

Proceedings



83rd NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION
October 20-23, 2010





83rd NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION
October 20-23, 2010

Table of Contents

2010 National Officers	85
Ag-Entrepreneurs Honored	2
Agricultural Proficiency Winners	15
Agriscience Fair Awards.....	8
Agriscience Student of the Year.....	7
Agriscience Teacher of the Year	7
American Degree.....	56
American Degree Recipients.....	57
Band, Chorus and Talent Participants	77
Career Development Event Winners.....	9
Career Show	53
Committee Issues.....	81
Convention Candidats.....	86
Days of Service.....	51
Delegates	78
Distinguished Service Citation	76
Dr. Case Retires.....	48
Guest Speaker: Angela Mayfield	47
Honorary American Degree Recipients.....	72
Keynote Speaker: Josh Shipp.....	45
Keynote Speaker: Judson Laipply.....	44
Keynote Speaker: Kevin Carroll.....	46
Model of Innovations Winners.....	73
National FFA Alumni	55
National Officers Nominating Committee and Candidates.....	84
New Farmers of America.....	49
Retiring Address: Alex Henry	32
Retiring Address: Bethany Bohnenblust	29
Retiring Address: Chase Rose	35
Retiring Address: Chelsea Doss.....	41
Retiring Address: Levy Randolph	26
Retiring Address: Randa Braune	38
Stars Over America Winners.....	24
VIP Citation.....	74

Agri-Entrepreneurs recognizes young people who start or are planning to start their own business.

Agri-Entrepreneurs Honored

On Friday, Oct. 22, 10 FFA members were recognized for their entrepreneurial spirit. The

Agri-Entrepreneurship Awards, sponsored by USDA Rural Development as a special project of the National FFA Foundation, recognizes young people who start or are planning to start their own business. Here are their stories.

Jordan Brabec of Schuyler, Neb., understands that money doesn't grow on trees... but it was a tree that sparked the idea for his profitable business venture. Brabec wanted to take a traditional lawn mowing business to the next level. In planning, Brabec asked himself, "What if I could plan a business that would trim and prune trees and put the useable residue through a wood chipper to make a satisfactory product that prevents damage from the lawn mower?" And so Clip'n'Chip was created and has been growing ever since.

Brabec wanted to be successful, but he also wanted to make a positive difference.

"Through my school, community and work experience, I have gained so much knowledge and lessons of life that have served me well as I continue to grow and make my mark on the world," Brabec said.

Brabec knows that to successfully operate a business, you must maintain a high moral standard. "I have found that being a good person with good values may not be the easiest road in life, but it is certainly important to success," he said. His main goal is to increase awareness of the importance of his service and to deliver that service in a timely, customer-convenient manner at a fair and reasonable price. "This is a unique business with a unique owner that offers a unique product," Brabec said. It is that individuality that has set him apart from competitors and allowed him to be successful.

Brabec is currently a junior at Schuyler High School. He is very active in FFA, participating in leadership development events and competitions. He is also an active member of Saint Mary's Church.

Lydia Buck of Glasgow, Mo., took on the challenge of starting her own business as a freshman FFA member by asking herself a few important questions. What would build for her future, involve her family and accommodate the needs of her community? The answer came to her one night at the dinner table.

A casual comment from her father about the lack of wild quail in the area sparked Buck's interest. After researching the issue, she found that there was indeed a low population of wild quail in the central part of Missouri where she lived.

The answer was clear. Buck would raise quail and sell them locally. Her father had raised birds many years before and held a strong interest in assisting his daughter with her project, excited for the opportunity to share his wealth of knowledge.

"In the beginning I read books, articles and Internet sites on raising quail, but words on paper could only get me so far," Buck said. "With my father's help I have gone from the instruction manual to real life in starting and expanding my business."

When it came to financing the project, Buck worked out a plan with her father doing household chores to buy the



necessary equipment to start the project and also worked at a local grocery store. She bought her chicks, secured the appropriate licenses and before long, Lydia Buck's Quail Covey was ready for business.

"Many times I have people come up to me and say they are so happy at what I am doing because it brings back such great memories of when they were kids and wild quail were more plentiful," Buck said.

Now a senior, Buck's business has expanded each year and her clients come from all over the region. She not only developed the business concept, but also the marketing strategy that has helped her keep up with competitors with larger operations. She has advertised in newspapers, websites and even created her own website after taking an agricultural tech class, causing her clientele to double.

Throughout her high school career, Lydia Buck was an honor student, participated in Varsity Quiz Bowl and was active in many areas of her Glasgow FFA Chapter. Buck is currently a freshman at Truman State University.



Ashley Ceinwen Jones of Pineville, Ky., didn't seek out a business opportunity... she says it found her. Her neighbor raised sheep, and she was looking for an animal to show. Little did she know that her 4-H project 10 years ago would grow into her supervised agricultural experience (SAE) project and a successful business. She created Blackberry Farm, a working farm that raises high-quality Border Leicester sheep that are recognized for their flavorful meat and long, lustrous wool.

Jones leased four sheep from her neighbor the first year and eventually purchased two ewes and four lambs...and so her life as a Border Leicester shepherd began. "After researching the breed and talking to other producers and shearers, I knew that I had more than a breeding animal, I had wool fleeces I could sell for profit," Jones said. "I knew to get top dollar for my fleeces, I had to treat my sheep differently than a meat breed producer."

Wool sales became an important factor in reducing the overhead of her business, so Jones got creative in the distribution of her wool. She approached crafters to use

her wool for special projects and even sells packages to dance studios to use as padding in ballet shoes.

The only large producer of Border Leicesters in the southern United States, Blackberry Farm offers a wide variety of sheep and wool products including breeding and show stock, freezer lambs, raw and processed wool fleeces, wool roving and quilt bats and needle-felting kits and supplies.

Jones graduated from Bell County High School in May of 2010. She hopes to earn a degree in food science and technology and work in research and development for a food production company. While in high school, Jones served as chapter FFA president and participated and placed in numerous speaking and livestock competitions and won the 2010 National American Border Leicester Jr. Achievement Award.

Courtney Cox of Taylorsville, Ky., took a trip to the local farmers market when she realized that things being grown in her own backyard could be sold and marketed locally. Cox started her business called Two Springs Farm and has had a clear marketing

and business plan since she entered high school. "Two Springs Farm is involved with the production and marketing of various fruits and vegetables, perennial flowers, water plants and gourd crafts," Cox said.

Cox understands that to be successful, you must pay close attention to the needs of the customer. "The key to my operation has been understanding the needs and wants of my community and working hard to out market the other producers in my area by listening to my customers," Cox said. Because of this, her business has continued to develop and expand over the past two years.

Not only did Cox's creative vision for her business set her apart from the competition, she was careful to see what aspects of her program were completely specialized. After seeing a unique variety of pumpkins on a trip out of state, she realized no one in her area was producing them. She decided to fill that void in her community and as a result, those pumpkins and gourds have become the backbone of Two Springs Farm.

"After two years, I have the market

Agri-Entrepreneurs Honored continued

cornered on unique fall pumpkins and now have moved into Indian corn and other fall items," Cox said. "Throughout the year I take over 30 different vegetables and fruits to our local market," Cox said. She is constantly in a state of growth and planning for future expansion, while saving most profits to help fund her college education.

Cox will graduate high school in the spring of 2012. She is active in many aspects of FFA and plays varsity volleyball. She also enjoys volunteering in her community.

Jasper Cunningham of Ravenna, Mich., had an idea as a freshman in Raveena FFA to get a business off the ground...and into it. He created Seed Boy Seed Company to meet the need for local seeds at an affordable price and his business has been "growing" ever since.

Cunningham's company motto is, "where the heart of your garden begins." The heart of his company began with a risk.

"The start of my business was a huge risk because I had to borrow money, create a plan, and I was only 14 years old," Cunningham said. "These risks are daring, but

they ensured that Seed Boy was more than a thought."

However, before he made his final business plan, he was careful to make certain his goals were "S.M.A.R.T." According to Cunningham, they had to be "Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Time-Bound." Because of the product he would be selling, he was confident in its timeless appeal.

"Seeds will always play a vital role in agriculture, since production starts with a successful, healthy and well-regulated seed."

Cunningham believes that Seed Boy is an expanding business, always in the creative stage, developing new products and seeking new customers. He didn't limit his business to any one location or seed specialty. Instead, Seed Boy now sells flower, vegetable, field and grass seeds to name a few. A strong component of his success can be attributed to his involvement with the Raveena Area Downtown Development Authority, where his flowers are displayed all over downtown as part of a beautification effort. Cunningham sees this as free advertisement and an opportunity to gain business.

"To me, not taking a risk is the same as throwing away an opportunity. In my opinion, the words "risk" and "opportunity" are interchangeable, and I use them that way," Cunningham explains.

You can be sure
Cunningham

practiced what he preached. He took advantage of every leadership opportunity FFA had to offer while in high school. He served as the Michigan FFA State Secretary, won the National FFA Career Pathway Grant, as well as many other FFA contests. Beyond FFA, he was on the varsity track team, National Honor Society and an active member of Raveena United Methodist Church.

Cunningham plans to study agricultural business in college to become better equipped to manage his growing business, which he will work on during weekends, holidays and summers.

Caleb Dickerson of Lamar, Ark., takes in his surroundings with his eyes and his heart. So when students from the Forrester Davis Developmental Center visited the Lamar High School farm last spring, he saw more than simple interaction between children and animals—he saw therapy and healing. It was that day that inspired him to start Therapy With Legs, a non-profit business designed with the sole purpose of improving the quality of life for children with special needs using animals housed at his school animal science facility.

"As I was helping that day and watching the children interact with the animals, I realized the therapeutic effect that animals have on all children, and the impact that these animals could have on children with disabilities," Dickerson said.

After hearing such positive feedback from the special education teacher, Dickerson did extensive research on using animals as a therapy for children with learning disabilities and found an abundance of research supporting his theory.

He soon began evaluating and carefully addressing the risks involved with his business, the resources needed to make it happen and the different ways it could make a positive difference in his community.

Not only is Dickerson implementing the student interaction with the animals, he is developing curriculum for special education teachers that will make this therapy part



Agri-Entrepreneurs Honored continued

of their daily learning environment in the classroom.

"I believe that I can make a huge impact on not only our local elementary, but also with the students in the Forrester Developmental Center that will last a lifetime," Dickerson said.

Dickerson is a senior at Lamar High School. Beyond his FFA involvement, he is a member of the Lamar High School football team and Relay for Life.

William Maltbie of Burlington, Okla., created Maltbie Mowing in Burlington, to provide full-service lawn care to the surrounding rural communities. Yard by yard,

in his agriculture courses to enhance his business practices. For example, he designed flyers to market his company after learning how in an agricultural communications class. He also uses the record keeping system used in FFA to track expenses and purchases and increase efficiency. "By keeping track of my income and expenses, I was able to determine what prices I needed to charge in order to make a profit," Maltbie said. Maltbie's entrepreneurial spirit is the driving force behind his success. Whether it is purchasing more efficient equipment or adding a new service to his business, no opportunity for growth is missed.



Maltbie is cutting grass to grow his future. "My goal is to become an agricultural engineer," Maltbie said. "I aspire to work for John Deere and design new lines of lawn equipment. To accomplish this I will need to have a deep understanding of their current lines."

Maltbie carefully identified his target market before starting his business. "Since my success depends on being able to meet my customers' needs and desires, I must know who my customers are, what they want, where they live and what they can afford," he said.

He has directly applied skills learned

Maltbie is currently a senior at Burlington High School. Beyond his extensive FFA involvement and accolades, he is a member of the Burlington High School band and basketball team and serves as president of his class.

Denise Miller of Mulberry, Ark., started her own business with a clear goal in mind. Determined to build for her future, she was going to save money for college. "No one in my family has ever gone to college and as a young child I promised myself I would be first," Miller said. While deciding what her business would entail, she closely observed

her surroundings and noticed that a longtime hobby could fill a void in her community. No one else in town made candles.

"There are no other candle makers in my area, so I knew I had a craft unique to this area," Miller said. "I have been making candles for well over 10 years, for almost as long as I can remember." She makes candles with bees wax from her own bee hives.

Miller also attributes skills learned in FFA to her business success. Some might not compare livestock judging to candle making, but Miller has a unique way of explaining how the two relate. "FFA teaches me how to be part of a team, especially when we go to judging contests," Miller said. "Judging poultry is especially advantageous because when judging poultry, you judge the bird on salability. Much like birds, you want candles that sell easily."

Miller has found the benefit of living and growing her business in a small town, especially since word of mouth is what keeps her company thriving. "When someone likes your product, the next day everyone knows that it is a good product," Miller said. She also maintains her own business website where customers can order candles.

Miller is a junior at Mulberry High School and plans to expand her business after graduation. She is an active member of her FFA chapter, where she has served as an officer and a member of the poultry and dairy judging teams.

Ross Rojik of Alexandria, Penn., realized he could turn his hobby into a profitable business venture, and started Mountin' Man Taxidermy, a full-time studio offering custom taxidermy and skull cleaning services. "Custom taxidermy is not your average shoulder mount on the wall," Rojik said. "It is working with the client to design a mount to fit a certain spot in their home."

From day one, he knew he wanted to appeal to the creative side of the hunter. "I want to attract clients that want more than just a deer on the wall, clients that want their mounts to be pieces of art," Rojik said.

Rojik built his business on three

Agri-Entrepreneurs Honored continued

important concepts: quality work, customer service and quick turnaround. "I take pride in producing quality work for my clients," Rojik said. "Allowing the customer to tell me exactly what they want and making any changes to their mounts in order to satisfy their needs keeps a good relationship between the client and myself." He is also able to return his clients' work to them in half the time it takes his competitors.

Not only does he want to create art, he can make a positive contribution to his family. Rojik is growing his business with the goal of becoming the premiere taxidermy studio in his county. "If I can achieve this goal I will definitely be able to support my family financially," Rojik said.

To ensure his success, Rojik even created and manages a website to market his business and show potential clients what they can expect. "I want my business to stand out against other taxidermy businesses because of what clients can expect when they come to Mountin' Man Taxidermy." Rojik is a member of the Pennsylvania Taxidermists Association. While in high school, he worked a part-time job in addition to his FFA activities and taxidermy business.

Dustin Stanton of Centralia, Mo., didn't know it at the time, but he began preparing for his FFA career 11 years ago. His business, Stanton Brothers, was hatched out of a first grade incubation project in the spring of 1999.

"The class incubated 12 baby chickens and as a reward, one of the students had the opportunity to take these chicks home," Stanton said. After getting permission from his parents, he put his name in the hat.

As luck would have it, his name was not drawn. Heartbroken, Stanton explained his situation to his uncle. The next day, Stanton came home to a surprise. His uncle bought him his first six baby chicks. Stanton Brothers now has more than 4,000 chickens and growing.

"My major objective right now with Stanton Brothers is to provide a safe, reliable and nutritious source of eggs to local people who enjoy eating food that they



know where it comes from," Stanton said.

Based on his wide egg distribution throughout the Missouri area and his reputation, he is on the right track. Stanton Brothers now sells weekly to the Columbia Farmers Market, three nursing homes, two restaurants, three bakers, numerous neighbors, two health food stores and seven grocery stores, five of them being the national chain store Hy-Vee.

Stanton is selling approximately 450 dozen eggs per week but doesn't want to limit his business to just eggs. He already sells radishes and tomatoes, but after receiving a state grant, his plans for expanding to other vegetables are moving forward.

"I have come to find that the secret to owning a business is being able to prioritize and manage your time effectively and efficiently," Stanton said.

With a long list of high school extracurricular activities in FFA and beyond, he proves that it's not only the secret to a good business, but also to being a well-rounded student.

A senior at Centralia High School, Stanton is involved in several areas of FFA, having held multiple chapter and area offices and excelling in CDE and speaking competitions on all levels. He was also a member of the National Honor Society, Future Business Leaders of America and many other organizations.

Agriscience Awards

Working with a Ph.D. researcher at The Ohio State University, **Rebekah Meller** tested the use of garlic in ground beef to eliminate bacteria. Through her project, the Wauseon, Ohio, student was able to promote agriscience in her community through the publishing of her findings. Now this research has also won her top honors.

Meller was named Agriscience Student of the Year on Oct. 22 at the 83rd National FFA Convention during an onstage ceremony and was presented with a scholarship. She is a member of the Pettisville FFA Chapter. She is the daughter of Donna and Gene Meller, Jr., and her FFA advisor is John Poulson.

"My agricultural education courses really fueled my interest in new, upcoming agricultural news, such as what can be done with new technology or what can be

done with old remedies," Meller said. She plans to pursue a career in veterinary medicine and credits her experiences in FFA for leading her to that decision.

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 Recognition Program is sponsored by Monsanto as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

After 21 years of teaching, **Alan Smith** recognized that he was going to have to make some changes in his classroom if he wanted to save his agriscience program. By securing grant funding and getting his curriculum approved as science lab credit, the Cushing, Okla., teacher has not only increased his enrollment and brought

recognition to his students, but he has now also won top national honors.

Smith was named Agriscience Teacher of the Year on Oct. 22 at the 83rd National FFA Convention during an onstage ceremony.

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 PotashCorp as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

For the last three years, Smith has dramatically changed the way he teaches agriscience. After learning that a student was struggling with the biology portion of the American College Test (ACT), he began incorporating more science into his agriculture teaching, beginning with the parts of the plant cell. Smith has now aligned his botany course to the standards of the horticulture industry. His students grow and sell plants from their greenhouse, as well as conduct experiments that require them to collect, analyze and publish data on a weekly basis.

In addition to learning more about botany than in previous years, Smith has also encouraged his students to become more involved with award recognition programs and in 2009 a member of the Cushing FFA chapter was selected as a finalist for the National Agriscience Student of the year. Additionally, three of Smith's students competed in the National Agriscience Student Fair during the national FFA Convention.



Agriscience Fair awards

The 2010 Agriscience Fair awards were presented onstage during the seventh general session at the 83rd National FFA Convention. The winners are listed below by event:

Biochemistry/Food Science/Microbiology

Division One: Wyatt Pasler, Colorado

Division Two: Sarah Cox, Ohio

Division Three: Bailey Brashears and Blake Conners, Texas

Division Four: Taylor Strehl and Connor Strehl, Illinois

Botany

Division One: Sheylimar Cruz Serrano, Puerto Rico

Division Two: Cole Lawson, Missouri

Division Three: Tommy Smith and Jake Harper, Utah

Division Four: Amber Kay and Ben Northrup, Georgia

Engineering

Division One: Sarah Hempen, Illinois

Division Two: Brady Welu, Minnesota

Division Three: Aaron Moreland and Brennan VandenHoek, Oregon

Division Four: Trevor Correia and Josh Barron, Georgia

Environmental Science

Division One: Tyler Thompson, Texas

Division Two: Jayton Rainey, Texas

Division Three: Grandon Scheil and Jacob Pintens, Wisconsin

Division Four: Ariel Jones and Mary Lavender, Texas

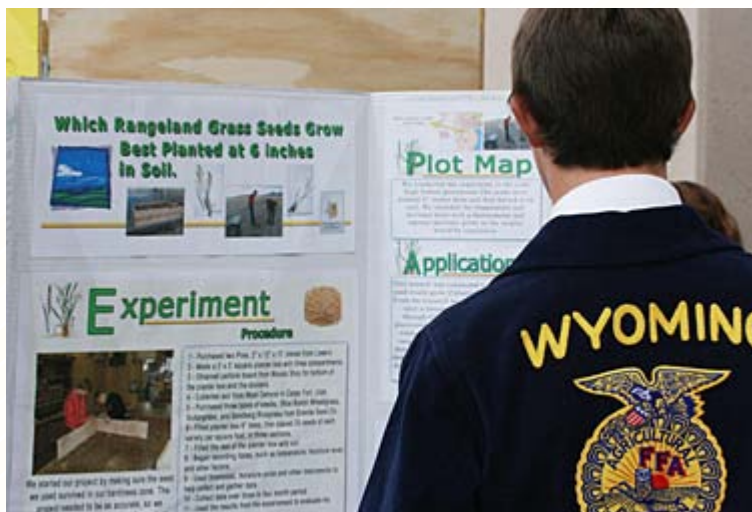
Zoology

Division One: Cassidy Jordan, Texas

Division Two: Hannah Beeler, California

Division Three: Megan Ekse and Storm Bermudez, Washington

Division Four: Jessica Davison and Jennifer Davison, Virginia



CDEs are designed to help prepare students for careers in agriculture.

Students Experience Career Development Events



Since 1928, the national FFA Organization has worked to create career development events (CDEs) that demonstrate the meaningful connections between classroom instruction and real-life scenarios.

CDEs are designed to help prepare students for careers in agriculture and build upon what students learn in agricultural classes and FFA.

CDEs test the abilities of individuals and teams in 23 major areas of agricultural instruction. More than 3,000 youth travel from across the country to participate in these different national CDEs. Through intense hands-on activities, students are asked to perform specific career skills.

Industry professionals act as judges, so the participants receive a real understanding of how they would perform in real careers in agriculture. Winning teams and high individuals receive scholarships.

Agricultural Communications

Sponsored by the National FFA Foundation.

The National FFA Agricultural Communications CDE is a competitive activity that tests students' skills in all areas of the agricultural communications field and evaluates how well they can apply classroom knowledge to real-life situations.

Participants attend a simulated news conference and use the information gathered

to complete individual 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: Ross Droppert, Kelly Whipps, Nick Davis, Lynn Koenigsfeld and Krista Schmidt, all of Hudson FFA, Iowa

High Individual: Kelly Whipps of Hudson FFA, Iowa

Agricultural Issues Forum

Sponsored by Elanco as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

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

Winning Team: Sami Jo Heitsch, Micah Christensen, Kaci Malmberg, Ben Berry, Cora Craig, Sarah Mock and Blaze Cress, all of Frontier FFA, Wyo.

Agricultural Mechanics

Sponsored by Bridgestone Americas Tire Operation-Ag Division (Firestone Brand) as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

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

Winning Team: Robbie Jackson, Austin Butcher, Tyler Moline and Justin Hartman, all of Fergus of Lewistown FFA, Mont.

High Individual: Robbie Jackson of Fergus of Lewistown FFA, Mont.



Agricultural Sales

Sponsored by Monsanto as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

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

Winning Team: Jordan Peterson, Maria Pitner, Tessa Cammel and Brianne Johnson, all of Minot FFA, N.D.

High Individual: Laura Plass of Tulalake FFA, Calif.

Agronomy

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

The National FFA Agronomy CDE is a competitive activity that allows students to apply classroom knowledge to real-life situations. Participants' knowledge of agronomic sciences was tested through several levels of competition including developing solutions for problematic scenarios;

identification of seeds, insects, soil and crops; and other management practices.

Winning Team: Jaycob Wilkins, Whitney Gray, Stephanie Hancock and Jared Sage, all of Neosho FFA, Mo.

High Individual: Kyle Dresback of North Union FFA, Ohio

Creed Speaking

Sponsored by CHS and the National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

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

High Individual: 1st Place—Mason Moore of Dexter FFA, N.M.

Dairy Cattle Evaluation

Sponsored by the Association of Equipment Manufacturers, Dean Foods and the National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

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

Winning Team: Robert Iniguez, Vincent Migliazzo, Kaitlyn Ryan and Alison Sherman, all of Atwater-Buhach Colony FFA, Calif.

High Individual: Kaitlin Gelsinger of Conrad Weiser FFA, Penn.

Dairy Foods Evaluation

Sponsored by Dairy Farmers of America and the National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

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

Winning Team: Haleigh Bruce, Michael Harris, Lane Rippee and Elisabeth Whaley, all of Fair Play FFA, Mo.

High Individual: Elisabeth Whaley of Fair Play FFA, Mo.

Environmental/Natural Resources

Sponsored by Smithfield Foods and USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The National FFA Environmental/Natural Resources CDE is a competitive activity that allows students to apply classroom knowledge to real-life situations. This event focuses on testing students' problem solving and decision-making skills in environmental and natural resources. These areas concentrate on soil profiles, water and air quality, waste management, environmental analysis and use of global positioning units. Each team competed at local and state levels for the privilege of representing their home state at the national FFA convention.

Winning Team: Cory Calkins, Alyssa Thompson, Jacob Flake and Aaron Olson, all of Stanwood FFA, Wash.

High Individual: Tommy Marchetti of Rusk FFA, Texas

Extemporaneous Speaking

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

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

High Individual: Ashton Mese of Kingfisher FFA, Okla.

Farm Business Management

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

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

Winning Team: Travis Pittman, Stewart Herndon, Blake McGraw and Harlea Perdue, all of Blountstown FFA, Fla.

High Individual: Harlea Perdue of Blountstown FFA, Fla.

Floriculture

Sponsored by Ball Horticultural Company and the National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

In the National FFA Floriculture CDE, FFA members test their knowledge and skills in the production and retailing of flowers, plants and foliage. Participants must complete a general knowledge exam on the



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

Winning Team: Thomas Burnham, Morgan Watt, Weslie Williford and Nick Wood, all of Perry High FFA, Ga.

High Individual: Nick Wood of Perry High FFA, Ga.

Food Science and Technology

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

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

CDE Winners continued

Winning Team: Taylor Helbig, Amelia Howe, Kellsey Turner and Katherine Beekman, all of Oley Valley FFA, Penn.

High Individual: Amelia Howe of Oley Valley FFA, Penn.

Forestry

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

The National FFA Forestry CDE is a competitive activity that tests students' skills and knowledge in the area of forest management. Event components include a general forest knowledge exam, tree and equipment identification, tree/forest disorders identification, a chainsaw practicum, forestry issues interview and a team activity. Each team competed at local and state levels for the privilege of representing their state at the national FFA convention.

Winning Team: Courtney Johnson, John Marshall, Brandon Gerardy and Noble Carpenter, all of Columbia FFA, Mo.

High Individual: Robin Studdard of Jefferson County FFA, Ga.

Horse Evaluation

Sponsored by Kent Feeds, Inc., RAM Truck Brand, Tractor Supply Company and Wahl Clipper Corporation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The National FFA Horse Evaluation CDE is a competitive activity that tests the student's ability to select and evaluate horses. Event components include eight selection classes that consisted of four halter classes and four performance classes. Students also give four sets of oral reasons with two sets coming from each evaluation class. Each team competed at local and state levels for the privilege of representing their state at the national FFA convention.

Winning Team: Nina Adams, Christa Avery, Sadey Saputo and William Wood, all of Snowy Range FFA, Wyo.

High Individual: Sadey Saputo of Snowy Range FFA, Wyo.



Job Interview

Sponsored by the National FFA Foundation

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

High Individual: Ryan Carr of Carthage FFA, Mo.

Livestock Evaluation

Sponsored by Bayer Animal Health, Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica and the National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The National FFA Livestock CDE is a competitive activity that tests the student's

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

Winning Team: McKenzie Walta, Audrey Gruntmeir, Josh Lippoldt and Kyle Mueggenborg, all of Kingfisher FFA, Okla.

High Individual: Kyle Mueggenborg of Kingfisher FFA, Okla.



Marketing Plan

Sponsored by DeBraun Grains, USDA Rural Development and National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

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

Winning Team: Jenny Gordon, Maddie Stone and Whitney Petersen, all of Elk Grove FFA, Calif.

Meats Evaluation and Technology

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

The National FFA Meats Technology and Evaluation CDE is a competitive activity

that tests students' skills and competencies in evaluating and identifying meat carcasses and products. Event components include a general knowledge exam; beef carcass evaluation; identification of wholesale and retail cuts of beef, lamb and pork; quality and yield grading of beef carcasses; a team meat merchandising activity; and solving of a meat formulation problem. Each team has competed on the local and state levels to earn the privilege of representing their state at the national FFA convention.

Winning Team: Cole Lane, Markie Hudiburgh, Kelli Williamson and Lacey McGrath, all of Clovis FFA, Calif.

High Individual: Cole Lane of Clovis FFA, Calif.

Nursery/Landscape

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

The National FFA Nursery Landscape CDE is a competitive activity in which

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

Winning Team: Blair Allen, David Sublett, Alexis Owens and Cole Fuller, all of Southern Alamance FFA, N.C.

High Individual: Cole Fuller of Southern Alamance FFA, N.C.

Parliamentary Procedure

Sponsored by The Mosaic Company as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The National FFA Parliamentary Procedure CDE tests students' ability to effectively communicate ideas during a meeting.

Components included a general knowledge exam of parliamentary law, a 10-minute demonstration of parliamentary procedure, oral questions and written minutes of the demonstration. Each team competed against chapters from across the nation.

Winning Team: Payton Atteberry, Jill Blankenship, Cole Griffith, Kelsi Mueller, Arika Myers and Abbey Thomas, all of Eldon FFA, Mo.

Poultry Evaluation

Sponsored by Tyson Foods, Inc., U.S. Poultry and Egg Association and the National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

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

Winning Team: Haley Halcomb, Sera Snow, James Stone and Brooke Watson, all of Delight FFA, Ark.

High Individual: Haley Halcomb of Delight FFA, Ark.

Prepared Public Speaking

Sponsored by Monsanto as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

The prepared public speaking CDE is designed to recognize outstanding FFA members for their ability to prepare and present a factual speech on a specific agricultural issue in a well thought out and logical manner in a competitive setting. Members prepare and deliver a six-to-eight-minute speech from memory and respond to five minutes of questions. The event is just one way FFA members can develop their ability to communicate in a powerful, organized and professional manner.

High Individual: Tara Newton of Kingfisher FFA, Okla.



National Agricultural Proficiency Winners Announced



Agricultural Communications – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Amelia Martens – Illinois

Amelia Martens of the Orion FFA Chapter in Illinois uses her knack with words to reach her goal of teaching the public the truth about agriculture. The Orion FFA member has written material for local and state agricultural publications, her FFA chapter's website and her school's Student Food Drive blog. In 2009, Martens wrote a total of 40 articles for multiple outlets. She is supported by FFA advisor Jay Solomonson.

This award is sponsored by BI and Keystone Steel and Wire Company – Red Brand.

Agricultural Education – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Arani Cuevas – Oregon

Arani Cuevas is wild about animals. As a ZooTeen volunteer, the North Clackamas FFA Chapter member educated zoo visitors about animal exhibits at the Oregon Zoo year-round. Working at the Oregon Zoo Family Farm, this North Clackamas FFA member managed and trained animals to bring agriculture to an urban audience. Cuevas talked to an average of 600 visitors a day during the summer months. She is supported by FFA advisors Kathy Mayfield and Wynn Mayfield.

This award is sponsored by The James F. Lincoln Arc Welding Foundation and Tulsa Welding School.

Agricultural Mechanics Design and Fabrication – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Brennan Davis – Kansas

Brennan Davis of the Doniphan West FFA Chapter in Kansas started constructing all steel buildings using a welder and a plasma cutter after watching his dad. Relying on word of mouth, Davis sells his products to farmers who need livestock shelter and homeowners who need general storage. With only one facility to house projects, efficiency is important to Davis' supervised agricultural experience program (SAE) and he must complete projects quickly to make room for the next. Davis is supported by FFA advisors Elmer Schmitz and KaCee Thompson.

This award is sponsored by Carry-On Trailer Corporation and RAM Trucks.

Agricultural Mechanics Energy Systems – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Andrew Joseph Blom – Colorado

Having grown up in rural Colorado, Andrew Joseph Blom of the Lone Star FFA Chapter observed both dry land and irrigated farming. His unfamiliarity with irrigated farming sparked his interest in the field and he found employment at a sprinkler business. Blom responds to service calls and has mastered how to use a variety of equipment. Working with his employer, he also helps implement new technologies that smooth day-to-day operations. Blom is supported by FFA advisors Lee Vetter and Brian Cunningham.

This award is sponsored by The Lincoln Electric Company and New Holland.

Agricultural Mechanics Repair and Maintenance – Entrepreneurship

Justin Daniel Thomas – Illinois

Justin Daniel Thomas of the Charleston FFA Chapter in Illinois worked with his family to restore five tractors before he began high school. He has since started JT's Repair and Restoration and restored four tractors, an old disk and a plow by himself. He helps his FFA chapter raise money by restoring antique tractors for fundraising. He is supported by FFA advisor Julie Niemerg.

This award is sponsored by Briggs and Stratton Corporation Foundation, Inc.

Agricultural Mechanics Repair and Maintenance – Placement

Blake Matthew Meneses – California

Growing up, Blake Matthew Meneses of the Tulare FFA Chapter in California enjoyed taking apart lawn mowers and putting them back together again until they worked. He has since graduated to tractor repairs in his mechanic work at Cabrera & Meneses. Shadowing his brother, he learned to maximize his time without sacrificing perfection and how to keep detailed records for each job. He is supported by FFA advisors Dave Caetano, Jennifer Sousa, Mike Mederos and Kevin Koelewyn.

This award is sponsored by Hobart Welding Products and Tractor Supply Company.

Agricultural Processing – Entrepreneurship/ Placement

Richard Rangel – California

As a member of a family of seven, Richard Rangel of the Laton FFA Chapter in California set out to assist his family financially through his SAE. Working at Ravens Jerky and Seasoning has offered Rangel greater financial freedom and an opportunity to be involved in the meat industry he hopes to remain connected to in the future. Some of Rangel's tasks include slicing meats, taking



inventory and mixing marinade ingredients. He is supported by FFA advisors Tammy Pilcher and Dale Costa.

This award is sponsored by Archer Daniels Midland Company and CHS.

Agricultural Sales – Entrepreneurship

Ellary Swenson – Utah

After her older sisters got married and moved away, Ellary Swenson of the Payson FFA Chapter in Utah took on the duties of two summer produce stands. Having sufficient labor is key to Swenson's business, so she recruits family members and friends to help her with the stands. Swenson increased her profits by diversifying produce selection and keeping detailed daily sales records. She is supported by FFA advisors Nyle Russell and Howard Houston.

This award is sponsored by Channel and Crop Production Services.

Agricultural Sales – Placement

Colten Lee VanMeter – Georgia

With his stepfather running the business and his mother maintaining all of the records, it was only natural for Colten Lee VanMeter of the Pickens County FFA Chapter in Georgia to help out at his family's business, Cherokee Feed and Seed. VanMeter's responsibilities consist of sales, customer service and deliveries. He used money earned from his work to purchase livestock to exhibit and cushion his savings account for his college career. He is supported by FFA advisors Joe Wright and Jason Cantrell.

This award is sponsored by Fastenal and Vigortone Ag Products.



Agricultural Services – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Ethan John Vander Wal – South Dakota

As a boy, Ethan John Vander Wal of the Sioux Valley FFA Chapter in South Dakota always wanted his turn on the tractor with his dad and grandpa. He transformed that love for tractors into a custom baling and land rolling business. Vander Wal relies on word of mouth and advertising in a local paper to attract customers. In the upcoming year, he hopes to bale 4,500 bales of hay and corn and land roll 5,000 acres. He is supported by FFA advisor Don Sutera.

This award is sponsored by Agricredit Acceptance LLC and the National FFA Foundation.

Beef Production – Entrepreneurship

Levi K. Zwirn – Colorado

Breeding beef cattle is a lifestyle for Levi K. Zwirn of the Yuma FFA Chapter in Colorado. In his constant pursuit to improve his operation, he has increased his herd to 100 head of cattle, purchased a donor cow and maintained detailed records. Zwirn raises feeder calves in a feedlot separate from his replacement females until the market is at the best price to sell them. He is supported by FFA advisors Lee Vetter and Brian Cunningham.

This award is sponsored by Bayer Animal Health and Nasco Division – Nasco International, Inc.

Beef Production – Placement

Evan W. Ibach – Nebraska

Evan W. Ibach's great grandfather purchased the Nebraska farmstead on which his family raised cattle 92 years ago. The operation is now expanding and Ibach is actively involved in day-to-day operations, staying especially attuned to herd health and nutrition. Recognizing the importance of genetics, the Sumner-Eddyville-Miller FFA member also developed two agriscience projects that focus on heat synchronization and artificial insemination in replacement heifers and mature cows. He is supported by FFA advisor Boyd Bowder.

This award is sponsored by Midwest PMS and the National FFA Foundation.

Dairy Production – Entrepreneurship

Mitchell Krahn – Wisconsin

Mitchell Krahn's dairy operation started with three calves on his family's farm in Wisconsin. His herd has increased to 45 head of registered Holsteins that he hopes to show statewide in the future. Between caring for his cows and his family's cows, the Brillion FFA member clocks in 50 hours of work per week. Krahn supplements his on-the-farm experiences with participation in the FFA Dairy career development event (CDE). He is supported by FFA advisor Gordie Gasch.

This award is sponsored by DeLaval, Inc. and New Holland.

Dairy Production – Placement

Erin Elizabeth Daninger – Minnesota

Erin Elizabeth Daninger of the Forest Lake FFA Chapter in Minnesota is an enthusiastic agricultural advocate when it comes to her family's 60-cow rotational grazing operation. The close proximity of the farm to the Twin Cities allows Daninger to exhibit cattle and educate consumers at the Minnesota State Fair. Daninger is equally involved on the farm and does genetic research on each cow in order to complete registration papers and determine what sires should be used to improve the herd. She is supported by FFA advisors Michael Miron, Robert Marzolf and Veronica Ward.

This award is sponsored by GEA Farm Technologies and Kuhn North America.

Diversified Agricultural Production – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Tyler Stanley Loschen – Illinois

Every Christmas, Tyler Stanley Loschen of the Tri-Point FFA Chapter in Illinois anticipated receiving more components to his farm play set. His passion for agriculture continued to grow, so much that his neighbors offered to rent 160 acres of crop land to him. Because his parents do not farm, Loschen is very independent in managing his operation, which required him to obtain a \$100,000 line of credit. He intends to

Agricultural Proficiency Winners continued

increase his acreage while maintaining environmentally friendly and technology-advanced practices. He is supported by FFA advisor Diana Loschen.

This award is sponsored by J.R. Simplot Company and the National FFA Foundation.

Diversified Crop Production – Entrepreneurship

Hayden Jake Byars – Illinois

Despite the constant battle with weather conditions, Hayden Jake Byars of the Cisne FFA Chapter in Illinois is intent on becoming a full-time farmer. He produces corn, wheat and soybeans crops and places high value on the risk management plan he developed. Byars deals with the uncertainty of good years and bad years in farming under the mentorship of numerous family members. He is supported by FFA advisor Jennifer Timm.

This award is sponsored by CHS.

Diversified Crop Production – Placement

Justin D. Moffitt – Indiana

Justin D. Moffitt of the Carroll at Flora FFA Chapter in Indiana has always been fascinated watching one kernel of corn develop into a stalk of corn. Working at Minich Farms Inc. has provided Moffitt with substantial knowledge of corn and soybean production. His duties advanced from cleaning swine barns to operating machinery in the field and he hopes to apply these skills to his own operation one day. He is supported by FFA advisors Steve and Melissa Keown.

This award is sponsored by Crop Production Services and National Crop Insurance Services.

Diversified Horticulture – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Sarah Jane Wheeldon – Nebraska

Just because Sarah Jane Wheeldon is a girl doesn't mean she's afraid to get



dirty. The Schuyler FFA member combats gender prejudice with high quality service in her turf management business in Nebraska. After mowing lawns with her sister, she expanded the business to include landscape management and a small greenhouse. She is supported by FFA advisors Tom Wheeldon and Ryan Schroeder.

This award is sponsored by Nationwide Insurance Foundation.

Diversified Livestock Production – Entrepreneurship

Aaron David Heishman – Virginia

Aaron David Heishman of the Central FFA Chapter in Virginia is a very competitive person and uses that quality in the showroom and on the farm. He raises cattle and swine, focusing on improved genetics in his herd of completely bred and owned animals. Additional accomplishments include increasing feed efficiency and the rate of gain in each species, thereby

decreasing costs. He is supported by FFA advisors Sherry Heishman and Dana Fisher.

This award is sponsored by Tractor Supply Company and Wahl Clipper Corporation.

Diversified Livestock Production – Placement

Kassandra Elizabeth Pfeiffer – Oklahoma

Kassandra Elizabeth Pfeiffer's parents purchased her first cow two weeks before she was born. Ever since her early start in the livestock industry, the Mulhall-Orlando FFA member has continued working on her family's cattle and goat ranch in Oklahoma. Learning about embryo transfer and vaccination programs is important to her family's success in the competitive livestock industry. She is supported by FFA advisor Allen Miller.

This award is sponsored by Behlen Manufacturing Company and the National FFA Foundation.



Emerging Agricultural Technology - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Taylor Kade Runyan - Oklahoma

As the daughter of a science teacher and rancher, it seemed natural for Taylor Kade Runyan of the Atoka FFA Chapter in Oklahoma to combine the fields of science and agriculture for her SAE. Working at the OSU Research Center in Lane allowed her to do so, as she completed fruit and vegetable research using agricultural technology. She has learned selective plant breeding techniques and lab maintenance procedures. She is supported by FFA advisors Bart and Michelle Harper.

This award is sponsored by Ag Leader Technology and BASF.

Environmental Science and Natural Resources - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Marshall Michael Bennett III - Georgia

Marshall Michael Bennett III of the Lowndes FFA Chapter in Georgia knows first-hand the environmental consequences of fitting more cattle on less land. When

his family did so and their cattle gained access to two wetlands, they faced a significant pollution problem that Bennett has sought to correct through his SAE. Bennett installed over a mile of fencing and more than seven acres of riparian buffer strips to control erosion and filter incoming water. He is supported by FFA advisors James Corbett, Quinton Haddock and Spence Taylor.

This award is sponsored by Triscuit.

Equine Science - Entrepreneurship

Justin Goodlett - Kentucky

For Justin Goodlett of the Spencer County FFA Chapter in Kentucky, raising and showing horses isn't just a hobby, it's a way of life. He grew up watching his father show and trade horses and today follows in those footsteps with four Tennessee Walking horses of his own. In addition to learning about horse vaccinations, nutrition and general care, he has begun his own farrier business. Goodlett has had the continued encouragement of his advisors Darryl Matherly and Bland Baird.

This award is sponsored by Keystone Steel and Wire Company - Red Brand and Land O'Lakes Purina Feed.

Equine Science - Placement

Katherine Alyssa Dreier - Wisconsin

Katherine Alyssa Dreier of the Wisconsin Heights FFA Chapter in Wisconsin got her first job working with horses when her English teacher recommended her to a local horse farm owner. Since then, she has worked at four different stables, each allowing her a new way to experience the equine industry she loves. Dreier has worked with the foaling process, training horses and recommending food rations and feed supplements for the horses in her care. She is supported by her FFA advisor Kim Houser.

This award is sponsored by Nutrena - Cargill Animal Nutrition and Tractor Supply Company.

Fiber and/or Oil Crop Production - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Vance Carter Zacharias - North Dakota

When his uncle began eyeing retirement, Vance Carter Zacharias of the Enderlin FFA Chapter jumped at the opportunity to buy his 393 acres of prime North Dakota farmland. For two growing seasons, he's done it all by himself - with plenty of advice provided by his experienced father and uncle. He sets goals before each planting concerning the profitability margin and yield. This last season, Zacharias easily surpassed his own goals. He is supported by his FFA advisor Bob Moller.

This award is sponsored by Bunge North America and Cargill.

Floriculture - Entrepreneurship/Placement

Lovlean Purewal - California

The moment that Lovlean Purewal of the Caruthers FFA Chapter in California saw a bride's reaction to her wedding flowers, she knew that floral design was for her. She began small, making corsages and boutonnieres but eventually found herself creating floral designs for weddings and other large events. Purewal has learned to work with



customers, discovering their vision and making it happen. And at the same time, she has realized her own vision. She says, "It's one thing to replicate. It's another to create." She is supported by her FFA advisor Jennifer Tweedy.

This award is sponsored by Bayer CropScience, Bayer Environmental Science and the National FFA Foundation.

Food Science and Technology-Entrepreneurship/Placement

Allison Nicole Hoover – Pennsylvania

Allison Nicole Hoover of the State College Little Lions FFA Chapter in Pennsylvania has performed taste tests and food evaluations as part of her SAE. In 2006, she pitted Oreos against their sugar-free brethren in a blind tasting, surmising that consumers could not tell a difference. She's also studied which method best keeps apples from turning brown and the chemical composition of maple syrup she produced at her high school. Hoover is majoring in food science at Penn State, turning her passion into a career. She is supported by her FFA advisors Paul Heasley and Jessica Harpster.

This award is sponsored by CHS and Kraft Foods, Inc.

Forage Production – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Brandon Lane Folger – Oklahoma

Brandon Lane Folger of the Ringwood FFA Chapter in Oklahoma had no background in agriculture before joining FFA and developing an SAE. And while he admits that he initially started his project as merely a way to make money, he has since become passionate about agriculture and his work. For his forage production project, he is charged with scouting for insects, spraying and loading semis with the finished project. He is supported by FFA advisor Will Bunt.

This award is sponsored by Claas of America, Inc. and Lextron, Inc.

Forest Management and Products – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Logan Daniel Wells – Wisconsin

It all began with a little lemonade stand in the front yard for Logan Wells of the Monroe FFA Chapter in Wisconsin. From that first demonstration of entrepreneur know-how, he is now the proud owner of a portable sawmill business. He plants seedlings, cleans brush, cuts firewood and sells lumber to a growing customer base.

Well's favorite part of his operation is, as he puts it, the fact that a forest is his office. He is supported by his FFA advisor Carmen Montgomery.

This award is sponsored by John Deere and RAM Trucks.

Fruit Production – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Austin Brooks Sweeney – Oregon

Austin Brooks Sweeney of the Dayton FFA Chapter in Oregon grew up watching his father work long days on the family's Marionberry production operation. Today, he's joined his father, becoming a field manager. In addition to managing hired help, he sprays the berries and arranges the plants to grow in a pattern to optimize berry output. He works with his father to harvest the berries at night, ensuring they are cool and won't get crushed in the warm, summer sun. He is supported by his FFA advisor Mitch Coleman.

