

51ST ANNUAL 2024 EDITION



Best Little Stock Show in Texas

HOSFF'S HOUNDS DAY PLAY · BOARDING · TRAINING · GROOMING

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1+ Acres to run and play





Kenzie.

As you embark upon your junior Gerlach show, we hope you have steered yourself in the right direction, and you're ready to broil the competition! We will always be your biggest fans!

Mom and Dad

Good luck to all of the Gerlach Exhibitors!

WALTER GERLACH GREATER NORTHWEST LIVESTOCK SHOW AND SALE 2024 SCHEDULE

| FRIDAY – JANUARY 19, 2024 | |
|---|--------------------|
| AG Mechanics Project Check-in at Vickery | 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm |
| Kickoff Dance @ Floore's Country Store | 7:30 pm - Midnight |
| | |
| SATURDAY – JANUARY 20, 2024 | |
| AG Mechanics Show @ Vickery | 9:00 am |
| SUNDAY – JANUARY 21, 2024 | |
| Goat Arrival | 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm |
| Lamb Arrival | |
| | |
| MONDAY – JANUARY 22, 2024 | |
| Goat Show Begins | |
| Lamb Show Begins | |
| Swine Arrival | 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm |
| THECDAY JANUARY 22, 2024 | |
| TUESDAY – JANUARY 23, 2024 | 9,00 am |
| Swine Show BeginsSteer Arrival | |
| Steel Allival | 3.00 pm - 0.00 pm |
| WEDNESDAY – JANUARY 24, 2024 | |
| Rabbit Arrival | 8:00 am - 9:00 am |
| Rabbit Show Begins | 9:30 pm |
| Steer Show Begins | 5:00 pm |
| THURSDAY – JANUARY 25, 2024 | |
| Turkey Arrival | 8:00 am - 8:30 am |
| Broiler Arrival | |
| Poultry Show Begins – Turkey then Broiler | |
| Closing Ceremony | |
| | |
| FRIDAY – JANUARY 26, 2024 | |
| Prep Barns for Auction | 9:00 am |
| | |
| SATURDAY – JANUARY 27, 2024 | |
| Auction Opening Ceremonies followed by | 10.00 |
| Auction of Champions | 10:00 am |

WGLS Board of Directors



OFFICERS

President: Robert Stricklin 1st Vice President: Willie Frantzen 2nd Vice President: David Kilgore

Treasurer: Michael Brown

Recording Secretary: Judy Flores Corresponding Secretary: Nathan Lutz

LIFETIME DIRECTORS

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DIRECTORS

Gary Schott
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Dr. Edmund Meier
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Randy Harmon
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Ag Science Academy FFA Ag Department



Rear Row: Chase Carroll, Brian Clay, Chad Bohlken, Thomas Johnson, Bryan Hawkins, Jacob Clay

Front: Matthew Sullaway, Eileen Zinsmeister, Pamela Zablocki, Tori Boehme, Adriana Veloz, Wesley McFarland

President's Letter

Welcome To the Walter Gerlach Livestock Show and Sale "The Best Little Stock Show in Texas"



On behalf of the Walter Gerlach Livestock Show Board of Directors, welcome to the 51st Walter Gerlach Livestock Show and Sale, "The Best Little Stock Show in Texas."

This little stock show has historically provided a place where students, parents, volunteers, school officials, and the business community come together with one simple goal....to develop young men and women into great leaders and American citizens! Over the past 51 years the world we live in has seen many changes. During those changes the Walter Gerlach Livestock Show has taken intentional steps to keep the heart of our event volunteers, families, hard work, leadership, and a strong commitment to the agricultural community. I want to personally thank those who have served, shown, and participated in carrying on our traditions. This event is not possible without the passion for youth in agriculture that many of our past ag teachers, presidents, board members, and volunteers have displayed.

Fond memories and love for this stock show are the main reasons many past exhibitors come back year-after-year to volunteer or provide financial support; to say thank you for having a positive impact on their lives. This show has touched my immediate family in immeasurable ways, and I have seen many families come through this program and grow from time spent in the barns. There are not many programs where the entire family can get involved and to me that is what makes our Show so special. The Walter Gerlach Livestock Show hopes to make you feel like family. For those who are veterans—Welcome back! For those of you just starting out—Welcome to the family!

Over the past years, our auction has raised millions of dollars in scholarship funding for the students of Northside ISD. Just a gentle reminder, it's not about the money but about the experience. Parents, exhibitors, and supporters take the time to sit back and enjoy the moment. Before you know it, the show concludes; leaving you with great memories of spending time together as a family.

Good luck to all and have fun!

Robert Stricklin, President of WGLS



Show Records and Auction Goals

Records

2024 Minimum Auction Goals

| Grand Champion Steer | 2023 - \$22,200 | Steer | \$4000 per steer |
|-------------------------|-----------------|----------|-------------------|
| Grand Champion Goat | 2020 - \$31,000 | Goat | \$1500 per goat |
| Grand Champion Swine | 2016 - \$13,500 | Swine | \$1500 per pig |
| Grand Champion Turkey | 2022 - \$17,000 | Turkey | \$1000 per turkey |
| Grand Champion Lamb | 2020 - \$22,800 | Lamb | \$1500 per lamb |
| Grand Champion Broilers | 2023 - \$11,000 | Broilers | \$800 each |
| Grand Champion Rabbits | 2023 - \$30,000 | Rabbits | \$800 each |



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Can you find the following pictures somewhere in the catalog? (These images do not count!)





10



Show Dedication

Gordon Willms

Gordon Willms has been married for 35 years to his best friend, Marianne. Together they have four amazing daughters—Heather, Amanda, Olivia and Michaela. Gordon worked at Horizon Food Service & Supply for 24 years, then as a School Support Coordinator at Country Home Learning Center. They attend Zion Lutheran Church of Helotes, where Gordon assisted with Sunday School, as a Confirmation Guide, and volunteered for Mission Trip. Their girls were active in the YMCA in their younger years, where Gordon volunteered as a volleyball coach. Marianne was a Girl Scout Leader, with Gordon helping at countless booth sales, camping trips, and assorted "Dad" duties. From raising four girls, they learned how important it is to be part of a bigger family.

When Amanda started at O'Connor High School in 2006, Gordon started volunteering with the FFA. Amanda quickly made friends within the FFA program. Two of those friends, Beth Stricklin and Krystyna Quijano, made a huge difference in Amanda's ag experience. They helped her with everything from feeding tips to explaining how things ran at show. Gordon and Marianne pitched in at every opportunity and tried to pass that kind of help on to other kids. In 2011, Michaela started at O'Connor High School, and they lived the FFA Program! By that time, they had learned so much about the program that Michaela was able to help other kids right away. They spent countless hours helping in the barn—cleaning, shearing, and moving pigs. Gordon took off work and assisted in moving pigs to the Gerlach barn during the mulch fire. Gordon also volunteered at the Bexar County, Gerlach, and San Antonio Livestock Shows. He was voted onto the WGLS Board of Directors 15 years ago. This position provided him the opportunity to help kids at an even more meaningful level.

Every year, Gordon took a week off work for the Gerlach Livestock Show & Sale. It is a week of long hours, hard work, and the older he gets—a whole lot of body aches! It is also filled with camaraderie, laughter, and kids helping kids. Whenever someone wants

to know why he spent his vacation working; Gordon explains how much he loves the program, that FFA is something he would have liked to do growing up. His parents went through a divorce when he was 16; even though he played football, his dad wasn't involved much. This program is about what happens when families work together. They learn responsibility, caring, hard work, and dedication; but most importantly, they learn about family. They learn how important it is to show up, to help out, and to be there for each other. This also happens for kids who are going through a tough time in their life. Gordon has had the opportunity to not only be there for his own kids, but also for hundreds of other kids. That is family, and that is priceless!



Show Dedication

Nathan Lutz



Nathan grew up in Castroville, Texas. He worked summer jobs on farms during his high school and college years, but was never a member of the Medina Valley FFA. He started a sales career after grad school and later began raising a family with the love of his life, Karen.

