

Westmoreland 4-H Leaders Kick Off New Year, Honor Adult Leaders

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GREENSBURG (Westmoreland Co. — The annual 4-H Westmoreland Leaders Kick Off Evening was held here at the Mt. View Inn in February.

About half of the 300 adult 4-H leaders attended this recognition and appreciation dinner. Four-H clubs in Westmoreland County serve about 3,200 members who completed 4,800 projects in 1997. The four most popular project areas in Westmoreland County are animal, science, food and nutrition, engineering, and leadership.

In his remarks, Gary Sheppard noted that the new staff hired had helped new 4-H clubs to begin. And in a final highlight of the year, plans and fund-raising are progressing for the William C. Kelly building at the fairgrounds. Ninety percent of the \$150,000 needed for construction has been raised. The building should be up in time for this year's fair.

Sheppard related a story of a leader in the county who did not know that 4-H existed in the county. "We have a program that is distinct from other programs and we need to open our doors a little wider," so that more can learn and benefit from 4-H, he concluded.

Elections to the board of direc-

tors resulted in the following receiving terms: Sam Smail, Mt. Pleasant; Donna Lenhart, Bolivar; and John Vincze, New Alexandria.

A new volunteer handbook and two new project books were available on the handout table.

Service Honorees

First year: Connie Blystone, Gary Blystone, Ray Charley, Margaret Golik, Henry Hoffer, Kristy Kelly, Scott Lail, Lee Lenhart, Lonnie Lenhart, Barbara McMillan, Faith Newell, Melinda Panichelle, Richard Parker, Cindy Rowe, Sandra Sheraw, James Shusko, Samuel Smail, Vicki Snyder, and Craig Steele.

Fifth year: Denise Anderson, Richard Baker, Joyce Bischoff, Kathy Brown, Wilma Buttermore, Cynthia Capets, Anne Cook, Ronald Driggers, Barbara Hixson, Cliff Long, Jess Stairs, Laura Tissue, Marc Turner, and Dawn Welker.

Tenth year: Pat Marine, Barb Rager, Sandra Ruggiero, Samuel Smail, Mark Testa, Alberta Welker, and Bobbi Ziegler.

Fifteen-year: Leon Falbo.

Twenty-year: Fran Ferry, Betty Flowers, Sue Henderson, and George Sproat.

Twenty-five-year: Daniel Acosta, Joan Ebert, Betty Harr, Patty Kelly, Scott Kelly, and Mary Zumbro.

Forty-year: Thelma Heide.



Jane Mecum, extension agent from Dauphin County, asked the question, "Why don't you think like me?" and offered insight on left-brained and right-brained people in her humorous after-dinner address.



Emcee for the Westmoreland 4-H leaders' kickoff, Jeff Sarault, is also president of the county council.



Gary L. Sheppard, county extension director, noted that the Westmoreland County Extension Website has become the largest of all extension sites in Pennsylvania.



Judge Daniel Ackerman, assisted by Michelle Ganassi, 4-H county council member presents 40-year service recognition to Thelma Heide.

Living With Grief

HONESDALE (Wayne Co.) — On Wednesday, April 14, Penn State Cooperative Extension will join 2,000 other organizations across the United States and Canada as a local host for the Hospice Foundation of America's sixth annual National Bereavement Teleconference.

"Living with Grief: At Work, At School, At Worship," a live via-satellite video conference, will examine the ways that grief influences us in various settings, such as the workplace, schools, or places of worship. The program will be broadcast from 1:30 - 4 p.m. at the extension meeting room, Wayne County Courthouse, 925 Court Street, Honesdale.

The program will offer humane and practical suggestions for those assisting griever and for organizations who may have those struggling with illness and loss in their midst. The program will be moderated by Cokie Roberts of ABC News and will feature a distinguished panel of experts. The teleconference is produced by Hospice Foundation of America, a non-profit organization established to assist those who cope either personally with terminal illness or the process of death, grief and bereavement. The teleconference is presented in conjunction with the Association Death Education and Counseling, The

Compassionate Friends, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), with additional support from Service Corporation International Inc.

The teleconference is intended for both professionals and laypeople. Continuing Education credits are available for a wide range of professions, including nurses, physicians, counselors, emergency medical services personnel, psychologists and nursing home administrators. To learn more about this national program, visit the Hospice Foundation of America's website at www.hospicefoundation.org or call Debra Bryant at (570) 253-5970 x239.

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