# **Brooke's Bits & Pieces**

SECTION 6 | EDITION 2 | NOVEMBER 2025



2025-2026 Wisconsin State FFA Officer Team; Back row (L to R): Sam Mell, Layten Sobieski, Max Luedtke, Ava Forde, Parker Smith. Middle row (L to R): Brooke Luedtke, Corbyn Weber, Taniele Ducommun. Front row (L to R): Harley Prill, Amalia Draxler, Evan Retzlaff.



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# OFFICER UPDATE

### Section 6 State Treasurer



These past couple of months have been nothing short of incredible. From Fall Leadership Workshops to chapter visits, Fire Conference, and the National FFA Convention, it has been a season filled with unforgettable experiences, laughter, and growth. Each event has reminded me of the heart and passion that lives within our members and the impact that FFA continues to make across our state and nation. Throughout all of these experiences, one of my absolute favorite parts has been visiting chapters and spending time with members. Walking into classrooms, and hearing about all the exciting things happening in each chapter truly warms my heart.

Whether it is hearing about a successful fundraiser, watching members step out of their comfort zones, or simply seeing the excitement in their eyes as they talk about their FFA journey. Being surrounded by so many dedicated and passionate members reminds me why this organization is so special. FFA is not just about contests or awards; it is about the people, the friendships, and the moments that shape who we are. Getting to know all of you and witnessing the good you bring into your schools and communities has been one of the greatest joys of this journey. I am so grateful for the opportunity to serve, to learn from you, and to celebrate all that we are accomplishing together as Wisconsin FFA.

Brooke mighte

With gratitude and excitement,

## NATIONAL CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

#### AMERICAN DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Berlin-----Madison Mertens Berlin-----Layten Sobieski Berlin-----Spencer Goettl Columbus-----Daniel Perez-Martinez Columbus-----Hillary Klubertanz Markesan -----Leah Bobek Markesan-----Kylie Slark Markesan-----Dani Graff Mauston-----Morgan Firlus Mauston-----Tyler Schwartz Oakfield-----Marissa Kottke

Oakfield-----Bryanna Smith Pardeeville-----Isabella Hineman Pardeeville-----Brooke Luedtke Poynette-----Hannah Seas Povnette----Sydney Wright Rio-----Charlotte Tompkins Markesan-----Logan Sprecher Sauk Prairie-----Luke Sprecher Waupun-----Rylan Bruins Waupun-----Abel Kooima







#### **Baraboo Agronomy Team** 30th place National Silver



Jackob Albrecht - Silver, Lukas Albrecht -Silver, Lane Lindloff- Bronze, Joseph **Kortthals - Bronze** 

# NATIONAL CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



#### Hannah Oleson

Adams-Friendship Beef Production WINNER



#### **Josie Roberts**

Portage
Prepared Public Speaking
WINNER

#### **Zoe Gross**

Columbus
Ag Education
National Finalist
2nd Place



#### Khammi Alsum



Wisconsin Dells
Poultry
National Finalist
2nd Place







NATIONAL CHAPTER 3-STAR

- Adams-Friendship
- Lodi
- Pardeeville
- Portage
- Sauk Prairie





#### **FALL HIGHLIGHTS**

Fall Leadership Workshops were such a great way to connect with members from all corners of Wisconsin. For three weeks, we traveled across the state meeting incredible FFA members eager to learn and grow. Along the way, we also had the chance to go on business and industry tours that showed us the wide variety of careers connected to agriculture. From learning about ag technology and manufacturing to seeing how local businesses support their communities, each visit gave us a new perspective on the opportunities that exist beyond the classroom.

FLW'S





WORLD DAIRY EXPO

We started the fall with the World Dairy Expo, and what an experience it was. Walking through the barns, you couldn't help but be amazed by the beauty and quality of the cattle from across the country. These were truly top-dollar dairy animals, the best of the best. Beyond the show ring, it was inspiring to see so many FFA members competing in dairy judging, agriscience, and other events, all showcasing their passion and knowledge. The excitement in Madison was contagious, a true celebration of agriculture, hard work, and pride in the dairy industry that defines so much of Wisconsin.