In 1999, Nathan's children—Joel, Matthew, and Landon—joined the Helotes 4-H and started showing lambs. He joined the Helotes Ag Booster Club and became active in the lamb project and shooting sports. Special thanks to Philip Throckmorton and family for helping with the lambs until Landon graduated from O'Connor. Later, Nathan would become an officer and board member of the Booster

Club. He held several positions, including President for a couple terms. He assisted with and/or chaired the annual fundraisers and other events, including managing the food booth for Cornyval Rodeo.

When his oldest son started at O'Connor, Nathan also joined the FFA Booster club and became involved with their programs. He continued to be a part of the Helotes Ag Booster Club and lamb project. He opened his barn to the kids of 4-H as a place to prepare and shear their projects. He also hauled livestock to stock shows around the state. Eventually a board position came open, and he was elected to the WGLS board. He served anywhere needed before becoming the Lamb/Goat Superintendent. Nathan is currently the Lamb Superintendent and has recruited his son Matthew to act as Assistant Lamb Superintendent.

His wife, Karen, said that he loves seeing the students develop skills needed to set them apart from others their age. Many of these skills are developed as they work together with the adults doing what it takes to put the WGLS together. As a Director, he loves interviewing students for the Walter Gerlach Buyer's Scholarship. He marvels at the applicants every year— their phenomenal grades, involvement in the community, and maturity are truly impressive. These inspirational young folks and their promising future is why he loves being a part of this awesome program and has served for years, even after his sons graduated and moved on to great careers and strong families.

TOP 30 BUYERS 2023

Thank you to all of the businesses and community members who support the Walter Gerlach Livestock Show Auction. Thank you for supporting the students, who benefit from their generosity.

Karl & Michelle Wanke
Swingin' S Farm
3C Posse
Intech Southwest Services LLC
Holmes FFA Alumni
Mesa Equipment
ASTA FFA Benefit Auction
Lloyd Tausch Holdings
Gary & Robbie Haby
Dr. Chad & Christy Hivnor
River City Oral Surgery
Victory Concrete
Dean & Jana Davenport
Johnny Becker
Brasada 72 Management

Patel Gaines Law Firm
Alamo Ranch Animal Hospital
Tim & Debbie Horny
Rockaway Management
DL Bandy Constructors
H-E-B
D & D Contractors
Wesley Fleming
Great Northwest Concrete
Cibolo Materials
Far South Mining
H L Zumwalt Construction
Brandon & Beth Wolf
SAECO Electric
NT Boudreaux Management

Letter from Principal Bohlken

On behalf of ASTA, I would like to thank the Gerlach Board and all our buyers for their unwavering support of our students. It truly is a unique opportunity to have a show and sale that directly benefits our students, rewarding the hard work and dedication they have shown over the first half of the school year.

The Walter Gerlach Show and Sale is one of the reasons why so many students desire to join our school. We are truly grateful to have such a strong community who dedicate their time and resources to our students and their families.

ASTA Ag Administration



Chad Bohlken - Principal Pam Wilson - Counselor Thomas Johnson - Vice Principal Brian Hawkins - Program Director

WGLS CATALOG CREW OVER \$10K RAISED IN 2023

This program is put together by volunteers who aim to document the memories of The Best Little Stock Show in Texas and the stories behind the lives of the hard working students that participate.















Thank You to the Former Students of O'Connor FFA and the Walter Gerlach Heritage Group for volunteering their time and effort to develop the catalog.





Back L-R: Kristin Blue, Michelle Hamilton, John Cassias, Pauline Swank-Cassias, Brian Clay, Christopher Cruz, Mark Schofield, Jar Vasquez, Wes McFarland, and Brenyn Burkholder Not Pictured: Sarah Clay and Joey Tomlinson

Visit our new website at https://www.wglscatalog.com

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In Memory Of RONNIE CLEMENCE SCHUH

Ronald (Ronnie) Clemence Schuh, born June 21, 1956 passed away October 19,2023 peacefully at home in San Antonio, Texas surrounded by his family. Ronald is preceded in death by his amazing wife of 41 years Brenda Joyce Schuh, his parents Clemence and Meta Schuh, Sisters Dorthy (Kalisky), Corine (Phillips) and Lorine (Schultz). Ronald is survived by his three wonderful daughters Tracie Joyce Schuh (wife Samantha), Kelly Helena Siegler (husband Neal), Lisa Dorine Schuh and his 8 adventurous Grandchildren Isaiah, Hailey, Allison, Anabelle, Madelyn, Spencer, Amari and Michael.

Ronnie was the Superintendent of Bexar County Public works for 32 years before retiring to spend time with family and go fishing. He dedicated many years to the San Antonio Stockshow and Rodeo on the Rodeo Contestant Hospitality Committee becoming a Life Member of the San Antonio Stockshow and Rodeo. He supported the youth of agriculture with Helotes 4-H and O'Connor FFA as Board of Director and Swine Superintendent for over 25 years.

His friends and family will continue his legacy hosting Ronnie's Annual Sausage Fest at the end of hunting season. He made sure in the last week that his kids knew how to make his famous beans, dried sausage, and BBQ sauce. They spent the weekend at his house cooking while he coached Neal and Cory about smoking meats to perfection and writing down his recipes.

Our family would like to thank the staff at the START Center, our nurses Melissa and Jennifer, and Dr. Prathibha Surapaneni for all of their wonderful care and compassion they showed our Father.

YOU CAN ACHIEVE ANYTHING YOU SET YOUR SIGHTS ON - GOOD LUCK AT SHOW.

WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!



Ainsley Caldwell Class of 2027 Alexis Blom

Good luck, Lex! We love you!

Texas A&M, here she comes!

Amaya Ramos
Good luck Amaya! I am so proud
of all your hardwork!

2027

- Mom



MIA

Ifon dreamed of raising pigs since you were a little girl.
Now you have been doing it well for 3 years.



Morgan - We love watching you raise and care for your animals and grow in all you do! We are so proud of you and all your hard work! We are all rooting for you! Love You to the Moon & Back, Infinity & Beyond, Mama, Tay, Nanee & Papa

We are so proud

& love you so

much. We hope

you never stop

driving towards

your dreams.

Love,

Mom and Dad





Time to get your show on TATTIANNA.

Wish you the best of luck! Love the Ramos Fam



 $G_{\mathbb{Z}}$



Good Luck Grant!











Love, Mom & Dad



Helping Texans

is at the heart of H-E-B.

Over 115 years ago, we opened our doors to help make the lives of hard-working Texans better. We were a family business back then. We remain a family business today with a passion for - and a helping hand in - every community we serve.

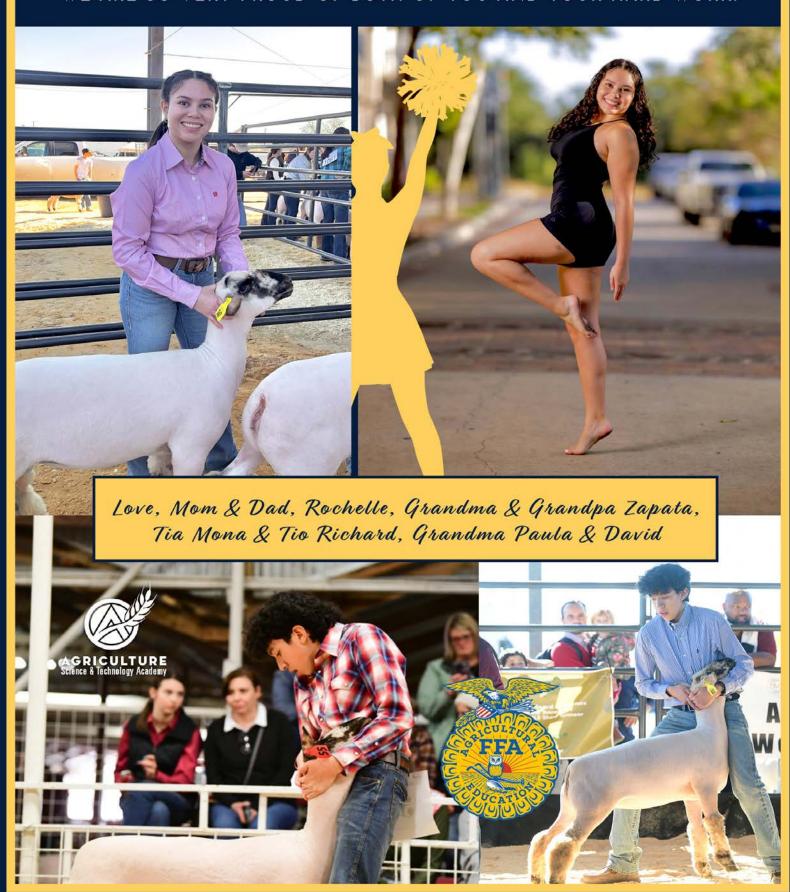
From fighting hunger and providing disaster relief to honoring Texas educators and our Nation's military, we're firm believers in Texans helping Texans. We do this for one simple reason. We are from here, so we are helping here.



