## Montgomery County 4-H offers harness school

CREAMERY - The Montgomery County 4-H Office announces a unique and exciting program for teens called the Pennsylvania 4-H Harness School This program will give youth the opportunity to learn the skills necessary to become licensed grooms in the harness racing industry

The program is open to all young men and women ages 15 to 19 (as of January 1, 1985) who have a desire to learn about horses, are in need of job training skills and might be interested in a horse-related career.

According to Nancy M. Kadwill, course coordinator and County agricultural agent with Penn State University, this is an excellent opportunity for a teen to get handson experience and training No previous experience is necessary

"We are looking for teens who really want to learn, are willing to accept a challenge and who want to have an employable skill. We hope that youth not only learn about horses but also come out of the course with increased self-esteem and a positive experience for the summer," says Kadwill

Classes will start July 29th and will continue three times a week until the end of August The majority of the classes will be held at the Fox Chase Farm in Fox Chase, Pa. The farm is part of the Walter Biddle Saul Agricultural

Here members will have the chance to work with live horses to learn about grooming, safety, harnessing and equipment, nutrition, general veterinary care and handling. Also covered will be career placement, duties of the racetrack groom and employer's expectations.

Some classes will also be held at Libertybell Racetrack in Philadelphia, where students will have the chance to learn about career opportunities, get I.D cards and witness firsthand the work done at the race track.

Several field trips will also be conducted to places such as the Hempt Standardbred Farm in

Mechanicsburg, to see their breeding operation and training facilities, and to the Salerno Stables in New Jersey to practice driving/jogging horses in harness.

Public transportation is available to all the locations except the field trips where transportation will be provided.

The planning committee for the course includes Nancy Kadwill, Montgomery County 4 H coordinator; Dennis Crosson, racing commissioner with Libertybell; Pat Salerno, executive vicepresident with the Pa. Harness Horsemens' Association and Bill Mitchell, licensed driver and trainer with the United States Trotting Association Mitchell will

be the main instructor for the course

Additional support will ceom from Saul High School, the Cloverleaf Standardbred Owners Association of Delaware and the Harness Horse Youth Association in Harrisburg.

Cost for the program will be \$25 per student. Students must complete an application and can obtain them by calling the 4-H Office at (215) 489-4315. Enrollment will be limited to 15 students to insure individual attention.

Applications must be received by July 15. Adults who work with youth are encouraged to inform teens of this opportunity.

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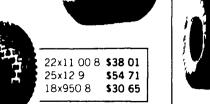


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