

Missouri Farm Bureau Federation and Affiliated Companies MOASK Program

Students Receive Technical Skills Certificates

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April 2017

JEFFERSON CITY, MO - High school students enrolled in agriculture education courses have the unique opportunity to go beyond the classroom and learn real-world applications in a number of disciplines. Whether it is in agricultural mechanics, livestock evaluation, or a dozen other areas of learning, the Missouri Agricultural Skills and Knowledge Assessment Industry Recognized Credential (MOASK IRC) program recognizes students performing at a proficient level as determined by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

The students enrolled in the agriculture education program at the Grand River Technical School have completed the required education/training and demonstrated proficiency in one or several of 15 skill areas. They are: Jaime Albertson - Farm Business Management, Mack Anderson - Dairy Cattle Evaluation, McKenzie Anderson - Livestock Evaluation, Sydney Baxter - Soils Evaluation, Brady Bothwell - Farm Business Management, Riley Brobst - Soils Evaluation, Clayton Campbell - Agriculture Mechanics & Farm Business Management, Kaylie Campbell - Livestock Evaluation, Caitlyn Cothorn - Forestry, Garrett Cramer - Agronomy, Carleigh Crawford - Agronomy, Mason Daniel - Farm Business Management, Eric Davis - Livestock Evaluation, Nick Duncan - Farm Business Management, Audrey Edmisson - Farm Business Management, Laney Gatson - Agronomy, Brock Gott - Dairy Cattle Evaluation, Cole Gutshall - Farm Business Management & Livestock Evaluation, Kristina Hamilton - Farm Business Management, Kyle Hansen - Farm Business Management, Peyton Hein - Livestock Evaluation, Jordan Hopper - Soils Evaluation, Hunter Horton - Livestock Evaluation, Colten Johnson - Forestry, Ben Jones - Farm Business Management & Livestock Evaluation, Kennedie Kieffer - Soils Evaluation, Kole Larkins - Dairy Cattle Evaluation, Gunnar Leach - Livestock Evaluation, Emma Leamer - Farm Business Management, Tanner Lent - Farm Business Management, Kaylee Lewis - Soils Evaluation, Sarah Mason - Farm Business Management, Julia Minnis - Farm Business Management, Cameron Moore - Livestock Evaluation, Jessica Moore - Forestry, Meredith Oesch - Agronomy, Kaylee Peel - Farm Business Management, Maggie Pfaff - Soils Evaluation, Kade Plattner - Farm Business Management, Jalynn Reeter - Farm Business Management, Rylee Reeter - Farm Business Management, Jake Sampsel - Farm Business Management, Logan Sampsel - Farm Business Management, Hannah Stotts - Farm Business Management, Kevin Stover - Farm Business Management, Mallorie Summers - Agronomy, Levi Surber - Farm Business Management, Zach Trout - Farm Business Management & Livestock Evaluation, Clayton Walker - Dairy Cattle Evaluation, Madelyn Warren - Farm Business Management, Jaden Winder - Dairy Cattle Evaluation, Cole Wolf - Livestock Evaluation.

Lance Martin, Randy Plattner, Leda Schreiner, and Neal Wolf joined Sherry Jones, Livingston County Farm Bureau President, in presenting the MOASK IRC certificates. The technical skills assessments are conducted much like FFA judging events, but the results are used to determine a student's proficiency and not for competitive award purposes. The program compliments the three circle model for delivering agricultural education in schools. The circles represent learning in the classroom, leadership development through the FFA and hands on training through each student's Supervised Agricultural Experience. Sponsors Missouri Farm Bureau and the Missouri Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture are proud to partner with DESE and take an active role in the program. County Farm Bureau leaders are responsible for verifying the rigor of each event, ensuring requirements are met and providing certificates for students deemed proficient. "Ultimately, we want to add value to the experiences our youth gain through agriculture education," said Jones. "We believe these credentials will benefit students as they pursue higher education and/or vocational training, apply for scholarships and ultimately enter the workforce."

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Farm Bureau Youth Leadership Day

April 27, 2017

At the Farm Bureau Youth Leadership Day, students gain an understanding of the importance of becoming informed and involved citizens. Additionally, they focus upon the agricultural and rural issues that impact our state.

The 23rd Annual Missouri Farm Bureau Youth Leadership Day, April 27, 2017, attracted over 400 students and chaperons from 63 counties. The action-packed day began early for many of the groups as they traveled from across the state to Jefferson City. Following a brief orientation at the MFB home office, they boarded buses to the Capitol. Sherry Jones, Livingston County Farm Bureau Board President, arranged for Chillicothe FFA members to meet with their respective elected official Senator Mike Pearce and Representative Rusty Black. Students interacted with members of the General Assembly and got a firsthand look at the activities surrounding a day at the Capitol.



