



FIRE EXPO '79

MAY 18, 19, 20, 1979

We will have over 100 booth spaces filled with National & Regional Fire Apparatus, Rescue, Ambulance, Fire Equipment & Novelties Mfgs. & for the first time there will also be a Flea Market on the grounds at

Dutch Wonderland

Rt. 30 East of Lancaster, Pa.

HOURS: Friday & Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. * Sunday - 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission \$2.50

Animals get high the natural way

Humans have long been known for their fondness of the fruit of the vine. But inebriation is not just a human foible, according to the current issue of International Wildlife magazine. Some animals also overindulge.

Take the case of hundreds of waxwings which fell victim to the intoxicating effects of fermented rowanberries in Sweden. While motorists were trying to cope with a stretch of icy roadway one winter day, some of the drunken birds began to weave back and forth along the shoulder, while others dive-bombed right into the windshields. Many of the birds, rendered totally helpless, just sat in the middle of the road.

Ripe pyracantha berries have also been responsible for many a bird's drunkenness. "Robins in Florida sometimes get so tipsy on ripe pyracantha berries that they bump into each other or fly into telephone wires and windows," reports International Wildlife. And in southern Nevada, hordes of migrating robins were seen staggering around after lingering too long at the pyracantha bush. A few days later, sobered up, they continued on their way south.

"Drunk" may not be the correct term for birds in this condition. Ornithologist Stanley Temple of the University of Wisconsin explains in International Wildlife that when a bird or mammal gets intoxicated, the cause is usually not alcohol but some other toxic substance. That poison, Temple speculates, may be a particular plant's way of discouraging wildlife from eating it.

Other naturalists point out that wild fruits can indeed ferment, producing in animals the kinds of reactions normally associa-



Rocky Raccoon says, "Watch out for animals when driving."

ted with human intoxication. The big difference between inebriated people and animals is that humans set out deliberately to addle their senses, while animals are usually taken unawares.

Insects are also susceptible, says International Wildlife. This weakness is recognized by butterfly hunters who use a devilish concoction of squashed bananas and sugar to tranquilize their quarry. Some insects are attracted to the sweetness of tree sap. When the sap ferments, wasps and butterflies are suddenly unable to fly. Bees, too, have been observed veering wildly after partaking of overripe nectar.

In addition to man, the elephant is a mammal with a long tradition of inebriation. This is due to the elephant's habit of feeding on various fermented fruits and then engaging in noisy drunken brawls. In Kruger National Park in South Africa's Transvaal, they eat the pale yellow, plum-sized fruits of the marula tree. These delicacies have a sweetish

acid taste which seems to have a special appeal and are said to ferment in the elephants' stomachs.

Probably the only animal ever grateful for having one too many is the pink pigeon of the island of Mauritius in the Indian Ocean. This rare bird eats a plant that stupefies him—but also produces cyanide when exposed to water in the pigeon's system. The same plant also contains another chemical which accumulates in the bird's body, making its flesh poisonous to people.

While other, tastier pigeons were consumed to extinction, the tipsy pink variety was identified as a species to be left alone. "Thus," says International Wildlife, "the pink pigeon's renown as a drunk may be responsible for its survival as a species."

a 40-mile stretch of road, 65 dead rabbits, 34 birds, 20 three P.S.U. employees counted, in one month along

opossums, and a number of raccoons, skunks, groundhogs, cats, dogs, squirrels, deer, chipmunks, snakes, foxes and porcupines.

Thousands killed on roads

29,914 deer and 84 bears were run down by cars in this state last year.

An informal survey by

School Board Agenda

The agenda for the Donegal School Board meeting to be held at 8:00 PM in the district office on Thursday, May 17, is as follows:

1. Act on personnel matters such as resignations, hiring, etc.
2. Discuss elementary band's request for a trip to Connecticut.
3. Discuss request for rental of building for summer bible school.
4. Discuss cafeteria ven-

dors list.

5. Setting of proposed budget for 1979-80.

6. Approval of graduation and baccalaureate activities.

7. Appointing of district auditor, district solicitor and district treasurer.

8. Discussion of Lancaster County Vo-Tech 1979-80 budget.

9. Formation of IU13 joint authority.

10. Act on, PSDA legal trust fund membership.

11. Bids on typewriter service and repair for the summer.

12. Discuss the high school roof contract.

13. Discuss student attendance policy.

14. Approval of district discipline guidelines.

15. Various items on building repairs and maintenance.

16. Objection to location of picnic tables at Sico Park.

17. Other matters.

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