



# HAPPENINGS

## Wayne County 4-H

4-H members, students, teachers and 4-H agents from Luzerne, Lackawanna, Pike, and Wayne counties tackled the problem of solid waste management at Local Government Day on October 29 in Wilkes Barre.

The 4-H members attending from Wayne County were Ellen Giles, Billie Jo Curley, Kristen Linde, Emily Bryant, Beth Nebzydowski, Ann Shire, Carrie Bryant, Zach Bryant and Mark Nebzydowski.

4-H Local Government Day gives the opportunity to youth and adults through role playing to learn the process of local government. Participants were briefed on the problem of solid waste management by Edward Latinski, recycling coordinator for Luzerne County.

Participants in Local Government Day were assigned character roles as local government officials and concerned citizens.

A fictitious county, township, and borough were presented with the real problems facing communities in regard to solid waste disposal.

The county commissioners, after hearing from concerned citizens' groups and township officials, voted to encourage and

promote recycling, enlarge the existing landfill, and build a new incinerator. Another landfill would be needed to handle the toxic waste produced by the incinerator.

4-H Local Government Day increases the participants' awareness of the local government process through the topic of "Solid Waste Management." This event is an annual educational program developed and conducted by the Northeast Regional Penn State Extension staff. For more information on Penn State Cooperative Extension's youth programs, contact Wayne County Cooperative Extension, Courthouse, 925 Court St., Honesdale, PA 18431 or phone (717) 253-5970, ext. 239.

### Wayne County 4-H Market Steer Feeding Program

The 4-H Market Steer Feeding Project demands a high level of management plus a sizeable investment in feed, hay, salt, and minerals and other miscellaneous costs such as veterinarian fees, show supplies and equipment, trucking fees, and feeding and watering equipment.

This 4-H project is open to all young people in Wayne County with a strong interest in feeding, caring for, and managing a 4-H market beef steer.

To meet the 4-H membership requirement, the young person must be at least 8 years old by January 1, 1992, and not have passed their 19th birthday as of this same date. The young person must also belong to any one of the 4-H agricultural or community clubs in Wayne County.

The 1991 - 1992 Wayne County 4-H Market Steer Feeding Program will begin on December 2, 1991.

With this thought in mind, it's now time to do some serious "steer hunting" if you plan to participate in this year's feeding program. There are some guidelines to consider when selecting that champion steer:

- 4-H members need to select a steer calf that shows good conformation and correct size and age. Try to select a beef steer calf that was born between January and March 1991. These calves should weigh at least 500-550 pounds or more when they are weaned off the cows and placed on full feed.

Conformation means selecting a beef steer calf that shows a strong, straight topline, has a good strong set of feet and legs, shows adequate growth, muscling and width throughout, especially through the hindquarters and down through the "twist" and hock area.

- 4-H'ers need to select market steers that are 100 percent beef blood. This does not mean that they must purchase purebred or registered-type stock. The calf should be sired by a 100 percent beef blood bull and from a 100 percent beef blood cow. Beef breeds include Polled Herefords,

Red or Black Angus, Simmental, Charolais, Chianina, Limousin or any other beef animal that is a cross of two or more beef breeds. Again, no dairy-beef crosses should be considered for this 4-H project.

- Successfully feeding a weaned beef steer calf to a finished market steer requires a sizeable investment in different feedstuffs. This includes grain (feed), hay, salt and minerals, and in some situations, the feeding of high-moisture shelled corn, haylage or corn silage. Members enrolled in this 4-H project must be willing to purchase and then feed the different feeds and forages to the steer to obtain optimum growth. The feeding period begins on December 2, 1991 and continues until early August 1992 and the Wayne County Fair. This is why raising and feeding a 4-H market steer is costly, hard work and a challenge for any 4-H member.

- All market steer calves should be checked to be sure they have been properly castrated and that they are healthy. Beef calves coming off a pasture should be eating

some feed.

In early December, all of the 4-H market steers will receive two ear tags; a Bureau of Animal Industry tag and a special 4-H identification tag, an implant to help promote growth, a parasite vaccine to clear-up internal and external parasites, plus each steer will be weighed to establish a starting weight for the program.

All of the 4-H market steers are shown at the Junior Market Steer Show at the Wayne County Fair and then sold through the Wayne County Junior Livestock Sale.

The minimum qualifying weight for the 4-H Market Steer Show and the Junior Livestock Sale is 900 pounds.

