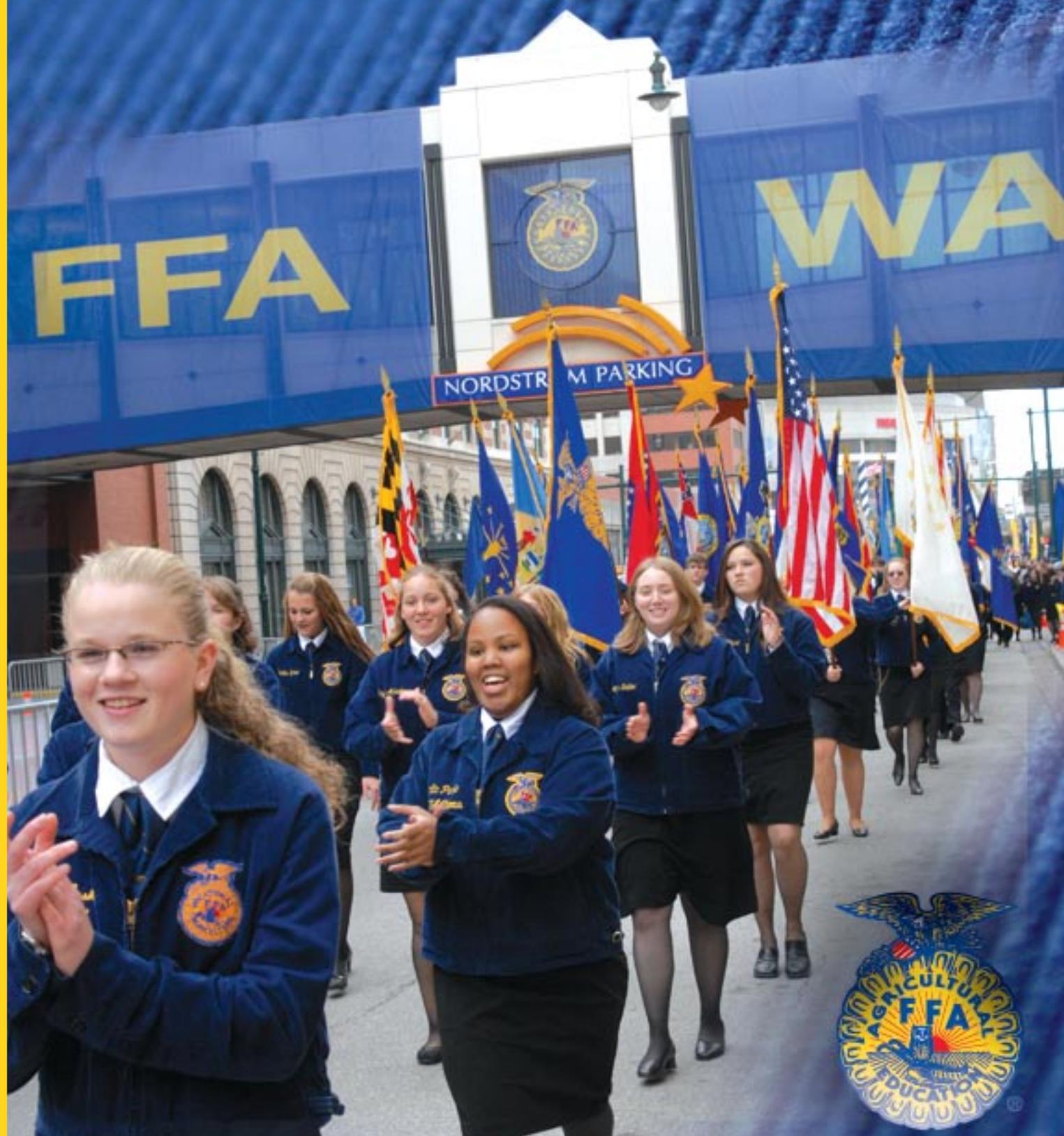


80TH NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION

Proceedings





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**80th NATIONAL
FFA CONVENTION
OCTOBER 24-27, 2007**

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Ag-Entrepreneuers Honored

The Agri-Entrepreneurship Education Program is designed to increase the amount of entrepreneurship being taught in local agriculture programs across the country. This program focuses on entrepreneurship – the values, requirements and challenges of owning your own business. With this information, students will be better prepared to become entrepreneurs and will begin to perceive entrepreneurship as a viable career choice. The Agri-Entrepreneurship Awards honor FFA members who have recognized a market opportunity that was overlooked by others and conceived a plan to pursue that opportunity.

During the 80th National FFA Convention 10 students were named National Agri-Entrepreneuers. They received \$1,000 and a commemorative plaque during an onstage ceremony. USDA Rural Development sponsors the National Agri-Entrepreneurship Award Program as a special project of the National FFA Foundation, Inc.



Tyler Church, 18, of Casstown, Ohio, owns and operates River Bend Boer Goats, an enterprise that produces and markets Boer goats, primarily to youth exhibitors. Church started his business in 2004 after seeing a need for quality, affordable show goats in his region. He is the son of Gary and Rhonda Church.

Church has enhanced his business by providing quality customer service. After the sale, he continually checks on his customers through the season offering feeding, breeding and kidding advice. “I make an effort to build a strong relationship with my customers,” Church said. “A happy customer could be a potential future customer.”

Word of mouth is Church’s most productive marketing strategy. He also exhibits his genetics at area shows and fairs. Church markets his animals as high quality, reasonably priced goats, and in doing so, hopes to gain many return customers. As a way of providing updated information to customers, he consistently updates his website with photos of his current crop of kids.

“Tyler took this opportunity to gain the experiences necessary to be a leader in the agriculture industry,” said Marie Carity, Church’s agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. “He saw an opportunity, researched every aspect of the business, purchased quality genetics and timed the kids to be born at a



time when local youth are purchasing market goats for county fairs and local shows. Tyler discovered a gold mine of opportunity.”

Church is a 2007 graduate of Miami East High School. While in high school, he was active in FFA, was a member of the varsity football team, track team and jazz band. He received a scholarship from the American Boer Goat Association, of which he is a member. Church is serving as the 2007-08 Ohio FFA Association District 5 president, and is a freshman at The Ohio State University, majoring in agricultural education.

Robert Glover, 18, of Bailey, N.C., owns and operates RG Plants, an enterprise that raises certified, micro-propagated, virus-indexed strawberry plants that are free from disease and insects. He offers strawberry plugs in a 50-cell plastic tray, as well as tips, which are plants that have been cut from the field but are not rooted.

“I recognized this opportunity when I went to help a local strawberry farmer set out his strawberry plants,” Glover said. “The farmer was not happy with the quality of the plants. After speaking with other growers and area extension agents, I saw a great opportunity if I could produce a strawberry plant superior to what was currently available.”

Glover advertises his plants in

This program focuses on entrepreneurship – the values, requirements and challenges of owning your own business.

Agri-Entrepreneurs Honored continued

Strawberry Grower Magazine and by attending strawberry meetings. He also attends numerous workshops and conferences to learn more about the industry and how to market his products. Glover has realized the value of word of mouth and has had many return customers because of his high quality plants.

"After discovering the need for quality strawberry plants, Rob decided he could meet that need," said Mike Bartholomew, Glover's agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. "He talked to his parents, called his local extension agent and contacted North Carolina State University to seek help and advice on how to get started."

Glover graduated from Southern Nash High School in 2007. During high school, Glover served as his FFA chapter's treasurer and sentinel. He was also involved in many FFA activities. Glover served as the Student Council vice president and was an A/B Honor Roll student. Since graduating last May, he has concentrated his resources into building his business. Glover is a member of the North American Strawberry Growers' Association as well as the North Carolina Strawberry Growers' Association. He is the son of Robert and Sheila Glover.

Brennan Nethery, 17, of Taylorsville, Ky., owns and operates *What's News in Agriculture*, an interactive website radio show and blogcast enterprise developed to share current agriculture events. He is the son of John and Brenda Nethery.

"Why not start a current events agriculture radio show and find local businesses who would like to advertise as a way to earn money?" Nethery questioned. "I started looking online and realized there was no one in my area who was offering an advertising opportunity to local

agriculture businesses in such a way."

Marketing is very important to *What's News in Agriculture*. Nethery spends significant time producing news shows and contacting businesses to advertise with his enterprise. He uses direct mail and personal visits to contact prospective advertisers. Nethery also advertises his show to the public by attending events such as the local farm show and promotes his program.

"Brennan has started an outstanding agriculture business in *What's News in Agriculture*" said Darryl Matherly, Brennan's agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. "In this situation, Brennan saw an opportunity that no one else in our area had recognized before. If that is not innovative, creative and entrepreneurial I do not know what is."

Nethery, a senior at Spencer County High School, is active in his local FFA chapter, serving on several committees and attending numerous activities. He was also a member of the Meats Evaluation team, and the Farm Business Management team, both of which placed first in the state competition. Nethery is an active volunteer with several organizations, including Relay for Life and his local Angel Tree. He plans to pursue a career in multi-media technology by obtaining a bachelor's degree in communications.

Rachel Patrick, 18, of Eatonton, Ga.,

owns and operates *His-Grace Holsteins*, an enterprise that custom raises commercial Holstein heifers and bulls for local dairy farmers, as well as buys and sells registered Holstein cattle. She is the daughter of

Bob and Marsha Patrick. Patrick has been intrigued by the cattle and dairy business since she was a small child and acted on that interest to develop her business. *His-Grace Holsteins* was started in 2003.

"Through my business, I buy, raise, show, breed and market registered and commercial Holstein cattle," Patrick said. "I raise or purchase my registered animals to show and contribute superior genetics to my herd. I market a number of animals annually by private treaty or consignment sales, allowing local dairy farmers to benefit from the superior genetics of my herd. I also purchase commercial Holstein heifers to use as embryo transfer recipients in my breeding program. When these heifers calve at two years of age, I market them to local dairyman."

The second aspect of Patrick's business is custom raising dairy heifers and bulls. "I currently serve three clients in the custom part of my business," Patrick said. "I raise, feed, breed and care for the heifers until they are within a month of calving. I also raise bull calves for research on contract with the University of Georgia Veterinary School."

"Rachel identified two specific needs of dairymen in our area - the demand for high quality dairy animals with elite genetics and the need of dairies with limited



**92 percent of
agricultural education
programs offer
agriscience.**

Agri-Entrepreneurs Honored continued

pasture space for replacement heifers,” said Dr. D.J. Sheppard, Patrick’s agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. “Rachel has found a ready market for the fresh cows she has used as recipients for her embryo transfer program and for her custom services.”

Patrick is a 2007 graduate of Putnam County High School. While in high school, Patrick was active in FFA, serving as president and vice president of the Putnam County FFA Chapter. She was named the Georgia Star Farmer in 2007 and was part of the Dairy Evaluation team that placed first nationally and eighth internationally in 2006. Patrick was awarded the State of Georgia Certificate of Merit and served her graduating class as salutatorian. She is attending South Dakota State University majoring in dairy production and plans to continue on to attend veterinary school with hopes of owning a small dairy and being a large animal veterinarian.

Judd Went, 17, of Creston, Neb., owns and operates Judd’s Lean Lamb, an enterprise that raises lambs and sells meat to restaurants. Judd also owns an enterprise called Went Club Lambs, in which he

produces and sells fair and show lambs. He knew he wanted to receive maximum return on all of his lambs, and decided to promote a product that would accomplish this. He is the son of Ryan and Jan Went.

“I seek out restaurant owners who value a high-quality, farm fresh, all natural product and who wish to fill a void in their current menu choices,” Went said. “These restaurateurs value the healthy benefits derived from fresh, wholesome lamb, and also wish to satisfy their growing Hispanic clientele.”

Went plans to market his lambs by one-on-one contact with small local eating establishments by offering meat samples for their use in experimenting with dishes. He also plans to offer his meat at the local farmers market.

“Judd will experience great growth in terms of sales and working knowledge of the food industry once his project progresses and grows to include a devoted customer base,” said Wade Hilker, Went’s agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. “He has done a great job of planning a product line that will have repeatability and ease of production so that customers can depend on him and his products.”

Went, a senior at Columbus Lakeview High School, has served as sentinel of his local FFA chapter for the last couple of years. He is also an honor roll student and an all-state football player. Went has served as his 4-H club president, secretary and treasurer, and is part of the Lutheran Bell Choir. He plans to return to production agriculture after earning an animal science degree.

Jordan Dickey, 16, of Ramer, Tenn., owns and operates Dickey Hay, an enterprise that repackages large round bales into small, 50-pound bales, then wholesales the smaller bales to local feed stores. When researching possible business ideas, Dickey noticed the difference in price between large round bales and small, square bales. Consequently, he decided to focus his business in the small bale marketplace. Dickey Hay began in 2006.

“I sell most of my hay to the local McNairy Farmer’s Co-op and to Scruggs Lawn and Tractor in nearby Tupelo (Miss.),” Dickey said. “By selling to these retailers, I have been able to dramatically increase my volume of sales and sell the hay on weekends when I am not occupied with school.”

Dickey plans to increase the size of his business by increasing his hay volume and adding straw bales. He is contracting with wheat farmers to buy straw bales.

“Jordan keeps detailed records of his input costs and the time spent in each area of his operation,” said Rod Barnes, Dickey’s agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. “He is innovative and is also conscientious in soil testing, pH monitoring and fertility management.”

Dickey, who is a junior at McNairy Central High School, is active in his local FFA chapter. He was a member of the soil evaluation and livestock evaluation teams, and served on the hometown scholarship fundraiser committee. Dickey is also a member of the varsity baseball team and served as an officer for his 4-H club. He eventually plans to study agriculture at the University of Tennessee at Martin. He is the son of Perry and Sherry Dickey.

Dylan Minnig, 18, of Randolph, Wis., owns and operates Dylan’s Firewood,



Agriculture is the nation’s largest employer, with more than 24 million people working in some area of the industry.

Agri-Entrepreneurs Honored continued

an enterprise that produces and sells firewood by the cord and bundle. The business began in the fall of 2003 and has expanded to sell wood chips and sawdust. Minnig began after helping his grandfather cut wood and sell it to neighbors.

"Since I started, I have explored new ways to make extra money from my business," Minnig said. "I expanded last fall when I rented a wood chipper with the intention of offering the service of cleaning fence lines and waste wood from farms and for homeowners."

Minnig advertises his products and services in the local weekly agriculture newspaper as well as by posting his business cards on store and cooperative bulletin boards. He finds most of his customers while delivering other jobs. He would like to expand his marketing tools by adding a website.

"Dylan is a true entrepreneur and one who is not content to just sell firewood by the cord or by the bundle," said Keith Gundlach, Minnig's agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. "He is diversifying his business and the growth potential is excellent."

Minnig is a 2007 graduate of Randolph High School. While in high school, Minnig was active in his local FFA chapter, serving as a member of several committees and attending numerous activities. Minnig was the 2006 Wisconsin State Agri-Entrepreneur award winner. He is an active member of several local clubs and organizations, including the Randolph Snowmobile Club and the Red Cross Blood Drive. He is studying to be an electrician at Western Wisconsin Technical College. He is the son of Peter Minnig and Julie De Vries.

Levi Ochsner, 16, of Sutton, Neb., owns and operates L & D Fisheries, an enterprise that produces and markets Donaldson Steelhead Trout. In 2005, Levi's family turned an old hog barn into a fish hatchery. By 2006, he was ready to manage his own crop.

"In 2005, I began working in a local fish hatchery to learn as much as I could about raising fish," Ochsner said. "I am

completely responsible for my own stock now, including the feeding, sorting and general management of the fish operation that I named L & D Fisheries. When the trout are large enough, I sell them to processors, and for lake and stream stocking for recreational fishing."

Ochsner hopes to increase his business by working with a processor to sell smoked trout. He also hopes to begin stocking a small pond on his grandfather's farm and start a fee-fishing enterprise that allows families and their children to catch their own fish. "There is a high demand for a fresh, healthy, local trout product, and I have made it my goal to meet that demand," said Ochsner.

"Levi has developed many entrepreneurial skills in aquaculture management, including record keeping, advertising and customer relations," said Tom Hofmann, Ochsner's agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. "He has also developed skills such as organization, responsibility and time management which he will be able to apply to any career in the future."

Ochsner, who is a sophomore at Sutton Public School, is an active member of his local FFA chapter. He is involved in numerous activities and serves on several committees. Ochsner received the Star Greenhand Award and a gold rating in the Nebraska Agri-Entrepreneurship program. He is a member of the student council, FCCLA and was named Student of the Month. In the future, Ochsner hopes to obtain a college education and be self-employed in aquaculture or livestock management. He is the son of Jeff and Sheila Ochsner.

Wesley VanScoy, 17, of Ridgeway, Ohio, owns and operates VanScoy Farm Cucumbers, an enterprise that researches, grows and sells hydroponic cucumber to retail and wholesale markets. Wesley's parents own and operate a commercial hydroponic tomato operation. As a freshman in high school, he became interested in growing a companion crop of cucumbers.

"It is my goal to work on this enterprise as a research project to refine the

growing practices of hydroponic cucumbers with a goal of eventually utilizing the technology to grow cucumbers in large-scale production," VanScoy said. "I am in the initial stages of making this a viable, profit-making venture by determining the best varieties of cucumbers and the most cost-effective and efficient growing techniques."

VanScoy has used companion marketing to get his product in front of potential buyers. He has generated several return customers by sending cucumber samples with retail and wholesale customers when they purchase boxes of VanScoy Farms tomatoes.

"Wesley is conducting extensive growth and market research on cucumbers to maximize production potential and customer satisfaction," said Stephanie Jolliff, VanScoy's agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. "He has spent numerous hours analyzing the costs and benefits of alternative agriculture and its importance to the U.S. economy."

VanScoy, who is a senior at Ridgeway High School, is active in local FFA activities and serves on numerous committees. He earned the Chapter Star Greenhand award as well as the Star Chapter Agribusiness award. VanScoy is also a member of the Ridgeway High School choir and an Honor Roll student. He belongs to the Great Lakes Hydroponic Association and is a member of Ohio Proud. After graduation in May of 2008, he plans to pursue a degree in agricultural education and one day hopes to return to the family operation. He is the son of William and Sonja VanScoy.

Michael Williams, 17, of Tipp City, Ohio, owns and operates FFA Cages, an enterprise that fabricates and markets rabbit cages for breeders in the rabbit industry. Williams began his business after visiting rabbit shows and noticing the difficulties breeders had with their cages.

"Breeders were starting to build their own cages, and I knew that I had the skill and experience to build what breeders

continued on page 6

Agri-Entrepreneurs Honored continued from page 5

wanted,” Williams said. “I had experience in the rabbit-breeding business and knew that cages had to be strong, have a long life, and have great workability. I experimented with my first cages and soon went into business building rabbit cages.”

Williams displays his cages at shows and fairs where rabbit breeders compete. He also sells his product to local 4-H and FFA members. Word of mouth is Williams’ best marketing tool for FFA Cages.

“Michael has been very successful in starting a business in a niche market and catering to the needs of his customers,” said Marie Carity, Williams’ agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. “His customers are always happy and ready to purchase more rabbit cages when they need them.”

Williams, a senior at Miami East High School, is active in his local FFA chapter, serving on several committees and attending numerous activities. He is also a member of the varsity soccer team and a member of the Bethel Bunnies and Livestock 4-H Club. Williams was a member of the Food Science and Technology team and earned Grand Champion Market Pen of Rabbits at the Miami County Fair in 2005. After high school graduation, he plans to pursue a career as a medical assistant. He is the son of John and Cindy Williams.

Wisconsin Teacher Named Agriscience Teacher of the Year

The National FFA Organization has chosen **Melissa Goers of Gillett, Wis.**, as the 2007 Agriscience Teacher of the Year.

The award honors an agricultural education instructor who brings excellence of curriculum and presentation to the agriscience classroom and FFA activities.

Goers is the agricultural science instructor and FFA advisor for the Gillett FFA chapter in Gillett, Wis.

Through hands-on experiences Goers helps her students understand the science connection. Every student in the agriscience program at Gillett Secondary School experiences various science activities and experiences.

“One of the reasons we integrated more scientific methods into the curriculum was to better prepare our students for their college career or the workforce through technical and career education

focusing on the scientific concepts that are directing the future of agriculture,” Goers said.

The department has expanded to include three new science-driven courses, including equine science, aquaculture and veterinarian science. Students also participate in the food science class, where they process tomatoes into salsa, create their own spaghetti noodles and process bratwursts.

During the past four years, enrollment in agriscience courses at Gillett has doubled, with more than 105 FFA members on the chapter roster. The addition of the agriscience classes has also contributed to the rise in the scores for the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam.

“Positive changes in the department and chapter have shown great improvement in the attitudes and types of students the program attracts,” Goers said.

The Agriscience Teacher of the Year award recognizes outstanding agriculture teachers who emphasize agriscience technology in their curriculum. Finalists have developed innovative programs in food, environmental, animal, plant, soil and mechanical/engineering sciences. The program is sponsored by Potash-Corp as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.



More than 10,000 agriculture teachers deliver an innovative, cutting-edge and integrated curriculum to students.

Nebraska Student Named Agriscience Student of the Year

High school senior **Emily Arkfeld**'s studies on the role of genetics in the meat quality of her family's swine business have already earned her recognition among the swine industry's experts and leaders. Now, she can add a national award to her ever-growing list of accomplishments.

On October 27, Arkfeld was recognized as Agriscience Student of the Year and was presented with a \$1,500 scholarship during the 80th National FFA Convention. She is a member of the Lourdes Central Catholic FFA Chapter in Nebraska City, Neb. She is the daughter of Luanne and Timothy Arkfeld. Her FFA advisor is Mr. Timothy Arkfeld.

Eight national finalists are selected for the Agriscience Student of the Year award. To qualify, applicants must present the findings of their own agriscience-related research projects. They are also evaluated on their general academic achievements and their involvement in school and community activities.

The Agriscience Student of the Year Scholarship and Recognition Program is sponsored by Monsanto as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.



Agriscience Fair Awards

The 2007 Agriscience Fair Awards were presented onstage during the seventh general session at the 80th National FFA Convention. The Agriscience Fair Recognition Program is sponsored by Ford Motor Company Fund as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The winners are listed below by event:

Biochemistry/Food Science/Microbiology

Division One: Samantha Baker, Minnesota

Division Two: Stacey Vosters, Indiana

Division Three: Navita Persaud and Neil Muir, New York

Division Four: Jessica Stout and Dani Chappell, Illinois

Botany

Division One: Kenneth Callier, New York

Division Two: Josh Johnson, New York

Division Three: Katherine Ynsinare and Michelle Ynsinare, New York

Division Four: Brooke Nussel and Alexandria Schultes, Texas

Engineering

Division One: Maggie Good, Arkansas

Division Two: Mallory WallTweten, Washington

Division Three: Alex Mcmanus and Pernelle Guerrier, New York

Division Four: Lauren Moss and Chelsea Molina, California

Environmental Science

Division One: Rowan Baird, Ohio

Division Two: Christopher Greggs, New York

Division Three: Samantha Houston, Texas

Division Four: Christopher Daniels and Victor Flores, New York

Zoology

Division One: Aaron Heishman, Virginia

Division Two: Laura White, California

Division Three: Abby Mickelson and Maggie Mickelson, Wisconsin

Division Four: Rachael Arkfeld and Emily Arkfeld, Nebraska



Students experience Career Development Events

Since 1928, the National FFA Organization has worked to create Career Development Events (CDEs) that demonstrated 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 23 different national CDEs at the national FFA convention. Through intense hands-on activities, students are asked to perform specific career skills. Industry professionals act as judges, so the competitors received a real understanding of how they would perform in some of the more than 300 careers in agriculture. Winning teams receive scholarships.

Agricultural Communications

Sponsored by DTN of Minneapolis, Minn., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

Participants attend a simulated news conference and use the information gathered to complete individual practicums 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: Kayan Nash, Kendra Frazier, Lauren Nutter, Rodney Fleming, and Shayla Smith of Altamont, Kan.

High Individual: Kella Kicklighter of Manor, Ga.

Agricultural Issues Forum

Sponsored by Elanco Animal Health, a Division of Eli Lilly & Company of Greenfield, Ind., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

To qualify for the National Agricultural Issues Forum Career Development Event, 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: Oaklee Anderson, Johnee Jo Campbell, Russell Goff, Chase McNamee, Ty McNamee, and Nick Pince, of Shoshoni, Wyo.

Agricultural Mechanics

Sponsored by the Firestone Agricultural Tire Division/Bridgestone Firestone Trust Fund of Des Moines, Iowa as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The National Agricultural Mechanics Career Development Event 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 energy systems, environmental/natural resource systems, machinery & equipment systems, structural systems and industry & marketing systems.

FFA members participate in hands-on work experiences, allowing them to apply knowledge learned in class.



CDE Winners continued

Winning Team: Jacob Andresen, Robert Lopez-Calvert, Willie Wright, and Austin Hubbell of Fresno, Calif.

High Individual: Lewis J. Schaffer of Fairbury, Ill.

Agricultural Sales

Sponsored by Monsanto of St. Louis, Mo., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

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.

Winning Team: Chelsea Hathaway, Kelsey Humble, Caitlin Ogilvie, and Chelsey Hood, of Moodus, Conn.

High Individual: Charlotte Seidel of Yelm, Wash.

Agronomy

Sponsored by Bayer CropScience of Research Triangle Park, N.C., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

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: Patrick Ball, Scott Wilson, Ethan Turner, and Courtney Barbee of Neosho, Mo.

High Individual: Scott Wilson of Neosho, Mo.

Creed Speaking

Sponsored by CHS Foundation of St. Paul, Minn., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The National FFA Creed Speaking Career Development Event 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.

High Individual: Alison King of Atwater, Calif.

Dairy Cattle Evaluation

Sponsored by Westfalia Surge, Inc. of Naperville, Ill., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The National FFA Dairy Cattle Evaluation Career Development Event 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.

Winning Team: Jordan Hanson, Kari Lien, Aaron Lien, and Carly Lyons of Calmar, Iowa

High Individual: Jordan Hanson of Calmar, Iowa

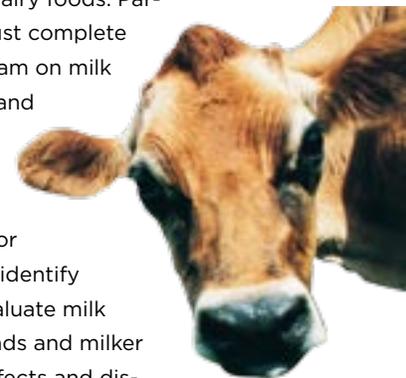
Dairy Foods

Sponsored by Dairy Farmers of America of Kansas City, Mo., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation of Indianapolis, Ind..

The National Dairy Foods Career Development Event 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.

Winning Team: Colter Cantrell, Sonja Gjerde, Kristy Mauck, and Alex Murphy of Fair Play, Mo.

High Individual: Sonja Gjerde of Fair Play, Mo.



Environmental/Natural Resources

Sponsored by USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service of Washington, D.C., and Smithfield Foods of Smithfield, Va., as a special project of The National FFA Foundation.

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.



The Creed Speaking event gives FFA members the opportunity to develop their ability to **communicate in a powerful, organized and professional manner.**

CDE Winners continued

Winning Team: Stuart Graham, Samantha Kickbush, Taylor Quackenbush, and Patrick Savelle of Watkinsville, Ga.

High Individual: William French of Woodstock, Va.

Extemporaneous Public Speaking

Sponsored by the American Farm Bureau Federation of Washington, D.C. as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The Extemporaneous Public Speaking Career Development Event 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 thirty minutes to prepare a four to six minute speech, and respond to five minutes of questions following delivery.

High Individual: Elizabeth Mulkey of Toccoa, Ga.

Farm Business Management

Sponsored by John Deere of Moline, Ill., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The National FFA Farm Business Management Career Development Event is designed to test the ability of students to apply economic principles and concepts in analyzing farm and ranch business management decisions. Each team in the event has competed with other chapters in their state for the privilege of participating in the national event.

Top Team: Erin Larimore, Nathan Thacker, and Justin Tucker, of Green Ridge, Mo.

High Individual: Justin Tucker of Green Ridge, Mo.



Floriculture

Sponsored by Ball Horticultural Company of West Chicago, Ill., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

In the National FFA Floriculture Career Development Event, 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/decision-making skills, employment and customer service skills, technical floral skills and the ability to work as a team.

Winning Team: Stacy Cass, Stephanie Cass, Mandy Stockton, and Wenonah Toney of Marshfield, Mo.

High Individual: Brittany Beal of Bear Creek, N.C.

Food Science and Technology

Sponsored by the National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Food Science and Technology Career Development Event 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.

Winning Team: Aaron Sobba, Kevin Yoder, Adam Sobba, and Kristen Bowman of Garnett, Kan.

High Individual: Mike Norton of Lincoln, Ark.

Forestry

Sponsored by Husqvarna of Charlotte, N.C., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The National FFA Forestry Career Development Event 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, map interpretation, and timber cruising for board volume.

Winning Team: Nicholas Temple, Wesley Richard, Nathan Ledbetter, and Ethan Vickers of Hermitage, Ark.

High Individual: Ethan Vickers of Hermitage, Ark.



Through 23 national career development events and one activity, **FFA members are challenged by real-life, hands-on tests of skills that prepare them for career success.**

CDE Winners continued

Horse Evaluation

Sponsored by American Quarter Horse Youth Association of Amarillo, Texas; Dodge Trucks of Auburn Hills, Mich.; KENT Feeds, Inc. of Muscatine, Iowa as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The National FFA Horse Evaluation Career Development Event 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: Alex Segera, Breanna Guinn, Chris Difalco, and Emily Cehrs of Clovis, Calif.

High Individual: Alex Segera of Clovis, Calif.

Job Interview

Sponsored by Tractor Supply Company of Brentwood, Tenn., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The Job Interview Career Development Event is a competitive activity that tests student's ability to perform effectively throughout the entire job

application process. The participants prepare resumes, cover letters and completed a written application. They also participate in phone, one-on-one and panel job interviews as part of the competition.

High Individual: McKenzie Steger of Chappell, Neb.

Livestock Evaluation

Sponsored by Alpharma of Fort Lee, N.J.; Boehringer Ingelheim of St. Joseph, Mo.; Merial of Duluth, Ga., and Tyson Foods, Inc. of Northfield, Ill., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The National FFA Livestock Career Development Event is a competitive activity that tests the student's ability to select and evaluate livestock. Event components include seven evaluation classes of beef, sheep and swine; oral placement reasons on four classes; a written exam on livestock production; and quality grading of slaughter cattle. A team event, based on production performance records, demonstrates the team's breeding livestock selection ability.

Winning Team: Kyle Wilson, Seth Lawyer, Aaron Jones, and Kyle Jacobs of Charlottesville, Ind.

High Individual: Chase Reed of Winfield, Kan.

Marketing Plan

Sponsored by DeBruce Grain of Kansas City, Mo.; DuPont Company of Wilmington, Delaware; and USDA-Rural Development of Washington, D.C., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The National FFA Marketing Plan Career Development Event 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.

Winning Team: Lee Koenigsfeld, Anna Wolfe, and Ashley Wolfe of Hudson, Iowa

Meats Evaluation and Technology

Sponsored by Cargill Meat Solutions of Minneapolis, Minn.; Hormel Foods Corporation of Austin, Minn., and Kraft Foods Inc.-Oscar Mayer Division of Madison, Wis., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The National FFA Meats Technology and Evaluation Career Development Event 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.

Winning Team: Austin Perry, Vincent Presley, Chad Bower, and Eryn Rouch of Clovis, Calif.

High Individual: Chad Bower of Clovis, Calif.

Nursery and Landscape

Sponsored by Arysta LifeScience North America of San Francisco, Calif., Kubota Tractor Corporation of Torrance, Calif., and STIHL Inc. of Virginia Beach, Va.

The National FFA Nursery and Landscape Career Development Event is a competitive activity in which FFA members test their knowledge and skills in nursery practices and



The National FFA Horse Evaluation Career Development Event is a competitive activity that **tests the student's ability to select and evaluate horses.**

CDE Winners continued

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.

Winning Team: Ashton Jones, Tyson Strickland, Tabitha Williford, and Jordan Wood of Perry, Ga.

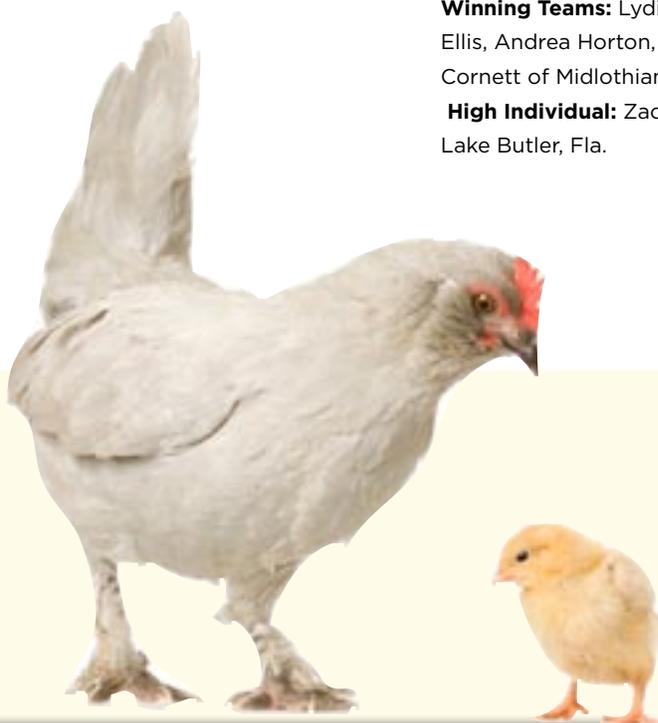
High Individual: Tyson Strickland of Perry, Ga.

Parliamentary Procedure

Sponsored by the National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Parliamentary Procedure event tests students' ability to effectively communicate ideas during a meeting. Components included a general knowledge exam of parliamentary law, a ten minute demonstration of parliamentary procedure, oral questions, and written minutes of the demonstration.

Winning Team: Abigail Ryan, Amber Sawyer, Amanda Shuminsky, Leighan Clark, Weston Pounds, and Vernon Clark of Bakersfield, Calif.



Poultry Evaluation

Sponsored by sponsored by Tyson Foods, Inc. of Springdale, Ark.; and U.S. Poultry & Egg Association of Tucker, Ga., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The National Poultry Evaluation Career Development Event is a competitive activity that tests the student'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

Winning Teams: Lydia Morris, Kevin Ellis, Andrea Horton, and Garrett Cornett of Midlothian, Texas

High Individual: Zachary Sweat of Lake Butler, Fla.

Prepared Public Speaking

Sponsored by Monsanto of St. Louis, Mo., and Vector Marketing-Cutco Cutlery of Wilmington, Del., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

High Individual: Will Leonard of Blountstown, Fla.



Collectively, **FFA members** earn **\$4 billion** annually through their hands-on work experiences.

National Agricultural Proficiency Winners Announced

Agricultural Communications - Entrepreneurship/Placement

A self-proclaimed “horse nut” but looking for an affordable and unique way of expressing her passion, Mattabeset FFA member **Kristina Maria Simmons** from Connecticut turned to authoring horse-inspired stories. Using her experiences working for a therapeutic horse facility, Simmons has written, self-published and marketed three equine novels that have sold both nationwide and overseas. She remains encouraged by her parents, Peter and Linda, and FFA advisors Rebecca Isaacson, Andrew O'Brien, Joab Owen and Amanda Thompson. In the future, Simmons plans to pursue a career in the thoroughbred industry after double-majoring in science and journalism at the University of Connecticut. This award is sponsored by the National FFA Foundation.

Agricultural Education - Entrepreneurship/Placement

With a firm commitment to one day becoming an agriculture teacher, Minot FFA member and North Dakota resident **Mitchell Thomas Becker** has devoted his high school years to pursuing the unique skills he will need as an FFA advisor. From his first experience as a PALS presenter, Becker has expanded his SAE

to include teaching elementary level agricultural programming, coaching the FFA quiz team, and assisting his own FFA advisors, Tracey Hartwig, Jeff Ball, and Lance Van Berkom. Supported by his parents, Thomas and Shelly, he plans to attend North Dakota State University. This award is sponsored by The James F. Lincoln Arc Welding Foundation; The Lincoln Electric Company.

Agricultural Mechanics Design and Fabrication - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Starting with sweeping out the shop and advancing to gas, arc and TIG welding, Porterville FFA member **Mark Mcgregor** has learned to adapt his family's California manufacturing business to increase its marketability. Mcgregor has created a niche fabricating basic and artistically embellished beer breweries. He also spends nearly 50 percent of his time manufacturing specialized agricultural equipment. Mcgregor has learned to apply modern web-based sales techniques to increase his customer base. Supported by his parents, John and JJ, and FFA advisors, Isaac Robles, Nicole Castle and Todd Coons, he plans to complete a degree from Fresno State

while continuing to foster the success of his business. This award is sponsored by Carry-on Trailer Corporation and Dodge Trucks.

Agricultural Mechanics Energy Systems - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Focusing on hydraulic fluid power design and troubleshooting, Ceres FFA member and California resident **Christopher Lampley** is enthusiastic about his chosen field. As a repair technician and salesman, Lampley says he enjoys an industry that requires daily, detailed problem-solving. Having already gone from making hydraulic hoses to a recurrent role as large systems builder, he plans to attend Universal Technical Institute while pursuing his dream of owning and operating his own shop. Lampley is supported by his parents, Brian and Carol, and his FFA advisors, Heather



Members participate in and learn advanced career skills in 47 national proficiency areas based on their hands-on work experiences.

Agricultural Proficiency Winners continued

McDowell and Brian Mortenson. This award is sponsored by Briggs and Stratton Corporation Foundation, Inc. and New Holland.

Agricultural Mechanics Repair and Maintenance - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Learning first on small machines, Buffalo Gap FFA member **James Craig Williams** now displays expertise in maintaining a wide range of equipment at his local John Deere dealership in Virginia. Williams started his employment doing set-up, putting together the lawn mowers and other new equipment that came in to be sold. Now he works in diagnostics and repair and is proud to say his employment is with a Gold Star dealer. Williams has already earned level one certification as a technician and is now completing his training at Wake Technical Institute in North Carolina. He plans to continue building his career in the industry and is thankful for the support of his parents, Jim and Rhonda, and FFA advisors, Shirley Kauffman and Rosalea Riley. This award is sponsored by Hobart Welders and Tractor Supply Company.

Agricultural Processing - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Scio FFA member **Elle Obringer** has learned all facets of sheep herdsman-ship, dairy production and artisan cheese making. She is also realizing her

goals of expanding the family's Oregon facilities and developing a superior product with strong marketability. Selling to health-conscious consumers at farmers' markets, she has developed a niche customer base that proves to be very loyal. In addition, Obringer's products can regularly be found in specialty food stores and restaurants near her Oregon home. A future major in food science and technology, she shares her success today with her parents, Paul and Kathy, and her FFA advisor, Dave Bonebrake. This award is sponsored by Archer Daniels Midland Company and CHS Foundation.

Agricultural Sales - Entrepreneurship

Sparked by an experience at the 2004 National FFA Convention, Bakersfield FFA member **Samantha Williams** from California decided to develop and market goat's milk soap. By testing and adjusting details ranging from the PH content of her soap to packaging presentation, Williams has developed a profitable business that is well on its way to sustaining her herd. She hopes to pay for college with profits from the enterprise while majoring in agribusiness. Providing encouragement for her efforts are her parents, Roger and Ana, and FFA advisor, Jennifer Wilke. This award is sponsored by the National FFA Foundation.

Agricultural Sales - Placement

Marketing, caring for, and arranging flowers, **Morgan Leigh Gauby** continues to develop her love of floriculture into a promising career. Learning all sides of the business from designing fresh and

silk arrangements to managing customer service, she has also worked to expand her knowledge of foliage plants. As an employee at a floral shop near her Kansas home, Gauby has spent hours perfecting her arranging skills and improving her understanding of the business side of the industry. Supported by her parents, Gary and Amy, her employer and mentor, Carol Owen, and FFA advisor, John R. Kern, Gauby plans to pursue agricultural business at Kansas State University. This award is sponsored by Vigortone Ag Products and National FFA Foundation.

Agricultural Services - Entrepreneurship/Placement

South Barber FFA member **Scott Nathan Clark** serves as a foreman on his father's Kansas-based custom harvesting business. While mastering how to calibrate equipment, buy seed, market crops and trade machinery, Clark travels in the summer from Texas to Colorado to perform his work. Time management, organization and an understanding of finance are as much a part of the expertise he has acquired as are the various production agriculture techniques Clark uses. Supported by his parents, Kevin and Kim, and FFA advisor, Fred Gillig and Gina Stewart, Clark aims to graduate with honors from Oklahoma State University's Agricultural Production Engineering program. This award is sponsored by the National FFA Foundation.

Aquaculture - Entrepreneurship/Placement

With an insatiable curiosity about aquatic life, James Madison FFA member **Angela Garcia** from California found an ideal placement assisting in her school's aquaculture lab. Under the guidance of



According to a student magazine readership study, **87 percent of our students are interested in learning about career exploration.**

Agricultural Proficiency Winners continued

her instructor, Garcia decided to start both a research - and work-based SAE delving into the five major aquaculture systems. Today as the lab's main researcher, Garcia has overcome a natural shyness to lead tours, conduct interviews, and train fellow students. Focused on becoming a veterinarian, she says she would one day like to serve as an example to other young Hispanics. She is supported by her parents, Leonard and Hilda, and FFA advisors, Pamela Kempen and Joshua Anderson. This award is sponsored by the National FFA Foundation.

Beef Production - Entrepreneurship

Beginning his operation with 22 head of stocker cattle, Cordell FFA member **Slade Don Nightengale** from Oklahoma today holds more than 300 head. By keeping his death loss below two percent through sound practices, Nightengale has been able to make capital purchases and repay short-term loans with a profit from his operation. Through sound investments in CDs, he has grown his savings to use as both loan collateral and as college tuition. Supporting him in his accomplishments are his parents, Kevin and Sherry, and FFA advisor, Brian Dowlle. This award is sponsored by Bayer Animal Health and Nasco Division-Nasco International, Inc.

