

'The Bigger, The Better'

(Continued from Page B2)

doesn't hurt to try new things," he said.

Dave said many students complain about the odor when they visit the barns. "Me — I'm so used to it, I say, "What smell?"

Dave also participates in the dairy beef program. Some of the premium money goes into a fund to pay off the initial cost of the animal, some goes into a college fund, and the remainder he spends.

At Messick's Farm Equipment, Dave repairs tractors and equipment through his participation in the auto mechanic program.

"The bigger, the better," Dave said of repairing tractors and harvestors.

Dave has completed an artificial insemination course. Only one other student at the school finished the course.

Not only has Dave excelled in farmwork, but his grades improved scholastically. The school demands grade point averages for students who want to be involved in extracurricular activities such as the dairy center.

For a short period of time near the beginning of his involvement in the dairy center,

Dave failed to maintain the grade point average required in general studies. He worked hard to bring up his grades so that he could again work at the dairy center. Since 10th grade, he has been fairly consistent in making the honor roll.

"Dave's grown academically and socially, both in animal and people skills," his supervisor said.

"I have confidence. I wasn't that way initially," Dave said of when he first became a student at Milton Hershey in 1992.

Dave likes dairying so well that he wants to make a career of it. When he graduates from Milton Hershey School in the spring, he will no longer be eligible to work at the center. He also needs to move off campus.

"I'm looking for an ag-related job. I have made a lot of contacts through my work here, so hopefully something will open up," Dave said.

He's also applying to agriculture schools. His first pick is Delaware Valley College. He said, "I'm used to a smaller school, and I have friends who like Del Val."

His ultimate goal is to be a grain nutritionist or milk inspector and have his own farm on the side.



Just like his attitude toward animals, Ace said the bigger, the better when it comes to tractors and equipment. After several years of participating in a work-study program with a farm equipment company, Ace is adept at repair work.

Evening Of Joy

LITITZ (Lancaster Co.) — Esbenshade's Greenhouses and Garden Center announces a unique evening of holiday fun for the entire family on Friday, Nov. 24, from 6-9 p.m. The Garden Center will provide several activities as a way of taking time to enjoy the holiday season in a relaxed festive setting. Music and several singing groups will add to the spirit of the season at both the Lititz and the Adamstown locations.

- Families can warm up and roast their own free hot dog by the flickering fire from 6-9 p.m. (weather permitting) and enjoy the complimentary food refreshment buffet.

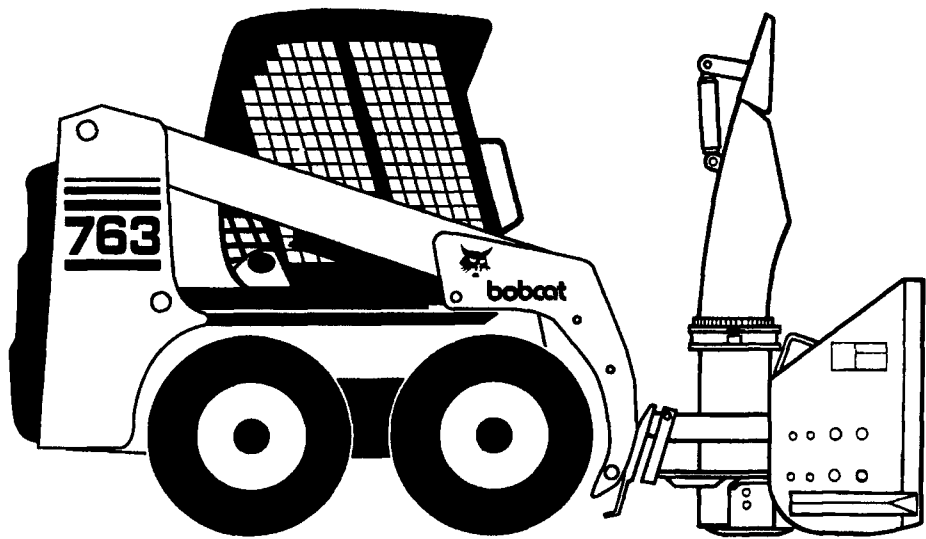
- \$500 worth of door prizes will be offered during the evening including a live tree, poinsettias, a Moravian Star, and many other items.

- Seasonal live music will put everyone in the spirit. The Lititz location will be featuring the Manheim Central Choir Ensemble, Ephrata High School Ensemble, and Christmas carolers while the Adamstown location will be featuring the musical group "Reveal," which includes the cello, violin, acoustic guitar, and voice.

- On Nov. 25, the spirit continues with holiday bow making classes at both locations, and a wreathmaking class at the Lititz location only.

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