

Hans Herr FFA Chapter Hosts County Competitions



Winners in the senior prepared speech category of the County FFA Speaking Competition are, from left, Sheila Weaver, Grassland FFA, second place; Debra Young, Solanco FFA, first place; and Michael Hess, Hans Herr FFA, third place. Photo by Carol Stark, Ephrata Review

CAROL STARK
Special To Lancaster Farming
LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — Lancaster Mennonite High School (LMHS) looked as though it had a new dress code recently when many students were seen in blue coats, FFA emblems, ties, white shirts or blouses with the girls in black skirts. The look took the eye of the other students as they passed by.

FFA youth from across the county had come to LMHS for the county FFA competition, which entailed the public speaking, parliamentary procedure, and agriculture issues forum for FFA students to compete on the county level.

LMHS's Hans Herr FFA chapter has hosted the event for the last several years and included participants from Elizabethtown Area High School, Ephrata Area High School's Cloister FFA, Garden Spot High School Grassland FFA, Lampeter-Strasburg High School's FFA, Manheim FFA, and Solanco High School's FFA.

The FFA members were there to win one of the three top levels as they work their way hopefully to the state competition.

Contestants in the creed cat-

egory memorized the The Creed written by E. M. Tiffany and adopted at the third National Convention of FFA. It was revised at the 38th Convention and the 63rd Convention. Here, FFA members recited the creed and had to answer questions derived from the creed from the panel of judges to see if the students understood what they were reciting. Questions included: what is the future of agriculture? and what are progressive agriculturists?

Alexandra Lauffer of Grassland FFA came in first in the creed event. Kathy Zimmerman of Cloister FFA came in second and Kayla Ballard of Elizabethtown FFA came in third.

In the conservation speech category, students could choose any topic related to conservation. Some of the choices were soil, water, and wildlife issues, and this speech was to be six to eight minutes on these issues.

First place went to Kari Martin of the Cloister FFA, second place to Josh Wenger of Grassland FFA, and third place went to Holly Hoover of the Cloister FFA.

Extemporaneous speeches were a little harder as each contestant was given a topic at the event and had 30 minutes to prepare a four- to six-minute speech.

First place went to Andrew Herr of Manor FFA, second place to John Henson of Grassland FFA, and third place to Katie Sollenberger of Cloister FFA.

In the senior prepared speech event, FFA members were free to select any topic which touched on any agricultural concern. These speeches were six to eight minutes long.

Debra Young from the Solanco FFA was first place in this event, Sheila Weaver of Grassland FFA placed second, and third place from Hans Herr FFA was Michael Hess.

The final category in the Lancaster County FFA competition was the junior prepared speech, which included freshman FFA members.

Grassland placed first with Mandy Good, Heather McCormack of Garden Spot FFA took second, and Megan Rish of Solanco FFA came in third.



PennAg Industries Plans Annual Golf Tournament

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Golfers will have a chance again this year to participate in PennAg Industries Association's annual Divots for Degrees Golf Tournament.

Since 1991, the PennAg Scholarship Fund has awarded 110 scholarships totaling \$67,500 by raising money through this annual event.

Approximately 20 scholarships are awarded each year to high school seniors and college students. This year, two high school seniors will receive \$1,000 scholarships with the remaining students each being awarded \$500 scholarships.

The 13th annual Divots for Degrees is planned for Tuesday, May 21 at Foxchase Golf Club in Stevens beginning with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. Individual golfers can participate for \$75 or a foursome can play for \$275.

On the day of the event, sign-in begins at 11 a.m. and a picnic lunch will be served at noon. After the afternoon of golf, an evening reception will begin at 5:30 p.m. with dinner and prizes at 6 p.m. The event will be conducted rain or shine.

The scholarships are awarded to the children of employees working within the agricultural industry. Each scholarship is for one year, but students may reapply every year they are attending school. Numerous multiple winners have been awarded scholarships throughout their entire college career. PennAg receives over 50 applicants each year and would like to increase the number of scholarships which can be awarded. The success of the Divots for Degrees event has a bearing on how many scholarships and how much money can be awarded from year to year.

Many agricultural companies provide financial support for the event by sponsoring golf holes, greens fees and various other items. It is because of the generosity of the sponsors that all the money raised is able to go directly into the PennAg Scholarship Fund. Numerous sponsorship opportunities are available and can be obtained by calling Sam Sherk, executive vice president of PennAg Industries Association, at (717) 651-5920. Pre-registration for golfers also can be made by contacting Mr. Sherk.