L to R - Sherry Jones (Livingston County Farm Bureau, President) Hunter Horton, Wade Campbell, Cole Wolf, Austin Case, Adler Marshall

Following lunch at the MFB home office, the group was welcomed by Missouri Farm Bureau President Blake Hurst. The featured speaker was Cody Jones. Cody, a 2015 graduate of the University of Missouri, spent a year in Africa as an AgriCorps worker. He shared his day-to-day experiences as a teacher in this developing country. Cody returned to his home and is now farming with his dad near Auzvasse. Throughout his presentation, he reminded the group of his passion for agriculture and encouraged each participant to find and follow their passion.

Chillicothe FFA members from Livingston County that attended were Wade Campbell, Austin Case, Hunter Horton, Adler Marshall, and Cole Wolf.

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United Methodist Preschool Visitors

May 11, 2017

Students from the United Methodist Church Preschool got a visit from some special friends at the Litton Agriculture Campus on May 11, 2017. The students were learning about farms in class. The Litton Crusaders brought some of animals to visit the preschool. Those special friends were a calf, lamb, goat, hog, and a puppy.



All of the students had a great time petting their new friends and getting some kisses. This field trip was made possible by the Litton Crusaders program which is made possible by the Jerry Litton Family Memorial Foundation.

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Dewey Visitors

May 5, 2017

First grade students from Dewey Elementary School visited the Litton Agriculture Campus on May 5, 2016. The students were learning about plants in class and came out to get their hands a little dirty. This was made possible by the Litton Crusaders program sponsored by the Jerry Litton Family Memorial Foundation. After coming to the Litton Ag Campus, they transplanted marigolds into pots to take home.



The [project actually began in March](#) when the marigolds were seeded, and then the students received weekly pictures of the seeds progress until they got to come out and transplant them into bigger pots. The high school agriculture students assisted with the first graders in the transplanting process. When the students finished transplanting their flowers, they took a tour of the campus. While on the tour of the campus, they got to go to the pond; see animals such as cattle, sheep, goats, and hogs; as well as enjoy being outside for the afternoon. All of the students had a great time.

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Chillicothe FFA Chapter Bridges The GAP

May 9, 2017

Chillicothe FFA members realized the need to educate their urban cousins about agriculture and food production. On Tuesday, May 9, 35 members traveled to Raytown Middle School with the intent to develop a positive relationship with 6th Graders by providing a "hands-on" experience with food production. Various presentations were given covering everything from beef, swine, sheep, goat, dairy, chicken, horses & rabbit production processes to wheat, corn, alfalfa, cotton, soybean & rice production. Raytown Middle School teacher Heidi Adams stated "the impact that this event had on (Raytown) students was tremendous. The ability of the FFA members to engage our students and make agriculture real is greatly appreciated."



Over 230 Raytown 6th Grade students and faculty were able to experience agriculture and learn about what it takes to produce the food they eat. The GAP (Giving Agriculture a Purpose) Program was developed to provide youth in urban populations positive experiences with agriculture to better understand the decisions that farmers and ranchers make every day to provide safe, nutritious and abundant food for the world population. Dr. Georgetta May, principal of Raytown Middle School, stated the Chillicothe FFA members were "outstanding young men and women that conducted themselves very well."



The Chillicothe FFA Chapter appreciates the support of parents, teachers, administration as well as those who provided the animals, products and transportation for this activity. Future plans are being developed to expand this program and increase the impact of agriculture education by "Bridging the GAP."



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CHILLICOTHE FFA Wins 2nd in State Shoot

May 6, 2017

LINN CREEK, MO - More than 76,000 shots rang out from the Missouri Trapshooters Association home grounds in Linn Creek on May 6, 2017, for the 30th Annual Missouri FFA and High School Trap Championship. More than 760 students from all over the state participated. "Despite the rainy weather, we saw several perfect scores and many 99s," said Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) Education Outreach Coordinator Eric Edwards, who helped staff the event. "We even had to have a shoot-off to decide placement in some divisions because of all the 100-out-of-100 scores these kids put up today." "We had several shooters who will be going to college next year on full-ride scholarships to compete on a collegiate level in the shotgun sports." "These outstanding youth along with their dedicated coaches, show that not only is Missouri a great place to hunt and fish, but a great place to enjoy shooting sports too!"



Back L to R - Wyatt Maddox, Madison Eller, Hunter Horton, Peyton Hein, Brady Bothwell, Garret Donoho, Jackson Pauley, Eric Davis; Front L to R - Clayton Walker, Trent Norman, Austin Case, Garrett Cramer, Christian Reed

The team of Brady Bothwell (98), Garret Cramer (94), Eric Davis (98), Peyton Hein (89), Clayton Walker (91) **placed 2nd** in the State FFA Shoot. As a team, they shot 470 out of 500. The team of Garret Donoho (89), Madison Eller (80), Wyatt Maddux (90), Trent Norman (89), and Christian Reed (84) competed. As a team they shot 432 out of 500. Other students who participated on an individual basis were Austin Case (75), Hunter Horton (80), and Jackson Pauley (71). Brady Bothwell received **4th high individual in the Senior Division** with a score of 98 and Eric Davis received **2nd high individual in the Junior Division** with a score of 98. This year, the coaching staff consisted of Sarge Ralls and Tony Burtch. The objectives of the program are to involve students in the highest standards of safety, sportsmanship, and ethical behavior, along with safe and responsible use of firearms. Also, the program helps to develop self-confidence, personal discipline, sportsmanship, and teamwork.

