

Kids Korner

Determined Young Lady Shows At KILE

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Her braided pigtails bounce from shoulder to shoulder and pink cowboy boots stomp through the sawdust as 10-year-old Shannon Kelle of Arcade, N.Y., leads her shorthorn heifer, Missie Dolly, through the show arena.

Many young showmen exhibited livestock at the Keystone International Livestock Exposition at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex, but none more determined than Shannon.

Born legally blind, Shannon has undergone five cornea transplants and four cryogenic surgeries. She was diagnosed with secondary glaucoma, but that does not slow down the Pioneer Central Elementary student.

Sipping on a cup of hot chocolate after the show, Shannon explained that not only do her interests lie in showing her uncle's cattle, but also in riding bikes, spending time with friends and playing the piano.

"I'm the first person in my family to learn how to play an instrument," she said.

Shannon and her father Earle traveled to Pennsylvania to show and sell three head of cattle at the sale last Saturday. She has



Shannon Kelle, 10, doesn't let blindness interfere with showing cattle at Keystone International Livestock Exposition.

exhibited at the New York State Fair and the Erie County Fair.

"My dad is the one that got me

into showing cattle," said Shannon. Her calf sold for \$600 and will be used as a breeding project.

Muscle, Grunts, Cheers Dominate Kid Olympics, Pedal Power Pull



Tractor pull champions in the 3- to 4-year-old division are Allison Parrish and Ian Elkins.



Showing off their trophies for winning the tractor pull in the 5- to 7-year-old division, from left, are Caleb Schmuck, Somerset; Brenden Good, Lititz; and Megan Anderson, Schellsburg.

LOU ANN GOOD Food And Family Features Editor

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Grunts, cheers, and muscle dominated the Agri-Kid Olympics and the Pedal Power Pull last Saturday at the Keystone International Livestock Exhibition.

Sponsored by Lebanon Valley Farmer's Bank/Fulton Bank, the events provide a chance for kids to compete in age division for ribbons and trophies. The popular event is conducted annually. Some of the olympics include a haybale toss, ring toss, and wheelbarrow race.

The ever-popular pedal power pull requires participants to pedal a tractor loaded with weights. The space pedaled is measured, which requires participants who pedal a full pull to compete in playoffs with heavier

Smart Stuff

with Twig Walkingstick

Dear Reader:

Starting next week I'll look different to you. The drawing of me that you see at the end was done by an artist nearly 10 years ago. Now it's time for a new rendition. For one thing, I lost my bow tie (it tumbled up in Tennessee). For another, Bob the Bug decided to retire. He wants to spend a time with his grand anae ("Ach, they metamorphose so quickly," Bob sighed wistfully.) So, best wishes, Bob! We'll miss your smile, your fashionable shoes and the tasty aphid bagels that you brought to work each morning.

Now it's Bob's final published thought-bubble is a tiny version of the new rendition. It's a stylized yet accurate likeness, and the artist, a talented young fellow named Jesse, is to be commended. It certainly makes me look less like, awweeb. Or so Jesse tells me. I hope you like it.

What's staying unchanged is the column's focus: science, nature, farming and the environment. Things you see, hear, taste, touch or even (p.u.) smell. Things that interest you, educate you, delight you, concern you. Things your dog finds or your cat sits up (t.c.k.), I'll do my best to answer your questions. Send them along with your first name and hometown to c.t. cards@osu.edu

do mees that tie
Transformatively
Twig

From The Ohio State University (specifically, OARDC and OSU Extension)



In the haybale toss, this contestant throws with all her strength.

weights.

Here are some photos by Lou Ann Good, food and family features editor.



Pedaling a tractor is no easy feat for competitors. Weights are added to the tractor pull as competition advances.

Manheim Farm Show Opens



Michaela Groff was selected princess during the queen coronation at the Manheim Farm Show. She belted out a song during opening ceremonies.



Doug Musser and his lamb Cletus won top honors at Manheim. Turn to page B12 to read more about this event.