This award is sponsored by DuPont Company.

Grain Production-Entrepreneurship

Morgan Butch Bressler – California

Morgan Butch Bressler of the Colusa FFA Chapter in California wants to be a farmer after attending college and if his work with his SAE is any indication, he is well onto making that dream become a reality. He has raised 92 acres of rice, milo and corn, practicing sound conservation practices along the way. Bressler has developed his skills in the practice of irrigation, cultivation and pest control while also creating corn mazes and pumpkin patches for the local elementary school, part of what he calls community service. He is supported by his FFA advisors Heather Thomas and Tim Crabtree.

This award is sponsored by Pioneer Hi-Bred.

Grain Production-Placement

Aaron Patrick Prins – Illinois

Aaron Patrick Prins of the Geneseo FFA Chapter in Illinois has joined a family farming operation that has thrived since the 1880s. He has focused his energies on strengthening the farm's corn production. He has worked with all aspects of the business: seedbed preparation, seed selection, biotechnology, scouting, spraying and harvesting. To learn more about this industry he loves, Prins will study production agriculture at college. Eventually, he hopes to take over the family farm and continue the legacy started so long ago. He has been supported by his FFA advisors Brian Stahl and Doug Nelson.

This award is sponsored by Pioneer Hi-Bred.

Home and/or Community Development – Entrepreneurship/Placement

James Douglas Flatt – Tennessee

With both his parents serving as missionaries, James Douglas Flatt of the Wilson Central FFA Chapter in Tennessee has been inspired to serve others in any way he can. He has led mission trips to areas hit worst by Hurricane Katrina where he served on a chainsaw clean-up crew and helped rebuild homes in Louisiana. On a more local level, Flatt has become a member of his county fair board, volunteering for development projects that benefit all fair-goers. He has been supported by his FFA advisors Benny Joe McDonald and Pam Farmer Walker.

This award is sponsored by Carhartt, Inc.

Landscape Management – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Ricky D. Moore – North Carolina

Even though his father owns a landscaping business, Ricky D. Moore of the West Rowan FFA Chapter in North Carolina was never pushed into joining him. But after seeing what his father does and his passion,



he couldn't help but develop a shared love of plants and the aesthetics of the environment. Moore loves learning new techniques and methods of the business and in times of recent economic hardship, has helped the company work with a tighter budget. Once he completes college, he will join his father as an equal partner in the business. He is supported by his FFA advisors Jason Chester and Clark Adams.

This award is sponsored by John Deere and Tractor Supply Company.

Nursery Operations – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Joshua Joe Conaway – Oklahoma

Joshua Joe Conaway of the Ringwood High School FFA Chapter in Oklahoma started his nursery program in the school greenhouse. Today, he has diversified his horticultural endeavors to include raising water pond plants, ground cover and bedding plants. He has learned the art of running a successful nursery, including the ability to identify weeds and detrimental insects. Most importantly, Conaway has

derived great passion from his agricultural experiences. This is something he hopes to pass on as he studies to become an agriscience teacher. He is supported by his FFA advisor Will Bunt.

This award is sponsored by RAM Trucks and the National FFA Foundation.

Outdoor Recreation – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Nicholas W. Peckman – Kansas

As the owner of Twin Bros. Hunting, Nicholas W. Peckman of the Paola FFA Chapter in Kansas had the goal of increasing the profitability of his family's land without increasing the acreage. He has accomplished this through recreational hunting. Peckman has built food plots, feeders, established mineral licks and built deer stands on the land. He leads guided hunts for deer, turkey and waterfowl. Peckman has the goal of introducing bear hunts in the next year. He is supported by FFA advisors Jeff T. Hines and Josh Evans.

This award is sponsored by Cabela's and the National FFA Foundation.



Poultry Production – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Christian Blake Alexandre – California

After a seventh grade visit to the nation's capital, Christian Blake Alexandre from the Del Norte FFA Chapter in California became enthralled with the small pastured poultry operations he saw there. He began his own organic poultry farm before entering high school. He is now up to 1,500 laying hens and there are days when he gets nearly as many eggs. Alexandre takes every precaution with his birds, even using Great Pyrenees dogs to protect them from wild predators. He plans to continue and expand his operation after graduating from college. He is supported by his FFA advisor Robyn Gill.

This award is sponsored by Tractor Supply Company and the National FFA Foundation.

Sheep Production – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Madison Lin McGolden – Oklahoma

Agriculture has been part of Madison Lin McGolden's life from the very beginning. The Fairview FFA Chapter member in Oklahoma began her enterprise with 20 ewes,



a number that has now grown to more than 90. She has sold her stock across the country—from Nevada to Texas and even hosted her own camp to share sheep showing techniques. She holds five camps each summer, having taught about 160 students. McGolden is supported by FFA advisors Vince McGolden and Mandy Heister.

This award is sponsored by Bimeda, Inc. and New Holland.

Small Animal Production and Care – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Jessica M. Both – Illinois

Jessica M. Both of the Seneca FFA Chapter in Illinois has wanted to be a veterinarian since she was four years old. But before she'd put on her lab coat, she knew she'd need some experience. What started with an unruly dog named Jake blossomed into a 70-client pet care business. Both operates "I Care Animal Service" out of her parent's basements and will apply what she's learned there to her future career as an agriscience teacher and FFA advisor. She is supported by her FFA advisors Jeff Maierhoter and Kent Weber.

This award is sponsored by Merial.



Specialty Animal Production – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Levi William Ochsner – Nebraska

Levi William Ochsner of the Sutton FFA Chapter in Nebraska worked with his family to convert a building his grandpa used for hogs into the perfect facility to start an aquaculture project. After working with his parents, in 2006 he bought his first 6,000 trout that he would care for and sell on his own. He attributes his success to careful daily feeding, cleaning and maintaining the health of his fish. Ochsner hopes to continue building his operation, eventually purchasing a tank to transport fish to his customers. He has been supported by his FFA advisors Thomas Hofmann and Kurt Heideman.

This award is sponsored by Land O'Lakes Purina Feed and the National FFA Foundation.

Specialty Crop Production – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Kyle Russell Templeton – Tennessee

Growing tobacco has been in Kyle Russell Templeton's family business for three generations. The member of the East Robertson FFA Chapter in Tennessee got his

start on the farm when he was seven years old and helped pick up leaves missed by the machinery. Fast forward more than 10 years and he owns his own acres and has worked to increase grade and output per acre. Templeton plans to increase his land and output in the coming years while learning more about the operation and crop he loves. He has been supported by his FFA advisors Kari Hice and Tommy Green.

This award is Sponsored by the National FFA Foundation.

Swine Production – Entrepreneurship

Austin Rhye Kindschi – Oklahoma

Austin Rhye Kindschi of the Mulhall-Orlando FFA Chapter in Oklahoma began his swine operation with three sows. Since then, he has worked to develop award-winning breeding stock. Kindschi markets 85 percent of his swine and 18 of those have won county championships with one being named state fair champion. He has sold pigs to young swine exhibitors in eight states. He is supported by his FFA advisor Allen Miller.

This award is sponsored by LA-CO Markal and the National FFA Foundation.

Swine Production – Placement

Ronald Tye Wynn – Georgia

Ronald Tye Wynn from the Colquitt County High School FFA Chapter in Georgia got his start in the swine industry as the official playmate of the baby pigs on his father's swine farm. His responsibilities have grown substantially since then. He cares for nearly 3,000 hogs; feeding, vaccinating, breeding and waste management are among his many duties. He is supported by his FFA advisors Shawn S. Collins, Steve Bass, Stacey Beachman, Gene Hart and Stephanie Summerlin.

This award is sponsored by Sunglo Foods/Akey and the National FFA Foundation.

Turf Grass Management – Entrepreneurship/Placement

William Maltbie – Oklahoma

Growing up in Oklahoma, William Maltbie dreamed of driving a tractor. His dad, however, told the future Burlington FFA Chapter member that he would have to settle with driving the family lawnmower. For Maltbie, that was all it took to spark his interest in turf grass management. He began with eight lawns and now cares for 30. He meets with each client at the beginning of each mowing season, outlining the expectations. For Maltbie, the customer is always right. He is supported by his FFA advisor Travis Bradshaw.

This award is sponsored by John Deere.

Vegetable Production – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Charlie Tank – Minnesota

One of Charlie Tanks's earliest memories is his grandfather's sweet corn patch and enjoying its rewards with his cousins. A few years ago, however, the Randolph FFA Chapter member of Minnesota, saw the opportunity for expansion. Working with his cousin, he introduced pumpkins, gourds and other autumn regalia into the operation. In four short years, Tank has doubled his gross sales and seen a net return of 66 percent. Completing college, he will join his family as the fourth generation in its agricultural pursuits. He is supported by his FFA advisor Edward Terry.

This award is sponsored by Monsanto Vegetable Seeds.

Veterinary Medicine – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Emily Elizabeth McCullough – Oklahoma

Emily Elizabeth McCullough of the Lone Grove FFA Chapter in Oklahoma has known since she was 10 years old that she wanted to make veterinary medicine her career. When she began working at the local vet clinic, her main duties were feeding the animals and sanitizing the operating rooms. Now, she is charged with administering medications and caring for the animals before and after surgery. After college, McCullough plans to start her own vet clinic. She is supported by her FFA advisor Michael Stuckey.

This award is sponsored by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Wildlife Production and Management – Entrepreneurship/Placement

Aaron Thomas Shawler Wheeler – Kentucky

Since he was 14, Aaron Wheeler of the LaRue County FFA Chapter in Kentucky, has worked for a farm/hunt operation, raising quail, pheasants and chucker birds. He has learned every facet of the business, from feeding the birds to guiding hunters through the grounds and finally cleaning the game for his customers. Wheeler has surely achieved the goals he set for himself, especially earning the respect of his customers and colleagues. He is supported by his FFA advisors Misty Bivens and Tim Quiggins.

This award is sponsored by Land O'Lakes Purina Feed and Yamaha Motor Corporation USA.



Star awards are awarded to students who have received established profitable agricultural enterprises or programs focusing on an agricultural field

Stars Over America Pageant Takes Center Stage

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 America Star Farmer were awarded to students who have received the American Degree, established profitable agricultural enterprises or program focusing on an agricultural field, demonstrated outstanding active involvement in both FFA and their communities and have met other rigorous agricultural education and leadership requirements. During the convention, each finalist participated in interviews by a panel of judges, who ultimately named the top candidate in each area. Winners were announced in an onstage ceremony where they received a plaque and an award of \$2,000.



Star Farmer



At a young age, **Adam Venteicher of Pierce, Neb.**, began tagging along with his father, and soon his interest in agriculture was sparked. He worked with his dad feeding cattle and riding on the tractors when they were planting and hauling corn. When he was in first grade, Venteicher and his sister bought 15 feeder pigs. This was his first chance to work with his own livestock. Later he helped with a cow/calf operation. Venteicher enjoyed working with cattle, so he knew he wanted to have his own. In 2003 he purchased six bred cows that would calve in March. He then purchased a large round baler to put up his father's hay. Every year he added cows to his operation and updated his father's old cattle facility. Today, his operation has 37 cow/calf pairs and 19 open replacement heifers that are pastured on 160 acres he rented from his father. In addition to livestock, Venteicher also began producing crops. By 2005 he had increased his operation to consist of six acres of rye, 13 acres of soybeans and 20 acres of corn. In 2009 he also had the opportunity to rent 110 acres, where he raises ground corn, soybeans and alfalfa.

When things slow in the winter, Venteicher works on restoring tractors. He currently attends Northeast Community College and plans to graduate with an associate's degree in both animal science and diesel technology. He plans to continue farming after graduation.

Venteicher is the son of Kenneth and Donna Venteicher. He is a member of the Pierce FFA chapter, and his advisor is Jodi Borchers.

Star in Agriscience



Emily Arkfeld of Dunbar, Neb., has been raising Hampshire swine on her family farm for years, so it was only natural she wanted to use them as the basis for her research. Arkfeld studied the Rendement Napole (RN) gene, referred to when she started as the "Hampshire Gene." She combined her background in swine and a desire to improve meat quality.

Arkfeld began researching the muscle quality of Hampshire hogs and investigated ways it could be improved to improve the taste of Hampshire meat. Through her research, she compared the meat quality of Hampshire hogs with and without the RN gene.

Currently enrolled in the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, the 21-year-old plans to graduate next year with a bachelor's degree in animal science with a meat science option and continue on to graduate school to eventually pursue a doctorate.

"With the Hampshire swine industry being such a huge part of my life growing up," Arkfeld said, "I quite frankly cannot imagine living without it. I plan to always be involved in production agriculture and raise pigs, because it is truly what I love to do." She is the daughter of Timothy and Luanne Arkfeld. She is a member of the Loudes Central Catholic FFA chapter, where her advisor is her father, Timothy Arkfeld.

Star in Agricultural Placement



"Are you sure you want to farm?" **Dan Griesbach of Stratford, Wis.**, fondly remembers the question his parents always asked him. To Griesbach, there was no doubt he would one day become the sixth-generation Griesbach to farm his family's original 1880 dairy farm, the oldest-working dairy farm in his township. He eventually acquired 50 percent ownership in the dairy farm and now this 22-year-old Marshfield FFA member's hard work, determination and motivation to succeed earned him top honors.

As Griesbach learned the ropes in dairy farming from his grandfather and father, his responsibilities grew around the family farm. During his junior and senior years in high school, he enrolled in the Production Agriculture-Youth Apprenticeship Program and completed Level I and II, which accelerated his learning of dairy farming as well as commodity marketing and farm business management. The summer before graduation, Griesbach's father suffered an unavoidable spinal surgery, which pivoted Griesbach to overseeing the daily management of the farm and cemented his role as a future farmer. Once his father recovered, the farm continued to grow, increasing the number of cattle from 55 to more than 70 and harvesting high-quality forages. Griesbach also encouraged his father to plant a silage-specific corn hybrid to increase the digestibility and starch content of the farm's silage. Among his many other accomplishments, Griesbach also has exhibited his livestock at several fairs; won a proficiency award and became a career development event champion during the Wisconsin FFA convention; and was named a 2007 Wisconsin Star in Agricultural Placement finalists.

After graduation, Griesbach enrolled in the two-year Farm Operation program at Mid-State Technical College in Marshfield. In the near future, he plans to complete the Farm Business and Production Program at Mid-State and purchase the farm from his parents. He is the son of William and Carol Griesbach. His FFA advisors are Mike Zee and Tim Heeg.

Star in Agribusiness



When he was deeded the family business, **Rusty Kenner of Cheyenne, Okla.**, looked forward to proving himself when others expected him to fail. Kenner and his brother took a diversified business that had been in decline for five years and turned it back into the reputable businesses his grandfather created.

Shortly after entering high school, Kenner was able to restart the family well drilling business by refurbishing old equipment. During the past five years, the business has drilled more than 150 wells and repaired dozens of other wells. Kenner continues to expand his business with word-of-mouth marketing. Kenner also operates a custom hay swathing and baling company. Last year, Kenner baled more than 2,000 bales. With the goal of increasing production and efficiency in his haying business, he has seen profits rise, which has given him the ability to upgrade equipment in both businesses.

Even though he currently works full time with Kenner Water Well and Custom Swathing and Baling businesses, Kenner plans to continue his education this fall at Oklahoma State University - Okmulgee to study diesel mechanics. He plans to expand the family businesses with a diesel mechanics shop. Kenner is the son of Clifford Lynn and Dixie Kaye Kenner, and his advisor at the Cheyenne FFA chapter is Nathan Torrance.



What Can I Give

School had just ended for the week and I was ready for the spring break of a lifetime. All of us upperclassmen were making plans for the week ahead. We had to make sure to hit the beach, of course have a bonfire and finally have some good movie nights. I left school that day anxious to get the weekend rolling and prepare myself for this week of madness. Conversations were buzzing Friday night about how this was going to be an epic week and all of our senior class would love it!

Later that weekend on Sunday night, I was having a conversation with my FFA mentor. I was preparing to run for state office the weekend after spring break and he and I were doing some final preparations for the interviews. I told him I was feeling nervous and I didn't know if I would even do well. He suggested that we do a couple of practice questions over the phone and I was doing so well! I listed off facts for issue-related questions, I showed who I was in personal questions, but then he asked the final question. He simply asked, "What can Levy Randolph give?" and I couldn't answer it. What could I give that would be unique? I didn't want to recite a cliché FFA answer, so I told him to think about it and I would get back to him by the end of the week. Then the next day I got a call from a friend that not only changed my spring break, but led me to eventually realize the two things I could give.

Have you ever asked yourself the question, "What can I give?" I mean have you seriously looked into the mirror and reflected on who you are and asked what you could give to others? The world that we live in is surrounded with many opportunities for us to give. We can donate money to charity; we can volunteer. We can let someone who may have one or two items go before us in line at the grocery store. We can even give a ride to a friend who has tried everyone else. We have so many opportune times where we can give something and while it's true that we can give in a variety of ways, there

Randolph
ational
resident
2009-2010



are two things that I believe are within our power to give that we often fail to offer each day: love and inspiration. They are so versatile and can impact anyone and influence anywhere.

I learned about love at a young age from someone who in my eyes loves anyone and everyone. Make some noise if you have a grandparent you love. Oh man, do I love my Grandma Louise. She makes the best food. Sorry Mom, I've been lying to you all these years, but Grandma one ups you on this one. Growing up in another country had its perks and one of them was coming back to California every summer for Christmas break and staying with Granny because she would be so happy to see my sister and me that nothing we did was bad.

I got to tag along with her one day while Mom and Dad were out. We began our day by heading to the grocery store and I asked her why she was buying more food because we had enough at the house. She said, "Just wait and stop asking questions L.G., grab the list and help grandma find some of these items." So I took the mission set before me and once we finished at the grocery store, she drove us over to the Salvation Army. I immediately thought I was getting brand new clothes, especially when she asked, "What do boys your age like to wear?" It's

that kind of question that our parents ask when they want to play it off as if they aren't buying us something, so I quickly walked over to look for super hero shirts and nice outfits for what most boys at my age would go for. When she purchased them, I thought to myself, "This is why I love my grandma! I can't wait to try these on." As I dug into the bag to grab some out and admire them on our way home, she told me to put them back in the bag. We pulled on to our street and what happened next surprised me and a life lesson was taught to me by my grandma that day. We pulled onto the street she lived on and instead of driving into the garage, we passed my grandma's house and went a little ways down to another house where a new family had just moved in. My G-Ma Louise had gotten word that this new family didn't have much food or clothing cause they couldn't afford much, so she decided to go out and buy these necessities for their family. She dropped off the items without expecting a thank you and just wanting to do a good deed, yet the impact this made was evident. I asked her later, why she had gone and done that and she replied with, "Because they share the same need and want that we have L.G." I asked, "What's that?" and she said, "Love." All my life my grandma's message has stuck with me.

The unfortunate thing about my lovely, beautiful grandmother is that she is no longer on this earth. I lost her at the age of 12 and it was devastating. I remember crying in classes at school randomly, because the hurt was always there. What helped me get through it all was remembering what she told me while she was laying in that hospital bed and I was saying goodbye before we headed back to Japan. She said, "Make sure you love other people." She went on to tell me how there are too many people in this world that have hate in their hearts and judge. She ended with, "Don't be one of them." I didn't know that would be the last talk I would share with my Grandma Louise. But although, she isn't with us, her legacy is. My grandmother left a legacy of service, friendship and love. She would open her home up to people in need, provided the church with things like flowers and loved reading and cooking for people in the nursing homes.

When I look at the many conversations I have had with her both before her passing and after, the one thing that always managed to show up was love. What it meant, what it does, why we do it. What it means is unique because to my grandma it was the most important aspect of life. What it does is unbelievable for it is love that is the key to life and it is its influences that move the world. Why we do it is simple, because everybody in the world wants to be loved—everybody! My G-Momma put it best when she simply said **Give Love!**

If you really want to make the days in your life worth something or truly matter, then we must love something, but what we do with the love is the key to the puzzle. When you return home, try simply offering five people a smile throughout the day. Go up to someone who is eating lunch by themselves and join them. At that point, we've only scratched the surface and we have to go deeper. Volunteer your time at a homeless shelter or nursing home. Don't rub off someone cause they may be a little different than you. Give love to your family by supporting them in their endeavors with encouraging words and acts of service. Give love to your friends by being the listening

ear they need in times of trouble. Giving love is giving of yourself without expecting anything in return and if there is some kindness that you can show to the people around you, then show it.

I absolutely love to give love and I have made a conscious effort to provide that in my interactions. However, something else that is important to give isn't always visible or evident right away.

Throughout my terms in various offices—be it chapter, sectional, regional, state, or even national office—I have always questioned whether or not I have done something that at least makes a difference in one individual's life. Something that gets them excited about a passion unique to them. Something that inspires them.

During my travels, I had an opportunity to meet a newly elected state officer by the name of Alex when I made my way to the Oregon state convention. Alex's first impression of me must have been really bad, since we met through one of his interview rounds and I was a stubborn prospective member trying to throw him curveballs. But since their convention, Alex and I have gotten to know each other fairly well and I consider him one of my close friends. One of the things that Alex and I both cherish that has strengthened our friendship is faith. It has been the center of our conversations and not only that, Alex has shared with me a side of life that many don't see.

In the midst of one of our many crazy conversations at the end of State Presidents' Conference, Alex told me something that left me speechless. He said, "Levy, I just want to say thank you." I had to ask why, because I was kind of lost and he proceeded to tell me that growing up without a father or a strong male role model has been challenging beyond belief and that he was simply grateful I took time to talk with him and invest in our friendship. He finished by saying, "Thanks for being a role model and inspiration."

I was without words for a minute, which, if you know me, is hard to believe. As leaders we all strive to leave some sort of impact on someone or legacy and inspire those we interact with. However, if you are like me, even though we want to make that

difference we never really expect to hear about it point blank like I did from Alex. When I finally did hear it, I felt this sense of potential in my own ability, not just as a national officer, but outside of those shoes as a peer, to create inspiration.

Alex shared with me that I have been a role model for him, but what he doesn't know is that he has been a role model to me as well; he serves as my inspiration in getting more in touch with my faith. I want so badly to be growing each and every day and live a purpose-driven life like Alex does.

One of the greatest gifts you can give to yourself or anyone else is inspiration. Inspiration to get in touch with your dreams. Inspiration to seek out your deepest passion. Inspiration to make a difference in the world, a difference that only you can make. Alex lives everyday giving inspiration to others. He inspires me by motivating me and challenging me to be a better person and live with faith. Alex gives inspiration by sharing himself and his heart with others. He takes the time to invest in people and find what really makes them tick. When we look at Alex and get to take one thing away, take the last half of the puzzle. First we must give love and secondly we must **Give Inspiration**.

Unlike giving love, when we give inspiration it isn't always visible. What this means for us though is that we should give inspiration to ourselves and to others. We can find inspiration in other's passions. We can give ourselves inspiration by simply telling ourselves that we can do something and we will. And once we feel like we have given that inspiration it's not over then. We must continue to build that inspiration into something greater by being a mentor, defining your values and goals and striving to at least make a positive difference in someone's life. Giving inspiration is all about understanding that in this world, you may only be one person, yet in someone's eyes you may mean everything. If you make a difference in one life then you've still made a difference in this world. Capitalize on that knowledge and create a movement within yourself by being more purposeful in your interactions and make every handshake, smile and conversation count. Take time to build people up and

continue to be their inspiration. That one person may idolize you and look to you for guidance, don't let them down.

The ability to give love and give inspiration are two of the most powerful tools within our lives. And so we must not miss out on opportunities to do so.

That phone call from my friend over spring break informed me that Michael Throne, a graduating classmate of mine, had passed away in a car accident. I hung up the phone and just sat there in disbelief. Here we are with plans for spring break and one of our friends just passed away. Michael's passing happened so quick and made me realize that tomorrow is never guaranteed. After hearing the news I went back to the question of what can I give? And I decided that what I could give is exactly what Michael gave every day. He gave love when he walked through the halls of our school and talked to anyone and everyone. He always had a smile on his face and listened with compassion, understanding and intention. He gave inspiration even though he never knew it and that inspiration was to me. He inspired me to live with a carefree attitude and faith that everything would work out.

Hold your hands out in front of you and look down at them. We were given these two hands to make a difference and add value in life. Reflect on your life up to this point: what have your hands done that have added value?

My friends there are only so many tomorrows and it's never too late to start.

So what will you give? Give love like my grandmother did everyday to her family, her church and her community.

Give inspiration like Alex not only to others like he did for me, but to you as well.

Life is not about success, it's about significance. It's about our contribution and service. It's about looking up from your hands and into the mirror and instead of asking, "What can I get from life?" watch what happens when you answer, "What can I give?"

We can give our love. We can give our inspiration. And we can give ourselves. So the question is...

"How will you give it?"

Stars & Sushi

Growing up, dress-up clothes were the attire, make-believe was the game and a box office hit coming from two young film producers, my brother and me, was on the line. From cowboys and Indians, K-State football player and a cheerleader to a princess being saved by Prince Charming—we always had big imaginations, with big ideas and a big star of our movie...me.

I mean, I was the oldest, the girl and I had watched enough Disney movies to know what I was doing. My poor brother, I always insisted on being the star. Wrong. Wrong. Wrong. Truth was, I was selfish. I somehow thought I deserved to be up here on the throne, to be the center of attention, to be in the lime-light. Fail.

There is nothing pleasing about being prideful, arrogant or boastful about ourselves. Let's be honest. Does anyone really enjoy spending time with someone who is only able to think of themselves? We've all learned from a young age that favor is shown to the humble. So, why don't we always reach for humility?

I definitely don't have this idea of humility figured out. It's something that I'm striving for. However, this year I have learned that humility starts with not thinking about me all the time. It's not that we need to degrade or devalue ourselves as people, but it is thinking of ourselves less. I believe there is a way of viewing the world that can help us see where we fit in the big scheme of things. Two things taught me how to see the bigger picture: a starry night and a lesson on sushi making. I've learned that when our thoughts move from our own wants and needs and we see the world as more than population one, we live "In Awe."

The word awe means having a feeling of wonder, amazement, respect and reverence. Check out the urban dictionary: a moment of awe is a moment without words.

In order to really see ourselves as we should, we need to live in awe of two things: live in awe of the universe and live in awe of others.

Where are my friends who live in the South? Where are my friends who are starting to talk like they live in the South? Last summer as part of a Campus Ministry



Bethany Bohnenblust continued

leadership program at K-State, I lived in the great southern state of Florida. One of the most memorable days while living there was the very last night that we were there. It literally was everything that this Kansas girl could ever have asked for—an open fire on the beach and conversation with some of my greatest friends. As the star tipping and swimming began to slow down, my friend, Cindy and I slipped off.

We ended up walking up and down the coast line for what seemed like hours. We reminisced about the summer, wondered about what the future held for us and then sometimes we just stood in awe of our surroundings.

We eventually got a distance from everyone else and just laid down on the sand and gazed up at the stars. How small a night sky, pierced by millions of twinkling lights, can make us feel. We can never fully take in the night sky; our minds simply can't comprehend how far the stars stretch. Our eyes feast on meteor showers and our minds wonder just what else is out there. There on the beach in those moments of silence, staring up at the never-ending sky, my thoughts were a million miles away from my own needs.

Have you ever had one of these moments? When you get goose bumps—it's a staggering powerful moment of realizing how small we are. Our thoughts have completely left ourselves and are looming in awe of what we see. I never feel as close to my creator as when I'm gazing up at a night sky.

What if we lived each moment like we do when we're gazing at the stars, with the perspective that we're not the center of the universe? We all know someone else who thinks the world revolves around them. Truth is each of us has our moments too.

But how can we even begin to think that this life is about us?

Right now, we are at the 83rd National FFA Convention in the city of Indianapolis. Which is one city, in the state of Indiana, which is one state in the United States, which is only one country in North America, which is but one continent on planet Earth. This is basic, we all know this stuff.

But this is where it gets good.



Planet Earth is one of eight planets in our solar system.

Our solar system is only one of about 70 in our galaxy.

And our Milky Way galaxy is only one of what could be 80 billion galaxies in our universe.

Still following...that little dot is our sun. Every human being that has ever lived has lived under the sunlight of that dot.

If that doesn't take your breath away, if that doesn't leave you in awe, I'm not sure what does.

Haven't we all been guilty of thinking that the world revolves around us? We think we deserve the big truck, the new iPhone, to get that college scholarship or to get anything we ask for.

Humility begins when we have a proper view of ourselves—we set aside our own plans and see the big picture. When we're caught up in our own little world we miss out on everything else that's going on. But when we choose to be overwhelmed by the beauty that we live in, we can see a bigger picture and a purpose that we get to be a part of.

For me it took nothing more than getting outside and seeing the stars. Take a walk at night. Get up early for the sunrise. Maybe even get up at 3 o'clock in the morning to see a meteor shower.

It's a conscious decision that we must make to live in awe. Each morning, I take time and choose to be overwhelmed by my creator. Maybe for you it means looking at biology or geography as more than a class but the world we're surrounded by. Volunteer at your local arboretum or national park and really appreciate nature, and definitely check out the YouTube video 'Indescribable.'

When we're thinking of what's out there, we're not thinking about ourselves. Stars, they taught me how to live in awe of the universe. This world—it's not about me and you.

This year it was easy to be overwhelmed by the beautiful parts of the country that you come from.

But these simply pale in comparison to the beauty held in this arena right now... it's you. The world we live in does take my breath away, but there is nothing that leaves me more in awe than people.

This year our team had the chance to travel to Japan, and this was my host family while I was there. (Shows picture of family.)

While in Japan we learned how to introduce ourselves in Japanese "Watashi no nama awah Bethany Bohnenblust des," the Asian culture, ate lots and lots of sushi, and the thrill of not having any idea of what everyone else on the subway is saying. One

afternoon we had the chance to go and actually hang out with a FFJ chapter, Future Farmers of Japan. We listened as they welcomed us in and they taught us the FFJ dance—it was hecka sweet!

The day's festivities concluded with meeting our host families for the weekend. I went home with this fabulous family, with huge smiles, lots of questions and not a word of spoken English. The first night I cried myself to sleep as I just wanted to be with my own family. I wanted a hot shower, to sleep in a warm bed, wear clean clothes and to eat food that didn't include anything that was raw. The next day I was miserable, thinking only of what I wanted. I wanted to get back to my own home and was desperate to be back around people like me who I could understand.

The second night, Tomanai, my host sister, had invited a couple of her friends over and we were having a slumber party complete with us making homemade sushi. Using a Japanese/English dictionary, I was able to communicate to Tomanai that I wanted to help with dinner. As I began to learn from Tomanai and her friends how to take an ordinary bowl of rice and turn it into an extraordinarily beautiful meal of sushi I looked up and began to realize how selfish I had been. I was speechless.

No, they weren't like my family and I wasn't in my own home—but they had gone out of their way to make me feel special. They made me 'American' coffee for breakfast—a sure way to my heart—the sister had moved out of her room to give me her bed, the grandfather and mother made me handmade gifts, and the dad gave me a hand-written note saying his family was forever my family.

At this point it didn't matter where I slept, what language was being spoken around me, or that we were still eating an entire meal of sushi. When I finally opened my eyes to the people that I was surrounded by, I was humbled.

And once I quit thinking about me and let myself see how amazing these people were, I fell in love with them. It wasn't them who needed to change; I needed to shift my perspective.

When has your selfishness been a hindrance? When you weren't voted as the MVP of your sports team? What about when your alarm went off a little too early this morning? When someone took the parking spot you had your eye on? Or what about when you became the jealous boyfriend or girlfriend? We all definitely have our moments, but what could happen if we were willing to shift our perspective?

When I chose to live in awe of these people and shift from my selfish thinking I found a Japanese family. That last night with my host family resulted in a slumber party, full of lots of pictures, origami lessons and me sharing with those girls American pop music and high-fives.

Speaking of high-fives, check this out: Hold out your hand as if to give a high-five... are you ready for these stats? In one human hand there are 29 bones, 34 muscles and 48 nerves. One square inch of skin about the size of your thumbnail has over 19,000 cells.

Yes, that's a pretty good A&P lesson, but if I would have been viewing my Japanese host family as this unbelievable creation of science and beauty the entire time, I wouldn't have even for a moment been doing anything but viewing them in awe.

People don't leave us in awe just because of the scientific backing but because of the great things they do in this world. I keep this little red book. This book was started while in Tennessee this last January. Since that time, I have captured stories about people I've met who are living out their passions and seeking the purpose that they were created for.

So here are just a few of the people I met:

I'm in awe of the worth ethic I witnessed in brothers Dalton and Austin from Housatonic Valley, Conn. They work harder on their family's dairy than anyone else their age I've ever met. They have already invested more in their family business in hours and resources than most businessmen ever will.

I'm in awe of the hearts for service I observed. Kendall, a state officer from Georgia, has set up a Facebook page as part of her service project from WLC to remind girls how beautiful they are. Check it out on Facebook 'Fearfully and Wonderfully Made.'

And I'm in awe of the attitudes I saw. The Michigan state officer team has an incredible approach to how to serve this year. One member shared with me how to live with KIP. K-I-P, standing for keep it positive. How awesome is that!

Living in awe doesn't stop at just seeing this amazingness around you. It's about respecting these people more. It's about realizing that we are just as valuable as the other 6.8 billion people on this earth. When was the last time that you went up to a competitor who beat you and congratulated them? Wrote a note to your parent or guardian and thanked them for the gifts they share with you. Or could we all show a little respect for the FFA advisor who brought you?

When we're caught up in our own little world we miss the bigger picture, we miss out on relationships and we miss our purpose. Enjoying sushi with my host family taught me to live in awe of people. This world—not about me and you.

This reality of how much more beautiful and pleasing life is when we're not on the throne, but instead humbled before it has forever changed my life.

My relationships have different intentions, actions are strategic, a purpose reigns, my personal top priority—God—never wavers.

Every single day I wake up in awe at what we get to experience, where we call home in this country, in awe of the difference you make in your communities, but most importantly this last year I was in awe of you. You have blessed me. You have taught me about what joy there is in being small.

A person who lives in awe knows we can never have too much humility, too much faith, too much belief in a greater purpose, too much charity or too much zeal in doing good to others. So let us be continually forgetting our own little worlds and reach out to the people before us.

A movie about this world wouldn't have anything to do with any of us individually. We simply get to be supporting actors and extras towards the real glory to be given.

Stars and sushi have taught me about my rightful position on this earth.

More than Emotion

Danny Wernick, the football quarterback, asked me to wear his jersey to school on Friday.

They didn't elect me as an officer of NHS.

Coach Devine asked me to be captain of the cross country team.

I got a C on my first paper in Forensics class.

I was voted friendliest in my senior class.

All my friends spent the night at Casey's house, but I wasn't invited.

Let's be honest, our emotions change like Lady Gaga's hair-styles: tired when we wake up, grumpy when our siblings lock us out of the bathroom, annoyed when our teachers assign too much homework, happy when that special someone flashes us a wink in the hallway, hungry waiting for dinner, stealth-mode as we stalk our friends on Facebook, tired when we finally get to sleep.

We spend the majority of our lives strapped into this emotional roller coaster, our feelings shifting constantly with every hairpin turn and loopy-loop. It only takes a simple comment or eye roll to catapult us from happiness to misery.

For me, these twists and turns depend on the people I'm surrounded by: what they think, what they say and how they react.





I'm really an emotional chameleon—changing colors based on those around me. I am... a people pleaser and have suffered the consequences.

Any other people pleasers out there?!

Well, what if there was a way to get off the emotional roller coaster? What could our lives look like if we weren't constantly basing our emotions on the people and circumstances around us? What if our happiness came from something deeper than surface-level feelings?

That's when we capture true, consistent, unending happiness. That's when we live with joy.

But what is joy? Isn't it just another way to say really happy? Ah... Eeerrrrr! Wrong answer! While emotions like happiness come and go, each of us has a flame deep inside that can't be extinguished by anything someone says or does unless we let it. Can this flame grow? Yes! Can it shrivel? Yep. Can it go out totally? Uh-huh. But, only if we let it. Only if we forget to stoke the flame.

So what's the fuel of that fire? Joy. Joy is gladness that comes from what we love most. It brings peace that comes from putting life into perspective. And everyone's source of joy is a little different.

If we live joy-filled lives we find the key to happiness and the cornerstone of fulfillment.

And to live a joy-filled life, nursing our inner flames until they become raging infernos, we must first give it up and second forgive wholly.

Giving it up. It sounds straightforward and easy, but it's more like getting a puppy to drop a Frisbee—exhausting, frustrating

and a little sticky.

It was one of those days when everything seemed to be going wrong. I was about to set off for National FFA Week in New Mexico, and I had to be at the airport at five, which meant I had to leave home around four. In the morning.

And this trip, this trip was special. Today was the first day Alex was riding solo...SO-LO. A one-man wolf pack if you will. And I was nervous, really nervous.

I was loaded down with everything I'd need for the next few months of travels. I was alone. I had that "just-dragged-myself-out-of-bed" hair. I looked like death. And to top things off, my flight from Lansing to Chicago was delayed... great. Just great.

By the time we finally landed in Chicago, I only had 20 minutes to get to my next flight. I rushed off the plane, found the nearest monitor and scanned through the destinations. Albuquerque, gate B2. "That's on the other side of the airport! The doors close in 10 minutes. I'll never make it!"

That's when I did something I promised myself I'd never do. That's when I turned into one of "those people." Ladies and gentlemen, my name is Alex Henry, and I've had to run in the airport. Picture me with my purse, ginormous backpack and bright orange poster tube scampering through the airport. I looked like Quasi Moto trying to get the last Tickle Me Elmo the morning after Thanksgiving.

I was bounding through the airport, dodging businessmen, blowing past gate agents, hurdling the occasional poodle. I flew down the escalator and ran on to a moving sidewalk that passed through

the aurora borealis tunnel. It's a long hallway with lighted panels on the walls that change colors with the soothing music.

But, the only song playing in my head was, "Eye of the Tiger." I was on a mission.

I kept sprinting, "sprinting" on to the moving sidewalk. That was until I came up to this big guy who was standing right in the middle of the moving sidewalk.

So, I did what the normal person does when someone's in their way. "Uueemm." He didn't hear me, "Eeeuuuuuuuu." Still didn't hear me. (hacking cough) Nope, nothing. Finally, I broke down and said, "Excuse me." The man shimmied to the side revealing a little girl with a video camera.

I glanced at the little girl out of the corner of my eye as I passed. She was wide-eyed, staring in amazement as the colors danced across the lighted wall panels. She admired every glimmer of color timed in exact rhythm with the music.

But... I just kept barreling past without giving the girl a second thought.

I bounded up another escalator and started sprinting yet again. B8, B6, B4. I was getting closer, one more moving sidewalk and I'd be there.

And once again, someone—three little kids to be exact—were blocking my way.

Don't these people understand that I'm in a hurry?! I'm going to miss my first solo flight! I'll have to call Mr. Gill. And I'm sure my bags will get lost. It will mess up our entire schedule. Not to mention I'm going to be all sweaty for no reason.

I paced behind them, waiting for the kids to clear out of the way. They started counting, "Three, two, one!" They looked at

each other, smiled, then ran to the end just so they could do it again.

For the first time that day, I stopped and I smiled. The happiness personified in those kids made me realize that I wanted to be happy too. I could be happy. I stopped running, relaxed and let go of the baggage I'd been hauling around that morning... and I'm not talking about my backpack.

How could I have missed it?! I get to be a national officer for the largest, greatest youth organization in the world. I get to spend a whole week with FFA members. I am blessed.

Give it up. We can't live our joy until we stop letting worry stand in the way. No matter how hard we attempt to control the people or circumstances around us, we can't change what happens on the outside. When we give it up, let go of our worry, we allow our inner joy to engulf our lives.

Worry is like a tall person in the front row of the movie theater. It blocks us from seeing the joy of the big picture.

I only got to play for five minutes of the fourth quarter. I didn't get selected for homecoming court. Jenny gave me the cold shoulder at lunch. John has been talking smack about me behind my back. I don't wear Hollister like my friends. I can't afford the same car as the people next door.

Ask ourselves, "Does this affect the source of my joy? Will I even remember this in two days, two months, two years? Am I looking at the big picture? Can I control this?"

Most of the time, the answer is no. No, not getting that truck on my 16th birthday isn't the end of the world. No, just because my boyfriend broke up with me doesn't mean I can't go to prom. No, I couldn't have stopped my parents from getting a divorce.

We can't pick the financial situation we are born into, the neighborhood we live in or the actions of our family, and there will always be people who break promises, lie, cheat, steal and treat others poorly.

The bottom line: People aren't perfect so why should we expect their actions to be? We can't control how they live their lives. We can only control how we live ours.

So stop! Stop worrying about the things outside of our control. Stop trying to derive happiness from variables we have no power

over. Stop letting emotions get the best of us.

Give it up. That's the first step to living with joy.

Once we give up control of the outside parts of our lives, then we can move on to the second part of living with joy, forgive wholly.

Katie and I were best friends from the time we met over recess in fifth grade. Katie and I were so much alike that we could almost read each other's minds. We wore the same kinds of clothes, struggled with the same insecurities, watched the same types of movies and both LOVED 7-11 slurpees. She was the one person in middle and high school that got me.

I was sure Katie and I would be friends forever. That wouldn't change no matter what.

But, our last year of high school was tough. Katie got busier being a tennis superstar and vice president of NHS. My life was getting crazy with preparations for my last CDEs and a run for state FFA office. We didn't hang out as much. Our lives were getting more different.

Before I knew it, Katie wasn't calling me to hang out anymore. She was spending more time with Casey... Kallei.... Lane... Melissa. After a while, she didn't even invite me. She said I was too "busy" and she was sick of being told no.

After graduation, Katie and I hung out maybe three times over the summer. When college started, we called each other every week, every other week, once a month, never.

I missed her. But I wasn't going to be the first one to call.

I haven't talked to my best friend Katie in over two years because I couldn't let go of my anger. I've missed out on great friendship because I was too stubborn to forgive.

Forgive wholly. We can't live with joy if we are constantly hauling around a backpack of people's past sins against us. Our backpack would weigh 10,000 pounds and inevitably hold us back from living with joy. Forgive wholly—take off the backpack.

We all hang on to grudges. Katie didn't call me. Nicole tried to take my turn holding the preschool door. Willy Harrison made up the song "Rolly Poly Alex" in fifth grade and told me that I had the agility of a pregnant cow. My little sister got mad at me for breaking her new, hot pink skip it so she bit

the finger off my water baby doll... Seriously, we hold on to grudges FOREVER.

Think about some of the grudges that you have been carrying in your backpack—people that have wronged you, restaurants that have messed up your order, professionals you've heard bad things about.

Now think about all the times those grudges have prevented you from living in your personal joy. I can't go hang out at Melissa's because Emily is there. I'm not going back to that church because one of the ushers gave me a funny look when I only put a five in the offering plate.

Sounds ridiculous huh?! It's not too far from reality though, is it?

Forgive wholly. Stop carrying around a backpack filled with grudges that holds us back from experiencing and sharing our joy.

Gandhi said, "Forgiveness is a virtue of the brave."

Holding on to grudges is taking the easy way out. It's hard to let someone else have the last word. Everyone wants to stand their ground—never giving an inch. Just like a game of tug-of-war, no one wants to be the first to let go. But just because something is easy doesn't mean it's right. Be brave! Forgive wholly.

Many of us love the feeling of riding a roller coaster. The tingling sensation as the car climbs a large hill... chink, chink, chink, chink. The split second that seems like eternity as you teeter on the top, unable to see the steep track below. The thrill that comes when your stomach flies into your throat as you cruise down the hill into five sharp turns.

Emotions come and go just as fast.

Happiness that is based on the things outside of our control is as fleeting as the fastest drop of a roller coaster.

