Farm - City Week climaxes year

HARRISBURG - A year round program of farm and city events will climax during the week of November 16-22 with the 25th anniversary of Farm-City Week

This year's theme, Farm and City - Partners in Economic Progress, With Pride in the Past and Faith in the Future, emphasizes the need for understanding between urban and rural neighbors.

The family farm is an economic resource for Pennsylvania, reports Governor Dick Thornburgh Each year farmers add \$2 billion to the State's financial base.

But, each year these farmers are faced with rising costs of land, machinery, fertilizer and hvestock.

Pennsylvania farmers average well over \$100,000 in

MANHEIM - Goat far-

ming is just like dairy far-

ming on a smaller scale,

Jane and Jacob H. Fisher,

Jr., Manheim, like to tell

And they'll be hosting

quite a few visitors this

weekend as part of the

Farm-City Week activities

sponsored by the Lancaster

There are about 100 dairy

goats at Fishers Windy Hill

Farm At present between 40

If the past is any indication

there should be over 1000

people tramping through the

Fishers' barn Saturday and

Sunday, November 17 and 18

other Lancaster County

operations will be open to

guests from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

ticipated in the Farm-City

program two years ago, 1700

people visited their farm and

learned something about

goats, something about

Jake Fisher will be in the

billy pen, someone will be in

the barn, and Jane will be in

the milkhouse to answer

questions and keep both the

goats and humans out of

The Fishers keep four

breeds of goat on their farm:

Alpine, Nubian, Saanen, and

cows only in a miniature

The goats are fed about

four pounds of Pennfield's

dairy ration each day In

addition they see some

A good milking goat will

"Our top producer made

give between four and five

seven and a half quarts per

day," Jane Fisher recalled

But, she added, the five

quart goat is apt to be a more

steady producer, without the

peaks and valleys in her

The Fisher goats all are

hand milked. While there is

mechanical milking

crimped oats and hay.

quarts per day.

production.

"We tend them just like

When the Fishers par-

The Fisher farm and six

Farmers'

guests.

County

Association

and 45 are milking.

to see those goats.

both days.

farming.

trouble

plained.

Toggenberg.

investments needed to directly felt in the area of operate their agri-business This figure is double what it cost a farmer to operate ten years ago

They are also challenged with the fact that each year there is a change over of between one and three million acres of farmland to other, usually irreversible,

With Pennsylvania having one of the largest rural populations and some of the largest cities in the nation, Farm-City Week promises to be a step in the direction of mutual understanding

Already the total occupational influence of farming is reflected in the growing agricultural programs in high schools and colleges in both urban and suburban areas.

And close ties between cities and farms can be

employment. There are nearly 10 persons whose jobs are related to supplying agriculture's needs or associated with farm products

'This dependency on the farm and agricultural field in the nation's economy has grown over the years and is expected to keep increasing Leaders, seeing this close relationship and ever widening communications gap between the farm and city, have joined in an effort to inter-relate through an annual celebration

Farm-City Week was started in Pennsylvania in 1955. It is sponsored by 50 organizations, cooperating with the national council. These organizations represent every facet of the including economy, government, business, industry and agriculture.

Individual counties throughout the State are conducting tours, sponsoring meetings, and holding workshops in an effort to better the partnership between farm and city

Looking towards the future, Fred Bubb of the Soil Conservation Service commented, 'Thus far the farmer has been able to offset the loss of land with higher crop yields per acre However the rate of production increase has been leveling off '

He continued, 'The only way to assure that this country and food importing nations will be fed in the future is to protect the best farmland now "

Bubb's statement appropriately sums up this year's Farm-City theme... pride in the past and faith in

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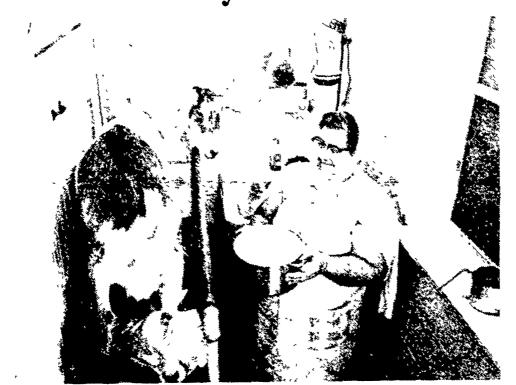
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"Miniature dairy" farm on Farm-City tour



Jane Fisher, Manheim, and one of her dairy goats look proudly at another morning's production. City folk will have a chance to tour the Fisher farm next weekend.

Fishers said they prefer products. fewer clean-up problems and is more simple.

Milk is sold at the farm and through Pure Goat Products in Boyertown.

"The people who drop in to see us during the year are different from the people we'll see next weekend," Jane Fisher said.

Those who come around regularly are interested in goats, or at least are interested in goat products.

Their questions tend to be way," Jane Fisher ex- more oriented to goat freshening for the goats.

equipment available, the nutrition or use of dairy goat

hand milking because it has The people who stop by on Farm-City weekend are interested in a more general way in farms. Most are town or city folks, Fisher said.

The goats at Windy Hill Farm are coming into breeding season. Fishers try to breed back their goats early to get a jump on production for next year.

The milkers should freshen anytime after the first of the year. There's about a five month lapse between breeding and

The Fishers said they are looking forward to the rush of visitors from the city. They'll have two days of

answering the same basic questions over and over, two days of telling the same facts to an ever-changing sea of faces. "It's tiring, but it is a lot of

fun." Jane Fisher said. Not only is it fun for the

farmer, but it's fun for the urbanites, too. And it will remind people

that milk as well as other farm produce doesn't really come from a grocery

Prep Club discusses horse anatomy

FLEMINGTON, N.J. - The members of the Little Chaps and Hunting Caps 4-H Prep Club discussed the anatomy of the horse All members had a turn to fill in a blackboard diagram. Mindy Connolly handed out paper and crayons Each member drew a picture of a horse and listed the parts of a horse. Norman Forlenza told us about his two ponies and members talked about different breeds and colors

The awards dinner was enjoyed by all. Members who were not present at the awards dinner received their awards at the meeting.

Plans were made for a "Sing-A-Long" Christmas nolly, Club Leader.

rarty for Mom's and 4-H'ers. The Christmas Party will be on December 14 from 7-9 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Carol Meola, Club Leader. Reported by JoAnne Con-

