

Celebrating National FFA Week

Special supplement to *The People's Tribune*
February 25, 2020

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Bowling Green High School



PUBLIC SPEAKING

Caleigh Grote

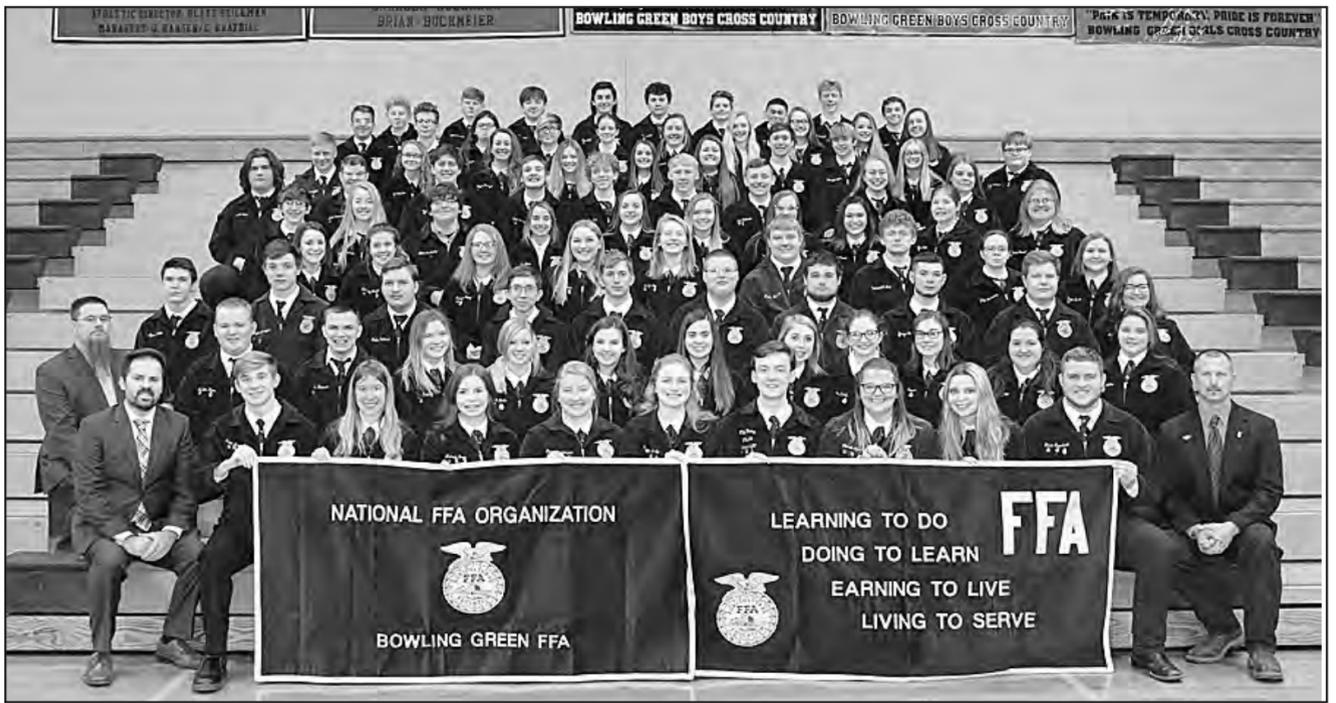
Do you enjoy public speaking or job interviews?

Or, does the thought of getting up in front of an audience make your hair stand on end? Each year, members of the Bowling Green FFA Chapter brave the audience and successfully prepare and deliver speeches over every topic under the sun. Leadership development Events, or LDEs, are contests held in the spring and fall and are often done individually, unlike team career development events (CDEs), such as livestock judging.

There are many varieties of LDE, and there is a match for everyone. Do you enjoy writing? The majority of speaking events are prepared, meaning that the member either writes a manuscript and memorizes it before a competition or memorizes our FFA Creed.

These include creed speaking for freshmen, Division I and II speaking for freshmen and sophomores, Advanced Speaking for juniors and seniors, and fall speaking events. Fall speaking events are themed and sponsored by various Missouri associations, such as the Missouri Cattlemen's Association.

If you do not enjoy memorizing speeches, Extemporaneous Speaking fits the bill! Speakers are given thirty minutes with resources to prepare a four to six minute speech over an agricultural topic and then present it to judges. I competed in this event last year, and it was my favorite so far! Finally, contests such as Job Interview, Ag. Sales, Ag. Issues, and Parliamentary Procedure add even more variety to the LDE list. Even if a member is reluctant to speak to a crowd, I absolutely recommend stepping out of the comfort zone and giving LDEs a try! Not only do they teach communication skills, they are a fun memory-making experience!



2019-2020 BOWLING GREEN FFA

Members of the Bowling Green FFA Chapter share a photo last week in their official dress.

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Caleigh Grote

Meetings and planning and banquets, oh my!

Although the duties of an FFA officer may be a stretch from lions, tigers, and bears, all officers in the FFA require the same traits: courage, brains, and heart. As president of the Bowling Green FFA, I know that my officer team not only possesses these traits, but uses them on a daily basis.

Although all positions are equally important on an FFA officer team, I take on extra responsibilities, such as learning to run a meeting and further assisting others in their FFA activities.

No matter what office someone holds, all officers put in hard work to keep the chapter running at its fullest potential. To become an officer in the

FFA, a student must be very involved in their chapter and beyond. They must maintain a good academic record and participate in an interview process.

The president and other higher officer positions become the public face of the chapter, and as such, students must show that they can go above and beyond at and past the chapter level. To anyone interested in someday becoming a chapter officer (or further!), my best advice would be to get involved. Give a speech, go to an event, and attend meetings!

If they remain involved and dedicated, members may someday find themselves planning and leading their favorite events as officers.

MISSOURI STATE FAIR

Abbi Waddell

The Missouri State Fair is the highlight of mine and many other members' summers!

The fair takes place in August in Sedalia Missouri. It is the last show of the summer. It shows all the hard work and preparation that members have put into their projects. At the Missouri State Fair you can exhibit anything from vegetables to a woodshop or anything from a country cured ham or many different breeds

of livestock.

I've been attending the fair since I was three years old. Growing up I watched both my brother and sister show, it has always been a goal of mine to be an exhibitor. Since then I've gone on to show pigs, goats, hams, and bacon at the Missouri State Fair. Each of them taught me many life lessons.

Through each project it has

taught me many skills, such as time

management, making sure all my projects are ready when fair season comes around. Also exhibiting at the Missouri State Fair it has helped me learn better ways to care for my livestock. Besides exhibition projects at the fair, for the past two years our chapter has participated in food insecurity day. This day, members from other FFA chapters in the state, help pack food for the backpack pro-

gram.

Whether it is packing food or showing livestock the state fair has allowed me to meet many new people. Some are my closest friends. I believe that every member should attend the Missouri State Fair and take advantage of its many opportunities.

There is truly something for everyone.

NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION

Katelin Houchins

FFA is an organization that is full of opportunities and educational experiences.

I was able to go to the National FFA Convention in October, 2019. The convention was such an enriching and entertaining experience. I traveled to Indianapolis, and met members of FFA from every state, as well as made some very good

friends.

I was also able to go to the career show, which highlights many of the possible agricultural careers that you could get involved with in the future. I also participated on the trap shooting team. We had practice every week, and you get to meet and become friends with people from your own school that you may not

have the chance to talk to during school hours.

In addition there are many chances to give back to your community such as our FFA barbecue and Christmas fruit sales. You are also able to represent your school through contest teams. Since there are a large variety of teams including conduct, knowledge, dairy food,

and dairy cattle, anybody could be a part of one.

FFA has been a very fun organization to be a part of, so I would encourage anybody to join. By joining FFA, you will find your place in a welcoming organization while making some great friends along the way.

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Hayden Hensen

The Washington Leadership Conference is a weeklong trip to Washington D.C.

The Bowling Green FFA Chapter picks Juniors and seniors who want to go, and they send them to go and attend the conferences and learn about new leadership skills that will help them later in life.

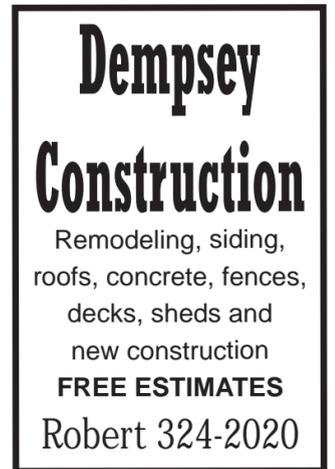
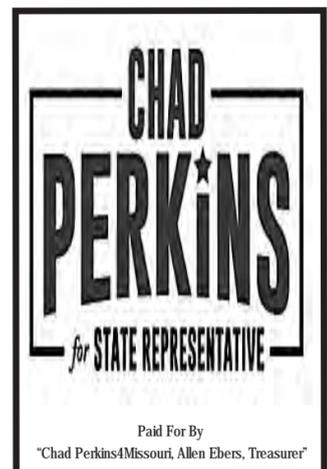
We get to see the city and all its monuments and memorials, and ex-

plore the history and culture of our nation's capital. My favorite thing we did on the trip was all the history museums, especially Mount Vernon, touring George Washington's home-stead.

I would highly recommend this trip. While the trip costs a total of \$1,500, we do a lot of fundraising and collect donations so the cost is taken down quite a bit. I can guar-

antee the trip will be an experience

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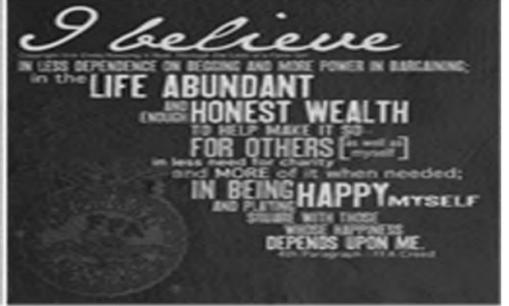
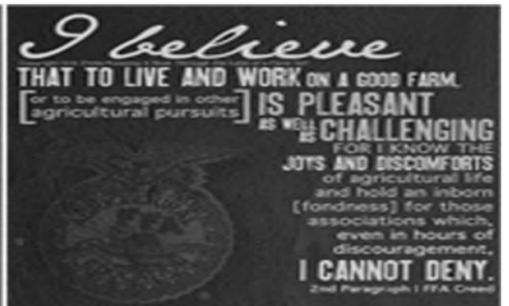
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FFA BARBECUE

HANNAH HORTNESS

The Bowling Green FFA Barbecue always has the biggest turn out and the best fundraiser of the year. This event has been bringing the community together for 50 plus years. The members go out and sell barbecue tickets to their friends, family, and the public. Many locals of the town show up to support our chapter and enjoy the delicious barbecue. The FFA BBQ event is beneficial to all members of the Bowling Green community, especially the Bobcat football fans.

The barbecue is always scheduled so it follows a Friday night home game and Bobcat fans can eat before kickoff! We have the members help bring in desserts from home and help run the barbecue. The members help with making the orders, drinks, desserts, cleaning and assist anyone that needs it. This event would not be possible without the helping

hands from the members of agriculture classes, FFA members, the advisors, and volunteers from the community. From planning this event to setting up and taking it down a lot of work has been attributed to the success of this annual event.

Another part of this fundraiser is selling mums grown by greenhouse students. Though it's a fundraiser it's also a competition among the members to see who sells the most tickets. This year's top seller was Caleigh Grote, in second was Hannah Hortness, and in third was Adam Twellman. This fundraiser contributes to the National FFA Convention trip that takes place in October. On behalf of all FFA members we would like to thank the community for the constant support that has helped us grow to be what we are today.



BARNWARMING

Pictured are Bowling Green FFA Chapter members during barnwarming activities.

FISHING IN THE DARK

Anna Burkemper

Living in a rural community such as Pike County it is very rare that you will come across an individual that does not like to fish.

Everybody around here loves to fish, but this year the Bowling Green FFA took "fishing" to another level at this year's chapter barnwarming. This year just like any, members were given the task to design a t-shirt and theme that they would like to have at barnwarming.

After many votes, member Emma Craig had the winning theme of Fishing in the Dark. After many laborious days of transforming the Bowling Green High School woodshop, the evening was finally upon

us to dance the night away and that is exactly what we did. After a long night of dancing, it was time to partake in another fun part of barnwarming and that was the candidate games and coronation.

This year we were very blessed to have such amazing freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior king and queen candidates. After many fun and silly games the votes were in, Clint Bailey was voted king and I was chosen as queen.

With all the good music, dancing, and memories made with close friends, barnwarming this year was enough to make anybody want to go Fishing in the Dark.



JUNIOR PERSPECTIVE

Audrey Dean

Hello, my name is Audrey Dean. I am currently a junior at Bowling High School in Bowling Green.

I have participated in ag classes and FFA at the Bowling Green School District since I was in sixth grade. Throughout my years in FFA, I have been fortunate enough to be given endless opportunities and meet numerous people. I have also been able to be a part of three contest teams and serve our chapter as an assistant officer in my sophomore year and hold the office of reporter this year.

These past three years in FFA have been nothing but amazing. I have enjoyed every second of my time with the Bowling Green FFA Chapter. I have had the opportunity

to attend the national and state convention. I have also been able to reach out to potential members and recruit them to join our FFA chapter.

Throughout my years in FFA, I have also received many awards. Some of these awards include Star Greenhand, Chapter Star Farmer, and I was able to place top seven at our District CDE contest my freshman year. FFA has definitely changed my life and I would encourage everyone to at least try it out for one year of their high school career. I would never have been able to achieve all of the things that I have

within these last three years if it wasn't for FFA.