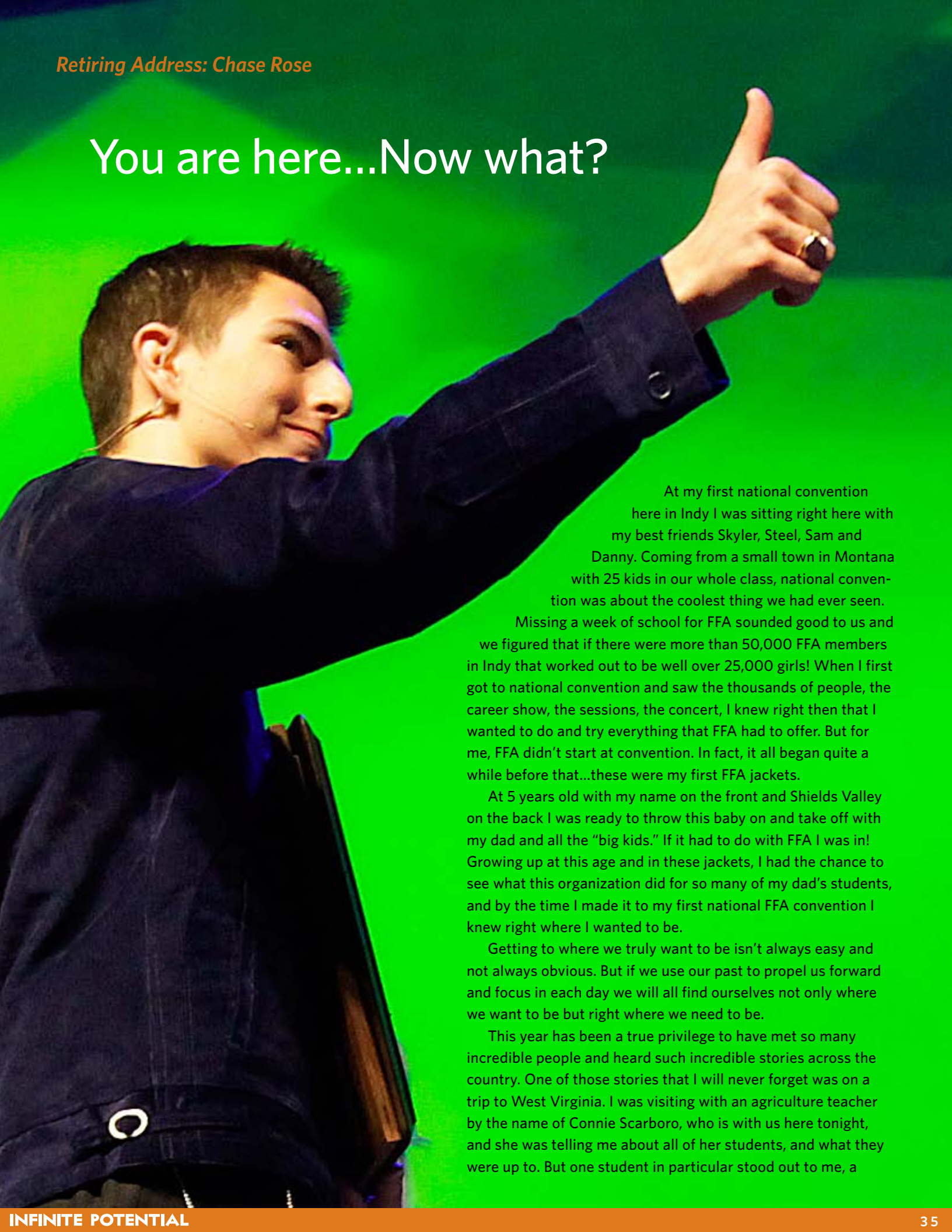
When we let past grudges or emotions steer our lives, we board a roller coaster higher and faster than we can imagine. But instead of getting off after 60 seconds, we strap ourselves in for life.

Decide to get off the emotional roller coaster and stop relying on people and outside things to bring you happiness.

Roller coasters may be fun for a few minutes, but joy, joy can fuel us through this life and beyond.

Give it up. Forgive Wholly. Live with joy!

You are here...Now what?

A man with short dark hair, wearing a blue jacket, is shown from the side, giving a thumbs up with his right hand. He is standing on a stage with a bright green background. The lighting is focused on him, creating a strong contrast with the background. He is wearing a ring on his right hand.

At my first national convention here in Indy I was sitting right here with my best friends Skyler, Steel, Sam and Danny. Coming from a small town in Montana with 25 kids in our whole class, national convention was about the coolest thing we had ever seen.

Missing a week of school for FFA sounded good to us and we figured that if there were more than 50,000 FFA members in Indy that worked out to be well over 25,000 girls! When I first got to national convention and saw the thousands of people, the career show, the sessions, the concert, I knew right then that I wanted to do and try everything that FFA had to offer. But for me, FFA didn't start at convention. In fact, it all began quite a while before that...these were my first FFA jackets.

At 5 years old with my name on the front and Shields Valley on the back I was ready to throw this baby on and take off with my dad and all the "big kids." If it had to do with FFA I was in! Growing up at this age and in these jackets, I had the chance to see what this organization did for so many of my dad's students, and by the time I made it to my first national FFA convention I knew right where I wanted to be.

Getting to where we truly want to be isn't always easy and not always obvious. But if we use our past to propel us forward and focus in each day we will all find ourselves not only where we want to be but right where we need to be.

This year has been a true privilege to have met so many incredible people and heard such incredible stories across the country. One of those stories that I will never forget was on a trip to West Virginia. I was visiting with an agriculture teacher by the name of Connie Scarboro, who is with us here tonight, and she was telling me about all of her students, and what they were up to. But one student in particular stood out to me, a



student by the name of Danny. Danny was an FFA member in her class for years and came from a tough financial situation. She told me that Danny joined FFA and decided raising hogs as an FFA project would be a great way to earn money for college.

The only problem was he struggled to find the cash to feed them. But, that didn't stop him either. Danny knew how to cook and decided that he could make baked goods every night and then sell them to other students on the bus ride to school. Mrs. Scarboro watched him do this for a while and overtime noticed that even though Danny was making money to feed his hogs, there were certain students that never seemed to pay for the food. One day Mrs. Scarboro went to Danny and said "Dan, enough is enough. I have been watching this go on for a while now. Why are you giving your food away? You need that money for your hogs, Dan." He turned to her and said simply, "I do it because I know what it's like to not have enough to eat."

Danny knew what it was like to be hungry. He had experienced some painful things in his past. The incredible thing is, Danny didn't look back on his past or the tough experiences with bitterness. He simply used his past to motivate him, even help someone else who was in the same situation. We all have a past, for some it's a great past, for others maybe it's been tougher. One thing's for sure and that is that we can't change our pasts, so instead let's use them!

Chris Gardner, whose story was told in the movie "The Pursuit of Happiness" is another great example of someone who uses their past to drive them. Chris was played by Will Smith in the movie; he and Chris are shown in this picture.

Chris was homeless in San Francisco raising his son by himself. They slept in subway stations, on benches or maybe shelters if they could get a spot, and just barely got by. But Chris never quit; he did internships, schooling, and was relentless in his job search. After many months

of being homeless Chris received a position at an investment firm and years later went on to start his own company Gardner Rich & Co. and went on to be a self-made multi-millionaire.

After that experience Chris could have just went on with his life and forgot about his past living on the streets, as he probably wanted to. Instead he volunteered at shelters, often at the same one he himself stayed in, gave large amounts of money to build more housing. He continues to sponsor a huge amount of charities to this day, and has even taken up an interest in guest speaking across the country. Chris uses his past to drive him forward. We have a choice: we can be bitter toward our past, wonder why us why me? If only I had this! If only I had that! If only I looked like that! Or we can choose to take pride in where we come from, be thankful for what we do have instead of what we do not and use our experiences the good the bad and the ugly to motivate us. Use your past!

Chase Rose continued

So often we cut ourselves short with what we can achieve, and its no one's fault but ourselves. Getting to where we want to be also depends on one word. Focus.

This winter I was traveling through Chicago O'Hare Airport, which seemed to be my second home all year. I had several hours before my next flight so I was just killing time meandering through the shops, reading Newsweek and watching planes go in and out.

I looked down the F concourse and I saw this man making his way down the hallway. He looked a bit like a slow motion pinball machine. I could see he was using a cane to check his position as he floated from one side of the hallway paying an unintentional visit to Starbucks then over to the other side and I watched him "hip check" a drinking fountain. I remember thinking to myself how impossible it seemed for anyone who was blind to even think about trying to get through the one of busiest airports in the country by themselves!

I was standing about 10 feet from this man when I overheard him ask a lady how to get to the C gates. She was in a hurry and just shot something off like it's down and to the left, basically no help to this guy at all. I had plenty of time to help him out, so I walked over and said, "Sir are you headed to the C gates? I am going there too." He got a smile on his face and stretched his hand out to say, "Thanks man, I am Matt." We started talking as we began our trip from the F gates to the C gates. Right as we started walking I realized to myself that the C gates are the furthest possible distance in O'Hare to where we currently were. This trip included a walk up the F hallway, through the skywalk to the B gates all the way down the B gates and down a tunnel that went under a taxiway to get to the C concourse then we still would have to find his gate. This was going to be a trek.

At first I had no idea how tough this really would be. The entire time Matt was literally like a news reporter trying to get to know me. He asked, "Where are you from?" "Where you headed to?" "Are you younger, in school, or older, you got a deep voice. I can't tell?" Now normally I would appreciate the conversation but today I was sweating bullets. I had no idea how hard this really

was and I was convinced I was going to run Matt right into something or someone and it would be my fault. I was trying to lead Matt around the furious pace of Chicago O'Hare, we were holding up people behind us and trying to avoid the cell phone zombies who were not paying the slightest bit of attention coming at us. The whole trip I saw people giving us dirty looks, rolling their eyes as they moved around us. And then, the moment that I thought for sure we were going to be calling an ambulance: Matt takes two steps or so out into the middle of the hallway and at the same time this golf cart, which if you have flown before you have probably seen them, typically they carry elderly people that have a tough time getting around, and at the exact same moment Matt stepped out into the hallway the gal driving the cart turned around to look at her load and she was headed right for us! I didn't want to yell because I knew that would scare Matt so I started swinging my arms and she gets this look on her face as she slams on the breaks and gets the cart stopped about two feet before Matt. As the oxygen tanks of the elders clinked together we swiftly stepped around them. On the way by the gal driving has it in her to look over at me and says Boy!

We kept going down the escalators, which was tough, and up the other side. By the time we got to the C gates we had a pretty good system down. I would say Left 45, Right 90; we were getting better at it but I was still worked up and tired of trying to keep him on the right track. When we finally got to his gate I had had enough. I was done; he of course thanked me and we said goodbye. As I walked away I thought about the last 30 minutes or so, and my experience compared to Matt's. Matt literally had two things on his mind the entire time, getting to his gate, and talking to me. He was totally calm the whole time. Not only calm, but happy! He was just loving life! Happy that I helped him out and enjoying the conversation along the way. But me on the other hand, I was sweating bullets. I was trying to get him through the gauntlet while people were looking at me all worked up cause they had to take a few steps around him. I was

desperately trying to find a less crowded path but that was holding up people behind us. By the time I got Matt to his gate I had just about had it.

Now surely Matt's disability is not something any of us envy, but I started to think to myself how incredible it really would be if we could all just focus like Matt did, only focus on what we want to accomplish and nothing else. Matt enjoyed that experience because he couldn't see anyone rolling their eyes or that we were holding people up. He couldn't see it, all he was focused on was getting to his gate and talking to me. The truth is, whether we want to admit it or not, we all have allowed people and circumstances to affect not only our attitudes, but also our focus. Maybe it's that day when you look at your alarm with one eye open, awe! 20 minutes late! So your run to the bathroom, and dang your hair looks terrible. Then hop in your car and you hit every red light on the way to school, you blare in the classroom late, your teacher rolls their eyes and your day is off to a terrible start.

What usually happens? Well, more times than not is it remains a bad day, at least for a while and the only reason is attitude. Or maybe its people that affect how you feel, a comment about your clothes, your car, who you hang out with, maybe you caught the short end of the stick in a joke the list goes on and on. But here's an idea..... What if we just didn't care? Who cares? It drives me completely plum insane how much we allow people and situations to affect us so much when we have no control over them! Just focus. Focus in just like Matt did on what you want to focus on what you want to accomplish, don't allow people or situations to effect how you act. Focus and see what drives you.

Life's a funny thing. We have this one snapshot in time of 100 years maybe less to do something magnificent, to accomplish, what we want to accomplish. to get where we want to be. I believe that every person in this arena will get to where they want to be, I do. Use your past; let it drive you and focus in each and every day. You won't just find yourself where you want to be but where you need to be.

The Change Up

The best way I could describe high school is that it is four years of adventure. The highs, the lows... the mountains, the valleys... it is definitely the adventure of a lifetime. All my years in school I had been one of those students. I made straight As and to be honest I am a little nerdy. However my junior year was when I found one of those valleys. It all started the first day of school when I had walked into the deepest, darkest room of the entire high school. There were papers stacked miles high with unexplainable things, along with posters, graphs and charts of what is better known to mankind as Pre Calculus. Oh yes, I had definitely met my match within the walls of this class because for some reason my mind just cannot fathom how imaginary numbers work.





As the weeks of class started I found myself taking notes and struggling to stay on top of my homework. Even though I was confused, I just could not bring myself to do something so simple as asking for help when I needed it most. This was evident when I walked into class the day after the first test. As I walked in and found my way to my assigned seat, I did the usual “get myself organized” routine because that’s what good students do. Just as we settled in row by row the teacher passed back each of our tests. With each step I could feel my heart beating a little faster and my palms began to sweat—I was nervous.

One by one the papers came back until I found my test in my hands. I ever so slowly turned it over, took a deep breath and opened my eyes to see my grade and sure enough, there written in ugly red ink was the number 67 and a note that said, “see me after class.”

A few of you are nodding your heads because you’ve been in that same position. We face a lot of tough situations, especially in high school! And sometimes if we just had a little support from someone else, we would be able to get through those trying times much more easily. But what about when the tables are turned? Just as we have all been in those situations where we have needed others, there are people around us every day who need us. Do we take the opportunity to give other people our support? The responsibility of helping and supporting others may seem overwhelming, but all we have to do is open our eyes to the opportunities around us and believe in everyone.

This year I have been able to do a fair amount of traveling. I can remember a couple of weeks in particular where I started off traveling

all across Arizona, visiting about three chapters a day then I found myself in Texas where I had some awesome conversations with the area officers, attended rockstar workshops and finished off each day with a Texan’s favorite, some dancing. Keep in mind this isn’t the Cupid Shuffle, the Macarena or the Soldier Boy but rather that good ol’ fast-paced Texas two step—pin aka a big workout. I then spent some time in Iowa and Minnesota before I was finally headed to the Ohio state convention.

By this point I had approximately four hours of sleep, the e-mails stacked a mile high, a sister I had not talked to since who knows when, I was lagging on my Facebook creeping and I think my hair smelled odd. As the plane landed that afternoon, the only thought going through my head was how I could not wait until I ended up in my hotel room and could study the back of my eyelids.

As I found my way to baggage claim I was greeted by a super friendly girl—because Ohio people are really nice—who helped me get everything I needed complete with a Wal-Mart trip and all before finally dropping me off at the hotel. Once checked in and headed up to my room I could barely keep my eyelids open but as the elevator doors opened, I heard a “HEY Randa!” The entire state officer team was in the hallway and let me tell you, they just bring a smile to your face, with their energy and enthusiasm. I could just not resist a good 30 minute conversation before parting ways and FINALLY I found myself in the place I had wanted to be the most in the world that day...my hotel room. Right as I walked into the room, I immediately fell into bed still fully dressed and was drifting off to sleep when I heard a tap tap tap at my door. I thought

seriously, who would be here right now, so I laid frozen in bed because if I don’t move, they can’t see me. Then the tap tap tap came again so I sighed and I forced myself out of bed.

I opened the door to find three of the state officers who were still just as energetic as before. They had just wanted to come by and say hello. As I greeted them I was happy to see them but my initial thought was OK, I am tired so I can just say hello, make this a quick conversation and then exit. So I went with the “Hey, y’all ready for tomorrow? Oh good, me too, see ya in the morning!” But before I knew it, the conversation started rolling, I quickly learned these people are SO interesting! We then found ourselves sitting in the hallway for the next three hours chatting about everything! We talked about life, school, families and what the next few days would be like as they put on their state convention. Later that night, I went inside, brushed my teeth, prepared myself for bed when my phone lit up with a text message. It was from Jeremy, the state president who stayed up talking with us and it simply said “Randa, you will never know how much that conversation and encouragement meant to us. Thank you.”

You know that feeling you get in the pit of your stomach when you just learned a life lesson? Well it happened. Here this whole day I had been so preoccupied with just wanting for myself, wanting sleep, only worrying about my problems when I should have just opened my eyes to an opportunity to help others when they needed it most. These state officers were about to put on the biggest week of their year and all they simply needed was someone to believe in them and I almost missed the opportunity.

Open your eyes. When we look around we see opportunity after opportunity to impact someone's life. We have the chance to believe in others and tell them yes you can, when they themselves think no I can't.

If we all just took a second and sat back, wouldn't you see opportunities to serve someone else? Maybe this is in the form of eating lunch with someone who is usually by themselves, or right before an English test, whispering to your neighbor "Hey man, you got this," or how about simply flashing a sincere smile to the new kid on campus.

If we open our eyes, we can see what the world needs. We can see how we can believe in others and how they need us. What about your school? Can you envision right now how you, just as you are, can serve and believe in someone else? It may just be the thing that makes all the difference.

Just a few weeks ago I was wandering through the Houston Intercontinental Airport on my way back up to Indianapolis and this is kind of ironic...for national convention practice and preparation. I had lucked out for the first time all year and was actually able to take a direct flight, which meant that I didn't have to be at the airport until about 10 a.m. ohh yeahh..and in about two and a half hours I would reach my final destination. So in my mind, I was sitting pretty good. So, while I was traipsing through that airport I had just a little extra pep in my step. Now sometimes when I feel like I'm being cool it doesn't always work for me. Picture this with me, blonde-haired girl, with a ginormous Swiss army blue backpack on that is "randafied" with a hot pink ribbon tied to it so it's not lost and of course an obnoxiously brightly colored, floral printed tote bag. I had stuffed that with all the books I could fit. Yeah, I'm nerdy like that. With all this carry-on luggage in hand I was slightly hunched over, but I proceeded through the airport. Now every now and again I find myself not really paying attention to my surroundings as I have now trained my eyes to scope out the emptiest corner of seats so I can basically set up camp as I wait on my plane. Today was no exception. I walked right up to what seemed like the perfect placement and pulled out a book from the bright floral bag and began reading.

As time passed the gate attendants called my row and I boarded the plane. It was just like any other day. As I passed my row I walked all the way down to seat 9B where I shoved my luggage above in the compartment and sat down, again without even noticing what was really going on around me. I was still wrapped up in my book when I heard a very sweet voice simply say "How are you?" At first I was slightly confused at why my book was talking to me when I realized it was the girl next to me. Ecstatic by the fact someone was willing to talk, I quickly looked up and responded with a "I'm great, how are you?" This then turned into a full blown hour-long conversation. This girl wasn't ordinary; she seemed to light up this entire plane anytime she laughed and she was so excited to talk about anything. She told me she was in Texas visiting a friend just to make her smile. As we continued to talk she told me that she was from Uganda and when she was 9, she was kidnapped and made to become a child soldier.

As I sat there with tears streaming down my face at this remarkable story I couldn't help but realize that this now 19-year-old-girl had no idea how big of an impact she was making.

Evelyn had been through so much yet she had not given up on the hope of people. I mean, she was a child soldier and no one would have blamed her if she would have decided to not care about anyone else. After the way the world had treated her, she still wanted to do something for her friend and she even cared to engage in conversation and make my day, a total stranger. That was a day I was reminded of how believing in the value of people really effects others and that we have to believe in everyone. Believe in who?

Believing in people matters to everyone from every corner of the country. It affects the world... how we live and how we operate. What we do every day affects people so why not give the gift of belief to every person?

We hear stories all the time about people in need, that have problems, that aren't doing so well. And you may even be wondering why would believing in someone else even affect me? You might be thinking, but I have my own problems, I worry about what I look like, the grades I make or just fitting in at school, there is no way I would want to take on someone else's

life too. I can say that because I've been there, but what pushed me through was that someone else took the time to say, "Randa, you got this." They took the time to believe in me.

Now YOU, yes you, have the ability to do those exact things for someone else. To help them when they need it most and I've seen you do this year.

I saw Jolene from Missouri say hello to someone she had never even met before and didn't think twice about it.

Jasper from Michigan gave me a card that had a bible verse of inspiration on it and he'll never know how much it means to me.

Kayla from Arizona took the time to encourage a younger member before a speaking contest.

The entire Wisconsin state officer team travels around the state showing other members how remarkable they are through their workshops.

I have seen you believe in everyone all over the country and because of it there is going to be a big ol' change up in this world.

Do you remember my math class from earlier? When I finally worked up enough courage to see my teacher after class I was scared. I just knew something bad was going to come out of this and my dad would probably ground me for quite some time. My teacher looked at me and said in the calmest voice, "What's going on? You can do better, I know you can do better and now I am going to help you do better." As soon as the words came out of her mouth, I was quite perplexed.

Sure, my parents had always encouraged me because they are cool like that but for someone to see that support was remarkable. FFA members, what you say, what you do and how you interact with other people affects them.

Talk to the quiet person in the corner, help out in your community, and take time to lift others up because you never know how much they might surprise you.

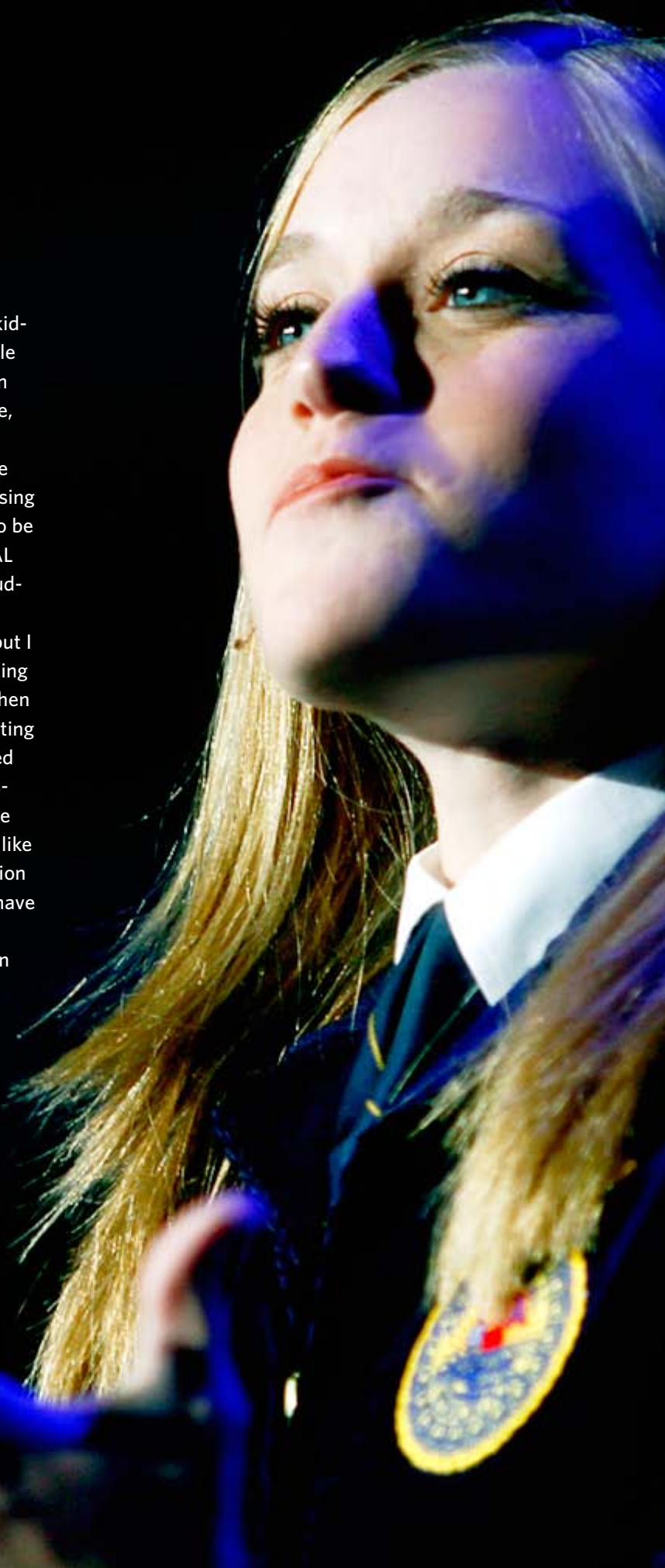
Just as you have had other people affect you, the start for something better is within you. By simply actually believing in people, you make the difference. Open your eyes to the opportunities of this world so that we can believe in everyone and change up the way life is.

The Turtle and the Lunch Lady

When I was 9 years old, my sister Katlyn and I were nearly kidnapped. We were sitting in the living room watching TV while my Mom went for a walk and we heard the “napper” come in the garage. We ran to the room in the very back of our house, which happened to be my parent’s bathroom. Naturally, we took shelter in the Jacuzzi tub. Balled up in the bottom of the dry tub, we were shaking with fear, Katlyn and I were discussing where our new home might be and how awful it was going to be if someone took us, when it hit me. If we don’t have any REAL protection, let’s improvise. I yelled loud enough for any intruders to hear, “Katlyn, when do you think our Daddy who is a professional wrestler will be home?” She looked confused, but I elbowed her and she said, “He’ll be here soon, he’s just beating some mean guy up, which is what he does all the time and then he’ll be home. He loves beating up mean guys.” We kept ranting and raving about our body-builder dad until my Mom showed up. We laughed because not only was our dad NOT a professional wrestler, there was also no kidnapper. Even though the danger may not have been real, that day we felt what it was like to be vulnerable. Being unprotected is a scary thing. Protection is important and will help us maintain the relationships we have and the things we love.

John, for example, was the youngest of four kids. So when his older brother and sisters went to school, he was left at home.

John spent the day with his mother learning the alphabet, watching soap operas, and other essentials, of course. However, his dad thought it might be nice to give John a



Chelsea Doss continued

gift that might help entertain him during the day and put a smile on his face. John treasured the gift his father gave him and now, we get to experience the gift ourselves.

Is anyone interested in seeing the gift?

Ladies and gentlemen, please give a big round of applause for Tommy the Turtle!

John was thrilled about Tommy! He had a love for that turtle that only a child can have for their pets. He talked about his turtle to his brother and sisters and never lost excitement about this turtle he loved so much. He played with Tommy as much as his mother would allow and constantly wanted to bring his new friend into the house, but being the responsible mother she was, his mom wasn't going to let that happen.

So she made a compromise. "John, we'll put the turtle right outside the door in a trash can with the lid off so you can see him from inside the house until you can go outside and play."

He thought this was a fair compromise and stood constantly by the door looking out at his precious friend Tommy. Once, while he was watching the turtle from inside the house the garbage truck came by to take the trash.

John liked watching them load the trash and drive the big truck by his house every day. Like always, the garbage man took the trash by the mailbox. But what happened next was the most horrific thing this kid had seen in his entire life. They marched right up to the door and mistaking the turtle for trash, they got Tommy.

John screamed and cried until his mother came, but by the time he gained enough composure to tell her what happened, Tommy was gone.

John was devastated and wanted more than anything to save Tommy. But as time went on, John had a feeling he would never see Tommy again. To help with the loss of his friend, when Christmas came John didn't ask for a BB gun or an action figure, he asked for a toy turtle and a garbage truck and that's what he got. Every day he replayed the scene of the garbage man coming to take Tommy, but this time he was able to protect what he loved.



John had to learn the hard way that the people and things we love are fragile. They are threatened daily by physical harm, emotional pain and worldly temptations. Protecting what we love can be difficult. First, we have to understand what it is that we love. We love family, friends, our country and even our pets. Some of us "love" our tractors and some of us "love" what we drive, but periodically in our lifetime we're put in situations that reveal to us what we truly love and we're given the chance to protect it. And if we'll protect what we love, we gain strength from those things to grow in the future.

I was given the chance to distinguish what I loved and whether or not I was going to protect it when I was in middle school. We've all interacted with them, we're familiar with what they do, we use their products, comment on their fashion sense....or lack of fashion sense, we notice how great their hair looks....or how ridiculous it is, we depend on them, they provide for us, and if we saw them on the street they would look like any other adult. But when they're at school they can be the scariest people around. I'm not talking about the basketball coach; I'm not

referring to the principal; I ain't even speaking to the janitors; I'm making a shout out to the lovable, likable, lively, lunch-making, potato-baking, French-frying, apple-pieing, chicken-nugget-heating, when-you-get-in-trouble-beatin' -lunch ladies!

Think about that special lunch lady back home. Get her image in your mind and as I share this next life experience, feel free to use your own personal touches as you imagine the scene. As for me, I've known many lunch ladies in my day, but there was one who I could count on to open my chocolate milk carton, give me permission to go to the restroom, and get me napkins when I spilled my jungle juice.

Ladies and gentlemen, please meet Mrs. Connie Potts.

Mrs. Connie looks like a nice enough lady and in fact, she is. But what is it about our lunch ladies that can scare us to death? We can mistake our teachers for our own mother, but we often look at our lunch ladies like they're aliens. Well, that's just not true. As a matter of fact, take a second to consider what it was you thought about your lunch lady. Maybe you never thought a bad thought about her in your life or made a joke

relative to her cafeteria skills. I hope that's true for all of us, but in my school—that wasn't always the case.

Before we went to middle school, someone giving us food was our friend, but thanks to some ridiculous stories, in the florescent glow of the noon time salad bar those ladies took on a whole new demeanor.

But none of that mattered when it came to my hero when I was in the first grade. Her name was Beth and she was the nicest lady I ever knew. I latched on to her when I could and always smiled when I saw her. And this will blow your mind, she was a lunch lady! But trust me, she was pretty and friendly and nice to everyone. She even brought us ice cream on Friday afternoons, right down to our classroom. She was a saint to say the least. Most kids called her "Mrs. Beth," but as for me I just called her "Momma" because that's what she was. My Mom, Beth Doss, was a lunch lady; a terrifying, table-washing-and-drying, money-taking, cooki- baking, sweet little lunch lady.

So, a few years down the road when my friends were mocking cafeteria ladies, they might as well have been mocking my mom. In my mind, I contemplated why in the world my mom would have ever been a lunch lady. I had no clue, but that wasn't what was important. What was important was that I stand up for my Momma. I thought standing up for my mom was as simple as not making the same comments about the lunch ladies that my friends made, but eventually I felt guilty for not doing more.

Now that I'm older, I know why my mom took that job. She and my dad wanted me and my sisters to feel comfortable at school while we were starting out and she gave up several years of her life working in the school lunch room just so she could be near her kids should they need her.

It never crossed my mind that my mom was unusual in some way or that my dad was doing anything extraordinary working long hours to support his wife and children. At an age not much older than I am now, my parents dedicated their lives to our family. That's love. Not only did they love us, much like John loved Tommy the turtle, but they were prepared to protect us because they loved us.

Love is invaluable. Love is what drives many of our actions. If it weren't for love, half of us would be homeless because our parents could find better things to do. But they love us, provide for us, and protect us. What other things or people do we love?

Who else in this room loves FFA? Who loves the United States of America? And who appreciates the farmers who grow the food we eat? Me too. So how do we protect FFA? Well, we can start by wearing our blue jackets with pride and respect and spreading the word that agricultural education is preparing students like us for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture industry. And how do we protect the United States of America? By being active and engaged citizens who know issues, vote and get involved in our communities. And how do we protect those hardworking American farmers? We must be advocates for agriculture and tell people that American farmers are producing the most safe, efficient, and abundant food supply this world has ever seen.

But why don't those people just protect themselves? Why didn't those lunch ladies just go out there and prove to the kids that they're just like everyone else? They couldn't. They were busy preparing the food those kids needed to make it through the day. So when it comes to protection, is not being a part of the attack enough? I wish I could go back and help my classmates understand that the cafeteria ladies are nice people just trying to help us.

Our farmers are attacked daily, but much like the lunch ladies, they don't have time to actively educate the public about their practices. They can't always explain to consumers that the practices they use are necessary and humane. That's why it's up to us to meet the challenge. Let's be proud of our farmers and find ways to show people the true value in agriculture because without protection the industry will suffer.

Anyone else in here ever gotten a spanking from their mom or dad? Well occasionally, (OK, pretty often, actually) I got into trouble and when that happened I could count on one thing—a spanking from my mom. She'd tell me, "Chelsea, meet me in my bedroom in five minutes. In the

mean time, you think about what you did to deserve a spanking." Well, in the mean time, I ran to my room and padded the seat of my pants with socks, paper, pillow cases, beanie babies, anything I could to protect myself from the spanking that was about to come.

As I made the walk of shame to my parent's room, my sister Kinsey and I would whisper finish the argument that got us in trouble in the first place. "I knew you were going to tell on me. If you could just learn to be quiet we wouldn't be here in the first place!" And my sister would say something like, "Well, if you hadn't have taken the Barbie convertible and kept it in your room all day long, we wouldn't be here!" It became clear that protection was of the utmost importance. But protecting my behind isn't enough; I need to take action everyday to protect what I love.

Protecting the things that are important to us is necessary because without protection, anything can be vulnerable. If we see that someone we love is damaging themselves or being negatively influenced, we should help them recognize and correct that.

Have your friends ever done something that you knew they shouldn't have been doing? Did you stand by and let it happen, or did you help them get back on track? I lost friends in high school because they got involved in things I knew I shouldn't be a part of. But instead of helping them find a way out, I ran away from the situation to protect myself and left the friends I loved unprotected.

We've been blessed with family and friends to bring us joy and fulfillment in this life. If we don't protect them, they'll fall behind and the longer we go through life, the more we'll realize that the things we love are slipping away. We must protect what we love or it'll be taken from us; we must make our love apparent; and we must contribute to the survival and success of what we love.

Whoever you love, whatever you love, take steps everyday to protect them. Keep them close to your heart and don't let them fade away. Besides, what's life without love?

Fellow members, it's up to us to protect what we love, even if it's only a turtle or a lunch lady!

We Might as Well Dance



Laipply created a video that features a number of popular songs, to which he dances to. The YouTube video, to date, has had more than one and a half million views and is currently the most viewed video on the site. In his address to FFA members, Laipply utilized both humor and inspirational messages to help convey the point that change is inevitable in life, but members must adapt to and learn from those changes. Laipply's message was also infused with the main theme of convention. He stated several times that no one can achieve their infinite potential if they stress over the things they can't control. "Life isn't always the party we hoped for; but while we are here, we might as well dance," said Laipply to the crowd at Con-seco Fieldhouse.

Laipply made his point with humor, telling FFA members to not stress about the problems in life but rather to face them with courage. His theme was then underscored by his evolution of dance performance that captured the audience's attention and helped students relate.

Kristen Frazier of the Turner Ashby FFA Chapter in Virginia was in attendance during the keynote address. She thought that Laipply was both talented at dancing and encouraging to members to face their problems in life.

"I thought he was really inspiring and I connected with him really well," said Frazier. "He made me look at life in a different way."

Other students simply enjoyed the opportunity to relax from an eventful day and be entertained while being inspired. For Caleb Baker of the Alva FFA Chapter in Oklahoma, the speech served as a reminder to respect those around him.

"The speaker helped us remember to not judge people because we all have days that are not our brightest," said Baker.

Laipply hopes that his audiences will leave his shows laughing but inspired to face daily challenges without stress. Although he used comedy as a tool to connect with individuals, his main point was to help FFA members realize that problems will happen to everyone. The way they choose to deal with those problems will really affect their lives.

"Infinite potential means that you will never get to a point where you cannot improve," said Laipply. "There is always potential to be a better individual."

By Andrew Walker

Change was the theme of a spirited keynote address to the Seventh General Session. Judson Laipply, more commonly known as the creator of YouTube's popular "Evolution of Dance," was on hand at the 83rd National FFA Convention to inspire members and provide them with some comic relief for the week.

Andrew Walker is a former FFA member and past state officer of the Michigan FFA Association. He is currently a senior at Michigan State University majoring in Political Theory and Constitutional Democracy.

Josh Shipp Tells FFA Members to Avoid the Average



By Kelsey Kennedy

The 83rd National FFA Convention started with a bang with opening session's keynote speaker, Josh Shipp. After an introduction and telling the audience how he once asked Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to arm wrestle, Shipp wasted little time telling the 46,263 attendees his main message, "Don't be average." Shipp elaborated, telling stories about his life and offering lessons and advice on just how to avoid being average, all while mixing in beat

boxing and Guitar Hero references.

Shipp reminded the audience, "Bad things are going to happen to you." Despite this, we have a choice. "You can choose to get bitter, or you can choose to get better. It's a small choice that can make a huge difference in your life," Shipp said. Abandoned, abused and raised in the foster system as a child, Shipp has seen his share of bad things and told the audience the story of how he came to realize that if you have something negative in your life, you should embrace it. On failure, Shipp reminded everyone that it's okay to fail, as long as you stay positive and "push past the discomfort" to be successful.

About success, Shipp told the audience, "Don't make dreams, make goals." Shipp believes that too often, we're too soft when it comes to dreams. Goals, however, are more solid and attainable. He cautioned that looking too far ahead could be overwhelming. "Do not study your hero's end results, study their first steps," Shipp said. He also stressed the importance of having at least one adult in your life that believes in you. For Shipp, these people were his foster parents, but he said that one adult could be anyone from a parent to advisor and all that mattered was that they could love you unconditionally, even if you fail. Shipp told the audience that even with goals and supportive people in our lives, it is ultimately our choice to be successful. His words? "If your life is lame, it's because you're lame."

Growing up, Shipp learned to be the class clown as a way to deal with all the unpleasant things in his life. In high school, a teacher urged him to use his comedic talents to make a difference in the lives of others. Shipp got involved in leadership activities, and started speaking professionally at the age of 17. He quickly became known for his direct and comedic style and talking to teens. "I am not a motivational speaker, I am a motivational ninja," Shipp said. Shipp is now a motivational ninja not just on stage, but online, in print and on television. His popular advice website features written and video responses to teens asking for advice, and he released a book this past August titled *The Teen's Guide to World Domination*. He also hosts *Jump Shipp*, a show that helps 20-somethings quit the things that are holding them back from what they want to do in life.

You can learn more about Josh Shipp on his website, www.HeyJosh.com, and you can catch *Jump Shipp* on Halogen.



Kelsey Kennedy is a former FFA member from Willamina, Ore. She is currently a science writing major at MIT.

Dream, Excite, Change

Author, motivator Kevin Carroll sparks FFA members



By Geoffrey Miller

You only had to look at Kevin Carroll's shoes to know he wasn't like any other motivational speaker.

Carroll wore genuine black-and-white Chuck Taylors as he took the Conesco Fieldhouse stage for Friday morning's fourth general session of the 83rd National FFA Convention -- and not just any ordinary pair of Chucks.

No, Carroll only wears that specific pair of shoes when he's

in speaking roles. Otherwise, he stores them in a protective bag and doesn't wear them out.

To Carroll, the Chucks are two things: A way to express his fun-spirited, always-be-who-I-am personality and a way for him to feel comfortable doing what he loves.

That personality -- one that pursues effective personal growth through a can-do attitude -- mirrored his message Friday morning.

"We need more doers in the world, and less talkers," Carroll told the crowd of FFA members.

Those "doers" make their strides in the world by developing a "D.R.E.A.M.," said Carroll. The acronym stands for (D) dedicated, (R) responsibility, (E) education, (A) attitude and (M) motivated.

Once a person's "D.R.E.A.M." is initiated, Carroll said, the goal of the person's actions should be to improve themselves while improving the lives of others.

"Our challenge is to make a difference in the lives of someone else," Carroll said.

Inspiring others is an area Carroll has experience in as more than a motivational speaker. The author -- he's responsible for 2005's "Rules of the Red Rubber Ball" -- once held a job at Nike as "katalyst", or a play on the word catalyst that means someone or something that stimulates change.

Carroll crafted the job title when he began working with the company based on his passion for embodying the meaning of catalyst and incorporating the first letter of his name.

The idea has stuck, as a key point of Carroll's address was his willingness to be an "excitatory agent" and his desire to influence others to track the same mindset. It's a concept that readily compares to the theme of the 2010 convention.

"Don't forget this theme, 'infinite potential,'" Carroll said after his speech. "Those words really have power to live by."

The idea behind it, he said, was to realize what inspires you and move toward that goal -- even if such a finish line seems like merely a dream.

A big part of that self-improvement equation was who people placed around them as "encouragers", he said.

"I'm this mosaic of all these different people I had around me growing up," Carroll said. "Those people are there to challenge you and to hold you accountable to your dreams."

Geoffrey Miller is former FFA member from the Hamilton Southeastern FFA Chapter in Fishers, Indiana. He is currently pursuing a journalism degree at Indiana University in Bloomington.

Practical Resources Lead to Powerful Results



By Kelsey Fletcher

Angela Mayfield is a wife, mother and small business owner. The California native graduated from California State University, Chico and has a passion for educating others. All these things make her ordinary. What makes her extraordinary, according to Mayfield, is her experience as an FFA member.

Mayfield served as the 2000-2001 National FFA Western Region Vice President. She looks back at her time in FFA fondly, saying “each of those moments were the greatest moments in my life at the time.”

During her keynote address at the 3rd General Session of the 83rd National FFA Convention, Mayfield discussed her experiences in the National FFA Organization and how they led her first to a career in agricultural education, then to her own curriculum-writing company.



“We need to come [to national FFA convention] to realize the potential we have inside of us,” Mayfield said. “You have to seek out opportunities to be empowered, and let go of your inhibitions, your doubts.”

Mayfield described the experience of substitute teaching and the differences she saw between classrooms of kindergarteners and seventh graders. Kindergarten students, Mayfield said, still had big dreams and were enthusiastic about meeting new people. The older classroom, however “sat with their hoods up and headphones in,” without optimism and resisting change.

Mayfield admitted to sometimes having the attitude of these seventh graders, but urged audience members to recharge and regain perspectives at events like the national FFA convention so they could continue to dream big and create opportunities.

“FFA has given me every opportunity I have had,” Mayfield further explained. “There was nothing else that gave me the same chances, the same opportunity for success. The organization taught me how to advocate for myself, which is one of the most important things for students to learn.”

Sponsors are key to the success of the organization Mayfield emphasized. In her message, she explained that student growth is not something that can be measured and she wished sponsors could see what she had seen in the growth of the students in her agriculture classes.

“As we look at the challenges facing the agriculture industry today,” Mayfield urged, “it is worthwhile to invest in our students now and get them into leadership roles. Even if they don’t go into agriculture directly, they will one day become informed, educated voters and help us inform and educate consumers and the general public.”

Because a lot of National FFA’s sponsors are corporations, Mayfield said, the person who writes the check doesn’t always get to see the progression. Mayfield said she hoped her address brought some of the connections to life for the sponsors so they could see how much of a difference they truly do make.

“We have no way to accurately count the number of young men and women you have affected,” Mayfield explained to the sponsors in the audience. “Partners, thank you for empowering us; thank you for giving us these opportunities.”

Kelsey Fletcher is a former FFA member from Universal City, Texas. She is currently a senior agricultural communications major at Texas Tech University. Follow her on Twitter: @fletcher_k.

The Owl's Swan Song

Dr. Case honored for his years of service



By Dustin Petty

FFA's favorite owl is riding off into the rising sun.

Dr. Larry Case, National FFA advisor since 1984, announced his retirement in May of this year, effective Jan. 1, 2011.

Case began his FFA career as a member of the Stet, Mo., chapter where he served as both reporter and president. He credits his advisor as pushing him to pursue service in his adult life.

"My advisor saw something in me," said Case. "He saw that I had potential, unlimited potential. I didn't know any better so I took him seriously."

During his tenure, FFA membership has grown significantly and agricultural education has changed dramatically. He has shaken hands with hundreds of thousands of members as they receive awards and raised the roof at 26 national FFA conventions.



At many points during the 83rd National FFA Convention, Dr. Case has been honored for his long-term commitment to the organization and members. His annual welcome during the opening sessions gave him the opportunity to take pause and offer thanks and reflection.

"FFA members, you are the future and you make this Missouri farm boy proud."

He added, "I'm a thankful man. More than anything I'm thankful for the love of my family...thank you from the bottom of my heart for making it possible for me to be of service to others."

While addressing the National FFA Alumni Convention delegates, he indicated his wife, Joy, had plans for his retirement.

"There's a honey-do list with a few important tasks," joked Dr. Case. "There are some gutters that need attending to."

The Missouri native has also been asked to become active in a local alumni chapter in his home state, responding that he'd be happy to help out but wouldn't be interested in the group's presidency.

But you can't expect Dr. Case to stop giving back to the FFA and its members.

"After his retirement was announced," said Bobbie Donahue, Director of Individual Giving and State Foundation Relations for the National FFA Foundation, "the [National FFA] Organization and Foundation came together to decide something appropriate to honor Dr. Case."

The result was the Larry D. and Joy L. Case Endowment.

An endowment is a fund with a principal that can be added to at any time, earning annual interest. A percentage of that interest (in this case, 5 percent) is used for predetermined reasons. Dr. Case chose three areas that have been important to him to benefit from the endowment: agricultural instructor training, student leader development and global agriculture career opportunities.

And with nearly three decades of giving back, FFA members and supporters alike can take a turn establishing Case's legacy.

T-shirts with the national advisor's face are being sold and "FFAowl" can be texted to 20222 by any cell phone and \$10 will be donated to the pot of development dollars.

Dustin Petty is a former FFA member from Standish, Mich. Having attended Michigan State University, he is currently serving as an AmeriCorps VISTA in Chicago, working with the homeless student population in that city. Follow him on Twitter: @pettydus.

FFA Celebrates New Farmers of America

Former NFA members honored at National FFA Center



By Dustin Petty

For 30 years, two organizations evolved and prospered. With similar goals, ideals and often coinciding paths, each group developed leaders who would become pioneers in their communities and in agriculture. One of these organizations is the National FFA Organization, today boasting more than 525,000 members. The other, the New Farmers of America (NFA), existed for African-American young men in a world where “separate but equal” was a way of life.

NFA was organized in Virginia in 1927 and became a national organization in 1935. The organization was originally formed to serve agriculture students in southern states where schools were segregated by law. Much like the FFA, NFA sought to provide young men with vocational, social and recreational activities in order to develop their skills in public speaking, leadership and agricultural trades.

In 1965, NFA and FFA merged and FFA added the talents of 52,000 NFA members to its roster. The last NFA national president, A. D. Pinson, presented his black corduroy jacket to his FFA counterpart at that year’s national convention.

To this day, that jacket hangs in the National FFA Center in Indianapolis.

The year 2010 marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of NFA. On Oct. 20, during the 83rd National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Ind., Pinson and 10 former members of NFA were honored with commemorative bricks, which were engraved with their names and placed in the courtyard of the National FFA Center. With a gospel choir, several dozen guests and a southern-style breakfast, the men were honored as vital links between a divided past and the diverse future of FFA.

“These men paved the way for individuals like me,” said Corey Flournoy, the 1993-1994 national FFA president and

the first African American to serve in that post. “We appreciate everything you’ve done to represent agriculture and to represent strong African-American males.”

