



# FFA's

# New Era



February 2022

Vol. 88 • No. 2

## SD Members Excel at National FFA Convention

Students flooded the city of Indianapolis for the first time in two years as they attended workshops, competed in different events and heard great messages from keynote speakers. SD FFA members and agricultural educators represented our state with class, integrity, and passion for agriculture, and were recognized for months of hard work and preparation as the convention proceedings finished up in Indianapolis.

These SD individuals and their amazing projects were recognized on stage:



Terry Rieckman

**VIP Citation:** Terry Rieckman, Salem



Lauren Roling

### NATIONAL AGRISCIENCE FAIR

**Winner in Social Science: Division 1-** Lauren Roling, McCook Central

**Winners in Food Products and Processing Systems Division 6-** McKenna Sichmeller and Josslin Jarding, West Central



McKenna Sichmeller & Josslin Jarding



Joseph Grady and Dylan McGregor

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place Animal Systems Division 2:** Joseph Grady and Dylan McGregor, McCook Central

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place Animal Systems Division 3:** Avery Miles, Doland

### CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place Veterinary Science Team-** Grace DiGiovanni (6<sup>th</sup> place individually), Ashtyn Wobig, Ella Stiefvater (8<sup>th</sup> place individually), and Hadley Stiefvater, McCook Central

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place Livestock Evaluation Team-** Ryan Blagg (9<sup>th</sup> place individually), Colton Stiefvater, Lane Deutsch, and Max Nordlund, McCook Central

**4<sup>th</sup> Place Agricultural Technical and Mechanical Systems Individual-** Carson Daly, Philip



Avery Miles



Grace DiGiovanni, Ashtyn Wobig, Ella Stiefvater, & Hadley Stiefvater

### PROFICIENCY RUNNER'S UP

**Runner Up - Poultry Production Entrepreneurship/ Placement:** Kaylee Bosma, Lennox-Sundstrom

**Runner Up - Agriscience Research Integrated Systems:** Matea Gordon, Sturgis



Ryan Blagg, Colton Stiefvater, Lane Deutsch, & Max Nordlund



Carson Daly, Philip

## SD FFA Members Receive National Grants to Expand Supervised Ag Experiences

John Callies, Howard; Bailey Fairbanks, Winner; Noah Felderman, Doland; Joseph Laprath, Colome; and Korbin Leddy, Milbank each received \$1000 grants from the National FFA Organization to help create or expand their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects. Phibro Animal Health, Farm Credit and Barn2 Door, respectively, sponsored their grants. The five SD recipients were selected from 1,086 applications nationwide.



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# Game On!

BY TESSA ERDMANN

On January 12-13th, the state FFA officers and 43 district officers gathered in Pierre for a legislative breakfast and district officer training. These FFA members are their district leaders and will advocate for agriculture, agriculture education, and FFA at various events all year.

The highlight of the two day event was a breakfast hosting nearly 50 legislators and cabinet members. The state officers' program focused on the three-part model of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources education; classroom instruction; Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects; and FFA. District officers and advisors visited one-on-one with legislators, sharing how our 102 agriculture education/FFA programs provide hands-on, rigorous and career relevant experience for members.

District officer training, led by the six state officers, was themed "Game On," and themed around arcade games (Pac-Man, Space Invaders, Mario, Frogger, and Tetris). Training focused on teamwork, building agricultural knowledge, and professionalism - including a dining etiquette training, agriculture advocacy, understanding personality types, and developing a plan to make a difference this year. Additionally, they engaged in roundtable discussions with Representative Caleb Finck and Representative Lana Greenfield, House Education Chair, who spoke on the legislative system, the education committee, and page and internship opportunities. FFA officers reflected in the Capitol Rotunda on service and being impactful.