MISSOURI STATE CONVENTION

Bailey Graves

Missouri State FFA Convention is a place for a lot of events and a lot of different people.

It's where you compete in your career development event or leadership development event for best in the state. You can receive your state degree and other awards like state star farmer, as well as learn more about your future and yourself at the career expo.

It means a lot to people, because it marks their biggest achievements and best memories. You also can hear a bunch of inspirational stories.

I got the opportunity to compete in state FFA knowledge last year and

win third in the state as a team. That opportunity helped get my team to nationals where we took first, so it holds a special place in my heart.

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PIKE COUNTY FAIR

Sarah Bybee

The Pike County Fair is the last week of July every summer. This week is where members of the local 4-H and FFA get to display their work from the past year.

During this week, members are able to show their livestock and display projects they have been working on. The Pike County Fair is my personal favorite time of the year because of everything I get to do. In the inside exhibits, I always turn in multiple projects from the past year.

Showing my breeding heifers at the cattle show is one of my favorite things to do during the week. This day always starts with waking up early and then you never really get to rest from then until the time of the show.

Once the heifers are finally at the barn around noon, we start washing them and making sure that they look nice for the judge. My favorite part of the day is getting to see everyone that I have made friends with through showing cattle. Getting to see these people makes showing on those incredibly hot days totally worth it. I have made many friends from other schools that I keep in touch with weekly now.

At the end of the week I always



Pictured is Sarah Bybee at the 2019 Pike County Fair Cattle Show.

look back on the memories I had made through FFA and realize how thankful I am to be a part of this organization.



Pictured are the 2019-2020 FFA Chapter officers at Bowling Green High School.

FFA WEEK ACTIVITIES

Callie Bailey

FFA week is a busy exciting week. FFA week takes the time to raise awareness of the role of FFA's leaders in the agriculture industry. Bowling Green FFA Chapter will start off the week by attending First Baptist Church in Vandalia.

We will fellowship with FFA members while participating in a FFA tradition. During the FFA week, FFA members, FFA advisors, and supporters of FFA at school participate in our dress up days at school.

Misery Missouri Monday wear you dress for crazy Missouri weather. Tuesday is flannel/plaid day. Tuesday is also our chapter meeting where we will be going to Twin City Bowling Alley in Louisiana to bowl, play games, eat, and have a good time. We will also

be voting for our end of the year trip at this chapter meeting. Next vacay Wednesday, take a break from the farm and go on vacay. Thursday is boots and shorts day. Friday is blue and gold day. Wear your FFA apparel to support FFA. Friday we will be Food For America. This is where we educate elementary students in our district about FFA and agriculture. This is a chance to first introduce FFA to them so that they will one day want to join to be future leaders of agriculture.

BY CALLIE BAILEY

SENIOR PERSPECTIVE

Ethan Everhart

From the eyes of a senior boy in the FFA, it gets quit busy and you have a lot more responsibility than most boys or men in the FFA.

As a senior you got to watch how you act around the younger under classman because they are looking up to you. Me being a senior officer comes more responsibilities than anyone else. You got to watch who you are talking to someone and they way you present yourself. Being a senior in the FFA is exciting but sad at the same time. Being in the FFA, doing contest, and going to the meeting is the just a quarter of the fun we have.

The sad part of being a senior is knowing it is your last years being a part of your chapter and doing all the fun stuff. I have enjoyed being in the FFA and i will dearly miss it. I have done a lot with the chapter and even have done more than just helping within the chapter. I have participated in multiple leadership events that have changed the way I see our world and

how I treat others around me. The FFA has changed who I am. I use to think that all I would do in high school is play sports and not once did I ever think I would be a Senior in an office with one of my closest friends. The life of being in the FFA teaches students how to be responsible, respectful, and readiness.

The responsibility side of things is making sure you get done what needs done. Listening to the advisors is a common thing that you got to be responsible with. As a senior boy the advisors give you a ton of responsibilities to do throughout the whole week and they expect you to get it done. On the respectful side of things, you got to be respectful out in the community. A lot of the under classman don't know how to talk to people so of course they look up to the seniors to see how to act, so you must treat everyone the way you want to be treated.

On the readiness side of things, you need to be able to be on time for all the events. As seniors, if you show up late for an event with no legit reason then you are already setting a bad example for the future of your chapter. If you are setting as bad example for your chapter members then you might as well be ready to hear about it because it will come back and haunt you. As a senior you got to be the example of the chapter!

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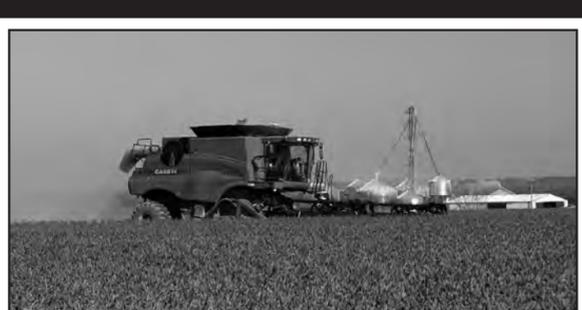
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BOWLING MEETING

Pictured are members of the Bowling Green FFA Chapter at a meeting held at Twin City Bowl in Louisiana.

CONTEST SEASON

Clint Bailey

My favorite time of the year is contest season. I love to be on the road and compete against other chapters to succeed in career development events. My favorite contest team was livestock judging. We would judge four different species: beef, swine, sheep, and goats. We would approach a class with four individual animals.

We would judge them based on their phenotypes, genotypes, and their production use. For example, we judge market animals based on their muscle product and carcass

value, while breeding animals are judged more on structure and genetics on EPD sheets. We then rank all four from best to worst. After we have placed every class, we take our notes and prepare to give a set of reasons. A set of reasons is an explanation of your placings on a class. After we are scored on our placings and reasons, we await results. Our livestock team was successful and placed first at Districts and ninth at state.

There is a CDE for almost anything related to agriculture. We have

dairy foods, soils, forestry, horse judging, meat, veterinary science, and much more. We compete at different area events, district contests, and then on to the state contest at the state convention. This previous year, we took five teams to state: dairy cattle judging, forestry, livestock judging, meats, veterinary science, and soils.

We are fortunate to have amazing advisors who put in time and effort for practices, contests, and taking time to spend with us students.

NATIONAL CONVENTION

Emma Craig

Almost 70,000 FFA members flood the city of Indianapolis, Ind., for a week in October for the largest student gathering in the United States: National FFA Convention.

At national convention, we have the opportunity to reflect on the past year and the history of the organization while keeping our eyes fixed on the bright future of our organization and the future of agriculture.

National convention offers the chance to meet new people, ac-

knowledge member achievements, and have fun. Attending sessions with the national officers motivates younger members to get involved and take advantage of the opportunities offered through this organization.

I have had the opportunity to go to national convention twice, first as a freshman, and then as a sophomore. There is nothing like being in a stadium full of other high school students that are all wearing the

same blue jacket, knowing that you all have at least one common interest.

