

Farmers 'Invoice' Carter

Oil Import Fee Would Worsen Depressed Farm Income Situation, MFB Tells Carter Administration

President Jimmy Carter received an unexpected "invoice" for nearly \$4 million from Michigan farmers just prior to the scheduled imposition of his 10-cents-a-gallon oil import fee.

Mailed to the White House by Elton R. Smith, MFB president, the oversized mock invoice, in the amount of \$3,534,597.80, represented the dollar impact the tax would have on the state's production agriculture.

The 35,345,978 gallons of gasoline, upon which the invoice was based, represents only that amount declared by farmers for non-highway tax exemption for the year ending September 30, 1979, and does not include transportation of farm products to market.

At a press conference in Lansing on May 14, Smith said the increase will create a negative economic impact on both food producers and food consumers.

"When a farmer's production costs rise faster than his income, he won't be able to buy that new tractor or pick-up he needs for his operation. That means less jobs. Less jobs mean less disposable income and consumers will decide to cut back on their food budget. This lower demand will not only hurt the farmer's income, it will send a signal to him to cut back on production. When and if the economic picture changes and demand increases, availability will be a problem for consumers.

"What hurts farmers ultimately hurts consumers, especially here in Michigan where we are so closely interdependent," Smith explained.

Smith said all three of Michigan's largest industries — agriculture, auto manufacturing and tourism — are in an economic crisis that would be dramatically worsened by the oil import fee.

"The reason for the current depressed farm income situation is that increases in production costs are outpacing, by a large margin, increases in farm income. The import fee would only aggravate that situation," Smith said. "Farmers can't afford the 10-cents-a-gallon tax burden on top of other government-caused problems — the 18 percent inflation, the Soviet grain embargo and numerous federal regulatory costs."

According to USDA, farm income is averaging 27 percent below last year and it is predicted that production expenses will continue to advance rapidly.

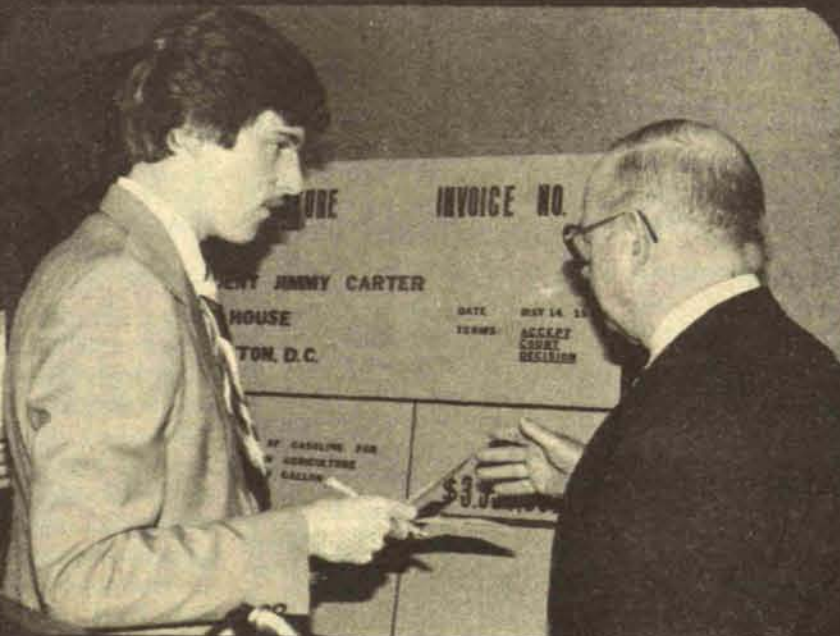
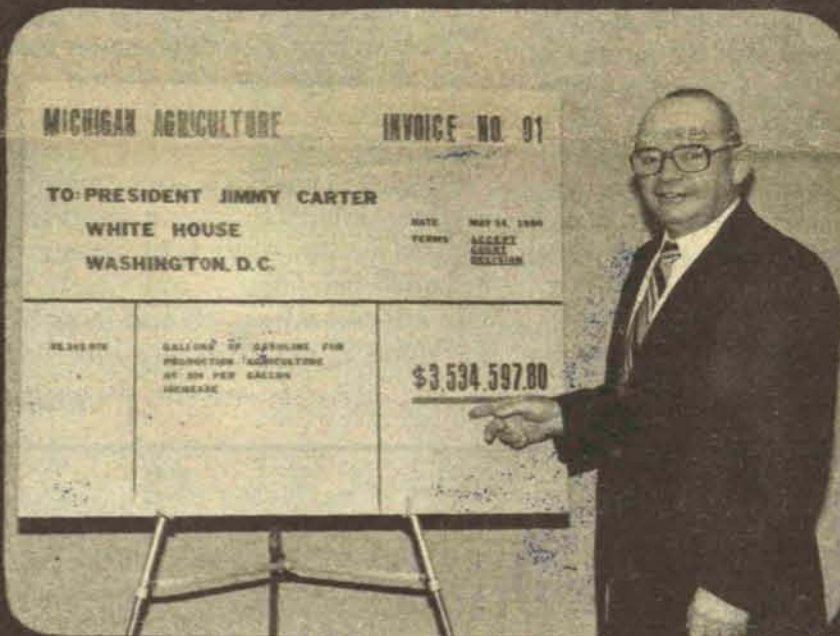
The tax would hurt Michigan's auto industry, he said, because it will make foreign-made, high mileage vehicles more attractive to consumers, and decrease demand for American-made autos and trucks.

Michigan's tourist industry, which has attracted visitors from throughout the United States to its "Water Winter Wonderland," will also suffer from imposition of the oil import fee, he said.

Smith said the increase, presented under the guise of a conservation measure, was "simply a band-aid for balanced budget efforts when what is really needed to control inflation is complete amputation of government overspending."

In a telegram to Carter explaining the invoice that would follow, Smith asked the president to address the real cause of inflation. "Inflation is not caused by farmers, labor unions, oil companies or anyone else. It is caused by government, and government can control inflation by reducing the growth of the supply of money and by making meaningful spending cuts to balance the budget and keep it balanced."

MFB's telephone grid system was also activated resulting in several hundred telegrams and phone calls from farmers throughout the state to their congressmen, urging them to take action that would insure that the court decision of May 13 could not be circumvented by presidential action. The court ruled that the president overstepped his authority and could not impose the oil import fee.



From the Desk of the President

The Reward for Doing Nothing

Would you invest \$10 or \$20 to save many times that amount on your production costs?

Ridiculous question? As ridiculous as it may sound, there are evidently farmers who would not.

You will note, in our front-page story, that Michigan Farm Bureau made a big media splash about President Carter's 10-cents-a-gallon oil import fee. Hopefully, the giant invoice for nearly \$4 million, made some kind of impact on the administration — if not to change their minds, at least to get them thinking. The telegrams and phone calls from those of you involved in our telephone grid system provided your congressmen with proper direction on the issue.

Certainly, all this action here on the homefront helps gain support for our position. I think the teamwork and member involvement was just tremendous and I was proud to be a small part of it. But in the actual arena where the real fight was going on — on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. — Michigan agriculture had, in its corner, an aggressive, dedicated, articulate, effective representative. He was Congressman David Stockman, designated "Friend of Agriculture" and supported by AgriPac in the last election.

The court decision that halted imposition of the new tax does not mean that the battle is over. The administration has announced it will appeal that decision. So the need for friends like Congressman Stockman to be on the scene to protect our interest remains.

This was just one issue, but typical of so many governmental decisions that affect your farming operations. It is an example of the vital importance for agriculture to have friends in Lansing and Washington, D.C., representatives who understand and respond to our needs.

In spite of this recognized need, we have thus far failed to prove our potential as an effective force in electing public officials. There are over 200 Political Action Committees in Michigan for almost every profession and vocation, many with far less members than Michigan Farm Bureau, but which have been successful in raising much more money to support candidates of their choice.

Most of us don't like the phrase, "money talks," but in this case, it most certainly does. It takes money to run an effective political campaign; there are probably many good potential candidates for political office who have to drop out of the race for lack of adequate funding. If we are to have any impact at all in assuring representation for agriculture in the political arena, we simply must make an investment.

Last November, at our annual meeting, voting delegates unanimously supported policy which said: "The candidates elected in the 1980 November elections will be making daily decisions that will vitally effect agriculture. Good laws begin where good lawmakers are elected. . . . We urge each County Farm Bureau Board of Directors to become active in the political action program. . . . We urge every Farm Bureau member to support AgriPac with a contribution. . . ."



Farm Bureau members have been urged, through various methods, to support AgriPac with contributions. Too few have responded. Too few county Farm Bureaus are sponsoring fundraisers such as the Saginaw County Young Farmers Pig Roast on June 14. Those young farmers realize the importance of good lawmakers to their future and are willing to invest some effort to make it happen.

The excuse of "I don't want to get involved in politics" is outmoded. You ARE involved in politics even if you sit on the sidelines doing nothing. Your reward for doing nothing will be representation for OTHER segments of our society, segments which often promote action that will be detrimental to your livelihood.

Please — take a few moments now to write a check to AgriPac (see details in this issue). It's not just a contribution — it's an investment to assure representation that will continue to fight against 10-cents-a-gallon taxation — and much, much more.

Remember: "Good laws begin where good lawmakers are elected."

Elton R. Smith



Because farmers have so many people telling them how to run their businesses, they sometimes gain an "agin-er" image. When they fight against the costly, restrictive regulations that are forced upon them, something gets lost in the interpretation of their actions and the public forms the opinion that farmers are against safety, against protecting the environment, against any social program.

One of the reasons this happens, I suppose, is that farmers

The Farm Image

Agin-ers and Hayseeds?

don't generally "come on strong" unless they're mad or fighting for the survival of their businesses. I have to admit that combat against MI-OSHA makes for better copy than reporting on a farm safety project. Also, farmers have gotten so "gun-shy" that they've hesitated to openly discuss some of their occupational concerns for fear that some bureaucrat will get wind of it and slap on yet another regulation to "protect" them.

In all their confrontations with such heavyweights as MI-OSHA and EPA, farmers have stressed that the emphasis of these agencies should be on constructive education and assistance rather than heavy-handed enforcement. By the time the agencies got that message, however, there was

such a resistance on the part of farmers that their educational efforts are often in vain.

I think that's why the MFB Feed Grains and Oilcrops Advisory Committee asked us for an article in the last issue of the *Farm News* on the proper disposal of chemicals and containers. They realized an article in "their own" publication on an issue of concern to them would be more palatable than one in an EPA publication — even though it said the same things.

Farmers realize the need to handle chemicals with care and most of them do, and we hope the article requested by the advisory committee was read and shared with those inclined to be a bit careless.

As a follow-up to that educational effort, a Farm Bureau

family from Kent County shared a heartrending personal experience that is certain to have more impact than any how-to rules published by any government agency or any farm organization. They shared it because they care about YOU. Please read it. It's called "Charlie."

A tip of the editorial hat to the Farm Bureau Women for their activities on Agriculture Understanding Day. It was our pleasure to produce a slide-tape presentation for their "Empty Plate Breakfast." I say pleasure because it provided the opportunity to publicly address some of those concerns that have affected the farm image — and also because we got to eat the props.

Our photographer said that, as a perfectionist, she could not settle for our first attempt at shooting the full breakfast plate and demanded a retake. I have a sneaking suspicion, however, that she got hooked on my scrambled eggs.

We received a note from the Farm Bureau Challenger Community Group in Alpena County, sharing a letter they had written in response to an Ann Landers column contributor. "A bit weary of the hayseed image so prevalent among city folks," the group objected to the derogatory tone of the phrase, "farm mentality," used by the writer:

Dear Ann Landers,
At the March meeting of our Farm Bureau Community Group, a letter from your column was read. It dealt with the over-population of cats and dogs, and was written by some

(continued on page 13)

'Empty Plate Breakfast' Promotes Understanding



Vivian Lott (left), chairman of the MFB Women's Committee, received a House Concurrent Resolution declaring April 30 as Agriculture Understanding Day in Michigan from Rep. Debbie Stabenow (D-58th District).



Vice chairman Faye Adam explains to Rep. Quincy Hoffman that the objective of the "Empty Plate Breakfast" was to gain the support and understanding of key decision-makers regarding the challenges farmers face in keeping consumers' plates full.

Legislators, congressional aides, government agency officials, consumer organization heads and news media representatives were guests of farmers at an "Empty Plate Breakfast" in Lansing on April 30.

The event was the focal point of activities marking Agriculture Understanding Day, sponsored by the Michigan Farm Bureau Women.

A slide-tape presentation entitled, "The Case of the Empty Plate," set the stage for breakfast table exchanges on the topics of agricultural chemicals, nitrates, food faddism, ag research, government overregulation and embargoes. The topics, identified by Farm Bureau Women as the major challenges facing farmers in keeping consumers' plates full, were related to each of the products served in the all-Michigan breakfast.

