

California FFA NEWS

FALL 2017

VOL. 6 • NO. 1

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Greenfield FFA of the South Coast Region

California FFANEWS

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We want to hear from you...

We are always looking for great stories about members and alumni around our state. Know of a story that we should feature in CA FFA News?

Please email news@californiaffa.org.

Submission deadlines:
Fall June 1st
Winter September 1st
Spring November 15th
Summer March 1st

Revised
submission
deadlines

Stay in touch...

"California FFA"



UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER • 6-8 Greenhand Leadership Conference (GLC) - Bakersfield **12-13** GLC - Menifee **12-16** GLC - Paso Robles **14** GLC - Lakeside **14-16** GLC - Fresno **15** GLC - Calipatria **18-21** GLC - Tulare **20** GLC - Fortuna **25-27** GLC - Colusa **27** GLC - Petaluma

OCTOBER • 3-4 GLC - Redding **3-6** GLC - Lodi **23-24** National FFA Convention Delegate Trip **25-28** National FFA Convention & Expo **28-31** State Educational Tour of Washington D.C.

For a list of current FFA events please visit www.CalAgEd.org

SAVE THE DATE

THIS SCHOOL YEAR
CALIFORNIA FFA
HAS A LEADERSHIP
CONFERENCE

for you!

Greenhand Leadership Conference (GLC)

What: Introduction to Agricultural Education, Career Success
Who: Freshmen

When: One Day Conferences in Aug., Sep. and Oct.
Introduces students to the benefits and opportunities in Agricultural Education, including SAE and FFA. This conference is the "hook-line-and-sinker" to get students to buy into Agricultural Education throughout their four years in high school.

Made for Excellence Conference (MFE)

What: ME: Student Development, Personal Growth
Who: Sophomores

When: Two Day Conferences held in January and February
Personal development starts with the individual. Self-discovery of talents, strengths, interests and personal character are emphasized as the individual is channeled to discover their passion in life. This conference focuses on "Student Development and ME: one's personal skills and development of the ability to be successful."

Advanced Leadership Academy (ALA)

What: WE: Chapter Development, Personal Growth
Who: Juniors

When: Two Day Conferences held in January and February
Once a leader is comfortable with their own self and self-purpose, they can discover how to work with others and establish a goal. The process for analyzing program needs and planning a project or event is the focus of this conference as students discover how to be teams of innovative leaders in their chapter. This conference about "WE: the individual leader, their relationships with others and how to establish common vision."

Sacramento Leadership Experience (SLE)

What: SERVE: Community Development, Personal Growth
Who: Seniors

When: Four Day Conference held in March
Students step into the role of one of California's State legislators, are assigned a specific California district and spend four days in Sacramento. SLE is all about the role of government, agricultural policy and advocacy. This conference focuses on Community Development and SERVE: the ability to grow and develop others and serve your community."

**6,848 IN ATTENDANCE
5,866 MEMBERS
645 ADVISORS
924 GUESTS
328 CHAPTERS**

2017 State Leadership Conference Recap

Over 6,000 people attended the 89th Annual California State FFA Leadership Conference in April! Attendees witnessed state officer retiring addresses and were entertained by the State Choir and Talent, while delegates shaped the future of the organization, and the experience made all feel "Limitless". Thank you once again to the Boswell Foundation for their generous FFA Foundation donation allowing members to attend conference at a discounted rate. With another school year, comes another State Officer Team, visit page six to learn more about this year's team.

{ Check out the back page for additional conference highlights }

Saluting the Champions of California FFA



STAR in Ag Placement

Daniel Moules, Lodi - Tokay FFA



STAR Farmer

Willis Wolf,
Merced - El Capitan FFA



STAR in Agriscience

Jackie Taylor, Reedley FFA



STAR in Agribusiness

Kayla Allan,
Grass Valley - Nevada Union FFA

State FFA Winners

Star Administrator Award
Fred Van Vleck, Eureka FFA

Star Advisor Award
Gene Lieb, Firebaugh FFA

Star Counselor Award
Ever Flores-Dera, Healdsburg FFA

Star Supporting Staff Award
Edyta Jacobsen, Sonoma FFA

Star Reporter Award
Shelby Stillman, Merced - Golden Valley FFA

National Chapter Award
Elk Grove FFA

State Wed Page Award
Le Grand FFA •

Speaking Champions

Parliamentary Procedure - Novice
Galt-Liberty Ranch FFA

Parliamentary Procedure - Advanced
San Luis Obispo FFA

Creed Recitation
Charisma Arreola, Bakersfield - Foothill FFA

Extemporaneous Public Speaking
Robert Marchy, Turlock FFA

Impromptu Public Speaking
Nicole Dressel, Waterford FFA

Prepared Public Speaking
Greta Carlson, San Luis Obispo FFA

Job Interview Contest
Kristina Ramos, Atwater - Buhach Colony FFA •

Scholarship Recipients

Actagro Scholarship

Sponsored by Actagro
Taylor Turney, Fresno - Central
Mayte Magallon, Firebaugh

Almond Board of California Scholarship

Sponsored by The Almond Board of California
Erica Bowles, Nipomo
Jasmine Flores, Atwater
Mark Scalmanini, Holister
Meg Abdaallah, Gustine
Derrick Nunes, Tulare
Kiara Gilardi, Los Banos
Tommy Vazquez, West Valley - Cottonwood
Adriana Toste, Gustine
Anne Signore, Lakeside - El Capitan
Anthony Camacho, Greenfield
Gissel Corcoles, Greenfield
Sarah Drown, Ramona
Jordyn Samper, O'Neals - Minarets
Brittney Thompson, Galt - Liberty Ranch
Robert Marchy, Turlock

Jerry L. Biggs Memorial

Sponsored by California Association FFA
Beth Noel, Fortuna

Jerry T. Davis Honorary Scholarship

Sponsored by California Association FFA
Breanna Holbert, Lodi - Tokay

Deep in the Heart Scholarship

Sponsored by the Richard Wallrath Education Foundation
Maddie Franke, Galt
Brenna Eikenbary, Napa
Emily O'Brion, Madera Liberty
Martiza Lopez-Martinez, Watsonville
Blake Jackson, Lakeside - El Capitan
Abigail Davis, Live Oak

{ Scholarship Recipients continued on page 11 }

{ State Champions continued on page 8 }



FEATURED CHAPTER

Greenfield FFA

Greenfield FFA is located in the center of the Salinas Valley, in the South Coast Region. The 524 FFA members enrolled make up almost half of the school's population. However, the program has not always been this large. Greenfield FFA has found its stride in recent years. In 2011, Mr. Villaseñor was hired as a single person department. In 2016, Greenfield expanded to a three person department. The program offers 11 agriculture courses including pathways in Mechanics, and Plant and Animal Sciences. Our chapter also has various CDE and LDE teams, such as Creed, Impromptu,

Extemporaneous, Prepared Public Speaking, Job Interview, Project Competition, Opening and Closing Ceremonies Competition, Vegetable Crop Judging, Farm Power, and Veterinary Science.

The school farm gives students an expanded classroom to learn, as well as a place to work on their SAE projects. Students raise pigs, sheep, goats, market steers, rabbits, and chickens for the Salinas Valley Fair, Monterey County Fair and the San Benito County Fair. This past year several students started a meat rabbit breeding program, through this project



student have the opportunity to breed, raise, process, and sell their own rabbits.

New to the program this past year is a horticulture facility. Students grow a variety of crops and plants on the farm; from cut flowers for the floral class, to succulents for fair, and vegetables to sell and donate. Students also get the opportunity to apply business practices and floral design skills by creating arrangements for weddings, prom, holidays, and banquets.

The agricultural mechanics shop may be small, but it is mighty! Each student begins with learning the fundamentals of welding, electrical, woodworking, plumbing, cold metal work, and concrete. As students progress through the mechanics classes each year, they continue to advance their skills. Agriscience classes are a crucial part of our program, with the changes in agriculture, this field gives students the

{Continued on page 5}





{Continued from page 4}

opportunity to study the industry firsthand.

Through all the classes and SAE projects, students of Greenfield FFA have found great success and achieved many accomplishments. Recently, there have been over 10 regional proficiency winners, and three state proficiency winners! Several students travel to field days across the state, which have resulted in many team and top individual awards. Greenfield FFA has also been successful with public speaking Leadership Development Events, having multiple members compete at region finals. All of these students spend many hours before and after school working hard and continue to develop their skills.

We pride ourselves on our exciting chapter level events that serve all members. Each chapter meeting has a theme and activity. The first meeting of the year is always our annual

ice cream social for new and old members to mingle. Last year we had 360 members attend the event. We also have events such as a casino night, a holiday light parade in town, and for FFA week we host a dodgeball tournament. Members love having somewhere to go after school to be with their friends, have some food and enjoy the fun.

Greenfield works closely with the community. The highlight is the Greenfield Harvest Festival where members walk in the parade and host the childrens' booth for the day. During the Salinas Valley Half Marathon members pass out water and strawberries to the runners during the race. We also work with the local Rotary Club and Young Farmers to host various events. Students get the opportunity to visit local producers such as Dole for industry tours. Greenfield FFA takes pride in the students and the community.

Photo Captions (starting opposite page, upper left, rotating clockwise): Many students worked hard all year to get to the 2017 Salinas Valley Fair where they show and auction off their livestock projects; The new horticulture unit takes a lot of work from the students to keep it running and looking good; Members and advisors tour the Dole facility in Soledad, CA; In the floral lab, students work on their projects to take to the fair, where they entered over 800 still arrangements; Several students traveled to multiple rabbit shows this year promoting their pedigree and showmanship skills; Greenfield FFA loves to celebrate at the 89th State FFA Leadership Conference; At the end of the year, the top 20 FFA students in the chapter went on a summer camping getaway to Lake Tahoe; State Proficiency and Scholarship winners are recognized for their hard work at the State FFA Leadership Conference. •



MEET YOUR NEW

State Officer Team

With the passing of the State FFA Leadership Conference, comes another energetic and passionate team of newly elected officers! California FFA News caught up with the 2017-2018 State Officers to learn a little bit more about these leaders inside the corduroy.

What are you looking forward to most this year of service?

LUKE I am so looking forward to engaging with members at their homes and high schools, and being able to experience the environment that is shaping them and how I can play a role in shaping their lives, as well!

JASMINE This year I most look forward to chapter visits and getting to meet lots of different families. I'm a firm believer that your foundation is with your home, and I love the meeting people that make you, you.

GENEVIEVE I cannot wait to listen and learn about every member I meet along this journey! I am so excited for COLC's, MFE's, Chapter Visits, and everything else in between.

ARMANDO I am beyond excited for workshop facilitation at ROLC, SOLSs, COLCs, and Chapter Visits! I love planning workshops based on the needs of our members, and



teaching beneficial lessons in fun, interactive ways with my teammates!

HUNTER I am so excited and ready to travel California learning more about the chapters I get to visit and the agriculture industry.

BOBBY What I am looking forward to most this upcoming year of service is the connection I will be making with the members of California FFA. Through every conference, workshop, conversation, and interaction, I want us to work together to make an impact on the California FFA Association.

Share your most memorable FFA experience.

LUKE One of my most memorable FFA experiences was winning the Parliamentary Procedure National Championship because I got to celebrate the benefits of our hard work with my teammates that became family!

JASMINE My most memorable FFA experience was serving as a National

Delegate; it was a truly unique and incredible experience.

GENEVIEVE My most memorable FFA experience was the Washington Leadership Conference.

ARMANDO I vividly remember walking into the first session of my first State FFA Convention and being absolutely shocked by the high-energy activities occurring on stage. Seeing members win awards, hearing motivational speeches, and witnessing premier leadership at work sold me on the FFA organization.

HUNTER My most memorable FFA experience would be ag van rides with my advisor and livestock judging team to state finals, one of our traditions is to eat a chocolate covered cricket. Definitely some moments I will never forget.

State FFA President **LUKE O'LEARY**

Birthday:
March 26, 1998



Home Chapter:
San Luis Obispo FFA

Parents: Thom &
Sherri O'Leary

Siblings: Brooke and Greg Jeffrey,
Kate and David Roth, and Whitney
O'Leary

SAEs: Dairy Goat Breeding Project
(Goat Production) and Show Cattle
Project (Beef Production)

CDEs: Parliamentary Procedure,
Agricultural Issues, FFA Creed
Speaking Contest, and Prepared
Public Speaking

State FFA Vice President **JASMINE FLORES**

Birthday:
December 14, 1998

Home Chapter:
Atwater FFA

Parents: Joe and
Rosa Flores

Siblings: Joseph, Elias, Dahlia, and
Camille Flores

SAEs: Marketing and Market Hogs

CDEs: Agronomy and
Extemporaneous Public Speaking

State FFA Secretary **GENEVIEVE REGLI**

Birthday:
July 22, 1999



Home Chapter:
Ferndale FFA

Parents: Jim and
Susan Regli

Siblings: Kaitlyn,
Tyler, Rachelle, Dominic, Seth, and
Gianna Regli

SAEs: Working on Regli Jerseys
Dairy, operating my own business
(Green Grass Veal), raising market
hogs, and raising market steers

CDEs: Dairy Cattle Judging, Dairy
Products Judging, Creed, and
Impromptu and Extemporaneous
Public Speaking

{ Continued on page 7 }

BOBBY My most memorable FFA experience is my time at Washington Leadership Conference. I cannot even begin to describe the immense impact it had on my life. Meeting members from all across the United States while touring Washington, D.C. and participating in a community service project - it all helped me grasp the idea of serving others. After this conference I finally understood how to put into action "To do what we can, with what we have, where we are."

Favorite quote

LUKE "The greatest leader is not necessarily the one who does the greatest things. He is the one that get the people to do the greatest things." - Ronald Reagan

JASMINE "Be somebody who makes everyone feel like a somebody."

