

# Sullivan County Plans Twilight Gathering At Rouse Farms

DUSHORE (Sullivan Co.) — Sullivan County will hold its annual Open House Twilight Gathering at Rouse Farms, the home of reigning Sullivan County Dairy Prin-

cess Raylene Rouse of Dushore. The Twilight gathering is scheduled for June 12 at 8 p.m. The theme "Milk is the Winning

Ticket," will be promoted during June Dairy Month in other activities such as the annual Dushore Fire Company parade on June 18, in Dushore at 7 p.m.

Crowning of the new dairy princess will take place during the big June Dairy Month Parade on Saturday, June 19, at 7 p.m. in downtown Dushore.

In preparation for the coronation, the Sullivan County Dairy Promotion Committee held a Milk Tea recently for prospective contestants. Betty Reibson explained the purpose of the dairy princess program and Dairy Princess Raylene Rouse reported on her duties during the past year.



Sullivan County dairy maid contestants, from left, Sylvia Pardo and Carrie Hottenstein, discuss upcoming responsibilities with Sullivan County Dairy Princess Raylene Rouse and Amy Warburton, Dairy Princess candidate.

## Rose Bush Care

RUTGERS, N.J. — Late March and early April is the time to prune and fertilize bush roses to promote attractive, vigorous plants and flowers. First, remove dead wood, diseased or broken branches, and weak stems (thinner than the thickness of a pencil). If you wait to prune until leaf buds begin to swell, there will be no question as to what is dead or alive on the plant. All pruning cuts should be made either to the ground or to a strong, outward facing bud. Don't leave long stubs; they are prime entry points for disease.

Hybrid tea varieties should then be pruned to a height of 1 to 2 feet. Floribunda roses should be pruned back only lightly after debris removal, although overgrown plants can be cut back drastically. Climbing roses can be thinned now by cutting some canes to the base, but leave top pruning until after flowering.

If recommendations based on

soil tests are not available, apply a 5-10-10 or 5-10-5 fertilizer now. Use 2 pounds for 100 square feet of bed or a generous heaping tablespoon per plant, spreading it around the plants and lightly scratching it into the soil surface. A second application of half this amount should be made in mid-June.

This is probably also a good time to be sure you have disease and insect control products available. Roses seem to host more than their fair share of diseases and pests and usually require weekly treatments starting in mid-May to produce high quality roses. Black spot, a fungus disease, is very common and because it causes premature leaf drop, weakens plants if not controlled. A product combining insecticide, miticide and fungicide is probably the easiest approach to keeping problems under control.

## Chemical-Free Lawn Care

LEBANON (Lebanon Co.) — Learn the responsible use of fertilizers, insecticides, herbicides, and alternate organic methods for lawn care. Register for free class on

Wednesday, June 9 from 10 a.m. to noon OR 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Write to Lebanon Cooperative Extension, 2120 Cornwall Rd. Suite 1, Lebanon, PA 17042-9777.

## Pet Therapy Promotes Intergenerational Exchange

CLAIRE McCABE  
NEWARK, Del. — Cuddly kittens and playful pups are two clearly irresistible creatures. A collaborative project of the Westville 4-H club and the American Red Cross and SPCA of Kent County draws on the special magic of these animals to bring out the best in young and old.

Every third Saturday during the school year, club members round up a group of puppies and kittens at the SPCA. Armed with a clean-up kit for inevitable accidents, the children and animals pile into a Red Cross vehicle and head to the Dover Nursing Center. There, they make the rounds of the cen-

ter, bringing the pleasure of pets, people and conversation to the residents.

The pet therapy project was initiated last fall by 4-H club leader Dana Sharpe. 4-H, the youth-education branch of Cooperative Extension, encourages community service activities. With more than 35 club members, the Westville had plenty of young volunteers.

"We always have more kids volunteer than we can take," says Sharpe. "So many children wanted to be involved in the project when it started that we had to have a lottery. We drew the names of two younger and two older kids for each visit. We hope that by the end of this school year every

member will have had a chance to visit the center."

The pets stimulate residents to talk about animals they used to own, easing the way into conversation with the 4-H'ers. The children and pets usually stay for about an hour. But the smiles and attention shared between residents and 4-H'ers impart a warmth that lasts beyond the visit.

The 4-H'ers reap the benefits of interaction with another generation and the rewards of community service.

Lindsay Gooden sums up the reason for her repeat visits to the center, "I like going to see the people smile. They like the animals."

No doubt they like the children, too.

## Hands On Canning

LEBANON (Lebanon Co.) — Learn water bath canning, pressure canning, and preparing pickled products by attending a class presented by the Lebanon County Cooperative Extension Office. Program presented twice on Wednesday, July 14 at 6 to 9 p.m. and

Friday, July 16 from 9 to 12 a.m. Fee for class is \$2 to cover supplies. Register by sending a check to the Extension Special Fund, Lebanon Co. Cooperative Extension Office, 2120 Cornwall Rd., Suite 1, Lebanon, PA 17042-9777.

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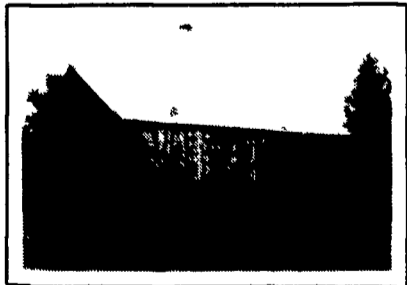
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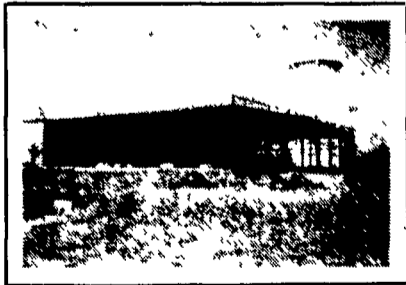
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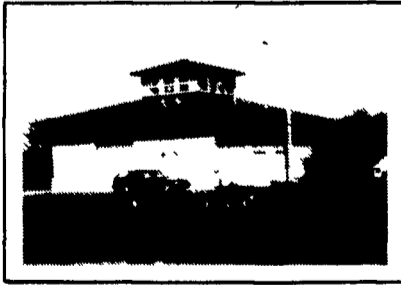
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