The FFA Legislative Breakfast and District Officer training was made possible as a special project of the SD FFA Foundation by these sponsors: Citi, South Dakota Association of Cooperatives, South Dakota Bankers Association, South Dakota Farmers Union, South Dakota Association of Agricultural Educators, South Dakota Crop Improvement Association, South Dakota Soybean Processors, South Dakota Wheat Commission, and our South Dakota FFA Star Partners: Twin Cities Region Northland Ford Dealers; Farm Credit Services of America; Bayer; CHS Foundation; Agtegra; Farmers Mutual of Nebraska; BankWest; Butler Machinery Company; Corteva/Pioneer; Dacotah Bank; The First National Bank in Sioux Falls; RDO Equipment Company; C&B Operations; U.S. ARMY/Army ROTC; East River Electric Cooperative; Hanson & Associates, LLC; Midwest Veterinary Service; BASF; Croplan by Winfield United; ADM Harrold, Miller, Tulare; Riverview, LLP; Titan Machinery; Green Thumb Commodities; Christensen Farms; LG Seeds; and SD Corn Utilization Council.



# State Officer... is it You?

South Dakota FFA members, as state convention approaches, so does the selection of the 2022-2023 South Dakota FFA Officer Team. It is an incredible honor to serve as a state officer and it offers room for a tremendous amount of growth. Your year of service as a state officer will undoubtedly be one of the greatest years of your life, and it will give you the opportunity to learn about South Dakota agriculture and how you can make a difference. Above all, the biggest opportunity, is the opportunity to SERVE and impact the future of the organization. From leadership retreats and chapter visits to business & industry tours, you will be a role model to members and an advocate for south dakota agriculture. If you're ready to elevate your leadership and serve as a role model, please apply today at sdaged.org. We look forward to seeing you in the interviews at state convention!

**Sincerely,**  
**2021-2022 State Officer Team**  
Tessa Erdmann, John Petersen, Hadley Stiefvater, Paige Lehrkamp,  
Alexis Hughes, & Trinity Peterson



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# Chapter Chatter

**Parkston FFA** - held a soup supper to raise money for ag classrooms and FFA chapters affected by Kentucky tornadoes. The event allowed them to donate \$1,600 to the Kentucky FFA Foundation to distribute to chapters in need.

**Iroquois FFA** - hosted a Christmas Party in December, where they played games and exchanged gifts, but most importantly made tie blankets that were sent to Kentucky FFA to be distributed to those impacted by tornados.

**Belle Fourche FFA** - volunteered at the local father-daughter dance, serving food and cleaning up at the event. Members also set up a school wide food drive where profits earned were matched by the local Runnings. We are also sending our senior parliamentary procedure team to national in Indianapolis this fall.

**Gregory County FFA** - has been planning their community service project. They are helping out at the Hipp Theater in Gregory, which is run strictly by volunteers, and the theater struggles to get enough weekend help. Members volunteer to run concessions and take tickets one weekend a month.

**Wolsey Wessington FFA** - sophomores toured the Pipestone Nordic Facility and learned about biosecurity and their gilt program. The students took that information to design their own blueprint for a facility to fit animal needs.

**Webster FFA** - had an exciting FFA week with activities including an animal nursery and wheelchair basketball. This spring members participated in CDE's, built a shed for the local Baptist Church, and planted spring wheat on our student managed farm. Our Range team also competed at the National Competition in Oklahoma last May.

**Bridgewater-Emery FFA** - conducted a National Day of Service. FFA officers each took a class and helped the community clean up and get ready for winter. In February, the Senior FFA members are going on a trip to Denver and the chapter plans on a busy National FFA week.

**Ethan FFA** - joined forces with FCCLA, National Honor Society, and Student Council to raise over \$10,000 for an Ethan FFA member's family that lost his dad to a December farming accident. They had a meal, along with a pie auction and Paper Airplane challenge. The first pie went for \$1700. It was a huge success.

**Madison Central FFA** - is planning FFA Week activities, including a chapter grill-out with hands on activities, Pies for Teachers day, and delivering a special treat of bars to businesses who support the chapter.

**Harrisburg FFA** - presented a series of agriculture related lessons to 8th graders to increase their knowledge and interest in agriculture. The lessons were developed and presented by chapter officers and members.

