

Lehigh County FFA honors outstanding members at annual banquet



Among those honored at the recent Lehigh County FFA banquet were, from left: Aaron Humes, Star Agribusinessman, Bonnie Wehr, Star Horticultural Farmer, Dekalb Award winner; Tim Hoch, Star Farmer; Cheryl Hottenstein, Star Green Thumb; and Walter Snyder, Star Greenhand.

SCHNECKSVILLE — FFA Leaders for The New Fields of Agriculture was the theme for the 15th annual Lehigh County Future Farmers of America parent-member banquet. More than 240 parents, members and guests attended the buffet dinner and awards program held recently at the Lehigh County Vo-Tech School.

State FFA vice-president Charles Kline urged the students to take hold of the opportunities in vocation/FFA and to strive for success. With the challenging changes in agriculture experienced persons are needed in all fields.

Awards presented during the meeting included the Honorary Chapter Degrees given to the following for their time and effort in helping the chapter and for

promoting agriculture: Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Wehr, Donald Reinert, Ronald Frederick, Roger Michelone, Gerald Strickler and Charles Suloff.

For their assistance, encouragement, and cooperation, the following were presented with certificates of appreciation: The National Colonial Farm, Ms. Theresa Mele, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Volack, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hoch, Ms. Mary Ellen Humes, Mr. and Mrs. David Hunsberger, Mrs. Rita Rumfield, Ms. Mary Ann Pillar, Terry Hoffman, Timothy Clouden, and George Passaro.

Bonnie Wehr, Aaron Humes, and Tracy Frantz received Keystone Farmers Degree, the highest State FFA degree based on student involvement and achievements.

The American Farmer Degree, the highest FFA award, went to Michael Koehler at the National FFA Convention. Michael was the first FFA member from Lehigh County to earn this honor and received a plaque from the chapter.

The following members were presented with their Chapter Farmer Degrees: Darrell King, Guy Kuhns, Donna Muth, Virginia Anderson, Suellen Volack, Walter Snyder, Theresa Frisch, Cheryl Hottenstein, Tom Kozza, Valerie Groller, Kerri Hunsicker, George Passaro.

Proficiency awards were earned by the students in the following areas: agricultural processing - Aaron Humes; beef production - Todd Bennecoff; crop production - Tim Hoch, floriculture - Bonnie Wehr, Tracy Miller, Barbara Hunsberger, and Lisa Pillar; fruit/vegetable production - Bonnie Wehr; sheep production - Joshua Grim, Tim Hoch, and Tracy Frantz; swine production - Todd Bennecoff; public speaking - Bonnie Wehr, Sharon Hernandez, and Steve Sorrentino.

Showmanship awards were earned by the members for: sheep - Joshua Grim, Aaron Humes, Tim Hoch, Tracy Frantz, Jodi Frantz, Donna Muth, Darrell King, Kerri Hunsicker, George Passaro, Guy Kuhns, Walter Snyder, Jose Torres, John Lindstrom, Anne Peters, Brian Robertson, Greg Stein, and Steve Sorrentino. Beef - Todd Bennecoff. Swine - Todd Bennecoff, Daniel Hartman, Aaron Humes, Walter Snyder and Guy Kuhns.

Special awards were presented as follows: Star Green Thumb, Cheryl Hottenstein; Star Greenhand, Walter Snyder; Star Future Florist, Bonnie Wehr; Star Agribusinessman, Aaron Humes; and the Star Chapter Farmer, Tim Hoch. The DeKalb Award to the outstanding senior based on scholarship, leadership, and FFA activities - Bonnie Wehr.

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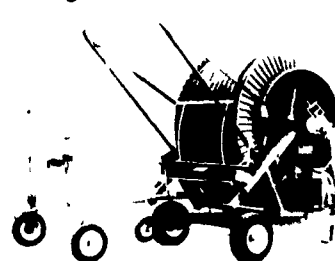
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