

AG-Ventures

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Penny wars: Why are we doing this??
- Grant Winners
- Ask About National Convention
- What is a CDE?
- Holiday Sales!!!!

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LEAD OUT LOUD

National convention is always a time to get re-energized and this year's theme is **LEAD OUT LOUD**. The students that are pictured were some of 50,000 student that attended. As Kyle stated, "there are blue jackets everywhere". In fact the whole city is riddled with an FFA theme for a week. There was plenty of time for the famous convention trade show, workshops for students, teachers and alumni as well as national contests going on and being judged.

How can you get there? GET INVOLVED!!!! Says Caley Beardard, chapter Historian. All of the CDE's that you as students have available are career related. Industry partners judge contests and head hunters from major universities are often seen offer-

ing scholarships to high placing Individuals. "Going outside of your comfort zone is always a



Getting ready for the Toby Keith concert. Kyle Pelletier, Ben Trickett, Mrs. "C", Steve Malloy, Tim Stearns, Claire Nelson, Mike Cyr and Mr. Pomeroy.

good thing", says Mrs. "C", who has had students from

her previous school, that judged livestock and horse who placed nationally in dairy judging. "Try new and different things" said Nate Guarino, chapter reporter. "Just because you like horses doesn't mean you shouldn't try Dairy Foods, Mechanics or Floriculture".

Anyone can go to Nationals. You either have to win a State CDE, be a National Proficiency Finalist, AgriScience Fair Winner, State Creed winner, State Public Speaking or Extemp. winner and the list goes on. Or....you can save up your summer SAE money and see Mr. Pomeroy or Mrs. "C" for convention details.

Member of the Month:

Danielle Koch

My name is Danielle Koch and I am a sophomore in Animal Science.

SAE

My SAE Project is working at Newberry Farm where I assist in the management and care of the horses, goats, chickens, ducks,

rabbits, chinchillas, ferrets, and Border Collies. I exercise multiple horses every day and teach riding lessons. I also work green horses, who have had little or no training. In addition, I work for a therapeutic riding program at Newberry Farm.



GOALS

In the future, I would like to be able to effectively manage a whole barn with many animals by the time I am finished with my college studies. I have a lot to learn in the next three years of high school.

Ag Ed Open house

The annual Agriculture Education Open House was held on October 9th, from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm, with the Ag Olympics starting at 2:08. The students

in the Agriculture Education Program were required to complete projects and present them. Some people brought in animals or props to help further

explain the projects. The open house was also used to attract possible students. Another roll that encompasses the Ag Ed Open House is to exhibit the skills such as driving horses or identifying species of trees, that they have learned throughout the year in our Ag classes. There was a great turnout this year and we were constantly busy with visitors.



Kayla Martyn and Alix Moriarty with Breeze the cow

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Ag Mechanics II

In Ag mechanics, students are learning about the parts of a small engine. They have been studying in detail the functions of individual parts such as the crank shaft, piston, and cylinders.



Mrs. Chotkowski, Caley Bedard and Roxy Rottino

Ag Bowling Night— A Great Deal for \$10

On October 16th, our chapter hosted a Bowling Night at Lucky Strike Lanes from 8:00 to 10:00. The Bowling Night was open to all students in Ag and we had about 40 people show up. Everyone who attended had a really great time bowling, eating, and

having fun. The FFA Chapter paid for pizza and the evening provided everyone with a great opportunity to hang out with friends and have an enjoyable Friday night. We all have William Trickett to thank for this and I would like to send a special thank you to him on behalf of the entire chapter for

organizing and conducting this event.

[If you would like to plan another bowling night, please see one of the FFA Officers or the FFA Advisor, Mrs. Chotkowski.](#)

Penny War

Starting Nov. 2nd, pennies earn each grade (9-12) points and silver coins cancel pennies out.

THE TEAM WITH THE MOST PENNIES WINS!

Holiday Sales



Remember to sign up for Holiday Sales this month. It is mandatory that you work for 5 hours!

Animal Science II

In Animal Science 2, students are currently studying an Equine Unit. They are currently learning about the digestive tract in horses and looking at all of the different parts and the capacity of each. In addition, they have learned about why horses colic so easily. They were able to see a real preserved digestive tract and cut open multiple parts including the stomach, heart, and kidneys. It was a very informational class. Students have also learned bridle and saddle parts, colors of horses, and much more. They have covered diseases, breeds and evolution.

The whole class attended Equine Affaire this month.



Amanda Dainton and Ashlyn Chebro

Natural Resources II

Natural Resources students have begun to raise Tilapia for an annual chapter fundraiser. They have been experimenting with different types and amounts of foods to aid in the growth of the fish and learning about the daily care that is required to keep them healthy enough to sell and eat.

They have learned a lot about the

growth cycles of the fish and the different requirements that they need in order to provide them with the optimal conditions needed for correct growth and development.



Students entering data for fish growth



Regional School District 19

Storrs Regional FFA
1235 Storrs Rd.

Phone: (860) 487-0877
E-mail:

Plant Science II

Students in Ag II Plant Science have been identifying different types of flowers and plants. They have helped to clean up the courtyard at the center of the school and to keep the plants that grow there healthy and trim.

In the picture to the right, the students were on a field trip onto the UConn campus and examined one of the large trees near Mirror Lake.



(Above)
Chris Pongoh and
Dylan Boutot

Career Development Events

CDE's teach students a lot about the different areas of Agriculture in a competitive way. Many of the CDE's teach skills are applied throughout life, regardless of whether or not you choose a career in Agriculture. Participation in CDE's teach people thinking skills such as synthesizing, deciding, analyzing, and defending. Think positive and go for it!

It is important that you understand that you do not need to know anything about the subject of a CDE. The entire purpose is to learn about the subject and then put the knowledge that you have obtained to use in the competition.

Pick an area that you are interested in and join a CDE Team. We have many, some of which include:

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| -Vet Tech | -Forestry | -Horse Judging |
| - Meat Judging | -Landscape | -Floriculture |
| - Livestock Judging | -Ag Mechanics | -Ag Communications |
| - Poultry Judging | -Ag Sales | |

Be a State Proficiency Finalist too !!!!!

Get involved in a CDE TODAY!

If you win, it will pay your way to the 2010 National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana!



Congrats!!!!

Kudos to Stephanie Kaczowski for being a state FFA Alumni SAE project **Grant Winner**. She earned **\$380.00** towards her home Maple Syrup production project. Also a big hand goes to the **DRIVING TEAM** for also being awarded **\$300.00** for equipment repairs, purchases and clinic fees. See your teachers next fall for this information.