

# Brooke's Bits & Pieces

Section 6 | Edition 1 | August 2025



**2025-2026 Wisconsin State FFA Officer Team; Back row (L to R):** Sam Mell, Layton 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.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS



State Officer Intro • P. 2

State Degrees • P. 3

State Convention • P. 4

Summer Highlights • P. 9

Chapter Visits • P. 17

Upcoming Events • P. 18

National Convention • P. 19

Let's Connect • P. 21

# ACTIVATE

WISCONSIN FFA CONVENTION

# BROOKE LUEDTKE



## Section 6 State Treasurer



**Hello Section 6!**

Welcome to the first newsletter of the year. My name is Brooke Luedtke, and I am proud to be representing the Pardeeville FFA chapter. I am currently a junior at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, where I am pursuing a degree in Animal Science and Agribusiness. I am passionate about agriculture and excited to continue learning and growing in this field.

My Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) focuses on diversified livestock and beef production. I was raised on my family's farm and am honored to be the second generation managing our cow-calf operation. What began as a small hobby farm has since grown into a full-time business that I am deeply committed to. Farming has taught me the value of hard work, patience, and dedication, and it remains a central part of my life.

Through my involvement with FFA, I have had the opportunity to compete in a variety of events including parliamentary procedure, creed speaking, employability skills, livestock judging, and meats judging. One of my proudest moments was competing at the national level in meat evaluation back in 2022. These experiences have helped me develop leadership, communication, and critical thinking skills that I will carry with me throughout my career.

Outside of FFA, I enjoy spending time outdoors. I find joy in hunting, going on ATV rides with my dog Max to check on our cows, and visiting local fairs. These activities keep me connected to the community and the agricultural lifestyle that I love. I am excited to share my experiences with you all throughout this newsletter and look forward to a fantastic year filled with learning and growth. Thank you for welcoming me into Section 6!

With gratitude and excitement,

## Adams-Friendship FFA

Hannah Oleson  
Nancy Hansen

## Baraboo FFA

Samantha Johnson  
Lilian Schell  
Riley Nickel

## Berlin FFA

Michael Sahotsky  
Blake Mertens  
Eva Fleegal

## Columbus FFA

Zoe Gross

## Lodi FFA

Vivian Beld  
Summer Rake

## Montello FFA

Drew Bednarek  
Ava Kaenel  
Keegan Krentz

## Oakfield FFA

Lincoln Laabs

## Pardeeville FFA

Celia Kopfhamer  
Macy Cross



# State Degree Recipients



## Portage FFA

Elizabeth Miller  
Sawyer Stegmann

## Poynette FFA

Brylee Schultz  
Grace Gavinski

## RCF FFA

Piper Alsum  
Ashton Brusveen  
Kaylee Jahnke

## Reedsburg FFA

Braelynn Meister

## Rio FFA

Simone Cook  
Robbie Starker

## Ripon FFA

Tyler Draeger  
Katelyn Konrad

## Sauk Prairie FFA

Wyatt Coy  
Thea Harpold  
Martin Ziegler  
Audrey Anding

## Waupun FFA

Lucas Bresser  
Wyatt Stowell

## Wisconsin Dells

Mia Schultz  
Samantha Degner



# Highlights From State Convention

## Employment Skills

- Discussion Meet 2nd Place: Josie Roberts - **Portage**
- Employment Skills Leadership Development Event 2nd Place: Blake Brancel - **Portage**
- Extemporaneous Public Speaking 3rd Place: Jaime Damm - **Columbus**
- Agricultural Issues 2nd Place: **Pardeeville**
- Middle School Quiz Bowl 2nd Place: **Markesan**

## Career Development Events

- Agronomy: **Baraboo**



## Proficiencies

- Agriculture Education: Zoe Gross, **Columbus**
- Beef Production - Placement: Hannah Oleson, **Adams-Friendship**
- Forage Production: Rylan Bruins, **Waupun**
- Poultry Production: Khammi Alsum, **Wisconsin Dells**
- Turf & Landscape Maintenance: Piper Alsum, **Randolph Cambria Friesland**