**Brookings FFA** - To aid their high school's mental health, they offered animals as stress relief in their schools' ag room multiple times. They also organized FFA week events including educating middle schoolers about agriculture.

What does ammonia smell like?

What does CPR Stand for?

What's an rops?

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**Team Up to SAFETY QUIZ BOWL**

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South Dakota Farmers Union is sponsoring the 10th annual 'Team up to Safety' quiz bowl competition

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During the State FFA Convention in Brookings

**SOUTH DAKOTA Farmers Union**

**THINK YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO WIN?**

FFA Advisers should contact Rocky Forman 605-352-6761 ext 117 or RForman@sdfu.org for details on competing in this year's QUIZ BOWL!

# Chapter Visits Eye-Opening for Members & State Officers

BY TRINITY PETERSON



During September, October, and November, the state officers were busy conducting FFA chapter visits across South Dakota. They visited 56 chapters, in teams of two, to help grow leadership and motivate agricultural education students across the state. The

state officers focused on teaching FFA history, developing members' advocacy skills, and helping chapter members discover the importance of networking. The officers were also given the opportunity to witness a variety of chapter classroom projects. At Hitchcock-Tulare, members are experimenting with micro-green production in their greenhouse, discovering the different nutrients micro-greens offer. Their long-term plan is to incorporate the micro-greens into their school food program. In Rapid City, members use a variety of animals (including chickens, birds, lizards, and snakes) and aquaculture to give students a hands-on learning experience. These are a couple unique projects state officers saw while touring the state. It was an enlightening experience and they enjoyed the opportunity to see the innovative projects teachers are providing for agricultural education students and the opportunity to get to know SD FFA members a little better. Chapter visits were sponsored as a special project of the SD FFA Foundation, by Twin City Region Northland Ford Dealers, Farm Credit Services of America, Bayer, CHS Foundation, Agtegra & Farmers Mutual of Nebraska.

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# Grow FFA's Impact

Join the SD FFA Foundation as we celebrate successes and build dynamic leaders for the future. Invest in agricultural education and the nearly 5000 South Dakota FFA members and their advisors through the South Dakota FFA Foundation.

1. **Use your voice** - record a short video advocating for FFA, tag us
2. **Connect** with the South Dakota FFA Foundation on Facebook
3. **Create** a work or friend challenge to match your donation to us during National FFA Week, February 19-26
4. **Donate** - any amount can support the core mission; \$80 Blue Jacket; \$150 leadership retreat scholarship; \$200 team travel scholarship; \$1000 Agriscience Fair; or \$2750 Star Partner
5. **Leave a legacy** - a gift now that creates a better future. It is not bound by age or time served. National FFA recently worked with a donor who grew up in the Midwest when women couldn't join FFA. However, both her husband and, later, her daughter were involved, so she had a high affinity for the FFA. This donor took what she and her husband had built over a lifetime together and made an impact on an organization that had a strong impact on her, her husband and her daughter.

For the SD FFA Foundation, legacy gifts like this would safeguard SD FFA's future. Gifts in a will or other estate plan would enable us to reduce the cost for members to participate in activities at the local, state and national levels, such as State Convention & Leadership Development Events, Leadership Retreat, WLC, and District Officer Training. Legacy gifts also make jackets, chapter grants, and scholarships available for FFA members, providing long-term support for the SD FFA and allow us to make plans into the future and ensure that we can continue to create the next generation of leaders who will change the world. Contact [gerri@sddfoundation.org](mailto:gerri@sddfoundation.org) for more information.

