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Ross County Fair/C

An ever-changing af-fair

Revamping mixes with traditional

By MAUREEN O'BOYLE
Gazette Staff Writer

Those strolling through the Ross County Fairground next week are likely to see the same things they always see fair week.

Just more of them, fair organizers say.

Yes, the traditional fair activities — parades, horse competitions, 4-H projects and exhibits — that bring people back in droves year after year, said George Vandemark, president of the Ross County Agricultural Society Board of Directors.

He predicts this year's event, which begins Monday and ends on Saturday, will be better than those in the past.

"It's on the upswing," he said, adding that in an atmosphere with little change, an element of surprise always exists.

Improvements include the addition of a concession stand, the repair of existing tentatment and the repair of existing structures, said Earl Bell, vice president of the society's board of directors.

The new building is adjacent to the horse arena, said Laura Hirsch, president of the Ross County Junior Fair Board.

"It's a very good improvement because the other place needed work," she said. The old rabbit building will be used for equipment storage and the old poultry building will be used for unique displays.

Boards were replaced and painted around the race track, in the horse barn and in spots throughout the fairgrounds where they were warped, said Bell. "We haven't done this much work in the past few years. We just thought it was time."

The fairgrounds are kept clean of trash, he said. About 15 workers from First Capital Industries collect waste in two skids from the fairgrounds.

"I'm proud of our fair in comparison with others. You might say we really tidied up and tried to make the place look really spic and span," Bell said.

Daily admission has been increased to $2 this year, 50 cents more than last year, to pay for the improvements, he said. "We also wanted to sell more season tickets and get away from all the (cash) change," Vandemark said of the decision to raise it.

A weeklong pass is $6, the same as last year. Senior citizens pay $3 for the week.

The entertainment has also been altered this year, he said. "Last year we had wrestling. This year we will have the music groups McGaffey Lane and the Danger Brothers." The music begins at 8 p.m. Monday in the grandstand. "We thought this would please a lot of people.

Hog calling will not be an event at this year's fair, said Jodi Black, the Ross County 4-H extension agent.

"We heard that people weren't enjoying it. 'Here piggy, piggy' sounds the same after the first few kids make the calls."

Goat walking by area school personnel will replace the calling. The walking will be 7 p.m. Tuesday in the grandstand. "We haven't heard any complaints so far," Black said this week.

The livestock barns might be overflowing with animals, said Bell. "We have more entries than ever before. We just may have to put some tents up to put the animals in," he said with a laugh.

He is concerned the heat will be so intense, it will be unbearable.

"Some of the participants may have to put fans in the buildings to keep the animals cool," Bell said. "If this isn't done, the stress on the livestock could be so high that they could suffer."

Roger Sommer/Gazette

Jared Swaney sweats it out while painting a horse barn this week at the Ross County Fairgrounds. Swaney is a member of the Richmond Ramblers 4-H club.

Ross County Fair schedule

Sunday

■ 3 p.m. — Windsong, bandstand
■ 6 p.m. — Judging of all home arts and crafts departments, home and fine arts building
■ 8 p.m. — Queen contest, grandstand

Monday

■ 7 a.m. — Market hog weigh-in, livestock arena
■ 8:30 a.m. — Horse exhibits in place, horse barns
■ 9 a.m. — Boy Scouts raise flag, bandstand
Boy Scouts raise flag, grandstand
4-H pony and horse judging, grandstand
Goat show followed by showmanship, show arena
Poultry judging (open class), poultry building
■ 10 a.m. — Ribbon cutting, main gate
All exhibits in place
4-H booth judging, junior fair building
■ Noon — Flower judging, flower building
Dairy cattle judging followed by showmanship, livestock arena
■ 1 p.m. — Zane Trace High School band, bandstand
Antique farm display judging
Lamb weigh-in, livestock scales
■ 2 p.m. — Dairy judging (open class), livestock arena
■ 2:30 p.m. — Zane Trace High School band, bandstand
■ 4 p.m. — Grooms & show beef showmanship, livestock arena
■ 4:30 p.m. — Zane Trace High School band, bandstand
■ 5 p.m. — Star Spangled Banner, bandstand
Girl Scouts lower flag, bandstand
Girl Scouts lower flag, grandstand
Sheep showmanship followed by sheep breeding, livestock arena
■ 5:30 p.m. — Farm products judging, farm products building
■ 6:45 p.m. — Queen and court interviews, grandstand
■ 8 p.m. — Tad Free, bandstand
■ 6:30 p.m. — Horseshoe competition, horseshoe court
■ 7 p.m. — Chillicothe Christian School band, bandstand
■ 7:40 p.m. — Queen and court interview, grandstand
■ 8 p.m. — McGaffey Lane and the Danger Brothers, grandstand
■ 8:15 p.m. — Bedes & Beaus square dancing, bandstand

