

COUNTY FAIR RESULTS FOR HOMESCHOOL HEROES - 2007

Homeschool Heroes made their mark at the annual Black Hawk County 4-H Fair held at the Cattle Congress grounds from July 25th-28th. These 4-H-ers, ranging from age 6 to 18, exhibited finished work in various project areas. This is work they have done at some time during the past school year. Some of the work is academic in nature such as a report about a country a member visited on a mission trip. Other work is the result of learning a life skill, such as baking, sewing, refinishing furniture, or mastering a craft. In this case the actual product is displayed, be it a cake, a skirt, a table, a picture, or whatever. Still other work is caring for an animal. The animals are brought to the fair to be shown. The possibilities for project entries are endless. Just about anything a child has done during the year can be shown. If it can't be moved to the fairgrounds to be exhibited, pictures can be taken of it and they can be shown! If the whole family has done something together, then that can be shown. This is a good way for these 4-H-ers to get recognition for work they have done throughout the year.

All are to be commended for the hours of diligent effort they put in on their exhibits. Not only did they learn skills but they also gained self-confidence and an understanding of what it takes to persevere in a task until they had a finished product they could show. The ribbons were a tangible reward for their efforts, sparking a lot of enthusiasm. In addition, they each had an opportunity to speak with a judge about their exhibits, explaining what they did. The following is an explanation of the ribbons:

Red Ribbon is second place

Blue Ribbon is first place

Purple ribbons are awarded to the best exhibits of the blues.

Grand Champion or a Trophy is the top purple ribbon and that exhibit can advance to the Iowa State Fair!

The following is a narrative of what happened during fair week:

On Wednesday, July 18th the 4-H judge toured throughout Black Hawk County to inspect the garden plots that the 4-Hers had diligently tended. Some were big and some were small. But, nevertheless, all were evaluated by the same criteria. Homeschool Heroes' results are as follows:

Geoffrey Stout Blue

On Wednesday July 26th, Homeschool Heroes brought all their non-livestock exhibits over to Cattle Congress grounds to be judged. Here are the results:

Zach Beck	Nautical Knots Display	Purple
Danny Hall	Framed Puzzle Picture-Pres. Reagan Memorial	Blue
	Aloe Planter and Box	Blue
April Hall	White Bear Skirt	Blue
	Indian Outfit	Blue
	Doggy Coat	Blue
	Photo-Dad in the fall	Blue
	Pink flowered pillow case	Red

Andrew Heise	Riparian Zones of Iowa Model and Notebook	Purple
Esther Heise	Scandinavian Almond Cake Christmas Cookie Basket Grandpa's Finished Table	Purple Purple Purple
Colin Lierman	Paper Mosaic of a Dragon	Purple
Daniel Lierman	Poster – "Let's Go Hunting" (Necessities for Hunting) GRAND CHAMPION! TOP HONORS-GOES TO STATE FAIR! Paper Mosaic of a Staff/Scepter Cinnamon Chip Muffins	Blue Blue
Kirsten Manning	Photo-Cally Reed reading a book Photo-Buildings of Chicago	Blue Blue
Cally Reed	Handmade Pink and Gold Necklace and Earrings Photo – Field in the Country	Blue Blue
Deanna Reed	Handmade Bead Bracelet Iowa Pride Cookies	Blue Blue
Emily Sandquist	4-H Club Quilt	Blue
Erik Sandquist	Photo – Elizabeth Merrill eating watermelon GRAND CHAMPION! TOP HONORS-GOES TO STATE FAIR! My Backyard Bird Book Photo–Action Series-Hummingbird sucking nectar from flower Photo – Monarch Butterfly Photo – Chair and Wagon Photo – Red-Tailed Hawk in flight Photo – Sunrise over jungle Photo – Black and White – rabbit Photo – Black and White – sunrise over dock on lake Photo – Black and White – lily	Purple Purple Blue Blue Blue Blue Blue Blue Blue
Naomi Sandquist	Bright and Cheery Bedroom Quilt Photo –White lily Photo – Emily and friend in medieval dresses	Blue Blue Blue
Jordan Spurlin	Mower trailer	Blue
Amelia Sutton	Photo –Lilies Photo- Jefferson Memorial	Purple Blue

