

Blue Jacket Journal

The official newsletter of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter

January to March 2021

Miami East-MVCTC FFA Launches Community Clunker Clean-Up

Get rid of those old, unused vehicles, boats, motorcycles, campers, and farm equipment while benefiting Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC). Through **May 1, 2021**, the Miami East-MVCTC FFA is ridding communities of unneeded vehicles and farm equipment. At no cost to you, RMHC will pick up the vehicle or equipment donation and tow it to the nearest auction location. All donations must have a certificate of title.

Have the ME FFA chapter code (OH0182) ready when calling 800-332-8201 to schedule a pick up. By participating in this program, your donation will help keep RMHC families with sick children near each other while receiving the care they need.



Get rid of those old, unused vehicles, boats, motorcycles, campers, and farm equipment while benefiting Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC). Through April 1, 2021, the Miami East-MVCTC FFA is ridding our community of unneeded vehicles and farm equipment. At no cost to you, RMHC will pick up the vehicle or equipment donation and tow it to the nearest auction location. All donations must have a certificate of title.

Have the ME FFA chapter code (OH0182) ready when calling 800-332-8201 to schedule a pick up. By participating in this program, your donation will help keep RMHC families with sick children near each other while receiving the care they need.

Please call/text Chloe Gump at 937-541-9670 or the ME FFA Chapter for more info or help with the process at 937-335-7070 x3212. Let us know if you have something to donate! Just takes a phone call & they do the rest! Free removal & you get a tax credit!

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State FFA Evaluations Held

The Virtual Regional and State FFA Evaluations were recently held with several members of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter competed in various competitions. Members became eligible for State Evaluations by placing at Regional Evaluations in February.



Officer Books - Three 2020-21 Chapter Officers that submitted books for review. Carter Gilbert submitted the

Secretary's Book and earned a gold rating. Paige Pence submitted the Treasurer's Book and earned a gold rating. Libby Carpenter submitted the Reporter's Book and earned a gold rating. All three will be recognized at the State FFA Convention in April.

State FFA Degrees – Seniors Erin Baker, Sarah Blocher, Carter Gilbert, Jimmy Sutherly, Seth Wells submitted applications to receive the State FFA Degree. Their applications were approved, and they will receive their Degrees in April at the Virtual State FFA Convention.

American FFA Degrees – Graduates Elizabeth Bair, Michael Bair, Ethin Bendickson, Luke Gilliland, Savannah Holzen, and Kearsten Kirby applied to receive the American FFA Degree. Their applications were reviewed and will now be submitted to the National FFA Organization. If approved by National FFA they will receive their degree at the National FFA Convention in October.

Proficiency Awards – Members applied for a district and state proficiency award. They were recognized for having an outstanding Supervised Agricultural Experience program in one of 47 areas. Applicants just received notice of interviews for being Top 4 in the State candidates. They will now be interviewed by an industry panel of judges and be recognized at the Virtual State FFA Convention.

Goat Production – Emma Sutherly owns and operates Team Sutherly where she is partner with her twin brother in the raising and marketing of goats. She holds an annual sale to market the kids she has raised.

Vegetable Production – Lauren Wright owns and operates Wright's Sweet Corn, a 1 acre sweet corn patch. She markets her sweet corn through a roadside stand and at the Troy Farmers Market.

Also applying were Carter Gilbert in the Service Learning Proficiency and Samuel Sutherly in Goat Production. Samuel placed third in the district.

Four Local FFA members receive \$1,000 grants from National FFA Foundation

Four \$1,000 grants have been awarded to Miami East-MVCTC FFA members Isaac Beal, Annabelle Penny, Emma Sutherly, and Braden Zekas by the National FFA Organization. The SAE Grant is designed to help FFA members create and enhance their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE), a requirement that all FFA members must complete.

All four are members of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter and were selected as recipients of only 289 grants out of over 5,958 applicants nationwide.

An SAE requires FFA members to create and



operate an agriculture-related business, work at an agriculture-related business or conduct an agricultural research experience. Upon completion of the grant fiscal year, grant recipients must submit a comprehensive report regarding their career development experience.



Isaac Beal is the son of John and Melissa Beal. He received a \$1,000 grant from General Mills. Beal will use the grant funds to purchase goat kidding pens to be used in his operation. The new pens will allow him to expanding his herd.



Annabelle Penny is the daughter of Steve and Michelle Penny. She received a \$1,000 grant from CTB (Chore Time Brock) for poultry production. Penny will use the grant funds to expand her market poultry production business where she raises and sells meat chickens.



