

Berlin FFA Members Honor School Superintendent

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Somerset Co. Correspondent
BERLIN (Somerset Co.) — The Berlin Brothersvalley FFA Chapter members recently honored the school superintendent, Wayne C. Henderson, during the 64th annual parent/member banquet at the Berlin Community Center.

Henderson received the 48th Honorary FFA Chapter Degree as the honorary chapter member.

The longtime educator who resides in Bedford County has a 34-year career in education. He began working as superintendent at Berlin in 1999 and has been supportive of the agricultural program ever since. At home his hobbies include woodworking and managing sheep.

Michael Clark, FFA adviser told the 200 people in attendance, "Mr. Henderson brings much enthusiasm and sincerity to our agricultural educational program and to our FFA organization by assisting in the ongoing efforts to develop the program through satisfying many needs."

Recognitions

A special thank you went out to agricultural aide, Roxann Leydig; FFA photographer and video technician, Sam Brick; previous agricultural teacher and wife, Doyle and Donna Paul; and previous agricultural teacher, Everett Nicklow.

The fourth-place State FFA safety demonstration team presented their demonstration enti-

tled "Better Safe than Sorry."

Awards

Numerous awards were given to members. Here is a partial listing: The Chapter Sweetheart Award went to Jenna Hillegass, daughter of Jeff and Nancy Hillegass.

Dekalb Award - Luke Horning, chapter president.

Highest GPA - Jared Hillegass, chapter vice president.

The American Degrees: Justin Hillegass, Jason VanGilder and Lance Bittner, who received his degree at the National FFA Convention.

W.J. Brant presented the corn growing contest awards from Chemgro: 1. Jared Hillegass, 227 bushels; 2. Jarred Fox, 212 bushels; 3. Russell Webreck 200 bushels.

A special parents Recognition was bestowed by Jared Hillegass to his parents, Doug and Debbie Hillegass, Glades Pike, Berlin. His parents received the Honorary Keystone Degree at State Mid-Winter Convention and the local chapter recognized them for having three children earn state degrees — Desirae in 1998, Justin in 1999, and Jared in 2003.

The FFA Demonstration Team Gold Medals (4th in State Farm Safety Demonstration and in State over-all competition) included Kyle Hillegas, Luke Horning, Blake Weigle, and Sam Weimer.

Gold Medals to the FFA Farm Safety and Health Quiz Bowl



Berlin FFA members recently honored with top awards during the annual banquet, front from left, Blake Weigle, Kyle Hillegas, Luke Horning, Greg Frazier and Sam Weimer. Back row from left are Jarred Fox, Jared Hillegass, Stephanie Hartman, Rebecca Hittie, Matt Keefer, and Russell Webreck.

Team - Kevin Bittner, Jarred Fox, Greg Frazier, and Russell Webreck.

State FFA Degree Pins: Kyle Hillegas, son of Russell and Jeanne Hillegas; Jared Hillegass, son of Doug and Debbie Hillegass; Luke Horning, son of Charles and Eileen Horning; Matt Keefer, son of Robert and Leslie Keefer; Blake Weigle, son of David and April Weigle; Sam Weimer, son of Gerald and Peggy Weimer.

Gold Medals to the Parliamentary Procedure Team - (6th in State Competition) Sam Weimer, Luke Horning, Jared Hillegass, Greg Frazier, Kyle Hillegass, Rebekah Hillegass, David Bittner, Jenny Coleman and Joe Knotts.

State Pins to FFA members for their achievements at Penn State FFA Activities Week last June included the following:

Dairy Cattle Showmanship CDE Jarred Fox; Chapter Delegate Aaron Hay; State Officer Candidates David Bittner and Stephanie Hartman; Dairy Cattle Judging, Kevin Bittner, Russell Webreck, Sam Brick, Adam Landis.

Chapter Scholarship Pins and

Certificates (These students have received honors or high honors for the first half of the year): Shane Hankinson, Nathan Darrhorn, Leah Horning, Adam Darr, Savannah Wagner, Kyle Hillegas, Jared Hillegass, Matt Keefer, Luke Horning, Derek Leister, Matt Will, Aaron Hay, Frankie Getson.

