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on the cover: Lucia Hilgenberg, 6, of Johnsburg, Illinois, rides in the front seat of a carnival ride with sister, Aria, 2, as her passenger at the 2024 Kenosha County Fair.

JASON ARNDT Kenosha County Fai

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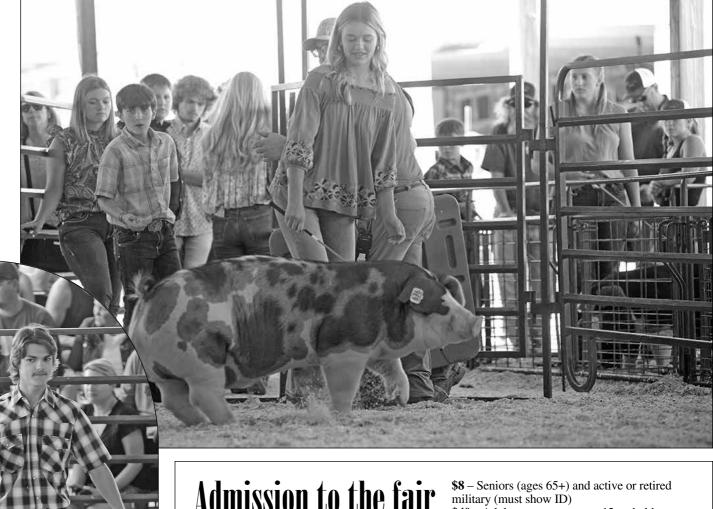




PROUD ANTIOCH

off more than 150 total animals at the 2024 fair. From the top: Kole Daniels brings out his champion Maintainer steer; Elizabeth Hoffman, who finished third overall at the swine show, showcases her pig; Jack Pauloni presents his champion market goat; Alivia Monson enters the show ring with a 118-pound Hampshire lamb.

JASON ARNDT PHOTOS Kenosha County Fair



Admission to the fair

The Kenosha County Fair has an all-pay policy. Everyone who enters the fairgrounds must pay the daily admission with the exception of those with a season or lifetime pass.

Fairgrounds are open 8 a.m. to midnight, Wednesday through Saturday, Aug. 13 to 16; and 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 17.

General parking is free; season reserved parking is \$25.

Prices

\$12 - Adults ages 12 and older

\$6 – Children ages 7-11

Free - Children ages 6 and younger

\$40 – Adult season pass, ages 12 and older (non-transferable)

\$15 – Children season pass, ages 8-11 (non-transferable)

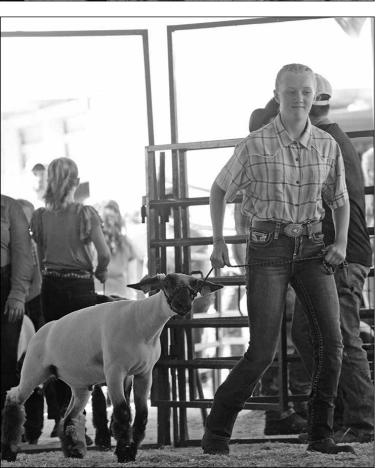
\$325 – Lifetime membership

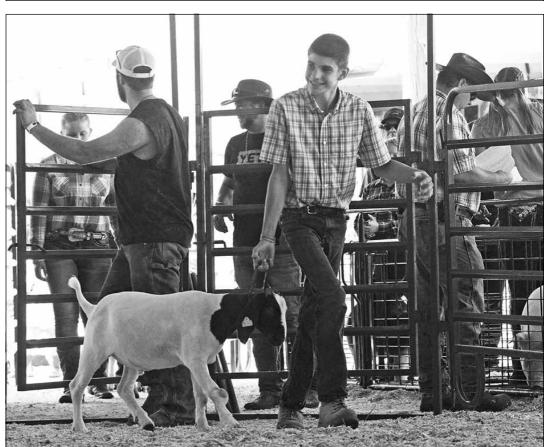
Admission fee is non-refundable. Lifetime memberships are available in the fair office.

