

PROCEEDINGS

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**81st NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION**  
October 22-25, 2008







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# Ag-Entrepreneurs Honored

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

During the 81st National FFA Convention, 10 students were named National Agri-Entrepreneurs. They received \$1,000 and a commemorative plaque during an onstage ceremony. USDA Rural Development sponsors the National Agri-Entrepreneurship Award Program as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.



**JUSTIN ALLEN, 18, of Holton, Kan.,** owns and operates Rockin' Lazy A Ranch Bucking Bulls, an enterprise that produces registered bucking stock bulls. Allen started his business in 2004 with two registered Brahma cows.

"I took my interest in Brahma cattle and combined it with my passion for rodeos and bull riding," Allen said. "I applied for and received a \$5,000 loan from the USDA Farm Services Agency through the Young Farmer program. I used those funds to purchase two more bred cows and started raising bucking stock."

As a way to draw interest and diversify his product offering, Allen designed and produced hats, T-shirts, coasters, coffee mugs and other items. These items, along with Allen's bucking stock and straws of semen from his herd sires, are marketed on his website, [www.rockinlazya.com](http://www.rockinlazya.com).

"Justin is a hard-working student who has set high goals for himself and is working diligently to achieve them," said his FFA advisors Jason Larison and Alex Bartel. "He researched what it would take to be successful in the bucking stock business and developed a plan. He is implementing that plan and making his dreams become reality. Justin has done an outstanding job of applying what he has learned in the classroom to his business."

Allen is a 2008 graduate of Holton High School. While in high school, Allen was active in FFA, was a member of National Honor Society, 4-H, the football and track teams and he participated in winter weights. Allen is currently attending Garden City Community College in Garden City, Kan., on

a football scholarship, and is studying farm and ranch management as well as graphic design. He is the son of Steve and Aleta Allen.

**LINDSEY GUNTER, 18, of Batesville, Ind.,** owns and operates Gunter's Farm Fresh Eggs, a business that produces and markets organic eggs locally. She began this business venture in 2006 by selling farm fresh eggs to family and friends. Since then, Gunter's business has converted to organic production and is marketing to a wider scope of customers, including Ertel Cellars, a local restaurant, vineyard and winery.

"My customers appreciate being able to purchase organic eggs produced locally," said Gunter. "I currently offer white and brown eggs and am working to add organic, free-range chickens to my sales list. I am meeting the USDA requirements but am still completing the final steps necessary to be officially certified as a USDA organic producer."

In addition, Gunter has enhanced her business by increasing her flock size to meet local demand and makes a concentrated effort to build strong relationships with her customers. "A happy customer is a future customer," Gunter said.

"When Lindsey first entered the classroom, she set very lofty goals in terms of planning and developing a business that could be successful in the Batesville area," said Jessica Geisler, Gunter's agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. "Lindsey definitely has an entrepreneurial spirit about her and is always considering all of her options. She has developed many skills through her business, but probably the most important is to produce products that her customers' demand."

Gunter is a senior at Batesville High School. She has been an active FFA

## Agri-Entrepreneurs Honored continued

member for three years, serving as the secretary of the Batesville FFA Chapter for two terms, competing in several leadership career development events and serving on numerous committees. She has also been a member of the German Club, FCCLA, the Junior Red Cross and 4-H. She is the daughter of Eugene and Elene Gunter.



**AMANDA JEWELL, 17, of Taylorsville, Ky.**, owns and operates AJ's Berries, an enterprise that produces and markets blackberries, strawberries and jam. Jewell discovered a business opportunity in 2005 with her existing blackberry patch. Over the past three years, Jewell has expanded her operation to three acre. She has added strawberries and jam into her market mix and has started selling blackberry plants to interested customers.

"I market my products with a large yard sign, by purchasing advertising in our local newspaper and by wholesaling my berries to a local produce stand that is open seven days a week, Cheek's Produce," said Jewell. "Selling my products through Cheek's has allowed me to reach a much larger customer base than I could have otherwise."

Jewell was motivated to develop her business by being her own boss and

learning business skills, as well as the opportunities afforded through FFA. "My agriculture teacher told me about people who had been involved in FFA and established great programs. I wanted to be one of those people," she said. "I think working for yourself is one of those things that most people dream of, and I have been able to do that. Now my goal

is to attend college and major in economics or business. I have an interest in food science, which could be an avenue into running my own food company."

"Amanda is the epitome of entrepreneurship," said Darryl Matherly, Jewell's agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. "She recognized a business opportunity that no one else saw, surveyed people to determine if it was

a viable idea, then developed a plan to turn her dream into reality. She has increased her acreage by learning how to propagate plants, which was a very wise move financially. And, she actively worked to develop her market and diversify her product offering. Amanda has taken everything she has learned in her agriculture courses and applied it to her business."

Jewell is a senior at Spencer County High School (SCHS). She has been very active in FFA, participating in many activities and being named the Spencer County FFA Star in Agribusiness. Jewell has been selected to serve as captain of the SCHS volleyball team, was a member of the all-district team and received the Coaches Award. She plans to attend the University of Louisville to pursue a degree in economics. She is the daughter of Roy and Celia Jewell.

**MARK JOLLY, 16, of Hillsboro, Ohio,**

owns and operates Jolly Farm, an enterprise that houses and cares for cull sows from larger hog operations nearby. Jolly provides a safe and comfortable place for the sows from the time they leave the farrowing barn until they are marketed.

Jolly started his business when he discovered several local hog operations needed a place to house non-productive sows until enough of them had been collected to fill a semi-truck, which then transports them to a packer. After carefully calculating the time and expenses the operation would require, and considering the compensation he would receive, Jolly decided to launch the enterprise.

"I am presently managing four barns full of sows and would like to fill one more barn when the opportunity presents itself," Mark said. "My overall goal is to create a situation, through diversification, that would allow me to stay on the family farm full-time when I graduate. This means that the business must generate enough income to support me, and, eventually a family of my own."

"Mark manages every step of the operation from grinding feed, feeding, and cleaning the barns to medicating and moving the hogs," said Stacie McKee, Jolly's former agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. "Even though he is extremely busy helping with the family farm and operating his sow business, he always finds time to be active in the FFA."

Jolly is a junior at Eastern Brown High School. He is an active FFA member, participating in livestock and soils career development events, attending conferences and conventions, and serving on a variety of committees. He is active in his church, is a member of the Concord Junior Farmers 4-H Club and assisted with building a local baseball facility. He is the son of Dean and Peggy Jolly.



## Agri-Entrepreneurs Honored continued

### ERIC KAMLER, 17, of Shickley, Neb.,

owns and operates EK Farms Co., a corn production enterprise. Kamler started his business in fall 2006 when a neighbor decided to retire from farming and lease his land to others. Kamler saw this as an opportunity to start his own small farming operation without the long-term commitment, and capital investment requirement, of owning the land.

Kamler actively pursues ways to increase his production and optimize his marketing options. During his first crop year, he produced an average of 210 bushels an acre. Kamler implemented ridge-till practices and used variable-rate-technology equipment, which resulted in an increased yield of about five bushels an acre, thus increasing his profit. With the high price of corn, Kamler nearly tripled his net worth during this period.

One of Kamler's first business decisions was to purchase a pull-type sprayer and exchange the use of his sprayer on his father's farm for use of his father's other equipment on his acreage. "By making this purchase, I was able to boost my equity, incur a business-related expense I can subtract from my income on my tax return and start building a credit record," Kamler said.

Kamler markets his corn via the Aurora Cooperative, using a variety of different sales tactics, including pre-selling 5,000 bushel contracts via a licensed grain broker at the Chicago Board of Trade. Kamler is the Aurora Cooperative's youngest grain client.

"Eric manages all aspects of the operation including financing, production techniques, marketing and harvesting," said Kurt VanDeWalle, Kamler's agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. "I am only able to provide the basic knowledge and skills, but Eric does an astonishing job of learning on his own. I can proudly say that he has taught me a few things and regularly brings me information he finds that I can use in class."

Kamler is a senior at Fillmore Central High School and is also a candidate for Nebraska FFA office. In high school, Kamler has been very active in FFA, serving as the Fillmore Central FFA Chapter president, winning the 2008 National FFA Grain Proficiency Award and being selected as one of 10 winners of the National FFA Risk Management Essay Contest. He is a member of FCCLA and National Honor Society.

In November, Kamler will be traveling to Taiwan with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture on an agriculture trade representation program. He, along with two other Nebraska delegates, will talk about U.S. products and learn more about Taiwan's products. Kamler plans a career in agricultural policy. He is the son of Mike and Kim Kamler.

### CHASE KOKOJAN, 18, of Drummond, Okla.,

owns and operates Kokojan's Gamebirds, an enterprise that produces and markets Bobwhite Quail, Chukars and Ring-necked

Pheasants, mainly for wildlife repopulation purposes. Kokojan started this business in 2004 after his agriculture class had raised quail for a fundraiser. When the fundraiser was finished, there was still a demand for the birds and Kokojan spotted his opportunity.

He has enhanced his business by adding related services. Along with raising birds, Kokojan offers habitat management services. "I assist landowners by developing and establishing game bird habitats," Kokojan said. "This ensures a better survival rate for young chicks when they are released into the wild."

In addition, Kokojan offers other services to complement his game bird production, such as disking and planting wildlife plots; working with landowners to develop wildlife management plans; and constructing wildlife feeders, waterers and habitat areas. "Providing services to increase game bird chick survival has bolstered my repeat customer business and increased customer satisfaction with my products," Kokojan said.

"Chase is an ambitious young man who manages to combine academics, sports, community service projects, FFA activities, work and hunting into a very busy schedule," said Keith Dillingham, Kokojan's agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. "He has a true desire to improve his environment and assist farmers and ranchers in improving wildlife habitat."

Kokojan is a senior at Drummond High School. He has been an active FFA member for the past four years, serving as chapter president for two years and competing in meat, crop and livestock judging. He was the 2007 National FFA Wildlife Production and Management Placement Proficiency Award winner and is a National Finalist for the Wildlife Production and Management Entrepreneurship Proficiency Award this year. He has also attended COLT Conference,





## Agri-Entrepreneurs Honored continued

Alumni Camp, state and national conventions as well as Made for Excellence and Advanced Leadership Development conferences. In addition to his FFA activities, Kokojan has been a member of his school's basketball and baseball teams, made the Superintendent's Honor Roll, and is a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He is the son of Greg and Christine Kokojan.

### CHRIS LEWIS, 18, of Bakersfield, Calif.,

owns and operates Lewis Fabrications, an enterprise that designs and manufactures small livestock implements. Lewis started his business in 2007 after discovering a need for feeding tools on the school farm.

"Between my freshman and sophomore years of high school, I raised two market lambs at the school farm as part of my supervised agricultural experience program," Lewis said. "Our school district has a zero-tolerance policy concerning blades of any kind, so we couldn't use a pocket knife to open the bales of hay and straw. We resorted to using old pieces of twine, running the old string through the new twine and using a sawing motion to 'burn' the twine on the bale. It wasn't very efficient, so I was motivated to design a tool that would work in this situation. Once I had designed and fabricated my Deluxe Hay Hook, we took it to the school officials and they approved it for use at the school farm."

Lewis concentrates on how his products will be used and how he can add value for his customers. "On the Deluxe Hay Hook, I dip the handle in liquid plastic to give it a more professional look, make it resistant to rusting, add comfort for the user and protect the handle from becoming too hot if left in the direct sun."

"Chris is the type of student for which the Agri-Entrepreneur Award was



designed," said Christine Dickson, Lewis' agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. "He saw a need for a tool on the school farm, put together a budget and saw that, on paper at least, he could make a profit. So, he made a prototype and I set up an appointment with a local feed store owner, Chuck Sears of Valley Feed. I don't think I have ever seen a student grow and mature as quickly as Chris did during the 45 minutes he spent with Mr. Sears discussing and demonstrating his hay hook. Chuck was so impressed that he ordered 10 hay hooks and showed Chris two additional pieces of equipment he would like to buy if Chris could manufacture them."

Lewis has built his business by designing and fabricating additional products. He has designed a lightweight livestock-loading ramp that is fully adjustable for use with livestock trailers or pick-up trucks. Lewis has recently been making plans for goat cages and lamb fitting tables.

Lewis is a senior at North High School where he has been an active FFA member for three years. During that time Lewis has participated in competitive leadership activities, the North High FFA Banquet, the California FFA Convention and has shown lambs at the Kern County Fair. In addition to his FFA activities, Lewis has been a member of the football team and served as a cook for the Teacher's Ag Seminar Breakfast. Lewis plans on owning and operating a tool fabrication business in the future. He is the son of David and Laura Lewis.

### DERRICK ROCKER, 19, of Franklin, Neb.,

owns and operates Derrick's Kennels, an enterprise that produces Bichon Frise and Boston Terrier puppies. This idea came about in 2003, when Rocker was a freshman in high school. He had produced and exhibited beef, sheep, swine and poultry as a 4-H member, but he wanted something he could manage on his own without being away from his home.



## Agri-Entrepreneurs Honored continued

Rocker started the business by researching different breeds and the market for each. "I selected the Bichon Frise because they are hypoallergenic, they don't shed and they make great family pets," Rocker said. "The drawback to this breed is the amount of maintenance they require to keep their coats clean and neat. I recently diversified my business by selecting another breed, the Boston Terrier, and purchasing a breeding pair. This breed requires less coat maintenance and has a little calmer personality."

The local newspapers and the website puppyfind.com are Rocker's primary marketing tools. The largest part of his customer base is local, however he has sold puppies to customers located from California to New York.

"Derrick is definitely an entrepreneurial spirit. He is not afraid to take risks, but carefully considers the possible benefits as compares to those risks," said David Rocker, Rocker's agriculture teacher, FFA advisor and father. "Derrick has gained many skills through the operation of his business. He has learned many technical skills, such as puppy care and management, but also business skills. Derrick has developed his communication skills by visiting with customers in person and on the phone, learned about how to ship animals via the airlines, marketing, recordkeeping, advertising and salesmanship. Additionally, the income from his puppy sales may allow Derrick to graduate from college debt free."

Rocker is a 2007 graduate of Franklin High School. While in high school, Rocker was active in FFA, football, basketball, track, speech and band. Rocker is a sophomore at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, majoring in animal science with a companion animal option. At UNL, Rocker is a member of the Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity, Block and Bridle, FFA Alumni, and has made the College

of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Dean's List. He plans to pursue a career as a USDA kennel inspector and continue to build his puppy production business until it can be his full-time occupation. He is the son of David and Connie Rocker.

**BRIELLE RODRIQUEZ, 16, of Bakersfield, Calif.,** owns and operates B-Rod's Graphic & Design, a graphic design service. This

enterprise began in June of 2007 when Rodriquez saw a need to promote all the positive things being accomplished by the Highland-Bakersfield FFA Chapter to the local community. She created a full-color book, similar to a yearbook, on the chapter and its activities, and published it via an online vendor.

"One of the chapter goals we set at the 2007 officer retreat was to establish connections with local businesses," said Rodriquez. "I wanted to help our community understand the importance of agriculture and its effects on our society. California has a strong position in agriculture, and yet I feel that agricultural education is often overlooked, especially in this time of academic testing and No Child Left Behind. I developed the chapter book idea, and it took off."

Rodriquez continued, "When I realized how my initial book was beneficially impacting the Highland program, I decided I could expand my company and provide this type of service to other chapters. I developed a business plan and decided I could make a profit."

Word of mouth has been a major marketing tool for Rodriquez. Her book has been shown to advisors across the state, and flyers and e-mail messages have been sent to FFA advisors across



California. Additionally, Rodriquez is marketing via an Internet site where anyone interested in her book, or one like it, can view pages and place an order.

"Brielle has learned a lot by developing her business," said Craig Davidson, Rodriquez's agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. "I have seen a multitude of ideas and enthusiasm pour from her as she has become a successful entrepreneur. Additionally, by designing and creating a type of time capsule, she has begun leaving her legacy in this program."

Rodriquez is a junior at Highland High School where she has been active in FFA, receiving her Greenhand Degree. Rodriquez has also been involved in Honors Choir concerts and Honors Piano festivals, dance recitals and has volunteered through her church to help those less fortunate in her area. Upon graduation, Rodriquez plans to study technical graphic design and continue to develop her business. She is the daughter of Dave and Dorene Rodriquez.

**MATTHEW VANSCHOY, 17, of Ridgeway, Ohio,** owns and operates VanSchoy Hydroponic Lettuce, an enterprise that raises Bibb lettuce in a hydroponic greenhouse environment, and markets it in containers designed to keep the





## Agri-Entrepreneurs Honored continued

lettuce alive and fresh. The business began when VanScoy approached his parents about using an underutilized space in their greenhouse.

"Once I had my parents approval, I began considering different crops that would work within the confined space and with the available light," VanScoy said. "After much research, I selected Bibb lettuce as my crop of choice because of the ease of plant maintenance, compactness of heads, and the rapid growth cycle that would allow me to turn a profit quickly."

VanScoy markets his lettuce to a nearby Whole Foods store, as well as several smaller retailers. Because he demands a premium price for his product, VanScoy invests time and resources in preparing his lettuce for market. "I spent a lot of time selecting a label and crisper that would optimize the look of my living lettuce," he said. "I pick it, trim the roots and pack it in a crisper designed to keep it fresh longer."

"With his lettuce business, Matthew has recognized a niche in the marketplace and is profiting from it. In regards to financial understanding, Matthew is able to comprehend the impact of financial decisions and explain the implications to others," said Stephanie Jolliff,



VanScoy's agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. "I truly believe Matthew understands the many aspects of his business better than any student I have ever taught."

VanScoy is a senior at Ridgemont High School, where he has been very active in FFA receiving his Greenhand and Chapter Degrees, participating in Agricultural Sales, Job Interview and Urban Soil Career Development Events and serving on the Finance and Career Skills Committees. In addition to FFA, VanScoy has also been active in National Honor Society and band. He is a member of Ohio Proud, the Great Lakes Hydroponic Association, and the American, Ohio and Hardin County Farm Bureaus. After graduation, VanScoy plans to pursue an associate's degree in business management, and

continue to build his hydroponic vegetable production business. He is the son of William and Sonja VanScoy.



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## Georgia Students Wins Agriscience Student of the Year

**NICHOLAS WORLEY of Valdosta, Ga.,** wondered if the biomass from Georgia's forest could produce a substantial amount of ethanol. By utilizing scientific methods, Worley was able to discover that ethanol could be produced from both clean wood chips and unmerchantable forest biomass. He also discovered that it could indeed produce a large amount of ethanol. His research has won him top honors.

On Oct. 24, Worley was recognized as Agriscience Student of the Year and was presented with a \$1,500 scholarship at the 81st annual National FFA Convention. He is a member of the Lowndes FFA Chapter. He is the son of Sharon and Eric Thomas. His FFA advisor is James Corbett.

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

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

## North Dakota Teacher Honored for Agriscience

**TONY BOEHM, who teaches at Southeast Region Career and Tech Center in Colfax, N.D.,** believes agriculture is a pure science and science applied. With that in mind, he believes agricultural education classes can be taught with a focus on scientific concepts. Boehm goes beyond lecturing in his classroom, developing lab activities that will allow students to see scientific concepts, whether it's wheat gluten extraction, biology experiments in the botany and horticulture classes or the development of a 7.3 wetlands. He wants to make sure students understand that education isn't always confined to four walls.

Boehm was named Agriscience Teacher of the Year on Oct. 24 at the 81st 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.



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# Agriscience Fair Awards

The 2008 Agriscience Awards were presented onstage during the seventh general session at the 81st National FFA Convention.

## THE WINNERS ARE LISTED BELOW BY EVENT:

### Biochemistry/Food Science/ Microbiology

Division One: David Holland, Texas

Division Two: John Register, Minnesota

Division Three: Melissa Burson and  
Kolene Winn, New Mexico

Division Four: Christopher Daniels and  
Victor Flores, New York



### Botany

Division One: Amala Nath, New York

Division Two: Reagan Lee, Florida

Division Three: Kyle Herman and Aaron  
Zimmerman, Wisconsin

Division Four: Calvin West and Josh  
Johnson, New York



### Engineering

Division One: Kasey Kram, Texas

Division Two: Patrick Thomas, New York

Division Three: Meghan Hurlburt and  
Hannah Laduke, Wisconsin

Division Four: Eric Hodnefield and  
Devin Bezdicek, Minnesota



### Environmental Science

Division One: Jayton Rainey, Texas

Division Two: Stacey Vosters, Indiana

Division Three: Sarah Wolf and Alyssa  
Spruill, Texas

Division Four: Jessica Stokes and  
Sarena Grossjan, California

### Zoology

Division One: Edward Moore, Georgia

Division Two: Lindsey Anderson,  
California

Division Three: AJ Hansen and Kelcey  
Saldivar, California

Division Four: Alexandra Beeler and  
Kattie Schmidg, California



# Students Experience Career Development Events



## Since 1928, the National FFA Organization has worked to create Career Development Events

(CDEs) that demonstrated the meaningful connections between classroom instruction and real-life scenarios. CDEs are designed to help prepare students for careers in agriculture, and build upon what students learn in agricultural classes and FFA. CDEs test the abilities of individuals and teams in 23 major areas of agricultural instruction. More than 3,000 youth travel from across the country to participate in 23 different national CDEs and one career development activity at the national FFA convention. Through intense hands-on

activities, students are asked to perform specific career skills. Industry professionals act as judges, so the competitors received a real understanding of how they would perform in some of the more than 300 careers in agriculture. Winning teams receive scholarships.

## AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATIONS

*Sponsored by DTN/The Progressive Farmer of Minneapolis, Minn., and the National FFA Foundation*

Participants attend a simulated news conference and use the information gathered to complete individual practicums

in news story writing, press release writing, radio broadcasting, web design, and graphic design. Prior to the event, students compile communication project proposals related to innovative agricultural practices, management techniques and marketing tools. Each team then creates a 15-minute presentation based on their proposal. Members also compete in an editing exercise and a general communications quiz.

**Winning Team:** Averyl Shindruk, Megan Schiffman, Tara Magrath, Amanda Kayser and Alayna Kramme of Lynden FFA, Wash.

**High Individual:** Kelsey Davidson of Florence FFA, Texas



## CDE Winners continued

### AGRICULTURAL ISSUES FORUM

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

To qualify for the 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:** Asa Morgan, Lindsey Simpson, Nicole Wakefield, Jessica Garcia, Taylor Manning and Raynie Standley of Madisonville FFA, Texas



### AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS

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

Activities included in the event are a written exam, a team activity, demonstration of problem-solving skills, and hands-on performance activities. Areas of emphasis include energy systems, environmental/natural resource systems, machinery and equipment systems, structural systems and industry and marketing systems.

**Winning Team:** Brantley Bell, Ryan McLeod, Josh Poole and Seth Peavy of Bleckley Co. FFA in Cochran, Ga.  
**High Individual:** Brian Burge of Marion HS FFA, S.D.

### AGRICULTURAL SALES

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

The event includes actual sales presentations, a written exam, a team sales situation, an individual practical situation focusing on customer relations, customer service, or prospecting for customers.

**Winning Team:** Andrew Young, Cole Laber, Alison Moser and Morgan Schwartzenberger of Napoleon HS FFA in Napoleon, N.D.

**High Individual:** Brandon Nickels of Stanwood FFA, Wash.

### AGRONOMY

*Sponsored by Bayer CropScience of Research Triangle Park, North Carolina as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

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

**Winning Team:** Joseph Rundle, Michael Welch, Jesse Huber and Jacob Frager of Washington County FFA in Washington, Kan.

**High Individual:** Michael Welch of Washington County FFA, Kan.

### CREED SPEAKING

*Sponsored by CHS Foundation of Inver Grove Heights, Minn., and the National FFA Foundation*

The 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:** Amika Osumi of Arroyo Grande FFA, Calif.

### DAIRY CATTLE HANDLERS' ACTIVITY

*Sponsored by GEA WestfaliaSurge, Inc. of Naperville, Ill., and the National FFA Foundation*

The Dairy Cattle Handlers' Career Development Activity recognizes the contributions of handlers in presenting each animal to its best advantage for the dairy cattle participants in the evaluation of dairy cows and heifers during the National Dairy Cattle Evaluation CDE. Participants are scored on their appearance, their control of the animal, and their poise and confidence. They must also demonstrate competence in setting up and maintaining the assigned animal in its most advantageous pose, effectively restraining and avoiding exciting the animal, and moving the animal as requested by the ringmaster.

**High Individual:** Bobby Smith of Smyrna FFA, Del.

### DAIRY CATTLE EVALUATION

*Sponsored by GEA WestfaliaSurge, Inc. of Naperville, Ill., and the National FFA Foundation*

The 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:** Kelli Smitha, Casandra Petersen, Whitney Owen and Michella White of Spencer Co. FFA in Taylorsville, Ky.

**High Individual:** Daniel Nascimento of Hilmar FFA, Calif.



## CDE Winners continued

### DAIRY FOODS

*Sponsored by Dairy Farmers of America, Inc. of Kansas City, Mo., and the National FFA Foundation*

The 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.

**Winning Team:** Kelsey Allonge, Ashton Lanz, Micah Zehr and Tess Zehr of Prairie Central FFA in Fairbury, Ill.

**High Individual:** Ryan Falk of Onaga FFA, Kan.

### ENVIRONMENTAL/ NATURAL RESOURCES

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

This event focuses on testing students' problem solving and decision making skills in environmental and natural resources. These areas concentrate on soil profiles, water and air quality, waste management, environmental analysis, and use of global positioning units.

**Winning Team:** Alyshia Phillips, Emily Julian, John Gentry and Tyler Moore of Clinton HS FFA in Clinton, Tenn.

**High Individual:** Katie Grandle of Las Cruces FFA, N.M.

### EXTEMPORANEOUS PUBLIC SPEAKING

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

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

**High Individual:**

Anthony Meals of Clay Center Community FFA, Kan.

### FARM BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

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

The National FFA Farm Business Management Career Development Event is designed to test the ability of students to apply economic principles and concepts in analyzing farm and ranch business management decisions.

**Winning Team:** Alison Whale, Casandra Zuflet, Sam Emmert and Rachael Ashley of Kuna FFA in Kuna, Idaho

**High Individual:** TraeAnn Schlemmer of Riesel FFA, Texas

### FLORICULTURE

*Sponsored by Ball Horticultural Company of West Chicago, Ill., and the National FFA Foundation*

In the 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/decision making, employment and customer service, technical floral skills and the ability to work as a team.



**Winning Team:** Andrew Alton, Chelsea Ballard, Jennifer Hovey and Michael Jenkins of North Callaway FFA in Kingdom City, Mo.

**High Individual:** Chelsea Ballard of North Callaway FFA, Mo.

### FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

*Sponsored by Kraft Foods North America, Inc of Bannockburn, Ill., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

The 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.

**Winning Team:** Martha Fonseca, Megan Piepgras, Lillia Khelif and Elizabeth Schmid of Dassel Cokato FFA in Cokato, Minn.

**High Individual:** Beth Worley of Conrad Weiser FFA, Pa.

### FORESTRY

*Sponsored by Husqvarna of Charlotte, N.C., and the National FFA Foundation*

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



## CDE Winners continued



general forest knowledge exam, tree and equipment identification, map interpretation and compass practicum.

**Winning Team:** Chris Cooper, Danny Hobbs and Travis Walden of Jefferson Co HS FFA in Louisville, Ga.

**High Individual:** Chris Cooper of Jefferson Co. FFA, Ga.

## HORSE EVALUATION

*Sponsored by Dodge Trucks of Auburn Hills, Mich.; KENT Feeds, Inc. of Muscatine, Iowa; and Tractor Supply Company of Brentwood, Tenn., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

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

**Winning Team:** Jamielyn Moe, Brittney Fund and Maddie Rowell of Clovis FFA in Clovis, Calif.

**High Individual:** Jamielyn Moe of Clovis FFA, Calif.

## JOB INTERVIEW

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

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

**High Individual:** Alayna Warner of Smith Center FFA, Kan.

## LIVESTOCK EVALUATION

*Sponsored by Bayer Animal Health; Boehringer Ingelheim of St. Joseph, Mo.; Merial of Duluth, Ga., and the National FFA Foundation*

The Livestock Evaluation CDE is a competitive activity that tests the student's ability to select and evaluate livestock. Event components include seven evaluation classes of beef, sheep and swine; oral placement reasons on four classes; a written exam on livestock production; and quality grading of

slaughter cattle. A team event, based on production performance records, demonstrates the team's breeding livestock selection ability.

**Winning Team:** Trevor White, Corey Smith, Jordan Clem and Heath Link of New Home HS FFA in New Home, Texas

**High Individual:** Trevor White of New Home FFA, Texas

## MARKETING PLAN

*Sponsored by DeBruce Grain of Kansas City, Mo., and DuPont Company of Wilmington, Del., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

The 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.

**Winning Team:** Emily Wylie, Grace Lindsey and Aaron Jones of Madisonville FFA in Madisonville, Texas



## MEATS EVALUATION AND TECHNOLOGY

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

The Meats Evaluation and Technology CDE is a competitive activity that tests students' skills and competencies in

## CDE Winners continued

evaluating and identifying meat carcasses and products. Event components include a general knowledge exam, beef carcass evaluation, identification of wholesale and retail cuts of beef, lamb, and pork, quality and yield grading of beef carcasses, a team meat merchandising activity and solving of a meat formulation problem.

**Winning Team:** Christian Reinke, Tristan Hanon, Caitlin Quesenberry and Eric Larson of Sumner FFA in Sumner, Wash.

**High Individual:** Loni Woolley of Grandview FFA, Texas

## NURSERY AND LANDSCAPE

*Sponsored by Arysta LifeScience North America of Cary, N.C.; Kubota Tractor Corporation of Torrance, Calif.; and STIHL Inc. of Virginia Beach, Va., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

The Nursery and 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.

**Winning Team:** Heather Oentrich, Melissa Pachta, Lindy Singular and Briana Lohse of Linn FFA in Linn, Kan.

**High Individual:** Clayton Thornton of North Oconee High FFA, Ga.

## PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

*Sponsored by The Mosaic Company of Plymouth, Minn., and the National FFA Foundation*

The 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.

**Winning Team:** Amanda Seely, Sean Brockman, Steven Richey, Racheal Redman, Krystal Moncada and Connor Eyherabide of Millennium High School in Goodyear, Ariz.

## POULTRY EVALUATION

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

The Poultry Evaluation CDE is a competitive activity that tests the student's ability to select top quality poultry and poultry products needed for successful production and marketing. Event participants must complete a written exam on poultry management, evaluate classes of live birds for eggs and meat production, evaluate quality of eggs, and evaluate and identify parts and products.

**Winning Team:** Claire Luensmann, Jessica Price, Blake Young and Kaitlynn Snow of Lavernia FFA in La Vernia, Texas

**High Individual:** Claire Luensmann of Lavernia FFA, Texas



## PREPARED PUBLIC SPEAKING

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

The Prepared Public Speaking Career Development Event is designed to recognize outstanding FFA members for their ability to prepare and present a factual speech on a specific agricultural issue in a well thought out and logical manner 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:** Marshal Sewell of Durant Sr. FFA, Fla.



# National Agricultural Proficiency Winners Announced

## AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATIONS - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by McCormick Company as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Elizabeth Heitkamp from Ohio became interested in the agriculture communications field when she competed in the Agriculture Communications Career Development Event during her first two years as a member of the Versailles FFA Chapter in Ohio. She was able to put her practice to work when she became the afternoon farm news director at a local radio station, where she researches, writes and broadcasts news stories. In addition, she records the overnight weather report. Planning to attend The Ohio State University, she will continue to hone her communication skills to one day pursue a career in agriculture.

## AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by The James F. Lincoln Arc Welding Foundation and The Lincoln Electric Company as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

As a high school freshman, Nicole Folger from Oklahoma stood before a group of fifth grade students and asked them where their food came from. Not satisfied with their responses, the Burlington FFA member decided it was her destiny to be an agriculture educator. To prepare for this future career, Folger has taken many steps to promote agriculture in her community. Taking an active role in her chapter's Food For America and Partners in Active Learning Support programs, Folger is educating youth about

agriculture and FFA. Sharing in the Oklahoma member's successes is her mother, Jackie, and FFA advisor Travis Bradshaw.

## AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS DESIGN AND FABRICATION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Carry-on Trailer Corporation and Dodge Trucks as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Kingsburg FFA member Andre Alves from California has gained knowledge and experience in agricultural mechanics through employment experiences provided to him by his FFA advisor. His first job was at Wildwood Express truck yard, where his duties included fabrication of equipment and trailers. He helped perform upgrades on big rig trucks. The following summer, Alves began working at Kingsburg Cultivator, a manufacturer of specialized farm equipment. There, he worked with installing hydraulic components on machinery. Through these employment experiences, the California student has gained a better understanding of agriculture and will someday pursue a career in agricultural business.

## AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS ENERGY SYSTEMS - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Briggs and Stratton Corporation and New Holland as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Noah Sims from Alabama constructs and repairs ammonia absorption refrigeration systems with his grandfather, Eldred. These systems are primarily used in recreational vehicles. The Falkville FFA member began assisting in his grandfather's business when he was a freshman in high school. In three short years, his responsibilities have grown from cleaning to welding and fabricating. In addition





## Agricultural Proficiency Winners continued



to expanding his mechanical skills, Sims has also broadened his business management skills, which will help him prepare to take ownership of the shop when his grandfather retires. Joining his grandfather in the celebration of his achievements are his grandmother, Mary Anne and his FFA Advisor, Shane Bryan.

### AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Hobart Welders and Tractor Supply Company as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

A self-proclaimed antique tractor restoration addict, Shane Blaes of Kansas restored his first antique tractor in just three-and-a-half months. It was a John Deere "B," which had been bought by his grandfather in the 1950s. Since, he has restored two additional antique tractors. The Cherryvale FFA member has won numerous restoring competitions, which has brought him publicity as a tractor restorer in his area. Restoring tractors is his passion, and the Kansas FFA State

Officer hopes that one day it will be his career. Supporting his endeavors are his parents, Wayne and Sharon, and his FFA advisor, Amy Allen.

### AGRICULTURAL PROCESSING - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Archer Daniels Midland Company and CHS Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Indiana native Lisa Schluttenhofer has been keeping honeybees for more than six years, but when she started producing more honey than there was demand for, she knew she needed to find other uses for the beeswax. In the beginning, the Western Boone FFA member only knew how to make simple soaps. These soaps were so well received, that it motivated her to learn other uses for the beeswax, including candles, cosmetics and nuts and honey. A novice beekeeper, Schluttenhofer had to do a lot of research about different uses of beeswax and honey. She plans to pursue a career in natural resource management.

### AGRICULTURAL SALES - ENTREPRENEURSHIP

*Sponsored by Channel Bio and the National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

As a seventh grader, Dylan Minnig from Wisconsin was already an entrepreneur, owning 20 percent of his grandfather's firewood business. Motivated by the awards he could win through FFA, the Wisconsin resident decided to purchase another 10 percent of the company, thus beginning his supervised agricultural experience. At Minnig Firewood, he plays a key role in all operations, from pulling trees with a tractor to processing them into firewood and delivering the wood to his customers. Currently, Minnig is focusing on expanding his business to wood chips. With plans to earn a degree in diesel mechanics, he hopes to continue to be active in FFA through the Alumni association.



## Agricultural Proficiency Winners continued



### AGRICULTURAL SERVICES - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/ PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by United Country Real Estate and the National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Through her supervised agricultural experience program placement, Chelsie McKenzie has had the opportunity to leave her home state of Nebraska and travel to North Dakota, New Mexico and New Zealand learning about artificial insemination.

Working at A. I. Diversified, Incorporated, McKenzie works closely with the owner, artificially inseminating elk, beef cattle and deer. As her knowledge and interest grew, the Scottsbluff FFA member had the privilege of traveling to New Zealand to work with leading experts in the field of deer insemination. McKenzie hopes to receive her Master's Degree in Animal Reproduction, preparing her to one day take over the operation of A. I. Diversified, Incorporated.

### AQUACULTURE - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/ PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by the National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Managing one of the only working fish hatcheries at a high school in the United States, Katlyn Santangelo from New York is working to make it an educational experience for all FFA members.

As the hatchery manager, Santangelo is responsible for supervising all students who are involved with the hatchery, including feeding, collecting data and taking water samples. The Cuba-Rushford FFA member became involved in the hatchery at the age of 11 when it was built in memory of a close family friend who passed away. This is why it is so important to her that others benefit from the hatchery by learning about the fish hatching process. Celebrating in her success are her parents, George and Dawn, and her FFA advisor Pattie Ploetz.

### BEEF PRODUCTION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP

*Sponsored by Bayer Animal Health and Nasco Division-Nasco International, Inc., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Motivated by his parents to turn his small Simmental cattle herd into an enterprise, Matthew Pearson from Minnesota obtained a grant from the National FFA to grow his beef operation. Pearson's supervised agricultural experience program consists of 38 registered Simmental and Crossbred beef cattle. To increase genetic soundness of his cattle, the Atwater Cosmos Grove City FFA member artificially inseminates all his cows, assuring customers that they are purchasing top-of-the-line cattle. Pearson hopes to make his Simmental operation nationally known while also pursuing a career as a large animal veterinarian.

### BEEF PRODUCTION - PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Fort Dodge Animal Health and Midwest PMS as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

One of Rachel Glascock's first responsibilities in the cattle industry was choosing names for the baby cows. Even

### AGRICULTURAL SALES - PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Lextron, Inc. and Vigortone Ag Products as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Working for a business with only three employees, Lori Fraley from North Carolina understands that her role is very important and that without her customer service and communication skills, the hydraulic distribution company her parents own and operate would flounder. Since 2004, the West Rowan FFA member has been working alongside her parents to be the only east coast distributor of HARSH hydraulics. Fraley's responsibilities include making sales calls, developing displays for trade shows and helping customers select the proper equipment for their needs. With the support of her parents, Von and Cindy, and the guidance of her FFA advisors, Jason Chester and Clark Adams, the North Carolina FFA member is on her way to a great future in the agricultural sales industry.



## Agricultural Proficiency Winners continued

as a toddler, the Texas native knew that she wanted to be involved in ranching. Glascock works at Timber Creek Cattle Company, a registered Red Angus cow-calf operation. The Pilot Point FFA member's responsibilities on the ranch include health management, breeding, evaluating pedigrees and vaccinating. Some day, Glascock hopes to be a college professor of agriculture, while still assisting her family with their cattle operation. Celebrating in her successes are her parents and FFA advisors, Randy and Tammy Glascock.

### DAIRY PRODUCTION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP

*Sponsored by DeLaval, Inc., and New Holland as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Driven by a desire to make his father proud of him, Tyler Schafer from Oklahoma began showing dairy heifers at the age of 9. He was instantly hooked on the competitive atmosphere of the show ring and year after year could not wait to exhibit his animals at the fair. When he began his supervised agricultural experience program, the Lomega FFA member was already knowledgeable in the dairy industry. With the motivation of winning top awards, Schafer breeds for superior genetics and high milk production, making his heifers very marketable to consumers in the industry. In 2007, he sold animals to producers in New Mexico, Oklahoma, California and Wisconsin.

### DAIRY PRODUCTION - PLACEMENT

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

Being a part of a family tradition motivated Megan Rice from Nebraska to



make dairy production her supervised agricultural experience program. The Nebraska resident prepares semen, tests milk, breeds cows and keeps accurate records in her position at Prairieland Dairy. In addition, the Norris FFA member organizes and operates a 10-acre corn maze every fall. She also plans Dairy Fun Day, an event that attracts more than 2,500 visitors to the farm to learn about the dairy industry. Rice is supported by her parents, Daniel and Brenda, and her FFA advisors, Doug Malone and Kristyn Harms.

### DIVERSIFIED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/ PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Delta Consolidated-a Danaher Company and the National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

According to Brian Hills' mother, he was born to farm! As a little boy she would often find him in the garden or following his dad around. By the time

the Tri-Point FFA member got to junior high, he was operating heavy machinery around the farm, showing and caring for livestock and managing crop production. Currently, Hills who is from Illinois, rents 320 acres of cash crops, a huge undertaking that he finds gratifying. With plans to major in agriculture production, the Illinois resident knows that farming will always play a major role in his life and will provide for his family.

### DIVERSIFIED CROP PRODUCTION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP

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

Jordan Krueger from South Dakota began his work experience in grade school by picking rocks and sticks out of the field that his father was planting. When he enrolled in agriscience class in eighth grade, the South Dakota FFA member was ready to begin his own diversified operation. Krueger traditionally sells his crops to the local grain elevator, but also cuts some of his corn for silage that he feeds to his cattle. The McCook Central FFA member hopes to continue farming with his father and grandfather on their fourth generation farm after he completes his degree in agriculture production management and business.

### DIVERSIFIED CROP PRODUCTION - PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by National Crop Insurance Services and National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

At the age of 12, Zachary Reinstein from California was given work to do around his family's diversified crop farm.





## Agricultural Proficiency Winners continued



Now, the California FFA member is a valuable employee of the farm, working in every aspect of the operation and supervising other employees. On Reinstein's placement, Thomsen Farms, they grow alfalfa, wheat, lima beans, tomatoes and almonds. Each year that Reinstein has been employed, he has taken on more responsibilities and learned more skills that will aid him as he continues to be involved in the production of Thomsen Farms. He hopes to become an agricultural teacher and FFA advisor following college.

### DIVERSIFIED HORTICULTURE - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/ PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Briggs and Stratton Corporation and Nationwide Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Driven by her ambition to participate in the Floriculture Career Development

Event, Paige Allen of Minnesota has learned how to identify flowers and plants, as well as floral design principles. Hired as a designer at Thymeless Flowers more than four years ago, the Saint Charles FFA member hopes to work in the wholesale floral industry, planning wedding shows and working in marketing. She also desires to visit countries such as Brazil and Columbia where cut flower production is done.

