

# Home ec

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when Mrs. Amico helped the agriculture class slaughter a lamb. Students learned to cut, weigh and wrap the finished project. Mrs. Amico said the experience was very educational for all concerned.

She said, "Working with the boys is quite worthwhile. They were shy at first, but I related our work to them and tried to see it from their point of view. It was fun for them, and they were really proud to use the items they made."

Mrs. Amico believes there is a basic difference in the students who choose to attend the Hinkletown school from those who attend public school. "They are naturally quiet, and reticent and there is no discipline problem because they are really interested in learning."

She said, "They seem to have a lot more patience and are taught responsibility, and to discipline themselves. They believe in thrift and they take much better care of equipment than the average public school student."

Carol said that when her electric sewing machines were serviced after a year of use, she was told they were "like new." She attributes this to the care given them by the girls.

She says, The girls' personalities are different, more tempered. They still often surprise me with their manners and their sense of responsibility. They are more kind to each other and work together well with no rivalry."

Dr. Herr concurred in the evaluation of the kind of student they have. He said, "The teachers can spend time teaching, not keeping order. Any success of the school stems from the type of student, as well as the support of



Judy Burkholder (foreground), East Earl, and Alma Risser, East Earl, iron their projects in the home economics class at the Hinkletown Alternative School.

the Advisory Board and the fine attitude of the administration. And the students have IQ's equal to or better than any other school," he said.

Mrs. Amico is a graduate of The Pennsylvania State University with a degree in the College of Human Development. She did her student teaching in Collegeville, near her home, and worked on her practicum by making tape recordings of instructional material for blind persons, teaching them to cook safely and nutritiously. She resides with her husband Tom in New Holland.

Mrs. Amico is typical of the devoted staff of teachers at Hinkletown, which Dr. Herr characterizes as "the finest staff of teachers of any school, and place." There are three full time academic teachers, three full time vocational teachers plus two part-time vocational teachers, an art teacher and a music teacher.

The school has been "very well accepted" by the community, Dr. Herr said. And Mrs. Amico added, "The parents are pleased with it. Last year there were 79 students; this year there are 110 and next year there will be 126. And all of the positions could be filled by students from surrounding school districts who are interested in the program. There is a waiting list, however, within the district."

A great deal of the success of the concept must go to the teachers who are working hard to meet the special needs of the Alternative School. Mrs. Amico says, "I can't

appear enough, and of course a large part is trial and error. This year is easier than last, and when I get through the third year I will feel more confident."

Through dedication and understanding the conservative students of the Garden Spot school district are being offered an "alternative" - a program which is sound academically and fulfills their need to be prepared vocationally when they complete their formal education.

## Beef club meets

held March 15 at Victor Weaver's at 7:30 p.m.


Audrey Hoover  
News Reporter

The New Holland 4-H Baby Beef Club held their meeting of the year at Victor Weaver's recently. Linda High, vice-president, presided at the business session.

Speaker for the meeting was Norman Kolb from New Holland Sales Stables who talked with the 4-Hers on raising steers.

The next meeting will be

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