



**Glowing in the dark.** The girls cross country team did several activities while in Michigan. Ana Lopez (9) said, "I really liked the night one where we got to dress up and put glow sticks all over our bodies and just run at night." Each summer, the girls cross country team spends three days at Warren Dunes State Park. Allie Liu (11) said, "It's basically camp. We run one or once or twice a day, ... we play a bunch of games, and we just spend basically three days in the woods together." Gwen Hickock (10), said, "[It was] a really fun experience to get to know the team."  
// Courtesy of Hayden McGuire

## BEST IN SHOW



**Show it off.** Tylar Campbell (10) shows a cow at the Monroe County Fair over the summer on July 2. Campbell is a member of 4-H. She said, "We get calves when they're about a couple months old, and we learn to walk them, train them to walk perfectly, [teach] them to grow correctly, and then we take them to the fair over the summer and show them through the fair." She decided to show cows since she already had access to them: "My family lives on a family farm, and we raise beef cows, we sell them for butcher."  
// Courtesy of EK Brand Photography



**Winner winner, chicken dinner.** Mariquita Thompson (12) won multiple poultry awards at the Monroe County Fair this past summer. She has been a 4-H member for 13 years. She said one of the reasons she enjoys 4-H is because she gets to visit with a close friend. "My best friend comes from whatever state she lives in, because she's a military brat and moves everywhere," Thompson said. "So she comes and lives with me in our camper; we camp out there and just have a great time."  
// Courtesy of EK Brand Photography



# OF OUR COMMUNITY

## *Taste of Bloomington returns after five-year COVID hiatus*

**A**fter it was canceled in 2020 due to the COVID pandemic, the annual Taste of Bloomington food festival returned to Kirkwood Ave. in downtown Bloomington on August 2.

Several Bloomington North students were at the event. One of them was Gabriel Heidemann-Douglas (10). It was his first time attending the event. He said, "It was fine. I saw people that I knew there. And I don't know if that was a good thing or bad thing, because there were a bunch of people that I didn't like, but I'm gonna keep that on the DL." He said he enjoyed the food: "There were a lot of different options. It was a very good variety."

Nova Kagemann (9) works for Considerate Burrito, a local burrito caterer. Kagemann was at Taste of Bloomington over the summer at the Considerate Burrito booth.

She said she helped sell a flagship item: "It was this, like nacho dish with pico de gallo and beef. ... I got to eat the food that we were selling."

Overall, Kagemann said the experience was pretty good. "It was like, a lot of standing, but it was like it was still fun, because it was also, like, my first time working at that job too. ... It's like a good opportunity for like, the business to grow further."

The Saturday event was a townie summer highlight for many Bloomington Hoosiers.

*by Kelton O'Connell*

**Birds eye view.** Taste of Bloomington returns to Kirkwood Ave. over the summer on Saturday, Aug. 2. Five blocks of the downtown street were blocked off, with a stage featuring musicians in front of the Sample Gates, and adjacent sections of Grant Street were reserved for seating and a second stage. Over 50 vendors—some food trucks, some booths—were stationed along the curb, each with offerings priced \$5 or less.

*// Kelton O'Connell*