Beef Production - Placement

Growing up in an area of Nebraska that averages 955 cattle per square mile, it seemed natural that Wisner-Pilger FFA member **Jeffrey M. Schroeder** would be drawn to beef production. Schroeder works with cattle in all phases at a commercial feedlot. After an injury sidelined him for 13 months, he began to more seriously analyze his long-term goals and

eventually focused on a career in large animal nutrition and meat sciences. To his benefit, Schroeder's SAE gave him a head start in this area through exposure to the operation's modern technologies that include computerized ration mixing and electronic animal tracking. Schroeder's accomplishments are recognized by his mother, Debra, and his father and FFA advisor, Mark J. Schroeder. This award is sponsored by Fort Dodge Animal Health and Midwest PMS.

Dairy Production - Entrepreneurship

Hanford FFA member **Brian Orlando Medeiros** is helping to increase the quantity and quality of cow's milk on his father's California dairy. Medeiros oversees milking of approximately 2,200 Holsteins while also actively managing daily operations. Medeiros wants to continue to expand the operation and serve on the creamery board but first is double-majoring in agribusiness management and dairy science at Cal Poly State University. Supporting him in these goals are his parents, Rui and Alvarina, and his FFA advisors, Susan Moran, Dennis Mann and Lilly Pimentel. This award is sponsored by DeLaval, Inc. and New Holland.

Dairy Production - Placement

Spending most of his winter break a few years ago milking cows at a large Wisconsin dairy farm, Fort Atkinson FFA member **Tyler Fornes Bradley** says he gained a true appreciation for the industry. Bradley has discovered his favorite tasks take place

in the hospital pen where he delivers calves and has gained expertise in herd health protocols. Sparked by this interest, he now also works with University of Wisconsin researchers and is majoring in dairy farm management through the University of Wisconsin Madison Farm and Industry Short Course. Bradley plans to go on to complete a four-year degree in dairy science and continues to discern a career in veterinary medicine. Supporting him in his dreams are his parents, Norm and Kay, and his FFA advisors, Jeffrey Agnew and Gary Olson. This award is sponsored by Monsanto.

Diversified Agricultural Production - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Helping to produce and market an average of more than 3,000 acres of crops annually, Riverton FFA member **James Hutto** also participates in the management of stocker cattle, market hog, and edible beans for export to Taiwan. Working on his family's Kansas operation, Hutto balances key responsibilities for equipment maintenance, hauling, planting and feeding. Relying on an organized work ethic and practiced



Agricultural Proficiency Winners continued

business communications skills to keep everything running smoothly, he is supported by his parents, John and Kenna, and FFA advisor, Jacob Larison. He plans to earn a degree in diesel mechanics with a minor in economics. This award is sponsored by Delta Consolidated—A Danaher Company and National FFA Foundation.

Diversified Crop Production - Entrepreneurship

Farming his own crops that range from soybeans and navy beans to wheat, Sanilac FFA member **Tim Wilke** also works on his family's Michigan operation. He takes pride in keeping meticulous records, even going to the extent of having a separate fuel tank for his enterprise on the family farm. Wilke closely watches the commodities market and recently made the decision to place his black beans in a pool program for a higher payout. Also an employee at the Michigan State University Extension Office, he is majoring in agronomy. Recognizing his achievements are his parents, Randy and Sandy, and FFA advisor, Robert Sollman. This award is sponsored by CHS Foundation.

Diversified Crop Production - Placement

Handling mint, corn, carrots and onions, Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA member **Tony J. Crescio** works his family's Wisconsin farm. Inspired to achieve excellence by watching videotapes of his state's FFA convention proficiency winners, Crescio set his sights on mastering the operation's spraying, irrigation, harvest, fertility management, and marketing programs. More specifically, he concentrated on learning the skills of soil testing and

pesticide certification. Having come a long way toward mastering these areas, he is grateful for the support of his parents, John and Irma, and his FFA advisor, Keith Gundlach. Crescio is currently enrolled in a mechanical design program. This award is sponsored by National Crop Insurance Services and National FFA Foundation.

Diversified Horticulture - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Acquiring his friend's established landscaping business, Fresno-Central FFA member **Austin Hubbell** has since expanded the California enterprise to include nursery production. Today he produces both trees and plugs of native grasses for repopulation in California's San Joaquin Valley near his home. Hubbell seeks out prospective customers for his non-native plants prior to production, avoiding the expense of excess inventory. He plans to pursue a degree in ornamental horticulture with an emphasis in nursery production and hopes to focus on native species. Celebrating his success are his parents, Bryce and Marlene, and his FFA advisors, Steve Sartcher, Kristi Mattes, Larry Dinis, Blaise Chaney, Melissa Barcellos, Taree Bodeand Roz Lopez. This award is sponsored by Bonnie Plants and Nationwide Foundation.



Diversified Livestock Production - Entrepreneurship

With a varied program that includes poultry, swine, rabbits, breeding and feeding beef, Seneca FFA member **Sara Elizabeth Brockman** never has to worry about keeping busy on her Illinois operation. Whether changing feed rations or using a new sire, she remains flexible and respondent to the needs of her business. Today Brockman maintains her own buildings in addition to the production work and has sustained a profitable, loyal customer base. With the support of her parents, David and Pam, and FFA advisors, Jeff Maierhofer and Kent Weber, Brockman plans to complete a degree in animal science to become a large animal veterinarian. This award is sponsored by Tractor Supply Company and National FFA Foundation.

Diversified Livestock Production - Placement

First going to work for a producer of show barrow, Glencoe FFA member **Laramie Estes** has gone on to employment

Ninety-two percent of **agricultural education** programs offer agriscience, 71 percent offer advanced agriscience and biotechnology, 59 percent offer agricultural mechanics, 49 percent offer horticulture, 43 percent offer animal science and 24 percent offer environment-related courses.

Agricultural Proficiency Winners continued

with several livestock producers in his home state of Oklahoma. Today he owns several head of cows, horses, goats and three show pigs. Despite this enterprise, he continues to also work as a day laborer and offers an extensive portfolio of agricultural expertise strengthened by agriculture classes where he has learned to administer medicine, balance rations, and evaluate animals. Estes is now enrolled in a respected carpentry program and is anticipating adding barn and outside structures to his career experiences. Celebrating his achievements are his parents, Phil and Debbie, and FFA advisor, Preston Jenkins and Scott Yates. This award is sponsored by Behlen Manufacturing Company and National FFA Foundation.

Emerging Agricultural Production - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Fascinated with GPS guidance systems, high-accuracy Spider planters, ECO-DAN cultivating systems and GIS mapping, Salinas FFA member **Brent M. McKinsey** from California can spend hours thinking of these technologies. McKinsey's primary goal for their application was a reduction in field preparation and planting time by 15 percent. For instance, he was able to reduce the number of seeds applied in one operation by approximately 3,000 per acre without sacrificing yields. He has also focused on achieving a better understanding of the cost inputs-to-net profit relationship. With the support of his parents, Sam and Tammy, and FFA advisor, Jonathan Pike, McKinsey wishes to graduate with a degree in political science and a minor in crop science and management. This award is sponsored by Chevrolet.

Environmental Science and Natural Resources - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Watching his family's Washington business evolve, Elma FFA member **Miles Zepp** has enjoyed learning the process of recycling waste wood into a useful bio-mass product. Along with learning to use the operation's extensive equipment, Zepp has honed his bargaining skills by transacting business with land owners, dealers and individual customers. In his work, he oversees ground crews and is responsible for ensuring their safety and proper adherence to the operation's standards. Having also overseen field restoration tasks and prepared land for use of the Wetlands Reserve Program, Zepp plans to attend Washington State University in agribusiness with a minor in natural resources. Supporting him in his efforts are his parents, Albert and Sandi, and his FFA advisor, Christi Kershaw, Dave Rutherford and Kari Toms. This award is sponsored by the National FFA Foundation.

Equine Science - Entrepreneurship

Marshfield FFA member **Dylan Stichert** manages his Wisconsin operation that includes 38 Belgians and six riding horses. Breaking colts, learning to shoe, and managing finances are all skills Stichert has developed as a result of his SAE. He has also learned to market his horses by participating in fairs and parades, including the prestigious Great Circus Parade in Milwaukee where Stichert's hitch pulls a 100-year-

old restored Wild Bill Hickok ticket wagon. While earning a college degree, he plans to raise draft horses and beef cattle and also become a forester in his family's logging business. Supporting him in these goals are his parents, Dana and Denise, and FFA advisors, Mark Zee and Tim Heeg. This award is sponsored by Keystone Steel and Wire Company-Red Brand and Land O'Lakes Feed/Purina Mills.

Equine Science - Placement

Riverton FFA member **Mycah A. McColm** started riding horses at the age of 3 and now holds two National Reserve Championships. Working at her family's Kansas therapeutic horseback riding center, her full-time responsibilities include serving as an assistant to the therapeutic riding sessions, managing the nutritional and health care needs of the herd, and developing marketing plans. She is now a certified therapeutic riding instructor and plans to continue developing her skills in this field while also pursuing a degree in speech pathology. Supporting these goals are her parents, Allen and Shelly, and FFA advisor Jacob Larison. This award is sponsored by Ariat International, Inc. and Tractor Supply Company.

Today, there are 500,823 FFA members, aged 12-21, in 7,358 chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.



Agricultural Proficiency Winners continued

Fiber and/or Oil Crop Production - Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Managing 27 acres of soybeans, Pierce FFA member **Adam Venteicher** started his own crop two years ago. In an area of Nebraska where soybeans generally derive more profit than corn, Venteicher's decision to diversify has been rewarded with increased profits. He has continued to increase his yield while performing all labor from planting to combining. Having successfully doubled his acreage in two years, Venteicher looks forward to earning a degree in diesel technology and animal science. Sharing in his success are his parents, Kenneth and Donna, and FFA advisor, Jodi Borchers. This award is sponsored by Syngenta Seeds Inc. and National FFA Foundation.

Floriculture - Entrepreneurship/ Placement

With her own iris garden at home and a driving interest in managing the flower species, Utah Bear River FFA member **Brittany Selman** found a job to fit her passion. Supported by her siblings involved in FFA, Selman began working at the age of 11 as an assistant at a local garden business near her Utah home that focused on iris hybridization. As field supervisor, she now not only does much of the technical work, but she also trains other employees and leads facility tours. While using her earnings to fund attendance at FFA leadership events, Selman looks forward to attending college in agricultural communications. She is supported by her parents, Chris and Lorraine, and FFA advisors, Neil Creer, Wes Burrell and TJ Rhodes. This award is sponsored by the National FFA Foundation.

Food Science and Technology - Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Since she was young, Zane Trace FFA member **Abby Snyder** from Ohio has helped her family produce Highland cattle, so it was natural for her to center

her agriscience fair projects around beef. By working with the American Highland Cattle Association, Snyder designs experiments according to their suggested areas of research as well as interests determined by The Ohio State University. Through her SAE, she has learned to perform sheer testing, sensory evaluations, infrared analysis, and other lab procedures. Interested in pursuing a doctorate in food science technology from Cornell University, she would like to become an agricultural chemist. Offering their support for her goals are her parents, Tom and Pamela, and her FFA advisor, Jennifer Moore. This award is sponsored by CHS Foundation and National FFA Foundation.

Forage Production - Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Arkansas City FFA member **Emile Magnus** works with her uncle's harvesting operation in Kansas specializing in a wide variety of hay. Her significant responsibilities include daily maintenance and operation of the haying equipment, testing and selling of the product and forage preparation. Learning how to properly operate and adjust a GPS is just one example of how Magnus tries to stay at the forefront of farming technology. With the encouragement of her parents, Wade and Tresia, and FFA advisors, Corey Epler, Adam Foster and Denise George, she anticipates completing an agribusiness degree at Kansas State University. This award is sponsored by Claas of America Inc. and National FFA Foundation.

Forest Management and Products - Entrepreneurship/ Placement

First fascinated as a young boy by the big machinery used in forestry, Atoka FFA member **Bradley Jerrisson Bradford** says he has since learned the industry is actually more about performing quality work, treating customers well and respecting the environment. Working for his family's respected Oklahoma logging business, Bradford now helps with

strategic planning. He has earned his logger training certification and displays confidence whether out in the field, negotiating pricing with large corporations or serving the individual clients that supply it. Bradford is thankful for the continuing support of his parents, Brett and Glenna, and looks forward to returning the investment made in him by his FFA advisors, Bart Harper and Michelle Harper, through a career in high school education. This award is sponsored by Dodge Trucks and John Deere.

Fruit Production - Entrepreneurship/ Placement

First working under supervision at the age of 8 painting and pruning fruit trees, Payson FFA member **Diana Rowley** now helps produce and market fruit at two separate farms in Utah. Management practices she has learned include testing for sugar levels to determine harvest, monitoring for destructive pests, and maintaining accurate records of the cherry bins where the crop is collected. Also managing peach and apple crops, Rowley is now charged with coordinating the work of other staff during harvest time. Supported by her parents, Raymond and Linda, and FFA advisors, Joshua Evans, Howard Houston and Nyle Russel, she plans to pursue a bachelor's degree while promoting agricultural literacy. This award is sponsored by DuPont Company and National FFA Foundation.

Grain Production - Entrepreneurship

Expanding his corn acreage each year, Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA member **Alex Zimmerman** has learned as much about sound agricultural business practices as he has grain production. While gaining a detailed understanding in all areas of tillage and acquiring pesticide certification, he has also branched out into soil testing and sampling to establish a long-range fertility program to benefit yields. He set an early goal of increasing equity in the farm and is halfway to his goal of someday buying the Wisconsin operation from his father, Mark. Also sharing in his success is his

Agricultural Proficiency Winners continued

mother, Barb, and FFA advisor, Keith Gundlach. This award is sponsored by Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.

Grain Production - Placement

With a proudly proclaimed devotion to agriculture, McCook Central FFA member **Kyle Zulk** enjoys working on his family's diversified corn, soybean, and hay and cattle operation in South Dakota. Over time, Zulk has gained a hands-on understanding of seed selection, chemical use, field scouting, and marketing strategies. He now plays a primary role in determining the overall management of the operation and is learning the financial end of the business by regularly attending bank and FSA meetings. Looking forward to attending South Dakota State University and developing a long-term farming partnership with his father, Kenneth, Zulk plans to major in agronomy and agricultural business. Also sharing in his success are his mother, Kathy, and FFA advisor, Terry Rieckman. This award is sponsored by Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.

Home and/or Community Development - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Central FFA member **Clay Aaron McCarley** is a full-time firefighter for his school's well-respected volunteer fire department in Oklahoma. By actively pursuing formal training in a wide range of areas, McCarley now holds both Emergency Medical Technician and Self Contained Breathing Apparatus certifications, in addition to other credentials. Having already completed 27 college credit hours, the high school senior plans to complete his degree in fire management and pursue his chosen career while also expanding a separate cattle enterprise. Supporting his goals are his parents, David and Mary Ann, and FFA advisor, R. J. Curry. This award is sponsored by Carhartt, Inc.

Landscape Management - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Creston FFA member **Andy Jennett** feels that people can enjoy their outdoor spaces because of his hard work. He

began his job as a child helping his father with his Iowa lawn care and pest control business but now fills responsibilities such as building retaining walls, installing underground irrigation systems, and developing turf grass surfaces. Jennett praises the importance of completing records to lessen unforeseen problems. The agricultural engineering student at Iowa State University next wants to learn how to build an underground sprinkler system. Celebrating his success are his parents, David and Sandra, and his FFA advisor, Galen R. Zumbach. This award is sponsored by MTD Products Inc. and Tractor Supply Company.

Nursery Operations - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Serving a local family-owned greenhouse, nursery and landscape operation in Wisconsin, Kiel FFA member **Sean Robert VanderWaal** has enjoyed a wide range of opportunities to develop his skills in the industry. One of his largest assignments is in potting, for which VanderWaal is asked to determine, mix and fill the correct soil mixture for literally thousands of different pots and trays. Outgoing by nature, VanderWaal is appreciative of the opportunities the nursery provides for practicing customer service skills. He intends to study agricultural education and biotechnology. Sharing in his success are his parents, Art and Candace, and his FFA advisor, David Friend. This award is sponsored by Dodge Trucks and Landmark Nurseries, Inc.

Outdoor Recreation - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Educating the public about safety is what drives Atoka FFA member **Ty Jacob Runyan**. He began his SAE at Pine Springs Ranch where he worked with boarding customers. Next, the Oklahoma Department of Tourism and Recreation hired him to help manage and maintain McGee Creek State Park. In this role, he designs and delivers safety awareness programs for youngsters and those attending the county fair and the park. Runyan hopes to study wildlife biology or conservation and become a game

ranger, park ranger or wildlife manager. Sharing in his success are his parents, Carl and Micki, and his FFA advisors Bart Harper and Michelle Harper. This award is sponsored by Brunswick Family Boat Company and GM Powertrain.

Poultry Production - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Working for her family's broiler farm near her home in Tennessee, West Greene FFA member **Nikki Land** helps to oversee six conventional and two tunnel poultry houses. Monitoring temperature, feed, water and ammonia levels in the houses, she also helps to unload baby chicks and assists with equipment repairs. Her newest responsibility is bookkeeping, a task she enjoys so much that it has led to a decision to major in both agribusiness and agricultural economics. With the money earned through her enterprise, she has been able to fund pursuing an education at the University of Tennessee. Land is supported by her parents, Jerry and Susie, and FFA advisors, Donald Swanay and Adam Short. This award is sponsored by Pilgrim's Pride Corporation and Wayne Farms LLC.



Sheep Production - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Sterling City FFA member **Courtney Hodges** began her SAE with seed stock ewes that she has since developed into a breeding flock of high quality rams and ewes. She sells and exhibits the animals along with their wool at state breeding sheep shows, gaining awards that now qualify the operation as one of the top breeding flocks in her home state of Texas. While Hodges plans to continue the operation, she also aspires to attend Texas Tech University to pursue a career in agricultural lending. Offering support are her parents, Wesley and Karen, and her FFA advisor, Richard Long. This award is sponsored by LA-CO Markal and National FFA Foundation.

Agricultural Proficiency Winners continued

Small Animal Production and Care - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Franklin FFA member **Derrick Rocker** from Nebraska started his business with three Bichon Frise dogs and has since expanded to include Italian Greyhounds as well. He does such a good job caring for the animals and advertising for them in newspapers and on the Internet, that he is able to regularly sell them before they are four months old. Besides continuing his business, Rocker also plans to study animal science at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for a possible career as a state or USDA kennel inspector. He has also considered a career in the pet food nutrition area. His father and FFA advisor Dave Rocker and his mother, Connie, celebrate his success. This award is sponsored by Merial.

Specialty Animal Production - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Woodlake FFA member **Juan Manzano** manages a honey bee hive operation in California's San Joaquin Valley. Since starting his enterprise, he has increased both his honey production and hives through building his own boxes, purchasing queen bees, and splitting existing hives to form new ones. Developing a consistent customer base for pollination that carries over year-to-year, he sells the honey to a distributor who markets it all over the world. Manzano next plans to pursue training in automotive and diesel repair and maintenance. Celebrating his accomplishments are his parents, Juan and Maria, and his FFA advisors, Steve Parker and Mike Schilperoort. This award is sponsored by Land O'Lakes Feed/Purina Mills and National FFA Foundation.



Specialty Crop Production - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Expanding on experience helping with his family's tobacco operation in Ohio, Eastern Brown FFA member **Cody Clifton** decided to try to raise and manage a tobacco crop of his own. Beyond learning the highly complex production practices required to have success with this specialty crop, Clifton had to master managing a business in an industry that has become increasingly competitive. By selling his crop on the auction floor, he learned to maximize the price for his product. With the quota system lifted, Clifton then went to selling by way of contract. Attracted to the complexities of growing tobacco, Clifton has gained a creative adaptability that will spell success in his current or any other agricultural endeavor. Supported by his parents, James and Carolyn, and his FFA advisors, Luke Rhonemus and Gigi Neal, he plans to attend The Ohio State University majoring in agricultural engineering. This award is sponsored by the National FFA Foundation.

Swine Production - Entrepreneurship

Lourdes Central Catholic FFA member **Emily Arkfeld** raises Purebred Registered Hampshire swine on her Nebraska operation. She has been able to combine her SAE with her interest in agriscience, researching the testing of pork carcass quality traits. Realizing the importance of marketing to any enterprise, Arkfeld has also publicized her operation in state agricultural publications and on the Internet. Supported by her mother, Luanne, and FFA advisor and father, Timothy, Arkfeld plans to maintain her high school 4.0 GPA and eventually earn a doctoral degree in meat science. This award is sponsored by the National FFA Foundation.

Swine Production - Placement

Southland FFA member **Peter Thome** currently manages his family's 4,000-head swine nursery facility in Minnesota. Just a few of the skills he has

mastered include proper use of an ultrasound machine, appropriate processing of newborn piglets, and maintenance of computerized breeding records. Awards Thome has earned for his efforts include Grand Champion Barrow on the county level and Grand Champion Gilt Showman at the Minnesota State Fair four times. In addition to his work with nursery piglets, Thome also manages finishing hogs and has played a part in planning the farm's latest expansion. Supported by his parents, Gary and Jane, and his FFA advisor, Kevin Brown, he plans to earn degrees in animal science and agricultural education, returning to the family's farrow-to-finish hog operation. This award is sponsored by Phibro Animal Health and Sunglo Feeds.

Turf Grass Management - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Limited summer employment encouraged Manila FFA member **Kimberly Northcott** to create her own opportunity with the establishment of Northcott Lawn Care in Utah. With her parents' support of her business, Northcott is able to work outdoors and maintain a flexible schedule so she can participate in extra-curricular activities. Her business venture, which employs three of her six younger siblings, has taught her management, communication, marketing and record keeping. She plans on earning a nursing degree from the University of South Carolina. Her parents, Bruce and Gretchen, and her FFA advisor, William Schell, are proud to share in her accomplishments. This award is sponsored by John Deere.

Vegetable Production - Entrepreneurship/Placement

The true rewards for Salisbury FFA member **Nathan Scheiderer** from Missouri are the smiles on his customers' faces as they marvel at his produce. Using knowledge gained both in the field and through his agricultural classes, he has expanded a customer base acquired with his sister's enterprise and re-defined the business he dubbed "Nathan's Pumpkin Patch." Schneider now supplies four businesses through his production and

Agricultural Proficiency Winners continued

enjoys being able to include other hired FFA members as a part of the operation. He plans to receive a bachelor's degree in agricultural education. Offering their support are his parents, Ron and Marilyn, and his FFA advisors, Kevin Fischer and Amanda Ross. This award is sponsored by Briggs and Stratton Corporation Foundation, Inc. and Seminis Seeds.

Wildlife Production and Management - Entrepreneurship

North Andrew FFA member **Colten Chambers** from Missouri did such a quality job handling and skinning wildlife that a customer - a taxidermist - offered to send him to taxidermy school. Chambers enjoys playing a role in keeping the wildlife population properly balanced and invests his earnings into the business. He is able to trap raccoons that can spread deadly diseases to various animals and coyotes that can harm farm livestock and rabbits. His future plans are to become a hunting guide, taxidermist, or a professional trapper in his pursuits of outdoors living. Offering their support are his parents, Michael and Debbie, and his FFA advisor, Edward Windsor. This award is sponsored by Cabela's and Land O'Lakes Feed/Purina Mills.

Wildlife Production and Management - Placement

Nature's playground is how Drummond FFA member **Chase Kokojan** describes his working environment at an Oklahoma company that purchases property for hunting and developing an abundance of wildlife. Kokojan has established 14 food plots, built dozens of refuges to protect from predators, and raised, banded, and released 5,000 game birds. He plans to attend Oklahoma State University pursuing a major in wildlife biology and a minor in agricultural communications. Kokojan would like to become a wildlife biologist and perhaps host a hunting and fishing television show. Sharing in his success are his parents, Greg and Christine, and his FFA advisor, Greg Kokojan. This award is sponsored by Bass Pro Shops Inc. and National FFA Foundation.



American Stars

Four outstanding FFA members who represent success in agricultural education were awarded the most prestigious honors that the National FFA Organization awards.

The American Star in Agribusiness, American Star in Agriscience, American Star in Agricultural Placement and the American Star Farmer were awarded to students who have received the American FFA Degree, established profitable agricultural enterprises or programs focusing on an agricultural field, demonstrated outstanding active involvement - both in FFA and their communities - and have met other rigorous agricultural education and leadership requirements.

During the 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 convention ceremony and received a plaque and an award of \$2,000.

American Star in Agribusiness

Caleb Alexander has fond childhood memories of tagging along with his father as he checked sprinklers and drove tractors for the family's farm and ranch in Garden City, Kan. He always knew he'd be a farmer, just like his father, so he decided to pursue his own hay bailing operation, a business that has now earned him top honors.

In 2001, Alexander got the idea to start his own operation when he and his father noticed a shortage of small, high-

quality square bale producers in their area. Seeing an opportunity, his father suggested adding value to the family's alfalfa crop by putting it up into small squares. With the help of his father, Alexander created CA Hay and purchased a used baler and accumulator and began bailing hay in the summer of 2002.

"I've learned many valuable lessons from operating CA Hay," says Alexander. "A few of those lessons are the importance of ingenuity, the value of satisfying customers and the reward of honest, hard work."

Five years later, he now bails, sells and delivers small squares of high-quality alfalfa hay to several customers including local horse owners. In addition to baling and selling hay, Alexander also custom bails to a customer base of more than 40 people from seven different states.

Alexander is currently pursuing a degree in agricultural economics from Kansas State University. After college, the 21-year-old plans to complete an

internship with an agribusiness or volunteer with a mission organization for a year. He then plans to return to his family farm and hay operation full time.

He is the son of Eldon and Terry Alexander and is a member of the Garden City FFA, where the advisor is Pat Venjohn.

American Star in Agricultural Placement

Standing at the kitchen screen door, watching tractors work the fields, **Chance Simpson** dreamed about farming and working in agriculture. These dreams led the Kremlin, Okla., resident into the agriculture industry and have now led him to top honors.

Simpson always knew he wanted to carry on the family tradition of farming, and when he took his agricultural education classes he discovered agriculture mechanics. His love for agricultural mechanics grew when he saw the John Deere Ag Tech Booth at the national FFA



Caleb Alexander



Chance Simpson

Stars continued

career show. Soon, he contacted his local John Deere dealership and began pursuing his career as a service technician.

Simpson began working at P&K Equipment, who helped him keep up-to-date on the latest equipment technology. Currently, he assembles and calibrates new equipment, makes deliveries and assists with service calls. Now attending the John Deere Ag Tech program, he has also purchased his own tools and laptop and can do diagnostic work and make repairs to the family farm equipment.

"Working for P&K Equipment is not just a job, it is a career choice," Simpson says. "I feel fortunate to have found a career that I love doing."

He is the son of Steve and Gay Simpson and is a member of the Timberlake FFA chapter, where his advisor is Steve Flowers.

American Star in Agriscience

Robert Bialozynski's father home brews and makes wine, so it was a natural choice for him to look into a project related to fermenting: ethanol production. His exploration into the production and benefits of ethanol has now earned this Pulaski, Wis., resident top honors.

In the spring of 2002, Bialozynski

began his exploration of ethanol production. His goals included efficiently producing ethanol from sugar crops, teaching others about ethanol production and eventually gaining employment at a private lab to continue his research.

With the support of his father, Bialozynski was able to start with the basic knowledge of fermentation and other resources. He was able to have success with producing ethanol from sugar crops using several different yeast strains and was also able to teach others. During his freshman year technician in the DNA lab of BioDiagnostics. His research then changed to focus on another avenue, which includes making a high oil corn hybrid.

The 22-year-old plans to continue his work as a lab technician at BioDiagnostics until his graduation. He then hopes to earn his doctorate with an emphasis in biotechnology. His ultimate goal is to find a niche area of research that he is passionate about and start his own lab. He currently attends the University of Wisconsin-River Falls and is majoring in biotechnology.

Bialozynski is the son of Dean Bialozynski and Dawn Ryczkowsi and is a member of the Pulaski High School FFA, where his advisor is Jared Schaffner.



Robert Bialozynski



Nicholas Hardesty

American Star Farmer

Nicholas Hardesty knows he can achieve just about anything he sets his mind to. When this Guston, Ky., resident set his mind on diversified farming, he heard more reasons to stay away from his chosen career path than to pursue it. But with the help of his family and a little farm know-how, Hardesty has stayed the course and has now earned top honors.

Although his family did not farm or own any large parcels of land or machinery, Hardesty was determined to farm. He talked to local farmers and traded his labor for the use of a tobacco setter and land to produce his first tobacco crop. Next came his breeding swine operation, which he started by purchasing a hog and reinvesting winnings.

His success led to capital gains and local support that allowed him to buy his own equipment and land. In 2006, Hardesty raised 20,000 pounds of tobacco, cut and baled 25 acres of hay and had 31 cows, 12 bred heifers, 15 calves, one bull, and seven sows that produced approximately 110 piglets. For the latter, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture has recognized Hardesty as the top swine breeder for the last three years. In 2007, he will have 290 acres total for tobacco production.

In addition to full-time farming, the 20-year-old attends Elizabethtown Community College and is majoring in business management. One of his future goals is to expand his farming operation to include more livestock and crops.

He is the son of Eugene and Debra Hardesty and is a member of the Meade County FFA, where his advisors are Jeremy Hall and Marc Adams.



Retiring Addresses: Kacy Baugher, National FFA Secretary

“My Perfect Town”

The town I grew up in was perfect. We had perfect jobs, perfect families and perfect people. We had zero struggles and not a single problem that couldn't be solved. We had everything you could ever want, including a grocery store, bank, beauty salon, car dealership and—most importantly—a McDonald's.

But the absolute, best part of my town was that it existed...in my basement.

My perfect town was full of 11 1/2 inch people with plastic bodies and permanent smiles. I loved Barbies! Well... Maybe saying that I loved Barbies is an understatement, because my pretend towns pretty much ruled my life while I was growing up. As soon as the school bus pulled into my driveway, I would run inside, give a quick, “Hi Mom! Hi Dad!” then bolt downstairs to live in my imaginary world.

I forced my younger sister to play with me for hours on end, day after day, “Drew, you WILL play with me and you WILL play the way I want!” I lived for the moments I could escape to my perfect town where everything was just as I wanted it to be.

It doesn't matter if it was Barbies, toy tractors, G.I. Joes, or Easy Bake Ovens, we all had our favorite toys when we were little. We grew up exploring our imaginations and creating places that existed only in our dreams. Our basements, bedrooms and backyards became worlds where everything happened exactly as we determined. Everything went as we planned and nothing ever changed.

I can easily admit that change has never been one of my favorite things, but it is an essential part of who we are and who we will become. Accepting change is one of the hardest things for me to do, and I struggle with it every single day. But we must accept change, embrace change, and allow it to occur in order to be the best that we can possibly be.

Growing up, I wasn't your typical girly girl who loved playing dress-up and wearing mommy's makeup; but for some reason, Barbies became the center of my world. Sometimes, my sister, she'd get gutsy and try to change something in my town. She would try to play with my Barbies, even my favorite doll Denise! Her Barbies wear the clothes that I chose for my people, especially my favorite tie-dye T-shirt! She would even steal the job normally occupied by my Barbies.

I knew good and well there was only room in my perfect town for one of us. And, that person? It sure wasn't her, it was me. Being your typical older sibling, there was no way I could let my younger sister think that she could have

her way. But...I quickly learned that if I ever wanted her to play with me again, I had to negotiate.

“Drew, I promise! The Jeep really is better than the pink convertible. I know the wheel squeaks when you drive, but that sound is really cool!” I would offer her the second best job or let her borrow my favorite pair of shoes, making

sure she was happy, but also ensuring that I was still in charge.

I hated change in the Barbie town. That was my precious place where no one could



“We must accept change, embrace change, and allow it to occur in order to be the best that we can possibly be.”

Kacy Baugher continued

interfere and everything went according to my plan. I could control every little detail and ensure that my Barbies' lives were perfect.

As I got older, I realized playing with Barbies isn't exactly the cool thing to do on a Friday night, and after a couple months of my friends coming over to watch movies, I noticed they were beginning to doubt that all those Barbies actually belonged to my little cousin. As much as I hated to, I packed the perfect town existing in my basement into a couple of boxes.

I entered the scary places like junior high and high school. I left the imaginary worlds of childhood and entered a land full of homework assignments, weekend plans and more extracurricular activities than I had ever imagined. I quickly learned that things in my life wouldn't always happen according to some perfect plan.

Girls...I quickly learned when you're in junior high no boy is as perfect, handsome, or as charming as Ken. I wouldn't get the exact grade I wanted. My friends would choose a different movie or restaurant than I had chosen. Even my involvement in FFA changed everyday.

I was surrounded by change, situations I couldn't control, and I had no idea what to think. How am I supposed to live in a crazy, changing, unstructured world? I wanted to escape to the place back home where everything was as I predicted where I knew exactly what to expect.

I'm the kind of person who never wanted to participate in an activity unless I knew it would be just what I had anticipated. I never wanted to run for an office or participate in a career development event unless I knew that I would be successful. Risks are scary and just one more thing I can't control.

But imagine...what would our lives be like if we *could* control everything? No surprise phone calls from your best friend; no butterflies in your stomach as you wonder whether or not the winning shot will swoosh through the hoop or go flying off the rim; no hallway gossip with your friends spent guessing how your favorite reality TV show is going to end. And, no sense of pride and relief as you receive that final exam with a big, red A right on

top—knowing that your hard work and effort actually paid off.

The things we can't control, the risks we take and the changes we make can create the most exhilarating and memorable moments in our lives. I guess living in Barbie land would be pretty uneventful if it meant that the passion and excitement that make each day worth waking up for would be gone.



When I was a senior in high school, I knew exactly what path I was headed down and every stop I must make in order to reach that final destination. You see...I was going to be a veterinarian. I'd had it all planned out since I was nine.

1. Graduate from high school May 2004
2. Head to the University of Illinois, major in Animal Science
3. Become involved in as many organizations as I can
4. Work at a local veterinary clinic
5. Get the best grades possible
6. Following college graduation, head to the University of Illinois's College of Veterinary Medicine
7. After four more years of tests, classes, and homework, I would officially be a doctor.

But ...the plan doesn't end there.

8. Work at a clinic for a few years
9. Open my very own practice

It was the perfect plan!

I shared my goal with anyone who

would listen; friends, family, pretty much everyone at Windsor High School. I was determined, and because it was my goal, I knew I had to accomplish it.

During the middle of my senior year, I began to feel funny when I thought about my dream of becoming a vet. I just couldn't imagine doing that for the rest of my life. When I first began thinking this way, I was scared to death. It

was the perfect plan; there was no need to do something different. I was in control of my life. I was in control of my future; there was no need to change it all just to head into the unknown.

Besides that, how in the world could I tell people??? If I told people I had changed my mind, they would all think I was giving up! I had spent the last eight years of my life sharing my dream with others, planning for my perfect future. It was too late to change and I just knew that no one would understand. I barely even understood! The plan was flawless...why in the world would I want it to change?

As months passed by, I became more and more certain that I did not want to be a vet, but I still couldn't bring myself to share those feelings with others. I felt like I was letting so many people down. I worried for weeks on end, and at times I considered being a vet, just to escape that scary idea of change.

One day, I decided I had to test it

Kacy Baugher continued

out on my parents, to finally tell them I wanted to change my plans. As I blurted out my thoughts, I waited for the moment they called me crazy and said I would be wasting all my time and effort to do something different. They stared back at me, but those words never came. Instead, they said you have to do what you want, the choice is yours.

What??? Are you serious??? I've spent all that time worrying about change, when it's that simple? Are you saying that I haven't wasted the last eight years of my life; that I *can* do something different?

Standing here today, I'm still not exactly sure what I want to be when I grow up, but for once, that's okay. Someday, I hope to come up with another great idea. But, you know what? That plan will probably change, too. Who else has no idea what they want to do when they grow up? Exactly!

The average person our age changes jobs 10 times by the age of 38. It can be pretty frightening to think about making that many alterations to my perfect life plan, and that's only if I change jobs. Can you imagine all the other things that can change in our lifetime? Maybe we have to move to a different city, decide to buy a new car, or maybe even make a few new friends.

It can be a scary thing to step outside that place where we feel comfortable. I used to never want to leave my perfect Barbie town, but by escaping from the predictable and the ordinary, I was able to see a world full of excitement and energy. Overcoming our fears and rising to the challenge of change that makes each day a new adventure, an opportunity we cannot ignore.

This past August, I was fortunate to meet a man who seizes opportunities and lives outside his comfort zone every single day. At the age of 18, James Collins began working in the foundry at a local manufacturing plant. During his first five years with this company, he attended a local college, earning a degree in Sociology with no intent to work in business. He completed his student teaching

requirements and was accredited in the State of Illinois, graduating with the intent to become a school teacher or pursue a career in social work.

However, he enjoyed working with this company, and decided to stay on for a few more years, even though a life in the plant contradicted his goal from the previous five years. He made a change, and who knew how it would turn out.

Forty-three years later, Mr. Collins is still working for that company, one of the happiest and most passionate men I have ever met. He now serves as the Director of the John Deere Corporate Citizenship Center for Excellence and President of the John Deere Foundation. His decision to change has evolved into a career that he loves.

When Mr. Collins made that decision to stay with John Deere, he had no idea what the future would hold. Would altering his path change what others thought of him? Would it change his opinion of himself?

Mr. Collins said, "The things I wanted to be a part of in education and social work, I've had the opportunity to be greatly involved in throughout most of my business career. In fact, I probably have positively impacted those things even more through my work in business."

Even though Mr. Collins's life today is very different than he may have predicted or imagined, he still lives by the values and beliefs that have always been important and truly defined his life. He helps people every single day, even though it's not in the classroom. It's not the difference he once imagined, but he still makes a difference in our world.

A modification in Mr. Collins's life may have changed his outside, but it never changed his inside, the person he always wanted to be. As we begin to tackle that scary monster called change, we have to remember Mr. Collins. Even though our path, direction, goals, and ambitions may vary throughout our lives, that doesn't mean the person deep down and the values for which we stand should ever waver.

Deciding to try out for the baseball

team instead of the football team, that is making a change. But does it mean that we no longer value teamwork, determination, and strength? Choosing to sit by our friends from math class at lunch rather than our typical crowd from the ag room, that is making a change. But does that alter our love of good conversation, laughter, and friendship? Changes on the outside do not change the person we are inside and the things we value. But we must act in ways that are consistent with those beliefs.

Change will happen; it's inevitable. We sure can try to run away from it, but it will always be a valuable part of our lives, a force we cannot live without.

I now realize that I can't control everything, that we must accept change, and that a change in our life doesn't alter everything we have worked towards and believe in.

We will encounter people and situations that will make an impact on who we are and bring about a difference in our lives. By allowing, and even embracing, those changes, we can grow into the person we have always wanted to be.

An old basement, my younger sister, dozens of tiny friends and my very own perfect town: That was my paradise.

Today, my paradise is the hope of the years to come, the years I can't control. My paradise is knowing that change is bound to happen, and that others around me will accept those changes. I know what I stand for, and nothing will change that.

My experiences from this past year, and the people I have been fortunate enough to meet, you have shown me the true value of change. Thank you for pushing me to grow, to step out of my comfort zone.

FFA members, this is our chance. This is our opportunity to embrace the ever-changing world around us, to stretch our boundaries and reach into the unknown. Change in our lives . . . Well, it may not be as easy as life in my perfect town, but it is the reason we will make an impact on this world. We can make a difference, and all it takes is a little change.

Retiring Addresses: Coty Black, National FFA Eastern Region Vice President

“The Gift”

I LOVE birthday parties. When I was a little kid, I didn't think that it could get any better than a birthday party. You know the scene. You were surrounded by all of your best friends. You gorged yourself on ice cream and cake. And played fun games like pin the tail on the donkey. It was your day and no one could take it from you! Being the center of attention was the greatest. It was filled with excitement, fun and anticipation.

An anticipation for the best part of the day. The chance to sit down, gather everyone around, and open your presents!

There was always something that made that part of the day special. I think it is because gifts are so cool. They make us wonder. They fill our heads with thoughts and make our imaginations go wild with questions like who is this one from? What could it be? They make us positive. Every time you open a gift, you just know that it is going to be exactly what you wanted. You hope for the best in them because you never really know what you are going to get. Just like this one right here. I just know that there has to be something exciting in it.

This is the most beautiful sweater that I have ever seen. Well maybe this one wasn't so good, but that's ok because this next one is going to make up for it. Let's take a look.

Holy Cow! An iPod. I always wanted an iPod. This thing is great. I can download music and take it with me wherever I go. My favorite songs will be at my fingertips!

Ok, so maybe both of my gifts didn't turn out exactly how I imagined it. But the great thing about gifts, even after opening one that maybe wasn't so great, we are always ready to open the next one. And nine times out of ten, we will be looking through our gifts, finding the biggest box or the most interesting looking one, so we can save our best gift for last. We always want to end things with a bang because after all, the right gift can make up for dozens of bad ones.

Sometimes, we don't immediately see how great a certain gift may be. I used to overlook a certain gift, but on December 21, 2004 I finally realized how important that gift was.

It all started with a state officer team Christmas party in Princeton, Kentucky. Because the drive to Princeton was about four hours and there was potential for rough weather, my dad let me drive his truck. It was a 2002 Dodge Cummins Diesel, a six speed with high output. It could make even the wimpiest of boys feel like a man. He used it for work every day, so before I left, he asked me to empty out the truck bed. I never got around to it.

The Christmas party went great. Our team had a big ole time and even exchanged gifts. I got some wonderful team portraits, a blue and gold Nerf football, and a stylish pair of polar bear pajama pants. I called my mom to let her know where I was and that I was on my way home. She told me to be careful because the roads in Menifee

County had gotten bad and some places were covered with ice. With her words on my mind, I proceeded on the drive home.

I was about 10 minutes from my house when it happened. I was coming down a side road. As I looked ahead where it intersected with the main road, I could see that the road was covered with ice. I wanted to slow down, so I downshifted. That was a mistake. The big truck was full of torque and it kept pushing me towards the ice. Before I even knew what happened, the truck fishtailed and I started sliding sideways down the road. To make matters worse, I was drifting off to the left where there was a tree-covered valley. I did everything in my power to regain control, but it was too late. I was in the grasp of the ice and at its mercy. When that truck flew off the road, I started to roll my dad's truck. It was the

“We have to **live every single day like it is that big gift** we have been saving for last. The way to do that is by living each day to the fullest and by appreciating each day we are given.”



Coty Black continued

slowest, fastest moment of my life. It was like I was going in slow motion and super-sonic speed all at the same time. As my dad's truck rolled I can remember being pinned to the seat. The seatbelt had me locked in and I pushed my hands against the steering wheel locking me in even more. The song "I Don't Want To Be" by Gavin Degraw was playing on the radio. Once the truck completed its one full roll, the truck came to a jerking halt.

