



# BLUE AND GOLD

## Pennsylvania FFA Happenings

One Emblem, Endless Opportunities

[www.paffa.state.pa.us](http://www.paffa.state.pa.us)

### Mohawk Ag Students Construct Building for Baseball Team

BESSEMER, Pa. — This spring, the Mohawk Agriculture program completed a large project. The Building Construction classes and Electricity classes designed and built a multipurpose building for the baseball team. The classes designed a floor plan and 3D design on the department's computers. The group broke ground in May 2007.

The footer was laid out by the students and dug by Marty Gwin of the Transportation and Grounds Department. The students laid the first-course of block and poured the concrete floor themselves. They then called on volunteers from Brenner Masonry to lay the first floor walls. Sean Brenner, Bunker Doug Curry, and Jeff Calandrullo spent extra time during three different days or evenings to complete the block work. The second story wood frame was again the work of

the students. They framed the walls, covered them with Oriented Strand Board (OSB) and cut their own rafters for the roof. The students also nailed the decking and helped place the Slater's felt and shingles. The students helped with some of the siding but let the transportation and grounds workers complete the high work on scaffold. The transportation and grounds workers installed the doors, painted the block and set a scoreboard on I-beams during the summer. Also, one of Mohawk's art students painted graphics on the buildings during the summer.

The fall of 2007 brought the installation of drains for the building and field and electrical conduit for the scoreboard. A Tool Cat machine was donated by BobCat of Pittsburgh to dig trenches for all the conduit and drains. The students were able to observe a Tool

Cat in action. A Tool Cat is a multi purpose machine that can operate many different attachments that skid loaders use. The Tool Cat was articulated so it would not rip up the sod like a skid loader would. The machine demonstrated a trencher to cut the ditches for the conduit and bucket and brush attachments that were used to complete the project.

After local electricians pulled the wire through the underground conduit, the Ag classes continued work on the building. The students laid out the electrical system for the building and installed all the wire, surface conduit, and electrical fixtures. The students gained experience with stranded wire for conduit, fishing wire through the conduit and connecting all of the ground fault circuit indicator (GFCI) receptacles. The lighting fixtures used standard solid Romex



Students lay block for the baseball building.

wire and the new compact florescent light bulbs. The new scoreboard was able to operate during

the first home game of the season and the baseball boosters now have an area for concession sales.

### From the Officer's Station

#### 2007-2008 STATE OFFICER TEAM Pennsylvania FFA

Oh my goodness! Where has the year gone? It seems like just a few weeks ago, your 2007-2008 State FFA Officer team was being announced on stage at the 78th Pennsylvania FFA Summer Convention. Since then, we have spent 365 days serving the Pennsylvania FFA by conducting nearly 100 chapter visits, attending more than 50 chapter events, assisting at fundraisers, and representing the FFA at the 80th National Convention and to the general public. It has truly been an experience of a lifetime.

But what truly made this year meaningful was our members. All 11 members of the 2007-2008 state officer team began our year believing that we understood what service meant. Little did we know that each one of our 8,000 members (yes, we finally met that goal) would teach us not just the meaning of service but the meaning of the last line of the FFA motto: "Living to Serve." Whether these members were selling indian corn to raise money for a faculty member with an extended illness, making corsages for their fellow student's prom dates, helping each other prepare for the next contest, or painting light catchers for veterans at the ACES conference, the members of the Pennsylvania FFA took advantage of the FFA's endless opportunities and put not just their time but their heart and soul into each task set before them.

We are proud to be part of an organization made up of such amazing members.

By the time you FFA members and *Lancaster Farming* subscribers read this 1,400 FFA members will have competed in more than

20 Career Development Events (CDE's), witnessed the official kick-off of the FFA Saving Area Farms Effectively (S.A.F.E.) program, watched the 2007-2008 State FFA Officer Team retire their jackets, and welcomed the 2008-2009 State Officer Team to their year of service. For us, this past week has been bittersweet. We started preparing for the Summer Convention shortly after being elected, and we are excited to finally see this year's convention happen. However, all good things must come to an end, and so must our state officer year. We want all of you to know that it has been our pleasure to serve you, the FFA members and the public over the course of this past year and thank you for the endless opportunities you have provided to us. We all hope that we will continue to have the opportunity to serve you and the world of agriculture in other capacities through out our lives.

