

Reading Fair Increases Entries



Volunteers Jane Treichler, Kutztown, at left, and Ruth McQuate, Robesonia, are both in charge of the jams, jellies, and canned goods division. Monday afternoon found the volunteers putting ribbons on jars. This year a jar of dried tomatoes exhibited by Joy Richard, Boyertown, won best of show in the division.

MICHELLE RANCK-KUNJAPPU
Lancaster Farming Staff

The Reading Fair, in only its second year at its present location, is growing.

According to the fair's agriculture director, A. Wayne Readinger, entries in several categories, from dairy cattle to needlework to flowers, doubled.

The fair maxed out in sheep,

cattle, and swine barns, as "we even refused some animals," said Readinger.

Last year, said Readinger, the fair was still under construction the week the event opened, so many people were doubtful the fair would proceed.

The fair was successfully conducted, however, and this year "everyone knew we were going to have a fair here," said Readinger.

Also, said Readinger, this year blacktop on the midway allowed easier access for visitors.

Other changes include the introduction of an antique tractor competition.

Entries were up to 32 afghans, 41 quilts, and 13 wall hangings. Pillows, for example, jumped from 16 entries last year to 28 entries this year, according to Jane Reppert, Hamburg, who was in charge of the needlework department. The judge of the quilts and afghans noted the particularly stiff competition in those categories, said Reppert.

Monday's events included an apple pie and chocolate cake contest judged by Marge Nester and Barbara Spatz, both of Reading, and Miriam Forney, Northampton County — all active or retired from the county extension service.

Sarah Hoch, Fleetwood, took home a blue ribbon for her sour cream apple pie, with Christine Landis, Mohnton, winning second and Mary Harper, also of Fleetwood, third place. This year marked the 14th year for the contest, sponsored by the Berks County Fruit Growers. The contest drew 11 entries. A recipe for both the filling and the crust accompanied each pie.

Pieces of the first-place chocolate cake were sold "so everyone could get a taste," said June



While one lone piglet nuzzles up to his mother, the rest of the litter spreads out to beat the heat.

Schuler, Fleetwood, co-chair of the contests. For the contest the layered cake must be made from scratch and use Hershey's cocoa.

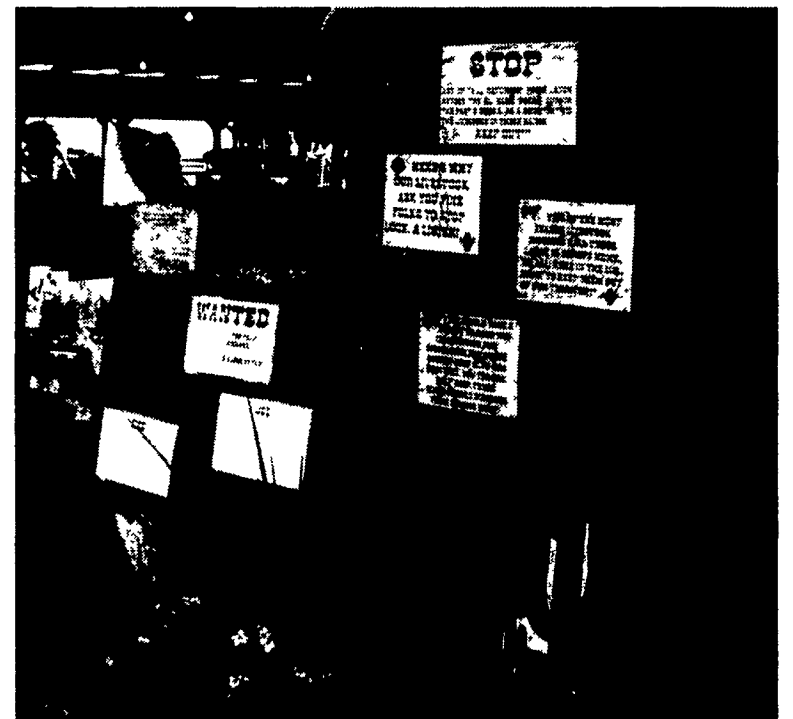
Jane Reppert, Hamburg, won the Hershey's greatest cocoa cake contest, which drew 14 entries. Marci Butterweek, Reading, took home second place and Sharon

Brunner, Mohnton, won third place.

Kelly Phillips, Mohrsville, won first place in the junior division, for youth age 8-18, of Hershey's cookie, etc. contest. Sarah Harper, Fleetwood, won second and Brielle Strunk, Shillington, took home third place.

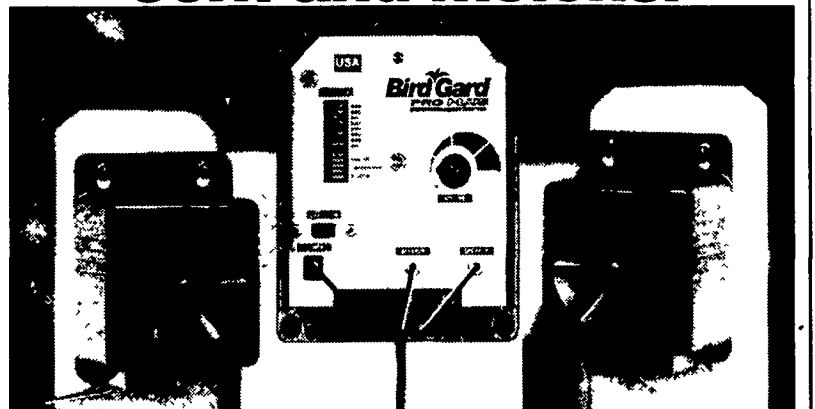


Card games are a tradition for many of the fair's exhibitors.



A Western-style exhibit provided by the Berks County Beef Club offered information on foot and mouth disease, BSE, and reminders for the fair's visitors to wash their hands after visiting the livestock barns.

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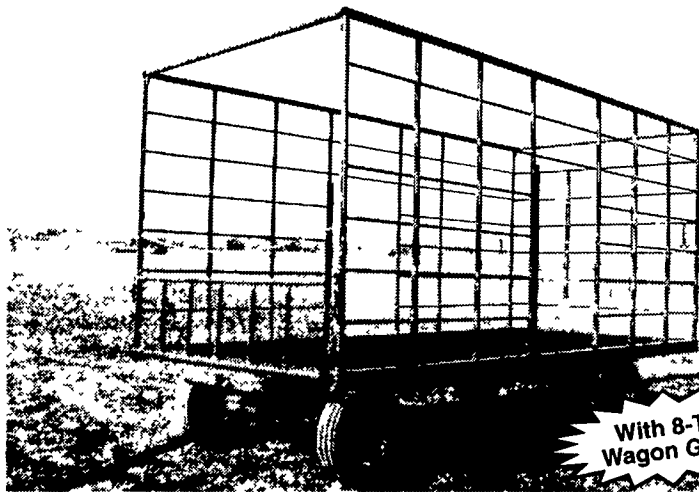


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