## Three Star Leaders

- Julia Stockheimer - **Adams-Friendship**
- Samantha Johnson - **Baraboo**
- Rylee Brattlie - **Cambridge**
- Summer Rake - **Lodi**
- Mariah Schwartz - **Mauston**
- Celia Kopfhamer - **Pardeeville**
- Addison Stilwell - **Portage**
- Piper Alsum - **Randolph-Cambria-Friesland**
- Nolan Fletcher - **Reedsburg**
- Wyatt Coy - **Sauk Prairie**
- Samantha Degner - **Wisconsin Dells**

# Highlights From State Convention

## Agricultural Artwork Contest

5th-8th Grade 2D 1st Place: Claire Presley - Adams-Friendship

9th-12th Grade 2D 2nd Place: Emma Steimkey - Rio

## Talent Competition

1st Place: Sawyer Bruins - Waupun

2nd Place: Coleson Billie - Waupun

## Scrapbook Contest

Traditional Scrapbook 2nd Place: Baraboo

Traditional Scrapbook 3rd Place: Wisconsin Dells



# Highlights From State Convention

## PRIDE Award

- Baraboo FFA
- Cambridge FFA
- Columbus FFA
- Lodi FFA
- Oakfield FFA
- Portage FFA
- Poynette FFA
- Princeton FFA
- Ripon FFA



## Food For America Winners

- Adams-Friendship FFA
- Cambridge FFA
- Lodi FFA
- Pardeeville FFA
- Portage FFA
- Wisconsin Dells FFA



## Membership Award

**Baraboo FFA +99**



# Highlights From State Convention

## Building Communities Area

5th Place: Sauk Prairie  
FFA



Strengthening  
Agriculture Area  
8th Place: Pardeeville  
FFA  
10th Place: Mauston  
FFA

## National Chapter

### Gold Ranking

Sauk Prairie FFA

Pardeeville FFA

Lodi FFA

Portage FFA

Adams-Friendship FFA

### Silver Ranking

Mauston FFA

Baraboo FFA

Wisconsin Dells FFA

Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA

Cambridge FFA

Reedsburg FFA



# Highlights From State Convention



## State Honors Chorus

Julia Stockheimer - Adams-Friendship

Nadia Coddington - Montello

Josie Roberts - Portage

Luka Zeimet - Rio

Spencer Goettl - Berlin

Giuliana Weber - Montello

Addison Dominick - Berlin

## Star Awards

- Star Farmer Finalist: Ashton Brusveen- Randolph-Cambria-Friesland
- Star Farmer Finalist: Hannah Oleson-Adams-Friendship
- Star in Agribusiness: Ashton Brusveen- Randolph-Cambria-Friesland
- Star Agricultural Placement: Hannah Oleson-Adams-Friendship



# Highlights From this Summer

## BASE CAMP

Base Camp set the tone for the year with energy, intention, and a deep sense of purpose. Designed as a launch point, the week focused on building a strong foundation, bringing people together, aligning around shared values, and preparing everyone to serve with clarity and conviction.

The experience was crafted to foster connection and community, ensuring that every participant felt seen, supported, and part of something larger than themselves. Through workshops, team-building activities, and guided reflection, Base Camp emphasized the importance of trust, collaboration, and collective ownership of the work ahead.

Beyond relationships, the week also laid out the structures, roles, and expectations that would shape the year.

It was about helping everyone understand not just what they would be doing, but why it matters, and how it contributes to a greater mission.

By the end of the week, Base Camp had done what it set out to do: ground the team in purpose, build a sense of unity, and spark momentum for the journey to come.

