

# *Purdue AgEd Views*

For alumni and friends of Agricultural Education  
at Purdue University

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Dear Agricultural Education Friend,

1912. New Mexico and Arizona are admitted as the 47<sup>th</sup> and 48<sup>th</sup> U.S. states. Fenway Park opens in Boston. The RMS Titanic sinks. And in West Lafayette, Indiana, Purdue Agricultural Education is born! Please mark your calendars for Spring 2012 when we will have our Centennial Celebration recognizing 100 years of Purdue Agricultural Education. Look for future mailings on details of the festivities.

2009 and 2010 have been tough years for education. However, we want to recognize and welcome three new programs into the Agricultural Education family. Emma Donnan Middle School in Indianapolis Public Schools is now teaching 8<sup>th</sup> grade agriculture with plans to expand. Greensburg Community High School and Westville Middle/High School started programs this year and have great plans for the future.

This newsletter highlights some of the excellence by our students in Agricultural Education. Students continue to take advantage of study abroad opportunities and internships. Numerous Agricultural Education students hold leadership positions in the College of Agriculture, Purdue University, sororities, fraternities, and other student organizations. We especially want to highlight our three National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE) Upper Division Scholarship recipients as we believe this is a first for one university to have three students recognized!

We hope you enjoy reading this issue of *Purdue AgEd Views*, and catching up on happenings in our program.

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## *New Executive Director of FFA and IYFA*

Steve Hickey has joined the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) as Director of Leadership Programs. In this role, Hickey will serve as the Executive Director for FFA and Indiana Young Farmers Association (IYFA).

Lt. Governor Becky Skillman announced in June that ISDA would house this position. The FFA Executive Director position was previously housed in the Department of Education. The change will be beneficial to both FFA and IYFA, as they will be connected more strongly with ISDA's economic development efforts.

For 33 years, Hickey served as Shenandoah High School's Agricultural Education Instructor and FFA Advisor where he was responsible for transforming their FFA program and cultivating their agricultural curriculum to develop our next generation of agriculture leaders in agribusiness, agriscience and on the farm.



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# Agricultural Education Scholarship Recipients

The following students are 2010-2011 school year scholarship recipients:

## AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

### **Purdue Agricultural Education Endowment**

Jacob Bacon	Stephanie Byrum
Kevin Cross	Heather Dougherty
Brent Ertel	Erin Gilley
Cara Hummel	James Kemble
Allison Korb	Tyler Mason
Kyle McCallum	Tricia Ritter
Amanda Wagoner	Michael Warstler
Ashley Wehner	Sarah Williams
Amanda Workman	

### **W.I. Boyd Memorial**

Heather Dougherty

### **Dr. Robert Brinson**

Tricia Ritter                      Michael Warstler

### **Dr. James Clouse**

Rebekah Nortrup

### **Amir Faghieh**

James Kemble

### **Gary and Jean Geswein**

Sadie Davis

### **Indiana Association of Agricultural Educators**

Kaitlyn Culy                      Tyler Mason

### **Indiana Farm Bureau, Inc. Scholarship**

Allison Korb

### **Lois Maddox Memorial**

Julie Elsbury

### **National Association of Agricultural Educators**

Cara Hummel                      Chelsey Mann

### **Nussbaum Determined to Succeed**

Kevin Cross

### **Dr. Jerry L. and Susan M. Peters**

Logan Springstun

### **Terry Robertson-Smith**

Ashtin Balzer

### **Terry and Joanne Small**

Robert Hays

### **Eric Steiner**

Alyssa Besser

## COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

### **Scholarship Awards of Excellence**

Matthew Armbruster	Kara Burdett
Melissia Grant	Lauren Hardin
Mariah Huff	

### **Alice A. Blume 4-H**

Rebekah Nortrup

### **Floyd and Nellie Elliott**

Heather Dougherty	Cara Hummel
Janna Oxford	

### **Farm Credit Services**

Chelsey Mann

### **Gruel Memorial Endowment**

Robert Hays	Chelsey Mann
Rebekah Nortrup	Joshua Perry
Tricia Ritter	Michael Warstler

