

THE MORGAN READER

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 2, WINTER 2025

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MC CONNELLSVILLE, OH
PERMIT #92



East Elementary's Veteran's Day Program

On November 12th, fourth grade students at East Elementary recognized local veterans during their concert, "We Honor You". This entailed both fourth grade classes featuring soloists and speakers. There were about 50 veterans recognized through family/friends of the students. Each attending veteran was honored with a rose for the sacrifices they have made for their country. The students learned a lot through the lyrics/text of their songs of how much each veteran truly sacrifices. Sacrifice comes with time away from home, friends, family, and loved ones. The classes were able to present the program to the whole school which was a great hit with the students that attended.



To the right on top: Jil-
lian Strelec, Jocelynn
Campbell, Jaycie Parmiter
and Kali Marshall.



Above and below: Mrs. Carla Fesler and Mrs. MJ Williams' fourth grade students.



To the right: Ms. Katlyn Border, Music
Teacher, and Weston Norris, fourth
grader, directing the singers.



To the right: Veterans and families
attending the East Elementary Fourth
Grade Veteran's Program.

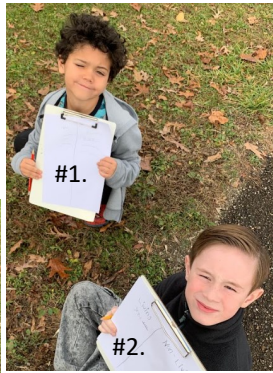


MORGAN EAST

First grade students went outside on the hunt for items to classify as living and non-living.



#6.



#1.

#2.



#3.



#4.

#5.



#11



#8.

#7.



#9.



#10.



#14

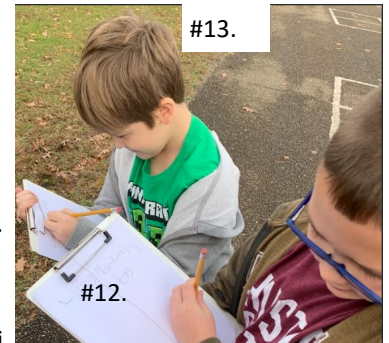


#15

1. Avery Goins. 2. Grey Wilson.

3. Baylee Steele. 4. Charlotte Weaver. 5. Zaylee Jackson. 6. Eliana Rose. 7. Harper Mahuiki

-St Germaine. 8. Aariah Saunders. 9. Jaiden Mann. 10. Kayden Bonnette. 11. Liam Ullom. 12. Max Offenberger. 13. Jameson Shuster. 14. Natalie Shaw. 15. Wyatt North.



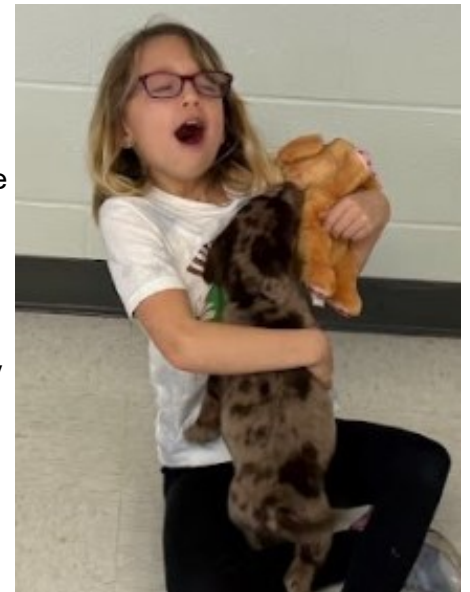
#13.

#12.



Puppy Adoption Day

Mrs. Bright and Miss Konkler's 2nd grade classes had a puppy adoption day. Students learned how to adopt a puppy and what is involved in taking care of them. They weighed their puppies and gave them shots with "Vet" Helen. They made collars and dog beds for their pups. They decorated cookies to share with their puppies and then read stories to them. Mrs. Price and Ms. Morgan helped with the adoptions. Pictured to the left: Jessie Parmiter. To the right: Jordan White.



