



## Girard celebrates FFA Week



Fourteen GHS FFA members participate in the annual Drive Your Tractor to School Day on Tuesday Feb. 17. Participants had the opportunity to eat breakfast at Murphy Seed before parading to the school in their tractors. COURTESY PHOTO

**BY JOSIE GRONAU**  
*Trojan Tribune*

► Girard FFA members, along with agricultural instructors Brandon Callaway and Elizabeth Sturgis, celebrated National FFA Week February 15-20. On Sunday the chapter partnered with the Trinity Lutheran Church for FFA Church. Students in attendance had the option to wear official dress or nice attire and fellowship with those in the church body. Following lunch at Eastside Cafe members

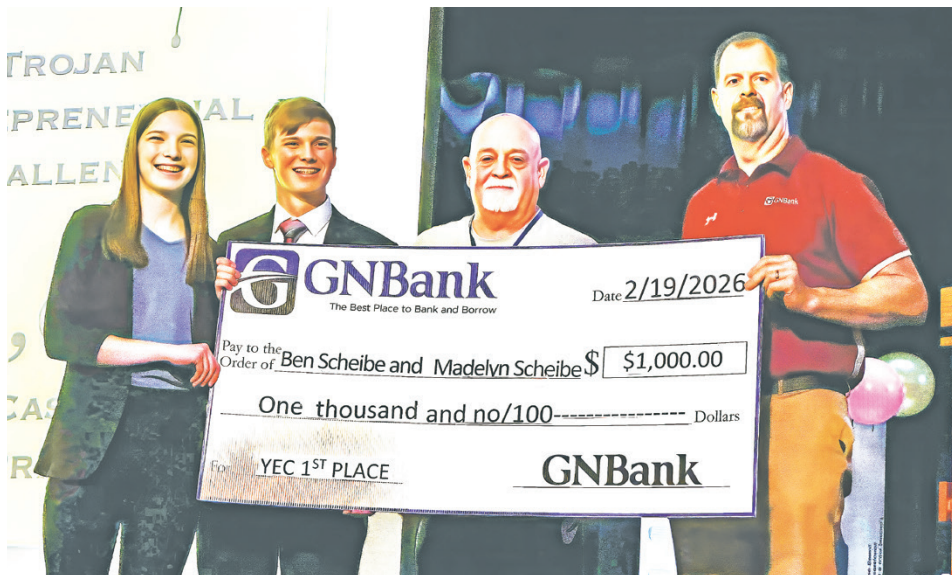
took a reward trip to Kansas City where they completed escape rooms at BRKTHROUGH. Though GHS took a day off of school on Monday for Presidents Day, the FFA chapter officers including President Josie Gronau, Vice President Lainey Prince, Secretary Madison Cranston, Treasurer Gavin Huber, Reporter Megan Bennett, Sentinel Meckenzie Wood and Student Advisor Chance Gillard led chapter members in team building exercises at the school. Later in

the day the chapter served the community by helping at the Crawford County Fairgrounds. On Tuesday FFA members participated in the annual Drive Your Tractor to School Day. This was also Greenhand Day, which created an opportunity for first-year members to dye their hands green. In seminar, members who plan to pursue a career in agriculture participated in Ag Signing Day. On Wednesday from 6-8 a.m. GHS FFA chapter volunteers served a

complimentary community breakfast including bacon, sausage and pancakes in the GHS ag shop. It was open to anyone in the community to stop by before work and grab a bite to eat. This event is a similar style to the Alumni and Supporters Barbecue which is hosted in August. However, the goal of this event is building relationships with everyone in the community, which is why it was open to all. On Thursday students held Super FFA Day in the

Ted R Taylor gymnasium as an opportunity for eighth graders to experience many of the competitions offered to them through FFA. GHS alumna and former Kansas FFA State Treasurer Zoë Rhodes also held a workshop about overcoming the fear of failure. That evening members participated in an FFA Card Night where they could use fake money to compete against peers in themed games and enjoy walking tacos sponsored by 4 State Farm and Ranch Insurance.

Finally on Friday members enjoyed fun activities within the classroom. In response to the eventful week, Advisor Elizabeth Sturgis noted, "Girard FFA celebrated National FFA Week with a combination of traditional activities and new! Between fun activities, serving our community and celebrating our students, it was a fantastic week that leaves us excited for next February!"



