

Norton FFA celebrates "I Believe" as national FFA theme

"I Believe" is the national FFA theme for 2011-2012. The organization's top priorities are preparing today's students for tomorrow's leadership roles and for employment in the workforce of the agricultural industry.

The national organization has over 500,000 members with 76 from the Norton FFA Chapter.

Over the last year, the Norton chapter has competed in contests, attended conferences, led chapter activities and learned a great deal about agriculture.

The year began with the chapter officers going to the state conference for chapter leaders to prepare for the coming year's activities and create new ones. The conference was held at Rock Springs Ranch in early July.

Throughout the year, the Norton chapter has exceeded expectations in contests at the district and state levels.

Career Development Event participation so far this year has included land judging, Greenhand Conference, dairy judging, leadership school, ag sales, job interviews, poultry judging and public speaking.

FFA is not all work and no fun. The Norton chapter has participated in a number of recreational activities, such as chapter lock-in, a trail ride, ag olympics, a trip to the Kansas State Fair, and a

Christmas party, among other activities.

In mid-January, 16 chapter members and five sponsors attended the National Western Stock Show and Rodeo in Denver, Colo. The stock show was an educational experience for all who attended.

Additionally, the Norton FFA chapter participated in the Farm Bureau Farm Safety Day. During the presentation, members developed speeches to help teach fifth and sixth graders about the dangers on a farm and how to stay safe.

"We look forward to all of the local, district and state activities coming up during the remainder of the year," said club representative Kolton Harting, chapter reporter. "Thank you to all our supporters and especially the Norton Community High School administration and the Norton FFA alumni for all they do to help us as we continue the strong Norton FFA tradition."

(Right) Norton FFA student Cody Ellis participated in a national land judging contest in Oklahoma City. Throughout the year, FFA students participate in a variety of agriculture judging contests to learn more about what constitutes quality ag products.

-Photo courtesy of Garrett Beydler



Logan charters new FFA chapter, begins with 21 students



As the first year for the program in the district, the Logan FFA Chapter is looking forward to receiving a Charter at the 2012 Kansas State FFA Convention this summer.

In order to be a chartered chapter, the school first had to establish an agricultural education program. With the school board's support, advisor Samantha Green, a current science teacher, began teaching three agricultural classes to establish the agriculture curriculum.

Then the chapter had to establish a constitution and create a program of activities that supports the goals of the National FFA organization. Activities must support the quality stan-

dards identified by the National FFA organization.

The standards include the divisions of Student Development, Chapter Development and Community Development.

Within each division are criteria that FFA chapters must meet to maintain a healthy chapter. Some of the criteria include developing leadership, developing career success, academic success, chapter recruitment, chapter financial stability, citizenship and agricultural promotion.

The Logan FFA chapter now has 21 members. This year, the Logan FFA has competed in dairy judging, dairy foods, food science, livestock judg-

ing, speech, and job interview career development events. Members have also delivered phone books to the community, hosted a canned food drive, attended the Kansas State Fair, sold fruit, hosted a Greenhand Chili Feed, held a labor auction and enjoyed social activities as a chapter.

(Far left) Logan FFA members were inducted as Greenhands at the Greenhand conference on Oct. 15. This is the first year for the Logan High School FFA chapter and the chapter is expecting to earn an FFA charter this summer.

-Photo courtesy of Samantha Green

Northern Valley FFA participates in local and state events

The 2011-2012 school year has been a busy and fun experience for the Northern Valley FFA Chapter. The chapter has enjoyed several different types of activities and competitions on the local, district, state, and national levels.

On the local level, the chapter has worked hard to involve members and the community in its happenings.

Many members have participated in several community service activities like helping at the Norton County Fair food stand, serving breakfast for the Sunflower Pioneer Power Association's big event, and holding a canned food drive.

Members also took part in helping with the Kansas Day Celebration in Logan and decorating pumpkins with the 4th and 5th grade classes.

As always, the chapter sold

fruit and meat in the community as a fund-raiser for the chapter's activities.

On the district level several individuals have competed in various career development events. These include; dairy cattle evaluation, job interview, agricultural mechanics, parliamentary procedure (4th place team), FFA ritual, and greenhand conference. The students did well and learned valuable skills through these experiences.

Five students had the opportunity to attend National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Ind. this fall. Along with the FFA Convention the students also experienced several industry tours such as; Harley Davidson, Caito Foods, Indianapolis Motor Speedway and Carley Elk Farm.

With National FFA Week quickly approaching, the chapter is planning some school events to

promote the organization and celebrate our successes.

The chapter is planning on serving a Teacher Appreciation Breakfast, hosting "Wear Your Boots to School Day," posting agriculture related facts around the school, and holding school-wide "Chicken Checkers" during lunch one day.

The chapter's future goals are to increase chapter and community involvement and promote the agriculture industry in a positive light.

(Right) The Northern Valley Intro to Agriculture class worked with fourth and fifth grade students around Halloween to decorate and learn about pumpkins. Pictured is FFA student Kortney Cunningham (center), working with the students.

-Photo courtesy of Alissa Krafft



Congratulations to the Norton and Northern Valley FFA Members for All of Your Accomplishments

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Congratulations to the Northern Valley, Logan and Norton FFA members for all their accomplishments

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