

# Looking Back, Looking Ahead



Since the Kreider family was featured in the May 13 issue of this paper, a special needs baby has joined this Lancaster County family. The whole family has rallied around the baby girl who celebrated her first birthday Dec. 26. Their goal is to help her learn to sit up and overcome the many physical and mental challenges she faces.

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smoke coming from the farmhouse, which is rented to tenants. Renee broke into the house and the fire company was called.

The fire began when two cats knocked over two oil lamps that were left burning while the tenants were away. Although no one was hurt, little is salvageable from the house.

"I feel sad for the tenants, and it's a big loss to us," said Renee, who hopes to continue farming the family farm.

A week ago, Renee received an associates' degree in marketing and small business. Renee looks forward to an internship with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Bureau of Market Development.

Also exciting is Jan. 15, when Renee competes for the national honey queen title in San Diego, Calif. If she is crowned, she will travel across the states representing the beekeeping industry.

"It's been wonderful meeting so many people and learning so much about the beekeeping industry," Renee said.

The year has also been challenging for Renee, who is highly organized but couldn't plan the details for her future because of the many events over which she has no control.

"I definitely want to farm, work in some type of ag industry, and get married," she said.

So, it's goodbye 2000 and hello to the New Year, destined to bring joys, challenges, and surprises, despite the best-laid plans.



Although the family of Pennsylvania Poultry Ambassador Rijelle Kraft celebrated her many accomplishments this past year, the Christmas holidays held no time for celebrations. Instead the family spend days and nights in the hospital where Rijelle's grandmother is critically ill.

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