



Salute to  
**FFA**



**NATIONAL FFA WEEK  
FEB. 15-22**

**HONORING POLK  
COUNTY'S FFA CHAPTERS**



Special Supplement to the  
**BOLIVAR HERALD-FREE PRESS**

**FEBRUARY 19, 2025**



## Friday, February 21: Drive Your Farm Vehicle to School Day



# Students attend UMC Field Day



**ABOVE:** Students took walking tours where they could hear presentations on a variety of agricultural and conservation topics. One highlight was our students had the opportunity to learn about the process of harvesting poultry.

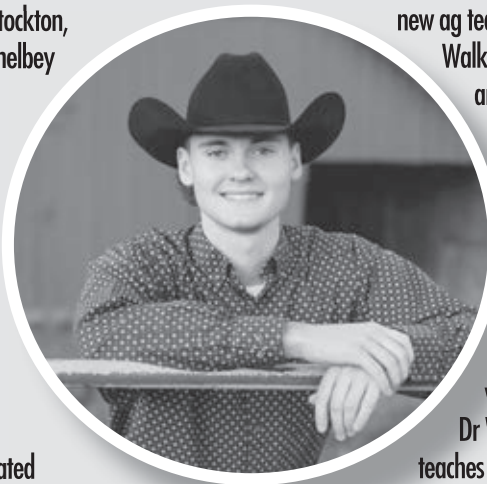
# New CDE Team: Veterinary Science



In the Veterinary Science Career Development Event (CDE), students working in teams demonstrate their technical competency with small and large animals. Our Animal Science class had the opportunity to learn and put their skills to work at the Missouri FFA Vet Science Contest. Team members Samantha York, Riley Elmore, Kohen Hancock, Chris Sims, and Daniel Taylor completed rotations in the areas of: Breed ID, Parasite ID, Tool ID General Knowledge, Veterinary Mathematics, Restraints and Hands on Practicums

## PRESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

Conor Stockton



My name is Conor Stockton, son of Shawn and Shelbey Stockton. I serve as the president of the Marion C. Early FFA chapter. My SAE consists of raising purebred Hereford cattle, custom fescue seed harvest, and raising hair sheep on a 4th generation farm located near Aldrich. My brother and I both serve as 50% members of our LLC, named C&E Farms LLC. Since the start of my SAE, I have grown tremendously in my knowledge and passion for the Agricultural Industry. None of what I have or know would have been possible without all the positive influences and guidance I have received from the FFA, ag teachers, and most importantly my family. The FFA has given me the wonderful opportunity to grow and develop into the person I am today such as leadership skills, future career skills, social skills, and much more.

My leadership in the chapter began as a sophomore becoming an officer, serving as the treasurer, and later my junior year serving as the secretary. I have also been an active member since my freshman year. There have been many great long-term memories gained from FFA, my favorite being my sophomore year attending the National Convention where we stayed in log cabins. This year has been a lot to endure for our chapter and community as we have been working hard to get youth in our elementary, and a sense of community brought into our local area. This has been accomplished through the formation of the Agri-Leaders, and a 4-H club for our K-12 students interested in getting involved with agriculture. This year has also been great for our chapter because we introduced two

new ag teachers to our chapter; Dr.

Walker and Mrs. Porter. We are so fortunate to have them, they are very passionate about what they do. Mrs. Porter has her animal and food science classes for the high school side and the elementary ag classes as well as the 4-H program.

Dr Walker is also new and teaches Ag I & II, ag leadership, greenhouse, and ag power in the high school side, and also has a 6th grade outdoor education class as well.

Throughout my high school FFA career I have had many proud accomplishments. My first proud accomplishment dated back to when I was a freshman and applied for the Star Greenhand award at the chapter level and got it. This summer I exhibited a sample of fescue seed at both the Ozark Empire Fair and Missouri State Fair. I received the reserve grand champion ribbon at the Ozark Empire Fair which was exciting. This year I applied for a beef proficiency award, area star farmer, and my state degree all at once. My combined SAE and FFA points totaled nearly 2,100 points so we knew going in that I could be potentially pretty competitive for beef proficiency and star farmer. Though I didn't get either star farmer or beef proficiency I was runner up in both at the area level which I am very proud of knowing that I had accomplished and closed out my high school records with much gained knowledge while racking up a good amount of points. I was still able to earn my state degree and will apply for my American Degree after one year prior to my graduation. I am excited to see what the future holds for our agriculture community and utilize what I have learned from being in ag classes and FFA, in years to come!

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# Public Speaking Institute

Six students took a trip to Springfield to attend PSI- which is an event designed to help students of all levels improve their speaking skills and prepare for LFE Season.



FFA Members on a tour of Springfield Grocer



# Ag Building Beautification Project

Students in Ag Classes worked to plan and execute a new sidewalk for the Ag Building.

# ADVISER SPOTLIGHT

## Dr. Weston Walker

### Why is FFA Important to you?

When I was 5 years old and saw my Dad's FFA jacket in the closet, I wanted to be an FFA member. The FFA was

instrumental in preparing me for success in the numerous aspects of Agriculture in which I have been involved throughout my career.

**What do you love most about being an FFA Advisor?** I enjoy helping students reach their full potential and sharing the good news of how American Agriculture and the FFA can help young people gain the experience and knowledge needed to be successful in their future careers.

**Your FFA history:** I was Pleasant Hope FFA Chapter member. Honorary Chapter Degree recipient of Everton & Skyline Chapters. Missouri Honorary State FFA Degree.

Awards: Star Greenhand and Star Chapter Farmer. Group I- State Completed Record Book. SW District 6th High Individual Livestock Judging.

Offices: Sentinel, President and Jr. Advisor, Area 8 Vice President.

State and American FFA Degrees recipient. My FFA experience allowed me to excel in Post-secondary Agriculture Students Organization while in college, when I served as the Missouri President and

National Vice President.

### Secondary Program Accomplishments:

Established Everton Agricultural Education / FFA Program: 1994  
Nearly doubled Skyline FFA membership in three years: 1997-2000

Superior Chapter Award 995-2000, 2003

Area 8 Star in Agribusiness: 2 Recipients  
Area 8 Proficiency Award: 2 Winners  
State Creed Speaking: 2 Competitors  
State FFA Degree: 15 Recipients  
State Field Crops Team: 1 Winner (plus 3 sixth, 1 ninth & 1 twelfth)  
State FFA Knowledge Team: 2 Winners (plus 1 third, 1 fourth, & 1 eighth)  
State Meat Evaluation Teams: 2 second place (plus 1 third, 3 sixth)  
State Entomology Teams: 1 sixth, 1 eighth & 1 tenth  
State Nursery / Landscaping Teams: 2 eighth place ( plus 1 group II)  
State Farm Management Team: 1 fifth placing  
State Dairy Foods Team: 1 tenth placing  
State Livestock Teams: 1 thirteenth placing and 1 group II placing  
Area 8 FFA Officers: 5 Officers  
National Agronomy Team: 1st Ever State Qualifier, 2000 and Winner, 2003  
State Grasslands Team: 4th place, 1999



Morrisville FFA 2024-25 members.