Pinson, a decorated Vietnam War veteran, spoke about the changes he sees in the organization he helped form 45 years ago.

“When I look at today’s convention,” said Pinson. “I can look and say there is an African-American presence in the Future Farmers of America. I can look and say there are women serving as officers of the Future Farmers of America.”

There is, however, more work to be done.

At the time of the 1965 merger, over one quarter of FFA members were African American. At the end of 2008-2009, only 4 percent of African-Americans were reported on the FFA rosters.

Dr. Dwight Armstrong, Chief Operating Officer of the National FFA Organization, is hopeful that these numbers will change.

“We will...bring more inclusion and

diversity into the FFA ranks,” said Armstrong. “Whether we’re talking about urban and rural, African-American or Caucasian, we will respect one another, connect with one another and affirm one another. Everyone will be welcomed.”

During the opening sessions of the 83rd National FFA Convention, NFA honorees took prominent places on the Consecro

Fieldhouse stage, reciting the NFA Creed. During their time in the spotlight, they made an impact on the FFA members they encountered.

“I feel like we have a strong legacy of the past to live up to,” said Alexis Rayburn, president of the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences FFA Chapter. “You can feel the strength of these men and

you can see how it’s [been] passed onto today’s members.”

Dustin Petty is a former FFA member from Standish, Mich. Having attended Michigan State University, he is currently serving as an AmeriCorps VISTA in Chicago, working with the homeless student population in that city. Follow him on Twitter: @pettydus.





Members help package food supplies for those in need



By Geoffrey Miller

There were cups of chocolate pudding and mandarin oranges, single-sandwich packs of squeezable peanut butter and jelly spread and a bowl of cereal.

Two canned goods accompanied two cartons of white and chocolate milk.

All of those products — and a few more — together formed a basic diet for a school-age child who otherwise would go hungry in the hours and days that comprise a weekend away from their school cafeteria.

The mixture wasn't much, certainly, as it was intended to only fulfill one half of a child's caloric intake through the course of a weekend while nearing or surpassing 100 percent of protein requirements.

Still, the alternative was worse.

Armed with the idea that tackling part of the growing hunger problem is better

than doing nothing at all, FFA members volunteered at Gleaners Food Bank of Indiana Thursday as part of the annual FFA Days of Service.

One of 13 volunteer opportunities across central Indiana that would see over 1,000 FFA members take part in community service over two days of this year's 83rd National FFA Convention, Gleaners was assisted by students who efficiently packaged these student care packs.

Each pack — named "BackSacks" — is given to an at-need student in Indiana on Fridays. According to Gleaners, more than 3,000 students are currently enrolled in the program.

Thursday, members of the Jackson Area Career Center FFA in Michigan were part of the morning shift assisting Gleaners. The mammoth facility near the Indianapolis International Airport dwarfed their total

number, but the impact of their work wasn't overshadowed.

Sarah Marroll, the chapter secretary of Jackson Area's FFA, said the work was fun and rewarding — as well as offering a lesson in the power of teamwork.

"I think it's a good opportunity to work together with people you don't know," Marroll said. "It really shows how a big enough group can do important things and help people."

Marroll, attending her first FFA National Convention, and her chapter were working alongside chapters from other states.

Another line of members near the "BackSack" production area was focused on another effort Gleaners is heavily involved in — building monthly food supply boxes for the elderly in need.

The 40-pound box of food is aimed at allowing seniors to avoid making decisions

on buying food or necessities like medications.

Robert Wilson, the major gifts manager for Gleaners, was thrilled to be again working with FFA members.

“(National Convention) is a really great thing for our entire city,” said Wilson, who’s been with Gleaners for 17 years. “We really enjoy and appreciate when FFA comes to work with us.”

Certainly, Gleaners and the assistance-necessary clientele they support are aided from the FFA members’ community service. But Wilson said it’s a two-way street for the convention attendees who helping to fight a 48 percent increase in hunger within Indiana in the last ten years.

“This is a great way for kids to learn about food and hunger,” Wilson said. “We certainly couldn’t this without volunteer support.”

Geoffrey Miller is former FFA member from the Hamilton Southeastern FFA Chapter in Fishers, Indiana. He is currently pursuing a journalism degree at Indiana University in Bloomington.



U.S. Army Exhibit a Popular Career Show Stop

Career Show staple brings together separate groups with similar focus

By Geoffrey Miller

Courage and leadership. Discipline and responsibility.

Pick one, pick them all or even add your own character-building keyword and suddenly the possibility of finding someone mingling around the southeast corner of this week's National FFA Agricultural Career Show who doesn't fit any part of that description starts to feel more and more unlikely.

Wednesday, the booth space — the home of the U.S. Army's display for the 83rd National FFA Convention — featured a sea of FFA blue jackets mixed with a troop of camouflage-wearing military members fielding questions and guiding an armada of interactive exhibits.

"What we've found is a great partnership with the FFA over the years," said U.S. Army Lt. Col. David F. Stewart. "One of my personal observations is that we share a lot of the same core values in terms of leadership, duty and respect. The things that we hold value in we find the FFA holds value in as well."

Stewart heads up the display that stands as one of the largest in the 300,000 square foot showcase. It's featured among a spectrum of over 400 companies, colleges and organizations with an interest in the future of agriculture and the FFA members attending this year's convention.

Stewart said this year's convention is his second, but some members of his team have been coming for five or six years.

"It's a great audience," Lt. Col. Stewart said. "We nest very well in terms of our Army values with the FFA values."

The display is hardy in terms of the number of ways in which FFA members can interact with it. Students start at the exhibit by signing in at one of several computer



stations. They then receive an identification badge good for admission to the variety of activities. At the center of the experience are large projection screens displaying a marksmanship video game side-by-side a mixed martial arts video game.

The exhibit also features demonstrations by military working dogs. Wednesday, it also played host to radio-controlled truck time trials FFA members who completed five laps around the small carpeted track with the fastest times won iPods.

As usual, the center of the exhibit provided a taste of the Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT) where members could compete against others to perform the most amount of push-ups or pull-ups in one minute. Their scores were recorded on a

scoreboard that showed each state's individual high, male and female.

In the opposite corner sat a fully assembled field hospital stocked with the various supplies necessary for the second stage of medical treatment soldiers would be offered in the event of a war-time injury. Inside, an operating table with a toy dog stuffed animal on top provided the perfect segue for Capt. Noel Kubat to discuss the wide range of opportunities available in the Army.

Capt. Kubat, now a veterinarian in the Army, is a former FFA member.

"There's a definite transition between the animal science and leadership I learned in FFA and what I do in the Army," Capt. Kubat said. "I'm a captain in the Army, so first I'm a leader."

All of it — from the video games to the push-ups — were ways for Lt. Col. Stewart and his team to help FFA members understand the wide range of opportunities available through the U.S. Army.

"A lot of these young people don't realize the opportunities that are out there and all of the different ways you can be a soldier," Lt. Col. Stewart said. "We have Army doctors and lawyers. We have veterinarians, engineers and we have firefighters."

"There's a lot of different ways to be in the Army and that's what we want to educate people on."

Geoffrey Miller is former FFA member from the Hamilton Southeastern FFA Chapter in Fishers, Indiana. He is currently pursuing a journalism degree at Indiana University in Bloomington. Follow him on Twitter: @GeoffreyMiller.

For I Know the Joys and Discomforts...

Rhode Island FFA members overcome exhibit setbacks

By Kelsey Fletcher

Walking through the Hall of States in the career show at the 83rd National FFA Convention allows convention attendees to travel cross country in a matter of minutes. While some states have elaborate booths, which were obviously carefully and meticulously crafted, representatives from the Rhode Island FFA Association created their display on a much shorter timeline.

Even though members from Narragansett FFA carefully planned and shipped their booth before coming to Indianapolis, somehow their entire display was sent to Massachusetts by mistake.

When advisors and chapter members found out their booth would not arrive in Indianapolis until Friday, the chapter had only hours to come up with an alternative to their original plans. Narragansett FFA member Ryan Field explained how the team created their new display in such a short amount of time.

"We were really concerned at the beginning," Field said, "but we knew we couldn't sit around and pout about it. We had to step up because something had to be done. We all knew each other pretty well and knew what each of us were good at, so we broke up into teams and did different jobs to fix the booth and have it ready for the opening on Wednesday."

One of the chapter's advisors, Meredith Ashworth, said she was really proud of how her students came together and worked as a team to problem-solve.

"It could have been really depressing,"



Ashworth said, "but they students just rallied together. We went to Staples and Wal-Mart, got new supplies, printed out all the photos for the backdrop, and came up with a new plan."

There are many aspects of Rhode Island represented in the booth. Members hand passers-by cups of coffee milk, the official state beverage. Guests can look at the aquarium full of lobsters, which represent the state's large fishing village. Also, members are busily creating more "chicken cluckers," which are red cups decorated to look like a chicken that participants can make "cluck." These are representative of the state bird, the Rhode Island Red Chicken.

The Narragansett FFA Chapter is from the smallest town in Rhode Island yet is honored to represent the entire state in the Hall of States said chapter member Matt Minty.

"This is my first time coming to national FFA convention," said Minty, "and it is really great to be able to meet all these people from across the nation. I think it is really important for someone to represent Rhode Island, because some people didn't even realize we were a state. Someone thought we were part of New York, like Long Island or something."

The Rhode Island FFA Association is one of 33 state associations represented in the Hall of States at this year's career show. All of the Hall of States exhibits were open for the remainder of the career show, which concluded at 4 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 22.

Kelsey Fletcher is a former FFA member from Universal City, Texas. She is currently a senior agricultural communications major at Texas Tech University. Follow her on Twitter, @fletcher_k.

Alumni members gear up for 40th anniversary



By Kelliann Blazek

Bob Barton was a “quirky kid” with no intention of being involved in FFA or agriculture. After injuring himself playing football as a high school freshman, Barton found himself bored and without anything to do. Some friends invited him to a meeting one day and he agreed to go.

It turned out to be a FFA meeting.

Fast-forward to 2010 and Barton just wrapped up another FFA meeting—the National FFA Alumni Convention—where he was elected National FFA Alumni Council President Elect.

The 2010 National FFA Alumni Convention took place October 20-22 in Indianapolis, Ind. in conjunction with the national FFA convention. Hundreds of alumni members attended convention, which featured auctions, workshops and the election of new officers.

Barton is a former member of the Hermiston FFA Chapter in Oregon and has served as the Western Region Representative on the National FFA Alumni Council for the past 3 years. He will succeed current president David Miller next year when the National FFA Alumni Association turns 40.

Barton’s alumni involvement started when Chuck Miller, his former FFA advisor, recruited him to start a FFA alumni chapter in Hermiston.

“He [Miller] really charted the path for my understandings and expectations of an alumni affiliate at the local level,” Barton said.

The relationship between the national, state and local alumni is one of the key issues Barton intends to address while on the executive team. He also hopes to illuminate how alumni can work and engage with FFA foundation organizations at the state and national level.

One of the issues discussed at the alumni business session at convention was associate membership. This program would allow

potential alumni members to be involved in the organization for a year without paying dues.

“It’d be kind of like giving them a birds-eye view of the organization and getting them hooked, and then we would hope they would join as a member the following year,” said Lucy Whitehead, Program Manager of the National FFA Alumni Association.

Alumni delegates voted on the initiative, which failed by a margin of one vote. Whitehead said a few states will test-pilot the associate member program to gauge its effects on membership.

The live and silent auctions are a highlight of the alumni association’s presence at national convention. Over 1,000 items were auctioned off in the live and silent auctions this year. Up for bidding were handmade fishing poles, an ATV, toolboxes, and hand-painted mailboxes, to name a few. One of the larger items was the F-150 truck donated by Ford, which sold for \$29,500. The \$119,000 raised through the auctions will fund collegiate and Washington Leadership Conference scholarships.

New to convention this year was Alumni Nation, a section in the career show that increased the visibility of alumni. The National FFA Alumni Association also sponsored two student workshops and four alumni workshops.

Next year marks the 40th anniversary of the National FFA Alumni Association. Whitehead anticipates more past alumni council members and attendees attending the 2011 alumni convention to celebrate the milestone.

“We hope to ring in our 40th year with a newfound energy and membership and really push ag. education forward,” Whitehead said.

Kelliann Blazek is a former FFA member from Bangor, Wis. She currently attends graduate school at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Follow her on Twitter, www.twitter.com/kellblazek

It's a Zook Family Tradition

Quadruplets earn American Degree

By Andrew Walker

Two heads are usually better than one, but sometimes four are better than two. This is the case in the Zook Family from Indiana. Malena, Primmer, John and Lucia Zook are quadruplets, hailing from the Carroll FFA Chapter. The two boys and two girls went to school, joined FFA and played sports together.

However, their personalities are more than different.

Malena Zook is a sophomore at Indiana University – Bloomington studying informatics. She is interested in information technology and computers. Her supervised agricultural experience dealt with agricultural communications, where she worked for a web design company.

Malena's brother John Zook is highly interested in production agriculture and animal science. He attends Ivy Tech Community College, where he is a sophomore majoring in agriculture business. John hopes to continue raising show hogs and one day operate a large farm of his own.

At another turn in the family tree, Lucia Zook is interested in medicine and utilizing animals for treatment. As a sophomore at Vincennes University studying nursing,

Lucia plans to become a registered nurse and conduct animal assisted therapy. As a member in her FFA chapter, she operated an SAE around food processing which included canning and freezing.

Rounding out the set of four, Primmer Zook, also a sophomore, attends Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, where he studies physical therapy and athletic training. He hopes to work in this field after graduating and stay close to the family farm to help out. His projects in FFA were turf grass management and landscaping.

The set of brothers and sisters also have an older brother who was in FFA and all are active in farming on the family operation. Their advisor, Steve Keown attests to their hard work and dedication as FFA members. "They were all very different but you knew that whatever they were working toward, they would do it and do it well," said Keown.

Their advisor's statement could not have been better realized than on Saturday at the Eighth General Session during the 83rd National FFA Convention where they were conferred the American FFA Degree.

The honor is something that all four of the siblings have been working towards

throughout their FFA career. However, they did not necessarily take the same path to get to this point.

As Primmer said, "We always did our own thing, but would work together when we needed it."

Although this was the final step in their FFA careers, the group will continue to stay active in the agricultural industry. And because they are all located at different colleges they see little of each other, but are happy to get together.

"It is weird being a part at college after being together for eighteen years," said Malena.

As Malena, John, Lucia and Primmer work toward their separate goals, they will continue to cherish each other and their times in FFA, which has set a base for each of them for premier leadership, personal growth and career success.

Andrew Walker is a former FFA member and past state officer of the Michigan FFA Association. He is currently a senior at Michigan State University majoring in Political Theory and Constitutional Democracy. Next fall, Andrew will be entering law school.



American Degree Recipients



Wyoming: Meghan S. Aanonsen, Rock Creek FFA; Ashley Anglen, Jim Bridger FFA; Kelsie J. Anson, Paintrock FFA; Wendy Arndt, Buffalo FFA; Kaitlyn Balfour, Casper FFA; Madison M. Becker, Douglas FFA; Kylie Bremer, Torrington/Lingle FFA; Caleb W. Bunce, Casper FFA; James Catlin Caines, Paintrock FFA; Luke Egle, Pinedale FFA; Zach Egle, Pinedale FFA; Brodie Epler, Southeast Goshen FFA; Jayson Foley, Kaycee FFA; Kayla Sue Foster, Frontier FFA; Haley A. Fox, Frontier FFA; Cody Gifford, Lovell FFA; Eric David Gillies, Lyman FFA; Kaitlynn Glover, Casper FFA; Sara Haines, Casper FFA; Taylor Haley, Snowy Range FFA; J. Amber Henry, Jim Bridger FFA; Catey Hobza, Douglas FFA; Jacob James, Pinedale FFA; Michelle Johnson, Jim Bridger FFA; Libby Lankford, Snowy Range FFA; Tressa Lawrence, Buffalo FFA; Alyssa Danielle Lozier, Lander FFA; Levi Lozier, Lander FFA; Colton Malli, John B. Kendrick FFA; Jared Dwayne Oldham, Lander FFA; James Owens, Casper FFA; Grant Michael Pulse, High Plains FFA; Ethan Purvis, Casper FFA; Rustin Roth, Torrington/Lingle FFA; Ty Vallier, Rock Creek FFA; Morgan Vercimak, Jim Bridger FFA; Emily C. Voigt, Frontier FFA

Wisconsin: Kyle Abston, Plymouth FFA; Jenna Alme, Stoughton FFA; Shawn Andersen, Clintonville FFA; Ashley Anderson, Bangor FFA; Abraham Arndt, Janesville Craig FFA; Brittany Athey, Oconto Falls FFA; Laurel Ballweg, Lodi FFA; Hillary Bark, Seneca FFA; Whitney Nicole Barnes, Kiel FFA; Kory Baroun, Reedsville FFA; Margo Beggs, Evansville FFA; Michele Belling,

Lomira FFA; Robb W. Bender, Kiel FFA; Steve Biel, Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA; Jordan Bittelman, Westfield FFA; Andy Boeke, Juda FFA; Amanda Boldt, Brillion FFA; Nathan F. Brandt, Cochrane-Fountain City FFA; Jacob G. Brey, Southern Door FFA; Danielle Brown, Dodgeville FFA; Dexter James Brown, Brillion FFA; Kelly Brown, Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA; Laura Brown, Pecatonica FFA; Crystal Brunner, Denmark FFA; Angie Brusky, Pulaski FFA; Brittany Bula, Tri-County FFA; Thomas R. Butts, Black Hawk FFA; Anna Carlson, Tri-County FFA; Cody Carpenter, Darlington FFA; Emily Casper, Lincoln AC-H-M FFA; Leah Christenson, Amery FFA; Alisha Cook, Oconto Falls FFA; Julia Cooper, DeForest FFA; Westley C. Cullen, Weyauwega-Fremont FFA; Jayne K. Dalton, Pardeeville FFA; Aaron Damrau, Tigerton FFA; Devery Lynn De Santis, Weyauwega-Fremont FFA; Jacob Dejno, Independence FFA; Jackie Diedrich, New Holstein FFA; Bryon Doherty, Rio FFA; Jessica Dombrowski, Amherst FFA; Derek Dreier, Brookwood FFA; Mitchell Dreier, Tomah FFA; Jenny Druckrey, Gillett FFA; Daniel Ehrenberg, Hartford FFA; Jesse Steven Eilbes, Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA; Scott Felten, Campbellsport FFA; Kessa J. Firkus, Stevens Point FFA; Kelli Fischer, Argyle FFA; Brandon Frank, Reedsville FFA; Ashley Kaylin Gant, Pecatonica FFA; Austin William Gant, Pecatonica FFA; Stephanie M. Geiger, Brillion FFA; Dan Griesbach, Marshfield FFA; Rebecca Gunderson, Waterford FFA; Ryan Hare, Ripon FFA; Bobby Hefter, Lomira FFA; Garrett Heineck, Holmen FFA; Tyler Herrmann,

Bonduel FFA; Ben Hertel, Big Foot FFA; Ty Hildebrandt, Hustisford FFA; Matthew Hillmann, Reedsville FFA; Jessica J. Hinrichsen, Abbottsford FFA; Jeremy Hintz, Brillion FFA; Michael J. Hoffmann, Amherst FFA; Zachary John Holsted, Westfield FFA; Laura Hornby, Viroqua FFA; Heather Huber, Sparta FFA; Sarah Marie James, Mount Horeb FFA; Shawn James, Mount Horeb FFA; Kelly Johnson, Luck FFA; Jessica Judd, Mount Horeb FFA; Ashley Julka, Laconia FFA; Brynn Kasten, Reedsville FFA; Sheri Kirchner, Clintonville FFA; Anna Klapoetke, Westfield FFA; Steffani Michelle Koch, Mayville FFA; Chelsea Kok, Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA; Kirsten Konder, Glenwood City FFA; Tiffany Konkol, Amherst FFA; Ryan Kortz, Freedom FFA; Chase Krapfl, Lomira FFA; Amy Sue Kringle, Barron FFA; Brandon Kruswick, Southern Door FFA; Tieha Kuczer, Pulaski FFA; Nathan R. Kundert, Brodhead FFA; Tia Kurowski, Bonduel FFA; Jacob W. LaBlanc, Montello FFA; Becky Landwehr, West De Pere FFA; Tiffany Larson, Unity FFA; Ryan Laufenberg, Lincoln AC-H-M FFA; Emily E. Leistikow, Monroe FFA; James Leystra, Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA; Anna Liddane, Tomah FFA; Ross J. Linder, Pecatonica FFA; Dan Livingston, Unity FFA; Samantha Loehr, Campbellsport FFA; Brandon Long, Clintonville FFA; Bret Long, Clintonville FFA; Bryant Long, Clintonville FFA; Britany Lynch, Mineral Point FFA; Erin M. Lynch, Big Foot FFA; Kimberly A. Madlon, Gilman FFA; John Malone, Plymouth FFA; Julie Ann Martin, Hartford FFA; Matt Mateske, Montello FFA; Jillian R. McNeely, Albany FFA; Nick Meier, Wisconsin Heights FFA; Scott Meinnert, Elkhart Lake FFA; Kayla Menn, Brookwood FFA; Tony Meyer, Colby FFA; Kelly Michels, Lomira FFA; Christopher Miller, Weyauwega-Fremont FFA; Jason Miller, Brillion FFA; Dylan Minnig, Randolph Cambria Friesland FFA; Adam Henry Moore, Black Hawk FFA; Anne Moore, Pulaski FFA; David J. Mueller, Kiel FFA; Cassie Muenzenberger, Cashton FFA; Aaron Naedler, Granton FFA; John Nelson, Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau FFA; Willie Nelson, Black Hawk FFA; Alex Neumann, Brookwood FFA; Samantha Niemann, Sauk Prairie FFA; Ryan M. North, New Auburn FFA; Alan R. Nuttelman, West Salem FFA; Kelly Pardy, Oconto Falls FFA; Travis Paul, Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA; Bridget Peck, Chippewa Falls FFA; Jeana Peebles, Bonduel FFA; Katie Peterson, Amherst FFA; Nicole A. Petrie, Kiel FFA; Elizabeth Pettis, Augusta FFA; Danielle Pickett, New Glarus FFA; Brittany Pierce, Tomah FFA; Scott Pierce, Tomah FFA; Danielle M. Plocar, Howards Grove FFA; Joseph James Ploekelman, Athens FFA; Brett Polyock, Big Foot FFA; Michael



J. Poradek, Oconto Falls FFA; Aryn Rabas, Oconto Falls FFA; Brandy Riegert, Suring FFA; Kelly Ronke, Sparta FFA; Jeremy Rosheisen, Brodhead FFA; Rikki Ruplinger, Campbellsport FFA; Ryan Rygh, Black Hawk FFA; Whitney Rynish, Pulaski FFA; Kimberly Schadrie, De Pere FFA; Taliah Scheibinger, Stoughton FFA; Luke Schier, Granton FFA; Amy Schmidtke, Cochrane-Fountain City FFA; Stephanie N. Schultz, Fort Atkinson FFA; Katrina Schwer, Fennimore FFA; Ted Senn, Campbellsport FFA; Nathan Survey, Waupaca FFA; Denny C. Shoup Jr., Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA; Erik Smith, Brillion FFA; Jesse R. Sommers, Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA; Brian Spindler, Kiel FFA; Megan Stebane, Brillion FFA; Beau Steinke, Brillion FFA; Lakyn G. Steinmetz, New Auburn FFA; Dylan Stichert, Marshfield FFA; Dusty Stichman, Waupaca FFA; Jordan Stone, Omro FFA; Kyle Suchla, Independence FFA; Benjamin Susa, Lincoln AC-H-M FFA; Samuel L. Tauchen, Bonduel FFA; Daniel Jordan Tillema, Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA; Jeanie Untiedt, Colby FFA; Melissa Van Buren, Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA; 0208 Amanda J. Van Egtern, Waupun FFA; Crystal Vande Hey, Freedom FFA; Amy VanDeBrake, Unity FFA; Ashley J. Vanden Avond, Green Bay East FFA; Sean VanderWaal, Kiel FFA; Kevin Voland, Kiel FFA; Derek Vosberg, Black Hawk FFA; Eric Wakeman, Rio FFA; Josh Walek, Independence FFA; Adam Wavrunek, Denmark FFA; Heidi Welch, Evansville FFA; Danica R. Wendlandt, Randolph Cambria-Friesland FFA; Jared Wendt, Stoughton FFA; Noah Wiedenfeld, Lake Mills FFA; Ashley Wiegel, Shullsburg FFA; Breanna Wimmier, Plymouth FFA; Renee M. Wirth, Prairie Farm FFA; Courtney Woodward, Shullsburg FFA; Melissa Woolever, Bloomer FFA; Victoria Ziebert, Campbellsport FFA; Gregory J. Zimdars, Ripon FFA; Tyrone Zimmerman, Juda FFA

West Virginia: Jennifer LeeAnn Baker, St. Marys FFA; Jacob Levi Blue, Jefferson FFA; John Butler Boyd, Musselman FFA; Danielle Cox, St. Marys FFA; Nick Cox, Taylor County FFA; Trevor A. Cummings, Roane County FFA; Nathan L. Cunningham, St. Marys FFA; Brent Ebert, Mineral County FFA; Joe Ferrell, Tyler FFA; Dillon Walker Fuller, Hampshire FFA; Cody L. Grogg, Gilmer County FFA; Jason Grubb, Marion County FFA; Alyssa

American Degree Recipients

Mae Harvey, Mineral County FFA; **Jada Marie Hostutter**, Musselman FFA; **Kessel Lilly**, Clay FFA; **Hunter McGregor**, Mineral County FFA; **Jenna Taylor Mullins**, Hampshire FFA; **Allyson Elizabeth Peters**, Braxton County FFA; **Jason Shamblin**, Roane County FFA; **Derrick Spencer**, Mineral County FFA; **Rachel Spiker**, Mineral County FFA; **Katlin Thorsell**, Jefferson FFA; **Matthew Umstot**, Mineral County FFA; **Andrea Walker**, Moorefield FFA; **Sara Wayne**, Gilmer County FFA; **Erik Herbert Yost**, East Hardy FFA

Washington: **Shirley Arreola-Kern**, Ellensburg FFA; **Ryan Attridge**, Deer Park FFA; **Erin Sabrina Bauer**, Colton FFA; **Kamaldeep Bhumber**, Ferndale FFA; **Christina Boardman**, Deer Park FFA; **Michelle Burns**, Toledo FFA; **Samantha Coe**, Clarkson FFA; **Tucker James Cool**, Chelan FFA; **Gabriel Eddings**, Ellensburg FFA; **Kaitlyn Goodin**, Ferndale FFA; **Kimberly Harless**, Tonasket FFA; **Rachael A. Harum**, Wenatchee FFA; **Jordyn Hutton**, Tekoa FFA; **Ethan Richard Johnson**, Mary M. Knight FFA; **Troy Kortus**, Lynden Christian FFA; **Jared C. Larson**, Pullman FFA; **Amanda K. Lewis**, Sheton FFA; **Kyle Lorentzen**, Toledo FFA; **Victoria Marsh**, White River FFA; **Travis R. Matthews**, Ellensburg FFA; **Alisa Rose Moehrle-Druffel**, Colton FFA; **Brett D. Moriarty**, Medical Lake FFA; **Katie Jane Nickels**, Stanwood FFA; **Ashley Nicole Nygreen**, Colton FFA; **Austin Olma**, Tonasket FFA; **Hillary Ryann Peters**, Centralia FFA; **Erin Ranney**, Sheton FFA; **Kirk Riedner**, Colton FFA; **Tiffany Shore**, Yelm FFA; **Rebecca Shrauger**, Deer Park FFA; **Afton Spence**, Colton FFA; **Ken Stuit**, Ferndale FFA; **Brooke Vander Veen**, Lynden FFA; **Kristin N. Weber**, Colton FFA; **Marty Ray Webster**, Omak FFA; **Olivia Yates**, Pullman FFA; **Ross Young**, Chelan FFA; **Jessica Lee Zimmerman**, Wenatchee FFA

Virginia: **Alex Anderson**, Abingdon FFA; **Katie Marie Baker**, Strasburg FFA; **Sabrina Renee' Ball**, Abingdon FFA; **Gwendolyn Dawn Berry**, Rockbridge County FFA; **Molly Kaitlin Borden**, Fort Defiance FFA; **Colleen Marie Bowers**, Clarke County FFA; **Kristin Jean Brill**, Stonewall Jackson FFA; **Brent Bunch**, Lakeland FFA; **Callie Burnett**, Chatham FFA; **Kyle Cash**, Wilson Memorial FFA; **Samuel Cupp**, Fort Defiance FFA; **Faith Elizabeth Daggett**, Turner Ashby FFA; **Amanda Dellinger**, Sherando FFA; **George William Epperly**, Smith Mountain FFA; **Chasity Faust**, Abingdon FFA; **Taylor Fix**, Buffalo Gap FFA; **Daniel Fleishman**, Turner Ashby FFA; **Adam Fogleman**, Abingdon FFA; **Dustin Francis**, Halifax FFA; **William D. French Jr.**, Central FFA; **Dana Nicole Gochenour**, Central FFA; **Alan Goldbetter**, Sherando FFA; **Samuel Gordon**, Park View High FFA;

Andrew J. Graham, Christainsburg FFA; **Jeremy Michael Harvey**, Louisa FFA; **Thomas Andrew Heizer**, Riverheads FFA; **Emerson Lynn Kirby III**, Richlands FFA; **Jordan Rachel Kristoff**, Fort Defiance FFA; **Austin Larrowe**, Carroll County FFA; **Joseph Lawson**, Carroll County FFA; **Zach Layman**, Sherando FFA; **Matthew A. Linski**, Stonewall Jackson FFA; **Megan Liskey**, Spotswood FFA; **William Lloyd**, Abingdon FFA; **David Michael McCann**, Nelson Senior FFA; **Joshua C. McCann**, Giles FFA; **Holly Nicole McCool**, Sherando FFA; **Brandon H. Monk**, Sherando FFA; **Jenny L. Moore**, Smith Mountain FFA; **Paul Shelton Moore**, Clintwood FFA; **Meghan Marie Mullins**, Clintwood FFA; **Margaret Whitney Perkins**, Louisa FFA; **Dustin Randall Pickett**, Clarke County FFA; **Hannah Poole**, Smith Mountain FFA; **Scarlett Reel**, Turner Ashby FFA; **Megan Rinker**, Strasburg FFA; **Tim Roberts**, Sherando FFA; **Samuel Lewis Rorrer**, Floyd County FFA; **Daniel Rowles**, Chatham FFA; **Laura Suzann Rudd**, Blacksburg FFA; **Alex R. See**, Sherando FFA; **Katie E. Sheads**, Culpeper County FFA; **Raquel Shifflett**, Sherando FFA; **Morgan Leigh Slaven**, Fort Defiance FFA; **Ashley Kay Slusher**, Floyd County FFA; **Brianna Renaye Smith**, Clarke County FFA; **Brett Stevens**, Holston FFA; **Tyler Patrick Stevens**, Fauquier FFA; **Daniel Swisher**, Wilson Memorial FFA; **Billie Jo Swope**, Buffalo Gap FFA; **Ashley Ulmer**, Broadway FFA; **Paul Zachary Wakeman**, Strasburg FFA; **Daniel Wood**, Spotswood FFA; **Michelle Ann Wood**, Spotswood FFA

Vermont: **Rickey Brisson**, Middlebury Union FFA

Utah : **Cody Anderson**, Spanish Fork FFA; **Jenna Faith Anderson**, Spanish Fork FFA; **Jens Frederick Andersen**, Box Elder FFA; **Ladd K. Arnoldsen**, Lone Peak FFA; **Breeana Lynn Asay**, Manila FFA; **Travis Banks**, North Summit FFA; **Kelsey Barney**, Richfield FFA; **Marisa Black**, Pine View FFA; **Hope Chantelle Blackburn**, Lehi FFA; **Casey R. Bown**, Gunnison Valley FFA; **Casha E. Carter**, Payson FFA; **Drew Carter**, Lehi FFA; **Kamil Chandler**, Uintah FFA; **Bryce J. Collatz**, Layton FFA; **Morgan Condie**, Millard Eagle FFA; **Austin Crane**, Riverton FFA; **Kolton Crane**, Gunnison Valley FFA; **Davis Edwards**, Pleasant Grove FFA; **Alyssa Frost**, American Fork FFA; **John Ryan Gardner**, Box Elder FFA; **Whitney Gause**, Lehi FFA; **Kari Giles**, Spanish Fork FFA; **Shauna Gurney**, Lehi FFA; **McKord Harris**, Richfield FFA; **Zach Haslam**, Morgan FFA; **Bradley Haws**, Lehi FFA; **Hayden Henscheid**, Lone Peak FFA; **Derek Jackson**, Fremont FFA; **Braydon Johnson**, Sky View FFA; **Aubrey Knight**, Fremont FFA; **Alli Lang**, Riverton FFA; **Garrick Liddiard**,

Spanish Fork FFA; **Jake Martin**, Manila FFA; **Jessie McClellan**, Riverton FFA; **Maryann Jean McConnell-Blake**, Dixie FFA; **Colton Mercer**, Lehi FFA; **Josi Munns**, Bear River FFA; **Erin Murray**, Grantsville FFA; **Jed Taylor Neilsen**, Springville FFA; **Arik Nash Nelson**, American Fork FFA; **Becky Nicholas**, Box Elder FFA; **Chet Joseph Nicholas**, Box Elder FFA; **Jake Olsen**, Wasatch FFA; **Jamie Oyler**, Bear River FFA; **Lauren Pedersen**, North Sevier FFA; **Angela Perry**, Uintah FFA; **Emy Peterson**, Mt. Nebo FFA; **Chantz Potter**, Manila FFA; **Shelby Makell Quarnberg**, Grantsville FFA; **Audrey Sue Raby**, Wasatch FFA; **Josiah C. Reeder**, Box Elder FFA; **Chase W. Rees**, North Summit FFA; **Scott Reeve**, Monticello FFA; **Alex Steven Robinson**, Lehi FFA; **Drew Sessions**, Wasatch FFA; **Jess Shaffer**, Bear River FFA; **Amberley Snyder**, Spanish Fork FFA; **Ellary Swenson**, Payson FFA; **Lane Thompson**, South Summit FFA; **Jeffery Wilson**, Lehi FFA; **Talia Elise Wilson**, Pleasant Grove FFA



Carr, Gilmer FFA; **Bodie Carroll**, Cleburne FFA; **Kodie Carroll**, Cleburne FFA; **Ruben Castillo**, Raymondville FFA; **Jonathan Chachere**, Dayton FFA; **Erica Child**, Harmony FFA; **Jessica Clark**, Como-Pickton FFA; **Travis Clevenger**, Henrietta FFA; **Kaitlin Coward**, Lovelady FFA; **Lorri Crum**, Tilden FFA; **Jennifer Cunningham**, Wylie FFA; **Delanie Darnell**, Ponder FFA; **Kelsey Doege**, East Central FFA; **Ashley Dugan**, Harmony FFA; **Ashley Dunkerley**, Henrietta FFA; **Taylor DuVall**, Harmony FFA; **Hanna Eiland**, Nimitz FFA; **Stacey Eilers**, Bellville FFA; **Ishley Elmore**, Decatur FFA; **Kelsey Firkins**, Brazoswood FFA; **Ashley Fleming**, Cinco Ranch FFA; **Stephen M. Flores**, Hebbronville FFA; **Vanessa**



Texas: **Cameron Aaron**, Academy FFA; **Stephanie Adamcik**, Brazos FFA; **Haylee Andrew**, Valley View FFA; **Tanner Antonick**, West Rusk FFA; **Jacob Atzenhoffer**, Orange Grove FFA; **Ty Barrientes**, Sharyland FFA; **Brad Bertrand**, Hamshire-Fannett FFA; **Angie Bourland**, Seymour FFA; **Brittany Bowman**, James Madison FFA; **Lockie Breeding**, Harmony FFA; **Kyle Brieden**, Devine FFA; **Travis Bryan**, Hale Center FFA; **Travis Burks**, Harmony FFA; **Lee Burson**, Silverton FFA; **Josh Busler**, Gilmer FFA; **Solomon Butler**, Navasota FFA; **Jennifer L. Calhoun**, Troy FFA; **Megan Cantrell**, Chico FFA; **Levi Carmean**, Carmine FFA; **Taci Carpenter**, Waller FFA; **Dexture**

Galvan, Cotulla FFA; **Kaci Geiken**, Crowley FFA; **Rachel Ann Glascock**, Pilot Point FFA; **Julie Goetzman**, Mayde Creek FFA; **Allison Grainger**, Brenham FFA; **Patricia Gregoire**, Morton Ranch FFA; **Brianna Grigsby**, Crowley FFA; **Mallory Haas**, Katy FFA; **Amie Haass**, Devine FFA; **Jessica Harrington**, Vidor FFA; **Jody Harris**, Carthage FFA; **Katie Heinrich**, Cooper FFA; **Hillary Heller**, Anson FFA; **Brittany Hicks**, Gilmer FFA; **Whitney Hinze**, Carmine FFA; **Joni Howard**, Valley View FFA; **Jason Humphrey**, Gilmer FFA; **Taylor Hurst**, Cooper FFA; **Sabrina Huston**, Stephenville FFA; **Aron Hutchins**, Stephenville FFA; **Seth Kennedy**, Sterling FFA; **Baron Kloesel**, Weimar

American Degree Recipients



FFA; **Logan Kostroun**, Cameron Yoe FFA; **Stephanie Kozel**, Morton Ranch FFA; **Caitlyn Kubenka**, Schultenburg FFA; **Lisa Lageschaar**, Como-Pickton FFA; **Scott Landers**, Chisum FFA; **Casey Lange**, Carmine FFA; **Logan Lange**, Carmine FFA; **Dustin Leiferman**, Smithville FFA; **Mandy Little**, Martinsville FFA; **Jessica Lopez**, Pearland FFA; **Cade Luckett**, Valley FFA; **Jeremy Maupin**, Weimar FFA; **Landon McCelvey**, Dilley FFA; **Callie McCullough**, Franklin FFA; **Casey McKelvain**, Alvord FFA; **Kaleb McLaurin**, Big Sandy FFA; **Zachary McMahon**, Harper FFA; **Cameron Miculka**, Weimar FFA; **Jeremiah Miller**, S & S Consolidated FFA; **Cassie Morrison**, Dayton FFA; **Heather Newton**, Vega FFA; **Michelle Newton**, Hale Center FFA; **Andrea Nordman**, Florence FFA; **Brooke Nussle**, James Madison FFA; **Randal Obermier**, Henrietta FFA; **Hallie Page**, Katy FFA; **Daniel Patterson**, Whiteface FFA; **Luke Patterson**, Whiteface FFA; **Aaron Permenter**, Hampshire-Fannett FFA; **Darin Peters**, Stephenville FFA; **Dewayne Phillips**, Stephenville FFA; **Jake Pieniazek**, East Central FFA; **Daniel Pilger**, A&M Consolidated FFA; **Anna Pruitt**, Harmony FFA; **Colton Ranly**, Troy FFA; **Morgan Reynolds**, Grand Saline FFA; **Ryan Reznicek**, Brazos FFA; **Amanda Richardson**, S & S Consolidated FFA; **Chase Ringer**, Hardin FFA; **Chastity Rinn**, Bellville FFA; **Amanda Ruscher**, Nimitz FFA; **Shane'a Lynn Russell**, Motley County FFA; **Diego Sanchez**, Cotulla FFA; **Courtney Schmidt**, Burton FFA; **Ryan Seales**, Whiteface FFA; **Case Shawver**, Stephenville FFA; **Lacey Sims**, Harmony FFA; **Dalton Smith**, Pewitt FFA; **Cole Spann**, Ponder FFA; **Cy Spencer**, Gilmer FFA; **Kirby Spencer**, Gilmer FFA; **Raynie Standley**, Madisonville

FFA; **Cody Sultenfuss**, Academy FFA; **Clayton J. Tenery**, Cotulla FFA; **Amy Lynne Terry**, Buffalo FFA; **Clint Tevebaugh**, Gilmer FFA; **Kyle Thomas**, East Central FFA; **Errynne Treptow**, Weimar FFA; **Tyler Tucker**, Gilmer FFA; **Lauren Turner**, Florence FFA; **Kasey Ullrich**, Carmine FFA; **Reba Underwood**, Idalou FFA; **Travis Vanicek**, Weimar FFA; **Miles Vann**, Wellman-Union FFA; **Chase Vasbinder**, East Central FFA; **Haley Vrazel**, Cameron Yoe FFA; **Kelley Walls**, East Central FFA; **Dannie Warren**, Florence FFA; **Kassi Warzon**, Navasota FFA; **Kayanne Warzon**, Navasota FFA; **Lauren Whitlock**, Columbus FFA; **Ashley Whitsett**, Carthage FFA; **Jake Williams**, Decatur FFA; **Tanner Williams**, Rice Consolidated FFA; **Matthew Willis**, Stephenville FFA; **Sarah Wilson**, Peaster FFA; **Haley Woelfel**, Carmine FFA; **Ashley Worthy**, Liberty FFA; **Alexis Wright**, Wylie FFA; **Terrill Yeager**, Ponder FFA

Tennessee: **Jacob Anderson**, Eagleville FFA; **Marilauren Elizabeth Anderson**, Dyersburg FFA; **Molly Armstrong**, East Robertson FFA; **Josh Arnold**, DeKalb County FFA; **Holly Baggett**, Lincoln County FFA; **Larry Bailey**, Watertown FFA; **Allie Baker**, Westview FFA; **Claire Barker**, Daniel Boone FFA; **Alexandria Batta**, Wilson Central FFA; **William David Bennett**, Siegel FFA; **Barrett Bingham**, Eagleville FFA; **Leanne Blackstock**, Riverside FFA; **Matthew Bobbitt**, Peabody FFA; **Jacob Bost**, Warren County FFA; **Casey Alyssa Bowen**, Siegel FFA; **Jake Brasher**, Scotts Hill FFA; **Billie Brcka**, Moore County FFA; **Brandon Neil Bringle**, Munford "Big Boll" FFA; **Nelson Brothers**, Wilson Central FFA; **Michael Brown**, Wilson Central FFA; **Tyler Bruhin**, Sevierian

FFA; **Brandon Bryant**, Lincoln County FFA; **Abby Layne Burger**, Mt. Juliet FFA; **Amber Burkhart**, Portland FFA; **Aleshia Burton**, South Greene FFA; **Lesley Elizabeth Burton**, Wilson Central FFA; **Blake Butler**, Liberty FFA; **Cody Carberry**, Daniel Boone FFA; **Anna Caruso**, Franklin County FFA; **Paul Clark**, Woodbury FFA; **Stephen Climer**, Crockett County FFA; **Sarah Amy Evelyn Collier**, Bledsoe FFA; **Matt Collins**, Franklin County FFA; **Caroline Conley**, Daniel Boone FFA; **Margaret E. Conley**, Daniel Boone FFA; **Brock Cooper**, White County FFA; **Bryan Cooper**, Siegel FFA; **Sara Jo Couch**, South Side FFA; **Dana Marie Coleman**, Cousar, Munford "Big Boll" FFA; **Chris Cozart**, Watertown FFA; **Clay Craddock**, Obion County FFA; **Megan Darby**, Liberty FFA; **Cassi Davenport**, Eagleville FFA; **Jennifer LeAnn Davis**, South Greene FFA; **Cody DeBord**, Bledsoe FFA; **Tyler DeBord**, Bledsoe FFA; **David Bruce Doan**, Daniel Boone FFA; **Jessica Ann Dowd**, Siegel FFA; **Justin Dunaway**, DeKalb County FFA; **Johnathan Duncan**, Dyer County FFA; **Laura Nicole Edwards**, Springfield FFA; **Victoria Fellers**, David Crockett FFA; **Shelby Finn**, Wilson Central FFA; **James Flatt**, Wilson Central FFA; **Jesse Ford**, Daniel Boone FFA; **Dillon Kyle Freeman**, Siegel FFA; **Joshua Caleb Garner**, Franklin County FFA; **Whitnee Gibson**, Sevierian FFA; **John Thomas Gobbell**, Liberty FFA; **Kayla Gowan**, Liberty FFA; **Elizabeth Graef**, East Robertson FFA; **Lucas Green**, Franklin County FFA; **Brittany Greene**, Eagleville FFA; **Christopher Greer**, Portland FFA; **Taylor Grocock**, Eagleville FFA; **Michael Tyler Grove**, Warren County FFA; **Callie Haley**, Woodbury FFA; **Christina Danielle Hall**, Lincoln County FFA; **Dylan Hall**, Clarkrange FFA; **A.J. Hamlet**, Watertown FFA; **Brittney Hammer**, White House Heritage FFA; **Amber Harcrow**, Milan FFA; **Kaitlyn Joy Hargrove**, Wilson Central FFA; **Alexander Scott Harmon**, Anderson County FFA; **Emily Hatmaker**, Meigs County FFA; **Rachel Hedgepath**, Eagleville FFA; **Blair Henderson**, Crockett County FFA; **Gavin Henry**, East Robertson FFA; **Lindsey Hodge**, Watertown FFA; **Kendra Lynn Howard**, Clarkrange FFA; **Cody Hutcheson**, Halls FFA; **Heather Marie Jackett**, Covington FFA; **Laura Jacobs**, Jo Byrns FFA; **Jacob Jewell**, Eagleville FFA; **Josh Johansen**, South Fulton FFA; **Tomi Johansen**, South Fulton FFA; **Bradley Allen Johnson**, South Greene FFA; **Kyle W. Johnson**, East Robertson FFA; **Jordan Brooke Jones**, Obion County FFA; **Emily Julian**, Riverdale FFA; **Emily Julian**, Clinton FFA; **Nathan Keene**, White House Heritage FFA; **Brandon Kenyon**, Anderson County FFA; **Cassandra Key**, Lincoln County FFA; **Chelsey Kight**, Moore County FFA; **Abby King**, Lincoln County FFA; **William A. Kyker**, Sevierian



