

# THE RED LEADER



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## UPCOMING EVENTS...

### MARCH

- 29 State Officer Team Hangout
- 31 Chapter Spotlight & Flash to the Past for February Red Leader due
- 31 February Adviser, Member, & Chapter of the Month nominations due

### APRIL

- 01 National FCCLA STAR Events Volunteer & Educated Adviser Award applications due

### APRIL (ctd)

- 01 Voting Delegates Registration for SLC due
- 01 Parade of Chapters & Chapter Highlight Video submissions due
- 12-13 State Leadership Conference
- 16 National STAR Event Competitors Deadline
- 17-20 National LifeSmarts Championships
- 30 NLC STAR Event Registration (paid) & Project Submissions due
- 30 National Go for the Red Awards due

# CLOSING OUT THE YEAR

by Alexis Richmond  
*President*



It is crazy to believe that we are less than a month away from State Leadership Conference and handing over our State Officer positions to the next set of bright-eyed leaders. It feels like just yesterday I was attending the induction Zoom ceremony and was off and running with my fellow State Officers at SOLA. As I reflected upon the highs and lows of our year of service, I paused on a few big moments in Nebraska FCCLA this year! Let's take a walk down memory lane.

## **Celebrated Nebraska FCCLA's 75th Anniversary**

February 14th, 2021 was the finale of FCCLA week and holds a very special place in the heart of Nebraska FCCLA: our 75th Anniversary. It is remarkable to think that our organization has been going strong for 75 years. One interesting piece of information that surfaced during our celebrations was the list of our 20 charter chapters. With a few changes, 12 of these chapters are still active and crucial parts of Nebraska FCCLA. Now we also have about 80 more! The state officer team also created a state history video that was shared with love for the 75th Anniversary. Even though this day has passed, we don't want to stop the celebrations just yet. Currently, we are looking to reconnect with some of our wonderful alumni and see how FCCLA impacted their future. In addition, we are planning a 75th Anniversary Celebration during our virtual State Leadership Conference. During this time we will have history games, celebration videos, a red velvet cupcake competition, and lots of prizes! I hope our members are excited to celebrate this big milestone in Nebraska FCCLA's history!

## **Recognized a Chapter, Adviser, & Member of the Month**

Even in a year with events canceled, many virtual meetings, and an adjustment to every aspect of life, the State Officer team was thrilled to see Nebraska FCCLA still making a difference. Chapters, members, and advisers across our state association rose to the challenge and embodied the theme, "The Future is Yours." At the chapter level, we recognized chapters finding ways to complete unique community service projects, conducting community-wide events, and accomplishing a plethora of

**"Nebraska FCCLA's strength comes directly from our wonderful chapters, advisers, and members!"**

National Program and competitive event projects. In addition, we had amazing advisers putting in extra hours to help members, organizing virtual events, and recruiting more and more members for FCCLA. Finally, with the help of their chapters and advisers, we also had members making tremendous contributions. From homemade meal kits for the less fortunate to Christmas gifts for those in nursing homes, it was heartwarming to see the impact our FCCLA members made throughout the year. Nebraska FCCLA's strength comes directly from our wonderful chapters, advisers, and members!

## **Held Virtual Conferences**

While they definitely looked different, my State Officer team and I are proud of the conferences produced through Nebraska FCCLA this year. We conducted a virtual Fall Leadership Workshop, District Conferences, the Mind-Bending Careers Conference as well as the Peer Education Conference hosted by the State Peer Officer Teams. Through these events, members had the opportunity to network with other members, take in leadership opportunities, and listen to a variety of keynote speakers. Additionally, we are excited to hold our State Leadership Conference this April to cap off our year and celebrate our members!



by Taylor  
Svoboda  
*Secretary*

# STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE TIPS AND REMINDERS

April 12th-13th is going to be here before we know it, and we all know what that means -- State Leadership Conference! With this year being unlike any other, SLC will definitely be a conference to remember. Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Nebraska FCCLA during a COVID impacted year will make this conference a special one, full of amazing opportunities for members to make the future theirs. The theme for this year was chosen by the State Officers very carefully, and "The Future is Yours!" is a great message for all members to take into consideration as they participate in SLC this year.

State will have a different look this year, yet the fun and memorable experience will continue on through the virtual format. STAR Event Recognition will still take place as well as many other sessions that everyone should look forward to. This year will be truly a State Leadership Conference that each chapter can tailor to their own schedule and plans. It will be a great opportunity for members to make strides in FCCLA within their own schools and communities.