Dean Pridgeon, director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture, presented Gov. William Milliken's executive proclamation of April 30 as Agriculture Understanding Day.

"Agriculture is one of the state's largest industries and remains a very key element in Michigan's economy," the governor said in his declaration. "Last year, more than \$2 billion worth of products were produced by Michigan farmers. With the addition of transportation, processing and marketing, this brought the retail value of Michigan's agricultural industry to \$12 billion. In the past

10 years, our agricultural exports reached \$500 million."

Milliken commended the Farm Bureau Women throughout the state for organizing activities to promote an understanding of the contribution of agriculture to Michigan's economy.

Rep. Debbie Stabenow (D-58th District) presented a House resolution commemorating Agriculture Understanding Day in Michigan. "With a new decade bringing many unique challenges to our state, we recognize and especially appreciate that our agricultural in-

dustry is a stabilizing factor in Michigan's economy," Stabenow said. "It is imperative that all segments of our society more fully understand agriculture, the most important occupation, as we mark Agriculture Understanding Day."

According to Vivian Lott, Ingham County dairy farmer who serves as chairman of the Farm Bureau Women, Agriculture Understanding Day in Michigan was part of a nationwide effort to "bridge the information and awareness gaps between farm and non-farm people."



About 230 Charlotte area first graders experienced the wonders of a farm as part of the Ag Understanding Day program of Eaton County's FB Women. The children visited the Tirrell farm, south of Charlotte, where they saw dairy cows, sheep and lambs, beef cows and calves, pigs and farm machinery as well as a wool spinning demonstration, the Magic Cow and the highlight for all — a horse-drawn wagon ride. Each tour lasted one hour and packets of souvenirs were distributed at the end.

Wheat Pool Available to Farm Bureau Members

The MFB Wheat Pool will be available to members for marketing their 1980 wheat crop.

The pool is designed to store, handle and sell the pooled wheat to increase the participating growers' net income from their wheat. Last year the pool returned an average of \$4.07 per bushel.

To participate in the pool, a wheat producer must sign a Wheat Program Agreement (available at county Farm Bureau offices); deliver the wheat at harvest to a participating elevator; tell the elevator at delivery that the wheat is to be in the pool; sign a delivery and settlement form prepared by the elevator; and maintain a Farm Bureau membership while participating.

Shortly after delivery, the participant will receive an advance payment from Farm Bureau. A final payment is made the following spring.

For additional information concerning this member-only

marketing program, please contact your county Farm Bureau office or the Commodity Activities and Research Department, phone 517-323-7000, extension 547 or 548.

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

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And to cattle feeders, hog producers, poultry producers, grain farmers, specialty crop growers, and just about everyone who makes a living farming.

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Production Credit Associations of Michigan

AgriPac Sets Goal of \$30,000

Following the lead of labor unions, teacher associations and other special interest groups, agricultural groups are redirecting their traditional political education activities into the more direct and more influential political action committee approach.

The most recently formed PAC group in the agricultural sector is the Michigan Farm Bureau AgriPac. Active in the 1978 primary and general elections, Farm Bureau's AgriPac supported 73 candidates designated as "friends of agriculture." The success of the bipartisan endorsements was illustrated in the election of 66 of 73 designated "friends" in November 1978, reported Al Almy, AgriPac secretary.

AgriPac 1980 recently announced the appointment of 34 county coordinators who will solicit contributions from Farm Bureau members. Coordinators will be working to meet an August 1 deadline for fund raising. The AgriPac 1980 financial goal is \$30,000 statewide.

According to Larry DeVuyst, Gratiot County hog producer and chairman of AgriPac, funds must be contributed on a voluntary basis.

"Recognizing that the program will not achieve 100 percent membership contributions, our goal is based on anticipated contributions equal to 50 cents per member," he said. "Realistically, we are looking for the \$10 to \$20 contributors."

Campaign contribution laws are very explicit and exacting, DeVuyst said, "as a result, we cannot accept contributions from any corporation, including the county Farm Bureau organizations, and all fund raising must be conducted among Farm Bureau members only.

"The law and its reporting requirements mean accurate records must be kept throughout the AgriPac activity, but it also assures the integrity of our political action group as a grassroots farmer oriented program. We have no quarrel with these necessary restrictions."

Farm Bureau members interested in contributing to the bipartisan Michigan Farm Bureau AgriPac should contact the county coordinator.

In areas where no AgriPac coordinator has been named, AgriPac contributors may call or write: AgriPac, Political Action Committee of the Michigan Farm Bureau, 7373 West Saginaw, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909; phone 517-323-7000.

AgriPac Coordinators

- Alcona** — Carl Siebert, 2148 Trask Lake Road, Barton City, MI 48705, 517-736-8220.
- Allegan** — Tinus VanderWoude, Route 1, 665 140th Avenue, Wayland, MI 49348, 616-792-9906.
- Alpena** — Lloyd Burns, 8399 Indian Reserve Road, Alpena, MI 49707, 517-727-2260.
- Antrim** — Dean Veliquette, 8443 Cairn Highway, Elk Rapids, MI 49629, 616-264-8885.
- Arenac** — Marilyn Stein, 4193 8 Mile, Standish, MI 48658, 517-846-4185.

Bay — John Fleischmann, 137 E. Kinney Road, Munger, MI 48747, 517-659-3184.

Berrien — Hazen Harner Jr., 5031 Clawson Road, Eau Claire, MI 49111, 616-461-6691.

Calhoun — Mrs. Paul Piepkow Sr., 23607 V Drive North, Olivet, MI 49706, 517-543-3334.

Cheboygan — Myra Hand, Star Route, Box 75, Afton, MI 49705, 616-238-7739.

Chippewa — Bernard Doll, Barbeau, MI 49710, 906-632-7077.

Clare — Charles Kleinhardt, 6641 E. Ashard, Route 1, Clare, MI 48617, 517-386-2360 and Cris Cone, 1406 W. High, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858, 517-644-2621.

Copper Country — Daniel Linna, Route 1, Box 42, Bruce Crossing, MI 49912, 906-827-3483.

Emmet — Bill Coeling, Edgewater, Petoskey, MI 49770, 616-347-2093.

Genesee — Gail Dormire, 3082 N. Henderson Road, Davison, MI 48423, 313-653-0297.

Gladwin — Bernice Fries, Box 64, Gladwin, MI 48624, 517-426-4902.

Ingham — Nancy Collins, 5110 Plains Road, Onondaga, MI 49264, 517-628-2546.

Iosco — Raymond Cross, 2013 Wilber Road, East Tawas, MI 48730, 362-3926.

Isabella — Evert Bowerman, 708 E. Weidman Road, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858, 517-433-5417.

Jackson — Tom Betz, 13062 Griffith Road, Springport, MI 49284, 517-857-2166.

Kent — Michael Bowman, 8797 Morse Lake, Alto, MI 49302, 616-868-6858.

MacLuce — Matt Cousino, Route 1, Box 117, Engadine, MI 49827, 906-477-6183.

Manistee — Levon Grossnickle, Healy Lake Road, Kaleva, MI 49645, 616-362-3618.

Mason — Chuck Preston, 5525 Johnson Road, Ludington, MI 49431, 616-843-8332.

Mecosta — Joanne Emmons, Route 2, Box 3, Big Rapids, MI 49307, 616-796-6653.

Menominee — Charles Donaldson, Stephenson, MI 49887, 906-753-2284.

Muskegon — Kenneth Bull, 880 Canada Road, Bailey, MI 49303, 616-834-7272.

Newaygo — Bud Beeler, RFD 1, Newaygo, MI 49337, 616-924-3737; Eloise Kunnen, 3571 S. Green Street, Fremont, MI 49412, 616-924-4488; and John Plakmeyer, 32113 128th Street, Grant, MI 49327, 616-834-7486.

Ogemaw — Ron Quackenbush, 213 Sage Lake Road, Rose City, MI 48654, 517-685-2794.

Ottawa — Harris Schipper, 5688 Byron Road, Zeeland, MI 49464, 616-772-2739 (evenings) or 616-875-8009 (days).

Sanilac — Gary Best, 1050 Arnold Road, Snover, MI 48472, 313-672-9714.

Shiawassee — Kennard Dysinger, 1275 Ellsworth, Perry, MI 48872, 517-625-3409.

St. Clair — Kenneth Conroy Jr., 10183 Division, Richmond, MI 48062, 313-727-1282.

Tuscola — Mrs. John G. Laurie, Route 2, 5440 Dodge Road, Cass City, MI 48726, 517-872-2659.

Wayne — Richard Sharland, 48121 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth, MI 48170, 313-453-6483.

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 P.O. Box 218
 Imlay City, MI 48444

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 Jackson, Michigan 49202
 Phone: 517-784-3188

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 2455 N. Williams Lake Road
 Pontiac, Michigan 48054
 Phone: 313-666-1500

Deadline for Filing Applications is July 1

Contribution Remittance Advice

My contribution to AgriPac does not violate any of the statements below:

1. I was informed of my right to refuse to contribute without reprisal and my contribution was not made under actual or threatened physical force, job discrimination, financial reprisals, or as any condition of employment.
2. I was informed of the political purpose of AgriPac.
3. I was informed that a copy of AgriPac's report is filed with the Federal Election Commission and that it is available for purchase from them.
4. I was informed that (1) the guidelines, if any, for contributions are only suggestions, (2) I may contribute more or less than the guidelines, and (3) my contribution, or failure to contribute, will not favor or disfavor me.
5. My aggregate contributions during the year do not exceed either \$5,000 to AgriPac or \$25,000 for all federal election contributions.
6. I am an American citizen or I've been admitted to permanent U.S. residence and this contribution is made in my name.

Twister Slashes Across Van Buren County

By Luke Schafer

The nightmare is over, but the painful task of cleaning up and rebuilding will continue for some time for the Van Buren County residents who saw their world torn apart by a tornado May 12.

"My wife and my little girl and I were out by the barns when the tornado hit," said Charles Brown, a Paw Paw area cattle farmer whose entire operation was destroyed. "The cattle started to spook and I saw boards flying past me. We ducked into a bathroom in one of our buildings and a barn blew right over us."

Although they escaped injury, they emerged from their shelter to find heaps of rubble where farm buildings had once stood.

"When you experience something like this, you just don't know where to start to get things back in order," said Brown, a longtime Farm Bureau member.

Brown is one of several Farm Bureau Insurance Group policyholders who suffered losses in the mid-May twister. Although most of the news media attention centered on

"When you experience something like this, you just don't know where to start to get things back in order."

— Charles Brown, tornado victim

the death and destruction in downtown Kalamazoo, the killer storm also caused major damage to farms and homes in eastern Van Buren County.

FBIG estimates that its losses resulting from the tornado will exceed \$1.5 million.

Within a few hours after the tornado struck, FBIG agents and claims representatives were in the storm area, making initial contact with insureds and assuring that the victims' immediate needs were being met.

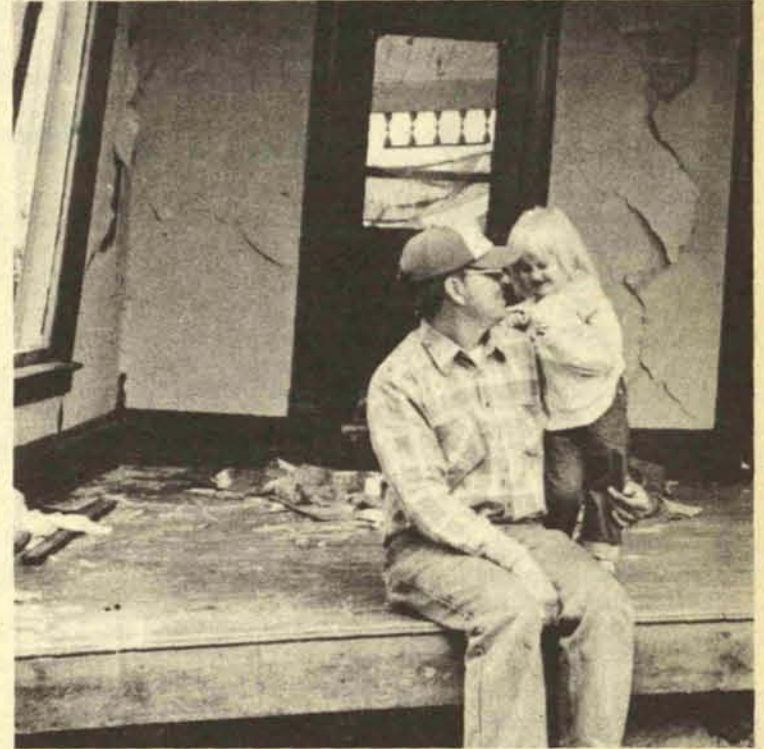
Agent Dennis Smiertka arrived at Charles Brown's ravaged farm soon after the tornado had hit.

