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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Evans, Robbins Announce State Grant for Local Ag Group

HARRISBURG – Local FFA members will benefit from state grant funds, according to Rep. John Evans (R-Erie/Crawford) and Sen. Bob Robbins (R-50th).

The Conneaut Valley FFA will receive a \$10,000 matching grant to purchase landscape tools and a tool storage facility as part of the Agricultural and Rural Youth Grant program from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

The grant program provides funding to increase the knowledge and awareness of agricultural and rural issues among the youth in Pennsylvania.

“I applaud the members of the Conneaut Valley FFA who put together a very strong application and have worked hard to learn about horticulture and landscaping,” Evans said. “This grant money will enable them to purchase necessary equipment while also gaining valuable hands-on experience.”

“With this grant, FFA members at Conneaut Valley are helping to ensure that agriculture remains a strong industry here in Northwestern Pennsylvania,” Robbins said. “Agriculture is one of our state’s top industries, and I am pleased that we in the General Assembly continue to authorize grant programs that invest in our future farmers.”

Organizations with members 18 years old and younger that were created to promote development of agriculture, rural community leadership, vocational training or peer fellowship are considered eligible applicants.

The program awards direct grants of up to \$2,500 for educational outreach efforts, and matching grants of up to \$10,000 are given to those groups needing assistance with building and equipment funds.

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture reports that 402 direct grants and 62 matching grants totaling more than \$1.4 million to FFA, 4-H, agricultural extension and agricultural education organizations statewide in the last 15 years.

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