



# Hood River Valley FFA Chapter

1220 Indian Creek  
Hood River, OR 97031



Oregon FFA,

It was a cold winter day when the call came at 9:45 pm. I got out of bed, slip into my turnouts and start driving. When I get to the fire station I jump into the ambulance with our head paramedic Amanda, and we head to the scene. The first thing we see when we arrive is a grey car upside down, glass and metal scattered everywhere, and the smell of gasoline so strong it gives me a headache. The extraction firefighters pry the door open and pull them both out carefully laying them on a backboard, and into the ambulance. Amanda and I jump in the ambulance with the man and chief starts driving to the hospital. As Amanda begins patient care, I ask the patient how he ended up in this situation. He said to me that there was a deer on the road and he swerved so he wouldn't hit it, resulting in his car flipping over and potentially killing him and his wife.

He ended up walking away from that horrific accident with a minor burn on his arm, and his wife with a concussion. That night both a deer and a two people's lives were saved because of a split second choice that man made. His wife told us he was crazy, but it showed who he was and he stood by the choice he made because he knew it was the right choice. Every day we are faced with choices big or small, however, it is important that you look at every choice as an opportunity. An opportunity to put others before us, to discover who you are, an opportunity to be yourself. Make every choice how you want to make it and don't let yourself be influenced by others. Be yourself.

It is us, the unique members who wear the blue corduroy jacket, that make up Oregon FFA. It would be an honor to be given the opportunity to watch and do everything in my power to see and help you grow in your own way during my time in office. It is with heartfelt anticipation and humility, that I announce my candidacy for the 2017-2018 Oregon FFA State Officer Team at the 89<sup>th</sup> Oregon FFA State Convention.

Respectfully,

*“Whatever you are, be a good one.”*

~Abraham Lincoln

Gaby Santa Cruz  
Hood River Valley FFA President  
Mt. Hood District President

## Freshman

### Degree received:

Greenhand Degree

### FFA Activities and Awards:

- Star Greenhand
- Mt. Hood District Convention
- State Convention
- Chapter Awards Banquet
- County Fair Set-up
- Champion sheep

### Showman

- District Leadership Day
- District Floral Skills
- District Demonstrations
- FFA Pass the Pig
- Livestock Judging

### FFA Committee Activities:

- Farmers Breakfast
- Food For All
- Annual Steak Feed and Auction

- Harvest Festival

- Ag in the Classroom Day

### Other Activities:

- Softball
- Mt. Hood 4-H Club Vice President
- Young Life
- Hostess at Mt. Hood Meadows

## Sophomore

### Degree received:

Chapter Degree

### Offices Held:

Chapter Historian

### FFA Activities and Awards:

- State Convention
- Mt. Hood District Convention
- Sophomore Prepared Public Speaking
- Mt. Hood District Leadership Camp
- State Officer Social
- Chapter Awards Banquet
- District Floral skills

### FFA Committee

#### Activities:

- Farmers Breakfast
- Annual Steak Feed and Auction
- Ag in the Classroom day

### Other Activities and Awards:

- Mt. Hood 4-H Club Vice President
- Softball
- Cashier at Packer Orchards in summer

## Junior

### Degree received:

State Degree

### Offices Held:

Chapter Reporter

### FFA Activities and Awards:

- State Convention
- Sheep Breeding Project
- Goat Breeding Project
- Reserve Champion Market Goat
- Mt. Hood District Leadership Camp
- Chapter Awards Banquet

### FFA Committee Activities:

- Annual Steak Feed and Auction
- Farmers Breakfast
- Ag in the Classroom

### Other Activities and Awards:

- Volunteer Student Firefighter
- HRVHS Student Fire fighter Club Member
- Mt. Hood 4-H Club Youth Clover Bud Leader

## Senior

### Offices Held:

Chapter President

District President

### FFA Activities and Awards:

- State Convention
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place District Ag Sales Team
- State Exec Meetings
- District Officer Training
- Sheep Breeding Project
- Reserve Champion Market Goat
- Mt. Hood District Leadership Camp

### FFA Committee Activities:

- Annual Steak Feed and Auction
- District Leadership Camp Workshop Planning

### Other Activities and Awards:

- Parkdale Volunteer Firefighter
- HRVHS Student Firefighter Club Treasurer
- Mt. Hood 4-H Club Youth Clover Bud Leader