

Awards NEWSLETTER

Lincoln FFA



Forging Leaders ***TO LEAVE AN IMPACT***

In this special edition of the Lincoln FFA Newsletter, we would like to once again recognize all of our members' achievements that we celebrated at our End of Year Awards Ceremony on May 22nd. We once again congratulate all of our members for their outstanding work and dedication this year, and hope that our members will continue to thrive in the National FFA Organization!

For pictures from the Awards Ceremony, please contact Mr. Willhite (jwillhite@wpusd.org)

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Greenhand Degree Recipients

The Greenhand FFA Degree is the first degree that can be obtained by a member. It is earned by learning more about the National FFA Organization, its meaning, and history. This year Lincoln FFA Awarded 94 members their Greenhand FFA Degrees!

Samuel Acevedo	Zachary Hayes	Leslie Maciel	Antony Sanchez
Alex Alvarez	Reyna Hernandez Rodriguez	Mia Maldonado	Zoe Sovenski
Joshua Ayala	Julian Herrera	Payten Martin	Lily Stacy
Jose Barajas	Michelle Ignacio Blas	Davis Mason	Sophia Stapleton
Tanner Barnes	Evelyn Isidro	Liam Maul	Evan Tarwater
Mackenzie Beasley	Ashlynn Jacobson	Stephanie Mauricio	Ava Taylor
Shaylee Boom	Colten Janway	Lisandra Mauricio Juarez	Christian Taylor
Ryan Bouches	Natalie Jensen	Nathan McCarty	Felix Tena
Talia Campbell	Brayden Jimenez	Wyatt Mckeon	Dionel Terriquez
Tamia Campbell	Roxy Jones	Sophia Mendoza	Wyatt Thomas
Keaton Cardoza	Jada Juelch	Athena Meneses	Coby Thompson
Joe Crawford	Makenna Kaikkonen	Cooper Michael	Blakelynn Tingey
Ana De La Luz	Abigail Keeler	Lily Nielsen	Anay Tovar Barragan
Addison Dinsdale	Jacob Kemp	Adrian Panuco Arellano	Marcus Turner
Kaydence Dvorsky-Hyak	Tatum Kramm	Tyler Patton	Graciela Villalba
Nate Egan	Trace Krasner	Elise Petersen	Benjamin Wade
Aldo Fuentes	Colton Kraushar	Perry Poff	Morgan Walker
Kiley Ganjouee	Scarlett Leebeck	Madison Prieto	Collin Watkins
James Garcia	Logan Leles	Adrian Quezada	Nathan White
Gabby Garcia	Justin Leonides	Ailyn Ramirez	Cruz Wilkerson
Charlotte Grandin	Koda Lewis	Layla Rey Hutchason	Joseph Wilson
Dayana Gutierrez	Dustin Little	Angelyna Romine	Kort Wilson
Landon Hacker	Tatum Lockwood	Talon Ross	Colton York
	Jasmin Lopez	Valeria Saldana	

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Star Greenhand Degree Recipient

The Star Greenhand Degree is bestowed upon the most active and involved Freshmen member each year. This member is one who dives head first into the FFA by engaging in all 3-circles of the Ag Ed Model, joining CDEs & LDEs, seeking Chapter Office, etc. This year's Star Greenhand was awarded to;

Scarlett Leebeck

Chapter Degree Recipients

The Chapter FFA Degree is the 2nd highest degree that can be earned in the FFA, and the highest degree that can be conferred on a member by the local chapter. Members may only earn their Chapter Degree by increasing their participation in FFA Activities, having a productive Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Project, and by engaging in community service. This year, Lincoln FFA Awarded 9 members with their Chapter Degrees!

Valerie Deharo
Jacquelyn Ellis
Liam Gonzalez
Addalynn Henson
Gissel Ibanez Sanabria

Chris Leebeck
Matt Marino
Cooper Maul
Ashlee Swett

Star Chapter Degree

The Star Chapter Degree is given to the Chapter's most active and involved Sophomore Member, and is one of the highest honors that can be given by the Local Chapter. This year's Star Chapter Degree Recipient is;

Addalynn Henson

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Career Development Events (CDEs)

Career Development Events are competitions that center around an industry or career skill within the Agriculture Industry. Students must train and prepare, much like a sport, and then compete against other chapters at contests and field days. These competitions take time, dedication, and energy, but are extremely rewarding with the skill sets students earn, as well as the amazing experiences they endure through the competition season. Congratulations to our CDE participants this year!

