

On being a farm wife -And other hazards

Joyce Bupp



They're here! They're here! The first Christmas catalogs! Oh, gimme' a break, you say? Right. My sentiments exactly. (Maybe that's justice for us day-dreamers who think images of snow and skiing while we sweat over kettles of canning tomatoes). That first Christmas-tree-on-the-cover catalog turned up in the mailbox last week in the same fistful of mail bearing a holiday crafts advertising flyer. In fact, they arrived on one of those days so sticky and humid I had to practical-

ly pry the two pieces apart.

They arrived after I'd lugged in yet some more tomatoes — I'm grateful! I'm grateful! — snugly stored away the last of the jars of newly-canned peaches on the shelves, and debated if the next batch of lima beans had filled out enough yet to justify picking them.

Excuse me, mail order marketers, but that just isn't the right atmosphere.

Nevertheless, folks, the reality is that we have just over 100 shopping days left until Christmas. Bet-

ter hustle, huh?

A few years ago, I astounded myself and a couple close friends after confiding my purchase of Christmas cards while shopping for cattle show needs during York Fair week. And, yes, I do have one holiday gift already stashed, a toy for our 21-year-old. Now, Rich, you can ponder for the next three months what it is.

If all this holiday talk has stirred you to start planning ahead better than I do, shopping wise, here are a couple of interesting possibilities from Miles Kimball's Holiday Preview catalog.

A Santa shower curtain may be just what you need — and Santa might appreciate one when it's time to wash off all that chimney soot. What you'd better think twice about putting out before his arrival is a door mat that says, "Oh no, not you again" or another proclaiming "Welcome to the zoo."

How about a roll of clear plastic wrap decorated with holiday symbols, for those food gifts we all like to share? After baking is done, you might want to relax and play

games with a deck of playing cards featuring reindeer, snowmen and elves in place of the usual hearts, diamonds, etc. Keep score with a handy, battery-operated ball-point pen.

For more personal gifts, there's always jewelry. Like a necklace designed like a string of Christmas tree lights — which don't light. But one with a single large blinking bulb does, as do the matching earrings. Batteries included. Or lipstick in shades of yellow, orange, and two shades of blue.

Since watches make wonderful gifts; may we suggest the one with a tiny toy train running around the outside of the tiny tree in the center. Honest.

Not to forget man's best friend, for whom you can buy a doggie bowtie, in festive holiday plaid. Or

a Christmasy-print doggie bandanna.

If your holiday decorations include miniature items, there are adorable little bales of straw for that country effect. Two sizes, \$2.98 for three-inchers and \$3.98 for six-inchers. For do-it-yourselfers, most any farmer would probably sell for half that enough straw to "bale" your own mini-bale.

My casual flipping through the catalog turned serious, however, when I turned to a page featuring "cow" items. Several we already have, like the cow tree garland and nugs with cow handles, gifts from friends. But there's a cow gift wrap, and cow stickers, and cow address labels, and... excuse me.

I have barely 100 shopping days left until Christmas.

Family Wrestles with Genetic Illnesses

(Continued from Page B2)

after we purchased the first wheelchair and again when a feeding tube was inserted in Timmy.

"But you got to let go and come to grips with the problem," she said.

The Atkinsens credit the people of their community and their church, Paradise Mennonite, as being extremely supportive.

"Society has scales, always judging, comparing We realize that God's scales are not the same as ours. God created our children for a special purpose. It is not an accident. God knew. If God didn't have a reason for our children being in a wheelchair, they wouldn't be there," she said.

The benefit auction, to be held at Leola Produce Auction, Brethren Church Rd., Leola, begins at 9 a.m. on September 18.

From Lancaster, Rt. 23 east, turn left (north) on Brethren Church Road (between Leola and Bareville). For more information, call (717) 354-5415 or (717) 656-9694 or (717) 733-2645 or (717) 626-4863 or (717) 687-0258.

All items for the Benefit Auction are donated. Included are quilts, wall hangings, Winross Trucks, toys and collectibles, crafts, lawn furniture, farm supplies, tools, hardware, and plenty of food. For an itemized listing, see the sale bill in this issue.

Milk Program Sponsors Nittany Lion's Sports Network

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — For an eighth consecutive year, the Pennsylvania Dairy Promotion Program on behalf of the state's dairy farmers will be the official milk sponsor of the Penn State Sports Network. Throughout the fall and winter of the coming year, milk, cheese and other dairy products will be featured during Penn State broadcasts.