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Humansville

FFA



CHAPTER STATS

Chartered; 1939

Current Advisor: Brent Wright

Former Advisors:

- Makenzi 1964
- Harold Tindle 1965
- Bill Collins 1967
- Lyndon Bay 1668,69 85-96
- Don Raines 1979-80
- David Vincent 1982, 83, 84
- Ed Vest 1997, 98, 99, 2000
- Brent Wright 2001-Present

# Humansville FFA Officers 2024-2025

These are our 2024-2025 chapter officers. To achieve the positions that they have, they had to go through an application and interview process with our advisor as well as previous officers and other Chapter Alumni. Some of the responsibilities of our officers include planning and running chapter meetings as well as keeping our chapter functioning smoothly.

Members from left to right, President Jackson Schuber, Treasurer Talon Hall, Sentinel Max Sloan, Secretary Jaelynn Hebert, Reporter Madison Leuty, Vice-president Shelbie Turnbough.



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# NATIONAL CONVENTION 2024



These members met the requirements to be able to go on the National FFA Convention trip by being the top Creed Speakers and highest fundraisers in the chapter.

Members from left to right, Jackson Shuber, Kendrik Albright, Natalie Alvarado, Landon Finley, Mallorie Alvarado, Advisor Brent Wright.



# Missouri State Fair, Food Insecurity Day 2024

On Food Insecurity Day, these members went to the Missouri State Fair in Sedalia, where they were put to work packaging ready-to-go meals for people with lesser access to food. Afterward, they were rewarded with a day of fun running around the State Fair.



Members from left to right, back row, Advisor Brent Wright, Jaelynn Hebert, Max Sloan, Talon Hall, Treven Fonteneau, Jackson Schuber; front row, Natalie Alvarado, Harley Colbert, Shelbie Turnbough.



# Agronomy Team 2024

This team competed in the Missouri state contests for Agronomy, after placing high enough in the Southwest District contest in Springfield. The agronomy contest consists of plant ID, seed ID, disorders, and a knowledge test.



Members from left to right, Jackson Schuber, Ty Ahlers, Talon Hall, and Kylee Proctor.

# Humansville FFA State Degree Recipient's 2024



Members from left to right: Jackson Shuber, Gabriella Frey, Jessica Winfrey. Jessica's SAE is placement, where she has worked at RBW Agriculture Equipment and Westlake Hardware. Gabriella's SAE is also placement, she has worked at Sugar Bear Exotics. Jackson's SAE is placement as well, he has worked at the Highland Veterinary Clinic.

Row 1; Jaelynn Hebert, Talon Hall, Jackson Schuber, Max Sloan, Advisor Brent Wright.  
Row 2; Frankie Cramer, Paul Conley, Gage McGuire, Layton Kenney, Angel Souza.  
Row 3; Natalie Alvarado, Kylie Fields, Mallorie Alvarado, Kylee Proctor, Jaden Honeycutt, Kendrik Albright.  
Row 4; Landon Finley, Angel Aguilar, Lorna Gordley, Trinity Gormley, Molly Green.  
Row 5; Ricky Lee, Kylie Scrivener, Paige Colbert.



# Entomology Team 2024

This team competed in the Missouri state contests for Entomology, after placing high enough in the Southwest District contest in Springfield. The Entomology contest consists of bug ID, metamorphosis ID, and life cycle as well as a knowledge test.



Members from left to right, Madison Leuty, Harley Colbert, Kylie Scrivener, Shelby Turnbough.

# FFA Area 10 Barnwarming 2024

Humansville FFA attended the annual Area 10 Barnwarming held in Stockton on Oct. 10, 2024. Students enjoyed an evening full of fun, dancing, and socializing with their peers. In correlation with past years the dance was themed, said theme was Neon Cowboy.



Members from left to right: Back row, Natalie Alvarado, Trinity Gormley, Paxton Finley, Jackson Schuber, Jayden Vanderburg, Landon Finley, Jaelynn Hebert; Front row, Mallorie Alvarado, Lorna Gordley, Kylie Fields, Julianne Henry, Harley Colbert, Kylie Scrivener.

# ADVISER SPOTLIGHT

## Brent Wright




The year in general was very productive for the members at Humansville FFA. We participated in many chapter and area activities. We had three members obtain their State FFA Degrees last spring and two teams advanced onto state for the spring contests. I tell my students all the time that I have the best job in school. When I say this I mean that the fun and exciting part of all Agriculture Education programs is that we get to teach a lot of hands-on real life lessons each day. We all know that no matter what career we go into in life that we will eat everyday of our lives. Students today not by fault are two to three generations removed from the agriculture world. Agriculture Education brings these lessons to students who may have never had access to these real life lessons. Agriculture Education allows students to apply what they have learned in class to real life situations.



# Pleasant Hope

# FFA



**CHAPTER STATS**

Chartered: April 10th, 1931

Advisors: Jered Brown and David Parrack

Membership: 85

**AWARDS:**

- 2022 Clara Smith and Loralie Myers -Silver rating at Nationals and 1st in State Agriscience Food Products and Processing Systems Division VI.
- 2022 Mackenzie Hamilton and Duane Hickman -1st in State Agriscience Food Products and Processing Systems Division IV.
- 2022 Dairy Foods to State.

**FFA WEEK:**

Sunday, Feb. 19: Sunrise Baptist Church/Official dress

Monday, Feb. 20: Wonders of Wildlife and Lamberts/FFA t-shirts

Tuesday, Feb. 21: Anything but a backpack/American day

Wednesday, Feb. 22: Breakfast for dinner/Western day

Thursday, Feb. 23: Drive anything but a car/Camo day

Friday, Feb. 24: Western Farm Show



# FFA OFFICERS



Five of our members after receiving their American FFA Degrees.



Pleasant Hope visiting the Bob Ross museum.

