

HAPPY NEW YEAR



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Illinois FFA Section 7 Officers—Bryan, Molly, Perry, Derek, Jalyne, & Kolton

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**Illinois Association FFA
Section 7 Newsletter**

Agronomy & Dairy Products CDE Results

Placing	Chapter
1	Seneca
2	Mendota
3	Somonauk-Leland-Sandwich
4	Serena
5	Ottawa
6	Newark
7	Streator

Student	Chapter	Placing
Colleen Kinsella	Seneca	1
Mackenzie Granby	Seneca	2
Montana Schlesinger	Mendota	3
Matt Grushkin	Seneca	4
Ethan Plote	Somonauk-Leland-Sandwich	5
Jon McConville	Mendota	6
Mackenzie Maierhofer	Seneca	7
Kassie Maierhofer	Seneca	8
Kim Piskie	Mendota	9
Amy Haines	Serena	10

Agronomy



The Newark FFA Dairy Products & Agronomy CDE teams patiently waiting for the results of the contests.

The members of the Somonauk-Leland-Sandwich FFA Dairy Products and Agronomy teams pose for a picture after a successful night of competing.



Placing	Student	Chapter
1	Sam DeGraaf	Seneca
2	Chance Gonnarn	Seneca
3	Miranda Springer	Seneca
4	David Frye	Seneca
5	Sam Groth	Seneca
6	Charlie Jenkins	Woodland
6	Michael Isham	Seneca
7	Heather McDonald	Seneca
8	Olivia Aimone	Seneca
9	Becca Schroeder	Seneca
10	Brad Wyss	Seneca

Placing	Chapter
1	Seneca
2	Woodland
3	Newark
4	Mendota
5	Serena
6	Somonauk-Leland-Sandwich
7	Minooka
8	Ottawa
9	Streator

Dairy Products

Land Use CDE Results

Placing	Chapter
1	Somonauk-Leland-Sandwich
2	Mendota
3	Newark
4	Serena
5	Seneca
6	Woodland
7	Ottawa
8	Earlville

Placing	Student	Chapter
1	Amy Haines	Serena
2	Joe McConville	Mendota
3	Gene Hamman	Newark
4	Erik Tuttle	Somonauk-Leland-Sandwich
5	Kyle Sigmon	Seneca
6	Austin Walter	Ottawa
7	Kolton Kimpling	Woodland
8	Josh Toft	Somonauk
9	Jesse Leskavich	Woodland
10	Kassidy Kobilsek	Mendota



Members of the Seneca FFA Chapter pose for a picture after a long day of judging soil pits.



Somonauk FFA Will Go to Nationals in Food Science CDE



STATE CHAMPS!!! These FFA members have won the Somonauk-Leland-Sandwich FFA a state title for the Food Science CDE! These four FFA members competed first against 8 of their peers to be on the varsity team, and then traveled to Southern Illinois University for the State CDE. Individually, Reagan was TOP individual, Josh was 4th, and Jensen was 8th in the state. We also have won the district contest, with Rayann coming out as top individual. Great job team! They now will compete at Nationals-fall 2014. Again, Congratulations Somonauk-Leland-Sandwich FFA!!

Easton Corbin “Year of the Farmer”

Former FFA member and Ram Truck brand “Year of the Farmer” Spokesman Easton Corbin met with Illinois FFA members and college students during a FFA Forum hosted by Lake Land College in Mattoon, Ill. on December 4. This was Corbin’s first stop at a college during his 12-city national “Year of the Farmer” tour on behalf of Ram Truck and FFA. At each stop, a private event is held exclusively for FFA members with Corbin performing songs and answering questions from the audience.

During the forum and brief performance, Corbin met with FFA members from throughout the state as well as Lake Land College students who are studying agriculture. Thank you Ram Truck and Easton Corbin for sponsoring this event.



The Illinois FFA Major State Officers stopped and took this picture with the Ram Truck for thanking them for being a sponsor for the “Year of the Farmer.”

Illinois FFA Alumni Conference



Save the Date - The IL FFA Alumni & PAS Annual Meeting & Alumni Auctions will be Friday, January 31st. Be sure to bring a Chapter Basket to win a FFA Leadership Camp Scholarship. Friday we will be having our banquet with awards, live & silent auctions, treasure trunk for a chance to win a diamond necklace (keys are \$10 apiece); drawing to win an Alumni Lifetime Membership; Chapter Baskets will be judged. Then on Saturday, February 1st - Alumni Breakfast, ILSSO Presentation by the FFA State Officers for their trip to South Africa; Workshops & Presentations; General Business Meeting; Luncheon, and then the Live Auction. So get your Hotel Reservations now from the Northfield Inn & Suites (217) 523-7900, we have a block of rooms for \$75 plus tax, please mention the IL FFA Alumni. Registration Form is available, please contact Patti Davis at pdavis@illinoisffa.org.



ignite 
National FFA Week
February 15-22, 2014

Ideas for National FFA Week


 Volunteer at Food Bank

FFA Members wear Official Dress to School 

 Use #FFAWEEK on Social Media


 Visits Businesses that Support FFA in Official Dress 

Give an Agriculture Presentation to
1st Graders 

 Hand out FFA Week Bookmarks to Non-FFA Members

Organize PSA with Local Radio Stations 

 Provide Lunch to Teachers and Administrators

Present Daily Ag Facts over the School's
PA system during Announcements 

2014-15 Major State Officer

Interested in becoming a part of the 2014-15 Illinois Association FFA Major State Office team? If so, the application is now available!! To find the application, please visit illinoisffa.org. Then on the left hand side of webpage, put the mouse over "Downloads" and click "Officer and Election Material." If you have any questions, please talk to your agriculture teacher. Applications are due to the FFA Office by March 1st.



State Officer Selection Committee



The FFA is a student driven organization, with leadership being provided by five major state officers. The State FFA Officer Selection Committee is a great way to help determine the future of the Illinois Association FFA. The FFA Board of Directors has developed a process that insures the convention delegates retain the right of choosing their own State Officer team, while at the same time 1) Insuring a fair election allowing all candidates an equal opportunity for election, and 2) Insuring an efficient and timely election process.



Five committees will review and assess the candidates on their ability to serve as an officer of the Illinois Association FFA. Each committee requires the service of three FFA Members. Each chapter can recommend one student (sophomore, junior or senior) to serve on a selection committee. Please remember that students serving on an officer team with a candidate (either chapter or section) will not be selected to serve. Nominations must be received no later than March 1st. If chosen to serve on the Selection Committee, you will meet on April 11-12, 2014, in Springfield, Illinois.



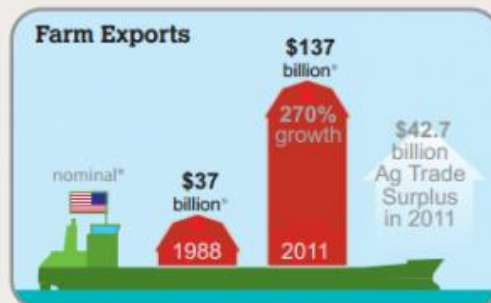
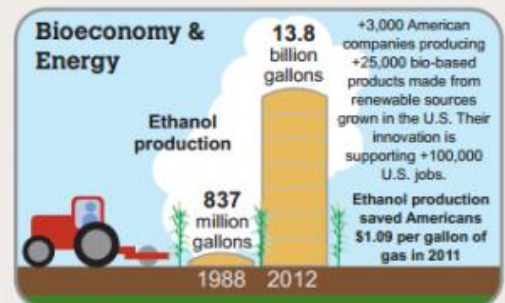
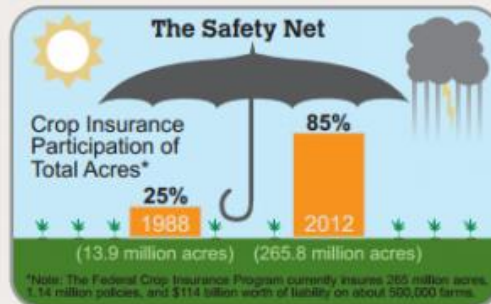
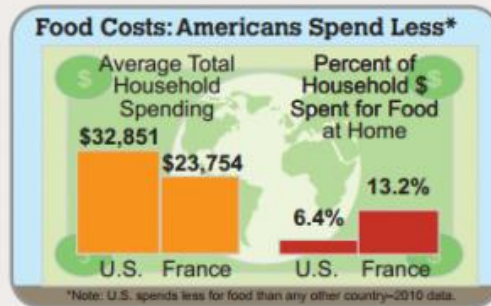
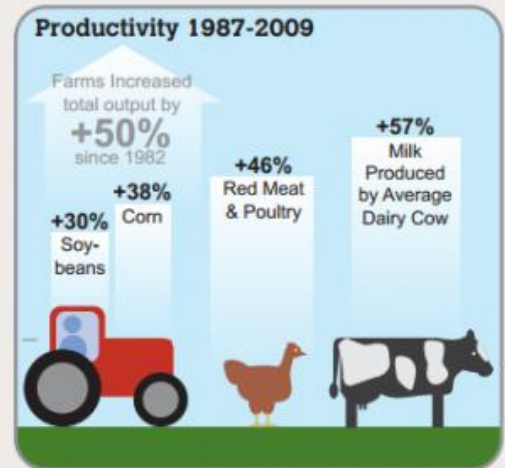
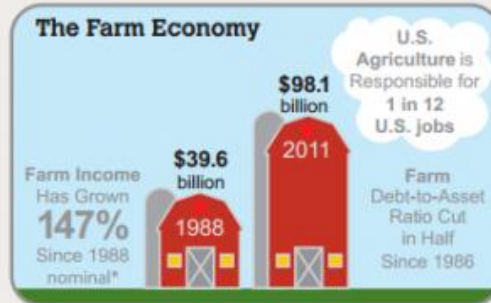
United States Department of Agriculture