"The State Police had blocked off the main road and wouldn't let me through, so I took some back roads," Smiertka said. "When I got to Charlie's, I found the biggest

mess I'd ever seen. He lost nine outbuildings and his home. My first concern was to make sure they had a place to stay that night."

Less than an hour after the tornado hit, FBIG set up a catastrophe headquarters at the Van Buren County Farm Bureau Office under the direction of Jerry Tiller, assistant manager of the Grand Rapids Claims Office. The entire Grand Rapids Claims Branch was immediately activated to serve insureds in the storm area. Other FBIG disaster teams were on standby.

"Within a day after the tornado, we had checked out several dozen loss reports," Tiller said. "Besides many homes, our major losses included two farms."



Charles Brown hugs his daughter, thankful that the family escaped injury when the tornado destroyed their farming operation.

"My first concern was to make sure they (Browns) had a place to stay that night."

— Dennis Smiertka, FBIG Agent



Cattle farmer Charles Brown of rural Paw Paw (left) surveys tornado damage on his farm with Jerry Tiller, assistant manager of FBIG's Grand Rapids Claims Office.



The farrowing barn on the Jimmy Altom farm near Paw Paw was completely destroyed.

FBIG Agents Help in Rebuilding Farms

Over at the farm of Farm Bureau member Jimmy Altom, a large hog operation not far from the destroyed Brown farm, the tornado ripped apart the farrowing barn, tossed around trees and farming equipment, and severely damaged the house and other farm buildings.

FBIG agent Bob Vlietstra, who only hours earlier had witnessed the tornado roar within a block of his Kalamazoo office, arrived at the Altom farm that evening ready to help in any way he could.

"The first thing I did was call a contractor and we rode to the Altom farm together in a truck loaded with plywood," Vlietstra said. "We did a lot of detouring because of police

roadblocks, but we finally zigzagged our way through."

Besides assessing the damage, Vlietstra helped Altom and his family make emergency repairs to the hog barns that were left, providing the necessary housing for the surviving pigs.

"We were up on the roof until past 10:30 that night nailing plywood and making repairs," Vlietstra said. "I was out there to help the Altoms any way I could."

The efforts of the FBIG agents and claims representatives in the storm area did not go unappreciated.

"We couldn't have asked for better or faster service," Mrs. Altom said. "The Farm Bureau Insurance people were out

here when we needed them and they took care of just about everything. Arrangements were made for a cleaning crew to clean out our house almost immediately, and construction on our new farrowing barn started just a few days later."

FBIG's quick action in serving insureds in times of disaster can be attributed to excellent training, organization and lots of planning.

"I wasn't there just because I was someone's insurance agent. . . it's the kind of thing anyone would do to help a neighbor. . . ."

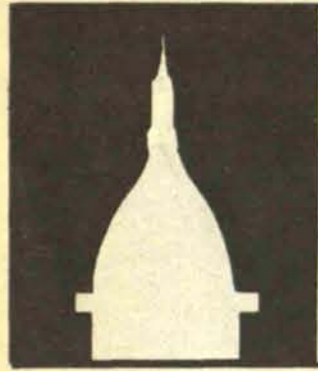
— Bob Vlietstra, FBIG Agent

"Catastrophes of this nature are to be anticipated by an insurance company of our size," said Jerry Snay, FBIG's manager of Property Claims. "When a disaster strikes, our insureds have the right to expect the type of service provided by our Grand Rapids Claims Office after the recent tornado."

Any tornado is a nightmare for its victims, but the recovery is a little easier to make when

neighbors and friends join together to help one another dig out and rebuild.

"When I was up on the barn roof making emergency repairs, I wasn't up there just because I was someone's insurance agent," FBIG agent Bob Vlietstra said. "I just figure it's the kind of thing anyone would do to help a neighbor or someone in trouble. People mean a lot to us."



CAPITOL REPORT

By
Robert E. Smith

The May issue of the *Michigan Farm News* contained a brief outline of Michigan's present tax relief system. This included the circuit breaker or property tax rebate program that applies to homesteads, including farms.

Sixty percent of the difference between 3½ percent of the household income and the amount of the tax is refunded to the taxpayer with a limit of \$1,200. In the case of the elderly and certain others, 100 percent of the difference is refunded. More than one-third of a billion dollars is refunded each year.

Farmers who have joined P.A. 116 are refunded all of their property taxes above 7 percent of their household income. They are also exempt from certain special assessments.

Local control is maintained under the present system because the tax is paid to the local government and schools. The taxpayer receives his refund directly from the state.

Tisch Petition

The May article also briefly discussed the Tisch petition proposal, including some of the problems that would be created. This month, we will briefly discuss some of the other 23 or more proposals that are either in petition form or are before the Legislature. All have good points and all have problems. Some are tax cuts and others are tax shifts.

The big question is that if local government (counties, townships, schools, etc.) revenues are cut, where will the necessary new revenues come from (increased income tax, sales tax, business taxes, etc.).

Michigan is already in bad financial shape with nearly one-half billion dollars being sliced from the budget. Many of the cuts are extremely important to agriculture.

Smith-Bullard Plan

This has been proposed by Reps. Roy Smith and Terry Bullard in the Legislature as HJR "F" and is also in a petition form. Briefly, it would:

- Limit operational tax millage rates to 24.5 mills for homestead and resident family owned and operated farms.
- Allocate thirteen mills (counties 7 mills; townships 2 mills; community colleges 1 mill;

vocational education 1 mill; special education 1½ mills; intermediate school districts ½ mill). The people could vote up to 11½ extra mills (county 1 mill; township 2 mills; K-12 schools 7 mills; community colleges 1½ mills).

- Exempt the first \$25,000 of assessed evaluations of homesteads of retirees 65 or older and reimburse the local unit.
- Provide a five year phase-in period, indexing and tax roll back by class.
- Require a 1½ percent increase in the income tax to replace the lost revenue.

Siljander Proposal

Rep. Siljander has introduced a tax relief proposal as HJR "Z," which is also in petition form. Briefly, it would:

- Cut school operating taxes by the first 26 mills on only homestead residences and farms. Business and other property would continue to pay the taxes and would not benefit.
- Require the state to pay the equivalent of the lost 26 mill revenue to each K-12 school district.
- Require extra voted millage to be paid by all taxpayers, including residences and farms.
- Exempt the aged, blind, disabled or disabled veterans \$25,000 of assessed value (SEV) on their homesteads.
- Increase renter relief under the present tax rebate program from the present 17 percent to 20 percent.
- Liberalize the present "circuit tax breaker" tax rebate program by cutting the 3½ percent of income to 3 percent and reimbursing 80 percent of the difference instead of the present 60 percent.
- Limit school millage elections to two, unless petitioned.
- Increase the sales tax 1 percent from the present 4 percent to five percent.
- Mean a net loss to the state budget of \$300 million or more.
- Provide for millage rollbacks by class and indexing.

STRIDE Petition

STRIDE stands for the Committee for School Tax Reform Including Defined Equality. A tax group organized in Macomb County, their petition would:

1980 Tax Proposals: Everybody's Got One

- Eliminate school taxes after January 1982.
- Require financing of K-12 schools by the Legislature.
- Limit county and township taxes to 9 mills.
- Permit up to an additional 12 mills by vote.
- Limit total millage to 20 mills, three of which could be voted for community colleges.
- Permit local 1 percent voted income tax for schools.
- Permit state income tax to be raised up to 6 percent and higher with voter approval.

TRIM Proposal

TRIM stands for Tax Reform In Michigan. The leader of this group is Jim Obert, who, along with others, led the Tisch coalition, but withdrew their support of the Tisch proposal because they felt it was unworkable. They are promoting a different petition drive which would:

- Reduce the present 15 to 18 mill tax limitation to 7 to 12 mills and the present 50 mill constitutional ceiling to 30 mills.
- Prohibit operational millage for all schools (including K-12, community colleges, intermediate schools, etc.).
- Impose a 1 percent income tax and a 1 percent corporate income tax for education.
- Require the Legislature to provide for an "enrichment" income tax on business and individuals to be approved by the school voters.

Montgomery Proposal

H.B. 4075, introduced by Rep. George Montgomery, chairman of the House Tax Committee, is currently on the House floor for action and if passed, would provide substantial property tax relief within the present tax system. It would:

- Increase personal income tax exemption from the present \$1,500 to \$1,800.
- Change the present property tax rebate system by providing a "certificate" for the amount of the property tax credit to the taxpayer by Dec. 1 to be used to pay the property taxes.
- Provide a "schedule" which gives lower and middle income taxpayers more relief. The limit would continue to be \$1,200.
- Increase the income tax from the present 4.6 percent to 5.4 percent.

It is possible that this proposal will be put on the Aug. 5 primary election ballot.

Legislative Task Force

The governor called together the leadership of both political

parties from the Senate and House, along with the leadership of a few organizations, including Farm Bureau. The task force tried to develop a plan that could be supported by the various groups and political parties. A special legislative leadership and executive office committee is doing the final negotiation of a possible plan.

At present the main points of the proposal would:

- Exempt \$6,500 of the equalized assessment of a homestead or farm. This would be in addition to the present property tax rebate system.
- Index the \$6,500 exemption and the present \$1,500 income tax exemption, and \$1,200 property tax rebate limit. (Indexing means to increase the exemption each year in relation to the inflation factor.)
- Give renters flat \$140 payment.
- Phase out the sales tax on utilities.
- Increase the sales tax 1½ percent, from the present 4 percent to 5½ percent.

Summary

Many of the proposals quoted here, and others that are pending, have a provision requiring the state lottery revenue to be used for schools. This really does not mean anything inasmuch as the state already puts several times more revenue into school aid than the amount of revenue provided by the lottery.

The above are only a few of the many programs being promoted. Most of the proposals would turn local government and school financing over to the state. Rep. Montgomery, has said that he does not understand why anyone wants to give more control to the state. He points out that the Legislature must have some control on those programs that it finances.

Following are some of the other programs being proposed.

The Sen. Corbin — Rep. Crim proposals include several bills and a constitutional amendment. They would provide a \$3,000 assessment exemption and increase sales tax by 1 percent.

Sen. Monsma's proposal, S.B. 1110, increases tax rebates from 60 percent of the difference between 3½ percent of income and the tax to 100 percent; provides vouchers; increases income tax exemptions

and would increase the income tax from 4.6 percent to 5.1 percent.

The Republican Task Force proposal is very similar to Rep. Siljander's proposal.

Sen. Fredericks' petition drive would repeal the Single Business Tax; decrease the income tax in steps from the present 4.6 percent to 4 percent by 1986; increase personal exemption from \$1,500 to \$1,800 and permit a 10 percent income tax on business income.

The Governor's proposal has been dropped, but would have provided a \$500 flat property tax exemption, increased renter relief and made other changes and increased the sales tax by 1½ percent.

Senator Kammer's plan, SJR "V," would reduce extra voted millage for schools by the first 15 mills and one-half of all voted mills above 15 for homestead and agriculture, give additional aid to elderly and increase the sales tax by 1½ percent.

Rep. Trim's proposal, HJR "EE," would reduce assessments from 50 percent to 35 percent by 1984 for agricultural, developmental and residential property.

Rep. Jacobetti's plan, HJR "FF," would reduce assessments to 30 percent.

MCREE, an organization of some educational groups, offered a set of bills to change financing of schools. The complicated proposal would include a statewide property tax to provide 40 percent of school costs and eliminate local voted school millage.

Sen. Faxon and Sen. Faust would increase income tax by 2 percent from 4.6 percent to 6.6 percent and increase the sales tax by 1 percent from 4 percent to 5 percent. The revenues would be used to reduce property taxes and increase educational funding, including funding for higher education.

Conclusion

It is impossible to list all of the ideas and proposals that have been advanced. Farm Bureau has provided many committees and individuals with an outline of our resolutions on property taxes and school reform.

The proposals listed in this article are most of those that have received some publicity. As the various ideas are narrowed down, it will be possible to provide a more comprehensive report.

MFB Supports Three-A-Month Payments to Dairy Farmers

Dairy farmers should not be expected to subsidize handlers' operations through the extension of credit "beyond what is reasonable," MFB President Elton R. Smith told the USDA in a brief supporting a proposal that would allow dairy farmers to be paid three times a month rather than the traditional twice a month.

The proposed amendment would affect the Southern Michigan Milk Marketing Area, which includes most of Michigan except for the Upper Peninsula.

Smith said dairy farmers must receive prompt payment for their milk because, in most

cases, it is their only source of income to meet farm production and family living expenses and to make debt payments.

