

Kids Korner

Adventures In Agriculture



Alan Ruschman explains to Hannah Zimmerman, 10, and Kelsey Plokhoo, 10, both of Easton, how corn is ground as Hannah cranks the grinding wheel.



A Western style saddle complete with labels and descriptions to educate the public attending Adventures in Agriculture.



Thomas Goodwin, 11, Mt. Bethel, demonstrates the proper way to rope an object.

NAZARETH (Northampton Co.) — Imagine opening the doors to the Palmer Park Mall, and hearing the crow of a rooster, the bark of a puppy, or the whirl of a steam engine. These were just some of the sounds during the Adventures in Agriculture Show at the Palmer Park Mall, February 7, 8, and 9.

Many folks got the chance to experience the wonderful benefits of agriculture first hand. Some of the interesting activities included a roping demonstration, a wool spinning demonstration, seeing eye puppy demonstrations, water table demonstrations, rug braiding demonstrations, honey bee demonstrations, and many more.

People even had the opportunity to touch a bear hide, feel a stalk of wheat, ask a Master Gardener questions, smell the needles of a concolor fir, see garden tractor, taste pork products, smell a rose, or see food products produced locally.

If asking questions was your choice; one could find out how wine is produced, how long it takes for a chick to hatch, how you can help to conserve the Bushkill Stream, how the barn was raised at Burnside Plantation, or what makes an engine run.

Youth of all ages loved the sights to be seen reminding all of the importance of agriculture in our daily lives.

Many of the youth had a wonderful time completing a scavenger hunt to win a prize. One of the booths attracting youth was the Northampton County 4-H booth; complete with over-size bubbles, "GOOP", rabbits, chicks, seeing eye puppies, horse supplies, rockets, and ropes flying through the air. Many educational and fun activities are offered by 4-H in Northampton County. In Pennsylvania, 4-H is coordinated by Penn State Cooperative Extension.



The Alamo

The Alamo was the site of a heroic battle during a time when the United States and Mexico were fighting over who Texas should belong to. The Alamo was founded in 1718 as a Spanish mission. Later, it was used as a hospital and a place for army troops to stay.

When the Mexican dictator Santa Anna invaded Texas during the Texas Revolution, the Texans hid behind the Alamo's crumbling walls. Although they were outnumbered, the Texans did not give up for 12 days. Then, weakened by hunger and a constant barrage of cannon fire, the Texans were unable to keep the Mexicans out any longer. On March 6, 1836, the Mexicans broke into the Alamo. Of the original defenders, only a single woman and her child are known to have survived. The war ended soon after this.

The people who died at the Alamo are now remembered for their courage. For a long time afterward, whenever a Texan wanted to stir up his or her courage, he or she would say "Remember the Alamo!"



Rope 'em cowgirl! Kristine Carbone, 15, Mt. Bethel, demonstrates the lasso technique to the next volunteer.

The Telephone

What do you use when you want to talk to a friend? Unless your friend is in the room with you, chances are you use the telephone. The telephone was invented in 1876 by Alexander Graham Bell.

Alexander Graham Bell was born on March 3, 1847, in Scotland. He was a scientist who wanted to discover a way for deaf people to communicate better. He studied the telegraph, which was then the only way to send messages long distance. But the telegraph required the use of Morse code, which made it difficult for many people to use. Bell believed that the same wires that transmitted the telegraph signal could also be made to send the sound of a human voice.

Bell created a working model of his device in 1876. He was granted a patent for his idea on March 7, 1876. On March 10, 1876, Bell sent the first telephone message ever. He said "Mr. Watson, come here. I want you," to his assistant. Since that time, people have worked to put up a large network of wires, receivers and, today, fiberoptic cable that is used to connect people who want to talk to one another.