



the Signature
FFA of
Success

West Snyder FFA Selinsgrove FFA Chapter hosted the SUN Area FFA Ag Mechanics and Small Gas Engines Career Development event on Thursday, March 16. 11 West Snyder FFA members competed in these events.

In the Agricultural Mechanics event, Todd Esbenshade, Chris Foor, and Andrew Kreamer represented West Snyder. The team placed first of five teams and earned a blue ribbon. Individually, Andrew Kreamer placed first overall, winning a blue ribbon. Todd Esbenshade placed second overall and earned a blue ribbon. Chris Foor earned a white ribbon.

The team had to demonstrate proficiency in solving mathematical problems, such as calibrating a sprayer and squaring a building to lay a foundation. The team also had to show proficiency in performing various mechanical tasks.

The Small Gas Engines team of Michael Brouse and Chuck Kessler competed for West Snyder. In this event, the team had to take a written test and find three faults in a Briggs and Stratton engine. Michael and Chuck placed second and third, respectively. The team placed fifth and earned a white ribbon. In the Agronomy CDE, Kate Heeter placed tenth, Heidi Good placed twelfth, Jen McWilliams placed thirteenth, Melissa McWilliams placed sixteenth, Jess Walter placed seventeenth, and Heather Hollenbach placed nineteenth.

The Agronomy team consisted of Heather Hollenbach, Jennifer McWilliams, Melissa McWilliams, Heidi Good, Jessica Walter, and Kate Heeter. Agronomy team members had to demonstrate proficiency in using the Penn State Agronomy Guide to determine seeding rates, select insecticides and herbicides for target species in target crops, determine grades of grain, and perform other crop management skills. Kate Heeter, Heidi Good, and Jessica Walter earned red ribbons, while Jennifer and Melissa McWilliams and Heather Hollenbach earned white ribbons.

Cumberland Valley FFA

Cumberland Valley FFA participated in the Cumberland-Dauphin/Perry County area's public speaking competition held at the Pennsylvania Farm Show building on March 29.

Eight chapters attended the event, with over 100 students participating. The speaking events included prepared public speaking, conservation public speaking, extemporaneous speaking, creed, junior prepared public speaking, and parliamentary procedure.

Twelve members from Cumberland Valley FFA took part in these career development events. Each of the members placed well in their respective events.

The parliamentary procedure team was required to conduct a meeting, handling three matters of business, in less than 20 minutes. The members of this year's team were Jason Nailor, Sharon Bender, Amy Kaucher, Doug

Frantz, Kendra Lehman, Jen Whitman, Michele Whitman, Sherisa Brammer, and Gina Lehman. The team placed second out of five teams and advanced the regional competition held in April.

Three students from Cumberland Valley participated in the prepared public speaking contest. Jennifer Whitman placed first with her speech entitled "FFA — The Signature of Success," which qualified her to advance to regionals. Michele Whitman placed fifth with her speech about Johnes disease, and Amy Kulick placed seventh with her speech about future concerns in dairy farming.

Three Cumberland Valley members took part in the extemporaneous speaking contest. Kristin Pursell, Sherisa Brammer, and Jason Nailor placed seventh, ninth, and tenth, respectively, in the competition.

Nicole Shivell placed second in the conservation public speaking contest with her speech about birds of prey. Nicole will advance to regionals with her speech. Julie Beaulieu and Amy Kaucher represented Cumberland Valley FFA in the creed competition. They placed sixth and second, respectively, with Amy advancing to regionals.

Cedar Crest FFA

Recently members of the Cedar Crest FFA attended the FFA State Legislative Conference in Harrisburg. They learned about legislative bills and the process they have to go through to be passed.

During the conference, students were separated into committees and were given a proposed bill to work with. Each committee was able to amend the bill or change it as they desired. The process was the same as if an actual bill was going to be passed. This helped students gain more knowledge about the government and how it functions.

FFA members also attended several leadership workshops that helped them acquire a better understanding of parliamentary procedure, public speaking, and legislative workings.

Cedar Crest FFA members in attendance at the SLLC conference included Sarah Krall, Beth Kreider, Daniel Eberly, Chet Brubaker, Jared Zimmerman, and Allison Martin, chaperone.

The Cedar Crest FFA held its 35th annual parent-member banquet at the High School on March 16. More than 240 people attended the banquet, with President Amanda Martin opening the banquet.

Erin Templin and Chet Brubaker presented certificates of appreciation to J. Calvin Zimmerman and Dennis Bucher. Honorary chapter degrees were presented to Darren Grumbine, Allison Martin, J. Ray Bickel, Janis Berkheiser, and Lynn Zimmerman. Amanda Martin, Jason Shirk, and Erin Templin received their Keystone Degree pins from Harvey Smith, former area agriculture consultant.

Llama Fest Is April 29-30

LEBANON (Lebanon Co.) — The Eastern Llama and Alpaca Festival is scheduled for April 29-30 at the Lebanon Expo Center.

