

From: bounce-122096707-76929370@list.cornell.edu
To: [AGED-L](#)
Subject: RE: New York Ag ED/FFA News Blitz
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[image017.png](#)
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Good Morning,

I hope that everyone had a great Thanksgiving! Below are several important updates. Please reach out to us if you have specific questions.

AG ED/Professional Development Updates:

Have you completed your Agriculture Education Incentive Grant?- Deadline December 1st, TODAY.

NEW Summer 2018, Briggs and Stratton [Mechanical Science Professional Development](#), Aug. 14-16. This conference will be limited to the first 20 registrants on a first come first serve basis. Scholarships will be available to **active** NYAAE members. Registration will go live on December 15th 2017.

Register to Attend 212/360 with your students. **January 27-28 2018**, Syracuse, NY- Receive professional development while your students attend the 212/360 FFA Leadership Conferences. Each teacher will be eligible for up to six hours of professional development credit.

June 17-20th NYAAE conference for all NY Agricultural Educators. Registration and Scholarship Applications are **LIVE**- Who will be first to register? (For five years running **Adam Krenning**, from Albion is Always first!) **Plan ahead and submit a conference request to your school now 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>

CASE Scholarships-**\$1,250 NYAAE CASE Scholarships** are posted- Apply Online-

<http://www.nysffa.org/case>

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.**

Do you have an idea that you would like to share? The NYAAE Professional Development Committee has begun planning the 2018 summer conference. We have learned from past experiences that we learn best from our peers. **This is YOUR opportunity to shine in front of YOUR colleagues.** Please visit the [Call for proposals link](#) if you would like to be considered as a professional development workshop presenter at the summer conference scheduled for **Sunday, June 17 to Wednesday, June 20, 2018** at the Oswegatchie Educational Center in Croghan, NY.

Agriculture Teaching Position Available:

Schuylerville Central School

Schuylerville Central School has an anticipated opening for a long term agriculture teacher from approximately May through June 2018. NYS certification is required. Anyone interested should apply on or before December 15, 2017. <http://www.nysffa.org/teaching-positions/>

Hello Ag Teachers, Oswegatchie Educational Center has openings this winter for your students to retreat to the Adirondacks! Join us for a weekend filled with comradery, fresh air, and your choice of activities such as snowshoeing, cross country skiing, winter survival and campfires.

Openings in Sutliff Lodge include <http://www.oswegatchieretreats.org/sutliff-lodge.html>

March 23-25

March 30-1 (Easter)

Openings in Foster Lodge include <http://www.oswegatchieretreats.org/foster-lodge.html>

Many Weekends! Contact us if you have a group of less than 24!

If you would like more detail about winter retreats at Oswegatchie request information from rwaite@oswegatchie.org



New York FFA / New York Farm Bureau Membership Drive

By now each of our chapters should have received a packet in the mail of 10 to 50 special incentive Farm Bureau Membership applications. These are intended for FFA Chapters to hand to community members that are not current members of Farm Bureau. Any community member who signs up for Farm Bureau membership and credits your FFA Chapter, \$20 of their membership fee will benefit your FFA. If you need more flyers please contact Todd Lighthall at tlighthall@oswegatchie.org .

Citrus and Cheese Sales

Thank you to the chapters who sold Fruit and Cheese from the following companies this fall. Based on your sales these companies are making a donation to the FFA Foundation based on boxes of citrus and cheese sold. These companies are:

Pee Jays Fresh Fruit

Florida Fruit Association
Florida Farm Bureau
Cuba Cheese Shoppe

On behalf of the NY FFA Foundation we wish each of you a very festive holiday season.

New York Association of FFA Updates:

The state officers have begun Chapter Visits this week! Ethan has been posting images on social media. Many Chapter Visits will happen in the spring, but expect to be contacted in the near future. It is very helpful if you can respond to their email to you even if your chapter isn't planning on having them come do a visit. The State Officers and I are excited to be attending the Annual New York Farm Bureau meeting next week! We hope that everyone is having a great holiday season.

212/360: Registration for 212/360 is open. All conference information is available on our website. Please visit www.nysffa.org/212360. Please make sure to register in a timely fashion because there is a limit to the number of students that will be able to attend these two conferences. Professional development for educators will take place, that information will be provided in the near future.

Registration Tips:

- The registration portal requires you to register yourself (advisors) as the primary attendee first so you get all event emails and have access to modify your registrations.
- When modifying registration to add more attendees, the system requires you to click "continue" until you reach the "register another" page. This is where you can add additional students or chaperones.
- When you have finished registering all members of your group, be sure to click the "make payment" button, this will make sure that all of your attendees have been confirmed and will give you access to your invoice.