Each year, the Pennsylvania FFA Association continues to get better and better. After such a fantastic year together, we, the officers, have all agreed that we cannot wait to see what amazing opportunities the FFA will take hold of this year. Keep your eyes peeled, because we're convinced that our members are going to step up and stand out in the coming year.

Sincerely,

- Tiffany Grove
- Michael Kenney
- Kristie Folk
- Benjamin Svonavec
- Kami Forgie
- Jason Zimmerman
- Stephanie Bachman
- Cale Grimes
- Suzannah Mellinger
- Christine Oellig
- Keri Schriever

### Lancaster County FFA Holds Awards Banquet

On the first of May, Lancaster County FFA members gathered to celebrate this year's success at the Red Rose Awards Banquet. FFA members from the Cloister, Grassland, Hans Herr, Manheim, Manor, Solanco, Elizabethtown, and Pequea Valley FFA chapters were in attendance.

They welcomed more than 120 guests. The guests included parents, teachers, advisors, and Sen. Mike Brubaker (R-36). The county officers and members welcomed this year's guest speaker, Jason Zimmerman, the Pennsylvania FFA eastern region vice president.

Earning the Red Rose (county) degree were Laura Morrison for the Cloister FFA Chapter; Katrina Kulp, Ashley Haller, Ryan Nolt, Bethany Huber, Kelly Good, Adrienne Huber, Doug Musser, Rachel Wenger, and Josh Williams from the Grassland FFA Chapter; Jay Hernley, Mary-Elizabeth Keeney, Katelyn Leaman, Josiah Rohrer and Krista Breneman from the Hans Herr FFA Chapter; Eric Kauffman, Melissa Stehman, Kyle Crist, Jordan Cook, Loni Fox, Joel Geib, Darin Forry, Kelsey Bollinger, and Janine Swartz from the Manheim FFA Chapter; Gunner Minzer, Keith Rankin, Ethan Murry, Tim Rineer, Becky Bleacher, Sam Stoltzfus, Lauren Wissler, Kathleen Meacham, Mary Booth, and Aleda Gerlach from the Manor FFA Chapter; and John Lefever Jr., Dan Testerman, Kim Richards, Dakota Strawser, Jared Krantz, Neal Lefever, and Ron Cornell from the Solanco FFA Chapter.

Three Red Rose Degree recipients each year are awarded with a star. Adrienne Huber, from



Jessica Bauman, left, from the Manor FFA Chapter, and Adrienne Huber from Grassland FFA were two of the Star Red Rose Degree winners.

the Grassland FFA Chapter, was awarded the Star Red Rose in the area of AgriScience. In the area of Ag Production, Ethan Murry, from the Manor FFA Chapter, received the star. Also from the Manor FFA Chapter, Jessica Bauman was awarded the star in the area of Agri-Business.

Jeff Stoltzfus was awarded with the Honorary Service Award for his continued support and work with the County Cooperatives Contest.

The parents of the officer team were recognized by each of the officers. Ryan King, a county advisor, gave the Retiring Officer Recogni-

tion.

The 2008-2009 officer team was announced, asked to stand at their stations, and congratulated by all. The 2008-2009 County Officer Team is as follows: president, Loni Fox, Manheim FFA; vice president, Justin Donnell, Pequea Valley FFA; treasurer, Allison Lytle, Elizabethtown FFA; secretary, Jessica Keefer, Solanco FFA; reporter, Janine Swartz, Manheim FFA; sentinel, Ben Lapp, Manheim FFA; and chaplain, Cori Fuhman, Elizabethtown FFA Chapter.

## SUSQUEHANNA PRINTING

- Wedding Invitations
- Brochures
- Sale Cards
- Newsletters
- Tabloids
- Catalogs
- Newspapers

Arl Haas  
One East Main Street • P.O. Box 527, Ephrata, PA 17522  
717-733-6397 • Fax 717-733-6058 • email:ahaas.eph@lnpnews.com

