



MONTANA FFA FOUNDATION

502 SOUTH 19TH, SUITE 102
BOZEMAN, MT 59718

(406) 582-4118
foundation@montanaffa.org

State Advisor's UPDATE:

Over 1,600 members and guests attended Montana FFA's 86th Annual State Convention March 30th – April 1st in Bozeman, Montana. The Montana FFA State Convention hosted 10 career development events, general sessions, and workshops during the four-day event. The winning teams earn the opportunity to compete at the National FFA Convention which will take place this fall in Indianapolis, IN. New State FFA Officers were selected and are as follows: Albert Koenig – President from Belgrade, CJ Stevenson - 1st VP from Moore, Jon Andres - 2nd VP from Missoula, Ashley Koenig - Secretary from Belgrade, Josh Meyer - Treasurer from Great Falls, Kacie Cummings -Reporter from Cascade, Brock Reiner - Sentinel from Flathead (Kalispell), and Jake Michels - Parliamentarian from Shepherd.

Missoula FFA took home the Team Sweepstakes award, while the Flathead FFA earned the title of Star Chapter for the second year in a row. Caroline Roeder of Choteau was named the Star Greenhand with Livia Jackola from Kalispell, announced as the Star in Agribusiness. Montana's Star in Agriculture Placement went to Chloe Williams of Great Falls and Kacey Bertolino of Joliet earned the title of Star Farmer.

Over 250 Day of Service participants teamed up with 14 locations in the Gallatin Valley to lend a helping hand. Locations where members volunteered included Eagle Mount, Heart of the Valley, the History Museum, and several Bozeman parks. The combined work effort of these student volunteers totaled over 500 hours to improve the city of Bozeman, as well as community businesses and organizations.

Montana business and industry representatives from around the state were in attendance as sponsors for the event as well as promoting their organization during the three-day FFA Tradeshow. The Montana 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. For more information, please contact the Montana FFA Association for upcoming events and ways to get involved. For contact information visit the Montana FFA website at montanaffa.org

In this Issue:

- State Advisor's Update
- Welcome Farmer's State Bank
- Bulls for Blue Program
- State Convention Results
- Note from the President
- Tire Rama Challenge
- Greetings from the Executive Director
- Face of FFA
- Welcome new State Officers
- Congratulations Little Big Horn Chapter
- Congratulations Helping Hands Grant Recipients

WELCOME HELPING HANDS SPONSOR



The FFA Foundation is pleased to have Farmers State Bank as a Helping Hands Fund sponsor. Farmers State Bank has provided an opportunity for FFA members in Missoula, Victor, Stevensville and Corvallis to receive

grant money to complete community service projects through the Helping Hands Funds. The Helping Hands Funds assists FFA members in their efforts “to Serve” their communities just as Farmers State Bank has served its customers.

For over one hundred years, Farmers State Bank has had one goal: to continue to grow, while keeping the community bank feel and atmosphere. This local institution continues to help customers with products and services ranging from traditional to state of the art.

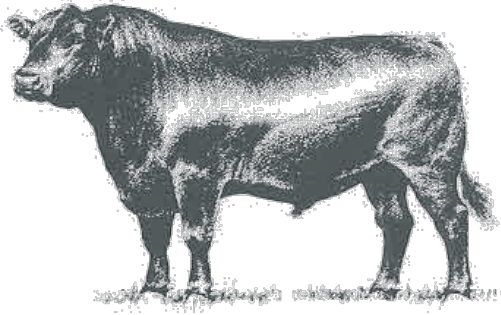
Farmers State Bank was the number one lender in Ravalli County for 2013, 2014, and 2015, according to the Ravalli County Clerk and Records office. The Bank is also an SBA Preferred Lender, which reduces approval time on Small Business Administration loans and helps businesses prosper.

In keeping with their goal of supporting local communities, each year Farmers State Bank awards a \$10,000 scholarship to seniors from participating high schools in Darby, Hamilton, Stevensville, Victor, Florence, Corvallis and Missoula. To date, these scholarships have benefited 118 students, with over \$926,250.00 awarded.

