

Poise, Professionalism At Center Of Linton's Reign

Dairy Goat Representative Prepares For October's National Convention In Hagerstown

ANDY ANDREWS
Editor

TIMONIUM, Md. — Jen Linton believes that if you present yourself professionally, people will listen to you.

That simple adage works wonders — even if it takes up to an hour to explain, at least to one

nonfarmer, that milk can't come from a male goat.

Answering such a question provided a learning experience to dealing with the public for Maryland Dairy Goat Association Youth Representative Jen Linton, 16, daughter of Glenn and Laura Linton, Port Deposit, Md.

Jen, who assisted at the dairy goat show last week at the Maryland State Fair, noted that it's nice to be recognized — and the respect comes when "you look more official, and people are willing to listen to what you have to say," she said.

One question she answered at her hometown Cecil County, Maryland fair came from a city dweller. Why can't a male goat, or buck, produce milk? She spent an hour literally giving a "crash course" in dairying, explaining how important genetics and reproduction are, to the fellow. "And he still didn't get it," she said.

Jen is an 11th grade correspondence school member at Keystone National High School. She

is taking Community College courses with a specialization in veterinary medicine.

Jen began her reign in mid-April this year at the Maryland Dairy Goat Association (MDGA) Spring Workshop at the Howard County Fairgrounds. The reign lasts a year.

She also exhibits at the Cecil County Fair and promotes dairy goats to the public at various events. She also hands out ribbons and helps where necessary.

The president of the 4-H Explorers in Port Deposit, Jen is the oldest in her club. Her mother is 4-H leader. She also exhibited goats at the Maryland State Fair and participated in the fair's 4-H Dairy Goat Judging Contest.

Jen also shows rabbits, poultry,

hives, and raises dairy steers. She also participates with her sister, Molly, 12.

Jen serves on the Cecil County Fair board and will speak at the National Dairy Goat Convention, along with alternate Laura Forsythe, in Hagerstown, Md., Oct. 13-19.

At the national convention, at the Clarion Convention Center in Hagerstown, scheduled is a Friday evening banquet Oct. 18 with a goat auction Oct. 19, noon, at the center. About 29 goats will be auctioned off.

Jen plans to speak at the convention.

For more information about the national convention, contact Bonnie Kempe, Martinsburg, W.Va., (304) 258-3944.



Jen Linton is the Maryland Dairy Goat Association Youth Representative, who exhibited at the Maryland State Fair. Photo by Andy Andrews, editor

Entries Sought For Longwood Gardens Harvest Basket Competition Sept. 14-15

KENNETT SQUARE (Chester Co.) — Despite the challenges posed by this year's drought, gardeners are getting ready for the seventh annual GardenFest Harvest Basket Competition, Sept. 14-15, at Longwood Gardens near Kennett Square. This competition encourages gardeners to combine their horticultural and artistic talents and create arranged baskets of homegrown produce.

The competition gives gardeners of all ages and expertise a chance to show their bounty and vie for \$1,000 worth of prizes. It calls for entries of fruits and vegetables grown by exhibitors and arranged in baskets made of natural materials. Classes range from traditional baskets displaying a wide variety of produce to minia-



The GardenFest Harvest Basket Competition, Sept. 14-15 at Longwood Gardens near Kennett Square, recreates scenes from Longwood's past, when founder Pierre du Pont (1870-1954) exhibited produce grown at Longwood Farms.

ture baskets less than six inches wide to recipe baskets containing

produce ingredients for favorite dishes. Children's vegetable critters and gourds classes encourage kids to have fun while gardening. Judges will award ribbons and Longwood Gardens Shop gift certificates in adult and child divisions.

The competition recreates scenes from Longwood's past, when founder Pierre du Pont (1870-1954) exhibited produce grown at Longwood Farms.

Entries will be accepted on Saturday, Sept. 14, 7-9 a.m. For competition guidelines, send a self-addressed stamped business envelope to Harvest Basket Competition, Longwood Gardens, P.O. Box 501, Kennett Square, PA 19348-0501. Guidelines are also available at Longwood's Visitor Center; by calling (610) 388-1000 ext. 350; or on Longwood's Website www.longwoodgardens.org.