### **Hageman Ag**

Kevin Cross

### **Marquardt Alumni**

Meagan Harrell                      Tyler Mason

### **Martin Ag Research**

Ashtin Balzer

### **J. Kelly O'Neill and Margaret Ritchey O'Neill Memorial**

Alyssa Besser	Estil Caton
Emilie Kuhn	Michael Warstler

### **Harry L. Pearson Outstanding Leader**

Robert Hays

### **Reed Ag Scholarship**

Mariah Huff

### **Lewis Runkle**

Heather Dougherty

### **Richard and Jeanne Ward Scholarship**

Matthew Armbruster

### **Mauri and June Williamson Ag Ambassador**

Rebekah Nortrup

### **F. R. "Dick" Willsey Memorial**

Kaitlyn Culy

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATORS (NAAE)**

**Upper Division Scholarships**

Robert Hays  
Logan Springstun

Chelsey Mann

**Student Member CASE Institute Scholarship**

Aaron McKim

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## Students Excel at National FFA Convention

Purdue Agricultural Education students recognized at the National FFA Convention were:

**2010 American Degree Recipients**

Jennifer Amstutz      Cara Hummel  
Emmy Kratz

**2010 Proficiency State Winners**

Matthew Armbruster      Emmy Kratz  
Janna Oxford

Purdue Agricultural Education students assisting with the National FFA Agricultural Issues Forum CDE were:

**2010 Agricultural Issues Forum CDE**

Alyssa Besser	Emily Chaney
Jill Chrisman	Sadie Davis
Heather Dougherty	Rob Hays
James Kemble	Zac Lechlitner
Chelsey Mann	Tyler Mason
Bill McIntire	Desiray Simmons
Logan Springstun	Lori Stroud
Mike Warstler	

Purdue Agricultural Education students serving as tour guides and recruiters were:

**2010 CDE Tour Guides**

Drake Babcock	Spencer Carson
Julie Elsbury	Cody Kerr
Emilie Kuhn	Casey Reckelhoff
Michelle Rexing	Ashley Steuer
Ashley Thomas	Ashley Wehner
Sarah Williams	Amanda Workman

**Agriscience Teacher Program**

**2010 National Agriscience Teacher Finalist**

Rich McGown, Triton Central High School

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## Outstanding Members Selected

Each year, Indiana Farm Bureau sponsors awards for outstanding members of IAAE-Purdue. The selection is based on student's grade point average, participation in organization activities, and service to IAAE-Purdue. The following students were selected as award recipients in the **2009-2010** academic year for their respective years:

Drake Babcock, Brent Ertel, and Amanda Workman	Outstanding Freshmen
Cara Hummel and Cody Kerr	Outstanding Sophomores
Logan Springstun and Mike Warstler	Outstanding Juniors
Aaron McKim and Holly Shore	Outstanding Seniors

# Student Success and Recognition

- Rachel Demaree, an Agricultural Education student, was a 2010 Indianapolis 500 Festival Princess.
- Agricultural Education students, Rebekah Nortrup and Logan Springstun, are serving as 2009-2010 College of Agriculture Ag Ambassadors, and Ashtin Balzer is serving as a 2010-2011 International Ag Ambassador.
- Kevin Cross, an Agricultural Education student, is serving as a member of the College of Agriculture Ag Council.
- Each year one student in the College of Agriculture is selected to represent the undergraduate students on the Curriculum and Student Relations Committee (CSRC). Logan Springstun, an Agricultural Education student, was selected to serve for the 2009-2010 academic year. Logan also is serving as Director of Local Governmental Relations for Purdue Student Government.
- Robert Hays, an Agricultural Education student, was elected to serve as student government senator for the College of Agriculture.
- Serving as a member of the 2010-2011 Pearson Education Student Advisory Board, Agricultural Education student Chelsey Mann was one of 10 students from across the United States and Canada selected to represent the company for the upcoming year.
- Meagan Harrell, an Agricultural Education student, was the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 President of Purdue's Residence Hall Association.
- Our student organization, IAAE-Purdue, was recognized by NAAE as a 100% membership chapter and received second place in the 2010 College of Agriculture Scrapbook Award.
- Almost 200 students, parents, faculty and staff, and guests attended the 2010 Spring IAAE-Purdue banquet. Our guest speaker was Mr. Byron Ernest, Agricultural Science and Business Teacher at Lebanon Community High School.
- For the sixth year freshmen participated in the Agricultural Education Learning Community. These students took classes together, participated in educational as well as fun activities, and became a strong part of the Agricultural Education family.
- Fall 2010 undergraduate enrollment was 102.