Best Informed Greenhand

The Best Informed Greenhand contest is for those freshman members to learn everything they can about the history and fundamentals of the FFA Organization, and complete a test on that knowledge.

Congratulations to our BIG members: Charlotte Grandin, Makenna Kaikkonen, Scarlett Leebeck, Elise Petersen, and their coach, Megan Sampson!

Veterinary Science

The Veterinary Science contest is one of the most competitive in the FFA organization. Students need to know a wealth of vet information on various topics, complete practicums on different veterinary tasks, and complete tests.

Congratulations to our Veterinary Science team: Ruby Alvarez, Valerie DeHaro, Gissel Ibanez Sanabia, Chris Leebeck, Esmeralda Loyola Ruiz, Carrie Marino, Jonathan Sturgis, and their coach, Mrs. Killingsworth

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Leadership Development Events (LDEs)

Leadership Development Events are much like CDEs, except their focus is on Public Speaking, and Leadership Development. Many LDEs are single person events, and require courage, dedication, and time to do well. Members engaging in LDEs are taking on quite the challenge, but the rewards are priceless. Congratulations to our LDE participants this year!

Creed Speaking

Creed is the first speaking contest, designed for freshman members to memorize and recite the FFA creed and answer questions based on its meaning. This contest is the first opportunity for FFA members to practice and demonstrate their public speaking skills.

Congratulations to our Creed Speakers; Scarlett Leebeck, Makenna Kaikkonen, Payten Martin, Elise Petersen and their coach Mr. Willhite!

El Credo De La FFA

A few years ago, in an effort to be more inclusive of hispanic students, The CA FFA State Association started the El Credo De La FFA, or Spanish Creed Contest. This contest is designed for spanish speaking members of any grade to express their passions for Agricultural Education and the FFA in Spanish.

Congratulations to our Spanish Creed Speakers, Estrella Herrera and Esmerlada Loyola Ruiz, and their Coaches Mr. Willhite, & Mrs. Gatchet!

Impromptu Speaking

Impromptu tests a member's ability to think on their feet and respond to a variety of prompts from all areas of Agriculture. Responses must be thorough and thoughtful, meaning the speaker must have a wide range of agriculture knowledge.

Congratulations to our Impromptu Speakers Giana Bramhill, Addalynn Henson and Ashlee Sweat and coach Mrs. Killingsworth!

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Job Interview

The Job interview contest has members select an agriculture based job, create a cover letter and resume, and then interview for that job. This competition builds students' ability to effectively research and prepare for job interviews.

Congratulations to our Job Interview Candidates Hudson Hants, Gissel Ibanez Sanabia and Carrie Marino and their coach Mr. Willhite!

Parliamentary Procedure

The parli pro contest creates a mock chapter meeting environment surrounding a piece of business. Members of the team must debate on the topic and make motions to prove their knowledge in Parliamentary Law, and then answer questions from the judges. Students must be able to learn the rules and laws of Parliamentary procedure, and learn how to argue and debate effectively and convincingly. This year's Team made it all the way to the State Finals Competition, and was in the top 12 novice teams in the state!

Congratulations to our Parli Pro team; Keaton Cardoza, Joseph Crawford, Makenna Kaikkonen, Dotty Lefty Matt Marino, Cooper Michael, Tyler Patton, Elise Petersen, Lilyana Petersen, Megan Sampson, Cruz Wilkerson, and Coach Mr. Willhite!

Project Competition

Each year members with exceptional and unique SAE projects are able to compete against other members from the 17 schools in our FFA Section to see who has the best SAE in a variety of Categories. Members who compete in Project Competition submit their SAE records, and have a panel of judges come out to their SAE project to observe and answer questions about their project. This year Lincoln FFA had 4 members compete in Project Competition.

