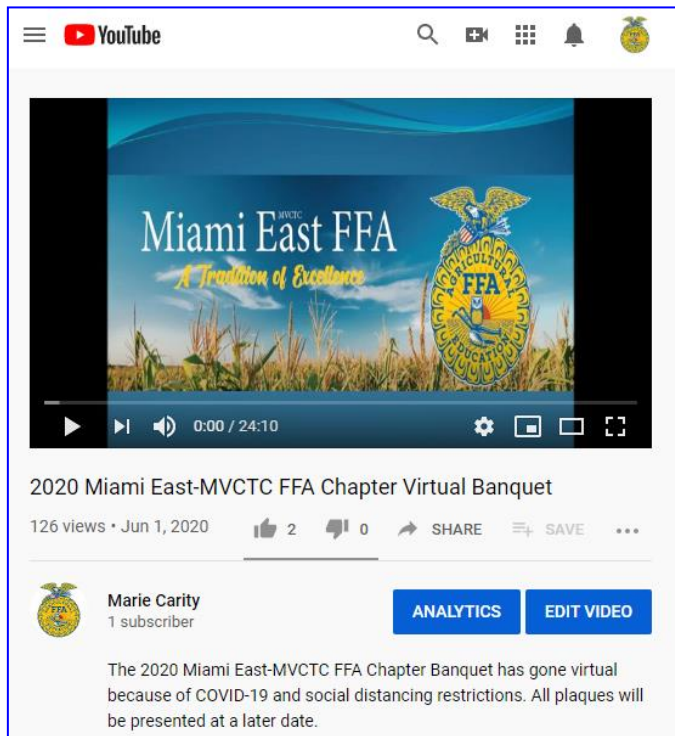


Blue Jacket Journal

The official newsletter of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter

April – May 2020



Parent-Member Banquet Goes Virtual

Due to large group restrictions and the desire to recognize our hard-working members as efficiently as possible, the 2019-20 Chapter Officer Team opted to hold a virtual banquet. Please enjoy watching Career Development Event team acknowledgment, award winners, a senior salute, and a year-in-review slideshow. Enjoy:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UarOloiWEbE&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR3wQoQHMyRTJMs5fojo-XjFJFfat_mAaX7C-01uFxUk3KxwE7Otxdm-FaA

FFA Sponsors Coloring Contest

The Agricultural Literacy Committee of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter recently sponsored a coloring contest at Miami East Elementary. The event was held to celebrate National Agriculture Week. Members of the Ag Literacy Committee challenged the students in third grade and were given a farm-themed picture to color. FFA members evaluated the pictures and awarded first place to each homeroom. The results are as follows: Ms. Katie Mason – Ava McGaharan, Ms. Elizabeth Fields – Josie Shane, Ms. Megan Noll – Alivia Johnson, Ms. Stephanie Blackton – Claire Antonides,

Each student participating received a prize complements of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter and Culver's. The first place picture in each homeroom

was awarded a special prize of an official FFA T-shirt. Congratulations to the winners!

Members of the Agricultural Literacy Committee involved in the project were Luke Brunke, Katelynn Dill, Kylie Haught, Jillian Niswonger, and Alivia Wade.

State FFA Celebration Goes Virtual

Due to the closures of school and cancellations of all Ohio Department of Education activities, the 2020 Ohio FFA State Convention moved to a virtual, online format. During the week of May 4, several members of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter were recognized for their accomplishments at the state level.

The highlight of the celebration was the recognition of Ohio FFA State Degree recipients. FFA members may apply as a junior, senior or graduate with over \$3,500 in earnings from their Supervised Agricultural Experience, participation in FFA chapter and state activities, and community service. Members of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter earning the 2020 degree were Elizabeth Bair, Natalie Bair, Adam Bensman, Makayla Brittain, Libby Carpenter, Paige Pence, Rylee Puthoff, and Lauren Wright.



