

Wild horse adoption

(Continued from Page A20)

McLaughlin adopted last October had a filly by her side, and was in foal again, a kind of three-for-one-price deal.

In just five weeks from the time she took her mare home, Mrs. McLaughlin was riding the animal, and believes she could have done so even sooner. The filly, now about eight months old, will begin her training later this summer, at yearling age.

So impressed with his wife's horse was Mr. McLaughlin that he sold his own domestic mount in order to instead adopt either a wild mare or a stallion that he will have gelded.

While Frank Goodlander is up at the corral visiting with potential adopters, his wife Doris, manages the adoption center office, interviewing adoption candidates and handling the paperwork involved in the process.

Potential adopters must fill out an application and submit it along with a \$25 non-refundable deposit, which will later be applied to the \$215 cost of a horse, or \$140 for a burro, if they choose to adopt.

While there is an abundance of horses, burros are in short supply. A waiting list of burro adopters now includes 95 names of people interested in acquiring a descendant of these gold-rush-era pack animals.

The BLM, which oversees the horse adoption program, operates several adoption centers, but with only two of them located in the East. In addition to the Lewisberry facility, a similar one is operating in Cross Plains, Tennessee.

Because wild horses and burros on public rangelands in eight states are protected by law, herd

sizes have continued to increase, and many face possible starvation in the areas where they compete with wildlife and domestic livestock for limited forages.

The estimated 60,000 wild horses and burros populating the rangelands are far in excess of the optimal 24,000 that the Bureau has estimated can be supported on the land and feed available.

"There are over 25,000 excess wild horses and 40 wild burros presently in corrals out West waiting to be shipped to adoption centers," says G. Curtis Jones, Jr., Director of the BLM's Eastern States Office. "Nevada corrals alone had over 1,400 animals which were gathered last summer and fall, to help avoid overgrazing and possible starvation."

As horses are rounded up from the rangelands, temporary corrals set up handle the herds, often in canyons where they can be more easily directed and contained. Both helicopters and wranglers on horseback move the wild horses into the corrals, where they are freeze-branded, wormed and given a full battery of protective vaccinations.

When they arrive at adoption centers, the animals are again checked by veterinarians. At Lewisberry, each horse received an injection of tetracycline as a preventive against health problems that could be brought on by the stress of moving.

In spite of the availability of horses, adoption rates have fallen considerably over the winter.

A continuing problem in the East is boosting public awareness of the horse adoption program. To help increase public involvement and knowledge of the program, and encourage larger numbers of

(Continued from Page A21)

earmarked for use in several of the county's 4-H programs.

During the annual business meeting, a slate of officers was elected to head the executive board for the fiscal year.

Charles Hess, Dallastown R1, is the new president, Jed Beshore, New Cumberland, is first vice-president, and second vice-president is Sara Eisenhart. Naomi Bupp continues as secretary and Robert Smyser will serve as treasurer.

During the year from October 1, 1982 through September 30, 1983, the York Extension office made over 25,500 contacts assisting individuals with calls and farm and home visits. Attendance at the more than 2,000 meetings called by 4-H leaders was over 30,500, and there was attendance of over 39,000 at meetings held by extension staffers.

Media participation included over 190 each of news articles and radio broadcasts, as well as 16 television broadcasts. Over 180,000 pieces of educational mail carried extension information to the public.

adoptions, center managers like the Goodlanders have begun holding "satellite" adoption programs in distant areas.

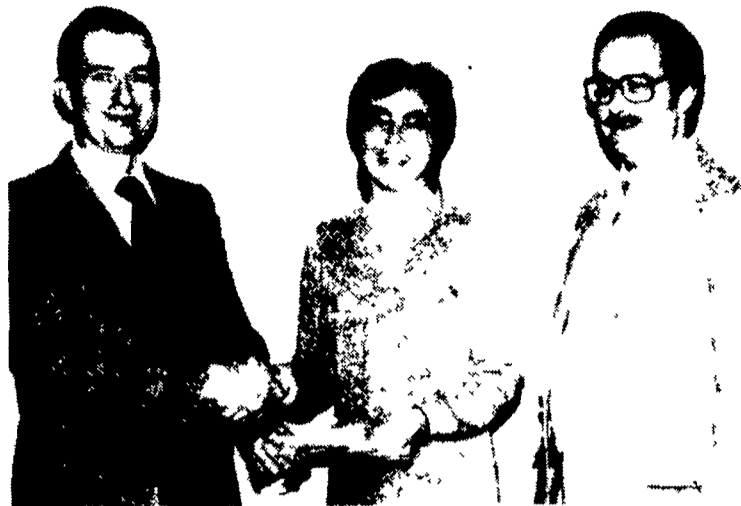
On March 17, the Goodlanders held their first satellite center activity at Belleville. Of the 20 horses available at the one-day event, 13 found new owners on the spot. Four other interested individuals came to the Lewisberry center even before the satellite day, after reading of the program through pre-publicity, and additional inquiries are still coming in to the Center's office as a result.

A similar large-scale outreach adoption satellite is now in planning for Syracuse, New York, to be held later in the Spring. The Goodlanders expect to haul between 100 and 120 horses to the New York satellite program.

Up at the corral, Chris Corkle, oblivious to the activity around her, is still leaning against the hayrack. But now, just behind her on the far side of the feeding trough quietly stands the blaze-faced horse that has already captured a place in her heart.

Somehow, it almost seems as though these two youngsters from different sides of the country already know that they belong together.

York Extension award



Roxanne Price, York County 4-H agent, accepts a \$3,000 check from Branch 8080 of the Lutheran Brotherhood insurance firm. The grant, which will be used to help fund various 4-H events, was presented by branch president Dean Becker, left, and treasurer, Don Glatfelter.

Lancaster Farm & Home scholarships available

LANCASTER — The Lancaster County Farm and Home Foundation is offering scholarship awards in 1984 in the fields of agriculture, home economics, and nursing. Depending upon the financial need and ability of applicants, a maximum of 20 scholarships may be awarded.

Each scholarship award will be in the amount of \$1,000 and may be used to help defray tuition, fees, or room and board expenses at any accredited educational institution, which offers a course of study in agriculture, home economics, or nursing.

Some of these Farm and Home Foundation Scholarships are earnings from an Irrevocable Trust Fund set up by the late Elmer J. Eberschade, one of the

founders of the Lancaster County Farm and Home Foundation. The income from this trust fund will be offered annually in the form of educational scholarships through the Farm and Home Foundation. In addition, funds from the Foundation Treasury are also being used to help finance the scholarship program.

Interested youth are urged to contact their senior guidance counselor for details and an application blank. Additional information is also available from Jay W. Irwin, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, PA 17601 (Phone 394-6851). Application forms must be forwarded by April 16.

Easter Breads Class Scheduled

YORK — Breads are as much a part of Easter as the bunny. Get some ideas for Easter Breads in a class on April 5, 10:00-12:00 noon at the York County Extension Office meeting room, 112 Pleasant Acres Rd., York.

Sheila Arnold will show how to make six different Easter breads

from a basic sweet dough recipe. If your favorite is Hot Cross Buns, or Polish Easter Babka these will be shown also.

Advance registration is required. The class costs \$3.50. Call the York County Extension Office at 757-9657 for information.



Horses off the first shipment from the West to adoption center are shy and skittish at first but hay in the feedrack helps them get over their initial fears.

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