

Cedar Crest FFA Wins Awards

LEBANON — Harold Burkheiser, Cedar Crest FFA advisor, proclaimed that the major project of the Cedar Crest FFA that earned a Second Place Silver Emblem BOAC award was helping to recover Stoever's Dam. The chapter prepared the seedbed, and planted 12 acres of grass, which was then covered with straw to prevent erosion. The chapter also constructed wood and concrete

park benches, and made concrete parking curbs for Stoever's.

The Cedar Crest Chapter also plowed and worked 2½ acres of land to be used as rented community garden plots. They helped the county soil conservation service to distribute several thousand trees at Coleman Park and planted shrubs at the high school administration building.

The chapter also helped a local

man with cleanup after his barn burned and helped him to reseed the scorched area. The chapter also conducted a farm tour for pre-school children of Lebanon County.

To obtain the third place, Silver Emblem National FFA Chapter Award, the Cedar Crest students helped to conduct the National Supervised Occupational Experience Program Tour, in which people in agriculture related

businesses from across the nation toured Cedar Crest members' FFA projects.

The FFA'ers also attended Leadership Training Conferences in Washington D.C., and attended the National FFA Convention in Kansas City. They conducted a

citrus sale, sports tournaments, made a window exhibit for the local fairs, and constructed a Halloween float. FFA officers were trained in parliamentary procedures, and an honor roll was created for those attending high marks in high school work.

Cedar Crest FFA Attends Initiation

LEBANON — The Lebanon County FFA held its greenhand

and chapter farmer initiations recently at the Cedar Crest Middle School. The evening began with the FFA opening ceremonies. The highlight of the evening was the creed contest.

Contestants recited the FFA creed written by E.M. Tiffany. They were scored on correct memorization and voice control. Lorinda Zuck from Cedar Crest placed 1st.

Judges for the contest included William Frazier, Cedar Crest H.S. English teacher, and Lynwood Heagy and Dale Maulfair from the Lebanon County Farmers Association. The Farmers Association will provide money prizes for the participants.

After the Creed Contest the Northern Lebanon Chapter conferred the Greenhand Degrees and the Lebanon County FFA officers conferred the Chapter Farmer Degrees. Refreshments were served to conclude the evenings activities.



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Farm Operation

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the barn they were interested. When they got into school they were all active in 4-H, FFA, shows, and heifer projects. And when they went away to college they came home on weekends to tend animals.

"The problem was trying to find a way to increase cash flow so I could bring them into the business with me."

Danny and Doug finished their educations and returned to the farm at about the same time. Within a year, Jimmy completed high school and was ready to work full-time too. "We expanded our cow herd then, by renting or buying animals, and began to get into other enterprises. So we don't have all our eggs in one basket."

How would Vanderwende advise other parents who want their children to go into farming with them]

-Give the children responsibilities at an early age.

-Let them do their own thing. (Doug, for example, isn't dairy oriented. He'll help out with the cows but his specialty is crops and machinery, so that's what he concentrates on.)

-Let them become financially responsible in some area. "They may make mistakes, but so did I when I was their age," Vanderwende says.

-As a parent you must be willing to give in, to adopt new methods.

-Keep lines of communication open. "This is one of the most important things, whether you're dealing with family members or hired help," Vanderwende says. "If you don't, the situation will backfire."

-Don't keep saying, "This is the way we used to do it."

-Don't paint a rosy picture just because you want them to get into the business.

In other words, it's possible to involve one's children in the farm business, Vanderwende says, but the arrangement can't be taken for granted and requires tact, patience and trust.

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