

Guess Who Is New On The Farm



Emu are very friendly and curious about people and noises, Carol said of the emu she raises on the farm.

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No part of the emu is wasted. Fashionable leather handbags, boots, and apparel are made from the body hide. The skin from the legs has a dramatic reptilian texture, which fashion designers find a suitable substitute for hides from endangered species. Emu feathers, eggs, and toenails are used for unique jewelry and crafts.

One of the most exciting products, Carol believes, is natural emu oil used in lotion, creams, perfumes, lip balm, and skin and hair products.

According to Carol, the emu has a layer of oil beneath its hide that does not penetrate the meat. An emu yields an average of 5 to 6 liters of natural oil. Emu oil is known to be penetrating and healing. Carol said a local high school uses it for athletes who receive muscle injuries, and people who use the oil say that it brings quick healing to bursitis, arthritis, and eczema. In testing, a burn center

found that when emu oil is used on burns there is little or no scarring.

"Sometimes I feel like I'm selling snake oil," Carol said in reference to the reputation of snake oil being sold as a cure-all, "but emu oil really works."

Carol declines to say how much an emu costs since prices vary considerably depending on genetics and if it is a proven breeder pair. "We call emu the 'turkey of the

'90s,'" Carol said. According to Carol, turkeys were first introduced into the area in the 1920s. At that time, turkeys were very expensive but have decreased in price.

Carol foresees emu becoming as popular as turkey. She said, "When emu are raised 10 acres of land, 9,000 pounds of meat can be produced compared to only 500 pounds of beef raised on the same amount of land."

New Weigh Of Life

LEESPORT (Berks Co.) — Want to get into the best shape in 1995 and for life? Penn State Cooperative Extension of Berks County will offer "My New Weigh of Life," a 12-week Penn State weight loss program to be held at the Agriculture Center beginning Tuesday, January 10. You should be able to lose 1 1/2 to 2 pounds

per week on this program, taught by a registered dietitian.

Classes will be held each Tuesday from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The cost is \$55 for the entire program. Space is limited, so if you're interested please contact Penn State Cooperative Extension at (610) 378-1327.

Farm Women Societies

Berks Society 6

Members of the Berks County society of Farm Women Group #6 held their November meeting in the home of Marian Gehais. It was crafts night. The crafts items made were given to residents at Berks Heim for Christmas.

Plans were finalized to serve refreshments at a sale. The group will be making five centerpieces for the State Farm Women Convention January 9, at the Farm Show.

Dabby the clown entertained the members, husbands, and guest at their Christmas Party held at Manny's Family Restaurant, Dec. 2. Christmas gifts were exchanged by the members.

The January 1995 meeting will be held in the home of Dorothy Wagner, Hunter Road. Oley at 7:30.

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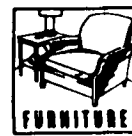
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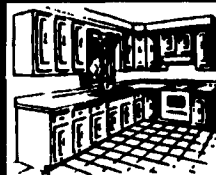
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