



Left: Horticulture student Kay Morgan works to separate the roots into four parts before planting the geraniums which will be evaluated every two weeks. "I wanted to have an agriculture class," Morgan says. "Someday I plan to go into Agriculture. I would like to raise smaller animals like rabbits and chickens." **Below:** Victoria LeMaster seeks out the geranium plants to arrange on watering benches in color order. Jay County's Greenhouse currently houses approximately 200 various plants, which are cared for by agriculture students and their teachers.



**AGRICULTURE: HORTICULTURE**  
**AVAILABLE @ JAY COUNTY HS**

## Plants are Her Passion Students experience 'growth' in class



All plants need is a little love and attention - in addition to dirt and water - but go easy on the watering.

Or so students in Brittany Bridges' two Horticulture classes say.

Tray Nixon likes "working with plants," and helps out in his family's vegetable garden at home; whereas classmate Bryan Schwieter took the class because "I just like playing with plants."

Regardless of whether her students continue on in agricultural

studies, Bridges sees value in knowing more about plants.

"I like flowers," Shawna Miller says, "and I'm learning to separate the roots into four parts so they will grow better and not be root-bound."

Students were busy working in the school's greenhouse, planting, labeling and arranging the starts in flats for a graded project where the plants will eventually be

sold at cost to a local service sorority. The sorority, in turn, will sell the "Rocky Mountain Dark Reds" at their Mother's Day sale to raise money for scholarships and other community projects.

Giving back to the community is high on the list of teacher Bridges' goals.

"I've always tried to be involved with the community and I want the kids to be part of that too."



Jay County agriculture teacher Brittany Bridges says "plants are her passion," after working at Purdue University's greenhouse during her studies there.



**Above:** Valerie McGill says working in the greenhouse is "fun because you get to see your work grow."

**Below:** Flats of geranium starts are labeled Rocky Mountain Dark Red by junior Jacob Schwieterman.



JOHNATHAN HUDSON

"I took this class because of my grandma. She was a really good flower person. Now that she's gone I want to learn what she tried to teach me."

- Johnathan Hudson, sophomore

### CLASSES

- Fundamentals of Agri.
- Horticultural Science
- Food Science
- Natural Resources
- Landscape Management
- SAE: Supervised Agricultural Experience

### DUAL CREDIT

Ivy Technical College - 3 credits

### CTSO

Future Farmers of America (FFA)

For more information:  
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