

Kids' KOrner

Select a puppy wisely

LANCASTER — Few Christmas gifts are more fun or more memorable than the family's first puppy. It's not too early to begin planning for that special gift if you don't have one yet. Check out several books from the library on dogs which tell something about the personalities of different breeds of dogs and the care they require. Choose a breed that matches your lifestyle and living situation. You'll be happier in the long run.

If you don't fancy long walks, select a small dog. Poodles are always popular, because they're bred to be house pets. Beagles are another favorite and do not need extensive grooming. Terriers are small but sturdy and usually

energetic enough to enjoy romping with small children. Toy breeds make good pets for teenagers and adults.

On the other hand a large dog may be more your family's style, especially if you have your own farm. For a sturdy, outdoor type, consider a labrador retriever or a golden retriever. Both are noted for friendly even temperament. German shepherds are one of the most popular dogs because they are excellent pets and watch dogs as well. The German shepherd's super intelligence means you'll have to spend lots of time with him, giving him the training his personality requires.

After the research, it's time to visit breeders and pet shops. When

you buy from a breeder, you will be able to look over your dog's mother and litter-mates. It's a good way to judge the puppy's temperament. Wherever you shop, look for cleanliness and good care. A puppy should be alert, with clean, bright eyes and a plump, sturdy body. Check for a glossy, clean coat, pink gums, clean skin and white teeth — all signs of good health.

If your budget can't accommodate the cost of a pure-bred dog, then visit the local animal shelter. A mixed breed may give you the best of several kinds of dogs, and conscientious animal welfare workers can help you select a pet that will be a happy addition to your home. You can also follow up on the pet ads in your local newspaper.



Teach your puppy tricks, now, while he or she is still young. Remember, there just might be some merit in the old saying, "You can't teach old dogs new tricks."

Hunterdon Co. opens new club

FLEMINGTON, N.J. — The Hunterdon County 4-H office recently announced the formation of 4-H clubs in two new project areas.

Susan Blew, Pittstown, wants to share her interest in cake decorating with young people and is currently organizing a cake decorating club. Susan demonstrates a broad range of interests, as she is also currently a co-leader

of the 4-H Swine Club with her husband, Ted. They indicated that they still can accept new members to this active and enthusiastic group.

Ruth Boyle, Readington Township, began her association with 4-H as a prep club leader, and she has now taken on the leadership of a 4-H Puppetry Club. This club offers a great opportunity for young people with creative minds to utilize their talents. Ruth will

soon be accepting new members on a limited basis, so interested young people should give their name to the Hunterdon County 4-H office as soon as possible.

Hunterdon County currently also offers 4-H clubs in beef, foods, clothing, goats, dairy, dog, gardening, herpetology, horse, rabbits, poultry, prep, community, waterfowl, sheep, square dancing, seeing eye, and twirling.

York holds capon round-up

YORK — The York County Capon Club recently held their annual capon round-up at the 4-H Center in Bair.

Neil Bitting judged 15 capons with Grand Champion title going to Dawn Raubenstine, 15-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Raubenstine of Hanover.

The capon weighed 11 pounds 4

ounces and was sold to Burton Gillespie Jr. of Seven Valleys for \$3.20 per pound.

Reserve Champion honors went to Michael Kann, 13-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. David Kann of R2 Spring Grove. The capon sold to John and Mary Kann of Manchester for \$3.30 per pound. His capon weighed 11 pounds 12 ounces.

Jefferson club meets

LANCASTER — The Jefferson Community 4-H Club recently held their annual Christmas party.

Members exchanged gifts and made plans for Christmas carolling at Home Wood and Cross Keys.

Two grange youths earn honors

GERMANSVILLE — Two youths from the Lehigh-Northampton Grange were honored recently for outstanding contributions to junior grange activities.

Honored were: Lewis Trexler

III, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Trexler Jr. of Germansville; and Lisa Koenig, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Koenig of Slatington. Lewis and Lisa were named prince and princess of the Grange.

Lewis is a seventh grader at the

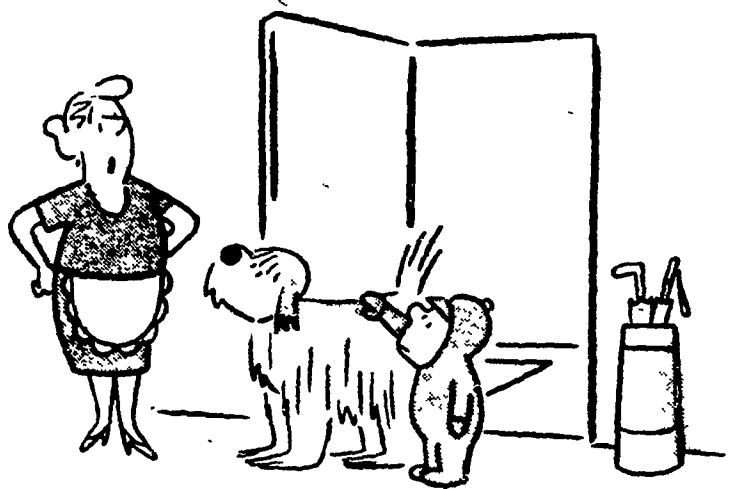
North Western Lehigh School and is a member of the 4-H Baby Beef Club and the Germansville 4-H.

Lisa is an eighth grader at Northern Lehigh Junior High and is a member of the Seeing Eye Puppy Club in Germansville.

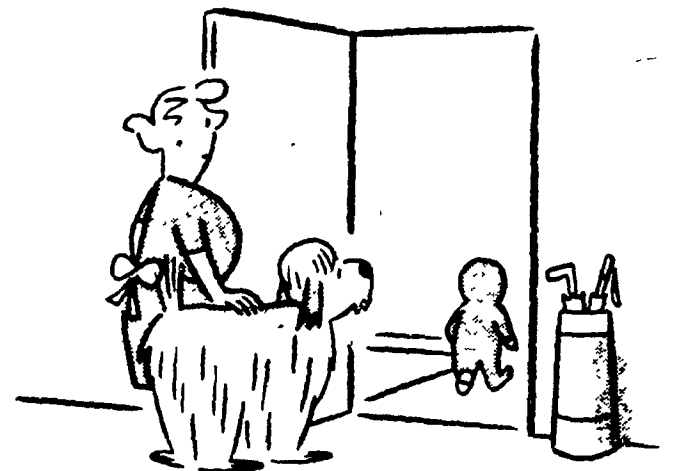


Some kids have cats, dogs and fish for pets while others (usually you lucky ones who live on a farm) can have calves, colts, and even pigs for pets. Here Jeremy Bean and Jennifer Schaeffer play with a calf at the farm of Richard Kieffer in Berks County.

Dog daze



"I know he followed you home, but you can't keep him."



—H.P. 2/2/20.