

The Michigan FFA Creed

Sept/Oct 2003

To freely
bloom is
the best
definition
of success.

Elizabeth Benitez
2003 Floriculture
State Winner
Lapeer PM

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Important Dates

Nov	3	Weigh date for broilers/cornish hens
	5-7	Contest day for broilers/cornish hens
	15	FFA membership rosters due
Dec	1	Star Candidate, Band and Regional grant apps due
	17-18	MFB/FFA ag career and leadership conference



I believe in...



officer profiler

Jason Jaekel State Secretary

Montague FFA Chapter

SAE: Aquaculture and working for Wilbur-Ellis

Majoring in Lyman Briggs (No preference) at Michigan State University

Michael Sheridan State Treasurer

Mason FFA Chapter

SAE: Beef and Swine Production

Majoring in ANR Communications and Animal Science at Michigan State University

We all have a dream, a heart's desire. Most have more than one. Some of us have an entire entourage. As this issue of the *Michigan FFA Creed* showcases, there is a lot of good news about following your dreams.

Within our dreams and

aspirations, we find our opportunities.

If you can imagine it, you can create it. If you can dream it, you can become it.

By living your dream, you can

contribute not only to yourself, but to everyone and everything around you.

As your 2003-2004 State Officers, our dream is to assist each FFA member in making an Extreme Impact with their dreams in this the 75th year of the Michigan FFA Association.

Did you know...

- One gallon of maple syrup takes 40-50 gallons of sap.

- Michigan has 32 registered turkey growers who produce over 8 million turkeys.



Say what?

Want to see someone you know or yourself on this page? See details below.

Regional Responses to Current Issues

The question:
What do you think about organic farming?

Region 1



Braidie Butters

Homer FFA

Organic farming is a natural, environmental friendly way to produce food. Yet, with today's increasing population, it will not meet the world-wide food requirements and is not a practice that many farmers could implement. [↗](#)

Region 2



Dawn Fellows

Waldron FFA

Organic farming will become more popular in the future because it is healthier. Most people are willing to buy organic products, even if it costs more, to ensure that their food does not contain any pesticides or herbicides. [↗](#)

Region 3



Kaela Thom

Breckenridge FFA

Organic farming is a good option for farmers to earn more by selling organic crops and for consumers that want to buy natural foods. However, there are a few drawbacks, in that crops grown without the use of chemicals may be more susceptible to weeds and lower yields. [↗](#)



Region 4



Dave Drake

Laingsburg FFA

Organic products are good for people who are sensitive to non-organic substances. [↗](#)

Region 5



Ben Grabill

Grant FFA

Currently, organic foods have a different taste because people are used to eating non-organic foods. Eating organic foods may require people to adjust their tastes. [↗](#)

Region 6



Jack Renwick

Treverse Bay Area Tech Center FFA

I live next to an organic farm and support organic farming because it is cheaper to produce, safer to consume and is better for our environment. [↗](#)

Share & Win!

We appreciate the input students provide for this page. If you would like to submit your thoughts on urban sprawl, please contact Michigan's FFA State Reporter, Amanda Lee at MickeyAL531@hotmail.com. So come on and speak your mind, so you can strut your stuff in this stylish FFA t-shirt.



Check this

OUT!

Budding skills for a growing industry

By Amanda Lee

It's never too early to begin planning a career in an industry where your work helps make the world a prettier place while enriching the lives of millions of people every year.

Whether your interests lean toward the creative arts or technology and science, you're sure to find a satisfying and rewarding profession in floriculture.

That's because the industry attracts both the artist and the

scientist. This diverse field offers you a wide variety of challenging and profitable career choices.

The term floriculture is derived from Latin, and means "to cultivate flowers." But as this year's state winner of the Floriculture Skills contest, Elizabeth Benitez from the Lapeer FFA Chapter, notes the floriculture industry involves more than just cultivating.

Hard work, dedication and talent are what helped first year FFA member, Elizabeth Benitez, become Michigan's top individual in the floriculture design skills

contest. Elizabeth said, "I was surprised to find out that I won. Our school was on spring break the week before, so our team hadn't practiced in a week."

Not only was this Elizabeth's first year in the FFA, her family is also new to the organization. At home her family speaks Spanish, and Elizabeth has taught her family how much the FFA has to offer. Elizabeth joined the FFA because of her interest in floral design. Her advisor, Mrs. Tammy Belavek says, "Elizabeth is always looking for new challenges. She has the gift to take it and make it happen. She is a perfectionist."

