

4H

Happenings

Agricultural Center Awards
\$15,000 In Scholarship

GAITHERSBURG, Md. — The Montgomery County Agricultural Center awarded \$15,000 in scholarships to 12 Montgomery County 4-H'ers, during presentations made at the agricultural center's annual meeting recently by President Robert Pack Sr.

Six \$2,000 scholarships were awarded to new recipients, while six \$500 scholarships were presented to previous winners of agricultural center scholarships. Winners of the \$2,000 scholarships are Michele Balsler, Alana Burdette, Ruth Corazza Greeves, Carl Holland, Kelly Savage, and Katherine Segal. Winners of the \$500 scholarships are Robert Balsler, Laurie Kelly, Valerie Murray, Jonathan Rippeon, Katherine Sherwood, and Tricia Stabler.

Michele Balsler, the daughter of Bart and Pat Balsler of Gaithersburg, is a freshman at Montgomery Community College where she is studying child development. A 1994 graduate of Damascus High School, Balsler has been a member of the County Line 4-H Club, the Goshen 4-H Club, the Montgomery County 4-H Dairy Goat Club, the Montgomery County 4-H Senior Council, the 4-H Theater Company, and the Montgomery County 4-H Beef Club. She has held many leadership positions in each of these clubs, as well as served as president of the Damascus High School FFA Chapter.

A senior at Damascus High School, Alana Burdette is the daughter of E. Allan and Mary Burdette of Boyds. She is the Montgomery County Farm Bureau Queen and has served as the Maryland Angus Queen. She is a member of the Montgomery County 4-H Beef Club and the Montgomery County 4-H Senior Council, and carries major projects in beef steers and heifers, demonstrations, baking, and horticulture. She is interested in pursuing a career in agricultural law.

Ruth Corazza Greeves of Clarksburg, the daughter of August and Jean Corazza, is a sophomore at Montgomery College pursuing a degree in early childhood education. She has been a member of the Clarksburg Creations 4-H Club and has been inducted into the Maryland 4-H All Stars. As a Montgomery County 4-H'er, she has carried projects in child care, baby-sitting, community service, safety, junior leadership, and arts and crafts. She is a 1992 graduate of Damascus High School.

Carl Holland, a junior at Delaware Valley College majoring in agriculture business, is the son of Carl and Lynn Holland of Clarksburg. A 1992 graduate of Damascus High School, Holland has been active in the Montgomery County 4-H Beef Club and the Montgomery County 4-H Senior Council, carrying projects in beef steers and heifers, community awareness and teen awareness programs.

The daughter of H. Wayne and Cindee Savage of Knoxville, Kelli Savage is a senior at Brunswick High School. A member of the Montgomery County Holstein 4-H Club and the Brunswick FFA Chapter, Savage has been a State Record Book Winner, has exhibited the 4-H Supreme Champion at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair, and has been a State Dairy Judging winner. She has

carried projects in daily cow and calf junior leadership, dairy judging, dairy bowl, photography, and vegetables. She is planning on pursuing a degree in dairy science.

The daughter of Harold and Lois Segal of Silver Spring, Katherine Segal is the reigning Montgomery County Agricultural Fair Queen and a senior at Montgomery Blair High School. She is a member of the Fairland 4-H Club, as well as the Montgomery County 4-H senior Council. She has carried projects in consumer education, food and nutrition, public speaking, and fashion revue. She plans on pursuing a degree in elementary education.

Robert Balsler, the son of Bart and Patricia Balsler of Gaithersburg, is a junior at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. He has been a member of the Goshen 4-H Club, Montgomery County 4-H Senior Council, Montgomery County 4-H Beef Club, the Damascus Small Engines Club, and the Gaithersburg Chapter of Future Farmers of America. He was the 1992 Montgomery County Agricultural Fair King, and was a 4-H Ambassador to Great Britain. After attending the National Institute for Cooperative Education this past year, Balsler was selected to be an instructor for the 1994 session.