FFA; **Justin Lackey**, Watertown FFA; **Natasha Lacy**, Riverdale FFA; **Ronald Ray Lane II**, Lincoln County FFA; **Matthew Larkins**, Daniel Boone FFA; **Stephanie M. Lauer**, Mt. Juliet FFA; **Nikki Leggett**, Riverdale FFA; **Donovan Light**, Daniel Boone FFA; **Heather Lipham**, Moore County FFA; **Jennifer Long**, Clinton FFA; **Jessica Long**, Clinton FFA; **Melanie Long**, Clinton FFA; **Mark Thomas Lovett**, Obion County FFA; **Carrie Lykins**, David Crockett FFA; **Justin Lee Lyles**, White House FFA; **Megan Lytle**, Liberty FFA; **Daniel Markum**, Warren County FFA; **Kyle Markum**, Coffee County FFA; **John Marsh**, South Side FFA; **Allyson Martin**, Portland FFA; **Chris Martin**, Lincoln County FFA; **Jared Massey**, Lincoln County FFA; **Trey McAdams**, Lexington FFA; **Alex McDaniel**, Obion County FFA; **Christopher McDonald**, Clarkrange FFA; **Jimbo McHaffie**, Jefferson County FFA; **Logan McIndoo**, Mt. Juliet FFA; **Peyton McKee**, East Robertson FFA; **Drew Miller**, Jefferson County FFA; **Grant Monroe**, Perry County FFA; **Lindsay Moore**, Peabody FFA; **Chrissy Morgan**, Cocke County FFA; **Jesse Mottern**, Sevierian FFA; **Cody Mundy**, Cumberland Gap FFA; **Chase Murray**, North Greene FFA; **Erica Myers**, David Crockett FFA; **Nathan Nixon**, DeKalb County FFA; **Karah Nichole Oakley**, Woodbury FFA; **John Oosting**, Moore County FFA; **Lucas Overton**, Clinton FFA; **Whitney Lauren Owens**, Jo Byrns FFA; **Kayla Parker**, Woodbury FFA; **Hunter Paschall**, Paris FFA; **Macey Patrick**, Lincoln County FFA; **Evan Pearsall**, Warren County FFA; **Andrew Lee Pearson**, Siegel FFA; **Timothy Ryan Pearson**, Siegel FFA; **Shawn Pevahouse**, Riverside FFA; **Alyshia Phillips**, Clinton FFA; **Kelly Rabb**, Franklin County FFA; **Joseph Redman**, Daniel Boone FFA; **Dexter Reece**, Cocke County FFA; **Audrey Reed**, McNairy County FFA; **Megan Richardson**, David Crockett FFA; **Allison Rae Ridenour**, Anderson County FFA; **Hannah Robbins**, Paris FFA; **Ashlyn Nicole Roberson**, Dyer County FFA; **Brandon Kyle Rogers**, Dyersburg FFA; **Michelle L. Sadler**, Portland FFA; **Matt Sanders**, South Side FFA; **Bradley Samuel Sapp**, Bledsoe FFA; **William David Sayre**, Clarkrange FFA; **Alex L. Scott Jr.**, Moore County FFA; **Emily Seaton**, South Side FFA; **Joann Shell**, Daniel Boone FFA; **Josh Shew**, Riverdale FFA; **William Shipley**, Cumberland Gap FFA; **Matthew Sifford**, Daniel Boone FFA; **Lee Sikes**, Dyer County FFA; **Tyler Simmons**, South Side FFA; **Anna Smith**, Bledsoe FFA; **Callie Que Smith**, Wilson Central FFA; **J.**

American Degree Recipients

C. Smith, Woodbury FFA; **Jared Smith**, Covington FFA; **Taylor Smith**, Halls FFA; **Zachary Taylor Snow**, Gallatin FFA; **Ashton Street**, Daniel Boone FFA; **Alyssa Stubblefield**, East Robertson FFA; **Abigail M. Summers**, North Knox FFA; **Elizabeth Sumners**, Paris FFA; **Kyle Templeton**, East Robertson FFA; **Tyler Tharpe**, Dyer County FFA; **Troy Thompson**, Mt. Juliet FFA; **Jeffrey Turner**, Lebanon FFA; **Dylan Tyler**, South Side FFA; **Candace Vitt**, Riverside FFA; **Hunter Watson**, Lincoln County FFA; **Katelyn Watt**, Milan FFA; **Josh Webb**, Milan FFA; **Amy Wells**, Liberty FFA; **Thomas Hardeman West**, DeKalb County FFA; **Caleb Williams**, Jefferson County FFA; **Casey Lee Willoughby**, Scott County FFA; **Andy Wilson**, North Knox FFA; **Catie Wilson**, Lincoln County FFA;

Ryan Wilson, Eagleville FFA; **Kyle Wix**, Wilson Central FFA; **Megan Wooley**, Woodbury FFA

South Dakota: **Chelsey L. Abler**, Hoven FFA; **Tina Boldt**, Arlington FFA; **Tru Margaret Boldt**, Arlington FFA; **Jacob Englin**, Deubrook FFA; **Dillon Evenson**, West Central FFA; **Joshua Fuerstenberg**, Harrisburg FFA; **Taylor Geppert**, Kimball FFA; **Brian Gottlob**, McCook Central FFA; **Shane D. Gross**, Hitchcock - Tulare FFA; **Jill Halse**, Florence FFA; **Zach Hansen**, McCook Central FFA; **Angela Hanson**, McCook Central FFA; **Hilary B. Horsley**, West Central FFA; **Ethan Javers**, Harrisburg FFA; **Jennifer Knock**, Willow Lake FFA; **Janelle Kokes**, Bon Homme FFA; **Kimberly Ann Kokesh**, Wagner

FFA; **Jordan Krueger**, McCook Central FFA; **Douglas A. Larson**, Waubay FFA; **Beau McGregor**, McCook Central FFA; **Rebecca A. Naasz**, Platte - Geddes FFA; **Jessica L. Nowell**, Hitchcock - Tulare FFA; **Dustin Palmquist**, McCook Central FFA; **Andy Rossow**, Florence FFA; **Sarah M. Sample**, Kimball FFA; **Chelsea Schmidt**, Harrisburg FFA; **Trista Schultz**, Hitchcock - Tulare FFA; **Anna Souvignier**, Harrisburg FFA; **Courtnee Spaans**, McCook Central FFA; **Jason Vreugdenhil**, Alcester - Hudson FFA; **Reed Wehrkamp**, West Central FFA; **Erin M. Wilson**, Lennox Sundstrom FFA; **Steven Zemlicka**, Florence FFA; **Kyle Zulk**, McCook Central FFA

South Carolina: **Domonique A. Brooks**, Estill FFA; **Shanika Janae' Brooks**, Estill FFA; **Jared L. Copelan**, Anderson FFA; **Kalan Flint Holbrook**, Clover FFA; **Jessica M. Howle**, McBee FFA; **Ashley King**, Pendleton FFA

Rhode Island: **Christine Kissinger**, Exeter West Greenwich FFA

Puerto Rico: **Jose Ivan Martes Martinez**, S. U. Antonia Serrano Gonzalez; **Gabriela D. Nazario Ramos**, S. U. Manuel Mendia Moret FFA; **Freddie Patiño Rodriguez**, SU Epifanio Estrada FFA; **Isamari Soto Soto**, Laura Mercado FFA

Pennsylvania: **Joshua R. Ackley**, Cloister FFA; **Shannon E. Adams**, Captain Jack FFA; **Shawn William Beam**, Twin Valley FFA; **Caitlin Rae Black**, Forbes Rd. FFA; **Kate Booher**, Laurel FFA; **Nickolas R. Boonie**, Blue Juniata FFA; **Jennifer J. Boop**, Mifflinburg Area FFA; **Derrick Borrer**, Captain Jack FFA; **Evan Dallas Brant**, Forbes Road FFA; **Matthew R. Brightbill**, Greenwood FFA FFA; **Troy Joshua Eichenlaub**, Mifflinburg Area FFA; **Preston Eshelman**, Twin Valley FFA; **Andrew Fisher**, Captain Jack FFA; **Katlyn L. Gerlach**, Manor FFA; **Abigail E. Gindlesperger**, Somerset County Technology; **D. Brian Gray**, Selinsgrove FFA; **Caleb J. Grove**, Shippensburg FFA; **Cassie Lynn Gutshall**, Big Spring FFA; **Ellen E. Harnish**, Manor FFA; **James C. Hawn**, Blue Juniata FFA; **Abraham Heggstaller**, Selinsgrove FFA; **Deidre Hepler**, Tri-Valley FFA; **Megan Herr**, Manor FFA; **Stephanie Kauffman**, Cloister FFA; **Katrina Lynn Kulp**, Grassland FFA; **Kevin Maust**, Somerset Area School District; **Levi McMath**, Captain Jack FFA; **Cassie Sue McMillen**, West Perry FFA Chapter FFA; **Craig Meyers**, Conococheague FFA; **Heather Renee Miller**, Captain Jack FFA; **Joshua T. Miller**, Red Lion Area FFA; **Roy James Mishler**, Somerset County Technology; **Alicia Lee Morgan**, Captain Jack FFA; **Ashley Dawn Morgan**, Captain Jack FFA;



Caitlin Joy Morgan, Captain Jack FFA; **Mark Musser**, Blue Juniata FFA; **Lindsay Renee Newswanger**, Grassland FFA; **Barry L. Saylor Jr.**, Cloister FFA; **William Saylor**, Cloister FFA; **Jessica Shilladay**, Cumberland Valley FFA; **Brianna Sroka**, Captain Jack FFA; **Alexandra Stahl**, Mifflinburg Area FFA; **Mindy Stoops-Irvine**, Moniteau FFA; **Janine Swartz**, Manheim FFA; **Lawrence Talmage**, Marion Center FFA; **Lance Waybright**, Battlefield FFA; **Robert P. Weber**, Big Spring FFA; **Marissa K. Weidensaul**, Mifflinburg Area FFA; **Tyler G. Wheeler**, Linesville FFA; **Lauren N. Williams**, Northern Lebanon FFA; **Brittany Wilmer**, Philadelphia FFA; **Tyler D. Witter**, Big Spring FFA; **Caleb Wright**, Blue Juniata FFA; **Courtney C. Wright**, Southern Huntingdon County

Oregon: **Patrick William Barron**, Morrow County FFA; **Josh Blake**, Molalla FFA; **Amanda Bowers-Ott**, Imbler FFA; **Derek Burbank**, Dallas FFA; **Matthew Campbell**, Junction City FFA; **Samantha Jo Chacon**, Hood River Valley FFA; **Jordyn Coon**, Santiam Christian FFA; **K. C. Coon**, Central Linn FFA; **Kevin Corn**, Ontario FFA; **Kyle Cecil Crader**, Imbler FFA; **Kari Dauenhauer**, Amity FFA; **Leanne de Jong**, Bonanza FFA; **Kiley Raeanne Dewey**, Imbler FFA; **Alyssa DuVal**, Silverton FFA; **Alicia Duyck**, Banks FFA; **Augustus Evers**, Banks FFA; **Erik Fisher**, Silverton FFA; **Robyn Fitzsimmons**, Molalla FFA; **Shelby M. Flem**, Hood River Valley FFA; **James Gilbert**, North Clackamas FFA; **Shae Elizabeth Gilbreath**, Glide FFA; **Mark Gladman**, Crater FFA; **Robert T. Hamlin**, Henley FFA; **Jessie Henshaw**, Pendleton FFA; **Josie Hubbard**, Creswell FFA; **Courtney Hunnicutt**, Molalla FFA; **Angela Hurlburt**, Creswell FFA; **Bronc Johnson**, Lost River FFA; **Nicole Jorgensen**, Culver FFA; **Kylie Gene Layton**, Redmond FFA; **Shawna McVea**, Creswell FFA; **Anna Michrina**, Union FFA; **Richard Montecucco**, Canby FFA; **Nathaniel Brent Osterburg**, Cove FFA; **Kristine Osuna**, Silverton FFA; **Samuel Valentine Palacio**, Bend FFA; **Ashlie Petersen**, Bonanza FFA; **Matthew Rankin**, Ontario FFA; **Bryson Ricker**, Imbler FFA; **Spencer Salo**, Canby FFA; **Jana Schiely**, Scio FFA; **Krysta Schmidt**, Hood River Valley FFA; **Michael Seymour**, Astoria FFA; **Kelsey Skeen**, Union FFA; **Jesse E. Smit**, Pine Eagle FFA; **Nicole Smith**, North Clackamas FFA; **Tyson M. Snider**, Henley FFA; **Amanda J.**





Spoo, Hermiston FFA; Calvin Stout, Union FFA; Jordan Stout, Union FFA; Meghan Sullivan, Molalla FFA; Breana Tolar, Morrow County FFA; Nicholas Bennett West, Imbler FFA; Rachel Woods, Madras FFA

Oklahoma: Shawna Anderson, Checotah FFA; Tyler Anderson, Coalgate FFA; Mica Andrews, Dover FFA; Katherine Ashby, Panola FFA; Shaina S. Azlin, Holdenville FFA; Patrick Michael Aloysius Bakley, Tipton FFA; Emily Beanland, Hollis FFA; Jordan Bedwell, Okeene FFA; Justin Bedwell, Fairview FFA; Jeff Biggerstaff, Medford FFA; Bryson Bollinger, Union City FFA; Anthony Borden, Wister FFA; Heather Bornheim, Haleyville FFA; Zane Benjamin Arnold Bourne, Durant FFA; Jordan Boyd, Afton FFA; Will Boyd, Tipton FFA; Ashley Bradbeary, Tuttle FFA; Logan Brakhage, Boise City FFA; Robby Branscum, Fort Gibson FFA; Dalton Kevin Brewer, Okeene FFA; John Mason Bryan, Grandfield FFA; Tara Burchfield, Fairview FFA; Skylar Buser, Geary FFA; Tim Buttram, Beggs FFA; Jedidiah Cahill, Hugo FFA; James Carlile, Hugo FFA; Morgan Casey, Coalgate FFA; James David Chancellor, Tahlequah FFA; Travis J. Chupp, Adair FFA; Kassadi Click, Muldrow FFA; McKenzie Clifton, Kingfisher FFA; Ashley Marie Collins, Westville FFA; Dustin Cox, Spiro FFA; Katie Cox, Lone Grove FFA; Clairissa Ann Craige, Durant FFA; Collin Craige, Durant FFA; Ethan Garrett Cryer, Tipton FFA; Tanner Culver, Morrison

FFA; Brody Mikel Davenport, Durant FFA; Kent Lee Davidson, Hugo FFA; Brittany Day, Woodward FFA; Anthony Tyler Delmedico, Fort Gibson FFA; Tasha Dove, Adair FFA; Carrie Doyle, Elgin FFA; Cody Duncan, Chouteau FFA; Benjamin Ervin, Snyder FFA; Kayla Faith Nicole Estell, Weleetka FFA; Allison Deanne Fischer, Okeene FFA; Kortney Brooke Flanagan, Marietta FFA; Cord Forwoodson, Wilburton FFA; Meggie Froman, Sequoyah FFA; Heather Glass, Elgin FFA; Cody Goates, Lone Grove FFA; Joshua Damon Goff, Woodward FFA; Thad Gorczyca, Harrah FFA; Landi Grego, Wilburton FFA; Clinton Grissom, Strother FFA; Robert Dylan Hall, Jay FFA; Cinda Hammack, Leedey FFA; Bret Hanza, Central FFA; Kristi Lynn Harris, Durant FFA; Shelby Hasty, Altus FFA; Joshua Hutton, Byng FFA; Kristen Hedge, Rattan FFA; Elizabeth Hill, Verden FFA; Brian Holman, Garber FFA; Karli Hostetler, Garber FFA; Monty Howell, Coweta FFA; Kelsey Elizabeth James, Temple FFA; Tony Jarvis, Afton FFA; Erin Jenkins, Wilson FFA; Russell G. Jones, Fort Towson FFA; Ryan Jones, Dickson FFA; Mikala Keeney, Adair FFA; Kela Kelln, Fairview FFA; Rusty Kenner, Cheyenne FFA; Abbey Kilian, Medford FFA; Chase Alan Kokojan, Drummond FFA; Lauren S. Lafferty, Indianola FFA; Garrett LaFleur, Spiro FFA; Kade Lamle, Beaver FFA; Hunter Lancaster, Wagoner FFA; Tyler Laubach, Guymon FFA; Jesse Lay, Cleveland FFA; Anthony Caleb Lee, Chandler FFA; Matthew A. Leedy, Morrison FFA; Ariel Jayde

LeForce, Broken Bow FFA; Jarett Lee Lovelace, Indianola FFA; Sarah Marie Major, Blackwell FFA; Kirsten Lane Manuel, Byng FFA; Robert Edward Maples, Okemah FFA; Clinton Ethan Martin, Hardesty FFA; Kimberly Martin, Bethel FFA; Lauren Gale Martin, Webbers Falls FFA; Madison Martin, Hardesty FFA; Mikayla Marvin, Yukon FFA; Emily McCullough, Lone Grove FFA; Allen Shane McGlothlin, Anadarko FFA; Hanna Lee McIntyre, Bennington FFA; Janelle Catheryn Meade, Blackwell FFA; Hayden Meadors, Cleveland FFA; Kayla Gene Meeks, Wetumka FFA; Joshua Paul Meyer, Okarche FFA; Lauren Meyer, Okarche FFA; Tawny Mills, Hooker FFA; Morgan Mings, Whitesboro FFA; Lindsay Mize, Stringtown FFA; Steven Monroe, Bokoshe FFA; Aleecia Murphy, Wellston FFA; Casey Ray Nail, Vinita FFA; Carl Tanner Nipper, Tecumseh FFA; Jordan Chels Ochoa, Merritt FFA; Rebecca Park, Perry FFA; Aubrey Parker, Lindsay FFA; Kari G. Pfenning, Hobart FFA; Ashlea Lauren Piles, Smithville FFA; Brodie Poppino, Adair FFA; Stacey Price, Lone Grove FFA; Kasie Michelle Pruitt, Blanchard FFA; Ryan L. Pullan, Aline-Cleo FFA; Derek Hunter Quickle, Chattanooga FFA; Lauren Danielle Ragsdale, Muskogee FFA; Devon Kay Lynn Ringo, Burns Flat-Dill City FFA; Nickolas Roberson, Harrah FFA; Kelby Jay Rounsaville, Tecumseh FFA; Braden Kyle Royse, Haskell FFA; Travis Ruddle, Adair FFA; Ty Runyan, Atoka FFA; Shashonee Sales, Empire FFA; Katie Scheihing,

Geary FFA; Levi Jonathan Schreur, Oologah FFA; Jake Self, Coweta FFA; Luke Serner, Durant FFA; Derek W. Shaw, Whitesboro FFA; Kelli Shenold, Ripley FFA; Dustin Cole Shepherd, Strother FFA; Dalton Shryock, Sharon-Mutual FFA; Jennifer Siegmann, Dover FFA; Jason Smith, Wilburton FFA; Kaleb Smith, Woodward FFA; Owen S. Smith, Blackwell FFA; Robbi Smith, Wagoner FFA; Tyler Ryan Smith, Byng FFA; Trey Cooper Stacy, Oklahoma Union FFA; Ky Stierwalt, Leedey FFA; Kyle Stonehocker, Aline-Cleo FFA; Justin Strate, Garber FFA; Danielle Stutzman, Adair FFA; Drew Sutterfield, Fort Gibson FFA; Ashley Adelle Tacker, Sequoyah FFA; Tara Timms, Leedey FFA; Trent Todd, Checotah FFA; Derek Towler, Lone Grove FFA; Eric Van der Laan, Frederick FFA; Jordan Vanderwork, Leedey FFA; Daniel W. Venable, Holdenville FFA; Rachel Vinson, Webbers Falls FFA; Justin Voyles, Thackerville FFA; Harley Wares, Freedom FFA; Suzannahe Tyna Weir, Empire FFA; Brett White, Fort Gibson FFA; Lutricia Marie White, Tipton FFA; Kaleb Wilber, Cherokee FFA; Kyle Scott Williams, Collinsville FFA; Layce Williams, Porum FFA; Colby Williamson, Roland FFA; Brett Winton, Roland FFA; Ethan Woods, Wilburton FFA; Randi Yost, Garber FFA

Ohio: Ashley Ann Adams, Fairfield FFA; Courtney Adams, Fayetteville FFA; Brock Allen, Lynchburg-Clay FFA; Alexis Lee Amos, Bowling Green FFA; Brandon Appel, Edgerton FFA; Alissa Armstrong, Southeastern FFA; Rebecca I. Auck, Buckeye Central FFA; Corey James Baumann, Firelands FFA; Allen Beam, Xenia FFA; Brad Beck, Western Reserve FFA; Josh Beck, Northmor FFA; Ryan Lee Beegle, Southern FFA; Joshua J. Beeler, Woodmore FFA; Kyle Benschoter, Elmwood FFA; Corey Bettenbrock, Eastwood FFA; Jessica Bickel, Spencerville FFA; Nolan Bicker, Hillsdale FFA; Eric Billman, Norwayne FFA; Ryan Billman, Norwayne FFA; Naomi Grace Blankenship, Lynchburg-Clay FFA; Mallory Z. Bloom, Kenton FFA; Kaye Ann Bockbrader, Elmwood FFA; Jessica Bogard, Colonel Crawford FFA; Clayton Bondurant, Liberty Union FFA; Augustus Joseph Bonham, Miami Trace FFA; Mathew Boudinot, Northridge FFA; Kristy Bowen, Upper Sandusky FFA; Robert Breymier, Mississinawa Valley-MVCTC; John Bruner, Pettisville FFA;

American Degree Recipients

Derrick Buehner, Eaton-MVCTC FFA; Austin Burns, Fairbanks FFA; Joshua Burns, Upper Valley JVS FFA; Karen Burris, Eastwood FFA; Morgan R. Carey, River View FFA; Britney Carroll, Canal Winchester FFA; Nolan Chamberlain, Bowling Green FFA; Thomas R. Christy, Carey FFA; Kenneth Neal Claggett, South Central FFA; Hannah Clark, Millcreek-West Unity FFA; Clinton Cochran, Centerburg FFA; Krystal Coffman, Black River FFA; Lindsay P. Collart, Buckeye Trail FFA; Chris

Riverside FFA; Collin C. Etzkorn, Delphos FFA; Kayleen Ruth Faine, North Union FFA; David Shane Farmer, Ripley FFA; Landry Faulconer, Greenfield-McClain FFA; Lauren Fehlman, Wellington FFA; Shelby Fisher, Wapakoneta FFA; Brandi Fornshell, Eaton-MVCTC FFA; Megan Lynn Foster, Gallia Academy FFA; Matthew Frankart, Arcadia FFA; Amber Frazer, Mowrystown FFA; Alesta Fredritz, Upper Sandusky FFA; Zach J. Frobose, Eastwood FFA; Amy Jo



Colwell, Ayersville FFA; Joshua Cordle, Amanda-Clearcreek FFA; Katie Cottingim, Preble Shawnee FFA; Alysha Coverstone, Miami East-MVCTC FFA; Jennifer Covert, Sentinel Career Center FFA; Zach Crabtree, Alexander FFA; David B. Cramer, Buckeye Central FFA; Doug Cramer, Colonel Crawford FFA; Justin Crock, River Valley FFA; Carl Cronin, John Glenn FFA; Christopher Cronkleton, Benjamin Logan FFA; Christina Marie Crouch, Licking Valley FFA; Bryce William Darst, River Valley FFA; Amanda Dash, Buckeye FFA; Ryan Davis II, Amanda-Clearcreek FFA; Alison Deady, Greenon FFA; Matt DeMange, Versailles FFA; Caitlyn Dever, Johnstown-Monroe FFA; Jarrod Dicken, Logan FFA; John Dillon, Licking Valley FFA; Michelle C. Dippman, Eastwood FFA; Meghan R. Dunlap, Delphos FFA; Alison Dyer, Hillsdale FFA; Evan Earich, Westfall FFA; Erin Ebert, Hillsdale FFA; Grant H. Edenfield, Mowrystown FFA; Ryan Eggleton, River Valley FFA; Judd Ellinger, Amanda-Clearcreek FFA; Travis Elwer, Delphos FFA; Zac Elwer, Delphos FFA; Sara Emerich,

Frost, Miami Trace FFA; Hannah Fulk, Hillsdale FFA; Michelle Funk, Hillsdale FFA; Kelsey M. Gahler, Oak Harbor FFA; Matthew Gardner, Shelby FFA; Kirk Gasser, Norwayne FFA; Chris Gehret, Fort Recovery FFA; Christine Gelley, Mapleton FFA; Ashley Gibson, Sheridan FFA; Haley Gilmore, Cardington-Lincoln FFA; Hillary Gracy, Northwestern FFA; Kyle Gravatt, North Union FFA; Gary Gregg, Fredericktown FFA; Dustin A. Griffin, Mohawk FFA; Byron Gustin, Miami Trace FFA; Erin N. Hall, Northridge FFA; Lesley Rene' Hall, Northridge FFA; Rebecca Marie Hall, Western Brown FFA; Matthew Hankinson, Northridge FFA; Sarah Hann, Madison Plains FFA; Nikole Marie Hanna, West Holmes FFA; Sarah Harder, Oak Harbor FFA; Ethan Harr, West Liberty-Salem FFA; Derryck Hartong, Norwayne FFA; Lauren Harvey, Mt. Vernon FFA; Abigail Hastings, Hardin-Northern FFA; Leslie Hastings, Westfall FFA; Andrew Haun, Benjamin Logan FFA; Heather Heffelfinger, Hillsdale FFA; Christopher Heiss, Miami East-MVCTC FFA; Abigail Heltterbrand, Hillsboro FFA; Tyler

Herman, Edgerton FFA; Megan Herold, Spencerville FFA; Tyler Joseph Herringshaw, Penta Career Center FFA; Renee Hersherberger, Hiland FFA; Kristen Hetrick, Clyde FFA; Jay Hiett, Spencerville FFA; Staci Nicole Hiler, Tinora FFA; Karri Holcomb, Benjamin Logan FFA; Trent Holcomb, River Valley FFA; Victoria Lynn Hoop, Ridgewood FFA; Shannon Horn, Miami Trace FFA; Linsey M. Howell, West Holmes FFA; Kellie Howerton, Feliccity-Franklin FFA; Craig Hunter, River View FFA; Elizabeth James, Arcadia FFA; Samantha Jefferis, Barnesville FFA; Ryan Jensen, Liberty Union FFA; Dorinda Jessee, Fredericktown FFA; Dylan Johnson, Cardington-Lincoln FFA; Katie Johnson, Sheridan FFA; Silas Jolliff, Cardington-Lincoln FFA; Kalin Kale, Bowling Green FFA; Isaac Kauffman, Smithville FFA; Ellen Keck, Marysville FFA; Billy Keener, Mapleton FFA; Matthew Kelbly, Smithville FFA; Brenda Keltner, Lynchburg-Clay FFA; Allysen Kindred, Clyde FFA; Kyle Kissick, Western Brown FFA; Brian Klingenberg, Chief Logan FFA; Deanna Knapke, Parkway FFA; Lauren Elizabeth Knight, Harrison Central FFA; Nickolas Kocher, Colonel Crawford FFA; Tyler Koenig, Spencerville FFA; Emily Jane Krikke, South Central FFA; Tom Krumwiede, Firelands FFA; Ryan T. Lahna, Ridgewood FFA; Craig Lake, John Glenn FFA; Morgan Landis, River View FFA; Nicholle Lang, Upper Sandusky FFA; Trent Lasko, Meadowbrook FFA; Cody Lawless, Centerburg FFA; Olivia Ledley, Ridgemont FFA; Melinda Lauren Lee, Cardington-Lincoln FFA; Meghan Elizabeth Lechner, Buckeye Valley FFA; Beverly Lennartz, Fort Recovery FFA; Courtney Levering, Cardington-Lincoln FFA; Megan Limes, Otsego FFA; Brandon S. Livingston, Mississinawa Valley-MVCTC; Emily Lodwick, Western Brown FFA; Brittanie A. Logan, Carrollton FFA; Megan Lohstroh, Madison Plains FFA; W. Newt Long, London FFA; Wayde Looker, Highland FFA; Ned Lucius, Colonel Crawford FFA; Matthew Lutz, Colonel Crawford FFA; Joel Mantey, River Valley FFA; Dana G. Markley, Ridgewood FFA; Wesley Marling, John Glenn FFA; Jody Martindill, Fairfield Union FFA; Ryan Mast, Westfall FFA; Ben May, Liberty Union FFA; Tyler McConnell, Spencerville FFA; John McCormick, Liberty Union FFA; Margaret McCoy, Mt. Vernon FFA; Derek McCracken, Anna FFA; Jessica McKinley, Logan FFA; Beth Ann McMillian, East Clinton FFA; Ross Meeker, Southeastern Ross FFA; Bryan Melcher, Eastwood FFA; Cody Metzger, Sheridan FFA; Lori Meyer, Fort Loramie FFA; Seth Meyer, Fairlawn FFA; Rachel Mika, Caldwell FFA; Denin P. Miletto,



Triway FFA; Austin Miller, Liberty Union FFA; Corey R. Miller, United FFA; Eric Miller, Hiland FFA; Jennifer Miller, Wynford FFA; Trey Miller, Liberty Union FFA; Katy Monnier, Fairlawn FFA; Levi Alan Morrow, Morgan FFA; Jordan Morsheiser, Carrollton FFA; Kathleen Patricia Mosher, Cardington-Lincoln FFA; Patrick Mulholand, River Valley FFA; Jamie Musser, Cardington-Lincoln FFA; Brittani Nau, Shenandoah FFA; Betsy Neer, Mechanicsburg FFA; Aaron Michael Nelson, Morgan FFA; Eric Nichols, Buckeye Trail FFA; Eli Norris, East Knox FFA; Steven Norris, Mt. Vernon FFA; Kara Oberholzer, Alexander FFA; Kayla Olinger, Ridgewood FFA; Martin Overholt, West Holmes FFA; Cambell Parrish, Edon-Northwest FFA; Dustin Patterson, Ridgewood FFA; Adam Pattison, John Glenn FFA; Kyle Perry, Wapakoneta FFA; Sarah Kathleen Piper, Big Walnut FFA; Kacey Podolak, Otsego FFA; Matthew S. Poeppelman, Minster FFA; Keith Pohlman, Delphos FFA; Trina J. Pohlman, Delphos FFA; Joshua Porter, John Glenn FFA; Corey Prosser, Fredericktown FFA; Ethan Pulvermacher, Liberty Union FFA; Logan Pyers, Miami East-MVCTC FFA; Ann Louise Randall, Urbana FFA; Cody Raudebaugh, Hillsdale FFA; Cody Rausch, Fairbanks FFA; Jennifer Reed, Canal Winchester FFA; Cody Rees, Benjamin Logan FFA; Garth Regula, Ridgewood FFA; Greg Reinhart, Mohawk FFA; Michelle Reinsmith, Wilmington FFA; James Rice, Benjamin Logan FFA; Jason Rinker, Van Buren FFA; Vanessa R. Rischman, Oak Harbor FFA; Lauren Rode, Delphos FFA; Jonni Rohr, Mapleton FFA; Matt Ross, North Union FFA; Kayla Rossiter, Cardington-Lincoln FFA; Ben Rossman, Colonel Crawford FFA; Travis Roush, River Valley FFA; Charles Rowe, Fayetteville FFA; Kevin Royal, Fayetteville FFA; Andrew Rupp, Archbold FFA; Emily Russell, Athens FFA; Ashley Sams, Lynchburg-Clay FFA; Amy Christina Saylor, Firelands FFA; Kyle Matthew Schirm, Northwestern FFA; Clinton G. Schlarb, Ridgewood FFA; Sara R. Schmitz, Mississinawa Valley-MVCTC; Kim Schnipke, Elmwood FFA; Kimberlyn Schott, Ridgewood FFA; Cyndi Schulz, River Valley FFA; Austin Schwartz, Spencerville FFA; Kelly Seger, Fort Loramie FFA; Elizabeth Ann Shade, Graham FFA; Kevin Shaeffer, Liberty Union FFA;

American Degree Recipients

Samantha J. Shaffer, Elmwood FFA; **Stephanie Shaffer**, Eastwood FFA; **Jessica Jewel Shanahan**, Mechanicsburg FFA; **Brittany Shears**, Cardington-Lincoln FFA; **Emily Shears**, Warren FFA; **Jordan Shepherd**, Benjamin Logan FFA; **Johnathon Sherman**, Western Reserve FFA; **Ethan Shriner**, Fairfield Union FFA; **Ryan Sieftring**, St. Henry FFA; **David Siesel**, Margaretta FFA; **Edward J. Skinner**, Sheridan FFA; **Paul Michael Skolmutch**, West Holmes FFA; **Otis Sloan**, Four County JVS FFA; **Melissa Snyder**, John Glenn FFA; **Zachary Sollars**, Miami Trace FFA; **Jamie Speiser**, Edgerton

FFA; **Cory Wagner**, Bowling Green FFA; **Jerilyn Wagner**, Seneca East FFA; **Devon Ward**, Big Walnut FFA; **Brennan E. Warrick**, South Central FFA; **Ethan Watkins**, Elida FFA; **James Weaver**, Liberty Union FFA; **Amanda Werling**, Miami East-MVCTC FFA; **Ben Wiemken**, Archbold FFA; **Austin Wigal**, Buckeye Valley FFA; **Travis Wiles**, Fairview FFA; **Mary Wilhelm**, Patrick Henry FFA; **Thomas Will**, Fort Recovery FFA; **Chelsea Williamson**, Wayne Trace FFA; **Casey Wilson**, Fairbanks FFA; **John Winger**, Mississinawa Valley-MVCTC; **Ethan Wirick**, Fairview FFA; **Matthew R.**



FFA; **Meggan Spencer**, Hiland FFA; **Tim Spiess**, Pettisville FFA; **Thomas Spoerl**, Otsego FFA; **Dean Stacy**, Old Fort FFA; **Kayla Starner**, Sheridan FFA; **Jacob L. Stearns**, Elmwood FFA; **Lewis James Stearns**, Elmwood FFA; **Linda Steingass**, Buckeye FFA; **Nicole Steinmetz**, Bellevue FFA; **Megan M. Stenger**, Union Local FFA; **Shannon K. Stewart**, Elmwood FFA; **Bryce Stilwill**, Pettisville FFA; **Arthur Stoller**, Wayne Trace FFA; **Alex G. Straley**, Paulding FFA; **Timothy Strausbaugh**, Elmwood FFA; **Reed Strawser**, Teays Valley FFA; **Alyssa Swinehart**, Fairfield Union FFA; **Emily Teet**, Anthony Wayne FFA; **Kelly Thien**, Fort Recovery FFA; **John Thomas**, Northridge FFA; **John Tonjes Jr.**, Fairview FFA; **Seth Tschanen**, Upper Sandusky FFA; **Lacey Uhler**, Triway FFA; **Mark Underwood**, Liberty Union FFA; **Kayla Valdinger**, Harrison Central FFA; **James N. Van Pelt III**, Wauseon FFA; **Clint A. Vance**, Paulding FFA; **Bryant Vandemark**, Ayersville FFA; **Brittany M. Vanmetre**, Delphos FFA; **Wesley Vanscoy**, Ridgemont FFA; **Miranda Vearil**, Fayetteville FFA; **Garrett Adam Verburb**, South Central FFA; **Tessa Vesco**, Fairbanks

Wirth, Spencerville FFA; **Evan J. Wood**, Gallia Academy FFA; **Chelsea Woods**, River Valley FFA; **Hannah Marie Worthington**, Ridgewood FFA; **Lisa M. Zavesky**, Northwestern FFA; **Jonathan Zucker**, River Valley FFA; **Whitney Zumberger**, Anna FFA; **Derek R. Zyski**, Elmwood FFA

North Dakota: **Janolyn Aichele**, Beulah FFA; **Adam Bettenhausen**, Wishek FFA; **Karly Brummond**, Granville FFA; **Austin Dockter**, Medina FFA; **Dylan Dockter**, Medina FFA; **Justin Fjellanger**, Rugby FFA; **Courtney Foss**, Maddock A.S. Gibbns FFA; **Travis A. Fritel**, Rugby FFA; **Daniel Glynn**, Oakes/Sargent Central FFA; **Nicholas Haberman**, Wyndmere FFA; **Cassandra Hanson**, Enderlin FFA; **Michael Heinrich**, Medina FFA; **August Heupel**, Medina FFA; **Ray Hoff**, Richland 44 FFA; **Addison Hofmann**, Medina FFA; **Scott D. Jordheim**, Wahpeton FFA; **Chase Julson**, Wahpeton FFA; **Travis Lennie**, New Salem FFA; **Eric Mack**, Medina FFA; **Tyrell Douglas Martin**, Killdeer FFA; **Steve Mattern**, Rugby FFA; **Audrey Nash**, Richland 44 FFA; **Erica Odermann**, Belfield FFA; **Brandon B. Oksendahl**, Rugby FFA; **Ryan Piatz**, Napoleon FFA; **Monica**

Pritchett, Rugby FFA; **Katy Jo Reis**, Medina FFA; **Kyle Rzaszutak**, Carrington FFA; **Caitlin R. Simek**, Oakes/Sargent Central FFA; **Kami Slaughter**, Medina FFA; **Nicholas Smith**, Carrington FFA; **Darin Spelhaug**, Wyndmere FFA; **Aaron Steckler**, Mandan FFA; **Michael Tufte**, Carrington FFA; **Robert Vallie**, Richland 44 FFA; **Jenny Vandehoven**, Carrington FFA; **Marshall Viland**, Richland 44 FFA; **Steven Voeller**, Rugby FFA; **Travis Wettlaufer**, Bottineau FFA; **Margo Woodall**, Granville FFA

North Carolina: **Alaina Airheart**, Mount Pleasant FFA; **Ainsley Alessandrini**, West Rowan FFA; **Tiffany Brooke Alford**, Southern Nash FFA; **Matthew W. Barnhill**, West Columbus FFA; **Jay Jennings Blackwelder**, Wake Forest Rolesville FFA; **Blake Bradshaw**, Harrells FFA; **Kayla Daniell Britt**, Lumberton FFA; **Taylor Bryan**, West Rowan FFA; **Leah Collins**, West Rowan FFA; **Benjamin Thomas Davis**, South Lenoir FFA; **Jonathan William Dent**, Lumberton FFA; **Alexandra Dunnagan**, Midway FFA; **Tyler Gray Foyles**, South Lenoir FFA; **Brittany Rae Hagins**, Lumberton FFA; **Bayne Edward Hinshaw**, Southwestern Randolph FFA; **Carrie Elizabeth Hoffner**, South Rowan FFA; **Jordan L. Jackson**, Southern Nash FFA; **Garin Kluttz**, West Rowan FFA; **Alyssa Koehler**, Southwestern Randolph FFA; **James Hunter Langdon**, South Johnston FFA; **Nathan Griffin Laughlin**, Southwestern Randolph FFA; **Gary Alexander Lewis**, Lumberton FFA; **Leigha McIntyre**, West Rowan FFA; **Brandon Joshua McKee**, West Columbus FFA; **Cody Travis Mercer**, Lumberton FFA; **Mathew Miller**, Lumberton FFA; **Edward Franklin Olive**, South Johnston FFA; **Gary S. Pandolfi Jr.**, Mountain Heritage FFA; **Brandon Kendall Parker**, South Johnston FFA; **Ryan L. Parker**, South Johnston FFA; **Gabrielle Poe**, Providence Grove FFA; **Joseph Ranager**, Lumberton FFA; **Kimberly Alyse Richardson**, Southwestern Randolph FFA; **Elizabeth Ann Ritch**, Southwestern Randolph FFA; **Mark Clayton Rouse**, South Lenoir FFA; **Victoria Sue Sawyer**, Camden FFA; **Ashton Schleicher**, West Rowan FFA; **Caroline Anderson Sheffield**, Southwestern Randolph FFA; **Nicholas Glenn Smith**, South Lenoir FFA; **Ashleigh Nicole Stephens**, Lumberton FFA; **Bobby A. Stocks Jr.**, Southern Nash FFA; **Jada Taylor**, Lumberton FFA; **Joshua Carson Teeple**, Charles D. Owen FFA; **Garrett Teeter**, West Rowan FFA; **Lauren Elizabeth Vann**, Midway FFA; **Justin Taylor Waddell**, West Columbus FFA; **John Austin Walton**, Lumberton FFA; **Laura Watson**, West Rowan FFA



New York: **Luisa Fernanda Correa**, John Bowne FFA; **Alyssa Cresswell**, Madison FFA; **Ariel Cyr**, Tri-Valley FFA; **Danielle Dapson**, Madison FFA; **Danielle Darby**, Tri-Valley FFA; **Rebecca Deveau-Greene**, Salem FFA; **Cathryn Dymond**, Tri-Valley FFA; **Samuel Fessenden**, Southern Cayuga FFA; **Nathalyn Forget**, Tri-Valley FFA; **Katrina Frost**, Tri-Valley FFA; **Chloe Laura Fuentes**, John Bowne FFA; **Garth Fuess**, Madison FFA; **Jacqueline Geoghan**, Warwick Valley FFA; **Thomas Hicks**, Madison FFA; **Emily M. Hough**, Tri-Valley FFA; **Peter H. Martens**, Penn Yan FFA; **Keith McArthur**, Tri-Valley FFA; **Christopher O'Connor**, South Jefferson FFA; **Regina Perry**, Pioneer FFA; **Ryan Pisiak**, Madison FFA; **Corey Reed**, South Jefferson FFA; **Kyle R. Russ**, Stockbridge Valley FFA; **Danielle Eve Marie Sanok**, Tri-Valley FFA; **Nicole L. Santangelo**, Cuba Rushford FFA; **Christopher Smith**, Pine Plains FFA; **Garrett Stanley**, Schoharie Valley FFA; **Spencer Staring**, Madison FFA; **Alesha Stehlin**, Tri-Valley FFA; **Dakota Townsend**, Canastota FFA; **Jennifer Watson**, Tri-Valley FFA; **Katie Wratten**, Madison FFA; **Gralat Xue**, John Bowne FFA; **Aaron Zehyer**, Pine Plains FFA

New Mexico: **Brian Aerts**, Socorro FFA; **Dusty Anderson**, Artesia FFA; **Kristi Benedict**, Dexter FFA; **Ryan Best**, Elida FFA; **Kadee Grubbs**, Moriarty FFA; **Holly Harrison**, Texico FFA; **Wry Hurt**, Deming FFA; **Jonathan Koenig**, Las Cruces FFA; **Cooper McDaniel**, Lovington FFA; **Chea Moore**, Animas FFA; **Amaris Newkirk**, Des Moines FFA; **Katy Rosencrans**, Las Cruces FFA; **Sara Rush**, Capitan FFA; **Bo Simpson**, Las Cruces FFA; **Dulcie Sultemeier**, Corona FFA

New Jersey: **Mark Charles Boyko**, Middlesex Piscataway FFA; **Jeffrey K. Bray**, Phillipsburg FFA; **Ashley R. Frazell**, Newton FFA; **Gary Paul Galgoci**, Union County FFA; **Annaliese J. Gancarz**, Northern Burlington FFA; **Eric J. Nelson**, Newton FFA; **John Parsons**, Newton FFA; **Brianne Morgan Scholl**, Hackettstown FFA; **Jessica Lyn Voll**, Phillipsburg FFA; **Keely Weinberger**, Cape May Tech FFA

Nevada: **Dustan Birrer**, Wells FFA; **Amber Friesen**, Carson Valley FFA; **Casey Gallagher**, Silver Sage FFA; **Mason Garrett**, Wells FFA; **Michelle Gibbons**, Carson Valley

American Degree Recipients

FFA; Maggie Howell, Wells FFA; Melissa Kern, Ruby Mountain FFA; Tayler Landa, Ruby Mountain FFA; Jacob Nutting, Ruby Mountain FFA; Mallary Paoli, Ruby Mountain FFA; Shawn Pearson, Wells FFA; Dillon Rose, Wells FFA; Brenna Wright, Diamond Mountain FFA