Elizabeth was not only the top individual in the state, but her team also took first place. The team started practicing 18 weeks before the contest in the classroom as well as meeting 2-3 days a week after school.

"The team was an extraordinary team. All but one of the team members were first year members. They worked well together and were always complimenting each other," said Mrs. Belavek.

Want to know more about floriculture? The American Floral Endowment and the Society of American



Elizabeth Benitez, 2003 State Floriculture Skills Contest winner from the Lapeer FFA chapter.

Florists are keeping up-to-date information on internships, scholarships and careers in the floriculture industry on their web sites. Check them out at www.endowment.org/education.htm or www.safnow.org/public/careers.htm. ⁵⁰⁰



Fun Floral Facts...

Consumers spend about 2.5 billion on roses each year in the U.S.

American's spend about \$67 on flowers each year.

Christmas and Hanukkah are the top floral buying holidays in the U.S.

California, Florida and Michigan are the top three states that grow/sell the most floral products.

Our Motto in Motion

Michigan students and alumni demonstrate the FFA motto.

Learning to Do

Greening of Motown

The conditions of city life are such that many urbanites are never aware of the complex relationships between society and food production.

Days spent in glass towers, crawling traffic and crowded supermarkets do not facilitate an understanding of the extent to which city dwellers depend on our nation's agricultural system.

With population increasing in urban



areas of Michigan, today's urban teens are becoming more removed from agriculture.

To help introduce agricultural studies into Michigan's urban high schools, the Golightly Career and Technical Center located on Belle Isle Park is among one of Michigan's urban programs. Started in 1981, the school's curriculum includes floriculture, greenhouse production and other agriculture subjects.

Ms. Ren'ee Bryant and Mrs. Ellen Moro, Golightly AgriScience instructors both maintain "urban agricultural education is beginning to be viewed as an alternative with enormous potential for urban youth."

Bryant and Moro further note that Golightly's curriculum is designed to give students the knowledge and skills they will need to work effectively in various agriculturally related fields. Topics covered in the Golightly program range from principles of



floral design to greenhouse management.

"I really enjoy this program and all the hands-on opportunities," Olivia Hubert, student greenhouse manager and current FFA member states. "My greenhouse experience has truly opened my eyes to all sorts of careers to pursue after graduation."

"Agriculture is a very important industry in Michigan," Bryant said. "We're hoping that our agriscience program and FFA chapter can attract students to careers in agriculture

and natural resource management to fill the industry's personnel needs."

Mrs. Moro summed it up by stating, "the Golightly students do not have the long heritage of what agriculture and the FFA means, like most students in Michigan, so they have given it an image all to themselves, that image...success."⁵⁰⁰



FFA NEW HORIZONS

F

HORTICULTURE A growing career choice!

The continued growth of suburban residential areas, the growth of gardening as a major leisure time activity, and the demand for park and recreational greenbelt areas all provide challenging opportunities to those who choose careers in horticulture.

With the growing interest in protecting and enhancing the environment and the increased demand for park and recreation green belts, employment opportunities for horticulturists look bright. Employment opportunities should grow in both industry and government agencies as environmental research leads to new laws and standards for protecting the environment.



To learn more, check out: <http://www.hrt.msu.edu/>

Doing to Learn

Building Skills for Life

By Ryan McBride

Applying what she learns in the classroom to her supervised agricultural experience is a way of life for Ashley Schewe a senior member of the Branch Area Career Center FFA.

For the past four years, Ashley's SAE has featured swine production. Ashley says that her advisor, Mr. Bill Earl, has taught her how to maintain healthy living conditions for the chapter's swine herd.

"He did this by showing me the proper way to clean pens, sanitize the swine barn floors with lime and administer injections to pigs," Ashley stated.

"The hardest thing to learn was administering the injections. After being shown how to give the injection, I applied what I had learned from Mr. Earl and used the knowledge to inject several other gilts," stated Ashley.

Mr. Earl has spent many hours showing Ashley what to look for in boars when picking them for breeding purposes. He explained muscle and bone structure and taught Ashley the way a pig walks is an indicator as to its potential for breeding.

I have learned very important skills from my agriscience classes that have been a vital part of my SAE.

To apply these skills, Ashley used the chapter boars to choose which ones would be suitable for breeding.

Mr. Earl would then ask Ashley to explain her reasoning for choosing one pig over another. Ashley stated, "this process provided me true hands-on experience and taught me how to select pigs with the desired qualities the swine industry is seeking."