#### FALL HIGHLIGHTS

Then came one of the biggest highlights of the year, the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis. Serving as a delegate for Wisconsin was such an honor. We had the chance to represent our members' voices, debate important issues, and vote on changes that will shape the future of FFA. It was a powerful experience to know that our voices truly make a difference. What made the week even more special was celebrating the success of so many Wisconsin members. From seeing them walk across the national stage to watching them receive well-earned awards, I couldn't help but feel proud. It was also a wonderful time to reconnect with chapters, make new friends from across the nation, and reflect on just how big the FFA family really is.

# NATIONAL CONVENTION





# CHAPTER VISITS

One of my favorite parts of this year has been chapter visits. Traveling to meet with different FFA members across the state has been such a rewarding experience. Every visit is a little different, some days are filled with classroom presentations, others with conversations about leadership, opportunities, and what it means to be part of FFA. Getting to see the creativity and dedication of students firsthand has been so inspiring. Each chapter has its own story to tell, and I love hearing about their goals, projects, and community impact. Whether it's a small group of students finding their confidence or a large chapter building on years of success.

#### **FALL HIGHLIGHTS**

Next came the FIRE Conferences, which took us to River Falls, Marshfield, and Fox Valley. Traveling from place to place, we had the opportunity to meet hundreds of 6th through 9th grade students and introduce them to the heart of FFA. We talked about leadership, teamwork, and all the amazing opportunities FFA has to offer. Watching their eyes light up as they learned about different agricultural careers was one of my favorite moments. The enthusiasm these students brought was incredible. Their laughter, questions, and energy made every stop worthwhile.



FIRE CONFERENCE

MISSION/IMPACT CONFERENCE



This conference really helped students dive into how they can make an impact on the world. The workshops and sessions covered a variety of topics like voice use, direction, and personal development, giving students tools they can bring back to their chapters and communities. It also provided a meaningful opportunity for students to reconnect with friends from all over Wisconsin, build new relationships, and feel supported by a larger network of leaders. Overall, it was a memorable experience that encouraged students to step out of their comfort zones, discover their strengths, and continue growing as confident and capable leaders.

## CHAPTER VISIT RECAP



#### MEMBER OF THE MONTH

SEPTEMBER
Molly Groskreutz
Westfield FFA











#### UP COMING EVENTS

#### Leadership Development Events

District 16 Laconia Jan. 19 District 17 Montello Feb. 12 District 18 New Lisbon Feb. 2

#### **Upcoming Chapter Visits**

Lodi	November 17
Reedsburg	November 18
Princeton	November 19
Montello	November 20
Randolph	November 21
Winnebago Lutheran	November 24
New Lisbon	November 25
Wisconsin Dells	December 8-9
Randolph Middle	December 11
Markesan	December 12
Weston	December 15
Mauston	December 17
Westfield	December 18
Ripon	December 19
Randolph Middle	January 5
Rio	January 8
Fall River	January 9

FARM FORUM February 11th, 2026

#### **Half-Time Conference**

January 16th-17th

**Holiday Inn Stevens Point - Convention** 

This marks the half way point of the year! Come and learn of ways to finish the school year off strong!

# NATIONAL FFA WEEK February 21 - 28, 2026

FIRE Conference -SWTC February 26 - 27, 2026



# UPCOMING DUE DATES O GOOD O G

- December 1st: Initial Membership Roster
   & POA
- January 5th: Half Time Conference Deadline
- January 12th: National FFA Scholarship Application
- January 15th: WLC Scholarship
- NEW- January 15th: American Degree
  Application
- February 13th: State Band and Chorus
  Application
- February 17th: State Proficiency Application
- March 3rd: State Degree Application
- April 1st: Final Membership Roster & POA

#### **UPDATES**



#### LDE'S

#### **Conduct of Chapter Meetings:**

Teams must attend their Sectional LDE contest to take a **written test**, which determines advancement to the state competition. **Up to 15** teams will advance to state. Starting in 2026, a second set of judges will be added at the state contest to speed up the event.

