

Homestead Notes

Pat Erway, Editor



Concluding National 4-H Week . . .

These Queens Will Speak For 4-H All Year Long

By Sally Bair
Feature Writer

Lancaster County's 4-H queens are two pretty talented teenagers who are "sold" on the value of 4-H.

Fifteen year old March Bomberger and fourteen year old Cindy Charles were selected as the senior and junior 4-H queens, respectively, at 4-H Achievement Day in August. They will spend one year being spokesmen for 4-H, and they both agree that 4-H has brought them many memorable experiences.

Marcy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Bomberger, Elm, has been a member of the Elm-Penryn 4-H club for six years. She has carried a sewing project each year and won a blue ribbon on each project. She also had two years of cooking.

Marcy says, "I joined 4-H because my mother wanted me to since my sisters had been in it." She said she now feels all young people should "definitely join 4-H." It helps get you ready for the future as a homemaker or seamstress and in a lot of different areas. It also helps you work for a better community."

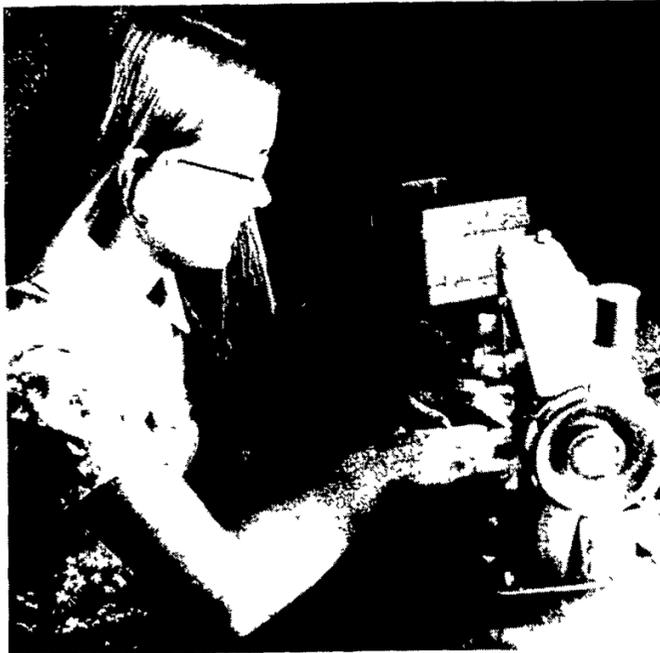
There were 31 contestants in the preliminary contest for senior queen, all of whom had been selected by their local 4-H clubs. Five competed for the honor on Achievement Day when they appeared before an audience and

the judges. Marcy was asked what she had encountered in 4-H, and she recalls that she gave a summary of her 4-H experiences.

She said, "I wasn't nervous during the contest as I usually am before a group of people. My family was really surprised when I came home."

She looks on her selection as 4-H queen as a result of her achievement in 4-H work. "It is quite an accomplishment to represent Lancaster County."

In the month since she was chosen as senior queen, Marcy has been on television and has appeared in three parades in



Senior 4-H Queen Marcy Bomberger likes to "create" her own outfits. Here she works on a pair of wool slacks.



Cindy displays her first sewing project in 4-H, a sleeveless dress, and the blue ribbon she won at round-up for her effort.

conjunction with the Ephrata, Solanco and Manheim Fairs. She said, "I don't know what people think when they see us in parades. Many probably don't know what 4-H means." She feels it might be more advantageous to talk with people about the opportunities in 4-H.

About her 4-H work, Marcy says, "I've met a lot of new people, in dress revue and at Achievement Day. Now a lot of people compliment me on outfits I have made. I really appreciate that."

She added, "4-H has taught me to sew on my own. At first I depended on my mother, but now I can go ahead. I sew most of my own clothes. I only buy things on sale." If you sew she says, "You can create your own ideas, and it's a lot cheaper."

For the past two years Marcy has been a winner in county 4-H dress revue, and represented Lancaster County at district dress review. Last year she fashioned a wool skirt, cape and vest made with wool fabric she purchased in London on a trip with her parents. This summer her project consisted of a coordinated coat, pants, skirt and vest, again out of 100 percent wool.

In her 4-H club, Marcy says she helps with the younger girls and she has held an office every year she's been a member.

But 4-H is just a small part of Marcy's busy world. She is a junior at Manheim Central High School where she is class president, secretary of Future Homemakers of America and a member of student council. She enjoys sports and is a halfback on the girls' hockey team. With practice every night and games twice a week, there's not much spare time. She also is on the track team.

Marcy is taking the college prep course and her ambition is to attend Eastern Mennonite College in Virginia to study elementary education.

She is a member of Erb's Mennonite Church where she is active in the youth group.

It is evident that Marcy enjoys

the busy life. She said, "It is good to be involved in a lot of activities. To me that is what keeps school alive. I have learned responsibility and discipline as a result."

Marcy's father is an owner of Bomberger's store in Elm and the whole family helps out. Although Marcy says she's too young to work according to state laws, she does help unload boxes and stamp items. But since her mother works at the store, Marcy says, "I do most of the cooking." Marcy has three sisters and two brothers: Fannie, 22; Amelia, 19; Betsy, 18; John, 21; and Roy, Jr., 11.

Cindy Charles is another 4-H'er with a full schedule. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Charles, Mount Joy, Cindy is a freshman at Donegal High School. She is a majorette in the band, and at this time of the year that means a lot of practice to get ready for all those football games. She is also in the chorus and the modern dance club.

Cindy has been a member of the Mount Joy 4-H Club for three years. She had two years of cooking and baking and one year of sewing. She made a sleeveless dress this summer and won a blue ribbon.

"I joined 4-H because friends urged me to join," Cindy says, and she feels it has been a great experience. "I learned about the projects, but also got to meet a lot of new people. 4-H gives you responsibility and it offers you the opportunity to be a leader."

Cindy explained that at the Mount Joy club round-up each person participates in some way. She said, "This helps you gain poise and self confidence, especially in modeling what you have made."

Cindy laughs and says she can't remember how she answered her question on Achievement Day when she was selected junior queen, but she does remember her question: "What do the four H's mean to you personally?" She said the four H's she described were "home, health, happiness and heart." Cindy was

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Marcy Bomberger (left) and Cindy Charles wait for the Manheim Fair parade

to begin. They are the Lancaster County 4-H senior and junior queens, respectively.