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Apple Fest: Pie-in-sky great time for all

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The smell of fried apple pies and the sound of laughter filled the air Saturday during the 63rd annual Apple Festival Street Fair.

"It's been a good festival so far," Holly Burges said. "We've been very busy and steady."

Burges, the daughter of Lola Coston, was helping run her family's booth for Coston Farm.

"The best sellers have been the fried pies for our baked goods," Burges said.

Coston said that business this year was about the same as last year.

"We've had a booth here at the festival for the past nine years," Coston said. "There are a lot of advantages to having a booth here. You get to meet people, it's the kickoff of the apple harvest season and it is good fellowship."

Anna Giakoumelos of Taylors, S.C., said this was the first year she and her family have come to the Apple Festival.

"I'm loving it," she said. "Everyone is so friendly, and the food is good."

Giakoumelos said she heard about the festival through her church.

Conrad Raymond, of Marion, said he comes to the festival every year.

"I like looking at the arts and crafts," he said.

Anna Watson of Travelers Rest, S.C., sat as she had her likeness drawn as a caricature.

"I come every year with my family," she said. "I like the food and the kids rides."

Margaret Turner of Greenville sat in the shade Saturday watching people go by.

"I have been to the festival several times before," she said. "Today, we are just watching the



Michael Justus/Times-News
From left, Ivy and Aaron Crosby, 6, ride the WNC Air Museum's Ornithopter Saturday during the 63rd Annual North Carolina Apple Festival.

crowd. We usually come here to shop. All the booths are great, I especially like the homemade birdhouses."

Debbie Connor, who ran the Bares It All for Breast Cancer booth, said Saturday was a much better day for sales than Friday.

"We have a charity to help women with breast and ovarian cancer," she said. "We raise money to help women suffering from cancer with their financial needs." Connor said her favorite part of the festival is the people.

"They come from everywhere and are so happy to be here," she said.