### DIVERSIFIED LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP

*Sponsored by Tarter and Tractor Supply Company as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Unable to decide on what species he liked the most, Troy Sloan from Missouri decided to build his supervised agricultural experience program around four areas: goats, cattle, swine and sheep. The Missouri FFA member raises and sells more than 300 show hogs every year to

exhibitors in more than 17 states. In addition to raising top show pigs, Sloan also raises beef cattle, club lambs and goats that he shows, annually winning top honors at many state and national shows. Fulfilling his passion for livestock, he plans to participate on the livestock judging team in college and continue being a successful breeder in the swine industry.

### DIVERSIFIED LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION - PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Behlen Manufacturing Company and the National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Taking every opportunity given to her to work with animals, Kalin Jenkins from Oklahoma takes an active role in her family's diversified livestock farm. The first goal she wanted to accomplish was learning about diseases and determining which ones reaped the most havoc on a livestock operation. The Stillwater FFA member was also interested in learning about the selection of quality breeding animals. Accomplishing both of these goals, Jenkins has gained the confidence needed to pursue a career in agricultural relations.

### EMERGING AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/ PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Already having the knowledge of growing successful hydroponic tomatoes, Ridgemont FFA member Wesley VanScoy of Ohio decided to test his skills by growing hydroponic cucumbers. The result is a smaller, flavorful cucumber that



## Agricultural Proficiency Winners continued



has a longer shelf life this its traditionally grown counterpart. VanScoy has been successful marketing these vegetables to local grocery stores and other wholesale clients and now has a surplus of customers seeking hydroponic cucumbers. With a goal of becoming a recognized leader in the hydroponic vegetable field, the Ohio resident plans to pursue a degree in agricultural business.

### ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND NATURAL RESOURCES - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/ PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Ford Trucks as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Cameron Lange of California is employed at Access Research and Consulting, a research facility specializing in environmental safety. His responsibilities include research plot set up, chemical

application, soil sample collection and water collection and observation. The Fresno-Central FFA member has enjoyed his hands-on learning in environmental science and hopes to continue his education in crop science. He hopes to one day own his own environmental research company. Celebrating his success are his parents, Brian and Brenda, along with his FFA advisors.

### EQUINE SCIENCE - ENTREPRENEURSHIP

*Sponsored by Keystone Steel and Wire Company-Red Brand and Land O'Lakes Purina as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

With a great-uncle who is a 16-time rodeo world champion, Sage Shoulders from Oklahoma has been riding and competing her entire life. Training her own horse to rope, the Oilton FFA member realized that she had a gift

for understanding how to train horses. Others have witnessed this ability and contracted Shoulders to train their horses to compete. The Oklahoma native plans to continue rodeoing while she pursues a degree in animal science with hopes of one day becoming a veterinarian.

### EQUINE SCIENCE - PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Ariat International Inc. and Tractor Supply Company as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Rather than participating in sports like other teenagers, Marcia Meggers from Iowa has spent hours after school in the barn, caring for horses. From an early age she has been working with equine, from imprinting young foals to breaking yearlings to be ridden. In addition, the Iowa FFA member has helped her grandfather with his Belgium Draft Horses each summer. This experience prepared



## Agricultural Proficiency Winners continued

Meggers for her current job at Rocky Ridge Cyldesdale Farms, where she helps train the draft horses for show. She plans to obtain her degree in agribusiness and own a training and boarding facility, specializing in draft horses.

### FIBER AND/OR OIL CROP PRODUCTION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/ PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by NK Seeds as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Christopher Couch of Tennessee works on an 8,000-acre farm in Tennessee, which consists of cotton, soybeans, corn and winter wheat. The Liberty FFA member is responsible for spraying cotton, coordinating GPS units for the planters and assists with maintenance and equipment repairs. Hoping to pursue a career as a farmer, Couch will obtain a degree in agriculture production. Celebrating in his successes are parents, Joe and Vicki, and FFA advisors, Chuck Flowers and Teresa Crouse.

### FLORICULTURE - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/ PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Bayer Environmental Science and National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

After spending a year working in his high school's horticulture class and greenhouse, Garrett Owen from North Carolina was inspired to build his own greenhouse. After completing construction of his greenhouse, the North Carolina FFA member immediately began planting seeds and propagating flowers and by spring he was fully up and running, selling his plants at a local farmer's market and to a large agronomist in the area. He has managed to steadily increase his enterprise and is

now efficiently growing healthy plants year-round. With hopes of becoming a large greenhouse owner and operator, Owen is in the process of building a second greenhouse to expand his business.

### FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/ PLACEMENT

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

Seeing a negative drop in the sales of her Hampshire boars due to poor meat quality, Emily Arkfeld from Nebraska became interested in genetic research. Wanting to improve the genetic quality of her family's swine operation, the Nebraska FFA member began conducting research on the effects of the RN gene in muscle quality. Arkfeld found that she enjoyed doing this type of research so much that she plans to pursue a career in the meat and food science industry. Supporting these goals is her father and FFA advisor, Timothy, along with her mother, Luanne.

### FORAGE PRODUCTION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/ PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Claas of America, Inc. and National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Striving to provide the best forage to feed to his 300 head dairy farm, Curtis Horsens from Wisconsin has been involved in forage production since 2002. He realizes that utilizing the best methods and latest technologies will produce high-quality hay, in turn, allowing the dairy cattle to produce high-quality milk. The Gillett FFA member plants a total of 900 acres. In addition to cutting hay, the farm also grows corn. Horsens plans to

continue his education in dairy science at the University of Wisconsin. Upon graduation he will return to his family farm and continue a tradition that has been alive since 1879.

### FOREST MANAGEMENT AND PRODUCTS - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/ PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Dodge Trucks and John Deere as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Motivated by the excitement of customer's faces when they picked out the perfect Christmas tree for their holiday celebration, Jason Segers began operating a choose-and-cut Christmas tree farm. With land provided by his grandfather, the Georgia FFA member planted more than 500 White Pine, Fraser Fire and Leyland Cypress trees. Segers markets these trees through local television, radio and newspaper advertisements. Being in a central location, Segers manages to retain customers from three towns. He believes that his experience in small business management will help him be a successful banker one day.

### FRUIT PRODUCTION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/ PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by DuPont Company as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Kenneth Schilling from Indiana works at an orchard that grows cherries, peaches, nectarines and apples. Additionally, he is charged with taking care of strawberries, tomatoes and pumpkins. When he started his placement four years ago, the Mount Vernon FFA member was responsible for picking fruit, pulling weeds and washing farm machinery. After building his knowledge and experience, Shilling can trim trees, spray for insects and water plants. With hopes





## Agricultural Proficiency Winners continued

of pursuing a degree in agribusiness, Schilling is serving as the Indiana Southern Region State Vice President.

### GRAIN PRODUCTION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP

*Sponsored by Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

When determining if a career in agriculture was right for him, Fillmore Central FFA member Eric Kamler from Nebraska decided to rent 160 acres from his neighbor. Kamler grows corn on this plot of land. Keeping an eye on the market prices has been a major part of his success. Hoping to serve as a Nebraska State Officer, Kamler also plans to attend Southwest Community College before transferring to the University of Nebraska to pursue a degree in agri-marketing. Supporting his goals are his parents, Mike and Kim, along with his FFA advisor, Kurt VanDeWalle.

### GRAIN PRODUCTION - PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Paul Westhoff from South Dakota has been farming his entire life. He went from riding along on the tractor to operating it on his family's diversified crop farm. Increasing efficiency is a goal of this McCook Central FFA member, and he strives to attain this goal through his duties on the farm, which include, spraying crops, planting, hauling grain and operating the combine. It is through these duties Westhoff has discovered his love for working with farm machinery and plans to cultivate that passion as he pursues a degree in agricultural and bio systems engineering.

### HOME AND/OR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Carhartt, Inc. as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

As the daughter of two agriscience teachers, Erynne Treptow from Texas was admiring blue jackets long before she could ever fit into one. Seeing the impact that FFA was making on its members, she wondered what impact the members could have on the community. In eighth grade, the Weimar FFA member held her first food drive during a Texas State Convention. This canned drive has grown over the past four years to include the donation of backpacks and school supplies. Treptow speaks to community and civic groups to solicit donations and writes grants to local foundations. She hopes to follow in her parents' footsteps and one day become an agriculture educator.

### LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by MTD Products, Inc. and Tractor Supply Company as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

In hopes of saving money for college, Heath Busby from Georgia is employed at Busby Lawn Care, which is owned by his father. The Early County FFA member's tasks include mowing, hedging, weed eating, pesticide treatments and invoicing clients. As the only employee, Busby takes on a lot of responsibility in the lawn care business, assisting in all aspects of managing their 17 customers. Planning to one day take over ownership of Busby Lawn Care, the Georgia native will major in agricultural business. Joining him are parents, Tracy and Sandy, and FFA advisor, Catherine Simmons.

### NURSERY OPERATIONS - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Dodge Trucks and Landmark Nurseries as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Rashele Blakley of Oklahoma owns her own greenhouse that she purchased from her parents as a teenager. The Oologah FFA member grows a wide variety of herbs and aloe vera, as well as some vines and flowers that are difficult to find. In addition, she raises perennials and heirloom tomatoes. Blakley sells her herbs and flowers at farmer's markets in Tulsa, Okla. She understands that building strong relationships with her customers is important and believes that these relationships have resulted in a dramatic increase in her clientele. She will attend Oklahoma State University where she will study agricultural business and agricultural communications.

### OUTDOOR RECREATION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by GM Powertrain and Lund Boat Company as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Lucerne Valley Marina is located on the Flaming Gorge Reservoir, a 91-mile reservoir on the Wyoming/Utah border. Kodee Schell from Utah has worked at this marina for five years. For the first two years, her position was located in the main boat store, where she developed an inventory tracking system. After proving herself to be a valuable employee, the Manila FFA member moved to the docks, where she is in charge of renting boats to costumers and managing tackle supplies. Supporting Schell is her father and FFA advisor, William, along with her mother, Raynette.



## Agricultural Proficiency Winners continued

### POULTRY PRODUCTION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Wayne Farms, LLC and National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Seeing the opportunity to sell broiler chickens at her local farmer's market, Melody Brewen from Missouri began her operation by purchasing 130 broilers from a local hatchery. After eight weeks she harvested 30 and found the response to her product to be overwhelming. This motivated her to expand her business and over time she more than doubled her number of chickens. In addition to selling her broilers at the farmer's market, the Fredericktown FFA member also advertises through her local butcher shop. Celebrating in Brewen's successes are her parents, John and Pam, and FFA advisors, Tom Mooney and Mike Graham.

### SMALL ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND CARE - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Merial as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Cultivating her interest in veterinary medicine, Alyssa Jobe of Kansas began working for a local clinic when she was 15. Her main motivation was to determine if becoming a veterinarian would be a suitable career choice for her. At the Miami Veterinary Clinic, the Kansas FFA member is responsible for sanitizing the examination areas, collecting blood samples and relaying care instructions to families of pets being treated at the clinic. Working at the clinic has not only provided Jobe with practical hands-on experience, but it has also cemented her desire to become a full-time veterinarian. Celebrating in her successes are her parents, Dennis and Stacy, and her FFA advisors, Jeff Hines and Josh Evans.

### SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCTION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

With the rising costs of input into the tobacco industry, Rexford Price from North Carolina considers himself lucky to work on a farm that provides for the financial stability of his family. The Spring Creek FFA member has been working on his family's tobacco farm since he was 8 years old. During that time, his responsibilities have drastically changed. Now he operates settlers and harvesters, applies chemicals and monitors the greenhouses where the plants grow. Price is always thinking of new ways that the farm can increase their yields and decrease labor. He plans to attend North Carolina State University and major in Agronomy.

### SHEEP PRODUCTION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

When Nichole Ely of Kansas was given two bred ewes as Christmas presents 11 years ago, she had no idea that it would turn into a successful entrepreneurial operation. The Inman FFA member owns a total of 60 sheep. She attributes the success of her operation to keeping accurate records, implementing good nutrition and developing strong communication skills. Ely markets the majority of her lambs to FFA and 4H members to utilize as fair projects. In addition, she also sells directly to meat lockers, giving her the opportunity to promote the sheep industry through meat sales. She plans to pursue a degree in agricultural communications.

### SPECIALTY ANIMAL PRODUCTION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/PLACEMENT

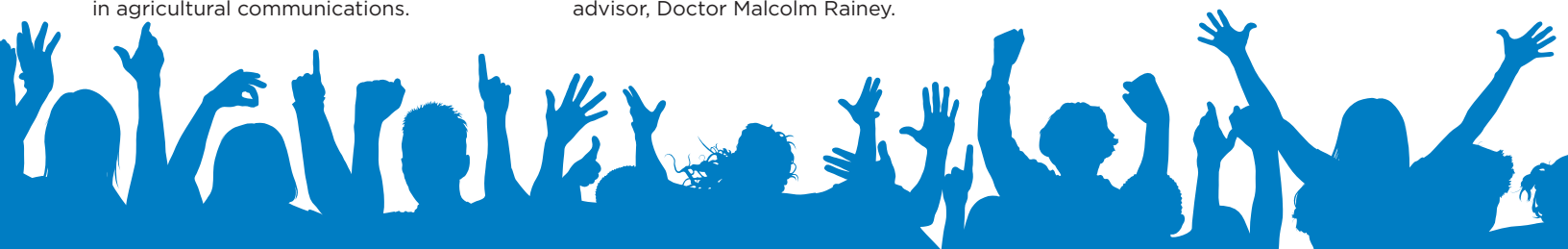
*Sponsored by Land O'Lakes Purina and the National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Growing up around honeybees, it was natural that Dell Highsmith from Georgia would become involved in the family business. As a part of his supervised agricultural experience program, the Echols County FFA member works at two honey production operations. There, his duties include extracting honey, checking hives, processing honey for sale and supervising employees. Now, his main focus is learning how to spot infestation in the hives. Highsmith plans to pursue a degree in forestry or another agriculture-related field. He is supported by his parents, Ronald and Beverly, and his FFA advisor, Doctor Malcolm Rainey.

### SWINE PRODUCTION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP

*Sponsored by LA-CO Markal and National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Elizabeth Steele from California showed her first hog when she was 5 years old. Since then, the Grass Valley-Nevada Union FFA member has been raising, showing and selling pigs year-round. Steele had to rebuild her herd in 2006 when disease spread throughout the barn. She didn't let this deter her from the swine industry and today she is a top breeder and seller in Nevada County. Advertising in swine magazines and livestock catalogs, she gets top dollar for her market hogs. She loves being around animals and hopes to one day become a large animal veterinarian.



## Agricultural Proficiency Winners continued

### SWINE PRODUCTION - PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Phibro Animal Health and Sunglo Feeds as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Batesville FFA member Joseph Harmeyer became interested in the agricultural industry at an early age. Knowing that it is a difficult and ever-changing career, the Indiana native decided that he needed to learn as much as he could through hands-on experience. This brought him to his placement on Schwe-gman Farms. The farm is a 140-head farrow-to-finish operation. Harmeyer's responsibilities include processing pigs, castrating, feeding and assisting in artificial insemination. He is currently majoring in Farm Management at Purdue University.

### TURF GRASS MANAGEMENT - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/ PLACEMENT

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

With a knowledge base in home lawn care and encouragement from his FFA advisor, Bryce Kirkpatrick from Georgia started his own custom lawn maintenance business. His has a clientele of more than 35 residents and five businesses, including a local apartment complex. The Bleckley FFA member has a unique marketing strategy. He has T-shirts printed advertising his business and he asks friends and family members to wear the shirts in the community. He also gives the shirts to new customers as thank you gifts. Kirkpatrick plans to continue his business while he pursues a degree in landscape architecture.

### VEGETABLE PRODUCTION - ENTREPRENEURSHIP/ PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by Seminis Vegetable Seeds, Inc.*

It began in 2005 with three acres of red onions. Cole Vculek of North Dakota had never grown onions and used the operation as a learning experience to expand into Bancroft seed potatoes. Finding his niche in potatoes, the Oakes Sargent Central FFA member has expanded and improved his crop every year and in 2007 he planted more than 36 acres of potatoes. These seed potatoes are sold to a local farmer at market price, giving Vculek the opportunity to increase his profits and expand his business. He hopes to secure a job in the field of agronomy and will study weed science and agricultural economics.

### WILDLIFE PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT - ENTREPRENEURSHIP

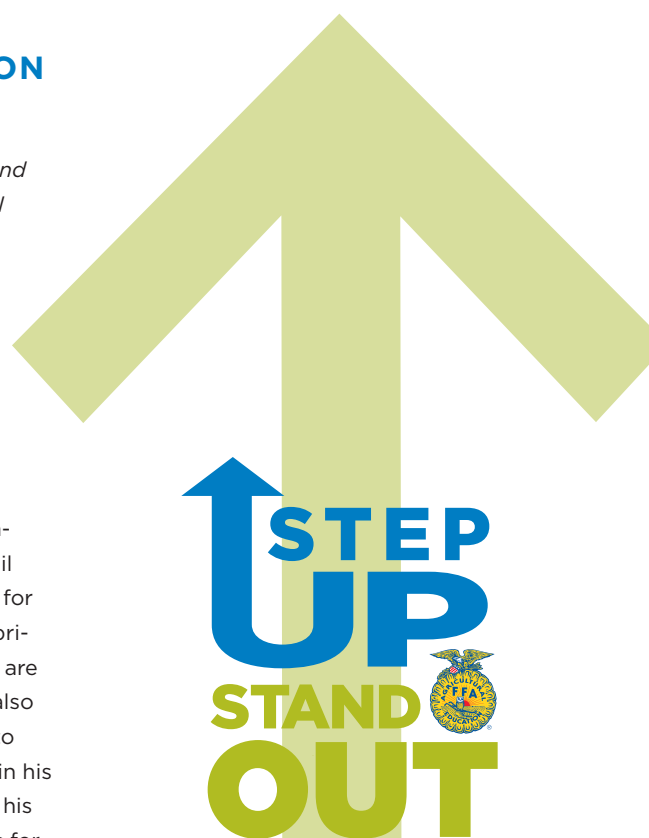
*Sponsored by Land O'Lakes Purina and National FFA Foundation as a special project of National FFA Foundation*

Galvin Vetick of Nebraska would rather spend his days outside with wildlife, watching what they do. He is fascinated by their communication and forage consumption. When looking for a supervised agricultural experience program, it only seemed natural that the Lyons Decatur North-east FFA member would choose quail and pheasants. He raises these birds for hunting purposes and sells them to private buyers. His ring neck pheasants are used to help train hunting dogs. He also releases these birds into the woods to help increase the number of wildlife in his community. He would like to expand his venture into building natural habitats for the birds.

### WILDLIFE PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT - PLACEMENT

*Sponsored by United Country Real Estate and National FFA Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation*

Responding to an ad in the newspaper for the Saint Plains National Wildlife Refuge, Kellie Whipple of Oklahoma knew she had found her dream job. The Alva FFA member works at the habitat, which is home to more than 300 species of birds and 30 different types of animals. After two summers, Whipple assists in scheduling and managing the other youth workers in addition to general maintenance tasks around the farm. Whipple plans to attend Oklahoma State University and major in animal science or natural resource conservation.



81st NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION  
October 22-25, 2008





# American Stars

## Each year at the national FFA convention,

16 national finalists (four per award) vie for the organization's top awards: American Star Farmer, American Star in Agribusiness, American Star in Agricultural Placement and American Star in Agriscience. These awards honor students who have developed outstanding agricultural skills and competencies through their career development programs; demonstrated outstanding management skills; earned the American FFA Degree — the organization's highest level of accomplishment; and met other agricultural education, scholastic and leadership requirements. Each finalist was interviewed by a panel of judges, who ultimately named the top candidate in each area. The winner was announced in an onstage convention ceremony and received a plaque and an award of \$4,000. The runners-up also received plaques and \$2,000 each.

## Star in Agribusiness

**JASON HANSTEDT, Pulaski, Wis.,** once described himself as the type of high school student who shoved all of his books and papers in a backpack with little regard for organization. This all changed when the 21-year-old started his own tree removal and wood recycling business. He now keeps his company's books in impeccable order, turns a steady profit and has earned a national award for his efforts.

When Hanstedt was a freshman at Pulaski High School, he began using lessons he'd learned about forestry in his agriculture classes to manage his parents' 71-acre, wooded property. Two years later, while still in high school, he purchased a wood chipper with the help of his father and established Hanstedt Wood and Recycling. Over the last four years, his business has expanded. Now, in addition to brush chipping services, the company offers tree and branch removal, lot clearing, scrap iron removal from farms, fence line clearing and firewood sales.

Next spring he will graduate from Northeast Wisconsin Technical College with a certificate in business management. His plans are to stay in the Pulaski area and purchase land, where he can establish his business operations and his home. He hopes to someday be regarded as a respected business leader in his community.

Hanstedt is the son of Terry and Judy Hanstedt and is a member of the Pulaski FFA, where his advisor is Jared Schaffner.



## Star in Agricultural Placement

Ask **DEREK LOWREY** to name his life-long goal and the **Laredo, Mo.,** resident will tell you without hesitation: "To be a farmer. I love agriculture and am committed to making farming a career that is challenging, rewarding and profitable." Lowrey grew up on his parent's crop and beef farm and started his supervised agricultural experience (SAE) program his freshman year in high school by purchasing and backgrounding feeder heifers.

In April 2003, Lowrey began working for Foster/Mack Dairy, a Grade A, 55-head Holstein dairy farm in rural Grundy County, to help the farm's owners who were battling cancer. His many duties included feeding cattle and calves, assisting with tillage work and raking and stacking hay. He soon advanced to working with the farm's milking operation, which eventually led to his current position as farm manager and his work on everything from maintaining the silage pit to replacing tractor clutches and cutting, baling and storing alfalfa and grass hay.

When he's not working on the dairy farm, Lowrey is receiving his Associate in Applied Science in agriculture and natural resources at North Central Missouri College in Trenton, Mo. He also works on his own custom-farming enterprise planting and combining soybeans, putting up hay and applying fertilizer. He has expanded his beef backgrounding operation to 60 head of heifers per year. In addition, he raises corn, soybeans, wheat, oats and hay in cooperation with his brother. In his spare time, Lowrey restores antique tractors; he has nearly 25 in his collection. Next fall, he will attend Northwest Missouri State University and major in agronomy. Until then, he continues to work for the Macks. He hopes to eventually buy the Mack farm and convert it into a beef and row crop operation.

Lowrey is the son of David and Melissa Lowrey and is a member of the Trenton FFA, where his advisor is Steven Rogers.



## Stars continued

### Star in Agriscience

Although agriculture has always played a role in **LAURA BRUNER**'s life, the **Wauseon, Ohio**, resident was hesitant when her family urged her to join her local FFA chapter. She wasn't interested, but she gave into peer pressure and enrolled in agriculture classes her freshman year. Soon, she was captivated by agriscience fairs, and studying genetics.

Bruner's agriscience research project began as a result of her interest in studying genetics. In 2002, she began working with genetics and marketability of Cucurbita pepo, a variety of squash. Bruner believes it has the potential to help with world hunger in third-world countries, as it is cheap and easy to maintain and has high nutritional values. Along with research, Bruner began a job at Rupp Seeds, where she was able to inventory squash seeds, care for test plots and pollinated squash and soybean plants.

Bruner's research with C. pepo ignited her passion for plants and genetics. She decided on a major in plant pathology at the The Ohio State University. While at school, she works in the Plant Cellular and Molecular Biology lab. It's here where she's realized that she can help create crops that will be commercially viable in the global economy.

"I hope to attend graduate school and obtain a PhD in plant genetics," Bruner said. "I would like to use my education in third-world countries to teach people how to use agriculture to sustain themselves. I have come a long way from the high school freshman who did not want to be in FFA. I would not be where I am in my life or who I am today if I had not joined FFA. I have become both confident in who I am, my skills and abilities. I know what it is like to experience successes as well as failures."

Bruner is the daughter of Daniel and Jo Bruner and is a member of the Pettisville FFA, where her advisor is John Poulson.



### Star Farmer

**TRAVIS SCHNAITHMAN**'s love for farming began at a young age. Soon, with a few cows, sheep, a tractor and some land, he was on his way. His desire to farm only increased as he grew older and saw what hard work could accomplish.

Schnaithman began his FFA career in 2000 while he was an eighth-grader. He started planning for his farm and soon realized the potential. He soon added more equipment to his operation and diversified his livestock. He began to custom swath and bale hay and also raised natural club lamb prospects. Soon he was also implementing artificial insemination (A.I.) in his cow herds. In 2004, he decided to enhance his A.I. skills and attend the Reproduction Enterprises A.I. School. As a result, he's had success with his conception rates. Along with adding A.I. into his production, Schnaithman was able to add an additional 480 acres of land, and in 2007, added an additional 640 acres of land.

After graduation from Oklahoma State University, where he's majoring in agribusiness, Schnaithman plans to return to the farm as a full-time production agriculturist. He also hopes to serve as a voice for American agriculture in the political arena.

Schnaithman is the son of Lee and Becky Schnaithman and is a member of the Garber FFA, where his advisor is Mark Sneary.



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Retiring Address: Zach Kinne

# “You-niquely Used”

**There is nothing I enjoy more than picking up my fiddle,** playing a few old-time tunes, and simply relaxing to the sound of music. From the first time I drew my bow across the strings in third grade, I was hooked. Finally, I had found something that I not only thoroughly enjoyed doing, but also something that came naturally to me. I enjoyed it so much that I even went to fiddle camp and had my own personalized license plate. Now, you may think that's a pretty

nerdy thing to do, but the fact is I loved playing! When I play, I feel like I'm in a zone with no worries in the world. I

feel confident in my ability to play, and that's such a good feeling.

Even though I enjoy playing fiddle, there have been times when I have been a little embarrassed by my talent. I often looked at those around me and wondered why I couldn't be more like them – great at sports, quick with a joke, or naturally good at writing a paper. You know what I am talking about. Sometimes it's hard to see our own talents or to be satisfied that our talents are good enough. The thing is, we are all uniquely different.

This year I have traveled thousands of miles interacting with FFA members, teammates, and friends of the FFA, and wow, people are uniquely gifted. Everyone I met had some sort of talent or skill. Not just some people, everyone. Everyone has something that makes them unique, whether it's the ability to fix a motor, draw, play a sport, sing, make someone laugh, organize an event, persuade someone to their view, offer a listening ear, or simply put someone at ease.

If *everyone* has a gift, that means *you* have a gift.

No one can offer exactly what you have to offer.

Embrace it and be proud.

Now, I know what you may be thinking, I have heard this before. Just be yourself. Embrace who you are.

Just be you, and that's enough.

Well, being you is extremely important, but *just* being you – it's not enough.

It's about using

what makes you unique to help others.

You see, this isn't another speech about just being, and getting comfortable with yourself. It's about opening our eyes, and *using* what makes you, *you*, to actually do something about what we see.

It all starts with opening our eyes and noticing those in need around us. This past fall I was looking for a volunteer opportunity in my college community. After asking everyone I knew for suggestions, I finally decided to try out the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. After my initial interview, the program organizers decided I would be paired with Nathan. I was pumped! Nathan was a third grader who came from an extremely low-income family in a rough part of town. He was tall for his age, which was reflected by his worn hand-me-down clothes that didn't quite fit. After talking to the counselor, I found out that his mother was mentally handicapped, and his father was trying to find a job. His brother, who was only four years older, had just been placed in a school for delinquents, and Nathan himself had already been moved from two other schools that year.

I was assigned to spend one hour a week with Nathan in his third grade classroom. We could work on homework, play kickball, build Lego cars, or pretty much whatever he wanted to do for that hour. The main objective for me, they said, was to just be there for him.

When I first met Nathan, I was nervous. As I sat outside in the hall with him at our special table, eating our lunch, I didn't know what to say. I tried to engage him in conversation, but we didn't seem to have anything in common. He acted like he wanted nothing to do with me. I didn't exactly know what I was expecting, but this certainly wasn't it, and my attitude reflected it. I began to resent the time I was spending with Nathan.





## Zach Kinne continued

The next couple of weeks I trudged back to spend my hour with Nathan, thinking I was not making any headway with him. It seemed like he could care less whether I showed up or not. Why was I wasting my time?

About four weeks into the program, as I was walking out of the classroom, Nathan chased me down. I couldn't imagine what he wanted. And then he asked the question. "Hey, do you think you could come back next Monday and Tuesday too?" I couldn't believe it. That one sentence seriously made my semester. Over the next few weeks, I spent more time with Nathan. Our conversations changed from just talking about his latest Playstation game, to talking about the more serious issues he was dealing with. His bitter and negative attitude toward his teachers and friends gave way to a friendly smile and more positive outlook on his day. The time he spent in the "cool down chair" and in the principal's office began to decline, and I watched as the relationships with his classmates grew stronger every week.

The more time I spent at Nathan's school, the more I realized the needs that existed there. I would listen to Nathan and his friends talk about their home lives and how they spent their weekends. As they talked, it became clear that they had little hope for their futures. I began to realize that it wasn't just Nathan who needed attention and a positive role model. At least seven other boys in his class needed the same thing. You're probably thinking, "Well duh!" But I really had never thought about the fact that many of these boys had no positive male role models in their lives. I was blown away by the situation. And this was just one elementary school, in one city, in one state, in one country. Imagine how many others are in this same situation, I thought to myself.

It wasn't like this need had just begun either. It has been a social problem for

many years, but I had never really taken the time to see it. It took being in a new place with new people to get me to open my eyes. Once my eyes were open to that need, I began to realize that there are people in need all around us.

Our world is filled with needs. Some are obvious. Some are harder to see. Some seem small. Others seem like they could never be conquered.

I mean, maybe it's your buddy who just needs help getting a date to prom. Or that friend who is having a hard time getting their steer fitted for a show. Or, the person who's having a terrible day and just needs to be cheered up. What about your co-worker who is swamped with work and needs a helping hand. The lady along the highway whose car has just broken down, and has no one to call.

And then, as we begin to look a little deeper, opening our eyes a little wider, we begin to see more and more people around us who are seriously in need. The student who is falling behind in the classroom because they aren't getting any attention at home, and feel like no one else cares. A family struggling with the illness of a loved one, trying to understand how this could happen to them. The dad who doesn't know how he is going to provide for his family after their home has been lost in a terrible natural disaster. A family desperately trying to make ends meet as they work to keep the farm that has been in their family for years. The little girl who goes to bed with her stomach cramping because she hasn't had enough to eat that day.

And these, they only represent the tip of the iceberg. The fact is we are surrounded by need.



When we really stop and think about it, when we really begin to open our eyes—it can be kind of be overwhelming.

I mean, what can we really do about all of this? But, what if we could use our unique gifts--those talents that we love and feel confident in...that we do with very little effort...those things that just seem to come naturally. What if we could use these things to help meet these needs that are all around us. Well, we can.

I've told you that I love to play the fiddle. What I haven't told you is that my family and friends used to encourage me to play for others at the nursing home and church...but I rarely would. Yeah, I would here and there, when it was convenient for me. I thought to myself, I am not that good, surely someone else will do it. I was shy, and maybe a little selfish about something I had been uniquely blessed with. We can't be apprehensive about sharing our talents to help others. The meaning and extent of our talents and gifts truly shine when we share them, and use them to serve others.

While I was making excuses for my talents, and ignoring the impact I could make, I can think of quite a few others who were not.

I think we have all been called to serve.



## Zach Kinne continued

In fact, I think we have been designed for it. Think about it. You have been uniquely designed to meet those needs in the world around you. There is a need that you alone can fill. Yeah, you! Not the person beside you, in front of you, or behind you. You. As I think about my travels this year, I can think of several people I met who were using their unique gifts to help others. Take for example...

Gabriella from Puerto Rico. When I arrived at Puerto Rico's state convention, I was a little worried. Not because I had to give a keynote or a workshop or interact with members. But, because I didn't speak a word of Spanish. How would I ever communicate, or share what I wanted with the students. Those worries were erased when I met Gabriella. I quickly realized her incredible talent as a translator. She made me feel completely comfortable as she carefully listened to what I was saying and found the best way to say it in Spanish. Not only that, she was a gifted teacher as she helped me work on my own Spanish so that I could deliver a part of my keynote in their language.

And then there were my boys from Pierce City, Nebraska. Or should I say, the self proclaimed comedians slash body guards. I have never been very good at telling a joke. Just ask my teammates or family. These guys, on the other hand, were full of jokes and stories that would not only put you at ease, but would also have you rolling on the ground laughing. And who doesn't love a good laugh?

This past summer as I watched the Washington Leadership Conference Day of Service project unfold, I was blown away by the many ways that members' strengths shined through. This day is an opportunity for FFA members to utilize what they have learned during the conference by participating in a service project which will help thousands in the DC area. This particular day, they were working for a local food bank. FFA members from across the country jumped right in to

help, and filled important roles such as coordinators, communicators, and monitors. It was amazing to see the natural abilities and talents of these members surface, and then be put to use as they worked to feed thousands of hungry people in the Washington, D.C. area.

And then during a visit to the state of Montana, I had the opportunity to visit the ranch of Bob and Kathy Lee. Listening to both of them talk about their operation, I realized they were the epitome of what a progressive agriculturalist should be. Given that they had started with essentially nothing, it was fascinating what they knew and had learned about managing their rangeland. They were experts. But, they didn't keep what they had learned to themselves. No, they shared it with others. They have offered their expertise and guidance to many organizations, and have helped many young people through the years.

You see, something special happens when the right person steps forward with the perfect talents to address a need. Yes, sometimes we use our gifts to help without even thinking. Take the guys from Nebraska for example, they put others at ease with their humor, probably without even realizing it. But imagine just how effective, impactful, powerful we could be if we *planned* to use our talents to address specific needs.

If you're good at sports, consider coaching that kid in elementary school who doesn't have an older brother or dad to help him learn the tricks of the trade. Maybe you're good at formulating an argument or persuading people. Have you ever thought about ways you could be an ambassador for agriculture, or possibly serve our country as an elected official? What about those carpenters out there? Consider swinging your hammer as you help build a home with Habitat for Humanity, or helping your friend with their shop project. Perhaps you have a knack for caring for people and making them

feel comfortable. Have you ever thought about working in a homeless shelter, or traveling abroad to help a struggling village in Africa get on their feet.

You see, it's about using our gifts and talents every day in what may seem to be little ways while always seeking out big ways to use those talents. Never, never underestimate the power of your unique abilities to help others.

You won't choose to help in the same way as your best friend. You probably *can't* help in the same way... and I don't believe you were meant to. You have different gifts to offer than those around you. So quit looking at what everyone else is doing, what everyone else is good at, because that doesn't help anyone. Forget about it. Use what you have, what you've been uniquely blessed with, and start helping people. What do you have at your fingertips, right now, that could be used to serve others?

On one hand we have a world filled with talented, gifted, unique individuals. On the other, we have a world filled with real needs. Needs that are more common than we can imagine, needs that impact our economy and our social structure in ways we may not yet understand. We could leave here saying we are not qualified, we don't have enough time, surely someone else will help, or, we'll think about it. Let's face it, that would be the easiest thing for each of us to do.

But as FFA members, we are better than that. We are called to be leaders of a different caliber. We understand that these needs are real. And because of that, we don't just talk about living to serve. We live, to serve. What if we made the decision, right here, right now, the fifteen thousand people in this arena, to start acting. To start acting with purpose, meeting these needs that are all around us. We were born to do this! We were each individually made to do this! The needs are real. Our talents are plentiful. How will YOU, be uniquely used?



Retiring Address: Becky Sullivan

# Live the Creation

## If you could create anything... what would you create?

How would you answer this BIG question? This year, I met one person who inspired me to find my answer. He isn't famous, he isn't old and wise, I haven't known him that long, but he inspired me because of who he is and how he lives his life.

Cory is the son of my newest mentor, kind of my "FFA mom," Ms. Michele, who works here in Indianapolis at the National FFA Center. When I first met Cory, he seemed like your typical 13-year-old boy. He LOVES to play baseball, go swimming, shoot air-soft guns and take part in extreme water-balloon fights (which I have participated in). Cory looks and acts like just a normal boy, but I later learned that Cory was actually born with Hemophilia.

Now if you're like me, you may have heard of this condition, yet you may not really understand what it is. Basically, Hemophilia is a rare blood disease where your blood doesn't clot normally. One bad hit to your body and you could be in some serious trouble. The first thing I thought was "how does he live such a normal life without worrying about being hurt, or worse?"

When I asked his mom, Ms. Michele, how he is able to do so many physical activities, she responded, "We treat Cory like a normal boy. He knows his limits, yet he also knows how he wants to live his life."

As I have gotten to know Cory more, I have discovered what his ultimate dream: he dreams of becoming a doctor someday and creating a cure for Hemophilia. WOW! And I thought I was doing well just trying to get through college! For a 13 year old boy, he is one step ahead of the average person. Cory *knows* what type of life he wants to *create* for himself...a life just like any normal person...

plus that part about going to med school and finding a cure for a serious disease!

Meeting Cory made me start to question my own dreams. What will I create in my lifetime? Whether we realize it or not, we are always creating. Whether we are creating relationships with other people, creating results based on our hard work,

creating the person we are, and most importantly the type of life we are living. Our lives are full of creations, and what we create is up to us.

Each of us is born to create something. We are all put on this earth with a purpose. However, the million dollar question is, how do we discover what that purpose is? Since we are always creating it would make sense that the process of creation is continuous...it is a cycle. To discover what it is we are meant to create, we must first imagine what can be, then, we must take initiative—make it happen, and finally, we must evaluate what we create. Imagine, initiate, and evaluate.

So let's imagine.

When it comes to the imagination, tell me why is it when we are kids we are constantly told to STOP day-dreaming? OK, maybe day-dreaming's bad when you are in class and the teacher calls on you. It's never good when you have to pull yourself out of a daze, wipe off the drool and come up with some generic answer that you hope works! Don't deny it, we've all been there. But other than in class, what is really so wrong with day-dreaming? Daydreaming is just another form of your imagination.

As a young kid, I loved to "play

pretend," as my siblings and I called it. One day, my sister and I decided to be cowboys in the Wild West. As any good cowboy, or cowgirl, would do, we decided to catch our own food. Sounds like fun, right? WRONG! Not when finding your food entails facing your greatest fear! I was seven years old and was deathly scared...of FISH! That's right! The little Mermaid, it freaked me out! Fish everywhere...and they talked!

Despite my immense fear of fish, my sister, Michelle, decided she and I were going to make fishing poles to catch our own food. I may have been young, but I wasn't dumb. I just knew there was NO WAY homemade fishing poles were EVER going to catch a fish. So, I went along with the plan. We found two strong sticks, grabbed one piece of bailing twine each, and attached them to fishing hooks from our dad's tackle box.

Moments later we were at the side of our pond, fishing poles in hand, hooks in the water, waiting. Nothing. So we cast again. Nothing. We cast yet again, guess what...YEA, nothing. Just as we were about to give up on our quest to find "food" as cowboys in the Wild West, my line started to get tight. I must have caught it on some brush. Nope. I caught a fish...oh my gosh, I caught a fish!





## Becky Sullivan continued

"Ahh! Michelle, do something! What do I do? WHAT DO I DO?" She looked at me laughing and said "Well, eat it."

"Hold this." I gave Michelle my pole and told her I would be right back after I found something to put the fish in. I ran as quickly as I could to find the closest bucket, ok, so I really just ran back to the house and ditched my sister with the fish.

Whatever happened to that fish, I will never know. Part of me wonders if my sister was crazy enough to eat it herself. What I do know however, is that a fish wasn't all we caught that day. That day, the greatest catch was learning the power of the imagination.

Henry Ford imagined creating the first automobile, and he did. Imagine creating a piece of paper with sticky stuff on it that would make a ton of money, Art Fry did and called it a post-it note. Imagine creating a place where you can save money and they are always rolling back prices with a bright smiley face, thank you Sam Walton for Wal-Mart (I love you Sam). Nothing can be created without first being imagined.

Too often we allow society to place us into a mold - a mold that tells how we should look, how we should act, and even how we should *think*. Why? Why do we allow others to make us feel like imagination is only for kids? The imagination is not just for kids, it is for people of all ages! Through our imaginations, we allow our inner dreams to come alive. What do you enjoy imagining? Your future in school, FFA, sports, friends, or even a future career? Whatever it is you enjoy imagining, don't stop.

My sister taught me that day never to doubt the power of imagination. She imagined, believed, and her fantasy came true. We caught a fish. What will your imagination catch?

The cycle of creation starts with the imagination. Imagine and create.

When we imagine, our mind shows us

what we have the ability to do. However, all the imagination in the world is worthless if we don't take action. We must Initiate.

One of the coolest parts about initiating something you imagined is that sometimes you get desired outcomes that exceed your expectations! That is exactly what happened to me this year in early May.

I was at the Ohio State FFA Convention where I was hanging out with some

on MTV, and past NFL player! I'm not good enough. Please, me?

Weeks later I saw Mr. Harper again at the Kansas State FFA Convention, it was there that he remembered me and even called me by name. I was shocked. After our second run-in I finally mustered up the nerve to call him. When he picked up, he eagerly greeted me and asked how I had been. During our 30-minute conversation, Mr. Harper gave me some advice I will always remember. "Becky, you need



pretty cool members. During one of the sessions we got to hear from motivational speaker and past NFL player Mr. Shawn Harper. He gave an upbeat and inspiring speech. Following that session Mr. Harper stood to the side of the stage and greeted members. I quickly found myself waiting in a long to speak with him. When it was finally my turn, we talked for about five minutes about his speech and his outlook on overcoming adversity. Before he got pulled away he handed me his business card and told me to call if I needed anything.

