



BLUE & GOLD NEWS

Pennsylvania FFA Happenings

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An FFA Journey From the Flag

JEREMY ROSE
Pennsylvania FFA Reporter

My name is Jeremy Rose and I am serving as the 2022-2023 state FFA reporter. I graduated from the Penns Manor Junior Senior High School in 2021 and from there went on to Penn State, studying agricultural and Extension education.

During my time in high school the FFA was my entire world. If there was a contest available I was preparing for it, if there was a leadership conference I was packing for it, and if there were any opportunities I was taking full advantage of them.

Unfortunately, on March 13, 2020, my junior year had come screaming to a halt. The pandemic had shut down practically the entire United States, including my home chapter.

My FFA adviser made sure that if there was an opportunity available during the rest of my junior and senior years, we had a chance to be a part of it. Not having the in-person interaction for me wasn't the same. I had lost hope of running for state office by the end of my senior year, and I was just concentrating on going off to college.

Fast forward to my first semester of college, and with less than two months in I found myself saying, "what if I ran for state office, what if I never lost sight of things, what if, what if."



Jeremy Rose, 2022-2023 Pennsylvania FFA reporter, shares his journey in FFA during the pandemic.

Around the same time I remember browsing through social media and seeing members from my home chapter attending the Fall Leadership Conference in October of 2021. It was at that moment that I knew I wanted to be a part of the FFA once again.

Today my heart remains full of the blue and gold, and I hope to inspire others no matter what curveball life throws at you. Looking back now, I'll never ever lose sight of the things that matter most.

Jessica Herr Named National FFA Secretary

2022-2023 national FFA secretary is ... Jessica Herr!"

It was an incredible experience for everyone at the final session of the 95th National FFA Convention, especially for everyone from the state of Pennsylvania.

Right: Jessica Herr, the 2022-2023 National FFA secretary, was previously the 2020-2021 Pennsylvania FFA secretary and hails from Garden Spot FFA in Lancaster County.



The newly jacketed 2022-2023 National FFA Secretary Jessica Herr stands in the middle of the current Pennsylvania FFA State Officer Team, during a visit to the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Annual Meeting on Nov. 15.

State FFA Members Receive American Degree

The American Degree is awarded by the National FFA Organization and is the highest level of active membership that can be achieved in FFA. This final step in the FFA degree system drives members to grow and achieve personally toward establishing themselves in an agricultural career and future success.

Members may apply for their American degree only if they have received the state FFA degree, known as the Keystone Degree; have graduated from high school at least 12 months prior to the national convention; and meet the very high standards for the degree.

These requirements include a large record of involvement with FFA, and operation and maintenance of records of an outstanding supervised agricultural experience program through which a member has exhibited strategic planning, financial expertise, and has earned and productively invested a specific amount of both time and money.

This year, Pennsylvania FFA had 52 American Degree recipients. They are as follows:

Jordan Anderson — Penns Valley	Molly Cessna — Bedford CTC	Ashley Kindler — Conneaut Area	Emily O'Brien — Bedford CTC
Michael Avery — Grand Canyon	Scott Davis — Octorara	Rebecca Kugler — Oley Valley	Abigail O'Neil — Grassland
Cheyenne Bastian Brown — Canton	Emma Densmore — Kennard Dale	August Lasko — Conneaut Area	Alexandria O'Neil — Grassland
Ella Brummer — Greenwood	Emma Diliberti — Honesdale	Cody Lehman — Central Columbia	Grace Prout — Oley Valley
Kylie Butler — Grand Canyon	Evelyn Dimoff — H G Parkinson Fort Cherry	April Little — Cumberland Valley	Laney Reasner — Southern Huntington County
Sarah Colvert — Waynesburg	Colleen Filson — Big Valley	Nicole Lorenz — Philadelphia	Haylee Riley — Standing Stone
Reagan Carter — H G Parkinson Fort Cherry	Rachel Foster — Blue Juniata	Trevor Maxwell — McGuffey	Jeremy Rose — Penns Manor
	Lane Gardner — Midd-West	Jack McCarty — Grassland	Delani Smith — Apple City
	Lexi Harnish — Athens	Brayden Mickley — Apple City	Devin Snook — Mifflinburg
	Colette Hoffman — Midd-West	Alexa Miles — H G Parkinson Fort Cherry	McKenzie Sweigart — Grand Canyon
	Makayla Holleran — Grand Canyon	Clarence Lee Miller — Laurel Valley	Joseph Vandergridft — Grand Canyon
	Alexis Houghtaling — Headwaters	Benjamin Miskin — Cumberland Valley	Sierra Vermeulen — H G Parkinson Fort Cherry
	Rachel Kaler — Mifflinburg	Emma Manismith — Big Spring	Olivia Weinley — Big Spring
	Kolan Kennedy — Athens	Ashley Taylor — Morgan Manheim	Haley Weidman — Oley Valley
	Abigail Kessler — Northern Lebanon		Mackenzie Wiand — Mifflinburg
			Evan Wrisley — Athens



Pennsylvania FFA members were excited to zip up their jackets for the last time as they received their American Degrees at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis on Oct. 29.