#### **Employment Skills**

Each contestant must complete and submit an electronic employment application through the wisconsinaged.org website two weeks before the contest.

The information on the application must match the contestant's resume. Judges will receive the application, resume, cover letter, and job description to score before the contest. The rubric now aligns with the National FFA standards, and the electronic application will be worth 50 points beginning in 2026.

#### HS Quiz Bowl

Teams must attend their Sectional LDE contest to take a written test. The combined scores of all team members will determine the team's total score and advancement to the State HS Quiz Bowl Competition. A maximum of 21 teams will compete at the state level, with brackets determined by team scores. Changes take effect beginning in 2026.

## 2026- 100 Year Anniversary of CDEs for Wisconsin FFA

There will be information and opportunities for members to learn about the history and past CDE's. A commemorative pin will be given to each FFA member who competes in a State Level CDE in 2026.

#### **UPDATES**



#### **REGIONAL CDE DATES**

- Mid-State Technical College March 24, 2026
- UW-Platteville March 26, 2026
- Fox Valley Technical College March 27, 2026
- UW- River Falls March 28, 2026

#### State CDE - Madison College and area CDEs -April 17, 2026

Ag Communications
Ag Mechanics - Q
Ag Sales
Environmental Science- April 10
Food Science
Horse Evaluation - Q
Middle School

Q= Team must Qualify at the Regional Contest

#### **State Floriculture Contest**

**New location and a price increase.**Place is still being determined

#### <u>State CDE - UW-Madison and</u> <u>area CDEs - April 24, 2026</u>

Agronomy-Q
Dairy Cattle -Q
Dairy Handlers
Farm Business Management - Q
Floriculture - Q
Forestry -Q
Livestock - Q
Meats - Q
Milk Products - Q
Nursery Landscape
Poultry - Q
Vet Science - Q
Wildlife - Q



#### **UPDATES**

## Wisconsin Association Goals

- **Membership: 28,597**
- Total affiliated chapters: 120
- State Degree recipients: 450
- Day of Service participants: 1,000 State Officer Candidates: at least 2 per section
- Evaluate Membership Award recognition
- Develop more resources on engaging members & inform delegates
- Increase social media followers
- Empower student leaders



## Let's Connect









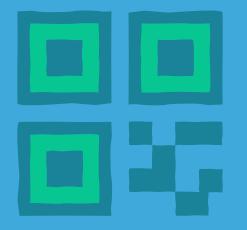


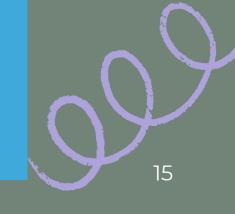


#### Member Of The Month

Know an amazing Section 6 member who goes above and beyond?

Celebrate them by nominating them for Member of the Month right here!"

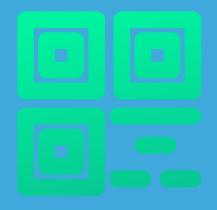




## Let's Connect

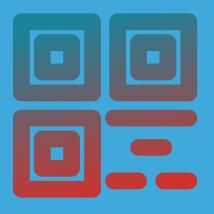
#### SAE Sunday

SAE Sundays are open to all members who want to showcase their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). It's a chance for members to be recognized for their hard work and dedication.



#### **Service Project Recognition**

Service Project Recognition highlights chapters that have carried out a project to give back to their community. It's an opportunity for members and teachers to be celebrated for their impact and commitment!



#### **Teacher Appreciation**

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Is there a teacher in your life who inspires, supports, and truly makes a difference? Help us shine a spotlight on their amazing work by nominating them for the Teacher Appreciation Program, where they'll be honored on the state's social media page!





# **Directory**



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# Thank You Partners



# **I**◆FFA Leadership

**Platinum** 











#### Silver

AgCountry Farm Credit Services
Culvers
Seneca Foods

#### **Bronze**

Case IH / CNH Capital
Elkhorn FFA Alumni
Wisconsin Pork Association
GreenStone Farm Credit Services