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National Beef Month

May 2017

In May 2017, the Livingston County Farm Bureau went to visit the Mrs. Quinn's Kindergarten class at Southwest Livingston County R-I School in honor of National Beef Month. Sherry Jones, Livingston County Farm Bureau Board President, spoke with the students and discussed what products are made from beef and where beef comes from.



Courtesy of the Livingston Farm Bureau, the students participated in a coloring contest with the winner, Hayes Anderson, presented with a McDonald's gift card. The coloring pages are currently on display at the Farm Bureau office in Chillicothe. All students also received a beef stick from the MO Beef Council and a pencil from Farm Bureau. This activity helps educate youth about agriculture.



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State FFA Degrees

Chillicothe Chapter Has Highest Number Degrees (of any chapter in the state) With 21.

04/21/17

On March 1, 2017 it was announced that 15 members of the Chillicothe FFA will be receiving their State FFA Degree, in Columbia, MO on April 21, 2017. Before receiving this degree, they had to meet a number of qualifications and fill out an application that followed their SAE and leadership skills. The State FFA Degree is the highest degree that the Missouri FFA Association can give to its members.



This degree is awarded to the top three percent of the total State FFA membership each year who have met the following qualifications:

- Have received the Chapter FFA Degree
- Have been an active FFA member for at least two years (24 months) at the time of receiving the State FFA Degree
- While in school, have completed the equivalent of at least two years (360 hours) of systematic school instruction in agricultural education at or above the ninth grade level, which includes a supervised agricultural experience program.
- A student after entering agricultural education must have: a. earned and productively invested at least \$1000; or b. worked at least 300 hours in excess of class time; or c. a combination thereof, in a supervised agricultural experience program.
- Demonstrate leadership ability by:
 - a. Performing ten procedures of parliamentary law
 - b. Giving a six-minute speech on a topic relating to agriculture or the FFA
 - c. Serving as an officer, committee chairperson, or participating member of a chapter committee
- Have a satisfactory scholastic record as certified by the local agricultural education instructor and the principal or superintendent
- Have participated in the planning and completion of the chapter Program of Activities
- Have participated in at least five different FFA activities above the chapter level
- Have participated in at least 25 hours of community service, within at least 2 different community service activities. These hours are in addition to and cannot be duplicated as paid or unpaid SAE hours.

Those from our chapter who received the State FFA Degree include: Jaime Albertson the daughter of Matt & Michelle Rardon and Denny & Margie Albertson, Brady Bothwell the son of Barrie & Julie Bothwell, Clayton Campbell the son of Monty & Carrie Campbell, Sheridan Guilford the daughter of Stewart & Sandy Willis and Brett & Andrea Guilford, Cole Gutshall the son of Bill & Angie Gutshall, Hunter Haakonstad the son of Scott Haakonstad and Kim Haakonstad, Kristina Hamilton the daughter of Randy & Ann Hamilton, Kyle Hansen the son of Kevin & Bobbi Hansen, Ben Jones the son of Dwight & Renee Jones, Gunnar Leach the son of Steve & Jennifer Leach, Emma Leamer the daughter of Michael & Natalie Leamer, Jared Loney the son of Nelson & Lesli Loney, Sarah Mason the daughter of Bill & Shawn Mason, Kaylee Peel the daughter of Aaron & Alcy Peel, Kade Plattner the son of Randy & Anna Plattner, Rylee Reeter the daughter of Gail Reeter and the late Ron Reeter, Jake Sampsel the son of David & Misty Sampsel, Taylor Simmer the daughter of Shawn & Kelli Simmer, Levi Surber the son of Cory & Stacy Surber, Zach Trout the son of Chris & Carey Trout, and Madelyn Warren the daughter of Doug & Laura Hughes and the late Scott Warren. Congratulations to these individuals on their accomplishments.

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INDIAN CREEK LAKE

04/20/17

On April 20, 2017, first grade students from Dewey Elementary school went on an educational trip to Indian Creek Lake.



While at Indian Creek, the students participated in seven different learning stations which included: water invertebrates, Predator/Prey book and game, Nature Scavenger Hunt on a trail, learning about parts of a plant with the Litton Crusaders, checking out the fishing dock, body coverings of animals with Babe Roy, life cycle and habitat of the turkey with National Wild Turkey Federation, and observing nature with magnifying glasses on a trail. Funding for this trip was provided by the Missouri Department of Conservation Discover Nature School Grant.



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SENIOR AG INDUSTRY TOUR

04/19/17

On April 19, 2017, senior students from the Chillicothe High School had the opportunity for career exploration. Twenty-five CHS seniors who have an agriculture career pathway traveled to Show-Me Ethanol of Carrollton and Quixotic Fish Farm of Chillicothe, MO.

Show Me Ethanol LLC produces approximately 60 million gallon of fuel grade ethanol annually. They produce ethanol through a dry mill process that includes fermentation, processing and distillation. The ethanol is primarily blended in E10 and E85 gasoline throughout the Midwest. Show Me Ethanol also produces and markets two types of feed as well as a feed grade corn oil. DDGS are primarily fed to poultry, swine and cattle and is approximately 90% dry matter; and MWDGS that is fed to cattle and is approximately 48% dry material.



Quixotic Farming is a family-owned, environmentally conscious company that raises Tilapia without the use of hormones or antibiotics. The fish eat a nutrient-rich diet and thrive in covered tanks where their living conditions are monitored around the clock and their water is constantly being filtered and re-circulated. Quixotic Farming produces high quality tilapia using RAS or a re-circulating aquaculture system. The tanks are also equipped with aeration systems to provide optimal levels of oxygen for the fish. The aeration system provides healthy, oxygenated water that keeps the fish happy and energized. The improved oxygen level encourages more activity and better feed conversions, which helps the growth rate of our fish. The students were given the opportunity to tour each of these facilities and ask questions regarding the career opportunities available in the respected fields. We would like to thank both facilities for allowing the students to tour as well as providing them with a wealth of knowledge.

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Ag On the Move

April 2017

During the last couple weeks of school, third grade students from Field Elementary got a little bit of hands-on learning about agriculture. Students at the Litton Agriculture Campus taught the lessons and conducted the lab activities through the Litton Crusaders program. There were six sessions with five lab activities. The student instructors were Clayton Campbell, Sheridan Guilford, Kristina Hamilton, and Kaylee Peel.



Agriculture Education on the Move is a hands-on education program identifying key classroom objectives and state standards primarily in the areas of science, math, reading and writing. Students gain an understanding of today's agriculture and farm families, through diverse learning experiences. Participating classrooms have the opportunity to learn about corn, soybeans, wheat, beef, pork, dairy, nutrition and agricultural careers. Students engage in agriculture in a fun and exciting way by tasting corn products, experimenting with yeast and bread making, making butter, comparing soy milk and milk, and understanding where all the ingredients come from in pizza.



Agriculture Education on the Move is an educational effort through Missouri Farmers Care. Missouri Farmers Care is a joint effort by Missouri's farming and agriculture community to stand together for the men and women who provide the food and jobs on which our community depends. The Livingston County Farm Bureau also assisted with this program by providing material for the lab activities.



Sheridan Guilford, Clayton Campbell, Kaylee Peel, Kristina Hamilton

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Area FFA Degrees Awarded

04/12/17

On April 12, 2017, it was announced that 10 members of the Chillicothe FFA will receive their Area FFA Degree in Chillicothe, MO. Before receiving this degree, they were required to meet a number of qualifications and fill out an application that followed their SAE and leadership skills. The Area FFA Degree is the highest degree that the Area II FFA Association can give to its members. FFA membership that have met the following qualifications are eligible for the honor:

- Have received the Chapter FFA Degree.
- Have been an active FFA member for at least two years (24 months) at the time of receiving the State FFA Degree.
- While in school, have completed the equivalent of at least two years (360 hours) of systematic school instruction in agricultural education at or above the ninth grade level, which includes a supervised agricultural experience program.
- A student after entering agricultural education must have: (a) earned and productively invested at least \$1000; or (b) worked at least 300 hours in excess of class time; or (c) a combination thereof, in a supervised agricultural experience program.
- Demonstrate leadership ability by:
 - a. Performing 10 procedures of parliamentary law
 - b. Giving a six-minute speech on a topic relating to agriculture or the FFA
 - c. Serving as an officer, committee chairperson, or participating member of a chapter committee
- Have a satisfactory scholastic record as certified by the local agricultural education instructor and the principal or superintendent
- Have participated in the planning and completion of the chapter Program of Activities
- Have participated in at least five different FFA activities above the chapter level
- Have participated in at least 25 hours of community service within at least 2 different community service activities. These hours are in addition to and cannot be duplicated as paid or unpaid SAE hours.

Those from our chapter who received the Area FFA Degree include: Abbey Daly the daughter of Jason and Tonia Daly, Mason Daniel the son of David and Amy Daniel, Nick Duncan the son of Terry Duncan and Tara Kelly, Audrey Edmission the daughter of William Edmission and Jackie Edmission, Tanner Lent the son of Butch & Stacey Bonderer and Matt Lent, Kyler Manning the son of Harold and Lisa Manning, Julia Minnis the daughter of Jason and Tracy Minnis, Jalyynn Reeter the daughter of Jamie and Julia Reeter, Logan Sampsel the son of Jason and Kristi Sampsel, and Hannah Stotts the daughter of Eric Anderson & Sara Carr and Jared & Tracy Stotts. Congratulations to these individuals on their accomplishments.