Farmers State Bank has grown to include locations in Victor, Florence, Darby, Stevensville, Hamilton, Lolo and Missoula. www.Farmersebank.com



BULLS FOR BLUE



We are excited to announce yet another program for our 5,000 FFA members, Bulls for Blue: Genetics for Success! The Bulls for Blue Program is designed to support FFA members getting a start in their own beef production project through Bulls for Blue start up funds. Montana seed stock producers can contribute by donating 10% of Lot 10 at their annual bull sale to the Montana FFA Foundation. Funds generated allow us to provide on-going program support for our students, and provide start up funds for Supervised Agriculture Experience projects related to the beef industry. Students interested in the beef industry can use these funds to purchase cows, secure leased ground for grazing, and other costs associated with their project. Supporting the Bulls for Blue Program aids FFA students throughout the state, and promotes the Beef industry to the next generation of producers. If you have any questions about our program, or would like to participate in the program, please contact us at (406) 582-4118. Thank you to our current Bulls for Blue participants:

- Mytty Angus
- Bobcat Angus
- Stevenson's Diamond Dot
- Stevenson's Angus
- Inderland Angus
- Basin Angus
- Prickly Pear Simmental ranch
- Circle L Angus
- Hyline Angus
- Felton Angus
- Blevins Angus
- Sutherlin Red Angus Farms
- Bulls of the Bitterroot
- Gateway Simmental & Lucky Cross
- Klompier Red Angus
- DeBruycker Charolais
- South Montana Angus Association
- Vermillion Ranch



STATE CONVENTION RESULTS

Agricultural Sales CDE:

Individual: First place received a \$1,000 scholarship sponsored by Billings Farmhand.

1. Albert Koenig – Belgrade
2. Joe Lackman – Forsyth
3. Ashley Koenig – Belgrade
4. Brett Robertus – Laurel
5. Walker Heckman – Fairfield
6. Natalie Arnott – Missoula
7. Kyla Andres – Missoula
7. Nathan Wildeboer – Missoula
9. Jessica Horan – Moore
10. Shane Milton - Joliet

Team:

1. Missoula FFA
2. Belgrade FFA
3. Laurel FFA
4. Shepherd FFA
5. Flathead FFA

Agronomy CDE:

Individual: First place received a scholarship sponsored by Montana Seed Growers.

1. Dustin Pape – Stevensville
2. Kacey Bertolino – Joliet
3. Anthony Songstad – Joliet
4. Caroline Roeder – Choteau
5. Caitlyn Corso – Big Timber
6. Russell Zentner – Clark's Fork
7. John Power – Wheatland
8. Noelle Senner – Flathead
9. Cara White – Clark's Fork
10. Dylan Sander – Plevna

Team:

1. Joliet FFA
2. Stevensville FFA
3. Missoula FFA
4. Clark's Fork FFA
5. Plevna FFA

Agricultural Technology and Mechanical Systems CDE (mechanics):

Individual: UTI Technical School offered a \$3,000 to the third place individual, \$5,000 to the second place individual, and \$10,000 to the first place individual. The first place individual also received a \$1,000 scholarship from General Distributing.

1. Albert Koenig – Belgrade
2. Cotton Myers – Joliet
3. Grant Panion – Missoula
4. Ben Roeder – Choteau
5. Traven Olson – Miles City
6. Ben Hallford - Stevensville
7. Brandon Ross – Bainville
8. Hazen Fink – Lambert
9. Luke Henke – Shelby
10. Tanner Crawford – Fergus of Lewistown

Team:

1. Missoula FFA
2. Belgrade FFA
3. Big Sandy FFA
4. Choteau FFA
5. Laurel FFA

Agriscience Fair:

Overall winners in each area:

Animal Systems: Elizabeth Brennen and Zac Zimmerman - Missoula

Power and Technology Systems: Allie Blain and Morgan Harris - Joliet

Plant Systems: Brandon Bergum - Moore

Environmental Sciences and Natural Resources: Kate Inderland – Big Timber

Social Systems: Silke Adams – Park City

Food Science: Jessie Duffy and Natalie Arnott – Missoula

STATE CONVENTION RESULTS

Creed Speaking CDE:

1. Anna Slivka – Winifred
2. Megan Brewer - Melstone
3. Mattie Tucek – Grass Range
4. Trenton Braaten – Townsend

Extemporaneous Speaking CDE:

1. Ashley Koenig – Belgrade
2. McKade Mahlen – Culbertson
3. Kala Bertolino – Joliet
4. Jon Andres – Missoula

Farm Business Management CDE:

Individual: The first place individual received a \$1,000 scholarship sponsored by the Montana Farm Bureau Foundation.

1. Albert Koenig – Belgrade
2. Sam Curry – Big Timber
3. John Tatarka – Belgrade
4. Nathan Wildeboer – Missoula
5. Gray Gordon – Flathead
6. Ben Roeder – Choteau
7. Karly Hanson – Flathead
8. Jon Andres – Missoula
9. Brett McRae – Colstrip
10. Ashley Koenig – Belgrade

Team:

1. Belgrade FFA
2. Missoula FFA
3. Flathead FFA
4. Big Timber FFA
5. Choteau FFA

Prepared Public Speaking CDE:

1. CJ Stevenson – Moore
2. Tyler Noyse - Townsend
3. Katie Koterba – Electric City
4. Rachel Prevost – Lambert

Livestock Judging CDE:

Individual: The first place individual received a \$1,000 scholarship sponsored by Westfeeds.

1. Jess Moody – Big Timber
2. Hannah Kraft – Laurel
3. Courtnee Clairmont – Mission Valley
4. Jon Andres – Missoula
5. Claire Ruckman – Fairfield
6. Livia Jackola – Flathead
7. Albert Koenig – Belgrade
8. Kelsey Kraft – Laurel
9. Krista Callantine – Belgrade
10. Hazen Fink – Lambert

Team:

1. Laurel FFA
2. Flathead FFA
3. Broadwater FFA
4. Missoula FFA
5. Big Timber FFA

Parliamentary Procedure CDE:

1. Shepherd FFA
2. Flathead FFA
3. Joliet FFA



NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings,

Happy Spring to everyone. Spring is a great time for fresh new beginnings. For the ranching community, calving and lambing is in full swing and the farming community is busy getting their crops in the ground all in anticipation of another prosperous year.

This same sequence takes place for Montana FFA. On April 2nd the members of the Association voted in a new slate of state officers.

These 8 outstanding individuals were selected from a great group of candidates to lead our Association for another year. Congratulations to them as well as all of the other contest winners and participants.

The Foundation also started a fresh beginning with the addition of our newest corporate sponsor, Tire Rama. Please look for the details of the Tire Rama program in this edition of the newsletter.

Convention was a tremendous success with our students being allowed to apply their knowledge through the many different contests and learn leadership skills in the many workshops that were offered.

All of this success comes with a great deal of time and effort from many people throughout our great state and is not financially possible without the generosity of our donors and sponsors. As spring turns to summer, cherish the memories made and hold onto the fact that Montana Agriculture has a very promising and bright future through the efforts of our Montana FFA students. Thanks to everyone who continues to add to our success.

Forever Blue,

Curt Robbins

President

Montana FFA Foundation

TIRE RAMA CHALLENGE

Tire-Rama has spent the last 39 years delivering extensive auto repairs to satisfied customers throughout Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, and Washington. Their employee-owned operation focuses on building strong customer relationships and providing the highest quality workmanship on each and every automotive repair. All qualifying services are automatically backed by the NAPA Warranty, and they offer their own Hassle-Free Warranty for purchase with your tires. Our goal is to provide unparalleled service in everything they do, anywhere they're located.

The Montana FFA is so excited to announce our new partnership with Tire Rama! Upon purchase of tires from any Tire Rama in the Big Sky State, Tire Rama will graciously donate **\$2.00** per tire sold to Montana FFA!

