

10,000 Friends Of Pennsylvania Announce Leadership

HARRISBURG, (Dauphin Co.) - Pennsylvania's largest grass-roots alliance - 10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania - announced an expanded leadership slate.

The organization is concerned with land use, preservation, and economic issues connected with sprawl development.

Well-known Lancaster County Commissioner Terry Kauffman was recently elected chair of the organization at the first annual meeting, March 18.

Kauffman has long been actively working to reduce the impact of sprawl on Lancaster County, including advocating changes in legislation, municipal planning methods, and the use of growth boundaries. Kauffman has also

served as Chairman of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania, and is currently chair of the Smart Growth Committee of the National Association of Counties.

"Improving our decision-making about how we use our land is critical to the future of our commonwealth," said Kauffman.

"We must work together to make decisions that are right for today - and for tomorrow. We must find ways to forge alliances among employers, farmers, builders, lawyers, architects, planners, teachers, advocates, landowners, and everyone else with a stake in the land. And we must have every level of government and the law firmly in support of the process

and the results."

A leading Penn State professor and co-chair of Governor Ridge's 21 Century Environment Commission, Caren E. Glotfelty - will serve as the 10,000 Friends vice-chair. Glotfelty is Goddard Professor of Forestry in their School of Forest Resources.

"The strength of 10,000 Friends," said Glotfelty, "is its ability to mobilize leadership, expertise, and resources across the commonwealth to ensure healthy, livable urban and rural communities. The 21st Century Environment Commission's recommendations and the governor's recent funding and policy initiatives provide an opportunity to address these issues in a significant way.

These are issues that affect all of us, and 10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania wants everyone to be at the table."

10,000 Friends has three honorary co-chairs: Mayor Ed Rendell of Philadelphia, former House Speaker K. Leroy Irvis of Pittsburgh, and Thomas Hagen of Erie.

Joanne Denworth, Esq., former president of the Pennsylvania Environmental Council is to serve as president of the organization and chair its Legislative Task Force.

In addition to the leadership team, seven task forces are to focus on issues of land use and sprawling development.

10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania is a non-profit grass-roots alliance representing over 100 organizations across Pennsylvania with a combined membership exceeding 200,000 citizens.

Since convening in 1996, the organization has supported the development of new policies and legislation to improve land use laws; locate government buildings in downtown areas; reuse vacant brownfields properties; and change school construction funding policies to encourage reuse of older properties.

10,000 Friends recently commissioned a comprehensive statewide study to examine the costs of sprawl in Pennsylvania.

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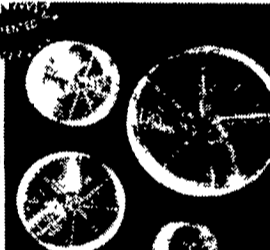
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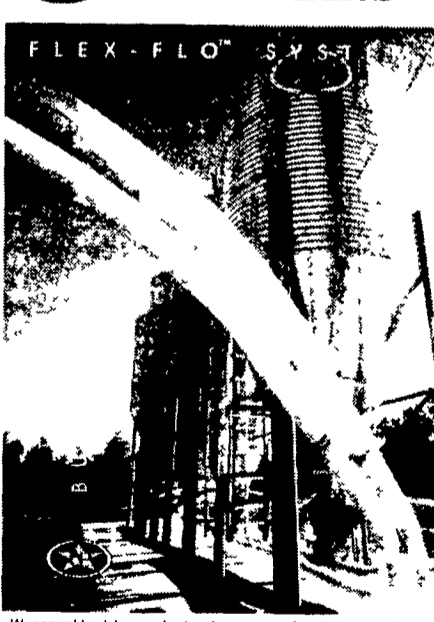


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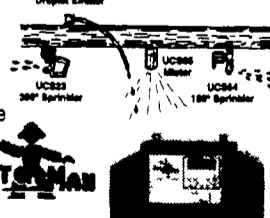


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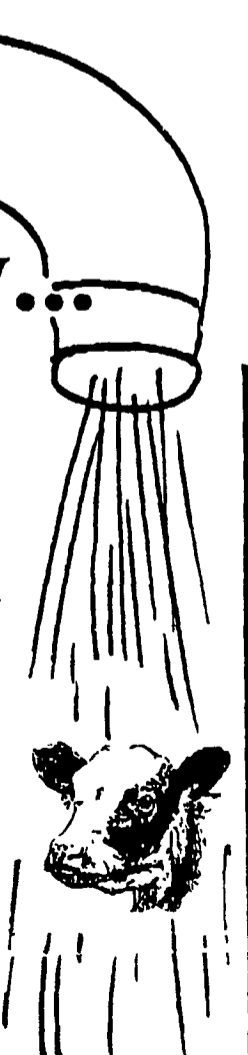
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