



Community

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Local FFA members receive awards

Chapter holds 83rd annual FFA Banquet and Awards program

More than 140 community leaders, parents, members and FFA supporters filled Forest Lake High School on March 14th for the Chapter's 83rd Annual Banquet and Awards Program. The event was dedicated to recognizing members for their outstanding efforts during the year.

FFA members received recognition for their outstanding achievements. Award winners included the following:

- Senior Accomplishment Award: Sydney Parker
- Chapter Star in Placement: McKenna Nelson
- Chapter Star in AgriBusiness: Kalley Tietje
- Chapter Star Discovery: Zach Orthaus
- Leadership: McKenna Nelson
- Community Service: Grace Ackerman
- Most Improved Member: Madison Carpenter
- Cooperation: Ben Desrosier
- Spirit of FFA: Mikyla Herman
- Outstanding Fundraiser: Jacob and Zach Orthaus
- FFA Go-Getter Award: Abby Youngman, Rebecca Anderson

and Callie Johnson

- Awarded Forest Lake High School Letters: Allison Witzmann

- Excellence in Communication Award: Jenna Skarphol

- Scholar Awards: Natalie Sandmon and Zachary Orthaus (7th grade), Delany Chelgren (8th grade), Mikyla Herman (freshman), Grace Ackerman (sophomore), Jenna Skarphol (junior) and Geena Zebrasky (senior)

Chapter proficiencies were also presented to the following students: Callie Johnson (equine science placement), Jenna Skarphol (equine science entrepreneurship/placement), Allison Witzmann (specialty animal production), Cecilia Freese (equine science entrepreneurship), Rebecca Anderson (swine production placement), Zachary Orthaus (beef production entrepreneurship), Geena Zebrasky (diversified livestock production), Natalie Vogel (poultry production entrepreneurship), McKenna Nelson (specialty animal production), Sydney Parker (specialty animal production), Kalley Tietje (specialty animal production), Amber Zebrasky (diversified livestock production), Brenden Chouinard (dairy production placement), Natalie Sandmon (equine science placement), and Connor Tokie (goat production placement).

Students in seventh or eighth grade who have just started their FFA experience were awarded Discover Degrees. Those receiving this recognition included: Cecilia Freese, Brooke Dubuque, Kylee West, Natalie Vogel, Kylee West, Ngum Awason, Natalie Sandmon, and Zachary Orthaus.

Grant Rutford was awarded the Greenhand Degree for having started a Supervised Agricultural Experience program, enrolled in agricultural education courses, and participating in leadership development experiences.

Chapter degrees were presented to: Allison Witzmann, Rebecca Anderson, Grace Ackerman, Madison Carpenter, Maria Anderson, Amber Zebrasky, Geena Zebrasky, Rachel Roers, Abby Youngman, Gina Moua, and Emma Newcomb.

Members who are advancing to state competition in Career Development Events were also recognized. CDEs allow students to demonstrate relevant connections between classroom instruction and real-life scenarios. The events are designed to help prepare students for careers in agriculture and demonstrate technical skills and knowledge in a competitive setting. The chapter is pleased to have state qualifiers in four events with additional competitions being held later in April.