Simply stop in to any Tire Rama and mention you're with FFA when you purchase your tires and they will donate \$2.00 for every tire sold, to scholarships through the FFA Foundation!

If every FFA member, Alumni or family member purchased their tires from Tire Rama, the FFA Foundation would receive over

\$2.00+thousands of FFA supporters statewide=scholarships, and opportunities for members!

The sky is the limit!



Our Vice President of the Foundation Board, Mr. Bill Jimmerson, enjoying his new tires!

TIRE RAMA
More Than Just a Tire Store
Proud to announce the

We'll Get You There Challenge

As an FFA supporter, Tire-Rama will contribute \$2.00 per tire* sold to FFA members, Alumnus, and immediate family members.

Please mention your affiliation with FFA while visiting our locations to ensure your gift is dedicated to the FFA Tire Challenge.
* Excluding lawn and garden tires

GREETINGS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Greetings from the Montana FFA Foundation!

The 86th Annual Montana FFA State Convention welcomed over 1,500 FFA members and guests to Bozeman, and beautifully showcased the impact FFA can have on our young leaders. State Convention never ceases to inspire, engage and encourage all stakeholders; while providing a springboard into a new season of developing our youth. The sponsors and donors who support our programs are the backbone of our local and state programs.

The Foundation supported more scholarships, programs and projects, than any other time in Foundation history, in thanks to our donors. Individuals and companies see the value in the FFA program and support with time, talent and their checkbooks. I want to thank each of our partners and stakeholders who make Montana FFA a promising, bright light in the future of Montana and Agriculture statewide. As we dive into another exciting year impacting students' lives, thank you for your part in developing our future leaders!

Sincerely,

Jaime Edmundson
Montana FFA Foundation
Executive Director



Ag @ Sheridan College

Sheridan College agriculture programs are highly regarded for their rigorous, hands-on training.

Students study with experts in their field, who care about student success.



Like us on Facebook @ www.facebook.com/AgatSC

Sheridan College Ag Programs

Animal Science • Agricultural Business
Agricultural Science • Horticulture • Farrier Science
Horticulture & Sports Turf Management
Natural Resources & Ranch Land Management



For more information on Agriculture at Sheridan College visit us at:
www.sheridan.edu/ag
or call 1-800-913-9139

FACE OF FFA



Abbey Dunn – Corvallis FFA

For 50 years in Rural Corvallis, MT, the local FFA chapter was nothing but a distant memory, of bygone years never to come again. For 50 years, Corvallis students looked longingly at neighborhood schools with FFA programs, all while knowing that they would probably never have a program. Until 2015, when a group of students and a willing school board decided to hire an advisor, and a new generation of Corvallis FFA members were born.

For chapter president Abbey Dunn, the moment is overdue. “This year alone, FFA helped me make connections with people that are really important in the agricultural industry, both teenagers and adults,” Dunn said in a recent interview. “It has impacted my life in many ways.”

Corvallis, Montana, is part of the Bitterroot Valley region of Montana, classified as a rural area heavily dependent on

agriculture, according to the most recent U.S. Census data. The FFA chapter is developing the next generation of those agricultural workers. “FFA has helped me meet people that are changing the future of agriculture, and it is very cool,” according to Dunn.

For 50 years, Corvallis High School students interested in agriculture have not been able to say that they are part of an FFA chapter. This year, that is finally changing. Already the FFA has impacted Corvallis in a variety of ways, and according to Abbey Dunn, that trend will continue into the future. “We’ve already set standards for the future,” she said confidently. **“We’ve already planned out where we want the FFA to go from here, and we think we have a bright future ahead.”**

**“We believe
in the future of
agriculture”**

**Congratulations to FFA participants
for making it to State!**

Farmers State Bank
www.farmersebank.com

Seven convenient locations in
Missoula & the Bitterroot Valley

 Member FDIC

WELCOME NEW STATE OFFICERS!

Congratulations to our new slate of leaders for 2016-2017!

President- Albert Koenig, Belgrade FFA

Albert is excited to support his Bobcats, attending MSU-Bozeman, majoring in Agriculture Business.

