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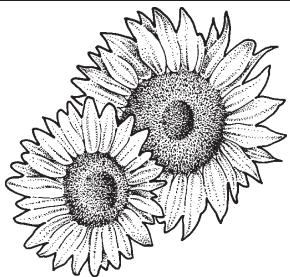
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DECA promotes entrepreneurship in Goodland



Members of Goodland High School's DECA clubs are (front, from left): Ashley McDonald, Blaine Varney, Dustin Pennington, Tyler McDonald, Tiffany Skinner, Mindi Keith, Savannah Schlink, Jennifer Pennington, Kaylie Gibault, Michelle Smith, Martin Stadelmann, Jonathan McClung and Matt Espinoza. Back row: Robert Borneman, Dylan Hageman, J.P. McCool, Thomas Terry, Tamara West and Lauren Abernathy. Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Students prepare for career conference

By Sharon Corcoran
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Goodland High School DECA members have been promoting entrepreneurship in Goodland and operating concession stands to prepare for the final stages of competition at the Kansas State DECA Career Development Conference.

The conference will be from Saturday through Tuesday, March 1 through 4, in Overland Park. Twenty-six DECA members are scheduled to compete in written events (manual and interviews), series competition (test and role-play case studies) and state officer competitions.

To prepare for competition in their Entrepreneurship Promotion Project, said Sponsor Richard Schwasinger, members conducted Entrepreneurship Promotion Week Jan. 28 through Feb. 1.

For the week, they coordinated activities to educate members, Goodland's consum-

ers and Goodland's businesspersons to keep local merchandise and service purchases in Goodland.

DECA members distributed educational pamphlets to consumers, posted promotional signs in retailer's windows and promoted entrepreneurship through local media, educating students in their classrooms and speaking to various organizations.

The focal point of the project, Schwasinger said, is to support local retailers and persuade local consumers to purchase exclusively from local retailers.

"Money spent in Goodland benefits everyone in Goodland," he said; "money spent outside our community does not benefit our local economy."

DECA members have operated concession stands to enter their Learn and Earn Project, Schwasinger said. Sports fans have enjoyed new merchandise, he said, including churros, extra-large drinks and chili.

The new products have been very popular, he said, and have proved to be a big benefit to the profits at the concession stands. The project also provides DECA members the opportunity to set up a business plan and develop their marketing and management skills, he added.

DECA I members are Matthew Espinoza, T.J. Freeman, Kaylie Gibault, Ryan Irvin, Kaitlyn Lammers, Jillian Lovins, John McCool, Tyler MacDonald, Angelica Medrano, Brittaney Medrano, Jennifer Pennington, Savannah Schlink, Andrew Shores, Tiffany Skinner, Michelle Smith, Milton Varney, Justin Verlinden, Tamara West and Kathy Wood.

DECA II members are Lauren Abernathy, Robert Borneman, Dylan Hageman, Mindi Keith, Jonathan McClung, Ashley McDonald, Dustin Pennington, Andrew Philbrick, Martin Stadelmann, Jacob Terry, Thomas Terry and Adrienne West.

DECA members urge all



to do business locally!



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