

# Washington Co. club honors members

SMITHSBURG, Md. — The Washington County Holstein Club recently held their annual banquet at the Fairplay Fire Hall.

Maryland Holstein president Ed Fry, John Morris, secretary, and Bentz Rhodes, addressed the many farm families attending the annual event.

Charles Wiles, local club president, introduced farm queen, Lisa Wetzel and Dairy Princess, Vicki Beckley.

Election of officers was held and the following were elected: Charles Wiles, president; Sam Winters, Jr., vice-president; Marlin and Eva Martin, secretary-treasurer; board of directors, Raymond Divilbiss, Jr., John Shank, II, Tom Shaw, James Weddle, Robert Firey, Jr., and Harry Toms III.

The club honored retiring directors Earl Grove, Jr., and Raymond Divilbiss, Sr., for all their hard work and effort.

The following 4-H'ers were honored for their 1982 Field Day efforts: Jeffrey Wiles, Junior Champion Female and Senior Fitting and Showing; Lisa Firey, Senior Champion Female; Matt DeBaugh, Junior Fitting and Showing; Kelli Winters, Junior Fitting and Showing, 1982 Ag Expo; Kenlin Martin, Grand Champion Showman, Ag Expo.

The following awards were made to open class competitions for the 1982 Field Day: Tom and Judy Shaw, Junior Champion Female; Arthur Rhoderick, Grand Champion Female; Marlin and Eva Martin, high registered herd in milk and fat.



This group of Maryland 4-H'ers was honored recently during the annual Washington Co. Holstein Club banquet. From left to right, the 4-H'ers include: Lisa Firey; Kelli Winters; Jeffrey Wiles; Matt DeBaugh.

## Poultry studies may help human bone disease

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Metabolic disorders in egg-laying hens may make them good models to study skeletal problems in aging humans, according to University of Maryland poultry scientists.

Egg-laying hens have huge calcium demands for eggshell formation during their relatively short lives - demands that parallel those for healthy bone structure

that take 20 to 40 years to transpire in aging humans, according to Joseph Soares.

Soares's studies with poultry show that a female sex hormone estradiol helps convert vitamin D to its active form. The presence of both substances declines and eggshells become progressively weaker as egg-laying hens grow older.

In humans, osteoporosis is a bone fragility disease that frequently attacks post-menopausal women and the aged. The same decline of estradiol and active vitamin D may be directly associated with the pain of osteoporosis that causes loss of height and bones to break easily in the elderly, according to Soares.

If science can learn more about how these substances decline in aging animals, it may lead to methods of controlling the decline, says Soares.



The Washington Co. Holstein club honored the following Marylanders for their outstanding herds. The group, from left to right includes: Eva and Marlin Martin; Tom Shaw; Arthur Rhoderick.



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