Back L to R - Mason Daniel, Audrey Edmission, Tanner Lent; Front L to R - Jalyynn Reeter, Hannah Stotts, Julia Minnis, Abbey Daly; Not Pictured - Nick Duncan, Kyler Manning, Logan Sampsel

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Area II FFA Awards Recognition Night

April 12, 2017

On April 12, 2017, Chillicothe FFA members attended the Area II FFA Awards Recognition Night held at the Gary Dickinson Performing Arts Center in Chillicothe, MO. This awards recognition night is held each year to recognize members of the 28 area schools that make up the Area II FFA Association for their outstanding achievements during the year. The items for which students were recognized, at the area level, were as follows: Fall speaking contests, FFA speaking contests, books, contests, talent, Area FFA Degree, proficiency awards, and officers. Madelyn Warren, 2016-2017 Area II 1st Vice President, and the rest of the Area II Officer team conducted the ceremony. At the conclusion of the night, Claire Shipp was initiated as the 2017-2018 Area II Reporter.



Area Proficiencies were as follows: 1st Liberty Cox - Agriculture Education; 3rd Adler Marshall - Ag Mechanics Repair & Maintenance Placement, 3rd Madison Eller - Agricultural Processing, 2nd Christian Reed - Agricultural Sales Entrepreneurship, 2nd Wade Campbell - Agricultural Sales Placement, 2nd Levi Surber - Agricultural Services, 1st Emilee Haley - Agriscience Research Animal Systems, 2nd Brady Bothwell - Beef Production Entrepreneurship, 1st McKenzie Anderson - Dairy Production Entrepreneurship, 2nd Kimberlee Roney - Dairy Production Placement, 1st Brady Bothwell Diversified Agriculture Production, 3rd Elena Boon - Diversified Crop Production Entrepreneurship, 1st Gunnar Leach - Diversified horticulture, 2nd Kaylie Campbell - Diversified Livestock Production, 3rd Jake Sampsel - Environmental Science & Natural Resources Management 2nd, Claire Shipp - Food Science and Technology, 3rd Sheridan Guilford - Food Service, 3rd Isaiah Boon - Forage Production, 1st Kade Plattner - Goat Production, 2nd Marley Anderson - Grain Production Entrepreneurship, 3rd Kaylee Peel - Landscape Management, 1st Kyle Hansen - Sheep Production, 2nd Cole Gutshall - Small Animal Production & Care, 2nd Lane Peters - Specialty Animal Production, 3rd Peyton Hein - Turf Grass Management, 1st Austin Case - Vegetable Production, and 2nd Sarah Mason - Veterinary Science.

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April Meeting

04/12/17

On April 12, 2017, the Chillicothe FFA Chapter held their annual April FFA meeting in the Chillicothe High School Performing Arts Center with approximately 120 members attending. The meeting was held to vote on Honorary FFA membership which will be given out at the local banquet on May 5. The students also discussed class representatives who will also present at the local banquet. At the conclusion of the meeting, students enjoyed donuts, milk, and juice and took pictures for the local banquet program.

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District Contest Results

March 28, 2017 and April 4-5, 2017

On March 28, 2017, the Chillicothe FFA Chapter participated in the Northwest District FFA Contest. The results are as follows: *Agricultural Issues 1st place (state)* - Elena Boon, Isaiah Boon, Marley Anderson,

Gracie Ellis, Austin Case, Adler Marshall, Liberty Cox; *Parliamentary Procedure 1st place (state)* - Molly Jones, Sarah Mason, McKenna Poling, Kim Roney, Claire Shipp, Madelyn Warren, Alt. Elitza Crouch, Alt. Emilee Haley, Alt. Taylor Wilkison; *Conduct of Meetings 4th place* - Montana Hall, Cameron Dudley, Kiely Kirkpatrick, Alayna Mason, CJ Pfaff, Magy Thomas, Madelyn Wilford; *Knowledge Team 11th place* - Macy Gutshall, Caroline Warren, Montana Plattner, Josie Reeter; *Prepared Public Speaking Division II 2nd (state)* - Kaylee Lewis; *Creed Speaking gold* - Caroline Warren. All members as shown will be advancing to the State FFA contest which will be held in Columbia on April 20 & 21.

On April 4 and April 5, 2017, the Chillicothe FFA Chapter participated in the Northwest District Ag Contest. The results are as follows: *Agriculture Mechanics 9th place* - Brady Bothwell, Clayton Campbell, Kyle Hansen, Kyler Manning; *Agronomy 9th place (state)* - Garrett Cramer, Carleigh Crawford, Laney Gaston, Meredith Oesch, Alt. Mallorie Summers; *Ag Sales 5th* - Jaime Albertson, Cole Gutshall, Emma Leamer, Zach Trout, Alt. Ben Jones; *Dairy Cattle 16th place* - Mack Anderson, Brock Gott, Kole Larkins, Clayton Walker, Alt. Jaden Winder; *Farm Management 11th place* - Kristina Hamilton, Sarah Mason, Kaylee Peel, Kade Plattner; *Floriculture 30th place* - Abbey Daly, Sheridan Guilford, Nick Duncan, Jalyann Reeter; *Forestry 9th place* - Caitlyn Cothorn, Colten Johnson, Jessica Moore, Gabby Tiblow, Alt. McKayla Shady; *Livestock 14th place* - Kaylie Campbell, Peyton Hein, Eric Davis, Cameron Moore, Alt. Hunter Horton, Alt. McKenzie Anderson; *Soils 12th place* - Maggie Pfaff, Kennedie Kieffer, Jordan Hopper, Kaylee Lewis, Alt. Sydney Baxter. The one team that qualified will participate at state contest on April 20 and 21 in Columbia, MO.

- The following individuals placed in the top ten in their team competitions. Montana Plattner 4th place - Knowledge; Sarah Mason 5th place - Farm Management; and Jaime Albertson 8th place - Ag Sales.
- The Chillicothe FFA fielded 13 teams and 2 speakers at District Agriculture and FFA Career Development Events. A total of 72 students competed from the Chillicothe FFA.
- The career development events were held at Northwest Missouri State University with 313 teams consisting of nearly 1250 students from 55 different schools competing.
- Chillicothe FFA qualified 3 teams, 1 speaker, and 1 book for State FFA Convention. The convention is to be held on the campus of the University of Missouri on April 20 & 21, 2017 in Columbia, MO.

The local chapter is part of the Agricultural Education Program at the Grand River Technical School and is composed of students from Chillicothe and Southwest high schools.

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Planting Seeds (Litton Crusaders)

March 31, 2017

First grade students from Dewey Elementary School received a little assistance from the Litton Crusaders at the Litton Ag Campus on March 31, 2017. The students learned about plants in class and were given the opportunity to get their hands a little dirty by planting marigold seeds.



The project will continue for the next couple of weeks by receiving weekly pictures of the seeds' progress until the plants are ready to be transplanted into bigger pots. The students will then come to the Litton Ag Campus and get to transplant the marigolds into pots and take them home. The high school agriculture students assisted with the first graders in the planting process. All of the students had a great time.

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ForSight PIE (Litton Crusaders)

March 31, 2017

Students from Mrs. Howe's class at Central Elementary were having a hands-on learning experience on March 31, 2017. The students learned about science with assistance from their Partners in Education, ForSight Eyecare, LLC. Dr. David Hoel and Stephanie Hoel visited the partner class once earlier in the year to have lunch with the students, then they came back to participate in a fun learning experience with the students.



Dr. Hoel explained the parts and functions of the eye, as well as how the eye works. Then, with the help of the Litton Crusaders, the students were able to dissect a real cattle eye. The students identified the main parts and even touch them, if they so choose. Mrs. Howe's class wants to thank ForSight Eyecare and Dr. and Mrs. Hoel for all their help and support.



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Ag Issues

March 21, 2017

On Tuesday, March 21, 2017, the Chillicothe FFA Agricultural Issues Forum team presented to the Chillicothe R-II School Board at the Chillicothe R-II School Administrative Building. The purpose of the Agricultural Issues Forum is to provide students an opportunity to explore local agriculture issues and create an unbiased presentation to a public audience. The ability to understand and communicate clearly with the public about agriculture is important to the career success of students and to the agriculture industry. Chillicothe FFA Chapter has chosen for their Agriculture Issues forum, "Should the Next Farm Bill Include More Funding for the Conservation Reserve Program?" The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is a land conservation program administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA). In exchange for a yearly rental payment, farmers enrolled in the program agree to remove environmentally sensitive land from agricultural production and plant species that will improve environmental health and quality. Contracts for land enrolled in CRP are 10-15 years in length. The long-term goal of the program is to re-establish valuable land cover to help improve water quality, prevent soil erosion, and reduce loss of wildlife habitat. Signed into law by President Ronald Reagan in 1985, CRP is the largest private-lands conservation program in the United States. Thanks to voluntary participation by farmers and land owners, CRP has improved water quality, reduced soil erosion, and increased habitat for endangered and threatened species. In 2007, CRP peaked at 36.8 million acres enrolled, and by the fall of 2015, it was down to 24.2 million acres, its smallest size since the 1980's. Most recently, given the newest farm bill, the number of acres accepted in the Conservation Reserve Program was cut from 40 million to the current 24 million.



The Agriculture Issues Forum team has also presented previously to the Livingston County Farm Bureau Board, the Chillicothe Agri-Leaders, Chillicothe Rotary Club, Chillicothe Young Farmers, and the KMZU Farmer Appreciation dinner. The team received first place at the area level and will compete at the district level on March 28, 2017. The FFA members on the Agriculture Issues team are: Marley Anderson, Elena Boon, Isaiah Boon, Austin Case, Liberty Cox, Gracie Ellis, and Adler Marshall.

