

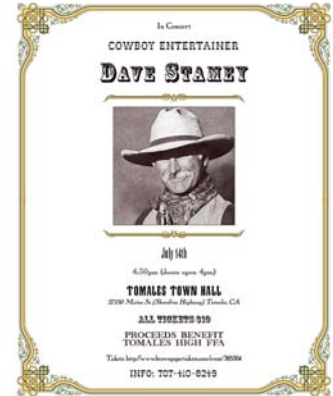
FFA UPDATE

Tomales FFA Chapter Newsletter: Volume 7 Issue 6

April-May 2013

THS FFA Summer Concert Fundraiser

An FFA Alumni community member in Tomales has set up a concert by cowboy entertainer Dave Stamey this summer at the Tomales Town Hall with all proceeds going to the Tomales FFA. The concert is scheduled for Sunday July 14th at 4pm. Tickets are \$10 and already for sale online at "brown paper tickets". FFA members will also be selling tickets soon. The event is limited to 150 tickets so purchase them early! For more information on this event call (707) 410-8249 or contact the Agriculture Department at 707-878-2286.



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85th Annual FFA Awards Banquet

The 85th Annual FFA Banquet was a success! This year's event was held on June 1st and at 6:00 p.m. At the banquet, awards such as proficiencies and Star Agriscience student were given out. A slideshow made by Vice President Terra Hargens captivated the audience with memories from the 2012-2013 year. Also, the 2013-2014 Tomales FFA Officer Team was announced. Congratulations to Holly Soreng, Julie Bibee, Hailee Hankins, Julissa Bravo, Madison Soreng, Ryan Giammona and Sarah Ovard on their new officer positions

"April Showers Bring May Cupcakes?"

1. Prepare & bake cake mix as directed on package for 24 cupcakes; cool completely. Pierce cupcakes with wooden skewer or large fork at 1/4-inch intervals. Stir boiling water into dry gelatin mix at least 2 min. until completely dissolved. Spoon 2 tsp. of the gelatin over each cupcake. Refrigerate 3 hours.

2. Tint whipped topping with food coloring; spread about 2 Tbsp. of the whipped topping onto each cupcake.

3. Cut each large marshmallow crosswise into five pieces with clean kitchen scissors to resemble flower petals. Arrange five of the petals in flower shape on top of each cupcake; place a miniature marshmallow in center of each group of petals. Sprinkle each with 1/2 tsp. colored sugar. Store in refrigerator.

Ingredients:

- 1 (18.25 ounce) package white cake mix
- 1 cup boiling water
- 1 package (4 serving) JELL-O Brand Strawberry Flavor Gelatin
- 1 (8 ounce) tub COOL WHIP Whipped Topping, thawed
- Few drops food coloring, any color
- 24 JET-PUFFED marshmallows
- 24 JET-PUFFED Miniature Marshmallows
- 1/4 cup colored sugar or colored sprinkles

California FFA State Conference

By Summer Cassel

On April 20th, 14 Tomales FFA members piled into two vans and took the long and exhausting drive to Fresno, California for the 85th Annual California State FFA Conference. On the way to the conference they took a small break and stopped for the usual shopping trip to Bass Pro Shop. The conference consisted of three days of sweltering heat, leadership-building workshops, factory tours, member-honoring sessions and a free concert only for FFA members by Love and Theft.

During the many “sessions”, or meetings held by the California State Officer Team, the 5,000 California FFA members in attendance got to witness the six inspiring retiring addresses of the California FFA State Officers for 2012-2013. Another important event at the conference was the election of the 2013-2014 California FFA State Officer Team. From 60 applicants, a tough interview process narrowed the selection down to 12, then finally, 6 top candidates were voted into office. Conference attendees watched as many members tried their luck at State Talent, or performing up on the stage in front of all the members. One of these individuals was our very own Holly Soreng! She beautifully sang “The House That Built Me” by Miranda Lambert. Keynote speeches were given by people such as, the National FFA President, Clay Sapp. Members at the sessions also watched as hundreds of people, students, and chapters were honored for their outstanding efforts in FFA.

This conference was lots of fun and the members returned home on the night of April 23rd tired, but inspired. State Conference is an amazing opportunity that all members should attend at some point in their high school careers. Keep your eyes and ears open next February when the applications for State Convention come out again if you want to attend this outstanding event!



What the FFA has Taught Me

By Christa Nygard

The past four years of high school have been fun, but at the same time very tiring. Now that I am about to graduate, I would like to say this, if you're someone who is shy and afraid to try new things, don't be! Before you know it you will be graduating and you will regret not joining a club, like FFA, at Tomales High School. There are so many things you can get involved through FFA, such as: public speaking, parliamentary procedure, judging teams, leadership conferences, fairs, contests and community service activities. All of these things teach you valuable skills for life.

I have gained a lot from FFA and I will definitely use everything I learned to help me in the future. For example, I have learned how to manage money, my animals, and my time, all while participating in other school activities. I have also mastered how to communicate and lead others through any situation, may it be bad or good. Overall, I would say that the past four years have been pretty successful and hopefully my success in FFA will carry on with me to college.



The Day the FDA Called

By: Giovanna Nave

An on-farm FDA inspection means your farm is already not in compliance. Here's one farm's experience:

Robert and Zeke recently received a call from an FDA employee to inform them of a 9:00 a.m. inspection at their premises two days later. The call was in response to a cow sold for slaughter that had a volatile drug residue in her kidney at the time of the slaughter. Unfortunately, this was the farm's second FDA notice. The initial walk-through confirmed FDA's concerns that the dairy's owners did not administer the drugs consistent with the dosage level, withdrawal period, species limitations, or the other use requirements set forth on the drug's labeling panel. This was further evidenced by the lack of written treatment protocols and records. The source of the drug residue was quickly traced to the hoof trimmer's use of a long-acting sulfa.

Imagine their surprise when they were informed that another violation had occurred after they had spent weeks designing and implementing a new treatment and monitoring system. However, it was soon learned that the most recent violation was not due to any approved treatment, but rather the use of an over-the-counter drug to infuse uteruses in postpartum cows. Since the farm had received previous warning letters, the FDA responded with a consent decree for permanent injunction which enjoined or prohibited the dairy from selling meat or milk. The reason for a FDA inspection in this case was based on a failure of the on-farm processes to provide a product free of volatile residue. Therefore, the primary thrust of the investigation was to determine where and



how the quality system broke down and what is necessary to ensure that the problem does not recur. In the event of incomplete records, it is assumed that the drugs are not being used correctly and are resulting in meat or milk residues. All cows must also be visibly marked so that anyone walking by can tell that the animal has a potential drug residue. The cows that were treated "off protocol" were not recorded or physically marked by the dairyman.

FFA Petting Zoo

By: Summer Cassel

For the first time in three years, the Tomales FFA was able to put on their Annual Petting Zoo for Tomales Elementary and West Marin Elementary schools. Five students joined together to put on the petting zoo, with the help of Mr. Costanzo. Jessica Arndt brought an ewe and a mini-horse, Danny Moretti brought two goats and a calf, and Sara Tanner brought a chicken to share with the students. Summer Cassel and Jack Strozzi were the officers in charge of the event.

When the classes showed up to look at the animals they were greeted with engaging presentations from each FFA member on their various animals and their uses in agriculture. Many students learned things about the animals that they didn't know before the Petting Zoo. The children were given coloring books, chocolate milk, cheese cubes and stickers. The presenters were blessed with beautiful weather and very cooperative children. Overall, the Petting Zoo went very smoothly and hopefully there will be another one next year if the weather cooperates!



Ag. Facts & Funnies

By: Courtney Nygard & Sara Souza

- Females make up 43 percent of FFA members and 47 percent of state leadership positions.
- California grows nearly half of the nation's fruits, vegetables and nuts.
- There are 47 different breeds of sheep in the U.S.
- No two cows have exactly the same pattern of spots.
- California leads the nation in milk production with over 1.75 million dairy cows, \$5.9 billion in cash receipts.
- Today's American farmer feeds about 155 people worldwide. In 1960, that number was 25.8.
- Pork is the most widely eaten meat in the world.
- The longest recorded flight for a chicken is 13 seconds.
- Mature turkeys have more than 3,500 feathers.

Q: Why didn't the chicken cross the road?

A: Because there was a KFC on the other side!

Q: What did the cow wear to the football game?

A: A Jersey

A motorist, after being bogged down on a muddy road, paid a passing farmer \$50 to pull him out with his tractor. After he was on dry ground he said to the farmer, "At those prices I should think you would be pulling people out of the mud night and day."

"Can't", replied the farmer. "At night I haul water for the hole."

RUBES" By Leigh Rubin



Bernice discovers the pitfalls of procrastination.

THS FFA Summer Activities

By Summer Cassel

June 1 — FFA Banquet

June 2 — Western Weekend BBQ

June 18-23 — Sonoma Marin Fair

July 3-7 — Marin County Fair

July 25 — August 11 — Sonoma County Fair