

CHRIS CLOSER

# News in the 4-H world

## Thomasville club looks ahead

THOMASVILLE — Leaders of the Thomasville 4-H club explained the projects they teach and the requirements for completing them at the recent meeting of the club.

Project explanations were given on rifle and handyman by Roy Thompson, photography, Emilee Welsh, dairy foods, candlemaking and sewing, Nancy Eisenhart, Stamp club, Dave Haskins; horticulture, wildlife and forestry, Carol Haskins, crocheting, Jean Roth, ceramics, Helen Horn, Micro-mini tractor club, Lanny Zeigler, and cake decorating, cooking for beginners, Jolene Smallwood.

Reports given at the meeting were National 4-H Congress by Carol Haskins; Farm Show, Mike Welsh, roller skating party, Diane Lang, officers training, Susan Eisenhart and County Council, Beverly Eisenhart.

Several members of the club will be participating in the "Spring Fling," a five-county 4-H activity

being held at the York County 4-H Center, near Bair on February 21 from 9 to 9 which includes workshops and a dance.

Serving on the club exhibit committee are Mike Welsh, Mike Parr, Neil and Shane Seidenstricker, Diane and Angie Lang, Bridgette Boyer and Tim Jowanowitch.

Members serving on the community service committee are Mike Parr, Neil and Shane Seidenstricker, Bridgette Boyer, Grace Brodbeck, Angie and Diane Lang, Steve, Susan and Nancy Eisenhart, Robert and Jon Haskins, Julie Kline, Courtney and Allison Cable, Doreen and Darren Smallwood, Debbie Leibhart, Shelly, Stephanie, and Patty Lehigh, Eric Cable, Jon Bentzel, Tim and Trini Jowanowitch and Mike Welsh.

The next meeting of the club will be held at the county 4-H Skating Party on February 24 at Delco Plaza.

## Raise a capon

PENN STATE — It takes a tough kid to raise a tender capon (borrowed from Frank Perdue of Salisbury, MD - No kidding, the 4-H capon project is one of our most comprehensive projects and work intensive also. A ten year old can earn 2 to 6 dollars an hour for their efforts with the project. This includes time spent by parents helping dress birds.

Capon production involves daily care and feeding of the birds while being alert for predator control, parasite damage or other health problems with the birds. Many youngsters find it best to feed some oats with the growing mash the

last six weeks before market. Processing (selecting-killing-dressing) is a lot of hard work where parent, child and any other volunteers can help pull feathers, draw birds and get em oven ready.

Marketing is the real challenge if you do not have one established, because only a few people know what a capon is. People successful with capons spend one hour per day on marketing. 4-H members must knock on doors and use the telephone to tell buyers how tender, flavorful, and juicy capon is.

Each year 30,000 4-H capons are sold for 350,000 dollars during the fall season. Two ton of these go at auction for \$3/lb or \$12,000.

The work is great but so is the reward. If you sell all the birds you start as Grade A dressed, over-ready capons for \$1.40 a pound and if you do well with the production, processing and marketing, by the time the birds reach 20 weeks of age or before, each capon sold should bring several dollars return to labor and management. Range in net to labor and management in 1979 was 0 to \$7 per bird.



## Super steers meet

FLEMINGTON — The Hunterdon County Super Steers 4-H Club met recently at the Kenney residence in Long Valley. Officers for the new year are President, Jake Matyas, Vice-President, Glen Mayer, Treasurer, Kim Shepherd; Recording Secretary, Lisa Trimmer, Corresponding Secretary, Robert Mehlman, Historian, Jeff Mayer & Inner club

activities, Ken Blemings. Delegates to the Hunterdon County 4-H Beef Council are Ken Blemings and Chris Mayer. Jennifer Blemings and Meghan Kenney are the alternates. A talk on Winter Weekend Camp, scheduled for Feb 13-15 was given by Ken Blemings. Each older member was encouraged to attend.

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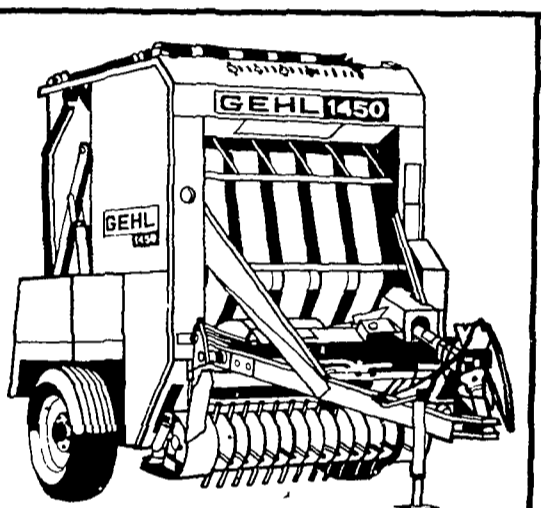
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