NTPA Tractor Pulls on Friday night and racing on Saturday night requires a \$10 grandstand fee for those 13 and older, kids 12 and younger are \$5, a Pit Pass for all ages is \$20. (Note: prices are with paid fair admission.)

No refunds for cancellation of any scheduled entertainment due to unforeseen circumstances.

For more information, visit the fair's website, kenoshacofair.com.





ige 4 KENOSHA COUNTY FAIR 2

Kenosha County Fair • Let the Good Times Grow • Aug. 13-17, 2025

Schedule of events WEDNESDAY, AUG. 13

8 a.m. to midnight
Midway open: 1 to 10 p.m.
Wristband Special: 1 to 9 p.m. - \$30
Sensory friendly rides: 1 to 3 p.m. – free
(must reserve with the office in advance,
prior to Wednesday)

All day – Quilts of Valor & Tallest Weed Competition Display (*Marketplace Building*

9 a.m. – Junior Fair Dog Show *(East of Fair Office)*

9 a.m. – Open Class Judging – Clothing, Knitting, Crocheting, Home Furnishings, Flowers, Vegetables, Plants,

Daily entertainment & activities

- Nick's Kid Show (Family Fun Zone) noon, daily as well as 2 and 4 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday; 3 and 6 p.m., Friday and Saturday; 1:30 p.m., Sunday.
- Barnyard Adventure Show (Family Fun Zone) –12:15 p.m., daily as well as 2:15 p.m. and 4:15 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday; 3:15 p.m. and 6:15 p.m., Friday and Saturday; 2:15 p.m. Sunday.
- Fun on the Run Animal Racing (west of the Junior Fair buildings) Wednesday, 1, 3 and 5 p.m.; Thursday, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30 and 6:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m., noon, 2, 4 and 6 p.m.; Sunday, 10:30 a.m., 12:30, 2:30 ad 4:30 p.m.
- Jurrasic Kingdom LIVE! (south of Antique Machinery Display) Wednesday and Thursday, 4 and 6 p.m.; Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 1, 3 and 5 p.m.
- Milwaukee Flyers (Family Fun Zone) Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 1 and 3:30 p.m.; Saturday, 11:30 a.m., 2 and 5 p.m.; Sunday, 1, 2:30 and 4 p.m.
- Bear Hollow Wood Carvers (corner of 6th and Center Street) – Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30 and 6:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 3:30 and 5:30 p.m.
- Discovery Barnyard (Family Fun Zone) Education exhibits 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. (6 p.m., Sunday); Petting Zoo 9 a.m. to noon, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. (6 p.m., Sunday)

Strolling Entertainment:

- Fisherman Dan & Off the Hook Comedy Stunt Show
- The Real Beal's One-Man Band
 Friday to Sunday, a live mechanical one-man band providing lively, interactive music that is educational and fun;
- Magic Dave balloon artist and magician, Wednesday and Thursday, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday, noon to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 - Carnival/Midway daily
- Antique Farm Machinery Exhibit
 daily

Photography, and Arts and Crafts (Open Class Building)

9 a.m. – Open Class Swine Show, followed by Junior Fair Swine Show (Show & Sale Arena)

3 p.m. – Open Class Sheep Show, followed by Junior Sheep Show (Show & Sale Arena)

5:45 p.m. – 95 WILL ROCKS with a night full of bands featuring headliner Royal Bliss at 9 p.m. *(Creekside Stage)*

6:30 p.m. – AG Olympics. Public welcome to participate! (Show & Sale Arena)

6:45 p.m. – Racing Winged 604 Sprints, IMCA Modified, Street Stocks and Bandits. Gates open at 5 p.m. The best dirt-track racing in the Midwest! (Grandstands)

THURSDAY, AUG. 14

8 a.m. to midnight Midway open: 1 to 11 p.m. Wristband Special: 1 to 10 p.m. - \$30