Annelise Cederholm - Gold Star for her Goat Breeding Project

Amrita Rana - Silver Star for her Production Hens Project

Jacqueline Ellis - Gold Star for her Equine Placement Project

Grace Tripp - Gold Star & 1st Place Overall in Work Experience

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Proficiency Awards

Proficiency Awards are given to students who excel in their Supervised Agricultural Experience Projects. These awards encourage members to develop specialized skills that will apply toward their future careers. To be awarded a proficiency is a high honor, as it means that a student has an excellent SAE project.

In the area of Agricultural Mechanics Design and Fabrication, the winner is **Dalton Shrum** for his Placement Job at Barnum Mechanical.

In the area of Agricultural Sales, the winner is **Zane Smull** for his Placement Job at Powder Creek Ranch Supply.

In the area of Agricultural Services, the winner is **Jacquelyn Ellis**, for her custom agricultural photography business.

In the area of Beef Production Placement, the winner is **Grace Tripp**, for her work as a ranch hand on a cattle ranch.

In the area of Beef Production Entrepreneurship, the winner is **Aiden Maul**, for his multiple years of raising and showing cattle.

In the area of Equine Science Placement, the winner is **Jacquelyn Ellis** for her Placement Job at Triple Crown Equine Center.

In the area of Equine Science Ownership, the winner is **Gissel Ibanez Sanabia** for her Horse Enterprise.

In the area of Poultry Production, the winner is **Amrita Rana** for her Chicken & Egg Enterprise.

In the area of Sheep Production, the winner is **Megan Sampson** for her multiple years of Market Lamb Projects.

In the area of Small Animal Production and Care, the winner is **Kiley Ganjouee**, for her market rabbit enterprise.

Finally, in the area of Swine Production, the winner is **Lillian Grandin** for her multiple years of Market Swine Projects.

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While these accomplishments are extraordinary, the National FFA Organization outlines additional awards to recognize outstanding and unique SAE projects in specific areas, including Agriscience Projects, Placement Projects, and non-production Agribusiness projects.

This year we are able to recognize the Lincoln FFA Stars in Agribusiness, and Agricultural Placement.

Star in Agribusiness

This year's Star in Agribusiness is **Jacquelyn Ellis**! Jacquelyn is following her passions and has started her own custom agricultural photography business. She can be found frequenting the CHSRA D3 rodeos held in Lincoln, taking pictures of those young people showing their mastery in their events. The agriculture industry is filled with amazing things, and we are glad we have someone at Lincoln FFA capturing those moments for others to see, congratulations Jacquelyn!

Star in Agricultural Placement

This year's Star in Agricultural Placement is **Zane Smull**! Zane is following the family business and has been working at Powder Creek Ranch Supply as a true jack of all trades working in and out of the store to support his customers in Lincoln. Zane has made it a point to be able to spend as much time as he can working at the store, to learn the business, expand his skills and job responsibilities, and support his family's business. Congratulations Zane!

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Involvement Awards

To get the full agricultural education experience, an FFA member must fully engage in the three circle model. This means that they must equally engage in Classroom Instruction, FFA Leadership, and SAE Projects. As a part of their grade in their ag classes, each student must earn at least 5 activity points per semester. These can be earned by attending meetings, going to Conferences and Conventions, and being involved in many of the other activities we host. We would like to recognize those members who have surpassed this requirement, as either a Bronze (11+), Silver (21+), or Gold (31+) member.

Bronze;

Ruby Alvarez
Garrett Baser
Jacquelyn Ellis
Natalie Foreman
Colton kraushar
Davis Mason
Liam Maul

Cooper Michael
Amrita Rana
Valeria Saldana
Zane Smull
Samantha vansant
Collin Watkins
Cruz Wilkerson

Silver

Keaton Cardoza
Valerie DeHaro
charlotte grandin
Lillian Grandin
Hudson Hants
Estrella Herrera
Makenna Kaikkonen

Dotty Lefty
Mason Lewin
Lilyana Petersen
Kamryn Rhinehart
Talon Ross-Hart
Megan Sampson
Ashlee Swett

Gold

Joe Crawford
Addalynn Henson
Gissel Ibanez Sanabia
Chris Leebeck
Scarlett leebeck

Esmeralda Loyola Ruiz
Matthew Marino
Elise Petersen
Tyler Patton

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State Degree Recipients

The State FFA degree is the second highest degree that can be awarded to a member of the FFA Organization. It is also the highest honor that the California State FFA Association can bestow upon a member. To earn the State FFA Degree means that a member has not only been extremely active in all aspects of Agriculture education, but that they have also shown dedication in their SAE project and higher involvement in the FFA. This year, Lincoln FFA is proud to have had five members earn their State FFA Degree!

