Fisher Family Receives Mifflin County's Farm Family Award

GAIL STROCK Mifflin Co. Correspondent **BELLEVILLE** (Mifflin Co.)

- Mifflin Count's Farm City banquet was dubbed a huge success as more than 325 people from all walks of life gathered at the Belleville Mennonite School to see the Farm-City awards presented and to hear the president of Giant Foods, Allan Noddle, speak.

Emcee Frank Bonson first introduced representatives from various Pennsylvania commodity groups including the Pennsylvania Beef Council, the State Apple Producers Association, dairy promotions and dairy princesses, Pennsylvania Sheep and Wool Growers, Pennsylvania Honey Producers, Pennsylvania Pork Council, and the Cattleman's Association.

Kiwanis president Judge Tim Searer presented farm family award to Dyson Fisher and sons Wade and Scott. The Dyson Fisher Bee Farm is a family owned hive and honey-packing business. Started by Dyson's father, Merle Fisher of Granville in 1935, the business has grown to include 4,000 boxes of bees used for pollination all over the east coast. The bees travel almost 75-80,000 miles each year, from Florida to Maine.

Dyson trucks his bees to Florida in the winter for citrus pollination. The bees return to Pennsylvania in the spring for cherries, apples, and other fruit. They travel to Lake Champlain for apples, to Maine for blueberries, and Massachusetts for cranberries.

Sons Wade and Scott, Through the Fisher Honey Company, process and package a line of bottled liquid honey for stores and bakeries. But their latest passion is honey sticks - small plastic straw-like tubes filled with flavored honey for snacking. Fisher's Famous Honey Stiks are filled with 99% pure honey and are heatsealed at both ends.

ASCS Awards went to dairymen J. Elrose Glick and David C. Mitchell for 15 years of service as community committeemen. Michael Smoker was recognized for 10 years of service. Illa Snook received a plaque for her 29 years as Mifflin County's program assistant.

Mark Elsesser accepted the **Business Family Award from Mif**flin County Extension Director Dave Filson. Mark and his wife Deb own the Lewistown Paper Company. Purchased in 1988, the company distributes paper, janitorial supplies, and restaurant equipment within a 100 mile radius. They are in the process of expanding their business, which should create 25 new jobs for Mifflin County.

Featured speaker Allan Noddle told the crowd about Giant Food's success and the importance of watching and adapting to trends in this global economy. "Changes are impacting business everywhere," Noddle emphasized.



The Fisher Bee Farm received the Farm Family Award at the annual Farm-City Banquet. Left to right are Wade Fisher, Dyson and Linda Fisher, Kiwanis president Judge Tim Searer, and Pennsylvania State Honey Queen Melissa Swartz.

Dough-It-Yourself Christmas Decorations

(NAPS)-For family holiday fun, here's an easy recipe to make oldfashioned tree ornaments at home that everyone will treasure

First you need:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- (not self-rising)
- 1 cup salt
- 1 cup water
- food color, optional

Combine flour and salt in a large flat-bottomed bowl. Mix well. Form

into a ball by mixing in a little water at a time. If you want colored ornaments, add food color to the dough. Be sure to knead 7-10 minutes until the dough has smooth, firm consistency. Add a little more water if necessary.

Now you're ready to make a bell, a star, a Christmas tree-or Santa. Just roll out the dough 1/4 inch thick. Cut ornament shapes out of the dough using cookie cutters. Make a small

hole at the top of the ornament for thread to hang the finished product. Bake on a foil-covered cookie sheet at 325 degrees for about 30 minutes or until golden brown.

For a free brochure on clever, "crafty" ideas for the holiday, write to: Morton[®] Salt Arts and Crafts Brochure, Morton Salt, 100 N Riverside Plaza, Department PR, Chicago, IL 60606-1597.

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