

# The Westfield Republican

"First Republican Newspaper Printed in U. S. A."  
Also serving the communities of Chautauqua and Mayville since 1856

8, Number 26

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2019

Westfield, New York

Westfield Republican, Thursday, October 24, 2019



Above are the selected members of the Sherman FFA Chapter.

Submitted Photo

# Local FFA members selected to compete nationally

Four members of the Sherman FFA Chapter earned the opportunity to compete for national recognition in a career development event at the 92nd National FFA Convention & Expo in Indianapolis, Oct. 30-Nov. 2.

The Sherman FFA Chapter from Sherman, NY will send members to Indianapolis as they vie for national honors in the agricultural technology and mechanical systems area.

Caterpillar Inc. and Firestone Agricultural Solutions sponsor the event. FFA members who will represent the chapter include Eric Witherow, Henry Meeder, Emily Starceski and Josie Allen. Kelly Maleski is the chapter advisor.

The team placed first in the state-wide agricultural technology and mechanical systems career development event this past May during the State FFA Convention in Syracuse, NY. The competition had over one hundred competitors from across New York State. All four of the team members also placed in the top ten individually with Eric

Witherow placing first, Henry Meeder placing fifth, Emily Starceski placing sixth and Josie Allen placing eighth. Three of the four team members graduated from Sherman in June. Eric Witherow, son of Curtis and Kimberly Witherow, is attending JCC and majoring in welding. Emily Starceski, daughter of Paul and Robin Starceski, is attending Cornell University and majoring in animal science. Josie Allen, daughter of Willard and Amy Allen, is attending Penn State Behrend and majoring in animal science. Henry Meeder, son of Curt and Elisabeth Meeder, is a junior at Sherman Central School.

Agricultural technology and mechanical systems is one of 25 career/leadership development event areas, covering jobs skills in everything from communications to mechanics. The participants take a written test and demonstrate their skills through hands-on activities in the following system areas: machinery and equipment systems, electrical systems, energy systems, environmental and

natural resources systems and structural systems. CDEs and LDEs help students develop the abilities to think critically, communicate clearly and perform effectively in a competitive job market.

The National FFA Organization provides leadership, personal growth and career success training through agricultural education to 669,989 student members who belong to one of 8,630 local FFA chapters throughout the U.S., Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The organization is also supported by 459,514 alumni members in 2,236 alumni chapters throughout the U.S.

## About National FFA Organization

The National FFA Organization is a national youth organization of 669,989 student members as part of 8,630 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The organization is supported by 459,514 alumni members in 2,236 local FFA Alumni chapters throughout the U.S. The FFA mission is to

make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. For more, visit the National FFA Organization online at [FFA.org](http://FFA.org) and on Facebook, Twitter and official news page of the National FFA Organization.

## About National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Foundation builds partnerships with industry, education, government, other foundations and individuals to secure financial resources that recognize FFA member achievements, develop student leaders and support the future of agricultural education. Governed by a 19-member board of trustees composed of educators, business leaders, individual donors and FFA Alumni, the foundation is a separately registered nonprofit organization. About 82% of every dollar received by the foundation supports FFA members and agricultural education opportunities. For more, visit [FFA.org/Give](http://FFA.org/Give).