

Adults showed off their vegetable gardening skills, too. Marcia Woodward of Blue Bell was selected grand champion and Marianne McKenna of Collegeville was reserve champion.

In the youth flower category, Karin Ruch of Green Lane was named best in class, while in the adult category, reserve champion was held by Sheila Sykora of Collegeville. Sheila also won the largest zucchini contest. Grand champion was won by the Family Resource Center at Graterford Prison. Carol Feeley of Cheltenham won the largest tomato contest and Kelli Augustine of Skipack won the largest sunflower contest.

In other competition, the best educational club display award went to three clubs: The Green Pastures Sheep Club had the best outdoor display. An exhibit built jointly by the Green Thumbers and the Salford-Trappe Club won the best in class for indoor exhibits. The best club scrapbook was won by the Seeing Eye Puppy Club.

Top ceramic awards went to Erica Dillon of North Wales, who was named grand champion and Kristin Satko of Cheltenham, who earned reserve champion honors. Among the many horse art projects on display were those of Jen-

ny Connor of Schwenksville, Megan Golden and Emily Steigerwalt of Collegeville, Ed Lenhardt of Green Lane, Marnie Loue Melvin of Collegeville, Erica Munkwitz of Harleysville, Jeanine Pierson, Karin Ruch, and Megan Sly of Gilbertsville. Each received first place honors in their specific category.

House plants were in abundance exhibited by young people who grew them at River Crest. The grand champion ribbon was awarded to Gary Wimmer.

Berks 4-H Horse Club Members Win Blue Ribbons
Seven Berks County 4-H Horse Club members exhibited their 4-H horse production projects at the Eastern Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Production Show held recently at the Montgomery County 4-H Center.

Blue ribbon winners will be exhibited at the State 4-H Production Show in the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg. The State 4-H Horse Show is scheduled for October 28-30.

The results of the show are as follows:

- Paint- Filly of this Year- Blue Ribbon- 1. Red Sonny Suprize, Corrine Stone, Boyertown.
- Pinto- Yearling Filly- Blue Ribbon- 1. Sandy Piper, Lindsey Buhler, Birdsboro.
- POA- Yearling Gelding- Blue Ribbon- 1. Royal Blues, Jennifer Connolly, Mohrsville.
- Quarter Horse- Filly of this Year- Blue Ribbon- 1. Horse's Name Pending, Staci Rakowiecki, Kutztown.
- Quarter Horse- Filly of this Year- Red Ribbon- 1. Horse's Name Pending, Kelly Kalamon, Pottstown.
- Quarter Horse- Yearling Filly- Red Ribbon- 1. Lopin Lightly, Tracy Kalamon, Pottstown.
- English Pleasure- 3 Year Old- Blue Ribbon- 1. Steel Dancer Goliath, Annie Wertz, Robesonia.

North Mountain 4-H
The North Mountain 4-H Community Club is sponsoring the first annual gingerbread house competition.

The profits from this year's 4-H entries will go into the educational computer fund to benefit a girl in the club who has Leukemia and will have a hard time attending school this fall. This year's recipient of the profits in all the other categories will be the Four Dia-

**4-H Youth Exchange
Jacki Sterner
IFYE To Sweden**

As Adams County's International Four-H Youth Exchangee to Sweden, I would like to share some of the daily life of Sweden with you.

monds Program of the Leukemia Society.

The event will take place at the Quality Inn on Rt. 72 South on Nov. 18-19.

For more information, contact Fran Bushong at (717) 865-6270 or Grace Morrissey at (717) 865-2310.



School days have started again, even in Sweden. I will try to describe the Swedish system as seen in the town where I am currently living, Alvsbyn; population 10,000, located 60 miles south of the Arctic Circle.

Children begin with Lekaskola or nursery school at the age of 6 or 7. They then move into Lekenskolan or play school, which is the name of the school here in Alvsbyn. Children attend this school for first to third grade. They may also go to the Parkskolan, which has grades one through six. During these first six years, children learn to work with each other and learn such subjects as Swedish (language and literature), mathematics, geography, and history. In the fourth grade, students begin learning the English language and grammar. The student remains in the same room and has the same teacher for all subjects.

Next comes Alvkraskolan for grades 7 to 9. Students begin to change classrooms for each subject and receive points (grades) for their work. The point system goes from 5 to 1, with 5 being the best. Surprisingly, even with a 1, you may continue onto the next grade. Children are only 'held back' in the first or second grade if needed. Students take the same subjects as before, plus physics, chemistry, biology, sociology, religion, and world history. After completing the 9th grade, around the age of 16, students may quit or they may continue in the gymnasium (high school).

Alvsbyn is too small to have a gymnasium, so students must travel 1 hour by bus to Pitea or find an apartment there. Each gymnasium is different, but there are 12 to 15 different areas a student may study. They fall under three main programs: theoretical, which includes economics, education, hotel/restaurant management, and languages; practical - carpentry and mechanics; and technical - computer and mathematics. Students study all of the previous subjects, plus one of these areas listed. They attend the gymnasium for three years and the third year is very centered on their own area of study. After completing this last class, at age 18 to 21 or older, students graduate. They wear a student massa (a sailor's hat) and may find a job, if there are any.

Because jobs are limited, many continue to the University or Hagskolan, (translated meaning "high school", but equivalent to our colleges). Each Hagskolan is centered on one area of study. The university has many areas of study, depending on the area where it is located. To complete a course of study usually takes 3 to 4 1/2 years. A student must have good points to get into their desired program.

Swedish education is free up through the gymnasium. Parent do pay a tax on their income tax which is used for education. Lunches and books are free too until the gymnasium. Each child, age 0 to 20, receives a "welfare check" each month. It is equivalent to \$100 for each child; if they have three children, they receive \$50 extra. It is used to cover some expenses for going to school. If a student has to travel by bus to school, the community and county pays the fee. If they have to rent an apartment so they will be closer, the student receives about \$350/month to cover part of the rent.

Most of these things I found similar to our system, except for lunches and the buses. Students ride a public bus which is usually a very nice coach bus. If a student lives 1.2 miles away from the school, they ride the bus free no matter if it's a dirt road or not.

Another point to note, classes 1 to 3 only go from 8 to 11:30 a.m. The other students go from 8 to 2:30 or 3:30. In the gymnasium, though, students have a very mixed schedule; some days 8 to 4, others 10 to 2 or 3.

The sports program is very "low-key," with competitions only held between different classes, not schools. You can decide whether you want to continue to go to school in the U.S.A. or move to Sweden.

My host brother (who is in Greensburg, Pa. for the next school year) likes it better in Sweden. He says, "The teachers aren't as strict as in the U.S." I have never met him and he has only attended three days of "American School," so that thought may change.

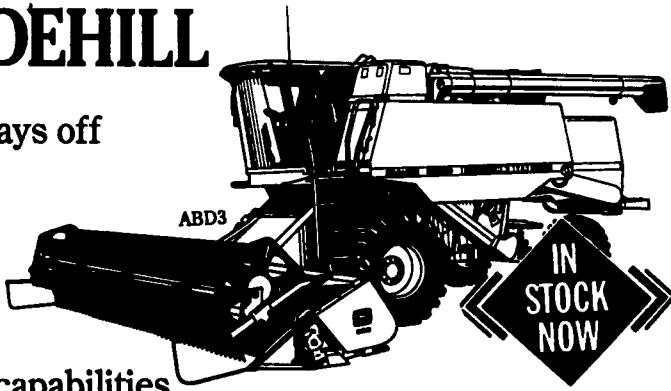
Good luck to all of the students, and study hard. Until next time, Jacki.

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