

# Blue Jacket Journal

The official newsletter of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter

August – September 2019

## FFA Holding Annual Fruit Sales

The fruit sales will begin Friday, October 11! 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 8th. Delivery will be the first full week in December.

## 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 prize. Overall winners were presented an FFA T-shirt 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 classes 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 339.2 bushels to the acre with a 35,500 seed population per acre.

Her corn was a DeKalb product. Second place went to Emma Sutherly who presented an ear of corn that is predicted to produce 332.4 bushels per acre with a 34,000 seed population per acre. Hers was an AgriGold product. Third place went to Samuel Sutherly with an ear of corn predicted to yield 309.8 bushels to the acre with a 34,000 seed population per acre. His was an AgriGold product. Fourth place went to Adam

Bensman with a yield of 302.4 bushels to the acre and the variety of Ebberts. Kearsten Kirby placed fifth with a predicted yield of 302.2 with an AgriGold product. Sixth place went to Keira Kirby with a yield of 302.2 with an AgriGold product.

Participants included Adam Bensman, Ethan Fine, Kearsten Kirby, Keira Kirby, Matthew Osting, Paige Pence, Emma Sutherly, Samuel Sutherly, Spencer Triplett, and Lauren Wright.

## Soils Teams Compete

On Thursday, September 26, members of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter competed in the District 5 Soils Judging Contest in Montgomery County at the Sycamore State Park.

The Urban Soils team consisted of Rylee Puthoff, Emma Sutherly, Isaac Beal, Dustin Winner, and Ethan



Paulus. The team placed 8 out of 24 teams. Rylee Puthoff was the highest placing individual from Miami East placing 9 out of 147 individuals.

The Rural Soils team consisted of Samuel Sutherly, Ethan Fine, Keira Kirby, Jillian Niswonger, Katelynn Dill, Luke Brunke, and Keyara Davis.



Samuel Sutherly was the high individual from Miami East placing 16 out of 199 contestants.

The contest consisted of evaluating three

soils pit for slope, erosion, drainage, depth, and soil texture and structure. 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 on the Urban Team Emma Sutherly, Caleb Hostetter, Braden Zekas, Rylee Puthoff, Isaac Beal, and Trenton Maxson. On the Rural Team were Luke Brunke,

Keira Kirby, Keyara Davis, Alivia Wade, Jillian Niswonger, Trevor Karnehm, Ethan Fine, and Samuel Sutherly.

### 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, Erin Baker, Anna Broerman, Carter Gilbert, Justin

Hawkins, and Meadow Powers.

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 – Teaghan Rich

Mrs. Ashley Demmitt – Dylan Howell

Mrs. Amanda Riley – Oliver Magalnick

Mrs. Tammy Mumford – Hayden North

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 2019 – Isabella Waite

October 2019 – Katelynn Dill

### Seatbelt Awareness Activity Held

On Wednesday, September 18, 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 “Smarties” and “DummDumm” candies and reminded that, “Seatbelts are for Smarties.” 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 70 drivers and passengers were presented candy with 8% of drivers were not wearing their seatbelt and 92% wearing the seatbelt. Similar results as were collected last fall when 5% 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 Erin Baker, Anna Broerman, Carter Gilbert, Justin Hawkins, and Meadow Powers. 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 21, 13 Miami East-MVCTC FFA first-year members attended the 2019 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.

The keynote speaker was Ty Eschenbaum from South Dakota and he shared his message about his personal fight with childhood cancer. Additional presenters for the conference included sessions by Ohio’s National FFA Officer Candidate Coleson McCoy, State FFA President Holly McClay, State FFA Vice President Bethany Starlin, State FFA Secretary Noah Smith, State FFA Sentinel Justin Beckner, State FFA Vice President-at-Large Chyann Kendel, State FFA Vice President-at-Large Wyatt Kissell, and State



FFA Vice President-at-Large Alec Ogg. The participants enjoyed the opportunity to meet FFA members from across the state of Ohio and

learn more about FFA. Almost 400 members were in attendance.

