

Whit and Amanda Lovelady

Alabama

Achievement Award

Whit and Amanda Lovelady are a first-generation farm family from Alpine, Alabama, specializing in cattle, hay, and forage production. They are dedicated to sustainable farming and active in leadership roles with Farm Bureau and the County Cattlemen's Association. Together, they advocate for agriculture, support young farmers, and work to ensure a strong future for the industry while raising their children John Luke and Anna Grace, on the farm.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Whit and Amanda Lovelady

Alabama

Achievement Award



Cedar Roost Ranch



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Justin and Laycee Story Arkansas *Achievement Award*

The Storys have a farm in western Scott Co, where they run a beef cattle and hair sheep operation and a liquid feed business. Justin also works part-time for other cattlemen in the area. The Storys moved to Arkansas from Florida in 2021 and have become a strong part of the ag community in Scott County. They have three children Kary, Burl, and Ola who are an integral part of the farm.



Justin and Laycee Story

Arkansas

Achievement Award



Justin Story



These_crackers_story



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Ronald Vevoda California *Achievement Award*

Ronald Vevoda was raised in Ferndale, CA on the family dairy. He attended Butte Community College and CSU, Chico earning a bachelor's degree in agriculture science with an emphasis in crop science. Ronald is a managing partner in the family dairy and works alongside his parents and brother. He and wife, Kelly, have two girls, Hannah and Carly.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Ronald Vevoda California *Achievement Award*



Ronald Vevoda



@RonaldVevoda



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Brandt & Samantha Hendricks

Florida

Achievement Award

Brandt and Samantha Hendricks are third-generation farmers located in Northwest Florida. Brandt followed in his grandfather and father's footsteps growing cotton, peanuts, hay and raising beef cattle for their family operation, Hendricks and Son Farms. Samantha works full time for an agriculture company and uses her marketing and PR background to help grow their direct-to-consumer beef business, which the couple started in 2022. Together, they are helping manage over 3,000 acres of row crops and nearly 500 head of beef cattle.

When they aren't in the fields or the cattle pens, the Hendricks enjoy traveling and raising their two young sons, Beckett (2) and Rhett (1), who's favorite place to be is probably the tractor.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Brandt & Samantha Hendricks
Florida
Achievement Award



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Cason Anderson
Georgia
Achievement Award

Cason is a first-generation pecan farmer from Perry, GA. In addition to pecan production, he also grows sweet corn for roadside sales. When he can get away from work, he enjoys running, spending time with friends, and breakfast at the local coffee shop in town.



Cason Anderson

Georgia

Achievement Award



@CCA012



@canderson012



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Camas & Miguel Villafana Idaho *Achievement Award*

The Villafana's are first-generation row crop farmers, growing potatoes, sugar beets, corn, and wheat as their main crops. Farming has been a lifelong dream for Miguel, but it is their children who serve as their driving force. The Villafanas want their kids to understand the values of hard work, accomplishment, cooperation, and the importance of caring for something bigger and longer-lasting than themselves.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Camas & Miguel Villafana Idaho *Achievement Award*



@Citygirl_goescountry



@Migvillb



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Ethan and Katie Brown Illinois *Achievement Award*

Katie Brown and her husband, Ethan Brown, are dedicated farmers who have built a thriving agricultural operation based on their shared passion for farming and commitment to hard work. Katie grew up on a fifth-generation hog farm, while Ethan is from a second-generation farming family. Together, they have expanded their business to include both row crops and livestock, founding their own operation in 2016. They have also embraced innovative ventures, including industrial hemp production, while remaining committed to advocacy for agriculture and active involvement in their local community.



Ethan and Katie Brown

Illinois

Achievement Award



facebook.com/katie.weitekamp.3



linkedin.com/in/katie-brown-04363b76/



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Cory & Emily Studebaker

Indiana

Achievement Award

Cory and Emily Studebaker reside in Whitley County, Indiana with their two children. The couple farms with Cory's father, raising row crops and dairy cows. They also own their own farm, which includes a 24,000-head commercial laying hen operation contracted through Herbruck's Poultry Ranch, an egg production company based in Michigan.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Cory & Emily Studebaker
Indiana
Achievement Award



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Scot Schwieterman Kansas *Achievement Award*

Scot Schwieterman of Syracuse, Kansas, lives with his wife, Kaylee, and son, Walter. Over the past seven years, Scot has built a diverse operation that includes farming irrigated hay and forage, as well as owning and operating a hay grinding business. With a background in Agronomy and Ag-Business from Oklahoma Panhandle State University, Scot is focused on sustainable growth and community impact.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Scot Schwieterman
Kansas
Achievement Award



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Alex and Sarah Richardson Kentucky *Achievement Award*

Alex and Sarah Richardson are multigenerational farmers from Central Kentucky. They own and manage a large diversified operation, which includes raising corn, soybeans, winter wheat, hay, and beef cattle. They have two adorable kids, Rhett and Bickett.



Alex and Sarah Richardson
Kentucky
Achievement Award



Aaron and Jamie Lee **Louisiana** *Achievement Award*

Aaron and Jamie Lee are producers from Vermilion Parish, Louisiana. Aaron is a 6th generation full time farmer, and Jamie is an Agriscience Teacher. They produce rice, cattle, crawfish and recently added sugarcane to their farming operation. They have one son, AJ.

Aaron and Jamie have been very involved in their local and state Young Farmers and Ranchers, serving as Parish Chairperson, State YF&R Secretary, then State YF&R Vice Chair. They enjoy volunteering at many Farm Bureau events, especially those benefiting youth programs.



