

BELIEVE

84th National FFA Convention October 19-22, 2011



2011 PROCEEDINGS



TABLE OF CONTENTS

2011 National Officers.....	94
Agricultural Proficiency Winners.....	16
Agri-Entrepreneurs Winners	2
Agriscience Fair Awards	9
Agriscience Student of the Year.....	7
Agriscience Teacher of the Year.....	8
American Degree Recipients	70
Band, Chorus and Talent Participants.....	87
Career Development Event Winners	10
Career Show.....	59
Collegiate.....	55
Committee Issues	88
Concert	53
Convention by the Numbers.....	1
Convention Candidats.....	95
Delegates	91
Distinguished Service Citation	86
Honorary American Degree Recipients	82
Keynote Speaker: Dave Roever	50
Keynote Speaker: Vernice Armour	51
Model of Innovations Winners	83
National Days of Service	56
National FFA Alumni	63
National Officers Nominating Committee and Candidates	93
Native Americans	61
Retiring Address: James Flatt.....	47
Retiring Address: Landan Schaffert	32
Retiring Address: Riley Pagett	28
Retiring Address: Shannon Norris.....	44
Retiring Address: Tiffany Rogers	36
Retiring Address: Wyatt Dejong.....	41
Stars Over America Winners	26
VIP Citation.....	84



NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION



The 84th National FFA Convention was held in Indianapolis, Ind., Oct. 19-22, 2011. Members attended general educational sessions complete with elaborate sets, lights and music. Throughout the week, there was a myriad of activities for members to participate in – from competing in career development events to participating in the National Days of Service to attending the National FFA Agricultural Career Show or browsing the shopping mall.

Here's a look at the numbers of the 2011 National FFA Convention.

53,358 Number of people in attendance

1,020 Number of FFA members who participated in the National Days of Service.

3,239 Number of FFA members who were awarded the American FFA Degree.

56 Number of Honorary American Degree – Teacher awards bestowed.

174 Number of Honorary American Degree – Other awards bestowed.

9,700 Number of FFA members who attended student workshops.

200,000 Number of square feet occupied by the career show.

140 The number of hotels used during the week of the national FFA convention.

\$40 million The economic impact that national FFA convention had on the city of Indianapolis.

AGRI-ENTREPRENEURS HONORED

The Agri-Entrepreneurship Awards honor FFA members who recognize market opportunities and develop solid business plans, which capitalize on them. Awards are available at the chapter, state and national levels. All Agri-Entrepreneurship Award applicants received a rating of bronze, silver, gold or national winner. Ten National Agri-Entrepreneurship Award winners are selected annually. Each winner receives a \$1,000 award and is recognized onstage during the national FFA convention. The winners' projects are also featured in a booth at the National FFA Agricultural Career Show. The winners' FFA chapters also receive a \$500 grant to help them promote entrepreneurship in their agriculture programs. The Agri-Entrepreneurship Program is sponsored by USDA Rural Development as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

Jason's Free Range Poultry

Name: Jason Mendes

Age: 17

Chapter: Modesto FFA

Parents: John and Heidi Mendes

Advisor: Scott Layne

When Jason Mendes watched Food Inc. in his history class during his sophomore year, it made him stop and think. Seeing the need for more organically produced agriculture products, he asked his advisor what it would take to launch a free-range poultry project. After spending much time researching regulations and meeting with the Modesto Junior College poultry instructor, Mendes realized it would be possible and very popular, as many people were interested in all-natural, free-range birds.

Finding a new passion, he began his new career in earnest. He worked with

the local feed and supply store to get the feeders, waters, bedding and feed. He then worked with his father on building an adequate pen and house that fit his standards. With everything in place, he bought his first batch of chicks.

"I knew I had a path to pursue and something I enjoyed doing with a passion that drove me to reach nothing less than success," Mendes said.

Mendes raises his birds on his parents' property. They're raised without any antibiotics and fed a ration that contains no unnatural additives.

Along with raising poultry, Mendes takes a key interest in marketing. He has targeted those who have an interest in buying local produces and works



diligently in marketing his product in such a way that the public understands the advantages of his product. He is currently working on creating a label that can be put on his poultry.

Currently a senior at Modesto High School, Mendes plans to attend Modesto Junior College and major in agriculture business. He plans to continue his business and expand.

Old Homestead Soaps & Lotions

Name: Ashley Siferd

Age: 19

Chapter: Cory-Rawson FFA

Parents: Jamie and Teresa Siferd

Advisor: Lindsey Regula

When Ashley Siferd of Bluffton, Ohio, began raising goats, she soon discovered that she had extra goat's milk that didn't have a use. Not wanting to waste anything, she began to research what options might be available to her to maximize this product.

She soon discovered that the milk was a perfect fit for natural soaps and lotions. After some research, Siferd learned that people used goat milk soap for health benefits, such as treating psoriasis.

It was with this discovery that her business, Old Homestead Soaps and Lotions, was created.

"I realized this could be a unique way to expand my goat business, and I liked the idea that it could help people," she said.

After making a few batches of soaps and lotions, Siferd went to the local farmers market. She didn't sell much product at first but after handing out samples and creating a website, her customer base began to grow.

"When someone calls me at home and says they have heard about my product from someone else, I know that Old Homestead Soaps and Lotions has had an impact on the community," Siferd said. "I have repeat customers and they tell me that my soaps or lotions have healed a



minor skin problem for them. I feel that I have made an impact on the community when I heard these comments from my satisfied customers."

Siferd plans to obtain a business degree from the University of Northwestern and continue to expand her business.

Shane's Produce

Name: Shane Greenwell

Age: 16

Chapter: Spencer County FFA

Parents: Dwight and Angie Greenwell

Advisor: Darryl Matherly

Shane Greenwell of Taylorsville, Ky., knew he wanted a supervised agricultural experience that involved fruits and vegetables but he also knew he wanted to do something that was unique and different.

Accompanying his parents to the local grocery store, he realized that tomatoes, cucumbers and other standard garden crops were plentiful. Trying to find his niche, he continued to research and soon came upon his idea – canary melons. With a unique taste, this melon is a cross between a honeydew and cantaloupe that one doesn't often see in the store. It held just the right appeal for Greenwell.

In the summer of 2010, Greenwell decided to see how he would do growing

the canary melon along with two other popular varieties of melons. It was soon a success. He looked at the market within Spencer County and found a need that needed to be filled.

Shane's Produce fit this need.

"I think being smart about how to sell my produce really drove my business in the right direction." Greenwell said. "I have learned that you have to get your name out in the community and the way to do that is through the most-populated place."

Greenwell is able to market at the only local grocery store in Spencer County and also is available to advertise in his front yard, located along one of the main roads in Taylorsville. The county he lives in was one of the most rapid growing



counties in the state of Kentucky during the 2000s and he has been able to capitalize on this growth.

Currently a sophomore at Spencer County High School, Greenwell is an active member of the soccer team, high school band and a volunteer at his First Baptist Church. He plans to graduate in 2013 and then attend college in Kentucky where he will study business with a possible interest in sales and marketing.

Turkey Creek Poultry Farm

Name: Wesley Davis

Age: 17

Chapter: Mason County Vocational FFA

Parents: Sonya and Danny Davis

Advisor: Samuel Nibert

Wesley Davis of Point Pleasant, Va., has always loved animals. In fact, for a few years, he and his family showed market lambs and rabbits. But when that ended, he found he missed raising animals – until he visited his local county fair. He bought a small, black chicken to raise. That single chicken soon led to the creation of Turkey Creek Poultry Farm, a successful business venture for Davis.

Davis attained nine more chickens and found himself dealing with a surplus of eggs which he began selling in his community. Demand for his eggs grew quickly.

"It was then that I began to view my chickens from a different perspective," Davis said, "a perspective that allowed me to see the viability, sustainability and profitability of supplying consumers in my community with fresh, locally produced eggs."

Davis took his business to the next level by developing and advancing in such a way that promoted larger quantities of fresh eggs. Turkey Creek Poultry Farm is primarily a supplier of fresh, local brown eggs produced in a free-range manner. In 2011, Davis plans to expand the composting section of the operation to further diversify the business and capture the opportunity to



sell compost to residential complexes for gardening and landscaping.

Davis, a senior at Point Pleasant Jr.-Sr. High School, hopes to obtain a degree in animal and nutritional sciences. He would like to be employed to manage and direct poultry production operations.

Brent's Farm Fresh Produce

Name: Brent Sexton
Age: 19
Chapter: Rockwell City Lytton FFA
Parents: Keith and Barb Sexton
Advisor: Brian Lantz

When Brent Sexton of Rockwell City, Iowa, joined FFA as a freshman, he decided to undertake a vegetable production supervised agricultural experience. The project soon flourished and he discovered that in the aging rural community, there was a definite longing and need for fresh vegetables. Sexton created Brent's Farm Fresh Produce.

He first began selling produce at the local farmers market but he also contacted a local grocery store to see if they would be interested in his products. They agreed to sell his sweet corn, pumpkins and gourds.

"The 'buy local' campaign is becoming very popular," Sexton said. "Consumers like to purchase not just locally grown produce but produce that is clean and high in quality. I have a

reputation for clean, fresh, high-quality produce."

Brent's Farm Fresh Produce offers a wide variety of produce, depending on the growing conditions, including asparagus, beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cucumbers, eggplant, garlic, green beans, kohlrabi, leek, lettuce, melons, okra, onions, parsnips, peas, peppers, pumpkins, radishes, rhubarb, spinach, sweet corn, tomatoes, turnips and summer and winter squash. The major crops associated with his business are asparagus, sweet corn, pumpkins and squash.

Sexton also worked with the Rockwell City Lytton school district and Stewart Memorial Hospital food service departments to sell some seasonal produce, such as tomatoes, cucumbers and peppers.

His consumer base also consists of an older, agricultural-based population



that enjoys fresh vegetables but doesn't have the time, energy and finances to produce their own. With this in mind, Sexton attended a three-hour training session at the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship that would allow him to accept WIC and Senior Nutrition Farmer Market coupons.

Sexton is currently a freshman at Iowa State University, studying animal science with a pre-veterinarian option, and continues as owner and operator of Brent's Farm Fresh Produce.

Brannon Agri-Energy

Name: Caleb Jay Brannon
Age: 15
Chapter: Calloway County FFA
Parents: Dr. Tony L. Brannon and Ms. Lisa Brannon
Advisors: Jacob Falwell and Bill Sampson

Caleb Jay Brannon of Puryear, Tenn., has a family history steeped in farming and the entrepreneurial spirit. So it's no surprise that the Calloway County FFA freshman created a business that is on the cutting-edge of technology utilizing agriculture.

With gas and electricity prices continuing to rise and society continually talking about green initiatives, Brannon thought it was an ideal time for him to export agricultural-related energy

enterprises. He formed Brannon Agri-Energy, an emerging technology, farm-related business that grows and markets switchgrass for bio mass and future cellulosic ethanol production.

"I have always been interested in the green agri-energy movement," Brannon said. "I would eventually like to use my switchgrass to develop and attract a cellulosic ethanol or other large bio-based industry in our area."

Brannon established 15 acres of Alamo switchgrass in a grant opportunity through Genera-Agri-Energy and for four years, the company bought switchgrass at the end of the production year. He cooperated with Memphis



BioWorks to grow three acres of energy beets and small plots of sweet sorghum and energy sorghum. The beets can be used for cattle feed and production of sugar-based ethanol and the sweet sorghum and energy sorghum crops have

a potential to develop as a major annual crop to support sugar-based ethanol production and biomass production.

He currently markets his switchgrass in small square bales through James Sanders Nursery in Paducah, Ky.

Located in close proximity to both

the Kentucky and Tennessee border, Brannon points out this has been advantageous. "I have the unique location to take advantage of production and marketing on both sides of the state line," Brannon said.

Brannon says his goal is for his

entrepreneurship business to serve as a spark to get the fire going in the new era of agriculture that includes biofuels, biomass and biobased products. Upon graduation, he plans to attend college and obtain a degree in agricultural emerging technology.

ST Farms Dairy

Name: Chris Heiser

Age: 17

Chapter: Lamar FFA

Parents: Marie and Greg Heiser

Advisor: Larry Bacchus

When Chris Heiser of Lamar, Ark., received a youth loan from Farm Credit Services of Western Arkansas, he knew what he wanted to do. He always dreamed of owning cattle so he bought Dexter cattle and embarked on a milk production business.

He started milking by hand and then began producing butter by utilizing a homemade device that would churn the butter. The device, which utilizes a mixer and a jar, was designed and constructed by Heiser.

"Through my animal science classes, I learned a lot about how to work with and

manage cattle," he said. "This really got me interested because I enjoyed learning and being around them."

Soon, members of his community began to ask when he was going to start the dairy because they wanted to buy fresh dairy products. With his parents owning a restaurant, he also knew that he'd be able to market his products through that avenue.

In the next two years, Heiser plans to expand his Dexter herd from two cows to a minimum of 10. He also wants to further develop his flavored butter line. Heiser currently is making cinnamon butter but would like to offer a minimum



of five flavors. He would also like to develop a line of cheese products and offer at least two cheese products to his customers.

The high school senior plans to major in agricultural business and hopes to either manage a ranch or large farming operation after college.

Bass 4-U Fish Farm

Name: Dillon Ochsner

Age: 17

Chapter: Sutton FFA

Parents: Jeff and Sheila Ochsner

Advisor: Kurt Heideman

When Dillon Ochsner of Sutton, Neb., worked at a local fish hatchery and his brother's trout farm, he developed a love for aquaculture. Deciding to venture into aquaculture, he started raising freshwater shrimp. Due to the short growing season in Nebraska and some additional issues with the shrimp, this venture was unsuccessful but it led Ochsner to do some additional research on aquaculture.

After touring fish hatcheries and attending an aquaculture workshop, he decided to try another project and began to raise largemouth bass.

When he learned that there is a good demand for pond stocking, he soon created Bass 4-U Fish Farm.

"My love for animals and strong FFA examples of entrepreneurial success led me to recognize the opportunity to begin my business," Ochsner said.

The fish farm is located on his



grandfather's farm only four miles from his home.

Raising bass requires careful pond management and daily feeding. Ochsner raises the bass throughout the summer

and in the fall, bass are then ready for their new homes. They are put in buckets of water and hauled into a holding pit indoors where they wait to be sold for pond

stocking. Once sold, the bass are released by Ochsner's clients into their ponds.

Currently a junior at Sutton High School, Ochsner plans to attend college

and obtain a degree in the field of agriculture and hopes to be either self employed or take a job in the agriculture industry to work with livestock.

Minerdale Farm Farrow to Finish

Name: Raymond James

Age: 18

Chapter: Walton FFA

Parents: Mark James and Tina Miner-James

Advisor: Tina Miner-James and Penney Tweedie

Raymond James of Afton, N.Y., has always been active in the local 4-H program. But over the past few years, he noticed that it was difficult to find quality market hogs for show and sale. As the years progressed, he saw the cost for piglets continue to increase and difficult to afford. To help alleviate the issue of finding a quality piglet in February, he decided to farrow piglets on his family farm and Minerdale Farm Farrow to Finish

was created.

"The farrow-to-finish operation is a learning experience for us all," James said. "We continually assess our situation and look to bettering the operation."

James has continued to educate himself on the process of the business, attending discussion on housing, health, nutrition and reproduction of swine. Since the enterprise began two years ago, they have sold more than 30 pigs, which include piglets and market hogs.

"I am not only selling to the community, I'm providing educational opportunities for those wanting more information on the swine industry," he



said. James has taken piglets to schools and facilities discussions with students interested in becoming farmers.

Currently a junior at Walton Central School, James plans to have a career in the field of wildlife biology.

Doane's Design

Name: Christopher Doane

Age: 16

Chapter: Letchworth FFA

Parents: Marie and Jonathan Doane

Advisor: Marie Doan and Lorrie Dennis

Christopher Doane of Gainesville, N.Y., has allergies that makes outdoor manual labor difficult. But having a love of agriculture, Doane was looking for a way to give back to that industry.

He has worked technological jobs in the past but realized agricultural producers in his area either didn't have websites or had ones that didn't work well for their business. Through the help and advice

of his parents, Doane's Design was created.

"Creating Doane's Design has helped me gain a source of income and lower the effect of allergies on my day-to-day life," Doane said.

Doane's Design offers a range of services, from web design to DVD conversion services, graphic design, search engine optimization and other multimedia services. Doane hopes to continue to grow in his client base and add up to six new clients a year.



The high school junior plans to attend college and major in aerospace and computer engineering. "I am passionate about computers, technology and business," he

AGRISCIENCE AWARDS

Mary Steves named Agriscience Student of the Year

Mary Steves of Escalon, Calif., a senior at Escalon High School in Escalon and member of the Escalon FFA Chapter, conducted research comparing the immune responses of Barbados Blackbelly hair sheep and Suffolk crossbred sheep to gastrointestinal nematodes. Her study concluded that hair sheep produce a greater immune response. Now this research has also won her top honors.

Steves was named Agriscience Student of the Year on Oct. 21 at the 84th National FFA Convention during an onstage ceremony and was presented with a scholarship.

"Knowing there is a difference in resistance, future studies may include performing the same research on offspring from a cross of hair sheep with typical wool-type sheep breeds European in origin, such as the Suffolk, which would hopefully generate data that might be useful for sheep producers looking to increase parasite resistance and decrease losses from parasite infections by a more practical and more economical means through crossbreeding," she said.

Steves is currently serving as the 2011-12 California Association FFA state secretary and after high school plans to attend California State University at Chico and major in animal science. She is the daughter of Lisa and Rob Steves, and her FFA advisors are Jennifer Terps-tra, Stacy Ingalls and Bruce Campbell.

The National FFA Agriscience Student of the Year program recognizes high school students who, through scientific research and reasoning, find creative solutions to challenges within the field of agriculture. Eight national



finalists are selected for the student of the year award. Those competing to win the honor develop hypotheses, conduct research and develop theories pertaining to an agricultural issue and report findings to a panel of judges with a detailed application, written report, display, presentation and an interview.

To qualify for the honor, FFA members must be a junior or senior in high school or a freshman in college majoring in an agriculture-related field and their research must have been initiated while in high school.

The National FFA Agriscience Student of the year is sponsored by Monsanto as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

Agriscience Finalists

Jake Carlson, Elk Grove FFA, Calif.

Mary Steves, Escalon FFA, Calif.

Trevor Correia, Franklin County FFA, Ga.

Marshall Bennett, Lowndes FFA, Ga.

Ami Adams, Cape May Tech FFA, N.J.

Sarah Cox, Zane Trace FFA, Ohio

Ami Adams named agriscience student runner-up

Parts of the east coast once had large populations of terrapins, particularly in areas such as Maryland and New Jersey. But because terrapins were considered a delicacy, they were aggressively hunted and at one point faced extinction. With the help of Ami Adams and other conservationists, terrapin populations could see significant growth in the coming years. This research has now won her national honors.

Adams was named Agriscience Student of the Year Runner Up at the 84th National FFA Convention during an onstage ceremony. She is a member of the Cape May Tech FFA Chapter in Cape May Court House, N.J. Her chapter advisors are JoAnn Sopchak and Hans Soft. She is the daughter of Violanda and Michael Adams.

Adams conducted experiments on diamondback terrapins, which are the only sea turtles common to southern New Jersey. Her goal was to determine what feed ration resulted in the best rates of gain in young terrapins. Adams has shared her findings with a local wetlands institute with the goals of improving both terrapin health and population. Currently attending Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pa., she is studying environmental studies with a minor in physics. Her long-term goal is to become an environmental lawyer.



NAAE names the 2011 National Agriscience Teacher of the Year

In Atwater High School in California, agriculture students are asking questions. They follow up these questions with hypotheses, experiments, data collection and conclusions. These students are learning the scientific method in Elizabeth Knapp's agriculture courses. Since combining agriculture and science courses five years ago, Atwater's program has expanded from three sections of agricultural biology to 16 sections of agricultural biology, agricultural life science, agricultural earth science, and agricultural environmental science. Student enrollment soared from 344 to 824 individual students.

The program's success is thanks to Knapp's firm belief that agriculture courses should be hands-on with student-led discoveries based in the scientific method. By collaborating weekly with science teachers, Knapp has created an environment where students apply concepts they have learned in the classroom to their own agricultural activities. Because of her success, Knapp was selected as the 2011 National Agriscience Teacher of the Year.

The National Agriscience Teacher of the Year award recognizes teachers who have inspired and enlightened their students through engaging and interactive lessons in the science of agriculture.

Each year, one National Agriscience Teacher of the Year is selected from a group of four finalists at the National FFA Convention. Along with Knapp, this year's finalists were Michelle Sutton, Sara Clark and Matt Eddy. Each finalist receives a plaque, a \$500 award, and a \$1,500 grant to purchase agriscience equipment for their school. They also receive round-trip airfare, registration and lodging for the National Association of Agricultural Educators convention.

As the National Agriscience Teacher of the Year award winner, Knapp receives a school plaque, an individual plaque, an additional \$2,000 award and a \$1,500 grant to purchase agriscience equipment for her school.

Agriscience Fair awards

The 2011 Agriscience Fair awards were presented onstage during the seventh general session at the 84th National FFA Convention. The winners are listed below by event:

Biochemistry/Microbiology/Food Science

Division One: William Fletcher, Judson FFA, Texas

Division Two: Alex Keeler, South Sumter Sr FFA, Florida

Division Three: Lakshmi Lyengar and Michelle Zhao, Biotechnology FFA, New Jersey

Division Four: Julia Vanzelli and Panki Kothari, Biotechnology FFA, New Jersey

Baily Brashears and Blake Connors, Frenship FFA, Texas



Botany

Division One: Junelyn Gamao, Madison FFA, Texas

Division Two: Samantha Giffen, Biotechnology FFA, New Jersey

Division Three: Ashley Rigby and Alexa Swain, Lehi FFA, Utah

Division Four: Kenna Faulkenberry and Scotta Faulkenberry, Stephenville FFA, Texas



Engineering

Division One: Tryston Brandon, Bethel FFA, Oklahoma

Division Two: Anna Reding, Alpena FFA, Arkansas

Division Three: David Pintens and Grandon Scheil, Barron FFA, Wisconsin

Division Four: Danny Greenberg and Gianna Tempera, Biotechnology FFA, New Jersey



Environmental Science

Division One: Lynnmarie Jarratt, Los Lunas FFA, New Mexico

Division Two: Joseph Meyer, Tillamook FFA, Oregon

Division Three: Alex Brynes and Steven Petrides, Biotechnology FFA, New Jersey

Division Four: Kevin Trigani and Ananya Sureshkumar, Biotechnology FFA, New Jersey

Zoology

Division One: Chrysta Beck, Pettisville FFA, Ohio

Division Two: Maryanna McClure, Dyersburg FFA, Tennessee

Division Three: Marlen Diaz and Carina Partida, Ceres-Central Valley FFA, California

Division Four: Lacey Peterson and Lilly Webb, Millennium FFA, Arizona

CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS



Since 1928, the national FFA Organization has worked to create career development events (CDEs) that demonstrate the meaningful connections between classroom instruction and real-life scenarios. CDEs are designed to help prepare students for careers in agriculture and build upon what students learn in agricultural classes and FFA. CDEs test the abilities of individuals and teams in

23 major areas of agricultural instruction. More than 3,000 youth travel from across the country to participate in these different national CDEs. Through intense hands-on activities, students are asked to perform specific career skills. Individuals and teams used classroom instruction and skills to compete in career development events at the national level. CDEs help FFA members develop technical knowledge and decision-making, reasoning and other skills, that will prepare them for challenging careers. Years of study,

training and practice paid off for this year's participants of the national career development events. The results of each event were announced at sponsor-hosted award banquets at the end of the week. During the ninth session of the national FFA convention, the high team and individuals were recognized on stage. Industry professionals act as judges, so the participants receive a real understanding of how they would perform in real careers in agriculture. Winning teams and high individuals receive scholarships.

Agricultural Communications

Sponsored by the National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Agricultural Communications CDE is a competitive activity that tests students' skills in all areas of the agricultural communications field and evaluates how well they can apply classroom knowledge to real-life situations. Participants attend a simulated news conference and use the information gathered to complete individual practicum in news story writing, press release writing, radio broadcasting, web design and graphic design. Prior to the event, students compile communication project proposals related to innovative agricultural practices, management techniques and marketing tools. Each team then creates a 15-minute presentation based on their proposal. Members also compete in an editing exercise and a general communications quiz.

Winning Team: Halley Ogan, Tyler Swenson, Aly James, Natalie Wheeler, and Kendra Cranston, all of Montezuma FFA, Iowa

Top Placing Individual: Halley Ogan of Montezuma FFA, Iowa



Agricultural Issues Forum

Sponsored by Elanco and the National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Agricultural Issues Forum CDE is a competitive activity that tests students' knowledge of agricultural issues and evaluates how well they can apply classroom knowledge to real-life situations. To qualify for the National Agricultural Issues Forum CDE, teams must design a presentation that addresses multiple viewpoints of a contemporary agricultural issue and present it to a number of audiences in their community. For the national event, they present a portfolio based on their local audiences' feedback and deliver their presentation to a panel of judges.

Winning Team: Sara Barrientez, Megan Akins, Rebecca Decker, Kelsey Erwin, Jaycie Sorrells, and Kalee Spitzer, all of Stamford FFA, Texas

Agricultural Mechanics

The National FFA Agricultural Mechanics CDE is a competitive activity that allows students to apply classroom knowledge to real-life situations. Activities included in the event are a written exam, a team activity, demonstration of problem-solving skills and hands-on performance activities. Areas of emphasis include environmental and natural resource systems; machinery and equipment systems; structural and energy systems; and industry and marketing systems. Each team in the event has competed with other chapters in their state for the privilege of participating in the national event.

Winning Team: Brian Brown; Josh Labogin; Cody Willis; Austin Williams of Golden West FFA, Calif.

Top Individual: Cody Willis of Golden West FFA, Calif.

Agricultural Sales

The National FFA Agricultural Sales CDE is a competitive activity that allows students to apply classroom knowledge to real-life situations. The event includes actual sales presentations, a written exam, a team sales situation, an individual practical situation focusing on customer relations, customer service, or prospecting for customers. Each team competed at local and state levels for the privilege of representing their state at the national FFA convention.

Winning Team: Ellie Forness; Cody Putman; Kaitlyn Brewer; Elaine Roberts of Dayton FFA, Ore.

Top Individual: Bridget O'Brien of Smithson Valley FFA, Texas



Agronomy

Sponsored by Bayer CropScience as a special project of the National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Agronomy CDE is a competitive activity that allows students to apply classroom knowledge to real-life situations. Participants' knowledge of agronomic

sciences was tested through several levels of competition including developing solutions for problematic scenarios; identification of seeds, insects, soil and crops; and other management practices

Winning Team: Megan Jones, Zachary Aldrich, Maddie Garren, and Jared Ball, all of Neosho R-V FFA, Mo.

Top Placing Individual: Zachary Aldrich of Neosho R-V FFA, Mo.

Creed Speaking

Sponsored by CHS and the National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Creed Speaking CDE is designed to recognize outstanding FFA members for their ability to present the National FFA Creed in a competitive setting. Members deliver the Creed from memory and respond to three questions. The event gives FFA members the opportunity to develop their ability to communicate in a powerful, organized and professional manner.

Top Placing Individual: Heath Snider of Sweet Springs FFA, Mo.

Dairy Cattle Evaluation

Sponsored by Dean Foods Company and the National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Dairy Cattle Evaluation CDE is a competitive activity that tests the student's ability to select and manage quality dairy cattle. Event components include six classes of dairy cattle, linear classification of five Holstein cows, a sire selection and dairy management exercise and placing of four dairy animal pedigrees. Each team competed at local and state levels to earn the privilege of representing their home state at the national FFA convention.

Winning Team: Austin Jagers, Susan Mann, Tevin Shouse, and Joseph Snider, all of Spencer County FFA, Ky.

Top Individual: Shanna Slagel of Prairie Central FFA, Ill.

Dairy Foods

Sponsored by Dean Foods Company and the National FFA Foundation

The National Dairy Foods CDE is a competitive activity that allows students to prove their knowledge about the recognition, selection and management necessary for quality dairy foods. Participants must complete a written exam on milk production and marketing, evaluate milk samples for flavor and quality, identify cheeses, evaluate milk sediment pads and milker parts for defects and distinguish dairy and non-dairy products. Each team competed at local and state levels to earn the privilege to represent their state at the national FFA convention.

Winning Team: Zoie Walker, Joe Holland, Payton Porter, and Katherine Goode, all of Cross Plains FFA, Texas

Top Individual: Katherine Goode of Cross Plains FFA, Texas

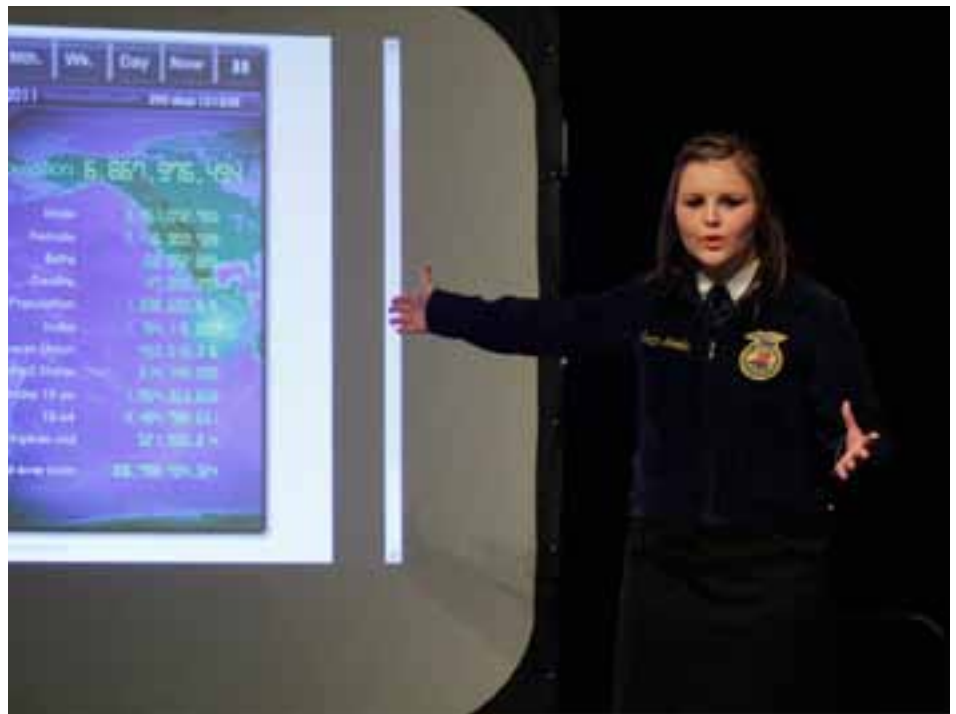
Environmental and Natural Resources

Sponsored by Smithfield Foods and the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Services of Wash., D.C.

The National FFA Environmental/Natural Resources CDE is a competitive activity that allows students to apply classroom knowledge to real-life situations. This event focuses on testing students' problem solving and decision-making skills in environmental and natural resources. These areas concentrate on soil profiles, water and air quality, waste management, environmental analysis and use of global positioning units

Winning Team: Hayden Boll, Keren Bankhead, Robert Vowell, and Kaycee Royer, all of Cambridge FFA, Idaho

Top Individual: Katie Beekman of Oley Valley FFA, Pennsylvania



Dairy Handlers

Sponsored by Dean Foods Company and the National FFA Foundation

Top Individual: Cole Beaty of Walker Valley HS, Tenn.

Extemporaneous Public Speaking

Sponsored by the American Farm Bureau

The National FFA Extemporaneous Public Speaking CDE is designed to recognize outstanding FFA members for their ability to prepare and present a factual speech on a specific agricultural issue in a well thought out and logical manner. Members select one topic from a choice of categories, have 30 minutes to prepare a four-to-six-minute speech and respond to five minutes of questions following delivery.

Top Individual: Kyle Hilbert of Depew FFA, Okla.

Farm Business Management

Sponsored by John Deere as a special project of the National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Farm Business Management CDE is designed to test the ability of students to apply economic principles and concepts in analyzing farm and ranch business management decisions. Participants respond to questions concerning economic principles in farm business management as well as a problem-solving analysis section. Each team in the event has competed with other chapters in their state for the privilege of participating in the national event.

Winning Team: Jeni Hagler, Joshua Winger, Zachary Reynolds, and Mark Nebeker, all of Kuna FFA, Idaho

Top Individual: Joshua Winger of Kuna FFA, Idaho

Floriculture

Sponsored by Ball Horticultural Company and the National FFA Foundation

In the National FFA Floriculture CDE, FFA members test their knowledge and skills in the production and retailing of flowers, plants and foliage. Participants

must complete a general knowledge exam on the floriculture industry, identify plant materials and demonstrate problem solving and decision-making skills, employment and customer service skills, technical floral skills and the ability to work as a team. Teams competed at the local and state levels to earn the privilege of representing their home state at the national FFA convention

Winning Team: John Bartee, Jordan Brady, Taylor Craig, and Amber Fields, all of Chatham Central FFA, N.C.

Top Individual: Jordan Brady of Chatham Central FFA, N.C.

Food Science and Technology

Sponsored by Kraft Foods as a special project of the National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Food Science and Technology CDE is designed to test a student's basic knowledge of food science as well as the student's ability to apply this knowledge to practical situations. Each team participates in a timed team product development project and each individual participates in practicums involving food sensory evaluation and food safety and sanitation as well as a written exam.

Winning Team: Katie Hirsch, Sarah Marketon, Ariel Kocher, and Kyla Mauk, all of Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted FFA, Minn.

Top Individual: Whitney Bowman of Stonewall Jackson FFA, Va.

Forestry

Sponsored by Husqvarna and John Deere as a special project of the National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Forestry CDE is a competitive activity that tests students' skills and knowledge in the area of forest management. Event components include a general forest knowledge exam, tree and

equipment identification, tree/forest disorders identification, a chainsaw practicum, forestry issues interview and a team activity. Each team competed at local and state levels for the privilege of representing their state at the national FFA convention.

Winning Team: Garrett Jester, Shane Gumm, Rhen Garner, and Landon Steele, all of Miller FFA, Mo.

Top Individual: Zachary Horton of Carroll County FFA, Va.

Horse Evaluation

Sponsored by RAM Trucks, Tractor Supply Company and Wahl Clipper Corporation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Horse Evaluation CDE is a competitive activity that tests the student's ability to select and evaluate horses. Event components include eight selection classes that consisted of four halter classes and four performance classes. Students also give four sets of oral reasons with two sets coming from each evaluation class.

Winning Team: Heather Burroughs, Erin Lagone, Rebecca Ness, and Grace Saeba, all of Muscatine FFA, Iowa

Top Individual: Heather Burroughs of Muscatine FFA, Iowa

Job Interview

The Job Interview CDE is a competitive activity that tests student's ability to perform effectively throughout the entire job application process. The participants prepare a resume, cover letter and complete a written application. They also participate in phone, one-on-one and panel job interviews as part of the competition.

Top Individual: Amika Osumi of Arroyo Grande FFA, Calif.

Livestock Evaluation

Sponsored by Bayer Animal Health, Boi-zyme, Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica and Kent Nutritional Group as a special project of the National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Livestock CDE is a competitive activity that tests the student's ability to select and evaluate livestock. Event components include eight evaluation classes of beef, sheep, swine and goats; oral placement reasons on four classes; and a written exam on livestock production. A team event, based on production performance records, demonstrates the team's breeding livestock selection ability. Each team in the event competed at local and state levels for the privilege of representing their state at the national FFA convention.

Winning Team: Jacob Mueller, Kale Hensley, Breanna Lawyer and Sarah Mueller, all of Eastern Hancock FFA, Ind.

Top Individual: Sarah Mueller, of Eastern Hancock FFA, Ind.

Marketing Plan

Sponsored by Bunge North America, DeBruce Grain, Kerry Ingredients and Flavours and USDA Rural Development as a special project of the National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Marketing Plan CDE helps students practice and sharpen skills in marketing through the development and presentation of a marketing plan. The plan may focus on the introduction of a new agricultural product, supply or service or on improving marketing of an existing product, supply, or service. Each team competed against teams in their state for the privilege of participating in the national event.

Winning Team: Anthony Toledo, Dillon Szyper, and Corinne Madison, all of Galt FFA, Calif.



Meats Evaluation and Technology

Sponsored by Cargill Meat Solutions, Hormel Foods Corporation, Kraft Foods-Oscar Mayer and Tyson Foods, Inc., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Meats Technology and Evaluation CDE is a competitive activity that tests students' skills and competencies in evaluating and identifying meat carcasses and products. Event components include a general knowledge exam; beef carcass evaluation; identification of wholesale and retail

cuts of beef, lamb and pork; quality and yield grading of beef carcasses; a team meat merchandising activity; and solving of a meat formulation problem. Each team has competed on the local and state levels to earn the privilege of representing their state at the national FFA convention.

Winning Team: Tate Leatherwood, Tyler Thompson, Kristi Branton, and David Holland, all of Florence FFA, Texas

Top Individual: Hallie Barnes of Porter Consol Jr Sr FFA, Okla.



Nursery Landscape

Sponsored by Arysta LifeScience of North America, Kubota Tractor Corporation, and STIHL as a special project of the National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Nursery Landscape CDE is a competitive activity in which FFA members test their knowledge and skills in nursery practices and landscaping. Contestants must complete a general knowledge exam testing horticultural principles including plant anatomy, production, marketing, turf, landscape design and maintenance. Each participant must also complete practicums involving a landscape drawing, landscape estimating, plant propagation or potting, identification of plants, disorders and equipment. Each team competed on local and state levels to earn the privilege of representing their state at the national FFA convention.

Winning Team: Shawn Beavers, Craig Dunn, Kevin Foushee, and Ethan Mason, all of Chatham Central FFA, N.C.

Top Individual: Tyler Claxton of Perry FFA, Ga.

Parliamentary Procedure

Sponsored by TransCanada and the National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Parliamentary Procedure CDE tests students' ability to effectively communicate ideas during a meeting. Components included a general knowledge exam of parliamentary law, a 10-minute demonstration of parliamentary procedure, oral questions and written minutes of the demonstration. Each team competed against chapters from across the nation.

Winning Team: Maddison Easley, Shelby McClelland, Caitlin Paulus, Natalie Johnson, Kaycee Granholm, and Samantha Fisher, all of Nev. Union FFA, Calif.

Poultry Evaluation

Sponsored by Newly Weds Foods, Inc., Tyson Foods, Inc., the U.S. Poultry & Egg Association and the National FFA Foundation

The National Poultry Evaluation CDE is a competitive activity that tests the participant's ability to select top quality poultry and poultry products needed for successful production and marketing. Event participants must complete a written exam on poultry management, evaluate classes of live birds for eggs and meat production, evaluate quality of eggs and evaluate and identify parts and products. Each team competed at local and state levels for the privilege of representing their state at the national FFA convention.

Winning Team: Brian Clay, Rebecca Pease, Bailey Miller, and Krysten McFaddin, all of Sandra Day O'Connor FFA, Texas

Top Individual: Holly Loncarich of East Newton FFA, Mo.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL PROFICIENCY WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Winners in the National Agricultural Proficiency Awards Pageant were announced on Friday, Oct. 21, at the national FFA convention. Awards were given in 47 categories.

Agricultural Communications – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Chelsea Keiser—Ohio

Chelsea Keiser's supervised agricultural experience (SAE) project included experiences in public speaking and informing audiences about important agricultural issues. She developed skills collecting facts, writing and reporting on agriculture topics. One of Chelsea's accomplishments was serving as afternoon farm news broadcaster at a local radio station. She is a member of the Versailles FFA Chapter, and her advisor is Dena Wuebker. This award is sponsored by BI, The Business Improvement Company and Keystone Steel & Wire Company – Red Brand.

Finalists

Julia Rose Cucarola
Sterling FFA – Colo.

Adam Michael Ludvik
Belle Plaine FFA – Minn.

Morgan Kay Honeycutt
West Johnston FFA – N.C.



Agricultural Education – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Camilla "Cayce" Kaytlin McDonald – Tennessee

For Camilla "Cayce" Kaytlin McDonald, teaching youth about agriculture has always been an important part of her life. She has created interactive lesson plans and activities for elementary, middle school and high school students. Cayce has planned community events like petting zoos and agriculture days. She is a member of the Beech FFA Chapter, and her FFA advisor is Dale McDonald. This award is sponsored by James F. Lincoln Arc Welding Foundation and Tulsa Welding School.

Finalists

Hannah Leigh Johnson
Arlington FFA – S.D.

Brittany Kaye Blum
Howe FFA – Texas

Kimberly Nicole Mercer
Lehi FFA – Utah





Agricultural Mechanics Design and Fabrication—Entrepreneurship/Placement

Garrett Michael South—Georgia

Garrett Michael South's family operates a trailer manufacturing company for cattle, horses and flat-bed trailers. Garrett works hard to be a valuable part of the business. He has developed skills in iron work, forklift operation and working with the band saw and shear. He is a member of the Franklin County FFA Chapter, and his FFA advisors are Gary Minyard, Cale Watkins and Owen Thomason. This award is sponsored by Carry-On Trailer Corporation and RAM Trucks.

Finalists

Dominic Agresti Assali
Turlock FFA – Calif.

Cody Johnathon Hansen
McCook Central FFA – S.D.

Cruz Cooper Niblett
Decatur FFA – Texas



Agricultural Mechanics Energy Systems—Entrepreneurship/Placement

James Porter—Georgia

James Porter learned agricultural mechanics skills working for his family's business. He gained experience learning to perform routine maintenance on the machinery. James developed higher level skills and is now a welder for the operation and fills customer orders. James is a member of the Echols County FFA Chapter. His FFA advisor is Hank Majeski. This award is sponsored by The Lincoln Electric Company and New Holland.

Finalists:

Patricia Kay Justison
Hillsboro FFA – Ill.

Austin Dylan Potter
Savannah FFA – Mo.

Cody Frankli Pollard
Decatur FFA – Texas



Agricultural Mechanics Repair and Maintenance—Entrepreneurship

Austin Potthast—Illinois

Austin Potthast joined the Farm Heritage Museum and developed an interest in tractor restoration. He worked for the president of the museum and learned the restoration process. Today he owns Little Acres Tractor Restoration and has restored and painted 12 tractors. Austin is a member of the Greenville FFA Chapter. His

FFA advisor is Stephen Zimmerman. This award is sponsored by Briggs and Stratton Corporation Foundation Inc.

Finalists:

Stuart Vincent Wakeman
Lawrence Free State FFA – Kan.

Nick Edward Mueller
Garretson FFA – S.D.

Cody D. Mueller
Valders FFA – Wis.

Agricultural Mechanics Repair and Maintenance—Placement

Dalton Lamar Black—Kansas

Dalton Lamar Black began his SAE installing lawn irrigation. After a few years, he started working for a hydraulics company. Dalton can repair a complete hydraulic system by himself, run diagnostic tests and troubleshoot the repairs. He works with a mechanic every day and continues to develop and increase his skills. Dalton is a member of the Buhler FFA Chapter, and his FFA advisors are John Clark and Justin Seuser. This award is sponsored by Hobart Welding Products and Tractor Supply Company.

Finalists:

Andrew Dan Largen
Creighton FFA – Neb.

Chad Louis Hoersten
Delphos Jefferson FFA – Ohio

Raymond Joseph Beck
Mulhall-Orlando FFA – Okla.

