

FFA Week Spotlight

Fairfield ISD Chapter

“Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, Living to Serve.”

These 12 simple words are the motto of the FFA and give our students great advice carry out in their everyday lives. Over the past several years, the Fairfield FFA has had an explosion in our membership and those are students becoming active in all aspects of the organization. Our 2022-2023 membership has crossed the 350 member mark which is a record for Fairfield FFA.

Our year is busy from the start of school until mid-July. We are involved in all aspects of the FFA from livestock shows, Leadership and Career Development Events, Speaking Contest, and the Agriculture Mechanics Shows as well. Also, attending District, Area, and State Convention as well as the Leadership Camps offered by our Area. Currently, the Sandyland District President is Cole Coufal of the Fairfield FFA.

The year starts off by attending the Fall Stock Shows such as the State Fair of Texas and Heart O’ Texas Fair and Rodeo. This year at the HOT fair in Waco, we had members earn the title Grand and Reserve Santa Gertrudis heifer which earned each one a scholarship to further their education. Also, during the fall, we have students compete in the Sandyland District LDE Contest. These events teach the students valuable leadership and speaking skills that will be vital for their future careers.

Once we return from Christmas break, we hit the ground running again with major show season and training for Career and Speaking Development events. Fairfield FFA attends Ft. Worth Stock Show, San Antonio Stock Show, and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. These shows provide students the opportunity to show off all the hard work they have put into their animal and ag mechanics projects. At the same time as stock shows, our students are training hard for Career Development Events. Through numerous contest such as livestock judging, horse judging, land, homesite evaluation, and floriculture, students can put real world skills to the test and apply what they have learned in class and training to be successful on the district, area, and state level.

As the year comes to an end, we have our district and area conventions where members run for office and apply for various awards at the state level. Finally in June, the Freestone County Fair rounds out the year that is hectic and fun all at the same time. Fairfield FFA usually has multiple entries in all the shows at the Fair each year. If you look back at our FFA Motto, you can see the Fairfield FFA members use every part of it from the start of school til the county fair in June. We truly strive to offer a rounded program that offers multiple opportunities to all members to be involved and successful.



Learning Practical Skills

MR. SHERMAN’S CLASS LEARNING and practicing their wiring skills to help them in their own homes one day.



Ft. Worth Stock Show

WE’RE SO PROUD of how well Kinsley White and Ally Basden showed their lambs at the Fort Worth Stock Show!



THE FAIRFIELD FFA OFFICER TEAM had a great time navigating their way through Escape Room challenges. Officers and sponsors include Back Row (left-right): Ms. Parsons, Mrs. Sorrell, Connor Petty, Obie Crook, Kenna Eppes, Rissa Eppes, Blake Phillips; Front row (l-r): Mr. Sherman, Cole Coufal, Mr. Phillips, Cade Nelson. (Courtesy Photos)

The Show Must Go On...Rain or Snow!

FAIRFIELD FFA MEMBERS BEAT THE ICY WEATHER that closed schools for three days in at the beginning of the month. Thanks to the crew worked endlessly this week caring for the Will Rogers Memorial Center & Facilities, almost 1,500 steers exhibited during this year’s show. Congratulations to our own competitors: Hannah Johnson and Peyton Johnson.

FFA OFFICERS - 2022-2023: PRESIDENT - MaKenna Eppes; VICE-PRESIDENT - Blake Phillips; SECRETARY - Obie Crook; TREASURER - Rissa Eppes; REPORTER - Cade Nelson; SENTINEL - Cole Coufal; ADVISOR - Connor Petty

Proud of our “**Blue Jacket**” students!
 Help us celebrate the Fairfield FFA Chapter during National FFA Week Feb. 18-25, 2023.



Fairfield
 Independent School District

--Superintendent Dr. Adams & FISD Board Trustees

Teague ISD FFA Chapter Takes 2nd Place in District

Winner Winner!
 Congratulations to Teague FFA members for months of hard work.
 They placed 2nd in sweepstakes at the Sandyland FFA District LDE contest in November, advancing six teams to the area VIII FFA competition.
 Awards include:
 --GH chapter conducting first place
 --GH Spanish creed speaker first place
 --Ag issues forum second place
 --GH quiz team second place
 --Sr chapter conducting second place
 --Ag advocacy team second place



Learning the Mechanics

TEAGUE FFA RESULTS: First Place in District, Fifth Place in Area at the Tractor Technician contest January 25th at Navarro John Deere Tech College. Great job!

