

# National Apple Harvest Festival Opens Today

**BIGLERVILLE (Adams Co.)** — The 34th National Apple Harvest Festival, sponsored by The Upper Adams Jaycees, will open its gates to visitors during the first two weekends in October—October 3-4 and 10-11. The family fun-filled festival runs daily 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the South Mountain Fairgrounds, located 10 miles northwest of Gettysburg at Arendtsville.

The South Mountain's climate, fertile soils, and rolling hills are ideally suited to growing apples of unique quality and flavor. Each year Adams County's fruit growers harvest more than seven-million bushels of apples making it the number one apple-producing county in Pennsylvania. Harvest time is the final step in a year-long effort to produce fine fruit and everyone involved gets caught up in a festive mood. The Jaycees want to share this joy

with you, so relax and step back into yesteryear and join in the festivities.

See beautiful displays of red and golden apples waiting to be harvested. Free guided bus tours take you into the core of the apple-laden orchards and beautiful Pennsylvania woodlands dressed in their autumn best.

Reminisce about the days gone by with the owners of the antique farm equipment and autos, hit 'n miss gas engines, and the operating shingle mill. Children, young and old alike, will enjoy the petting zoo, Chicken Karaoke with Ray Owen, the old-fashioned games at Kid Country, apple bobbing and pie-eating contests, and trying out their tractor driving skills at the mini-tractor pull.

Local and regional entertain-

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The National Apple Harvest Festival holds a photo contest annually. This is a previous grand prize photo taken by Debra Flook of Gettysburg.

## HOMESTEAD NOTES

### Things That Make The Fairs Go 'Round

**LOU ANN GOOD**

**Lancaster Farming Staff**

**EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.)** — Year after year, community fairs attract and entertain thousands of people. The casual fairgoer takes for granted the many behind-the-scenes duties carried out by volunteers to hold another successful fair.

Last week, Ephrata Fair held its 80th fair and West Lampeter Community Fair celebrated its 74th year.

In addition to the standard livestock shows, the displays of fruits, vegetables, and needlework, each fair continues to offer added attractions. Sometimes it takes some wandering around the fairgrounds to find these unexpected events. Many times fairgoers learn more about their community and what it offers year-round.

One such event was at the Lam-

peter Fair, where Bob VanderPlate and his son Jordan were dressed in wool uniforms worn by soldiers who fought in the Civil War. The VanderPlates are part of the Civil War Re-enactment Encampment.

"We are here to recruit and acquaint people with re-enactments," VanderPlate said.