GHS freshman Madelyn Scheibe and senior Ben Scheibe accept their first place reward from Chamber of Commerce President Greg Scott and GNB loan officer Brandon Poland during the Trojan Entrepreneurial Challenge in John E. Shireman auditorium Thursday, Feb. 17. As first place winners, Madelyn and Ben will compete in the state competition Tuesday, April 28. BAILEY HOLMES/MULTIMEDIA



GHS junior Storm Rieck and freshmen Kyle Johnson and Drake Smith are awarded their medals at the 4A Boys Wrestling Regional hosted by Paola High School Saturday, Feb. 21. Rieck placed second, Johnson fourth and Smith second. The three athletes will represent Girard at the state tournament in Salina Feb. 27-28. COURTESY PHOTO

## GHS students participate in TEC

**BY TROJAN TRIBUNE STAFF**  
*Trojan Tribune*

► For the past seven years, GHS instructor Beth Wilson has arranged an opportunity for students to showcase business ideas. The Trojan Entrepreneurial Challenge (TEC) was created to educate students about the importance of entrepreneurship and how to create, design and run a business. GHS held the schoolwide TEC on Thursday, February 19. A total of nine teams/individuals entered the competition with a chance to win up to one thousand dollars. To prepare students had to write a business plan and a financial statement (including loan costs and start-up fees), create a four-minute slideshow presentation, present in front of judges and design a trade-show table. Participants included the group of Rylan Herlocker, Madi Nelson and Baylynn Kern with BMR events; Tate Duft with Rockin' Bar D Creations; Blake Becker with Done Right Detailing; Emma Bowman and Chase Eitel with OmniCircle; Ben and Madelyn Scheibe with PhonoFlow; Adarius Valley with WildScat; Hunter Brutchin and Drake Walker with Divine Detailing; Bailey Walker with Bailey's

Banners; and Violet Coman and Bailee Hanks with Delightful Treats. After the competitors presented their businesses, Wilson reflected by saying, "This was not a little task for these students to take on. There are so many aspects to consider when thinking of a start-up business, and they carried the vision through from conception to written executive summary, to verbal presentation using problem solving skills in answering judges' questions, and finally one-on-one communication at the trade show. They should all consider their efforts at the YEC a job well done." During the last 30 minutes of school, the GHS student body was invited to watch the awards ceremony in John E. Shireman auditorium. The prizes consisted of \$1,000 for first place, \$500 for second, \$250 for third, \$150 for fourth and \$100 for community choice. GHS freshmen Coman and Hanks, with their business Delightful Treats, won the Community Choice award. Delightful Treats is a business that brings authentic french macarons to the SEK area. Freshman Duft placed fourth with his business Rockin' Bar D Creations, a business that creates products made of leather. Senior Bailey Walker placed third with her

business, Bailey's Banners, which creates custom banners for events. She noted, "The entrepreneurial challenge was a great experience that taught me about marketing and financial strategies. This was an amazing opportunity to expose my business to the community as well as my classmates." Senior Valley placed second with his business WildScat, which cleans animal waste and turns it into fertilizer for consumers to purchase. Senior Ben Scheibe and freshman Madelyn Scheibe placed first with their business PhonoFlow, an app for elementary school teachers to track their students' reading progression. When asked about the TEC experience, Ben Scheibe stated, "It was a lot of fun to compete with everyone yesterday, and it was nice to see all of our hard work on the challenge pay off. I would like to thank Mrs. Wilson for organizing this event." Madelyn Scheibe added, "It was a great experience, and I'm excited to use the feedback we received to improve for the state competition." As first place winners, Ben and Madelyn will go on to compete in the state YEC competition in Manhattan on April 28.



GHS alumna and former Kansas FFA State Treasurer Zoë Rhodes presents her workshop titled "Overcome Your Fear of Failure" to GMS eighth graders during Super FFA Day in Ted R. Taylor Gymnasium Thursday, Feb. 19. Super FFA Day is one of the many events that is hosted during FFA week. It is used to introduce eighth graders to some of the competitions that are included in FFA. COURTESY PHOTO



GHS senior Seth Wilson competes in the state poetry out loud competition at Washburn University in Topeka Saturday, Feb. 21. Wilson presented the poems "Departed Days" by Oliver Wendell Holmes and "O Captain! My Captain!" by Walt Whitman. Senior English Instructor Kayla Pruitt, who accompanied Wilson, noted, "We are so proud of Seth's performance. He represented himself and our school incredibly well!" BETH WILSON/GHS