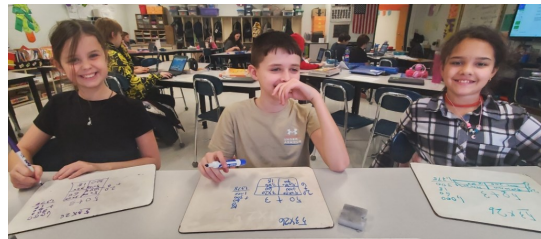
MORGAN EAST



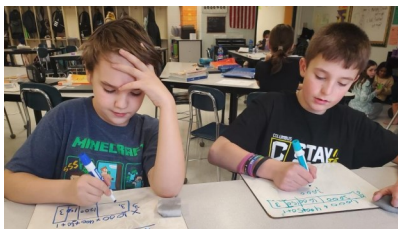
Sixth grade designed and painted a plow for ODOT. The East plow won the Facebook contest for "The Best Plow in the County."



4th Grade Math Center: Below: Cyrus Lappin and Riley McDaniel working on multiplying. To the right: Kendall Simmons, Koby Smith, and Isabella Kennedy work with large white boards to get the answers.



Morgan East's Battle of the Books team took first place in this year's competition. The team included Drayden Harris, Karly Harney, and Annabeth Miller.

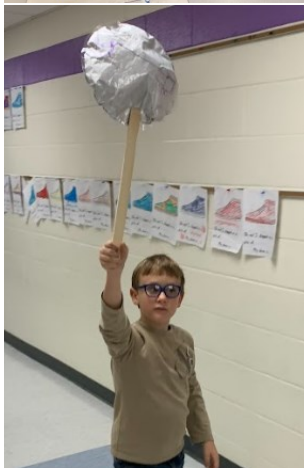


Balloons Over Broadway

Students took to the halls (aka the parade route) to show off their balloons.



Leaping Lizards attended our Big Brothers, Big Sisters lunch buddies program where bigs and littles got to hold and learn about reptiles. Pictured to the left: Mrs. Emily Bellville, Morgan Local School Board Member and Aralynne Rehart.



Zeke Barnes.



Fifth Grade students.



Hudson Clemens.



PRESCHOOLER REGISTRATION FOR ALL MORGAN PRESCHOOLS

We are now taking applications for the 2025-2026 school year. Please go to one of our elementary schools or Kate Love Simpson Library to pick up an application. Once you have filled out the form return to an elementary office. Applications are due back to the school by May 2, 2025.

Child must be 4 years old by August 1st or year prior to kindergarten. We have two options of tuition based 4 day preschool and 2 day income based preschool located at East and South. Income-based preschool will also be required to fill out information for Job and Family Services.

Call one of the elementary schools or Leslie at Central Office if you have any questions. Information will also be on Facebook and in the Morgan County Herald



Nora Foreman and Lillian Rex.



Bert Frederick.

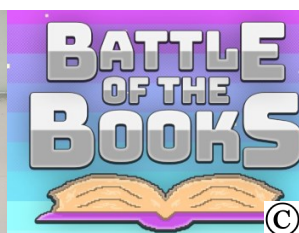
This is an application. It does not guarantee your child a spot.

MORGAN SOUTH



Youth Wrestlers bring home the hardware...

In January, South Elementary students Luke Pinkerton 4th grade, Monroe Holland 5th grade, Ryan Stiff 3rd grade, and Michale Holland 3rd grade competed in the Ohio Valley Youth Championship wrestling tournament, taking first place in the small community division.



Battle of the Books was held December 13 with Team 1 pulling ahead to go onto the district meet, where they placed second overall. This year's team winners were: Maci Shockley, Abigail Strauss, Lily Mills, and Anivray Brooks. Congratulations to those winners and a huge shout out to all of this year's participants! Big thanks to Mrs. Roberts for all her encouragement!!



First Row (Left to Right): Karlie Bookman, Anivray Brooks, Maci Shockley, Abigail Strauss, Baylee Myers, Lily Mills, and Bella Lescody. Second Row (Left to Right): Tyshawn Dalton, Erabella Stevens, Dakota Valentine, Hunter McKenzie, Charlee Hensley, and Jacob Bachman.

PIE IN THE EYE...

Students at South Elementary who had perfect attendance from September through November were given the opportunity to throw a pie at their principal, Mr. Fox, (a little unrecognizable in the photos!).



"South Elementary is Snow Cool" is the theme of South's snow plow this year, dreamed up by Maci Shockley. The sixth graders each made an entry and an election was held with Maci Shockley as this year's winner. These students braved the weather and the wind to get it just right!

Pictured left to right: Kensington Rheyne-Deluna, Arianna Francis, David Dawson, Kendel Ball, Michaela Holland, Erabella Stevens, Olivia Norris, Brooke Taylor, and Maci Shockley.

Owen Norris admires his work.



Mrs. Young adds more Whipped Cream, just to make victory taste sweeter!!

MORGAN SOUTH

Christmas Spirit Week:

South students got in the Christmas spirit with dress up days, including pjs, hats, socks, ugly sweaters, and Christmas characters.

South Elementary Christmas Program



To the left: Erabella Stevens, sixth grader, has a solo in the Annual Christmas Program. Listening behind her is Maci Shockley, sixth grader, and Zach Cary, fifth grader. Below: Mrs. Kidd's third grade and Mrs. Lang's fourth grade class during this year's Christmas Program.



South's fifth and sixth grade Change of Heart students are very busy this time of year. In addition to their daily activities, they have visited the teachers with a "Welcome Back" cart full of goodies to help them get in gear after so many snow days! Around the holidays they hid "presents" and "ornaments" for the students to find and get prizes as well as other activities to help South students enjoy the season. They are currently working on adding more members to their group for the end of the year.

Front Row (Left to Right): Braylee Myers, Monroe Holland, Sydney Stillman, Maci Taylor.

Back Row (Left to Right): Kensington Rheyne-Deluna, Caylee Duncan, Jace Tippet, Michaela Holland, Ava Page, Carson Burkhart, Maci Shockley, Abigail Strauss, Brooke Taylor.



MORGAN WEST



Congratulations to fourth grade student, Kynnah Gridley, on receiving an **Honorable Mention** for her flag design! This was West's first time participating in the contest. Due to time constraints and a kind of tricky theme to interpret into art, many West Elementary students designed a flag for the Ohio Art Education Association Youth Art Month flag design contest.

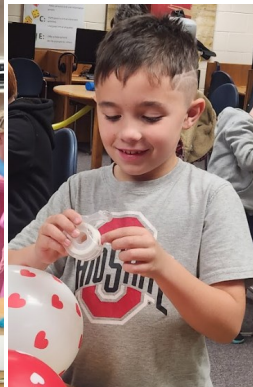
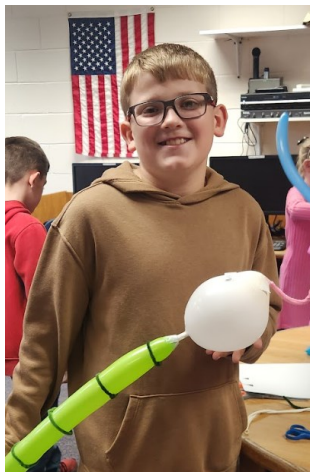
The flag must represent the theme "Healing in Art" and include the word Ohio and YAM (Youth Art Month) as well as represent the theme well.

There were MANY MANY great flags, out of the classes who were able to participate this year, Kynnah's was submitted to the contest and received an honorable mention!

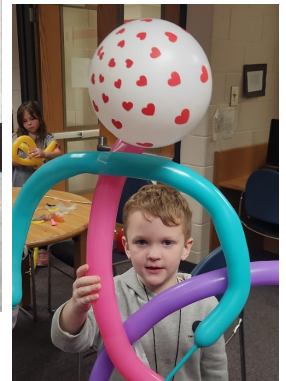
Her flag design will be recognized at the OAEA Youth Art Month reception this March in Columbus.

Balloons Over Broadway

First grade and fourth grade teamed up for an exciting Thanksgiving project. Each class read the book "Balloons Over Broadway" and learned about the origin of the giant balloons in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade. Then, they partnered up and created their own giant balloons. At the end of the day, they had their own parade. Students carried the balloons throughout the school to show off their creativity and hard work.



Below on the left: Avery Knapp and her dog, Snoopy. On the right: Eldon Clark and his Heart Over the Rainbow.



Above: Thomas Gifford

is positioning his balloons. Below on the left: Kolt Ray and Brianna Payne get ready for the parade. Below on the right: Lola Bolyard and Aunna Beard show off their "Funky Monkey".



Holt Bowman (above on the left) and Kasen King (to the right) work on their masterpieces.

MORGAN WEST



Raelynn Bodi sorted the donations.

Sonny Bolyard holds a donation of pasta.



West students recently held a food drive to benefit the MCUM food pantry. They brought in dry pasta and collected 174 items!



Zak Williams counts boxes of food students at West collected.

Lunar New Year 2025 The Year of the SNAKE

Mrs. Gifford's first grade celebrated Lunar New Year on January 29th. Students learned about Chinese traditions such as wearing red, eating lucky foods, and celebrating for 15 days. They learned about the Chinese zodiac. This is the year of the snake! Students made red lanterns and twisty snakes. They received red envelopes with Chinese coins as well as oranges and fortune cookies.



Eldon Clark.

Josie Bragg.



Above Ryleigh Riggs has her Chinese coins and orange.
Below: Ellamae Woodyard and Lola Bolyard have an orange, Chinese Coins and a lantern.



Above: Hayden Johnson, Gracie Carpenter, and Oaklynn McGrath display their lanterns.

To the right: Kolt Ray, Khloe Ryan and Arlan Toole celebrate Chinese New Year.



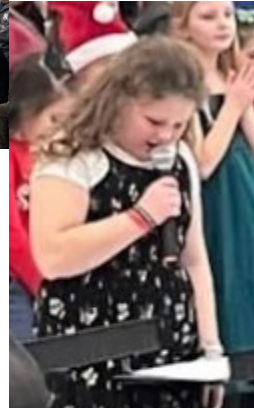
MORGAN WEST



Hollis Apperson.



Jasmine VanHorn.



Malayni Fesler.

Winter Program

The West Elementary Winter Program was performed by third and fourth grade students. Each grade level performed three songs and at the end of the performance, both grades performed "Somewhere in my Memory" from the hit film, Home Alone. As shown in the pictures, there was not an open seat in the gym.



Run in the Turkey Trot

West Elementary had their annual Turkey Trot right before Thanksgiving break. The entire school ran or walked the trail that is approximately a mile long. The first girl and boy in each grade level to cross the finish line were honored with a Turkey Trot medal! This event is proudly sponsored by the West PTO and has quickly become a favorite event to kick off the holiday season.



And they are off...



The winners are showing off their hardware. Front row left to right: Ryan Drumm, Kane Ryan, Rylee Woodgeard, Oaklynn McGrath, Rheagan Lemon, Jaxson Harlow, Malayni Fesler, and Holden Davis. Back row left to right: Mrs. Weaver, Avery Knapp, Melissa Rhoades, Wyatt Williams, Jase VanHorn, Belle Jones, Will VanHorn and Mr. Young.

Veteran's Day Program

West Elementary fifth and sixth graders performed "God Bless America" and "America, the Beautiful" during their annual Veteran's Day Program. Several students volunteered to speak about what makes Veteran's Day important to them. Younger grades were asked to participate by watching the performance and making coloring pages to decorate the cafeteria. To the left: West Elementary students sing. To the right: Paislee Harlow shares what Veterans Day means to her.



MORGAN JUNIOR HIGH



The 8th Graders were given the opportunity to go to Marietta for a day filled with a tour of the Campus Martius Museum and a cruise down the river on the Valley Gem. It was a very cold day, but everyone made some fantastic memories! Pictured to the left at the Campus Martius Museum is Cerise Dickerson and Christina Anderson. To the right on the Valley Gem is Aidan Mayle and McCoy Palmer. Below: Tariq Stevens is showing some skill on the ropes.



Even with the cold temperatures, Ms. Fitzgerald and Mrs. Bragg enjoy the river cruise.



Morgan Junior High enjoys their birthday celebrations! Every day happy birthday announcements are

The Campus Martius Museum represents Ohio history. Campus Martius was the first primary civilian defense. The museum includes the Ohio Company Land Office. Tariq Stevens and Bryson Eveland try on the miners' helmets during the tour of the museum.



made by Mr. Bragg on the morning announcements. Pictured is Henry Davisson celebrating his birthday and being crowned "the birthday king" during lunch by his peers.



The e-sports teams has had a wonderful competition season this winter. The Eastern Half of the PlayVS League has over 100 competing members. The school's *Mario Kart Team* achieved *6th place ranking in the league*, while the *Super Smash Bros team* were ranked *12th*. Students on the Junior High Team include Willow Robison, Braylen Myers, Jacob Walk, Cameron Clemens, Robert Edwards, Kaster Bishop, Nash Bowman and Ryder Morgan. Congratulations E-Sports team on those impressive stats this season! Mr. Mardis cares deeply about his students and the ESports program. He and Mr. Lawson help the eSports grow and plays with them to help them hone those skills! Pictured to the right: Robert Edwards.



During Christmas spirit week students dressed up as their favorite Christmas Characters including the Grinch (Aidan Stanley) from *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* and *The Ghost of Jacob Marley* (Cam'ron Clemens) from *A Christmas Carol*. (8th Grade students read *A Christmas Carol* in Mrs. Huffman's class.) Bradley Dondrea also made an appearance as the 8th Grade's Santa Claus.



MORGAN JUNIOR HIGH

For FFA Week the high school FFA members came to the Junior High to kick start the festivities. This year, students had a string tied to their foot, and on the other end was a donut. The catch was that the string was put over the bar, and students had to race to see who could get their donut the fastest. The purpose of FFA week is to spark interest in the FFA Program in the Junior High in order to have greater numbers of students signing up for the club in high school. Students love interacting with the high schoolers, and the staff loves getting the chance to see their old students back in the building.



Senior, Ted Moody, is making Aidan Greuey and Eli Hann use leverage to eat a donut. Special THANKS to Daicy Hodge, Ted Moody, Lily Ball and Ava Hinkle for making this day so much fun.



Morgan students who completed all i-Ready lessons enjoyed a period of dodgeball in appreciation of their hard work and dedication. Reward days are given more no missing assignments and completion of iReady lessons within a given time frame.



Student council is composed of 7th and 8th grade students and must complete an application process and interview to be accepted. This group of incredible leaders work together to plan the school dances (Halloween and the Spring Formal), spirit weeks for Halloween, Christmas, and other special occasions, and raise money for events with creative things like candy grams. Under the superior leadership of Mrs. Mardis also had the opportunity to video chat with pen pals from Romania. These photos showcase the video chat with their Romanian friends sharing culture, education, and similar likes and interests; even from all the way across the world. What a cool opportunity!



The Junior High's Annual Family Engagement Night was on December 10th. The evening was opened with a wonderful dinner prepared by the cafeteria staff followed by educational rotating 10 min sessions for parents to attend to gain some information about us and what we are doing to care for their students led by the Junior High Staff. The evening ended with a door prize raffle, with two grand prizes being new chrome books for our families. We are so glad you were able to join us! Pictured above are Henry Davisson (top) and Caleb Clark (bottom) with Mr. Jeff Bragg, Morgan Junior High Principal.



Students of the month are chosen by their teachers. Nominations are open at the beginning of the month for the submission of names, and then teachers make a final selection at the end of the month. Merits are based on academic achievement, Raider Pride, good attitudes and respect for staff and peers, and acts of kindness throughout the school. November 2024: 7th Grade: Brinna Kern and Easton White. 8th Grade: Riley Stillman and Bristol Eveland. December 2024: 7th Grade: Ian Davis and Natalie Tabler. 8th Grade: Brody Smith and Breanna Thompson. January 2025: 7th Grade: Kash Moore and Kylie Lindimore. 8th Grade: Bryson McKenzie and Ava Willis.



7th Grade: Kylie Lindimore, Brinna Kern, Ian Davis, Kash Moore, and Easton White.



8th Grade: Brody Smith, Riley Stillman, Ava Willis, Bristol Eveland, and Breanna Thompson.

Mr. Fleming begins his training for Math Counts as soon as school starts in the Fall. Students completed a final assessment to make the team and hewn their math skills every week to ready for competition. The team will be at Zanesville College for their first Math Meet on Friday February 21st. Good Luck this season Morgan Math Counts! Pictured in the front row: McCoy Palmer, Jordan Blackburn, Gary Leasure, Hayleigh Woneymaker and Sydney White. Back row: Johnathan Demster, Waylon Wilson, Liam Born, Riley Stillman, and Bradley Dondrea.



WINTER SPORTS

MORGAN JUNIOR HIGH



To the Right: Boys Basketball: Brody Clouse, Bentley Browne, Dre Milliron, Wesley Ball, Owen Lahmers, Colton Kalb, and Eli Hann. Second Row: Coach Shawn Bell, Cole Smith, Keldon Campbell, Brody Smith, Owen Triplet, Arthur Schaad, and Rian Massey. Not Pictured: Parker Hosom.

Below: Girls Basketball: Front row: Gracyi Swain, Aubrey Williams, Brinna Kern. Middle row: Dakota Johnson, Emma Pavol, Zooey Bolyard, Elizabeth Kern. Back row: Coach Duane Jago, Gracyn Shuster, Meah Locke, Khloe Drobina and Coach Sierra Mayle.

The boys basketball team worked hard and celebrated good teamwork and spirit despite a challenging season. The girls basketball team won half of their games, and continue to make great strides. The boys wrestling had some match highlights: Malachi Mounts 3-2, Chase Pinkerton 1-2, Bryson Riley 1-2, Masyn Hollowell 2-2. Good job guys! The Cheerleaders supported the boys basketball team at all of their games and really showed their Raider Pride! Great job girls! The girls wrestling team had a great season and made great strides for the Raiders! Excellent job ladies! Written in conjunction with Masyn Hollowell-8th grader



Girls Wrestling: Hayleigh Woneymaker, Makenzie Hollowell, Raegan Burkhart. Not Photographed: Marlie Shope, Miah Woodgeard.



Boys Wrestling: Front row: Levi Wogan, Kaden Sheets, Bryson Riley, Ethan Everley, Isaac Schafer, Nathan Stearns. Second row: Malachi Mounts, Trey Roberts, Chase Pinkerton, Trey Knierim, Masyn Hollowell, Karson, Hall and Rigg McCoy.

Girls Cheer: Kneeling: Kacey Lowe, Caidence Ball, Abigayle Riggs, Braylen McCoy, and Alianna Hann. Standing: Hayley Matson, Penelope Bellville, Ava Willis, Brylee Robison, Ellie Hale, Meikah Smith, and Kennedy Bowen.



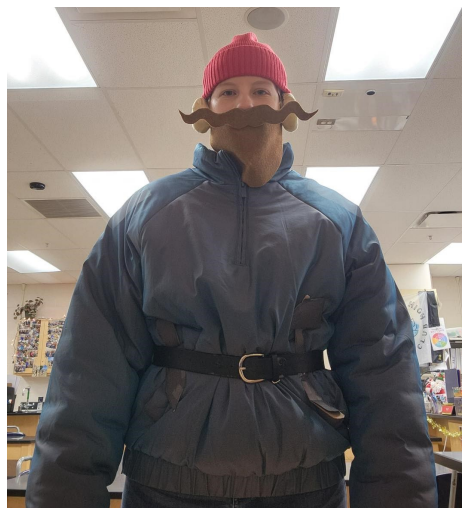
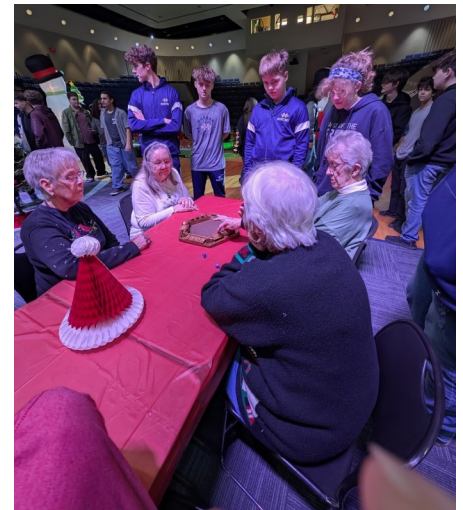
MORGAN HIGH SCHOOL



Morgan Skills USA students and advisors hosted a Christmas Holiday Party for community members. The time together was filled with games, eating, socializing, and learning about Morgan High School Career Tech programs.



Abigail Heigley played in the OMEA All State Band concert on Feb 8th in Cleveland, Oh. Abigail was honored to be the number one seat in the trumpet section for a band composed of the best high school band students in the state. Congrats to Abigail!!



Morgan High School teachers showed their Christmas Spirit during the 12 days of Christmas Dress Up.



Ava Hinkle.



Abigail Heigley.

Congratulations to Abigail Heigley, Ava Hinkle and Zoe Secrist on being the Ohio FFA State Degree Candidates.



Zoe Secrist.