

# The Michigan FFA Creed

March/April 2010



# The Michigan FFA Creed



Issue 3 Volume 8

The State FFA Office  
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## C I Believe In...

Read some words of insight about appreciating every moment in your life, written by your State Reporter

## D Member Highlight

Explore what six members of this state are doing within their chapters and communities.

## F Our Motto in Motion

Check out how chapters and members around Michigan are serving their communities.

## J The Great Lakes: Is it a Free for All?

Gain knowledge about the issues facing the great lakes water and the the Great Lakes Compact.

## L Whats the Word?

Sit back and relax, while also broadening your horizons by completing FFA puzzles.

## N Rest of the Story

Learn more about three of your state officers.

*The Michigan FFA will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, age, gender, marital status, weight, sexual orientation or disability. Any student requiring an accommodation as a result of a disability should contact the chapter advisor to arrange such accommodation.*

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Region VI State VP: Amanda Sumerix



# I believe in...

paying it forward.

So many times in life we are given opportunities to influence the lives of others. Sometimes these opportunities are small and go unnoticed. They could be something as simple as opening the door for someone or saying thank you. Other times you have the chance to influence a lot of people at once like working at a homeless shelter or going on a mission trip. No matter the size of the good deed completed you have the opportunity to make an impact on the lives of others.

Paying it forward is a simple concept of helping someone while expecting nothing in return. There are simple steps to help you live your life by paying it forward. The first is to always remember that opportunities to impact someone else's life can unveil themselves unexpectedly. Everyday we all have the chance to make an impact on someone else, but to grab on to these opportunities we have to keep our eyes open and be constantly attentive to the fact that an opportunity to impact may be revealed at any point in time.

The second step is to actually do something nice for someone you don't know or someone you don't know very well. It should be something significant for that person and expect nothing in return. This could be as simple as opening a door for someone with full hands, carrying an elderly person's groceries or simply telling a cashier to have a wonderful day.

The third step is to spread the word about paying it forward. When a person thanks you or asks what you want in return have them continue to pay it forward. Tell them, "you'd like them to do something nice for three people they don't know, and ask those three people to do something nice for three more people." This will allow the random acts of kindness to keep spreading, ultimately allowing for many people to have better attitudes.

Finally by performing random acts of kindness for strangers it is possible to change not only their attitude but possibly their life. If everyone continues to pay it forward it is possible that we can change the world one act of kindness at a time.

## Dates to Remember...

### March

- 10-12 State FFA Convention (Wednesday-Friday)
- 25 Board of Directors Meeting-MSU-5pm-8pm

### April

- 2 Marketing Plans Due
- 2 Ag Skills Registration Due
- 16 Meats Contest
- 16 State FFA Career Development Events (Ag Skills)- MSU
- 17 Horse Judging Contest
- 30 Lansing Lugnuts Game



# Member

## Region I

### Tyler Teadt-Centerville FFA

A sophomore at Centerville High School, Tyler has enjoyed many FFA activities at the chapter, regional, state and national levels. He has participated in Greenhand Conduct of Meetings and is currently part of the Parliamentary Procedure team. He was a chapter delegate for State Convention last year and attended the 2009 National Convention. Regional Leadership Camp was another exciting FFA experience for Tyler. He serves the Centerville FFA as Sentinel this year. One of his favorite chapter activities is working on the land lab harvesting corn and soybeans.

Tyler's activities outside of FFA include football, basketball, baseball and 4-H. He shows rabbits, goats and dairy feeder steers at the St. Joseph County Fair. His future goals including winning the state parliamentary procedure contest and becoming a regional and state officer. He enjoys meeting people and spending time with friends.