Annelise Cederholm

Lillian Grandin

Mason Lewin

Kody Lowe

Zane Smull

Scholarship Recipients

Grey Brothers Agricultural Scholarship

Megan Sampson

John Patch Memorial Scholarship

Dotty Lefty

Steven Moore Memorial Scholarship

Dotty Lefty

Cody Evans Agriculture Memorial Scholarship

Dotty Lefty & Megann Sampson

Gold Hill Grange Scholarship

Dotty Lefty & Megann Sampson

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Tradestrong Scholarship

Cameron Beedy, Jacob Cooper, Isaiah Garcia, Ethan Hawes, Melissa Huerta, Trenten Morris, Mattherw Morrow, Blake Rea, Dalton Shrum, Alex Simkins, PJ Soto, Landon Steinmetz, Ezequiel Valdovin, & Conor West

Jackie Davis Memorial Scholarship

Dotty Lefty

Thermalands Sportsmen's Club Scholarship

Mac Drenon, Dotty Lefty, & Megan Sampson

Vineyard Family Scholarship

Annelise Cederholm, Dotty Lefty, Aiden Maul, Megan Sampson, & Kendall Sand

Placer-Nevada Cattlewomen's Scholarship

Annelise Cederholm & Megan Sampson

Tahoe Cattlemen's Association Scholarship

Dotty Lefty & Aiden Maul

Placer County Farm Bureau Scholarship

Dotty Lefty

Placer County Agriculture Student of the Year

This award presented by the Office of Shanti Landon is meant to recognize the most outstanding student in Agricultural Education each year. With input from the FFA Advisors, this year's recipient was;

Lilyana Petersen

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Agriculture Pathway Completers

Being a pathway completer shows that you have developed knowledge in your respective disciplines and are ready to obtain careers in those fields. Our Agriculture department is proud to offer 5 pathways to our members; Sustainable Agriculture, Ag Mechanics, Floriculture, Animal Science, and Agribusiness. Each of these pathways requires a student to take at least 3 specific classes in that discipline. We are proud to recognize pathway completers in the following areas

Agribusiness

Anthony Alonzo
Gage Blanton
Jackson Cook
Aaron Espino
Hudson Hants
Hunter Johnson
Carrie Marino

Aiden Maul
Rocco Pipia
Megan Sampson
Paul Sanitarov
Conor West
Kendall Willard

Agricultural Mechanics

Oliver Ayers
Jacob Bailey
Cameron Beedy
Jacob Cooper
Aaron Espino
Ryan Farrell
Ethan Hawes
Trevor Hoffman
Karsyn Johnson
Mathew Morrow

Javier Munoz
Aiden Nowack
Blake Rea
Noah Roycraft
Dalton Shrum
Alexander Simkins
PJ Soto
Landon Steinmetz
Curtis Strother
Conor West

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Animal Science

Annelise Cederholm
Hudson Hants
Dotty Lefty
Carrie Marino

Lilyana Petersen
Megan Sampson
Paul Sanitarov

Floriculture

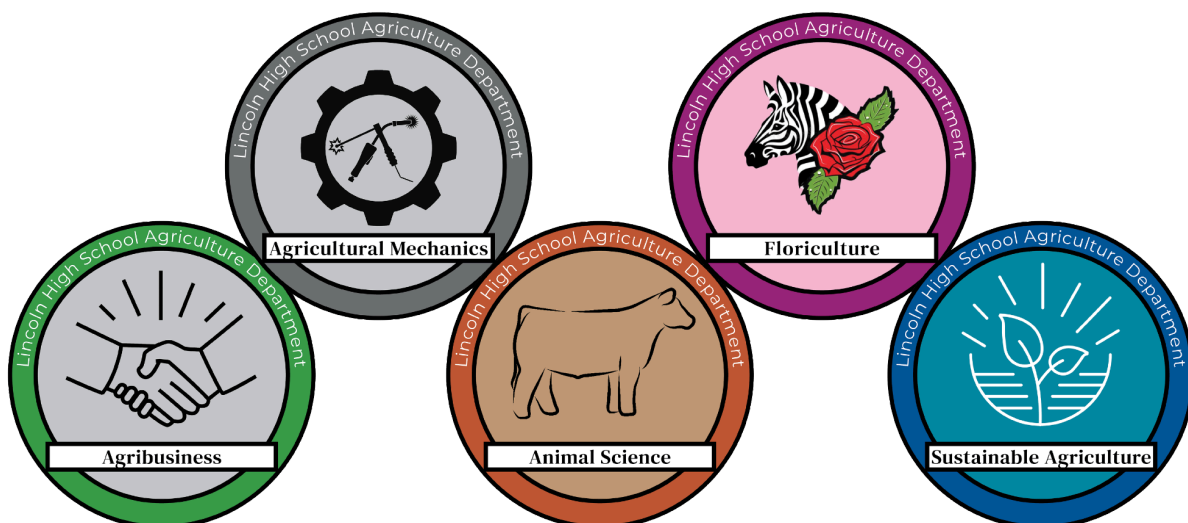
Carmel Brommerich
Lilianna Houze

Lavender Klopson
Sodanny Van

Sustainable Agriculture

Annelise Cederholm
Aaron Espino
Hudson Hants
Ethan Hawes
Dotty Lefty
Carrie Marino

Anthony Patton
Lilyana Petersen
Megan Sampson
Paul Sanitarov
Dalton Shrum
Alexander Simkins



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FFA Senior Award

The 3-Circle model of Agricultural Education represents that for a student to truly benefit from ag education, they should be actively involved in all aspects of the program; Classroom Instruction, Supervised Agricultural Experience Projects, and FFA Leadership Involvement. Each year there are a few senior members who have truly taken this idea to heart, and have maintained active participation in all 3 circles. It is no easy task, but to achieve the honor of the FFA Senior award, a member must be a member for all four years, participate in CDE or LDE teams during their time, have an active SAE project, and earn the highest degree that the California FFA State Association can bestow upon them, the State FFA Degree. I have had the privilege of working closely with each of these individuals, and will miss their participation and presence at our activities when they graduate this year. This year's recipients of the FFA Senior Award are;

Annelise Cederholm

Dotty Lefty

Aiden Maul

Carrie Marino

Lilyana Petersen

Megan Sampson

4-Year Agriculture Students

Oliver Ayers

Annelise

Cederholm

Jackson Cook

Aaron Espino

Hudson Hants

Ethan Hawes

Karsyn Johnson

Dotty Lefty

Zach LePori

Carrie Marino

Aiden Maul

Mathew Morrow

Anthony Patton

Lilyana Petersen

Rocco Pipia

Blake Rea

Noah Roycraft

Megan Sampson

Kendall Sand

Paul Sanitarov

Dalton Shrum

Alexander Simkins

PJ Soto

Conor West

Kendall Willard

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Community Recognition

It takes a lot to operate a successful FFA Chapter, and it requires a lot of support and dedication from our community. Each year there are some of our community members who go above and beyond to support our chapter and students. We take this opportunity to recognize them and their contributions to Agriculture Education!

Tony Anzelc

Brent & Emily Collins

Tyler Jodrey

Mary MacQueen

Stephanie Maul

Denise Moore

Wendi Pineschi

Ashley Sandor

Troy & Keri Scott

Todd Scott

Mike Trueblood

Vickie Vineyard

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Honorary Chapter Degree

The Honorary Chapter Degree is the highest award and honor that can be bestowed on a non-member by an FFA Chapter. It is meant to symbolize the highest respect and honor for an individual and their contributions to the Local Program. As defined by the National FFA Constitution;

“Honorary FFA Degree—farmers, school superintendents, principals, members of boards of education, chapter advisors, teachers, staff members in agricultural education, business people and others who are helping to advance agricultural education and the FFA and who have rendered outstanding service, may be elected to receive an honorary FFA degree by a majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting or convention.”