Yea right! Me, a simple girl from Kansas, not even graduated from college yet. There is no way I can just call up some motivational speaker, guy who has been

to be proactive, not reactive. You can choose to wait for life to just happen and then react to it, or you can take the initiative to create the life you want."

Mr. Harper taught me a valuable lesson that day. It is our choice to make the first move and reach for our dreams. When we imagine something, we can't just wait for it to happen, NO, we must take the initiative to make it happen. I wanted so badly to speak with Mr. Harper, but I thought I wasn't good enough. It took a second run-in with him before I finally took the initiative to call him up.

One of the greatest lessons I've learned this year is that every person on this earth puts their pants (or skirt) on



*Becky Sullivan continued*

the same way. There is no person greater than you, and you are no greater than anyone else. Never think you are too small or unimportant to talk with someone. Never think you are too insignificant to make something big happen. We are all equally blessed. Now, the choice to initiate is up to you.

Imagine, initiate and create.

When it comes down to it, the life you live is the one you have created. There are times where we must stop and evaluate. Evaluate what it is we have cre-

ated from my peers. I put on a tough front, and an "I don't care" attitude. I thought it would help with the fact that I wasn't smart, at least, according to my teacher. Soon, my grades dropped to match my new self esteem. At school, I became someone completely different than the person I truly was inside.

My parents noticed my happiness fading. There came a point that year when I absolutely hated who I was.... hated who I had become. During a parent teacher conference, my parents

could be smart, someone who could be nice to others and be treated kindly in return. From that point on, I decided to create a different life. It was then that I made the movement from unhappy Becky, to the cheerful and enthusiastic person I really was.

Ask yourself 'What type of life am I creating? Am I the person I really want to be? And more importantly, is this how I want to be remembered?' We should all take the time to evaluate the type of life we have created for ourselves, and then decide, is this the life we really want?

If you aren't the person today that you wish to be tomorrow...then change. If you realize the friends you have aren't a good reflection of who you want to be, then do something about it. If you don't like the results you are getting at school or work, then do something about it. YOU are the one who makes the ultimate choice as to who you are no one else.

Imagine, initiate, evaluate, and create your life.

When I think of all the amazing individuals I have met in my lifetime, and especially this year, like Cory, I am reminded of just how promising our future looks. I have full faith that someday Cory will go on to change the world with his passion to help others with hemophilia. He is just a normal kid, with an extraordinary dream to create.

Right now, you may not know what you want to create in your life. That is ok. Or, perhaps you do know. Just remember, we are all constantly creating the world we live in. Let your imagination run wild and find what it is you are passionate about, take the initiative to make your dreams come true, and finally, evaluate the life you have created for yourself. If you don't like it, change.

Begin your creation and feel alive! FFA members and guests, each of us is put here for a reason. Imagine, initiate, evaluate, and Live the Creation!

## *Ask yourself 'What type of life am I creating? Am I the person I really want to be? And more importantly, is this how I want to be remembered?'*

ated thus far. If the life you are creating doesn't match the one you desire, then make a change.

The most pivotal moment in my life came in the 2nd grade. I had a teacher who wasn't too fond of me. Why, I will never know. One day after handing back a math test, I was surprised to see a grade I wasn't pleased with. When I went up to my teacher to ask about it, she looked at me and said "Becky, you just aren't smart. But that's ok. Not all children can be the smart ones." Wow, that hurt...a lot. I wasn't sure of how to respond. I simply turned around, and returned to my seat. I sat in silence.

Because of that single moment, I started to become someone I didn't know. I became defensive and distant

mentioned their concerns about me, and they were surprised when they heard the response "Becky isn't a smart kid. That's ok though, not everyone can be the "A" student."

Needless to say, my parents weren't too happy. From that point on, my parents made it a point to help me know just how smart I was. They constantly encouraged me, told me that I was good enough to do well in school, I was good enough to be the Becky they all knew, and not to let anyone, not even my teacher, tell me otherwise.

It wasn't until the fourth grade that my parents started to see the real Becky again. That year, I consciously made a choice. I chose to start seeing myself as someone with potential, someone who



## Retiring Address: Tyler Tenbarger

## In Sight

"Yes! I can't wait to get to school. It's a sunny day, and this little third grader is so excited! Today isn't any other school day. Today is "When I Grow Up Day." My classmates and I get to dress as what we want to become." Without thinking twice, I dressed as the person I wanted to be and left.

I got to school and ran into my classroom. I looked around and saw doctors with white coats and stethoscopes, an astronaut with a fish bowl as a helmet, professional athletes complete with jerseys that were way too big, and several kids dressed in overalls and boots as farmers. The doctors tested out their medical equipment, the farmers compared the size of their cowboy hats, and me... well I just stood there.

Yep, that's me. As a third grader, I wanted to become a Catholic priest. Seriously, how many third graders want to be a priest? I know, I know...but I was serious.

We took our seats and one-by-one, talked about our outfits. Kristen showed off her sparkly dress and said she would become a star country singer. Matt stood up in his overalls and said he was going to become the richest, largest rancher of beef cattle. I was next, and I couldn't wait!

Mrs. Williams, said, "Tyler, it's your turn."

I stood up with a big grin on my face, and before I could get the first word out, my classmates and friends began laughing. A couple of the girls in the back of the room whispered back and forth, one of my friends said, "Why?" and another said, "That's not cool." This little third grader began to feel pretty unsure of himself, and I sat back down.

"What? What is wrong with wanting to be a priest? I thought I knew what I was supposed to become. Why am I questioning myself? Well, I'm not going to get made fun of anymore. Oh no. Not me!"

I began convincing everyone it was just a childhood phase. Through the rest of elementary school, in middle school and in high school, my mission was ensuring the world knew Tyler

Tenbarger was not going to be a priest. After so much work, I had finally convinced the world and myself of what I was not going to do. 'Now,' I wondered, 'what am I meant to become?'

It's frustrating! We are fairly young, and yet we hear these life questions all the time: What do you want to become?

What's your life's work? Have you picked a major yet? What do you want to do after graduating? I constantly felt like I was the only one who didn't have it all figured out. It seemed like everyone around me all knew exactly what they were meant to become, but I let what others thought turn me away from plans I had never, ever questioned before.

Is there a way to gain insight—to understand what we are meant to become? What if we trusted—trusted ourselves? And, what if we listened, not to the voices around us, but to the one within us? Trust yourself and listen—could doing those two things really help us gain insight on what we are meant to become?

I tried out a lot of different options as I searched for the perfect career, and by the fifth grade, I had found it.

I'm talking about the ATV racing circuit. I loved riding our Big Red heavy-duty three-wheeler, and I was going to be the next big star.

One night after harvest, I had been speeding up and down our lane. I passed the neighbor kids and did the cool "head nod." I was having a blast. I went flying around the back of our tool-shed. I pulled the brake, turned the wheel and tried to make the turn. But, something went wrong. The three-wheeler began going up on the two outside wheels. I stood up and leaned the opposite way, but there was no stopping it. I kicked it out from under me and jumped the opposite direction, hoping it would land several feet away.

I was wrong.

I found myself lying on the ground with the three-wheeler on one side of my head and the gravel on the other. The weight of the three-wheeler pinned me, and I was too small to move it. I kicked my feet and screamed as loud as I could, but it was no use. My family was at the





## Tyler Tenebarge continued

house, and my uncle was out in the field. I was stuck. I didn't know if I was going to make it. A little later, I heard a faint tractor in the distance.

"Please, please let that be someone who can help."

The tractor became louder, and the next thing I knew...

...I woke up at the house in my own bed. Mom checked me over as she talked on the phone with a nurse. They said I would be fine after a little rest and some medicine. I thought, "How did I get out from under the three-wheeler?" Then, my family told me what had happened.

Uncle Bill had been watching me as he worked. He saw the three-wheeler flip over on me. It took him a while to get there on the tractor, and once he did, Uncle Bill single-handedly lifted the over four-hundred pound three-wheeler and threw it yards away, before rushing me to the house.

If Uncle Bill had stopped to consider whether or not he could lift four hundred pounds, what would have happened? He didn't second guess himself, though. He believed in his ability. While we hope to never experience a crisis like that, we can learn from it.

What if we trusted ourselves every single day? Say you're thinking about asking the prettiest girl out on a date, maybe you want to try a new Career Development Event, or you want to befriend the guy sitting by himself at lunch. Go for it! Don't think about not being able to get that date or to win your CDE. Trust yourself.

Don't think about what your friends may say when you take a seat beside the guy at lunch. You may be asking yourself, "What if people laugh at me when I sit down? What if I get in front of the judges, and they don't like my speech? What if my voice cracks when I ask her out?" Stop. Stop doubting.

When we doubt, we miss a moment to gain insight on what we are meant to become. That girl may be your future wife, public speaking could become a career, and that guy sitting at lunch, his life could be changed forever because of you. Trust yourself.

After moving on from ATV racing, I wanted more insight on what I was meant to become. With racing out of the picture, people continued to ask about my future. Actually, I clearly remember a conversation one afternoon two years ago.

That day, I was driving around in my hometown of Haubstadt, Indiana. I came to a "T" in the road, and I felt a strange feeling I should turn left instead of right. I trusted myself, like Uncle Bill taught me. After turning, an older friend of mine, Gary, waved for me to stop. I pulled over and hopped out of the truck. We began to talk. His first question was, "What are you going to become?" I began to share some of my frustrations.

"Some of my friends just want me to stay close to home. A few mentors want me to go into politics or business, and others want to see me do other careers!"

As I spoke with Gary, I felt something pulling at me, trying to get my attention.

It was calling; it was tugging; it was gnawing at my heart.

I thanked Gary for waving me in, and I left. I walked away from that conversation with a strange feeling. Something was different, and I didn't know what it meant.

That day I trusted myself to turn left, but that wasn't enough. I needed to



*Tyler Tenebargue continued*

listen—listen to a voice within me. This past summer, I realized what I needed to listen to.

It was midway through a conference for state officers. Late one night, my teammate, Zach, and I were preparing for the next day. First, we had a meeting with our coach.

I rushed down the hallway toward our meeting room. On the way, I saw Devin, one of the state officers, sitting in a corner. I noticed he was silent with his head in his hands. No one else was around. I felt like I should try to comfort him.

I had a seat beside Devin, and he

As he talked even more, I thought, ‘He needs answers. He needs my advice. Wait—if it’s people that are making him question, does he really need to add my voice as well?’

Just like Devin, we all have moments that make us question who we are meant to become. When we are most frustrated and challenged, we don’t need voices surrounding us. We need something only we can hear. Call it your gut feeling, maybe it’s your heart, call it your conscience, call it God; no matter what you call it, a voice within you speaks. Listen to it. Like Devin, in difficult times, we

conversation over an hour later. Zach and I had our meeting, and I headed to the bed. I thought, ‘Since third grade I have been trying to figure out what I’m meant to become. Devin is getting there because he listens to an inner voice.’

There have been times where I have had that same voice speaking to me, like that day with Gary. Something happened that day. Something was trying to get my attention, and I ignored it. Every time I think back to that day, I know I was being told something. Ever since then I have been trying to figure out what it was.

As I’ve learned to trust myself and listen, it’s helped me evaluate what was going on in that moment. And now I know I was being told very clearly what I am meant to become. I trust. I listen. I know.

That day in third grade, I sat in my chair with utter confidence and conviction in who I would be. And today, I do the same. I have considered hundreds of careers. I opened myself up to be anything. I sought insight from so many. Now, I trust myself. Now, I listen. After I stood up in front of my friends that day as a third grader, I began to doubt. Today, I won’t.

I am going to become a priest.

Since third grade, I have known, but it has taken me this long to realize it...to admit it. I was asking and looking, thinking and praying. I just wanted insight so I could find out what I was meant to become. When I started to trust and listen, I didn’t need insight. What I was meant to become was in sight. It was right in front of me.

What about you? What is in sight? Maybe you know. Maybe you’re searching. No matter where you are, trust yourself. Listen to the voice within you, and you’ll know. Trust and listen. Find who you are supposed to be. Friends, it is right here, in this moment. Who you are meant to become is in sight.

*Listen.**Turn off the world.**What do you hear?**Listen to gain insight on what you are meant to become.*

began to cry. Because he couldn’t even muster up the voice to speak, he pulled out his cell phone and began texting what he wanted to say. He showed me his phone, and it said, “I don’t know what to do. I don’t want to go back to my job—I can’t...”

Devin has a passion for horses, and he plans to become a veterinarian. He has to balance his time between working with horses at the rodeo, school and serving as a state officer. Those he works for though don’t understand how state office will undoubtedly benefit his future. The voices of those he works with are holding him back. They don’t always see eye-to-eye, and they are really hard on Devin. He began to question what he was meant to become.

must trust ourselves and listen.

We search for insight on what we are meant to become. We listen to our parents, teachers, friends, television, the news, music, the “cool” kids at school and society as a whole. Voices surround us and make us question. We try to trust ourselves, yet we forget the most important voice of all. So, get away from it. Turn off the TV. Walk away from the crowd. Close your eyes to pray. When we get to where we can’t hear anything at all...

...that’s when we hear the voice inside each of us.

Listen. Turn off the world. What do you hear? Listen to gain insight on what you are meant to become.

Devin and I finished up our



## Retiring Address: Brady Revels

## Who Cares?

**I bet we have a lot in common.**

I love spending time on Facebook and MySpace. You? Great! We're on a roll. Let's try a few more. I bet I'm not the only Florida Gators fan in the room. Yeah, listen to all that noise for the Gators! OK, I'll try a few that are a little safer: I love blue corduroy, and think Dr. Case is the coolest thing since sliced bread. And I think the dollar menu at McDonalds rocks! See, we have tons in common. Let's keep going. Let me hear it if, like me, you never miss the morning edition of the *Wall Street Journal*! Ok, maybe not. At least we can all agree that nothing is more fun than reading the encyclopedia. Hmm, maybe not.

While we may have a lot in common, some of my hobbies are a little different. Let's face it, I'm a nerd. No, it's ok, I really don't mind the term. I enjoyed reading the local newspaper instead of flipping through comic books. I loved to read. I would read current events, history, editorials whatever I could find. This set me apart from other kids my age and made me different.

When I was very young I didn't know enough to care about what other people thought about me. Somewhere along the way I became aware of how other people viewed me, and I got to be so aware of it, everything I did became about what other people thought. Eventually I learned that I have to move on to what really matters. When we get over what people think about us and focus on what really matters, life gets a lot easier. I guess you might say this is kind of simple, but in fact, sometimes getting over what other people think and focusing on what matters can be some of our biggest struggles in life.

I know I really struggled with my differences the most when I was in middle school. That was such a hard age for me because I wasn't big enough to make the

football team, fast enough to be on the baseball team, or well known enough to be elected to the student council. However, from the seventh grade on I decided I was going to dress the coolest, be the most popular, and be the best at everything. I basically wanted to be just like everyone else, and just a little bit better. I wanted to make my mark not by being different, but by being the best at what everyone else was doing.

The reason I struggled with being different is because I cared so much about what other people thought of me.

I would be the ultimate student. If there was a committee, I would be on it... if they needed a volunteer, I would be there...if there was an FFA contest I would win it. No matter what the event was, I was going to master it. No matter what the office was, I was going to win it. Because after all, that trophy on the wall, the lettering on that jacket — that made other people think better of me, right? Talk about a lot of pressure for one kid to put on himself!

Midway through my eighth grade year, a new student named Jessica arrived at South Sumter Middle School. The principal's office asked for a volunteer to welcome her to school. So, true to my plan to be the ultimate student, I was the first one in line. Then I met Jessica. Jessica stood kind of slumped over. Her hair was pretty messy, and she probably hadn't brushed it in a few days. Her shirt was well over a size too big and her jeans had some stains on them. She wore these thick glasses that had probably never been in style, and that really made her look kind of nerdy.

Suddenly, I was faced with a dilemma. I wanted to be the ultimate student, but that included looking cool to my fellow students. I wanted to be a student leader, but hanging out with Jessica was sure NOT going to help my cause...at all! So I made a conscious decision to do what I had to do as a volunteer, and then move on. I would show Jessica around that day, but nothing more. After that day I pretended Jessica didn't exist. I wasn't mean to her, but I wasn't her friend either. And I really did not stand up for her when other people said things they shouldn't.

After all, I had my own reputation to worry about. I was so concerned with what other people thought about me, I would not allow myself to be associated with someone "different." I could





## Brady Revels continued

certainly not afford the risk of losing my social standing simply by being nice to someone in need. I mean, I had my own problems to worry about!

Toward the end of that school year, our vice principal announced we would all be staying in class a few extra minutes because she needed to have a conversation with us.



As Mrs. McKinney walked in the room, I knew she was mad. I could feel the anger just radiating off of her. Like any normal eighth grader, I sank down in my chair, hoping she wouldn't make eye contact with me. I didn't know what she was mad about, but I didn't want any part of her anger. As Mrs. McKinney began to speak, a story unraveled that has forever changed my life.

It seems that while I had simply been ignoring Jessica, some of my classmates had been paying her a lot of attention. Months of cruelty, taunting, and teasing had finally culminated in Jessica threatening another student. Jessica told our administrators that over the course of her six months in our middle school, some of her fellow classmates had made her life miserable.

But I wasn't one of the ones doing it, so why was I getting this lecture? Mrs. McKinney went on to explain that during

Jessica's time in our school, only three people – three people out of more than 300 – had found the time to stand up for Jessica, to speak a kind word, and to simply be a friend to her.

As Mrs. McKinney continued to speak to us, she looked me directly in the eye and said, "You are a part of the problem or a part of the solution."

At that moment, my heart sank. At first I hadn't thought I'd done anything wrong, but after hearing Mrs. McKinney's words, I knew I was part of the problem. I had cared too much about what other people thought about me to be a part of the solution. How often do we do things like that? I realized I had ignored Jessica simply because I was worried about what other people thought. I wasn't proud

of that. I didn't like what that made me...a coward. To some it may seem kind of simple, but in those few minutes, Mrs. McKinney made me realize what an inconsiderate jerk I had become. It was in that brief moment I had a decision to make – who did I want to become, a man of leadership or a weak little boy controlled by the thoughts of others.

To be a part of the solution, we have to quit caring about what other people think. Maybe it's talking to someone like Jessica at school. Maybe it's taking the time to tutor another student, or offering to help after class. Maybe it's inviting that shy kid to sit at your lunch table at school. Maybe it's asking your teacher if there is more you can do. Maybe it's working just a little bit harder in your FFA chapter. Maybe it's taking part in community service. Maybe it's realizing there is a world out there besides what you see. But it's not about doing these things so

that you can *look like* the perfect student. It's not about doing these things so that you're popular. It's about doing the *right* things for the *right* reasons...because your actions can make a difference.

Each of us has a special gift to share, a special interest to care about, something that makes us unique or different. And I'm here to tell you, that it's enough. Forget about what's cool, what's popular. Get over yourself and get over worrying about what others think. Just focus on doing what's right for you, who cares if other people think it's not cool.

Right here, right now, quit caring.

Now, ag teachers, I know right now, you're probably a little worried about the next thing that's going to come out of my mouth. I'm telling your students to stop caring what others think, and you're worried about how they will react. So let me be very clear about what I mean. There are different ways to say "who cares?". There is the lazy, I'm-not-going-to-care-about-anyone version of "Who cares?". Then there is the rude, inconsiderate, I'll-do-whatever-I-want-and-mow-right-over-other-people "Who Cares?". I'm not recommending those. I'm really talking about the willingness to live without fear. Fear of whether someone will make fun of you, whether what you are doing is cool or the "in" thing. In many ways it's a celebratory "who cares?" A version of "who cares?" that embraces the differences that we all have. A version of "who cares?" that eliminates the fear of what others may think about us. Now that we're clear about what kind of "who cares?" we're talking about, let's practice.

For example:

- One of your friends tells you that blue corduroy and black pants are certainly not fashionable anymore.
- That country music is lamer than all get out.
- That helping someone else is pointless.



## Brady Revels continued

So if others opinions of us aren't what counts, what is it then that really matters?

To my parents, Mike and Shirley Revels, what mattered was raising their children in a way that taught hard work, a responsibility for self, and a love of country. They sacrificed a lot to raise my sister and me on a farm. We didn't grow up with all of the nicest toys, a brand new truck on our 16th birthday or the most elaborate vacations. But what we did have was their love and some important lessons. To them, that was all that mattered.

To our troops overseas, what matters is protecting our homeland. To doctors what matters is saving lives. To farmers what matters is feeding the world. To Robin Williams, what matters is making people laugh.

So I grew up with all these different examples of focusing on what matters. Yeah, you're probably thinking I am sending you different messages about what matters. But the truth is we all have different interests, we all like different things, and we all have different focuses in our lives. What matters looks different for every person in this room. And you might think that with all these years of practice, with the lesson I learned in middle school and my parents as great examples, that I'd be great at focusing on what matters, or at least knowing what it is. Sometimes, though, I've needed supporters in my life to refocus me.

At this very time last year, I had completed the national officer selection process, and there was nothing left to do but wait. My entire convention had been consumed by my goal of being elected to national office. I was a complete and total wreck. I was such a basketcase that week, that at one point I simply broke down in the middle of FFA Way and a random man on the street actually stopped and offered me money. No seriously, I was bad off. Here's how certain I was I hadn't been elected: Before I even

went to the announcement, I packed my bags and checked in online for my flight. I wanted to be ready to go so that I would not have to worry about facing the people I just knew would be judging me.

That week all that mattered was what people thought of me, what would people think of me if I didn't get elected. But it took some people who were close to me, like my state advisor, to remind me what really mattered.

Mrs. Belinda Chason is quite possibly the most polished lady you will ever meet. She's this beautiful, petite, blonde woman who is always dressed perfectly. Her earrings always match the necklace, and she always knows the right thing to do or say. This description may not sound scary, but, trust me, she's a strong southern woman who knows and speaks her mind. When she speaks, you listen; when she says to jump, you reply, "How high?"; and when she's mad, you run. To be honest, for the better part of my FFA career, I was terrified of Mrs. Chason. She expected our performance as state officers to be flawless, and a compliment from her was well deserved.

On the last day of convention she pulled me out into the hallway and said "Brady, you've gotta pull it together son." I looked her in the eyes and said, "Mrs. Chason, I'm sorry, but I'm afraid I have let you down. There's no way I will be on that stage at the end of the session. I'm sorry if I have disappointed you." At that moment, without hesitation, she responded, "Brady there has never been and will never be a time I am disappointed in you. At times I will be disappointed *for* you, but you matter too much to me for me to ever lose faith in you."

This is a lady who as a state advisor took great pride in having national officers elected from Florida. That day she took the focus off of me being elected and put it on how I felt. She was more concerned about me feeling loved and

accepted than she was about me being elected. She also reminded me that I didn't need a title or position to serve people. As a young man who calls himself a leader, that was the reminder I needed. I had to stop worrying about what other people thought about me and focus on serving others.

Once I was elected to national office, I realized there's a lot of pressure. I would think of national officers who had come before me. I felt like everyone was expecting me to live up to those big names and big personalities. There's a long line of former national officers from Florida whom I have looked up to. I could have spent my whole year trying to be as funny as Chris, as polished as Ronnie, as charismatic as Barrett, or as dynamic as Erica...and I would have failed. Members, you made it easy this year not to get caught up in that. Everywhere I went, you accepted me as I am and helped me stay focused on serving you.

Today I stand here, delivering my last speech as a national officer. I've had a year to practice the "who cares" attitude in the right way. I'm striving to live my life in a way that says "who cares" instead of worrying about whether I have the newest car, the most popular friends, or the coolest clothes. I can love someone like Jessica who has messy hair and is different than me- and so can you. Like my parents, what matters to me is loving those who are important in my life. Your status as a leader doesn't rely on a title; you don't have to be a chapter, state or national office to lead others. Instead of trying to attain and own things that are simply material, let's focus on things that really matter- like our character, our love for one another, our faith, our ability to make a difference. Don't let worrying about what you will wear, or drive, or who you will sit next to affect the impact you could have in our world. You've got one shot to focus on what matters to you. As for everything else, who cares?



Retiring Address: Kari Boettcher

# Zango!

## Let's hear it if you love ice

**cream.** Frozen yogurt? This past summer I met six California FFA members who love frozen yogurt.

Graham, Ryan, Brad, Levy, Kristen and Marlene don't just eat frozen yogurt: they dress up...like this to get their frozen yogurt.

What about livestock judges? Do we have any of those in Conseco? Graham, Ryan and Brad all love judging cattle, hogs and sheep. But they've decided that the livestock industry is actually moving to guinea pigs. Yes. Guinea pigs. I met these California FFA members at a

leadership conference, and the entire time they were drawing these.

They actually create fake guinea pigs, place them in classes, and then give reasons to support their decisions. Crazy! I'm assuming most of you have seen a guinea pig and your thought is, "I don't know what you're growing in California, but everywhere else guinea pigs have short legs." When I voiced these concerns to Graham, he replied, "Kari, this is where the industry is going." Of course, that makes perfect sense. What?!

And then there is Levy, another important member of this special group. Levy loves to dance and film music videos. Clearly I can't illustrate what his dance looks like. What do you think about seeing the real thing? Let's hear it if you think Levy should show off his sweet dance moves? Give it up for Levy.

How cool was that? As we have just seen they each have a vibrant personality. They know exactly who they are and they're not afraid to share it. Graham, Brad, Ryan, Kristen, Levy and Marlene are perfectly comfortable with who they are.

Oh and one more thing about these California FFA members: They also made up a word. ZANGO! Say it together. ZANGO! Say it super quiet: zango. Say it super loud: ZANGO! I was baffled. Zango. What in the world does that mean?

I watched, I listened, I thought. I met FFA members. It became a quest. What exactly does Zango mean? I'll share a couple stories with you of Zango in action, when you think you know what Zango means, text it to [zango@ffa.org](mailto:zango@ffa.org).

In the quest to define

zango I met Jennifer from Kansas, and it was her birthday! Her teammates were at a loss as to how to celebrate Jennifer's birthday at a conference center in the middle of Nebraska's cornfields, 100 miles from a mall and without a car. That meant: no cake batter, no oven, no gift cards, no candles and not even any crepe paper or balloons. So Jennifer's team got creative. While Brynn and I distracted Jennifer with a fierce game of water volleyball (don't doubt my ability to play...) Her teammates -- Emily, Shane, Annarose and Kathy -- invested the one thing they did have: time.

When Jennifer, Brynn and I walked out of the pool we found a hallway plastered with signs that read: Jennifer is the greatest! Happy Birthday Jennifer! Jennifer rocks my socks off! Jennifer is the sweetest thing since Dove chocolates! A big smile spread across her face, and as we rounded the corner her smile grew even bigger. There, in the telephone booth lay the biggest, grandest, most wonderful, delicious...GRANOLA BAR!

OK, it was really just a single little wimpy granola bar, but because of the thought her teammates put into it, I'm telling ya, Jennifer thought it was the best looking granola bar she'd ever seen. One by one her teammates lit, not a candle, but a match, shared something they loved about Jennifer and then graced Jennifer's "cake" with the match. As gracefully as you can stick a match in a, well, granola bar.

See--It didn't take the usual cake, balloons and presents to make Jennifer's birthday the best ever. It didn't even take money. All it took was time and a little creativity! The next day you could actually see that Jennifer was radiating happiness, loving life and rocking her fun, sassy personality. I knew I had seen zango in action. Any idea what zango is yet?





*Kari Boettcher continued*



Here's another experience that helped me understand what zango is. Raise your hand if you think national officers are always prepared? Here's a little secret: Every once in a while, plans change or I'm caught off guard and I have absolutely no idea what I am supposed to do or even what is supposed to happen. One of those moments was this past summer: It's 5:45 p.m. at a conference Brady and I were presenting, we looked at the schedule and it read, "6 p.m. Ag Issues Summit." What? We looked to our guidebook for a little instruction.

What's it say? Agriculture Issues Summit: Students need to understand agriculture issues.

...well that is profound. And helpful.

We had 14 minutes until FFA members would enter the room and let me tell you, I was excited (terrified!). I looked to Brady and together we came up with a game plan to roll with. It worked quite well. The members made us laugh, made us think, educated us and helped us understand the many sides of agriculture issues. It came time to wrap-up the session. Unfortunately, I'm not good at

details, I totally hadn't thought of how we would wrap up. Once again I used my high-level problem solving skills, and I looked to Brady. He took the cue.

Brady had students close their eyes and imagine agriculture 10 years from now. Then he asked them to raise their hand if they saw an FFA jacket in that picture. Brady took the time to emphasize what a crucial role we as FFA members play in advocating the story of American agriculture to the public. Wow! Perfect. Brady helped those members to focus on the power of people.

After the session, Wyatt, a South Dakota FFA member approached us and said, "I got goose bumps as Brady helped me realize how important my role is in advocating for agriculture. In fact, I feel like I've been wasting the last few months and I had better start living." Brady didn't become arrogant from the comment, rather he was very appreciative and was empowered by the praise Wyatt offered. Brady used that same wrap up for the Ag Issues session at the rest of our conferences this summer. The reason that Brady continued to use

the wrap-up, was because Wyatt had encouraged him. Without even knowing it, Wyatt's compliment left an impact on Brady and the future students Brady would be teaching.

I could see that Wyatt knew exactly what zango was. Do you think you have zango figured out? You think you got it?

Twenty-five seconds to make your final guesses and text your definition of "zango" to [zango@ffa.org](mailto:zango@ffa.org)

Think back to the examples we've heard: The California FFA members with their crazy, fun-loving personalities. Jennifer, who was so exuberantly happy after receiving her birthday cake, Wyatt complimenting Brady and thereby impacting students across the nation. So how do those define zango? Lets see what we have.

- DEFINITION #1: Zango: a new type of granola bar.
- DEFINITION #2 Zango: Give much gifts.
- DEFINITION #3: Zango: Celebrate others....

OK, that one fits some of the examples.



## Kari Boettcher continued

Wyatt celebrated Brady with a sincere compliment. ZANGO! Brynn and the Kansas crew celebrated Jennifer's birthday and celebrated HER with fun signs and a granola bar. ZANGO! How does that explain the crazy California FFA members?

It took me a while to figure it out. It wasn't immediately obvious when I met them, but it became clear to me as I left them. You see, I met the California FFA members while I was at a conference in Idaho. When the conference was over, I dragged myself out the door at 4 a.m. to catch a flight. Under my door I found

someone is celebrating you...of course you're going to be more comfortable showing your personality! Kristen's little note made me realize why it was so easy for Levy, Brad, Graham, Ryan and Marlene to be uniquely themselves. Kristen knows how to ZANGO! Zango is all about celebrating others. Put both hands in the air if you're ready to try it out.

Turn to the person next to you and sincerely compliment them on something you like about them—their hair, their fun smile, their incredible welding skills, their fun personality....compliment them on something you LOVE about them.

***Forget all the reasons we can't or don't have time to celebrate others. Do it. Do it now. Celebrate others.***

a cute, personalized, handwritten card from Kristen, one of the California FFA members. She shared how much she enjoyed hanging out with me and the note also said, "I deeply appreciate all of your encouraging and thoughtful words." The note was so personal that it had extra meaning to me. Kristen's words really touched me. The more I thought about that note, the more I realize that Kristen was the key to her friends' special energy.

When Kristen celebrated me, and purposefully shared exactly what she loved about me, I felt empowered to do those things more often. I realized that I wasn't the only one benefitting from Kristen's thoughtfulness. She celebrates the strengths and goodness of everyone she meets. Kristen celebrates others. When

Now turn to your partner, give them a high-five and say Zango! We just did the simplest, fastest ZANGO ever. Let's hear a big ZANGO if you enjoyed it. That was the simplest form of Zango: a single compliment. Imagine all the ways you can zango and all the people that will feel so incredible because of you.

I've experienced the benefits of zango, in fact, we all just experienced the benefits of zango. And so it leaves me wondering..."Kari, what's stopping you from zango'ing everyday?"

I realized I often let life get in the way. For example, I loved the North Dakota FFA state convention. When I left I thought I would write a note to the new and old state officers. And then I started thinking about it: I have way too

many other things to do. Tonight, I just need to get some sleep. I'll do it tomorrow. It'll cost too much money to buy cards and postage. On top of that, what if I don't describe them well and they are offended by what I say? What if they just didn't like me? Or don't like the card? The list of reasons why I couldn't was monstrous.

Andrew, one of the newly elected North Dakota state officers took a flip-chart, drew a picture, wrote a note and mailed it to me and I smiled. How sweet was that? Andrew did it. Andrew didn't make excuses. While I was worrying about all the reasons I couldn't find time to celebrate the old and new officers, Andrew just did it.

Forget all the reasons we can't or don't have time to celebrate others. Do it. Do it now. Celebrate others.

Zango.

- Text your mom and tell her how much you love her hugs. ZANGO!
- Buy a Powerade for your teammate before football practice. ZANGO!
- Facebook your best friend and compliment them on their listening. ZANGO!
- Pick a bouquet of wildflowers for your grandma. ZANGO!
- Write a sweet handwritten note to a timid freshman FFA member. ZANGO!
- Wash your ag teacher's windshield. ZANGO!
- Tell the Treasurer of your chapter how responsible they are. ZANGO!
- Help feed a fellow member's sheep. ZANGO!
- Celebrate others. ZANGO!

We know what it means to zango, how much it means to zango and how little our excuses mean.

It's new. It's cool. It's your turn to... Zango.



Retiring Address: Morgan Parker

# “Love Alive”

**It motivates people to drive halfway across the country for just a few hours with that special someone...**

It'll drive men to war, and we use it to describe how we feel about our favorite food. What am I talking about? One word: love.

A couple months ago I got on the iTunes Store and searched the word “love”. Do you know how many songs about love there are out there? A ton! There are some pretty good ones too. Check it out...

Yep, love is in a bunch of songs and it describes our feelings for each other, and even our feelings about rock and roll. We use the word love all the time. For example: I love my family. I love Facebook. I love the band Casting Crowns. I love coffee. I love cinch jeans. I love my Dodge pickup. And I love FFA!

Love is everywhere! We are in love with love. We maybe even use it too much. I mean, is love really something we can use to describe how we feel about Facebook, coffee, and jeans?

The more we use it, the less it means. The real meaning of love has been lost. I think we just don't get it. And we definitely don't live it. There's gotta be something more to the word love.

We've all heard that there are three things that will endure—faith, hope and love—and the greatest of these is love. If that's true, love is a pretty big deal. So let's not miss the boat.

I'm not gonna claim to be an expert on love and its deeper meaning. Actually, I often struggle with living love out in my own life. The only reason I can even stand here and talk to you about this is because my heart has been transformed by something much bigger than myself. As a result, love has come to life for me.

I'm convinced that love is more meaningful than we make it. And to really discover what it is, we've got to listen—and we have to give.

Lets start with listening... Thanks to some experiences this year I'm just starting to understand what real listening is all about.

One day in April my sister Ceri called me. “Hey Ceri! What's going on? It is so good to talk to you. I haven't talked to you in like a month, gosh!

“What have I been up to? Goodness this month has been wicked-sick! I started off the month in New Hampshire for their State Convention. Yea, it was a bunch of fun. And then I was in Indiana for a few days...uh huh, that's where the Colts play. Oh yea, then I went Wyoming. Their state convention was so loud. Loved it! I went home for a few days, Ceri. Yeah, you are right; Colorado IS the best state of them all. Then I was in South Carolina for a few days and then I went to Georgia. Next week I'm headed out to up-state New York! Oh, and last month I got to go visit all my buddies back on the wonderful campus of Kansas State University. By the way everybody, if you haven't stopped by the K-State College of Ag booth in the career show yet, you definitely should. Tell them Morgan sent you.... Yeah, this month has been awesome!”

About 30 minutes later our conversation began to wrap up and it got to that point where I finally stopped talking and Ceri just paused and took a deep breath. “Bub,”—that's what my family calls me—“can I tell you something?” “Uh...sure,” I said. “Well, sometimes you aren't a very

good listener. I don't mean to hurt your feelings; it's just that I think you could work on it.”

At first I was kinda miffed, how could she say that? But I had to face the truth, she was right... I wasn't a good listener. Through our entire 35-minute conversation, I had talked the whole time, hardly taking a breath. She could hardly get a

word in edgewise.

How many times are we all guilty of that? Anyone ever found themselves day dreaming in class—not quite listening to the teacher? Ever been so excited to tell your story to your friends that you aren't listening to their story? Ever introduce yourself to someone and two seconds later, can't remember their name?

Hey, I'm Morgan. Hi, I'm Joe. Oh Nice to meet you...what did you say your name was?

Listen. (pause) It's foundational to love. It shows that we care more about others than we do ourselves. It means we are interested in actually getting to know someone better and that we can get over hearing our own voice. It brings love to life.

How do we listen? One of my favorite bloggers, Scott Hodge wrote on this very topic a few months ago. He had a few steps to listening that really stuck with





## Morgan Parker continued

me. They are:

“Shut up”

“Ask questions”

“And believe it or not, Shut Up...again.”

You would think that being quiet would be a given when we're listening, but often we don't do it. My mom and dad always told me that I should be quick to listen and slow to speak. And somewhere in the back of my head I hear my oldest sister Brianne saying, “You have two ears and one mouth for a reason. Use your ears twice as much as you use your mouth.” It's good advice.

I made a conscious decision to be a better listener. I'm not perfect, and I slip up often. But because I've focused on being quiet and asking questions, my sister and I are even closer now.

What if we really listened to people? How would they feel? How would our relationships change? Imagine it in your own life.... Your friends begin to know that you care about them in a deeper way. They begin to feel valued, like their thoughts matter, like you've invested in them—as a whole our relationships become more meaningful.

Make an intentional effort to start listening. Listen even when you don't want to. Listen to your family, teachers, friends, and everyone you meet.

Listen. Love.

We know that listening is a part of love, because it requires us to give our time...but that's not enough. To really love means to give in a deeper way.

About three years ago my older sister Ashley was diagnosed with a very serious case of Lyme Disease. After the first 2 years of treatments her case worsened and she needed specialized treatment. We moved her to Kansas City in January. Every day since then she has gone through six hours of intense antibiotic treatment everyday, seven days a week.

Her husband, Del, is the high school principal and athletic director for Sharon



Springs High School in Sharon Springs, Kansas—way out in western Kansas. There are about two hundred students in the school—everyone from kindergarten to 12th grade. We're talking real small town here—population 835—that's on a good day.

Ashley and Del are relatively new in town. Del just started his second year as principal, and the community has welcomed them with open arms. When Ashley had to go to Kansas City to begin treatments, the community reached out in love. The senior class and others in town decided to hold a benefit fundraiser to help Ashley and Del pay for the outrageous medical expenses. The event was held at a softball game, and in one night they raised more than five thousand dollars.

And there's more.... Ashley and Del live in a house that's owned by one of the local churches. The church called Del one day and said, “Hey as our way of helping out, don't worry about paying rent for the next six months.”

I went to visit Ashley in Kansas City earlier this year. She asked me to go get

her mail. I did and brought back a stack of about 30 cards. After reading them, we added them to this huge box already full of cards. The amount of people pouring out love to her is overwhelming.

Think about how people have given to Ashley and Del. Five thousand dollars from such a small community? That means that every adult—anyone over 21—would've given over \$100 each. They didn't just give. They gave until it was uncomfortable. They gave until their monthly budget had to be adjusted. And by giving to the point that it hurt...they displayed their true love and support for Ashley and Del.

It reminds me of a story I heard in Sunday school. One day while Jesus was in the Temple, he was watching the rich people put their money into the collection box and a poor widow came by and dropped in two pennies. Though some scoffed, Jesus said, “I assure you this poor widow has given more than all the rest of them. For they have given a tiny piece of their surplus, but she, poor as she is, has **given** everything she has.”

This idea of sacrifice—of giving until



*Morgan Parker continued*

it hurts—transcends all religions, every social boundary, and every population. I don't care what background we come from—when we give more than what's comfortable then...**then**...we are truly giving.

There are so many people in need around the world. Earlier in the year hurricanes crushed Cuba and the gulf coast of the U.S. and thousands were forced to live in FEMA trailers when their homes were destroyed. Every day people in third world countries and even people here in America struggle to get the food they need to survive.

And, perhaps more subtly, there are people among us every day – in our schools, offices and communities – who feel completely alone. They are convinced that no one cares, that they don't matter.

How would people's lives change if we really started giving? What would your world look like if we started giving until it hurts, like the people of Sharon Springs did for my sister? The challenge ahead of us is to give. Give our talents, our time, and even our money. And giving in a way that is hard—that's uncomfortable, that causes an adjustment to the way we live. That is true love. It's love in action. I call that Love Alive.

Giving until it hurts means sacrificing your Saturday morning of sleeping-in and instead volunteering to play games or sing a few songs with folks at the local nursing home. It's giving up your movie night with your friends to instead serve at a local homeless shelter. It's organizing a canned food drive for the Million Can Challenge, and maybe even spending money earned from your chapter fund raiser to do so. Instead of ordering your favorite drink at Starbucks every day (this is the one that gets me), it's taking that money and sponsoring a child in need through an organization like Compassion International. It's even sacrificing our so-called reputations by sitting down with the “not-so-popular” crowd at lunch to

have a genuine conversation— to listen.

Give till it hurts. Give until you are forced to change your lifestyle. Give until your budget gets tighter than ever before. Give until your schedule has to be adjusted. Give to meet the needs not of yourself, but of others. Give until it makes a meaningful difference.

Give. Love.

When we truly listen and when we start giving until it hurts, we begin to see what real love actually means.

We all want it. We all want to be loved.