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# State FFA Leadership Champions Crowned

On December 7, 2021, nearly 500 FFA members from across South Dakota met in Pierre for the State FFA Leadership Development Events (LDEs). Students qualified through district competitions, advancing the top two teams and top three individuals from each of the seven FFA districts in South Dakota. While waiting for competitive events, students had the opportunity to interact with agriculture industry leaders, who are SD FFA Star Partners, at the Career Carnival. Additionally, Dacotah Bank representatives presented two workshops, engaging members in understanding different layers of leadership. FFA members and chapters were recognized for their success in 10 leadership areas at the awards banquet. The banquet was sponsored by SD Midwest Dairy Association and SD FFA Star Partners: CHS Foundation, Agtegra, Bayer, BankWest, Butler Machinery Company, Corteva/Pioneer, The First National Bank of Sioux Falls, Farmers Mutual of Nebraska, Farm Credit Services of America, and the Twin City Region Northland Ford Dealers. State-winning teams and individuals will advance to the National Convention in Indianapolis next fall.



**Parliamentary Procedure** teams, consisting of six members per team, demonstrate an FFA business meeting. Our state sponsor is South Dakota Farmers Union. The state level team travel scholarship is sponsored by South Dakota Farmers Union, Monte and Ruth Mason, and Brett and Tracy Kaltvedt. The team results are as follows:

1. Belle Fourche (pictured left to right): Advisor Austin Bishop, Krystin Hayworth, Nicole Kraft, Olivia Furrow, Reese McKenna, Ava McLennan and Dustin Kolb.
2. Scotland
3. Lennox-Sundstrom
4. Hitchcock-Tulare
5. Willow Lake



The **All-State Parliamentary Procedure Team** is comprised of the top individual officer from each position in the Parliamentary Procedure CDE. These competitors are the best-of-the-best in their respective position. These awards are sponsored by Skinner Financial Services. Those selected are (pictured left to right):

1. Chair- Kaylee Bosma, Lennox-Sundstrom  
Members At-Large:
2. Hattie Muellenbach, Milbank
3. Andy Brooker, Hitchcock-Tulare
4. Reese McKenna, Belle Fourche,
5. Nathaniel Collette, Lennox-Sundstrom
6. Tori Dvorak, Scotland



In **Prepared Public Speaking**, each contestant presents a 6-8 minute agriculture-oriented speech and answers five minutes of related questions. The event and travel scholarship are sponsored by Ag PhD. The results were (pictured L to R 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>):

1. Matea Gordon, Sturgis
2. Bailey Feistner, Sanborn Central/Woonsocket
3. Catherine Klein, Deubrook
4. Gabe Mattson, Deuel
5. Bobbi Eide, Gettysburg
6. Kylee Pollman, Bridgewater-Emery
7. Isabelle Mairose, Kimball
8. Corrina Ross, Sturgis
9. Shyla Schipper, Lennox-Sundstrom
10. Allie Westra, Beresford



In **Extemporaneous Public Speaking**, an unrehearsed 4-6 minute speech is written and presented onsite. Each contestant is allowed only 30 minutes to prepare. Our state level and travel scholarship sponsor is South Dakota Farmers Union. Results were as follows (pictured left to right 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>):

1. Grace DiGiovanni, McCook Central
2. Ellie Olsen, Deubrook
3. Rachel Rickenbach, Hot Springs
4. Collin White, Brookings
5. Gage Anderson, Lemmon
6. Cameron Noethlich, Doland
7. Sara Sveeggen, Beresford
8. Mason Moody, Sanborn Central/Woonsocket
9. Laine Forst, Mitchell
10. Izzy Cagnones, Selby Area



**Employment Interview Skills** challenges FFA members to complete a job application, write a letter of application and resume, participate in an actual interview and compose a follow-up letter. Our sponsor is the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources. The travel scholarships are sponsored by Kindra Gordon and Lance, Shirley, Jordanne, and Dalton Howe. The results were (pictured left to right 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>):

1. Megan Sanders, Hot Springs
2. Sawyer Styles, Northwestern
3. Grace DiGiovanni, McCook Central
4. Ella Stiefvater, McCook Central
5. Mya Dissing, Tri Valley
6. Sierra Hilgenkamp, Wall
7. Ashton Massey, Menno
8. Kathryn Rausch, Hoven
9. Taylor Even, Gregory County
10. Ali Zacharias, West Central



