

Eastern Donates Cows To Burnet Park Zoo

SYRACUSE, N.Y.—The Burnet Park Zoo, closed for the last three years while undergoing a \$12.8-million overhaul, reopened to the public Aug. 3 with a brand new

farm exhibit that features two milking cows donated by Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative. Senior Zookeeper Nancy Oberliesen said the two registered

cows - a Jersey and a Holstein - will be milked and bred at the Contact Barn, a facility aimed at bringing city folk and other non-farmers into close contact with an assortment of farm animals.

Eastern General Manager Michael Donovan said the cooperative donated the cows because of the educational value of the Contact Barn and for the opportunity as a corporate resident

of Syracuse "to play a small part in a community-wide effort to transform Burnet into a zoological gem."

Eastern President Earl Forwood, a dairy farmer from Hop Bottom, Pa., called it a "new breed of zoo" that "recreates natural environments for hundreds of animal and bird species."

Charles Freigh, an Eastern director from Cayuga, arranged

the purchase and delivery of the cows, and worked with Zookeeper Oberliesen on the proper care and handling of the animals.

The Jersey came from Silver Springs Farm of Syracuse, operated by Frederick and Charles Luchsinger. The Holstein came from Dubinaire Farm of Waterloo. The owners, Keith and Dorothy Jarvis, are members of Eastern.



Zookeeper Nancy Oberliesen takes Sara, a Jersey donated by Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative, on a quick tour of her new home, the Burnet Park Zoo in Syracuse, N.Y. The Jersey is one of two cows that Eastern donated for a new farm exhibit intended to bring city folk into close contact with farm animals.

Lightning: Precautions Avoid Tragedy

NEWARK, Del. - According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, about 200 people are killed by lightning each year, thousands more are injured, and property damage exceeds \$400 million.

A lightning bolt typically carries 10 million to 100 million volts and can reach temperatures in excess of 50,000 degrees F. So when a thunderstorm threatens, seek shelter promptly in a house or other large building, or inside an all-metal vehicle, advises University of Delaware extension safety specialist Ron Jester.

"Remember that lightning is attracted to the highest object in the area of electrical buildup," he says, "so don't stay where you'll be higher than the surrounding landscape." For the same reason, never take shelter under a tree - standing tall in the sky, it serves as an excellent lightning rod. If shelter is not available, take refuge in a ditch, a ravine or similar depression in the ground.

Several other precautions can help protect you from lightning, the specialist says. Some of these

measures may be very familiar, but, like everything else connected with safety, an occasional review never hurts.

- If you're riding a horse when a thunderstorm hits, dismount, drop to your knees and bend forward in a crouch, putting your hands on your knees.

- If driving a car, stay inside - the tires provide insulation. The same is true when riding a tractor or combine, but get the tools and the header out of, or off of, the ground. They're excellent conductors of electricity. If you're working with farm equipment in an open field, after getting the tool bar, header, front end loader and the like off the ground, get out of the field!

- Stay clear of metal objects such as metal windows, wire fences or plumbing.

- If you are in tall timber, get to an area of low brush, away from the tallest trees.

- Stay away from power transformers and lines, as well as TV and radio towers and antennas.

- Stay away from and out of water. Do not swim during a

thunderstorm!

- Get off of and away from motorcycles, golf carts, and bicycles.

- Indoors, stay away from open doors, fireplaces, woodstoves and windows.

- Don't use the telephone. If you're talking when a thunderstorm hits, hang up.

"Your chances of avoiding being struck by lightning will be greater if you keep in mind that it's attracted to the higher objects in the area where it is active. Avoid these places," Jester stresses.

If someone near you is struck by lightning, you may need to administer CPR (cardio pulmonary resuscitation). Then get prompt medical help for the victim. People who are stunned, but otherwise unharmed, should also see a doctor as soon as possible. The physical effects of a lightning strike are not always obvious.

"Don't become another victim of an electrical storm," says safety specialist advises. "The next time a thunderstorm strikes, don't take a chance. Act promptly to protect yourself."

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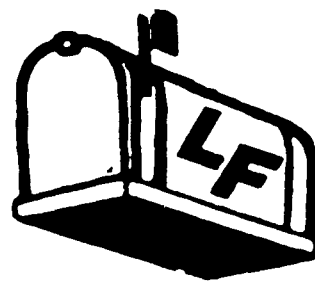
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