

In Loving Memory

The Nevada FFA Foundation can provide an opportunity for people to create a memorial fund for loved ones. Many former members and supporters have a strong connection with the FFA and agricultural education, and thus turn to the foundation in this difficult time. Thank you to those who have created memorials and our thoughts are always with you. - Nevada FFA Foundation

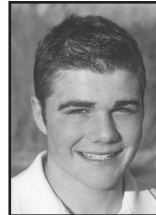
This year, we have lost a few people near and dear to our hearts. Please visit our web site at www.nvaged.org/ffa_foundationmemorials.htm to view obituaries and more about these individuals.



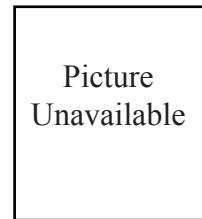
Joe "Jose" Sustacha



Dennis "Dig, Digger" Digenan



Austin Jon Park



Robert "Bob" Calloway

If you are interested in donating to one of these memorials funds or in establishing a new fund, please contact Heather Dye at 775-687-9246 or hdye@doe.nv.gov

Career and Technical Education Receives Funding

The legislative session is officially over and CTE will receive \$4 million each year of the 2009-11 biennium to maintain and expand programs. Of that amount, Agriculture Education will receive \$298,246.25 for FY09. On May 6, members of the Senate Finance and Assembly Ways and Means joint subcommittee met to close education budgets. The legislators unanimously voted to approve the Governor's recommendation to appropriate \$4 million of General Funds in support of CTE programs for each year of the 2009-11 biennium. Although this vote was taken in early May, everything wasn't finalized until the last days of the legislative session, due to the state's current economic situation, increase in taxes, and the Governor's vetos.

The 2007 legislature had approved \$4 million in each fiscal year of the 2007-09, but the FY 2008-09 appropriations were not distributed due to budget reductions. To have this money reinstated by the Governor and then approved by the legislative body is a wonderful accomplishment for CTE. Due to the economy there were some concerns that the funding would be lost along with the line item in the budget.

Although this session proved to be an interesting and historic one that did create some conflict between the legislative and executive branches, it is safe to say that CTE was the least controversial issue. Both the Governor and legislators supported funding CTE. Please show your gratitude by sending a thank you note to the Governor and your representatives. Contact information can be found at www.nv.gov and www.leg.state.nv.us. Also, remember that advocacy efforts shouldn't just happen during a legislative session. Make sure that you are continually promoting CTE with your elected officials. This will help keep it viable and supported.

Dig's Life Tips for a Better Exit

1. Surround yourself with people better than you. If you think there are none, stop reading this now.
2. Be a listener.
3. Create a village for your family. Family doesn't have to mean blood relatives. Respect others contributions, especially to your children.
4. Always be the bigger person.
5. Treat everyone as if they know more than you. Most times they do.
6. Learn, learn, learn, then teach, teach, teach. Emotional health and medical intelligence should be a top priority, even if you are healthy.
7. Although difficult, do your best to separate your emotions from productive thinking.
8. Venture outside your safe little box. It's not so scary after the hundredth time.
9. View regrets as mistakes. They are not so permanent. Do your best to correct them immediately; there may not be a later.
10. Practice mutual love. Love Unconditionally.