Agricultural Processing—Entrepreneurship/Placement

William Brewster—California

William Brewster of the Hanford FFA Chapter works with his father in a cheese processing company. The plant produces traditional style and specialty Portuguese cheese, as well as fruit baskets, jellies and snacks. William has been involved in mixing, cutting curds, pasteurizing, and molding cheeses. His FFA advisors are Sam Rodriguez, Brian Combes, Dennis Fuller, Jared Castle, Lilly Pimentel and Susan Moran. This award is sponsored by Archer Daniels Midland Company and CHS.

Finalists:

Ely Vance Walker
Altoona-Midway FFA – Kan.

Lillie Katelan Shartzler
Portland FFA – Tenn.

Brandon G. Fay
Waupaca FFA – Wis.

Agricultural Sales—Entrepreneurship

Dustin Eugene Stanton—Missouri

As the owner of “Stanton Brothers”, Dustin Eugene Stanton raises 7,000 laying hens. Dustin provides eggs to three local bakers, three nursing homes, restaurants, the University of Missouri dining halls and many other clients. Dustin has learned to budget and look for new ways to expand the business. He is a member of the Centralia FFA Chapter, and his FFA advisors are Scott Stone and Lori Lewis. This award is sponsored by Crop Production and Monsanto.

Finalists:

Melissa Marie Maultsby
Fallbrook FFA – Calif.

Ashlea Nicole Smith
Cushing FFA – Okla.

Katie Swenson
Payson FFA – Utah



Agricultural Sales—Placement

Anders Lee Olson—Nebraska

For nearly half a century, Anders Lee Olson’s family has owned a farm machinery auction house. Each year, the business holds two consignment auctions and several estate sales. Anders has added his talents to the operation. He writes sale bills, clerks sales and creates web and radio advertising opportunities. Anders is a member of the Tekamah-Herman FFA Chapter, and his FFA advisor is Don Wallace. This award is sponsored by Fastenal and Vigortone Ag Products.

Finalists:

Alex Ramirez
Arroyo Grande FFA – Calif.

Thad B. Robinson
Lanier County FFA – Ga.

Emily Ann Ries
Lomira FFA – Wis.



Agricultural Services— Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Cory Benjamin Osting—Ohio

Cory Benjamin Osting of the Delphos FFA Chapter works with two local agribusinesses in forest management. Cory takes fully grown trees and processes them into grindlings, firewood and lumber. He also works to provide custom orders to his clients. Cory set the goal for earning zero safety violations and always demonstrates correct safety techniques. Cory's FFA advisors are Scott Elwer and Mike Miller. This award is sponsored by Agricredit Acceptance LLC and TransCanada.

Finalists:

Bradley Rummel
Willard FFA – Mo.

Ross Wesley Houston
Sweetwater FFA – Tenn.

Elizabeth Ann Schwalbach
Freedom FFA – Wis.

Beef Production— Entrepreneurship

Tyler John Walter—Colorado

Tyler John Walter started with two Angus cows and expanded to 70 head. He has diversified to improve genetics in his herd. Ty gained skills in vaccinations, fixing fence and serving as night watchman during calving season. Ty makes decisions that will produce a high-quality, profitable herd. He is a member of the Platte Valley FFA Chapter, and his FFA advisors are Desirae Weber and John Stahley. This award is sponsored by Bayer Animal Health and Nasco Division-Nasco International, Inc.

Finalists:

Kristin Jordan McCurdy
Gordon Central FFA – Ga.

Tyler Scott Vathauer
Blue Valley FFA – Kan.

Bethany Breanne Nolan
Gilmer FFA – Texas

Beef Production— Placement

James Matthew Jeffers—Kentucky

James Matthew Jeffers works for an Angus beef operation. He gained experience in genetics and cattle breeding through artificial insemination and embryo transfer. Matthew also learned to become stronger at disease detection and giving vaccinations to the cattle. He is a member of the Spencer County FFA Chapter. Matthew's FFA advisors are Daryl Matherly and Bland Baird. This award is Cattlico and Midwest PMS.

Finalists:

Adam Joseph Cope
Marion-Florence FFA – Kan.

Britt Larson
Pilot Point FFA – Texas

Luke Slagowski
Manila FFA – Utah

Dairy Production— Entrepreneurship

Crocket Hoy Bruce—Tennessee

Crocket Hoy Bruce started his dairy enterprise by following in his father and grandfather's footsteps. He has worked to increase milk production through better nutrition for Holstein cows. Crocket better understands animal performance records and works to improve the genetics of the herd. He is a member of the Jo Byrns FFA Chapter. Crocket's FFA advisor is Garry Gibson. This award is sponsored by DeLaval, Inc. and New Holland.

Finalists:

Amanda Kathleen Moretti
Tamales FFA – Calif.

Luke Joel Zeisler
West Boyd FFA – Neb.

Taylor Diann German
Cushing FFA – Okla.

Dairy Production— Placement

Brad Laack—Wisconsin

Brad Laack is employed at two local dairies as a night herdsman and as a weekend milker. His responsibilities include artificial insemination, health care, selecting sires, breeding and milking. He learned artificial insemination so he could also breed his own cows and slowly build his herd. Brad is a member of the Plymouth FFA Chapter, and his FFA advisors are Don Mier, Marilyn Hahn and Walter Taylor. This award is sponsored by GEA Farm Technologies and Kuhn North America.

Finalists:

Matthew Erik VanderPoel
Tulare FFA – Calif.

Weston Arne Frank Ohlde
Linn FFA – Kan.

Tyler John Warren
Litchfield FFA – Minn.

Diversified Agricultural Production— Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Cody Clark Thompson—Tennessee

Cody Thompson began his SAE by raking hay on his family's farm operation. Today, he produces his own crops, manages his own beef cattle and raises Burley tobacco. He continues to develop his management and decision-making skills to improve his enterprises. Cody is a member of the Cumberland Gap FFA Chapter, and his advisors are Dan Pearman, Wade Breeding and Robert Pearman. This award is sponsored by CF Industries and J.R. Simplot Company.

Finalists:

Joseph Snider
Spencer County FFA – Ky.

Austin Taylor Mann
Crofton FFA – Neb.

Mark Francis Huls
McCook Central FFA – S.D.

Diversified Crop Production— Entrepreneurship

Greg Owen Harris—Kansas

Greg Owen Harris began his experience in crop production working with his family. He began his own enterprises of wheat, milo and soybeans. Greg accomplished his goals by learning about fertilizer ratios, seeding rates and the risk that goes along with a growing diversified operation. Today, he operates 250 acres of his own. Greg is a member of the Chapman FFA Chapter, and his advisors are Walter Pitts and Trent Horn. This award is sponsored by CHS.

Finalists:

Vance Carter Zacharias
Enderlin FFA – N.D.

Kayla Mae Finton
Ridgewood FFA – Ohio

Travis Mitchell
Ponder FFA – Texas

Diversified Crop Production—Placement

Kurt Parsons—California

Kurt Parsons works for an operation that harvests nearly 15,000 acres of field crops each year. He has learned about the farming enterprises including tractor and harvester operation, planting and hay work. Kurt has also focused his efforts on marketing, customer acquisition and equipment design and fabrication. He is a member of the Porterville FFA Chapter. Kurt's FFA advisors are Isaac Robles, Gabriel Ponce and Todd Coons. This award is sponsored by Crop Production Services and National Crop Insurance Services.

Finalists:

Justin Stewart
Oelwein FFA – Iowa

Erik Alan Anderson
McCook Central FFA – S.D.

Sam Wiersma
Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA – Wis.

Diversified Horticulture— Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Joshua Joe Conaway—Oklahoma

Joshua Joe Conaway started his lawn care business to save money for college. Through his experiences and what he learned in his agriculture classes, lawn care has developed into a passion. Joshua has expanded his business beyond mowing lawns and trimming hedges to include raising water pond plants, ground cover and pond goldfish. He is a member of the Ringwood FFA Chapter, and his advisor is Will Bunt. This award is sponsored by Nationwide Insurance Foundation.

Finalists:

Shaun Michael Ledesma
Oelwein FFA – Iowa

Dustin M. Dylla
United South Central FFA – Minn.

Spencer A. Deal
Ponder FFA – Texas

Diversified Livestock Production— Entrepreneurship

Ashley Ceinwen Jones—Kentucky

Ashley Ceinwen Jones of the Bell County FFA Chapter raises lambs and horses. She owns one of the largest flocks of purebred Border Leicester sheep in the country. In addition, Ashley has four horses. She has learned about management, equipment and show ring etiquette. Ashley's FFA advisors are Brian Prewitt and Tamara Miller. This award is sponsored by Tractor Supply Company and Wahl Clipper Corporation.

Finalists:

Regina Frances Pozzi
Petaluma FFA – Calif.

Wyatt Colte Potter
Manila FFA – Utah

Morgan Lundy
Fort Atkinson FFA – Wis.

Diversified Livestock Production – Placement

Morgan Ann Stover – Texas

Morgan Ann Stover grew up shadowing her father when he went to livestock shows and sales. That interest led her to employment in the family operation, working with the cattle and horse industries. Morgan has developed an understanding of management practices and herd health programs. She is a member of the Ponder FFA Chapter. Her FFA advisors are Bart Stover and Brent Lankford. This award is sponsored by Behlen Manufacturing Company and Tractor Supply Company.

Finalists:

Kyle James Brem

Strathmore FFA – Calif.

Montana Sky Smith

Early County FFA – Ga.

Eric Daniel Wuebker

St. Henry FFA – Ohio

Emerging Agricultural Technology – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Jacob Harrison Schindler – Georgia

Jacob Harrison Schindler may have just saved the forestry industry \$15.5 billion. Using the scientific method and knowledge he gained from his agriscience classes, he developed a technology that uses helium to control the pest kudzu. Treating test fields, he practiced his methods in four phases before concluding his research. Jacob is a member of the Lowndes FFA Chapter, and his advisors are James Corbett, Quinton Hadsock and Spence Taylor. This award is sponsored by Ag Leader Technology and BASF.

Finalists:

Jake Robert Carlson

Elk Grove FFA – Calif.

Jason Andrew Michel

Delphos FFA – Ohio

Shannon Marie Chesbro

DeForest FFA – Wis.



Environmental Science and Natural Resources – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Alexandra Marie Macedo – California

Alexandra Marie Macedo works with her mother as a lab technician. She began collecting environmental samples and taking photos. Alexandra learned to be a steward of the environment and study rules and regulations that pertain to agriculture. She has gained many insights that she will use as she pursues a career as an agricultural engineer. Alexandra is a member of the Tulare FFA Chapter, and her FFA advisors are Michael Maderos, Dave Caetano, Kevin Koelewyn, Jennifer Sousa and Chris McKenna. This award is sponsored by Triscuit.

Finalists:

Kayleigh Sue Warner

DeKalb FFA – Ind.

Oscar Abel Guzman

Santiam FFA – Ore.

Sarah Dawn Miller

Mineral County FFA – W.V.

Equine Science – Entrepreneurship

Ryan Carl Smith – Texas

Ryan Carl Smith met his goal of raising a foal and training it for calf roping. His SAE is breeding, raising, training and showing registered American Quarter Horses in tie-down calf roping. Ryan's grandfather gave him the foal that he bred and worked with. He is a member of the Era FFA Chapter. His FFA advisor is Kevin Smith. This award is sponsored by Keystone Steel & Wire Company – Red Brand and Land O'Lakes Purina Mills.

Finalists:

Brenna Brawner

Edmond FFA – Okla.

Jessica Lynn Faris

Harrisburg FFA – S.D.

Charly Jean Cortese

Lehi FFA – Utah

Equine Science—Placement

Brittani Alexandra Green—California

Brittani Alexandra Green of the Chino FFA Chapter works at horse barns for her SAE. She began by exercising horses and her duties grew to include training, riding, showing, clipping, body shaping and other requests made by trainers.

Brittani looks forward to more opportunities in the equine industry. Brittani's FFA advisor is Laurie McCormick. This award is sponsored by Nutrena and Tractor Supply Company.

Finalists:

Wacey Lane Harrell

Mulhall-Orlando FFA – Okla.

Sarah Jean Bond

Pleasant Grove FFA – Utah

Holly Brianna Sutcliffe

Wisconsin Heights FFA – Wis.

Fiber and/or Oil Crop Production—Entrepreneurship/Placement

Taylor Sheldon Osterberg—South Dakota

Taylor Sheldon Osterberg grew up on a thousand acre farm of corn and soybeans. He rents 38 acres for soybeans each year. Taylor learned how to haul grain, apply fertilizer, prepare and maintain the fields and harvest. He hopes to take over the operation when his father retires. Taylor is a member of the McCook Central FFA Chapter, and his advisor is Terry Rieckman. This award is sponsored by Bunge North America.

Finalists:

Cole Duncan Summerlin

Colquitt County FFA – Ga.

Cody Gail Adams

Fayetteville FFA – Ohio

Jacob Holland

Shullsburg FFA – Wis.

Floriculture—Entrepreneurship/Placement

Kaitlyn Grizzle—Georgia

Kaitlyn Grizzle grew her SAE by helping at her mother's floral shop. Kaitlyn strives to become more proficient in floral design. She developed skills in material identification, processing flowers and bow construction. Kaitlyn also takes customer orders, keeps records for the business and plans events. She is a member of the Franklin County FFA Chapter. Her FFA advisors are Gary Minyard, Cale Watkins and Owen Thomason. This award is sponsored by Bayer Environmental Science.

Finalists:

Emily Loren Hoover

Chino FFA – Calif.

Ally Goldstein

Spencer County FFA – Ky.

Savannah Lee Angell

Centralia FFA – Mo.

Food Science and Technology—Entrepreneurship/Placement

Alexis Brianna Raybon—Illinois

Alexis Brianna Raybon of the Chicago Ag Sciences FFA Chapter focuses her SAE on science and research. Working with the University of Illinois, she developed an interest in nutrition labeling and food techniques. Alexis was motivated to explore soy and its benefits on a diabetic diet. She also looked for new ways to encapsulate flavor. Alexis's FFA advisor is Sheila Fowler. This award is sponsored by CHS and Kraft Foods.

Finalists:

David Alan Glass II

Zane Trace FFA – Ohio

Taylor Kade Runyan

Atoka FFA – Okla.

Emily Hanlon Griswold

Greenwood FFA – Penn.

Forage Production—Entrepreneurship/Placement

Alyssa Carlyle Fee—Tennessee

Alyssa Carlyle Fee of the Liberty FFA Chapter produces hybrid Bermuda hay for her SAE. She set out to learn which varieties are available and what proper fertilization methods she should use. Alyssa learned which hay fields and pastures should be irrigated and how much irrigation was needed. Her FFA advisors are Chuck Flowers and Teresa Crouse. This award is sponsored by Animal Health International, Inc. and Claas of America, Inc.

Finalists:

Joel Timothy McDonald

Seneca FFA – Ill.

Colton D. Ebel

South O'Brien FFA – Iowa

Thomas Wayne Glascock

Pilot Point FFA – Texas

Forest Management and Products—Entrepreneurship/Placement

Tyler Matthew Meister—Wisconsin

Tyler Matthew Meister is the fourth generation to work in the family's sawmills. He has done every job possible, from stacking lumber and running the saws to operating wheel loaders and calculating output. Tyler hopes to become a commercial driver so he can drive the operation's log trucks and semis. He is a member of the Reedsburg FFA Chapter, and his FFA advisors are Nick Casey and Todd Cherney. This award is sponsored by John Deere and RAM Trucks.

Finalists:

Cohen Edward Crosby

Atkinson County FFA – Ga.

Sean T. Bohannon

Flathead FFA – Mont.

Ethan Clyde Morris

Atoka FFA – Okla.

Fruit Production— Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Trenton Michael Bemis—Wisconsin

Trenton Michael Bemis is the fourth generation of his family to be involved in cranberry production. He works at one of five facilities in the state that packages fresh cranberries. He helps produce two percent of Ocean Spray's fresh cranberries. Trenton has been instrumental in identifying the need for growth in the marsh and for more efficient equipment. He is a member of the Lincoln A. C. H. M. FFA Chapter, and his advisor is Rich Larson. This award is sponsored by DuPont Company.

Finalists:

Ryan Andrew Garcia
Hughson FFA – Calif.

Cameron Heath Vaughn
West Laurens FFA – Ga.

Diana Lynn Stacy
Old Fort FFA – Ohio

Grain Production— Entrepreneurship

Mark James Famuliner—Missouri

Mark James Famuliner comes from a hundred-year legacy of crop production. He started his SAE with 23 acres of corn and 57 acres of beans that he share-cropped for his grandmother. Mark eventually decided to add wheat to his grain production operation. Mark is a member of the Carrollton ACC FFA Chapter, and his advisor is Brooke Swindler. This award is sponsored by Pioneer Hi-Bred, A DuPont Business.

Finalists:

Austin Miles Durst
Washington County FFA – Kan.

Eric Dean Miller
Lyons-Decatur Northeast FFA – Neb.

Matthew David Eichacker
McCook Central FFA – S.D.

Grain Production— Placement

Jake J. Knutson—Minnesota

Jake J. Knutson's interest in grain production came from helping his dad and grandfather who both farm. In the spring, Jake works to deliver corn and fertilizer for the planter and complete spring tillage. In the fall, he operates the grain cart, combine and grain facilities. Jake is a member of the United South Central FFA Chapter, and his FFA advisor is Dan Dylla. This award is sponsored by Pioneer Hi-Bred, A DuPont Business.

Finalists:

Cody Thomas Milburn
Spencer County FFA – Ky.

Clayton Dennis Wobig
McCook Central FFA – S.D.

Erik J. Kok
Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA – Wis.

Home and/or Community Development— Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Dulton Maquade Moore—Ohio

Dulton Maquade Moore worked in both his home and the community. He has focused on improvements to the unfinished basement, garage and yard in his home. In the community, Dulton has volunteered extensively with his church and community thrift shop. Dulton is a member of the Delphos FFA Chapter. His FFA advisors are Scott Elwer and Mike Miller. This award is sponsored by Carhartt, Inc.

Finalists:

Trevor Harrison
Branford FFA – Fla.

Elizabeth Ann Johnson
Sleepy Eye FFA – Minn.

Grandon John Scheil
Barron FFA – Wis.

Landscape Management— Entrepreneurship/ Placement

William James Maltbie—Oklahoma

William James Maltbie began his own landscaping business. He learned about flowers and grasses and the art of landscape design. William started with eight landscape projects and expanded to 25 landscapes. He is working toward becoming an agricultural engineer. William is a member of the Burlington FFA Chapter, and his FFA advisor is Travis Bradshaw. This award is sponsored by John Deere and Tractor Supply Company.

Finalists:

Jorge Rodriguez
Las Plumas FFA – Calif.

Charles Wisenbaker
Lowndes FFA – Ga.

Ashley Morgan Smith
Catocin FFA – Md.

Nursery Operations— Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Kimberlee Laurel Gerardy—Illinois

Kimberlee Laurel Gerardy started as the "water girl" at her local nursery. After on-the-job experience, she took on more responsibilities. Kimberlee became familiar with popular plants, pests and pest remedies. She cared for and sold the plants she raised. Kimberlee hopes to take on more managerial responsibilities at the nursery. Kimberlee is a member of the Stillman Valley FFA Chapter, and her advisors are Jay Williams and Tracey Sanderson. This award is sponsored by RAM Trucks.

Finalists:

Ryan Mark Daddio
Woodbury FFA – Conn.

Andrew Louis Helming
Forest Park FFA – Ind.

Lindsey M. Koppin
Anna FFA – Ohio

Outdoor Recreation— Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Colton Barnes—Iowa

Colton Barnes is a part of the legendary Barnes PRCA Rodeo, started by his grandfather. He works in breeding stock and manages 300 bucking and 50 saddle horses. Colton also manages 150 bucking bulls and 38 cows. He enjoys the challenges and loves developing new skills. Colton is a member of the South O'Brien FFA Chapter, and his advisor is Eric Kumm. This award is sponsored by Cabela's and Yamaha Motor Corporation USA.

Finalists:

Kaitlyn May Beach
King City FFA – Calif.

William Grant Zimmerman
Girard FFA – Kan.

Bethanie Shae Wood
Lexington FFA – Tenn.

Poultry Production— Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Jared Taylor Schlosnagle—Kentucky

Jared Taylor Schlosnagle started his SAE when his parents bought 15 laying hens for him and his sister to raise. Jared started a successful business of producing eggs laid by free-range hens. He has worked to market his eggs, traveling to farmers markets and preparing omelets to show off his product. Jared is a member of the Shelby County FFA Chapter, and his FFA advisor is Kerwin Ewing. This award is sponsored by Tractor Supply Company and Tyson Foods, Inc.

Finalists:

Alan Carlden Eck
Queen Anne's County FFA – Md.

Libby A. Bender
River Valley FFA – Ohio

Carly B. Smith
Lexington FFA – Okla.

Sheep Production— Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Nolan Robert Hildebrand—California

Nolan Robert Hildebrand started his sheep enterprise with one ewe and expanded to 35 wether ewes and two wether sires. He produces market lambs to show and sell to other FFA and 4-H members across the state. Nolan has also had success at fairs and jackpot shows. He is a member of the Templeton FFA Chapter, and his FFA advisors are Chris Hildebrand, Robin Schroeder and Erin Thompson. This award is sponsored by Bimeda Inc. and New Holland.

Finalists:

Brandon Rick Andresen
Benton Community FFA – Iowa

Alyssa Spruill
Stephenville FFA – Texas

Joshua D. Huber
Adams-Friendship FFA – Wis.

Small Animal Production and Care— Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Tanner Ray Miller—Oklahoma

Tanner Ray Miller knew he wanted to raise a small breed of dog. He decided on the Pembroke Welsh Corgi because of their low-maintenance, overall demeanor and popularity. Tanner created facilities that allowed him to breed throughout the entire year and also learned veterinary skills to save expenses. He is a member of the Mulhall-Orlando FFA Chapter, and his advisor is Allen Miller. This award is sponsored by Merial.

Finalists:

Desiree Mari Nihart
Poway FFA – Calif.

Thomas Serafin
Paola FFA – Kan.

Chris Mullins
McNairy Central FFA – Tenn.

Specialty Animal Production— Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Damon E. Pombo—California

Damon E. Pombo raises a herd of Boer goats. He has 150 breeding does and three bucks. Originally, Damon sold his goats for purebred breeding stock, market show goats and ethnic niche meat. He expanded his enterprise to also market his goats as weed control. Damon is a member of the Tracy FFA Chapter. His FFA advisors are Nikki Maddux, Pat Rooney, Laura Kellery and Jason Gentry. This award is sponsored by Land O'Lakes Purina Feed and Tractor Supply Company.

Finalists:

Kacey K. Reinholtz
Mattabeset FFA – Conn.

Donald Ethan Edge
Trentlen FFA – Ga.

Jakke K. Batten
Waupaca FFA – Wis.

Specialty Crop Production— Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Garrett Hightower—Oregon

Garrett Hightower works at Strome Fisher Farms and produces seeds. He assists in seed production for sugar beets, hybrid radishes, coriander and cabbage. Garrett also produces several varieties of grass seeds. He has achieved his goal of better understanding what it means to be a producer with both successes and setbacks. Garrett is a member of the Junction City FFA Chapter, and his FFA advisor is Kathy Smith. This award is sponsored by the National FFA Foundation.

Finalists:

Tyler Allen Dickinson
Santa Maria-Pioneer Valley FFA – Calif.

Cody M. Blunier
Midland FFA – Ill.

Garret James Kaltenberg
DeForest FFA – Wis.

Swine Production— Entrepreneurship

Bridget Rae Achterberg—Wisconsin

Bridget Rae Achterberg started her swine operation purchasing her first 10 pigs from her grandparents. She started breeding show pigs, learning to artificially inseminate the gilts. Bridget also mastered the skills of vaccinating, clipping teeth, dipping navels, castrating and herd health. She is a member of the Abbotsford FFA Chapter. Her FFA advisor is John Slipek. This award is sponsored by La,-Colo. Markal and Tyson Foods, Inc.

Finalists:

Clayton L. Goodnight
Clinton Prairie FFA – Ind.

Barrett Powell
Ringwood FFA – Okla.

Cassidy Lynn Key
Jourdanton FFA – Texas

Swine Production— Placement

Nicholas Ryan Shealy—Georgia

Nicholas Ryan Shealy began his SAE at a 2,400-head swine production facility. He developed proper swine care skills such as moving, breeding and processing the pigs. Nicholas also gained experience in working within a budget and communicating with co-workers. He is a member of the Oglethorpe County FFA Chapter, and his FFA advisors are Rob Jackson and Travis Sertich. This award is sponsored by Kemin and Sunglo Feeds/Akey.

Finalists:

Nathan Lee Doss
Washington County FFA – Kan.

Kyle Tanner Renbarger
Lexington FFA – Okla.

Kristen Aleesa Knight
Shallowater FFA – Texas

Turf Grass Management— Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Clayton Daniel Miller—Ohio

Clayton Daniel Miller started his SAE mowing his parent's yard and caring for shrubs and trimming. He now works for a business that cares for more than 500 residential and corporate lawns. Clayton began with the tasks of push mowing and trimming. Now he serves as crew chief and operator of a Dixie Chopper mower. Clayton is a member of the Elida FFA Chapter, and his FFA advisor is Dennis Pohlman. This award is sponsored by John Deere.

Finalists:

Brock Joseph Dunaway
Shelbyville FFA – Ill.

Ben Ice
Eastbrook FFA – Ind.

Marshall Spaans
McCook Central FFA – S.D.

Vegetable Production— Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Mallory McDevitt—Ohio

Mallory McDevitt had a neighboring farmer as a mentor and decided to grow her own produce. Using the five acres where she lives, Mallory began her operation with the goal of giving her customers the perfect vegetable. She has developed skills in all aspects of vegetable production. Mallory is a member of the Wapakoneta FFA Chapter, and her FFA advisors are Ron Brown and Chris Turner. This award is sponsored by Tractor Supply Company and Wilbur-Ellis Company.

Finalists:

Reighly Lou Blakley
Oologah FFA – Okla.

Jarrett Andrew Beckhusen
Cameron Yoe FFA – Texas

Bryan Mathew Wendt
Stoughton FFA – Wis.

Veterinary Medicine— Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Nicole Asheley Price—Texas

Nicole Asheley Price works at a veterinary clinic. She has taken several veterinary classes at her school. Nicole is knowledgeable in common terminology, anatomy and physiology; hospital procedures and parasitology. Nicole plans on pursuing a career as a veterinarian. She is a member of the Plano East FFA Chapter. Her FFA advisors are John Graf, Karen Kier and Sam Harrison. This award is sponsored by American Veterinary Medical Association.

Finalists:

Lindsey Rae Pease
Chetopa FFA – Kan.

Elle Hope Tornberg
Harrisburg FFA – S.D.

Richard Austin Cohea
Wilson Central FFA – Tenn.

Wildlife Production and Management— Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Devon A. Feldt—Wisconsin

Devon A. Feldt has worked with biologists and mentors to develop skills in his SAE. He joined the American Wilderness Leadership School in Wyoming and studied porcupines. Devon learned how to trap, scan and process the animals. He developed skills that helped gain information on their movements, actions and interactions with the environment. Devon is a member of the Waupaca FFA Chapter. His FFA advisors are Jennifer Erb and Rene' Lehman. This award is sponsored by Land O'Lakes Purina Feed.

Finalist:

Jared Corbett
Echols County FFA – Ga.

Jennifer Renee Swart
Drummond FFA – Okla.

Cody Smith
Covington FFA – Tenn.

STARS OVER AMERICA PAGEANT HONORS THE BRIGHTEST IN FFA

Four outstanding FFA members who represent success in agricultural education were awarded the most prestigious honor that the National FFA Organization awards. The American Star Farmer, American Star in Agriscience, American Star in Agricultural Placement and the American Star in Agribusiness were awarded to FFA members who have received the American Degree, established profitable agricultural enterprises or programs focusing on an agricultural field, demonstrated outstanding active involvement in both FFA and their communities and have met other rigorous agricultural education and leadership requirements. During the 84th National FFA Convention, each finalist participated in interviews by a panel of judges who ultimately named the top candidate in each area. Winners were announced in an onstage ceremony where they received a plaque and an award of \$4,000.

The American FFA Degree recognition programs are co-sponsored by Case IH of Racine, Wis.; Farm Credit Systems of Washington, D.C.; Pioneer Hi-Bred of Des Moines, Iowa; DTN – The Progressive Farmer of Omaha, Neb.; and Syngenta of Greensboro, N.C., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.



American Star Farmer

What began as a two-acre onion crop in 2005 has since expanded to a 640-acre diversified crop farm for **Cole Vculek**, who is from Crete, N.D. It could be just the beginning, as he hopes to farm up to 5,000 acres by the time he turns 30.

For his first few years, Vculek rented land from neighbors. His first crop consisted of two acres of red onions. He quickly added more land and began growing potatoes. In 2009 he added more than 200 acres for a corn and soybean rotation, and he has also added navy beans to his operation. Recently Vculek purchased a 640-acre farm from a neighbor. He hopes to continue adding more cropland and also wants to add sugar beets as another part of his business.

Vculek is a fifth generation farmer and currently operates on the land his great great grandfather homesteaded. He says the guidance his family has given him has been very beneficial in his success, and he also credits his involvement in FFA.

“The experience I have gained through FFA has allowed me to be more confident, set goals and be willing to try new things,” Vculek said. “I have seen the importance of being involved and giving back to my community and organizations.”

Vculek was a member of Oakes/Sargent Central FFA in Oakes, N.D. Vculek is a graduate of North Dakota State College of Science with a degree in Farm Management. His parents are Brian and Julie Vculek, and his chapter advisor was Daniel Spellerberg.



American Star in Agriscience

As a freshman in high school, **Keith Bollinger**, from Buffalo City, Wis., enrolled in a natural resources class. It was a prudent decision, as Bollinger today is a wildlife ecology major at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. He also volunteers and is employed with two government services helping to restore Wisconsin prairies and control invasive plants.

Bollinger, a member of the Cochrane-Fountain High School FFA Chapter, was hooked on natural resource management after a project required him to count Sandhill Cranes in his county during that freshman natural resources class. In his SAE, Bollinger has monitored the water quality of two local streams, raised and released 80,000 Galerucella Beetles to help control and eradicate the invasive plant purple loosestrife and restored bluff prairies to encourage repopulation of native species. Many of those efforts came when he volunteered with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Bollinger has developed a positive rapport with numerous natural resource management professionals in the area, and was hired as a biological technician for the USFWS where he gained experience by surveying bald eagles and heron rookery, sampled aquatic vegetation and gained training in silviculture. He has also been a part of the Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP) with the USFWS to gain experience. Bollinger plans to continue his education with a master's degree in a natural resources field and hopes to become a natural resource biologist.

Bollinger's FFA chapter advisors are Christine Jumback and Chris Ritscher. His parents are Allen and Dorothy Bollinger.



American Star in Agricultural Placement

While working with his father on his commercial cow and crop production operation, **Alex Goeckel** of Washington, Kan., became interested in the live-stock industry.

Goeckel is a graduate of Washington High School in Washington and a member of the Wash- ington FFA Chapter. He grew up on a swine farm. In high school, he worked for two large swine production operations and his experiences helped him as a student at Kansas State University land a position with the university's Swine Research Unit.

"I've been working at the Swine Research Unit since I was a freshman and have had many responsibilities, including record keeping, feeding, vaccinating, artificial insemination and disinfecting the facility," he said. "I've been trusted with the training of all new student workers and am the person left in charge of managing weekend operations and part-time employees."

Today, as he continues pursuit of a bachelor's degree in feed sci- ence, he is serving an internship at Suther Feeds as a sales agent. Goeckel is the son of Douglas and Teryl Goeckel. He is studying grain science at Kansas State University. His FFA advisor is John Kern.



American Star in Agribusiness

Farming has always played a role in **Alexander Meredith's** life. A resident of Glendale, Ky., his interest in horticulture began at an early age, and as a young entrepreneur he began delving into horticulture sales.

Meredith is a graduate of Central Hardin High School in Cecilia, Ky., and member of the Central

Hardin FFA Chapter.

"Growing up on a farm, I'm well aware of the rewards and struggles that are common in production agriculture," he said. "My dad has always had a strong interest in horticulture, and we built our first greenhouse when I was four years old. "

In 2004, Meredith bought an abandoned stretch of land in Elizabeth- town, Ky., built a small greenhouse and grew annuals, perennials and hanging baskets for sale. With steadily increasing sales through the years, in 2009 Meredith bought 10 acres and today operates Meredith Agriculture, a retail business offering plants, materials and plant accessories for sale.

"Learning to communicate, present information and keep records throughout my FFA experience has allowed me as a young man to lever- age opportunities, secure capital and build a business that I am confident will succeed," Meredith said. "At this stage in my life, I am blessed to have had leadership opportunities in FFA, the support of a fantastic school agri- culture program and the mentoring of my agricultural teacher."

Meredith is the son of Steve Meredith and Wendy Dykes. He is study- ing engineering at University of Louisville.



Star Farmer Finalists

Brian Hills of the Tri-Point FFA – Ill.

Tyler Rose of the Wash. County FFA – Kan.

Tom Eilertson of the United South Central FFA – Minn.

Star in Agribusiness Finalists

Christian Alexandre of the Del Norte FFA – Calif.

Ben Hutto of the Riverton FFA – Kan.

Paul Lee-Allen Turner of the Warren County FFA – Tenn.

Star in Agricultural Placement Finalists

Megan Rice of the Norris FFA – Neb.

Seth Darrell Hankey of the Burlington FFA – Okla.

Andrew Collier of the Wilson Central FFA – Tenn.

Star in Agriscience Finalists

Analiese Scrivano of the Bakersfield FFA – Calif.

Vivian Bernau of the Southeast Polk FFA – Iowa

Brittany King of the Tuscumbia FFA – Mo.



“BRAVE LIKE YOU”

See this scar? It was a cold, cold day in Alaska (picture of Alaska) and my uncle, dad, cousins and I were fishing during a men’s trip a few summers ago. A seventy pound halibut, (picture of halibut) no it was bigger than that, (enlarged picture of halibut) nearly bit off my finger (picture of finger appears in fish’s mouth) and almost drug me into the freezing water with him. What about this one? Motorcycle accident (picture of motorcycle). No, no, it wasn’t just any motorcycle. It was, at the time, a brand new, bright red, 2002 Honda CBR600 (new motorcycle picture). It had all the bells and whistles and I was ready to ride (picture of me). I had just hit 120 miles per hour and as I made the first turn around the Eiffel tower, (picture of Eiffel tower) it threw me off (picture of me scared) and landed on top of me. No one found me for three days. See this one? I was in a desert (picture of desert). It was 147 degrees and I was minding my own business, practicing my karate skill (picture of me in karate uniform) when out of nowhere appeared a rattlesnake (picture of rattlesnake). I mean a ninja (erase picture of rattlesnake and insert ninja). That’s how it happened! No really! I’ve got the scar to prove it!

When I was younger, I loved showing of my scars and telling scar stories to anyone who would listen. Sometimes, I may or may not have embellished what really happened just to appear braver or more courageous. That halibut was really just a measly paper cut, the motorcycle – a red mongoose bicycle and that ninja might have just been a fender bender. For some reason, scars made me feel like Braveheart, Popeye or the Spartans on 300. It’s like with each scar came a badge of courage. They were proof of danger, adventure and risk. As I grew older, it wasn’t quite as easy to feel brave. Suddenly, being the hero wasn’t

quite so simple. Risking it all, standing up for what you believe in and fighting danger becomes unpopular, uncommon and ‘not my job’! Letting our fears take over becomes an everyday occurrence. Most of the people around us sit back and it becomes easy to go through the motions, thinking that someone else will take charge and be brave for us, for our family, for this nation. Even I do it. We refuse to act with courage, fail to be courageous for ourselves and as a result we aren’t able to be brave for those around us. But, I’ve learned along the way that in order to be courageous for others; we must first be courageous for ourselves.

For Chance, being courageous meant facing his fears. For two years, Chance had sought to be a chapter officer of the Sullivan FFA Chapter in Illinois and for two years he had been defeated. Each spring, at the chapter banquet, he faced rejection as names other than his were called to serve as chapter officers. You can imagine the things running through Chance’s mind by this point. “You’re not good enough.” “You’ll never win.” “Just give up.”

Fear set in. You know the kind of fear I’m talking about. When our knees start shaking, sweat is dripping down our face, we almost forget to breath and when we start believing those voices. That kind of fear makes us feel like it’s all unconquerable, but it’s not.

When this past spring rolled around, Chance, now a senior, again applied for chapter office. He filled out the application, went through the interview and worked tirelessly to make sure he was ready. The big night came. The banquet was finally here and Chance hoped for a different outcome than the two years before. After the awards were given, the brisket was eaten and

the slideshow had played, the time had come for the new chapter officers to be announced. Instantly, Chance felt similar feelings as the two previous years. President, Vice President, Secretary...all of the offices and their respective officers were called.

“And your new parliamentarian is... Chance!”

Chance’s agricultural education instructor told me it was like Chance was frozen in time. He couldn’t believe his name had just been called. He sat in his chair and finally, after a long pause, began running to the front to join his team.

The entire banquet hall was silent. Tears flowed from the faces of all in attendance. Everyone there knew that Chance had to work twice as hard as the other candidates. And now... now his dream had come true. He was a chapter officer! No small feat for Chance.

Chance has autism and he has to work hard to memorize, he has to really focus to learn and must concentrate on the task at hand in order to reach success.

This August, I had the opportunity to work with the Sullivan Chapter Officer team during their chapter officer retreat in Indianapolis. It was apparent that in order for Chance to achieve his goal of chapter office, he had to dedicate his time and efforts, work hard and stay committed. But, most importantly, Chance had to face his fears and show courage. Yes, he still had fear, but he applied himself in spite of the fear.

Courage, contrary to popular belief, is not the absence of fear, but the heart to act in spite of that fear. It is doing what we are afraid of doing, taking those risks and growing bigger through strength and confidence even when the odds seem to be against us. Acting courageously is

when we identify our fears, make those fears fearful of us, accept the opposition and choose to run towards that adversity full force.

We can choose courage every day. Caleb from the Mont Belvieu FFA Chapter in Texas chose courage by asking to attend national FFA convention despite his fear of being left out. Jaci of the Woodward FFA Chapter in Oklahoma chose courage by participating in the Miss Oklahoma pre-teen pageant despite the possibility of failure. Let's ask someone to dance even if we are unsure if they will accept. Let's try out for that team, even if we don't make it. Let's commit to not running from our fears, but running at our fears...head on! We should choose to be courageous so that we may live. Live a life with no regrets, with no "I wish I would have's" and no should of or could of's.

Let's commit to not running from our fears, but running at our fears...head on!

We all can do it on our own. We can each be courageous by ourselves, but do we have the ability to help someone else face their fears? What if we helped others be courageous? What if we encouraged courage? Once we start walking in courage, choose to face our fears, we can pass the torch to the people around us and unleash this huge amount of courage in them also, it evolves and grows. We can be courageous for others.

In the second grade, I was that guy. You know the kids I'm talking about. The ones who have the 68 pack of crayons instead of just a 24 pack. The ones who over achieve every time and write their first, middle and last name on every paper. The ones who are surrounded by a group of people at all times during recess. That was me. I was a smooth

talker to my second grade lady friends, had my teacher, Mrs. Neagle wrapped around my finger and had one of the coolest families around. I mean, I really kinda liked my family. Not bad for a second grader! Life couldn't get much better. In the evenings after school I would play with these sweet Disney action figures on our brown short shag carpet at home. My favorite was Aladdin. Or Simba. More Aladdin than Simba, but sometimes more Simba than Aladdin. They were both good. They're both favorites. Yeah... I played with Disney toys. I'm ok with it. One evening, while the Genie was fighting off bad guys like Jafar and Cruella DaVille, my perfect world was suddenly interrupted by what would later become my greatest fear.

The story of our lives, right! Just when we think things are exactly the way we want them and we are feeling safe, secure, content and comfortable... it is interrupted and fear sets in. On September 20, 1997, I became aware of my greatest fear.

As an eight year old boy, there is only one thing that could take my mind off of those Disney action figures - competition with my two older sisters, Amy and Mabelle. There were lots of friendly competitions in our household while growing up - anything from who got shotgun, who made the best grades at school to who got to answer the family telephone. To me, answering the phone before anyone else in the house was like winning a gold medal every time. Every time it rang, I would race to the phone to make sure that I grabbed it first. I would typically answer, "Hello! Pagett Residence here. Thanks for calling. My parents are home unless you're selling something!" I was the one who answered the phone that September day.

"Hello."

"Hi, Mr. Pagett?"

"Yeah!"

"Is this Wade Pagett?"

"Dad!!"

I handed the phone off to my dad and darted back to the living room, a little

disappointed that the call wasn't for me. But, before I could even take my seat, my dad was speeding to the hospital while Amy and I were left to hold down the fort.. Later that evening, my grandparents came over to deliver the news that my oldest sister, Mabelle, who had just moved to college in August, had passed away in a severe car accident on her way home. At eight years old, it is difficult to comprehend that someone is gone and that you won't ever see them again.

Wait! How could this happen? Losing my sister meant that my family would fall apart, that things would change and I would be one of two Pagett children instead of three and that our house would be much emptier. I was left without a Mabelle, a sister, a friend. No longer would I wake up past my bedtime and sneak in on her and her friends watching movies in our living room. No longer would I wake her up early on Christmas morning. No longer would I utter the words 'Chelle and hear a response. That night, I felt fearful.

I'd cry myself to sleep at night and insisted on sleeping in the same room as Amy. But, even with all the hurt I felt, looking back nearly 15 years later, I cannot even fathom what my parents were going through. Here they were, two proud parents with good jobs, a good home and three kids, when all of a sudden, poof, our lives were changed forever. They worked hard to hold it all together. Somehow, they must have dug deep inside and prayed a lot, they mustered up enough courage to enable our courage. They would lay awake with me at night, talk me to sleep, smile even when it hurt and dragged our family to church. They even started a scholarship fund in memory of Mabelle which allowed others the chance to courageously pursue an education. My mom and dad were brave for others, for our family and for me.

Soon enough, like a chain reaction, their bravery rubbed off on others. It rubbed off on me. I wanted to be brave like them so I began opening up to



friends about the accident and as a result felt more comfortable at school. The scars of my sister's death will always be present in our lives. I still get nervous when sharing the story about that day. I still am slow to be first to start conversation with others or to develop quality relationships because I still fear losing people. I'm no expert on bravery, but one thing is for certain, these scars have helped me become more brave. I try to choose courage every day because of the courage that was shown to me by my mom and dad, Wade and Christi Pagett. They encouraged courage.

We too can be enablers of courage. Remember Chance? He is able to remain courageous because his

teammates, Cameron, Bill, Cody, Tyler, Chelsea, Jonathan and Hilari show him courage by believing in him each day. The New York state line officers showed courage for a family whose farm had been destroyed because of flooding and tropical storms when they helped clean the property by taking out old washed out fence. We all can encourage courage. When we know someone is sitting all alone at lunch and that they may fear making new friends, sit by them anyway. Have a conversation with them and take interest in their life. Be the first to stand up for what is right so that others will feel confident in following your action. Make the first move, be comfortable in your courage and others

will seek courage too.

Remember when I told you it was hard for me to begin conversations and establish quality relationships? It still is, but I'm working at getting better. In September, I attempted to show courage by working at Starbucks for a day. While there I vowed to talk to everyone who passed and begin a quality conversation with all. So I did.

The next time you are afraid, the next time you think, "I'll wait and let someone else face the challenge", think again. Do not be afraid. Face that fear. Be courageous. Do it for yourself and more importantly, do it for others. Encourage courage and live so that others will be brave like you!

