

# Kid's Korner

## Plant Your Pumpkins Now For The Great Pumpkin - Prize Give Away



These kids eagerly study the directions that came with their pumpkin seed packet. They hope to raise the largest or ugliest or the best decorated so that they can win a \$500 prize. From left: Laura Hershey, Michele Roosenberg, and Jonathan Hershey.

Zoann Parker, director of Lancaster County 4-H, watches as Michele Roosenberg of Manheim, plants pumpkin seeds in anticipation of the Pumpkin contest to be held on October 14.

### BY LOU ANN GOOD

All around Lancaster County, kids are planting pumpkin seeds for the great pumpkin-prize give away.

Local businesses are giving the seeds and instructions to any one between the ages of zero and nineteen. Then, On October 14, a Pumpkin Festival will be held at the Lancaster Farm and Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road.

Kids should choose one of their pumpkins to exhibit at the festival. Prizes will be given for the largest, ugliest, and best decorated.

Imagine, you can win a \$500 savings bond for placing first; a \$100 one for second placing; and a \$50 bond for third prize.

More prizes will be given to the top ten best carved pumpkins.

This week in Penryn, many boys and girls were busily planting their seeds. Nine-year-old Michele Roosenberg of Manheim, said she thought growing a pumpkin would be fun. She planned to plant her seeds in her mom's garden.

Eleven-year-old Victor Joiner of Manheim said he had never planted anything before, but he is looking forward to watching the seeds he planted grow into huge orange pumpkins.

Cousins Jonathan and Laura Hershey of Manheim plan to plant their seeds. Their parents will help them find a 3x3-foot area in full sun with well drained soil to plant

the seeds.

According to the instructions, the pumpkin patch should not be near trees or buildings. Turn the soil over with a shovel and break up the larger clods. Rake smooth. To get the largest and best pumpkins, seeds should be planted about a foot apart. Plant the seeds 1/2 to 1-inch deep in the beginning of June. Plant when the soil is moist but not wet.

Once the pumpkins appear, be on the look out for insects. Most insects can be removed by hand and crushed. Pull weeds before they grow tall. Be careful not to injure the pumpkin vine. As the vines grow, they will become quite large. If they invade areas where they are not wanted, carefully lift them and turn them so they head in a different direction. Never cut or step on the vines because that could kill the plant. Water the plant at least once a week.

Harvest your pumpkin before frost. Leave the stem attached and be careful not to bruise or cut the pumpkin.

To exhibit your pumpkin at the festival, choose one that has a firm stem, no cuts or bruises. Wash it to remove dirt. Pack it in a box stuffed with newspaper so that it will not roll and get damaged on the trip to the festival.

If you have any questions about growing your pumpkins, call Penn

State Master Gardeners: Richard Artz, 717 397-0910; Charlie Good, 717 687-6923; and Willard Petrie, 717 442-4421.

According to Zoann Parker, director of Lancaster County 4-H, there are 10,000 packets of pumpkin seeds to be distributed. So far, about one-half of them have been distributed.

If you would like to participate in the program, pick up seeds and instructions at one of the following places: Boscov's Department Store, Brook Lawn Farm Market, Funk's Farm Market, Huber's Nurseries, P.L. Rohrer & Bro., Inc., Stauffer's of Kissel Hill, and Lancaster County 4-H extension office.

See you at the Pumpkin Festival on October 14 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Register your pumpkin between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. Between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., there will be pony rides, a petting zoo and exhibits to enjoy. Judging will be done between 11 a.m. and noon. Prizes will be awarded between noon and 1 p.m.

## Readers Write

Hi,

My name is John Zook. I have two brothers. Their names are Stevie, 9; I'm 7; and Elmer, 5. My dad and mom's names are David and Malinda Zook. We have 42 big pigs, seven mules, 22 steers, 2 horses, 4 sheep, 1 dog named Patsy and 5 cats. Their names are Kitty-Cat, Frisky, Me, Puff, and Fluffy. Puff and Fluffy are twins. Prince, the cat died. Tony the cat we gave away. We didn't really give it away. One of our little cousins wanted it so much 'cause one of their cats had died so we let them have it.

We saw a Baltimore Oriole on May 30.

Bye,

John Zook, Ephrata

Hello!

My name is Mary Fisher. My parents' names are Levi and Lydia Fisher. I'm eight years old. My birthday is August 26, 1980. I go to Pine Grove School. My teacher's name is Sylvia Fisher. I'm in fourth grade. I have 3 brothers and 3 sisters. Their names are Anna, 17; Benuel, 16; Sarah Ann, 14; Eli, 12; Amos, 10; Mary, 8; Ruth E., 8 month.

We have 38 cows. We have 12

heifers and some little ones. Our horses names are Tim, Betty, Dick, Jane, Jerry, Tony and Molly. Our drivers' names are Bess and Sonny. We have two dogs. Their names are Pepper and Frisky. And we have a lot of cats. I like to read Kid's Korner!

Bye, Bye,

Mary Fisher, Paradise

Hi,

My name is Elam Lapp. I'm 9 years old. My birthday is May 31. I live on a farm. I'm glad school is out. Next term I'm going to be in 4th grade. I have two sisters and three brothers. My grandparents and Aunt Nancy also live on our farm. I like summertime because then we bale hay. I like to drive the baler. We also have a goat but it is not ours. Her name is Fern. I don't like to mow the yard, but I help anyway.

Elam Lapp, Leola

Dear Readers,

I'm Melvin Lapp. I live on a dairy farm. We have 34 cows and about 200 pigs. We have 8 cats, but we don't have a dog. My birthday is April 6, 1979. I have two sisters and three brothers: Barbie, 12; Melvin, 10; Elam, 9; Dannie, 5;

Mary, 3; Amos Jr., 3 1/2 months. My parents are Amos and Mamie Lapp. I go to Sunnyside West School. I'm in the 5th grade next term. We have one horse Penny. We also had a pet bird, but it got away.

Melvin Lapp  
Leola

Hi,

My name is Emma. I am 10 years old. My birthday is March 19. I have three sisters and three brothers. We have 41 cows and twin calves. We have two goats and also have four workhorses and three driving horses. One of our driving horses has a little colt. It was born May 27. We have three nests of kittens, 24 guinea pigs and a puppy named Judy. I wrote this May 28. I like to read Kid's Korner.

Emma Stoltzfus  
Quarryville



SOMETHING TO  
CROW ABOUT....