

# Blue Jacket Journal

The official newsletter of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter

August – September 2018

## Donkey Basketball

Sunday, November 4

4pm

(doors open at 3pm)

Miami East Board of  
Education Gymnasium



Pre-sale tickets \$6  
At the door \$8

Ages 6 and under FREE



It's wilder than a rodeo.  
It's funnier than a circus.  
All ages are invited.  
The greatest show on Earth!

Concessions  
available

*All proceeds benefit the Fletcher Food Pantry*



To purchase tickets or for further  
questions contact:  
Miami East HS FFA, 335-7070 x3212



## Corn Contest Proves Big Ears Means Big Yields

Recently, members from the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter were challenged to participate in the annual Chapter Corn Contest. The rules of the contest were to bring in one ear of corn and earn a corn-related prize. All participants got a can of soda pop because corn syrup is a major ingredient. Overall



winners were presented an FFA sweatshirt from the FFA Chapter.

A winner is chosen based on the predicted yield of the corn. The grand prize

winner was determined by the highest yield estimate, based on plant population per acre. Agriculture Education students in Plant and Animal Sciences took

time in class to figure the predicted yield of corn ears as part of their continuing education of agronomy.

The overall winner was Paige Pence. Her corn was predicted to yield 308 bushels to the acre with a 35,000 seed population per acre. Her corn was a DeKalb product. Second place went to Samuel Sutherly who presented an ear of corn that is predicted to produce 303.6 bushels per acre with a 34,500 seed population per acre. His was an AgriGold product. Third place went to Lauren Wright with an ear of corn predicted to yield 290 bushels to the acre with a 32,000 seed population per acre. Hers was an AgriGold product.

Participants included Elizabeth Bair, Michael Bair, Abigail Covault, Kearsten Kirby, Evan Massie, Paige Pence, Emma Sutherly, Samuel Sutherly, and Lauren Wright.

## STATE BOUND! Soils Teams Headed to State

On Wednesday, September 26, members of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter competed in the District 5 Soils Judging Contest in Miami County at the Lost Creek Reserve and Knoop Agricultural Heritage Center owned by the Miami County Parks District.

The Urban Soils team consisted of Zach Kronenberger, Rylee Puthoff, Carter Gilbert, Emma Sutherly, and Jarrett Winner.



The team placed 2 out of 28 teams. Zach Kronenberger was the highest placing individual from Miami East placing 4 out of 162 individuals.

Additional close placers were Rylee Puthoff at 10, Carter Gilbert at 12, Emma Sutherly at 18, and Jarrett Winner at 21.



The Rural Soils team consisted of Cael Rose, Sam Sutherly, Haley Horne, Kris Richey, and Cadence Ray. Cael was the high individual from Miami East placing 1 out of 218 contestants.

Additional close placers were Sam Sutherly at 4.

The contest consisted of evaluating three soils pit for slope, erosion, drainage, depth, and soil texture. Also, the

contestants took a written test and answered questions from the soil survey.

Previously, the teams had competed at the Miami County Soils Career Development Event coordinated by the Miami Soil and Water Conservation District. Participants included Carter Gilbert, Haley Horne, Sierra Johnson, Zach Kronenberger, Evan Massie, Rylee Puthoff, Kris Richey, Cael Rose, Emma Sutherly, Sam Sutherly, and Jarrett Winner.

Both the Urban and Rural Teams will now advance to the State Soils Career Development event in October. The site of the event will be in central Ohio.

### FFA Sponsors Safety Poster Contest

The Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter recently sponsored a farm safety poster contest at Miami East Elementary. The competition was coordinated by the Safety Committee and its members, Elizabeth Bair, Daniel Baker, Tyler Heckman, Lane Mergler, Cody Niswonger, and Brailyn Tarcea.

Students in the second grade were given poster board and had to create a farm safety promotion poster. FFA members evaluated the pictures and awarded first place to each homeroom. The results are as follows:

Mrs. Patty Gentis – Cole Couser  
Mrs. Ashley Demmitt – Beau Meyer  
Mrs. Amanda Riley – Logan Howard  
Mrs. Tammy Mumford – Caitlin Howell



Each student participating received a gift from the FFA Chapter, including candy and a pencil. The first place poster in each homeroom was also awarded special prize. Congratulations to the winners!

### Congrats FFA Members of the Month

September 2018 – Adam Bensman  
October 2018 – Paige Pence

### Seatbelt Awareness Activity Held

On Friday, September 21, as part of National Farm Safety and Health Awareness Week, the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter held a Seatbelt Awareness Activity. As students exited the parking lot at Miami East High School, the drivers were stopped and their seatbelts were checked.

