

From: bounce-122296194-76929370@list.cornell.edu
To: [AGED-L](#)
Subject: NY Ag Ed/FFA News Blitz
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Attachments: [image005.png](#)
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[image012.png](#)

Good evening,

Watching the blue and gold jackets walk the halls of our state capital is always inspiring to us each year. Thank you to everyone who participated in State Leaders Experience last week! Your efforts are making a difference. Below are some important updates. Please reach out to us if you have specific questions.

AG ED/Professional Development Updates:

Bring home the BLUE, not the FLUE! Free online course to help you teach your students about zoonotic diseases. Excellence in Exhibition: Preventing Disease in Animals and People. The course is meant to encourage showmanship and animal involvement while keeping animals and humans safe and healthy. Includes six 20-30 minute lessons with powerpoints, worksheets, and learning objectives. <http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/YouthInAg/>

June 17-20th NYAAE conference for all NY Agricultural Educators. **Submit a conference request to your school today to ensure that funds will be available for you in June.** Complete the online registration and an invoice will be provided for you to submit to your school. Cost to attend will \$495/participant. <http://www.nysffa.org/nyaaeconference>

Do you need help? Just have a agricultural content specific question? Could you benefit from a few new lessons or ideas from an agricultural education colleague? NYAAE has expanded its agricultural education-mentoring program. **Please visit the [NYAAE mentoring portal](#), click on a mentor's name and reach out for assistance.**



Oswegatchie's AdironDuck Race is Sunday April 29th 2018! Your chapter can participate in our biggest yearly fundraiser and help send your students to camp.

For every duck your school gets credit for selling, you earn 50% of the profit in the form of "duck bucks". Duck bucks can be used anytime in the next 12 months for purchases and programs at Oswegatchie.

There are two ways you can participate.

1. Commit to selling a "flock" of ducks. This is a traditional method where you commit to a physical batch of tickets which you sell through your students, alumni and community. We do not take ducks back, so the number of ducks you request are yours to keep.
2. Just spread the word for supporters to go online and pick your chapter. This means you do not have to collect any cash or ticket stubs! Just share on social media, send emails, print some postcards.

This is our general duck sales page with every chapter listed.

<http://www.adironduckrace.com/buy-ducks.html>

We are also creating custom chapter web pages, like this <http://www.adironduckrace.com/beekmantown-ffa.html>

Contact us today if you would like a custom page, or a batch of tickets to sell!

rwaite@oswegatchie.org OR wwaite@oswegatchie.org



Foundation News:

The NY FFA Foundation Tractor Raffle winner will be drawn Saturday February 24. If you have sold tickets, please send stubs and money to the FFA Foundation offices at 9340 Long Pond Rd. Croghan, NY 13327. You can also bring ticket stubs and money to the NY Farm Show next week.

Toys for the FFA Alumni Farm Toy Auction can also be brought to the New York Farm Show next week. The auction is on Friday February 23 and starts at 5 PM. Come on out for a great evening of high bidding, and fun as we raise money for the NY FFA Alumni Association.

New York Association of FFA Updates:

Below are some updates and reminders for the multiple events and activities coming up the next couple of months.

Waivers and Medical forms are required for all events at the state level. Please email them ahead of time to Nancy Grossman.

State Convention: Plans for the 2018 state convention are well underway. The official hotel of the 2018 convention has had a name change, it is now the Rochester Riverside Hotel. This facility is ideally located to all convention venues with direct access via skywalk to the convention center with a short walk to the Blue Cross Arena. Most workshops and LDE/CDE's will be held in either the Rochester Riverside Hotel or Convention Center. Please visit our website for more information about reserving rooms for your chapter: <http://www.nysffa.org/state-convention-hotels>. **You are now able to make reservations.** You can now reserve up to five rooms at a time on the new online portal that the hotel has provided us. Please limit the number of excess rooms you reserve so all schools have the opportunity to join us at this location.

The convention planning sheet is now posted on our website for you to review and to help aid you in your planning. Please visit the convention website to find out more: <http://www.nysffa.org/state-convention>. We will have a schedule out this coming month along with a promotional poster that will be sent to your chapter. Registration will open in March.

Look for some of the exciting announcements about some of the activities that will be taking place at convention this year to be announced during FFA week on social media.

