The Guthrie County 4-H Awards Program was held on November 10, 2019 at the Panorama High School. Those receiving awards are…

**Tenure Awards**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Wyatt | Babcock |
| Maci | Bauer |
| Ilana | Baumert |
| Trey | Boettcher |
| Lynni | Brown |
| Shawnie | Brown |
| Sydney | Brown |
| Blakely | Buttler |
| Brandon | Carlson |
| Ryder | Cline |
| Laurin | Davis |
| Piper | Downing |
| Ty | Ganzer |
| Reagan | Grow |
| Meranda | Gruber |
| Lilah | Heinz-Wilson |
| Aaron | Irlbeck |
| Ella | King |
| Nora | Langgaard |
| Carson | Lovelace |
| Morgan | Lutz |
| Cadence | Petersen |
| Jameson | Pfrang |
| Jessica | Randol |
| Rylee | Robson |
| Lily | Rochholz |
| Mallory | Schreck |
| Mia | Schreck |
| Cole | Van Meter |
| Bridget | White |
| Calleigh | Wolfe |

**Award of the Clover-**

***Sydney Henderson****- Cass Pioneers- 5 year*

***Chad Sheley****- SESS Rangefinders- 5 year*

**Most Improved Members-**

*From the Cass Pioneers,* ***Evan Johnson***

*From the Grant Sky Eagles,* ***Shyann Young***

*From the SESS Rangefinders,* ***Anna Owen***

*From the Seely Bobcats,* ***Tanner Downing***

*From the US Sunbeams,* ***Lilah Heinz-Wilson***

*From the Wichita Wildcats,* ***Gracie Hodges***

**First Time Recordkeeping –**

***Cass Pioneers –*** *Maci Bauer, Trey Boettcher, Jessica Randol*

***Grant Sky Eagles –*** *Laurin Davis, Lily Rochholz*

***SESS Rangefinders –*** *Piper Downing, Devon Oberholtz*

***U. S. Sunbeams –*** *Lilah Heinz-Wilson, Nora Langgaard*

**Outstanding Records**

*From the* ***Cass Pioneers*** *– Sawyer Simmons, Keira Simmons, Rachel Cogil*

*For the* ***Grant Sky Eagles*** *– Laurin Davis, Justin Davis, Bryce Rochholz*

*For the* ***Northbranch Beavers*** *– Bo Arrasmith*

*For the* ***Seely Bobcats*** *– Tanner Downing*

*For the* ***SESS Rangefinders****– Bryce Betts, Emma Rutledge, Maxwell Owen, Anna Owen*

*For the* ***U.S. Sunbeams*** *– Lilah Heinz-Wilson*

*For the* ***Wichita Wildcats*** *– Kelsey Laabs, Sarah Westergaard, Kinze Laabs*

**Historian Awards**

***Carley Van Gundy*** *of the Cass Pioneers*

***Emily McCann*** *of the Northbranch Beavers*

***Abby Brooks*** *of the SESS Rangefinders*

***Lilah Heinz-Wilson*** *of the U.S. Sunbeams*

***Gracie Hodges*** *of the Wichita Wildcats*

**Treasurer Awards**

***Anna Lauritsen*** *of the SESS Rangefinders*

***Miranda Sloss*** *of the U. S. Sunbeams*

***Riley Gibson*** *of the Wichita Wildcats*

**Secretary Awards**

**Hailey Meacham** of the Cass Pioneers

**Emma Rutledge** of the SESS Rangefinders

**Rylee Sloss** ofthe U. S. Sunbeams

**Sarah Westergaard** of the Wichita Wildcats

**Junior Project Awards**

**Dylan Donovan** of the US Sunbeams receives the Dog award.

**Gracie Hodges** of the Wichita Wildcats receives the Beef award.

**Evan Johnson** of the Cass Pioneers receives the Rabbit award.

**Sawyer Simmons** of the Cass Pioneers receives the Welding award.

**Gavin Sloss** of the US Sunbeams receives the Beef, Communications, Home Improvement, Horticulture, Recordkeeping & Visual Arts awards.

