



Miss Martha Greene, last year's Queen in attendance to this year's Queen, the lovely Miss Ruth Green. Photo by Wittie



Twin sisters, Maureen and Noreen Thorp and Mary Smith, attendants to this year's 4th of July Queen. Photo by Sisson

Miss Karen Peterson Crowned Pennsylvania State Laurel Queen

Wellboro's beautiful "Green" on the rim of Pennsylvania's Grand Canyon, was the scene of the crowning of the 28th Pennsylvania State Laurel Queen. Miss Karen Peterson, a pert 18 year-old brunette, from Williamsport, Pennsylvania was crowned Pennsylvania State Laurel Queen by Miss Teenage America of 1969, Miss Melissa Bahish, in a ceremony climaxing the 28th Annual Pennsylvania State Laurel Festival.

Sixty-five beautiful girls from all parts of Pennsylvania, all 1969 High School graduates, selected by their classmates to represent their respective schools, participated in the Festival which marks the opening of the vacation and tourist season in the Canyon Country of Pennsylvania. More than half a million tourists visit the Canyon Country each season to view the superlative scenery and see Pennsylvania's Grand Canyon at Wellboro, Pa. The Festival was held on June 20, 21 and 22 at Wellboro the picturesque town

with the famous "Main Street Boulevards" and a half a mile of 18th century style gas lights.

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Series of Meetings To Be Held By Planning Com.

Mario Silverio, Chairman of the Southeast Allegany County Planning Committee, has announced a series of meetings held with its planning consultant, Herbert H. Smith Associates, to discuss the initiation of planning activities for this area. The planning program which will include participation by the Towns of Alma, Andover, Independence, Scio, Wellsville and Willing will be directed to the development of a master plan for guiding future growth within the area of the six participating townships.

According to Mr. Silverio, the study will have a two-level approach. One level will be the preparation of an area-wide Comprehensive Master Plan for the development of future growth of population, business, industry and agricultural activities in a manner which will coordinate area-wide planning with plans of the surrounding towns as well as with federal and state planning proposals. By initiating the planning program now, greater advantage can be taken of plans being prepared by other local, regional, state and federal agencies. The growing trend toward area-wide or regional planning throughout the country indicates that communities can no longer operate independently of their surrounding neighbors, and by joining together in an area-wide planning effort, can secure for themselves a better future by being prepared for anticipated growth.

According to Mr. Silverio, the first level of the two-level planning program will be directed toward the development of individual Comprehensive Plans for each participating municipality. The first elements of the planning program will include the identification and analysis of existing area of land development, including the use of all land and the physical conditions of existing structures. Subsequent steps will include such aspects of community growth as a study of population characteristics and trends, an examination of both private and public economic factors, the adequacy of public recreational and other municipal services as well as the use and adequacy of local school facilities, and the ability of the present street systems within the planning area to support present and future traffic demands.

During the evaluation of the existing features and facilities, prior to formulation of the Comprehensive Plan, the goals and objectives for the planning program will be determined by the individual planning boards for their specific area, and by the area-wide planning group for integration of all objectives into a coordinated area-wide development plan to serve as a guide to new growth and expansion of present growth for the next twenty years.

The final step in completion of the Comprehensive Plan will be the preparation of recommendations on ways of carrying out the master plan in each community as well as within the planning area, through the development of codes and ordinances for regulating growth to obtain the best use of each parcel of land within the planning area. The codes and ordinances will direct growth in



One of the many highlights of the 4th of July Parade was the Cattaraugus County Shrine Club "Go-Carts" Drill Team, sponsored by Andover Shrine members. The theme of this might be "Thread the needle but don't run over bramble bush". Photo by Wittie

accordance with the plan, thereby permitting a clearer picture by local officials of where municipal expenditures can be expected to be needed. This will permit municipal budgetary planning for longer periods of time than can be prepared at present.

Following the completion of the present series of meetings, held to determine the types of studies to be included in the planning program, application for federal and state funds under the Urban Planning Assistance Program and Section 701 of the Housing Act of 1954, as amended, will be made to the New York State Office of Planning Coordination and United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Mr. Silverio urged all interested citizens in the area to contact their elected representatives and planning board members to make known their ideas on planning for the future. In light of the many federal and state programs which require a Master Plan as a prerequisite for financial assistance

it is most important to begin the planning programs as soon as possible. It was also brought out in previous meetings with the State Office of Planning Coordination and Smith Associates that due to the shortage of funds in Washington, the Federal Government was more interested in encouraging area-wide planning. Consequently, it is believed that through the approach being taken by the Southeast Allegany County Planning Committee, the chances of federal and state financial assistance will be greater than were the communities to make application individually.

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