Reminders:

- Payment must be postmarked to the FFA Office by January 12th with attention to Nancy Grossman.
- No room changes will be accepted after January 19th.

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State Convention Housing: 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. The hotel is working on an online system to reserve rooms with our room block as well, this should be available very soon. Please limit the number of excess rooms you reserve so all schools have the opportunity to join us at this location.

FFA Membership: The new **FFA roster** year started on September 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 affect 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.**

Governmental and Global Awareness Institute is CHANGING! The NEW name is State Leaders Experience: NY FFA is pleased to announce that we will be offering a NEW conference this year that will replace Governmental Awareness in 2018. The new conference name is, "State Leaders Experience". This event will be held at the Hilton Albany on February 5-6, 2018. All information for this experience will be posted on our website the week of December 4th, a draft version of the information is attached to this email. As we have a limited amount of space for this experience, students will need to apply for this experience. The application process will be very simple and students will be chosen through a point-based application process that hones in on their involvement and dedication to the advancement of agriculture, agricultural education and FFA. The application will be on our website. Registration information will be sent to the students chosen once they have been selected. We are also seeking 5 chapters to bring 4 students to have interactive displays at the capital. We are asking that chapters submit a proposal that will be evaluated by the Trustees. The Trustees will select the 5 chapters that will have displays. Here is the link to the website where more information can be found:

<http://www.nysffa.org/stateleadersexperience>.

National Officer Candidate Selection: There are 3 steps involved with the selection process of our national officer candidate.

1. Submit letter of intent electronically to dhill@cornell.edu by December 15th.
2. Submit NOC application by January 15th using the **online application** which can be found at: <http://www.nysffa.org/apps/2015/9/23/leadership-awards-applications>
3. Participate in the selection process on February

24, 2018 at the NYS Fairgrounds. For more information about national office please see the national officer candidate handbook on the National FFA website, www.ffa.org. NY's selection process includes the following rounds: One on One, Stakeholder, Stand & Deliver and a Personal round.

If potential candidates have questions about the process please contact Derek Hill at dhill@cornell.edu or 315-254-2880.

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. 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.**

The National FFA Scholarship application is now LIVE! Applications are due February 1st. Students must be on this year's roster to complete the application.

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:

Jr/ Sr People in Ag

Sr Prepared Public Speaking

CDEs that need a Coordinator for 2019:

Jr Prepared Public Speaking

National FFA Updates:

1. **Telling Our Story While Living to Serve**

The Living to Serve platform, which launched with the 2017-18 school year, is now in full swing. To date, National FFA has **awarded more than \$440,000 to chapters in 42 states and Puerto Rico.**

One example of a Day of Service Mini-Grant project comes from Siegel FFA in Tennessee. The chapter recently hosted their Day of Service event—25 volunteers, including local Boy Scouts, spent 100 service hours picking up litter at a local historical hydroelectric station known as Walter Hill Dam. They collected 20 pounds of trash and 60 pounds of recyclable materials. Be sure to review the grant listings to see how FFA chapters are making an impact in your state and local communities.

2. **FFA New Horizons Receives Honorable Mention**

Meredith Agrimedia, our media partner and the publisher of *FFA New Horizons*, continues to rack up the awards—this time an honorable mention in the custom redesign category for the 2017 Folio: Ozzie Awards. You can read more about the award here, www.foliomag.com/2017-folio-ozzie-award-winners/6.

3. **RFD-TV's Rural Tractor Brigade Wins 2017 Cablefax Award**

Congratulations to RFD-TV and their Rural Tractor Brigade, which was just awarded a 2017 Cablefax Award for Best Branded Content. To read more about the award and how FFA members played a role, visit AgriMarketing.com.

4. **FFA Joins Millions in Giving Tuesday**

Giving Tuesday is a celebration of America's greatest traditions, which are also traditions we honor in FFA: generosity, entrepreneurialism, community. This year, National FFA Foundation will participate in Giving Tuesday on Nov. 28. Each year on this day, millions of people come together to support and champion the causes they believe in and the communities in which they live. We had two days for getting deals – Black Friday and Cyber Monday. Today, on #GivingTuesday, we have a day for giving back. #GivingTuesday is the opening day of the giving season: a reminder of the “reason for the season.” Every act of generosity counts, and each means even more when we give together. Your gift of any amount will go to help young FFA members in their pursuit of premier leadership, personal growth and career success.

Give now at Donate.FFA.org.