"The proposal will aid dairy farmers caught in the cost-price squeeze because it will decrease the interest cost for the money they have in the milk pricing system from the date they deliver their milk to the date they receive payment for their milk," he said.

"It will decrease the farm capital requirement for milk in the marketing system after the milk leaves the farm. This interest cost may be actual interest expense for the money the farmer borrows to conduct

his business operation — or it may be an imputed interest for the money dairy farmers, as major creditors, have in the milk marketing system for which they have not yet been paid."

Smith pointed to MFB policy, adopted by delegates at the 1979 annual meeting, which favors the prompt payment by processors and handlers to producers.

"We deplore the practice of some processors and handlers of farm commodities of operating on producers' money due to delayed payment for commodities delivered," MFB policy says.

The proposal has drawn criticism from dairy processors, who would have to pay dairy farmers three times a month instead of twice. A decision on the proposal is expected by late summer or fall.

National Discussion Topics Set

District contests for the Michigan Farm Bureau Young Farmer Discussion Meet will begin in mid-September and run through October. The discussion meets provide young farmers the opportunity to express their views regarding current agricultural issues.

Topics have been selected for the 1980 discussion meets by the American Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee and will be used in the county, district, state and national contests. The five topics selected are:

What energy sources will farmers be using in the future? How can Farm Bureau address both producer and consumer interests concerning future pesticide use? How do government regulations interfere with our ability to produce food and fiber? What new programs can stimulate Young Farmer and Rancher interest in Farm Bureau? Why is a free enterprise system essential to a highly productive agriculture?

Two winners will be selected at each district contest to compete in the state contest in Kalamazoo on December 10 as part of the Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting.

The winner of the state meet will compete in the national contest to be held during the AFBF annual meeting in New Orleans in January 1981. The winner will also receive an expense paid trip for two to that convention.

Farm Bureau on the NATIONAL SCENE

House Ag Committee Passes Bill for Wheat and Feed Grains: The House Agriculture Committee has passed a bill requiring the secretary of agriculture to make available a supplemental price support loan on wheat and feed grains to farmers who place their 1980 and 1981 crops in the farmer-held grain reserve.

The bill sets the loan rates for 1980-81 wheat and feed grain crops under the reserve program at \$3.30 and \$2.40 per bushel, respectively. In addition, the release level would no longer be tied to the loan rate. The release level for wheat would be \$4.00 per bushel and \$3.00 per bushel for corn.

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F.B. Opposes Withholding Taxes on Interest and Dividend Income: In a letter to all members of the House Ways and Means Committee in mid-May, Farm Bureau expressed its opposition to the withholding of taxes on interest and dividend income.

The committee recently held a hearing on the president's proposal for withholding of taxes on payments of interest and dividend income. The revenue to be accrued from this proposal, \$3.4 billion, is intended to balance the 1981 fiscal year budget.

Farm Bureau supports a balanced budget, but to balance the budget by increasing taxes is a serious error. The budget must be balanced by reducing federal spending, rather than by increasing taxes, Farm Bureau said.

.....

Interest Rates Drop for Farmers: Starting in mid-May, banks were allowed to charge no more than 18 percent interest on farm and business loans of more than \$25,000. The change in nationwide usury ceilings from a top of 21 percent took effect automatically as a result of a decision by the Federal Reserve Board on May 8.

The board removed the three percentage-point surcharge it had added to the discount rate for some customers. The discount rate is the interest charged banks when they borrow from the federal reserve system. Removal of the surcharge means the maximum interest on such loans can be no more than the 13 percent discount rate plus five points, or 18 percent.

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AFBF Recommends Ag Secretary to Serve on National Security Council: The American Farm Bureau Federation Board of Directors has recommended that the secretary of agriculture be appointed to serve as a member of the National Security Council. In a letter to President Carter, Farm Bureau said that since food and agricultural policies have become a part of our national security program as a result of the grain embargo, then the secretary of agriculture should be a member of the security council.

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USDA Increases Farm Facility Loan Maximum: Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland has announced that the amount a farmer may borrow under the farm storage facility loan program has been increased from \$50,000 to \$100,000. The loan increase is being authorized to reflect higher costs of construction and materials.

Loans are offered by USDA's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service to help farmers buy, build or remodel on-farm storage facilities and to obtain needed drying and handling equipment. A minimum downpayment of 15 percent of the cost must be paid in cash by the farmer before the loan is disbursed.

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Washington Addresses

Senators: Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510.

Representatives: House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.

"Charlie"

(Editor's Note: The following tribute to a young farmer, written by Don Hutzel, former manager of the Holiday Angus Farms, Ada, serves as a reminder for the need to handle agricultural chemicals with great care. Charlie was the son of Dr. and Mrs. Richard Crissman, Kent County Farm Bureau members.)



He was 24 years old. He had just graduated from Michigan State University where he majored in animal science. Charles Crissman was a very popular student, active in the College of Agriculture, especially in the Block & Bridle Club. He helped pay his way by living and working in the university swine barns.

"Charlie" had returned home to run his family's Shagbark Farm, near Caledonia, Mich. He was well prepared for his career. After all, he grew up on the place, had been part of all the work, had 11 successful years in 4-H Club projects and now had a good college education. He especially had big plans for the Angus herd, Shropshire flock and a commercial swine operation.

Charlie was doing well at the job he had been primed for and was trying to work hard. Trying... yes, something wasn't right, the energy his young body had known was slipping away. A doctor's examination at St. Mary's Hospital in Grand Rapids revealed that Charlie was the victim of aplastic anemia, a condition where the bone marrow doesn't produce enough red blood cells, white cells and platelets needed to carry oxygen, fight infection and to produce clotting.

The disease is often caused by exposure to a toxic agent to which Charlie was regularly exposed.

The decision was made to treat Charlie's illness at Baltimore's John Hopkins Hospital where he was admitted on Dec. 9, 1979. In spite of herculean efforts on the part of some of our nation's best doctors and nurses, two bone marrow transplants from his younger sister, Molly, a constant vigil at his bedside by his mother, Trish, and/or his father, Richard, and countless prayers on the part of a throng of Charlie's friends, he lost the fight on Thursday, April 17, 1980.

Let not the sacrifice of this young gentleman be in vain. All that are involved in this modern age of "chemical agriculture" should be familiar with and take the necessary precautions when working with these potentially lethal materials. Perhaps some young life will be saved. This would really please Charlie... he was that way.

Hugo Kivi Retires After 23 Years; Jousma Named Regional Representative for Albion College

Ann Jousma has been appointed the new MFB regional representative in the Upper Peninsula, effective May 7. She replaces Hugo Kivi, who will retire in early June after 23 years with MFB.

Jousma has been a member of the Copper Country Farm Bureau Board of Directors, was vice chairman of the women's program in District 11 and served as a member of the state Women's Program Planning Committee. In 1977 and 1978, she served as a member of the Michigan Farm Bureau State Policy Development Committee.

Jousma is very active in community activities and most recently was named Ontonagon County Woman of the Year.



(Above) Hugo Kivi, U.P. regional representative, and his wife, Adele, were honored for his 23 years of service to the organization and wished a happy retirement by administrative director Robert E. Braden (right) during ceremonies at Farm Bureau Center in Lansing in mid-May. The event was one of many for Kivi, who was also honored by the county Farm Bureaus he has served. His many tributes included a letter of congratulations from Michigan Gov. William G. Milliken, highlighting Kivi's contributions to the U.P. State Fair. Ann Jousma (right), long-time Farm Bureau volunteer leader, has been named as an MFB regional representative to serve in the Upper Peninsula.



Lt. Gov. Brickley

On June 16, more than 200 high school juniors and seniors will gather at Albion College for the 17th annual Young People's Citizenship Seminar sponsored by the Michigan Farm Bureau and county Farm Bureaus.

During the 5-day seminar, the students will participate in a mock election process and hear from experts on the nation's system of government as well as those in other countries.

According to Don Currey, seminar coordinator, activities are aimed toward students gaining a better understanding and appreciation of America's way of life and freedoms, its political party system and its private enterprise system.

"Through the seminar's activities, students will gain a practical and meaningful experience in citizenship education through information, discussion, self-expression, participation and self-discipline," Currey said.

Speakers will include Lt. Governor James Brickley; Gerald L. Hough, director of the State Police; Charles VanEaton, economics and business administration professor, Hillsdale College; Dr. Clifton Ganus, president, Harding College, Searcy, Arkansas; Dr. John Furbay, global air commuter and author; Maria Schultz, Ukrainian refugee and naturalized U.S. citizen; and Vic Verchereau, 1979-1980 president, Michigan Future Farmers of America.

Students participating in the seminar have been selected by county Farm Bureaus in cooperation with their high schools.

FOR ALL



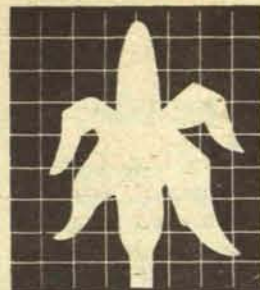
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Arenac	Aren Bay Farms	Standish	517-846-6020
Barry	Longmeadow Equipment and Repair	Hickory Corners	616-671-4199
Benzie	Benzie Safemark	Frankfort	616-352-9741
Calhoun	Dave Perrine Implement, Inc.	Marshall	616-781-7971
Cass	Grames Tire Service	Marcellus	616-646-9133
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Cheboygan	Ormsbee Implement Company	Afton	616-238-9928
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Clinton	Hub Tire Center	St. Johns	517-224-3218
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Copper Country	Leonard Ollila	Houghton	906-482-4487
Eaton	Maurer Farm Center	Charlotte	517-543-4548
Emmet	Herb's Repair Shop	Harbor Springs	616-526-5945
Genesee	Dale Jenkins	Swartz Creek	517-271-8611
Gratiot	Johnson & Sons, Inc.	Ithaca	517-875-4257
Hiawathaland	Farmers Supply Company	Escanaba	906-786-4522
Hillsdale	Purdy Ford Tractor Sales, Inc.	Hillsdale	517-523-2185
Huron	Elkton Petroleum Co-op	Elkton	517-375-2245
Huron	Farmers Cooperative	Kinde	517-874-4800
Ingham	Cremer Farm Center	Williamston	517-655-1566
Ionia	Craig Harder	Ionia	616-527-2677
Iron Range	Frank Tuchowski	Crystal Falls	906-875-3593
Isabella	McConnell Farm Supply	Rosebush	517-433-2171
Kalamazoo	Climax Hardware	Climax	616-746-4111
Lenawee	Keith Eisenmann	Blissfield	517-486-4023
Livingston	Klein Fertilizers, Inc.	Fowlerville	517-223-9148
Macomb	Macomb Farm Tire	Richmond	313-737-6775
Mac-Luce	S & S Repair	Engadine	906-477-6582
Menominee	Hanson Farm Equipment Co.	Daggett	906-753-6674
Montcalm	Quisenberry Farms	Six Lakes	517-365-3619
Montmorency	Bartow Equipment Company	Hillman	517-742-4341
Newaygo	Grant Safemark Tire Service	Grant	616-834-7903
Oceana	West Michigan Power & Equipment, Inc.	New Era	616-861-5009
Oceana	Rothbury Hardware & Farm Supply	Rothbury	616-861-2418
Ogemaw	Stan Kartes	West Branch	517-345-5159
Oscoda	Leach Farm Equipment, Inc.	Evart	616-734-5351
Oscoda	Steve's Tire Service	Marion	616-825-2804
Saginaw	Hemlock Farmers Co-op	Hemlock	517-642-5920
Saginaw	Reinhold Sales & Service	Saginaw	517-755-0612
Sanilac	Gerald Keinath	Deckerville	313-376-4836
St. Joseph	Dick Anthony Enterprises	Three Rivers	616-279-7937
Shiawassee	Steckschulte Gas & Oil Co., Inc.	Owosso	517-723-1995
Washtenaw	Feldkamp Tire Company	Saline	313-429-2594



AGRINOMIC UPDATE '80

Report of the Commodity Activities & Research Department

Ready . . . Set . . . Go GASOHOL!

The Michigan Gasohol Committee, a fact-finding task force assembled by the Michigan Legislature, has found that gasohol is an intricate, but clear-cut energy opportunity for Michigan.

The committee, composed of experts in the production and utilization of biomass fuels, was presented with the challenge of examining the issues involved, assessing the prospects for gasohol in Michigan and recommending a general approach for new legislation covering the production and use of gasohol in Michigan.

Michigan Farm Bureau was represented on the committee by Ken Nye, commodity specialist in the commodity activities and research department.

The committee's findings demonstrate a real and present need for gasohol to extend gasoline supplies together with a complex prospect for early gasohol production in Michigan. The evidence is convincing that gasohol can be successfully marketed and safely used as an automotive fuel.

