

Tulpehocken Young Farmers hold first meeting

BY ROBIN PHILLIPS
Staff Correspondent

BERNVILLE — An organizational meeting to begin a new Young Farmers chapter in the Tulpehocken district was held at the Tulpehocken High School in Bernville on Oct. 1.

Interest was high, as over 45 people attended the first meeting. Requested often in the past by area farmers as a source of continuing vo-ag education, the new chapter welcomes members from the Tulpehocken district, as well as the Schuylkill Valley and Hamburg districts.

On hand to assist in planning the charter was Leroy Geesaman, past president of the Pa. Young Farmers; Tom Zartman, current Young Farmers president; Ronald O'Neil, PYF treasurer; Ron

Fidler, PYF regional vice president; and Harvey Smith, regional vo-ag advisor.

The charter officers elected

were: president, Fred Bohn; president-elect, Harold Miller; treasurer, Curtis Phillipy; secretary, Clark Sattazahn; and

public relations director, Nord Parkinson.

Regular meetings are scheduled for the first Monday of every

month at 7:30 p.m. in the Tulpehocken High School library. New members are welcome, and anyone interested may contact one of the above officers.

Del., Md. lifts poultry bans

DOVER, Del. — The Delaware Department of Agriculture has lifted its ban on public auctioning of poultry in Delaware following the release of Virginia and Pennsylvania as avian influenza infected quarantine areas by the USDA.

Dr. Wesley Towers, Jr., Delaware State Veterinarian, says the efforts to keep avian influenza out of Delmarva's multi million dollar poultry industry were exceptional.

"There was great concern that

the virus would spread to our region because of our short distance from other infected areas. But because of cooperation from every sector of the community we were able to protect our poultry," he said.

"The Delmarva Poultry Industry is to be commended for making many sacrifices during the past year. Prevention was the only way to effectively fight AI and we were fortunate enough to be able to fight it," Towers said.

But industry officials say

because the quarantine has been lifted is no reason to begin relaxing preventive measures.

With the pending start of the waterfowl season, a new introduction of AI remains a threat. Towers says poultry growers should continue their common sense precautions to prevent another problem.

Also, effective immediately, restriction imposed by the Maryland Department of Agriculture on the sale of poultry at auction markets and the congregations of birds of any species are rescinded. This announcement was made by State Veterinarian, Dr. John C. Shook.

School Food Week

HARRISBURG — Governor Dick Thornburgh has proclaimed the week of October 14-

20 as Pennsylvania School Food Week, in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Departments of Agriculture and Education and the Pennsylvania School Food Service Association.

"Nutritious and well-balanced meals provide our children with the valuable fuel they need to meet the physical and mental challenges of each new day. It is also essential that children learn good eating habits in their formative years to prepare them for a life of good health and fitness," the governor said during signing ceremonies in the Capitol.

