

Ida's Notebook
by
Ida Risser

In May we have great expectations of things to come. Our very old apple tree was covered with blossoms and the driveway is white with fallen petals. I cannot remember when it did not stand in the corner of our meadow where we built our log house. My husband has ordered a large net that he hopes to use to cover a sour cherry tree. Last year a net kept the birds from eating the cherries.

Our son, who lives on an adjoining farm, has been helping us even though he already has two full-time jobs. He put an electric fence on one side of my garden. We are hoping that it will deter the deer from eating the peas, which now have a five-foot fence to climb up. Surely hope all our effort gives us some good results.

My daughter gave me two bags of flower bulbs for Mother's Day. Now I shall have to find a place to plant them as I already have

Bucks Co. Farm Produce Directory Now Available

DOYLESTOWN (Bucks Co.) — The 2003 edition of "Fresh From Bucks County Farms" a directory of local Pick-Your-Own and retail farm markets is now available. More than 50 farms from Morrisville to Telford, that sell farm fresh produce directly to consumers are listed in the directory.

Strawberries, sweet corn, asparagus, baked goods, beef, honey, and organic eggs are just some of the locally grown products that are available at a nearby farm.

Fresh From Farms directories can be found at your local Bucks County library, or you may contact Penn State Cooperative Extension at (215) 345-3283 for a copy.

Strawberry Festival

SINKING SPRING (Berks Co.) — The 25th Anniversary Celebration and Strawberry Festival of the Sinking Spring Area Historical Society will take place Sunday, June 1, noon to 5 p.m. at Heritage Park, Sinking Spring.

Admission to the event and the museum is free.

A historical slide show on local history will also be presented by Paul L. Miller, president of the society.

Questions? Call (610) 678-4219.

nine kinds planted. My three large iris beds are going to have a variety of colors this spring.

We have gotten many get well cards from Lancaster Farming readers. And, some have taken the time to write long letters explaining their situations, which often are similar to ours. We really appreciate their thoughtfulness.

The other week some of our children took us to a nice restaurant to celebrate Allen's 85th birthday. Luckily, I had baked a big cake that we shared later in the evening. One child gave him a large assortment of nuts and we shared those too. His bone infection will probably always affect his walking, but he can drive a car.

Checkoff Sponsors Educators Conference

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Dairy checkoff programs are committed to helping schools and educators create a healthy school environment.

As part of an ongoing initiative to address children's health needs, the "Healthy Schools at Work" conference for educators was recently conducted at the Carnegie Science Center in Pittsburgh. The American Dairy Association and Dairy Council Mid East sponsored the event.

More than 150 teachers, school food service managers, school nurses, early childhood educators and registered dietitians attended.

"The conference was a great success and participants learned

Gardening Questions

WEST NORRITON (Montgomery Co.) — Montgomery County Master Gardeners will be available to answer gardening

questions and will have handouts and soil test kits available on Saturday, May 31, 9 a.m.-11 a.m. at the Home Depot Garden Center, Egypt and Trooper Roads, West Norriton.

about the importance of creating a school environment that supports healthful eating and physical activity," said Joyce Abercrombie, director of school programs for ADADC Mid East. "The conference gave first-hand reports from several area schools who have seen positive results after implementing 'healthy schools at work' principles."

The Pittsburgh conference also provided information about the Pennsylvania "Action for Healthy Kids" state team. Action for Healthy Kids (AFHK) is a nationwide initiative dedicated to improving the health and educational performance of children through better nutrition and physical activity in schools.

Westmoreland Searches For Dairy Princess Court

BLAIRSVILLE (Westmoreland Co.) — Young women between the ages of 12 and 24 are needed to serve as the Westmoreland County dairy princess. Girls and boys between the ages of 12 and 15 may serve on the court as dairy ambassadors.

Dairy Princess contestants are required to write an essay, 300 or more words, on their desire for

the position of princess. Rachel Ebert, the 2002-2003 Pa. First Alternante from Westmoreland County will work with the participants in preparation of the seminar and state pageant. Deadline is June 15.

For more information, contact Janice Derr at (724) 529-0255 or Thelma Kemerer at (724) 423-4491.

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Berks County Parks & Recreation Dept presents
Friday, May 30th - 6:30-8:00 p.m.

A Special Concert by
Cool Beans Music

Family members of all ages are encouraged to come out and enjoy an evening of "high energy and interactive music" Rain location Body Zone Sports & Fitness Complex "Grandparents Night Out" is part of "Senior Week at the Park" celebrating "Older Americans Month"

Spring Arts Festival

Saturday, May 31, 2003
12:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Music Performances

12:00-1:30 p.m.	Joe Soltysik
2:30-3:30 p.m.	The Spinoffs
3:00-3:45 p.m.	Priscilla Hartranft
4:30-5:30 p.m.	After Hours
6:30-8:00 p.m.	Sam Peter's Swing Band

Children's Entertainment by Middle-Earth Studios with 2 Interactive Storytelling Performances & 2 Puppet Shows, Audience Participation

All Day Activities - Children's Craft Tent, Mural Painting, Bubble-Making

Youth Art Display in cooperation with the Berks Arts Council

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