Aaron and Jamie Lee Louisiana *Achievement Award*



Aaron Lee



Jamie Lee



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Alan and Rachel Eck Maryland *Achievement Award*

We are a proud family farm dedicated to sustainable agriculture. Our operations include raising large broilers and cultivating a diverse array of grain crops, including corn, soybeans, wheat, barley, straw and hay. Our farm also features wean-to-finish swine raised in naturally ventilated barns, promoting animal well-being. To further diversify, we operate a hydroponic lettuce facility that grows a variety of premium lettuces and herbs.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Alan and Rachel Eck Maryland *Achievement Award*



Green View Hydroponics



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Matt and Alisha Gibson

Michigan

Achievement Award

Matt and Alisha Gibson, row crop farmers from Kalamazoo County, Michigan, are recognized for their success and innovation in agriculture. Matt purchased an 800-head hog-finishing facility at 18, launching his farming career, while Alisha, a dairy farm native, now balances her role as a finance manager at Kellogg with her commitment to their farm, Winding Creek Grain Farms LLC. Together, they manage 2,100 acres, advocate for agriculture through Farm Bureau, and focus on building a sustainable legacy for their two children.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Matt and Alisha Gibson
Michigan
Achievement Award



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Dustin & Katie Wiese Minnesota *Achievement Award*

As fourth generation ranchers, Dustin and Katie own and manage the Flying W Ranch, an Angus seedstock and cow/calf operation. Proud parents of four boys, they instill a love for ranching and the land in their children. As strong advocates for agriculture, Dustin and Katie are committed to supporting and strengthening the industry for future generations.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Dustin & Katie Wiese
Minnesota
Achievement Award



Facebook.com/FlyingWRancch



Adron and Betsy Belk Mississippi *Achievement Award*

Adron and Betsy Belk own and operate Triple Run Farms, a row crop operation focusing on corn and soybeans in the Mississippi Delta. Starting their farming operation from the ground up in 2011, they have grown through hard work, innovation, and a commitment to sustainability. Together, they manage their farm while raising their four children, instilling the values of faith and dedication. Balancing the demands of farming and family, the Belks strive to create a lasting legacy for future generations. Triple Run Farms reflects their passion for agriculture, the land, and the community they proudly call home.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Adron and Betsy Belk
Mississippi
Achievement Award



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Ethan Lineberger North Carolina *Achievement Award*

Ethan and Frankie Lineberger are from Dallas, NC where they raise their two children, Owen and Charlie. Ethan is a self-employed 4th generation farmer and currently farms alongside his brother-in-law, and father. His operation, Maple Springs Farm LLC, grows strawberries, blackberries, elderberries, peaches, summer vegetables, pumpkins, grapes, and fall squash. The farm focuses on direct marketing their produce through on-farm stores, CSA subscriptions, and farmer's markets.



Ethan Lineberger North Carolina *Achievement Award*



[\(1\) Lineberger's Farm | Facebook](#)



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Grant Jones Nebraska *Achievement Award*

Grant is a six-generation farmer and rancher in southwest Nebraska. Along with his family, they raise registered Angus and SimAngus cattle and have a yearly production sale in March. Grant graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2014 with a Bachelor's in Animal Science with minors in Agricultural Economics and the Beef Industry Scholars Program. He recently started Chundy Aquaculture where he raises shrimp. Grant enjoys officiating high school basketball in his spare time.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Grant Jones
Nebraska
Achievement Award



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Daniel Hicks, IV New Hampshire *Achievement Award*

Daniel Hicks, IV was born and raised on his family's farm, Sunnycrest Farm in New Hampshire. He is honored to be a part of their farming family tradition. He works full-time as the Farm Manager, assisting in their diversified fruit and vegetable farm's daily operations. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his new bride, Dominique, boxing, surfing, and as a drummer in a cover band.



Daniel Hicks, IV New Hampshire *Achievement Award*



@sunnycrestfarm



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Catherine Wolcott
Ohio
Achievement Award

Catherine is a first generation farmer and owns G.A.R. Horizons in Chardon, Ohio raising and selling freezer meats. Catherine is a wife to Steve, stepmom to Kaiden, dog mom to JD and Buster. Catherine also serves as a Township Trustee and is a member of various local organizations.



Catherine Wolcott
Ohio
Achievement Award



G.A.R. Horizons



g.a.r._horizons



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Garrett Haskins Oklahoma *Achievement Award*

Garrett Haskins grew up in northcentral Oklahoma, working at the age of 12 with his great-uncle as a combine operator of his custom harvesting business. This experience instilled a passion for farming in Garrett. He began his farming career at 18 by purchasing his great-uncle's combine and beginning his own harvesting business. He also worked on the farm of his first customer, which led to taking over the farm when he passed away. Today, Garrett is a full-time farmer/rancher with 100% of his income generated by his operation. Hard work and love for agriculture is the backbone of his success.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Garrett Haskins
Oklahoma
Achievement Award



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Drake & Nicole Yon South Carolina *Achievement Award*

Drake and Nicole Yon are second-generation farmers from Ridge Spring, South Carolina. They live and work at Yon Family Farms, founded by Drake's parents in 1996. Yon Family Farms is primarily an Angus seedstock operation that grows row crops and pecans. Drake spends the majority of his time managing cattle operations, while Nicole oversees sales of beef, pecans, and pecan candy at their retail store, The Nut House & Country Market. Together they enjoy spending time with their three children, cheering for the Clemson Tigers, and staying active in their church and community.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Drake & Nicole Yon South Carolina *Achievement Award*



<https://www.facebook.com/yonfamilyfarms96>

<https://www.facebook.com/NutHouseandCountryMarket>



@yonfamilyfarms

@thenuthouseandcountrymarket

@fromfarmtolabel



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Tracy Robinson Tennessee *Achievement Award*

Tracy Robinson is a second-generation farmer from Belvidere, Tennessee, and co-owner of Sugartree Farms LLC, where the diverse and sustainable operation mainly consists of corn wheat, soybeans, cotton, premium hay, cattle, and a direct to consumer feed store. He and his wife, Katie, recently welcomed their son, Alexander to the family. Outside of farming, Tracy is active in his community and the Lexie Church of Christ. He has been a dedicated Farm Bureau member since 18, serving as State Chair for Young Farmers and Ranchers in 2020.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Tracy Robinson
Tennessee
Achievement Award



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Kade & Morgan Hodges

Texas

Achievement Award

Tracy Robinson is a second-generation farmer from Belvidere, Tennessee, and co-owner of Sugartree Farms LLC, where the diverse and sustainable operation mainly consists of corn wheat, soybeans, cotton, premium hay, cattle, and a direct to consumer feed store. He and his wife, Katie, recently welcomed their son, Alexander to the family. Outside of farming, Tracy is active in his community and the Lexie Church of Christ. He has been a dedicated Farm Bureau member since 18, serving as State Chair for Young Farmers and Ranchers in 2020.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Kade & Morgan Hodges
Texas
Achievement Award



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Lee & Jayla Hanberg Utah *Achievement Award*

Tracy Robinson is a second-generation farmer from Belvidere, Tennessee, and co-owner of Sugartree Farms LLC, where the diverse and sustainable operation mainly consists of corn wheat, soybeans, cotton, premium hay, cattle, and a direct to consumer feed store. He and his wife, Katie, recently welcomed their son, Alexander to the family. Outside of farming, Tracy is active in his community and the Lexie Church of Christ. He has been a dedicated Farm Bureau member since 18, serving as State Chair for Young Farmers and Ranchers in 2020.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Lee & Jayla Hanberg
Utah
Achievement Award



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Bradley Ragsdale

Virginia

Achievement Award

Bradley Ragsdale is a fourth-generation tobacco, grain and beef cattle farmer in Pittsylvania County. He also serves on the Pittsylvania County Farm Bureau board and is an active member of the Virginia Farm Bureau Young Farmers Program.