Whew. I checked myself. Then I hopped out of the truck, trekked back up the big path I had just cleared, and went down the icy road to the nearest house. From there, I called my parents and told them what happened and to come right away. I also called a friend that lived nearby. She and her family came to see if I was alright.

I had just escaped a life-threatening accident with nothing but the smallest of scratches on my left index finger. At that point, I couldn't believe how fortunate I was. But then it got even crazier. Jeff, my friends stepfather who had been down over the hill checking out the wreckage, came over the hillside and said, "Hey ya'll, ya'll gotta come here and look at this, ya ain't even gonna believe your eyes!"

With anticipation, we carefully maneuvered down the hill and it is a sight I will never forget. One of the chains that I was supposed to clean out of my dad's truck bed, but didn't, was sending me a very clear message. When my dad's truck rolled, it had apparently thrown one of the chains in such a manner that one end of the chain had wrapped around a tree and the other end hooked into the hitch of my dad's truck. I looked at that chain hanging there.

One end around a tree, the other end attached to my dad's truck. It had stopped the truck, prevented me from rolling again and possibly from being crushed. That chain saved my life.

It was that night that I realized life is a gift. And every single day is a brand new present that we get to open. We need to treat each day like the presents at our party. Just because we get a bad one, doesn't mean that we do not look forward to the next one. And we definitely have to save the biggest one for last. Just like

at a birthday party, in life our gifts are numbered. The only difference is at a birthday party; we can look through and see how many gifts are left. But in life, we never know. And that is why we have to live every single day like it is that big gift we have been saving for last. The way to do that is by living each day to the fullest and by appreciating each day we are given.



It all starts by living each minute to the fullest, just like my Uncle Owen.

Now, I have all kinds of memories of my uncle Owen. Like playing super bases loaded with him on the Super Nintendo, sandwiches for lunch (no crust), his contagious laugh, playing horse shoes, baby pancakes before school, and the way he would warm up my Aunt Kathy's car and scrape her windshield on snowy days. Although my Uncle passed away in February of 2006 due to a rare form of cancer, I think of him often. I also think about the life lessons that he taught me. In his time of passing, he was ready to go and for a while I didn't grasp it. I mean here was a man with life slipping from his fingers. He could barely talk and had to be helped in nearly everything that he did. How was he able to not worry or complain or be scared? Then it hit me. Uncle Owen wasn't

scared to die because he had lived. He was never a millionaire, he didn't have a fancy house or car, and he wasn't a CEO. But he was an active member at our church, a loving husband, a great friend, and about the best uncle a young man could ask for. My Uncle Owen spent every day surrounding himself with the things that meant the most to him. That way, when his time came, he was ready to go.

My Uncle Owen never gave up. He lived and enjoyed life right up to the end. My Uncle Owen taught me that life is meant to be lived.

We are able to make the most of everyday by filling it with the things that we love. It is easy to find people who are worried and complaining about every situation. We have to realize that a lot of situations are out of our control, and that there is no reason to worry. All that does is take precious time that we could use making the most out of life. Instead of worrying, spend your time doing the things that give you long-term fulfillment. Gifts are given so that they can be enjoyed. The gift of life is the same way. Enjoy the gift of life by laughing, surrounding yourself with what means the most to us, and making the most out of every single day.

Coty Black continued

If you knew that today was the big gift, that one that was saved for last, what are the things you would do or surround yourself with? So surround yourself with them everyday, stop worrying, and get to living.

Man, I love gifts. As soon as I get one, I want to tear into it and start playing with it. But before I can do that, my mom makes sure that I do something very important first. She makes sure that I thank whoever has given me that gift.

We aren't guaranteed any gifts, so we can't take them for granted. If there is one gift that we should never take for granted, than it is the gift of life. We must appreciate it and cherish it more than any other we have.

It is easy to take life for granted. But the truth is, we are not guaranteed another gift to open tomorrow. So while we are here, we must be grateful by appreciating the small things, and realizing that it could always be worse.

I was on a flight this year that went through Cincinnati. It was running behind and had caused a lady to be late for her connecting flight. She was complaining about missing her next flight and was clearly very upset. I tried to be optimistic and told her that she could catch the next flight to her destination. She looked at me and said, "Not many flights fly to that destination." I then boldly told her, "Well, I do believe it could always be worse now couldn't it?" She didn't say much. But it was true. Things could have been a lot worse: our plane could have crashed, or upon touching down she could have turned on her cell phone to find out that she had tragic news at home or we could not have even arrived in Cincinnati.

No matter how bad things get in our life, we have to realize that they could always be worse. We don't realize how good we have it until we think about how much worse things can be. We need to stop thinking about what we don't have and focus on what we do have. Like the roof over our heads, the shoes on our

feet, the food in our bellies, or how about the fact that we are still living? There are many other people out there who don't even have those things, yet we take them for granted. That lady on the plane, instead of complaining that her flight was late, she should have been thankful that we arrived and landed safely. Tonight, I could be thinking about all of the missed opportunities in my life or I could be thankful that I am here at the national FFA convention tonight. We have to be thankful for the small blessings in our life; they are a source of enjoyment and bring us happiness. So many people think that happiness stems from success. But neither money nor success can buy you happiness. Happiness comes from having the right perspective. The right perspective allows us to see the many blessings in our lives, rather than the storm clouds.

fill your day? Do you worry about things that won't amount to a hill of beans, or are you making the most of every single moment by doing the things you love? } Are you just existing or are you living?

Appreciate the gift of life by appreciating the small things and making the most of every day! Live every day like it is the big gift that we have been dying to open.

Have you been living life like each day was the big gift that you have been dying to open? If not, what are you waiting for? Because you don't know how many gifts you have left, you better start by living the ones you have been given today.

Speaking of the big gift, I have saved my biggest one for last. I have to admit, I have been incredibly excited to open this up and find out what it is. How about all of you, would you like to see what this big gift holds?

“Are you just existing or are you living?”

What is your daily perspective? Are you thankful for the little things in your life, or do you take them for granted? Do you appreciate your family, friends, health and life just like they are a gift? Make a list of the things you are thankful for. It might be longer than you realize. When we can appreciate the small things in life, our perspective changes, happiness fills our life, and we get to living.

It all boils down to one very important question. Are you living? Pay close attention to the question. The question isn't are you alive, it is are you living? You see, there is much more to living than just existing. To live means much more than being alive. So are you living? Do you wake up thinking about all of the troubles of the day ahead? Or Are you waking up thankful to be given another day? Do you focus on the things you don't have or are you appreciative of the little things that

Wow, what excitement. See how excited we get over the big gift. That is the excitement that we must live with every single day. Because for all we know, when we wake up tomorrow, it could be our big one, saved for last.

So let me hear you one more time if you want to find out what is in this big gift.

Well, the truth of the matter is that this gift, this big gift, is just like the days in our lives. It can be filled with whatever you want it to be. You have to choose to fill this gift with that excitement, with an enthusiasm for making every day the best it can be, and with an appreciation for just getting to open it. If we do that, and do it every day then we can get to living life like it was the big gift.

FFA members and guests, it is time for us to stop being alive and realize that we better get to livin'.

Retiring Addresses: Janette Barnard, National FFA Western Region Vice President

“There is More”

And I've got to go to class, make it to the UA basketball game, write a paper, do laundry, and call Mom & Dad! MORE things to do? More things to add to my to-do list? We just can't get away from them. They are everywhere around us and in every area of our lives. That's right; they are our responsibilities. A responsibility, it's a task on a to-do list.

But what if a responsibility wasn't just something to do, but something to be? Think about this for a second, real responsibilities can't be checked off of a list. They can't be completed by the end of the school day. They actually can never, ever be completed because they are ongoing; they are part of a lifetime of living for more.

For more time spent on what's important.

I'll make sure to give Ross and Anna a call next week because of my responsibility to be a good aunt.

And our families and loved ones drive us to practices and make daily sacrifices, just to make us better people.

American farmers, they wake up every day at the crack of dawn, but their driving force isn't just feeding cows or checking on the irrigation, it's using the land to provide for people.

Ever heard of a man named John Deere? He was an incredible blacksmith, but more importantly he wholeheartedly believed in his responsibilities to providing farmers with high quality farm equipment.

More than 1 million individuals serve in the Armed Forces. They are focused

on their daily tasks, but the reason they are willing to put themselves in danger is because of the responsibility they feel to America.

Yeah, this whole responsibility thing is big. Responsibilities are bigger than some list. Responsibilities are what we care about, what matters to us, what we can get into. Responsibilities are how we take ownership, how we get involved, how we make ourselves proud. I'm not saying the small things on our to-do lists aren't important. Actually, the whole reason we need to-do lists is so that we can do the small things that reflect what really matters to us, but we can't confuse those to-do list tasks with the big picture items on our to-be list. Those big concepts that we buy into affect how we spend our time, energy, and our entire lives. Understanding who we are responsible to can allow us to live for more.

We've had responsibilities since we were young; they were just a little different. For me those responsibilities included hanging out with my best friends, building HUGE sand castles outside of the ring, anxiously waiting in line to enter those gates, and seeing all the animals from near and far. I'm not talking about vacation to Disney World or to the beach; I'm talking about livestock shows.

Having

been around livestock shows my whole life, by the time I got to be a junior in high school...well, I mean I don't want to brag, but I had quite a few banners and buckles to prove myself as a lamb showman. I knew the tricks of the trade and boy, I had this deal figured out, I was getting pretty good...or so I thought. I remember that fall at the Cochise County Fair; I was focused on exactly what I needed to do so I could win that show.

Now, there I was in the barn shearing my lambs, getting every piece of wool in



Responsibilities are how we take ownership, how we get involved, **how we make ourselves proud.**

Janette Barnard continued

exactly the right place...whew, it was looking good! Just down the way from me was a little girl about 9 years old who was having some trouble wrestling her lamb. Her granddad came and asked me to help them out. I thought, I just really don't have time for this nonsense. But I knew I couldn't say no, so I spent a few minutes helping her to at least learn to hold on to the lamb.

When I thought I had surely done my duty, I started to leave, but her granddad began asking about how to pick a good lamb, what should they feed it, how could they get competitive. I answered as briefly as I could, because I had a lamb to get ready. But he was a persistent man and kept on firing those questions. I remember getting annoyed, not only was he taking my time, but here he was trying to get all my secrets that were helping me to win! After a few minutes of this game we were playing, he took a deep breath and said, "So, I guess you really aren't going to help us much huh? I bet somebody spent a few minutes with you at some point to answer a few simple questions and help you learn."

Ouch! That was harsh, I felt like such a jerk! Even still in my head I thought, "You have got to be kidding me! What does he think he's getting at? I've worked hard. I've struggled. I have learned on my own. Why should I spend my time helping some random kid?" The conversation stayed in the back of my mind until I finally understood what he was saying. I didn't just magically learn to show lambs. There were some really selfless people who took the time to share their knowledge and experiences with me. I really did owe it to that little girl to do the same.

We have all been there; we've been successful at something. We've held onto that secret or the special talent we have, not wanting to share it with anyone. Because of that we've worked our way to be captain of a sports team, first chair in band, or whatever else it may be in your life... but that's not the pinnacle. There is more. That's when its time to shift our focus to someone else who could use a little help; that's when it is time to pass it on. That is when we are responsible to other people.

For a chapter officer, instead of pushing the Greenhands out of your way,

how about inviting them to an activity? For state officers, responsibility is taking the time to send a quick note to an FFA member. How about all you seniors on the basketball, football, or any other team? What about staying after practice to help an upcoming player? If you're an eighth-grader, how about helping a seventh-grader arrive on time to that math classroom you could never find? Or maybe, if you were the Queen of Livestock Judging or the Parliamentary Procedure King its time to coach next year's team; or what about helping a younger FFA member start their own SAE in your area?

I'm not saying it's easy to do all those things; the truth is that sometimes it's hard... it's hard on the ego. Maybe I won't stand out if I'm helping someone else get better, maybe my friends will think I'm silly, maybe I don't really even have anything worth sharing? It's not about us though. When another person can experience success, when our friends see their responsibilities because of our actions, and when we find what we have to share, that is when we can live up to the real responsibilities in our lives like being a good family member, teammate, or friend. Whether you think so or not, there is someone depending on each of you. When our focus revolves around our responsibilities to other people that is when we can make a difference.

Despite having learned this lesson a little bit, there was one person that I just continued to let down. See, here was the deal: never. Uh-uh...never was I going to compete in a public speaking contest. No way, it was just not happening. Ever since I was a freshman, I was certain that speaking contests were not the place I belonged. But my senior year, a few days before the deadline to register for an upcoming contest, my FFA advisor sat me down and

told me how great it would be for me to participate. "You'll be glad you did it," he assured me. I remember thinking, maybe not so much. We debated for a while, and although I was still hesitant, I thought, well I guess I could at least give it a try.

Then I started thinking some more and realized that maybe this could be cool:



I would learn to write, to speak, how to really advocate for agriculture...I began getting really excited! Hmm, I guess my advisor really was right every once in a while. As I was walking out the Ag room door, the last thing he said to me was, "All you have to do is turn in a topic by tomorrow morning." "Oh no problem, Mr. Foster, I can handle that."

But once I got home, I started thinking. Wait, what if I can't find a good topic? What if I am not very good at writing this speech? What if someone beats me? Oh my goodness, what if I fall off the stage while I'm talking? Before I knew it, I was scared to death. This whole speech event could happen, but there was no way I would be a part of it.

The next day, I was somewhat less than thrilled to walk into the Ag room to see Mr. Foster. I had copped out, and I knew it. Wait a minute though, I had made this choice, it was what I wanted, wasn't it? I should have felt relieved. I definitely didn't feel relieved though...I knew inside that I

Janette Barnard continued

was capable of this. I knew that I wanted to do this, but I had simply convinced myself that I couldn't.

What happened that day was that I lost all sight of the responsibilities I had to myself. Sure I'd let my advisor down, but he didn't need me to compete. I had let myself down and overlooked my responsibility to push myself, to use the gifts I've been given, to make the most of everything. It may have only been one small contest, but I knew I did not want to get in this habit.

Sometimes we convince ourselves it's just something small, something simple. As simple as not participating in a speaking contest, even though we could learn from it. As simple as not spending that extra hour studying even though it's the difference in a C and a B. It's as simple as choosing to not run for office or not fill out that proficiency award application, because it involves a little risk. The truth is that there is nothing simple about any of that. When we hold ourselves back, we cheat ourselves. When we fail to step up, we fail to get the most out of experiences, relationships, and memories that make life so rich.

It makes me think of another girl, one who wasn't afraid to step up.

She was a quiet, calm, humble girl from a tiny town in West Texas. Growing up, her haven was the pages of any book she could get her hands on. After graduating from high school, she went to college and there wasn't a doubt what she would study, it was definitely going to be education. Her biggest passion in life was not becoming rich or powerful, but to help each and every kid learn to read. From a small town school with young eager learners, to an inner city school with some challenges to overcome, and then as a librarian, she found every way possible to make reading and education exciting for kids. Her haven was working with children in the classroom.

Now fast forward her life and you'll find her speaking with an audience of more than 50,000 people. You'll find her

in a new haven with a continued interest in literacy. From growing up in Midland, Texas to living in the White House as the First Lady, the experiences Laura Bush had were far different than she hoped for.

A close friend of hers said this about Mrs. Bush, "I don't think ever in her wildest dreams would she have imagined being in the White House, nor would she have sought it. But when life presented her with these opportunities, she said yes."

She said yes. What will you say yes to? You're here at the national FFA convention. Thanks for saying yes. What else will you say yes to? Laura Bush didn't say, "Wait a second, I'm not sure I can do it." She didn't say, "No Mr. President, even though you are my husband I'm not really into this First Lady thing...let someone else do it." She stepped up, willingly and excitedly, and it challenged her to become something more.

Her friend also said this about Mrs. Bush, "She has added to the person she

"We each owe it to ourselves and to those who depend on us, to **step up and live up to our responsibilities."**

was when I first met her. She has developed parts of herself that she may not have realized were even in there." If the First Lady of the United States developed herself, don't you think we can give it a shot? See the best part of being responsible to ourselves is that when we do rise to the occasion, we become a little bit stronger, with a little bit more motivation, with a little bit more purpose. And the next time we need to rise to the occasion? It gets a little bit easier, because we are a little bit more prepared and a lot more confident.

We each owe it to ourselves and to those who depend on us, to step up and live up to our responsibilities.

Responsibility isn't just doing push-ups, its being able and prepared to protect our flag.

It's not the number of plows sold in a year, its taking each and every one of your customers seriously.

Fueling up the tractor isn't the most important task, providing nourishment to people across the globe is the real responsibility.

Being helpful around the house is nice, but the real responsibility of any family member is to be loving and supportive.

As for the rest of us?

Mom: Hey Janette, you'll need to feed the lambs tonight when you get home.

Janette: Raising livestock, having a job, doing chores? Those are necessary, but there is more; like our responsibility to seek challenges, to be involved, and to push ourselves.

Anna: Don't forget our plans to hang out tomorrow after class!

Janette: Hanging out with friends is always fun, but there is more; like helping a friend out, giving some encouragement, or being trustworthy.

Teammates: Hey Janette, meet us at the FFA Center to finish up those workshops!

Janette: Completing the tasks is part of it, but there is more; like being part of a team, being part of an organization, or helping people around us succeed.

We all want to be great, but it doesn't happen just by dotting the "i's and crossing the "t's. When we assume a mentality to look for the bigger picture, to share with those we can, and to challenge ourselves, that's when great things happen.

What will you be responsible for? Who will you be responsible to? How will you be responsible to yourself? You've said yes and stepped up before, but next time step a little bigger, look a little further, and reach a little deeper because there is more!

Retiring Addresses: Jennifer Himburg, National FFA Southern Region Vice President

“Picture Perfect”

As I headed to Auburn University to begin my first year of college, things were perfect. High school has been good for me — I had graduated from high school at the top of my class, served as a state officer, received great scholarships and I was certain even greater blessings were headed my way. As soon as moved to Auburn I had pledged a sorority and was hoping get involved in anything I could.

Life was good. My family life was perfect as I had great relationships with both of my parents and even though my siblings Blake, Abby and I got into an occasional sibling rivalry we were great friends as well. My favorite—Sundays—where mornings were spent at church followed by great family gatherings around the dinner table. I was happy, not just a surface level happy, but my heart had a true peace and you would always find a smile on my face. If you

had looked through a window into my life you would have likely thought it was picture perfect.

In fact things were as perfect as this picture captured here, but as my freshman year of college began things started to change and before I knew it ...

... my life had shattered into hundreds of pieces.

In November, 2005, as I looked around I found my life just like this picture—in complete disarray. I remember sitting in those very seats you are sitting in thinking that bad things never happened to national officers, that there was no way that they could understand

the struggles that I was going through. Their life had to be perfect and even if they had bad things happen they were able to smile and just keep on going. I know differently now.

Within one year I had moved to college and suddenly was a very small fish in a very large ocean. Every attempt I had made at running for an office and trying to fit in had failed, important friendships and relationships had ended, my grandfather passed away and when it seemed like I couldn't take anything else I ran for national office and wasn't elected and my parents told me they were getting a divorce. Sure, I had faced setbacks, but they were minor, they had come slowly and were few in number—I didn't know what to do when everything crashed down. I had no plan for that. Bubbly, smiley, energetic Jennifer had turned into someone who couldn't see past each day. I saw no direction or even purpose for my life.

After seeing me struggle day in and day out with no sense of hope, Mom and Dad knew that I needed help. I found myself sitting across from a counselor. I'll never forget our conversation as she asked me if I thought I had depression and through tears I responded “no” that I was supposed to be a happy person, that I couldn't have depression. She insisted that I take a depression scale. A 28 was a score indicating severe depression—I had scored a 56.

Severe depression—what is this? I had no idea, but I knew that I couldn't keep living like this. I felt like I had no reason to live. Things have to change—I can't be like this forever! There was no way that I could continue to live in this misery. In those months I sought

“Hard times are tough, but **once you've come through the struggles life is better** because you've learned how to deal with setback.”



Jennifer Himburg continued

inspiration and help from every direction that I could.

Sure there were people in the media that had problems with depression, but I couldn't relate to them. They had led a life of fame much different from mine. I found peace and belief that everything would eventually work out from one very old story. There were two women who hundreds of years before me had dealt with the same problem. They were continually dealt one problem after another until their entire life was turned upside down.

You see Naomi was living a wonderful, picture perfect life with her husband and two sons until tragedy struck. First, a famine struck causing their entire family to move to another country to survive. During their time their one of her sons married a girl named Ruth. While still adjusting to their new life tragedy struck once again. First Naomi's husband died and before she could deal with his loss both of her sons passed away. Naomi and Ruth were left all alone—devastated. Naomi told Ruth to return home that she was going to return to her home country as well, but Ruth refused to leave Naomi's side. The two continued to struggle for a while, but throughout all of their struggles they never stopped believing that there was a light at the end of the tunnel. The both had a inner peace knowing that everything would one day work out.

Because of this belief above all else things eventually did begin looking up for both of these women. Ruth remarried, had children of her own and forever took care of Naomi. The two had the best of everything. They both ended up living wonderful lives because Naomi and Ruth never stopped believing that things would be better.

From this story I learned that I had to believe and believe that things would get better. Hard times are tough, but once you've come through the struggles life is better because you've learned how to deal with setback. Each day I began to believe that just like Ruth and Naomi my life would turn around soon.

Day in and day out I tried to put on a front, one that said everything was okay

when inside it really wasn't. For me the first step to overcoming the challenges was accepting the things that I couldn't change and moving on.

Picture this: I am seven years old. My younger brother Blake is three. I am the older sister and things were going to be played my way. Blake was doing much like he is today—rolling with the flow. Although I loved Blake, he wasn't exactly what I wanted. You see, I wanted a little sister. Someone to play Barbies, dress-up,



and house with. Although these things weren't Blake's cup of tea, if I worked things just right I could convince him to play with me for at least a little while. Today I have told Blake that he is going to play dress-up. It was a little challenging to find clothes that would work to fit him, but finally I had an outfit together for him—complete with a ruffle bottomed dress and a bow in his hair. Now you might imagine when I showed off Blake to my Mom and Dad they weren't too happy, and neither was Blake.

Eventually I did get my little sister and I did quit bothering Blake once he received his black belt in Tae Kwando.

Much like I couldn't change Blake,

as I struggled to overcome depression I had to realize that I couldn't change the things that had happened in my life. What I could change was how I reacted.

I am by nature "a fixer" so my first response when challenges came my way was to work to fix things. However, I soon realized that the only person I could change was myself. Learning to accept the people around me for who they were and the choices they had made was difficult for me. Accepting people for who

they were and circumstances for how they were was the first step in moving on for me.

True character is shown not in times of happiness, but in times of adversity. It is easy to do the right thing when life is easy, but what will you do when times are hard? Accept the things in your life that you can't change so that you too can learn from rough times.

After I began to move on with my life the next step for me was taking control of my life and making decisions that make me better in the future. During my struggle one of my biggest problems was taking control of my own life.

So a little more than a year ago if you

Jennifer Himburg continued

had looked at my to do list you could have thought that I was: a journalist, a website designer, a deejay, a landscape architect and probably about 10 other occupations. Instead of taking control of my problems I had taken everyone else's on. So Brandi needed a wedding announcement written— I had never done that before, but I was sure I could figure it out. My sorority needed someone to plant flowers, splice music and design a website— somehow I managed to say yes to all three. I could deal with the flowers, I had helped mom in the yards before. I could find a tutorial on line and learn how to splice music, but this website. I still haven't figured out exactly why I thought I could tackle that beast. Seriously— who did I think I was? I spent hours on end trying to learn how to design a website and then trying to create one— all working against a tight deadline. I had allowed everyone else's tasks, problems, and worries to consume me.

As I was forced to evaluate my “to do” list I realized that things were completely out of control— I was out of control! By taking control of my life I began to put my priorities in order. For me a huge piece of this was my faith, my family, and then figuring out what other projects I could help with. For you your priorities may be completely different, taking control for you may be realizing that you have to make your own decisions and not let others make them for you or it may be realizing that you are the only one who can change your lifestyle. Whatever it is that makes you as a person you has to be in order before you can even begin to overcome adversity.

When hard times strike take control of your life and make decisions to help you move forward.

Finally and most importantly I discovered that to overcome my struggle I had to trust that everything— every hardship, every difficult situation, and every difficult choice— was happening for a reason. Think about how often we ask the question, “Why is this happening to me?” When times are hard it is so difficult to see that each little thing in our life fits into a greater plan— one that we might not understand.

The more time that passed I realized that this experience had taught me life lessons that would forever change me as a person. While dealing with depression I couldn't imagine why in the world this had happened to me. I would have never believed that something good would come of it. That hard time in my life was preparing me for this time. It prepared me to understand what others were going through. It taught me to accept the things I couldn't change and to take control of my life. The long list of lessons I learned from this experience is incredible. There was a reason I dealt with every one of those things. I am a better person today because of this struggle.

We have to trust the plan for our lives, we've got to know that when we face hard times that we will get through it and we will learn from it.

In life things will not always go just the way that we expect. Things won't always be picture perfect. What happens when things are quite the opposite, when things are so bad that you can't see past each day? Will we stay stuck in misery or will we take control? Choose to move past each obstacle and believe that things will work out. Trust the bigger plan for your life— the plan that might not always be visible.

You know what? People hundreds of hundreds of years ago just like Ruth and Naomi faced huge setbacks and struggled through times of great diversity, people struggle each and every day right now just like I did, and hundreds of years from now people will continue to face hard times. Overcoming the adversity and hard times is what makes the difference. Just like Ruth and Naomi came through their struggles so did I and so will you!

Slowly excitement and happiness began to return in my life. I found happiness in the small things. Simply a good grade on a test or a great conversation with a friend brought incredible joy.

Although I could have never imagined it at the time, my struggle with depression has made me a stronger, better person. I handle setbacks so much more smoothly than I ever could before and I have been able to help my friends

overcome great challenges in their lives.

This experience showed me what incredible friends I really had. If you want to find out just how much your friends and family care for you all it takes is a difficult patch along the journey. I know that together we can conquer anything.

My faith was restored and is better than ever before. And this last year— who could ask for a more incredible, fulfilling, and rewarding experience. Sitting right over there just one year I ago I had no idea where my life was headed. I had no idea if I would continue to struggle with depression or if I would overcome it, but I kept believing that everything would work out. And it did. National office has given me a reason to get up each and every morning and you all have given something to believe in.

Slowly my life is being pieced back together.

Each and every one of you have changed my life this year. You've inspired me and helped me realize that each and everyone of us can and will overcome each and every struggle we face.

My picture perfect life is slowly being redrawn. Day by day. Right now it doesn't look as good as it did a few years ago. It's not supposed to. I am a different person today than I was then.

Your perfect picture will look different than mine does because we are all very different people. But see each and every one of us has a picture perfect life and although it may seem at times that it is crumbling it's just changing and your changing with it. Right now I am happier than I have ever been— my struggle prepared me for this incredible happiness!

Daily make an effort to accept the things that you can not change and move on with your life.

When times are difficult, take control of your life, and always trust the plan.

Realize that we may not understand the reason things happen, but we can be certain they've happened for a reason. Things will always work out in the end.

Accept the things you can't change, take control of your life, always trust the plan and your life will be picture perfect!

Retiring Addresses: Jamie Cecil, National FFA Central Region Vice President

“Rock On!”

Complete with our plastic, tennis racquet guitars and our microphone made out of a cattle sorting stick the “Singing Cecil Sisters” have finally made it to the big stage! Welcome to the show! Ok, so maybe our performance of Michael Bolton’s 1991 hit isn’t quite like the last cool concert you attended, but you’ve got to admit we’ve still got it.

That first performance was quite the production. First we enlisted mom and dad to be the camera crew. Misty and I played all the parts. We sang backup, played the drums, filled in for the audience, and even acted out our own infomercial after our song.

That video may seem silly, or maybe you have footage just like this at home. Either way, I think we rocked! That clip showcases the true Misty and Jamie Cecil. In the haven of our living room, we

had the freedom to be ourselves, holding nothing back. We sang along with Michael Bolton the best a six and eight year old knew how to do, we had fun, we were ourselves and we rocked!

This year, I may not have carried a video camera with me, but I did meet many of you and caught a glimpse of your amazing talents. FFA members, I have proof that you rock!

Take for instance Riker, a freshman from the Park FFA Chapter in Montana. Riker is using his strength of motivation to encourage starting a middle school chapter at his school. Riker, you rock! Or how about Emily from Holman FFA in Wisconsin? Emily’s bursting enthusiasm brought an instant smile to my face. She is a true caring person, as she helped friends deal with tough times. Emily, you rock! This summer I visited South Dakota. I met Beau from the McCook Central FFA Chapter. Beau paired his singing ability with his creative humor and earned the chance to advance onto the second round of American Idol!

FFA members, I’ve seen you in workshops, at the fair, during state conventions, and here at national convention this week, and I love seeing you put

your talents into action. I’ve seen you being yourselves and I’ve thought, wow, just like my sister and me in our living room, you rock!

Right now, turn to the person next to you and say...

...“You rock!”

Wow, Conesco Fieldhouse is full of awesome individuals! But how many of us are still wondering if we really do rock? What does it mean to rock?

There is no magic formula. Actually it’s pretty simple.

You rock because you are uniquely talented and gifted. You rock when you are not afraid to be yourself. The coolest part about knowing that you rock, is not to keep that to yourself. Share your unique gifts and strengths and rock the world around you.

Who you are is pretty amazing. There is no one else with the same appearance, combination of strengths, passions, and even struggles as you. Don’t be afraid to be yourself.

I grew up on a farm and ranch, where we raise corn, wheat, and Black Angus cattle! When we were little, my sister and I would ride around with mom and dad to check the cows and I still remember all of the silly songs we would sing. For example, Dad created a song about ‘the girls were always checkin’ cows everyday.’ I didn’t know it then, but with those songs, Dad was teaching my sister and me the importance of being ourselves. As I have gotten older, Dad has never stopped using his talents to teach others. Three

“Share your unique gifts and strengths and rock the world around you.”



Jamie Cecil continued

years ago, he modeled what it means to be yourself and not be afraid of what others might think.

It was time for the South Platte FFA District Leadership Conference. Mr. Wagner, an ag teacher from the district, asked Dad, a past FFA member, if he would present a workshop on “What FFA Can Do For You!” So Dad started planning. Dad is a big country music fan, and one of his favorite bands was Big & Rich. This band sometimes guest-featured the rapping Cowboy Troy. Using Cowboy Troy as inspiration, Dad knew how to begin the workshop in order to catch the audience’s attention. So Jim Cecil became ...

... “Cowboy J.”

Complete with his black leather jacket, black cowboy hat, and sunglasses, pulled straight out of 1989, Cowboy J was ready to go. But don’t assume that Dad only took on the appearance of a rapping cowboy. Oh no. He wrote and performed a rap to open his presentation. Let me share the rap with you. Picture this and tune in: “I’m Cowboy J, and I’m here to say ‘What’s up young members of the FFA?’ We know you’re all winners in a cool, cool crowd, we’re just here to tell you what makes us proud, yeah, yeah what makes us proud. Back 30 years ago when we started out, production ag was what it was all about. Now today in 04-05 there’s much, much more to make it come alive.”

Yeah that’s how he said it too: with the arm swoop and everything. And...he rocked! He used his talents to share with about 100 FFA members the impact FFA can have on their futures. Dad knows who he is and he is confident in that person. He was not afraid to be himself.

In order to be ourselves, we’ve got to know who we are. How do we figure this out who we are-out? Earlier this year I was given the assignment to create “Me in a bag” In the bag, I included a headband because I enjoy running, soil from our corn field, and sheet music because I love to sing, just to name a few. If you had a bag, what would you fill it with?

Let’s think about it. What do I enjoy? What things come easily to me? How do my values, beliefs, and background help form who I am? In order to discover what your gifts are, you must explore. Try new

things to determine what you do well and you enjoy and-out what things make you happy.

Then, be proud of who you are. Have you found something you are passionate about but you think other people will



make fun of you? You know what? Pursue that passion with pride. You will have fun and you may find you are good at it. Do you see someone else and wish that you were taller, thinner, shorter, more muscular, blonde instead of brunette? Have confidence in the way you were created. This world would be boring if everyone looked the same. Don’t worry about what other people think. Be yourself, and you will rock!

Being confident in who you are is only part of your rock star identity. You were made as you for a reason. As you discover

your purpose, allow your strengths to shine. When you share your strengths with others, you rock the world!

From my preschool days to my senior graduation, I attended the same school, Arickaree, walking down the same halls, playing sports in the same gym, and eating in the same cafeteria. So, when I had a chance to visit other schools during my year as a Colorado state officer, I was excited! My teammates and I traveled to schools on chapter visits. My chapter visit partner, Josh, and I were approaching our last visits of the year, and we had become pretty comfortable in the classroom. But as we prepared to visit the Flagler FFA chapter, I was worried. Flagler was *that* chapter—you know the chapter I’m talking about. The one that always wins EVERYTHING! At least that’s how it seemed to us at Arickaree. They were our biggest rival and the chapter to beat in parliamentary procedure,

and soil and crop evaluation. The reason? They had *that* advisor. Mr. Hannebaum. I had witnessed Mr. Hannebaum’s need for perfection as a district officer and I was intimidated by him. After all, a chapter that successful must have an ag teacher who is strict, quick to judge, and who knows talent when he sees it. What was Mr. Hannebaum going to think of our presentation to his students?

Josh and I arrived early and started visiting with Mr. Hannebaum. Before long he was joking with us. I guess this wasn’t so bad after all. I remember the fun things

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we did that day. We had some five gallon buckets and tennis balls for one of our activities, and Mr. Hannebaum was the first to pitch a tennis ball into a bucket as if he were a 17 year old all-star. He laughed as he showed us his talking alien toy he uses to help students quiet down, and we saw him actively participating in our workshops. The more time we spent with him, the easier it was to see that he wasn't that intimidating advisor, but instead more like one of the students.

In addition to the fun aspects I saw of Mr. Hannebaum, I remember learning something even more important about him: his gift of teaching. His ag students became his kids. He has the strengths of organization and command to be a good teacher, and of positivity and encouragement, to be a good mentor. Mr. Hannebaum is purposeful in doing what he does best—teaching and serving as an FFA advisor.

I do not know all of the students he has impacted during his time in the classroom, but I am aware of one particular student. Twenty eight years ago, he taught a student named Allen Charles, and helped shape him into who he is. Because Mr. Hannebaum used his strengths to uplift and encourage this student, Mr. Charles also decided to become an ag teacher. Six years ago, Mr. Charles taught a student in an ag class, helping that student discover their talents. That student is me.

Mr. Hannebaum retired this year after 34 years of living as the person he was made to be. He rocked by sharing his strengths with his students. Because of that, he has helped me, and many others become the people we were made to be.

What is it that you do best? Your contribution may not *seem* as significant as being a teacher, but when we use our strengths and gifts to help others, every action is significant. How can you make a difference in this world by sharing who you are? How will you challenge yourself to continue to grow and improve in your strengths?

One way to utilize your strengths is to make decisions based on your gifts. Studies show that half of all Americans are dissatisfied with their jobs. Why? Chances, are these people have not identified those talents and strengths at the heart of their identity. They are not in a place where they can do what they do best. If you want to be truly happy in life, find what you love. Then, do what you love. If you like meeting new people, choose a college major that will allow you to have a job working with others. Do you have a knack for writing? Maybe journalism is in your future. If you love agriculture, there are plenty of jobs where you can stay involved in this industry you feel so passionate about. Sure, you can live your life aimlessly searching for something to do just because it seems cool or because someone else has found success with it. The truth is though, you won't do it well and you won't be fulfilled. When

fulfilling your needs. Listen to your favorite music, call your mom or best friend, spend time feeding your spiritual needs, or go for a run. Know what makes you you, and most of all, be confident! You will push through those times of uncertainty, becoming stronger and more confident. See, you are just too important not to choose to be you.

Think back to some of the home videos you have. No matter what the occasion, chances are you'd see a "you" who wasn't embarrassed, who wasn't afraid to be yourself. I have caught a glimpse of you rocking in that same way this year! You rock, so rock on! Continue to live everyday as "you," and uplift others.

Author Max Lucado says,

"You are the only you. No one can duplicate your life. You are it! And if you aren't you, we don't get you. The world misses out. Live your life, or it won't be lived."

“Continue to match your actions with what you find important.”

you spend time doing what you do best you are living as the person you were made to be. That's when you rock the world and it is then that it will be easy to be yourself.

Sound simple? Well it can be. But I realize that it's not always easy to be yourself. There were times during this year as I was presenting a workshop or speech when my teammates and Mr. Bledsoe would tell me I just wasn't being me. I knew they were right--I could feel it--but I didn't know what to do about it. Has that ever happened to you?

There is not a button we can push in the morning, selecting the option, stating, "Today, I think I'm going to be..... ME!" The key is to continue to match your actions with what you find important. What are the things in that 'Me in a bag' that allow you to be yourself the most? When you struggle with living as yourself spend time

I am Jamie Cecil. I love to sing. I value my faith and relationships with others. I laugh easily and often and love telling corny jokes. I come from a small town of 100 people. I always try to see the positive side of any situation. I, just like every single one of you, am an FFA member, and I am proud of it!

Thank you for sharing your lives, interests, and thoughts with me this past year. Thank you for being yourself, and helping me to continue to serve simply as myself.

You are exactly who you are supposed to be. You do something better than everyone else in this world. So find that strength and share it. If you are not you, then the world misses out. We miss out on your personality, contributions, and talent. Today, the record light is flashing. It's showtime. Live YOUR life! I know that you have the potential to shine because FFA members, you Rock!

Retiring Addresses: Beau Williamson, National FFA President

“Make It, Break It, Take It”

*M*an I love taking pictures. Nothing can capture a moment better than a fun, entertaining photograph of what you did. I like taking... pictures worth a thousand words...
...professional ones ...
... pretty pictures too ...
... and I love taking goofy ones too.
Okay that one's going on Facebook and MySpace!

But every once in while I'll take a picture that doesn't turn out that great.
It's blurry and out of focus and

sometimes it isn't even the picture I wanted. Is life ever like that? Have you ever focused your sights on something in life and it didn't turn out that great?

Looking back on the experiences I've had with this camera it's taught me a lot. For instance I've learned if they do fall in water or if they are dropped on the ground they do break. Also though, I've found that if you want to hit the target you desire, then you better have your sights focused on what you want. And just the slightest adjustment to your focus can have such an impact on the target you hit.

For the longest time, I have wondered why I focus and worry so much about the negatives and all the things going wrong. This year I've realized that if I continue to focus my sights on those negative things and on what goes wrong, then there is a big chance I'll probably miss out on what has gone right. So where are we setting our focus?

A lot of times, we see the world's sights focused on the negatives. It seems whenever we pick up a newspaper, all we see are the problems in our world.

Very rarely are those sights focused on the positive things happening every day.

How often are we faced with this same thing in our lives? We walk around our schools at lunch and we hear negative gossip about our fellow classmates. We meet someone new and we start picking them apart and wondering what their weaknesses are. Something goes wrong and we complain and worry about that one thing. Why? It's simple really sometimes we focus so much on the negatives that we forget the positives.

We all have a target in life, a direction to where we are going.

But when we start focusing on what we can't do instead of what we can, and when we think about all the things going wrong instead of what's going right, that target, that direction we want our lives to go, gets blocked. It's almost as if those negative things will block out the positives if that's where we set our sights.

So how do we set our sights to where they need to be? Easy: “Make it; Break it; Take it.”

We need to make the choice, break the habit and take the opportunity.

Make it... Make the choice to focus your sights on what matters in life.

Way back in February our team took a trip out to my home state of California. During our time there we met up with the chairman of the FFA Sponsors' Board, Mr. Glenn Stith. He took us on a whale-watching adventure off the Pacific. Little did I know just how much I would learn from that voyage along



“Make the choice to **focus**
your sights on what matters
in life.”

Beau Williamson continued

the Pacific. First and foremost, I learned that when in doubt, definitely take the seasickness pill - just trust me on this one - but I also learned a little bit about life. While I was sitting on that boat, I had an amazing conversation. We started talking about leadership and life and all the things he has learned over the years. He started to share with me what the difference was between ordinary people and extraordinary people, and that was when he told me something I will always remember. He said, "Beau, what makes great people great is that they choose to focus their sights on what they can do instead of what they can't. Instead of worrying about what went wrong and complaining about their circumstances, they focus on what they're able to do." That was a wake-up call for me and something I needed to hear. That is so true! After our conversation, I began to notice other people - including myself - starting to set their sights on what they couldn't do instead of what they could do. Why do we do that? Why do I constantly compare my life to the lives of those around me, even though when I do that, I never seem to match up? Why is it that when I give a speech, workshop or presentation, I immediately think about the things I did wrong instead of everything that went right? Do you ever focus on what you can't do instead of what you can? Do you focus on your limits rather than your potential? I know I do.

It's just like when I took those pictures, isn't it? Wherever my sights were focused was the target I hit. Same principle in life--wherever we focus our sights in life is what we become; our focus - whatever it may be - consumes us. So where are you choosing to set your sights today? We need to quit focusing on and worrying about the negatives and get back to the positives. I've come to find out that life is a lot better focused on what we can do rather than what we can't, but that's our choice. That's the beauty of life; we all have a choice, a choice as to where we focus our sights.

Make it... Make the choice to focus your sights on what matters in life.

Once we've made the choice of where we got to break it to focus our sights,

we have to: Break it... Break the habit of focusing on what went wrong and make it a habit to focus your sights on what is and can go right.

Think back to a team you've been on. When I was a senior in high school I was on the Clovis East varsity football team. Over the years, our team had come a long way from our eighth-grade



year where we didn't win one game and scored a whopping two touchdowns the whole year. But now the scene was different. We were 4-0 on a Friday night and we had just come off one of the biggest wins of our season against the national powerhouse Long Beach Poly, also home of Cameron Diaz and Snoop Doggy Dog. This week we were facing our cross-town rivals, Clovis West. It was sure to be one of the best games of the entire year. Whoever won this game would be at the top of the rankings and, of course, have the bragging rights to spread all over town. We went into that game thinking we were unstoppable and couldn't be beat. Our sights were focused on the target we wanted.

