

Herd Records Program

ST. JOSEPH, Mo. — Bernadine Hilsher of B & T Angus, Elizabethtown, Pa. has recently been enrolled in the Angus Herd Improvement Records program of the American Angus Association, reported Richard L. "Dick" Spader, executive vice-president of the national breed registry organization

Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR) is a comprehensive evaluation program used by registered Angus breeders to

help them keep records of reproduction, and growth rate on individual animals. Each year hundreds of Angus breeders use AHIR records to produce more profitable, efficient Angus seed-stock.

By weighting calves at 205 days of age and again at a year of age, breeders not only identify the cattle that grow the fastest and most efficiently, they also identify cows that regularly produce above average calves, and bulls that sire outstanding calves.

4-H Leaders Make A Difference

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — The 4-H program in Pennsylvania simply would not exist without them.

That's the message delivered by Robert Steele, dean of Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences, to Alvena Kneasel, Lebanon, 4-H volunteer, and more than 150 other volunteer 4-H leaders at the 1998 Pennsylvania 4-H Leaders' Forum.

The forum was held April 3 and 4 in State College. Mrs. Kneasel was chairperson for the forum and has served as a volunteer leader for the Lebanon 4-H program for the past 25 years.

The event, sponsored by Penn State Cooperative Extension, featured workshops designed to help adult and teen 4-H leaders from across the state become better teachers and youth counselors.

"Volunteer 4-H program leaders serve as educators, mentors, positive role models and friends to thousands of young people throughout the state," Steele told the participating volunteers.

"On average, you individually give more than 200 hours of your time each year and make an extremely important impact on the lives of young people, at a time

when the involvement of a caring adult or peer can play a critical role in a young person's ability to make good choices in some very challenging situations. You set a wonderful example for all of us."

More than 12,000 volunteers are involved in 4-H programs in Pennsylvania, and about 1,600 of those are teen volunteers. Each year, these volunteers work with more than 117,000 rural and urban Pennsylvania youth between the ages of eight and 19.

4-H offers programs in subject areas such as the environment, clothing and textiles, entrepreneurship, photography, rocketry, horsemanship, entomology, plant science, nutrition and global citizenship

Most 4-H clubs and projects include a community service component. Nationwide, 4-H involves 5.4 million youth members and more than 500,000 adult volunteers.

Workshops at the forum featured information on how leaders can involve youth members in 4-H programs such as animal science, the 4-H Youth Voices and Action national advertising campaign, textile science, forest resources and foods.

Other sessions focused on character building, working with youth from different backgrounds, using computers and the World Wide Web in 4-H programs, risk management, and accommodating youth with disabilities.

To learn more about 4-H or to find out how to become a 4-H leader, contact the Penn State Cooperative Extension Office at 270-4391 or visit Pennsylvania 4-H on the World Wide Web at

www.cas.psu.edu/docs/pa4h/pa4hhome.html.

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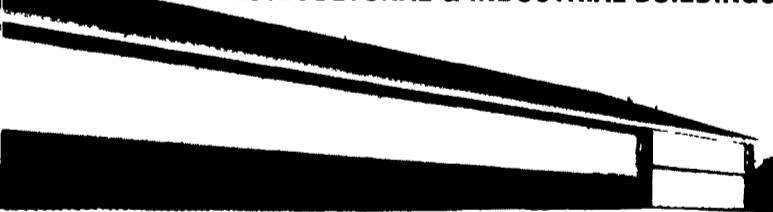
Monday, May 18 5:00 p.m.

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