***Give till it  
hurts. Give  
until you are  
forced to  
change your  
lifestyle.***

We want to feel it, give it, receive it...but we will only really experience love if we take action and bring love to life. Each of us, everyday, should love alive.

What does love alive mean? Frankly, it means that we have to get over ourselves. There are six billion people in the world and fifty three thousand of them are right here at this convention. But often we can muster only thoughts for one...our self. When we start loving other people more than we love ourselves, love comes to life—we accomplish love alive.

What about you and me? Thousands of us are sitting in this arena right now, and we'll be faced with a choice when we leave. When you leave this session, will you be focused on how to get more for **you?**...What do **I** want to eat? What do **I** want to do? What do **I** want to buy?

Or will you be the kind of person who can't wait to get out here and **give** more?

You might start by letting your friends decide where to eat lunch then going to the shopping mall to buy gifts for the people who made it possible for you to be here. I dare you to be that person. The person who loves alive.

People who “Love Alive” are givers, not takers. They're people who genuinely think that others are more important than themselves, and they are particularly aware of the poor around the world. They take radical action to give and listen; they step outside of what we know and step forward—producing a chain-reaction of love around the world.

There are days I think I've accomplished love alive. And then almost miraculously I'm reminded that we are called not just to love our friends and those who love us...but we are called to also love our enemies and even those who refuse to love us back. That takes love alive to the next level.

I don't know about all of you sitting here tonight. I can't speak for you. But I can tell you that learning to LOVE ALIVE has changed my life. It's caused my relationships with people, and even God to be much more vivid than I thought possible. I'm certainly not perfect at it, and I'm not asking you to be either.

I am asking you to love more deeply, more meaningfully. I AM asking each of you to commit right now to do start doing things differently. Stop to help someone in need. Sit and strike up a conversation with someone who looks like they could use a friend. LISTEN to what they have to say. Help someone – not because you think you will be rewarded, but because it's the right thing to do. See if it doesn't change your life for the better like it has mine.

I challenge you today: don't just talk about love. Don't just talk about listening and giving. Don't just talk about changing. Let's do it! Let's LIVE it! Let's live it with action. And let's GO—LOVE—ALIVE!!



# American Degree Recipients

## Wyoming

**Saige Albert**, Powell-Shoshone FFA; **Tyler John Anderson**, Pine Bluffs FFA; **Burt Andreen**, Casper FFA; **Brogan J. Clay**, Snowy Range FFA; **Stacey Craig**, Powell-Shoshone FFA; **Chris Davis**, Chief Washakie FFA; **Lauriel Davis**, Snowy Range FFA; **Kaycee Eisele**, High Plains FFA; **Kimberly Fairbourn**, Lyman FFA; **Mark Phil Gillies**, Lyman FFA; **Jessica Sue Jaycox**, Snowy Range FFA; **Katharine Johnson**, Southeast FFA; **Amanda Jones**, Casper FFA; **Kaylee Kerbs**, Saratoga FFA; **Becky Lembitz**, Burns FFA; **Kayla Lynch**, Riverton FFA; **Weston Lawrence Maxfield**, Lyman FFA; **Amber Dawn Micheli**, Jim Bridger FFA; **Joey Miller**, Chief Washakie FFA; **Forrest Smith**, Powell-Shoshone FFA; **Shannon Steben**, Southeast FFA; **Jaymes Conrad Talbott**, Snowy Range FFA; **Sassy Taylor**, Jim Bridger FFA; **Adam Teeter**, Snowy Range FFA; **Sadie Thornburg**, Snowy Range FFA; **Con Trumbull**, Casper FFA; **Sarah Elizabeth Udem**, Lovell FFA; **Mary Elizabeth Wood**, Snowy Range FFA; **Cheyenne Wortham**, Lyman FFA

## Wisconsin

**Whitney R. Anderson**, Mount Horeb FFA; **Ryan Ankerson**, Green Bay East FFA; **Elizabeth G. Arndt**, Fort Atkinson FFA; **Amanda Bach**, Medford FFA; **Heather L. Baird**, Ripon FFA; **Ross R. Bender**, Kiel FFA; **Jessica N.D. Bertram**, Amherst FFA; **Megan Biadasz**, Amherst FFA; **Mike R. Biadasz**, Amherst FFA; **Michael G. Biel**, Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA; **Danielle Biersteker**, Green Bay East FFA; **Andrea M. Bloom**, Loyal FFA; **Dakota R. Bockenbauer**, Melrose-Mindoro FFA; **Katie Boseo**, Johnson Creek FFA; **Derek Brander**, River Valley FFA; **Dan Brown**, Laconia FFA; **Ian Brown**, Brillion FFA; **Russell Buetzer**, Monroe FFA; **Kari M. Burk**, Waupun FFA; **William Campbell**, Waupaca FFA; **Joshiah Campion**, Montello FFA; **Cody A. Carlin**, Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA; **B. J. Chrisler**, Sauk Prairie FFA; **Andrew Christenson**, Amery FFA; **Michael Colle**, Luxemburg-Casco FFA; **Teri Dahl**, Waterford FFA; **Adam J. Dahlka**, Bloomer FFA; **Dana Damp**, Oconto Falls FFA; **Tyler Danke**, New London FFA; **Steven Davis**, Big Foot FFA; **Stephen A. De Vries**, Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA; **Kelly DeCoster**, Freedom FFA; **Lynn V. Dickman**, Argyle FFA; **Katherine M. Dogs**, Mayville FFA; **Jeffrey D. Dombrowski**, Amherst FFA; **Melissa Doyle**, Mineral Point FFA;

**Justin Duchow**, Brillion FFA; **Steven Eckerman**, Antigo FFA; **Joshua Eickert**, Brillion FFA; **Gina Eisentraut**, Waupaca FFA; **Nick Entringer**, Plymouth FFA; **Tiffany Faber**, Plymouth FFA; **Katie Falch**, Wisconsin Heights FFA; **Kayla E. Fink**, Mount Horeb FFA; **Kelsey M. Fink**, Mount Horeb FFA; **Kimberly A. Forrester**, Brodhead FFA; **Andrew W. Gastra**, Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA; **Karyn M. Gabrielson**, Waupaca FFA; **Adam J. Geiger**, Brillion FFA; **Derek Genske**, Brillion FFA; **Jennifer A. Gerber**, Lake Mills FFA; **James Giese**, Lincoln AC H.M. FFA; **Brock Graber**, Rio FFA; **Preston T. Green**, Richland Center FFA; **Jay Greenberg II**, Oconto Falls FFA; **Seth Greeno**, Tomah FFA; **Kayla Greenwood**, Mineral Point FFA; **Amanda Haag**, Lodi FFA; **Megan Hagemann**, Waterford FFA; **Maureen E. Hagen**, Mount Horeb FFA; **Nathan Hallback**, Westfield FFA; **Joseph J. Hankes**, Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA; **Jason Hanstedt**, Pulaski FFA; **Patrick J. Harker**, Shullsburg FFA; **Mathew D. Harvey**, Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA; **Kiel Hausler**, Stevens Point FFA; **Jennifer Heberlein**, Fennimore FFA; **Cory Hemmersbach**, Cashton FFA; **Michael Hendrickson**, Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA; **Megan D. Herfel**, Mount Horeb FFA; **Todd A. Herricks**, Cashton FFA; **Aryn Higgins**, Amherst FFA; **Rodney Hillskotter**, Weyauwega-Fremont FFA; **Shaunna Hirschmann**, Plymouth FFA; **Tim Huffman**, Brodhead FFA; **Marlina Jackson**, Clinton FFA; **Sonja P. Jackson**, Clinton FFA; **Alyssa A.E. Jaquith**, Fort Atkinson FFA; **Josh Jarvis**, Brodhead FFA; **Cassandra Johnson**, Waupaca FFA; **Teal Kampe**, Oshkosh West FFA; **Eric Kamps**, Oconto Falls FFA; **Nathan King**, Holmen FFA;

**Samantha King**, Oconto Falls FFA; **Almon Klapoetke**, Westfield FFA; **Ben Klinkner**, Cashton FFA; **Magdalene Kniep**, East Troy FFA; **Chad Kortz**, Freedom FFA; **Elisa Krahenbuhl**, Darlington FFA; **Nathan H. Kringle**, Barron FFA; **Christine A. Kuhr**, Antigo FFA; **Amanda Kunde**, Winneconne FFA; **Brittany Kundert**, Monroe FFA; **Kristine Kurszewski**, Stevens Point FFA; **Tyler Latz**, Shell Lake FFA; **Scott W. Leahy**, Shullsburg FFA; **Christopher Levash**, Brillion FFA; **Katherine Lincicum**, Black Hawk FFA; **Cathy Jo Luck**, Sauk Prairie FFA; **Betsy A. Lyness**, Oshkosh West FFA; **Ryan K. Mantz**, Westfield FFA; **Shanna Martin**, Argyle FFA; **Sarah Mateske**, Montello FFA; **Kyle A. McCarville**, Mineral Point FFA; **Chanyng McGinnis**, Tomah FFA; **Andrew W. Meier**, Monroe FFA; **Lisa Meier**, Lodi FFA; **Stephanie Meinnert**, Elkhart Lake FFA; **Adam Messer**, Waupun FFA; **Adam J. Monson**, Brodhead FFA; **Chad Naedler**, Granton FFA; **Matthew Naedler**, Granton FFA; **Brandon M. Nehmer**, Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA; **Jacob A. Nelson**, New Auburn FFA; **James W. Nelson**, Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA; **Tiffany S. Nohl**, Kiel FFA; **Debra Nooyen**, Green Bay West FFA; **Candis O'Brien**, D.C. Everest FFA; **Kayla M.**



**Pagenkopf**, Chippewa Falls FFA; **Nickolas Palkowski**, Cochrane-Fountain City FFA; **Derrick Lee Papcke**, Elkhorn FFA; **Andrew T. Paul**, Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA; **Jamie I. Paulson**, Stoughton FFA; **Whitney Peissig**, Colby FFA; **Raymond Pickett**, Black Hawk FFA; **Lee Pierce**, Tomah FFA; **Amanda Poff**, Oshkosh West FFA; **Miranda Pomerence**, Waupaca FFA; **Laura Porior**, Oconto Falls FFA; **Jason P. Pothof**, Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA; **Joshua Prissel**, Durand FFA; **Kristina Rauls**, Sauk Prairie FFA; **Jamie Renier**, Denmark FFA; **Elizabeth M. Rettinger**, Antigo FFA; **Casey J. Riegert**, Suring FFA; **Ryan C. Roehl**, Neillsville FFA; **Laura Rortvedt**, Plymouth FFA; **Aileen Rowland**, Big Foot FFA; **Danielle Roznos**, Sauk Prairie FFA; **Kari M. Ruf**, Darlington FFA; **Kristin E. Rupnow**, Monroe FFA; **Michelle Rupnow**, Oconomowoc FFA; **Nikki J. Rzentkowski**, Amherst FFA; **Sarah Sacker**, Monroe FFA; **Kaleb Santy**, Pulaski FFA; **Melissa Sattler**, Mishicot





# American Degree Recipients

FFA; **Nicole Schadrie**, Oconto Falls FFA; **Mark L. Schaffner**, Cochrane-Fountain City FFA; **Amy C. Schlappi**, Monroe FFA; **Deanna Schlies**, Denmark FFA; **Josh Schlieve**, Watertown FFA; **Angela Schmeiser**, Medford FFA; **Hans Schmidt**, Monroe FFA;

**Wierzchowski**, Green Bay East FFA; **Jessica Wilson**, D.C. Everest FFA; **Matthew Winter**, Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA; **Hunter Wojcik**, D.C. Everest FFA; **Heidi Woods**, Suring FFA; **Jeremy Ziemke**, Brookwood FFA; **Kyle D. Zimdars**, Ripon FFA



**Crystal Schwahn**, Reedsville FFA; **Philip O. Schwenn**, Mount Horeb FFA; **Paul S. Seidler**, Suring FFA; **Bryan Herbert Sheller**, Montello FFA; **Joshua Silverthorn**, Omro FFA; **Melissa M. Skogen**, Mount Horeb FFA; **Ryan Spatchek**, Brillion FFA; **Ryan M. Stanley**, Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA; **Ryan Steinhoff**, Tomah FFA; **Tyler Stenjem**, Cambridge FFA; **Steven M. Sterwald Jr.**, Lake Mills FFA; **Megan Stranz**, Oconto Falls FFA; **Cody J. Strook**, Mayville FFA; **Brandon Styczynski**, Bonduel FFA; **Kay Sukowaty**, Kiel FFA; **Walter J. Taylor**, Howards Grove FFA; **Kathryn V. Tesch**, Colby FFA; **Erin Theder-Bielinski**, Johnson Creek FFA; **Erica Thurs**, Merrill FFA; **Torrie L. Tibbits**, Mineral Point FFA; **Derek Trescher**, Cashton FFA; **Emily M. Treu**, Omro FFA; **Haley R. Trumpy**, Brodhead FFA; **Nate Trzebiatowski**, Amherst FFA; **Kelly R. VanBeek**, Mayville FFA; **Chad E. Vossekuil**, Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA; **Ryan Wakeman**, Rio FFA; **James Waldron**, Waterford FFA; **Betsy Walter**, Elkhorn FFA; **Justin L. Wedig**, Darlington FFA; **Chelsea M. Wehrman**, Colby FFA; **Kyle Wendlandt**, Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA; **Jacob J. Wendling**, Brillion FFA; **Katie Whitehead**, Sparta FFA; **Ashley**

## West Virginia

**Ashley Billiter**, Tyler FFA; **Christopher Cunningham**, Gilmer County FFA; **Ian Dunn**, Jefferson FFA; **Derek Egbert**, Wirt County FFA; **Angela Dawn Fisher**, Ripley FFA; **Steven Lee Funk**, Moorefield FFA; **Samantha Ann Galloway**, Preston County FFA; **Stephen Getz**, Petersburg FFA; **Jedidiah Guthrie**, Taylor County FFA; **Katlyn Hendershot**, Tyler FFA; **Tyler Carl Dale Huffman**, Musselman FFA; **Heather Ishman**, Jefferson FFA; **Kasey Kelley**, Doddridge County FFA; **Danielle Nicole Kisamore**, Pendleton County FFA; **Kendra F. Likens**, Elkins FFA; **Justin Lopez**, Jefferson FFA; **Casey Nicole McDonald**, Hedgesville FFA; **Jared Byers McDonald**, Hedgesville FFA; **Daren D. McPherson**, Roane County FFA; **Zachery L. Morgan**, Jefferson FFA; **Matt Morris**, Clay County FFA; **Joshua Oates**, Hampshire County FFA; **Zach Pethtel**, Tyler FFA; **Samantha Richardson**, Tyler FFA; **Andrew Schreckengost**, Wirt County FFA; **Steven Smith**, Gilmer County FFA; **Bobi Jo Swartz**, Jefferson FFA; **Kendra Underwood**, Doddridge County FFA; **Michelle Walls**, Jefferson FFA

## Washington

**Nicole Sarah Allen**, Omak FFA; **Kelsey Anderson**, Yelm FFA; **Daniel Bell**, Yelm FFA; **Kristin Boshart**, Monroe FFA; **Dana Braach**, Fife FFA; **Tammi Brennan**, Tenino FFA; **Linde Brown**, Ferndale FFA; **Wayne J. Clouse**, Asotin FFA; **Krista Coffey**, Ferndale FFA; **James R. Coggeshall**, Yelm FFA; **Melinda DeBruin**, Lynden FFA; **Heather Foster**, Snohomish FFA; **Elizabeth Gavette**, Lynden FFA; **Michelle Ann Hobbs**, Quincy FFA; **Susan A. Hodges**, Rosalia FFA; **Scott R. Kayser**, Lynden FFA; **Ausitn Daniel Mc Combs**, Lynden FFA; **JoJo McWhinney**, Tenino FFA; **Jacob W. Nielson**, Quincy FFA; **Laurel Podlich**, Chelan FFA; **Noelle Podlich**, Chelan FFA; **James D. I. Pullman**, Ferndale FFA; **Jacob K. Robison**, Chelan FFA; **Mark C. Ryan**, Pullman FFA; **Colin Shumway**, Lynden FFA; **Jacob B. Strain**, Chelan FFA; **Amanda Vossbeck**, Lynden FFA; **Ian T. Wagner**, Reardan FFA; **Emily Kathryn Weber**, Colton FFA; **Jackie Yoder**, Yelm FFA

## Virginia

**Ashley Andes**, Fort Defiance FFA; **George Anthony Andis**, Abingdon FFA; **Josh Back**, Buffalo Gap FFA; **Will Beahm**, Pulaski County FFA; **Daniel M. Beam**, Spotswood FFA; **Logan Bean**, Fort Defiance FFA; **Bradley Wayne Bennett**, Fort Defiance FFA; **Heather D. Blevins**, Holston FFA; **Kristen Vanessa Blevins**, Abingdon FFA; **Cayman D. Bolt**, Floyd County FFA; **S. J. Borden**, Halifax County FFA; **George Allen Bowers Jr.**, Central FFA; **Justin Brabson**, Sherando FFA; **Corinne Brown**, Fort Defiance FFA; **Matthew Brunk**, Liberty FFA; **Nadia Lee Charity**, Lord Botetourt FFA; **Kaylan Clark**, James Wood FFA; **Laura Lynn Nicole Coffey**, Central FFA; **Randal Lee Coleman**, Central FFA; **Anna Collins**, Buffalo Gap FFA; **Isaac David Cox**, John S. Battle FFA; **Dustin Cullip**, Pulaski County FFA; **Chris Duffey**, Randolph-Henry FFA; **Samantha Jo Earman**, Turner Ashby FFA; **Jeremy Bruce Edwards**, Clintwood FFA; **Aaron Matthew Faulconer**, Spotsylvania FFA; **Davey Ferrell**, Randolph-Henry FFA; **Scott Jordan Flora**, Turner Ashby FFA; **Ben Flory**, Buffalo Gap FFA; **Loren C. Fogle**, Central FFA; **Adam Ford**, Turner Ashby FFA; **Nathan David Fox**, Tazewell FFA; **Katherine Lee Francis**, Halifax County FFA; **Allie M. French**, Central FFA; **Joshua W. Frey**, Smith Mountain FFA; **Lacey Gore**, Sherando FFA; **Joe W. Gott**, John S. Battle FFA; **Stephen Douglas**



**Gregory**, Sherando FFA; **Stone Gregory**, Chatham FFA; **Kaila Hahn**, Sherando FFA; **Jenny Hale**, Turner Ashby FFA; **Kymberly Anne Hammer**, Spotswood FFA; **Lewis Hammock**, Chatham High FFA; **Adam Daniel Heishman**, Central FFA; **Amy L. Henderson**, Giles FFA; **Thomas Hevener**, Highland FFA; **Samantha Talayna Hobbs**, Abingdon FFA; **Joshua A. Holland**, Lakeland FFA; **Larkin E. Hottel**, James Wood FFA; **Melanie L. Hovatter**, Stonewall Jackson FFA; **Allen Hubbard**, Lord Botetourt FFA; **Kristin Renee' Hudgins**, Central FFA; **Justin M. Jessee**, Holston FFA; **Ashley Elizabeth Kyle**, Riverheads FFA; **Cory Lollis**, Chatham High FFA; **Jacob Massey**, Floyd County FFA; **Kelsey McCluster**, Bluestone FFA; **Emma Rosanne McCracken**, John S. Battle FFA; **Blakleah Anne McCroskey**, John S. Battle FFA; **Curt Newsome**, Turner Ashby FFA; **Allison Leigh Perry**, Clarke County FFA; **Levi Poole**, Smith Mountain FFA; **Joseph Pugh**, Randolph-Henry FFA; **Bradley Ragsdale**, Chatham High FFA; **Thomas Reedy**, Holston FFA; **Tyler Rhodes**, Buffalo Gap FFA; **William G. Richardson**, Chatham High FFA; **John Ritter**, Sherando FFA; **Daniel R. Rorrer**, Floyd County FFA; **Joshua M. Shriver**, Millbrook FFA; **Jessica Smallwood**, Fort Defiance FFA; **Kristina Marie Smith**, Strasburg FFA; **Derrick T. Stephens**, Stonewall Jackson FFA; **Logan M. Thompson**, Sherando FFA; **Joshua Kahzo Weaver**, Tunstall FFA; **Charlotte Luanne Will**, Turner Ashby FFA; **Nancy Will**, Turner Ashby FFA

## Utah

**Monica Aagard**, Grantsville FFA; **Garrett Alley**, Sky View FFA; **Boyd Kent Anderson**, Pleasant Grove FFA; **Mandy Anderson**, Mt. Nebo FFA; **Neal Anderson**, Box Elder FFA; **Allison Baadsgaard**, Spanish Fork FFA; **Lisa Bartholomew**, Gunnison Valley FFA; **Cody E. Bartlett**, Sky View FFA; **Andrea T. Bates**, Lehi FFA; **Kayla Lyn Batty**, Uintah FFA; **Robert A. Beard**, Box Elder FFA; **Dustin Lamont Beecroft**, Lehi FFA; **Tassie Bills**, Riverton FFA; **Brad Bingham**, Box Elder FFA; **Michael Colton Brems**, Lehi FFA; **Dusty Brenner**, Lone Peak FFA; **Beth Brock**, Dixie FFA; **Dallin Christian Butters**, Sky View FFA; **Zane Rex Carson**, American Fork

# American Degree Recipients

## Texas

Courtney Acton, James E. Taylor FFA; Kyle Allison, Aubrey FFA; Lesley Alvarado, James E. Taylor FFA; Lane Anderson, Burkburnett FFA; Danielle Arnold, Panhandle FFA; Haley Arnold, Salado FFA; Justin Asbil, Como-Pickton FFA; Gerrod Bailey, James E. Taylor FFA; Amy Baranowski, Round Top-Carmine FFA; Brittany Bates, Morton Ranch FFA; Lindsey Belsher, New Diana FFA; Lauren Berger, Weimar FFA; William Bitner, Sharyland FFA; Ross Blezinger, Bellville FFA; Lacey Bolton, Hartley FFA; Lisa Boyd, Union Grove FFA; Randa Braune, Bellville FFA; Codie Brinlee, Howe FFA; Cassandra Brock, Hartley FFA; Marcie Broussard, Hampshire-Fannett FFA; Jacob Brown, Madisonville FFA; Holly Brumfield, Wimberley FFA; Matt Bruton, Throckmorton FFA; Scott Burgess, Covington FFA; Dusty Burson, Silverton FFA; Brett Butler, Frost FFA; Ashley Byrd, Round Top-Carmine FFA; Andy Calhoun, Blooming Grove FFA; Corley Call, Splendora FFA; Seth Claude, Caldwell FFA; Walker Cleveland, Salado FFA; Rachel Collins, Channelview FFA; Caitlin Connell, James E. Taylor FFA; Adam Copeland, Mayde Creek FFA; Heather Critelli, Florence FFA; Caleb Crosswhite, McKinney North FFA; Charles Daniel, Channelview FFA; Macy Davidson, Valley FFA; Molly Davidson, Valley FFA; Lara Davis, Grandview FFA; Sterling Debner, Howe FFA; Shiloh Dickenson, Dalhart FFA; Elizabeth Drescher, Round Top-Carmine FFA; Kirby Eaves, Stephenville FFA; Katy Estill, Plano East FFA; Gretchen Ettredge, Pilot Point FFA; Kendall Nicole Field, Weimar FFA; Haley Firkins, Brazoswood FFA; Allison Fisher, S & S Consolidated FFA; Kelsey Fletcher, Judson FFA; Lindsey Franklin, Tilden FFA; Savannah Franzen, Palacios FFA; Caitlin Frederick, Florence FFA; Rene Garza, Cotulla FFA; Ryan Georg, Jourdan FFA; Mark Goggins, Northwest FFA; Janet Goode, Bloomington FFA; Kaitlyn Grimshaw, Jourdan FFA; Brian Grisham, Troy FFA; Tatum Gunn, Idalou FFA; Tyler Handrick, Canyon FFA; Aimee Harmel, Burton FFA; Heath Hausenfluck, Bryan FFA; Brittany Henderson, Panhandle FFA; Cody Henderson, East Central FFA; Amanda Hinojosa, Schulenburg FFA; Jacob Hohertz, Del Valle FFA; Holly Hunnicutt, Aubrey FFA; Kegan Inglish, Bellville FFA; Krystyna Jacobs, Florence FFA; Brooke Janda, Weimar FFA; Sara Jeanes, Harmony FFA; Jessica Jenschke, Poteet FFA;



Ory Johnson, Silverton FFA; Cody Jones, Garland FFA; Noelle Jurica, Rice Consolidated FFA; Chance Kansteiner, Weimar FFA; Kayla Kelley, Valley FFA; Spencer L. Key, Jourdan FFA; Jessica Kimbro, Paradise FFA; Amber Krause, Florence FFA; Ashley Larkin, Cypress Creek FFA; Kasey Lettunich, Stephenville FFA; Kyle Liner, Franklin FFA; Josh Longan, Tilden FFA; Traci Elaine Lothringer, Dilley FFA; Will Lozier, Borger FFA; Ashley Marburger, Round Top-Carmine FFA; Jesse Masters, Cotton Center FFA; Steven Maupin, Weimar FFA; Hollie McCoslin, Mexia FFA; Beth McMahon, Harper FFA; Jerod Meurer, West FFA; Larisa Meyer, Booker FFA; Baylie Miller, Bellevue FFA; Amanda Mitchell, Como-Pickton FFA; Alicia Moeller, Academy FFA; Amber Moreaux, Franklin FFA; Brittany Nelms, Stephenville FFA; Julia Nelson, Gilmer FFA; Nicole Neutzler, Round Top-Carmine FFA; Ilissa Nolan, Gilmer FFA; Sarah Novak, Pleasanton FFA; Matthew Okeson, Kingwood FFA; Melanie Orth, Katy FFA; Callie Perry, Lovelady FFA; Ashley Phillips, Channelview FFA; Christie Phillips, Channelview FFA; Keith Phillips, Henrietta FFA; Taylor Poncik, B. F. Terry FFA; Jonathan Prukop, James "Nikki" Rowe FFA; Heath Reeves, Cotton Center FFA; Travis Rinn, Bellville FFA; Jake Roberts, Troy FFA; Justin Romine, Fairfield FFA; David Saucier, Huffman FFA; Carrie Schmidt, Burton FFA; Chris Schofeld, Peaster FFA; Jarrad Seales, Whiteface FFA; Justin Benjamin Tyndale Self, Troy FFA; Kyle

Skrabanek, Caldwell FFA; Gayle Spearman, Como-Pickton FFA; Cain Standerfer, Prosper FFA; Samantha Stephenson, Florence FFA; Kristen Stewart, Jacksonville FFA; David Taylor, Coldspring FFA; Janie Tipp, Sealy FFA; Wesley Tobola, Hallettsville FFA; William Tyler Treptow, Weimar FFA; Bradley Trull, Mabank FFA; Cole Ulrich, Weimar FFA; Kendra Vasbinder, East Central FFA; Joe Vincent, Howe FFA; Josh Vincent, Howe FFA; Austin Voyles, Cotton Center FFA; Alicia Walker, Anna FFA; Lindsey Way, Harmony FFA; Matthew Way, Harmony FFA; Katie Weinberg, Tomball FFA; Cameron Lane Wright, Falls City FFA; Megan Nicole Wright, Falls City FFA; Michael Yeater, Borger FFA

## Tennessee

Tyffani Nykole Adams, Moore County FFA; Dusty Ashley, Moore County FFA; Natalie Jade Bailey, Woodbury FFA; Dustin Ballinger, Jefferson County FFA; Cody R. Baskett, Daniel Boone FFA; Lauren P. Beasley, Gallatin FFA; Allen Belk, Brighton FFA; Jamie Bivens, Riverside FFA; Ryan Bodkins, Crockett County FFA; Cory Alan Bradford, DeKalb County FFA; Cynthia M. Bradley, Gallatin FFA; Kelly Lee Brannon, Paris FFA; Susan Lynn Breedon, Woodbury FFA; William David Britton, Warren County FFA; Mallarie Burniston, Johnson County FFA; Laura C. Campbell, Spring Hill FFA; Nocona Lynn Canady, Paris FFA; Russell Curtis Caudill, Portland FFA; Joshua Choate, Paris FFA; Justin Cobb, Jefferson County FFA; Samantha Cobb, Lincoln



County FFA; Danielle Coleman, Crockett County FFA; Chris Couch, Liberty FFA; Timothy Cox, Horace Maynard FFA; Jamison Andrew Crouch, Warren County FFA; Steven Cruet, West Greene FFA; Wenter Davis, Lebanon FFA; Sean Deines, Liberty FFA; Hollie Dempsey, Bolton FFA; Benjamin Dodd, Peabody FFA; Andrew Miles Dooley, Loretto FFA; Chelsea Doss, Eagleville FFA; Jesse Ewing Dotson III, Fred J. Page FFA; Tommy Dyke, Cocke County FFA; Kristen Marie Earnest, Culleoka FFA; Miranda Ellis, Woodbury FFA; Rebecca Enfinger, Liberty FFA; Zach Faulkner, South Fulton FFA; Preston Field, Liberty FFA; Hunter Fincher, Crockett County FFA; Wesley Foster, Woodbury FFA; Nakeita Fowler, South Greene FFA; LeAnna Camille Fox, Obion County Central FFA; Timothy Paul Fraysier, David Crockett FFA; Jacob Fuqua, East Robertson FFA; Douglas Michael Giles Jr., Fred J. Page FFA; Joshua Gilliam, Liberty FFA; Carley Tatom Glass, Covington FFA; Jessica Lynn Goldman, North Knox FFA; Jessica Dawn Gray, Wilson Central FFA; Jonathan Mark Gray, Wilson Central FFA; Katherine Mary-Lynn Green, Warren County FFA; Chad Greene, Eagleville FFA; Kent Greene, Dyer County FFA; Erika Grocock, Eagleville FFA; Jerrod Hagan, South Fulton FFA; Mary Jean Hall, Covington FFA; Laura Harrington, East Robertson FFA; T.J. Harris, Moore County FFA; Clay Head, Jo Byrns FFA; Marvin Helms, Horace Maynard FFA; Bethany Henderson, Lincoln County FFA; Meghan Marie Herren, White County FFA; Eric Brown Hildreth, Warren County FFA; Justin Hill, Riverside FFA; Katherine Marie Holmes, Wilson Central FFA; Jessica Holt, Mt. Pleasant FFA; Chad Hopwood, Giles County FFA; Justin Humphrey, Anderson County FFA; Blake Jernigan, McNairy Central FFA; Chris Jones, Jo Byrns FFA; Jon Jones, Eagleville FFA; Mac Jones, Eagleville FFA; Justin S. Kelley, Lebanon FFA; Laura Kelly, Portland FFA; Clint King, McNairy Central FFA; Joel Laine, Wilson Central FFA; Jessica Robyn Lanier, Wilson Central FFA; Melanie League, Mt. Juliet FFA; Abi Link, East Robertson FFA; Allix Shea Lowe, Clarkrange FFA; Josh Lowe, Jo Byrns FFA; Wesley Lyons, Paris FFA; Peaches Marsh,



# American Degree Recipients

South Side FFA; **Paul Marsteller**, Portland FFA; **Elizabeth Lauren Martin**, Gibson County FFA; **Janelle Martinez**, Munford FFA; **Cassie McCallie**, Franklin County FFA; **Zeke McKee**, East Robertson FFA; **Bradley T. McQueen**, Johnson County FFA; **Beth Meek**, Jefferson County FFA; **Ethan Mike**, Horace Maynard FFA; **Ryan Montgomery**, McNairy Central FFA; **Teresa Moody**, Giles County FFA; **Rebecca N. Morgan**, Wilson Central FFA; **Blake Morrow**, Lebanon FFA; **Dwayne Myracle**, Riverside FFA; **Meredith Kristina Newsom**, Dyersburg FFA; **Joshua Bradley Nokes**, DeKalb County FFA; **Isaac Ottinger**, Cocke County FFA; **Jason Painter**, Moore County FFA; **William Parker**, South Side FFA; **Ben Paschall**, Paris FFA; **Patrick Payne**, McNairy Central FFA; **Samantha Peach**, Portland FFA; **Lanny Joe Pearson**, Portland FFA; **Cody W. Perkins**, Dresden FFA; **Jared Lee Phy**, Cookeville FFA; **Casey Pitt**, Jo Byrns FFA; **David Poteete**, Fred J. Page FFA; **P.J. Prescott**, Crockett County FFA; **Dustin L. Price**, Johnson County FFA; **John David Proctor**, Eagleville FFA; **Brandon L. Roach**, Gallatin FFA; **Courtney Lynn Robbins**, Clarkrange FFA; **Trent Roberson**, Dyer County FFA; **Heath Robinson**, DeKalb County FFA; **Jeff Robinson**, South Greene FFA; **William Schultz**, Dyersburg FFA; **Molly Scott**, Chuckey-Doak FFA; **Mike Shipley**, Cocke County FFA; **Whitney Simmons**, Bledsoe FFA; **Travis Sipes**, Lexington FFA; **Carrie Smith**, South Side FFA; **Tyler Sneed**, East Robertson FFA; **Wade Stark**, East Robertson FFA; **Alex Steer**, Paris FFA; **Michael Stewart**, Paris FFA; **William Austin Stone**, Daniel Boone FFA; **Isaiah Story**, Paris FFA; **Matthew Strange**, Cocke County FFA; **Joshua Tyler Summitt**, Sweetwater FFA; **Steven Sutton**, Sevier FFA; **Elicia Kaye Taylor**, DeKalb County FFA; **Seth Taylor**, Obion County Central FFA; **Adam K. Thomas**, Mt. Juliet FFA; **Josh Thrower**, Moore County FFA; **Carrie Elizabeth Tipton**, Erwin FFA; **Joshua Tramel**, DeKalb County FFA; **Jodi Voiles**, Chuckey-Doak FFA; **Brittany Walker**, Jefferson County FFA; **Daniel Walker**, Horace Maynard FFA; **Ronald Brandon Wallace**, Anderson County FFA; **Rebecca Carol Walton**, Covington FFA; **Erika Rae' Warren**, Munford FFA; **Jake Whaley**, David Crockett FFA; **Daniel White**, Lexington FFA; **Kathleen C. Willoughby**, Mt. Juliet FFA; **Tony Winter**, Mt. Juliet FFA; **Jay Wisecarver**, West Greene FFA; **Ivy Womack**, Woodbury FFA; **Ashley Yant**, Jo Byrns FFA; **Jennifer Zervas**, Mt. Juliet FFA

## South Dakota

**Sara Berg**, Baltic FFA; **Tyler J. Berg**, Harrisburg FFA; **Nicholas Bierle**, Harrisburg FFA; **Jason Boll**, West Central FFA; **Cody E. Chambliss**, Miller FFA; **Ryan DeMent**, McCook Central FFA; **J. D. Deranleau**, Newell FFA; **Matt Dybedahl**, Tri-Valley FFA; **Lauren Fosheim**, Webster FFA; **Josh Gacke**, West Central FFA; **Amy Lynn Giesler**, McCook Central FFA; **Tyson A. Griesse**, Harrisburg FFA; **Jenna Halse**, Florence FFA; **Erin M. Kennedy**, Beresford FFA; **Tyler E. Kientopf**, Garretson FFA; **Melanie Ellen Koehlmooos**, DeSmet FFA; **Richard Clayton Kokesh**, Wagner FFA; **Jason John Long**, Harrisburg FFA; **Tim Masat**, Hitchcock-Tulare FFA; **Seth Maitland McGregor**, McCook Central FFA; **Brett Monson**, Webster FFA; **Dylan Shawn Paulson**, Canton FFA; **Daniel Pusch**, West Central FFA; **Nicole Rasmussen**, Viborg FFA; **Bradley Rossow**, Florence FFA; **Laura May Schanning**, Cleak Lake FFA; **Nathan Skadsen**, Webster FFA; **Rebecca Whitlock**, Webster FFA; **Ryan Zelmer**, McCook Central FFA; **Kyli Zenk**, Webster FFA

## South Carolina

**Cody James Brown**, Calhoun Falls FFA; **Kyle Steven Crisp**, Rock Hill FFA; **Virgil Johnson**, Estill FFA; **Lydia J. Roof**, Lexington Technology Center FFA; **Patrick B. Shea**, Calhoun Falls FFA

## Puerto Rico

**Elaine Delano**, Leonides Morales Rodriguez FFA; **Omar G. Ortiz-Morales**, Vocacional Ramón Ávila FFA; **Albert Troche**, Laura Mercado FFA; **Dennys Torres Vega**, Leonides Morales Rodriguez FFA

## Pennsylvania

**Stephanie Joy Bachman**, Cedar Crest FFA; **Robyn Bechtel**, Central Cove FFA; **Sara Blankenship**, United FFA; **Jaklin R. Blood**, Linesville FFA; **Joshua M. Bollinger**, Cloister FFA; **Kala Cordell**, Chambersburg FFA; **Kaitlyn Coughenour**, Meyersdale FFA; **Joshua Detwiler**, Captain Jack FFA; **Pamela Lynn Dobrota**, Chestnut Ridge FFA; **Meghan L. Dobrowolsky**, United FFA; **Kami Forgie**, Greenwood FFA; **Kyle Fry**, Selinsgrove FFA; **Michael C. Grimes**, Headwaters FFA; **Matthew C. Groff**, Solanco FFA; **Tiffany Ann Grove**, Captain Jack FFA; **Isaac K. Hassinger**, Midd-West FFA; **Amanda N. Hauck**, Midd-West FFA; **Benjamin Heyler**, Cowanesque FFA;

**Chelsea E. Hoover**, Cloister FFA; **Carolyn Kensinger**, Manheim FFA; **Alexandra Jacleen Lauffer**, Grassland FFA; **Katherine Majors**, Laurel FFA; **Kathryn Lee Martin**, Big Spring FFA; **Suzannah Joy Mellinger**, Eastern York FFA; **Andrew S. Meyer**, Warfordsburg FFA; **Abigail Mowrer**, Blue Juniata FFA; **Brittanni Murry**, Manor FFA; **Christine M. Oellig**, Northern Lebanon FFA; **Brett Pifer**, Northeast Bradford FFA; **Brandon Lee Reiff**, Manor FFA; **Matthew Rucidlo**, Octorara FFA; **Keri Renee Schriever**, Warfordsburg FFA; **Zachary Allen Slothower**, Gifford Pinchot FFA; **Philip L. Smith**, Manor FFA; **Hillary Snavelly**, Manheim FFA; **Brittany D. Spade**, Warfordsburg FFA; **Dan Testerman**, Solanco FFA; **Amanda Waite**, Midd-West FFA; **Jenessa M. Weaver**, Hans Herr FFA; **Bradley Wenger**, Cedar Crest FFA; **Travis Wilson**, Manor FFA; **Terri L. Woodling**, Midd-West FFA; **Jason N. Zimmerman**, Cedar Crest FFA

## Oregon

**Shelby Ann Armstrong**, North Marion FFA; **Samantha Barnes**, Junction City FFA; **Curt M. Beyer**, Molalla FFA; **Amber Bowlin**, Dayton FFA; **Danielle Bowlin**, Dayton FFA; **Dustin Lee Boyer**, Junction City FFA; **Kara Briggs**, Days Creek FFA; **Brianna Broadbent**, Scio FFA; **Andrea Marie Bruce**, Lebanon

FFA; **Clint Buchanan**, Baker FFA; **Brennan Burbank**, Dallas FFA; **Mitchell Coleman**, Dayton FFA; **Nicole Crow**, Imbler FFA; **Chelsea Davis**, Imbler FFA; **Lee Deschaine**, McLoughlin FFA; **Jessica Dolan**, Dayton FFA; **Adam Finnicum**, Dayton FFA; **Kasey Ford**, Junction City FFA; **Craig Fuller**, Madras FFA; **Angela Gilbert**, North Clackamas FFA; **John Gladman**, Crater FFA; **Matthew Gourley**, Scio FFA; **Megan Haverkate**, Dayton FFA; **David E. Hazen**, North Clackamas FFA; **Travis**

**Henslee**, Monument FFA; **Dustin Walker Herb**, Lebanon FFA; **Jeb Z. Hollabaugh**, Newberg FFA; **Kylie E. Jundt**, Hermiston FFA; **Ryan Joesph Killgore**, Canby FFA; **Katie Knobloch**, Dayton FFA; **Ashley Jennifer Lambert**, North Clackamas FFA; **Kodi L. LeViner**, Joseph FFA; **Carly Anne Lierman**, North Clackamas FFA; **Maggie McClaran**, Joseph FFA;





# American Degree Recipients

Kyle McDonald, Scio FFA; Kelli Jo McKee, Imbler FFA; Clint Mefford, Crater FFA; Michael Miersma, North Clackamas FFA; Robert Minarich, Pine-Eagle FFA; Michael Myers, Imbler FFA; Alan R. Nichols, Stanfield FFA; Hannah O'Leary, Paisley FFA; Justin Osborn, Madras FFA; Melissa Ramirez, North Clackamas FFA; Michael Edward Rogers, Tillamook FFA; Sheryden Root, Burns FFA; Courtney M. Schmidig, Scio FFA; K'Cee Sperry, Molalla FFA; Matt Sutherland, Bonanza FFA; Randi Tarter, Pine-Eagle FFA; Michael Tohl, Tillamook FFA; Kenna Warner, McLoughlin FFA; Thomas White, Crater FFA; Philip Wurdinger, Dayton FFA; Sarah Zessin, McLoughlin FFA