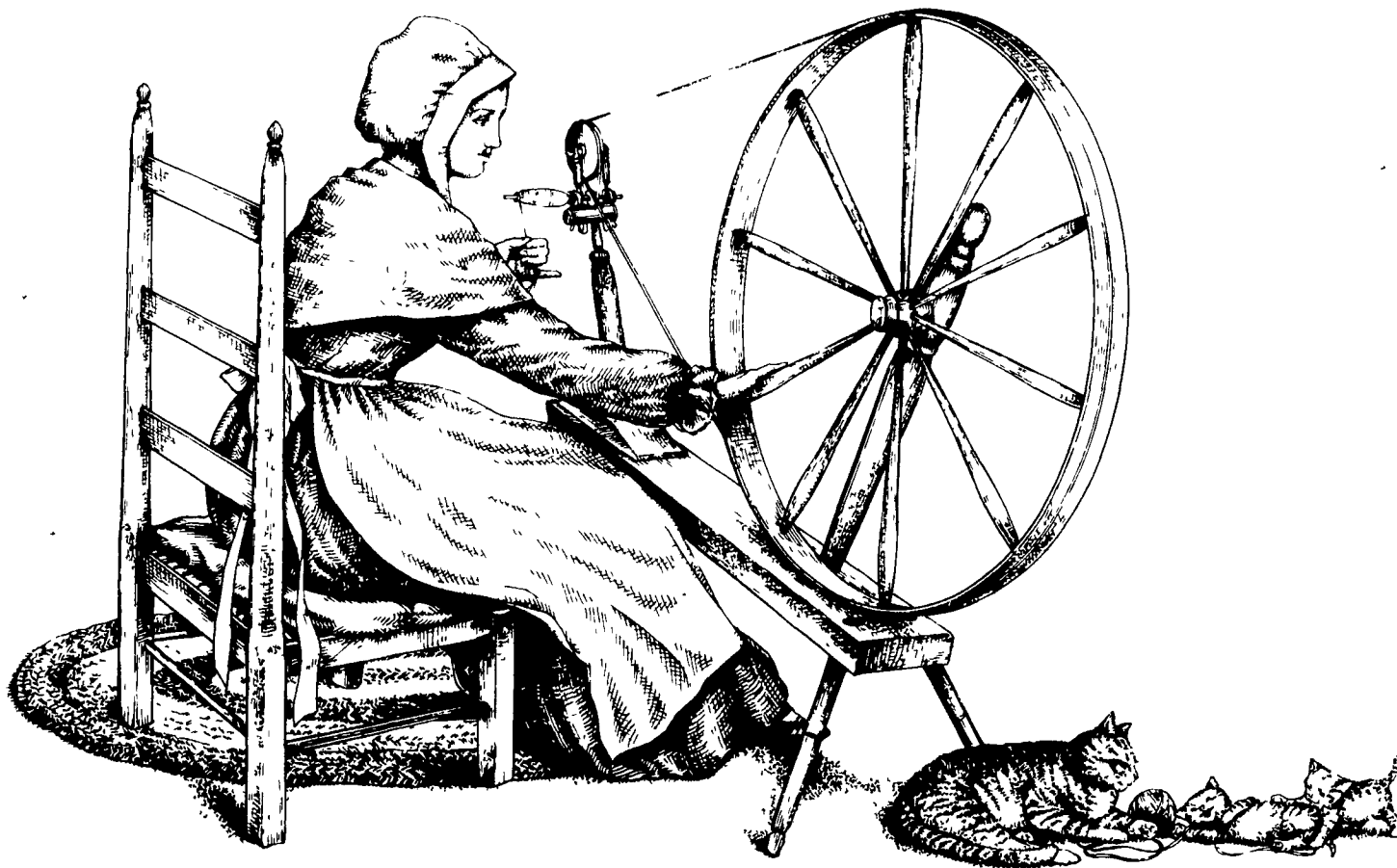
Following the governor's lead in emphasizing increased nutritional awareness, the Departments of Agriculture and Education and the Pennsylvania School Food Service Association have scheduled a special kickoff ceremony for 11:30 a.m., Oct. 16 at the Northside Elementary School, 411 Walnut street, Mechanicsburg.

State Education Secretary Margaret A. Smith, Deputy Agriculture Secretary Michael McGovern and Robert Freiler, Regional Director, Special Nutrition Programs, USDA Mid-Atlantic Regional Office, and several state and local officials will be the featured guests.

"The main thrust of Pennsylvania School Food Week is to encourage awareness in our schools of the vast resources of nutritious-fresh and processed Pennsylvania agricultural products available to them," according to state Agriculture Secretary Penrose Hallowell.

As part of that thrust, the Agriculture and Education Departments are conducting a series of six workshops in several sponsoring school districts during the week. Sites of those sessions include: North Penn High School, Lansdale, 2 p.m., Monday, Oct. 15; Riverside School District, Taylor, 2 p.m., Oct. 16; Williamsport High School, 1:15 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 17; Millcreek High School, Oct. 18, Erie, 10 a.m.; North Hills High School, Pittsburg, Thursday, Oct. 18 at 3 p.m.; and Hempfield School District, Lancaster, 2 p.m., Friday, Oct. 20.

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