My freshman year I had the privilege of seeing the first African American female national FFA president on stage engaging with the audience. Convention inspired me to join the knowledge team in order to learn more about the history of our organization and figure out how I could make an impact in the lives of others.

SENIOR PERSPECTIVE

Larissa Gamm

My name is Larissa Gamm and I am a senior at Bowling Green High School. For over 27 years the Bowling Green FFA chapter has been doing annual fruit sales fundraisers. This is one of the many fundraisers held each year, but it is the largest for our chapter.

Our goal as a whole chapter is to raise a total of \$50,000. Members go around and sell fruit, meat products, nuts and chocolates to people and local businesses in the community. One of our new products we sold this year was a wood's gift box which had cheeses and elk salami. If a member sells over \$300 then they get a percentage of their sales back and top salesman gets an additional bonus. Fruit sales help build communication skills for members because we have to talk to people and

describe the items we are selling. Many people are excited when it is time for fruit sales to begin because the items are delivered before Christmas. The responsibilities we have as FFA members is making sure on loading day that we give the right products that were ordered and individually deliver items we sold.

We come together as a chapter by sorting, packaging, and loading items all while having fun doing the work. We also invite the middle school to come down and help with loading fruit after school which helps them build a bond with the older FFA members. The money earned helps with the chapter projects and supplies and our end of the year trip. Many people enjoy our products and that is what makes it so successful each year.

AREA V BANQUET • Emily Collins

At the Area V Banquet all chapters in that area meet, have dinner, and hold a meeting.

Former area officers give a speech and step down from their office, after running one last meeting, and new area officers are recognized. Members who have earned awards are announced and they line

up in the back of the room and they walk through and accept their awards or if they are not present someone will accept it for them.

It's a very fun experience and I think all FFA members should attend at least once in their FFA careers.

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Clopton High School

Why I Joined FFA

Hi, my name is Emily Oakes and I am currently a sophomore in Clopton High School.

For my freshman year contests I did dairy foods and I had such good and fun experiences doing it. Since it was my first time doing contests ever, I was super nervous but also excited to try something new.

I met and made a lot of new friends in my group and when I went to go do contests. I never thought there would be so much to learn

about just dairy itself!

I learned how to tell the difference between cheeses and milk. For example, when I did milk I had to identify what type of milk it was like if it was watered down or sweet.

I learned about the math portion too, like the milks percentage. I had such a good and fun time with my team and I can't wait for more to come throughout the years.

BY EMILY OAKES

Hi, my name is Caragan Lockard and I am currently a junior at Clopton High School.

Being a very involved student comes with a lot of responsibilities. One of the clubs I am most involved in, is FFA. FFA has shown me so many qualities that I can use toward my future. Some of which are kindness, knowledge, respect, competition, leadership, positivity, and teamwork. The leadership quality is one of the most important in my perspective, along with teamwork.

Many contests that I have competed in, have forced me to get along with others in a positive way and show me how to work as a team. Leadership ties along with that be-

cause a group always has to have one person to take control when things get difficult.

I have learned to show respect and kindness to others while being involved in FFA. Respecting someone's values and personality is an important thing in life and if a person lacks that quality, they will not get along with others. I have learned that there is always room for improvement, even if you have tried your very best at whatever you're trying to accomplish. FFA is one of the most real and hardworking organizations that a student could be involved in. It prepares a student for life and their future career.

BY CARAGAN LOCKARD



Clopton FFA Chapter 2019-2020

Pictured are members of the Clopton FFA Chapter Front row, (l-r): Macy Wietkamp, Kylie Lucas, Abi Daskalakis, Ellie Beauchamp, Olivia Brune, Evan Lagemann, Avery Hall, Taylor Akers, Maddison Parish, and Cole Hunter. Second row: Abbi Patchin, Beth Reading, Faith Myers, Emily Oaks, Lilly Crossin, Maydlyn Brune, Madison Akers, Stephen Henderson, Lucan Martian, Holden Strabe, and Landon Blackwell. Third row: Dylan Horsimier, William Clark, Logan Dalymple, Nathan Martian, Stephanie Talbert, Trica Luke, Megan Richards, Caragan Lockard, Jason Hohen, Andy Jolly, and Deacon Mitchell. Fourth row: Ryan Oches, Kyle Martian, Jared Hohen, Zakk Eveins, Riley Walker, Kennon Watts, Tyler Kuntz, Tyler Jarret, Mason Street, Derek Illy, and John Kallash, chapter advisor.

My Favorite FFA Memory

Hello my name is Stephanie Talbert and I am a senior at Clopton High School.

I have been involved in an ag class and have done FFA all four years of high school. Clopton is a small school and I am able to join several clubs and organizations. FFA is by far my favorite and most memorable organization. I have been on several trips and learned many new things in class.

I would never have guessed I would have loved FFA so much when I first joined. When I was younger I did not want to live in the country, now because of FFA teaching me stuff I have found a new way to look at things and realize how much I enjoy it!

I have many different memories with FFA, but one that I will never forget is going to Bradford Field Day my sophomore year. Most years they just take juniors and seniors but that year they brought a couple of sophomores. I was very glad I got to go, and I didn't know what to expect when I got there.

We listened to many people talk about different things from bees and honey to watering crops. We got the chance to stick our hands inside of a cow's stomach from a hole on the side. It took me a while to actually

do it but it was a really cool experience. I would recommend FFA to a lot of people. It is a fun way to learn

Hello, my name is Logan Hall and I am currently a junior at Clopton High School.

Growing up on a farm, I have always loved going and spending time with my dad. Whether it be in the combine or in the feedlot, I always One of my favorite things to do when I was young was going to feed the cows and feed the bottle calves. As I have gotten older, my enjoyment for cattle is still the same.

Every summer, I show cattle at the Pike County Fair and it is one of my favorite parts about the fair. Last year I competed on the dairy cattle team for my FFA chapter along with

Hello, my name is Ellie Beauchamp and I am currently a Junior at Clopton High School.

I have been in the Clopton FFA since my freshman year of high school. I have made so many new friends, and have become more of a well rounded citizen. I remember my first year of public speaking. I was a freshman so of course I was reciting the FFA Creed.

I was so nervous about public speaking. I was so nervous that my stomach was full of nerves. I walked into the waiting room and everyone was so welcoming. I sat down, and be-

and make lifetime memories with your friends!

BY STEPHANIE TALBERT

a few of my classmates and we made it to state. It was such a memorable experience that I will cherish forever. We didn't have the outcome that we had hoped for, but looking back on it now, I am so thankful that I had the opportunity to represent my local FFA chapter at the state level.

Throughout my three years that I have been in FFA, I have met so many new people and experienced things that I wouldn't of been able to do if it wasn't for FFA. FFA has brought me so many unforgettable memories that will last a lifetime.

BY LOGAN HALL

fore I knew it everyone at my table was helping everyone else remember the creed. I did not know it then, but my competitors would soon become my best friends. They were the same people that encouraged me to continue to public speak, and year after year I would see them at each contest.

