



## Hermiston FFA Chapter

Hermiston High School  
600 S. 1st St.  
Hermiston, OR  
97838  
Phone: (541)667-6100

*“A leader takes people where they want to go. A great leader takes people where they don’t want to go, but ought to.”*

*- Rosalynn Carter*

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## Greetings Oregon FFA Members!

I had just embarked on my drive home from school that Thursday evening after spending some time with friends and fellow FFA officers in the ag room. I was in the drivers seat of the old, white family van that I had disliked for years and Alan Jackson was playing on the radio. I pulled up and stopped at the same two-way intersection that I had stopped at countless times before. I was turning left and sat waiting a moment for the car on the other side of the intersection to take their turn. While I was waiting there, a white Chevy Suburban pulled up where the last car had just left from. It was my turn to go, so I looked to my left and right to make sure it was clear. Once there were no cars coming, I began to turn left. That same moment, the white Suburban went as well. No more than three seconds into the turn, I realized that there was no way I was avoiding this one.

Ten minutes later, my dad had been called and was on his way to the intersection where our family van of 15 years sat, with the middle of the hood smashed in and steam rolling out of the engine. I had a moment to stand there and ponder what had just happened while I waited for my dad to arrive. Nobody had been hurt from the accident, but I still had a million thoughts running through my head. What had caused it? Why didn’t I see the other car coming, and why didn’t he see me? Even though I knew it was my turn to go, I still should have stopped, had I noticed the vehicle coming for mine. I settled on the fact that I was too busy looking left and right that I hadn’t taken the time to look ahead and see what was right in front of me.



Nearly two months later and I realize that things like that happen all the time. Maybe not in the form of a car crash, but in the form of trying to fit in and assimilate. I see people everywhere that are too busy looking left and right at their peers that they don’t see the great opportunities that are literally right in front of them. Today, I took my own advice and looked straight ahead and took hold of the opportunity I saw waiting there. Reaching with open arms into the future, I am excited, determined, and motivated to be announcing my candidacy for the 2016-2017 Oregon FFA State Officer Team. I look forward to seeing you at the 88th Oregon FFA State Convention, where we can turn ourselves away from what’s right next to us and reach ahead for what is to come.

*Emily Vandehay*

## Emily Vandehay

Hermiston FFA Chapter President

Blue Mountain FFA District President

## **FFA Involvement**

### **Sophomore—2013-14**

- ◆ District Alternate Agricultural Sales (1st place)
- ◆ FFA Football Concessions
- ◆ District Alternate Parliamentary Procedures (1st place)
- ◆ Hermiston FFA Community Service at Agape House
- ◆ Agriculture in the Classroom
- ◆ New Holland Appreciation Lunch
- ◆ State Marketing Plan (5th)
- ◆ State FFA Convention
- ◆ State Agricultural Communications (1st place, 4th individually)
- ◆ CDE Days
- ◆ Middle School Recruitment
- ◆ Hermiston FFA Chapter Banquet

### **Junior—2014-15**

#### **Chapter Reporter**

- ◆ Rabbit Showmanship
- ◆ Goat Showmanship
- ◆ District Advanced Soils Judging (1st)
- ◆ Advanced Rituals (2nd)
- ◆ Blue Mountain FFA District Leadership Camp

- ◆ FFA Football Concessions
- ◆ National Days of Service
- ◆ National FFA Convention
- ◆ Parent Member Dessert
- ◆ Hermiston FFA Alumni Auction
- ◆ State Agricultural Sales (5th)
- ◆ RDO Dinner
- ◆ Sectionals Advanced Public Speaking
- ◆ Hermiston FFA Community Service at Agape House
- ◆ Agriculture in the Classroom
- ◆ UCF Horse Auction
- ◆ New Holland Appreciation Lunch
- ◆ State Advanced Parliamentary Procedures (3rd place)
- ◆ State Marketing Plan (4th)
- ◆ State FFA Convention
- ◆ State Agricultural Communications (2nd, 3rd individually)
- ◆ Dairy Food Evaluation
- ◆ CDE Days
- ◆ Middle School Recruitment
- ◆ Hermiston FFA Chapter Banquet
- ◆ Ione FFA Chapter Banquet
- ◆ Pendleton FFA Chapter Banquet

### **Senior—2015-16**

#### **Chapter President**

#### **District President**

- ◆ UCF Advanced Livestock Judging
- ◆ Goat Showmanship
- ◆ Poultry Showmanship
- ◆ Oregon FFA Board of Directors Meetings
- ◆ District Officer Training
- ◆ Washington Leadership Conference
- ◆ Chapter FFA Meetings Chair
- ◆ District Advanced Soils Judging (1st)
- ◆ Advanced Rituals (1st)
- ◆ Dodge RAM Next Crop Fundraiser
- ◆ Blue Mountain FFA District Leadership Camp
- ◆ FFA Football Concessions
- ◆ UCF Horse Auction
- ◆ National Days of Service
- ◆ National FFA Convention
- ◆ Parent Member Dessert
- ◆ Hermiston FFA Alumni Auction
- ◆ State Agricultural Sales (3rd)
- ◆ District Advanced Public Speaking (1st)
- ◆ Ag in the Classroom Committee Chair