FRANKLIN MIDDLE FFA HONORED AT STATE CONVENTION

SPRINGFIELD – Members of the Franklin Middle FFA chapter attended the 98th annual Illinois State FFA Convention June 9-11 along with more than 5,000 other FFA members, advisors, and guests. With a 2026 theme of "Sparking Your Future," the three-day event recognizes achievements of Illinois FFA members, elects the major state officer team, and celebrates agriculture.

During the convention, the following award was presented to the Franklin Middle FFA chapter with the photo captured in the Farm Credit Newsroom:

Newly Chartered: The chapter was recognized as a newly chartered FFA program in the past year. Franklin Middle FFA joins the community of Illinois FFA chapters, which currently numbers 403.



Pictured above (from L to R) in photo **1B-599-A**: Paul Walsh, Bentley Austin, Lincoln Hembrough, Landon Sampson, Brycen Brown, chapter members; Kaitlyn Kane, advisor

Students at the convention were greeted with activities including a career fair featuring colleges and agribusinesses and an opportunity to engage in the history of Illinois' capital city. The sessions featured addresses by National FFA Central Region Vice President Claire Woeppel, of Nebraska, and from each of the retiring major state officers.

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About Illinois Association FFA
The Illinois Association FFA is part of the National FFA Organization, formerly known as the Future Farmers of America. 39,890 students are enrolled in 403 FFA chapters in the State of Illinois. FFA is a national youth organization of 1,042,245 student members with a mission of making a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. Visit www.ilaged.org for more information.

About the Illinois Foundation FFA
Illinois Foundation FFA engages individuals, industry, education, government, and foundations in securing funds to support quality agricultural education and FFA programs in Illinois, including providing awards at the State FFA Convention. To learn more and become involved, visit www.illinoisffafoundation.org.

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