Welcome to the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair Aug. 2-7



events & attractions

Godland Star-News

Brother, sister share interest in gardening

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Living on a farm many miles from town or neighbors give brother and sister a chance to enjoy growing up together.

For Linsey, 13, and Gage, 10, Owens they have fun working with gardening, cooking and arts and crafts as their 4-H project in the Glendale Livewires club.

Linsey, who will be in eighth grade, has been in 4-H for six years. Her brother, Gage, has been involved for three years.

Their father is Brian Owens who farms dryland wheat seven miles south of Ruleton. He said he did not have a good wheat harvest.

"It has been a terrible year," he said. "What the drought didn't get the freeze did."

He has planted some dryland corn, and said it was doing pretty well so far.

Their stepmother, Michelle, works as a library technician at Grant Junior High.

Linsey's art interests are in colored pencil drawing, ceramics and stained glass. She said she has learned the stained glass from her great aunt and grandmother.

Breads, cookies and cakes are what she en-

joys cooking.

Gage has made paint pots, a candy jar and bubble gum machine in his crafts, and enjoys working with colored pencils.

"I drew a great picture of a lizard for my grandmother," he said.

His cooking efforts include rolls, muffins and made pizza for the last club meeting.

Linsey said she like the cooking because she likes making and tasting things in the kitchen.

Michelle says she lets both help in the kitchen, and it is good to have such good help.

Gage like the arts and crafts the most, and drawing and coloring are his favorite.

Linsey says she doesn't have one thing exactly she plans to do when she graduates from high school, but wants to go to Colby Community College first.

Being an artist is Gage's goal, and he wants to specialize in nature art doing outdoor scenes, animals and flowers.

In her six years in 4-H Linsey says she has won lots of ribbons for her projects, and has never had a white ribbon. She says her brother

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Linsey Owens showed off one of the beautiful Zinnias they have been growing, and will be entering at the upcoming Northwest Kansas District Free Fair.

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Gage Owens held out two small cherry tomatoes growing in the family garden. He hopes to enter some of the vegetable and flowers at the upcoming fair.

Brother, sister share interest

OWENS, from Page 2

does pretty good too.

"I have gotten a few white ones," Gage said. Linsey said she had won a grand champion ribbon on her Zinnias, and the flowers have brought in more ribbons.

The brother and sister say their interest in gardening comes from helping their grandmother, Terri Owens, who lives next door and has a large garden she has been raising all her life.

The two kids have helped mulch, plant, wa-

ter and weed both the vegetables and flowers. Grandmother grows corn, potatoes, tomatoes, wax beans, squash, onions and strawberries.

The flowers are moss rose, Zinnias, Petunias, Native and moon plants that open at night.

The families live next door and they have gardens and flowers at both homes. The larger garden is at grandmothers, but the kids raise cherry tomatoes and other vegetables in their garden as well as help with the chores of the

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Owens kids like to draw

OWENS, from Page 3

larger garden.

Terri Owens says she has always had a big garden, but that the dry years have made it tougher.

"I did most of the watering last year," she said, "and that is almost too much work these days." Linsey and Gage get along like most brothers and sisters, but their grandma thinks they fight less because being so far from town there is no one else to play with.

When the kids get out their drawing pencils they have a table in the kitchen which allows both of them to work side by side.

Linsey has some pencil drawings she has done and entered in the fair, and will be entering some this year.

Gage likes doing animals, and is proudest of his lizard which he gave to his grandmother.

The two are proud of their membership in the Glendale Livewires and this year the club bought shirts with the club name which they wear with pride.

Outside of the 4-H involvement the Owens' are into kite flying and Gage said on windy days he and his father can go out in the front yard and fly their kites without a problem with wires.

"We can fly them out in the field," Gage said.



Gage Owens, 10, likes to draw animals and outdoor scenes. He wants to be a commercial artist when he grows up.



Linsey Owens, 13, enjoyed drawing with pencil, and has several she will enter in the upcoming fair. Photos by Tom Betz / The Goodland Star-News

Good Luck to all 4-H Fair participants!

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George Adelgren showed off a set of moose antlers he intends someday to turn into one of his creations.

Woodworking a joy for Goodland man

By Greg Stover

The Goodland Star-News After more than 45 years of working with wood George Adelgren retired in 1999 but he still works with wood, however now it is for the joy of creativity and the love of working with his hands.

George said his woodworking is more art than craft, and now that he no longer has to worry about a clock he is free to do what he pleases and can let his imagination take over. When that happens he finds fulfillment in expressing himself through his creations which is the main reason he is enjoying his retirement.

George said he looks forward to the challenge of taking something that almost anyone else would throw away and be able to create a work of art.

"The biggest thrill for me is to take something that looks like nothing and see what's inside," he said.

He says right now his favorite material is manzanita root which mostly comes from California. However he does not limit himself to a set list of materials and uses a wide variety of exotic woods from around the world. In his shop

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NWKD Free Fair

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now, George has material from Australia, India and south Africa.

He also works in other natural materials such as antlers and tagur nuts. Included in the items he creates are candle holders, jewelry boxes, bowls, vases, goblets and a variety of decorative items.

"All my stuff is one of a kind," George said.

Although he is not relying on his art to earn a living he has sold several items on a personal basis over the years and takes pride in knowing his work is on display in places like Massachusetts, New York and California.

George also does pyrography which is the art of burning images into wood.