Nebraska: Grant Aden, Syracuse FFA; Jared Daniel Aden, Eustis-Farnam FFA; Josh Albright, Ravenna FFA; Jordan Rae Anderson, Burwell FFA; Kara A. Anderson, Creighton FFA; Emily Arkfeld, Lourdes Central Catholic FFA; Lance D. Atwater, Blue Hill FFA; Thomas Bader, Centennial FFA; Brent Bartak, Ainsworth FFA; Logan J. Bechtel, Heartland FFA; Quinn R. Beecham, Palmyra FFA; Hannah D. Birt, York FFA; Cody Marcus Bland, Blue Hill FFA; Robert Blume, Southwest FFA; Preston W. Bolte, McCool Junction FFA; Natalie Bromm, Oakland-Craig FFA; Kyle J. Brozek, Creighton FFA; Samantha R. C. Bryant, Cody-Kilgore FFA; Karen J. Buettner, Northwest FFA; Gregory Buller, Heartland FFA; April L. Bunn, North Bend FFA; Austin S. Burg, Conestoga FFA; Colt James Campbell, Ashland-Greenwood FFA; Hallie R. Casto, Northwest FFA; Chase Gunner Chrisman, McCool Junction FFA; Ryan W. Clausen, Twin River FFA; Christina Condreay, Lakeview FFA; Adam Crocker, Southwest FFA; Joe Culver, Southern Valley FFA; Zachariah T. Czarnick, Twin River FFA; Jennifer Daffer, Southwest FFA; Derek Dam, Logan View FFA; Alicia Dather, Bloomfield FFA; Allyson Dather, Bloomfield FFA; Katelyn A. Dendinger, Hartington FFA; Jesse Deterding, Southwest FFA; Amanda Docter, Norris FFA; Alissa Mae Doerr, Creighton FFA; Mickey Joe Doerr, Bloomfield FFA; Richard Domogalla, Stanton FFA; Matthew Drudik, Sutton FFA; Jaimee Marene Easterday, Eustis-Farnam FFA; Angela Marie Ehlers, York FFA; Tyler Engstrom, Lakeview FFA; William Epp, Heartland FFA; Brandon Essink, Syracuse FFA; Hannah Fadschild, Lakeview FFA; Amber R. Frauen, Northwest FFA; Katie Frenzen, Fullerton FFA; Grant Friesen, High Plains FFA; Tanya Gadeken, Johnson County Central FFA; Danny Goeden, Hartington FFA; Cody L. Goertzen, Heartland FFA; Matthew Goff, Falls City FFA; Lisa Grabowski, Ravenna FFA; Gary Griess, Sutton FFA; Joseph Guenther, Pender FFA; Craig Jeffrey Guilkey, Superior FFA; Alan Haag, Southwest FFA; Denton Haag, Southwest FFA; Dalen Daniel Hall, McCool Junction FFA; Garrett Hanefeldt, Creighton FFA; Sam Hansen, Tekamah-Herman FFA; Josh Heikes, Hartington FFA; Shane Hennessy, Waverly FFA; Trevor J. Hilger, Blair FFA; Megan Himmelberg, Blue Hill FFA; Logan Hipke, Stuart FFA; Aliese Hoffman, Red Cloud FFA; Gavin

Jager, Ravenna FFA; Andrew D. Jarecki, Twin River FFA; Natalie Johnson, Oakland-Craig FFA; Phillip Johnson, Central City FFA; Cory R. Johnston, Johnson County Central FFA; Timothy Jordan, Loup County FFA; Tad Judge, West Holt FFA; Blake Kai, Pender FFA; Brenn Kai, Pender FFA; Calvin J. Katz, Fairbury FFA; Daniel Kent, Pender FFA; Tanner Kerchal, Wauneta-Palisade FFA; Janet Klawonn, Hampton FFA; Kelsey Klute, Hampton FFA; Dustin Knabe, Conestoga FFA; Holly M. Kneifl, Hartington FFA; Jacqueline Knobbe, West Point FFA; Hillary Jayne Korinek, Wilber-Clatonia FFA; Brandon Kreifels, Lourdes Central FFA; Adam Krueger, Plainview FFA; Kelsey Kumm, Bloomfield FFA; Emma R. Lammers, Hartington FFA; Megan Lammers, Hartington FFA; Ryan Lammers, Red Cloud FFA; Tucker E. Lammers, Hartington FFA; Jason Lemkau, Sutton FFA; Candace M. Long, Ravenna FFA; Autumn Marie Longo, Creek Valley FFA; Josh Maurer, Lakeview FFA; Boone W. McAfee, Leigh-Clarkson FFA; Ashton Meints, Tri County FFA; Tyler Meirose, Hartington FFA; Miles Metheny, Hartington FFA; James Meusch, Stuart FFA; Cady L. Millage, Hartington FFA; Sterling Millard, Milford FFA; Ryan Miller, Plainview FFA; Kelsie Musil, Wilber-Clatonia FFA; Seth Musil, Ravenna FFA; Brittany Neibauer, Stuart FFA; Alan Nelson, Sutton FFA; Rachel Nerud, Bayard FFA; Lisa Niedermeyer, Johnson County Central FFA; Jacob Niewohner, Lyons-Decatur Northeast FFA; Sarah Nolan, Red Cloud FFA; Justin Nollette, Cody-Kilgore FFA; Joshua Scott Olberding, Stuart FFA; Samantha Overturf, Sutton FFA; Sydney Paige, Northwest FFA; Cody Pedulla, Scottsbluff FFA; Alivia Suzanne Peters, McCool Junction FFA; Karla R. Pick, Hartington FFA; Kelsy D. Pick, Hartington FFA; Steven Pierce, Milford FFA; Joelle Pillen, Lakeview FFA; Abby C. Poulas, Logan View FFA; Katarina Race, Wheeler Central FFA; Danielle Rador, Blair FFA; Bethany Reese, Stanton FFA; Elizabeth Reimers, Centura FFA; Sean M. Ridgeway, Bayard FFA; Dalton Ringland, Palmyra FFA; Kelsey Rucker, Franklin FFA; Brandi Roehrs, Hampton FFA; Cary A. Ryan, West Holt FFA; Danielle Saathoff, Franklin FFA; Kara Schildt, Milford FFA; Vanessa Nichole Schilke, Imperial FFA; Taylor Schlautman, Sutton FFA; Joseph Schumacher, Ainsworth FFA; Ty Jacob Schurr, Eustis-Farnam FFA; Talon Scott, Ansley FFA; Alan Setlik, Ord FFA; Nichole Setlik, Ord FFA; Brett A. Sheffield, Shickley FFA; Jason Sherman, Heartland FFA; Jamie Siebert, Hampton FFA; Ashlie Michelle Slatt, Oakland-Craig FFA; Matthew Smith, Pender FFA; Travis Smith, Wheeler Central FFA; Monte Snider, Wheeler Central FFA; Shari M. Spilinek, Elba FFA;

Tyler Ross Spilinek, Elba FFA; Derek Stamp, Heartland FFA; Brandon C. Starkey, St. Paul FFA; Andrew James Steinhauer, Rock County FFA; Shelby Rae Sterup, Osceola FFA; Ryan James Stewart, Rock County FFA; Cody Wayne Straight, Shickley FFA; BriAnn Strobe, Creighton FFA;



Matthew P. Sudbeck, Hartington FFA; Kerry Swanson, Imperial FFA; Katie Swett, Wheeler Central FFA; Jesse Thoene, Hartington FFA; Ryan C. Timmerman, Southwest FFA; Spencer B. Trapp, Superior FFA; Kody Urwiller, Ravenna FFA; Adam Venteicher, Pierce FFA; Ashley Vlasin, Crete FFA; Dwayne Wall, Hampton FFA; Matt Wallen, Palmyra FFA; Jenny Lynn Warren, Heartland FFA; Kalby Wehrbein, Conestoga FFA; Colton Wehrs, Milford FFA; Alma Louise Wellensiek, Syracuse FFA; Jessica L. Welsh, West Holt FFA; Dani Went, Lakeview FFA; Bradley Wetovick, Fullerton FFA; Sarah Wheeldon, Schuyler FFA; Brant Wichman, Pender FFA; Shelby Kay Wigle, Ashland-Greenwood FFA; Erik D. Williams, Centura FFA; Randy Charles Wilmes, Creighton FFA; Kristin Kay Witte, Logan View FFA; Courtney Woods, Kimball FFA; Allison Zabel, Tekamah-Herman FFA; Austin Ziegenbein, Ashland-Greenwood FFA; Luke Zinnell, Ravenna FFA

Montana: Colton Allen, Melstone FFA; Austin Buzanowski, Huntley Project FFA; Conner J. Castleberry, Carter County FFA; Kayla Cheff, Missoula FFA; Shelby Lynn Dalke, Huntley Project FFA; Heidi Dommer, Conrad FFA; Jesse R. Dowse, Miles City FFA; Samantha Dyer, Deer Lodge FFA; Josie Evenson, Flathead FFA; Richard Louis Farrar, Missoula

FFA; Karissa Floerchinger, Cascade FFA; Nathan Foulger, Miles City FFA; Jared Franck, Park FFA; Miranda Leigh Gabel, Huntley Project FFA; Greg Goggins, Shepherd FFA; Kate Hall, Park FFA; Reta Renee Hatton, Flathead FFA; Alyssa Hjelvik, Melstone FFA; Taylor Hoff, Miles City FFA; Brian Lee Hogemark, Big Timber FFA; Brendon Jerke, Miles City FFA; Scott Johnson, Plentywood FFA; Emily Kading, Shepherd FFA; Cindy Kern, Joliet FFA; Lauren Klempel, Joliet FFA; John Kuntz, Miles City FFA; Jordan R. Larson, Miles City FFA; Ben Lynn, Shields Valley FFA; Rikki Lynn Murrill, Cascade FFA; Rob Newton, Joliet FFA; Emily A. Peters, Belfry FFA; Amanda S. Riter, Broadus FFA; Ethan Taylor Schaff, Sidney FFA; Kipp Schwarzcrock, Plentywood FFA; Ike John Shaw, Huntley Project FFA; William Sparks, Plevna FFA; Emma Sprott, Shepherd FFA; Kellan Standley, Missoula FFA; Ty Stender, Ruby Valley FFA; Tyler Stutterheim, Shields Valley FFA; Trevor Sunvison, Park FFA; Tyrel Toennis, Miles City FFA; Darren M. Torczon, Belfry FFA; Nicole R. Willmore, Roy FFA; Michael Young, Plentywood FFA

Missouri: Andrea M. Adair, Boonville FFA; Madison Adkins, Savannah FFA; Megan Adkison, Hamilton FFA; Amelia Alger, Branson FFA; Rebekah Allen, Summersville FFA; Andrew Alan Alton, North



American Degree Recipients

Callaway FFA; Emily Anderson, California FFA; Sierra Angell, Centralia FFA; Landon Aubuchon, Clopton FFA; Emily Ann Augur, Smithville FFA; Michael K. Bachmann, Perryville FFA; Traci Lynn Baggs, Higginsville FFA; Cristin R. Bailey, Richland FFA; Taylor Bailey, Eldon FFA; Patrick Ball, Neosho FFA; Emily O. Bardot, St. Clair FFA; Allison Barker, Clopton FFA; April Barker, Crest Ridge FFA; Ashley Baugh, Wellsville-Middletown FFA; Jonathan F. Baumann, Savannah FFA; Blake A. Beahler, Savannah FFA; Julianne Beck, Chillicothe FFA; Garren C. Bellis, Lex-La-Ray FFA; Alex Benson, Pleasant Hope FFA; Zack Berry, Miller FFA; Ally S. Bettels, Butler FFA; Cody Bettis, El Dorado Springs FFA; Jessica Rae Birchler, Perryville FFA; David Matthew Blevins, Bernie FFA; Lorryn K. Bolte, Bowling Green FFA; Emily Borgmann, Steelville FFA; Samantha Bowne, Centralia FFA; Ashley Boyd, Van-Far FFA; Megan Boyd, Pleasant Hill FFA; Tiffany Nicole Boyer, Union FFA; McKenzie Brackett, Lebanon FFA; Aaron M. Brandt, Linn FFA; Bridget L. Brassfield, Koshkonong FFA; Tyler Breshears, Brunswick FFA; Kelsay Brown, Centralia FFA; Clark Broyles, East Newton FFA; Emily Marie Brundick, Fatima FFA; Katie Buckler, Princeton FFA; Leslie Burns, California FFA; Brooke Cadle, Nichols Career Center FFA; Brian Caldwell, Sullivan FFA; Ian R. Caley, South Harrison FFA; Allison Campbell, Aurora FFA; Kathryn Campbell, Centralia FFA; Caylen Cantrell, Plato FFA; Clinton R. Capps, Salem FFA; Jennifer Carlin, East Newton FFA; Cassidy Carneal, Skyline FFA; Stephanie Carpenter, Braymer FFA; Katti Carroll, South Shelby FFA; Meagan Carroll, Eldon FFA; David Chaney, Trenton FFA; Tyler Choate, Pleasant Hope FFA; Andrew Christian, Northwest Technical FFA; Amanda Dawn Clark, East Newton FFA; Justin S. Coale, Ash Grove FFA; Michael Coe, North Shelby FFA; Elizabeth Coffelt, Branson FFA; Katie Colley, Miller FFA; Codey L. Collins, Willow Springs FFA; Cory Collins, Macks Creek FFA; Preston A. Collins, Willow Springs FFA; Chad A. Cook, Willard FFA; Shane Cooper, Chillicothe FFA; Elizabeth Crane, Troy FFA; Lisa Crawford, Cameron FFA; Kelly Critten, Gallatin FFA; Alicia Croney, Moberly FFA; Joseph Micheal Cross, Charleston-Danforth FFA; Ethan Cumpton, Adrian FFA; Kaylyn Dalbom, Houston FFA; Heather Danforth, Cass Career Center FFA; Trey Daniel, Greenfield FFA; Austin L. Davis, Perryville FFA; Heidi Davis, Paris FFA; Rachel L. Daw, Clark County FFA; Jason Deppe, Van-Far FFA; Amber Dern, Koshkonong FFA; Paige DeVorss, Trenton FFA; Hannah Diederich, Washington FFA; Dane Diehl, Butler FFA; Tyler Dietzschold, Chillicothe FFA; Connor Dignan, Worth County FFA; Logan Dignan, Worth County FFA; Sara L. Dillon, Higginsville FFA; Augustus C.



Dodson, Walnut Grove FFA; Shawnee Dravenstott, Richmond FFA; Jacob Matthew Drury, Higginsville FFA; Zachariah Dudley, Pleasant Hope FFA; Ellen Nicole Dunagan, Cass Career Center FFA; Jacob Duncan, Northeast Vernon County FFA; Jodi Dunkle, Lex-La-Ray FFA; Brent Dye, Paris FFA; Brittany Early, Leeton FFA; RaeAnne Eckert, Jamesport FFA; Seth D. Ehlers, El Dorado Springs FFA; Alex Ellison, Clopton FFA; Courtney Endicott, Sarcoxie FFA; Colene Estes, Richmond FFA; Alisa Evans, Hamilton FFA; Justin Evans, Hamilton FFA; John Famuliner, Carrollton ACC FFA; Jessica Farrell, Northwest Technical FFA; Jennifer Lynn Fennwald, Fatima FFA; Avery Ryan Fisher, Eldon FFA; Darrin F. Fox, Salisbury FFA; Jason Ellis Frieden, Lamar FFA; Andrew R. Friedrich, Lex-La-Ray FFA; Morgan Fuehring, Sweet Springs FFA; Whitney Johnne Gabathuler, Hermann FFA; Daniel Garnett, East Newton FFA; Chase Garretson, Humansville FFA; Jacob M. Garrett, Ashland FFA; Johnna Garrett, East Buchanan FFA; Lauren A. Geiger, Mound City FFA; Ryan Gettle, Pleasant Hope FFA; Jeffrey D. Gibson, East Buchanan FFA; Wyatt Gibson, North Harrison FFA; Amanda Gilbert, Montgomery County FFA; Michael Gillum, Putnam County FFA; Christopher Goedken, South Nodaway FFA; Will Goodspeed, Northwest Technical FFA; Haley Goostree, Wheaton FFA; Joshua Edward Graver, Bowling Green FFA; Melissa Gray, Owensville FFA; Austin Greer, Richland FFA; Christopher Grier, East Buchanan FFA; Adam Griffin, Carrollton ACC FFA; Randall Grisham, Dadeville FFA; Trevor Griswold, Eldon FFA; Ryan Groce, Eldon FFA; Joshua Scott Gross, Montgomery County FFA; Brandon Scott Groves, Charleston-Danforth FFA; Kyle R. Grumke, Wellington-Napoleon FFA; Cody Hahn, Eugene

FFA; Carah Beth Hart, Carrollton ACC FFA; Mason Hartley, Fair Grove FFA; Kyle Harvey, South Shelby FFA; Clayton Hawkins, North Shelby FFA; Acacia Hays, Monroe City FFA; Chase Heath, Moberly FFA; Greg Hedges, Milan FFA; Brittany Hedrick, Marshall FFA; Jacob Hees, Eldon FFA; Dani Heimsoth, Santa Fe FFA; Kaleb Heintz, Belle FFA; Matt Hellmann, Washington FFA; Jacki Hembree, Seneca FFA; Jordan Henegar, Liberal FFA; Abby Henke, Princeton FFA; Christopher J. Henning, Odessa FFA; Cody Henry, Richmond FFA; Jessica Hickman, Stockton FFA; Paige Christine Highley, Cass Career Center FFA; Nathan Hillard, South Shelby FFA; Renee L. Hinkebein, Farmington FFA; Steven Hoaglin, Pleasant Hope FFA; Kimberly M. Hodges, Macks Creek FFA; Christine Hoerrmann, Green City FFA; Kenneth Hogan, Richmond FFA; Douglas Holdmeyer, Washington FFA; Hayley Ann Honeycutt, Thayer FFA; Hannah N. Howlett, Richland FFA; Kendra Hughes, North Andrew FFA; Shelby Hughes, North Andrew FFA; Taylor Huhmann, Tipton FFA; Heather Humphrey, Albany FFA; Allison Hunt, Worth County FFA; Mitch Huntley, Polo FFA; Hayden Hunziker, Knox County FFA; Reba K. Hurst, Nevada FFA; Bailey Huston, Jamesport FFA; Marie English, California FFA; Kyle Dean Jackson, Charleston-Danforth FFA; Tiffany James, Pleasant Hope FFA; Chelsea Jeffries, Green City FFA; Courtney Jenkins, Pierce City FFA; Jade Nichole Jenkins, Marshall FFA; Paige Jenkins, Pleasant Hope FFA; Alexis Jennings, Ozark FFA; Kielly Jewell, Hamilton FFA; Duell Johnson, Clopton FFA; Heather Johnson, Princeton FFA; Meredith Jones, Chillicothe FFA; Andrew L. Kassebaum, Hamilton FFA; Rebekah L. Kasten, Perryville FFA; Kelsey L. Keeney, Owensville FFA; Sarah Kegley, Wellington-Napoleon FFA;



Katie Kelley, Pierce City FFA; Dahn Kemp, North Shelby FFA; Stefanie Kincanon, Green City FFA; Casteel Kirk, Skyline FFA; Brandon Lee Kliethermes, Eldon FFA; Laurie Korff, Sarcoxie FFA; Lesleigh Kraft, Lewis County FFA; Cody Kuykendall, Clopton FFA; Charles Laber, Butler FFA; Brooke Lair, Bakersfield FFA; Krystin Lakebrink, Union FFA; Kayla Lamb, McDonald County FFA; Christa M. Lawton, Owensville FFA; Ashley Dawn Layman, Richmond FFA; Lindsey Marie Lehman, Bolivar FFA; Kyle Lewellen, Slater FFA; Jarred M. Lewis, Diamond FFA; Brittany D. Lindner, Pierce City FFA; Brett Elaine Littleton, Keytesville FFA; Sarah Littrell, Union FFA; Sarah E. Loehner, Fatima FFA; Rachel Elizabeth Longan, California FFA; Logan Lowery, Puxico FFA; Aaron Lowrey, Trenton FFA; Cody Michael Luke, Stanberry FFA; Geoffrey Lysinger, Lakeland FFA; Heather Ann Main, Bucklin FFA; Bethany Markway, Eugene FFA; Jenilee Martin, Jasper FFA; Kylie Mattke, Smithville FFA; Josh Maxwell, Brookfield FFA; Melissa Ann McBride, Centralia FFA; Keely McCarty, South Shelby FFA; Quentin McConkey, Albany FFA; Tessa McCormack, Higginsville FFA; Paige McCrory, Clopton FFA; Whitley M. McDaniel, Willow Springs FFA; Arby McGhee, Couch FFA; Steven E. McGinley, Maysville FFA; Melissa McMullin, Leeton FFA; Zachary McNeill, Richland FFA; Ryan Meeks, Stockton FFA; Troy Meinke, Princeton FFA; Kourtne Messner, Albany FFA; Mallory Meyer, Sweet Springs FFA; Elizabeth Miles, North Shelby FFA; Eli Zane Mills, Richland FFA; Braydon Alan Minear, Putnam County FFA; Chloe Cheyenne Mitchell, West Nodaway FFA; Julissa Monnig, Slater FFA; Laura Elizabeth Mooney, Fredericktown FFA; Nathan Mooneyham, Paris FFA; Erik Moore, Lebanon FFA; Garrett Moore, Higginsville FFA; Mitchell C. Moore, Mount Vernon FFA; Taylor Moreland, Cass Career Center FFA; Stephanie Morgan, Lamar FFA; Megan Mueller, Eldon FFA; Meredith Rose Muenks, Fatima FFA; Jordyn Musick, Tuscumbia FFA; Shane Myers, Logan-Rogersville FFA; Laura Neislein, Perryville FFA; Jacob Nelson, Campbell FFA; Abigail Essie Nicholson, Fredericktown FFA; Colby Nieder, Miami FFA; Beth Nordwald, Warrenton FFA; Sean Michael O'Brien, Elsberry FFA; Brittany Ogle, Sarcoxie FFA; Deaven Omohundro, Clopton FFA; Mace Ormsby, Princeton FFA; Chelsea Lynn Parrigton, Pierce City FFA; Caroline Pelton, Cameron FFA; MaryAnn Percival, Skyline FFA;

American Degree Recipients

Kate Peters, Santa Fe FFA; Kevin Petree, Tipton FFA; Allison Pettit, Aurora FFA; Sarah Pfeiffer, Jackson FFA; Jacob Tyler Dewey Pierce, McDonald County FFA; Ian Pierson, South Holt FFA; Samantha Piezuch, Sullivan FFA; Suzanne Nicole Pitts, Kirksville FFA; Rachael Pollard, Princeton FFA; Kaitlyn Polley, North Harrison FFA; Bailey Pope, Plattsburg FFA; Benjamin Potter, California FFA; Earl Pummill, Willard FFA; Elizabeth Marie Queathem, Montgomery County FFA; Angela Quick, Chillicothe FFA; Benjamin Radcliff, Chillicothe FFA; Justin Rawlings, Stockton FFA; Michael H. Reinkemeyer, Linn FFA; Chris R. Rexrode, Willow Springs FFA; Callie Rhoades, Elsberry FFA; Ethan Richardson, Milan FFA; Chelsi Ridenour, Wheaton FFA; Frank Lloyd Roberts, Smithville FFA; Josie Roberts, Greenfield FFA; Errin Robertson, Crest Ridge FFA; Caleb Rodabaugh, Lakeland FFA; Cole Lee Rodgers, Montgomery County FFA; Joshua Daniel Roehrs, Union FFA; Melissa Roesch, Union FFA; Cole Rosier, Mound City FFA; Gregory William Ross, Pleasant Hope FFA; Kevin Runde, Northeast Nodaway FFA; Tyler Ruoff, Savannah FFA; Shelby Rush, Tusculumbia FFA; Jordan Nicole Russell, Linn County FFA; Kelly Rust, Pierce City FFA; Bryan Sander, Santa Fe FFA; Hannah Sandidge, Marshall FFA; Stacy Santillan, Richmond FFA; Jacob Sappington, Sullivan FFA; Chandler Saultz, Macks Creek FFA; Lauren Jane Schad, Eldon FFA; Samantha Leann Schafer, Audrain County FFA; Beau J. Schau, St. Clair FFA; Patrick A. Schau, St. Clair FFA; Amanda L. Schebaum, Hermann FFA; Aaron Scheets, Houston FFA; Tyler Scherder, Bowling Green FFA; Chelsea Scheulen, Linn FFA; Kyle Schieber, Northwest Technical FFA; Edward Schmidt, Moberly FFA; Sarah Schroeder, Trenton FFA; Karla Ann Schuknecht, State Fair FFA; Chance Shetley, Fredericktown FFA; Jacob W. Shipley, Putnam County FFA; Taylor A. Short, Ava FFA; Samantha Rae Sieg, Linn FFA; Katie Danielle Simmerman, Stanberry FFA; J. R. Simpkins, Stockton FFA; Daniel Caleb Smith, Eldon FFA; Ethan A. Smith, Willow Springs FFA; Lindsay Smith, Fair Grove FFA; Jared Snider, Aurora FFA; Spencer N. Snodgrass, Polo FFA; Derrick Sprague, Gallatin FFA; Demi Sprigg, Marshall FFA; Heidi Stahlman, Union FFA; Samantha Stanbery, East Newton FFA; Patrick Stanley, North Callaway FFA; A. J. Starnes, Richland FFA; Jill Lynette Steffens, Cole Camp FFA; Kelly D. Steinbeck, Hermann FFA; Kyle Robin Stith, Polo FFA; Kyndra Stith, Polo FFA; Jessica Stokes, Norwood FFA; Tara Bethany Stoll, Stanberry FFA; Maggie Elaine Strange, Gallatin FFA; Amber Stumpe, Mexico FFA; Patrick Swan, Brunswick FFA; Nathan Raymond Swisher, Marshall FFA; Dustin Tate, Brunswick FFA; Michael Taylor, North Andrew FFA; Megan Thacker,

Northwest Technical FFA; Alyssa Thomas, Montgomery County FFA; Amber Thomas, Green Ridge FFA; Ryan M. Tiefenthaler, Salem FFA; Jessica Titus, Lebanon FFA; Bailey Kay Toates, Smithville FFA; Justin Ahrend Tobias, Marion County FFA; Hayden Glenn Todd, Golden City FFA; Jessica Travlos, Ashland FFA; Melanie Trenhaile, North Shelby FFA; Emma Tuttle, Tipton FFA; Isaac Unterbrink, Paris FFA; Tevin Uthlaut, Glasgow FFA; Brian Utterback, South Shelby FFA; Emma Vanderwerken, Savannah FFA; Alan Michael Vassmer, Polo FFA; Josie Vaughn, Monett FFA; John J. Velten, Pierce City FFA; Chance Veylupek, Northwest Technical FFA; Heather Lynn Vivone, Grundy County FFA; Shelby Vohsen, Warrenton FFA; Teri E. Walker, Clark County FFA; Alex Wallace, Stanberry FFA; Jacob Walton, Wellsville-Middletown FFA; Samantha A. Warner, Archie FFA; Dustin Wassmann, Boonville FFA; Shannon Talor Watson, Osceola FFA; Elizabeth Webb, Miller FFA; Haley Webb, Centralia FFA; Christopher Webery, Eldon FFA; Cale Weeks, Campbell FFA; Clint Wehrman, State Fair FFA; Lauren Weiker, Slater FFA; Beau Wells, Jamesport FFA; Luke Wells, Sullivan FFA; Alyssa Westhoelter, Washington FFA; Becca White, Macon FFA; Kory White, South Shelby FFA; Aimee Whitesell, Eldon FFA; Brad Whitley, St. Clair FFA; Kelly Whorton, Mansfield FFA; Josh Wiederholt, Northeast Nodaway FFA; Dalton Wieligman, Wellington-Napoleon FFA; Brett William Wilkerson, Knox County FFA; Krystal Beth Marie Williams, Lebanon FFA; Lance Williams, Chillicothe FFA; Clinton P. Wilmes, West Nodaway FFA; Nathan Wilson, Princeton FFA; Tyler Wilt, South Shelby FFA; Ashley Winfrey, Humansville FFA; Caitlyn D. Wingard, Pleasant Hill FFA; Kaylan Elise Winn, Memphis FFA; Cody Charles Wofford, Salem FFA; Jason Wood, Puxico FFA; Whitney Wosoba, El Dorado Springs FFA; Gib Wray, Jamesport FFA; Cassandra Wright, Santa Fe FFA; Kacie Wright, Tusculumbia FFA; Famous Yang, Wheaton FFA; Jillian Yoder, North Shelby FFA; Kelsie Young, Aurora FFA; Riley Young, Brunswick FFA; Eric Zimmerman, Slater FFA; Ashley Zvacek, Holden FFA

Mississippi: Tyler Abercrombie, West Lauderdale FFA; John Allen, Booneville FFA; Justin Blackwell, Seminary FFA; Justin David Blair, Carthage FFA; Quinn Sylvester Conway, Lawrence County FFA; Eric Thomas Cooper, Sumrall FFA; Russell McClure, West Lauderdale FFA; Joshua Everett Munn, Sumrall FFA; Erica Louise O'Neal, Strayhorn FFA; Christopher Ryan Pruitt, Pine Grove FFA; Clint Riley, Sumrall FFA; Michael Andrew Tucker, Carthage FFA; Tyler Wood, West Lauderdale FFA

Minnesota: Paige Allen, St. Charles FFA; Jacob Brandt, Sibley East FFA; Sarah Brauen, Foley FFA; Hailey Buberl, Stillwater FFA; Aaron M. Bye, Pine Island FFA; Deanna Carlson, St. James FFA; Rachael Dahlman, Dassel Cokato FFA; Shelby Danielson, Minnewaska FFA; Luke Daninger, Forest Lake FFA; Darin Davis, Dassel Cokato FFA; Travis DeKruif, Murray County Central FFA; Tim Eickschen, Perham FFA; Jason Ertl, Randolph FFA; Derek Estrem, Randolph FFA; David Glessing, Howard Lake Waverly Winsted; Alissa Goette, Albert Lea FFA; Cody Hager, St. Charles FFA; Dustin Hale, Sleepy Eye FFA; Logan Handyside, Mahanomen FFA; Stephanie M. Herman, United South Central FFA; Jacob Holst, Hayfield FFA; Blaire Marie Hoven, Zumbrota Mazeppa FFA; Greg Hulinsky, Long Prairie Grey Eagle FFA; Tiffany Huneke, Zumbrota Mazeppa FFA; April Johnson, Windom FFA;

Express FFA; Matthew A. Pearson, Atwater Cosmos Grove City FFA; Tyler Purrington, Ada Borup FFA; Cole J. Ramsley, United South Central FFA; Joey J. Redman, United South Central FFA; Jessica SanCartier, Milaca FFA; Kirby J. Schmidt, Marshall FFA; Amanda Schultz, Plainview Elgin Millville FFA; Sarah R. Schultz, United South Central FFA; Michael Sellner, Sleepy Eye FFA; Austin Sheehan, Marshall FFA; Todd Speltz, Lewiston Altura FFA; Alissa Mae Stai, New London Spicer FFA; Samantha Stephens, Hayfield FFA; Cody B. Suter, Kerkhoven Mirdock Sunburg FFA; Ryan Tentis, Plainview Elgin



Ashley Johnson, New Ulm FFA; Charles Johnson, Ada Borup FFA; Erin Karl, Sibley East FFA; Jason James Koch, Howard Lake Waverly Winsted; Jillian Janell Malvina Koch, Howard Lake Waverly Winsted; Kayla Ann Koenen, Alden Conger FFA; Luke Langerud, Lake Park Audubon FFA; Nathan Legatt, Foley FFA; Travis M. Lutteke, United South Central FFA; Kate Arlene Maertens, Wabasso FFA; Alex Mage, Howard Lake Waverly Winsted; Doug McNamee, Mahanomen FFA; Christa Beth Moller, New London Spicer FFA; Derek John Mulhern, Spring Valley Wykoff FFA; Tylee Norman, Marshall FFA; Kasey Lee O'Brien, New London Spicer FFA; Tara Onken, Murray County Central FFA; Chris Opdahl, Murray County Central FFA; Brian Palmer, GFW Pioneer

Millville FFA; Jaci Tweeten, Spring Grove FFA; Rachel Walkes, Plainview Elgin Millville FFA; Nicole Wallace, Frazee FFA; Scott Walter, Sleepy Eye FFA; Barry James Wellnitz, Lac qui Parle Valley FFA; Abbie Westby, Pelican Rapids FFA; Kristen Wingert, Plainview Elgin Millville FFA; Courtney Zimmer, Eagle Valley FFA

Michigan: Heather Alderink, Belding FFA; Amanda Anderson, Homer FFA; John Anibal, Byron FFA; Andrea Eunice Armbruster, Milan FFA; Dustin Baker, St. Louis FFA; Trevor Scott Barnes, Charlotte FFA; Rebecca Barton, Homer FFA; Tori Marie Beattie, St. Louis FFA; Drew K. Bordner, Centreville FFA; Andrew Braun, Ovid-Elsie FFA; Jonathon C. Brewer, Sanilac FFA; Briana Buck, Lowell FFA; Will



American Degree Recipients



Buhlman, Ogemaw Heights FFA; **Jacob Carpenter**, Lenawee Tech Center FFA; **Christopher Culham**, Dansville FFA; **Danielle Davies**, Byron FFA; **Katelyn Dekoski**, Uby FFA; **Justin Diehl**, Ogemaw Heights FFA; **Kimberly Doneth**, Corunna FFA; **Kurt Doneth**, Corunna FFA; **Emily lone Eldred**, Maple Valley FFA; **Benjamin Emens**, Waldron FFA; **Joshua K. Ferris**, Ionia FFA; **Jessica Fether**, Waldron FFA; **Courtney Flynn**, Byron FFA; **Matt Freeman**, Durand FFA; **Lance Fritz**, Van Buren Technology Center; **Kelli Fulkerson**, Branch Area Career Center FFA; **Stacey L. Garske**, Unionville Sebawaing FFA; **James Michael Gasper Jr.**, Belding FFA; **Leara Glinzak**, Lowell FFA; **Amelia Dawn Green**, Hopkins FFA; **Kayla Green**, Cassopolis FFA; **Elizabeth Marie Hager**, Ionia FFA; **Brandon D. Hall**, Charlotte FFA; **Francine Harris**, Homer FFA; **Sarah Christine Harris**, Charlotte FFA; **Alison J. Harwell**, Branch Area Career Center FFA; **Joseph David Hoffman**, Dundee FFA; **Andrew Hogan**, Ravenna FFA; **Trent Hooks**, Breckenridge FFA; **Sarah Hruby**, Fremont FFA; **Rachel Huizinga**, Hopkins FFA; **Kyle C. Isaac**, Corunna FFA; **Krista Marie Janeschek**, Caledonia FFA; **Jonathan W. Jentzen**, Dundee FFA; **Thomas A. Kantola**, Ravenna FFA; **Ashley Kelly**, Caledonia FFA; **Sarah Ashley Koch**, Milan FFA; **Tera Koebel**, River Valley FFA; **Jordy Duane Koeplinger**, New Lothrop FFA; **Jenna M. Kramer**, Uby FFA; **Elizabeth K. Krhovsky**, Corunna FFA; **Carrie Lehnert**, Chippewa Hills FFA; **Sarah Losinski**, Branch Area Career Center FFA; **Zachary D.**

Martindale, Corunna FFA; **Elizabeth McDonald**, Montague FFA; **Beth A. Mills**, Lenawee Tech Center FFA; **James H. Myers**, Breckenridge FFA; **Elizabeth Oliver**, Byron FFA; **Vanessa Gail Oliver**, Alcona FFA; **Shelby Pennington**, Hopkins FFA; **Maddie Pratt**, Corunna FFA; **Elizabeth Starr Ries**, Dansville FFA; **Jake Riley**, Corunna FFA; **Zack Ritter**, Byron FFA; **Tiffany Rogers**, Cassopolis FFA; **Jake Rosebrugh**, Ogemaw Heights FFA; **Jeff Schmitt**, Jonesville FFA; **Haley M. Schulz**, Laker FFA; **Olivia M. Shirey**, Laingsburg FFA; **Stephanie L. Smith**, Ithaca FFA; **Martin J. Smolek**, Corunna FFA; **Katherine Sollman**, Sanilac FFA; **Timothy Spoelman**, Ravenna FFA; **Brett Storey**, Chippewa Hills FFA; **Amanda Sumerix**, Alpena FFA; **Sarah Vandefifer**, Caledonia FFA; **David Vander Mark**, Caledonia FFA; **Zachary Vandermeer**, Caledonia FFA; **Brianna Wagner**, Ravenna FFA; **Emily Walker**, Ogemaw Heights FFA; **Elizabeth Wernette**, Chippewa Hills FFA; **Alisha Wessel**, Corunna FFA; **April Wolf**, Lowell FFA; **Ethan Yost**, Olivet FFA

Maryland: **Brittany Bowman**, Walkersville FFA; **Brett Andrew Hendershot**, Clear Spring FFA; **Kyle Leon Hendershot**, Clear Spring FFA; **John Timothy Martin**, Smithsburg FFA; **Allison Renee Moore**, Clear Spring FFA; **Kaitlin G. Moser**, Middletown FFA; **Adam Sutton Reid**, Clear Spring FFA; **Ashley Rodeheaver**, North Garrett FFA; **Kara Nicole Savage**, North Garrett FFA; **Richard Stonebraker**, Linganore FFA

Louisiana: **David Bailey**, Loranger FFA; **Joey Bell**, Ebarb FFA; **Ethan Dunn**, Loranger FFA; **Simon Graziano**, Loranger FFA; **Ben Hesser**, North DeSoto FFA; **Kyle Jordan**, North DeSoto FFA; **Jacey McCauley Kennedy**, Pine FFA; **Jessie LeJeune**, Sulphur FFA; **Susan LeAnna Smith**, Pine FFA; **Richard Swindoll**, Ebarb FFA; **Amanda Taylor**, Pine FFA; **Kyle Williams**, Pine FFA

Kentucky: **Bryce Amburgey**, Montgomery County FFA; **Zachary Joel Armistead**, Logan County FFA; **Kristen Arvin**, Eastside FFA; **Jonathan Atkins**, Graves County FFA; **Andrew Austin**, Apollo FFA; **Sarah Lynn Ayer**, McLean County FFA; **Steven Bartos**, Warren Central FFA; **Shaun T. Bashford**, Bath County FFA; **Lauren Bell**, Central Hardin FFA; **James Ethan Berry**, Nelson County FFA; **Tonya Bland**, Central Hardin FFA; **James Blankenship**, Ballard Memorial FFA; **Casey Booker**, Central Hardin FFA; **Lindsey Boone**, LaRue County FFA; **Sarah Bramer**, Spencer County FFA; **Andrew Bratcher**, Lincoln County FFA; **Steven Brockman**, Taylor County FFA; **Joseph Ryan Bruce**, Webster County FFA; **Kayla Brooke Buntin**, Crittenden County FFA; **Ellen Paige Burns**, Apollo FFA; **Sandra Bush**, Wolfe County FFA; **Christopher Matthew Carson**, Wolfe County FFA; **Maxwell Jesse Carson**, Wolfe County FFA; **Harley L. Catron**, Montgomery County FFA; **Luke Cecil**, Apollo FFA; **Amber DeAnn Chaney**, Breathitt County FFA; **Samantha Clark**, Taylor County FFA; **Paul Jordan Colvin**, Nelson County FFA; **Breanna Cooke**, East Carter FFA; **Adam Coomes**, Butler County FFA; **Brittany Core**, Mercer County FFA; **Brooke Cox**, Taylor County FFA; **Dakota K. Cox**, Wolfe County FFA; **Cody Crofford**, Logan County FFA; **Kelsey Anne Culp**, Jessamine County FFA; **Arlee Nicole Danhauer**, Union County FFA; **Adam Dixon**, Pulaski County FFA; **Allison Dixon**, Central Hardin FFA; **Cory Dodds**, Livingston Central FFA; **Tarrah Dunaway**, Jessamine County FFA; **Tia Kay Dunbar**, Livingston Central FFA; **Mary Beth Eicher**, Logan County FFA; **Sonny Kane Westerman Evans**, Livingston Central FFA; **Megan L. Fallen**, Wolfe County FFA; **Seth Edward Fawns**, Montgomery County FFA; **Adam Felty**, East Carter FFA; **Charles J. Finley Jr.**, Scott County FFA; **Robert Fischer**, Apollo FFA; **Deron Flaughter**, East Carter FFA; **Jessica Dawn Gatten**, Crittenden County FFA; **Zach Gilbert**, Taylor County FFA; **Benjamin M. Glenn**, Apollo FFA; **Logan Goggin**, Boyle County FFA; **James D. Goins**, Apollo FFA; **Chad Grubb**, Butler County FFA; **Sarah Beth Hall**, Logan County FFA; **Amanda Hammonds**, Heath FFA; **Claire Hardesty**, Union County FFA; **Christopher D. Hardin**, Bath County FFA; **Josh Hawkins**, Fleming County FFA; **Tiffany Hearell**, Crittenden County FFA; **Cassie Hendon**, Calloway County FFA; **Rachel M. Hodges**, Central Hardin FFA; **Jared Wayne Hodskins**, Apollo FFA; **Houston Howlett**, Central Hardin FFA; **William Jacobs**, Eastside FFA; **Emily Ann Jenkins**, Warren Central FFA; **Jordan Johnson**, Logan County FFA; **Ethan Jones**, Trigg County FFA; **Nicholas P. Jones**, Lincoln County FFA; **Samantha Jones**, Taylor County FFA; **Kendall Judd**, Metcalfe County FFA; **Joseph Samuel Kelly**, Calloway County FFA; **Morgan Kendrick**, Mercer County FFA; **Tearah Kessler**, Taylor County FFA; **Justin Kidd**, Apollo FFA; **Rodney Bryan King**, Boyle County FFA; **Samantha Ladd**, Trigg County FFA; **Drew Langley**, Central Hardin FFA; **Andrew Seth Laswell**, Rockcastle County FFA; **James W. Lyons**, Scott County FFA; **Catherine Elizabeth Martin**, Logan County FFA; **Nathan May**, Apollo FFA; **Hanna Megan McCormick**, Apollo FFA; **Rebekkah McCoy**, Montgomery County FFA; **Chelsea Clay McFarland**, Bourbon County FFA; **Hunter Allen McFarland**, Bourbon County FFA; **Amanda Lynn Meadows**, Fleming County FFA; **Nick Melgar**, Nelson County FFA; **Brook Melton**, Caldwell County FFA; **Joshua A. Meyer**, Ballard Memorial FFA; **Tyler Miller**, Pulaski County FFA; **Kenneth Mills**, East Carter FFA; **Harvey Lewis Mink Jr.**, Rockcastle County FFA; **Joshua B. Morgan**, Casey County FFA; **Rita C. Morgan**, Lincoln County FFA; **T.J. Morrison**, Boyd County FFA; **Natosha Mulholland**, Ohio County FFA; **Ramsey Lynn Parker**, Fulton County FFA; **Niki S. Patterson**, Lincoln County FFA; **Alissa Ann Penkal**, Madison Southern FFA; **Patrick Penrod**, Logan County FFA; **Bruce A. Perkins**, McCreary Central FFA; **Charla Piper**, LaRue County FFA; **Kyle Porter**, Lincoln County FFA; **Lauren Paige Purdom**, Marion County FFA; **Monica Faye Quinley**, Madison Southern FFA; **Barrett Scott Ranes**, Webster County FFA; **Leslie Rene Reynolds**, Boyle County FFA; **Shelby Richardson**, Montgomery County FFA; **Chase Roberts**, Caldwell County FFA; **Rebecca Kate Royse**, Adair County FFA; **Amber Sebastian**, Campbell County FFA; **Morgann Kay Short**, Muhlenberg North FFA; **Kelly Simmons**, Apollo FFA; **James Franklin Sledd**, Reidland FFA; **Susan Smathers**, Bath County FFA; **Tricia Smith**, Oldham County FFA; **Zachary D. Smith**, Ballard Memorial FFA; **Kelli Smitha**, Spencer County FFA; **Matthew D. Sorrell**, Bath County FFA; **Chris Sparks**, Warren Central FFA; **Amanda Staggs**, Bath County FFA; **Molly Stenger**, Union County FFA; **Jarrod D. Stephens**, Harrison County FFA; **Chelsey Switzer**, Harrison County



American Degree Recipients

FFA; **Layken Switzer**, Harrison County FFA; **Chris Thomas**, Taylor County FFA; **Caitlin Timberlake**, Central Hardin FFA; **Tyler Toon**, Logan County FFA; **Kyle Trowbridge**, Lincoln County FFA; **Michelle Taylor Tyra**, Wolfe County FFA; **Emily Brooke Vincent**, Edmonson County FFA; **Chance Walls**, Taylor County FFA; **Molley Ann Wedding**, Apollo FFA; **Mackenzie Jayne Whitaker**, Muhlenberg North FFA; **Nellie Kathrine Francis Whitaker**, Jackson County FFA; **Michelle White**, Breathitt County FFA; **Kaitlin M. Whittle**, Edmonson County FFA; **Bridget Whitworth**, Breckinridge County FFA; **Tyler Williamson**, Mercer County FFA; **Cheyenne Michele Willis**, Christian County FFA; **Joseph Winters**, Caldwell County FFA

Kansas: **Morgan Bailey Adams**, West Elk FFA; **Mindy Andres**, Council Grove FFA; **Kascha Danae Bohnenblust**, Riley County FFA; **Grace Bokelman**, Washington County FFA; **Matthew Brandt**, Paola FFA; **Annelle Chestnut**, Clay Center FFA; **Scott N. Clark**, South Barber FFA; **Kassie Curran**, Girard FFA; **Jacinda Dickinson**, Concordia FFA; **Clinton Daniel Diver**, Cherryvale FFA; **Bryce Ellerman**, Council Grove FFA; **Alexandra B. Graham**, Lawrence-Free State FFA; **Jessica Grinstead**, Buhler FFA; **Jesse L. Huber**, Washington County FFA; **Darrin Paul Jacobson**, Valley Heights FFA; **Alexander Jost**, Hillsboro FFA; **Erin Ashley King**, Cherryvale FFA; **Walter W. Lehman**, Newton FFA; **Cody McReynolds-Clark**, Buhler FFA; **Ben Meyer**, Linn FFA; **Hannah Miller**, Chapman FFA; **Jonathan W. Monaghan**, Blue Valley FFA; **Kelsie Nickelson**, Hill City FFA; **Jay Dale O'Brien**, Cherryvale FFA; **Ellen Ouellette**, Central Heights FFA; **Vincent Ouellette**, Central Heights FFA; **Zachary Schotte**, Marysville FFA; **Ethan Schuette**, Washington County FFA; **Jeri Sigle**, Council Grove FFA; **Analena Simmons**, Minneapolis FFA; **Adria Stamm**, Washington County FFA; **Ashlen Stamm**, Washington County FFA; **Tucker A. Stewart**, Washington County FFA; **Amberlyn Strasburg**, Fredonia FFA; **Scott Thellman**, Lawrence-Free State FFA; **Kaitlin Vaughn**, Wellington FFA; **Christina Voelker**, Neodesha FFA; **Ali Voet**, Marysville FFA; **Alayna Christine Warner**, Smith Center FFA; **Jessie Zimmerman**, Council Grove FFA