Even though we were all competing to win we would all still wish each other good luck. I have never found so many good friends through an organization like FFA. It is an amazing organization, and it has truly changed my life for the better.

BY ELLIE BEAUCHAMP



CHS Trap Shooting Team

Pictured is the Clopton High School trap shooting team, front row, (l-r): Kendall Smith, Taylor Akers, Olivia Brune, Ellie Beauchamp, and Emily Oakes. Second row: Jared Hoehn, Logan Dalymple, Derek Illy, Andy Jolly, and Cole Hunter. Third row: Mason Street, Evan Lagemann, Ryan Oches, Deacon Mitchell, and Stephen Henderson.

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Sophomore Perspective

Hi, my name is Landon Blackwell. I am a sophomore at Clopton High School. I have had a lot of interesting things in ag class and FFA, some of which include playing guitar in front of the whole class this year. I think my most interesting experience was making it to state for poultry freshman year. I was a city kid who didn't know anything about

agriculture and then here I am making it to state and doing better than two other people on the team, it kind of shocked me. That has to be the most interesting thing I have ever done in FFA, I haven't done a lot because this is only my second year, but that was fun to do and I hope I can make it to state this year.

BY LANDON BLACKWELL

Hi, my name is Will Clark and I am a sophomore at Clopton.

I have had just a little bit of experience in FFA contests. Last year I was in the dairy foods contest. I didn't think that contest was very hard during practice, but once I actually got to the contest part of it. It wasn't as easy as I thought it was going to be. I'm not going to lie, I was a little nervous at the first contest. But once I had calmed down I realized just to do what I knew how to do.

The second contest went really

My name is Deacon Mitchell and I am a sophomore at Clopton High School and I have been in FFA for two years.

FFA has given me a lot of opportunities. Last year I competed on the horse team at districts. This year I will be competing on the dairy cattle team and I would like to help my team get to State. This year I went to the FFA National Convention.

I really enjoyed going there and being able to meet other people from

BY DEACON MITCHELL

My name is Mason Syreet, I'm a sophomore at Clopton High School and I have been in FFA for two years.

FFA has given me so many opportunities to pursue my agricultural career. I've also had so many great experiences that you can only get in FFA. My favorite is when we go into a contest. I love meeting new people from different schools and I love learning about new things and bond-

ing with my team and trying our hardest to get to state.

I also love when we have meetings because all of FFA get together and discuss business and eat pizza and after we discuss and eat we all play games and have a great time. I was an officer last year and it was a blast. The officers perform Veterans Day they serve food and drinks.

This year I was able to shoot trap and I was able to do this through FFA. I love to shoot guns and be outside. I hope to be able to go back to national convention and shoot trap next year.

all over the country. I was also able to meet people from different schools nearby. I was able to be with my friends from Clopton and get to know them better.

This year I was able to shoot trap and I was able to do this through FFA. I love to shoot guns and be outside. I hope to be able to go back to national convention and shoot trap next year.

BY MASON STREET

Junior Perspective

Hello, my name is Mary Margaret Garrett and I am a junior at Clopton High School.

I have been in FFA all three years of high school. My freshman year of high school I participated in conduct of chapter meetings. Our team went to state and got third. My sophomore year I participated in dairy cattle and again went to state. This year I am planning on doing food science.

Being in this organization has taught me so much. Before joining FFA I was terrified to talk in front of

anybody. I have learned to talk in front of crowds more easily and am now comfortable with it. FFA has taught me leadership through being on contest teams.

My favorite memory was the practices we had for conduct of chapter meetings. They were so fun and we always had food to eat. I will never forget the things I have learned in FFA and I am excited for the next two contest seasons.

BY MARY MARGARET GARRETT

Hello, my name is Zakk Eivins. I am a junior at Clopton High School and am currently enrolled in the food processing course of Ag. Although, I wasn't completely sure what I was getting into, but I really have enjoyed the class so far. So far, I have learned all about different retail and wholesale cuts of meat. They are hard to memorize sometimes, but now when I am going to get a steak at a restaurant, I know what to get! This year I plan on competing in sales presentation. I hope to return to state, as I have done both my freshman and sophomore year. I think we have a great team with a lot of experience. I think it will be a great year.

so much fun. I remember I had bowled like twice before and I came out and it showed. After a few turns though, I got the hang of it and started to play pretty average. After that, we went to Andy's Frozen Custard where I smashed a chocolate chip brownie shake. The following day, my team competed at state for conduct of chapter meetings. Our first round was kind've shaky but we were skilled enough to make it into the top six. Following a little pre meeting ritual, we went into the room and I thought we kicked butt! Sadly though, we finished third. An unhappy ending to a great trip. I hope I get to go to state again this year!

BY ZAKK EIVINS



Clopton Officer Team

Pictured are the Clopton High School FFA Officers, front row, (l-r): Ellie Beauchamp, Madison Horstmeier, Olivia Brune, Evan Lagemann, Avery Hall, and Taylor Akers. Second row: Abi Daskalakis, Macy Weitkamp, Kylie Lucas, Kendall Smith, Madisyn Parish, and Cole Hunter.

Senior Perspective

My name is Kennon Watts and I'm a senior at Clopton.

I've been in ffa my whole high school career, I've learned many great things in FFA, from the many great people I've met to the success in contest I wouldn't trade it for the world. I'm currently enrolled in a food science class where we are going over meat and the type of cut

and location of it, FFA has many opportunities for many people.

The opportunities are from traveling to many different states to getting college scholarships. The opportunities are endless and that's one thing I greatly admire about ffa. The memories will last a lifetime, like the crazy bus rides to contest or amazing barnwarmings.

The people and teachers strive to better each other and create a bond that lasts forever, even past the years of high school. FFA has taught me many things, things that I will remember forever, things that made me grow not only as a student but as a person, one of the many reasons I'm grateful to Clopton and our FFA.

BY KENNON WATTS

My name is Tricia Luke and I'm a senior at Clopton High School. I've been in FFA for four years.

Out of all my high school clubs FFA has been the one that I've been the most involved in.

The club has given me many op-

portunities throughout the past years. One of the most exciting and most memorable experiences I've had in FFA has been taking part in state FFA talent.

Last year my friend Stephanie Talbert and I auditioned and had the

opportunity to go to Columbia and perform in front of FFA members from all over the state.

This year my friend Hanna Blackmore and I hope to be able to do that again.

BY TRICIA LUKE

My Favorite FFA Memory

Hello, my name is Riley Walker and I am very involved in FFA.

There have been many great memories ever since I've joined FFA. My by far favorite memory was when my Conduct of Chapter Meetings team and I made it to state. We placed second at Area in Van-Far. We moved on into districts and got first in districts at Monroe City. When we made it on to state, we

made it out of the first round and moved to the semi finals. We ended up placing third at state for conduct of chapter meetings.

