



Livestock judging is just one community service opportunity for Jay County's agriculture classes. Over 700 students are enrolled in one of the department's offerings, which include *Introduction to Agriculture*, *Horticulture*, *Animal Science*, and *Fundamentals of Agriculture Business*. Students may earn dual credit from Ivy Tech and Purdue University. Students may also opt to become active with the FFA co-curricular activities, which include state and national competitions, individual and community projects, and a year-end banquet with guests, recognitions and scholarships awarded.



AGRICULTURE: LIFE SCIENCES
AVAILABLE @ ALL AREA 18 HS

Three qualify for Nationals Jay Co. Agriculture 'Field of Dreams'

There are not many schools that can claim the top three finishers of four state winners bound for nationals.

But Jay County can. Andrew Minnich won first place in Indiana for *Poultry Production* with a project where he attempted to "learn more about the process of egg and egg grading; take on more supervisory jobs in the business, and learn more about the maintenance and repair of farm equipment," as he related in his application.

Andrew, a third generation member of Minnich

Poultry, had his work cut out for him as he helped with the family business that tends to 1.4 million laying hens who produce 340 million eggs per year. Andrew is attending Parkland College in Illinois to become a CASE New Holland service technician.

Melissa Murrell won first place in *Wildlife Production & Management* by also working in her family's business of raising deer to be sold for hunting. The Jay County student sought experience in caring for the deer and fawns when they are sick, in addition to learning

the importance of feed rations, and evaluating the genetic traits of the breeding stock.

Melissa is currently studying veterinary medicine at Purdue University.

A third Jay County agriculture student, junior Trevor Blankenbaker, won first place for his project in *Entrepreneurship* by managing 18 acres of grain-producing land for profit. He has decided to decline this once time opportunity to compete at the national level so he can expand his acreage and improve upon his project for his senior year.

The FFA national competition will take place in Indianapolis, Oct. 24-27.

FFA chapter sponsors are Jay County agriculture teachers Melissa Wolters, Brittany Bridges, Cody Linville and Seth Swallow.



"The study of agriculture presents opportunities in leadership, involvement, and helps students in meeting others while they develop public relations' skills."

MELISSA WOLTERS
 7TH YEAR AGRICULTURE TEACHER
 IAAE DISTRICT VI DIRECTOR



Agriculture Awareness Day



Community Service



End of Year FFA Banquet



CTE Cooperative Serving Adams • Blackford • Huntington • Jay • Wells Counties
 1/24/2013

For more information:
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