

# Ida's Notebook

by  
Ida Risser



Most everything in our gardens has been harvested. The tomatoes and zucchini have finally quit bearing. There are a few potatoes left to be dug as they got quite weedy.

The grandchildren like the job of helping me fill a basket with new potatoes. When they spy one they can't wait until I loosen the ground but rather they dig after it with their fingers. Each one thinks it is his turn to pick it up. They like to help me because after the work is finished I give each of them a piece of candy.

Last year a groundhog continually ate off my edible soybeans. I only got 10 beans which I saved and planted this year. They were in a different garden near our house and they had an abundant

crop. We eat some as green beans and others are dried and then used for baked beans. They can be cooked forever and never get mushy.

We picked our last watermelon and immediately cut it open and ate some sitting by the well. The little boys and I enjoyed spitting the seeds on the grass. It tasted better than it does at the dinner table.

Recently, Allen and I were chairmen of a Rural Youth picnic in our county. As I suggested a "catered picnic," they gave us the job of arranging for it. We engaged a pavilion in a Community Park and arranged for games and music.

The fact that next year will be our 60th reunion tells you some-



Six Berks County 4-H horse club members exhibited their 4-H horse production projects at the Eastern Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Production Show Aug. 23 at the Montgomery County 4-H Center in Creamery.

The results of the show are as follows:

- Paint - 2-Year-Old Filly and Futurity Class - Katie Ramsay.
- Miniature Horse - Filly of This Year - Jessica Sobjak.
- Miniature Horse - Yearling Filly - Jessica Sobjak.
- Quarter Horse - Filly of This Year - Keith Kaufman.
- Palomino - Filly of This Year - Ernie Kocher.
- Hunter Type Pony - Yearling Gelding - Timothy Clewell.
- Appaloosa - Yearling Filly - Rebecca Sobjak.

thing about the age of the people who attended. Memories were shared and also concerns about health problems. We don't seem to find enough time to just visit. As years pass, old friendships become more precious.

# Cider Flows

(Continued from Page B12)

the tours that come to the mill every year.

"We're expecting a two bus tour from Binghamton soon," said Daisy. "I just hope it doesn't rain!"

The Case family has been in the apple cider business since 1946 when Chester Case, David's father, lived in downtown Mansfield.

"At that time, he was on East Elmira Street. He started when area farmers would bring apples to him to be pressed," said Daisy. "David started helping his Dad at five years old."

When David's father died, David took over the family venture, continuing to custom press apples for area residents.

In 1973, David purchased the two-story press and moved the operation just west of town. He then built a mill around the press complete with an area to wash the apples and storage for 600 bushels of apples.

Since then, he has been expanding the operation bit by bit. In 1988 they enlarged the operation to include a shop where people could not only purchase fresh pressed cider, but also baked goods and homemade apple butter and other fall delights. Later they added the antique business. They also added additional cold storage for 400 more bushels of apples.

Today, David's son, Chris,

helps with the cider making business, making this a three-generation operation. A friend, Reid Chamberlain, also helps in every aspect of the cider making process.

The newest venture for the Case family is a bit more high tech than the old fashioned art of cider making. They recently opened a site on the World Wide Web.

"With this, people can visit us any time of the year," explained Daisy.

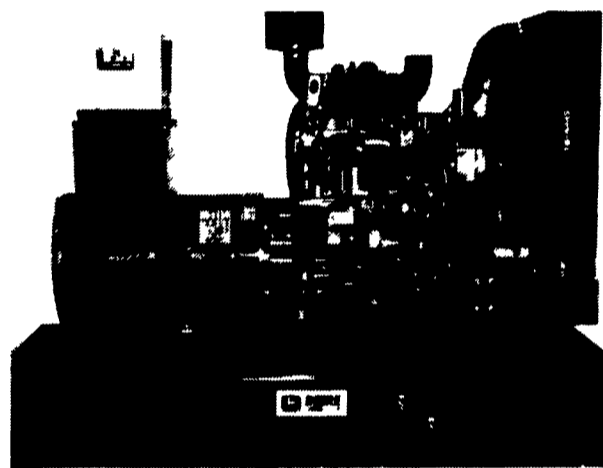
Included on the website are explanations of how cider is made, helpful apple tips and delicious apple recipes. Gift ideas from the antique and gift shop are also included. People can visit the Mansfield Cider Mill year-round at [www.tiogapc.com/users/cidermill/](http://www.tiogapc.com/users/cidermill/).

No matter how high tech the world becomes, however, most people can be assured that the cider that flows from the Mansfield Cider Mill will always have a touch of that old fashioned goodness that only comes from hard work and a good old press.

"This is our love. We're known for our cider. It's good juice," Daisy said with a smile.



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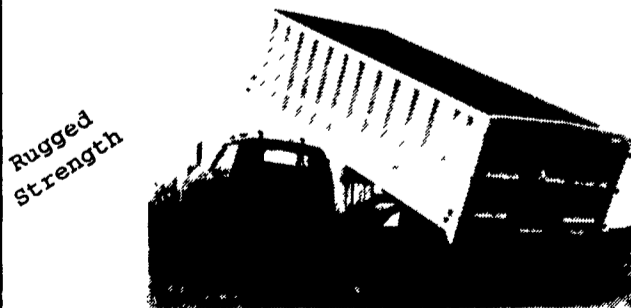
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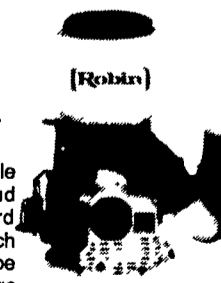
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