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Jeremy McCarthy

# PRESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

# Addison Rogers

My name is Addison Rogers, and I am currently a junior at Pleasant Hope High School. My parents are Jennifer and Daniel Evans, and Chris and Julie Carlton. This year I am serving as my chapters president as well as an Area X vice president. My SAE projects include my job at Bolivar MFA, my Agriscience projects, and in the past I have had steers. At MFA I do all sorts of things, from stocking shelves, to working the register, to loading dog food for customers. Over the past two years I have had three agriscience projects. My freshman year my best friend Gracie and I did a project testing the evaporative loss and viscosity of different types of oils in extreme temperatures. To do this, we heated the oil using hot plates, and froze this cooked oil, and some raw, then ran it down our homemade Viscosity 500. This project won first at state level, and tenth at the national level. Sophomore year I participated in two different categories, my first project was in social science where I tested the knowledge retention of third grade students through hands-on versus oral learning. I did this by giving one class a pre-test, presented a lesson to them that I had created on the dairy industry, and then gave them a post-test. The second class also got a pre-test, the oral presentation, but they got to do a hand-on butter making activity to reinforce concepts learned, afterwards they took the post-test. This agriscience placed second at state. For my third project Gracie and I competed in power and structure for our second year, and this time we evaluated different types of piping on their resistance to freezing. This experiment was very simple, but also very educational for us. We filled copper, PEX, and PVC pipes with red dyed water to detect any cracks, bursts, or leaks in the pipes while they were in the freezer. This project won first place at state, then we got to move on to nationals where we interviewed and ended up receiving second place in the nation. That has been my highest achievement and honor in my FFA career this far. My plans after high school are to attend college to become an agriculture education teacher for elementary students, whether that is in a school district or with an agricultural association. My favorite part of FFA is the diversity. For me, I didn't grow up on a farm, and my trip to agriculture might not have been the typical way. It's really cool for me to be able to see how others who didn't grow up in the agriculture industry grew into it. I also love being able to meet others in my area, which is how I met some of my now closest friends. Lastly, I love that we all have one thing in common, and that is our shared passion for agriculture, which is just really cool to me. A fun fact about me is that my favorite movies are Remember the Titans and The Blind Side.







Laine Pulley receiving his Proficiency Award for Fruit Production.



Lexi Perryman receiving her Proficiency Award for Agriscience Research- Plant Systems.



Ember Gertner receiving her Proficiency Award for Outdoor Recreation.



Trevor Tucker receiving his Proficiency Award for Wildlife Management.



ABOVE: Jake Hickman, Turner Alexander, and Laine Pulley at Missouri State FFA Convention after receiving their State Degrees.

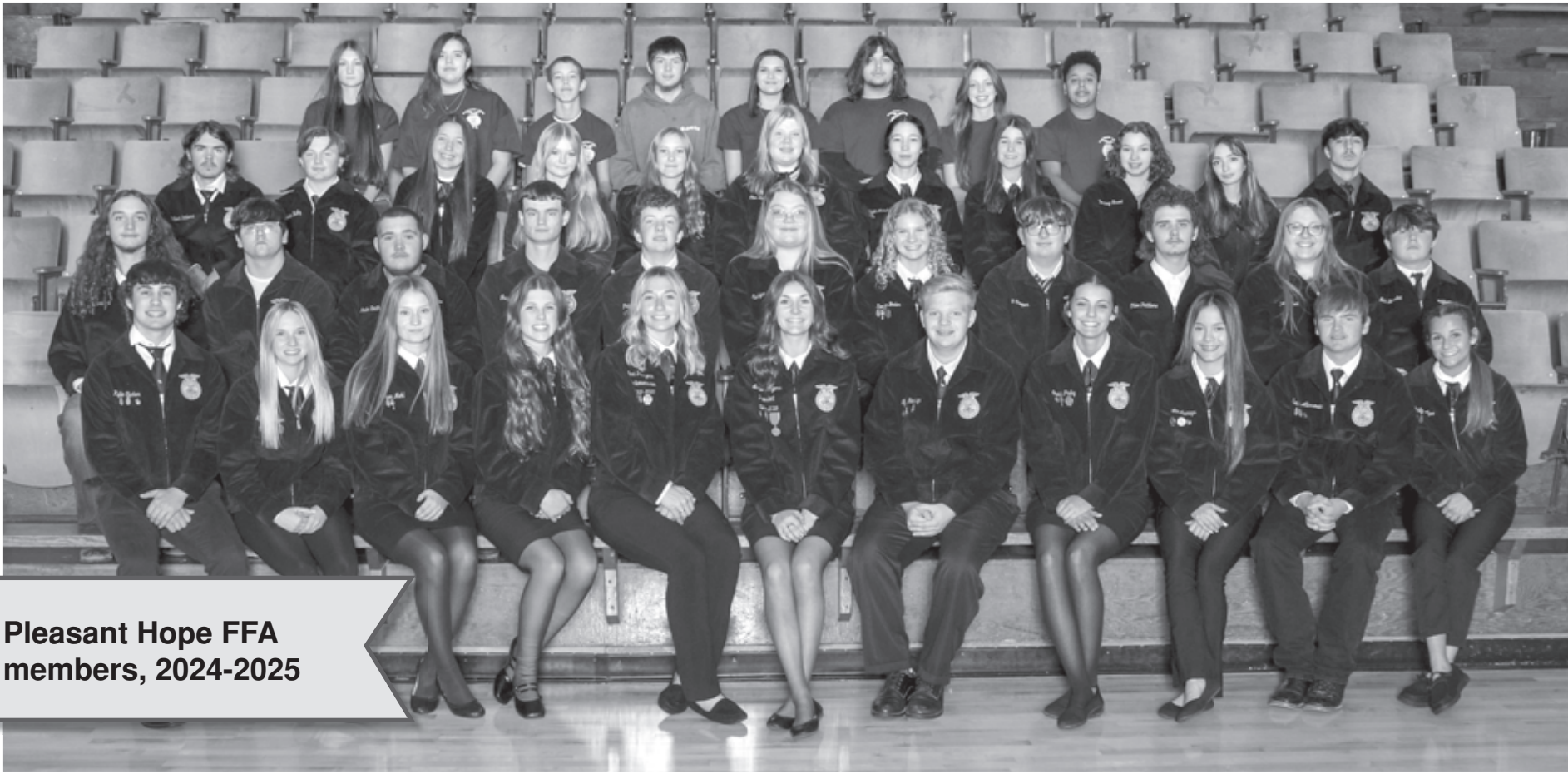
LEFT: Pleasant Hope FFA members at the 97th National FFA Convention.



# ADVISER SPOTLIGHT *Zachary Funk*



I am thrilled to move into a chapter that has welcomed me and is running on all cylinders. Our students are growing stronger than ever, earning recognition for their hard work, committing to agriculture, and enjoying success in competitions. We are gearing up for a busy spring of CDE's, LDE'S, and Agri-Science projects. On top of that, we're proud to announce that we are going to be utilizing our foods lab for a competitive BBQ team. After state and national recognition at my previous school, we've decided to turn our passion for great barbecue into more than a fundraiser but also a catering business. We can't wait to serve up delicious flavors to the community and showcase the skills students have honed.