HUNGER RELIEF * EDUCATION * DIVERSITY * HEALTH & WELLNESS
SUSTAINABILITY * DISASTER RELIEF * MILITARY APPRECIATION

Good Luck Ramiro & Andria!

WE ARE SO VERY PROUD OF BOTH OF YOU AND YOUR HARD WORK!



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Good luck to all Walter Gerlach exhibitors!

-The Burkholder Family

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Grand Champion Steer

EXHIBITOR: Will McClain AMOUNT: \$22,200
Belt Buckle Sponsor: Gary & Madelyn Schott



Top Buyers

Karl & Michelle Wanke
Katlin Wanke
Swingin' S Farm
Cleary Zimmermann Engineers
Dean & Jana Davenport
Joeris General Contractors
H-E-B

Frost Bank
Duffy Family
Cude Engineers
Alamo Ranch Animal Hospital
KNRG Architects
Mesa Equipment Company
MTR Engineers

Patel Gaines Law Firm River City Oral Surgery Victory Concrete Adam & Krista Harris Rick Stone Masonry

Reserve Grand Champion Steer

EXHIBITOR:
Bo Schott
AMOUNT: \$19,350

Belt Buckle Sponsor: The Harmon Family Randy & Sharla





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HELOTES 4-H CLUBS Make the best better!



Helotesunlimited@gmail.com

HelotesLSP@gmail.com

Helotes4hlso@gmail.com

Grand Champion Lamb

EXHIBITOR: James Olivarez AMOUNT: \$12,700
Belt Buckle Sponsor: The Phipps Family



Top Buyers

Swingin' S Farm
DL Bandy Constructors
Cibolo Materials
Cleary Zimmermann Engineers
Victory Concrete

Mesa Equipment Company
Oz Monuments
Gonzales Family
Cram Roofing

Reserve Grand Champion Lamb

EXHIBITOR: Trinity Payne AMOUNT: \$8,000

Belt Buckle Sponsor: The Kilgore Family David & Laura





This page is generously sponsored by Northside ISD School Board

ETHAN VAN DELDEN











What an incredible journey the last 4 years have been. We have enjoyed our front row seat watching you shine. Keep up the hard work and remember the grind never stops.

Love, Mom, Dad & Jacob



Grand Champion Swine

EXHIBITOR: Kaylee Clelland AMOUNT: \$11,500 Belt Buckle Sponsor: The Ed Kariger Family (Linda)



Top Buyers

Evenflow Home and Commercial Services
Victory Concrete
Swingin' S Farm
Joeris General Contractors
DL Bandy Constructors

Karl & Michelle Wanke Ralph & Deborah Stock Tim & Debbie Horny Wal-mart Cude Properties

Reserve Grand Champion Swine

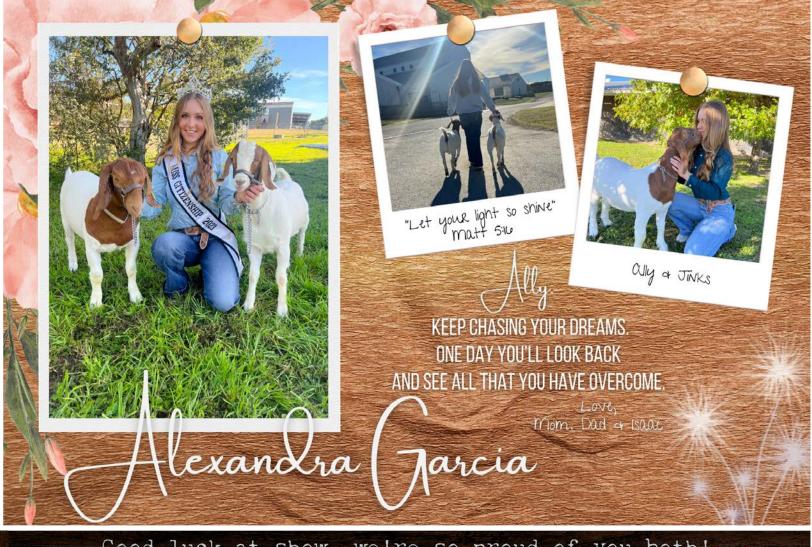
EXHIBITOR: Rian Culp AMOUNT: \$9,900

Belt Buckle Sponsor: The Chumbley Family





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Good luck at show, we're so proud of you both! Have fun and leave it all in the ring!

Jade Zender

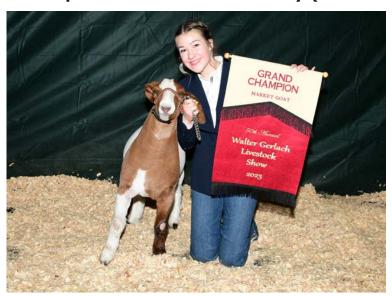
Lots of love, -Mom and Dad

Jaxon Zender
Class of 2025



Grand Champion Goat

EXHIBITOR: Krista Sifuentes AMOUNT: \$16,850
Belt Buckle Sponsor: The Louton Family (Tim & Christy)



Top Buyers

Gary & Robbie Haby
Heat Transfer Solutions
Cleary Zimmermann Engineers
Swingin' S Farm
Karl & Michelle Wanke
Chance & Kayla Chumbley
Cibolo Materials
Gonzales Family

Bracken Recycling
Meier Brothers Monuments
Tim & Debbie Horny
Victory Concrete
Wal-Mart
IBC Bank
Joeris General Contractors

Reserve Grand Champion Goat

EXHIBITOR: Reagan Crick AMOUNT: \$12,500

Belt Buckle Sponsor: The White Family Mike & Debbie





This page is generously sponsored by ASTA FFA Booster Club Benefit Auction



FAMILY | SENIORS | BELLY & BABY | WEDDINGS





Grand Champion Rabbit

EXHIBITOR: Kiley Murry AMOUNT: \$30,000 Belt Buckle Sponsor: The Comeaux Family



Top Buyers

Dean & Jana Davenport
DeWinne Equipment
Cibolo Materials
Madera Millwork
Alamo Ranch Animal Hospital
Cram Roofing
Capital Plumbing

Mesa Equipment Company
Swingin' S Farm
Tietze Plumbing
Victory Concrete
Patel Gaines Law Firm
Aaron Concrete Construction
C4 Construction Services

Cleary Zimmermann Engineers
Karl & Michelle Wanke
Joeris General Contractors
Martin Marietta
OZ Monuments
SAECO Electric
DL Bandy Constructors

Reserve Grand Champion Rabbit

EXHIBITOR: Mikinley Gaenzel AMOUNT: \$5,600

Belt Buckle Sponsor: The Weynand Family Vance & Alaina





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World-Class Technology Solutions



Good Luck to all participants at the Walter Gerlach Livestock Show!