After the big pep rally at school and a couple of hours of watching film, we hopped on the buses for the big game. The scene was set; huge stadium, Friday night, lights shining bright and a packed

crowd ready to see some of the best high school football around. Before I knew it, the game was underway. This was it, the moment of truth. We got the ball first and I, along with the rest of the offense, took the field. On the first play of the game, we marched a good 50 yards down the field; and with a couple more plays, we found our way into that sweet

grassy green sanctuary we call the end zone. That's right Clovis East - 7; Clovis West, nothing. After that, the whole team was fired up with energy after that and everything was great, but that was just the beginning of what would turn into a very, very long night.

Clovis West got the ball and, surprisingly, they chopped through our defense like a cook on "Iron Chef." Play after play, they moved the ball down the field until they matched our touchdown with one of their own. All of a sudden, that spark we carried with us as a team died and we started that habit of focusing on what was going wrong and nothing else. Once we did that, we lost sight of our target. It was almost as if when one thing went wrong, our entire team fell apart. Have you ever felt like that?

The rest of the game, our team fumbled the ball, threw interceptions, let big plays happen and pretty much gave

Beau Williamson continued

away one of the biggest games of our senior year. Why? Because the minute something started to go wrong, that became our focus – that was where we began to set our sights. Before we knew it, the final seconds were ticking off the clock and there was nothing we could do about it. We got into this trap, this habit of setting our sights on what was going wrong and, we totally missed the opportunity of what could have gone right. I remember during that game we still had a shot to win it, but I looked at the faces of a lot of my teammates and we were beaten, beaten mentally, and because of that, we were beaten physically.

We get in that same habit in life, don't we? We focus on our weaknesses instead of our strengths. We focus on our mistakes rather than our successes. We focus on our limits over our potential. And we focus on what we did wrong instead of what we did right. But why, why focus on these things when there is so much that is good about your life?! We have to break it – break the habit of focusing on negatives so we can get back our target and get back to focusing on what we can do. In the game that night, that vision of our target was blocked by the thoughts we let into our heads and allowed ourselves to believe. But that doesn't have to be the case for you because right now you have a choice, a choice to focus on what you can do instead of what you can't, and a choice to break this habit of worrying about what went wrong and focus on what can and is going right.

One thing our coach really stressed to us was leverage. Because of our team's small size, we had to get leverage under our opponents so we could control their direction. Our coach would say, "Control your opponent or he will control you." It's the same with our problems and experiences that might not go as planned in life, isn't it? We have to control our thoughts; don't let your thoughts control you. Don't let one thing that is going wrong make you miss

out on everything that is right.

Break it... Break the habit of focusing on what went wrong and make it a habit to focus your sights on what is and can go right.

Once we make that choice and break that habit, we are ready to take the opportunity. Take it... Take advantage of the opportunities you have right here, right now.

Before you know it, national convention will be over. Before you know it, you will graduate from high school. And before you know it, you will look back on the past 21 years of your life wondering,

“Everyday is an opportunity to **focus on what you can do** instead of what you can't.”

'What more could I have done?'

My mom and dad grew up in a small town – not too far from here – in LaPorte, Ind. There my mom lived on a dairy and row crop farm. My mom always told me this story about one of the sayings my Grandpa Fischer would live his life by: "You have to make hay when the sun shines." he would say. I remember asking my mom, "What does that mean?" It means we have to take advantage of what we have in front of us before it's too late. "Make hay when the sun shines."

Today's date is October 27, 2007, and we will never have another day like this again. This is the very last 80th National FFA Convention we will ever be a part of and this world will ever see. Every day is such a blessing and such an opportunity – an opportunity to make a new friend, make someone smile, give someone a high-five, hang out with your family. And everyday is an opportunity to focus on what you can do instead of what you can't. You only get one life to live, 24 hours in every day, so why not live every single moment of it? Why not make hay when the sun shines? "Nothing is more

tragic than a missed opportunity." Take it...Take advantage of the opportunities you have right here, right now.

Make it... Break it... Take it... Make the choice, break the habit and take the opportunity.

Instead of seeing all the things going wrong in the news...

...let's start setting our sights on what's going right.

FFA members taking part in a positive, uplifting, life-changing experience as they flood the city of Indianapolis practicing brotherhood, honoring agriculture and growing as leaders.

There are plenty of good things happening in these jackets, in your chapters and in our lives... you just have to look for it. Your experiences in FFA will take you as far as you will let them. How will you make hay when the sun shines?

And now, FFA members and friends, fix your thoughts on what is true and honorable, right and pure, lovely and admirable; think about these things that are excellent and worthy of praise. You can live a great life.

Will you ...
make it?...

Make the choice to focus your sights on what matters in life.

Will you ...
break it?

Break the habit of focusing on what went wrong and make it a habit to focus your sights on what can and is going right.

Will you
take it?... Take advantage of the opportunities you have right here, right now. Make it, Break it, Take it! Make the choice, break the habit and take the opportunity!

American Degree Recipients

Alaska: Hannah Harrison, Homer HS FFA

Alabama: Heath Randon Garrett, Fort Payne HS FFA; Kimberly Henderson, Enterprise HS FFA; Cody Johnson, Red Bay HS FFA; Jessica Jones, Fort Payne HS FFA; Ben Maples, Elkmont HS Limestone FFA; Adam Mills, Red Bay HS FFA; Sam Suttle, Fort Payne HS FFA; Tyler Thacker, Fort Payne HS FFA; Clayton Ross Usery, Elkmont HS Limestone FFA; Joseph Young Waters, Enterprise HS FFA; Jill Williams, Red Bay HS FFA

Arkansas: Chelsey Ahrens, Lamar HS FFA; Matthew Archer, Greenwood HS FFA; Heather Bryant, Cole Camp FFA; Katie Campbell, England HS FFA; James D. Coffey, Prairie Grove HS FFA; Jordan Michael Craig, Conway HS FFA; Norwyn Amanda Free, Bradford HS-FFA; Jenna Elizabeth Guidry, Ashdown HS FFA; Nicholas Hare, Searcy HS FFA; Jeffery D. Massanelli, England HS FFA; Derrick Reynolds, Elkins HS FFA; Robert Roetzel, Searcy HS FFA; Sara Rogers, Bergman HS FFA; Jason E. Smith, Springdale HS FFA; Nathan Tapp, Gravette HS FFA; Cody Lee Tucker, Lake Hamilton HS FFA

Arizona: Melissa Bagnall, Coolidge HS FFA; Aaron Mitchell Benda, Gilbert HS FFA; J. Christina Bernal-Rigoli, Amphitheater HS FFA; Brittany Black, Buckeye Union HS FFA; Cody Lee Boose, Red Mountain HS FFA; Chelsey Boss, Millennium High School; Zachary Carpenter, Coolidge HS FFA; Edward Carr, Amphitheater HS FFA; Laura L. Chandler, Camp Verde HS FFA; Brittany Lynn Choate, Highland HS FFA; Houston Tyler Cluff, Safford HS FFA; Mitchell Compton, Millennium High School; Tiffany D. Covey, Yuma HS FFA; Diamond Brittany Decker, Safford HS FFA; Jeffery Dinges, Peoria HS FFA; Casey Farnsworth, Chino Valley HS FFA; Ryann M. Ferguson, Chino Valley HS FFA; Kerilyn Gage, Millennium High School; Stacey Healy, Mingus Union HS FFA; Tyler Johnson, Mingus Union HS FFA; Marisa L. Lester, Chino Valley HS FFA; Brittany Levine, Camp Verde HS FFA; Sarah MacDonald, Mingus Union HS FFA; Bethany Daleen Masters, Millennium High School; Robyn Leigh Ollerton, Casa Grande Union HS FFA; Tyler Glenn Pearce, Safford HS FFA; Kayla Peck, Chino Valley HS FFA; Bradi Rhodes, Mingus Union HS FFA; Rita Paige Riggs, Willcox FFA; Julian Sainz, Amphitheater HS FFA; Rita Sanders, Mingus Union

HS FFA; Laura Stump, Highland HS FFA; Cash L. Veo, Chandler HS FFA; Justine L. Verser, Cibola HS FFA; Amanda L. Webb, Willcox FFA; Jessica Wedell, Payson HS FFA; Caitlin Williams, Chino Valley HS FFA

California: Matthew Abatti, Santa Maria HS FFA; Frank Aguilera, Orestimba HS FFA; Joseph Airoso, Tulare Western HS FFA; Ryan Akers, Nipoma FFA; Jessica Alcorn, Madera HS FFA; Jenna Alexander, Elk Grove HS FFA; Melissa Alley, Madera HS FFA; Elizabeth Ann Allison, Beyer HS FFA; Dominick Joseph Amador, Turlock HS; Ryan Amaral, Turlock Pitman HS FFA; Krista Anderson, Escalon HS FFA; Max E. Anderson, Fowler HS FFA; Haley Aquino, Nipoma FFA; Luis Antonio Arreola, Monache HS FFA; Jose Arroyo, Sutter Uhs FFA; Marty Astiasuain, Reedley HS FFA; Rebecca Atchley, Porterville HS FFA; John Avellar, Winters HS FFA; Judd Avila, Santa Maria HS FFA; Martin Ayala, Hanford HS FFA; Brian Azevedo, Gustine HS FFA; Lance S. Azevedo, Ceres HS FFA; Clarissa Michelle Bailey, Florin HS FFA; Katy Baker, Bakersfield HS FFA; Tyler Baker, Exeter HS FFA; Garrett Ball, Porterville HS FFA; Samantha Balzer, Foothill HS FFA; Xavier Barba, Salinas Everett Alvarez HS FFA; Dusten Barcus, Fowler HS FFA; Willard Barna, Littlerock HS FFA; Howard Beach III, Madera HS FFA; Jesse Beckett, Winters HS FFA; Ryan Bedrosian, Fowler HS FFA; Fredrick T. Bedsworth, San Marcos HS FFA; Andrew Gerald Bedwell, Orange Glen HS FFA; Ashley Bedwell, Salinas Everett Alvarez HS FFA; Gregory Beecher, Tulare Western HS FFA; Kyle Beeman, Sonora Uhs-193 FFA; Casey Bell, Nipoma FFA; Brenden Lawrence Benson, Winters HS FFA; Krista Corrine Birmingham, Hemet HS FFA; Kacey Blackmon, King City HS FFA; Kirk Blocker, Lompoc HS FFA; Elizabeth Michelle Bohan, Santa Rosa HS FFA; Greg Borges, Tulare Western HS FFA; Clay A. Boschi, Turlock HS; Kyle Bower, Clovis HS FFA; Kyle Bradley, Hanford HS FFA; Colton John Brantley, Clovis HS FFA; Shane David Bratcher, Dixon HS FFA; Dean Jacob Brawley, Laton HS FFA; Caitlyn Brendel, Santa Rosa HS FFA; Brittany Burgun, Southwest HS FFA; John D. Burleson Jr., Ripon HS FFA; Ross Burner, Oakdale HS FFA; Patrick T. Burns, Elsinore Uhs FFA;

Mindy Burris, Hughson HS FFA; Keith Caetano, Hanford HS FFA; Catlin Cahill, Rubidoux HS FFA; Perla Y. Campos, Wasco HS FFA; Megan Marie Cardoza, Tulare HS FFA; Jacob Phillip Carrier, Dixon HS FFA; Richard Chapman, Mariposa County HS FFA; Tucker Chorjel, Middletown HS FFA; Michael Clark, Foothill HS FFA; Haley Clement, Paso Robles HS FFA; Justin Click, Kern Valley HS FFA; Alexis Cocagne, Mt Whitney HS FFA; Korby Colman, Nipoma FFA; Jason Conway, Riverdale HS FFA; Shane Coons, Porterville HS FFA; Jared Cordeiro, Clovis HS FFA; Jose P. Cortez, Reedley HS FFA; Nathan Elmer Levi Costa, Florin HS FFA; Kaitlyn Coyes, Clovis HS FFA; Jessica Crawford, Hemet HS FFA; Michelle Crystal Crownover, Turlock Pitman HS FFA; Grace Cun, Hemet HS FFA; Richard Charles Darrach, East Nicolaus HS FFA; Loren David, East Nicolaus HS FFA; Karen Dayton, Fullerton HS FFA; Keith Deaner, Colusa HS FFA; Stephanie Dehner, Petaluma HS FFA; Ross A. Dellavalle, Madera HS FFA; Brianna DeMasters, Porterville HS FFA; Maci Depaoli, Monache HS FFA; Alejandra Dominguez, Orosi HS FFA; Christian Dominguez, Corcoran HS

FFA; Danny Albert Duarte, Pierce HS Arbuckle FFA; Spencer Dukes, East Nicolaus HS FFA; Torey Dunn, Lompoc HS FFA; Nessie Early, Shandon HS FFA; Chad Egling, Le Grand Uhs FFA; Brian Ellis, Chico Sr HS FFA; Chris Ellorin, Orosi HS FFA; LeeAnn Engdahl, Lodi HS FFA; Ryan Stephen England, Caruthers Uhs FFA; Holley Erisey, Colusa HS FFA; Remi Errotabere, Riverdale HS FFA; Jiana Escobar, Gilroy HS FFA; Julee Evangelo, Lemoore HS FFA; Kimberly Ferguson, Sutter Uhs FFA; Kelsey B. Ferrari, Santa Maria HS FFA; Jason Michael Ferreira, Tulare HS FFA; Clint Firestone, Porterville HS FFA; Weston L. Fisher, Julian Uhs FFA; Lauren Fontes, San Luis Obispo HS



American Degree Recipients

FFA; Anthony J. Friebe, Live Oak HS FFA; Frank Gaither, Sutter Uhs FFA; Beverly Ann Galusha, Sutter Uhs FFA; Jesse Garcia, Foothill HS FFA; John Garcia, Lemoore HS FFA; Melissa Garcia, Los Banos HS FFA; Anna-Lisa Giannini, Calaveras HS FFA; Jacob Gisler, Mariposa County HS FFA; Travis Gomes, Nevada Union HS FFA; Noe Gonzales Jr., Greenfield HS FFA; Eric Gonzalez, Santa Maria HS FFA; Cody J. Goss, East Nicolaus HS FFA; Nathan Green, Selma HS FFA; Jessica Groleau, San Marcos HS FFA; Luis Alberto Guerra, Wasco HS FFA; Olivia Gutierrez, Wasco HS FFA; Rafael Guzman, Gonzales Uhs-FFA; Cara Hall, Tullake HS FFA; William Hanko, Santa Maria HS FFA; Brandi Harter, Foothill HS FFA; Matthew B. Hayes, Winters HS FFA; Rebecca Hein, Elk Grove HS FFA; Jessica Hemphill, Tullake HS FFA; David Henager, Florin HS FFA; Amanda Hendrickson, Los Banos HS FFA; Jocelyn Henschel, Porterville HS FFA; Sonia Hernandez, Farmersville HS FFA; Sonya Marie Hernandez, Laton HS FFA; Emilie Herrmann, Poway HS FFA; Kristi Hill, Wheatland Union HS FFA; Rachel Hill, El Capitan HS FFA; Colton Hollister, Lompoc HS FFA; Kaci Hume, Elk Grove HS FFA; Amy Leeann Hunter, Thomas Downey HS FFA; William H. Idsinga, Kerman HS FFA; Rachel Imbach, Alturas FFA; Jacob Jerome, Rubidoux HS FFA; Matt Johnson, Westwood HS FFA; Christina Jones, Salinas-North Salinas HS FFA; Erin Michelle Jones, Fallbrook Union HS FFA; Chase Jundt, Hanford HS FFA; Ryusuke Kanagawa, Canoga Park HS FFA; Katy Karcher, Bakersfield HS FFA; Shannon Ashley Kelley, Santa Rosa HS FFA; Kathryn Kelly, Highland HS FFA; Michael C. Kleiber, Golden Valley HS Merced Golden; Kaleb Ian Krogen, Reedley HS FFA; Kari Kronberg, Hilmar HS FFA; Janae Krull, El Capitan HS FFA; Catharine Kuber, Clovis HS FFA; Douglas William Lander, Canoga Park HS FFA; Steven F. Lander, Canoga Park HS FFA; Brendan Langley, Santa Maria HS FFA; Carolyn Lauritzen, Indio HS FFA; Jessica Laux, Porterville HS FFA; Jonathan Lawrence, Tulare Western HS FFA; Amanda M. Le Corre, Central HS FFA; Rodger Henry Lehman, Central HS FFA; Emmanuel Leon, Santa Maria HS FFA; Brianna Leonardo, Laton HS FFA; Gavin Lethbridge, Trinity HS FFA; Allison Loflin, Porterville HS FFA; Valerie Anne Loomis, Reedley HS FFA; Andrew Lopez, Parlier High School FFA; Gustavo Lucatero, Oroshi HS FFA; Anders Lund, East Nicolaus HS FFA; John

Luscombe, Tullake HS FFA; Katherine Lynde, Dixon HS FFA; Michael Madrigal, Caruthers Uhs FFA; Katie Maiorino, Firebaugh HS FFA; Manauri Marquez, Firebaugh HS FFA; Michael A. Marsh, Tracy HS FFA; Adam Martin, Chino Sr HS FFA; Brett E. Martinazzi, Madera HS FFA; Carl Martins, Hanford HS FFA; Megan Matteucci, Madera HS FFA; Daniel J. Mayes, Ramona HS FFA; Dean Mayfield, Riverdale HS FFA; Jason Maze, Exeter HS FFA; Phillip McGee, Grace Davis HS FFA; Brent McKinsey, Salinas HS FFA; Shawn McMahon, Elk Grove HS FFA; Eddie McMullen, St Helena HS FFA; Luke McMullen, St Helena HS FFA; Troy McTeer, Caruthers



Uhs FFA; Bennet Mebane, North HS FFA; Brian O. Medeiros, Hanford HS FFA; Richard Medina, Fullerton HS FFA; Aimee Marie Meidinger, Lodi HS FFA; Kayln Hope Mello, Laton HS FFA; Cody Melton, Kerman HS FFA; Michael Mendes, Hanford HS FFA; David Mendonsa, Tulare HS FFA; Marianne Alicia Mendoza, Calaveras HS FFA; Kristina Mickelson, Petaluma HS FFA; Ashli L. Middleton, Santa Maria HS FFA; Nathaniel Minton, Gustine HS FFA; Brianna Monahan, Petaluma HS FFA; Tiffany Marie Moore, El Camino HS FFA; Dennis Michael Morales, Santa Maria HS FFA; Lendel Morales, Porterville HS FFA; Caitlyn Morehart, Turlock Pitman HS FFA; Brittany Moreland, Rubidoux HS FFA; Casey Moreno, Nevada Union HS FFA; Lindsey Moss, Elk Grove HS FFA; Nathaniel Lee Naylor, Tullake HS FFA; Wesley Nelson, San Benito Jt Uhs FFA; Cassidy Ann Nicholls,

Westmont HS Campbell FFA; Megan Nunes, Gustine HS FFA; Danielle Olivas, Hemet HS FFA; Amanda Elree Oogjen, Sonora HS FFA; Francisco Ortiz, Santa Maria HS FFA; Gerado Ortiz, Santa Maria HS FFA; Cory Padgett, Madera HS FFA; Edgar Padilla, Fullerton HS FFA; Oscar Palomares, Corcoran HS FFA; Christopher Patterson, Ponderosa HS FFA; Jessica Paulisich, St Helena HS FFA; Michelle Elizabeth Paulson, Monache HS FFA; Hannah Jean Payne, Ramona HS FFA; Kelsey Lea Peirce, Nevada Union HS FFA; Roger Pereira, San Benito Jt Uhs FFA; Kyle Peterson, San Luis Obispo HS FFA; Britney Pettibone,



FFA; Nick Saucedo, Porterville HS FFA; Sam Savage, Woodlake HS FFA; Jenna Scheirer, Jurupa Valley HS FFA; Erin N. Schlegel, Live Oak HS FFA; Casey Schoonhoven, Chowchilla HS FFA; Christina Schriver, Lompoc HS FFA; Michelle Denise Scire, Laton HS FFA; Kaysi Scott, Kern Valley HS FFA; Chris Sepulveda, Petaluma HS FFA; Michael Serpa, Laton HS FFA; Jason Sheffield, Foothill HS FFA; Andrea Sheram, Porterville HS FFA; Katie Shinn, Ponderosa HS FFA; Amanda Shumway, Foothill HS FFA; Sam Silva, Le Grand Uhs FFA; Nicole Silveira, San Benito Jt Uhs FFA; Nattie Skelton, Shandon HS FFA; Jared Skiles, Porterville HS FFA; Joshua Paul Smith, Reedley HS FFA; Kaytlin L. Smith, Nevada Union HS FFA; Josh Song, Porterville HS FFA; Sara A. Souza, Patterson HS FFA; Elyse Spry, Porterville HS FFA; Chad A. Stephens, Clovis HS FFA; Todd Stretars, Sheldon High School; Trevor Studinger, Porterville HS FFA; Anastasia Stuyt, Escalon HS FFA; Nicholas Stuyt, Escalon HS FFA; Fidel Suarez, Santa Maria HS FFA; Gerrett Suarez, Caruthers Uhs FFA; Tiffany Leigh Ann Sutter, McKinleyville High School-FFA; Kody Swanson, Kingsburg HS FFA; Tiffany Marie Tchouboukjian, Beyer HS FFA; Joshua Terry, Dinuba HS FFA; Zach Thomas, Antelope Valley HS FFA; Joshua S. Thompson, Elk Grove HS FFA; Jacob Thorne, Winters HS FFA; Ellie Titus, Ferndale Uhs FFA; Marlee Tollison, Exeter HS FFA; Eric Tucker, Elk Grove HS FFA; Kevin Tuttle, Porterville HS FFA; Ethan A. Twisselman, Atascadero HS FFA; Gary Valente, Tokay HS FFA; Francisco Valierio, Oroshi HS FFA; Shannon Vandenberg, Dos Palos HS FFA; Spencer Veldstra, Escalon HS FFA; Sarah Rose Walls, Kingsburg HS FFA; Matthew Allan Walters, Ceres HS FFA; Monique Watanabe, Lodi HS FFA; Sarah D. Wenter, Caruthers Uhs FFA; Shelby Teresa West, Turlock Pitman HS FFA; Josh White, Lompoc HS FFA; Emmalea Wilkinson, Durham HS FFA; Donald Willis, Exeter HS FFA; Brienne Witt, Lodi HS FFA; Allison Zike, Monache HS FFA

Colorado: Charlie Anderson, Rifle HS-FFA; Douglas J. Arnold, Fowler HS-FFA; Theresa Bartlett, Sterling HS-FFA; Dustin Batterton, Eads HS FFA; Nathan C.J.

American Degree Recipients

Beeman, Pueblo County FFA; Jason Bowey, Merino HS-FFA; Bradley Burnett, Montrose HS FFA; Kaitlin Chelewski, Rifle HS-FFA; Ashley Clark, Karval HS FFA; Vance Cole, Eads HS FFA; Kaytlyn Cooksey, Weld Central HS-FFA; Leah Coombs, Rifle HS-FFA; Aaron Cowan, Platte Valley HS FFA; Emily Craig, Flagler HS FFA; Candice Curry, M C Clave HS FFA; Curt Dutro, Karval HS FFA; Mallory Renee Emerson, Pueblo County FFA; Kim Emmons, Hotchkiss HS-FFA; Erik Frank, Valley HS FFA; Kelsey Frasier, Limon HS FFA; Benjamin Fritz, Eaton HS FFA; Drew Gettel, St Vrain Valley FFA; Amber Leigh Hammerbeck, Platte Valley HS FFA; Jeremy D. Handy, Custer County FFA; Austin J. Hangs, Rifle HS-FFA; Amanda Hanson, North Park Jr/sr HS FFA; Levi Honstein, Caliche Jr Sr HS-FFA; Ashley Mae Hudson, Hotchkiss HS-FFA; Jonathan T. Huss, Caliche Jr Sr HS-FFA; Tyler J. Kimmel, Prairie Jr Sr HS-FFA; Mike Klamm, Pueblo County FFA; Andrea Knodel, Idalia HS - FFA; Jessica Kuntz, Hotchkiss HS-FFA; Haley Kaye Larrew, L A Veta HS FFA; Melinda Lieberknecht, Fowler HS-FFA; Kari Livingston, Stratton HS FFA; Krystina C. Mantelli, Hoehne HS FFA; Bailey McComb, San Juan Basin Avs-Cortez FFA; Cody McMillan, Weld Central HS-FFA; Luke Meyette, Platte Valley HS FFA; Jed Michal, Flagler HS FFA; Amber Dawn Rink, Granada High School-FFA; Ian Rohn, Wiggins HS FFA; Adam Saffer, Eads HS FFA; Tabettha T. Salsbury, Pueblo County FFA; Sadie Saylor, Bennett HS-FFA; Andrew J. Schweizer, Rocky Ford HS-FFA; Micah Seyler, Platte Valley HS FFA; Nathan R. Seymour, Karval HS FFA; Sam Slusser, Akron HS-FFA; Jeff Sterkel, St Vrain Valley FFA; Trevor Vaughn, Caliche Jr Sr HS-FFA; Heather Lyn Veltri, Platte Valley HS FFA; Eric Wellman, MoFFAt Co HS-FFA; Sydney Wilkinson, Hoehne HS FFA; Jamie Witt, Flagler HS FFA; Joshua L. Wittler, Pritchett HS-FFA; Shiloh Donald Wittler, Pritchett HS-FFA

Connecticut: Elyse Brodeur, Southington HS FFA; Sarah Marilyn Davis, Killingly HS FFA; Amy V. Gonyer, Killingly HS FFA; Sarah-Jean Marion Griffin, Suffield Senior HS FFA; Jessica Horn, Lyman Hall FFA; Daniel Kinsbury, E O Smith HS Storrs Regional; Douglas P. "Kramer, Jr.", Killingly HS FFA; Ashley McCorkindale, Killingly HS FFA; Cassandra Marie Pease, Suffield Senior HS FFA

Delaware: Hilary Lynn Ennis, Caesar Rodney HS FFA; Briana Alyse Hargett, Smyrna HS FFA; Samantha E. E. Hyler, Sussex Central HS FFA; Stephenie A. Jackson, Smyrna HS FFA

Florida: Casey Lee Alford, Malone HS FFA; Jeremy A. Baker, Palmetto HS FFA; Karly Leann Cohenour, Palmetto HS FFA; Clifton Cox, Sebring HS Sr FFA; Joshua Timothy Cribbs, "Durant



Sr, HS- FFA"; Kelli Daniels, Haines City HS Sr FFA; Thomas Tyus Daniels, Grand Ridge HS FFA; Steven Robert Delgado, Plant City HS FFA; Michael Green, Haines City HS Sr FFA; Natalie Cherie Harrison, Trenton HS Sr FFA; Blaine Clark Hendrick, Lafayette Sr. HS - FFA; Whitney Hinkle, Sebring HS Sr FFA; James Donald Holmes III, Bronson HS FFA; Ashley Howell, Lakewood Ranch Sr FFA; Matthew Jarrod Huesman, Fort White Senior; Hannah June Huggins, Plant City HS FFA; Brittney Ingram, Lake Region HS FFA; Ben Israel, Lafayette Sr. HS - FFA; Anna Lauren Land, Suwannee HS Senior FFA; Cassandra Marie Langford-Brown, Trenton HS Sr FFA; Danielle C. Leopold, Keystone HS FFA; Lauren Joanna Lewis, Haines City HS Sr FFA; Craig Aron Lungren, Taylor HS Sr FFA; Victoria Louisa Lyons, Lafayette Sr. HS - FFA; Alonda McCarty, New Smyrna Beach HS Sr FFA; Matthew James McLaughlin, Citrus FFA; Kerry Jo Melland, Suwannee HS Senior FFA; Amy Elizabeth Moore, Suwannee HS Senior FFA; Marissa Navarro, Chamberlain HS FFA; Les Nussbaumer, South Lake

HS Senior FFA Chapt; Matthew Ryan Peebles, N Marion HS Sr FFA; Michael Rogalsky, "Durant Sr, HS- FFA"; Jacob Wesley Sache, Chiefland HS Sr FFA; Marc Sewell, "Durant Sr, HS- FFA"; Hayley Snedeker, F T Pierce Westwood Sr HS FFA; Brian Solano, Lafayette Sr. HS - FFA; Katie Tindle, "Durant Sr, HS- FFA"; Neoisha Danielle Tucker, Lake Wales HS Sr FFA; Matthew C. Vann, Lafayette Sr. HS - FFA; Kasie Varney, Haines City HS Sr

FFA; Chad Wainwright, Suwannee HS Senior FFA; Clifton Williamson, Keystone HS FFA; Brian Wynn, Keystone HS FFA

Georgia: Bentley James Bagwell, Cass HS FFA; Camilla Beasley, Franklin Co HS FFA; Kathrine Bell, Oconee Co HS FFA; Matthew Bland, Screven Co HS FFA; Courtney Branch, Jeff Davis Co. HS - Jeff Davis; D.J. Brannen, Screven Co HS FFA; Cody Bratcher, Jeff Davis Co. HS - Jeff Davis; Will Cabe, Franklin Co HS FFA; Luther Cecil Caraway, Toombs Co HS FFA; Ashley Carter, Charlton Co HS FFA; Chris Casper, Apalachee HS FFA; Michael James Certain, Franklin Co HS FFA; Whitney Chitty, Colquitt Co HS-FFA; J. Brooke Coley, Elbert Comp HS - Elbert County FFA; Gatlin J. Correia, Franklin Co HS FFA; Allen Crawford, Jeff Davis Co. HS - Jeff Davis; Marcus Cunningham, Greene Co HS FFA; Vernon Robert Daniels, Wayne Co HS FFA; Megan Deats, Jeff Davis Co. HS - Jeff Davis; Amanda Frances Deriso, Americus Sumter South H.s.; Ryan Diers, Colquitt Co HS-FFA; Jayme Michelle Dodson, Americus Sumter



South H.s.; Jennifer M. Durden, Toombs Co HS FFA; David Gary Farmer Jr., Franklin Co HS FFA; Zachery Fausett, Dawson Co HS FFA; Kandace Franks, Cook HS FFA; Meghan E. Gafnea, Central HS FFA; Adrienne Gentry, Tift Co. FFA; Sarah Elizabeth Hambrick, Stephens Co HS FFA; Justley Harston, Winder Barrow HS FFA; Regina Ann Holliday, East Laurens HS FFA; William C. Howell, Ware Co Magnet School FFA; Brody Hughes, Dawson Co HS FFA; Loan Thanh Huynh, Se Whitfield HS FFA; Megan Marchant, Jeff Davis Co. HS - Jeff Davis; Rand Michael Merchant, Coffee HS FFA; Kyle Minyard, Franklin Co HS FFA; Luke E. Mize, Elbert Comp HS - Elbert County FFA; Thomas Ryan Moore, Colquitt Co HS-FFA; Katy Morgan, Pickens Co HS FFA; Mitchell Peavy, Colquitt Co HS-FFA; Dana Purcell, Stephens Co HS FFA; Tracey Ravenscraft, Etowah HS FFA; Paula Jane Rogers, Treutlen HS FFA; Mary Helen Scott, Screven Co HS FFA; Judson Walter Temple, Jefferson HS FFA; Merlin Kyle Temple, Jefferson HS FFA; Jayson Waddell, Se Whitfield HS FFA; Stephen Mark Waters, Pickens Co HS FFA; Samuel Olin Webb, Greene Co HS FFA; Ryan Wooten, Jeff Davis Co. HS - Jeff Davis; Blake Wright, Jeff Davis Co. HS - Jeff Davis; Justin Wright, Jeff Davis Co. HS - Jeff Davis

Iowa: Matthew Aggen, Cam FFA; Brent Applegate, Riverside FFA; Leslye Bailey, Nashua Plainfield FFA; Laura Baker, Creston HS FFA; Chris Bates, Tri County Comm. H.s.; Sarah Lynn Beaver, Brokaw FFA Chapter; Tasia Becker, Cam FFA; Amanda Blake, Atlantic HS FFA; Ryan Lee Borcharding, Hampton Dumont HS; Alex Bormann, Algona HS FFA; Josh Bringleston, Laurens-Marathon Tall Corn FFA; Cole Jon Winter Burrack, Stormont HS FFA; Raven Marie Butteris, Olin FFA; Nicholas A. Callahan, Cascade HS FFA; Jodi Calvert, Guthrie Center HS FFA; Allison B. Classen, West Bend Mallard HS Hawkeye; Joe Connolly, Cascade HS FFA; Charlie Fitzgerald, Boone A&M FFA; Emma Leigh Flemmig, Glidden-Ralston FFA; Megan Flynn, Maquoketa HS FFA; Scott Foust, Maquoketa HS FFA; Matthew Hakeman, Williamsburg HS FFA; Scott Hanthorn, Central Decatur HS; Lee

American Degree Recipients

Hardersen, Anamosa FFA Chapter; Kristine Harms, Anamosa FFA Chapter; Ashley Hartsook, Creston HS FFA; Taylor Allen Hopper, Graettinger HS FFA; Melissa Hosch, Cascade HS FFA; Jennifer Hosfield, Mount Ayr HS FFA; Joe Hotka, Lone Tree HS FFA; Tyler James Hotz, Lone Tree HS FFA; Adam Jackson, Mount Ayr HS FFA; Darcie James, Maquoketa HS FFA; Andy Jennett, Creston HS FFA; Alex W. Johnk, Walnut HS FFA; Jessie Juarez, Glenwood FFA; Sam Katzer, Creston HS FFA; Casey Kent, Wall Lake View Auburn HS FFA; Darren Kraus, Postville FFA; Jacob Krieg, Edgewood-Colesburg HS FFA; Phillip C. Kron, Mid-Prairie FFA; Matthew Kurt, Cascade HS FFA; Lacey K. Kurth, Anamosa FFA Chapter; Dallas Kurtz, South Holt FFA; Mark A. Laubenthal, Algona HS FFA; Justin Linderman, Creston HS FFA; Paige Lindsey, Central Decatur HS; Sammy Jo Massman, North Fayette HS FFA; Alicia D. McQuilkin, La Porte-Dysart FFA; Kaitlin Metzger, Glidden-Ralston FFA; Kegan Miller, Maquoketa HS FFA; Blake E. Mormann, West Delaware Community Schools-FFA; Taylor Morrison, Cam FFA; Kristine Mullen, Dewitt Central FFA; Alec J. Munier, Linn-Mar FFA Chapter; Kyle Clarence Norman, Humboldt HS FFA; Jessica O'Connor, Rockford Sr HS FFA; Trevor J. Oetken, L E Mars HS Farm Youth FFA; Travis Ohms, Cam FFA; Jennifer Paulus, Rockford Sr HS FFA; Brooke Rae Peppmeier, Creston HS FFA; Mat Pfab, Cascade HS FFA; Heidi Ramaeker, Creston HS FFA; Troy Michael Retailic, Atlantic HS FFA; Seth Rhodes, Jamesport FFA; Katie Rohe, Manning HS FFA; Danelle Rollinger, Monticello HS FFA; Benjamin Jon Rottinghaus, Charles City HS FFA; Benjamin J. Schmidt, Dewitt Central FFA; Melissa Lynn Schmitt, Wapsie Valley HS FFA; Michelle Lee Schmitt, Wapsie Valley HS FFA; Jessica Sheeder, Adair-Casey HS FFA; Jessica Shifflett, Osceola Big Chief FFA; Cody Sobotka, Mount Ayr HS FFA; Michael Stewart, Oelwein HS FFA; John Stinn, Atlantic HS FFA; Kara Strand, Emmetsburg HS FFA; Austin Studer, Creston HS FFA; Jessica Tekippe, West Delaware Community Schools-FFA; Crystal Watters, Maquoketa HS FFA; Amy Weeda, Mount Ayr HS FFA; Ryan Wegner, Charles City HS FFA; Dustin J. Wickman, Linn-Mar FFA Chapter; Nicholas Willenborg, Carroll Area HS FFA; Kristal Willie, West Delaware Community Schools-FFA; Sarah R. Willie, West Delaware Community

Schools-FFA; Thomas Wulfekuhle, Edgewood-Colesburg HS FFA

Idaho: Heather Jean Andersen, American Falls HS FFA; Chantelle Bagley, Sugar-Salem HS-FFA; Aubrey Joy Banks, North Gem HS-FFA; Daniel Joseph Billington, Shoshone HS-FFA; Prescott Bingham, Burley High School - FFA; Hadley Bird, West Jefferson HS-FFA; Travis Blackstock, Kuna HS-FFA; Jordan A. Bowen, Burley High School - FFA; Ian James Bridges, Notus HS-FFA; Jake David Carlson, Firth HS-FFA;



Ott Dalton Clark, Snake River HS-FFA; Brett Crump, North Gem HS-FFA; Terrance Jeffery Daniels, Malad City HS-FFA; Justin Freeman, Middleton HS-FFA; David Gochnour, Burley High School - FFA; Angela Gonterman, Castleford HS FFA; Jennifer Nicole Hansen, Parma HS-FFA; Kascie Lynn Harris, American Falls HS FFA; Tyler J. Haskett, American Falls HS FFA; Dillon Jay Howell, Firth HS-FFA; Maleah Ann Huggins, Gooding HS-FFA; Michael Jemmett, Parma HS-FFA; Derek E. Larson, Burley High School - FFA; Anna Marie Limbaugh, Fruitland HS-FFA; Sara Nicole Malaise, Meridian HS-FFA; Melissa McCoy, Castleford HS FFA; Matthew Brent McKee, Cambridge HS-FFA; Blair S. Miller, American Falls HS FFA; Josette Heidi Nebeker, Kuna HS-FFA; Melissa Obermeyer, Emmett HS-FFA; Kylee Michelle Permann, American Falls HS FFA; Whitney S. Plant, Snake River HS-FFA; Angela Scherer, American Falls HS FFA; Steve Shively, West Jefferson HS-FFA; Katherine M. Shoemaker, New Plymouth HS-FFA; Stephinie

Faun Simons, North Gem HS-FFA; Stuart Smith, Middleton HS-FFA; Michael Thornton, Kuna HS-FFA; Misty Dawn Tucker, Filer HS-FFA; Kimberly Woodworth, American Falls HS FFA

Illinois: Brad Ash, Blue Ridge HS FFA; Brad Bauman, Nokomis HS FFA; Caleb A. Bean, Rowva HS-FFA; Lucas Benning, Vandalia Comm HS-FFA; Elisa Bentz-Thorson, Tri-Point HS-FFA; Carlee Bocker, Eastland HS-FFA; Stephanie Bogner, Midland HS FFA; Aaron David Book, Amboy



Cissna Park HS-FFA; Andrew Kabat, Nashville Comm HS-FFA; Jody Michael Kabat, Woodlawn HS-FFA; Benjamin W. Kaeb, Cissna Park HS-FFA; Meg Keyser, Cisne HS-FFA; Katie Kimble, Midland HS FFA; Brad King, Nokomis HS FFA; Kayla King, Nokomis HS FFA; Tyler Krueenegel, Vandalia Comm HS-FFA; Kyle Kuestler, East Richland HS-Olney FFA; Emily Kuntz, Sycamore HS-FFA; Scott Lake, Carrollton HS FFA; Ashley Mason, Canton HS-FFA; Emily McCray, Cissna Park HS-FFA; Ryan McNeill, Nokomis HS FFA; Ty Meyer, Liberty HS FFA; Andrew Robert Mowen, Liberty HS FFA; Blake Nebergall, Canton HS-FFA; Gail Neukomm, Cissna Park HS-FFA; Allyson Norman, Paris HS - FFA; Monica Leigh Pell, Stillman Valley HS-FFA; Taryn Pfeiffer, Ashton-Franklin Center HS-FFA; Brad Pilcher, Paxton-Buckley-Ioda HS FFA; Daniel Pratt, Ridgeview HS-FFA; Blake Rabe, Vandalia Comm HS-FFA; Curtis Reis, Liberty HS FFA; Jared Reno, Carrollton HS FFA; Gary Rodgers, West Richland HS-FFA; Stacey Rohrscheib, Jamaica HS-FFA; Lynnea Rosendale, Southeastern HS FFA; Mike Schmidt, Waterloo HS FFA; Cassandra N. Shaner, Stark Co Unit 100 HS-FFA; Tyler Six, Bluffs HS-FFA; Alexander J. Slack, Farmington Central HS-FFA; Mark R. Smith, Serena HS FFA; Dorothy Spencer, Newton HS-FFA; Nick Stading, Sycamore HS-FFA; Katie Steenken, Stillman Valley HS-FFA; Jordan Tate, West Prairie HS-FFA; Sarah Tenczar, Midland HS FFA; Reid L. Thompson, Ridgeview HS-FFA; Jeremy Martin Vaughan, Fairfield HS-FFA; Nick Verda, Newark FFA; Joshua Wichtner, Crescent Iroquois HS FFA; Jenna Wicks, Woodland HS-FFA; Melissa Wineinger, Paris HS - FFA; Stephanie Witt, Eastland HS-FFA; John Kenneth Wyss, Central HS - Central Of Clifton FFA; David M. Yandell, Vienna HS-FFA; Adam M. Zehner, East Richland HS-Olney FFA; Reid L. Zehr, Prairie Central HS-FFA

Indiana: Tim Affolder, South Adams HS FFA; Emily Sue Ballard, North Montgomery H.s; Amber Barks, Corydon Central HS FFA; Wes Berkshire, Delphi Community HS FFA; Laura Joyce Bradford, Crothersville FFA; Elise E. Brown,

