## Boyer pockets scholarship

The Kansas Sheriffs' Association announced last Thursday that Brodie Boyer, the son of two employees of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, was one of 17 students selected by the organization to receive a scholarship this year.

Boyer, who attends Fort

Boyer's parents are Sgt. Jason Boyer and Sgt. Dana Boyer, who is a School Resource Officer. They sponsored his application for a KSA scholar-

Sheriff Jeff Herrig shared with the paper, the eight-member

Steve and Maxine. Her largest

animals, a British white cross

steer and a Tarentaise heifer,

go by Bud and Mabel. Both kids

will be selling their steers in the

is her horses. She participates

in as many horse classes as

possible, and both her horse,

Sky, and her pony, Jelly Bean,

performed exceptionally well at

whopping 13 horse classes this

year, competing in the inter-

mediate age division, 10 to 13

years old. Her events included

stock halter mare, pony halter,

showmanship, western plea-

sure, western horsemanship,

working horse, catalog race, pole

bending, flag race, barrel racing,

lead-back race, and dummy rop-

tiple awards after the show. She

earned Champion Halter Mare,

Champion Halter Pony, and was

named Overall Reserve Cham-

special to me because I enjoy

riding my horse and showing off

role as the vice president of the

horse club, while her mother

serves as its co-superintendent.

the 4-H prince of Jefferson Coun-

ty, tackling all the duties that

came with his title. This year, his

little sister is hoping to follow in

his royal footsteps and become

the 2025 princess. She gave

a prepared speech which was

judged July 18, and will await

helping out wherever is neces-

the results July 25.

In 2022 Dalton was crowned

She also holds a leadership

"The horse project is very

pion Halter Horse.

my pony," said Alayna.

Alayna came home with mul-

Alayna participated in a

the horse show July 13.

But Alayna's favorite project

sale ring Thursday, July 31.

Fair...

tee chaired by Lyon County Sheriff Jeff Cope reviewed 34 applications for scholarships and conducted interviews with

In addition to the \$1,000 scholarships, the KSA handed out one \$2,000 Sheriff Matt Samuels Award and one \$2,000 Wilson/Fletcher Memorial Scholarship, which is a new scholarship.

The Matt Samuels Award was established shortly after the Greenwood County sheriff was killed in the line of duty Jan. 19, 2005.

The Memorial Scholarship is named for Darrell Wilson, former executive director of the KSA, and KSA Deputy Director John Fletcher. Both of them died earlier this year.

# County ...

Land Bank. Those lots were Lot 72, Lot 73, Lot 74, Lot 76, Lot 77, Lot 86, Lot 87, Lot 88, Lot 89, and Lot 90 in Block S of Lake Shore Estates, Lot 271 in Unit I of Lakewood Hills, Lot 176 and Lot 177 in the Parkwoods section of Lakeside Village, Lot 31 in Block W of Lake Ridge Estates, and Lot 1 in Block C of the Indian Ridge subdivision.

On a separate 3-0 vote, the board authorized Christy to sign three Quit Claim deeds on behalf of the governing body. The deeds covered the conveyance of Lots 72-74, Lots 76 and 77, and Lots 86-90 in Block S of Lake Shore Estates, Lot 271 in Unit I of Lakewood Hills, Lots 176 and 177 in the Parkwoods section of Lakeside Village, Lot 31 in Block W of Lake Ridge Estates, and Lot 1 in Block C of

the Indian Ridge subdivision. The board voted unanimous(Continued from page 3)

ly to allow Christy to sign on behalf of the governing body a Quit Claim deed transferring a tract of land near the entrance to Lakeside Village from the Land Bank to Asa Collier of

Voting 3-0, the board OK'd the proposed issuance of new county credit cards to four employees of the Sheriff's Office, Emily Hamm, Viola "Dee" McHardie, Jordan Pantle, and Philip Steinlage.

Voting 3-0 again, the board authorized Christy to sign the second part of the paperwork for a Shared Leave request that had been approved a week earlier.

Finally, Mazie Peak, a member of the Billtown Go-Getters 4-H Club, joined six members of Oskaloosa's Jolly Juniors 4-H Club, Joe Kabus, Aurora Hoffman, Hadley Houk, Sierra Tucker, Ian Hoffman, and Bristol Farmer, for the presentation of a box of homemade cookies to

the commissioners in recognition of their continuing support of the Jefferson County 4-H

The gesture took place just two weeks ahead of the first day of this year's county 4-H Fair.

The boys and girls were accompanied to the meeting by Crystal Hoffman, who is a coleader for the Jolly Juniors. In response to a request for information, she told the paper July 15 in an email that the distribution of cookies to the commissioners and local businesses that have been supportive of the 4-H program was a club project. She said the cookies represented a "small token of appreciation" for the backing 4-H'ers receive from the county and the private sector. She also said the businesses were invited

to attend the fair. "This is our opportunity to give back to those who support us," she related. "It's not all about ribbons and premiums, but for the greater good of our society.'

Joe is the president of the Jolly Juniors.

Aurora is the club's vice president, a member of the 4-H Council, and a 4-H Ambassador.

