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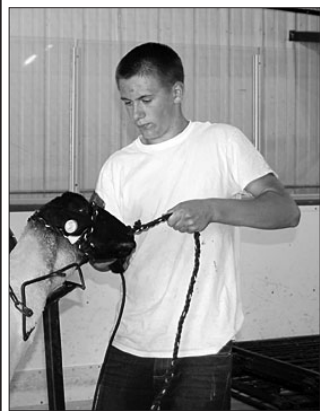
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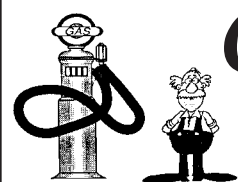
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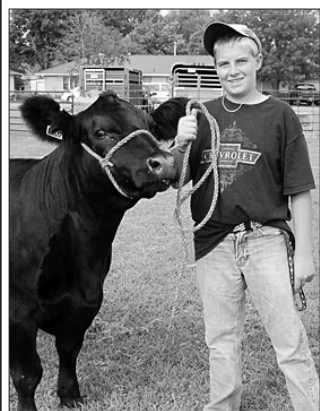
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Yankton County 4-H/Youth Development Coordinator Stephanie Siebrandt assists auctioneer Mark Vellek during the auction held Saturday, Aug. 2, at the Yankton County 4-H Achievement Days. This was Siebrandt's first year working with the local Achievement Days event.

## New Coordinator Feels Right At Home In Yankton

Siebrandt Gets Big Test In Handling Achievement Days

BY KAYLA PRASEK  
news@yankton.net

Stephanie Siebrandt spent four months working as a journalist before following her dream of working with students through 4-H.

Siebrandt started as the new 4-H/youth development coordinator for Yankton County in May. The Battle Creek, Nebraska, native said it was a natural next step for her.

"I got a degree in animal science and agricultural journalism from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln," Siebrandt said. "My job at the Northeast Nebraska News Company was a good experience, but I knew I didn't want to stay there forever. I was looking for something in the Yankton area that involved working with kids, so when this job opened up, I jumped at the chance."

Siebrandt was a 4-H member and also interned with the Cedar County, Nebraska, 4-H program.

"I've always loved 4-H, so this seemed like a good fit," she said.

While starting in May — just three months before Achievement Days —

could have been stressful, Siebrandt quickly mapped out what she needed to do to catch up.

"The first couple days was figuring everything out," Siebrandt said. "I wanted to keep the things Lauren (Fosheim, the previous 4-H/youth develop-

**"I don't think I ever realized how much work goes into it. I always loved 4-H, so it's fun to be on the other side. It's fun to watch them love 4-H like you did. It's something that will stick with me forever."**

**STEPHANIE SIEBRANDT**

ment coordinator) had started, but I also wanted to bring in some new things."

Siebrandt spent the month of May planning and meeting with the junior leaders. In June, she went to every club's monthly meeting to start meeting 4-Hers, as well as dog and horse practices. She also helped with the Yankton public schools' summer lunch program and attended the Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce's Agriculture Committee meetings to meet the community.

"My main goal right away was to get to know the kids and learn about the county," Siebrandt said.

Programs Siebrandt coordinated

this summer include a babysitting clinic, an animal science day camp, craft days, a first aid workshop, a Cloverbud camp and a rabbit program.

"It's been busy but I'm learning what they want here and trying to offer some different things," Siebrandt said. "I've

had a lot of people tell me they like what's going on, so I'm looking forward to next summer when I'll have the whole winter to plan."

With the busiest part of her job finished, Siebrandt is looking forward to

the rest of the year.

"My goals now are to help expand the program and get new kids involved," she said. "That's a necessity to be able to keep this going. I also need to go through everything once and see how it works and then I can start giving my opinions and ideas for the future."

As a former 4-Her herself, Siebrandt said being on the other side has been interesting.

"I don't think I ever realized how much work goes into it," she said. "I always loved 4-H, so it's fun to be on the other side. It's fun to watch them love 4-H like you did. It's something that will stick with me forever."