Emma Sutherly is the daughter of Sam and Laura Sutherly. She received a \$1,000 grant

from Domino's via the National FFA Foundation. Sutherly will use the grant funds to purchase goat kidding pens to be used in her ownership and the operating a goat production operation with her brother.

Braden Zekas is the son of Aaron Zekas and Elyssa Hughes. Zekas received a \$1,000 grant from CTB (Chore Time Brock) for poultry production. He will use the grant funds to expand his egg production business.

Grain Merchandising CDE Team Places in State

The junior and senior FFA members of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter competed in the Ohio FFA Grain Merchandising Career Development Event of Grain Merchandising.

The Grain Merchandising event consisted of an online test which evaluated participant's knowledge of grain merchandising options for farmers and former and current grain marketing trends. Members taking the test were Lauren Wright, Isabella Waite, Samuel Sutherly, Gretchen Stevens, Rylee Puthoff, Libby Carpenter, Seth Wells, Sarah Blocher, Katie Larson, Anthony Putnam, Evan Massie, Erin Baker, Paige Pence, Brayden Ingle, Makayla Brittain, Morgan Nosker, Leann Vernon, Anna Broerman, Meadow Powers, Adam Bensman, Carter Gilbert, Kaitlyn Roop, Chloe Gump, Jimmy Sutherly and Emma Sutherly.

The team placed 3rd out over 40 teams. Team



members were Lauren Wright, Isabella Waite, Samuel Sutherly, and Gretchen Stevens. The team earned a banner for the Miami East Agriculture Classroom. The highest individual from Miami East was Lauren Wright. Lauren was the first place individual in the state out of 303 individuals.

Team Places in State Ag Biotechnology CDE

In January several members of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter completed in an Ohio FFA State Career Development Events. The students learned information and applied their knowledge to online testing.

The Agricultural Biotechnology team placed 4th in the state and earned a banner for the classroom. They



demonstrated their knowledge of research advancement in the agriculture industry, equipment used in a lab,

and other biotechnology industry related topics.

The highest placing individuals from Miami East were Lauren Wright, Luke Brunke, Chloe Gump, and Adi Richter. All four placed in the top 30 of the contest. Additional team members were Kylie Haught, Keira Kirby, Katelynn Dill, Dottie Everett, Isaac Beal, Ashlee Deaton, Syndey Brittain, Jillian Niswonger, Keyara Davis, Sumsaar Thapa, Sera Rush, Kendal Staley, Madison Avey, Alex Fergerson, Trenton Maxson, Megan Gilliland, Matthew Osting, Dustin Winner, Annabelle Penny, Ethan Fine, and Ethan Paulus. There were almost 240 individuals in the competition.

Members Competes in County, District Public Speaking Career Development Events

In February the Miami County and District 5 FFA Public Speaking Career Development Events were held. The County competition was held Wednesday, February 3, hosted by the Upper Valley Career Center in Piqua. Miami County FFA Chapters participating included Bradford, Covington, Miami East, Milton Union, Newton, and Upper Valley Career Center. The top two speakers in each category advanced to the district competition.

The District 5 FFA Public Speaking Contest was



held Wednesday, February 4. It was held virtually and coordinated by Versailles High School. District 5 consists of schools from Auglaize, Darke, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, and Shelby Counties.

FFA members competing in the FFA Creed Speaking Event memorized and recited the FFA Creed and answered questions on their interpretation of the FFA Creed. This contest is open to first year members only. Representing Miami East-MVCTC were Fletcher Harris and Alaina Helsing. Helsing placed third in the county. Harris placed second and advanced to the district competition where he placed fifth.

Sumsaar Thapa competed in the Beginning Prepared Speaking Event. She researched, wrote, presented and answered questions on a five to seven-minute speech. Thapa's speech shared the infrastructure of Nepal. She placed second in the county contest and seventh in the district.

The Extemporaneous Speaking Event members are given an agriculture topic then have 30 minutes to prepare a four to six-minute speech and follow-up answer questions. Representing Miami East-MVCTC was Evan Massie. He placed third in the county competition.

Emma Sutherly competed in the Advanced Prepared Speaking Event. She spoke for six to eight minutes on a goat industry speech that she researched, wrote, presented, and answered questions over. She placed first in the county and seventh in the district.

FFA Attends Virtual State Leadership Night

The Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter recently attended an Ohio FFA Virtual State Leadership Night with the theme of "Failure Is Not An Option." The event was coordinated by the Upper Valley Career Center FFA Chapter.

State FFA Officers coordinated the video workshop. Representing the Ohio FFA Association were Kyra Davidson, State Vice President at Large from the Felicity-Franklin FFA Chapter, Joe Helterbrand, State Secretary from Hillsboro FFA, and Paige Teeters, State Vice President from Fairfield FFA.

During the evening members completed tasks to identify ways that individuals and teams fail then created a plan of how failure will not stop one from succeeding. The group identified individuals that had much failure before they had success like Thomas Edison, Walt Disney, and Colonel Sanders.



Attending from Miami East-MVCTC FFA were Jadyn Bair, Maya Bowsher, Alex Fergerson, Brayden Link, Elisabeth Norman, and Brooklyn Taylor.

FFA Members at Agricultural Sales Competition

Recently several members of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter competed in the District 5 FFA Agricultural Sales Career Development Event hosted virtually by Houston High School.

The Agricultural Sales team consisted of Isaac Beal, Ashlee Deaton, Megan Gilliland, and Thomas

Wallace. The team members each completed a test on agricultural sales, prepared a team sales presentation, and demonstrated their ability to sell an agricultural product.



Megan Gilliland was the highest placing individual from Miami East. The team placed eighth out of 12 teams.

Agricultural Power Diagnostics Team Competes

Recently, five members of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter competed in the State FFA Agricultural Power Diagnostics (formerly known as Tractor Trouble Shooting) Career Development Event. Those members competing were Luke Brunke, Ethan Fine, Matthew Osting, Dustin Winner, and Braden Zekas.

The 2021 State Competition was held virtually. During the competition the team took an online test over tractor maintenance and repair consisting of knowledge on tractors through multiple choice scenario.



The team placed 64th in the state. The highest placing individual from Miami East was Matthew Osting.

Environmental Committee Sponsors Poster Contest

The Environmental Committee of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter recently sponsored a Recycling, Reducing, and Reusing contest at Miami East Elementary.

Members of the Environmental Committee visited each classroom and shared facts about the importance of recycling, reducing, and reusing materials. They then



challenged the students in third grade to color and decorate an environmental-themed picture. FFA members evaluated the pictures and awarded first place to one student in each homeroom. The results are as follows:

Mrs. Megan Noll – Lauren Landis

Miss Stephanie Blackton – Bronson Palivec

Mrs. Katie Mason – Jackson Gray

Mrs. Elizabeth Fields – Addison Webb

Each student participating received a prize compliments of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter and Culver's. The first place picture in each homeroom was awarded a special prize of an FFA cup.

Congratulations to the winners!

Members of the Environmental Committee involved in the project were Martin Desautels, Abigail Kadel, Devin Nix, Logan Phillips, and Kyle Vernon.

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!

Congrats Members of the Month!

January 2021 – Madison Maxson

February 2021 – Gretchen Stevens

March 2021 – Fletcher Harris

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).

Chapter T-shirts For Sale

The 2020-21 Chapter T-shirts have been ordered! In the meantime, we have a limited supply of several past chapter shirts. Sizes available are small through XL. Any ME FFA members, parents and supporters can order. Contact the Ag Room to make a purchase.

The blue and white shirts are \$10.

The navy, white and gold are \$10.

The gray front and back are \$15.



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

Tire Recycling Day

ME FFA is happy to partner with several folks to provide a tire recycling event on Wednesday, May 12th. The Miami Soil and Water Conservation District handles all registration, but if you have any questions please let us know.



**Miami County
Tire Recycling Day**
Miami County Fairgrounds

MAY 12th, 2021
Registration Window: 4/12-5/7

SPONSORED BY: Miami Soil & Water Conservation District
Miami County Foundation, Miami East FFA,
Miami County Ag Society & Kelbley Transport

FOR MIAMI COUNTY RESIDENTS, FARMERS, MUNICIPALITIES & TOWNSHIPS

We CANNOT accept tires from junk yards, garages, and auto repair shops.

- PASSENGER TIRES (UP TO 17 INCHES) **\$1.00 PER TIRE**
- FARM/SEMI TIRES **\$5.00 PER TIRE**
- PAYMENT MUST BE MADE UPON REGISTERING
- EACH PARTICIPANT IS LIMITED TO 10 TIRES PER NAME
- **REMOVE ALL RIMS.** RIGHT OF REFUSAL MAY BE USED
- ACCORDING TO THE OHIO REVISED CODE
- TIRES MUST BE SECURED, TARPED OR ENCLOSED.
- MIAMI EAST FFA STUDENTS & OTHER VOLUNTEERS WILL HELP UNLOAD TIRES.
- SORRY, CHECK OR CASH ONLY NO PHONE OR EMAILED REGISTRATIONS.

FOR MORE INFO, PHONE 335-SOIL OR VISIT WWW.MIAMISWCD.ORG.





**FLETCHER FOOD
PANTRY
PAPER GOODS DRIVE**

FIRST PERIOD VS FIRST PERIOD

1 TOILET PAPER ROLL=1 POINT
1 PAPER TOWEL=3 POINTS

CONTEST ENDS APRIL 30

*highest average class gets a
donut party!*



TENTATIVE 5K-9 to Benefit the Miami County Animal Shelter

Calling all animal lovers! Registration forms are available in the Ag Room or MEHS Front Office.



Saturday, May 8, 2021

Registration begins at 7:30am
5K-9 begins at 9:00am

Dogs on leashes are welcome!
Please clean-up after your pets.

ALL MIAMI COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT GUIDELINES WILL BE FOLLOWED.

Race Location: Starts and ends at the Miami County Fairgrounds, 650 N. Co Rd. 25A, Troy, Ohio

Pre-Registration & Entry Fee: [Online registration: www.cantstoprunningco.com](http://www.cantstoprunningco.com)

Pre-registration postmarked by May 1, 2021. Payment to "Miami East FFA" and send forms to: Miami East High School, 3925 N State Route 589, Casstown, OH 45312

\$10 Pre-registered – without shirt
\$15 Day of race – without shirt

\$20 Pre-registered with shirt
\$25 Day of Race with shirt

Awards: Top 3 male and female in each age group and Top male and female overall

Age Groups:	10 & under	11-14	15-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60 and older

Race Timing: Can't Stop Running. Chips are not disposable. Runners not returning their chip will be billed \$10.

Course: A flat 3.1 run/walk through the Miami County Fairgrounds. There will be water stations for humans and dogs along the route. **All dogs must be on a leash the entire time.** Doggie bags will be available but please clean-up after your pets.

Post Race Events: Join us immediately following the race for awards and refreshments.

FFA Career Development Event Teams Complete Judging Season

The Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter members recently competed in the Ohio FFA State Spring Virtual Career Development Events. These teams have been practicing for several months and participated in invitational competitions and practices as much as possible.

The Dairy Cattle Evaluation team placed 28th in the state. The team consisted of Jayden Gates, Carter Gilbert, Ethin Bendickson, Braden Zekas, Elizabeth Bair, Makayla Brittain, Michael Bair, Jillian Niswonger, and Keyara Davis. The highest placing individual from Miami East was Jayden Gates who placed 87 out of almost 500 individuals. The team took a test, completed a pedigree and sire selection exercise and evaluated classes of dairy.

Kendal Staley and Sara Rush competed in the State Equine Management Career Development Event. The team placed 92nd. The team took an online test and identified horse equipment and feedstuffs. They placed classes of equine and answered questions on the classes.

The Poultry Evaluation team consisted of Sarah Blocher, Ashlee Deaton, Makayah Musselman, Rylee Puthoff, Leann Vernon, and Braden Zekas. An additional team member was Ashlee Deaton. The team graded poultry carcasses, evaluated and graded

exterior of eggs, placed classes of hens and broilers, and took a test. A special thanks goes to their coach Brad Lokai. Results were not available at the time of printing.

The General Livestock Evaluation team consisted of Jadyn Bair, Isaac Beal, Adam Bensman, Chloe Gump, Alaina Helsinger, Madison Maxson, Trenton Maxson, Ty Roeth, Dustin Winner, and Lauren Wright. The team placed virtual classes and answered questions on the animals, took a knowledge test, and competed a market grid exercise. Results were not available at the time of printing.

Upcoming Events

These are as of the time of printing. Plans will change. As events evolve we will share with students, parent emails, and social media.

April 2021

1-30 – Paper Drive to Benefit the Fletcher Food Pantry

11 – Parent-Member Awards Program, 7:00 in gymnasium with FFA Alumni Silent Auction at 6:30

12-16 – Project WILD training with elementary visits

13 – State Ag Mechanics Skills online exam CDE

14 – Animal Behavior and Welfare and Animal Managements online exams CDE

23 – Miami East FFA Alumni Scholarships due

23 – MEHS Relay For Life for American Cancer Society

27 – State Meats Evaluation online CDE

29 and 30 Ohio FFA State Virtual Convention

May 2021

1 – Community Clunker Program ends (donations due)

8 – 5K-9 to benefit Miami County Animal Shelter, 9am

12 – Tire Recycling Day with Soil & Water at fairgrounds

20 – Ag Day for ME

31 – Miami County Junior Fair Livestock Entries due

