

4-H HAPPENINGS

Lebanon County 4-H Livestock Banquet

The Lebanon County 4-H Livestock Club recently held its annual banquet celebrating 1998 achievements at the Lebanon Expo Center.

Members, leaders, and buyers were recognized. The banquet was led by member Jason Shirk. Others participating included Heather Fuls, Jesse Wenger, Renee Blatt, and Darrell Martin.

Swine awards were given to Megan Fuls, grand champion hog; Billie Jo Atkins, reserve champion hog; Janine Winebark, champion bred and owned; and carcass champion to Andrew Blatt and Jeremiah Arnold. Swine roundup awards included champion hog Blaine Brown, reserve champion Brandon Winebark, and roundup showman awards went to Trisha Berger, Kyle Fleener, Brandon Winebark. Judy Atkins, current leader, introduced Dan Atkins, who will be taking over leadership duties this year.

Sheep winners included Kyle Fleener, who had grand champion market lamb, champion showman, and champion blocker, as well as supreme champion breeding sheep. He was also champion showman at roundup. Other winners were Wendy Atkins, reserve champion lamb; Blaine Brown, reserve showman; Joseph Tice, reserve blocker; and Erin Willard, junior showman at roundup. Brown also had champion and reserve champion lamb at the roundup. Sheep leaders include Tom and Debbie Tice, Julie Willard, Tim Fleener, Wilmer Wenger, and Daryl and Michelle Grumbine.

Beef club leader Brian Kreider presented the beef awards. Champion steer went to Justin

Fuls, with his sister Heather exhibiting the reserve champion. Heather was also champion showman and champion blocker and Nathan Tice was reserve champion showman. Megan Fuls was reserve champion blocker. Best bred and owned was won by Brandon Winebark.

Winners were also recognized for pen decorating and promotion during the fair. These winners included swine, Holly Meyer, Marc and Laura Arnold, and Janine and Brandon Winebark; sheep, Ann and Susan Leed, Janine Winebark, and the Spatz family; beef, Brandon and Janine Winebark, Ann Leed, and the Eberly and Blauch families.

John Risser, coach of the Pork Bowl Team, presented his members, Nathaniel Artz, Tim Schaeffer, Billie Jo Atkins, and Jason Shirk. This year they placed third at the contest.

Galen Kopp, Lebanon County extension agent, presented the awards from state days. The junior team from Lebanon County won first place last year at the state contest, and they each received personalized plaques: Travis Adam, Tim Schaeffer, Nathan Spatz, and Nathan Tice. The team was coached by Brian Kreider and Daryl Bomgardner. Brian also gave highlights of the past year's judging team, and thanked all the members for coming out. He also thanked those breeders in the county who allow the team to use their facilities and animals for practices. The coaches for 1999 will be Kreider, Dan Atkins, and Tim Fleener. Jon Harnish also assists the team.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the outstanding member awards. This year's rookie winner was 16-year-



Carcass champion went to Andy Blatt.

old Angela Decker. As a first-year member, she showed both market lambs and hogs at the fair, roundup, and Farm Show. She is a junior at Northern Lebanon, where she also participated in FFA and is an officer.

The junior member award went to Brandon Winebark. Brandon

4-H Scholarships Available

HONESDALE (Wayne Co.) — Applications for the Wayne County 4-H Scholarship are available. If you are currently an active member of a Wayne County 4-H Club, did not reach your 19th birthday as of Jan. 1, 1999, are graduating from high school or are enrolled in an institution of higher learning, you may want to apply. The deadline for submitting an application is May 1. Applications can be picked up at the Extension Office at 925 Court Street, Honesdale, PA, or call (717) 253-5970 ext. 239.

showed beef and hogs at the area and many out-of-area contests. He also participated in livestock judging and is a member of Richland Church of the Brethren.

The senior outstanding member

was Tim Schaeffer. Tim also showed both beef and hogs, was on the livestock judging team that won at state days and also participates in sports and FFA at Eastern Lebanon County High School.



Billie Jo Atkins, left, and Heather Fuls were honored at the banquet.



Champions, from left, Kyle Fleener, Justin Fuls, and Megan Fuls.

Pa. State Grange Young Couple

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Clover Lane in Wyomissing, were recently named Young Couple during the Youth Department's Young Adult/Young Marrieds weekend retreat in Adams County.

In the coming year, they will represent the state Grange and its Youth Department at local, state and national functions. As Young Couple, they will travel to Leadership School, the state convention in Allentown and the National Grange Convention in Portland, Maine, this fall and the Pennsylvania Farm Show, as well as visit local Grange meetings to discuss the youth program.

Although Henry, who is 30, has been active in Grange since the age of 5 in the Junior program, Madeline, who is also 30, only became a Granger after she started dating her future husband. It is the community service work of their Subordinate (local) Grange at Virginville that appeals to her.

"We are trying to give people in the community an appreciation of what the Grange is and an awareness of what the Grange is doing for the community," Madeline said. "We may run a fund-raiser, but we take those funds and put them right back into the community. I believe people are more likely to join if they know who you are

and what you are doing for the community."

To help encourage awareness of the Grange, Virginville Grange recently launched a Promotions Committee, on which Henry is a member. One such venture of the Promotions Committee, which replaced the Membership Committee, is to sponsor Virginville's Community Yard Sale this spring. Madeline, who is Flora at Virginville and on its Junior and Fair committees, said they also hold a Farm Safety Workshop and a Community Service Recognition program to honor members of like-minded organizations.

Henry, who is a past state officer (assistant steward), said he likes Grange for the friendships he has made over the years. It is those friendships, he added, that help keep him active.

Other positions currently held by Henry include Pomona (county) assistant steward, Pomona Youth/Young Married co-chairman, with his wife, and the Fair Display Committee.

"Those of us who came up through the junior and youth programs are now becoming more involved in state Grange," Henry said. "We've grown up together in the Grange and there is a bond among us."

In addition to the Grange,

both are active in their local church. Henry, who is employed as a sales representative with VICO Associates of Chicago, Ill., enjoys playing volleyball and softball.

Madeline, who is employed as an administrative assistant for a self-employed businessman, likes to cross-stitch and read. Both Henry and Madeline also cite spending time with her 12-year-old son Brandon as one of their leisure activities.

Other finalists for the title of Young Couple at the retreat were: James and Georgette Klotz, first runners-up, of Hartslog Valley Grange in Huntingdon County and Kenneth and Wendy Kerschner of Alleghenyville Grange in Berks County.

The Pennsylvania State Grange Youth Department, for members ages 14-35, places an emphasis on education, leadership development, fellowship and fun.

The Pennsylvania State Grange is an agricultural, rural and community service organization with over 31,000 members in 66 counties. The Grange is dedicated to improving life in rural Pennsylvania through grass-roots legislation, performing community service work and offering members services including health insurance and a credit union.



Best bred and owned, from left, Janine Winebark, Darrell Martin, and Brandon Winebark.



Lebanon County outstanding members, from left, Angela Decker, Tim Schaeffer, and Brandon Winebark.