

On being a farm wife - And other hazards Joyce Bupp



"OK, Mom, where's it at?"
Not the best grammar perhaps, but a familiar question in this household.

The "it" in question is the cash-register printout from my favorite neighborhood supermarket. While once these long, slender, strings of paper bore little more than lists of obscure price numbers, the institution of bar code reading equipment sends home with us shoppers a more detailed record of our shopping trip acquisitions. Now, not only the price, but a description of each purchase, sometimes even the brand name, is right there in complete digital, dot matrix, printout glory.

Soon after bar coding-computerization became common practice at most of our local supermarkets, the offspring of the family found printouts to be invaluable clues to what goodies might be somewhere hiding in the household.

For instance, if the description "cookies" appeared on the receipt, an outcry went up to surrender and turn over the goods to the marauding hunger pangs. It took only a

few such instances to teach this mother to "file" the list -- first thing -- before unpacking the carload of bags.

Undeterred, the offspring took the lack of a list as yet a greater challenge. You see, the chief food gatherer hereabouts had taken to stashing the most desirable "goodies" in obscure parts of the kitchen cupboards. This defense play was aimed at keeping such preferred foods around at least until the far side of the next meal.

Instead, it instituted what might best be described as a "snacks scavenger hunt."

To appease -- and throw off track -- the snack searchers, some treat would occasionally be left in what initially started as a hidout, but instead became a snack showcase.

"Ah, ha!" the tallest would proclaim, grinning ear to ear, as 6 feet of teenager unfolded from the bottom shelf of a cupboard, cookie pack in hand.

But more secretive spots have prevailed, and occasionally a pack of granola bars, or cookies, or bag of potato chips appears from

nowhere -- to their dismay and irritation that they missed a hiding spot.

This evasiveness has heated up at about the same pace as the temperatures, as I strive to keep field-food on hand, items on which they can munch along with sandwiches, fruit and lemonade. Fact is, when they have something to nibble on between meals, while spending long hours in the fields, I worry less. It keeps their energy levels high and gives 'em something to do to alleviate hay mowing monotony.

But, I try to hit the supermarket a minimum of every other week,

necessitating a hefty stash of field food brought into the house each time during the heavy weeks of planting and harvest.

"Where's it at, Mom?" he'll ask, starting a cupboard by cupboard, shelf by shelf search. Before it ends, spots from the no-man's land under the kitchen sink, to ice cream bar prone corners of the freezer will have been checked out.

Such diligence occasionally pays off big time. Once, he unearthed part of a bag of candy bars in the dish towel drawer. Those misplaced treasures traced back to wrestling practice days,

when the chocolate was a handy pre-practice, energy booster.

But the continuing pressure to find creative and effective snack hiding spots is beginning to take its toll. On a recent Sunday, I went to a cupboard for a stashed bag of chips to round out a picnic lunch, only to find -- like Mother Hubbard -- that the cupboard was bare. At least bare of potato chips.

Fifteen mind-bending minutes later, I triumphantly yanked the crackly bag from where I had hidden it in a new spot, promptly forgotten.

"OK, Mom, where's it at?"
Doggoned if I know.

Pork Fest Recipe Contest Deadline Nears

ADAMSTOWN—Your favorite pork recipe may be worth money! The third annual Pennsylvania Pork Fest Recipe Contest features cash prizes and pork product awards valued at more than \$750.

The contest will be held Aug. 15 at the Bavarian Summer Festival at Ed Stoudt's Black Angus Restaurant in Adamstown, Lancaster County. All entries must be submitted by July 27.

The top prize winner will receive \$125, dinner for two at Ed Stoudt's Black Angus Restaurant and \$30 of Pennsylvania pork products. Second through tenth place winners will receive a total of \$200 pork product awards. Cash awards are as follows: second, \$100; third, \$75; fourth, \$50; fifth, \$25; and sixth through tenth, \$15 each. Finalists will also be reimbursed partial travel expenses.

The pork product sponsors supplying a variety of hams, pork hot dogs, bologna, and bacon

include: Alderfer Bologna Company, Berks Packing Company, Hatfield Packing Company, Kesslers, Inc., Kunzler and Company, Inc., Leidy's Inc., and Daniel Weaver's Company.