All day – Quilts of Valor & Tallest Weed Competition Display (*Marketplace Building*)

8:30 a.m. – Junior Fair Poultry Show (tent north of Poultry Building)

9 a.m. – Open Class Foods Judging (Open Class Building)

9:30 a.m. – Open Class Beef Show followed by Junior Fair *(Show & Sale Arena)*

10 a.m. – Scavenger Hunt. Get a clue sheet at the ticket gates. Turn in sheets by 5 p.m. - Marketplace Building

10 a.m. – Pedal Tractor Pull registration, ages 5-12 (north of 4-H Exhibit Buildings) **Noon-2 p.m.** – Kenosha County Services

Demonstration (south of Poultry Barn)

2 p.m. Junior Fair Poultry Showmanship

(tent north of Poultry Building)

3 p.m. – Magneen Band (Creekside

3 p.m. – Open Class Poultry Show (tent north of Poultry Building)

3:30 p.m. – Junior & Open Class Goat Show (Show & Sale Arena)

5 p.m. – Antique Tractor Parade (*Grandstands*)

6 p.m. – Truck and Tractor Pull with Combine Demolition Derby (*Grandstands*)

6 p.m. – Amateur Wine Competition Results (Barrel Room)

8:30 p.m. - Hindsight (Creekside Stage)

FRIDAY, AUG. 15

8 a.m. to midnight
Midway open: noon to 11 p.m.
Wristband Specials: noon to 5 p.m. - \$25,
or noon to 11 p.m. - \$30

All day – Quilts of Valor & Tallest Weed Competition Display (*Marketplace Building*)

8 a.m. – Junior Fair Horse & Pony Show (Horse Show Ring)

8:30 a.m. – Junior Fair Rabbit Show, followed by Open Class Rabbit Show *(tent north of Rabbit Building)*

8:30 a.m. – Open Class Dairy Show followed by Junior Fair Dairy Show (Show & Sale Arena)

9:30 a.m. – Children's Parade registration begins, ages 14 and younger. Register by

10:15 a.m. (outside Fair Office)

10 a.m. – Pedal Tractor Pull Registration, ages 5-12 and 13-16 *(north of 4-H Exhibit Buildings)*

10:30 a.m. – Children's Parade Begins (southeast end of the fairgrounds near the Fair Office)

11 a.m. – Pedal Tractor Pull, ages 13-16 (north of 4-H Exhibit Buildings)

11:30 a.m. – Pedal Tractor Pull, ages 5-12 (north of 4-H Exhibit Buildings)

1 p.m. – Open Class Flower Arrangements, Natural Sciences, Cheese and Charcuterie Board Judging *(Open Class Building)*

2 p.m. – Dry County Line (Creekside Stage)

3 p.m. – Junior Goat Fun Classes (Show & Sale Δrena)

4 p.m. – Kenosha County Sheriff's Services Demonstration (south of Poultry Barn)

4:30-6 p.m. – Pig Pals Swine Show (*Pig Barn and Show Sale Arena*)

5 p.m. – 4-H Fish Casting Contest (Fish Pond)

5 p.m. – The Empty Bottle Boys & One Shot Jane (*Creekside Stage*)

6 p.m. – Kenosha County Services
Demonstration (south of Poultry Barn)
6:30 p.m. – Hay Bale Throwing Contest,
all ages. Pre-registration starts at 5:30
p.m., \$1 entry fee. (Show & Sale Arena)

7 p.m. – NTPA Truck and Tractor Pull with Combine Demolition Derby finale and fireworks (*Grandstands*)

8:30 p.m. – Bootjack Road *(Creekside Stage)*

SATURDAY, AUG. 16

8 a.m. to midnight
Midway open: noon to 11 p.m.
Wristband Specials: noon to 5 p.m. - \$25,
or noon to 11 p.m. - \$30

All day – Quilts of Valor & Tallest Weed Competition Display (*Marketplace Building*)

10 a.m. – Aiden J. Music (*Creekside Stage*)

10:30 a.m. – Fairest of the Fair Crowning (*Creekside Stage*)

Noon – Amateur Home Brew Competition Results (*Barrel Room*)

Noon – Abby Kay Music *(Creekside Stage)*

1 p.m. – Large Animal Livestock Auction (Show & Sale Arena)

3 p.m. The Been Reals (*Creekside Stage*) **4 and 6 p.m.** – Kenosha County Services Demonstration (*south of Poultry Barn*)

6:45 p.m. – Bumper to Bumper IRA Outlaw Sprint Series Racing / Roger Iles Tribute (*Grandstands*) \$15 admission fee for ages 12 and older

7 p.m. – Pie auction. All are welcome! (Show & Sale Arena)

8:30 p.m. – The Now (Creekside Stage)

SUNDAY, AUG. 17

8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Midway open: noon to 7 p.m. Wristband Special: noon to 7 p.m. - \$30

All day – Quilts of Valor & Tallest Weed Competition Display (Marketplace Building)

11 a.m. - Parade through the

Directions

The Kenosha County Fairgrounds are at 30820 111th St. in Wilmot.

From Milwaukee: Take I-94 south to Highway 50. Go west on Highway 50 to Highway W south. Follow to the fairgrounds on the right.

From Chicago: Take I-94 north to Highway C. Go west on Highway C to Highway W. Follow to the fairgrounds on the left.

From Kenosha: Take Highway 50 west to Highway W south. Follow to the fairgrounds on the right.

From Lake Geneva: Take Highway 50 east to Highway W south. Follow to the fairgrounds on the right.

From Richmond, Illinois: Take 173 east to Wilmot Road. Turn north on Wilmot Road into Wilmot. Straight ahead (Highway W) the fairgrounds are on the left.

PARKING: General parking is free. Season reserved parking is \$25.

Fairgrounds

Noon – Cookies & Crowns with the Fairest of the Fair (tent east of Poultry Barn)

Noon – Doo Wop Jukebox *(Creekside Stage)*

1 p.m. – Small Animal Livestock Auction (Show & Sale Arena)

1 p.m. – International Demolition Derby (Grandstands)2 p.m. – Kenosha County Services

Demonstration (south of Poultry Barn)
3:30 p.m. – Class of '62 (Creekside Stage)

4 p.m. – Kenosha County Sheriff's Department, K-9 Demonstration *(south of Poultry Barn)*

7 p.m. – 2025 Fair Closes For more information, visit kenoshacofair.com, or follow Kenosha County Fair on Facebook or @

kenoshacofair on Instagram.

Children's scavenger hunt

Thursday, Aug. 14, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Youth ages 3 to 12 are invited to participate in the Scavenger Hunt. Starting at 10 a.m. at the ticket gates, a clue sheet will be handed out and your journey begins! Follow the clues, get your sheet stamped at each building/barn, and at the conclusion you will receive a goodie baq!

The activity ends at 2:30 p.m. so there is still plenty of time to enjoy the fair. If you have trouble figuring out a clue, just ask at one of the stops.

Some of last year's clues were: "Ewe" will love our new pens". "Come see Thumper". "Twine, old iron and loud pops."

Don't miss out on the fun – it's a great way to learn about all the fair has to offer!

fair!

Grandstand events at the '25 fair

The Grandstand at the Kenosha County Fair is hosting several big events throughout the fair's run. They include the following:

Kenosha County Fair Races

Wednesday, Aug. 13 · 6:45 p.m.

Racing! 604 Sprints, IMCA Modifieds, Street Stocks and Bandits. Strongest Fan Tire Toss. Gates open at 5 p.m., racing starts at 6:45 p.m. Experience the best dirt-track racing in the Midwest, included with fair admission.

Antique Tractor Parade

Thursday, Aug. 14 • 5:45 p.m.

The Antique Farm Machinery Parade will go through the fairgrounds and grandstand area.