Grand Champion Turkey

EXHIBITOR: Jace Burkholder AMOUNT: \$11,600
Belt Buckle Sponsor: The Reiley Family (Randy & Doris)



Top Buyers

Swingin' S Farm
Victory Concrete
George and Tara Burkholder
Lone Star Air Conditioning & Heating

Karl & Michelle Wanke Helotes Poultry Group Helotes Festival Association Great Northwest Concrete

Reserve Grand Champion Turkey

EXHIBITOR: Ty Schott AMOUNT: \$11,250

Belt Buckle Sponsor: The Schott Family Leslie & Pam





This page is generously sponsored by the Burkholder Family

Helotes Ag Booster Club

To encourage, promote, and support the Helotes 4-H Clubs

Helotes
Ag
Booster
Club
Ath

The Helotes Ag Booster Club wishes the participants the **best of luck**.

The Helotes Ag Booster Club has been supporting the 4-H Clubs for over 40 years. 1983 - 2024.

Thank you buyers, participants, directors, volunteers and parents for making this the

"Best Little Stock Show in Texas!"

Helotes Ag Activity Center 12132 Leslie Road Helotes, Texas 78023 Ag Youth Ranch 1825 CR 2615 Rio Medina, Texas 78066

www.HelotesAgBooster.org

Booster Club meetings held at 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd Monday of each month.

Grand Champion Broilers

EXHIBITOR: Carina Medellin AMOUNT: \$11,000 Belt Buckle Sponsor: The Beard Family (Tom & Sandi)



Top Buyers

Vigilant Real Estate Group
Audio Tech Solutions
Hoff's Hounds
DL Bandy Constructors
Swingin' S Farms
Victory Concrete

Tietze Plumbing Alamo Architects Karl and Michelle Wanke Brandon & Beth Wolf MTR Engineers

Reserve Grand Champion Broilers

EXHIBITOR: Alyssa Perez AMOUNT: \$7,300

Belt Buckle Sponsor: The Mulholland Family Mike & Amy





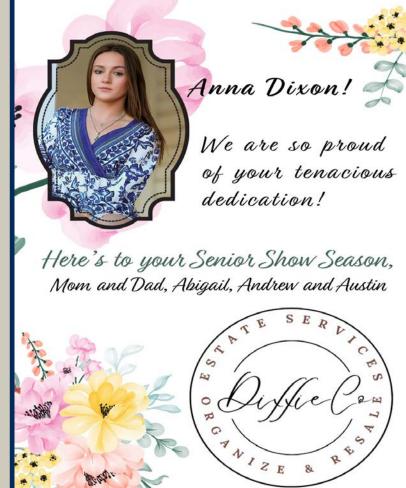
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Averie Avants

Good luck Averie!

We are so proud of all your hard work!







Peyton...We are so
proud of you and all
you have accomplished.
Your hard work and your
kind heart are inspiring!
We can't wait to see you
shine at Gerlach!!
Love - Mom, Dad, Carissa
& Kendall



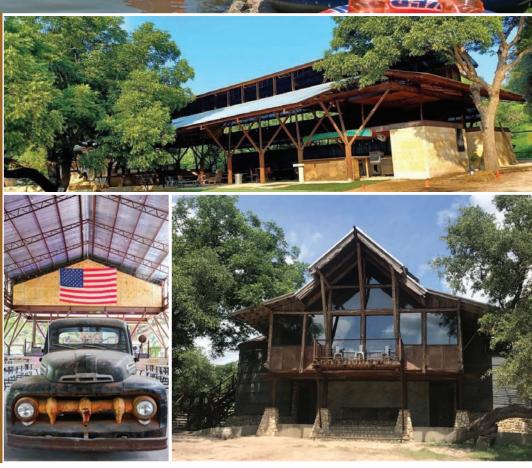
Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5

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OR EVEN STAY IN THE LODGE, CABINS
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Lauren,

We are so proud of your hard work and achievements over the past four years. We are thrilled for your next adventure and cannot wait to see all your success.

Wreck 'em!

Love, Dad, Mom & Matthew

Scholarship Recipients

Top Row L-R: Austin Popp, Sarah Madla, Abigail McKeon, Annalyn Flores, Clare Hivnor,
Avery Roan, Deleena Armijo, Lilian Chapa
Bottom Row L-R: Reagan Crick, Olivia Vaughn, Trinity Payne, Benjamin Hughes,
Darius Cobos, Bo Schott, Abriana Rodriguez, Jayden Ingalls, Haley Hibbetts



Grand Champion Ag Mechanics

EXHIBITOR: Emily Felty

Belt Buckle Sponsor: Helotes Learning Center (Jeff & Andrea Felty)



Reserve Grand Champion Ag Mechanics

RESERVE
GRAND CHAMPION
AG MECHANICS
EXHIBITOR: Annalyn Flores

Belt Buckle Sponsor: River City Oral Surgery (Mark & Rashel Haverkorn)





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VICKERY AWARD

RECIPIENT: Olivia Vaughn

FINALISTS: Darius Cobos, Olivia Vaughn, Trinity Payne, Elizabeth Weynand, Clare Hivnor, Annalyn Flores



2023-2024 Ag Science Academy FFA Officers



President: Jace Burkholder

1st Vice President: Tristan Rogers

Secretary: Marshall Rogers

Treasurer: Emily Felty Reporter: Krista Sifuentes Sentinel: Avery Langan Historian: Carina Medellin Parliamentarian: Ava Berios

2nd Vice President: Ramiro Paez 2nd Vice President: Gianna Hivnor

Connect with the Walter Gerlach Livestock Show















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THE FELTY EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Established as an endowed account in 2021 providing scholarships to Helotes area youths involved in agriculture. In order to be eligible, students must be a graduating senior active in the FFA/agriculture program at the ASTA High School or in the Helotes 4-H program.

An annual scholarship, minimum of \$2000, will be awarded to at least one deserving student.

Criteria to Be Evaluated Include: Community Service Evidence of Leadership Qualities High Academic Standing & a Desire for Further Education

To learn more and apply: http://www.feltyeducationfoundation.org

Life on the Road - Emily Felty

After many months of hard work and lots of long hours, many students involved in the 4-H and FFA programs will travel across the state of Texas to showcase their projects. This includes animal and Ag Mechanics projects. Hi, my name is Emily Felty. I am a junior at the Agriculture Science and Technology Academy. Over the years, I have been blessed to raise animals, but more importantly, to build and show Ag Mechanics projects. I am one of many students who will travel across Texas, participating in numerous shows. In a year, I will travel with my Ag Mechanics projects to about 12 shows and cover over 3,000 miles. Many people may ask, "Why go through all that effort just to showcase your project?"

The answer is very simple. I do it because I love it. I love the experiences I gain, the people I meet, and the time I get to spend with my family and friends.

Traveling to shows like the Hill District Grandstand, Blinn, and Kingsville Ag Mechanics shows has given me valuable experiences. These experiences have provided me with the opportunity to do things such as tour colleges, participate in speed cutting contests, and even compete in contests to win scholarships.

During your time traveling to shows, you will meet many people. You will encounter judges who could potentially become your future employer or college professor. You will also interact with Ag teachers from other schools who are willing to lend a helping hand when you need assistance. Additionally, you will make friends whom you will see throughout the year. While they may be your competition, trust me, by the 12th show it's no longer just about a competition.

Lastly, these shows will provide precious time to spend with family. Personally, I had the opportunity to spend time building my project in the shop with my grandpa and dad. I navigated through the snow, hauling my trailer to shows like San Angelo with my dad. I spent the night at my aunt's house on the way to Fort Worth, and I sat in the stands with my parents and grandparents when I won a \$10,000 scholarship at the San Antonio Ag Mechanics show. Thanks for following along with my journey.

I hope your show season is filled with love.

2023-2024 Schedule

Oct 2nd-3rd <u>Heart O' Texas</u> / Waco

Oct 17th-18th State Fair / Dallas

> Dec 27th-30th Bexar County

Jan 12th-15th Fort Worth

Jan 16th Híll Dístrict Show Kerrvílle

Jan 20th-27th Walter Gerlach

> Feb 1st-3rd San Angelo

Feb 23rd-25th SALE / San Antonio

> Feb 28th-31st ___Abílene

> > Mar 1st-2nd Austín

Mar 15th-17th Houston

> April 23rd Kingsville

April 24th Blinn

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Lexi Lu Salazar YOU GOT THIS!!