"We advertise with Penn State because this network is a good buy when you compare the amount of dollars spent and the number of people reached," says Pennsylvania Dairy board member Richard Shellenberger.

The Penn State network is home to 64 stations, which cover nearly all Pennsylvania counties,

reaching 10 million consumers.

As a board member, Shellenberger, the manager of Kreider Dairy in Manheim, recognizes the need for a good promotion program. "I believe it is a real plus for Pennsylvania Dairy to be associated with Penn State sports," says Shellenberger. "Because Penn State is part of what Pennsylvania is all about."

This season marks a big change for Penn State fans. With a move into the Big Ten Conference, new teams will be appearing at the University Park Campus. Newcomers to the schedule include big powers Michigan, Ohio State, and Indiana, along with Michigan State and Minnesota (the season opener).

Two eastern teams remain on the Penn State schedule — Rutgers and Maryland. This will be the last game in Penn State's series with Maryland and thus the last "Dairy Gridiron Classic" event. The "Classic" features the "Milk Can Trophy" given to the winning team along with a \$1,000 dairy and food science scholarship.

Fans should consult their local radio schedule and tune into the first Big Ten season of Penn State sports.



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3rd Annual BENEFIT AUCTION to Support THE CLINIC FOR SPECIAL CHILDREN

Saturday, Sept. 18, 1993 9:00 A.M. Till ?

Held At Leola Produce Auction, Brethren Church Road, Leola, PA

From Pennsylvania Turnpike 76, Exit 21 Rt. 222 South to Rt. 772 East, turn left on Peace Rd., 2nd right to Brethren Church Rd.

From Lancaster Rt. 23 East, turn left (north) on Brethren Church Rd. between Leola and Bareville.

From Rt. 30 East, Right to Rt. 772 (Newport Rd.), West to Rt. 23, right on Rt. 23 (New Holland Pike), left on Brethren Church Rd. Auction is approximately 1 mile north.

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- Farm & Home Supplies • Dried Flower Arrangements

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TOY TRUCKS, TRACTORS & COLLECTABLES

Hand Painted Milk Can with a picture of "The Clinic For Special Children", Large 1/16 Scale Case Cast Iron Steam Engine with Canopy, Handmade Wooden Dump Truck, Express Wagon, Handmade Dolls, Rocking Horse.

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New S.S. Vitacraft Cookware Set, New Oak Rolltop Desk, Hickory Rocker, Glider Rockers, New Bernina 1000 Electric Sewing Machine, Cedar Chest, Hand Turn Bologna Slicer, New PVC Picnic Table, PVC Hot Bed, Mini Jelly Cupboard, Large Wooden Swing & Slide Sets, Knitting Machine, Vinyl & Carpet Remnants, New Porch Chairs - Swings - Benches, Dried Flowers, Pillows, Horse Collar, Clock, Chime Clock, Oak End Tables, Quilt Racks, Child's Rocker, Brooms, Clothes Trees, Much More.

FARM SUPPLIES, TOOLS, HARDWARE & MISC.

Pickup Truckload of Mixed Clover Hay, Certificate for Truckload of Ag Lime & Shavings, New Transport Gang Mower 50" Cut w/Pony Cart (sold separate), New Push Mower, Farm Gates, New Holland Running Gear, New Chain Link Dog Kennel, New Leather Driving Harness, Halters, Horse Blankets, New Carpentry & Garden Tools, New Steel Wheel Forecart, Smucker Lime Spreader, Horse Feed, Dog Houses, Garbage Can, Rabbit Hutch Sheds.

All Kinds of Baked Goods - Chicken Bar-B-Q - Subs & Lunch Stand
Fresh Strawberry Pies - Soft Ice Cream - Soft Pretzels & Lots More!

Quilts will be sold at 1:00 followed by Winross and collector's toys.

Come and enjoy the day with us. Here is an opportunity to help support this vital service for many special needs children in the area.

For donors bringing items directly to auction, the receiving hours are as follows: Friday, Sept. 17th 2:00 PM till ?, Sat. Sept. 18 till sale time.

For more information call: (717) 354-5415 or 626-4863
Terms by: Clinic For Special Children Paul W. Horst AU-001122-L and Local Auctioneers (717) 656-9694 or 733-2645

The Clinic for Special Children in Strasburg, PA, is a non-profit medical research & diagnostic service for Amish, Mennonite and other children with inherited disorders.

In accordance with Pennsylvania law, we are required to advise you that a copy of our official registration and financial information may be obtained from the PA Dept. of State by calling toll free 1-800-732-0999 within PA. Registration does not imply endorsement.