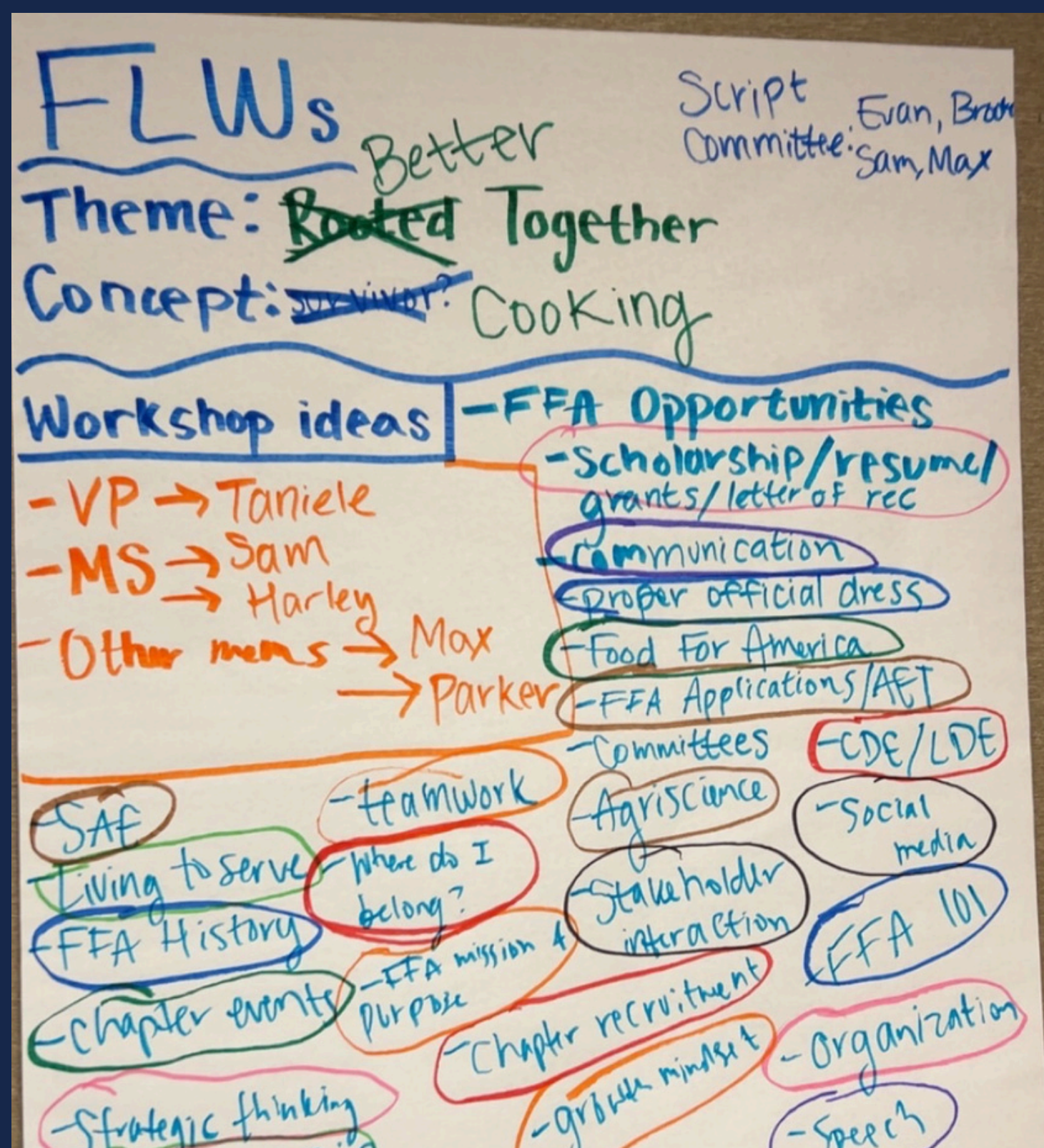


# Highlights From this Summer

The Wisconsin Association of Agricultural Educators (WAAE) conference was designed to offer a powerful, behind-the-scenes look at the dedication, creativity, and resilience of agricultural educators. It served as a reminder that teaching, especially in ag education, extends far beyond the classroom, encompassing hands-on learning, community involvement, and a deep commitment to student growth.

Throughout the week, the conference highlighted the realities and rewards of agricultural education, offering insights into the planning, innovation, and collaboration required to make it successful. Attendees also explored strategies for integrating technology in meaningful, effective ways, walking away with practical tools and fresh ideas to enhance instruction and engagement.

More than just professional development, WAAE fostered a renewed sense of purpose, appreciation, and momentum. The experience was a celebration of the work agricultural educators do every day, and a powerful springboard for the year ahead.



