

Hunt earns FFA's American Farmer degree

MILLERSVILLE — Among the six Lancaster County American Farmer degree recipients is Ronald Hunt the 20 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde E. Hunt, RD1 Millersville.

Ronald is earning his American Farmer degree through his involvement in an agribusiness occupation. He is presently employed as a maintenance mechanic at the Royster Company, now known as R-K Agri Service, Inc. In his three years at this job, he has been a forklift operator, bagger, payload operator, and blend operator. He has also worked part time at the Turkey Hill dairy.

As a 1976 graduate of the Penn Manor High School, Ronald was quite active in the Manor FFA Chapter. He demonstrated his leadership ability as he held the offices of reporter, corresponding secretary, and Chapter president.

During his FFA career, he has received the Star Greenhand, Star Chapter Farmer, Red Rose Degree, and Keystone Degree as well as the Dekalb Agricultural Accomplishment Award.



Ronald E. Hunt

He also has been active in various judging teams. In 1973, Ron placed second in the State Poultry Judging Contest. This high placing afforded him the opportunity to compete at the National Convention in Kansas City.

Ron was diversified enough to also compete on the dairy judging team in 1975. At the Springfield, Massachusetts competition the team took the highest honors.

Living on a 92 acre beef and swine farm, Ron had the chance to have a variety of

projects during his FFA career. He has shown market hogs at local fairs and the State Farm Show. He also did swine breeding, and had veal calves and steers as projects.

In addition to livestock projects, he has entered corn and tobacco in local and State Farm Show competitions.

Since his graduation from

high school, Ron has developed a keen interest in mechanics. He has taken a correspondence course and has attended an evening welding course at the Willow Street Vo Tech School.

This week Ron will be returning to the National FFA Convention, not as a contest competitor, but as a proud receiver of the American Farmer degree.

Show director highlights Expo

HARRISBURG - The Keystone International Livestock Exposition, to be held Nov. 3-7, will feature many new changes and additions from last year's expo.

"This will be one of the largest shows in recent years, with over 3,200 entries, 400 more entries than last year," said Hugh Coffman, Farm Show Director. "There will be a Breeding

Swine Show for the first time in three years, more sheep have been entered than in recent years, and classes of sheep, swine, beef and horses have been greatly expanded."

The Breeding Swine Show will be held this year after a two-year suspension due to the national pseudo-rabies situation. Special health regulations will be in effect for the 529 swine entered.

The "Special Breeds" Heifer Show has been replaced with a Chianina Breed Show. This will be the first time Chianina cattle have competed as a separate breed at the expo.

Suffolk and Southdown sheep breeds will be added to the Keystone's Junior Breeding Sheep Division. A total of 1,125 sheep have been entered for this year's show, making it one of the largest international sheep shows in the East.

youth participation. Featured youth events include: the Pennsylvania Junior Sheep Shearing Contest, the Keystone Junior Livestock and Meats Judging Contest, the Intercollegiate and Junior Livestock Judging Contest, the Pennsylvania Lamb and Wool Queen Contest, Ladies Lead Classes, and of course, the junior shows in beef, sheep and swine. All junior livestock shows are now held on Sunday to accommodate the junior exhibitors.

Sales will be held for yearling bred ewes on Saturday evening and feeder calves on Monday night.

Intense showmanship, competition and education constantly surround the Keystone International. "We are looking forward to hosting this year's exposition and extend an open invitation to the public to come and see one of the top livestock shows in the country," added Coffman.

Upper Bucks FFA attends leadership conference

PERKASIE - Seventeen members of Upper Bucks Chapter of Future Farmers of America (FFA), Upper Bucks County Area Vocational Technical School, Perkasie, recently attended a three day Eastern Regional FFA Leadership Conference at Pocono Environmental Education Center, Digmans Ferry, PA.

Participants of the conference from Upper Bucks Tech FFA Chapter learned specific duties and responsibilities to perform as officers and leaders of the FFA. In addition to work sessions, students had opportunities to socialize, discuss problems and make plans with the Pennsylvania State FFA officers.

Wanda Moyer, 16, of Trumbarville got Area Treasurer's office and Ron Geissinger, 16, Quakertown, got Area Vice-President.

Those who participated were, Steve Gruver, Pipersville; Earl Geissinger, Quakertown; Barb Minor, Ottsville; Chris Schneider, Upper Black Eddy; Kathy Socher, Coopersburg; Ginny Roc-

chino, Coopersburg; Tracey Hartzell, Sellersville; Silvia Marshall, Upper Black Eddy; Mark Thomas, Bedminster; Ed Rich, Kintnersville; Galen Leatherman, Ottsville; and Cindy Mitchel, Erwinna.

Bollinger

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with harvesting silage and milking right through September.

On September 25th, Ruby helped to sharpen the knives on the harvester, and then helped with the milking. And, a little after midnight, she delivered their son David without slowing down.

Ruby has always had a lot of drive. While a member of the FFA, she served on the chapters scrapbook committee from 9th-12th grade. She was also chapter reporter, secretary, vice-president, and served as county vice-president during her senior year. After graduation, she was the State secretary from June of 1976 through June of 1977.

Ruby has had a number of FFA projects over the years. She raised heavy chickens, and had six acres of alfalfa on which she kept records of yields and soil information.

She has been an active showperson, having shown both dairy and beef. This year she won the reserve champion at the Manheim fair with her crossbred Charolais x Hereford steer.

Ruby exhibited in dairy competition in 1975, 1977 and 1979. One of her show cattle

was a Holstein cow she received as a Chapter Chain calf.

When she was given the calf, Ruby was asked what she would do with the animal if she married a young man from town. She firmly replied, "I'm just not gonna marry a town boy."

This determination has brought Ruby down the long hard road to success. Her advice to other FFA'ers is to take advantage of all the opportunities that FFA brings their way, because they are only posed once.

"You'll learn something from anything you try, even if you fail. The more you put into something, the more you'll learn."

Ruby definitely recommends FFA to young people today. She believes that it gives them the push they need to succeed in farming, through grades, projects, and competition.

And, as Pennsylvania's only woman American Farmer, Ruby serves as a model to all young farmers. She along with the other American Farmer degree recipients prove what can be achieved through hard work and dedication



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