



# Community

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Forest Lake FFA members (left to right) Rachel Roers, Maria Andeson, Rebecca Anderson, Madison Carpenter, and Emma Newcomb traveled to the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana that was held from Oct. 23 through 27.

## Forest Lake FFA receives award

*National FFA organization awards FL FFA with its "Three Star Chapter" award*

The Forest Lake FFA chapter has been recognized as a "Three Star Chapter" in the 2018 National Chapter Award Program from the National FFA Organization. This is the highest star rating that a chapter can earn and places the Forest Lake FFA among the top third of all chapters in the United States.

The program recognizes outstanding FFA chapters from throughout the country that actively implement the mission and strategies of the organization. These chapters improve chapter operations using the National Quality FFA chapter standards and a program of activities that emphasizes growing leaders, building com-

munities and strengthening agriculture. Chapters are rewarded for providing educational experiences for the entire membership.

Five chapter members traveled to the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis to be recognized for this honor. The group was part of the record-breaking crowd at this year's convention, which welcomed 69,944 student members, teachers, alumni and guests. Chapter attendees participated in motivational sessions, personal development workshops, and career success activities.

All star FFA chapters receive honors made possible by corporate sponsor John Deere.

"Feeding some 9 billion people by mid-century brings with it unprecedented challenges for today's farmers," said Amy Allen, manager, national corporate contributions for John Deere, in a press release. "The skills and experiences learned through the National Chapter Award

Program will help meet the critical needs."

Additionally, Amanda Stafford (2016 FLAHS graduate) earned her American FFA Degree. Sponsored by Case IH, Elanco Animal Health and Syngenta, the award recognizes demonstrated ability and outstanding achievements in agricultural business, production, processing or service programs.

To be eligible, FFA members must have earned and productively invested \$10,000 through a supervised agricultural experience program in which they start, own or hold a professional position in an existing agricultural enterprise. Recipients must also complete 50 hours community service and demonstrate outstanding leadership abilities and civic involvement. Stafford is a student at Southwest Minnesota State University, where she is majoring in agricultural education and philosophy.