Anyone with any old engines, tractors, horsedrawn equipment, garden or far equipment, tools, or any farm-related paraphernalia they would like to display are invited to join the Antique Farm Machinery Exhibit!

Located just inside the Kenosha County Fair Main Gate, the exhibit is a taste of yesteryear. See the old tractors, engines, and machinery from a time

Likely attractions include: an old-fashioned pitcher pump for drawing water, a rope maker that makes rope from bailing twine, how corn was ground into feed, and many types of tractors – including John Deere, Allis Chalmers, and Farmall. The rope maker also offers a chance to make a rope.

Truck and Tractor Pulls with Combine Demolition Derby

Thursday, Aug. 14 • 6 p.m.

Badger Truck Pullers presents an actionpacked event of big power, big smoke and big entertainment, followed by the Combine Demolition Derby.

Classes include: Superstock 6200#, Open Stock 6200#, Pro Street Diesel 8000#, Altered Stock Trucks 6500#, Pullers Inc. Pro-Farm, Pullers Inc. Super Farm, SCWTP Altered Farm, Street Diesel, 9500 lb. Farm Non-Turbo, 14,500 lb. Farm Turbo.

The Truck and Tractor Pulls and Combine Derby events are included with fair admission.

NTPA Tractor Pulls with Fireworks

Friday, Aug. 15 • 7 p.m.

An additional fee of \$10 applies for ages 13 and older. Kids 12 and younger are \$5. Pit pass (for all ages) is \$20. Purchase advanced tickets at wilmotraceway.com.

Kenosha County Fair/ Roger Iles Tribute

Saturday, Aug. 16 • 6:45 p.m.

Featuring the Bumper to Bumper IRA Outlaw Sprint series plus WingLESS Sprints and Lightning Sprints!

Gates open at 5 p.m. (4 p.m. for advance ticket purchases); racing starts at 6:45 p.m.

It's an action-packed second night of incredible dirt-track racing. An additional fee of \$15 applies for 12 and older while 11 and younger are free. Purchase advance tickets at wilmotraceway.com.

Demolition Derby

Sunday, Aug. 17 • 1 p.m.

Experience one of the top Demolition Derbies in the country! The best of the best will compete in a crash-bang, action-packed event that's included with fair admission.

Classes include: Power Wheels, Garden Tractors, Compact, Midsize, Stock V-8, Fair (weld), Mini Trucks and Full-Size Trucks.



Hindsight



Bootjack Road

The Empty Bottle Boys & One Shot Jane



The Been Reals

Music and the Kenosha County Fair go hand in hand. This year's bands bring a range of genres, offering something for everyone on the Creekside Stage.

Wednesday, Aug. 13 will be 95 WILL ROCKS the stage with a night full of bands starting around 5:45 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 14 will begin with Magneen Band at 3 p.m.; Hindsight will take the stage at 8:30 p.m.

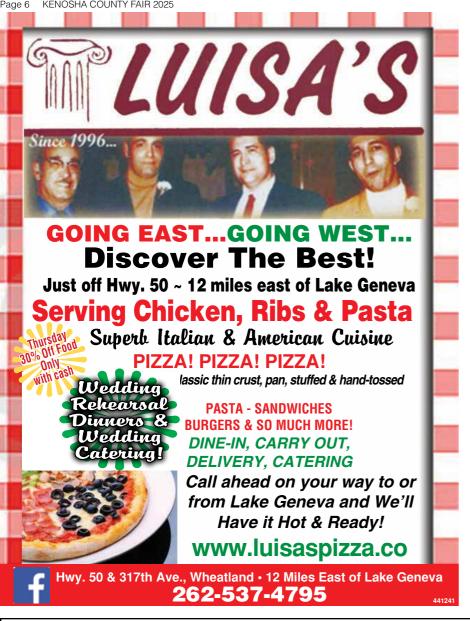
On Friday, Aug. 15, Dry County Line is set to perform at 2 p.m., The Empty Bottle Boys & One Shot Jane at 5 p.m., and Bootjack Road at 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 16 will feature a full day of events beginning with Aidan J Music at 10 a.m., the Crowning of the Kenosha County Fairest of the Fair at 10:30 a.m., Abby Kay Music will perform at noon, The Been Reals is up next at 3 p.m. and The Now will headline the fair at 8:30 p.m. that night.