Whether ethanol for gasohol production can be manufactured economically in Michigan, on a scale sufficiently large to meet the state's needs, depends on many factors, including economic considerations, food supplies, feedstock availability, transportation, plant siting, farm participation and achieving a positive liquid fuel balance. Overall, Michigan has many favorable considerations for gasohol development.

The committee has submitted the following recommendations to the Michigan Legislature for its consideration.

1. The state of Michigan should promote and encourage the use of gasohol in automotive transportation.
2. Gasohol development in Michigan should strongly emphasize the importance of maintaining a proper food balance and maintaining a positive liquid fuel balance. A Michigan gasohol program should stress the utilization of Michigan-produced gasohol from Michigan biomass.
3. To assure gasohol quality and guard against consumer and/or service station indiscriminate mixing of alcohol and gasoline, regulations and proper safeguards should be adopted.
4. The state should seek public awareness and understanding of what gasohol is, how it can help conserve dwindling supplies of petroleum, and the potential benefits of gasohol production and use in Michigan.
5. A Michigan gasohol program should include state support for research and development on alternative feedstock technology and by-product utilization.
6. Michigan incentives or subsidies for alcohol production should be carefully selected and applied to (a) encourage processes that show a significant positive liquid fuel balance; (b) the use of Michigan biomass and waste materials; (c) help make alcohol competitive with other liquid fuels; (d) promote early gasohol production and use in Michigan.
7. Incentives should be designed to assist and reward innovators who make early entrance in the gasohol production field.
8. Investigations should be continued to assemble further essential data and extend gasohol knowledge with regards to Michigan conditions and needs.

Michigan can assume leadership in applying the energy benefits from gasohol and providing a useful demonstration of practical, alternative energy development.

The commercial technology of producing gasohol is clear-cut and its effectiveness is generally acknowledged. As prices of competitive fuels rise, the rationale for gasohol will correspondingly improve.

The Michigan Gasohol Committee sees reason to prepare now for the time when gasohol will be competitive without subsidies and to take prompt advantage of the opportunity for reduced oil consumption through the use of ethanol.

Look to CARD for Market Research and Information

Members often ask what the duties of the Commodity Activities and Research Department are. In explaining CARD's duties and responsibilities, it must be realized that CARD is part of the Public Affairs Division of Michigan Farm Bureau. Proposed national and state regulations and legislation that affect the commodity interests of members warrant our research and involvement.

CARD's responsibilities include performing agricultural economics research, providing commodity information and market education and assisting Farm Bureau commodity advisory committees and the forestry industry study committee. CARD also administers the Wheat Pool Marketing and Farm Business Records programs.

Members also ask what marketing services Farm Bureau offers and what Farm Bureau is doing regarding gasohol research and legislation in Michigan.

MFB and its affiliated companies offer a wide range of marketing services to assist members in doing a more complete job of marketing the commodities they produce. Listed below is an outline of some of these services and who provides them.

(Editor's Note: The abbrevia-

tions used are as follows. MFB — Michigan Farm Bureau; MEE — Michigan Elevator Exchange; MACMA — Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association; AAMA — American Agricultural Marketing Association; and AFBF — American Farm Bureau Federation.)

Marketing Services Information

- Wheat Pool Marketing — MFB
- Grain Merchandising — MEE
- Bean Marketing — MEE
- Feeder Pig Program — MACMA
- Order Buyer Program — MACMA
- Fowl Marketing — AAMA
- Bargaining (Asparagus, Cherries, Plums, Apples, Potatoes, Pickling Cucumbers, Kraut Cabbage and Grapes) — MACMA and AAMA
- Certified Farm Markets — MACMA
- Direct Exporting — MEE and AFBF
- Member-to-Member Direct Sales Program — MACMA
- Grain Storage — MEE
- Apple Sales Desk — MACMA
- Commodity Information and Marketing Education — MFB and MACMA
- Market Reports — MACMA and MEE

Expo!

More than 120 acres are being set aside at Michigan State University for Ag. Expo '80: Forage, which is specifically geared to dairy producers' needs. The event is scheduled for July 22 and 23.

"No matter how you figure it, hay is big business and odds are it will be even bigger in the years just ahead," said Ned Netherton, expo coordinator, MSU agricultural engineering department.

The two-day event features 80 acres of harvesting demonstrations and 30 acres of commercial farm equipment and forage supply exhibits. About 200 manufacturers from throughout the Midwest are expected to participate.

Field demonstrations and displays will include forage harvesting and handling equipment as well as other types of farm production equipment. Action demonstrations are to be held during the afternoon with tours of trial plots (29 will be available for comparison) and exhibit tours planned during the morning. Daily activities begin at 9 a.m. and conclude at 4 p.m.

There will also be a variety of educational exhibits and clinics featuring hay judging skills, insect control recommendations and analysis of forage samples that farmers should bring from their farms.

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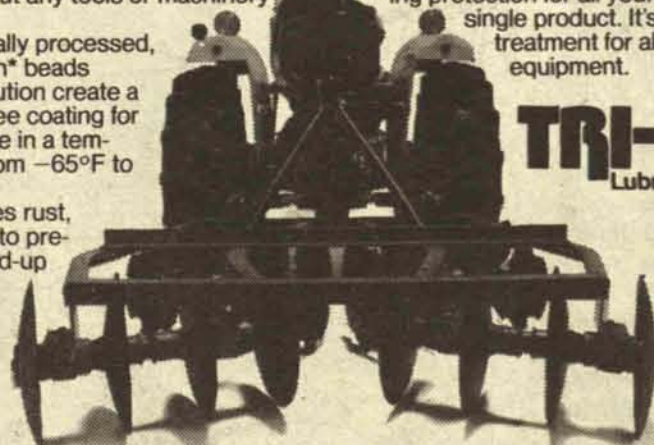
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Morrice Farm Museum a Teaching Lab

Youth Learn Through Community Involvement

Story and Photos By Marcia Ditchie

"I try to teach my students that it is everyone who makes history; it is the common people."

That's the philosophy of an innovative junior high school teacher in Morrice, a rural community in Shiawassee County, about 20 miles from the state capitol. From David Fahrenbach's philosophy, a unique educational program that offers students the opportunity to combine the study of social studies and history with actual community involvement has blossomed.

Fahrenbach explained that for the past several years, his seventh and eighth grade social studies classes have worked on various historical projects. One of their early projects was an archaeological dig around Morrice which helped tell the history of the town.

Following their archaeological digs around the community, his students' next project was to write the history of Morrice. They wrote four books — *Our History Book of Morrice*, *Photo History of Morrice*, *Michigan Historical Travel Guide* and *Indians of Central Michigan*. The books were later combined into one booklet, *A Pleasant Centennial Journey*.

Another project his classes undertook was to research and write *Our Great American Cookbook*, which includes recipes gathered from governors' wives, sports and show business celebrities and a collection of colonial and ethnic recipes. It includes personal notes and autographed photos of many of the famous contributors.

It was from all of these projects that the idea evolved for a museum which would provide a unique teaching lab for Fahrenbach's students.

"After the new school was built, the old science building was just collecting dust," he said. "Representatives from the junior high school and I went before the school board and asked permission to clean it and make a museum dedicated to the farmer, who we felt did not get much mention in the history books of this country."

"Without the farmer, this country would not have grown as big as it did because the first part of our country's history was basically farming."

The school board agreed and preparation for the

museum began in May 1977. The work was done by Fahrenbach's students with assistance from the Morrice Grain Elevator, the Morrice Hardware and the Haslett VFW. The entire Morrice Farm Museum is run, financed and maintained by the students.

Many items contained in the museum were donated within a two-month span following publicity on the opening of the museum and a request for donations of farming items.

The old relics that were unearthed by his previous classes during their archaeological digs are on display in the museum. There are also displays of farm utensils, school and home items from early settlers, an 1840s replica of a kitchen scene, and the 1400-year-old skeletal remains of an Indian found by a local farmer about a mile from the museum.

Although the museum contains many early farming items, Fahrenbach said he would like to obtain a hand husking hook

and any type of old farming photographs, especially any old photos from Michigan's logging era.

Anyone having items they would like to donate to the museum can contact Fahrenbach by calling 517-625-3026.

In order to finance the operation and maintenance of the museum, the students conduct a variety of fund raising activities during the year and run a small store inside the museum where they sell gifts and the books written by previous classes.

Since its opening almost three years ago, there have been over 20,000 visitors to the museum which is located at the corner of Main and Mason streets in Morrice. During the summer, it is open Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and the third Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

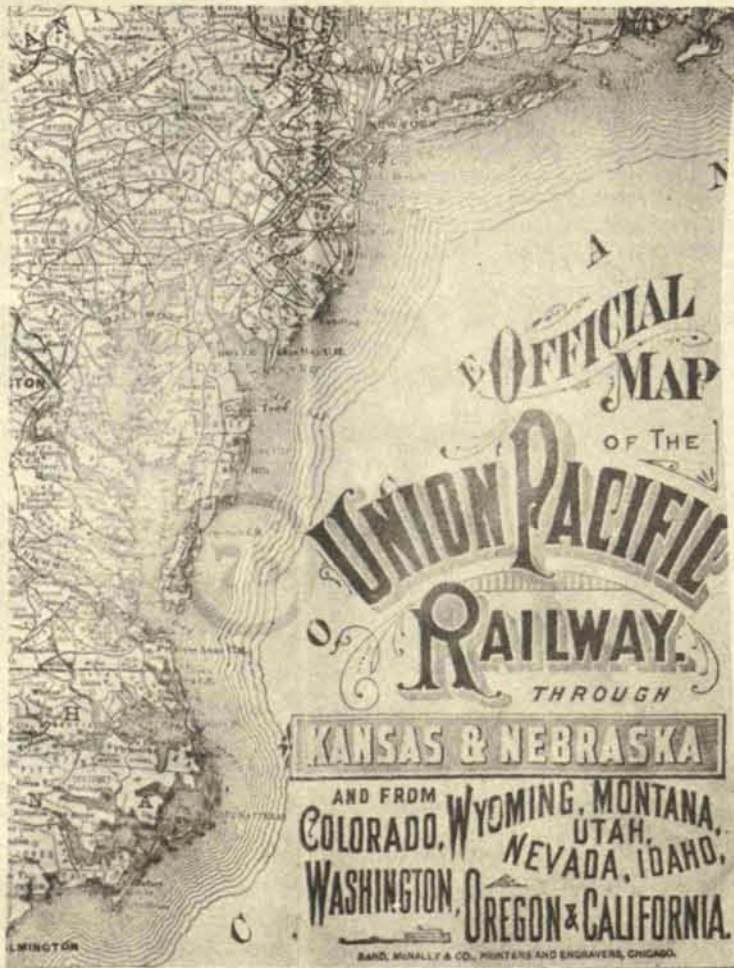
Putting his community involvement teaching concept in practice, Fahrenbach's students have built picnic benches and painted the litter barrels in the community. They also sponsor free bingo for senior citizens and do various summer jobs. Last Christmas, his classes went to several area hospitals visiting children and elderly people, taking gifts and caroling.

"Getting the kids involved in community activities now will help prevent them from getting into trouble later on," Fahren-

bach said. "The residents of the community see they are interested in the community and are doing some good for it."



One of the many displays in the museum is this one of various flour sacks from the Challenge Roller Mills in Morrice, which went out of business in the 1930s.



This "Official Map of the Union Pacific Railway" was acquired from the old depot in Morrice when it closed. The time zone for the extreme eastern United States on the map is referred to as the "Inter-colonial Zone."



According to a representative of the telephone company, this old telephone was probably used around the turn of the century in a newspaper office, a telegraph office, or perhaps by the railroad for dispatching freight.

Animal Agriculture Research Must Serve Producers and Consumers, Conference Concludes

Everyone, it seems, shares the sentiment: The future just isn't what it used to be.

But scientific research should help shape what lies ahead so that the well-being of people is served, concluded more than 200 food producers, educators, consumer advocates, public officials and scientists, who gathered at Boyne Mountain for a weeklong conference on animal agriculture, May 4 through 9.

The group, which was investigating how food and other products from animals can aid in relieving human hunger and distress during the 21st century, agreed that animal agriculture — like everything else — faces volatile and visible changes in the next 100 years. Research into food production, marketing and consumption must pave the way, participants said, so that the changes will be productive and creative rather than chaotic and perplexing.

Conference members, alert to the food demands of a world population that is expected to double by early in the next century, remained attentive to consumer struggles as well as the pressures on U.S. cattlemen, dairy and poultry farmers, growers and processors. All face a future taking shape in complex economic, social and political forces. New scientific research, then, will have to be interdisciplinary and must address the entire system of animal agriculture to be effective, participants said.

Ten working groups examined and debated topics ranging from animal breeding to human nutrition, from food safety to marketing and distribution, to set research goals for the 21st century and pinpoint hurdles to completion of the scientific investigations.

