



# Banks FFA Chapter

13050 NW Main Street, Banks OR 97106

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*"Life is short, live your dream and wear your  
PASSION, do what you love and do it often."  
-Unknown*

Oregon FFA Members,

What are you passionate about? Having a true **passion** means you feel so strongly about something that you are willing to dedicate all your effort into that activity. Being dedicated to your passion means you would give anything to do your best and fulfill your goals. Only a very few lucky individuals are able to work towards their goals while doing something they are passionate about everyday. Society doesn't always allow people to live the way they want. Most people end up picking a job that pays well in hopes that they will like it, not always do people find work they enjoy. Life is short and without something to be passionate about life can be almost unbearable. Finding happiness and your calling in life is when a person finds a career where they are able to work with their passion everyday.



At a young age I thought I had found my passion. In first grade, I started playing soccer, it was my favorite thing in the whole world. I loved it more than anything. The proud feeling of making a goal and supporting the team made me happier than anything ever had before. For six years, soccer was my life, and everything revolved around it. One game in sixth grade as we were playing Astoria, I injured my hip to the point of not being able to play anymore. Junior high and the beginning of High School was a rough time in my life. I had lost my passion while my friends were still playing soccer and leaving me behind. I felt like an outcast, but more importantly I felt that I had lost myself.

Sophomore year was a new beginning. During study hall I was confronted by a boy who convinced me to go to my first FFA meeting. My life will forever be changed by that meeting. Once I joined the Banks FFA Chapter I slowly became more and more involved. I stood out in competitions, started to rise in officer positions and most importantly started to find myself again. FFA helped me gain leadership qualities, learn to show animals and gain many amazing friends and memories. FFA has become my **passion** and there isn't anything else I would rather contribute my dedicated efforts towards than wearing that corduroy jacket. I am extremely excited to announce my candidacy, in hope to continue to wear my passion every day by joining the Oregon FFA 2015-2016 State Officer Team. As a candidate I hope to help you find your passion in FFA!

Sincerely,

Ericka Lepschat

Banks FFA Vice President

Northwest District Secretary

#### The FFA Mission

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for **premier leadership, personal growth** and **career success** through agricultural education.