Several members were recognized for having outstanding Supervised Agricultural Experience Programs through the State FFA Proficiency Award program. In the area of Poultry Production Michael Bair was named the state winner for his production and marketing of pasture-raised chickens. He markets them through virtual markets via social media. Luke Gilliland placed second in the Beef Production - Placement proficiency for his placement at Stone Springs Shorthorn Farm. Luke is responsible for all aspects of care and production of cows and their offspring. In the area of Dairy Production - Placement Michael Bair placed second. He has job placement at Bair-Trax Organic Dairy Farm and responsible for care and management of dairy cows following

organic practices. Michael Bair placed second in the area



of Diversified Livestock Production for his involvement in his family's organic dairy and chicken farm and the production of his own meat chickens. Finally, Lauren Wright placed fourth in Vegetable Production. Lauren operates Wright's Sweet Corn, one acre of sweet corn that she markets at the Troy Farmers markets and a roadside stand.

Placings were based off of an application score and the state winners will submit their application to the National FFA for further evaluation.

In the Agriscience Fair recognition program Chloe Gump and Emma Sutherly were awarded second in Division 4 for their research in the Animal Sciences category. Their research was entitled, "The Effects of Crude Protein on the Growth of Market Broilers."

During Chapter Awards, the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter was named in the Top 10 in the state out of 330 chapters. Moreover, the chapter was named in the Top 10 in the state in the areas of Building Communities and Strengthening Agriculture. Additionally, the chapter was recognized for being a Gold Rated (Top 10%) Chapter. The chapter's application will now be forwarded to the National FFA for further evaluation.

Sunrise Cooperative recognized Ethin Bendickson as a newly hired employee. Ethin interviewed and was selected to participate in Sunrise's RISE program through the Ohio FFA Foundation. Ethin now receives a company truck for a four year commitment with the agriculture firm.

Members were encouraged to apply for the State FFA Band and Choir. Band members selected were Ethin Bendickson, Makayla Brittain, Ashlee Deaton, Carter Gilbert, and Braden Zekas. Choir members selected were Luke Brunke, Keyara Davis, Katelynn Dill, Jillian Niswonger, Adi Richter, and Sumsaar Thapa. They are now eligible to apply for the National FFA Band and/or Chorus.

Senior members Michael Bair and Kearsten Kirby served as voting delegates and helped select the 2020-21 State FFA Officer team. 2019-20 Chapter Officers were recognized for submitting a gold rated officer book. Secretary Kearsten Kirby, Treasurer Michael Bair, and Reporter Emma Sutherly received acknowledgement. Additionally, the chapter was highlighted during the year-in-review slideshow and recognized as a charitable donator. All chapter members attended a virtual keynote speaker from National FFA President Koleson McCoy from Ohio, National FFA

Eastern Regional Vice President Tess Seibel from Virginia, and Ohio FFA President Holly McClay.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

Besides Remind.com, FFA will be posting announcements to 1) Twitter (@MiamiEast_FFA) and 2) FaceBook (Miami East FFA Alumni & Supporters). Please feel free to follow and like these pages for updates!

Egg Hunt Goes Virtual!

Carter Gilbert led his passion project to hold a



Community Easter Egg Hunt. Due to COVID-19, Carter opted to hold his Egg Hunt virtually. He distributed 4,000 eggs to over 300 community children. Each child received a prize and a dozen candy-stuffed eggs. The Easter Bunny even made an appearance at the pick-up. Good job, Carter!

Thank you to the following sponsors supported the project: 36 Skate Club, Alvetro

Orthodontics, Baird Funeral Home, Buckeye Ford, Buffalo Wings and Rings, Chick-Fil-A, Culver's of Troy, Dunham's of Piqua, Erwin Chrysler Dodge Jeep, Family Farm and Home, Family Video of Troy, Eddie Miller with Galbreath Realtors, Grandpa Joe's Candy Shop, Hometown Urgent Care, King's Island, Lee's Family Chicken, Meijer of Troy, Rural King of Huber Heights, Scene 75, St. Paris Public Library and Wal-Mart of Piqua.

SAE Poster Recognized



you Lillicrap Family for your support!

