

The Norton County Fair is just around the corner

By KEITH P. VANSKIKE,
County Extension director

Fair time is just around the corner and everyone is getting geared up. The Norton County Fair premium books are available at the Extension office and at local businesses.

Participants need to review the table of contents and schedule in the first few pages to see what's going on.

The 2004 Norton County Fair will start Saturday, July 24, and continue until Saturday, July 31, with the kick off of the Fun Day Horse Show and 4-H Clothing Fashion Revue on July 24. Things will culminate with the Home-Owned Carnival and car races on July 31.

All Norton County residents are encouraged to enter one or more exhibits. Open class exhibits can be entered in livestock, poultry and rabbits, crops, horticulture, culinary, fancywork and handicrafts, flowers, home sewing, photography, quilts and art.

Each department has a listing of related classes.

There is a section on models for youth and adults who work with model crafts.

Entry day for most open class exhibits in the 4-H Building is Tuesday, July 27, between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Monday's entries include 4-H Rockets (10-10:30 a.m.), 4-H and open class art (10 a.m.-noon), 4-H and open class photography, and 4-H and open class woodwork and models.

Horticulture and flowers are entered on Wednesday morning. 4-H and open class livestock are entered on Tuesday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Swine must be entered by noon).

Consultation judging of open class quilts will be Tuesday afternoon starting at 1:30 p.m.

The open class culinary will be judged at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday. Culinary can be entered between 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Tuesday.

4-H entomology, electric, geology and small engines will be entered and judged at 1:30 p.m., Tuesday.

The judging of the 4-H clothing will be done early the previous week on Tuesday, July 20.

4-H heritage arts is a new division this year. This includes articles such as crochet, knitting, needle arts, quilting, macramé and weaving. These will be judged as entered 10 a.m.-noon on Wednesday.

The 4-H skill art and crafts will be entered and judged Tuesday from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

The Dog, Cat and Hand Pet show will be an early pre-fair activity on Monday, July 19.

On Saturday, July 24, the 4-H Fashion Revue will be at 7 p.m. and the Fun Day Horse Show at 9 a.m.

The 4-H Horse Show will begin at 9 a.m.,

Monday, July 26.

Pre-entries are requested for both of the horse shows and are due Thursday, July 22, in the Extension office.

The exotic animal educational exhibit and petting zoo is set for Wednesday, July 28. Pre-entries are requested by Thursday, July 22.

Look again this year for the special school children division. All youth up to 17 years of age can enter exhibits in foods, textiles and handicrafts, quilts, afghans, flowers, plants, collections, sewing, woodworking, photography, and gardening and models.

Other events include the 4-H Food Sale, Porkburger Special, Market Animal Sale, livestock shows, poultry and rabbit exhibits and shooting sports exhibition.

Those entering the open class canned foods departments are reminded of the guidelines that jars may be opened during judging for jams, spreads, relishes and sauces. For these classes two jars are needed for the exhibit, so one can go to the state fair.

Special programs include a gospel concert featuring The Advocates on Tuesday sponsored by the Ministerial Alliance.

Wednesday evening will be the Jackpot Team Roping, Porkburger Special and a free watermelon feed, sponsored by Jambo-ree Foods.

Thursday morning, the Norton Fair Association will hold the 4-H and FFA Challenge of Champions, which offers a \$250 scholarship award sponsored by Kowpoke Supply.

The Round Robin Champion Showmanship and 4-H and FFA Livestock Sale and the Ranch Rodeo will also be on Thursday.

Friday evening's schedule has the youth Pedal Power Pull sponsored by Phillips County Implement, mutton bustin' and Kid's Ranch Rodeo, sponsored by The Bank, Almena State Bank, United Northwest Federal Credit Union, First Security Bank and Trust, First State Bank and the Norton fair board.

Also each night (Tuesday-Saturday) the Home-Owned Carnival will be in full swing from 6:30-11:30 p.m. with a special kiddie armband night (1-ticket rides) on Friday and regular arm band night on Saturday.

Some newer rides are available this year — a new kiddie Ferris Wheel and Tubs of Fun. There is also a new kiddie animal character ride and a shuttle tram to offer rides to and from the parking areas.

The carnival rides and games are all a volunteer service and anyone wishing to offer assistance may contact a member of the Norton County Community Service Association.

The fair offers something for everyone. Check out the possibilities and guidelines for each department and plan to participate.



4-H'ers — You're All Winners!

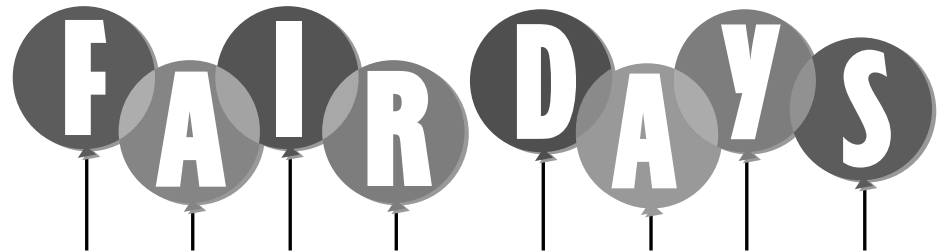
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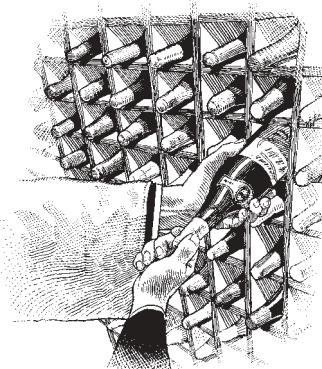
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