



BLUE & GOLD NEWS

Pennsylvania FFA Happenings



Inspire the Future, Sponsor a Jacket

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SHERISA NAILOR
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Did you know Pennsylvania FFA alumni have been providing jacket scholarships for 17 years?

In that time, more than 7,100 FFA members have earned their first jacket through the program.

Last year, 950 FFA members started their FFA journeys at the 2024 Mid-Winter Convention.

We know removing barriers to joining the organization is the first step in ensuring FFA members feel welcomed and engaged in the wide world of the blue corduroy. Sponsoring a jacket for an FFA member

will change their lives and set them up for success.

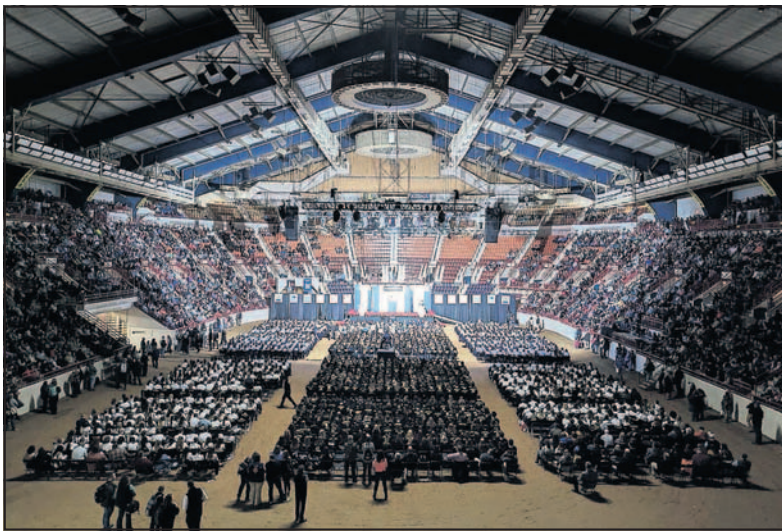
Whether you know the power of the national blue and corn gold from personal experience or you know the value of that jacket from interactions with those that wear it, you will never regret supporting this program.

The Jacket Scholarship Program allows you to donate and designate jackets for specific FFA chapters or chapters within a specified region. Or you can donate to the program statewide, and a jacket will be provided to a member in need in the commonwealth.

The FFA alumni and supporters recognize the tremendous opportunities that are available for each FFA member and want to secure the promise of the FFA mission and agricultural education by creating an environment where students can develop their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success.

Consider supporting the future of agriculture by sponsoring a jacket for the 2025 Mid-Winter FFA Convention. Donations will be accepted through Nov. 1.

Visit paffa.org/about-alumni or contact a local agriculture teacher and FFA adviser.



Views from a past Mid-Winter Convention.

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Foundation Golf Outing Rises to Challenge

RACHEL NEWBERRY
Pennsylvania FFA Foundation

The 32nd annual Pennsylvania FFA Foundation Golf Outing faced a challenging day as unpredictable weather cast a shadow over the event.

On Oct. 1, despite overcast skies and threats of rain, around 100 golfers teed off at Fairview Golf Course in Lebanon to show their commitment to supporting agricultural education in the state.

"This year's outing was a true testament to the resilience of our community," said Sarah Sparks, the Pennsylvania FFA Foundation executive director. "We may have faced some weather challenges, but the support from our golfers, state officer team and volunteers made it

a successful day."

The event raised \$30,000 for scholarships, educational programs and resources that empower Pennsylvania's youths in agriculture.

As the day came to a close, attendees left with a sense of camaraderie and purpose, eager to contribute to the continued success of the Pennsylvania FFA Foundation.

Plans are already underway for next year's outing, promising an even more memorable experience, rain or shine.

If you would like to receive information about next year's outing when it becomes available, reach out to Rachel Newberry at rnewberry@paffafoundation.org or visit paffa.org.

FFA Members Crowned Dairy Royalty

EVAN ESPENSHADE
Pennsylvania FFA State Reporter

Tucked in this year's county dairy princess class are two who support agriculture by donning a blue corduroy jacket.

Now they will spend the next year balancing their time between representing FFA and representing Pennsylvania's dairy farmers.

Charlotte Wallace and Sadie Innerst have been crowned state royalty and credit their FFA experiences for helping them prepare to serve as county and, ultimately, state dairy princesses.

Wallace is the 18-year-old daughter of Scot and Jennifer Wallace from Mohrsville.

She is a recent Schuylkill Valley High School graduate where she first got involved in FFA in her junior year. She helped found the Schuylkill Valley FFA chapter, where she served as the first president.

"FFA gave me confidence to become a leader and helped fuel my passions I did not know I had," Wallace said. "I gained key public speaking skills and learned how to speak in front of any crowd without stumbling and be sure of myself."

As the state dairy princess, Wallace looks forward to connecting with people from all over the state. She intends to build those same connections with her alternates and build lifelong friendships.

As a dairy promoter, she plans to travel across the state to help people understand the importance of the dairy industry and ag industry as a whole.

"Ninety-eight percent of people have no clue what it takes to be a farmer and no idea where their food comes from," Wallace said. "Agriculture in general is an underappreciated industry because without agriculture the world could not go round, and people need to understand that."

Wallace plans to attend Delaware Valley University to major in dairy science. She wants to pursue dairy nutrition or milk quality lab work after college.

She also hopes to get more



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From left, Sadie Innerst, Charlotte Wallace and Morgan Larson.

involved in showing dairy and livestock.

Innerst is the daughter of Steve and Colleen Innerst.

Her involvement with FFA started prior to her freshman year, as both her parents and older sister were involved in the organization. She followed in her sister's footsteps.

"Me and my sister went to many FFA events together, but when she graduated, I thought that I would be on my own, but I didn't realize that, through FFA, I gained a family more than just my sister," Innerst said.

Innerst is the president of West Perry FFA.

Before that, she struggled with speaking in front of others and had to learn to be a confident public speaker.

"My word of advice to other people is to do as many activities

as you can through FFA because it will build you to become a better person and develop a family that you never knew you had," Innerst said.

Innerst was crowned an Pennsylvania alternate dairy princess. She looks forward to serving the dairy industry this year and connecting with consumers across Pennsylvania.

She is excited about the opportunity to serve the dairy industry alongside her teammates, Wallace and Alternate Dairy Princess Morgan Larson.

She grew up working on her family dairy farm, which milks 260 cows.

Her goal is to become an agriculture teacher.

"I believe that agriculture is important and love to teach other people about what I am passionate about," Innerst said.

Freshmen Gather for Fall Leadership Conference

More than 500 teachers and first-year FFA members attended the Fall Leadership Conference on Oct. 1 at the Blair County Convention Center.

The conference is a half-day event where first-year members take their first big step in experiencing FFA outside of their chapter.

Participants completed four workshops focusing on leadership opportunities, involvement and events, supervised agricultural experiences, and challenging limiting beliefs.

Members were able to build connections and gain an understanding of what is to come on their FFA journey.



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National officer candidate Crystal Bomgardner runs a workshop at the 2024 Fall Leadership Conference.