

# Two Vo-Tech Chapters Give Lancaster Co. FFA New Look

Two new Lancaster Countyter of Brownstown Vo-Tech FFA Chapters received their School and Plants Unlimited charters at the annual State FFA Chapter of Mount Joy Vo-FFA Convention in Harrisburg Tech School, in January.

The new Chapters differ in They are Tovoca FFA Chap-many respects from the nine

other FFA Chapters which have long been a part of the Lancaster County farm scene

For one thing, the new Chapters include — no, it's not a mistake — girls The enrollment in the programs at both schools is fairly evenly balanced between boys and girls

This contrasts with the other FFA programs in which girls were admitted for the first time last year and while a few girls have enrolled in the Vo-Ag programs at some of the other schools, the number is still very small

The participation by girls at the Brownstown and Mount Joy schools includes election of some of them to the offices in the Chapter

At Mount Joy, for instance, Sue Barr, from Elizabethtown High School, is vice president. Roberta Troy of Lancaster Catholic is secretary, Lee Graybill of Manheim Central is chaplain and LuAnn Reisinger of Columbia High School is reporter.

At Brownstown, where there are two sets of officers, one for the a m classes and one for the p.m. classes, girls who hold offices in the a m group include: Pat Brossman, president; Pam Wood, secretary, Pat Arndt, treasurer, and Nancy Stober, reporter In the p m group, Sue Wargo is vice president, Nina Smith is secretary and Cheryl Winger, reporter

## Program Different

The move toward integration of sexes is by no means the only difference between the new programs and the established ones. In fact, this change may merely reflect other, more basic



Lee Graybill, of Manheim Central High School, waters a hanging basket of ferns growing in sphagnum moss at the Mount Joy School.

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changes, in the educational program itself

For one thing, the Vo-Tech program is geared almost exclusively to training young people who graduate from the program to go immediately into the job market The program is geared to give them a skill which will make it readily possible for them to get a job upon graduation.

While many students in the traditional vo-ag program go directly from high school into farming, many of them also go on to higher education, such as the college or university

For another thing, FFA previously has been centered around traditional crop and livestock programs, with heavy emphasis on such basics as dairying, beef and swine production, corn and hay

## Focus On Greenhouse

The new vo-tech program has the greenhouse as its focal point Much of the program and the work done by students centers around greenhouses which are an important part of the vo-tech program

Actual instruction at both Brownstown and Mount Joy includes both floriculture and horticulture

The girls are particularly attracted to the floriculture portion of the program It is designed to teach them the fundamentals of flower production, as well as design and flower arrangement

At least 50 varieties of plants are grown in the greenhouses at each of the schools. More are being added periodically as the program develops at the two schools, which just opened this past fall.

The instruction includes how to start new plants.

## Some objectives

Bill Mitchell, horticulture teacher at Mount Joy, said plans include growing carnations in abundance in one section of the greenhouse next year The object is to give students insight

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