## Oklahoma

Brice Abbott, Adair FFA; Anthony Devon Adams, Hooker FFA; Josh Adams, Amber-Pocasset FFA; Evan W. Allard, Vinita FFA; Darin Annuschat, Kingfisher FFA; Julia Atkins, Glencoe FFA; Rayne Austin, Ringling FFA; Kevin Barrington, Alex FFA; Jacob Beard, Big Pasure FFA; Bryce Bechtel, Blackwell FFA; Tamra Bell, Wilburton FFA; Christopher Kyle Bellamy, Chattanooga FFA; William Garrett Bergman, Grove FFA; A. J. Bohlmann, Hooker FFA; Madison Bolay, Perry FFA; Kortni Boren, Whitesboro FFA; Jared William Arnold Bourne, Durant FFA; Joshua Boyd, Durant FFA; Jessica LeAnn Bozworth, Cushing FFA; Cory Bransgrove, Balko FFA; Grady Lynn Brinsfield, Stratford FFA; Jodi Lynne Brooks, Guthrie FFA; Megan Bryant, Pawnee FFA; Michelle Buckner, Roland FFA; J. J. Bull, Panola FFA; Heather Burk, Adair FFA; Colby Don Challis, Clinton FFA; Bradley E. Chester, Elk City FFA; Jacob Clark, Mangum FFA; Kendra Cole, Merritt FFA; Courtney L. Conditt, Durant FFA; Tyler Cook, Fort Gibson FFA; Gregory Lee Cross, Durant FFA; John Curtis, Crescent FFA; James Peter Dahl, Texhoma FFA; Miranda Davidson, Verden FFA; Erin Davis, Wellston FFA; Kayla Davis, Crescent FFA; Patrick Davis, Verden FFA; Chase Didier, Thomas-Fay-Custer FFA; Billye Caye Downard, Coalgate FFA; Natasha Gail Dugan, Tecumseh FFA; Ashley Dunn, Merritt FFA; Marcus Graham Dunn, Chandler FFA; Warren Dupree, Leedey FFA; Justin T. Dvorak, Perry FFA; Sam Eden, Keys FFA; Clay W. Edwards, Hugo FFA; Laci Marie Ehler, Woodland FFA; Leah Ehler, Woodland FFA; Stephen Ehler, Haskell FFA; Kimber Lea Elson, Wakita FFA; Ashley England,

Panola FFA; Laramie Estes, Glencoe FFA; Kaysie Fields, Wetumka FFA; Brian James Fischer, Chattanooga FFA; Caleb Ryan Flick, Hammon FFA; Luke Forwoodson, Wilburton FFA; Cody Dillion Fuller, Maysville FFA; Jan Garms, Lomega FFA; Brice Gibson, Laverne FFA; Andrea Gilliland, Pawnee FFA; Liz Golliver, Agra FFA; Heather Greer, Central FFA; Calvin Lewis Gwartney, Chouteau FFA; Del Habben, Luther FFA; Jessica Hadwiger, Alva FFA; Jake Hamlin, Collinsville FFA; Courtney Hargis, Mooreland FFA; Haley Hayton, Garber FFA; Cory Hediger, Webbers Falls FFA; Corey Hice, Marietta FFA; Cory Higgins, Duncan FFA; Keelee Lynn Hilton, Adair FFA; Hannah Marie Holmes, Wakita FFA; Nikki Holt, Kingfisher FFA; Caleb Horn, Crescent FFA; Kassie Houston, Bethel FFA; Kade Howard, Ringling FFA;

FFA; Jared Lindenfelser, Erick FFA; Kevin Long, Vinita FFA; Kyle Everett Long, Vinita FFA; Emilia Lopez, Hugo FFA; Adam Wesley Lovell, Durant FFA; Colin Lowe, Ninnekah FFA; John Lowery, Wanette FFA; Sarah E. Machado, Frederick FFA; Pierre Anthony Mansfield, South Coffeyville FFA; Dustin Ray Martin, Bixby FFA; Lauralee Martin, Chandler FFA; Tyson Martin, Anadarko FFA; Clay McCarley, Central High FFA; Colby M. McDonald, Atoka FFA; Sarah McGee, Wilburton FFA; Cody P. McMahon, Adair FFA; Megan Meyer, Okarche FFA; Taber Midgley, Durant FFA; Daren Miller, Mooreland FFA; Kevin Mills, Alex FFA; Jaran Mize, Noble FFA; Keri Morgan, Afton FFA; Jacquelyn Morgans, Collinsville FFA; Payton L. Mumford, Fox FFA; Ryan K. Neal, Okemah FFA; Cody James Newberry, Atoka FFA; Cody Nieman, Woodland



Corey Huber, Jr.; Vici FFA; Austin Tyler Hudson, Chandler FFA; Jon Hudson, Moss FFA; Ryan Kyle Hulin, Tecumseh FFA; Sasha James, Hooker FFA; Kami Jensen, Woodward FFA; Koby Kade Johnson, Hammon FFA; Brandon L. Johnston, Verden FFA; Mason Jones, Calera FFA; Brady Kelley, Woodland FFA; Cory Kellogg, Stringtown FFA; Robert Bayles Kelly, Frontier FFA; Jennica Kinney, Mooreland FFA; Alicia Bell Kordis, Cashion FFA; Jacqueline LaFleur, Spiro FFA; Dakota Lamberth, Sharon-Mutual FFA; Joshua Leatherwood, Alex

FFA; Juston Kyle Nunnally, Durant FFA; Will Osborn, Amber-Pocasset FFA; Cody Ott, Fairview FFA; Blake Overton, Sharon-Mutual FFA; Jenna Parnell, Porter FFA; Toni Partain, Afton FFA; Sarah Elizabeth Peddy, Durant FFA; Johnna Pierce, Nowata FFA; Ashley Pope, Lomega FFA; Nicholas Michael Pope, Tecumseh FFA; Terence Blaine Riley, Atoka FFA; Blake Rochell, Duncan FFA; Kaitlin Nicole Rogers, Calera FFA; Jocelyn Rounds, Leedey FFA; Brandy Lynn Rowe, Fairland FFA; Brianna Scheffler, Lomega FFA; Kody



Schenk, Chickasha FFA; Travis L. Schnaithman, Garber FFA; Kyle Schoeling, Alva FFA; Jessica Seibold, Elgin FFA; Edward Seidl, Garber FFA; Wyatt Vann Sharber, Elmore City-Pernell FFA; Tyson Shields, Blackwell FFA; Tanner Lee Shoop, Adair FFA; Sage Nicole Shoulders, Oilton FFA; Kyle Wyatt Slagell, Weatherford FFA; Andrew Smith, Guthrie FFA; Coby Smith, Guthrie FFA; Robyn Janelle Smith, Cushing FFA; Jaron Soulek, Blackwell FFA; Ciera Dawn Staats, Alva FFA; Megan Starks, Wanette FFA; Billy Stephens, Cleveland FFA; Jared Stoll, Tipton FFA; Ry Wesley Stover, Anadarko FFA; Zac Stroh, Okarche FFA; Wyatt Daniel Swinford, Okemah FFA; Carissa Dawn Taylor, Thomas-Fay-Custer FFA; Whitney Taylor, Pryor FFA; Amy Teel, Keota FFA; Lindsey Thomas, Cache FFA; Kacie Dawn Thompson, Poteau FFA; Paul Bennett Tilley, Bray-Doyle FFA; Travis W. Timmons, Adair FFA; Sarah Lynn Treece, Okeene FFA; John-Kyle Truitt, Jenks FFA; Taylor Elyse Turner, Freedom FFA; Stormi Veal, Byng FFA; Landon Clark Vilhauer, Lomega FFA; Deitra Waggoner, Thomas-Fay-Custer FFA; Daniel Walker, Panola FFA; Jonathan Weiss, Macomb FFA; Kari Lynne Wendt, Kingfisher FFA; Christopher Whitley, Hugo FFA; Stephen Gerald Williams, Kansas FFA; Ashley Willis, Kingfisher FFA; Scott H. Wilson, Newcastle FFA; Chancey Ashford Witt, Alex FFA; Grady Wooderson, Blackwell FFA; Cody Woods, Wilburton FFA; Bart Dwane Wright, Afton FFA; Jeffrey Wynne, Weleetka FFA; Sheri Yost, Lomega FFA

## Ohio

Brett Abke, Eastwood FFA; Jessica Adams, Fairbanks FFA; Robert G. Adkins, Edgerton FFA; Justin Albright, Willard FFA; Kayla Angel Alexander, East Clinton FFA; Dustin Alltop, Triad FFA; Rikki Amburgey, Mowrystown FFA; Aaron Appel, Edgerton FFA; Janice Barrett, Fairfield FFA; Megan Bartel, Miami East-MVCTC FFA; Garrett Beam, Greene County Career Center FFA; Jessica Beck, Northmor FFA; Aaron Beekman, Talawanda-Butler Tech FFA; John Belt, Spencerville FFA; Tim Bender, River Valley FFA; R.J. Benham, Miami Valley CTC FFA; Annette Benich, Willard FFA;

# American Degree Recipients

**Tyler C. Benschoter**, Elmwood FFA; **Caleb Bernath**, Wauseon FFA; **Rachel Berry**, Triad FFA; **Curtis Bickel**, East Clinton FFA; **Ashley Blackburn**, Morgan FFA; **Robert John Blankenship II**, Hillsboro FFA; **Carl Bohman**, Versailles FFA; **Ben Bohrer**, Mowrystown FFA; **Caleb Bohrer**, Mowrystown FFA; **Richard Bolden**, Western Reserve FFA; **Jedidiah Bookman**, Hillsdale FFA; **Samuel Bookman**, Logan FFA; **Luke Brill**, North Union FFA; **Kyle R. Brockman**, Fort Recovery FFA; **Raymond D. Broske**, Clear Fork Valley FFA; **Daniel Brown**, New Bremen FFA; **Jacob Brown**, Otsego FFA; **Laura Bruner**, Pettisville FFA; **Adam Bruns**, Minster FFA; **Jason Buehler**, Anna FFA; **Gary Bunnell III**, Tecumseh FFA; **Morgan Burns**, Fairbanks FFA; **Ron Burns**, Fairbanks FFA; **Jenny Burrey**, Benjamin Logan FFA; **Sarah Butterfield**, Talawanda-Butler Tech FFA; **Jennifer Buxton**, Riverdale FFA; **Alexandra Canfield**, Lucas FFA; **John Carle**, Westfall FFA; **Jeff Carlson**, Fayetteville FFA; **Cody Alan Carnes**, Ridgewood FFA; **Matthew Casey**, Elmwood FFA; **William Casey**, Elmwood FFA; **Megan Chaney**, Lynchburg-Clay FFA; **Grant W. D. Chrispin**, Marysville FFA; **Tyler Church**, Miami East-MVCTC FFA; **Samantha Climer**, Miami Trace FFA; **Terri A. Cline**, Elmwood FFA; **Joshua T. Clunk**, Buckeye Valley FFA; **Casey J. Coil**, Miami Trace FFA; **Bradley Comstock**, Hardin-Northern FFA; **Tim Cottrell**, Lorain County JVS FFA; **Jake Coverstone**, Miami East-MVCTC FFA; **Jay Cowell**, Ridgedale FFA; **Wesley David Cox**, Sentinel Career Center FFA; **Katelyn J. Croft**, River View FFA; **Thomas Cunningham**, Indian Valley FFA; **Seth Dabbelt**, New Bremen FFA; **Anna Damschroder**, Gibsonburg FFA; **Kylie Daniel**, Fairbanks FFA; **Justin Davidson**, Lynchburg-Clay FFA; **Jacob Davis**, North Union FFA; **Ross Davis**, New Lexington FFA; **Cory S. Dean**, Elmwood FFA; **Zekel Dicke**, Greene County Career Center FFA; **Justin Dickey**, Otsego FFA; **Caryn Diefenthaler**, Oak Harbor FFA; **Andrew Ding**, Alexander FFA; **Lauren Donohoe**, Triad FFA; **Austin Duprey**, River Valley FFA; **Jason Durkee**, St. Marys FFA; **Mallory Earich**, Westfall FFA; **Joshua T. Ebert**, Cardington-Lincoln FFA; **Christina Egner**, Shelby FFA; **Sabrina Eick**, Carrollton FFA; **Tiffany M. Elson**, Mapleton FFA; **Matt Elwer**, Delphos FFA; **Daniel Elwood**, Margaretta FFA; **Michael Shea Emslie**, Ridgewood FFA; **Alaine L. Esbenschade**, Crestview

FFA; **Craig Fauber**, Hillsboro FFA; **Sabrina Featheringill**, Willard FFA; **Zane M. Fessler**, Franklin-Monroe FFA; **Jason Foreman**, Benjamin Logan FFA; **David Fortkamp**, Fort Recovery FFA; **Katie Frey**, Stryker FFA; **Jordan Fricke**, Elida FFA; **Stephanie Friebe**, Shelby FFA; **Austin Arthur Fritz**, Ayersville FFA; **Wesley Funderburgh**, Triad FFA; **Patrick L. Garrett**, Westfall FFA; **Rich Gaskins**, East Clinton FFA; **Joshua W. Gelhaus**, St. Henry FFA; **Stacy Gerber**, East Clinton FFA; **Justin Gerwin**, Eastwood FFA; **Eric Glazer**, Indian Valley FFA; **Brooke Gompf**, Mt. Gilead FFA; **Christopher Goshe**, Seneca East FFA; **Ashley Gossard**, Ridgemont FFA; **Maria Goubeaux**, Versailles FFA; **Angie Green**, Otsego FFA; **Tarra Greer**, Ridgewood FFA; **Tim Gresser**, Smithville FFA; **Nick Grey**, Fort Recovery FFA; **Jennifer Marie Guggenbiller**, Fort Recovery FFA; **Eric Robert Gusching**, Minster FFA; **Michael Hackmoeller**, Minster FFA; **Travis Hake**, Edon-Northwest FFA; **Dwight Paul Hamilton**, Hillsboro FFA; **Bryce Hammond**, Westfall FFA; **Nick Hardesty**, East Knox FFA; **Megan Marie Harned**, Hillsdale FFA; **Maggie D. Hearn**, Warren FFA; **Gregory D. Heiby**, Hillsdale FFA; **Karen M. Hein**, St. Henry FFA; **Kyle Hempfling**, Delphos FFA; **Michael Henney**, Bellevue FFA; **Nicholas G. Herringshaw**, Bowling Green FFA; **Katherine Elizabeth Higgins**, Centerburg FFA; **Nicholas S. Higgins**, Johnstown-Monroe FFA; **Brandon Hildreth**, Big Walnut FFA; **Mallory Hill**, Southern FFA; **Samantha Hinkle**, Ashland FFA; **Anthony Hoffman**, Lakota FFA; **Kyle Holcomb**, Benjamin Logan FFA; **Jeremiah Hollon**, Blanchester FFA; **Dustin Michael Homan**, Anna FFA; **Gregg Homan**, Coldwater FFA; **Jesse Hoobler**, Ridgewood FFA; **Tiffany Joanna Hopkins**, Hillsboro FFA; **Kara Hughes**, Madison Plains FFA; **Alissa Hunter**, Lakota FFA; **Katie Jarman**, Felicity-Franklin FFA; **Amber Johnson**, Miami East-MVCTC FFA; **Leann Johnson**, Carrollton FFA; **Whitley Arielle Johnson**, Benjamin Logan FFA; **Kayla Jones**, Tri-Valley FFA; **Brittany Kaiser**, Georgetown FFA; **Meghann Mercer Karnes**, Greenfield-McClain FFA; **James Keener**, Mapleton FFA; **Jacob Kemmerer**, Liberty Union FFA; **Ashley Kill**, Spencerville FFA; **Rachel Marie Kiser**, Hillsboro FFA; **Alexandra M. Knight**, Harrison Central FFA; **Ashley Knipp**, Woodmore FFA; **Kelly Korinko**, Firelands FFA; **Brandon Lavy**, Miami East-MVCTC FFA; **Clint**

**Lease**, Mohawk FFA; **Scott A. Leedy**, Twin Valley South FFA; **Nicholas Leeper**, Marysville FFA; **Andrew H. Lefeld**, St. Henry FFA; **Hanna Lynn Lemle**, Anthony Wayne FFA; **Melanie Karen Lennartz**, Fort Recovery FFA; **Ryan Line**, Arlington FFA; **Sarah Lodwick**, Western Brown FFA; **Tyler Logan**, Benjamin Logan FFA; **Philip A. Long**, Cory-Rawson FFA; **Ian J. Louiso**, Ohio Valley Vocational School FFA; **Christie Lucas**, Big Walnut FFA; **Kyle Luersman**, Delphos FFA; **Alex Manson**, Cardington-Lincoln FFA; **Jacob Richard Mantey**, River

FFA; **Katie Lynn Miller**, Archbold FFA; **Matt Miller**, Benjamin Logan FFA; **Nathan Miller**, Miami Trace FFA; **Olivia J. Miller**, South Central FFA; **Heidi Mirise**, Highland FFA; **Scott J. Moeder**, St. Henry FFA; **Courtney Moenter**, Eastwood FFA; **Michael Moran**, Talawanda-Butler Tech FFA; **Amy**



Valley FFA; **Marc Anthony Mantey**, River Valley FFA; **Kirk Massey**, Wilmington FFA; **Samantha A. McAdams**, Ohio Valley Vocational School FFA; **Nathan McCormick**, Buckeye Trail FFA; **Mike McCullough**, Ridgemont FFA; **Chad A. McDonald**, Mt. Vernon FFA; **Michael McFadden**, East Clinton FFA; **Courtney McKenzie**, Madison Plains FFA; **Thomas McKinniss**, Elgin FFA; **Grant McMichael**, Spencerville FFA; **Sara M. McRoberts**, Western Brown FFA; **Allie Meranda**, Georgetown FFA; **Lauren R. Mercer**, Millcreek-West Unity FFA; **Paul Mercer**, Smithville FFA; **Jaclyn Messmer**, Hardin-Northern FFA; **Kent Meyer**, Fort Loramie FFA; **Allyssa Miller**, Liberty Union FFA; **Brady Miller**, Liberty Union

**Morgan**, Ohio Valley Vocational School FFA; **Amanda Morlock**, Elmwood FFA; **Taler Mumford**, Miami East-MVCTC FFA; **Lyndsey Murphy**, Mechanicsburg FFA; **Rachel Myers**, Wilmington FFA; **Anthony Neel**, Fairfield Union FFA; **Jonah Neill**, Waterford FFA; **Sarah Nichols**, Buckeye Trail FFA; **Terry Nickles**, Smithville FFA; **Kevin M. Nieport**, St. Henry FFA; **Kyle Nietfeld**, Fort Recovery FFA; **Harold Nuss**, Western Brown FFA; **Travis Patterson**, Ridgewood FFA; **Tyler Peasley**, Greene County Career Center FFA; **Justin Pigman**, Ridgewood FFA; **Joshua M. Pinkerton**, Wilmington FFA; **Bradley Piper**, Big Walnut FFA; **Chelsie Pitts**, North Central FFA; **Jeffrey Pohlman**, Delphos FFA; **Becca Proffitt**, Eastern Brown FFA; **Benjamin R. Pulley**, Ridgewood FFA; **Joanna Puthoff**,





# American Degree Recipients

Versailles FFA; **Chad Raber**, United FFA; **Justin M. Rahrig**, Delphos FFA; **Michael Ralph**, Elgin FFA; **Amy Pauline Randall**, Urbana FFA; **Kyle Rauh**, Fort Recovery FFA; **Enchantress Sue Reed**, South Central FFA; **James Reitano**, Federal Hocking FFA; **Richard J. Rice III**; Mapleton FFA; **Chad Riethman**, Minster FFA; **Justin Rismiller**, Versailles FFA; **Josh Roe**, Fairfield FFA; **Jesse Rose**, Norwayne FFA; **Craig Roth**, Monroeville FFA; **Natasha Ruhlen**, Hardin-Northern FFA; **Andrew Sattler**, Bowling Green FFA; **Bridget K. Schaad**, Spencerville FFA; **John Schillinger**, East Knox FFA; **Tyler Schindel**, Miami East-MVCTC FFA; **Kurt Schlechty**, Greenville FFA; **Alex John Schmiesing**, Minster FFA; **Allen L. Schmitz**, Mississinawa Valley-MVCTC FFA; **Bruce Schoen**, Fort Recovery FFA; **Brian A. Schrote**, Cardington-Lincoln FFA; **David Schultz**, Van Buren FFA; **Lauren Schwab**, Talawanda-Butler Tech FFA; **Jonathon Scott**, Madison Plains FFA; **Andrew Seger**, Fort Loramie FFA; **Dakota Shaw**, Fayetteville FFA; **Kelly A. Shaw**, Edgewood-Butler Tech FFA; **Brett Sheets**, North Union FFA; **Brett D'Wight Sheets**, Parkway FFA; **Kip Shoemaker**, Fairfield FFA; **Samantha Showalter**, Buckeye Trail FFA; **Doug Siefker**, Elida FFA; **Alex Sines**, Edgerton FFA; **Bethany Skiver**, Ayersville FFA; **Brystal Shantel Slator**, Indian Valley FFA; **Cory Sloas**, Western

Brown FFA; **Adam Smith**, Northmor FFA; **Kay Cee Smith**, Mt. Gilead FFA; **Kendra Smith**, Parkway FFA; **Abby Snyder**, Zane Trace FFA; **Stephanie A. Spoerr**, South Central FFA; **Crystal Sue Spurgeon**, Patrick Henry FFA; **Daniel J. Stammen**, St. Henry FFA; **Hannah E. Stearns**, Elmwood FFA; **Mike Steele Jr.**; Four County JVS FFA; **Molly A. Steffen**, Mapleton FFA; **John Steinemann**, Minster FFA; **Marcus Edward Stenger**, Union Local FFA; **Cory Stewart**, Elmwood FFA; **Jessica Stiltner**, Clyde FFA; **Jamie Stucke**, Versailles FFA; **Ivory Stull**, Hopewell-Loudon FFA; **Craig Sutter**, Fort Recovery FFA; **Andrew Swick**, Delphos FFA; **Katrina Swinehart**, Fairfield Union FFA; **Andrew D. Swisshelm**, Greene County Career Center FFA; **Shalie Jo Terrill**, Benjamin Logan FFA; **Cole Tharp**, East Knox FFA; **Brandon Thomas**, Fairfield Union FFA; **Megan Thomas**, Otsego FFA; **Matt Tobe**, Fort Recovery FFA; **Brad Trentman**, Delphos FFA; **Brooke Tullis**, West Liberty-Salem FFA; **Janelle Lynn Valdinger**, Harrison Central FFA; **Eddie Vallery**, Madison Plains FFA; **Jennifer M. Van Pelt**, Wauseon FFA; **Andy Wagner**, Wauseon FFA; **Jill Waite**, Northeastern FFA; **Weston Walters**, Ayersville FFA; **Lorraine Walton**, Mohawk FFA; **Ben Warnecke**, Delphos FFA; **Elizabeth Watson**, Buckeye Trail FFA; **Jason Weatherholtz**, Riverdale FFA; **Derek A. Weatherwax**, River View FFA; **Amy Wensink**, Bowling Green FFA; **Melissa Whitcomb**, Hillsdale FFA; **Taylor Whitlock**, New Lexington FFA; **Jeff Whitt**, Clyde

FFA; **Andrew Wilhelm**, Bowling Green FFA; **Katie Wilhelm**, Fairbanks FFA; **Scott Will**, Fort Recovery FFA; **Wesley Wiseman**, New Lexington FFA; **Nick Wolford**, Spencerville FFA; **Caleb York Wright**, Zane Trace FFA; **Mitchell T. Wyer**, New Lexington FFA; **Alexander Morgan Yoder**, West Holmes FFA; **Benjamin R. Young**, River View FFA; **Josh Zucker**, River Valley FFA

## North Dakota

**Mitchell Becker**, Minot FFA; **Jennifer Behm**, Des Lacs Burlington FFA; **Chelsie Berndt**, Schultz FFA; **Michael Bjertness**, Kindred FFA; **Denise Bodensteiner**, Wahpeton FFA; **Gary Brossart**, Rugby FFA; **Kylie Cirks**, Richland 44 FFA; **Ashley Doll**, John Christiansen New Salem FFA; **Brock Enderson**, Wahpeton FFA; **Nikki Fideldy**, Hebron FFA; **Robert J. Foertsch**, Wyndmere FFA; **Cody Richard Friesz**, Garrison FFA; **Melanie Haugen**, Garrison FFA; **Bradley William Heger**, Wahpeton FFA; **Richie Heinrich**, Medina FFA; **Jessie Hendrickson**, Richland 44 FFA; **Courtney Jorgenson**, Rugby FFA; **Amanda Kopp**, Des Lacs Burlington FFA; **Kevin Leier**, Rugby FFA; **Jared M. Miller**, Bottineau FFA; **Amanda Montgomery**, Carrington FFA; **Jared M. Peterson**, Lakota FFA; **Joseph M. Peterson**, Lakota FFA; **John T. Rice**, Maddock A.S. Gibbens FFA; **Kyle Shively**, Rugby FFA; **Carissa Steinert**, McClusky FFA; **Scott Stroh**, Tappen FFA; **Justin Topp**, Carrington FFA; **Mark Vetter**, Wahpeton FFA; **Jeffrey Wald**, Maddock A.S. Gibbens FFA; **Jeffrey Wieser**, Wahpeton FFA; **Michelle N. Woodall**, TGU-Granville FFA

## North Carolina

**Travis Anderson**, North Iredell FFA; **Amanda Leigh Bulla**, Randleman FFA; **Tyler Bussard**, West Rowan FFA; **Amy Byrd**, Triton FFA; **Clinton Alan Callicutt**, Southwestern Randolph FFA; **Jessica Canoy**, Eastern Randolph FFA; **Jeremy W. Cobb**, Bartlett Yancey FFA; **Carlette S. Coggin**, Southern Nash FFA; **George Wesley Corder**, Eastern Randolph FFA; **Brittany Daniel**, Wake Forest-Rolesville FFA; **Brooke Lea Daniel**, Wake Forest-Rolesville FFA; **Jason Thomas Dellinger**, Northwest Cabarrus FFA; **Meghan Devett**, Fender, Mountain



Heritage FFA; **Alexandria D. Fowler**, South Granville FFA; **Jennifer Nicole Foyles**, North Lenoir FFA; **Jacob Vernon Furr**, West Stanly FFA; **Luke Tyler Gillispie**, Southwestern Randolph FFA; **Robert Douglas Glover**, Southern Nash FFA; **Matthew Horne**, Lumberton FFA; **Bradley Josey**, North Iredell FFA; **Caleb Knotte**, North Davidson FFA; **Caleb Knox**, West Rowan FFA; **John Michael Langdon II**, South Johnston FFA; **Michael Blake Lewis**, North Lenoir FFA; **Stephanie Lewis**, Lumberton FFA; **Ashley Erin Long**, Gray's Creek FFA; **Caitlin Lowe**, Eastern Randolph FFA; **Heather Lyerly**, South Rowan FFA; **Cory Ryan Mercer**, Lumberton FFA; **William Nance**, Lumberton FFA; **Garrett Owen**, West Rowan FFA; **Whitney Allene Parker**, Southwestern Randolph FFA; **Danielle Nicole Patterson**, Randleman FFA; **Cora Brooke Phillips**, Piedmont FFA; **Brandon J. Reeves**, Ashe County FFA; **Justin Rozier**, Lumberton FFA; **James Rust**, Lumberton FFA; **Kayla Brook Shivar**, Spring Creek FFA; **Joshua Kyle Singleton**, Spring Creek FFA; **Ryan Sloop**, West Rowan FFA; **Amanda Inez Springs**, Randleman FFA; **Corey Taylor**, Lumberton FFA; **Robert Matthew Taylor**, Lumberton FFA

## New York

**Julia Faye Bentley**, Tri-Valley FFA; **Patricia Eileen Bertholf**, Tri-Valley FFA; **Katie Bigness**, Salmon River FFA; **Eric J. Bogardus**, Schoharie Valley FFA; **Danielle Browning**, Hamilton FFA; **Brittany Burns**, Madison Chapter FFA; **Megan E. Fenton**, Penn Yan FFA; **Lucas C. Fuess**, Madison Chapter FFA; **Sarah Emily Hulick**, Greenville FFA; **Betsy Jensen**, Penn Yan FFA; **Allyson Ruth Jones-Brimmer**, South Jefferson FFA; **Tedra Jane McDougal**, South Jefferson FFA; **Jessie Nickerson**, Pioneer FFA; **Sarah E. Robinson**, Otselic Valley FFA; **Amber Marie Schultz**, Schoharie Valley FFA; **Steven M. Sheldon**, Randolph FFA; **Devon W. Shelmidine**, Belleville Henderson FFA; **Joe Siler Jr.**; Pioneer FFA; **Marla A. Snyder**, Greenville FFA; **Kelsey Williamson**, Argyle FFA; **Traci Lynn Yaple**, Tri-Valley FFA

## New Mexico

**Mikayla Cherry**, Texico FFA; **Melissa Freitas**, Texico FFA; **Tim**





# American Degree Recipients

**George**, Goddard FFA; **Alexandra Hodges**, Belen FFA; **Allison Klein**, Artesia FFA; **Courtney Klein**, Artesia FFA; **Keisto Lucero**, Belen FFA; **Gabriel Martinez**, Animas FFA; **Craig Mayberry**, Artesia FFA; **Seth Menefee**, Artesia FFA; **Cammi Nicole Moore**, Animas FFA; **A'Lora Norris**, Hagerman FFA; **Brandi Polk**, Artesia FFA; **Dee Ann Sanchez**, Belen FFA; **Ashley Scitern**, Dexter FFA; **DeeAnn Shafer**, Clovis FFA; **Brandon Sours**, Tucumcari FFA; **Lauren Widner**, Melrose FFA; **Arianne Wilbanks**, Moriarty FFA

## New Jersey

**Matthew J. Di Tizio**, Penns Grove FFA; **Zachary Gihorski**, Cumberland Regional FFA; **Amanda K. Hall**, Woodstown FFA; **Eric W. Hilgendorff**, Burlington County Institute Westampton FFA; **Alison E. Keggan**, Warren Hills FFA; **Adam R. Kimble**, Warren Hills FFA; **Alyssa Mottram**, Phillipsburg FFA

## New Hampshire

**Caitlin Cox**, Pinkerton Academy FFA; **Nicholas Jenner**, Region 9 FFA

## Nevada

**Kaylan Brown**, Ruby Mountain FFA; **Alison Hull**, Ruby Mountain FFA; **Megan L. Jackson**, Sierra Nevada FFA; **Jasmyn Jones**, Ruby Mountain FFA; **Kelsea Krenka**, Wells FFA; **Jerod Linder**, Ruby Mountain FFA; **Danielle M. Longley**, Silver Sage FFA; **Ashlee Mendive**, Silver Sage FFA; **Sara Ellen Morrison**, Silver Sage FFA; **Catie Nutting**, Ruby Mountain FFA; **Joshua Robbins**, Silver Sage FFA; **Gaile K. Supp**, Wells FFA; **Tessa Josephine Sustacha**, Silver Sage FFA; **Jamie Vega**, Ruby Mountain FFA; **Belen Zugazaga**, Ruby Mountain FFA

## Nebraska

**Alena L. Arendt**, Valentine FFA; **Steven Bartak**, Elgin FFA; **Ross Anthony Becklun**, Elgin FFA; **Kelsey Berglund**, Creighton FFA; **Justin Birkett**, Wilber-Clatonia FFA; **Clay Alan Blum**, York FFA; **Corey Boryca**, Fullerton FFA; **Ashley Ann Bouska**, Stuart FFA; **Corey James Boyle**, Creighton FFA; **Michaela Braesch**, Tekamah-Herman FFA; **Marla Brandyberry**, Howells FFA; **Mark Burenheide**, Howells FFA; **Trenton Wayne Carda**, Broken Bow FFA; **Sarah Charron**, Ravenna FFA; **Colton Chrisman**, Heartland FFA; **Jessica Clowser**, Seward FFA; **Kyle M. Clymer**, David City FFA; **Nick Cook**, Fullerton FFA; **Charley Cull**, Oakland-Craig FFA; **Cori W. Curtis**, Milford FFA; **Vaughn Dizmang**, Medicine Valley FFA; **Amy Lea Doerr**, Creighton FFA;

**Phillip Doerr**, Bloomfield FFA; **Danielle Dose**, Hampton FFA; **Kurt A. Dostal**, Howells FFA; **Austin Duerfeldt**, Falls City FFA; **Cody A. Dvorak**, Stuart FFA; **Nicole A. Eggers**, Superior FFA; **Lane Egle**, Wauneta-Palisade FFA; **Heath G. Ehlers**, Medicine Valley FFA; **Kayla Eisenhauer**, Bloomfield FFA; **Brian Field**, Palmyra FFA; **Eric Lee Frenzen**, Fullerton FFA; **Trenton Friesen**, Heartland FFA; **Courtney Fritsche**, Medicine Valley FFA;

**Michael J. Krause**, Plainview FFA; **Aaron Kreifels**, Nebraska City FFA; **Eric Kreifels**, Falls City FFA; **Jordan G. Kreifels**, Nebraska City FFA; **Kenneth Kumm**, Bloomfield FFA; **Alex L. Labenz**, Newman Grove FFA; **Ali Laflan**, Creighton FFA; **Miles Lammers**, Hartington FFA; **Renae J. Lammers**, Hartington FFA; **Timothy Ryan Lammers**, Hartington FFA; **Samuel Landholm**, Lyons-Decatur Northeast FFA; **Austin Landwehr**, Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca FFA;



**Jasey Jill Goedeken**, Lakeview FFA; **Daniel A. Graves**, Heartland FFA; **Todd J. Greiner**, Randolph FFA; **Lane Thomas Griess**, Sutton FFA; **Neal Hahn**, St. Paul FFA; **Mathew David Harrington**, St. Paul FFA; **Adam Hart**, Creighton FFA; **Cody A. Hartman**, Laurel-Concord FFA; **Holly Hauschild**, Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca FFA; **Clayton Earl Hensley**, Elgin FFA; **Charles A. Hildebrand**, York FFA; **Brandon L. Hilger**, Blair FFA; **Hadley Hill**, Imperial FFA; **Lucas Hochstein**, Hartington FFA; **Patrick Alan Hoelsing**, Hartington FFA; **Jacob Ronald Hoffman**, Bayard FFA; **Reed J. Janousek**, Leigh/Clarkson FFA; **Garrett S. Jensen**, Lyons-Decatur Northeast FFA; **David Mark Jobman**, Gothenburg FFA; **Travis Jones**, Waverly FFA; **Joshua D. Jorgensen**, Randolph FFA; **Michael Keiser**, Gothenburg FFA; **Kylie Kinley**, Blue Hill FFA; **Heidi M. Kleinschmit**, Hartington FFA; **Daniel Knabe**, Conestoga FFA; **Brandon Kneifl**, Hartington FFA; **Sarah Knutson**, Palmyra FFA; **Kyle Krause**, Tekamah-Herman FFA;

**Brian Lee**, Imperial FFA; **Allison Kathryn Kay Leimer**, Mead FFA; **Ryan Douglas Lukassen**, Kimball FFA; **Tiffany M. Malone**, Stuart FFA; **Jared Colton Mann**, Crofton FFA; **Max Marak**, Osceola FFA; **Trisha K. Marcellus**, West Holt FFA; **Blythe P. McAfee**, Leigh/Clarkson FFA; **Matthew A. McElfresh**, Sutton FFA; **Chelsie McKenzie**, Scottsbluff FFA; **Anthony Charles Meirose**, Hartington FFA; **Jessica Method**, Tekamah-Herman FFA; **Jordan C. Meyer**, St. Paul FFA; **Emily Morten**, Waverly FFA; **Matt Musil**, Ravenna FFA; **Kimberly Nansel**, Twin River FFA; **Amber Nicole Neibauer**, Stuart FFA; **Kaci Nelson**, Burwell FFA; **Cody Nichols**, Wauneta-Palisade FFA; **Justin K. Nieman**, Milford FFA; **Justin Nolte**, Conestoga FFA; **Matthew J. Nordhues**, Randolph FFA; **Sarah Novotny**, Kimball FFA; **Aaron Olson**, Randolph FFA; **Mandy Rae Pauly**, York FFA; **Kirk A. Peterson**, West Holt FFA; **Landon Peterson**, Osceola FFA; **Gene L. Pfanstiel, Jr.**, Randolph FFA; **Jake Pieper**, Howells FFA;



**Andrew Placke**, St. Paul FFA; **Matthew Pollock**, Centura FFA; **Keila Marie Popp**, Medicine Valley FFA; **LeAnn Purucker**, Pender FFA; **Jessica Anne Qualm**, Wheeler Central FFA; **Jennifer S. Rathman**, St. Paul FFA; **Melinda L. Rathman**, St. Paul FFA; **Paige Lorraine Redding**, Elgin FFA; **Kayla Jo Rempe**, Superior FFA; **K.C. Rieken**, Fullerton FFA; **Leonard Risinger**, Plainview FFA; **Cody Robinett**, Franklin FFA; **Derrick Rocker**, Franklin FFA; **Joel Roth**, Milford FFA; **Brett Alan Rudolph**, Gothenburg FFA; **Joseph Russell Sateran**, Wisner-Pilger FFA; **Justin J. Scharp**, Nebraska City FFA; **Andrew Don Schlichtemeier**, Conestoga FFA; **Dirk Schultz**, Wisner-Pilger FFA; **Kade Scott**, Ansley FFA; **Kylee A. Slaymaker**, West Holt FFA; **Scott Sorensen**, Centura FFA; **Nora Lorena Spath**, North Bend Central FFA; **Travis Sprout**, Elgin FFA; **Brooke Marie Steinhauer**, Sutton FFA; **Jamie Stevenson**, Centura FFA; **Conley D. Straight**, Shickley FFA; **Brian D. Sudbeck**, Hartington FFA; **Jesse Swarts**, Milford FFA; **Jaci Kay Swett**, Wheeler Central FFA; **Ted Thelen**, Randolph FFA; **Katie Thiesen**, Heartland FFA; **Bryan John Thiry**, West Boyd FFA; **Justin James Trout**, Franklin FFA; **Lane E. Tryon**, Gothenburg FFA; **Andrew Uerling**, Southwest FFA; **Tyler Duane Uhe**, Conestoga FFA; **Kyle Uhing**, Hartington FFA; **Brandon Ulmer**, Heartland FFA; **Marcus D. Urban**, Leigh/Clarkson FFA; **Seth Vlieger**, Heartland FFA; **Andrew Volkmer**, Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca FFA; **Amanda Kay Waddle**, Wheeler Central FFA; **Jerry Wallen**, Palmyra FFA; **Lisa Watermeier**, Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca FFA; **Caleb Aaron Wederquist**, York FFA; **Brittany A. Weinandt**, Hartington FFA; **Taylor J. Went**, Leigh/Clarkson FFA; **Wes Wetovick**, Fullerton FFA; **Laura M. Wiebelhaus**, Hartington FFA; **Amanda Sue Wiemer**, York FFA; **Elizabeth Wilhelm**, Falls City FFA; **Alysia M. Williams**, Cedar Rapids FFA; **Jared Williams**, Broken Bow FFA; **Katie Williamsen**, Hampton FFA; **Daniel Winter**, Heartland FFA; **Kellie Wise**, Ashland-Greenwood FFA; **Matt Wortmann**, Hartington FFA; **Luke Wright**, Wauneta-Palisade FFA; **Dan Wroblewski**, St. Paul FFA; **Justin Yoesel**, Falls City FFA

# American Degree Recipients

## Montana

**Taelor O. Anderson**, Shepherd FFA; **KayDee Ann Bailey**, Shields Valley FFA; **Zachariah Beil**, Hinsdale FFA; **David Paul Bolles**, Plentywood FFA; **Clay Bott**, Miles City FFA; **Tucker D. Boyd**, Shields Valley FFA; **Megan Brumfield**, Shepherd FFA; **Colleen M. Buck**, Stevensville FFA; **Nathan Scott Bumgardner**, Miles City FFA; **Tanner Cahill**, Miles City FFA; **Michael Castleberry**, Carter County FFA; **Chelcie Cremer**, Big Timber FFA; **Amy Eickert**, Flathead FFA; **Rocky Forseth**, Fairfield FFA; **Jacob Foulger**, Miles City FFA; **Kody Garza**, Miles City FFA; **Tana Joleen Hager**, Shields Valley FFA; **Kayleen M. Hendrickson**, Plentywood FFA; **Caleb S. Igo**, Belgrade FFA; **Jonathan Robert Juve**, Plentywood FFA; **Kaitlin Keogh**, Stillwater Valley FFA; **Emmy Kolka**, Broadus FFA; **Jennifer Kossler**, Belgrade FFA; **Kristen Kuzo**, Huntley Project FFA; **Boyce Paul Lacock**, Hinsdale FFA; **Levi Lacock**, Hinsdale FFA; **Garrett R. Larson**, Miles City FFA; **Kendra Levanen**, Flathead FFA; **April Leann Mack**, Big Timber FFA;

**Margarita Mattheis**, Big Timber FFA; **Katherine Maurillo**, Shields Valley FFA; **Reese McAlpin**, Flathead FFA; **Jenessa Monson**, Stillwater Valley FFA; **Alena Ogg**, Cascade FFA; **Chelsi Polzin**, Stanford FFA; **Ben Ralls**, Stevensville FFA; **Jodi Redfield**, Park FFA; **Katie Redfield**, Park FFA; **Valerie J. Riter**, Broadus FFA; **Shawn P. Romo**, Bainville FFA; **George T. Sparks**, Plevna FFA; **Tasha Rae Taylor**, Miles City FFA; **Jake Toennis**, Miles City FFA; **Shalaine Marie Watson**, Forsyth FFA; **Kayla Lee Williams**, Chinook FFA