Banis Family loves you & wishes you the best!!



25th Anniversary

In the quaint town of Helotes, Texas, excitement buzzed through the air as the tight-knit community eagerly prepared to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Sandra Day O'Connor High School. Nestled among rolling hills, the school had not only become a beacon of education; but also a symbol of the small town that sits just outside of San Antonio's Loop 1604.

The planning committee, comprised of dedicated alumni, teachers, and administrators, worked tirelessly to organize a memorable celebration that would pay homage to the school's deep

roots in agriculture. They decided on a countrythemed extravaganza, embracing the town's heritage and the school's renowned agriculture program.

As the day of the celebration arrived, the school gym transformed into an event space filled with memories of O'Connor's past and present. Colorful flags and horses greeted guests as they arrived for the program in the auditorium.

The festivities were filled with musical performances from current members of the O'Connor Choir and an original musical theater performance with country flair titled "When You're A Panther". Alumni of the Golden Stars Spirit organization had a special performance, along with speeches from distinguished guests; including remarks from School Board Trustee, Carol Harle and O'Connor's first class

president, Diana McCormack.



A highlight of the celebration was the speech given by ASTA Associate Principal. Thomas Johnson, Mr. Johnson hailed the great tradition and history of agriculture at O'Connor High School, sharing how our pioneers helped give birth to the idea of the merger between Holmes FFA and Marshall FFA to form a brand new FFA Chapter at the sixth comprehensive new Northside high school. Pioneers like Joey Tomlinson, Charles Vickery, Steve Chumbley and Michael Tondre helped make O'Connor FFA a reality. Mr. Steve Chumbley was hired as the O'Connor Agriculture Program Coordinator and under his leadership the program experienced consistent growth. His philosophy of "responsibility, work ethic, and leadership" is still at the core of what is taught today. The FFA Chapter can boast 36 state championships and 16 National Gold Emblem Awards. Mr. Johnson also explained how the popular stock show associated with the Northside FFA Chapters grew tremendously over the decades. Starting out as the John Marshall Stock Show in 1974, then changed to the Greater Northwest Stock Show, and now the Walter Gerlach Livestock Show and Sale, named after Mr. Gerlach, who leased the land to the stock show for next to nothing. Today the stock show, known as the "Best Little Stock Show in Texas," pulls in around 1.5 million dollars each year for scholarships. Due to the success of the agriculture program and stock show, in 2021 the O'Connor agriculture program became the Agriculture Science and Technology Academy (ASTA). The magnet school recently broke ground in December 2023 for additional facilities including an upgraded poultry barn, a meat science processing center and market, a new shop, and an additional greenhouse. ASTA's exciting future is only possible because of the excellent tradition and guidance from past agriculture leaders, teachers, and wonderful Principals of O'Connor that supported the agriculture program for these 25 years.



The festivities continued in the school gym which was transformed into a reception hall. Attendees mingled amongst the exhibits showcasing uniforms and pictures of the past while the O'Connor Orchestra played in the background. The gym became a melting pot of generations; with alumni, students, and community members coming together to celebrate the legacy of Sandra Day O'Connor High School.

The 25th anniversary celebration encapsulated the spirit of community, pride, and the enduring legacy of the school's agriculture program. As the night drew to a close, and the conversations faded, the echoes of reminiscing stood as a testament to the enduring bond between the school and the town of Helotes.

Congratulations Cayden

We Are Very Proud Of You Mom and Dad





Clayton Hicks

We are proud of you! Good luck Bubby & Rooster!



Colton Stott

Good Luck, Colton! We are so proud of you!

2027

Love - Mum and Dad and your whole family



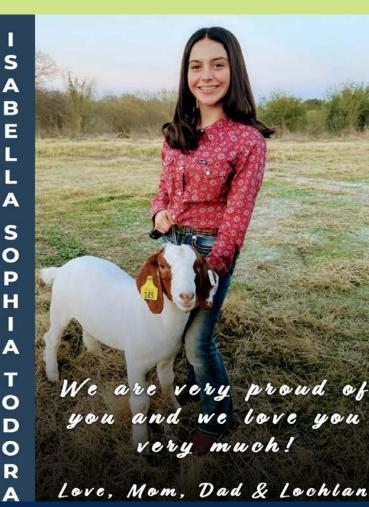




We are so proud of your hard work!

Go Gumball & Darwin

Love, Mom & Dad





RAYMOND MULHOLLAND AG MECHANICS SCHOLARSHIP

One recipient will receive one scholarship to assist with the expenses for obtaining a future career involving Ag Mechanics. In order to be eligible, student must be a member of O'Connor FFA and participated in showing Ag Mechanics projects while in High School with intent to further your education either at a university or trade school in the Ag Mechanics field or start their own business. This scholarship will be awarded at the end of year FFA banquet.

Criteria to be evaluated include:
FFA experiences
Education and/or career plan
How you would use the scholarship
Describe your Ag Mech projects
Provide a copy of you high school transcript

Download the application here or scan the QR code: https://waltergerlachlivestockshow.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Raymond-Mulholland-Ag-Mech-Scholarhsip.docx



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Kennedy Moran We could not be more proud of you. Nana, Papa, Sis, Mom & Dad

Where Are They Now? Brittney Kilgore-Valadez & Bailee Kilgore-Greiner



Brittney Kilgore Valadez is a 2008 O'Connor High School Graduate. She was a member of the FFA program showing swine her first 3 years and a steer her senior year. Brittney attended Baptist School of Nursing and became a Registered Nurse. She then went on to UT Arlington, where she received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

She has been a nurse for the past 12 years working in neonatal, pediatric, home health, and currently as Assistant

Nurse Manager for the Kidney/Pancreas Transplant Program at Methodist Specialty and Transplant Hospital. She works with patients who are needing, receiving, and/or donating a kidney/pancreas. This hospital has the largest living donor program in the nation and largest deceased organ donor program in Texas!

Brittney is passionate about the diseases that impact her patients. She strives to bring awareness of these diseases as well as how to prevent them from contributing to the growing number of patients with kidney failure daily.

The career highlight she is most proud of is developing an Internal Call Team. It began with a team of 5 dedicated nurses responsible for receiving offers for organs from the Organ Procurement Organizations and coordinating all the travel/operating arrangements that make the transplants possible. In the past this job was contracted out, however being able to provide this service directly led to better care for the patients. Being part of this project from the ground up has been a huge career accomplishment for her.

She credits the core values of hard work, honesty, loyalty, and staying humble that she learned while showing for the success she had in school and her career today. Being able to utilize these led her to receive many scholarships that allowed her to graduate from college debt-free.

When asked who her role model was, Brittney said, "It has always been my Dad." Growing up, he consistently showed me what hard work and dedication looked like. The best piece of advice I have been given was that in life, there are people who rent and people who own. No matter what you do, you should be an owner of what you are doing. Being an owner in life sets you above those who just rent. Commit yourself to all that you do, and it will be recognized and rewarded.

Brittney has been married to Jeremy Valadez for 10 years. They have 2 daughters: Jaime, 14 and Jaelyn, 8. They reside in Adkins, TX.

Bailee is a 2014 O'Connor graduate. She raised pigs all 4 years. She attended Texas A&M College Station and received a degree in Agriculture Education. She is pursuing her Master's Degree from Texas A&M Kingsville.

She is currently an Ag Mechanics teacher in Pilot Point, Texas. She always knew she wanted to be teacher, but she was led to this career choice because of the positive experiences she had while in FFA and 4-H and having great ag teachers as mentors. She has been married to Garret Greiner for 4 years and they have a son Kash 9 months old. They reside in Valley View, Texas.

The most rewarding thing she gained from showing livestock are the memories made with her family. They showed livestock together and to this day are able to bond and spend time together around livestock shows. She has many great memories at Gerlach. The obvious ones are showing, auction day, kick-off dances, awards, etc. If she had to pick a favorite, it was working in the concession stand with Mrs. Judy. "It made



me feel like I was a part of the show on a deeper level when I got to work there and Mrs. Judy always made me feel welcomed and important."