RETIRING ADDRESS:
LANDAN SCHAFFERT



“THE WAY I SEE IT”

When we were little, my sister Anthonya and I weren't afraid to dream big. When we had an idea, we did it! Although she's three years younger, Anthonya has always been one of my best friends and role models. We did everything together. Whether it was playing in our sandbox, soaring through the air on our big swing set, swimming with our dog Kicker in the stock tank or having fun in our garden, she was always by my side as my fellow adventurer. Growing up, we went through many different stages.

First came the Superhero Wannabe Stage. I wanted to fly like Superman, and Anthonya wanted to ride in a transparent plane just like Wonder Woman. We would spend hours dressing up and creating our own reality.

I can still remember wearing my blue Superman sweatshirt that my grandma Schaffert made for me. I loved wearing it with my red cape and jeans. Side by side, Anthonya and I would soar through the air on our swing set, pretending that I was flying alongside her plane.

Next came the Flintstone Wannabe Stage. We loved watching Fred, Wilma, Barney, Betty, Pebbles, Bam Bam and Dino on television. I was Fred. Anthonya was Wilma. And together, we worked tirelessly hauling large rocks and bricks in my little red wagon to create our very own Flintstone village in the garden.

We had it all: Brick walkways, stone fences, trees, a clubhouse, a little toy car that you pedaled with your feet and even a hand dug creek that ran from the water hydrant to the edge of the garden.

Finally, as we grew, we entered the Titanic Stage. In fourth grade, my class did a research project on the unsinkable ship, and I became fascinated with anything and everything related to the Titanic. My sister, who wasn't quite as

interested, was always recruited by me to help as we worked to construct our own 15 foot, wooden Titanic clubhouse.

It even floated in the huge mud puddle next to the driveway. It had tables, chairs, rope lights powered by a drop cord that ran back to the house, two flagpoles and, to complete the look, four fake smokestacks made of tin. Regardless of what we were up to as kids, one thing was certain—we were always chasing our dreams.

As children, we dream about doing something big, and we do it. Often, as we grow, we lose that childlike faith and stop believing that we can do what we dream. But why? Why do we stop believing in ourselves? We still have the potential to become extraordinary. We really can accomplish remarkable things. Each of us possess unique talents, skills and passions that we can use to bring our biggest dreams to life. But before we do, we must believe that we can. Believing is having faith that everything will work out. Believing is working hard to cultivate our dreams. Following a dream is like walking on a journey. We'll never reach our destination unless we take it one step at a time. To do what we dream, we must step with faith, and step with diligence.

Faith. One of my mom's favorite quotes is: "We walk by faith, not by sight." She always says that having faith is believing in what you can't see. For me, this definition of faith takes on a special meaning.

Imagine this: Seventy plane rides, 120,000 miles traveled, twenty-five states visited and thousands of FFA members met, all in the course of one year.

Now, imagine that for that year, you couldn't see a gate number in an airport. You couldn't see to drive to or from any

of your destinations. You couldn't see the menu in a fast food restaurant. And, you couldn't see well enough to remember any of the faces of the countless people that you met. Instead, you had to remember them just by the sound of their voices. For the past 12 months, this... has been my life. My eyes don't allow me to see well at all. I was born with a vision condition known as Congenital Rod-Cone Dystrophy that has left me legally blind and unable to see much of the beauty that surrounds me.

Our world is filled with beautiful sights. Whether it's day or night, something intricate or something simple, beauty is everywhere. Think about some of the things that are beautiful to you... like a starlit sky. When you look into the night sky, this is what you might see. *(Picture of stars is displayed)*

When I look into the vastness of the evening sky, this is what I see. *(A black screen is displayed)*

All those breathtaking summer nights spent sitting outside, listening to the peaceful chirp of the crickets and the calls of the cattle in the distance, and honestly, I've never seen a single star. But I know they're there, and I know they're beautiful. I have faith.

When you look at something as simple as a cornfield, it looks like this. *(Picture of cornfield is displayed)*

I bet it's beautiful. This is what I see. *(Extremely distorted cornfield picture is displayed)*

Although I've been around cornfields all my life back home on our family farm, my eyes have never allowed me to take in the true beauty of a cornfield. But I know they're beautiful. I have faith. *(Pause as photo of women's restroom sign is displayed)*

Being legally blind does have its

advantages. There are just some things that are so ugly, no one wants to see them, and I don't have to. For example, when I look at a hairless cat, this is what I see.

(Photo of blurred out cat is displayed)

When you look at a hairless cat, here's what you see.

(Photo of hairless cat is displayed)

Uhhh. Lucky me!

If you were looking out into the crowd from where I'm standing on this stage right now, here's what you'd see.

(Camera pans audience)

This is the way I see it.

(Filtered footage is displayed)

There are thousands of people here in this arena this evening, and I don't see any of you, but I know you're there. Each time I step forward, I don't see what's in front of me. Every step that I take on this stage, every step that I take in life is a step taken with uncertainty, but a step taken with faith.

Similarly, when we step forward in life to reach our dreams, we are literally blind to what's coming next. We can never be certain what our next step will bring. Throughout my walk in life, I have come to believe in what my dad always says: "Everything will work out." From the time I was born, my parents have always raised me with that mindset, that confidence that no matter where I go, in whatever situation I face as I pursue my dreams, there will always be something or someone there to help guide me. As I walk, not knowing what's ahead, I have to rely on the things and people around me to show me where I am and help me get where I need to go.

Yes, stepping forward not knowing what to expect is sometimes a bit frightening, but having faith is what allows me to press on. Whether it's holding onto a hand rail above stairs, feeling my way along the wall of a building, holding onto someone's shoulder or listening to someone's voice, there's always something there to help me find my way. It doesn't always work perfectly. Sometimes I fall, but I always get up. When you're blind,

you can't be afraid of falling. Fear never led me to the right gate in an airport. Faith did. I have faith that I'll reach my destination even if I have to get back up and try again. I take it step by step. I step... with faith.

But what if I didn't believe that someone would be there to volunteer a guiding shoulder or a voice of direction? What if I didn't have faith that a handrail would be there to guide me up and down stairs? What if I didn't get back up when I fall? I wouldn't be here tonight, and I wouldn't be following my dreams. We must ask ourselves the same questions. What dream am I ignoring because I'm unsure the handrail will be there? What goal am I not pursuing because I'm worried that no one will be there to offer a voice of wisdom or encouragement? Stop second guessing. Start believing in yourself, and step with faith.

Step with faith by taking risks and venturing into the unknown. Run for a chapter office. Apply for that scholarship. Take a challenging course. Try out for band, choir or a sports team. Sing in front of a large group of people.

Imagine the things that we could accomplish if we always stepped with diligence.

Step with faith by having confidence in yourself. Know that you have what it takes to become extraordinary and accomplish remarkable things. Don't let anyone ever tell you that your dream is too big or that you can't.

Step with faith by believing that no matter where you are or what you're doing, you can always find others to help guide you along the way. Be there to provide direction for those around you as they walk.

Step with faith.

"Farming takes a lot of faith. You

never know if you're gonna have a good crop or if you're gonna get hailed out. You have to have faith that everything will work out somehow." These words, spoken by my father, constantly remind me of just how risky the business of farming really is. Well-grounded in his heavy duty work boots, jeans, plaid shirt, cap and the pleyer scabber that never leaves his belt, my dad has not only taught me the value of stepping with faith but also the importance of stepping with diligence.

This year, I've had the privilege of being stationed by the ear of corn. But all my life, I've grown up by my father's side raising corn on our farm in eastern Colorado. I can still remember getting up at the crack of dawn with dad in the summers as a little boy to enjoy Pop Tarts and milk with him before heading out to work on the farm.

When he was a child, my dad dreamed of one day becoming a farmer. A cultivator operator at age seven, full time combine and tractor driver at nine, semi driver at 13 and land renter at 16, my dad had a pretty amazing jump on his dream. Today, not only is my dad living out his dream by helping feed the world as the farmer of several thousand acres, he is also an insurance agent, broker, grain company owner, father, husband and my role model.

Some of the best lessons that I've learned have been shared with me while in the seat of a tractor with my dad at the wheel. Dad has always encouraged me and believed in me by telling me "Son, you can do anything you set your mind to if you work hard." My dad has found great success because of his willingness to step with diligence.

During the planting and harvest seasons, it's unlikely for him to get more than four hours of sleep a night. He rises early and goes to bed when the job is done right. He never hesitates to dive in and work with his hands. Every moment is valuable to him. Dad is living out his dreams not because he does something that we cannot, but because he takes full

advantage of the abilities that each of us possess. He's not super human. He is extraordinarily... normal. But he works hard, and he rises again after every challenge that he faces. My dad steps... with diligence.

This year, I've met countless FFA members who have faith in what they're doing and step with diligence—members that rise at the crack of dawn to feed their livestock before school, ag science students that work meticulously to collect data for their ag science projects because they want results and members who put in hours upon hours tirelessly practicing to perform to the best of their abilities in career development events. I can't count the number of chapter officer teams that work diligently to plan and host various activities for the members in their chapters. When others see us in our blue corduroy jackets, they know they're looking at young people who have faith and step with diligence.

Imagine the things that we could accomplish if we always stepped with diligence. What would it be like if we were more diligent? Picture your most productive day, where you put your heart and soul into everything that you do and work hard with no excuses. What does that look like? Now, picture that this particular day is not abnormal. It is your average day. We could accomplish so much more if we always stepped with diligence, every day.

Step with diligence by working hard. Work hard for good grades. Work hard for success on that sports team. Work hard for that leadership position you've been dreaming about. Work hard for scholarships and to get into a good college. Rise early and work late. Spend a few extra hours on homework or that class project. Put full effort into building meaningful relationships by taking a genuine interest in others and being someone that people can trust.

Step with diligence by never giving up. When you face obstacles, persevere. When you fail, stand up, and try again. Keep your dreams in mind, and work



tirelessly to bring them to reality.

Step with diligence.

Often, we can't see where our next step will take us. It takes faith to risk and venture into the unknown. It takes diligence to do a good job, stand up again when we fall and to be successful along the journey. We each have the potential to become extraordinary and accomplish remarkable things.

What is your dream? What destination are you aiming for? Although you can't see it, you can dream it. If you can dream it, you can do it.

Remember what my mom always says: "Having faith is believing in what you can't see." Although I can't see you right now, I believe in you. I have faith in your next step. Do you? And I know you're diligent... because, after all, you're FFA members.

The way I see it is that following a dream is like walking on a journey. We must step forward if we are to reach our destination. So don't waste another day. We can do what we dream. Believe. Take it one step at a time. Step with faith! Step with diligence! And dream big!



“SIGN HERE”

I have a confession...my name is Tiffany Rogers and I am uncoordinated. It's sad but true. I consider my lack of coordination to be an art form. After all, it takes talent to spill your beverage at 3 out of every 5 meals and it explains why revolving doors are one of my biggest fears. It's a condition I've suffered from my entire life, I'm learning to cope with it, but this uncoordination business put me to the test this past winter.

My friends, Jeff, Kyle, Kelli, and I were headed up north and I was about to go skiing for the first time in my life. I know what you're thinking, "Uncoordinated person...first time skiing...sounds like a ridiculous mess just waiting to happen." We get to the resort and meet up with Amanda, Ashley, and their dad, Larry who came to give us ski lessons.

Lesson number one: Never let your skis cross. Lesson number two: Pizza vs. French fries. Pizza-ing is when you hold your feet like this...looks like a piece of pizza, makes you go slower. French fry-ing is like this... looks like two French fries, makes you go faster.

We're at the top of the hill and I realize this is going to be cake sauce, I mean there's three-year-olds taking on this hill like a champ. I push off and that's where it all goes down hill... literally. I go about three feet and then my skis start to go in opposite directions. I can hear Larry yelling "Pizza! Pizza!" But my skis have a mind of their own. After five more trips down the bunny hill the score was skis = 5. Tiffany = - 17. My finer moments included falling and leaving a train of ski equipment behind me as I went and taking out an innocent family of four. It got to the point where my friends decided to score my falls like Olympic judges. "And the judge's scores are in

7! 7.5! 4.5! Ooooo...that was a tough break on that last score. Maybe she'll redeem herself on the next fall."

Seeing that I'm clearly struggling Larry gets this brilliant idea. "I don't mean to be too forward, but what if you wrapped your arms around my waist. I mean, just so you can make it down the hill." So we take off. It was going pretty decent except for the level of awkwardness going on. I'm suffering from an internal struggle - trying to hang on so I don't die but at the same time keeping as much room as possible. I mean I specialize in awkward but doing it by clinging to the waist of my friend's dad is not my favorite way to do it. I'm a little too preoccupied with my internal struggle and forget to pay attention to my skis...first they cross, then they get caught in Larry's skis. Pause. On our trip up the ski lift not even five minutes before, Larry had just told me it had been about seven years since he'd fallen while skiing. So it was only natural for me to ruin a seven year record in all of seven seconds. Okla. play. My skis cross with Larry's and it's bad news. Here he is trying to help me and all I can manage to do for a thank you is practically drag him down the hill with me.

I was eventually able to make it down the hill in one piece. With each fall and each bruise, someone was always there with me to laugh it off and ask me if I was ready to go again. Without the support of my friends and the help of Larry that day I would have given up. Their patience and encouragement made all the difference. If it wasn't for them, I would still be on that mountain. I needed them.

Just as we have needed others, there are people who need us. Making a difference. It sounds great in theory. But when it comes to down to it, it can

be easier said than done. It requires us to look past ourselves, to see the needs of others and then be willing to make a difference that only we can make. And if you could make a difference, why wouldn't you? It's simple, because someone gets in the way...ourselves.

Growing up I saw my Grandpa Art just a few times a year: Christmas, fair week and maybe for birthdays. He lived three hours away and as he got older and his health worsened we saw him even less.

I was eleven when Grandpa Art passed. We drove all the way to

We all have the ability to leave our mark and one that is unique to each and every one of us, a lot like our signature.

Muskegon for the funeral. It was so uncomfortable. Everyone was sad, I knew maybe a whole five people besides my family, the seats were painfully hard and the church was freezing. Why did I have to be here? I mean he was my grandpa, but I barely knew him. Everyone around me was upset and I thought that I should be too but I didn't feel anything. I didn't know what it meant for my grandpa to be gone. I decided that my presence was pointless. I started to look around for something to do. Looking out the stained glass windows, playing with the Kleenex box in our row of seats... then I noticed my dad. He'd been different ever since we had gotten the call telling us that Grandpa Art had passed away. He didn't laugh or smile as much and he was quieter than usual...but today was

the first time in all of my life that I had seen my dad cry.

That image of my dad in so much pain stuck with me. To this day it still makes me sick to my stomach but nothing like the feeling I had on the car ride home. I couldn't believe how selfish I had been. The whole time I had been thinking about myself and not given a second thought to the people around me, not even my family. My dad had needed me but I hadn't noticed. I could have been there for him but first I would have to get over myself. That's when I realized my presence hadn't been about me at all.

Selfish. Such an ugly word but too often we let it describe our actions, our thoughts and ourselves. We live in our own little world and fail to notice that our

Not many of us ever know of the impact we make. We don't know how a simple word, note, gesture or just being ourselves can mean the world to someone else.

purpose is not about us, that there are needs of others that are greater than our own. Excuses are one of the ultimate forms of selfishness and somehow they become a part of our daily routine. "I'm busy." "I've got my own things." "Why should I have to worry about problems I didn't create?" "Why should I care?" We allow excuses to dictate how we live our lives. We exhaust ourselves trying to explain things away. We are convinced that our problems are the most important thing and that we are more important than the people around us. But we're not.

When we're focused on others, we are devoted to something bigger and greater than us. That's when we have a proper view of ourselves. That's when we'll be

able to see the needs of those around us. That's when we can make a difference.

Instead of concentrating on if we won the plaque given at the awards ceremony. Why not celebrate the accomplishments of others? What do they need? Instead of focusing on our reputation and what our friends think, what about the classmate that sits alone at lunch? Instead of spending hours worrying if we have the latest iPod or cell phone, what about the family in town whose dad was recently laid off? Will you help someone in need, or will you turn away?

Ok, ok, I get it. Get over ourselves. Put others first. I've heard it all before. But I can't possibly make a difference. Here's the deal though. Each of us can make a difference and it's one that only we can make. Because we all have the power and responsibility to do something... anything...

I've shown draft horses since I was seven years old when I could barely even reach the horse's shoulder. There's nothing like taking the lead of a 2,000 pound horse with hooves the size of a dinner plate. In my opinion they are some of the most amazingly beautiful creatures. But the thing is, they can also be amazingly unpredictable.

Two summer ago I was traveling with the farm I show for along with Steve, Amy and Joe. We were at the Indiana State Fair doing morning chores and I was given the option to be the one who exercised the horses or shovel the stalls or, as I prefer to call it by its classy name, the equine excrement disposal engineer. That day I chose to walk the horses. I took Apollo, out for his walk and brought him back to the barn. I led him in the stall and as I reached up to undo his lead rope, he reared up. As he came down, he hit me with his front hoof, shoe and all, right above my eye.

You know that feeling- your body is going in slow motion but your brain is going in fast forward? That's what was happening. I was trying to process what had happened but couldn't really understand. I knew that I should be in pain

but I couldn't feel anything. I remember seeing Amy running toward me hollering for Joe to get help and seeing Steve rush toward Apollo and the stall door that was still wide open. All of this went through my brain in like point seven seconds.

After that things start to run together. There was me getting sick to my stomach and getting to the trash can just in time, then getting dizzy and things starting to go black. Next thing I know I woke up on a stretcher in the ambulance. I reached up to my face and felt what seemed like a soft ball coming out of my forehead.

Before this I had only been to the hospital for check ups. Now I was in the emergency room, which is never a good sign, in a strange town, hours from home, without my family, and I still didn't completely remember what had happened. I was alone. I was scared.

Cue Joe, Steve and Amy. They walked into the room where I was and I had never been so thankful to see a familiar face. They made all the difference just by being there. A difference only they could make at that point in time in my life. They were there when I needed them the most. I'm not sure if they even know the difference that they made that day.

Not many of us ever know of the impact we make. We don't know how a simple word, note, gesture or just being ourselves can mean the world to someone else. Most of the time we have no idea of the things we teach or share with others or the direction in which we move them. Maybe you're just in the right place at the right time, maybe it's because of your own experiences or the story you have to share, maybe it's because of the gifts you have. But no matter the reason, we each have the ability to make a difference just as we are, one that no one else could ever replicate. Each of us comes into the world with certain gifts designed to make a better place for others. If we don't use those, something wonderful is lost because we each have something that only we can give.

We all have the ability to leave our mark and one that is unique to each and



every one of us, a lot like our signature. Our name becomes etched across the lives of others in our very own hand writing. Leaving a permanent indentation with its uniquely shaped lines and dots. Think about those who have placed their signature on your life. A parent, teacher, best friend, the cashier at the store, the classmate that sits three seats behind you in math, the person sitting next to you right now. The list goes on and on. How many people have made a difference in your life? I'd bet too many to remember exactly, some we may never even realize, but the differences and signatures are still there.

For me, this year has put it all into perspective. I was hit with the staggering reality of just how many signatures have been placed on my life. And do you know who most of them belong to? You. I've always known that as FFA members we are constantly striving to make a

difference. But this year I was able to witness this first hand as so many of you have made a difference in my life forever changing me because you took the time to sign here. Jonathan from North Carolina showed what it means to truly be a caring friend by being concerned for me when he had plenty of his own concerns. Micah from Wyoming displays his faith which encourages me to strengthen my beliefs. Mareta from Missouri taught me a powerful lesson in the love of teammates and family. And Justin from Ohio has no idea the example of unwavering strength he has set for me. Every place I went it was clear that you all are making a difference just by being yourselves and it's a difference that no one else could come close to copying. Take a moment and appreciate the signatures transposed across your life, beyond that, appreciate the difference that each of those

signatures represents.

Now ask yourself, whose life will your signature be on? Have you taken the time to make a difference for others? Or are you letting something get in the way of you making that difference? It's time. Right here and right now is where the excuses stop. We will look past ourselves and see the needs of others because every day in every situation, everyone has that ability to make a difference. Don't wait for the perfect time or conditions, find a need and fill it now. Don't let it be luck or coincidence but instead purposeful intentions to touch the lives of others. Unless someone like you cares a whole lot, nothing is going to change. Act as if what you do makes a impact...because it does. We have the responsibility to create the difference only we can make because no one else will. There are people that need you! So the question is...where will you sign?



“CAN’T SPELL ‘COURSE’ WITHOUT ‘U’”

Spelling! *sigh* Why is it so hard? Some words out there just break every rule. You know the words that I am talking about. The words that you are about to type and don't know what letter comes next. Then the next step is to think of a synonym that is much easier to spell and go with that. Who knows exactly what I am talking about?

I like to think that I have gotten better at spelling. But, there was once a time when the phrase “spelling test” would spark panic into me like a three legged cat with a bad cough in the middle of eleven Doberman pinschers.

It was third grade. I walked downstairs for my spelling lesson (yes, I was home-schooled for nine years of my life... that meant I was able to go to my class in my pajamas and the cafeteria food was mighty tasty!). I sat down for my lesson. Okla. Wyatt, you can do this, words are not that scary. Then it happened. Ma began to speak. “The word is ‘course’.” Can I have the definition? “The act of moving along a path from point to point.”

Well, it sounds like “horse”... course...um...C-O-R-S-E, course. That is how I spelled it for first three weeks. Yep, you heard me right...three weeks (I was never the sharpest quill on the porcupine). Anytime that I spelled that word or any word wrong, my ma would make me practice it over and over and over until I didn't have to think about it for the rest of the day. After twenty-one days of getting it wrong, I miraculously discovered and mastered that “course” had a ‘U’ in it. I was so discouraged that year I just accepted the fact that I was not a good speller and never would be. My assignments would always have mistakes in them; I'd never get an A in spelling. And that was fine by me. So what if I couldn't spell. It's not that big of deal...after all,

it's just the reality for me. But that's not how my ma saw it. Even though I gave up, my ma never lowered her standards for me and pushed me and expected me to learn not only this word but so many others. She kept me working towards improvement and I am proud to tell you that course is spelled C-O-U-R-S-E.

How many times do we just “accept reality” and decide for ourselves we'll never be good at something? Or come to expect a certain level of performance from ourselves and never even imagine going beyond that? We settle... On the flip side, how many of us have people in our lives, like my ma, that push us beyond what we think we can reach? Who set their standards for us higher than the standards we set for ourselves? We have all worked to be better in different areas of our lives, whether that's school, FFA, in our friendships, or sports. But do we always reach for the best we could be? Or are we still sometimes settling for good enough or contributing the minimum amount of work and energy that others expect? Just imagine, what would it be like if we would all did more? Or if we never settled for “good enough.” The cool thing is, most of the time...we can do more.

When we give less than our maximum effort we're not giving our best. That holds us back from doing mind-bending things or making epic change for ourselves and others around the world! These kinds of things are what we desire to do; great things that require us to do more. We want to make that game winning shot, engineer the next great technology, find a cure for cancer and even stop poverty or world hunger. To prepare ourselves to make these types of awesome things happen, we need to believe and commit to two things.

1. Believe that doing more is reachable
 2. Believe that the challenge of doing more is worth it
- Is more Reachable? We've all set goals. We learned that in Leadership 101 Freshman year. We set goals we knew we could accomplish. But can we do more? Is more reachable?

I found myself asking that exact same question when my last semester came to a close. It meant that summer was here! You know that feeling, on the last day of school when you check out of your locker and step through those doors for the last time in about three months. “FREEDOM!” Who knows what I am talking about? I left school, returned home and began to wonder what I should do next. I realized that I wanted to set a huge goal for the summer. But what? Most of the goals that I have set in my life are things that I knew that I could do. Goals that were kinda easy. Goals that let me... settle. This time, I wanted to do something different. I was still uncertain until I sat down to watch some TV. Then, it hit me like a bag of show feed...a commercial about the Sioux Falls Marathon came on. I wonder if I can spell that. M-A-R-A-T-H-O-N...Marathon! At that moment, I told my family my new goal: “I am going to run a half marathon on Sept. 12th in Sioux Falls.” Now let's be real clear... it is pretty evident that I do not look like a runner in any way shape or form. And it was at this point that I realized that I had a phobia: passoutonroadaphobia. The feat of running 13.1 miles seemed highly unlikely for me. In fact, I honestly thought that it was flat out crazy. I mean really? Can someone my build even do it? I made up my mind that I was going to try my best and just see what happened.

I kept to a long and rigorous training

plan. From waking up at 5:30 a.m. for a morning workout to stretching my sore muscles for hours, training for this bad boy was even worse than I thought. The clock was ticking and before I knew it, it was just three days before the race. I woke up that morning and you know, I have to go for it. If I can finish my 10 mile run this afternoon, I will run in the race. Now I can promise you that that run did not look pretty. Drenched with sweat, tongue hanging out like an old dog and it looked like I had been stuck in the Sahara Desert for days...but I finished the 10 miles and the only thing going through my head was: "Oh, this is on like Donkey Kong."

As I arrived at the start of the race, I immediately felt out of place. Now these are real runners. Look at them in their form fitting spandex, their nutrition packs. Of course they're all skinny and wait just

The challenge of doing more is real. The value of doing more is real.

one second! Did you know that people actually jog to "warm up" for a HALF MARATHON?!?! I am not cut out for this; I am clearly the only one even over 200 pounds and I completely overlooked how to prepare the morning of the race. "The race will begin in two minutes." Oh great. Well, this looks like a good spot; not too close to the front and in the very center of the crowd so others don't see me. "Ladies and gentleman, on your marks ('Right, like people actually start at a "mark"), get set ('why am I doing this, there is no way that I can finish'), BANG! ('holy smokes, this is really happening')."

- Three miles in: "Eh, this is alright."
- Five miles in: "Wow, this was a bad idea."
- Seven miles in: "How about that... the pain has gone away."
- Eight and a half miles in: "Uff da...I

may need to walk for just a bit."

- Twelve miles in: "Okla. Wyatt, you have made it this far...let's finish this!"

It was at this point that I finally realized that this was possible; ya sure you betcha. Even though so many people doubted...and quite frankly, I thought that there was zero chance of this happening. Wyatt; you have only ever pushed yourself to do things that you knew you could accomplish. It is time to push yourself beyond what you think is possible and just discover what actually is possible. I am sick doing just enough to impress others or just enough to get by. I am going to do more; I am going to reach this goal. After 13.1 miles: "I FINISHED!!!!!!!"

Looking back, I realized more is reachable...more for every one of us. How often do we think that it is not possible or that we are not talented enough to do this or that? Maybe you think that you are too young, too insignificant, inadequate or mediocre to do more; to do tough and great things. Sometimes it comes from those around us. We must do this simply because that is the way that it has always been. We can't do that because it has never happened before.

There are countless examples of people that make us rethink 'possible' and reevaluate what is reachable. Throughout history, what if everyone believed that we were at our limit? Maybe the Wright Brothers would never have taken that first flight, maybe Edison would never have invented the light bulb or maybe even Henry Groseclose, C.H. Lane and many others would never have pursued creating the National FFA Organization. They all believed in seeing what was possible instead of defining what was impossible. They did more and they found out that more is reachable and they stepped up to the challenge.

What about you? What more can you do? Well, it can be as simple as taking on more responsibilities and meeting those that we already have. Set a physical, mental, emotional or spiritual goal that

you're not sure you can reach. Not just living up to your responsibilities but taking hold of whatever project it is and doing your absolute best to exceed expectations. Hmm...exceed expectations, I wonder if I can spell that? E-X-C-E-E-D...exceed expectations. Just imagine, what would it be like if we all would do more?

Now I know, doing more is certainly no easy task. Trying something and pouring yourself into it is a huge risk. The prospect of failing makes me cringe. We can all think of those vivid times where we failed. From learning to play the piano to trying to lose weight, I know what it is like to fail.

Two years ago, I ran for national FFA office. Planning my life around this one goal was definitely time-consuming. Finally, convention came around and my name was not called. I was devastated. I mean, I knew that that was the best and that my purpose was something else but I was crushed. I had spent so many hours learning, memorizing, practicing and meeting people so that I could relate to others more, be a better person and friend and become a better advocate for agriculture, Ag-Ed and FFA.

You know what? I did become a better person. Even though all that work seemed to be for nothing, I was able to learn more about others and push myself beyond what I was used to. I was able to remember names and love people more. I was able to do more. I was reminded in a big way that all effort – even failed effort produces muscle. That's another good word...E-F-F-O-R-T...effort produces muscle. And it is that effort that helps us do more, and it is the challenge that builds muscle.

The challenge of doing more is real. The value of doing more is real. Remember those thoughts that we have all had? I am too young, inadequate, stupid or useless to make a real difference...to do more. Still feeling inadequate? Try telling Zach Hunter that he is too young or that because he has an anxiety disorder he will never do anything to complete his dream of ending modern day slavery. At



age 12 he learned that there are an estimated 27 million people around the world that are still in slavery and about half of them are children. By age 16 he has spoken to more than half a million people at live events, appeared on national television, written two books, gave a speech at the White House and has become the global student spokesperson for the Amazing Change campaign that is working to eliminate slavery. Zach not only knew that he could do more, he saw the challenge ahead. Ending modern day slavery is no easy task but Zach said, 'I can try...and I will try.' He knows the challenge is worth it!

Or how about Connor, a fifteen year old boy that started the organization called Dry Tears and has helped provide clean water to more than 20,000 people and has saved hundreds of lives.

These are young, "ordinary" people

just like us who go to school, face daily challenges and eat the agricultural product what some of us grow. People just like you that have deep passions to do more for what they know is right and strive to make the lives of others better. They did what many call "impossible" and as a result: changed lives.

Now y'all know just as well as I do, that doing great things is tough. It requires great effort and can be hard but deep down we want to do tough things, we were made to do tough things and we can do tough things. Just imagine, what would it be like if we all would do more? What would it be like if we loved our family, friends and others more? Spent quality time with those who don't have many friends more? Cared about all others above our self more? Forgave those who did us wrong even if they don't ask for it more? Volunteered our talents, abilities

and even money to make others' lives better more? Dreamed more? Worked more? Or take that step and tried to do those tough things that can make a huge difference in this world more?

Marathon—exceed expectations—effort produces muscle! No matter how small or huge our hopes for the future, we need to do more for ourselves and others because that is what is right. And if you ever start to doubt yourself and think; I don't know if I can do more, I don't know if the challenge is worth it... just think of Zach, Connor and all of these people. It is worth if for each one of us. It is worth is for you. When we're moving along our path in life from point to point; let's say to ourselves, "Of Course it's reachable. Of course it's worth it. And remember:

We 'Cant' Spell "Course" without "you!"

RETIRING ADDRESS:
SHANNON NORRIS



“CHECK YES OR NO”

“Every day may not be good, but there’s something good in every day.” – Author Unknown

“Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference.” – Winston Churchill

“You cannot control what happens to you, but you can control your attitude toward what happens to you.” – Brian Tracy

“Attitudes are contagious. Is yours worth catching?” – Dennis and Wendy Mannering

It starts way before pre-k,
Your values impact how you behave,
Choices, decisions and actions,
Are yours to control... so decide them right now.

Life isn’t goin’ be easy,
No doubt trouble will happen to you.
Truth is life is what you make it,
Choose to make a difference, starting with you.

Will you give up? Will you try to make a change?

It’s up to you.

Just choose to be the best you that you can be,

Check your attitude,

Is it one that you are proud of, check yes or no.

When I was younger, I absolutely loved to sing! My backyard was my stage, lit up with spotlights, disco balls, and people... all chanting my name, of course requesting another one of my songs. Will the real Shannon Norris please stand up, please stand up? Will the real Shannon Norris please stand up?

It was during those childhood years that I truly began to value life along with a few other things such as French fries, red dirt country music, Ford trucks, and Angus cattle. Above all else, I loved hanging with my older sister. And we weren’t your typical girls growing up. In place of dresses, we wore wranglers; in place of Barbie, we

had John Deere; and in place of Hannah Montana, we had Johnny Cash. One thing about my older sister; she didn’t put up with any nonsense. Any time I would get out of line, she would give me an attitude adjustment, if you know what I mean.

What if we valued our attitude as much as we value other things, like those French fries? Our attitude determines the course of our life... and the coolest thing is we control our attitude. Every day, we must make a decision on our attitude. Once that decision is made, we can take action on the way we treat other people.

Let’s ask ourselves... is our attitude one that we’re proud of? Check yes or no.

“She’s standing on the home plate... here comes the pitch...smack... Home run! What!? Ahh! Ahh!” Brittany was a killer athlete. Between basketball and softball, sports were her life. There was no doubt that she had the talent to continue her sports career far beyond high school into college as a star softball player. But for Brittany, fifth grade was a little different than most. Her life soon became interrupted with severe seizures that would leave her unconscious and unaware of her surroundings.

In January that year, CAT scans found a tumor the size of a small lemon in her brain. Two months later, when the tumor was removed, it had grown to the size of a large softball. Things rapidly changed for Brittany. For the next five years, she had to have a series of MRI scans to make sure the brain was recovering. It was no longer a good idea for Brittany to play contact sports.

Imagine the things in life that you love the most. What would happen if they were abruptly taken away?

People like Brittany make an impact. Brittany is an FFA member from Georgia. She makes the decision every day to take what life brings and make the best out of

it. She knows that sometimes there may be things in life that we don’t have control over, but we can control how we respond to them. Brittany had a choice. She could either “give up or get better.” Since her surgery, Brittany is limited on what sports she can play, but she has mastered electrical wiring in her Ag classroom. Like me, her coordination is weak, but Brittany has excelled in FFA’s public speaking events. Her goals and dreams may have changed, but she makes the decision every day to value what she can control... her attitude.

Dr. Ernie Mendes, a professor in psychology, studied an equation that shows our response to a situation.

It showed that our outcome is equivalent to any situation plus our attitude toward it. Meaning that on a scale of 1 to 10 – 10 being the greatest possible outcome in the world – if an event occurs in our life that ranks as a 1 – aka the worst possible thing that could happened to us – we can still achieve a 10 outcome if we have the attitude of a 9. $9+1=10$. Attitude plus situation equals outcome.

We might be thinking that because we’re not sitting down on the floor or speaking here on the stage, that we can’t make a difference. Maybe we have been hurt by a friend or a family member. Maybe we have been left out of the group. Whatever our thoughts may be, our outcome is directly influenced by our attitude. When the world gives us a one... answer back with the attitude of a nine. Our choices, thoughts and actions are ours to determine. Write a sticky note on your mirror that says, “My attitude is my choice.” Ignore pressures from peers when you know it isn’t something that you believe in. Tell a loved one thank you. Apologize. Be thankful for the blessings that you do have. Make a positive decision. Are you in control of your attitude? Check yes or no.

Once we decide to control our attitude;

we can take action on how we treat other people.

Who all is from a small town? I grew up in the booming metropolis of Cliff, New Mexico, where the number of cattle far exceeds the number of people and the only time we have a traffic jam is during the rodeo at the fairgrounds. My junior year, some of my classmates and I qualified to compete at a national business conference in New York City. What a perfect opportunity to show those city boys just how a country girl can survive!

Conquering the elements of the concrete jungle started during our day tour of the city. Grouped together were the girls and I, some pretty good-looking gentlemen, millions of tourists, my teacher, and our chaperone... my mother. Now, as if having your mom tag along doesn't scream "cool" by itself, try getting her to keep the same pace as the rest of the group. Way ahead were my classmates, bringing up the rear was my mom ...and I was stuck in the middle. I was so frustrated! I wanted to be cool enough to walk with the other students and not have to worry about my mom. I wanted my friends to know that I was mature and that I didn't need a babysitter. All day I had been telling my mom to move a little faster so it would be less obvious that she was holding us up.

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Even in the middle of millions of people, for the next few moments, I stood there alone as I watched the slow tears run down my sweet little mom's face. To this day, the simple words, "I can't" will never leave my mind.

About one year prior to that moment, my mother had been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. A woman that was once physically and mentally strong enough to do anything now struggled with simple movements, such as keeping the same pace as a group of high school students. At that moment, I didn't control my attitude. It controlled me. I made a decision to let my anger and self-pity for not being with the rest of the group overpower my relationship with one of the people that I love the most in this world.

Think back to a time when you have allowed your emotions to determine your actions. When was the last time you snapped at your parents? Our attitude determines how we treat other people. We control it. And it's not just a one-time decision. Meaning that if we mess up and do something wrong or say something we don't mean to say, we can fix it if we decide to.

Close your eyes. Picture someone that you really care about. If today was your last day, how would you treat that person? Now, look at the people sitting next to you, and ask this question, "What if today was their last day?" We have a decision to make. When we leave this arena, what action will we take to improve? Try inviting someone that doesn't fit in to come join your friends. Call your parents and tell them that you love them. Listen to your grandparent's stories. Don't leave convention as the same person you were when you came... Are you taking actions that help make others better? Check yes or no.



Will you give up? Will you try to make a change?

It's up to you.

Just choose to be the best you that you can be,

Check your attitude,

Is it one that you are proud of, check yes or no?

We may not be able to control what happens to us, but we can control how we respond to it... just like Brittany did. We all know we should live with a good attitude... we all know that our attitudes influence our actions... this isn't new information... so why do we still have trouble? Will you give up or get better? Decide.

Regardless of whether we are from a small town, big city, the coast or the Midwest, quit making excuses... decide to make a change! Our attitudes are not a decision that we only ask ourselves every month, every week, or every day... it is a decision that we constantly have to evaluate. Doesn't mean that it is an easy decision... doesn't mean that every time we make a choice, that we are going to be perfect. Each decision does not define us, but we can define each moment if we choose. Take action.

Perform an attitude checkup... Are you making the decision to control your attitude? Check yes or no. Are you taking action on treating others like today could be their last day? Yes or no? Live confident that you managed what you did have control over... your attitude. Is it one that you are proud of? Yes or no?



“GOT TIGGER?”

I can remember the days of my nose being stuck to the TV watching my favorite cartoon of all time ... Winnie the Pooh. I remember watching that bear eat honey, get stuck in the door of his house and say his famous phrase, “Oh Bother.” I actually had a stuffed bear just like him too, his name was Bo... though, I never could understand why Bo wouldn't eat honey. I have to say however, my favorite character was T-I –Double GUH- ER... That spells Tigger. He is my favorite because he is always bouncing around looking for a good time. Hence, the reason I am here today with my pogo stick, bouncing off the walls at the most exciting and upbeat place of all time, the 84th National FFA Convention!

Bouncing off the walls was a good way to describe me growing up. It always seemed to earn me nicknames like “Little Britches” from my favorite movie the Jungle Book, thanks Mammy; “Spandy: from some friends at FFA camp because of my days cycling in spandex shorts; and “King James” by one of my friends from high school, though, I never could understand why he called me that. But the nickname that really defined my bounciness was earned one day after school in my FFA advisors classroom.

For some reason that afternoon I was laughing at this, “Hahaha,” giggling at that, “hehehe,” and just couldn't sit still to save my life. It could have been the caffeinated beverage ... or two..ok, ok, ok ... it was three that I had during the course of the day. What made it worse I had speech practice with both of my FFA advisors that very afternoon. I started speaking, and bouncing off the walls took on a whole new meaning. I was moving this way, bouncing that way and it seemed as though I was about to jump over the table in front of me. The whole

time I was just trying to hold back the laughter. Ms. Pam looked up and said to me, “James, stop for just a second. Dear boy, what is the matter with you.” I just looked at her and said through laughter, “I really don't know.” At this point she started laughing, looked at me and said, “You know who you remind me of right now, Tigger.

Tigger that was my new nickname; I got Tigger.

Got Tigger... But what did that mean exactly? Did it mean I was joyful all the time? A lot of people could tell you the answer to that question ... No. So why was I like that that day? Well, it wasn't from the caffeine. It was because I had been going through a rough time with girls, school and life in general and was just tired of being miserable and I had a choice to make: To Be or Not To Be. That day, I looked around me and noticed many people who were being like Eeyore: Miserable. I realized something more important: It's not enough to just find joy it's also about spreading it like the honey of life. It's about everybody in this arena, this city, this state, this country, and this world to say: We Got Tigger.

The difficult question though, is how? How can we find joy in all situations? Because let's just face it, we get beat up sometimes.

He was big, like really big, he was mean, and he stunk worse than a skunk that's just been aggravated by a hound dog. He was my archnemesis. He ... was a goat, named Jeth Row. One summer when I was 12, two of my best friends were coming over to play. One of them was a girl who I had a huge ... like really huge crush on. Her name was Bethany.

We decided to go play outside. So, of course I warned them about this goat that seemed to be more evil than good.

“Umm guys I just want to warn you... you see that goat right over there next to the barn door? He's really mean and may start chasing you around the field trying to ram you with his head ... But if you want to pet him then I can hold him down for you.” I just said that, didn't I? Yep, I did. Open mouth insert foot because of course my friends said yes.

I thought to myself at this point, “James this is perfect. You can hold this tough ole' goat and win the girl of your dreams.” I would like to add at this moment that no animals were harmed in the course of this story, only one very unlucky 12 year old.

Be like Tigger and bounce out of bed ready to encounter the day no matter what pains it brings.

As soon as I approached this goat my great day turned into a situation of misery and despair. He spotted me, chased me around the barn lot and pinned me against the barn door. He seemed to be having fun as he rammed and battered me. My chances of looking tough and getting the girl of my dreams soon turned to girlish cry's that sounded a little like this, “HEEEEEELLLLLPPPPP!!! THE BEAST HAS GOT Me!!!!”

I had two choices, “To Be or Not To Be that was the question.” I could get up and be miserable because of bruised pride and body after being mauled by a billy goat. Or, I could be like Tigger, bounce up and run away from that goat laughing at what had just happened like

nothing had gone wrong.

Every day we are faced with this decision, to be like Tigger and bounce out of bed ready to encounter the day no matter what pains it brings. Or to not be like Tigger and face this world like Eeyore, with misery around every turn of the corner. Let me just tell you, being like Tigger is not easy and half the time I fail on all accounts. I end up like Eeyore: woe-begone, lethargic, anguished and simply put just flat out miserable. But the great thing about this decision that we have to make every day is that misery is just an attitude not a lifestyle. An attitude is easy to change and makes answering that question of to be or not to a lot easier.

I have met tons of FFA members who "Got Tigger." They chose TO BE like Tigger. These FFA members know that its finding the joy in any situation no matter what it is and saying, "I woke up late, well you know at least I got that ten minutes of extra sleep I needed, I'll just set my alarm ten minutes earlier for in the morning." "I have to put \$3.89 a gallon gas in my vehicle, but at least I have the means to put a few gallons in to keep me going." Maybe it's even, "I have to go to school or work today, but at least I can and have that opportunity because there are many people in this world that don't have that option." Leading a lifestyle of joy makes it easier to chose TO BE like Tigger.

However, it's not just enough to find that joy. It's what we do with it after we have it in our lives. I have seen this happen time and time again over the past few years.

The year was 2000 I was in fourth grade and today was just like any other. Mom woke me up, more like drug me out of bed, I got dressed and went to school. It was just a normal day. Until mom picked me up that afternoon. She seemed a little upset, and before I even got in the car said, "James, we need to have a family talk when we get home." In the back of my mind I was going over everything that I could be in trouble for. "Hmmm..did I make my bed this morning? What was that thing that I broke yesterday? I hope

she didn't find those flowers I dug up." If you can't tell I NEVER got into trouble. The rest of the car ride home I was contemplating everything that I had done, and mom was quiet.

We pulled up the driveway and my dad was home. "Well, that's a little weird he's usually not home until six, it's three." I walk inside, sit next to my sister, mom sat next to dad and these are the first words I remember him saying.

"James, Tamara. I lost my job today. As a family we have two choices. One, I find a new job and I won't be home very much or two, your mom and I feel like this is a calling for us as a family to go into the mission field. There has been an opening for someone to take care of the state disaster relief equipment for the Tennessee Baptist Convention."

