

AUGUST 2024



Missouri FFA Today

Contents

- 1 NO DAYS OFF
- 2 PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE
- 3 EYE ON AG EDUCATORS
- 8 BACK IN THE CLASSROOM
- 14 BUILDING AN SAE

ON THE calendar

Aug 30-Sept 1 Northwest Missouri Fair, Bethany

Sept 7-14 SEMO District Fair, Cape Girardeau

Sept 13 State PAS Leadership Conference, State Tech College of Missouri, Linn

Sept 20 MU CAFNR Tiger Classic Golf Tournament, Lake of the Woods Golf Course, Columbia

Sept 15-21 National Farm Safety & Health Week

Sept 19 National Teach Ag Day

Sept 24 NWMSU School of Agricultural Sciences Visit Day, Maryville

Sept 24-28 Delta Fair, Kennett

Oct 9-27 American Royal Livestock Show, Kansas City

 missouriffa.org

 [@Missouri FFA](https://www.facebook.com/MissouriFFA)

 [@missouriffa](https://www.instagram.com/missouriffa)

No Days Off

Owensville FFA members say it takes time, dedication to build successful SAEs

Many

high school students spend summer break at the pool, playing sports or going on vacation. For agricultural education students, summer is anything but a break. Instead, it's

extra time spent growing and building successful Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAEs) – an integral piece of well-rounded ag education programs.

“Every student in an ag class must have some sort of SAE project,” says Mollie Jo Henneke, an agricultural education teacher and FFA advisor at Owensville High School. “We understand not everyone can raise pigs in the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



Cameron Ryerson raises, shows and sells goats as part of her SAE. The Owensville FFA member is a first generation goat producer, which teaches her to forge relationships that can help her grow the project.

2024-25 STATE FFA OFFICERS

Officer • Chapter

Andi Belt • North Shelby
President

Mikaela Rojas • Linn Co.
1st Vice President

Gavin Rhode • East Buchanan
Secretary

Vice Presidents

Annabelle Carlisle • Senath-Hornersville

Gentrie Davis • Marshall

Amelia Hawkins • Ashland

Braden Havlik • Silex

Kennedy Heil • Norborne

Kade Jenkins • Mount Vernon

Matthew Lakey • Ava

Langston Mitchell • Cassville

Alexis Mullins • St. James

Jackson Rhine • Joplin

Emma Robinson • Republic

Madilynn Wehmeyer • Columbia

Carmen Wilburn • Van-Far

State Officer Mentor

Claire Walker

Department of Elem. & Sec. Education
P.O. Box 480, Jefferson City, MO 65102
☎ (573) 751-3544.

District Supervisors:
Teresa Briscoe, Lee Crabtree,
Marie Davis, Keith Dietzschold,
Lisa Evans, David Higgins
& Jim Spencer.



Missouri FFA Association
Joann Pipkin, Director of Communications
✉ joann.pipkin@missouriffa.org
☎ (417) 827-2756

Brandelyn Twellman, Social Media Manager
✉ brandelyn.twellman@missouriffa.org

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, age, veteran status, mental or physical disability, or any other basis prohibited by statute in its programs and activities. Inquiries related to department programs and to the location of services, activities, and facilities that are accessible by persons with disabilities may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Director of Civil Rights Compliance and MOA Coordinator (Title VI/Title VII/Title IX/504/ADA/ADAAA/Age Act/CINA/USDA Title VI), 5th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, P.O. Box 480, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480; telephone number 573-526-4757 or TTY 800-735-2966; email civilrights@dese.mo.gov.

President's Perspective

"Soak it all up." These four words marked the best advice I was given as I jumped head first into my year of service as a State Officer and started heading to all the exciting summer FFA activities. This summer was filled with fun moments, including crazy spirit stick battles at Area Officer Institute, battling the summer heat while learning new line dances with FFA campers, and countless interactions with members from across our state. This summer certainly didn't disappoint and exceeded all the officer team's expectations. The best part is ... we're just getting started! This summer has kickstarted a year of opportunities in our wonderful organization, but it's certainly not the peak.

Our officer team is ready to continue the fun with members at National Convention, leadership

conferences, chapter visits and more. As we kick off another year in the blue corduroy jacket, it's easy to get caught up in the chaos.

With the new school year rapidly approaching and schedules filling up quickly, it's easy to feel overwhelmed. That's undoubtedly what I felt before I headed into this summer. As cliché as it sounds to say — time truly does fly by.

