

## Lebanon Livestock Club Recognizes Members and Buyers

LEBANON (Lebanon Co.)—The annual Lebanon County 4-H Livestock Club Recognition Banquet was held recently in West Hall of the Lebanon Expo Center. The club honored its buyers from livestock sales held at the Lebanon Area Fair, Winter Roundup, and PA Farm Show and recognized some of its members.

Special awards presented were the Outstanding Member Awards. These award winners were chosen through an application process detailing their 4-H livestock activities of the past year. The Outstanding Rookie Member went to Kurt Fleener. Kurt is a member of Beef, Sheep and Swine clubs, and did well in showing all. Kurt is a 9-year old from the Newmanstown area.

Megan Fuls won the Outstanding Junior Member. Megan shows market lambs and cattle at the Fair, as well as showing cattle at many other shows, including PA Farm Show. Megan is a student at Conrad Weiser High School.

The Outstanding Senior Member was Kurt's older brother, Kyle Fleener. Kyle is a 10th grader at ELCO, where he plays basketball, and is involved in FFA. Kyle shows all three species, and also participates in livestock judging. He took first place in the 4-H State Days Junior Livestock Judging Contest in August. Kyle also showed



Some of the members recognized during the banquet included (from left) Angela Pecken, Nathan Tice, Reene Blott, Kurt Fleener, Justin Fuls, Heather Fuls, and Kyle Fleener.

the Champion Shorthorn Heifer at the PA Farm Show, as well as showing pigs and sheep competitively.

Other recognition was given to several adults who are important to the program. Relda and Bill Brown of Brown's Greenhouse were honored for their continual help with our outdoor decorations at the fair. Their son Blaine has completed his 4-H career, and is currently a student at Black Hawk East. Harry Bachman, longtime auctioneer at the Lebanon Area Fair and the PA Farm Show, was

honored also. Both received gift certificates to Hoss's.

Finally, another couple with longtime service was honored. Dick and Carol Kreider. As well as serving as treasurer for the club, they help with almost every aspect of the fair. Dick is also president of the Expo Board, which operates the fairgrounds. They were presented with a basket of PA meat products.

First year members were also recognized and given a brush for their projects. Senior members received a gift and a plant.

## Bad Pruning Can Lead To Ugly Plants

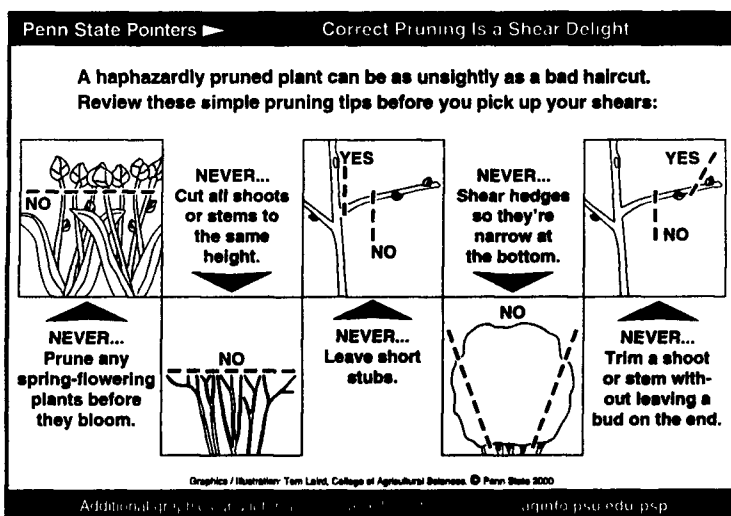
UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.)—A haphazard pruning job can be as unsightly as a bad haircut, except the plant can't wear a hat to hide the damage.

Robert Nuss, professor of ornamental horticulture in Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences, offers some tips on what not to do when you pick up your pruning shears.

- Never leave short stubs. Twigs should be cut close to the main stem. Stubs do not heal quickly and make an ideal opening for disease and insects.

- Never prune spring-flowering plants before they blossom. The flower buds are formed the season before, and pruning will remove them before they can open.

- Never cut all shoots or stems to the same height. It gives the plant a 'crew cut' look and stimulates dense growth on the



top of the plant.

- Never shear hedges so they are narrow at the bottom. The bottom should be several inches wider than the top to allow for fuller growth. The wider bottom exposes more of the plant to

light, and eliminates the twiggy look many hedges have.

- Never leave a stump without a bud at the end to continue growth. Slant the cut slightly so a tiny portion of the twig remains above the bud.

## Retirement Planning-It's Never Too Early or Too Late

HONESDALE (Wayne Co.)—Whether you are in your 20s or your 50s, financial planning is a key to a comfortable retirement.

A workshop especially designed for farm families, "Retir-

ing On The Farm" will help you plan for your retirement. You'll learn specific steps to help make your retirement plan a reality.

The workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, March 22 from 1-3 p.m. at the Extension Meeting Room, Courthouse, Hones-

dale.

No charge, but registration is requested to ensure enough handouts for everyone. For more information or to register, call Debra Bryant at (570) 253-5970 x 239.

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