22-Lancaster Farming, Saturday, August 31, 1974



Gary Myer, left, chairman of the **Elizabethtown Jaycees Marketplace** Fair committee, and his publicity chairman Joe Maher, discuss some of

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when we were kids. It was the biggest thing of the year. And I guess a lot of us want our kids to have that same experience.'

We asked Myer how they had gotten the fair started, what their plans are for the future, and how the community feels about having a fair again. "Our Market-place Fair, which is what we're calling it this year, actually grew out of our annual Jaycee Community Picnic, which had been held for about 20 years. Three years ago, we decided to have a festival, with rides, games and a food stand. And this year we thought we'd try to move into some of the traditional things that have always been done at community fairs.

"We don't have any livestock competition at all this year, but we do have the home economics and crafts competitions - the sewing, baked goods, and canning competitions. We'll also repeat the features which have fruits and vegetables, have been drawing cards in

grains and dairy products. the past. There are rides, a We'll be giving out the same prizes they give out at the other fairs. We copies our premium list right out of the state manual.'

Myer pointed out that the state probably won't give any premium money to the fair this year, but he said the Jaycees are prepared to stick out the three-year probation period required before the state will reimburse half the premium money awarded.

The biggest problem in getting started, Myer said, is trying to predict the response they'll get to their very first competition. "We've had some publicity on the fair, and we have entry blanks in several different stores, but we still don't know what to expect. We don't know what to plan for."

As an outgrowth of the annual Community Festival. the Marketplace Fair has a pretty solid base on which to grow. The Jaycees have managed to draw very good crowds to the festival, and for the fair they plan to

the things they'll be doing this year. The fair is scheduled for September 18-20 at the Elizabethtown Community Park.

> few games, a food stand run by the E-Town Jaycettes, and a fireworks display. "We spent about \$2000 on the fireworks, but I think it was worth it because we had a lot of business we otherwise wouldn't have had."

> Attractions this year will include the fireworks on



Saturday night, a battle of the bands on Wednesday and Thursday nights, free kiddie rides and refreshments on Saturday afternoon for children 12 and under, and a flea market. They've also invited some other Jaycee organizations and fire companies to come in and run stands.

"I think the festival worked because we gave the people their money's worth," Myer said. "All the games, for example, are run by local people who give out lots of prizes. We don't want any clip artists or sice shows at our fair."

If this year's fair goes over well, Myer said they'll probably include at least some livestock competition next year. "We'll have a problem then," Myer said, "because we'll have to start thinking about finding another facility. We use the community park now, but that could get cramped if we get much bigger."

Persons interested in entering exhibits can do so on Tuesday, Sept. 17 from 8 a.m. until 10 p.m. and Wednesday the 18th from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. Judging by associate county agent Arnold Lueck and extension home economist Doris Thomas will begin at 7;30 p.m. on Wednesday. An entry fee of 25-cents per

department will be charged, entries allowed in each with an unlimited number of department.



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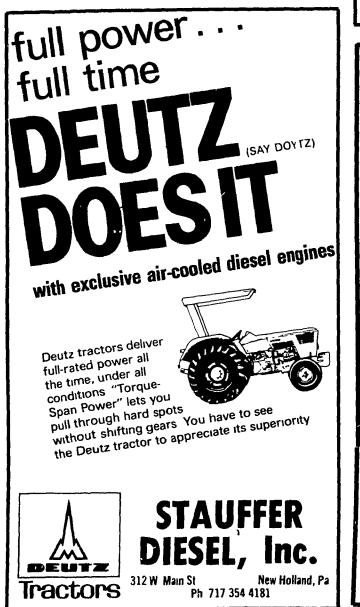
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