Pleasant Hope FFA members, 2024-2025



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# Halfway FFA



## CHAPTER STATS

Chartered: 1950

Advisers:

1952 — Marion Kimmons

1955-61 — R.E. McKenzie

1962 — L.D. Friedly

1970 — Mr. Pennington

1971 — Ron Snyder

1972-75 — Zane Mulberry

1975-07 — Gerald Whistance

2007-08 — Steven Pratt

2008-10 — Jered Brown

2010-Present — Jeff Voris

## FFA WEEK ACTIVITIES

Monday Feb. 10

• Governor's FFA Celebration

Saturday Feb.15 - Community Breakfast

• FFA Breakfast 7:30 A.M. -10:00 A.M.

Sunday Feb.16 - Church

• Church Service at Pleasant View

• Followed by Incredible Pizza.

Tuesday Feb.18 - Retro FFA Day

Wednesday Feb.19 - Western Wednesday

Thursday Feb.20 - Camo Day

Friday Feb.21 - Tractor Day / School Spirit Day

## FFA OFFICERS



First Row: Ashlyn McCarthy (Assistant Reporter), Katie Howard (President), Hannah Maggard (Parliamentarian), Sophia Dehart (2nd Vice President), Jada Breshears (Chaplain), Madi Doke (Assistant Treasurer)

Second Row: Kaleb McClelland (Assistant Sentinel), Graham Hensley (Assistant Secretary), Shane Gallivan (Vice President), Maddox McCarthy (Historian), Cooper Dehart (Sentinel), Zach Laney (Reporter), Brayden Doke (Secretary), Isaac Ingram (Treasurer)



Competing at National Land Judging in Oklahoma  
Hannah Maggard, Shane Gallivan, Graham Hensley,  
Cooper DeHart.



State Proficiency Finalist Hannah Maggard, Maddox McCarthy, Zach Laney,  
Colt Jones, Katie Howard.



## In Proud Recognition of Our Future Farmers

### **CHICK DAY**

Saturday, February 22nd

8:30 am - 10:30 am

Bolivar Only.

### **BOLIVAR FISH DAY**

Saturday, March 8th

8:00 am - 10:00 am

(Orders must be placed by March 5th)



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## PRESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

### *Katie Howard*



Hi! My name is Katie Howard and I am the President of the Halfway FFA Chapter. I joined FFA my freshman year of high school and immediately fell in love with it! Along with President I have also been my chapters 2nd Vice-president and Secretary. Last spring I interviewed to be an area officer where I was elected as area secretary. FFA has been a major part of my high school career and is so much more to me than just an organization. FFA is truly a one of a kind experience where you have the opportunity to make lifelong connections, push yourself out of your comfort zone, try new things, and so much more! Throughout my time within this organization I have learned many valuable life lessons that I hope to carry with me into my next chapter of life. If I could give any advice to a FFA member or someone interested in joining FFA, it would be that it is okay to make mistakes. Mistakes show that you are trying and allow yourself to learn from your mistakes to better yourself. Always remember that mistakes are a part of life, so don't let them discourage you, but motivate you to try again.





Australia Group at Sydney Harbor.



Ashlyn McCarthy and Raeghan Timmerman at Bondi Beach.

# ADVISER SPOTLIGHT

## Brayden Doke

The time I spent in Australia were some of the best days of my life. Upon my FFA chapter's arrival I was instantly entranced by the country's natural beauty and unique wildlife. While there we visited many of the country's coastal tourist attractions. We toured the Sydney Opera House, and snorkeled the Great Barrier Reef. We went whale watching, off roading through a rainforest, and hiked along several of their nature trails where we encountered several majestic waterfalls. We spent a day at the zoo where we were able to experience several species of their exotic wildlife up close and personal. I even was lucky enough to get to hold a koala. Throughout the trip we were introduced to much of Australia's interesting culture and cuisine. We even spent time in an aboriginal community where we are taught how to throw boomerangs and play the didgeridoo. Overall, I enjoyed every minute of my time in Australia and made memories that will last a lifetime.

Brayden Doke, Halfway FFA Chapter Secretary



American Degree Recipients, Cash Fisher and Jaka Sharp. Not pictured but also receiving American Degrees Emily Dickey, Anna Roberts, Grayson Gallivan, Samantha Gallivan.



Dallara Racing Students enjoying the simulators Connor McCarthy and Kaleb McClelland.



Jada Breshears, Ashlyn McCarthy, Raeghan Timmerman while touring Rocky Repro.



Up and close with a Brahman bull in Australia.



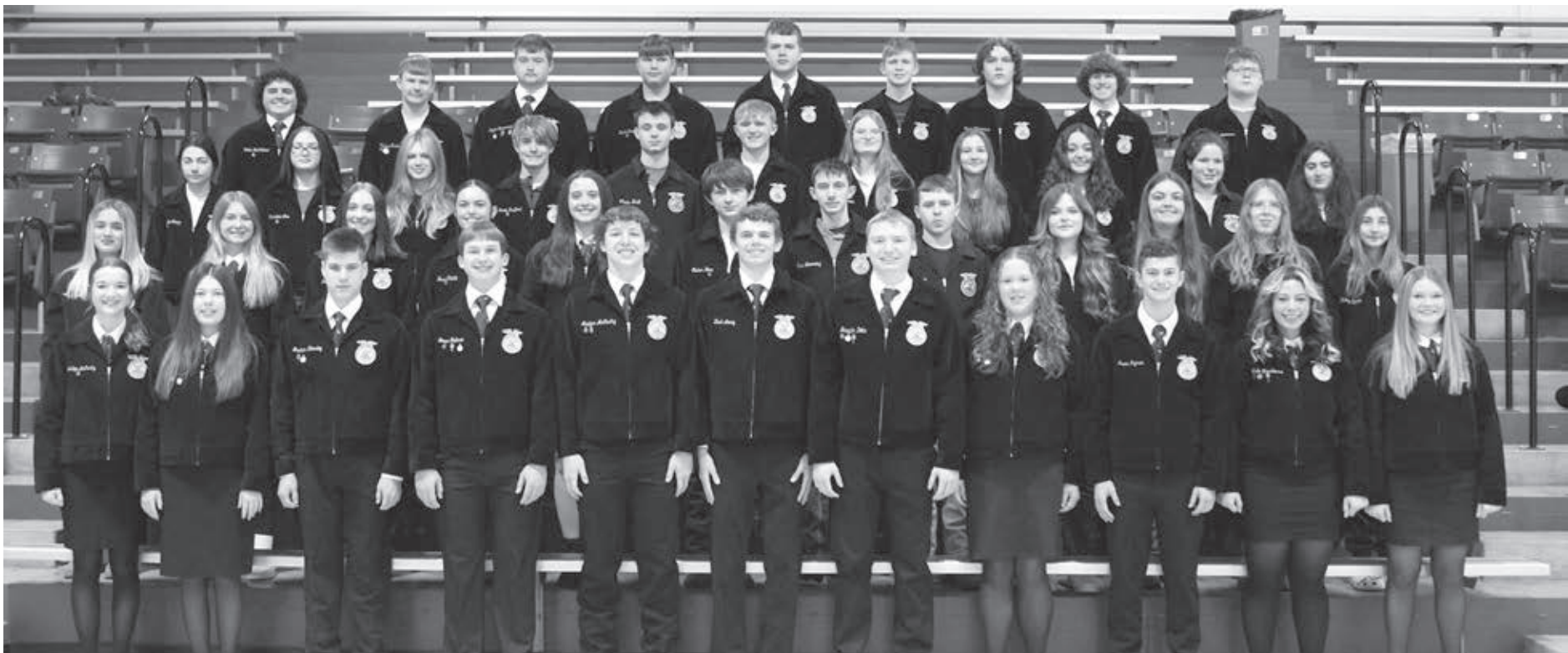
Members Touring the Sydney Fish Market.