FFA Membership: The roster deadline is **March 1st**. There have been many updates and changes to the system. Please read **ALL** of the following information carefully so that this transition can be as smooth of a process as possible. We have created a new page on our www.nysffa.org website just for help with FFA membership and help with rosters. Please visit this link for information and tutorials on how to do your student roster this year:

<http://www.nysffa.org/membership/>. As our state continues to see growth in our membership, we are starting to see some overlap with our homeschools and BOCES centers having students in two programs. As a reminder, students can only be members in one chapter. This is a student's choice which chapter they will be a member of. In order to be a member of a chapter students should be receiving instruction from the certified agriculture teacher at that program. **A new policy that took effect September 1st is, 7-12th grade members must be added to the national roster, only 6th graders can be added to the NY Only Roster.**

District President and State Officers Applications and Handbooks: We have updated and posted the DP and SO Handbooks. These can be found at this link: <http://www.nysffa.org/apps/2015/9/23/leadership-awards-applications>. The new application is an online application. Everything will be submitted online except for the DP and SO contracts which can be found in the updated handbooks. Those must be mailed to the state office post marked by the deadline. Our address is 300 Kennedy Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853. Letters of intent must be emailed to dhill@cornell.edu by the respective deadlines. The State Officers are developing a proposal to be reviewed by the Governing Board related to the time and location of the State Officer Selection. Therefore, in the updated handbooks it says To Be Determined. Once the Governing Board has made a decision on the timing and location of State Officer selection we will send information out. **District President selection process will still take place at sub-states.**

District President Deadlines:

- Application Due: 2/15/18, **Today**
- Selection Process will take place at your sub-

state location on 3/17/18

- District Presidents will be elected at State

Convention on 5/18/18 by the delegates from their district.

Students who are interested in serving on the District President NOM COM should notify their Trustee by March 1st.

State Officer Deadlines:

- Letter of Intent (email to dhill@cornell.edu)

Due: 3/1/18

- Application Due: 3/15/18, the application is located here:

<http://www.nysffa.org/apps/2015/9/23/leadership-awards-applications>

- Selection Process Location and Date: The

selection dates will be **4/12-4/14/18**, the location is TBD

- State Officers will be elected at State

Convention by the delegates.

Students who wish to serve on the State Officer Selection NOM COM should fill out the application on our website (<http://www.nysffa.org/apps/2015/9/23/leadership-awards-applications>) by 3/15/18.



The poster features the FFA logo at the top left with the motto "EVALUATE • INVESTIGATE • PLAN • SERVE". The main title is "FFA Members Are Living to Serve". Below the title is a photo of two people in safety vests working outdoors. A text box titled "DAY OF SERVICE GRANT" explains that mini-grants provide up to \$400 for one-time service events. At the bottom, it states the rolling deadline is the last day of each month and provides the website FFA.org/LivingToServe and the hashtag #LivingToServe.

"Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve." ~Martin Luther King Jr.

How is your chapter Living to Serve? FFA offers Day of Service Mini-Grants for \$400 to support chapters in planning community service events. The application is easy, and you can apply for funds to support a one-day service event that focuses on topics such as Community Safety; Hunger, Health and Nutrition; Environmental Responsibility; or Community Engagement.

Find out more at FFA.org/LivingToServe/grants.

If you have questions, the Living to Serve team is here to help. You can email them at LTS@FFA.org

New York Application/ Due Date Information:

If you have questions regarding award applications or CDE/LDE information please contact Catie Rowe, crowe@cornell.edu.

Due February 15th (TODAY)

- Empire Degree- Applications are accessible through ffa.org and AET. The only portion that needs to be mailed to the state office are the signature page and the last sheet of the printed PDF. The last sheet is a NY requirement to be eligible for this degree.
- State Star- Applications are accessible through ffa.org and AET. **REVISION- recommendations and SAE Agreements need to be mailed to the State FFA Office.**

Due March 1st

- Proficiency Award
- Honorary Empire Degree Nominations
- FFA Roster
- National Chapter Award
- State Officer Intent to Run due Electronically

Due March 15th

- Dairy Breed
- New Chapter Jacket Award
- Student Jacket Award
- NY SAE Grant

- State Officer Application
- State Officer Nominating Committee Application

District Competitions:

- District 1- March 1, John Bowne. Snow Date- March 7
- District 2- March 3, Pine Plains. Snow Date- March 10
- District 3- March 2, Northern Adirondack. Snow Date March 9
- District 4- February 27, Oxford. Snow Date- March 3
- District 5- March 3, HFM Ag PTECH/ Mohawk Valley. Snow Date- March 4
- District 6- March 3, Indian River. Snow Date March 4
- District 9- March 1, Letchworth. Snow Date- March 5
- District 10- February 15, Sherman. Snow Date- March 1

Substates- March 17. Snow Date March 27th. More information to come in the coming days!