**Ag Sales team** members work together to develop a strategy for selling pre-determined products to specific customer scenarios. Participants also practice their individual sales skills by selling an agricultural product to a customer. This event is sponsored by Wilbur Ellis. The state travel scholarships are sponsored by Wilbur Ellis, Dacotah Diamond Auctions and Equipment, Hoegemeyer Hybrids and Kevin and Amber Blagg. The results were:

1. Tri Valley (pictured left to right): Hunter Foster, Weston VanDerVliet, Brody Ahlquist and Nolan Schmidt
2. West Central
3. Wessington Springs
4. McCook Central
5. Sioux Valley

# State FFA Leadership Champions Crowned CONTINUED...



The **Conduct of Chapter Meetings** event is designed for high school freshmen to present a mock FFA meeting. This event and travel scholarship are sponsored by Gary Bachman. The team results were:

1. McCook Central (*pictured back row left to right*): Colton Stiefvater, Joe Grady, Karlie Stiefvater, Madison Lauck (*pictured front row left to right*): Abbie Chase, Ava Sieverding, Lauren Roling
2. Lennox Sundstrom
3. Willow Lake
4. Belle Fourche
5. Montrose



In **Marketing Plan**, teams of students determine a local community need and create a complete strategy for marketing a new agricultural product or company to fill that need. The sponsor is Legend Seeds, Inc., and the state winning team travel scholarship is sponsored by Hurley and Associates. The results are:

1. Garretson (*pictured left to right*): Sarah Welch, Drew Pederson, Jenna Van Holland
2. McCook Central
3. West Central
4. Parker
5. Howard



In **Ag Broadcasting/Journalism**, students have 30 minutes to prepare a five-minute agricultural radio newscast and then "air" it. This event is sponsored by Ludens Inc. Results were (*pictured left to right 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>*):

1. Justin Hausmann, Winner
2. Bailey Feistner, Sanborn Central/Woonsocket
3. Annalese Crazy Bear, Lyman
4. Paisley Skonhard, Viborg-Hurley
5. Logan Rolph, Harding County
6. Josie Nold, Rutland
7. Gabrielle Rebelien, Sioux Valley
8. Lydia Hill, Sully Buttes
9. Jesse Cech, Lennox-Sundstrom
10. Ember Gabriel, Philip



**Creed Speaking** participants recite the FFA Creed and answer questions posed by the judges. This event and travel scholarship is sponsored by Craig and Bonnie Dybedahl and Jeremy and Laura Nettifee. The results were (*pictured left to right, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>*):

1. Bennett Gordon, Sturgis
2. Ashlyn Roudabush, Mitchell
3. Veronica Fonder, Milbank
4. Quynn Nielson, Sioux Valley
5. Mikael Nielson, Hitchcock-Tulare
6. Alexa Roland, Rapid City
7. Madi Raymond, Ethan
8. Lydia Main, Belle Fourche
9. Ridge Roduner, Wessington Springs
10. Jocelyn Rumpca, Webster



In **Ag Issues**, a team of 3-7 students discuss the pros and cons of a major agricultural issue facing their area. The sponsor is South Dakota Farmers Union and the state winning team travel scholarship is sponsored by South Dakota Farmers Union and The Farm Forum. The results were:

1. West Central (*pictured left to right*): Advisor Linda Petersen, McKenna Sichmeller, Grace Harden, Wilson Droge, Josslin Jarding, Jude Jarding, Maia Kennedy, Keighlor Nolz
2. Howard
3. Hot Springs
4. Sturgis
5. Harrisburg

The South Dakota FFA consists of over 102 FFA chapters with over 4,900 FFA members. The SD FFA Leadership Development Events are a special project of the SD FFA Foundation. FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. Visit <http://www.sdffaoundation.org/> for more information, and/or follow us on Facebook (*South Dakota FFA Foundation and South Dakota FFA Association*).

Thursday, February 24th

<https://sdffaoundation.org/#donate>

SCAN ME

*FFA members Hunter Eide, Gettysburg; Samantha Olson, Northwestern Area; and Ryder Mortenson, Winner spent ten days traveling through California studying the agricultural industry. They had the chance to speak with industry leaders about the opportunities and challenges they face in their state.*

## FFA's Mission in Action



The FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education.

