

# IAAE - PURDUE

*Newsletter*



## Annual Non-Chicken Chicken BBQ

*By: Ruth Stoner*

The Non-Chicken Chicken BBQ has been a long-standing tradition here within the Purdue chapter of IAAE. If you are asking yourself, “What exactly is a non-chicken chicken BBQ?” you would not be alone, at one point or another each member has asked themselves the same question. The beginning of this, now morphed, tradition was a true old-fashioned chicken BBQ where the professors, advisors, and students could gather and enjoy food as well as fellowship. As time went on the attendance grew and the chicken BBQ became too expensive leading to the modification of eating pizza instead, and to the new name of the non-chicken chicken BBQ.

We were more than happy to have this event back after having to skip it due to COVID regulations last school year. At Happy Hollow Park we were able to enjoy pizza, cornhole, and of course the annual volleyball competition that pits classes against one another. Some friendly completion never hurts anyone, but not according to the class of 2023 whom came out of the match in first place. If I do say so myself, some of my fellow classmates may have missed their calling to become a gym teacher. So be warned, coming fall 2023 the Indiana FFA CDE and LDE competitions should be seeing an increase of competitive spirits. You can thank the annual Non-Chicken Chicken-BBQ for that

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## Member Spotlight - Ruth Stoner:

By: Lucas Rotzien

**Q: Why did you want to become an Ag Teacher?**

A: Grew up on a farm always wanted to be a teacher

**Q: What are you most looking forward to being a teacher?**

A: Looking forward to teaching and educating the youth and introducing agriculture to students! I am also looking forward to being the fun teacher!

**Favorite Disney Princess?**

A: Mulan

**Favorite farm animal?**

A: Chicken

**Where are you from?**

A: Valparaiso, Indiana

## Community Outreach - Hope FFA

By: Luc Sproles

Hope FFA sought to find a way to honor the legacy of one of their own FFA members, Sarah Taylor, and find a way to bring the community together for a night filled with fun, friends, and of course, FFA. The Hope FFA chapter hosted

the "Light Up the Night 5K," a glow in the dark 5K. Participants were encouraged to get moving and come together for a race where they ran through a course and were splattered with glow in the dark paint. Want to know how you can bring your community together and have some fun doing it? Check out this

Q&A with Hope FFA's advisor, Aleesa Dickerson!

Q: Why did your chapter decide to host a 5k?

A: Our chapter has been searching for the perfect event to boost physical and mental health and remember our friend, Sarah Taylor. This seemed like the perfect time to bring the two together in an event that was fun, but also brought us all together to celebrate someone who was such a light in our community.

Q: What was the turnout like, was this even successful?

107 participants registered for the 5K, 104 completed the race. We were really hoping to get 50 so this felt like a huge success to us all.

Q: Is this event going to happen again in the future?

A: We already have a date set in October 2022!

Q: What advice do you have for an FFA chapter that may want to host their own 5k?

A: Heres a few things we learned...

- Hire a timing company to help you with all of the things you might not know you need to consider. (Trust the experts)
- Get LOTS of volunteers. We had 100+ participants and 35 volunteers to ensure the race ran smoothly.
- Partner with your school's cross country coach to develop a local route, chances are they have a 5K loop they use for training.

***"Most importantly... Just, go for it and have all of the fun!" - Aleesa Dickerson***

# Ag Teacher Spotlight - Jesi Davenport:

By: Madison Coates



## 1. Why is agricultural education important to you?

a. I feel that agriculture education is important because everybody should know where their food is coming from and the work that goes into getting it from the field to the table. Many don't realize the countless hours put in by producers to ensure they have a plentiful harvest. I also feel its important so that you know what you are buying and can be an informed consumer.

## 2. How has Purdue Ag Ed influenced you as an educator?

a. Purdue Ag Ed is literally one big family. I know that I can reach out to almost anybody that I graduated with and get advice or help from any of them. I truly cherish all the friendships I made with my Ag Ed classmates and love getting to see them all do so well. All the Ag Ed professors I had while at Purdue have truly helped prepare me for what it's like to be in a classroom. There are still different tricks that I learned from those professors that I use in my classroom management everyday.

## 3. What is your favorite part about your job?

a. One of my favorite parts of my job is getting to know my students outside the classroom. When we have practices after school or going on trips to contests or conventions, I like getting to know what everyone is interested in and how they are outside of school. It helps me make my lessons more relative to them and they feel more comfortable in my classroom. We are better able to have classroom discussions when it feels like we are just having a conversation.

## 4. What is one piece of advice you would tell your younger self?

a. Don't sweat the small stuff. Be able to learn from your mistakes and just do it better the next time. Not just in teaching, but everything you may encounter in life. Take everything as a learning opportunity and grow from it. It's not a complete failure if you learned something in the process.