**Shyann Young** of the Grant Sky Eagles receives the Citizenship & Visual Arts awards.

**Junior Specialty Awards**

**Junior Achievement Award** – ***Gavin Sloss****, a member of the US Sunbeams and son of Darin and Carrie Sloss.*

**Outstanding Junior *– Shyann Young,*** *a member of the Grant Sky Eagles and the daughter of Sarah Young.*

**Youth as Partners***Hope Arganbright*

*Abby Brooks*

*Jaden Carney*

*Ruby Hummel*

*Taylor Lemke*

*Sydney Noland*

*Parker Owen*

*Molly Simmons*

*Rylee Sloss*

**Adult Awards**

***Friends of 4-H –*** *Guthrie Center Hometown Foods*

***4-H Alumni Award –*** *Mike and Karen Finnegan* ***Honorary 4-H Award-*** *Jimmy Hummel*

**Hard Luck Story –**

Rylee Sloss of the US Sunbeams

**Intermediate Project Awards –**

***Bo Arrasmith*** *of the Northbranch Beavers receives the Sheep award.*

***Naomi Bishop*** *of the Cass Pioneers receives the Citizenship, Communication, Pet & Rabbit awards.*

***Trever Derry*** *of the SESS Rangefinders receives the Shooting Sports award.*

***Kiersten Knobbe*** *of the US Sunbeams receives the Beef, Child Development, Citizenship, Communications, Consumer Management, and Food & Nutrition awards.*

***Jalen Michaelson*** *of the SESS Rangefinders receives the Mechanics, Poultry and Woodworking awards.*

***Maxwell Owen*** *of the SESS Rangefinders receives the Communications, Dog, Photography, Science*

*Engineering & Technology and Woodworking awards.*

***Weston Ploeger*** *of the Cass Pioneers receives the Food & Nutrition, Outdoor Adventures and Poultry awards.*

***Wyatt Rudy*** *of the Grant Sky Eagles receives the Beef, Citizenship, Mechanics, Photography and Swine awards.*

***Keira Simmons*** *of the Cass Pioneers receives the Beef and Sewing awards.*

***Sarah Westergaard*** *of the Wichita Wildcats receives the Beef award.*

**Intermediate Specialty Awards –**

**Intermediate Award of Achievement – *Kiersten Knobbe*** *is a member of the US Sunbeams and the daughter of John and Wanda Knobbe*

**Bob Elgin Outstanding Intermediate Award – *Michelle Brooks*** *is a member of the SESS Rangefinders and daughter of Mike and Allie Brooks.*

**Banner Club –**

Cass Pioneers

S.E.S.S. Rangefinders

**Herdsmanship –**

***BEEF HERDSMANSHIP –*** *US Sunbeams*

***GOAT HERDSMANSHIP –*** *Northbranch Beavers*

***HORSE HERDSMANSHIP –*** *Wichita Wildcats*

***POULTRY HERDSMANSHIP –*** *US Sunbeams*

***RABBIT HERDSMANSHIP -*** *US Sunbeams*

***SHEEP HERDSMANSHIP –*** *Wichita Wildcats*

***SWINE HERDSMANSHIP –*** *Cass Pioneers*

**Senior Project Awards –**

***Rachel Cogil*** *of the Cass Pioneers club receives the Citizenship, Rabbits and Visual Arts awards****.***

***Trey Derry*** *of the SESS Rangefinders receives Home Improvement Award.*

***Jared Henderson*** *of the Cass Pioneers receives the Beef award.*

***Harley Hester*** *of the Cass Pioneers receives the Photography award.*

***Ruby Hummel*** *of the SESS Rangefinders receives the Beef award.*

***Haley Meacham*** *of the Cass Pioneers receives the Citizenship award****.***

***Parker Owen*** *of the SESS Rangefinders receives the Communication and Science Engineering & Technology awards.*

***Molly Simmons*** *of the Cass Pioneers receives the Beef, Environment and Sustainability and Home Improvement awards.*

***Rylee Sloss*** *of the US Sunbeams receives the Communications award.*

**Senior Specialty Awards**

**People’s Bank Leadership Award – Kael Rutledge** – Son of John & Tricia Rutledge

**Shubel Owen Communication Award – Kael Rutledge** – Son of John & Tricia Rutledge

**James Leo Community Service Award – Parker Owen** – Son of Jon & Donna Owen

**Senior Award of Achievement – Rylee Sloss** – Daughter of Darin & Carrie Sloss

**Outstanding Senior – Kael Rutledge** – Son of John & Tricia Rutledge

***Hard Luck Story – Rylee Sloss***

April 11, 2019 is a day I will never forget. Many firsts and lasts happened on this cloudy Thursday night. I celebrated a new life, while also saying my last goodbye to my best friend.

