B1 FFAWEEK

Wednesday, February 22, 2023 mexicoledger.com



What is FFA?

FFA is a dynamic youth organization that changes lives and prepares members for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

FFA develops members' potential and helps them discover their talent through hands-on experiences, which give members the tools to achieve real-world success.

Members are future chemists, veterinarians, government officials, entrepreneurs, bankers, international business leaders, teachers and premier professionals in many career fields.

FFA is an intracurricular student organization for those interested in agriculture and leadership. It is one of the three components of agricultural edu-

The official name of the organization is the National FFA Organization. The letters "FFA" stand for Future Farmers of America. These letters are a part of our history and our heritage that will never change.



Landon Love: My favorite FFA activity is the National FFA Convention. There are so many fun activities and learning experiences that happen during the convention. One of my favorite events is the rodeo or listening to very famous people give speeches. We are able to tour well known places. National convention has given me many experiences that I would not have a chance to be a part of if I was not in FFA.



Tractor Brands MICS AT THE OLD PHARMACY AND CERAMIC SHOPPE DOWNTOWN MEXICO Day

RMAILTY FEAST/OPEN GYM Bus leaves at 5 pm for Formality Feast (dress nice) Bring gym clothes, we will be staying for Open Gym with

HELP WITH FOOD DISTRIBUTION Meet at Help Center at 1:50 PM, released from school (if signed up at 1:40 pm)

entralia FFA Chapter Return by 8 pm

Must work whole shift, (1:50-5 pm)

Ranch Day

Camo

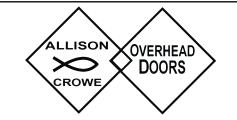
Day

Linn Stuart: My favorite Agriculture course has been Ag Construction, because it has expanded my understanding of several different trades. We have gotten experience in welding and woodworking, and we will be learning about electricity and concrete soon. Before taking the course I didn't know much about all of the trades, but now I have a better understanding. I knew how to weld and woodwork from previous courses, but this course specifically strengthened my understanding. This course is the most handson course I have taken so far. In this class, we have

welded stools, and have

built rabbit traps out of

wood.



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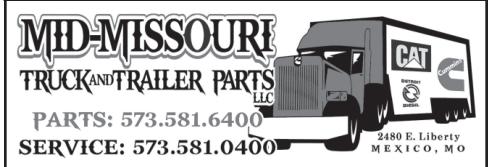




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Wednesday, February 22, 2023

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Jackson Norfleet:

My name is Jack Norfleet and I have been in FFA for almost three years. My Supervised Agriculture Experience consists of beef production where I raise and sell beef cattle along with my dad on my family farm. I participate in all aspects of our beef cattle operation year-round; From artificially inseminating cows and heifers in October, to assisting with births in April. I bottle feed calves and monitor my cattle regularly as their safety is as important to me and my family. I also help take care of my grandfather's cattle. Some things are hard for him to do as he is not as young as he used to be, so I am always very willing to help him at any given moment. One of the most rewarding components of my beef production SAE is raising show steers and heifers through from birth and then being able to market them and sell them locally to young



Daniela Garcia: My

name is Daniela Garcia, my favorite Agriculture course activity was the time when we did the wood projects. There were many more activities but definitely, this was my favorite. I have learned many things while in Agriculture class but in this course activity I learned the most and it was something really fun to do. This activity was really fun to do and I learned many new things.



4H and FFA members. I tend and feed my show cattle frequently as I rinse, groom, and care for them. I show my cattle at the local, county, district, and state level throughout each summer. I sell my steers in July and keep my heifers as cows to help expand my personal herd. In the summer, I facilitate my forage production SAE by growing and harvesting hay with the help of my father and grandfather. I assist with mowing, tedding, raking, and bailing hay to feed to my pasture of cattle. Additionally, I have a diversified crop production SAE where I plant corn and soybeans with my father and grandfather

in the summer and harvest the crops in the fall season. All of my Supervised Agricultural Experiences have impacted the development of my future career goals as I plan to stay within the beef industry after high school and become an auctioneer. Through my SAEs I have been able to have personal growth, build communities, and strengthen agriculture. FFA is a great organization that has allowed me to prepare myself for my future, as I will gain more knowledge, communication skills, and connections with important people in my community that will ultimately help me succeed in the future.