1st Vice President- CJ Stevenson, Moore FFA

CJ plans on attending Montana State University majoring in Financial Engineering.

2nd Vice President- Jon Andres, Missoula FFA

Jon is excited to attend Montana State University majoring in Chemical Engineering.

Secretary- Ashley Koenig, Belgrade FFA

Ashley will be a proud Bobcat attending MSU-Bozeman, majoring in Agriculture Business.

Treasurer- Josh Meyer, Electric City FFA

Josh will be joining the Marine Corps upon retirement of his year of service. He will be residing in Bozeman during his State Officer year.

Reporter- Kacie Cummings, Cascade FFA

Kacie will also be attending MSU-Bozeman majoring in Pre-Med in hopes of becoming a Physician's Assistant.

Sentinel- Brock Reiner, Flathead FFA

Brock will be attending Montana State University majoring in Agricultural Education, broad field teaching.

Parliamentarian- Jake Michels, Shepherd FFA

In the fall, Jake will be attending Montana State University, majoring in Electrical Engineering.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE LITTLE BIG HORN CHAPTER!

Recently, the Little Big Horn FFA chapter at Lodge Grass High School received a **\$50,000 dollar grant** from the Agricultural Development Council from the Growth Through Agriculture program. The chapter is planning to use these funds and other loan opportunities as part of a “hands on” learning experience in beef production.

As Ty Neal, the chapter advisor, and the FFA students explained in their application and presentation, this project will engage freshmen and sophomores by allowing them to purchase cattle, breed them, sell steer calves, keep heifer calves, and collect the proceeds in the form of a college scholarship after graduation. They hope to attract students who typically don't have the opportunity to participate in agriculture in addition to existing members of FFA. Congratulations to the Little Big Horn FFA Chapter!

Congratulations to our Helping Hands Grant Recipients!

Choteau FFA In an effort to continue to serve their community, Choteau FFA members have designed an opportunity to serve and cooperate with special needs students in their school by establishing a school garden. Classroom based lessons will be taught to the students on the importance of growing and caring for a garden. To conclude the season, a school-wide tasting party will be held so students are able to sample their harvest. Choteau is receiving \$2,100 for their project.

Lodge Grass FFA Lodge Grass FFA is excited to use their allotted \$400 to adopt a highway to be cleaned up three times a year. The result of our project will be a cleaner community. “They hope that others will see their hard work and stop littering so much when they realize what a beautiful community they live in.”

Twin Bridges FFA Twin Bridges FFA was given \$1,500 to build approximately 20 benches to seat guests at the Sheridan County Fair. This will give the students the opportunity to enhance their skills in welding and woodworking as well as the sense of doing something to help others.

Hinsdale FFA Hinsdale was awarded \$2,500 to replace a community side walk along the edge of a park in the town. The sidewalk is broken up and covered with weeds, the chapter is excited to have a useable sidewalk for community members to enjoy the park.

Corvallis FFA Corvallis FFA was awarded \$650 to provide the community a place to rest when enjoying the Montana outdoors. They plan on building and updating the public benches between Hamilton and Lolo.

Thank you to our Helping Hands Sponsors: Farmer's State Bank, Kenyon Noble, Dennis & Phyllis Washington Foundation, and Five Valley's Land Trust!



MONTANA FFA FOUNDATION

502 SOUTH 19TH, SUITE 102

BOZEMAN, MT 59718

FOUNDATION@MONTANAFFA.ORG

(406) 582-4118

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
AlphaGraphics
Bozeman

Montana FFA is ever-growing!

This year at the 2016 State FFA Convention, we had three new chapters charter within the Association. Welcome the following chapters:

**Broadwater FFA, Corvallis FFA, and
Montana State University Collegiate FFA!**

Save the Date!

National Officer Candidate Selection –
May 6

Alumni Leadership Camp- June 16-19th

BLAST OFF – June 12-15th

Update- June 13-17th

Montana Range Days – June 20-22nd

NLC SO- June 19-23rd

September 16- FFA Foundation Golf
Tournament