American Degree Recipients

Turkey Run HS FFA; Jessica Brown, La Ville Jr Sr HS FFA; Lanae Caster, Jay County HS FFA; Bradley E. Clayton, Wawasee HS FFA; Josh Delinger, Shenandoah HS FFA; Chris Demuth, Forest Park HS FFA; Derek Dunk, Rossville HS FFA; Eliza Eisterhold, North Posey High School - FFA; Morgan Michelle Emery, Mount Vernon HS FFA; Andrew Federer, Tri County HS FFA; Monica Gangwer, Rossville HS FFA; Jacob Goris, Rossville HS FFA; Brian Griffin, Carroll HS FFA; Chris Grimm, West Noble HS FFA; Matthew Hall, Tri County HS FFA; Timothy A. Hall, Shenandoah HS FFA; Craig Hatfield, Rushville HS FFA; Robert Hays, S Newton Jr Sr HS FFA; Richard Heater, Rossville HS FFA; Troy E. Hehman, Seymour HS FFA; Dustin Hendryx, Rossville HS FFA; Kimberly Brooke Hoening, Rushville HS FFA; Amy Hoffman, Tri County HS FFA; Joshua Alexander Holland, Milan HS FFA; Crystal Howard, Orleans HS FFA; John Isch, South Adams HS FFA; Brittany Jo Jester, Hagerstown HS FFA; James M. Kemble, John Glenn HS FFA; Joseph M. Koch, Riverton Parke HS FFA; Chad Lash, Prairie Heights FFA; Landon Lemming, Tri County HS FFA; Derek Lowery, Rossville HS FFA; Ashley Ann Macy, Rushville HS FFA; Bethann R. Marker, Union Co HS Liberty FFA; Sarah C. Marlatt, Rushville HS FFA; Tim Maxwell, Shenandoah HS FFA; Justin Ross Miller, Penn HS FFA; Micah Miller, Rossville HS FFA; Stephanie L. Miller, S Ripley Comm HS FFA; Trent Douglas Muhlenkamp, Jay County HS FFA; Valerey Muhlenkamp, Jay County HS FFA; Matt Myers, South Adams HS FFA; Kurt Nordhoff, Forest Park HS FFA; Cody Wayne Perlich, Central Noble HS FFA; Rachel Ann Pickering, Rushville HS FFA; Brad Plank, Lewis Cass HS FFA; Kyle Pullen, Lewis Cass HS FFA; Derrek Rasche, Forest Park HS FFA; Gail Marie Rawles, Central Noble HS FFA; Cathy Reeves, North Posey High School - FFA; Eric M. Scheller, Reitz HS FFA; Nathan Scherer, Bellmont HS FFA; Marissa Leigh Schwab, Tri County HS FFA; Nathan Schwartz, Forest Park HS FFA; Kyle L. Schwarzkopf, Delphi Community HS FFA; Addison Sheldon, Tri County HS FFA; Holly Nicole Shore, Greenfield HS FFA; Desiray Lynette Simmons, Carroll HS FFA; Elliot Ross Sitzman, Forest Park HS FFA; Davin Michael Spayd, Forest Park HS FFA; Keith Sprunger, South Adams HS FFA; Ryan Stahly, South Adams HS FFA; Daniel Stauffer, Southern Wells HS FFA; Jennifer Ann Steiner, Adams Central HS FFA; Alan Storer, Hagerstown HS FFA; Steven

Lee Stout, Hagerstown HS FFA; Andrew Lee Swank, Southmont Jr Sr HS FFA; Katie Sweigart, Shenandoah HS FFA; Tyler R. Tenbarge, Gibson Southern HS FFA; Brady R. Van Hook, North Montgomery H.s; Troy Walker, Clinton Central HS FFA; Clinton E. Watts, La Ville Jr Sr HS FFA; Joshua J. Webb, Hagerstown HS FFA; Rachel Lea White, Hagerstown HS FFA; Gregory L. Wilcox, North Montgomery HS

Kansas: Adam Albers, Oakley HS-FFA; KS Caleb Leslie Alexander, Garden City High School-FFA; KS Kyle Baker, Winfield HS FFA; KS Travis Black, Newton HS-FFA; KS



Jarrold M. Bowser, Holton HS FFA; KS Kimberly Bryant, Arkansas City HS FFA; KS Trey Buffington, Arkansas City HS FFA; KS Wendie Clubine, Caney HS-FFA; KS Casey Crossland, Wakeoney FFA; KS Derek deBoer, Valley Heights HS-FFA; KS Ben DeTar, Cherryvale HS-FFA; KS Trowdy Eugene Dickens, Neodesha HS FFA; KS Tiffany Leigh Ebert, Rock Creek HS FFA; KS Shaylan Dianne Ennis, Paola HS-FFA; KS Lacey George, Uniontown HS FFA; KS Jake Gleason, Mission Valley HS-FFA; KS Jared Mack Goins, Cherryvale HS-FFA; KS Robby Gray, Buhler HS FFA; KS Ashley Guenther, Ottawa FFA; KS Tim Hadachek, Hillcrest HS-FFA; KS Steven Hageberg, Centre FFA; KS Katie Hedges, Centre HS-FFA; KS Cody Joe Hill, Holton HS FFA; KS Mathew S. Hofmann, Valley Heights HS-FFA; KS Michael Holton, Tonganoxie HS-FFA; KS Ashley Marie Howell, Valley Heights HS-FFA; KS Cory Dean Kiser, Minneapolis HS-FFA; KS Jackie Klenda, Centre FFA; KS Kayla Lee, Garden City High School-FFA; KS Kelsey Lee, Garden

City High School-FFA; KS Emilie Magnus, Arkansas City HS FFA; KS Kole McCauley, Doniphan West; KS Kyle Jay McGee, Yates Center HS FFA; KS Melissa Jo McIntyre, Valley Heights HS-FFA; KS Hannah McSpadden, Spring Hill HS FFA; KS Sarah A. Nattier, Newton HS-FFA; KS Justin Parks, Arkansas City HS FFA; KS Nathan Lee Parson, Buhler HS FFA; KS Tyler Rayl, Buhler HS FFA; KS Victoria Louise Reilly, Cherryvale HS-FFA; KS Chelsea Schenherr, Newton HS-FFA; KS Brigham Stewart, Washington County HS FFA; KS Jany Strnad, Belleville HS-FFA; KS Rebecca Marie Sullivan, Spring Hill HS FFA; KS Shanna Weber, Girard HS FFA;

KS Brandon John West, Cherryvale HS-FFA; KS David B. White, Wellington HS-FFA; KS Cami Zahn, Buhler HS FFA

Kentucky: Matt Adams, Central Hardin HS FFA; Michael Tate Adams, Bath Co HS-FFA; Nicole Adams, Garrard Co HS-FFA; Randy Joel Adams, Nelson County High School- FFA; David Allen Agent, Livingston Central HS FFA; Brian W. Alexander, Logan Co HS-FFA; Roberta A. Anderson, Lincoln Co HS-FFA; Jeremy Banks, Wolfe Co HS FFA; Seth Banta, Garrard Co HS-FFA; Eric Barnett, Spencer Co HS FFA; John Bell, LaRue Co HS-FFA; Danielle Belt, Heath HS-FFA; Dustin Blankenship, Ballard Memorial HS FFA; Lee Taylor Blanton, Apollo HS-FFA; Bridgette N. Bowman, Madison Southern HS-FFA; Marcus Bradbury, Central Hardin HS FFA; Robbie Brooks, Logan Co HS-FFA; Jonathon W. Brown, Daviess Co HS-FFA; Katie Brown, Gallatin Co HS-FFA; Aaron Burns, Apollo HS-FFA; Carrie Castlen, Daviess Co HS-FFA; Andrew Clapp,



Graves Co HS-FFA; Jonathan Collett, Garrard Co HS-FFA; Justin Cooksey, Greenwood HS-FFA; Joseph Coy, LaRue Co HS-FFA; Chelsey Crewz, LaRue Co HS-FFA; Nicholas M. Crisp, Apollo HS-FFA; Casey Curlin, Fulton Co HS-FFA; Kaci Danhauer, Union Co HS FFA; Amanda Davenport, Jackson Co HS-FFA; Kelly Ann Davidson, Scott Co HS FFA; John Dockins Dawson III, Logan Co HS-FFA; Sarah Nicole DeBorde, Madison Southern HS-FFA; Michelle Decker, LaRue Co HS-FFA; Laura Whitney Donnell, Garrard Co HS-FFA; Sierra J. Enlow, LaRue Co HS-FFA; Aaron Scott Ernst, Western Hills HS FFA; Hunter Ervin, Oldham Co HS FFA; Stephen Estes, Warren East HS-FFA; Jarrod Thomas Farley, Henderson Co HS-FFA; Jaclyn Marie Farris, George Rogers Clark; Chelsey Joyce Ferrell, Bath Co HS-FFA; Samantha Joi Flannery, Jackson Co HS-FFA; Adam Daniel French, Union Co HS FFA; Wesley T. Garrett, Reidland HS-FFA; Jessica D. Gill, Caldwell Co HS FFA; Erica Morgan Goff, Pulaski Co HS-FFA; Jesse Goodall, Apollo HS-FFA; Travis Grace, Apollo HS-FFA; Kevin Scott Graham, Wolfe Co HS FFA; Carilynn Noelle Pierce Gravatte, Graves Co HS-FFA; Kameron Renae Grey, Central Hardin HS FFA; Brittany Gusler, LaRue Co HS-FFA; Alex Hudson Hagan, Nelson County High School- FFA; Luke Halcomb, Pulaski Co HS-FFA; Kara Haley, Logan Co HS-FFA; Alan Keith Hall, Livingston Central HS FFA; Nicholas Thomas Hardesty, Meade Co HS-FFA; Emily Kathryn Harned, Reidland HS-FFA; John Caleb Hester, Henderson Co HS-FFA; Margaret Kaitlin Hester, Henderson Co HS-FFA; Noel Hobbs, Meade Co HS-FFA; Amanda Holaday, Spencer Co HS FFA; Kaitlyn Hopkins, George Rogers Clark; Samuel Hornback, LaRue Co HS-FFA; Eric G. Howard, Mc Lean Co HS-FFA; Sara Hughes, Logan Co HS-FFA; Jacob Hulker, Western Hills HS FFA; Jesse Hunt, Ballard Memorial HS FFA; Trenton D. Jackson, Henderson Co HS-FFA; Kane F. Johnston, Scott Co HS FFA; Chris M. Kassinger, Apollo HS-FFA; Susan Kuegel, Apollo HS-FFA; Joni Beth Lattus, Fulton Co HS-FFA; Bryan Leachman, Apollo HS-FFA; Mackenzie Rochelle LeGrand, Gallatin Co HS-FFA; Emily Paige London, Barren Co

American Degree Recipients

HS-FFA; Brian Lovins, Wolfe Co HS FFA; Samantha Lyons, Henry Co HS-FFA; Michael Madden, Madison Southern HS-FFA; David K. Maloney, Wolfe Co HS FFA; Michael Mann, Pendelton Co HS-FFA; Anthony E. Mason II, Madison Southern HS-FFA; Steven McGhee, Todd Co Central HS-FFA; Ashley Renae McWaters, LaRue Co HS-FFA; Cody Mercer, Muhlenberg North HS FFA; Jered L. Miller, Pendelton Co HS-FFA; Todd Miller, Pulaski Co HS-FFA; Margaret Ellen Mitchell, Henderson Co HS-FFA; Taylor Mohon, Logan Co HS-FFA; Josh Montgomery, Jackson Co HS-FFA; Ashley Moore, Barren Co HS-FFA; Kelly Jean O'Connor, Gallatin Co HS-FFA; Candice Orm, Spencer Co HS FFA; Trevor E. Pack, Meade Co HS-FFA; Tyler Jack Papineau, Crittenden Co HS FFA; Holli Patton, East Carter HS-FFA; Lisa C. Paulsen, Daviess Co HS-FFA; Cody Pedigo, Logan Co HS-FFA; Kendra Pierce, Central Hardin HS FFA; Mitchell Potter, Warren Central HS FFA; Kristin Brey Powell, Fulton Co HS-FFA; Lindsay Jay Price, Casey County FFA; John Puckett, Graves Co HS-FFA; Tyler Ratliff, Western Hills HS FFA; Justin Matthew Ray, Graves Co HS-FFA; James A. Rhodes, Breckinridge Co HS-FFA; Barry Rice, Garrard Co HS-FFA; Kendall Rice, Fulton Co HS-FFA; Ryan Riffe, East Carter HS-FFA; Elizabeth Alice Riley, Christian Co HS FFA; Maria Ripley, Apollo HS-FFA; Magen Jo-Dawn Roberts, Caldwell Co HS FFA; Travis Gene Robinson, Fleming Co HS FFA; Kristan Shaw, Henry Co HS-FFA; George Dennis Shea, Lincoln Co HS-FFA; Anthony Shelley, Fleming Co HS FFA; Bryan Shepherd, Wolfe Co HS FFA; Carrie Simmons, Apollo HS-FFA; Jessica D. Smith, Crittenden Co HS FFA; Dusty Spillman, Fulton Co HS-FFA; Kelli Renee Stamm, Lewis Co HS-FFA; Eric Stogner, Daviess Co HS-FFA; Brittany Lynn Struck, LaRue Co HS-FFA; Erica Nadia Taylor, Johnson Central HS - FFA; Joshua V. Taylor, Pendelton Co HS-FFA; Amanda Thomas, Central Hardin HS FFA; Traci Thomas, Logan Co HS-FFA; Christopher M. Thompson, Pendelton Co HS-FFA; Carrie Ann Tilghman, Barren Co HS-FFA; Jonathan A. Tubbs, Western Ky Univ Collegiate FFA; Jacob Vanover, Mc Lean Co HS-FFA; Bradley Vice, Fleming Co HS FFA; William James Wallace, Western Hills HS FFA; Lore D. Ware, Casey County FFA; Katie Warren, Apollo HS-FFA; Cory Warren, Apollo HS-FFA; Joshua Len Wheatley, Washington Co HS-FFA; Stephen Jacob Whitaker, Jackson Co

HS-FFA; Janie T. Williams, Central Hardin HS FFA; Justin Wilson, Owsley Co HS FFA; Kelli Fay Woodward, Logan Co HS-FFA; Jordan Neal Wooldridge, Logan Co HS-FFA; Aaron R. Woosley, Mc Lean Co HS-FFA; Rachel Elizabeth Worthington, Apollo HS-FFA; Noah Wright, Pendelton Co HS-FFA; James William Wynn, Caldwell Co HS FFA

Louisiana: William Ard, Bogalusa Sr HS FFA; Heidi Beard, N Central HS FFA; Cecilia Bell, Ebarb HS FFA; Joshua Dahlem, Florien HS FFA; David Hesser, Pleasant Hill HS FFA; Cade LeJeune, Midland HS FFA

Massachusetts: Desiree Choquette, Bristol Co Agri HS FFA; Josh van Schouwen, Norfolk Co Ag Sch FFA

Maryland: Cole J. Bishop, Caroline Co Career Tech R Ff; Kimberly Fogle, Walkersville HS FFA; Derek M. Hanes, Clear Spring HS FFA; Jolene Ruth McKenzie, Francis Scott Key HS FFA; Brittany Ann Ramsburg, Walkersville HS FFA; Amy T. Ridinger, Francis Scott Key HS FFA; Wesley Alan Sharp, Easton HS FFA; Maria S. Stevens, Walkersville HS FFA; Jessica Renee Tressler, Walkersville HS FFA; Jayme Zimmerman, Walkersville HS FFA

Michigan: Michelle Rae Andrus, Grant HS FFA; Joel Arends, Ravenna HS FFA; Sara J. Arends, Ravenna HS FFA; Trevor Balgavy, Breckenridge HS FFA; Vanessa Beach, Corunna HS FFA; Elizabeth M. Beechnau, Ravenna HS FFA; Katie Beekel, Sand Creek HS FFA; Kyle A. Brant, Corunna HS FFA; Sara Brocklehurst, Charlotte HS FFA; Nicole Cantrell, Maple Valley HS FFA; Jamie J. Carnes, Benzie Central HS FFA; Lisa Cole, Durand HS FFA; Stacy Jeanette Conely, Byron HS FFA; Michelle Dawes, Saranac HS FFA; Kenneth Leo Deschepper, Byron HS FFA; Sara A. DeVuyst, Breckenridge HS FFA; Kellie J. Dicken, Ithaca HS FFA; Brittany Layne Duford, Benzie Central HS FFA; Kelly Foote, Lowell HS FFA; Mitchell Freeman, Durand HS FFA; Jeff Fromm, Corunna HS FFA; Ryan Gilmore, Homer FFA; Marc Hasenick, Springport HS FFA; Cally McMillen Hass, Cassopolis Ross Beatty HS FFA; Richard Brion Hawkins III, Caledonia HS FFA; John Keaton Haycook, Saint Louis HS FFA; Kevin Brian Henske, Perry HS FFA; Nathan Hofferbert, Ovid Elsie HS FFA; Gabriel B. Holdwick, Harbor Beach HS FFA; Andy Hruby, Fremont HS FFA; Cassandra Hunt, Ovid Elsie HS FFA; Neil Arthur

Kline, Bronson HS FFA; Anthony Carl Klingler, Bronson HS FFA; John Krhovsky, Corunna HS FFA; Katelyn LaTendresse, Chippewa Hills HS FFA; Nathan Scott Lippert, Bronson HS FFA; Nathan Little, Perry HS FFA; Michelle Maier, Byron HS FFA; Jessica A. Marion, Caledonia HS FFA; David W. McCalla, Milan HS FFA; Katie Leigh McClintic, Breckenridge HS FFA; Ashley R. Messing, Uby HS FFA; Charles Miller, Hopkins HS FFA; Jeffrey Arved Nelson, Montague HS FFA; Lance Nethaway, Ovid Elsie HS FFA; Jessica Newell, Saranac HS FFA; Ashley Nicole Orlowski, Saranac HS FFA; Chad Patterson, Ravenna HS FFA; Kristine R. Patterson, Ravenna HS FFA; Jason Perkins, Corunna HS FFA; Jordan Pincik, Corunna HS FFA; Deborah Poet, Saline HS FFA; Adam Timothy Prine, Springport HS FFA; Carrie A. Putnam, Byron HS FFA; Lacey Rasey, Maple Valley HS FFA; Henry Reinart, Hopkins HS FFA; Grant Riley, Corunna HS FFA; Landon Ritchie, Corunna HS FFA; Matthew J. Ross, Saint Louis HS FFA; Samantha Renee' Ross, Saint Louis HS FFA; Sara Christine Sattler, Bronson HS FFA; Nicole Schaendorf, Hopkins HS FFA; Katherine Serne, Lowell HS FFA; Victoria Lynn Sikorski, Bronson HS FFA; Haley Anne Smith, Bronson HS FFA; Jason S. Smith, Laker HS FFA; Bart Stoneman, Breckenridge HS FFA; Ronald J. Studer Jr., Perry HS FFA; Danielle Swafford, Homer FFA; Tyler F. Thaler, Perry HS FFA; Julie Thelen, Saline HS FFA; Anna Elizabeth Timmerman, Coopersville HS FFA; Stephen W. Uhl, Dundee HS FFA; Samantha Emily Unger, Byron HS FFA; Cole VandyBogurt, Branch Area Career R FFA; Johnny Verhaar, Laker HS FFA; Marie Elizabeth Wade, Lowell HS FFA; Catherine Ward, Lowell HS FFA; Kaitlyn Wellman, Hopkins HS FFA; Rachelle Marie Wernet, Lowell HS FFA; Katherine A. Wheeler, Ravenna HS FFA; Michelle Wolf, Lowell HS FFA

Minnesota: Heidi Allen, St. Charles HS FFA; Abby Bartels, New Ulm HS FFA; Lynsey Jean Bengtson, New London-Spicer HS FFA; Nikki Fasching, Medford HS FFA; Brady Bjornson, Hawley HS FFA; Virginia Lee Carrlson, New York Mills HS FFA; Sheila Dombeck, Perham HS FFA; Deb Dow, Wabasso HS FFA; Joseph Duden, Plainview/Elgin-Millville FFA; Joshua Duenow, Fergus Falls HS FFA; Keith Fasching, Howard Lake-Waverly-winsted HS FFA; Robert Wesley Franks, Perham HS FFA; Chris Allen Froehlich, Ag & Food Sci Academy FFA; Ben J.



Goemann, United South Central HS FFA; Keith Goetze, Chaska HS FFA; Becky Goodwin, Chaska HS FFA; Nathan Edward Gorentz, Perham HS FFA; Kyle Gustafson, Madelia HS FFA; Anthony Hanson, Belgrade Brooten Elrosa HS; Danielle M. Harris, Stewartville HS FFA; Allison Marie Heimerman, Medford HS FFA; Krystle A. Heise, United South Central HS FFA; Kari Hendrickx, New York Mills HS FFA; Bart Jacob Hoven, Zumbrota Mazeppa HS FFA; Eric William Januszewski, Pelican Rapids HS FFA; Heidi Joyce Johnson, New London-Spicer HS FFA; Londa Johnson, Winona HS FFA; Courtney Ann Kieffer, St. Charles HS FFA; Kyle Koeberl, BuFFALO Lk Hector Ffa; Cody Koebke, Spring Valley-Wyckoff FFA; Jon Kramer, BuFFALO Lk Hector Ffa; Jacquelyn M. Larson, Owatonna HS FFA; Vincent G. Maertens, Wabasso HS FFA; Ann Miron, Forest Lake HS FFA; Daniel Murray, Blue Earth Area Schools FFA; Lucas James Niehaus, Perham HS FFA; Elyse Oeltjenbruns, Zumbrota Mazeppa HS FFA; Howard Edwin Otte, Randolph Publ Sch FFA; Vanessa Aleecce Pooch, Minnewaska Area HS FFA; Amanda Joelle Rasmussen, Fergus Falls HS FFA; Bailey Rettmann, BuFFALO Lk Hector Ffa; David Schiller, Tracy Area FFA; Brandon Schwab, Thief River Falls HS FFA; Jeremie C. Seedorf, United South Central HS FFA; Staci A. Sexton, Plainview/Elgin-Millville FFA; Lucas Sjostrom, Gfw Pioneer Express FFA; Brian Stresemann, Westbroo-Walnut Grove FFA; Nicole M. Svenby, Medford HS FFA; Gordon Tesmer, Fillmore Central School FFA; Jordana Thompson, Hayfield HS FFA; Mark Thompson, Fergus Falls HS FFA; Nicole Lynn Wadsworth, New London-Spicer HS FFA; Amanda D. Watersraat, Medford HS FFA; Samuel Robert Westby, Pelican Rapids HS FFA; Lauren Alicia Willette, Blue Earth Area Schools FFA; Matt Wold, Thief River Falls HS FFA

Missouri: Maggie Alden, Hamilton FFA; Brice Alexander, Pleasant Hope FFA; Jeromie W. Allen, Stewartville HS-FFA; Kendra J. Allen, Centralia FFA; Anthony William Amos, Russellville FFA; Tyler Anderson, Hamilton FFA; Levi Argall, Stockton FFA; Amanda Marie Arwood, Seneca FFA; Sarah

American Degree Recipients

Elizabeth Asbury, Mark Twain FFA; Becky Bachmann, Perryville Area Career R FFA; James Bailey, Richland FFA; Steven Bailey, Bowling Green FFA; Lauren Baker, Stanberry FFA; Kayla Baldwin, Miller HS FFA; Brandon N. Banner, Eldon HS FFA; Tyler T. Bargfrede, Santa Fe R10 High School FFA; Briant J. Barker, Cass Career Center FFA; Tyler Barnes, Columbia FFA; Rachel A. Bartholomew, Archie FFA; Jessica Kaylene Bartz, Appleton City FFA; Kayla Bastin, Carthage FFA; Lindsay M. Baxley, Salisburys FFA; Stephen Beck, Chillicothe FFA; Craig Matthew Becker, Audrain Co. R-Vi FFA; Kendra M. Beggs, South Nodaway; Mason E. Bell, Lafayette Co C-1 HS-higginsville FFA; Destiny Belz, Richmond FFA; Christopher Bennett, Princeton FFA; Jay Bennett, Cass Career Center FFA; Jocelyn Bernard, Sweet Springs R-7 FFA; Chad A. Bigham, Wheaton FFA; Steven A. Birke, Union FFA; Heather Nicole Bixenman, Salisburys FFA; Kayla Dawn Black, Glasgow FFA; Ryan Madison Blankenship, Hardin Central FFA; Dara Lynn Boardman, Eldon HS FFA; Jami Boessen, Eugene FFA; Matthew Bollinger, Jackson FFA; Jason Bolte, Bowling Green FFA; Melissa Bonnow, Pierce City FFA; Sarah Borgmann-Conner, Owensville FFA; Abe Boudreau, Clark Co. R-1 FFA; Devon R. Bowne, Centralia FFA; Alan Brandt, Concordia FFA; Ellie Braungardt, Troy FFA; Billy Bray, Maysville R-1 FFA; Kristy Breid, Paris FFA; Amber Brewes, Warrenton FFA; Charles Aaron Bridgeman, Maysville R-1 FFA; Mindy Briscoe, Moberly FFA; James Brown, Miller HS FFA; Lachelle L. Brown, Dadeville HS FFA; Larissa Bryant, Seneca FFA; Brian Buford, Clark Co. R-1 FFA; Angie C. Bulen, Scotland Co R-1 HS Memphis FFA; Jamie L. Burch, Butler FFA; Cameron W. Burns, Ashland FFA Chapter; Ashley Bussey, Neosho R-V HS FFA; Jen Caddell, Pierce City FFA; Matthew Carpenter, Jasper FFA; Whitney Morgan Carpenter, Braymer FFA; Chad Carroll, South Shelby FFA; Joshua Cawthon, Polo FFA; Chad Claypole, Hamilton FFA; Brian Clopton, Fair Grove FFA; Rachel Kyleen Coffelt, Branson FFA; Derek Cole, Maysville R-1 FFA; Michael Coleman, Carl Junction FFA; Edward Elton Cope, Montgomery Co R-2 FFA; Matthew Cope, Galena FFA; Brad Cottrill, Albany FFA; Melissa Cox, North Central Career Center; Kelsey M. Craig, Smithville FFA; Stacy Lynn Craighead, Fulton FFA; Shale Clayton Curtis, Clopton FFA; Josh Cutler, Morrisville FFA; Shamaine

Danner, Richmond FFA; Cody Danuser, Clopton FFA; Brittany Davenport, Macks Creek FFA; Ryan Thomas Davenport, Cameron FFA; Spenser Davis, Osceola FFA; Brian M. Deeken, Linn FFA; Gabriel DeShon, Maysville R-1 FFA; Betty Leora DeWitt, Macon Avts FFA; Diedra Janelle Dieckman, Cole Camp FFA; Zachary Diederich, Ashland FFA Chapter; Kendra Divine, Exeter FFA; Katherine Lee Dockery, Clopton FFA; Jason Dodd, South Shelby FFA; Chris Dudenhoefler, Linn FFA; Dustin Duncan, Licking FFA; Ashley Diane Dunkle, Lexington HS - Lex La Ray FFA; Megan M. Dunkle, Lexington HS - Lex La Ray FFA; Julie Ebbesmeyer, Warrenton FFA; Tyler Eckhoff, Windsor HS FFA; Kyle Eckler, North Shelby FFA; Andrew Edgar, Licking FFA; Leah Ruth Edmondson, Owensville FFA; Sean Edwards, Fair Grove FFA; Suzannah Ehlers, Eldorado Springs FFA; Elizabeth Eiberger, King City FFA; Kyle Eitel, Hamilton FFA; Adam L. Elliott, Pleasant Hill FFA; Connor M. Elliott, Stewartsville HS-FFA; Justin L. Ellis, Maysville R-1 FFA; Travis Ellis, Maysville R-1 FFA; Mark Nathaniel Engemann, Hermann FFA; Kristi Lynne Erisman, Centralia FFA; Donny Estes, Miller HS FFA; Steve Farris, Richmond FFA; Patrice Fast, Mountain Grove Avts FFA; Rebecca Feezor, California FFA; Cheryl Ficken, Green Ridge FFA; Jessica Fifer, Gallatin R-V High School-FFA; Justin Cole Findley, North Central Career Center; Luella Lynn Fischer, Montgomery Co R-2 FFA; Bethany Flenniken, Jasper FFA; Kaycey Fletcher, Marionville FFA; Erin R. Forkner, Nevada Reg Tech R FFA; Donald E. Fowler, Van-Far FFA; Jayson Fowler, Tipton FFA; Tyler Fox, Ozark FFA; Jeffrey Michael Fries, Meadville FFA; Hannah Frost, Columbia FFA; Brittany Lynn Garrett, Ashland FFA Chapter; Mandi Gass, Lockwood R-1 FFA; Gabrielle Denice Gates, Chillicothe FFA; Anne Gerlt, Tipton FFA; Megan Germann, Carrollton Area Career Center; Brandon Gettle, Pleasant Hope FFA; Michael Gifford, Lakeland FFA; Laura Elizabeth Gilbert, Montgomery Co R-2 FFA; John Gill, Lexington HS - Lex La Ray FFA; Brandon Graham, Licking FFA; Dylan Grant, Hamilton FFA; Danielle L. Graupman, Palmyra FFA; Rachel E. Graves, Marion County R-11 HS FFA; Amanda L. Gray, Owensville FFA; Bobbie Jo L. Gray, Hermann FFA; Chad Gray, Neosho R-V HS FFA; Nacaela Greeley, North Nodaway FFA; Nicole Greene, Jasper FFA; Macy Greer, Willard FFA; Bridgette Gregory, Clopton

FFA; Brandon Griffith, Madison FFA; Abby Grimmitt, Paris FFA; Jessica Grosz, Cass Career Center FFA; Barbara Guffey, West Plains FFA; Rachel Hamlett, Ashland FFA Chapter; Stephen Hamm, Richmond FFA; Anna Harrell, Clopton FFA; Rachel Harris, West Plains FFA; Trey Harris, Neosho R-V HS FFA; Ashley Havelka, Owensville FFA; Lindsey Marie Haverstick, Centralia FFA; Zachary David Hayden, Versailles FFA; Kayla Jo Head, West Plains FFA; Justin D. Headrick, Salem FFA; Hanna Henley, Eugene FFA; Pam Hickman, Stockton FFA; Leasa Hicks, Tarkio FFA; Lindsey Hicks, Tarkio FFA; Katie Hill, Bowling Green FFA; Bradley Eugene Hines, Putnam Co. FFA; Whitney L. Hinkle, Brunaugh FFA; Whitney Hinnah, Slater HS FFA; Joseph L. Hirner, Marion County R-11 HS FFA; Kevin Holt, Hamilton FFA; Justin Hopkins, Willard FFA; Tara L. Hopkins, Fair Play FFA; Wendy Howell, Polo FFA; Bethany Ann Hoyt, Van-Far FFA; Andrew P. Hulet, Pattonsburg FFA; Katelyn Hulet, Pattonsburg FFA; Jessica Humes, Scotland Co R-1 HS Memphis FFA; Bradley M. Hummel, Van-Far FFA; Amy Michelle Humphries, Holden FFA; Jordan Hunter, Fair Grove FFA; Addison K. Hunziker, Knox Co FFA; Dallas Hurst, Tarkio FFA; Tyler Huston, Jamesport FFA; Danielle M. Hyde, St. Clair FFA; Shannon Paul Imler, Eldon HS FFA; Kendra Jackson, Sarcoxie R-II HS; Natalie Kay Jarboe, Meadville FFA; Anne Jaspering, Warrenton FFA; Bradley Jones, Chillicothe FFA; Bryant Kagay, Maysville R-1 FFA; Rachael Nichole Keathley, Wellsville-Middletown FFA; Adam Keene, Warrenton FFA; Pazia Kennedy, Aurora FFA; Jacqueline L. Kephart, Holden FFA; Jason Lee Ketchum, Scotland Co R-1 HS Memphis FFA; Jeff Kicker, Stockton FFA; Lauren Jeanne Killbane, Holden FFA; Gina Kloepfel, Richland FFA; Amy Korff, Sarcoxie R-II HS; Kelin Kruse, East Newton FFA; Brittni Lacey, East Newton FFA; Allison L. Lamb, Smithville FFA; Todd Lane, Richland FFA; Christopher Allen Lanz, Liberal R-II HS FFA; Ashley Law, Sarcoxie R-II HS; Mariah Lea Lawrence, West Plains FFA; Cody Alan Lee, Pleasant Hill FFA; Scott Leimkuehler, Slater HS FFA; Rebecca Lewis, Sarcoxie R-II HS; Mary Beth Leykamp, Centralia FFA; Stuart Lombard, Wheaton FFA; Ryan Luke, Stanberry FFA; Aaron Maberry, Tina-Avalon FFA; Adam Magruder, Clopton FFA; Michael J. Manson, Brunswick FFA; Josh Margruder, Clopton FFA; Lance Martin, South Shelby FFA; Whitney

Mason, Pattonsburg FFA; Allie Massa, Liberal R-II HS FFA; Tyler McBee, Lathrop FFA; Dustin Lee McCann, Charleston-Danforth FFA; Amy McCormack, Putnam Co. FFA; Sean McCrory, Clopton FFA; Kaylee McElroy, Pleasant Hope FFA; DeWayne S. McIntyre, North Nodaway FFA; Joseph C. McNary, Jasper FFA; Morgan Mears, Stockton FFA; Craig E. Meissen, Salisburys FFA; Sarah Renae Meissen, North Central Career Center; Caitlyn Melton, Couch FFA; Derek P. Miesner, Perryville Area Career R FFA; Jesse Miller, Princeton FFA; Maisie Sue Moore, Osceola FFA; Michelle Moore, Princeton FFA; Katie Ann Morfeld, Linn FFA; Brandi Marie Morlan, Eldorado Springs FFA; Keri Dawn Mueller, Eldon HS FFA; Brittany Mullis, Union FFA; Jeremiah Mullock, Worth Co FFA; Aaron N. Naeger, Ste Genevieve FFA; Brett Lynn Naylor, BuFFALO FFA; Letitia Nibarger, Chillicothe FFA; Alexis Nichols, Sarcoxie R-II HS; Jeremy Lynn Nickels, Versailles FFA; Erin Niederjohn, Santa Fe R10 High School FFA; Gregory Nielson, South Nodaway; Joshua L. Niemeyer, Knox Co FFA; Jessica Nivens, Miller HS FFA; Shane Ogle, Richland FFA; Michaela Jobeth Orear, Santa Fe R10 High School FFA; Eric Osner, Lakeland FFA; Lila Ozley, Miller HS FFA; Jeremy Papenfuhs, Stockton FFA; Megan Lacey Parker, Ashland FFA Chapter; Amanda Parrack, Macks Creek FFA; Wesley Parsons, Princeton FFA; Tiffany Peavey, Macks Creek FFA; Shane Pendleton, Cass Career Center FFA; Alex Peterson, Grundy Co R-V FFA; Marcus J. Petree, Tipton FFA; Kymalee Alyse Pieper, Richmond FFA; Gus Plumb, Sarcoxie R-II HS; Jarred Pollard, Warrenton FFA; Andrea Kay Pruett, Rolla Avts FFA; Hattie Rains, Gallatin R-V High School-FFA; Kylie Jo Ralston, Sarcoxie R-II HS; Christopher Ramsey, Licking FFA; Chris Rapp, Rich Hill FFA; Tyler J. Rapp, Rich Hill FFA; Julianna Marie Rathbun, Lewis County C-1 FFA; Whitney Ray, Gallatin R-V High School-FFA; Eric Redden, Stanberry FFA; Bryana L. Redding, Clark Co. R-1 FFA; Mary Beth Reid, Chillicothe FFA; Alex Reigelsberger, Brunswick FFA; Patrick Reuther, Clopton FFA; Tyler Ricks, Clopton FFA; Dustin Roach, Scotland Co R-1 HS



American Degree Recipients

Memphis FFA; Dustin A. Roberts, Alton FFA; J. Daniel Robertson, Columbia FFA; Davey Robinson, Clopton FFA; Nichole Rodrock, Galena FFA; Seth Roof, Boonville FFA; Emmalee Roth, Madison FFA; Chris Rowe, Miller HS FFA; Matthew Rowe, East Newton FFA; Delhi Marie Valentine Rowland, Putnam Co. FFA; Thaddaios S. Royle, Carl Junction FFA; Sheila Marie Rustemeyer, Nichols Career R FFA; Abby Sallee, Chillicothe FFA; Jamie Nicole Sandner, Macon Avts FFA; Reanna Santillan, Richmond FFA; Christopher Saunders, South Shelby FFA; John Jacob Schad, Eldon HS FFA; Adam Schaffner, Columbia FFA; Nathan G. E. Scheiderer, Salisbury FFA; Breanna Schelp, Sweet Springs R-7 FFA; David Schmidt, Glasgow FFA; Patrick Schneider, Warrenton FFA; Rebecca Schneider, Owensville FFA; Derek Schuchmann, Brunswick FFA; Jessica Lynn Schuknecht, State Fair Ctc; Curtis Seabolt, Cameron FFA; Joshua Shaw, Bronaugh FFA; Julie Frances Shaw, Scotland Co R-I HS Memphis FFA; Darrell Shepard, Knox Co FFA; Anthony D. Shiflett, Fayette FFA; Kevin Shively, North Shelby FFA; Melissa Fay Shouse, Greenfield FFA; Julia Leanne Shuck, Mark Twain FFA; Jeremy Dale Sisco, Ozark FFA; Cody H. Sloan, Cameron FFA; Renee Smith, Galena FFA; Debra Jean Snider, Princeton FFA; Chase Sommer, Madison FFA; Ashley Spears, Mcdonald Co. FFA; Jonathon Logan Spradling, Van-Far FFA; Josh Steffens, Lexington HS - Lex La Ray FFA; Shanda Stockton, King City FFA; Jillian F. Stoll, Stanberry FFA; Becky Summers, Chillicothe FFA; Doug Suntrup, St. Clair FFA; Jason Ray Swanstone, North Platte HS FFA; Megan Switzer, Brunswick FFA; Nia Marie Tate, Ashland FFA Chapter; Wade Tenholder, Adrian FFA; Laci Thogmartin, Neosho R-V HS FFA; Jared Thomas, Madison FFA; Meridith Alissa Thornton, Sweet Springs R-7 FFA; Gina Thurmon, Clopton FFA; Andrew Tieman, Santa Fe RIO High School FFA; John David Tiller, Walnut Grove HS FFA; Jennifer R. Timmerberg, North Callaway FFA; Jason Timmerman, Halfway R-11 HS FFA; Jessica M. Toombs, East Buchanan FFA; Ashley Tracy, Clopton FFA; Chelsea Gail Triplett, Putnam Co. FFA; Kara Lynn True, Charleston-Danforth FFA; Emily Tubaugh, Jasper FFA; Ashley Turner, Rolla Avts FFA; Darin James Underhill, Monroe City R-1 FFA; Blaire Shannon Vandiver, Richmond FFA; Christina Vassholz, Scotland Co R-I HS Memphis FFA; Suzanne M. Voelker, Perryville Area

Career R FFA; Mindy Vukadin, Fayette FFA; David Michael Warren, Cass Career Center FFA; Travis Wayne Waters, Van-Far FFA; Tyler Way, Chillicothe FFA; Brian Webster, Richland FFA; Ryan Weekley, Boonville FFA; Katy J. Weidner, Tina-Avalon FFA; Cassie M. Weitkamp, Lexington HS - Lex La Ray FFA; Paul R. Wells, Salem FFA; Julie White, Crest Ridge FFA; Grant Wilburn, Archie FFA; Amanda L. Willard, Princeton FFA; Jill Willingham, Mark Twain FFA; Gwen Wilson, Pleasant Hope FFA; Kim Wilson, Neosho R-V HS FFA; Megan LeeAnn Wilson, Macks Creek FFA; Michael Wilson, Richland FFA; Brett M. Winter, Sweet Springs R-7 FFA; Lanese Witt-Schulte, Pierce City FFA; Zachary James Wolf, Verona FFA; Cory Wood, Maysville R-1 FFA; Lacy J. Woods, Holden FFA; Jacob Woolston, Brunswick FFA; Colista Kay Wormington, Monett Avts FFA; Chelsea Renee Wren, Ashland FFA Chapter; Aaron Yarber, Couch FFA; Derek L. Zerr, North Callaway FFA; Jessica Zurn, Richmond FFA

Mississippi: Zachariah Borthwick, Independence HS FFA; John M. Burt, Brooklyn; Jason Lee Camp, Bruce HS FFA; Denise Davis, Brooklyn; Zachary J. Downs, Brooklyn; Zachary Frederick, Red Bay HS FFA; Matthew Steven Humphries, Sumrall HS FFA; Jarod Kane, West Lauderdale FFA; Ryan Morris, Brooklyn; Anna Palmer, Pine Grove HS FFA; Corey Rigdon, West Lauderdale FFA; Megan Lin Rutland, Mize Attendance R FFA; D.J. Stuckey, Lawrence County; Megan Roxann Lynn Tucker, Brooklyn; Glenda Carla Williamson, Lawrence County

Montana: Trent Berg, Judith Gap HS FFA; Perrie Dawn Crampton, Beaverhead Co HS Beaverhead Ff; Nikole Disney, Stevensville HS FFA; Molly Fisher, Flathead HS FFA; Travis Grice, Huntley Project HS Huntly Projc; Clay Gruber, Joliet HS FFA; William Hampton, Beaverhead Co HS Beaverhead Ff; Jessica Hudson, Stevensville HS FFA; Jennie Huffman, Plentywood HS FFA; Amanda Lee Jacobs, Shepherd HS FFA; Brooke Elaine Johns, Conrad HS FFA; Ashley Rose Johnson, Plentywood HS FFA; Jessica Kirschten, Baker HS FFA; Lesley Kirschten, Baker HS FFA; Sylvan Royce LaCross, Red Lodge HS FFA; Jared LeVeque, Cascade HS FFA; Melissa M. Mack, Big Timber FFA; Alicia D. Mader, Powder River HS Broadus FFA; Kale Martin, Conrad HS FFA; Kaleigh A. Mikkelsen, Hobson FFA;

Justin Mohr, Park City HS FFA; Megan A. Murnin, Miles City FFA; Miles Passmore, Flathead HS FFA; Charles David Petranek, Roy HS FFA; Kelsi Rosalie Plaggemeyer, Big Timber FFA; Benjamin Daniel Posey, Red Lodge HS FFA; Sara A. Schledewitz, Bainville HS FFA; Torey Schledewitz, Bainville HS FFA; Jonathan L. Sheehy, Big Sandy HS FFA; Tymbre R. Stender, Ruby Valley FFA; Justin Sunderlin, Beaverhead Co HS Beaverhead Ff; Kaci Camille Tefre, Plentywood HS FFA; Joseph M. Teter, Huntley Project HS Huntly Projc; Eli Turnbough, Powder River HS Broadus FFA; Evan N. Volf, Judith Gap HS FFA; Spurr T. Watson, Huntley Project HS Huntly Projc