Sophomore year, the agronomy team and I made it to state. We had some good memories at the state contest. We always have a good time at state, and annoying our advisor. FFA has always been a big part of

my highschool career. By far, my favorite club that I'm involved in.

I have learned many things inside of my contest, and just in the club as itself. It has helped me develop many life skills such as speaking, competing, and getting outside of my comfort zone. FFA truly is amazing!

BY RILEY WALKER

My name is Megan Richards and I am a junior at Clopton High School.

I have been in FFA for three years now and FFA is one of my favorite organizations. Every year that I have been in FFA I have participated in a CDE. When contest season comes around it is one of my favorite times. I love to go and compete at different schools in the contest that I work hard in. Another one of my favorite things to do in FFA is go to the national convention.

I have attended the national convention twice now, and it is so much

fun. I love being able to travel to Indiana with all of my fellow FFA members. It's so much fun to travel and go to the events that the convention provides. While we are in Indiana for the national convention we get to go and do lots of fun bonding activities.

Last summer I attended the Washington Leadership Conference. This was such an amazing experience to be able to attend. In Washington we got to travel to many places and I learned so many new things that I never knew before. I really liked learning about

how to become a great leader.

One of my favorite things that we did in Washington D.C., was go on the night tour to many of the monuments. I thought that it was very beautiful and it was an amazing sight to see. I was very much so out of my comfort zone in Washington D.C., but I'm very glad that I attended because it was an experience that I will never get to have again. FFA has made a huge impact on me and I am so glad that I am a part of our FFA chapter here at Clopton.

BY MEGAN RICHARDS

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Thanks for a great year, we look forward to serving you in the future!

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Van-Far High School



Barnwarming 2019-20

Barnwarming candidates from every grade participated in fun candidate games on Nov. 26. The barnwarming king and queen were seniors Colin Wilburn and Olivia Bybee.

MAKAYLN PHILLIPS

Parents: David and Sherry Phillips
 What are your future plans?
 I plan to attend college at Missouri Western State University.
 What is your favorite part of FFA?
 My favorite part of FFA is getting the opportunity to meet new people and learn about new things everyday.
 What advice do you have for the underclassmen?
 I would tell underclassmen to stay active within the organization and other school activities. Time goes by fast in high school so make it a good four years.
 How has FFA impacted your life?
 FFA has taught me many different life and leadership skills.
 If you could have any superpower for one day, what would it be? Why?
 I would like to read people's minds so I could understand everything they say.

OLIVIA BYBEE

Parents: Sara and Brian Bybee
 What are your future plans?
 Going to Columbia College to study Nursing.
 What is your favorite part of FFA?
 My favorite part of FFA is the leadership skills that I have gained.
 What advice do you have for the underclassmen?
 Get involved! FFA opens up so many opportunities if you are willing to get involved.
 How has FFA impacted your life?
 FFA has allowed me to experience many new things. It has helped me grow as an individual and gain skills that will help me in my future.
 If you could have any superpower for one day, what would it be? Why?
 I would choose the ability to teleport so that I can travel wherever I want without having to pay for plane tickets.



Food For America

31 FFA members traveled to the elementary school in September to participate in Food For America where they taught the elementary students about many different areas of agriculture such as poultry, cows, tractors, food and FFA. Members attended the monthly FFA meeting in August where they participated in a fun filled scavenger hunt around town.



MADALYN COLE

Parents: Michael and Leila Cole
 What are your future plans?
 I plan to attend college at the University of Central Missouri and study psychology.
 What is your favorite part of FFA?
 The FFA breakfast
 What advice do you have for the underclassmen?
 I would tell them to never give up.
 How has FFA impacted your life?
 FFA has taught me leadership skills.
 If you could have any superpower for one day, what would it be? Why?
 Fly, so I can go to Italy and find long lost family.

MADALYN SWAFFORD

Parents: Jennifer Day
 What are your future plans?
 Attend college to get a degree in psychology.
 What is your favorite part of FFA?
 My favorite part of FFA was attending all of the different activities.
 What advice do you have for the underclassmen?
 Make time for all of the different events and be ready to meet new people.
 How has FFA impacted your life?
 It has taught me several different things about life.
 If you could have any superpower for one day, what would it be? Why?
 To be invisible, because then I couldn't be seen, but I could still observe everything.



AIDAN LOWRANCE

Name: Aidan Lowrance
 Parents: Christy and Tim Lowrance
 What are your future plans?
 I plan to attend college.
 What is your favorite part of FFA?
 My favorite part is Food for America.
 What advice do you have for the underclassmen?
 Work hard, play hard.
 How has FFA impacted your life?
 FFA helped me learn how important agriculture is in our community and around the world.
 If you could have any superpower for one day, what would it be? Why?
 Time travel. I might go back in time to steal some money and watch a few major events I'd like to see.



SAM MIDDLETON

Parents: Dean Middleton, Sheila and Greg Frost
 What are your future plans?
 Attend the University of Missouri and major in Agricultural Business.
 What is your favorite part of FFA?
 Competing on the forestry team in the freezing cold.
 What advice do you have for the underclassmen?
 Be involved.
 How has FFA impacted your life?
 FFA has impacted my life by getting me involved in many activities.
 If you could have any superpower for one day, what would it be? Why?
 Invisibility, so I can sneak into every Lakers game.



RYLEE HANSON

Parents: Scott Hanson
 What are your future plans?
 To go play college golf at Columbia College.
 What is your favorite part of FFA?
 Food for America day.
 What advice do you have for the underclassmen?
 Work hard in all classes.
 How has FFA impacted your life?
 FFA has impacted my life by getting me out and I also really enjoy helping the community.
 If you could have any superpower for one day, what would it be? Why?
 I would want time travel so I would be able to go back and see major events in this world.



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HALYNNYA YAGER

Parents: Anthony and Shelly Yager
 What are your future plans?
 Attend William Woods University for Pre-Law and Equine Science
 What is your favorite part of FFA?
 Contest teams
 What advice do you have for the underclassmen?
 Do it the way your ag advisor first instructed.
 How has FFA impacted your life?
 Made me more responsible
 If you could have any superpower for one day, what would it be? Why?
 Elemental control- I could cause a tomatodo if I wanted to, or perfect weather for one in Missouri.



DYLAN BAILEY

Parents: Angie and Ryan Noel
 What are your future plans?
 Working at General Mills
 What is your favorite part of FFA?
 Going to events like the FFA BBQ
 What advice do you have for the underclassmen?
 Make sure you pay attention in class so you know what is going on. How has FFA impacted your life?
 It impacted my life by making me learn new things and meet new people.
 If you could have any superpower for one day, what would it be? Why?
 Be invincible so I can not get hurt and I will be able to get in fights.