On Sunday, Aug. 17, the fair's entertainment for 2025 will wrap-up with Doo Wop Jukebox at noon and the Class of 62 at 3:30 p.m.



The Now





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Thousands of people visited the 2024 Kenosha County Fair, clockwise from top: Children sit aboard the Dragon Wagon ride; Lila Harju, 7, of Pleasant Prairie, flies into the air on a bungee cord; Harper Rigert, 6, of Bristol, enjoys herself in the grain box; Olivia Balding, 13, and her cousin, Johnny, 5, both of Trevor, look for a bumper car to crash into; A dog from the Canine Stars leaps off of a platform and into a portable pool.

Billingsley crowned 2025 Fairest of the Fair

After being selected last fall, Kaelie Billingsley, of Bristol, said she was looking forward to serving as ambassador for the 2025 Kenosha County Fair. The 2024 Westosha Central High School graduate succeeds Karina Cain, whose term concluded in January.

Billingsley, daughter of Eric and Shelly, began her tenure following Cain's appearance at the Wisconsin State Fairest of the Fairs convention.

She will now reign over the 2025 Kenosha County Fair before representing the fair at the 2026 state convention.

"I am looking forward to seeing all the people in the community, the parades, and the events," Billingsley said last fall. "I have always been so excited for the fair and it's so exciting to be the ambassador.

She was selected among three finalists with the other top two being Fair Royalty, Jayden Eisenbraun from Paddock Lake and Salem Lakes resident Alexander Hannah.

Billingsley will attend the University of Wisconsin-Platteville where she will study animal science with hopes of becoming a large animal veterinarian.

Urged to run

Billingsley exhibited several animal projects, including poultry, pigs and swine and rabbits, in her 4-H career.

"The fair is always such a great memory. I always have great memories of showing my animals at the fair," she said. "It has been such a large part of my life since I was little. It feels like my home away from home. I stay here the whole week... it's such a great place to be.

Despite her passion for the Kenosha County Fair, she was initially hesitant to apply for the Fairest of the Fair until she received encouragement from her mother.

"My mom was very persistent that I run," she said. "She was very motivational for me to get out of my comfort zone and to run for something that I am passionate

During the application process, and the coronation ceremony, Billingsley said her family and friends offered overwhelming and unconditional support.

Shelly believed the Fairest of the Fair ceremony would help Kaelie gain more confidence.

"She is not very big on public speaking in front of a group of people, but she was really able to shine today and I knew she would do very well," Shelly said.



Below: The 2025 Kenosha County Fairest of the Fair Kaelie Billingsley (left) stands alongside her predecessor Katrina Cain following the coronation ceremony last August on the Kenosha County fairgrounds. Left: Gathered with some members of her support group after she received the crown are (from left) dad Eric Billingsley, Kaelie Billingsley, boyfriend Tristan Peyron and grandmother Sandra Billingsley

JASON ARNDT PHOTOS

Some rattled nerves

Kaelie acknowledged the process brought some anxiety considering those vying for Fairest of the Fair. But, in the end, she was able to capture the crown.

'It was so exciting and a little nervewracking," she said.

Shelly said she knew each competitor and was aware the selection process would be difficult for the panel of judges.

"They are all three great kiddos," she said. "It was a tough competition and we were rooting for her all week, but we knew it would be a tough decision between the three of them.

Shelly said Kaelie's new role would help her succeed in the field of animal

"She is going to see a lot of different people (as a veterinary), so I am trying to get her started a little early," said Shelly.

She also believes her daughter developed a passion for animals while exhibiting at the Kenosha County Fair.

"She has been here for years and I think that is how she wanted to become a veterinarian because of her experiences showing all different animals," Shelly said.



