

Secretary Hayes Announces Chemsweep Success

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — On behalf of Gov. Tom Ridge, Agriculture Secretary Samuel Hayes Jr. last week announced that more than 830,000 pounds of waste pesticides were collected from 3,000 farmers and agribusinesses through a Department of Agriculture environmental pro-

gram known as Chemsweep. Secretary Hayes announced the completion of a sweep on the entire state at an Oct. 30 ceremony at Strite's Orchard in Harrisburg. "Chemsweep started in 1993 in six counties as a cost-effective way for farmers and agribusinesses to properly dispose of unwanted, canceled, suspended

or unusable pesticides," said Hayes. "Today, all 67 counties participate in this important environmental program." Through Chemsweep, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture picks up unwanted pesticides from participants during regularly scheduled visits. The department disposes of the pesticides at EPA approved facilities. The following counties have been selected to participate in the next round of collections: Armstrong, Berks, Blair, Bradford, Cambria, Chester, Crawford, Erie, Indiana, Juniata, Luzerne, Montgomery, Perry, Susquehanna and York. Farmers, mushroom producers, Christmas tree growers, nurseries and other commercial

enterprises are all eligible to participate. Applications for the program will be mailed to farmers and agribusinesses in participating counties in early November. These applications also will be available from county Extension offices and the Department of Agriculture. The Department of Agriculture also operates a voluntary household collection program in several counties. The

household program, begun in 1997, has collected more than 21,000 pounds of household products. The department plans to broaden the household collection program next summer and fall. The Department of Agriculture's waste pesticide collection program is funded through annual product registration fees paid by chemical manufacturers. There is no cost to participants or taxpayers

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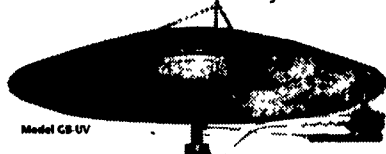
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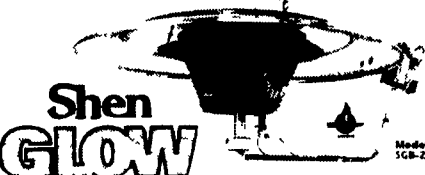
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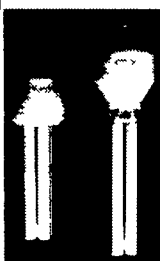
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'Family' Extends Beyond Farm,

(Continued from Page A30)

Dave fame and the Mountain Folk Radio Show, according to Hughes, is GM of WEEU Radio and a member of Gouglersville Grange.

Kline was also honored for his dedication to the wide-ranging promotion of agriculture in the county. On hand to accept the award was Dave and his family, including Kathleen, his wife, and daughters Sasha, 7; Hilary, 9; and Dane, 12.

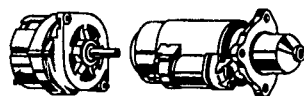
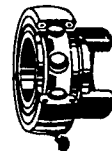
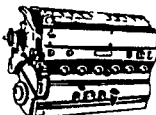
Winner of the Tressie Caton Woman In Agriculture Award was Judy Schwank, extension horticultural agent and Berks County extension director. Schwank was

credited with establishing the Master Gardener Program in the county, helping with the start-up of the Kutztown Produce Auction, and for other long-ranging horticultural services in the county. The award honors Tressie Caton, a "super lady," said John Hvizda, owner of A & J Insurance, Hamburg, who presented the award. Caton was very dedicated to the agribusiness community of the county, who passed away several years ago.

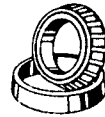
Also honored for service to the Berks Farm-City Council and the Agribusiness council for 15 years of service was Jack Schonely.

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