

Local Chapters Celebrate FFA Week

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — "FFA-Leaders With A Vision" was the theme for National FFA week, Feb. 15-22.

Lancaster County has 11 active FFA chapters with approximately 1,200 members. County officers coordinate activities such as leadership conferences, hayrides, and career development events for members in the county.

Local chapters including Eph-

rata, Solanco, Elizabethtown, Eastern Lancaster, Penn Manor, Lancaster Mennonite, Pequea Valley, Garden Spot, Lampeter-Strasburg, Manheim Central, and Warwick are active in the FFA. Each of the chapters participates in a variety of activities. Here are a few highlights of the events coordinated by the FFA chapters in Lancaster County.

The Cloister FFA chapter of

Ephrata High School, advised by Earnest Orr and Jodi Brown, recently updated their program of activities. One of the special programs of the FFA is a Supervised Occupational Experience which is tailored to fit each student's interests and career goals. These projects range from working in an agricultural industry to raising a crop or animal. Each student requires specialized attention to help

with planning and to supervise progress. The Cloister FFA has implemented a mentoring program between the FFA members and Ephrata Area Young Farmers. These adults help guide the students and provide information and support for their projects.

The FFA chapter at Eastern Lancaster County has recently implemented a new aquatics program. Under the direction of Phil

Ogline, Bob Lauffer, Cliff Day, and Bruce Stajnrjaj, members of the Grassland chapter hope to grow 6,000 pounds of Talapia a year. The program, with financial assistance from a state grant, is located at the Shirk Farm and will be in operation in September 1997.

Elizabethtown FFA chapter runs a school owned farm. Students under the direction of Wil-

(Turn to Page A21)



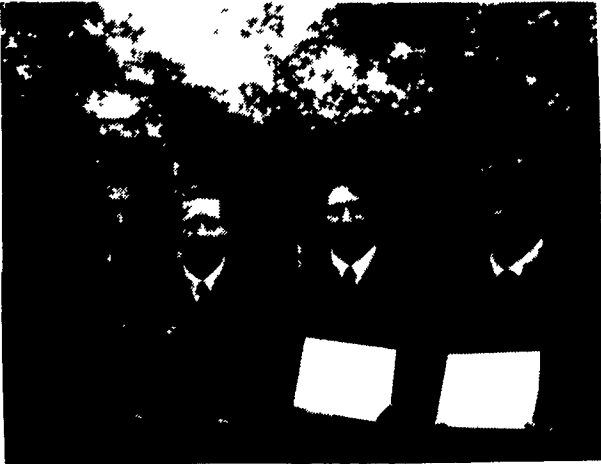
Dale Zimmerman, Connie Nolt, Keith Bollinger, and Joanne Zimmerman were recognized for their work producing capons for their SOE.



Members of the sophomore class (top center) Reld Myers, Jenny Hoover, Andy Nolt, Jay Zimmerman, and Adam Balmer explore some of the uses for corn beside traditional animal and human feeds.



Solanco FFA delegation attends the annual PA FFA Summer convention and participates in state judging contest at FFA Week.



Todd Huber, Wes Swanson, Klint Frey, and Vince Metzler were the meats evaluation and technology judging teams, pictured here after winning the state contest at FFA Activities Week at Penn State. They went on to the National FFA Convention at Kansas City, Mo., where the team placed bronze.



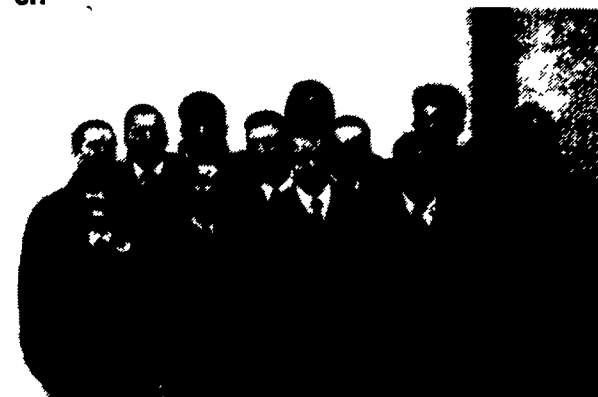
This year the Manor FFA participated in the poultry evaluation judging and technology Contest at FFA activities week at Penn State University. The team placed first at the state level and went on to judge at the national level at Kansas City, Mo. Pictured from left to right, Tyler Swanson, Jeremy Ralling, Beth Frey, and Jesse Farmer.



Solanco FFA members Kurt Barto and Nate Kreider sponsor a barnyard for students in a pre-kindergarten class.



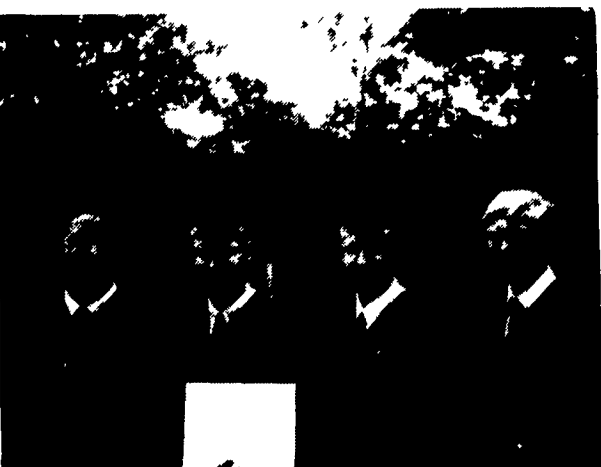
Pictured here are Tony Brubaker, Daniel Hess, Glenn Fellenbaum, and Jessica Hess after finishing second at the state contest at the FFA activities week at Penn State in June. They went to the Eastern States Competition in Massachusetts where they placed fifth.



Lampeter-Strasburg High School Garden Spot Chapter, first row, Natalie Miller, Jen Gill, Scott Keemer, Josh Hay, and Matt Howard. Second Row, Josh Weaver, Matt Commero, Carl Sangrey, and Chuck Vaughn. Third Row, Dave Landis, James Wertz, and Russ Howard.



Grassland FFA officers go to Snyder County biannually to hold an officer retreat. Here the officers plan activities, discuss how to improve the FFA, bring out their ideas, and have fun getting to know each other. The officers also meet members of West Snyder FFA, who are only a few minutes away.



This year the Manor FFA participated in the Agriculture Mechanics contest. The team placed first at the state level and went on to judge at the national level at Kansas City, Mo. Pictured from left to right are Jared Witmer, Jason Hershock, Ben Hershock, and Paul James.



Pequea Valley FFA officer team 1996-1997, from left, Justin Fisher, vice president; Ronita Miller, treasurer; Lisa Ledy, president; Joy Jones, secretary; Aaron Ranck, reporter; Andy Byler, chaplain; and Bob Stewart, sentinel, not pictured.



Hans Herr FFA. From left, seated, Tim Charles - student adviser, Darren Martin - treasurer, Steve Harnish - reporter, Phil Eby - sentinel. Second Row, Beth Wenrich - 2nd reporter, Keith Weaver - president, Dayna Weinhold - secretary, Denise Hoover - vice president, Susie Wenrich - chaplain. Third Row, Lem Metzler - faculty adviser; Jeff Nissley, second treasurer; and Jared Miller, second sentinel.