

Kids Korner

Visitors Watch Birth Of Baby Lambs

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Have you ever petted a baby chick or seen a lamb being born? Visitors to the Farm Animal Learning Center at the Pennsylvania Farm Show got the chance to do just that.

For the past five years, members of the Penn State Students For The Responsible Use Of Animals (SRUA) and the Delaware Valley College Animal Science Department have organized and staffed this event.

The Farm Animals Learning Center consists of two pigs, one dairy calf, a beef calf, two donkeys, a sheep with her newly born twin daughters, a horse, a goat, three rabbits, and several baby chicks.

This year's theme was "Common Animal Practices." By visiting the center, visitors could pet the animals, learn why piglets need to be given an iron injection, why calves are housed separately, why donkeys are placed in pastures with sheep and other things about animal agriculture.

Brenda Coe, advisor of the Penn State SRUA Club said, "It is our goal to educate the public that is not familiar with farm animals." Coe estimates that 15,000 people per day visit the Center.

So if you have ever wondered how big calves are when they are born or what farm animals are fed be sure to stop in at the Farm Animal Learning Center which is located on the upper concourse of the Large Arena.

Ice Cream Fans Raise \$2,300 For Four Diamonds Fund

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — The 1997 Farm Show Scooper Bowl Sunday all-you-can-eat ice cream event raised \$2,300 for the Four Diamonds Fund. The Four Diamonds Fund supports children with cancer and their families at the Hershey Medical Center.

The 850 ice cream lovers who braved the Farm Show traffic and crowds ate 145 gallons of ice cream served by Hershey Creamery Company, Turkey Hill Dairy and Penn State's University Creamery.

This was the first time in the event's history that all the ice cream donated was scooped and

served. Ice cream was donated by the manufacturers and the event was staffed by volunteers in order to maximize the donation to the Fund. Marc Bughman, student at the PA School of Art & Design, Lancaster, added an artistic touch to the event by designing a T-shirt for the Four Diamonds Fund children.

Scooper Bowl Sunday is held each year at the Farm Show on Family Day. The event is sponsored by the American Dairy Association & Dairy Council Mid East and the Middle Atlantic Milk Marketing Association.



While dad talks to equipment dealers, the family takes a break. The Gores who raise beef in Culpeter, Va., said that they come every year to the Pa. Farm Show because their state doesn't have anything that compares in size. Shown are Teresa with children Skyler and Christina.



Luke Yoder helps feed the calves on his family's farm where they milk 75 Holsteins 3 times a day.

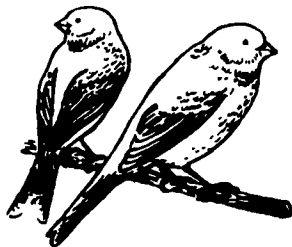
Fruit Shell Bird Feeder

Need:

- Grapefruit or oranges
- Bacon fat
- Bird seed
- Thin wire or strong string

To Do:

Cut grapefruit or oranges in half and eat the fruit. Cut three pieces of wire or string about 8 inches long for each fruit half. Poke three equally spaced holes in the side of the fruit shell to put the wire or string through. Melt bacon fat, mix in bird seed, and pour into the fruit shells. Let the fat cool and harden. Place the wire or string in the hole of the fruit shell. Hang from a tree branch.



Michael, Cathy and Luke Yoder of Mifflin County show off their puppies. They are the children of Lee D. and Joanne yoder of Strodes Mills.

Kids Need Affection

All children need to be shown affection. Studies show that babies who are not hugged and cuddled, develop physical and emotional problems. Strong families are able to give the affection and love that each member needs. When they show affection, parents teach a child to trust and that the world is a warm, friendly place. They help their child's so-

cial, emotional, and intellectual development.

Babies need to be hugged, cuddled, and kissed. Older children still need hugs, a kiss on the cheek, and encouraging words.

Overprotection can make a child feel helpless and spoiled, but true affection will build self-esteem and help your child learn to express love toward others.

Smart Stuff WITH TWIG WALKINGSTICK

Why do woodpeckers peck?

The rat-a-tat-tats of woodpeckers are almost everywhere in the world. And yep, these unusual birds get their name because they peck at wood with their long, sharp, chisel-like bills.

Everything about them helps them carve into trees. Their feet are shaped to help them climb vertically. (The strong, curved nails help them grip branches, too.) The thick skull protects their brain, eyes and ears from the constant blows of the pecking. And most have stiff, pointed tails they use to keep their balance as they chisel into a spot. Most woodpeckers carve a new nest in a tree every year. And, of course, they peck for food too. Once woodpeckers have found dinner, they pull out the hiding insects by using their long, slender, flexible tongue. Some species can even stick their tongue out almost 4 inches. They have special grooves running around the back of their skulls for this long tongue to slide in and out!

The tip of their tongue varies. Some species have spear-like tips that jab the insects like a fork, while others have smooth, sticky tongues. But don't worry if they can't find insects — woodpeckers also eat fruits, acorns, other nuts and grains.

The other reason woodpeckers peck is what scientists call drumming. They tap out messages like a telegraph. Some woodpeckers have discovered that the metal gutters on houses make wonderfully loud drums. Their distinct sounds let others know when they are looking for a mate and marks their territory so other woodpeckers keep off their turf!

Scientifically yours, Twig

RAT-A-TAT TAT-TAT

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES