



The Michigan FFA Creed

Fall 2017

FEATURED *inside*

- Discover our Student Spotlight!
- Catch up with our 2017-18 state president.
- Learn more about Michigan's National Chapter finalists and State Proficiency winners.
- See what a few past state officers are up to and hear about their experience studying abroad!



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**MEET THE
TOP 3 AND
GOLD RATED
NATIONAL
CHAPTER
AWARD
RECIPIENTS
ON PAGES
K & L!**





The Future OF AFNR EDUCATION

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UPCOMING events

SEPTEMBER 9. Fall Leadership Conference Scholarship applications due.

OCTOBER 25-28. National FFA Convention & Expo

NOVEMBER 1-3. Broiler Contest at Munsell's Poultry Processing.

NOVEMBER 8-9. Fall Leadership Conference and Fall PDI.

DECEMBER 1. Regional Grant and Star Candidate applications due to Michigan FFA office.

an update FROM THE MICHIGAN FFA FOUNDATION

This spring, an article was published in the Michigan FFA Creed to shed light on the O. Donald and Martha Meaders Agriculture and Natural Resources Endowment at Michigan State University. The purpose of this endowment is to financially assist agriculture, food, and natural resource education (AFNRE) students during their fifth year of education—the year students complete an unpaid internship required to become a certified teacher. This endowment not only encourages and supports future AFNRE teachers, but also the individuals that will educate the next generation of Michigan FFA members and continue to promote growth in our organization. At the 2017 Michigan FFA State Convention, Martha Meaders was awarded the Distinguished Service Award to honor everything she has

done to grow this endowment. Mrs. Meaders set her goal at \$100,000 for the endowment in order to ensure scholarships for AFNRE student teachers for years to come. Additionally, at the 2017 State Convention, the foundation put in place a “crowd power” movement to encourage audience members to donate to help reach Mrs. Meaders’ goal. Between audience donations and Mrs. Meaders’ commitment to match donations, nearly \$25,000 was raised, bringing us that much closer to ensuring future agriscience educators are encouraged and supported.

For more information regarding the Meaders Endowment, visit www.michigan.org/foundation or call the Foundation Office at 517-432-2482.



To thank her for her generosity, Mrs. Meaders was presented with the Distinguished Service Award at the 2017 Michigan FFA State Convention.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

2003-2004 STATE PRESIDENT RYAN PETERSON STILL REMAINS ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN FFA.

I had the distinct honor of serving the Michigan FFA Association as the 2003-04 state president and as the 2005-06 National Eastern Region vice president. These were two years that changed the direction of my life in many ways. A few quick years later, I completed my Bachelor of Science degree in Agribusiness Management from Michigan State University. While in college, I competed on the Livestock Judging Team, was a member of FarmHouse Fraternity,



worked at the MSU Purebred Beef Barn and had two first-class internships working for Elanco Animal Health and Land O'Lakes Purina Feed. After graduation, I wanted to learn more about the beef industry, so I moved to Colorado and enrolled at Colorado State University for graduate school. There I earned my master's degree in Beef Cattle Nutrition and served as interim manager of CSU's Agriculture Research Development and Education Center Animal Science Facility.

Today, I live in Wellington, Colorado, and work as the Director of Sales at Leachman Cattle of Colorado—a seedstock marketing and genetic consulting company that markets approximately 1,200 bulls per year to farmers and ranchers all over the country. We sell Angus, Red Angus, Charolais, and our own breed of cattle called Stabilizers. My main responsibilities include managing and preparing bulls for our nine annual production auctions

throughout the year. This includes a wide array of activities, such as nutrition management, performance testing, carcass ultrasound, feed efficiency testing, DNA/genomic testing, clipping, fertility testing, videography, photography, catalog preparation and shipping the cattle to their sale locations and their new owners. It's a dynamic job that takes a lot of planning and teamwork to make it all happen. Our sales range in size from 60 head to 500 head and are hosted in Colorado, California, Arkansas and Texas. The company also exports genetics internationally to Australia, New Zealand, South America and the United Kingdom.



I've had the honor of representing our company on a few trips overseas to South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia and the UK to talk with fellow cattlemen about our program and how our genetics are impacting U.S. producers.

Outside of work, my wife Penny and I were married in July of 2016. We enjoy traveling, hiking, golfing and spending as much time as possible with family and friends. We try to make it back to Michigan as often as possible. For the past nine years I've been fortunate to be able

to return to my home state to co-host the Mid-Year State FFA Officer Retreat with fellow past state officer and friend, Gabe Holdwick.

“WHAT I GAINED THROUGH FFA— BUILDING MANY FRIENDSHIPS AND RELATIONSHIPS AND HAVING AMAZING EXPERIENCES— HAS HAD THE GREATEST IMPACT ON MY LIFE.”

-RYAN PETERSON

What I gained through FFA—serving as an officer, receiving the best training FFA had to offer, building many friendships and relationships and having amazing experiences—has had the greatest impact on my life. Many of those friendships are still as strong as ever. The responsibilities and duties of state and national office made me a better speaker, organizer, planner, team player and servant leader. All of those skills helped to set me up for success in my current job today.

*By: Ryan Peterson,
Past State Officer*



Cultivate Change: EMBRACE THE FUTURE

a letter FROM OUR STATE PRESIDENT



The world around us is constantly changing. Our country changes, our community changes, our families and friends change, and we change. The majority of the time, however, these changes are not on purpose, they are

incidental, maybe due to natural disasters, to a shift in community leadership, or habits that we don't intend to pick up. In contrast, there are plenty of changes that are on purpose; they are intentional.

The agriculture industry is an incredible example of intentional, progressive change; if we look back 100 years, we see immense differences from the industry we know today. We now have access to countless computer systems in crop farming, robotic milking systems in the dairy industry, tremendously efficient plants through

genetic modification and an advanced network of wireless communication that brings the entire industry together to feed the world. The community of agriculture is constantly focused on cultivating—that is, sowing a seed for tomorrow, focusing on its growth, and selflessly pursuing change for the betterment of our world.

Change of any sort is hard. Cultivating change, however, is harder. Why? Because intentional change—progressive, productive, and purposeful change—is never accidental. It means being incredibly focused on a goal and seeing it through to the end. It means finding the things that need to be changed in this world and using every day of our lives to pursue them. It means living for a cause bigger than yourself and truly believing you have the ability to do so.

From the moment we pulled on our blue corduroy jacket for the first time, we have been called to Cultivate Change. Now, it's up to us, Michigan FFA. Our world, our industry and our communities are waiting. It's our turn to cultivate.

*By: Adrian Schunk,
State President*



MR. *Floyd* *Beneker*

PAYING TRIBUTE TO A BELOVED AGRISCIENCE EDUCATOR AND FFA ADVISOR.



His students called him "Mr. B" and for 37 years. He was their biggest advocate and greatest teacher. Years after they left his classroom, they still greeted him as such when they encountered him in the community he loved.

Floyd Beneker was the agriscience educator and FFA advisor at Marshall High School from 1964 to 2001. Originally from Wisconsin, Mr. Beneker came to Michigan after serving in the U.S. Army. During his first year of teaching, he married his Wisconsin sweetheart, Judy. For the next 52 years, she would serve the Marshall community with him, devoted to the students he taught. Some even called "Mom B." by some. The couple raised three children, Barb, Beth and Carrie, in their adopted hometown.

During the time he was at the helm of the Marshall

FFA, the chapter became a powerhouse. He taught three state officers, 20 American Degree recipients, 133 State Degree recipients, 37 National Chapter Award winners and a National Star in Agribusiness.

Beyond the awards, no discussion of Mr. Beneker would be complete without mentioning the positive impact he had on nearly every person he came into contact with.

Bob DuBois remembered a time he traveled to Kansas City with Mr. Beneker. "[We went] to see one of his students win top honors at the National FFA Convention. Watching Floyd's face when the announcement was made was priceless. He was a huge part of many students' lives."



Amanda Shreve was one of Mr. Beneker's last students and became active in the FFA alumni because of him. "For lots of us," said Shreve, "Mr. B. represented Marshall and the FFA. He was a leader at the Calhoun County Fair. He made sure that every graduating FFA member had paid lifetime memberships for the alumni chapter. He believed that his students had

the power to be leaders in their communities and their fields of work. He expected nothing less."

Adding to his legacy is the work he has done to strengthen FFA alumni at the local, state, and national levels. Mr. Beneker organized one of the first alumni affiliates at Marshall High School in the 1970s and became an early leader of the Michigan FFA Alumni, eventually serving as its president. He would spend the last decade of his life serving on the state alumni council as an ex-officio member, his institutional knowledge so valuable to the organization.

"As far as I'm concerned," said Henry Reinart, Michigan FFA Alumni president, "Floyd was Mr. FFA Alumni in this state, and he'll continue to be for years to come. He saw the value in a group that supported the next generation of leaders. He was our biggest advocate."

In March 2017, the Michigan FFA Alumni gave out the first Floyd Beneker Hall of Fame Award, an honor for an alumni member who embodied the same dedication to agriscience education and spirit of service that Mr. Beneker had. Its first recipient was Amanda Shreve, who assumed the presidency of the Marshall FFA Alumni Affiliate after Mr. Beneker stepped down.

When he retired in 2001, the Marshall FFA Alumni he helped build gave him a Massey Harris tractor. In



retirement, Mr. Beneker allowed himself more time to travel and enjoy life with Judy. But he didn't stop serving the students and organization which he had devoted 37 years of his life. At a local level, he kept the Marshall chapter alive despite changes in administration and teaching staff.

"He led us in advocating for our program," said Shreve. "He could get a few dozen community members to attend a school board meeting or help us collect several hundred signatures for a petition. He could rally the troops because people genuinely loved him."

At his funeral, former members brought out their FFA jackets, either donning the blue corduroy once more or draping it over the pews at Marshall's Saint Mary Catholic Church. His community won't soon forget him.

*By: Dustin Petty,
Past State Officer*

2017 STATE WINNING Proficiency Awards

The FFA Agricultural Proficiency Awards honor FFA members who, through their supervised agricultural experiences (SAEs), have developed specialized skills that they can apply toward their future careers. The individuals featured in this article are the state winners in each of their categories, and their Proficiency Award applications will be sent to the National FFA to compete for National FFA Agricultural Proficiency Awards, where they can receive a rating of National Finalist, Gold, Silver, Bronze or Participant.



**AGRICULTURAL
COMMUNICATIONS**

**KAYLEE WIESE
LAKER**

**AGRICULTURAL SALES
PLACEMENT**

**ZACK O'CONNOR
WEBBERVILLE**



AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

**CLAIRE LAURENZ
BRECKENRIDGE**



**BEEF PRODUCTION
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

**TAMMY KESSEL
NORTH HURON**



**AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS
REPAIR & MAINTENANCE
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

**MICHAEL WILSON
WEBBERVILLE**

**DAIRY PRODUCTION
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

**AUSTIN HAYWOOD
HASTINGS**



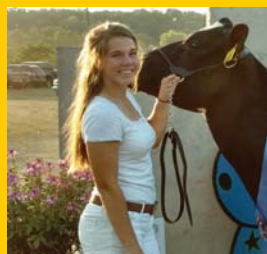
**AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS
REPAIR & MAINTENANCE
PLACEMENT**

**DRAKE ROESLER
MONTAGUE**



**DAIRY PRODUCTION
PLACEMENT**

**MADELINE MEYER
IONIA**



MICHIGAN FFA



**DIVERSIFIED CROP
PRODUCTION
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

**KENDALL
PAWLOWSKI**

NORTH HURON



**DIVERSIFIED CROP
PRODUCTION
PLACEMENT**

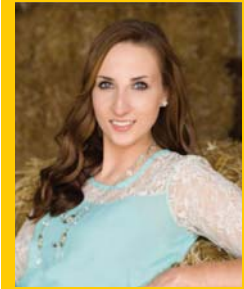
MICHAEL JAHN

NORTH HURON

**DIVERSIFIED
HORTICULTURE**

HALEY TALASKI

HARBOR BEACH



**DIVERSIFIED
LIVESTOCK
PRODUCTION**

JENNA KINGSLEY

WEBBERVILLE



**FORAGE
PRODUCTION**

AARON MAUST

LAKER



**GRAIN PRODUCTION
PLACEMENT**

MEGHAN GORETSKI

NORTH HURON

**HOME AND/
OR COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT**

LEXIE WILSON

HOPKINS



SHEEP PRODUCTION

CAMI HARRIS

OVID-ELSIE

**EQUINE SCIENCE
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

MARKEL SHIERY

**BRANCH AREA
CAREERS CENTER**

**SMALL ANIMAL
PRODUCTION & CARE**

KYLEE KUNSE

**TUSCOLA TECH
CENTER**



**SWINE PRODUCTION
PLACEMENT**

MICAH CUEVAS

**CAREERLINE TECH
CENTER**

**WILDLIFE
MANAGEMENT**

ZACHARY MILES

**JACKSON AREA
CAREER CENTER PM**



Student SPOTLIGHT

CAITLIN HENNE

This fall's Michigan FFA Student Spotlight features Caitlin Henne from the Springport FFA chapter. Caitlin's friends and classmates describe her as dedicated, outgoing, driven and empathetic.

FFA is in Caitlin's blood. Her father has been the advisor for the Springport FFA Chapter for years, or as Caitlin says, "Longer than I have been alive." Caitlin attended FFA events as a young child, so she grew up with FFA. Through FFA and 4-H, Caitlin began to show lambs for her local fair and in statewide competitions. With her background and knowledge about FFA many years before her membership, her parents often joke that, "She had opening ceremonies memorized before she even started school." Henne believes her background in FFA is what has helped her to become the young, educated agriculture advocate she is today.



president of the State Champion Junior High Conduct of Meetings team, fourth place in the National Novice Parliamentary Procedure Contest and State Champion Agriscience Research Project Division One Animal Science. The list goes on and on. With the many

awards Caitlin has received, "driven" is a very suitable word for this hard working Ag-vocate.



aren't available anywhere else for students to travel, make friends, and prepare for their future careers. FFA has a place for everyone, as it no longer only consists of cows, plows, and sows, but includes beakers, speakers and job seekers."

While living the crazy life of an active FFA member, livestock showman and great student, Caitlin also balances much more. She is a varsity athlete in not one, not two, but three sports! Henne runs track and cross-country and plays basketball. Somewhere in her busy schedule, she finds time to sing for the Springport High School choir. She is a busy young lady who has dedicated herself to many passions.

Just as Caitlin has dedicated herself to her show lambs as her SAE project since seventh grade, she has dedicated herself to the Springport FFA Chapter by showcasing the chapter's activities for the Michigan FFA National Chapter Award. For the past two years, the Springport FFA Chapter has taken first place.

Caitlin says, "FFA is based on agriculture and improves your leadership, communication, and teamwork skills. It provides opportunities that



By: David Lindsay, State Reporter

STATE OFFICER *Feature*

SEE WHAT THE STATE OFFICERS
HAVE IN COMMON WITH YOU!



HANNA DUTCHER
STATE VICE PRESIDENT

Theme Song:
"Don't Blink"
Favorite Homemade Meal:
Grandma's Dumplings
Favorite TV Show:
"Friends"

This year, Hanna is attending Michigan State University. For guidance, Hanna looks to her father, who, despite being both a dairy and crop farmer, is always there for her, cheering her on. Outside of FFA, she was extremely involved in her school's band program, serving as head drum major for four years and playing the tuba in the symphonic band. When asked to describe herself in one word, Hanna picks, "Resilient." "Even when I have a bad day, I find a way to learn from it and bounce back stronger," she says.



JAKE BUSHEY
STATE SENTINEL

Theme Song:
"El Cerrito Place"
Favorite Candy:
Sweet Tarts
Personal Hobby:
Playing guitar

Jake is currently attending Michigan State University studying Crop and Soil Science. Inspired by his older brother, Jake joined FFA in eighth grade and eventually found his own path and pursued his own goals. Jake's advice to members is to never let people shade your ideas. Do the impossible and just go for it. This mindset has taken him far in his SAEs of Diversified Crop Production and Agricultural Services, where he lives and works on his family cash crop farm.