## 5. What is your favorite CDE/LDE?

a. My favorite CDE would probably have to be Welding. It is one of my favorite subjects to teach so I really enjoy getting to prepare students to compete in the contest. My favorite LDE would definitely be Creed speaking. I love the meaning behind the FFA Creed and helping FFA members understand it as well.

## 6. What has been the most challenging part so far as an agriculture teacher?

a. The most challenging part has been prepping teams for different contests. There are so many different ones and trying to remember all the rules and exactly how to do each one is a struggle. It's also difficult to structure practices to make sure that what they are studying for the contest is the best way for them to succeed.

## 7. What has been the best part of being an agricultural teacher?

a. The best part of being an ag teacher is the variety it offers. I typically teach 2-3 different subjects a day, and while that is a lot to plan, I enjoy having the variety throughout the day and getting to touch on all my favorite subjects

## 8. Who or what influenced you to become an Agricultural Educator?

a. My high school Animal Science teacher influenced me to become an Ag Teacher. She told me about the Ag Ed Recruitment Day and I went down to hear about the major and loved it. I liked that I would be able to take a variety of different classes at Purdue that would allow me to be well rounded in the agriculture industry.

## 9. What is your teaching philosophy?

a. I believe the purpose of today's schools include educating the youth about practical uses of their new found knowledge. Anybody can learn new information and reiterate it for a test, but it's my job as an agriculture teacher to show how this information can be applied in real life.

## 10. The best part of being an FFA advisor and why?

a. The best part of being an FFA advisor is getting to connect what we are doing in the classroom with real world experiences. I love when we go on trips and the members get that mind-blowing experience when they realize that what we learn about in class is not just a standard we have to cover but something that real people actually use in their everyday lives.



# Indiana State Soils Contest

By: Hayley Backus

On October 16th, 2021, many teams gathered at the Jasper High School in Jasper, IN for the Indiana State Soils contest. The contest itself was held at the Vincennes University Jasper, where teams were led to a field to find their pits. There were eight pits total, four for the FFA teams and four for the 4H teams. As an IAAE member, I had the privilege to be a pit monitor for the contest, I was responsible for making sure that the contestants did not talk and making sure that the pit stayed looking nice, so it was better to judge. The first round of the contestants arrived at the pits around 9:45 and were out in the field until about 11:30, once the first round left the second round arrived and began their time and left the pits around 1:30. The awards ceremony took place at the high school, once the scorecards were all graded, they began the awards. The top five 4H teams that will be advancing to the national contest in Oklahoma include North Miami, Adams Central, North Miami, Kankakee Valley, and Batesville. The top five FFA teams that will also be advancing to nationals include Southmont, Franklin, Orleans, Indiana Creek, and North Miami. Helping at a state CDE event was an amazing opportunity to see more of what goes into running a successful contest and then to be able to see all of the hard work the students put into practicing showing in the field while they are doing something they enjoy



## 2022 IAAE-Purdue Officer Team

President - Jonathan Stockdale  
Vice President - Logan Overman  
Secretary - Brittany Gonzales  
Treasurer - Julia Hamblen  
Reporter - Marnie Schwartzkopf  
VP of Fundraising and Marketing - Brooke Sides  
VP of Public Relations - Bree Sides  
VP of Campus Relations - Brianna Slonaker

## Fall Frolic

By: Brianna Slonaker

On November 5th, IAAE - Purdue members gathered around for an evening of fun at our Presidents house, Brittany Gonzales. Here members enjoyed a great time around a fire, a taco bar, and even pumpkin painting! Each year members have a pumpkin painting contest. Students will paint a pumpkin to the best of their ability, and at the end of the night it will be judged by a special guest. This year Bree Sides won our pumpkin painting contest with the best over all pumpkin! Other categories members can win is "Most Adorable" and "Most Creative". This year our special guest judge was Mrs. Gonzales, who also made us wonderful s'mores!



Front Row: Brooke Sides, Julia Hamblen, Bree Sides, Brianna Slonaker  
Back Row: Logan Overman, Marnie Schwartzkopf, Brittany Gonzales, Jonathan Stockdale

# Holiday Word Search

OZHPLEYHQNWUXLDCMNERDMFFRJCXX  
OHJFBNMFQJPYESGITREERTLWJGBLRB  
RWVTJVGITZCVKPAHFERMISTLETOEXS  
ULGONNBLWGGBVECNXXQVKUCETLNSZ  
JNVYAHIECTJRZYSWTGEJGCVOIOXIOQ  
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BLVFWSDGBHFOIWVFTRNHLOYZSULET  
COTZEYEHQBNSRTKKEYSYFJRBDBJYS  
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PBMCVORWJRJJLIZFWBNNNJKBCHXQUN  
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Poinsettia

Mistletoe

Caroling

Reindeer

Rudolph

Cookies

Holiday

Snowman

Sleigh

Jingle

Cheers

Naught

Santa

Jolly

Frost

Bells

Tree

Snow

Elf

Nice