

# 4-H leader says it takes organization

By JOANNE SPAHR  
HARLEYSVILLE, Pa. - Ever wonder how some of those women you know can manage to "do it all"? Donna Armstrong, 838 State Road, Harleysville, says it takes organization.

She should know - she does it all and is a top notch organizer to boot. Donna is a wife, mother, 4-H organizational leader, craftsperson, and professional volunteer wrapped up into one with

time to spare for home canning and other things she enjoys doing when she has time for herself.

"With the schedule I follow," she whispers furtively with a big smile and an animated face to highlight her story, "I often think to myself, 'Oh, if I'd only have a day all to myself when I could do whatever I want. But, when that day gets here, I find myself just-well, just rattling around by the end of the day and it doesn't do me any good, anyway.'"

So, she keeps herself busy in innumerable ways.

To begin with, she is "up to her gilliwags in 4-H" as she puts it. As organizational leader of the largest and one of the most active 4-H groups in Montgomery County - The Harley Hill Stitchers, she is responsible for making sure 100 enthusiastic, budding young seamstresses don't lose their enthusiasm and get expert tutoring while learning.

"I have 15 to 20 leaders to help me," Donna says,

backing away from taking all the credit. "But, I keep myself free to step in wherever necessary when a leader goes on vacation."

This club goes year round and involves quite a bit more than just sewing. "We do all kinds of stitching," she says. "That includes embroidery, crocheting, crewel - the whole thing."

During the school months, the group meets at the Harleysville Scout Cabin on the first Monday of every month. At this get together, the girls hold their basic business meeting and then feature a special interest program they have chosen.

"For instance," says Donna matter-of-factly, "One of the biggest hits was the evening we had a local hair dresser come in and give tips to the girls on hair care."

"She even asked for a volunteer and gave her a blow cut right there for all of them to see. And, they just-oved it," Donna continues,

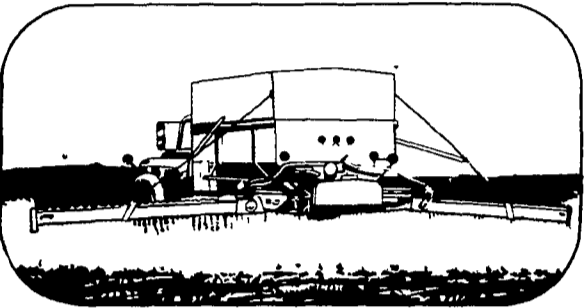


Donna Armstrong works on some of her favorite types of stitching with several examples of her works of art around her.

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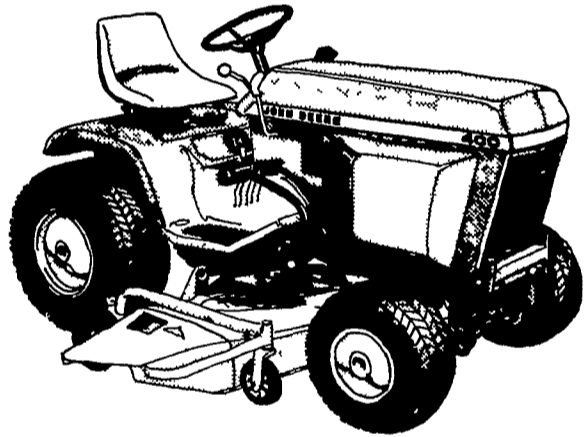
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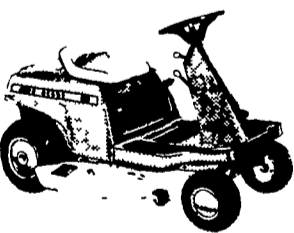
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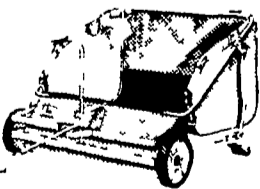
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