Hadley is the club's secretary and a member of the 4-H Coun-

Sierra is the club's junior president. Ian is the club's junior vice

president.  $Mazie\,is\,the\,parliamentarian$ 

for the Billtown Go-Getters. A short discussion about the possibility of constructing an event venue at the county fairgrounds in Valley Falls followed

the presentation of the cookies.

**Executive Sessions** 

At the request of Health Department Administrator Crystal VanHoutan, the comvately with her and Ney for a total of 20 minutes under the attorney-client privilege exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act. "Pending litigation" was identified as being the subject that was to be discussed. Metzger was invited to remain in the room for the closed-door conversation as part of the client group and did. When the meeting reopened to the public, Christy announced that no binding action had been taken behind closed doors

missioners ultimately met pri-

At the request of Christy, the commissioners met privately with Chief Information Officer Chris Schmeissner for five minutes for the stated purpose of discussing personnel matters relating to non-elected personnel. Ney was invited to remain in the room for the closed-door conversation and did. Afterward, Christy announced that no binding action was taken.

At the request of Christy, the commissioners met privately with Technology Administrator Scott Ribordy for five minutes for the stated purpose of discussing personnel matters relating to non-elected personnel. "Recruitment and retention" was identified as being the subject that was to be discussed. Ney was invited to remain in the room for the closed-door conversation and did. Afterward. Christy announced that no binding action was taken.

At the request of Christy, the commissioners met privately with Geographic Information Systems coordinator Kirk Webb for five minutes for the stated purpose of discussing personnel matters relating to non-elected personnel. "Recruitment and retention" was identified as being the subject that was to be discussed. Ney was invited to remain in the room for the closed-door conversation and did. Afterward, Christy announced that no binding action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at

# Court . . .

(Continued from page 6)

san Sentra driven by Jordan R. Payne, 29, Perry, struck a deer on U.S. 59 Hwy. at MM 175. The driver did not report any injuries. She was wearing a seatbelt.

June 29, 12:26 p.m.: Christopher G. Forshee, 48, Oskaloosa, was backing a 2015 Chevrolet Silverado out from the Casey's Store in Oskaloosa and backed into the hood of a 2008 Chevrolet Impala causing damage to the hood. The wner of the Impala is Beverly K. Elkinton, Oskaloosa, Forshee nor his passenger, Angela C. Forshee, 47, Oskaloosa, reported having any

June 30, 5:20 a.m.: Josh R. Vallev Falls, advise that he was traveling southbound in the 19000 blk. of Coal Creek Rd. and struck a cow. The cow was not located and the owner of the cow is

June 30, 11:15 a.m.: Logan L. Werner, 16, Ozawkie, was backing a 2005 Chevrolet Equinox out of a parking stall at Jeff West Junction and struck a 2004 Honda Pilot while it was driving in the parking lot. Werner spoke to the driver of the Honda, Douglas A. Peck, 69. Oskaloosa, and then drove away.

July 5, 1:46 a.m.: A 2018 Dodge Ram 3500 driven by Eliander Muguercia Moraga, 26, Austin, Texas, was traveling eastbound on U.S. 24 with heavy machinery loaded on it. Jail bookings—

a deer. The report states that the

vehicle was pulling a flatbed trailer

July 10, 2:45 p.m.: Bradley John-

son, 68, hold for prison.
July 11, 12:00 p.m.: Kenneth Gore, 37, journal entry. July 12, 1:53 p.m.: Jean Kettler,

76, fleeing or attempting to elude a law enforcement officer, \$1,000 July 12, 7:44 p.m.: Justin Price,

45, driving while license cancelled/ suspended/revoked, vehicle registration required, vehicle liability July 12, 9:09 p.m.: Athena Bald-

win, 25, misdemeanor driving under the influence or alcohol or drugs, \$500 bond.

July 13, 1:59 a.m.: Nicholas Goodman, 30, felony interference with law enforcement officer.

July 13, 9:06 p.m.: Deric Yamil Paz Flores, 27, operate a motor vehicle without a valid license, vehicle liability insurance required, transporting an open container, and misdemeanor interference with law

enforcement officer, \$1,750 bond. July 13, 9:06 p.m.: Jeovanny Neptali Bonilla Lazo, 40, operate a motor vehicle without a valid license and vehicle liability insurance re-

## 0 0 Ε R Ε В 0 Α SOLUTI Ε G G L Α G R Ν D S Ε S S С Α S S Ν R Α С Ε С S S Ε U S В U Ν G Ε Ν D Ε R

# Professional Directory





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all of the applicants.

Hays State University, was among 15 students who have been awarded \$1,000 scholarships.

