

St. Paul honors FFA members at banquet



Photo by Janelle Riddle

FFA Adviser Susan McDonald presents Brianna Boyd with the DeKalb Award for Outstanding Senior and a \$1,000 FFA Alumni Association Scholarship at the St. Paul FFA Banquet.

by Kelcie Perkins
St. Paul Journalism Class

The St. Paul FFA banquet on May 7 included FFA members and their families and friends. The group gathered in the school’s cafeteria to eat, visit, watch the FFA video from this year’s activities, get awards, and find out who the new officers are.

FFA president Brianna Boyd called the meeting to order and did a roll call before everyone enjoyed a delicious supper. Bryan Hamilton smoked the barbeque pork for the event, and FFA Adviser Susan McDonald helped prepare all of the other sides.

After dinner, everyone listened to the guest speaker, Molly Dykes, who is a former FFA state officer and now a student at the University of Arkansas. She encouraged everyone to make a difference in the lives of others and to give back to their communities.

The Shooting Team includes Tyler Martin, Nathan Rogers, Jose Thacker, Dylan

Swinford, Logan Stout, Daniel Smith, Kendall Glenn, Angela Hamilton, Trevor Estep, and Janella Patrick.

The Horse Judging Team members are Daniel Smith, Ashlyn Mallory, Janella Patrick, Tyler Martin, Dylan Swinford, Alissa Siegreest, and Alicia Boyd. After all of the teams were introduced, McDonald handed out Greenhand Degrees in framed certificate to Dylan Swinford, Sam Swinford, Jose Thacker, Mason Roach, Alissa Siegreest, Alicia Boyd, Jonathan Patrick, Haley Mullen, Tucker Grinder, Tyler Martin, Trevor Estep, and Kyle Mullen.

Janella Patrick, Ashlyn Mallory, and Jacob Yeakley received certificates for earning a Chapter Degree.

Dalton Stout, Daniel Smith, and Dustin Savage each earned a State Degree.

Then, the scholarships winners were announced. Bri Boyd and Daniel Smith each won a \$500 scholarship from the St. Paul FFA Alumni group. Dalton Stout won a

\$1,000 National FFA Scholarship from Wix Filters.

Bri Boyd won this year’s DeKalb Award for being an excellent senior.

The new 2013-2014 FFA officers are president Angela Hamilton, vice-president Janella Patrick, secretary Haley Mullen, treasurer Alissa Siegreest, reporter Sam Swinford, junior adviser Alicia Boyd, historian Jarrod Turner, parliamentarian Mason Roach, and sentinel Johnathan Patrick.

“The banquet was a lot of fun, and the food was amazing,” said FFA member Dylan Swinford.

St. Paul Agriculture teacher and FFA adviser Susan McDonald said, “I would like to thank the members who worked so hard to make this banquet a success. I also want to thank the members and parents for all their hard work all year long. Without them, we would have nothing to brag about at a banquet.”

Governor’s honor day - Anderson



On May 4, Gov. Mike Beebe and First Lady Ginger Beebe hosted a reception at the Governor’s Mansion for the 2013 honor students from across the state. Pictured here with the governor and first Lady are Doug Anderson, Huntsville student Tara Anderson, and Laurel Kierre.

A group of Terrific Kids



The Huntsville Kiwanis Club recognized Watson Primary School’s “Terrific Kids” at the Rise and Shine Program on May 6. Parents were invited to have breakfast with their children and to join in honoring them for being chosen as “Terrific Kids.” The Kiwanis Awards are based on positive attitude, good character, responsible citizenship, good attendance, and academic performance. Each “Terrific Kid” was presented a certificate of achievement, a medallion with a red, white, and blue grosgrain ribbon, a gift card from Sonic Drive In, a bag of other awards, and a bumper sticker for parents. The honorees are (from left - student with guardians’ names) Kara Lowery - Eric and Trista Lowery; Zachary Alexander - Virginia and Alvin Baker; Kelvin Orduna - Eric and Andrea Orduna; Lilli Samuels - Kandice and Aaron Samuels; Jayden Scates-Tommy and Jessica Scates; Amos Mays - Billy and Amanda Mayes.

Bateman awarded scholarship



Amellia Bateman has been awarded the Presidential Scholarship to attend North Arkansas College this fall. A senior at Kingston High School, she is the daughter of Roger and Amy Bateman. Amellia plans to complete the Registered Nursing program at Northark, and then transfer to Arkansas Tech to complete her BSN.

Yates graduates

Ronald and Jennifer Yates of Huntsville announce the graduation of their daughter Elisabeth Yates from the University of Arkansas with a bachelors in chemical engineering. Yates graduated with honors and was selected as Peer Mentor of the Year in 2012, and Outstanding Senior in 2013. Working with a group of fellow senior-level engineering students, Yates’ team won three awards at the WERC International Environmental Design Contest for their design of a reverse-osmosis process to remove hydrocarbons from the fluid that is used in natural gas hydraulic fracturing after it returns from the well. Yates is a 2009 graduate of Huntsville High School. She plans to attend UAMS Pharmacy School in August.

Powell graduates



Jeremy and Lisa Bryant of Huntsville, and Sandy Masterson of St. Paul, would like to announce the graduation of their daughter, DeeAnne Powell, from North West Arkansas Community College. DeeAnne is now a registered dental assistant and plans to seek employment in northwest Arkansas.

Kingston student receives UA non-traditional award



Hanna Cline of Kingston received the Arkansas Alumni Association’s Non-Traditional Student Leadership Award for 2013. Partnering with Off Campus Connections, the award recognizes non-traditional undergraduate students who must demonstrate academic excellence while balancing and engaging life circumstances and issues. Cline received a \$500 check and a commemorative clock during the Student Leader Awards Event in April.

Cline, a pre-veterinarian major, is a single mother and sole provider for her 1-year-old daughter. She devotes her time to maintaining the family farm, works as a director on a cemetery board association and is an ambassador for the Kingston Future Farmers of America in the Madison County Cattlemen’s Association. Cline works 20 hours per week between her two jobs, but still manages to drive three hours round trip to attend classes each day.

Cline, who just completed her freshman year, hopes to be accepted into veterinary school and earn a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine.

“I eventually want to open a practice in my hometown or

work in a clinic near it,” Cline said. “I want to enlarge my farm and raise show animals for my daughter. I hope having a career as a veterinarian will help me help my community and improve the lives of my daughter and myself.”

“What I loved about Hanna’s journey is that she’s tying her degree to her life and her community so she can improve both, and setting a great example of leadership overall,” said Susan Stiers, associate director of Off Campus Connections.

“We are extremely grateful to the Arkansas Alumni Association for helping to make this unique award more distinguished and desired,” Stiers added.

“This partnership is one of the easiest and certainly one of the most enjoyable collaborations our area has ever experienced. We are given the opportunity to work with wonderful people who understand and appreciate the efforts made on the behalf of our non-traditional students.”

Stiers hopes to bring more exposure to students like Cline in the future. “It is my hope that this partnership (between Off Campus Connections and the Arkansas Alumni Association) continues to allow both of our areas to acknowledge the efforts and accomplishments of non-traditional students on the University of Arkansas campus. It is an untapped and under-recognized population with so much potential.”

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