Over the course of her SAE, Ashley has learned to artificially inseminate pigs, handle the farrowing process, maintain project records and regulate feed intake for the chapter herd. Ashley states, "I have learned very important skills from my agriscience classes that have been a vital part of my SAE."

With the hands on experience, combined with applied knowledge and classroom



teaching, Ashley Schewe has been an excellent example of doing to learn. ⁵⁰⁰



Pork Industry Facts...

⁵⁰⁰ The pig is rated the fourth most intelligent animal.

⁵⁰⁰ In the old days, sea captains kept pigs on board because they believed, should they be shipwrecked, pigs always swam toward the nearest shore.

⁵⁰⁰ There are more than 180 species of pigs, found on every continent except Antarctica.

⁵⁰⁰ Hogs are a source of nearly 40 drugs and pharmaceuticals on the market.



VETERINARIAN MEDICINE

A career that cares!

Veterinarians play a major role in the healthcare of pets, livestock, and zoo, sporting, and laboratory animals. Some veterinarians use their skills to protect humans against diseases carried by animals and conduct clinical research on human and animal health problems.

Others work in basic research, broadening the scope of fundamental theoretical knowledge, and in applied research, developing new ways to use knowledge.

To learn more, check out: <http://cvm.msu.edu/>



Earning to Live

By Kara Butters &
Kendra Butters



Mr. Alan Alaga, Ovid-Elsie
AgriScience Instructor

Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) gives FFA members “real-life” job experiences - - and opportunities to strive toward career success through entrepreneurship or employment placements. FFA members, with help from their advisors, develop their SAE to maximize the development of marketable skills that will benefit a future career.

Nick Thompson, a former FFA member from the Maple Valley FFA

Chapter, is proud to admit that he uses the skills he gained through his SAE and FFA involvement every day. Thompson, a recent graduate from Michigan State University, with a degree in Agribusiness Management has started his own business - - “Thompson’s Lawn Care.”

How did you become involved in the FFA?

I grew up in Vermontville and spent many hours working on my uncle and father’s farms feeding cattle and raising sorghum. I first learned about FFA through a recruitment program from a presentation in my eighth grade English class. After hearing what FFA had to offer, I decided to become a member of the Maple Valley FFA in my high school.

What skills did you gain from your SAE and FFA involvement?

My SAE consisted of raising show steers and feeder cattle for freezer beef on my uncle’s farm. While my SAE does not directly relate to my lawn care business, I credit my entrepreneurial abilities to what I learned in high school

and during my SAE.

I was involved in greenhand conduct of meetings, public speaking, job interview, Food for America, Farm Bureau/FFA Leadership Conference and Made for Excellence. In addition, I had the opportunity to serve as the chapter reporter and president and became the Region I president in 1996. The leadership, speaking and decision-making skills I gained in FFA were valuable throughout college, and I continue to use many of them today in the running of my business.

When did you start your business and what does it consist of?

During the summer after I graduated from high school, I worked for a commercial landscape maintenance business. Three years later, the owner left the lawn care business, and I bought his equipment while still being a college student.

Currently, I work in commercial lawn maintenance for businesses. I maintain about 25 lawns ranging in size from small city lots to five acres. I also complete landscaping projects each summer and snow removal during the winter.



Mrs. Becky McGuire, Camden-
Frontier AgriScience Instructor

How has your career helped you put the FFA motto in motion?

Making decisions every day relating to my business would be much more difficult without the skills I gained in FFA. I remember learning to do and doing to learn when I wore my blue jacket. The experience I gained in FFA has now allowed me to earn to live with my business.

Now that my business is underway, I have returned to Michigan State University to become an AgriScience teacher and FFA advisor. As a teacher, I hope that I will be able to bring the same skills and experiences to my students that I gained through FFA.

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIST

A career with vast opportunities.

FFA NEW HORIZONS

Individuals trained in agricultural economics develop skills that prepare them for a vast array of careers. To be successful in an entry-level position as an agricultural economist, you need an interest in working with people and the ability to make business decisions.

You need to have strong communication and leadership skills. You will need an interest in sales, marketing, finance, management and the ability to use these skills to make analytical decisions.

To learn more, check out: <http://www.aec.msu.edu/agecon/>



Living to Serve

Rake n' Run

By Noelle Dunckel

Each year, members of the Laingsburg FFA Chapter march into downtown Laingsburg ready to do battle.

They scan their surroundings and prepare for the task that lies ahead. Soon, they are amidst their challenger, battling with and ultimately forcing its surrender before quickly moving on to a new territory.

Their weapons of choice: rakes. Their enemies: leaves.

The Laingsburg FFA Rake n' Run, a community service project that the chapter organized approximately 10 years ago, has become an annual event.

Members spend an afternoon in the downtown area raking the yards of local homeowners.

"In the past, we have obtained a list of people from City Hall," said Mallorie Waltz, senior and president of the Laingsburg FFA Chapter. "This past year, we decided to try something different and just go door-to-door asking people if they would like their yard raked."

Once approved to begin raking, the students gather the leaves on tarps and move them to the side of the street to be picked up by the city waste disposal service.

"We begin right after school and work until dark usually raking 10 different yards," commented Waltz. "After we are done raking, we have a pizza party to congratulate ourselves on a good day of work."

Rest assured, the chapter's day of hard work does not go unrewarded or unnoticed.



Kamra Knop and Bethany Hurst raking a local Laingsburg lawn at the 2003 Rake n' Run.

"People usually give us donations for raking their yards," stated Waltz, "which we appreciate, but its not why we do it."

The Rake n' Run is a good community service project that benefits both the FFA chapter and the city of Laingsburg. Community members look forward to it every year and the students have a lot of fun too. It is not uncommon to see the members jumping in big piles of leaves or throwing them at one another. But in the end, many yards are leaf-free, the community is pleased and the

Laingsburg FFA is beaming with pride.

The chapter participates in a number of other community service projects including Food For America, Project R.E.D., Donkey Basketball and the Childrens Barnyard. "The Rake n' Run is our favorite service activity because we get to interact directly with the community, our chapter gains much recognition from it and it is nice to know that we are helping out members of the community, many of whom are unable to care for their own yards," said Waltz. 500

FISHERIES SCIENTIST

A catchy career.



Fisheries scientists come from many different backgrounds, but all are dedicated to effective management, use, and conservation of aquatic plants and animals. As researchers,

managers, administrators, or educators, they use their expertise in biology, ecology, statistics, genetics, economics, policy and administration, and law to protect and enhance recreational, commercial, and aquacultural fisheries resources.

To be a fisheries scientist, in high school, take courses that emphasize biology, computer science chemistry, mathematics, and communication.

To learn more, check out: <http://www.fw.msu.edu/>

Member Highlights

By Ryan McSbride

Region 1: Kelsey Reber

As a junior member of the Centreville FFA Chapter Kelsey Reber stays busy serving as the chapter reporter.

In addition to snapping pictures and writing articles, Kelsey has a strong SAE in both Dairy Beef Production and Poultry Production.

Ever since Kelsey joined 4-H when she was nine, she has been active on the family farm performing various chores and showing livestock at the fair.

Her daily tasks on the family farm include determining rations, cleaning pens and maintaining farm records.

As an FFA member, Kelsey said, "the FFA has taught me how to handle large groups of people and helped me broaden my horizons. I first joined FFA when my sister Katy showed me all of the opportunities that the FFA offers."

In addition to FFA, Kelsey is a class officer and plays softball and basketball. Kelsey plans to attend Michigan State University. ⁵⁰⁰

Region 2: Marc Hasenick

Springport FFA sophomore, Marc Hasenick, has planted his SAE in Diversified Agricultural Production.

For the past two years, Marc has been an active part of his family farm. His interest in this area was sparked at a young age growing up on a farm riding around in the tractor with his dad.

Marc's responsibilities include a wide range of tasks that vary from running a grain cart, to entering GPS and yield monitor data into a computer, to picking stones.

"I have learned that to work fast is not always best and that you have to be efficient to succeed," Marc stated. In addition to his SAE, Marc is the Springport FFA Sentinel and has been showing Mini Lops at the fair for three years. Marc said, "The FFA has helped me realize the importance of leadership."

In the future, Marc plans on expanding his SAE to include rabbits and hogs. He plans to major in Crop and Soil Science at Michigan State University. ⁵⁰⁰

Region 3: Annie Varner

As Annie Varner of the Alma FFA Chapter can attest, involvement in career development events and skills contests can open doors for the future or even for an SAE project as it did for her.

For the past two years, Annie has cultivated her SAE in agricultural services at Dennings and Associates, working as a soil sampler.

"Joining the FFA was the best decision that I have ever made because I have gained teamwork skills and learned parliamentary procedure through my involvement, both of which I can use in the future," Annie stated. "More importantly, I have adopted the FFA motto 'Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, Living to Serve' as my own motto and have patterned my life to follow it."

Annie plans on attending Princeton University to study political science and public service to pursue a career in law or politics. ⁵⁰⁰



Kelsey Reber
Centreville
FFA Chapter



Marc Hasenick
Springport FFA Chapter



Annie Varner
Alma FFA Chapter

Region 4:

Anthony Karhoff

Anthony Karhoff, a recent graduate of the Corunna FFA Chapter has had a unique opportunity with his SAE.

Over the past several years, Anthony has owned and operated his own farm. His farm currently includes 50 acres of soybeans, corn and hay, 1200 chickens, 12 goats, 14 hogs, six head of cattle and three sheep.

"The biggest challenge that I have faced so far is working with so many different animals all at one time," said Anthony. "However, I really enjoy teaching other students about the knowledge that I have gained from my SAE experience which I am able to do by volunteering in a second grade science classroom in my local community."

Anthony plans to attend Lansing Community College in the fall and later transfer to Michigan State University to become an AgriScience teacher and FFA advisor.

As an active member of the Corunna FFA, Anthony received the nickname "Chicken Man" from the other students and his advisor, Mark Forbush. 500

Region 5:

Elizabeth Eadie

Showing and raising dairy animals are activities that Elizabeth Eadie, a recent graduate from Ravenna High School, loves to do.

Four years ago, Elizabeth's aunt encouraged her to become involved with dairy animals, and she has been showing ever since.

Although Elizabeth's family does not own any dairy animals of their own, her aunt and uncle, who own a 500 head Holstein herd close to Elizabeth, allow her to select which animals she would like to show each year.

"My experience with my SAE has helped me realize that I would really be interested in working with animals as a future career," Elizabeth said.

This year, Elizabeth plans to show four animals from the farm. She began working with the animals in the fall until weather conditions would no longer permit and then began training them again in late April to prepare for the county fair.

Elizabeth plans to attend Grand Rapids Community College in the fall and later transfer to Michigan State University to major in animal science. 500

Region 6:

Colin Phillippo

Colin Phillippo, a senior from the Stephenson FFA Chapter, has an extremely diverse SAE project, including working in a greenhouse, grocery store and mowing lawns.

Colin has been working at a local greenhouse for the past four years where he focuses on selling retail vegetable plants.

Originally, Colin's interest in working in the greenhouse was sparked because of his need to earn extra money; however, he later learned that he really enjoyed the greenhouse work.

"Through my employment at the greenhouse, I have learned the value of working with others and developed customer relation skills," Colin declared.

"The greatest challenge I have faced is having so many jobs at one time, but along with this challenge, I have learned the importance of always working hard and finishing a task completely," he said.

Colin is working to save money to attend college next year, possibly at Michigan State University. 500



Anthony Karhoff
Corunna FFA Chapter



Elizabeth Eadie
Ravenna FFA Chapter



Colin Phillippo
Stephenson
FFA Chapter

Submit your SAE or one of your student's SAEs!

Email Scott Smalley at smalley_scott@hotmail.com

2003 State Skills

Contest Results

Top Teams

Ag Com
Montague 2 (Amanda Putnam, Stephanie Dick, Alyn Kiel, Jordan King)

Ag Mech
Harbor Beach (Ryan Kramer, Andrew Volmering, Ron Dubois, Aaron Roggenbuck)

Ag Sales
Branch Area Career Center 2 (Sarah Sanders, Doug Albright, Ben Vainner, Aaron Preston)

Crops
Corunna (Tom Butcher, Tim Root, Joe Shipman, Jordan Pincik)

Dairy Judging
Coopersville (Jordan Stoutmeyer, Mary Tenbrink, Jessica Geurink, Wade Lindberg)

Environmental Skills
Lakers 1 (Johnny Verhaar, Zac Ruthenberg, Mike Sweeney)

Farm Business Management
Fremont (Henry Huisjen, Tony Cowley, Brad Smith, Scott Smith)

Floriculture
Lapeer PM (Amanda David, Brooke Hollis, Elizabeth Benitez, Jessica Barber, Samantha Halstead)

Forestry
Chesaning 1 (Cory Martin, Aaron Milbrandt, Andrew Hasse, Bryan Bitterman, Justin Schneider)

Greenhouse Crop Production
Lapeer AM (Ronald Barnard, Sheena Montgomery, Diana Fales, Jeena Hin, Luke Milosch)

Horse Judging
Grant (Amy Andrus, Andrea Crandall, Brittlynn Hoofman)

Land Conservation
Chesaning (Matt Thompson, Brent Brettrager, Stephanie Lalonde, Pamela Henning)

Landscape
Lapeer AM (Justin Dougherty, Cheranda Crawford, Russell VanSipe, Matt Swain)

Livestock Judging (Senior)
Branch Area Career Center (Megan Bildner, Doug Albright, Ben Vainner, Sarah McCurley)

Marketing
Springport 1 (Maria Davis, Liza Dyer, Elizabeth Helton)

Milk Quality
Waldron 1 (Janell Lashaway, Kimberly Emens, Katie Stutzman, Emily Knapp, Melissa Fender)



Poultry
Laker 2 (Michael Stonecipher, Aaron Pryor, Frank Zwenimer, Andrew Shupe, Renee Voelker)

Jr. High Crops
Capac (Amy Lauwers, Felicia Knop, Ben Nelson, Karl Hummel)

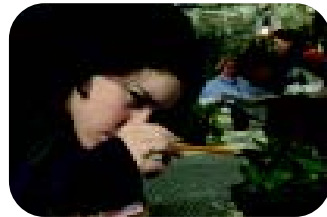
Jr. High Environmental Skills (tie)
Haslings Jr. High 2 (: Ken Quick, Garrett Harris, Kelly Frame, Tara Schoessel, Calli Carpenter)
North Adams-Jerome 1 (Chelsea Lynch, Kerksey Cortright, Scott Chenevare, Veeta Brandon, Jennifer Yoder)

Jr. High Floriculture
Coopersville (Angela Grit, Victoria Boersma, Ellen Timmerman)

Jr. High Forestry
Cedar Springs (Grady Drown, Kyle Sevey, Emily Schneider)

Jr. High Milk Quality
Waldron 1 (Cody Mohr, Byron Leininger, Travis Bernath, Carl Knapp, Ryan Hopkins)

Jr. High Poultry
Laker 1 (Heather Gordon, Samantha Robinson, Quinn Albrecht, Moddie Bohn)



Dairy Judging
 1st - Jessica Geurnick, Coopersville
 2nd - Mary Tenbrink, Coopersville
 3rd - Alan Gust, Lenawee

Dairy Showmanship
 State Winner John Khrovsky, Corunna

Farm Business Management
 1st - Tony Cowley, Fremont and Scott Smith, Fremont
 2nd - Henry Huisjen, Fremont and Jacob Goetz, Blissfield
 3rd - Brad Smith, Fremont

Floriculture
 1st - Elizabeth Benitez, Lapeer PM
 2nd - Samantha Halstead, Lapeer PM
 3rd - Amanda David, Lapeer PM

Greenhouse Crop Production
 1st - Amber Avery, Ionia
 2nd - Ronald Barnard, Lapeer AM
 3rd - Nicole Bogart, Alma

Horse Judging
 1st - Andrea Crandall, Grant
 2nd - Ashley Skinner, Byron
 3rd - Julie Dunn, Lowell

Landscape
 1st - Matt Swain, Lapeer AM 1
 2nd - Amanda Sloan, Oakland SE
 3rd - Russell VanSipe, Lapeer AM 1

Livestock Judging - Senior Division
 1st - Doug Albright, BACC
 2nd - Jessi Fether, Waldron
 3rd - Kyle Zdunic, Corunna

Livestock Judging - Junior Division
 1st - Aaron Balowski, Bronson
 2nd - Stephanie Dawes, Saranac
 3rd - Emily Masters, Saranac

Milk Quality
 1st - Jamie Faust, Chesaning
 2nd - Ashley Braid, Corunna 1
 3rd - Beth Hammond, Saline

Poultry
 1st - Frank Zwenimer, Laker 2 and Aaron Bismack, Laker 1
 2nd - Renee Voelker, Laker 2
 3rd - Michael Stonecipher, Laker 2

Tractor Driving - Senior Division
 1st - Ken Henske, Perry-Morrice
 2nd - Stewart Fulton, Perry-Morrice
 3rd - Nathan Baker, Waldron
 4th - Bob Drake, Ithaca

Tractor Driving - Junior Division
 1st - Ryan Mercer, Homer
 2nd - Nick Hirschman, Ithaca
 3rd - Mitch Davis, Akron-Fairgrove
 4th - Jake Fleming, Homer
 5th - Ben Emmens, Waldron

Jr. High Crops
 1st - Timothy Jagielski, Waldron
 2nd - Karl Hummel, Capac
 3rd - Amy Lauwers, Capac

Jr. High Floriculture
 1st - Victoria Boersma, Coopersville
 2nd - Ellen Timmerman, Coopersville
 3rd - Echo Wright, Homer

Jr. High Milk Quality
 1st - Byron Leininger, Waldron 1
 2nd - Brian Hopkins, Waldron 2
 3rd - Amy JanDerBrink, Coopersville

Jr. High Poultry
 1st - Heather Gordon, Laker 1
 2nd - Moddie Bohn, Laker 1
 3rd - Whitney Parsch, Laker 2

Top Individuals

Ag Communications
 1st - Annie Varner, Alma
 2nd - Megan Gibson, Alma
 3rd - Christine Benko, Saline

Ag Mechanics

Top Five Electrical
 1st - Andrew Volmering, Harbor Beach
 2nd - Ron Dubois, Harbor Beach
 3rd - Dan Bowker, Saline #1
 4th - David Wise, Lapeer AM
 5th - Ryan Miller, Olivet #1

Top Five Mechanical
 1st - Robert Goodwin, Lapeer AM
 2nd - Ryan Kramer, Harbor Beach
 3rd - John Khrovsky, Corunna
 4th - Shane Powers, Olivet #1
 5th - Todd Zenker, Olivet #2

Ag Sales
 1st - Doug Albright, BACC 2
 2nd - Chelsea Szymanski, Sanilac
 3rd - Evan Boehmer, Olivet 1

Crops
 1st - Tom Butcher, Corunna
 2nd - Jordan Pincik, Corunna
 3rd - Jason Maust, Lakers A

Impact Opportunities

VP's Impact Challenge

Xtreme Impact through
Healthy Lifestyles/Recreation



Michigan FFA officers make an Xtreme Impact through Healthy Lifestyles/Recreation!

With school well underway, members across the state are off to a busy and exciting year. It's important to make an effort to include recreation and healthy eating in your busy day! As a student and FFA member, it is important to balance your busy day with simple activities to keep your body healthy, your energy level up and your stress level down - - how else are you going to be able to make a Xtreme Impact. Recreation is the key to helping you relax, have fun and escape the pressures of your hectic schedule. While, healthy eating gives you the energy you need to get everything done. To help you continue to run at peak performance we challenge you to follow these tips so that you can make a Xtreme Impact.

500

Katy's Kaleidoscope

One way to stay active is to participate in community service activities. Volunteering can keep you physically and mentally healthy. There is nothing more rewarding than help someone in need your local community. It's a win-win situation! If you're unsure of how to get involved, ask a teacher, neighbor, grandparent or alumni about opportunities to get involved in your local community.

Katie's Kindle

To have enough energy to participate in the opportunities FFA has to offer, you need an adequate amount of sleep.

What's an adequate amount of sleep?

According to Sleepnet.com, the average student needs 8 hours of sleep a night. So, get your 8 hours of sleep each night and you will be able to start each day off fresh and ready to make a Xtreme Impact.

Ryan's Report

Water makes up more than half of your body weight. It plays a very important role in achieving a healthy lifestyle. It is so important that you cannot survive more than a few days without it.

To help achieve a healthy lifestyle drink at least eight glasses of water daily. This helps reduce headaches, irritability and tiredness. Challenge yourself to drink eight glasses of water everyday — boosting your energy level and helping you make a Xtreme Impact!

Nicole's Notes

Oh the places you will go! Why take a car when you can strap on your boots and let your feet take you away?

Walking places, whether it is school, work, a friend's house or an FFA meeting, can be a great way to get exercise and enjoy the great outdoors. Getting enough exercise and staying healthy is essential to be able to give all you have to yourself and your FFA activities. Happy walking!

Bryan's Bounty

A commonly overlooked way to make an Xtreme impact is improving your health and fitness level by lifting weights. Throughout high school, there are many opportunities for you to lift weights. You will have more energy throughout the day as a direct result of staying active after school and it will be easier to focus on the things you need to accomplish. Challenge yourself to pick up a dumbbell and add this to your daily routine — make a Xtreme Impact on yourself and you'll make a difference in FFA!

Julia's Jewels

“Breakfast is the most important meal of day” - - a saying that we've heard our parents say more than once. It's true! Start your day right by eating breakfast!

Eating breakfast is easy and it will keep you energized for the entire day.

Take the challenge - - eat a healthy breakfast everyday and don't forget to include fruits and grains and you'll be ready to make a Xtreme Impact.

The Cornerstone

~ Michigan FFA Foundation News



Corey Flournoy

Foundation Director

Whose Job is It Anyway?

The favorite TV improv show, hosted by Drew Carey, provides four experts in comedy to act under pressure, performing scenes totally unrehearsed as a team.

The key to the success of each challenge is the ability to work off one another for the big laugh. Much in the same light as "Whose Line Is It Anyway?" the Michigan FFA Foundation depends upon a team of people all charged with the same goal—raising money to support the programs for Michigan FFA members.

A popular question some may ask is "Whose responsibility is it to help raise money for the foundation?"

One part of the answer is the Foundation Board: This group of 18 corporate executives, college faculty and governmental officials lead the foundation through their personal contacts to identify additional resources for funding programs.

Another piece of the answer is the Alumni/Past State Officers: These individuals know firsthand the power of the FFA.

The FFA is a life-changing organization that has opened doors of opportunities for thousands of men and women.

Many feel compelled to give back through personal contributions.

The greatest portion of the answer is our Corporate Sponsors. Many companies and businesses provide support through sponsorship of awards, career development events and activities available to all FFA members.

Their support enables members to attend conferences with reduced registration fees, attend regional camps and travel to the National FFA Convention to represent Michigan in competitions.

An additional player that we need more involvement from is YOU – the chapters throughout the state of Michigan.

Chapters have more contact with the local businesses and community supporters.

Due to economic challenges, some of our corporate sponsors are unable to meet their same level of financial commitment, and in some cases, forced to discontinue their sponsorships. Thus, we must depend on other resources to offer the same level of programs and activities.

In the near future, a new program will be launched for chapters throughout the state. Stay tuned and get ready for the challenge.

So in answer to "Whose Job Is It Anyway?", the answer is: It's everyone's job!





ALUMNI

inAction

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Marshall, MI 49068

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15051 Hanses Road
Pewamo, MI 48873

By: Jeremy Glaspie

State Annual

Just because it is November doesn't mean it's too early to start thinking about the Alumni Annual meeting. The 2003 Alumni Annual Meeting has been set for February 7-2004 at the Ingham County fairgrounds located in Mason, Michigan. All are welcome from parents, current FFA members, past FFA members, teachers administrators and anyone else who supports the FFA organization. More information about the annual meeting can be found in future issues of the Creed so stay tuned.



Talented Individuals

FFA member do you have Talent? If you have some we want it! The FFA Alumni Association is always looking for talented members to perform at the State Annual Meeting. Individuals or groups it doesn't matter we want to see what you've got. If you are interested please e-mail Matt Smego at alumni@Michiganffa.com with the subject line reading "Talent." This could be a good practice before going to state convention!

Awards

Does your Alumni Affiliate do something special or maybe your Alumni Affiliate does something ordinary, extremely well. You affiliate could be eligible to receive the outstanding affiliate award. The application is simple and can be found at www.michiganffa.alumni.com. Go to the website, download the form and send it in by January 15, 2004. It's Simple and easy! Who knows we maybe will see your affiliate winning the outstanding affiliate award this year at the State Annual Alumni meeting.ter?

Got Input?

Do you have a great idea for the Michigan FFA Alumni? Does your alumni affiliate have an activity that other affiliates should think about trying? If so, we want to hear from you.

The current alumni council wishes to learn about upcoming events and activities, obtain new ideas and gain general information about your affiliate. Please send your information to one of the alumni council members.

The Michigan FFA Alumni Association
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(517) 323-3234
www.michiganffaalumni.com

Ever Wear One of These?



Cindy Harris,
former Charlotte
FFA member said,
"FFA helped provide me
with determination and self-
confidence to do my best. My
son wore my FFA jacket his first year
in FFA and is now chapter president just
as I was. I am grateful that FFA is one of the
traditions that I can pass to my children. I know
the FFA will benefit them in their lives like it has
benefited me."

The Michigan FFA Foundation wants to know:

WHERE'S YOUR JACKET?

Have you proudly worn a FFA jacket or cared about someone who did? If so, let us know!
Michigan FFA Foundation • P.O. Box 26111 • Lansing, MI 48909 • (517) 323-6569
www.michiganffa.com/reconnect