# WAAE



# Highlights From this Summer

## Check Point #1

Checkpoint 1 was a week of focused growth and connection. We sharpened our skills in workshop design and impactful speaking, while grounding ourselves in what it means to lead with empathy, meeting people where they are. Each moment was intentional, building trust within our team and clarity in our purpose. We also had the opportunity to meet with the Corn Growers, one of our amazing sponsors, and learn more about their support and impact. To wrap up the week, we took on an escape room challenge, and escaped! It was a fun and energizing reminder of what we can accomplish when we collaborate and trust one another.



## TACTICAL ESCAPE 101



# Highlights From this Summer



## SUMMIT

Washington, D.C. was nothing short of inspiring. One of the most impactful moments was the opportunity to meet with the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, a conversation that underscored the power of youth voices in shaping the future of agriculture. We discussed the importance of agricultural education, leadership, and how young leaders can help bridge the gap between rural communities and national policy. Being in the nation's capital added another layer of meaning. Surrounded by the symbols of our democracy and history, it was a powerful reminder that advocacy doesn't just happen in meetings, it's rooted in presence, purpose, and the courage to speak up for what matters. This experience left me feeling more confident in my role as a leader and more committed than ever to using my voice to elevate the stories of agriculture across the country.

# Highlights From this Summer

## Southern Golf Outing

At the Southern Golf Outing, where we worked alongside John Deere Financial at their booth. It was a great chance to connect with supporters, share our appreciation, and see firsthand the community that stands behind the Wisconsin FFA Foundation.

One of the highlights was getting to personally thank the golfers who came out to support agricultural education. Their generosity and enthusiasm reminded us just how many people believe in the mission of FFA and are willing to invest in the next generation of leaders.

Events like this go beyond fundraising, they're about relationships, gratitude, and celebrating the strong network that makes our work possible.



# Highlights From this Summer



## Farm Tech Days

### Farm Tech Days Highlights

At this year's Farm Tech Days, I had the privilege of working with students to explore three important agricultural safety topics, PTO (Power Take-Off) safety, ATV safety, and grain bin safety.

The experience really opened my eyes to just how important these conversations are. It's one thing to know the safety rules, but another to truly understand why they matter. Seeing students make that connection and recognize the value of staying safe on the farm was incredibly rewarding.

And to top it all off... I got to meet the Peterson Farm Bros, a dream come true for me!

Moments like these remind me that safety education doesn't just protect lives, it builds a stronger, more mindful ag community.



# Highlights From this Summer

## State Fair

Working in the Discovery Barn at the Wisconsin State Fair was an eye-opening and rewarding experience. Teaching visitors about beef and dairy cattle allowed me to share important facts and break down misconceptions, while also deepening my own understanding. The early mornings and late nights spent with a passionate team highlighted the power of teamwork and shared purpose. We also got to experience the fair together, trying new foods and talking with the general public—making the experience even more memorable. This time reinforced how vital education is in connecting people to agriculture and reminded me that at its heart, agriculture is about community and meaningful connections.



# Highlights From this Summer



## Jag Lake



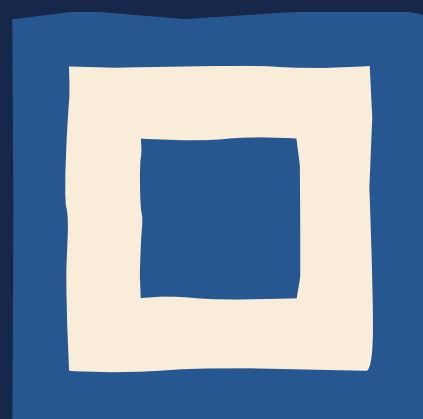
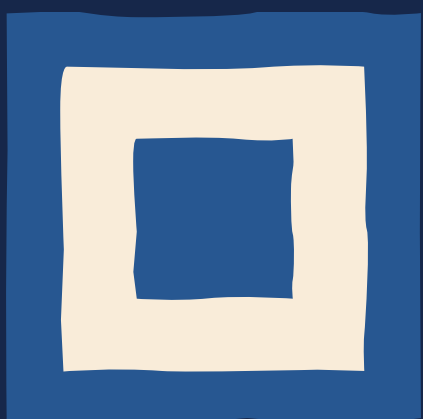
Jag Lake was the perfect place to kick off our year and set the tone for everything ahead. While we spent a lot of time working hard to prepare for the year, making sure we could create the best possible experiences for our members, we also had the chance to enjoy camp life together for the very first time as a team. The days were filled with planning, brainstorming, and building our vision, but also with laughter, inside jokes, and the kind of moments that only happen at camp. Whether it was late-night talks, team bonding around the fire, or just soaking up the peaceful camp atmosphere, Jag Lake gave us the chance to connect on a whole new level. We left not only feeling ready and motivated for the year, but also closer as a team and more excited than ever to take on what's ahead. Jag Lake wasn't just about preparing, it was about growing, experiencing, and creating memories that we'll carry with us all year long.

