

A Set Back

Covid-19 interrupts national achievements

A great accomplishment led to much dismay after Alashia McMurdo 21 and Karley Urell 22 were left with nowhere to showcase their national projects.

"Due to Covid-19, I was not able to go to state or nationals," McMurdo said. "This was definitely frustrating because of all the work and time I put into my project."

Disappointment did not last for long; an unexpected notification caught McMurdo by surprise.

"In all the emotions of Covid being real, the whole project was pushed to the back of my mind until I got an email about qualifying for nationals. I was excited," McMurdo said.

Levels of anticipation were high,

but the virus had other plans for the national qualifiers.

McMurdo said, "We chose not to go to nationals because of the changes [from] Covid-19."

Due to the stipulations of the virus, McMurdo or Urell could not present their projects face-to-face.

"I like to do things in person, so the idea of competing online didn't really appeal to me," McMurdo said.

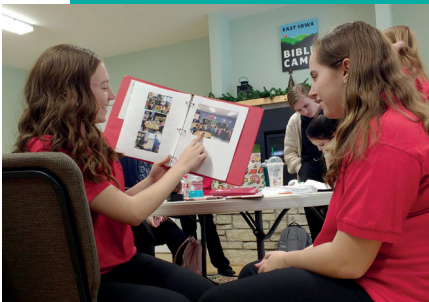
Adviser Kaitlynn Botkin made the tough decision to save their projects for next year.

"I worked really hard on my project, but there is always another year," Karley Urell 22 said. "Next year will be a fun experience."

- Jaden Thys



"This was my first ever FCCLA game night. We were playing Telestrations, and it was the best thing ever," Alyson Brennan 21 said. [photo] Jenna Welty



"I was practicing [with Julia Biery 22] before I went to present in front of the judges at FCCLA district competition," Karley Urell 22 said. [photo] Alashia McMurdo



"Girls from FCCLA were invited to play games in Miss [Kaitlynn] Botkin's room. It was always really fun to hang out," Kindyl Andrew 23 said. [photo] Jenna Welty



"I was calling people to see if they would like to order pies or cheesecakes for a fund raiser we were having," Shayla Taylor 20 said. [photo] David Hultman

Work of Art A tough task for Alexis Ketelsen 20 turns into a work of art. Ketelsen said, "Working with clay is not easy, but after working with it, you can stand back and admire it." [photo] Tegan Vogt



Inner Designer To add to Hailey Lebeda's 21 wardrobe, she is able to design her own shirt in art club. "I was putting our art club print on the back of my t-shirt," Lebeda said. [photo] Jenna Welty



What inspires your art?



"What inspires me is the beauty of humanity. I draw humans, and I use their aesthetics and personalities to picture how I see them. I get crazy with art by making crazy backgrounds."

- Tasha Ayers 20



"I feel inspired by other pieces of art I see. I've always wanted to make myself known and have a style that others recognize. That's what keeps me going. Art is how I show my imagination."

- Jorja Allen 22



"What inspires me is my family, sports and hobbies. Those things give me ideas for my projects. I just really enjoy art classes. It's a break from the day and allows me to be creative."

- Mallory Thys 20

Clubs ■ Art Club and FCCLA

8

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1. **Radiant Faces** Smiles shine as Taylor Bauer 21, Anna Thiher 21, Hayley Young 21 and Kori Lyle 22 get their groove on. Young said, "I was at a FCCLA fund raising night. To pass the time, we did some dances. I was having a lot of fun with the other FCCLA members being crazy and letting go. The atmosphere is always positive. No one is ever judged or feels excluded." [photo] David Hultman

2. **Tranquility At Its Finest** Comfort is found in art club for Ashley Brennan 20. "I was using the pottery wheel to make a bowl for a charity that Marion does. Being in art club is the best decision I have ever made," Brennan said. "The best part about it is that everyone is so accepting." [photo] Tonya Kramer

3. **Precision Is Key** With a steady hand and focus in her eye, Rebecca Payne 22 polishes her shirt to perfection. "I was making a shirt for art club, [and] I was touching up some black areas. We use a print press to print on our shirts, and we were painting an astronaut in space with the words, 'Benton art club' on the back," Payne said. [photo] Tonya Kramer



Selfless Although Makayla Short 22 is uncomfortable, she gets blood drawn to help others. "I did it because there are people who need it," Short said. "It was fun, but I started getting sick." [photo] Amber Littrel

125

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