

NEW HOLLAND (Lancaster Co.) — On March 12, the Grassland FFA Chapter held its 34th annual Parent and Member Banquet at the Yoders Restaurant and Banquet Hall. One-hundred and ninety-five people including members, parents, friends of the FFA were in attendance. Shelly Oglie, state reporter and Grassland FFA

member, brought greetings from the State FFA Association. The following awards were presented: Grassland Star - Jason Reifsnnyder; Star Red Rose Production - Jevon Shirk; Star Red Rose Agribusinessman - Wade Esbenshade; Star Chapter Recipients - Linda Huber and Connie Zeiset; Star Greenhands - Jess Weaver and

Korey Weaver. Foundations Awards were presented to the following individuals: Agricultural Electrification - Andy Horning; Agricultural Processing — Darrel Weaver; Agricultural Sales and/or Service - Marlin Nolt; Placement in Agricultural Production - Rick Rin-

gler; Beef Production - Neil Wenger; Sheep Production - Jevon Shirk; Swine Production - Justin Good; Poultry Production - Shannon Horst; Horse Production - Cari Gonzalez; Dairy Production - Cheryl Weaver; Diversified Livestock - Linda Huber; Fruit and/or Vegetable Processing - Lisa Horning; Turf & Landscape Management - Joel Fox; Prepared Public Speaking - Connie Zeiset;

Extemporaneous Public Speaking - Justin Weber; Soil and Water Management - Sherry Martin; Wildlife Management - Wade Esbenshade; Forest Management - Sherman Stoltzfus; Specialty Animal Production - Megan Frederick; Nursery Operations - Andrea Snader; Kim Thornton and Ronda Ringer received a special citation for their work with last year's scrapbook competition.



Recipients of Grassland FFA Proficiency awards are, back row from left, Wade Esbenshade, Joel Fox, Justin Weber, Carl Gonzales, Linda Huber, and Andy Horning. Front, from left, Connie Zeiset, Rick Ringler, Neil Wenger, Meagan Frederick, Cheryl Weaver, Lisa Horning, Andrea Snader, Shannon Horst, Justin Good, and Korey Weaver.



Star Chapter recipients are Linda Huber, left, and Connie Zeiset.



Teens Learn Business Skills

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — More than 300 adults and young people from 22 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia attended a recent Youth in Business Symposium sponsored by the Cooperative Extension Service-Maryland Institute for Agriculture and Natural Resources and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel at Baltimore's Inner Harbor, the symposium was attended by teen entrepreneurs, young people interested in starting their own businesses, and adult leaders who assist in these efforts.

Participants attended seminar sessions on such subjects as "The Principles of Strategic Business Planning," "Making Money Legally Catches Youths' Eyes," "Teen Mothers in the Work Place: Tomorrow's Entrepreneurs," and "Venture Feasibility and Market Analysis." They learned how to prepare a business plan, sell their ideas, overcome obstacles, secure financial backing and manage a small business.

Representatives from government agencies, foundations and the academic and business communities participated in special forums and discussed successful youth entrepreneurship model programs. Several of these programs — including 4-H Learn and Earn, the SouthEast Teens (SET) for Success Teen Enterprise Program, Launching Entrepreneurs into Action (LEAP), and the Paquin School's Young Sensations — focus on the needs of Baltimore youth.

A panel of successful teen entrepreneurs talked about their business ventures and answered questions. One panelist, James McNeal, a 20-year-old from Pennsylvania, manages RAP groups. An entrepreneur since he was 10, McNeal encouraged successful entrepreneurs to become mentors and role models. Panel moderator Adrienne Sheaffer has a thriving floral arrangement business in Maryland. Started with a \$50 investment when she was in high school, the business grossed \$38,000 last year.

Luncheon speakers Nancy Flake and Charles Reid gave symposium participants some food for thought. Flake, director of the Howard University Small Business Development Center, outlined the requirements involved in becoming an entrepreneur and told young people to "be prepared to do business the way business is done."

Reid, director of diversity for Kraft General Foods, Inc., explained the three elements of success — ability, breaks, and courage — and emphasized the importance of excellence.

"Without it," he said, "you're just one of many people trying to get ahead."

Thirty-five adult leaders from across the country held a brainstorming session at the symposium and decided to establish a national network to promote and support youth entrepreneurship. Bill Clark, extension 4-H agent in Baltimore, will spearhead coalition building efforts.

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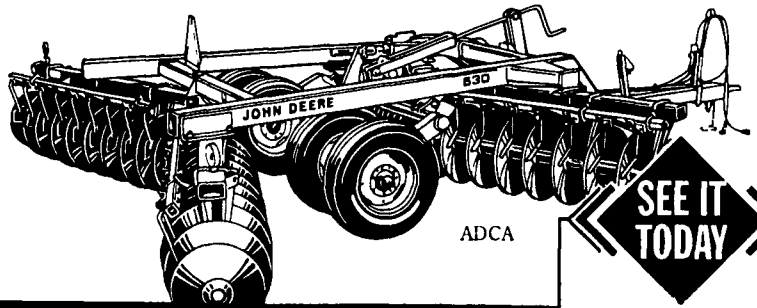
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