

Kempton Country Fair

Forty years and still going strong — perhaps it's not the oldest nor the biggest, but certainly it is one of the liveliest fairs you'll ever find. And one of the friendliest.

It's the Kempton Country Fair, that opens Friday evening, June 17 and continues through Sunday, June 19.

Located at the Kempton Community Center with Hawk Mountain and rolling hills as a backdrop, where blue skies and fresh air give the feeling of a million miles from nowhere, comes this fantastic weekend of simply good country music, tractor pulls, offroad races, rides, and even a scholarship pageant to select "Es Lieblichst Maedel," the fairest one.

When the gates open at 5 p.m. on Friday, the food stands and other concessions will roll full speed on ahead. And by 6 p.m., the tractors will rumble on the grounds to begin an evening filled with farm stock tractor pulls in three classes — from 5,500 to 15,500 pounds — in a 31-year tradition as well as with single wheel 4x4 sanctioned stock pick-ups, a locat 4x4 non-sanctioned class from Lehigh, Berks and Schuylkill counties, and two modified stock sanctioned classes.

But for the music buffs, the evening begins at 7 p.m. under the open air covered stage with Tommy Schaefer and the Blue Mountain Ramblers and Sherry featured on the fiddle. They'll appear again at 9:15 p.m.

At 8·15 and again at 10:15 p.m. Vicki Bird will make her debut in Kempton. Appearing on the Academy of Country Music Awards in Nashville, Video Country and a regular on Hee Haw, her records include "Memories" and "Moaning the Blues." She has appeared

in state fairs and festivals over the

A display of fireworks will light the sky (in case of rain, they'll be fired off on Saturday) at 11 p.m. — all in celebration of Kempton's 40th anniversary.

Once the fair opens at noon on Saturday, the entertainment is again non-stop. Mountain Madness Off-Road Races begin with Figure 8's at noon, and at 6 p.m. they'll hold drag races. All are sanctioned E.C.4 W.D.A. events.

And, as always, it's Children's Day for kids 14 years old and under. From 1 until 4 p.m., rates on amusement rides are reduced with the same offer being made for Sunday during the same time slot.

At 4 p.m., a bicycle will be presented to a lucky child at an onstage drawing.

Garfield and Lee, a new duet direct from Nashville, will perform favorite country music at 3 and 5 p.m.

At 6 and again 9:15 p.m., the country Rhythm Band will appear on stage with old and new favorites.

Rex Allen highlights the Saturday evening shows in two programs — 7:15 p.m. and again at 10:15 p.m. with a string of top hits. Allen has one of the most sensational voices on the music scene today. Beginning as a member of the Townsmen, a California folk trio, he quickly established himself as a top talent and moved into solo stands.

The Miss Kempton Fair Scholarship Pageant dominates the Sunday afternoon program. Starting at noon, a bevy of lovely lasses will exhibit their talents, demonstrate poise in individual interviews, and their charm in evening gowns. They'll appear together in an original production number and finally, "Es Lieblichst

Macdel," the fairest one, will be crowned and her court presented.

The Mountain Madness Off-

The Mountain, Madness Off-Road Races, a sanctioned E.C.4W.D.A. event, will begin at noon in a series of obstacle races.

The Children's Pedal Tractor
Pull or teeter-totter has been scheduled for kids 4 to 10 years old at

The Remnants will appear on the main stage in two Sunday afternoon programs at 4 p.m. and 5:15 p.m. for their very first performance in Kempton.

For 27 years, this top trio, The Whites, have gained a reputation as the new first family in country music. They'll feature some of their best songs at 7 and 9 p.m.

And if the entertainment sche-

dule weren't enough, more than 100 exhibitors will be showing their wares with everything from flea markets to pole buildings, hot tubs, to Pennsylvania Dutch meats and candles, cars and farm implements, and the list goes on.

The food? Well, it's the stuff fairs are made of. Homemade hamburgers, soups and chili made famous by the Kempton Community Center cooks, hot dogs on the grill are available, and other favorites from steak sandwiches to tacos and spun sugar candles are discovered in niches along the midway.

There are the amusement rides and a midway. Truly, there are so many things to see and do that this fair becomes something special. Manned by volunteers, all proceeds are returned to the Kempton Community Center, a non-profit organization. All entertainment at the fair is free and goes on rain or shine except for tractor pulls and fireworks, which have a Saturday raindate, same time.

Parking is controlled and is free. Admission is \$4 per person. Children 6 through 12 are ½ price and children under six are free.

Kempton is located 35 miles north of Reading and 30 miles west of Allentown. Take Rts. 143 or 737 north from I-78 or Rt. 143 from Rt. 309 to Kempton.

For more information, call the Kempton Community Center, Box 43, Kempton, PA 19529, (610) 756-6030.

National FFA Winners Tour Europe

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — For their achievements as national proficiency award winners, 29 FFA members from across the United States will be traveling to Europe for a 12-day seminar.

The award winners, announced last November in Kansas City, Mo., during the 66th National FFA Convention, will be leaving the Washington, D.C., area on June 19. Highlights of the tour include stops in Germany, Poland, and the Czech Republic.

During the seminar, the students will observe typical agricultural practices in Eastern and Western Europe. As a part of their European cultural experience, the FFA members will:

- Visit agricultural cooperatives (collective farms) in the Czech Republic and Germany.
- Explore the city of Berlin.Receive a briefing on German
- Receive a briefing on German agriculture by a member of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry.
- Visit small private farms in Poland.
- Visit a Land O'Lakes Development Project near Swionica, Poland.
- Stay with a host family at Grossenhain, Germany (formerly East Germany).
- Visit a former WWII Concentration Camp at Terrazin, in the

Czech Republic.

• Have dinner and a social gathering with German Young Farmers at Bayreuth, Germany.

To give them a more accurate taste of European life, the students will stay with host families for part of their trip. They will also participate in the families' daily activities.

Before leaving the National FFA center, the participants will attend a training course by Dr. Charles Vetter, a cross-cultural communications specialist. Vetter's seminar is designed to help the students cope with the communications challenges they will encounter while traveling abroad.

The travel seminar is only one part of each proficiency winner's award package. The seminar, in addition to the cash awards and plaques presented last November, is made possible by business and industry contributions to the National FFA Foundation, Inc.

"American agriculture has a great opportunity today in international trade," said Dr. Larry Case, national FFA advisor, "and we need to be aggressive. There is no

substitute for first-hand experience in learning to work with other cultures, and the investment we make today in these top young leaders will help secure our future in the global marketplace."

According to Case, the travel seminar follows closely the goals of the Strategic Plan for Agricultural Education. "This activity is one way the National FFA Organization fulfills some goals of the strategic plan. A global perspective is a vital ingredient in education today. This trip will illustrate the similarities and differences in agriculture worldwide and help these students develop creativity in entrepreneurship."

Accompanying the students on this overseas trip will be National FFA staff members Robert Seefeldt, teacher services specialist and Lawinna McGary, managing editor for FFA New Horizons magazine, as well as Carl Beeman, professor and chairman of Agricultural Education and Communications at the College of Agriculture at the University of Florida, Gainesville. Beeman also serves as a consultant to the National FFA Board of Directors

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