

Programs For Children, Families At Ag Progress

ROCKSPRING (Centre Co.)— Children and adults can handle an insect, compete in a science-based game show, listen to the tales of a storyteller, and take a hands-on tour of agriculture's rich historical past at Ag Progress Days, Aug. 13-15.

An insect exhibit hosted by Penn State's entomology department in the Family and Youth Exhibits Building will reveal the secrets of our planet's most populous and varied life form. Visitors will go buggy at the insect zoo, featuring cockroaches, large walking sticks, mantises and large lubber grasshoppers. Several other insect exhibits, such as a feeding and experiment station, also will be featured, and youngsters can learn how to start their own insect collection.

Computers have become integrated into our lives so quickly that some folks can't keep up with

society's technological changes. The College of Agricultural Sciences offers an easily understood journey into the world of computer mice and digital interfaces at the computer awareness area in the Youth Building. Experts in the college's computer services department will lead visitors through a computer database in search of tasty recipes, instruct users in the world of multimedia programs and guide classes on a tour of the World Wide Web, as well as Penn State's PENpages information service.

Storyteller Jan Kinney will perform in the College Exhibits Building Theater at noon each day. Kinney has been writing and collecting stories for more than 50 years and can spin any one of 200 tales for audiences of all ages.

In an era of trash compactors and gourmet coffee makers, the

artifacts displayed at the Pasto Agricultural Museum may seem like ancient history. However, once visitors discover a dog-powered treadmill that was used to wash clothes or a milking machine designed to be pedaled, they appreciate the ingenuity of yesterday's agricultural tools. The museum houses such items as iceboxes, tools, mechanized apple peelers, a vintage cream separator and an ornamental drinking fountain for chicks. The museum is located opposite the main barn.

Adults and children can test their knowledge of Pennsylvania's food system by competing in SciQ, a TV-style quiz show with a recipe for fun food facts. SciQ will be held daily in the College Exhibits Building Theatre. There will be a special children's version of SciQ Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. in the theatre.

The Penn State chapter of Students for the Responsible Use of Animals will display young calves, lambs, pigs and other livestock next to the Family and Youth Building. Visitors can see the animals and ask Penn State students questions on how farm animals are used in agriculture and the food system.

AG Progress Days

"Penn State AG Science..."

We're More Than You Think"

Shaver's Creek Environmental Center also will display live owls, hawks, turtles, snakes and wildlife materials at its nearby tent. 4-H and the Foundation for Better Living offer displays and activities for children as well.

Many kids love power equipment, and acres of big tractors, harvesters and other machines will be exhibited at Ag Progress Days. More than 300 commercial and noncommercial exhibitors will give curious visitors a chance to take a look at the latest in agricultural technology.

Everyone needs to eat, and adults and children alike will be fascinated by the displays outlining Pennsylvania's role in the food system. In the College Exhibits Building, visitors can take a self-guided interactive tour that illustrates how a raw commodity, such as a potato, can be harvested,

processed and made into a finished product, such as a potato chip. In addition, budget-minded visitors can see how economic value is added to a commodity from the time a crop of wheat is planted to the moment a consumer picks up a fresh loaf of bread on a supermarket shelf. For those who want to ask questions about growing vegetables or flowers, Penn State faculty and extension staff will be available to give advice at the Landscape, Lawn and Garden tent, next to the Exhibits Building. Plant and insect samples can be brought to the tent for identification or diagnosis.

For more information, call (800) PSU-1010 toll-free until Aug. 15. If you have access to the Internet, visit Ag Progress Days on the World Wide Web: http://www.cas.psu.edu/docs/CA_SHOME/APD/APD.HTML.

Newspaper Editor Named To Communications Staff

ALBANY, N.Y. — Robert (Bob) P. Lindsay of Fort Plain has been named assistant director of communications for the 25,000-member New York Farm Bureau.

Prior to joining the Farm Bureau staff, he was managing editor of the Courier-Standard-Enterprise, a weekly newspaper located in the Montgomery County community of Fort Plain for nine years, as well as serving as general manager for the last eight months.

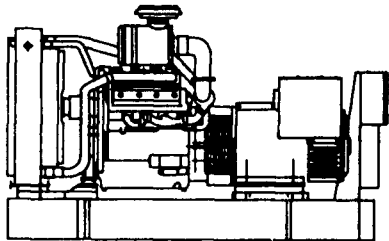
During his tenure with the paper, he was the recipient of several first place awards from the New York Press Association, including best editorial writing, best front page, and best spot news

coverage. He also worked as a contributing writer and photographer for the Amsterdam Recorder.

According to Mark F. Emery, NYFB's director of communications, "Bob brings strong skills in writing, publications design, computer technology, and photography to Farm Bureau."

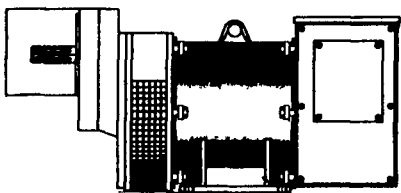
Robert was graduated from Hudson Valley Community College with an associate's degree in liberal arts and from C.W. Post College with a bachelor's in political science. Prior to going to work for the newspaper in Fort Plain, he served in the U.S. Army in Hawaii as a staff writer and photographer for Tropic Lightning News.

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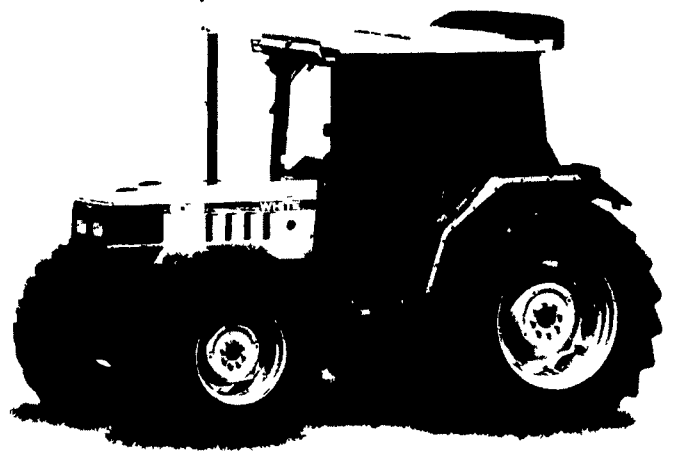
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