All student drivers were inspected for wearing their seatbelt. They received a handful of “Life Saver” candies and reminded that, “Seatbelts are Life Savers.” Any student drivers or passengers not wearing their seatbelts were



instructed to put on their seatbelt immediately.

Results of the event proved that a majority of the drivers at Miami East High School do wear their seatbelt.

Over 40 drivers and passengers were presented candy with 4.9% of drivers were not wearing their seatbelt. Similar results as were collected last spring when 3.8% of drivers were not wearing their seatbelt.

The first seatbelt was in a Volvo vehicle in 1849. On February 15, 1885, the seatbelt patent was given to Edward J. Claghorn. By the 1930s doctors were requesting the vehicles be equipped with the restraining device. By the 1950s they were seen regularly in automobiles. And legislation in 1966-1968 made them mandatory for all cars.

The FFA’s Safety Committee would like to encourage all drivers to slowdown and wear their seatbelt. Committee members involved in this activity were Elizabeth Bair, Daniel Baker, Tyler Heckman Lane Mergler, Cody Niswonger, and Brailyn Tarcea.

### FFA Members Attend State FFA Greenhand Conference

On Saturday, September 8, 14 Miami East-MVCTC FFA first-year members attended the 2018 State Greenhand Conference hosted by the Versailles FFA Chapter. The theme was “First Down and Life To Go,” and the conference offered workshops for the first-year agricultural education students to learn about opportunities in the FFA, setting



goals, developing communication skills, and working in teams. Additionally, attendees rotated through various Career Development

Events that FFA members can get involved in during their FFA membership.

Presenters for the conference included sessions by Ohio’s National FFA Officer Candidate Ryan Matthews, State FFA President Kolesen McCoy, State FFA Vice President Holly McClay, State FFA Secretary Gretchen Lee,



State FFA Treasurer Kalyn Strahley, State FFA Reporter Bailey Eberhart, State FFA Sentinel Mallary Caudill, State FFA Vice President-At-Large Tyler and State FFA Vice President-At-Large Grace Lach. This year's program featured keynote speaker Dr. Dan Schroer, past National and State FFA Officer from Ohio and current Superintendent at Springboro Schools with a presentation focused on the Key to Success. The participants enjoyed the opportunity to meet FFA members from across the state of Ohio and learn more about FFA. Over 400 members were in attendance.

In the canned food drive competition, Miami East placed second and earned beautifully decorated cupcakes. This is the third year ME FFA members have placed in the canned food drive.

Those attending the 2018 Ohio FFA Greenhand Conference from Miami East included Courtney Bair, Zach Enz, Gwyn Ferryman, Abbie Henderson, Sierra Johnson, Evan Massie, Rylee Puthoff, Anthony Putnam, Kris Richey, Kaitlyn Roop, Summer Sizemore, Gretchen Stevens, Emma Sutherly and Sam Sutherly.

### **FFA Recognized by National FFA**

The National FFA Organization recently announced the results of the National FFA Evaluations. Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter was selected as a Top 10 in the nation in the area of Growing Leaders. The chapter was bestowed the honor because of the seven Little Free Libraries the chapter organized and placed throughout the school district. Now, two students will prepare and present a 15 minute presentation on the benefits of the book exchange program.

Additionally, the chapter was named a 3-Star National Chapter for the National FFA Chapter Award Program. A 3-star is the highest award a chapter can be recognized for in the National Chapter process. In order to be considered for such an honor, the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter had to place in the top 10% in the state of Ohio. In May, the chapter learned that they were in the Top 10 in the state and would have their application forwarded to national evaluations.

This is the 18th straight year that the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter will be recognized at the National FFA Convention in their National Chapter Award program. Two students will receive the plaque on stage during the National FFA Convention, October 25 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The FFA's National Chapter Award program recognized FFA chapters for developing and conducting a detailed Program of Activities (POA). These activities and projects provide opportunities for members to achieve in the areas of growing leaders, building communities, and strengthening agriculture divisions. Every year, chapters are recognized as having earned a

one-, two-, or three-star rating on their National Chapter application.

Furthermore, Mr. Les Kinder, Miami East FFA Alumni President, will receive the Honorary American FFA Degree. Individuals who have provided exceptional service on a national level to agriculture, agricultural education, or FFA are eligible for the Honorary American FFA Degree. Mr. Kinder will be recognized on stage at the National FFA Convention on October 26.

### **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.

## **Upcoming Important Dates**

### **October 2018**

- 12 – Fruit Sales begin
- 13 – State Soils CDEs
- 14 – Fall Fest at Knoop Farm/Lost Creek Preserve (Stakeholder Engagement Committee)
- 22 – Meats Team Practice at OSU Meats Lab
- 24-26 – National FFA Convention, Indianapolis, IN
- 29 - FFA Meeting (Freshman Families (Officers and all ANFR only) at 6pm, meeting at 7pm)

### **November 2018**

- 4 – Donkey Basketball to benefit the Fletcher Food Pantry, 4pm
- 7 – District Job Interview CDE, Versailles HS, 4pm
- 14 – District Food Science CDE, Coldwater HS, 4pm
- 19 – Schoolwide Motivational Speaker sponsored by FFA with the funds provided by the Principal's Fund and MEEF Grant
- 26 – County Parliamentary Procedures CDE hosted by MEHS, 4pm
- 26 – FFA Meeting w/ Greenhand Degree Ceremony, 7pm
- 28 – District Parli Procedures CDE, New Bremen HS, 4pm

### **December 2018**

- 1 – State Food Science and Job Interview CDEs, OSU
- 5 – Fruit Arrives

## FFA Jackets For Sale



“Only Blue Will Do,” seems to be what FFA Chapters are saying nationally. Through the 80+ years of FFA the once national blue has seemed to turn to more of a shade of purple. The once corn gold of the jacket has now turned to a shade of orange.

The jackets style has been revised. FFA jackets can be purchased for a cost of \$40.00. The same jacket can be worn all the years of agriculture education. Make checks payable to Miami East FFA.

## Remind Reminders

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



## FFA Holding Annual Fruit Sales

The fruit sales are now on! The Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter is now holding their annual Fruit Fundraiser. The Miami East FFA will be selling Washington Red Delicious Apples, Washington Golden Delicious Apples, Ohio Red Delicious Apples, Ohio Golden Delicious Apples, Ohio Fuji Apples, Navel Oranges, Clementines, Pears, Pineapples, Pink Grapefruit, Mixed Fruit, and Peanuts. The fruit is sold in full and half boxes.

Miami East-MVCTC FFA is also offering a variety of cheeses, including Colby, Swiss, Marble, Pepper Jack, and Horseradish, ring-bologna, large and small fruit gift baskets, and BBQ sauces. Additionally, FFA is offering Jack Link's Beef Steaks in Original or Teriyaki flavors.

Miami East-MVCTC FFA chapter will be selling from now through November 9th. Delivery will be the first full week in December. If you want to buy fruit there will be FFA members travelling throughout the community. If an FFA member doesn't contact you, feel free to call Miami East High School, at 335-7070 ext. 3212. Thanks for your support.

## Qualities of a **GOOD** M.E. FFA Member

1. Approved Supervised Agricultural Experience with completed record books (this will be your Ag Experiences grade for your grade card).
2. Maintain average grade level in respected agriculture class.

3. Participation in at least one contest during the school year.

4. Attend chapter banquet in Official Dress.

5. Attend 75% of all regularly schedule chapter meetings and participate in one committee.

6. Have FFA dues paid by October 1 (\$20.00) and fruit sales by Christmas break.

7. Participate in various chapter activities.

## Princess For A Day Fundraiser Success

FFA members partnered with the Pride in ME club to



host 45 little princesses to a day of pampering during a fundraiser for the March of Dimes.

\$400 will be donated to the March of Dimes to help prevent premature births. Even the high

school students got into the activity by dressing like a princess as they painted nails, curled hair, provided facials and completed make-up during the event.

## 2018-19 Chapter Officers

The Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter is guided by strong leadership provided by the 2018-19 officer team. The team met over the summer in a Summer Officer Retreat to



plan for the upcoming school year and FFA activities.

The officers are:  
Kylie Blair, President;  
Liza Bair, Vice President; Ethin Bendickson, Secretary;  
Jarrett Winner, Treasurer; and Lauren Wright, Reporter.

## Cruise-In For A Cause

On Friday, September 14 from 4 to 7pm the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter hosted the first-ever Cruise-In For A Cause. The event was open to cars, trucks, and tractors.

This Cruise-In was open to the general public and students. Prizes will be awarded for various classes of cars, trucks, and tractors. A special thanks goes to the sponsors of Minster Bank and Troy Sports Center.



\$420 was donated New Creations and their efforts to suicide prevention. The donation was made in memory of Hunter Sharp. This was Jarrett Winner's Passion Project.