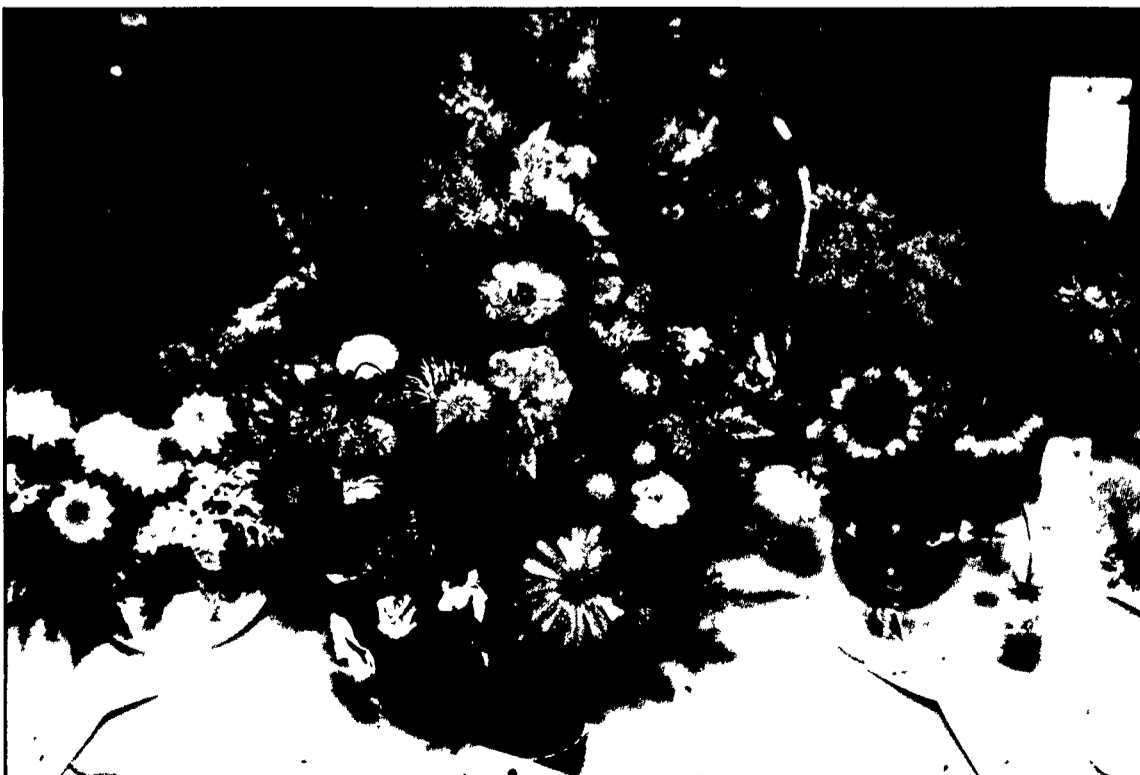
In addition to relics from the

Civil War era, the VanderPlates had pictures featuring their Mellinger Manor Bed and Breakfast where special events are held throughout the year. During the Civil War weekend this past year, the burning of the Columbia bridge was re-enacted. Living history demonstrations are held and for-

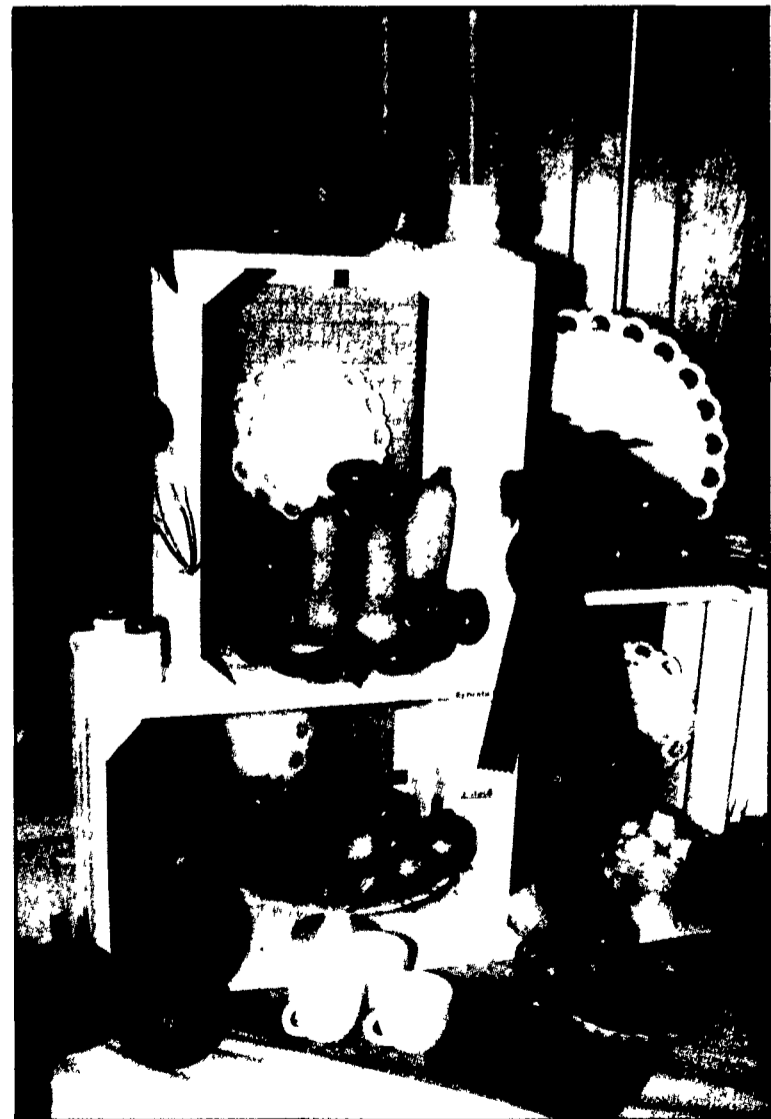
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Michelle Birney captures first place in the women's division of the pig chase. Photo by Preston Whitcraft.



Brilliant displays of flowers show nature's beauty to its best advantage. Photo by Preston Whitcraft.



At the Ephrata Fair, this blue-ribbon winner in the Home Garden Arrangement required 10 varieties of vegetables, three of each kind. It was arranged by Kate Tessen, advertising sales manager of Ephrata Review. She doodled for hours to come up with this display that incorporates her mother's Anchor Hocking milk glass placed in painted white crates with green-checked napkins.