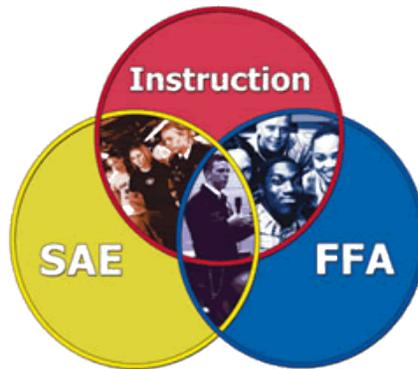


BIG Newsletter For BIG News!

Quarterly Newsletter Undergoes Upgrade

Hello community members! Elkton FFA, as a chapter, has moved from an insert in the Elkton School District newsletter to having our own newsletter! We have come to find that there is simply too much news for an insert . We are very excited to have this bigger newsletter because we can now keep you informed on everything that is going on throughout the year.

New additions to our newsletter include an officer highlight, SAE spotlight, and upcoming events. The officer highlight will bring attention to an exceptional officer and inform you of their activities and accomplishments in the FFA. The SAE spotlight, otherwise known as the Supervised Agricultural Experience, is to bring attention to an FFA member that is doing an extraordinary job in their chosen SAE. The upcoming events will keep you informed of any FFA activities that are coming up in the near future. We will also keep you updated on past events that happened including Career Development Events (CDE's) and other important FFA activities.



Agricultural Education Model

The Elkton FFA chapter is only one part of the Elkton Agriculture Program. The agriculture program is based off the Agriculture Education Model that includes Classroom Instruction, FFA and SAE. Over the years, the agriculture program and FFA chapter have grown exponentially. It is because of what happens in the classroom that the FFA and SAE components have been so successful at Elkton High School. From time to time, you may see articles about happenings in the classroom along with our SAE spotlight.

This newsletter is going to be mailed out every quarter to parents of FFA members, alumni members, and other supporters. This newsletter will also be posted on our Facebook page. We hope that you enjoy this newsletter just as much as we do!



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ELKTON FFA CHAPTER OFFICERS

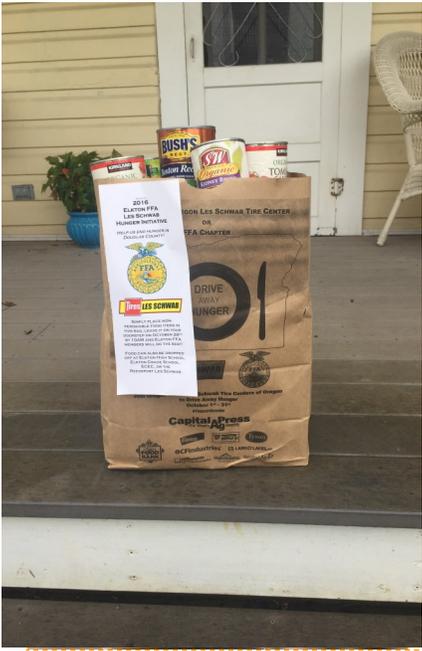
- President
Maggie Briggs
- Vice President
Hannah Maxwell
- Secretary
Dariyan Woodard
- Treasurer
Cyrus Holcomb
- Reporter
Angelique Perrone
- Sentinel
Grace Whitley
- Advisor
Mr. Braden Groth

Newsletter Contributors

- Angelique Perrone (editor)
- Hannah Maxwell
- Maisie Cox
- Cyrus Holcomb
- Dariyan Woodard
- Maggie Briggs

Follow us on





FFA Partners with Les Schwab To “Drive Away” Hunger

The Oregon FFA has partnered up with Les Schwab Tires across the state. The goal is to raise as much canned food as possible in the month of October to help “drive away” hunger in the state of Oregon.

Les Schwab generously financially supports Oregon FFA. They are the second largest financial supporter of our organization! Like our organization, Les Schwab believes in giving back to the community. Because of that shared belief, Les Schwab and Oregon FFA have teamed up together to fight hunger.

The Elkton FFA chapter is paired with the Reedsport Les Schwab . The chapter handed out nearly 500 bags for food collection! Donation barrels were also put around town and at Reedsport Les Schwab. The chapter is proud to announce it raised 446 pounds of canned food to be shared throughout Douglas County! The chapter hopes to raise even more next October.

The Elkton School District will hold it’s annual canned food drive next month, for those still wanting to donate.

“The chapter is proud to announce it raised 446 pounds of canned food to be shared throughout Douglas County!”