## Celebrities

From Page 3B

culture in South Dakota," she said.

"Allowing them to develop their leadership skills, and giving them the capacity to start impacting our community with their knowledge of the agriculture industry is important, and 4-H gives them the platform to do so."

Achievement Days shines a bright spotlight on young people and their skills, providing important recognition and sense of pride, Fosheim said.

"Achievement Days in Yankton County is all about celebrating the accomplishments of these kids and their individual talents," she said. "Maybe someone doesn't excel at a sport in school but is a whiz in the kitchen. Or maybe they struggle with math in the classroom, but (they) understand exactly how to formulate a feed ration to feed their beef cattle, which helps them have a quality steer to show for the fair."

Those unique educational opportunities set 4-H apart from other settings, Fosheim said.

"4-H successfully allows acceptance of a child's natural talents and abilities and

interests, and it gives them a place to showcase what they excel at, in a way that no other organization can," she said.

And speaking of showcasing, Siebrandt gave her kudos to Tereshinski for his persistence and continued improvement in the show ring.

"This is the third year for Matt (in the Celebrity Round Robin), and the junior leaders said he won it fair and square. He had done his homework," she said.

Tereshinski admits a bit of pride in winning the championship hardware. "They gave me a plaque for this, and we display it at the office for bragging rights," he said.

Will Tereshinski be back next year to defend his title? He isn't making any commitments at this point.

However, win or lose, Tereshinski knows it will be fun.

"I always enjoy it a lot. You have a lot of families who show up for Achievement Days," he said. "They have the meal before (the Celebrity Round Robin). It's just a real nice event, and it's a good time to get together."

You can follow Randy Dockendorf on Twitter at [twitter.com/RDockendorf](https://twitter.com/RDockendorf). Discuss this story at [www.yankton.net](http://www.yankton.net).

## 2014 South Dakota State 4-H Horse Show

### FINAL RESULTS (YANKTON COUNTY)

Junior Western Showmanship — Emma Christensen, Yankton — Blue  
Junior English Showmanship — Emma Christensen, Yankton — Purple, 5  
Junior Stock Seat Equitation — Savanna Geuther, Yankton — Red  
Junior Trail — Levi Heckenlaible, Yankton — Red  
Junior Western Showmanship — Lauren Heine, Yankton — Purple, 2  
Junior Stock Seat Equitation — Lauren Heine, Yankton — Purple  
Senior Stock Seat Equitation — Ashley Heine, Yankton — Blue  
Junior Hunt Seat Equitation — Lauren Heine, Yankton — Red, 5  
Junior Reining — Lauren Heine, Yankton — Purple, 1  
Senior Reining — Ashley Heine, Yankton — Purple, 1  
Junior Western Riding — Lauren Heine, Yankton — Purple, 1  
Senior Western Riding — Ashley Heine, Yankton — Red  
Beginner Western Showmanship — Marley Miller, Yankton — Red  
Beginner Stock Seat Equitation — Marley Miller, Yankton — Red  
Junior Stock Seat Equitation — Taya Renteria, Yankton — Blue  
Junior Reining — Taya Renteria, Yankton — Blue  
Junior Trail — Taya Renteria, Yankton — Blue, 5  
Junior Barrel Racing — Taya Renteria, Yankton — White  
Junior Pole Bending — Taya Renteria, Yankton — Blue  
Senior Hunt Seat Equitation — Tanner Schiferl, Yankton — Red  
Senior Hunter Equitation Over Fences — Tanner Schiferl, Yankton — Red, 3  
Beginner Western Showmanship — Mackenzie Steinbrecher, Yankton — Blue  
Beginner Stock Seat Equitation — Mackenzie Steinbrecher, Yankton — Purple, 1  
Beginner Hunt/Saddle Seat Equitation — Mackenzie Steinbrecher, Yankton — Purple, 4  
Junior Trail — Mackenzie Steinbrecher, Yankton — Blue  
Junior Pleasure Driving — Mackenzie Steinbrecher, Yankton — Blue



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