## Missouri

**Samuel Abrudan**, Pleasant Hope FFA; **Trenton Adams**, Jasper FFA; **Corbin D. Allen**, Seneca FFA; **Craig Anderson**, Slater FFA; **Riley Anderson**, Odessa FFA; **Whitney Angell**, Owensville FFA; **Brenda Mae Arnold**, Adrian FFA; **Brooke Aronson**, Higginsville FFA; **Michael P. Atkinson**, Eldon FFA; **Laura Beth Aylward**, Memphis FFA; **Greg Bailey**, Pleasant Hope FFA; **Bess Marie Bailey O'Reilly**, Plattsburg FFA; **Megan D. Barnes**, Albany FFA; **Travis M. Barry**, Eldon FFA; **Adam Bashore**, Eugene FFA; **Shane Baxter**, Miller FFA; **Ethan Hopper Beck**, Chillicothe FFA; **Cory Bennett**, Milan FFA; **Daniel Allen Bergsieker**, Lex La Ray FFA; **Alex Berry**, Maysville FFA; **Chance Berry**, Adrian FFA; **Eric Lee Besand**, Perryville FFA; **J. D. Bestgen**, California FFA; **Jessie Nicole Bever**, Eldon FFA; **Tylor Bigham**, Wheaton FFA; **Quintin C. Binder**, Green Ridge FFA; **Tyler Bird**, Ozark FFA; **Krista Boettler**, Aurora FFA; **Leann E. Botkin**, Salisbury FFA; **Megan Bowden**, Ashland FFA; **Clinton Brady**, Stanberry FFA; **Jeremy Brammer**, Carrollton FFA; **Jordan B. Branstetter**, Van-Far FFA; **Angela Bray**, Willow Springs FFA; **Melinda Breshears**, Halfway FFA; **Melody Marie Brewen**, Fredericktown FFA; **Hannah Brewer**, North Andrew FFA; **Adam Brock**, Carrollton FFA; **Angela M. Brogue**, Republic FFA; **Christopher Brooke**, Norborne FFA; **Erica Brownfield**, Bucklin FFA; **Emily Ann Brunk**, Palmyra FFA; **Monte W. Buck**, Mexico FFA; **Brandon Bungart**, Eugene FFA; **Rebecca Bunton**, Liberal FFA; **Amanda K. Burdick**, Willard FFA; **Jason Burk**, Richmond FFA; **Larissa Burk**, Richmond FFA; **Cory Lynn Burky**, Clever FFA; **Ryan Bushnell**, Schuyler FFA; **Ashley Byrd**, Macks Creek FFA; **Erick Byrn**, Clark County FFA; **Michael Cannon**, Clopton FFA; **Michael Carte**, Green City FFA; **Daniel Carter**, Ash Grove FFA; **Kayla Chorum**, Jasper FFA; **Logan Chrislaw**, Fayette FFA; **Breinne E. Clemens**, Marshall FFA; **Brandon D. E. Clemons**, Sarcoxie FFA; **Cody L. Clemons**, Malta Bend FFA; **John R. Clemons, II**, Dadeville FFA; **Brian Coleman**, Macon FFA; **Cara Collins**, Macks Creek FFA; **Derek Cottrill**, Albany FFA; **Andrew M. Cowell**, Memphis FFA; **Whitney Cox**, Pleasant Hope FFA; **Devin Craig**, Ashland FFA; **Nathan Craig**, North Harrison FFA; **Leslie D. Crust**, Cass Career Center FFA; **Jackson Drake Daniel**, North Central Career Center FFA; **Wesley Davis**, Ava FFA; **Heather Deaver**, Miller FFA; **Paul S. Dehn**, Marshall FFA; **Cymantha DelRosario**, Sweet Springs FFA; **Kristina Dempsey**, Pleasant Hill FFA; **Jessica Denker**, California FFA; **Ellen Dennis**, Princeton FFA; **Mallori DeShon**, Maysville FFA; **Cameron Dieckhoff**, Higginsville FFA; **Lance Steven Dobson**, Lex La Ray FFA; **Megan K. Dohrman**, Sweet Springs FFA; **Adam Douglas**, Richland FFA; **Robert Downs**, Polo FFA; **Jayne Dunn**, West Nodaway FFA; **Cody Eads**, Lathrop FFA; **Geoffrey Eads**, Jamesport FFA; **Stacy Jo Ebbesmeyer**, Warrenton FFA; **Rebecca Eberhard**, Troy FFA; **Janet Eckstein**, Union FFA; **Christopher Edwards**, Skyline FFA; **Kandace England**, Wheaton FFA; **Jordan M. Epperson**, Van-Far FFA; **Stephen Eschenbach**, Carrollton FFA; **Stephanie D. Euliss**, Morrisville FFA; **Alizabeh Evans**, Pleasant Hope FFA; **Amanda Evans**, Pleasant Hope FFA; **Chris Evans**, Marshall FFA; **Troy Everly**, Lathrop FFA; **Kelsey Farmer**, Fair Grove FFA; **Bailey Farrell**, Pleasant Hope FFA; **Coty A. Ferguson**, Union FFA; **David Finke**, North Shelby FFA; **James Fisher**, Savannah FFA; **Jamie Floyd**, North Callaway FFA; **Zach Fly**, Purdy FFA; **Kendra Jo Foster**, Trenton FFA; **Kylee Francis**, Nevada FFA; **Laura Francka**, Pleasant Hope FFA; **Bradley Frank**, Linn FFA; **Kristin Fuller**, West Nodaway FFA; **Andrea Gaiser**, Maysville FFA; **Camela Gard**, North Central Career Center FFA; **Geana D. Gates**, Chillicothe FFA; **Sara Gerdeman**, Warrenton FFA; **Lauren Elizabeth Gerke**, Pilot Grove FFA; **David Gholson**, Jackson FFA; **Natasha Lee Giesler**, Ste. Genevieve FFA; **Caitlin Gifford**, Fredericktown FFA; **Stephanie Jo Gillum**, Putnam County FFA; **Whitney Glass**, Skyline FFA; **Heather Goostree**, Wheaton FFA; **Timothy A. Gordon**, South Holt FFA; **Justine Gorrell**, Malta Bend FFA; **William Gorrell**, Marshall FFA; **Daniel Edward Gower**, Wellington-Napoleon FFA; **Bethany Kae Graham**, Eugene FFA; **Calvin Green**, Skyline FFA; **Christopher Green**, Norborne FFA; **Amanda Jean Grethen**, Ashland FFA; **Jeremy David Griesbaum**, Palmyra FFA; **Ethan Grubaugh**, Ozark FFA; **Ashley Gulick**, Miller FFA; **Darren Gustin**, Lathrop FFA; **Matthew Hahn**, Eugene FFA; **Ashley Hampson**, Pleasant Hope FFA; **Kelsey Hancock**, Sheldon FFA; **Jordan Harmon**, Brunswick FFA; **Brandon Cody Harvey**, Moberly FFA; **Jordan E. Haymes**, Mount Vernon FFA; **Brandon Hays**, McDonald County FFA; **Linsey Hays**, Monroe City FFA; **Dane Heimericks**, California FFA; **Jordan Hembree**, Greenfield FFA; **Kolby Hoerrmann**, Green City FFA; **Kayla Hoffman**, Lebanon FFA; **Kelsey Holt**, Princeton FFA; **Kayla Hoover**, Halfway FFA; **Allison R. Hopke**, Van-Far FFA; **Cameron L. Horine**, Norborne FFA; **Courtney Michelle Howard**, Versailles FFA; **Layton Hoyer**, Diamond FFA; **Jordan Hubach**, North Andrew FFA; **Khristy Huber**, Doniphan FFA; **Holly Hubert**, Skyline FFA; **Amy Hudlemeyer**, Hamilton FFA; **Jacob Huffman**, South Shelby FFA; **Lindsay Hughes**, North Andrew FFA; **Quinn Huhmann**, Tipton FFA; **Taylor Cody Hurst**, Tarkio FFA; **Lance Huston**, Jamesport FFA; **Alex Jensen**, Clopton FFA; **Scott Johnson**, Brunswick FFA; **Richard Wade Judy**, Chillicothe FFA; **Andrew W. Kautsch**, Russellville FFA; **Kathleen Keathley**, Wellsville FFA;





# American Degree Recipients

Devin Kent Keltner, Clever FFA; Joseph Kempker, Eugene FFA; Sue-Ellen Kern, North Central Career Center FFA; Rebecca Kerr, Chillicothe FFA; Shane Kinne, North Harrison FFA; Jon Kirchhoff, Concordia FFA; Matt Kiso, Malta Bend FFA; Austin Kliethermes, Tipton FFA; Klinton Koechner, Tipton FFA; Sarah Kollmansberger, Centralia FFA; Tiffany Faye Land, Salem FFA; Clifton Lauhoff, Chillicothe FFA; David J. Lawrence, Eldon FFA; Patrick T. Lawrence, Eldon FFA; Kevin Lee, Nevada FFA; Miranda Lee, Richmond FFA; Travis Leeper, Archie FFA; Derek Leppin, Milan FFA; Joshua Lewis, Wellsville FFA; Kelli Lynn Lile, Clever FFA; Joseph Dennis Lobland, Richland FFA; Katlyn Logan, Sheldon FFA; Cody Logsdon, Madison FFA; Brooke Meridith Longstreth, Bronaugh FFA; Sebastian Alexander Los, Clever FFA; Derek Lee Lowrey, Trenton FFA; Brett E. Luehrman, Lex La Ray FFA; Jason Lewis Luke, Stanberry FFA; Nicholas Maddux, Lebanon FFA; Austin Magruder, Clopton FFA; Travis J. Magruder, Clopton FFA; John James Malicoat, Exeter FFA; Roth J. Mallen, Cameron FFA; Darla Mangels, Jackson FFA; Trent Manning, McDonald County FFA; Amy Marsh, Atlanta FFA; Blaine Martin, Winston FFA; Neal T. Martin, Centralia FFA; Alex Matthews, Norborne FFA; Josh Matthews, Diamond FFA; Katie Maupin, St. Clair FFA; Tyler May, Hurley FFA; Hannah McClure, Green Ridge FFA; Steven McCully, Milan FFA; Katy McDonald, Seneca FFA; Andrea Todd McKnelly, Nichols Career Center FFA; Brandon Dale Mebruer, Linn FFA; Megan Melton, Bucklin FFA; Phillip J. Messick, Cass Career Center FFA; Kaileigh Danielle Meyer, Union FFA; Paige M. Meyer, Nichols Career Center FFA; Adam Miesner, Perryville FFA; Kimberly Miesner, Perryville FFA; Rachael M. Miesner, Perryville FFA; Timothy Paul Miesner, Perryville FFA; John Milford, Northwestern FFA; Katie Mills, Bucklin FFA; Ashley Minnick, Richmond FFA; Katie Lynn Mino, Newtown-Harris FFA; Jessica Mitchener, Alton FFA; Karen Momper, Summersville FFA; Emma Montgomery, Malta Bend FFA; Erin J. Moore, Princeton FFA; Marcie J. Moore, Princeton FFA; Shelby Leigh Moss, Chillicothe FFA; Micheal Mott, Madison FFA; Kyla S. Mouser, Meadow Heights FFA; Kerri Mulford, Aurora FFA; Cody R. Mullock, Worth County FFA; John Muri, Jamestown FFA; Michael Murphy, South Nodaway

FFA; Lynn Ray Murry Jr., Odessa FFA; Michael Myers, Troy FFA; Justin Drew Nalle, Pattonsburg FFA; Amy Naumann, Union FFA; Jared Walter Needham, Halfway FFA; Jane Niemeyer, Bowling Green FFA; Kabel Oaks, Grundy County FFA; Mallory Odneal, Boonville FFA; Trevon Ogden, Lockwood FFA; Travis Wayne Olmsted, Dora FFA; Harley Owens, Willow Springs FFA; Jill Owens, Clopton FFA; Nathan Palmer, South Nodaway FFA; Kasey Parkhurst, North Harrison FFA; David Parrack, Macks Creek FFA; Tiffany Parrott, East Newton FFA; Chris Parsons, North Harrison FFA; Jadra Parsons, Nichols Career Center FFA; Josh Parsons, Albany FFA; Leslie Parsons, Albany FFA; Weston M. Paulik, Eldon FFA; Jessica Pearson, Green City FFA; Laura Elizabeth Percival, Skyline FFA; Christopher Perry, North Shelby FFA; Eric Perry, Carthage FFA; Jeremiah Phillips, Eugene FFA; Amanda Phye, St. Clair FFA; Trisha Pickering, Pleasant Hill FFA; Tanner Pickett, Princeton FFA; Rebecca Ann Pierson, South Nodaway FFA; Shayne Pipala, Macks Creek FFA; Jennifer Plenge, Clark County FFA; Quintin Potter, California FFA; Catherine Lillie Presson, Charleston-Danforth FFA; Zane Privette, Willow Springs FFA; Ethan Purdom, El Dorado Springs FFA; Kylee Jo Ragsdale, Paris FFA; Riley D. Rains, Gallatin FFA; Nick Rapp, Northeast Vernon County FFA; Matthew J. Redd, Clopton FFA; Wes Reger, Princeton FFA; Jason Reichert, Brunswick FFA; Brandon Reiss, Perryville FFA; Jacob Lee Rice, Holden FFA; Ryan L. Roberts, Fayette FFA; Jonathan Rodewald, Perryville FFA; Amber Elizabeth Romine, Rolla FFA; Nicholas J. Rosenbohm, Nodaway Holt FFA; Shelly Rosenfelder, Centralia FFA; Dylan Rosier, Mound City FFA; Tyler N. Rush, Jasper FFA; Eva Russell, Neosho FFA; Erin Rustemeyer, Nichols Career Center FFA; Tracy Mae Sample, Fredericktown FFA; Jarred Samson, Versailles FFA; Austin Sayre, Sherwood FFA; Mandi Scheulen, Linn FFA; Tyler A. Schmidt, Eldon FFA; Clinton Schmitz, Northeast Nodaway FFA; Amy L. Schneider, Eldon FFA; Glenda Schnuck, Boonville FFA; Lindsey Ann Schumer, Perryville FFA; Carrie D. Schwarz, East Buchanan FFA; Phillip W. Schwarz, East Buchanan FFA; Josh Sedlacek, Union FFA; Nicholas C. Sellers, Morrisville FFA; Laura Ann Shanks, Vienna FFA; Sheldon Shaver, Norwood FFA; Tyler Andrew Shaw,

Bronaugh FFA; Ashley Sherlock, Maysville FFA; Cody H. Siem, Washington FFA; Jeremy Simmons, Marshall FFA; Letha Simpson, Higginsville FFA; Allison Smith, Summersville FFA; Justin C. Smith, Marshall FFA; Cory Robert Soendker, Higginsville FFA; Craig Bradley Solomon, Marshall FFA; Leah Sonwalt, Mexico FFA; Crystal Spencer, Pleasant Hill FFA; Aleah Sperry, Pattonsburg FFA; Walt Steinhage, Clopton FFA; Trent Steinhoff, Trenton FFA; Rebecca Stephen, Stewartsville FFA; Brittoni Stiffler, Galena FFA; Clint Stobbe, North Harrison FFA; Ashley Strange, West Plains FFA;

Emily Wayman, Adair County FFA; Tanner Weaver, Schuyler FFA; Andrea Webster, Macks Creek FFA; Johnathan Wegrzyn, Aurora FFA; Ashli Weinrich, Troy FFA; Bria Welch, Clopton FFA; Teresa Kaye Welters, Verona FFA; Dana Danielle Werner, Holden FFA; Courtney Whitacre, Smithville FFA; Curt White, East Newton FFA; Whitney Wiegert,



Kailyn B. Straube, Van-Far FFA; Megan Stuenkel, Santa Fe FFA; Kristen Stumpe, Linn FFA; Lindsey E. Stumpe, Mexico FFA; Kaylan Sundermann, Tarkio FFA; Kevin Sundermann, Tarkio FFA; Tristan Swartz, Savannah FFA; Travis Sweitzer, Mexico FFA; Amanda Taber, Richmond FFA; Andrew Tarter, Galena FFA; Thomas E. Taylor, Miller FFA; Valerie Thieman, Concordia FFA; Kevin Thierfelder, State Fair FFA; Brittany Thomas, Tipton FFA; Abby Thompson, Boonville FFA; Rawn Perry Toler, Purdy FFA; Jeremiah Hank Troby, Cass Career Center FFA; Lyndi Tuttle, Miller FFA; Joseph Daniel Tvrdy, Cameron FFA; Scott Utterback, South Shelby FFA; Whitney Elizabeth Wallace, Clinton FFA; MacKenzie J. Walter, Marshall FFA; Tyler Walton, Wellsville FFA; Maygen Ward, Houston FFA;

Pleasant Hope FFA; Randy Williams, Tipton FFA; Andrea Williams, Chillicothe FFA; Robert E. Williams, Richmond FFA; Sam Wilsdorf, Moberly FFA; Douglas Wilson, Mexico FFA; Holly Wilson, Princeton FFA; Daniel Curtis Wisner, Osceola FFA; Mathew Lee Wisner, Osceola FFA; Lynetta Wood, Miller FFA; Phillip B. Wooden, Higginsville FFA; Alfred Woodrum, Neosho FFA; Allen Wright, Van-Far FFA; Kristen Wright, Tusculumbia FFA; Timothy A. Wright, Odessa FFA; Logan Andrew Yearsley, Buffalo FFA; Chase Young, Brunswick FFA; Laura Youtsey, Gallatin FFA

## Mississippi

Dustin Barnett, Lawrence County FFA; Jessica Blackwell, Seminary FFA; Jamal Boukhari, Strayhorn FFA; Joshua Holmes, Lawrence County FFA; Michael Hudson,





# American Degree Recipients

Sumrall FFA; **Travis Page**, Neshoba Central FFA; **Jordan Reed**, Jumpertown FFA; **Daniel Robinson**, West Lauderdale FFA; **Nathan Robinson**, West Lauderdale FFA; **Justin Scarbrough**, West Lauderdale FFA; **Jamie Stuckey**, Lawrence County FFA; **Magen Tumey**, Strayhorn FFA

## Minnesota

**Teresa Ann Aakre**, Hawley FFA; **Jacob Albrecht**, New Ulm FFA; **Troy Amundson**, Ulen Hitterdahl FFA; **Kaylyn Arvidson**, Parkers Prairie FFA; **Lauren Christine Barber**, Martin County West FFA; **Jon Barka**, Litchfield FFA; **Melissa Benoit**, Dassel Cokato FFA; **Adam Jeffrey Braun**, Plainview Elgin Millville FFA; **Megan Buckentine**, Chaska FFA; **Riley Michael Budensiek**, Zumbrota Mazeppa FFA; **Kevin Davis**, Dassel Cokato FFA; **Whitney M. Dylla**, United South Central FFA; **Brian Engles**, Lake Crystal Wellcome Memorial FFA; **Logan J. Fendrich**, United South Central FFA; **Stephen Robert Funk**, Sebeka FFA; **Brandon W. Goette**, Albert Lea FFA; **Kimberly A. Goplen**, Pine Island FFA; **Aaron Hanson**, Frazee Vergas FFA; **Wyatt Harguth**, Saint Charles FFA; **Cheryl L. Harlicker**, Owatonna FFA; **Ksana Harrison**, Academy for Sciences & Agriculture FFA; **Joshua Robert Hein**, Lake Park Audubon FFA; **Rachel Heldberg**, Gibbon Fairfax Winthrop Pioneer Express FFA; **Dan Helvig**, Martin County West FFA; **Joe W. Hentges**, Chaska FFA; **Megan V. Herberg**, Nicollet FFA; **Paul H. Herman**, United South Central FFA; **Zachary John Herschman**, Gibbon Fairfax Winthrop Pioneer Express FFA; **Justin Hlatky**, Eagle Valley FFA; **Jessica James**, Chaska FFA; **Travis Johnson**, New Ulm FFA; **Kyle Kack**, Canby FFA; **Ryan Kappers**, Spring Valley Wykoff FFA; **Caitlin Kasper**, Owatonna FFA; **Jacquelyne Rose Koch**, Howard Lake Waverly Winsted FFA; **Andrew J. Krieg**, Springfield FFA; **Brad M. Lanoue**, Tracy Area FFA; **Brooke A. Lutteke**, United South Central FFA; **Alisa Marti**, Sleepy Eye FFA; **Michelle Medina**, Forest Lake FFA; **Candice Menze**, Minnewaska FFA; **Melanie Meyer**, Brainerd FFA; **Kyle Moen**, Norman County West FFA; **Dustin Mortensen**, Buffalo Lake Hector FFA; **Paul Nowak**, Dassel Cokato FFA; **Kari Opdahl**, Albert Lea FFA; **Charles Schiller**, Holdingford FFA; **Mary Schmid**, Sleepy Eye FFA; **Erica Schneider**, Plainview Elgin Millville FFA; **Hannah Schneider**, Belle Plaine FFA; **Benjamin Seifert**, Sleepy Eye FFA; **Erica Seitzer**,

Nicollet FFA; **Anthony Sellner**, Sleepy Eye FFA; **Crystal Ann Sheehan**, Plainview Elgin Millville FFA; **Kyle Sommers**, Waseca FFA; **Jackie D. Sonnek**, United South Central FFA; **Jonathan Sorenson**, Norman County West FFA; **Anne Spillman**, Cannon Falls FFA; **Sarah E. Spindler**, Owatonna FFA; **Kimberly Stassen**, Kerkhoven Murdock Sunburg FFA; **Grady Michael Stehr**, Zumbrota Mazeppa FFA; **Ty Svenby**, Medford FFA; **Kristi Takasaki**, Brainerd FFA; **Karl Tollefson**, Fertile Beltrami FFA; **John Verly**, Marshall FFA; **Pamela K. VonRuden**, Owatonna FFA; **Andrew Warner**, Wabasso FFA; **Kirsten Weis**, Pine Island FFA; **Lezli Weis**, Pine Island FFA; **Katie Wendinger**, New Ulm FFA; **Wendi Wendt**, Nicollet FFA; **Colin Winslow**, Chatfield FFA; **Abigail Wirt**, Lewiston Altura FFA; **Cindy M. Young**, Pierz FFA; **Mark Zastrow**, Long Prairie Grey Eagle FFA



## Michigan

**Bailey Albright**, Branch Area Career Center FFA; **Joseph Ankley**, Lapeer Co. Ed. Tech. Center FFA; **Jami Baker**, St. Louis FFA; **Lyndsay A. Ball**, Homer FFA; **Kayla Benjamin**, Perry FFA; **Danielle Birchmeier**, New Lothrop FFA; **Jeff Blight**, Durand FFA; **Melissa Blough**, Lowell FFA; **Jacob J. Brennan**, Breckenridge FFA; **Jake Brindley**, Ogemaw Heights FFA; **Elaine Bristol**, Ogemaw Heights FFA; **Drew Brown**, Ionia FFA; **Samantha Bump**, Ovid-Elsie FFA; **Emily**

**Butcher**, Corunna FFA; **Kelly Butcher**, Centreville FFA; **Bonnie Nicole Collins**, Chippewa Hills FFA; **Nate Deschepper**, Byron FFA; **Tess Donner**, Branch Area Career Center FFA; **Jordan Daniel Drumm**, Homer FFA; **Candice R. Ebnehoe**, New Lothrop FFA; **Brady James Fischer**, Caledonia FFA; **Eric Fisher**, Lapeer Co. Ed. Tech. Center FFA; **Justine Fisher**, Corunna FFA; **Melissa Fisk**, Cedar Springs FFA; **Makia Franks**, Branch Area Career Center FFA; **Jennifer Geib**, Waldron FFA; **Betty Lynne Gilbert**, Lapeer Co. Ed. Tech. Center FFA; **Louis Francis Glinzak**, Lowell FFA; **Ryan R. Green**, Cassopolis FFA; **Mitchell Grieves**, Saranac FFA; **Lori Gunthorp**, Bronson FFA; **Kenny Hager**, Ionia FFA; **Rebecca Mae Hale**, Sanilac FFA; **Dustin A. Hall**, Charlotte FFA; **Amber Hamilton**, Maple Valley FFA; **Elizabeth Ann Harris**, Charlotte FFA; **Jordan Matthew Heffron**, Belding FFA; **Alexandria Henry**,



**Fayla Nash**, Ionia FFA; **Courtney K. Neubauer**, Montague FFA; **Ryan Powell**, Ionia FFA; **Sara Domenica Raleigh**, New Lothrop FFA; **Kelli Lynn Rau**, Ogemaw Heights FFA; **Leonard Reinart**, Hopkins FFA; **Ashley Reisbig**, Ionia FFA; **Emily Diana Ries**, Sand Creek FFA; **Kelly Rosebrugh**, Ogemaw Heights FFA; **Katie Rottier**, Lowell FFA; **Christopher Rumsey**, Maple Valley FFA; **Andrew Ruttkofsky**, Lenawee Vo-Tech FFA; **Jeff Schagel**, Ogemaw Heights FFA; **Jessica L. Schiefer**, New Lothrop FFA; **Emily Scranton**, Caledonia FFA; **Katy Seidel**, Ovid-Elsie FFA; **Felecia Sheldon**, Ovid-Elsie FFA; **Jeremy Smith**, Ithaca FFA; **Kayla Smith**, Branch Area Career Center FFA; **Amanda Gayle Sollman**, Sanilac FFA; **Jason Stadtfeld**, Chippewa Hills FFA; **Brian Stiles**, Durand FFA; **Kayla Stomack**, Ubyly FFA; **Katie Stutzman**, Waldron FFA; **Jeffrey Thomas**, Alpena FFA; **Dhanille Tobias**, Maple Valley FFA; **Todd Jason Tubergen**, Ionia FFA; **Stephanie Waffle**, Branch Area Career Center FFA; **Andrew Walker**, Ogemaw Heights FFA; **Renee Wangler**, Ogemaw Heights FFA; **Cliff Ward**, Maple Valley FFA; **Kamri L. Watson**, Ovid-Elsie FFA; **Beth A. Wenkel**, Standish-Sterling FFA; **Josh Wernette**, Chippewa Hills FFA; **Kristyn Wheaton**, Charlotte FFA; **Tim Wilke**, Sanilac FFA; **Kalli Zenker**, Olivet FFA

## Massachusetts

**Caitlin Brigham**, Cape Cod Regional Technical FFA; **Wylie T. Scalise**, Smith FFA

## Maryland

**Jamie Lee Beckley**, Clear Spring FFA; **Becky Berkebile**, North Garrett FFA; **Kevin Edward Carroll**, Easton FFA; **Bridget Hoffman**, Catocin FFA; **Andrea Marie Kneer**, Walkersville FFA; **Sara Marie Kreh**, Middletown FFA; **Benjamin P. Murphy**, Urbana FFA; **Jamie L. Snider**, Fort Hill FFA; **Charlotte Helen Thompson**, Frederick County Career & Technology Center FFA; **Megan LaRue Thompson**, Boonsboro FFA

## Louisiana

**Joseph Clark**, Loranger FFA; **Michael S. Fischer**, Pearl River FFA; **Kevin Forbes**, Northeast FFA; **Kiesha Guidry**, Crowley FFA; **James Christopher Head**,

**Alma FFA**; **Megan Hutfilz**, St. Louis FFA; **Bryan Michael Jacob**, Sanilac FFA; **Vincent James Karweik**, Hopkins FFA; **Alanah Kiel**, Montague FFA; **Hannah Knudstrup**, Lowell FFA; **Jerik Koeplinger**, New Lothrop FFA; **Katherine Krepps**, Ravenna FFA; **Jedidiah Kruger**, Ionia FFA; **Kayla Lehman**, Ogemaw Heights FFA; **Hannah Losinski**, Branch Area Career Center FFA; **Ryan Losinski**, Branch Area Career Center FFA; **Kyle McCarty**, Sanilac FFA; **Preston Robert McCumons**, Sanilac FFA; **Dan Metiva III**, Perry

# American Degree Recipients

Thibodaux FFA; **Samanatha Lirette**, Central Lafourche FFA; **Kacey Lynn Miles**, Dodson FFA; **Beau Garrett Parrish**, Northeast FFA; **Shawn M. Zeringue**, Central Lafourche FFA

## Kentucky

**Derek Abney**, Madison Southern FFA; **Derek Glen Adams**, Rockcastle County FFA; **Alex Elaine Arnold**, Caldwell County FFA; **Luke Avery**, Jessamine County FFA; **Jacob Scott Ball**, Nelson County FFA; **Jeanetta Brooke Beard**, Central Hardin FFA; **Dustin Jeremiah Blair**, Apollo FFA; **Seth Blankenship**, Allen County-Scottsville FFA; **Whitney Bowers**, Warren Central FFA; **Marti Bradbury**, Central Hardin FFA; **Andrew Brewer**, Jackson County FFA; **Mackenzie L. Brewer**, Wolfe County FFA; **Loyd Britt**, Barren County FFA; **Lee Bugg**, Ballard Memorial FFA; **Jeff Burton**, Madisonville-North Hopkins FFA; **Tyler Burysek**, Warren Central FFA; **Summer Byers**, Central Hardin FFA; **Ashley Marie Cash**, Rockcastle County FFA; **Ashlee Brooke Castle**, Todd Central FFA; **Phillip Matthew Castlen**, Daviess County FFA; **Andrew J. Clark**, Taylor County FFA; **Bradley Clemons**, Grayson County FFA; **Michael Cockerham**, Wolfe County FFA; **Brady Core**, Mercer County FFA; **Chance Michael Corum**, Logan County FFA; **Drennan M. Cowan**, Union County FFA; **Julie Crocker**, Franklin-Simpson FFA; **Curtis Lynn Dame**, McLean County FFA; **Nathaniel Daugherty**, Ohio County FFA; **Robert Austin Devine**, McLean County FFA; **Corey Dixon**, Pulaski County FFA; **Hannah J. Draeger**, Daviess County FFA; **Jared Lynn Duncan**, Livingston Central FFA; **Justin Scott Dunn**, Wolfe County FFA; **Alysia Elmore**, Spencer County FFA; **Joe Embree**, LaRue County FFA; **Holly Enlow**, LaRue County FFA; **Justin Lloyd Fancher**, Bath County FFA; **Laura Fischer**, Daviess County FFA; **Matthew Fister**, Scott County FFA; **Caitlin Foltz**, Campbell County FFA; **Jeannie Marie Francis**, John Hardin FFA; **Sheila Froedge-Stilts**, Metcalfe County FFA; **Alan Frost**, Jackson County FFA; **James F. Gilles**, Apollo FFA; **Clay Goodman**, Central Hardin FFA; **Shaina G. Goodman**, Fulton County FFA; **Brittany Halcomb**, Southwestern FFA; **Jordan T. Hall**, Apollo FFA; **Wes Patrick Hamilton**, Apollo FFA; **Lisa Marie Hargis**, Adair County FFA; **Aaron Glenn Harned**, Reidland FFA; **Ryan Hart**, Central Hardin FFA; **Evan Franklin Head**, Crittenden County FFA; **Steven Henderson**,

Graves County FFA; **Sara Holliday**, Logan County FFA; **John R. Hopson**, Trigg County FFA; **Stephanie E. House**, Central Hardin FFA; **Christie L. Howard**, Logan County FFA; **Annie Howell**, McLean County FFA; **Nathan Humphrey**, Apollo FFA; **Crystal Hunt**, Daviess County FFA; **Coleman M. Hurt**, Cumberland County FFA; **Joshua Noel Ison**, Montgomery County FFA; **Austin Pace Jacobs**, Clark County FFA; **Leticia L. Janes**, Green County FFA; **Mikayla Johnson**, Walton-Verona FFA; **Kelley Jolly**, Logan County FFA; **Clinton Judd**, Metcalfe County FFA; **Josh A. Kerr**, Russell County FFA; **John Wayne Kessler**, Taylor County FFA; **Sarah R. Kuegel**, Apollo FFA; **Celeste Anne Laurent**, Caldwell County FFA; **Jarrett Taylor Leasor**, Central Hardin FFA; **Ashley Lee**, LaRue County FFA; **Cameron Lee**, North Laurel FFA; **Krista Lee**, Garrard County FFA; **Cory Lindsey**, McLean County FFA; **Jared Litchfield**, Trigg County FFA; **Josh Little**, Wolfe County FFA; **Whitney Lockhart**, Ballard Memorial FFA; **Jenka Michelle Lockwood**, Grant County FFA; **Wesley C. Logsdon**, Southwestern FFA; **Megan B. Lynch**, Jackson County FFA; **Jordan Massey**, Deming FFA; **Beth Maynard**, Spencer County FFA; **Douglas Edward McBride**, Reidland FFA; **Megan S. McKinney**, Metcalfe County FFA; **Amber Miles**, Logan County FFA; **Karen Mink**, Rockcastle County FFA; **John-Michael Morris**, McLean County FFA; **Bradley J. Noel**, Gallatin County FFA; **Kirby Lynne O'Donoghue**, Breckinridge County FFA; **Paul Kristian Oliver**, Allen County-Scottsville FFA; **Dayna Parrett**, Central Hardin FFA; **Amanda Jo Payne**, Apollo FFA; **Eric Pearson**, Ballard Memorial FFA; **Jessica Penrod**, Logan County FFA; **Cody Perkins**, Gallatin County FFA; **Kimberly Beth Peters**, Caldwell County FFA; **Lisa Marie Pierce**, Southwestern FFA; **Ronald Wayne Powell Jr.**, Central Hardin FFA; **Myra Price**, Logan County FFA; **Ashley Mychal Puckett**, Jessamine County FFA; **Jesse Reesor**, Central Hardin FFA; **Brahm Riley**, Graves County FFA; **Phillip Rogers**, Central Hardin FFA; **Alyce Salley**, Barren County FFA; **Christina M. Sheaffer**, Walton-Verona FFA; **Dale Wade Shrout**, Bath County FFA; **Zachary Shuffett**, Warren East FFA; **Tyler Siddens**, Barren County FFA; **Dustin Skaggs**, Bath County FFA; **Lauren Smallwood**, Breckinridge

County FFA; **Bobby Smith**, Ballard Memorial FFA; **Corey Smith**, Madison Southern FFA; **Rodney Blake Smith**, Apollo FFA; **Tyler Steele**, Spencer County FFA; **Aaron Stice**, Barren County FFA; **Evan Stinnett**, McLean County FFA; **Leann Michelle Stinson**, Franklin-Simpson FFA; **Colton Lee Stratton**, McLean County FFA; **Joseph Stratton**, McLean County FFA; **Robert White Stuard**, Todd Central FFA; **Justin Suiter**, Graves County FFA; **Jon W. Survant**, Daviess County FFA; **Donald Ray Taulbee**, Madison Southern FFA; **Benjamin Lucas Terrell**, Lyon County FFA; **Maegen K. Terry**, Boyd County FFA; **Patrick Thomas**, Crittenden County FFA; **Josh Timbers**, Central Hardin FFA; **Marshal K. Tingle**, Jessamine County FFA; **Brandon Curtis Trogdon**, Apollo FFA; **Joshua Wayne Vincent**, Edmonson County FFA; **Michael Vowell**, Fulton County FFA; **Ericka Faye Waggener**, Burgin FFA; **Stephen Weatherford**, Hickman County FFA; **Austin Webster**, Spencer County FFA; **Nathan Wells**, McLean County FFA; **D. Scott Wheeler**, LaRue County FFA; **Amy B. White**, Jessamine County FFA; **Katie M. Wilkerson**, Henderson County



FFA; **Justin Williams**, Fulton County FFA; **Roy Williams**, Wolfe County FFA; **Charlie Thomas Willis**, Madison Southern FFA; **Scott Wayne Willoughby**, Clark County FFA; **Steven Willoughby**, Clark County FFA; **Cole Wills**, Clark County FFA; **Jamie Wilson**, Logan County FFA; **Kristen E. Wilson**, Jessamine County FFA; **Scott Woodburn**, McLean County FFA; **Samuel Casey Wray**, Central Hardin FFA; **Tyler A. Young**, Apollo FFA

## Kansas

**Trevor W. Ashcraft**, Holton FFA; **Chad Atwood**, Prairie View FFA; **Christopher Bauerle**, Sabetha FFA; **Gloria Belton**, Centre FFA; **Carrie Ann Blaes**, Cherryvale FFA; **Shane D. Blaes**, Cherryvale FFA; **Kaitlyn Elizabeth Bogart**, Arkansas City FFA; **Ashley Dawn Bohnenblust**, Clay Center FFA; **Bethany Lane Bohnenblust**, Labette County FFA; **Megan Bryant**, Arkansas City FFA; **Daniel Clugston**, Columbus FFA; **Jade Nicole Comstock**, Fredonia FFA; **Wendy E. Dague**, Washington FFA; **Nichole Ely**, Inman FFA; **Daniel Paul Forsyth**, Chapman FFA; **Joshua David Gillespie**, Humboldt FFA; **Drew Goering**, Inman FFA; **Alex E. Gottlob**, Winfield FFA; **Hannah**





# American Degree Recipients

**R. Harris**, Girard FFA; **Dalton Holliman**, Atwood FFA; **Kally Hood**, Rock Creek FFA; **Jacob Hughes**, Washington County FFA; **Chelbie James**, Arkansas City FFA; **Calandria Jarboe**, Holton FFA; **Aaron Kadavy**, Republic County FFA; **J. M. Cody Kissinger**, Newton FFA; **Christina Klein**, Sabetha FFA; **Garrett D. LaRue**, Erie FFA; **Samantha Lawrence**, Central FFA; **Jordyn Rae Lister**, Marysville FFA; **Scott McAlister**, West Elk FFA; **Lucas McNally**, South Barber FFA; **Sara Meiwes**, Marmaton Valley FFA; **Greg Meyer**, Linn FFA; **Meagan Nelson**, Paola FFA; **Andy Newkirk**, Rock Creek FFA; **Brynn Nulik**, Arkansas City FFA; **Kyra E. O'Brien**, Girard FFA; **Kyler Ohlde**, Linn FFA; **Kelly Oliver**, Erie FFA; **Lyndee Mae Patterson**, Jackson Heights FFA; **Cody Regier**, Buhler FFA; **Jayme Christine Rezac**, Onaga FFA; **Traci Rothlisberger**, Linn FFA; **Austin Paul Schotte**, Marysville FFA; **Tessa Schotte**, Marysville FFA; **Garett L. Schreiber**, Jackson Heights FFA; **Amy M. Sents**, McPherson FFA; **Rachel Shaw**, Arkansas City FFA; **Kyle Jacob Smith**, Arkansas City FFA; **Jay Stamm**, Washington County FFA; **Emily Surdez**, Sabetha FFA; **Jared Unrau**, Goessel FFA; **Chris Weston**, Marmaton Valley FFA; **Aaron Widmar**, Girard FFA; **Jared Neil Wilson**, Prairie View FFA; **Tyler Zimmerman**, Chaparral FFA

## Iowa

**Tara Baker**, Mount Ayr FFA; **Joshua Beer**, DeWitt Central FFA; **Amareese Bettin**, Central Trail FFA; **Ashley M. Bonney**, Oelwein FFA; **Gregory Bopes**, Maquoketa FFA; **Melissa Brincks**, South Winneshiek FFA; **Trey Brix**, Walnut FFA; **Christopher Brown**, Graettinger/Terrill FFA; **Joe Catanzareti**, Mount Ayr FFA; **Katie Cranston**, Montezuma FFA; **Alicia Crock**, Tipton FFA; **Nate Denger**, Maquoketa FFA; **Katie Diemer**, Sumner-Fredericksburg FFA; **Jon Doese**, Wapsie Valley FFA; **Bradley T. Fager**, Atlantic FFA; **Tracey Colleen Faust**, Starmont FFA; **Katie Fevold**, Gladbrook-Reinbeck FFA; **Jeremy Flanagan**, Mid-Prairie FFA; **Megan Flynn**, Mid-Prairie FFA; **Mary Foell**, Schaller-Crestland FFA; **Matt Gerlach**, Maquoketa FFA; **Tyler Gene Goodall**, DeWitt Central FFA; **Jeremie W. Hahn**, DeWitt Central FFA; **Dan Hansen**, Elk Horn-Kimballton FFA; **Kyle Heineman**, Wapsie Valley FFA; **Ashten Henningsen**, DeWitt Central FFA; **Alex Hilbert**, Algona FFA; **Jacob R. Hunter**, DeWitt Central FFA; **Jordan Inman**, CAM FFA; **Sara Iverson**, Montezuma FFA; **Steven Johnson**, Montezuma

FFA; **Spencer Alan Jordan**, Linn-Mar FFA; **Elizabeth Juchems**, Nashua-Plainfield FFA; **Cory W. Kanagy**, Iowa Mennonite FFA; **Samantha Kanarr**, North Fayette FFA; **Zachary Kinrade**, Maquoketa FFA; **Sarah Knott**, West Marshall FFA; **Tyler Knuth**, Atlantic FFA; **Jared Koebrick**, Charles City FFA; **Megan L. Kregel**, Tri Star FFA; **Jacob Kuhlmann**, Algona FFA; **Ryan Michael Kurimski**, Albia FFA; **Darin John Lantz**, West Lyon FFA; **Laura Larson**, Rockford FFA; **Amanda Leeper**, Central Trail FFA; **Jennifer Deanne Leistikow**, Wapsie Valley FFA; **Jason Lents**, Creston FFA; **Kenneth Luckstead**, Monticello FFA; **Loren L. Luitjens**, Sibley-Ocheyedan FFA; **Zach Lynch**, Mount Ayr FFA; **Brad Magg**, Colfax-Mingo FFA; **Byron N. Manternach**, Monticello FFA; **Justin Mardorf**, Monticello FFA; **Daniel Scott May**, Osceola Big Chief FFA; **Hannah McCulloh**, DeWitt Central FFA; **Mitch McDermott**, Maquoketa FFA; **Melissa Ann McEnany**, Colo-NESCO FFA; **Kathleen McNamara**, Anamosa FFA; **Kelsey Meester**, Mount Ayr FFA; **Marcia Ann Meggers**, Interstate 35 FFA; **Nicole Meyer**, Rockwell