Breeders will lead hourly demonstrations on caring for the animals as well as grooming, shearing, packing, and felting. Visitors will be entertained by llamas and alpacas performing



On April 29-30, attend the Eastern Llama and Alpaca Festival, Lebanon Expo Center. Events include demonstrations, games, daily parade of sale animals, a llama drill team, and hands-on learning.

obstacle course challenges and the limbo bar, and in the drill team. Children will be encouraged to lead a llama.

Spinning, weaving, shearing, packing, and felting of the

llama's fibers will be demonstrated.

Festival hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call Karen O'Neill (610) 589-5142 or Judy Eberly at (717) 949-3790.



Cumberland County Rabbit

The Cumberland County 4-H Rabbit Club met on March 27. Beth Miller, club leader, showed members the proper handling of the rabbit. Caleb Burkholder led the members in an unscramble game, which consisted of words having to do with a rabbit.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 1, at 7 p.m. in the Centerville Lutheran Parish Hall. Those interested in becoming members should contact Beth Miller at (717) 776-6571.

Cumberland County Sheep

The Conodoguinet 4-H Sheep Club in Cumberland County met on March 16. Bob Holtry from Perry County spoke about how to pick a market lamb and how to judge sheep. Holtry also shared knowledge gained from his 27 years of experience in working with lambs.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 20, at the home of John Witter. Interested new members should call Mrs. Richard Myers at (717) 258-3850.

Monroe Livestock Club

Do you have a child interested in learning about marketing and breeding livestock animals, animal health, or animal care? If so, plan to join the Monroe County 4-H Livestock Club at their first meeting on Tuesday, April 25.

The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Monroe County Cooperative Extension Office in Stroudsburg. 4-H rules and regulations, possible project animals, and various organizational topics will be discussed.

The meeting will be an informational meeting open to anyone in Monroe County ages 8 to 18. 4-H livestock projects include poultry, beef, swine, lamb, and goats.

I SUPPORT



Progressive Clovers 4-H

The monthly meeting of Progressive Clovers Club was held February 14 at the Baust Parrish House in Tyrone, Maryland.

The meeting was opened by President Brett Haines. Kelly Swartzbaugh, Heather Haines, Kim Holland, Scott Davis, Sarah Davis, and Ryan Haines all gave demonstrations during the meeting.

The club also discussed upcoming deadlines and events. The club announced that the next meeting will be held at the Baust Parish House on Monday, March 13.

York Co. Berries & Bees

The York County Berries and Bees Club's recent meeting was held on February 8. The club elected new officers, including President Chris Schreck, Vice President Matt Hoover, Secretary Lydia Eddinger, Assistant Secretary Sarah Lieb, Treasurer Rachel Schreck, Historian Amanda Hoover, and Newsreporter Katrina Gore.

Gore displayed her new design for the club's T-shirt. The Club also discussed possible trips to Walnut Acres in Juanita County and Atlantic Blueberry in New Jersey.

Adams County 4-H Clubs

An excellent leadership opportunity for youth is one way to describe the 1999 National 4-H Congress, which took place November 26-30 in Atlanta, Georgia. More than 1,300 4-H members attended the congress.

Two Adams County delegates attended the congress, where attendees learned leadership skills and shared ideas. Those two delegates were Jessi Leister of Gettysburg. Forty-five members from Pennsylvania attended this year's event, with each county in Pennsylvania eligible to select 2 members to attend the congress.

Plant Wildflowers, Seedlings

HACKETTSTOWN (Warren Co.) — The Warren County Soil Conservation District will host its annual seedling and wildflower sale in efforts to promote stewardship and reforestation.

The District will offer three-year-old evergreen seedlings to landowners interested in planting windbreaks, buffers, reforestation, and/or, simply, beautifying their property. Five varieties of evergreens are available and are sold in easily hand-held bundles of 25 trees at a cost of \$12 per bundle. This year the varieties are Norway Spruce, Colorado Blue Spruce, Japanese Black Pine, Eastern White Pine, Douglas Fir.

Hardwood seedling in three varieties in bundles of five trees are available for \$5. These varieties will include Northern Red Oak, White Oak and Tulip Poplar. Orders are accepted through April 7, and as supplies last.

Also in a continuing effort to promote the beautification of the countryside, the District will be hosting its fourth wildflower sale, with six different blends and one single variety. The wildflower mixes are available in two sizes: a .75 ounce package for 225 - 400 square feet for \$5 and a four ounce bag for larger areas covering up to 2,500 square feet for \$12. Orders are accepted through June 1, on a first come/first served basis.

The seedlings will be distributed on April 13 - 15, at the Warren County Soil Conservation District on 224 W. Stiger Street in Hackettstown. The wildflower seeds may be picked up at the same location from April 13 through June 1.

The sale of the seedlings and wildflowers helps raise money for the conservation education programs the district is involved with each year. For more information and an order form, call the District office at (908) 852-2579.