

Ida's Notebook
by
Ida Risser



I've always considered September to be one of the busiest months of the year. There are so many things to be harvested. Freezing and canning take a lot of time — especially picking grapes to make grape juice. I remember always doing this job the first week in September when the

children started school. Some of our grandchildren start school three weeks before the others but then they finish school sooner. The oldest grandson is a teacher in the Washington, D.C. area. This is his second year at the private school. Our youngest grandson will be three

years old this month. He and his brothers visited us over Labor Day. The children and I played ball and then they entertained themselves by rolling down the hill behind our house. Recently my husband has mowed this hill with his new riding mower. Previously the grandchildren did the mowing for us.

One weekend Allen went along to Tioga County to watch three men work on the house that they are building in the woods. They installed windows and doors. We sent some corn, that we bought, along for them to cook. The children picked up sticks and kept two fires burning.

Even though the temperature was 65 degrees, when we visited our oldest daughter in New Jersey, the children went in the pool. The six children in the water told that the water was warm. Our

Great Frederick Fair Introduces Birthing Center

FREDERICK, Md. — A "baby boom" will hit The Great Frederick Fair this September, and fair visitors can experience it first hand! A brand-new birthing center will be introduced as part of the national-award-winning "City Streets, Country Roads" exhibit. The 141st Great Frederick Fair will be conducted Sept. 12-20.

The birthing center, located next to Building 32, will give the public a chance to watch farm animals give birth and care for

their young. The exhibit will feature daily demonstrations of large animal veterinary practices such as livestock sonograms and embryo transfers. Bleachers will be provided for public viewing convenience.

Dr. Cindy Burnsteel, president of Western Maryland Veterinary Medical Association, and members of the veterinary association will be on hand throughout the fair to assist the animals and answer questions from the public.

daughter had just returned from Seattle the day before and so her guests provided the food. However, she made ice cream cones

for all of the children. It is nice to get family together. One family left for their home in Maine that afternoon.



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Saturday, October 11

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Breeding Percherons has been a part of the Allebach family's life for years. Pictured are three generations of Allebachs from left, Abraham Allebach at the helm of the farm's top stallion, King George, along with his son Gerald and Gerald's son Abraham, 3rd, who is a national champion. Photo by Michelle Kunjappu

Michelle Kunjappu, Lancaster Farming Staff, reports on the Windermere Farm's Percherons. The farm has a long history of raising Percherons and has produced many champions. Photo by Michelle Kunjappu

Arabian "Dad's Lady Grace" helped to teach Kathleen Anthony life lessons, which she recently wrote about in her book, "Lessons in Grace." Read more about her writing experience on page 28. Photo by Michelle Kunjappu

Center Gets Equine Athletes Back On Track
Michelle Kunjappu, Lancaster Farming Staff, reports on the new equine building which began opening in summer 2002. It is equipped with everything a veterinarian familiar with equine medicine and the technology to diagnose and treat the most difficult of equine ailments. Photo by Michelle Kunjappu

This is the Thoroughbred's third ultrasound. Dr. Olga Seco is ultra sounding the horse to determine whether or not it can go back into training. She will compare the pictures from this ultrasound with images from previous ultrasounds. Photo by Michelle Kunjappu

There are several issues for the mare owner to consider when evaluating which stallion is suitable, and what will produce that "perfect" foal. Photo by Rebecca Spain, Virginia Tech

Breeding For The Perfect Foal
What Are The Odds?
Dr. Rebecca A. Spain, Department of Animal and Poultry Sciences, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Va. — As choices abound, there are several factors to consider when evaluating which stallion would be the best choice for your mare. Photo by Rebecca Spain