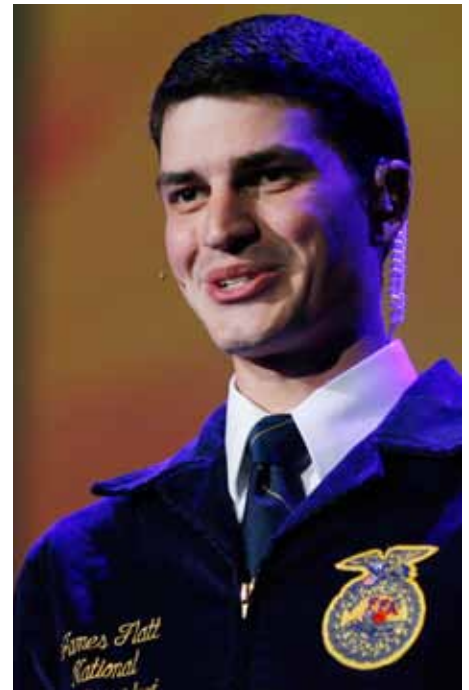
This was big. My dad was the only one that worked in the family because mom stayed home and took care of my sister and me. He went on to say that this would be tough financially for us, but as long as we stuck together as a family we would make it through. It might have been a little scary, but it meant dad would be home more and we had a chance to help people in need. It was scary, but we were joyful because of the journey we were headed on as a family. We found joy in a miserable situation.

In 2001, planes hit the World Trade Center and my parents would go on their first disaster mission. They were asked to lead a team of volunteers and take the state feeding equipment to feed the thousands of emergency personnel that were searching for those who were lost.

This is the image they saw when they pulled down the streets of New York City.

These are the faces of the people who were overjoyed because of the decision that my family made.

At the end of the day it's about being a Tigger in an Eeyore kind of world. It's about spreading every ounce of joy that we have or have found to who and what is around us. Maybe it's carrying on a conversation with the new kid in school who everyone seems to overlook. Maybe it's



helping the elderly lady carry her groceries to her car. Maybe it's getting a friend through a tough situation like a divorce in their family or it could even be helping someone through a time when they feel like there is no hope left for them in this world.

Since that decision was made, my family has helped in many disasters with hundreds of other volunteers bringing joy to victims like,

Ms. Naomi who lived in a tent for two years after hurricane Katrina. Now, she has a house that was built by mission teams that I had a privilege to serve with. Joy does us no good if we keep it to ourselves. When we find that joy, even in the darkest of situations, it's up to us spread that joy like the honey of life.

Got Tigger, what a place this world would look like if we could say that we ... Got Tigger. Joy would fill our lives. The question of to Be or Not to Be would be answered and the Honey of life would never taste so sweet. So what are we going to do when we are faced with a second, a minute, or a day of misery? Are we going to hang our heads and say, "I'm Eeyore, there is no way this can be better?"

Or are we going to say we ... Got Tigger

INSPIRING STORIES AND A MESSAGE OF HOPE

By Kelsey Kennedy

For many Americans, September 11, 2001 was a pivotal day. For Dave Roever, it was a wake-up call. "When I saw those aircraft fly into those buildings, I knew that my life was not over," he explained during his keynote speech at the opening session of the 84th National FFA Convention. That day was a reminder to keep reaching out and telling his story to students and members of the military.

Roever is a Vietnam War veteran whose life was forever changed on July 26, 1969. While on a mission as part of the Brown Water Black Beret unit of the Navy, Roever stood poised and ready to throw a grenade. Before he could release it, a sniper shot the grenade. When it detonated, Roever suffered severe burns on his face and body, and his eight-month Navy career was brought to an end. He spent the next 14 months in the hospital, learning how to live life with his new face and hands. It was a difficult time for Roever, but he learned an important lesson: "When you lose hope, you lose everything. Never, never, never lose hope."

While he was in the hospital, Roever realized he had a unique story to tell. "It's how you look at life that makes a difference," he



said. He was soon sneaking out of his room at Brooke Army Medical Center to speak to schools and churches. He didn't just find speaking fun, he found it therapeutic. "Telling the story was my good medicine," he said. Roever has since done six tours giving speeches to American soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan, and he's given countless speeches to schools, churches and conventions. He's spoken at FFA state conventions all over the country, and he's made a few appearances at national convention over the years as well. As he puts it, "I love the FFA and it's my favorite group."

On his speaking tours, Roever met plenty of wounded soldiers with whom he experienced many similar experiences. Roever realized he had been lucky and other soldiers and veterans needed his help. He started the Wounded Warrior Alliance to help injured soldiers answer the question, "What about the long term?" Soldiers in the program spend time at Eagles Summit ranch in Colorado. Over the course of the session, they go through public speaking coaching, mentoring and college courses. The speaking is an invaluable experience for many of the participants and gives them the tools to help others in their situation. "You don't have to have an arm to speak, you don't have to have a leg to talk," Roever said. About 250 soldiers have attended the sessions at the ranch, and Roever is a dedicated mentor for them long after they leave. In his words, "I mentor for life." He brought his dedication to America's armed forces to convention, too. All bracelets sold at his booth over the course of the convention include a thank you postcard that members can fill out and Roever will give to the soldiers he speaks to abroad in early 2012.

Roever's stories were inspiring, and at times heartbreaking, but FFA members were certainly laughing through the entire keynote speech. At one point Roever joked about getting a physical for the draft and his poor grades in college. He said, "I got an O positive on my blood test!" His humor and his drive to help others are proof-positive that he lives his life to the fullest and wants to help others do the same. "You know that little dash between the day you're born and the day you die?" he said. "What do you want your dash to say?"

Kelsey Kennedy is a former member of the Willamina, Ore. FFA chapter. She is a science writing major at MIT currently taking some time off at Oregon State University.

‘FLYGIRL’ FIRES UP MEMBERS TO ENGAGE IN SERVICE

By Nicole Maul

Motivational keynote speaker Vernice “FlyGirl” Armour proudly announced that FFA members were “Cleared Hot” on Friday, Oct. 21 during the fourth general session of the 84th National FFA Convention. With the spotlight following Armour from the floor to the stage of Conseco Fieldhouse, she began her speech by sharing a key moment during her tour in Iraq.

While flying the skies of Iraq in her combat helicopter, Armour and her teammates received a distress call from Marines on the ground looking to get aerial support. Armour’s aircraft only had one missile left and was running low on fuel. After finding the location of the ground troops, Armour flew toward the enemy target, was given permission to fire and released the missile.

Nothing happened.

After resetting every button and switch, the team had one last chance to make this mission a success. As they approached, they were able to drop their missile but knew turning back to see the outcome was not an option.

There are going to be times where you fall, you stumble. You have obstacles and challenges but how you respond versus react is truly the key.

Landing back on base, the team rushed to speak with the officer of the day, curious to find out what had happened. It was then that the officer told them that the target was destroyed and the Marines would make it back safely.

Armour joined the Army Reserve in 1993 while attending Middle Tennessee State University. “I found something that could prepare me for my passion,” Armour said. “I actually loved being in the military, giving and being a part of that legacy.” That strong legacy translated to Armour’s own family, with her grandfather, father and stepfather each serving.

During her training for the Army Reserve, Armour attended a career day with a friend. “I wanted to do anything where you could shoot a gun or blow something up,” Armour said. “I was looking at Artillery, Sniper Platoon, Delta Force, Green Berets,

pretty much everything women couldn’t do.”

Armour’s friend, however, was ready to move on to the aviation tent. “When we walked into the tent and I looked toward the back, I saw a black woman in a flight suit. I said, ‘Whoa, that is cool! Why didn’t I think of that?’”

Following graduation, Armour was finally ready to follow her dream of becoming a police officer. She entered the police academy and, after graduating, joined the Nashville Police Department. Armour’s true dream was to join a mounted patrol team, however Nashville did not offer that at the time. Instead, she rode a steel horse — a Harley Davidson Road King 1350.

“I decided to leave the force, my childhood dream, but I couldn’t stop thinking about being a combat pilot,” Armour said. “I can always be a police officer, but I won’t always have the opportunity to be a combat pilot.”

While on tour in Iraq, Armour was on the fast track to success within her field when she failed a tactical test she was not prepared for. “Honestly, I was devastated. I felt like I had left so many people down. I knew that people were watching me, watching my performance. I knew that I was out there setting the standard,” Armour said.

Once she was back in the United States, Armour began serving as a diversity officer and liaison to the Pentagon and was working on diversity policies in Quantico, Va. “It was an honor to be of service to the Marine Corps in that capacity,” Armour said.

Being back in the states allowed her to experience other aspects of what the Marines had to offer. It also put her near her father, who was battling terminal bone cancer. Armour was able to visit him several times throughout the year.

“My dad was my favorite Marine,” Armour said. During her last visit, she was able to be with her dad in the final moments of his life.

Realization then hit Armour. “Failing that tactics test put me in the room with my dad. In that moment I knew, that given the opportunity I wouldn’t change a single thing about that test. After years of regretting failing that test, I now wouldn’t change a single thing.”

“The Marine Corps was preparation for me to be able to do what I am doing now,” Armour added. “It gave me the foundation to really step out there and give that message of breakthrough mentality with the experiences to back it up.”

The message of “One Mission, One Goal, One Team”





resonated well with FFA members.

“FlyGirl was amazing, she really connected well with members,” Stacey Kunde, state parliamentarian of Wisconsin, said.

Throughout the address, Armour stressed the importance of service in any outlet. “You have permission to engage. It is inside of you and it is up to you to give yourself that permission to pull the trigger and shoot those missiles, bullets, rockets and destroy those obstacles that you have in life. Once you do that, you are cleared hot.”

“Everything that’s in your flight suit has prepared you for where you are,” she added. And there are going to be times where you fall, you stumble. You have obstacles and challenges but how you respond versus react is truly the key.”

Kunde agreed. “Students really needed to hear that. Now is the time to get involved, now is the time to take the initiative and go with it,” she said.

For many FFA members, enlisting in the armed services upon

graduation is one career path considered. After serving in the Army Reserve and Marines, Armour offered a recommendation to members. “Know why you are enlisting. It’s to serve your country and maybe one day to have to give the ultimate sacrifice,” Armour said. “Once you understand that and you are doing it for service, student loan repayments and seeing the world is all icing.”

Even after her speech, Armour is adamant that she stay in contact with the students she speaks too. A new feature to Armour’s Facebook page is the Ready Room, an interactive way for her to stay in touch. “I still want to be available to help people create the breakthrough. Now they know some of the points and the tips, but it takes more than that. It’s the follow through,” Armour said.

Nicole Maul is a former FFA member of the Fresno-Central FFA Chapter in Fresno, Calif. She is currently an agriculture communications junior at California State University, Fresno. You can reach Nicole by email at nmaul@mail.fresnostate.edu or on



COUNTRY MUSIC ARTISTS SHARE MOTIVATION WITH FFA MEMBERS



By Lauren Schwab

Lucas Oil Stadium quickly filled with thousands of FFA members Thursday evening at the national FFA convention, anticipating the country music sensations of Blake Shelton, Little Big Town and Steel Magnolia. While their musical talent and flawless stage presence captivated the audience, the artists reminded FFA members of the hard work behind stage to achieve success.

Meghan Linsey of Steel Magnolia expressed to FFA members the importance of setting goals and sticking to them. Linsey has found strength in standing apart from the crowd and striving to accomplish her goals despite the odds against her. "You can get lost in the shuffle, only you can do what you do well. If you can focus on what you do well and do that the best you possibly can, I think that no one can touch you. We all bring different things to the table, so just find out what that is in you and use it," said Linsey. She has also not taken for granted the strength given to her through a strong support system. "I think it's really important to have that unit around you, that's one of the most important things when you're trying to build something. Just keep people around you that are positive, that uplift you and support you," said Linsey.

For country quartet, Little Big Town, the importance in striving toward their goals is no different. They encourage FFA members to take a struggle or challenge they have gone through and use it for growth. "It (having gone through challenges) strengthened the bond between us. As a unit it made us closer and created a family bond because we've gone through so many things together," said Jimi Westbrook.

For Little Big Town, recording music and performing as a

group succeeds through teamwork. "We have to be like-minded. It's about the band; it's not about one of us. So we come together and figure out what the band wants us to do and what goals we want to accomplish," said Karen Fairchild, "It has to be a family discussion, a band discussion. There is chemistry between the four of us that is natural, but we also work hard at it because we take care of each other and make sure we're headed toward the same goal."

Even with all the success they have achieved, the group is still striving to better themselves and encourages FFA members to do the same with their ambitions. "For us it's creatively challenging and inspiring to do that (striving to do better) to put ourselves outside of where we would normally go. It's in us to strive and push ourselves. It helps us to open up and try new things," said Phillip Sweet. "Every night when we walk off stage we talk about what went well and what didn't go so well, so the next night we can make it better. Every time we make a new record we talk about what the new goals are for that record... what we can do to make it more interesting than the last one," said Kimberly Schlapman.

FFA members will leave national convention with the motivation and tools to achieve premier leadership, personal growth and career success. Now is their time to say, "I believe I can."

Lauren Schwab is a former FFA member from Somerville, Ohio. She is a 2011 graduate of Miami University with a degree in journalism and women's studies. She is currently a first year graduate student in family studies. Contact her at schwablm@muohio.edu.

COLLEGIATE DEVELOPMENT FORUM SEEKS TO IMPROVE COLLEGIATE FFA CHAPTERS



By Kara Miller

At the 84th National FFA Convention, Collegiate FFA hosted the Collegiate Convention and its' first Collegiate FFA Chapter Development and Growth Forum.

Collegiate FFA is a program that enhances the college experience by encouraging all students to advocate for agriculture while developing their capacity for premier leaders and applying for successful careers. The goal of the Collegiate FFA Chapter Development Forum was to bring collegiate chapters together to discuss the pros and cons of their chapter as well as give chapters the opportunity to share ideas among each other.

Twelve universities from throughout the country were present and prepared to share their ideas with other students. The forum began with introductions of all the students in attendance and was followed by the revealing of a three year plan that

Marty Tatman, an educational specialist in collegiate programs, has been working on to give a new and improved vision the Collegiate FFA program.

Tatman told the Collegiate FFA members that "Collegiate FFA has primarily been focused on career success, but it was now time to uphold the other parts of the mission statement."

Holding true to that statement, Tatman has a desire to re-release the Collegiate Life Knowledge website that was developed several years ago for students to successfully develop a Collegiate FFA chapter and keep it running. Collegiate Life Knowledge was a webpage that was dedicated to providing leadership workshops for Collegiate FFA members to use to help grow their university's chapter. In addition, the thought of developing a grant program, with the help of the National FFA Foundation, is being investigated to help provide grants

to starting and maintaining Collegiate FFA chapter.

"Our three year plan is meant to bring people together to network," said Tatman.

Most students, when transitioning from a high school FFA chapter to a Collegiate FFA chapter really struggle with the differences in the programs. High school FFA chapters are focused on developing their leadership skills so they can succeed in all areas of life, while Collegiate FFA chapters are motivated mainly on finding and being hired into a career of their choice.

This year, at the 84th National FFA Convention, there was an issue proposed to the delegate body regarding the creation of competitive events for Collegiate FFA members. This will be investigated in further detail (depending on the results of the delegation vote) after the 84th National FFA Convention is completed.



2011 Service Sites

The focus of the National FFA Organization's National Days of Service (NDoS) program is to actively educate FFA members and their advisors on how various community needs can be addressed, how FFA members' skills can be utilized to effect community change and how FFA members can take information learned at one community service site to provide a similar service in their own community.

- Damar Services
- Gleaners Food Bank
- Habitat for Humanity
- Indianapolis Downtown Inc.
- Indy Parks
- Jameson Camp
- Joy's House
- Maplelawn Farmstead
- Second Helpings
- St. Vincent Depaul
- Strides to Success

GLEANERS FOOD BANK AND FFA STUDENTS SEND CHILDREN HOME WITH



By Lauren Schwab

For many students, Monday morning means a free school breakfast, ending two days of hunger pangs. Thanks to Gleaners Food Bank in Indianapolis, thousands of children won't have to experience this deprivation, because on Fridays they go home with a sack full of food for the weekend. FFA student volunteers assembled food sacks during the national FFA convention's National Days

of Service Thursday and Friday.

Gleaners mission is to end hunger by engaging individuals and communities to provide food for people in need. They will distribute an estimated 2,000 sacks of food assembled during Days of Service to more than 350 partner agencies. Cindy Hubert, president and CEO, expressed Gleaners shared belief in FFA's mission and encourages FFA members to help in their communities. "Young people should

get involved; it's a lifelong message of service," says Hubert, "We (Gleaners) need time, talent and treasure."

Volunteers are always needed and essential to the food bank's mission. Roger Teeple, FFA advisor for the Charles D. Owen FFA chapter in Black Mountain, N.C., brought his students to Gleaners Thursday to assemble sacks for children. Teeple tells his students doing little things for others can make a big difference. "One person they help today may go on to be an FFA member or go to college because of something they did," says Teeple to his students. "It's a good feeling to help people less fortunate than we are," said Shelby Nix, one of Teeple's students.

Gleaners is the single most important food source for most hunger relief agencies in central and southeastern Indiana. Food and critical grocery products are received from donations, distributors and retailers to be distributed to charities. Gleaners serve those in need, an estimated 160,900 different people of all ages, but one of their most impactful programs is BackSacks Weekend Food for Kids.

Food insecurity is defined as limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods, or limited or uncertain ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways. Children can experience this during the weekend when school meals aren't available to them. Gleaners assemble the sacks to distribute to partnering organizations such as churches and civic groups to store and deliver them to schools. BackSacks feed an estimated 70,000 different children each year. This service provides food security for children, so come Monday morning they have the energy and mental focus to learn.

Sites participating in the program report improvements in children's school attendance, behavior and self-esteem. The long-term goal of providing food security is to eliminate this stress, allowing children to be better prepared to become contributing members of the community. Hubert emphasized how food security gives children peace of mind to move on and pursue their goals. "They can focus on what they want to do, learn and move forward. It lessens stress, and there is more happiness because bellies are full," said Hubert on the BackSacks program.

The number of people experiencing food insecurity continues to rise. To learn more about Gleaners services contact Cindy Hubert, 317-927-3190 or chubert@gleaners.org. To learn more about hunger in America, visit feedingamerica.org.

Lauren Schwab is a former FFA member from Somerville, Ohio. She is a 2011 graduate of Miami University with a degree in journalism and women's studies. She is currently a first year graduate student in family studies. Contact her at schwablm@muohio.edu.





YOUR FUTURE IS AWAITING



By Kelli Fulkerson

For 45 years, the National FFA Organization has offered the National FFA Agricultural Career Show to showcase a plethora of career and college opportunities for FFA members, advisors and guests. This is a great way to spend an afternoon (or two) between walking to and from career development events or general sessions.

If you were to walk through the aisles of the Indiana Convention Center (ICC) during the national FFA convention however, it would be a slightly different experience from previous years. The ICC expanded in 2011 to over 742,075

square feet. This expansion allowed 68 new exhibitors to become part of the 2011 show, a 17 percent growth from 2010.

More than 300 diverse careers make up the industry of agriculture. The career show allows FFA members the opportunity to meet face-to-face with representatives of these companies and colleges.

Sharon Signeley, public relations manager for TransCanada, a North American energy infrastructure company and first-time careers show exhibitor, said, "Our company is extremely glad to become involved with the career show this year.

Our company hopes to utilize the talent of students that the National FFA Organization produces."

National FFA recognizes each member has a different area of interest so new for this year is the show's layout. It's divided into eight distinct career pathways. These include Agribusiness Systems, Animal Systems, Biotechnology Systems, Environmental Service Systems, Food Products and Processing Systems, Natural Resource Systems, Plant Systems, and Power, Structural and Technical Systems.

Additionally, a new AutoWorld section was added with exhibitors from various

automotive and racing industries. AutoWorld, spans more than 8,000 square feet, allowing attendees to discover their inner drive and meet with exhibitors from NASCAR, ARCA and Sprint series, NHRA, IZOD IndyCar, Drag, Funny and Midget Racing. AutoWorld helps members connect their passion for cars and trucks to an education in the auto industry. Also three different NASCAR drivers will be available onsite throughout the week.

Agriculture is consistently evolving, and many agriculture-related careers now require a vast amount of technical and scientific knowledge. Today it is more important than ever to earn a college degree or specific career training for your desired profession. For members, this is sometimes a complex and daunting decision to dive into. They not only have to choose the location of the college but also their overall career pathway. Luckily, the career show has 93 different colleges, universities and trade schools that are represented to help students make a more informed decision.

The career show not only offers opportunities for students but also for advisors. Teachers' World occupies a small section of the show and offers a variety of workshops aimed to give teachers a chance to learn more about products and topics that they can integrate into their classrooms. Across the hall, teachers can take a break in the Internet café, or participate in any one of the three interactive teacher classrooms.

Kelli Fulkerson is a junior at South Dakota State University majoring in animal science with a minor in journalism. Kelli grew up on a small diversified farm in southwest Michigan where her deeply rooted passion for agriculture and the National FFA Organization came from. You can reach her at kelli.fulkerson@jacks.sdstate.edu or through Twitter: @kelliaggirl.





NATIVE VOICES

CONNECTING CULTURES IN FFA

By Kelsey Kennedy

For Josh Moore, it all started his senior year of high school with an essay contest sponsored by the Intertribal Agriculture Council, an organization that promotes the conservation, development and use of agricultural resources for Native Americans. Soon, Moore was elected state vice president of the Arizona FFA association and was traveling all over the country to spread his message: Native Americans and their contributions to agriculture are important and these students need something like FFA in their lives.

Eventually he was working with Erica Flores, coordinator for Diversity and Inclusion for the National FFA Organization, to help plan the Native American Heritage Celebration at the 84th National FFA Convention. The celebration featured displays of Native American culture on the national convention's main stage. Also included was a round table discussion for FFA members, advisors and staff and members of the Native American community, including Janie Simms Hipp, senior tribal advisor to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and the director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Office of Tribal Relations. The goal was to give FFA members a taste of Native American culture and educate them about diversity within FFA. Moore described the challenge best: "The biggest barrier between Native Americans and the rest of FFA is misconception."

Celebrating cultures

Dazzling colors, swirling flutes and Native American dance took over the national convention stage after the last opening session on Wednesday night. The award-winning Native American musical group Brulé performed while dressed in traditional regalia. For Paul LaRouche, a member of the Lower Brule Sioux tribe and the founder of Brulé, their performance at national convention was "combination outreach, combination education and part rock concert." While the performance was entertaining for the audience, it was not without purpose. "It is our hope that they'll walk away with a new perception of Native America," LaRouche said. "There are so many misconceptions about the culture, even to this day."

LaRouche and Brulé have performed the world over, bringing their culture and a message of peace to audiences. While national convention may not be the Peace Palace in the Netherlands, where Brulé performed in 2000, the group sees the visit as an opportunity to help create change for Native Americans involved in agriculture.

LaRouche said, "We couldn't be more thrilled, and there couldn't be a better place to work on an ambassadorship between Native America and mainstream America." He also hoped it would be a call to action. "I believe that there is something long and lasting that Native America has yet to contribute to FFA and what we would call the agriculture industry."

Wednesday night's performance was followed by a blanket presentation the next day. During Thursday's second general session, Chief Earl Old Person of the Blackfeet Nation, and a former FFA member, presented ceremonial woolen Pendleton blankets to the National FFA Officers and National FFA Advisor, Dr. Steve Brown. Each blanket featured special designs representing tribes from across the country and was a gesture of respect and unity. Dr. Brown's blanket will soon be on display at the National FFA Center.

For Chief Old Person, being surrounded by blue jackets was nothing new. He was a member of the Browning, Mont., FFA Chapter in the 1940s and credits FFA with giving him skills to help him in his daily life. "Being a part of the FFA chapter gave me an experience of leadership," he said. While he learned leadership, he also had the opportunity to meet FFA members from all over the country, and he even played in the Montana FFA band. "They were rewarding because there was a lot I learned from those activities," he said. Chief Old Person, who speaks fluent Blackfeet, helped interpret for tribal elders into the 1950s. In 1954 he joined the tribal council and was declared a lifetime chief in 1978.

Changing conversations

Thursday morning, a meeting room at the Indiana Convention Center was full of FFA members, staff and members of

the Native American community. They had traveled from all over the country to discuss the future of Native American students in FFA and how to help other FFA members learn more about their culture. While Flores and Moore expected around 30 people to come, more than 100 people made their way to the round table over the course of the morning. The discussion was engaging for everyone, but the event had an especially large impact on the students. “These kids, they realized what they’re a part of,” Moore said. “It brought that sense of belonging that a lot of these kids crave.”

Hipp agreed. “There are just so many students who are hungry for an FFA or a 4-H.”

Coming to the round table was an easy choice for Hipp. “I was immediately on board,” she said. For her, getting Native American FFA members is of the utmost importance and is key to the long-term success of students and FFA. She said, “We’ve got to get the next set of ag educators to reach out to Native students. It has to be embraced as a part of the FFA curriculum and delivery model.”

Montana chapters have been integrating Native American education into their state activities for the last six years with the FFA/American Indian Program. The project was started in 2006 by Bill Jimmerson, Montana’s state FFA advisor, as an educational program to help students share their culture. Each year, chapters from across the state prepare PowerPoint presentations and dances highlighting different traditions. The winning chapter would often present at national convention, but now they are working with the diversity program at the national level. The changes in Montana have been noticeable. “After three years of this program, kids were interspersed among all of the kids because they felt like they were a part of the group. To me, that’s the best part,” Jimmerson said. While the FFA/American Indian Program is creating momentum in Montana, it is just one small step forward. Jimmerson said, “We still have a long way to go, even in Montana.”

Flores hopes to bring Montana’s spirit to the national level. With 210 chapters across the country serving students who identify as Native American, bringing together chapters that feel isolated have helped people to connect and “be with those they identify with,” said Flores. “From the start, it was about engaging those that typically aren’t.” Flores and her team put together a video and other material to be used by chapters and advocates for education both on the local and national level. The materials can even be used for states to have their own heritage celebrations. The events at national convention were just the beginning. Flores said, “The whole process has been transformational, and I know the real transformation hasn’t even begun.”



2011 AWARD RECIPIENTS



Distinguished Contributor

The Distinguished Contributor Award is the National FFA Alumni Association's highest honor to an individual, group/organization or company that has made a significant contribution to FFA Alumni.

Outstanding Scrapbook

- Gold** Stoughton FFA Alumni – Stoughton, Wis. – 1st Place Overall
- Silver** Anthony Wayne FFA Alumni – Whitehouse, Ohio
Denmark FFA Alumni – Denmark, Wis. – 3rd Place Overall
Milton FFA Alumni – Milton, Wis. – 2nd Place Overall
Northeast Jones FFA Alumni – Laurel, Miss.
- Bronze** Cascade FFA Alumni – Cascade, Iowa
Lexington FFA Alumni – Lexington, Tenn.

Outstanding Newsletter

- Gold** Denmark FFA Alumni – Denmark, Wis. – 1st Place Overall
- Silver** Anthony Wayne FFA Alumni – Whitehouse, Ohio – 2nd Place Overall
Marshall FFA Alumni – Marshall, Mich – 3rd Place Overall
- Bronze** Putnam County FFA Alumni – Palatka, Fla.

Outstanding State Newsletter

- Gold** Ohio State FFA Alumni Association – 1st Place Overall
- Silver** Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association – 2nd Place Overall

Outstanding Website

- Silver** Denmark FFA Alumni – Denmark, Wis. – 1st Place Overall
Putnam County FFA Alumni – Palatka, Fla. – 2nd Place Overall
- Bronze** Lexington FFA Alumni – Lexington, Tenn. – 3rd Place Overall

Outstanding State Website

- Gold** Ohio FFA Alumni Association – 2nd Place Overall
Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association – 1st Place Overall
- Silver** North Carolina FFA Alumni Association – 3rd Place Overall
- Bronze** Georgia FFA Alumni

Congratulations to Dalhart FFA Alumni in Texas!

Out of 143 new/reactivating affiliates this year, they were drawn as the recipient of the affiliate incentive program and receive the following:

- \$500 for **Dalhart FFA Alumni**
- \$500 for their FFA Advisor, **Mr. Bryce Hines**

We would like to make a special recognition to **Ken Seering** of Wisconsin and **William Teague** of North Carolina for 38 and 39 years respectively of recruiting alumni members since the birth of FFA Alumni.

Farm Credit



Farm Credit has been a longtime supporter of FFA. Their contributions to local FFA chapters, fairs, state associations and other FFA-related activities have impacted thousands of students. Farm Credit expanded their support to include the National FFA Alumni and over the past four years has donated \$100,000 to support the FFA Alumni Development Conference. This financial support enables the association to keep conference fees affordable for participants and provide quality resources and presenters. FFA Alumni across the nation are grateful to Farm Credit and their employees for supporting and advocating for agricultural education and FFA.

United Country Auction Services



Mike Jones, President
Shawn Terrel, Vice President
Kevin Oldham, Vice President,
United Country Marketing Services

Since 2007, United Country Auction Services (UCAS) has conducted the National FFA Alumni live benefit auction. As a professional auctioneer company, UCAS leadership knew their company could bring professionalism to the live auction and help generate even more funds for student scholarships. Since offering their in-kind services in 2007, UCAS has helped the auction rise to new heights. UCAS provided the ability to simultaneously broadcast the live auction on the web for people to bid from home. On average the online catalog receives 5,000 views and 40 additional bidders the night of the auction. In addition to their onsite services, UCAS annually donates staff time and resources to the creation of auction promotional materials. The partnership with UCAS has not only benefited the auction at the national level, but also created connections between local FFA chapters and UCAS offices.

Legion of Merit

Central Region

Name and State	Years	Name and State	Years	Name and State	Years	Name and State	Years
Jared Callahan – Iowa	1	Josie McQuillen – Iowa	1	Thelma Behnke – Wis.	10	Larry A. Lader – Wis.	3
Nick Callahan – Iowa	3	Jane Schmidt – Iowa	3	Floyd F. Behnke – Wis.	13	Sandra Maerny – Wis.	1
Steve Deidrich – Iowa	1	Steve Stoll – Iowa	7	Kathy Breunig – Wis.	1	Harold Seebecker – Wis.	22
Penny Derry – Iowa	2	Julie Weirup – Iowa	1	Virgie Damp – Wis.	7	Janice Seebecker – Wis.	18
Alison Green – Iowa	1	Joyce E. Sayre – Mo.	27	John Elvekrog – Wis.	7	Ken Seering – Wis.	38
Clyde Johnson – Iowa	1	Leah Sayre – Mo.	3	James Grasee – Wis.	2	Jan Stranz – Wis.	6
Jason Kurt – Iowa	1	Lorene Bailey – Mont.	1	Joyce Gust – Wis.	6	Eugene Sperry – Wis.	3
Milt Luckstead, Sr. – Iowa	1	Yova Lynn – Mont.	1	Tracy Heinbuch – Wis.	2	Cheryl Van Rite – Wis.	1
Sharon Martin – Iowa	3	Darcy Street – Mont.	1	Darrell Hines – Wis.	19	Jerry Wendt – Wis.	8
Cody McLees – Iowa	2	Darlene Arneson – Wis.	7	Robert Keough – Wis.	6	Robert Wolfe – Wis.	7

Eastern Region

Name and State	Years	Name and State	Years	Name and State	Years	Name and State	Years
Ellery Sinclair – Conn.	12	Darryl Walker – Md.	1	Jacob Bruner – Ohio	1	Sean Nolan – Ohio	1
Bill Wesson – Ill.	1	Putt Willett – Md.	1	Colleen Cape – Ohio	3	Mitzi Martin – Ohio	5
Ted Hughes – Ill.	1	Jason Manke – Mich.	1	Doris Disher – Ohio	11	Lexie Poulson – Ohio	15
Lucy Whitehead – Ind.	3	Deborah Johlin–Bach – Ohio	6	Les Disher – Ohio	5	John Poulson – Ohio	7
David Miller – Md.	3	Rebecca Beck – Ohio	1	Michael Gower – Ohio	1	Steve Sewell – Ohio	1
.	.	.	.	Kevin Jennings – Ohio	1	Vicky Ryan – Ohio	11

Southern Region

Name and State	Years	Name and State	Years	Name and State	Years	Name and State	Years
Gary Lee – Fla.	19	Jim East – Ga.	11	Cynthia Kennedy – Ga.	1	Fran Surette – Ga.	1
John Barnes – Ga.	13	Sharon Gary – Ga.	1	Gary Kesler – Ga.	3	David Overcash – N.C.	6
Virgil Blalock – Ga.	1	Charlotte Gilman – Ga.	1	Bill Lott – Ga.	5	William Teague – N.C.	39
Joy Carter – Ga.	7	Johnny Jones – Ga.	2	Chris Mullinax – Ga.	8	Michael Stanford – Tenn.	2
Jamison Cruse – Ga.	1	Mona Jones – Ga.	1	George Parks – Ga.	6	Jerry Wood – Tenn.	4

Western Region

Name and State	Years
Sue Wagner – Ore.	1

Stars & Blue Blazers

3 Stars plus Blazer

Florida	Minnesota	Oregon
Illinois	Mississippi	Texas
Iowa	Missouri	Wisconsin
Kentucky	Ohio	

3 Star

Indiana
Louisiana

2 Star

Alabama
Arkansas

1 Star

Arizona





State FFA Officer Teams 100% Lifetime Members

Arkansas	Mississippi	Virginia
Georgia	Nebraska	Washington
Illinois	North Carolina	Wisconsin
Iowa	Oregon	
Kentucky	Tennessee	

11% Membership Challenge

The National FFA Alumni Council challenged each state to increase the number of new/reactivating affiliates in their states by 11%. These states met the 2011 Membership Challenge:

Alabama	Minnesota	Texas
Arizona	Mississippi	Virginia
Georgia	New Mexico	Washington
Illinois	New York	
Iowa	North Carolina	
Kentucky	Ohio	
Louisiana	South Carolina	

Congratulations to Cody Lynn Koch of Illinois!

Cody's name was drawn at the 2011 National FFA Convention from more than 500 American FFA Degree recipients who joined the National FFA Alumni Association to receive the following:
\$1,000 college scholarship

Outstanding Pioneer Affiliate

Silver

Dundee Middle School FFA Alumni – Dundee, Fla. – 1st Place Overall



Outstanding Affiliates

Gold

Cissna Park FFA Alumni – Cissna Park, Ill. – 2nd Place Overall

Lexington FFA Alumni – Lexington, Tenn.

Stoughton FFA Alumni – Stoughton, Wis. – 1st Place Overall

WaKeeney FFA Alumni – WaKeeney, Kan.

West Rowan FFA Alumni – Mt. Ulla, N.C. – 3rd Place Overall

Silver

Alliance FFA Alumni – Alliance, Neb.

Bushnell–Prairie City FFA Alumni – Bushnell, Ill.

Caledonia FFA Alumni – Caledonia, Mich.

Gallatin FFA Alumni – Belgrade, Mont.

Marshall FFA Alumni – Marshall, Mich.

Mt. Vernon FFA Alumni – Mt. Vernon, Ill.

Washington Co. FFA Alumni – Washington, Kan.

Waterloo FFA Alumni – Waterloo, Ill.

Bronze

Cascade FFA Alumni – Cascade, Iowa

Eldorado FFA Alumni – Eldorado, Ill.

Homer FFA Alumni – Homer, Mich.

Independence FFA Alumni – Coldwater, Miss.

Parke County FFA Alumni – Livingston, Mont.

Sebring FFA Alumni – Sebring, Fla.

Seneca FFA Alumni – Seneca, Ill.

South Rowan FFA Alumni – China Grove, N.C.

Outstanding State FFA Alumni Associations

Silver

Georgia FFA Alumni Association

Illinois FFA Alumni Association – 1st Place Overall

Bronze

Montana FFA Alumni Association

Additional Membership Awards

Affiliate Most Members

Denmark FFA Alumni – Denmark, Wis. – 569 members

State Most Members

1st Place – Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association – 8,646 members

2nd Place – Illinois FFA Alumni Association – 5,300 members

Most Life Members

Denmark FFA Alumni – Denmark, Wis. – 552 lifetime members

Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association – 5,127 lifetime members

Largest Percent Membership Growth

3rd Place – Alabama FFA Alumni Association – 46% increase

2nd Place – Utah FFA Alumni Association – 58% increase

1st Place – Louisiana FFA Alumni Association – 141% increase

Percent FFA Alumni membership to FFA membership

3rd Place – Montana FFA Alumni Association – 34%

2nd Place – Rhode Island FFA Alumni Association – 36%

1st Place – Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association – 47%



Local Program Support Grant Recipients

Chapter and State	Project
Baker County Sr. FFA – Fla.	Poultry Barn Improvements
Dixie Middle FFA – Fla.	Dressing in the Right Step
Martinez FFA	Promoting Ag Ed to Strengthen the Local Program
Ocoee Middle School FFA	Poultry Coop Redo
Pine Ridge FFA	Ag Communications Resources
Pike County High FFA	School Chicken Coop Project
Toombs County FFA	Farm Day Community Garden
Eldorado FFA	Hydroponics in Agriculture
Carlisle County FFA	Ag Power, Structural & Tech Systems Program Safety
Homer FFA	Greenhouse Improvements
Pettisville FFA	GIS Readiness Through FarmWorks Software
Ontario High School FFA	Official Dress Borrowing Bank
Portland High School FFA	In a Small, Small Pond
Chuckey–Doak FFA	Lighting Up the Farm
Rouse FFA	Community Gardening Project
Brookwood FFA	Food Science, Learning by Doing
Hustisford FFA	Promotion and Communication
Janesville Parker FFA	Introduction to Veterinary Science Labs
Merrill FFA	Infinite Member Potential
Weston FFA	Biotechnology in Agriculture

Local Program Support Grants

Sponsored by



Outstanding Achievement Award Recipients

The Outstanding Achievement Award is the National FFA Alumni Association's highest award presented to an individual. The purpose of this award is to recognize FFA Alumni members for outstanding service to agricultural education, FFA and FFA Alumni. This is a very prestigious award with no more than three awards presented in a given year.



Gary Lee – Sebring, Fla.

As one of eight children, Gary is no stranger to hard work and knowing how to pull your own weight. He graduated from Branford High School and received an Associates of Art from Lake City Community College. Gary then attended the University of Florida and received

his bachelor of science and master's degrees. He went on to teach agricultural education at Fort Meade High School. Gary has a long-standing tradition of agriculture teachers in his family and is one of three brothers to teach agriculture in Florida.

Gary continued his career as an agricultural consultant for the Florida Department of Education and stepped into the role of coordinator of vocational education, Highlands County School Board, and taught part-time at Sebring Middle & Sebring High School.

Now Gary is semi-retired and yet still acting as the CTE resource teacher with Highlands County School Board.

Gary has been a dedicated advocate and supporter of FFA and has been honored for his efforts. He received the Honorary State Farmer Degree and the Honorary American Farmer Degree. Gary serves many chapters and has been recognized by seven with the Honorary Chapter Degree. The Florida FFA Alumni Association awarded him the Outstanding Florida FFA Alumni Award. Gary has coached numerous State Parliamentary Procedure award-winning teams. He has served as both president and secretary/treasurer on the Florida FFA Alumni Board of Directors. He has received the Legion of Merit Citation for 19 years and attended many FFA Alumni national conventions as a voting delegate.

Gary never stops his quest to benefit FFA and agricultural education and believes he is a lifelong student. Attending the last four FFA Alumni development conferences has helped him become a better advocate.



William J. Lott – Braselton, Ga.

For almost three decades, William J. "Bill" Lott has been employed by the University of Georgia for the past 29 years. He holds a position with the School of Forestry and Natural Resources as the assistant forestry resources manager. One of his many duties and responsibilities is to serve as one of the "keepers" of the 330 acres designated as Thompson Mills Forest, which was deeded to the

University of Georgia in 1980 by Lenox T. Thornton of Braselton, Ga. The forest was named in honor of the Thompson Mills

community, a prominent agricultural center at the turn of the century.

Bill is a lifetime charter member of three FFA Alumni affiliates: East Jackson, Jackson and Jefferson City FFA alumni. Lott is also a lifetime member of Young Farmers; he was president of the local Lion's Club and is currently deacon in his church. Bill was an honorary page to two state representatives.

Bill's leadership, endless volunteering, fundraising efforts and the outstanding service he has provided over the years is now recognized and rewarded by his peers. The passion Bill has for FFA/FFA Alumni is helping students become all they can be and making sure others know they can be a part of FFA Alumni and contribute to the success of agriculture without having been an FFA member.



Jeff Nofzinger – Wauseon, Ohio

Jeff Nofzinger has been a Life Member of the National FFA Alumni (Pettisville) since June 2006. Jeff is a fulltime grain farmer and also finishes out steers. Jeff grew up on a farm; his father milked cows so he

learned at an early age the value of a hard day's work. Jeff is also employed by Clover Leaf Cold Storage and works in the insurance department there. His true passion is agriculture and farming, and he wouldn't have it any other way.

Jeff joined FFA and continued his passion for agriculture and leadership. He is a member of Pork Producers and Farm Bureau. Jeff began his affiliation with FFA Alumni when his eldest son was a junior in high school (now 27 years) and has continued to be active since. Jeff's passion for FFA/FFA Alumni is watching kids excel in things they didn't think they could do. He enjoys going to FFA events and also conventions watching students compete, learn and win.

Jeff has spent many hours over the years volunteering his time and energy to FFA/FFA Alumni. He has given outstanding service to his local chapter and affiliate. Jeff is definitely someone who carries out the Alumni Vision to create a world where people and communities can grow and develop to their fullest potential.

Convention VIP

The Convention VIP was selected from the 2011 Legion of Merit Recipients for an elite convention experience with red carpet treatment.

Colleen Cape—Edgerton, Ohio



Colleen and her husband (Stan) live on a grain farm in northwest Ohio. Colleen has two children, Austin and Krista. For the past 18 years she has served as the high school aide

for Edgerton Local Schools. She holds the office of fiscal officer of Milford Township and treasurer of Edgerton FFA Alumni. Colleen's strong attachment to FFA started as a member. Her son received the first American Degree at Edgerton, and her daughter received hers two years later.

My husband and I watched how the FFA organization impacted our children's lives. There is no better organization to challenge and create a confident young person than FFA. We formed our alumni charter in 2005, and it has grown steadily every year. With all the budgetary problems facing the schools today, I feel it is imperative that we form a strong voice to keep our local FFA chapters active and thriving!

Ohio Legion of Merit Recipients Make Clean Sweep!

1st Place was the **Convention VIP** experience.

Here are the second and third place winners:

Mitzi Martin, Ohio – \$100 FFA gift card

Deborah L. Johlin-Bach, Ohio – iPod

National FFA Alumni Benefit Auctions

State Basket Contest

Best Overall: Oregon FFA Alumni – \$550 Washington Leadership Conference Scholarship

President's Choice: North Carolina FFA Alumni – \$200 grant toward FFA Alumni Development Conference registration

People's Choice: Georgia FFA Alumni – \$250 Washington Leadership Conference Scholarship

Thank You to our 2010–2011 Corporate Members

D'Ercole Farm & Garden Center—Norwood, N.J.

Farmland Ampride—Oakes, N.D.

Industrial Railroad Service Inc.—Gray, La.

International Agri-Center/Word Ag Expo—Tulare, Calif.

