

# 258 Keystone Degree Recipients Mark FFA's 72nd Year With 'Signature Of Success'

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## Craig Evans

FFA has taught four-year United FFA member Craig Evans to work hard to "accomplish any goal."

Craig, 17, is the son of Ken and Jan Evans, Indiana. Craig has served as chapter sentinel and is president.

Craig, who plans to attend IUP to study secondary education, has served on various committees, including Koi, Adopt-a-Stream, tree planting, and Food For America. He also completed projects in koi production, goldfish production, hydroponics, and wildlife habitat improvement.

He received his Greenhand and chapter honors.

## Ryan Faytak

Four-year Albion FFA member Ryan Faytak noted he enjoys the "wide variety of activities we do" as members, learning a lot.

Ryan, 17, is the son of Ed and Shelley Faytak, Girard. Ryan plans to attend Northwestern College to study auto and diesel technology.

Ryan has served as president and is chapter reporter. He has also served on the banquet and Farm Show committees. In addition, he has completed dairy production and grill work projects. He received the Star Chapter Farmer honor and the Greenhand and chapter degrees.

## Josh Ford

Josh Ford, 17, Northeast Bradford FFA member, began his SAE record book with one dairy calf. He then added a flock of chickens.

Josh, the son of Rodney and Shelley Ford, plans to attend Cobleskill State College in New York, then return to the family farm.

## Derick John Fox

The way you learn in FFA, according to four-year Manor FFA member Derick John Fox, Pequea, is "not all bookwork, and it puts you in real-life situations," he noted.

Derick, 18, is the son of Ellen Shoff and Randy Fox.

Derick wrote that he plans to run the family farm.

Derick has been involved with several committees, including petting zoo and Spring Fling. He has completed steer-raising and work experience projects. Derick received the outstanding fruit and vegetable and food technology awards, in addition to his Greenhand degree.

## Steven M. Freeman Jr.

"Experience in leadership skills" is what Steven Freeman noted to be an important aspect of FFA membership.

Steven, 18, the son of Steven and Linda Freeman, Coudersport, is a four-year Spud Growers FFA member.

Steven plans to attend Central Missouri State University to major in agriculture technology.

Steven has served on several Spud Growers committees, including fruit sales, banquet, and program of activities. He completed projects with Wending Creek Farms. Steven has also received awards in dairy judging, work experience, and project books. In addition, he has received his Greenhand and chapter degrees.

## Kevin Fritz

When Kevin Fritz joined FFA, he met a lot of new people, he noted, and made

friends — a key component to his interest in the largest agricultural youth organization in the world.

Kevin, 18, son of Daniel and Carol Fritz, Friedens, is a four-year Somerset FFA member. He plans to own his own masonry business.

Kevin has served as assistant chaplain of Somerset FFA. In addition, he completed chapter record book projects and received an agronomy award. He also completed his Greenhand and chapter requirements.

## Kevin Fry

Why join FFA? It's "meeting new people," noted four-year Selingsgrove FFA member Kevin Fry, Winfield.

Kevin, 17-year-old son of Gary and Noreen Fry, plans to become a dairy farmer.

At Selingsgrove, Kevin has been sentinel, vice president, and is student adviser. He has served on various committees, including corn club, membership, dairy, recreation, and exhibit. He completed projects in dairy herd, field corn, soybeans, alfalfa, and on-farm work experience.

Kevin has been awarded the Star Greenhand and Star Chapter Farmer honors and received his Greenhand, chapter, and SUN Area degrees.

## Julie Anne Fulton

Four-year Big Spring FFA member Julie Anne Fulton found it easy to answer the question about why people join FFA

Julie wrote, "Definitely, meeting all the new people. I not only have friends within my area, but through the FFA I have friends from all over this state and nation. Meeting people is one of my favorite things to do."

Julie, 17, is the daughter of Robert and Rebecca Fulton, Shippensburg. For Big Spring FFA, Julie has served as secretary, vice president, and is chapter president.

Julie, who plans to become an elementary school teacher because she loves working with kids, has served on a variety of chapter committees, including National FFA Week, Food For America, calendar, Halloween float and party, scrapbook, and Christmas party. Her SAE project was dairy herd.

Julie has received the Star Greenhand, dairy production award, and attended the cooperative convention in California. She received her Greenhand and chapter degrees.

## Josh Gabert

Serving as Greenwood FFA treasurer, Josh Gabert noted that he enjoys all of the speaking skills he has learned. "I can now confidently speak in front of groups of people," he wrote.

Josh, who plans to attend a four-year university and major in forestry, is the 18-year-old son of John and Barb Gabert, Newport.

Josh has served on several committees, including fruit sale, program of activities, and Big Brother. He has completed various projects, including community service, homing pigeons, and work at Weis Markets. He also received several awards, including creed contests, public speaking, FFA Area Star, and a gold in the state project book.