Resilience of American Agriculture— Innovation, Diversity and Growing Markets

The drought of 2012 is the most serious to impact U.S. agriculture since 1988. The illustrations below help to show the resiliency of the U.S. agriculture sector and how it is better positioned today to endure this natural disaster.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan 3rd-ILSSO Trip to South Africa
- Jan 24-25th-212 Conference
- Jan 31st- IL FFA Alumni Annual Meeting
- Feb 1st- FFA Night with the St. Louis Blues
- Feb 8th- State Ag Issues/Job Interview CDE
- Feb 12th- District II Parli Pro CDE
- Feb 15-22nd-National FFA Week
- March 1st- State Meats/Poultry CDE
- March 1st-State & American FFA Degree Apps due
- March 1st- IL FFA Alumni Scholarships for WLC and Leadership Camp due
- March 6th- Ag Legislative Day
- March 10th- District II Star Selection
- March 22nd- State Ag Comm/Parli Pro CDE





Meet Your Section Officer

Hello Section 7 FFA! I'm Jalyne Herren your 2013-2014 Treasurer. I live in Sheridan and I am an active member in the Somonauk-Leland-Sandwich FFA chapter. I enrolled in FFA because during

middle school I was intrigued by the high school kids who wore official dress and frankly, I wanted to learn more about the organization and why they wore such formal clothing in order to study agriculture! It didn't take me long to figure-out what that blue jacket represented and I quickly became a loyal FFA member and dedicated agriculture student. Since freshmen year, I have completed a variety of classes including Introduction to Agriculture, Leadership and Communications, Animal and Plant Science and am currently enjoying Veterinary Science. As you can tell, I am really interested in the biology side of agriculture classes.

As a freshmen, I was selected as Greenhand secretary and as a sophomore I enjoyed being chapter secretary. This year, I am thrilled to be serving my chapter as Vice-President. I am involved in numerous CDEs but my favorites thus far are prepared public speaking and job interview. I just really like talking! My SAE is working at a sheep ranch and raising my own market lambs. Thanks to FFA, I pursued sheep production and have learned to appreciate the hard work and dedication that goes into raising market animals. Enrolling in that first agriculture class my freshman year was life changing. I have developed my speaking abilities, leadership skills and have met amazing people through CDEs, chapter visits, conventions, camps, conferences and most recently the section officer team.

My future plans are to attend the University of Illinois to study animal science. I am fascinated by all the different career options such a major will offer. I also plan to advocate for agriculture and FFA so more people will value what agriculturists do and experience the amazing opportunities that FFA has to offer.

This year, serving as a section officer has been a delight and I am excited to see what the future holds. As to you, the reader, I challenge you to become the best leader you can be and to live life to the fullest. Appreciate what FFA has to offer you and do not take those opportunities for granted. I look forward to seeing you at the next FFA section event!

IMPORTANT DUE DATES

Jan 15th-American Degree
Intent to Apply Form Due

Feb 1st-National FFA
Scholarship Due

Feb 1st-IAA Foundation
Scholarship Due

Feb 17th-1st Farm Credit
Services Scholarship Due

March 1st-2014-15 Major
State Officer Application
Due

March 1st-2014-15 Major
State Officer Selection
Committee Application
Due

March 1st-Alliance
Pipeline Scholarship Due

March 1st- Sam Taylor
Memorial Scholarship
Due

March 1st-Growmark
Scholarship Due

April 15th-National
Chapter Application Due

May 1st-Outstanding
Chapter/Section Reporter
Application Due

Attention all Chapter Reporters!

Chapter Reporters: I encourage you to send me your articles on what is happening in your chapter. I will make a page in this newsletter for the Chapter Chatter. This is basically a place for your chapters to submit their news and you can also see what other chapters are doing to get some ideas for your chapter. This will be a benefit for you to have a place to submit news. I will also place your articles on our webpage under the "Section Chitchat" tab.



Contact Us!

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We are on the Web!

Illinois Section 7 FFA is on the web! We have a website created for your use to read articles, see upcoming events, and get to know your officers. As your chapter reporter, I try to keep this site updated often and post articles of interest and pictures. My main goal in doing this is to keep everyone updated with what is going on in Section 7. Find us at ilsection7ffa.weebly.com.

We also have a Facebook & Twitter page. I encourage all of your current chapter members along with alumni and past members to like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. I post all of the photos from events there along with the articles on the events.



www.facebook.com/section7ffa



<https://twitter.com/Section7FFA>



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