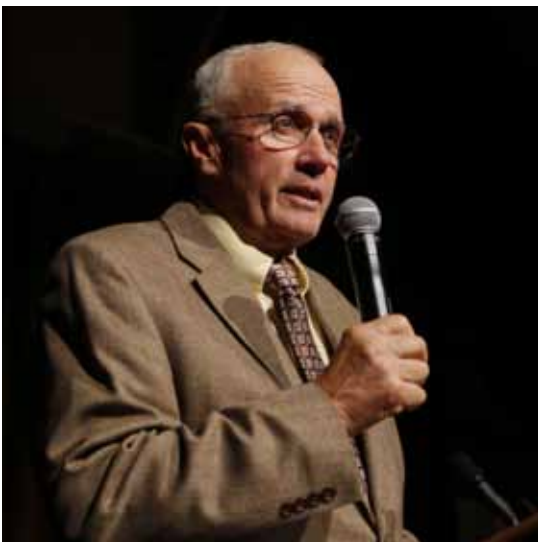
James Valley Grain—Verona, N.D.

Pender Grain—Pender, Neb.

Snader Farms, LLC—Windsor, Md.

Wheat Growers—Oakes, N.D.

Alumni Candid





AMERICAN DEGREE RECIPIENTS



ALABAMA: Christopher Black, Lawrence County FFA; Justen Brothers, Douglas FFA; Hunter Garnett, Danville FFA; Andrea Michelle Pittman, Eufaula FFA; Will Wright, Rogersville FFA

ALASKA: Corinne Ogle, Homer FFA

ARIZONA: Colton Brown, Amphitheater FFA; Wyatt L. Carpenter, Coolidge FFA; Heather Marie DeLeon Chumbley, Desert Ridge FFA; Kayla Joy Colvin, Red Mountain FFA; Kylie Rose Davis, Mesquite FFA; Ethan John Holt, Buckeye FFA; Cheyanne Keith, Benson FFA; Mariah Kerr, Buckeye FFA; Kori King, Buckeye FFA; Kolt B. McKinney, Safford FFA; Luke Menges, Safford FFA; Kelli Porter, Safford FFA; Jenna Lynn Schulte, Red Mountain FFA; Sylvain Simpson, Benson FFA; Steven E. Terrell, Elfrida FFA; Macey Wildermuth, Yuma FFA; Abigail Yepiz, Yuma FFA; Jessica Zamudio, Benson FFA

ARKANSAS: Hattie Anastasio, Elkins FFA; Justin Craig Bacon, Har-Ber FFA; Andrew Bolton, Lake Hamilton FFA; Andi Carlton, Valley Springs FFA; Amanda Crangle, Bismarck FFA; Dustin Dixon, Siloam Springs FFA; Mollie Dykes, Lake Hamilton FFA; Brian Heath Ertle, Guy-Perkins FFA; Andrew Haggard, Searcy FFA; Jessica Hefley, Lincoln FFA; Mason Hudson, Searcy FFA; Jessica Johnson, Lincoln FFA; Samantha Leona Maestas, Lincoln FFA; Ellie Morales, Lincoln FFA; Ashley Nelson, Valley Springs FFA; Trapper Padgett, Conway FFA; Kayla Samples, Emerson FFA; Wesley Clayton Smith, Mountain Home FFA; Meghan Oleta Sommers, Morrilton FFA; Tessa Souers, Valley Springs FFA; James Ira Stone, Delight FFA; Reilly Thurow, Lincoln FFA

CALIFORNIA: Caroline Renee Adam, Santa Maria - Righetti FFA; Dominic Agresti-Assali, Turlock FFA; Memorie Monique Aguerre, Chino FFA; Hugo Aguilar, Calexico FFA; Trevor Jonathan Airola, Bret Harte FFA; Jordan Elizabeth Albiani, Elk Grove FFA; Christian Alexandre, Del Norte FFA; Natalie Michelle Allen, Carpinteria FFA; David Almaraz, Wasco FFA; Ethan Alvares, Turlock-Pitman FFA; Colby Anderson, Hamilton City FFA; Lindsey Anderson, Escalon FFA; Allison Andrews, Chino FFA; Catherine Anstead, Winters FFA; Cory A. Arlt, Modesto-Enochs FFA; Aubree Atwood, Turlock-Pitman FFA; Jerry Avila, Modesto-Enochs FFA; Amanda Jean Bagwell, Oakhurst-Yosemite FFA; Breanna Baker, Nipomo FFA; Garrett Baker, Exeter FFA; Michael E. Baker, Modesto-Enochs FFA; Devin Baptista, Hilmar FFA; Ariel Therese Barcelos, Chowchilla FFA; Kaitlyn Beach, King City FFA; Tyler Beck, Hanford FFA; Juan D. Bedolla, Santa Maria FFA; Jade Bell, Porterville FFA; Kathleen Bello, Morgan Hill-Sobrato FFA; Ashley Evette Benitez, Lindsay FFA; Breanna Aleis Benton, Bret Harte FFA; Michael Berner, Hughson FFA; Staci Ann Bettencourt, Willows FFA; Dominic Bettini, Madera FFA; Erica Bianchi, Hollister FFA; Kateyn Bielen, Nevada Union FFA; Nicole Billington, Kingsburg FFA; Joseph Alan Bishop, Wheatland FFA; Matt Bonds, Porterville FFA; Stephanie Bonomini, Eureka FFA; Victoria Vanessa Bowman, Fowler FFA; Allexandra Brandon, Kingsburg FFA; Mandy Brazil, Petaluma FFA; Kendra Brennan, Sonora FFA; Morgan Bressler, Colusa FFA; Colby Brown, Hayfork FFA; Rosebud Brumley, Escalon FFA; Ashley Budde, Morgan Hill FFA; Kendal Butterfield, Nevada Union FFA; Olivia Caetano, Hanford FFA; Joan M. Cain, Arbutle FFA; Allison Cameron, El Centro FFA; Rudy Carbajal, Calexico FFA; Jessica Cardon, Bakersfield-Foothill FFA; Christa Cardoza, Tulare FFA; Miguel Carrillo, Hamilton City FFA; Chad Carter, Kingsburg FFA; Emily Cary, Lakeside-El Capitan FFA; Brittany Cavaletto, Madera FFA; Christina Cefalu, Morgan Hill-Sobrato FFA; Emily Cehrs, Clovis FFA; Adriana Chaffin, Kern Valley FFA; Maddy Chaney, Porterville FFA; Samuel Patrick Cheda, Petaluma FFA; Holly May Chesnut, Delta FFA; James Christopher Clawson, Selma FFA; Josina Juliet Conant, East Nicolaus FFA; Matt Conant, East Nicolaus FFA; Joseph Conley, Corcoran FFA; Ashley Correia, Lemoore FFA; Steven Cox, Nipomo FFA; Jessica Crawford, Norco FFA; Amy Crockett, Firebaugh FFA; John Crum, Exeter FFA; Hugo Cruz, Florin FFA; Ralph (Rocco) Cunningham, Petaluma FFA; Tré Davis, Porterville FFA; Austin E. Day, Turlock-Pitman FFA; Cameron Delsol, Woodland FFA; Ryan Denier, Galt FFA; Seth Dewey, Hanford FFA; L. Ryan Dias, Hanford FFA; Alejandra Dimas, Morgan Hill FFA; Juana Doroteo, Wasco FFA; Justin Dorris, Delta FFA; Matthew Doughty, Salinas FFA; Lauren Droogh, Lemoore FFA; Ashleigh Dunn, Santa Rosa FFA; "Dusty" Christine L. Dyer, Woodland FFA; Jayson Edgerle, Wasco FFA; Daniel Egleston, Reedley FFA; Kyle Eisenga, Ripon FFA; Casey Erickson, Porterville FFA; Nicole Ervin, Porterville FFA; Kenda Esperson, Rio Vista FFA; John Esteves, Ripon FFA; Meagan Evangelho, Lemoore FFA; Val Evans, Hanford FFA; Kaleb Eye, Chowchilla FFA; Elizabeth Farias, Parlier FFA; Landon Fernandes, Tulare FFA; Matthew Fields, Ripon FFA; Erik Figueroa, Wasco FFA; Jake Figueroa, Corcoran FFA; Javier Flores, Corcoran FFA; Vincent Flores, Santa Maria - Righetti FFA; Dustin Franco, Hollister FFA; Amie Nicole French, Bret Harte FFA; Joshua Fridlund, Kingsburg FFA; Jason Gagnon, Exeter FFA; Cody Gambriel, Oakhurst-Yosemite FFA; Katelyn Garbani, Pine Valley-Mountain Empire, Jacquelynne Garcia, Foothill-Bakersfield FFA; Juan Garcia, Littlerock FFA; Ryan Garcia, Hughson FFA; Kierston Gardner, Kingsburg FFA; Blake Ginder, Templeton FFA; Jacob Gomez, Tulare FFA; Justin Gonzales, Le Grand FFA; Silvestre Gonzales, Parlier FFA; Manny Gonzalez, Tulare FFA; Ben Granholm, Nevada Union FFA; Brittani Green, Chino FFA; Erica Greenmyer, Lodi FFA; Hanna Greenmyer, Lodi FFA; Jared Gregory, Tulare FFA; Alexandria Michelle Guerra, Santa Maria - Righetti FFA; Janessa Guerrero, Lemoore FFA; Clayton Shane Guillemin, Oakhurst-Yosemite FFA; Jacob Gwerder, Arbutle FFA; Chad Hanse, Hanford FFA; Amy Elizabeth Hansen, Fowler FFA; Kelee Harding, Pioneer Valley FFA; Christopher Harless, King City FFA; Mak Hays, Hanford FFA; Cheyenne

Hefley, Sierra FFA; Matthew Henriksen, Kingsburg FFA; Dale Henry, Hanford FFA; Nolan Hildebrand, Templeton FFA; Austin Hill, Delta FFA; Brent Hosfeldt, Porterville FFA; Loretta Howard, Orland FFA; Andrew Huffman, Tulare FFA; Jared Hughes, Porterville FFA; Alejandro Huitzil, King City FFA; Makenzie Humphrey, Lodi FFA; Sara Hylton, Eureka FFA; Keylee R. Jacobs, Dixon FFA; Robert Jansen, Turlock FFA; Miguel Jimenez, Laton FFA; Daniel Jones, Hamilton City FFA; Monica Jorge, Gustine FFA; Ethan Junio, Tulare FFA; Ryan Kasson, Nipomo FFA; Shelbi Kautz, Kingsburg FFA; Briana Kehn, Sierra FFA; Austin Knapp, Dixon FFA; Dillon Knight, Firebaugh FFA; Drew Knight, Hamilton City FFA; Robert Konda, Porterville FFA; Nathan Ryan Kuester, Sonora-La Habra FFA; Kaitlyn Lane, Porterville FFA; Brittany Lasalle, Nipomo FFA; Jacob L. R. Lauritzen, Indio FFA; Brandon Lee, Hanford FFA; Dylan H. Linhares, Turlock FFA; Lizardo Lopez, Lemoore FFA; Hannah Lovfald, Eureka FFA; Matt Lusby, Chino FFA; Joe Madrid, Bakersfield-Foothill FFA; Margery Evelyn Magill, Marysville FFA; Andrew Mancini, Kingsburg FFA; Alexander Mandrusiak, Poway FFA; Marissa Mankins, Arroyo Grande FFA; German Marquez, Tulare FFA; Sarah Martin, Morgan Hill-Sobrato FFA; Melissa Maultsby, Fallbrook FFA; Madison Maximo, Pine Valley-Mountain Empire, Clint McClure, Tulare FFA; Lauren McCorkle, Hamilton City FFA; Sylvia Medeiros, Gustine FFA; Tiffany Mekeel, Porterville FFA; Kalena Mellott, Lemoore FFA; Matthew Mellott, Lakeside-El Capitan FFA; Kyle M. Mendes, Modesto FFA; Amanda Meneses, Tulare FFA; Sam Merwin, Delta FFA; Hayden Meyers, Colusa FFA; Sierra June Meyers, Madera FFA; Loren Migliazzo, Atwater-Buhach Colony FFA; Kaitlyn Milam, Ripon FFA; Sean Miller, Reedley FFA; Stephen Miller, Tracy FFA; Cassie Scot Miner, Riverdale FFA; Manuel Miranda, Santa Maria FFA; Napoleon Miranda, King City FFA; Chelsea Christina Molina, Elk Grove FFA; Erin Leigh Monahan, Petaluma FFA; Tim Montzongo, Delta FFA; Nickolas Moran, Florin FFA; Kelsey Morrell, Lemoore FFA; Sarah Ann Morris, Poway FFA; Lauren Moss, Elk Grove FFA; Timothy Ian Mullion, Sonora-La Habra FFA; James Myers, Laton FFA; Paige Nafziger, Woodland-Pioneer FFA; Frances Bradley Negranza, Campbell FFA; Zack Nichols, Arroyo Grande FFA; Karly Adriana Nieuwkoop, Chowchilla FFA; Desiree Nihart, Poway FFA; Marlisa Nordstrom, Fullerton-Sunny Hills FFA;

Addison Nunes, *Tulare FFA*; Alexa Nunes, *Gustine FFA*; Lianne Michele Nunes, *Tamales FFA*; Phillip John Nunes, *Hanford FFA*; Patricio Orozco, *Santa Maria FFA*; Ramon Orozco, *Santa Maria FFA*; Kara Orr, *Los Banos FFA*; Jared Overmyer, *Lemoore FFA*; Breanne Pacheco, *Hanford FFA*; Hannah Pacheco, *Tulare FFA*; Michael Forrest Pankey, *Arroyo Grande FFA*; Quinton Parker, *Firebaugh FFA*; Eric Parsons, *Santa Rosa FFA*; Shae R. Paulo, *Hanford FFA*; Vincent Pellegrini, *Galt FFA*; Alyssa Perez, *Modesto-Enochs FFA*; Bronté Louise Phillips, *Livermore FFA*; Brooke Elizabeth Phillips, *Nipomo FFA*; Brittany N. Pinney, *Denair FFA*; Devon Pitts, *Templeton FFA*; John Kyle Quinn, *Elk Grove-Pleasant Grove FFA*; Alex Ramirez, *Arroyo Grande FFA*; Megan Ratto, *Ripon FFA*; Oscar Raya, *Wasco FFA*; James Regusci Jr., *St. Helena FFA*; Cole Rinehart, *Clovis FFA*; Daniel Paul Rivas, *Vista FFA*; Jonathan Rodriguez, *Turlock-Pitman FFA*; Jonathan Sterling Rodriguez, *Exeter FFA*; Garrett Roth, *Templeton FFA*; Chelsea Ryea, *Bakersfield-Foothill FFA*; David Salazar, *King City FFA*; Lori Jean Sanborn, *Camarillo FFA*; Dariela Sanchez, *Soledad FFA*; Gabriel Sanchez, *Madera FFA*; Kayla M. Sandoval, *Exeter FFA*; Afton M. Sawyer, *Paso Robles FFA*; Analiese Rose Scrivano, *Bakersfield FFA*; Kelsey Sears, *Bakersfield-North FFA*; Blake Shannon, *Porterville FFA*; Ellis Sheldon, *Hanford FFA*; Sonnie Shew, *Porterville FFA*; Alexis Silva, *Galt FFA*; Ethan Silva, *Lemoore FFA*; Mathew Sinclair, *Loomis-Del Oro FFA*; Maninder Singh, *Laton FFA*; Emilee Smith, *Nevada Union FFA*; Jarod Christopher Smith, *Fowler FFA*; Monica Soares, *Turlock FFA*; Nicole Sonne, *Templeton FFA*; Morgan Sousa, *Tulare FFA*; Kevy Souza, *Santa Maria - Righetti FFA*; Katherine Spendlove, *Sanger FFA*; Joel Talbot, *Ripon FFA*; Brittney Thomas, *Turlock-Pitman FFA*; Grace Renata Thomas, *Lebec-Frazier Mountain FFA*; Jacob Anthony Thomas, *Laton FFA*; Shelby Wynonna Thomas, *Lebec-Frazier Mountain FFA*; Tamara Tollison, *Exeter FFA*; Kristyn Torres, *Hanford FFA*; David Remington Kaspar, *Hayfork FFA*; Chelsea VanEpps, *Corcoran FFA*; Jessica Vazquez, *Cottonwood-West Valley FFA*; Jonathan Velazquez, *Santa Maria - Righetti FFA*; Matt Vierra, *Templeton FFA*; Savannah Volkoff, *Kerman FFA*; Kate-lynn Wagner, *Lakeside-El Capitan FFA*; Alexander Waite, *Livingston FFA*; Cody Wallace, *Fullerton-Sunny Hills FFA*; Briana Wallash, *Morgan Hill-Sobrato FFA*; Robert Neal Walther, *Golden West FFA*; Sydney Westbrook, *Dos Palos FFA*; Bastiaan Weststeyn, *Ceres FFA*; Matthew Whitbey, *Shafter FFA*; Ashlee White, *Sanger FFA*; Rachel White, *St. Helena FFA*; Elizabeth Wilson, *Shafter FFA*; Lee Wisecarver, *Hanford FFA*; Connor Wolford, *Santa Ynez FFA*; Steven Zimmerman, *Oakhurst-Yosemite FFA*; Taylor Zumstein, *Fallbrook FFA*

COLORADO: Aeron Acott, *Cortez FFA*; Kyra Adams, *Alamosa FFA*; Shannon Marie Baylie, *Weld Central FFA*; Cody J. Beauchamp, *Las Animas FFA*; Andrew Blom, *Lone Star FFA*; David Caddy, *Montrose FFA*; Brandon Carmin, *Greeley West FFA*; Brett Carroll, *Meeker FFA*; Katie Christensen, *Brush FFA*; Julia Cothren, *Platte Valley FFA*; Elizabeth Dill, *Ft Morgan FFA*; Jordan Eckert, *Wiley FFA*; Jordan Fedde, *Fowler FFA*; Stephan Geu, *Sterling FFA*; J. T. Gillmore, *Custer County FFA*; Danyelle Golightly, *Valley FFA*; Garrett W. Grasmick, *Rocky Ford FFA*; Ryan Gregory, *Springfield FFA*; Carson Guenzi, *Sterling FFA*; Travis Jackson, *Bennett FFA*; Jameson Johnson, *Otis FFA*; Charessa Kibler, *Montrose FFA*; Cody Kitch, *Rocky Ford FFA*; Justin Loeffler, *Valley FFA*; Joseph Long, *SoRoCo FFA*; Brad Maier, *Rocky Ford FFA*; Rebecca May, *Brush*



FFA; Robert McCall, *Lone Star FFA*; Breen McComb, *Cortez FFA*; Lauren Mertens, *New Raymer FFA*; Kevin Thomas Meyers, *Fruita FFA*; Jessica Milstein, *Hotchkiss FFA*; Rachelle Moore, *Cortez FFA*; Christina Pantle, *North Park FFA*; Rebecca Peter, *Platte Valley FFA*; Sage Rodgers, *Fruita FFA*; Megan Faye Schulte, *Eaton FFA*; Amanda S. Sipola, *Windsor FFA*; Dillon Sketers, *Bennett FFA*; Justin Souders, *Wiley FFA*; Ronnie Stahley, *Sterling FFA*; Chase Toft, *Genoa Hugo FFA*; Douglas Weirich, *Eads FFA*; Tanner Wilkins, *St. Vrain Valley FFA*; Mack Witzel, *Burlington FFA*; Raelene Wolever, *Brush FFA*; Brian Wood, *Springfield FFA*; Levi Zwirn, *Yuma FFA*

CONNECTICUT: Joshua Allyn, *Housatonic Valley FFA*; Kamilla C. Dynia, *Lyman Hall FFA*; Morgan Patricia Fields, *Lebanon Regional FFA*; Bridgette Anne Holm, *Northwestern Regional FFA*; Logan Thomas Horner, *Suffield Regional FFA*; Morgan M. Hubbard, *Suffield Regional FFA*; Cecilia Lavigne, *Lyman Hall FFA*; Matt Lefcheck, *Suffield Regional FFA*; Marissa Mackewicz, *Lebanon Regional FFA*; Hanna Mellaly, *Mattabeset FFA*; Angelina Minnocci, *Suffield Regional FFA*; Kaylyn Morrill, *Rockville FFA*; Dustyn Clifford Nelson, *Wamogo Regional FFA*; Carly Elizabeth Neumann, *Suffield Regional FFA*; Justin Pierce, *Suffield Regional FFA*; William Russ, *Housatonic Valley FFA*; Samuel J. Smyth, *Suffield Regional FFA*; Stephanie Lynne Thibault, *Northwestern Regional FFA*; Tristan Trojanoski, *Mattabeset FFA*; Rebecca Whitehead, *Glastonbury FFA*

Chieffland FFA; Aaron Dukes, *Lake Butler FFA*; Dianah C. Enochs, *Belleview FFA*; Jared Freeman, *Lake Butler FFA*; Matthew Gonzales, *South Lake FFA*; Cristina Goodfellow, *Deland FFA*; Christian Jankuhn, *South Lake FFA*; Devin L. Johnson, *Durant FFA*; Justin Curtis Johnson, *Suwannee FFA*; Lacey Lane, *Chieffland FFA*; Ashley Leonard, *Lennard FFA*; Michael Hampton Leonard, *Blountstown FFA*; Brandi Lewis, *Kathleen FFA*; Lindsay Nicole Liles, *Palmetto FFA*; Caleb Martin, *Palmetto FFA*; Valerie McKee, *Okeechobee FFA*; Riley McKenna, *Sebring FFA*; Lynsey Leighan Meharg, *JM Tate FFA*; Edwin Lawson Mozley III, *Malone FFA*; Jillian Murphy, *Coral Reef FFA*; Courtney Lynette Newsome, *Durant FFA*; Kaitlin Plante, *New Smyrna Beach FFA*; Kyle Pownall, *Deltona FFA*; Morgan N. Raines, *East Ridge FFA*; Casey Russ, *Deland FFA*; Jenifer Sapp, *South Sumter FFA*; Mariah Danelle Shelton, *Umatilla FFA*; Elise Stoddard, *New Smyrna Beach FFA*; Heather Lynn Swain, *Apopka FFA*; Zachary Coleman Sweat, *Lake Butler FFA*; Lauren Townsend, *Columbia FFA*; Kaitlin Van Heusen, *Fort White FFA*; John Levi Vann, *Lafayette FFA*; Raven Voss, *Lennard FFA*; Brittany Ware, *Sebring FFA*; Tyler Dale White, *Sneads FFA*; Charles C. Williams, *Lake Butler FFA*; Clint Williams, *Lake Butler FFA*; Trevor A. Williams, *Blountstown FFA*; Anna Williamson, *Keystone Heights FFA*; Margaret Wilson, *West Orange FFA*; Kelly Yarbrough, *Sebring FFA*

GEORGIA: Stephen Alan Aaron, *Gilmer County FFA*; Caleb Ayers, *Dawson County FFA*; Justin Banks, *Gilmer County FFA*; Amber Bruner, *Cook County FFA*; Will Burnette, *Jeff Davis FFA*; Katherine Lee Claxton, *Perry FFA*; Thomas Coggins, *North Oconee FFA*; Bo Corbett, *Echols County FFA*; Zachary Crowe, *Cass FFA*; Zachary Dalton, *White County FFA*; Audrey Lea Davis, *Bainbridge FFA*; Jedd Davis, *Colquitt County FFA*; Paula Tracy DeVane, *Gordon Central FFA*; Randall Ellis, *Early County FFA*; Alli Gainer, *Jeff Davis FFA*; Chelsea Garner, *Treutlen County FFA*; Gordon Grizzle, *Franklin County FFA*; Kalie M. Hall, *Franklin County FFA*; William A. Hand, *Appling County FFA*; Dustin R. Hart, *Colquitt County FFA*; Justin Eugene Hart, *Colquitt County FFA*; Ryan Highsmith, *Echols County FFA*; Jacob Cody Holmes, *Sonoraville FFA*; Joseph Johnson, *Gilmer County FFA*; Bethany Kittle, *Northwest Whitfield FFA*; Charlie Lindsey IV, *Colquitt County FFA*; Nathan Lisenby, *Seminole County FFA*; Nadine Evelynann Loitz, *Screven County FFA*; Sarah Elizabeth





Loughridge, Murray County FFA; Peyton Mitchell, Oconee County FFA; Zach Morris, Seminole County FFA; Amber Overton, Thomson FFA; Shelly Patton, Madison County FFA; Ethan Cody Phillips, Franklin County FFA; Ben Pruitt, Dawson County FFA; Cameron Sanford, Gilmer County FFA; Windell Sapp, Jeff Davis FFA; Kale Scott, Dawson County FFA; Cody D. Seagraves, Madison County FFA; Clayton Joseph Sellers, Colquitt County FFA; Nathan Thomas Silvers, Gilmer County FFA; Ryan Smith, North Oconee FFA; Jessica Leigh Spicer, Berrien County FFA; Morgan Leah Spivey, West Laurens FFA; Tera Teal, Upson-Lee FFA; Andrew Teasley, Northwest Whitfield FFA; Clayton Thornton, North Oconee FFA; Steven Andrew Thornton, Gordon Central FFA; Katherine Throne, LaGrange FFA; Cameron Heath Vaughn, West Laurens FFA; Jordyn Ventura, Stephens County FFA; Meaghan T. Walters, Effingham County FFA; Chase Ware, Rockdale Career Academy FFA; Austin W. Wright, Gilmer County FFA; Ronald Tye Wynn, Colquitt County FFA

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FFA; James A. Nasados Jr., Meridian FFA; Brett Stuart Nesbitt, Weiser FFA; Ethan Parkin, Burley FFA; Tierra Permamn, American Falls FFA; Cole Peterson, Burley FFA; Samuel T. Powell, Middleton FFA; Jacob Lamont Pugmire, Preston FFA; Jessica Reynolds, Kuna FFA; Kaila Ring, Buhl FFA; Justin Ruhl, Meridian FFA; Jessica Lynn Schlund, Castleford FFA; Tyler Simmons, Middleton FFA; Connor White, New Plymouth FFA; Amanda Wilder, Meridian FFA; Paige Wray, Shelley FFA; Allen Wysocki, Middleton FFA

ILLINOIS: Ted Ballard, Carrollton FFA; McKennon Biers, Mendota FFA; Nicholas Boehl, Olney FFA; Jacob Bough, Charleston FFA; Kathryn Brannan, Carrollton FFA; Shannon Breen, Tuscola FFA; Caroline Bremer, Vienna FFA; Ellie Bretzman, Clifton Central FFA; Meredith Brinkman, Liberty FFA; Amy Marie Britton, North Clay FFA; Kayla Burgener, Central A & M FFA; Amy Michelle Burns, Valmeyer FFA; Hayden Byars, Cisne FFA; Dustin Lane Childers, Goreville FFA; Josh Clark, Hartsburg-Emden FFA; Dana DeSutter, AIWood FFA; Kimberly Dhom, Newton FFA; Kiersten Dorethy, West Prairie FFA; John C. Edgar, Trico Campbell Hill FFA; Robin Etnyre, Oregon FFA; Cody Gill, Nashville FFA; Katharine Rose Girone, Midland FFA; Jade Ashley Glendenning, Stillman Valley FFA; Jamie Gravatt, Marion FFA; Ida Hand, Nokomis FFA; Ella Herges, Paxton-Buckley-Loda FFA; Adam Sean Pullman Herwig, Ashton-Franklin Center FFA; Brian P. Hills, Tri-Point FFA; Tyler Hinspeter, Herscher FFA; Kayla Hyett, Mercer County FFA; Heather Kiner, Mendota FFA; Cody Lynn Koch, Rochelle FFA; Elise W. Krause, Cerro Gordo FFA; Erika R. Laumbattus, New Athens FFA; Brandon LeSage, Kewanee FFA; Jennifer Lynn Lincoln, Mercer County FFA; Ashley Luhman, Cissna

Park FFA; Calvin Lynch, Cissna Park FFA; Emily Marlow, Bluford FFA; Jamie L. Maze, Goreville FFA; Donna McCune, Bureau Valley FFA; Bethany L. Myelle, Stillman Valley FFA; Lexi Neisen, Liberty FFA; Michael Paulsmeyer, Petersburg PORTA FFA; Tiffany Phillips, Jerseyville FFA; Katlyn Pieper, Stewardson-Strasburg FFA; Kate Pond, Cisne FFA; Alicia Pool, Bluffs FFA; Rachel Rahn, Chadwick-Milledgeville FFA; Jake Ralph, Pontiac FFA; Krista Raymond, Highland FFA; Dustin Reetz, Cissna Park FFA; Kyle Rod, Mendota FFA; John A. Roskamp, Warsaw FFA; Jeremiah Shaner, Stark County FFA; Trevor Ross Shreve, Wayne City FFA; Andrew Smith, Sherrard FFA; Sarah Sprague, Payson FFA; Corey Steber, Olney FFA; Adam Talcott, Unity-Mendon FFA; Justin Thomas, Charleston FFA; Thomas Warhurst, Somonauk-Leland-Sandwich FFA; Lauren Wells, Herscher FFA; Kaitlyn Zindel, Central A & M FFA

INDIANA: Jacob Batts, Clinton Prairie FFA; Jonathan Beale, Clinton Prairie FFA; Nellie Bell, Hagerstown FFA; Alex Bender, North Posey FFA; Kristopher M. Bender, Delphi FFA; Miles Biery, Clinton Prairie FFA; Stephanie Bluhm, Adams Central FFA; Jackie Boan, Eastbrook FFA; Tyler H. Boganwright, Tippecanoe Valley FFA; Daniel Borgerding, Jay County FFA; Dustin Borgerding, Jay County FFA; Chelsea Boyle, West Noble FFA; Allan Michael Bullock, Hagerstown FFA; Lyle Burkhalter, Clinton Prairie FFA; Collin Buzzard, Manchester FFA; Elizabeth Byers, William Henry Harrison FFA; Amanda Callahan, Rushville FFA; Austin Campbell, North Daviess FFA; Spencer Carson, Hamilton Heights FFA; Allen M. Casson, Castle FFA; Jacob Chenoweth, Jay County FFA; Jonathon Christiansen, Delphi FFA; Lee A. Crownover, Hagerstown FFA; Brandon Culp, Rensselaer FFA; Linda Danner, West Noble FFA; Baron Deck, South Decatur FFA; Wes Delks, Rossville FFA; Katie Demery, Tri-County FFA; Abigail Diebolt, Delphi FFA; Patrick W. Douglas, Tri-County FFA; Jenny Dove, North Daviess FFA; Krysten Dunham, Clinton Prairie FFA; Michelle L. Earney, Tri-County FFA; Olivia Ann Eisterhold, North Posey FFA; Darren G. Engleking, Prairie Heights FFA; Brock Fisher, Hagerstown FFA; Thomas R. Folk, Westview FFA; Josh Furrer, Tri-County FFA; Morgan Ra Gadd, Hamilton Southeastern FFA; Daniel Gascho, Rossville FFA; Barrett German, Prairie Heights FFA; Daniel Emerson Gollither, Hagerstown FFA; Joe Gollither, Hagerstown FFA; Matt Gollither, Hagerstown FFA; Cassidy Gordon, Rushville FFA; Jill Alicia Griffin, Carroll @ Flora FFA; Scott M. Hardy, Lewis Cass FFA; Cory Dean Harris, Jay County FFA; Kari Hemmelgarn, Jay County FFA; Heather Hill, Northeastern Wayne FFA; Kyle Hoerner, North Posey FFA; Mindi Hoffman, Columbia City FFA; Laura Homan, Jay County



FFA; Travis Homan, Jay County FFA; Deric Hudson, South Decatur FFA; Jared Huffer, Rossville FFA; Brittany Jeffries, South Ripley FFA; Matthew J. Jones, Rossville FFA; Patrick Klaus, Tri-County FFA; Amanda Klemp, Kankakee Valley FFA; Megan Klotz, South Putnam FFA; Cody L. Lamle, Columbia City FFA; Brett Lane, South Newton FFA; Ashley Langenkamp, Jay County FFA; Derek Leahy, Rossville FFA; Brooks LeFever, South Adams FFA; Kayla A Lindauer, Forest Park FFA; Katherine Long, Martinsville FFA; Zachery Louck, Jay County FFA; Ginny Brown Lough, North Montgomery FFA; Sarah Maas, Prairie Heights FFA; Julie Massie, Jay County FFA; Micah Matlock, Knightstown FFA; Kylie Moffett, McCutcheon FFA; Rebecca Muhlenkamp, Jay County FFA; Heather Nipper, North Putnam FFA; Rachael Nobbe, Connersville FFA; Adam Osterholt, Jay County FFA; Lagora R. Paxton, Southmont FFA; Michael Pierson, North Putnam FFA; Colton Prescott, Jay County FFA; Chelsea Leigh Ramsey, Clinton Prairie FFA; Tyler M. Reese, Connersville FFA; Dustin Ripberger, Rushville FFA; Preston Roberts, Jay County FFA; Cody A. Roby, South Central FFA; Carrie Schmitmeyer, Jay County FFA; Kara Schwarzkopf, Delphi FFA; Charles J. Shaffer, Belmont FFA; Corina Siera Shaw, McCutcheon FFA; Shaina Shirar, Rossville FFA; Adrian Skiles, Rossville FFA; Meghan Smith, Carroll @ Fort Wayne FFA; Kyle Sprunger, South Adams FFA; Brian Carl Thomas, South Ripley FFA; Craig Voges, Forest Park FFA; Sarah Webster, South Ripley FFA; Ashley Wehner, Madison FFA; Justin Weirick, Manchester FFA; Colin Welp, Forest Park FFA; Chris Whipple, South Decatur FFA; Douglass Rhua Wicker, Rushville FFA; Amanda Workman, Franklin FFA; Arika Kay Yager, Rushville FFA

IOWA: Morgan Elizabeth Aalgaard, Lake Mills FFA; Abby Alberts, Oelwein FFA; Schylor Altenhofen, Mid-Prairie FFA; Blake Howard Anderson, Corning FFA; Heather A. Anderson, North Fayette FFA; Allyssa Beierschmitt, Wapsie Valley FFA; Cally Bengston, Jesup FFA; Vivian M. Bernau, Southeast Polk FFA; Tessa Bettin, Central Trail FFA; Jacqueline Bleich, Humboldt FFA; Russell Boles, Central Trail FFA; Angela Breuer, LeMars Farm Youth FFA; Devin A. Brincks, South Winneshiek FFA; Devin Brines, Central Trail FFA; Hannah Christensen, Osage FFA; Jessica Curry, Southeast Polk FFA; Patrick Diedrich, DeWitt Central FFA; Bailey Dobbs, Wapsie

AMERICAN DEGREE RECIPIENTS CONTINUED

Valley FFA; Jared Dolch, Reno Smith FFA; Adam M. Donovan, Cascade FFA; Chelsey Fagle, North Fayette FFA; Jacob Fischer, Cascade FFA; Amanda Folkmann, Marengo FFA; Angie Mae Folkmann, Marengo FFA; Kelsey Forsyth, Charles City FFA; Alyssa Foster, Mid-Prairie FFA; Jacob Robert Fox, Sibley-Ocheyedan FFA; Dalton Frank Frana, Decorah FFA; Amanda Franck, DeWitt Central FFA; Robert Freese, Benton Community FFA; Melissa Kaye Gade, Algona FFA; Nichole Gent, English Valleys FFA; Mitchell Dean Habeger, Algona FFA; Ethan Harris, Creston FFA; Kirk Hatfield, Central Trail FFA; Jonathan Henn, North Fayette FFA; James Hepp, Rockwell City-Lytton FFA; Kyle

Josh Simmons, Fairfield FFA; Ethan Small, Cascade FFA; Cole Smith, Nashua-Plainfield FFA; Alexis Spain, Valley FFA; Joshua Staudt, Charles City FFA; Marcie Stevenson, Calamus-Wheatland FFA; Dan Stewart, Oelwein FFA; Lauren Kay Stewart, Marengo FFA; Geoffrey C. Stout, Wapsie Valley FFA; Emma Sunderman, Brokaw FFA; Molly Tauke, West Delaware FFA; Stacey Tjaden, Midland FFA; Corey Towne, Atlantic FFA; Sarah Van Den Berg, Rock Valley FFA; Cory Van Fossen, Anamosa FFA; Kellie Walters, Tri-Star FFA; Hanna Wiersma, Wapsie Valley FFA; Matthew D. Wiese, DeWitt Central FFA; Dennis Wilken, Akron-Westfield FFA; Patrick Wynn, Albia FFA

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Hoogendoorn, West Lyon FFA; Levi Hughes, DeWitt Central FFA; Janell Johnson, Preston/East Central FFA; Matthew James Johnson, Wapsie Valley FFA; Kimberly J. Jordan, Linn-Mar FFA; Kyle Jorgensen, Adair-Casey FFA; Landon James Kane, Wapsie Valley FFA; Mary Kolthoff, New Hampton FFA; Joanna Mae Kraft, Clarion-Goldfield FFA; Karolyn Kruse, Calamus-Wheatland FFA; Jamie Leistikow, Wapsie Valley FFA; Leslie Leonard, Central Trail FFA; Tyler J. Levan, St. Ansgar FFA; Allison Lubben, Monticello FFA; Dakota Lueken, Edgewood-Colesburg FFA; Jordan Lyon, Columbus FFA; Jonathan Macken, Wapsie Valley FFA; Krista Marie McKusker, Marengo FFA; Kelsey Meyers, West Liberty FFA; Brooke Leigh Miller, Preston/East Central FFA; Katherine A. Mittman, Nevada FFA; Tory Mogler, West Lyon FFA; Alex Montagne, Charles City FFA; Sara Jean Morine, Starmont FFA; Bethany Terese Olson, South Hamilton FFA; Chadd Petrick, Anamosa FFA; Tyler L. Pettit, Creston FFA; Ethan Porter, Central Trail FFA; Maggie Reiter, Cascade FFA; Brett Russ, Maquoketa Valley FFA; Andrew Schanbacher, Benton Community FFA; Emily K. Schmidt, Benton Community FFA; Chris Schultz, Humboldt FFA; Brent A. Sexton, Rockwell City-Lytton FFA;

KANSAS: Bridget Baker, Washington County FFA; Trevor Baker, Washington County FFA; Connor Bomgardner, Buhler FFA; Ethan Boyes, Riverton FFA; Logan Levi Britton, Labette County FFA; Melanie Bruce, Arkansas City FFA; Brock Nicholas Burnick, Girard FFA; Jeff Cather, Chaparral FFA; Crystal Jewell Cooper, Clay Center FFA; Cody Crossland, WaKeeney FFA; Tison Culley, Riverton FFA; Wyatt Decker, Washington County FFA; Tyler Egbert, Girard FFA; Elizabeth Ann Forsyth, Chapman FFA; Kristin Glick, Council Grove FFA; Alex Michael Goeckel, Washington County FFA; Kelsey Delores Harris, Jackson Heights FFA; Trenton Heinen, Lakeside FFA; Ben Hutto, Riverton FFA; Kellie Rose Jackson, Clay Center FFA; Kyle Logan Jacobs, South Barber FFA; Joshua Dusty David Keim, Chaparral FFA; John Joseph Kuffler, Arkansas City FFA; Zach Langford, Buhler FFA; Morgan Lindsay, Ell-Saline FFA; Garrett Lister, Marysville FFA; Justin Quint Lockwood II, Caney FFA; Hannah McCabe, Fredonia FFA; Jerred Lee McKee, Chaparral FFA; Bradley McVey, Fredonia FFA; Randi J. Mercer, Columbus FFA; Leanne Renee Milleret, Lawrence Free State FFA; Erin Mossiman, Newton FFA; Jesse Duane Muller, Labette County FFA; Dustin Nattier, Newton FFA; Annie Nicole Patterson, Jackson

KENTUCKY: Jacob Tyler Adair, Reidland FFA; Justin Ross Allen, Logan County FFA; Ressa Arnett, Rowan County FFA; Sarah Katelyn Baird, McCreary Central FFA; Dylan Barber, Taylor County FFA; Melanie Belfiore, Central Hardin FFA; Meagan Bell, Central Hardin FFA; Seth C. Blakeley, McLean County FFA; James Kevin Bland, Marion County FFA; Shelby Leigh Blevins, Montgomery County FFA; Elizabeth Meyers Boeglen, John Hardin FFA; Clinton Kash Brewer, Wolfe County FFA; Joshua R. Brewer, Wolfe County FFA; Allen Brooks, Edmonson County FFA; Jessica Renae Brooks, Central Hardin FFA; Christopher T. Brown, Wolfe County FFA; Dillon Bryant, Butler County FFA; Ryan C. Buchanan, Ballard Memorial FFA; Lauren Gabrielle Burgess, Monroe County FFA; Josh Butcher, Bath County FFA; Rebecca Butcher, Bath County FFA; Dillon Callahan, Owsley County FFA; Keshia Campbell, McCreary Central FFA; Stephen Caskey, Wolfe County FFA; Lindsay Audey, Scott County FFA; Audie L. Cherry, Webster County FFA; Alex Clark, Bourbon County FFA; Ashlan Clark, Nelson County FFA; Amanda Conley, Scott County FFA; Paul Cooke, Edmonson County FFA; David Austin Cox, Fulton County FFA; Bobby Joe Crabtree, Ballard Memorial FFA; Ethan Ryan Crawford, Bourbon County FFA; Teddy Creech, Wolfe County FFA; Claire Crocker, Franklin-Simpson FFA; Kaitlin Culver, Spencer County FFA; Joshua Davis, Bourbon County FFA; Michael Chase Deaton, Breathitt County FFA; Skyler DeGroff, Barren County FFA; Joshua L. Dennis, Central Hardin FFA; Shawn C. Donathan, Wolfe County FFA; Zachary Dressman, Simon Kenton FFA; Samantha Sue Duvall, Clark County FFA; Lauren Dyer, Cumberland County FFA; Nathan Ellis, Mercer County FFA; Jesse Engle, LaRue County FFA; Randall "Todd" Enlow, LaRue County FFA; Jessica Estes, Franklin-Simpson FFA; Deandra Brooke Faris, Fleming County FFA; Bryan C. Faulkner, Wolfe County FFA; Henry Joseph Ferguson, Wolfe County FFA; Megan Fields, Barren County FFA; Jessi Fisher, Harrison County FFA; Allison Fister, Scott County FFA; Jennifer Fister,



Scott County FFA; Travis Florence, LaRue County FFA; Tanner Floyd, Fleming County FFA; Rebecca French, Gallatin County FFA; Sara Elizabeth Funk, Ohio County FFA; Joenelle Futrell, Daviess County FFA; AnnMarie Garland, Montgomery County FFA; Kevin Ginter, Bath County FFA; Tyler Kane Glosson, Fulton County FFA; Andrew Grace, Muhlenberg County FFA; John Guess, Johnson Central FFA; Charles Hall, West Carter FFA; Morgan Elizabeth Harrell, Reidland FFA; Kevin Herndon, Spencer County FFA; Callie Alishia Hobbs, Meade County FFA; Mindy Hopson, Henderson County FFA; Brian A. Jarvis, Marshall County FFA; Debra Lauren Jenkins, Shelby County FFA; Dustin Johnson, Rockcastle County FFA; Julia Johnson, LaRue County FFA; Ashley Jones, Bell County FFA; Chelsey N. Jones, Logan County FFA; Michael Eugene Jones, Bath County FFA; Emily Keller, Mercer County FFA; Kendra Kelley, Franklin-Simpson FFA; Lisa Kloentrup, Simon Kenton FFA; Jenna Knott, Barren County FFA; Alexandria Land, Casey County FFA; Mary Evelyn Langford, Fulton County FFA; Samantha Licato, Scott County FFA; Madison Major, Christian County FFA; Jacob Marksberry, Daviess County FFA; Johnathon Maynard, LaRue County FFA; Erik McClure, Fulton County FFA; Megan McCoy, Montgomery County FFA; Alexander Jennings Meredith, Central Hardin FFA; Zachary Meredith, LaRue County FFA; Emily Faye Miller, Garrard County FFA; Macaulay M. Minton, Fulton County FFA; Jessica Lee Morris, Garrard County FFA; Coy Murphy, Apollo FFA; Colby Myers, Boyle County FFA; Billy Oakley, West Carter FFA; Garrett Tyler Ogden, Garrard County FFA; Joe Ray Oliver, Wolfe County FFA; Kellie Owen, LaRue County FFA; Christina Partin, Western Hills FFA; Cody Wilson Payne, Graves County FFA; Corey Thomas Payne, Graves County FFA; Desirae Peacock, Daviess County FFA; Brandon Peel, Jessamine County FFA; Rikki Phillips, Taylor County FFA; James Preston Clark Porter, Wolfe County FFA; Matthew Blake Porter, Green County FFA; Bryson Price, Bath County FFA; Janie Kay Pruitt, Allen County-Scottsville FFA; Sarah Morgan Clay Redmon, Bourbon County FFA; Brian Lewis Reynolds, Larue County FFA; Dustin Reynolds, Rockcastle County FFA; Mitchell D. Richmond, West Carter FFA; Lacey Faye Roe, Bourbon County FFA; Jacob Rogers, Caldwell County FFA; Rob Rogers, Montgomery County FFA; Charlie P. Rose, Wolfe County FFA; Benjamin Ryan, John Hardin