## IAAE-Purdue Elects Officers

Officers elected for 2010 and their retiring counterpart include:

Office	Retiring	2010 Officer
President	Becky Korb	Logan Springstun
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Aaron McKim	Mike Warstler
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Logan Springstun	
Secretary	Holly Shore	Cody Kerr
Treasurer	Nicole Fitzsimmons	Jill Chrisman
Assistant Treasurer	Rachel Demaree	
Reporter	Sadie Davis	Tricia Ritter
Historian	Mike Warstler	Tricia Ritter
Chaplain	Jill Chrisman	Mike Warstler
Ag Council Representative	Rebekah Nortrup	Casey Reckelhoff



# Faculty and Staff Notes

The Agricultural Education program is housed on the second floor of the Agricultural Administration building. Room numbers are: Levon Esters – Room 224, Dan Gottschalk - Room 220, Jerry Peters - Room 220A, Allen Talbert - Room 224. Our mailing address is: 615 West State Street, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2053. Our secretary is Mona Jackson, telephone (765) 494-8423.

Dr. Levon Esters was recognized by the American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE) North Central Region as its 2010 Outstanding Early Career Agricultural Educator. Dr. Esters with the assistance of Megan Anderson (YDAE graduate student) and Kayla Mosson (Agricultural Education undergraduate student) is working on a number of marketing strategies for the Advanced Life Sciences (ALS) program. The major initiatives currently underway include updated ALS brochures and posters which are now available as well as an ALS website that should be up and running in mid-December.

Dr. Allen Talbert served as host site coordinator for a CASE Institute in Summer 2010. CASE is an effort to implement a national curriculum for secondary agricultural education.

Janet Beagle, Ph.D. graduate in Agricultural and Extension Education, received the 2010 American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE) Kahler Outstanding Dissertation Award. She was co-advised by Dr. Mark Balschweid and Dr. Allen Talbert.

Dan and Cindy Gottschalk were overjoyed when grandson Zane said, “Grandpa, I ordered my FFA jacket.” Zane is starting his agricultural education experience at Rossville High School. Cindy continues to receive treatment for a damaged trachea at University Hospital, Cincinnati.

Dr. Dale Whittaker has moved from College of Agriculture Associate Dean for Academic Programs to be Purdue’s Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs. A national search is ongoing for the College of Agriculture Associate Dean position.

Dr. Jerry Peters, in collaboration with the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE) in Costa Rica offered a Seminar on Wings to Costa Rica course this summer for graduate students and Secondary Agricultural Science and Business teachers. On a separate project Peters continued to work with two NGOs in Afghanistan, Mercy Corps and People in Need (PIN), to develop the agricultural curriculum taught in the agricultural vocational high schools of Afghanistan.

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## Recruitment into Agricultural Education

Recruitment of high school students into Agricultural Education at Purdue continues to be a top priority. We are again asking Agricultural Education alumni and friends to forward the names of students who might be interested in Agricultural Education at Purdue. Upon receiving these names, we will mail potential students a letter and a pamphlet explaining Purdue's Agricultural Education Program and invite them to our Purdue Agricultural Education Recruitment Day held in November on the Purdue campus. We have experienced a great deal of success with this one-on-one approach to recruiting.

We would appreciate your help by identifying those students who would be well served by Agricultural Education at Purdue University. You may send the name, address, phone number, and grade in high school via mail to: Agricultural Education, Purdue University, 615 West State Street, West Lafayette, IN 47907 or email to: dgott@purdue.edu or telephone at 765-494-8423.

# Student Teachers

Seniors who completed their professional semester in Agricultural Education in 2010 along with the name of their school and their supervising teacher(s) are listed below:

## Spring 2010

Megan Anderson  
Clinton Prairie H.S.  
Patrick Padgett

Dave Davies  
Southmont H.S.  
Gary Mosbaugh

Nicole Fitzsimmons  
Adams Central H.S.  
Mike A. Jones

Marianne Ingle  
North Miami H.S.  
Glen Jones

Becky Korb  
Benton Central H.S.  
Sarah Clark

Kaitlin Leonard  
Switzerland County H.S.  
Greg Curlin

Mark McClenning  
Rossville H.S.  
Dale Griffin

Aaron McKim  
Hagerstown H.S.  
Don Sturgeon

Becky McMahel  
Clinton Central H.S.  
Roger Carr

Laura Ridge  
Frontier H.S.  
John Culver

Holly Shore  
Delphi Community H.S.  
Beth Theobald/Doug Walker

Sabrina White  
Fountain Central H.S.  
Ashley Rice

Quinn Wicker  
Lincoln H.S.  
Pat Redden

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## Butcher Fellowship Awarded

