

#### The Start of Another Great Year!

The Great New York State Fair took place in September and it was a blast! FFA members all across New York State had a chance to compete in competitions ranging from wildlife evaluation to dairy judging. The State Officers had a chance to see members in their element while they put their great skills to the test to see if they would place in their competitions and head to Nationals or The Big E. NYFFA appreciates all the hard work and dedication every members puts into their craft and talent and we are so proud of all your achievements.

The **Big E Fair** was another fun event where members got to apply their skills in hands on competitions and exams. NYSFFA had many teams competing from State Convention after all of their hard work throughout the year. Taking place in Massachusetts, members got to take an overnight trip to the fairgrounds with their chapter to compete against members from all over New England! NYFFA did not disappoint! Congratulations to all who placed and congratulations to all who competed.

The start of the school year means the start of many new great things! Our FFA chapters are getting back into full gear. Our members are learning, training, and educating others on all things ag. Goodluck on another school year and we cannot wait to see all the amazing things you create this year!.

Hispanic Heritage Month starts on September 15th and continues until October 15th. This is a time to acknowledge and celebrate the incredible contributions made by Latino-Americans everywhere to agriculture and beyond!

## New York FFA Visits Your Chapter

Stay tuned to see the highlights from the annual State Officer Tour! The New York State FFA Officers went on tour to visit chapters all across the state, host regional events, and visit agribusinesses!



# Member Spotlight: Olivia Skowfoe, District 2

Olivia, or Liv, is in 11th grade and is 16 years old. She is from the Middleburg High School FFA chapter . She joined FFA in 2021 and has been an active member throughout the school year. Liv has developed a passion for FFA in the time she's been involved. Her greatest achievement in FFA has been getting the opportunity to build her people skills and interact with others that share her common interests. She created and designed her SAE in Aquaculture, where she grew kale plants using aguaponics. While she was on the National Convention trip, she also invested in fish to help fertilize the aquaponics tank where she was growing her kale. Her national convention trip was the true inspiration for her SAE. On her first Nationals trip this year, they visited an Aguaponics facility where she was able to learn about and speak with professionals in this field. Sessions, tours, and meeting members from all over the country was an amazing experience that she enjoyed and looks forward to participating in for years to come. Liv is planning on running for a chapter office in the future. Other than FFA, Olivia also loves hunting, playing softball, and archery. She is also involved in the National Honors Society and Music of the Knight, a musical arts club at her school. The main reason she joined FFA is because of what she wants to do in her future career. Olivia wants to pursue a career in conservation or Zoology and possibly become a DEC officer. The leadership and time management skills that FFA provides, will help Olivia in whatever career path she chooses.



Keep up the good work Olivia!



### DISTRICT 2 HIGHLIGHTS

District 2 like many other districts across the state has been getting back into the swing of things as the school year starts up again. While many chapters are sad to see fairs go along with the summer months, they are also thrilled to have members back in school. Back to school member meetings for many chapters have been the highlight of this month. From games, party's, and diving right into fundraisers they are on it! At the beginning of the month the Berne Knox Westerlo chapter was excited to be sending a few of their students to the Big E to compete. Fundraisers dont stop in the summer for Greenville! They have been continuing with their horse show fundraisers in their new arena. A few district 2 chapter members participated in Suny Cobelskill's Highschool Day, like Tri- Valley members. They had a great time getting to explore the AG area of this college campus as well as compete in some friendly competitions. Cant wait to see what we continue to accomplish as a district!

### Get to Know The District 2 President!

Hello everyone! My name is Courtney Taibi and I am so excited to be serving as this years District 2 President. I just started my junior year of high school at Greenville. On top of holding a district office and being an active FFA member in my community, I also compete in 2 varsity sports (soccer and track). Outside of school one of my favorite things to do is assistant coach my sisters soccer team. If i'm not doing that you can most likely find me with my nose in a good book or working on my SAE. For the past few years, my SAE has been in small animal production and care. I work at a golden retriver breeders where I help with grooming, breeding, birthing, and any other healthcare needs of the dogs. I also sometimes work with them on behavior, especially the puppies. Since I was 6 years old my heart has been set on being a Veternairian. As I got older I only became more and more serious about it. I have been looking into a range of different schools, but so far some of my top choices are Cornell Univeristy and Clemson Univeristy.