North Carolina: Everette Allen Atkinson, Lumberton Sr HS FFA; Anthony D. Baker, North Lenoir HS FFA; Stephenie Barnhardt, West Rowan HS FFA; Ronald Wilton Baxley, Fairmont HS FFA; Barry Christopher Bell, Currituck HS FFA; Taylor Best, Spring Creek HS FFA; Angela Bishop, South Granville HS FFA; Jenna Bunton, Alexander Central HS FFA; Otto Ernest Buttke, Randleman HS; Trathan Cheek, Ashe Co High School; Charity Cox, Eastern Randolph HS FFA; Benjamin E. Fortune, Charles D Owen HS FFA; Yolanda Frank, Randleman HS; Kerri Beth Frazier, Randleman HS; Kelly Diane Gaines, Randleman HS; Brian Gordon, West Brunswick HS-FFA; Katrina Lynn Heinbach, Sun Valley HS FFA; Garland Hicks, South Granville HS FFA; Whitney Marlena Hill, West Columbus FFA; Kevin A. Howell, Lumberton Sr HS FFA; Joshua Mac Johnson, North Iredell HS FFA; Matthew T. Jones, Lumberton Sr HS FFA; Kyle Jared Keating, Lumberton Sr HS FFA; Mitchell Graham Kohonen, Spring Creek HS FFA; Samuel J. Kornegay, North Lenoir HS FFA; Andrew Krodell, Weddington High School FFA; Daniel Kelly Locklear, Purnell Swett HS FFA; Russell Brandon McPherson, West Columbus FFA; Mitchell Miller, Lumberton Sr HS FFA; Crystal Mitchell, Alexander Central HS FFA; Jessica Elizabeth Nixon, John A. Holmes HS-Chowan FFA; Jessica Lynne Oliver, Lumberton Sr HS FFA; Aubrey Overcash, West Rowan HS FFA; Dustin James Ritter, Eastern Randolph HS FFA; Crystal Ann Roberts, North Buncombe HS FFA; Kari Elizabeth Sanderson, Southern Wayne HS FFA; Matthew Howard Sanderson, Southern Wayne HS FFA; Brandon Tyler Smith, Eastern Randolph HS FFA; Terry Andrew Strickland, Southern Nash HS FFA; Matt Swaim, Eastern Randolph HS

FFA; Andrew Tomberlin, Piedmont HS FFA; Stephan Tyson, Southern Nash HS FFA; Holly Elizabeth Wall, Randleman HS; David Whitfield Jr., Spring Creek HS FFA; Candace Rose Wilkins, Lumberton Sr HS FFA; Andrea Wilkinson, Lumberton Sr HS FFA

North Dakota: Daniel Timothy Aichele, Beulah High School FFA; Michael K. Anderson, Richland 44 FFA; Laiken Kae Aune, Bainville HS FFA; Dereck Beckley, Carrington HS FFA; AJ Blohm, Beulah High School FFA; Bryan M. Burkhartsmeier, Rugby HS FFA; Joseph Henry Busch Jr., Wyndmere HS FFA; Jake Dykema, Wahpeton HS FFA; Austin Emerson, Minot HS FFA; Casey Formanek, Wahpeton HS FFA; Lynsey Frey, Granville FFA; Brad Fritel, Rugby HS FFA; Kevin Hagen, Scranton HS FFA; Heidi Jo Hansen, Des Lacs Burlington HS; Christopher Hoepfner, Beulah High School FFA; Tawnya Iglehart, Garrison HS - FFA; Arlen Lee Jacobson, Watford City HS FFA; Austin Johnsrud, Watford City HS FFA; Michael Kapp, Tappen HS-FFA; Kasey Bo Koeplin, Grant County HS; Dustin Krump, Richland 44 FFA; Kenan Layden, Scranton HS FFA; Jon M. Leadbetter, Finley-Sharon FFA Chapter; Grant Loff, Richland 44 FFA; Andy Lyons, Lisbon HS FFA; Jack Nagel, Wyndmere HS FFA; Joseph Odermann, Belfield HS FFA; Daniel Olson, Medina HS FFA; Sarah M. Perry, Des Lacs Burlington HS; David Pitner, Minot HS FFA; Clara Presser, Carrington HS FFA; Christopher Rockeman, Kenmare HS FFA; Michael Schubert, Wyndmere HS FFA; Jessica Schwab, Lisbon HS FFA; Benjamin S. Seidler, Garrison HS - FFA; Erica Spangelo, Hebron HS FFA; Jason Topp, Carrington HS FFA; Lucas Vangsness, Kindred HS FFA; Neil G. Veen, Carrington HS FFA; Todd Vetter, Wahpeton HS FFA; Jacob Wagner, Beulah High School FFA; Jared Wagner, Beulah High School FFA; Evelyn Woodall, Granville FFA; Thomas Woodbury, Richland 44 FFA

Nebraska: Patrick D. Ackerman, Holdrege HS FFA; Abby Eileen Andersen, Norfolk HS FFA; Jarett B. Andersen, Blair FFA Chapter; Lindsey Anderson, Centennial HS FFA; Michael Arens, Hartington HS



American Degree Recipients

FFA; Kellen J. Ballagh, Burwell HS FFA; Kristina Lee Bargen, Superior HS FFA; Steven Tyler Barnes, York HS FFA; Joseph R. Bartels, Wauneta-Palisade HS FFA; Michael D. Bartels, Franklin HS FFA; Jemi Clae Bartos, Verdigre HS FFA; Richard Bartos, Creighton HS FFA; Josh K. Beierman, Cedar Rapids HS FFA; Paige A. Bek, Medicine Valley HS - FFA; Jaci M. Benson, Central City HS FFA; Jeremiah Bertschinger, Bloomfield HS FFA; John Blecha, Gothenburg HS FFA; Cobus Block, Gothenburg HS FFA; Shane Blomendahl, Logan View HS FFA; Lianne Boggs, Verdigre HS FFA; Patricia Bohaboj, Blair FFA Chapter; Blake Bokowski, Hampton HS FFA; Brittany M. Bolte, Sutton Public Schools - FFA; Gage T. Bowder, Pender HS FFA; Brad Brester, Howells Public School; Jason Bring, Lyons-Decatur Ne FFA; Mitchel Robert Bruss, Wilber-Clatonia HS FFA; Stephanie L.C. Bryant, Cody Kilgore HS FFA; Lee Buchholz, Syracuse Dunbar-Avoca HS FFA; Alexander A. Buschow, Blue Hill HS FFA; Thomas Cameron, Lyons-Decatur Ne FFA; Channing Keri Cerny, Schuyler Central HS FFA; Bartholomew Lee Choat, Cedar Rapids HS FFA; Lynne M. Cuda, Schuyler Central HS FFA; Shaylon Joy Cuny, Valentine HS FFA; Kelsey Cupp, Imperial FFA; Chip Daehling, Centennial HS FFA; Kara Dallegge, Hampton HS FFA; Michelle D. David, Ord HS FFA; Shannon A. David, Ord HS FFA; Craig Davidson, Imperial FFA; Tessa Lynne Davis, Norfolk HS FFA; Whitney L. Davis, Waverly High School - FFA; Bret Dearthmont, Rock Co HS FFA; Tambri Katherine Dicke, Lakeview HS-FFA; John D. Dietrich, Leigh-Clarkson; Grant Doerr, Creighton HS FFA; Joshua Bryan Ealy, Red Cloud HS FFA; Kayelon Lee Easterday, Eustis-Farnam HS FFA; Aaron Ehlers, York HS FFA; Reid Ely, Sutton Public Schools - FFA; Amanda Marie Essink, Palmyra HS FFA; Emily Estes, Stuart High School - FFA; AnnaLisa Estrela, Palmer HS FFA; Nolan Reid Fillipi, Pender HS FFA; Brady Andrew Folck, Bloomfield HS FFA; Colby Vernon Folck, Bloomfield HS FFA; Michael Folkerts, Heartland Comm HS FFA; Reed Bly Ford, Cody Kilgore HS FFA; Kelly W. France, Gothenburg HS FFA; Derek Friesen, Heartland Comm HS FFA; Richard Froning, Valentine HS FFA; Robert Froning, Valentine HS FFA; Brett Fuchtmann, Creighton HS FFA; Jeremy Fuchtmann, Creighton HS FFA; Andrew Gatzemeyer, Pender HS FFA; Amanda Geis, York HS FFA; Sean Daniel Gillilan, Superior HS FFA; Derek J. Goetz, Plainview HS

FFA; Seth Going, Lyons-Decatur Ne FFA; Trevor Curtis Gotschall, West Holt HS FFA; Amanda Graham, Randolph High School - FFA; Jenna Greckel, Centennial HS FFA; Andy M. Griess, Sutton Public Schools - FFA; Becky Grimm, Sioux Co HS FFA; Brian Gronewold, Gothenburg HS FFA; Michael F. Gubbels, Hartington HS FFA; Shelby L. Haag, Southwest HS FFA; Daniel Hall, Palmyra HS FFA; Taylor Hanefeldt, Creighton HS FFA; Beau Hartman, North Bend HS FFA; Christine Hass, Wisner-Pilger HS FFA; Jason Hegemann, Howells Public School; Christina Heine, Centennial HS FFA; Jacob Ryan Higby, Sutton Public Schools - FFA; Logan William Hoefs, Valentine HS FFA; Landon Wayne Hoffman, Red Cloud HS FFA; Sarah Hoffman, Bayard HS FFA; Andrew C. Houser, Medicine Valley HS - FFA; Desiree Ann Irish, Norfolk HS FFA; Jim A. Jansen, Hartington HS FFA; Courtney Marie Janssen, Norfolk HS FFA; Jena Renae Johnson, Franklin HS FFA; Jessica Johnson, Verdigre HS FFA; Joey Johnson, Tekamah-Herman HS FFA; Michelle Jones, Hartington HS FFA; Brad Jorgensen, Creighton HS FFA; Regg Jueden, Hartington HS FFA; Autumn Leann Kadavy, East Butler HS FFA; Karoline Kastanek, Wilber-Clatonia HS FFA; Adam John Kauth, Bloomfield HS FFA; Leslie Kile, Superior HS FFA; Calvin J. Kilmurry, West Holt HS FFA; Katelyn Klute, Hampton HS FFA; Amanda Koch, York HS FFA; Jared J. Koch, Hartington HS FFA; Bryce Kramer, Sutton Public Schools - FFA; Kody Lee Kruse, Northwest HS FFA; Kory Kuenning, Imperial FFA; Allison Kuszak, Centura HS FFA; Chase Lammers, Hartington HS FFA; Nathan Lammers, Hartington HS FFA; Craig B. Langemeier, Logan View HS FFA; Zach Lauer, Milford HS FFA; Ellen Leibbrandt, Imperial FFA; Jordan Alan Lierman, Wisner-Pilger HS FFA; Douglas James Liewer, Spencer-Naper HS FFA; Eric Lund, Milford HS FFA; Alexander Edward Lush, Wilcox-Hildreth FFA; Lisa Mammen, Wilber-Clatonia HS FFA; Laura K. Maricle, Boone Central FFA; Tanner Martin, Imperial FFA; Tyler McCormick, Tekamah-Herman HS FFA; Cory McCumber, West Holt HS FFA; Jennifer Ann Melton, Lawrence-Nelson HS FFA; Amanda Meusch, Stuart High School - FFA; Tiffany Meyer, Palmer HS FFA; Curtis J. Michaelis, Spencer-Naper HS FFA; Chase S. Mills, Waverly High School - FFA; Shauna Mitchell, West Holt HS FFA; Elizabeth Rae Mortensen, Medicine Valley HS - FFA; Houston J. Moseman, Logan View HS FFA;

Kelli Nelms, Dundy Co HS FFA; Dylan Nerud, Bayard HS FFA; Jared Niedermeyer, Nemaha Valley HS FFA; Dane Nienhueser, York HS FFA; Jared Niewohner, Lyons-Decatur Ne FFA; Jacoba Ruth Nutt, Medicine Valley HS - FFA; Daniel O'Brien, Heartland Comm HS FFA; Garrett M. Ourada, Palmyra HS FFA; Matt Panowicz, Centura HS FFA; Denette Pasho, Milford HS FFA; Travis Paulman, Northwest HS FFA; Mark Petersen, Loup Co HS FFA; Trent W. Petersen, Loup Co HS FFA; Amanda Marie Pflasterer, Northwest HS FFA; Trevor Piening, Milford HS FFA; Nicole Potter, York HS FFA; Tyler J. Potts, Hartington HS FFA; Miles M. Powers, York HS FFA; Matthew Prochaska, Schuyler Central HS FFA; Michelle R. Prothman, Boone Central FFA; Jayna M. Qualm, Wheeler Central HS FFA; Collin Quiring, Heartland Comm HS FFA; Mark D. Quiring, York HS FFA; Mathew Ramm, Stuart High School - FFA; Heath Reimers, Central City HS FFA; Mitch Reineke, Ord HS FFA; Sam Rempe, Superior HS FFA; Sara Coleene Rogers, Superior HS FFA; Dustin Jay Romshek, East Butler HS FFA; Kayla Rubenthaler, Gothenburg HS FFA; Patrick W. Satchell, Milford HS FFA; Elyse Schlake, Gothenburg HS FFA; Abby Danielle Schmidt, Superior HS FFA; Jeffrey Mark Schroeder, Wisner-Pilger HS FFA; Jennifer Schuckman, Norfolk HS FFA; Tyler L. Schurr, Eustis-Farnam HS FFA; Daniel Schwager, Wheeler Central HS FFA; Andrea Seidel, Burwell HS FFA; Chelsie Elizabeth Shaw, Blue Hill HS FFA; Justine M. Shermer, Wheeler Central HS FFA; Clint Riley Shipman, Red Cloud HS FFA; Bryce A. Smith, Waverly High School - FFA; Michael J. Smith, Superior HS FFA; Tara D. Smith, Wheeler Central HS FFA; Aaron Snow, Tekamah-Herman HS FFA; Eric Lee Spilinek, Elba HS FFA; Kathi M. Steffen, Hartington HS FFA; Lynette Stitt, Southwest HS FFA; Kyle Suing, Hartington HS FFA; Jeremy M. Svitak, Howells Public School; Hillary C. Tarr, Plainview HS FFA; Chelsea A. Tecker, Dundy Co HS FFA; Laura Thomas, York HS FFA; Blair Troester, Hampton HS FFA; Kent Urwiller, Ravenna High School - FFA; Amanda Sue VanDeWalle, Cedar Rapids HS FFA; Ryan J. Vlieger, Heartland Comm HS FFA; Justin Vonasek, Holdrege HS FFA; Kasey Wagner, Creighton HS FFA; John D. Walrath, Cedar Rapids HS FFA; Derek Wedemeyer, Ravenna High School - FFA; Kate Elizabeth Wheelton, Schuyler Central HS FFA; Rives White, Valentine HS FFA; Matthew A. Wiest, Medicine



Valley HS - FFA; Kimberly Windhorst, Syracuse Dunbar-Avoca HS FFA; Dirk Wiseman, Ord HS FFA; Laura M. Witte, Logan View HS FFA; Kayla Wolcott, Wauneta-Palisade HS FFA; Abigail Zarybnicky, Diller-Odell FFA; Kelsey K. Zink, Spencer-Naper HS FFA; Darin Alden Zuhlke, Plainview HS FFA

New Jersey: Caitlin Akkerhuis, Newton HS FFA; Dale F. Cruzan III, Cumberland Regional; Daniel J. Delcher, Buena Regional HS FFA; Andrew Frazell, Newton HS FFA; Lauren N. Galonski, Newton HS FFA; Laura Grant, Newton HS FFA; Devon C. Greif, Newton HS FFA; Matthew Hood, Warren Hills FFA; Katie M. McPeck, Newton HS FFA; Craig C. Pettit, N Burlington Co Regional HS FFA; Laura Pinhas, Allentown HS FFA; Christopher Dillon Takacs, Newton HS FFA; Kyle Thomas Wilson, Newton HS FFA

New Mexico: Cole Andes, Clovis HS-FFA; Denny Burnett, Artesia HS-FFA; Kelsey Chandler, Artesia HS-FFA; Skyla Cockerham, Texico HS-FFA; Amanda Crockett, Moriarty HS-FFA; Sherida Elkins, Artesia HS-FFA; Rhea Lynn Leonard, Artesia HS-FFA; Paul D. Moya, Los Lunas HS-FFA; Morgan Nelson, Las Cruces HS-FFA; Charli Porter, Hatch Valley HS- Hatch FFA; Logan Potts, Texico HS-FFA; Lori Richardson, Texico HS-FFA; Chanz Robbins, Animas HS-FFA; Amy Schmitz, Coronado HS-FFA; Tyler Chance Van Dyke, Hobbs HS FFA; Leticia Varelas, Artesia HS-FFA; Curtis Williams, Texico HS-FFA

Nevada: Sam Boies, Wells FFA; Emily M. Brough, Wells FFA; David Hoskin, Carson Valley FFA; Matt Howell, Wells FFA; Daniel Lotspeich, Wells FFA; Rachelle Pearson, Wells FFA; Stephanie Souza, Wells FFA; Ellen Trindle, Elko Sr HS Ruby Mountain FFA; Amanda Vesco, Albert Lowry HS - Winnemucca FFA; Kristen Walker, Wells FFA

New York: Geoffrey Cabrera, Tri Valley Central HS FFA; Timothy Clark, S Jefferson Central School FFA; Jessica Doyle, Tri Valley Central HS FFA; Jacob Fontaine, Pioneer HS FFA; Lois J. Goblet, Schoharie Central HS

American Degree Recipients

FFA; Catherine Harth, Tri Valley Central HS FFA; Jenna M. Lighthall, Stockbridge Valley C S FFA; Angelina L. Meister, Lowville Ctrl Sch FFA; Jason Rauf, Greenville Central HS FFA; Megan Ripp, S Lewis Central Jr Sr HS FFA; Kecia Marie Schultz, Schoharie Central HS FFA; Mark T. Skeels, Pioneer HS FFA; Josh Smith, Tri Valley Central HS FFA; Chad Wall, S Jefferson Central School FFA; Lorie M. Walseman, Lowville Ctrl Sch FFA; Tiffany Wright, Tri Valley Central HS FFA

Ohio: Megan Andrews, Fairlawn HS - FFA; Heather Bailey, Logan HS-Chief Logan FFA; Hilary Bailey, Logan HS-Chief Logan FFA; Andrea M. Baldinger, River Valley HS-FFA; Lucas Baldwin, River Valley HS FFA; Jessup Ball, Waynesfield Goshen HS-FFA; Nathan Barhorst, Fort Loramie FFA; Justin Leroy Barnhart, Kalida HS FFA; Ryan Battrell, Alexander HS Albany FFA; Dustin A. Bayles, River Valley HS-FFA; Wade Beam, Greene Co Career R FFA; Samantha Bechley, Clear Fork Vly HS FFA; Jordan David Beck, Pettisville HS FFA; Matthew E. Bennett, Benjamin Logan HS FFA; Timothy David Bensman, Minster HS FFA; Arin Kay Bentley, Ohio Valley Vocational-FFA; Kimberly Bergstedt, Liberty Center HS-FFA; Jordan Bertsch, Canal Winchester HS-FFA; J. D. Bethel, Mechanicsburg HS - FFA; Nichole Bisel, Plymouth HS FFA; Jason Boeke, Edgerton HS FFA; Victoria Bohrer, Whiteoak HS FFA; Joel Bourne, Versailles HS-FFA; Greg Brackman, Fort Recovery HS-FFA; Jesse Branner, Federal Hocking HS - FFA; Micah Brentlinger, Delphos HS FFA; Brandy Brinson, Lynchburg-Clay HS-FFA; Jacob Brown, Ashland HS FFA; Joshua James Brown, Southern Local HS FFA; Douglas M. Bruns, Minster HS FFA; Ashley Bubeck, Versailles HS-FFA; Jarrett Burga, Barnesville HS FFA; Jesse Burns, Upper Valley Jvs FFA; Sara Campbell, Eastern Brown HS - FFA; Jeff Cannon, Sheridan HS-North FFA; Krista Cape, Edgerton HS FFA; Rebecca Capper, Symmes Valley HS-FFA; Ezekial Caleb Carl, Marysville HS-FFA; David J. Carr, Miami Trace HS FFA; Anthony Channell, Southeastern HS-S Clarke FFA; Cody James Clifton, Eastern Brown HS - FFA; Shon Compston, Carrollton HS FFA; David James Coons, Versailles HS-FFA; Katy Corkle, Wauseon HS FFA; Chad Cowden, United HS FFA; Andrew Cramer, Bowling Green HS FFA; Hannah Marie Crossen, Hillsdale HS FFA; Heather E. Davis, Firelands

HS-FFA; Stefen DeLong, Benjamin Logan HS FFA; Aaron Derr, Carey HS-FFA; Ryan Derr, Upper Sandusky HS-FFA; Scott William Duncan, Fairfield HS FFA; Tracy Dye, Federal Hocking HS - FFA; Heath A. Edenfield, Whiteoak HS FFA; Christina Egner, Shelby HS FFA; Erin E. Ehman, River View HS-FFA; Andrea Eilenfeld, Lucas HS FFA; Benjamin Eilerman, Versailles HS-FFA; Emily Rose Ekleberry, Upper Sandusky HS-FFA; Derrick Michael Elfrink, Tolles Technical R FFA; David Elson, Mapleton HS FFA; Amanda J. Esbenshade, Crestview HS FFA; Matthew Finney, Colonel Crawford HS - FFA; John Fisher, New Lexington HS FFA; Maranda Fisher, Fairfield Union HS-FFA; Kelsi Fissell, M T Gilead HS-FFA; Jason Fitzcharles, Edgerton HS FFA; Daniel Fitzenrider, Edon-Northwest HS FFA; Christopher Fitzpatrick, Ohio Valley Vocational-FFA; William T. Flinn, Kenton HS FFA; Matthew R. Forry, Ridgedale HS FFA; Kyle A. Fortkamp, Fort Recovery HS-FFA; Peter Fovargue, Utica Senior HS-FFA; Tyler Frazier, Fayetteville-Perry HS - Fayetteville FFA; Amanda Frey, Stryker HS-FFA; Ross Friend, Fairfield Union HS-FFA; Josh Gaerke, Fort Recovery HS-FFA; Alison Gallagher, East Knox HS-FFA; Ashley Gamble, Parkway HS-FFA; Kimberly Gardner, Shelby HS FFA; Jerri D. Garrett, Logan HS-Chief Logan FFA; Megan A. Gates, Monroeville HS FFA; John Gauche, Fayetteville-Perry HS - Fayetteville FFA; Letitia George, Fairbanks HS FFA; Renee Gerber, East Clinton HS FFA; Cory Gillette, Alexander HS Albany FFA; Ashley Gompf, M T Gilead HS-FFA; Heath Goodman, Cardngntn Lincoln HS-FFA; Chelsie D. Goyings, Paulding HS FFA; Spencer Gray, South Central HS-FFA; Sherri Gress, Triway HS FFA; Joshua Griffin, Mohawk HS FFA; Amanda Hahn, Patrick Henry FFA; Robert Allen Hall, Sentinel VOC Center-FFA; Adam Hamilton, Eastern Brown HS - FFA; Katie Hanawalt, Canal Winchester HS-FFA; Jeffrey Hart, Saint Henry HS FFA; Jayna Hartzler, Norwayne HS FFA; Amanda B. Haynes, Miami Trace HS FFA; Edward Hazlett, Hillsdale HS FFA; Melissa Heidlebaugh, Spencerville HS FFA; Kelli E. Hendricks, Margaretta HS FFA; Richard Herbolt, Western Brown HS FFA; Matt Herman, Edgerton HS FFA; Kimberly Herrington, Carrollton HS FFA; Ashley Hines, Lakeland-Harrison Central HS; Daniel Ben Hipp, West Holmes HS - FFA; Bryan Hoersten, Delphos HS FFA; Ashley Hoffmaster, Buckeye High School-

FFA; Carey Hofner, Otsego HS FFA; Mark Homan, New Bremen HS-FFA; Eric Hoying, Anna HS FFA; Tim Hozalski, Firelands HS-FFA; Gregory Huber, Fairfield Union HS-FFA; Alex Hudson, Madison Plains HS-FFA; Darrin D. Hulit, Crestview HS FFA; Dane Jeffers, Ridgemont HS-FFA; Kristen Jenkins, Hillsboro HS FFA; Caleb Jones, Shelby HS FFA; Kurtis Jones, Ridgemont HS-FFA; Quinton Keeran, Liberty Union HS FFA; Darin King, Archbold HS-FFA; Katie King, Parkway HS-FFA; Adam D. Kirian, Arcadia HS-FFA; Kyle Kissing, Hillsboro HS FFA; Brandon Kisseberth, Arlington HS - FFA; Amanda Kissick, Western Brown HS FFA; C. Stewart Kitchen, Kenton HS FFA; Emily Klein, New Bremen HS-FFA; Tony Knapke, Coldwater HS FFA; Michael Koblentz, Sheridan HS-North FFA; Heather Kocher, Colonel Crawford HS - FFA; Samuel C. Krill, Edgerton HS FFA; Brandon Kuhn, Ohio Valley Vocational-FFA; Jared Kuntz, Wauseon HS FFA; Brittney N. Lacy, River View HS-FFA; Meagan J. Laird, Marysville HS-FFA; Ryan Langenkamp, Versailles HS-FFA; Courtney Lasko, Meadowbrook HS-FFA; Corey Ledley, Ridgemont HS-FFA; Elizabeth Lennartz, Fort Recovery HS-FFA; Tyler Levering, River Valley HS-FFA; Joshua Line, Arlington HS - FFA; Jennifer Link, Fort Recovery HS-FFA; Stephanie Jean Litten, Ashland HS FFA; Jonathan Lohstroh, Madison Plains HS-FFA; Levi Long, Miami East HS-FFA; Brent Looser, Delphos HS FFA; Lindsay Marie Manecke, Elmwood HS FFA; Lynn M. Marchal, Fort Loramie FFA; Lindsey Matheny, Fredricktown HS FFA; Lindsay M. McCullough, Ridgewood HS FFA; Katherine McGovern, New Bremen HS-FFA; Katie L. McGrain, Elmwood HS FFA; James McIntosh, East Clinton HS FFA; Jill McMahan, River Valley HS-FFA; Megan Sue McPherson, Ridgewood HS FFA; Cory Meek, Elmwood HS FFA; Jill Meyer, Fort Loramie FFA; Kattie M. Miller, Wauseon HS FFA; Ryker Andrew Miller, Hillsboro HS FFA; Zach Miller, Delphos HS FFA; Katy Miller-Coblentz, Ashland HS FFA; Fred Mills, East Knox HS-FFA; Emily Monnier, Fairlawn HS - FFA; Wesley W. Montgomery, Miami Trace HS FFA; Bradley D. Myers, Wauseon HS FFA; Neil Howard Myers, Laurel Oaks Career Dev R FFA; Michael Neal, Triway HS FFA; Ashley R. Neer, Indian Lake HS FFA; John M. Neider, Carrollton HS FFA; Trevor Newby, Elmwood HS FFA; Jesse Noffsinger, Wayne Trace HS - FFA; Christine Marie Noyes, Liberty Benton HS FFA; Kevin Robert



Obrecht, Hillsdale HS FFA; Lester Orndorff, Wauseon HS FFA; Kayleesue Patton, Hillsboro HS FFA; Adam Perry, Edgerton HS FFA; Gwen Poeppelman, Fort Loramie FFA; Janelle Poeppelman, Fort Loramie FFA; Jason D. Post, Fort Recovery HS-FFA; Shane Poulson, Pettisville HS FFA; Kyle Purvis, River Valley HS-FFA; Felicia Quaintance, Parkway HS-FFA; Jamie P. Rader, Patrick Henry FFA; Katie Recker, Eastwood HS FFA; Melissa Reinhart, Mohawk HS FFA; Ryan Rethman, Versailles HS-FFA; Todd Rickenberg, Northridge HS FFA; Theresa Robbins, Fayetteville-Perry HS - Fayetteville FFA; Drew Rupp, Norwayne HS FFA; Don Russell, Eastwood HS FFA; Kimberly Saylor, Firelands HS-FFA; Johnathan Schaeffer, Margaretta HS FFA; Jessica Renee Schafer, Monroeville HS FFA; Evan M. Schlatter, Paulding HS FFA; Travis Schlatter, Paulding HS FFA; Terry Schram, Eastern Brown HS - FFA; Douglas Scwhieterman, New Bremen HS-FFA; Blake Andrew Seaman, East Clinton HS FFA; Janelle Seger, Fort Loramie FFA; Rachel Sharrock, Ada HS FFA; Todd Sherman, Kenton HS FFA; Jeremy Shreyer, Liberty Union HS FFA; Ben Skaggs, Colonel Crawford HS - FFA; Matthew Snider, Miami East HS-FFA; Tara Marie Spangler, Paulding HS FFA; Sydney Spencer, Benjamin Logan HS FFA; Lee Stammen, Fort Recovery HS-FFA; Amanda Jo Steele, Buckeye Trail HS-FFA; Andy Steinke, Anna HS FFA; Bradley Mark Stevens, Whiteoak HS FFA; Brian Stickel, Eastwood HS FFA; Josiah Stoller, Wayne Trace HS - FFA; Thomas Stull, Hopewell Loudon HS FFA; Ryan Stumpf, Zane Trace HS FFA; Amber Stuhoff, Coldwater HS FFA; Danielle Sullivan, Marysville HS-FFA; Jessica Alain Suman, Parkway HS-FFA; Adam J. Sutter, Fort Recovery HS-FFA; Megan Swaney, Fairbanks HS FFA; Bethany Taylor, Wayne Trace HS - FFA; Adam Thomas, Otsego HS FFA; Jill Townsend, River Valley HS-FFA; Ryan Trader, Ross HS FFA; Alan Trentman, Delphos HS FFA; Kristie Lyn Turner, Delphos HS FFA; Stefanie Turner, Fairfield Union HS-FFA; Debra Van Camp, Canal Winchester HS-FFA; Benjamin Van Zile, Smithville HS FFA; Julie Vandre, Fairbanks HS FFA; Shane Vannatta, Liberty

American Degree Recipients

Union HS FFA; Janda Vest, Miami Trace HS FFA; Amy Wagner, River Valley HS-FFA; Caleb Wakefield, Fairfield Union HS-FFA; Adam Walter, Colonel Crawford HS - FFA; Wade Walters, Ayersville HS FFA; Luke J. Warner, Anthony Wayne HS-FFA; Tyler Warnock, Hillsboro HS FFA; Ben Watercutter, Anna HS FFA; Dakotah Waugh, Southeastern HS-S Clarke FFA; Branen L. Weade, Miami Trace HS FFA; Amanda Weaver, Liberty Union HS FFA; Mark Anthony Weber, Talawanda HS-FFA; Matt Weemhoff, Clear Fork Vly HS FFA; Stephen Welling, Eastwood HS FFA; Callie Wells, Edgewood HS FFA; Stacie Wenig, Bowling Green HS FFA; Kim Wenninger, Wayne Trace HS - FFA; Katie Wentling, Carey HS-FFA; Chris Wilcox, Wayne Trace HS - FFA; Kelsie Will, Fort Recovery HS-FFA; Mary Will, Fort Recovery HS-FFA; Rachel Will, Fort Recovery HS-FFA; C. J. Williams, Federal Hocking HS - FFA; Lauren Williams, Hillsboro HS FFA; Brock Williamson, Wayne Trace HS - FFA; Rusty Winland, Barnesville HS FFA; Adam Wixtead, Ridgedale HS FFA; Thomas Wolfer, Fayetteville-Perry HS - Fayetteville FFA; Becky Wolford, Mc Comb HS FFA; Adam Wuebker, Saint Henry HS FFA; Aaron Wulber, Versailles HS-FFA; Logan Wyse, Archbold HS-FFA; Mallory Yake, Cardngtn Lincoln HS-FFA; Nathanael Young, Whiteoak HS FFA; Nathaniel Young, Western Brown HS FFA; Tara Zasadzinski, N Union HS FFA; Joe Zimmerman, Western Reserve HS FFA; Tyler Zimmerman, Ridgewood HS FFA; Nicolas J. Zumberger, Versailles HS-FFA

Oklahoma: Joshua Ryan Alford, Leflore HS FFA; Cody Allen, Achille HS FFA; Mariah Elizabeth Alm, Burlington HS-FFA; David Kolbey Anderson, Crescent HS FFA; Cheryl Amber Baldridge, Prague HS FFA; Nathan Bankes, Oologah HS FFA; Cody Barrington, Geronimo HS FFA; Jayson Cole Bates, Alva HS FFA; Joe Beard, Big Pasture HS FFA; Jeremy Shane Bennett, Yukon HS FFA; Skye Bergman, Blackwell HS FFA; Salina Kay Biby, Wakita HS FFA; Dusty Biehler, Kingfisher HS FFA; Derek Bowen, Silo HS FFA; Cassie LaRhea Boyett, Rattan HS FFA; Matt Boyett, Elk City HS FFA; Terra Branson, Jenks HS FFA; Aleisha Montana Brewer, Wister HS FFA; Kurt Brown, Blanchard HS FFA; Amanda Burrows, Claremore HS FFA; Jared E. Campbell, Timberlake HS FFA; Kyle Carothers, Snyder HS FFA; Carley Ann Chaney, Adair HS FFA; Jared Chidester, Chouteau

HS FFA; Tanner Cline, Blackwell HS FFA; Anthony Coblentz, Chouteau HS FFA; Brannon Seth Cole, Sentinel HS FFA; Megan Lynette Conway, Perry HS FFA; Carol Angela Cook, Rock Creek FFA; Nocona Darrel Cook, Cordell HS FFA; Rachael Lynn Cook, Haileyville HS FFA; Zachary Thedrell Cooper, Rattan HS FFA; Alecia Sha Coslett, Maysville HS FFA; Bryant Cox, Spiro HS FFA; Robert Chad Craig, Wister HS FFA; Jared Levi Crain, Fargo HS-FFA; Crystal Cross, Calera HS FFA; Cole Louis Dalmont, Indianola HS FFA; Andrew Jay Davis, Maysville HS FFA; Bobby Davis, Wellston HS FFA; Jordan Dale Davis, Burns Flat-Dill City HS FFA; Logan Dean, Norman HS FFA; Robyn Deason, Chouteau HS FFA; Cody Wayne Dosh, Rock Creek FFA; Brad C. Duncan, Okemah HS FFA; Clement Daniel Elsener, Frederick HS FFA; Lin Fariss, Butler HS FFA; Dell Farris, Waurika HS FFA; Levi Steven Feltman, Cordell HS FFA; Daniel Derald Ferrari, Canute HS FFA; Jake Fillmore, Frederick HS FFA; Joshua D. Foran, Byng HS FFA; Levi E. Foreman, Okemah HS FFA; Laura Foster, Vian HS FFA; Rebecca Frazier, Geronimo HS FFA; Chastity Nichole Gastelum, Glencoe HS FFA; Katy Marie Gates, Drummond HS FFA; Roxane Gebhart, Claremore HS FFA; Leslie Marie German, Cushing HS FFA; Katie Girty, Porum HS FFA; Tandy Mae Glenn, Grove HS FFA; Blaine Grabow, Kingfisher HS FFA; Montana Ray Gray, Poteau HS FFA; Jordan Green, Muldrow HS FFA; Jordan Holly Grubbs, Butler HS FFA; Laila Hajji, Guthrie HS FFA; Heather Lois Haken, Glencoe HS FFA; Amanda Halpain, Keys High School FFA; Cody Branson Hankins, Central HS FFA; Chase Hansen, Central HS FFA; Jack Blake Hargrove, Prague HS FFA; Ty Harman, Mulhall Orlando HS FFA; Dakotah Harrell, Mulhall Orlando HS FFA; Brian Hauser, Kingfisher HS FFA; Allison Helm, Geary HS FFA; Kyle Hicks, Elgin HS FFA; Rowdy Hill, Byng HS FFA; Nick Hofschulte, Wyandotte HS FFA; Colten Holt, Cordell HS FFA; Jesse Elbert Hopkins, Achille HS FFA; Christopher H. Hoskins, Chelsea HS FFA; Whitney Jameson, Claremore HS FFA; Jeff Jaronek, Cordell HS FFA; Cami Jo Jeter, Copan FFA; Matthew Jobe, Oklahoma Union HS FFA; Kristy Michelle Jones, Yale HS FFA; Zak Key, Vici HS FFA; Amy Jo Kincaid, Elk City HS FFA; Dakota Kinder, Frederick HS FFA; Jordan Kindschi, Mulhall Orlando HS FFA; John F. Kordis, Cashion HS-FFA; Chase Bussey Lafferty, Indianola HS FFA; Virginia A.