We should challenge ourselves to soak up every opportunity thrown our way. This summer flew by for our officer team, but we wouldn't trade a single experience, conversation or new connection for anything. As we gear up for the busyness of fall filled with countless experiences and incredible opportunities to get involved, my challenge to you is to soak it up and make the most of each chance you're given. What you get out of this next year in the jacket is truly up to you and what you put into it.

—BY ANDI BELT

State FFA Camp participants took part in leadership, team-building and recreational activities in each of the six, week-long sessions.



EYE ON AG EDUCATORS

My Ag Teacher is Great Because...

TO: Jason King & Ashley Brown

FROM: Bolivar FFA Member

“They support me, even when I don’t understand why. They believe in me when I don’t believe in myself. They push me out of my comfort zone because they know it will benefit me in the long run. My ag teachers care, and I love them so much.”



Missouri Ag Education: By the Numbers

- 24** NEW IN-STATE TEACHERS
- 1** NEW OUT-OF-STATE TEACHER
- 6** OUT OF STATE TEACHERS
- 16** TEACHERS WITH OTHER CERTIFICATIONS
- 12** TEACHERS TEMPORARILY CERTIFIED
- 11** TEACHERS REENTERING THE PROFESSION

Agriculture™
EDUCATION on the move.

BRING AG MOVES TO YOUR CHAPTER

**FREE MATERIALS AND
CURRICULUM FOR YOUR
SCHOOL!**

Ag Moves provides:
Student Workbooks
Supplies for Hands-on Activities
Educator Training Days
Digital Access to Curriculum



**LEARN MORE:
VISIT AGMOVES.COM**

STATE TECH

MO
UNIV.
LINN.
™

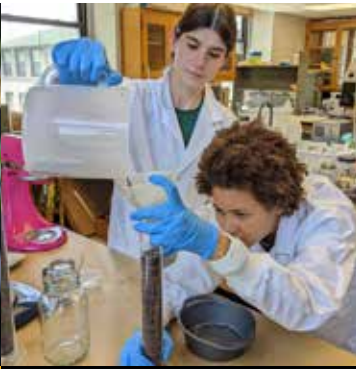
#1
college in the
nation



APPLY TODAY STATETECHMO.EDU



51%
of CAFNR students graduate
debt free



98.8%
employed or enrolled in
graduate/professional school (3-yr. avg.)



14
unique degree programs

\$1.5 million
awarded annually in student
scholarships



College of Agriculture,
Food & Natural Resources
University of Missouri

Apply to get **the CAFNR** experience



PAY YOURSELF FORWARD

CHOOSE A STRATEGY THAT PROVIDES CRITICAL WEED CONTROL
THROUGHOUT THE SEASON AND BEYOND.

ADVANCING CHEMISTRY TO ADVANCE AGRICULTURE





98%

PLACEMENT RATE

HANDS-ON
EXPERIENCE

AGRICULTURAL
LEARNING
CENTER
NOW OPEN



Missouri State University
WEST PLAINS

Start your journey to an
exciting career in Agriculture.

CLICK HERE!

Agriculture
Stay Involved!



Come join a Collegiate Farm Bureau chapter
at the college or university of your choice.



www.mofb.org 1-800-778-6452



HANDS-ON LEARNING
in the classroom and
in the field at the
Barton Farm Campus.

**SIX DEGREES
AND CERTIFICATES**
in the area of agriculture for
transfer or career students.

**LEADERSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES**
through PAS and Livestock
Judging at the state and
national levels.

NCMISSOURI.EDU



Owensville FFA member Eli Hiatt says he learned how to shoe horses and auctioneer as part of his Supervised Agricultural Experience. Both are skills he plans to use in marketing a variety of livestock species.

middle of town, so we work with students and help them find a project that is perfect for them.”

Owensville is a three-teacher ag program taught by Mollie Jo Henneke, Cody Hendrix and Wade Orscheln who work to help their students succeed. Their personalized SAE approach encourages students to pursue their own interests in the industry and is supported by instruction in the classroom.

“Whether they are in shop class and making and selling projects, fixing small engines in ag power class, or starting plants from seed in the greenhouse, we are always here to help our students grow and succeed with their projects,” Henneke says.

Many Owensville FFA members have pursued unique SAEs they are passionate about thanks to this approach.