- Eastern Region- Cobleskill Richmondville
- Western Region- Cattaraugus Little Valley
- Central Region- Carthage

NEW FOR 2018- Agricultural Education/ Teach Ag LDE preview event at Sub States

At the January meeting, the board voted to adopt the Agricultural Education/ Teach Ag LDE as an exploratory event at the Sub State level. At this level, students will be scored but will not receive a rank or official placing- this is just a practice of the event. **Any student that is interested in participating in this event should submit their written speech manuscript to the Sub-State hosts 10 days prior to the event.** The Agricultural Education/Teach Ag LDE will officially begin at State Convention, students will receive a score and a rank at the state level. This is not a National competition.

Calling all CDE Lovers!

If you or someone you know has a passion for competition and want to judge at the 2018 State Convention in Rochester fill out this form! <https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/45754-Aoe> This link can also be found under the "JUDGE FFA CONTESTS" tab on the State Convention page (<http://www.nysffa.org/state-convention>)

Do you want to be more involved in competitions this year? Do you enjoy seeing students hard work come to life in their favorite competitions? Become a CDE Coordinator! Email Catie Rowe at cmr323@cornell.edu for more information.

CDEs that need Coordinators for 2018:

Sr Prepared Public Speaking
Scrapbook/Secretary's Book/Reporter's Award
Talent

LDEs that need a Coordinator for 2019:

Jr Prepared Public Speaking

National FFA Updates:

1. National FFA Alumni Association Undergoes Realignment

The National FFA Board of Directors this week moved to realign the FFA Alumni association and assume general oversight responsibilities for alumni. This decision, in essence, welcomes this group “back into the fold,” given that alumni is a form of membership that exists within the National FFA Organization. The ultimate objective of this realignment is to allow FFA Alumni to devote their full time and attention to serving students, local chapters, and agricultural education teachers and to spend less time concerned with organizational governance matters. To reflect the inclusive nature of alumni, the board renamed the FFA Alumni to National FFA Alumni and Supporters. In this manner, adults from across the country, regardless of whether or not they were former members of FFA, can join to serve the needs of student members, schools and local communities. The alumni association’s bylaws are now noted as operational policies, as the board holds ultimate responsibility and authority for all forms of FFA membership via the National FFA Constitution and Bylaws.

The newly named National FFA Alumni and Supporters Advisory Committee, formerly the National FFA Alumni Council, will provide insights and advice to the board of directors on matters related to alumni membership. The alumni and supporters advisory committee will be composed of a minimum of, but not limited to, 12 individuals. It will be represented by four regional representatives, meaning that the alumni regions will match those of National FFA. In addition, two at-large members, three past National FFA Officers and representatives from the American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE), the National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE), and the National Association of Supervisors of Agricultural Education (NASAE) will be appointed for service. The committee will no longer be elected by delegates. A nominating committee, made up of at least three regional representatives, one organizational representative and one past National FFA Officer representative, will recommend new advisory committee members to the board of directors following an application process. The board will then appoint members to the advisory committee. Annual alumni dues will be voted on electronically by all active FFA members, and life dues will be established by the board of directors.

The board of directors is committed to representing all forms of membership within the organization as outlined by the National FFA Constitution and Bylaws.

2. 212° and 360° Conference Update

Thirty-five percent of all [212° and 360°](#) conferences occur in January, so it has been a busy month. This month, all 18 trained 212° and 360° facilitators served six state associations, hosting a collective 18 conferences. We had 3,215 students attend a 212° and 360° conference in January. Student participation in 212° and 360° is on target to increase by as much as 18 percent from last season; the number of conferences is on target to increase by 28 percent from last season. The number of state associations hosting 212° and 360° conferences has increased from 17 last season to 20 this season.

3. AgExplorer News

Discovery Education noted that 2017 was a strong year for AgExplorer. With more than 2 million page views, AgExplorer is one of Discovery Education’s highest trafficked and top-performing sites. More than 450,000 students viewed the live and on-demand virtual field trips. AgExplorer saw year-over-year gains for December in the following areas:

- o 25 percent increase in visitors to the site.
- o 25 percent increase in video downloads from the site.

As of Jan. 26, an Educator Resource tab containing classroom implementation resources focused on agricultural careers has been added to the site.

4. Try Our CDE/LDE Classroom Resources

These classroom resources are designed to be a companion to the career and leadership development events (CDE/LDEs) offered. The purpose is to provide teachers with information to facilitate students' learning of CDE/LDE material and involvement opportunities within the classroom. Since last year, we have offered a floriculture curriculum set, and last week we added a nursery/landscape curriculum set on [FFA.org/cde-lde-classroom-resources](https://www.ffa.org/cde-lde-classroom-resources).

