

## LACKAWANNA COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA PRESS OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 15, 2005 FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Jenine J. Ikeler, 963-6800 ext. 1854 Jillian Kohanski, 963-6800 ext. 1814

## **<u>Pitely Appointed To Farmland Preservation</u>**

**SCRANTON, PA-** County Commissioners A.J. Munchak and Robert C. Cordaro announced the appointment of George J. Pitely to the position of Farmland Preservation Program Administrator. Mr. Pitely will replace the former Administrator, William D. Lange.

"Lackawanna County is fortunate to find a man of George Pitely's caliber to carry on the great work of our friend, Bill Lange," said Commissioner Robert C. Cordaro.

The purpose of the Farmland Preservation program is to protect viable agricultural conservation easements, which prevent the development or improvement of the land for any purpose other than agricultural production.

"The program encourages landowners to make a long-term commitment to agriculture by offering them financial incentives and security of land use. It also protects normal day-to-day farming operations from incompatible non-farming uses and from complaints of public nuisance against normal farming operations" said Mr. Pitely.

Mr. Pitely is currently a SEC licensed securities representative and specializes in estate

planning, college funding and retirement training. The securities are sold thru ISI Securities, member NASD and SIPC. He has also held consulting, sales, production management, insurance and engineering positions with several different organizations.

Pitely is a graduate of Cornell University with a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering (BEE) and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Bridgeport. He was a commissioned officer of the United States Navy and a Vietnam Veteran.

Pitely also serves as the Chairman of the United Methodist Health Insurance and is a former Member of the Jefferson Township Planning Commission. He resides in Lake Ariel with his wife, the Reverend Nancy Pitely

.###

Michael S. Taluto Assistant Press Secretary Lackawanna County 200 Adams Avenue Scranton, PA 18503 Phone: (570) 963-6800 Ext 1815 Fax: (570) 963-6812