“I have begun my career as a livestock trader through my SAE,” says Eli Hiatt, a student at Owensville High School. “I buy various species of livestock from porcupines to sheep and from goats to horses. I bring them back to good health and sell them at a time when I can profit as much as possible. I have also learned to shoe horses and auctioneer, skills that help me learn the ins and outs of marketing my animals.”

Another student, Cameron Ryerson, has chosen to raise goats.

“My SAE is breeding and selling goats and showing goats at my local fair,” she explains. “One thing that makes my project unique is that I’m doing this without family history or experience. That causes me to reach out to local people for help, which has allowed me to develop relationships I wouldn’t have otherwise.”

Both Hiatt and Ryerson have spent their summers dedicated to these projects, with plans of continuing this growth throughout the school year.

“I utilize summer break to help improve my shoeing ability, practice my auctioneering and grow and learn about the industry I am involved in,” Hiatt says. “I build on this during the school year by sacrificing the majority of my free time to ensure my livestock are properly cared for. I spend every weekend at an auction and my evenings feeding and taking care of my livestock.”

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

“During summer break, I try to spend as much of my time with my animals as I can,” Ryerson adds. “And during the school year, my animals take the place of a job or chore.”

Henneke says she encourages this summer growth mentality in her students by visiting frequently and helping them develop future plans.

“During the summer when we are doing our SAE visits, we talk to students about how to set their projects up to grow during the summer and to take that next step during the school year,” she explains. “We teach them that SAE projects are a marathon, not a sprint, and that they need to prepare for them slowly. Setting goals with them helps students to know what to do next.”

This one-on-one time with students ensures they are moving in the right direction.

“SAE visits are so important because they allow us to meet with every student to see their projects and ask questions, as well as give them the opportunity to ask us questions,” she says. “We believe it helps them see how much we care and how important their projects are.”

Though it takes time and dedication, Henneke believes her students’ SAEs are setting them up for success in the future.

“SAEs prepare students for their future careers by allowing them to learn the smaller steps of being an adult. We can preach and teach them all day long in classrooms, but until they apply it themselves, it will not truly make sense. In our school, we see our ag students with SAE projects have more well-rounded resumes and a robust background in the industry when they graduate.”



MFA supports you.

The MFA Foundation has awarded more than 15,500 scholarships to students from rural communities where MFA Incorporated and MFA Oil Company and their affiliates conduct business. The foundation also contributes to the Missouri 4-H Foundation, Missouri FFA Association, Missouri Young Farmers Association and other programs consistent with its mission to provide educational opportunity for youth.

Apply online

Eligible high school seniors can apply for the scholarship online from December 1, 2024 through February 15, 2025.

www.MFAFoundation.com





Tammy Bartholomew

HOME FFA CHAPTER:
Stillwell, Oklahoma FFA

WHAT TAMMY DOES:
Tammy is the agricultural education instructor and FFA advisor at Miami R-I School in Amoret, Missouri. She also is a consultant for the Show Me Youth Ag Academy.

WHAT TAMMY LEARNED IN FFA:
Tammy's FFA experiences ignited in her a passion for agriculture. Today, she believes involvement in agricultural-based organizations can be life-changing for young people.

Back in the Classroom

Throughout

many ag programs across multiple states, Tammy Bartholomew has found one constant – a love for ag education. A seed planted by her home chapter in Stillwell, Oklahoma grew into a lifelong career teaching youth in agriculture.

“I grew up on a 150-head beef cattle farm in northeast Oklahoma,” Bartholomew shares. “I showed Hereford and Simmental cattle while a high school member of FFA. I had very supportive parents who encouraged my participation in FFA, especially when females were few and far between in the organization.”

Her high school ag instructor, Colbert Starr, also played an instrumental role in supporting her involvement in the organization.

“Being the only girl in his classes must have been a challenge for him back in those days, but he gave me every opportunity to succeed, whether it was in a laboratory experience, working livestock with my SAE project or through public speaking.”

Starr’s support encouraged Bartholomew to teach ag herself.

“I was very quiet, awkward and

Tammy Bartholomew tells you how her involvement in FFA ignited a passion for teaching youth about agriculture.

By Brandelyn Twellman

had little confidence when entering my freshman year of high school,” she says. “By my senior year, I held FFA offices, won speech contests, earned a scholarship to judge livestock and earned my State Degree. I owed that to my FFA advisor.

“He made me realize after four years that I wanted to have FFA as a part of my life and help others transform just as FFA and my advisor mentor transformed me. When I decided I wanted to become an agriculture teacher, he was my number one supporter.”

Bartholomew pursued this career

in agricultural education after getting her start in the classroom as a science teacher.

“My first job in the 80s was a chemistry and biology teacher at Cass Midway in Cleveland, Mo.,” she shares. “There were very few ag teaching jobs and even less if you weren’t mobile.”

Bartholomew found a position as an ag teacher at Rich Hill High School in 1985. She went on to

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

teach at Archie, Cass Career Center and Drexel before retiring there in 2014 ... for the first time.

These years in the classroom were fueled by Bartholomew's passion for agriculture and sharing it with others.

"I honestly can't imagine my life without agriculture," she says. "My passion for this industry was instilled at birth and developed through FFA. Other than developing a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, I believe involvement in agricultural-based organizations is one of the

**"I do hope that
I have opened
students' eyes to the
possibilities that exist
in agriculture, to look
at all facets of the
industry and view it as
a complete system."**

—Tammy Bartholomew

**Agricultural Education Instructor
& FFA Advisor, Miami, Missouri
Former Oklahoma FFA Member**

most life-changing experiences for a young person.

"It has truly been a labor of love for me to have had the opportunity to watch FFA and 4-H members develop into young adults and to find their niche within agriculture the past three decades."

This love pushed Bartholomew to come out of retirement in June 2015 to teach in Kansas.

"I taught agriculture in Kansas for six years before accepting a position with the Show Me Youth Ag Academy Foundation to build a program focused on beef science and business in Lamar," she says.

Bartholomew's role at the Youth

Did you know?

Former FFA member **Tammy Bartholomew** (left center and below) was the only girl in agriculture classes in the northeast Oklahoma school she attended. A veteran educator Bartholomew has been an agricultural education instructor in Missouri and Kansas, as well as guided students at the Show Me Youth Ag Academy Foundation.

Ag Academy set a sound agricultural foundation for many students outside of the traditional classroom setting. But, she couldn't be kept out of the classroom for long.

"This year, I am remaining as a consultant for the Academy while taking a position to teach ag at Miami," she says. "This position brings me closer to the farm I purchased last year but, more importantly, allows me to serve once again in a small rural community with large hearts for agriculture and their youth."

The latter represents the heart behind Bartholomew's career in ag education – the real reason she keeps coming back.

"I do hope that I have opened students' eyes to the possibilities that exist in agriculture, to look at all facets of the industry and view it as a complete system. My goals are to challenge them to think big and, most of all, believe in themselves."



Leading by Example. Every Day.

As the next generation of agriculturists, we can't wait to see what you do. You show us every day that you are young leaders setting an example, serving communities and reaching goals. Let us help you on that journey to success. Give us a call or visit myfcsfinancial.com to learn more about the opportunities available through our youth support programs.



FCS FINANCIAL

Growing Relationships. Creating Opportunities.™

A FARM CREDIT COOPERATIVE

Find an FCS Financial office near you:

1.800.444.3276

WWW.MYFCSFINANCIAL.COM



I am

interested in **more**
than just cows
and **tractors**

proud to be
living to **serve**

learning
to be a great
leader

a future **member** of a co-op that **shares** my **values**

Electric co-ops are different. We have pride in our local community and support people who live here. Why? Because we live here too. We exist to provide the best service possible to help our community thrive. We put our **Members First**.



GROW WITH OUR AGRICULTURE PROGRAM



EXCELLENT RESOURCES

You'll have a greenhouse, labs, the latest equipment and 84 sprawling acres at your fingertips.



SO MANY OPTIONS

Whether your interest is in plants, animals or both, the Agriculture Program has you covered.



A GREAT START

Earn your associate degree, then either begin your Ag career or transfer to a four-year college.

APPLY TODAY OTC.EDU

**OZARKS TECHNICAL
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

THE POWER BEHIND A NEW GENERATION OF FARMERS



Reap the benefits of the Can-Am Defender this spring,
on the farm or in the field.

Blue Level Sponsors of the Missouri FFA Convention.