Having joined his father and uncle as part-owner and manager, Ragsdale is involved in all aspects of the operation, including planning purchasing, planting, spraying, tillage, harvesting, tobacco curing, market preparation, sales and record-keeping. His duties also include grassland fertilization, hay mowing and baling, and handling and selling cattle.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Bradley Ragsdale
Virginia
Achievement Award



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Levi Noles Alabama *Discussion Meet*

Levi Noles is an Agricultural Educator in Clay County, Alabama. A native of Woodland, AL, Levi has a passion for sharing his love for agriculture and the ag industry with students that he teaches and seeing them succeed.

Levi is active in Young Farmers in his county, serves on his county board, and is Chair of the Alabama Farmers Federation Wildlife Issue Advisory Committee. He resides in Woodland with his wife, Natalie.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Levi Noles Alabama *Discussion Meet*



Lindsey Holtzclaw

Arkansas

Discussion Meet

Lindsey Holtzclaw is the director of Marketing at Farm Credit of Western Arkansas. She is the current president of Arkansas Women in Agriculture and a member of the ArFB YF&R State Committee, as well as a member of her county Women's Leadership and YF&R Committees. She and her husband Jes have two children, John Monroe and Porter.




Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD


AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Lindsey Holtzclaw Arkansas *Discussion Meet*

 Lindsey Holtzclaw

 lindsholtzclaw



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Laramie Buck Pruitt

Arizona

Discussion Meet

Laramie Buck Pruitt is a high school Ag teacher and farmer. Him and his fiancé live in Yuma county, Arizona where they farm mostly forage crops. Buck is the Young Farmers and Ranchers chair in Yuma County. Buck states that Farm Bureau has provided him with countless opportunities for networking and connection with growers across the state and nation.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Laramie Buck Pruitt Arizona *Discussion Meet*



Arizona Farm Bureau YF&R



@AZFBYR



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Madeline Schenken

California

Discussion Meet

Madeline Schenken is the Communications Director for CalAgJobs. She is a graduate of California Farm Bureau's Leadership Farm Bureau and has been active in her county YF&R since 2019. Madeline is a first-generation agriculturist who began her journey in the industry through her involvement in 4-H and FFA.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Madeline Schenken California *Discussion Meet*



Madeline Schenken



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Chad Haas Florida *Discussion Meet*

Residing in Volusia County Florida, Chad is an aspiring first-generation rancher. Chad started his own grass-fed cattle operation two years ago and is actively working towards transitioning that operation to his full-time occupation. Prior to venturing into the agricultural field, Chad founded a successful real estate brokerage with a focus on land and quickly became one of the top producers in his region. Chad is married to his high-school sweetheart Jenna and the proud father of his daughter Novalie and his son Braxton.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Chad Haas
Florida
Discussion Meet



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Cain Thurmond

Georgia

Discussion Meet

Cain is a native of Jackson County, Georgia where he grew up on a cow/calf operation. He is currently the System Relationship Manager at Farm Credit Service of America. He spent the first 8 years of his professional career at CSX Railroad managing agriculture and forest products accounts. Cain holds an associate's, bachelor's and master's degree in agricultural economics from ABAC, UGA and Purdue, respectively and holds an MBA from Indiana University.

Cain and his wife Whitney have a young bio daughter and a foster son. Together, they bought family dirt in 2017 and established The Storey Garden and Grove, a Christmas Tree Farm and Pecan orchard.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Cain Thurmond
Georgia
Discussion Meet

 StoreyGardenAndGrove

 StoreyGardenAndGrove



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Kyle Larsen
Iowa
Discussion Meet

Kyle Larsen has been involved with Farm Bureau since 2016 after graduating from Iowa State University. Kyle raises corn, soybeans, and 5,000 outdoor pigs. Kyle considers himself a small farmer, just farming the family land, but is proud that they raise enough pigs to completely remove their dependence on fertilizer from foreign countries.

Kyle is married to Abby and together they have two young daughters Alice & Emma.



Kyle Larsen
Iowa
Discussion Meet



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Denton Perkins

Idaho

Discussion Meet

Denton and Kelsie Perkins reside in rural Idaho where Denton works at his hometown high school as an ag teacher and Kelsie is a nurse in a nearby town. They have 3 kids and raise and train pack goats in addition to their full-time jobs. Denton and his family spend as much time as possible outdoors— hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, etc. Denton has been involved with the Farm Bureau in many different aspects and currently serves as the state Ag Advisory Committee Chair, a committee formed to strengthen the connection between YF&R and FFA.



Denton Perkins Idaho *Discussion Meet*



denton.perkins.75



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Michaela Greathouse

Illinois

Discussion Meet

Growing up on the family farm as the 5th generation, Michaela became passionate for agriculture very early on. She and her husband are now raising the 6th generation on the farm. As a family they farm as well as own and operate a market where they sell local meats and goods in their hometown.

Michaela's hobbies include canning, gardening and sharing about agricultural life on social media. Her favorite pass time is spending time on the farm with her family.



Michaela Greathouse Illinois *Discussion Meet*



Emily Zahurones

Kansas

Discussion Meet

Emily Zahurones, a member of Labette County Farm Bureau, strives to improve agricultural advocacy among young members and student organizations. She grew up the oldest of four on a cow-calf and cash crop farm in Central Iowa. Emily moved to Kansas to pursue journalism as the editor of the newspaper, Farm Talk News. Presently, Emily is a digital marketing specialist for Balance4ward, a cattle consulting business. She enjoys meeting new people and telling stories from industry-related events and one-on-one visits with folks on the farm. In her free time, Emily enjoys country swing dance, needle work, gardening, traveling and theatre.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Emily Zahurones

Kansas

Discussion Meet



Emily Zahurones

[linkedin.com/in/emilyzahurones/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/emilyzahurones/)



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Ruth Ann Fink Kentucky *Discussion Meet*

Ruth Ann Myers serves as the Development Officer for the Kentucky FFA Foundation, where she builds relationships to expand opportunities for agriculture students. A graduate of the University of Kentucky and extensive experience in FFA, Ruth Ann brings insight in agricultural education and leadership. She grew up on an Angus cattle operation and later taught agriculture for 4.5 years. Now, she and her husband, Stefan, raise club lambs on his generational family farm.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Ruth Ann Fink Kentucky *Discussion Meet*



Ruth.A.Myers



@ruthie_annie



ruthannmyers



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Hannah Thibodeaux Devall

Louisiana

Discussion Meet

Hannah Devall is an Instructor for the LSU AgCenter where she serves as the Animal Science and Agriculture Literacy/Awareness Specialist for Louisiana 4-H Youth Development program. Parish. Hannah strives to be a catalyst for personal growth in the youth of her community in efforts to promote agriculture education, careers in agriculture, agriculture literacy, and consumer confidence in agriculture products. She is passionate about providing opportunities for youth to learn by doing. Hannah and her husband, Justin, along with their two boys, John and Reese, reside in St. Martin Parish and raise horses, beef cattle, and chickens.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Hannah Thibodeaux Devall Louisiana *Discussion Meet*



www.facebook.com/hannah.thibodeaux.7



[@htdevall](https://www.instagram.com/htdevall)



www.linkedin.com/in/hannah-thibodeaux-devall-2a9412143



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Taylor Tower Massachusetts *Discussion Meet*

First generation farmer and founder of Ridge Hill Farm LLC in 2022, Taylor produces beef, pork, chicken, eggs and tallow products with the hopes of becoming licensed to sell raw milk in 2025.

Taylor grew up on a hobby farm and was active in Pony Club and 4H. She has been a member of Massachusetts Farm Bureau and joined the YF&R State Board in 2021.

She has been married since 2018 and has three wonderful children - Savannah, Jeremy and John.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Taylor Tower Massachusetts *Discussion Meet*



Taylor Tower



Taylor Tower



@ridgehillfarm_



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Renée Wilson

Maryland

Discussion Meet

Renée Wilson grew up on her family's fourth generation dairy farm in Parkton, Maryland and developed a passion for connecting families with agriculture. She received a Telecommunication Degree with a specialization in News from the University of Florida.

When she returned home in 2016, she and her family began The Farmyard LLC. The business provides creative ways to connect the public with farmers. She welcomes thousands of guests annually and consistently looks for ways to support her community. The 40-acre farm offers riding lessons, birthday parties, a livestock program, hands-on activities and more.




Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Renée Wilson Maryland *Discussion Meet*

 thefarmyardmaryland

 thefarmyardmd



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Jasper Cunningham

Michigan

Discussion Meet

Cunningham is a West Michigan native and graduate of Michigan State University. He is employed by Bayer CropScience working with customers throughout North America. If it's a vegetable that can be pickled, canned, frozen, or dried chances are he sells the seed. He also specializes in growing culinary herbs and garlic. Hobbies include traveling, winemaking, and hunting.





Jasper Cunningham

Michigan

Discussion Meet

 Jasper.Cunningham

 jaspercunningham

 Jasper-cunningham



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Megan Horsager
Minnesota
Discussion Meet

Megan Horsager farms with her parents on a row crop operation where they raise corn, soybeans, sweet corn, sugar beets, and alfalfa in west central Minnesota. Megan and her husband Phillip are also busy raising their 3-year-old, Peter, and their 6-month-old, Helen.



Megan Horsager
Minnesota
Discussion Meet



@mnbeetgirl



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Juliane Sykes Missouri *Discussion Meet*

Juliane Sykes is a devoted wife to her husband, Kelly, and proud mother to their two children, Jonathan and Charlotte. She lives on a seventh-generation family farm in North Central Missouri, where she cherishes the values of rural life. As a 3rd-grade teacher, Juliane is passionate about inspiring young minds and fostering a love of learning in her students. Her dedication to both family and community reflects her strong Midwestern roots and commitment to making a difference.



Juliane Sykes
Missouri
Discussion Meet



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Wess Anglin Mississippi *Discussion Meet*

Wess Anglin is a fourth-generation cattle producer. Wess' earliest memories involve working cattle with his grandfather. While growing up, Wess knew that he would pursue the cattle industry for the rest of his life. Wess currently owns and operates a commercial cow/calf operation. Through his involvement with Farm Bureau, he realized the importance of diversifying his operation and has recently incorporated a registered Dorper sheep herd within his farming practice. Wess and his wife Laura enjoy raising their daughters, Jolee and Jenna, on their family farm. Wess is currently a county extension agent and enjoys working with the producers in his area. Wess is also the president of his local Cattlemen's Association. He is thankful for the networking and learning opportunities that the YF&R program has provided in the areas of personal growth, networking opportunities, and leadership development.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Wess Anglin
Mississippi
Discussion Meet



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Nick Courville

Montana

Discussion Meet

Nick Courville and his wife Randi operate Double Cross Livestock in Charlo, Montana. They have a quarter horse breeding operation with two different studs and fourteen broodmares. They run a small cow calf operation as well and direct market a few beeves every year. Nick loves to use his border collies to help with their rotational grazing on the beef cow side. As well as trial them on the weekends when time allows. Nick has worked for CHS Animal Nutrition as a beef nutrition consultant for 10 years. His job allows him the freedom to serve on Western Montana Stockmen's Association board of directors, Northwest Counties Farm Bureau Vice president, and State Young Farmer and Rancher Chair for Montana Farm Bureau, most recently he was appointed to the AgWest Farm Credit Advisory Committee.