Officer Highlight: Maggie Briggs, President

Our officer highlight this month is President Miss Maggie Briggs. She has been involved in the FFA program since her freshmen year starting as Greenhand president followed by her sophomore year as reporter, junior year as vice president and leading our chapter this year as president. She has been very dedicated to FFA since she started, always making sure she is ready for every CDE and event. Through her time in the blue jacket, she has become proficient in public speaking and enjoys it very much.

Since her freshmen year she has participated in leadership camp all four years, tractor driving, advanced tractor driving, soils, forestry, rituals, job interview, parliamentary procedure, ag issues, state convention, alumni auction and dinner, chapter banquet, and Douglas County Lamb Show.

She has brought many goals and new ideas to the chapter for this school year including the new very large FFA calendar/whiteboard and bulletin board listing all events and competitions for the month as well as permission slips and information. Her goal for the chapter this year is to get each student enrolled in an ag class to participate in one CDE. Her own personal goal is to make it to state convention for Prepared Speaking. We anticipate and look forward to her leadership this school year.

After high school, Maggie plans to go to a four year university to pursue a degree in physical therapy. Though it is not an agricultural field, Maggie says the life skills she has gained through FFA are priceless. Skills including teamwork, communication and leadership will benefit her greatly in her future endeavors.

Alyssa Smith Earns American FFA Degree in Indy

Alyssa Smith had very little idea what she was getting into when she entered Mr. Groth's Introduction to Agricultural Science class as a freshman in September 2011. But ever since she won her first blue banner in Beginning Job Interview the following February, she was hooked. Alyssa has since had her name put on five state banners, served as chapter president for two consecutive years, earned her State FFA Degree, and proudly served Oregon FFA as an Oregon FFA State Officer last year, just to name a few. Through these accomplishments, Alyssa gained confidence in herself, skills she will use for the rest of her life, and served as a role-model to countless FFA members. Now, in Fall of 2016, five years after entering the "ag room", Alyssa took the stage in Indianapolis at the 89th National FFA Convention to be presented with her American FFA Degree, the highest award the National FFA Organization can bestow upon its members. Alyssa will continue to serve FFA through facilitating leadership workshops across the country for the next year while attending University of Oregon.



Alyssa on stage at National FFA Convention

“Ever since she won her first blue banner in Beginning Job Interview the following February, she was hooked.”

Fifteen Members Attend FFA Umpqua District Leadership Camp

This year's Umpqua FFA District Leadership Camp was a fun and great experience for the 15 Elkton FFA members that attended. On Saturday September 10th, the chapter traveled to the usual location, Little River Christian Camp in Glide. After getting up at 7:00am, each day was filled with games, team building workshops, officer workshops, and many leadership activities every student can benefit from and take back to the chapter.

Every member was put into a different officer group led by this year's six state officers. Members participated in scavenger hunts, a volleyball tournament, soccer games, ultimate Frisbee, swing dancing, and looked forward to the delicious home cooked meals provided after every activity. Meals were prepared by camp cook Andrea



Elkton FFA members at Umpqua FFA District Leadership Camp

Bernhardt of Glide and the advisors of the Umpqua FFA District.

Each student also participated in the competitions for the weekend, from flag raising to public speaking to the rituals competition on the last day. Hannah Maxwell placed 1st for vice president in rituals, Maisie Cox placed 1st for reporter, Jaeci Stewart –Allen placed 2nd for reporter, Cyrus Holcomb placed first for treasurer. Sadie Olson also placed first in creed Introduction.

Everyone had a good time and looks forward

to using the skills learned at camp to help them become a successful chapter for the 2016-2017 school year. The chapter is also very pleased to welcome Hailee Patterson and Raymond Seal to visit us in the classroom this coming November.

FALL MEMBERS OF THE MONTH

SEPTEMBER



GRACE WHITLEY

Grade: Sophomore

Degree Held: Chapter Degree

SAE: Beef and Goat Production

FFA Activities: Chapter sentinel, livestock judging, floriculture, state convention, leadership camp, soils

OCTOBER



MASON COX

Grade: Sophomore

Degree Held: Chapter Degree

SAE: Market Lamb

FFA Activities: District and state soils, leadership camp, Lamb Show

SAE Spotlight: Cyrus Holcomb

SAE's are an integral part of agricultural education. It stands for Supervised Agricultural Experience. This can range from taking livestock to county fair to a chef at your local restaurant.

This month's SAE spotlight is on Cyrus Holcomb. His SAE is welding and fabrication. Over last summer he worked at Great Northern Trailer Work's manufacturing plant. There he learned many skills inside the welding field.

