

Red Cherry Growers crown Queen Joyce

BY M.H. GITT
Staff Correspondent

GETTYSBURG — The Pennsylvania Red Cherry Growers held their annual meeting and heard reports indicating a good crop and good prices for the state.

Joyce Starner, 17, of Aspers, was selected the 1981 state Red Cherry Queen. The daughter of Myles and Dorothy Starner, Joyce succeeds Laurie Roth as the association's commodity queen.

Secretary-Treasurer Earl Shutt reported that "According to USDA estimates, the state should be producing eight million pounds of cherries this year - an increase of 35 to 40 percent from last year. Other states are facing a decrease in production such as Michigan with 95 million pounds, which is only 63 percent of the 1980 crop. New York is calculated to produce 9.5 million pounds which is only 31 percent of last year and Wisconsin production is figured at 10 million pounds which is 83 percent of last year's crops."

More good news was the Cherry Advisory Board's report that the estimated demand for cherries would be 197 million pounds. But production is calculated to reach 116.5 million pounds from the control states of Pennsylvania, Michigan, New York, Wisconsin, Virginia, Maryland and West Virginia, and another 18.1 million pounds from other states. Additional sources to meet the demand would be the 9.8 million pounds carried over from last year and the 26 million pounds in the national pool. But figuring in all the supplies there will be an estimated shortage of 27 million pounds.

"So there will probably be no reserve pool formed from this year's crop," said Shutt.

He later noted that this year's crop seems to be a good one, and while it's not a "bumper crop," it's probably the best since 1976. "If we can get them to the processors in good shape."

Not content to tell the growers that the state farmers should be producing more than last year for a market where supply may not meet demand, Shutt added that

computations by the Michigan Farm Bureau Marketing Association indicate that the price of cherries will be \$.47 per pound this year.

"This is not a firm price and it doesn't dictate what the processors will pay you," warned Shutt. "They could pay you more or less. It simply gives you a rough idea of what prices may be like."

Not all of the news was good as Shutt reported that the National Red Cherry Institute, which promotes the use of cherries, was suffering from a lack of funds. The amount of money the institute receives comes from voluntary contributions based on the size of the cherry crop. Since last year's crop was small, the amount of money was also small. Some states also decided to keep more money "at home" instead of sending it to the institute, tightening the budget even more. Shutt reported that there was some talk of shutting the institute down for a year until more money comes in, but this idea was turned down.

Also speaking before the crowd was Larry Yager, Penn State extension specialist for marketing. He reinforced the forecasts that the state's crop is looking very good and that Adams, Franklin, York and Erie counties account for over 75 percent of the state's total red cherry production. He also noted that according to a recent study over 29 percent of the country's population use cherries in one form or another.

Yager's other duty for the evening was crowning Miss Starner as the state's red cherry queen. She is a 1981 graduate of Biglerville High School and will be attending the Central Penn Business School this fall.

The outgoing queen, Laurie Roth, daughter of Philip and Beverly Roth of Fairfield, recounted her experiences of the past year.

"It was a wonderful year and presented me with the opportunity to do a lot of things," she said.

The highlights were the Ag Progress Days and the Farm Show where she presented a cherry pie to the governor and handed out

2,000 single cherries on toothpicks. She added that she traveled 2,800 miles, went to 18 towns and cities in doing 28 promotions which included six fairs, two conventions, six mall promotions, three banquets and 11 other events.

"It was a long hard year," she concluded. "But I enjoyed every minute and met a lot of interesting people and I hope Joyce has at least half as much fun as I did."

Miss Roth was then awarded a

certificate of recognition from Pennsylvania Agriculture Secretary Penrose Hallowell for the excellent job she did and for all the work she performed as the state's red cherry queen. Presenting the award on behalf of the Secretary was Ray Reiter, supervisor of the Red Cherry Marketing Board Program.

In other business, the growers elected the association's officers for the upcoming year. Timothy

Weiser of York Springs was named president; John Lerew also of York Springs was voted vice president and Earl Shutt of Orrtanna was selected as secretary-treasurer.

The growers also passed a resolution supporting the use of Nema-cur in Pennsylvania. The pesticide, which is being used in other states, is for the control of nematodes which can carry a virus from one tree to another.

Plan your home to save energy

YORK — If you're selecting, building or remodeling a home, don't pass up the chance to be an energy conservationist. With utility costs rising yearly, the payoff may be bigger than you think.

The home is a big fuel user, points out A. Joan Lamberson, Extension home economist, and many decisions you make in the planning stages directly affect the amount of fuel required to run your home.

Lamberson offers the following guidelines to help you plan an energy efficient home:

—Provide only the space you actually need. Remember, you have to heat it, light it and clean it.

—Cut down on spaces for little-used areas. Example—how large does a formal dining room need to be if you eat most meals in the kitchen?

—Consider multi-use rooms — living room/dining room, playroom/children's room.

—Locate main entrances where they will be protected from winter winds.

—Provide an entryway or vestibule in the home to trap outside air and keep it from spreading through the house.

—Located "hot rooms"—kitchen, laundry—in cooler sections of the house, away from west sun.

—Orient the house so that you don't have large unshaded west windows.

—Protect windows from the summer sun via shades, screens and roof overhangs.

—Avoid large expanses of concrete or blacktop directly adjacent to large windows.

—Landscape the yard to provide deciduous trees to shade the roof and west windows in the summer and let the sun through in the winter.

—Select window treatments that provide insulation as well as style.

—Insulate the walls and attic

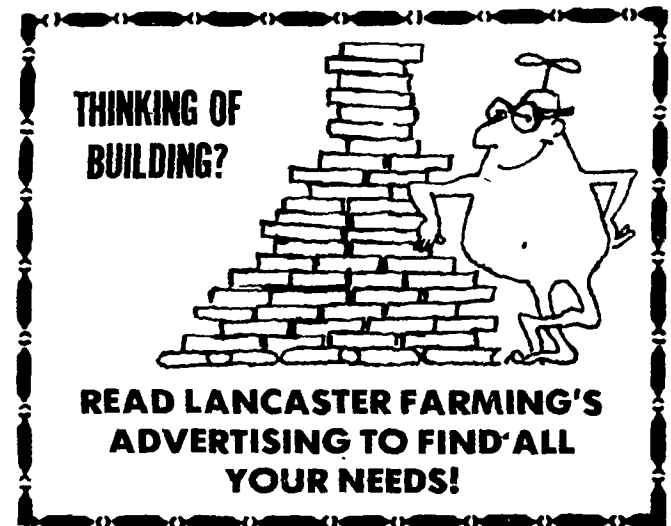
floor; weatherstrip doors and windows.

—Plan to heat the house in zones so that you control the heat according to your living pattern. You may close off some rooms in the winter heat or heat bedrooms only at night.

—Located the furnace centrally. It will be more efficient.

—Select all heating and cooling equipment for efficiency and for the capacity of your home.

—Use care in selecting kitchen appliances. Choose only the appliances and the features you will use.



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