© 2024 Bombardier Recreational Products Inc. (BRP). All rights reserved. ®, TM and the BRP logo are trademarks of BRP or its affiliates. In the U.S.A., products are distributed by BRP US Inc. BRP reserves the right, at any time, to discontinue or change specifications, prices, designs, features, models or equipment without incurring obligation. CAN-AM OFF-ROAD VEHICLE: Some models depicted may include optional equipment. For side-by-side vehicles (SxS): Read the BRP side-by-side operator's guide and watch the safety DVD before driving. Fasten lateral net and seat belt at all times. Operator must be at least 16 years old. Passenger must be at least 12 years old and able to hold handgrips and plant feet while seated against the backrest. SxSs are for off-road use only; never ride on paved surfaces or public roads. For your safety, the operator and passenger must wear a helmet, eye protection and other protective clothing. Always remember that riding, alcohol and drugs don't mix. Never engage in stunt driving. Avoid excessive speed and be particularly careful on difficult terrain. Always ride responsibly and safely.



Learn more at
[Can-AmOffRoad.com](https://www.Can-AmOffRoad.com)

can-am[®]

13

Building an SAE

SAE Grants: Supporting Member Development

When Mount Vernon FFA member Lindsay

McDonald was considering her SAE project, it was only natural for her to pursue swine production, as she grew up surrounded by pigs on her family farm. McDonald started her SAE by farrowing out pigs on her family's farm. Then, she bought her own gilts and a barrow and recently started a business with her brothers, GTM Family Show Pigs, where they farrow, raise and sell show pigs. An SAE Grant from the Missouri FFA Foundation was a key facet in helping expand her project.

McDonald has been able to lay concrete and build pens for her pigs using funds from the grant. This establishes the groundwork for the next step in expanding her SAE – buying a farrowing barn that makes the process easier and more sanitary. It also offers opportunities to farrow out more sows at a time.

While the SAE Grant has helped McDonald build her project, she also believes it's built her as a person. Setting a schedule for when to feed her pigs and making decisions about feed and vaccinations has taught her the importance of structure, organization and personal responsibility. Those skills have carried over in almost every other aspect of her life. Caring for her animals and growing her business has required McDonald to invest a great deal of time, money and energy, which has taught her how

Thanks to the Missouri FFA Foundation, an SAE grant helped Mount Vernon FFA member Lindsay McDonald expand her swine production project. McDonald used the funds to assist with building pens for her pigs. The grant will also help her purchase a farrowing barn to further grow her SAE.



to be dedicated in sticking with something through the highs and the lows.

"The agriculture department at my school has been phenomenal in teaching me skills like public speaking," McDonald says. However, it's been through her required SAE that she's learned "hard skills", including quality animal husbandry practices and agriculture construction, such as building pens and laying concrete. She's also learned the importance of networking and acquiring up-to-date knowledge in her field.

McDonald is thankful donors support programs such as SAE Grants.

"SAE grants are a phenomenal opportunity...allowing members to expand or better their SAE takes away a barrier that otherwise couldn't have been crossed," McDonald explains. "I am so grateful for the people who put their support into youth in agriculture!"

—By Heather Dimitt-Fletcher

You can help more Missouri FFA members start their own businesses by making a donation to the Missouri FFA Foundation to support SAE grants at

<https://donorbox.org/moffafoundation>.



GET YOUR
SUPPORT MISSOURI
AGRICULTURE APPAREL
TODAY!

- 100% USA Grown, Sewn, and Manufacture T-Shirts
- Hat, Stickers, gifts, and more products released weekly!

20% of proceeds go directly back to Missouri FFA Foundation to help ensure Missouri's agricultural future.

Learn more:
www.supportmissouriagriculture.com

Support Missouri Agriculture

We are giving away four \$500 State Fair Scholarships



CRITERIA

- Applicants must have permanent residency in Missouri.
- Applicant (or parent) must be a member of an electric cooperative in good standing.
- Applicants must be accepted as a 2024 student at a college, university and/or a vocational, technical school program for the upcoming academic semester.
- Applicants must complete and submit a scholarship application at the Missouri's Electric Cooperatives building during the Missouri State Fair by Sunday, August 18, by 6:00 P.M.

- Applicants will be notified if awarded a scholarship by Sept.20, 2024.



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS MUST:

- Visit the Missouri's Electric Cooperatives building during the 11 days of the state fair.
- Complete an application form and return to the Missouri's Electric Cooperatives building during the fair. Mail-in applications will not be accepted.
 - Show a letter of acceptance from a college, university and/or a vocational, technical school if picked to receive the scholarship.

CUSTOM DESIGNS



Brought to you by the Official Apparel Sponsor for Missouri FFA.

www.mo-ffa.keyapparelstore.com

