

# Apple Blossom Festival delights young and old

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ARENDSVILLE — Over 12,000 people took in the sights and sounds of this year's Apple Blossom Festival held here at the South Mountain Fairgrounds. Just as flowers attracts bees, the displays drew visitors to inspect the wares and produce of the county.

Exhibits included a petting zoo, antique cars from the Gettysburg Area Antique Auto Association, helicopter rides, a sheep shearing and shawl making demonstration, bus tours through the orchards, a building full of crafts, machinery for making cornmeal, the crowning of the 1981 Apple Blossom Queen, and stands full of food.

Families could eat a lamb from the Adams County Poultry Association and pork dinner courtesy of the Adams County Sheep Producers Association & The South Central Pennsylvania Pork Producers Association on Saturday or have barbecue chicken on Sunday.

With this main course, they could stroll to one of the stands and have a milk shake or a glass of cider and to finish the meal they could have a cherry dessert, an apple or an ice cream cone.

On first arriving at the fairgrounds, children would stare wide-eyed and opened mouthed everytime the helicopter came in low for another landing. Some

would squeal with delight, while others clutched their parents in fright. But after a while they grew accustomed to the helicopter's commotion and turned their attention elsewhere. Often that attention was centered on the petting zoo, where they could pet baby animals supplied by the county's 4-H clubs.

Meanwhile, parents strolled the grounds and checked the assortment of crafts, stopped at the apple display and tried to decide whether to buy a bag of apples or a jug of cider to take back home. The antique car display was guaranteed to bring back memories and stories about old cars and trucks once owned by the visitor.

People found the bus tours were a good way to relax, see the blossoms in bloom, and learn more about the industry from a fruit grower. The guides pointed out the different types of trees, showed the tourists how to tell whether a blossom has been injured by frost, the life expectancy and answered questions. At the end of the trip, riders disembarked and received an apple from either Tami Lobaugh, the 1980 Apple Blossom Queen or Angie Sheaffer the incoming Queen.

Many visitors seemed interested in a collection of puffing and chugging gasoline engines, which turned belts operating machinery that crushed and ground corn into meal. Harry Hahn, owner of the exhibit, drew attention to his

display by occasionally piercing the Spring air with a steam whistle or siren located among his engines. Some folks inspected the bags of freshly ground meal and scanned a recipe sheet, while others just stared at the mechanical activity.

Another buzzing area was the helicopter landing site where people gathered to watch the craft take off and land, some even summoned enough courage to go aloft for a ride. The pilots from AgRotors explained aerial crop dusting, the pesticides used, answered questions from onlookers, as well as flying the 'copter'.

The highlight of the festival came Sunday afternoon when U.S. Representative William F. Goodling crowned Angie Sheaffer as the 1981 Apple Blossom Queen. The Biglerville High School senior was selected in a contest held April 11 at Bendersville.

The daughter of Terry and Connie Sheaffer, Angie has worked on her father's and grandparent's orchards doing everything from picking fruit to working with animals. She will be a freshman this fall at the South Seminary Junior College in Virginia.

Also selected during last month's contest was Laurie Roth of Fairfield as first runner-up and Missy Sheaffer, the new queen's sister, as second runner-up.

Just before the crowning ceremony, the results of the apple pie contest were announced. On Saturday three judges, Glen Wolf

of Wolf's Restaurant, Joann Musselman of the Fairfield Inn and Shirley Claar, Dietary Supervisor of the Gettysburg Lutheran Home, chose the nine winners.

In Division One, for cooks 11 years and under, the blue ribbon went to Julie Taylor of Biglerville.

Second place was awarded to Amee Taylor, also of Biglerville and third place went to Kristine Anderson of Aspers.

In Division Two, for ages 12 through 18, the first place ribbon went to Karen Bretzman of Bendersville. Second place was awarded to Missy Sheaffer of

Biglerville, and third place went to Sally Shulteis of Biglerville.

In Division Three, for those older than 19, the blue ribbon was awarded to Marjorie Keller of Aspers, second place went to Retha McCleaf also from Aspers, and third place was awarded to May Shulteis of Biglerville.

The Apple Blossom Festival's sponsors included the Adams County Fruit Growers Association, the Adams County Poultry Association, and the Gettysburg Travel Council.

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Visitors enjoying the Adams County Apple Blossom Festival at the South Mountain Fairgrounds, Arendtsville, had a chance to chat with the county Apple Blossom Queens from 1980 and 1981, Tami Lobaugh, left, and Angie Sheaffer, right.



Apple grower Donald Trostle provides fruit industry during tours through the beautiful orchards.



Tami Lobaugh treats this small-fry to a free 'nature's toothbrush'.



One of the toughest jobs at the festival is judging the apple pie entries. This year's judges, Shirley Claar, Joanne Musselman, and Glen Wolf take a long, hard, mouth-watering look at the delicious 'contestants'.



Dan and Terry Daily prepare lamb burgers and shishkebabs to delight even the gourmet's taste.