5. Living to Serve Awards FFA State Day of Service Grants

As part of the newly launched Living to Serve Grant series, the FFA State Day of Service Grant is a competitive grant available to all FFA state associations or foundations. States were able to apply for funding up to \$8,000 to support a state-level day of service event.

As the inaugural granting, FFA is pleased to announce the funding of 27 FFA State Day of Service Grants. The goal of the grant is to support state FFA associations and foundations in providing FFA members opportunities to engage in an impactful community service event. As part of the grant, states must promote chapter and alumni Living to Serve Grants to increase awareness of funding opportunities for local chapters.

The awarded states are Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, South Dakota, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

For more information about the Living to Serve platform, visit [FFA.org/LivingToServe](https://www.ffa.org/LivingToServe).

6. Kentucky School Shooting Impacts FFA Members

Last week's Kentucky high school shooting hit too close to home for our FFA Family. Five of the students injured at Marshall County High School in Benton were FFA members. Three were among those wounded in the shooting, and two were injured as they tried to escape the building. Please continue to keep these students, their families, and the school in your thoughts and prayers.

The students have appreciated the many cards and posters they have received from across the state. If your FFA chapter would like to send a poster or card, you can send it to:

Marshall County High School
c/o Jourdan Griffith
416 High School Road
Benton, KY 42025

7. State FFA Foundations to Meet in March

In March there will be a meeting dedicated to the needs of the state FFA foundations. This meeting, held March 4-6, will allow state foundation directors to have a professional development opportunity with their peers. A big thank you to Aaron Alejandro, who has secured a time and location. The meeting will be at the NRG Center during the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo in Houston, Texas.

There will also be an opportunity to tour the event.

Please note that all foundation directors can bring board members as well. RSVP and direct any questions or concerns to Planned Giving Officer Matt Treadwell, mtreadwell@ffa.org.

8. WLC Registration Opens March 1

Washington Leadership Conference (WLC) is the pinnacle leadership conference National FFA offers to any and all members able to attend. The WLC curriculum uses the tenets of Me, We, Do, Serve to get students to achieve the overall objective of the conference, which is becoming engaged citizens who make a measurable and positive difference in their communities. This five-day conference offers the unique balance of providing FFA members with a premier leadership experience while exposing them to D.C.'s rich history. WLC has a participation maximum of 340 students per week and has such a high demand that several weeks will sell out within a few days of registration opening. WLC dates, pricing, FAQs, and registration information can be found on the WLC webpage, FFA.org/wlc.

WLC registration opens at 1 p.m. ET on March 1. Advisors and students must register using their FFA logins. It is recommended that students and advisors review the registration guidelines and information available at FFA.org/wlc before March 1 to prepare, as some weeks will sell out quickly. Contact wlc@ffa.org or 317-802-6060 for questions about WLC.

9. Apply Today! New Century Farmer

The New Century Farmer application deadline is quickly approaching!

Know an FFA member who has experience in the field of production agriculture and plans to return to a career in production agriculture through work experience, training or other activities? Are they a former FFA member who's currently attending a two- or four-year college or university and are between the ages of 18-24? Try [New Century Farmer](#).

Held July 8-14, 2018, in Des Moines, Iowa, this all-expense-paid conference will be packed with interactive workshops, field tours, visioning design, networking opportunities and financial planning.

The application closes Feb. 15, 2018. [Apply now](#).

10. SAE Videos Highlight Diversity of Projects

SAE videos feature students from across the country showcasing their supervised agricultural experiences. Since August 2016, the videos have had 33,282 views. Teachers love the videos because they can use them as tools to educate on the diversity of SAE options. Additionally, educational resources and activities are available to accompany the videos. You can find the SAE videos on the [FFA Video Center](#).

11. Give the Gift of Blue

This past January, we gifted the 5,000 blue jacket! More than 1,000 jackets have been gifted during the last five months, resulting in this milestone. Last month alone, we gifted 226 jackets and are on track to gift more than 2,500 jackets in 2018. Below is an example of a member in Utah who truly reflects the impact our organization has on our members' lives.