Braydon Doke and Maddox McCarthy with a Banana Tree.



Cattle Station Tour in Australia.



First Row: Ashlyn McCarthy, Katie Howard, Graham Hensley, Shane Gallivan, Maddox McCarthy, Zach Laney, Brayden Doke, Sophia Dehart, Isaac Ingram, Jada Breshears, Madi Doke.  
Second Row: Abi Anderson, Raeghan Timmerman, Kolbi Wormington, Josie Choate, Hannah Maggard, Tucker Horn, Alex Leverenz, Chris Tompson, Jaycina Johnson, Mary Ann Brazzell, Summer Proctor, Ashlyn Spear.  
Third Row: Leslie Jones, CJ Cox, Riley Walker, Jake Radford, Jax Maggard, Isaac Ballinger, Grace Greer, Alyssa Spear, Breanna Dickey, Justina Hartley, Kionna Lerma.  
Fourth Row: Kaleb McClelland, Michael Carter, Peyton Timmerman, Keaton Carter, Cooper Dehart, Jackson Fisher, Jack Butler, Connor McCarthy, James Summers.



# Fair Play FFA

## CHAPTER STATS

Chartered: 1953 (2023 was the 70th anniversary of the Fair Play chapter)

Advisor: Randy Lightfoot, 1992 to present

2022-23 Membership: 42

AWARDS:

- 4 National Champion Milk Quality and Dairy Foods teams,
- 12 National Gold Rated Career Development Teams
- 12 State Champion Milk Quality and Dairy Foods teams
- 30 out of last 31 years recognized with ‘Superior Chapter Rating’ on the State level
- 33 American FFA Degree Recipients
- Perennial 100% membership accomplishment

# FAIR PLAY ASSISTANT OFFICERS 24-25



From left: Lexi Cantrell, asst. vice-president; Jocce Mayfield, asst. secretary; Haley Duty, asst. treasurer

# Fair Play FFA Members Receive the State FFA Degree

The State FFA Degree is the highest recognition a state FFA association can award. It is given to members who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects, participated in FFA leadership activities, and served their communities.

For Rowdy Garzee, Keelie Henderson, and Riley Tillery, receiving this degree is a testament to their hard work and passion for agriculture. Each of these members has spent countless hours building their SAE projects, attending leadership conferences, and actively participating in FFA competitions and community service projects. Their achievements reflect their commitment to the values of FFA and the future of agriculture.

With their State FFA Degrees in hand, these three members are now among the top FFA leaders in Missouri. Whether they pursue careers in agriculture, further their education, or continue serving their communities, their accomplishments in FFA have prepared them for success. Their hard work and dedication not only bring pride to Fair Play FFA, but also inspire younger members to strive for excellence.

Dallas Hardt  
Chapter Reporter



Receiving the State FFA Degree from Fair Play FFA, from left: Rowdy Garzee, Keelie Henderson, Riley Tillery.

# FAIR PLAY OFFICERS 24-25



From left: Lena Skipper, secretary; Lexi Bee, historian; Dallas Hardt, reporter; Audrey Steele, sentinel; Lena Skipper, secretary; Jasmine Farrow, vice-president; Chloe Bruce, president and Riley Bruce, treasurer

# Fair Play FFA Attends the Greenhand Motivational Conference

This year our chapter was able to attend the Greenhand Motivational Conference at the Darr center in Missouri State University in Springfield, Missouri. Over 100 first year members had the opportunity to learn about being positive role models, learning to get involved, making sound choices, becoming active team members, and making a positive difference in their lives, schools and community at the annual Greenhand Motivational Conference. Our greenhands were able to learn about what it means to be in the FFA, and what you can look forward to during your time in it.

During the conference, our greenhands participated in many interactive workshops and skits related to

leadership, Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE), and the solutions to struggles in your FFA career. Greenhands were encouraged to build their character skills, explore their talents, and reach outside their comfort zone for the opportunities provided through FFA membership. Greenhands were also led through the activities by many of the Missouri state officers, who helped perform skits and present during small groups to encourage and inspire the greenhands. Attending the Greenhand Motivational Conference was a great time and it is something every greenhand should experience.

Dallas Hardt  
Chapter Reporter



From Left to Right; Row 1 (State Officers): Andi Belt, Amelia Hawkins, Braden Havlik, Sam Tummons (past president), Kennedy Heil, Mikaela Rojas, Row 2: Jocce Mayfield, Paige Fitch, Miley Sukovaty, Lexi Bee, Jill Moore, Haley Duty, Lexi Cantrell, Madison Harris, Dallas Hardt, Row 3: Donald Potter, Riley Bruce, William Frye, Alex Frye, Brett DeLozier, Austin Duty

# Fair Play FFA Officers attend FFA Area Leadership Conference

Each July, FFA chapter officers are able to attend the Area X Leadership Conference. At this Conference, our officers are able to learn about being a leader in your school and community. State officers were also in attendance at the conference, where they made rounds to the different activities going on. The state officers gave insight about being a leader and how to hone your leadership skills. Chapter officers had a good time and were able to learn useful leadership skills to help sharpen their abilities as leaders.

The Area Leadership Conference has proven many times that it is a useful and fun experience that dedicated and hard working FFA chapter leaders can benefit from. Leadership skills are especially important, so attending this



conference helps strengthen your local chapters and communities.

