture Secretary Samuel F. Hayes Jr., who chairs the board, said, "Gov. Tom Ridge is committed to ensuring the strength of Pennsylvania agriculture through a vigorous farmland preservation program designed to protect our agricultural tradition."

Created in 1989, the Pennsylvania Agricultural Land Preservation Board is responsible for the oversight of the state Farmland Preservation Program.

The program allows the state and counties to purchase development rights, referred to as easements, to guarantee that farms will remain as agricultural land.

Including four county owned easements accepted most recently, the Farmland Preservation Program has protected 927 farms in 39 counties encompassing 117,934 acres.

Following is a list of the 20 properties, including owner,

township, acreage and purchase cost.

Berks County

Harold C. and Lillian M. Hetrick, Oley Township, preserved 150 acres, receiving \$300,400.

Bucks County

Douglas W. and Wendy C. Kale, Solebury Township, sold rights on 79 acres, for \$692,427.

Leroy and Kathleen Herstine, Bedminster and Tinicum Townships, sold development rights on 111 acres, for \$387,800.

Carbon County

Frank T. Gabovitz, East Penn Township, 62 acres, \$112,000.

Robert and Joyce Reichard, East Penn Township, 74 acres, \$139,000.

Cumberland County

F. Glenn Pepper, South Middleton Township, 151 acres, \$400,000.

Lehigh County

Ronald G. and Janice K. Metzger, Weisenberg Township, 70 acres, \$153,448.

Richard P. and Thelma L. Sei-

del, Weisenberg Township, 79 acres, \$165,709.

Luella V. Snyder, Lynn Township, 90 acres, \$143,488.

Luella V. Snyder, Lynn and Weisenberg Townships, 84 acres, \$117,257.

Monroe County

Homer and Ester Beers, Chestnuthill Township, 121 acres, \$205,924.

Virgie A. Frailey, Jackson

Township, 91 acres, \$172,767.

Kenneth and Helen George, Eldred Township, 73 acres, \$132,116.

Franklin D. Longenbach, Ross Township, 122 acres, \$182,944.

Steven and Annette Murphy, Polk Township, 51 acres, \$95,911.

Smith Brothers, Polk Township, 67 acres, \$127,079.

Montgomery County

Gary R. and Betty Jane Schuler, Franconia Township, 45 acres,

\$318,702.

Schuylkill County

William H. and Kathleen G. Romberger, Eldred and Upper Mahantongo Townships, 122 acres, \$121,700.

Susquehanna County

Robert S. Warriner, Dimock Township, 267 acres, \$185,697.

Westmoreland County

Frank E. and Suzanne M. Skacel, Derry Township, 157 acres, \$314,068.

Gratz To Host 6th Annual Farm Machinery Show

GRATZ (Dauphin Co.) — Mark these dates on your calendar, July 18 - 19. Why? That's when the Gratz Area Antique Machinery Association, Inc. will hold its antique machinery and tractor show. July 17 will be show set-up day.

Machinery parades will be held Saturday, July 18 through town at 10 a.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. in front of the grandstand.

Fordson, Ford is this year's feature tractor, the feature engine is Associated.

Some events scheduled for

both Saturday and Sunday include threshing, stationary baling, tractor games, and blacksmithing, just to mention a few. Come and see steam engines, trucks, cars, and of course tractors and implements.

Come test your tractor's strength with the tractor pulls on Saturday at 2 p.m., featuring "the small sled" and at 6 p.m. with the "large sled."

Don't own a tractor or you want to add to the collection? Register to win a John Deere Farm Tractor MT, plus other great prizes. Last year's winner

of the Allis Chalmers WC was Dale Diebert from Sacramento.

Don't forget — all this walkin' and talkin' tractor stuff can make a person hungry. A variety of good food will be available Friday evening and all day Saturday and Sunday. Breakfast will be served Saturday morning.

Donation for each day is \$1 per adult. Flea market spaces are available at a cost of \$1 per foot for Saturday and Sunday.

Gates open at 9 a.m. each day. For more information, call (717) 365-3285.

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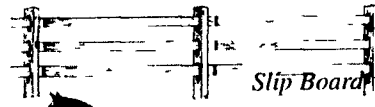
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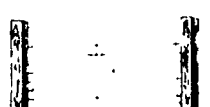
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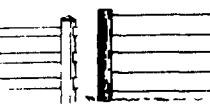
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