Also, for Giving Tuesday this year you can double your dollars when you donate through Facebook on Nov. 28! Facebook has announced that it will partner with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to match up to \$2 million in donations for this year's #GivingTuesday event. The match will begin at 8 a.m. ET. Facebook also announced that it will waive all fees

for #GivingTuesday donations made with its tools during the day. Visit [Facebook.com/NationalFFA](https://www.facebook.com/NationalFFA) to give.

5. **Amazon Smile Sales Support FFA**

If you're shopping online this season (or any time of year!) don't forget you can shop at Amazon Smile and donate .5% of your purchase to FFA! Shop for everyone on your gift list this holiday at smile.amazon.com/ch/54-6044662 and Amazon donates to National FFA Foundation, Inc.

6. **FFA Application Center Update**

We are experiencing a temporary technical issue in the Application Center on FFA.org. Access to some features—including the American FFA Degree, National Chapter Award, National FFA Agriscience Fair, and Agricultural Proficiency Award applications—may be affected for a short period. To address this issue, FFA.org will be down for emergency system maintenance on Saturday, Dec. 2, between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Thank you for your patience.

7. **Another Successful State Visit**

National FFA staff Jim Armbruster and Dale Crabtree recently completed a key state visit with the leadership of Michigan's agricultural education staff. During their time in Michigan, Jim and Dale worked with Michigan State University's division of Agricultural, Food and Natural Resources Education (AFNRE), including Dr. Mike Hamm, the interim department chair for community and sustainability. Dr. Hamm reported a significant increase in the number of staff based on the percentage of full-time equivalent students and shared his excitement over the increased enrollment in the AFNRE major.

Jim and Dale also interacted with the current AFNRE majors, sharing key information related to internships, scholarships and access to FFA.org through their teacher roles. They also met with the leadership of the Michigan Association of Agricultural Educators (MAAE) and discussed wins and challenges faced by MAAE members. Their time in Michigan wrapped up with a formal meeting with Dr. Kelly Millenbah, the associate dean of the College of Community, Agriculture and Natural Resources. Dr. Millenbah expressed her excitement and support for the expansion of AFNRE staff and the growth of agricultural education majors.

8. **Next Issue of *FFA New Horizons* Now Available**

Fresh off the presses, the winter issue of *FFA New Horizons* is here. Flip through this issue to see how:

- [Advancements in tractor technology](#) have come a long way.
- One-time agriculture newbie [Terren Moore](#) found his future in FFA.
- [Maryland FFA members stay engaged](#) with curriculum catered to their interests and urban location.
- [Indiana FFA combats illiteracy](#) and fights world hunger while raising money.

9. **Thanks, FFA Alumni**

This holiday season, we are thankful for all of our FFA Alumni members and the impact they make at the local level! Because of our amazing life members, next week we will be sending more than \$78,000 in leadership scholarships back to the states and local levels to help develop student leaders. Join today or upgrade your membership as an FFA Alumni Life Member and help grow this impact even more, FFA.org/JoinAlumni.

10. **FFA Has a Record-Setting Giving Tuesday**

This past Tuesday, National FFA Foundation joined with thousands of other nonprofits to celebrate #GivingTuesday. We raised \$25,403 from individuals and corporate matches in one day—the most funds raised for Giving Tuesday in FFA history!

Also, in our celebration as a staff, we had a social here at the National FFA Center that afternoon to celebrate our employee giving campaign. We have had 55 employee donors make their commitment to our 2018 campaign so far, and our new national officers even got in on the action with a [Facebook Live broadcast](#).

11. **Diversity and Inclusion in Agricultural Education**

Please help us spread the word about an important just-released survey on diversity and inclusion, a topic I have championed as being critical to the future of agricultural education, FFA and agriculture. The National Association of Agricultural Educators, the National FFA Organization and the National Teach Ag Campaign are seeking input from agriculture educators, agricultural education state staff, teacher educators, FFA members, agricultural education majors and other stakeholders who are willing to contribute to a meaningful and solutions-based conversation on diversity and inclusion in agricultural education. Information provided through this survey and from focus groups held during the National FFA Convention & Expo will help us develop meaningful and purposeful diversity and inclusion strategies aimed at achieving the goal of ensuring agriculture classrooms reflect the schools and communities in which they reside. Responses may also be used in the area of academic research. To take the survey, visit <http://www.surveymoz.com/s3/3978380/Diversity-and-Inclusion-in-Agricultural-Education>. The survey will be open until Friday, Jan. 5.

12. **A Well-Deserved Congratulations**

FFA supporter Sara Wyant, a former member of the National FFA Foundation Board of Trustees and president of Agri-Pulse Communications, Inc., was recently awarded the 2017 Veritas Award from American Agri-Women. To learn more, click [here](#).

Enjoy your weekend!



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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.