4-H members enrolled in this 4-H project will acquire valuable skills in showmanship, fitting, feeding, management, marketing and health practices. Also, a project record book of all expenses must be maintained throughout the feeding period.

Young people interested in this 4-H project should contact the Wayne County Extension Office at (717) 253-5970, ext. 239, for enrollment forms and additional details.

## Pumpkin Pie Pointers

Why does the filling sometimes pull away from the crust?

Your oven rack may be too close to the top heating element in the oven. This can cause your pie filling to crack as it bakes and to settle slightly when cooling and pull away from the crust. Another possible reason is overbaking. Try reducing cooking time by 5 to 10 minutes.

How can I tell when my pumpkin pie is done?

Insert a knife halfway between the center and edge of the pie. The blade should be clean when removed, if there is custard on the knife, bake the pie longer. But if there are tiny bubbles around the edge of the pie, this signals overbaking — remove it from the oven immediately.

How do I keep the crust from becoming soggy?

If you are baking your pumpkin

pie in a metal or foil pie pan, place the pie on a preheated heavy-duty cookie sheet for the entire baking time. This helps ensure an evenly baked pie crust. Glass pie dishes conduct heat evenly, so this step is not necessary.

Can I freeze my pumpkin pie? Pumpkin pie is a custard-type pie and freezing this type of pie is not recommended.

Can I freeze my leftover canned pumpkin?

While pumpkin can be frozen, it is best to use the leftovers to make easy-to-freeze muffins, breads, cookies and cakes. It's a great way to get a head start on treats for family and friends.

Can I store a pumpkin pie?

Pumpkin pie is at its very best when served the day it's baked. However, if you wish to store your pumpkin pie, cover it loosely with plastic wrap and refrigerate until serving.

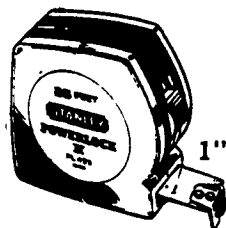
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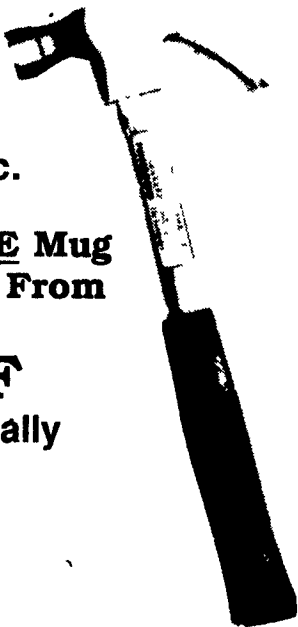
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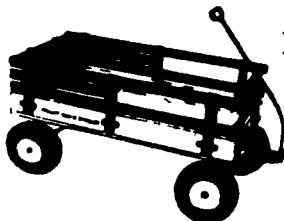
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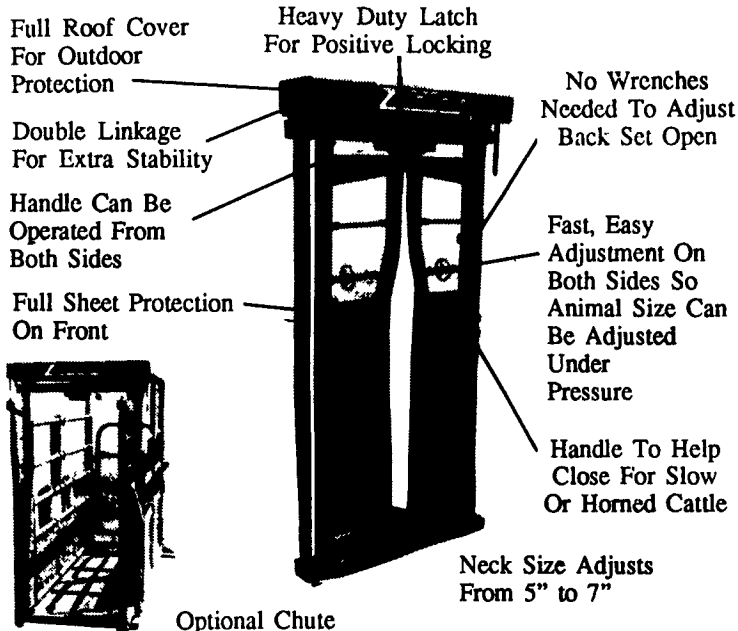
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