



Lakeview FFA Chapter
906 South 3rd Street
Lakeview, OR 97630



**The FFA Motto:
Learning to Do, Doing to Learn,
Earning to Live, Living to Serve.**

Oregon FFA,

August. The time of the greatest opportunity we can ever receive: the opportunity to join in the FFA. The fall of my freshman year, I remember signing up for classes at Lakeview High School. First came math, science, and English. Finally, I reached the part I had been waiting for! I scrolled through the electives sheet as fast as I could to find the one class I knew from my older sibling's experience I had to take: Ag I. At this point, I didn't know all of the doors that the FFA and its membership could open to me. It wasn't until later in my high school career that I realized everything this outstanding organization had to offer.

I have learned so much about myself through the FFA. It has challenged me to push my own boundaries and try something I would have never tried otherwise. Take for example, public speaking. Talk (no pun intended) about a contest that pushed me out of my comfort zone! I also tried food science, parli pro, and floriculture—which even inspired me to pursue a summer job in a florist's shop. Although my career may not result in arranging flowers in a pleasing manner, along the way I met many amazing people. Without the FFA helping me break down my fears and step beyond my boundaries, I would have just gone through the motions just like any other student in high school.

As FFA members, we can work together to show our state and country how great our organization really is. It has so much to offer in the ways of overcoming fears and inspiring career paths, and can really help us in accomplishing our life goals. The FFA encourages us to try new things to build our character, and in the end, will make us people of great value. The skills we learn through the FFA will help us to develop our talents and realize our goals. When we break down our own boundaries, we can break down those boundaries facing the world.

The FFA is the largest and greatest youth organization in the world; it is an honor to announce my candidacy for the 2011-2012 Oregon FFA State Officer Team. Even though our lives may be faced with barriers, in the FFA we can overcome them together and step into the great unknown of our futures. I'm so excited to see you all in March for the 2011 Oregon FFA State Convention!

Sincerely,

Donna M. Cahill
Lakeview FFA Chapter President
Southern Oregon District Reporter

“Your current safe boundaries were once unknown frontiers.”
-Unknown Author