GENEVIEVE "Embrace the Journey"

ARMANDO "Seek first to understand, then to be understood." - The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People by Stephen Covey

HUNTER Anything spoken by Mr. Rodgers (his words of wisdom are my go to.) My personal favorite would be "The greatest gift you ever give is your honest self."

BOBBY "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." - Mahatma Gandhi

What is your career goal?

LUKE I'm excited for a career in education and leadership development, as I work toward my goal of impacting the lives of others by enriching their potential and opportunities!

JASMINE I've always wanted to be an educator and when I entered the FFA I realized my career path was meant to be an Ag Teacher and I am very excited to pursue that goal.

GENEVIEVE My career goal is to be an Agriculture Educator.

ARMANDO I am currently attending Cal Poly, SLO majoring in Agricultural Systems Management, and I plan to become an agricultural educator specializing in agricultural mechanics and leadership.

HUNTER My career goal is undetermined at the moment, but I am studying agriculture business. Where that will lead me in the future, I do not know, but as long as it involves agriculture, I know I will be more than happy.

BOBBY My career pathway is to study double major in Agriculture Communications and Agriculture Education at Oklahoma State University. I would first like to work as a public relations specialist to bridge the gap between agriculturists and the general public. Then one day I will continue my career as an agriculture educator to equip students with the skills necessary to be successful in the agriculture industry.

What advice do you have to a freshman just beginning their FFA experience?

LUKE Break through your fear of the unknown and of taking risks! When you step out of your comfort zone, competing in a different CDE or pursuing a leadership role, you will experience the greatest growth!

JASMINE My biggest piece of advice to freshman is to remain humble in achievements and respectful in defeats. FFA offers so many different opportunities, have fun with them!

GENEVIEVE Take every opportunity possible during your FFA and high school career. At the end of your four years you don't want to be happy or sad, you want to be satisfied with what you have accomplished.

ARMANDO I challenge any freshman to compete in Best Informed Greenhand or Creed Speaking Competitions. I coached these competitions, and I was amazed to see how much growth the freshmen went through as they became new leaders within my chapter.

HUNTER If you are a freshman or are new to this whole FFA thing, I encourage you to talk to your advisor about finding something that is interesting yet challenging. Speech competitions, SAEs, or CDEs are great places to start.

BOBBY When you come into FFA, the biggest advice I can give is to try. FFA holds doors awaiting for students to find the strength, dedication, and passion to open those doors and experience the opportunities and adventures FFA holds.

What is your favorite hashtag?

LUKE #GigEmAggies (Go Texas A&M!)

JASMINE #FalconStrong

GENEVIEVE #Stallion

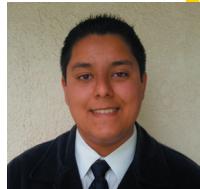
ARMANDO Honestly, I rarely use hashtags, but during this next year expect to see #CaliforniaFFA a lot!

HUNTER #Hunterism (I do not really use hashtags but this is one that I coined up for when I have something smart/knowledgeable to say)

BOBBY #FFAmily •

State FFA Treasurer **ARMANDO NEVAREZ**

Birthday:
April 3, 1998



Home Chapter:
Holtville FFA

Parents: Jesus &
Aracely Nevarez

Siblings: Eddie,
Jessica and Chuyito (Jesus) Nevarez

SAEs: Agricultural Education, Meat
Goat Production, and Agricultural
Mechanics

CDEs: Livestock Judging, Vegetable
Crop Judging, and Extemporaneous
Public Speaking

State FFA Reporter **HUNTER ANDRADE**

Birthday:
May 3, 1998



Home Chapter:
Tracy FFA

Parents: Ralph &
Julie Andrade

Siblings: Paxton
and Hayden Andrade

SAEs: Market and Breeding Lamb
Entrepreneurship, Placement
at Maddux Ranch, Agriculture
Communications Project (Agri-cate)

