



SPORTS, 8A

Schedules released  
as new sports year  
gets started  
later this month

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# Cooler weather greets fair after blazing start to events

By Shawn F. Linenberger  
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As the Leavenworth County Fair Parade made its way through downtown Tonganoxie, the sign at First State Bank and Trust was a reminder that its summer in Kansas. The sign showed “102” degrees the night of July 29.

Parade participants and spectators pushed through the blistering heat for another fair parade.

As fair week moved along, so did the heat. Temperatures dipped, as did the humidity, and the Leavenworth County Fair, which next year will celebrate 100 years, drew big crowds with a backdrop of cooler weather.

Though next year’s fair will usher in a major milestone, this year’s fair parade had its own. Tonganoxie’s Bill and Karen Seymour celebrated their 40th year as parade coordinators. It runs in the family, as Bill’s father, Billy Carl, coordinated the fair for more than 35 years.

The parade had many an



Photo courtesy of Gracey Laver-Foster

**THIS ENTRY STRUTS ITS STUFF** as its handler helps it along during the Leavenworth County Fair’s swine show this past week at the Leavenworth County Fairgrounds. Tonganoxie’s Gracey Laver-Foster was the fair’s official photographer this year.

entry, and even firefighters in full gear greeting youngsters along the route.

From downtown to the fairgrounds, the fair was in full swing the night of the parade.

The excitement con-

tinued through the week, whether in the arenas, exhibit halls or the amusement rides and carnival games area.

Several local youngsters took part in mutton busting.

Winning the ages 4-5 category was Jaxon Wrinkler of Linwood with a score of 86. Tonganoxie’s Jonnie McCarty won first place the 6-7 division with a score of 88.

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## Council OKs advertising for bids on wastewater treatment facility upgrades

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City Council members approved the advertising for bids for improvement to the wastewater treatment facility.

Tonganoxie was approved in June for a loan from the Kansas Water Pollution Control Revolving Loan Fund, which provides 60% of market interest rates.

The project is part of a multi-phase project to provide expansion of hydraulic and organic capacity to accommodate development activity, allow the city to continue to meet regulatory compliance requirements and provide an opportunity to upgrade and replace equipment that was nearing its useful life expectancy at the existing facility. Bids will be accepted until Sept. 9 and approval of a winning bid is expected to be decided at the Sept. 16 council meeting. It’s expected to be completed by November 2026.

### Traffic study to be done for 14th Street

A traffic study for 14th Street is on the horizon.

Council members approved a 14th Street traffic study project proposal with BG Consultants.

The traffic study is one of the initial steps in the 14th Street corridor improvements project. The city will be required to coordinate with Kansas Department of Transportation and eventually receive approval from KDOT for design of infrastructure improvements.

Council Member Chris Donnelly asked what the shelf life would be on the study. City Manager George Brakjovic said he didn’t think there really was any “shelf-life” limitations, as the study provides future projections for traffic and more at 14th Street and U.S. Highway 24-40. Brian Kingsley with BG Consultants reiterated that sentiment.

The study is not to exceed \$20,000.

### Maintenance equipment to be sold on Purple Wave

One of the oldest pieces of equipment in the public works department will be sold in an online auction.

Council members approved the city’s 1979 Galion T500M-Motor Grader. The road grader is used to create and maintain smooth, level surfaces for such projects as roads and building sites.

The decision comes due to lack of need for the equipment and other city equipment being able to accomplish the same tasks. The city purchased the equipment in 1989.

The machinery will go up for bid on the Purple Wave online auction site.

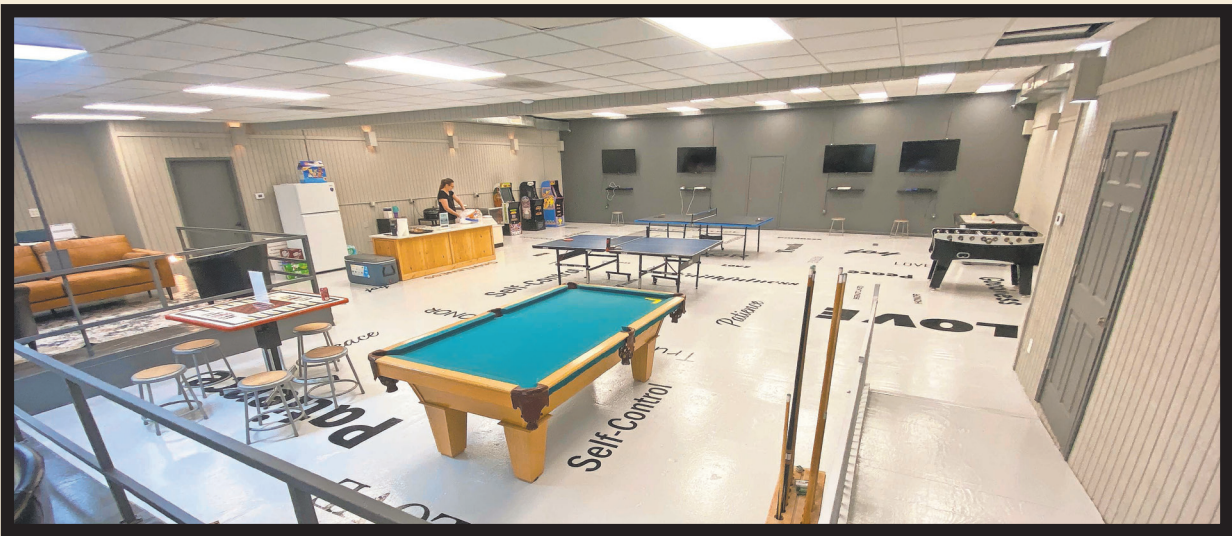
### Office equipment from former, current city hall, former chambers to go out for bid on online auction

The council also approved in the same motion of the grader equipment selling office equipment and supplies from the former city hall, former council chambers and current City Hall.

The supplies and equipment will be sold on the Purple Wave online auction website. Proceeds from the sale will go toward the city’s capital projects fund.

Council Member Matthew Partridge suggested that representatives from Tonganoxie Community Historical Society be able to look through the inventory in case there are any items of historical interest.

## Open house for LIFT Youth Center



Shawn F. Linenberger/Staff Photos

**THIS SPACE SOON WILL BE AVAILABLE** to youths as a place to go after school. An open house was Sunday for LIFT Youth Center, 707 E. Fourth St. The center’s name stands for Living in Faith and Trust and is a reimagined version of the original center in the space, the Be New Youth Center. The center will be open 3-6 p.m. every day after school. Snacks will be available. The first day for LIFT will be Aug. 14. All youths are welcome to utilize the after-school space. As fliers for the center indicate, the facility is designed for “giving kids a safe and meaningful place to spend their time after school. Cornerstone Family Worship oversees the center. Youths will need to register to use the center. Organizers also are signing up volunteers. For more information, visit the center’s Facebook page: “LIFT Youth Center - Tonganoxie.”



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Twitter: @Tonganoxie

FYI

Vinland Fair starts  
later this week between  
Baldwin and Lawrence.  
STORY, 5A

