

New York FFA

November/December 2021 | Third Edition



NOVEMBER &
DECEMBER UPDATE

AGRICULTURAL
CAREER OF THE
MONTH

DISTRICT UPDATES
& SPOTLIGHTS

NOVEMBER &
DECEMBER
CALENDARS



November & December Update

Makenna Seitz, Anna Western, Paige Warren

New York FFA- this past month has been jam packed with chapter events, fundraisers, and so much more! Now that we have returned from National Convention, the state officers are preparing for upcoming events such as the FFA Member Leadership Series and the State Leaders Experience conferences that we hope to see all of you at. We are also looking forward to visiting FFA chapters across the state and working with schools that are interested in starting a chapter. We look forward to meeting many of you along the way.

During the National FFA Convention and Expo, the members of the New York FFA represented our state extremely well in proficiencies, in the National FFA Band, through career and leadership development events and so much more. To see a full list of participants visit the New York FFA website (nysffa.org)! Congratulations to everyone who participated in these events and activities!

The Grow NY Food and Ag Summit was held November 16-17 in Syracuse, NY. Grow-NY is a business competition focused on growing an enduring food and agriculture innovation cluster in the Grow-NY region. The competition attracts innovative, high-growth food and agriculture startups from across the globe and engages them in the region's rapidly-growing startup ecosystem. Finalists pitch their business ideas for a chance to win up to \$1 million. This year, New York FFA, NYS Ag in the Classroom, and Cornell Cooperative Extension sponsored a youth division. Students were given the opportunity to give their business pitch in front of 5 judges. The contestants in the Grow NY competition consisted of middle and high school students. There were ten finalists, and the winners were Ethan and Oren Welch. Ethan and Oren are twin brothers who build apple crates for orchards to store and ship their apples. We are excited to offer this opportunity for our youth next year, so start developing your business idea!

Some additional opportunities coming up for students are the FFA Member Leadership Series conference (formerly 212/360) in January and State Leaders Experience in February. Registration for MLS opened November 1! Make sure your advisors have you signed up and registered for the new and improved conference by December 15! The FFA Member Leadership Series will be held in Syracuse, NY on January 29th and 30th. Registration and other information about the FFA Member Leadership Series can be found at <https://www.nysffa.org/ffa-member-leadership-series>. Registration for the State Leaders Experience opened on December 1, and more information can be found at <https://www.nysffa.org/stateleadersexperience>.

Agricultural Career: Agricultural Lawyer

One of the most regulated industries in the United States is agriculture, which is why there are specialized lawyers who specialize in this area.

To become a lawyer in the agricultural field, a person must have a Bachelor's degree, attend law school, take and score well on the LSAT exam, a Juris Doctor (JD), and passing a bar exam for the state the person is in. Once an individual has their credentials and begins practicing law, they have a long list of responsibilities and tasks ahead of them. Some of these things include assisting in land zoning and



use, provide information to the public about labor and employment laws in regards to agriculture, and assist in preventing fraud in product packaging and labeling. Agricultural lawyers can work as independents or they can be hired by a company. With this career, a person is able to live anywhere in the country, as long as they have passed the bar exam in that state. The outlook for being an Agricultural Lawyer, according to <https://agexplorer.ffa.org/career/agricultural-lawyer>, is excellent and the average full-time salary is \$160,000.

Quotes to Live By

A dream written down becomes a goal. A goal broken down into steps becomes a plan. A plan backed by action becomes reality.

You never really know the true impact you have on those around you.

We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them.

District Three

Kerri Jennings

NYS FFA District Three Update

During a time when plans change on the daily, District Three has been very resilient! They made the best of the situation at hand and participated in every virtual activity presented to them. We have been very fortunate over the past few months in that we are starting to meet in person again; as chapters and as a district.

Over the summer, chapters from District Three gathered at the Washington County fairgrounds to set up the FFA Farmland, a barn filled with calves, piglets, chickens, and goats. For the rest of the week, our members did a fantastic job managing the barn. This included caring for the animals and it was also a great opportunity to share our love of agriculture, talk to fairgoers about our organization, and give people a hands-on agricultural experience.

District Three has already participated in several events and have more coming up. Several chapters traveled from New York to Indianapolis to attend an in person National Convention, which we returned even more excited about the rest of the year! Following the National Convention, we held our District Meeting at Hicks Orchard where members were able to complete a corn maze, carve pumpkins, engage with members from other chapters and much more! I am looking forward to so many great things for our district this year as we continue to make the most of this year!



District Three Member Spotlight

Kerri Jennings

Member Spotlight

Anna Maxwell is a 13 year old member of the Salem FFA Chapter in District Three. She is an incredibly active member of her chapter, community, and school. She is such a well rounded individual, her characteristics make her the perfect candidate for the District Three member spotlight!

Anna keeps herself involved in FFA by serving on her Chapter Officer team and chairing committees. In addition to that, Anna also competes in LDE's. She has competed in the Conduct of Chapter Meeting as the chairman and made it to sub-states. She also competed in Junior Creed and placed second at sub-states as a sixth grader and sixth place at districts as a seventh grader.

