LITITZ (Lancaster Co.) — The Lititz Church of the Brethren will host the eighth annual Heifer Project International "Living Gift Fair" Nov. 25 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Held the day after "Black Friday," the biggest shopping day of the year, the fair provides conscientious Christmas shoppers with an alternative to the materialism of the holiday season.

Sponsored by HPI and staffed by an ecumenical group of more than 50 volunteers, the fair enables people to deal with two problems at once—holiday shopping and global hunger.

Shoppers purchase animals or shares of animals in the name of a friend. The friend receives an attractive HPI gift card. A family in need receives the HPI animal that is purchased. Colorfully decorated tables provide information about how the HPI animals benefit poor families in the United States and around the world.

Shoppers can choose from a variety of HPI animals ranging from cows, to yaks, to honeybees.

Those wishing to take something home with them can choose from Discovery Toys, attractive HPI clothing and merchandise, arts and crafts and homemade baked goods. Homemade soups and sandwiches will be on sale for of lunch.

Special events for children include an "arkful" of live animals from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., provided by Hammer Creek Exotic Animals, and shows on "Noah's Ark" at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. by Sky High Clowns from St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Spring Grove.

A non-profit Christian organization that works in partnership with 13 denominations to provide animals and related services, HPI was founded by Church of the Brethren layman Dan West, whose dream was to give "not a cup, but a cow" to provide families with a source of food rather than short-term relief.

Since a heifer named Faith sailed to Puerto Rico in 1944, HPI has supplied more than one million families in 110 countries with food and income-producing animals, along with training in animal husbandry; ecologically sound, sustainable farming; and community development.

Today HPI provides families in 31 countries with 20 different kinds of animals.

A unique feature of HPI is the requirement that recipients "pass on the gift" by sharing an offspring of their gift animal with another needy family.

The Lititz Church of the Brethren is located at 300 W. Orange St., Lititz, directly across from Warwick High School.



(Continued from Page B12) without the support of my employer," he said.

The Morton Company, where Wetzel is employed full time, is understanding in allowing him to take time off to travel for the Grange.

Wetzel said that his employer told him that the country needs more people like Wetzel to promote young people.

No matter how busy he becomes or where he is traveling, Wetzel runs eight miles a day.

"I was pressured into it by my daughters," said Wetzel. "Now I love it."

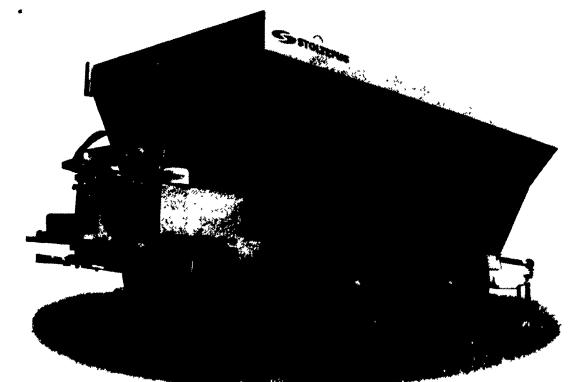
Readers interested in joining the Grange or knowing more about it, should contact Wetzel, who will put them in touch with the Grange nearest their home. Call him at (610) 683-5381.



Jeff Wetzel reviews paperwork associated with his job as national youth director for the Grange. On the wall are numerous plaques he received in recognition of his work with the Grange.



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