According to a news release KSA Scholarship Commit-

sary, which for Dalton is often in the concession stand. He loves to pick up extra shifts and help serve the hungry people of the fair. Speaking of the concession stand, Dalton and Alayna have their go-to favorites: the breakfast burrito and the classic pork

burger are must-haves each Many lessons have been taught to the kids through 4-H. Dalton has learned about work

"Taking care of the animals every day has taught me true work ethic and responsibility,"

said Dalton. Alayna's growth was more

about perseverance. "I have gained perseverance when it comes to my animals," said Alayna. "There have been many tough times where I have had to learn to stick with my stubborn animals, especially when one of my chickens tried to peck me to death during judg-

As Alayna gets older, she continues to challenge herself with more intricate and timeconsuming projects. This year, for her sewing project, she's creating a rag doll, but her goal next year is to outdo herself by

sewing a dress. Although the kids love everything about their local fair, there are improvements and new ideas they wish to see implemented. For Dalton, he wants food trucks to be an option for a different variety of foods, and Alayna wishes there was an air-conditioned

area in which to eat her meals. This year, both Westbrook siblings will assist fair judges during their assigned time slots. Throughout the four-day fair Alayna will help with the visual 4-H life because there is so much

Prior Year Actual for 2024

(Continued from page 1)

A recent change to the fairgrounds is the relocation of the poultry and rabbits. Previously housed in the now-demolished poultry barn, these animals are now located in the horticulture barn. Alayna was a strong advocate for the move and played an active role in supporting the transition.

"I am excited for this change because the poultry building only had three large fans so it didn't blow cold air on all of the animals," she explained. "A few years ago I had two of my chickens pass away due to overheating. The horticulture building has better air circulation and

will better suit the animals." The 4-H fair isn't the only time the Westbrooks showcase their hard work and talents. County Club Days provide another opportunity to shine. The oldest Westbrook, Dalton, competed in the "Other" category by solving two Rubik's Cubes within a time limit. His younger sister, Alayna, entered the Illustrated Talk category and gave a presentation about helping to save the Arctic. Both siblings also took part in the Valley Victors club skit, where fellow member Tommy Welsh played the

role of a fortune teller. 4-H roots run deep in their mom, Joann's, family. Raised as a 4-H'er, she embraced the motto "to make the best better" – a value she's now passing on to her children. As a member of the Clover Power 4-H Club, Joann participated annually in the beef project, visual arts, and

"I brought my kids into the

ing and overwhelming giving speeches or caring for your animals. When you become an adult you now realize the large advantage in your everyday life including job interviews, leadership positions, time management skills, work ethic, and just following through on daily tasks. It was an obvious choice to put my kids in this organization and have them develop the same

skills for themselves. Her husband, Ash, had a very different childhood. His youth wasn't filled with parade floats, cattle shows, or fashion revues - but as an adult, he's grown to

love every part of it. "4-H impacts the community and my kids in so many ways," said Ash. "Volunteering and being exposed to different situations has increased their confidence and public speaking skills. I want to commend everyone for just being together and offering a helping hand. 4-H has given me and my kids a love for livestock and taught us all how to be good livestock stewards. I believe I have learned as much through 4-H as both Dalton and Alayna have. I wish I would have had this opportunity growing

Both Westbrook parents enjoy helping out wherever necessary on the fairgrounds which may be picking up trash, tending to the concession stand, or just helping the younger members enter the fair rings with their

big smiles. Stop by the Jefferson County 4-H fairgrounds in Valley Falls July 28 through 31 to see Sir Baltimore the steer, Maxine the chicken, and all of the other awesome projects put on by the Westbrook family and other local 4-H'ers.

Proposed Budget for 2026

108.000

1,227,008

7,176,167

0

0

2,820,000

the Westbrook siblings enjoy arts judging, while Dalton will to offer them," said Joann. "As aid in the clothing project area. a kid it can often feel frustrat-

foods, often adding extra projects to her already full plate.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

(Published in The Valley Falls Vindicator July 24, 2025)1t NOTICE OF HEARING TO EXCEED REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE AND BUDGET HEARING

## The governing body of

City of Ozawkie will meet on September 8, 2025 at 6:50 PM at Ozawkie City Hall for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds, the amount of ad valorem tax, and the Revenue Neutral Rate.

Current Year Estimate for 2025

Detailed budget information is available at Ozawkie City Hall and will be available at this hearing. BUDGET SUMMARY Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

FUND	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	253,371	25.548	251,644	24.084	487,878	178,687	24.900
Debt Service							
Library							
		4					
		9		-			
Special Highway	9,750		68,961		21,840		
Bond & Interest Fund	47,214		46,938		103,931		
City Sales Tax Fund	102,000		78,000		131,628		
Water Fund	185,118		148,000		178,721		
Sewer Fund	233,502		233,350		329,525		
Trash Fund	47,747		57,800		81,485		
						1100	
Non-Budgeted Funds-A	65,977						
Non-Budgeted Funds-B	22,900						
Totals	967,579	25.548	884,693	24.084	1,335,008	178,687	24.900
					Reven	23.044	

0

2,925,000

Less: Transfers 139,900 135,098 Net Expenditure 827,679 749,595 Total Tax Levied 155,228 165,369 xxxxxxxxxxxxxx Assessed Valuation 6,075,746 6,866,427 Outstanding Indebtedness, January 1, G.O. Bonds 3,023,000 2,925,000 2,820,000 Revenue Bonds 0

\*Tax rates are expressed in mills \*\* Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

0

3.023.000

Other

Total

Lease Purchase Principal

Mazi Barnes Official Title: City Clerk