

Third generation 4-H sisters ready for the Fair

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Third generation 4-H'ers. That's what Royalton sisters Vanessa Burggraff, 9, and Bridget Burggraff, 7, are.

Their parents, Ryan and Jennifer Burggraff were involved in 4-H. So were their grandparents, Vanessa said.

For Vanessa and Bridget, it will be their second year of showing at the Morrison County Fair, Aug. 8-10. Last year, both of them were Trail Blazers Cloverbuds. But this year, while Bridget remains a Cloverbud, Vanessa is now in 4-H.

"It's a step up and I like it. I feel like I am learning a lot about nature and about a lot of other stuff," she said.

Both sisters enjoy sewing. It is a skill they have picked up from their grandma Patty Burggraff, who owns Patty's House of Sewing in Royalton.

Last year, Vanessa and Bridget made skirts they entered into the fair. This year, they plan to make pants to enter.

"It's just fun to sew and to be able to see what you have accomplished," Vanessa said.

"When you are sewing and you see it starting to come together, you really want to try it on," Bridget said.

One project Bridget had last year was a display of how maple syrup is harvested.

This year, she is looking forward to sharing her canned strawberry rhubarb jam.

"It's really good," she said,

Vanessa is entering her canned rhubarb and pineapple jam, too.

Bridget is also showing a latch kit unicorn mini rug, a painted turtle shell with a display about the reptile, a glass project and a live chicken.

"It's going to be so much fun," she said.

Bridget said she had found the painted turtle shell at her grandma's in a meadow. She also saw four live turtles.

"I think they were the same as my shell," she said.

Vanessa will enter a seven days creation project book that is geared toward child care aged children. She has drawn a picture that describes each day God created the world with its people and animal according to Biblical scripture in Genesis chapter one.

She has also trained the family dog, Genia, a 10-month-old German shepherd and will be show-

ing her in showmanship in the dog show before the actual fair.

"I enjoy leading her, heel and halt. She listens so well and does it so fast," Vanessa said.

Besides the thrill and loving the challenge of showing their own projects, Vanessa and Bridget like seeing other people's projects. The many unique creations inspire them, they said.

"I also like seeing the livestock shows," Bridget said.

As the family has two horses and two ponies, Vanessa said she hopes to enter into the horse classes eventually.

"That's the goal," she said.

When she is not preparing for the county fair, Vanessa likes to play outside with her brothers and sisters, (Continued on Page 15)



(080419-VanessaBurggraff) Staff photo by Sheila McCoy
Vanessa Burggraff is looking forward to showing the family dog, Genia, in the dog show and a variety of her other projects at the Morrison County Fair.

"The cool thing about 4-H is that there is absolutely something for everyone. It's not just for farm kids or just for city kids. It's a project area for absolutely anything and everyone, whether it is performing arts or arts and crafts, food, dog training and everything in between."

— Jennifer Burggraff

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