Chambersburg Ag Advisory Council Elects Officers

CHAMBERSBURG (Franklin Co.) — The Chambersburg Agricultural Education Department Advisory Council recently met to discuss goals and elect officers.

Donna Hays, environmental education coordinator with the Franklin County Conservation District, was elected president. Vice president is Chris Snavely, owner of Snavely's Garden Corner, Inc. and Dwight Mickey, co-owner of Shatzer's Orchard, is secretary.

There are 12 members of the Agricultural Advisory Council which is required by State and federal governments for schools receiving funding for agricultural students. Also, many grants available to agricultural programs require approval by the program's advisory council.

The Advisory Council also offers direction, curriculum ideas, resources and support to the local program. This council will be establishing goals and continue to be a work in progress.



Top winners in the creed category of the county FFA speaking competition are, from left, Kathy Zimmerman, Ephrata Cloister FFA, second place; Alexandra Lauffer, Garden Spot Grassland FFA, first place; and Kayla Ballard, Elizabethtown FFA, third place. Photo by Carol Stark, Ephrata Review

We Salute the FFA

Cedar Crest FFA In Speaking Contest

Members of the Cedar Crest FFA Chapter competed recently in the Lebanon County FFA public speaking contests.

In the senior prepared contest, members must give a six- to eight-minute speech about any agricultural topic. Joel Krall placed second and Sarah Krall placed first with her speech about the benefits of soy products.

Conservation public speaking requires members to give a six- to eight-minute speech about conserving our natural resources. Amber Frank placed third, Heather Hawkins placed second, and Beth Kreider placed first while speaking about the dangers of organically produced crops.

In the junior prepared contest, first year FFA members give a four- to six-minute speech about any agricultural topic. Janelle Zimmerman placed second and Jessica Rose placed first, inform-

ing the audience about the dangers of silo gases.

The creed contest has first-year members recite the FFA Creed. Mark Balmer placed third, Kevin Kreider placed second, and Heather Balsbaugh won the contest.

Members competing in the extemporaneous contest draw a topic and then have 30 minutes to prepare a four- to six-minute speech. Travis Krall placed fifth and Jeremy Balsbaugh placed second.

The final event was the parliamentary procedure contest. An officer team has 20 minutes to conduct a regular business meeting while using at least six different parliamentary motions. The Cedar Crest team consisting of Kyle Seyfert, Jeremy Balsbaugh, Heather Balsbaugh, Kevin Kreider, Tara Miller, Janelle Zimmerman, Mark Balmer, Travis Krall, Samantha Shelper, and Becky Eisenhauer placed second.

Penn Manor FFA Plans Horse Show

The Penn Manor FFA organization is making plans for the ninth annual Manor FFA Benefit Horse Show on June 2 at the Columbia Riding Club.

They are inviting individuals and businesses in the community to sponsor a class or contribute to this event.

Money earned from the horse show goes toward petting zoos, National FFA Week, the Food For America Program, Ag in the Classroom, and other programs.

For more information, contact Lyddy Becker at (717) 464-9382 (evenings); or Carole Fay at (717) 872-9520, ext. 1593, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Big Spring FFA Junior Officers

The Big Spring FFA chapter recently chose junior officers. They are: Jerry Kreiser, junior president; Tori Fuller, junior vice president; Megan Kutz, junior secretary; Cheyanne Dyrman, junior treasurer; Jenny Zinn, junior news reporter; Ashley Duncan, junior historian; Nate Merkel, junior sentinel; Terry Glover, junior chaplain; and Greg Crum, junior adviser.

As a junior officer, they follow the chapter officer to better understand the position of a chapter officer.

School District Employees In Cedar Crest FFA Contest

The Cedar Crest FFA conducted their annual quiz contest to celebrate National FFA Week 2002. This contest was open to all Cornwall-Lebanon School District employees. To participate, employees had to answer 10 multiple choice questions about the FFA within one week.

Many employees tied for first and a drawing was held to determine first, second and third place prizes. Winners were: Jo Hopwood, first place; a \$30 gift certificate to Hoss's Steak and Seahouse; Rita Hollinger, second place, an FFA collector's tractor; Sue Arnold, third place, an FFA T-shirt.