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92nd Indiana FFA State Convention Corduroy Connection



Wednesday June 16, 2021

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SOCIAL MEDIA

#92INFFAConv #INFFAEmbrace



Remember Who You Are

Our keynote speaker for the first general session is none other than the Chewbacca Mom. This name came from a 2016 video of Candace Payne showing a Chewbacca mask and laughing about how much she loved it. It has over 23 million views on Facebook, and 12 million views on YouTube. Though she would have loved the name Wookie Woman, she was named "Chewbacca Mom" by James Corden when she was being interviewed on his show.

Candace has been married 20 years to her husband and has two kids and 2 pugs. She has lived in Texas since she was 10 years old. When asked to describe herself in three words, her answer was

fun, spontaneous, and grounded. She competed at school functions and then found her passion while speaking at a local church. She was giving an inspirational speech and loved how she felt during it. That is when she knew what she wanted to do.

When her video went viral, she began going on tours, and she was interviewed by several people. She even was mentioned in the Disney movie, Wreck It Ralph 2. This was a huge deal to her because she was a big Disney fan as well as Harry Potter (she is a Hufflepuff), Marvel, and of course Star Wars.

During her speech at the first general session her overall message was to remember

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who you are. The theme of the first general session was the movie Lion King (which is also one of her favorite movies). She took that theme and incorporated it into her speech. She said, "Simba was destined for something great, but when Scar killed his dad and blamed Simba, he lost focus of who he was."

Candace was telling the crowd that even through what you have been through, it doesn't define who you are as a person. She talked about how your brain has a negative bias that causes you to pluck out one negative thing and ruin your whole day. She was telling the crowd that you need to block out the negative comments and move on with your life because you were born for a purpose. That the bad days don't define you. That you need to remember who you are even when things don't look too great at the time.



"Double Agents"

Makayla Hitt



Some FFA members had more than just the Indiana State FFA Convention to participate in this week. The World Pork Expo is being held on the Indiana State Fairgrounds, and some FFA members are not only representing their chapter, but also representing their farms. I got to talk to Gus Whitman, one of these "double agents". Wednesday, the third day of convention, Gus will be showing his pigs Bacon, Sausage, and Hamburger. He will spend 4 hours showing and miss courtesy corps and parts of sessions. These FFA members get to participate in both these events and not sacrifice missing what they love. Gus said "I'm just glad I get to do them the same week...", "The first year I could've gone to a convention, the expo was in Iowa, so I wasn't able to go". Since the Indiana State FFA Convention is usually held at Purdue University, it would never be possible to do this in past years. We are so proud of the FFA members doing both!



Don't forget to share your convention pictures on the convention app or on social media with the hashtags #92INFFAConv #INFFAEmbrace!





CDE Spotlight

Katelyn McMillan



A huge congratulations to all of the members that won their designated CDE contests! I had the opportunity to interview the Southern Wells FFA Chapters Ag Mechanics team after they had found out that they had just won the state competition. To say the least, they were excited and proud to be able to represent their state later on! The team consists of members Valiant Drennen, Gabe McElhaney, Jase Warner, and Landen Warner with coach Wyatt Korporeal.

Throughout this contest, members were asked to do different things that would demonstrate their skills in electric, welding, soldering, small engines, and tool and

parts ID as well as take a common knowledge and problem solving test. The whole contest took about 6 hours and took place on Monday. This contest is designed to encourage members to choose a career in the mechanical engineering field and help them understand the different parts that it has to offer.

During the interview, I asked the team what they thought the hardest part of the contest was. They came to the conclusion that they all struggled to get the welding rods to light and to complete the problem solving test. I then asked what they liked the most and a common answer was welding. Gabe McElhaney said, "It's one of those contests where you have to know everything about a lot." Congratulations again to all of the state winning teams!



Member Spotlight



Carol Witt & Caroline Page

We had the opportunity to ask Indiana FFA Members a few questions. Cara Gofourth and Zach Troxal are just two of those members. If you get a chance feel free to view the short interview we had the opportunity to take.



Cara Gofourth

Chapter: Sullivan

Officer Position:
President

Favorite thing about State Convention: going to the dances, meeting new people, and competing in the interview contest

Other Activities:

4-H, and Golf



Zach Troxal

Chapter: North East Dubois

Favorite Part of Convention: the inspirational talks and talent

Other Activities: 4-H



Bonnie Witt

Chapter: Sullivan

Officer Position: Retired President

Favorite thing about FFA: making lifelong friends and learning valuable life skills

Other Activities: 4-H, Cheer Team, and Track



Sponsor Spotlight



A Special thank you to these sponsors who put on
AMAZING workshops for our members this after-
noon!

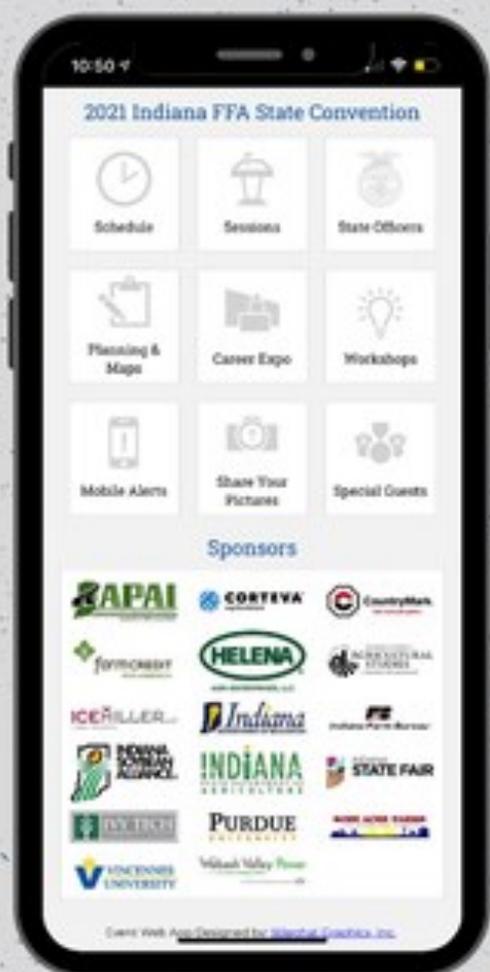


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