The best piece of advice she was given was if you make everyone happy then you are probably not talking about or doing anything that actually matters. You will not remember if you got 3rd or 30th. You will remember the skills you gained, the people you met, the memories you made, and the lessons learned. If you are mad about the placing, go feel your feelings, walk it off, but do not let it define that day-- because in the long run, you will not remember the color of that ribbon. Be sure you behave and conduct yourself in a way that you will actually want to remember. The cause that matters to Bailee the most is helping young women develop skills and exposing them to trades that are generally considered male dominated.

Bailee is proud of herself for always pursuing her goals. She sets big long-term goals, and then works hard until that goal is met. She considers success to mean that you enjoy what you are doing so much that it doesn't feel like hard work. Everything you do involves hard work, but if you are so passionate about something that you do not even notice how hard the work is, then you are successful—whether you fail or succeed.



NATIONAL FFA COMPETITION IN INDIANAPOLIS





Senior Chapter Conducting Team Left to Right: Reagan Crick, Clare Hivnor, Annalyn Flores, Olivia Vaughn, Shleby Smith, & Trinity Payne



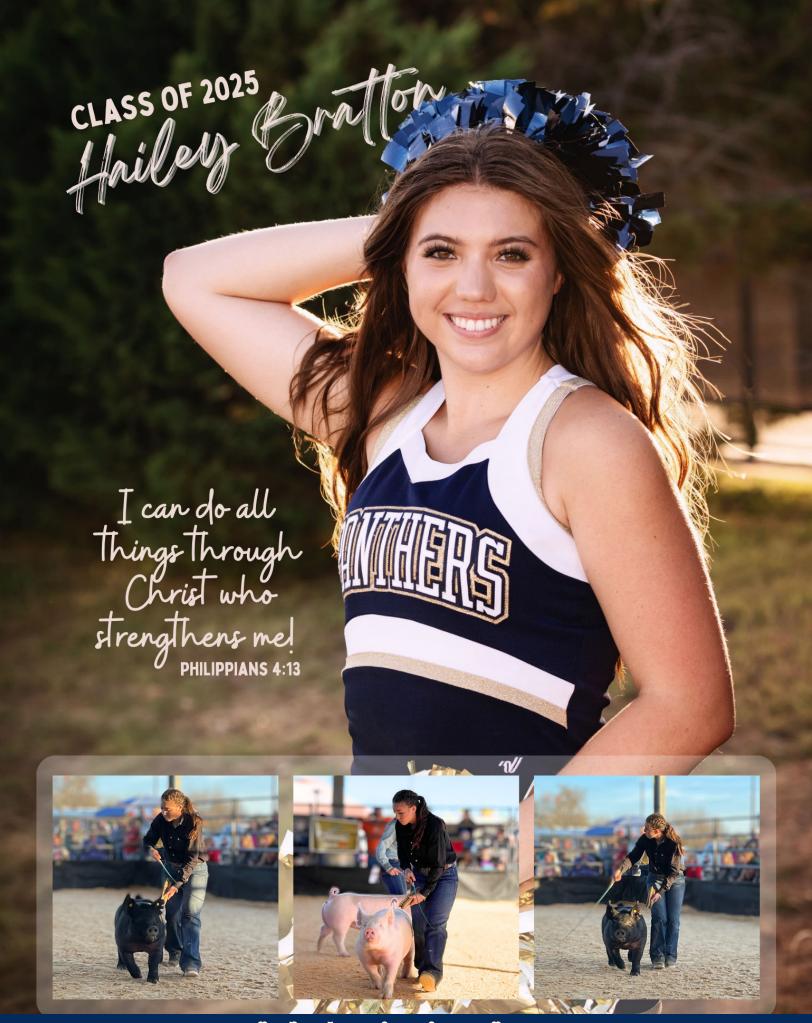
Poultry Judging Team
Gianna Hivnor, Avery Langan, Krista SiFuentes, & Jace
Burkholder

NATIONAL HIGH POINT INDIVIDUALS

Avery Langan: 3rd place poultry judging | Jace Burkholder: 5th place poultry judging | Krista Sifuentes: 10th place poultry judging | Marshall Rogers: 7th place nursery landscape

3 ASTA FFA teams competed in the National FFA competition in Indianapolis and represented us well. The ASTA poultry judging team consisting of Gianna Hivnor, Avery Langan, Krista Sifuentes, and Jace Burkholder took 2nd place in the entire nation. Our Nursery Landscape team consisting of Emily Felty, Marshall Rogers, Tristan Rogers, and Carinna Medellin placed 4th in the nation! Our senior chapter conducting team received the silver emblem. We are so proud of our students and want to give a heartfelt thank you to the coaches who carried them to this point. Thank you Mr. Clay, Mr. Carroll and Mr. Hawkins!





Good Luck Exhibitors



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Matt and Jennifer Burkholder

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Nikolas Munoz

Good Luck! We're rooting for you!

2026

Class of 2026

Cambry Chance

Good Luck this year at Gerlach!

2026

Love - Mom & Dad







STEPHEN MIRANDA

You've sweated and sacrificed, today you've officially crossed the finish line. We are very proud of you! Always remember to believe in yourself, never give up, stay humble, and keep smiling.

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AUSTIN MCCLELLAND

CLASS OF 2025

We are so proud of you. Keep up the superb work! Love, Mom, Dad, & Kyle







Calf Unscramble



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Where Are They Now? Brenyn Burkholder



Family, tradition and leaving behind a solid legacy is deeply meaningful for Brenyn. In the Gerlach barns you will see boards filled with names of 50 years of Walter Gerlach Grand Champions. Among them are many of her uncles, aunts, cousins, her brothers and in 2012, her own. Brenyn's grandmother, Dorothy Burkholder was a President of the Walter Gerlach Board and active in the FFA community. Together with her husband, George, they had 16 children including Brenyn's dad, who have been members of the Marshall, O'Connor and now, ASTA FFA. All have followed Ag-influenced career fields, trades or have passed on the tradition of livestock showing through their children. Brenyn is no exception.

Brenyn's love of Agriculture began when she joined Helotes 4-H at 8 years old and continued the family tradition of raising and showing Market Turkeys. Her eighth-grade year, she nervously went for an

interview with Mr. Chumbley who made her instantly feel welcomed and she left knowing she had found her home with the O'Connor FFA. She took a leap of faith, leaving her previous school friends to start fresh her Freshman year. She ended that year with best friends through FFA that continue to this day.

Much of her high school success was due to immediately joining LDE and CDE competitive teams and, later, the O'Connor FFA chapter officer team. Among the first was Greenhand Chapter Conducting through which she and her team won state, qualifying them for FFA National competition. She always laughs when she thinks back how she nervously blanked out reciting the FFA Creed the first two weeks of school and then ended the next year confidently debating as Sentinel in front of the National judging panel and audience. Their team won Reserve National Champions. With this confidence, she joined the Poultry Judging team. Their team won first in the state her sophomore year, going on to win as FFA National Champions representing Texas the following fall. Brenyn



credits her experience with competitive Poultry Judging to sparking her passion for the food industry and evaluation. Brenyn's connection to family was another important component because her coach and FFA teacher, Brian Clay, was also her cousin, making this CDE even more special to her.

Brenyn's junior and senior years in O'Connor FFA brought skills in public speaking events and deeper meaning and friendships through competing with Senior Chapter Conducting and Agriculture Sales teams. Her coaches, Mr. Carroll and Mr. McFarland put their heart and hard work into developing the teams, inspiring, and motivating them to do their best. Both teams placed in the top five at State with Ag Sales placing first and qualifying for Nationals where Brenyn and her team won third place. Serving on the O'Connor FFA Chapter Officer team was a highlight of Brenyn's junior and senior



years, which she was honored to be elected as Treasurer and President. She learned leadership skills, developed friendship bonds with the team and was given the opportunity to volunteer and give back to the O'Connor FFA and Walter Gerlach community.