FFA; Zack Schwartz, *Fleming County FFA*; Kayla Blaine Scott, *Caldwell County FFA*; Megan Shearer, *Madison Southern FFA*; Cheri LeighAnne Siddens, *Barren County FFA*; Robert Steven Kane Spencer, *Wolfe County FFA*; Ashley N. Spicer, *Breathitt County FFA*; Joseph DaWayne Strunk, *McCreary Central FFA*; Cody Sullivan, *LaRue County FFA*; Caleb Martin Tanner, *Apollo FFA*; Mikayla Taulbee, *Breathitt County FFA*; Jordyn Paige Taylor, *Daviess County FFA*; Caleb Thomas, *Central Hardin FFA*; Lauren M. Thomas, *Central Hardin FFA*; Cody Thompson, *Bath County FFA*; Parker Tilford, *Heath FFA*; Lindsay Renee Tolson, *Garrard County FFA*; Justin Vaughn, *Franklin-Simpson FFA*; Molly Ward, *Barren County FFA*; Brandon Warfield, *Caldwell County FFA*; Anthony West, *Gallatin County FFA*; Elizabeth Wetzell, *Johnson Central FFA*; Abbie Wilkerson, *Henderson County FFA*; Andrew Wooldridge, *Western Hills FFA*; Kaitlyn E. Wootton, *Jessamine County FFA*; Heather York, *Caldwell County FFA*; Joe Young Jr., *Allen County-Scottsville FFA*

LOUISIANA: Blake Anthony Babin, *Port Barre FFA*; Sarah Dyson, *Lakeview FFA*; Stephanie Edwards, *Walker FFA*; Brittany Shante' Goings, *Pine FFA*; Emily McGee, *Florien FFA*; Maria Irene Milczarek, *Pearl River FFA*; Kaitlynn Nichols, *Elton FFA*; Kadie Norton Sewell, *Ponchatoula FFA*; Aimee Marie Sibley, *Walker FFA*; Alyssa Watkins, *Lacassine FFA*; Adriana Wohletz, *Lakeview FFA*

MAINE: Meagan Lynn McClay, *Mars Hill FFA*

MARYLAND: Erin Canfield, *Boonsboro FFA*; Paul E. Dellinger, *Catoctin FFA*; Scarlett Fost, *North Garrett FFA*; Robert Hockenbury Jr., *Clear Spring FFA*; John Trevor Wesley Hoff, *Francis Scott Key FFA*; Eric Kline, *Boonsboro FFA*; Abbey Catherine Linthicum, *Damascus FFA*; Elliott Chase Reid, *Clear Spring FFA*; Joe Donovan Repp, *Clear Spring FFA*; Bradley Rodeheaver, *North Garrett FFA*; Kristen Warner, *Walkersville FFA*; Carrie J. Wivell, *Catoctin FFA*

MASSACHUSETTS: Mallory Bouthillette, *Smith FFA*; Brittany Hubbard, *Smith FFA*

MICHIGAN: Chelsea Alexander, *Sanilac FFA*; Cynthia Lynn Amstutz, *Montague FFA*; Ashley Arends, *Ravenna FFA*; Jessica Aube, *Alpena FFA*; Edwin J. Benkert III, *Chesaning FFA*; Kyle Bennett, *Ogemaw Heights FFA*; Ashley Blight, *Durand FFA*; Ian Blodger, *Lowell FFA*; Chelsey Bonthuis, *Ravenna FFA*; Ethan Bosserd, *Marshall FFA*; Kara Bosserd, *Marshall FFA*; Konrad Scott Bushre, *Breckenridge FFA*; Chelsey Clemens, *Ogemaw Heights FFA*; Michael Clover, *Lowell FFA*; Eric Cnudde, *Corunna FFA*; Elizabeth Cudney, *Montague FFA*; Jasper Cunningham, *Ravenna FFA*; Elonda DeGroft, *Alma FFA*; Michael Earle, *Chippewa Hills FFA*; Kaitlin Ebenhoeh, *New Lothrop FFA*; Alexander Favreau, *Caledonia FFA*; Stephanie Gilbert, *Laker FFA*; Carlos Guzman, *Ravenna FFA*; Karice Hard, *Branch Area Career Center FFA*; Jordan Henry, *Alma FFA*; Jacquelyn Heuer, *Dansville FFA*; Kirsten Hissong, *Montague FFA*; Connor Dale Hubbard, *Alcona FFA*; Andrew

Iwaniw, *Ravenna FFA*; Lindsey Jager, *Montague FFA*; Vincent James, *Caledonia FFA*; Cody Kastanek, *Lowell FFA*; Caleb Klingenberg, *Hopkins FFA*; Ivana Klingenberg, *Hopkins FFA*; Shannon Knapp, *Montague FFA*; Kyle Krepps, *Ravenna FFA*; Laura Krhovsky, *Corunna FFA*; Garrett Laier, *Byron FFA*; Bryan Mahoney, *Chesaning FFA*; Jenna L. Manor, *Milan FFA*; Karissa Marsh, *Montague FFA*; Sarah Michalek, *Sanilac FFA*; Kyle Herbert Miller, *Cassopolis FFA*; Curtis Neubauer, *Montague FFA*; Joshua O'Connell, *Lapeer County AM FFA*; Lacey M. Parks, *Alpena FFA*; Alex Pepper, *Montague FFA*; Ana Ponce, *Ravenna FFA*; Jordan Punches, *Hopkins FFA*; Chelsea Joann Recker, *Chippewa Hills FFA*; Rachel Reetz, *Ogemaw Heights FFA*; Stephen Reinart, *Hopkins FFA*; Kelci Ryan, *Caledonia FFA*; Lauren Marie Sandbrook, *Ovid-Elsie FFA*; Whitney M. Schuette, *Jackson Area Career Center FFA*; Mallory Schultz, *Ogemaw Heights FFA*; Abigail Seamon, *New Lothrop FFA*; Kelsey Sievers, *Whittemore-Prescott FFA*; Ryan Skinner, *Caledonia FFA*; Jake Sloan, *Branch Area Career Center FFA*; Jason Smith, *Fremont FFA*; Naomi Spoelman, *Ravenna FFA*; Kelsey Steketee, *Caledonia FFA*; Pauline Christina Stewart, *Chippewa Hills FFA*; Michael Anthony Lee Suitor, *Alcona FFA*; Ashley Sumerix, *Alpena FFA*; Kirk VanderVennen, *Caledonia FFA*; Jacob W. VanSickle, *Marshall FFA*; Marco Verhaar, *Laker FFA*; Christopher Weber, *Dansville FFA*; Kendra Wendorf, *Branch Area Career Center FFA*; Becky Whaley, *Byron FFA*; Glen A. Wheaton, *Charlotte FFA*; Ross Williams, *Homer FFA*; Benjamin Wiltse, *Ogemaw Heights FFA*

MINNESOTA: Nichole Anderson, *Lac qui Parle Valley FFA*; Mathew Arola, *Detroit Lakes FFA*; Craig Barta, *Randolph FFA*; Amanda J. Bernstein, *Sibley East FFA*; Joshua Bruley, *Marshall FFA*; Kelsey Buss, *Hutchinson FFA*; Trevor Christensen, *Howard Lake Waverly Winsted*; Madison Lynn Collin, *Southwest Star Concept FFA*; Justin Crowley, *Howard Lake Waverly Winsted*; Tom Eilertson, *United South Central FFA*; Daniel R. Fox, *Randolph FFA*; Ryan Franks, *Perham FFA*; Maria Funk, *Sebekka FFA*; Andrew Gorentz, *Perham FFA*; Betsy Lynn Hansen, *Marshall FFA*; Jacob E. Hein, *Lake Park Audubon FFA*; Matthew J. Herman, *United South Central FFA*; William J. Huper, *United South Central FFA*; Whitney Jacobson, *Thief River Falls FFA*; Travis M. Janson, *Foley FFA*; Benjamin D. Jensen, *Owatonna FFA*; Labbecca Joy Johnson, *Winona FFA*; Crystal V. Jones, *Howard Lake Waverly Winsted*; Stephanie L. Kasper, *Owatonna FFA*; Ashley E. Kipka, *Foley FFA*; Emma Marie Koebel, *Buffalo Lake Hector FFA*; Blake Koebke, *Spring Valley Wykoff FFA*; Esther Koehl, *Morris Area FFA*; Haley Koubisky, *Minnewaska FFA*; Justin Krell, *Blooming Prairie FFA*; Jordan Kurtz, *Milaca FFA*;



Michael Lehmann, *Perham FFA*; Whitney Breanne Lian, *Thief River Falls FFA*; Ashley R. Lyon, *Foley FFA*; Christopher Mack, *Zumbrota-Mazeppa FFA*; Andrew Paul Maidl, *New Ulm FFA*; Kathleen Miron, *Forest Lake FFA*; Jenna Moser, *Morris Area FFA*; Jordan D. Mutschler, *United South Central FFA*; Kasey Okke, *Hawley FFA*; Elizabeth Rabbe, *Martin County West FFA*; Tanner Rohloff, *Morris Area FFA*; Nathan A. Sahr, *United South Central FFA*; Liberty Slinden, *Atwater-Cosmos-Grove City FFA*; Dustin R. Smith, *Staples Motley FFA*; Justin L. Stanton, *Detroit Lakes FFA*; Charlie Tank, *Randolph FFA*; Danielle Tews, *Hutchinson FFA*; Dylan L. Thisius, *United South Central FFA*; Brandon Tisthammer, *Spring Grove FFA*; Kaitlyn Tollefsrud, *Hawley FFA*; Jason Troendle, *St. Charles FFA*; Rachel Marie Voigt, *Spring Valley Wykoff FFA*; Zach VonRuden, *Owatonna FFA*; Travis Wulf, *Morris Area FFA*; Peter Zins, *Minnewaska FFA*

MISSISSIPPI: Jacob Barnett, *Houston FFA*; Rebecca Buffington, *Lawrence County FFA*; Tell Ford, *Sumrall FFA*; Jeremy Gaffney, *Lawrence County FFA*; Cody Glenn, *Greene County FFA*; Elizabeth Griffith, *Lawrence County FFA*; Colden Hardin, *West Lauderdale FFA*; Jessica Kendrick, *Neshoba Central FFA*; Jacob Lee, *West Lauderdale FFA*; Brian Jacob Lentz, *Strayhorn FFA*; Laken Newsom, *Lawrence County FFA*; BreAnna Lee Tullos, *Neshoba Central FFA*; Thomas Wagnon, *Northeast Jones FFA*

MISSOURI: Paige Ahart, *Polo FFA*; Casey D. Alden, *Gallatin FFA*; Ashleigh Jo Alexander, *Louisiana FFA*; Clayton Allen, *Chillicothe FFA*; Lindsay Alissa Allen, *Mansfield FFA*; Spencer Allison, *Weaubleau FFA*; Laura Almond, *Brookfield FFA*; Haley Anderson, *Plattsburg FFA*; Megan Anderson, *Nichols Career Center FFA*; RayAnn Armstrong, *Cameron FFA*; Travis D. Arnold, *Pilot Grove FFA*; Cheyenne A. Arthur, *Dadeville FFA*; Dakota S. Arthur, *Dadeville FFA*; J.T. Asher, *Greenfield FFA*; Jessica Asher, *Eldon FFA*; Austin Ausbury, *Pleasant Hope FFA*; Katherine Nicole Ausmus, *Knox County FFA*; Kelsey Bailey, *Lathrop FFA*; J. D. Baker, *East Buchanan FFA*; Chad Balke, *Lathrop FFA*; Brandon Barnes, *Columbia FFA*; Hailey Barnes, *Albany FFA*; Melanie Barnett, *Wellington-Napoleon FFA*; Hannah Bartholomew, *Archie FFA*; Donovan Bartkoski, *Wheaton FFA*; Dakota Bates, *Alton FFA*; Adam Beauchamp,

AMERICAN DEGREE RECIPIENTS CONTINUED

Clopton FFA; Statler Beck, Carl Junction FFA; Cody L. Begemann, Odessa FFA; Dustin Bell, Tusculumbia FFA; Ashley Bernard, Tipton FFA; Caitlin Bever, Eldon FFA; Jesse Lee Birkenholz, North Nodaway FFA; Jon Black, Chillicothe FFA; Samantha A. Blackburn, Pierce City FFA; Crystal Blaue, Wellsville-Middletown FFA; Ashley Blevins, East Newton FFA; Nathan R. Bloss, Sarcoxie FFA; Derek Christopher Bohr, Audrain Co R-Virgin Islands FFA; Brent Boland, Sweet Springs FFA; Cassie Born, Odessa FFA; Sara Elizabeth Bourscheski, Pierce City FFA; Cody Bowers, Versailles FFA; Jarad Brandkamp, Union FFA; Emily Brant, Tipton FFA; Matt Brown, Pleasant Hope FFA; Michael Charles Brown, Nodaway-Holt FFA; Nathan Brown, Buffalo FFA; Natalie Brunner, Lathrop FFA; Shari Brunner, Centralia FFA; Bailey Bryan, Crest Ridge FFA; Ben Buesing, Rich Hill FFA; Jacob Bundy, Washington FFA; Hilary Bush, Belle FFA; Alicia Danielle Button, Skyline FFA; Kylen Byrd, Keytesville FFA; Matthew Caldwell, Montgomery County FFA; Ian Campbell, Clopton FFA; Storm Campbell, Clopton FFA; Ryan Carr, Carthage FFA; William Carrier,

Lebanon FFA; Sabrina Collins, Lone Jack FFA; Trevor Collins, South Shelby FFA; Matthew Evan Copeland, East Buchanan FFA; R. Aaren Cordon, Wheatland FFA; Tyler Costello, South Holt FFA; Eddie Cox, Richmond FFA; Ryan Cox, North Harrison FFA; Savannah Lee Cox, Jamesport FFA; Cole Crawford, Hamilton FFA; Rebecca Crawford, Holden FFA; Emily Catherine Creech, Salisbur FFA; Kyle Croy, Gallatin FFA; Ethan Daehler, Lex La Ray FFA; Briann Daniels, Willow Springs FFA; Matthew Daniels, Union FFA; Hogan Davis, Tipton FFA; Rachel Davis, Richmond FFA; Shelby Davis, Monroe City FFA; Dalton Decker, Cass Career Center FFA; Travis J. Deeken, Linn FFA; Cole Denton, Bakersfield FFA; Jessie K. Diederich, Ashland FFA; Corey Diehl, Marshfield FFA; John J. Dillon, Boonville FFA; Jacob Dinsmore, Meadville FFA; Jerrod M. Divine, Lockwood FFA; Whitney LouAnn Dodson, Tina-Avalon FFA; Hannah Doherty, Slater FFA; Tyler Dohrman, Sweet Springs FFA; Katlyn Douglas, Bronaugh FFA; Kendall Douglas, North Shelby FFA; Lora Ann Drake, Rich Hill FFA; Neal Dudenhoefter, Linn FFA; Garth Duncan, North Andrew

Holden FFA; Adrienne Elkins, Ozark FFA; Kadie Emig, North Harrison FFA; Shelby L. Enke, St. Clair FFA; Patricia Erickson, Maysville FFA; Brooke Leanne Evans, Pleasant Hope FFA; Jordan Rae Evans, Ava FFA; Megan Farley, Schuyler FFA; Dalton G. Farmer, East Newton FFA; Benjamin D. Farrell, Pleasant Hope FFA; Kellin Carl Ferguson, Chillicothe FFA; Matraca K. Ferrier, Ozark FFA; Megan Linah Finney, Linn County FFA; Stephanie A. Fischer, Van-Far FFA; Cassandra Fisher, Skyline FFA; Nicole Fletcher, Exeter FFA; Shady Dawn Flippo, Ava FFA; Christopher L. Foley, Pleasant Hill FFA; Emily D. Folgate, South Harrison FFA; Allie Foster, Monroe City FFA; Ross Foster, Skyline FFA; Adam Francis, Norborne FFA; Kyle Francka, Pleasant Hope FFA; Kaitlin Frank, Nichols Career Center FFA; Nicholas Harry Fray, Boonville FFA; Kayla Janel Frederick, Kirksville FFA; Jeremy French, Bakersfield FFA; Haldon D. Fugate, Stanberry FFA; Jonathan B. Fuller, Ash Grove FFA; Meghan Marie Fuller, West Nodaway FFA; Alisa Funk, Princeton FFA; Cheyenne Gardner, Tusculumbia FFA; Heather Gardner, Cole Camp FFA; Aminta Garrison, Couch FFA; Chris Garton, Marshfield FFA; Rachel Lee Gastler, Audrain Co R-Virgin Islands FFA; Margaret Gibson, St. James FFA; Kaitlin Gieseke, Sweet Springs FFA; Brady Gifford, Pleasant Hope FFA; M'Shale Renia Gillroy, Holden FFA; Sonja Gjerde, Fair Play FFA; Dennis Houston Gower, Wellington-Napoleon FFA; Dakoda Grabill, North Harrison FFA; Alyssa K. Graham, South Harrison FFA; Clayton Gray, Northeast Vernon County FFA; Eric Groose, Eugene FFA; Cheyenne Gulick, Miller FFA; Kurt Taylor Gulick, Miller FFA; Garrett Alan Gutshall, Miami FFA; Abigail Hall, Elsberry FFA; Samantha Halley, Atlanta FFA; Morgan Hallock, North Harrison FFA; Hilary Halsted., Aurora FFA; Dylan Hamlin, Crest Ridge FFA; Ethan Hammond, North Shelby FFA; Elizabeth Ann Hanes, Clopton FFA; Sage Harlan, Green Ridge FFA; Katryna Harms, Northeast Vernon County FFA; Alicia Harris, Richmond FFA; Donald Hays, Monroe City FFA; Jennifer Jean Heard, Nichols Career Center FFA; Rhiannon Hees, Tipton FFA; Hannah Hegeman, Savannah FFA; Kris Hellebusch, Washington FFA; Nathan Hellmann, Washington FFA; Denise M. Hellums, Macks Creek FFA; Derek Henke, Salisbury FFA; Parker Henley, Eugene FFA; Kelsey Violet Henry, Southwest at Washburn FFA; Kelly Lane Herrman, Rolla FFA; Jordyn Hickcox-Lobland, Richland FFA; Brandon C. Hinc, Concordia FFA; Lindsay Elaine Hinson, St. Clair FFA; Bailey Hixson, Jamesport FFA; Sarah Hixson, Plattsburg FFA; Jenny Hobbs, Jamesport FFA; Tyler Cole Hoepker, West Nodaway FFA; Evan M. Hoepfner, Higginsville FFA; Sara Ann Hoffman, Lewis County FFA; Jared Hogan, North Daviess FFA; Michael Hollander, Milan FFA; Morgan Hoover, Princeton FFA; Ben Howard, Eldon FFA; Sasha Howell, Koshkonong FFA; Christopher Hudson, Silex FFA; Ciara



Huntley, Seneca FFA; Haley Hurd, Polo FFA; Miles Hutcherson, South Shelby FFA; Kelsie L. Hutsell, Willow Springs FFA; Bridgett Ingersoll, Cameron FFA; Austin Ireland, Chillicothe FFA; Nancy Ellen Jackson, Macon FFA; Garth Jaco, Jackson FFA; Kelly Jahn, Jackson FFA; Lance James, Paris FFA; Yusef Jaouni, Montgomery County FFA; Kyle Jarvis, Bakersfield FFA; Bill Jennings, South Harrison FFA; Michael Jensen, Jefferson FFA; Cody David Joesting, Tarkio FFA; Michelle Johnson, Couch FFA; Schanda Johnson, West Plains FFA; Andrew Jones, Pleasant Hill FFA; Clinton Mathew Jones, Fayette FFA; Britt Kagay, Maysville FFA; Matthew Kassebaum, Union FFA; Levi Keller, North Shelby FFA; Zachary J. Kempf, Boonville FFA; Slade Adair Kenagy, Princeton FFA; Logan Kennedy, East Newton FFA; Chance Kenner, Golden City FFA; Aaron Kerr, Chillicothe FFA; Amber Kieffer, Chillicothe FFA; Isaac Hessman Kiepe, Farmington FFA; Brittany Lynn King, Tusculumbia FFA; Dennis Wayne Kinkead Jr., Farmington FFA; KC Kipping, Carrollton FFA; Chelsea Sydna Kissire, McDonald County FFA; Seth William Klein, Belle FFA; Weston Klein, Versailles FFA; Shelby Knipp, Tipton FFA; Emily Koerner, Eldon FFA; Zachary Kramer, Higginsville FFA; George C. Kronshage, Wellington-Napoleon FFA; Kasondra Kruse, East Newton FFA; Jared Kueckelhan, Boonville FFA; Jessica Kueffer, California FFA; Bryant Kurtz, South Holt FFA; Melissa Kurtz, Pleasant Hill FFA; Phillip Kurzweil, Archie FFA; Alex LaFave, East Buchanan FFA; Lindsey Lambert, Pattonsburg FFA; Tiffany Dawn Landoll, Pierce City FFA; Erika Lane, Santa Fe FFA; Daniel Langley, Hurley FFA; Austin Andrew Lawrence, Lamar FFA; Colton Lee, East Buchanan FFA; Kaitlyn Lee, North Callaway FFA; Weston T. Lemon, Willow Springs FFA; Will R. Letner, Princeton FFA; Mitchell Lett, McDonald County FFA; Nicole Lewis, Union FFA; Paul Leykamp, Centralia FFA; Jessica Lindbloom, Marceline FFA; Jesse Link, Carrollton FFA; Amanda Elizabeth Logan, Elsberry FFA; Ben Logan, Miller FFA; Darcy Long, South Shelby FFA; Joseph Lopez, Miller FFA; Andy J. Luke, Stanberry FFA; Kirby A. Luke, Stanberry FFA; Erin Lutjen, Blue Springs South FFA; Jessica Mae Lutz, Putnam County FFA; Taylor Lynch, Trenton FFA; Emily Maasdam, Tina-Avalon FFA; Stephen Mabary, Skyline FFA; Jake R. Mackeprang, Appleton City FFA; Becca Mallett, Knox County FFA; Lydia Manson, Keytesville FFA;



Lockwood FFA; Richard Dylan Carver, Cole Camp FFA; Kendra N. Case, Salem FFA; Taylor M. Casey, Monett FFA; Sarah Cast, Princeton FFA; Nicholas Allen Cavaness, Cabool FFA; Rachael Cavener, Aurora FFA; Megan Chadwick, Gallatin FFA; Shelby Chadwick, Gallatin FFA; Justine L. Chastain, Fair Play FFA; Margaret Cleveland, Stoutland FFA; Kacie Clonts, East Newton FFA; Drew Clubb, Princeton FFA; Teanna Coffey, Skyline FFA; Ryan C. Coleman,

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Chase Mareth, *Butler FFA*; Mark Lewis Mareth, *Monett FFA*; Billy Martin, *Sweet Springs FFA*; Brenda A. Martin, *Galena FFA*; Elaine Ruth Martin, *Centralia FFA*; Megan Martin, *Washington FFA*; Tyler P. Martin, *Centralia FFA*; Travis Martyn, *Perryville FFA*; Shelby Lynn Massman, *Eugene FFA*; Shanna Mathews, *Boonville FFA*; Nina May, *Jamesport FFA*; Davielle Justine Mc Coy, *La Monte FFA*; Jared Wayne McCauslin, *Chillicothe FFA*; Caitlyn McFee, *Maysville FFA*; Logan McGhee, *Couch FFA*; Ryan McQuinn, *Jefferson FFA*; Brad McWilliams, *Carl Junction FFA*; Candace Melton, *Bucklin FFA*; Ryan Meyer, *Perryville FFA*; Kahler Mitchell, *Paris FFA*; Brittany Montavy, *Eldon FFA*; Brianna Mormann, *Eugene FFA*; Brittney Mormann, *Eugene FFA*; Robert Morris, *Tuscumbia FFA*; Amanda M. Morton, *Boonville FFA*; Megan Murry, *Plato FFA*; Ethan Musick, *Tuscumbia FFA*; Nicholas Naeger, *Ste Genevieve FFA*; Stephanie Needham, *Halfway FFA*; Trey Neill, *North Shelby FFA*; Rebecca A. Nelson, *Van-Far FFA*; Ryan Nevils, *Warrensburg FFA*; Caleb Henry Nordwald, *Mexico FFA*; Maggie Mae Norton, *Elsberry FFA*; Clayton J. Norvell, *Pleasant Hill FFA*; Chad Nuelle, *Higginsville FFA*; Patrick James O'Riley, *Nodaway-Holt FFA*; Jordan Osborn, *Holcomb FFA*; Nolan Otto, *North Shelby FFA*; Casey J. Owen, *Republic FFA*; Greg Palmer, *Carl Junction FFA*; Kathleen Pantry, *Schuyler FFA*; Sarah Diann Pantry, *Schuyler FFA*; Myra Parrish, *Knox County FFA*; Molly Parsons, *Washington FFA*; Ethan Patteson, *Willard FFA*; Tiffany Nichole Pemberton, *richland FFA*; Brandon K. Perkins, *Marshall FFA*; Ruby Peters, *East Newton FFA*; Kayla Petree, *Tipton*

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Brody Schrock, *Milan FFA*; Sarah Kaylynn Schumann, *South Nodaway FFA*; Megan Schupback, *Keytesville FFA*; Olivia Schwaller, *Eugene FFA*; Sarah Schwaller, *Eugene FFA*; Dentin Schwartz, *Wheaton FFA*; Emily Scott, *Osceola FFA*; Josey Scott, *Koshkonong FFA*; Stephanie Sharp, *Tarkio FFA*; Marie A. Shelden, *Russellville FFA*; Kelli Shepard, *South Harrison FFA*; Ashley Sherman, *Wheatland FFA*; Mareta M. Sherman, *Belle FFA*; Morgan Shipley, *Northwest Technical FFA*; David Shively, *Monroe City FFA*; Jacob Shrable, *Bakersfield FFA*; Meggan Shrank, *Silex FFA*; Kendra Silver, *Pierce City FFA*; William Simpson, *Eldon FFA*; Garrett Sims, *Centralia FFA*; Jessica Dianne Sites, *Memphis FFA*; Tyler Skipper, *Chillicothe FFA*; David Michael Slater, *Trenton FFA*; Troy Sloan, *Cameron FFA*; Ritnee Smiley, *Milan FFA*; Alex Smith, *Willard FFA*; Austin Smith, *East Prairie FFA*; Curtis Smith, *Elsberry FFA*; Mason Snider, *Sweet Springs FFA*; Lance Snodgrass, *Polo FFA*; Creston Snyder, *Hamilton FFA*; Cara Marie Spencer, *Northwestern FFA*; Jordan Lynn Spradling, *Van-Far FFA*; Katie Springer, *Pleasant Hill FFA*; Brittany A. Stallcup, *Houston FFA*; Cheyanne Stark, *Eldon FFA*; Austin Steele, *Miller FFA*; MacKenzie Steele, *Dora FFA*; The Late Cole Eugene Steelman, *Odessa FFA*; Kip Stephenson, *Milan FFA*; Jared Alan Stewart, *Clopton FFA*; Mariah Stiens, *Northwest Technical FFA*; Seth Strobe, *Linn FFA*; Kevin M. Strough, *Stanberry FFA*; Jordan Sukovaty, *Fair Play FFA*; Tiffany R. Sutton, *Gilman City FFA*; Ethan Tate, *Brunswick FFA*; Kyle William Tate, *Mountain Grove FFA*; Lacey Taylor, *Neosho FFA*; Quaid C. Taylor, *Ozark FFA*; Kourtney Taylor-Ramirez, *El Dorado Springs FFA*; Clint Allen Thilking, *Wellington-Napoleon FFA*; Kaitlynn Thompson, *Tipton FFA*; Rachel Thornton, *Sweet Springs FFA*; Jessica Tolo, *Smithville FFA*; Zach Tormey, *Polo FFA*; Jessie Troyer, *South Shelby FFA*; Caleb Tucker, *Clopton FFA*; Dakota Tucker, *Lakeland FFA*; Katarina Rae Twenter, *Pilot Grove FFA*; Kathleen Elizabeth Tyler, *Sweet Springs FFA*; Wade Tyre, *Marshall FFA*; Ethan Ulmanis, *Koshkonong FFA*; Justin Uptergrove, *Eldon FFA*; Megan Van Dyke, *Meadville FFA*; Eric Van Horn, *Wellsville-Middletown FFA*; Jake Vandiver, *Richmond FFA*; Andrew VanSchoiack, *Savannah FFA*; Brett Philip Varner, *Odessa FFA*; Kelsey Vaughn, *Pleasant Hope FFA*; Nick Vocks, *Linn FFA*; Kelli Voris, *Halfway FFA*; Timothy Voss Jr., *Koshkonong FFA*; Kody Wainscott, *Butler FFA*; Brett Walker, *Stanberry FFA*; Shyanna Wallace, *Branson FFA*; Joseph Walters, *Knob Noster FFA*; Jordan D. Watson, *South Shelby FFA*; Ryan A. Watson, *Washington FFA*; Sarah Weatherman, *Wheaton FFA*; Katie Lynn Wehmeyer, *Owensville FFA*; Nathan Westermier, *Tipton FFA*; Carolyn White, *Blue Springs South FFA*; Tony White, *Linn FFA*; Emily Whitmarsh, *Miller FFA*; Karissa Wieskamp, *Eldon FFA*; Issac Daniel Wilkins, *Northeast Vernon County FFA*;



Bryce Williams, *East Buchanan FFA*; Katie Williams, *Fair Play FFA*; Brendon Wilson, *West Plains FFA*; Rebecca J. Wood, *Ozark FFA*; Erin Woody, *Mount Vernon FFA*; McKinley James Worley, *Farmington FFA*; Denten Wray, *Jamesport FFA*; Erin Lee Wren, *Ashland FFA*; Caleb R. Wright, *Craig FFA*; Sheila Wyrick, *Eldon FFA*; Reine Niquol Yamnitz, *Perryville FFA*; Yeng Yang, *Wheaton FFA*; Josie Irene Yoakum, *Rolla FFA*; Cole Young, *Putnam County FFA*; Ethan Young, *Boonville FFA*; Shelby N. Young, *South Harrison FFA*

MONTANA: Thomas Bonogofsky, *Belfry FFA*; Kelci Boyd, *Shields Valley FFA*; Mark W. Boyd, *Ruby Valley FFA*; Chisholm Christensen, *Hinsdale FFA*; Sarah E. Combs, *Fromberg FFA*; Cody Donough, *Park City FFA*; Dominic Eickert, *Flathead FFA*; Mathias Fochs, *Park FFA*; Laura Frazee, *Stevensville FFA*; Zachary Friedrich, *Plentywood FFA*; Megan Jeanne Greenwood, *Sidney FFA*; Cassady Roseann Guinnane, *Ruby Valley FFA*; Riker Haefs, *Park FFA*; Jayleen Larae Harris, *Conrad FFA*; Adam Heggelund, *Deer Lodge FFA*; Levi Keith Helmuth, *Lambert FFA*; Kamron Hoffman, *Shields Valley FFA*; Christopher Janssen, *Broadus FFA*; Ben Johnson, *Sidney FFA*; Tessa Kern, *Joliet FFA*; Logan H. Kotar, *Hysham FFA*; Joseph Lombardi, *Deer Lodge FFA*; Hailey Maier, *Shields Valley FFA*; Michael McInerney, *Shields Valley FFA*; Nicholas Lee Metcalfe, *Stanford FFA*; Ethan Moberg, *Plentywood FFA*; Mick Mosher, *Shepherd FFA*; Lindsey Nelson, *Bainville FFA*; Lane Coy Nordlund, *Fergus of Lewistown FFA*; Tyler Oedekoven, *Shepherd FFA*; Cameron Rodriguez, *Conrad FFA*; Sydnee M. Schneider, *Miles City FFA*; Kristen Scott, *Shields Valley FFA*; Sarah Snow, *Park City FFA*; Erin Switzer, *Richey FFA*; Katlyn Tomschin, *Shields Valley FFA*; Brannin Tyler, *Big Timber FFA*; Justin Wacker, *Plentywood FFA*; Kylie Windecker, *Shields Valley FFA*; Caitlin Zimmerman, *Shields Valley FFA*

NEBRASKA: Nicole Mae Allvin, *Crofton FFA*; Brady C. Ammon, *Rock County FFA*; Eric Sherman Anderson, *Lyons-Decatur Northeast FFA*; Sean Willard Arbogast, *York FFA*; John Bader, *Centennial FFA*; Jenny L. Birkett, *Wilber-Clatonia FFA*; Benjamin Blecha, *Pawnee City FFA*; Micaela Boardman, *Ravenna FFA*; Alex Bottolfsen, *Hartington FFA*; Lacey Brandt, *Humphrey FFA*; Lawrence A. Burns, *Kimball FFA*; Chelsea L. Christensen, *Blair FFA*;

Mitchell Cockerill, *Greeley-Wolbach FFA*; Megan Conway, *Southwest FFA*; Sarah A. Cooper, *Medicine Valley FFA*; Amy Cox, *Sutton FFA*; Jordan Curtis, *Milford FFA*; Joshua Dieckgrafe, *Johnson County Central FFA*; Sam Dierberger, *Seward FFA*; Alex Dose, *Hampton FFA*; Amanda Downey, *Dundy County Stratton FFA*; Kaylee Dump, *Hartington FFA*; Katie Eckmann, *Bloomfield FFA*; Devon Eggerling, *Plainview FFA*; Jarred Wayne Erb, *Heartland FFA*; Tommy France, *Gothenburg FFA*; Collin Michael O. Friesen, *Hampton FFA*; Katie Fuchtmann, *Creighton FFA*; Chelsea K. Fullerton, *Cody-Kilgore FFA*; Brooke Fullner, *Wisner-Pilger FFA*; Casey A. Gerdes, *Falls City FFA*; Noelle Gerken, *York FFA*; Braylon Gierhan, *Centennial FFA*; Cory Grant, *Palmyra FFA*; Tanner Griess, *Sutton FFA*; Hance F. Grunden, *Medicine Valley FFA*; Shelby R. Hajek, *Wilber-Clatonia FFA*; Thomas W. Hall, *Palmyra FFA*; Robin Jean Hamilton, *York FFA*; Sydney Hansen, *Tekamah-Herman FFA*; Cody Hegemann, *Howells FFA*; Connor Hiebner, *Heartland FFA*; Preston Hild, *Sandy Creek FFA*; Amber Himmelberg, *Blue Hill FFA*; KayCe Hollman, *Lyons-Decatur Northeast FFA*; Bailey J. Horak, *Wilber-Clatonia FFA*; Alec Ibach, *Sumner-Eddyville-Miller FFA*; Emily Ibach, *Sumner-Eddyville-Miller FFA*; Evan W. Ibach, *Sumner-Eddyville-Miller FFA*; Michelle A. Jack, *Gothenburg FFA*; Lindée Ann Jackson, *McCool Junction FFA*; James M. Jarred, *Falls City FFA*; Travis Jensen, *Heartland FFA*; Anastasia Johnson, *Central City FFA*; Rebecca Johnson, *Twin River FFA*; Grant D. Jones, *Dundy County Stratton FFA*; Jonathan Jones, *Broken Bow FFA*; Bill Jordan, *Loup County FFA*; Trevor Kahl, *Wheeler Central FFA*; Garrett Kahrs, *Franklin FFA*; Morgan Kauth, *Bloomfield FFA*; Will Keech, *Norris FFA*; Tyler Kinzie, *Palmyra FFA*; Joe Kirkpatrick, *Wauneta FFA*; Carson Klute, *Hampton FFA*; Kaylee Klute, *Hampton FFA*; Megan Kneifl, *Hartington FFA*; Morgan Leigh Kobs, *Blair FFA*; Jennifer Kay Laflan, *Creighton FFA*; Rebecca Laflan, *Creighton FFA*; Ethan Lang, *Sandy Creek FFA*; Rebecca Larson, *Rock County FFA*; Jordyn Lechtenberg, *Ainsworth FFA*; Paula Leibbrandt, *Imperial FFA*; Travis Line, *Sumner-Eddyville-Miller FFA*; Patrick Lorens, *Dundy County Stratton FFA*; Kelli Luebbert, *West Point FFA*; Austin Taylor Mann, *Crofton FFA*; Stacia A. McIntosh, *Blair FFA*; Andy Method, *Tekamah-Herman FFA*; David Michael Meyer, *Scribner-Snyder FFA*; Alex Morrill, *Creighton FFA*; Dillon J. Mortensen, *Medicine Valley FFA*; Danielle M. Nichols, *Wheeler Central FFA*; Jana Nollette, *Cody-Kilgore FFA*; Johanna E. Nutt, *Medicine Valley FFA*; Levi W. Ochsner, *Sutton FFA*; Anders Olson, *Tekamah-Herman FFA*; Dakota Olson, *Boone Central FFA*; Heather Overturf, *Sutton FFA*; Alisha Pellatz, *Plainview FFA*;

Brant Peters, *Pender FFA*; Miranda Delayne Pollock, *Centura FFA*; Josh Preister, *Humphrey FFA*; Benjamin Purucker, *Pender FFA*; Taylor Randall, *Franklin FFA*; Brittany Anne Ratzlaff, *Heartland FFA*; Shelby Lynn Real, *McCool Junction FFA*; Paige Rebmam, *Wilcox-Hildreth FFA*; Katie Reichert, *Bayard FFA*; Megan Rice, *Norris FFA*; Cory Schlichtemeier, *Conestoga FFA*; Landon Schmidt, *Fairbury FFA*; Garrett Kevin Schomerus, *Nebraska City FFA*; Nicholas Schrunck, *West Holt FFA*; Josh Severin, *Rock County FFA*; Tyler Sheets, *Gothenburg FFA*; Cody Ray Simms, *Kimball FFA*; Dylan E. Smith, *Sumner-Eddyville-Miller FFA*; Jonathan Smith, *Pender FFA*; Alexis Kristine Spath, *Waverly FFA*; Peter Stahly, *Milford FFA*; Lane Steinhauer, *Sutton FFA*; Ethan M. Steinhauer, *Rock County FFA*; Ben Stingley, *Hampton FFA*; Abigail R. Sybrant, *Rock County FFA*; Raquel Taylor, *Medicine Valley FFA*; Blake Thomsen, *St. Paul FFA*; Zac Thramer, *Wheeler Central FFA*; Kaitlin Thunker, *Wheeler Central FFA*; Benjamin T. Trampe, *Sumner-Eddyville-Miller FFA*; Darrell E. Traudt, *Heartland FFA*; Jordan Wagner, *Creighton FFA*; Wade Walters, *Shickley FFA*; Lacey L. Ward, *Superior FFA*; Kane E. Warren, *Blair FFA*; Zachary Watson, *St. Paul FFA*; Kelsey Weber, *Wheeler Central FFA*; Kelsey Wetovick, *Fullerton FFA*; Krystal A. Wilke, *Kimball FFA*; Mollie Wilken, *Crofton FFA*; Kylee Wilmes, *Creighton FFA*; Megan Wolfe, *Central FFA*; Beth Wroblewski, *St. Paul FFA*; Shelby Yost, *Sutton FFA*; Ethan Zoerb, *Ravenna FFA*

NEVADA: Emma Ballard, *Wells FFA*; Jordan Brough, *Wells FFA*; Emily Damele, *Diamond Mountain FFA*; Kali Casey Evanson, *Carson Valley FFA*; Madison Hughes, *Silver Sage FFA*; Amanda O'Donnell, *Silver Sage FFA*; Shay Pawelek, *Ruby Mountain Elko FFA*; Aly Reynolds, *Wells FFA*; Stacie Schwandt, *Silver Sage FFA*; MaryJo Stoddard, *Silver Sage FFA*; Melora Weeks, *Wells FFA*; Erin Wilker, *Diamond Mountain FFA*

NEW HAMPSHIRE: Devon Farr, *Much To Do FFA*

NEW JERSEY: Jenny Allen, *Warren Hills Regional FFA*; Adam Trevour Armstrong, *Newton FFA*; Samuel Casqueira, *Newton FFA*; Courtney J. Clair, *Penns Grove FFA*; Katherine I. Loew, *Cumberland Regional FFA*; Alec McAlarnen, *Cape May Tech FFA*; Eric Neal Nunn, *Newton FFA*; Brett Matthew Olsen, *Newton FFA*; Bridget Stewart, *Newton FFA*; Christina Flora Straway, *Newton FFA*

NEW MEXICO: Taylor Avery, *Artesia FFA*; Shelby Burnett, *Artesia FFA*; Shelby Cockerham, *Texico FFA*; Tyler Davis, *Moriarty FFA*; Katherine Grandle, *Las Cruces FFA*;

Kyra Brynn Grant, *Fort Sumner FFA*; Alyssa Hackett, *Moriarty FFA*; Taysha Ham, *Hot Springs FFA*; Dylan Johnson, *Corona FFA*; Jenna Klein, *Artesia FFA*; Laynee Kuenstler, *Hot Springs FFA*; Tad Menefee, *Artesia FFA*; Keely Muncy, *Hot Springs FFA*; Myra Newkirk, *Des Moines FFA*; Joli O'Byrne, *Animas FFA*; Joseph Ogden, *Carlsbad FFA*; Lyndi Owensby, *Des Moines FFA*; Cort Smith, *Hot Springs FFA*

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Justin McEntyre, *Crest FFA*; Alycia Ann McLamb, *Midway FFA*; Kelly McLees, *Lumberton FFA*; Kelly Diane Meadows, *J.F. Webb FFA*; Keith Jacob Mentnech, *Croatan FFA*; Jacob Tyler Miles, *North Iredell FFA*; Justin Milstein, *Lumberton FFA*; Zack Myers, *West Rowan FFA*; Ashley Pedersen, *Rosewood FFA*; Coleman Phifer, *West Rowan FFA*; Rex Price, *Spring Creek FFA*; Alyssa Ramsey, *Madison FFA*; Matt Renfro, *Mountain Heritage FFA*; James Rice, *Lumberton FFA*; Erika Scott, *West Rowan FFA*; Amanda Lynn Smedley, *South Granville FFA*; Hannah Jane Smith, *Providence Grove FFA*; Jonathon Smith, *West Carteret FFA*; Phillip Stringer, *West Rowan FFA*; Caroline Elizabeth Tart, *Rosewood FFA*; Courtney Renee Wade, *Tuscola FFA*; Olivia Diane Watson, *Avery County FFA*; Jacob Welborn, *Randleman FFA*; Caroline Elizabeth Yopp, *Triton FFA*

