

Crops, Beef Farmer Receives York Chamber Award

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Evans was also instrumental in helping form a committee within the Eastern Area School District to restore agriculture studies to the curriculum and served as chair of the group for several years. And, both Dave and Janet faithfully serve in various capacities as members of the East Prospect United Methodist Church.

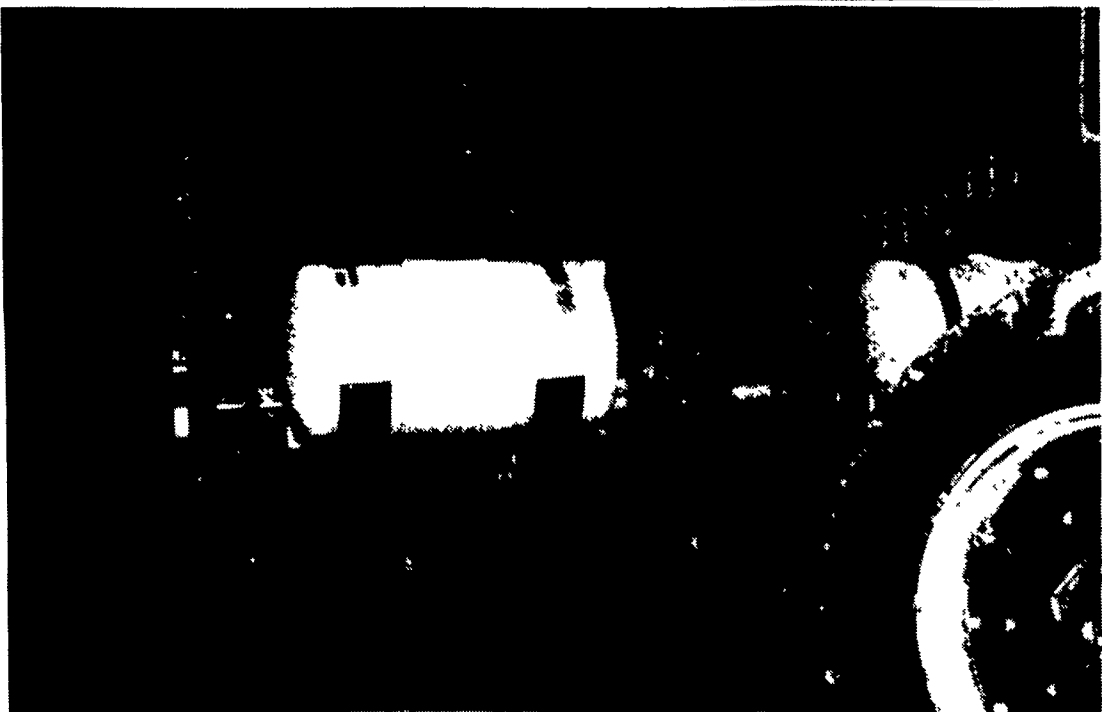
"A lot of people can't relate to a farmer any more; they have no background in agriculture," he says as one of the reasons he continues in a role as an agricultural advocate. "Too many people think food just comes from supermarkets."

An active and healthy 66, Evans looks forward to farming

just as long as he can. When a 1300-pound bull shoved a gate into him a few years ago, breaking several ribs, collapsing his lungs and sending him to a ten-day hospital stay, Evans dreaded the anticipated long recovery period. A similar accident sometime before had sent Janet into a painful, six-week recuperative period.

But less than a day after returning home from hospitalization, Evans was up and walking around and checking up on the farm. He credits that to good health and durability based on an active, farming lifestyle.

"You can't find a better way of life," he asserts. "As long as I can make a living at this and I'm able, I'll keep at it."



Like most area farmers, Dave Evans made the best of the recent extended rain delay with shop time, fine tuning planting equipment.

