



dhia

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Pennsylvania DHIA Presents These Awards.



Putnam award from left, Shane Henry, with George Cashell.



Herb Gilmore superior tech award, from left, Terry Willow, and Dean Emick.



Putnam award from left, Diane McIlwain, region 6 manager, with Jo Ann Moser.



Putman award from left, Diane McIlwain, and Ray Yaggie.

At Mifflin County Youth Fair

GAIL STROCK
Mifflin Co. Correspondent
REEDSVILLE (Mifflin Co.)
— A new livestock club helped fill a newly built building at the constantly growing Mifflin County Youth Fair, conducted at the Mifflin County Youth Park in Reedsville.

Volunteers worked fast and furious to finish the new livestock barn designated to both house livestock and provide shelter for animals and participants waiting to enter the show ring. This year, the building housed dairy animals and steers from the newly formed Dairy Feeder Steer Club. Dale Gro, one of the club's leaders, explained the purpose of the club.

"We started it for the smaller kids who didn't want to handle a 1,200-pound steer. What we're trying to do is to be a stepping stone into the dairy or beef clubs. There's a real challenge in starting a new club. Things went smoothly up until three weeks ago (before the fair), but we got most of the problems ironed out. We're going to change some rules come September."

Gro started researching the idea for a feeder steer club well in advance by talking to leaders of similar clubs in Huntingdon and Dauphin counties. He also petitioned county youth to determine the level of interest. Gro and co-leader John Sheaffer formed the club with 39 new members — 30 as 4-H members and nine from FFA. When fair week arrived, club members showed 34 feeder steers.

"We didn't turn any steers away because of weight," Gro said, "although one did weigh 598-pounds."

The calves, born between January 1 and March 31, must weigh between 300 and 600-pounds at fair time. The animals must be 50 percent dairy. Members learn showmanship and fitting and must also deal with some unique problems.



Kristen Stufft, left, sold her grand champion market lamb to Leslie Cline and Scott Myers of Myers View Farm in Bedford.



Mike Watson of Mike's Landscaping and Excavating purchased Brittney Stauffer's grand champion dairy feeder steer. Brittney, left, is joined by Brittany Watson, Jordan Detter, and T. J. Watson.

"There's a lot of work getting a calf to the feeder stage. Members learn a lot of responsibility

when dealing with pneumonia, scours, dehorning, and castration, especially when starting these calves in the winter."

The hard work paid off. Matt Sellers of Thomasville judged the show. "This was definitely a well-run show. For the first year, they did a good job. I was impressed," Sellers said. "The kids were prepared. As for quality, there were more purebred Holstein here. I'd like to see more beef represented."

Thirty-three feeders were sold at the livestock auction that Friday night. Gro said buyers could look forward to purchasing calm, preconditioned feeders. Brittney Stauffer's grand champion 538-pound feeder sold for \$645.60 to Mike's Landscaping and Excavating, Reedsville. Ryan Sheaffer's 460-pound reserve champion animal sold for \$561.20 to Michael Felmler General Contracting in McClure. The 33 animals sold for a total of \$14,189.81.

The livestock sale began with Bill Wagner of CT Farm and Country placing the highest bid for Heidi Shaffer's grand champion rabbit. It sold for \$140. Shaffer's reserve champion rabbit sold for \$100 to Mark Bonson of Orrstown. Twenty-nine rabbits sold for a total of \$1,835.

Wagner also brought Amy Filson's grand champion 79-pound goat for \$632. Tim Houser of J-Box and Lumber bought the reserve champion animal for \$158. Twenty-two goats sold for \$2,960.75.

Kristen Stufft's 108-pound grand champion market lamb sold for \$378 to Myers View Farm of Bedford. Salinda Speicher's 117-pound reserve



Dean Amick award of excellence, from left, Lois Anne Risser, Jay Risser, and Dean Amick.



Rookie of the year from left Jo Ann Lucabaugh, with presenter George Cashell, region 4 manager.