# CHAPTER VISITS

Waupun	October 6	●	Montello	November 20
Pardeeville	October 7-8	●	Randolph	November 21
Sages	October 9	●	New Lisbon	November 25
Baraboo	October 13	●	Wisconsin Dells	December 8-9
Mauston	October 14	●	Markesan	December 12
Adams-Friendship	October 20-21	●	Ripon	December 19
Portage	October 22-23	●	Fall River	TBD
Tri-County	October 24	●	Lodi	TBD
Sauk Prairie	November 3-4	●	Poynette	TBD
Berlin	November 5	●	RFC	TBD
Laconia	November 6	●	Rio	TBD
Oakfield	November 7	●	Westfield	TBD
Columbus	November 10-11	●	Weston	TBD
Reedsburg	November 18	●	Winnebago Lutheran	TBD
Princeton	November 19	●	Academy	

Still need to schedule your chapter visit. Please use the link below to pick a time that works best for you.

Already have your chapter visit scheduled....Please use the link below to complete the pre chapter visit form.





# Upcoming Events



## Fall Leadership Workshop

Wednesday, September 24th.

Pardeeville High School

120 Oak St, Pardeeville, WI

53954

Registration begins at

3:30PM

Workshops start at 4:00PM!



## Fire Conferences

• UW-Stevens Point

Friday, October 10

• Fox Valley

Friday, October 17

• UW- River Falls

Saturday, October 18



## National Days of Service

As part of convention registration, attendees may sign up to serve at a local nonprofit to give back to the host city of Indianapolis.

Morning (8:30 a.m.-noon)  
and afternoon (1:30-4 p.m.)

shifts are available on

Thursday, Oct. 30 and Friday,  
Oct. 31.

## 98th National FFA Convention & Expo

Oct. 29 – Nov. 1, 2025

Indianapolis, Ind.

# National Convention

## American Degree Recipients

Markesan ----- Leah Bobek  
 Markesan ----- Megan Glover  
 Markesan ----- Kylie Slark  
 Markesan ----- Dani Graff  
 Waupun ----- Rylan Bruins  
 Waupun ----- Abel Kooima  
 Mauston ----- Morgan Firlus  
 Mauston ----- Tyler Schwartz  
 Berlin ----- Spencer Goettl  
 Berlin ----- Madison Mertens  
 Berlin ----- Layten Sobieski

Pardeeville ----- Isabella Hineman  
 Pardeeville ----- Brooke Luedtke  
 Columbus ----- Hillary Klubertanz  
 Columbus ----- Daniel Perez-Martinez  
 Oakfield ----- Marissa Kottke  
 Oakfield ----- Bryanna Smith  
 Poynette ----- Hannah Seas  
 Poynette ----- Sydney Wright  
 Sauk Prairie ----- Logan Sprecher  
 Sauk Prairie ----- Luke Sprecher  
 Rio ----- Charlotte Tompkins

Wisconsin FFA  
**98th National Convention**  
*National Officer Candidate*



**Alyssa Schauer**

## National Agricultural Proficiency

1. Megan Schultz Adams-Friendship  
Div. Livestock
2. Khammi Alsum Wisconsin Dells  
Poultry
3. Piper Alsum Randolph - C-F  
Turf and Landscape Maint
4. Rylan Bruins Waupun  
Forage Production
5. Zoe Gross Columbus FFA  
Ag Education

## *National* **FFA OFFICERS** | 2024 2025



<b>Thaddeus Bergschneider</b> President ILLINOIS	<b>Luke Jennings</b> Secretary OHIO	<b>Mary Schrieber</b> Central Region Vice President WISCONSIN	<b>Caroline Groth</b> Eastern Region Vice President KENTUCKY	<b>Abigale Jacobsen</b> Western Region Vice President CALIFORNIA	<b>Jack Lingenfelter</b> Southern Region Vice President GEORGIA
--	---	---	--	--	---

## National Chapter 3 Stars

Adams-Friendship  
 Lodi  
 Pardeeville  
 Portage  
 Sauk Prairie

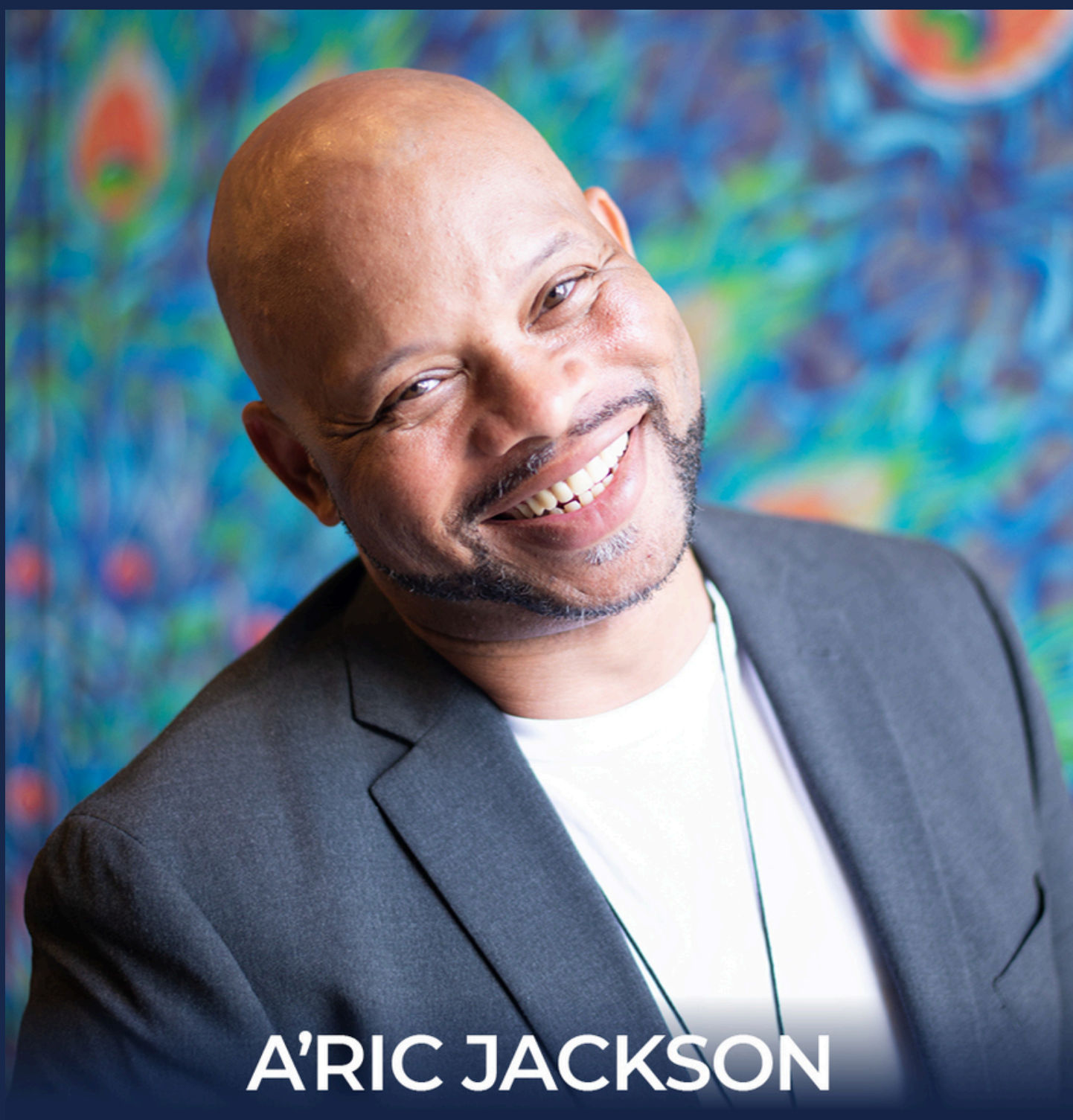


# National Convention



Private concert for registered attendees only.

**Concert Date: Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2025, 7:30 p.m. EDT, Doors open at 6:30 p.m. EDT**  
**Seats are available at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2025**



