



# BLUE AND GOLD

## Pennsylvania FFA Happenings

### Beyond the Blue

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

# Memorial To Honor Pa. FFA Alumni, Past State Officer

DILLSBURG, Pa. — The Pennsylvania Association and FFA Alumni announce the loss of a great friend of the FFA. Andrew Rill, president and CEO of Wirehead Business Technologies, died while working at his home in northern York County. In honor of Andy and all of his support, the Pennsylvania FFA Alumni has formed the Andrew Rill Memorial Fund.

Rill was the South Central Region State Vice President of the Pennsyl-

vania FFA in 1981-1982 and before that, a member of the Shippensburg FFA Chapter.

Within the past 10 years, Rill had reconnected with the FFA in many ways. He was a supporter of many local fairs where he purchased dozens of FFA project animals. In addition, over the past five years, he contributed nearly \$10,000 to the State FFA Association in sponsorship of the Keystone FFA Degree charms at Mid

Winter Convention. For his dedication and commitment to FFA members, he received his Honorary Keystone FFA Degree and his Honorary American FFA Degree.

In addition to the FFA, he was a 25-year staff member of the Mid Atlantic Alliance of Cooperatives Summer Institute, where he mentored thousands of 4-H and FFA members through their involvement in the conference and on scholar staff. He was

also a sponsor of multiple leadership scholarships on the state and national levels.

Rill exhibited the “Living to Serve” spirit of the FFA.

Fund contributions can be mailed to the Pennsylvania FFA Alumni, 405 East Sunbury Street, Millerstown, PA 17062, C/O Andrew Rill Memorial Fund.



Andy Rill

# April Showers Bring Chapter Banquets

## FROM THE OFFICERS STATION

April already? Man the last ten months have flown by! Last month concluded with the 2010 Keystone National Truck and Tractor Pull held at the Farm Show Complex on March 25-27. Pullers from across the nation attended to see if they could get their tractor, truck or even lawn mower into the sand pit for a full pull. At this event the state officers along with members of Big Spring, Juniata and Franklin CTC, along with chapters from Virginia helped pull smoke tubes, collect tickets, sell T-shirts as well as many other things to help this event run smoothly.

April is going with haste as the State Officers conduct State Officer Candidate School or SOCS. This conference is held in each individual region, and at SOCS, members get to discuss with the State Officers about our year of service. Our job is to help FFA members get ready to run for state office at State Convention. If you are considering running for state office, please be aware that the application is due to Mr. Mike Brammer by May 1. The applications can be found on the Pennsylvania FFA Web site. In addition, we are traveling around



WILLIAM BORING

the state attending chapter banquets where we see what members have done and achieved over the year. Along with our other duties, we will be helping out at regional career development events and even getting ready for State Convention. I would like to wish good luck to all the FFA members who will competing in various contests over the

next month.

We are looking forward for to the upcoming months. Our travels will take us to Philadelphia where we will attend a meeting of the Philadelphia Society of Agriculture, the oldest agricultural society in the nation. We will be attending more banquets across the state, helping out with officer training days and continue working and preparing for State Convention.

Finally, if you'd like to see your chapters accomplishments be published on the Blue and Gold Page, please submit article to Mr. Brammer at c-mbrammer@state.pa.us. You can find guidelines and due dates for submissions on the Pennsylvania State FFA Association website.

**Editor's Note: William Boring is the Western Region Vice President.**



Photo by Carole Fay, Manor FFA Adviser

Pictured are back row, left, Jessica Herr, Kayla Pickle, Jennifer Drumm and, front, Samantha Bell. Penn Manor students supported Bell's fight with cancer by sponsoring a fundraiser, "Songs for Sam."

# Community Joins Together to Defeat Cancer

**Manor FFA**

MILLERSVILLE, Pa. — Manor FFA and Penn Manor High School Serteen Club recently teamed up in support of Manor FFA member Samantha Bell. Bell was diagnosed with Lymphoma in the fall of 2009. Having cancer can cause fear in the hearts of friends, but, the Manor FFA and Serteen used this energy to support their friend in her battle.

The two groups teamed up to organize the Penn Manor High School Winter Formal, dubbed, Songs for Sam. Many hours of planning and fundraising went in to this event. Chairmen, Kayla Pickle of Serteen and Jennifer Drumm and Jessica Herr of the FFA led the charge and the groups raised over

\$4,000.00 for the Bell family. "While the money was a vital part of this initiative, the students really rallied around Sam in an awesome show of support for their friend," states Manor FFA Adviser Carole Fay. When members of both groups were not planning the formal, friends took flowers, balloons and cards to her home and hospital room.

Manor FFA and Serteen members weren't the only groups who united for Bell's fight against Lymphoma. Several businesses and individuals in the community donated time, money and items that were used in a fundraising incentive program. Recently, Bell has been declared cancer free.

# Teacher Wins 'Conservation Educator of the Year' Award

WILKES-BARRE, Pa. — Mrs. Janice Leiby, horticulture teacher at the Wilkes-Barre Area Career and Technical Center, is this year's Luzerne County Conservation District's educator of the year. The annual award honors people who have made outstanding contribution throughout the year

by educating others on the importance of conservation of Luzerne County's land and water resources. Leiby was given the award at the districts' annual banquet. The schools' Joint Operation Committee congratulated Mrs. Leiby on her accomplishment during their monthly meeting.

# Danville FFA Hoping For a Full Pull

**Danville FFA Chapter**

DANVILLE, Pa. — On Saturday, April 24 at 10 a.m., the Montour Antique Farm Machinery Collector's Association (MAFMCA) will host a Farm Tractor Pull to benefit the Danville FFA chapter. The tractor pull will be held at the Montour-Delong Fairgrounds in Washingtonville, Pa., located just 10 minutes from Interstate 80 from exit 215. The pulling classes range from

2,750 to 14,000 pounds with various divisions including pace and non-pace classes. Hook fees are \$5 per hook, and a \$5 MAFMCA membership is required to pull. Part of the proceeds from the tractor pull will go to the Danville FFA Chapter. Rules are available at [www.mafmca.com](http://www.mafmca.com). For additional information or directions, please contact Danville High School Ag-Science Instructor Mike Shultz at 570-764-3985 or E-mail at [mshultz@danville.k12.pa.us](mailto:mshultz@danville.k12.pa.us).



Photo by Michael R. Shultz, Danville FFA Adviser

Danville FFA member, Hughston Bogart goes for the a full pull while fellow member Billy Richendrfer flags during the 2009 Danville FFA Benefit Tractor Pull.