Celebrate the bright future of our youth!

We proudly support FFA & 4-H Youth throughout the Tri-County Area!

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Grants to Support Ag Education

Grants for Growing (G4G) is a competitive grant program for middle and high school FFA chapters that are developing and improving project-based or experiential learning opportunities for students. FFA chapters may apply for up to \$5,000 through the G4G program, sponsored by Tractor Supply Company (TSC).

Funding is provided by consumers who purchase an FFA paper emblem at TSC stores during checkout. Emblems can be purchased at any denomination.

Grants may be used to grow your classroom, your FFA Chapter, or your Ag Awareness.

- Paper Emblem Sales: Feb. 15-26, 2023
- Grant Application Opens: March 1, 2023
- Grant Application Closes: May 15, 2023
- Award Notification: Aug. 1, 2023

For more information, visit online at www.ffa.org/grants-for-growing

Thank You, Sponsors!

The 3rd Annual Teague Young Farmers' Valenswine show had such an amazing turn out!

Thank you to everyone who came out to the show and especially to our sponsors. None of this would have been even remotely possible without y'all.

Thank you to all the volunteers who worked super hard to put this event on, each and every one of you are greatly appreciated!

Thank you to our wonderful judges that talked some good quality livestock!
 Thank you to Papa Ray's for coming out and providing such great food that everyone loved.
 Additionally, thank you to General Seven Six for setting up shop for the show, y'all have some really amazing products!

Photos of the event can be found online at mitchellpate.smugmug.com

Teague Young Farmers
VALENSWINE SHOW

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Teague Students Show Off Floral Design Skills

TEAGUE FFA STUDENTS ENTER THEIR FIRST EVER Floral Design competition on December 7th that include three rounds. First they made a hand bouquet with a \$30 budget, and half of the contestants were eliminated. The second round involved creating their own design without a budget. Then, the last round consisted of the top 10. Our team consisted of Raeanna Burns, Lillian Chamblis, and Yaneli Diaz. Everyone competed in the first round and then Lillian and Yaneli made it to the second round. We are so unbelievably proud of these kids getting out there and having the drive to try new things! HUGE Thank You to Every Blooming Thing in Teague for donating to the team, so that they would be prepared for the contest. (Courtesy photos)

Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord
The farmer waits for the precious produce of the soil, being patient about it, until it gets the early and late rains.

James 5:7

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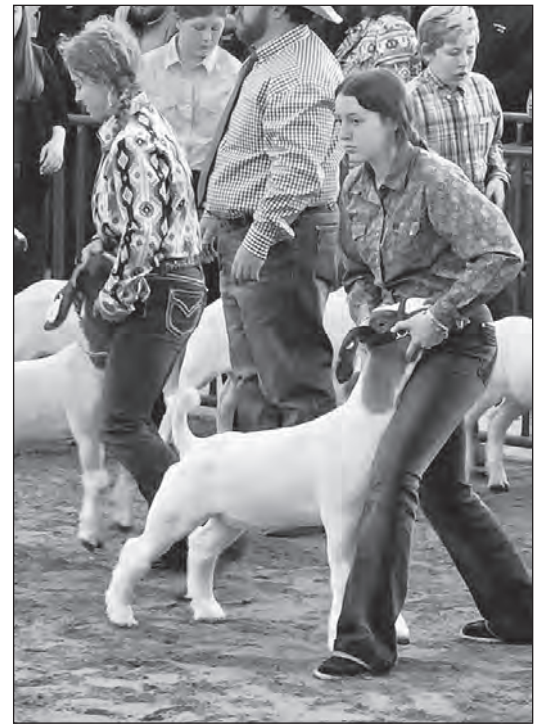
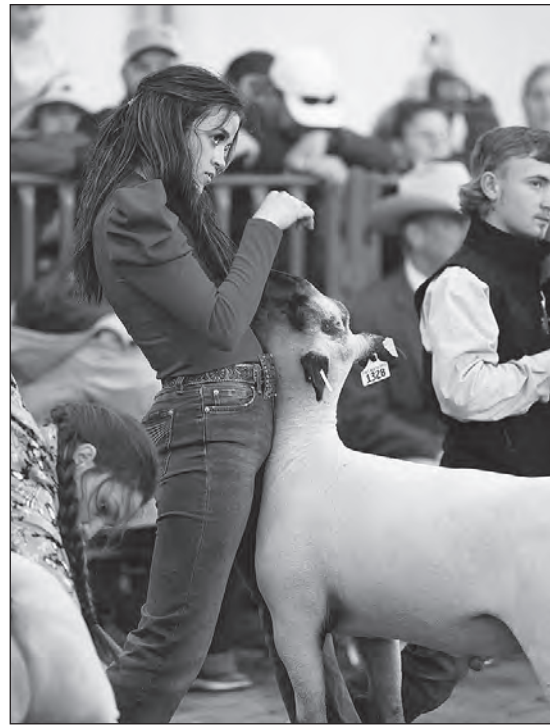
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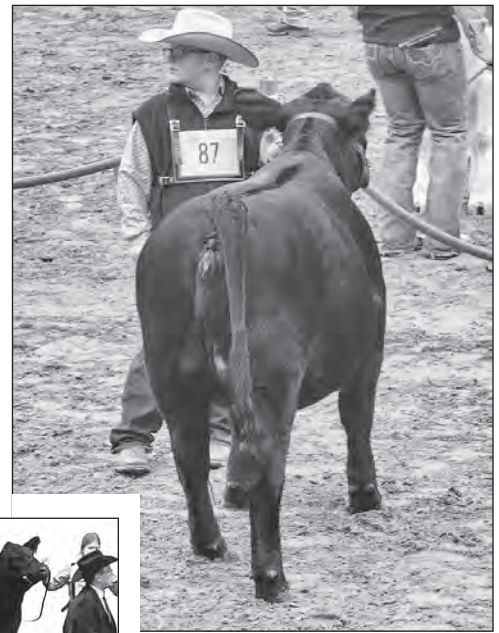
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MAJOR SHOW SEASON is upon us! Here are a few of Teague FFA's Ft. Worth Lamb and Goat exhibitors. Great job kids! Now THIS is homework!



FT. WORTH 2023 IN THE BOOKS! Fun group of Teague FFA kids showing their cattle. (Courtesy Photos)

National FFA Week

February 18-35, 2023

Today, FFA provides the next generation of leaders who will change the world. As the top school-based youth leadership development organization in the nation, FFA helps young people meet new agricultural challenges by developing their unique talents and exploring their interests in a broad range of career pathways. FFA members are out future leaders, our future food suppliers, our future innovators and more!

Whether it is through service projects or community gatherings, National FFA Week

is a time for FFA members to raise awareness about the role the National FFA Organization plays in the development of agriculture's future leaders and the importance of agricultural education.

The National FFA Organization is a school-based national youth leadership development organization for more than 850,000 students members as part of 8,995 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



SMILE
...and *The "Times"* is there!



SWINGING C, with a total of 1,420 points, earned this year's title of First Place Team in the 10th Annual Varmint Hunt, hosted by Teague FFA. Team members are James Curry, Justin Erskin, Tommy Whitzel, and Brandon Larson. (Courtesy Photo)

Teague FFA 10th Annual Varmint Hunt a Success

Thank you to all who competed in Teague FFA's 10th Annual Varmint Hunt and thank you to our sponsors. None of this would have been possible without y'all!

Congratulations to our winning teams:

- 1st place Team with 1420pts
Swinging C - Team Captain: James Curry; Team members: Justin Erskin, Tommy Whitzel, and Brandon Larson
- 2nd place Team with 1260pts
Brush Kountry Boys - Team Captain: Shay Snyder; Team members: Seth Snyder, Derrick Dietrich, and Zane Washburn
- Heaviest Coon (22.6lbs): Mangy Mutts - Team Captain: Matthew Everett; Team members: Tim Everett, Trey Spence, and Jay Macdonald
- Heaviest Coyote (45.4lbs) & Heaviest Hog (235lbs): XXL - Team Captain: Adrian Becks; Team members: Matthew Brooke, Austin Harris, and Jacob Jernigan
- Heaviest Bobcat (24lbs): Daddy's Money - Team Captain: Mark Burleson; Team members: Mason Burleson & Jimmy Owens

"I believe in the future of agriculture, with a faith born not of words but of deeds."



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Wortham ISD FFA

(clockwise from top left):
 RaShay Covey palpating her heifer.
 Raymond Fortoul and Christopher Chasteen showing their ag mech project at the 2022 Freestone County Fair.
 Horse Judging team includes Tanner Bean, RaShay Covey, Braidee Taylor, and Dallas Crundwell.
 Wortham FFA members Tanner Bean, James Rissmiller, Yancey Bean, Maci Henderson, RaShay Covey and Ryleigh Range.
 Tanner Bean and Konnor Hook show a few visitors around the FFA Petting Zoo and Canned Food Drive.
 (Courtesy Photos)



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Fairfield Young Farmers '30 guns in 30 days' raffle to benefit Fairfield FFA chapters

Get Your Ticket!