This month we feature a **current leader who exemplifies personal growth.**

**Name:** Dr. Travis Hoffman

**Home FFA Chapter:** Redfield High School

**Year Graduated High School:** 1999

**College:**

South Dakota State University, Animal Sciences, B.S. 2003

Colorado State University, Animal Sciences with Meat Science emphasis, M.S. 2008, Ph.D. 2015

**Current Position:**

North Dakota State University and University of Minnesota Extension Sheep Specialist/Assistant Professor

I have a joint appointment with NDSU & U of M to work with sheep and goat enthusiasts on production management decisions and provide research-based solutions to operation and industry challenges.

**What did you enjoy most about FFA?**

I enjoyed the Livestock Judging CDE, and the competition between students at each Spring's regional and state events. While many of us have moved our own separate ways in the livestock industry, FFA was an enjoyable foundation that built lifelong relationships.

**How did your FFA experience contribute to your leadership development?**

I attended a State Leadership Retreat my Junior year in HS, and was challenged to be a leader by the State Officers. I was inspired to compete for a State FFA Officer position. I was unsuccessful, but appreciated the challenge to push individual limits, and am forever indebted for the professional development that helped me reach goals in my career and my personal life.

**What advice would you give FFA members today?**

FFA provides young people the chance to succeed. Seize the Opportunity! Whether it is helping with chapter activities, CDE or SAE involvement, or a leadership role, challenge yourself to become involved as possible, and you will be rewarded for your efforts.

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# Convention: Back Home In Brookings



FFA members, sponsors, and guests, get ready to join us back at Frost Arena, on the SDSU campus, in Brookings for the 94th SD FFA Convention! Last year, unlike many states, we were fortunate and still had an in-person convention. We experienced a historic move to Rapid City, where members showcased their hard work and talents in a new venue, because of Covid restrictions. Since the stage lights turned off last year, FFA members have been working diligently and practicing hard to **ELEVATE** themselves, the FFA, and South Dakota agriculture. In 2021, we are headed back to our convention home, Brookings, SD. Please join us **April 24-26th** for the convention, where we'll celebrate the hard work and success of our members.

Get ready as we:

- **Participate in fifteen Career Development Events** with the hopes of becoming this year's state champions, advancing to the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis in October.
- **Receive the State FFA Degree**, the highest degree a state association can bestow
- **Interview and announce Star Farmer, Star in Placement, Star in AgriBusiness, and Star in AgriScience winners** for outstanding Supervised Agricultural Experience projects
- **Congratulate American Degree recipients** from 2021
- **Award scholarships** to graduating seniors and college students seeking an agricultural degree
- **Commend Agriscience Fair winners** for their projects and research
- **Announce proficiency awards** for members with top-notch Supervised Agricultural Experiences
- **Induct supporters** as Honorary State FFA Degree and Distinguished Service Award recipients
- **Salute top chapters** for local activities with the National Chapter Award in Building Leadership, Growing Communities, and Strengthening Agriculture divisions.
- **Participate in leadership workshops and the Career Carnival** hosted by ag industry leaders
- **Are inspired** by State FFA Officers' retiring addresses
- **Pass the gavel** to the 2022-2023 State Officer Team

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**ADM**

**Harrold Miller Tulare  
South Dakota**

# Back at Rodeo Rapid City

BY PAIGE LEHRKAMP



For the second year in a row, South Dakota FFA showcased agriculture in the Rodeo Zone, at Rodeo Rapid City, January 28<sup>th</sup>- February 5<sup>th</sup>. They hosted the Ag Adventure Zone, where state officers, district 5 officers, west river FFA chapters, and special guests spent the week advocating for agriculture and spreading consumer awareness.

The FFA Ag Adventure Zone was sponsored by South Dakota Farm Bureau as a special project of the SD FFA Foundation. "We are extremely thankful for the support of the South Dakota Farm Bureau and Sutton Rodeo to bring this important event to Rodeo Rapid City. We hope that this partnership will carry on for years to come so we can continue to educate the public about agriculture," says South Dakota FFA Executive Secretary Dani Herring.