**Opening Session Speaker**  
**Wednesday, Oct. 29 and Thursday, Oct. 3**

**Keynote Speaker Friday, Oct. 31**

# Let's Connect



**@wisconsinffa**



**Wisconsin Association of FFA**



**@wi\_ffa\_section6**



**Wisconsin FFA - Section 6**



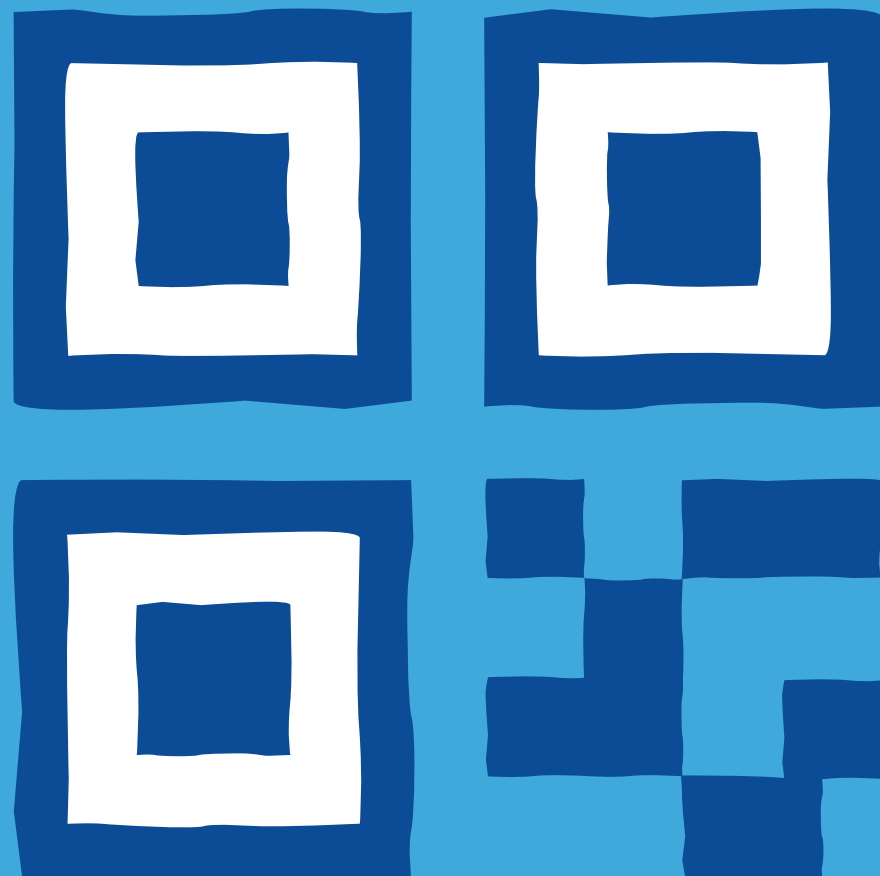
**@wisconsin\_ffa**



**@wisconsinffa**

## Member Of The Month

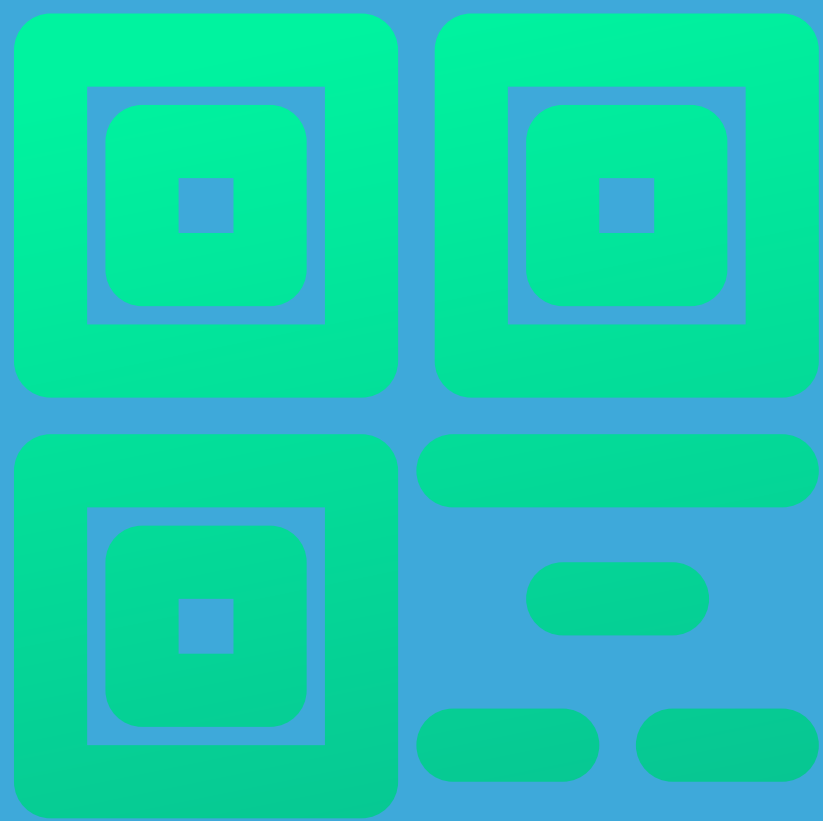
**Know an amazing Section 6 member  
who goes above and beyond?  
Celebrate them by nominating them  
for Member of the Month right  
here!**



# 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

**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



**Section 1:**  
**Harley Prill**  
Vice President  
[hprill@wisconsinffa.org](mailto:hprill@wisconsinffa.org)



**Section 2:**  
**Taniele Ducommun**  
Vice President  
[tducommun@wisconsinffa.org](mailto:tducommun@wisconsinffa.org)



**Section 3:**  
**Corbyn Weber**  
Reporter  
[cweber@wisconsinffa.org](mailto:cweber@wisconsinffa.org)



**Section 4:**  
**Ava Forde**  
Secretary  
