

*Pennsylvania*  
WELLSBORO LAUREL Festival #79✓

Good day, everyone--it's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania.

To talk about Pennsylvania in mid-June and not to mention Wellsboro would be like baseball without Babe Ruth. Wellsboro is mid-June for many Pennsylvanians--Wellsboro, of Pennsylvania's Grand Canyon Country; Wellsboro, on the roadways to the North Woods; Wellsboro, the gracious New England village of Pennsylvania; Wellsboro, the home of Pennsylvania's Annual State Laurel Festival. When Mountain Laurel blooms, Wellsboro booms. And rightly so--for it is the center of an area of beauty--total beauty, unparalleled in the entire East--where one discovers the remarkable feat of nature's engineering. Throughout the year, Wellsboro is a traveler's mecca, but a hundred thousand travelers seek the area during the third week of June paying tribute to the sensuous beauty of the state flower during the six weeks of the Laurel season. Here, a few miles from the Pennsylvania Grand Canyon Gorge, the Laurel grows in great profusion and the hills and forests are alive; abounding in clusters of tiny pink and white blossoms, as if a snowfall had settled on the northern tier mountains in mid-summer. And Wellsboro with its Festival honors youth and beauty, and is highlighted by the crowning of the State Laurel Queen at one of the loveliest outdoor pageants to be held anywhere. She is selected from a group of visiting queens representing many communities of the Commonwealth, and she highlights the Laurel Ball which terminates the Festival. Mid-June can be a special vacation time for Pennsylvanians if they choose this Canyon Country for it. The Grand Canyon itself,

running for fifty miles and one thousand feet deep, soars over Pine Creek in exhilarating views. The Canyon Country is laced with deep valleys, rock-tumbling streams and lookout points which are awe-inspiring. And over it all--the Mountain Laurel is in full bloom. Wellsboro, the town of beauty, the village of pleasant homes--so pleasant in fact under its stately New England elms, that in its center is probably the only statue in the world of the legendary Winken, Blinken and Nod, who "one night sailed off in a wooden shoe." Not many communities in this fast-paced world slow down enough to honor nursery rhymes in sculpture. Such a place is Wellsboro--heart of the laurel country. It is laurel time now in Pennsylvania; time to go to Wellsboro; to see its beauty, to feel its warmth and to taste its hospitality. What is so rare as a day in June? Rarer still is a June day in Wellsboro at laurel time.

This is Pete Wambach. It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania.