

Halloween was orange-letter day

NEWARK, Del. — Halloween was an orange-letter day for Delaware 4-H'ers. It started back in June, when 1,700 school-age children received pumpkin seeds and fertilizer from 4-H, along with planting instructions.

During the summer, these pumpkin growers received monthly pumpkin newsletters with growing instructions, recipes and other interesting information. Kids in Kent County also participate in growing pumpkins. Between both

counties, nearly 2,500 children received pumpkin seeds.

The pumpkin growers from New Castle County had a chance to display the fruits of their labors recently at the Agway Newark Store. Agway mascot, "Big Red," provided refreshments and prizes during the contest.

The "big winner was Jordan Bollin of Commodore McDonough School, who grew a 67-pound pumpkin, topping the 50-pound pumpkin grown in the first year of

the contest by Kim Grebe of Bear. Amy Webb of Dover grew the largest 4-H pumpkin in the state. Her Big Max weighed in at 132 pounds, easily outdistancing a second-place, 105-pound pumpkin. Chris Brown, also of Commodore McDonough, had the best decorated entry in the "Cheer-a-Child" class. The 28 entries in this class were donated by the pumpkin growers to Our Lady of Grace Orphanage.

Holy Angels School in Newark produced four winning entries. Lisa Twardus had the pumpkin with the largest circumference (49

inches) and the smallest. Mark and Jennifer Timko had the best Decorated 4-H pumpkin and Michelle Schwartz had the best overall pumpkin judged in quality.

Erica Jackson of H.B. Du Pont School had the Most Unusually-Shaped pumpkin. It was grown through a fence which had to be cut apart to free the pumpkin. Ellen Garrett had the Best Carved pumpkin.

The Best Decorated pumpkin award went to John Mitchell of White Oak 4-H Club and A.I.

DuPont High School. Using hundreds of toothpicks, John created a porcupine pumpkin.

Halloween is a time of community service for many 4-H'ers. In addition to the 28 pumpkins headed to the orphanage, the Highlanders 4-H club decorated and donated 29 pumpkins to A.I. DuPont Institute. The Blackbird 4-H club donated 40 pumpkins to the Kent Convalescent Home and the Fantastics 4-H club donated pumpkins to the Episcopal Church Home and to Union Hospital in Elkton.



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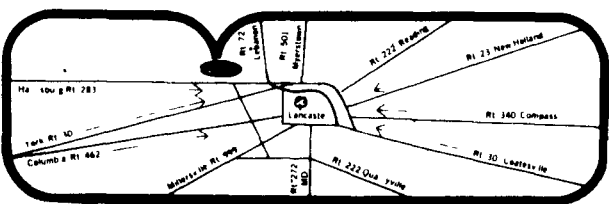
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