



# VILLA GROVE HIGH SCHOOL FFA OFFICERS

Left to Right: Addisyn Wilson - Public Relations; Kurt Zimmerman - Finance and Fundraising; Logan Lillard - Human Resources; Luke Zimmerman - President; Emma Buesing - Career Development; Will Jones - Farm Operations; Riley White - Secretary.

## Villa Grove's FFA Chapter hosting various events during FFA week

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**By DOMINIK STALLINGS**  
 Villa Grove's Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter hosts various events during National FFA week. Members share what FFA is about and what kind of impact the program has on their members. The students in Villa Grove are hosting an appreciation breakfast for their supporters Thursday, Feb. 23.

They are also teaming up with local farmers and Steak 'N'Shake to promote Hat Day, Feb. 23, an annual event when students are allowed to wear a hat during the school day. All the profits raised from the event go to the Snack Pack program. FFA advisor Callie Parr said the program provides supplies for kids in need. Parr said they raised \$864 in last year's competition.

Farmers are sponsoring

each elementary class and providing them with hats at no cost.

FFA will match every dollar that is raised through the fundraising events for the Snack Pack program.

Students will also do a "Kiss the Pig" contest to raise more money on Friday, Feb. 24. Students will vote on the teacher with the best hat and a local farmer will bring a piglet that will get dressed up with the hat and some makeup for the contest.

"It's just a lot of fun," said Parr.

Students will also have a bit of fun on Wednesday and drive their tractors to school on Wednesday morning.

In the future, Villa Grove FFA will host the schoolwide Science, Occupational and Agricultural Recruitment event (SOAR). FFA will host a STEM science night for the elementary school and a career fair for junior high and high school. Parr said that several local employers like PAULS, Sloan Implement, Berkeys, ATI Physical and possibly a local vet will be available along with training programs in the specific field. Parr said that if a kid is interested in a specific technical field program, an employer would be right next

to the program's booth. FFA also has a chili supper for the event as well as door prizes.

FFA officers are also planning the FFA Banquet at the end of the school year. Members will celebrate retiring officers and welcome the new ones in the closed event.

FFA members will also take

over the large vegetable garden this year at Villa Grove schools. Agriculture students will plant the seeds and grow them in the greenhouse during the school year. FFA members will help transplant and take care of the plants in the summer.

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**Proud Supporter of FFA**

**FFA motto** — "Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, Living to Serve" — Gives direction and purpose to these students who take an active role in succeeding in agricultural education

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