

# Nurture

Quarterly Newsletter of the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety

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Subscribers to Nurture are receiving this issue both electronically and via snail mail. Starting with the Spring 2008 issue, the newsletter will be sent by e-mail only.

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National Children's Center  
for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety

*"The National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety strives to enhance the health and safety of all children exposed to hazards associated with agricultural work and rural environments."*

## Agritourism publication fills definite need

The American Emu Association (AEA) distributed "Agritourism Health and Safety Guidelines for Children" to attendees at its national convention in Missoula, Montana, in July, one of a growing number of organizations that have disseminated the resource.

"The booklets are very informative and well presented for our emu tours and general ranch customers, and they were very well received" said Clover Quinn, AEA's Region 5/6 Director and conference chairperson.

The AEA, a 1,700-member non-profit organization of breeders, producers and marketers of emu meat and oil, also shared the guidelines with the Montana Department of Agriculture.

Clover and Joe Quinn have hosted many tours at their Wild Rose Emu Ranch in Hamilton, Montana, where visitors learn about the prehistoric emus, which are 6-foot tall, gray-feathered flightless birds from Australia. Emus are primarily raised for their heart-healthy red meat.

The guidelines have been requested by a variety of individuals and organizations, including state Extension and Farm Bureau offices; state departments of commerce, tourism and labor; agritourism associations; and universities. Kerri Ebert, project coordinator for Kansas State University, said "I've received favorable reviews from everyone I've shown it to here in Kansas. This book fills a definite need." Ebert has supplied the Kansas Department of



**Clover Quinn, regional director of the American Emu Association, at her Hamilton, Montana, ranch. Quinn says Agritourism Health and Safety Guidelines for Children was very well received at her association's national convention.**

Commerce, Extension Offices, and State Fair Program staff with copies.

Purdue University had added the guidelines to its resources to help assist agricultural entrepreneurs.

The guidelines will be promoted during a keynote address at the North American Farmers' Direct Marketing Convention, scheduled for Feb. 15-20, 2008, in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin.

"Agritourism Health and Safety Guidelines for Children" are in their third printing. They are also available at: [www.marshfieldclinic.org/agritourism](http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/agritourism).

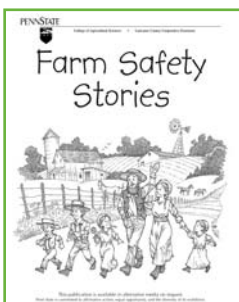
### Mini-grants announced for 2008

For the seventh year in a row, the National Children's Center has made available funding up to \$15,000 to support small-scale projects and pilot studies that address prevention of childhood agricultural disease and injury. The center received and reviewed 14 applications from across the country.

Awardees for FY 2008 are:

- Improving Clinical Practices that Follow Age Appropriate Farm Tasks. PI: Natalie Roy, M.P.H., executive director, AgriSafe Network, Spencer, Iowa.
- Teaching Agricultural Safety to Latino Farmworker Youth through Documentary. PI: Melinda Wiggins, director, Student Action with Farmworkers, Durham, North Carolina.
- A Community-Made Foto-Novela: A Tool to Provide Agricultural Health & Safety Information to Migrant Youth Working in California Agriculture." PI: Olivia Sosa-Kropp, director, San Joaquin County Office of Education, Migrant Education, Region 23, Stockton, California.
- Integrated Farm Safety Training Initiative. PI: Sam Steel, Ed.D., The Pennsylvania State University, Agricultural & Biological Engineering, University Park, Pennsylvania.

### Anabaptist education storybook published



"Farm Safety Stories" is a new Anabaptist education tool developed and created with the help of a mini-grant from the National Children's Center. The book includes five different farm-related adventures regarding the primary causes of unintentional injuries among Old Order Amish and Old Order Mennonite farm children.

The project was led by Kay Moyer, M.S., Cooperative Extension educator for Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Several Amish and Mennonite teachers, key Anabaptist community individuals, Dennis Murphy, Ph.D., (Penn State Agriculture Professor), Shari Burgus, M.Ed., (Farm Safety 4 Just Kids) participated in development of the stories. Old Order Amish and Mennonite teachers and students participated in pilot testing the stories. This tool was pilot studied by 462 students in two family settings, two Mennonite schools in Canada, and 15 Lancaster County Anabaptist schools. Evaluations determined that the new tool was culturally appropriate in content. Student evaluations demonstrated that there was a change in knowledge, attitude and behavior, Moyer said.

"We are hoping to seek other funding to print more of the story books and get them out to other Amish and Mennonite teachers at their teacher's meetings so they can take one and use it in their school," Moyer said. "This would be a great project for a family to do together, and I think that mothers would like to read these stories to their children especially mothers who home-school their children."

### Booklet addresses pesticides, expectant mothers

Migrant Clinicians Network (MCN) has published a new Spanish-language educational "comic" book that addresses pesticide exposure and pregnant women.



"Lo Que Bien Empieza ... Bien Acaba: Consejos para las mujeres para prevenir danos a la salud ya sus bebes causados por pesticidas" and other prenatal resources are available at [http://www.migrantclinician.org/resources\\_search?filter\\_program=73](http://www.migrantclinician.org/resources_search?filter_program=73).

Production of the book was sponsored by Paso del Norte Health Foundation and American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Foundation.



**Susan Gallagher leading an injury prevention workshop in Marshfield, Wisconsin, in August.**

### Injury prevention expert speaks at National Children's Center

Susan Gallagher, M.P.H., a nationally- and internationally-recognized specialist in injury and violence prevention, conducted a workshop in August at the National Children's Center in Marshfield, Wisconsin. Attendees included educators, nurses, physicians and researchers.