It had been a rainy week, especially this particular Thursday. My track meet had been cancelled and after getting done with practice, I went home for the night. I was sitting in our family room when a very familiar tall man wearing a cowboy hat walked across the deck to our front door.

There was a knock on the door, and my Grandpa Jack’s huge smile and chuckle filled the whole room with sunshine hiding behind the clouds. Confused as to why my Grandpa was in town, he proceeded to tell my family and I that he was driving through town and decided that he best come congratulate the new grandma of a baby girl. That grandma was me! My breeding heifer, Emi from the 2018 fair, had just delivered her first baby, meaning my plan for a cow/calf lead for the 2019 fair had been put in motion! Along with it being her first baby, it was also my first baby heifer born from one of MY cows! I quickly ran to our back hallway to get my ‘choring clothes’ so that I could rush out to the farm to meet her.

After driving the seven miles to my grandpa’s farm, I got out of the truck and briskly walked over to the gate. My grandpa was just as excited as I was and was already in the lot giving my 4-H cows some corn so they would come down from the barn to the feed bunks. When I looked closely into the lot, there was a chocolatey-brown baby calf standing by the hay ring. She was so tiny! To ensure the baby did not get scared or try to run away, my grandpa walked behind the baby to keep her in place so I was able to say “Hello”. She even gave my grandpa an excited little kick that he wasn’t prepared for. After studying and petting the baby, I decided to name her Margo.

Once I had gotten all the newborn baby excitement out of my system, I walked with my grandpa to the gate. We stood there and talked for some time, discussing what time the calf had been born and watched as she nursed from her mother. That was definitely a good sign! Soon it was becoming dark, and as I walked over to the pickup to take off my chore pants, I turned around one last time to wave goodbye to my grandpa. I knew I’d be seeing him a lot more with having a new baby to take care of!

Unfortunately, though, that was the last time I saw my Grandpa Jack. The next day was Friday, April 12, 2019, and it was a cold, blustery, winter-like day. I was kind of surprised that I hadn’t gotten an update on my new baby from my grandpa that day, but I assumed that things were going well with her and he was busy with calving his own herd. However, at around 9:30 pm that night, our home phone rang. It was my grandpa’s wife calling to tell us the devastating news that she had just found my grandpa and he had passed away after being charged by a mother cow in his pasture earlier that day.

The next few days were filled with shock, sadness, spending time with family and friends, funeral arrangements, and doing the bare minimum in making sure things were taken care of at the farm. Since grandpa had passed away, and we had so many emotions and things to do, what we had been concerned about at the farm was making sure the cows were checked in the pasture and the cows in the lot were fed their corn. My baby calf, Margo, was tagging along with her mother each time we checked, just like she should be.

My grandpa’s visitation and funeral were on Wednesday, April 17th and Thursday, April 18th. Then on Saturday, April 20th, my dad received a call from my grandpa’s wife. She had gone out to do the chores in the lot that morning and noticed that Margo was laying in the loose hay around the hay ring. She said she had already called the vet, who was planning to be out to the farm in about an hour. My family and I quickly drove out to the farm, where the baby calf had already been placed in the livestock trailer for come shade and comfort. She was very weak and dehydrated; not the spunky little kicker that I had seen before.

When the vet arrived, he gave Margo an IV with fluids. He told us that at this point, it may or may not help her. I sat down next to her as she lay there. After going through the first bag of her IV, my grandpa’s wife and my dad changed Margo over to the second bag. We decided that we would leave her to be for a while and check on her later.

When we returned to the trailer about 20 minutes later, we realized Margo was gone. Since my grandpa had passed away just 8 days prior and everything seemed to be going well for her when I saw her, it had not really been on my mind that I needed to keep a closer eye on Margo just to make sure. I was very sad to feel like I had let my grandpa down with not doing better to notice she was getting so sick, but I also knew that my grandpa would be proud of me for the time and work that we put in to honor his 70 years of life.

There is not a day that goes by that I do not think about my grandpa, and on most days, I think about Margo too. My grandpa and I were farming buddies, and even though I don’t have him here to give me guidance on the new trials and tribulations that will come my way with growing my own herd of cattle, I am glad to have the memories and knowledge that he taught me up to this point to reflect back to and keep working hard like he would want me to. I’m also happy to know that Margo’s mom, Emi is expecting another heifer calf in April 2020 and you can count on me to go above and beyond to do all I can for the next year to be better. Of course, with Grandpa Jack in my heart, the whole time.