In the canned food drive competition, Miami East placed first. This is the fourth year ME FFA members have placed in the canned food drive.

Those attending the 2019 Ohio FFA Greenhand Conference from Miami East included Sydney Brittain, Luke Brunke, Keyara Davis, Katelynn Dill, Dottie Everett, Ethan Fine, Keira Kirby, Jillian Niswonger, Annabelle Penny, Adi Richter, Sumsaar Thapa, Alivia Wade, and Braden Zekas.

## 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 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 19th 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 31 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The National FFA 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 student, chapter, or community development. Every year, chapters are recognized as having earned a one-, two-, or three-star rating on their National Chapter application.

MEHS Graduate Kylie Blair will compete and be recognized for being a National Proficiency Finalist. She has placed in the Top 4 in the nation in the area of Agricultural Sales - Placement. Blair has had job placement at Family Farm and Home in Piqua where she provided customer assistance and provided assistance with operating the agricultural business. She will interview for the title of National Proficiency Winner on October 31. She will earn a cash prize, plaque and recognition on the main stage at convention on November 1.

Carly Gump, Dylan Hahn, and Alex Isbrandt will receive the American FFA Degree on Saturday, November 2. This is an honor that over 4,000 FFA members across the country will accomplish. Their applications were forwarded to the National FFA because they have been a successful leader, been

involved in various community service activities, earned at least \$10,000 from their Supervised Agricultural Experience program, and been an active member of the FFA.

## 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 2019

- 11 – Fruit Sales Start
- 13 – Fall Fest Activity with the Ag Literacy Committee
- 18 – (no school), Meats Practice details TBA
- 22 – Online test for Food Science & ATMS (during class)
- 28 – Freshman Families (6pm) and FFA Meeting (7pm). It is a Costume Party (school appropriate).
- Oct 30-Nov 2 – National FFA Convention

### November 2019

- 6 – District Job Interview CDE, Mercer County, 4pm
- 13 – District Food Science CDE, Covington HS, 4pm
- 18-26 – Canned Food Drive for Fletcher Food Pantry
- 25 – County Parliamentary Procedures CDE at Covington HS
- 25 – FFA Meeting Patriotic Night w/ Greenhand Degree Ceremony, 7pm**
- 26 – FFA Meeting w/ Greenhand Degree Ceremony, 7pm
- 28 – District Parli Procedures CDE, New Bremen HS, 4pm

### December 2019

- 3 – Fruit Arrives
- 4 – District Parli Procedures CDE, Greenville HS, 4pm
- 7 – State Food Science and Job Interview CDEs, OSU

## FFA Jackets For Sale



“Only Blue Will Do,” seems to be what FFA Chapters are saying nationally. Through the 90+ 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!



## 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 scheduled 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 98 little princesses to a day of pampering during a fundraiser for the March of Dimes.

\$740

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.

## 2019-20 Chapter Officers

The Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter is guided by strong leadership provided by the 2019-20 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: Ethin Bendickson, President; Lauren Wright, Vice President; Kearsten Kirby,



Student Advisor; and Samuel Sutherly, Chaplain.

Secretary; Michael Bair, Treasurer; Emma Sutherly, Reporter; Adam Bensman, Sentinel; Carter Gilbert,

## Tire Recycling Day Held

On Wednesday, September 11, members of the



chapter assisted in the removal of over 1,100 tires from the environment. This project is in cooperation with the Miami Soil and Water Conservation District, Miami

County Agricultural Society, and Kimbley Trucking.

All of the tires were collected from Miami County residents and will be used to make playground cover or other recycled uses. Funding for projects like this were provided by the Agricultural and Rural Community Outreach Projects from the Ohio FFA Foundation and the Ohio Department of Agriculture.

## Cruise-In For A Cause

On Friday, September 27 from 4 to 7pm the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter hosted the 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, Woodward's Nutrition and Troy Sports Center.

Proceeds from the event and a matching donation from a community allowed \$1430 to be donated to New Creations and their efforts to suicide prevention. The donation was made in memory of Hunter Sharp.