Dallas Hardt  
Chapter Reporter



# Fair Play Attends the 97th FFA National Convention

The Fair Play FFA chapter attended the 97th FFA National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana on October 23 through the 26. Seventeen delegates were chosen based on several factors and criteria such as fundraising, leadership points through FFA activities, and our chapter creed speaking competition.

Chapter members travelled with the Bolivar and Pleasant Hope chapters as we made our way up to Indianapolis. It was a long ride, but it was worth it. The FFA National Convention is truly an amazing event that you will never forget. Our chapter was able to not only meet other FFA members from all over the nation, but also learn even more about the FFA and what it means to be a member.

During the trip, there were many activities that we were able to participate in, such as the Three Hills FFA Command Performance Rodeo where our chapter watched many different rodeo events and activities. The career expo was nothing short of amazing. Our chapter was able to visit all the different vendors offering many different types of services, food, and products. There were so many different things to see that it would be difficult to think of something you

couldn't find at the expo. The chapter also attended many different tours and activities outside of the main convention center. The chapter visited Minnetrista Museum and Gardens where they could learn about history and explore exhibits, or meander through trails on the 40 acres of land. Butterfield Stables offered horse riding lessons along with show training. At Connor Prairie, the chapter weaved through the award winning corn maze and explored the legendary Headless Horseman festival. At Ameri-Turf Sod Farm, the chapter learned about all of the different factors that go into sod, such as the science and technology that went into farming and constructing the sod. Another thing that the chapter was able to attend were all the different convention sessions. Our members were able to see the grandeur of a national FFA meeting, which helped to solidify the pure scale of the FFA into our members' minds.

The National Convention trip this year was nothing short of amazing, and it is something every FFA member should strive to be a part of.

**Dallas Hardt**  
*Chapter Reporter*



Caleb Henderson, Lexi Bee, and Brett DeLozier pictured holding their trophy for winning the 2024 Super Farmer Competition.

## Fair Play Wins the Super Farmer Contest

This year's super farmer contest was no simple contest. Through a series of multiple challenges and obstacle courses, members were put to the test and forced to use good teamwork skills to win it all. The Fair Play FFA sent three competitors; Brett DeLozier, Caleb Henderson, and Lexi Bee. They competed in many different courses and challenges and eventually came out on top.

The Super Farmer Contest also involves a prize. Winning this contest earns your team \$100 and a plaque. As the champions of this year's competition, Fair Play knows it needs to hold onto the legacy, so the chapter is ready for next year. The Super Farmer Contest is a contest that has proven to be fun and useful as it exercises teamwork skills and communication. Fair Play is ready to hold onto the championship next year.

**Dallas Hardt**  
*Chapter Reporter*



From left to right; Row 1: Dallas Hardt, Jocce Mayfield Row 2: Lena Skipper, Katelyn Higginbotham, Madison Harris, Jackson Stewart, Donald Potter, Nick Dooley, Riley Bruce Row 3: Haley Duty, Jill Moore, Lexi Bee, Cooper Alexander, William Frye, Caleb Henderson, Austin Duty, Kagan Anderson

## Fair Play FFA attends Missouri Public Speaking Institute

This year, the Fair Play FFA chapter was able to attend the Missouri Public Speaking Institute at the Darr Center at Missouri State University. Members Riley Bruce, Lexi Bee, Dallas Hardt, and William Frye represented the Fair Play FFA chapter and participated in this Institute. The Public Speaking Institute is an all day event that selected members wishing to attend, could. This Institute features State FFA officers who gave stories on their experiences with public speaking, and how they were able to prepare and practice. Andrew McCrea, past State officer and owner of McCrea Multimedia, was also a speaker at this Institute. He gave great insight on how one can become a great public speaker, as well as explaining the mental game that sometimes accompanies public speaking.

Activities at this institute were very intriguing and useful. There were skits throughout the day where members

were separated into groups and were given a script to make a play, but you weren't allowed to speak. There were also presentations given by state officers where you could take notes and learn from their experiences with public speaking. In between activities, Andrew McCrea would share tips and tricks as well as stories and experiences that related to his time in public speaking.

This Public Speaking Institute was a great way for FFA members to grow and become good public speakers, which is a very useful skill for anyone. If you want to be a leader, public speaking is a large portion of that role. If you want to get a job, you have to be good at public speaking to have a successful interview. Everything includes some sort of public speaking, so this Institute is a great place to gain and sharpen these skills.

**Dallas Hardt**  
*Chapter Reporter*



Fair Play Public Speaking Institute Attendees: From Left to Right: Riley Bruce, Dallas Hardt, Lexi Bee, William Frye

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National FFA Week February 15 - February 22

## Proud 18-yr Sponsor of the Ford Motor Company FFA Scholarship program.

A black and white photograph of a Ford pickup truck pulling a trailer loaded with hay bales, parked in front of a barn.

# Bill Grant

The Ford logo, consisting of the word "Ford" in a script font inside an oval.

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The FFA logo, featuring a circular emblem with a plow, sheaf, and star, surrounded by the words "FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA".

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The "BUILT Ford TOUGH" logo, with "BUILT" and "TOUGH" in bold letters and the Ford logo in the center.





## Fair Play FFA Annual Reward Trip

The Fair Play FFA chapter was able to embark on an exciting trip to the St. Louis area, where members enjoyed visiting the renowned Purina Farms and City Museum as a reward for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. The trip was made possible through various fundraising efforts, community involvement, and the chapter's commitment to agricultural education.

Being chosen to participate in the annual reward trip is an honor that a member can achieve through their fundraising efforts, event involvement, and dedication to the FFA. This year's trip was full of fun times as next, members experienced dog agility trials, duck jumping and dog training exhibition at Purina Farms. Members then crawled through the tunnels and climbed through courses at the City Museum in downtown St. Louis. After the museum, the chapter visited a BBQ restaurant, and enjoyed a meal that was nothing short of delicious.

This year's reward trip was a blast, and the chapter is already looking forward to next year's trip.

## Fair Play FFA Annual Fundraisers

The Fair Play FFA chapter annually fundraises for multiple different activities, awards, and trips. Some of the biggest trips we attend, like the National FFA Convention or State Convention, can become very costly. To aid in paying for these trips, the chapter sells different plants as well as some food provided by local partners.

These fundraisers are also a great way for our members to stay involved and competitive. A cash prize is awarded to the top three sales people, and first place is awarded a plaque at the annual banquet. By adding competition to these fundraisers, the chapter is increasing the effort to sell more, which in turn leads to an overall increase in fundraising productivity. Staying involved is also another of these benefits; members can stay involved with their FFA chapter by wanting to sell as much as possible.