County Agricultural Record Book Contest Winners were presented checks.

Kyle Hillegas, Maple Syrup and Beef Finishing; Rebecca Hittie, Swine Finishing, Dairy Calf/Heifer; Off Farm Employment Luke Horning, On-farm Employment; Matt Keefer, Improvement; Blake Weigle, On-farm Employment; Sam Weimer; Jarred Fox, On-farm Employment; Greg Frazier, On-farm Employment; Shane Hankinson, Off-farm Employment; Stephanie Hartman, Pleasure Horse, On-farm Employment; Jared Hillegass, On-farm Employment; Frankie Getson, On-farm Employment; Derek Leister, On-farm Employment; and Russell Webreck, Swine Finishing.

Students who placed at the State Agricultural Record Book

contest included Frankie Getson, Derek Leister, Jarred Fox, Greg Frazier, Stephanie Hartman, D. Jared Hillegass, Kyle Hillegas, Kyle Hillegas, Becky Hittie, Luke Horning, and Matt Keefer.

Top citrus fruit salesperson and the top bulb salesperson awards Kyle Hillegas with 56.5 cases of fruit; and Matt Keefer with 34 bulb orders.

The Star Discover Greenhand, and Chapter Farmer Awards were given to the top individuals who have excelled above and beyond the average individual in their degree category.

The Chapter FFA Degree to FFA went to members who have satisfactorily completed at least 180 hours of systematic school instruction in agricultural education. Students must have earned, by their own efforts from their supervised agricultural experience program, and deposited in a bank or otherwise productively invested at least \$150 or worked 45 hours in the supervised agricultural experience program. They include Sam Brick, Dave Chonko, Shane Hankinson, Becky Hay, Shawn Martin, Melissa Slifco, and Russell Webreck.



Berlin School Superintendent Wayne Henderson, center, was recently honored by the Berlin Brothersvalley FFA members as the honorary chapter member. He is pictured with Michael Clark, left, adviser, and Luke Horning, chapter president.

West Snyder FFA Collects Food For Ronald McDonald House

BEAVER SPRINGS (Snyder Co.) — The West Snyder FFA Chapter exceeded their goal to collect 2,000 food items by gathering 2,567 food items valued at over \$800 to benefit the Ronald McDonald house of Danville.

Mr. Griffith, West Snyder principal, contributed to the success on the food drive when he volunteered to kiss a pig at a school assembly if the FFA Chapter met or exceeded their goal.

This was the largest food drive ever conducted by the West Snyder FFA Chapter. Previously, the largest food drive collected

1,167 items in 2001. The food drive was conducted for Jan. 28 through Feb. 6 in conjunction with the Snyder County Farm Bureau as part of the National Food Check-out Day program.

West Snyder FFA members placed cash collection cans and food collection boxes at local businesses and sponsored a school-wide food drive. In order to get the student body more involved, the chapter sponsored a pizza party for the class that collected the highest number of items. The classes were also awarded spirit points for their efforts. The junior class earned the

pizza party and spirit points by collecting 1,109 food items. The sophomore class was second and the seniors placed third.

February 7 was designated as National Food Check-Out Day by the National Farm Bureau, a day established to emphasize the affordability of food in America. Statistics show that between Jan. 1 and Feb. 7, the average American family earns enough money to feed their family for the entire year. That figure even includes the added cost Americans spend eating in restaurants. In comparison, to pay local, state, and federal taxes, the same wage and salary earners must work until May 3, or 123 days.

The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau selected the donation toward the Ronald McDonald House, because it serves as a "home away from home" for families of children who are critically ill and are being treated at Geisinger Hospital.



West Snyder FFA members with their food items collected for the Ronald McDonald House in Danville. From left, Joan Sample, assistant director for the Ronald McDonald House; Amanda Shaffer, chapter reporter; Jeremy Roush, chapter treasurer; and Iiah Snook, chairman of the Snyder County Farm Bureau Food Drive.

