

Teachers Participate In 'Ag in the Classroom' Workshop

WESTMINSTER, Md. — About 50 elementary teachers from across the state gathered in Westminster in June for "Ag in the Classroom" Workshop presented by the Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation. Ag industry professionals from Maryland and New Jersey came together to present hundreds of educational ideas and materials to the teachers for use in their classrooms in the coming year. Teachers left the workshop loaded down with books, videos, curriculum materials, handouts and more that focus on infusing agricultural concepts into students' reading, writing, science, math and social studies curriculum.

The seminar provided five action-packed days of seminars, field trips, demonstrations and hands-on activities. Seminars include Food Doesn't Grow in the



Lavonne Radonovich, left, of Montgomery County and Donna Socha of Wicomico County learn about horticulture from Teresa Stevens at Ag in the Classroom Teachers' Workshop, Westminster, Md.

Supermarket, Maryland Map Making, Simple Soy Science — The Magical Bean, Sheepy She-

nanigans, Barnyard Basics, Kids Growing with Grains, Up From Soil, Kitchen Science, Learning

from Pass Around Plans, Why's and How's of Dairy & Nutrition Education and Everything You Wanted to Know About Beef.

Field trips included a behind-the-scenes tour of Baugher's Orchard and Bakery in Westminster, a hands-on experience with farm animals presented by the Carroll County 4-H Club, a visit to the Carroll County Farm Museum and an extensive tour of Edrich Lumber in Randallstown where the teachers had the opportunity to see the timbering industry from log to lumber to milling to furniture making and recycling.

The teachers got their hands dirty with seminars on the importance of soil and soil stewardship, making a topiary and building their own crates of Maryland agricultural products. Members of the Maryland Agriculture Teachers Association conducted these

workshops at Francis Scott Key High School.

Teachers also had the opportunity to tour the mobile Biotechnology: Food, Fiber and You science lab that visits schools throughout the state where students get the opportunity for hands-on activities teaching them about Maryland agriculture. Two other mobile labs available from the Foundation include the Ag Products lab and the Aquatic lab.

Founded in 1989, MAEF is a non-profit organization that promotes and enhances the understanding and appreciation of agriculture in the daily lives of Marylanders.

For additional information about Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation, contact Marty Stephens, executive director, at (410) 939-9030 or visit the Website at www.mdagintheclassroom.com.

World Famous Clydesdale Horses Coming To Maryland State Fair

TIMONIUM, Md. — Maryland State Fairgoers will have a special opportunity for a close-up look at the Budweiser Clydesdale horses during the 121st Maryland State Fair. The 6-foot tall, 2000 pound "gentle giants" will be stabled at the Maryland State Fair Horse Show Ring Barns during the Friday, Aug. 23 to Monday, Sept. 2 run of the Maryland State Fair. The horses will be available for viewing during Fair hours and handlers will be on hand to answer questions. Performance times will be determined daily and announced by the drivers at the Horse Show Ring Barn.

The colorful history of the special Clydesdale breed begins in the early 19th century along the River Clyde in Lanarkshire, Scotland. The region, located near a valley, or "dale," was known for its rich soil and abundant crops. The farmers along the River Clyde were in need of strong horses for hauling, plowing and carting farm equipment and workers. One of the Dukes of Hamilton, a wealthy landowner, imported six Great Flemish horses to the region and made them available for breeding to local mares, and the Clydesdale breed was born. People from out-

side Lanarkshire began to refer to the big horses that were more powerful than any horses available before as "the Clydesman's horse," a name that eventually became "Clydesdale." The horses were capable of pulling loads of more than a ton at a walking speed of five miles an hour. It was the breed's hauling power that attracted North Americans to the Clydesdale breed. Today's Budweiser Clydesdales are even bigger than their Scottish ancestors standing approximately 18 hands high (about 6 feet) and weighing 2,000 pounds.

The 121st Maryland State Fair, which offers a variety of livestock

and horse shows, midway rides, thoroughbred horse racing, arts and crafts and home arts exhibits, runs from Friday, Aug. 23 through Monday, Sept. 2, at the Timonium Fairgrounds in Baltimore County. Early risers are welcome to attend livestock and horse shows at 9 a.m. Exhibit halls are open from 10 a.m.-10 p.m. The Midway opens at 10 a.m. on weekends and noon on weekdays. Admission is only \$5 for adults and children under 12 are admitted free. Rides are individually priced. Thoroughbred horse racing begins Sat., Aug. 24 with live races daily beginning at 1 p.m., with the exception of

Monday, Aug. 26 and Tuesday, Aug. 27 when there will be no live racing. In addition, Timonium will simulcast races all 10 days from a variety of other tracks around the country. Admission to the racetrack is included in the admission price of the Fair. The Fairgrounds encourages use of the Light Rail with an easily accessible Light Rail stop at the Fairgrounds' Cow Palace Gate. For general information, call (410) 252-0200, ext. 227 or visit the Maryland State Fair Website at marylandstatefair.com.



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