For ten years, Brenyn was also active in Helotes 4-H where she held various officer roles, ending with being elected and honored to serve as President of the Helotes 4-H Unlimited Club her senior year. Through 4-H she was also given the opportunity to compete for her club on the Poultry Judging team and win the 4-H Texas State Championship. The highlight of all those years was competing and showing her Market Turkeys at the Walter Gerlach Livestock Show and

the week spent preparing, helping other competitors, volunteers, and board members. She has happy memories from shopping for the concession stand with Ms. Judy, to laughing with her friends during work days, honored to be nominated for the Vickery Award and finally, having the blessing of saying the opening prayer at the Closing Ceremony. She remains incredibly grateful to the show and all its supporters for the scholarship opportunities and auction proceeds that made her collegiate goals a reality.

After graduating, Brenyn was accepted to Texas A&M University, double majoring in Animal Science and Ag Communications and Journalism. She received a Certificate in Meat Science and had the opportunity to continue judging. Her years in FFA, 4-H and showing at Walter Gerlach prepared her for success on the Texas A&M Wool and Meat Judging teams, both experienced national success. Brenyn was selected as All American for both teams, an honor given to eight individuals, nationwide, each year. Along with placing high priority on her education, Brenyn also worked and interned during her collegiate experience with Producers Co-op where she further developed her knowledge of livestock and show animal nutrition. During her junior and senior years, she worked for Texas A&M AgriLife Extension under the Path to the Plate program, providing industry updates, advocation of beef education, and marketing the brand program.

Along with her internships, Brenyn was also involved in campus life and clubs including COALS Council, through which she was chosen as the sole student representative for the Animal Science Department. She was also active in Sigma Alpha, the agriculture sorority, and was a founding officer of the Texas A&M Meat Science and Technology Association.

During her last semester of senior year, Brenyn's Meat Judging coach recommended her to Certified Hereford Beef (CHB), a branded beef program owned by an alliance of Hereford farmers and ranchers. She began an internship with CHB that semester and after she graduated with honors from Texas A&M University in 2021, she was offered a full-time position as Marketing Manager for the brand. She spent the next two years, traveling to 25 states and islands of the Caribbean representing the brand at industry events and meeting new developing businesses. She was also instrumental in helping to rebrand the program through website creation, social media, food photography, videography, and sales materials. Through Certified Hereford Beef's affiliation with National Beef Packing Company, Brenyn worked alongside their industry leaders who extended an offer for her dream job. National Beef Packing Company is the US's 4 th largest beef processor.



Today, Brenyn has a fulfilling career with National Beef as their Field Marketing Manager of the Northwest, including Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Montana and Wyoming. In her role, she is the face of the company in her territory where she travels weekly to meet with business partners, finding innovative ways to grow business in their territories. Brenyn credits her high school, collegiate and



career experiences and success to her involvement with the O'Connor FFA, Helotes 4-H and Walter Gerlach Stock Show. She feels that these pivotal programs, supported by dedicated volunteers and buyers give students like her the opportunity to excel and realize their potential in the agriculture industry. She loves that she has been able to give back to the community by being a member of the WGLS Catalog Committee, helping in design and creation of the 49 th and 50 th Anniversary issues and will continue to come home to support and carry on family tradition in the future.

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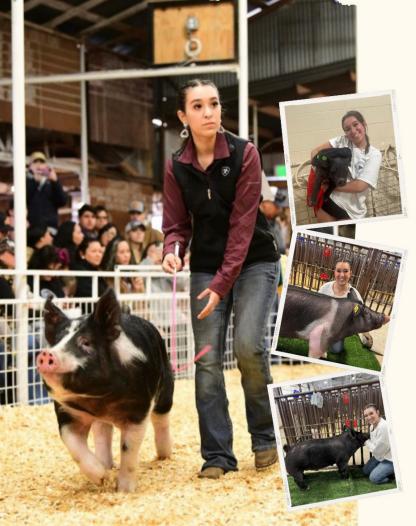
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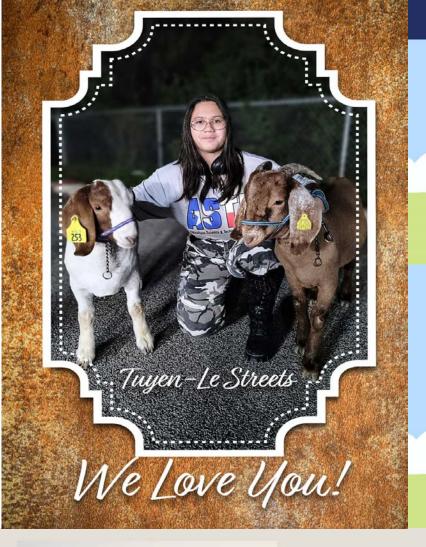
We want to wish you the best of luck this year with Beto and Nacho. Make lots of memories and enjoy every minute of it.

Love • - Mom, Dad, Tre and Tia. Class of 2025

Swinedoku



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Jared Torres

We are so proud of you. Congratulations!



Love Mom, Dad & Jake

Johnathan Goebel

Best of luck Johnathan! We are so proud of you!



Love - Mom & Dad



Joaquin Eduardo, you are awe inspiring. We are so proud of your determination, willingness, and positivity. Continue to stay true to yourself.

Love, Mom, Dad, Davidie, and Family

DO NOT FEAR, FOR I AM WITH YOU; DO NOT BE DISMAYED, FOR I AM YOUR GOD. I WILL STRENGTHEN YOU AND HELP YOU; I WILL UPHOLD YOU WITH MY RIGHTEOUS RIGHT HAND. ~ISAIAH 41:10













Alyssa Perez

We are so proud of you! Mom, Dad, Mateo, & Ava Class of 3031

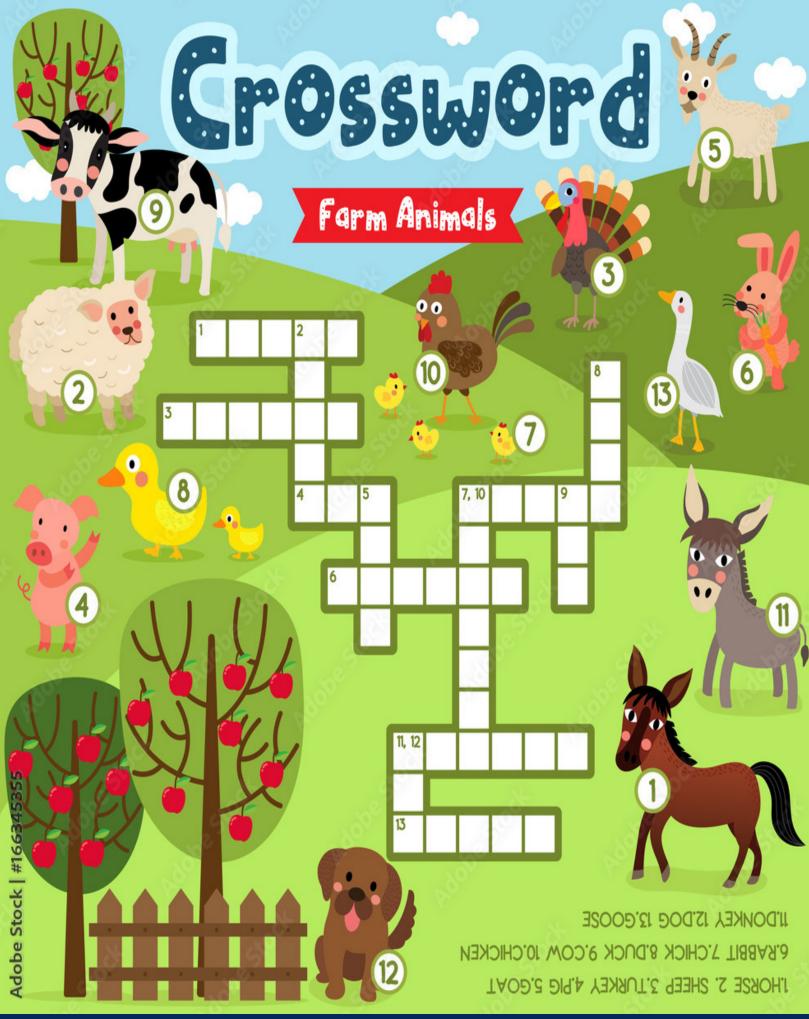














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Ashley



KARA SIFUENTES, KRISTA SIFUENTES, & ASHLYN HABY



"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

Colossians 3:17



Krista Sifuentes

CLASS OF 2024

ONE SHOW, TEN YEARS, MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
AND AN ABUNDANCE OF MEMORIES

























The End.





