

Grange Enters Statewide Deaf Awareness Campaign

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — The Pennsylvania State Grange is participating in the first statewide effort between public and private agencies to raise awareness about deafness and hearing loss.

"Ring the Bell for Better Hearing" is the theme of the campaign that has brought the Grange and other private organizations together with state government to raise awareness and mark May as Better Hearing and Speech Month.

"Pennsylvania must enhance its efforts to make all citizens aware of hearing loss and to improve resources to persons who are deaf or hard of hearing," said Denise M. Brownlee, deputy secretary, Department of Labor and Industry. "Hearing loss affects almost one

million Pennsylvanians and impacts upon their families and often the jobs of those affected.

State Grange is participating in the campaign by distributing educational materials to all deaf activities chairmen.

In addition, the Grange will take part in helping to distribute material to more than 200 libraries, malls, businesses, and senior citizen centers.

The campaign will also reach schools where posters, brochures, coloring books, posters, and essay contests are planned to be held.

The State Grange, according to Mary Jo Wojton, deaf activities director, held its annual essay and poster contests and prizes were awarded to the winners.

State Grange also sponsored a

display at the Indiana Mall and will appear at other malls across the state during May.

Wojton said the Grange has been active in deaf awareness since 1971 when the National Grange chose it as a national health care project.

There is still a need for deaf and hearing loss awareness, according to Wojton.

In 1971, between 3-4 million people had suffered hearing loss, but that number has increased 10-fold. Between 36-42 million people today have hearing loss, Wojton said.

That's one reason why the Grange is participating in this campaign.

Teresa A. Nellans, assistant director, Office for the Deaf and

Hearing Impaired for the Department of Labor and Industry, has been partially deaf since the age of 12 after contacting the measles. Nellans is administering the program at the state level.

Nellans delivered an impassioned appeal at the pressconference for the hearing world to better communicate with those who are deaf or hard of hearing.

"Because communication involves all people — not only those with a disability — it is important that those who hear well learn how to change their communication behavior so people with hearing loss are not excluded," Nellans said. "This campaign tells people that hearing loss is not something to be ashamed or embarrassed about.

"Together we can overcome the

barriers to communication," Nellans said.

Wojton received a special recognition plaque during the ceremony for her "efforts to raise public awareness and break down barriers facing people with hearing loss."

Wojton gave credit to the Pennsylvania State Grange for making deaf activities a community service project and for providing her an opportunity to serve as the organization's deaf activities director.

"When I became involved with deaf activities with the Pennsylvania State Grange, it was as a non-Grange parent of deaf children," Wojton said. "The Grange has always supported our work in deaf activities.

Events Highlight Link Between Research, Extension

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Penn State Cooperative Extension will hold educational events for state legislators.

The events are part of a statewide effort by Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences and Penn State Cooperative Extension to illustrate the link between research at the university and effective educational programs delivered at the local level through co-

operative extension.

"Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences truly is more than you think," said Dr. Lamar-tine F. Hood, dean of the college. "Only cooperative extension, with

offices in each of Pennsylvania's 67 counties, can provide research-based education programs across the state. These county events are designed to showcase the breadth

of those programs and their importance to people's lives."

Across the commonwealth, 45 county or multicounty meetings are planned, each tailored to provide information about local issues and concerns. Penn State faculty and staff members from the University Park Campus and hundreds of cooperative extension educators statewide will participate.

In preparation for the events, Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences has produced a ser-

ies of 27 brochures that discuss some of the college's most successful research efforts and related cooperative extension programs.

The college also has produced a short video describing programs for Pennsylvania's youth at risk. Both the brochures and the video will be available after the event for people seeking more information about these programs.

To learn more about activities in your region, contact the Penn State Cooperative Extension office in your county.

Wholesale Market Opens

CHELTENHAM, Md. — The Southern Maryland Regional Farmers Market is open for the 1994 season.

Three wholesale auctions have been held, primarily featuring bedding plants. The next scheduled auction is Thursday, June 2 at 7 p.m.

According to manager Prunty, the market plans to hold auctions every Thursday evening in June to allow growers a sales outlet for early crops and plants. Additional sale days will be added in July as the supply of fresh, local produce increases.

The market's peak season schedule will be Monday and Thursday evening sales at 7 p.m. and Wednesday and Friday morning sales at 11 a.m. As in previous years, a price report on each auction can be heard by calling (800) 638-2207.

The June 2 wholesale auction is expected to feature spring onions, greens, bedding plants, perennials, patio tomato plants, and other spring items. Interested sellers and buyers can call Regina at (800) 533-3276 for more information.

In addition to the wholesale auction, the retail market is featuring bedding plants Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Bull Enters Program

PLAIN CITY, Ohio — 7H4750 Plushanski Thor Victory-ET *TL, a young sire bred by Charles Plushanski of Kutztown, Pa., has been chosen to enter Select Sires' Program for Genetic Advancement (PGA) sire sampling system.

Based on his outstanding pedigree, 7H4750 has been selected as one of 200 Holstein bulls from throughout the United States to enter the program in 1994.

7H4750 has a parent average of +80P. He is a Thor son out of a high producing Cleitus daughter.

The dam is scored Very Good (87-EX-MS) and is a high solids milk producer, evident by her 31,848M, 1174P, and 3.7%P 2-year-old record. The second dam is a Big Al daughter with 31,020M and 1,066P as a 4-year-old.



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