Grain Producers To Promote E-85 June 1

EDGEWATER, Md. — The Maryland Grain Producers Association (MGPA) will be promoting the use of E-85 as an alternative to gasoline on Monday, June 1, as the Ethanol Vehicle Challenge cars drive through Montgomery County.

The promotion will be held at

the farm of Robert Raver on Mount Ephriam Road in Dickerson.

MGPA is a strong supporter of E-85 fuel, which is made up of a blend of 85 percent ethanol and 15 percent gasoline.

"Expanding the E-85 market is

very important to Maryland farmers as it provides an alternative use for corn which helps stabilize grain prices," said Melvin Baile, Jr., president of MGPA. "Today's use of corn in the ethanol market, through E-10 blends that are used in all vehicles and in the growing E-85 market, is estimated to pro-

vide an additional 45¢ per bushel for grain farmers across the country."

The 1998 Ethanol Vehicle Challenge is bringing engineering teams from 14 colleges and universities across the country to Washington, D.C. The competition, sponsored by the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and General Motors Corporation (GM), challenges top automotive engineering students to design, build, and test dedicated ethanol-fueled vehicles.

Participating schools received a 1997 Chevrolet Malibu powered by 3.1 liter V6 engine, plus one spare engine from GM. The students then put their engineering skills to the test. The challenge is to re-engineer the vehicle to run on a blend of E-85. The objective of the competition is to optimize fuel economy, emissions, and cold-start characteristics without sacrificing driveability and performance.

"The Ethanol Challenge teams are demonstrating in the most tangible and practical sense that domestic fuels and today's automobiles are a winning combination. E85 is good for our economy and good for our environment," said Tom Gross, deputy assistant secretary for transportation technologies, USDOE.

There are to companies who offer vehicles that run on E85. All 3.3 litre Chrysler mini vans will run on E85. Ford offers the Taurus as a flexible fuel version at no extra cost and starting with model year 1999 all 3.0 litre Ranger pickups will run on E85. These flexible fuel vehicles will run on an 85 percent blend of Ethanol or 100 percent gasoline or any combination in between.

"We want to make people aware of the alternative fuel option so we can get enough vehicles available to establish an ethanol refueling infrastructure," said Baile.

Southeast Regional Small Fruit Meeting Set

POTTSVILLE (Schuylkill Co.) — Strawberry growers and individuals interested in growing strawberries are invited to a twilight meeting sponsored by Penn State Cooperative Extension.

The meeting will be held Wednesday, June 3 at 6:30 p.m. at James Rodichok Farm, Tower City. This meeting will qualify for update credits.

Speakers for the meeting will

be: Dr. Joseph A Fiola, specialist in small fruit and viticulture, Rutgers Cooperative Extension, New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station. He will discuss strawberry production on raised bed plastic culture with trickle irrigation. A demonstration plot will be observed with 3, 2, and 1 year production with this system.

Scott Walker, Jersey Asparagus Farms, Inc., who has

five years experience with this system, will discuss their production accomplishments. A sprayer demonstration for the control of weeds, insects, and disease on strawberries will be offered.

For additional information, contact George P. Perry, Jr., Extension Agent/Horticulture, Schuylkill County Extension Office, 1202 Ag Center Drive, Pottsville, PA 17901, (717) 622-4225.

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The schools competing in The Ethanol Challenge are Cedarville College, Ohio; Crowder College, Missouri; GMI Engineering & Management Institute, Michigan; Idaho State University; Illinois Institute of Technology; Mankato State University, Minnesota; University of California, Riverside; University of Illinois at Chicago; University of Kansas; University of Nebraska, Lincoln; University of Texas at Austin; University of Texas at El Paso; University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada; and Wayne State University, Michigan.

Judging will be held at the General Motors Proving Ground in Milford, Michigan, beginning May 25. After five days of competition, the teams will motorcade to Washington, D.C. where they will join the activities of the National Clean Cities Conference stopping in Dickerson, in Montgomery County on June 1. On June 2, the students and sponsors will display their vehicles on the capitol grounds.