AUBREY BUNGE

Parents: Tom and Kay Bunge
 What are your future plans?
 I plan to go to a community college and transfer and possibly study animal science.
 What is your favorite part of FFA?
 My favorite part of FFA is the people, and the opportunities that it offers. FFA has been very educational and fun.
 What advice do you have for the underclassmen?
 I advise you to get involved in events and don't take the organization for granted.
 How has FFA impacted your life?
 FFA has allowed me to participate in community service projects, and I have always enjoyed my classes.
 If you could have any superpower for one day, what would it be? Why?
 If I could have any superpower I would probably choose teleportation so that I would have more time to get ready and be on time.



COLIN WILBURN

Parents: Jay and Tracy Wilburn
 What are your future plans?
 To attend the University of Missouri Honors College and major in Biochemistry and Statistics.
 What is your favorite part of FFA?
 The connections you'll make with people in your chapter, state, and country that share common interests.
 What advice do you have for the underclassmen?
 You'll only go as far as you push yourself.
 How was FFA impacted your life?
 FFA has pushed me to become a leader, make connections with others, and advocate for agriculture.
 If you could have any superpower for one day, what would it be? Why?
 To control time. I'd want to be able to go back to some of the most memorable moments in high school and thoroughly enjoy them in the moment.



MACKENA HAYS

Parents: David and Alisha Hays
 What are your future plans?
 To attend Saint Louis University to major in Biology on the pre-med track.
 What is your favorite part of FFA?
 I love the community that the FFA is able to pull together.
 What advice do you have for the underclassmen?
 Make yourself involved and enjoy the moment; it's over before you know it.
 How has FFA impacted your life?
 It has impacted my life by bringing me closer to people that I wouldn't have been otherwise.
 If you could have any superpower for one day, what would it be? Why?
 I would want to read minds because it's the only way to get the truth.



PAYTON PARGEON

Parents: Errett and Pamela Pargeon
 What are your future plans?
 To go into the workforce.
 What is your favorite part of FFA?
 Trap shooting season
 What advice do you have for the underclassmen?
 Find some time in the year and look back on the good times, and how they were made. Then think about how you can make more like those.
 How has FFA impacted your life?
 FFA has impacted me by showing me what hard work is and what fun work is, it has also showed me that when I'm in need I can always count on a friend.
 If you could have any superpower for one day, what would it be? Why?
 I would take the power to time travel. One so I can have more than a day with my superpower and two I could go back and see how many things were inspired by farmers and great leaders.



Our trapshooting members had great success this year and all improved their skills throughout the season! The team placed 5th at the Northeast District Trapshoot.

Have A Great National FFA Week!

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Members Share About FFA Experience

Mackena Hays
 Grade 12
 "The FFA has taught me a lot about being a leader and caring for my community around me. IT means a great deal to me because it has allowed me to start new friendships and grow stronger relationships."

Ashton Garnett
 Grade 11
 "FFA is more than fields of cattle and crops. It teaches respect, responsibility, and money management. It teaches everybody that when help is needed, you give it, and if you need help, people will help you."

Ennis Childs
 Grade 10
 "FFA provides many great opportunities for personal growth. I've been able to develop skills such as speaking and interviewing, and learned many different things through class and studying for contests. I'm really glad I chose to be a part of FFA."

Abby Carlyle
 Grade 9
 "FFA is a great organization where you can meet new people, learn new things, and gain new ex-

periences.
 We believe in giving back. All of our events throughout the year would not be possible if it was not for our amazing and supportive community.

As a way of saying thank you, our chapter has had several community service projects to give back. For instance, our chapter has helped at the Vandalia Historical Society, built a learning library that was placed by the local County Market, built benches placed on school property and raised money for the local YMCA project!

One of our biggest community service projects last year included the construction and maintenance of three raised garden beds for the Tri-County Nursing Home in Vandalia. We also plan to hold a food drive to support local food banks in the coming month. We would also like to say thank you to everyone who makes FFA possible from our Ag teacher Blaise Stuedle to our supportive Alumni group and everyone who has bought from our fundraisers- THANK YOU!

We believe in the future of agriculture. We asked our advisor, Blaise

Stuedle, what his goals are for our FFA chapter.

Blaise Stuedle
 Chapter Advisor
 "I believe in the future of agriculture... as the freshmen learned this year, is the opening statement of the 1st paragraph of the FFA creed. Becoming an agriculture-education teacher, I am invested in the future of agriculture by educating our future leader and agriculturalists.

I believe this chapter is one that is rich in history and deep with community support. Starting of my third year, I wanted to keep with the same traditions, but add my own spin to activities and events.

Going into the year, the chapter officers and I set many goals for the chapter this year. With our goals in mind, we have set out to continue the great traditions at Van-Far High School with Van-Far FFA."

You may outgrow the jacket, but you will never outgrow the experience. Thank you for making this amazing experience possible for our members! We can't wait to see what the future holds!

BY MAKALYN PHILLIPS AND DEVYN KELLER

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Silex FFA Officers after planning a big year for the chapter.



Pictured is the 2019-2020 Silex FFA Officer Team.



Greenhand Degree recipients eager for what's to come for them within the Silex FFA.



Officers Makayla Schneider and Lexi Plackemeier receive a check from helping at the 2019 Deerfest held in Auburn.



Chapter Degree recipients smiling bright for the future of our organization.



Brecken Johnston, Kelan Kinion, Tyler Mudd, Jackson Murphree, and Hayden Miller achieve first place at the state trap shoot for the fifth time in a row!

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 [with a faith born not of words but of deeds]
 ACHIEVEMENTS [born by the present in a past generation of agriculturalists]
 in the PROMISE OF BETTER DAYS THROUGH BETTER WAYS.
 even as the better things we now enjoy have come to us from the struggles of former years.
 The Paragraph of Tomorrow
 FFA Creed

I believe
 THAT TO LIVE AND WORK ON A GOOD FARM, [or to be engaged in other agricultural pursuits] IS PLEASANT AND CHALLENGING.
 FOR I KNOW THE JOYS AND DISCOMFORTS of agricultural life and hold an inborn [fondness] for those associations which, even in hours of discouragement, I CANNOT DENY.
 2nd Paragraph FFA Creed

COUNTRY VIEW NURSING FACILITY
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Louisiana High School

WEEK OF ACTIVITIES FOR LHS FFA

FFA WEEK EVENTS

FEBRUARY 24TH - 28TH

2/24

Ag Facts at Lunch
Come visit the FFA Table and learn some facts about Ag

2/25

Elementary School Day
3-5 grade will be coming to learn about Ag and we will be sending other grades with goodie bags

2/26

FFA MEETING
@7:30 in the Ag building
Breakfast provided by Ms. O'Hara

2/27

Rotary Lunch
The Officer Team will help serve along side the help from Mr. Jesberg

2/28

Capitol Day & Barnwarming (6:30-9:30)
Select kids will be going to our Capitol to discuss what all our Chapter does

FFA Member Leaders

The Louisiana FFA Chapter has had a total of three members hold a state officer position.