I got into FFA second semester of my junior year, and honestly, I didn't think I'd enjoy it. I was just looking for a class to fill the empty space like my counselor was asking for. I looked at the Granite

Technical Institute (GTI) classes and saw Animal Science I among other classes that looked unappealing. I talked to my dad, and he told me to give it a chance. I am so thankful I took his advice. I met some amazing people and an amazing advisor and, more importantly, learned about a wonderful organization that changed my life for the better. Going into summer break, I got more into agriculture, and I took the summer ag course provided by my GTI and had an amazing time with the people I met during the last school year plus some new people I had never seen, but I made friends. Going into senior year, I took Animal Science II and saw some familiar faces but met some new ones. That class slowly turned into a family in my mind. We made our own group chat, and everyone talked to each other. You never had to worry about missing a day because someone would tell you what happened and give you whatever notes you missed to make it up. Now, I'm in the second semester of my senior year. I'm taking Equine Science, and we are relearning about FFA. I know I'm about to graduate, but this is something I'd like to have and remember for the rest of my life. Being able to get out and work on the farm once a week and have hands-on experiences showed me that this is something I want to do for the rest of my life. I've started a savings fund for my future ranch, and I want to go into wildlife rehabilitation after college. FFA has shaped me into the person I am, and I want to be able to show the respect that I have for this amazing foundation. But with both of my parents disabled, there is a limited amount of money. Because of FFA, I have found myself and what I want to do with my life, and now I'm the first of my brothers and sisters to be going to college.

12. Give FFA Day

On Tuesday, Feb. 20, during National FFA Week, the National FFA Foundation will celebrate Give FFA Day, a daylong campaign encouraging the public to support various needs impacting FFA members. We want to encourage giving on this day for three focus areas: the Give the Gift of Blue program, support for FFA advisor resources and the greatest FFA needs. On this day, we also want FFA supporters to tell their own FFA stories, share why they support FFA and encourage others to do the same. Keep an eye out on National FFA social media and FFA.org for more on how you can show your support during National FFA Week and, as always, you can visit Donate.FFA.org 24/7 to make a secure online donation. Every gift counts toward achieving the FFA mission! Learn more at FFA.org/giveFFAday.

13. National FFA Week for Supporters

National FFA Week is an perfect time for FFA sponsors and donors to advocate for agricultural education and FFA. It's a time to share with local, state and national audiences what FFA is and the impact it has on members every day. Your company, organization or alumni chapter can enter to win the [World's Greatest National FFA Week Celebration](#), share your support on social media as an [FFA Ambassador](#) and more.

14. An Evening with the National FFA Officers in the Nation's Capital

The National FFA Organization and National FFA Foundation invite those in Washington, D.C., to attend a reception with the 2017-18 National FFA Officer Team to support the future of agriculture. This reception is hosted by the Washington, D.C. FFA Alumni Chapter in special partnership with the Embassy of Mexico. RSVP is required. The reception is on Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018, from 6 - 8 p.m. at The Mexican Cultural Institute, 2829 16th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20009. For more information or to RSVP, contact Melissa Higdon, mhidgon@ffa.org.

15. FFA at IPPE

More than 120 FFA members had the opportunity to be educated on and learn about internships and jobs and investigate colleges while at an all-expenses-paid visit to the International Production & Processing Expo (IPPE) last week. For the third year, U.S. Poultry & Egg Association brought the top 10

finishing teams of the poultry and food science career development events to IPPE. This year, they offered the trip to national officer candidates who were not elected to national office.

Foundation staff Lisa Black and Kim Weseli represented National FFA, along with Katrina Jones of the Georgia FFA Foundation and Georgia state FFA officers at booths on the show floor. U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue even visited with FFA members.

16. **FFA Attends Cattle Trade Show**

The Cattle Industry Convention & NCBA (National Cattlemen's Beef Association) Trade Show was last week in Phoenix, Ariz. It is the oldest and largest national convention for the cattle business. This is an annual opportunity to network and meet with other producers and sponsors as well as get updates on trade and regulatory issues. Glenn Sims and Lori Randle from the foundation were there as guests of Zoetis. Culver's hosted more than 200 FFA members with free day admissions and provided a custard social. One of the pictures attached shows members from the Mingus Union FFA chapter from Cottonwood, Ariz. FFA advisor Eric Banuelos accompanied the chapter and said he was thankful for the chance to engage with exhibitors and to learn more about products and companies.

17. **Connections**

VMX: Veterinary Meeting & Expo was held this week in Orlando, Fla., with a record-breaking attendance of more than 18,000. This top-tier conference is dedicated to the animal science field. Foundation representative Lori Randle attended as a guest of Merck Animal Health. She engaged with prospects, learned more about the small animal field and connected with sponsors.

Enjoy the warmer weather!



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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.

