

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2021  
SECOND EDITION

# NEW YORK FFA



## WHAT'S INSIDE:

Sept/Oct  
Updates

Agricultural Career  
of the Month

District Update &  
District President  
Spotlight

September & October  
Calendar

# September/October Update

*Makenna Seitz*

The month of September was the beginning of the school year and FFA members across the state have started school again! This is awesome news, especially for ag teachers who have many things planned for the upcoming months of school. Chapters have been busy conducting their first FFA meetings of the school year and preparing for state events like State Officer Tour and COLT Conference. In the last week of August, FFA members were able to participate in CDE's at SUNY Morrisville from tractor driving to meat evaluation. This day was filled with many new experiences and members getting to meet with new and old friends.

During the first week of October, State Officer Tour is a fun-filled week where the State Officers travel throughout New York State and get to meet with FFA members. During this week, members are able to attend workshops facilitated by the State Officers that will challenge them to become better leaders. Following the conclusion of State Officer Tour, the state officers traveled to Cornell University for COLT Conference to support chapter officer development so they can successfully lead their chapters this upcoming year. COLT Conference is hosted by Cornell's Collegiate FFA, of which many are pre-service teachers.

These events are only some of the things that FFA members can take advantage of and experience this year. Don't forget about the Golden Owl Award as well! Nominations are open through November 1 and the contest rules can be found at <https://www.nysffa.org/ny-ffa-golden-owl-award>. Many students will also be attending National FFA Convention at the end of October in Indianapolis, IN. For more information about the events mentioned above, please visit [nysffa.org](https://www.nysffa.org).





Sideline beekeepers are people who have another source of income to rely on, and use beekeeping as an attempt to generate more money. They may take care of 300 bee colonies. The last classification is the commercial beekeeper. They control up to 50, 000 bee colonies and produce about 60% of the world's honey. As a beekeeper, an individual can make up to \$44,000 in the United States.

## Agricultural Career: Beekeeper

Beekeepers are people who take care of honeybees. Those in this profession keep the bees in boxes, where the bees form honeycombs, which stores the honey. The bees are able to come and go as they please, but always return. Honeybees contribute several products like honey, beeswax, and pollen.

There are different types of beekeepers as well. Some beekeepers may produce these commodities, while others breed queen bees for other beekeepers. These different types of beekeepers are classified under three names. The first is hobby beekeepers. Hobby beekeepers serves as an activity for those interested in ecology and science. These people usually only take care of a few hives and it allows them to produce an extra source of income due to the demand for honey.



### *Quotes to Live By*

"Failure is success in progress."

"Don't let your fear of what could happen, make nothing happen."

"Sometimes the smallest step in the right direction ends up being the biggest step of your life."

# District Five

Myah LaFave

## **NYS FFA District Five Update**

With restrictions starting to loosen, District 5 FFA members are eager to get back to their usual activities! Our members have expressed true devotion to the New York FFA through resiliency and their hard work throughout the pandemic. From attending Zoom workshops to live streaming virtual State Convention, District Five members have done it all! Now, as we are able to get back together in person, chapters all over our District are already organizing unique and amazing ways to keep their members involved. Remsen FFA was awarded a \$5,000 grant for their classroom activities. This grant will be used to update equipment and create hands-on experiences for their Drone and Agriculture Technology class. Congrats Remsen! Best of luck to all District 5 chapters this year, I can't wait to see what you accomplish!

# District Five Member Spotlight

Myah LaFave

## Member Spotlight

This month's member spotlight is Mckinley Craven of the Hamilton FFA Chapter! Mckinley has been involved in FFA since sixth grade, and is a junior this year. Her SAE is in Agricultural Advocacy. "Whenever I have the chance, I'm always stepping in to teach people about ag or teach them about FFA," Mckinley says. Her all time favorite ag class is Horticulture, which many of us can relate to. Mckinley absolutely loves anything to do with flowers, planting, and floral arrangements. Mckinley is very excited and honored to serve her chapter this year as Vice President. This is a very special experience, as her twin sister Morgan Craven is this year's Chapter President! Congratulations Craven girls!

Mckinley says that her favorite event is the National Convention, but she has so many wonderful memories of her time in FFA that she couldn't really come up with a favorite. A word of advice from a lesson learned through her experiences would be to always be yourself. "I've always been quiet," Mckinley explains. "But FFA has definitely made me fall in love with myself and helped me become a better, happier, and more confident person!" We're proud to have you in District 5, Mckinley. Shine bright!



## District Five President - Myah LaFave

Hello everyone! My name is Myah LaFave, and I am proudly from the Stockbridge Valley FFA Chapter. I am so excited and honored to serve as your 2021-2022 District 5 President! I have been involved in the FFA since 2016, and this is my fifth year. I am a junior this year and currently serving as the Chapter Student Advisor. I've served as a chapter officer since ninth grade, and my past positions are Secretary and Co-Vice President. I have taken several agriculture classes, but so far Horticulture has been my favorite! I love working with plants and flowers, and my Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) is in vegetable gardening. Like many members, I've been competing in career and leadership development events since I first started in FFA. These include Conduct of Chapter Meeting, Extemporaneous Speaking, and my personal favorite, Creed Speaking. For my first National Convention in 2019, I had the privilege to compete on the New York team at the National Nursery/Landscape CDE! Competitions are an amazing opportunity to get out of your comfort zone, and I highly recommend any of them!

FFA provides so many opportunities that highlight the interests of all members, but my best memories have taken place at Camp Oswegatchie during summer camp. I absolutely love meeting new people, making new friends, and learning to enjoy every moment of life up in the peaceful wilderness of Croghan, NY. I probably wouldn't be in the position I am today without the life lessons and experiences learned in "the land of the dark water"! Getting back into normal FFA activities may be difficult and nerve racking for many of us, and that is totally ok! Remember that New York FFA is proud to have you as its members, and that the FFA is one huge family where you will always find support and a purpose. Best of luck to everyone this year, and welcome to District 5!



# September 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 National Convention Registration Opens	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 New Teacher's Conference	30 New Teacher's Conference		

# October 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4 State Officer Tour	5	6	7	8	9 COLT Conference
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 National Convention	28	29	30
Request a Chapter Visit from a State Officer						