Gallagher is on the faculty in the Department of Public Health and Family Medicine at Tufts Medical School, where she serves as Director of the Master of Science Program in Health Communication. Gallagher is the Founding Director of the Statewide Comprehensive Injury Prevention Program at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the Children's Safety Network National Injury and Violence Prevention Resource Center. She also is a co-founder of the Harvard Injury Control Research Center and the international journal *Injury Prevention*.

## NIOSH funds three extramural grants related to child ag safety

Three extramural grants have been funded under the recent NIOSH Request for Applications on Childhood Agricultural Safety and Health Research. By funding these three extramural grants, NIOSH/OEP is committing about \$1.1 million per year to Child Ag Safety research over the next three years. The funded grants are:

### ***Refinement and Enhancement of Agricultural Safety Curricula for Children (REACCH): Deborah Reed, University of Kentucky***

Dr. Reed will be designing enhanced curriculum materials for children attending farm safety days sponsored by the Progressive Agriculture Foundation (PAF). There are five specific aims which include developing supplemental training materials, strengthening instructor training, and testing the efficacy of the materials and the methods used to deliver them. Her goal is to strengthen and extend the positive effects of farm safety days on the safety attitudes and behaviors of participants and their families. Her findings will be used to refine curricula and programming in the PAF Safety Day Manual and will be shared with other children's safety organizations.

### ***Georgia Childhood Agriculture Safety and Health Research: Zolinda Stoneman, University of Georgia***

Dr. Stoneman will be identifying and implementing strategies which encourage adults to adopt injury control methods to

protect youth. She will utilize the Theory of Planned Behavior to design, develop, and evaluate a family-based farm safety intervention, the Parent Interactive Intervention, geared to youth 10-19 years of age in which the parents lead the intervention. She will conduct a longitudinal, randomized control evaluation of the effectiveness of this intervention, using parents as both role models and teachers of safety practices for their families.

### ***Developing and Evaluating New Approaches to Youth Agricultural Injury Prevention: John R. Wilkins III, Ohio State University***

Dr. Wilkins will develop and evaluate a family-based intervention designed to significantly reduce the risk of childhood agricultural injury. He will accomplish this by developing and pilot testing educational materials to expand the scope of the North American Guidelines for Children's Agricultural Tasks (NAGCAT). Two strategies for enhancing compliance with the expanded guidelines will be developed and evaluated: one will target only parents (as is the case with the NAGCAT) and the other will be family-based.

Extramural grant applications and progress reports are confidential documents. The complete description for each project is publicly available at <http://crisp.cit.nih.gov/>.

-- Allen Robison, NIOSH Office of Extramural Programs, Atlanta

## News in brief (continued)



***The New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health built a Safe Play Area demo at Empire Farm Days.***

### Safe Play demo popular at Empire Farm Days

The New York Center for Agricultural Medicine & Health (NYCAMH) sponsored a Rural Safe Play Area at the Empire Farm Days held in Seneca Falls, New York, August 7-9, 2007.

The "Largest Farm Show in the Northeast," the 2007 Empire Farm Days had nearly 700 exhibitors. The Safe Play Area was in the Safety and Health Center coordinated by NYCAMH staff. James Carrabba, farm safety specialist, facilitated the Safe Play Area with assistance of NYCAMH staff members Suzanne Stack, Melissa Brower, Jennie Kreis, Tom Hohensee, and Sharon Scofield. More than 200 children and parents

stopped by the Safe Play Area, reported Scofield. Staff distributed "Creating Safe Play Areas on Farms" booklets provided by the National Children's Center.

For more information on how to set up a demonstration play area model, refer to the booklet "Interactive Demonstrations of Safe Play Areas at Rural and Agricultural Events." To view the booklet online and download a copy, go to <http://marshfieldclinic.org/nfmc/pages/default.aspx> and in the lefthand directory, click "Resources" and then "Safe Play." Or, for a free copy, call the National Children's Center at 1-800-662-6900 or email a request for a print copy to [nccrahs@mcrf.mfldclin.edu](mailto:nccrahs@mcrf.mfldclin.edu).

### Give the gift of safety for the holidays!

For this holiday season, consider investing in a special child's safety instead of the latest gadget. For as little as \$200 you could install a fence around the backyard to keep children in a safe and fun environment. If there is already a fenced play area, consider adding groundcover under the swing set or monkey bars. Our children ARE our most valuable resource. This year, treat yourself to the security of knowing that a special child is protected from farm hazards. Remember the safety of our children is PRICELESS.



## Youth@Work curriculum available

NIOSH is pleased to present Youth@Work: Talking Safety, a foundation curriculum in occupational safety and health. This curriculum is the culmination of many years' work by a consortium of partners dedicated to reducing occupational injuries and illnesses among youth. This curriculum is meant to be used in a classroom or other group training setting, and has been customized for each state and Puerto Rico to address state-specific rules and regulations. The entire booklet includes instructions for teachers and a step-by-step guide for presenting the material. Go to <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/talkingsafety/>.



## Schedule of upcoming events

### January 13-16, 2008

American Farm Bureau Federation Convention and Annual Meeting  
New Orleans, Louisiana

### March 12-18, 2008

Canadian Agriculture Safety Week

### June 22-26, 2008

National Institute for Farm Safety Annual Conference  
Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

### June 29-July 2, 2008

American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers,  
Annual International Meeting  
Providence, Rhode Island

### July 29, 2008

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)-  
National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) Conference  
Denver, Colorado

### October 19-23, 2008

Sixth International Symposium: Public Health and the  
Agricultural Rural Ecosystem  
Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

**Nurture** is a publication of the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety (a program of Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, Wisconsin).

It is published three times each year to disseminate children's rural health and safety information to professionals in the fields of health and safety, agri-business, the media, and others.

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