Page 14 - SUSQUEHANNA TIMES



"Block" party

Robert Hoffines, of RD #1 Marietta, held a rural "block" party for his neighbors last Sunday. We don't know what else to call it. About thirty people attended. There was plenty of good food and refreshing drinks.

La Leche to meet

The Elizabethtown-Mount Joy La Leche League will hold its regular meeting, Thursday, July 14 at 7:30 p.m., at Norlanco Family Health Center:

The topic for informal discussion will be, "The Baby Arrives: The Family and The Breastfed Baby." Anyone-expectant women, nursing mothers, as

well as nursing infants and other persons interested in learning more about good mothering are welcome to attend. For more information or Breast-feeding Counseling, please call: Mrs. Elaine Good, 653-1590, Mrs. Janice Hartman, 367-3102, Mrs. Debbie Kuntz, 653-8566, or Mrs. Grace Faus, 665-4582.

Donegal Sertoma Club

-to hold charter banquet

The newly organized Donegal Sertoma will hold it's Charter Banquet on Saturday, July 16 at 7:30 at the Carpenters Inn, Elizabethtown. The Donegal Club organized in June, currently has 26 members. It is sponsored by Lancaster Sertoma Club.

The speaker at the Charter Banquet will be Representative Kenneth Brandt. Representing Sertoma at District level will be Representative Jess Brown and District Govenor Mel Bonds.

Maytown Playground news

Approximately 60 children took part in swimming lessons last week at Maytown playground.

Ping Pong tournament winners for the week were Michele Smith, girls champion, and Don Armold, boys champ. Don was also grand champion of the playground.

Prize winners for the Friday **Fet** Show were: Largest: 1st, Nona and

Gina Nace; 2nd, Kenny Henry; and 3rd, Lynn Lesnefsky.

Smallest pet: 1st, Stephanie Barnitz; 2nd, Tim, Andy and Emi Trostle.

Most unusual pet: 1st, Harold Mohr and Amy Winters; 2nd, Greg and

and Bryan Embly and 3rd, John, Dwayne and Rodger Schwuing.

Cuddliest pet: 1st, Brian Hart; 2nd, Jenny and Jamie Shink and 3rd, Mike Fantom.

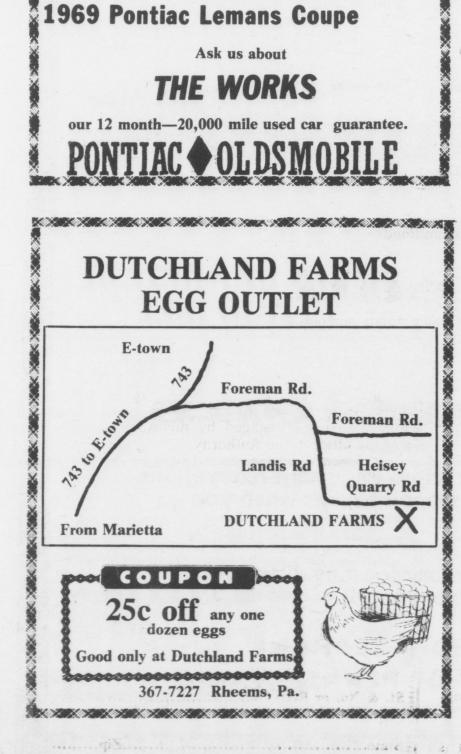
Cutest pet: 1st, Lora and Lynn Rice; 2nd, Joanne, Cindy and Dennis Ebersole and 3rd, Noel Doutrich and

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Colleen Barr.

The current week's schedule will include a recreational swim on Tuesday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., and swimming lessons each morning. On Thursday there will be a bike rodeo, a nok hockey tournament for girls, and a horse shoe tourney for the boys.

July 13, 1977



...Vietnamese refugee (cont.)

[continued from page 1]

Tri, or "Tree," as he prefers to spell it now (because "that's how Americans think of my name," he explains with a grin) started with Weis 'up front' at the checkout stalls, on a part-time basis. Within six months he was working in the meat room part-time, and six months after that he was a full -time employee, learning the meat-cutting trade -and doing "a mighty fine job," according to Harold Milligan, meat manager.

"Frankly," Harold told us, "I wasn't too keen on the idea of training him at first -I expected the language barrier to make it difficult -but he's the best trainee I've ever had. He's one heck of a nice guy, and a very hard worker. He's quite a boy." Tri was reluctant to wait on customers at the meat counter, because Americans often have trouble understanding his accent, which is thick. "I told him that all he'd have to say would be 'yes,'

'no,' and 'thank you,' and it worked out all right," says Harold.

Tri is making a good adjustment to life in America. He has saved enough money now to buy a car, and passed his driver's test the first time. He found walking and bicycling difficult here due to the large numbers of autos.

He's also adjusting in other ways. During the interview, conducted in a back room at Weis Market, other workers were sitting around on coffee break. One of them spoke up. "Hey, Tree, tell him about your girl friends!" Tri cheerfully admitted that he indeed has two girl friends, one Vietnamese, and one American. It was all right for the Times to print that, he assured us: "They know each other."

Tri knows only about four or five Vietnamese in this area. Most of his friends are Americans, who can understand him after they get used to his accent. "When I came over here, I

had no friends. Now I have lots of friends," he says. Tri improves his English by reading and talking, but told us that he doesn't get as much practice as he should, because he's naturally quiet and doesn't like to gab much. Just the same, he expects to be proficient in another year.

Tri finds life in America "smooth" and easy-going: "Americans don't worry about their neighbors." The climate is less pleasing to him, being colder than Vietnam. He did, however, enjoy seeing snow for the first time. When the reporter asked him whether he had been in a snowball fight yet, he laughed. "No, I'm not a kid anymore."

Tri writes to his family in Vietnam through a friend in Paris, who forwards correspondence both ways. His family's letters don't say much about conditions there (communist censors remove unfavorable remarks) but Tri hears that life is very different in Vietnam now, and that his family's standard of living

has dropped sharply.

Tri is hoping to go to college and become a doctor. He explains that there is a shortage of doctors in Vietnam, and he wants to return there someday, after the political situation allows that. "I want to help my family," he says.

"Tri has come a long way in two years," Harold Milligan told us. "He's had to work for everything he has. Most Vietnamese came over here with plenty of money, but Tri came alone, with nothing. That takes guts."

At one point in the interview, we asked Tri if he had a destination in mind when he decided to leave his country. "No," he replied, "I was just looking for freedom." He has found that, and more.

Note: The Times wishes to thank Harold Milligan for his assistance and suggestions during the interview, and Weis Market, for providing time during Tri's working hours.

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