Each group presented an outline of "research constraints and imperatives" on the last day of the conference. The collected ideas have been compiled for a book which is to be published in September and used to gain funding and public support of research in animal agriculture, said Harold Hafs, head of Michigan State University's department of dairy science and co-chairman of the conference steering committee.

In addition, the research recommendations are expected to be presented at the American Association for the Advancement of Science conference in Toronto, Ontario in January 1981.

Each of the 10 working groups stressed protection of the environment and conservation of natural resources through more efficient food

production and processing. This theme was reiterated in research recommendations covering topics as varied as reducing fat in animal products; physiological, nutrition and genetic studies to increase effi-

ciency of protein synthesis; investigations in plant sciences to produce higher quality forages to replace typical grains grown for animal feed; and practices and regulations which could reduce or eliminate water and

air pollution and soil erosion.

Researchers must find new ways for producers to feed livestock and poultry and come up with creative techniques to glean the most from fields and animals, conference participants said. They recommended continuing and expanding studies of genetic engineering "leading to means of manipulating animal and

plant resources."

Specific approaches in genetic and physiological research included studies to improve disease resistance and immunity; examination of methods of feed production on land prone to drought or unsuitable for raising typical feed grains; and investigations into gene-splicing, sexed semen and embryo transfer.

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Farm Bureau Insurance Group, Michigan Farm Radio Network Honor 'Farmers of the Week'

The Farmer of the Week Award, sponsored by the Michigan Farm Radio Network and Farm Bureau Insurance Group, recognizes Michigan farmers for their contributions to the agriculture industry and the community.

In addition to recognition from the local news media, award winners receive a plaque and award buckle and belt from the local FBIG agent.

The Farmer of the Week Award recipients for April 1980 were:



GORDON NYE

Week of April 7 — Gordon Nye, 35, a fruit farmer from St. Joseph who raises apples, peaches, plums and grapes in partnership with his brother. Their operation, known as Nye Brothers Orchards, covers over 500 acres. Nye serves as chairman of the pastor-parish committee of Stevensville United Methodist Church; is a member of the Berrien County Farm Bureau Board, the Rotary Club, the Michigan Horticulture Committee, the Michigan Peach Sponsors, and the local Farmers Petroleum Board. Nye and his wife, Diane, have two children.



RONALD POPP

Week of April 21 — Ronald W. Popp, 43, a Saginaw cash crop farmer who farms 1400 acres with his two sons. They raise sugar beets, navy beans, soybeans, corn and other crops. They also raise beef cattle. Popp serves as a Bridgeport Township trustee and member of the township board of appeals; is an active member of Bridgeport Community Church; is a member of the board of the Saginaw County Farm Bureau; serves on the advisory board of the Michigan Elevator Exchange and the Carollton Farm Bureau elevator complex; and is a member of the board of directors of Saginaw County Farmers Petroleum. He also belongs to the local Masonic Lodge and the Shrine. Popp and his wife, Jean, have four children.



JOSEPH PARSONS

Week of April 14 — Joseph Parsons, 60, a dairy farmer from Evert who farms in partnership with his son. They farm over 800 acres and have a large herd of registered Jersey and Angus cattle. Parsons serves on the Evert Public Schools Board of Education; is a member of the Evert Free Methodist Church and serves as a Sunday School teacher; has served as a 4-H leader for the past 20 years; is a member of the Osceola County Farm Bureau, the Michigan Jersey Cattle Club, the American Jersey Cattle Club, and the American Angus Association. He is past president of the Osceola County Fair Board; past Sunday School superintendent; past president of the County Dairy Herd Improvement Association; and past president of the Evert Co-op. He and his wife, Emma, have four children.



DAVID LEE

Week of April 28 — David Lee, 35, a dairy farmer from Deckerville who farms 1,000 acres and milks 200 cows. He serves as a member of the Deckerville School Board; is a member of the board of Deckerville Bible Church; is chairman of the board of the Good News Church Camp located near Gladwin; is chairman of the local board of the Michigan Animal Breeders Cooperative; is a member of the Sanilac County Farm Bureau; and is a past Soil Conservation District farmer of the year. Lee and his wife, Sandra, have two children.

Essay Contest Winner Named

Former President Gerald Ford and Michigan Gov. William Milliken were deeply impressed with the patriotic essay written by 14-year-old Lori McLaren from Antrim County. They chose Lori as the statewide winner in Farm Bureau Insurance Group's 1979-80 America & Me Essay Contest.

Lori, who attends Bellaire Public Schools in Bellaire, wrote an essay that survived five levels of judging to reach the number one spot in the state. The final selection was made by a panel of VIP judges that included former President Ford, Gov. Milliken, Congressman Robert Carr and Mary Coleman, the chief justice of the Michigan Supreme Court.

Lori, whose essay was chosen best out of several thousand entries from nearly 400 Michigan schools, will receive a \$500 savings bond and a plaque from FBIG. In total, 11 statewide winners were selected to share more than \$2,000 in savings bonds and receive individual plaques in FBIG's 11th annual America & Me Essay Contest.

The second place winner in the state is Ken Little of Centreville, a student at Centreville Jr. High, who has earned \$300 in savings bonds. Third, fourth and fifth place winners, who each receive \$200 bonds, are Brady Edholm, Fennville Middle School, Fennville; Mike Behan, St. Thomas Aquinas School, East Lansing; and Monica Zegunis, Our Lady of the Lakes School, Prudenville.

Sixth through tenth place winners receive \$100 bonds. They are Greg Deurloo, Chippewa Hills Jr. High, Barryton; Mary Carbin, West Hills Jr. High, West Bloomfield; Nancy Dejour, Drew Middle School, Detroit; Mike Pratt, Imlay City Jr. High, Imlay City; and Lisa Acker, Coleman Middle School, Coleman. Honorable mention and a \$100 savings bond goes to Shelley Esman, Comstock Northeast Middle School, Comstock.

The America & Me Essay Contest, open to any eighth grade student in Michigan, was started by FBIG in 1968 and has been an annual event in Michigan schools ever since. The contest encourages Michigan young people to examine their roles in America's future through "America & Me" essays. Each year, the best excerpts from the thousands of essays are compiled into booklet form and distributed to schools, government officials and visitors at the state Capitol in Lansing.

America & Me

By Lori McLaren
Bellaire Public Schools

There are many people in America who aren't famous, but who are trying just as hard to make America a better place to live. All of their small efforts help more than we realize. America means just as much to them as it did to famous historical figures like George Washington and Ben Franklin.

I have met some of these people. Their efforts have made a great impression on me. I would like to write about some of them because I believe the future of our country lies in the strength of the people. One person whose story I would like to share is a Vietnamese-born U.S. citizen. She lived in Vietnam and was the daughter of a restaurant owner. She met a soldier while he was serving in Vietnam. They were married and came to live in Mancelona. She educated herself in the field of cosmetology. Her husband works to support the family.

My friend sends most of her pay to members of her family who have immigrated to the U.S. to help them get a start. She believes it is a privilege to live in the U.S. She doesn't want her family to be a burden to the U.S. government. I wonder how many U.S. born citizens have that kind of pride for themselves and regard for our country.

Some of the teachers I've had taught something really important. They didn't teach just facts and figures; they taught about how to get along in life. They taught about the problems that will someday be ours to solve. These teachers have an important job, strengthening America through its youth. The really caring teachers I have met are interested in the whole person each student is. I think that is an important thing for America.

The last people I would like to write about are my own parents. I believe they have tried very hard to help people. In 1969, my family moved to Detroit from Flint, Michigan. They moved there to be the managers at a Salvation Army Shelter for Women and Children.

In the shelter they saw many very sad cases. They tried to help each one as much as they could. They found apartments and jobs and helped the clients gather necessities.

After three years of work at the shelter, they moved to a suburb of Detroit and opened a group home for boys who were wards of the court. They liked helping these kids and dedicated two years to this work. My parents learned a lot about what happens to people deprived of a stable family life and concerned parenting. They were idealistic and hoped to improve life for those they came in contact with.

My parents are teaching my brother and I the biggest lessons they learned. One must work hard to be the best person he or she can be. We are taught you can never care too much for the condition of other people. You first take care of your responsibilities in your own life. You share whenever you can with someone in need.

It may have turned out that my parents did not make big changes in the world, as young idealists desire, but they made an encouraging difference to the people they did meet. They make an encouraging difference to my brother and I. I have learned the value of each individual human being from all of these people. Their sharing, caring attitudes are the same ideals that were written into the founding laws of our country.

I would like to have a life style and a career that would reflect these attitudes. I don't know whether I'll be an educator, a medical worker, or a politician. Whatever it is, I'll work towards getting everyone a fair chance in America. I want to work to help each person to be the most that they can be, whatever they may be doing.

For the time being, I can help America by being the best person I can be. I can pitch in when I see a need. I can learn all I can about America's problems so that when I am older I can take an informed part.

The professionals and the "blue-collars" of America are all individual people first. Wherever I fit in in my future, I will always believe that people are America's greatest asset. If I will find a way to help people, I can do a service to America.

50 County FBs Over Goal

Eight county Farm Bureaus have reported 1980 membership goal since April 23, bringing the total to 50 counties over 1980 goal.

Those counties and their membership chairmen reporting goal during the last month are Chippewa (1-350), Frank Schwiderson; Alpena and Mason (351-650), Mark Smith and Daryl Peterson, respectively; Cass (651-1200), Robert Stahl and Roger Swisher, co-chairmen, and Oakland (651-1200), Jim Vantine.

Counties reporting goal in the 1501 and over category are Gratiot, Jerome DesRochers and John Thomas; Saginaw, Edward Hebler; and Tuscola, LeRoy Schluckebier.

In the May issue of *Michigan Farm News*, membership chairmen for four counties were incorrectly named. Chairmen for those four counties are Wexford, Shirley Guernsey; Eaton,

Grace and Kenneth Ritchie; Wayne, Walt Rochowiak and Roy Schultz, co-chairmen; and Lenawee, Robert Bush.

More Member Benefits Added

Michigan Farm Bureau has added another dealer to its New Car and Truck Discount Program. Jack Keller Ford of Grand Rapids, located at 3385 Alpine Ave., N.W., Grand Rapids, has agreed to sell members new model Ford cars and trucks at a substantial savings.

Farm Bureau members must contact Bernie Lenau, 616-364-7531, in order to obtain a price quotation. Members must present a current Farm Bureau membership card when ordering in person or provide their membership card number on phone orders.

More information is available from county Farm Bureau secretaries.

Idea Search Surfaces Energy Savers

Several Farm Bureau members have submitted energy saving or producing ideas to the MFB Energy Idea Search Committee.

The committee has recommended that two of the ideas dealing with grain drying be further explained and submitted to the American Farm Bureau Federation.

One idea calls for retrofitting existing non-recirculating grain dryers. To achieve this, a shroud would be built around the grain dryer and wet bin hopper bottom. The shroud would capture all of the heat from the grain dryer's cooling section as well as a large percentage of the heat drying section. The heat would be directed to a modified wet holding grain bin by means of a duct and fan. The waste heat would preheat corn in the wet holding bin before it entered the dryer,

thus lowering drying time and saving energy.

The second idea concerns drying grain using microwaves. A microwave dryer would be designed around the auger. The dryer would dehydrate the grain as it traveled up the auger toward the holding tank of the combine and dehydrated again in the auger before it entered the storage bin. The dehydrated grain would require less

drying time, thus saving energy.

Members who have ideas for, or who already developed, a method or device for conserving or producing energy on the farm should submit their ideas to the MFB Energy Idea Search, Information Division, Michigan Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909.

MSU Gets Energy Grant

Michigan State University has been awarded an \$82,500 grant to complete a program to help farmers cut down their energy costs.

Under terms of the grant, awarded by the Michigan Department of Commerce's Energy Administration, MSU will set up a computerized program of energy usage data col-

lected from 50 farm operations throughout Michigan.

Participating farmers can use this information to see how their energy consumption ranks compared with an "average" farm. The program also will provide farmers with ways to reduce their energy consumption in high-use functions.

Agin-ers and Hayseeds Outdated!

(continued from page 2)
poor soul labeled Broke and Weary.

This letter conveys the combined feelings of our group, and concerns the statement "so many individuals have farm mentality when it comes to letting animals run loose and breed at will."

What farm did this city-educated person visit anyway?

Since when did the environment affect the instinct of an animal to breed?

As honest-to-goodness, fresh-air-breathing, sod-busting farmers, we resent that stereotyped referral.

"Farm mentality" seems to be a term frequently abused. We'd like to see Broke and Weary lay out the cropping program for a 500-acre farm,

or figure the feed ration for fattening 50 market hogs, find the faulty part on a 100-horsepower tractor or keep 40 to 80 dairy cows milking at peak production.