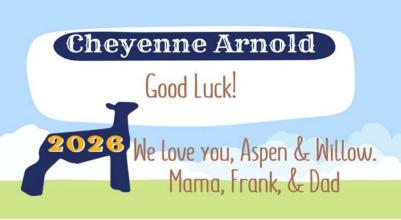


202

"SOMEWHERE IN THE SHOW BARN THERE IS A LITTLE KID THAT WANTS TO BE JUST LIKE YOU SOMEDAY... YOU OWE IT TO THEM TO BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE."







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Congrats Lexie!





I am so proud of all of your accomplishments and the beautiful young lady you have become. #always earned, never given Love, Mom



Class of 2024

4-H IS MORE THAN THE RIBBONS AND AWARDS. IT'S ABOUT THE PEOPLE, EXPERIENCES, LIFE-LONG SKILLS, MEMORIES AND COUNTY FAIRS. IT'S ABOUT BEING A ROLE MODEL, GIVING BACK AND MAKING THE BEST BETTER.



Dalton & Leslie, I am so proud you both. I love watching you achieve your goals.

Good luck this year!

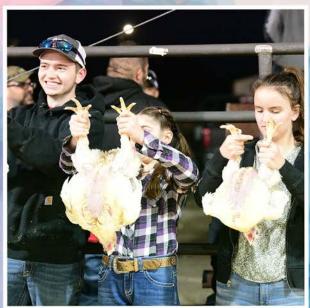
Love, Mom







You have loved animals from the day you were born. We love navigating this new world with you. Coming from the city to the country, and we're figuring it out together. We are so proud of all your accomplishments. Keep up the hard work!





Swingin' S Farm is a faith-based nonprofit that provides free agricultural education to the youth of Helotes, Texas and the surrounding areas.

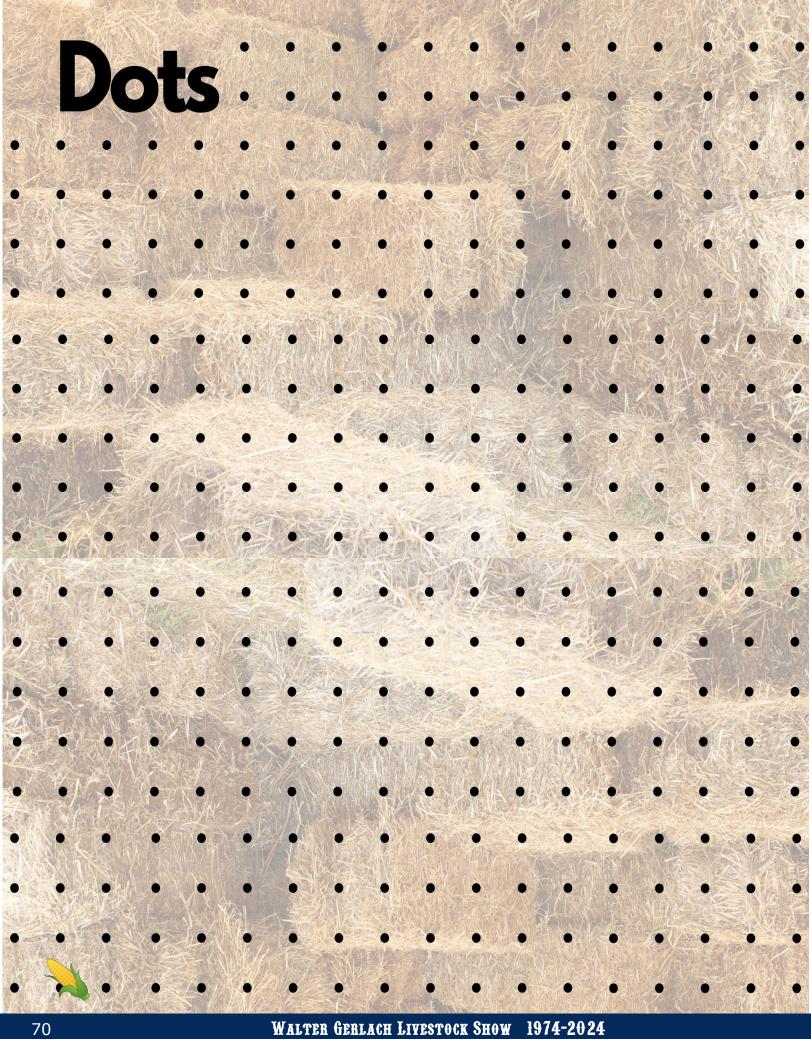




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...in and out of the ring!



WGLS Stock Show - What to Know Lola



Who is the Pig I see in the concession stand?

That is **Lola**.

Lola joined the stock show in 2002, as a way to tip your concession stands volunteers. This is the 21st year for Lola. She has raised over \$50,000.

All the profits Lola raises goes to the Last Chance Lot at the end of the auction. And, yes you can see her name on the board.

Lola helps raise money through golf tournaments, raffles and she

escorts fans to Eagle Pass for a

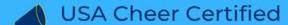
day at Kickapoo on the Chuq-A-Luq bus.

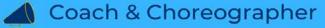
Do you attend the Kick off dance? All the money raised from the dessert auction goes to Lola and ends up in the Last Chance lot!

Help a pig out!

Drop in your spare change or make a donation.







CCS & CYS Cheer Coach

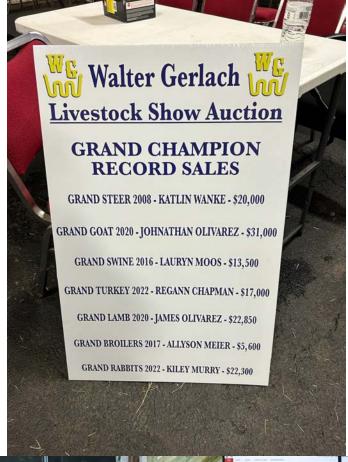


▲ DII NCAA STUNT Athlete



Wanke RECORD BREAKING STEER BID

Will McClain, 11-years-old, showed a steer for the first time at the 50th Walter Gerlach Livestock Show & Sale. Will's steer, Conrad, won Grand Champion, putting him in Lot #1 at auction. Katlin (Wanke) Chisholm, Grand Champion Steer record holder since 2008, was in attendance. As the bids came in, auctioneer Joev Tomlinson saw Katlin raise her hand. Joev said he would let her know when they got to the point where her bid would break the record. She responded that they were there. Katlin then placed a bid of \$1,500 on Will and his steer, putting them over-the-top and breaking her personal record that had held for 15 years. New records were also set for Grand Champion Broilers and Grand Champion Rabbits. History made at the 50th Anniversary Walter Gerlach Livestock Show and Sale auction.









WALTER GERLACH BUYER'S SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarships awarded will be a minimum of \$1,000.00 each and are open to any graduating Northside I.S.D. high school senior who has been an active member, in good standing, of the ASTA FFA program OR an active member of a 4-H club that is allowed to exhibit at the Walter Gerlach Show.

Criteria to be evaluated include: Exhibited at the WGLS for the past 2 years Must be enrolled in the fall semester Awarded at the WGLS Auction

Download the application here or scan the QR code: hhttps://waltergerlachlivestockshow.org/wp-content/up-loads/2023/10/WG-Buy-Scholarship-Application-2024.doc



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