The voice of Clark County since 1880

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The hometown newspaper of Diane Olson of De Soto, Kan.



The 2024 Clark County Achievement Days took place at the Clark County Fairgrounds on August 5, 6 and 7. Various showmanship winners are shown in photos.

- 1. Beef Showmanship Left to right: Madelyn Caulfield, Reserve Sr.; Emma Caulfield, Grand Sr.: Chesney Fuks, Reserve Jr.: Alayna Caulfield, Grand Jr.; Kennedy Stern, Reserve Beginner; and Bayler Hurlbut, Grand 2. Meat Goat Showmanship - Left to right: Tye McGraw, Reserve Sr.;
- Taylor McGraw, Grand Sr.; Selma Nelson, Reserve Jr.; Alyana Arthur, Grand Jr.; and Kennedy Stern, Grand Beginner. 3. Sheep Showmanship - Left to right: Taylor McGraw, Reserve Sr.; Ig-
- natius Fuller, Grand Sr.; Reece Knutson, Reserve Jr.; JD Dale, Grand Jr.; Ansley Knock, Reserve Beginner; and Emberly Keul, Grand Beginner. 4. Rabbit Junior Showmanship - Left to right: Samantha Fuller, Grand
- Jr.; and Sabrina Fuller, Reserve Jr. 5. Rabbit Beginner Showmanship - Left to right: Raegan Knutson,
- Grand Beginner; and Tanner Fuller, Reserve Beginner. 6. Poultry Showmanship - Left to right: Judge Mike Grann, Brianna Dale, Grand Sr.; Tyler Warkenthien, Reserve Sr.; Kendra Warkenthien, Grand Jr.; Canaan Poppen, Grand Beginner; and John Poppen, Reserve

Photos courtesy of Kim McGraw









#### Clark County Achievement Days results, placings have been announced By Kim McGraw Yorkshire. Champion Crossbred bits. Best in Show Rabbit was awa- tries, and they all received purple

4-H Program Advisor

The 2024 Clark County 4-H Achievement Days were held August 5-7 at the Clark County Fairgounds in Clark.

A total of 616 exhibits were shown by Clark County 4-H youth

Monday morning began with display exhibit judging. There were 437 total exhibits entered and on display in the static exhibit buildng this year. Purple ribbons this year numbered 366. Entries within the numerous project areas varied. Foods and Food Preservation had 57 exhibits, Clothing had 34 exhibits, and Home Environment had 41 entries. A total of 100 exhibits were entered for Visual Arts. Horticulture exhibits totaled 17 exhibits.

There were 84 photography entries. barnwood shelf This year, many Cloverbuds brought exhibits. Cloverbud projects are not counted in ribbon counts, but instead the cloverbud receives a special ribbon for each of their projects after visiting with the

Best in Show selected by display exhibit judges this year went to:

judge. Cloverbuds are 4-H members

Samantha Brenden – Food Preservation – pickles

ages five through seven.

Colton Monnens - Hobbies & Collections – farm display exhibit Thea Mohr – Entomology & Bees

 bug collection Ansley Knock - Home Environment - remade lawn chair

Mikayla Monnens - Child Devel-

opment – babysitting kit

Ansley Knock - Wood Science -

clay vegetables

Samantha Brenden - Horticulture, Gardening & Landscaping rooster container garden

Lane Tarbox – Photography –

post and wire Karsyn Tarbox - Photography -

Annie Rider - Visual Arts -

stained glass Claire Vandersnick – Visual Arts

Monday evening ended with the swine show comprised of 18 exhibits, up in numbers from previous years. Grand Champion Breeding Gilt was awarded to Chesney Fuks

serve Grand Champion went to Selma Nelson with her Spotted Gilt. Purebred Market Gilt was exhibited by Reece Knutson with a

with her Yorkshire Gilt, and Re-

Market Gilt was exhibited by Reece Knutson, and Reserve was shown by Chesney Fuks. Grand Champion Market Gilt went to Reece Knutson with his Yorkshire and Reserve was Reece Knutson's Crossbred Gilt.

The Champion Market Purebred Barrow was exhibited by Rustin Nelson, and Reserve Champion Purebred Barrow went to Chesney Fuks. Champion Crossbred Barrow was shown by Selma Nelson, and Reserve Champion Crossbred Barrow was also exhibited by Selma Nelson. Overall Grand Champion Market Swine went to Reece Knutson with his Yorkshire Market Gilt. Reserve Overall Grand Champion Market Swine was Selma Nelson.

Tuesday started off with the rabbit show with 20 participating rab-

raded to Sabrina Fuller with her Havana Sr. Buck, with Reserve Best in Show Rabbit going to Braylee Ryan with her Mini Lop Jr. Buck. Six cloverbuds participated in the rabbit show, including Tanner Fuller, Cullen Peterson, Alicyn Knock, Journey Poppen, Elliot Konechne and Gretta Osterloh.

Next came the Poultry Show with 43 exhibits. Best in Show poul-Continental. Reserve Best in Show went to JD Dale with his Game Bantam. Megan Ayotte was the lone Cloverbud exhibiting in the Poultry

Meat goat, dairy goat, breeding sheep and market sheep shows were held on Tuesday afternoon.

The Meat Goat Show had 21 en-

ribbons. The Registered Breeding Doe was shown by Alayna Arthur, and the Champion Commercial Breeding Doe went to Taylor Mc-Graw. Reserve Commercial Breeding Doe was awareded to Kennedy Stern. Champion Wether Dam was presented to Taylor McGraw, and Tye McGraw received the Reserve Wether Dam. Grand Champion Breeding Doe went to Taylor Mctry went to Brianna Dale with her Graw with her Commercial Doe. and Reserve Grand Champion Breeding Doe was Taylor McGraw with her Wether Dam.

> The Champion Market Wether was exhibited by Lincoln Reidburn. and the Reserve Champion Market Wether went to Ella Sass. Cham-

> > Achievement Days (continued on page 10)

# Local area schools set to start opening next week

By Carolynn Olson Goodbye summer, hello 'Back to

School!' Henry School opens Monday, August 19 and Florence Tuesday, August 20. Clark School District begins their school year next Wednesday, August 21 and Willow Lake starts Tuesday, September 3. Sport practices have already begun at the four respective schools. Clark

## Travis Ahrens and Middle School/

High School Principal Jennifer Heggelund leading the staff and students. Jon Redmond is the elementary principal. Willow Lake

Classes resume on Wednesday,

August 21 with Superintendent

Willow Lake will start the 2024-2025 school year Tuesday, September 3. Due to the ongoing construction project, the annual open house cannot be held in August. The open house will be scheduled at a later time. Once the new wing is completed, an open house and tours will be scheduled. Chris Lee is the super-

intendent, and Claire Mohr is the principal.

Classes will begin Monday, August 19. Todd Obele is the Henry School superintendent. Landon Hammer is the principal. **Florence** 

Florence school begins Tuesday, August 20. Mitch Reed is the superintendent and elementary principal. Alex Devries is the principal.

#### WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer

HI	LO	$\mathbf{PR}$
August 6 71	53	0.10
August 7 74	61	0
August 8 71	51	0.25
August 9 65	48	0
August 10 70	47	0
August 11 75	56	0
August 12 74	57	0
2024 precipitation to date 16.9"		
2023 precipitation to da	te 1	3.59"

## Policy changes, staff resignations and hires featured at August meeting of the Clark School Board

By Carolynn Olson By Carolynn Olson

The Clark School Board meeting was held Monday, August 12 in the high school library. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

A motion was carried for the 2024-2025 Duenwald Transportation contract modification. "Every year, we add some sort of modification to the yearly contract, based on the number of school days largely, and the number of students in the district. We'll possibly add miles or subtract miles from the five bus routes," stated Clark Superintendent Travis Ahrens. There was a concern about the morning pickup times being early around 6:30 a.m. Ahrens said he will reach out to Duenwald Transportation and see if the buses can wait a few more minutes to leave for certain routes.

The board approved the adult lunch set at \$4.98 and adult breakfast at \$2.84. "We always have to wait for the Federal guidelines, and we have to charge what was set," said Business Manager Mary

Nelson. The board approved the Clark School District (CSD) policy update of GCDB and GCDB-E(1) regarding criminal background checks. There was a printing error at last month's meeting. Ahrens apolo-

gized for the misprint. "Concluded in this draft, the state DCI does an audit of our criminal background check processes and updated policies or requirements," stated Ahrens. "A lot of this is stuff we already did, just some additional clarifying of language, designations and some procedural things that Mary and I now have in place," he added. The E(1) is something the school district now hands out to new applicants, as it is a required notification of the rights of whoever is getting their background checked.

The board approved the CSD policy update of IIA regarding instructional materials, library materials and the use of computers and networks. "This kind of came in part to a law that the Legislature passed this last spring; getting into materials and defining how we go about selecting those things and defining obscene instructional matter or materials," Ahrens explained.

The board approved the elementary, middle school and high school handbooks. Elementary principal Jon Redmond started the discussion asking if there were any questions on the elementary handbook. Smart watches were added to the no cellphone policy. There will be a case available at the elementary school for students' cell phones and smart watches during the hours of school operation. "I added a little information about personal property, and we are going to start student council this year, so we put that in there as well," added Redmond.

Middle school/high school principal Jennifer Heggelund shared how the high school and middle school handbooks are very similar except middle school doesn't have the section on credits. The cost for the virtual school program was raised from \$150.00 to between \$325.00 and \$350.00. The GPA was raised to 3.0 in order to be eligible

for the virtual school program also. The board and administrators worked collectively to update portions of the handbooks. The term "tardy" was better defined on page 15 and 16 of the handbook. The biggest change to the handbook is the cellphone use policy. "We have a case for each grade. They will be labeled alphabetically, and each student will have a designated spot in the morning and at the end of the day," explained Heggelund "The case will be locked and located in the study room so no classes

> Clark School Board (continued on page 10)



Members: Gayle Wookey, Tom LaBrie, Chad Fjelland, Susan Fjelland, Diane Varilek, Greg Furness, David Warkenthien, Nicole Nelson and student members Raigan Flatten, Lauren Luvaas, Lincoln Reidburn and Yeleiney Ramirez Gonzalez.

Contact one of the members if you need any information on how to apply for a grant.