





December

Past Happenings

- 1: Ag Breakfast at IHOP
- 1: State Job Interview CDE Finals
- 11-13: Fruit Sale Pick
 Up

Upcoming Events

- 18: FFA Meeting
- 19: Columbus Zoo Light Trip



HAPPY HOLIDAYS wishing you joy and cheer this holiday season and a bright new year ahead!





• Madelyn Anderson 1st Place State

- Emma Strickler 3rd Place State

"The officer team and I would like to wish every FFA member and their families a Merry Christmas! I am extremely proud of the accomplishments our chapter has achieved throughout the past year. I am excited to see what comes in 2024! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!" ~ *Peter Smith* Chapter President

Job Interview

Madelyn Anderson, as the overall State Job Interview CDE winner, will now advance on to represent the state of Ohio next Fall at the National FFA Employment Skills Career Development Event in Indianapolis Indiana. This is back to back State Championships for Amanda-Clearcreek FFA, since Jillian Bennett won the State Championship last year. All told, in the last 23 years A-C FFA CDE teams and individuals have won over 60 State Championships in multiple Career Development Event competitions. Ag Communications, Ag Issues Forum, Beginning Prepared Speaking, Creed Speaking, Extemporaneous Speaking, Senior Prepared Speaking, Advanced Creed Speaking, Job Interview, Nature Interpretation, Wildlife Management, Environmental and Natural Resources, Outdoor Power, Greenhand Quiz and Ag Mechanics Skills. Most of these CDE's advance on to compete nationally as well. Just to give some perspective. That is roughly the equivalent of pretty much every single sports team here at A-C winning multiple state championships over a nearly 30 year period. There are no divisions either. Our A-C FFA Members compete against all schools every time, no matter how big or small they are. We have had, and currently still have, some very amazing students here at A-C and this just goes to prove it!

What is the Job Interview CDE?

The Ohio Job Interview CDE is designed for FFA members to practice and demonstrate the skills needed in seeking employment in all areas of agriculture and beyond. Each part of this event simulates real world experiences that students will have when seeking employment in the future. Such as a cover letter, resume, job application, personal interview, phone interview and follow up letter.



A Successful National FFA Convention

This year at the National FFA Convention, our 2023 state winning A-C FFA Agricultural Communications team competed in the national CDE and eventually earned the right to move on to the finals where they placed <u>4th in the country</u> as a team. Our team consisted of *Hannah Saum, Emily Buckley, Riley McKeska* and *Rachel Weaver*. To add to their success, *Hannah* also placed *4th in the nation individually*! This is the 10th time A-C FFA Ag Comm teams have won state championships and competed nationally. No other school from Ohio has ever placed as high in this competition as we have in this Career Development Event.

Jillian Bennett also won the FFA's State Job Interview CDE last year and earned the right to compete nationally in the Employment Skills

CDE where she earned a Silver Rating. Less than 20 other FFA members from around the country placed that high.

Our 2023 A-C FFA Agricultural Issues team also won their state competition last year for the 7th time and competed at the National FFA Convention last month earning a Bronze Rating. Our team consisted of *Madelyn Anderson, Madison Cordle, Emma Strickler, Cate Buckley* and *Caidyn Garee*.



Finally, we had three members, *Trevor Spence, Logan Craycraft* and *Morgan Anderson* all earn the American FFA Degree this year. <u>This is the highest degree an</u> <u>FFA Member can earn</u>. All three of our members have spent the last five years of their FFA careers working on and earning all that they were required to to achieve this very prestigious degree. Only 1/2% of all 900,000 plus FFA Members in the country ever earn their American FFA Degree.

It is very safe to say that of the thousands of schools in the United States there is no other school in the country that had three state winning CDE teams and one National Officer other than ours here at Amanda-Clearcreek. Congratulations to all our A-C FFA members for representing not only our FFA Chapter, but our school and our state in such an incredible way.

History has been Made

This year at the 96th National FFA Convention history was made. Morgan Anderson, a 2021 graduate of Amanda-Clearcreek High School was elected to be one of the 6 National FFA Officers for the upcoming year. <u>Morgan is now the National Eastern Region Vice President</u>. To earn this prestigious honor, Morgan had to go through an extensive interview process over multiple days. First, she went through a substantial election process to be selected as Ohio's national officer candidate. After that, she had to complete a lengthy written application. The application consisted of a detailed essay and resume along with all the activities she has taken part in throughout her time at A-C and beyond.

After completing the above described application, she prepared for the different rounds of judging during Phase I at the National FFA Convention. She competed in a video exercise, a personal interview for Round I, nine one-on-one

interviews, a stand and deliver prepared speech, and an extemporaneous speech. Of special note, out of all the national officer candidates, Morgan had the highest stand and deliver score in the country! Later that evening after her speech she found out she had made the top 50% of candidates to advance to Phase II of the National Officer selection process.

Phase II of the process consisted of a round robin impromptu conversation about a specific topic in Agriculture, Agricultural Education, or FFA. Then a media round, facilitation, and a casual activity with the nominating committee. After these rounds she had to play the waiting game and wait for the final session of the 96th National FFA Convention for the final results. During that session she was chosen by the nomination committee to be the Eastern Region



Vice President where she will be representing the over 900,000 FFA Members throughout the country. For some perspective. Morgan being elected to national office in the FFA would be on the same level as an Amanda-Clearcreek football player being drafted into the NFL! Congratulations Morgan we are so proud of you and all your accomplishments as an FFA member!