City-Lytton FFA; **Spenser Miller**, CAM FFA; **Tyrell Miller**, Creston FFA; **Zachary L. Morris**, Anamosa FFA; **Clint Moser**, Central Trail FFA; **Steve Myers**, Creston FFA; **Adam O'Connor**, Rockford FFA; **Brittany Orris**, Monticello FFA; **T.J. Polk**, Maquoketa FFA; **Lance Porter**, Central Trail FFA; **Joshua Richards**, Wapsie Valley FFA; **Sarah Robinson**, Tipton FFA; **Jason Rosauer**, Maple Valley FFA; **Erica Ross**, Charles City FFA; **Holly A. Ryan**, Kingsley-Pierson FFA; **Whitney Sager**, Atlantic FFA; **Dustin J. Schau**, Maquoketa FFA; **Sam Schmidt**, DeWitt Central FFA; **Andrew Schneider**, LeMars Farm Youth FFA; **Casey Schnieder**, Sumner-Fredericksburg FFA; **Andy Schroeder**, Tri Star FFA; **Blake Schulte**, Benton Community FFA; **Kyle Y. Simonson**, Algona FFA; **Grant Stewart**, Charles City FFA; **Andrew Struecker**, Algona FFA; **Joshua Kyle Summers**, Central Trail FFA; **Laci Swanson**, Atlantic FFA; **Courtney Nicole Taglauer**, Fairfield FFA; **Klark Andrew Telleen**, Monticello FFA; **Kyle Thelen**, Creston FFA; **Sarah M. Thomsen**, CAM FFA; **Tyler Leroy Trenkamp**, Preston-East Central FFA; **Al Turnis**, Cascade FFA;



**Daniel Van Fossen**, Anamosa FFA; **Kyle Vavricek**, Anamosa FFA; **Michael Wagner**, South O'Brien FFA; **Hilary Ann Wasson**, Fairfield FFA; **Cameron James Weeda**, Creston FFA; **Renae Weis**, St. Ansgar FFA; **Jordan J. Williams**, Pella FFA; **Allison Wilson**, West Central Valley FFA; **Matthew Wimer**, Mount Ayr FFA; **Mike Wormley**, Newton FFA; **Jeremy Wurzer**, Sumner-Fredericksburg FFA; **Jacob Zehr**, North Polk FFA

## Indiana

**Benjamin Jon Alyea**, Northeastern Wayne FFA; **Samantha Kay Ambrose**, Southmont FFA; **Kaleesa N. Archer**, Switzerland County FFA; **David Bagshaw**, Eastern FFA; **Sloan Keller Ball**, Hope FFA; **Scott A. Batts**, Clinton Prairie FFA; **Kyle Beach**, Eastern FFA; **Katie L. Beck**, Eastbrook FFA; **Charlie Bennett**, North Daviess FFA; **Paul Bickel**, Corydon Central FFA; **Rhett Blake**, Shenandoah FFA; **Michael Bradt**, Eminence FFA; **Samantha N. Budnik**, Manchester FFA; **Carri Carrell**, Southmont FFA; **Nick Catania**, Hagerstown FFA; **Emily K. Chaney**, Clinton Prairie FFA; **Chris Clem**, Rossville FFA; **Alicia Coon**, Tri-County FFA; **Lindsey R. Crawford**, Rensselaer FFA; **Cory Jay Cronk**, Shenandoah FFA; **Kevin Dale Cross**, White River Valley FFA; **Lee Michael Deford**, Clinton Prairie FFA; **Rachel Demaree**, Hamilton Heights FFA; **Sarah Demerly**, Tri-County FFA; **Katelyn Marie Desper**, East Noble FFA; **Christopher K. Diercks**, Hagerstown FFA; **Heather Ann Dougherty**, Franklin FFA; **Josh Dove**, North Daviess FFA; **Samantha I. Downey**, Boonville FFA; **Taylor J. Eastman**, Hagerstown FFA; **Scott Evans**, Rossville FFA; **Cody M. Fink**, Hagerstown FFA; **Austin H. Fischer**, East Noble FFA; **Katie Furrer**, Tri-County FFA; **Dirk Garriott**, Seeger FFA; **Charlie D. Gerkin**, Hagerstown FFA; **Rebecca Getts**, East Noble FFA; **Lauren D. Greer**, Manchester FFA; **Tyler Gressley**, Huntington North FFA; **Logan Harvey**, Hope FFA; **Amanda Haskins**, Tri-County FFA; **Blake Hesters**, John Glenn FFA; **Matt Hiatt**, Rossville FFA; **Timothy J. Hodge**, Monroe Central FFA; **Keith Hoeing**, Rushville FFA; **Marianne L. Ingle**, Lewis Cass FFA; **Mitchell Jessup**, Eastern Hancock FFA; **Benjamin Eric**





# American Degree Recipients



Johnson, Central Noble FFA; Kay Leigh Lawson, Western Boone FFA; Nathan Lehman, Adams Central FFA; Addison Lopp, Frontier FFA; Jacob Marty, Clinton Prairie FFA; Justin R. McKain, Sullivan FFA; Maura Lynne McMichael, Scottsburg FFA; Mary Elizabeth Michel, Boonville FFA; Jamie Miles, Clinton Prairie FFA; Steven Minnich, Jay County FFA; Megan Morton, East Noble FFA; Jessica Muhlenkamp, Jay County FFA; Michael Osowski, South Newton FFA; Christa L. Peden, Manchester FFA; Kaitlin Pence, Seeger FFA; Sayde Rayburn, North Montgomery FFA; Jill Riley, Heritage FFA; Brian Ripberger, Rushville FFA; John Mark Romine, Columbus FFA; Cody J. Rushton, Hagerstown FFA; Brandon Schaefer, Forest Park FFA; Daveana Schieler, Tri-County FFA; Torie Schwartz, Rossville FFA; Carolyn Shaffer, Columbia City FFA; Lynsee R. Shaffer, Monroe Central FFA; Andrew G. Smith, Franklin County FFA; David Smith, Rushville FFA; Dustin Snyder, Jay County FFA; Logan Philip Springstun, Boonville FFA; Kristen Steiner, South Adams FFA; Randy Stephen, Jay County FFA; Blake Stowers, Clinton Central FFA; Jared Stowers, Clinton Central FFA; Beth Stratton, South Ripley FFA; Ashley N. Thomas, South Ripley FFA; Nathan Trapp, Delphi FFA; Margaux Tucker, John Glenn FFA; Dan Ward, Bremen FFA; Thomas Charles Wenning, Jac-Cen-Del FFA; Ryan Hunter Wilson, Sullivan FFA; Dustin Zimmerman, Jay County FFA

## Illinois

Cody Adams, Kansas FFA; Katherine Albrecht, Iroquois West FFA; Janell Marie Baum, Clinton FFA; Kevin Paul Behrends, Iroquois West FFA; Casey Braddock, Patoka FFA; Benjamin Branchfield, Canton FFA; Brian K. Brown, Cisne FFA; Jacob Ian Bullard, Morrisonville FFA; Erica Christine Burroughs, Salem FFA; John Carson, Paxton-Buckley-Loda FFA; Jeff Clark, Hartsburg-Emden FFA; Brian Craine, Bureau Valley FFA; Jonathan Cody Cusic, Eldorado FFA; Amy J. Davis, Pontiac FFA; Alex Denny, Southeastern FFA; Matthew DeSutter, AlWood FFA; Lauren Dietz, Waterloo FFA; Kari Drake, Sycamore FFA; Anthony M. Graham, Mt. Vernon FFA; Scott Grosenheider, Litchfield FFA; Sara E. Haag, Tri-Point FFA; Jason R. Haas, Roanoke-Benson FFA; Sarah Hardman, Ridgeview FFA; Dianna Hatfield, Wayne City FFA; Andrew Joseph Heavner, Valmeyer FFA; John A. Heiser, Byron FFA; Blaine Hellman, Hartsburg-Emden FFA; Benjamin Jamison Hershey, Pearl City FFA; Mellisa A. Herwig, Ashton-Franklin Center FFA; Brittany Hosselton, Clay City FFA; Rachel Huffman, Clinton FFA; Derek Huseman, Bluffs FFA; Tony Jarboe, Paxton-Buckley-Loda FFA; Victor K. Johnson, Paxton-Buckley-Loda FFA; Kaleb J. Kennay, Ashton-Franklin Center FFA; Lauren Larson, Stillman Valley FFA; Camilla Mast, Payson FFA; Heidi Maul, Cisna Park FFA; Wyatt McGrew, Bushnell-

Prairie City FFA; Jason L. Mewes, Nashville FFA; Katelynn Morgan, Herscher FFA; Miranda Morgan, Salem FFA; Blake Edward Newell, Midland FFA; Timothy A. Oliger, Mt. Vernon FFA; Laurel Mae Pennington, Cisne FFA; Olivia Rahe, Bluffs FFA; Austin B. Rincker, Shelbyville FFA; Leah Ristow, Cisna Park FFA; Jason Robertson, Goreville FFA; Robin N. Rollings, Kansas FFA; Chase Sanders, Paxton-Buckley-Loda FFA; Paul Schmid, Cisna Park FFA; Katie Schmidt, Oregon FFA; Nathan H. Schumacher, Ashton-Franklin Center FFA; Lucas H. Shriver, Unity-Mendon FFA; Kate Singler, Nokomis FFA; Tannor W. Spittler, Kansas FFA;

Colby M. Staker, Aledo FFA; Kenneth Stayton, Franklin FFA; Grant Reed Stewart, Farmington FFA; Deborah Strubbe, Jacksonville FFA; Jasen Ray Tubbs, Wayne City FFA; Victoria Vogt, Waterloo FFA; Marlene R. Walker, Windsor FFA; Kathryn A. Wedekind, Hillsboro FFA; Kaitlin Weitekamp, Lincolnwood FFA; Brittney Nicole Winkelman, Bluffs FFA; Quincy C. Wood, Okaw Valley FFA; Nick A. Wurl, Altamont FFA; Evan L. Youngren, AlWood FFA

## Idaho

Logan C. Alder, Malad FFA; Tiffany S. Allen, New Plymouth FFA; Brandi Rae Barker, New Plymouth FFA; Suzanne Maria Beitia, American Falls FFA; Brandon Berheim, Filer FFA; Jacob Blackstock, Kuna FFA; Jace Benjamin Briggs, Sugar Salem FFA; Dillon Buthman, Weiser FFA; Brittany Ann Casperson, Marsh Valley FFA; Tyler M. Costa, Midvale FFA; Donald Paul Curry, Meridian FFA; Kelsey Day, Madison FFA; Katherine Grace DeHaan, Filer FFA; Clayton Glade Eliason, Malad FFA; Katheryne M. Elkington, Cambridge FFA; Julia Christine Esser, Genesee FFA; Clark Austin Gill, Fruitland FFA; Heather Hendricks, Fruitland FFA; Ryan Hruza, Minico FFA; Katie Jackson, Meridian FFA; Megan Jemmett, Parma FFA; Lauren Ashley Kline, Castleford FFA; Stratton Laggis, American Falls FFA; Braden R. Lake, Burley FFA; Shay Larsen, Preston FFA;



Shea M. Nesbitt, Weiser FFA; Jemma Pitruzzello, Burley FFA; Patrick Antone Regli, Kuna FFA; Tyler J. Reynolds, Kuna FFA; Callie Jo Robbins, Weiser FFA; Liz Russell, Emmett FFA; Stewart Russell, Emmett FFA; Trevor Searle, Burley FFA; Chase Shoemaker, New Plymouth FFA; Madison Skogsberg, Kuna FFA; Jennifer Ann Spencer, Meridian FFA; Annie Troutt, Emmett FFA; Jake Turnbull, Cambridge FFA; Justin Blaine Udy, Genesee FFA; Kristopher M. Vowell, Cambridge FFA; Vanessa Wilcox, Madison FFA; Wyakin Wilcox, Madison FFA; Andie Wommack, Genesee FFA; Garrett Lee Wright, Fruitland FFA

## Hawaii

Austin Bello, Leilehua James Dole FFA

## Georgia

Robert Simmons Avery III, Colquitt County FFA; Bonnie Brooke Bazemore, Screven County FFA; Tyler N. Beck, West Laurens FFA; Anna Hope Bellamy, Banks County FFA; Stacia Bennett, Jeff Davis FFA; Sean Anthony Blankenship, Coffee County FFA; Randy Shane Branch, Appling County FFA; Lee Ervin Brock, Jefferson FFA; Corey Brown, West Laurens FFA; Christy Nicole Bryan, Trion FFA; James Bullington, Crisp County FFA; Jill Elana Chafin, Colquitt County FFA; Joseph Chambers, West Laurens FFA; Jantzen Chance, SE Whitfield FFA; Austin Conner, North Hall FFA; Thomas J. Crowe, North Hall FFA; Kyle Littleton Dekle, Seminole County FFA; Justin Dennis, Mary Persons FFA; Darren Glenn Driver, Elbert County FFA; Lisa Eckhardt, Oconee County FFA; Lara Eubanks, Tift County FFA; Jarrett Austin Fail, Southeast Bulloch FFA; Samantha Ferrick, SE Whitfield FFA; Raymond G. Fitzpatrick, Franklin County FFA; David Garner, Dawson County FFA; Jarrett Hall, Franklin County FFA; Wesley Ham, Mary Persons FFA; Holli Brooke Hart, Toombs County FFA; Laura Hatcher, West Laurens FFA; Cody Herndon, Jeff Davis FFA; Andrew Laney, Bleckley County FFA; Clay Lowman, Dawson County FFA; Michael Murray, Colquitt County FFA; Michael Nash, Greene County FFA; Brad Padgett, Tift County FFA; Christopher Duran

# American Degree Recipients

**Paulk**, Tift County FFA; **Molly Evan Perkins**, Screven County FFA; **Jennifer Pilcher**, SE Whitfield FFA; **Logan Proctor**, Dawson County FFA; **Steven Kyle Purnell**, Screven County FFA; **David William Rees**, Jefferson FFA; **Jennifer Renee Smith**, Ware Magnet FFA; **Melissa Sharon Smith**, Screven County FFA; **Rebecca Lynn Smith**, Appling County FFA; **Samantha Sneed**, Southeast Whitfield FFA; **Jimmie L. Spurlin III**; Eagle's Landing FFA; **Nickolas Samuel Tatum**, Dawson County FFA; **Deana Veal**, Johnson County FFA; **Ashley Williams**, Jeff Davis FFA; **Catherine Wilson**, Jefferson FFA; **Kyle Wood**, Berrien County FFA; **Cameron Yearty**, Bleckley County FFA; **Wesley Youmans**, Seminole County FFA

## Florida

**Katherine Marie Batten**, Bunnell FFA; **Robby Bondurant**, Lake Region FFA; **Kelsey Brown**, Branford FFA; **Sarah E. Bureson**, Deltona Senior FFA; **Anthony Cannon**, Branford FFA; **Ernie Caparelli**, Branford FFA; **Shelby Carpenter**, Wildwood Senior FFA; **Kayla Clenney**, Plant City Senior FFA; **Sarah Cleveland**, Sebring Senior FFA; **Bethany Coon**, Durant Senior FFA; **Chet D. Cramer**, West Orange Senior FFA; **Michele Curts**, Durant Senior FFA; **Eric Gene Davis**, Durant Senior FFA; **Max Garrett Duke**, Avon Park Senior FFA; **Jacquelyn Eager**, Williston Senior FFA; **Lauren Edgington**, East Ridge FFA; **Joshua Fairfield**, Sebring Senior FFA; **James Fussell**, DeSoto Senior FFA; **Nina Guba**, South Lake Senior FFA; **Kelli Hamilton**, Riverview FFA; **Shannon Michele Harden**, Columbia Senior FFA; **Tera Harrison**, Branford FFA; **Kenneth Kurth**, Deltona Senior FFA; **Lydia Mae Masterson**, Baker County Senior FFA; **Craig McIntosh**, Deltona Senior FFA; **Emily McKenna**, Sebring Senior FFA; **Kathryn Mendenall**, Brandon FFA; **Richelle Miller**, Riverview FFA; **Justin Lynwood Newsome**, Durant Senior FFA; **Shawna M. Newsome**, Durant Senior FFA; **Amanda Nobs**, Bell Senior FFA; **Dwayne Lee Pearce**, Columbia Senior FFA; **Amy Purvis**, South Lake Senior FFA; **Hannah Rogers**, Brandon FFA; **Marcy Scardino**, Sickles Senior FFA; **Jaime Leigh Spivey**, Bronson FFA; **Joshua Ron Stanaback**, Sebring Senior FFA; **Jillian Stephens**, Malone FFA; **Ashley Lynne Stinton**, Palmetto FFA; **Timothy Surface**, Joe E. Newsome FFA; **Tony Lamar Sylvester Jr.**; Deltona Senior FFA; **Melissa Tramontana**, Sickles Senior FFA; **Bethany M. Wagner**,

Keystone Heights Senior FFA; **Brooke Warnock**, Plant City Senior FFA; **Christine Weaver**, Sebring Senior FFA; **Hilary Ann Webb**, Charlotte Senior FFA; **Jeffrey Lee Williams Jr.**; Bell Senior FFA; **Jacob Terry Wyatt**, Plant City Senior FFA; **Ashley Nichole Young**, Coral Reef Senior FFA

## Delaware

**Justin Bailey**, Woodbridge FFA; **Sara E. Busker**, Lake Forest FFA; **Heather M. Ferebee**, Sussex Central FFA; **Jamie N. Ferebee**, Sussex Central FFA; **Megan L. Oliphant**, Sussex Central FFA; **Greg Sellers**, Sussex Central FFA; **Caitlin V. Sheffer**, Caesar Rodney FFA; **Doug Sherwood**, Lake Forest FFA; **Mario A. Street**, Sussex Central FFA; **Amanda Lee Urian**, Smyrna FFA; **Jason Vogl**, Lake Forest FFA; **Travis K. Voshell**, Middletown FFA

## Connecticut

**Kathleen Anne Anton**, Lyman Hall FFA; **Tyler August**, Suffield Regional FFA; **Sondra Lee Downey**, Rockville FFA; **Daniela Fellows**, Northwestern Regional FFA; **Kimberly Gillen**, Northwestern Regional FFA; **Rebecca Harrison**, Woodbury FFA; **Emily A. Kalenauskas**, Woodbury FFA; **Ryan McCarthy**, Lyman Hall FFA; **Courtney April Jeanne Mcwha**, Suffield Regional FFA; **Johanna M. Wertz**, Ledyard Regional FFA

## Colorado

**Cristobal Acovio Jr.**, Caliche FFA; **Abenie Adams**, Karval FFA; **Samantha Allmer**, Briggsdale FFA; **Suzanna L. Amen**, Valley FFA; **Kathryn I. Barkey**, Akron FFA; **Tyler Jackson Benton**, Stratton FFA; **Heather Brown**, Sangre De Cristo FFA; **John Brown**, Merino FFA; **Lisa Brown**, Weld Central FFA; **Natalia M. Bucher**, Dove Creek FFA; **Jason Christian**, Holly FFA; **Brian Cook**, Eaton FFA; **Sean Craven**, Valley FFA; **Jeff Ehmke**, Grover FFA; **Joshua Elliott**, Platte Valley FFA; **Elizabeth Even**, Valley FFA; **Emily Facchinello**, Caliche FFA; **Jennese Forster**, North Park FFA; **Abby M. Frank**, Fleming FFA; **Michael Green**, Arickaree FFA; **Aaron Helus**, Platte Valley FFA; **Bradley Hertneky**, Burlington FFA; **Cortney Lehn Hodgson**, Platte Valley FFA; **Rachel Hornung**, Stratton FFA; **Nytasha Hueller**, Eads FFA; **Nichelle Jaeger**, Fruita FFA; **Brenda Irene Johnson**, New Raymer FFA; **Joshua Johnson**, Eaton FFA; **Brian Kailey**, Merino FFA; **Troy Jon Kimmel**, New Raymer FFA; **Amanda Lanning**, Valley FFA; **Stephanie Lebsock**,

Fort Morgan FFA; **Jennifer Leithead**, Caliche FFA; **Thomas Casey Martinez**, New Raymer FFA; **Jessica McDonald**, Akron FFA; **Randy J. McEndree**, Pritchett FFA; **Nathaniel Melgosa**, Rocky Ford FFA; **Laura Michael**, Lone Star FFA; **Nathan Phillip Northup**, New Raymer FFA; **Jessica Nusbaum**, Grover FFA; **Zachary Adam Owens**, Weld Central FFA; **Trevor Reed Parker**, Holly FFA; **Tiffany Poet**, Flagler FFA; **Jace Roberson**, Eads FFA; **Breann Sackett**, Arickaree FFA; **Destiny Saffer**, Eads FFA; **Mindy Schifferns**, Flagler FFA; **Chris Ken Schweizer**, Rocky Ford FFA; **Kensie Lynn Scott**, SoRoCo FFA; **Ryan Siefkas**, Las Animas FFA; **Jackie Stone**, Karval FFA; **Cari Tatkenhorst**, Brush FFA; **Hannah Todd**, Hotchkiss FFA; **Ethan VanValkenburg**, North Park FFA; **Joseph Vogl**, Valley FFA; **Daren Wagner**, Holly FFA; **Kristyn Wagner**, Caliche FFA; **Trevor L. Walter**, Valley FFA; **Grady Webb**, Valley FFA; **Shane White**, Fruita FFA



**Avilla**, Modesto FFA; **George Badasaci**, Lemoore FFA; **Kimberlee Louise Baroni**, Rio Vista FFA; **Ervin Barrios**, Lemoore FFA; **Amanda Bassett**, McFarland FFA; **Erika M. Bayley**, Hayfork FFA; **Breanne Jenay Benson**, Winters FFA; **Danielle Bishop**, Hughson FFA; **Lauren Anne Bitters**, Ripon FFA; **Bryan Bobsin**, Templeton FFA; **Daniel R. Bocanegra**, Hanford FFA; **Luke R. Bourgault**, Paso Robles FFA; **Hannah Sarah Bousquet**, Vista FFA; **Martin Braga**, Las Plumas FFA; **Constance Marie Brasil**, Hanford FFA; **Manuela F. Brasil**, El Diamante FFA; **Tony Brazil**, Petaluma FFA; **Nicholas Brinlee**, Chowchilla FFA; **Colton James Brodt**, Ferndale High FFA; **Jennifer Buckner**, Salinas FFA;



## California

**Alfredo Aguilar**, Wasco FFA; **Ann Albaugh**, Anderson FFA; **Kayla Alberti**, Modesto FFA; **Kyle Amarel**, Sutter FFA; **Jacob Christian Andresen**, Fresno-Central FFA; **Juan Arias**, Fresno-Pershing FFA; **Andrea Atkins**, North High FFA; **Daniel Augusto**, Lemoore FFA; **Adam Avedikian**, Kingsburg FFA; **Gabriel Avila**, Laton FFA; **Ryan Avila**, Tulare Western FFA; **Mark**

**Roberto Buenrostro**, Pitman-Turlock FFA; **Aubrey Bull**, Lake Isabella-Kern Valley FFA; **Nicholas Burton**, Lakeside-El Capitan FFA; **Brandee Call**, Sierra FFA; **Kate Camozzi**, Petaluma FFA; **Kelley Camozzi**, Petaluma FFA; **Zachary Antone Canadas**, Hamilton City FFA; **Jessica Carlisle**, Dixon FFA; **Alyssa Carlson**, Kingsburg FFA; **Jared Carmo**, Elk Grove-Franklin FFA; **Tara Carter**, Corcoran FFA; **Jennifer Castro**, Foothill-Bakersfield FFA; **Scott D. Castro**,



# American Degree Recipients

Hanford FFA; **Suzanne Catania**, Firebaugh FFA; **Kathryn Cehrs**, Clovis FFA; **Joshua Cervantes**, Corcoran FFA; **Danielle Chambers**, Pioneer Valley FFA; **Mandy Chandler**, Elk Grove FFA; **Richard Chavez**, Farmersville FFA; **Kelsey Cheda**, Petaluma FFA; **Francisco Jesus Cisneros**, Wildomar-Elsinore Valley FFA; **Vernon Clark**, Bakersfield-Foothill FFA; **Michelle Coon**, Las Plumas FFA; **Stephanie Cooper**, Orland FFA; **Trevor Adkins Cozzitorto**, Fresno-Central FFA; **Johnny Cribbs**, Corcoran FFA; **Brandi Crivello**, Fortuna FFA; **Andrew Ryan Cummings**, Morro Bay FFA; **Meghan Curry**, Orland FFA; **Kyle Daley**, Las Plumas FFA; **Ashley Danel**, Pitman-Turlock FFA; **Denise Danielson**, Vista FFA; **Russell Davis**, El Centro-Southwest FFA; **Anthony Day**, Tulare Western FFA; **Katie Deesing**, Porterville FFA; **Blake DeJong**, Ripon FFA; **Jared Detherage**, Eureka FFA; **James Dewhirst**, Shafter FFA; **Vanessa Diaz**, Turlock-Pitman FFA; **Sarah Dick**, Littlerock FFA; **Jordan Dixon**, Grass Valley-Nevada Union FFA; **Ronald Dodson Jr.**, Tulare Union FFA; **Ashley Doyle**, Rubidoux FFA; **Ashley Marie Driver**, Arbuckle FFA; **Matthew Dufur**, Lemoore FFA; **Nicole**

**Duncan**, Ponderosa FFA; **Blake Dunlap**, Gridley FFA; **Corey Duysen**, Porterville FFA; **Eric Dye**, Corcoran FFA; **Kristen Marie Eachus**, Pioneer Valley FFA; **Marcus Wayne Eddings**, Clovis FFA; **Kiley Eicholtz**, Fortuna FFA; **Ashley Eldridge**, Galt FFA; **Brittney Espindula**, Hilmar FFA; **Shandon Fallert**, Monache FFA; **Travis Faria**, Hilmar FFA; **Ashley Farmer**, Chowchilla FFA; **Matt Faulkner**, Corcoran FFA; **Gregory Fernandes**, Tulare Union FFA; **Jacob Wyatt Ferrari**, Santa Maria FFA; **Breanne Filippini**, Gustine FFA; **Rick Filippini**, Gustine FFA; **Sarah Fiorini**, Turlock FFA; **Kevin Flaherty**, Corcoran FFA; **Nicole Flosi**, Fortuna FFA; **Stephanie Folks**, Lemoore FFA; **Breanna Friesen**, Kingsburg FFA; **Sienna Quinn Fry**, Arcata FFA; **Mallory Furtado**, San Luis Obispo FFA; **Nisa Gallichio**, Los Banos FFA; **Nicholas Gallington**, Norco FFA; **Briana Garcia**, Norte Vista FFA; **Edith Garcia**, Santa Maria FFA; **Jacob Gardener**, Nipomo FFA; **Jody Elizabeth-Estelle Gates**, Rio Vista FFA; **Saralyn Gay**, Lakeside-El Capitan FFA; **Danelle Gheen**, Fullerton-Sunny Hills FFA; **Samantha Gilbert**, Elk Grove FFA; **Alex Gisler**, Mariposa FFA; **Jolene Glenn**, Sacramento-Sheldon FFA; **Derek Gobel**, Monache FFA;

**Stephanie Goeb**, Elk Grove FFA; **Brier Camille Goetz**, Morro Bay FFA; **John Gomes**, Gustine FFA; **Larry Gomes**, Lemoore FFA; **Chris Gonzales**, Le Grand FFA; **Drew Goodrich**, Ripon FFA; **Danielle Spring Groteguth**, Elk Creek FFA; **Ryan Groves**, Porterville FFA; **Lauren Grumbles**, Kingsburg FFA; **Jose Gutierrez**, Wasco FFA; **Marisela Gutierrez**, Las Plumas FFA; **Juliette Hamilton**, Chowchilla FFA; **Tricia Harlan**, Riverdale FFA; **Elizabeth Harland**, Elk Grove FFA; **Keith Allen Harp**, Hanford FFA; **Kevin Michael Harp**, Hanford FFA; **Khristofer Hawkes**, Sebastopol FFA; **Jory Hawkins**, Norte Vista FFA; **Oliver Hayes**, Esparto FFA; **Emma Hazan**, Los Banos FFA; **Brenton Helm**, Kingsburg FFA; **Leah Herron**, Porterville FFA; **Megan Hess**, Petaluma FFA; **Britny Hewett**, Bakersfield FFA; **Megyn Aleysa Hildebrandt**, Sierra FFA; **Austin Hill**, Porterville FFA; **Fredrick Hill**, Citrus FFA; **James Cody Hill**, Caruthers FFA; **Amber Hoffeld**, St. Helena FFA; **Ashley R. Hollis**, Turlock FFA; **Trisha Hooten**, Pioneer Valley FFA; **Ashley Hop**, Templeton FFA; **Ryan Hunt Houtby**, Fortuna FFA; **Victoria Hovel**, Vista FFA; **Jorge Huizar**, Winters FFA; **Lauren Hunter**, Pine Valley-Mountain Empire FFA;

**Christina Jacobo-Cendejas**, Sacramento-Florin FFA; **Cody Jacobsen**, Le Grand FFA; **Kelli Jeppesen**, Shandon FFA; **Michelle K. Jimenez**, Soledad FFA; **Erica Johansen**, Fresno-Central FFA; **Josh Johnson**, Carpinteria FFA; **Kayla Johnson**, Pitman-Turlock FFA; **Andrew Jones**, McFarland FFA; **David Jones**, Hilmar FFA; **Leslee Kehn**, Clovis FFA; **Kody Kester**, Shandon FFA; **Trevor Kilgore**, Colusa FFA; **Brian Kim**, Fullerton-Sunny Hills FFA; **Joseph Kirkham**, Fresno-Pershing FFA; **Jace Knight**, Hamilton City FFA; **Kandace Kooyman**, Fallbrook FFA; **Ashley Krintz**, Winters FFA; **Dee Ann Kroeker**, Shafter FFA; **Carly Ladrigan**, Porterville FFA; **Alana Laird**, Sanger FFA; **Christopher Lampley**, Ceres FFA; **Kelsey Landreth-Maben**, Bret Harte FFA; **Cameron Lange**, Fresno-Central FFA; **Tiffany Larsen**, Lompoc FFA; **Chelsi**



**Olivia Larson**, Chowchilla FFA; **Brian Leavitt**, Fresno-Central FFA; **Rachele Cathleen Lema**, Ferndale High FFA; **Alyssa Leoni**, Hanford FFA; **Scott Lewis**, East Union FFA; **Haleigh Lichtenberg**, Apple Valley FFA; **Meghan Loper**, Lemoore FFA; **Alisha Lopez**, Pioneer Valley FFA; **Monica Ochoa Lopez**, Mendota FFA; **Robert Lopez-Calvert**, Fresno-Central FFA; **Thomas Lovelady**, Madera FFA; **KC Loyd**, Riverdale FFA; **Josh Luis**, Ripon FFA; **Jessica Macedo**, Tulare Western FFA; **Kristina MacPherson**, Middletown FFA; **Juan Manzano**, Woodlake FFA; **Kelsey Marie Markus**, Bret Harte FFA; **Richard Marrero**, Porterville FFA; **Michael Martin**, Willows FFA; **Marco Martinez**, Wasco FFA; **Cody Mason**, Porterville FFA; **Jerad Mattingly**, Pine Valley-Mountain Empire FFA; **Natalie A. Mattos**, Hanford FFA; **Cinda Mattrocce**, Madera FFA; **Laura McFadden**, Elk Grove FFA; **Mark McGregor**, Porterville FFA; **Wyatt McKean**, Riverdale FFA; **Kirsten Mecchi**, Mariposa FFA; **Cristian Medel**, Carpinteria FFA; **Karlene La-Salete Mello**, Gustine FFA; **Travis Melton**, North High FFA; **Heather Meyers**, Grass Valley-Nevada Union FFA; **Zeb Middleton**, Dixon FFA; **Matt Miller**, Tracy FFA; **Antonio Mireles**, King City FFA; **Monica Moules**, Turlock FFA; **Brock Neil**, Winters FFA; **Kory A. Nieuwkoop**, Chowchilla FFA; **Lailand Oberschulte**, St. Helena FFA; **Jordan Okland**, Kingsburg FFA; **Dustin Oliveira**, Gustine FFA; **Joseph Olivera**, Pioneer Valley FFA; **Eric Oneal**, Porterville FFA; **Kyle Ordway**, Bakersfield FFA; **Brandon Pacheco**, Hanford FFA; **Drew Eric Palacio**, Quartz Hill FFA; **Noelle Penner**, Shafter FFA; **Karla Anne Caoilfionn Piazza**, Santa Rosa FFA; **Dirk L. Piersma**, Hilmar FFA; **Juan Pina**, Laton FFA; **Paulina Pinheiro**, Morgan Hill FFA; **John Michael Plass**, Tulalake FFA; **Daniel Ramos**, Porterville FFA; **Karla Rascon-Garcia**, Tulalake FFA; **Robert Razzano**, Elk Grove FFA; **Jennifer Lillian Recht**, Anza-Hamilton FFA; **Amber Reed**, Fortuna FFA; **Alicia Regusci**, St. Helena FFA; **David Rehse**, Orland FFA; **Zack Reinstein**, Tracy FFA; **Daniel Kenneth Reis**, Morro Bay FFA; **Sean Reyes**, Arbuckle FFA; **Sarah Richter**, Kern Valley FFA; **Christopher Rippee**, Madera FFA;





# American Degree Recipients



Jennifer Suzanne Rippert, Bret Harte FFA; Sara Risvold, Porterville FFA; Malarie Robins, Bakersfield-Liberty FFA; Jacinta M. Rocha, Chowchilla FFA; Jessica Rocha, Hilmar FFA; Julie Rose, Hanford FFA; Elizabeth Ruiz, Las Plumas FFA; James Austin Ryan III, Righetti FFA; Kathryn Salfen, Galt FFA; Jessica

Johnny Shubin, Clovis FFA; Cristina M. Silva, Hanford FFA; Scott Silva, Kingsburg FFA; Tommy Silva, Lompoc FFA; Jared Silveira, Hanford FFA; Jared A. Sisneroz, Hanford FFA; Joshua Smalling, Monache FFA; Michael Smaystria, Winters FFA; Aaron Smith, Hamilton City FFA; Kaleb

Devon Smith, Kingsburg FFA; Laurana Snyder, Arbuckle FFA; Juan Solis, Caruthers FFA; Jared A. Souza, Hanford FFA; Haileigh Stainbrook, Sanger FFA; Kayla Starbuck, Lompoc FFA; Janae Steels, Pioneer Valley FFA; Jackie Lynn Stiefel, Las Plumas FFA; Michelle Kaylyn Stuyt, Escalon FFA; Erin Sumler, Rubidoux FFA; Tim Sundahl, Las Plumas FFA; Kellie Nicole Syfan, Morro Bay FFA; Cara Taff, Reedley FFA; Kristina Marie Clare Tatom, Chowchilla FFA; Albano Tavares, Lemoore FFA; Jessica Laurel Taylor, Bret Harte FFA; Valerie Taylor, Stockdale FFA; Caitlyn Teese, Tracy FFA; Melody Terzian, Sanger FFA; Matt Thiel, Le Grand FFA; Krystal Thomas, San Marcos FFA; Alex Thomson, Winters FFA; Ashley Travis, North High FFA; Tiffany Trexler, King City FFA; Kate Tschanner, Lodi No. 1 FFA; Sarah Tuttle, Porterville FFA; Tara M. Urbano, Reedley FFA; Jesus Urueta, Kingsbury FFA; Jill Usher, Lompoc FFA; Andrew P. Varga, Kern Valley FFA; Steven Velazquez, Arbuckle FFA; Jose Vera, Farmersville FFA; Christopher Verhaege, Hanford FFA; Robert Victor, Morro Bay FFA; Jake Vonic, Norco FFA; Brian Vorhis, Anderson FFA; Josh Walker, Corcoran FFA; Patricia Walker, Salinas FFA; Brittany Lee Walls, Corcoran FFA; Alexandria Wara, Madera FFA; Justin Ward, Lakeside-El Capitan FFA; Dustyn White, Porterville FFA; Leonard Thomas Will, Tulalake FFA; Kendra Lynn Willet, Madera FFA; Ashley Lorraine Williams, Rio Vista FFA; Nathan Williams, Kingsburg FFA; Samantha Williams, Bakersfield FFA; Patrick Joseph William Willoughby, Nipomo FFA; Sarah Wilson, Lemoore FFA; Thomas Wortman, Gustine FFA; Willie Wright, Fresno-Central FFA; Anthony Xavier, Hilmar FFA; Alyssa Zayas, Elk Grove FFA; Melissa Zimmer, Pitman-Turlock FFA; Arkansas -

Beth Ann J. Bills, Prairie Grove FFA; Zachary Charles Coffman, Ola FFA; Whitney Jewell Downum, Springdale FFA; Christopher Hunt, Paragould FFA; Travis Houston Key, Gravette FFA; Mandy Lane Lenderman, Brookland FFA; Peyton Mullins, England FFA; Dustin C. Shannon, Rural Special FFA; Andrew Clayton Stewart, Rural Special FFA; Arizona - 2

Andrew J. Acedo, Amphitheater FFA; Lauren Anne Beavers, Mountain View FFA; Mallory Christen Cooney, Millennium FFA; Armando Esquivel, Basha FFA; Tosha Freytag, Yuma FFA; Amy Haley, Coolidge FFA; Ashley



Dawn Henry, Coolidge FFA; Holly Hogue, Willcox FFA; Jason Hutchison, Amphitheater FFA; Kassandra Kinney, Buckeye Union FFA; Mead Lawson, Millennium FFA; Courtney Anne Madden, Red Mountain FFA; Charles McHugh, Coolidge FFA; Coty E. McKenzie, Flowing Wells FFA; Kade McKinney, Safford FFA; Sondra Nusz, Peoria FFA; Jake Rovey, Buckeye Union FFA; Kimberly Tritz, Chino Valley FFA; Josh Van Well, Mingus Union FFA; Mike Wear, Willcox FFA; Hunter Williams, Basha FFA; Amanda Deeann Zamudio, Benson FFA

## Alabama

Caleb Colquitt, Marbury FFA; Benjamin Jared Etness, Cottonwood FFA; Stephen Edward Noblett, Eufaula FFA; Randa R. Owen, Fort Payne FFA

## 2006 American Degree recipient walking across stage in 2008

### Idaho

Blake Loveland; Cambridge FFA

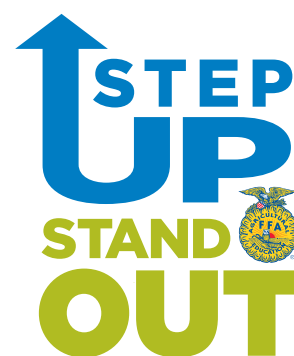
## 2007 American Degree recipient receiving degree in 2008

### Idaho

Matthew Brent McKee, Cambridge FFA

### Wisconsin

Gary R. Rieth, Oconto Falls FFA



81st NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION  
October 22-25, 2008

# Honary American Degree Recipients



**Wyoming:** Dale Wille

**Wisconsin:** Joseph Peplinski

**West Virginia:** Ronald H. Hudson Jr., Jason Erik Hughes, Robert J. Morris

**Washington:** Lee A. Sederburg

**Virginia:** Dr. Thomas Broyles, Darryl Holland, Dwight Houff, E. Todd Mills, George Nolen, Tony Rudolph

**Vermont:** James Messier

**Texas:** Mark Arnold, Paul Casey, Jim Cooper, Corgie Fisher, Stephen C. Hall, Warren D. Maher, Brett L. Wright

**Tennessee:** Thomas E. Brewer, Irma Page, Roger Roehrig, Norma Stone, John Watson

**South Dakota:** Cory Seppmann

**South Carolina:** Michael A. Haynes, Alton B. Jeffords, Carlin C. Munnerlyn, Hugh Ervin Weathers, Dr. Curtis White

**Oregon:** Tom Hall, Roy Whitman

**Oklahoma:** Marty Coulson, Jayne Craig, Mike Craig, David Dorrell, Roger Fent, Jeremy J. Frye, Roger Luke, Don Roberts, Walt Taylor

**Ohio:** John Robert Barker, Ralph Coffman, Paul Heilman, Timothy Niemeyer, George Skidmore, Dave Snyder

**North Dakota:** Beth Bakke Stenehjem, Jeffrey R. Missling, Daniel Stave

**North Carolina:** Dr. Kenneth Esbenshade, Michael A. Johnson, Keith D. Oakley, Douglas Eugene Prevette, James Roberts, Dr. Johnny C. Wynne

**New Mexico:** Rob Atchley, State Representative Joni Marie Gutierrez, State Senator Carroll H. Leavell

**New Jersey:** Dr. Robert M. Goodman, Natalie Huebler, Edward V. Lipman Jr.

**Nebraska:** Mark J. Schroeder

**National Staff:** Dr. John Andrew Ackley, John Allenbach, Ronnie Ansley, Honorable Gregory A. Ballard, Doug Bennett, Debra P. Brookhart, Harold Brown, Ralph Burchfield, Brenda L. Burk, Keith Cox, Dustin DeVries, Thomas Dorr, Mike Eade, Tracie Egger, Dawn E. Emery, Rick Fuson, Robert Gordon, Eldon Gould, Richard Henderson, Donna Hill, Mike Honeycutt, Dr. Norman Hopper, Cindy Hoye, Dr. Nancy A. Irlbeck, Robert Jones, Glen L. Keppy, David Kercheval, Bruce Knight, Don Koloski, Arlen Lancaster, Teresa Lasseter, Fred Laughlin, Gary Mast, Jame Mohler, Allen Montgomery, Steven Murphy, Tina Paris, Steve Pruitt, Mark Rey, Jerry R. Rose, Ellen Saul, Ed Schafer, Brad Schu, Troy Selman, Dawn Marie Sharp, Raymond Simon, Randy Smith, Robert M. Smith, Margaret Spellings, Billy Sumrall, Don Villwock, Greg Webb, Edward J. Zurga Jr.