HALEY TALASKI
REGION III STATE VICE PRESIDENT

Theme Song:
"Road Less Traveled"
Favorite Sport:
Hunting & Snowmobiling
Favorite FFA Activity:
Leadership Contests

Haley is a freshman at Lansing Community College with future plans to transfer to Michigan State University to pursue a degree in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources Education. Haley has three SAEs: Floriculture, Beef Production and Goat Production. She works at her mother's flower shop, handling everything from bookwork to making floral arrangements. Haley has been taking feeder steers to the fair for the past three years and meat goats for five years.

Once in a LIFETIME

TWO PAST STATE OFFICERS REFLECT ON THEIR STUDY ABROAD TO INDIA AND THE LESSONS WE CAN ALL LEARN FROM STEPPING OUT OF OUR COMFORT ZONES.



“THE LANDSCAPE IN INDIA WAS TRULY BEAUTIFUL, BUT SO WERE THE PEOPLE. THROUGH INTERVIEWS WITH FARMERS, COOKS, AND PHILOSOPHERS, WE EACH GAINED A LOT OF INFORMATION...THE LIFESTYLES OF THE PEOPLE IN NORTHERN INDIA ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM OURS.”
-CLAIRE LAURENZ



“WHILE SEIZING A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY MAY BE HARD, IT OFTENTIMES IS TOTALLY WORTH THE RISK. IF I WOULDN'T HAVE SIGNED UP FOR A TRIP LIKE THIS, I MAY HAVE NEVER EXPERIENCED THIS PART OF THE WORLD. TAKE CHANCES AND EMBRACE CHANGE, BECAUSE SOME OPPORTUNITIES ONLY COME ALONG ONCE.”
-CLAIRE LAURENZ

We all have once-in-a-lifetime opportunities. Sometimes they are as simple as participating in our school's FFA program and taking advantage of everything it offers. Sometimes it can be more specific, like attending the Washington Leadership Conference and meeting other members from across the country that will become lifelong friends. Other times, it can take shape in crazy adventures, such as studying abroad in the Himalayan mountains of India.

All the "once-in-a-lifetimes" listed above are ones that I have been fortunate enough to take part in. Most recently, I was able to study abroad in India and spend over three weeks trekking in the Himalayan Mountains. This experience was truly more incredible than I could have ever imagined. This trip consisted not only of the multiple weeks of trekking, but also lectures, research, interviews, presentations and, of course, a few days dedicated to visiting the top tourist destinations, like the Taj Mahal.

Although the definition of a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity is that it is entirely unique to itself, I still find that there are many commonalities among these opportunities. When you're over 8,000 miles away from home and in a foreign country, it's these commonalities that make it feel like home. These are the nights when we stayed up a bit too late, or the lecturer whose message captured our entire attention, or the meals shared with lots of laughter, stories, and good company.

These memories and opportunities can impact us and shape us in ways that completely alter the paths we take in school, our careers and in life. We only get one shot when it comes to these experiences, however, so just remember when it comes to the "once-in-a-lifetimes": do it once, don't do it over.

By: Samantha Ludlam, Past State Officer



Living to Serve:

MEET OUR NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE



Michigan FFA, as my time serving as your 2016-17 state president has come to a close, it is an honor to reflect back on the year that we have experienced together. Across the state, I witnessed members of the Michigan FFA changing lives and impacting the world, using the unique skills that each of us have. Goals were set, dreams were achieved and expectations were truly shattered. This past year has been amazing. However, I have found my thoughts moving from what has already happened to what we have yet to experience. One of these experiences for me is representing our great state as the 2017-18 National Officer Candidate. This is truly an honor, and I am humbled.

Our state is full of incredible representations of agriculture. We are the second-most diverse in the types of food we produce, and have many different types of agricultural production that ensure our members have opportunities to see what our industry is truly capable of. And yet that same industry is always changing. As the world moves toward providing food and energy for billions more, farmers and everyone working in agriculture are using innovative

thinking to provide more with less. That is where we come in. We are the future of FFA, but, more than that, we are the future of the world. We are the ones creating drones that monitor fields, cell phone apps that help us keep track of the farm, and agriscience experiments to help explain how the world works. We are creating artwork that represents our chapters and speaking to our communities about what we are passionate about. There are huge challenges out there, and the members I have met are passionately working to solve them. That is why I am so excited to be representing you at the National FFA Convention. These ideas need a voice, and I am proud to bring your stories into the spotlight for others to hear. Throughout the months leading up to the National Convention, I will be meeting with industry experts, developing my speaking skills and increasing my knowledge of FFA. The greatest opportunity I will have, though, is to hear from you. Regardless of your passion, you make an impact on our organization and people in all walks of life.

My time in the blue jacket will continue to guide my life, regardless of what happens in the next couple of months. However, I am overjoyed to have another opportunity to serve you. This year could lead to your first FFA events, or it could be the last of a full FFA career. If there is one thing I have learned throughout my time as a state officer, it is that where you are in life right now is where you will make the most impact. It isn't based on the resources you have or your desire to work in a certain area. The impact that you make is based on the fact that you are pursuing what you love and doing it to the fullest of your ability.

These next few months will be amazing. These last few years have been amazing. Thank you, Michigan FFA, for making this the experience of a lifetime. I am blessed.

“THE IMPACT THAT YOU MAKE IS BASED ON THE FACT THAT YOU ARE PURSUING WHAT YOU LOVE AND DOING IT TO THE FULLEST OF YOUR ABILITY.”
-LOREN KING

QUICK FACTS

Education:
Michigan State
University

SAEs:
Diversified Livestock
Production

Emerging
Agricultural
Technologies

Agriscience

Theme Song:
“Good to Be Alive”

Favorite Movie:
“The Lego Movie”

Favorite Candy:
Reese's Pieces

*By: Loren King,
Past State Officer & National Officer Candidate*

2017 NATIONAL Chapter Awards

For the National Chapter Award, chapters fill out an application consisting of short descriptions of their program of activities and document the goals, results, evaluations and photos for each activity. To qualify, a chapter must complete at least 15 activities: one for each of the five quality standards in each of the three divisions. The applications are judged at the state level, and after the top three are chosen, the other chapters receive a gold, silver or bronze rating. The top three are eligible to compete for the National FFA Star Chapter Awards, and gold-rated chapters move on to National FFA, where they can receive a three-star, two-star, or one-star rating. Take a look at what these chapters and their members are doing!



State Winner: Springport

The Springport FFA Chapter has 185 members in grades 7-12. Students have the opportunity to develop SAEs with a flock of 25 ewes and market lambs, as well as raise broilers, starter calves, and hogs in their agriscience barn, or grow hydroponic fruits and vegetables, flowers, and other crops in their greenhouse. The Springport FFA chapter offers over 30 unique activities throughout the year for students to get involved in. In 2014 and 2016, they took students to Costa Rica for a week to study agriculture.



2nd Place: Byron

The Byron FFA Chapter has 212 members and has been continuously active for the past 83 years. Last year, the Byron FFA joined forces with the Byron Education Association, Byron Downtown Development Authority and St. Mary's Catholic Church to collect, sort and distribute over 4,000 pounds of food to 48 local families. The 100 chickens distributed were raised at the school by members of the ag biology class.



3rd Place: Lapeer AM

The Lapeer AM FFA Chapter's biggest community service activity, Project Raising HOPE, involves FFA members teaching their pals or students with disabilities how to care for and feed FFA animals every day. In turn, the animals have provided 5,193 lbs. of meat for the Stone Soup Food Bank and families in need. The chapter's personal growth activity, the Imprint with FFA Leadership Lock-In, had a tremendous impact on their members, as they gained self-confidence by sharing their goals and visions for the future.



Alma

The Alma FFA Chapter conducts a 33-acre Land Lab where they raise corn and soybeans. This is a partnership with local growers, Timac Agro USA and MSU Extension. At the end of their growing season, they host a community event to showcase these commodities and educate others on how they are grown.

Corunna

The Corunna FFA Chapter has a grain show. Members can make an educational display or sort out a peck of grain by hand to put on display. They learn from local businesses about the importance of clean grain and the process from field to storage to sale. They had roughly 100 students participate this year!



Montague

The Montague FFA Chapter harvested an acre of potatoes that was combined with their basil and lettuce to make a lunch for students at Montague Area Public Schools and Whitehall District Schools. They also conduct a Healthy Harvest Taste Test monthly at all school buildings, where they focus on a different vegetable and two to three dishes for students to try.



Ubly

The Ubly FFA Chapter is this year's #SpeakAgMichigan state winner. This contest is sponsored by Michigan Farm Bureau and is designed to recognize chapters across the state that have done an exceptional job promoting agricultural literacy in their local communities.

Alpena

In September, the Alpena FFA Chapter works with the Alpena Farmer's Market to organize and run a fun family event to celebrate local agriculture. This includes a petting zoo, pumpkin painting, hay ride, games and taste-testing locally grown produce. Over 1,000 people from the Alpena area attend the event each year.



Hopkins

The Hopkins FFA Chapter has 85 members with SAEs ranging from beekeeping to producing goat's milk soap. The chapter accomplishments they are most proud of include the 2017 MAAE Outstanding Agriculture Program and 2015 National FFA Model of Innovation Award.



North Huron

This year, the North Huron FFA Chapter donated 700 pounds of fresh meat and produce to their local food pantry, had 100 student-grown broilers used for their annual Farm to Fork lunch and had 16 total raised bed gardens in their community garden, in addition to quarter acre of potatoes to benefit community and food pantry.

Webberville

The Webberville FFA Chapter was established in 1957. They have 157 members and received 4th place in this year's #SpeakAgMichigan Contest. Over the past seven years, they have received \$45,000 in grants to support their community gardens and members' SAEs.



Olivet

The Olivet FFA Chapter has many unique events throughout the year, such as Agricultural Literacy Day at Calhoun County Fairgrounds, where over 600 students attend, a farm toy show and breakfast, raking leaves for the elderly each fall, and a leadership contest assembly for the entire school.





WHAT'S ON YOUR PLATE?

Fill
dinner plates
by buying
license plates.

Help empower tomorrow's farmers, scientists, communicators and food processors. Purchase a redesigned, Pure Michigan Agricultural Heritage license plate! You are making an investment in our future – Michigan's youth. For just \$35, you can help prepare the next generation of agriculture leaders by supporting FFA and K-12 agricultural education programs.

Get your plate today. Visit your local Secretary of State Office or go to www.michigan.gov/SOS and click on the "Owning a Vehicle" link for order forms. Questions? Call 517-432-2482.



www.michiganffa.org

HANDS ON PROGRAMS

Certificate Programs in East Lansing

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Livestock Industries
Dairy Management
Landscape and Nursery Management
Horse Management
Electrical Technology
Fruit, Vegetable and Organic Horticulture Management
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Sports and Commercial Turf Management

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[Centerville, Michigan](#)
Agricultural Operations

[Southwestern Michigan College](#)
[Dowagiac, Michigan](#)
Agricultural Operations
Applied Horse Science
Landscape Management
Fruit and Vegetable Crop Management
Viticulture

[Grand Rapids, Michigan](#)
Landscape and Lawn Management

[Montcalm Community College](#)
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Agricultural Operations
Applied Horse Science
Landscape Management
Fruit and Vegetable Crop Management

[Northwestern Michigan College](#)
[Traverse City, Michigan](#)
Agricultural Operations
Landscape Management
Fruit and Vegetable Crop Management
Viticulture

[Delta College](#)
[University Center, Michigan](#)
Agricultural Operations
Fruit and Vegetable Crop Management



The Institute of Agricultural Technology

delivers innovative, educational programs that develop career-ready graduates through intensive, practical learning and skill enhancement in animal sciences, plant sciences and electrical technologies.

All programs can be completed in two years, including a required professional internship experience. Programs are offered on MSU's East Lansing campus and in partnership with several Michigan community colleges across the state.

Learn more about the Institute of Agricultural Technology by visiting www.iat.msu.edu or call 517-355-0190.



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

College of Agriculture
and Natural Resources

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer.

9/2015

JOIN MICHIGAN FFA ALUMNI

IN COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE
STATE, FFA ALUMNI MEMBERS
ARE COACHING, MENTORING,
FUNDRAISING & PREPARING THE
NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS.

JOIN THEM. NO JACKET REQUIRED.



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