The Ag Adventure Zone was patterned after the popular Ag Adventure Center, coordinated by South Dakota FFA annually at the South Dakota State Fair. The two activities share the same mission: "To showcase modern agricultural practices, communication, commitment to natural resources and demonstrate wholesome, safe food production." State FFA officers hosted educational games and activities for attendees to take part in and were able to talk to stock show goers about agriculture in South Dakota. Sheridan Deering, Wall FFA member, said, "I really enjoyed talking to the people who came through the Ag Adventure Zone. It was fun to learn about what people think of agriculture and teach them about what's going on in South Dakota."

The SD FFA also launched "FFA Day" on Monday, January 31st as part of Rodeo Rapid City. Fifteen chapters and over 300 FFA members from South Dakota, Nebraska, and Wyoming attended, learning from industry leaders in four agriculture pathways: animal systems, plant systems, power/structural systems and advocacy/communications. Presenters included: SD Farm Bureau, SD Pork Producers, SD Beef Industry Council, SD Stock Growers, Tyson Foods, SD Soil Health Coalition, Dakota Mill & Grain, BASF, Butler Machinery, Agtegra, Brink Construction, and the SD National Guard. FFA members gained insight into current agricultural practices and innovations and asked questions. They also attended a livestock judging school, cattle shows and sales, visited the vendors, and checked out the rodeo performance slack. Morgan Mackaben- Belle Fourche shares, "FFA Day at Rodeo Rapid City really opened my eyes on how I can make a difference even though I am a high school student." Bree Jackson, Ten Sleep Wyoming FFA, added, "As an out of state ag student, I appreciate the opportunities and experiences given to us, and the overall quality of presenters."



Proud to do our part  
to help bright minds  
achieve bright futures.

The South Dakota FFA is dedicated to empowering students and giving them a chance at a brighter future.

An idea we can all get behind.

At Citi, we commend the South Dakota FFA on their efforts and are pleased to support their invaluable work.



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# Membership 2021-2022

Chapter Name.....	Members	Chapter Name.....	Members	Chapter Name.....	Members	Chapter Name.....	Members
Aberdeen Central FFA.....	26	Dupree FFA.....	23	Kadoka FFA.....	37	Woonsocket FFA.....	55
Alcester-Hudson FFA.....	44	Edgemont.....	27	Kimball FFA.....	20	Scotland FFA.....	36
Andes Central FFA.....	15	Edmunds Central FFA.....	17	Lake Preston FFA.....	44	Selby Area FFA.....	30
Arlington FFA.....	23	Elkton FFA.....	47	Lemmon FFA.....	53	Sioux Valley FFA.....	48
Baltic FFA.....	18	Estelline FFA.....	12	Lennox Sundstrom FFA.....	112	Sisseton FFA.....	31
Belle Fourche FFA.....	54	Ethan FFA.....	50	Lyman FFA.....	53	Stanley County FFA.....	18
Beresford FFA.....	68	Faith FFA.....	27	Madison Central FFA.....	139	Sturgis FFA.....	136
Bison FFA.....	18	Faulkton FFA.....	59	Marion FFA.....	0	Sully Buttes FFA.....	37
Bon Homme FFA.....	42	Flandreau FFA.....	59	McCook Central FFA.....	156	Sunshine Bible	
Bowdle FFA.....	28	Florence FFA.....	66	McIntosh FFA.....	6	Academy FFA.....	25
Brandon Valley FFA.....	23	Freeman FFA.....	28	Menno FFA.....	52	Timber Lake FFA.....	25
Bridgewater-Emery FFA.....	86	Garretson FFA.....	57	Milbank FFA.....	125	Tri-Valley FFA.....	69
Brookings FFA.....	65	Gettysburg FFA.....	57	Miller FFA.....	69	Viborg-Hurley FFA.....	72
Canton FFA.....	179	Gregory County.....	26	Mitchell FFA.....	36	Wagner FFA.....	38
Centerville FFA.....	36	Groton FFA.....	101	Montrose FFA.....	45	Wall FFA.....	57
Chamberlain FFA.....	68	Harding County FFA.....	20	Newell FFA.....	69	Watertown Area FFA.....	9
Chester FFA.....	85	Harrisburg FFA.....	171	Northwestern Area FFA.....	70	Webster FFA.....	40
Cheyenne Eagle Butte FFA.....	19	Herreid FFA.....	8	Parker FFA.....	89	Wessington Springs FFA.....	54
Clark FFA.....	51	Highmore FFA.....	48	Parkston FFA.....	53	West Central FFA.....	98
Colman-Egan FFA.....	24	Hitchcock Tulare FFA.....	47	Philip FFA.....	54	Willow Lake FFA.....	45
Colome FFA.....	22	Hot Springs FFA.....	48	Pierre FFA.....	20	Wilmot FFA.....	33
De Smet FFA.....	41	Hoven FFA.....	22	Platte-Geddes FFA.....	78	Winner FFA.....	46
Dells FFA.....	35	Howard FFA.....	71	Rapid City FFA.....	59	Wolsey-Wessington FFA.....	51
Deubrook FFA.....	56	Huron FFA.....	35	Redfield FFA.....	64	Yankton FFA.....	7
Deuel FFA.....	42	Iroquois FFA.....	39	Rutland FFA.....	35	<b>Total .....</b>	<b>4992</b>
Doland FFA.....	47	Jones County FFA.....	14	Sanborn Central/			