This year’s Lincoln FFA Honorary Chapter Degree Recipients were;

Mrs. Marilou Edwards & in his memory, Mr. Jackie Davis!

Ms. Edwards, we want to thank you for everything you have done to support not only Lincoln FFA but supporting future leaders. Your dedication whether it’s through attending the National convention, or simply giving your time means more than words can express. You’ve played a vital role in helping us grow as leaders and your passion for FFA continues to inspire us to reach higher. Thank you again for supporting the future farmers of America.

The Davis family have been a pillar in our community for decades from before the impact was even seen through the youth in Placer County. Jackie Davis has been a lifelong supporter of our program during and following the graduation of his own children, our community lost Jackie in January but his legacy continues through our program each year. From raising his Hereford cows to supporting the Placer County Junior Livestock auction Jackie was a constant reminder of the good agriculture can do for a community, serving on our Farm Foundation board allowed Jackie to be heavily involved in the success of our school farm. He believed strongly in “paying it forward” and has given a “leg up” to many young people in the industry over the years, for these reasons we would like to honor Jackie Davis with his honorary Chapter Degree therefore his name and legacy will live on not only through those who he made an impact on but also our chapter as whole.

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Star FFA Member

The Star FFA Member Award is a way we recognize the most active and outstanding FFA member from our chapter each year. The requirements are rigorous, but the honor is great! The winner of this award each year will have their name added to the perpetual plaque, in the hopes it will serve as a reminder to all FFA members that participation will lead to success. This year's recipient of the Star FFA Member Award was;

Matthew Marino!

2024 - 2025 Lincoln FFA Chapter Officer Team

After much anticipation, it is time to reveal the 2025-2026 Chapter Officer team. The process began in April, with 15 candidates submitting an application to the Advisor, undergoing an interview, and presenting a speech to the FFA members at the April FFA meeting. Though this 3 part process has brought forth the most qualified candidates to serve as officers next year, we thank and appreciate all of you for seeking to serve your fellow members.

Your 2025/2026 Chapter Historian is: **Tyler Patton**

Your 2025/2026 Chapter Sentinel is: **Joseph Crawford**

Your 2025/2026 Chapter Reporter is: **Elise Petersen**

Your 2025/2026 Chapter Treasurer is: **Ashlee Swett**

Your 2025/2026 Chapter Secretary is: **Gissel Ibanez Sanabia**

Your 2025/2026 Chapter Vice President is: **Matthew Marino**

Your 2025/2026 Chapter President is: **Addalynn Henson**

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I want to congratulate once again all of the members of the Lincoln FFA Chapter for their involvement and dedication to the chapter this year! The FFA is truly an amazing organization that allows students to develop themselves into productive members of our society, become leaders, learn skills, and become successful. As the Head Advisor, it is my responsibility to ensure that our chapter is always striving to better our activities, get more students involved, and create a better program each year. This responsibility is great and at times difficult... but being able to work with our members outside of the classroom in our FFA leadership activities is truly the greatest joy of my job.

I want to thank all of our adult partners and community supporters. Behind most things I do, there are other people helping and supporting those activities. Whether it be the Scott Family & Fowlers' helping with our Benefit Dinner & Supporting our farm, Mr. Jodrey & Mrs. Pineschi for accepting all of my paperwork even when it is late (sorry!), and all of the other people who help me manage this program, you all provide instrumental support to the members of Lincoln FFA, and I truly thank and appreciate your efforts!

To the 24/25 Lincoln FFA Chapter Officer Team. Thank you for your year of dedication and service to our chapter. Your leadership, ideas, perseverance, commitment, and even your humor and sarcasm has made this a year to remember. I will miss our inside jokes, antics, yelling matches, and memorable adventures together. To the five graduating seniors on the team, I will truly miss your presence in our program next year, but I am excited to see where your next steps in life take you!

To the 25/26 Lincoln FFA Chapter Officer Team. Congratulations on being elected to chapter office! Being elected to this position shows that you have the skills and drive to continue the work of the chapter officers before you to continue in making our chapter great. I look forward to our year of service together and seeing what you can accomplish!

Once again, congratulations to all the members of the Lincoln FFA Chapter!

- Jacob Willhite, Lincoln FFA Advisor