



Shippensburg Young Farmer Chapter was awarded outstanding chapter at the Pennsylvania Young Farmer Conference in Lebanon.

Southcentral Young Farmers Shine At Conference

(Continued from Page A1)

farmer under 30 award went to Bill and Brandee Vanarsdale of Gettysburg.

While not managing their own farm, the Vanarsdales run a 7,000-acre custom fieldwork business in Adams County that includes mowing hay and harvesting corn, wheat, and soybeans.

Besides helping to keep the books for that operation, Brandee also works as a herdsman for Jobo Holsteins, a dairy with more than 500 milking cows in the Gettysburg area.

The Vanarsdales recently became parents of a daughter, Kaylee.

Besides all their other involvement with farming, they have plans to raise a small herd of

Texas Longhorn cattle.

Ed and Tina Wilkinson, also of Adams County, took home the outstanding community service award for their strong leadership and involvement in area activities.

The Wilkinsons help manage Getty Acres, a 200-Holstein operation, and grow 3,000 acres of crops in addition to being a regular sight at ag-related events in Adams County.

The couple has served as 4-H project leaders and are known for their pit beef stand at various apple festivals. They are active in the Adams County Young Farmers, where Ed has been president four times.

"To say that Ed and Tina are very busy people would be an understatement," said Gerald

W. Reichard in presenting the award.

Reichard himself was named a new honorary member for his many years of commitment to the Pennsylvania Young Farmers Association (PYFA.)

He retired in 1998 from the vocational ag department at Waynesboro High School, Franklin County, after teaching a total of 36 years. He is a member of the Shippensburg Young Farmer Chapter and a PYFA coordinator.

The Shippensburg Young Farmer Chapter recently celebrated its 50th anniversary and was selected outstanding chapter in the state.

Twelve members of the chapter were on hand to accept the award.



Carol and Richard Kreider, recipients of the outstanding young farmer over 30 award.

Yet another person from the Shippensburg area shared the spotlight at the convention.

Emily Grove, a senior at Shippensburg High School was selected as spokesperson for agriculture.

Grove proved herself worthy of that position by discussing agricultural topics with constituents and members of the media Tuesday, and by making an impromptu speech on teaching kids about ag.

Regional winners for the Out-

standing Young Farmer award include:

- Robert Kirk of the Solanco Young Farmers. Kirk direct-markets hogs, raises heifers, and is known for helping his farm neighbors.

- Kevin and Jeryl Kulp of the Kutztown Young Farmers Chapter. The Kuls manage a 110-cow Holstein herd and have three children.

- Brian Zug of the Solanco Young Farmers. A 1992 graduate of Solanco High School, Zug helps run a dairy operation in Fulton Township with a goal to make the most of "experience, education, and a strong desire to improve the management of the dairy herd," Reichard said.

The Richard Hoppes Memorial Award went to Terry and Jane Martin of Peace Valley Farm, Chambersburg. Terry has a long history of involvement

(Turn to Page A26)

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