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Melinda - 573-253-6104 Kailey- 573-795-7436 Brittany - 573-975-0623





2023 Mexico FFA **Proficiency Results**

Neil Waller: Swine Production Ownership 1st Place - MOVING ON TO STATE

> Nick Van Schyndel: Agriscience 1st Place - MOVING ON TO STATE

Neil Waller: Agriculture Education - 2nd Place Nick Haines: Beef Production Ownership - 3rd Place **Jack Norfleet:** Diversified Crop Production - 3rd Place Cameron Beasley: Turf Grass Management - 2nd Place Nick Van Schyndel: Poultry Production - 2nd Place Nick Haines: Forage Production - 2nd Place

Other competitors:

Nick Van Schyndel: Ag Processing **Jaron Thebeau:** Agricultural Services Logan Thebeau: Agriculture Sales Placement

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mexicoledger.com Wednesday, February 22, 2023 **FFA WEEK**



Nicholas Van Schyndel: My supervised agriculture experience is my flock of 500 chickens. I currently get 15 dozen eggs a day from my chickens and love selling them straight to the end consumer. I also show goats that I butcher. My products get sold online hedgehollerharvest. com and through the Columbia Farmers Market. The products that I sell are goat meat and eggs. I have been able to earn two National FFA Grants and

three local Mexico FFA

Blue and Gold Supporters

Grants. All of the grant

money has allowed me to grow my business. I am

thankful for the business-

es and individuals that help out FFA members



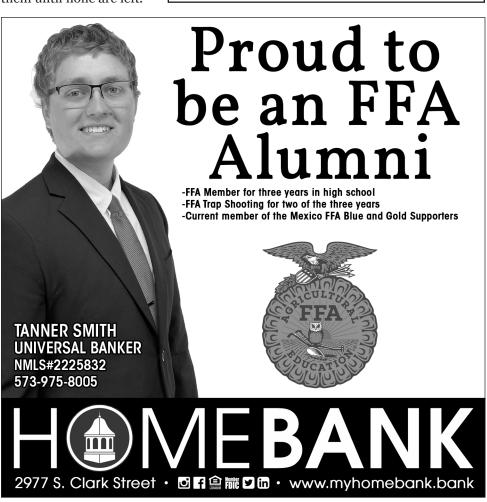
Tate Ellison: My Supervised Agriculture Experience is breeding my blue heeler and selling her puppies. I examine my dog to see when she goes into heat and when she does I leave her with a suitable male. After a few days, I pick up my dog and make preparations at home for the pups. Once she has the puppies we raise them until they are old enough to be sold at that point we start to sell them until none are left.



Claire Isgrig: My favorite agricultural course activity we have done is building the shelf. This project was very fun and we learned a lot from it. My favorite part of making the shelf was using the saw to cut the wood. I also really liked that we got to build it with a partner.









Wyatt Troesser: My favorite activity during FFA week is our ag industry tours. During the industry tours our ffa members go to different locations that use agriculture practices to learn about different areas of agriculture and how they can be used in today's agricultural environment. This is a very unique experience for our ffa members and is a great opportunity to learn about the ever changing tools in agriculture.





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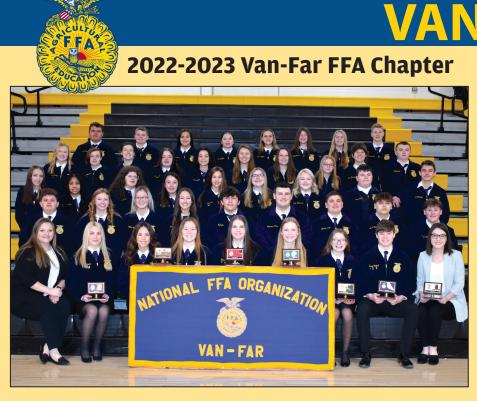
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All Photos and Articles were submitted by Chapter Reporter, Kristen Shaw



VAN - FAR

Education statistics

More than 11,000 FFA advisors and agriculture teachers deliver an integrated model of agricultural education, providing students with innovative and leading-edge education and enabling them to grow into competent leaders.

92 percent offer agriscience; 71 percent offer advanced agriscience and biotechnology; 59 percent offer agricultural mechanics; 49 percent offer horticulture; 43 percent offer animal science; and 24 percent offer environment-related.

23 percent of teachers have five or fewer years of teaching experience.

The shortage of qualified agriculture teachers is the greatest challenge facing FFA and agricultural education.



Hwy. 54 Trash pick up

The Van-Far FFA chapter prides itself on community service. Every month from August-October and March-May our members meet on a Monday morning to pick up trash alongside Highway 54. We partner with Adopt-A-Highway to ensure the community that supports us is clean.





2022-2023 Van-Far FFA Officers

Front L to R: Miss Rachael Bagnell, Advisor, Clara Wallace, Vice President, Carmen Wilburn, Vice President, Mara Jensen, President, Rebecca Motley, Secretary, Mrs. Ashlee Crader, Advisor. Back L to R: Kayla Heaton, Historian, Erin Childs, Treasurer, Reece Culwell, Sentinel. Not Pictured: Kristen Shaw, Reporter.



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FFA operates on local, state and national levels. Student members belong to chapters organized at the local school level. Agriculture educators serve as chapter advisors. Chapters are organized under state associations headed by an advisor and executive secretary, often employees of the state department of education. States conduct programs and host annual conventions.