For the second year in a row examples of George's work will be on display at the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair at the Sherman County Fairgrounds from Aug. 2 to Aug. 7. He said he will share a booth with two or three other woodworkers where each will have a few examples of their work on display.

When he is not working with wood, people can find him at the golf course one or two times

See ALDEGREN, Page 6





Some of the smaller examples of George Adelgren's one-of-a-kind creations he keeps at home. Photos by Greg Stover/ The Goodland Star-News

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Man loves being creative

ALDEGREN, from Page 5

a week where plays in a local men's league. He says he might even attend The International Golf Tournament in Castle Rock, Colo., about 20 miles south of Denver, to watch the pros play.

George was born and raised in Viola, about 25 miles southwest of Wichita. After graduating from high school there he attended Chanute Community College where he earned an associate degree in business. Shortly after graduation he was drafted into the U.S. Army.

George attended basic training at Fort Chafee, Ark., at the same time as country singer Charley Pride did. George said Elvis Presley was there for basic training at the same time, in a different unit and about a month behind.

After basic George was assigned to Fort Sam Houston, Texas, for training as a medic. Part of his curriculum involved on-the-job training at Fort Know, Ky. Upon completion of his training he was assigned to Fort Polk, La., where he spent 18 months until his release from active duty as a private first class and earning the good conduct medal. He spent another two years in the active reserve with a medical unit in Wichita

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Welcome to the

County Fair



George Adelgren looked at the mess he made, and will eventally have to clean up, but consoled himself with the unique piece of art he created while making it.

Northwest Kansas District Free Fair

Will have an exhibition soon

ALDEGREN, from Page 6

where he was promoted to specialist.

After the Army he lived in Wichita for six years where he continued his career in carpentry. He then moved to Tribune where he stayed for another six years before moving to Gunnison, Colo., where he worked as a carpenter and a contractor for 17 years.

In 1987, he and his wife Gorda moved to Goodland where in 1990, after working as a contractor for three years, he became a carpentry instructor for the Northwest Kansas Technical College until he retired in 1999. Gorda works as a bookkeeper at Frontier Equity Coop.

He said he met Gorda, who was from Bird City, through friends during his time in Tribune and were married in 1963. They have three children, a son and two daughters. Shawna, the oldest, lives with her family in Denver and Mona, the youngest who lives in Colorado Springs where she works as an electrical engineer.

Russell is a major in the U.S. Air Force stationed at Edwards Air Force Base, with his family, in California where he is deputy director of the flight training school for test pilots. The Adelgrens have eight grandchildren.

George will be the featured artist of the month in November at Goodland's Carnegie Arts Center where his work will be on display for his first-ever solo exhibit.

Fair brings images of jams, jellies

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News Thinking of fairs brings images of rides, games and prize winning cakes, cookies, jams and jellies. One method of making jams and jellies is to cook on the stove top and put into jars and seal with a layer of wax.

An alternative way to keep jam and jellies is to put them in a freezer. Wash the plastic containers and sterilize the containers and lids in boiling water.

30-minute strawberry freezer jam

1 quart fully ripe strawberries 4 cups sugar

3/4 cup water

1 package (13/4 ounces) powdered fruit pectin

Wash the plastic containers and sterilize the containers and lids in boiling water. Wash strawberries and remove stems. Crush strawberries thoroughly. In a large bowl put 2 cups of prepared fruit and stir in sugar. Let stand 10 minutes and stir occasionally. In a small saucepan mix water and pectin, bring to a boil and stir for 1 minute.

See JELLIES, Page 14





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Leonard gives back through 4-H activities

By Kathryn Gurfinkel

The Goodland-Star News For the past 11 years the 4-H club has been a huge part of Megan Leonard's life. The eighteen year old daughter of David and Lori Leonard said she is a part of the Ruleton Eager Beavers club as an outlet to help the community.

"I think it's just a good way to give back to the community," she said.

She started out in the club because Michael, her twenty-one-year-old brother, was involved. Her parents also support the 4-H with David being a former member of the club. Lori once served on the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair board and is currently active as a project leader and superintendent at the fair.

As a member of the club, Leonard participates in several projects every year. She started out with cooking, sewing, arts and crafts, flowers, and bindmanship all in her first year. This year, she did projects for crocheting, binding, wheat, photography, ceramics and art.

"I've tried at least everything once," she said. "Whatever you want to do, it's pretty much open."

Leonard said she started crocheting for the fair because she wanted to learn how. Last year, she made a sweater for her first project and it won Grand Champion at the fair. The sweater took her several months to complete and included difficult techniques, including the granny squares that line the bottom. This year she is making a crochet tank top that will be entered into this year's fair.

The bindmanship category for 4-H is a technique where Leonard purchases an article of clothing and then 'styles' it. She said she styled a formal dress that she will enter in the fair. She plans to model both the tank top and the dress at the Public Style Review. The clothing will be displayed at the ag pavilion during the fair.

Leonard said she got involved in a photography project by accident. She happened to spot a calf on her farm that had wondered into a patch of lilacs. The photograph she took of the cow's brown head against the green plants won her Reserve Grand Champion at the district fair that year, a youth award at the Flatlander Photography Exhibit and a blue ribbon at the state fair.

See LEONARD, Page 10



Megan Leonard is spending every free moment crocheting the tank top she will enter in the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair next month. The top is one of six 4-H club projects she has worked on all year.





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