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Area II Contest

March 15, 2017

On March 15, 2017, the Chillicothe FFA Chapter participated in the Area II FFA Contest. The speaking results are: *Creed Speakers*: Caroline Warren 2nd and gold, Montana Plattner Alternate and gold; *Prepared Public Speaking Division I* Speaker: Macy Gutshall 2nd and gold; *Prepared Public Speaking Division II* Speakers: Kaylee Lewis 1st and gold, Garrett Cramer silver; *Prepared Public Speaking Advanced Division*: Maggie Pfaff Alternate and gold. *FFA books Completed Ownership*: Ben Hayen gold; *Completed Placement*: Wade Campbell - gold; *Beginning Ownership*: Lainie Cowan - 2nd and gold; *Beginning Placement*: Luke Hopper - gold; *Scrapbook*: Sydney Baxter, Garrett Cramer, Colten Johnson, Lavery Jones, Kennedie Kieffer, Cade Koehly, Kaylee Lewis, Meredith Oesch, Maggie Pfaff, Catey Trout 1st and gold. *Parliamentary Procedure team*: Elitza Crouch, Emilee Haley, Molly Jones, Sarah Mason, McKenna Poling, Kim Roney, Claire Shipp, Madelyn Warren, Taylor Wilkison - 1st and gold. *Agriculture Issues team*: Marley Anderson, Elena Boon, Isaiah Boon, Austin Case, Liberty Cox, Gracie Ellis, Adler Marshall 1st and gold.



Those teams and individuals receiving 3rd place or higher will proceed to District competition March 28, 2017, in Cameron, MO.

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Chillicothe Agri-Leaders and Livingston County Farm Bureau Meeting

March 13, 2017

On March 13, 2017, both the Chillicothe Agri-Leaders and Livingston County Farm Bureau Board hosted a few of the Chillicothe FFA members at the Litton Agriculture Education Center at their monthly meeting. The members involved were: *Creed Speaker* Caroline Warren; *Creed Speaker* Montana Plattner; *Prepared Public Speaking Division I Speaker* Macy Gutshall. *Parliamentary Procedure team*: Elitza Crouch, Emilee Haley, Molly Jones, Sarah Mason, McKenna Poling, Kim Roney, Claire Shipp, Madelyn Warren, Taylor Wilkison. *Agriculture Issues team*: Marley Anderson, Elena Boon, Isaiah Boon, Austin Case, Liberty Cox, Gracie Ellis, Adler Marshall. *Conduct of Meetings*: Cameron Dudley, Montana Hall, Kiley Kirkpatrick, Alyna Mason, CJ Pfaff, Magy Thomas, Madelyn Wilford.



The students presented their public speaking presentation in preparation for area competition. These groups assisted the members by giving them feedback on their presentations, asking questions, and being a willing audience. We would like to thank the Chillicothe Agri-Leaders and Livingston County Farm Bureau members for their support and encouragement.

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Area II FFA Officer Candidates

March 8, 2017

On March 8, 2017, the Chillicothe FFA Chapter sent two representatives to the Area II officer and state candidate interviews. The two representatives are Claire Shipp, area officer candidate, and Madelyn Warren, state officer candidate.



Claire Shipp (left), area officer candidate, and Madelyn Warren, state officer candidate

Claire is the daughter of John and Annie Shipp and was Chillicothe's representative for an Area II officer. Lauren was selected as the Area II FFA Reporter for the 2017-2018 school year. Some of the activities that Claire will serve in an official capacity are Area Greenhand Initiation, Greenhand Motivational Conference, North Central Missouri Fair, Area Chapter Officer Institute, organizing area meetings, as well as leading the officer team.

Madelyn is the daughter of Doug and Laura Hughes and the late Scott Warren, and was Chillicothe's representative for Area II State Officer Candidate. Madelyn was selected as one of the two the Area II State Officer Candidates. She will attend the next round of state interviews on April 7, 2017, in Columbia, Missouri.

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8th Grade Recruitment

February 27, 2017

On February 27, 2017, the 8th grade students from the Chillicothe Middle School and Southwest Livingston R-I Schools were given the opportunity to visit the Litton Agriculture Campus. The purpose of the visit was to see what the Chillicothe Ag Department and Chillicothe FFA Chapter had to offer them next year as incoming freshmen in high school.



Senior members of the Chillicothe FFA presented an overview of what activities they could participate in, courses offered, and a tour of the campus. The 8th grade students are beginning the class selection process for their freshmen year of high school.



A letter will be mailed home at the beginning of the week to all parents with what was discussed at the recruitment day.