For the last three years, Cyrus Holcomb has been in welding class with Mr. Groth and has always been wanting to learn more and make it possibly his profession.



Cyrus Holcomb fabricating a project for Mr. Kruse

With kids learning and having SAE's in classes with Mr. Groth, they become more aware of the wide range of agricultural jobs and get fired up to go find them in the real world like Cyrus did. He came out appreciating the opportunity he had

and happy to know more on the welding field just like he was wishing to find.

With this whole new level of education Cyrus and kids alike can learn so much more. Not only do they learn, but they can learn more about a

career that might interests them. This dramatically helps prepare individuals for the real world giving them a boost and connections.

Annual Elkton FFA Alumni Dinner & Auction Another Success

The Elkton FFA Alumni dinner and auction was held on October 5th in the high school gymnasium. A tri-tip dinner was prepared and served by alumni members and high school cook Alana Zieman. FFA members made desserts that were auctioned off that night, Ally Swearingen's cheesecake and Hannah Maxwell's cake sold for the highest amount of the desserts that were auctioned off. There was also a silent auction and live auction. Some of the items that were auctioned off were wine baskets, a load of gravel,



FFA members display their desserts for the dessert auction

firewood, multiple gift certificates, a work crew of FFA members, and an Adirondack bench made by Elkton FFA members. The money raised by the FFA Alumni will go toward scholarships for graduating Elkton FFA members, dues for FFA members, FFA jackets and much more! Overall it was a successful night of fundraising for the Alumni. The Elkton FFA Chapter wishes to thank all Alumni members for their continued support over the last five years!



From left to right: Christen Burback, Maisie Cox, Hannah Maxwell, Mason Cox

Soils Team Banners at State

Elkton FFA recently competed in the 2016 District Soils Career Development Event (CDE) in Myrtle Point. At this competition, FFA members are responsible for evaluating the physical characteristics of soil profiles. Many of the physical characteristics members evaluate are texture, structure grade and type, color and many others. Students are also responsible for evaluating the soil and location as a whole by determining characteristics such as site location, slope, water holding capacity and many more. All of these things must be done in just a thirty minute period at three different sites.

The teams had a very good day in Myrtle Point. The beginning team placed third, with Mason Cox being the high individual in fifth place. The advanced team placed 2nd overall and Hannah Maxwell was the high individual in sixth and Maisie Cox placed ninth. Members saw an array of soil pits located in stream terraces and floodplains.

The next week, Hannah Maxwell, Maisie Cox, Mason Cox and Christen Burback traveled to Hood River to compete in the 2016 State Soils CDE. The team left a day early so they could get a day of practice getting to know the Hood River soil. Mr. Groth and the team soon realized the soils they judged in Myrtle Point were drastically different from the soils in Hood River! Myrtle Point had a lot of clays and saturated soils as compared to Hood River that had a lot of soils composed of silts and loams.

The day of the competition could not have been a more beautiful day in the Hood River Valley. With sunshine, a slight breeze, and Mt. Hood in the backdrop, the team judged three pits, just as they did in Myrtle Point. At the end of the day, the Elkton FFA team placed fourth out of more than twenty teams. Hannah Maxwell was the high individual for Elkton, earning second place in the state. Maisie Cox, placed fourteenth, only a few points behind Hannah. It was a big accomplishment for the young team to be the first members at Elkton High School to banner at State Soils. They plan on doing even better next year!

Annual Elkton FFA Christmas Tree & Metal Art Sale



**December 3-4
Elkton
High School
10AM-4PM**



**Local Christmas
Trees
Metal Art
Ornaments
Cookies & Hot
Cocoa!**

Elkton FFA

The Elkton FFA Chapter is an integral part of the Elkton Agricultural Science and Technology Program that strives to develop **premier leadership, personal growth and career success** in every member. The Elkton FFA Chapter has more than 60 FFA members at Elkton High School and is part of the National FFA Organization that has over 650,000 members across all 50 states, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.



Elkton FFA Upcoming Events

November

- 2—District Tractor Certification, DC Fairgrounds
- 9—District Rituals Competition, South Umpqua High School
- 14—FFA State Officer Visit, Elkton High School
- 18—District Ag Sales & Vet Science CDE's, Oakland High School

December

- 3/4—Elkton FFA Christmas Tree & Metal Art Sale, Elkton High School
- 10—State Ag Sales & Vet Science CDE's, Sutherlin High School

January

- 15—FFA State Degrees Due
- 31—State FFA Scholarships Due

Elkton FFA

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