



## New Farmers, New Generation

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### RESOLVE TO START YOUR TRANSFER PLANNING NOW

New Year's resolutions are notorious for being made with good intentions, but somewhere along the line losing their punch. What starts out strong dwindles to the status quo or even backslides into unproductive behavior. We're good at putting off things that

are not immediate: we'll do it tomorrow. Never mind that tomorrow never comes.

Farm transfer planning is fraught with the same problems as New Year's resolutions. It is one of those things that can be put off. Fixing that broken piece of equipment we need to harvest or plant the crops demands our immediate attention, but this can

wait. After all, no one is going to send us reminder notices that our transfer planning is past due and failure to start our planning will result in stiff penalties or higher payments.

But consider the high penalties the next generation needs to pay in the following situation: one parent dies and the other ends up in a nursing home with no succession plan for how the farm will be managed. The children have developed lives of their own, interest in the farm as a business and livelihood is at an all-time low, and selling it looks like a good option.

Given this lack of planning, a common and easy resolution is to sell the land for as much as you can get. After all, the surviving parent needs the money for nursing home care. Everyone knows health care costs are through the roof. What's left can be divided

up evenly among the heirs. No one really wants to farm anyway, not in today's farm economy. Let someone else worry about where our food comes from. We can always go to the grocery store and get whatever we want

Acuna matata! No worries! Be happy!

Just as Simba (in the Lion King) found that he needed to take on his kingly responsibilities for his family's pride, so too farm families that would like to see their farm businesses survive have a responsibility to plan for those businesses to transition to the next generation. The mark of a good entrepreneur is his/her ability to build a successful business and to pass it on to the next generation.

Having one generation build up a farm, only to have the next generation "milk" or "harvest" it, and then have the third

generation start over or sell what's left to the highest bidder so permeates our family farm culture that it seems to be the acceptable way to go. We need to reflect for a moment, stop the destructive financial and emotional toll we are taking on ourselves and our families, and resolve to begin anew. We can find better answers for the next generation of farmers if we have the will and the determination to do so.

Want to learn more about transitioning your farm to the next generation? Attend one of four "Passing on the farm" workshops scheduled this winter: Jan. 20 in Leesport, Jan. 27 in Troy, Feb. 11 in Scheloceta, and Feb. 19 in Manheim. Please call Pennsylvania Farm Link at (717) 664-7077 for more information.

## Montgomery County Extension Offers Living On Few Acres Course

CREAMERY (Montgomery Co.) — Again this year Penn State Cooperative Extension in Montgomery County is offering its Living on a Few Acres course Thursday evenings in January and February at the Montgomery County 4-H Center in Creamery.

Living on a Few Acres is designed for homeowners with just a few acres to inform them of the options available to them in growing or raising agricul-

tural products. These classes are designed for the beginner or the person wanting to expand the current operation they currently have.

This year's topics include: Soils, Lime, and Fertilizer (1/8); Organic Certification (1/8); Bees and Honey (1/22); Greenhouse Production (1/29); Aquaculture (2/5); Pasture Poultry and Eggs (2/12); Goats' Milk Cheese (2/12); Raising Alpacas (2/19); and Rabbit Production (2/8/9).

You may take as few as one or two classes or you may attend the whole course. An individual class costs \$10/person or \$12/couple, or the complete course (all six evenings) for \$50/person or \$60/couple. All classes will be held Thursday evenings from 6:45 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Maple Room at the Montgomery County 4-H Center.

To register or to request a brochure, call the extension office at (610) 489-4315.

## We Salute Our Farming Industry



### Mel's Stable Driving & Workhorse Sale Saturday January 3, 2004

Sale held at 834 Wallace Rd. New Holland, PA 17557

Directions: From Rt. 23 in New Holland, go south on Brimmer Ave. Go 2 Miles south on New Holland Road to Hill Road, turn left on Hill Road, proceed 1.2 miles to sale on the left. From Rt. 340 East of Intercourse take New Holland Road 2.5 miles to Hill Road, right on Hill Road to sale on left!

APPROX 75 HEAD OF STANDARD BRED HORSES  
APPROX 50 HEAD OF SADDLEBRED HORSE

1 Load from Jerome Wanner  
1 Load from Sam Esh Jr.  
1 Load from Elam Esh  
1 Load from Stephen Stoltzfus  
1 Load from Christ Z. Stoltzfus



### !!SPECIAL MENTION!!

- 1 load of workhorses for Daniel Hershberger from Ohio which includes:  
~5 & 6 year old Blonde Belgian geldings, nice broke team with some snap!  
~8 year old gelding & 10 year old mare, red sorrel Belgians, kid broke team!  
~3 year old Belgian gelding colts, green broke team!  
~plus several good broke single horses etc.!
- 1 load of workhorses for James Parlier
- Additional Special Mention for Mel's Stable Jan. 3rd Sale  
~ 5 year old sired by Pine Chip, sire of the dam is Valley Victory, 15.3 hand jet black with white markings!  
~ 8 year old sired by Florida Gave - Florida Project black with white markings  
~ 7 year old 16 hand, dark bay sired by Pine Chip, sire of the dam is Bonefish  
~ 7 year old dark chestnut with white markings, sired by Overcomer, sire of the dam is Baltic Speed 15.3 hands!  
~ 4 year old 15.3 hands, sired by Maibar Man, sire of the dam is Green Speed!

