

# NEW YORK STATE FFA

July/August 2022 Edition

Cristian Gilces, New York State FFA Reporter



## Catch Up on These Jam Packed Months!

**Camp Oswegatchie** took place over 5 weeks from July 3rd to August 5th. Members had the opportunity to join the counselors and state officers at the NYSFFA leadership camp where members participated in all sorts of fun events. From zip lining and kayaking to horse back riding, this summer was a fun one! The fun does not stop there, members got inspired from reflection speeches given by counselors and state officers to see different perspectives of how their week at camp can go. Oswegatchie always provides lasting memories for a lifetime.

The **ACCESS** Tour took place in August where members were able to tour SUNY Cobleskill, Cornell University, Paul Smiths College, SUNY Morrisville, SUNY Delhi, and Alfred State throughout 6 days. These tours allowed members to get an inside look at some industry practices in ag careers in animal science, food science, and even ag mechanics. Our members got to interact with district presidents and state officers while also representing our association to colleges across the state.

**Empire Farm Days** was a blast this year! New York FFA proudly represented agriculture education and youth leadership at the fair while raffling off a vintage John Deere B Tractor. Myah, the State President, and Cristian, the State Reporter both were able to meet members from chapters that attended the farm days. Hundreds of people visited the association they were once part of and learned how FFA is growing in NY. Thank you to all who stopped by, supported, or entered a raffle.

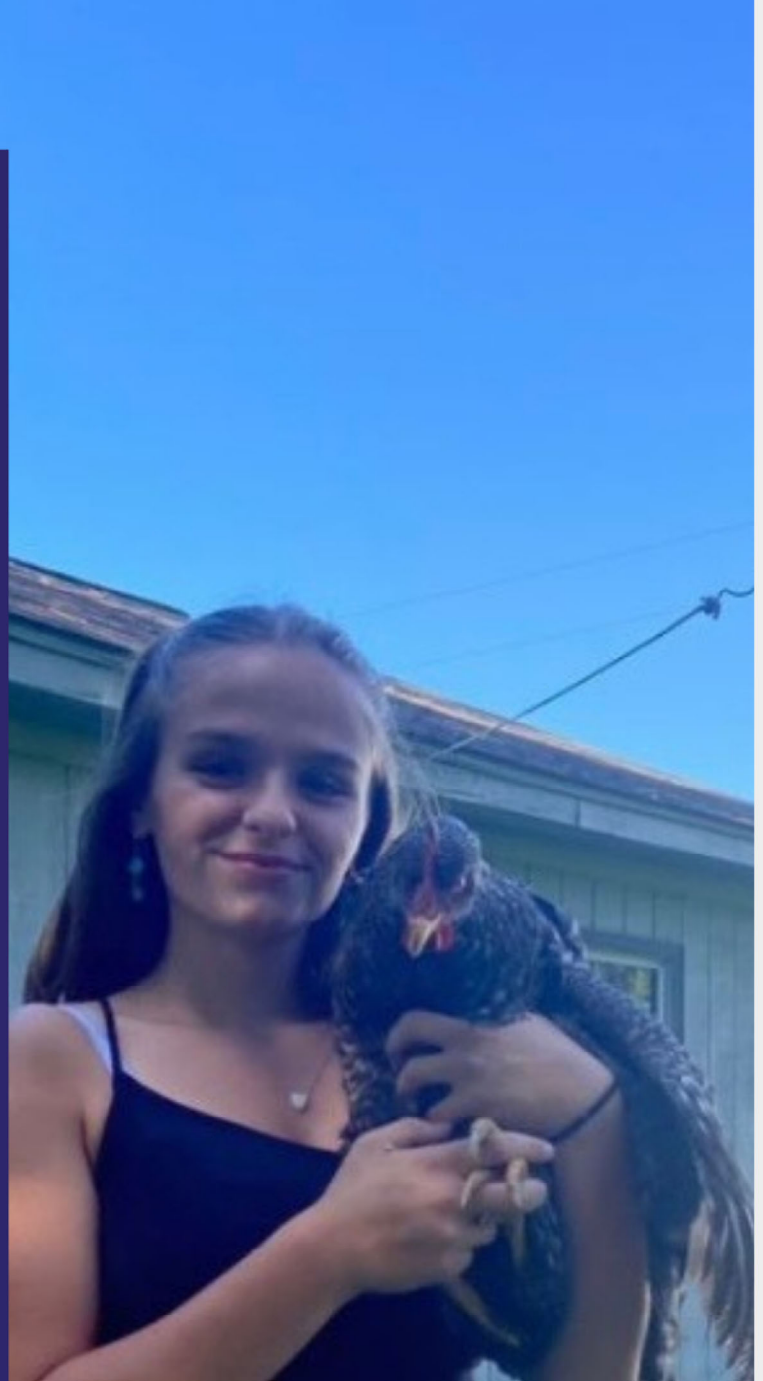
## New York FFA Visits The Capitol!