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Coloring Contest

Results Released 03/06/17

The Chillicothe FFA Chapter and Livingston County Farm Bureau held a coloring contest during National FFA Week and *Thank A Farmer* week for students in Kindergarten and First grade. Each classroom was awarded a first place winner. The first place winner received a \$5 McDonald's gift card. This activity was to help expose youth to agriculture. The winners were: Kindergarten - Ashton Almojera, Braelyn Hayes, Turner Jackson, Adella Krause, Isabel Nagel, Remington Souders; First Grade - Maddox BeVelle, Austin Cunningham, Carolina Hidy, Julia Jones, Hyun Lee, Fischer Shea, Kyra Slaughter, Antonio Wysocki. Congratulations to all the winners. All contestant pages will be displayed at our local banquet on May 5, 2017.



Back - Mason Daniel, Chillicothe FFA 2nd Vice President, Middle L to R - Braelyn Hayes, Turner Jackson; Front L to R - Ashton Almojera, Isabel Nagel, Adella Krause



Back - Mason Daniel, Chillicothe FFA 2nd Vice President; Middle L to R - Austin Cunningham, Carolina Hidy, Antonia Wysocki, Kyra Slaughter; Front L to R - Maddux BeVelle, Fischer Shea, Julia Jones, Hyun Lee

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Leadership Class

February 24, 2017

Students from Mrs. Howe's leadership class at Central Elementary School enjoyed a hands-on learning experience on February 24, 2017. The leadership group is the nature/agriculture group. Students meet once a week to learn how leadership connects with nature and agriculture. The Litton Crusaders assisted the class helping them plant seeds to germinate in their classroom. The seeds were provided by the University of Missouri Extension, and the balance of the materials were provided by the Litton Crusaders program.



Later, the students will transplant the young plants into tubs that will be located at the school. The students hope to be able to plant more vegetables as the temperatures start to warm.



The students would like to thank all involved with the planting activity, as well as the Jerry Litton Family Memorial Foundation for supporting this activity through the Litton Crusaders program and the University of Missouri Extension.

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State Officer's Visit

February 23, 2017

Logan Korff, Area 2 Missouri State Vice President, talks to a group of Litton Agriculture Education Center students on Thursday, February 23, 2017, at the Litton Agricultural Education Building. Logan talked about what students could learn by being involved in the FFA organization and conducted leadership games with the students. Logan is one of 16 Missouri State FFA Officers. His home chapter is the Norborne FFA Chapter.



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National FFA Week - Ag Olympics!

February 21, 2017

Chillicothe FFA Chapter members are observing National FFA Week and on Tuesday spent part of the day competing in "Ag Olympics." Events included rolling tractor tires, team ski walks, hay bale jumps, potato sack races and an obstacle course.



C-T Photos / Jaime Saucedo

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FFA Bowling Party

February 5, 2017

On February 5, 2017, the Chillicothe FFA held their annual Bowling Party at the Fast Lane in Chillicothe. This party represents a reward for members as well as a time for fellowship. There were approximately 98 members present and everyone seemed to enjoy the afternoon.



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Speech Contest

2017 Missouri Young Farmer/Young Farm Wives

February 4, 2017



On February 4, 2017, at the Missouri Young Farmer/Young Farm Wives State Convention, Liberty Cox represented the Chillicothe FFA Chapter and NW Missouri. The contest consisted of students preparing a 6-8 minute speech on the topic of How can a FFA member *advocate* after graduation? Liberty received first place at the district level and was one of six to move on to the state competition.

The Missouri Young Farmers/Young Farm Wives Association (YF/YFW) is an agriculture organization that promotes the personal and professional growth of adults involved in agriculture. This organization provides the framework for inspiring personal achievement and strengthens agricultural leadership, which fosters economic growth. The organization is an integral part of adult agricultural education programs offered by local school districts with approved agricultural education programs. The association is for any adult interested in agriculture to provide an opportunity for members to continue their education and participate in leadership, cooperation, community improvement, social and recreational activities.

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Animal Science - Baby Pigs

February 10, 2017

Students from Dewey Elementary kindergarten and first grade classes were having a hands-on learning experience on February 10, 2017. The Litton Crusaders and the Livingston County Farm Bureau made this visit possible as part of the *Thank A Farmer* program. The students learned about habitats and animals with assistance from the Litton Crusaders program.



The students had the opportunity to handle a baby pig and learn a little about them from the high school students. During the visit, students got to learn about their pigs gender, name (ear notch), breed, what they eat, and whatever other questions they came up with. Later on in the school year, the students will take a field trip out to the Litton Agriculture Campus and get to revisit those baby pigs as market hogs.

January - Students from the Ag Science I and Animal Science classes at the Litton Agriculture Education Center were having a hands-on learning experience at the Litton Agri-Science Learning Center during January. The students were learning about animal reproduction in class and then were getting to experience the real thing in person.



While at the Litton Ag Campus, the students gave the newborn baby pigs an iron shot, ear notched, clipped tails, and cut needle teeth. The students during first semester were in charge of charting the heat cycle, expected pregnancy date, name of sire, and day of artificial insemination for some of the sows housed at the Litton Agri-Science Learning Center.