# Lifestyles



Farm-City

Candice Cameron (center), selected by the Farm-City Committee as the Outstanding Youth in Agriculture from Hoke County, receives a certificate from Willie Featherstone Jr. (right), Hoke County Extension chairman, during the Farm-City Program held at the National Guard Armory last Monday. Also, Steve Parker (left), vice president of

Southern National Bank, is displaying a certificate in recognition of his bank's support of the 4-H Livestock Program. Not pictured is Robert Conoly, vice president of United Carolina Bank, who also received a certificate acknowledging his bank's recognition of the 4-H program.

### Leaves can make quick compost

It is not necessary to build a compost in order to decompose fall leaves.

Leaves from broadleaf trees can be decomposed in the plastic bags in which they were placed after

Most leaves are raked while dry. The only ingredient necessary to add is water.

Select an inconspicuous shaded location in the yard to store them. If left in full sunlight, many kinds of plastic bags will deteriorate and burst open thus the leaves will lose moisture and not

decompose rapidly. Carry the bags of dry leaves to the storage location and than add enough water to set thoroughly. (It is more difficult to move the bags after water has been added).

Shake the water around to obtain good coverage, then pour off any excess before sealing the bags.

Adding a cupful of fertilizer

such as a 10-10-10 analysis before adding water will be beneficial, however, this is not a necessity for decomposition to occur.

Broadleaf leaves such as oak, maple, and pecan, collected in the fall should be decomposed enough to work into the soil by April or Extension News

Willie Featherstone Jr County Extension Chairman

May. Six inches of decomposed leaves will change the structure of heavy clay soils.

They also can be beneficial in increasing the water and nutrient holding capacities of sandy soils.

Seasonal care of poinsettia

Poinsettias will go on the market later this month.

The length of time the plants remain attractive in the home is directly related to the care they receive and the environment in which they are placed.

Improperly cared for, poinset-tias may last but a few days; pro-perly cared for, they may last weeks or even months.

Plants should be placed in well lighted areas, usually the higher the light intensity the better.

Sunny windows are good loca-tions. Optimal day time temperatures range from 70-75 degrees F., with optimal night temperatures of 55-65 degrees.

Droopy foilage may occur when plants have been in a dark cool place for more than 24 hours.

Plants will usually revive when placed in light and warmer temperatures.

Proper watering is extremely important.

Plants should be watered when

the soil is dry to the touch. Sufficient water should be applied to thoroughly wet the entire

soil volume. The amount of water needed and the watering frequency will

vary with the size of the plant, container, and environmental condi-Poinsettia pots are often wrap-

ped in foil or placed in water tight containers to protect furniture.

It is important that excess which accumulates be discarded.

Poinsettias are actually grown for their colorful bracts, and not the true flowers which are the tiny yellow structures in the bract centers.

The flowers usually mature and fall off in 2 to 4 weeks, but the bracts may remain colorful for several months if given proper

# Help offered to abate sickness

Nausea or vomiting, sometimes called morning sickness, may occur during the early months of pregnancy. If you have this problem, try the following things:

-Before getting out of bed in the morning, eat a few crackers, a handful of dry cereal or dry bread. Put these within reach of your bed the night before.

-Get up slowly. Avoid sudden movements.

-Eat five or six meals a day. Never go for long periods without food. Drink fluids, including soups, between, rather than with, meals. When you feel nauseated, drink small amounts of apple juice, grape juice, or carbonated

-Avoid greasy and fried foods.

On the Front Burner Alice Pettitt Home Economics Agent

Eat lightly seasoned foods. Avoid pepper, chili and garlic.

-Be sure to have plenty of fresh air in the bedroom at night and in the kitchen when you cook.

As many of you know, Extension Homemakers is an organization that the Agricultural Extension Service sponsors. We have several clubs in Hoke County, and they usually meet once a month.

They have an educational program at each meeting and some time for fun. They also do a number of community service activities during the year.

These clubs are open to anyone who is interested. Some clubs meet during the day and some at night. If you are interested in finding out more about Extension Homemakers, call us at 875-2162.

Many of you were asking about the dip that we served at the Farm City Week banquet. I thought I would put the recipe in my column again. You can use leftover chicken or turkey, or you can buy the canned mixing chicken or white

(See FRONT, page 8B)





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