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age 10 KENOSHA COUNTY FAIR 20

Brooklyn Schultz shows '24 grand champion steer

By Jason Arndt STAFF WRITER

Brooklyn Schultz, of Brighton, had reasons for optimism about entering her steer in the 2024 Kenosha County Fair even though he didn't have much experience in the show ring.

She spent nearly a year working with Hawkeye in the barn, with help from family, before presenting the eventual grand champion.

"I am so thankful for my support team," Schultz said last fall. "Winning is just amazing to me because you put a lot of work into it."

Schultz received Hawkeye, a 1,411-pound crossbred, in October of 2023.

She had plenty of help from her family, including parents Robert and Joni, along with sister Jordyn, 23, and brother, Jace, 11.

Jordyn presented a grand champion steer in 2017.

"It feels good, we have been working together all summer and now we got my brother in it," said Brooklyn, whose brother showcased a reserve grand champion hog.

Since receiving Hawkeye, Brooklyn hadn't presented the steer at any other events.

Despite his inexperience, he remained relaxed with the exception of a brief moment in the show ring.

"We didn't take him to any jackpot shows or anything and when people started clapping, he got a little freaked out," Brooklyn said. "But I managed to keep him calm. The more you work with a steer, it gets a lot easier for them to trust you."

She learned about Hawkeye's personality, including his affectionate manner, when they worked together.

"He is a funny guy. He is a licker because he loves licking you," she said. "He has an awesome personality."

She decided to call him Hawkeye because of a character depicted in the Marvel Comics series.

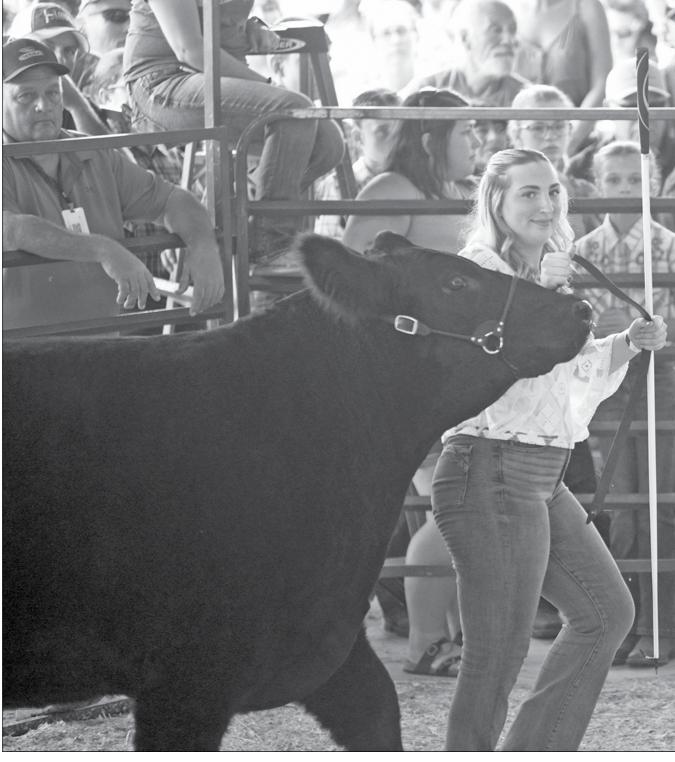
"Hawkeye is my superhero. I worked with him all the time and I had a lot of faith in that steer," Brooklyn said.

She said several steers in the show ring last year were equally impressive, each possessing distinct qualities.

"There were some pretty good steers," Brooklyn said. "I didn't imagine winning, but I had faith coming in."

Outside of the show ring, she said she enjoys the camaraderie at the Kenosha County Fair, where she often meets with other exhibitors and bolsters bonds with her family.

"They all help me and I help them," Brooklyn said. "Coming to the fair and seeing everyone have a good time is just awesome."