During the **WLC or Washington Leadership Conference** chapters from across the state travel to Washington DC to meet with our state senators and representatives. They have the chance to learn about true leadership and communication by advocating about agriculture education, NY agriculture and local ag issues right to the people in charge. Similarly, the state officers went to Washington D.C for their **State Officer Summit** to not only advocate for the same issues but to also learn how they can better our state and national associations. New York FFA, lots of advocacy was done for agriculture causes that mean a lot to us!



## Member Spotlight: Stephanie Bernard, District 5

Stephanie attends Hamilton High School and will be a junior in the fall. She has been an active FFA member for the past four years and has served as her chapter's Sentinel for two years, reporter for one, and is currently serving as Vice President. Stephanie's SAE is raising poultry. She has 18 hens that she collects eggs from and then sells the eggs at her local farmers market during the summertime. She hopes to expand her SAE by raising meat chickens with the aid of her recent \$500 grant from Farm Credit East. In addition, Stephanie enjoys competing in both the prepared public speaking contest and her school's agricultural issues team, where she has placed exceptionally well. She also represented her Chapter and State at the National Convention in Indianapolis this past year, as well as attending the Washington Leadership Conference in mid July.



Keep doing great  
things Stephanie!



# DISTRICT 5 HIGHLIGHTS

What a fun summer this has been for District 5! The summer months sure can't stop our members from staying active. Many chapters have been busy attending clinics and workshops organized by our advisors in preparation for CDE's at the New York State Fair such as horse evaluation, dairy judging, and wildlife/tree identification. Various chapters have been harvesting plants and keeping up on greenhouse work, and of course, attending Camp O! District 5 was proudly represented throughout the whole summer at Camp O. Waterville Central School hosted a three week Farm to Food Truck summer program, and many parade goers watched the Cazenovia Aggies ride through the 4th of July parade on their FFA float. Madison FFA beat the heat in late July by organizing a fun-filled day with competitive games and ice cream! Stockbridge Valley, VVS and Hamilton FFA members had the amazing opportunity to attend the Washington Leadership Conference in mid-July. Nice work District 5!!



## Get to Know The District 5 President!

Hi everyone! My name is Abbie Ainslie and I am serving as this year's District 5 President. I will be a senior at Mount Markham High School where I play soccer, volleyball and tennis, and am an active member in my FFA Chapter. I am also a member of the New York Junior Holstein Association, a member of 4-H, and show dairy cattle in the summertime. My SAE this year is building a mini library for our elementary school, and filling it with books relating to various aspects agriculture. After it is completed and filled with books, I will go to different classrooms/ grade levels and read to the students and do a little activity with them! This SAE will help me to further my career path because I would like to major in agricultural education after high school. Although I do not know where I will be attending college, I have been looking at possible options such as NC State University, Virginia Tech and Cornell University.