The number of chapters who have registered for SLC this year has been groundbreaking, especially under non-ideal circumstances. This is very promising to the future of Nebraska FCCLA and the success of the conference, and the State Officer Team is excited to host an SLC unlike any other. The celebration of the 75th Anniversary will continue to be a frontal theme for those two days, and it should be recognized for the amazing achievements that have taken place over the past seven decades.

As chapters prepare for State, it is essential that each one prepares their members and provides the best possible opportunity for leadership development throughout the two days. This means having a predetermined plan for your participation and having ideas of how to make the conference user-friendly, specifically for individual members. The State Officer Team and State Staff are doing everything they can to ensure that it is an amazing experience for all, but with chapter preparation from home, members will truly be able to get as much as they want out of the conference.

There are many places to find additional information about SLC, including the "Getting Excited for SLC!" and "The Ultimate (Virtual) Conference Survival Guide" blog posts by Sophia Birch, your 2020-21 VP of Development. Additionally, all the information chapters need can be found at [nebraskafccla.org](http://nebraskafccla.org) on the State Leadership Conference page under the Program of Work tab. Reference these pages to help prepare for a one of a kind State Leadership Conference!

## Chapter Spotlight

## Medicine Valley



A Medicine Valley STAR Event team has been working on mental health awareness with the 6th graders. They have been doing fun, stress relieving activities with them including stress balls and stress mail. By far, stress balls have been their favorite activity. Each 6th grader has a different homelife, and the STAR Event team is diligently working with them to practice healthy and safer ways to manage stress. Even though the group has only met with the 6th graders once every week, they plan to keep meeting with them and providing more helpful ways to manage stress in a safe and positive manner.

# Chapter Spotlight

## Plainview



The Plainview FCCLA Chapter received 402 books during its Literacy for Littles Book Drive held in February in correlation with FCCLA Week. FCCLA Members had asked for new or gently used books to be donated to our elementary school. Donation boxes were placed in the high school and elementary school offices. Boxes were also placed out during our Parent Teacher Conferences which was when the majority of our books were donated. With the large number of books being donated, EVERY student in our elementary, homeschooled students, and students attending Zion Lutheran School in our community will be able to select a book of their choice.

## FLASH FROM THE PAST

1980-81 Wakefield FHA  
On the left is their 1980-81 Chapter Officers. Carla Meier, president; Teresa Biggerstaff, secretary; Trisha Willers, treasurer; Michele Meyer, parliamentarian; Kiela Lund, historian; Debi Meyer, song leader; Catherine Russell, recreation chairman; Susan Baker, publicity chairman; Bonnie Harrion, encounter chairman. On the right, their entire chapter. Mrs. Kathy Mitchell was their adviser.



# Chapter Spotlight

## Northwest



This year, the Grand Island Northwest FCCLA chapter put together packages for the less fortunate during the Christmas season. We decided to donate these packages to the Veterans Affairs Hospital and Hope Harbor Emergency Shelter. Once we purchased the items and held a fundraiser to cover the cost, we were ready to put the packages together. Once they were ready for delivery we happily dropped them off. We later received emails from both organizations saying their residents were elated to receive the Christmas gift bags! Our FCCLA chapter was humbled by this experience and are excited to donate like this in the future!

I'm sure many of you have realized by now that earning, spending, saving, and protecting your money is an important part of life. Even if "money can't buy happiness", money is still important to be able to pay for college, a car, or a future home. Nebraska FCCLA's March National Program is Financial Fitness. Financial Fitness teaches people about how to safely handle your finances. Today I want to break down the four different units within the National Program: Earning, Spending, Saving, and Protecting.

- **Earning:** Sharpen on the job financial fitness
  - Through the Earning Unit you can learn about how to best manage the money that is coming into your possession
  - The minute you get paid from work then that money is your responsibility
  - Make sure you always have a steady income coming in, especially if there are financial needs that need to be met
- **Spending:** Track and plan personal spending
  - Make sure that you first spend money on the essentials, like the water or electricity bill
  - After that plan out what you need to buy and make a budget that you don't want to go over
  - Keep a record of everything you buy and how much you spent
- **Saving:** Conquer bank accounts, credit, and investments
  - Saving money will allow you to invest in larger purchases for the future
  - This also creates a pillow for you to fall on if you need it
  - The article I linked here can help give more insight to saving:  
<https://bettermoneyhabits.bankofamerica.com/en/saving-budgeting/ways-to-save-money>
- **Protecting:** Keep financial & personal interests safe
  - If your investments and cash isn't protected, then it could easily be lost
  - Most sources recommend checking your savings accounts daily
  - They also suggest to be careful when selecting your bank
  - This link will also give some more tips:  
<https://blog.taxact.com/10-efficient-ways-to-protect-your-money-and-personal-identity-online/>

Now that you know more about the National Program, Financial Fitness, keep in mind that next year you can apply for the Nebraska FCCLA Financial Fitness Award by completing a related project! The deadline is already past for this year, but next year holds endless possibilities!

## HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF SLC

It's officially time to get excited for Nebraska FCCLA's State Leadership Conference. Things are going to look different this year, but that doesn't mean all the SLC fun is gone. This year all the state staff, advisers, and officers are trying extra hard to make sure our members still get valuable lessons, moving presentations, and networking time just like they have had during other State Leadership Conferences. Here are my three big tips that when used can help make any "stay at home" edition of SLC a success.



by Samuel Coble  
VP of Competitive Events

### Schedule Time

Make a plan to participate in the conference. If you want to get the most out of anything, specify time for it. I'm not talking about the 30 minutes between track practice and an after school job. If you truly want to get the SLC experience, then you may need to have your adviser dismiss you and the other chapter participants for the afternoon or morning hours. Once dismissed, your chapter can go to the gym, a reserved classroom, or local area with a dependable internet connection.

**Ask Questions;** don't be afraid to leave comments or ask questions in any session you attend. While it may be nerve racking and feel strange in a virtual format, asking a question can help start a chain reaction or help spark another speaking topic for the presenter. I'm going to let you in on a State Officer secret: We love questions, and we need questions! During any presentations I've given this year, I have provided a member of the audience a list of questions to ask. This helps me become more sociable with the participants and encourages other people to ask questions.

### Keep it Fun

During this State Leadership Conference try to keep things exciting! Have fun and surprise members of your chapter. Make sure to get a meal as a chapter or host a mini cake-walk. These fun and unexpected events will keep members engaged and help boost chapter morale.

The Nebraska FCCLA State Officer Team is so excited for the opportunity to connect with members, and we all hope to see you there!

## Chapter Spotlight Callaway

Callaway FCCLA & FFA Chapters partnered up in the month of February to collect canned goods for the Callaway Food Pantry. Each organization took turns to promote the canned food drive during their National Celebration Weeks. Students were able to donate goods and received a raffle ticket for a goodie bag to be drawn at the end of the month. Overall, 76 cans were collected.

# Chapter Spotlight

## Hemingford



2020-21 is a year to remember. FCCLA has been different this year but we have still managed to lead our chapter to success. We have attended virtual conferences and host monthly meetings. As part of FCCLA week, we cooked and ate together as an FCCLA Family! Members also attended the Peer conference virtually and created a poster that is now hanging in our hallway.

## DON'T FORGET...

**Chapter Highlight Video & Parade of Chapters** will still feature the amazing Nebraska FCCLA chapters this year – submit your pictures by April 1!

**Voting Delegates** must be registered by April 1 to participate in the State Officer Candidate elections during SLC.

**State Officer Candidate Brochure** is available for you to review - learn more about the leaders that will serve on the 2021-2022 Nebraska FCCLA State Officer Team!

**Miracle Minute** will return as part of SLC this year! Start planning how your chapter will participate & help contribute to the Nebraska FCCLA Impact Fund.

**75th Anniversary Cupcake Bake-Off** is happening now! Post your finished product online using the hashtag #nefccla or tag Nebraska FCCLA! The State Officer Team will vote and decide on winners.

Stay Up to Date with the latest information at <http://www.nebraskafccla.org/events/state-leadership-conference/>



### STATE LEADERSHIP SERVICE PROJECT

## LITERATURE FOR LITTLES

**Goal:** use children's books to teach elementary students the ideas of FCCLA's National Programs

**DUE MAY 1, 2021**

Introduce elementary students the ideas of FCCLA National Programs by relating the core ideas to children's books! You can do this by creating an activity sheet for the students to complete, an interactive reading, or a lesson addressing important ideas from the book that connects to FCCLA National Programs.