## Region II

### Addie Spolyar-Jonesville FFA

Addie Spolyar is a member of the Jonesville FFA and has a strong SAE in swine production. Addie is employed at the Rossman Family Farm where she is involved in raising pigs from farrow to finish. Here Addie has been able to learn how to care for pigs, give vaccinations and read ear notches, which has allowed her to properly care for pigs of all ages. Besides being employed at the Rossman Farm, Spolyar has been showing hogs since the age of ten after her 4-H leader encouraged her to do so. Through her SAE, Addie has also learned many important life lessons including responsibility and patience, which have allowed her to become a well-rounded and respected young woman within the Jonesville community.



## Region III

### Camay Messing-Ubly FFA

As a senior at Ubly High School, Camay Messing serves many rolls while in high school. Besides serving as the Ubly FFA Secretary this year, Camay is also active in varsity sports, including basketball, volleyball and softball. She is a mentor in the lunch buddy program sponsored by Big Brothers and Big Sisters; a member of the science club, drama club, active in National Honors Society and she enjoys tractor pulling with her family and friends in the summer. Camay has also served as the vice president of her chapter in the past while managing her two SAE's, Agricultural Business and Dairy Production – Placement. Camay said she enjoys her SAE's because "I get to meet a lot of new people while I travel and gain so many new experiences because of my SAE." For her agribusiness SAE, Camay helps with her family's business that sells products, mainly directed at dairy farms. Camay also has exhibited beef cattle at the Huron County Fair for the past three years. She plans on attending Delta College in the fall to achieve a degree in Business Management.



# Highlights



## Region IV Lance Braid-Corunna FFA

A senior at Corunna High School, Lance Braid sets standards as a rounded FFA member. As Chapter Vice President, Lance counts leadership contests, conferences, and the county fair among his FFA activities, in addition to his Supervised Agricultural Experiences of Swine Production and Veterinary Placement.

In addition to chapter office and serving as the Region IV President, Lance is active in Varsity Tennis, National Honor Society, Science Club and the Lifeline youth group.

Building upon his SAE, the senior plans to attend Michigan State University in the fall, entering the pre-veterinary program.

## Region V Emily Kroll-Montague FFA

A four year FFA member and senior at Montague High School, Emily Kroll is a very busy young lady. Along with juggling her duties as a student and the Vice President of her FFA Chapter, she has taken on the role of public speaking instructor to the first ever Montague Middle School FFA chapter.

She has participated in many FFA events including Extemporaneous Public Speaking, Greenhand Conduct of Meetings, Horse Judging skills contest, Heroes in Ag and poster board presentations for Crop-O-Rama and Jr Agriscience.

When asked about her SAE, Emily said, "My SAE is Equine Science Placement. I manage a 20-horse boarding facility, which means I care for the needs of the horses and their owners. I do everything from cleaning stalls to vaccinations to hydrotherapy treatment on the animals."

Emily's future plans include attending Muskegon Community College to narrow



## Region VI Mike Suitor-Alcona FFA

As a senior in the Alcona FFA Chapter, Michael Suitor is extremely involved. Throughout his FFA career he has participated in many different FFA events including the Alcona FFA Partners in Active Learning Program where he currently is a Big PAL mentor. Mike has achieved his Chapter Degree, Outstanding Junior Award and the Academic Excellence Award.

He has served as the Alcona FFA President and Treasurer and is currently the Region VI Sentinel.

His SAE is Agriculture Processing where he is the Alcona FFA Maple Syrup Coordinator. It is his job to keep all the records and make decisions about the operation. Upon graduation from high school, Mike would like to attend Baker College with the intention of receiving his associate's degree in Network Administration and possibly extending that to a bachelor's degree in Cyber Defense.





# Our Motto in Motion



## Learning to Do

By: Haley Schulz  
Baker College Nursing Major  
&  
Elizabeth Hager  
MSU Engineering Major

Over the past several years, the members of the Ionia FFA chapter have been hard at work connecting with the second graders from the local elementary schools. Every year it is the goal of the chapter's officer team to visit every second grade classroom in the district and work alongside the teachers to help the students learn what it takes to make plants grow, as well as assist the students in planting their very own tomato plant. In a district with five elementary schools and a total of ten second grade classrooms, this project, "Terrific Tomatoes," as it is known in the Ionia area, creates a big impact within the community.

The impact that this project has in the community stretches further



than the scope of the in-class work. "The Terrific Tomatoes project is a fun way to get the kids excited about agriculture. The second graders love to ask a lot of questions and we get to

tell them about where their food comes from and how it grows from tiny seeds into what they eat," said Becca Blundy, a senior member of the Ionia FFA chapter, who has been actively involved in the Terrific Tomatoes program for the past three years. It has become somewhat of a tradition in Ionia that the chapter plans a visit to the schools. The students really seem to enjoy the project and the teachers look forward to the chapter coming back every year.

This program begins in early April when the FFA members begin contacting the local schools to schedule the best time for them to come in and teach the students about tomatoes. They try their

hardest to schedule it in when it fits best into the current curriculum. This is important for the FFA chapter so the second graders get the most out of it. The members work hand-in-hand with the teachers to help them meet their requirements. The number one priority for everybody involved is the students.



What makes a program like this a success? "The Terrific Tomatoes program continues to be a success because kids love hands on activities that they can watch over time and see their hard work

become something tangible," said Ionia FFA advisor Jason Griffith, who started this program ten years ago. Griffith also elaborated saying "this is a great opportunity for all of the students involved, the high school members alongside the second grade students. This project allows the high school students a personal view of what it is like to be a teacher; many members come out of this experience with a new found respect for those in the education field. It is only through the continued efforts of both FFA members and



dedicated faculties that make this program a success. If it weren't for the collaborative effort put forth by both parties this program would not be where it is today."

The chapter is currently looking into growing the program to include a lesson in the 4th grade classrooms as well.

It is easy to see how a program with such strong history and community support continues to be such a success. This chapter is bettering the community by giving the gift of knowledge; knowing that knowledge today can lead to change tomorrow.



# Doing to Learn

By: Beth Oliver, MSU Agribusiness Major  
&  
Jeff Schmitt, MSU Agribusiness Major

Lindsey Garner of the Byron FFA Chapter insists that an agricultural background is not necessary to develop an outstanding Supervised Agricultural Experience. The high school junior is determined to prove it, as she “does to learn” with her Diversified Horticulture Placement SAE.

Covering everything from floriculture to forestry, Lindsey’s diversified placement SAE began with a childhood love of plants and animals. Upon joining the FFA in middle school, Lindsey recognized the opportunities presented to her and



decided to utilize them.

Development for Lindsey’s SAE began in Junior High when her FFA advisor Mrs. Opper introduced her to the plant atmosphere in her horticulture class and the

Floriculture CDE. According to Lindsey, “She (Mrs. Opper) made me realize that I loved plants and I could build an SAE from it. My mother worked in a floral shop/greenhouse while I was growing up as well and I got to be around that quite a bit. So that inspired my slight interest with horticulture and then Mrs. Opper kept my interest going.” Upon her move into high school, Lindsey’s SAE was further assisted by the high school FFA Advisor, Mr. Forbush, who assisted Lindsey in finding a job at a local greenhouse her sophomore year and encouraged her to build an award-winning project.

The scope of Lindsey’s SAE has expanded since she began high school. It now includes her summer job at Mahar’s Greenhouse and Nursery, where she works numerous hours, sometimes unpaid. Additionally, she mows lawns for neighbors and works at two separate greenhouses during two different seasons. Lindsey fills her winter months by assisting her father with Forest Management near their home, guaranteeing that wood is cut and maintained to heat the house. She also helps

maintain the family’s deer food plots in the spring and winter to ensure proper wildlife growth and management and supplements her endeavors with Landscape and Greenhouse Horticulture classes. Expanding into Livestock Production, Lindsey has had the opportunity to show hogs and dairy calves at the Shiawassee County Fair and is including a beef steer as part of her 2010 Fair project.



Lindsey was recently honored as the Region IV Star in Agribusiness Placement. She recognizes that goal setting is a vital component of a successful Supervised Agricultural Experience. Future goals for her diversified project include finding a full time horticulture placement job, starting an Agriscience project, maintaining her involvement in agriculture year-round, receiving a state proficiency award and of course, further developing her horticulture SAE.

Beyond horticulture, Lindsey’s future plans include serving as a chapter officer her senior year, as well as running for regional and ultimately, state office. She hopes to attend Michigan State University, Grand Valley or Wayne State to pursue a degree in something that will incorporate horticulture with helping others. Currently she is considering a career as a Physician’s Assistant, Botanist, Biotechnologist or Microbiologist.

Lindsey has a bright future in and out of the FFA and is willing to overcome obstacles, just as she has in her SAE. “One major obstacle that I have faced in my SAE is that I didn’t come from an agriculture background or grow up as the farmer’s daughter. Lindsey explained, by not having an agriculture background it made me more determined to have a strong SAE and show others in the FFA that you don’t have to live on a farm to have a strong project. Another obstacle has been the current economic downfall and trying to find work in the horticulture industry.”

Looking back on her placement project, Lindsey credits her SAE with enabling her



to improve her communication skills, as well as the chance to experience the agricultural world from all aspects. “I have gained the ability to not be afraid to go after what I want and what it takes to achieve my goals,”

says Lindsey, “Responsibility, Passion, Pride and Respect”.



# Earning to Live

By: Amanda Sumerix  
MSU ANR Communications Major

Earning to Live- the third line of the FFA motto is what any FFA member hopes to achieve one day. For some it's just a job, but for others, it's a lifestyle. Growing up in California, Michigan is the last place Dr. Matt Raven expected to end up. Dr. Raven is the newest addition to Michigan State University's Department of Community, Agriculture, Recreation and Resource Studies (CARRS).

Growing up, Dr. Raven was surrounded by agriculture. "I originally thought that I was going into production agriculture but eventually I ended up in education," he said.



"One of my mentors from the education program recruited me in."

Raven graduated from the University of California with a Bachelors of Science in Plant Science with specializations in Agronomy and Range Science. He also holds a Master's degree from Kansas University and a PhD

from Ohio State University. Agriculture is something that stuck with his entire family, even after college. His brother currently owns a vineyard in California while his sister owns a horse ranch. For him, it was teaching agriculture.

Education has always been important to Dr. Raven. Being an agricultural educator was just one of his professions; he has held jobs with universities across the country in various states such as Montana, Mississippi and North Carolina. While he was an agricultural education teacher in California he was also a FFA advisor, which some might

find interesting because growing up he never was a member. "FFA was never offered in my high school," he said. "Some might think of that as a disadvantage, but for me being an FFA advisor with no experience in FFA was an opportunity to go in with an open mind and find my own style of teaching the members."

Since being an advisor, Dr. Raven has helped the FFA in many ways by judging contests and interviews in different states. To him, the FFA is not just another group of students. "The thing I like most about the FFA is the importance

of combining leadership with the social aspect of youth development and bringing that into the classroom," he said. "I feel that that is important because it adds to the richness of the agriscience education programs."

Since arriving on campus, Dr. Raven has been working tirelessly to help both the FFA and agriscience education programs. "I know that most people think that you need to be in FFA to be an advisor, but I am living proof that it's not true. Agriculture Education not only allots opportunities for students who plan to teach it to high schoolers, or be FFA advisors, but it also offers great opportunities for people interested in 4-H and Extension."

Matt Raven truly imbibes the words "Earning to Live." He lives everyday of his life ready to overcome any obstacle that comes his way.

*"Agriculture Education not only allots opportunities for students who plan to teach it to high schoolers, or be FFA advisors, but it also offers great opportunities for people interested in 4-H and extension."*



# Living to Serve

By: Kelli Fulkerson  
MSU Agricultural Industries  
&  
Jonathon Brewer  
St. Clair County Community College Computer Science Major

Rex Thayer, a senior at Deckerville High School and a member of the Sanilac FFA Chapter, has been “Living to Serve” before he began his FFA membership last year. Rex fills a lot of his time with his Wildlife Management Supervised Agricultural Experience. However, he also plays varsity football, varsity baseball and is an active member in the Sanilac County 4-H program. 4-H and FFA have allowed Rex to show beef and hogs at the county and state level. “I have come to really enjoy my SAE because I am able to help produce larger animals and educate others about how to harvest wildlife in the correct manner,” Thayer said.

Rex became interested in his Wildlife Management project at an early age. Rex’s dad helped to ignite Rex’s interest in wildlife because he would take Rex rabbit hunting when he was young. As Rex grew older and became more interested, his dad would take him out turkey hunting. However, the Wildlife Management project really began right before Thayer was able to deer hunt. Whenever Rex’s dad went to

hunt during hunting season, Rex would tag along and sit in a ladder stand just observing the wildlife. “Some of the things I saw were incredible. There are so



many animals that help to make up wildlife, including rabbits and birds, as well as many immature bucks,” commented Rex.

Due to this spark of interest in wildlife, he began watching television shows where they would talk about large bucks and how they were raised to be that big. A lot of the “Big

Bucks” come from planned feeding plots where the deer can graze freely. Rex has done a lot of his learning by watching these shows and reading books on wildlife management. As the years have went along, Rex continued to show his interest in wildlife management and his dad decided it was time to get involved! Rex stated, “As I have gotten older, my dad has seen how excited I get about this management project and started to help me with the management practice, as well as integrate himself in my project.”

Each year, Rex plants corn and soybeans in the western UP to grow forage for the deer to eat. He also plants Biologic Brassica and Clover Plus in the fall to attract the deer to the



hunting plots. “Even though the project just started out as a deer operation, we have extended it to include coyote, black bear, and ruffed grouse,” stated Rex. He enjoys being able to show other individuals that there truly is more to hunting than just shooting a deer. “In the proper outdoor setting, if you are patient enough, you will find a prized buck!”

Last year, Rex worked with the Sanilac FFA’s Program of Activities Committee. He helped to come up with new activities for chapter members to participate in and he really enjoyed it. He has also competed in the Forestry CDE contest and the Demonstration Leadership Contest. Rex has chaired the Sanilac County Creature Features Program, a Sanilac FFA event that teaches fourth graders about wildlife awareness. Rex has also helped tap, drain, and cook sap for local maple trees in order to make maple syrup as a chapter fundraiser. Rex plans on attending Northern Michigan or Michigan State and graduate with a degree in wildlife management. Following college, he hopes to work at Thompson Center’s Game Trails in Kentucky helping maintain turkey and deer populations.

# THE GREAT LAKES: IS IT A FREE FOR ALL?

By: Brent Osantoski  
Baker College Medical Science Major

An increase in population, lower yearly rain fall, and decreasing levels in rivers and water tables are the leading causes of a water crisis sweeping the southern and western United States. State governments have been looking to the Great Lakes as a solution to the water shortage. The question that lingers is whether or not the diverting of the Great Lakes will really be a long term solution or a quick fix



*Great Lakes Compact region*

Lakes, along with the Canadian Provinces, renewed the Great Lakes Compact. The eight states and providences include Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin and the Providence of Ontario and the Providence of Quebec. The compact gives power to the states and providences to promote, plan, develop, maintain and protect the Great Lakes basin. For those who have visited one or all of the Great Lakes you have witnessed first-hand the beauty of this majestic natural wonder. This natural wonder is the only one of its kind in the world and that is why the Great Lakes Compact has been held to such a high standard.

The southern and western states have been trying to get the Great Lakes states to allow them to build some type of

that has the potential to lead to even more difficult problems?

On October 3, 2008 the eight states that encompass the Great

diverting mechanism. Building this would give the southern and western states access to a continuous supply of fresh water. This would be great for these states, no longer worrying about drought, poor crop yields or any other problems that might arise from a shortage of water. The states requesting this divergence are even willing to pay to have access to the fresh water of the Great Lakes. All of that makes this sound like a win-win situation for both the Great Lake states and the southern and western states, an economic boost for the Great Lake states and fresh, clean water supply for the southern and western states.

As mentioned before the Great Lakes Compact was setup to protect the Great Lakes. Many individuals, along with state governments, feel that a divergence would be detrimental to the lakes. This divergence could open up a waterway for invasive and non-native species to inhabit not

only the shores and waters of the Great Lakes, but those of the southern and western states as well. A great example of opening a waterway into the Great Lakes

that has proven to cause harm is the Chicago-area shipping locks. These waterways have allowed for the discovery of Asian Carp DNA in Lake Michigan.

So what would happen if the Asian Carp were to invade the Great Lakes? Well for starters these fish are enormous. They can grow to be up to four feet long and weigh up to 100 pounds. These fish consume up to 20 percent of their



*Asian Carp infested waters*



body mass in food every day. If allowed to invade Lake Michigan, they will destroy the natural habitat of the salmon, trout, bass and perch of the Great Lakes. With their habitats destroyed, it could lead to a seven billion dollar loss to the Great Lakes fishing industry. The offers given from the southern and western states for the fresh water of the Great Lakes would not make up for this or any other harm that would be caused by the invasive species. So now understanding the extensive damage caused by invasive species, most would agree that a interstate waterway would open the flood gates to invasive species into both ends of the waterway.

While the southern and western states have been faced with a water shortage, so have the Great Lakes. Since 1998 the



Representative Terry Brown

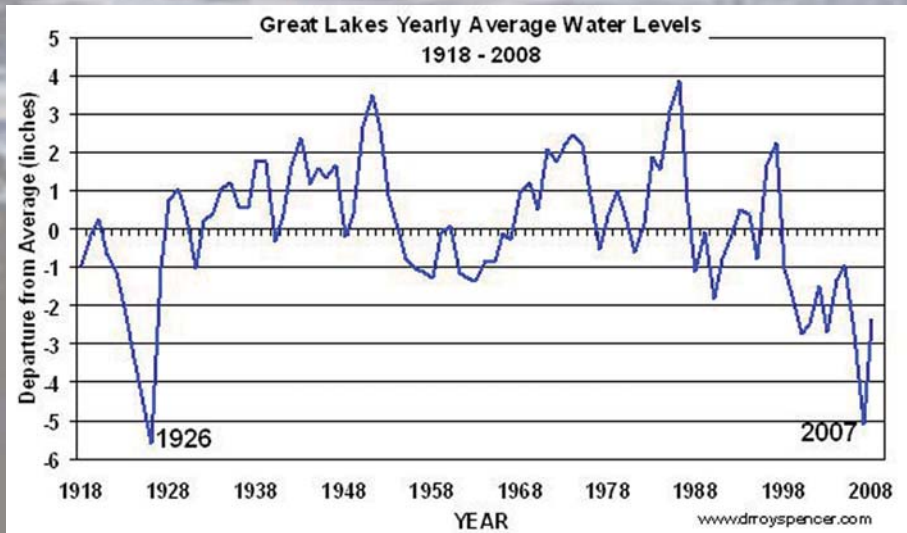
water levels of the Great Lakes have dropped at an alarming rate. So with a divergence of water, the water levels would drop significantly lower, causing costly repairs to be made to marinas and increasing prices of iron ore, coal, and various grains to not only the Great Lake states, but the entire United States. Also with water levels dropping due to divergence, the levels would mostly likely continue to stay well below average due to lower precipitation averages.

Great Lake enthusiasts often think of the lakes as a national treasure, much like Yellowstone National Park or the Grand Canyon, both of which individuals do not want to see destroyed. State Representative Terry Brown asked “Would the country ever consider turning the Grand Canyon into a landfill?” most would agree that the answer to Representative Brown’s question is no. With that in mind, one must ask would we want to do that to the Great Lakes. If you take a look at the movie “I, Robot” you can see what the Great Lakes could look like if the water was sucked away. The movie shows that nothing but a desolate barren region that once held so much beauty would be all that was left. Luckily, Great Lake enthusiasts have the Great Lake Compact to ensure the protection the Great Lakes.

As the precipitation levels decrease across the southern and western United States the idea of diverging water from the Great Lakes will continue to be tossed around, but there will also continue to be those who will fight to protect the Great Lakes. There has to be other options for these states in need of water, they just have not been discovered or properly researched. Perhaps you will be the one to discover the option that will preserve the greatest icon of Michigan.

For more information on the Great Lakes visit: <http://www.glc.org/>

For more information on Asian Carp visit: <http://www.stopasiancarp.com/>





# Community, Agriculture, Recreation & Resource Studies

*-Education in Action for a Sustainable Future*

**A sustainable future requires change at all levels. If you think...**

- Agriculture is key to Michigan's future
- We must conserve natural resources for future generations
- Working with others is important to solve society problems
- Teaching others about agriculture and natural resources is exciting
- You are interested in leading change to enhance Michigan's agriculture and natural resources

**...then an undergraduate degree in one of the following CARRS majors at Michigan State University will assist you in pursuing a career addressing contemporary issues in agriculture, recreation, natural resources, and the environment**

**Environmental Studies and Agriscience**  
**Natural Resource Recreation & Tourism**

A young man with short brown hair, wearing a pink button-down shirt and blue jeans, is sitting on a large, rectangular hay bale. He is looking down at a laptop computer on his lap, with his hands on the keyboard. The background shows a green field of crops under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds.

***For More Information Contact:  
Frances Kaneene ([kaneene@msu.edu](mailto:kaneene@msu.edu))  
CARRS Undergraduate Academic Advisor***

# What's the word?

By: Meghan Bonthuis  
MSU Crop and Soil Science Sophomore

FFA the Fun Way  
Find these FFA related words!

u n s r t e d e m b l e m r e l i s  
s o u n c o e m b r a c e f o e n d  
p e c t o p e m o o r s s a l c c r  
c d c u n e r u t l u c i r g a c a  
j u e r v e c o s p t i u s s v g w  
o c s i e a d e f w l t s n s i r a  
u a s u n t n i a i u o o l e c e u  
r t n h t v a s s r c z w l c e p l  
n i e i i i h r s e i i a l n p o e  
e o g s o i s e y r r o e a e r r n  
y n i t n u m m o c g p m n i e t i  
v o s g s p i h s r a l o h c s e t  
n c t n p e w e n u s g n i s i r n  
p o n t r e a s u r e r r i i d e e  
n m n i n o f f i c i a l d r e s s  
d e g r e e c i f n u r s e g n p u  
h p o f a r m e r o s i v d a t o r  
e e o r e e n s r r r o s o a e o n

advisor	agricultural	agriculture	conventions
awards	classroom	degree	education
corn	creed	envision	farmer
emblem	embrace	goal	journey
ffa	flag	owl	plow
newhorizons	officialdress	reporter	risingsun
president	proficiencies	secretary	sentinel
sae	scholarships	vicepresident	washington



# The Rest of the Story...



**JEFF SCHMITT**  
**REGION II STATE VP**

Chapter: Jonesville FFA

SAE: Diversified Livestock  
Production

College: Michigan State  
University

Major: Agribusiness Management

Favorite Sport: Down Hill Skiing

Favorite Homemade Meal:  
Macaroni and Cheese (Grandma  
Style)

High school activities: FFA, Track,  
Football

Theme Song : International  
Harvester by Craig Morgan

Favorite thing to do with friends:  
Go to races at the local dirt track

Personal Hobby: Lincoln Logs

Person looked to for strength and  
guidance: Miss Bosch, FFA  
Advisor



**EMILY WALKER**  
**STATE VICE PRESIDENT**

Chapter: Ogemaw Heights FFA

SAE: Diversified Livestock  
Production and Agriculture  
Communications

College: Michigan State  
University

Major: Agriculture  
Communications

Inspirational Message: Be  
yourself...work hard and achieve  
great things!

Word used to describe self:  
Original

Favorite Movie: Pride and  
Prejudice

Personal Hobby: Reading and  
watching movies

Favorite FFA Activity: State  
Convention

Favorite Quote: "Lifes not  
measured by the number of  
breaths you take, but by the  
number of moments that take our  
breath away."



**JONATHON BREWER**  
**REGION III STATE VP**

Chapter: Sanilac FFA

SAE: Diversified Livestock  
Production

College: Saint Clair County  
Community College

Major: Computer Science

Favorite thing to do with friends:  
Going to the beach

Word used to describe self:  
Unique

Message to members: Believe in  
yourself!

Personal Hobby: Tractor Pulling

Favorite Musican: Taylor Swift

People looked to for strength and  
guidance: Christopher Brewer,  
father

Favorite Athletic Team: Dale Jr.-  
Nascar

Theme Song: Simple Man-Lynard  
Skynard



# Alumni in Action



## Alumni Banquet Bonanza

Calling all those that have worn, supported the work of or loved someone who has worn the blue corduroy jacket!

On Saturday, March 20, FFA enthusiasts from all corners of the mitten will make their way to Standish-Sterling Central High School in Standish to attend the 35th Michigan FFA Alumni Annual Banquet. With over 1,300 registered members of the Michigan FFA Alumni, the annual banquet allows all out alumni chapters to come together and share ideas about fundraising, membership recruitment and retention and to celebrate the successes of the past year.

Each year, the banquet rotates location with each of Michigan's six regions taking a turn as host with 2010 belonging to Region VI. Comprising of the entire Upper Peninsula and top half of the Lower Peninsula, Region VI is the largest in the state (and bigger than Rhode Island).

A highlight of every alumni annual banquet is the silent and live auctions. The proceeds of this activity go to support FFA members attending the Washington Leadership Conference and those attending Michigan State University.

To attract attendees to the events, new features have been added to the agenda. Two workshops will be presented before the banquet begins. At 4:30 p.m., Past State Alumni Council President Floyd Beneker will host a session on the 2010 Alumni Roster. Thirty minutes later, members of the current council will present a roundtable discussion on local alumni activities and fundraisers.

If you'd like to learn more about the 35th Michigan FFA Annual Banquet, contact Dustin Petty, the Region VI Vice President on the Michigan FFA Alumni Council at [pettydus@gmail.com](mailto:pettydus@gmail.com).

To RSVP and order your tickets (\$20 per person in advance and \$25 at the door), call Dana Dobschensky at 517-323-7000, ext. 3233.

## Calling all Past State Officers!

The call is going out to all that have served as Past State Officers (PSO's) of the Michigan FFA Association. An energetic group of PSO's have taken it upon themselves to rebuild the PSO Alumni Group.

In the past this group has supported the state officer team that is currently serving the association by purchasing the team apparel and other items, allowing the team to increase their professionalism and ability to serve the members. Additionally, a PSO Scholarship is given each year at State Convention to support a member going to the Washington Leadership Conference.

If you are a PSO and interested in getting involved with this group, please contact Danielle Martinez at [marti948@msu.edu](mailto:marti948@msu.edu).

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