A junior at Towson State University where she is majoring in mass communications, Laurie Kelly is the daughter of Fred and Barbara Kelly of Gaithersburg. She has been a member of the Montgomery Village 4-H Club and the Montgomery County 4-H Theater Group. A 1992 graduate of Gaithersburg High School, she is a radio announcer for Towson University's AM station and a national communications coordinator for residential life traveling to various colleges learning new ideas for residence hall life.

Valerie Murray, a junior at James Madison University, is the daughter of Kevin and Annette Murray of Gaithersburg. A 1992 graduate of Damascus High School, Murray has been a member of the Clover Clan 4-H Club and the Montgomery County 4-H Senior Council. She was the 1992 Montgomery County Agricultural Fair Queen. Currently, she is a member of the yearbook staff, the ski club, the graduation club, and the Catholic Campus Ministry. She is pursuing a degree in accounting.

The son of David and Betsy Rippeon of Gaithersburg, Jonathan Rippeon is a junior at Virginia Tech majoring in business management. He has been a member of the Montgomery County 4-H Club, the Montgomery County 4-H Senior Council, the Montgomery County 4-H Sheep and Swine Club, and the Quail Valley 4-H Club. He is a member of the Sigma Nu Fraternity at Virginia Tech, and participates in intramural sports.

A senior at George Mason University majoring in public administration with a minor in economics, Katherine Sherwood is the daughter of Douglas and Gertrude Sherwood. She is a 1991 graduate of Gaithersburg High School. Sherwood has been a member of the Clover Clan, the Montgomery County 4-H Beef Club, the Montgomery County 4-H Rabbit Club, and the Montgomery County 4-H Senior Council, holding elected positions in each club. She was the 1989 Maryland state representative to the 4-H National Congress

for Safety Record Book, and a former Montgomery County Farm Bureau princess and Montgomery County Agricultural Fair princess. This past summer, Sherwood served as an intern in the agricultural center office. Currently, she is a member of the George Mason University's varsity women's lacrosse team.

A sophomore at Delaware Valley College and a 1993 graduate of Damascus High School, Tricia Stabler is the daughter of Drew and Pat Stabler. The 1993 Montgomery County Agricultural Fair Queen, Stabler has been a member of the Montgomery County 4-H Beef Club, the Clover Clan, the Montgomery County 4-H Senior Council, and the Damascus Community Livestock Club. Stabler attended the National 4-H Conference during 1993, where she received second place in the nation for her illustrated talk. She is majoring in animal science.

For information about volunteering at the Montgomery County Agricultural Center, call (301) 926-3100.

IFYE To Sweden

Hello from Sweden! Things are going very well and I only have 1 month until I'll be back home in Adams County.

I'd like to share with you some observations on how the Swedish culture is different. These are a few things that I've noticed in the past three months:

1. Always remove your shoes as soon as you enter a building. Even in the first through sixth grade at school, the students remove their shoes.

2. You greet someone with "Hej" (pronounced Hay). You leave with "Hej, Hej" or "Hej då" (hay doe).

3. When eating, place the fork in left hand. Hold it like a piece of chalk with the prongs down. Place the knife in the right hand, held the same way or like a pencil. Switch hands if you're right-handed.

4. Use a big spoon or tablespoon for cereal, soup, and some desserts. Use a very small spoon for most desserts and with coffee or tea. Our "teaspoon" doesn't exist in Sweden.

5. You are thought to be "crazy" or "weird" if you don't drink coffee. I drink tea and I'm looked at strange every time! Swedish coffee is very strong and they call American coffee "brown water"!

6. Milk and their "special" breakfast milks come in 1 liter cardboard containers. You have to buy 4 to 6 liters every 2 or 3 days, depending on the size of the family.

7. Gasoline prices are about \$4 per gallon. You actually pay about \$1 per liter. (4 liter=1 gallon)

8. Swedish children have it very easy (go to school, watch TV). You may only have to help if you live on a farm. Your parents can't punish you (physically or by grounding or other means).