Lampson, Chouteau HS FFA; Tim Temple Lee, Maysville HS FFA; Nikki Jo Lockwood, Ringling HS FFA; Jessica Longshore, Cave Springs HS FFA; Jacob L. Lovelace, Indianola HS FFA; Kathryn Nicole Lowry, Weatherford HS FFA; Matthew Gibson Lucas, Okemah HS FFA; Phillip Major, Blackwell HS FFA; Landon John Markes, Burlington HS-FFA; Ashley Mason, Jenks HS FFA; Megan Elizabeth Maxey, Oklahoma Union HS FFA; Austin McCasland, Perry HS FFA; Jeremy Caleb McCasland, Perkins Tryon HS FFA; Philip A. McCuiston, Indianola HS FFA; Spencer Lee McGuire, Ringling HS FFA; Mindy McLemore, Chickasha HS FFA; Mack Wade McPhail, Snyder HS FFA; Clint Mefford, Rock Creek FFA; Allison Ranae Megehee, Tecumseh HS FFA; Christopher Miller, Clinton HS FFA; Jacob Miller, Arapaho HS FFA; Jakki Michelle Mize, Tecumseh HS FFA; Derek Morgan, Burlington HS-FFA; Jessica Marie Morgan, Chouteau HS FFA; Cami Morris, Chickasha HS FFA; Vickie LeAnn Morris, Fargo HS-FFA; Devin Moyers, Lone Grove HS FFA; Dustyn C. Nail, Sharon-Mutual HS FFA; Kara Ann Nay, Atoka HS FFA; Autumn Raelynn Nelson, Wister HS FFA; Courtney Lachelle Newman, Covington-Douglas HS FFA; Ryan Nichols, Cleveland HS FFA; Nick Niemann, Roland FFA; Christopher Brian Nipper, Tecumseh HS FFA; Carl Olson, Porum HS FFA; Jonathan Kyle Parks, Pauls Valley HS FFA; Trent Patzkowsky, Balko HS FFA; Tyler Peck, Sentinel HS FFA; Blake Peper, Adair HS FFA; John C. Pfeiffer, Mulhall Orlando HS FFA; David Phillips, Geary HS FFA; Jessica Pillow, Elgin HS FFA; Tyler Powell, Guthrie HS FFA; Brendan Price, Frederick HS FFA; Kent Lee Quattlebaum, Leedeey HS FFA; Alyssa Rayner, Geary HS FFA; Derek Wesley Rayner, Geary HS FFA; Justin Richmond, Wagoner HS FFA; Kory Wayne Ridley, Haskell HS FFA; Erin Russell, Hooker HS FFA; Mary Caitlin Scheihing, Geary HS FFA; Trent Schrick, Frederick HS FFA; Cador Seeliger, Tecumseh HS FFA; Eric Shaw, Antlers HS FFA; Brian Sheffield, Fort Gibson HS FFA; Sara Sheldon, Calvin HS FFA; Chance Simpson, Timberlake HS FFA; Brent Lee Smith, Haworth HS FFA; Shea Smith, Lexington HS FFA; Tyler Smith, Elk City HS FFA; Steven J. Snelson, Copan FFA; Justin D. Snider, Clinton HS FFA; Brent Duane Spencer, Poteau HS FFA; Chelsea Spencer, Chickasha HS FFA; Blane W. Stacy, Oklahoma Union HS FFA; Sophia Anne Stoeckl, Broken Arrow HS

FFA; Shayla Michelle Sutton, Erick HS FFA; Tanner Thompson, Tecumseh HS FFA; Joshua Wade Tippit, Tecumseh HS FFA; Kaylee Turner, Elgin HS FFA; Brandon Varner, Frederick HS FFA; Gregory Vaughan, Antlers HS FFA; Robert David Vinson, Webbers Falls HS FFA; Brody Donovan Wallis, Atoka HS FFA; Jake Waltman, Nowata HS FFA; Clayton Weatherly, Frontier HS FFA; Dylan Weaver, Kingfisher HS FFA; Dustin Weldon, Altus HS FFA; Jaycie Wells, Calera HS FFA; Jacquelynn Welton, Poteau HS FFA; Will Wheeler, Chickasha HS FFA; Leslie Nichol White, Indianola HS FFA; Whitney White, Frederick HS FFA; Felicia Williams, Porum HS FFA; Cody Wilson, Hartshorne HS-FFA; Kenneth Guy Wilson, Okemah HS FFA; Laramy Wilson, Calvin HS FFA; Travis L. Wilson, Okemah HS FFA; Brandon Womack, Hinton HS FFA; Brent Womack, Hinton HS FFA; Olivia Rachel Wood, Olive HS FFA; Beau Don Woody, Snyder HS FFA; John Worthington, Cordell HS FFA

Oregon: Kari Boettcher, Hermiston HS FFA; Tory Ann Boline, Perrydale HS FFA; Holly J. Boyer, North Powder FFA; Ryan Brown, Scio HS FFA; Tasha Burlison, Cascade Sr HS FFA; Ben Carpenter, Vale High School FFA; Rodney Cheyne, Henley HS FFA; Chelsea Marie Clark, Crater HS FFA; Stacy Clute, Forest Grove HS FFA; Ruth Corn, Ontario HS FFA; Grace Renee Deboodt, Crook Co HS FFA; Jessica M. Ditchen, Silvertown Union HS FFA; Megan Evans, Henley HS FFA; Marianne Firestone, Dayton HS FFA; Sari Marie Glass, Junction City HS FFA; Jeffrey Goddik, Dayton HS FFA; Miranda Griffin, Imbler HS FFA; Wrangler Grohs, Bonanza HS FFA; Brett Hedden, La Grande HS FFA; Karolyn R. Hoffman, Molalla HS FFA; Kristin Lee Hogan, Tillamook HS FFA; Jessalynn Spring Jarvis, Scio HS FFA; Stephanie Kaesemeyer, Pine Eagle HS-FFA; Rowe A. Kinney, Bonanza HS FFA; Robert Kircher, Dayton HS FFA; Jess Lindgren, Cascade Sr HS FFA; Lauren Lucht, Molalla HS FFA; Justin Matthews, Perrydale HS FFA; Allison M. Meadows, Crater HS FFA; Stephanie Montgomery, Ontario HS FFA; Sam Moxley, Bonanza HS FFA; Jessica Murray, Creswell HS FFA; Danielle Peters,



American Degree Recipients

Hood River Valley HS FFA; Rachel J. Smith, Bend FFA; Katie M. Stebbins, Amity HS FFA; Brandon Storm, Perrydale HS FFA; Rebecca Sullivan, Hermiston HS FFA; Dustin Traw, Pine Eagle HS-FFA; Anneke Tucker, Lakeview HS FFA; Jonathan Uffelman, Sutherlin HS FFA; Lindsay C. Vial, Newberg HS FFA; Jeff Whitman, Amity HS FFA; Regina Wike, Union HS FFA; Kiel Woodward, Willamina HS FFA; Kristi Wright-Burton, Molalla HS FFA; Katy Faye Wunsch, Madras HS FFA

Pennsylvania: Stacy Lynn Allen, Wilmington HS FFA; Ashley Lauren Austin, Twin Valley HS FFA; Zachary Biddle, Williamsburg HS FFA; Tami Marie Burkett, Big Spring HS FFA; Joseph Carosielli, Bellwood Antis HS FFA; Brandon Cherry, Bellwood Antis HS FFA; Albert J. Corle, Chestnut Ridge HS FFA; Donna Delp, Williamsburg HS FFA; Ayla Detwiler, Southern Huntingdon Co Sd FFA; Joelynn A. Donough, Manheim FFA; Paul Druckenmiller, Greenwood HS FFA; Matthew M. File, Monroe Co Avts FFA; Eric Lee Forgy, Mt. Union Area HS - Captain Jack FFA; Jennifer L. Garber, Hans Herr FFA; Kati-Ayn Garman, Twin Valley HS FFA; Jarred Geist, Tri Valley FFA; Nicole Grof, Meyersdale HS FFA; Ashley M. Harshbarger, Juniata FFA Chapter; Aaron Hay, Berlin Brothersvalley HS FFA; Jennifer M. Hedges, United Jr/Sr High School-United FFA; Linford A. Hershey, Hans Herr FFA; Crystal Hoffman, Twin Valley HS FFA; Julene Elizabeth Hoover, Penn Manor HS Manor FFA; Valerie Hoover, Selinsgrove HS FFA; Aaron M. Horst, J Buchanan HS FFA; Jessica M. Kessler, Midd-West; Abbie J. Kuhlman, Ne Bradford HS FFA; Megan Cristine Kutz, Big Spring HS FFA; Eric D. Lawrence, Wilmington HS FFA; Ann M. Loucks, Linesville Conn Summit HS FFA; Keith D. Lutz, Conrad Weiser HS FFA; Justin Tyler Martin, Wilmington HS FFA; Jennifer S. McClune, Solanco HS FFA; Melinda McFarland, Wilmington HS FFA; Travis Mills, Bellwood Antis HS FFA; Samantha L. Moore, Wilmington HS FFA; Clark L. Oberholtzer, Solanco HS FFA; Kelly D. Over, Williamsburg HS FFA; Becky Peterson, Twin Valley HS FFA; Tyler Rice, Midd-West; Johanna Rohrer, Manheim FFA; Michael Shearer, Manheim FFA; Lydia H. Snyder, Line Mountain HS FFA; Marie J. Snyder, Northern Lebanon HS FFA; Ginger E. Spangler, Mifflinburg Area HS FFA; Thomas J. Spring, Solanco HS FFA; Amanda Stoltzfus, Twin Valley HS

FFA; Andrew Shane Troutman, Meyersdale HS FFA; Linda M. Vislosky, Penns Manor HS FFA; David L. Warner, Northern Lebanon HS FFA; Ryan White, Wilmington HS FFA; Sarah Wickard, Shippensburg Area HS FFA; Matthew K. Wiker, Solanco HS FFA; Todd Russell Wilson, Wilmington HS FFA; Janelle R. Zimmerman, Cedar Crest HS FFA

Puerto Rico: Neftali Diaz-Montalvo, Leonides Morales HS FFA; Rey Francisco Toro-Cintron, Leonides Morales HS FFA

Rhode Island: Kayla Marie Harrison, Scituate FFA; Emily Mombourquette, Ponaganset HS FFA; Abbie Whitford, Exeter West Greenwich HS FFA

South Carolina: Rachel Sue Brandt, Calhoun Falls HS FFA; SC Matthew Burriss Dorn, Calhoun Falls HS FFA; SC Jason Donald Gore, Loris HS FFA; SC Amanda Jean Hiott, Barnwell Co Career Center FFA; SC Jessica Sue Hook, Lexington App Tech R FFA; SC Noah Keith Johnson, Calhoun Falls HS FFA; SC Antonia Michele Lowman, Aiken HS FFA; SC Chrissie Segars, McBee HS FFA; SC Megan M. Spivey, Aiken HS FFA; SC Amy Elizabeth Williams, West-Oak HS FFA

South Dakota: Chad Abrahamson, De Smet HS FFA; Tom Arnesen, Florence HS FFA; Cali Rae Beach, Harrisburg HS FFA; Jennifer L. Binger, Tulare HS FFA; Jenna Kay Carlson, Milbank FFA; Josh Chilson, Florence HS FFA; Gary Delaney, Perham HS FFA; Chris Enger, Harrisburg HS FFA; Brian Fett, Lennox Sundstrom HS FFA; Ben Fleming, Florence HS FFA; Brian Flisrand, Florence HS FFA; Tony Franken, Harrisburg HS FFA; John Goens, Deuel HS FFA; Dani Herring, Newell HS FFA; Jace Hollenbeck, Harrisburg HS FFA; Melissa A. Jandl, Harrisburg HS FFA; Alex Kahnke, Florence HS FFA; Jon Kahnke, Florence HS FFA; Ashley Knock, Willow Lake HS FFA; Jason Kokes, Bon Homme High School-FFA; Joseph Koupal, Wagner Community School; Brianna M. Larson, West Central HS FFA; Rob Lind, West Central HS FFA; Kelli Matthies, Mc Cook Central HS FFA; James A. McMahon, West Central HS FFA; Andrew T. McNamara, Harrisburg HS FFA; Jeremy Milstead, West Central HS FFA; Devin Myren, Mc Cook Central HS FFA; Brittany Nussbaum, Garretson HS FFA; Noelle Elizabeth Rist, West Central HS FFA; Audrey Schroeder, Mc

Cook Central HS FFA; Scott Paul Stahl, Bridgewater HS FFA; Katie Stratmeyer, Lennox Sundstrom HS FFA; Ashley Streff, Mc Cook Central HS FFA; Cody Ryan Sweeter, Canton High School-FFA; Matt Tollefson, Clark HS FFA; Brandon Tycz, Bon Homme High School-FFA; Tyler Urban, Lennox Sundstrom HS FFA; Logan Faris Ward, Harrisburg HS FFA; Trevor Warren, Kimball FFA; Megan Pearl Whitney, Harrisburg HS FFA; Justin H. Zubke, Waubay HS FFA

Tennessee: Jennie Marie Alexander, Westmoreland HS FFA; Ashley Nicole Amsden, Munford High School - FFA; Jessica Arwood, Daniel Boone HS FFA; Joel Baker, Riverside HS FFA; Justin Ball, Chuckey Doak HS FFA; Blaine Bates, Loretto HS FFA; Rebecca Ann Blackwell, Eagleville HS FFA; Ashley Nicole Bolden, Eagleville HS FFA; John David Boreing, David Crockett HS FFA; Rachel Leigh Clark Boreing, Munford High School - FFA; Matt Boren, Westmoreland HS FFA; Charles Bowman, Chuckey Doak HS FFA; C.R. Boyd V, Springfield HS FFA; Chris Brewer, Riverside HS FFA; Brian Bunch, Jefferson Co HS FFA; Molly Michelle Burrows, Eagleville HS FFA; Jaclyn Climer, Crockett Co HS FFA; Chase Coakley, Clinton; Jeremy Cook, East Robertson HS FFA; Joshua Cook, East Robertson HS FFA; Clint Alan Crisp, Mc Minn Co HS FFA; Kinsey Rae Doss, Eagleville HS FFA; Jonathan Drake, Springfield HS FFA; Jessica Eddleman, North Side HS FFA; Troy Evans, Giles Co HS FFA; Jessica Fitzgerald, Daniel Boone HS FFA; Charles Eric Freeman, Mc Minn Co HS FFA; Zach Fuson, Dekalb Co HS FFA; Eric Gardner, Santa Fe HS FFA; Jared Maxwell Givens, Wilson Central FFA; Michael Jay Goralski, Warren Co HS FFA; Travis Andrew Gowan, Liberty FFA; Ashley Griffith, Cannon Co HS Woodbury FFA; Nathan Shawn Harrell, Warren Co HS FFA; Sarah Lyn Hedgepath, Eagleville HS FFA; Daniel Van Henderson, Lincoln Co HS FFA; Rachel Hendrix, Hendersonville HS FFA; Steven Holder, Riverdale HS FFA; Molly Holland, Liberty FFA; Erica Elam Hooper, Siegel High School-FFA; Bridgette Horton, Wilson Central FFA; Ryan Inman, Riverside HS FFA; Margaret Jane Jackson, Eagleville HS FFA; Justin Jacobs, Riverdale HS FFA; Nick Jared, Portland HS FFA; B.J. Jennings, Moore County FFA; Wesley Edward Jones, East Robertson HS FFA; Dustin Kemp, Dresden HS FFA; Joshua King, Westmoreland



HS FFA; Brad Kirkham, Portland HS FFA; Kimberly Renea Lance, South Fulton HS FFA; Nikki Land, West Greene HS FFA; Kendall Lawson, Morristown E HS FFA; Patrick Lee, Springfield HS FFA; Lilibeth Leon, Liberty FFA; Sarah Locker, Lincoln Co HS FFA; Jessica Lovvorn, Cannon Co HS Woodbury FFA; Chiann Shing Mack, White House HS FFA; Amanda L. Maddux, Forrest HS FFA; Justin Ryan Manis, Wilson Central FFA; Cody Ray Martin, South Fulton HS FFA; Tabitha Martin, Southside HS FFA; William M. Mayfield, Giles Co HS FFA; Jenny McAlister, Lincoln Co HS FFA; Heath McNeely, Dyersburg HS FFA; Jacie Meador, Westmoreland HS FFA; Shane A. Miller, Dekalb Co HS FFA; Matt Daivid Mitchell, Eagleville HS FFA; P.R. Morris, Riverside HS FFA; Joshua Morrow, Unicoi Co HS FFA; Becky Neal-Hulsey, East Robertson HS FFA; Katie Newbern, White House HS FFA; Natasha Nokes, Cannon Co HS Woodbury FFA; Cody J. Norton, Spring Hill HS FFA; Ryan Norton, Spring Hill HS FFA; Holly Norwick, Liberty FFA; Joshua Allen Odom, Dekalb Co HS FFA; Casey L. Orr, Gallatin HS FFA; Ashley Pearson, East Robertson HS FFA; Alex Perry, Halls FFA; Shasta Perry, East Robertson HS FFA; Sally Elizabeth Pirtle, Portland HS FFA; Zack Pirtle, Moore County FFA; Katie Elizabeth Poole, Hendersonville HS FFA; Jody Preston, Moore County FFA; Dustin Scott Pruitt, Portland HS FFA; Johnathon David Puckett, Dekalb Co HS FFA; Jennifer Pugh, Daniel Boone HS FFA; Daniel Raper, Southside HS FFA; Brad L. Reece, Ben W Hooper VOC Sch Cocke Co; Rachael Rigney, Riverdale HS FFA; Justin Roberson, Loretto HS FFA; Daniel Rogers, Mc Minn Co HS FFA; Kelsey Graham Ross, Mcewen HS FFA; Matt Sanders, Lexington High School - FFA; Nicholas Landon Self, Warren Co HS FFA; Darren Augustus Shanks, Eagleville HS FFA; Nathan Eugene Shaw, Clinton; Aaron Shew, Riverdale HS FFA; William Simmons, Lincoln Co HS FFA; Brittany Nicole Slonaker, Daniel Boone HS FFA; Joshua Allen Smart, Portland HS FFA; Hunter Smith, Dyer Co HS FFA; Anna Spence, Crockett Co HS FFA; Wesley Andrew Sprouse, Clinton; Cody Stevens, David Crockett HS FFA; Andy Stewart, Wilson Central

American Degree Recipients

FFA; Grady Charles Stout, Johnson Co HS FFA; Austin Stovall, Clinton; Ashley R. Swafford, Bledsoe FFA; Mollie Thompson, Wilson Central FFA; Caroline E. Tucker, North Greene HS FFA; Dustin Ray Tucker, Station Camp FFA; Ginger A. Tucker, Gallatin HS FFA; Grayson Uldrich, White House HS FFA; Megan Vaughn, Liberty FFA; Jeremy Vavouris, Lexington High School - FFA; Amber Waggoner, South Fulton HS FFA; Matt Waid, Moore County FFA; Shawna Walker, Bledsoe FFA; Stuart Watson, Dyersburg HS FFA; Max Weaver, Unicoi Co HS FFA; Travis Weaver, Anderson Co Career & Tech R; Emily Shea Webb, Crockett Co HS FFA; Matthew Wiggins, Crockett Co HS FFA; Jeremy Williams, Crockett Co HS FFA; Phillip Williams, Liberty FFA; Ryan Young, Halls FFA

Texas: Candace Aguirre, Carroll HS FFA; Angela Allee, Klein Forest FFA; Roselle Anthony, Maypearl Jr HS FFA; Amy Balzen, Jourdanton HS FFA; Courtney Bauer, Pleasanton HS FFA; Leigh Berger, Weimar FFA; Sheridan Biddle, Eagle Pass HS FFA; Ryan Bland, Chico HS FFA; Cole Bolton, Jacksonville HS FFA; Riley Branch, Aspermont HS FFA; Kristin Brown, James E. Taylor FFA; Jessica Brumfield, Wimberley HS FFA; Kelsey Bryan, Hale Center HS-FFA; Caleb Bursey, Quanah HS-FFA; Zackary Burson, Silvertown FFA; Lucas Butler, Palmer HS FFA; Lukas Chachere, Dayton HS-FFA; Lilly Claborn, Chico HS FFA; Bonnie Cox, Chico HS FFA; Clayton Neil Cronin, Shepherd FFA; Brady Crossland, Dumas HS FFA; Kip Curry " , Jr.", Dublin HS FFA; Jillian Deorsam, Uvalde HS FFA; Joseph Dillard, Savoy HS-FFA; Kelsey Evans, Chisum HS FFA; Tyler Eveland, Snyder HS FFA; Maegan N. Fisher, Lampasas FFA; Olivia Fouse, North Lamar FFA; Matt Franklin, Tilden FFA; Lucas Gaston, Burleson HS FFA; Joshua Gutz, East Central FFA; Brittany Hall, Channelview FFA; Jimmy Head, Devine HS FFA; Charles Hegemeyer, Hempstead HS FFA; Henry Herrmann, Caldwell HS FFA; Sean Hightower, Chisum HS FFA; Jennifer Hill, Rusk HS-FFA; Jaclyn Hollingsworth, Sanger HS FFA; Tiffany Hotchkiss, Ross S Sterling HS FFA; Lane Hoy, Hargrave HS FFA; Stephen Neil Jeter II, Troy HS FFA; Delaina Johnson, Elkins HS FFA; C. A. Jones, Dumas HS FFA; Amanda Jordan, Pearland HS-FFA; Bernadette Jurica, Rice Consolidated HS-FFA; Laura Kaspar, Carroll HS FFA; Cody Kneupper, Comfort HS FFA; Jacob

Knight, Chisum HS FFA; Kara Kucharski, Byers FFA; Trapper Lewis, Marble Falls HS FFA; Cory Long, Hargrave HS FFA; Alex Lopez, Pearland HS-FFA; Jamie Lynn Luna, Troy HS FFA; Erika Lyssy, Floresville HS FFA; Kaylee Malatek, Columbus HS FFA; Kacy Martin, Devine HS FFA; Gid Mayfield, Silvertown FFA; Stephanie McClendon, Ore City HS FFA; Lacey McGinnis, Harmony HS FFA; Kendra Meadors, Lovelady HS FFA; Kaley Meadows, Iowa Park HS FFA; James Merrifield, Garland HS FFA; Arthur Mims, Channelview FFA; Andrea Minchew, Groesbeck HS-FFA; Lindsey Mitchell, Winnsboro HS FFA; Kelli Mock, East Central FFA; Chelsea Moeller, Schulenburg FFA; Jenna Moore, East Central FFA; Joseph Mucka, Channelview FFA; Bryce Nations, Grand Saline HS-FFA; Mandi Neal, Groesbeck HS-FFA; Jenah Nelson, Marble Falls HS FFA; Shyenne Nelson, Chisum HS FFA; Jessica Caswell Norvell, Cotton Center FFA; Kyleigh Parker, Ross S Sterling HS FFA; Brice Patterson, Tilden FFA; Clayton Pawelek, Pleasanton HS FFA; Travis Ponder, Tomball HS FFA; Jake Popp, Wharton HS FFA; Brennen Puryear, Lake Travis HS-FFA; Mat Ragan, Sulphur Springs FFA; Jessica Rager, Mayde Creek HS FFA; Taylor Raley, Chico HS FFA; Tyler Raley, Chico HS FFA; Joe Roberson, West Rusk HS-FFA; Brandon Rodriguez, Dulles FFA; Rhode Jorge Rodriguez, Dilley HS FFA; Lisa Sampson, Union Grove HS FFA; Stacy Scardino, Weimar FFA; Jenna Schatte-Page, Columbus HS FFA; Katie Schimcek, Weimar FFA; Kelley Schlabs, Hereford HS-FFA; Melanie Schroedter, Orange Grove HS FFA; Isaac Serna, Coolidge HS FFA; Valery Paige Sharber, Glen Rose FFA; Scott Shipman, Merkel FFA; Matthew Shockey, Northwest FFA; Russell Squires, Odem FFA; Amber Stall, Klein Forest FFA; Ashton Teal, Tilden FFA; Tyler Thomas, Mabank HS FFA; Tiffany Thornton, Chico HS FFA; Kara Tullus, Humble HS-FFA; Carson Ulbrich, Jourdanton HS FFA; Samantha Underwood, Clear Brook HS FFA; Jake Walker, Humble HS-FFA; Jessica Warburton, Round Top-Carmine FFA; Sara Wiatrek, East Central FFA; Christy Wick, Hallettsville HS FFA; Austin Williams, Tomball HS FFA; Mallory Williams, Jacksboro HS-FFA; Gaylon Wilmeth, Dilley HS FFA; Richard Wilson, Peaster HS-FFA; Ashley Winterrowd, Cedar Park HS FFA; Tyler Yaklin, Orange Grove HS FFA; Tanner Young, Silvertown FFA; Caleb Youree, Bells HS FFA

Utah: Culley Anderson, Weber HS FFA; John Case Anderson, Pleasant Grove HS FFA; Justin Anderson, Spanish Fork HS FFA; Tiffany Anderson, Fremont HS FFA; Tyson Richard Anderson, Lone Peak HS FFA; Lindsay Arnoldsen, Lone Peak HS FFA; Nicolena Baadsgaard, Spanish Fork HS FFA; Ashley Berg, Lone Peak HS FFA; Maverick Marc Bingham, Lehi HS FFA; Seth Capell, Fremont HS FFA; Trevor Carson, Lehi HS FFA; Zane Lynn Christensen, Sky View HS FFA; Lekelsi Dansie, Lehi HS FFA; Jessica Dodge, Lone Peak HS FFA; Lance Morgan Earl, Bear River HS FFA; Richard Elder, Lone Peak HS FFA; Dane Ercanbrack, North Summit HS FFA; Bradley David Erickson, Sky View HS FFA; Colton Fillmore, Emery HS FFA; Zak Gardner, Box Elder HS FFA; Bruce D. Giles, Millard HS Hs; Tessa Anne Goodall, Lone Peak HS FFA; Kristina Gowans, Tooele HS FFA; Nathan K. Griffin, Davis HS FFA; Bryce T. Grossgebauer, American Fork HS FFA; Daniel David Gubler, Sky View HS FFA; Cody Gull, Spanish Fork HS FFA; Jacob A. Hardy, Box Elder HS FFA; Andrea Rae Hattton, Box Elder HS FFA; Heber C. Haws, Lehi HS FFA; Kesia Horner, Wasatch HS FFA; Michael Hughes, Manila HS FFA; Autumn Janeen Hullinger, Manila HS FFA; Kasey Ketron, Monticello HS FFA; Mindi Kidd, Sky View HS FFA; Nickole Lavery, Lehi HS FFA; Amy E. Law, Davis HS FFA; Benjamin S. Law, Davis HS FFA; John Lighthill, Lone Peak HS FFA; Skylar Lighthill, Lone Peak HS FFA; Jessica Camille Lore, Clearfield HS FFA; Natalie DeeAnn Marshall, Lone Peak HS FFA; Josh McMullin, Payson HS FFA; Tiffany Merrill, Sky View HS FFA; Jessica K. Miller, Lone Peak HS FFA; L.B. Miller, Lehi HS FFA; Kristy Lynn Neff, Box Elder HS FFA; Alisha Newman, Riverton HS FFA; Jes Olsen, Wasatch HS FFA; Jarvis T. Pace, Spanish Fork HS FFA; Holly M. Pitt, Tooele HS FFA; Shannon Prince, Davis HS FFA; Leslie Kay Rees, North Summit HS FFA; Chad Roberts, Lone Peak HS FFA; Casey Robinson, Manila HS FFA; Amy Rose, Bear River HS FFA; Camille Rose, Manila HS FFA; Camille Rowley, Payson HS FFA; Calvin Schell, Manila HS FFA; Suzanne Sessions, Morgan HS FFA; Chris Shelby, American Fork HS FFA; Tanna Smith, Sky View HS FFA; Amy Lynn Syme, Payson HS FFA; Kelli Thomas, Lehi HS FFA; Ty R. Thompson, Box Elder HS FFA; Victoria Vanderhoeven, Lone Peak HS FFA; Trent Wade, Fremont HS FFA; Blake Walton,



Wasatch HS FFA; Lee Rex Williams, American Fork HS FFA; Kevin Worwood, Juab HS-Mt Nebo FFA; John Wright, Payson HS FFA

Virginia: Ashley Balsley, Stuarts Draft HS FFA; VA Kayla Brewster, Tazewell HS FFA; VA Michael Brill, Central HS FFA; VA Lora Brooks, Abingdon HS FFA; VA Greta Brumback, Sherando HS FFA; VA Steven John Burgoyne, Turner Ashby HS-FFA; VA Mary Katherine Clark, Holston HS-FFA; VA Samantha Caroline Dolinger, Abingdon HS FFA; VA William Earhart, Fort Defiance HS FFA; VA Tanna Carolyn Edmondson, Abingdon HS FFA; VA Lauren Renee Eutsler, James Wood HS FFA; VA Amy Gail Fannon, Lee HS-FFA; VA Laura M. Fitzgerald, Stuarts Draft HS FFA; VA Thomas Jonathan Hash, Holston HS-FFA; VA Benjamin Link Heizer, Riverheads HS FFA; VA Sarah K. Heizer, Riverheads HS FFA; VA Shawn M. Helton, Abingdon HS FFA; VA Amber Leanna Hickman, Abingdon HS FFA; VA Lucas James Hughes, Fort Chiswell HS FFA; VA Kimberly A. Jones, Broadway HS FFA; VA Sarah Elizabeth Joseph, Spotswood Sr HS FFA; VA David Kauffman, Buffalo Gap HS - FFA; VA Jonathan Seth Leath, Carroll Co HS FFA; VA David H. Liskey, Spotswood Sr HS FFA; VA Christopher D. Lloyd, Abingdon HS FFA; VA Hunter Clark Loving, James Wood HS FFA; VA Michelle McCann, Nelson Co HS-FFA; VA Justin McKay Miller, Tazewell HS FFA; VA Jennifer Moore, John S Battle HS - FFA; VA Michelle Lynn Neel, Tazewell HS FFA; VA Brian Orndorff, Central HS FFA; VA Blake Overstreet, Randolph Henry HS FFA; VA Anthony David Phillips, Pulaski Co HS-FFA; VA Rachel Anna Polan, Christiansburg HS FFA; VA Justin S. Powers, Turner Ashby HS-FFA; VA Samantha J. Renalds, Turner Ashby HS-FFA; VA Tyler A. Renner, James Wood HS FFA; VA Brianna Rhodes, Rural Retreat HS FFA; VA Tabatha LaRae Robins, Tazewell HS FFA; VA Andrew J. Rose, Clintwood HS FFA; VA Lisa M. Rumsey, Spotsylvania HS FFA; VA Evan Shiflett, Fort Defiance HS FFA; VA Mary A. Slavik, Holston HS-FFA; VA Rachel M. Smith, Millbrook FFA; VA Kimberly Irene

American Degree Recipients

Spiva, Abingdon HS FFA; VA Sarah Danielle Stanley, Clintwood HS FFA; VA Renee Stevens, Abingdon HS FFA; VA Joshua D. Swedberg, Millbrook FFA; VA Brittany Truxell, Buffalo Gap HS - FFA; VA Steven Andrew Waller, Fort Chiswell HS FFA; VA Amanda Lynn Weakley, Madison Co HS FFA; VA Harry O. White II, Millbrook FFA; VA Craig Williams, Buffalo Gap HS - FFA; VA Eric Thomas Wilson, Rural Retreat HS FFA

Vermont: Katy L. Sartwell, Missisquoi Valley FFA

Washington: Jonathan Asmussen, Tonasket HS FFA; Andrew Barth, Quincy HS-FFA; Donald F. Benz III, Pioneer HS FFA; Naminder Bhumber, Ferndale HS FFA; Meera Bridges, Wenatchee HS FFA; Patrick J. Chism, Lake Chelan HS-FFA; Amanda Dawn Christensen, River View High School; Gary Wayne Chumbley II, Toledo HS FFA; David Dobbins, Cheney FFA; Aron James Dowell, Rochester HS FFA; Michael Henry Friddle, Colton FFA; Christa Gillespie, Yelm HS FFA; Alfred John Guimond, Lake Chelan HS-FFA; Kodi Jo Jaspers, Wenatchee HS FFA; Michelle L. Keno, Liberty HS FFA; James Kranz, Ferndale HS FFA; Samantha Kunde, Yelm HS FFA; Michael Lehmitz, Pullman HS FFA; Caroline Mann, Tonasket HS FFA; Amy Christine Morrison, Mount Vernon HS FFA; Andrea O'Brine, Ferndale HS FFA; Joelle L. Parkert, White River HS FFA; Justin Pease, Clarkston HS FFA; Clay Pehl, Lynden HS FFA; Carrie Pendleton, Clarkston HS FFA; Justine Reeves, Eastmont HS FFA; Dorothy Robbins, Tenino HS FFA; Ky Shinn, Granger HS FFA; Matthew Wayne Sweet, Ferndale HS FFA; Kimberly Gail Thayer, Quincy HS-FFA; Lacey VanderVeen, Lynden HS FFA; Kirsten VanZanten, Ferndale HS FFA; Stephen Scott Verduin, Ferndale HS FFA; Ben Ware, Sedro Woolley HS FFA

Wisconsin: Alexander Kenneth Abel, Bonduel HS FFA; Amanda M. Akins, Black Hawk HS FFA; Kayla Anderson, Dodgeville HS FFA; Matthew Anderson, Sauk Prairie HS FFA; Hannah Aplin, Randolph HS FFA; Dan Austin, Brodhead HS FFA; Nicole J. Austreng, Weyauwega Fremont HS FFA; Mike Bartel, Brillion HS FFA; Justin L. Belling, Lomira HS FFA; Jessica Berger, Bonduel HS FFA; Robert J. Bialozynski, Pulaski High School - FFA; Jennifer Lyn Bjorge, Dodgeville HS FFA; Andrew R. Blaser, Oconto Falls HS FFA; Amber Boeke, Juda HS

FFA; Matthew J. Boldt, Brillion HS FFA; Justin P. Boomsma, Randolph HS FFA; Michael J. Boomsma, Randolph HS FFA; Abby Borgen, Amherst HS FFA; Jennifer M. Bork, Arcadia HS FFA; Edward Borowitz, Oconto Falls HS FFA; Matt Borzick, Montello HS FFA; Alicia Ann Braker, Randolph HS FFA; Dustin Brandt, Antigo HS FFA; Michael M. Brehm, Spencer HS FFA; Lee M. Bushman, Cochrane Fountain City HS FFA; Randi Calzavara, Evansville HS FFA; Kellie Claflin, Osseo Fairchild HS FFA; Charity Cook, Oconto Falls HS FFA; Ashley L. Dalke, Gresham HS FFA; Emily Paulsen, Waupaca High School - FFA; Sally R. Darwin, Waupaca High School - FFA; Jessica Delzer, Oconto Falls HS FFA; Kimberly Desens, Marion HS FFA; Wesley DeVries, Randolph HS FFA; Aaron M. Dietsche, Bloomer HS FFA; David Dittbrenner, Luck HS-FFA; Dana D. Eibergen, Granton HS FFA; Kimberly Fabry, Oconto Falls HS FFA; Eric Follendorf, Sparta HS & Meadowview Middle School FFA; Jill M. Franklin, Evansville HS FFA; Adam Freis, Kiel HS FFA; Andy Frelich, Denmark HS FFA; Matt Frelich, Denmark HS FFA; Heidi Friedman, Oconto Falls HS FFA; Katie Lynn Gabris, Waupun High School - FFA; Dean Gasser, Sauk Prairie HS FFA; Katylynn Gher, Richland Center FFA; Mike Glodowski, Amherst HS FFA; Kevin A. Hanson, Mount Horeb HS FFA; Caleb J. Hawley, Randolph HS FFA; Jessica Hedrich, Chilton HS FFA; Mathew Heidt, Randolph HS FFA; Tim Hendrickson, Randolph HS FFA; Sasha Henze, Brodhead HS FFA; Timothy Richard Hollander, Randolph HS FFA; Kasey Inderdahl, Weyauwega Fremont HS FFA; Andrew John Jackson, Fennimore HS FFA; Danielle M. Jansma, Randolph HS FFA; Jessica Johnson, Waupaca High School - FFA; Kenneth Johnston, Augusta HS FFA; Krystle Kasper, Weyauwega Fremont HS FFA; Anthony Katsma, Randolph HS FFA; Jodi Kauth, Granton HS FFA; Sandra Kirchner, Clintonville HS FFA; Tabitha A. Kleckner, Neillsville HS FFA; Krystin Knaack, Johnson Creek HS - FFA; Brad Krueger, Markesan HS FFA; Courtney Kuba, Bloomer HS FFA; Lindsey Kuzma, Sauk Prairie HS FFA; Kelsey Rhae Lois Leasure, East Troy HS FFA; Kenneth M. Levzow, Pardeeville HS FFA; Jodi Marshall, Kickapoo HS FFA; Dillon Matelski, Suring HS FFA; John M. Maternoski, Denmark HS FFA; Adam McCabe, Plymouth HS FFA; Laurie Elizabeth Meagher, Randolph HS FFA; Cynthia Meyer, Elk Mound HS FFA; Shane Michiels, Denmark HS FFA; Jenna

M. Miller, Mineral Point HS FFA; Erick Monsen, Stoughton HS FFA; Lindsay Morris, Lake Mills HS FFA; Jason Muck, Bonduel HS FFA; Eric Naedler, Granton HS FFA; Joseph S. Nelson, Jefferson HS FFA; Sheri Nelson, East Troy HS FFA; Bradley Jacob Novacheck, Hillsboro HS FFA; Kannen C. Odden, Cumberland HS FFA; Derek Orth, Fennimore HS FFA; Brittney Ott, Brillion HS FFA; Lance M. Pagel, Weyauwega Fremont HS FFA; Jordan J. Palubicki, Greenbay-Preble HS FFA; Stephanie Paull, Dodgeville HS FFA; Alyssa Paulsen, Winneconne HS FFA; Lesley Paulson, Stoughton HS FFA; Stephanie Ann Pederson, Amherst HS FFA; Christopher Pennings, Denmark HS FFA; James Petroskey, Antigo HS FFA; William Pettis, Augusta HS FFA; Melissa Ploekelman, Colby HS FFA; Matthew Porior, Oconto Falls HS FFA; Ryan Prill, Bloomer HS FFA; Karen Riegert, Suring HS FFA; Gary R. Rieth, Oconto Falls HS FFA; Jake Roloff, Waupaca High School - FFA; Nick P. Ronke, Sparta HS & Meadowview Middle School FFA; Amanda Sandmire, Sauk Prairie HS FFA; Michael W. Schmidt, Randolph HS FFA; Wendy Schulke, Waupaca High School - FFA; Courtney I. Sedbrook, Brodhead HS FFA; Hannah Marie Sheller, Montello HS FFA; Kasey Signer, Monroe HS FFA; Katie Slager, Reedsville HS FFA; Ashley A. Smith, Lake Mills HS FFA; Steven Spatchek, Brillion HS FFA; Andy Stanke, Bonduel HS FFA; Matthew Steinbach, Granton HS FFA; Lisa Marie Stiemke, De Forest HS FFA; Gregory Ross Stiemsma, Randolph HS FFA; Marjorie Stine, Bruce HS FFA; Jordan T. Streich, Jefferson HS FFA; Torie Tews, Parkview HS FFA; Theresa Theobald, Sheboygan Falls HS FFA; Josiah Thomas, Dodgeville HS FFA; Zachery J. Thompson, Randolph HS FFA; Melissa Thurner, Waupaca High School - FFA; Sally Turpin, Hillsboro HS FFA; Tony Turpin, Hillsboro HS FFA; Ashley Lenae Vande Zande, Waupun High School - FFA; Brooke Rochelle Vande Zande, Waupun High School - FFA; Andrew Vine, Neillsville HS FFA; Sheri Ince, Granton HS FFA; Nicole J. Vogt, Dodgeville HS FFA; Kevin Ward, Markesan HS FFA; Brandon Leigh Waterworth, Randolph HS FFA; Mark Robert Wavrunek, Denmark HS FFA; Jillian Weier, Dodgeville HS FFA; Devin S. Wendlandt, Randolph HS FFA; Zachary Wenger, Brodhead HS FFA; Kayla Wesoloski, Oconto Falls HS FFA; Ross R. Williams, Mount Horeb HS FFA; Jamie Wood, Clear Lake HS FFA; Kelsey Woolever,



Bloomer HS FFA; Kayla Wynen, Brillion HS FFA; Megan Yager, Mineral Point HS FFA; Kassidy Nikole Yatso, Oconto Falls HS FFA; Samuel C. Zahn, Oconto Falls HS FFA; Jacob G. Zander, Mount Horeb HS FFA; Randy Zick, Sauk Prairie HS FFA; Marcus J. Zondag, Randolph HS FFA; Kyle Joseph Zwieg, Oconomowoc HS FFA

West Virginia: Megan Andrews, Taylor Co Tech Center FFA; Caitlin M. Bailey, Gilmer County FFA; Courtney M. Bailey, Gilmer County FFA; Brian Scott Clagg, Cabell-Midland HS FFA; Brad Cochran, Ripley HS FFA; Cody Wayne Dent, Mineral Co Vo Tech R FFA; Amy Garza, Jefferson HS FFA; Shawn Haight, Tyler Co Consolidated HS-Tyler; Whitney Jo Henry, Hedgesville HS FFA; Sarah Marie Hunter, Ripley HS FFA; Benji Jewell, Ravenswood HS FFA; Adam Judy, Moorefield HS FFA; Susan Elizabeth Knopp, Ripley HS FFA; M. Hunter Mastrogiuseppe, Elkins HS FFA; Patrick Wayne Parsons, Parkersburg South HS-Blennerhassett FFA; Kevin Joseph Shipe, East Hardy HS FFA; Brandi Lynn Smith, Hampshire HS-FFA; Brittany April Smith, Pendleton County HS FFA; Jennifer R. Thompson, Ravenswood HS FFA; Lauren A. Trozzi, Taylor Co Tech Center FFA; Charles A. Ware, Martinsburg HS FFA; Carissa H. Wilson, Moorefield HS-FFA

Wyoming: Amy Berry, Cheyenne East HS Frontier FFA; Kolby Condos, Lyman HS FFA; Raenell Edsall, Hulett HS Devils Tower FFA; Brittany M. Epler, Southeast Goshen HS FFA; Zach Flitner, Lyman HS FFA; Lindsey Freeman, Cheyenne East HS Frontier FFA; Ryan Eugene Georgius, Thermopilis FFA; Kaden McQuade Harris, Mountain View HS Jim Bridger; Katharine L. Hawker, New Plymouth HS-FFA; George Hickey, Lyman HS FFA; Holly L.M. Kennedy, Snowy Range FFA; Nikolaus E. Kennedy, Snowy Range FFA; Justin Kofford, Mountain View HS Jim Bridger; Sabrina Lamb, Mountain View HS Jim Bridger; Karren Lewis, Snowy Range FFA; Brian McBroon, Lyman HS FFA; Hannah Osborne, Riverton HS FFA; Eli Robbins-Lilley, Snowy Range FFA; Nancy Thoman, Wind River HS FFA

Honorary American Degree Recipients

Teacher Honorees



The Honorary American Degree – Teacher award for agricultural education is conferred upon teachers who both have at least 10 years of teaching agricultural education and had at least 85 percent FFA membership during the previous year.

Alabama

Mr. Barry Bailey, Sand Rock

California

Mr. Jim Bomprezzi, Madera
 **Mr. Ken Dias (2006), Clovis
 Mr. Eric Dyer, Davis
 Mr. James English, Santa Maria
 Mr. Timothy Hively, Riverside
 Mrs. Heather Thomas, Sutter

Colorado

Mr. Brett Saunders, Montrose

Connecticut

Mr. B. Harrison Griffin, W. Suffield

Florida

Ms. Lisa Paige Bynum, Lake Helen
 Ms. Jodi Nichols Geiger, Edgewater
 Mr. Chris Wilder, Micanopy

Georgia

Mr. Brian Kevin Maddy, LaGrange
 Mr. Charles Henry Majeski, Jr., Ashburn
 Mr. Reggie Stowers, Dawsonville

Idaho

Mr. VerNon Roche, Mackay

Illinois

Mr. Michael G. Chausse, Aledo
 Mr. Kevin Price, Milford
 Mrs. Jennifer Timm, Iuka

Kansas

Mr. Rex Boley, Ellsworth

Kentucky

Mr. Joe Michael Moore, Glasgow

Michigan

Mr. Tom Condon, Leonidas
 Mr. Jason Griffith, Lyons



Minnesota

Mr. William Klaers, Wabasso
 Mr. Nathan Purrington, Ada

Missouri

Mr. Ron Dickens, Liberal
 Mr. Robin Farmer, Stark City
 Mrs. Valerie Montgomery, Brookfield

Nebraska

Mr. Dennis Kenning, Steele City
 Mr. Doug Voigt, St. Paul

New Jersey

Mr. John M. Petronglo, Voorhees

New York

Mr. William Stowell, Lorraine

North Dakota

Mr. Glen T. Huettl, Garrison

Oklahoma

Mr. Wesley Rayner, Geary
 Mr. Mike Schmidt, Coyle

South Carolina

Mr. Steven E. McCannon, Pendleton

South Dakota

Mr. James Quick, Alcester

Virginia

Mr. Jimmy BURCHER, Appomattox
 Mr. Warren Samuel, Hampton
 Mr. Dan Swafford, Christiansburg

West Virginia

Mr. Leon Ammons, Middlebourne
 Mr. Paul Williams Roomsburg, Augusta
 Mr. Tracy K. Stutler, New Milton

Wyoming

Mr. Craig Spatz, Hillsdale

Honorary American Degree Recipients

Other Honorees



The Honorary American Degree – Other award for agricultural education is highest Honorary Degree presented by the National FFA Organization. It is conferred upon individuals who have made major contributions to advance agriculture, and/or agricultural education – FFA programs.

Alaska

Dr. G. Allen Mitchell

Arkansas

Mr. Bruce Lazarus,
Mr. Chuck Tucker

California

Mrs. PJ LoCoco

Florida

Rep. Frank Attkisson
Rep. Greg Evers
Mr. David Still

Georgia

Mr. John Allen Bailey
Mr. Jeff Cornwell
Mr. Marty McLendon
Rep. James (Jay) Roberts
Sen. Ross Tolleson

Idaho

Dr. Michael Rush
Mr. Patrick A Takasugi

Iowa

Mr. Steve DeWitt

Maryland

Ms. Dorothy Ann Wood

Michigan

Dr. Joe Domecq
Mr. Kenneth Geuns
Dr. Sam Varghese

Minnesota

Mrs. Val Aarsvold
Miss Nicole Boettger
Mr. Kent Janssen
Ms. Sheryl Meshke

Mississippi

Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith
Dr. Clyde Muse
Dr. Lester Spell

Missouri

Mrs. Veronica Feilner
Mr. Dick Marshall
Mr. Dave Parsons
Mr. Howard Pehle
Dr. Barry Steevens

National Staff

Mr. Eldon Alexander
Ms. Terry Alexander
Mr. Max Armstrong
Mr. Mark Back
Ms. Rhonda Back
Dr. Matt Baker
Ms. Helen Barnard
Mr. Virgil Barnard
Ms. Patty Bartos
Mr. Rick Bartos
Mr. Greg Baugher
Ms. Rosemary Baugher
Sen. Evan Bayh
Mr. Jose Bernal
Mr. Dean Bialozynski
Mrs. Michele Bialozynski
Dr. Angenieta Biegel
Ms. Karen Blaser
Mr. Roger Blaser
Ms. Lisa Bushman
Mr. Mike Bushman
Mr. Jim Cecil
Ms. Vickie Cecil
Ms. Mary Cook
Mr. Rick Cook
Ms. Jennifer Fairchild-Flemmig
Mr. Joe Fell
Mr. Edward Flemmig
Ms. Jean Froehlich
Mr. Steve Froehlich
Mrs. Michelle Fuller
Mr. Michael Gaddie AIFD, KMF,
Mrs. Pam Gaddie KMF
Dr. E. Bruce Godfrey
Mr. Burton Harrison Griffin
Ms. Carol B. Griffin
Dr. Lynn Hamilton
Ms. Debra Hardesty
Mr. Eugene Hardesty
Mr. Marcus Hill
Ms Elaine Himburg
Mr. John Himburg
Ms. Georgia Kahnke
The Late Mr. James Kahnke
Mr. Jason Larison
Mr. John Madia
Mr. David Morehead

Mrs. Marla Morehead
Mrs. Jane S. Olcott
Mr. Kenneth W. Olcott
Ms. Julie M. Rigoli
Mr. Kelly E. Rogers
Ms. Joan M. Schmidt
Mr. William M. Schmidt
Ms. Sally Shomo
Lt. Governor Becky Skillman
Ms. Gay Simpson
Mr. Steve Simpson
Mr. Glenn A. Stith
Mr. Dan Tekippe
Ms. Mary Tekippe
Ms. Donna Veen
Mr. Gregory Veen
Dr. Brad C. Venuto
Dr. A. Dale Whittaker
Mr. Stewart Whitney
Ms. Dianne Williamson
Dr. Scott Williamson
Dean Randy Woodson

New Hampshire

Mr. William H. Wood

New Jersey

Mr. Steven P. Gruenberg
Mrs. Rochelle Hendricks
Mrs. Jan-Marie Traynor

New Mexico

Mr. Jerry Birdwell

New York

Mr. Lee Berry
Ms. Sue Berry
Dean Susan Henry

North Carolina

Dr. Antoine J. Alston
Mr. Joshua W. Starling

North Dakota

Ms. Julie Ellingson
Ms. Brenda Lee Herring
Mrs. Ellen Huber

Ohio

Dr. Jeff Byers
Mr. Russell A. Griggs

Oklahoma

Rep. Don Armes
Mr. John Carter
Mr. Dwayne Danker
Mr. Terry Detrick
Mr. Kyle McQuaid

Oregon

Mr. Thomas W. Hill

Pennsylvania

Mr. Phil Pitzer
Mr. John Tancelosky

South Carolina

Mr. Larry E Greer
Dr. Thomas R. Dobbins
Ms. Betty A Stover
Mr. Thomas S. Welsh

South Dakota

Mrs. Gerri Ann Eide
Mr. Walt Johnson
Tennessee
Mrs. Jerry Bullock

Virginia

Mr. Charles F Coles
Dr. Dan Eversole
Dr. Curtis Novack
Mr. Barry Sauls

West Virginia

Mr. David Johnson Workman
Mr. Jimmy Wyatt

Wyoming

Ms. Teresa H Cole
Mr. William Pannell

* Recipients are listed by the state or affiliation of those who nominated them.

