

Lebanon 4-H clubs 'subs'tantially boost their budgets

BY PAT KAUFFMAN
LEBANON — Picture 150 youngsters crying their eyes out at 4 a.m. on a Saturday morning. That's what one would expect to find upon entering a building where 4-Hers are making 8000 subs.

But to the amazement of everyone but Judy LeRoy, the scene was one of organized fun. For there amid 625 pounds of minced bologna, 375 pounds of white American cheese, 450 pounds of tomatoes, 200 pounds of onions, 50 pounds of lettuce, and 630 dozen rolls, stood kids up to their elbows in a good time.

Judy, a lady with a sprightly smile, was chief in charge of production at the recent Lebanon County 4-H sub sale. And while nearly 8000 subs would boggle most people's minds, she took it all in stride.

What is also interesting, is the ability of anyone to get over 100 youngsters out of

bed and to the task of making subs at the awful hour of 4 a.m. According to Judy, the turnout was good. She noted that while there are over 1100 kids in 4-H in the county, that many of the clubs are run only from spring to fall and had not yet reorganized for the year.

The purpose of the sub sale was to raise money for fair premiums and 4-H projects throughout the year. While only about half of the clubs participated because of the seasonal factor, all of the clubs in the county will benefit from the earnings.

And the earnings are amazingly good. Doing a quick mental tally, Judy figured the clubs which sold the 8 inch subs for \$1.25 each, netted in the vicinity of .80 per sub. That figure would mean a tidy profit of around \$6000. Judy's husband, Bill, noted that figure would mean an average hourly

earning per worker of approximately \$9.

Bill had his own thoughts on the sub sale. He noted that both he and Judy are 4-H parents. In addition, they have organized many sub sales for Scout troops. He told that in his view the sub sales are the most successful fund raiser available for a 4-H club. While he and Judy have helped with other fund raising projects such as cookie sales, he stated that cookies are nothing more than "sugar pills," and that people buy a box or two and have enough. "The price of gas is an increasingly large cost in paper drives. With subs," he said, "Mothers know that on busy Saturday mornings their family is getting a wholesome noon meal and they are helping a worthwhile cause."

The clubs were each asked to sell 75 subs per club and to send at least 1 person to help make the subs.

How do you tackle making 8000 subs? Judy sums it up, "Organization." She told that long tables were covered with plastic. Pans with the ingredients were stationed in the proper order along the table, and kids lined both sides of the table. Then the subs were pushed along the table with each person adding his ingredient until the sub reached the end of the table where it was bagged, counted and packed in lots of tens. The younger 4-H members were used as runners and twisters (closing the sub bags).

Judy was quick to note that many grocers and wholesalers in the community had given time and loaned equipment to the group in addition to supplying the meats and salad ingredients of the subs at very reasonable prices.

Members selling the most subs had their pick of prizes including such things as sneaker skates, dinner for two, craft items and ear-phones. These prizes were also donations.

Is there any help available for clubs planning a sub sale? Judy plans to catch her wind after this latest big event, and then sit down and sketch out a master plan for clubs interested in substantially boosting their revenues with subs.

Camp

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NORRISTOWN — 4-H Camp Shehaqua, located in Hickory Run State Park, Poconos, will be hiring a cook, an assistant cook, a chore person, a lifeguard and a nurse.

The length of employment for each position varies, according to specific needs of the camp. For all of the positions, please contact Helaine Brown, Extension 4-H Agent at 215/277-0574 for an application. The deadline for applications to be submitted is April 25.



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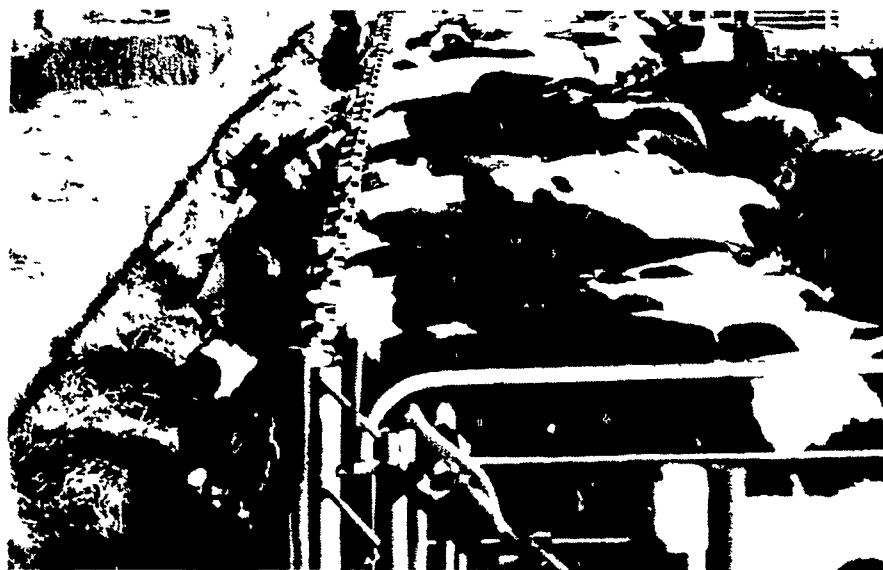
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