

Black Hawk Soil and Water Conservation District announces 2017 award winners

Congratulations to our 2017 scholarship winner, Hans Rientsche from Jesup Community High School.

Hans received a certificate and \$100. He was also the first-place winner of the Conservation District of Iowa Scholarship, receiving \$4,000 to pursue a college education in conservation or agriculture.

Our 2017 poster contest winners were Isabel McCready, Spencer McCready, Lydia Knight and Connor Fencil.

The theme for the posters was "Healthy Soils Are Full of Life." The winners received a \$25 award. All of the winners are students at Valley Lutheran School in Cedar Falls.

This year's award winners for their outstanding contribution to conservation in Black Hawk County:

■ Stacey Snyder, Teacher of the Year Award, Orange Elementary.

■ Terri Rogers, Teacher of the Year Award, Hawkeye Community College.

■ Jason Lang, Teacher of the Year Award, Cedar Falls High School.

■ Maria Perez Gonzalez, Teacher of the Year Award, University of Northern Iowa (not pictured).

■ Jon and Kelly Bachman, Urban Conservationists of the Year.

■ Henry and Meri Kay Shepard, Conservation Farmers of the Year.

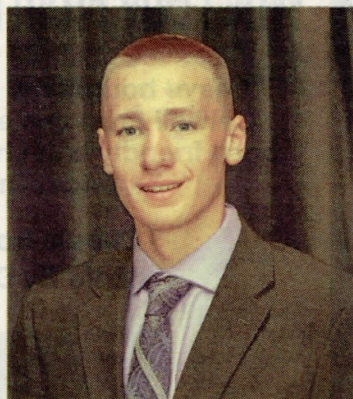
Teacher of the Year Award

Louis Beck received the first place award in the 2017 Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program, Teacher Section-Division II.

The award recognizes pub-



Louis Beck



Hans Rientsche

lic or parochial school teachers who perform outstanding service in creating public awareness of the need to safeguard the heritage of natural and human resources.

Beck is a middle and high school agriculture instructor at Union Community Schools in La Porte City, La Porte-Dysart FFA chapter adviser and a third-generation farmer. He was honored at the annual Conference for Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners in Altoona.



Stacey Snyder, Terri Rogers and Jason Lang



Jon and Kelly Bachman, Urban Conservationists of the Year



Henry and Meri Kay Shepard, Conservation Farmers of the Year

■ **More photos from this event:** Turn to Page 12