

Apple Blossom Festival Scheduled

GETTYSBURG — Adams County will be the site of the 34th annual Apple Blossom Festival which will be held Sat., May 5 and Sun., May 6.

Highlights of this year's festival include: Live entertainment, chicken dinners, free orchard tours (10 a.m.-4 p.m.) crafts show and sale, petting baby barnyard, livestock and agricultural exhibits, and the crowning of the Apple Blossom Queen. Features this year include an apple butter boil and a wider selection of taste-tempting food treats.

The Apple Blossom Festival is held each year at the South Mountain Fairgrounds located 10 miles northwest of historic Gettysburg on Rt. 234 near Arendtsville. The Fairgrounds are situated in the middle of scenic Adams County's 20,000 acres of fruit orchards. The festival gates will open each day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and admission is \$1 for adults, children under age 16 are

free and there is plenty of free parking.

Visitors from a six state area are attracted to this special annual event to enjoy the festival and to view the beautiful blossoms of the apple, peach and cherry trees which are usually in full bloom during festival week.

Adams County Fruitgrowers, who produce over five million bushels of apples each year, would like to invite you to view, enjoy, and learn about their apple industry.

Attractions, both days, promise to delight both young and old. Other attractions include: a display of antique cars, helicopter rides, large group of antique steam engines, antique corn-sheller demonstration, homemade crafts, plus much, much, more.

The highlight of Sunday's activities will be the crowning of the

1984 Apple Blossom Queen. Preceding the crowning will be an apple pie baking contest, apple pie eating contests and apple bobbing contests. A wide variety of food products will be available for purchase such as fresh apples, apple cider, apple butter, candied apples, apple dumplings, apple strudel, apple pies, chicken in the basket (Saturday only), chicken barbeque dinners (Sunday only), homemade scrapple and country sausage.

The Apple Blossom Festival is sponsored by the Adams County Fruitgrowers Association, and coordinated by the Gettysburg, Adams County Area Chamber of Commerce. For further information contact: the Gettysburg Travel Council, Dept. M-19, 35 Carlisle Street, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325.

Lower Dauphin FFA holds events

HUMMELSTOWN — "Keeping America on the Grow" was the theme for this year's National FFA Week which was celebrated from February 18 - 24 by Future Farmers of America throughout the nation.

At the Lower Dauphin FFA Chapter, activities were varied beginning with a demonstration to the school board. At the board meeting, members from the FFA recited essays on "What the FFA has done for Me". The chapter sponsored the essay contest during the previous week for its members and was later judged by Mrs. Pennington, Senior High English Teacher and Mr. Staver, Dean of Students.

The winner on each grade level won an FFA Vest and the over-all winner of the contest won a feeder pig. Winners were Dave Erdman, ninth grade and Greenhand; Joe Halbleib, tenth grade and Chapter Farmer; Jav Fleck, eleventh

grade and CDP Area Degree winner; and Cindy Baker, senior and Keystone Degree Winner. The over-all winner was Larry Peyton, Greenhand.

To promote the FFA throughout the school, the Chapter put up several window displays, had the creed recited over the Public Address system during the morning announcements, and sponsored a coffee and donut hour for the faculty members during the morning.

The Chapter also sponsored a market hog-weight-guessing contest for all students and faculty. The correct winner in the student division was Dave Chervis, an FFA member and the winner in the Faculty division was Mr. Rhodes, a sophomore guidance counselor.

The Chapter has already started to make plans for next year's FFA Week during which the chapter will be 25 years old.

Program signup

DES MOINES, Ia. — Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block has extended the sign-up period for 1984 cotton, feed grain, rice and wheat programs by three weeks, through March 16.

Block also said he has changed summer fallow rules so that the requirements would be the same as they were in 1983 and previous programs. Prior to this action, acreage designated for the 1984 programs could not have been land intended for summer fallow in the current year. Other provisions of the 1984 programs will remain unchanged, he said.

Block said he took these actions to clear away some of the obstacles which made it difficult for farmers to make sound decisions about the programs. Also, many farmers have not been able to finalize crop operating plans including financing and lease arrangements. Since producers must sign a binding contract in the 1984 acreage reduction programs, with liquidated damages for failure to comply, they are reluctant to sign up until their operating plans are more complete, he said.

"Both USDA and private sector analysts say that when most farmers compare these programs with their own operating plans, they will find participation is to their advantage," Block said. "This extension will give producers the time needed to weigh the benefits of participation against the risks of no price protection which they would otherwise face."

Block encouraged farmers to avoid a last-minute rush to USDA's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service county offices so that they can better serve each farmer

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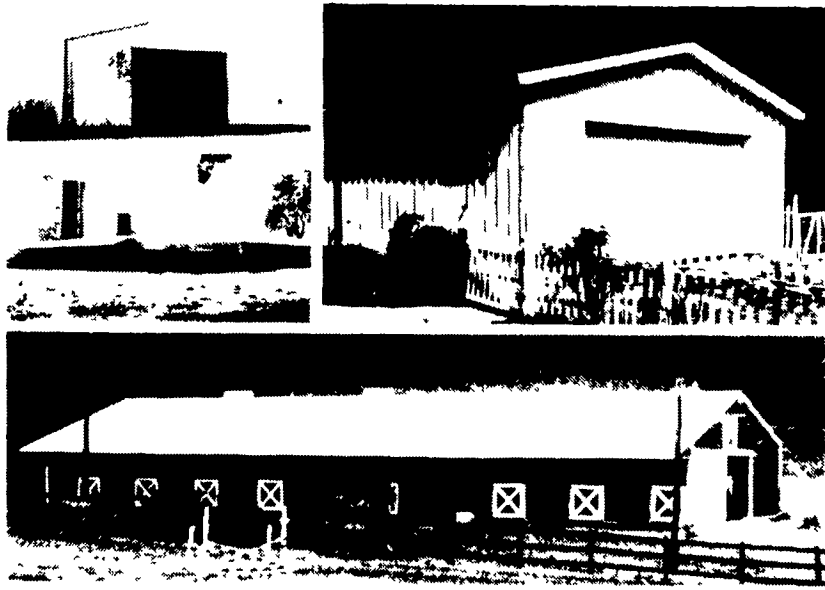
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