CDEs: Livestock Judging and
Agriculture Sales

State FFA Sentinel **BOBBY MARCHY**

Birthday:
November 17,
1998



Home Chapter:
Turlock FFA

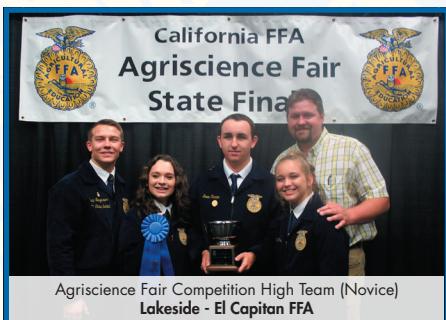
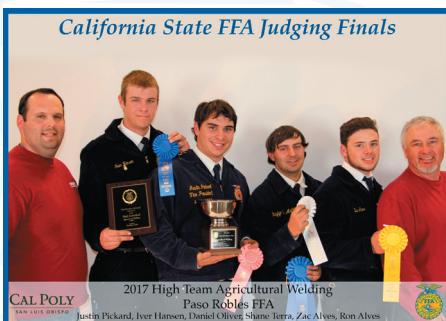
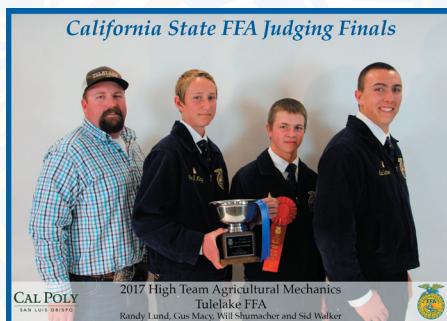
Parents: Bob and
Lori Marchy

Siblings: Cole and Billy Marchy

SAEs: Dairy and Beef Cattle
Production

CDEs: Creed, Impromptu, Prepared,
Extemporaneous, Dairy Cattle Judging,
Dairy Products

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Proficiency Winners

Agricultural Communications
Jeanette Furlong, Tomales

Agricultural Communications
Anthony Camacho, Greenfield

Agricultural Education
Devan Muro, Buena Park

Agricultural Mechanics Design/Fabrication
Steven Cervantes, Santa Maria - Pioneer Valley

Agricultural Mechanics Repair/Maintenance Placement
Luke Van Dyk, Tulare

Agricultural Processing
Daysee Magana, Fallbrook

Agricultural Sales Entrepreneurship
Isabella Evans, Fallbrook

Agricultural Sales Placement
Sierra Noble, Lake Isabella - Kern Valley

Agricultural Services
Frank Chavira, Madera

Agriscience Research - Animal Systems
Amanda Silva, Santa Maria

Agriscience Research - Integrated System
Emilly Hambly, Healdsburg

Agriscience Research - Plant Systems
Lindsey Swall, Tulare

Beef Production Entrepreneurship
Alec Bailey, Colusa

Beef Production Placement
Emma Bianchi, Hollister - San Benito

Dairy Production Entrepreneurship
Robert Marchy, Turlock

Dairy Production Placement
Clayton Arntz, Petaluma

Diversified Agricultural Production
Daniel Moules, Lodi - Tokay

Diversified Crop Production Entrepreneurship
Taylor Jones, Crescent City - Del Norte

Diversified Crop Production Placement
Kent Norman, Ripon

Diversified Horticulture
Anthony Wright, Menifee - Heritage

Diversified Livestock
Katie Lacey, Lone Pine

Environmental Science/Natural Resources
Madisson Avila, Nipomo

Equine Science Entrepreneurship
Kayla Allen, Grass Valley - Nevada Union

Equine Science Placement
Kayne Stehly, Chowchilla

Food Science and Technology
Samantha West, Fresno - Central

Forage Production
Brandon Brazil, Ferndale

Forest Management/Products
Sid Walker, Tulelake

Goat Production
Jackson Sawyer, Lodi - Tokay

Grain Production Entrepreneurship
Sean van Loben Sels, Clarksburg - Delta

Grain Production Placement
Joel Mendoza, Hamilton City

Home and/or Community Development
Hunter Conner, Fallbrook

Landscape Management
David Macias-Campos, Ripon

Nursery Operations
Sage Drohan, Escondido

Outdoor Recreation
Emily Sampson, Lincoln

Pomology Production
Dayton Pitigliano, Tulare

Poultry Production
Garrett Keller, Porterville - Monache

Sheep Production
Tyler Dietz, Merced - El Capitan

Small Animal Production and Care
Ashle Antheunisse, Galt

Specialty Animal Production
Shania DeJarnett, Hughson

Specialty Crop Production
Michael Romo, Hamilton City

Swine Production Entrepreneurship
Amanda Thomas, Colusa

Swine Production Placement
Kailani Koahou, Menifee - Heritage

Turf Grass Management
Adam Solis, Fresno - Central

Vegetable Production
Gissel Corcoles, Greenfield

Veterinary Medicine
Katrina Siems, Morro Bay

Viticulture Production
Emma Manoukian, Healdsburg

Wildlife Management
Brenna Eikenbary, Napa •



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California State FFA Judging Finals



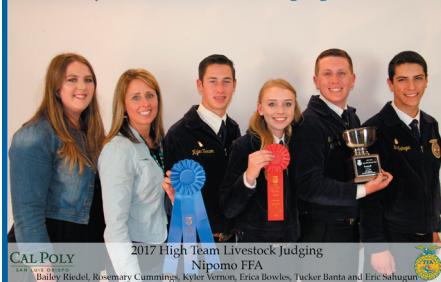
California State FFA Judging Finals



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California State FFA Judging Finals



