

# Winnisquam Ag Center News



## Agriculture Community Days

Agriculture students and staff are striving to create a stronger sense of community within the agriculture program. Several times a month, all second block classes meet to work together on a student-led project. The expectation is that participants will come away feeling more connected to each other, to staff and to the Winnisquam agricultural community as a whole.

Each "Community

Day", as these events are called, will focus on a project to help others or to improve students' educational experiences. For example, a recent day involved going to Brook Hill Farm to harvest the vegetables ag students have been growing since last spring. The produce is being donated to the food pantry at Franklin CAP and includes potatoes, squash, beans and onions.

Because the Ag



Ag students harvest beans at Brook Hill Farm

Center welcomes students from seven area schools, creating cohesiveness and a sense of community is vital to the success of their agricultural experience.

Community Days will help bring students together and encourage them to feel connected to other students, their school and their community.



## Welcome Mr. Andersen!



We are pleased to welcome long-time ag teacher and veteran FFA advisor Andy Andersen to the Ag Center! Mr. Andersen joined the WRHS staff in August as a half-time Agriscience and Natural Resources teacher. Previously employed at the Sea-

coast School of Technology (SST) in Exeter, he brings a wealth of knowledge & experience in the natural resources industry to the Ag Center.

Educated at UNH's Thompson School of Applied Science, Mr. Andersen has 31 years of teaching under his

belt, all of them at SST. He has extensive experience in the logging industry, and has served the field of teaching on numerous occasions in many professional capacities. Mr. Andersen says he is finding the Winnisquam experience to be both enjoyable and challenging!



Richard "Andy" Andersen

Winnisquam Regional  
Agricultural Education Center  
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Serving these high schools:

Belmont  
Franklin  
Gilford  
Interlakes  
Laconia

Merrimack Valley  
Winnisquam Regional

## Winnisquam Goes to Indy!

Four Winnisquam ag students recently spent the better part of a week at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. While there, the FFA members - Maria Daneault of WRHS, Sophie LaRochelle and Kelsey Lorden of Merrimack Valley High School and Alex Heimlich of Belmont High School - competed in the Meats Evaluation & Technology Career Development Event (CDE). The event includes various components such as carcass and meat cuts judg-

ing, beef quality and yield grading and meat cuts identification. The all-girl team brought home a bronze medal for their efforts.

While at the convention, which was attended by over 53,000 FFA members and guests, the Winnisquam students vis-

ited the Agricultural Career Show and met other agriculture students from across the country. The team was accompanied by their coach, Jennifer Gornnert, as well as Janet Rosequist, who served as a judge for the National FFA Parliamentary Procedure CDE.



Janet Rosequist & Jennifer Gornnert pose with Kelsey Lorden, Sophie LaRochelle, Maria Daneault & Alex Heimlich

## Holiday Flowers

It's time to order your Thanksgiving centerpiece! Please call the Ag Center at 286-4531, ext. 400 to order a beautiful fall arrangement for \$20. Orders may be placed until November 14th.

Beginning right after Thanksgiving, orders will be taken for hand-tied wreaths, kissing balls and Christmas centerpieces. Stay tuned for more details!

## Ag Ed Night with the Manchester Monarchs

The Granite State FFA is teaming up with NH Agriculture in the Classroom to spend an evening of fun with the Manchester Monarchs on December 16th at 7 pm! Tickets are \$20 and \$25; if you would like to join us visit <https://www.monarchsjungle.com/ffa> or see an FFA member to purchase tickets. \$8 from each ticket sold benefits Agricultural Education in NH.