So what does the Fair Play FFA chapter sell? Every year the chapter sells mums in the fall. The mums are grown and provided by Rovenstine

Greenhouse, who supply for multiple chapters around our area that are also selling mums. The mum fundraiser is one of the most popular fundraisers our chapter does, and it continues to be an annual event. Along with the mums, the chapter also sells poinsettias during early winter, prior to Christmas. The poinsettias are supplied by F. Lowers greenhouse, who is a local grower that supplies the chapter with all of our poinsettias throughout the fundraiser. In January, the chapter sells popcorn that is provided by Ozark Mountain Popcorn. They provide many different flavors that we offer through this fundraiser. The popcorn fundraiser is probably a fan favorite, I mean, who doesn't love popcorn?

All of the chapter's fundraisers are a very good way to not only raise money, but also keep our members active and involved.

**Dallas Hardt**  
*Chapter Reporter*



Row 1: L to R - Lena Skipper, secretary; Lexi Bee, historian; Dallas Hardt, reporter; Audrey Steele, sentinel; Jasmine Farrow, vice-president; Chloe Bruce, president; Riley Bruce, treasurer.

Row 2: Donald Potter, Jill Moore, Miley Sukovaty, Lexi Cantrell, Paige Fitch, Tori Campbell, Katelyn Higginbotham, Bailey Clark.

Row 3: Aiden Schwartz, Madison Harris, Mekenzie Evans, Annah McGaha, Haley Duty, Katie Clark, Jocce Mayfield, Conner Akins.

Row 4: Caleb Henderson, Kegan Anderson, Cooper Alexander, Alex Frye, Brett DeLozier, Will Frye, Austin Duty, Nick Dooley, Jackson Stewart.

Not pictured: Aiden Lewis, Malachi McAlpine, Amelia Mettler, Adam Bass (graduate), Mason Hopkins (graduate), Meghan Hoxsie (graduate), Jarrett Viles (graduate), Rowdy Garzee (graduate), Keelie Henderson (graduate), Riley Tillery (graduate).

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# Bolivar FFA



## CHAPTER STATS

Year Chartered: 1929  
 Bolivar FFA started: 1929  
 Current Advisors: Jason King (27 years teaching) & Ashley Brown (17 years teaching)  
 Current Membership: 201

## FFA WEEK ACTIVITIES

Monday (17th)- No School  
 Tuesday (18th)- Camo Day  
 Wednesday (19th)- FFA Apparel Day, Lamberts Trip, Businessman's Breakfast  
 Thursday (20th)- FFA Jacket Day, Teacher Appreciation Breakfast  
 Friday (21st)- Drive Your Tractor to School, Farmer Friday  
 Sunday (23rd)- FFA Sunday at Life Church

## 2024-2025 BOLIVAR FFA OFFICER TEAM

President ..... Ellie Samek  
 1st Vice President ..... Aubrey Funk  
 Secretary ..... Makayla Methvin & Harper Rowell  
 Reporter ..... Ashlyn Collins & Kayler Ballard  
 Treasurer ..... Raelea Tosh & Emma Hancock  
 Sentinel ..... KaCee Jenkins & Owen Kirby  
 Historian ..... Ava Smith & Aubrey Cowden  
 Parliamentarian ..... Jaylen Beach  
 Chaplain ..... Josie Maze & Kaebry Rowe  
 2nd Vice President ..... Cole Gervais

# Entomology nationals



In May, our Entomology team competed at the nationals and placed 4th in the country. Carson Scheppmann also did an amazing job, placing 6th overall as an individual.



# Chapter Barnwarming

Chapter Barnwarming was held on November 21, 2024. Queen candidates and grade level attendants and their escorts play competitive games including hungry hippos,

## Queen Candidates

Kate Smith escort Gannon Young  
 Raelea Tosh escort Kanton Fisher

Hailey Hale escort Lukas Craven

## Junior Attendant

Emma Hancock escort Will Yeargain

## Sophomore Attendant

Jaylen Beach escort Owen Kirby

## Freshman Attendant

Skyla Moore escort Jonah Bryant



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# PRESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

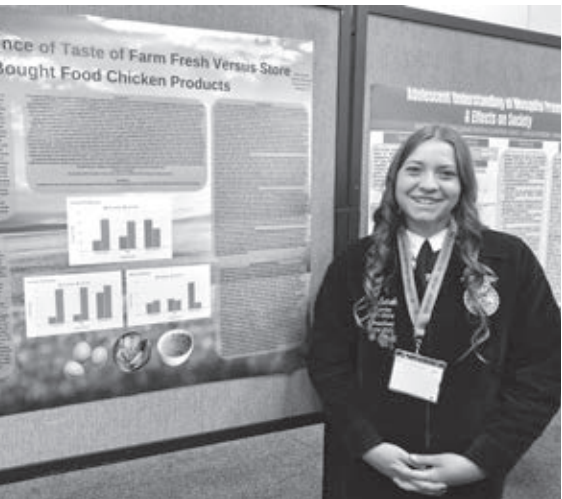
## Ellie Samek




**Parents:** John & Sheila Samek  
**SAE:** Broiler poultry production, show pig and pork production, agriscience research  
**Favorite Memory:** One of my favorite times in FFA was on our way

home from state convention my sophomore year. We shared some of the most memorable parts of the convention, our hopes for the next year, and laughed a ton! It was a trip I will always cherish.  
**Favorite Contest:** I love the creed speaking and prepared public speaking contests. It gives me the opportunity to express my passion for the agriculture industry and share a story to educate individuals.  
**Why she loves the Bolivar FFA:** I love the Bolivar FFA because of the opportunities that it has given me. I have found a passion through this program that I could not have found elsewhere. The people and experiences that Bolivar FFA has is truly special and those will take me much further than high school.


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# Fall Public Speaking



**Area 10 Results**  
Skyla Moore- 1st Place Teach Ag  
Ellie Samek- 1st Place Young Farmers  
Dakota Brown- 3rd Place Pet Breeders  
Cole Gervais- 3rd Place Pork Producers  
Garrett Samek- 3rd Place Farm Bureau  
Charles Fagan- 4th Place Sheep Producers  
Brinley Wooderson- Quarter Horse  
Diya Patel- Forest Products  
Emma Hancock- Cattlemens

**District Results**  
Ellie Samek- 2nd Place Young Farmers  
Skyla Moore- finalist  
Dakota Brown- district competitor  
Cole Gervais- district competitor  
Garrett Samek- district competitor  
  