The above 5 head are all fresh horses and Jerome will have them on the road for 2 weeks by sale day!



Mel's Stable - Owner - Mel Hoover  
Cash or Honorable PA Check Only  
All Announcements Sale Day Take Precedence Over All Advertising.  
Not Responsible for Accidents • Food on Premises  
Mel Hoover - Auctioneer - AU-003111-L



Business 717-354-6431

Home 717-354-8397

Next Sale: January 24, 2004

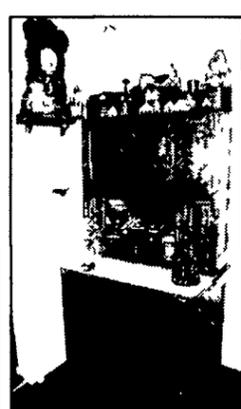
## New Year's Day Antique Auction

Jack & Marjorie Hooks Estate

January 1, 2004 10:00 AM

Rentzels Auction Gallery

DIR: North of York in Manchester, Pa I-83 to Emigsville Exit 24. Proceed East on Rt 238 for 3/4 mile to Rt 181 (N George St, Extd) Left onto Rt 181 N for 3-1/2 miles Turn right at Rentzel's Auction Sign & white rock



### Antique & Victorian Furniture:

Awesome Victorian hall mirror, Marble top dresser & washstand, Victorian bed, (3) Victorian sofas some with ornate carvings, (4) nice Victorian side chairs, rocker, marble top lamp tables, folding rocker cottage style washstand, camelback trunk, several nice massive mirrors, organ stool, Antique weaving loom, Oak wardrobe w/ drawer, Oak Hostler style kitchen cabinet w/ sifter (refinished), (6) decorated plank btm chairs, dovetailed blanket chest w/ strap hinges, high chair, cradle, marble top plant stand, gate leg table, oak chest of drawers, 1930's cane and wood bed, Martha Washington sewing stand, vintage wicker sofa, chairs, rockers and planter, several primitive cupboards and more

**Modern Furniture:** Solid Cherry corner cupboard & claw foot secretary desk, cherry gate leg table, (4) nice chairs and credenza, Ridgeway grandfather's clock, modern curio cabinet, Mahg end and coffee tables, Mahg drum table, pier one entertainment center, Panasonic 32" TV and more

**Victorian Prints Frames & Collectibles:** wonderful floor lamp with sandpaper shade, other lamps with fancy Victorian shades, reverse painted lamp, satin painted dresser lamps, 30+ picture frames w/ nice prints, reverse paintings, needlepoint and more, mission style frames, old beaded purses, perfume bottles, parasol, turis, Bavarian dresser set, bakelite

dresser sets, vintage hats, boots, Victorian shelves, silver plate tea set, pillar mantle clock, semi porcelain umbrella stand and more

**Primitives:** Blue Granite coffee pot, other Granite pcs, Ironstone pcs, oak kitchen mantle clock, cuckoo clock, Delft Holland collection, canister and spice set, salt box, tin wall clock, tin wall mount flour sifter, Hoosier cabinet jars and canisters, wicker shopping cart, pottery mixing bowls, green handle kitchen tools, old kerosene lights, brass port hole cover, ships wheel, old crocks, baskets, toll decorated trays, adv tins and more

**Sogetsu and Ikebana Containers and Oriental Decor:** 50+ Sogetsu and Ikebana pottery containers, books on Ikebana, lots of gardening books and accessories, lots of oriental china, collection of oriental dolls, changing screen, mural screens, jewelry box, and more

**Glassware:** Ruby glass water set, ruby glass, 75 pc Set of Noritake china service for 12, pattern and press glass, Bonn china buffet set, Blue Willow china, old china & glass

**Old Dolls, Toys, and Miniatures:** 12+ nice old dolls, Victorian fainting couch, child's rocker, nice child's drop-leaf table and 2 chairs in green paint, wicker baby buggy, tin toys, dolly winger washer, (2) sewing machines and stove, 1940's wooden doll house and plastic furniture, old horse, Crissy and Friends doll carrier, old children's books, (4) old marionette dolls (2) are Hazells with boxes

**Boyd and Collectible Dolls & Bears:** 35+ bears Boyd & others, 40+ dolls, Gone With Wind series, and more

**Selection of Costume Jewelry:**

**Rugs:** oriental, hook rugs, old & new, various sizes

**Linens:** table clothes, doilies, quilts and more

**Lawn & Garden:** 2001 Cub Cadet 9hp 27" riding mower, Toro CCR200E 4 5hp 20" snow blower

Furniture sells Aprox. 5:00 PM

Preview Wed. Dec. 31, 5:00- 7:00 PM

All announcements day of auction

take precedence over printed material.

Terms: Cash, Check, Visa, Mastercard & Discover

January 8, 2004 Longaberger Basket Auction

Auction Conducted by: Rentzel's Auction Service

Blaine N. Rentzel AU 761-L Dave Conley AU 3269-L

Emigsville, Pa 717-764-6412

www.rentzelauctionservice.com

