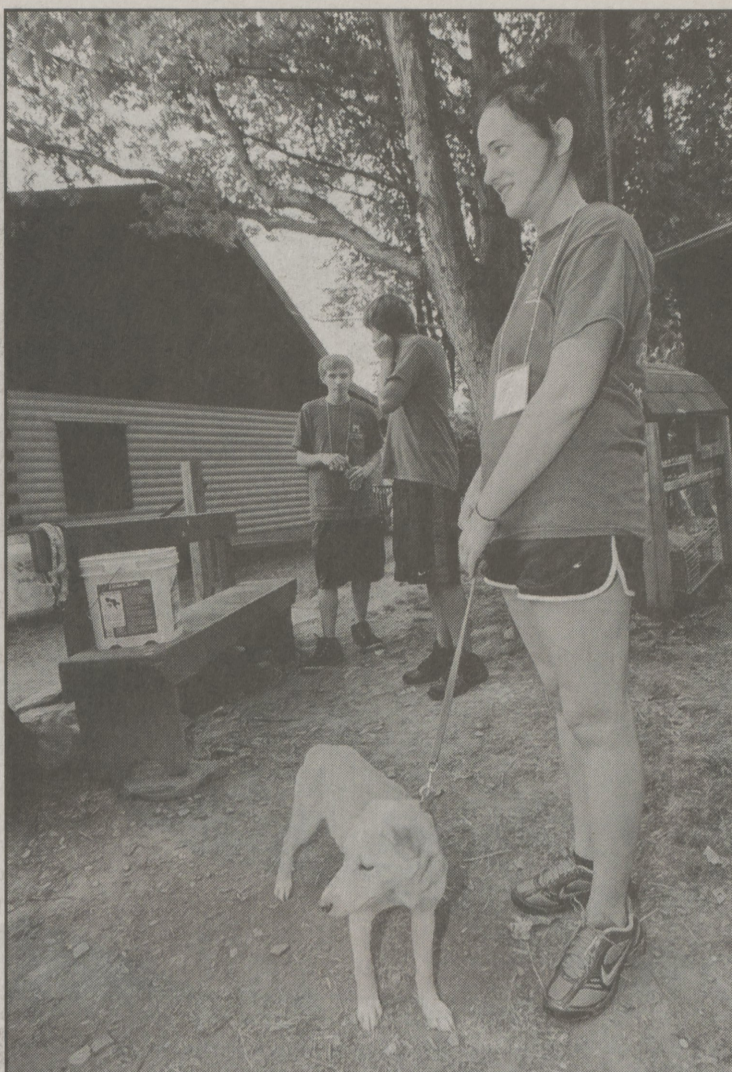


Misericordia University freshman Josh Shanker, of West Windsor, N.J. trims brush at the Blue Chip Farms Animal Refuge.



Nicole Rhody, of Schuylkill Haven, gets ready to walk a puppy.



Ryan Thomas, left, and Tim Kennedy, both of Dallas, clean the barn at the Blue Chip Farms Animal Refuge.

MU freshmen offer services

More than 600 Misericordia University students, including 522 members of the freshman class, new transfer students, orientation leaders and Advocates, accompanied by staff and faculty, converged on Blue Chip Animal Refuge in the Back Mountain to plant trees and place fences during Orientation Day of Service 2012 on Aug. 25.



Misericordia students Joshua Dunn, left, of Coal Township, and Troy Shurites, of Harveys Lake, remove an electrical box from a fence as Alex Sergay of Blue Chip Farms Animal Refuge assists.

BILL TARUTIS PHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST



The 2012 Luzerne County Fair Princess was crowned at the fairgrounds on Saturday, Sept. 8. Contestants, ranging from 4 to 6 years old and residing in Luzerne County, dressed in their favorite party dress and told about themselves. From left, first row, are Chasity Basara, Trinity Basara, Lily Kania, Runner-Up Paige Moss, 2012 Princess Carly Yoder, 2011 Princess Talyia Adamitz, Alaina Raspen, Mya Seabridge and Sage Morgan. Second row, Krista Paluski, Nicole Clemson, Brooke Evans, Katarina Ferrucci, Kaitlyn Miller, Bryn Harvey, Judy Harvey, Trudy Clemson and Amy Salansky.

Fair princess crowned

The 2012 Luzerne County Fair Princess was crowned at the fairgrounds on Saturday, Sept. 8. Contestants, ranging from 4 to 6 years old and residing in Luzerne County, dressed in their favorite party dress and told a little bit about themselves.

Carly Yoder, of Kingston, won the title and will take part in community events during the year as the 2012 Luzerne County Fair Princess. Runner-up was Paige Moss of Dallas.

Last year's Princess Talyia Adamitz helped crown the new princess. Katarina Ferrucci, 2012 Lu-

zerne County Fair Queen, was Mistress of Ceremonies with introductions by Brooke Evans, 2012 Queen Runner-Up; Nicole Clemson, 2009 PA State Fair Queen; and Kaitlyn Miller, 2012 Miss PA Outstanding Teen.

Judges were Amy Salansky (1986 Howard County MD Farm Bureau Queen), Bryn Harvey (2007 Luzerne County Fair Queen), Krista Paluski (2009 Luzerne County Fair Queen) and Judy Harvey.

Trudy Clemson is chairperson of the Luzerne County Fair Princess Committee.



From left, are Paige Moss, runner-up, and Carly Yoder, 2012 Luzerne County Fair Princess.

PEOPLE BRIEFS

Two receive master's degrees

Megan Devine, of Harvey's Lake, and Victoria Posatko, of Dallas, both received master's degrees in Physician Assistant studies from King's College during the college's recent summer commencement ceremony.



Devine



Posatko

The Class of 2012 is the 35th graduating class of the King's Physician Assistant Program. The 38 students in the class had an average GPA of 3.71 (4.0 scale) and spent almost 90,000 hours seeing patients during their clinical rotations of the Professional Phase of the program.

Healey graduates from Youngstown

Jacke Healey, of Tunkhannock, graduated from Youngstown State University in August with a Bachelor of General Studies degree in General Studies.

Smaka is member of MU team

Susan Smaka, of Shavertown, was a member of a team of Misericordia University occupational therapy graduate students that recently conducted research on senior living at St. Luke's Villa Retirement Community of the Diocese of Scranton, in Wilkes-Barre.

The students conducted a series of group activity sessions for independent apartment-dwelling seniors to investigate whether the happiness of older adults who reside in independent apartments can be improved through engagement in small group activities.

Van Jura receives master's degree

Zoe Isabelle Van Jura, of Tunkhannock, received a master's degree in reading from King's College during the college's recent summer commencement ceremony.

Three receive master's degrees

Three Tunkhannock residents were among more than 450 undergraduate and graduate students who received bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees at Wilkes University's summer commencement on Sept. 9.

They are Katie Prusko, Aimee Sample, and Jennifer Williams who all earned Master of Science degrees in education.