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Coming in second was Sarah Wenger from Grassland, with Erim Templin from Cedar Crest placing third.

In the senior prepared speaking contest, Cedar Crest students took first and second place. Sarah Krall placed first, with Joel Krall placing second. Mike Livingston from Conrad Weiser placed third.

Margeaux Firestine from Conrad Weiser placed first in the junior prepared speaking competition, with Karianne Boyer from ELCO placing second and Denise Gardner from Conrad Weiser coming in third.

In the FFA Creed competition, Susan Leed from ELCO placed first. Stephanie O'Brien from Conrad Weiser placed second, and Justin Miller from W.B. Saul placed third.

Cedar Crest

The Cedar Crest FFA recently participated in the Lebanon County Land Judging Career Development Events. The Land Judging CDE was held in the Northern Lebanon area.

Top placings from Cedar Crest are as follows: Chet Brubaker, first; Joel Krall, second; Beth Kreider, third; Dan Eberly, fourth; Erik Rheinheimer, fifth; Chad Weaver, sixth; Amber Frank, seventh; Andrew Gettler, eighth; Brad Bucher, tenth; and Michelle Zimmerman, eleventh.

Other Cedar Crest participants included Kristen Stokes, Jared Zimmerman, Dan Houtz, LeAnn Smith, Heather Hawkins, Megan Thorton, Amanda Heffelfinger, Douglas Betz,

Ashley Fessler, Mike Spencer, Amy Kling, and Eddie Wise.

The top 10 contestants will receive monetary FFA awards from the county FFA fair fund. Tim Emenheiser from the USDA Natural Resources and Conservation service was the official judge.

West Snyder

The seventh annual FFA Conservation Day was held at Beaver Adams Elementary School in Beaver Springs and West Beaver Elementary School in McClure on April 13.

Junior High FFA members planned, designed, and conducted all of the day's activities with the Senior High FFA members' assistance.

Each elementary grade learned about a different topic involving the environment. Kindergarten learned about plants, and each student planted a sunflower seed and received a flower.

In first grade, the students explored forests and had a visit from Smokey the Bear. Second graders dug for information about soils. Each of the students learned about the importance of earthworms and at gummy worms.

Third grade students had a presentation on the untamed world of wildlife from Jerry Smith, Wildlife Conservation Officer from the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

In the upper elementary grades, fourth grade learned about fish and aquatics, while grade five dove into the topic of water with Craig Bingman from the Snyder County Conservation District. Throughout the morning, each sixth grade student built a bluebird house to take home. A total of 68 junior and senior high FFA members participated in the event.

4-H Leaders Provide Positive Relationships For Youth

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Today's youth need positive relationships with adults more than ever, and 4-H leaders can fill that role. To help adult and teen 4-H leaders become better teachers and youth counselors, Penn State Cooperative Extension brought together more than 100 volunteers from across the state at the 2000 Pennsylvania State 4-H leader's Forum, March 31 to April 1 in State College.

Pennsylvania has more than 10,000 adult 4-H leaders. Each year, these volunteers work with more than 125,000 rural and urban Pennsylvania youth between the ages of eight and 19. Volunteers give more than 20 days to 4-H youth - the equivalent of more than 1,000 full-time teachers in the field, or a contribution worth more than \$20 million.

Today, 4-H also involves youth of varied races and cultures, youth with disabilities and youth that have not traditionally taken part in the 4-H program.

Workshops at the forum featured information on character building, horse safety, the Japanese Exchange program, putting 4-H club information on the World Wide Web, intergenerational programs, wildlife habitat evaluation, assessing risk in youth activities and using computers and the Web with 4-H projects.


Other sessions focused on building model horses, community service leadership, textile science, techniques for sharing positive spirit, foods and nutrition, woodworking and maximizing the abilities of people with disabilities.



Marilyn Corbin (left) state program leader, congratulates Alvena Kneasel, 4-H leader from Lebanon County who attended the 2000 Pennsylvania State 4-H Leaders' Forum, March 31 to April 1, at the Days Inn in State College. The 4-H leaders participated in workshops focusing on topics that will help them become better teachers and counselors of youth.



Paradise 4-H'er Mary Zeng, right, and Katina Showman, Lancaster County 4-H coordinator, discuss upcoming legislation with Rep. Thomas Armstrong, Sen. Noah Wenger, and Rep. Arthur Hershey during Pennsylvania State 4-H Capital Days held May 1-2 in Harrisburg. Zeng and 120 other 4-H'ers from across the state were selected to observe how state government works by visiting 11 state agencies. The students took part in a simulation workshop in which they wrote grant proposals up to \$100,000 and created a budget related to one of the agencies. Students presented their proposals to a three-person panel and joined 85 legislators for a legislative breakfast, program, and capitol tour.

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