California State FFA Judging Finals



California State FFA Judging Finals



California State FFA Judging Finals



California State FFA Judging Finals



California State FFA Judging Finals



Scholarship Recipients

{ Continued from page 3 }

Friends of the FFA Scholarship

Sponsored by Jeff & Nicolina Alves
Riley Waterman, Elk Grove - Pleasant Grove
Jordan Lee, Lemoore
Riley Gillihan, Ripon

Pacific Coast Producers Scholarship

Sponsored by Pacific Coast Producers
Hannah Seymour, Golden West

Paul Freitas Memorial Scholarship

Sponsored by Freitas Family
Amber Layne, Modesto

Hartford Insurance Company Scholarship

Sponsored by Hartford Livestock Insurance
Stephanie Stewart, Atwater - Buhach Colony
Courtney Creighton, Atwater
Morgan Silva, Nipomo

Mabel W. Jacks Memorial Scholarship

Sponsored by The Jacks Foundation
Sydney Miller, Arcata
Kayla Allen, Nevada Union
Katherine Golden, Poway

Byron J. McMahon Memorial Scholarship

Sponsored by California Association FFA
Taylor Jones, Del Norte

Dorothy McMillan Memorial Scholarship

Sponsored by California Association FFA
Mary Dale, Fortuna

Dean McNeilly Scholarship

Sponsored by Mr. Dean McNeilly
Amanda Thomas, Colusa

Jaimie Lynne Petey Memorial Scholarship

Sponsored by The Jaimie Lynne Petey Family
Tristan Rowell, Lemoore
Edgar Hernandez, Santa Maria
Gavin Patrick, Porterville

The Willey Family Scholarship

Sponsored by Steve Willey & Patricia Sandor
Makenna Duncan, Ripon
Matthew Umberger, King City

Zenith Insurance Company Scholarship

Sponsored by Zenith Insurance Company
Halley Lauchland, Lodi
Genevieve Regli, Ferndale
Jonathan Moules, Turlock
Blake Jackson, Lakeside - El Capitan •

{ Champions concluded on page 13 }

Chapter Scoops



FALLBROOK FFA Chapter Officer Candidate Dinner

Submitted by Kiara Benavides

This year after our chapter officer elections, all the officer candidates and retiring chapter officers headed over to our local Denny's to have dinner together. This dinner provided the first of many bonding moments between the newly elected officer team, and one of the last times the retiring officer team would spend together. As for the candidates who did not receive a position that night, they were reminded that they would still be able to serve their chapter with the people sitting around them, but in just a different manner. Overall, it was a night of laughter, harmony and ice cream, and spirits were high as the newly elected officer team saw a glimpse of what the year ahead of them held.

The Gustine FFA Floral Design Club hosted a Floral Design Night on Wednesday, April 12th, in the cafeteria. The Floral Night was an event where people learned how to create a round flower arrangement. Students from the floral design class taught community members how to make arrangements based on what they have learned in class. They were taught how to properly add greens and flowers to their arrangement. Some members of the Floral Club helped lead and demonstrate the process. During the event, there were appetizers provided by the Gustine FFA Food Science class, such as sausages and chocolate covered strawberries. Over thirty people attended the Floral Night. Gustine FFA was excited to see the community's participation. Everyone enjoyed themselves and designing the floral arrangement. The Floral Club hopes to host another floral night in the near future.



WOODLAKE FFA Grocery Cart Race

Submitted by Kiara Benavides

On March 26, during National Agriculture Week, the Woodlake



FFA Chapter joined with the Tulare County Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers in their annual Grocery Cart Race community service event held at the FoodsCo Grocery store in Tulare. Participants were given a large list from the local food pantry with several different items that were to be collected throughout the store. Team members had to successfully make sure they accurately gathered all items, did not go over their spending limits, and were fast enough to check out at the register first in order to win this race. All items collected in this fierce competition were donated to the Tulare County Foodlink. This year, Woodlake FFA and the competing teams triumphantly collected over 1,700 pounds of food! This annual event is an extremely fun way to not only advocate the importance of agriculture, but to also give back to the community.

GUSTINE FFA Floral Night

Submitted by Marco Marsigli



BRET HARTE FFA Calaveras Community Pulls Together

A Bret Harte FFA member has been long battling an illness. When he fell ill at the local Calaveras County Fair and was taken to the hospital fellow Bret Harte members took over in his absence and walked the hog through the sale ring. The auctioneer explained that things have been pretty hard for the family, in addition the student's mom also had cancer. In no time the bid went up to \$45 a pound! But that was not all... the Deputy Sheriff's Association said they would like to put up another \$500 and from there several more bidders placed their hand in the air to add on what they could. The hog ended up selling for \$27,000. But the generosity was not yet over. The following Bret Harte FFA student said she would donate \$200 of her sale money to her fellow member in need, followed by the next few Bret Harte FFA members and even a 4-H exhibitor as well.