Clarissa Sutton	Photo – Piano and flowers	Blue
	Photo – Little boy	Blue
	Photo – Jefferson Memorial	Red
Jacob Tayloe	Woodworking: Music Stand	
	GRAND CHAMPION! TOP HONORS-GOES TO STATE FAIR!	
	Science and Technology: Building a Homemade Speaker	Purple
	Wood Carving of Santa Claus	Purple
	Photo – Delicate Arch in Utah	Blue
	Photo – Square Tower House in Colorado	Blue
Joria Wheeler	Photo Challenge Contest – Senior Division – Harvested Field & Silo	
	Second Place -	Blue
	Photo – Sunset	Red
Evan Wheeler	Photo – Action Series – Dog and Cat	Red
	Photo – Dog with ball cap	Purple
Danae Wheeler	Wildlife print curtains	Blue
	Cloth doll	Blue
	Photo – Family dog Champ	Blue
	Photo – Sister Miranda with cats	Blue
	Photo – Lake and mountains	Red

Clover Kids (open to 4-Hers in Grades K-3) have noncompetitive judging that gives these kids an opportunity to exhibit their work and experience the judging process. These 4-Hers are awarded green participation ribbons:

Maddie Herring	Display – “A Super Simple Meal”	
	Bucket of Flowers	
Natalie Sandquist	Photo – Grapes	
	Photo – Hen	
	Paper Collage of “The Good Shepherd”	
Miranda Wheeler	Photo – Sister with cats	

Also on Wednesday afternoon our talented **Cally Reed and Naomi Sandquist** conducted a working exhibit called “Tiny Tasty Tacos”. They were chosen to advance to Cattle Congress in September. Homeschool Heroes also sported a team of girls **April Hall, Deanna Reed, and Leah Lierman** who led another working exhibit “Braided Bandana Bracelets”. They helped kids make a bracelet or necklace out of bandanas made of all colors. The girls all received an Excellence rating for their efforts.

The following day, Thursday July 26th, we were on hand in the morning for the Dog Show. Here are results of the Homeschool Heroes' efforts:

Open Class – Dog Obedience Off Leash Plus Jumping Retrieval Maneuvers
Kellen Spurlin and “Cooper”, a golden retriever Purple
GRAND CHAMPION TROPHY! TOP HONORS

Graduate Novice Class-Dog Obedience Off Leash
Jordan Spurlin and “Lacotah”, a Brittany spaniel Purple
GRAND CHAMPION TROPHY! TOP HONORS

Thursday afternoon we were in the audience enjoying hearing **Kellen Spurlin and his friends Chris, Sara, and Sean Meester** from a 4-H club in Grundy County give an educational presentation called “An Inside Look at Paintball”. They did an outstanding job filling us in with all we need to know about getting started in the sport of paintball. They also demonstrated the various precautions used to make paintball a safe sport. They used interesting visuals including actual equipment plus power point on the computer that utilized pictures, diagrams and music. They received an Excellence with a Grand Champion ribbon and the right to advance to the State Fair!

Also on Thursday afternoon was the Pet Show. Homeschool Heroes' **Hannah Beck** entered her cat “Pumpkin” which earned her a blue ribbon. **Deanna Reed** also received a blue ribbon for her totally tame, do-anything-you-want-with-me-and-I-will-still-love-you, gray-striped cat Jade. She brought this cat to the fair in a plastic mesh bag and she just lay contentedly in it purring, thus earning her the “Cat in the Bag” Award!