Ellie Samek- 2nd place state Missouri Fairs & Festivals speech contest

## ADVISER SPOTLIGHT

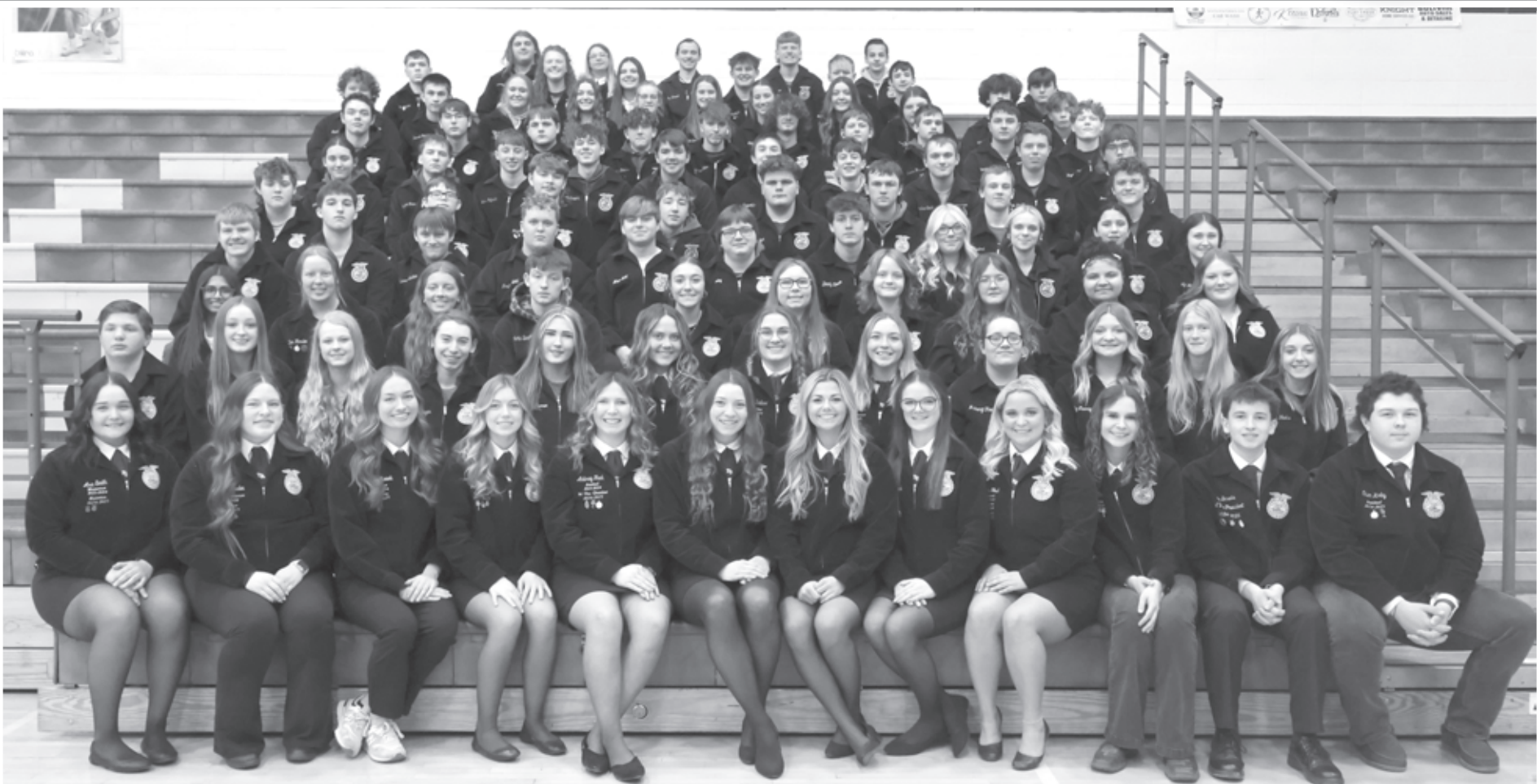
*Jason King*



I want to take this opportunity to thank the Bolivar community for their continued show of support for our program. The new BHS Ag building will be something that students and parents can be proud of for many years to come. We look forward to new opportunities and growth of an already proud and accomplished program. On behalf of all of the Bolivar FFA. Thank You

*Ashley Brown*

The Bolivar FFA has had a strong tradition for the past 95 years! The Bolivar FFA is what it is because of the awesome students of today and past with the support of the community that have made everything we do possible.



Row 1 L to R- Ava Smith, Aubrey Cowden, Harper Rowell, Josie Maze, Aubrey Funk, Ellie Samek, Makayla Methvin, Emma Hancock, Raelea Tosh, Kaebry Rowe, Cole Gervais, Owen Kirby  
Row 2- Heston Gambriel, Bailey Walker, Brinley Waters, Charles Fagan, Dakota Brown, Ashlyn Collins, Kayler Ballard, Jaylen Beach, Kori Miles, Colby Carringer, Amberlin Murphy, Madison Weeks.  
Row 3- Diya Patel, Zoe Warden, Anna Vaughn, Cade Raney, Aniston LeAn, Mallory Carrier, Kory Pauley, Astra Beachy, Neyland Wheat, Charlee Fieth.  
Row 4- Carson Shappmenn, Reed Roberts, Mason Ross, Braden Campbell, Seth Patterson, Ethan Dooley, Gavin Stillwell, Karah Hoelscher, Payton Lister, Brylea Tosh, Macy Watson.  
Row 5- Kaine Smith, Trevor Dooley, Rhylan Ray, Carsen Rhodes, Jace Mashburn, Wyatt Sokolik, Joshua Watkins, Dean Morgan.  
Row 6- Hailey Hale, Holden Reed, Logan Welch, Will Yeargain, Rhett Fullerton, Connor Green, Eli Bryan, Ben Coker, Caleb Warden, Josiah Stanley.  
Row 7- Tristan Oliveira, Joseph Groom, Chad Spencer, Carson Reaves, Riley Dupuis-Liles, andrew Small, Gregor Millard, Thomas Henderson, Austin Vaughn, Wyatt Corp.  
Row 8- Ethan Voight, Durrell Goodwin, Kate Smith, Novalee Hendrickson, Dani Inglis, Kayla Goodman, Emma Goodman, Skyla Moore, Alison Swigert, Cade Lowry, Dillon Kirk.  
Row 9- Elijah Gambriel, Clara Harless, Jillian Horner, Owen McCullah, Garrett Samek, Beniah Dhondt  
Row 10- Corbin Schmidt, Mya Lee, Deklin Smith, Jonah Bryant, Jesse Watson.



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# State FFA Leadership Camp



Bolivar FFA had seven students attend State FFA Leadership Camp at Camp Rising Sun at Lake of the Ozarks July 1-5, 2024. FFA Camp is held each summer for six weeks at Camp Rising Sun on the Lake of the Ozarks, State FFA Leadership Camp provides members with opportunities for personal leadership development, interaction with State FFA Officers and other members, and recreational activities.



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