**Montana:** Gary Olsen

**Missouri:** Jim G. Cassity, Joyce Cutright, Lisa A. Evans, Joyce Sayre, Tony Stafford

**Mississippi:** Sammy Blossom, Shirley Martin, CR Stuckey Jr., Dr. Kirk A Swartzel, Vance H. Watson

**Minnesota:** Dennis Goehring, Pete Smith, Gary Thome

**Michigan:** Jonathan Althouse, Jeffrey D. Armstrong, Dr. David Douches, Dr. John Partridge, Doug Pennington, Charles Scovill

**Maryland:** Bobby Black, Bess Gladhill, Frank Gladhill



**Louisiana:** Benny Francis Bell, Willie F. Cooper

**Kentucky:** William Wallace Evans, Anthony Strong, Aaron R. Tucker, Sherman S. Walker

**Kansas:** Steven E. Buss, Jerry W. Schmidt

**Iowa:** Mark Pearson

**Indiana:** Dr. John E. McKinney

**Illinois:** Dr. Jeffrey Alan Wood

**Georgia:** Dale Aldridge, State Representative Jon Burns, State Representative Tom Dickson, Doyle Floyd, Virgil Lovell, Nita McLeod, Sue Smith, Todd Teasley

**Florida:** Senator Dave Aronberg, Ben Bolusky, Perry Byars, Thomas Carte, James Ed Dillard, Lucy D. Hadi, John L. Hughes, Merry Mot

**Connecticut:** Robert John Klancko, Bruce W. Silva

**California:** Mark E. Bender, Kelly Bianchi, Sandra Dale, William J. Davis, Terry Leach, Brent Newport, John Pitter

**Arkansas:** Representative Marion Berry, Andrew "Andy" Guffey, Senator Blanche L. Lincoln, Stanley Reed

**Arizona:** Dr. Vaughn E. Croft, Kevin Rogers

**Alaska:** Carol Kenley

**Alabama:** R. Gary Ayccock

## National Officer Parents

Shelia Boettcher, Jari Boettcher, Shelly Kinne, Keith Kinne, Paula Parker, Kipp Parker, Shirley Revels, Mike Revels, Judy Sullivan, Ron Sullivan, Susan Tenbarger, Mark Tenbarger

## Star Finalist Parents

Cindy Adams, Howard Adams, Kris Biel, Gene Biel, Jo Bruner, Daniel Bruner, Dennise Foertsch, Dennis Foertsch, Judy Hanstedt, Terry Hanstedt, Sherry A. Heishman, Allen D. Heishman, Gloria Hentges, Bill Hentges, Gwen Hildreth, Rickey Hildreth, Brenda Lange, Brian Lange, Melissa Lowrey, David Lowrey, Cynthia Ohlde, Steve Ohlde, Linda Peterson, Tim Peterson, Becky Schnaithman, Lee Schnaithman, Janet Sheller, Steven Sheller, Cheryl Smith, Anthony Smith, Audre Sorenson, Curtis Sorenson





# FFA Chapters Win Top Honor

**On Oct. 23 at the 81st National FFA Convention, four chapters were honored at the 81st National FFA Convention.**

Sponsored by Toyota as a special project of the National FFA Foundation, the Models of Innovation award honors chapters who have made significant accomplishments throughout the year.

## Chapter Development

Members of the **Switzerland County FFA Chapter in Vevay, Ind.**, played host to students from Brazil during a one-week exchange program coordinated with the local farm bureau. In an effort to learn more about international agriculture, four FFA members applied to serve as host families. Once they were accepted, the entire chapter began preparing for the visits by learning about Brazilian culture. The well-prepared FFA members were then able to maximize their experience, gaining a deeper understanding of international agriculture, economics and education.

Chapter members developed a sense of community through their work, partnering with a local food pantry and hosting the event Project Homelessness. More than 4,600 canned items were collected for the project.

## Community Development

**Norris FFA Chapter of Firth, Neb.**, understands the importance of developing students into responsible and active citizens for their communities. To raise public awareness of FFA and unite the school with the community, Norris FFA members created a 70-acre outdoor learning lab. First, the chapter chose the school's cross-country field as a natural



*Norris FFA Chapter of Firth, Neb.*

site for planting. Then, members secured thousands of dollars in donations ranging from seed to the use of tilling equipment. Five separate ecosystems were eventually planted for research, including a switchgrass biofuels area. Members shared their work through local newspaper articles and a featured story in National Pheasants Forever magazine.

Norris FFA members also value service within their community. To create agricultural awareness for youth and adults, the chapter organized a petting zoo at the 2007 Dairy Fun Day. Members brought animals ranging from baby chicks to pigmy goats. More than 2,000 children and adults visited the petting zoo.

To further improve the welfare of their community, Norris FFA members also assisted an ailing local vineyard owner. They helped prune and harvest his fruit and learned the proper techniques for successful viticulture.

## Student Development

Twenty percent of the **Ponchatoula FFA members in Ponchatoula, La.**, have special needs, so the chapter advisors worked hard to provide members the opportunity to develop successful supervised agricultural experience programs. The chapter launched a partner-based program where FFA members of all abilities care for and train therapy dogs. They further expanded the program to include producing dog treats. The Special Treats Company now markets their products online and has allowed members to purchase their own FFA jackets.

Ponchatoula FFA developed an Agriscience Mentoring Program that approximately 70 percent of the chapter's members participated. Members are matched with agriscience professionals working in eight different career areas. The students experienced activities such as helping raise a baby



## Chapter Winners continued



*Norris FFA Chapter of Firth, Neb.*

kangaroo, conducting research on cypress trees, and assisting in propagating plant species for wetland restoration.

## Outstanding Middle School

The **Fort White Middle School FFA Chapter in Fort White, Fla.**, practices servant citizenship through its chapter's Florida Outdoor Adventures program. All members participated in five workshops focusing on hiking, boating, hunting and archery under the mentorship of experienced professionals. These workshops helped the members to better serve their community by learning the proper safety techniques to receive state certification.

The chapter has also worked to improve the community's river health by monthly testing for nitrates in an area river and filing the reports with the local water management district. The chapter also assisted with the clean up efforts of the river by building a screen to prevent garbage from flowing downstream.

Their efforts do not stop there. The chapter most recently collected donations and assembled 75 toiletry bags for individuals in need. The bags were given to a local center for distribution.



*Fort White Middle School FFA Chapter in Fort White, Fla.*



# VIP Citation

**Thirteen individuals were selected this year by the National FFA Organization to receive a special VIP Citation.**

The VIP Citations recognizes individuals for making significant contributions to agricultural science education. It is one of the most prestigious awards a person may receive for supporting FFA and its programs. Those selected were honored during an onstage presentation at the 81st National FFA Convention. Awards such as the VIP Citation recognize that FFA contributes to the mission of success by impacting students through the hard work and cooperation of dedicated individuals. Without such strong and outstanding commitment, FFA would not be able to help build strong individuals of character in their members, who in turn build strong families, communities and industries.

## Those who were selected include:

**Dr. Harry N. Boone, Jr.**, of Morgantown, W. Va. Dr. Boone, currently an associate professor of agriculture and extension education at West Virginia University (WVU), has contributed greatly to agricultural education. Not only has he served as an agricultural education teacher, he has also served as a results coordinator for the West Virginia FFA career development events; an adult consultant to the national FFA Officer Nominating committee from 2002-04; and coordinates the national officer candidate selection for the state of West Virginia. He also maintains the website for the agricultural education department at WVU.

**Dr. Ben Byler** of Cookeville, Tenn, is a professor of agricultural education at Tennessee Tech. University. He has made numerous contributions affecting all



aspects of agricultural education and FFA programs. His contributions span over 45 years, during which time he has provided leadership in curricular revitalization for high school agricultural education programs. He has also provided leadership in planning, implementing and evaluation of in-service training for teachers; and local, district, state and national FFA Career Development Events.

**D. Gary Farmer** of Carnesville, Ga., began his career in agricultural education as a teacher of agriculture at Banks County High School. Soon, he served on the state staff in the state of Georgia, serving as an area adult teacher, and later as regional coordinator for agricultural education in North Georgia. Under his leadership, FFA chapters in north Georgia experienced tremendous growth and participation. He was also instrumental in the process of updating and revising the curriculum for agricultural education in Georgia and keeping it on the leading edge.

**Ron Grimes** of Lavalette, W. Va., has dedicated nearly all of his life to some aspect of career and technical education. He was an agriculture teacher for more than six years, before joining the West Virginia Department of Education. He is currently serving as director of

Cedar Lakes Conference center. He continues to challenge people to not be content with the status quo and to strive for excellence in any of life's ventures.

**Troy R. Justesen** of Arlington, Va., the assistant secretary in the office of vocation and adult education, has constantly supported the vision of agricultural education and FFA by staying highly motivated and supportive of the endeavors at the local, state and national levels. He's a strong advocate for agricultural education and FFA within the leadership of the U.S. Department of Education. He has worked hard to involve and engage Secretary Spellings through meetings with the national FFA officers and working with her to host FFA state officers during the State Presidents' Conference in the summer.

**John Leeman**, of Old Hickory, Tenn., retired from the state council for career and technical education in February with more than 40 years in education professions. During his tenure, he changed state policy to align the state FFA Advisor's position with the FFA Constitution. He also drafted a policy to allow Tennessee agriculture teachers to be employed on 12-month contracts.

**Jack Pitzer** of Alexandria, Va., has a history steeped in tradition of agricultural

## VIPs continued



education. He has been a long time friend and supporter of the National FFA organization, and since 1991 has served as the Career Show manager. He has grown exhibitor revenues more than 300 percent to and established and grew the Hall of States to showcase their agricultural education.

**William Ransom** of Old Forge, N.Y., has assumed numerous roles in the FFA organization, beginning with that of member more than 50 years ago. But it's his love of teaching that he seems to share with all. During his 30-year teaching career, he inspired 8 students to pursue careers in agriculture education. He transformed a 1 teacher program into a 4 teacher department. Following his retirement, he volunteered to recruit students for Cornell University's Teacher Education Program, which resulted in an increase in enrollment and more high school agriculture teachers.

**O. Beverly Roller** of Weyers Cave, Va., has been instrumental in the promotion



of the FFA association in Virginia. He has not only been an FFA member, but also served as an agricultural education teacher, state and national FFA officers, state FFA supervisor, a Virginia delegate and has served as a professional in the agricultural industry. His focus is always on FFA, agriculture, community service and young people.

**Glenn Stith** of St. Louis, Mo., regional vice president for Seminis Seeds, has served on the National FFA Sponsors' Board, bringing industry recognition to the organization. Stith not only has raised money and awareness for the organization, but also helped establish the first FFA chapter in the inner-city of St. Louis, Clyde C. Miller.

**Dr. James Tollett** of Magnolia, Ark., head of the agriculture department at Southern Arkansas University, spent 6 years in agriculture and toxicology research and development management throughout the U.S., Pacific, Mexico and Canada regions for the Dow Chemical Company



of Midland, Mich. Upon retirement, he was appointed professor and chair of the school of technology at Northeast Community College, Mt. Pleasant, Texas. He's now at Southern Arkansas University.

**Dale Turner** of Oklahoma City, Okla., serves as a state representative, has worked tirelessly with agricultural education teachers in Oklahoma to improve funding for agricultural education. With his leadership, specific career technical legislative appropriations for agricultural education programs increase. Turner also taught agricultural education for 25 years.

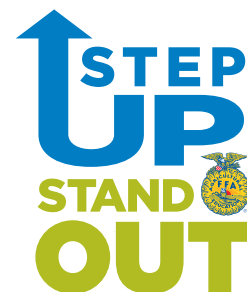
**Craig Wiget** of Columbus, Ohio, has spent more than 35 years in agricultural education, teaching and serving as a consultant to the Ohio Department of Education. He has been instrumental in implementing new initiatives throughout the state of Ohio.





# 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 81 years because of this remarkable dedication. The award was presented onstage at the 81st National FFA Convention. Those organizations who received the honor include: RFD-TV in Nashville, Tenn.; the National Pork Board in Des Moines, Iowa; and the Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation in Columbia, Tenn.



Beginning in the late 1980s, **RFD-TV** began donating production services and air time to broadcast general sessions of the national FFA convention. For the past five years, RFD-TV has helped produce and air the monthly television show "FFA Today!" Thanks to their generous support, FFA has spotlighted members and chapter stories from across the country and has shared the excitement of the national FFA convention with viewers nationwide.



For the past 75 years, the **Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation** has been the second oldest sponsor for the Tennessee FFA Association and is the largest state farm bureau in the country. They provide leadership and agriculture issue training and serve as a resource for state FFA officers and local advisors. They have lobbied on behalf of FFA to provide agriculture teachers 12 months of pay and have helped add money to the state budget to provide educational opportunities for FFA members.

The **National Pork Board** has a long record of supporting agricultural education and FFA. It was one of the first organizations to invest resources in the development of online instructional materials for teachers. Through their support, the Team Ag Ed Learning Center was created. Not only are they a partner of the LifeKnowledge program, they are currently funding the exploratory phase of a middle school agricultural science/literacy curriculum that will help students understand the relationship between food, agriculture, science and careers.





# H.O. Sargent Diversity



**Robert Flores** received the H.O. Sargent Community Leader Award at the 81st National FFA Convention. The award was presented during an onstage ceremony on Friday, Oct. 24. The honor recognizes citizens who have advocated diversity through agriculture in their communities.

Flores is a professor and the head of the Agricultural Education and Communications Department at California Polytechnic State University. He annually leads students, professors and staff in conducting the "26 Hours" program, which encourages high school students to consider pursuing higher education in an agricultural related field. Flores also serves on the board of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Fund and is an advisor to MANNRS, a national collegiate society that promotes academic and professional advancement by empowering minorities in agriculture, natural resources and related sciences.

The H.O. Sargent Community Leader Award was originally given by the New Farmers of America (NFA), a former organization for African-American agriculture students, before NFA incorporated into FFA in 1965. This award, resurrected in 1995, will continue as an annual recognition program.



**Rose Jeffries**, a member of the Fairbanks FFA Chapter in Alaska, received the H.O. Sargent Diversity Award at the 81st National FFA Convention on Oct. 24.

The award recognizes an FFA member who develops and/or actively supports ways to reach underrepresented individuals or groups who have not been able to fully enjoy the benefits of agricultural education and FFA activities. Each of the three remaining finalists received a plaque and onstage recognition during the convention.

Jeffries has been an inspiration to Fairbanks Resource Agency for the past 11 years. She works with students with special needs and has helped facilitate social dances and arrange trips to the park and a local greenhouse for the students. Through her leadership, many of her fellow chapter members help at the agency. Jeffries works hard to bridge the gap between teens in the community and in the program to promote the idea that through our diversity, there is strength and understanding to build a better community for all to share.

The H.O. Sargent Award was originally given by the New Farmers of America (NFA), the former organization for African-American agriculture students. In 1965, the NFA was incorporated into the FFA. This award, renewed in 1995, will continue as an annual recognition program. All applicants have been involved with agricultural education and have implemented programs to promote agricultural diversity.



**Tate Forbush**, an agriculture teacher at Byron High School in Byron, Mich., was awarded the teacher H.O. Sargent Diversity award on Oct. 24 and the 81st National FFA Convention.

The award recognizes an FFA teacher who develops and/or actively supports ways to reach underrepresented individuals or groups who have not been able to fully enjoy the benefits of agricultural education and FFA activities. The other remaining finalist received a plaque and onstage recognition during the convention.

Forbush set out to bring different groups together in his efforts as an educator. Through his chapter's nursing home visits, PALS (Partners in Active Learning Support) mentoring program and urban chapter exchange program, Forbush helped make diversity a reality.

The H.O. Sargent Award was originally given by the New Farmers of America (NFA), the former organization for African-American agriculture students. In 1965, the NFA was incorporated into the FFA. This award, renewed in 1995, will continue as an annual recognition program. All applicants have been involved with agricultural education and have implemented programs to promote agricultural diversity.



# Band and Chorus Participants

## BAND

**Wyoming:** Russell Goff

**West Virginia:** Mason Bolen

**Wisconsin:** Carolyn Horst, Stacey Kunde, Samantha Loehr, Danielle Plocar

**Washington:** Joseph Chlebowski, Virginia: Tori Avvenire, Colleen Bowers, Jennifer Defibaugh

**Texas:** Austin Baxley, Peyton Gilbert, Joanna Holland, Mark Landry, Ethan Smathers, Austin Webster, Amber Wells, Garrett Williamson, James Wilson, Haley Word

**South Dakota:** Raymond Anderson, Beau Bartscher, Rebecca Naasz

**Rhode Island:** Lauren Woloohojian

**Pennsylvania:** Dana Brown

**Pennsylvania:** Kerri Wickard

**Oregon:** Blake Burlison, Mariah Daniels, Alex Morissey, Carrie Ward

**Oklahoma:** Arthur Bohlmann, Joshua Conaway, Rebecca Park, Ashley Slater, Megan Wells

**Ohio:** Jason Hall, Michael Hannewald, Eric Miller, Michael Moore

**New Mexico:** Christopher Worley

**New Hampshire:** Cody Pollari

**Nebraska:** Kendra Cadwallader, Kayla Korb, Jacob Lamplot, Megan Miller, Sarah Schroder

**North Dakota:** Laura Juelfs

**Montana:** Lauren Klempel, Laurel Myers, Clancy Theade

**Missouri:** Nicole Christen, Christopher Higgins, Kimberly Meng, Josh Meranda, Laura Neislein, Adam Schroder, Sarah Silkwood, Jessica Stokes, Rebecca Stokes, Genie Ward, Miles Weimer

**Michigan:** Michael Earle, Katelyn Howell, Samantha Jordan, Dena Letot, Kyle Leto

**Louisiana:** Caitlyn Anderson, Amber Sibley

**Kentucky:** Alexander Tingle, Andrew Wooldridge

**Kansas:** Peter Kipp

**Indiana:** Lyle Burkhalter, Jackson Hubbell, Robyn Sturgeon, Christopher Weinard

**Illinois:** Jena Ferguson, Darren Jarboe, Matthew Nordman

**Iowa:** Tucker Brinkman, Tessa Callender, Blake Holthaus, Britni Larabee

**Georgia:** Andrew Bishop, Jakob Williams

**Colorado:** Gwendolyn Mclrvn

**California:** Emily Cehrs, Nicole Rosales

## CHORUS

**Wisconsin:** Clara Byom, Melissa Hoppe

**Utah:** Christopher Cook, Dillan Gardner, April Miller

**Texas:** Jeryn Crabb, MacKenzie Fletcher, Cyan Scott

**Tennessee:** Sarah/Caitlyn Wilson

**South Dakota:** Kala Carpenter

**South Carolina:** Dwayne Gadson

**Pennsylvania:** Jerikah Hite

**Oklahoma:** Michael

Bouziden, Kassandra Chartier, Sadie Jones, Josie Pauls, Tyler Price, Kolby Tebow

**Ohio:** Amy Frost, Amber Hoffman, James Wood

**New York:** Christina Neist, Morgan Shaver, Cassandra Stoodley

**Nebraska:** Megan Bauerle, Michael Beltz, Weston Gerlach, Bradley Goodner, Preston Hild, James Houck, Megan Kneifl, Karisa Lamle, Chari Mikkelsen, Lisa Niedermeyer, JaCee

Pilkington, Hailey Schmer, Justin Slafter

**North Dakota:** Will Feldman, Rachel Lasher, Emily Lasher

**Montana:** Sarah Combs, Thomas Flanagan, Naomi Jensen, Joel Johnston, Kevin Murnin, Sarah Ralls, Marleigh Senner

**Mississippi:** Jonathan Morris

**Missouri:** Amber Johnson, Keith Markway, Kylie Mattke, Robert McCarrick, Tyler Moss, Patrick Quade, Alan Schieber, Kristi Sons, Isaiah Swoboda, Jordan Taylor, Tyler Tvrdy

**Minnesota:** Melissa Noerenberg, Shane Roper

**Michigan:** Kaitlynn Kensington, Jennifer LaJoye, Chelsea LaJoye, Lacey Parks, Erin Powley

**Maryland:** Karen Crum

**Kansas:** William Trieb

**Indiana:** Katie Demuth

**Illinois:** Marissa Jones, Abby McCartney, Benjamin McDonald, Mark McKown, Ethan Paulsen, John Roskamp, Sarah Ziegler

**Iowa:** Sarah Brandt, Jessica Clark, Jarrett Johnson, Molly Tullis

**Delaware:** Deanna Edwards

**Colorado:** Lindsay Bowman, Jessica Pavlu

**Arkansas:** Alysia Coles



# Delegates

**Alaska:** Taylor Berberich, Rachel Kenley

**Alabama:** Wiley Bailey, Kristen Bernard, Clifford Brown, Raven Buchanan, Kacey Colquitt, McKenzie Crabtree, Brandy Feltman, Scottie Hunter, Zachary Jones, Anna Leigh Peek, Michelle Vasbinder

**Arkansas:** John Bearden, Ryan Blackwell, Amy Brumitt, Katie Good, Hayley Hogan, Cameron Jernigan, Katlynn Jernigan, Katie McGehee, AR Justin Wiedowe, AR Matt Wise

**Airzona:** Ryan Klenke, Tyler Massey, Cole McGuire, Paula Raney, Chelsea Schlittenhart, Melissa Turner

**California:** Ashtin Alves, Erica Bainchi, Katie Bielen, Graham Blagg, Adrienne Bradley, Jessica Briggs, Rosebud Brumley, Aubrey Bull, Merilynne Burt, Kyle Caetano, Erika Carley, Denette Clark, Vernon Clark, Amy Crockett, Robin Dick, Sam Doty, Jacquelynne Garcia, Xavier Garcia, Ben Granholm, Benjamin Gray, Alexis Harmening, Cassey Imhoof, Michelle Jimenez, David Jones, Shelbi Kautz, Karly Koontz, Gary Lowery, Margery Magill, Karess Mann, Martha Marin, Nicole Maul, Ryan McCoon, Kristyn McQueen, Brad Mendes, Tatiana Prestininzi, Jennah Proxmire, Levy Randolph, Marlene Romero, Valerie Rosen, Drew Sallee, Annie Sanchez, Alyssa Sankey, Kaylyn Schiber, Analiese Scrivano, Mikaela Serafin, Jessica Sidney, Kristen Steves, Sierra Sutherland, John Traini, Kate Tschanner, Laura White

**Colorado:** Danica Baker, Andy Bartlett, Michelle Koroshetz, Jared Oestman, Logan Wilkins

**Connecticut:** Andrea Cassella, Emily Kalenauskas, Alex Tremblay

**Delaware:** Samantha Burton, Justin Conrad, Brittany Gardner

**Florida:** Carly Barnes, Adrienne Boyette, Jordan Fairfield, Jamie Fussell, Chanse Huggins, Amy Johnson, Will Lenoard, Andy Mason, Caitlyn Prichard, Marshal Sewell, David Swartzfager, Brittani Ward, Hilary Webb

**Georgia:** Caroline Black, Kellie Brown, Kaitlyn Butler, Junior Chapman, Bo Corbett, Jarrod Creasy, Jamison Cruce, Sara

Ervin, Colton Farrow, Devin Gibbs, Justin Gilliard, Whitney Mitchell, Jessica Padgett, Haleigh Paulsen, Felipe Pedraza, Anna Savelle, Brittany Smith, Seth Stowers, Cain Thurmond, Thomas Turcotte, Tabitha Williford, Jared Wozny, Casey Wyman

**Hawaii:** Kourtney Kaaihue, Blake Dixon

**Iowa:** Ryan Augustine, Brent Doese, Michael Dolch, Dan Hansen, Dakota Hoben, Megan Kregel, Allyson Ladd, Betsy Pearson, Austin Willer

**Idaho:** Laura Ann Clark, Kelsey Day, Kristin Myers, Stephen Parrott, Whitney Tickett

**Illinois:** Ben Arteman, Austin Ashby, Caroline Bremer, Amie Burke, Trenton Gray, Andrew Heavner, Adam Herwig, Kiersten Kasey, Annie Larson, Kayla Meyer, Ellen Reeder, Chea Reeves, Jacob Snook, Thomas Marten, Clay Zwilling

**Indiana:** Drake Babcock, Ann Bechman, Laura Donaldson, Laney Kratz, Emilie Kuhn, Travis Martin, Justin Orme, Kenny Schilling, Laura Stockwell

**Kansas:** Shane Blaes, Jennifer Butler, Annarose Hart, Brynn Nulik, Kathy Sexton, Emily Surdez

**Kentucky:** Derek Adams, Sarah Boden, Ashlee Castle, Ethan Glidewell, Keitha Henderson, Dustin Johnson, Shelby Leach, Megan McKinney, Zack Miller, T.J. Morrison, Quint Pottinger, Leslie Reynolds, James Sledd

**Louisiana:** David Bailey, Lauren Beard, Joe Bell, Ethan Dunn, Trace Harris, Caitlin Lambert, Cody Quebedeaux, Kadie Sewell, Jonathan Shoemaker

**Massachusetts:** Leah Connor, Christopher Grant, Justin Lawrence

**Maryland:** Richard Stonebraker, Carrie Wivell

**Maine:** Kristen Boxwell, Dana Morrell

**Michigan:** Dustin Baker, Andrea Bommarito, Ryan Green, Jillian Holdwick, Clint Steketee, Julia Voelker



**Minnesota:** Rachael Dahlman, Caitlin Kasper, Justin Krell, Derek Mulhearn, Sydney Place, Michael Sheely, Peter Thome, Kaylee Williamson, Katie Zenk

**Missouri:** Ellen Amos, Emily Bardot, Jordan Branstetter, Jacob Bryant, Rachel Carter, Sarah Downing, Aimee Gutshall, Jared Henderson, Daniel Kahre D, Beverley Kreul, Seth Lee, Sebastian Los, Dustin Mareth, Kabel Oaks, Katie Patterson, Walter Redden, Cody Smith, Brandon Thiel, Jacob Thompson, Megan Westhoff

**Mississippi:** Wesley Brown, Sanyonette Miles, Quinn Sylvester, Stacy Thrash

**Montana:** Michelle Miller, Danny Pratt, Sierra Reyher, Kyle Senner

**North Carolina:** Courtney Clapp, Mollie Daniel, Emily Duncan, Matt Greene, Ditte Hansen, Kristin Hartgrove, Daphne Houchins, Ashley Long, Kara Miller, Revva Orr, Maura Jo Phipps, Jonathan Smith, Ray Spence, Caroline Tart, Caroline Yopp

**North Dakota:** Levi Hall, Tyrell Martin, Anna Moss, Darin Spelhaug, Robert Vallie

**Nebraska:** Blake Becker, Susie Fiala, Lauren Perry, Jill Petersen, Ricky Sparks, McKenzie Steger

**New Hampshire:** Sarah Fisher, Alicia MacLean, Colton McCarthy

**New Jersey:** Karis Byram, Annaliese Gancarz, Keely Weinberger

**New Mexico:** Leanna Ballard, Ryan Best, Kursty Keeler, Jonas Moya, Shannon Norris

**Nevada:** Nicole Connelly, Jimmy Lotspeich, Charlie Mann

**New York:** Kaylie Ackerley, Danielle Dapson, Rebecca Greene, Corey Reed, Katie Wratten

**Ohio:** Krystin Bachman, Nick Barney, Andrew Bond, Caitlyn Dever, Frank Gannett, Chris Gehret, Laura Gordon, Jeremy Grove, Cambell Parrish, Amy Richter, Allen Schmitz, Sara Schmitz, Kimberlyn Schott, Clark Siddle, Alyssa Swinehart, Casey Wilson

**Oklahoma:** Chasity Beasler, Chelsea Clifton, Blake Matlock, Evan Newpher, Riley Pagett, Amy Peel, Sarah Reasnor, Carly Schnaithman

**Oregon:** Thomas Griffin, Julie Lindgren, Allan Overton, Patty Roper, Quade Sheehan

**Pennsylvania:** PJ Adam, Andrew Fisher, Laura Machmer, Britney Marsh, Abraham Mellinger, Lance Waybright, Hannah Wentworth, Tyler Witter

**Puerto Rico:** Jose Martes, Gabriela Nazario, William Rodriguez, Isamari Soto Group

## Delegates continued

**Rhode Island:** Liz Laprise Group, Abbie Whitford

**South Carolina:** Matt Adams, Will Amick, Adam Gore, Flint Holbrook, Krista McCuen, Caroline Sherard

**South Dakota:** Shad Christman, Brian Gottlob, Shane Gross, Josh Johnson

**Tennessee:** Kye Embler, Jesse Ford, Doug Giles, Camille Hall, Charlie Hammond, Peyton Harper, Caleb Hodges, Chris Martin, Kris Newsom, Christina Pendergrass, Colton Teague, Jeffrey Turner, Texas, Michelle Aguilar, Brandon Alexander, Haylee Andrew, Tanner Antonick, Chandler Baggerly, Matthew Barnes, Landon Bissett, Dean Black, Angie Bourland, Courtney Bowden, Tyler Bradfield, Chase Brock, Charles Burns, Sidney Carter, Jessica Crecelius, Kolby Cunningham, Macy Eaves, Rachel Glascock, Lora Gonzalez, Allison Grainger, Patti Gregoire, Kirby Hickl, Mai Lee Homes, Aron Hutchins, Berkley Iden, Sadie Ilse, TX Jordan Jenkins, Janae Jones, Kody Kale, Kyle Klansek, Scott Landers, Niki Lindemann, James Marcuse, Kelsey Marsh, Kaleb McLaurin, Amanda Meadows, Thomas Meek, Jeremiah Miller, Taylor Morrison, Layton Norwood, Kelsi Ray, Reagan Rupard, Melany Shearrer, Kendrick Spencer, Kaitlyn True, Miles Vann, Sarah Wilson, Ashley Worthy, Alexis Wright

**Utah:** Chase Black, Keven Jensen, Amberlie Kaumans, Blake Olorenshaw, Megan Peterson

**Virginia:** Chris Atkins, Jessica Bowen, Allen Bowers, Meredith Brown, Willie Elgin, Amy Holman, Erica Largen, Courtney Price, CodiJo Smith, Shasta Sowers

**Vermont:** Brittney Buck, Justin Lalumiere

**Washington:** Milyssa Albin, Tammy Bennett, Luis Cuevas, Jacob Currier, James Donegan, Nik Grimm, Victoria Marsh, Ben Valdez

**Wisconsin:** McKenzie Baecker, Samantha Becker, Tommy Butts, BJ Chrisler, Kimberly Forrester, Molly Heintz, Rodney Hillskotter, Jessica Hinrichsen, Tyler Latz, Emily Lezpona, Jamie Renier, Bethany Rieth, Erin ThederBielinski, Samantha Voss, Breanne Wieser

**West Virginia:** Danielle Cox, Derek Garrett, Leah Vance, Emma Yohn, Erik Yost

**Wyoming:** Oaklee Anderson, Ty McNamee, Beth Wood



## Issue Committee: #1

# Goat Proficiency Committee

**Whereas**, the goat industry is currently the fastest growing sector in the agriculture industry and;

**Whereas**, more opportunities will be made available to our members involved in this industry by separating goats from the specialty animal proficiency area and;

**Whereas**, there are vast differences between

### **Be it resolved that the committee recommends the following:**

1. That the National FFA establishes a goat proficiency award area independent of sheep, specialty animal, and dairy production.
2. National FFA staff should investigate the future opportunity of separating meat and dairy goats into their own award areas.

*On behalf of committee members, this report respectfully submitted October 25, 2008, by:*

Committee Chair:	Chelsea Clifton
Committee Vice Chair:	Wesley Brown
Committee Vice Chair:	Walter Redden

## Issue Committee: #2

# Optional Ceremony Parts

**Whereas**, we, the committee, feel that this addition of optional officer parts in ceremonies specified in the Official FFA Manual would provide uniformity and equal recognition for all offices. Moreover, it would promote increased opportunity for leadership and will encourage chapters/states that do not use these offices currently to include these offices. Furthermore, these parts will be easily accessible in the Official FFA Manual for members and advisors to find.

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

For optional offices described in the Official FFA Manual, (Parliamentarian, Historian, and Chaplain) create uniform parts for all Official FFA Ceremonies.

*On behalf of committee members, this report respectfully submitted October 25, 2008, by:*

Committee Chair:	Matthew Greene
Committee Vice Chair:	Luis Cuevas
Committee Vice Chair:	Tyler Witter







## Issue Committee: #3

# Going Green Committee

**Whereas**, the popular consensus of the American population is to repair and conserve available resources.

**Whereas**, in order to stay the most dynamic youth organization in the nation, the National FFA, as a part of the agriculture industry, is joining the Going Green Revolution to promote stewardship of the land.

**Whereas**, the National FFA feels that sustainability of our resources is important to the future of agriculture.

**Whereas**, many local and state organizations are already implementing Going Green programs

### **Be it resolved that the Committee on Going Green recommends the following:**

The National FFA start a Going Green program that incorporates existing programs coined “green”. The National FFA implement a public relations campaign utilizing all National FFA media resources such as the National FFA website, New Horizons, Making a Difference, etc.

- Create a “Going Green” webpage on the National FFA website highlighting Going green ideas and programs already affiliated with National FFA
- Showcase chapter success in New Horizons, the webpage, etc.
- Post events related to the Going Green program on a discussion board affiliated with the website

*On behalf of committee members, this report respectfully submitted October 22, 2008, by:*

Committee Chair: Will Leonard, FL  
Committee Vice Chair: Kris Newsom, TN



## Issue Committee: #4

# Greenhand Committee

**Whereas**, there is no clear definition from state to state of who is a Greenhand,

**Be it resolved that the Committee recommends that no action be taken concerning a National Greenhand Award.**

*On behalf of committee members, this report respectfully submitted October 25, 2008, by:*

Committee Chair:	Quint Pottinger
Committee Vice Chair:	Charlie Mann
Committee Vice Chair:	Stacy Thrash

## Issue Committee: #5

# American Degree Changes

**Whereas**, we, the American Degree Changes Delegate committee of the 81st National FFA Convention advise that the delegates pass the changes of the community service, amendment number two, within the American Degree because this amendment will help to promote the fundamental values of our organization. The delegation committee recommends passing amendment number three pertaining to the monetary requirements and verbiage changes, with the understanding that "a student, after entering agricultural education...", be defined as a student that is recognized as a member of FFA at the national level.

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

To the delegate body to pass amendment number two and to pass amendment number three.

*On behalf of committee members, this report respectfully submitted October 25, 2008, by:*

Committee Chair:	Peyton Harper
Committee Vice Chair:	Kadie Sewell
Committee Vice Chair:	Laura Ann Donaldson



## Issue Committee: #6

# Service Based Regional Leadership Conferences

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

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

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

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

Committee Chair: Justin Bailey, Delaware

Committee Vice Chair: Nick Polkowski, Wisconsin

Committee Vice Chair: Torie Reilly, Kansas





# National Officers Nominating Committee and Candidates

## Nominating Committee:

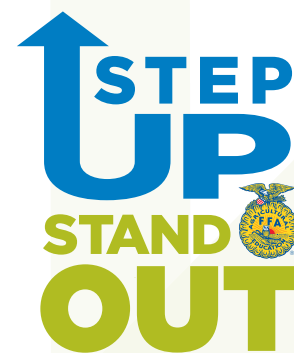
Catharine Kuber, CA  
Tina Caden, NY  
Sara Busker, DE  
Caleb Dodd, NM  
Jacob Daniel, GA  
Paige Booth, OK  
Nick Palkowski, WI  
Cody Norton, TN  
Amber Seibert, MN



## National Officer Candidates:

Andrew Barth, Washington  
Alexandria Henry, Michigan  
Kaleb Santy, Wisconsin  
Hannah Crossen, Ohio  
Jason Gore, South Carolina  
Andrea Knodel, Colorado  
Jon Leadbetter, North Dakota  
Regina Holliday, Georgia  
Alena Ogg, Montana  
Brad Lanoue, Minnesota  
Desiray Simmons, Indiana  
William Earhart, Virginia  
Laura Stump, Arizona  
Nicolena Baadsgaard, Utah  
Laila Hajji, Oklahoma  
Jason Camp, Mississippi  
Katy Sartwell, Vermont  
Magen Roberts, Kentucky  
Nessie Early, California  
Paul Moya, New Mexico

Ott Clark, Idaho  
Noelle Rist, South Dakota  
Lucas Fuess, New York  
Jennifer Leistikow, Iowa  
Caitlin Cox, New Hampshire  
Wylie Scalise, Massachusetts  
Becky Berkebille, Maryland  
Katlyn Hendershot, West Virginia  
Caitlin Lowe, North Carolina  
Chelsea Doss, Tennessee  
Hannah O'Leary, Oregon  
Alison Keggan, New Jersey  
Tiffany Grove, Pennsylvania  
Bethany Bohnenblust, Kansas  
Kimberly Henderson, Alabama  
Sarah Burleson, Florida  
Jeromie Allen, Missouri  
Riley Branch, Texas  
Justin Bailey, Delaware



# Meet Your 2009 National Officers

## President

### Paul Moya

**E-Mail:** pmoya@ffa.org

**Age:** 21

**Birthdate:** November 2, 1987

**Parents:** Joseph Moya and Sylvia Jaramillo

**Siblings:** Max Moya and Irene Moya

#### FFA Stats

**Chapter:** Los Lunas FFA

**Enterprise:** Swine production

**State Office:** 2005-06 State Vice President; 2006-07 State President

#### College Stats

**Year:** Sophomore

**Major:** Business

**School:** University of Notre Dame

**College Activities:** Class of 2011 Class Council, Special Olympics

**Future Career Goal:** To serve as an advocate in the agribusiness industry, work on policy setting and become a motivational speaker.



## Secretary

### Nessie Early

**E-Mail:** nearly@ffa.org

**Age:** 20

**Birthdate:** September 22, 1988

**Parents:** Lon Early and Felecia O'Neill

**Siblings:** Kala Early, Cassie Cramer, Nate Mokler, Alisa Mokler

#### FFA Stats

**Chapter:** Shandon FFA

**Enterprise:** Diversified Livestock Production

**State Office:** 2006-07 State Vice President

#### College Stats

**Year:** Sophomore

**Major:** Animal Science

**School:** California Polytechnic State University, SLO

**College Activities:** Agriculture Ambassadors, Collegiate FFA, Young Collegiate Cattlemen's Association

**Future Career Goal:** To become a college professor of animal science.



## A Eastern Region Vice President

### Hannah Crossen

**E-Mail:** hcrossen@ffa.org

**Age:** 20

**Birthdate:** May 20, 1988

**Parents:** Chris and Kathy Crossen

**Siblings:** Reid Crossen

#### FFA Stats

**Chapter:** Hillsdale FFA

**Enterprise:** Diversified Livestock Entrepreneurship and Job Placement

**State Office:** 2005-06 District 2 President; 2006-07 State President

#### College Stats

**Year:** Sophomore

**Major:** Agricultural and Extension Education

**School:** The Ohio State University

**College Activities:** Alpha Zeta Partners, Agricultural Education Society, Scarlet and Gray Ag Day

**Future Career Goal:** To become a teacher of agriculture and high school FFA advisor.



## Central Region Vice President

### Laila Hajji

**E-Mail:** lhajji@ffa.org

**Age:** 20

**Birthdate:** February 19, 1988

**Parents:** Fouad Hajji and Lisa Stephens

**Siblings:** David, Alex, Isabella

#### FFA Stats

**Chapter:** Guthrie FFA

**Enterprise:** Agricultural Communication Entrepreneurship, Livestock Production Entrepreneurship

**State Office:** 2006-07 State Secretary

#### College Stats

**Year:** Junior

**Major:** Agricultural Education

**School:** Texas Tech University

**College Activities:** Ag Ambassadors, Collegiate FFA Vice President, Ag Council

**Future Career Goal:** To serve as an agricultural education teacher in an urban school system.



## Western Region Vice President

### Riley Branch

**E-Mail:** rbranch@ffa.org

**Age:** 21

**Birthdate:** May 14, 1987

**Parents:** Robert and Janet Branch

**Siblings:** Ashley(Branch) and Jared Bell

#### FFA Stats

**Chapter:** Aspermont FFA

**Enterprise:** Diversified Livestock Entrepreneurship

**State Office:** 2006-07 State Vice President

#### College Stats

**Year:** Senior

**Major:** Agricultural Leadership, Agricultural Economics

**School:** Texas Tech University

**College Activities:** Collegiate FFA, Alpha Tau Omega, College Ag Council

**Future Career Goal:** To serve as an advocate of agriculture and influence national agricultural policy.



## Southern Region Vice President

### Regina Holliday

**E-Mail:** rholliday@ffa.org

**Age:** 20

**Birthdate:** April 3, 1988

**Parents:** Tom and Mary Ann Holliday

#### FFA Stats

**Chapter:** East Laurens FFA

**Enterprise:** Beef Production Entrepreneurship

**State Office:** 2005-06 State Vice President

#### College Stats

**Year:** Junior

**Major:** Animal Science

**School:** The University of Georgia

**College Activities:** Block and Bridle, CAES Ambassadors, Sigma Alpha

**Future Career Goal:** To obtain a DVM in large animal medicine and practice in a rural part of the country.





## Day of Service

