On Thursday evening we were treated to the Goat Show. **Geoffrey Stout** inherited the leadership of the Black Hawk County Goat Getters group from his sister Amanda and he and 3 members of Homeschool Heroes showed goats. **Geoffrey** earned a 2nd place blue ribbon for “Sable” in the 2-4 year old does class and also a 2nd place blue for “Dot” in the doe kid class. **Rene Van Daele**, newest member of the Goat Getters, eased “Xenophon” into the ring, winning a blue ribbon. **Esther Heise** with her doe kid “Dash” and **Andrew Heise** with “Xenon” each carried off blue ribbons. However it was **Andrew Heise** barely edging out his sister for the title of Junior Showmanship Champion and **Geoffrey Stout** was named the Senior Showmanship Champion.

On Friday July 27th we watched the Horse Show which is an all-day affair. **Hannah Beck** with “JJ” and **Zach Beck** with “Lucky”, trotted in and out of the ring several times for a number of events. “JJ” and “Lucky” are both paint horses with brown and white colors, sometimes spots, draped over them. In the halter class where only the quality of the horse is judged, **Zach** received a First Place purple ribbon and **Hannah** received 4th. In showmanship which is where the rider is judged, **Zach** earned a blue ribbon and **Hannah** a red. Then come various riding performance classes. In the Walk-Trot, **Zach** received a First Place purple ribbon and **Hannah** a third place blue ribbon. Next came Western Pleasure, which is partway between a trot and a canter. **Hannah** netted a second place blue ribbon and **Zach** a third place red ribbon. In horsemanship **Zach** received a First place purple ribbon and **Hannah** a second place blue ribbon. **Hannah** participated in the bareback class (w/o saddle) and received a red ribbon for sixth place.

Also on late Friday afternoon the Fashion Revue show was held. In this show the 4-Hers modeled clothing they have either constructed themselves or bought ready-made. They are judged on how well they model the clothing and how well coordinated their outfit is. In the clothing construction division our own **Emily Sandquist** glided gracefully across the stage in a lovely white flowing medieval dress with a midnight blue bodice. We were blessed to watch the judges award her the Grand Champion ribbon which also means the right to compete at the Iowa State

Fair Fashion Revue. In the clothing selection division **Cally Reed** looked bright and ready-to-go in her white slacks and black top, for which she earned a blue ribbon. Also winning a blue was her sister **Deanna Reed** who twirled onstage in a pink plaid sundress ready for fun.

On Saturday night July 28th the final night, we gathered for some good old-fashioned fun with gunny sack races, obstacle races, rope pulling, and hay stacking contests. The big event of that night was the crowning of the 2007 Black Hawk County Fair Queen. A former member of Homeschool Heroes for many years, **Amanda Stout**, won that honor! She also wins the right to compete for Iowa State Fair Queen. So we wish Amanda our best down in Des Moines at the State Fair.

Congratulations to all the kids for such a great effort and such fine work! You have truly earned your ribbons! Also, congratulations to the parents who gave guidance, encouragement, and the extra shove when it was needed. Your “ribbon” is the growth you see in your child as a result of his or her efforts! Special congratulations are in order for **Daniel Lierman, Jacob Tayloe** and **Erik Sandquist** who each qualified to advance a non-livestock exhibit to the Iowa State Fair! You can see their projects in the 4-H exhibit hall any day during the state fair which runs from August 9-19. Also kudos to **Kellen Spurlin, Chris, Sara, and Sean Meester** who will get to take their educational presentation to the State Fair! They will be presenting on August 17th. Congratulations are also in order for **Cally Reed** and **Naomi Sandquist** who were chosen to advance to Cattle Congress with their working exhibit! They will be presenting on Sat. Sept. 15th. On Aug. 19th is the State Fair Dog Show and **Kellen and Jordan Spurlin** will be participating in that! Also special cheers for **Emily Sandquist** who was chosen to model in the Iowa State Fair Fashion Revue and for **Amanda Stout** who will compete for Iowa State Fair Queen on Aug. 11th!! We wish you both our best. Thank you to all 4-Hers and parents! We shared a great week together!

Sincerely,
Sandy Salmon