9. Driving age is 18, but you can practice with a parent at age 16.

10. The legal age for drinking alcohol is 18. At age 20 you can buy alcohol over the counter.

11. Every male must spend one year serving in the military.

I have also experienced some traditions while I've been here. The few I'll mention are traditional for a certain part of the country.

1. Moving porridge—A thick, white rice dish served with sugar, cinnamon, and milk. A friend makes this for someone who has moved to a new apartment or house. It is also served at Christmas.

2. "Birthday Bash"—That's what I call it. A large group of friends arrive at the birthday per-

son's house at strange hours of the night. Most common is 5 a.m., so people can go to work afterwards. You awaken a birthday "girl" with rifle shots, one per 10 years; the birthday "boys" with one each year. This is only done on the "Big Ones"—30, 40, 50... After the person rises and comes to the door, you sing a traditional song and move into the house. The birthday person then makes coffee and sometimes sandwiches for everyone. In the evening, they usually have a party too.

3. Sur Ströming—sour herring. It is the worst smelling fish I have ever come in contact with. I couldn't try it along with many Swedes. It's usually eaten in the summer.

That is some of what I've seen. The Swedes aren't that different from Americans. I'll soon be moving to the southern part of Sweden—different landscape and language. Until next time, Jacki.

Open Horse Show Results

The Sequoia Riders 4-H Club recently held its annual open show. The show consisted of four divisions: walk-trot, English, hunter, western and gaming. The results were as follows:

Grooming & Showmanship: 1st Samara Shuster-Edelson; 2nd Lisa Baer; 3rd Becky Preiss. **Walk-Trot Equitation:** 1st Kara Gundel, 2nd Linda Hammon, 3rd Carle Firman. **Walk-Trot Pleasure:** 1st Kara Gun-

del, 2nd Linda Hammon, 3rd Tina Wright. **Walk-Trot Egg & Spoon:** 1st Kara Gundel, 2nd Tina Wright, 3rd Linda Hammon. **Dollar Bareback:** 1st Laura Knighton, 2nd Lori Mohr. **All Day Pleasure:** 1st Lora Metzler, 2nd Michelle Francis, 3rd Joyce Kauffman. **Western Equitation:** 1st Becky Preiss, 2nd Samara Shuster-Edelson, 3rd Lora Metzler. **English Equitation:** 1st Michelle Francis, 2nd Laura Knighton, 3rd Tye Gantz. **Green Pleasure:** 1st Kyle Kettering. **Pony Pleasure:** 1st Tye Gantz, 2nd Nikki Gundel, 3rd Jen Talbot. **Hunter Under Saddle:** 1st Michelle Francis, 2nd Tye Gantz, 3rd Diane Barron. **Western Pleasure:** 1st Joyce Kauffman, 2nd Becky Preiss, 3rd Samara Shuster-Edelson. **Break & Out:** 1st Lora Metzler, 2nd Lori Mohr, 3rd Katie Rich. **English Pleasure:** 1st Tye Gantz, 2nd Michelle Francis, 3rd Nikki Gundel. **Ladies' Pleasure:** 1st Joyce Kauffman, 2nd Becky Preiss, 3rd Michelle Francis. **Men's Pleasure:** 1st Dan Talbot, 2nd Kyle Kettering. **4-H Pleasure:** 1st Lora Metzler, 2nd Dan Talbot, 3rd Karl Moyer. **Bareback Equitation:** 1st Samara Shuster-Edelson, 2nd Lora Metzler, 3rd Tye Gantz. **Egg & Spoon:** 1st Lori Mohr, 2nd Lora Metzler, 3rd Kelly McQuiggan. **Road Hack:** 1st Joyce Kauffman, 2nd Lora Metzler, 3rd Kelly McQuiggan. **Barrel Race:** 1st Lori Mohr, 2nd Holly Hess, 3rd Jeremy Shelley. **Pole Bending:** 1st Lori Mohr, 2nd Jeremy Shelley. **Raised Keyhole:** 1st Lori Mohr, 2nd Jeremy Shelley, 3rd Holly Hess. **Hunter Over Fences:** 1st Laura Knighton, 2nd Jeannie Mitman, 3rd Katie Rich. **Equitation Over Fences:** 1st Jeannie Mitman, 2nd Laura Knighton, 3rd Tye Gantz. **Hunter Hack:** 1st Jeannie Mitman, 2nd Tye Gantz, 3rd Laura Knighton.

