

# Work In Strawberry Patch Pays Off For 4-H'ers

LOU ANN GOOD

Lancaster Farming Staff  
LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)

— When her alarm clock rang at 5:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Marilyn Holloway, 17, was tempted to ignore it. Instead, she hurried to her strawberry patch and now she's glad she did.

Marilyn's two quart boxes of strawberries brought a hefty \$360 at the Strawberry Roundup Auction held at the Farm and Home Center. Every year, the Rotary Club of Lancaster holds the auction for the 4-H Strawberry Club. Calvin High of High Industries was the highest bidder.

"The Rotary supports entrepreneurship and we feel this (auction) motivates young people to get involved in capitalism at an early age," said Bob Crosby, past president of Rotary.

Participants in the 4-H club must keep extensive record of costs, labor for weeding and picking, and profit received for the berries.

Marilyn has been a member of the club for four years, but this was her first win. In fact, it was the first time she could compete because she had school finals on auction day or her berries were not at the right stage during other competitions.

The 17-year-old winner will be a senior at Solance High School in the fall. Her parents are Joyce and Clifford Holloway III of Peach Bottom.

Marilyn said that she picked strawberries from 175 Early Glow plants and sorted through them to

find uniform berries to fill two boxes.

Judge for the event, Elizabeth Lenton, a master gardener, chose Early Glow varieties for both grand champion and reserve. For the second time, Hans Leaman's strawberries captured the reserve ribbon. He is the 14-year-old son of John and Nancy Leaman of Bird-In-Hand.

"I learned life-long values and good discipline with this project," Hans told more than 200 Rotary members. "My least favorite activity was weeding, but the project taught me the basics of business and how to develop good relationships with customers."


Before the auction began, Hans told the Rotary, "When I'm picking berries in the hot sun, I think of the Rotary and how all this hard work will pay off. Now you can make this come true."

And Rotary member Don Horn, president of Pennfield Corporation, did make Hans' work pay off by bidding \$170 for the berries.

The auction brought total proceeds of \$1,164.50 for the 17 youth who entered the competition. Other winners included the following: Jill Hamish, Christiana; Amy Martin, Leola; Kendra Bucher, Manheim; Durrell Leaman, Leola; Michael Yost, Lancaster; Marc Siegrist, Lancaster; Derek Stoner, Lancaster; Randy Ebersole, Lancaster; Neil Wenger, Manheim; Melissa Holloway, Quarryville; James Mullen, Quarryville; Kandi Mullen, Quarryville; and Joel Leaman, Bird-In-Hand.



Rotary Club members made 4-H'ers work in the strawberry patch worthwhile when the annual Strawberry Roundup Auction was held on Wednesday. From left: Donald Horn, Pennfield Corporation; Hans Leaman, reserve champion; Zoann Parker, 4-H extension agent; Harold Keller, auctioneer; Marilyn Holloway, grand champion; and Calvin High, High Industries.



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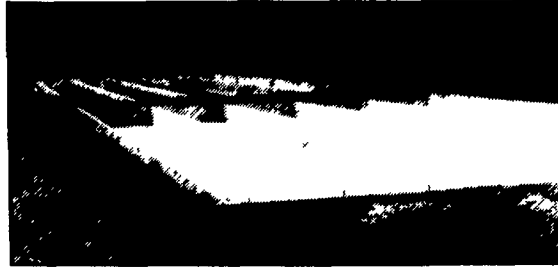
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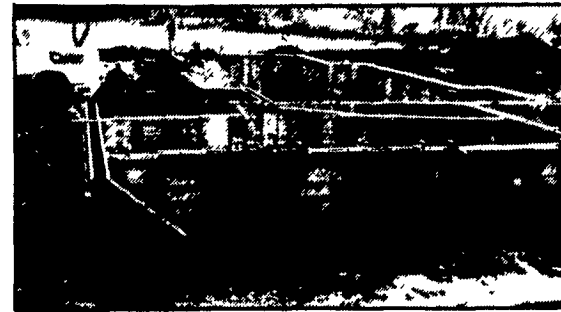
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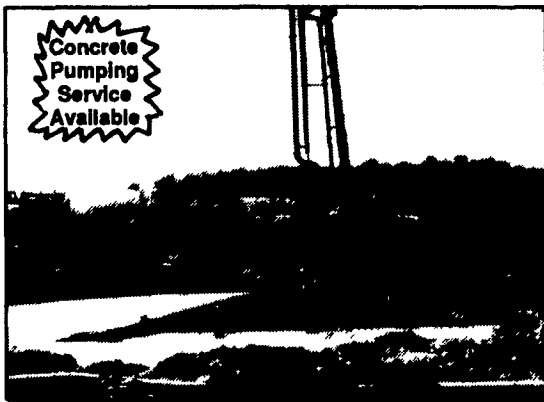
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