### EXAMPLE

**Book:** Gregory, the Terrible Eater

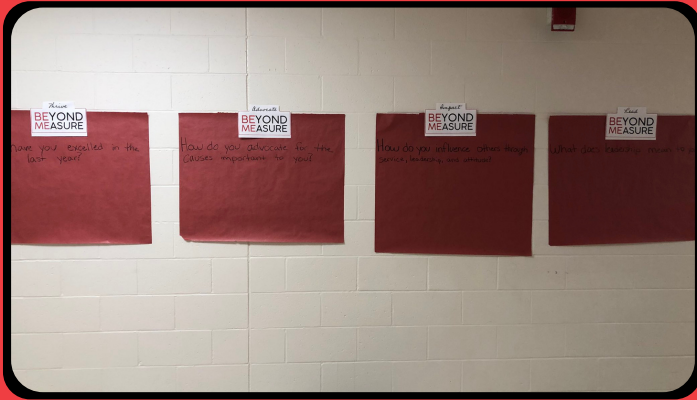
**National Program:** Student Body

**Activity:** Color in a MyPlate paper

Submit your project using this form: <https://forms.gle/TbxDEc57rMDeJzc68>

# Chapter Spotlight

## Boone Central



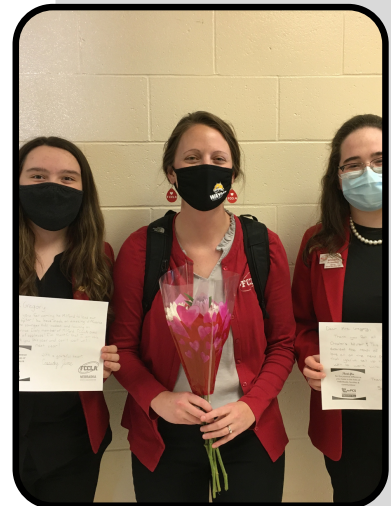
The Boone Central FCCLA Chapter encouraged all Boone Central students to reflect on their leadership during FCCLA Week. Posters were hung outside the FCS room for students to reflect on how they “Lead Beyond Measure”. Dozens of students answered reflection questions on the posters, allowing students to learn from one another throughout the week. FCCLA “Beyond Measure” logos were also hidden throughout the school. Students sought them out during the week to discover critical components of leadership.

February

## ADVISER OF THE MONTH

### Mrs. Mallory Gregory, Milford FCCLA

Mrs. Gregory She worked hard to put together a Peer Education Conference Day for Milford FCCLA that involved many service activities, such as reading books for elementary kids that were recorded by chapter members. She is always ready to face the day with a positive attitude and is strong leader and advocate for FCCLA and Family & Consumer Sciences!



## MEMBER OF THE MONTH

February

### Teegan Henderson, Boyd County FCCLA

Teegan Henderson has been an outstanding member and officer in the Boyd County FCCLA Chapter! She is always willing to lend a helping hand; her hard work and dedication is always evident in everything that she does. Whether it's fundraisers, community service activities, helping with STAR projects, etc. Teegan is always someone we can rely on to be there. This year, she was one of the main leaders in our Chapter Community Service Project to help beat hunger in our community and was able to turn this project into a STAR Event project, where they collected over 1200 item to donate to our local food pantries.



# CHAPTER OF THE MONTH

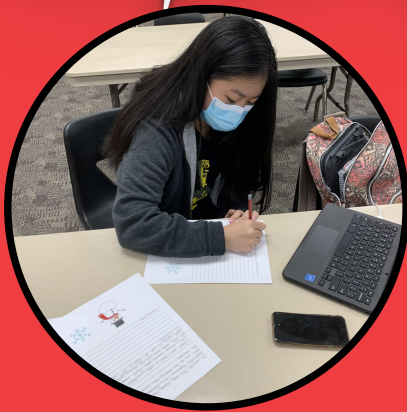
February

## Winnebago FCCLA

Winnebago FCCLA is working hard to implement new and unique community service projects in the community and school, despite the challenges of COVID restrictions. In February students decorated the hallway in rainbow theme to celebrate FCCLA Week. During FCCLA Week members baked and organized Valentine's cookie decorating kits to give to elementary families. Their service project during the week focused on giving back to the community and spreading positivity in the school. Members sold over 450 candy grams raising a total of \$1,016 that will be donated back to the youth in the community - all this in one week!

## Chapter Spotlight

## Lincoln Southwest



In the month of December, the Lincoln Southwest Chapter wrote letters to the residents of the Southlake Village Rehabilitation and Care Center. Organized by the Chapter's President, the goal of the letters was to ease the loneliness felt in retirement homes. The chapter wrote fifteen letters for the residents. Partnering with the Public Relations Coordinator, the letters were quarantined and then delivered to the residents in time for the holidays. One resident wrote back, and was very grateful for the letter. The Chapter was very happy to help and spread some joy in their community.

Nebraska Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is a dynamic student organization which holds the family as its central focus. We promote leadership and service in the family, career, school and community and help members improve themselves and the world in which they live.

FCCLA is a national Career and Technical Student Organization that provides personal growth, leadership development, and career preparation opportunities for students in Family and Consumer Sciences education.



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