

State Fair Queen

(Continued from Page B14)

much as I can."

More than 40 fair queens representing county and local fairs all over Pennsylvania competed for the state title. After an intensive three-day competition, including interviews, presentations, and an evening gown competition, five finalists were selected at Saturday's coronation.

The five finalists included Duttry, Cornish, Charbi Anne Webby from Luzerne County Fair, Natalie Foxwell from Somerset County Fair, and Julia Polka from Westmoreland County Agricultural Fair.

After being selected, the finalists were asked one last question before the judges made their final decision. The question was "what is the biggest problem facing agriculture today, and what would you do to remedy it?"

Polka and Webby both listed the lack of involvement and understanding from the youth as the number one problem facing agriculture. They suggested that the state queen and county queens visit local schools to teach students about agriculture.

Both Duttry and Foxwell identified the lack of knowledge as the number one problem. "People don't realize how important agriculture is to Pennsylvania," said Duttry. "It provides three basic needs: food, clothing, and shelter, and it is the number one industry in Pennsylvania."

Cornish named preservation of Pennsylvania's farmlands as the number one problem facing agriculture. "We need the wide open spaces, the recreational activities, and the people in agriculture. They're the backbone of our communities."

Also honored during the Coronation was Miss Congeniality. The contestants each voted on their fellow fair queens and selected Samantha Martin, Washington County Fair Queen, as this year's Miss Congeniality winner.

WGAL Channel Eight's news anchor Brad Hicks was the master of ceremonies. In his



1999 Pennsylvania Fair Queen Julie Sechler crowns the new 2000 Pennsylvania Fair Queen Jana Duttry from Clearfield County during last Saturday's coronation.

opening comments, Hicks commended the parents for their fantastic job as role models for the contestants.

Both the Pennsylvania Attorney General Dean Michael Fisher and the Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Samuel Hayes, Jr., attended the coronation.

In his opening remarks, Secretary Hayes congratulated the county and community fairs for allowing young people to experience this type of activity.

"The process of how they got here is life enriching," said Hayes. "These experiences will be very important for them as they go out into the world."

Attorney Fisher seconded Hayes' comments. "I am constantly telling people about the marvels and wonders of Pennsylvania," said Fisher. "I thank the local fairs for giving our society safe vehicles for community fun."

1999 Pennsylvania Fair Queen Julie Sechler from Somerset County gave her farewell remarks during the coronation. During her reign, Sechler visited

local fairs, made 45 other appearances, and put more than 6,000 miles on her car traveling across the state.

"I am constantly speaking on behalf of Pennsylvania county fairs," said Sechler. She thanked the local fairs for giving her the opportunity to serve as queen, and she commended the contestants for all being winners in their own right.

Win Prize For Favorite Dairy Recipe

PHILADELPHIA (Philadelphia Co.) — The American Dairy Association/Dairy Council Middle Atlantic is looking for dairy farm families to submit recipes for a new brochure. The brochure will be used by dairy promoters at local dairy promotions as a sampling of local dairy favorites.

The recipes can be in any category and should include at least two dairy ingredients. Entries will be judged on the following attributes -- easy to make, broad appeal,

easy-to-access ingredients, and nutritionally sound.

The final selections to feature in the brochure will be judged by a panel of nutritionists from ADA/DC. Winners will be awarded 'got milk?' prizes and will have their recipes featured in the new brochure.

To enter the contest, send your recipes, along with your name, address, and the number of cows

on your farm, to:

Kristen Campbell
American Dairy Association
325 Chestnut Street, Suite 600
Philadelphia, PA 19106

ADA/DC is looking for recipes from dairy farmers in Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia. Send recipes to ADA/DC by February 4, 2000. For more information, call Kristen Campbell at 1-800-220-6586.

Strickler Elected

LEESPORT (Berks Co.)—Fay B. Strickler, Berks County Penn State Cooperative Extension family and consumer science agent was elected as second vice president and installed on the national board of Epsilon Sigma Phi (Cooperative Extension's Professional Organization) at the National Conference in Indianapolis, IN.

Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP) is the national honorary extension fraternity which is dedicated to fostering standards of excellence in the extension system and developing the extension profession and the professional.

As ESP second vice president, she will serve as chairman of the Professional Development Committee to plan the 2000 National Conference in Salt Lake City, UT, Nov. 28-December 3. About 300 of the 9,000 members attend the conference and the keynote address is uplinked by satellite to members throughout the U.S.

Upon completion of this office, she will become president-elect in 2001 and national president in 2002.

Ida's Notebook

by
Ida Risser



Now that we are almost homebound, the telephone is our lifeline to the outside world.

Our children check in every now and then to see how their father is doing. Slowly for sure, as he goes up and down the hallway with his walker. The first six weeks after hip surgery carry many restrictions.

One child in Georgia has 300 free minutes on his cell phone and either he uses them or he loses them. Our three girls call regularly and we are glad to hear from them. One son lives close enough that he can stop in every now and then.

For a long time we had no telephone on our farm. So when our barn caught fire, someone had to run into the village of Oregon to find a phone to call the fire engines. By that time, it was too late to save the barn.

We had to pay to have poles installed along a one-third mile road to get the phone. Then we ended up with ten people on our line. Often we had to wait hours to place a call as others needed the phone too.

Now we must become accustomed to making calls where a touch phone is needed to press the right button to reach a particular person. Even so we can hold for a long time, while we listen to music and recordings.

Our life will consist of many doctor's visits during the next few months. The best we can hope for is a good ending to the ordeal.

Everyone says, "A day at a time."

What else can we do? Maybe I'll bake a few desserts to make life more pleasant just now.



(Continued from Page B16)

ANSWER — A used set of "Uncle Arthur's Bedtime Stories" and "My Bible Friends" were requested by Samuel Fisher, Nottingham. Thanks to a reader who writes that these books are available new at half price from Paul Ward at (717) 299-6022.

ANSWER — Marc Roberts, R.2, Box 800, Thomasville, PA 17364, wanted to buy an old bicycle built for two, any condition. Thanks to a Blain reader who writes that new four-wheeled bikes are available in one, two, or four passenger models. They range in cost from \$1,119 to \$1,786. They are not in stock but must be ordered six weeks in advance from their factory. Order from Hoover's Bike Shop, R.1, Box 80, Blain, PA 17006.

ANSWER — In response to readers who wanted to get rid of used bikes, the following will purchased them: Hoover's Bike Shop, R.1, Box 80, Blain, PA 17006.