

Better Kid Care Field Trips Need To Be Safe

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Kids love to see new and different things, and field trips are great ways for child care providers to meet this need.

These excursions can be as simple as a walk to a near-by park or more elaborate, like a trip to a zoo or a farm. Successful field trips are well planned, and always have safety in mind.

Parents, you should be notified each time a trip or outing away from the child care center or home is scheduled, even if you signed a general permission form when enrolling your child. You need to know where your child is at all times and the type of activities

involved. The planned activities should be appropriate for the age of your child.

Ask your child's caregiver if extra help is needed the day of a field trip. If so, see if you can rearrange your schedule and volunteer to help. Kids love it when their parents can come along.

Help your child prepare for the upcoming experience more by talking about it, showing pictures, or reading a story about the type of place to be visited.

Ways to help make field trips safe:

- Extra adults should be along to help. They must pay close attention to the children at all

times. If using a vehicle, the driver may not be counted as a helper.

- Take along a first-aid kit and the children's emergency information.

- Review safety rules before leaving and give reminders along the way.

- Children need to be divided into groups and must stay with their group. It's a good idea to put friends together, so they won't be tempted to run over to another group.

- When crossing a street, children and adults must walk slowly and hold hands.

- When going to a large crowded area, each child needs to wear a tag with the name and phone number of the childcare program on it. (For safety reasons, it is best not to include the child's

name.)

- The adult in charge of a group must count and keep track of the children in that group frequently, especially after leaving a vehicle and also when returning back to the center or home.

- No child should ever be left alone in a vehicle for any reason!

- When riding in a vehicle, each child under age four must be in an approved car seat and older child-

ren need to be secured in a seat belt or booster seat with a seat belt.

Make sure you know what is planned for a field trip and that safety rules are in place. Do not be afraid to ask questions. Most of all, if you do not feel comfortable with the plans, make other arrangements for your child that day.



Lebanon Society 9

Lebanon Society of Farm Women Group 9 Amityville, met at Schwambach's Restaurant, Pottstown, for its annual Birthday Party. After a delicious meal, a short business meeting was held. Pat Haas will be the May hostess. In June members will share favorite recipes from the Society's cookbook. The group is planning a yard sale in late spring. The group contributed to the Berks County Dairy Princess program. Karen Schreier will help with Berks Heim Bingo. After the business meeting, birthday gifts were exchanged.

Berks Society 1

Berks County Alternate Dairy Princess Sherry Hoffman, who is also a Kutztown University student, was guest speaker at the April meeting of Berks County Society of Farm Women Group 1. A business meeting followed and was conducted by Evelyn Heacock.

The group celebrated the 80th birthday of Marian Leberman, Douglassville, who was also hostess for the meeting.

Martha Levan, Oley, will be hostess for the next meeting to be held May 8, at 7:30 p.m.



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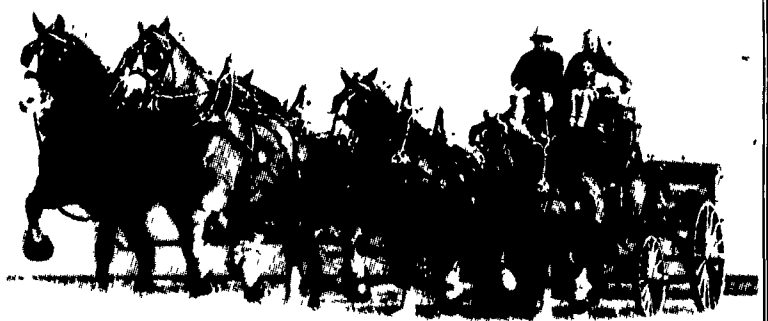
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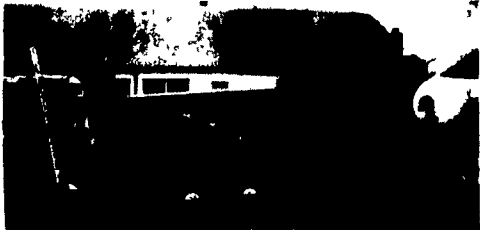


YES, Country's Reminiscence Hitch is appearing in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The champion Belgians will be at the Elizabethtown Fairgrounds in Elizabethtown on Saturday, May 25. The hitch will also be at Good's Store in East Earl on Memorial Day, May 27.

The hitch will be accompanied by a "bookmobile" offering cookbooks and other Reiman Publications books at closeout prices from 12 to 5 p.m. on both days. Admission is free.

So stop by to see this famous hitch that walked 3,800 miles across America...and do a little "bargain shopping" at the same time.

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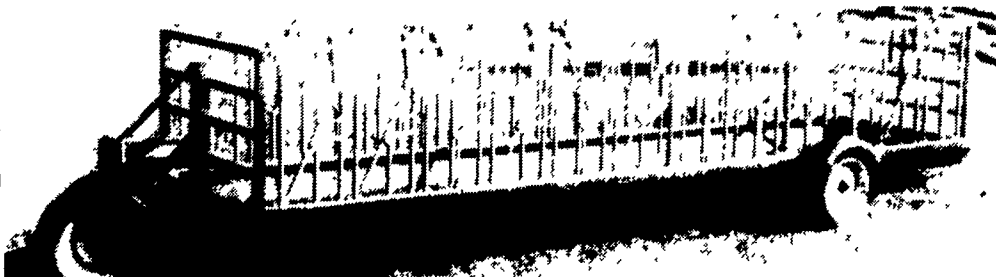
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