Or maybe B & W would rather eliminate pork, beef, vegetables, bread, cereal, milk, butter and eggs from her diet?

Just this in closing: It takes technology to make a farm produce today, and we are all very proud to be living and working in farm country.

Realizing there's a lot of competition for space in the Ann Landers column, I shared the community group's letter with some Michigan news media. Some have used it, including a writer from the Bay City Times, Karl Albrecht, who added this observation:

Since the capitalization of most area farmers nowadays begins in the several-hundred-thousand-dollar category, and soars off into the millions; since most operators now either finish college agriculture courses or take other complicated special training; since all decision-makers must be tax and finance experts; since all producers must be alert to the technicalities and rapid changes in local, state, national and often international markets, and various other considerations, the term "hayseed" does, indeed, seem most inappropriate.

That community group could have simply grumbled about the badly-misinformationed Ann Landers reader and taken no action. But because they did take constructive action, the hayseed image is a big step closer to being totally erased.

Between You and Me

By Judy Kissane
1980 Michigan Farm Bureau
Outstanding Young
Farm Woman



Room to Grow

Sitting high in the driver's seat of a brand new van, I have made a couple of observations about life in general and brand new vans in particular.

Life: Life is no bed of roses.

Brand New Vans: A bed of roses, perhaps, but definitely with thorns.

With a family of seven youngsters and two adults, the matter of transportation becomes a logistical problem. After crowding the nine of us into a small, four-door sedan for what seemed like a lifetime, we decided to purchase a new van to make family excursions fun again.

When I look inside I see room — room for kids, ten bags of groceries, five flats of petunias side by side. But teachers, 4-H leaders and every child of my acquaintance, see it as an ideal way to transport any group or number of children.

Recently I chauffeured a van full of third and fourth grade children to Lansing for a tour of the state Capitol building. Do you have any idea how many verses of "99 Bottles of Beer on the Wall" can be sung from St. Johns to Lansing? Ninety-nine too many!

But I like children; and being part of their exuberant discoveries and joys is a pleasure to me. Just as soon as this sing-song ringing in my ears is gone, I'll probably be back on the road again.

The real stinging thorn is the mechanical problems that new car owners sometimes encounter. I'm no mechanic, but I've become familiar with the signs of a failing alternator in a few short weeks.

Coming home from the Lansing airport after the Washington, D.C., trip, the alternator light glowed indicating trouble. After a day in the shop, a new alternator was installed. It was back on the road again for six trouble-free weeks. Then on my way to the District 10 Spring Rally, the alternator light went on and the turn signals went out. Luckily, I had made plans to stay overnight with relatives in Grayling. We reached our destination wor-

ried, but safe. In the morning I left the mechanical complications behind me and headed for Petoskey and the District 10 rally in my cousin's car.

We're back into van life again... carefree in the knowledge that we have another new alternator to power it for at least six weeks.

I chalk it up to this month's log of experiences.

.....

In the past month I had another experience, more rewarding and educational. As the 1980 MFB Outstanding Young Farm Woman, I have been invited to meet and talk with Farm Bureau women at three district spring rallies.


It's quite an experience to go from central Michigan to within a stone's throw of the Indiana border... from the neatly squared acreage of southern Michigan farms to the rolling countryside around Petoskey.

What was most important was to gain an awareness of the many worthwhile projects conducted by farm women throughout the state. From my visits with Farm Bureau ladies from District 1, District 5 and District 10, I gained a real appreciation for their differing needs and the projects they support to meet the needs of the agricultural communities in their area.

I became stronger in my conviction that it is vitally important for Farm Bureau women to have a forum where they can share ideas, their successes and failures.

In every district, there is a wellspring of talent and innovative project ideas. They just need to be brought together.

The State Women's Leader Conference, being held in Lansing on July 22-23, is just the place to bring all these ideas together. I would like to encourage Farm Bureau women from every county to attend this conference where they can learn and share in the potential of the Farm Bureau Women's program. I hope to see all of you there!




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* Results based on research laboratory comparisons.



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Public Transportation Effects Farmers

Note: For the purpose of this article, public transportation is that transportation which is entirely or partially state-supported. Also, to better acquaint members with the vast number of state-supported transportation programs, highways are not included even though they have a very important role in the transportation system.

Transportation of people and goods — with safety, efficiency and speed — are essential to our way of life. At the same time, transportation in its many forms is sometimes taken for granted.

Freight

The state of Michigan is currently subsidizing 841 miles of railroad track and two car-ferry operations, the Ann Arbor Ferry across Lake Michigan from Frankfort/Elberta and the Chief Wawatam across the Mackinac Straights.

This involves contracts with eight operators to provide subsidized service on nine lines, leases of 655.2 miles of track, trackage rights over 32.5 miles of track and state ownership of 149.3 miles of track.

More than \$16 million in state (91 percent) and federal funds are involved in current state contracts for improvement of track on Michigan's subsidized rail freight lines and the Milwaukee road in the western Upper Peninsula. This year, besides normal maintenance, the state expects to spend \$15 million in state and federal funds for capital improvements for track and facilities on the subsidized lines.

Metro Bus System

Metro Bus Systems, subsidized by the state, are operated in Bay City, Saginaw, Flint, Detroit, Ann Arbor, Jackson, Lansing, Battle Creek, Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, Muskegon and Marquette. Although ridership is increasing on most of these suburban lines, many did not transport as many passengers in the last year as they had previous years. Higher gas prices and the threat of gas shortages create a strong demand for public transportation but some communities are unable to meet the demand because of aging buses.

Dial-A-Ride System

Thirty-seven Dial-A-Ride transportation (DART) systems are operating in Michigan. They carry more than three million passengers annually. All ongoing systems receive one-third operating assistance from the state and one-third from federal funds. The remainder is local funding, some of which is voted millage. Although most of these curb-to-curb bus systems are in smaller or medium sized communities, nine operate in the south-eastern Michigan metropolitan area and six are county-wide.

Rural Transportation

Three rural transportation systems, established under Section 147 of the Federal Highway Act in 1973, are operating with one-third support from state funds. The three systems, in Baraga and Mecosta counties and in the eastern Upper Peninsula, carried 11,000 passengers in fiscal 1979.

Senior and Handicapper Transit

Comprehensive transportation fund money is supporting 57 transportation systems for seniors and handicappers. These include five projects in the South Eastern Michigan Transportation Authority. The services involve 140 vehicles and outside of SEMTA, received \$562,000 in operating assistance from the state.

New Buses

In 1979, for the first time in three years, new buses went into service in Michigan's small cities and rural counties. Not since a moratorium, placed

on purchase of new buses, in 1976 had operators been permitted to buy new vehicles to replace their aging fleets. Purchases had to wait until the Legislature determined the degree of accessibility that new buses must have for transporting the handicapped. But in late 1979, the Michigan Department of Transportation delivered 48 new vehicles to the bus system. Another 226 vehicles are being delivered this spring.

Inter-City Services

Michigan's inter-city bus operating assistance program sponsors four inter-city bus services. Operated by private companies, these services provide public transportation to communities where limited or no service was previously available. In some cases, state supported schedules have proven successful enough to permit the carriers to continue service without state assistance. The inter-city bus program received state operating assistance of \$302,600 in fiscal year 1979. The Michigan Department of Transportation's inter-city bus loan program helps Michigan carriers operate a fleet of updated, modern equipment. The program provides equipment to the certified operator through a state purchase, with the operator repaying the state for the cost of the vehicle while having it in service to the public.

Transportation Centers

Michigan's first two inter-model terminals — renovated 19th century rail passenger depots at Dowagiac and Kalamazoo — opened in December 1979. Restored with state grants of \$50,000 and \$750,000 respectively, they are self-supporting and operated by the cities.

This year will see the start of renovation and construction of transportation centers, some inter-model, in a dozen more Michigan cities, at a state cost of \$13.1 million.

Rail Passenger Service

With shortened journey time, made possible by state assisted track improvement programs, ridership on Amtrack trains serving Michigan has showed record increases. In addition to higher train speed, another major factor in influencing Michigan's growing demand for rail passenger service is a continuing state assisted effort to upgrade all passenger stations. A modern, suburban Detroit rail station was opened in Dearborn, a station served daily by six Amtrack trains operating between Detroit and Chicago and by the week-day commuter train between Jackson and Detroit. Short term improvements are being made to Amtrack's busy Ann Arbor station. Michigan's rail passenger program required \$1,617,288 in operating assistance in fiscal year 1979.

Aeronautics

Existing programs, funded by the Upper Great Lakes Regional Commission are administered by the Michigan Department of Transportation. New programs are being developed in cooperation with other agencies.

Activities which affect the safety of all who utilize air service include: maintenance and navigation facilities which enable pilots to navigate without

visual reference to the ground; transporting state officials and employees in state owned aircraft; inspection of airports; painting runways and taxiways; registering general aviation aircraft, airport managers and assistance managers; publishing the Michigan Aeronautics Chart and the Michigan Airport Directory; and distributing a monthly safety bulletin.

Non-Motorized Transportation

Action by the Legislature in 1978 laid the groundwork for expansion of statewide efforts to improve facilities for bicycles and other non-motorized transportation. Recent legislation requires cities, counties and the Michigan Department of Transportation to spend 1 percent of their revenues from state fuel and weight taxes for such projects. Basic to this expansion of non-motorized facilities is the fact that over one-third of Michigan's residents are bicyclists.

Bonding Program

In December 1979, \$106,250,000 in revenue bonds were sold to pay the state's share of programs for buses, rail passenger, rail freight and waterways and ports development throughout Michigan.

Transportation Coordination

The Michigan Department of Transportation has been organizing transportation coordinating councils in various counties of the state and assisting state agencies to develop methods of identifying duplication and overlapping of transportation services among local human services groups. In full swing since late 1979, a program called COTRAN, aims to bring all the transportation services of one county under the coordination/consolidation umbrella. A special appropriation of \$500,000 from the state general fund was set aside for this program. Several such county-wide coordinated public transportation systems will be operating by the end of 1980.

Discussion Questions

1. In view of the present economic situation, should consideration be given to reducing the amount of state funding for public transportation?
2. Should planning for future expansion of public transportation systems give more consideration to where the populace presently resides or where it is projected the populace will reside in the future?
3. Should consideration be given to zoning which would force the populace into previously defined localities for ease of service by public transportation?
4. What effect has Michigan's present public transportation program had on the majority of people in the rural areas of your county?

DISCUSSION TOPIC

by **KEN WILES**
Manager, Member Relations

Farm Bureau Market Place

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FOR SALE: 880 Oliver gas tractor, Excellent condition - new tires, \$3100.00. Call area 517-647-6859.

FOR SALE: Potato equipment: JD 2 row planter: complete washing line, grader and bagger seed cutter...

FOR SALE: 1936 John Deere model B tractor, also model A John Deere tractor. Myrie Dean, Holly, Mich., phone 313-634-4749.

FOR SALE: John Deere No. #16 green chopper, nearly new, Mueller 300 gallon bulk tank. Milton Conine, Howell. Phone 517-546-0155.

FOR SALE: J.D., AT24, 4 or 6 row bean puller, 570 Innes windrower, 4 row, with cross conveyor, almost new. Art Bitterman, phone 517-642-5464.

INTERNATIONAL 14 ft. offset disc - very good. Gorman Rupp. Irrigation pump w/suction - 2280 ft., 4" pipe, 150 ft., 5" also. Fittings and sprinklers. 3212* Eversman landleveler. 313-659-6535.

FOR SALE: Two row Holland transplanter - like new, \$650; 6 row, 110 gallon Kuker field sprayer, \$480; Long 40' grain elevator, \$260; new Briggs Stratton 8 hp engine, \$175; John Deere mower, \$140; 6' cultipak, \$45; 30" Franklin stove, \$75. Call 517-851-7688 evenings.

FOR SALE: 1976 white 2-105 D tractor cab, radio, heater, air, P.A. rear, HD 3 pt. hitch, 915 actual hours. Phone Midland, 517-835-4747.

1968 GLEANER E-3 COMBINE 10 foot grain and 2 row wide corn head. Phone Norma Chamberlain, 313-752-2721.

LIVESTOCK

ARABIANS ALL AGES, for breeding, pleasure or show. Special discounts for 4-H terms if desired. Dale Kirklm, phone 616-381-2774.

REGISTERED SHROPSHIRE SHEEP SINCE 1890. Breeding stock for sale at all times, Hewens Farm, 7400 Bemis Road, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197. Phone 313-482-2658.

FOR SALE: YORKSHIRE & SPOTTED serviceage boars and open gilts top bloodlines tested at MSU test station. All registered stock. Richard Cook, 1/2 mile east Mulliken, M-43. Phone 517-649-8988.

