

\$30,000 In Hand

(Continued from Page A1)

ing the farmer is part of the all-important work of the Farmland Trust. He said his grandfather's cause was to get electricity to the farmers; his father helped to get agriculture from horses to mechanization.

"Now I have come to believe our challenge in this generation is to preserve the land so farming can continue," Schwartz said. "More and more people realize our success and quality of life goes back to our farms. We are at the crossroads. It will depend how well we do our job on farmland preservation. Hopefully, we will not miss our call to insure the future of agriculture."

Darvin Boyd, honorary chair of the Trust's funding campaign announced that \$30,000 had already been donated toward the \$200,000 goal. "It is gratifying to know that people understand the critical need to preserve Lancaster County farms and are willing to support Lancaster Farmland Trust's important work. These donations by various key individuals and business donors will help us towards reaching our goal."

"We are all busy but we must decide what is important. This effort is truly a project that will increase the quality of life for our children. If we do not preserve

Agriculture in our county we will not have the quality of life in the future.

"The idea behind the 'Harvest Appeal' is that we need to reinvest part of the harvest into the next crop. Farmland is being lost all over the country. A total of 1,000 farms have been preserved between the Farmland Trust and The Ag Preserve Board. This seems like a small number in light of the 50,000 total number of farm in the state. But we needed to start small.

"To me, Lancaster County is a national treasure. Our responsibility is to be good stewards and enhance the quality of life for future generations," Boyd said.

Officials hope to reach their funding goals by the end of 1998. Lancaster Farmland Trust has preserved 85 farms and more than 5,400 acres worth nearly \$8.5 million since its organization in 1988. It is a private, non-profit organization and often works with or along side the Ag Preserve Board which is state funded.

The Lancaster Farmland Trust's annual dinner is scheduled for Friday, November 13, at Historic Strasburg Inn. Dinner is at 5:45 p.m. For more information about Lancaster Farmland Trust call (717) 293-0707 or visit their website at www.savelancasterfarms.org.



Among the officers and donors present at the kick-off breakfast of the Lancaster Farmland Trust Harvest Appeal are, from left, Marian and Noah Kreider Jr., Phyllis Whitesell, Elaine Ewing Holden, Tom Stouffer, John Schwartz, Darvin Boyd, Barry Shaw, and Phil Kimmel.

Howard County Heritage

ELLCOTT CITY, Md. — Maryland's second annual Howard County Heritage Week is set to be held Sept. 19-27 in historical Ellicott City, sponsored by the Howard County Historical and Cultural Alliance.

The event is designed to highlight Howard County's cultural and historical resources.

As part of the celebration, presentations scheduled include a Civil War encampment, Civil War-era dance demonstrations and a presentation on colonial life in Ellicott City.

Also on tap, the Howard County Center of African American Culture is to give a soap-making demonstration; the Howard County Antique Tractor Club Inc. is to hold its third Farm Heritage Days event at Mt. Pleasant Farm; and cider pressing demonstrations and hay rides are to be offered at the Cider Mill Farm.

Visitors can tour the Elkridge Furnace Inn, the Belmont Manor,

Mt. Ida, the Patapsco Female Institute, historical iMain Street in Ellicott City, or take a ghost tour.

Historic Oakland is to offer a tea serving; the historic Savage Mill is to offer a preview renovations to its manor; the county Center for the Arts, Wavery Mansion, Elk Ridge Heritage Society and the county Historical Society are to display works of art and furniture.

Oral histories are to be presented by the Patapsco Heritage Greenway, and a book-signing is scheduled.

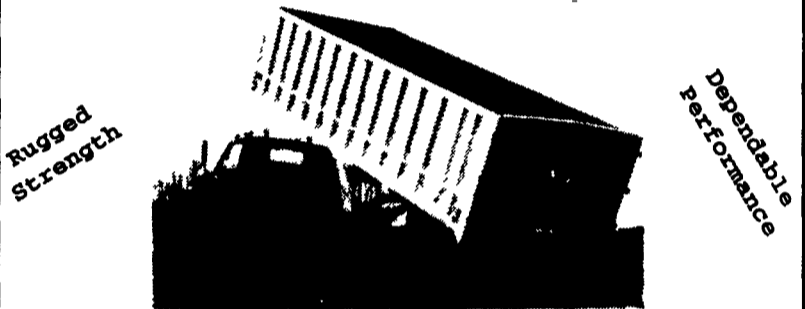
Visitors can also attend Harvest Days at the McKeldin Area of the Patapsco Valley State Park; participate in a kite festival; try old-fashioned games and the 10-acre corn maize; or take a stroll along the Patapsco River, box lunch available.

For more information, call Karen Justice, with the Howard County Tourism Council at (410) 313-1900.

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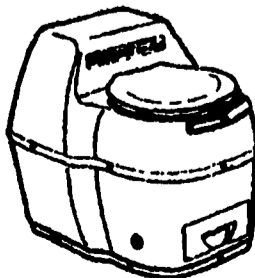
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