Fairfield FFA gives a big "Thank You" to the Fairfield Young Farmers for all that they do for our FFA and Jr FFA members!

Please check out the raffle they have going on to make this year even better for our youth: 'Gun Raffle: 30 guns in 30 days.'

Tickets are \$100 each, and only 1,000 will be sold.

Drawing starts April 1st and will continue each day until all the guns have been given away. Winners will be announced on Facebook.

If your ticket is drawn, it will continue to go back into the drawing throughout the 30 days.

Must be 21 to purchase a ticket. Complete rules available on The Fairfield Young Farmers Facebook page.

To get your ticket, contact one of the following members:

- Chandler Baggerly: 903-644-6995
- Joyce Crook: 903-203-2239
- Kim Emmons: 903-388-2587
- Chassey Petty: 254-315-3697

Donations from Fairfield Young Farmers in 2022 were used for the following:

- Freestone County Fair Sale: more than \$25,000
- FCF Bedding Donations: \$1,000
- Ag Mechanics Team Apparel: \$2,000
- Scholarships: \$3,250

All donations make a huge impact on our FFA and Jr. FFA members.

Thank you for all that you do in supporting the future of agriculture!




Giving New Life to Cemetery Wreaths

WORKING HARD ON THEIR WREATH PROJECTS are Mrs. Sorrell's Fairfield FFA students! A big thank you to Wreaths of America and Mrs. Crawford's recycle team for the donation!

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Heifer Show at Ft. Worth

Congratulations to the following heifer exhibitors on a job well done in their classes at the Fort Worth Stock Show.

These Fairfield FFA students showed against large classes of exhibitors from across the state of Texas.

- Kenna Eppes: Polled Hereford 4th
- Rissa Eppes: Polled Hereford 6th
- Peyton Johnson: Main-Anjou 5th
- Blake Phillips: Beefmaster 14th
- Elizabeth Pillans: Brangus 5th
- Arden Strait: Santa Gertrudis 4th
- Avery Strait: Santa Gertrudis 5th

Sr. Quiz Team Places in Area

Good job to Fairfield FFA Sr Quiz team finishing 6th place at the Area contest.

We are very proud of this young team of freshman for stepping up, studying, and being very competitive against schools of all sizes

and all high school aged students!

Team members are: Conner Colvert, Blake Phillips (3rd high individual of Area), Rhett Ralstin, and Audrina Tedder.

District LDE Contest

Placings for Fairfield FFA students are as follows:

- Ag Advocacy: Cole Coufal, Cade Nelson, Connor Petty, Riley Ralstin - 6th out of 12
- Creed (Jr.): Kaylie Ridge - 10th out of 14
- Creed (Sr.): MaKenna Eppes - 8th out of 17
- Job Interview: Marissa Eppes - 9th out of 12
- Quiz (Jr.): Heidi Bailes, Skylar Cook, Adalyn Peterson, Bryanna Willis - 4th out of 11
- Quiz (Sr.): Connor Colvert, Blake Phillips, Rhett Ralstin, Audrina Tedder - 2nd out of 18 and advancing to Area!
- Public Relations: Kaylan Anderson, Reese Beaver, Addison Shipley, Cadence Webster - 6th out of 10
- Radio: MaKenna Eppes, Marissa Eppes, Carolyn Dunlap - 6th out of 16
- Skills: Rainy Bonds, Bragg Bonner, Connor Petty - 4th out of 12
- Sr. Chapter Conducting: Alaina Baker, Connor Colvert, Cole Coufal, Obie Crook, Jaylin Flowers, Blake Phillips, Avery Strait - 4th out of 7

We are very proud of each of one of them!!



Well Done!

LAND AND RANGE TEAMS COMPETED at the Bedia Creek contest in Groesbeck last week!

Fairfield FFA has several new team members this year, so everyone learned a lot and are getting some practice in before Area contest later this semester.

Team members include (left-right): Trinity Glass, Rainy Bonds, Jerry Draper, Cale Myers, Jenae Weathered, Cinthia Serrato, Samayah Wiley.

(Courtesy Photo)



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