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# 10 Ways to Celebrate National FFA Week!

**BY ALEXIS HUGHES**

FFA members and communities from across the nation will celebrate National FFA Week with activities and service projects. We asked SD chapters to share with us their top event ideas... Whatever you do, however you celebrate, be sure to share with the SD FFA Foundation on Facebook to spread the celebration!

1. **Businessmen's Breakfast** - Members fix an early morning buffet-style breakfast to thank businesses, community members and school staff - or deliver them a cupcake and a coke at the end of the school day, with a thank you note for everything they do for FFA.
2. **Greenhand Night** - First year FFA members are invited to a night filled with games, leadership activities, and helpful FFA hints to make the most out of their years ahead in the blue jacket.
3. **Pass the Chicken** - Fundraise and get your community involved! Take the chicken to different businesses or teachers where they pay to pass it to a different business or pay for "insurance" to not get it back. It is a great way to develop new community connections and thank businesses and staff members.
4. **FFA Emblem Scavenger Hunt** - This gets the whole school involved or business involved! At the beginning of the week, chapter officers hide FFA emblems around the school or community. Anyone who finds an emblem can bring it to the ag classroom to win a prize.
5. **Speak Loud and Proud** - Schedule newspaper, radio, or TV interviews to share FFA's values and mission. Share ag education facts on social media to spread the word about FFA and ag education to others. Talk about why you joined/stayed in FFA, and opportunities for members.
6. **Package it up!** - Follow the FFA motto of "Living to Serve" and package meals for those in need in your community, or conduct another service project.
7. **Blast from the Past** - Ask alumni to take their FFA jackets to work, hang on their chair, and start conversations about how FFA impacted their career - and share their story on social media!
8. **Kiss an Animal** - Set up one set of jars with different animals and another set of jars with different teachers' names on them. Students have a penny war, voting for one teacher and one animal they want that teacher to kiss. At the end of the week have the winner kiss the winning animal in front of the school.
9. **Host an Ag Olympics Challenge** - Get the whole school involved with competitions of bale tossing, nail pounding, roping, tractor pull, sawhorse riding, tire relay, FFA trivia, and more.
10. **Wear FFA attire** - Sport Official Dress or FFA T-shirts - whether a chapter shirt or one from Leadership Retreat, State Fair, District Officer Training, State or National Convention. Wear FFA attire each day to show pride and encourage people to ask questions about FFA.