### PAGE 2: ACHIEVEMENT DAYS



COURTESY PHOTO LEFT: Although on the fence about participating at first, Layne Hauger and Dillon Barger could not resist testing to see who could eat the most watermelon at the watermelon eating contest.

RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D **RIGHT:Verna Boyd and her feath**ered friend greet their young audi-ence during Saturday afternoon's program entitled "Teeth, Jaws and Claws" and "Skin and Scales." Boyd's appearance was arranged through the South Dakota Humanities Council.

## PRESS & DAKOTAN SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2015





**Chesterman Company** 

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**Yankton County 4-H Brings In The Community** For A Day Of Farm Fun

### BY RANDY DOCKENDORF randy.dockendorf@yankton.net

This year's Yankton County 4-H Achievement Days presented quite a puzzle. The theme was "4-H: Where All of the Pieces Come Together." This represents the six characteristics of citizenship, respect, trustworthiness, caring, responsibility and fairness.

4-Hers wore t-shirts with the puzzle pieces. One of the cakes for the silent auction featured a puzzle piece made from frosting.

And true to this year's theme, all the pieces came together as Achievement Days took on a new look, according to Yankton County 4-H Youth Development assistant Stephanie Siebrandt. "We did a lot of new things

this year," she said. "Our goal was to get more of the community members to come to Achievement Days and see what we're doing. We wanted to have plenty of activities for youth in and out of 4-H.

The change succeeded, she said. "From what I heard, they really enjoyed it and learned a lot. Overall, it was a great experience," she said.

The biggest scheduling changes came with the deci-sion to hold the ice cream social and 4-H supper on Friday, Siebrandt said. "Those two events were usually held on Saturday, but they seemed like a better fit for Friday," she said.

Wyatt

Fairley

Friday's schedule featured the swine show, livestock skill-a-thon, rabbit show.



Bodenstedt, Yankton County Commissioner; Tara Pirak, who with her husband owns Valley Ag Supply in Gayville; Lauren Fosheim, a past Yankton County 4-H program assistant and currently with the Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce; Brian Bye with Farm Credit Services, and Michael Rothschadl, chief deputy for the Yankton County sheriff's office. This year's celebrity round

robin featured both previous and rookie competitors, saic "We had some who participated in the past and came back, and then we had some new faces who were excited to be part of it for the first time," she said. "It's always interesting to see how they're ranked by our junior leaders." Sunday's schedule included the pancake feed, round robin champion showmanship and pig raffle.

ABOVE: In between livestock shows, what's better than taking a quick picture at the photo booth to truly remember Achievement Days. The Petrik family members, Allison, Olivia, Sharon and Jim did just that.

BELOW: Getting animals ready for the show ring takes time. Dawson Vellek gets his beef animal ready by washing, drying, and cleaning its hide





poultry and egg judging and dog agility demonstration. The evening featured the 4-H supper, ice cream social, 4-H beef show and Barnyard Olympics.

Saturday was dedicated to youth events and drawing both 4-H members and young people from the general community, Siebrandt said "We were offering games, prizes and a lot of fun things," she said.

Saturday's schedule included the sheep and goat show, youth carnival, photo booth, small animal round robin champion showmanship, fashion revue and the cake, cupcake and cookie auction.

During the afternoon, Verna Boyd with the South Dakota Humanities Council presented a program on "Teeth, Jaws and Claws" and "Skin and Scales." The evening featured the celebrity round robin, in which contestants showed a cow and pig. The night closed with laser tag. In the celebrity round

robin competition, Adam Goeken, an ag financing specialist at First Dakota National Bank, won as grand champion. Don Wolf, store manager at Fred Haar Company in Yank-ton, was named the reserve champion.

Other participants included Jake Hoffner, Yankton City Commissioner; Debra

# **COMPETING FOR HONORS**

During Achievement Days, approximately 120 4-H mem-bers competed with 480 static (non-livestock) exhibits and 141 animal exhibits.

Of the 480 static exhibits, the 4-Hers carted home 221 purples (qualifying for the state fair), 134 blues, 46 red, 5 whites and 74 Cloverbud participation ribbons.

The 141 animal exhibits featured 55 sheep, 24 swine, 16 rabbits, 12 goats, 4 dairy goats, and 30 beef animals. In the livestock division, 4-Hers won 72 purples (qualifying for the state fair), 52 blues, 13 reds, 2 whites and 2 Cloverbud participation ribbons. The avian flu forced one

change as South Dakota banned all live poultry exhibits at the county and state levels, Siebrandt said.

"We didn't have birds this year," she said. "Each of the kids brought in a picture of their bird. Some of them did



showmanship and talked about the kind of bird and its features. They provided all that information they went through as if they had the real bird and not the picture." The competition went

smoothly despite the inability to display the live bird, Siebrandt såid. "Our judge, Reynold

Loecker, had just been to

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