

Eastern Shore Threshermen Show Aug. 4-6

FEDERALSBURG, Md. — The Eastern Shore Threshermen and Collectors Association, Inc. will be conducting its 40th annual Wheat Threshing, Steam and Gas Engine Show Aug. 4-6 at its showgrounds on Rt. 313 between Denton and Federalsburg.

The show features free admission and free parking.

Besides the main attraction of wheat threshing, there will be shingle sawing, sawing with a miniature sawmill, and rock crushing. There will be steam engines, antique tractors, gasoline engines, antique cars, and steam models in operation.

A daily parade of all equipment will be at 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 4 p.m. Sunday. Kids of all ages will be able to ride "Smokey Joe," a miniature steam train which is a replica of the Civil War era "General" locomotive.

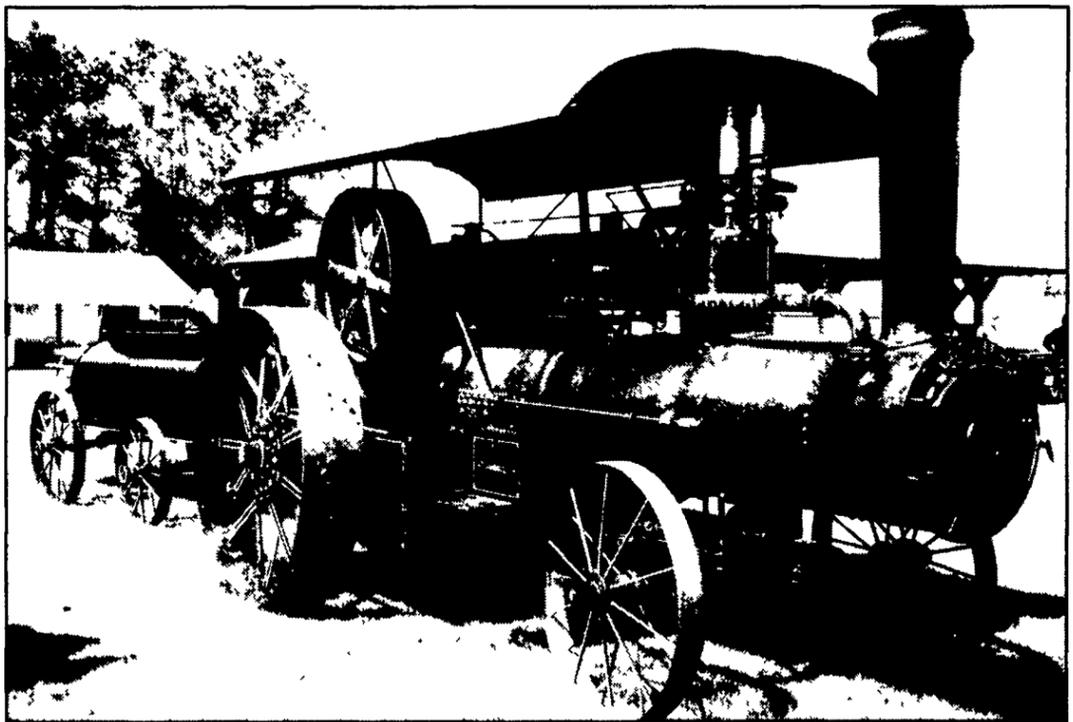
There will be something for everyone in the large flea market, with more than 125 dealers.

Spectators won't want to miss our "Evolution of Threshing," which will demonstrate how threshing grain evolved from using the flail to the modern day combine. This will be Saturday at 2 p.m.

"JR's Midnight Express" will provide a free country music show on Friday evening at 7:30 p.m. and, on Saturday evening, "The Country Troubadours" will be playing at 7:30 p.m. Sunday evening and will feature gospel music by "The Rescue Team" at 5 p.m.

There will be plenty of good food with fried chicken platters, crab cakes, hamburgers, and hot dogs.

Exhibitors of antique equipment are welcome. There is no charge to exhibit. All times are subject to weather conditions.



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Lugar, Boehner Introduce Legislation To Fulfill Farm Bill Promises

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Sen. Dick Lugar, chairman of the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee, and Rep. John Boehner (R-OH) introduced legislation to increase farmers' competitiveness by opening foreign markets, providing tax and regulatory relief, and expanding risk management options for farmers.

"This bill is about improving net farm income. It will provide farmers the tools to increase income and build on the existing farm safety net. Farmers will get tax relief from deductibility for health insurance — so they have the same benefits as other workers — capital gains and estate tax relief and the ability to average out income in high and low years. The bill would also open up foreign markets and reduce regulatory burdens on farmers," Lugar said.

"Many of the provisions were included in the tax bill that passed Congress — but was vetoed by the President — last year. In fact, many of them were voted on in the last week as part of the estate tax and marriage penalty tax bills," Lugar said. "These taxes cut into a farmer's bottom line. Lower taxes and increased trade are essential to increasing farmers' net income."

Lugar and Boehner intro-

duced the Rural America Prosperity Act of 2000 to address the needs of American farmers in the areas of tax relief, trade, risk management, and regulatory reform. Senators Pat Roberts (R-KS) and Rick Santorum (R-PA) are cosponsors of the bill.

Highlights of the legislation are:

- Health care insurance cost deduction for self-employed. Allows for the immediate full deduction of health care insurance premiums for farmers and the self-insured.

- Capital gains. Provides a \$500,000 exclusion (\$250,000 for a married couple filing separately) from capital gains taxes on the sale of a farm.

- Income averaging. Ensures that farmers are not disqualified from using income averaging due to the alternative minimum tax (AMT) calculation.

- Farm, Fish and Ranch Risk Management (FFARRM) accounts. Allows farmers to deduct up to 20 percent of their taxable net farm income and put it aside in a tax-free account for up to five years, allowing farmers to smooth out volatile income streams and minimize risks.

- Estate tax. Phases out the estate and gift tax during a 10-year period.

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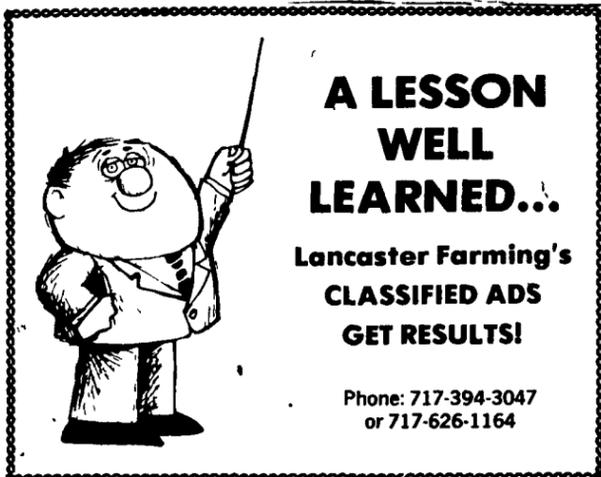
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