All Pennsylvania residents who are not professional food preparers may enter. Recipes serving four, that are specific and original, will be judged. The top ten finalists will bring their prepared recipes to the Bavarian Summer Festival, to be judged by a panel of three judges on originality, appearance, taste,

practicality, ease of preparation, and low calories.

The Pork Fest Recipe Contest is sponsored by the Pennsylvania Pork Producer's Council in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Ed Stoudt's Black Angus Restaurant and Bavarian Summer Festival.

For a complete set of Pork Fest Recipe Contest rules, write to: PORK FEST, Room 303, 2301 N. Cameron Street, Harburg, PA 17110, or telephone: 717-787-5086.



LEBANON AREA

JULY 26 - AUGUST 1, 1987

Fair Days

2 Miles South of
Lebanon Plaza -
Cornwall and Evergreen Roads

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



SUNDAY, JULY 26

- 9:00 a.m. - 4-H Horse & Pony Show
- 10:00 a.m. - Craft Show
- 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Ham Bar-B-Q \$4.50

- 1:00 p.m. - Rabbit & Cavy Show
- 2:00 p.m. - Mixed Volleyball Tournament
- 7:00 p.m. - Vesper Service - Music By The Condrens



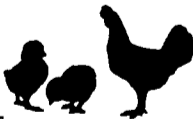
MONDAY, JULY 27

- 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Enter All Indoor Exhibits
- 8:30 a.m. - 4-H & FFA Swine Show
- 3:00 p.m. - Poultry Show

- 3:30 p.m. - Dairy Goat Show
- 6:30 p.m. - Big Wheel Races (Tractor Pull Track)
- 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. - Isshinryu Karate Show (Pavilion)
- 7:30 p.m. - Magic Show (Grandstand)
- 8:00 p.m. - Tug of War (Tractor Pull Track)



- 7:00 p.m. - Colored Breed Dairy Show (Jr. & Open)
- 7:30 p.m. - Battle of the Bands (Grandstand)
- 7:30 p.m. - "Sound of Renown" (Pavilion)

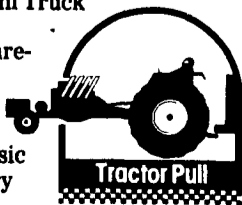


WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

- 9:00 a.m. - 4-H & FFA Livestock & Dairy Fitting Contest
- 2:30 p.m. - Beef Show



- 5:30 p.m. - Sheep Show
- 6:30 p.m. - Beef Blocking Contest
- 7:00 p.m. - Country Tractor & 4WD Pull Semi Truck Pull - \$2.50
- 7:30 p.m. - Barefoot Treadler (spinning & weaving)
- 7:30 p.m. - Music by the Country Politions



THURSDAY, JULY 30

- FREE ADMISSION & PARKING
- 9:00 a.m. - Horticulture Judging Contest
- 12:00 p.m. - Farmer's Tailgate Market
- 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Chicken B-B-Q - \$4.50
- 6:30 p.m. - Sheep Blocking Contest
- 7:00 p.m. - County Lawn & Garden Tractor Pull - \$1.00
- 7:30 p.m. - 4-H Auction



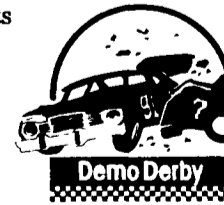
FRIDAY, JULY 31

- 9:00 a.m. - Open Dairy Show, 4-H Demonstration Contest & Tractor Driving Contest
- 6:30 p.m. - Livestock Sale in Green Barn
- 8:00 p.m. - Square Dance in Pavilion - Floyd Feik
- 8:30 p.m. - Just Say No Concert, Julie Parker (Grandstand)



SATURDAY, AUGUST 1

- 7:00 a.m. - Flea Market
- 11:00 a.m. - 3-Wheel Drag Races at track - \$5.00
- 1:00 p.m. - BMX Bike Races at Bike Track
- 7:30 p.m. - Demolition Derby - Followed by Fireworks - \$3.00
- 9:00 p.m. - Release Indoor Exhibits



ADMISSION: \$2.00 Per Person
12 & Over
Senior Citizens Free
With ID Card
FREE PARKING