FFA Chapters Win Top Honor

During the 80th National FFA Convention, chapters across the nation, competed for the honor of being a Model of Innovation winner. Three-star gold chapters competed for the honor in three main divisions: chapter development, student development and community development. A top middle school was also named. The chapter received a plaque in an onstage ceremony during the convention's second general session on Thursday, Oct. 25. Toyota sponsors the Models of Innovation awards as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT

The Spencer County FFA of Taylorsville, Ky., was named Model of Innovation winner in chapter development.

The Spencer County FFA worked to build relationships with community members by serving as trap/skeet pullers at an area trap shoot. Fifty business teams participated in the shoot to raise money for a local charity. FFA members interacted with the teams, establishing valuable connections and leaving a positive lasting impression on participants.

Motivated by a decrease in enrollment in the school's Introduction to Agriculture class, FFA members developed an overview program to show the school district's 187 eighth grade students what the agricultural classes and facilities had

to offer. Called Ag-Arithmetic Day, it featured tours, speakers and educational rotations involving agriculture and math.

The two subjects were united in three combinations; floral design boutonnières were used to study cost comparison, an aquaculture-related study on Koi fish color combination probability and geometric calculations through plywood cutouts. As a result, more than 142 eighth grade students enrolled in the introductory class, an increase of

more than 80 from the previous year.

The Spencer County FFA Chapter also hosted an agriculture commodity breakfast to promote FFA and agriculture to community leaders who may not have time to attend the traditional chapter banquet. During breakfast, which featured products grown or raised in Kentucky, members presented a short program and passed out promotional materials. FFA members and alumni

prepared the food and 52 community leaders attended the meal.

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

The Big Foot FFA of Walworth, Wis., was named Model of Innovation winner in Student Development.

The Big Foot FFA Chapter greatly values the leadership skills that students gain by attending leadership workshops and conferences. As part of its Personal Growth Scholarship Program, Big Foot FFA hosted numerous fundraisers to raise scholarship money and pay for students to attend leadership workshops. During the past year, the chapter increased the scholarship fund by 66 percent. This helped the chapter to send 43 members to at least one leadership conference last year.

Big Foot FFA also wanted to provide an opportunity for its members to gain



Chapter Winners continued

a broader perspective of the agriculture industry. To accomplish this goal, Big Foot FFA members volunteered in the Wisconsin State Fair Birthing Barn. Their chores ranged from assisting in delivering piglets to pasteurizing goat milk. Not only did the FFA members expand their views of the agriculture industry, but they also used their communication skills to interact with and educate the public about American agriculture.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Blanchester FFA of Blanchester, Ohio, was named Model of Innovation winner in community development.

Blanchester FFA understands the importance of developing students into responsible and active citizens of their communities. To raise public awareness of FFA and unite the school with the community, Blanchester FFA members planned and conducted a fall community parade. The successful parade hosted 14 school floats, 21 community floats and the high school marching band. More than 9,000 community members attended the event, and the chapter was contacted to host the parade again in the future.



Blanchester FFA members also value service within their community. To raise money for the Clinton County Homeless Shelter and the Children's Hospital, FFA members created Cardboard City. Students collected pledges to sleep on the school's front lawn in cardboard

boxes for a night. Through the successful event, the chapter was able to donate \$1,600 to the Clinton County Homeless Shelter and \$250 to the Children's Hospital.

OUTSTANDING MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Oconee County Middle School FFA of Watkinsville, Ga., was named "Outstanding Middle School" Model of Innovation winner.

The Oconee Middle School FFA promotes thoughtful citizenship among its members by organizing a holiday canned food and toy drive. They also provide gifts for teachers and foster positive relations between FFA and the community by Christmas caroling in their neighborhood.

The chapter also runs its own self-sustaining, school-based floral business. Members of the chapter prepare the floral arrangements and delivery cards, make deliveries, prepare invoices, collect payments and keep financial records of sales and disbursements.



VIP Citation

Twelve individuals were selected this year by the National FFA Organization to receive a special VIP Citation. The VIP Citations recognizes individuals for making significant contributions to agricultural science 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 80th National FFA Convention. Awards such as the VIP Citation recognize that FFA contributes to the mission of success by impacting students 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.

Those who were selected include: Mr. Ralph Barnett, assistant commissioner

for the divisions of career and technical education, Department of Education, in Nashville, Tenn.; Dr. Clark Hanson, professor emeritus South Dakota State University in Brookings, S.D.; Dr. Donald Herring, department chair, Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural Food and Life Sciences, Fayetteville, Ark.; Mr. Melvin H. Johnson, retired agricultural education teacher, Tiger, Georgia; Mr. Donald Michael, director of governmental affairs, West Virginia Farm Bureau, Ravenswood, W.Va.; Mr. Mike Massie, agricultural lawyer, Galva, Ill.; Dr. Lon Moeller, adjunct professor of agricultural education, Brookings, S.D.; Dr. Darrell Parks, retired director of vocational education, Ohio Department of Education, Columbus, Ohio; Mr. Terry A. Phillips, director of agricultural science, Texas education agency, Austin, Texas; Dr. Lou E. Riesenber, professor and department head, University of Idaho Department of Ag and

Extension Education, Moscow, Idaho; Dr. Bryl Shoemaker, retired director of vocational education, Ohio Department of Education, Columbus, Ohio; and Mr. Eddie Smith, retired state program administrator, Oklahoma Department of CareerTech, Stillwater, Okla.

A professor emeritus at South Dakota State University, **Hanson** has been an agricultural education professor since 1973 and has mentored numerous students who have gone on to teach agricultural education in South Dakota, Iowa and Minnesota.

During his time as a professor, he served as the Career Development Event (CDE) coordinator for the state FFA convention, took pictures of the CDE teams for the National FFA Organization, and participated on the National FFA Board of Directors as a teachers' education consultant and the National FFA Foundation Board of Trustees. He also served as the advisor to the



VIPs continued

agricultural education club and the collegiate FFA chapter in South Dakota.

Herring has been a highly effective leader in the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education at the University of Arkansas. His career in agricultural education began in 1962. Through his leadership, the reputation of the department's teaching, research and service efforts have flourished. After a strategic department reorganization, the faculty has won dozens of local, regional and national teaching, research and advising awards, many of which are credited to his supportive attitude.

For more than 41 years, **Johnson** was involved in agricultural education, serving as an agricultural education teacher, the director of the state FFA-FHA Center in Covington, Ga., and the state director of agricultural education. Under his leadership, the Georgia FFA Foundation was activated, agriscience courses began being offered as science credit and FFA membership increased by 39.5 percent. He also guided the development of the industry certificate program, and contributed to the completion of the 2020 Vision for Agricultural Education.

Massie has accomplished much as an agricultural lawyer for the firm Massie and Rennick. He has been instrumental in providing industry support to maintain the agricultural education line item within the Illinois State Board of Education. This line item supports the agricultural education initiatives in Illinois. He was also key in developing the agricultural law curriculum for the Illinois Agricultural Education Core Curriculum and has been an advocate for agricultural education as a model for all career and technical education.

Michael is the director of governmental affairs of the West Virginia Farm Bureau. He has served as a leader and a state director for the West Virginia FFA Association for more than 30 years. Throughout his career, he has led numerous initiatives to help agriculture

teachers deliver challenging curriculum to their students. He has also been successful in building a network of supporters for agricultural education by bringing together business and industry representatives, higher education leaders and politicians. This powerful group of stakeholders has then been able to lend special assistance at critical times.

Moeller is an adjunct agricultural education professor at the University of South Dakota. Since 1980, he has taught at SDSU and for the past five years has been head of the teacher education department. During his tenure, he has helped many new teachers transition into advisor roles. He's been key in helping with the implementation and use of computers in teaching agricultural education. For the past 27 years, he has worked with the writing and scoring of the Farm Business Management test of the state Career Development Event. During the week of national FFA convention, he has taken participants from South Dakota to the host city early in order for them to participate with the national chorus or national band.

Parks is a retired director of vocational education for the Ohio Department of Education and has been a teacher of agriculture for more than 40 years. Under his leadership, he strengthened vocational education through the 1980s when enrollment was declining. With the help of the Ohio General Assembly, he "modernized" vocational education and the enrollment numbers began to increase. Through new and transformed programs, he oversaw the expansions of vocational education in Ohio.

Phillips has worked in Texas agricultural education as program director for Agriculture Science and Technology Education at the Texas Education Agency. He has provided stable, credible leadership for the past seven years and has been instrumental in developing "Quality Counts," a junior livestock ethics education program. He has enabled

a greatly downsized state agricultural education staff to leverage volunteer resources. He was also part of the Texas FFA Foundation Leadership Council and Board of Directors, which launched the most successful campaign in the state's history.

Riesenberg serves as a professor and department chair at the University of Idaho. He has been instrumental in the preparation of more than 200 student teachers in agricultural education, many of whom have gone on to teach. He has served on more than 70 graduate-level committees for teachers in Idaho and has been a major contributor in agricultural education research. As a result of his work, the Idaho state FFA officers enroll in a college class, regardless of their physical location in that state, and see each other once a week in order to foster teamwork and complete the duties of state office.

Shoemaker a retired director of vocational education for the Ohio Department of Education, was instrumental in shaping vocational education in Ohio. Through his leadership, the 92-year-old was key in the development of programs in vocational education that preceded and followed the Vocational Education Act in 1963. He worked alongside Governor Jim Rhodes in establishing the 100-plus vocational education planning districts. Today, he continues to be involved in the advancement of career technical education by serving on numerous panels.

Smith worked at the Oklahoma Department of CareerTech until April of 2007. He served on the National FFA board of directors at a time when there was great change--the National FFA Center moved to Indianapolis and the decision was made to move the national FFA convention from Kansas City to other cities on a rotating basis. He also oversaw the hiring of the first lobbyist for the Ag-Ed Teachers Association and the hiring of the first full-time executive director for the Oklahoma Foundation.

Distinguished Service Citation

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 80 years because of this remarkable dedication. The award was presented on stage at the 80th National FFA Convention. Those organizations who received the honor include: Bob Stallman, president of The American Farm Bureau Federation in Washington, D.C. and Gus Douglass, West Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture, The West Virginia Department of Agriculture in Charleston, W.Va.

The American Farm Bureau Federation has been a national sponsor for the National FFA Organization for the past 49 years, supporting the extemporaneous speaking career development event and participating in the career show. They have been instrumental in assisting in advocacy efforts for agricultural education and have worked to help reauthorize key legislation to provide funding for career and technical

education. The company's continued support provides FFA members with the opportunities to develop their leadership skills and increase their involvement and influence in their local communities.

The West Virginia Department of Agriculture has been a leading support organization for agricultural education and FFA at the local, state and national levels for decades, providing thousands of dollars in the areas of human and financial resources.

Commissioner Gus Douglass, a former national FFA president and first chair of the National FFA Alumni, has educated

his staff in the mission of agricultural education and FFA. The department has not only provided technical assistance to agriculture education throughout the year, but also has underwritten expenses for teams participating in national competition and sponsored functions such as the National Conference for State Officers and the National FFA Week experience tour.



Awards such as the Distinguished Service Citation recognize FFA makes a greater impact on students through the **cooperation of the entire community.**

H.O. Sargent Diversity Awards

The H.O. Sargent Award was originally given by the New Farmers of America (NFA), the former organization for African-American agriculture students. In 1965, the NFA was incorporated into the FFA. This award, renewed in 1995, will continue as an annual recognition program. All applicants have been involved with agricultural education and have implemented programs to promote agricultural diversity. The award recognizes an FFA member who develops and/or actively supports ways to reach underrepresented individuals or groups who have not been able to fully enjoy the benefits of agricultural education and FFA activities.

Florida Teen wins H.O. Sargent Award

The National FFA Organization presented its national-level H.O. Sargent Diversity Award to **Wesley Hunter**, a member of the Vanguard High School SR FFA chapter in Ocala, Fla.

Embracing diversity comes naturally to

17-year-old Hunter, who has had a lot of practice teaching others, whether young or old, Catholic or Baptist, lovers of hip-hop or country, to cast aside differences and strive for common goals.

Hunter works with Sunfire Equine Studies, a group that teaches people of all ages and varying skill levels how to care for, handle, and ride horses. Each semester, he also mentors about 30 students who live in both urban and rural settings and helps them develop non-traditional Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) programs to gain hands-on agriculture experience. In addition to his FFA activities, Hunter serves as a leader of W.E.C.A.R.E. (Wonderfully Exalting Christ and Reverencing Elohim)

Community Group, which brings together people from different Christian denominations to support local youth. The group has raised more than \$2,000 for local student scholarships.

"Helping organize this event, I sought to solve stereotypes and show that religions can work together to support our youth," Hunter said.

He is the son of Wayne and Rhonda Hunter. His FFA advisor is Kristen Wood.

California teacher honored for diversity program

The National FFA Organization presented its national-level Teacher H.O. Sargent Diversity Award to **Carlos A. López**, an agriculture teacher at Parlier High School in Parlier, Calif.

From physical abilities and gender identity to race and culture, he's seen it all and works to help students

face the challenges of being different. "I demand that a mutual respect be given to everyone in my classes," López said.

López works to place special-needs students in vocational agricultural courses, including hands-on beginning welding and agricultural workability classes, which help them transition into mainstream courses. He's volunteered to assist in forming a GSA club on campus. He's worked closely to inform and encourage the school board to adopt a more encompassing letterhead that reflects the growing cultural and racial makeup of the community. He assists the vice principal and counseling staff on the school's gang task force, where he encourages members of gangs to take agriculture courses. López also helps in developing and implementing a Cinco de Mayo celebration.

H.O. Sargent Community Leader

Timothy J. Nichols of Brookings, S.D., is no stranger to promoting diversity. Currently, he is the assistant director of academic programs, College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences (Ag-Bio), at South Dakota State University (SDSU). For years, he's spearheaded diversity initiatives for SDSU. He provides diversity training to agriculture educators, which has led to integration of diversity components in the university's research and new teaching modules on American Indian agricultural practices. He also facilitates diversity workshops and teaches college courses, engages students in a global hunger awareness campaign, helps students of diverse backgrounds prepare for and succeed in college, leads international study tours and serves as academic advisor to students with disabilities.

"I believe accepting differences is the beginning of enhancing respect, communication, understanding, and ultimately, building positive relationships and reciprocal learning between individuals and groups who are different," Nichols said.

Nichols also organized an American Indian History and Culture Conference, led a faculty workshop on generational differences, and helped develop a women in agriculture recruitment event and a series of seven hands-on Ag-Bio workshops for the Flandreau Indian School Success Academy.



Band and Chorus Participants

CHORUS

Ackerley, Kaylie
 Balla, Seth
 Beltz, Michael
 Bomgaars, Anne
 Bosserd, Ethan
 Bowder, Hannah
 Brehm, Evan
 Bulling, Daniel
 Clark, Saffron
 Combs, Sarah
 Deis, Scott
 Ehlers, Jordan
 Feldman, William
 Filpse, Chelsie
 Flak, Jena
 Fletcher, Kelsey
 Fletcher, MacKenzie
 Fossand, Stephanie
 Gaines, Cedric
 Gauby, Logan
 Gerlach, Weston
 Gibbs, Joshua
 Gilmore, Megan
 Gless, Luke
 Goodner, Bradly
 Gregory, Joselyn
 Hale, Nathan
 Hamilton, Gregory
 Hansen, Michael
 Hild, Preston
 Huffman, Kay
 Johnson, Amber
 Jurgens, Anna
 Kennedy, Seth
 Lasher, Emily
 Lasher, Rachel
 Long, Katelin
 Loth, Emilee
 Luckey, Alisoun
 Machmer, Laura
 Markway, Keith
 Martin, Paige
 Mattison, Rebekah
 Mattke, Kylie
 McCarrick, Robby
 McDonald, Ben
 Micolichek, Jeremiah
 Mikkelsen, Chari
 Moore, Tareva
 Morris, Jonathan
 Nepodal, Joseph
 Odeen, Trevor

Openshaw, Austin
 Pacha, Brittany
 Parks, Chelsey
 Pauls, Josie
 Paulsen, Ethan
 Peake, Carmalita
 Pilkington, JaCee
 Quade, Patrick
 Qualm, Jenita
 Records, Emilie
 Riesterer, Dayna
 Rose, Shelbie
 Roskamp, John
 Ruf, Kayla
 Saenz, Marisol
 Sexton, Kathleen
 Shetterly, Jayna
 Smith, Austin "Cody"
 Spiegelberg, John
 Stallcup, Brittany
 Statler, Megan
 Stoodley, Cassandra
 Surdez, Emily
 Sutter, Marcus
 Tjosvold, Brock
 Trieb, William
 Troche, Albert
 VanMoer, Ben
 Westenberg, Zachary
 Westhoff, Megan
 Whittington, Nick
 Wilson, Caitlyn
 Wobig, Carl
 Wood, James
 Yutz, Dana
 Zimmerman, Rachael
 Zoulek, Sam

BAND

Ahrndt, Kali
 Ahrndt, Kelsi
 Amdahl, T.J.
 Barth, Heiderose
 Beitz, Justin
 Benson, Tom
 Bester, Jessica
 Bierschenk, Deborah
 Bivens, Nathan
 Bomgaars, Jill
 Bonney, Ashley
 Brinkman, Tucker
 Brisbane, Charles
 Cadwallader, Kendra
 Cheek, Preston
 Cherry, Carley
 Chlebowski, Joseph
 Davis, Courtney
 Doescher, Kaitlyn
 Engbring, Andrew
 Engelman, Amie
 Fay, Miranda
 Ferguson, Jena
 Folkersma, Rachel
 Frost, Addie
 Garrett, Clayton
 Goplin, Bradley
 Hall, Jason
 Harter, Rodney
 Hauge, Marie
 Heimbuch, Corrina
 Higgins, Alex
 Hoiten, Jody
 Holland, Joanna
 Holley, Ashleigh
 Holtcamp, Amber
 Holthaus, Blake
 Horst, Carolyn
 Hubbell, Jackson
 Juelfs, Laura
 Kipp, Peter
 Kirby, Jamie
 Klein, Kelsey
 Kohlmann, Nicole
 Kraft, Codey
 LaJoye, Chelsea
 Lapa, Megan
 Lawlis, Lyndsey
 Lawson, James
 Marek, Joshua
 Mell, Milo
 Meng, Kimberly
 Miller, Victoria
 Morrissey, Alex
 Myers, Alex
 Neby, Lindsey
 Neislein, Laura
 Nygard, Justin
 Osterberg, Traci
 Rausch, Cody
 Rosales, Nicole
 Rucker, Lydia
 Schroeder, Sarah
 Seleg, Steven
 Slater, Ashley
 Sparks, Amanda
 Spiegelhauer, Michael
 Stokes, Jessica
 Sturgeon, Robyn
 Tempel, Amber
 Vanderhoof, Dan
 Vondracek, Ellie
 Walt, April
 Ward, Genie
 Wieringa, Kevin
 Wright, Bethany



Delegates

Alabama: James Paul Bailey, Brendon Boyd, McKenzie Crabtree, Scottie Hunter, Melody Murrell, Leah Blalock, Salora Wright, Christine Turner, Beth Lott, Kimberly Henderson, Justin Posey, Karen Baggett

Alaska: Calib Krepps, Taylor Berberich

Arizona: Hunter Williams, Jake Rovey, Keri Gage, Mead Lawson, Amanda Zamudio

Arkansas: Zachary Coffman, Ryan Haley, Tasha Daniels, Samantha Carr, Steven Hutter, Lowin Cate, Katie Good, Hannah Harrington, Matthew Wise, Justin Wiedower, John Michael Bearden

California: Ashtin Alves, Ryan Amaral, Adrienne Bradley, Aubrey Bull, Leticia Campuzano, Denette Clark, Vernon Clark, Lexy Cook, Tylar Coons, Brendon Cornell, Katie Driver, Nessie Early, Jaret Fipps, Jacquelynne Garcia, Jesse Garcia, Kim Ghisla, Heidi Goss, Alexis Harmening, Jeff Healy, Mandy Hill, Brittanya Jackson, Michelle Jimenez, Matthew Johnson, David Jones, Mitchell

King, Catharine Kuber, Caitlin Lewis, Maggie Maratsos, Martha Marin, Jenenetta Marisclan, Ryan McCoon, Taylor McDonald, Brad Mendes, Teal Moore, Kyle Nelson, Caitlin Pettijohn-Benegas, Mika Petrucci, Tatianna Prestininzi, Levy Randolph, Frank Roche, Marlene Romero, Valerie Rosen, Loren Scoto, Katelyn Smith, Kaytlin Smith, Kevy Souza, Ellie Titus, Kate Tscharner, Vincent Urena, Erica Voris

Colorado: Brianna Bushner, Rachel Hornung, Nytasha Hueller, Nichelle Jaeger, Sadie Saylor

Conecticut: Tyler August, Sarah Davis, Christopher Puerta, Michael Masulli

Delaware: Justin Bailey, Sara Busker, Amanda Urian, Samantha Burton

Florida: Hilary Webb, Jamie Fussell, Amy Johnson, Jeffrey Williams, Jeanette Hicks, Erika Barth, Kara Cozine, Sarah Burseson, Mike Rogalsky, Lauren Lewis, Arielle Claude, David Swartzfager, Joshua Cribbs

Georgia: Junior Chapman, Victoria Hill, Kaitlyn Butler, Sara



Ervin, Caroline Black, Jessica Padgett, Casey Wyman, Jacob Daniel, Kati Andrews, Sean Blankenship, Kellie Brown, Candace Claxton, Raymond Fitzpatrick, Justin Hand, Janet Jones, Casey Mabe, Ariail Nash, Shelly Patton, Anna Savalle, Taylor Sills, Deana Veal

Hawaii: Megan Bruce, Blake Dixon

Idaho: Donald Curry, Vanessa Wilcox, Jennifer Spencer, Shea Nesbitt, Valerie Pantone

Illinois: Kaitlin Weitekamp, Sam Meteer, Tannor Spittler, Janell Baum, Wyatt McGrew, Austin Ashby, Brandon Askew, Annie Larson, Jenna Braasch, Theo Allen, Jared Brown, Ben Artaman, Ben Wurmnest, Anthony Graham, Ethan Keyser, Geoffrey Miller, Blake Stowers, Kaitlin Pence, Addison Lopp, Rachel Demaree, Jill Riley, Kevin Cross, Laura Donaldson, Emilie Kuhn

Indiana: Geoffrey Miller, Blake Stowers, Kaitlin Pence, Addison Lopp, Rachel Demaree, Jill Riley, Kevin Cross, Laura Donaldson, Emilie Kuhn

Iowa: Ryan Borcharding, Bret Spurgin, Dan Hansen, Charlie Fitzgerald, Jake Hunter, Alec Munier, Zach Morris, Sarah Beaver, Cortney Schmidt

Kansas: Bethany Bohnenblust, Torie Reilly, Kyle Essley, Taylor James, Drew Goering, Lacey George

Kentucky: Kirby O'Donoghue, Candice Orm, Celeste Laurent, Aaron Harned, Chelsea McFarland, Amanda Meadows, Tyler Burysek, Cameron Lee,

Natosha Mulholland, Daniel Howard, Josh Kerr, Kelsey Watson, Keitha Henderson

Louisiana: Jacob Sittig, Corey Broussard, Haley Hebert, Steven Parrie, Spencer Stelly, Justin Bryson, Brianna Creel, Ellen Boudreaux, Meghan Guillory

Maine: Shannon Svoboda, Kendra Conroy

Massachusetts: Desiree Choquette, Wylie Scalise, Tina Del Greco

Maryland: Becky Berkebile, Kelsey Dertzbaugh, Megan Thompson

Michigan: Dustin Grezeszak, Alexandria Henry, Joseph Ankley, Demitria Gavit, Andrew Walker, Cally Hass

Minnesota: Nate Janssen, Amber Seibert, Rita Wulf, Dan Helvig, Pam Dahlman, Lynsey Bengtson, Caitlin Kasper, Abbie Wirt

Mississippi: Wesley Brown, Casey Bullard, Jordan Sims, Megan Tucker, Stacy Thrash

Missouri: Rebecca Stephen, Kabel Oaks, Steven McCully, Logan Chrislaw, Jordan Branstetter, Megan Dohrman, Brenda Arnold, Ellen Amos, Becca Bunton, Mallory Francka, Kerri Mulford, Sebastian Los, Zane Privette, Brandon Ray, Dustin Myers, Khristy Huber, Jeromie Allen

Montana: Alena Ogg, Erik Johnson, Jenny Kossler, Chelcie Cremer



FFA chapters are in 15 of the 20 largest U.S. cities, including New York, Chicago and Philadelphia.

Delegates continued

Nebraska: Sarah Novotny, Ben Beckman, Craig Davidson, Jill Lander, Matt McElfresh, Jaci Swett, Leighton Wier

Nevada: Jake Baker, Megan Jackson, Jasmyn Jones

New Hampshire: Morgan Parker, Michael Sproul,

Kassie Houston, Charlee Goodwin, Josh Lindsey, Carol Cook, Jared Crain, Katy Gates, Leslie German, Kyle Hicks, Cami Jo Jeter, Megan Maxey, John Pfeiffer, Tyler Powell, Brandon Womack, Brent Womack, Tanner Thomspon

Oregon: Sheryden Root, Hannah O'Leary, John Gladman, Jeb Z. Hollabaugh, Kylie Jundt

Chelsea Doss, Kelsey Ross, Rebekah Clark, Lauren Jordan

Texas: Justin Self, Tatum Gunn, Jade Keith, Randa Braune, Brady Moore, Chris Schofield, Ilissa Nolan, Tyler Handrick, Kristen Stewart, Grant Bitner, Nathan Pond, Tommy Meek, Michele Newton, Blake Bradley, Trevor White, Reagan Rupard, Bailey Eiland, Whitney Walker, Erynne Treptow, Candi Clem, Amy Teston, Macy Eaves, Caitlyn Cooper, Annie Wolf, Shayna Reagan, Jonathan Woody, Kassie Davidson, Brittney Holland, Brittany Hightower, Samantha Tredor, Amanda Meadows, Kaleigh Todd, Justin Loyd, Devin Felger, Caitlyn Talarico, Heather Lutz, Katie Adams, Dean Black, Ben Black, Lauren Payne, Lauren Haire, Matthew Barnes, Rachel Bond, Joseph Mitchell, Lana Rayburn, Lora Gonzalez, Jessica Martini, Nicole Mcafee, Sara Caraway

Utah: Amy Petersen, Clay Moultire, Meagan Peterson, Monica Aagard, Kaitlyn Reaves

Vermont: Hannah Clark, Katy Sartwell

Virginia: Allen Bowers, Josh Weaver, Adam Ford, Allison Perry, Thomas Hevener, Kelsey McCluster, Will Earhart, Chris Duffey, Amy Henderson, Kaila Hahn

Washington: James Pullman, Mark Ryan, Jake Robison, Sarah Jane Neuharth, Justine Reeves, Tanya Blakeley, Andrew Lynch, Anna Chlebowski

West Virginia: Ashley Carson, Allison Robinson, Ian Newlin, Derek Garrett, Kevin Shipe

Wisconsin: Andrew Christenson, Nick Palkowski, Aaron Dietsche, Alex Patten, Preston Green, Marie Mahaney, Brad Krueger, Whitney Peissig, Kaleb Santy, Sean VanderWaal, Derrick Papcke, Sara Wavrunek, Stephanie Geieger, Arryn Rabas, Jenn Krultz

Wyoming: Nancy Thoman, Matthew Bowen, Kayla Lynch

New Jersey: Alyssa Mottram, Amanda Hall, Stacey Daniels

New Mexico: Keisto Lucero, Brandon Sours, Sarah Kidd, Shannon Bernal, Erin Hightower

New York: Dan Geoghan, Anna Metcalf, Amber Wynkoop, Stephanie Rhoades, Andrew Armstrong

North Carolina: Caitlin Lowe, Crystal Roberts, Jeremy Cobb, Bill Walker, Wil Baxley, Katelin Smith, Jacob Furr, Mathew Greene, Courtney Clapp, Lauren Vann, Ray Scott Spence, Ashley Adams, Caroline Sheffield, Elizabeth Estep, Brooke Patton

North Dakota: Mitchell Baker, Emily Martwick, Cody Friesz, Mike Bjertness, Chelsey Flick

Ohio: Dustin Homan, Allen Schmitz, Anna Hall, Shalie Terrill, Jodi Roush, Lyndsey Murphy, Katie Miller, Josh Weaver, Jesse Rose, Brittani Regula, Tyler Church, Katie McCullough, Nick Higgins, Liz Watson, Kelly Shaw, Justin Stiers

Oklahoma: Austin Akins, Chelsea Clifton, John -Kyle Truitt, Cody Nieman, Cody Ott,

Pennsylvania: Tiffany Grove, Michael Kenney, Jason Zimmerman, Kristie Folk, Kami Forgie, Suzannah Mellinger, Christine Oellig, Keri Schriever

Puerto Rico: Gabriela Nazario, Alfred Lorenzo, Justin Sanabria

Rhode Island: Abbie Whitford, Steven Breene

South Carolina: William Nelson, Brittany Mixson, Spencer McLeod, Hunter Cooper, Heather Coleman, Desiree Kinneer

South Dakota: Matt Dybedahl, Erin Kennedy, Brett Monson, Noelle Rist, Lauren Fosheim

Tennessee: Wesley Lyons, Cody Norton, John Schultz, John Harper, Samantha Cobb, Michelle Mullins, Jessica Lyn Serena, Lauren Rogers,



Issue Committee: #1

National Week of Service

Whereas, The National FFA Week of Service Committee agreed that it was important to commit a full week to the last line of the motto “Living to Serve”.

Be it resolved that the committee recommends the following:

Establish an FFA service week separate from National FFA Week in which chapters hold service projects that benefit the community in which hours contribute to the Million Hour Challenge.

We recommend:

1. To have this in the fall
2. If there are awards we suggest them to be non-monetary
3. Hours will be recorded with the million hour challenge on-line by members and advisors
4. Adequate promotions to interest students
5. Be used as either a launching or closing point for the million hour challenge

On behalf of committee members, this report respectfully submitted October 27, 2007, by:

Committee Chair: James Pullman, Washington
Committee Vice Chair: Jake Baker, Nevada
Committee Vice Chair: Hunter Williams, Arizona



Issue Committee: #2

Freshman Opportunities Committee

Whereas, the National FFA Freshman Member Opportunities Committee's purpose is to explore and search for opportunities including CDEs, awards and recognition, conferences and workshops, and recruitment materials specifically for freshman members of the National FFA Organization. Whereas, more than one-fourth of the organization is made up of freshman FFA members. Whereas, we are encouraging freshman members to get active in ways which will better prepare them for a successful FFA career

Therefore, be it resolved that the committee recommends the following:

- Create a Freshman Knowledge Event consisting of basic FFA knowledge for freshman FFA members
- "Re-Rev" the "Rev-It-Up" kit to focus on recruitment and retention of freshman FFA members and to give them a better handle on the opportunities available to them as members in FFA
- Create a National Opening and Closing Ceremonies event or a Novice Parliamentary Procedure event specifically for freshman FFA members

On behalf of committee members, this report respectfully submitted October 27, 2007, by:

Committee Chair: Kirby O'Donoghue, Kentucky

Committee Vice Chair: Erin Kennedy, South Dakota

Committee Vice Chair: Alena Ogg, Montana

The Freshman Opportunities Committee recommends creating a freshman Knowledge Event and a National Opening and Closing Ceremonies or a Novice Parliamentary Procedure Event. We also recommend refocusing the "Rev-It-Up" kit to the recruitment and retention of freshmen FFA members.



Issue Committee: #3

Middle School FFA Member Opportunities

Whereas, The purpose of this committee is to explore and identify areas of opportunity for increased involvement of the middle school FFA members in FFA programs. Areas of focus will include, but not be limited to, participation in career development events, proficiency awards and other FFA programs.

Therefore, be it resolved that the committee recommends the following:

- That middle school members compete in career development events at the national level in one division with and against high school members.

On behalf of committee members, this report respectfully submitted October 27, 2007, by:

Committee Chair: Jamie Fussell, Florida
Committee Vice Chair: Chelsea Clifton, Oklahoma
Committee Vice Chair: Chelsea Doss, Tennessee



Issue Committee: #4

Agricultural Literacy

Whereas, Whereas, we, the committee, found agriculture literacy to be defined as synonymous with the term “agriculture awareness” and defined as “a common knowledge and understanding of all facts of the agriculture industry, including but not limited to production agriculture, agriscience, agriculture policy and agribusiness.” The committee believes that the National FFA Organization has a social responsibility to educate their community members about agriculture and to promote literacy through an educational program.

Therefore, be it resolved that the committee recommends the following:

- The National FFA Organization delegate responsibility to National FFA staff members to research new and/or existing programs to teach agriculture awareness and literacy which would include programs for all community members broken into specific age group and education levels. The National FFA staff will be responsible for defining the National FFA Organization’s role in agricultural literacy and will suggest a plan of action to be taken by the National FFA Organization.

On behalf of committee members, this report respectfully submitted October 27, 2007, by:

Committee Chair: Justin Self, Texas
Committee Vice Chair: Andrew Christenson, Wisconsin
Committee Vice Chair: Hilary Webb, Florida



Issue Committee: #5

Chapter Charter Dues Waiver

Whereas, the National FFA Organization has a goal to reach 10,000 quality FFA chapters by 2015. Whereas, we currently have 7,358 FFA chapters in the organization and in order to reach our goal, we will have to increase chapters by 2,700. Whereas, lowering start up costs will provide an incentive for potential chapters to become chartered in the FFA organization.

Therefore, be it resolved that the committee recommends the following:

- Hold trial period of three years for the waiver of national dues for newly chartered chapters, to be reviewed by the board of directors at the end of the three years.
- Waive national dues for first year members in newly chartered FFA chapters.
- Define newly chartered chapters as chapters (middle and high school) who have not been chartered in FFA for the last 10 years.
- National FFA Organization will work with state associations to regulate newly chartered chapters.

On behalf of committee members, this report respectfully submitted October 27, 2007, by:

Committee Chair: Catharine Kuber, California

Committee Vice Chair: Zachary Coffman, Arkansas

Committee Vice Chair: Kelsey Ross, Tennessee



Issue Committee: #6

Service Based Regional Leadership Conferences

Whereas, increased participation in opportunities for service was seen as the right thing to do by this committee.

Therefore, be it resolved that the committee recommends the following:

1. that regional agricultural service-based conferences be created and open to all FFA members
2. a task force be developed to report back to the delegate body at the 81st National FFA Convention to consider details such as:
 - if the conference should rotate locations
 - whether the conferences should synchronize with the pending FFA Week of Service
 - the length of conferences
 - who will conduct the conferences,
 - the definition of each region
 - any information pertaining to the subject
 - the conference's curriculum does not interfere with other FFA conference curriculum

On behalf of committee members, this report respectfully submitted October 27, 2007, by:

Committee Chair: Justin Bailey, Delaware
Committee Vice Chair: Nick Polkowski, Wisconsin
Committee Vice Chair: Torie Reilly, Kansas



National Officers Nominating Committee and Candidates



Nominating Committee:

- Bailey Albright, MI
- Brittany Beasley, AL
- Ruth Corn, OR
- Shannon Craig, FL
- Kevin Faw, WA
- Rob Hays, IN
- Kelly Over, PA - Chair
- Kyle Perry, NE
- Kyli Zenk, SD

National Officer Candidates:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Nicolena Baadgaard, UT | Amanda Hiott, SC |
| Matthew Barton, AL | Gabriel Holdwick, MI |
| Jessica Berger, WI | Kara Jackson, ID |
| Zach Biddle, PA | Jessica Jarrell, TN |
| Cole Bishop, MD | Mary Jennings, KY |
| Kari Boettcher, OR | Zach Kinne, MO |
| Riley Branch, TX | Jessica Kirschten, MT |
| Jesse Branner, OH | Holly Marshall, SD |
| Jake Bredstrand, WA | Kellen McNutt, WV |
| Jason Camp, MS | Paul Moya, NM |
| Dale Cruzan, NJ | Morgan Parker, CO |
| Emma Davis, NC | Jimmy Pierce, CA |
| William Earhart, VA | Brady Revels, FL |
| Reid Ely, NE | Heather Savelle, GA |
| Jason Entsminger, NV | Jessica Schifflert, IA |
| Brittany Epler, WY | Benjamin Seidler, ND |
| Sangeetha Gummadi, MN | Laura Stump, AZ |
| Laila Hajji, OK | Becky Sullivan, KS |
| Ashley Hanold, IL | Tyler Tenbarga, IN |
| Hannah Harrison, AK | Brittany Wynn, AR |



Meet Your 2008 National Officers

President

Zach Kinne

e-mail:
zkinne@ffa.org

Age: 21

Birthdate: August 4, 1986

Parents: Keith and Shelly Kinne

Siblings: Shane and Sadie Kinne



FFA Stats

Chapter: North Harrison

Enterprise: Beef Production and Placement

State Office: 2005-06 Missouri State President

College Stats

Year: Junior

Major: Agricultural Economics

School: University of Missouri

College Activities: Alumni Association Student Board, Big Brothers Big Sisters, College of Agriculture Student Development Board, Collegiate Farm Bureau

Future Career Goal: To be involved in a career related to agricultural policy and possibly start my own agribusiness.

Secretary

Becky Sullivan

e-mail:
bsullivan@ffa.org

Age: 20

Birthdate: September 4, 1987

Parents: Ron and Judy Sullivan

Siblings: Ronnie and Michelle Sullivan



FFA Stats

Chapter: Spring Hill

Enterprise: Small Animal Production and Care Entrepreneurship

State Office: 2006-07 Kansas State Reporter

College Stats

Year: Sophomore

Major: Agricultural Communications and Journalism, with a minor in Leadership Studies

School: Kansas State University

College Activities: Ag Ambassadors, Student Alumni Board, Sophomore Honorary

Future Career Goal: To receive a Masters in agricultural leadership and pursue team work and leadership development for schools and corporations.

A Eastern Region Vice President

Tyler Tenbarge

e-mail:
ttenbarge@ffa.org

Age: 19

Birthdate: January 22, 1988

Parents: Mark and Susan Tenbarge

Siblings: Kendra, Trent, Dana, Brian, Krista and Blake Tenbarge



FFA Stats

Chapter: Gibson Southern

Enterprise: Diversified Agricultural Production Placement

State Office: 2006-07 Indiana State President

College Stats

Year: Freshman

Major: Agricultural Education

School: Purdue University

College Activities: Art, Collegiate FFA, Collegiate Farm Bureau, Church activities

Future Career Goal: To continue advocacy of the agriculture industry and agricultural education through youth development and the National FFA Organization

Central Region Vice President

Morgan Parker

e-mail:
mparker@ffa.org

Age: 21

Birthdate: December 3, 1986

Parents: Kipp and Paula Parker

Siblings: Brianne Smith, Ashley Schmidt, Ceri Hendrickson, Topper and Jiggs Parker



FFA Stats

Chapter: Limon

Enterprise: Ag Services, Placement

State Office: 2006-07 Colorado State President

College Stats

Year: Junior

Major: Agricultural Economics/Agricultural Communications

School: Kansas State University

College Activities: Farm House Fraternity, Navigators Campus Ministry

Future Career Goal: To become involved in ministry and possibly pursue my own agribusiness.

Western Region Vice President

Kari Boettcher

e-mail:
kboettcher@ffa.org

Age: 20

Birthdate: December 9, 1987

Parents: Jari and Sheila Boettcher

Siblings: Shannon and Aaron Boettcher



FFA Stats

Chapter: Hermiston

Enterprise: Sheep Entrepreneurship, Nursery Placement

State Office: 2006-07 Oregon State Secretary

College Stats

Year: Freshman

Major: Agricultural Education

School: California Polytechnic State University

College Activities: Collegiate FFA, Surfing

Future Career Goal: To be an agricultural education teacher and FFA advisor in a newly chartered urban chapter.

Southern Region Vice President

Brady Revels

e-mail:
brevels@ffa.org

Age: 20

Birthdate: March 16, 1987

Parents: Mike and Shirley Revels

Siblings: Stacy Revels



FFA Stats

Chapter: South Sumter Senior

Enterprise: Beef Cattle Production, Dairy Cattle, Market Steers, Placement

State Office: 2005-06 Florida State President

College Stats

Year: Junior

Major: Agricultural Education

School: University of Florida

College Activities: Florida Gator Football, Gator Basketball, Hunting, Collegiate Farm Bureau, Collegiate FFA and Agricultural Leaders of Tomorrow

Future Career Goal: To be an agricultural educator and a rancher.



