

Hans Herr House To Celebrate Harvest With Snitz Fest

WILLOW STREET (Lancaster) — An autumn ride on a horse-drawn Conestoga wagon through the orchard at the Hans Herr House, delicious foods made with apples in the old Pennsylvania German fashion, and demonstrations ranging from native American fish or meat drying to oxen-powered corn-grinding are some of the many highlights awaiting visitors to this year's Snitz Fest at the Hans Herr House and Museum.

The eighth annual event will take place on Saturday, October 7 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the grounds of the museum. Nearly 40 historic varieties of apples will be available for sampling, grown right in the orchard on the premises of Lancaster County's oldest existing structure. In addition to

taste all that much better than did those first couple of bites from the outside corners. So it makes sense that it be scattered and strewn to every corner.

Then, like artists signing their work, marauding bands of renegade heifers leave behind the inevitable scattered residues of manure, more evidence of their rampaging that must be swept, shoveled and forked away.

Even before that clean-up can be accomplished, the shovels, forks and brooms must be retrieved from where they, too, were knocked from their normal places as the renegades partied all night.

Like all adolescents, heifers eventually grow up, settle down (well, most of them) and become reasonably, well-behaved producing members of the milking string.

Just in time for the next batch of renegades to take their places.

the apple-testing table, visitors to Snitz Fest will be able to sample apples in a variety of other forms. Apple butter making, cider pressing, and "snitzing" apples for drying will all be ongoing activities throughout the day. Colonial apple recipes will be used in turning out delicacies from the past at both the raised hearth in the 1719 Herr House and at the outdoor beehive bakeoven.

While focusing primarily on the apple and the impact of its importance upon Lancaster County's first settlers, other aspects of the harvest and the autumn season will be celebrated, as well. Children will enjoy the wide variety of 18th century games to be played. Kids of all ages will want to get on a wagon for a ride through the orchard or around the grounds. Both the 1719 house and 1835 house (across the street) will be open for tours or browsing. The blacksmith shop will be in use, and the smokehouse will emit the good smell of smoked sausage.

Activities to observe include seeing corn husked by hand and

shelled with an oxen-powered sheller, sorghum pressing, broom-making using "broom corn," and woodworking skills in the making of miniature wagons. Fabric dyeing and buttermaking add diversity to the demonstrations of life in years gone by.

A new feature this year is the skills of native Americans, who will show fish or meat drying techniques and grind corn into meal. Additional new Snitz Fest activities include Scherenschnitte, an old German papercutting skill used in the making of beautiful designs, and demonstrations of a fencepost-making machine.

Admission to Snitz Fest is \$4.50 for adults and \$1 for children ages 7-12. Snitz Fest is a fun-filled educational event sponsored by the Herr House Foundation. The Hans Herr House is located 5 miles south of the city of Lancaster, PA, near the village of Willow Street, just south of Routes US 222 and PA 741 and one mile east of PA 272. For more information, call (717) 464-4438.

Farm Safety Day Camp

LEWISBURG (Union Co.) — A free farm safety day camp for children ages 8 to 13 is planned for Saturday, October 14, at Beaver Fairgrounds, Beaver Springs, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Sponsored by Penn State Cooperative Extension, the camp will reinforce the importance of taking responsibility for their own safety, respecting parent's safety

rules, and sharing safety tips with family and friends.

Parents can register their children for the camp by calling the Union County Extension Office at (717) 524-8721. Registrations must be received by October 2.

The free camp includes lunch, farm cap, first aid kit, safety packet, and door prizes. Children under 8 years old must be accompanied by an adult.

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