The Harvest Basket Competition is part of Longwood's annual GardenFest celebration of September's beauty and bounty. GardenFest revisits the heyday of life at Longwood Gardens during the first half of this century, when Longwood was a du Pont country estate. The three-week celebration shares Pierre du Pont's passion for gardens with a wealth of programs ranging from plant walks to cooking demonstrations. A heritage trail highlighting historic points of interest travels through gardens blossoming with renewed freshness and vibrant colors just before autumn's chill. Every day, visitors can see antique tractors; a vast array of gourds, squash, and pumpkins; and a G-scale model garden railway that travels past miniature Longwood landmarks, including the Conservatory. On weekends, visitors can hear a carillon concert at Longwood's historic Chimes Tower and play old-fashioned garden games.

Longwood is open daily 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Promotion At Work In Susquehanna County



Lydia Carlin, Karin Mowry, and Abbey Hewitt serve milkshakes at the Lawton Carnival.

NICHOLSON (Susquehanna Co.) — On a beautiful summer night on the hilltop above Nicholson, Dairy Princess Rebecca Place and Dairy Maid Abbey Hewitt served milk and ice cream to a large crowd of dairy farmers. The farmers were attending the annual Select Sire twilight meeting held at the Ronald and Marcine Carpenetti Farm. Supper was served along with dessert then everyone took a tour of the farm before the meeting.

The Blueberry Festival in Montrose had many events to take part in, one of which was eating blueberry ice cream and sundaes. The County Dairy Royalty and their moms were more than willing to help with the task of serving up ice cream. Amba-

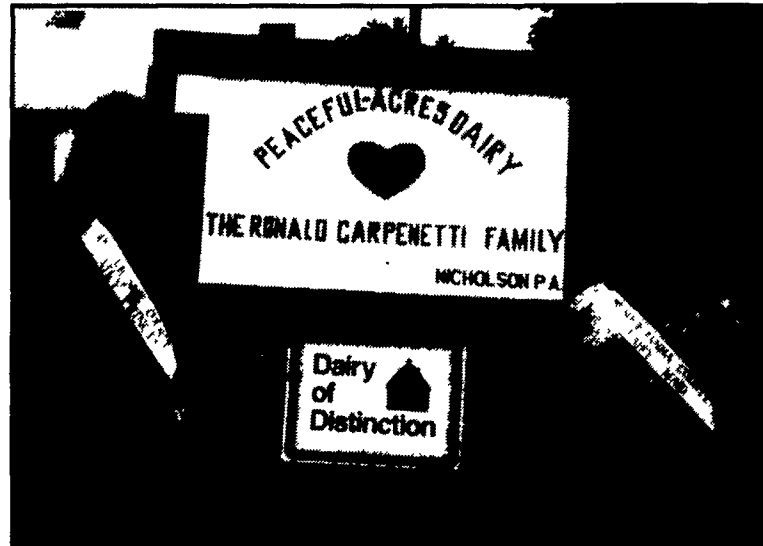
sador Ashley Franklin and Maids, Abbey Hewitt, Karin Mowry and Lydia Carlin served over 500 dishes and cones of blueberry, vanilla and chocolate ice cream.

Dairy Maids Abbey Hewitt, Karin Mowry and Lydia Carlin attended the Lawton Carnival. The girls served milkshakes, sundaes and floats to the many patrons.

Susquehanna County Dairy Royalty also attended the Relay for Life held at the Montrose Area High School. Amy Roe, Abbey Hewitt, Jessica Roe, Alicia Roe and Lydia Carlin handed out milk to walkers keeping the track warmed up for their teammates. Coloring books, pencils and erasers were given to young walkers.



Lydia Carlin, Alicia Roe, Jessica Roe, Abbey Hewitt and Amy Roe at the Relay for Life handed out milk to walkers. Young walkers received coloring books, pencils, and erasers.



Dairy Princess Rebecca Place and Dairy Maid Abbey Hewitt serve milk and ice cream to the large group of farmers attending the twilight meeting at the Ron Carpenetti Farm.