The National FFA Organization is governed by a board of directors, charters state associations and provides direction, program materials and support for local chapters and state FFA associations.

FFA was organized nationally in 1928 in Kansas City, Mo. In 1950, Congress granted FFA a federal charter, making it an integral part of public agricultural instruction under the National Vocational Education Act. FFA receives no federal

The U.S. Department of Education provides leadership and helps set direction for FFA as a service to state and local agricultural education programs.



Nursery Landscape team

The 2022 State Champion Nursery and Landscape team competed at the National FFA Convention in October of 2022. The team placed second overall, and Ennis Childs was the high individual. Pictured from to left to right are Ennis Childs, Hunter Scrogin, Devyn Keller, and Mara Jensen.



Mud Volleyball

One of our most participated in meetings of the year is Mud Volleyball. We play at the fairgrounds and our members, especially new members in the freshman class, are able to come to a fun competitive event to kick off the school year! We appreciate the Vandalia Fair and Vandalia Fire Department for providing us with a location and a lot of water!



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WEDNESDAY, **FEBRUARY 22ND**

FFA WEEK

Western Wednesdau

Dress like a cowboy Games in class

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD

Tie-Dye Thursday

Vear anything tie-dye Trivia in class

FRIDAY, **FEBRUARY 24TH**

FFA Apparel

Friday Drive your truck or tractor to

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Greenhouse: Students have spent the year preparing for our spring greenhouse sales.



CYE: Students participated in the Callaway Youth Expo. Sophie Geppert is pictured with her holstein breeding heifer.

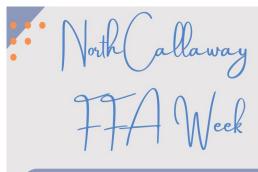


National Floriculture Team: The state winning floriculture team competed at nationals. The team placed 4th at nationals. Team members were Sam Pezold, Lauren Riecke, Tyler Huddleston and Isiah Craighead. Isiah was recognized for placing 8th indi-

National FFA Organization

At the national level, FFA is led by a board of directors and six student national officers.

Together they act on recommendations from the national convention delegates and agricultural education's stakeholders to set the vision and policy for FFA. The founding principles, authority, objectives and procedures of the National FFA Organization are established by the National FFA Constitution and Bylaws. The National FFA Organization is a federally-chartered organization.



February 21st: Official Dress Day

February 22nd: Career Exploration Event

February 23rd: Community & Teacher/Staff **Breakfast**

February 24th: SAE Day





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MU: Ag Science 1 students attended Career Exploration Day at Bradford Research Farm.



National FFA Convention: North Callaway FFA members enjoyed National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN. The students attended sessions, explored the career show and spent a day in Louisville.



Trap Team: The trap team had a successful season, placing 2nd at the Area IV Trap Shoot.



Silver Dollar City: The top members on the points chart were rewarded with a trip to Branson in August.

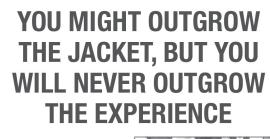


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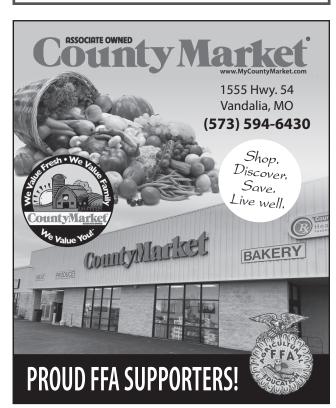
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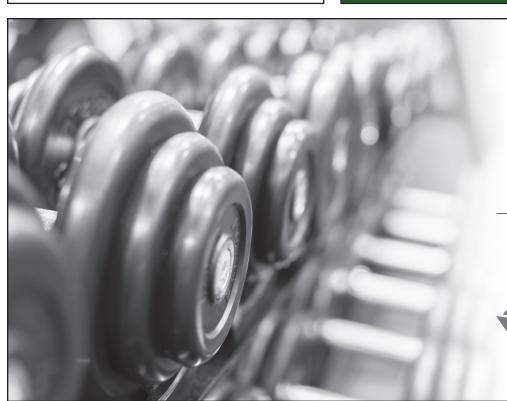












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2022-2023 FFA members

Why you should join FFA

By Lelynn Napolis Sophomore FFA Member

I joined FFA in 7th grade because I wanted to be a part of our Ag community. While being in FFA, I can go on trips with the rest of my group. It gives me time to really enjoy myself. I can shoot Trap since I'm in FFA. I love being a successful member of our society. I am given many opportunities for greatness and well-being. In FFA, you learn how to be a great leader.

What I do in FFA

By Cooper Rohan Freshman FFA Member

to cut firewood for my helping people out.

