

EXTENSION IS A REAL WINNER AT CLINTON EXPO

The Clinton County Expo is a day-long exposition of local manufacturing, commercial and retail business, attractions and organizations. It was held Wednesday, May 15 at Thomas Field House on the campus of Lock Haven University. Clinton County Extension was represented by a Penn State Nutrition Links Booth and a 4-H Booth.

The Penn State Nutrition Links booth was developed by Clinton County NEA, Patti Smith. A large Food Guide Pyramid was displayed on a downing board. Patti had several bags of food models on her table. As Expo visitors came by, she offered the opportunity to reach in the bag, pull out a food model and tell where it belonged on the pyramid. The participants of the nutrition game received erasers, pencils and other “prizes” donated by the Clinton County Dairy Promotion. Other Clinton County Agencies donated items for a food basket give away, cookbooks and other literature. It offered teachable moments for all ages. The Penn State Nutrition Links booth received the first place award for the best educational exhibit.



State Representative Mike Hanna participates in the nutritional game at the EXPO

The 4-H booth, of course, promoted the Centennial year and theme, **The Power of YOUth**. Some of the posters from the 4-H history series were used to enhance the exhibit on the display board. Part of the board was dedicated to promoting 4-H as a family-strengthening experience. The rest of the entire booth was a “potent” take-off on the theme. Part of the board display reminded folks that head was for the “*power of thinking, heart, the power of caring, hands the power of doing, and health the power of living.*” Then to really emphasize the **power**, a carnival bell-ringer was part of the display.



A student tries her skill at ringing the bell.

As it was hoped, it drew the target audience to the booth. Kids and adults alike stood in line to “*put the hammer down, to ring the bell*”. Participants were reminded that it didn’t matter whether they rang the bell or not. The power in their arms wasn’t nearly as important as the power in their heads and the power in their hearts. The 4-H display received a second place award for creativity.