There were several excellent SAE Posters turned in for Q4. Nicely, done folks! Chosen as the favorite was from Sumsaar Thapa. Sumsaar is receiving a candy basket from This & That's Candy on Main, Piqua. Thank

ME FFA Alumni Scholarships Announced

Congrats to the recipients of the ME FFA Alumni Scholarship:

Michael Bair
Luke Gilliland
Savannah Holzen
Kearsten Kirby

We wish them and the entire Class of 2020 the best of luck after graduation!

Miami East FFA
A Tradition of Excellence

Senior Salute – Elizabeth Bair




FFA Activities

- State FFA Degree Recipient
- State & National Conventions
- Dairy Cattle Judging
- Ag Day station leader

Supervised Ag Experience:
Market dairy beef, job placement at Benham Dairy Farm

Future Plans
Seeking fulltime employment

Miami East FFA
A Tradition of Excellence

Senior Salute – Michael Bair




FFA Activities



- State FFA Degree Recipient
- State Proficiency Winner
- Dairy Cattle Judging
- Chapter Officer

Supervised Ag Experience:
Michael's Pasture Poultry, job placement at Bair Trax Dairy Farm

Future Plans
Seeking sustainable agriculture internship

Miami East FFA
A Tradition of Excellence

Senior Salute – Ethin Bendickson

FFA Activities

- State FFA Degree Recipient
- State & National Conventions
- Chapter Officer
- Ag Power Diagnostic Team

Supervised Ag Experience:
Market beef, job placement at Benham Dairy Farm

Future Plans
Fulltime employment at Sunrise Cooperative

Miami East FFA
A Tradition of Excellence

Senior Salute – Luke Gilliland




FFA Activities

- State FFA Degree Recipient
- State & National Conventions
- Ag Power Diagnostic Team
- State Proficiency Finalist

Supervised Ag Experience:
Job placement at Stone Spring Shorthorns

Future Plans
Ohio Northern University to major in electrical engineering

Miami East FFA
A Tradition of Excellence

Senior Salute – Savannah Holzen




FFA Activities

- State FFA Degree Recipient
- State & National Conventions
- Princess For A Day activity
- State Leadership Night

Supervised Ag Experience:
Market beef, market goats

Future Plans
Wilmington College to major in agriculture

Miami East FFA
A Tradition of Excellence

Senior Salute – Kearsten Kirby




FFA Activities

- State FFA Degree Recipient
- State & National Conventions
- Job Interview
- Fruit Sales

Supervised Ag Experience:
Breeding goats, market goats

Future Plans
Wilmington College to major in agriculture

World Food Prize



Recently Sumsaar Thapa and Gretchen Stevens competed in the state of Ohio World Food Prize via Zoom. They are still awaiting the results.

Milk Provided For School Lunches

In support of our dairy farmers, Miami East



Local Schools distributed a gallon of milk to all students receiving weekly lunches. Additionally, 30 gallons were donated to the

Fletcher Food Pantry for their distribution every-other week. Why? 60% of milk is sold to schools and restaurants that were closed due to COVID-19.

FFA Camp Approaching – WE HOPE!

FFA Camp has been postponed until later in the summer. As information comes available

The facilities are awesome. The program is an accredited. Agriculture Teachers, State Officers, and Camp Staff provide an educational, caring, and safe environment. The food is delicious. More information on camp is being provided in class in the near future.

The cost is \$50. This includes transportation from MEHS to Camp (Carroll County) and return, camp registration, and all meals at camp. Students will be responsible for the fast food meals to and from camp and any souvenirs they wish to purchase (T-shirts, etc.) Everyone is welcome at Camp!!!

Alumni Needs Help!

The Alumni is in need of new members. Anyone can get involved, regardless of your enrollment at Miami East or previous membership of FFA. The Alumni was started in 1971 and is open to anyone interested in supporting FFA and Agricultural Education. Annual dues are \$20 (for local, state, and national). Lifetime dues are \$200.

Additionally, the Alumni are collecting empty 2- or 3-liter bottles. They do not need to be cleaned out but do need the lids. If you have any please drop them off in the Ag Room.

The Alumni is supportive to the FFA through financial support and physical labor. If you are interested

in participating talk to Les Kinder by phoning him at 937-368-2569.

Contact Mrs. Carity!

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Mrs. Carity (mcarity@miamieast.k12.oh.us or cellphone 937-417-3087).

Visit Our Little Libraries

The Little Libraries in our community have been restocked. Enjoy! Please note: the box at the AB Graham Center in Conover leaks. We aren't going to restock it until we get that fixed. We don't want any wet books. Sorry for the inconvenience.

Visit Our Little Libraries

The Little Libraries in our community have been



restocked. Enjoy! Please note: the box at the AB Graham Center in Conover leaks. We aren't going to restock it until we get that fixed. We don't want any wet books. Sorry for the inconvenience.

Upcoming Important Dates

All updates will be made as soon as they are available.

Remind Reminders

ME FFA has a Remind.com account for texting reminders for parents and members. Please join!



FFA Holds Annual Parent-Member Banquet Virtually

Due to COVID-19, the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter Annual Parent Member Banquet virtually. The virtual banquet can be found on YouTube. Highlights of the banquet were:

In 2020, the chapter was ranked in the Top 10 out of 315 chapters in the state in the National Chapter Application. The chapter also placed in the Top 10 Chapter in the areas of Growing Leaders, Strengthening Agriculture, and Building Communities.

At the 2019 National FFA Convention the chapter was recognized as a 3-Star National Chapter.

Chapter FFA Degree Recipients

FFA members are given the opportunity to earn four degrees during their membership in the organization. The first is the Greenhand Degree represented by a bronze pin. Students were recognized who have reached the second degree presented – the Chapter FFA Degree. 18 candidates met the minimum qualifications for this degree. The candidates were Courtney Bair, Ian Ellis, Chloe Gump, Haley Horne, Grayson Jacobe, Katie Larson, Evan Massie, Ethan Ott, Skylar Phillips, Rylee Puthoff, Anthony Putnam, Kris Richey, Kaitlyn Roop, Marisa Savini, Gretchen Stevens, Elias Strubler, Emma Sutherly, and Samuel Sutherly.

Proficiency Awards

Proficiency awards are designed to recognize the efforts of members who have outstanding Supervised Agricultural Experience programs and have kept accurate records. Winners of the 2020 Chapter Proficiency Awards were: Michael Bair - Diversified Livestock Production, Michael Bair - Poultry Production, Michael Bair - Dairy Production Placement, Lucas Gilliland - Beef Production Placement, Lauren Wright - Specialty Crop Production, Elizabeth Bair - Beef Production Entrepreneurship, Kearsten Kirby - Agricultural Sales Entrepreneurship, Emma Sutherly - Goat Production, Chloe Gump - Sheep Production, Erin Baker - Small Animal Care and Production, Rylee Puthoff - Equine Science Placement, and Paige Pence - Diversified Agricultural Production.

Additional Awards

Quality Supervised Agriculture Experience Programs are based on accurate record keeping and perfected record books. Students with outstanding record books in each of the classes were Freshman – Katelynn Dill, Sophomore – Samuel Sutherly, Junior – Makayla Brittain, and Senior – Elizabeth Bair.

High scholastics are an important part of each high school student's life. Results of the students with the highest academic records in their entire high school career include Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources – Dottie Everett, Plant and Animal Science – Emma Sutherly, Livestock Science–Junior – Libby Carpenter, and Livestock Science–Senior – Kearsten Kirby.

Kearsten Kirby, Arielle Barnes, Isaac Beal, Ethin Bendickson, Emma Sutherly, Anthony Putnam, Paige Pence, Natalie Bair, Morgan Nosker, and Dustin Winner were recognized for selling over \$1,000.00 worth of fruit during the chapter's fruit sales. Dustin Winner was the highest selling fruit sales person.

American FFA Degree Recipients

The American FFA Degree is the highest degree for a member to receive in the National FFA Organization. This degree will be bestowed upon graduates at the upcoming National FFA Convention. Liza Bair, Kylie Blair, and Zach Kronenberger will receive their degree in October in Indianapolis, Indiana.

State FFA Degree Recipients

The State FFA Degree is the highest degree received in the state. About 2% of the state's FFA membership earns their State Degree. Elizabeth Bair, Natalie Bair, Adam Bensman, Makayla Brittain, Libby Carpenter, Paige Pence, Rylee Puthoff, and Lauren Wright were recognized.

Additional Chapter Awards were the top awards given. The Star Greenhand went to Jillian Niswonger and Braden Zekas, Star Chapter in Agribusiness was Michael Bair, Star Placement was Luke Gilliland, the Blue and Gold Spirit Award went to Kearsten Kirby, and the Star Chapter Leader was Ethin Bendickson.

Chapter Officers Installed

The 2019-20 Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter Officers were installed. They are as follows: President – Lauren Wright, Vice President – Emma Sutherly, Secretary – Carter Gilbert, Treasurer – Paige Pence, Reporter – Libby Carpenter, Sentinel – Adam Bensman, Student Advisor – Chloe Gump, Historian – Samuel Sutherly, and Chaplain – Isaac Beal.

ME FFA 2020 Virtual Banquet Results

Miami East FFA
A Tradition of Excellence

2020 Chapter Degree Recipients

Courtney Bair	Rylee Puthoff
Ian Ellis	Anthony Putnam
Chloe Gump	Kris Richey
Haley Horne	Kaitlyn Roop
Grayson Jacobe	Marisa Savini
Katie Larson	Gretchen Stevens
Evan Massie	Elias Strubler
Ethan Ott	Emma Sutherly
Skylar Phillips	Samuel Sutherly

Miami East FFA
A Tradition of Excellence

2020 Star Greenhands




Jillian Niswonger Braden Zekas

Miami East FFA
A Tradition of Excellence


2020 Blue and Gold Award Winner

Kearsten Kirby



Miami East FFA
A Tradition of Excellence

2020 Chapter Proficiency Awards




Kearsten Kirby Elizabeth Bair
Agricultural Sales Beef - Entrepreneurship

Miami East FFA
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2020 Star in Agribusiness

Michael Bair



Miami East FFA
A Tradition of Excellence



2020 Star in Placement

Luke Gilliland



Miami East FFA
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2020 Chapter Proficiency Awards

Luke Gilliland Michael Bair
Beef - Placement Dairy - Placement

Miami East FFA
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2020 Star Chapter Leader

Ethin Bendickson



Miami East FFA
A Tradition of Excellence

2020 Outstanding Record Books

Freshman - Katelynn Dill
Sophomore - Samuel Sutherly
Junior - Makayla Brittain
Senior - Elizabeth Bair

Miami East FFA
A Tradition of Excellence

2020 Chapter Proficiency Awards




Paige Pence Michael Bair
Diversified Ag Production Diversified Livestock

Miami East FFA
A Tradition of Excellence

2020 Chapter Proficiency Awards




Michael Bair Chloe Gump
Poultry Production Sheep Production



Miami East FFA
A Tradition of Excellence

2020 Outstanding Academics

Freshman - Dottie Everett
Sophomore - Emma Sutherly
Junior - Libby Carpenter
Senior - Kearsten Kirby

Miami East FFA
A Tradition of Excellence

2020 Chapter Proficiency Awards

Rylee Puthoff Emma Sutherly
Equine Management Goat Production

Miami East FFA
A Tradition of Excellence

2020 Chapter Proficiency Awards




Erin Baker Lauren Wright
Small Animal Care & Production Vegetable Production

Miami East FFA
A Tradition of Excellence

2021-21 Chapter Officers

President - Lauren Wright
Vice President - Emma Sutherly
Secretary - Carter Gilbert
Treasurer - Paige Pence
Reporter - Emma Sutherly
Student Advisor - Chloe Gump
Sentinel - Adam Bensman
Chaplain - Isaac Beal
Historian - Samuel Sutherly