Anna has two Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAEs)! The first is in dairy placement where she has a part-time job milking cows at Reafield Farm and shows cows at the Washington County fair. Anna's second SAE is in poultry production. Throughout her school and community, Anna is a member of several teams and clubs including the basketball team, the math team, County Critters 4-H, and serves as a Washington County Dairy ambassador. She also takes part in school theater productions, band and chorus. In her spare time, Anna helps better her community. She participated in the roadside cleanup during the spring of 2020 and wrote letters to the local retirement home with her 4-H club. Keep up the fantastic work Anna!



District Three President - Kerri Jennings

My name is Kerri Jennings and I am so excited to serve as this year's District Three President! I am from Granville, New York which is about a stone's throw away from the Vermont border. I did not grow up on a farm but my parents have always done a fantastic job of exposing me to agriculture at home.

Once I graduate high school, I plan on going to college to study either large animal veterinary science, agriculture education, or sports medicine. Two of the colleges I am considering are SUNY Cobleskill and Castleton University.

I have been in FFA since 2017 and since then have been as active as I can be in our organization. I have served my chapter as historian, reporter and have held the role of president for the past two years. My favorite event is definitely National Convention and I am so excited that I got to attend in person this year. My favorite event that my chapter puts on is the Ag Expo which we do every fall to introduce the community to our organization and agriculture program at school. I have taken five agriculture classes at my school and my favorite so far has been large animal science!

I have developed many SAE's including raising turkeys, raising pigs, and growing sunflowers and vegetables. My most consistent and favorite SAE is one in which I care for and manage pure Egyptian Arabian horses. The coolest thing that I have gotten to do in my SAE would be successfully artificially inseminating two of the mares at the barn.

Outside of FFA, I try to be very involved at school and in our community. I play varsity basketball and soccer for my school. I love to volunteer at sporting events whether it be keeping the book, doing stats or running concession stands. I also love to paint, sing, listen to music and occasionally do photography. I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve in this position and look forward to the rest of the year!



District Four

Amelia Moyer

NYS FFA District Four Update

The Richfield Springs FFA is a fairly new chapter in District Four. Last year they were faced with the challenges of COVID-19 like all of us; so they were not able to get to experience all that FFA offers throughout the year. But this summer, with Camp Oswegatchie allowing campers to come, Mr. Barkman took nine students, a mix of 7th and 8th graders, to camp and they loved the time spent there. At the end of October, five of Mr. Barkman's students were able to attend the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. These students include Anna H., Laken D., John B., Carson S., and Robbie K.. These same students received their first ever FFA jackets and the first jackets their chapter has ever had as well!

Otselic Valley FFA, advised by Miss. Parrott, participated in many local activities so far this year. Many of the Otselic Valley FFA members also participate in 4-H and are preparing to compete in many of the career and leadership development events within FFA. Miss. Parrott took several FFA members to National FFA Convention this year, which was an experience sorely missed by their members the previous year due to the pandemic.

I can't wait to have the chance to meet with more chapters and learn all about their programs throughout the rest of my term as the District Four President!



District Four Member Spotlight

Amelia Moyer

Member Spotlight

District Four has several outstanding members with such a variety of Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAE's). David Palmer is one student who stood out the most. David is a 9th grader at Otselic Valley Central School. He is currently taking on the role of their chapter's secretary. David's SAE is in Goat Production. David wanted to get into goat breeding because he found the animals not only to be intriguing, but also a good way to make money along with the idea of starting his own business. His 4-H leader has a meat and dairy goat operation and along with his FFA advisor is helping to teach David everything he needs to know for raising his herd. David currently owns five goats in total; two meat goats which are Boer goats and three dairy which are LaMancha and Alpine goats. David works on the goat farm where his goats live every weekend and during the summer, along with some weeknights during the school year; this has taught David to gain and build on his work ethic and teach him how to manage this responsibility. David shows his goats around the region at shows such as the Cooperstown Livestock Show, the Chenango County Fair and the New York State Fair. David's main goal is to grow his herd and improve his genetics so that he can show and breed high quality goats.

I can't wait to see where David's passion for his goat herd will take him in the future. Good job David, keep up the good work!



District Four President - Amelia Moyer

Hello, my name is Amelia Moyer and I'm happy to call myself your District Four President! I am currently a senior at Sherburne-Earlville High School. And my plan for after school is to go to college and become a veterinarian. My involvement in FFA has been from 2017-present. I worked very hard to gain my position by being as involved as I can in our agriculture program. During my time as a member I have served as Treasurer, Vice President, President and now I am the District Four President. My SAE is in poultry production where I raise laying hens and sell their eggs. I started my SAE in 2019 and from there I added different types of breeds for example Rhode Island reds, Isa Brown, Australorp, Leghorn chickens to have some diversity of colored eggs. I even added some ducks to sell their eggs as well. I like participating in the district competitions and my favorite competition is employment skills. I also participate in a couple other activities like livestock evaluation and poultry evaluation, I have participated in both of these competitions at the state and national levels.

My life revolves around working on my family's organic dairy farm. I do just about anything and everything on the farm from milking cows to driving tractors and doing field work. The best time of year for me on the farm is calving season! Finally the last thing about me is in my free time I love to go kayaking and hanging out with my friends, and going hiking. I am proud to serve District Four this year and encourage others to consider running to serve our district in the future!





DECEMBER



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 SLE Registration opens	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 FFA Member Leadership Series Registration Closes	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 Closing date for SAE records	



JANUARY



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 SLE Registration Due	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 FFA Member →
30 Leadership Series	31 ←					