Brooklyn Schultz walks Hawkeye, her grand champion 1,411-pound crossbred steer, into the show ring at the 2024 Kenosha County Fair during the live auction.

JASON ARNDT PHOTO Kenosha County Fail



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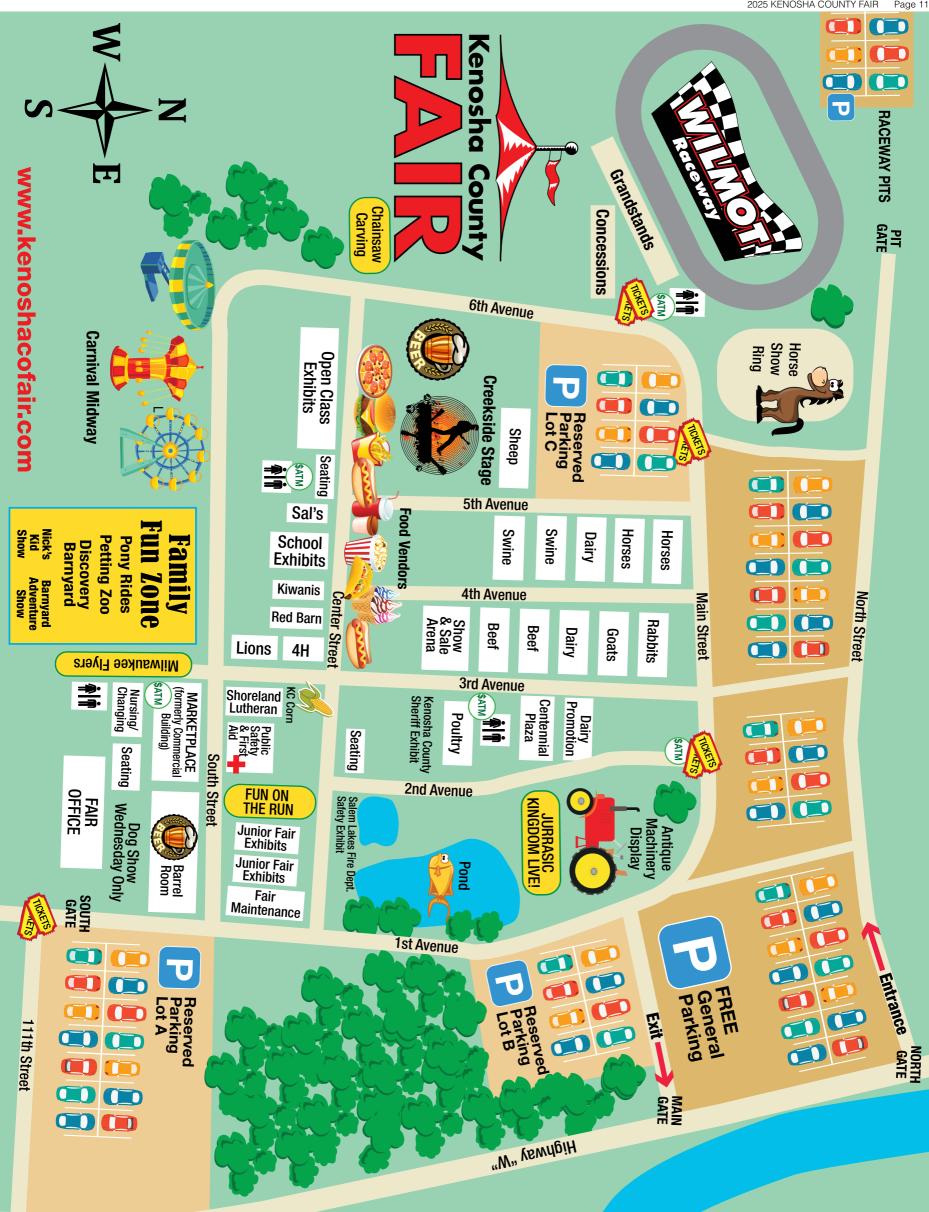
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