He received his Greenhand, chapter, and area degrees.

## Kelly J. Galloway

Kelly J. Galloway lists several items that she enjoys most about FFA: first, the encouragement you're given; second, the friends you meet; third, the adventures you can have; and overall, "just the fun times."

Kelly, 20, is the daughter of Wayne and Deborah Galloway, New Oxford. Kelly's future plans include giving back to her chapter "what it has given to me, and to

show others there is so much given to you when you are involved in FFA."

Kelly has served as New Oxford FFA secretary. Additionally she has served on the membership, fundraising, and Food For America committees. She has completed off-farm work experience, including the Conewago Valley School District.

Kelly received several awards, including the Charles A. Smith Ag Management Award, the Darrell Williams Award for Animal and Plant Science, and county and regional public speaking honors.

Kelly has received her Greenhand, chapter, and county degrees.

## Jared Garber

The experiences learned in FFA can be applied "practically" to the work done in school, according to four-year Hans Herr FFA member Jared Garber.

Jared, 18, is the son of Ken and Nan Garber, Elizabethtown.

Jared plans a career as an electrician.

Jared has served as historian and is chapter president. In addition, he has served on the human relations, banquet, and leadership committees.

Jared has completed record book projects and ag mechanics competition. He received a gold at the national level for his work in ag mechanics and has received his Greenhand, chapter, and Red Rose degrees.

## Ryan Garber

Ryan Garber, 18, noted he enjoys the meetings conducted by the FFA and "any activities we do."

The son of Phil and Cyndi Garber, Mount Joy, Ryan plans to work full time after school.

Ryan, four-year Manheim FFA member, has served as vice president and is

president. He received several awards, including honors for serving on the state-winning small gas engines team and the state-winning ag mechanics team. He received the Greenhand, chapter, and Red Rose degrees.

## Heather Gearhart

Heather Gearhart noted she has made many lasting friendships through participation in FFA contests and activities.

Heather, five-year member of Blue Ridge FFA, plans to attend college to major in either accounting or preveterinary medicine.

The 18-year-old daughter of John and Janet Henning, Waynesboro, Heather has served as chapter vice president. Additionally she has served on the parade and hydroponics committees.

She completed rabbit projects and received her Greenhand and chapter degrees.

## Caleb W. Geist

Four-year Cowanesque FFA member Caleb W. Geist notes what his favorite part of FFA membership is: "going to the judging contests," he noted, because he enjoys animal judging competition.

Caleb, 17, is the son of Phil and Susan Geist, Knoxville. Caleb plans to be a diesel mechanic.

Caleb has completed several projects, including metalworking, horseshoeing, and work experience. He received an award for ag sales and services, a proficiency award, and a bronze award for recordkeeping. He received his Greenhand, chapter, and county degrees.

## Matthew Gerhart

"Meeting new people" forms the basis for Matthew Gerhart's membership in FFA.

Matthew, 18, son of Marvin and Joyce Texter, Reinholds, plans to enroll in a trade school and "find a good job," he noted.

Matthew has served as chapter student adviser. In addition, he completed projects in market rabbit and dairy herd. Matthew received a gold award in dairy showmanship at Penn State and received his Greenhand, chapter, and Red Rose degrees.

## Katrina Getz

FFA has meant a lot to Katrina Getz, four-year Twin Valley FFA member. She wrote that the activities and contests are important "because you meet new people and gain experience in different fields, especially public speaking."

Katrina, 18, is the daughter of Tom and Pat Getz, Morgantown. Katrina plans to major in horticulture at Penn State and "get a job in the research of plant genetics."

Katrina, chapter treasurer, has completed various projects in pet and work experience. She also served on several committees, including bulb sale, citrus sale, Ag Day breakfast, chapter cookout, petting zoo, calendar sale, and others. She also received a first place award at the county level in public speaking and a gold in the state record book contest.

Katrina received her Greenhand and chapter degrees.

## Candace Gochenauer

"I enjoy FFA because it has taught me how to be a better leader, rather than just a regular follower," wrote four-year Conococheague FFA member Candace Gochenauer. "It has also taught me how to be a better speaker and has taken me to many new places."

Candace, 17, is the daughter of Roy and Bonnie Gochenauer, St. Thomas. Candace plans to attend an agriculture school and major in agribusiness and horticulture.

Candace has served as chapter secretary, student adviser, and is vice president. She also served on various committees, including Junior FFA, community service, and the planning committee for National FFA Week.

In addition, the Conococheague FFA member has completed several projects, including project books and organized national contest. She received a first place award in the state in ag sales and a bronze at the national level. She received her Greenhand, chapter, and county degrees.

