



**Life on the farm** By Dieter Krieg

The large barn doors were swung open and warm, bright sunshine touched the cool, dirt floor of the shed. The songs of birds erased the silence; dust danced in the shaft of

sunlight, and the pleasant scent of hard clay became less pronounced. It was time for an awakening

The big machine had been in

hibernation for nearly a full year and was covered with dust, pigeon droppings and cobwebs. There was no burst of energy when the key was turned to "awaken" this mammoth of the farm machinery kingdom. A squirt of ether into the "nostrils" sparked life into it and before long the engine was coughing and sputtering, filling the top portion of the shed with grey-blue smoke.

Like a big, sleepy bear crawling out of its cave in the Spring, the combine advanced slowly towards the open doorway and the warm, bright sunshine - being careful not to scrape the sides of the exit. It rested outside beneath a tree for several minutes,

flexing its "muscles" while its owner checked for proper belt tension control responses, etc.

After a big drink at the gas pump and a thorough going over with a grease gun and oil can, the big monster was ready to go to work. Soon, with engine roaring, the combine will paddle its way across the sea of wheat, hungrily devouring the crop. It fills its belly with grain and eliminates straw from the rear.

The waves of grain will gradually disappear and then only the stubble remains. Thank God, however, there'll be more next year to add beauty to the countryside, provide the population with bread, and give rise to a special inner joy to a farm lover like me.

**Livestock market and auction news**

**Valley Livestock**

Valley Stockyards  
Athens, Pa.

Monday, June 19

Reported receipts of 294 calves, 108 cows, 104 hogs, 36 heifers, 9 sheep, 18 lambs, 29 bulls, and 2 steers. Cattle market stronger and calf market strong.

Veals 62.00-85.50; bobs, 90 to 110 lbs. 59.00-67.00; bobs, 80 lbs. and down 48.00-59.00; grassers and feeders 30.00-44.50; lambs 42.00-60.00;

sheep 18.00-20.00; hogs, 300 to 250 lbs. 44.00-50.00; sows 35.00-37.00; boars 32.00-38.50; pigs 13.00-38.00; heifers 40.50-54.90; steers, good 45.00-46.00; bulls 42.50-53.25; cows, good 39.50-43.50; cows, medium 33.00-39.25; cows, poor or small 22.00-33.00; ponies 11.00-20.00; goats 12.00-25.00.

**Ocean Disposal**

New York City currently dumps about 14 million tons a year of sewage disposal into the Atlantic Ocean

**New Holland Horse**

New Holland Sales Stables  
Monday, June 19

Reported receipts of 315 head of horses, mules, and ponies. Market stronger than last week's market.

Local mules 375-675; driving horses 175-1150; riding horses 200-375; better horses 425-710; lightweight killers 26-32; heavyweight killers 37-40; mares 15-55; colts 5-25; geldings 15-50; larger ponies 75-225.

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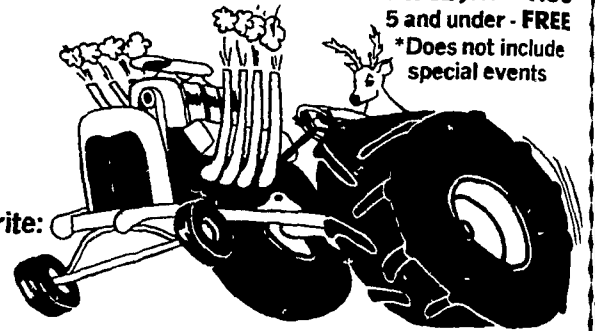
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