



# FOREST PARK FFA NEWS



## Forest Park Earns National 2 Star Chapter Award

Written by: Blake Beck

Ten Forest Park FFA members attended the National FFA Convention & Expo in October with 69,000 other FFA members, teachers, school administrators and guests from across the country. Our chapter was recognized as a National 2 Star Chapter for the first time in school history. Members participated in community service, leadership workshops, educational tours, and career expo. Linda Jacob and Kaylee Uebelhor also received their American FFA Degree. The American FFA Degree is the highest honor an FFA member can receive and less than 2% of FFA members ever achieve this distinction.

## Career Development Events

Written by: Jalyynn Egloff

One way that we can get our members involved in our FFA chapter is through Career Development Events (CDEs). There are a wide variety of areas that these events cover, allowing many to find something that interests them. CDEs provide individuals the chance to gain greater knowledge on specific topics within agriculture and then use their knowledge to compete against other schools. This year we had multiple teams qualify for the state competition: livestock skillathon, soils, forestry, crops, welding, dairy, poultry, and more!



## County Fair Time

Written by: Katlyn Betz

Summertime means a lot of sweat and hard work being given off by our FFA members. However, they also get to be a part of some fun events. One of those big events being the Dubois County 4-H Fair. Many of our members are a part of 4-H. They work hard to complete their projects and prepare animals for fair. This year's fair was July 18-22. Each year during the fair, our chapter gets to organize and carry out a kiddie pedal pull. Youth visiting the fair flocked to the Clover Pavilion to take part in this fun activity. With Jasper FFA assisting, we were able to carry out a successful pedal tractor pull. Another main event of fair week is the 4-H tug of war. This year, the 4-H council added on an FFA tug of war. This allowed for the county FFA teams to show who holds the most strength within the county. While there are four FFA chapters in Dubois County, only two participated in this event: Forest Park and Dubois. Each team was composed of 8 members: 4 boys and 4 girls. After five minutes of tough pulling and a lot of yelling, Forest Park FFA pulled away with the win.





## State Convention

Written by: Katlyn Betz

Indiana FFA's 93rd State Convention was held at the Indiana State Fairground for the 2022 year. The theme for the Convention was PULSE. Several Forest Park FFA members were fortunate enough to go to this influential convention. There were seven junior high members and nine high school members who attended. Members attended multiple sessions where they heard the state officers give their impactful retiring addresses. In addition, multiple junior high members participated in leadership development contests. The FFA chapter also had three members receive their State Degree: Beau Rasche, Jacob Uebelhor, and Dylan Weyer. This is the second highest degree an individual can earn in the FFA. As a whole, the chapter received the Gold Emblem Chapter Award, Top Chapter in Fruit Sales, and Top Chapter in Bottle Cap Collection. Forest Park FFA also had the opportunity to tour the National FFA Center to learn the history of the National FFA Organization. While the days were packed full of learning activities, the evenings were filled with fun and laughter. Corn hole was a favorite activity for Forest Park FFA, along with swimming and spending quality time with one another. Forest Park, Southridge, and Jasper stayed at the same hotel. This allowed for members from each school to develop friendships that will last a lifetime.

## FFA Sweet Corn

Written by: Carter Giesler

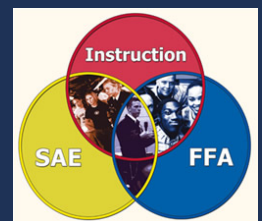
Every year Forest Park FFA plants their annual sweet corn patch where they plant, pick, and sell sweet corn to the public. This is one way that we get our members involved over the summer by helping pick and sell the sweet corn. Profits from the sweet corn help our chapter pay for contest registrations, travel expenses for contests and conventions, and for other activities and events that members participate in throughout the year. This year was a record breaking year for how much sweet corn we sold and profits earned. Every year we sell down by Holiday Foods in Ferdinand, and we also do pre-sales before the corn is ready just to make sure customers are able to get some.



## Summer SAE

Written by: Katlyn Betz

Over the summer, thirty-one kids had the opportunity to participate in the Summer SAE course. This stands for Supervised Agricultural Experience. Students received a school credit for completing this class. They worked in an agriculture job over the summer and tracked their income, expenses, and hours worked. In addition to working, students had to complete a proficiency application. This application helped students outline the goals they hoped to achieve within their job. The broad range of jobs helped students communicate and learn new work skills. Many jobs students worked included farm work. However, some students worked at local ag business, taught swim lessons or gymnastics, worked in their families garden, or mowed grass.



## 2023 FFA Officers

Written by: Brooke Rasche

Each year during the month of December the chapter votes on the candidates slated by our advisors, senior officers, and an impartial community member. Our 2022-2023 Forest Park FFA Officers are President Katlyn Betz, Vice Presidents Carter Giesler and Brooke Rasche, Secretary Maddi Miller, Treasurer Aubrey Luebbehusen, Reporters Emma Jamniczky and Halie Jochem, Sentinel Blake Beck, Student Advisor Jalynn Egloff, and Greenhand President Bailey Anderson. In addition to the elections we planned to have after school, the junior high representatives put together a Christmas party to involve everyone in the chapter. The night was filled with arts and crafts, games, and a cornhole tournament. This was a great way to start off the newly elected officers' terms.

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