Iowa: **Adler Adams**, Mount Ayr FFA; **Chelsea Arensdorf**, Anamosa FFA; **Justin Arp**, DeWitt Central FFA; **Elizabeth Beatty**, Creston FFA; **Laura Rose Beaver**, Brokaw FFA; **Kandis M. Bieber**, Anamosa FFA; **Jeremy L. Birely**, Anamosa FFA; **Samantha Jayne Bissell**, CAM FFA; **Samantha Blakley**, Fairfield FFA; **Michaela Bormann**, Algona FFA; **John Bowers**,

Anamosa FFA; **Evan Brehm**, Benton Community FFA; **Lindsay Calvert**, Guthrie Center Tiger FFA; **Wesley Campbell**, Mount Ayr FFA; **Brittney Clinton**, Algona FFA; **Katie Connolly**, Cascade FFA; **Alexa Coobs**, North Scott FFA; **Patrick M. Cooley**, Adair-Casey FFA; **Chris Covington**, Anamosa FFA; **Teresa Decker**, Cascade FFA; **Brian Eastman**, Riceville FFA; **Emily Leanne Eddy**, Osceola Big Chief FFA; **Chad Fertig**, East Sac FFA; **Devin Fickes**, Central Trail FFA; **Allison Fookan**, Mount Ayr FFA; **Travis Frazier**, DeWitt Central FFA; **Brandon Friedlein**, Tri-Star



FFA; **Justina Frost**, DeWitt Central FFA; **Tyler J. Frush**, Jesup FFA; **Jacie Garden**, Charles City FFA; **Kristin C. Gerhold**, Benton Community FFA; **Chanda Goedken**, Cascade FFA; **Megan K. Goodall**, DeWitt Central FFA; **Ryan Gravel**, Cascade FFA; **Brooke Graves**, Glidden-Ralston FFA; **Dustin Gruhn**, DeWitt Central FFA; **Matthew Hansen**, Audubon FFA; **Kam Hartstack**, Brokaw FFA; **Devin Head**, Central Trail FFA; **William Horsfield**, Cascade FFA; **Damian Hosch**, Cascade FFA; **Cass Hosfield**, Mount Ayr FFA; **Thomas Huck**, Waverly-Shell Rock FFA; **Brian Katzer**, Creston FFA; **Jared Kuethe**, Wapsie Valley FFA; **Kyle Leistikow**, Wapsie Valley FFA; **Zac Leith**, Creston FFA; **Erika Lundy**, Adair-Casey FFA; **Jacob A. Manternach**, Monticello FFA; **Emma Martin**, Cascade FFA; **Marissa Martin**, DeWitt Central FFA; **Tyler Matthias**, Wapsie Valley FFA; **Thomas McConohy**, DeWitt Central FFA; **Karin McCulloh**, DeWitt Central FFA; **Stuart McCulloh**, DeWitt Central FFA; **Matt McCullough**, Cascade FFA; **Brian J. McEvoy**, North Linn FFA; **Sara Medberry**, Valley FFA; **Bryce Merchant**, Vinton-Shellsburg

FFA; **Lance Moorman**, Newton FFA; **Tyler Moser**, West Lyon FFA; **Adam Noonan**, Cascade FFA; **Carl W. Ott**, Rockford FFA; **Cole Payton**, Anamosa FFA; **Robert Payton**, Anamosa FFA; **Ayla Peppmeier**, Creston FFA; **Calvin Pudenz**, Carroll Area FFA; **Colton Quick**, Mount Ayr FFA; **Amber Radcliff**, North Scott FFA; **Todd Ramaeker**, Creston FFA; **Leah A. Ruff**, M-F-L-Mar-Mac FFA; **Lane Ruley**, Anamosa FFA; **Heather Sager**, Atlantic FFA; **Jordan Sager**, Atlantic FFA; **Janea Shannon**, Murray FFA; **Whitney Lynne Taglauer**, Fairfield FFA; **Jessica Thelen**, CAM

FFA; **Maggie A. Thelen**, Creston FFA; **Michelle Thole**, West Delaware FFA; **Chelsie A. Thompson**, Waverly-Shell Rock FFA; **Shelby Trager**, Audubon FFA; **Daniel Turnis**, Cascade FFA; **Kyle Turnis**, Cascade FFA; **Jordan Vande Vorde**, Oelwein FFA; **Daniel Venteicher**, Edgewood-Colesburg FFA; **Jeremy Vittetoe**, Washington FFA; **Zachary L. Walker**, Anamosa FFA; **Kyle Watson**, Lakeside FFA; **Brittany Weis**, St. Ansgar FFA; **Andy John White**, Calamus-Wheatland FFA; **Karen M. Whitman**, DeWitt Central FFA; **Amber Wolter**, Algona FFA; **Benjamin K. Zelle**, Waverly-Shell Rock FFA; **Debra K. Zelle**, Waverly-Shell Rock FFA; **Brian Zuck**, Jesup FFA

Indiana: **Elizabeth Jane Abbott**, Switzerland County FFA; **Corbin Abrell**, Owen Valley FFA; **Jennifer L. Amstutz**, Adams Central FFA; **Michael Ault**, Jay County FFA; **Megan Ayres**, Carroll @ Flora FFA; **Brandon Barbknecht**, Oregon-Davis FFA; **Daniel Bechman**, Franklin Community FFA; **Lori M. Beeker**, Greenfield-Central FFA; **Jared M. Blocher**, North Manchester FFA;



Katie Bluhm, Adams Central FFA; **Jason Patrick Bolt**, South Ripley FFA; **Blaire Boyer**, Tipton FFA; **Josh Bramlett**, Shenandoah FFA; **Derek Breitwieser**, Northeast Dubois FFA; **Eric Burch**, John Glenn FFA; **Elizabeth Caylor**, Jay County FFA; **Jordan Conley**, Greenfield Central FFA; **Kaycee Craft**, Shenandoah FFA; **Josi Jo Cripe**, Manchester FFA; **Ross Deardorff**, Rossville FFA; **Stephanie Lynn Decker**, White River Valley FFA; **Samantha Dickeson**, Oregon-Davis FFA; **Michelle L. Dirksen**, Jay County FFA; **John Evans**, South Decatur FFA; **Tori Frey**, North Montgomery FFA; **Mindy Furrer**, Tri-County FFA; **Ashley Gangwer**, Rossville FFA; **Travis Garringer**, Jay County FFA; **Jarrad Goris**, Rossville FFA; **Nick Grady**, Rossville FFA; **Sarah AnnaMarie Griffin**, Carroll @ Flora FFA; **Kyle Gutgsell**, Forest Park FFA; **Jeremy Harshbarger**, Rossville FFA; **Christa Ann Hauser**, Jac-Cen-Del FFA; **Alisha Nicole Hedrick**, Carroll @ Flora FFA; **Erin M. Hemmerling**, Rossville FFA; **Cara L. Hummel**, Adams Central FFA; **Erik Hummel**, Adams Central FFA; **Kyle Jacobs**, Eastern Hancock FFA; **Megan Jester**, Hagerstown FFA; **Heather A. Keiser**, North Montgomery FFA; **Chandler L. Keown**, Carroll @ Flora FFA; **Kelli Kirtley**, Hagerstown FFA; **Emmy Kratz**, Prairie Heights FFA; **Jonathan James Kummer**, DeKalb FFA; **Corey Lay**, Switzerland County FFA; **Patrick Lehman**, Adams Central FFA; **Linzy Lemming**, Tri-County FFA; **Ryan Lewis**, Prairie Heights FFA; **Mackenzie Loy**, Jay County FFA; **Chris Lutes**, Jay County FFA; **David Maas**, Prairie Heights FFA; **Kyle Malcolm**, Eastside FFA; **Brian Marlatt**, Rushville FFA; **Kaylee Brooke Marlatt**, Rushville FFA; **Travis J. Martin**, Carroll @ Flora FFA; **Aaron McLaughlin**, Jay County FFA; **Heidi E. Melton**, Shenandoah FFA; **Austin Metzger**, Manchester FFA; **Andy Miller**, South Ripley FFA; **Lucas K. Mitchell**, Hagerstown FFA; **Justin D. Moffitt**, Carroll @ Flora FFA; **Brandon Monce**, Manchester FFA; **Gina Muhlenkamp**, Jay County FFA; **Kathryn Nobbe**, Connersville FFA; **Justin Reeves Orme**, Rushville FFA; **Rachel Alexis Pollock**, Boonville FFA; **Jack D. Pugsley**, Shenandoah FFA; **Ryne Raker**, Carroll @ Fort Wayne FFA; **Matthew Risley**, South Newton FFA; **Jessica Rodkey**, Rossville FFA; **Richard Rudrow**, Jay County FFA; **Joseph W. Rust**, Seymour FFA; **Jesse Schieler**, Tri-County FFA; **Kenny Schilling**, Mount Vernon FFA; **Amanda Schmitmeyer**, Jay County FFA; **Anna Selby**, Central Noble FFA; **Rebecca I. Shoemaker**, Connersville

American Degree Recipients

FFA; Brett Slack, Manchester FFA; Alyssa Smith, Clinton Central FFA; Brant Smith, Clinton Central FFA; Courtney Smith, Clinton Central FFA; Esther Stephen, Jay County FFA; Kevin R. Swinney, South Ripley FFA; Travis Ryan Terhaar, Monroe Central FFA; Emily Thalls, Shenandoah FFA; Jesse Thurston, Monroe Central FFA; Clay Tracey, Prairie Heights FFA; Stephanie Nicole Underwood, Brownstown Central FFA; Stacey Lee Vosters, North Daviess FFA; Jessica Wenrick, Tri-County FFA; Sarah Westgerdes, Jay County FFA; Hannah Whittington, Owen Valley FFA; Jessica A. Wilson, Hagerstown FFA; John Zook, Carroll @ Flora FFA; Lucia Zook, Carroll @ Flora FFA; Malena Zook, Carroll @ Flora FFA; Primmer Zook, Carroll @ Flora FFA

Illinois: Kody Aldrich, Red Hill FFA; Austin Anderson, Oregon FFA; Matthew Bade, Midland FFA; Jeffrey D. Barnes, Somonauk-Leland FFA; Justin W. Beitz, Stewardson-Strasburg FFA; Emily Bogner, Midland FFA; Joshua H. Bolen, Forreston FFA; Gage L. Braley, Northwestern FFA; Sara Brockman, Seneca FFA; Nathan Brown, Carrollton FFA; Amie Burke, Oakwood FFA; Nicole Carlen, Cumberland FFA; Caitlin Carson, Paxton-Buckley-Loda FFA; Mitchell Colyer, Fairfield FFA; Andrew Conrad, Scales Mound FFA; Caleb C. Corzine, Central A&M FFA; Ryan Craig, Galva FFA; Andrew Crites, Olney FFA; Mitchell E. Daugherty, Roanoke-Benson FFA; Mason Dehlinger, Olney FFA; Matthew Dehlinger, Olney FFA; A.J. DeOrnellas, Jacksonville FFA; Christopher Devlin, A-C Central FFA; Ed Dubrick, Cissna Park FFA; Haylee J. Endress, Eastland FFA; Jennifer Ewing, Rushville-Industry FFA; Jacob E. Froelich, Tri-Point FFA; J. Landon Frye, Illini Central FFA; Logan Frye, Illini Central FFA; Franklin Garnett, Greenview FFA; Lee Phillip Genenbacher, Liberty FFA; Michael Giugler, Midland FFA; Cyle Harner, Goreville FFA; Emily Hatfield, Wayne City FFA; Dana Leigh Henert, Ashton-Franklin Center FFA; Riley J. Hintzsche, Rochelle FFA; Krista Juenger, New Athens FFA; Jacob Kabat, Waltonville FFA; Kiersten Kasey, Charleston FFA; Patrick Kelly, Flanagan FFA; Drew Klingele, Liberty FFA; Cory Kregel, Cissna Park FFA; Kyle Kuhns, Altamont FFA; Kimberly Lange, Cissna Park FFA; Matt Mahoney, A-C Central FFA; Kenneth R. Manson, Griggsville-Perry FFA; Stephen D. Marshall, Cissna Park FFA; Maria Maul, Cissna Park FFA; Samantha McClain, Cumberland FFA; Katherine McLachlan, Mendota FFA; Michael McMahon, Chicago Ag Sciences FFA; Wynnton Chance Meteere, Taylorville FFA; Kristopher Meyer, Salem FFA; Matt Miller, Eastland FFA; Katie L. Mosbacher, Valmeyer FFA; Tamara Nicole Murphy, Cisne FFA; Jill K. Nesbitt,

Mercer County FFA; Chris Paulsen, Hiawatha FFA; Brittany Pieper, Bushnell-Prairie City FFA; Jillann P. Prough, Jerseyville FFA; Landry Prough, Carrollton FFA; Kaleb Pruemmer, Shelbyville FFA; Darcie Rahe, Triopia FFA; Mallory Redeker, Cissna Park FFA; Ellen Reeder, United FFA; Jenna Richardson, Cisne FFA; Jordon Ridgely, Olney FFA; Zachary R. Roberts, Liberty FFA; Michael Paul Rose, Eastland FFA; Aaron George Rusteberg, Valmeyer FFA; Alex Keith Samuelson, Orion FFA; Lauren R. Schabacker, Rochelle FFA; Jentzi Rai Schumm, Wayne City FFA; Tyler Shafer, Carrollton FFA; Aaron Sharrow, Bluffs FFA; Dalton Shasteen, Sullivan FFA; Kasey R. E. Simmons, Brimfield FFA; Jacob Snook, Pearl City FFA; Kristen Springer, Jerseyville FFA; Michael Stamps, Eldorado FFA; Nicholas Suess, Greenville FFA; Austin Tate, West Prairie FFA; Jake Tester, Nokomis FFA; Ashlea Tucker, Fairfield FFA; Hannah Vortman, Bluffs FFA; Jordon Wagner, Marissa FFA; Jeffrey Wegmann, Central FFA; Sarah M. Weirich, Hinckley-Big Rock FFA; Dan Whitener, Nashville FFA; Ross Wilken, Iroquois West FFA; Rachal Ann Wolfe, Taylorville FFA; Andy Woods, Western FFA

Idaho: Lyndel Jo Anderson, American Falls FFA; Shawn Floyd Banks, North Gem FFA; Chandra Anne Berheim -, Filer FFA; Ruby Lee Brackett, Filer FFA; Travis C. Clelland, Filer FFA; Steven Cox, Genesee FFA; Jake Ellis, Highland FFA; John Esser, Genesee FFA; Zachary Dane Fabricius, Fruitland FFA; Gabriel D. Flick, Middleton FFA; Allison Garlick, Preston FFA;

Rebecca Garlick, Preston FFA; Samantha Guinn, Castleford FFA; Koltan Haines, Weiser FFA; Jeana Jeffries, Payette FFA; Celeste Judd, Burley FFA; Jeff Klamm, Minico FFA; Kody Laggis, American Falls FFA; Elizabeth Lockyer, Marsh Valley FFA; Trey Mallory, Emmett FFA; Sarah LaNelle McAdams, Nampa FFA; Simeon T. Moedl, Preston FFA; David Cache Morgan, West Side FFA; Katie Mosman, Nezperce FFA; Jared Mumm, Kimberly FFA; Shelby Jo Nielsen, American Falls FFA; Megan Natalie Oesch, Nampa FFA; Seth Benjamin Pratt, Blackfoot FFA; Tyson Presher, Weiser FFA; Erica Ramsey, New Plymouth FFA; Mike Roberts, Notus FFA; Kelsey Rodrigues, Wendell FFA; Danielle Ashly Scott, Nezperce FFA; Mitchell C. Searle, Burley FFA; Jared Arthur Spackman, Burley FFA; Ariel Taysom, Marsh Valley FFA; D. Aaron Tenney, Twin Falls FFA; Jaymon Burns Udy, Genesee FFA; Kiana Wilcox, Madison FFA; Andrew T. Winsor, Payette FFA; Stephanie Lynn Woodworth, American Falls FFA; Amanda Lorene Wright, Fruitland FFA; Casandra Zufelt, Kuna FFA

Georgia: Elizabeth Belle Arnold, Sonorville FFA; Jennifer Arnold, Mary Persons FFA; Kelsey Ann Beasley, Franklin County FFA; Colby Bradford, Berrien County FFA; Justin Brown, Southeast Bulloch FFA; Kellie Elizabeth Brown, Banks County FFA; Steven Bruner, Cook County FFA; Kaitlyn Butler, Jeff Davis FFA; Chad Clements, Jeff Davis FFA; Jarrod Creasy, Southeast Bulloch FFA; Jamison Anthony Cruce, Fannin County FFA; Baylee Crumpler, Jeff Davis FFA; Matthew Darby, Gordon



Central FFA; Emilia Shea Dover, Murray County FFA; Lonnie Giddens, Mary Persons FFA; Dancy Nicholas Golden, Berrien County FFA; Haley Marlene Hill, Elbert County FFA; Thomas Hines, Tift County FFA; Dustin Howell, Cook County FFA; Amanda Kay James, Elbert County FFA; Chris Jones, Berrien County FFA; Bryce Kirkpatrick, Bleckley County FFA; Jeffrey Malcom, Hephzibah FFA; Joshua Nathaniel Millsaps, Fannin County FFA; Whitney Amber Mitchell, Berrien County FFA; Jacky Morton, West Laurens FFA; Elizabeth Mulkey, Stephens County FFA; Chris Mullis, Appling County FFA; Felipe Valdez Pedraza, Screven County FFA; Jake Savant, West Laurens FFA; Anna Catherine Savelle, Oconee County FFA; Taylor Rossee Sills, Putnam County FFA; Caleb Skipper, West Laurens FFA; Brittany Christine Smith, Thomas County Central FFA; Melissa Lynn Snyder, Southeast Bulloch FFA; Hunter Strickland, Jeff Davis FFA; Bradley Thacker, Dawson County FFA; Joshua Cain Thurmond, Jefferson FFA; Charlie Turk, Banks County FFA; Zach Vaughters, Dawson County FFA; Erin Wansley, Elbert County FFA; Clint Warren, Berrien County FFA; Britt Watson, Thomas County Central FFA; Karen Brooke Widner, Miller County FFA; Laura Ann Williford, Perry FFA; Tabitha Nell Williford, Perry FFA; Matthew J. Willingham, Chattooga County FFA; Jessica Wright, Jeff Davis FFA; Blaize Wynn, Colquitt County FFA

Florida: Kelsey Arellano, East Ridge FFA; Suzanne Black, East Ridge FFA; John Walt Boatright, Suwannee Senior FFA; Adrienne M. Boyette, Suwannee Senior FFA; Jordan Butts, Durant Senior FFA; Megan Dawn Calhoun, Plant City FFA; Nathan Candler, Okeechobee Brahman FFA; Ethan T. Carter, Chiefland Senior FFA; Lindsey Chism, Haines City Senior FFA; Arielle Claude, Williston FFA; Taylor Clemons, East Ridge FFA; Brandi Coleman, Trenton Senior FFA; Sabrina Cordeiro, South Sumter Senior FFA; Austin Courson, J.M. Tate Senior FFA; Caitlin Rebekah Cribbs, Durant Senior FFA; Lauren Der, Plant City FFA; Buddy Duke, Avon Park Senior FFA; Kayla Rae' Fulwood, Plant City FFA; Austin Gibson, Baker County FFA; Michele Goodfellow, DeLand FFA; Matthew L. Griffin, South Lake Senior FFA; Cameron Herndon, Haines City Senior FFA; Jyll Highsmith, Newsome FFA; Chanse Scott Huggins, Plant City FFA; Cody Hughes, Malone FFA; James Wesley Hunter, Vanguard



American Degree Recipients

FFA; Travis Jackson, Lecanto Senior FFA; Amanda Johnson, DeLand FFA; Amy Marie Johnson, South Lake Senior FFA; Wesley Jones, Sebring Senior FFA; Khristina Renee Knight, Plant City FFA; Amy Lawhorn, Newsome FFA; William Hayes Leonard, Blountstown FFA; Nicole S. Lewis, East Ridge FFA; Hannah Lea Masterson, Baker County FFA; Blaire L. Mayo, Columbia Senior FFA; Scarlett McCullers, Frostproof Senior FFA; Katey Melland, Suwannee Senior FFA; Sara Beth Newsome, Plant City FFA; Daniel Reese Poppell, Plant City FFA; Ashley Potts, Sebring Senior FFA; Caitlyn Corrine Prichard, Chipley FFA; Felicia Lynn Rowell, Fort Meade Senior FFA; Leah K. Stoutamire, Liberty County FFA; Ashley Summerlin, South Sumter Senior FFA; Nyssa Thigpen, Deltona FFA; Bryant Ronald Tindle, Plant City FFA; Ciera Trisch, Branford FFA; Amy Wack, Sebring Senior FFA; Britni Ward, Pine Ridge FFA; Selina Ann Williams, Plant City FFA; Bryttany Willis, South Lake Senior FFA; Cynthia Marie Young, South Sumter Senior FFA; Shelby Kate Zabele, Deltona FFA; Caitlin Fay Zimmerman, Plant City FFA

Delaware: Lindsey Bethard, Caesar Rodney FFA; Donald J. Edwards, Caesar Rodney FFA; Robert L. Emerson III, Middletown FFA; Elizabeth Goering, Milford FFA; Benjamin Harmon, Caesar Rodney FFA; Mark Maguire, Caesar Rodney FFA; Melissa Ann Messina, Smyrna FFA; Joseph F. Mogle III, Caesar Rodney FFA; Michael Scott, Middletown FFA; Travis Vogl, Lake Forest FFA; Kristi L. Voshell, Middletown FFA; Alexandra Marie West, Indian River FFA; Brittany Faith Willing, Middletown FFA

Connecticut: Jane Baker, Mattabeset FFA; Brittany Beyus, Wamogo Regional FFA; Sheri Boardman, Housatonic Valley FFA; Jonathan Burdacki, Lyman Hall FFA; Leah Gawlak, Lebanon Regional FFA; Timothy Godaire, Lebanon Regional FFA; Michael Kingsbury, Storrs Regional FFA; Michael Magnani, Storrs Regional FFA; April Moon, Lebanon Regional FFA; Brittany Lynn Pestey, Lebanon Regional FFA; Rebecca Reynolds, Lyman Hall FFA; Alexandra Roy, Southington FFA; Stephanie Rypysc, Suffield Regional FFA; Victor Kingsley Salazar, Northwestern Regional FFA; Alicia St. Sauveur, Northwestern Regional FFA; Amethyst Steele, Northwestern Regional FFA; Lauren Vignola, Lyman Hall FFA

Colorado: Clancy M. Anderson, St. Vrain Valley FFA; Amanda Antista, Hoehne FFA; Cody James Baker, Granada FFA; J. D. Barkey, Akron

FFA; Tyrel Barry, Hoehne FFA; Justin Bartlett, Sterling FFA; Ethan Charles Beeman, Pueblo County FFA; Alex L. Brown, Yuma FFA; Sydney Campbell, Lone Star FFA; Brock Chamberlain, Kit Carson FFA; Lia Coleman, Custer County FFA; Josh Cooper, Stratton FFA; Nicole DiPaolo, Weld Central FFA; Jephery Donaldson, Soroco FFA; Emily M. Frasier, Limon FFA; Demi Leigh Guerin, Platte Valley FFA; John L. Hanlon, Valley FFA; Derek White Heckman, McClave FFA; Jocelyn Helus, Platte Valley FFA; Michael T. Hoffman, Platte Valley FFA; Christian Hornung, Stratton FFA; Daniel Huss, Caliche FFA; Nicole Idler, McClave FFA; Christina A. Irion, Windsor FFA; Erin Karney, McClave FFA; Karl Kembel, Fort Morgan FFA; Jessica Klinginsmith, Grover FFA; Maximiano Larralde, Eaton FFA; Hillary Lenz, Wray FFA; Trisha Lester, Eaton FFA; Mark Lieberknecht, Sterling FFA; Mason



Lillich, Lone Star FFA; Shelby McCracken, Hi-Plains FFA; Kelsie J. McEndaffer, New Raymer FFA; Gwendolyn McIrvine, Weld Central FFA; Hannah McKay, Sterling FFA; Julie Meining, Valley FFA; Kady Meyer, Cortez FFA; Clayton T. Miller, Fort Morgan FFA; Breann Milne, Eaton FFA; Logan Mitchek, Kit Carson FFA; Emily Mollohan, Sterling FFA; Austin D. Reinick, Platte Valley FFA; Sara Rogers, Lone Star FFA; Kimberly Rossi, Soroco FFA; Stephanie Roth, Sterling FFA; Miranda Sims, Akron FFA; Josh Sonnenberg, Sterling FFA; Kaleb M. Staley, Fort Morgan FFA; Kendal Staley, Fort Morgan FFA; Mary Kate Stevens, Valley FFA; Hayden Uhland, Eads FFA; Julio Vazquez, Granada FFA; Ryan Wagner, Caliche FFA; Michael Weber, McClave FFA; Kelsey LeeAnn Wilson, Cortez FFA; Trisha Wooldridge, Windsor FFA

California: Christopher Adame, Fallbrook FFA; Kelsey Adams, Fallbrook FFA; Jose Alvarado, Lindsay FFA; Michael Alvarado, Fresno-Pershing FFA; Nicholas Alvarado, Morgan Hill - Sobrato FFA; Gustavo Alvarez, Corcoran FFA; Ashtin Alves, Laton FFA; Jason Anderson, Norco FFA; Emily Andreini, Red Bluff FFA; Pete Antognazzi, Merrill F. West FFA; Samantha Aragon, Saint Helena FFA; Susana E. Armenta, Santa Maria FFA; Cristina Avila, Dinuba FFA; Kasey Avila, Tulare FFA; Curtis Azevedo, Galt FFA; Kevin Manuel Azevedo, Hilmar FFA; Evan Bachelder, Patterson FFA; Nick Badasci, Hanford FFA; Lawrence Banales, Corcoran FFA; Malorie Bankhead, Livermore FFA; Ashley Patricia Barnes, Escondido FFA; Steven Barnett, Porterville FFA; Casey Bastian, Porterville FFA; Daniel Bazan, Buhach Colony -

Cameron, Brawley FFA; Sergio Cardona, Carpinteria FFA; Hannah Cardoza, Tulare FFA; Sergio Carmona, Santa Maria FFA; Corey Blaine Carpenter, Red Bluff FFA; Robert Carstens, Fowler FFA; Raven Castro, Winters FFA; Shane Cates, Kingsburg FFA; Allison Cauzza, Julian FFA; Mario Omar Vargas Chavez, Wildomar-Elsinore Valley FFA; Juan Churon, Hanford FFA; Rafael A. Cisneros, Highland FFA; Emily Clifton, Strathmore FFA; Ryan Clifton, Strathmore FFA; Molly Cochrane, Galt FFA; Joseph Coleman, Hilmar FFA; Kevin



Atwater FFA; Terra Bazan, Buhach Colony - Atwater FFA; Jenna Bea Bennett, Nipomo FFA; Michael Benson, Santa Maria FFA; Cooper W. Berens, Los Molinos FFA; Lauren Beshears, Morro Bay FFA; Antonio Bettencourt, Tulare FFA; Amanda Nicole Bevier, Shingle Springs-Ponderosa FFA; Niccole Marie Black, Fowler FFA; Cameron Blanke, Fullerton FFA; Chad Bower, Clovis FFA; Adrienne Bradley, Bear River FFA; Taylor Brickey, Winters FFA; Jessica Briggs, Littlerock FFA; Jessica Brisendine, Morgan Hill FFA; Ashley Brooking, Julian FFA; Julia Brown, Las Plumas FFA; Robert Brown, Porterville FFA; Cassie Bruecker, Chowchilla FFA; Carl Bushnell, Porterville FFA; Courtney Cabrera, Hollister FFA; Britney Caetana, Hanford FFA; Kyle David Caetano, Tulare FFA; Yasmin Camacho, Lindsay FFA; Sean

Comalli, Santa Rosa FFA; Jerry Compton, Hanford FFA; Jacob Conway, Riverdale FFA; Jonathon Cota, Los Banos FFA; Samantha Cyrus, Grass Valley-Nevada Union FFA; Kate Daley, Las Plumas FFA; Joshua Michael Davila, Monache FFA; Breana DeMatto, Hanford FFA; Serena Diaso, Lemoore FFA; Martha Diaz, Fowler FFA; Craig Diener, Riverdale FFA; Justine Donnelly, Elk Grove FFA; Kate Doop, Carpinteria FFA; Samuel Doty, Hollister FFA; Amy Dufur, Lemoore FFA; Adelaide Dyer, Lakeside-El Capitan FFA; Wesley Eisenga, Ripon FFA; Kayla Elder, Caruthers FFA; Katie Eslick, Winters FFA; Stephanie Fairbank, Las Plumas FFA; Stephanie Ferrumpau, Tulare FFA; Matt Fletcher, Dixon FFA; Aaron Flores, San Luis Obispo FFA; Ashton Flynn, Porterville FFA; Kory Fontes, San Luis Obispo FFA;

American Degree Recipients

Kayla Fountain, Elk Grove FFA; Sandra Frederick, Norte Vista FFA; Brent T. Fukushima, Tracy FFA; J.D. Fullmer, Arroyo Grande FFA; Michael Fuso, Lodi FFA; Kayla F. Gardner, Nipomo FFA; Will Garland, Porterville FFA; John Garner, Hollister FFA; Raechelle Gaylord, Gold West FFA; Chris Gemmell, Strathmore FFA; Blythe George, McKinleyville FFA; Brooke Giles, Gustine FFA; Alexsis Girard, Fresno-Central FFA; Joseph Gobeia, Santa Maria FFA; Carolynnn Gomes, Gustine FFA; Marie Gonzales, Caruthers FFA; Benjamin Gray, Galt FFA; Kelly Gray, Santa Rosa FFA; Jenna Greenmyer, Lodi FFA; Cody Greer, Sanger FFA; Christina Groleau, San Marcos FFA; Ariel Guerrero, Fresno-Pershing FFA; Erica Lynn Guido, Linden FFA; Victoria Nicole Hamilton, El Molino - Forestville FFA; Scott Hammond, Santa Rosa FFA; Haley Dene Hanse, Hanford FFA; Breanne Harlan, Riverdale FFA; Crystal Harris, Middletown FFA; William Havard, Gold West FFA; Daniel Havlin, Dixon FFA; Alonzo Hernandez, Madera FFA; Emanuel Hernandez, Santa Maria FFA; Enrique Hernandez, Madera FFA; Juan Hernandez, Santa Maria FFA; Jeffery Hillman, Fullerton FFA; Christie Hobby, Hughson FFA; Ashley Hofman, Ripon FFA; Shannon Holland, Tulare FFA; Natalynne Hood, Rosamond FFA; Lacey Howard, Exeter FFA; Houston Howell, Hanford FFA; Austin Hubbell, Fresno-Central FFA; Cody Huff, Carpinteria FFA; Anthony Hughes, Kern Valley FFA; Lance Hunt, Fortuna FFA; Elizabeth Hurd, Arroyo Grande FFA; Carrie Ellen Isaacson, Woodland FFA; Holli Linn Jacobsen, Beyer-Modesto FFA; Doug Jeffries, Porterville FFA; Alexis Jimenez, Carpinteria FFA; Sam Job, Porterville FFA; Hannah Junio, Tulare FFA; Klint Keenan, Norco FFA; Shayne Kent, Porterville FFA; Shauna Ketcham, Livermore FFA; Peter Knight, Hamilton City FFA; Wesley Krantz, Winters FFA; Kyle Lane, Reedley FFA; Amanda Nicholle Larson, Monache FFA; Kathleen Lawson, Morgan Hill - Sobrato FFA; Michelle E. Lindsey, Las Plumas FFA; Jordan Lippincott, Escalon FFA; Carrie Logan, Fowler FFA; Jacob Loogman, Ripon FFA; Cain Lopez, Shandon FFA; Francisco A. Lopez, Laton FFA; Kristin Eleonore Lopez, Fowler FFA; Steven Lopez, Sanger FFA; Horacio Lopez-Segura, Saint Helena FFA; Gary Lowery Jr., Bakersfield FFA; Margarito Lua, Santa Maria FFA; Alexander Thomas Lund, Santa Rosa FFA; Anthony Macedo, Tulare FFA; James Matthew Macedo, Tulare FFA; Justin Machado, Escalon FFA; Stacy Magana, Fallbrook FFA; Yvette Malveaux, Wildomar-Elsinore Valley FFA; Jenenetta Mariscian, Morgan Hill - Sobrato FFA; Diego Martinez, Santa Maria FFA; Matthew Martinez, Laton FFA; Tabitha Martinez, Red Bluff FFA; Jeffrey



Mason, Arcata FFA; Mario Mastelotto, Las Plumas FFA; Anthony Matteucci, Porterville FFA; Brigid Mattos, Hanford FFA; Malille McCallister, Kelseyville FFA; Brandon McCorkle, Hamilton City FFA; Andrew James McCormick, Johansen-Modesto FFA; Taylor McDonald, Winterhaven FFA; Jordan McGill, Farmersville FFA; Connor McKean, Riverdale FFA; Ashley McKee, Exeter FFA; Kristyn McQueen, Lodi FFA; Alison Mebane, North High-Bakersfield FFA; Caitlin Meile, Lakeside-El Capitan FFA; Kody Melendrez, Fresno-Pershing FFA; Nicole Mello, Gustine FFA; Walter Mendoza, Santa Maria FFA; Blake Matthew Meneses, Tulare FFA; Bailey Renea Miller, Red Bluff FFA; Meagan Miller, Shandon FFA; Ross Miller, Arbuckle FFA; George Minaglia, Healdsburg FFA; Brian Monteiro, Riverdale FFA; Amanda Renee Moore, Oakdale FFA; Charles L. Moran Jr., Hanford FFA; Johnny Morrison, Monache FFA; Rhett Mota, Hilmar FFA; Lauren Navarro, Atwater FFA; Ryan Nazarov, Kerman FFA; Bretton Neville, North High-Bakersfield FFA; Lukas Nickols, Eureka FFA; Christopher Nilsen, Serrano FFA; Kristine Nunes, Golden Valley-Merced FFA; Tanner W. Obermeyer, Norco FFA; Cody Oldenberger, Porterville FFA; Taylor Ortiz, Brawley FFA; Darcy Rae Pearce, Corcoran FFA; Michael Perez, Corcoran FFA; Suzanne Perrin, Lodi FFA; Austin Taylor Perry, Clovis FFA; Justin Peters, Kelseyville FFA; Ross Petersen, Santa Ynez FFA; Caitlin Pettijohn-Banegas, Ramona FFA; Amy Phillips, Corcoran FFA; James G. Piersma, Hilmar FFA; Amanda Pinheiro, Tulare FFA; Ashley Pipkin, Morgan Hill - Sobrato FFA; Weston Pounds, Foothill-Bakersfield FFA; Margarito Prado, Carpinteria FFA; Tatiana Prestininzi, Fallbrook FFA; Jaime Pryde, Anderson FFA; Lovlean Purewal, Caruthers FFA; Alexandra Taylor Quesinberry, Beyer-Modesto FFA; Todd M. Quigley, Las Plumas FFA; Marisela Quiroz, Laton FFA; Nicole Ramos,

Hanford FFA; Richard Rangel, Laton FFA; Alayna Renner, Ferndale FFA; Miguel Reyes, Porterville FFA; Joel Riedel, San Luis Obispo FFA; Jerome Rios, Hanford FFA; Roy Roberts, Reedley FFA; Sean Robinson, Lakeside-El Capitan FFA; Alexa Roche, Tulare FFA; Frank Roche, Tulare FFA; Alejandro Rodriguez, Hanford FFA; Cassandra Rodriguez, Salinas FFA; Breeanna Roland, Lakeside-El Capitan FFA; Cynthia Romero, Fresno-Pershing FFA; Justin Rominger, Winters FFA; Madison Rowell, Clovis FFA; Elizabeth Ruelas, Wasco FFA; Shelbe Ruis, Lakeside-El Capitan FFA; Jared D. Rutman, Gilroy FFA; Glenn Sailors, Kern Valley FFA; Tate C. Sandborg, Porterville FFA; Catherine Sanders, Santa Maria-Pioneer Valley FFA; Jose Sandoval, Santa Maria FFA; Alyssa Sankey, Colusa FFA; Kari Lynn Sargent, Hanford FFA; Chase Arnold Schaffner, Holtville FFA; Kaylyn Schiber, Atwater FFA; Kattie Schmidig, Escalon FFA; Sarah Schmitt, Escondido FFA; Brooke Schmitt, Sanger FFA; Frank Schott, Tulare FFA; Mikaela Danielle Serafin, Tulare FFA; Bethany Shimmell, Grace Davis FFA; Jesse Silva, LeGrand FFA; Mason Patrick Silva, Santa Maria FFA; Sebastian Silveira, Hanford FFA; Jacob Skinner, Wasco FFA; Stephanie Sloan, Sacramento-Florin FFA; Morgan Staneart, Chowchilla FFA; Kristin Stanfield, Hanford FFA; Lauren Stannard, Norte Vista FFA; Alexa Stanton, Lakeside-El Capitan FFA; Elizabeth Steele, Grass Valley-Nevada Union FFA; Melissa Stegall, Sonora FFA; Jessica Stokes, Elk Grove FFA; Whitney Stuart, Clovis FFA; Tanner Swanson, Kingsburg FFA; Dace Taylor, Gold West FFA; Brianna Teese, Tracy FFA; Katie Tenneson, Trinity FFA; Katelyn Marie Titus, Linden FFA; Megan Toler, Shandon FFA; Ashley Van Buren, Las Plumas FFA; Jaclyn Van Buren, Las Plumas FFA; Kayla M. Vanaselja, Oceanside-El Camino FFA; Samantha Vargus, Tulare FFA; Joshua Veenendaal,



Hanford FFA; Anthony Verissimo, Tulare FFA; Jovanni Villa, Kerman FFA; Jake Vivar, Fallbrook FFA; Robert E. Vyvlecka, Woodland-Pioneer FFA; Dylan Walley, Porterville FFA; Melissa Watkins, Las Plumas FFA; Zachary Ryan Weimortz, Woodland FFA; Taylor Weisenberger, Exeter FFA; Laura White, Saint Helena FFA; Kaitlyn Whitmyre, Morgan Hill - Sobrato FFA; Kirsti Whitmyre, Morgan Hill - Sobrato FFA; Alisha L. Wilmoth, Norco FFA; Jared Wood, Duncan FFA; Bradley Wright, Galt FFA; Rachel Lynn Wright, Tollhouse-Sierra FFA; Kou Xiong, Fresno-Central FFA; Michael Zavala, Fowler FFA; Vanessa Zendejas, Laton FFA

Arkansas: Jessica Fritts, Huntsville FFA; Clint Jackson Haegele, Lincoln FFA; Sean Hill, Har-Ber FFA; Hayley Hogan, Ozark FFA; Phalycia Kaurin Hyde, Gretna County Tech II FFA; Mike Norton, Lincoln FFA; Randi Jo Reed, Lincoln FFA; Deonna Nicole Robertson, Glen Rose FFA

Arizona: Christina Beshears, Yuma FFA; Jared Biciolis, Peoria FFA; Jake Blevins, Peoria FFA; Angelo Boss, Millennium FFA; Samantha Anne Bushong, Gilbert FFA; Jonathan Clapeck, Rio Rico FFA; Clint Costello, Millennium FFA; Henrietta Leona Daymon, Yuma FFA; Connor Eyherabide, Millennium FFA; Hannah L. Farbo, Willcox FFA; Luke H. Gless, Red Mountain FFA; Mariah Lynn Hall, Kofa FFA; Cassidy Hayn, Payson FFA; Hillary L. Hibbard, Gilbert FFA; Rachel Land, Yuma FFA; Tony Lederer, Peoria FFA; Jason Lister, Payson FFA; Ashley Masters, Millennium FFA; Ben Menges, Safford FFA; Catherine M. Miller, Mesquite FFA; Joshua Dane Moore, Parker FFA; Shea Nelsen, Payson FFA; Tristan Niblett, Buckeye FFA; Caitlin A. Olson, Benson FFA; Melissa Rankin, Red Mountain FFA; Alanna Riggs, Willcox FFA; Cody Smith, Coolidge FFA; Kalea Taylor, Highland FFA; Coty Vincent, Red Mountain FFA; Brandon Walker, Red Mountain FFA; Justin Williams, Basha FFA; Ashley Wilson, Yuma FFA; Lauren Ashley Wilson, Safford FFA

Alaska: Rachel Ann Kenley, Palmer FFA

Alabama: James Paul Bailey, Sand Rock FFA; William Brandon Smith, Slocumb FFA; Cory Terry, Lawrence County FFA; Dexter B. Vines, Sand Rock FFA

Honorary American Degree



Teachers

California: Ms. Jody Baker, Ms. Vera Gomes, Ms. Donelle McCallister, Ms. Denise Morales, Ms. Cheryl Reece, Mr. Tom Vazquez

Florida: Mr. Danny E. Garner

Georgia: Mr. Ron Bray, Mr. David S. Burton, Mr. Ed Moncus

Idaho: Mr. Steven Braun

Illinois: Mr. Brian E. Cirks

Iowa: Mr. Ronald Zelle

Kansas: Mr. Larry L. Lyder, Mr. V. Lee Weis

Michigan: Ms. Margo Fether

Minnesota: Mr. Nathan D. Thompson

Missouri: Mr. Jonathan P. Hoer, Mr. Johnny D. Viebrock, Mr. Tom Zeilstra

Nebraska: Mr. Arne R. Anderson, Ms. Bonnie Baldasare

New Mexico: The Late Mr. Gary Nathan Leger

New York: Mr. John Busekist, Cattaraugus, Mr. Martin Krause

Oklahoma: Mr. Kevin Brewer, Mr. Bryan Kennedy

South Carolina: Mr. Fred Raines

South Dakota: Mr. Michel Brink

Tennessee: Mr. Glenn Goulder, Mr. Glenn A. Ross, Ms. Jill H. Shrum

Texas: Mr. G. Adrian O'Hanlon, Jr., Mr. Michael Rainey, Mr. Jack Winterrowd

Virginia: Ms. Jane Clark, Mr. Ronald C. Daughtrey, Mr. David Richmond

West Virginia: Mr. William D. Aberegg, Mr. Russell Dotson, Dr. Howard Henderson

Wyoming: Mrs. Lynne Latham

Other

Alabama: Mr. Daniel Jacob Davis, Representative Richard J. Lindsey, Mr. Paul Pinyan

Arkansas: Senator Mark Pryor, Dr. Jim Rollins, Congressman Mike Ross, Dr. Milo Shult

California: Dr. Arthur Parham

Delaware: Mr. Frederick Duffy, Dr. William Lane

Florida: Mr. Ricky Lyons, Mr. L. Douglas Register

Georgia: Mr. David Brown, Ms. Joy Carter, Mr. Preston Dees, Mr. Zippy Duvall, Senator Greg Goggans

Idaho: Mr. Stephen Joe Burrie

Iowa: Mrs. Mary Beth Zelle

Kansas: Mr. Steve Kearney

Kentucky: Mrs. Cheryl J. Williams

Louisiana: Dr. Ronald N. Mayeux

Maryland: Mr. Craig Hartsok, Mr. Steve Resh, Mr. Charles Smith

Massachusetts: Mr. William N. Fisher

Michigan: Mr. Tom Nugent, Mr. Matt Smego

Minnesota: Mr. Jim Boerboom, Mr. Paul Kobernusz, Dr. Allen Levine, Mr. Tim McNamara, Mr. Alan Withers

Missouri: Mr. Don Fuhrmann, Mrs. Sandra L. Kaiser, Dr. Jason Scales, Mrs. Alice Deane Thompson

National Staff: Ms. Diana Amera, Mr. Sam Atherton, Mr. Colby Blair, Dr. Dee Bohnenblust, Mr. Jeff Bohnenblust, Mr. Tom Brand, Ms. DeAndra Brandt, Mr. Luke Brandt, Mr. Glen Braune, Ms. Tiffany Brown, Mrs. Phyllis Buchanan, Mrs. Teri Buchholtz, Mr. Robert B. Calvin, Ms. Brenda Cockrell, Mr. Mitchell Coleman, Dr. Nina Crutchfield, Deputy Chief Val Cunningham, Mr. Edsel Daniel, Mrs. Beth Doss, Mr. Jeffery Doss, Lt. Tom Elliott, Ms. Shannon Frank, Ms. Desiré Garza, Dr. Daniel Godfrey, Mr. Scott Gould, Ms. Sherry Greenwald, Mr. Vern Hawkins, Mrs. Cynthia Hefner, Mr. Burton Henry, Mrs. Cheryl Henry, Dr. Karen Hutchison, Mr. Harry James, Ms. Jennifer Jones, Mr. Walter C. Jones, Dr. Wash A. Jones, Mr. Rich Kapp, Mr. Dick Kasting, Mrs. Sherry Key, Ms. Kay Kuenker, Mr. William (Bill) Lucas, Mrs. Janet Maloney, Mr. Colin Meyers, Mrs. Nikole Mull, Ms. Patti Overton, Mr. Thomas (Tom) Pasztor, Mrs. Judy Payne-Randolph, Mr. Max Phillips, Mr. Levy George Randolph, Mr. Chris Ratay, Mr. Phil Ray, Mrs. Catherine Rose, Mr. James

Buck Rose, Mr. Marvin Rountree, Ms. Joyce Russell, Mr. James St. Arnold, Ms. P.J. Simon, Mr. Jeff Sweet, Mr. Don Tyson, Mr. Barry Widduck, Mr. Bob Williams, Dr. Gregory L. Willoughby

Montana: Mr. Tim Schaff, New Jersey, Dr. Thomas Bistocchi, Mr. Douglas H. Fisher, Mr. John D. Morrow

New York: Mr. Richard Bennett, Mrs. Ann LaFave, Senator Catharine Young

North Carolina: Mr. Robert Jason Davis, Mr. Scott Lee Johnson

North Dakota: The Late Mrs. Barbara M. Mueller, Mr. Thomas Williams III

Ohio: Mr. Tod Baldwin

Oklahoma: Mr. Ed Cunnius, Mr. Tom Gilliam, Mr. Terry Peach, Mrs. Kathie Short, Mr. Mike Spradling

Pennsylvania: Mr. Jay Gainer, Mr. Earl Geib, Mr. Michael Pechart, Mr. Larry Weaver, Mr. Al Wenger, South Carolina, Mr. E.B. Earle, Mr. A.C. "Kemp" McLeod, Ms. Miriam R. Pflug, Mr. Daniel B. Verdin III

South Dakota: Mr. Brad Bies, Mr. Craig Dybedahl, Mr. Chris Nelson, Ms. Sandra Nelson

Tennessee: Mr. Waymon L. Hickman, Sr., Mr. Robert Wallace Lannom, Mr. William A. Nash

Texas: Mrs. Betheny Elmore, Mr. Frank E. Franklin, Jr., Mr. Jay R. Roberts, Mr. Bruce Yeager

Virginia: Dr. Ozzie Abaye, Dr. Howard Ladewig, Dr. Gary D. McQuain, Dr. John H. Rusty Miller

West Virginia: Mr. James Crumrine, Mr. Roger L. Mallow, Mr. Andrew Kent Walker, Mr. Eugene Walker

Wisconsin: Mr. Dean Gagnon, Mrs. Mary Gagnon, Mr. Allan D. Herrman, Mr. Jim Massey, Mr. Paul Palmby

Wyoming: Mr. Leland Vetter

Oklahoma: Mr. Ed Cunnius, Mr. Tom Gilliam, Mr. Terry Peach, Mrs. Kathie Short, Mr. Mike Spradling

Pennsylvania: Mr. Jay Gainer, Mr. Earl Geib, Mr. Michael Pechart, Mr. Larry Weaver, Mr. Al Wenger



South Carolina: Mr. E.B. Earle, Mr. A.C. "Kemp" McLeod, Ms. Miriam R. Pflug, Mr. Daniel B. Verdin III

South Dakota: Mr. Brad Bies, Mr. Craig Dybedahl, Mr. Chris Nelson, Ms. Sandra Nelson

Tennessee: Mr. Waymon L. Hickman, Sr., Mr. Robert Wallace Lannom, Mr. William A. Nash

Texas: Mrs. Betheny Elmore, Mr. Frank E. Franklin, Jr., Mr. Jay R. Roberts, Mr. Bruce Yeager, Virginia, Dr. Ozzie Abaye, Dr. Howard Ladewig, Dr. Gary D. McQuain, Dr. John H. Rusty Miller

West Virginia: Mr. James Crumrine, Mr. Roger L. Mallow, Mr. Andrew Kent Walker, Mr. Eugene Walker

Wisconsin: Mr. Dean Gagnon, Mrs. Mary Gagnon, Mr. Allan D. Herrman, Mr. Jim Massey, Mr. Paul Palmby

Wyoming: Mr. Leland Vetter

FFA Chapters Win Top Honor

During the 83rd national FFA convention, chapters across the nation competed for the honor of being a Model of Innovation winner. The chapters competed for the honor in three main divisions: Chapter development, student development and community development. A top middle school chapter was also named. The chapters who received the honors received a plaque in an on-stage ceremony during the convention's second general session.

