Lehigh County 4-H Sheep Club Roundup winners, displaying their trophies, are, from left, Bruce Snyder, Ben Lazarus, Lori Tyson, and Laura Lazarus.

Crystal Wetzel holds her champion steer trophy earned during the Lehigh County 4-H Roundup and Jason Grim holds his project book trophy.

...phen Wessner are named ...'s most helpful members, ...hy for having the club's ...t and Tracy Lazarus has a ...ket project book.
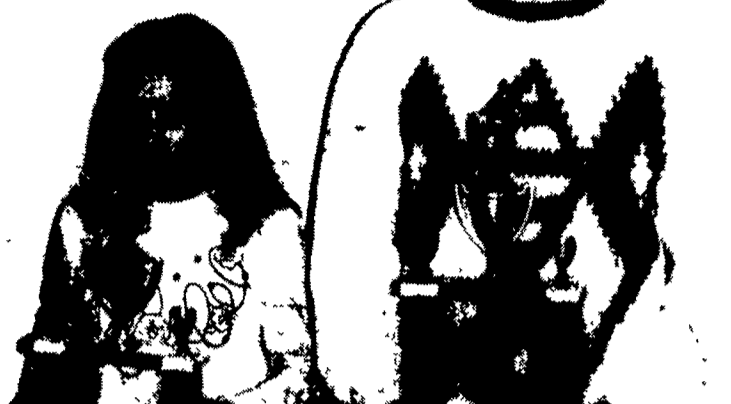
divisions and their title were senior, Jon Voortman; reserve, Stephen Breininger; intermediate, Bruce Snyder; reserve, Lori Tyson; junior, Lynn Lazarus Jr.; reserve, Samantha Gressley; first

year, Kevin Peters; reserve, Matt Segan.

The high-ranking fitters included senior, Jon Voortman: reserve, Stephen Breininger; intermediate, Lori Tyson; reserve, Bruce Snyder; junior, Samantha

Gressley; reserve, Lynn Lazarus; first year, Kevin Peters.

The top county herd winners consisted of entries by Benjamin Lazarus, Laura Lazarus, Kevin Peters, Bruce Snyder and Lori Tyson.

Your Private Water Supply Should Be Tested

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — A private water system is just that - private. The quality of the private water supply is the responsibility of the homeowner. State laws do not require testing of private water supplies and regulatory agencies do not regularly monitor the quality of private supplies. Therefore, the only way a homeowner can be certain that the water is safe to drink is to have the water tested periodically.

To protect family members and livestock, the private water supply should be tested to see if it meets state and federal bacterial and chemical standards. It is possible to run a comprehensive water analysis, but this can be very expensive. The most common and serious health concerns are usually found with four and five tests. These include coliform bacteria, nitrates, pH, total dissolved solids, chloride, and sulfate.

Coliform bacteria indicates the presence of disease-causing organisms that originate in sewage, soil, or manure. Nitrates are of concern when infants under six months drink water. Water pH is a measure of acidity and can effect pipe corrosion. Total dissolved solids are related to hardness, taste, and corrosion. Chloride can originate from highway run-off sewage or manure. Sulfates can affect the taste and odor of the water.

The Dauphin County cooperative extension office is offering private water users the opportunity to participate in a one-time group water testing program. The program offers three testing options. Test #1 - Coliform Bacteria - $9.00; Test #2 - Coliform Bacteria, Nitrates, pH, and Total Dissolved Solids - $25.00; and Test #3 - #2 plus Chlorides and Sulfate - $40. Sample test kits can be purchased from the Dauphin County cooperative extension office, 1451 Peters Mountain Road, Dauphin, PA 17018 during office hours the week of February 20. Collection instructions will be included. Samples will be collected on February 27 and forwarded to Cumberland Analytical Labs, Chambersburg. Results will be available two to three weeks later. In April, there will be a water clinic to discuss private water supplies and the results of this program.