Hunter Championship: Jeannie Mitman. **Reserve Hunter:** Tye Gantz. **Western Championship:** Samara Shuster-Edelson. **Reserve Western:** Becky Preiss. **English Championship:** Tye Gantz. **Reserve English:** Nikki Gundel. **Gaming Championship:** Lori Mohr. **Reserve Gaming:** Jeremy Shelley. **Walk-Trot Championship:** Kara Gundel. **Reserve Champion:** Linda Hammon.

To receive information regarding Sequoia Riders or next year's show, please call Karen or Kim at (717) 665-2534.

Volunteers Make
Compost Happen

COLLEGEVILLE (Montgomery Co.) — On Saturday, Nov. 5, a group of volunteers transformed a grassy area behind the Upper Dublin Township building (801 Loch Alsh Avenue) into the county's third compost demonstration park.

The park, built by newly trained Master Composters, shows working examples of compost bins you can make or buy. The Master Composters filled the bins with yard materials such as leaves and grass and will manage the compost piles so that the public can see composting the action. Anyone interested in learning about backyard composting is encouraged to visit the park.

The park offers a self-guided tour of compost bins and the compost process. Next to each demonstration bin are signs which explain how to build the bins. A mailbox marked "Information" holds fliers about bin construction and a brochure on the how-to's of composting.

The Master Composter training and park construction were organized by the Recycling Education Program of Montgomery County

Cooperative Extension. This program promotes backyard composting as well as larger scale composting for landscapers, farmers, and other commercial recyclers.

Partial funding for the construction of the park was provided by a generous grant from the Montgomery County Commissioners. In addition, local merchants donated construction supplies for the park.

Two other compost parks have been built in other parts of the county, one in Schwenksville behind the headquarters of the Perkiomen Valley Watershed Association (Route 73, across from Pennypacker Mills Park) and the other in front of the New Hanover Township building (Route 663 just north of Swamp Pike). Both are open to the public and offer the same information.

If you would like to be sent a brochure on home composting and/or plans for building your own compost bin, write to the Recycling Education Program, Montgomery County Cooperative Extension, 1015 Bridge Road, Suite H, Collegeville, PA 19426-1179.

FFA

Happenings

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—For the 28th consecutive year, the National FFA Foundation has set a record level of support for FFA and agricultural education programs. At the 67th National FFA Convention, Ron Davis announced that a total of \$5,857,000 was raised in 1994 to support projects and programs for FFA and agricultural education, a 7.5 percent increase from 1993. A crowd of more than 32,000 FFA members and guests cheered the announcement.

Davis serves as the 1994 FFA Foundation Sponsors' Board chairman, and is president and chief executive officer of Biggs/Gilmore Communications. Davis sees the contributions of the more than 1,000 Foundation spon-

sors as an investment in the future. "American agriculture counts on the FFA to provide the leaders of tomorrow. For that reason alone, those of us who work in this industry can make no wiser expenditure than to support this fine organization," he said.

Davis introduced the 1995 FFA Foundation Sponsors' Board chairman, H. D. "Harry" Cleberg, who is president and chief executive officer of Farmland Industries, Inc. Cleberg announced the 1995 Foundation theme, "FFA—Investing in Tomorrow's Leaders."

Since 1944, the National FFA Foundation has provided more than \$57 million to FFA members for awards, scholarships and achievement programs.