

Inclusive Challenged Yourself Dedicated Brave

DARE
TO BE

Enthusiastic Changed Confident Compassionate Bold

BLUE & GOLD NEWS

Pennsylvania FFA Happenings

www.paffa.org



Officer Corner: Dare to Be Compassionate

FROM THE OFFICERS STATION



REBECCA LEHMAN
SECRETARY

Compassion can be as simple as offering a smile to someone on the street or telling someone how much you appreciate them. Compassion is built on a deep sense of understanding others' suffering

and a pursuit of love for others through care for them.

For me, when someone says the word compassion, I think of my Mimi and Popop. My Mimi and Popop have no biological relation to me or any of my siblings, but they were willing to step into our lives when we needed them the most.

And they made an impact. They started as baby sitters when my parents were both working full time, managing a business, and had nowhere to take us during the day. As time went on, our baby sitters became my best friends, and my best friends are now family.

My Mimi and Popop did not stop caring for us after their duties were over. They treated us like one of their own, like family.

They took us shopping when we needed clothes, attended every school and FFA event I had, whether they understood it or not, and call us their adopted grandchildren. This is the deepest form of love I have ever received — someone sacrificing so much for someone else and expecting nothing in return.

That is the most true form of compassion imaginable.

Next time you see someone in need, be bold and give them a hand. Show deep care and love for them without expecting anything in return.

Show the kind of compassion that was given to me when I did not know I needed it. Dare to be compassionate.

Where Have Your State Officers Been?

What are your state officers up to? We've been working endlessly to prepare for our upcoming service year's chapter visits.

We had our first two chapter

visits at Laurel and Wilmington Area FFA in Lawrence County. The members gave workshops on a variety of topics, including leadership, time management and finding

our strengths. We are beyond excited to serve and meet all of the FFA members throughout this upcoming year.



Submitted

The FFA officers visited Laurel and Wilmington Area FFA chapters.

Making the News



Stephanie Speicher

The 2023-24 FFA state officers visited Susquehanna Printing in August to see where Lancaster Farming is printed and to learn about journalism.

Penns Manor Manages Aquaponics System



Submitted photos

Jaley Weaver and Brianna Wilkie work with the aquaponics system through Penns Manor FFA.

Talk about insane aquaponics systems. Penns Manor FFA members have been hard at work.

The FFA runs a tilapia tank that is attached to a cylinder waste catcher. Twice a week, FFA members have to drain that cylinder into two huge beds.

The first bed is gravel with worms to break down the fish waste. Then the water flows into another bed — a floating bed — before being pumped back to the tank.

Penns Manor is working with aquaponics company Intag. A technician comes in periodically to check on the system.

The students plant crops in the beds, requiring understanding of the nitrogen cycle for fish health. Eventually, when they get large enough, the students will also harvest the fish.

Corn was recently planted in the gravel beds, and lettuce was put in the floating one.



FFA members plant in their aquaponic tank.

Tri-State Officers



Submitted

The Pennsylvania FFA officers met with the Delaware and Maryland state officers at Farm Credit.