Chapter Development

The Ridgemont FFA Chapter of Ridgeway, Ohio was named Model of Innovation winner in Chapter Development. Members of the Ridgemont FFA in Ridgeway, Ohio planned several events to develop their chapter. One activity, "Go Green Gophers," coincided with the 40th annual Earth Day and helped to improve the high school's green practices. For "Sprinting Sprouts," members created a track and field event to raise money for a community member battling cancer and to promote healthy lifestyles.

Student development

The Spencer County FFA Chapter in Taylorsville, Ky., was named Model of Innovation winner in student development. A primary focus of the Spencer County FFA in the past year was a new initiative aimed at encouraging their home community to be more active in recreational activities. The brainchild of the chapter was a new event, a community-wide "Dancing with the Stars" activity. Cooperating with the high school dance team, 100 percent of the chapter's 291 members assisted in selling tickets to the event that attracted 900 community

members and taught them to see the fun of dancing and learn about healthy lifestyles. The event funds were split with the dance team and allowed the Spencer County members to attend FFA camp.

Community Development

The Yelm FFA Chapter of Yelm, Wash., was named Model of Innovation winner in community development. Members of Yelm FFA helped more than 500 kids catch and process more than 800 fish at the Trout Ponds. Along with Trout Unlimited and Moose Lodge, the members educated the junior fisherman on the state's two-fish limit and encouraged participants to continue recreational fishing. Additionally, the chapter executed a campaign entitled "Project Tornado: Destroying Bad Driving Habits." As a result of the public awareness campaign, DUI violations dropped 39.78 percent in Yelm and area police officers stopped 60 percent less vehicles for passengers not wearing seatbelts.

Middle School

The Franklin County Middle School FFA Chapter of Carnesville, Ga., was named "Outstanding Middle School" Model of Innovation winner at the 83rd National FFA Convention.

Members of the Franklin County Middle School FFA continue to show off their Agriscience skills. This year, the chapter hosted its sixth annual Agriscience Fair with more than 30 exhibits from the middle school members.

In a drive to help the greater community, the group initiated a school-wide service project, collecting pop-tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Nearly 75 gallons of tabs were collected throughout the year.



VIP Citation



Twelve individuals were selected this year by the national FFA Organization to receive a special VIP citation. The VIP citations recognize individuals for making significant contributions to agricultural education. It is one of the most prestigious awards a person may receive for supporting FFA and its programs. Those selected were honored during an onstage presentation at the 83rd National FFA Convention. Awards such as the VIP Citation recognize that FFA contributes to the mission of success through the hard work and cooperation of dedicated individuals. Without such strong and outstanding commitment, FFA would not be able to help build strong individuals of character in their members, who in turn build strong families, communities and industries.

Dr. Phil Berkenbile of Stillwater, Okla., focus has always been on people: family, friends, students and colleagues. "So many people helped me get where I am today," he said. "Agriculture was a big part of my life." As a high school freshman, Berkenbile developed a desire to become an agricultural education teacher. He earned three degrees from Oklahoma State University and went on to teach agricultural education. He taught for 16 years and in 1988 joined the agricultural education division of the Oklahoma Department of Career Tech as central

district supervisor. In 1995 he became the Morrison Public Schools superintendent, but returned to the Department of Career Tech in 1999. As state director he oversees the largest career tech in the nation. His leadership has seen to it that agricultural education and FFA in Oklahoma is on a solid foundation.

Dr. Stacy A. Gartin of Morgantown, W. Va., a professor at West Virginia University, designed the PhD program for agricultural and extension and education and the PhD in human and community development at the university. He has been an instructor for undergraduate and graduate courses for the last 26 years. He served two different three-year terms on the National FFA Board of Directors. He coordinated West Virginia career development events (CDEs) for 25 years and judged for regional and state scholastic CDEs.

For more than 22 years, **Commissioner Ken Givens** of Nashville, Tenn., has been an avid supporter of agricultural education and FFA. As a member of the Tennessee state house of representatives, he provided the leadership to pass legislation securing 12-month agricultural education programs in that state. Under his leadership, he supported and funded the very first Governor's School for Agricultural Sciences and he

provided Ag Tag (a special agriculture license plate) funding to assist state winning career development event (CDE) teams in competition at the national FFA convention. He directed the department's investment of more than \$800,000 in eight agricultural education programs to build learning center for agricultural enrichment programs. During his tenure as commissioner, he has secured approximately \$4 million to support the students and agricultural programs in Tennessee.

In 1988, **Patrick Gottsch** of Elkhorn, Neb., approached the National FFA Organization with a vision of broadcasting the national FFA convention on his new television network. Through his sponsorship and generosity, the National FFA Organization has been to make its national convention available to viewers across the country. In 2003, Gottsch made it possible for FFA to create and broadcast a television magazine program that featured news and stories about FFA. Now, years later, the "FFA Today" show is seen around the nation. The positive promotional value for FFA and agricultural education has been significant. This past year, Gottsch invited FFA to be featured on the RFD-TV float in the 2010 Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, Calif. As a result, 60 young FFA members from across the nation were featured in live

broadcasts of the event by multiple networks in the U.S. and abroad.

Dr. Stanley Hopkins of Charleston, W.Va., began his career in education in 1972 as an agricultural education teacher and FFA advisor in the Mason County, W.Va., School system. In 1977, he launched his career in state government with the department of education, where he started as coordinator, advanced to executive director and then retired as assistant state superintendent of schools, division of technical and adult education services. Hopkins never lost touch with his agricultural education roots and he made sure funding was always available for agricultural education programs. He spoke at many West Virginia FFA state conventions, supported many new initiatives and guided agricultural education curriculum development in the areas of contents and standards. In May 2010 he was named Distinguished West Virginian and appointed state agriculture commissioner.

June Morrison of Gilbert, Ariz., and her late husband, Marvin, have served the state of Arizona in a distinguished capacity as cotton farmers, range cattlemen and dairymen. Their enthusiastic leadership has been of particular importance to the Arizona Farm Bureau, the Arizona 4-H Youth Foundation and the Arizona Town Hall, which they helped to establish. In addition to monetary contributions, they have given their valuable time to numerous community organizations. They are also parents of two former national FFA officers, Richard and Howard Morrison.

Wayne A. Nattress of Altoona, Iowa, has done much to advance agricultural education and FFA in the state of Iowa. In 1980 Nattress was named agricultural education consultant at the Iowa Department of Education and served as the executive treasurer of the Iowa FFA Association. He was named state advisor in 1982. During his time at the department of education he saw the need for additional financial support to assist the Iowa FFA with student recognition and programming. As a

result, he began the Iowa FFA Foundation in 1986 and worked concurrently as Iowa FFA advisor and the foundation executive director. In 1991, he operated the Iowa FFA Foundation full-time. Today, the Iowa FFA Foundation consistently raises nearly \$200,000 for Iowa FFA Association activities and awards each year. He was also instrumental in opening the FFA Enrichment Center in Ankeny, Iowa in January 2010, where the Iowa FFA Association and Iowa FFA Foundation are now housed.

Larry Nelson of Pierre, S.D., taught agricultural education in Salem, S.D., in the early 1960s and then he served as the South Dakota State FFA advisor from 1972-84. During this time, the South Dakota FFA added its leadership camp and several livestock shows during the state fair. Nelson then became the assistant director for the South Dakota Division of Workforce Development. In that role, he supported agricultural education and FFA in numerous ways, always finding funds to support the South Dakota FFA Executive Secretary position, ensuring summer contracts allowing South Dakota State University Agricultural Education instructors to provide inservice training for teachers in the field and many other initiatives. He has always been a strong proponent for teachers.

"I believe," are two words often spoken by the Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture **Russell C. Redding**, of Harrisburg, Penn. A native of Gettysburg, Penn., he became active in agriculture as he was raised on a dairy farm. In the 1970s he put on his first FFA blue jacket as a member of the Battlefield FFA chapter. He earned his degrees in Ag and Extension Education from Penn State. Redding's commitment to FFA extended to his work as the Vocational Student Organization Coordinator for the Pennsylvania Department of Education in the 1980s. He was appointed as a Deputy Secretary at the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in 1995 and was critical in creating a relationship with the Pennsylvania FFA Association. He also oversaw line item

funding to support the Pennsylvania FFA Foundation and created an executive office position at the department of agriculture to oversee and manage agricultural education activities across the state.

Cheryl Salley of Moline, Ill., is a long-time, passionate advocate of agricultural education and FFA. She serves as the National FFA Foundation's day to day contact at John Deere and has previously been recognized with the Honorary American FFA Degree. From a financial aspect, John Deere's support of FFA has more than doubled since Salley moved to her current position. She is a vocal internal advocate for FFA. She has also served on numerous FFA task forces.

For the past 25 years, G. **Andy Seibel** of Blacksburg, Va., has been dedicated to agricultural education and FFA. He began his career as an agricultural education teacher in the late 80s and in 2002 began his service to the Virginia State FFA Association. He has also served as an adjunct professor at Virginia Tech, teaching agricultural mechanics to graduate students pursuing teaching certificates in agriculture. As the only full-time employee of Virginia FFA, he organizes, implements and oversees all of the Virginia FFA events and programming.

Nancy Trivette of Trenton, N.J., has shown her dedication to agricultural education and FFA for more than 25 years. She currently administers New Jersey Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Education programs. In this role she manages staff to deliver state leadership, resources and services to school, teachers and students, preparing them for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture. Trivette utilizes state funds to advance agriscience education and equip agricultural educators with current technology necessary to meet the industry demands. She played an integral role in connecting the state to Curriculum for Agriscience Education (CASE) and National Quality Program Standards (NQPS) initiatives.

Invaluable Partnerships Honored

During the national FFA convention, the National FFA Organization recognized clubs, agencies and organizations that have greatly contributed to agricultural science education and FFA programs through the Distinguished Service Citation.

Awards such as the Distinguished Service Citation recognize FFA makes a greater impact on students through the cooperation of the entire community. FFA and agricultural science education programs have helped millions of students achieve extraordinary success for 83 years because of this remarkable dedication. The award was presented onstage at the 83rd National FFA Convention. Those who were honored include: Ford Motor Company and Ford Motor Company Fund and Farm Credit of the Virginias



Ford Motor Company and Ford Motor Company Fund

For the past 63 years, the Ford Motor Company and Ford Motor Company Fund have been supporting the National FFA Organization. One main area of support began in 1997 with the creation of the Ford Truck FFA Scholarship Program as part of the National FFA scholarship program. This groundbreaking program encourages local dealers to support local FFA scholarships in partnership with Ford and the Ford Fund. To date, this effort has provided more than \$5.5 million in college funds to FFA members. In 2008, Ford became a Platinum Sponsor for the National FFA Foundation.

Farm Credit of the Virginias

With more than 26 offices that cover 96 counties in Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia, Farm Credit of the Virginias has been a long time supporter of FFA through a number of activities- including the Youth Agricultural Loan Program. Through this program, low-interest loans are made available to members to program and expand their supervisory agricultural experience(s) (SAEs). Farm Credit has a visible presence at youth livestock shows in the state and has sponsored members' trips to the national FFA convention. Farm credit agents are also active in many chapter activities, serving as judges for career development events, sponsoring awards and offering financial analysis seminars at chapter meetings. In 2008, Farm Credit of the Virginias contributed more than \$35,000 to agricultural youth programming. In addition, the business expanded the Young Farmer Institute program in 2009 and is an annual donor for the West Virginia FFA Foundation's annual golf tournament.

Band, Chorus and Talent Participants

BAND

Arkansas: Lensey Watson

Florida: Dyllan Brown

Iowa: Jessica Dearden

Illinois: Jacob Dickey, Perry Harlow, Sydney Hawley, Matt Keppen, Kaitlynn Miller

Indiana: Mackenzie Ziegler

Kansas: Cody Filiip

Kentucky: Tracy Prater

Maryland: Ryan Wiesenmiller

Michigan: Jennifer LaJoye, Conner Swift, Amber Terhaar, Taylor Tesch, Kelsey Ward

Minnesota: Shaelyn Hareldson, Sabrina Kieser, Christian Stewart

Missouri: James Ashby, Harley Baumgartner, Travis Black, Zakary Blanchard, Jessica Gannon, Allie Hansbrough, Aaron Hill, Aaron Schwarte, Olivia Shanks, Nathan Taylor

Mississippi: Logan Dale

Montana: Klaire Kramer

Nebraska: Abigail Bechtel, Dylan Dam, J.R. French, Tommy Geisler, Lindsay Hottovy, Marcy Kalenda, Erika Roan, Jordan Schut, Nicole Thramer

New Jersey: Stephanie Tarlowe

New Mexico: Timothy Campos

Ohio: Chelsea Berning, Cameron Bookman, Alison Conley, Jena Hart, Caroline Weihl

Oklahoma: Kade Blakley, Cullen Duran, Baxter Heinrich, Jessie Jensen-Buie, Blaise Newman, Barrett Powell, Keysto Stotz

Pennsylvania: Morgan Jennings

South Dakota: Hannah Kolbeck, Katelyn Loutsch, Paige Sewright, Nathaniel Steinlicht, Derek Vandenthrop

Tennessee: Kirby Cherry, James-Tanner Coffman

Texas: Kalya Cremeen, Megan Dawson, Trevor Martin, Jan Mayne, Danny McNeely, Ethan Schmidt, Levi Singleton

Wisconsin: Stacey Coggon, Lindsay Horst, Leah Jaynes, Alexandria Klapoetke, Camille Mulrooney, Grant Nass, Aimee Overton, Michelle Pehler, Sarah Wanek

CHORUS

Arizona: Tanner Kemp, Sarah Land

Colorado: Katelyn Dovenbarger, David Firkins

Iowa: Eleni Boesch, Megan Gerhardt, Hannah Hillyard, Willow Huber

Illinois: Hope Birch, Emily Crowcroft, Allison Mclane, Murphy Bolt, Elise Hackett, Andrew Lesch

Indiana: Brenda Crosby, Annaliese Hillman

Kansas: Tim McCoy

Michigan: Elizabeth Hale, Caitlin Weathers, Melissa Maher

Minnesota: Adrianna Deboer, Colee Jennissen, Andrew Steiner, Megan Endreson, Alexander Hauck

Missouri: Susan Bishop, Lacey Mayne, Katie Hash, Jerri Lynn Henry, Jessica Linberger, Austin Long, Katherine Miller, Kenneth Swope

Montana: Laurel Myers

North Dakota: Brittany Lasher

Nebraska: Sera Brockhaus, Mark Francis, Katherine Ganskow, Jeffery Wallman, David Nutt, Sarah Page, Kendall Renken, Jarrod Shinn, Stephanie Steele, Katie Umland

New Mexico: Andrew Kelly

New York: Phillip Fargo, Amanda Rhodes

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

Oklahoma: Cade Baldwin, Morgan Henry, Caleb Baker, Lauren Walsh, Chrystal Patton

Oregon: Nicole Lane, Sheri Bash

Pennsylvania: Jenna Moser, Emily Wenschhof

Puerto Rico: Lisenia Collazo, Lorraine Henriquez, Nicolle Corchado-Lopez, Jose Carols Wharton

South Carolina: Adam Howle, Christian Tiller

South Dakota: Alexander Baatz, Collin Christiansen, Kalli Grimsrud, Mikey Nino, Annie Minder

Texas: Angie Aguilar, Elizabeth Macconnell, Madeline Minchillo, Channele Davis, Jeremy Calvin, Brandon Hancock

Utah: Logan Jones

Virginia: Kristen Frazier

Wisconsin: Josiah Madison, Connor Mattison, Joshua Perronne, Courtney Perronne, Megan Richason, Will Larson

TALENT

Alabama: Becky Almquist, Rusten Barnes, Forrest Carnely, Emily Hester, Mariah Horton, Matthew Montgomery

California: Anna Farnsworth

Florida: Sarah Gore, Drew Land

Iowa: Holly Hejlik

Idaho: Kyla Loucks, Shiloh Sharrard

Illinois: Lorraine Albert, Newton Albert, Cody Donaldson, Trevor May

Indiana: Carrie Anglemeyer

Kentucky: Drennan Bragg, Chelsea Fromm, Allison Stafford, Michael Turner, Conner Wempe

Maryland: Heather King, Tessa Wiles

Michigan: Erin Powley

Minnesota: Kayla Daniels, Quinne Goodwin-Chaffee

Missouri: Desley Jett, Ben Niendick, Alex Nuelle, Ben Nuelle, Chad Nuelle, Josh Orr, Taylor Thompson, Shelby Westhoff

Mississippi: Jonathan Morris

Montana: Cody Boucher, Tiffany Boucher, Jace Kuntz, Morgan Kuntz

North Carolina: Samuel Adams, Mayson Briggs, Lee Franklin, Jacqueline Hensley, Mike Jones, Amber Payne, Matthew Ray, Holly Rice, Breanna Williams

North Dakota: Amy Buchholz, Eric Miller

Nebraska: Jose Montes, Morgan Tracy

New Jersey: Hannah Wyckoff

New Mexico: Jaylah Dow

Ohio: Eric Billman, Julia Faulkner, Meagan Minton

Oklahoma: Merrit Armitage,

Turner Armitage, Sierra Haynes, Jada Hodges, Kaitlyn Horn, Kylee Horn, Alana Jo Martin, Landon Morgan, Mark Spampinato Jr.

Oregon: Austin Sweeney

Tennessee: Chad Martin

Virginia: Steven Arms, Taylor Fix, Charlie Perkins

Washington: Chelsey Heidenreich, Breeann Jennings, Benjamin Weagruff

Wisconsin: Christy Gilbertson, Shawna Harmsen, Nicole Kottke, Mercedes Ondik, Abigail Sielaff

Elections, Merchandise and More Dominate Debate for Delegates



By Andrew Walker

In a situation right out of an economics textbook, delegates this week debated the effects of supply and demand and how the National FFA Organization would be affected by a change in policy concerning FFA merchandise. A committee heard debate from delegates across the country on what would happen if the National FFA Merchandise Center were to only purchase American made products. However, the committee has identified that this would be an extremely hard task to fulfill while maintaining low prices with quality products.

"It is impossible to get all of our products in the United States," said Dan Venteicher, chairman of the committee hearing the issue and Iowa FFA state president. "We are a global economy and depend on other countries."

In addition to debating merchandise, delegates had the opportunity to discuss the idea of reworking the national officer selection process. Currently, a national vice president must represent the region in which his or her home state is located. The

proposed reforms would allow all candidates to be eligible for any national officer position. This would allow a candidate from a specific region to represent a different region of the country. This highly controversial topic found much discussion during the debate period.

"Although this would still ensure that we will have an officer from the region on the national team, we don't think that the system is broken. If it is not broken, why do we need to fix it?" asked Ashley Summerix, the Michigan FFA region VI state vice president.

Summerix and a number of other members served as delegates that debated this issue.

Some delegates, however, found the idea a refreshing change in the election process.

Alex Morrissey, the chairman of the committee and Oregon state president said, "We can find amazing leaders across the country and it's where we find those leaders that counts. We don't want to limit ourselves, so we are taking baby steps to finding a solution. We are an organization that is constantly changing and progressing." Morrissey supports the idea of letting

individuals from one region represent another. This would allow a candidate to be the national president or secretary, even if there was not another top candidate to take the regional vice presidency.

Although some delegates like this proposed change, it may be unlikely to happen as it would take an act of Congress.

According to the federal charter that was granted by Congress to FFA, "The national officers of the corporation are a student president, four student vice presidents (one from each of four regions of the United States established in the bylaws for purposes of administration of the corporation), a student secretary, an executive secretary, a treasurer, and a national advisor."

Therefore, the federal charter had to be taken into consideration during the debate.

Other issues covered by delegates at the 2010 convention include the possibility of creating a national Veterinary Science Career Development Event. Several states have already incorporated this CDE into their curriculum and now members are looking to make it a national competition.

Delegates continued

In addition, delegates discussed the idea of putting stricter guidelines on what can be counted as a supervised agricultural experience (SAE). If these guidelines are enacted, current projects including babysitting, some construction and clothing retail jobs and a few other activities would no longer be considered SAEs.

Students' voices were being considered by one committee, which looked into enacting ways to relate their opinions to the National FFA Organization. And the final issue being considered pertained to intensifying the requirements for the American FFA Degree. This potential policy could require an increase in the number of hours worked and money earned to receive the American FFA Degree, if passed.

As convention continued so does the delegate process that helps to shape the guidelines enacted by the National FFA Organization. When the gavel fell to end convention on Saturday the result of each issue was and the process of determining how it will affect the future of the organization began.

Andrew Walker is a senior at Michigan State University majoring in Political Theory and Constitutional Democracy. He is interested in agriculture, politics and how the two interact. Next fall, Andrew will be entering law school.

Delegates

Alabama: Becky Almquist, Will Wright, Josh Williams, Ellen Earl, Megan Saunders, Hunter Garnett, Lori Davis, Katie Lowery

Alaska: Kevin Rowe, Lydia Shumaker

Arizona: Kayla Shores, Seth DeLaPeña, Allison Vaughn, Ross Wade, Wyatt Carpenter

Arkansas: Heather Leding, Andrew Hawthorne, Jace Tilley, Amanda Crangle, Amanda Crangle, Andrew Haggard, Victoria Maloch, Amanda Bacon, Brittany Richert, Clayton Harlan

California: Vince Pellegrini, Lindsey Anderson, Jacquelynne Garcia, Ben Granholm, Jessica Vazquez, Casey Erickson, Sam Doty, Jordan Lippincott, Kaylyn Schiber, Tatiana Prestininzi, Hilario Barriga, Leia Belt, Matthew Borges, Brytann Busick, Alyssa Carroll, Kylin Costa, Maddison Easley, Paris Farrell, Smantha Fisher, Haylee Ann Fonseca, Katy Gaede, Jesse Gastelum Jr., Leah Gibson, Kaycee Granholm, Brea Haller, Chris Hudson, David Jaime, Alex Johnson, Ariana Joven, Makenna Lasiter, Kenna Lewis, Owen Macfarlane, Shannon Mahaffey, Gage Marchini, Shelby McClelland, Jason Mendes, Megan Morales, Amanda Moretti, Bailey Riedel, Tino Rossi, Juan Ruan, Danielle Santiago, Andrew Seeley, Emily Shimamura, Skottlynn Snyder, Mary Steves, Colleen Sunbury, Patrick Wilke, Kellie Wong, Ashley Wybenga, Madeline Zolezzi

Colorado: Doug Weirich, Alex Brown, Katelynn Wilson, Mack Witzel, Aimee Kanode, Victor Salazar, Kaylyn Morrill, Dustyn Nelson

Connecticut: Stephanie Rypsc

Delaware: Amber Bullock, Lauren Voss, Michael Cannon

Florida: Clay Sapp, Valerie McKee, Lynsey Meharg, Kaitlin Van Heusen, Elise Stoddard, Nicole Liles, Michelle Perez, Jillian Murphy, Caitlyn Prichard, Austin Courson, Caitlin Cribbs, Haley Webb, Ricardio Muniz

Georgia: Spencer Highsmith, Kalie Hall, Josh Daniel, Beth Hickey, Kendall Singleton, Erica Frost, Kendal Hickox, Jessie Sumner, Cole Allen, Chandler Bartley, Jesse Boland, Haley Bowen, Jeannie Bradley, Cassidy Gilliard, Newt Gilman, Rikki Griffith, Brittney Gunter, Amanda Miller, Ben Pope, Brianna Roberts, Dakota Sawyer, Morgan Smith, Katie Sutherland, Lindsey Woodrum,

Hawaii: Jordan Demotto, Aubrey Ohara,

Idaho: Travis Chase, Amanda Wilder, Sidnee Rose Larsen, Stacie Day, Joseph Maxwell

Illinois: John Edgar, Jake Ekstrand, Morgan Ott, Cody Gill, Jeffrey Barnes, Trent Tabor, Sarah DeSchepper, Meredith Brinkman, Kayla Hinrichs, Jacob Meisner, Jim Tobin, Mike Shively, Katie Cayo, Amanda Barr, Lauren Hawker

Indiana: Micah Matlock, Kelly Blackburn, Katie Meyer, Ross Newton, Morgan Gadd, Nellie Bell, Janna Oxford, Megan Klotz, Morgan Dawson

Iowa: Dan Venteicher, Easten Lovelace, Taylor Gonder, Joe Sweeney, Ben Zelle, Jake Kent, Jamie Leistikow, Lindsay Calvert, Holden Asmus

Kansas: Andrew Strasburg, Kassie Curran, Anthony Meals, Johanna Ryckert, Sara Schifferdecker, Jeff Cather

Kentucky: Logan Goggin, Joenelle Futrell, Jordan Bowman, Lauren Purdom, Elizabeth Wetzel, Kevin Herndon, Audie Cherry, Jake Adair, James Gaines, Ali Higgs, Alex Land, Stephanie Jackson

Louisiana: Malia Tarpley, Aimee Sibley, Antonio Wilson, Dakota Burr, Christi LaVergne, Karine Cifreo, Taylor Stevens, Maria Boudreaux, Cody Scott

Maine: Sasha Grass, Kelsey Larrabee

Maryland: Scarlett Fost, Abbey Linthicum, Rebecca Winegardner

Massachusetts: Loryn Dion, Christopher Grant, Brittany Brodeur

Michigan: Laura Krhovsky, Emily Kroll, Jordan Henry, Kelsey Steketee, Ashley Sumerix, Andrew Kellenberger

Minnesota: Jason Troendle, Elizabeth Rabee, Erin Daninger, Maddie Collin, Kirsten Pagel, Justin Crowley, Hillary Kletscher, Raina Pederson

Mississippi: Jessica Wilkinson, Danielle Welch, Brent Moore, Wesley Davis, Zachary Treadway

Missouri: Colton Lee, Jon Black, Nancy Jackson, Sarah Ray, Christopher Hudson, Rachel Thornton, Kerry Elbel, Jessica Kueffer, Austin Steele, Sonja Gjerde, Erin Woody, Quaid Taylor, Tiffany Pemberton, Mareta Sherman, Austin Smith, Michelle Johnson, Samantha Warner, Mandy Schebaum, Meredith Jones, Elizabeth Crane

Montana: Lane Nordlund, Laura Frazee, Mick Mosher, Cody Donaug

Nebraska: Debra Wray, Dakota Olson, John Bader, Alec Ibach, Kerry Swanson, Mollie Wilken, Jordyn Lechtenberg, Aly Reynolds, Alyssa O'Toole, Stacie Schwandt

New Hampshire: Courtney Cox, Michelle Stover, Haley Paradis

New Jersey: Alec McAlarnen, Eric Nelson, Keely Weinberger

New Mexico: Joseph Ogden, Alyssa Hackett, Kayla Hight, Adam Mitchell, Marshal Wilson

New York: Mary Foote, Maggie Smith, Brandon Aldous, Joshua Draves, Brendan Sanok

North Carolina: Justin McEntyre, Daniel Alvey, Jamie Boudreaux, Elizabeth Eastep, Alycia McLamb, Cory Wade, Brandon Honeycutt, Avery Faulkner, Jacob Gautt, Alyssa Ramsey, Christian Dunnagan, Carey Jackson, Sarah Edwards, Chelsea Sawkiw

North Dakota: Michael Bahm, Jenna Vculek, Zachary Rameden, Ian Hall, Rosalyn Moody

Ohio: Mike Hannewald, Brittani Baldner-Hill, Colin Barclay, Morgan Fair, Robert Gannett, Jake Wuebben, Kirk Gasser, Jessica Shanahan, Jessica Shanahan, Laura Whalin, Ellen Gilliland, Amanda Williams, Seth Erwin, Lara Staples, Amy Frost

Delegates continued

Oklahoma: Emily Beanland, Marty Jones, Trevor Lucas, Owen Hossack, Mitchell Earl, Katie McCauley, Courtney Maye, Dakota Miller

Oregon: Alex Morrissey, Brittney Alves, Bailey Field, Jake Erceg, Brianna Tanaka

Pennsylvania: Kerri Wickard, Matthew Reutlinger, Howard Poole, Benjamin Shughart, Jillian Gordon, Caitlin Clarke, Andrew Roth

Puerto Rico: Jiomar Santiago, Jesus Soto, William Arce, Omar Ortiz

Rhode Island: Joe Harris, Carissa Koski

South Carolina: Holly Benenhaley, Courtney Threath, Seamus Cassidy, Scott Sherard, Troy Dobbins, Katie Simpson

South Dakota: Maria Rausch, Brittany Gassman, Kiley Kaufman, Spencer Chase

Tennessee: Emily Buck, Cayce McDonald, Westlee Walker, Julie Ozburn, Syrena Flowers, Heath McLean, Marissa Sealy, Todd Baker, Courtney Walker, Gina Locke, Olivia Fernandez

Texas: Katelyn Perry, Leslie Johnson, Mason Parish, Colt Gresham, Will Ellis, Tanner Smith, Gavin Luckett, Calan Ahrens, Patrick Byrne, Daylon Koster, Alyssa Spruill, Jacob Sheffield, Molly Dutton, Dough Walker, Taylor Shackelford, Rachel Belinger, Brittany Blum, Rachel Belinger, Morgan Stover, Sondra Hardie, Megan Coussins, Kasey Kram, Peyton Craig, Cody Scarbrough, Victoria Pilger, Rhett Gresham, Kelli Newman, Catherine Till, Peyton Ricks, Kenton Vincent, Kyle Montgomery, Abby Prause, Tyler Coufal, Katie Burchfield, Hunter Walters, Kevin Yeatmen, Bethany Nolan, Carly Bowen, Peyton Gilbert, Brandon Winters, Sheldon Franks, Khaki Scrivener, Kelsey Musurick, Kiley Howard, Shelby Reid, Pamela Walker, Amber Baker, David Holland, Taylor Wetz, Bobbie Frieda, Kelsey Pearson, Shelby Reed, Leighton James, Krysti Kelley, Katherine Cisneros, Kylie Bradley

Utah: Chalessa Warren, Matt Brocious, Katharine Nye, Dalton Beck, Sierra Cheyenne

Vermont: Justin Lalumiere, Richard Brission

Virginia: Wes Kline, Brianna Shanholtzer, Joy Powers, James Rockwell, Jessica Asbury, Rebecca Carter, Morgan Slaven, Taylor Fix, Brandon Monk

Washington: Paige Druffel, Wyatt Koller, Karli Zwade, Olivia Wall, Danyelle Cavadini, Brianna Tasker, Sara Olin

West Virginia: Robby Currey, Seth Neal, Matt Coe, Caleb Smith, Michelle Biser

Wisconsin: Alicia Hodnik, Noah Wiedenfeld, Amy Kringle, Samantha Becker, Laura Hornby, Julie Orth, Cory Brown, Ethan Giebel, Anna Peissig, Sam Tauchen, Whitney Barnes, Erica Lamers, Brian Guza, Katie Brummel, Emily Watson

Wyoming: Micah Christensen, Odessa Oldham, Trinity Holland



Veterinarian Science CDE

Whereas, the veterinary science committee agrees with the need for a veterinary science career development event to fulfill the need for technical skills as a part of a complete animal science program. As demonstrated through the recommendations to the National FFA Organization and the formation of a task force meeting in November.

Be it resolved:

- There will be a maximum of four participants with three high scores counting in the career development event.
- The grade level of the participants shall be 9-12th.
- The career development event will consist of small, large, and a reduced focus on exotic animals. The career development event guidelines shall include a list of specific animals to be utilized.
- The National FFA Organization should evaluate the implementation of veterinary science curriculum in schools and make available a hands-on kit to advisors for classroom curriculum and training members.



- The National FFA Organization should utilize the templates from 4-H, HOSA, and all other available resources to create a career development event.
- The National FFA Organization should include the following components into the career development event:
 - Written test
 - Team activity
 - Individual practicum
 - Identification
- Suggestions for topics include:
 - Reproduction
 - Breeds
 - Anatomy
 - Diagnosis
 - Treatments
 - Daily care
 - Daily Care
 - Quality Assurance
 - Tools
 - Nutrition
 - Terms
 - Parasitology

Submitted by: Joenelle Futtrell, Kentucky

Use American suppliers for FFA Unlimited items

Whereas, the committee for the use of American suppliers believes that FFA, with its roots in American heritage, understands that we are a part of a larger global economy. Therefore, we strive to have quality products by having a diverse combination of domestic and international goods to provide lower prices for our members.

Be it resolved:

- That when feasible, the National FFA continue their efforts in exploring to produce American goods unless quality, price and efficiency are sacrificed.
- Continue efforts in finding American suppliers for products
- Put an "American Pride" label next to domestically produced goods in the in blue, gold and core catalogs

Submitted by: Dan Venteicher, Iowa

SAE standards for National FFA awards program

Whereas, SAEs across the nation vary in diversity and must encompass the changing agriculture industry.

Whereas, FFA members are submitting unsuccessful SAE project applications due to confusion and an unclear definition of SAE.

Whereas, SAE student success is important for future career opportunities.

Whereas, SAE resources are limited, vague and inconsistent on the state level across the country

Be it resolved:

- Develop an interactive program on the National FFA website that will allow students to discover connections between their interest areas and possible SAE programs
- Publish a set of guidelines for acceptable SAE programs on the National FFA website and in the FFA manual
- Define agricultural versus non-agricultural SAE programs
- Conduct an evaluation of current SAE programs, including proficiency awards
- Offers communications to members and state staff to increase SAE program awareness

Submitted by: Easten Lovelace, Iowa



Increase student voice on the national level

Whereas, adequate options are available such as technology, existing conferences and utilizing representation already in place, therefore it's not recommended to form an official student voice committee.

Be it resolved:

- The National FFA continue to the increase student voice, using tools such as an Internet forum where students can submit their questions and concerns.
- The National FFA adds a discussion session to NLC SO or Blast Off , that allows state officers to come up with and discuss issues that are facing their states that should be submitted to the National FFA.

Submitted by: Valerie McKee, Florida

At-large election of national officers

Whereas, regional affiliation limits the most qualified officers to be elected to the at-large positions of president and secretary.

Be it resolved:

- National FFA Board of Directors make a constitutional change of Article 9, Section A to strike the words “(one from each of the four regions of the United States established in the bylaws)” and add at the end “with at least one officer from each region.”
- Article 9, Section A would read “The elected officers of the National FFA Organization shall be a president, four vice presidents, and a secretary with at least one officer being from each region.”

Submitted by: Alex Morrissey, Oregon

FFA degree expansion

Whereas, research is a viable career option in agriculture.

Whereas, degree attainment enhances member confidence, pride, motivation and involvement.

Whereas, inclusion of agricultural research as a legitimate SAE or part of an SAE would help students with research projects obtain degrees.

Whereas, all agriculturally based research is equal in rigor to current degree standards.

Whereas, expansion of the degree obtainment options would serve as an incentive and therefore could recruit more members.

Whereas, expansion of degree obtainment options could increase diversity in FFA membership.

Be it resolved:

- The National FFA accepts agricultural research project hours in obtaining FFA degrees at all levels with the following guidelines:
 - All research experiences are agriculturally based from which members learn agricultural skills.
 - All research should be documented and submitted to a committee at the state level that would decide if the research and hours worked meet standards required to attain the State and American FFA degree.
 - All unpaid research hours are factored using the unpaid placement multipliers.
 - The current multiplier for converting unpaid hours into dollars earned be increased.
 - The number of unpaid hours allowable for the American degree be decreased.

Submitted by: Emily Beanland, Oklahoma



National Officer Candidates, Nominating Committee



National Officer Candidates:

Lindsey Bethard, Delaware

Jared Biciolis, Arizona

David Blevins, Missouri

Adrienne Bradley, California

Kaitlin Butler, Georgia

James (Catlin) Caines, Wyoming

Wyatt Dejong, South Dakota

Laura Donaldson, Indiana

James Flatt, Tennessee

Karissa Floerchinger, Montana

Katie Frenzen, Nebraska

Allison Grainger, Texas

Levi Hall, North Dakota

Nellie Hill, Kansas

Hayley Hogan, Arkansas

Rachel Kenley, Alaska

Thomas (Austin) Larowe, Virginia

Jimmy Lotspeich, Nevada

Britney Marsh, Pennsylvania

Jose Martes, Puerto Rico

Brady Mcneil, Iowa

Anna Metcalf, New York

Kara Miller, North Carolina

Sean Neal, Washington

Shannon Norris, New Mexico

Riley Pagett, Oklahoma

Samuel Palacio, Oregon

Justin Posey, Alabama

Seth Pratt, Idaho

Tiffany Rogers, Michigan

Landan Schaffert, Colorado

Sara Schmitz, Ohio

James Sledd, Kentucky

Jessica Voll, New Jersey

Katie Zenk, Minnesota

Clayton Zwilling, Illinois

Nominating Committee:

Lauren Perry, Nebraska

Brian Chrisler, Wisconsin

Keisto Lucero, New Mexico

Gabrielle Burgess, Kentucky

Kella Serafin, California

Josh Goff, Oklahoma

James Paul Bailey, Alabama

Colton Farrow, Georgia

John Lockhart, West Virginia



Meet Your 2010 National Officers

President

Riley Pagett

Age: 21

Birthdate: July 4, 1989

Parents: Wade and Christi Pagett

Siblings: Machele Pagett and Amy Pagett



FFA Stats

Chapter: Woodward FFA Chapter

Enterprise: Beef, Swine and Lawn Care Production

State Office: 2008-09 Northwest District Vice President

College Stats

Year: Junior

Major: Agricultural Communications

Minor: Religious Studies

School: Oklahoma State University

College Activities: Alpha Gamma Rho, Student Government Association, OSU's Greatest Homecoming Celebration Committee

Future Career Goal: To continue my studies at either a law school or seminary and move home to Oklahoma to be an advocate for agriculture.

Secretary

Landan Schaffert

Age: 21

Birthdate: July 7, 1989

Parents: Peggy Schaffert and Anthony and Terry Lynn Schaffert

Siblings: Landston Schaffert, Anthonya Schaffert, Antonya Schaffert, Anthoneya Schaffert, Calby Pflager, Tanner Pflager, Karly Pflager

FFA Stats

Chapter: Otis FFA Chapter

Enterprise: Beef Production

State Office: 2009-10 Executive Committee Member

College Stats

Year: Sophomore

Major: Electrical Engineering

School: Colorado School of Mines

College Activities: Men's Bible Study, Chemistry Demonstration Development club

Future Career Goal: To become a motivational speaker, teacher and a farmer.



Eastern Region Vice President

Tiffany Rogers

Age: 20

Birthdate: Nov. 5, 1990

Parents: David and Cheryl Rogers

Siblings: Ashley Rogers



FFA Stats

Chapter: Cassopolis FFA Chapter

Enterprise: Agricultural Education, Equine Science and Diversified Livestock Production

State Office: 2009-10 State President

College Stats

Year: Sophomore

Major: Agri-business management and Pre-law

School: Michigan State University

College Activities: Showing livestock and draft horses, Collegiate Farm Bureau, Michigan Draft Horse Breeders Association, Agriculture M.A.T.T.E.R.S. Instructor

Future Career Goal: To have a career in agricultural and environmental law

Central Region Vice President

Wyatt DeJong

Age: 21

Birthdate: Nov. 8, 1989

Parents: Miles and Kim DeJong

FFA Stats

Chapter: Winner FFA Chapter

Enterprise: Beef Cattle Production

State Office: 2008-09 Secretary

College Stats

Year: Junior

Major: Agricultural Education and Animal Science

School: South Dakota State University

College Activities: Block and Bridle, Honors College, Collegiate FFA

Future Career Goal: To teach.



Western Region Vice President

Shannon L. Norris

Age: 21

Birthdate: Oct. 11, 1989

Parents: David and Lori Norris

Siblings: Davena Norris

FFA Stats

Chapter: Cliff FFA Chapter

Enterprise: Purebred Breeding Cattle; Market Lambs; Apple Production

State Office: 2007-08 State Vice President; 2008-09 State Secretary

College Stats

Year: Junior

Major: Agriculture Education and Animal Science

School: New Mexico State University

College Activities: Collegiate FFA, NMSU ACES Ambassador

Future Career Goal: To obtain a doctorate degree in ruminant nutrition and become a spokesperson for the U.S. beef industry and/or teach agricultural education.



Southern Region Vice President

James Flatt

Age: 19

Birthdate: April 2, 1991

Parents: Doug and Tawana Flatt

Siblings: Tamara Browning

FFA Stats

Chapter: Wilson Central FFA Chapter

Enterprise: Diversified Livestock Production, Home and Community Development

State Office: 2009-10 State President

College Stats

Year: Sophomore

Major: Agriculture Business

School: Tennessee Tech University

College Activities: Collegiate FFA, TTU Agricultural Ambassadors, Agricultural Business Club

Future Career Goal: To receive a position with Farm Bureau as a lobbyist.



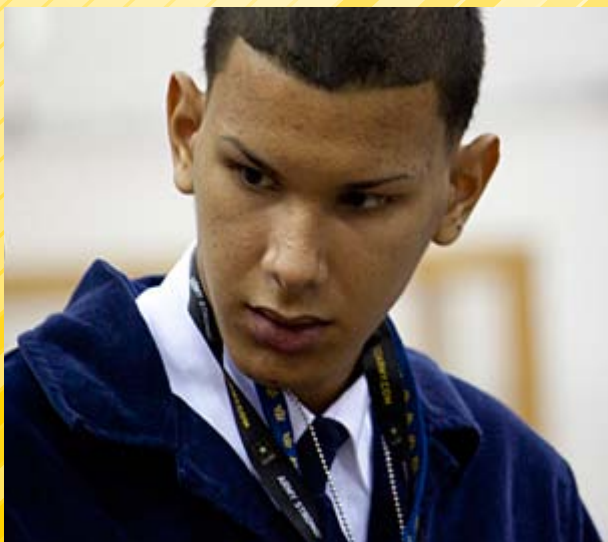














The FFA Mission: FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

The Agricultural Education Mission: Agricultural education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems.