

A young woman with long brown hair, wearing a yellow t-shirt and blue jeans, is leading a black cow with a purple and white rope halter. They are in a dirt-floored fair ring with a metal fence in the background. Other people are visible behind the fence.

The 146th Annual
**COFFEY COUNTY
FAIR**

Pre-Fair Guide & Senior Profiles

A Special News Supplement to

The Coffey County

Republican

Thursday, July 16, 2026

Showcase patriotism at the Coffey County Fair parade

BURLINGTON— Bring out your red, white and blue and celebrate your love for the country at the 146th annual Coffey County Fair Parade. The parade will be held at 6 p.m. Friday, July 24, and will feature the patriotic theme “Stars, Stripes and Summer Nights.” In recognition of the United States’ 250th birthday and of their service in the armed forces, this year’s parade marshals are the veterans of Coffey County.

The parade route begins at Third and Miami streets and will travel south on Third Street, to Cumberland Street. At Cumberland Street, the parade will turn right, where it will end. Entrants need-

ing to disband should turn left at Alleghany Street and disband in front of the ball diamonds. No throwing of candy or objects from parade procession participants is allowed, but candy and objects may be handed out.

Registration will take place from 5 to 5:45 p.m. at the corner of east Third and Juniatta streets, and participants should line up at the east side of Third and Miami streets. Participants are asked to refrain from traveling down U.S. 75 with their entries and to observe the safety and welfare of all others in the formation of the parade.

Cash prizes will be awarded to

the top four floats, with first place receiving \$200. The second-place prize is \$150, while the third-place float receives \$100 and the fourth-place finisher wins \$50. The first-, second- and third-place business floats will receive prizes of \$50, \$40 and \$30, respectively. All other floats entered will receive \$20. Winners in all other categories will receive \$20 for first place, \$10 for second place and \$5 for third place. Prize money may be collected from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Sunday, July 26, at Kelley Hall at the fairgrounds.

Parade categories include classic car/pickup, modified car/pickup, oldest driven car/pickup, oldest tractor, most rare tractor, oldest person in parade, oddities, business floats, floats and horse/mule with rider.



File photo



Have a great time at the “Stars, Stripes & Summer Nights” **Coffey County Fair**, and come shop our “Red, White & Bloom” Summer Sale!



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Eli Grow: 4-H teaches a lot about leadership

Katie McMurray
Reporter

GRIDLEY — During his years in 4-H, senior Eli Grow has learned many valuable lessons and life skills, particularly about leadership.

Grow is a senior in the Liberty 4-H Club, and he has been a member of 4-H for eight years. He joined because of the Western Heritage project.

"I think the reason I joined 4-H is because of Western Heritage," Grow said. "As a guest, I attended one of their meetings and gained interest. So the next week, I went down to the extension office and joined 4-H."

The Western Heritage project is the only project in which Grow will have entries in this year's Coffey County Fair and it has also been his favorite.

"My favorite project in 4-H has to be Western Heritage," Grow said. "Throughout the years, it has taught many responsibilities and gun safety. It is my favorite project because it has shaped me into the person I am, and it is something I am really passionate about. I think everyone can have a great

time in the Western Heritage project."

The Western Heritage project has also provided fond memories. Grow said his favorite memory of 4-H has to be when he had the opportunity to go to the national shoot in Missouri.

"It was my first ever experience shooting and giving a persona

See GROW Page 16



Photo submitted

Liberty 4-H senior Eli Grow joined 4-H after taking an interest in the Western Heritage project and has enjoyed that project while also learning a lot about leadership.



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2026

146th Annual Coffey County FAIR

Stars, Stripes & Summer Nights

Exhibit Buildings Open to the Public
Thursday - Saturday: 9 am to 9 pm

4-H: All schedules subject to change.
Watch for updates from the Extension Office.

Pre-Fair Events:

June 29 Online Pre-Entry Deadline for 4-H Demonstrations, Fashion Revue, Sewing, Fiber Arts and ALL 4-H/FFA animals.
Open Class Poultry Pre Entry

July 10, 9 am 4-H Demonstrations/Consumer Judging Contest/Photography Judging Contest/Crops Judging Contest

July 13 Online Pre-Entry Deadline for ALL 4-H/FFA Exhibits

July 18, 9 am Hand Pet Show
July 18, 9:30 am Cat Show
10 am Dog Show
July 18, 11 am Sewing and Textile Design and Fiber Arts Conference Judging
All at the 4-H Building, Kelley Park

July 18, 12 pm Shopping in Style, Western Heritage Revue, Sewing and Textile Design Revue

July 20: 8 am - 5 pm 4-H/FFA Entry Drop Off
5 pm Fair Cleanup
6 pm Mandatory Livestock Meeting
By Appt Large Exhibit Drop off at 4-H Building
4-H Group Picture following Livestock Meeting

July 21, 8 am Rabbit Show
8 am - 12 pm 4-H/FFA Entry Drop Off
6 pm G.W. Rice Horse Show 4-H/Open Class-Rodeo Arena

Wednesday, July 22:

7:30 am - 1 pm Open Class Entries (Obtain Entry Number in Fair Office)

8-9 am Check in Non-Conference Judging Foods and Crops/Horticulture Exhibits

8 am-5 pm 4-H Judging (4-H & Crops Building Closed to Public)

10:30-12:30 pm 4-H Cloverbud entries & presentations

1 pm Open Class buildings closed
By 5 pm 4-H/FFA Livestock in the barns
5 pm 4-H/FFA Livestock Weigh-in Begins
6-8 pm Free Root Beer Floats by Coffey County Farm Bureau East of Grandstands
7-9 pm Savanna Chestnut and The Farm Hands sponsored by Coffey County Arts Council (Park)

Thursday, July 23:

8 am Poultry Show*

8:30 am Dairy Show*

9 am Sheep/Meat Goat*

9 am 4-H Bake Sale in the 4-H Building (Free will donation)

10 am - 4 pm Rabbit Judging Contest at barn - open to all, come and go Prizes Awarded

5-9 pm Bounce Houses, Rock Wall, Berry-Go-Round & Kid Activities
Bucket Calf Show*

6 pm Pedal Power Tractor Pull sponsored by Coffey County Farm Bureau (East of Kelley Hall)

7 pm Lawn Mower Races (Grandstands)

7:30 pm

Friday, July 24:

9 am Beef Show*

9 am - 9 pm Giant Lite-Brite by Coffey County Library at Kelley Hall

5 - 9 pm Axe Throwing by The Axe Shedd

5 - 9 pm Bounce Houses, Rock Wall, Berry-Go-Round & Kid Activities

6 pm Parade: Theme is "Stars, Stripes and Summer Nights"

After the Parade: Sweet 6 & 16 (in Show Arena)
Parade of Purples - Public Style Revue
4-H Award Ceremony for Static Exhibits
Code Red, White, & Blue: A County Resource Expo (South of Playground)
Antique Tractor Pull (Grandstand)
Blow-up Archery hosted by Jade Seed and Outdoor Supply

Saturday, July 25:

7-9 am Central National Bank Fair Breakfast (Under the Grandstands)

7 am Purple Ribbon Race 2K/5K/10K Fun Walk, Run, Bike sponsored by Kirchner Chiropractic (East of Kelley Hall)

8 am Swine Show*

9 am - 3 pm Kids Fun Zone (Park)

9 am Kids Races hosted by Burlington Rec Center

10 am - 12 pm Fun Stations (Vendors)

10:30 am Baby Contest hosted by Life Care Center

10:30 am Foam Party

10:30 am Kids Spray Down by Coffey County Fire Dept

11 am - 3 pm Bounce Houses, Rock Wall, Berry-Go-Round & Kid Activities

11:30 am Money Dig hosted by Citizens State Bank

4 pm Livestock Contest

7 pm Demolition Derby (Grandstands)

Sunday, July 26:

By Noon All animals released except Sale/Round Robin animals

9 am Horseshoe Pitch (West of 4-H Bldg)

8:30 am Worship Service (Show Arena)

10:30 am Round Robin Showmanship

Check out all building exhibits Open Class Premiums Pick Up in Kelley Hall (4-H Premiums will be given to club leaders)

5:30 pm Bucket Calf Scramble

6 pm Livestock Sale

*Individual livestock barns closed to the public during species shows.

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Brayden Hopkins: 4-H can teach you lessons that will be with you forever

Katie McMurray
Reporter

LEBO — While time spent in 4-H only spans childhood, the impacts of being in 4-H can be profound enough to last a lifetime, as Blue Ribbon 4-H senior Brayden Hopkins has found.

Hopkins, the son of Matt and Amanda Hopkins, has been in the Blue Ribbon 4-H Club for 11 years. His mother encouraged him to join.

“My mom was in 4-H and thought it would be a great organization to be a part of to help guide me to becoming a responsible person,” Hopkins said. “I knew that by being active in 4-H, I was not only being a part of something bigger than me, but I was learning by doing. Sports have always been a big part of my life, as well, but I will say

that 4-H is something that helped me in all aspects of life, even being a leader on the field and court.”

As he prepares for his final Coffey County Fair as a 4-Her, Hopkins said he would encourage others to get involved and find something that interests them in 4-H.

“It isn’t about the projects, the ribbons or the awards - it is about the qualities that form you,” Hopkins said. “What 4-H has taught me is something that will be with me forever.”

For Hopkins, the impact of being in 4-H has been huge, and he has learned much.

“4-H helped mold me into who I am,” Hopkins said. “Leadership and responsibility are two things that stand out the most. Being a leader and role model to the younger members allowed me to form bonds with them, help them

grow and taught me many things that will grow with me in my future endeavors.”

In this year’s Coffey County Fair, Hopkins will have entries in the

leadership and wildlife projects. His favorite projects, however, were livestock.

See **HOPKINS** Page 15



Photo submitted

Senior Blue Ribbon 4-H Club member Brayden Hopkins has found, both through participation in his favorite livestock projects, goats and pigs, and through other 4-H experiences, that being in the organization can teach you lessons that will always stay with you.

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Mackenzie Krueger: Sheep project brought learning opportunities, fond memories

Katie McMurray
Reporter

BURLINGTON — For many members of 4-H, one part of the 4-H experience is finding a project that stands out above the rest and becomes a special favorite. For some 4-Hers, including Stringtown Bombers 4-H senior Mackenzie Krueger, that special project brings not only learning experiences that will carry into the future but fond memories that will last a lifetime.

Krueger has been a member of the Stringtown Bombers 4-H Club for 11 years. In this year's Coffey County Fair, she will have entries in the sheep, entomology, leadership, photography, sewing and textile design projects. She said her favorite project has been the sheep project.

“From picking my show lambs out at the beginning of the year to developing feed rations to expanding my breeding program, I get to make all the decisions

for my flock,” Krueger said. “Not only have I developed several skills through the sheep project, including showmanship, patience, basic veterinary care, grooming and more, but I also get to spend every day taking care of unique animals who each have their own personality.”

Krueger’s fondest 4-H memory came about because of the sheep project.

“My favorite 4-H memory was at the 2025 Coffey County Fair when I have just won grand champion market lamb and, as soon as I got out of the ring, one of my opponents, who won reserve champion, came and gave me a big hug and told me I did a good job. That was the moment I realized exactly how blessed I was to have another family through 4-H.”

Her own family was the reason Krueger joined 4-H.

“I joined 4-H because my older sister,

See **KRUEGER** Page 6



Photo submitted
Mackenzie Krueger, a senior in the Stringtown Bombers 4-H Club, has particularly enjoyed the sheep project and it has brought fond memories and lasting impacts.

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Member FDIC

Krueger

Continued from Page 5

Emma, was in 4-H," Kruger said. "She was a role model for me growing up, and I found myself following in her footsteps and doing every project she did when I first joined."

Now, as her time in 4-H draws to a close, Krueger has learned much.

"Through 4-H, I've learned how to accept the losses and learn from my mistakes," Krueger said. "I've learned to win graciously. I've

learned that everybody has different strengths and you don't have to be just like everyone else to succeed."

Krueger is the daughter of Ashley and Travis Krueger and is a 2026 graduate of Burlington High School. She will attend Kansas State University beginning in the spring and pursue a major in animal sciences and industry. She hopes to find a spot on KSU's horse judging team while she's there, and she plans to find a career in ruminant nutrition or livestock embryology after graduating.

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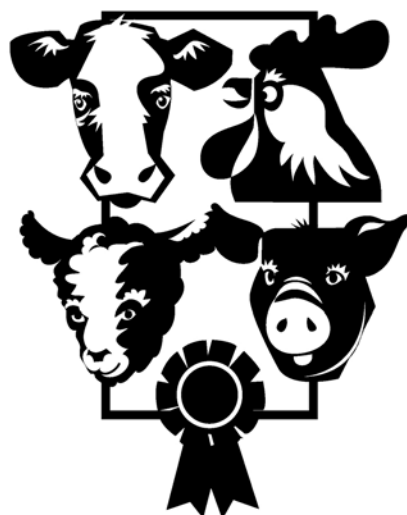
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Kyzer Lehmann: 4-H has helped me in a lot of different areas of life

Katie McMurray

Reporter

WESTPHALIA — During his years in the organization, senior 4-Her Kyzer Lehmann has found that being in 4-H has helped him out in multiple different areas of life.

Lehmann has been in the Liberty 4-H Club for 13 years. He joined because of the opportunities it could open for the future.

"I joined 4-H because I was moved to a farm, and I knew it would open up lots of opportunities for my future," Lehmann said.

Since becoming a member, Lehmann has learned much.

"I have learned to become a leader," Lehmann said. "It has helped me in a lot of different areas of my life and allowed for me to be able to fill positions I wouldn't have been able to before."

Lehmann's favorite project has been photography, and it is one of two projects in which he will have entries in this year's Coffey County Fair, with the other being the goat project.

"I really enjoy the photography project," Lehmann said. "I enjoy taking pictures of stuff that I see as I go along with my life. It allows for me to be able to share with others the things I find beautiful."

Lehmann has also enjoyed spending time with friends.

"My favorite 4-H memory is messing around with friends late at night during the fair," Lehmann said.

Lehmann, the son of Olivia and John Lehmann, is a 2026 graduate of Burlington High School. In the future, he plans to attend Fort Hays Technical College in Beloit, where he plans to pursue an associate degree in diesel technology.



Photo submitted

Liberty 4-H senior Kyzer Lehmann joined 4-H after moving to a farm and has found being in the organization has helped him in multiple areas of life.

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To all the talented and hardworking 4-H participants showcasing their skills in this year's fair, thank you for your participation and contribution to one of our communities' favorite traditions.

*Wishing best of luck and hope you enjoy
the 146th Coffey County Fair!*



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MEMBER
FDIC

Two new events coming to Fair

Amidst all the traditional events, the 146th Coffey County Fair will feature two new events.

The first new event is lawn mower races, which will be held 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 23, at the grandstands. There will be three different categories of races, riding mower garden tractor, riding mower zero-turn and push mower. Anyone age 14 and older can enter the two riding mower categories, while anyone 12 and older can

enter the push mower category. There will be cash prizes for winners, as well as a prize for the best decorated mower, and entry is free.

The second new event is an antique tractor pull, hosted by the Flint Hills Antique Power Association (FHAPA) Edgeta Branch 107. The pull will take place 7 p.m. Friday, July 24, at the grandstands. All standard FHAPA divisions and classes will be run, with hook

fees assessed per driver. In order to participate in the pull or assist in the pit area, you must be a current FHAPA member. For official pulling rules, visit fhapa.org/pulling.

Both the lawn mower races and antique tractor pull will be open to spectators. Entry to the races is free, and entry to the antique tractor pull is a free will donation, from which proceeds will benefit local veteran organizations.

Demo Derby to offer crushing entertainment

BURLINGTON — The 146th annual Coffey County Fair's demolition derby will be under new management this year, with Pay Up Sucker Promotions named this year's manager, but will once again offer smashing entertainment for competitors and spectators alike. The derby will feature four classes

of competition and a total purse of more than \$11,300.

This year, the Coffey County Fair's demolition derby will feature bonestock 80s, bonestock compact, throwback and full-size truck/SUV classes. In the bonestock 80s and bonestock compact classes, first place will receive

\$1,200, while second place will receive \$800, third place \$300 and fourth place \$150. In the throwback class, first place will take home \$2,500, while second place will take home \$1,250, third place \$800 and fourth place \$550. In the full-

See **DERBY** Page 16

WELCOME 4-H'ERS!

Kaleb & Nicole Schankie at the

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Jake Leiser: 4-H has helped me build confidence, integrity

Katie McMurray
Reporter

BURLINGTON - Since joining 4-H, senior Jake Leiser has learned many valuable lessons and found that being in the organization has helped him become more confident.

Leiser is a senior in the Liberty 4-H Club, and he has been a part of 4-H for 12 years. Family was central to why he joined the organization.

"Initially, I joined 4-H because my mom and my sisters were involved in the program," Leiser said. "I grew up around livestock that my sisters had shown and raised. Soon enough, I could enroll in these projects myself and continue being a part of the 4-H atmosphere. Through 4-H, I was able to explore interests such as

swine, western heritage, leadership and poultry. I stayed involved because I enjoyed being with my friends that could relate to what I was doing, the learning experience and the challenge to develop skills over the years. 4-H has and will benefit me for a long time to come."

In his final Coffey County Fair as a 4-Her, Leiser will have entries in the performing arts and leadership projects.

"My favorite project is leadership," Leiser said. "Leadership has helped me grow and develop skills that I use constantly throughout my life. Participating in leadership activities has taught me how to better communicate, work with a team and use responsibility and accountability to help my club progress."

Leiser has held leadership positions in his 4-H club.

"Serving as vice president, reporter and council representative of my 4-H club has given me the opportunity to lead meetings, help with committees and encourage younger members to be involved and learn new skills. I enjoy the leadership project because it has allowed me to make a positive impact on others in our community and club."

Leiser's fondest memory of 4-H involves the county fair.

"My favorite memory is having my grandparents visit from Indiana during fair week," Leiser said. "They would come down to support and watch me show swine and poultry. Seeing their support made the experience even more special and gave me a sense of pride in the projects. It is a memory I will always cherish because it showed how important family can be."

There has also been a multitude of lessons and skills Leiser has learned as a 4-Her.

"Throughout my 12 years in 4-H,

I have learned the importance of communication, how leadership builds good character and time management," Leiser said. "When I raised and showed swine, I had to use my time wisely and work with the animals at a certain time. This took dedication and commitment to care for the animals multiple times a day."

Being particularly active in the organization and utilizing communication skills has also had impacts.

"Participating in multiple events and competitions has helped me build confidence and communication skills," Leiser said. "Being able to communicate well has made me more efficient and understandable. The leadership skills I gained in 4-H have made me become more responsible, listen to different ideas and make good decisions based on the group. This has built my integrity and readiness to continue after 4-H."

See LEISER Page 16



Photo submitted

Jake Leiser, a senior in the Liberty 4-H Club, particularly enjoys the leadership project and it has helped him grow and develop skills he uses constantly.



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Daniel Rausch: Rocketry project was a special favorite

Katie McMurray

Reporter

LEBO — For many 4-Hers, one project will stand out among the many and become a special favorite, as Blue Ribbon 4-H senior Daniel Rausch found out.

Rausch has been a member of the Blue Ribbon 4-H Club for 11 years. He joined for two main reasons.

"I joined 4-H because I wanted to be more involved in my community and learn new skills," Rausch said.

Rausch's favorite project has been the rocketry project.

"In the rocketry project, you build a model rocket and launch it," Rausch said. "I love the process of building a rocket from just a few pieces of balsa wood and a cardboard tube, then seeing it go hundreds of feet into the air. I have been in the rocketry project all 11 years

that I have been in 4-H."

In the 146th Coffey County Fair, Rausch will have entries in the rocketry, electrical, Western Heritage and ag mechanics welding projects. However, his fondest 4-H memory does not have a connection to the fair.

"My favorite 4-H memory is attending Discovery Days at K-State," Rausch said. "I was able to meet lots of new people and learn about different, interesting topics."

Through his years in 4-H, Rausch said he has learned and gained a lot.

"I have gained a lot from being in 4-H, from new friendships to developing leadership skills," Rausch said. "It has taught me hard work and patience through the countless hours spent on project work. I have

See RAUSCH Page 15



Photo submitted

The rocketry project has been a particular favorite for Blue Ribbon 4-H senior Daniel Rausch and he has participated in it throughout his 11 years in 4-H.

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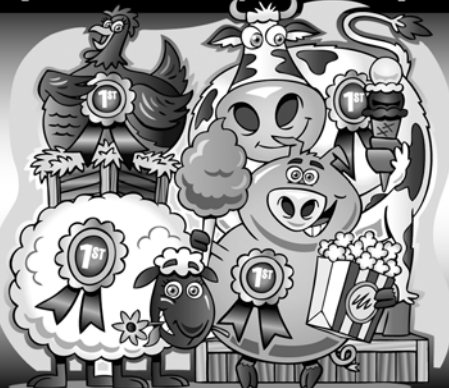
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Kohlton Shoemaker: 4-H has taught valuable life skills

Katie McMurray
Reporter

LEBO — During his years in the organization, senior 4-Her Kohlton Shoemaker has found that being in 4-H teaches multiple valuable skills.

Shoemaker has been a member of the Blue Ribbon 4-H Club for 10 years. He joined 4-H for a couple of reasons.

"I joined 4-H because it looked fun and a lot of people that I knew were in 4-H," Shoemaker said.

Now preparing for his final Coffey County Fair as a 4-Her, Shoemaker has enjoyed his time in 4-H and has learned much.

"In 4-H, I have learned public speaking skills, leadership skills and the importance of being involved in community service activities," Shoemaker said. "Throughout 4-H, I have met a lot of people and participated in a lot of different shows. All of my 4-H expe-

riences have created great summer memories."

In this year's Coffey County Fair, Shoemaker will have entries in the leadership, rabbit and rocketry projects. He has especially enjoyed the rabbit project.

"My favorite 4-H project is rabbits," Shoemaker said. "I like the rabbit project because rabbits are fun to show and I have been successful in showing my rabbits. I like working with my rabbits even though they can be pretty wiggly sometimes!"

Shoemaker's favorite memory of 4-H also involved the rabbit project.

"My fondest memory of 4-H is winning overall grand champion in rabbit showmanship two times at the Coffey County Fair," Shoemaker said.

Shoemaker, the son of Garrett and Kylea Shoemaker, is a 2026 graduate of Lebo High School. In the future, he plans to join the work force.

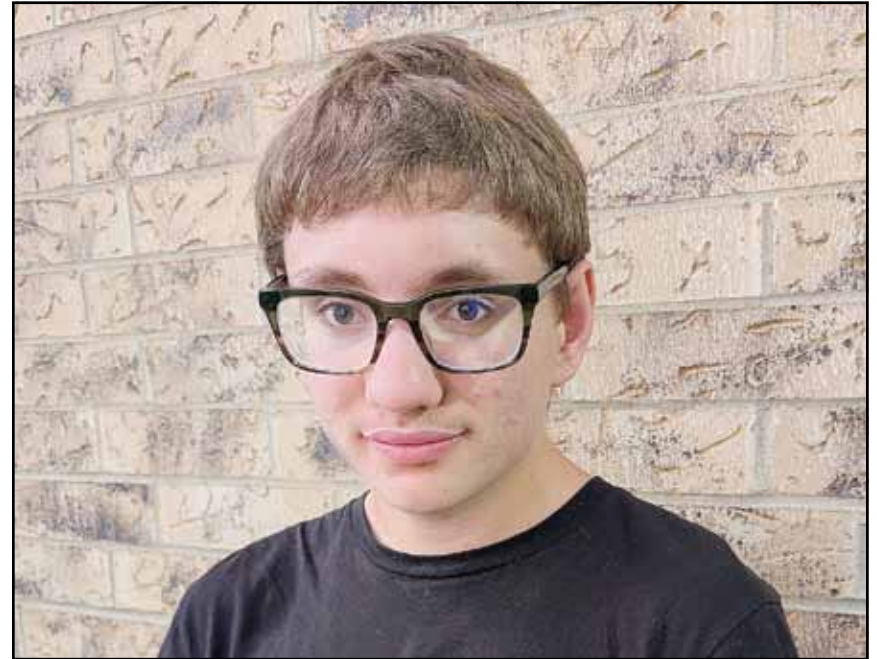


Photo submitted

Blue Ribbon senior 4-Her Kohlton Shoemaker has learned a variety of valuable skills in 4-H and in the rabbit project, which has been his favorite.

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Aubriana Vannocker: 4-H helps build independence, friendships

Katie McMurray

Reporter

LEBO — Being in 4-H can have far-reaching impacts and teach many lessons and life skills, and during her time in the organization, Blue Ribbon 4-H senior Aubrianna Vannocker has experienced both the impacts and the learning opportunities.

Vannocker, the daughter of Ethan and Bonnie Vannocker, has been a member of the Blue Ribbon 4-H Club for 11 years. Family played a role in leading her to join.

"I joined 4-H so that my grandpa and I could have something to do together," Vannocker said. "I originally started by just showing pigs and baking. During my 4-H time, I have shown beef, swine, goats and lambs. 4-H is something that my family has enjoyed together over the years."

In this year's Coffey County Fair,

Vannocker will have entries in the photography, shopping in style and swine projects. Her favorite project has been swine.

"The swine project is my favorite because I enjoy their personality and the unique bond you build with them," Vannocker said. "Working with my pig every day helps create a relationship based on trust, patience and consistency. It's rewarding to see that trust grow over time and to know that your animal relies on you for its care. The experience has taught me responsibility while allowing me to connect with my animal in a meaningful way."

Vannocker's fondest memory of 4-H also included pigs.

"My favorite memory of 4-H is winning the Bob Hines Swine Classic Champion Market Hog on my birthday," Vannocker said.



Photo submitted

Aubriana Vannocker, a senior in the Blue Ribbon 4-H Club, joined the organization so she and her grandpa could have something to do together, and she found that being in 4-H helps build independence and friendships.

See VANNOCKER Page 16

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Rausch

Continued from Page 11

also learned public speaking skills through the many talks I have given. This has greatly benefited me, as these are really useful skills to have."

Rausch is the son of Brian and Melinda Rausch and is a 2026 graduate of Lebo High School. His future plans are to attend college at Kansas State University and pursue a major in mechanical and nuclear engineering.

Hopkins

Continued from Page 4

"Livestock was one of my favorite projects - I did goats and pigs," Hopkins said. "I did goats for nine years and pigs for only one. I liked these projects because it showed me the responsibility of how to care for animals. I grew a lot during my time in these projects, and it helped my leadership qualities, as well, because my younger siblings did them when they got into 4-H."

Hopkins' fondest memories of 4-H involved his siblings.

"My favorite 4-H memories are of helping my brother and sister with their projects," Hopkins said. "We made a lot of memories with our animals together. I was the one that had a huge responsibility since I was the oldest, and it was fun to get to teach them how to show and care for their animals."

Hopkins is a 2026 graduate of Lebo High School. In the future, he plans to continue to help Edwards Farms with their farming operation and Miller Monuments.

"Both are incredible employers that have supported me as a whole person," Hopkins said. "4-H has taught me to go after your goals and never give up. Working hard will get you where you want to be. When you work for it, no one can take what you learn away."

Hopkins also will be attending Johnson County Community College to take part in the railroad conductor program.

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Vannocker

Continued from Page 13

Along with family time and memories, 4-H has helped Vannocker learn valuable lessons and had a big impact on her.

"Being in 4-H, I have learned responsibility, leadership, communication and the value of hard work," Vannocker said. "Caring for my animals and completing projects has taught me how to set goals, manage my time and follow through on commitments. I've also gained confidence by participating in shows, speaking with judges and working with others in my club and community. 4-H has impacted my life by helping me become more independent, building lifelong friendships and teaching skills that I can use in school, my career and everyday life."

Vannocker is a 2026 graduate of Lebo High School. In the future, she will be attending Iowa Central Community College on an athletic marching and pep band scholarship, and she plans to study animal sciences.

Derby

Continued from Page 9

size truck//SUV class, first place will win \$1,000, while second place will win \$600 and third place will win \$100. There will also be a \$1,000 Mad Dog award.

Entry fees are assessed per driver. For spectators, tickets are available for general admission and kids ages six and under. There are also pit passes available. For entry information for the derby, visit the Pay Up Sucker Promotions Facebook page.



Grow

Continued from Page 3

speech with that much competition," Grow said. "And, they had what they called a fun gun shoot so everyone had the opportunity to shoot a Gatling gun, which was really cool. Also, by the end of the week, I ended up taking fifth in persona speeches and got to walk the stage and get an award."

Grow said he has learned a lot throughout his eight years in 4-H.

"I have to say I think the biggest thing would have to be leadership,"

Grow said. "It has impacted my life in allowing me to be a leader when the time comes. An example being my senior year, I was the drum major of our high school band. I had to lead the whole band on the field and conduct and help teach the younger kids on how to march."

Grow, the son of Chris Grow, is a 2026 graduate of Burlington High School. His plans for the future are to attend Kansas State University in the fall and pursue a major in music education. After college, he is planning to stay somewhere in Kansas and find a job to be a high school band teacher.

Leiser

Continued from Page 10

Leiser is the son of Janet Leiser and is a 2026 graduate of Burlington High School. This summer, he is working for Foley CAT as an intern technician, building his knowledge and job opportunities, and is also performing in

the Emporia Municipal Band. In the fall, he plans to attend Pittsburg State University to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree and double major in automotive technology, with emphasis in diesel/heavy equipment, and advanced fuel systems. He will also continue his passion for music there by playing sousaphone and tuba in the PSU bands.

*Good Luck to all
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