DUROC & LANDRACE BOARS & GILTS. Also crossbred gilts. John Swearingen, 655 Prattville Road, Pittsford, MI 49271. Phone 517-567-8975.

QUARTER HORSES - Disposition for 4-H, ability for cattle, conformation for show. Reasonable prices. Customer satisfaction a priority. Visitors welcome. Walton Farms, Rosebush. Phone 517-433-2925.

FEEDER PIGS - Produced and sold by members of the MACMA Feeder Pig Division. Available biweekly in large uniform lots, weighing 40-60 lbs. Contact Bill Haas, 517-323-7000, Ext. 707.

FOR SALE: Landrace-boars and gilts, also Duroc boars and gilts. George Carpenter family, 6545 Cogswell Rd., Romulus, MI 48174. Phone evenings 313-721-0240.

LICENSED, DEPENDABLE, LIVESTOCK HAULING, to Marlette, Cass City and Sandusky. Call Orvy Jelneck, 313-395-7296. Capac, Michigan.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE BOARS & GILTS for sale. Validated herd, Dale Terry, Palmyra, Michigan. Phone 517-263-5854.

CORRIEDALE SHEEP - Purebred breeding stock for sale. Paper optional. Waldo F. Dieterlie, 7285 Textile Road, Saline, MI 48176. Phone 313-429-7874.

REGISTERED ANGUS - Yearling bulls & heifers, club calves. Write or call Neona Farm, Neal Felkema, Ewart, Michigan 49631. Phone 616-734-2579.

GRADE HORSES are real scarce. Buy a purebred Arabian from the Lannens at Fife Lake, MI 49633. Phone 616-369-2271.

PERFORMANCE TESTED ANGUS, quality registered Angus breeding stock and club calves. Contact Bordner Angus Farms, 68730 County Farm Rd., Sturgis, Michigan 49091. Phone 616-651-3456.

MILKING SHORTHORNS - Young bulls, yearlings and calves for sale. Write or visit Stanley M. Powell and Family, Ingleside Farm, R.R. 2, 3248 Powell Hwy., Ionia, Michigan 48846.

AT STUD-AQHA-JAGUAR GO. JAGUAR -Racing bloodlines with halter conformation, excellent disposition, brown, 15 hands. \$200.00 reg., \$100.00 grade. Gloria Knight, Sterling. Phone 517-873-4390.

REGISTERED & GRADE HOLSTEIN BULLS for sale. Complete records, Clarkstead Holstein Farm, 819 Tamarack Road, Pittsford, Michigan. Phone 517-567-8626.

REGISTERED QUARTER HORSE: Bay gelding, 15-3, five year old. Excellent show record and good disposition. Stanley Sinko, 9346 W. Harrison Road, Sumner, Michigan 48889. Phone 517-463-5257.

FOR SALE: REGISTERED POLLED HEREFORD BULLS. Excellent performance. Victor, Lamplighter bloodlines. Samuel Catey, 3602 Strange Hwy., Grand Ledge, Mich. 48837. Phone 517-627-6248.

REGISTERED HOLSTEINS - bred heifer from 700* fat. Good plus cow. Bootmaker - 3 year old, 16,800 milk, 1st record. Dozen bulls, 1-14 months age. Wardin Brothers, 517-642-5575.

REGISTERED HOLSTEIN BULL, 18 months. Elevation's son, from 17,848 lb. dam. Ex. mammary at 2 years. Others - Bootmaker, Conductor, Kingman. Registered, grade heifers due Aug.-Sept. George Robb, Fowlerville, 517-223-9462.

DUROC and YORK BOARS for sale. Aggressive, rugged and sound. Priced right. Groups available. Some 300 pounders! Mark Palmreuter, Vassar, Michigan. Phone 517-823-3745.

MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED: TOY TRACTORS 1940-1965, John Deere, Farmall, Case, etc. w/mounted corn pickers, pull type combines. Bernal Tolan, phone 517-287-5183.

FISH FOR POND STOCKING - Hybrid Sun fish, Catfish, also Rainbow Trout. Spring Valley Trout Farm, Dexter, Michigan. Phone 313-426-4772.

CHRISTMAS TREES WANTED: We need Scotch Pine, Douglas Fur, Blue Spruce and White Spruce up to 10 feet. We also need Christmas tree plantations to manage and market. Fruithaven Nursery, Inc., Route 1, Kaleva, Michigan 49645. 517-349-1918.

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DON'T DIE WITHOUT A WILL! Legal forms, instructions: \$2.00 (2 for \$3.50) \$5.95 with 150-page lawyer written manual MARCON; Box #10101-Z; Dallas, Texas 75207.

TREATED POSTS: 7", \$2.65. Call for pick-up at our sawmill, 253 Jonesville St., Litchfield, Michigan 49252. 517-542-2989.

BAKERY, CANDY, and craft supplies. Party goods - invitations, gifts, bulk beads, 4011 Huron Street, North Branch, MI 48841.

AgriGroups Abroad 1980-81 Tour Schedule

We specialize in overseas tours for people with agricultural interests and backgrounds. Visit farms, ranches, cities.

- Turkey Sept. 17, 1980
India Oct. 17, 1980
China (Hong Kong, Singapore, Bangkok) Nov. 1980
Hawaii Late Nov. 1980
Africa Late Jan. 1981
South Pacific March 1981 (Australia, New Zealand, Tahiti)
Egypt, Israel, Jordan May, 1981

For further information write: Gordon R. Schlubatis, AgriGroups Abroad, P.O. Box 461, Coldwater, Mich. 49036

NEED EXTRA CASH? Let 999 Successful little known businesses help you. Very little cash needed to operate. Write E & F Sales, Box 41044, Indianapolis, 46241.

BRAND NEW STATIONARY or replacement engine: Ford 5000 series, complete with generator and starter, 3 cylinders. \$2500.00; 313-229-2277, Challis, Brighton.

FOR SALE: Two Knight forage boxes, 16 ft. with roof, three beater; a tandem wagon with 16-11 tires; a large portable generator. Windpower. Phone 616-899-2136.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

PECANS: QUART EACH, HALVES, PIECES, MEAL. Three-quart sampler, \$9.75, postpaid! Hermitage Farms, Box 143-MF, Hermitage, Tenn. 37076.

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ASPARAGUS, beautiful two year plants - \$8.00 fifty, \$15.00 hundred, all postpaid, guaranteed. Also select Mary Washington seed, \$4.25 lb. Fred Zaika, Route 2, Bear Lake, Michigan 49614.

REAL ESTATE

ALL FARMS - need farms for Midwest and international buyers. Top dollar. Details: John Peck, Four Seasons Realty of Lansing, 517-349-4260.

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PEACH FARM - 35 acres in Watervliet Township. First class site, north slope. Write: Solid M. Spread, Hartford 49057, or phone Solid-M-Chateau 616-424-3752. \$152,000.00 firm.

MIDDLELAKE 10 acres, 10 acres covered 20 year pines. Four lots, paved road. Barry C., 3 miles, Hastings. Consider trade Vancamper Dodge or Ford. 616-267-5688.

HOUSE FOR SALE: Rochester, Michigan area, close to Oakland University, 4-bedroom colonial, approximately one acre, country atmosphere, complete photographic darkroom, utility shed, \$81,900. Call 313-373-6875; if no answer, call 313-628-1187.

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FOR SALE: Armada area. Beautiful three bedroom ranch on 80 acres of picturesque land. Cattle barn, calving barn, pond, woods, many extras. 10% land contract terms. Call Carol Kelly 313-886-4200, Schweitzer Real Estate, Better Homes and Gardens.

40 ACRES NEAR CADILLAC. Rich loam. Modern farm house, large machine shed, 40x245 ft., egg factory, dairy barn, other buildings. More land available. \$64,500. 616-389-2274.

160 ACRE FARM FOR SALE: Three bedroom modern ranch home. Trout pond flowing Spring, barn and workshop. Will sell in 40 acre parcels and will sell the part with building in a small parcel separately. Located in Presque Isle County. Call or write for more information. Ralph Freel, 638 Hwy. Lost Lake, Millersburg, Mich. 49759. Phone 517-734-4343.

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Special arrangements have been made with Cedar Point, mid-America's finest family entertainment center located near Sandusky, Ohio, for Michigan Farm Bureau members to purchase admission tickets at a reduced cost.

Tickets are \$8.75 each and are good any day. This is a savings of \$1.25 for adults and 70 cents for children 5 and older. Children 4 and under are admitted free.

To purchase your Cedar Point tickets, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope and a check or money order, made payable to Michigan Farm Bureau in the full amount for the number of tickets ordered, to Ken Wiles, Michigan Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909.

100 Bred Gilts Sale

7 p.m., Wednesday night - June 18

60 Cross-Bred Gilts
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Bred to York Boars

40 Yorkshire Bred Gilts
Bred to Yorkshire Boars

40 Yorkshire Boars

40 Yorkshire Open Gilts

Boars tested in on-the-farm test station.

PORK BARBECUE SUPPER AT 5:30

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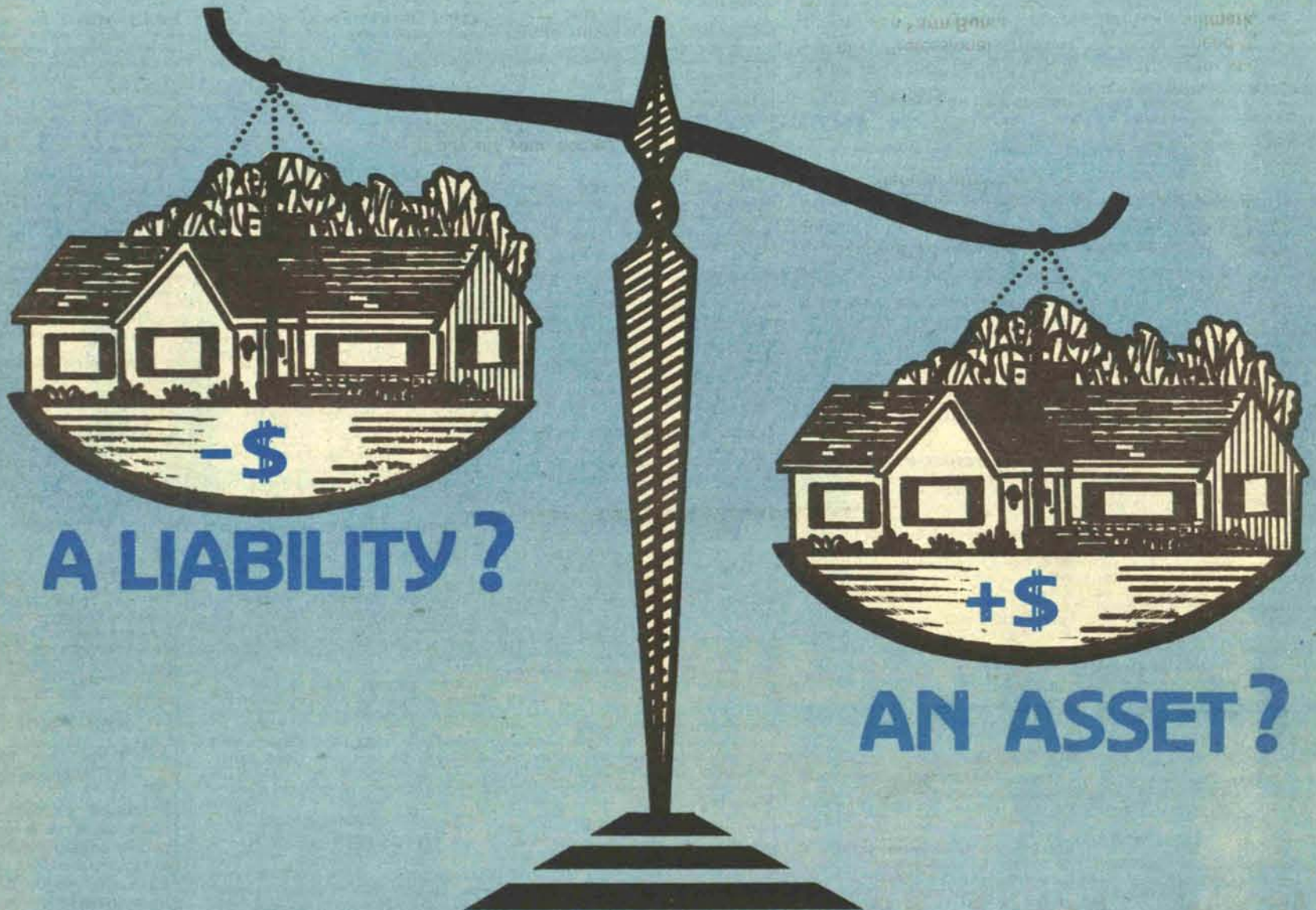
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