Nick Courville Montana *Discussion Meet*



Nicholas Courville



nicholascourville



Nicholas Courville



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



John Norwood North Carolina *Discussion Meet*

John Norwood of Ruffin is a prime example of a farmer staying flexible and innovative. A fifth-generation farmer, John is doing farming differently than the generations before, but he continues the passion. John's family operates Norwood Meador Farms where they focus on selling meat to both restaurants and consumers. "Our operation is a family farm that has transitioned several times over the past 5 generations. I remember from a young age riding on the planter with my parents and all the hot days of chopping weeds in the tobacco fields. As with many farms in our area when the tobacco buyout came around, we transitioned exclusively into cattle farming." John is heavily involved on the local and state levels of agriculture and youth development.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



John Norwood
North Carolina
Discussion Meet



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Thomas Shephard

North Dakota

Discussion Meet

Thomas is a fourth generation farmer from Crystal, North Dakota. On his farm they grow potatoes, wheat, corn, soybeans, and edible beans. After graduating with degrees in Business and Biblical studies from the University of NorthWestern, Thomas moved back to the family farm in 2016. In his free time, Thomas loves to be outdoors, play basketball, and be involved in his community serving on local boards and pulpit supply preaching in area churches. His favorite thing about farming is who he gets to do it with, which includes his parents, his wife Samantha and two children Selah (age 3) and Shiloh (age 1)



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Thomas Shephard
North Dakota
Discussion Meet



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



David Schuler
Nebraska
Discussion Meet

David Schuler is the 3rd generation on the Schuler Red Angus operation where they raise registered Red Angus cattle.

He graduated from University of Nebraska – Lincoln with a degree in Animal Science and was active in Alpha Gamma Rho, Collegiate Farm Bureau, and Block and Bridle. David and his wife Christy are members of Morrill County Farm Bureau.



David Schuler Nebraska *Discussion Meet*



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Abby Campbell Ohio

Discussion Meet

Abby Campbell is an Agricultural Educator and FFA Advisor in Southeastern, Ohio. Along with her husband, Abby helps to manage a fourth generation sheep and swine farm. They have diversified their operation through offering direct to consumer sales, cut flowers, pumpkins, and an Etsy page.



Abby Campbell
Ohio
Discussion Meet



Abby Campbell



abbycampbell2



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Jacob Beck Oklahoma *Discussion Meet*

Jacob Beck is a third-generation small family business owner and cattle rancher. Jacob works for his family business, Beck's Farm equipment, where he manages operations and sells farm equipment. He also helps run his family's cow-calf and stocker cattle operation. Jacob and his wife Chastity Beck have four children and strive to pave the way for the fourth-generation to one day come into their family business and farming operation. Jacob is currently serving as the OKFB YF&R Chairman and also on Logan County Farm Bureau Board.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Jacob Beck
Oklahoma
Discussion Meet



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Kay Smith Pennsylvania *Discussion Meet*

Kay Smith is a senior at the Pennsylvania State University studying Agricultural and Biorenewable Systems Management. She joined Farm Bureau last year and spent the summer learning more about the organization through her internship with a PA farmer. Growing up she worked in the equine and dairy industries. You will often find her at community service events, working as a barista, or taking care of her many foster kittens. Kay hopes to continue her ag journey in agricultural policy or consulting.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Kay Smith Pennsylvania *Discussion Meet*



@kayleehope18



@kayleehope18



@kayleesmith18



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Samuel Quinney

South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation

Discussion Meet

Originally from upstate South Carolina, Sam Quinney lives in Winnsboro with his wife, Victoria, and their soon-to-be three little girls. There, they raise meat rabbits and laying hens. Sam graduated from Clemson University in 2016 and has worked as a Clemson Extension Agent and Agricultural Education teacher. He currently works for the South Carolina Department of Agriculture as the Director of Agricultural Outreach, working closely with commodity groups in our state. Sam has served in multiple positions on county boards and is currently the YF&R chair in Fairfield County. Sam enjoys spending time with his family outdoors as much as possible and is an avid hunter.



Samuel Quinney

South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation

Discussion Meet



www.facebook.com/sam.quinney



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Aaron Loy
Tennessee
Discussion Meet

Aaron Loy is a 5th-generation farmer in New Market, TN in partnership with his father. They operate a diversified livestock operation that consists of beef cattle, hogs, and hay. Aaron has been very active in Farm Bureau since the age of 18 and served as young farmer chair, vice president, and president.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Aaron Loy Tennessee *Discussion Meet*



[Loy Stock Farm](#)



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Paden McDermid

Texas

Discussion Meet

Paden McDermid is the 2024 Texas Farm Bureau Discussion Meet winner. He earned a bachelor's degree in finance and agricultural economics from New Mexico State University. He is an estimating project manager for 5G Monarch Construction, a real estate development company. His family raises cattle in Montgomery County.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Paden McDermid
Texas
Discussion Meet



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Hayden Ballard

Utah

Discussion Meet

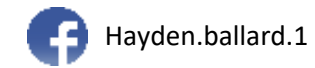
Hayden and Linzy (and their son) hail from Enterprise, Utah, where this year they purchased their first home and first piece of farmland. Hayden is a drought insurance agent, and attorney for a nonprofit organization focused on land-use policy aimed at helping public lands grazers. Linzy works for a hunting tech company in research/data and develops nutrition related media content. Together they help on the larger Ballard family ranch while running their own small cow-calf and direct-to-consumer beef operation, utilizing private, state and federal land.



Hayden Ballard

Utah

Discussion Meet



AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Marshall Slaven Virginia *Discussion Meet*

Marshall Slaven and his wife, Joy, raise 1,200 head of beef cattle. He also provides custom hay baling and wrapping services to other farmers, and transports manure on contract.

In a separate business, he brokers straw to several large dairies and other cattle operations. He also assists his father with the family fencing business and raising 500 brood cows. The Slavens have three young daughters and are expecting a son.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Marshall Slaven Virginia *Discussion Meet*



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Kallie Jo Coates

Wisconsin

Discussion Meet

Kallie Jo Coates works in office management for Harry Hansen Meat Service and is a marketing freelancer with Briar Marketing. Her and her husband, Devin, own Coates Farm where they raise 150 laying hens in addition to 225 acres of corn and forage crops. She graduated from UW-Platteville with a degree in agricultural education before attending Texas Tech for a masters degree in agricultural communications. She is proud to be a part of Farm Bureau because it continues to help move the agriculture industry forward.



Kallie Jo Coates Wisconsin *Discussion Meet*



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Will and Ali Gotcher

Alabama

Excellence in Agriculture

Will and Ali Gotcher are 5th generation farmers from Colbert County, Alabama where they manage a beef and hay operation. Outside of their farm, Ali serves as an Animal Science Extension Agent and Will serves as Chief Financial Officer of a large row crop and cattle operation. The couple are both active in Farm Bureau, Cattlemen's and many others leadership organizations. Both are graduates of the Agricultural Leaders for Alabama Program. They will be welcoming the sixth generation to the farm, a little girl, in April.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Will and Ali Gotcher
Alabama
Excellence in Agriculture



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Hannah Walker

Arkansas

Excellence in Agriculture

Hannah Walker and her husband Cody run a cow-calf operation near Mountain Home. On weekdays, Hannah works within the Mountain Home School district, and on the weekends she and Cody operate County Line Beef, LLC, a direct-to-consumer beef operation. Hannah and her family look to be the face of agriculture in their community. Their two kids Claire and Charlie are active on the farm and in 4-H.



Hannah Walker Arkansas *Excellence in Agriculture*



Cody Hannah Walker



Mrs_walker714



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Jynel Gularte
California
Excellence in Agriculture

Jynel Gularte is a fifth-generation farmer from the Salinas Valley. She graduated Summa cum laude from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Agricultural Business. She works on her family's farm, Rincon Farms, Inc., as the Controller and Compliance Officer. She currently serves as Chairman for the Central Coast Young Farmers and Ranchers.



Jynel Gularte

California

Excellence in Agriculture



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Marshal & Taylor Sewell

Florida

Excellence in Agriculture

Marshal and Taylor Sewell, both Florida natives and University of Florida alumni, met while working in the seed industry-Taylor in Nebraska seed corn production and Marshal in U.S. vegetable and seed sales. Marshal, from a multigenerational farm family, remains involved in the vegetable business, while Taylor is an agronomist for Yara, a global crop nutrition company. Together, they co-founded the Mind Your Melon Foundation, a nonprofit focused on farmer mental health advocacy. The couple, who have been together for eight years, just welcomed their second daughter on Christmas Day!



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Marshal & Taylor Sewell Florida *Excellence in Agriculture*



Mind Your Melon



@mindurmelon



Mind Your Melon



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Kaitlyn and Kaleb Marchant

Georgia

Excellence in Agriculture

Kaleb and Kaitlyn live with their two children Bodie (5) and Maggie Blakke (2) in Winterville, Georgia. Kaleb works for the University of Georgia where he manages a teaching and research livestock operation and Kaitlyn is an agricultural education program specialist for the Georgia Department of Education. They are avid college football fans (Go Dawgs!) and love to spend fall Saturdays tailgating with friends and family. They have been actively involved in the YF&R program for the last 12 years, serving on their state committee for the last 2.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Kaitlyn and Kaleb Marchant
Georgia
Excellence in Agriculture



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



James Hepp

Iowa

Excellence in Agriculture

James Hepp lives in Rockwell City, Iowa, with his wife, Paige, and two sons.

As a first-generation farmer, he was given the opportunity to farm by a friend's father who was entering retirement. He grows corn, soybeans, rye for seed and has a strong focus on conservation. Off-farm, he owns and operates his own crop insurance agency.

James is a graduate of Iowa Farm Bureau's Ag Leaders Institute, a 2024 Iowa Farm Bureau Young Farmer Leadership Award winner, and currently serves as Calhoun County Farm Bureau President.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



James Hepp
Iowa
Excellence in Agriculture



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25

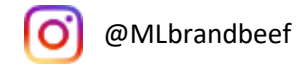


Paige Nelson
Idaho
Excellence in Agriculture

Paige and Tyler Nelson reside in Rigby, Idaho, where they are both 5th generation ranchers. They have three beautiful children: Sylvia, age 8, Lydia, age 6, and Cort, age 2. The Nelsons operate a cow-calf commercial Angus ranch. Although their headquarters are in located in Rigby, the summer cattle range is located in the scenic Kilgore Valley in Clark County Idaho.



Paige Nelson
Idaho
Excellence in Agriculture



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Sadie Asher

Illinois

Excellence in Agriculture

Sadie Asher is rooted in agriculture – with a career supporting those with traditional row crops and a farm operation in the specialty crop market. Currently, she works for Nutrien Ag Solutions as a Senior Marketing Strategist. In addition to her off-farm career, Sadie and her husband Shane are reviving a former Christmas tree farm, planting ~350 trees each year on their “Back 20” located near Geneseo IL. Besides trees, a large garden, and pollinator patch, they’re also growing their family – daughter Judith is 18 months old!

Sadie serves as a director at-large on the Henry County Farm Bureau board and served as Chairman of the Illinois Young Leaders Committee and advisor to the IAA Board in 2023. Sadie and Shane were the first Professional Members of the Illinois Farm Bureau.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25




Sadie Asher

Illinois

Excellence in Agriculture

 @sjg.asher

 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/sadieasher081218/>

 @sjg.asher



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Isaac & Kyla Schroder

Indiana

Excellence in Agriculture

Isaac and Kyla Schroeder reside in Perry County, Indiana with their children Clyde and Carter. The Schroeders divide their time and energy between their registered Angus cattle farm, hay operation, full-time careers, and community. Isaac is a Division Agronomist for Superior Ag where he works with the sales team to implement trainings, conducts grower consultations, as well as field research and agronomy problem analysis. Kyla works for Tempo Global Resources, an aluminum supply chain company.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Isaac & Kyla Schroder
Indiana
Excellence in Agriculture



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Ashton Schneider

Kansas

Excellence in Agriculture

Ashton Schneider is a fourth-generation farmer and rancher of Pelz Farm located in Sedgwick County. Alongside her family, Ashton raises a commercial cattle herd, grows crops and feed and operates a direct-to-consumer beef business. She feels blessed to raise her daughter to be the next generation on the farm she grew up on and feels pride in watching her daughter's passion for the industry blossom. Ashton is passionate about sharing her story on social media, as well as connecting with other farmers and ranchers. She believes in the importance of community, educating others and advocating for agricultural industry.



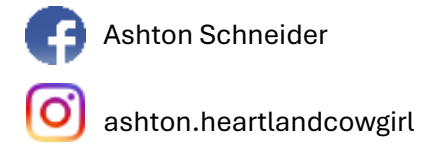
Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Ashton Schneider
Kansas
Excellence in Agriculture



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25

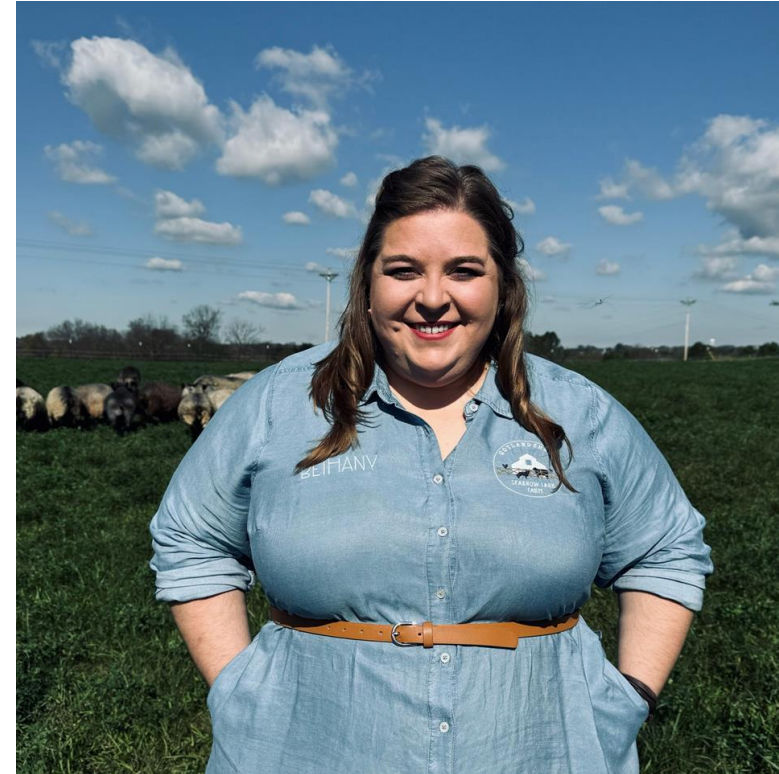


Bethany Mattingly

Kentucky

Excellence in Agriculture

Bethany owns and operates a Gotland sheep farm in Henry County, Kentucky. She is the Director of Agriculture Education and Outreach for the Kentucky Department of Agriculture where she builds educational opportunities for teachers and students across the state, advocates for the preservation of farmland, and forges a path through uncharted territory to build a better agriculture future.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Bethany Mattingly
Kentucky
Excellence in Agriculture



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Clint & Raquel Manuel

Louisiana

Excellence in Agriculture

Clint and Raquel Manuel are dedicated agricultural advocates and leaders. Clint, a Project Engineer and cattle producer, manages a thriving cow-calf and hay operation. Raquel, a Development Consultant, supports youth in agriculture and promotes advocacy. Together, they operate their farm, serve as State YF&R and AITC Directors, and champion sustainable agriculture. Proud parents to sons Luke and Levi, they are excitedly expecting their third child in May. Their passion for agriculture and family values drives their mission to inspire the next generation of leaders.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

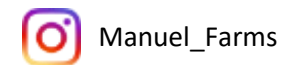
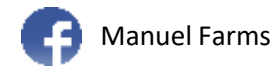
#AFBF25



Clint & Raquel Manuel

Louisiana

Excellence in Agriculture



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Darcy Lipskey

Michigan

Excellence in Agriculture

Darcy Lipskey is a passionate advocate for agriculture and community development in northern Sanilac County. As a district conservationist, she works with farmers to improve soil health and manage environmental risks while staying involved in her family farm, Lipskey Livestock. Active in 4-H, FFA, and her local Farm Bureau, Darcy also leads initiatives like Freeze Out Hunger, addressing rural food insecurity and supporting local agriculture and serves as her local Lions Club president.



Darcy Lipskey

Michigan

Excellence in Agriculture



Darcy Lipskey



crafts.cows.cocktails



darcy-lipskey-a7b832188



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Luke Daninger

Minnesota

Excellence in Agriculture

Luke Daninger resides in Forest Lake, MN with his wife and 3 children. He serves as the Agronomy Sales Manager for Ag Partners Coop in southern Minnesota and Western Wisconsin. Luke also is actively involved in his family's dairy farm and on-farm creamery where milk is processed and sold throughout the Twin Cities.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Luke Daninger

Minnesota

Excellence in Agriculture



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Lorin Harvey

Mississippi

Excellence in Agriculture

Lorin Harvey is an Assistant Professor and Extension sweetpotato specialist at Mississippi State University. Despite not growing up involved in farming, he knew from a young age that he wanted to be involved in agriculture. After high school, he pursued a Bachelors in Agronomy at Iowa State University, followed by a MS and PhD in Plant Breeding and Genetics at Texas A&M University. Lorin started at Mississippi State University in 2021 and has developed a globally recognized research and extension program focused on sweetpotato production. He and his wife Kelsey plan to start a small family farm and can't wait to see their daughter Abigail thrive in agriculture. Thanks to his current role in the sweetpotato industry, Lorin understands the importance of political involvement and recognizes Farm Bureau as a critical platform for advocacy and action for American Farmers.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Lorin Harvey
Mississippi
Excellence in Agriculture



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Jeremy and Victoria Lee

North Carolina

Excellence in Agriculture

Jeremy and Victoria Lee are both graduates of NC State University. The Lees married in 2015, attend Center Church and live by a philosophy of “faith, family, farming.” They share a passion for agriculture and are proud to be farming for the next generation, as they raise beef cattle, and their twin sons, Jackson and Owen. Jeremy is employed with Ag South Farm Credit as Vice President Relationship Manager of Farm Credit Express, and Victoria teaches science at Bandys High School in Catawba.




Jeremy and Victoria Lee

North Carolina

Excellence in Agriculture

 Victoria Whitener Lee

 Jeremy Lee

 toriwee

 farmkid2013



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Sara Tallmadge

Ohio

Excellence in Agriculture

Sara Tallmadge started her agricultural journey on her family's 300-acre pheasant farm, leading to a future career as a Registered Veterinary Technician in the research field working to protect livestock and human public health. Through her personal experiences she developed an interest in supporting the mental health of our rural communities and veterans during her time at university. Now a Clinical Research Specialist working to provide targeted behavioral health interventions to communities, she also serves on her County Farm Bureau Board and enjoys leading a multitude of committees, including the Annual Ag Toy Drive.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Sara Tallmadge
Ohio
Excellence in Agriculture



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Jaclyn Darling

Oklahoma

Excellence in Agriculture

Jaclyn Darling represents Coal County Farm Bureau, serving as the Oklahoma Farm Bureau District 8 Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee representative. After obtaining her bachelor's degree from Oklahoma State University in agricultural economics, she moved back home to Coal County to work alongside her family on their family ranch. She is a third-generation rancher, raising the fourth-generation on their cow-calf operation. When she is not ranching, she works for National Livestock as an administrative assistant.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Jaclyn Darling
Oklahoma
Excellence in Agriculture



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Roy Hofer

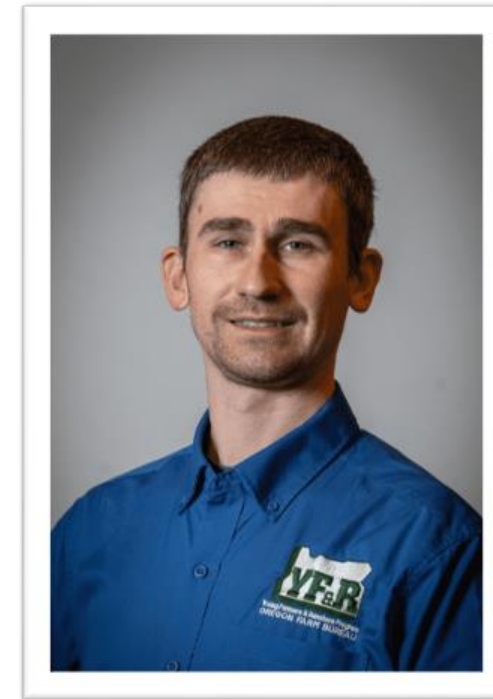
Oregon

Excellence in Agriculture

My agricultural roots run deep, dating back to 1892 when two Swiss families settled in Helvetia (Washington County). Generations later, I was born and began my own agricultural ambitions in Clackamas County. Growing up on a small farm, I developed a strong work ethic, and working with tractors from a young age. My great Uncle Roy, was a John Deere dealer for over 50 years, he was a major influence on my love for farming and tractors.

By age 10, I was already driving tractors and helping with haymaking. My entrepreneurial spirit took shape early on with a 4-H chicken project, trapping gophers, and doing custom baling by age 16. My passion for tractors grew as I restored and exhibited them at local fairs throughout high school. I am a John Deere AG Tech School graduate.

Today, I share my love for agriculture through local parades and tractor shows, and educating others on the history of agriculture at my museum. My lifelong dedication to farming continues to inspire me, and I'm proud to help preserve the past and encourage the future of agriculture.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Roy Hofer Oregon *Excellence in Agriculture*



<https://www.facebook.com/roy.hofer.3/>



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Nicole Burbage

South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation

Excellence in Agriculture

Nicole Burbage is a Lowcountry native, equestrian, Realtor, and Appraiser. As the daughter of a farrier, she grew up with a love of horses, rodeos, and beauty pageants. Nicole is the 2017 Miss Rodeo North Carolina winner and was the creator of the 50 Pink Horses for Breast Cancer Awareness Challenge. She holds a seat on the Berkeley County Farm Bureau Board of Directors and the Berkeley County Government Board of Zoning Appeals. Nicole is married to her husband, Shiloah, and they have two beautiful children. She strong agricultural advocate with a passion for sustainability and preserving South Carolina's working agricultural lands.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Nicole Burbage
South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation
Excellence in Agriculture



www.facebook.com/nickiburbage



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Joseph & Meredith Redman

Tennessee

Excellence in Agriculture

Joseph and Meredith Redman farm Meredith's family farm, Grace Meadows Farm, in East Tennessee. They run a family-style restaurant, three event venues, a catering service, and a creamery, while raising produce, sunflowers, and managing a cow-calf feeder operation.

They have 3 daughters, Merritt (7), Jolie (2), and Emery (8 months). Joseph and Meredith enjoy being involved with the different entities on the farm, meeting guests and making connections, sharing their passion for the agriculture industry, and spending time with their girls on the farm.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25





Joseph & Meredith Redman

Tennessee

Excellence in Agriculture

 Grace Meadows Farm

 The Creamery at Grace Meadows

 grace_meadows_farm

 the_kitchen_at_gmf



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Jacob Spivey
Texas
Excellence in Agriculture

Jacob Spivey is an ag science teacher and FFA advisor at Warren ISD. He works with students on livestock and horticultural projects, leadership skills and FFA contests. He also helps with his family's Brahman cattle and timber operation.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Jacob Spivey
Texas
Excellence in Agriculture



Walker Bagley

Utah

Excellence in Agriculture

Walker Bagley from Roosevelt Utah. Raised on the family cow/calf operation in southern Utah, and currently farms with his wife Audree in Roosevelt. They raise cattle, hay, corn, and run a feedlot. In addition to the farm operation, Walker works as an agricultural loan officer serving farmers & ranchers around Roosevelt.

Walker has been involved with the Farm Bureau since college and has served in several capacities; including Chapter President and County YF&R Chairman. Walker has also been involved with Agriculture Future of America, and Utah Cattlemen's Association.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Walker Bagley Utah

Excellence in Agriculture



Walker Bagley



Walker Bagley



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO ★ TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Morgan Slaven

Virginia

Excellence in Agriculture

Morgan Slaven serves as manager of governance and executive affairs for Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative while managing a 40-head commercial hair sheep flock on her Augusta County farm.

She also represents District 5 on the VFBF Young Farmers Committee and serves as the committee's vice chair; chair of her county Farm Bureau's Young Farmers committee; and vice president of her county Farm Bureau board.

Slaven grew up on her family's multi-generational farm and has served as an agricultural advocate throughout her life. She enjoys applying her background in agriculture and communication to her role with the electric co-op.



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25



Morgan Slaven Virginia

Excellence in Agriculture



<https://www.facebook.com/morgan.slaven.3>



https://www.instagram.com/mercy_mill_farm/



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/mlslaven2014/>



Step Up
DRIVE FORWARD

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU® CONVENTION
SAN ANTONIO • TX
JANUARY 24-29, 2025

#AFBF25