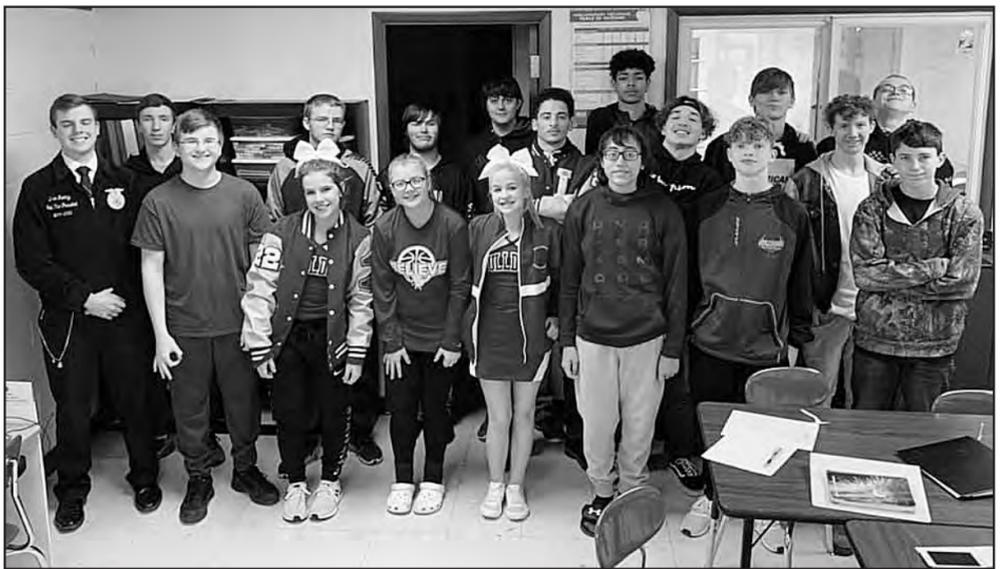
Leslie Fry held as secretary from 1929-1930 and as president from 1930-1931. Leslie Fry was also the second National FFA President which is the highest leadership position any FFA member could ever hold. Bob Conrad held the vice president position from 1947-1948.

From 1948-1949 Lewis Todd held the president position. Holding a state officer position holds many

responsibilities along with honor.

When looking back in history at our Louisiana Chapter we are proud to say that they represented us at a state level. This honor in history carries into today with motive for the Louisiana Chapter to get back on its feet and strive for accomplishments and achievements.

We are glad to be able to highlight this honor from our history to promote excellence and courage for all future generations of the Louisiana Chapter.



State FFA Officer Visits Louisiana

Ag Science 1 had a special visit from Missouri FFA State Officer Drew Kientzy on Jan. 16. They focused on SAEs, goal setting, goal achieving, and working to surround themselves with people who can help us do just that.

LOUISIANA FFA CHAPTER ENJOYS ANOTHER BUSY YEAR

This year we are trying to reach out and help our community by doing "Living to Serve" projects.

We wrote letters of thanks to our local farmers during Thanksgiving, we made Christmas cards for the local nursing homes, and have been picking up various volunteering op-

portunities.

Louisiana FFA Chapter also donated leftover fruit from the annual fruit sale to the local food pantry.

Our current "Living to Serve" project is to collect non-perishable food items to send home to high school students that are food inse-

cure over the school break.

We are collecting non-perishables during National FFA week, which is Feb. 22-29. Our Chapter's goal is 500 items or more! If you would like to help us reach our goal, please drop off items at the high school office.

SONNY PICONE PARTICIPATES IN FALL SPEAKING



Sonny Picone and Kamryn Gloe are pictured during the fall speaking contest.

My name is Sonny Picone and I am an active FFA member at Louisiana

High. Through FFA, I have been able to take part in several competitive activities. One day in my ag science class, our teacher, Ms. O'Hara, told us about fall speaking. After much deliberation, my friend, Kamryn Gloe, talked me into entering the competitive speech contest.

With the contest only a week away, we began writing our speeches. Kamryn and I practiced reading our speeches to one another and made our finishing touches. The topic of my speech was how agriculture can help you even after graduation.

This topic came easy to me, because agriculture surrounds us in so many ways, it's hard to miss. After we were confident with our speeches, we began writing every perfect word down on notecards to read from. Our confidence was pushed on edge as we saw all of the other participants around us and realized we would be put into separate rooms the entire time. We are so proud that we did our best at Fall Speaking and hope to compete in Leadership Development Events (LDEs) during this semester.

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754-4020

Ted Brown Hauling & Backhoe Service
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Louisiana
754-5812

Twin City Bowl
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Louisiana
754-4280

CountyMarket
Twin Pike Shopping Center
Louisiana
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We Support The Louisiana FFA Chapter!

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2nd Paragraph | FFA Creed

Congratulations On A Great FFA Week
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Proud supporter of National FFA Week & the Louisiana & Clopton FFA Chapters
PJ's Salon
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As part of her Supervised Agricultural Experience Caitlyn Gloe is pictured showing her hog.



Pictured are members of the Louisiana FFA Chapter making Christmas cards for area nursing home residents.



FFA Officer Spotlight

Alexis Ince
 Grade 10
 FFA Office: Reporter
 Favorite FFA Activity: National FFA Convention
 School Activities: FFA, FCA, STUCO, Theatre, and Track
 Looking forward to this year. What I'm looking forward to us to our contest teams this year hopefully making it to state.



SUPERVISED AGRICULTURAL EXPERIENCE

Supervised Agricultural Experience or commonly known as a S.A.E. SAE's are hands-on-foot-wet projects that all FFA members are encouraged to participate in. These projects allow FFA members to learn by doing.

With help from their agricultural instruction and FFA Advisor, students develop an SAE, project based on their interests or current occupation. Almost everything can in some way be a SAE for FFA. Having a job, mowing lawns, raising animals and so much more! Mine this year was raising hogs on my farm for the fair, breeding purposes, and butchering purposes. SAE's have multiple learning moments. This year in my SAE was rougher than we hoped.

Our production numbers weren't what we wanted them to be but it is an opportunity for me to learn some-

thing new. I have learned through these challenges that problem solving is essential. Since we didn't have the numbers we wanted this year, my siblings and I had to buy hogs from other people. Many people know the saying you have to spend money to make money and this year that was definitely true. We went to a few different farms and looked at many litters of pigs until we chose the best pigs to show.

Once you choose the perfect pig the work truly begins. You of course have to feed and water the pigs but you also have to walk them, then walk them some more, and keep practicing walking them to properly show off their best features to the judge. It is easy to say I continue to gain knowledge each year I invest time into my SAE.

BY CAITLYN GLOE

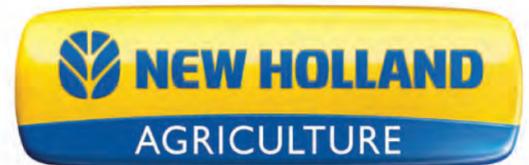
*Have a great week,
 Louisiana FFAers!*



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- March 4 — Bowling Green Tractor
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