SAE project and show my fair steer. I like to be outdoors and listen to I love to shoot trap what nature tells me. I and be involved in the like to help people work FFA programs. I like and be outside. I enjoy

FFA Ag Appreciation Breakfast

By Tucker Robnett Senior FFA Member & **Chapter President**

My favorite FFA activity that our chapter hosts is our FFA Appreciation Breakfast. Always served on the first Monday of FFA Week, we make breakfast available to anyone that would like to come to our building. In the past, the menu consisted of pancakes, eggs,

sausage, bacon, biscuits and gravy, fruit, coffee and pastries. This is my favorite FFA activity because we get to serve people that have helped our chapter in the past, currently, or just to see new and old faces. This year our breakfast is held on February 20th at the Community R-VI Ag Building. All are invited and we hope to see old and new faces there!

What Do You Do in FFA?

By Zachary Love Junior FFA Member

With the upcoming events of FFA week, lots of events and activities are happening and during this, it is a great time to start discovering new things that you will enjoy. There's many fun things to do in your local FFA shooting and contest if your Local FFA chapter you're more the competitive type. There's are working.

also plenty of travel if you are more of a sightseeing type with going to places around the state and even National FFA Convention held in Indiana. My reason for joining my schools FFA chapter was because I had always liked going places and helping others, along with a little bit of competition. This chapter, one of those is why I encourage you fun things can be trap to either join or look at and see how hard they

>>> MORE COMMUNITY R-6 FFA ON PAGE B9



ries at the 2022 National FFA Convention.



National Winners: Emily Hoyt and Justin Duen- State Degrees: The 2022 State Degree recipients ke were named National Winners in their Proficiency from Audrain Co R-VI FFA were Shianne Platt and Er-



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Working in Ag Construction

By Pacey Cope FFA Member & Chapter Treasurer

Currently in Ag Construction, we have a lot going on. Tucker and myself are working on redoing a shed to store stuff for the greenhouse in. Mason and

out of cedar boards, and Clayton and Dylan are making a shooting bench. Tucker and I have replaced the floor, one of the bottom boards on the walls, and all of the trim. We will have to replace the roof as well because it has rotted out from sitting out in the elements for so long

Agriscience Research

By Aaron CarterJunior FFA Member &

Junior FFA Member & Chapter 1st Vice President

At the state and national level in FFA, there is an agriscience fair. This is where students have a chance to show off their research skills with projects that they have done and spent a lot of time on. I will be entering the science fair with a project

that shows the effect of different colors of light on laying hens. I will see which is the best for the most egg production by counting the number of eggs that were collected each day. The control of the experiment will be no added light at all. I think that it's a really cool opportunity to let kids do their own experiments and research within FFA.

Fall Public Speaking

By Dylan Hoyt Junior FFA Member & Chapter Secretary

Missouri's Fall Public Speaking is a fantastic opportunity for FFA members to research a topic provided by one of the many Ag based organizations in the state. Whether it's writing about your passion for the cattle, horse, or sheep industry, or speaking out about the importance of soil, water, and forestry conservation, this is your time to give your thoughts and opinions to the people who are well educated in those areas. Although public speaking seems like a daunting task, it is a great skill that I am grateful to have learned during my vears in FFA.

in the Missouri Soil & Water Conservation Districts speaking event, and the topic was "Healthy Soil; Healthy Life". During my research, I learned about the topsoil heath in Audrain County, talked to local farmers about using cover crops to create a healthier soil, and learned about the history of Sanborn Field in Columbia, Missouri. Thanks to the support of my community, I was able to become the 2022 State Champion for the MSWCD. After my name was called, I was invited to give my speech in front of everyone in attendance at the annual conference. Because of the Fall Public Speaking event, I found my passion for public speaking, and encourage any member to participate.

This fall, I participated pa

Area V FFA Leadership Conference

By Chloe Campbell

Sophomore Member & Assistant Officer

My favorite part of FFA this year was Area V Leadership Conference in Bowling Green. I loved going to present and talk about my SAE project because I am very passionate about it and the experiences you get from it. I

got to talk to hundreds of people, see some old friends and make a lot of new ones because of it, but honestly the best part was I got to meet an ag teacher that has and takes care of bees who I learned a lot of interesting things from. It's always interesting to meet someone who also deals with unique animals.



Area Banquet - Audrain Co R-VI FFA was well represented with lots of FFA members earning awards at the 2022 Area V FFA Banquet in Elsberry!



Ag Sales - The Ag Sales team was Erica Windmann, Pacey Cope, Lance Fort, and Tucker Robnett. The team placed 2nd in State and all 4 were gold ranking individuals.



Convention - Sixteen FFA members attended National FFA Convention in Indianapolis. They toured agriculture businesses in Louisville, including Churchill Downs.



Adopt A Highway - FFA members clean up a 2 mile section of Highway 54 in front of the Community R-VI School each fall as part of a community service project.

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