

# Eastern York FFA Wins Award With 'City Scapes'



Putting the final touches of plant material on their display patio are, from left, foreground, Megan Oberdick, Jennifer Robinson, and Carrie Lauchman.



Team members and advisers who designed and built Eastern York FFA's award-winning landscape include, from left, Carrie Lauchman, Sarah Erdman, Jennifer Robinson; center, Julie Flinchbaugh, Abby Lauchman, Mackie Miller, adviser Scott Barr, Andy Flinchbaugh; rear, Megan Oberdick, Sara Flaharty and adviser Mr. Anderson.

**JOYCE BUPP**  
York Co. Correspondent  
WRIGHTSVILLE (York Co.)  
— Block laying, construction, and patio planting were just a few of the skills polished by a team of Eastern York FFA members while designing an award-winning landscape display.

The 10 by 15-foot display won first place in the Farm Show competition in January, as well as honors for best design and best blueprint.

At the close of Farm Show week, team members tore down and stored the vital, non-perishable components of the design, and then hauled it north recently with fresh plant materials to re-assemble. That reassembly of "City Cafe" was Pennsylvania's entry in the regional competition conducted recently at the Eastern States Exposition at Springfield, Mass., with the theme "City-Scapes." The Eastern FFA team's display took second place at the "Big E" competition.

Team members built the city cafe facade, with its planted patio area, as an offshoot of their studies in landscape design and soil science, part of the agriscience curriculum offered by instructor Scott Barr. Barr and parent Barry Miller accompanied the team, which included Sarah Erdman, Julie Flinchbaugh, Abby Lauchman, Dawn Miller, Mackie Miller, and Megan Oberdick.

"It was an idea that came up in our landscape class and everyone had different ideas about what we could do," said team member Julie Flinchbaugh. The landscape competition was an especially useful learning opportunity for Flinchbaugh, 17, a senior looking ahead to college studies in horticulture.

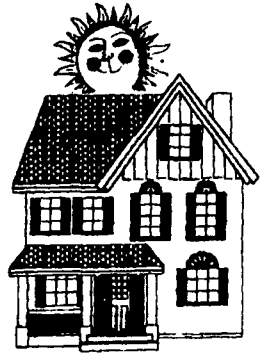
"Some of the team did the brick work and some did the pavers; everyone just sort of picked what they wanted to help with," Flinchbaugh said. "Then we went looking for plants to use in the display and Shiloh Nurseries were very helpful."

Most of the class lent a hand when the time came to set up the display for Farm Show competition.

"It was up on the second story," said Flinchbaugh, "and we had to cut one of the walls of the display apart and rebuilt it. That was

## Family Living Focus

by  
**Jan Schroll**  
Penn State University  
Extension



### Portable Kitchen

You are moving in the next few months or just want to be prepared for an emergency evacuation or your next camping trip. If so, contact your Pennsylvania extension agent about a copy of "Portable Kitchen. This guide shows how to assemble a kitchen of 40 or more gadgets in two regular-sized dishpans. No, the refrigerator and the oven are not included, but if you are in a situation where you need access to preparation supplies, including waxed paper, foil, wrap and garbage bags, this idea may be for you.

Originally designed to allow nutrition education workers to transport their demonstration materials by bus to housing projects, consumers in all 50 states have requested bulletins. The two dishpans form a make shift sink and carry the food preparation equipment and supplies. Pictures of all the equipment are provided so you can purchase the materials by name or seek out less expensive equipment at dollar stores and garage sales.

Fully equipped, the portable

kitchen weighs approximately eight pounds. The only non-standard piece of equipment is the baking sheet which is toaster size (you can obtain these in specialty kitchen shops or catalogs).

The most unusual item is a clean food storage cap (looks like a shower cap with elastic edges) to cover unused food products in the mixing bowl to save a mess after food preparation. Choose boxes of wrap and foil that are similar in size so they fit securely together. It is better if each box contains only half the product to make the kit lighter to carry.

This project would be a fun family, scout, 4-H, or other youth group project and something both adults and youth will enjoy. Of course, the kit can be customized to your needs.

To locate a copy of the Portable Kitchen, phone or write your local Cooperative Extension Office. If they do not have the bulletin in stock or you are from out of state, contact Jan Scholl, 323 Ag Admin Building, University Park 16802 (jscholl@psu.edu). Please limit your request to one copy.

kind of a test of our patience."

After winning the January competition, the team tore down the cityscape components and stored them away. In mid-September, they loaded building materials, plants, team members and advisers up to travel north to the Massachusetts show site to compete against winning displays from other states in the region.

Space again created some challenges for the FFA team, when they discovered their display area was smaller than their landscape design. Again, out came the tools for quick re-engineering, but only after removing a large mound of mulch which had been dumped for their use right in the middle of their display site.

Despite the eight hours it took to reconstruct their entry, Flinchbaugh called the Big E show "an

awesome one," where team members had the chance to visit with students participating from other states. The group returned to the site last week when the show closed to disassemble their second place winning design, while planning their display for the upcoming, 2002 Farm Show.

Support from local businesses, with plants and assorted materials, helped to both hold down costs and offer community encouragement to the landscape team's efforts. Businesses participating included Shiloh Nurseries, Emigsville, River Valley Landscapes, Wrightsville, Lowe's of York, Stauffers, Hellam, 21st Century Appraisals at Middletown and Diversified Liquidators, Wrightsville.

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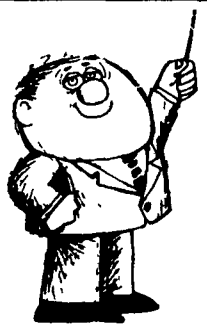
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