The first Butcher Fellowship was awarded to Patrick Padgett, Agricultural Science and Business teacher at Clinton Prairie High School. He is in the YDAE M.S. program at Purdue. Patrick is an IAAE member, has served as District V director, and hosted a Purdue student teacher. The Butcher Fellowship Endowment has been established through the generosity of Dale and Toni Butcher and friends. To help the endowment grow, your support will be greatly appreciated.

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## Agricultural Education Endowment Report

A big thank you goes out to those who supported Agricultural Education through the Purdue Telefund. For the June 30, 2010 Endowment report, the Endowment grew to \$157,000. Combined with the five named endowments, there is now \$300,000 generating scholarship support for Agricultural Education students. Purdue University endowments have experienced an increase in the last year. Hopefully, the next year will continue this growth pattern.

Scholarships totaling \$20,000 were awarded for the 2010-11 school year for a total of greater than \$139,000 over the life of the Endowment.

# Scholarship Recipients Say “Thank You”

Our list of scholarship recipients has grown so large that their “thank you” notes can not fit within the confines of our newsletter. The following students are representative of those receiving Agricultural Education Scholarships at the 2010 IAAE-Purdue Spring Recognition Banquet.



I want to thank you for giving me this scholarship. It will go to pay for my college expenses and is greatly appreciated. I thoroughly enjoy Agricultural Education and will graduate with this degree. I have no desire to switch my major. Ag Education is my passion and with your help, I am closer to achieving it.

Much appreciation, Amanda Workman

I feel very honored to receive a scholarship. I really appreciate you supporting me and my dream of becoming an Agricultural Educator. I start student teaching Spring 2011. I look forward to having my own program soon after that.

Thank you! Tyler Mason



Thank you so much for your contribution to my education. Your generous gift will go a long way as it enables me to continue being a part of a top quality academic program. I hope that one day I will be able to give back to Purdue students!

Thanks again, Tricia Ritter

Thank you so much for supporting my education by your contribution. I greatly appreciate your assistance, and your gift is accepted with gratitude.

Sincerely, Kevin Cross



Thank you for sponsoring the scholarship which I received at this year's IAAE-Purdue Banquet. I truly appreciate your generosity and support. This scholarship will better able me to continue my education here at Purdue. Thank you again for your donation and support.

Thank you, Sarah Williams

Thank you for sponsoring the scholarship I received at the IAAE-Purdue Banquet. This scholarship will be helpful in covering book expenses as well as other costs for school. I appreciate your support.

Thank you, Jacob Bacon



# Graduate Student Updates

## Master of Science

### *August 2010*

- Charity Keffaber, Agricultural Science and Business Teacher, Hamilton Southeastern High School

### *May 2010*

- Kyle Culp, Livestock Evaluation Leader, Animal Science Department, Ohio State University
- Melinda Grismer, Economic and Community Development Educator, Clinton County Extension
- Whitney Siegfried, Advisor, Center for Academic Engagement, University of South Dakota

### *December 2009*

- Sarah Clark, Agricultural Science and Business Teacher, Benton Central High School
- Lee Stanish, State 4-H International Coordinator, Purdue University

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## NAAE Region 4 Winners

We want to recognize the Indiana Agricultural Science and Business teachers announced as 2010 National Award Winners. The following people were recognized at the convention in Las Vegas, Nevada, November 30-December 4, 2010.

### **Lifetime Achievement**

Gary Geswein

### **Teachers Turn the Key**

Kristen Scott, Lebanon Community High School

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## *2010 Agriscience Educator Award*

On July 12, 2010, the Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation and the American Farm Bureau Federation® held the inaugural *Agriscience Awards* in Washington, D.C. Byron Ernest, Department Head for Agriculture at Lebanon Community High School, was presented the \$10,000 Agriscience Educator Award. Mr. Ernest was recruited to start Lebanon's Agriculture Department which now, in its 7<sup>th</sup> year, has four teachers and an enrollment of 584 students in grades 8-12, the largest in Indiana. Byron teaches Advanced Life Science courses in animals, plant and soil, and food science. These are dual credit courses with Purdue University College of Agriculture. In cooperation with AgReliant Genetics, he has developed project/inquiry-based agriscience lessons where students are doing actual research, and publish their findings through the use of pod-casts and wiki sites. This transparency allows actual scientists from around the world to critique the students' work. Byron was named the 2010 Indiana Teacher of the Year, the first time an Agriculture Instructor has ever been selected for this honor.



# Agricultural Education Placement Report

## School

Angola High School  
Batesville High School  
Clinton Central High School  
DeKalb High School  
Delta High School  
Emma Donnan Middle School  
Forest Park High School  
Frontier High School  
Garrett High School  
Greensburg Community High School  
Hamilton Southeastern High School  
Huntington North High School  
Michigan City High School  
Milan High School  
New Washington High School  
Northwood High School  
Norwell High School  
Owen Valley Middle School  
Pike High School  
Plymouth High School  
Rensselaer Middle School  
Shenandoah High School  
Shenandoah High School  
South Knox High School  
South Putnam High School  
Switzerland County High School  
Tipton High School  
Wawasee High School  
West Noble High School  
Westville Middle/High School

## New Teacher

Neasa Kalme  
Cassie Mumaw  
Julie Thelen  
Khara Kimmel  
Holly Shore\*  
Travis Studtman  
Annette Applegate  
Rebecca Korb O'Farrell\*  
Ashley Hornbrook  
Quinn Wicker\*  
Charity Keffaber  
Jamie Carl  
Marianne Ingle\*  
Anita Boggs  
Jeff Johnson  
Amy Beer  
Laura Ridge\*  
Jeff Sherfield  
Jared Allen  
Kelli Hoffman  
Rose Scherer  
Trent Fredenburg  
Melissa Lovett  
Matt Turner  
Dave Davies\*  
Aaron McKim\*  
Tim Calloway  
Isaac Dorrel  
Chad Crews  
Rob Walker

\*2009-2010 Purdue Graduate

# *2010 Agricultural Alumni Certificate of Distinction*

The Ag Alumni Association presented its highest honor, the Certificate of Distinction, to agricultural leaders during the Ag Alumni Fish Fry at the Indianapolis State Fairgrounds on February 6, 2010. Among the honorees was the following Agricultural Education graduate.

**Melvin Vance** was an agriscience educator in Montgomery County schools for 32 years, retiring in 1992. A native of Harrison County, Vance graduated from Purdue University in 1960 with a B.S. in Agricultural Education. He received his M.S. in Guidance Counseling from the University of Kentucky in 1967.

Vance began his teaching career at Waynetown High School, and later served at North Montgomery High School and Northridge Middle School following school consolidation. Through 40 years of service to the agriculture community, Mel Vance has been active in education, volunteerism, cultivating new ideas and growing people in knowledge and leadership of agriculture and agriscience. He developed the first horticulture program at North Montgomery High School, and he was instrumental in developing agriscience curriculum at the inception of Northridge Middle School. He worked with administrators to require agriscience classes for all seventh graders and took on the role of middle school vocational agriculture teacher during the first few years of the new consolidated school.

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## **Necrology Report**

Over the past year we have lost several former agricultural science and business teachers. The following are those who have passed away this year. Please contact us if you know of others that have passed on this year.

**Mark E. Meritt**, 39, died Sunday, November 15, 2009. While in high school, the North Montgomery FFA judging team, of which he was a member, was the National FFA Judging Championship Team in 1988. Mark was ranked third overall individual in the nation that year. During his time at Purdue University, Mr. Meritt student taught at Western Boone. After graduating from Purdue in 1993 with a Bachelor of Science degree, he went on to teach at Eminence, Cloverdale, Rochester and for his longest tenure, he taught at Fairfield. His judging teams earned both state and national recognition.

**Charles G. Bloom**, 75, passed away on Monday, May 3, 2010. He was a member of the National FFA Organization and served as state Vice-President and Reporter from 1953 to 1955. His son, Greg, was also a state FFA officer serving as Treasurer from 1983 to 1984. They are the only father and son combination in Indiana to serve on the state level to this date. Mr. Bloom retired from West Noble Middle School as an industrial arts and science teacher.

**Thurman H. Brown**, 89, died Monday, May 24, 2010. Mr. Brown graduated from the University of Tennessee and earned a Master's Degree from Indiana State University. He taught at Plainville and Otwell. Mr. Brown also taught at North Daviess High School when the school was first formed in 1968 and later became the principal. He was awarded the Sagamore of the Wabash. The North Daviess football field was named for him.

**William L. Schmidlapp**, 80, passed away Tuesday, June 8, 2010. Mr. Schmidlapp earned his Bachelor's Degree in agriculture at Ohio State and his Master's Degree from Purdue University in agricultural engineering. He was a member of the Army and graduated from Officer Candidate School as a second lieutenant. At one time he taught agriculture and was later self-employed as a construction contractor.

**Dr. Larry G. Warfel**, 66, passed away Monday, July 12, 2010. He completed his Bachelor's Degree in 1966, Master's Degree in 1967 and his PhD in 1976, all at Purdue University. Dr. Warfel taught vocational agriculture for four years at Tri High School and was the Education Secretary of the Indiana State FFA Association from 1971 to 1978. He was then vice president of Pickering Seed Co., marketing director for Woodard Seed Co., and regional sales manager for Agra Tech Seed Co. The last 15 years of his working career, Dr. Warfel was principal vocational director at the Indiana Correctional Facility in Pendleton, where he retired from in 2005.

**Wayne A. Smith**, 79, died Thursday, July 15, 2010. Mr. Smith received his Bachelor's Degree in agriculture and his Master's Degree in education, both from Purdue University. He taught agriculture for two years at Rockville High School until he became the principal of Oxford High School, which later became Oxford Elementary School. He continued to serve as principal until his retirement in 1990. Mr. Smith served two years in the Army and three years in the Army Reserves.

**Paul R. Weller**, 57, passed away Thursday, July 29, 2010. Mr. Weller graduated from Michigan State University in 1976. He taught at East Noble High School for six years before taking a science and agriculture teaching position at Angola High School where he had been since 1983. Mr. Weller also served as the FFA advisor.

**Ronald M. Frette**, 93, passed away Friday, August 13, 2010. Mr. Frette earned his Bachelor of Science in agricultural education from the University of Illinois in 1939. He later completed his M.S. and Ed.S. from Indiana University. Mr. Frette began his teaching career at Odon where he taught until 1943 and then transferred to Washington High School teaching agriculture, science, and health. Besides teaching for 40 years, he was also a Past President of Indiana Vocational Agricultural Teachers Association, a 4-H leader for many years, and was announcer for 4-H livestock shows since 1950. Over the years, Mr Frette mentored nearly 50 agricultural education student teachers from Purdue University.

**Edwin M. Whittington**, 70, died Saturday, August, 14, 2010. For a number of years, Mr. Whittington taught science and agriculture at Ashley and DeKalb schools until he decided to change careers. After retiring from teaching, he went into farming and landscaping. He and his wife became owners of the Country Store in Waterloo which is now Country Kitchen Sweet Art of Fort Wayne and is co-owned and managed by their daughters and sons-in-law.

**Marvin E. Green**, 79, passed away Sunday, October 10, 2010. Mr. Green received a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture from Purdue University and he also earned his Master's Degree in mathematics and science from the University of Michigan. He was a 4-H leader for over 54 years. During his teaching career with Converse High School and Oak Hill High School, he taught Chemistry, Mathematics and Agriculture. While teaching he was scorekeeper for football and basketball as well as Oak Hill's Entomology Coach. He continued his dedication after his retirement until 2008 winning 43 State Championships. For 17 years he was Oak Hill's Young Farmers Association advisor and received the outstanding advisor award in 1988. In addition he was recognized twice by the Indiana State General Assembly for his outstanding entomology coaching. In 1992 he was awarded the Who's Who Among America's teachers and was twice the Indiana Teacher of the Year award finalist. The Indiana Academic Completion for excellence recognized him 4 times as student's most influential educator.

**Lawrence Ralston**, 93, died Friday, November 5, 2010. Mr. Ralston was a 1939 graduate of Purdue University and received his Masters Degree from the University of Michigan. He had been an agriculture teacher in the Milroy, Milan, and Cross Plains school systems, retiring in 1978. Mr. Ralston had also served for five years as a director on the Indiana State Fair Board. He had served on the Milan Town Board, several terms on the Ripley County Council, and also on the Ripley County Planning Commission.