## Two Montgomery Co. extension agents receive national awards

UNIVERSITY PARK-Nancy M. Kadwill and Helaine D. Brown, Montgomery County Extension agents with the Penn State Cooperative Extension Service, have received Distinguished Service Awards from the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents. They were honored at the association's national conference in Chicago, Nov. 3-8.

Kadwill has been a member of the extension staff for 10 years. As 4-H coordinator, she has seen membership in the county program increase from 1,600 in 1973 to 3,290 members today. She work closely with the 4-H horse program and chaired the first National 4-H Horse Roundup Team

Demonstration Contest in Harrisburg.

Kadwill started a seeing eye puppy club and a drama shortcourse for 4-H members in the county. She also designed the introduction to Farm Animals program, which enabled 600 urban youth to learn about animals.

Kadwill, who earned her bachelor of science degree in agriculture from Penn State, is an active member of the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents and helped to organize the state association. She is a member of the state and national associations of Agricultural Agents and Eplison Sigma Phi, the extension honorary fraternity.

\_Simplicity.

Brown has been in extension for seven years, first as Urban 4-H Agent in Philadelphia. She currently coordinates the 4-H home and family living program in Montgomery County. Brown has conducted sewing workshops geared to the older 4-H members to help keep them involved in 4-H. Such workshops include making jogging suits, handbags and sweaters, as well as tailoring techniques.

Brown's work in Philadelphia involved uniting the 140 4-H clubs scattered across the city. She instituted countywide fashion revues, round-ups, leaders training workshops, a teen council and a 4-H journalism program.

One of Brown's most satisfying experiences has been the program for disabled youth. Clubs have been organized in special education classrooms, special camps and agencies which serve the disabled. Brown orients teachers and staff to 4-H club work. The staff are able to teach projects in a wide range of areas.

In three years, the number of members has risen from 30 to 228.

Brown, who has been an active member of the Pennsylvania Association of Extension 4-H Agents since its first year, is also a member of Epsilon Sigma Phi. She received her bachelor of science degree in elementary and kindergarten education.

## Simmons receives distinguished service award

UNIVERSITY PARK-Frank X. Simmons, extension agent with the Penn State Cooperative Extension Service in Blair County, has received a Distinguished Service award from the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents. He was honored during the association's national conference in Chicago, Nov. 3-8.

Simmons, who has been involved in extension youth programming for 11 years, also directs the Expanded Foods and Nutrition Education Program for the county. He initiated a recruitment and training program that increased teen participation in the basic nutrition projects. His programs in physical fitness and outdoor recreation, including team sports and backpacking, have been highly successful.

As county 4-H coordinator, Simmons helped to reorganized the program, resulting in a membership increase from 700 to 1,500. He has initiated a school and organization outreach program that offers projects in local government and citizenship, energy education and agricultural awareness. Simmons also has organized a corps of approximately 50 teen leaders, who are actively involved in project teaching and program operations.

Of his extension programs, Simmons is most satisfied with the 4-H management program he helped establish. More than 100 leaders participate in the program that uses district and key leaders as well as various program advisory councils to assist with leader development, financial resources, and evaluation and promotion.

Simmons served on the planning committees for the 4-H State Leaders Forum, and Southwest Leaders Symposium. He was a leadership council advisor for Pennsylvania 4-H Leadership Congress. He has been a member of the program committee for both the Pennsylvania and National Associations of Extension Agents.

Simmons received his bachelor of arts degree in political science from Penn State and is currently working toward a master's degree in extension education.

He is active in the Blair County Human Relations Council and the Blair County Health and Welfare

## Sponges work well for painting

NEWARK, Del. - The same type of sponge you use to wipe off household surfaces can apply beautiful color to your walls, says Delaware extension home economist Pat Wilson. Sponging is an innovative and versatile decorating technique that requires two or more colors of paint. One is used as a base coat, and the others are sponged over it.

Sponging can improve the appearance of any room in your home, Wilson says. You can pull together a living or dining room that lacks focus by sponging one wall with colors found in the carpet or upholstery. Enhance these rooms with colors that reflect natural light by sponging an earthtone or natural shade onto the

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wall with your other colors.

White sponged over a light blue or yellow wall adds cheery color to a bedroom or bathroom. Wood trim, window frames, baseboards and chair rail molding are also perfect places to add accents with a sponge, Wilson says.

Let your imagination run free in decorating a child's room. For example, sponge a group of geometric shapes on closet and dresser drawers. Sponge a bright rainbow above a window, or a few white clouds over the bed.

Experiment with rough and smooth sponges in a variety of shapes. Practice your technique and color combinations in an unobtrusive area, such as behind a piece of furniture. To create an attractive sponged surface, follow these steps:

Begin with a clean, dirt-free surface. Fill all cracks and holes with spackling compound or patching plaster and sand smooth. ting over semigloss or high gloss paint, first lightly sand the surface to remove the gloss, thus ensuring good paint adhesion.

Apply the base coat and allow it to dry completely. If you are painting over a previously unpainted surface, apply a primer coat or extra coat of your undercoat to the walls.

Using the sponge of your choice, gently dab the wall with the paint. Press the sponge against the wall in closely spaced, random angles. To avoid drips, use small amounts of paint. This will also allow you to monitor the design as you go. Remember, irregularities in the design are what give your handiwork the varied appearance you

Wilson says touch-ups and alterations can be made at any time by reapplying additional paint with a sponge.



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