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California State FFA Judging Finals



2017 High Team Nursery / Landscape
Attwater FFA
Dave Gossman, Jeff Clark, Daryl Dorsey, Dayana Argueta and Amanjot Gondhoke

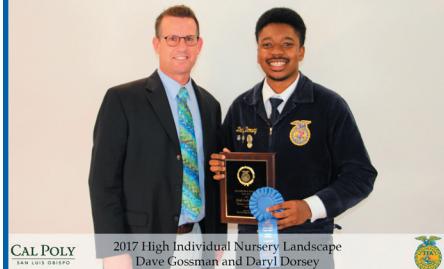


Scrapbook High Team
Elk Grove FFA



2017 High Team Vegetable Crops
Tulelake FFA
Olivia Boettger, Abby Scanlan, Leesa Brown, Cabi Gonzalez and Tim Brown

California State FFA Judging Finals



2017 High Individual Nursery Landscape
Dave Gossman and Daryl Dorsey



Small Engines High Team
Modesto - Beyer FFA



2017 High Individual Vegetable Crops
Gabi Gonzalez and Tim Brown

California State FFA Judging Finals



2017 High Team Poultry
Grace Davis FFA
Tammy Burris, Alina Bilyayeva, Madisyn Servante, Isiah Langapap, Cali Twist and Jordan Danjani



Small Engines High Individual
Prestyn Corral, Modesto - Beyer FFA



2017 High Team Veterinary Science
Modesto FFA
Omar Hernandez, Leslie Arevalo, Valerie Giron, Julia Padilla and Kristen Sheehan

California State FFA Judging Finals



2017 High Individual Poultry Judging
Tammy Burris, Madisyn Servante and Jordan Danjani



2017 High Team Soil and Land Evaluation
Santa Maria FFA
Mariana De Leon, Felix Perez, Mark DeBenedict, Luis Lucas and Efrain Santos



2017 High Individual Veterinary Science
Kassie Sandborg and Elizabeth Ammon



Program of Activities High Team
Nipomo FFA



2017 High Individual Soil and Land Evaluation
Mariana DeLeon

**Congratulations
to our 2017 State
Champions!**

Chapter Scoops CONTINUED



EXETER FFA Year End Banquet

On May 24, 2017 Exeter FFA chapter had our end of the year banquet at the Exeter Memorial Building, to honor our dedicated members who give time to participate in our events and help our chapter be a success. There was over 250 members and guests in attendance at the banquet, we had several scholarships awarded totaling over \$4,000 given to our dedicated agricultural seniors. Exeter FFA gave out over 250 pins, plaques, and certificates for students involved in livestock show teams, CDE teams and proficiency awards. Another highlight of the evening was announcing the 2017-18 chapter officer team, the newly elected chapter officers thanked last year's team for their year of service.



ELK GROVE FFA Springtime

Submitted by Dani Arosteguy

Elk Grove FFA has been busier than ever! On May 10th we held our Chapter Banquet,

to recognize student achievements, including State Finals, which were held in San Luis Obispo on May 6th. Many teams competed including; Farm Business Management placing 1st, Agricultural Issues and the Marketing Co-Ops teams placed 3rd, the Agronomy and BIG teams placed 5th and the Livestock Judging team also competed. Elk Grove FFA also had many students show animals at the Sacramento County Fair the last week of May. Many were awarded 1st place FFA Showman including: Delaney Kingston for novice rabbits, Ava Solano-Lim for advanced rabbits and pygmy goats, Sarah Armstrong for horses, and Elizabeth Vietheer for beef. We also had many Champion and Reserve Champion animals shown at the fair. We are excited to continue the legacy of success next year!



MENIFEE-HERITAGE FFA The Start of New Beginnings

As the year comes to a close we start new beginnings. On the 22nd of May, our chapter held its 10th annual banquet. This year we recognized students for outstanding supervised agricultural experiences, career development event teams, as well as outstanding grade point averages. A special congratulations to this year's Star Greenhand, Emilee Woodward, and this year's Star Farmer, Anthony Wright. During the last part of the night the 2017-2018 chapter officer team was announced. Through all of the celebration we still had to say goodbye to the seniors in FFA, they are the backbone of this program. We truly appreciate them helping our younger members and sharing their knowledge and wisdom with all, and we will miss them dearly.



