

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

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Future of Agriculture

FFA Week - Feb. 12-22, 2025

Each year, Future Farmers of America (FFA) celebrates with FFA Week. This year, FFA Week is February 15-22, 2025.

What is FFA?

FFA is a dynamic youth organization that changes lives and prepares members for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education.

The organization develops members' potential and helps them discover their talent through hands-on experiences, which give members the tools to achieve real-world success.

Members are future farmers, chemists, veterinarians, government officials, entrepreneurs, bankers, international business leaders, teachers, and premier professionals in many career fields.

FFA is an extracurricular student organization for those interested in agriculture and leadership. It is one of the three components of agricultural education.

The organization continues to help the next generation rise up to meet those challenges by helping its members to develop their own unique talents and explore their interests in a broad range of agricultural career pathways. We are the Future Farmers of America, and we are the Future Biologists, Future Chemists, Future Veterinarians, Future Engineers and Future Entrepreneurs of America, too.

Today, the National FFA Organization remains committed to the individual student, providing a path to achievement in premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. Our members live the motto Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live and Living to Serve. FFA members rise to the challenge of service embracing members of all walks of life united through FFA. We Are FFA.

FFA is Structured on Three Levels

-Local FFA Chapters: The heart of the National FFA Organization is at the local chapter level. FFA chapters may be chartered in any public school with an agricultural education program. Leadership is provided by student officers who are elected each year by the chapter's members, and by the agriculture teacher who serves as the advisor for the chapter.

-State FFA Associations: FFA is an organization made up of state associations; those state associations are made up of local chapters. State FFA Associations function within the constitution of the National FFA Organization but may also create individual leadership structures, awards, programs and competitions. State FFA officers lead the membership of the state associations and are elected by state FFA convention delegates. Local FFA Chapters are chartered through the state associations.

-National FFA Organization: At the national level, FFA is led by a board of directors and six student national officers. Together they act on recommendations from the national convention delegates and agricultural education's stakeholders to set the vision and policy for FFA. The founding principles, authority, objectives and procedures of the National FFA Organization are established by the National FFA Constitution and Bylaws. The National FFA Organization is a federally chartered organization. The National FFA Organization is a resource and support organization that does not select, control or supervise state association, local chapter or individual member activities. Educational materials are developed by FFA in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Education as a service to state and local agricultural education agencies. The National FFA Organization affirms its belief in the value of all human beings and seeks diversity in its membership, leadership and staff as an equal opportunity employer.

How is FFA Funded?

FFA programs are funded through sponsorships and individual donations at the local, state, and national levels. National dues for each member are \$7 per year.

Read this week's edition to learn more about Freestone County's FFA chapters.

Fairfield High School FFA Chapter



ATTENDING THE STATE CONVENTION in Houston this past summer are Fairfield FFA Officers.



EARNING 7TH PLACE at the State Job Interview held at Sam Houston State University is Fairfield FFA student, Blake Phillips.



WINNING FIRST PLACE Limousin Heifer in Fort Worth is Fairfield FFA student, Blake Phillips.

See page 10-A for additional pictures of Fairfield FFA chapter.

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Carter BloodCare to Award Two \$2,500 Scholarships

Texas-based Carter BloodCare is offering high school seniors the chance to share their influence and win a college scholarship this spring.

Two winners will be chosen in the blood center's Influencer Scholarship contest, with each receiving a \$2,500 scholarship.

To enter, eligible students must create and share social media content on the importance of donating blood, encouraging others to donate, a transfusion patient's story or another required topic.

Deadline for submissions is April 30, 2025. Two winners will be announced May 16.

The contest entry form, complete rules and eligibility requirements are available at CarterBloodCare.org/influencer-scholarship.

Student donors contribute 25% of the community blood supply. Students and young adults are vital in maintaining a readily available supply to treat people hurt in car accidents, children receiving cancer treatments, surgical patients, mothers experiencing difficult childbirths, and many others.

About Carter BloodCare
 Carter BloodCare is an independent community blood center providing transfusion resources to more than 200 medical facilities in 57 counties of North, Central and East Texas. The nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization is one of the largest blood programs in Texas, delivering more than 440,000 blood products annually to meet hospitals' requirements for their patients. Services include collection, processing, specialized laboratory testing, storage and distribution of blood and blood products. Tu centro de sangre comunitario.

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Teague High School FFA Chapter

GEARING UP FOR STATE COMPETITION is Teague FFA's Tractor Technician Team (right).

The team placed first in District and third in Area.

State Competition will be held March 9-10, 2025, in Houston.

The team, consisting of (l-r) Leo Hernandez, Blaine Black (Alternate), Cole Mims, and Blake Maggard will compete against the top 36 teams in the State of Texas.

Good luck!



PARTICIPATING IN THE RAINS Floral Contest at the beginning of February are members of Teague FFA's Floral Design Team (left).

Two advanced to the second round and just barely missed continuing to the third round.

Progress was made and they are very eager to continue learning.

Great job ladies!

Teague FFA Advisors include Amanda Smith, Leana Gore, Ed Strange, and Cory Shaw.


(Submitted photos)



(Teague FFA Welding Teams)



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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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Wortham High School FFA Chapter



PLACING FOURTH AT THE Heart of Texas Fair Scholarship Steer Show in September is Wortham FFA student, Raymond Fortoul.



TAKING HOME THIRD PLACE at the Beefmaster Open Show at the Ft. Worth Stock Show in January is Wortham FFA student, Tanner Wilkins.



PARTICIPATING AT THE Beefmaster Open Show at the Ft. Worth Stock Show in January is Wortham FFA student, Lilianna Fortoul.



Brenton Hayes, John Killough, Emory Russell, Megan Reasoner, Tyler Langley, Raymond Fortoul, and Tanner Wilkin.



Wortham High School BEE KEEPING TEAM.



Wortham FFA Advisors are Renee Bean and Jessica Wilkins.

(Submitted Photos)

Wyatt Robertson, Emory Russell, and Tanner Wilkins.

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During National FFA Week, we salute our students and their teachers.

Fairfield High School FFA Chapter



COMPETING AT THE SANDYLAND District LDE at TVCC in Athens are members of Fairfield FFA.

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in the hands of our youth
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Fairfield FFA Advisors are Daniel Phillips, Clay Sherman, Rachel Rash, and Sydney Label.



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All About **TAXES**
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COMPETING AT AREA 8 LDE in Hillsboro is Fairfield FFA Senior Quiz Team.

(Submitted Photos)

SUPPORTING OUR High School FFA Chapters

National FFA Week - February 15-22, 2025



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