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Buren FFA; Cassandra Arling, St. Henry FFA; Justin Bachman, Bloom Carroll FFA; Kelsey Bailey, Felicity-Franklin FFA; Brent Baker, United FFA; Jerica Baker, Buckeye Trail FFA; Scott Baldosser, Seneca East FFA; Thomas Ballash, Hopewell-Loudon FFA; Markes Banister, Wauseon FFA; Tricia Bauman, Norwayne FFA; Dawna Bebout, Meadowbrook FFA; Angie Beekman, Centerburg FFA; Libby Bender, River Valley FFA; Arielle Bergman, Versailles FFA; John Berkshire, Indian Valley FFA; Natalie Christine Bessman, Pymatuning Valley FFA; Kyle Bigler, Utica FFA; Clint L. Bitler, Liberty Union FFA; Mariah Black, Bloom Carroll FFA; Austin Bok, Fairview FFA; Kelsey Bowers, Northwestern FFA; Justin Earl Monroe Branham, Teays Valley FFA; Ethan Brautigam, Fairlawn FFA; Jarrett Bright, Alexander FFA; Kelsey Brockman, Fort Recovery FFA; Mitchell Broering, St. Henry FFA; Troy Broseus, Utica FFA; Ronnie Bryant, Centerburg FFA; Cynthia J. Bunch, West Holmes FFA; Garrett Canfield, Mapleton FFA; Deirdre Christy, Carey FFA; Cathryn Clark, Northridge FFA; Rachel Clonch, Lynchburg-Clay FFA; Seth Coverstone, Miami East-MVCTC FFA; Albert Cravens, Clyde FFA; Kimberly Croft, River View FFA; Ashley Cross, Plymouth FFA; Melissa Ann Curry, Genoa Area FFA; Emily Marie Curtis, Elmwood FFA; Denver Davis, Wapakoneta FFA; Jared Deatrick, Paulding FFA; Nicolette T. Decker, Tecumseh FFA; Eric Dickman, Delphos FFA; Aaron Dietz, Botkins FFA; Addie Dixon, Triad FFA; Austin Dixon, Triad FFA; Austin P. Dorer, Buckeye FFA; Seth Dotson, Ridgewood FFA; Eric Downing, London FFA; Tammy Jo Dyer, Lancaster FFA; Courtney Earliwine, Union Local FFA; Heather Echle, Buckeye FFA; Kurt Egbert, Botkins FFA; Kayla Eisenbrown, Buckeye FFA; Seth Erwin, Fayetteville FFA; John Essman, Westfall FFA; James Falgner, Fayetteville FFA; Brittany Farquhar, Wayne Trace FFA; Jenna Faurot, Delphos FFA; Ian Fausnauch, Westfall FFA; Brock Finch, Benjamin Logan FFA; Kayla Mae Finton, Ridgewood FFA; Anthony Wayne Flannery, Georgetown FFA; Nick Ford, Liberty Union FFA; Tyler Fouman, Tri-Village-MVCTC FFA; Echo Frey, Upper Sandusky FFA; Janey Fulk, Crestview FFA; Tyson L. Funderburgh, Triad FFA; Robert Dean Gannett, South Central FFA; Shelby George, Elmwood FFA; Hannah Geyer, Botkins FFA; Ellen S. Gilliland, Mohawk FFA; Amy Gobrogge, Otsego FFA; Chad Gottfried, Upper Sandusky FFA; Alan Graham, John Glenn FFA; Sam Grauer, Crestview FFA; Samantha Grills, Firelands FFA; Lindsey C. Grimes, Hillsboro FFA; Maggie Ray Gurney, Seneca East FFA; Kelly Guthrie, River Valley FFA; Kelly M. Gwiner, Lakota FFA; James C. Hadley, Wilmington FFA; Mike Hannewald, Otsego FFA; Blake Harris, Spencerville

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Van Horn, Liberty-Benton FFA; Tyler Van Horn, Amanda-Clearcreek FFA; Matthew VanScoy, Ridgemont FFA; David Wagner, Colonel Crawford FFA; Jennifer Lynn Warrick, Anthony Wayne FFA; Mark Wasserman, Penta FFA; Melinda Weaver, Carrollton FFA; Caroline Wehl, Otsego FFA; Jessica Wellert, Northwestern-Wayne FFA; Tabitha Wheeler, Peebles FFA; Matt Whitacre, Fort Recover FFA; Cassi Wibright, Mechanicsburg FFA; Ryan Williams, Otsego FFA; Makenzie Wippel, Westfall FFA; Kayla Wrasman, Delphos FFA; Caleb Wright, Talawanda-Butler Tech FFA; Jacob Wuebben, Xenia FFA; Eric Daniel Wuebker, St. Henry FFA; Mark Wuebker, St. Henry FFA; Jared Wynn, Mapleton FFA; Joseph Yates, Mechanicsburg FFA; Candice Yockey, Eastern Brown FFA; Travis Zartman, Wayne Trace FFA; Marisa Zuchowski, Wauseon FFA

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Emma Siegmann, *Dover FFA*; Levi Garrett Sims, *Webbers Falls FFA*; Ashlea Nicole Smith, *Cushing FFA*; Justin Smith, *Chandler FFA*; Kristen Lynn Smith, *Prague FFA*; Kyle Lynn Spade, *Burlington FFA*; Austin Stacy, *Fort Gibson FFA*; Morgan Danielle Leigh-Anne, *Nowata FFA*; Michele Stephens, *Newkirk FFA*; Alexandria Tennant, *Panola FFA*; Taran Threet, *Wellston FFA*; Maverick Thurber, *Pawnee FFA*; Stephen Tillinghast, *Owasso FFA*; Charlcey Vinyard, *Altus FFA*; McKenzie Christen Walta, *Kingfisher FFA*; Cody Waugh, *Hugo FFA*; Kurtis Wheeler, *Broken Arrow FFA*; James Dailey White, *Indianola FFA*; Jason White, *Yale FFA*; Ciera Williams, *Wellston FFA*; Jonathan Ellis Williams, *Kansas FFA*; Katie Williams, *Spiro FFA*; Andrew Wayne Wilson, *Bethel FFA*; Nikki Wilson, *Rattan FFA*; Reanna Wilson, *Okemah FFA*; Bradley Womack, *Madill FFA*; Amber Workman, *Weleetka FFA*; Cari Leah Wright, *Bixby FFA*; Jared Yost, *Lomega FFA*

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RHODE ISLAND: Hillary Breene, *Exeter West Greenwich FFA*; Elizabeth LaPrise, *Exeter West Greenwich FFA*; Lauren Wolooohojan, *Exeter West Greenwich FFA*

SOUTH CAROLINA: Timothy Seamus Cassidy, *Aiken FFA*; Holly Caughman, *Batesburg-Leesville FFA*; Kerry Lee Cox, *Latta FFA*; Joshua Davis Nicholson, *Saluda FFA*; Scott J. Sherard, *Calhoun Falls FFA*; William C. Sherard, *Calhoun Falls FFA*; Katelyn Nichole Simpson, *Abbeville FFA*; Sally Ruth Yon, *Ridge Spring-Monetta FFA*

SOUTH DAKOTA: Cody Abrahamson, *De Smet FFA*; Taryn Anne Adams, *Harrisburg FFA*; Erik Anderson, *McCook Central FFA*; Danielle Busselman, *Elkton FFA*; Spencer Chase, *Wolsey-Wessington FFA*; Tonya Ernster, *McCook Central FFA*; Jessica Faris, *Harrisburg FFA*; Ashley Feldhus, *Arlington FFA*; Ashley Meagan Fritz, *West Central FFA*; Brittany Gassman, *McCook Central FFA*; Jennifer Gunnink, *Elkton FFA*; James Haak, *Howard FFA*; Zac Heumiller, *McCook Central FFA*; Andrea L. Hollenbeck, *Harrisburg FFA*; Stephanie Howey, *West Central FFA*; Mark Huls, *McCook Central FFA*; Casey Janisch, *Clark FFA*; Caitlin Johnson, *Arlington FFA*; Hannah Johnson, *Arlington FFA*; Joshua C. Johnson, *Harrisburg FFA*; Kiley Kaufman, *De Smet FFA*; Autumn Krueger, *Harrisburg FFA*; Thomas Lamb, *Clark FFA*; Ryan Larson, *Garretson FFA*; Kasie Marie Lauck, *McCook Central FFA*; Daniel A. Long, *Harrisburg FFA*; Taylor Osterberg, *McCook Central FFA*; Ryan J. Penning, *Harrisburg FFA*; Caitlin Rachel Peterson, *Harrisburg FFA*; Maria Sue Rausch, *Hoven FFA*; Jessica Ronning, *Alcester-Hudson FFA*; Damian Schouten, *Alcester-Hudson FFA*; Emily Schreur, *Alcester-Hudson FFA*; Darin Schroeder, *McCook Central FFA*; Olivia Swanson, *Tri-Valley FFA*; Trent Thompson, *Harrisburg FFA*; Elle Tornberg, *Harrisburg FFA*; Melissa VanDerWerff, *West Central FFA*; Zachary Voss, *Harrisburg FFA*; Calista Winter, *Harrisburg FFA*

TENNESSEE: Gabe Adkins, *Jo Byrns FFA*; Melanie Aiosa, *Paris FFA*; Todd Baker, *Dyersburg FFA*; Andrew Barding, *Jefferson County FFA*; Taylor Barker, *Peabody FFA*; Benjamin Barnett, *Dresden FFA*; Ashley Bates, *Milan FFA*; Joseph Blurton, *Munford "Big Boll" FFA*; Tyler Bolton, *Liberty FFA*; Brooke Brasher, *Riverside FFA*; Bryan Bratcher, *Jo Byrns FFA*; Anna Brown, *Dyer County FFA*; Hillary Brown, *South Side FFA*; Matthew Brown, *Wilson Central FFA*; Emily Bruer, *Riverdale FFA*; Emily Buck, *Wilson Central FFA*; Dalton Carneal, *Liberty FFA*; Katherine M. Caves, *Mount Juliet FFA*; Carley Cherry, *Halls FFA*; Tyler Chowning, *East Robertson FFA*; Mac Chrisman, *Eagleville FFA*; Rex Climer III, *Crockett County FFA*; Logan Coates, *Westview FFA*; Austin Cohea, *Wilson Central FFA*; Andrew Thomas Collier, *Wilson Central FFA*; Morgan Collins, *Watertown FFA*; Matt Courtney, *Jefferson County FFA*; Deanna Coutts, *East Robertson FFA*; Holly Crews, *Milan FFA*; William



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Pillow, *Woodbury FFA*; Gabrielle Ellen Pope, *Liberty FFA*; Holly Christine Quillen, *Loretto FFA*; C. W. Reed, *Woodbury FFA*; Matthew Reed, *Watertown FFA*; Caitlin Rogers, *Perry Co. FFA*; Chelsea C. Rogers, *East Robertson FFA*; Katy Russell, *Jo Byrns FFA*; Kaine S. Savage, *Horace Maynard FFA*; John Schultz, *Dyersburg FFA*; Shelby Searcy, *East Robertson FFA*; Tyler Selph, *Crockett County FFA*; Ben J. Sexton, *Horace Maynard FFA*; Mallory Shanks, *Eagleville FFA*; Samantha Noel Sharp, *Horace Maynard FFA*; Deanna Shepler, *North Knox FFA*; Taylor Mae Shultz, *East Robertson FFA*; Cary E. Smith, *Dyer County FFA*; Collin Gray Snoddy, *Lincoln County FFA*; Kevin Spain, *East Robertson FFA*; Jack Stafford, *White House Heritage FFA*; Amber L. Stewart, *Mt. Pleasant FFA*; Briana Leigh Stewart, *Lincoln County FFA*; Austin Nicole Pattillo Taylor, *Dekalb County FFA*; Curtis Glenn Taylor, *Cookeville FFA*; Seth Daniel Tennant, *Gallatin FFA*; Nathan Tenpenny, *Riverdale FFA*; Cortney Thompson, *Jo Byrns FFA*; Rebekah Faye Tinsley, *Warren County FFA*; Landon Cole Tipton, *Daniel Boone FFA*; Myra Nicole Tramel, *Dekalb County FFA*; Andrew B. Tucker, *North Greene FFA*; Lee-Allen Turner, *Warren County FFA*; Chelsea Vaughn, *Warren County FFA*; Joseph C. Vickers, *Dekalb County FFA*; Taylor Wadley, *South Side FFA*; Westlee Walker, *Cumberland Gap FFA*; Dustin Warren, *South Side FFA*; Garrett Briggance Weidner, *Gallatin FFA*; Brian West, *Westview FFA*; Daniel Wiggins, *Crockett County FFA*; Mary Ellen Wilson, *Munford "Big Boll" FFA*; Jessie Nicole Womack, *Woodbury FFA*; Bethanie S. Wood, *Lexington FFA*; Cassandra D. Woodward, *Gallatin FFA*; D.W. York, *Oakland FFA*; Jessi Young, *Jefferson County FFA*; Sarah Katherine Young, *Giles County FFA*

TEXAS: Chelsea Adams, *Bryan FFA*; Tanner Adams, *Sanger FFA*; Aaron Arnold, *Chisum FFA*; Ashlee Arnold, *Salado FFA*; James Ash, *Academy FFA*; Abraham Aviles, *East Chambers FFA*; Zachary Barta, *Terry FFA*; Brandon Boerner, *Pilot Point FFA*; Blake Bosch, *Weimar FFA*; Chelsea Braune, *Bellville FFA*; Jacob Brock, *Barbers Hill FFA*; Kylar Burseay, *Quanah FFA*; Laurie Byrd, *Round Top Carmine FFA*; Patrick Joseph Byrne, *Eagle Pass FFA*; Anna Calhoun, *Blooming Grove FFA*; Erica Carpenter, *Covington FFA*; Drew Casey, *Peaster FFA*; Andy Christensen, *Clear Brook FFA*; Jerrett Cobb, *Barbers Hill FFA*; Shelby Collins, *Chico FFA*; Jacy Coston, *Chisum FFA*; Lacoohn Cox, *Ponder FFA*; Tyler Crafton, *Henrietta FFA*; Jessica Crecelius, *Burleson FFA*; Kyla Criswell, *Poteet FFA*; Donovan Davis, *Boles FFA*; James Dean, *Gilmer FFA*; Dimitri Delarosa, *Bloomington FFA*; Lindsey Donaho, *Gilmer FFA*; Kevin Doonan, *Caldwell FFA*; James Truitt Duncan, *Avinger FFA*; Kevin

Edwards, *Academy FFA*; Alex English, *Gilmer FFA*; Dalton Ervin, *Weimar FFA*; Camry Farhat, *Plano East FFA*; Dakota Fleming, *Troy FFA*; Lesli Garrett, *Canton FFA*; Chloe Geye, *Brownwood FFA*; Meagan Ghormley, *Madisonville FFA*; Maegan Gibson, *Boles FFA*; Colt Gresham, *Garrison FFA*; Bryce Groves, *Crowley FFA*; Brent Hale, *Dayton FFA*; Justin Hale, *Northwest FFA*; Taylor Hope Haliburton, *Waco Midway FFA*; Josh Hardcastle, *Wheeler FFA*; Makenzie Hardy, *Peaster FFA*; Cody Harris, *Smithson Valley FFA*; Tamil Harris, *Gilmer FFA*; Heather Kay Harvey, *Iola FFA*; Terra Hausenfluck, *Bryan FFA*; Colton Hay, *Lovelady FFA*; Shelby Lee Heffernan, *Pleasanton FFA*; Rylee Hobbs, *Barbers Hill FFA*; Mallorie Hohlt, *Burton FFA*; Tiffany Paige Holland, *Cross Plains FFA*; Andy Hounsel, *New Diana FFA*; Ryan Hubbert, *Floresville FFA*; Caleb Hughes, *Brenham FFA*; Emily Jackson, *Bosqueville FFA*; J. Storme Jannise, *Hamshire-Fannett FFA*; Garrett Jennings, *Simms FFA*; Leslie Johnson, *S and S Consolidated FFA*; Patrick Johnson, *Falls City FFA*; Darren Jones, *Lovelady FFA*; Kyle Keahey, *Grand Saline FFA*; Ashley Nicole Keen, *Gilmer FFA*; Jennifer Kirkland, *Cotton Center FFA*; Brittney Klein, *Bellville FFA*; Michelle Knox, *East Central FFA*; Clayton Krause, *Smithson Valley FFA*; Mackenzie Langemeier, *Marion FFA*; Preston Langhoff, *Weimar FFA*; Meredith Larson, *Pilot Point FFA*; Madison Leiker, *Lago Vista FFA*; Logan Leschper, *Anson FFA*; Gavin Luckett, *Valley FFA*; Shelly Maldonado, *Cotulla FFA*; Valerie Manning, *Mabank FFA*; Matthew March, *Terry FFA*; Shelby Markwardt, *Carmine FFA*; Shelby McCollum, *Krum FFA*; Sydney McCollum, *Krum FFA*; Lauren McNiel, *Peaster FFA*; D. J. Melancon, *Vidor FFA*; Rode Merryman, *Clyde FFA*; Dylan Miller, *Academy FFA*; Travis Miller, *Booker FFA*; Zachary Miller, *Seymour FFA*; John Moczygomba, *Falls City FFA*; Tyler Moon, *Academy FFA*; Allison Moore, *East Central FFA*; Timothy Morris, *Harmony FFA*; Sloan Ty Moss, *Chisum FFA*; Sheridan Mulkey, *Northwest FFA*; Jason Url Muller, *Bryan FFA*; Bianca Muriel, *Cotulla FFA*; Clint Neill, *Orange Grove FFA*; Sabrina Ozio, *Madisonville FFA*; Mason Parish, *Caney Creek FFA*; Caitlin Powers, *Katy FFA*; Jacob Price, *Gilmer FFA*; Justin Pulley, *Livingston FFA*; Jacob L. Reese, *Cotulla FFA*; Reagan Richter, *Bloomington FFA*; Josh Romines, *Chico FFA*; Audrianna Sands, *Clear Lake FFA*; Kolby Scardino, *Weimar FFA*; Kurt Scardino, *Weimar FFA*; Jared Schubert, *Bellville FFA*; David Schwarz, *Hempstead FFA*; Lauren Seales, *Whiteface FFA*; Allison Sestak, *Weimar FFA*; Zackary Skrabanek, *Academy FFA*; Alex Smith, *Mayde Creek FFA*; Kameron Soules, *Aledo FFA*; Caroline Spencer, *Harmony FFA*; Jonathan Spiess, *Bellville FFA*; Shelby Stall, *Klein Forest FFA*; Katherine Stroud,

Bryan FFA; Cody Sutton, *Pilot Point FFA*; Jordan Symon, *Pearland FFA*; Shelby Thomas, *Gilmer FFA*; Jonathan Treptow, *Weimar FFA*; Annie Ullrich, *Plano East FFA*; Ashleigh Vanderveer, *Troy FFA*; Sealy Vardell, *Ponder FFA*; Jessica Walker, *Salado FFA*; Chelsea Walters, *Weimar FFA*; Austin Webster, *Plano West FFA*; Chelsea Weisinger, *Livingston FFA*; Brandon Whitten, *Tomball FFA*; Kelsey Wiley, *Charlottesville FFA*; William Wingo, *Bellville FFA*;

UTAH: Jon Thomas Anderson, *Pleasant Grove FFA*; Karson Anderson, *Woods Cross FFA*; Wade W. Anderson, *Pleasant Grove FFA*; Weston Asay, *Springville FFA*; Dylan Baker, *Riverton FFA*; Josh Barnett, *Fremont FFA*; Swade Bartlett, *Springville FFA*; Dalton Beck, *Lehi FFA*; Brandon Beckstead, *Lehi FFA*; Matt Brocius, *Pleasant Grove FFA*; Jordan W. Bunderson, *Bear River FFA*; Koltan Angus Christiansen, *Gunnison Valley FFA*; Adam Clark, *Emery FFA*; Charly Cortese, *Lehi FFA*; Kameron Crane, *Gunnison Valley FFA*; Wade Donaldson, *North Summit FFA*; Michael L. Dow, *Tooele FFA*; JaBoe Garrett, *Mt. Nebo FFA*; Alisia Giles, *Spanish Fork FFA*; Jessica Aspen Gosar, *Manila FFA*; Crystal Mary Gruber, *Clearfield FFA*; Tait D. Gurney, *North Sevier FFA*; Jacob Allan Hadfield, *Lehi FFA*; Dillan Lynn Hansen, *Box Elder FFA*; Kimball Harley, *American Fork FFA*; Niccole L. Haslam, *Morgan FFA*; Shane B. Holm, *Springville FFA*; Kiersten Lee Holmes, *Uintah FFA*; Jakob Jones, *Lehi FFA*; W. Tate Jones, *Spanish Fork FFA*; Amy Kleinman, *Lone Peak FFA*; Josh Kresser, *Pleasant Grove FFA*; Shalae LaRue, *Fremont FFA*; Nicole Lochhead, *Riverton FFA*; Colton Curtis Marble, *Box Elder FFA*; Tyler R. McClimans, *Tooele FFA*; Sam McIntyre, *Cedar FFA*; Kyle Mitchell, *Spanish Fork FFA*; Natasha Lyn Morgan, *Lehi FFA*; Steele Muggelberg, *Manila FFA*; Alle Muir, *Manila FFA*; Cameron Leon Nelson, *Box Elder FFA*; Kyle Niesporek, *South Summit FFA*; Colter C. Noyes, *Box Elder FFA*; Justin Olsen, *Manila FFA*; Fred Openshaw, *Payson FFA*; Shyanne Ovard, *North Summit FFA*; Jailee Pace, *Spanish Fork FFA*; Tyrel Joseph Prior, *Spanish Fork FFA*; Amanda Pulham, *Lehi FFA*; Kristi Jo Rasmussen, *Lehi FFA*; Jared Reed, *Manila FFA*; Kashlie Roath, *North Summit FFA*; Jeffrey Rowley, *Payson FFA*; Jacob Savage, *Richfield FFA*; Sarah Schoonover, *Lehi FFA*; K. C. Scown, *Lehi FFA*; Shaylyn Skinner, *Pleasant Grove FFA*; Luke Slagowski, *Manila FFA*; Colter Smith, *Manila FFA*;

Josh Smith, *Lehi FFA*; Trevor Smith, *Sky View FFA*; Brayden Jay Spencer, *Springville FFA*; Shelby Stauffer, *Riverton FFA*; J. Brock Stubbs, *Cedar FFA*; Alexis Sweat, *Wasatch FFA*; Courtney Taylor, *Salem Hills FFA*; Klayton Thompson, *American Fork FFA*; Whitney Trapp, *Lehi FFA*; Wacey Trujillo, *Lehi FFA*; Chaleesa Warren, *Spanish Fork FFA*; Kendell T. Wilde, *South Summit FFA*; Samantha Williams, *Fremont FFA*; Cassidy L. Williamson, *Box Elder FFA*; James B. Wolfe, *Fremont FFA*; Chelsy Young, *Box Elder FFA*

VIRGINIA: Andrew Jackson Arrington IV, *Holston FFA*; Dale Baumgardner, *Holston FFA*; Justin Blair, *Fort Chiswell FFA*; Ashlea Bowers, *Buffalo Gap FFA*; Emily Bruce Brown, *Randolph-Henry FFA*; Carla Jean Brubaker, *Franklin County FFA*; Timothy Caldwell, *Floyd County FFA*; Will Callender, *Turner Ashby FFA*; Rebecca Sue Carter, *Nelson County Senior FFA*; Benjamin Cluxton, *Floyd County FFA*; C. C. Coffey, *Fort Chiswell FFA*; Julia Rae Collett, *James Wood FFA*; Christy Aleene Craun, *Turner Ashby FFA*; Brian Cromer, *Buffalo Gap FFA*; Jacob D. Cutlip, *Strasburg FFA*; Carson Daughtrey, *Lakeland FFA*; Kathryn Dunsmore, *Fort Defiance FFA*; Jamie Leigh Durden, *Lakeland FFA*; Willie Elgin, *Central FFA*; Daniella Faith Gauden, *Appomattox Senior FFA*; John Wyatt Hall, *Giles FFA*; Jonathan Lee Hayden, *Massaponax FFA*; Sarah Hoover, *Strasburg FFA*; Anne Howell, *Lakeland FFA*; Bryan Jennings, *Carroll County FFA*; Ray Justice, *Floyd County FFA*; Andrew Kibler, *Strasburg FFA*; Wes Kline, *Turner Ashby FFA*; Matthew Knonenborg, *Strasburg FFA*; Gabrielle R. Linkous, *Floyd County FFA*; Kelsey Logan, *Turner Ashby FFA*; Cassidy Gail Miller, *Floyd County FFA*; Lynne Miller, *Turner Ashby FFA*; Trampus Mitchell, *Holston FFA*; Sabrina Nicole Montgomery, *Franklin County FFA*; Brittaneey Elaine Nelson, *Broadway FFA*; Travis D. Nester, *Floyd County FFA*; Bly Addison Patterson, *Fort Defiance FFA*; Valerie Alyce Peters, *Carroll County FFA*; Andrew Phillips, *Fort Defiance FFA*; Ricky Phoenix, *Lord Botetourt FFA*; Adam Powell, *Fort Defiance FFA*; Curt Pulley, *Lakeland FFA*; Amanda Ellen Quesenberry, *Floyd County FFA*; Laura Kate Reeves, *Buffalo Gap FFA*; Chelsey Renee Rickard, *Strasburg FFA*; Emma Catherine Rion, *Spotswood FFA*; Jessica Rion, *Spotswood FFA*; Jonathan Ritenour, *Strasburg FFA*; James Franklin Rockwell II, *Sherando FFA*; Blake Rogers, *Turner Ashby FFA*; Ashley Dakota Rubush, *Fort Defiance FFA*; Jillian Sellers, *Massanutten Technical Center/Spencer A. Shanholtz, Sherando FFA*; Brianna Nichole Shanholter, *James Wood FFA*; Brent Shelton, *Chatham FFA*; Aaron Smith, *Spotswood FFA*; Esther Renee Smith, *Spotswood FFA*; Hobie Stone, *Carroll*

County FFA; Savanna Danielle Turner, *Clintwood FFA*; Chris Tusing, *Central FFA*; Kristen Ulmer, *Broadway FFA*; Kyle VanLear, *Fort Defiance FFA*; Sheldon Waldron, *Buffalo Gap FFA*; Danielle Warden, *Holston FFA*; Andy Wilcox, *Holston FFA*

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WEST VIRGINIA: Robert Z. Bane, *Jefferson FFA*; Andrew Bourgeois, *Ripley FFA*; Samantha Carney, *Ripley FFA*; Alyssa Jayne White Carpenter, *Ripley FFA*; Isaac C. Carr, *Pendleton County FFA*; Melissa Dawn Cox, *St. Marys FFA*; Robby Currey, *Doddridge County FFA*; Mike Davis, *Nicholas FFA*; Kelly Flesher, *Tyler Consolidated FFA*; George Hilvers, *Tyler Consolidated FFA*; Kenneth Cole Karickhoff, *Buckhannon Upshur FFA*; Tiffany Mantz, *Jefferson FFA*; Catherine May, *Shady Spring FFA*; Marcy Myrick, *Doddridge County FFA*; Shawn Neel, *Jefferson FFA*; Dustin Riner, *Hedgesville FFA*; Lacey J. Sims, *Wirt County FFA*; Leah K. Vance, *Greenbrier East FFA*; Charles A. Wilfong II, *Pocahontas County FFA*; Katharine Wolf, *Jefferson FFA*

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Cullen, Weyauwega-Fremont FFA; Michele M. Czarnecki, *Waterford FFA*; Lauren Dailey, *Weyauwega-Fremont FFA*; Brandon Davis, *Big Foot FFA*; Anthony Dempsey, *Omro FFA*; Kevin G. Eibergen, *Granton FFA*; Reid S. Ewing, *Waupaca FFA*; Brandon Fay, *Waupaca FFA*; Jacob J. Fidler, *Denmark FFA*; Courtney Foulker, *Monticello FFA*; Ashley Fritz, *Waupaca FFA*; Courtney Geier, *Cashton FFA*; Morgan D. Gerlach, *Neillsville FFA*; Ethan E. Giebel, *Mauston FFA*; Chelsea Glass, *Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA*; Justin Goninen, *Mineral Point FFA*; Steven Greeler, *Neillsville FFA*; Jennifer Greenfield, *Waupun FFA*; Nicole Griffiths, *Pecatonica FFA*; Jacob Gronemus, *Cashton FFA*; Jordan Frederick Haelfrisch, *Reedsville FFA*; Jesse Hartrick, *Weyauwega-Fremont FFA*; Hannah E. Hasz, *Granton FFA*; Justin T. Hasz, *Granton FFA*; Jason Jay Heberlein, *Fennimore FFA*; Desiree A Heck, *Neillsville FFA*; Allen D. Heidt, *Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA*; Daniel Heiman, *Neillsville FFA*; Sarah Henderson, *Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau FFA*; Eldon S. Henthorne, *Adams-Friendship FFA*; Leeann Hitsman, *Howards Grove FFA*; Alicia Hodnik, *Big Foot FFA*; Ann M. Hoffmann, *Amherst FFA*; Tina M. Holst, *Chilton FFA*; Nathan Horack, *Johnson Creek FFA*; Curtis Horsens, *Gillett FFA*; Chelsea Hottenstine, *Bonduel FFA*; Joshua D. Huber, *Adams-Friendship FFA*; Rachal K. Jensen, *Denmark FFA*; Ashley Johnson, *Amery FFA*; Brandon Johnson, *Waupaca FFA*; Derek John Johnson, *Colby FFA*; Kasey Johnson, *Luck FFA*; Stuart Johnson, *Waupaca FFA*; Craig W. Karlen, *Neillsville FFA*; Jordan Karpinski, *Waupaca FFA*; Tonya Kasper, *Weyauwega-Fremont FFA*; Ivy Kasten, *Reedsville FFA*; Alyssa Keller, *Weyauwega-Fremont FFA*; Megan Kelly, *Holmen FFA*; Wade T. Kessenich, *De Forest FFA*; Jessica Klunkner, *Cashton FFA*; Skylar Kraemer, *Plymouth FFA*; Rachel Kroeplien, *Sheboygan Falls FFA*; Stacey Marie Kunde, *Winneconne FFA*; Tiffany Langteau, *Medford FFA*; Beau Larsen, *Weyauwega-Fremont FFA*; Julia Larsen, *Unity FFA*; Kaitlyn M. Linder, *Pecatonica FFA*; Teyanna M. Marx, *Sauk Prairie FFA*; Brooke McClurg, *Viroqua FFA*; Clayton McCullough, *Big Foot FFA*; Dakotah Meyer, *Tri-County FFA*; Melissa Ann Meyer, *Tri-County FFA*; Zachariah K. Mielke, *Weyauwega-Fremont FFA*; Jake M. Mitte, *Neillsville FFA*; Brittany Mumbleur, *Weyauwega-Fremont FFA*; Kelsey Murphy, *Viroqua FFA*; Stephanie M. Nagel, *Valders FFA*; Kayla Naparalla, *Pulaski FFA*; Chelsey Neal, *Brillion FFA*; Charisse Orth, *Fennimore FFA*; Julie Laurean Orth, *Fennimore FFA*; Timothy D. Ostrowski, *Amherst FFA*; Jacob Pagel, *Weyauwega-Fremont FFA*; Skylar Papcke, *Elkhorn FFA*; Roby L. Parsons, *Antigo FFA*; Casey Lynn Peacock, *Shullsburg FFA*; Anna Peissig, *Colby FFA*; Eric Peterson, *Cashton FFA*; Patrick Peterson, *Amherst FFA*; Paul Peterson, *Amherst FFA*; Nicholas Pues, *Bonduel FFA*;



Amanda J. Rettinger, *Antigo FFA*; Cara A. Robinson, *Manawa FFA*; Ethan C. Rzentkowski, *Amherst FFA*; Heidi Sabel, *Chilton FFA*; Jill School, *Suring FFA*; Bronson Schultz, *Tomah FFA*; Brad Schwanz, *Amherst FFA*; Nik Schwartz, *Pulaski FFA*; Tylor Schwartz, *Watertown FFA*; William J. Seidler, *Suring FFA*; Mary Pat Speerstra, *Whitehall FFA*; Shanen Stainer, *Menomonie FFA*; Bradley Sternweis, *Marshfield FFA*; Tayton Stolee, *Argyle FFA*; Abby Tauchen, *Bonduel FFA*; Krystal Thorman, *Watertown FFA*; Andrew Timm, *Reedsville FFA*; Caleb Tiry, *Stanley-Boyd FFA*; Taylor Tomaszewski, *Weyauwega-Fremont FFA*; Katie Tone, *Glenwood City FFA*; Derek Tonn, *Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA*; Kori Trescher, *Cashton FFA*; Josef Allen Treu, *Omro FFA*; Adam Trybula, *Neillsville FFA*; Derek Roman Urmanski, *Tomah FFA*; Elizabeth Valenta, *Denmark FFA*; Keturah Vangen, *Rio FFA*; Kyra A. Warner, *Jefferson FFA*; Brianna Wavrunek, *Denmark FFA*; Rodger Williams, *Rio FFA*; Stephanie Wilsmann, *Neillsville FFA*; Michael Wolfe, *Monroe FFA*; Trevor Yager, *Mineral Point FFA*; Renae Zimmerman, *Augusta FFA*; Ryan M. Zimmerman, *Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA*; Savannah Zuehlke, *Waupaca FFA*

WYOMING: Amy Andreen, *Casper FFA*; Sara Banning, *Powell-Shoshone FFA*; John Tate Bauman, *High Plains FFA*; Samuel Luke Bethea, *Bearlodge FFA*; Susan Button, *Saddle & Sirloin FFA*; Micah Christensen, *Frontier FFA*; William W. Clark, *Rock Creek FFA*; Erica Elizabeth David, *Pinedale FFA*; Wyatt James Hill, *Stewart McPhail FFA*; Kaleb Larson, *Jim Bridger FFA*; Courtney Lynn Mathews, *Saddle & Sirloin FFA*; Michelle Mullins, *Paintrock FFA*; Scott A. Mustain, *Rock Creek FFA*; Odessa R. Oldham, *Lander FFA*; Michael Owens, *Casper FFA*; Troy Randall, *Pine Bluffs FFA*; Keylee Saylor, *Casper FFA*; Jacob Schneider, *Chief Washakie FFA*; Elizabeth Shaffer, *Pinedale FFA*; Kyle Thoman, *Wind River FFA*; Kaycee Vollmar, *Casper FFA*; Courtney R. Yelton, *Snowy Range FFA*; Chay Youngberg, *Jim Bridger FFA*

2009 AMERICAN DEGREE AWARD RECIPIENTS

IDAHO: Cory Loveland, *Cambridge FFA*; Holder Ray McKee, *Cambridge FFA*

HONORARY AMERICAN DEGREE RECIPIENTS



TEACHER

ARKANSAS: Mr. Patrick Breeding

CALIFORNIA: Mr. Daniel Crookham, Mr. Sal Richard Jacobsen, Mrs. Jodi Evans, Ms. Lisa Piehl, Mr. Jim Shanks, Ms. Sherri Freeman

CONNECTICUT: Ms. Bonnie Kegler

GEORGIA: Mr. Danny Carter, Mr. Herbert Teague

IDAHO: Mr. Troy S. Wright

ILLINOIS: Mr. Gary Blankenship

KANSAS: Mr. Daniel Stehlik

MICHIGAN: Ms. Cynthia Walker

MISSOURI: Mr. Scott Stone, Ms. Leda Schreiner, Mr. Corey Scott, Mr. Michael Wayne Keilholz, Mr. Joseph A. Robinson, Ms. Dana Kimmons, Mr. Michael Wayne Aldrich

NEW HAMPSHIRE: Ms. Sarah M. Ward

NEW JERSEY: Mr. Joel S. Rudderow

NEW YORK: Ms. Michele Sutton, Ms. Elizabeth Foote

NORTH CAROLINA: Mr. David Overcash, Mr. Fred J. McPherson

NORTH DAKOTA: Mr. Gary A. Wald, Mr. Cameron Young

OHIO: Mr. Tom Holton, Mr. Dan Shell

OKLAHOMA: Mr. Robert "Chip" Laubach, Mr. Michael Stuckey, Mr. Cody Nelson

SOUTH CAROLINA: Mr. Barry Hawkins

SOUTH DAKOTA: Mr. Bill Lehman

TENNESSEE: Mr. Dale B. Tucker, Ms. Ann Johnson, Mr. Don O. Willoughby, Mr. Bryan Cole, Mr. Richard Louis Ros

TEXAS: Mr. Gary W. Adams, Mr. Johnny R. Willeford, Mr. R. H. Rodriguez, Mr. Brent Wicker

VIRGINIA: Ms. Teresa Lindberg, Mr. Champ Hardie, Mr. Jay Jarrett

WEST VIRGINIA: Mr. Gregory Huffman, Ms. Deanna Ammons, Mr. Jason Miihlbach, Mr. Christopher L. VanDyne Sr., Ms. Mary E. Phillips

WISCONSIN: Ms. Cheryl Steinbach

WYOMING: Mr. Justin Bailey



OTHER

ALABAMA: Mr. Ben Gore, Mr. Brandon Moore, Mr. Phillip Paramore, Mr. Douglas Thiessen, Mr. Phillip Williams

ARIZONA: Ms. Karen Geldmacher

ARKANSAS: Mr. Greg Cole, Ms. Cynthia S. Edwards, Mr. Gary Kinder, Mr. Glen Manchester, California: Dr. Michael Spiess

DELAWARE: Dr. Patricia S. Barber

FLORIDA: Mr. Bobby Beagles, Mr. Cameron O. Dakin, Ms. Pam Walden, Georgia: Mr. John "Chip" Bridges, Mr. Bobby Carrell, Mr. Jefferson Fariss. Baxley, Mr. Mark Latimore, Mrs. Martha White, Idaho: Mr. J. Y. Hummel

KANSAS: Mr. John Niemann

LOUISIANA: Dr. Paul D. Coreil Baton Rouge, Mr. William Dwight Landreneau Baton Rouge, Dr. William B Richardson Baton Rouge, Maryland: Mr. Christopher Burch, Mr. Matthew Koerner, Mr. George Mayo, Michigan: Ms. Megghan Honke, Mr. Mike Wenkel, Mr. Wayne Wood, Minnesota: Mr. Kevin Dahlman, Mr. Bill Januszewski, Mr. Kevin Paap, Mr. George Peichel, Ms. Julie Tesch, Missouri: Mr. Leon Busdieker, Dr. J. Arley Larson, Ms. Donna Vaught

NATIONAL STAFF: Ms. Linda Addaman, Ms. Michele Adkins, Mr. Blake Alexandre, Mrs. Stephanie Alexandre, Mrs. Melody Alford, Mr. Jeff Allsup, Comm. Karen Arnett, Ms. Jana Ash, Mr. James A. Bernau, Mrs. Mary M. Bernau Altoona, Mr. Allen Bollinger, Mrs. Dorothy Bollinger, Ms. Melanie Cassetty, Mr. Jeff Collier, Mrs. Melodie Collier, Ms. Karen

Crawford, Mr. Greg Curlin, Mrs. Kim DeJong, Mr. Miles DeJong, Ms. Wendy Dykes, Mr. John Eilertson, Mrs. Nancy Eilertson, Mr. Douglas Flatt, Mrs. Tawana Flatt, Ms. Sheridan Gilchrist, Mr. Douglas Goeckel, Mrs. Teryl Goeckel, Mrs. Beverly Hankey, Mr. Rick Hankey, Mrs. Kimberley Sue Henry, Mrs. Marcia Hills, Mr. Steve Hills, Mr. Thomas Holt Research Triangle Park, Mr. John Hutto, Mrs. Kenna Hutto, Ms. Erin Ice, Capt. Dave Kelley, Ms. Ruth Kimmelschue, Mr. Terry King, Mr. Walter Kinzie, Ms. Leigh Loughead Yuma, Mr. Steve Meredith, Ms. Rita Milandri, Ms. Mickie Miller, Mr. Craig Morton, Mr. Brian Myers, Mr. William J. Newell, Ms. Linda R. Noble, Mr. David Ray Norris, Mrs. Lori Louise Norris, Mrs. Christi Pagett, Mr. Wade Pagett, Capt. Fred Pervine, Mr. Lee Pletcher, Mrs. Peggy Lou Pletcher, Mr. Neil Reynolds, Mrs. Brenda Rice, Mr. Daniel Rice, Mrs. Cheryl Rogers, Mr. David Rogers, Mr. Richard Roller, Mr. Dewayne Rose, Mrs. JoAnn Rose, Mr. John Saveley, Mr. Anthony Allan Schaffert, Mrs. Terri Lynn Schaffert, Mr. Kevin Schebil, Mrs. Juliet Scrivano, Mr. Philip Scrivano, Mr. Brian Solomon, Mr. Brian Spiro, Mrs. Juanita Swallers, Mr. Dave Teepe, Ms. Judy Thomas, Mr. John Turner, Mrs. Terri Turner, Mr. Brian Vculek, Mrs. Julie Vculek, Ms. Marlyce Webster, Sarg. Todd Wells, Mr. Kerry Werst, Ms. Diane Whitsitt, Mr. Chad Wilke

NEW HAMPSHIRE: Mr. Emery Booska

NEW JERSEY: Dr. Nancy Hudanich, Dr. William Sciarappa, Mr. William Walker, New Mexico: Mrs. Melody

Kay Gaines, Mr. Michael Gene Gaines, New York: Mr. Chip Pratt, Ms. Julie Suarez, North Carolina: Mr. Richard Brooks, Dr. George Naderman

NORTH DAKOTA: Ms. Jackie Buckley, Ms. Renae Korslien

OHIO: Mr. Michael Lynch

OKLAHOMA: Mr. Jamie Church, Mr. Rusty Gosz, Mr. Mike Kastl, Dr. Edwin Miller, Mr. Jim Pilkington

PENNSYLVANIA: Mr. George Greig, Mr. Patrick J. Kerwin, Mr. C. Lehman Metzler, Mrs. Amy Morton

SOUTH CAROLINA: Mr. Ray T. Johnson, Mrs. Charlotte Swafford,

SOUTH DAKOTA: Mrs. Alicia Knutson, Mrs. Tiffany Sanderson, Mr. Dave VanderWal, Mr. Marvin Wastell

TENNESSEE: Mr. William Dorris Cook, Mr. Jerry A. Cooper, Hon. Julius Johnson, Mr. Stephen J. McNeil, Mr. Lacy Upchurch

TEXAS: Mr. Gary Clayton, Mr. Jim Looney, Dr. Douglas R. Ullrich

VIRGINIA: Mr. Alvin Wilson Blaha, Mrs. Nina Atkinson Blaha, The Late Mrs. Andrea Lohr, Mr. Dave Winston

WEST VIRGINIA: Mr. Jack Cain, Mr. Eugene Friend, Mr. Paul McCutchan, Dr. Jeff Skousen

WISCONSIN: Ms. Darlene Arneson, Mr. David Erickson, Mr. Wilbert "Bill" Holler, Mr. Michael J. Kawleski, The Late Mr. Donald Wipperfurth

WYOMING: Mrs. Therese Coxm, Mr. Scott McDonald, Mrs. Linda Pulse

FFA CHAPTERS WIN TOP HONOR

During the 84th National FFA Convention, chapters across the nation competed for the honor of being a Model of Innovation winner. The chapters competed for the honor in three main divisions: chapter development, student development and community development. A top middle school chapter was also named. The chapters who received the honors received a plaque in an on-stage ceremony during the convention's second general session.