MADERA FFA Back the Badge Dinner

Submitted by Arthur Cuevas

Madera FFA recently held their first annual Back the Badge Dinner. Members wanted to show the safety officers of Madera County that they support and appreciate everything they do. Members sold dinner sponsorships to community members, businesses, school staff, and each other. The dinners were then given to the Madera police officers, county sheriffs, EMTs, Firefighters, and their families stationed in the Madera area. The members set up areas in the ag classrooms where officers could come in and eat and also delivered meals to the stations for those officers who could not leave their post. Members were able to sell over 300 dinners and provided every officer a meal for the evening!

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NEVADA UNION FFA Honors Veterans for Memorial Day

The Nevada Union FFA took a group of volunteers to place flags on the grave stones of veterans. These individuals drove around to the local cemeteries to place these flags. This has become an annual Pre-Memorial Day tradition for Nevada Union FFA to honor those who have served our country. About 30 kids attended this project and this was the last community service project for the school year. The Nevada Union FFA is very grateful to be able to carry on this tradition every year.



SANGER FFA Advocating For Ag Ed

Submitted by Talie Cloud

The Sanger FFA has been advocating for agricultural education programs! On May 19th, Sanger FFA held a press conference and spoke on the radio about the FFA organization. This press conference offered students first hand leadership experience speaking with the media. At the conference, Sanger FFA chapter officers shared their agricultural testimonials with the hopes that the general public would recognize agricultural education as a catalyst for fostering positive student growth. Students also led media farm tours and explained their SAE projects to highlight the vital life skills taught within the organization. The Sanger FFA aspires to persist in advocating for agricultural education and stimulating premier leadership, personal growth, and career success for every student.



PONDEROSA FFA Farm Day Fun

Submitted by Maggie Hammock

On Tuesday, May 9th, hundreds of members from the Ponderosa

FFA Chapter traveled to the El Dorado County Fairgrounds to present at the Annual El Dorado County Farm Day. These members had the opportunity to teach over a thousand local 3rd grade students about agriculture, and with over 60 diverse stations, they did just that! Ponderosa FFA members were able to team up and decide what aspect of agriculture they wanted to present, and how to do it in a creative and fun way so the third graders would become excited about agriculture. From welding to grapes to horses, every presenter from the Ponderosa FFA shared some bit of the area of agriculture they are passionate about in hopes to teach the third grade students about everything agriculture offers. Every member from the Ponderosa FFA was able to advocate for agriculture through this opportunity, and had a beyond fun experience!

BAKERSFIELD-FOOTHILL FFA Valentine's Day Cheer For Seniors

Submitted by Gabriella Sajaic

On Thursday February 9th, 2017, the Bakersfield-Foothill FFA chapter held a meeting to create flower arrangements for the elderly residents at the Luxury Addiction Rehab as a Valentine's Day gift. With the help of our ag advisor, our members learned how to properly handle the flowers and how to make floral arrangements. While this event brought many laughs and smiles from all ages and grades, this was a great opportunity for our members to gain community service hours that would benefit them in gaining their Chapter, State and American degrees. Then on Saturday, February 11th, members went to deliver these flower arrangements to the elderly and walked out of the center with the warm feeling of making someone else's day brighter while being thanked with big smiles from the senior citizens. •



STREET BEAT

#LIMITLESSFFA



nataliekallberg I can truly say that FFA has changed my life and I feel so blessed that I got to go to state conference this year with my FFA family #limitlessffa



bobina33 @californiaffa, thank you for the weekend of limitless opportunities at your convention! Great job to the retired team, and best of luck to those recently elected! You represent your association and the FFA with the respect and integrity that we should all have! #limitlessffa



ignaciomata57 There is no way to put into words how grateful I am for such an amazing organization. I'm glad I went with my gut and joined because without it I wouldn't be the person I am today. Thank you to everyone of the friends I've made within this organization. Thank you to my advisors for constantly pushing me to be a better version of myself. The opportunities are limitless it only requires you to look for them and try new things. #limitlessffa



d.claborn From crazy car rides, sleepless nights, my first land judging competition, being a state committee chair, meeting two national officers, to getting installed as a South Coast Regional Leader, this state conference was definitely one for the books! I cannot thank the individuals in these photos, the state officer team, and each and every member of California FFA enough for making State Conference more than amazing! I now know that the opportunities that I will have within this organization, are truly limitless #LimitlessFFA #StateConference #CaliforniaFFA



centralcatholic_ffa 55 students, 8 chaperones, 4 days, and lasting memories made. Thank you @californiaffa for this great opportunity and inspiring us to launch! #californiaffa #limitlessffa #centralcatholicffa #centralregionffa



cassiemOore I've come to realize FFA is so much more than what people think it is. I've learned so much in this program and my biggest regret is not putting every ounce of my energy and dedication into this organization. I love California FFA and all that it brings to us. Thank you for giving me so much knowledge, motivation, and memories, I am truly grateful for it. #limitlessffa