[aforde@wisconsinffa.org](mailto:aforde@wisconsinffa.org)



**Section 5:**  
**Sam Mell**  
Vice President  
[smell@wisconsinffa.org](mailto:smell@wisconsinffa.org)



**Section 6:**  
**Brooke Luedtke**  
Treasurer  
[bluedtke@wisconsinffa.org](mailto:bluedtke@wisconsinffa.org)



**Section 7:**  
**Parker Smith**  
Vice President  
[psmith@wisconsinffa.org](mailto:psmith@wisconsinffa.org)



**Section 8:**  
**Evan Retzlaff**  
Parliamentarian  
[eretzlaff@wisconsinffa.org](mailto:eretzlaff@wisconsinffa.org)



**Section 9:**  
**Layten Sobieski**  
Sentinel  
[lsobieski@wisconsinffa.org](mailto:lsobieski@wisconsinffa.org)



**Section 10:**  
**Max Luedtke**  
Vice President  
[mluedtke@wisconsinffa.org](mailto:mluedtke@wisconsinffa.org)



**Section 2:**  
**Amalia Draxler**  
President  
[adraxler@wisconsinffa.org](mailto:adraxler@wisconsinffa.org)



# Thank you Partners



## FFA Leadership Partners

### Platinum



### Gold



### Silver

AgCountry Farm Credit Services  
Culvers  
Seneca Foods

### Bronze

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