The Models of Innovation awards are sponsored by John Deere. It is one of the many ways FFA members accomplish the FFA mission and succeed in making a difference in their communities and the lives of others.

Chapter Development

The [Ridgemont FFA Chapter in Ridgeway, Ohio](#), was named Model of Innovation winner in chapter development.

Members of the Ridgemont FFA wanted to celebrate International Education Week by teaching cross-cultural traditions to students of all grade levels. The members exceeded their goals, creating puppet shows, writing experiences and music classes for young students and by using lunch periods to build cultural awareness through a variety of activities for older students. Their efforts concluded with an assembly about life in Albania; they also won a civic education contest for their international efforts.

Student Development

The [Lemoore FFA Chapter in California](#) was named Model of Innovation winner in student development.



Members of the Lemoore FFA Chapter raise and socialize guide dog puppies for the blind. At the International Agriculture Expo in Tulare, Calif., members are given the opportunity to educate the public about service dogs. Demonstrating service in the school, the members plan and serve a breakfast at back-to-school activities for the entire school district staff.

Community Development

The [Wilson FFA Chapter of Kansas](#) was named Model of Innovation winner in community development.

Members of Wilson FFA realized that even in their rural community, youth weren't proficient in agricultural knowledge. The chapter members decided to create "Ag Day on the Farm," an event that featured learning sessions in eight agricultural areas for more than 60 local fourth grade students. Partnering with the local farm bureau and extension office, members led a session about dairy

production, which also helped the general public become more aware of food systems and other related agricultural issues.

Outstanding Middle School

The [Bell Middle FFA Chapter in Florida](#) was named the Outstanding Middle School Model of Innovation winner.

Members of the Bell Middle FFA may be young, but they're no rookies in building their chapter—one event at a time. One of the chapter's most important programs last year was called "International Candy Bar." Chapter officers and members emphasized agriculture's impact by discussing the ingredients of a candy bar with elementary school students. They also visited a local nursing home, bringing cookies with corn gold and national blue frosting for the residents to decorate. Members had the opportunity to hear stories about when nursing home residents wore the blue corduroy jacket decades earlier.

VIP CITATION



Twelve individuals were selected this year by the national FFA Organization to receive a special VIP citation.

The VIP citations recognize individuals for making significant contributions to agricultural education. It is one of the most prestigious awards a person may receive for supporting FFA and its programs. Those selected were honored during an onstage presentation at the 84th National FFA Convention. Awards such as the VIP Citation recognize that FFA contributes to the mission of success through the hard work and cooperation of dedicated individuals. Without such strong and outstanding commitment, FFA would not be able to help build strong individuals of character in their members, who in turn build strong families, communities and industries.

Dr. Deborah Boone of Morgantown, West Virginia, started her professional career as a 4-H extension agent serving Marion County, Kentucky, working with local agricultural education teachers and both 4-H and FFA members at local fairs and festivals. After graduating from Ohio State University in 1988 with a

Ph.D. degree, she joined the agricultural and extension education faculty at West Virginia University. She became actively involved in providing services to members of the West Virginia FFA Association. Boone also coordinates the seventh- and eighth-grade agriscience career development event for FFA, designed to promote the growth of knowledge of FFA members within the various areas of agriculture.

Belinda Chason of Tallahassee, Fla., has a career in agricultural education that dates back to 1970, when she joined the Florida Department of Education as a staff assistant. In 1990 she was named Executive Secretary of the Florida FFA Association, where she held that post for three years. In 1993, as student organizations moved outside of the Department of Education, her position was changed to Curriculum Specialist for Agricultural Education. In February of 1996, Chason became the State Supervisor for Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources and the State FFA Advisor. Chason was the first female to serve on the National FFA Board of Directors. She was instrumental in organizational changes, including the relocation of the National FFA Convention

from Kansas City, Mo., to Louisville, Ky., and the relocation of the National FFA Center from Alexandria, Va. to Indianapolis.

Ana Cordero of San Juan, Puerto Rico, Cordero is the supervisor of agricultural education programs in Puerto Rico, and she has worked tirelessly to develop and promote FFA curriculum and programs within the territory. This includes the development of handbooks for teachers in developing instructional material. Cordero has also been influential in the development of career pathways activities for students. She has also developed and presented workshops for agricultural educators.

John Davidson of Conway, Ark., has a career in agricultural education that spans five decades, dating back to his first job as an agriculture instructor in the Sheridan school district. In addition to instruction, Davidson served as principal in the Lead Hill school district and later in Eureka Springs. Through the 1990s Davidson served as director of Fayetteville High School West Campus Technical Center, which is considered a model program for meeting the diverse needs of

high school students. Davidson has been with the Arkansas Department of Career and Technical Education since 1999.

Eva Fletcher of Hot Springs, Ark., has welcomed generations of FFA members and agriculture instructors to the Arkansas FFA Association's Camp Couchdale for more than 40 years. In 1970 she came to the camp as the cafeteria manager, and she became famous throughout the state for her chocolate gravy. For the past 25 years Fletcher has served as the camp's manager. Her efforts have been recognized not only by FFA, but also by several state organizations. In addition, the American Red Cross recognized Fletcher for her service to those misplaced by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Dr. Maynard Fosberg of Moscow, Idaho, is renowned throughout the Pacific Northwest for contributions to soil science and education. Now 90 years old, Fosberg still offers soil science workshops for agriculture educators. For more than 30 years, Fosberg coordinated regional and state FFA career development events. He has received both the Idaho Honorary State FFA Degree as well as the Honorary American FFA Degree for his contributions.

Vern Hawkins of Greensboro, N.C., has served on the National FFA Foundation Sponsors' Board. His term included one year as board chairman. In addition, he served on the Foundation Board of Trustees. Hawkins has also been a driving force as an executive with Syngenta. He developed a retail partner program to provide FFA members with official jackets. Hawkins also developed an individual giving program for Syngenta employees to show their support for FFA.

Ron Hays of Oklahoma City, Okla., has enjoyed a career in farm broadcasting for five decades, spending almost all of his career in Oklahoma. In 1977 he was named Farm Director of Oklahoma Agrinet, where he served as an advocate for FFA and agriculture for 30 years. In

2006, Hays accepted a new challenge, becoming director of farm programming for the Radio Oklahoma Network. Hays is involved with the production of the Oklahoma FFA Convention each year, in addition to attending national convention to report on the accomplishments of Oklahoma FFA members and chapters. Hays has been recognized by his peers as National Farm Broadcaster of the Year and is a member of the Oklahoma Broadcasters Hall of Fame. In 2009 he was honored with the Oklahoma FFA VIP award, and he has received both state and American Honorary FFA degrees.

Dr. Terry Heiman of Jefferson City, Mo., has an FFA career that spans six decades, beginning with his FFA membership at Salisbury High School in Missouri. Heiman was state FFA president during the 1966-67 school year. He taught agricultural education at three different high schools before joining the Agricultural Education staff at the University of Missouri. Heiman was named Director of Agricultural Education in 1984. Since then, enrollment in agricultural education classes increased from 13,000 students to more than 26,000, and FFA membership in Missouri has reached an all-time high. Heiman has also been a member of the National FFA Organization's board of directors and a trustee to the National FFA Foundation.

Dr. Alan McDaniel of Blacksburg, Va., has been a professor of horticulture for more than 25 years at Virginia Tech University. He served for many years as the coordinating counselor in the university's Department of Horticulture and excelled as academic advisor to numerous students. He has taught floral design, controlled plant environment and vegetable crops and has served as the lead contact for FFA competitions held each year at both Virginia Tech and at the Virginia State Fair. McDaniel has also organized career development events for FFA members for the last 20 years and served as a judge for national FFA

competitions.

Rhedona Rose of Columbia, Tenn., is chief lobbyist for Tennessee Farm Bureau, where she monitors and helps with legislation important to the state's FFA program. She has worked closely with lawmakers in securing passage of legislation to retain 12-month teaching contracts for agricultural teachers and secure line-item budget funding for the Tennessee FFA Foundation that has exceeded \$2.25 million over the past four years. Rose has also worked with government officials to gain continued support of FFA Camp Clement, the oldest FFA camp in the nation. Rose is a member of the Maury Alliance board of directors, the Maury County SASA board and the Tennessee Lobbyist Association board of directors. She was named one of the top 10 lobbyists in Tennessee, selected as a recipient of the Southern Crop Production Association, named a distinguished agriculture graduate of Tennessee Tech University School of agriculture and named an outstanding young alumnus of Tennessee Tech University.

Dr. Larry Watson of Mannington, W.Va., first contributed to agricultural education and FFA through the development of the first four-year, comprehensive pre-veterinary program in the U.S. in 1994. Today, the program has evolved and teaches students the principles of advanced animal anatomy, hematology, microbiology, parasitology, DNA extraction, electrophoresis and urinalysis. The program is recognized as one of the top four agriscience programs in the nation. Watson has served as secretary, vice president and president of the West Virginia Association of Agricultural Educators and has served on the state's Agricultural Task Force to help raise more than \$1.3 million to sponsor FFA supervised agricultural experiences in West Virginia.

INVALUABLE PARTNERSHIPS HONORED



During the national FFA convention, the National FFA Organization recognized clubs, agencies and organizations that have greatly contributed to agricultural science education and FFA programs through the Distinguished Service Citation. Awards such as the Distinguished Service Citation recognize FFA makes a greater impact on students through the cooperation of the entire community. FFA and agricultural science education programs have helped millions of students achieve extraordinary success for 84 years because of this remarkable dedication. Cargill was honored at the 84th National

FFA Convention for their contributions in advancing agricultural education. The National FFA Organization selected the company to be a recipient of its special Distinguished Service Citation that recognizes clubs, agencies and organizations that have greatly contributed to agricultural education and FFA programs. A representative from Cargill accepted the award during an onstage presentation at the convention in Indianapolis. One Distinguished Service Citation was awarded this year.

Cargill has supported FFA for 51 years. The company was one of the founding partners of the Life Knowledge scholarship

program in 1990 and is one of the largest FFA scholarship sponsors. Cargill has been the major sponsor of BLAST OFF and has helped develop and sponsor such innovations as the BLAST OFF Convention Enrichment Experience.

Last year, Cargill became a sponsor of the National FFA Agriscience Fair. To compliment this sponsorship, the company initiated an agriscience state grant program to encourage improved agriscience instruction and increased fair participation. The company also became one of two Platinum sponsors of the National FFA Foundation.

BAND, CHORUS AND TALENT

BAND

Alabama: Amanda Currie

Arkansas: Austin Hall, Ashton Martin, Lensey Watson

Arizona: Ben Stapley

California: Gabrielle Celaya

Colorado: Melissa Danielson

Iowa: Skylar Hosch

Illinois: Becky Duchow, Garrett Heidenreich, Matt Keppen

Kansas: Lane Hess

Michigan: Emma Blough, Hannah LaJoye, Taylor Tesch

Minnesota: Kayla Nuese, Rachel Shaffer

Missouri: Harley Baumgartner, Travis Black, Tessa Chambers, Wyatt Eikermann, Haley Heil, Aaron Hill, Bryce Kleithermes, Samuel McDonald, Nick Neumann, Olivia Shanks, Nazow Tarakai, Nathan Taylor, Elizabeth Warren, Grace Young

Mississippi: Christian Rodriguez

Montana: Mckensie Keller, Evan Koch

North Carolina: Timothy Brown

Nebraska: Taylor Cooper, Cody Gugel, Leo Haselhorst, Jayle Hinkle, Claire Richardson, Jordan Schut, Celia Timms, Gerrit Vanengen

New Mexico: Noah McCullough

Ohio: Kenneth Grady, Sierra Miller

Oklahoma: Elise Amundson, Kade Blakley, Cullen Duran, Baxter Heinrich, Lia Hillman, Jessie Jenses-Buie, Blaise Newman, Rachelle Severn, Daniel Smith, Chaisey Wellden

South Dakota: Leah Buller, Abigail Flanders, Katelyn Loutsch, Kourtney Peterson, Lacey Quail

Texas: Travis Blackwell, Collin Hancock, Lacey Nichols, Taylor Nichols, Ethan Schmidt, Justin Schwartz, Cheyenne Stowers

Wisconsin: Shannon Adkins, Stephanie Crescio, Jake Hoesly, Leah Jaynes, Alexandra Klapoetke, Gretchen Klefstad, Elizabeth Lacenski, Shawn Laursen, Camille Mulrooney, Allison Nohre, Rachel O'Leary, Briana Schwartz, Sarah Wanek

CHORUS

Arizona: Kaitlin Faires, Tanner Kemp, Cheyanne Livingston

Colorado: Chelsea Bruggeling, Katelyn Dovenbarger, Kaylee Gardner

Connecticut: Andre Toussaint

Iowa: Hanna Hillyard, Chad Knoblock, Samuel Nunnikhoven, Abby Peterson, Nathan Skallerup, Ashley Smeby

Illinois: Mitchell Barton, Murphy Bolt, Emily Crowcroft, Allison McLane, Jessica Ronat, Emily Wenneborg

Indiana: Annaliese Hillman, Andrew Thieme

Michigan: Elizabeth Hale, Kaylee Kessler, Alicia Risk, Caitlin Weathers

Minnesota: Colee Jennissen, Andrew Steiner

Missouri: Susan Bishop, Savannah Clay, Christopher Fimple, Caleb Gilmore, Jerri Lynn Henry, Cavin Joesting, Jessie Knox, Ashleigh Lutz, Lacey Mayne, Austin Reedy, Kenneth Swope, Beth Zipprich

North Dakota: Brittany Lasher

Nebraska: Abigail Bechtel, Garrett Bowder, Scott Hild, Jazmine Hinkle, Matt Ideus, Bennett Lamplot, Johnathan

Neil, Jalee Pilkington, Kendall Renken, David Shuler, Adam Umland, Katie Umland, Jeffery Wallman

New Mexico: Andrew Kelly

Nevada: Clarissa Johnson

New York: Phillip Fargo, Tracy Kokell, Amanda Rhodes

Ohio: Noelle Goodson, Scott McDermott, Tanner Mick, Sarah Peterson

Oklahoma: Caleb Baker, Cade Baldwin, Trico Blue, Charlie Dinkens, Ashley Harris, Chrystal Patton, Malory Scott, Lauren Walsh, Caleb Wehnt

Oregon: Sheri Bash

Pennsylvania: Danielle Bean

Puerto Rico: Nicollee Corchado, Heather Velez-Wharton, Jose Luis Soto

South Dakota: Natasha Borah, Collin Christiansen, Jesse Kluin

Tennessee: Jessie Belton

Texas: Shelby Bruner, Elizabeth Conner

Utah: Melissa Lucas

Virginia: Tanner Martin

Wisconsin: Taylor Anderson, Jaron Frederick, Erin Hanson, Jenna Kontney, Will Larson, Joshua Perronne, Kyle Tollefson, Harley Rhodes

TALENT

Alabama: Colby Cooter, Emily Davis, Lance Grantham, Emily Hester, Mariah Horton, Josh Knight, Joseph Markel, Matt Montgomery, Justin Saxon, Dawn Turner, Courtney Walker, Sky Warganich

Arkansas: Victoria Taylor, Lindsey Triplett

Arizona: Shantaya Begay, Tyrin Begay

California: Raeann Magill

Georgia: Chandler Bell, Madison Giddens

Illinois: Elizebeth Boollin, Nathan Kabat, Trevor May

Indiana : Daniel Epperson

Kansas: Braidyn Rucker

Missouri: Mikiah Zumalt

Montana: Daris Wichman

North Carolina: Samuel Adams (Jr.), Mayson Briggs, Andy Buckner, Matthew Ray

North Dakota: Justin Bartholomay

Nebraska : Kelli Green, Dillon McCroden, Halle Stephens, Morgan Tracy

New Jersey: Hannah Wyckoff

Nevada: Deanna Damele, Melissa Damele, Kelsey Mears, Kasey PLaskett

New York: Josue Ramos

Ohio: Madison Buck, Julya Faulkner

Oklahoma: Shandee Allen, Mikayla Jo Balderas, Bailey Gilbert, Wyatt HArtsfield, Kylee Horn, Kaitlyn Horn, Kalyn McKibben, Mark Spampinato

Oregon: Garrett Kitamura, Olivia Wichman

Tennessee: Kevin Robertson

Utah : Colin Crozier

Washington: Chelsey Heidenreich, Savanna Woods

Wisconsin : Christy Gilbertson, Sarah Hankins, Paige Ruhland

MEMBERS CONDUCT OFFICIAL BUSINESS



COMMITTEE ISSUES

COMMITTEE FOR INCREASED MIDDLE SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

Whereas, currently sixth grade students are not recognized as members of the National FFA Organization; and,

Whereas, there is a current lack of conferences for middle school students at the national level; and,

Whereas, there is a need for competitive events for middle school students at the national level; therefore,

Be it resolved that, the National FFA Organization gives state associations the option to recognize sixth grade students as members of the National FFA Organization; and,

Be it further resolved that, the National FFA Organization create national leadership conferences exclusively for middle school students; and,

Be it further resolved that, the National FFA Board of Directors and/or the National FFA Executive Management Committee identify current Career Development Events that could be modified for middle school member competition or, create potential competitions, which could include: Quiz Bowl, Opening Ceremonies, and Online Contests.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlie Brown, *Florida FFA Association*
Committee Chair



COMMITTEE FOR AN AGRICULTURAL EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

Whereas, National FFA does not have a multi-regional, production agriculture-based conference; therefore,

Be it resolved that, the National FFA Organization create an annual, regional, agricultural experience for active, non-post-secondary members, which focuses on United States production agriculture and gives members the opportunity to expand their knowledge and experience in the areas of agricultural production; and,

Be it further resolved that, this program focus on technology, use of chemicals and antibiotics, management practices, agribusiness, processing, and trends with curriculum that is based upon the diversified agricultural industries of each region; and,

Be it further resolved that, the experience include an optional career show at the end of the conference focused on Agricultural

Production companies, farms, and colleges; and,

Be it further resolved that, the experience have a scholarship/grant opportunity for members to further their supervised agricultural experience program; and,

Be it further resolved that, the conference will be facilitated by local farmers, national facilitators, and agricultural stakeholders and consist of two experience levels for high school members only; and,

Be it resolved that, an application process be implemented to make best use of the time and money invested in the conference.

Respectfully submitted,
Ryan Kelly, Oregon FFA Association
Committee Chair

COMMITTEE FOR THE CREATION OF COLLEGIATE FFA COMPETITIVE EVENTS

Whereas, the National FFA currently offers few collegiate opportunities; and,

Whereas, collegiate students are dues paying members; and,

Whereas, the pros outweigh the cons, due to new opportunities, potential alumni, partner involvement, increase in American degrees, and increased diversity; and,

Whereas, there needs to be more discussion around interference with other organizations, funding, and logistics; therefore,

Be it resolved that, the National FFA Organization pursue the creation and implementation of collegiate FFA competitive events; and,

Be it further resolved that, collegiate FFA competitive events should be funded both nationally and through participant entry fees; and,

Be it further resolved that, these events be promoted by visits from National Collegiate Agriculture Ambassadors to both two and four-year institutions and the National FFA website; and,

Be it further resolved that, events be leadership based, science-based, technical-based, and production-based; and,

Be it further resolved that, any Collegiate FFA dues-paying member be eligible to compete in Collegiate FFA events representing an established chapter and/or individually; and,

Be it further resolved that, collegiate FFA competitive events offer rewards and incentives such as scholarships, internships, and job offers; and,

Be it further resolved that, sponsors be sought from related industries for increased potential for networking opportunities.

Respectfully submitted,
Adam Powell, Oregon FFA Association
Committee Chair

COMMITTEE FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE FLORICULTURE CDE

Whereas, floriculture, a \$35 billion industry, is an important part of an ever growing and diverse agricultural community; and,

Whereas, many FFA members from a wide spectrum of backgrounds have an interest in the Floriculture Career Development Event; and,

Whereas, National FFA is already working towards solving problems to make the contest more fiscally responsible and industry relevant; and,

Whereas, more than forty-five associations participate annually in this event at a national level; therefore,

Be it resolved that, National FFA continue to explore new sponsorship opportunities, reevaluate the cost effectiveness and industrial relevance of practicums, explore alternative methods to recognize students, and to encourage State and National FFA Foundations to identify and reach out to individuals and businesses who may help support the event financially; and,

COMMITTEE FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF THE DELEGATE PROCESS

Whereas, the committee believes that changes need to be made to the delegate process; and,

Whereas, changes include modifications to prepare delegates; and,

Whereas, SPC attendees need to be educated on all submitted issues before attending SPC so that they are able to engage fully in the issue selection process; and,

Whereas, the current process for preparing Committee Chairs does not fully prepare Committee Chairs prior to National Convention; and,

Whereas, preliminary reports are currently required to be submitted prior to public hearings and testimonies; therefore,

Be it resolved that, there will be an interactive curriculum designed by the National FFA Organization such as a webinar or video online with a possibility of questions following it to better prepare delegates for the the delegate process; and,

Be it further resolved that, there will be an interactive curriculum such as a webinar or video online with a possibility of questions



Be it further resolved that, the Floriculture CDE continue regardless of Category Four status.

Respectfully submitted,
Courtney Yelton, *Wyoming FFA Association*
Committee Chair

following it designed for states to train their delegates on the issues passed specifically at SPC; and,

Be it further resolved, that there will be information provided to the states about all of the issues that are submitted by states to SPC, allowing states to prepare SPC attendants to ensure they are educated about voting for which issues will make it to committee and the delegate process at National Convention; and,

Be it further resolved, that the current process for the allocation of delegates remains the same; and,

Be it further resolved, that the National FFA Organization will examine the qualifications of Committee Chairs and potentially provide additional chair training with an emphasis on parliamentary procedures; and,

Be it further resolved, that all public hearings and all testimonies be held before committees are required to submit their preliminary reports.

Respectfully submitted,
Kendall Mallory, *Kentucky FFA Association*
Committee Chair

COMMITTEE FOR ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY MODELS FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Whereas, current leadership delivery models inhibit participation by all FFA members; therefore,

Be it resolved that, the National FFA Organization research and better utilize technology to enhance leadership development at various levels; and,

Be it further resolved that, the National FFA Organization provide more facilitators and curriculum for state events other than the curriculum that is currently provided; and,

Be it further resolved that, the National FFA Organization develop curriculum that states can purchase to reach all membership levels in addition to currently available curriculum; and,

Be it further resolved that, the National FFA Organization increase advertisement of leadership development, not only to state staff, but to members through social media and current FFA publications.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Shanahan, Ohio FFA Association
Committee Chair



PARTICIPATING DELEGATES

Continuation of the Floriculture CDE

Aaron Miller, Ohio
Adam Heggelund, Montana
Alex Jacks, Texas
Alexis Albertie, Georgia
Amber Daughtny, Texas
Angie Lowery, Arizona
Ansley Akin, Georgia
Ashleigh Schlewitz, Wisconsin
Austin Calvert, California
Bethany Blackburn, Nebraska
Bradley Coleman, Louisiana
Brianna Roberts, Georgia
Brittany Long, Arkansas
Brittney Gunter, Georgia
Brittney Bommarito, Michigan
Brooke Milican, Texas
Caleb Behme, Illinois
Chandler Fryar, North Carolina
Cody Jones, Missouri
Courtney Yelton, Wyoming
Danielle Hyatt, California
Darien Cooke, Alaska
Devin McQueen, Texas
Dustyn Nelson, Connecticut
Garth Wireman, Kentucky
Holton Westbrook, Texas
Jacquelyn Lee, Texas
Jake Lake, Idaho
James Ferguson, New Jersey
James Rockwell, Virginia
Jamie Flint, South Dakota

Jessica Gambrel, Kentucky
Jim Tobin, Illinois
Jodi Boe, North Dakota
John Littlefield, Missouri
Jordan Bien, Texas
Julia Morgan, Florida
Kaitlyn Donaghy, Florida
Katie Lukens, Virginia
Kelsey Koss, Texas
Kristal Williams, Oklahoma
Lauren Evoy, North Carolina
Lauren Friend, California
Lyndee Charles, Colorado
Marie Arnold, Ohio
Marshall Hay, Iowa
McKehna Thiem, Nebraska
McKena Woolstenhulme, Utah
Megan Bloemer, Illinois
Megan Saunders, Alabama
Michael Valencia, California
Misti Adams, California
Mollie Enright, Massachusetts
Mychaela Lunney, Maine
Nathan Laudan, Kansas
Nicole Billington, California
Nikki Hayden, South Carolina
Rachel Cantu, Texas
Raynette Johnson, Tennessee
Ross Newton, Indiana
Sara Raschein, Wisconsin
Sara Riddick, California
Shelbie Thames, Texas
Tiffany Pemberton, Missouri
Tyler Claypool, Pennsylvania
Tyler Menane, California

Tyler Warren, Minnesota
Victoria Maloch, Arkansas
Vince Pellegrini, California
Zach Tennant, West Virginia

Reconstruction of the Delegate Process

Adam Tarver, Georgia
AJ Helterbrand, Ohio
Alyssa Spruill, Texas
Amanda Bacon, Arkansas
Andrea Tomschin, Minnesota
Andrew Aldridge, Oklahoma
Angelica Aldana, California
Anna Jo Smith, Vermont
Asher Markworth, Wyoming
Bailli Douthitt, Georgia
Ben Bennett, Georgia
Benjamin Somers, Delaware
Billy Hatfield, Illinois
Bracken Marburger, Texas
Brady James, Missouri
Brian Guza, Wisconsin
Bryanna Diller, Texas
Caleb Forcier, Oregon
Caleb Moore, Texas
Cameron Earlywine, Kentucky
Cassidy Gilliard, Georgia
Catelyn Sanders, Nevada
Chris Hudson, California
Clayton Carlson, California
Cory Johnson, Nebraska
Daniel Deck, North Dakota

Destiny Stephens, Texas
Diego Dow, New Mexico
Dylan Hankins, Tennessee
Emily Janowski, California
Emily Rudder, Colorado
Hannah Nelson, Washington
Heston Heller, Texas
James Harris, Alabama
Jacob Meisner, Illinois
Jacquelyn Wilson, Texas
James Sharpe, Florida
Jason Mendes, California
Jed Ward, Arizona
Jemaris Martes, Puerto Rico
John Salazar, Texas
John Stewart, North Carolina
Jon Black, Missouri
Jordan Pieschl, Kansas
Josh Ovard, Utah
Julie Schellhase, California
Justin Turner, Oklahoma
Kathryn Ray, Alabama
Katie Jo Gentner, Michigan
Katie McNab, Minnesota
Katy Gaede, California
Kayla Hack, Wisconsin
Kelly Kundratic, Maryland
Kendall Mallory, Kentucky
Kristen Bishop, Mississippi
Kyle Strachila, Washington
Lane Howard, Missouri
Lia Van Egmond, California
Lindsey Anderson, California
Logan Layne, South Carolina
Makana Agcaoili, Hawaii

DELEGATES CONTINUED

Mareta Sherman, Missouri
Marty Wines, North Carolina
Melissa Dighans, Montana
Michelle Stover, New Hampshire
Nicole Leslie, Massachusetts
Nina Miller, Virginia
Patience Trickett, Connecticut
Peyton Graham, Tennessee
Ryan Roberts, Ohio
Sarah Kessler, Pennsylvania
Shelby Birelay, North Carolina
Stephanie Tarlowe, New Jersey
Steven Brockshus, Iowa
Summer Anderson, Louisiana
Taylor Cooper, Texas
Taylor Koski, Rhode Island
Travis Olinske, Indiana
Valerie McKee, Florida
Zachary Harrison, Louisiana

Increased Middle School Opportunities

Aaron Zimmerman, Wisconsin
Alissa Milonczyk, Wisconsin
Augstin Hinojosa, Texas
Beverly Hampton, North Carolina
Brennan Costello, Nebraska
Brian Walsh, Virginia
Britany Dady, Alabama
Brittany Spann, North Carolina
Caitlin Pell, Michigan
Cameron Dale, California
Cassie Conley, Indiana
Charlie Brown, Florida
Clay Sapp, Florida
Cobey Hendry, Louisiana
Cole Smith, Kansas
Courtney Walker, Tennessee
Dalton Horn, Texas
Darren Riskedal, Illinois
Desiree Lavallee, Maine
Diana Stacy, Ohio
Elizabeth James, Texas
Ethan Thomas, Arkansas
Evan Grusenmeyer, Missouri
Gina Locke, Tennessee
Grace Wildhaber, Oregon
Grayer Sherrill, North Carolina
Hannah Beeler, California
Hannah Nemecek, Oklahoma
Hillary Kletscher, Minnesota
Hillery Reeves, Georgia
Hunter Scroggins, California
Jacob Townsend, New Mexico
Jacob Vazquez, California
Jacquelynn Garcia, California
Jake Hilliard, Illinois
Jake Todd, Georgia
Jessica Wilkinson, Mississippi
John Coffey, Arkansas
John Modrow, Florida
Katherine Torres, Texas
Katlin McQueen, Texas
Kellie Wong, California
Kelsey Gauss, Delaware
Kelsie Jones, California
Kirstie Willis, Kentucky
Kristi Tonnessen, North Dakota
Kyle Clark, New Hampshire
Leah Gibson, California
Logan Worden, Iowa
Lydia Urick, Alabama
Marshall Perkins, Indiana
Matthew Dodson, Pennsylvania
Meagan Green, Missouri
Morgan Smith, Georgia
Morgan Wade, Ohio
Naomi Gonzalez, Puerto Rico
Nate Lundquist, New York
Nathan Box, Texas
Newt Gilman, Georgia
Olivia Siglin, South Dakota
Paige Wilson, Kentucky
Perry Loftis, South Carolina

Peyton Gilbert, Texas
Rachel Albritton, Texas
Samuel Mercado, California
Sawyer Peacock, Utah
Sheldon Franks, Texas
Skyla Leporis, Texas
Stacey Kunde, Wisconsin
Taylor Kirby, Arizona
Tierra Permann, Idaho
Tori Avvenire, Virginia
Trina Stumpe, Missouri
Zac Tucker, Arizona

Agricultural Experience Program

Aaron Wetzel, Illinois
Abbie Baker, Wisconsin
Alex LaPrise, Rhode Island
Alexis Wingerson, Kansas
Alyssa Fee, Tennessee
Amie Wilcox, Arkansas
Andrew Miron, Minnesota
Anna Pratt, Idaho
Ashley Howlett, Vermont
Ashley McLeod, Florida
Ben Granholm, California
Ben Nething, Ohio
Brad Evenson, Minnesota
Brady Johnson, Montana
Brandon Russell, Alabama
Brittany Richert, Arkansas
Caitlin Walton, Delaware
Caitlyn Black, Ohio
Caroline Weihl, Ohio
Casey Eicholtz, California
Cassie Olson, Wisconsin
Chelsea Daugherty, Kentucky
Chisum Kirby, Illinois
Christy Poirrier, Washington
Clay Kruse, California
Cody Beard, Louisiana
Cody Nedbalek, Texas
Colton Fritz, Texas
Courtney Miller, California
Delegate Name, State
Emily Keeton, Tennessee
Emily Renfro, Texas
Hannah Russell, North Carolina
J.W. Allen, New York
Jenna Holt-Day, Texas
Jennifer DeClerg, Michigan
Joshua Conaway, Oklahoma
Joshua Williams, Alabama
Kaley Sproul, Nevada
Katie Dalton, Kentucky
Katie Garrett, Texas
Kaylee Bohn, California
Keely Snyder, Texas
Kellie Mancino, California
Kenisha Singh, California
Kerry Elbel, Missouri
Klayton Bearup, New Mexico
Kristina Raley, Georgia
Kyle Largent, Washington
Kyle Schimdt, Texas
Logan Jones, Utah
Luke Sinclair, Georgia
Maggie Moran, Virginia
Malone Thomason, Georgia
Mason Mariner, North Carolina
Megan Mayfield, Missouri
Michael Mardesen, Iowa
Mike Shively, Illinois
Nicholas Walker, Louisiana
Nicole Patterson, Iowa
Patrick Halde, Colorado
Preston Gilderhus, North Dakota
Rachael Liberty, Connecticut
Rachel Schmitt, Indiana
Raney Lovorn, Texas
Ryan Kelly, Oregon
Ryan Powell, Georgia
Sarah Correll, Indiana
Sarah Graves, California

Sarahbeth Bourland, Arizona
Shaniel Smith, Iowa
Shelby Burney, Texas
Shelby Oesterreicher, Florida
Shelby Peters, Nebraska
Tanner Nauta, Wyoming
Taylor Shackelford, Texas
Trevor Stamey, South Carolina
Tyler Schaeffer, Pennsylvania
Zach Grossman, Missouri

Creation of Collegiate Competitive Events

Aaron Dilorio, Texas
Abby Prause, Texas
Adam Powell, Oregon
Adam Thibodeaus, Louisiana
Addie Spolyar, Michigan
Alisha Mikell, Georgia
Amanda Buus, South Dakota
Amantha Hons, Texas
Ashely Surman, Texas
Beth Boss, California
Billy Cameron, Kentucky
Brandon Baumgarten, Oklahoma
Brent Stammen, Ohio
Caroline Tart, North Carolina
Casey Hall, Pennsylvania
Clay Miller, Colorado
Clayton Carley, Illinois
Cody Bishop, South Carolina
Cody McDougald, California
Corey Hudson, Missouri
Dani Gaulden, Virginia
Darian Sinclair, Georgia
Dustin Smith, Minnesota
Elissa McLerran, Tennessee
Elizabeth Bracken, New York
Else Stuart, California
Emilia Woepfel, Nebraska
Emily Hawkins, Arkansas
Emma Cannon, North Carolina
Erin Curry, Idaho
Ethan Giebel, Wisconsin
Haley Paradis, New Hampshire
Haley Webb, Florida
Harrison Lang, Mississippi
Jacob Dickey, Illinois
Jacob Mattox, Indiana
Jenna Moser, Pennsylvania
Jeremy Baker, Georgia
Jessica Vazquez, California
Jodi Cockrell, Texas
Joey Temperly, Georgia
Justin Watson, Florida
Kaitlyn Enticknap, California
Kaleigh Lynch, Oklahoma
Karli Quinn, California
Katie Cauthen, North Carolina
Katie Dreier, Wisconsin
Katie Gaskins, Ohio
Kaylee Paul, Texas
Keili Summey, Arizona
Kollen Chapman, Missouri
Kristen Jendrusch, Texas
Kurt Lockwood, Kansas
Lauren Gray, Alabama
Lindsay Calvert, Iowa
Mackenzie Campbell, Nevada
Madison Yandell, Texas
Mallory Harrison, California
Mary Palisi, Louisiana
Mary Steves, California
Morgan Peterson, Utah
Nicole Petrie, Wisconsin
Olivia Fernandez, Tennessee
Patrick Diedrich, Iowa
Paula Rincon, Hawaii
Reed Huelster, Texas
Ron Snyder III, Texas
Sammi Jo Cool, Washington
Sarah Goetsch, New Mexico
Sarah Ray, Missouri
Sierra Jepsen, Ohio

Taylor Friesz, North Dakota
Wiley Bailey, Alabama
Zeke Green, Kentucky

Alternative Delivery Models for Leadership Development

Abi Yount, Louisiana
Abigail Jensen, Wisconsin
Adam Birk, Missouri
AJ Baginski, Maryland
Alec McAlarnen, New Jersey
Alex Russel, Illinois
Alexis Cain, California
Alyssa Ramsey, North Carolina
Alyssa Tabor, California
Amanda Ball, New Mexico
Ariana Kaminski, New York
Ashley DeCosta, Massachusetts
Ashlyn Nunley, Virginia
Becca Gulliver, Michigan
Blake Vineyard, Texas
Brian Welch, Kentucky
Brittaney Hudson, Colorado
Caitlin Cole, Texas
Caleb Gillispie, Arizona
Cara Pantone, Idaho
Casey Erickson, California
Chelsea Vilchis, Minnesota
Chris Steppig, Illinois
Christy Chicas, Tennessee
Clayton Dumesnil, Texas
Clayton Harlan, Arkansas
Cody Pettit, Delaware
Colton Lammons, Texas
Courtney Maye, Oklahoma
Curt Berry, South Carolina
Delegate Name, State
Devon Alexander, Ohio
Edward Moore, Georgia
Elise Stoddard, Florida
Ellen Earl, Alabama
Ellie Bolt, Washington
Gabrielle Franke, California
Gianna Hartman, Indiana
Haley Cobb, Tennessee
Hunter Winsauer, Texas
Isaac Christenson, Wisconsin
Jessica Payne, Georgia
Jessica Shanahan, Ohio
John Brian Kirksey, Arkansas
Jonathan Morris, Mississippi
Justin Miller, Alabama
Justine Dlabal, Kansas
Kaid Panek, Utah
Katie Pippins, Georgia
Kaylyn Morrill, Connecticut
Kelli Neuman, Texas
Kelsey Forqueran, Missouri
Kenna Lewis, California
Kenzie Moore, Texas
Krysti Kelley, Texas
Madeline Minchillo, Texas
Miranda Medrano, California
Morgan Barbour, North Carolina
Nicole Lane, Oregon
Nolan Miles, Kentucky
Paul Dybedahl, South Dakota
Rayna Nelson, Alaska
Riley Quinn, California
Samantha Whittaker, Missouri
Sarabeth Royer, Pennsylvania
Sarah Burk, Montana
Sarah Davis, Missouri
Sarah Doese, Iowa
Shelby Faulkner, Ohio
Shelby Young, Texas
Stacey Springob, Wisconsin
Sydney Stone, Florida
Taylor Helton, California
Vance Heyer, Nebraska
Wes Davis, West Virginia
Zachary Gerrells, Georgia

2011 NATIONAL FFA OFFICER CANDIDATES, NOMINATING COMMITTEE



National Officer Candidates:

Mike Norton, Ark.
Jared Biciolis, Ariz.
Samuel Doty, Calif.
Shelby McCracken, Colo.
Victor Salazar, Conn.
Lindsey Bethard, Del.
Caitlyn Prichard, Fla.
Cain Thurmond, Ga.
Benjamin Zelle, Iowa

Seth Pratt, Idaho
Amie Burke, Ill.
Morgan Gadd, Ind.
Sara Schifferdecker, Kan.
Joenelle Futrell, Ky.
Sarah Dyson, La.
Jasper Cunningham,
Mich.
Jason Troendle, Minn.

Samantha Warner, Mo.
Lane Nordlund, Mont.
Caroline Yopp, N.C.
Ryan Best, N.M.
Aly Reynolds, Nev.
Kenneth Quick, N.Y.
Amy Frost, Ohio
Stephen Tillinghast, Okla.
Nicholas West, Ore.

Caleb Wright, Pa.
Gabriela Nazario, Puerto
Rico
Katelyn Simpson, S.C.
Rebecca Naasz, S.D.
Camilla McDonald, Tenn.
Andrew Gresham, Texas
Amberley Snyder, Utah
Brandon Monk, Va.

Nominating Committee:

Travis Martin, Ind. – Chair
Zach Wakeman, Va.
Mike Hannewald, Ohio
Casey Zufelt, Idaho
Katelyn Perry, Texas
Elizabeth Eastep, N.C.
Lindsay “Nicole” Liles, Fla.
Joshua Deines, Colo.
Maria Skogland, S.D.



MEET YOUR 2011 NATIONAL OFFICERS

Ryan Best

President

Age: 21

Birthdate: Oct. 4, 1990

Hometown and state: Portales, N.M.

Parents: Kent and Sherri Best

Siblings: Heidi Best, Halee Goff, Reavis Best



FFA Stats

Chapter: Elida FFA Chapter

Enterprise: Sheep Production, Diversified Livestock

State Office: District IV President/Vice President, 2008-09; President, 2009-10

College Stats

Year: Junior

Major: Agricultural and Extension Education

School: New Mexico State University

College Activities: Collegiate FFA, National Agri-Marketing Association (NAMA), Collegiate Wool Judging team,

Future Career Goal: To become an agricultural education instructor.

Jason Troendle

Secretary

Age: 20

Birthdate: Aug. 18, 1991

Hometown and state: St. Charles, Minn.

Parents: Fred and Sandra Troendle

Siblings: Adam Troendle, Rachel Troendle



FFA Stats

Chapter: St. Charles High School FFA Chapter

Enterprise: Diversified Agriculture – Production

State Office: President, 2010-11

College Stats

Year: Sophomore

Major: Economics and Environmental Studies

School: Bethel University

College Activities: Suite church, jazz band, Welcome Week staff

Future Career Goal: To become a life-long teacher in agriculture, economics or ministry. To work in an agriculture business helping to develop people and making the business more efficient while reducing its impact on the environment.

Kenneth Quick Jr.

Eastern Region Vice President

Age: 19

Birthdate: June 15, 1992

Hometown and state: Granville, N.Y.

Parents: Kenneth and Diane Quick

Siblings: Karaline Quick, Lindsey Depew



FFA Stats

Chapter: Granville FFA Chapter

Enterprise: Dairy Entrepreneurship

State Office: President, 2009-10

College Stats

Year: Sophomore

Major: Interdisciplinary Studies (focusing on International Agriculture and Rural Development and Agribusiness) and Agricultural Education

School: Cornell University

College Activities: Collegiate FFA, Alpha Gamma Rho, Outdoors Club

Future Career Goal: To work with policy regarding international agricultural issues and develop strong partnerships for global agricultural needs throughout government and industry.

Alicia Hodnik

Central Region Vice President

Age: 21

Birthdate: Oct. 15, 1990

Hometown and state: Walworth, Wis.

Parents: Fred and Deb Hodnik; Sharon and Kimi Weber

Siblings: John Hodnik, Keri Hodnik



FFA Stats

Chapter: Big Foot FFA Chapter

Enterprise: Agricultural Education, Small Animal Care and Production, Agriscience Research

State Office: Secretary, 2009-10; President, 2010-11

College Stats

Year: Freshman

Major: Agricultural Education and Biotechnology

School: University of Wisconsin – River Falls

College Activities: Ag Ed Society

Future Career Goal: To work in a laboratory researching genetics in aquaculture in either the private or public sector. After developing rapport, possibly begin teaching as an agricultural education instructor.

Seth Pratt

Western Region Vice President

Age: 20

Birthdate: June 13, 1991

Hometown and state: Blackfoot, Idaho

Parents: Mark and Wendy Pratt

Siblings: Callie Pratt, Anna Pratt



FFA Stats

Chapter: Blackfoot FFA Chapter

Enterprise: Beef Production – Entrepreneurship, Beef Production – Placement

State Office: President, 2009-2010

College Stats

Year: Sophomore

Major: Agricultural Science, Communication and Leadership

School: University of Idaho

College Activities: Alpha Gamma Rho, Student Alumni Relations Board, Collegiate FB

Future Career Goal: To pursue a career in agribusiness for five to eight years and be an advocate for agriculture. Eventually return home to the family ranch to raise cows and a family.

Cain Thurmond

Southern Region Vice President

Age: 21

Birthdate: Sept. 27, 1990

Hometown and state: Jefferson, Ga.

Parents: Phil and Susie Thurmond

Siblings: Caleb Thurmond



FFA Stats

Chapter: Jefferson City FFA Chapter

Enterprise: Beef Production, Diversified Crop Production, Agricultural Education

State Office: Vice President, 2008-09

College Stats

Year: Junior

Major: Agriculture and Applied Economics (Agricultural Economics)

School: University of Georgia

College Activities: First Baptist Church of Jefferson, ABAC Alpha Gamma Rho, ABAC National Agri-Marketing Association (NAMA)

Future Career Goal: To serve as an advocate for agriculture through agribusiness, policy setting and contribute to its future through agricultural education. As a second career, run a Black Angus Cattle operation.

CANDIDS



















The FFA Mission: FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

The Agricultural Education Mission: Agricultural education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems.