



NATIONAL  
FFA WEEK  
FFA



NATIONAL FFA WEEK | FEBRUARY 17-24, 2024

Republic  MONITOR



# FFA Organization

When most people think of the FFA organization, their mind most likely goes toward the agriculture portion. While agriculture is a big part of the organization that is not the only thing that can be a benefit of the group. Members can be future chemists, veterinarians, government officials, entrepreneurs, bankers, international business leaders, teachers and premier professionals in many career fields.

FFA teaches the students in the local school chapters valuable life lessons that can be taken into any walk of life. FFA helps develop interpersonal skills in teamwork, communications, human relations and social interaction, builds character and

promotes citizenship, volunteerism and patriotism, promotes cooperation and cooperative attitudes among all people and promotes healthy lifestyles.

Those things are the backbone of the FFA motto which is 12 short words to live by as they experience the opportunities in the organization: Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, Living to Serve.

Throughout this section, the students of Perryville, St. Vincent, and Saxony Lutheran high schools illustrates those lessons that they have learned throughout their time in their local school chapters, as well as takes a look back at those members who came before them and helped pave the way for



the members today. It's impossible to get where we are going until we know where we've been.

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# LEADERSHIP Development

**By: Lydyah Boland & Allyson Burns**  
Perryville High School FFA

With the kickoff of FFA Week, the countdown to the leadership and career development event contest season starts. One most of us look forward to is all the leadership development events. One of our main popular events is our public speaking. We have multiple different public speaking opportunities. From Creed Speaking, Extemporaneous, Division 1 & 2, and even Advanced Public Speaking. From creating speeches/ memorizing speeches, to reciting the FFA Creed, it's no doubt that public speaking is a harder concept to grasp. To get us prepared for these events we do multiple training opportunities. One

of these is PSA, or Public Speaking Academy.

Public Speaking Academy is a 3 day academy dedicated to help work on Public Speaking skills. Last year 5 members went; Allyson Burns, Addie Thieret, Emma Fetterhoff, Madyson Richardet, and Lydyah Boland. We started with outlines on multiple different topics, ranging from cattle to even agricultural communications! Through this camp we learned different skills and ways to help make writing out outlines easier/ giving us tips on how to perfect our memorization. On the last day, we got into groups and gave our speeches. This gave us a rundown of how these competitions work and how they are graded.

We each were able to bring back ideas on how to perfect our public speaking to everyone in the chapter! Even with contest team season, it's not the only way we can participate in public speaking!

At the beginning of the year, starting in October, we have something called Fall Public Speaking. This year 9 members competed, and we each moved onto districts. Our speeches ranged from Missouri Cattlemen's to Missouri

Teach Ag! As districts came around, everyone was practicing their speeches, hoping that they would be the ones to move onto state. Fortunately 3 members were able to move onto their state competition, Lydyah Boland, Cara Fulmer, and Madyson Richardet. Lydyah & Cara competed in state in December and each brought home plaques representing their hard work. Madyson competes in March! We wish her the best of luck!



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# LOOKING Back

**By: Ashtyn Balsman**  
Perryville High School FFA

The history of FFA dates back to 1928 when the Future Farmers of America was created. At this time only white males were allowed in the FFA organization. Further to the timeline two organizations merged New Farmers of America NFA and Future Farmers of America they adopted the name Future Farmers of America. The organization let females officially join in 1969. The name National FFA Organization is our official name now with the FFA still standing for the history of our farmers but agriculture and FFA have evolved into more than just farming

with us having more of a diversity in jobs and other opportunities we have for example becoming a science, working in food, being a veterinarian, and even working in construction all are apart of FFA and agriculture.

Missouri FFA was chartered in 1929 and the Perryville FFA was founded in August of 1934 with 32 members. From the beginning of this school year we have 105 members and our numbers grow each year. Our chapter has participated in state and national events with our American degrees and our contest teams. This year numerous of our seniors and juniors are working on their degrees. Our FFA History has impacted our lives from the first FFA president Leslie

Applegate being elected in Kansas City Missouri in 1928, and Missouri's first National FFA president was Leslie Fry. This is all important to our future

with knowing how we evolved and grew as a chapter, organization and a family.



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# GIVING Back

**By: Katelyn Richardet**  
Perryville High School FFA

The Perryville FFA chapter is very heavily involved in community service, especially when it comes to giving back and helping with our communities. As a chapter do Adopt-A-Highway at least once every month and we will clean up the side of Hwy B by National Guard Dr.

When the 15 of our chapter's members went to Indianapolis, Indiana for the National FFA Convention the second day of them being there our members embody "Living to Serve" by participating in National Days of Service. We worked at the White River State Park and helped pick up any trash and debris

that was on the ground along with helping cut branches and bushes down that were blocking a pathway.

At our Barnwarming in November, instead of selling tickets, we collected cans to donate to a food pantry. This December, at our annual Christmas Party, our chapter made cards to hand-out at a local assisted living facility.

Our FFA members get the opportunity of changing their communities by doing things like community service, environmental projects, or even teaching others about the wonders of agriculture. By getting their hands dirty for a good cause, our FFA members cultivate empathy, leadership, and teamwork.



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President: **Destiny Mudge** • Vice President: **Jasmine Muench** • Secretary: **Brandon Roth**  
Treasurer: **Addison Schuessler** • Reporter: **Ashtyn Balsman** • Sentinel: **McKenna McClure**  
Historian: **Lydyah Boland** • Assistant Historian: **Katelyn Richardet** • Chaplin: **Allyson Burns**

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## SAXONY LUTHERAN FFA CLUB

Officers for the 2023-2024 school year

**(OFFICERS)** Saxony Lutheran FFA Ag Science I class attending the Greenhand (GH) motivational conference in January at LaCroix church in Cape Girardeau with 6 Missouri State FFA officers who are seated.

Those attending from Saxony FFA were: **FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:** Holden Huber, Drew Boland, Carsyn Faught, Beau Gilliland, Jordan Heob, Mya Koenig, Addison Verseman, Kalayah Apel, Bryce Gaebler, Amelia Wilson, Willow Broshuis, Brylan Fluchel, Gracie DeBrower, Colton Cissell, Keith Koenig, Bridget Wilson, and Baylor Wilson.

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# SUPERVISED Agricultural Experiences

**By: Brandon Roth**  
Perryville High School FFA

Throughout the years members of the Perryville FFA Chapter have had many different SAE projects. SAE stands for Supervised Agricultural Experience. The project must be related to agriculture and be trackable. There are different categories of an SAE from placement, entrepreneurship, school based, service learning, and research. These projects are so diverse they range from working at a restaurant to managing the production of a crop.

Perryville FFA members have earned 264,910 dollars in 2023 alone. These SAE projects teach members important life skills such as time management, money management, and being responsible for any decision made. Each SAE project tracks income, expenses, and how

many hours the member has put into their project. They allow students to independently manage their project while also being supervised by the chapter advisors.

One of Perryville FFA chapter officers, Brandon Roth, had a very challenging SAE this year. He has been managing ten acres of corn ground. He has faced many challenges throughout the year, such as rising input cost, droughts, and dropping sale prices. He kept an accurate record of all expenses, income, and the hours he put into the production. Despite all the challenges he plans to diversify and expand his SAE next year.

These projects are important to the members of the Perryville FFA Chapter. They are taught valuable life lessons that will help them in the future of their career.



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A photograph of a large yellow tractor pulling a complex, multi-axle implement, possibly a combine harvester or a large sprayer, through a field. A person is visible in the distance on the right side of the frame.



# AG EDUCATION on the Move

**By: Addison Schuessler**  
Perryville High School FFA

Ag Ed on the Move is a 10 week program put on by Missouri Farmers Care. Perryville FFA Officers have been teaching this program for two years now! Perryville FFA Officers have attended the 2023 Ag Ed on the Move Ag Education Training Day, and 2024 Ag Ed on the Move Ag Education Training Day, at the University of Missouri, Columbia.

During this training our officers learn the basics of teaching the lessons, and become educated on the topics they are teaching. The lessons are hands-on and interactive. The training day helps to prepare them for teaching the lessons

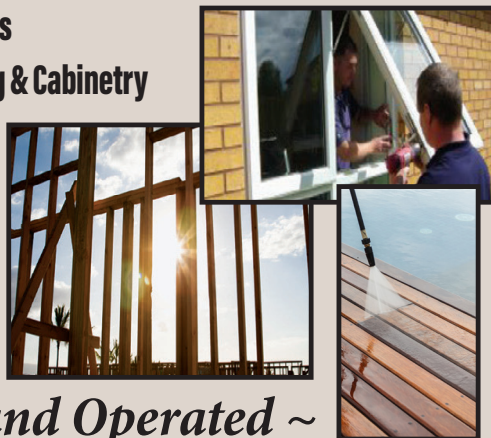
in a classroom setting. The 10 week program is targeted for 3rd graders, however at Perryville we offer other opportunities for 3rd-5th graders, so we are able to teach the AEOTM program to our 2nd graders!



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# SAXONY FFA

## and what means to me

**By: Amelia Wilson,  
President**

Saxony Lutheran High  
School FFA

What does FFA mean to me? To me FFA is a family, we work together to accomplish our goals, solve problems and come up with new ideas. FFA has helped me grow as a person by further developing my communication and leadership skills. My favorite thing about being in FFA is going to contests and conventions and being able to do those things with some of my best friends.



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# SAXONY FFA

## Taught me Lessons

**By: Austin Hunt,  
Vice President**  
Saxony Lutheran  
High School FFA

FFA has taught me many lessons in my 2 ½ years that I've been involved with it. I've learned that hard work and dedication in this area gets you a lot of respect and pays off very well. FFA has helped me grow more mature and taught me more about the life I live. I hope to continue to grow and learn as I stay involved with this organization.



# SAXONY FFA

## Learning Experience

**By: Skylar  
Calhoun,  
Secretary**  
Saxony Lutheran  
High School FFA

FFA to me is a learning experience not just with animals, and agronomy, but with people. In FFA, I have been able to develop better people skills and communication skills while gaining more knowledge about agriculture. I'm happy I've gotten to have the experience of being in FFA.



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