Tuesday

■ 8 a.m. — Swine judging followed by showmanship, livestock arena
■ 9 a.m. — Steer to be taken off food and water, livestock arena
Boy Scouts raise flag, bandstand
Girl Scouts lower flag, bandstand
4-H pony and horse judging, grandstand
■ 10 a.m. — Poultry judging, poultry building
■ 12:30 p.m. — Adelphi Band, grandstand
■ 2 p.m. — Harness racing, grandstand
Southeastern High School band, bandstand
4-H bake revue judging, junior fair building
4-H homemaker of the year interviews, junior fair building
■ 2 p.m. — Swine judging (open class), livestock arena
■ 2:30 p.m. — Southeastern High School band, bandstand
■ 4:30 p.m. — Southeastern High School band, bandstand
■ 5 p.m. — Star Spangled Banner, bandstand
Girl Scouts lower flag, bandstand
Girl Scouts lower flag, grandstand
■ 5:10 p.m. — Queen and court interviews, bandstand
■ 5:30 p.m. — Jim Burger, bandstand
■ 6 p.m. — Hot style revue (senior division), grandstand
Begin weigh-in of steer, livestock arena
■ 6:30 p.m. — Horseshoe competition Class E3, horseshoe court
■ 7 p.m. — Harmony Four southern gospel, bandstand
■ 7:30 p.m. — Calf scramble, greased pig contest, goat milking contest, outhouse races and apple pie baking contest, grandstand
■ 8:30 p.m. — Gospel Four, bandstand

Wednesday

■ 8 a.m. — Sheep judging followed by open class, livestock arena
■ 8:30 p.m. — Rabbit judging, rabbit building
■ 9 a.m. — Boy Scouts raise flag, bandstand
Boy Scouts raise flag, grandstand
■ 10:30 p.m. — Adelphi Band, grandstand
■ 1 p.m. — Harness racing, grandstand
Unioto High School band, bandstand
■ 2 p.m. — Sheep judging (open class), livestock arena
■ 2:30 p.m. — Unioto High School band, bandstand
■ 4:30 p.m. — Unioto High School band, bandstand
■ 5 p.m. — Star Spangled Banner, bandstand
Girl Scouts lower flag, bandstand
Girl Scouts lower flag, grandstand
■ 5:10 p.m. — Queen and court interviews, bandstand
■ 5:15 p.m. — Carson Clouser Jr. and brothers show, bandstand
■ 6:30 p.m. — Junior fair swine sale, livestock arena
■ 6:30 p.m. — Horseshoe competition Class D, horseshoe court
■ 7 p.m. — Country Velvet band
■ 7:45 p.m. — Queen and court interviews, grandstand
■ 9 p.m. — Demolition derby, grandstand

Thursday

■ 8 a.m. — Boy Scouts raise flag, bandstand
Boy Scouts raise flag, grandstand
Beef judging followed by open class and showmanship, livestock arena
Rabbit judging (open class), rabbit building
■ Noon — Flower judging, flower building
■ 12:30 p.m. — Adelphi Band, grandstand
■ 1 p.m. — Harness racing, grandstand
Horse judging (open class), horse arena
Huntington High School band, bandstand
■ 1:30 p.m. — Senior citizen group, bandstand
■ 2 p.m. — Senior Citizen's Golden Days, bandstand
Beef judging (open class), livestock arena
Chili tasters showmanship contest, livestock arena
■ 2:30 p.m. — Huntington High School band, bandstand
■ 4:30 p.m. — Huntington High School band, bandstand
■ 5 p.m. — Star Spangled Banner, bandstand
Girl Scouts lower flag, bandstand
Girl Scouts lower flag, grandstand
Rabbit showmanship, rabbit barn
■ 5:45 p.m. — Queen and court interviews, bandstand
■ 6 p.m. — Calico Country Cloggers, bandstand
■ 6:30 p.m. — Horseshoe competition Class C, horseshoe court
■ 7 p.m. — Junior Fair lamb sale, livestock arena
Last Generation Band, bandstand
■ 7:45 p.m. — Queen and court interviews, grandstand
■ 8 p.m. — All-terrain vehicle races, grandstand
■ 8:30 p.m. — Jerry Holman and Larry Cook, bandstand

Friday

■ 9 a.m. — Boy Scouts raise flag, bandstand
Boy Scouts raise flag, grandstand
4-H dog show, rabbit building
■ 1 p.m. — Paint Valley High School band, bandstand
4-H style revue (junior class), grandstand
■ 2 p.m. — Showman of showmen contest (junior fair), livestock arena
■ 2:30 p.m. — Paint Valley High School band, bandstand
■ 4:30 p.m. — Paint Valley High School band, bandstand
■ 5 p.m. — Star Spangled Banner, bandstand
Girl Scouts lower flag, bandstand
Girl Scouts lower flag, grandstand
■ 5:10 p.m. — Queen and court interviews, bandstand
■ 5:15 p.m. — Pianist Sonny Harris
■ 6:30 p.m. — Horseshoe competition Class B3, horseshoe court
■ 7 p.m. — Junior fair steer and goat sale, livestock arena
■ 7:40 p.m. — Queen and court interviews, grandstand
■ 8 p.m. — Demolition derby, grandstand
Major Young, bandstand

Saturday

■ 9 a.m. — Boy Scouts raise flag, bandstand
Boy Scouts raise flag, grandstand
Pet show, bandstand
■ 10 a.m. — Junior fair rabbit and poultry sale, livestock arena
Rubber tractor pull, grandstand
■ 1 p.m. — Hot style revue competition (junior class), horseshoe court
■ 1 p.m. — Draft horse pulling contest, grandstand
Adena High School band, bandstand
Horseshoe competition (women's class), horseshoe court
■ 1:30 p.m. — Youth races and games, bandstand
Showman of showmen contest, livestock arena
■ 2:30 p.m. — Adena High School band, bandstand
■ 3:30 p.m. — 4-H achievement awards presentation, bandstand
■ 4 p.m. — Junior fair building exhibits released
■ 4:30 p.m. — Adena High School band, bandstand
Adena Twirlers, bandstand
■ 5 p.m. — Star Spangled Banner, bandstand
Girl Scouts lower flag, bandstand
Girl Scouts lower flag, grandstand
■ 5:15 p.m. — Queen and court interviews, bandstand
■ 5:30 p.m. — Sounds of Latter Reign, bandstand
■ 6:30 p.m. — Horseshoe competion Class A1, horseshoe court
■ 7:45 p.m — Queen and court interview, grandstand
■ 8 p.m. — Tractor and truck pull, grandstand
Dead SARA, bandstand
■ 9 p.m. — Commercial building and display exhibits released, fairgrounds
All other animals released, fairgrounds

Sunday

■ 1 p.m. — All other exhibits released, fairgrounds

Bandstand events

Sunday

■ 8 p.m. — Junior fair queen pageant. Twenty-eight young women representing 4-H clubs, Future Homemakers of America, Future Farmers of America, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Farm Bureau Youth and the Grange across Ross County will vie for the title of the 1988 Ross County Junior Fair queen. Admission is free.

Monday

■ 8 p.m. — McGaffey Lane & the Danger Brothers. Let the two music groups put a little song in your heart. Admission is $3.

Tuesday

■ 7 p.m. — Harness racing. See some of the fastest horses around as they compete for more than $10,000.
■ 7:30 p.m. — 4-H night. A calf scramble and a greased pig contest highlight 4-H night. Other events include an apple pie baking contest, an outhouse race and a goat milking contest. Admission $1.

Wednesday

■ 1 p.m. — Harness racing. The horses and their drivers will compete for more than $10,000 in prize money.
■ 8 p.m. — Demolition derby. Bang! Crash! Boom! In a an old "Batman" episode? No, it's a demolition derby. Prizes include $1,000 cash, plus trophies. Admission is $2.50 for adults, $1 for children age 6-12 and $5 for a pit pass.

Thursday

■ 1 p.m. — Harness racing. On your mark, get set, go! Watch as the horses and their drivers compete for prizes.
■ 8 p.m. — All-terrain vehicle racing. Riders on all types of all-terrain vehicles including three-wheelers, Odysseys and Quads will race. Admission is $2.50 for adults, $1 for children age 6-12 and $5 for a pit pass.

Friday

■ 8 p.m. — Demolition derby. They're at it again! Those crazy drivers in the demolition derby will once again compete for cash prizes and trophies. Admission is $2.50 for adults, $1 for children age 6-12 and $5 for a pit pass.

Saturday

■ 10 a.m. — Kiddee tractor pull. Which is the strongest? See how much weight the tiny tractors can pull.

■ 1 p.m. — Horse pull. See if the horses can lave better at the draft horse pulling contest. Admission is $2 for adults and $1 for children age 6-12.
■ 8 p.m. — Tractor pull. Can the tractors and trucks beat them all? See for yourself at the tractor and truck pull. Total purse is $5,550. Admission is $6 for adults, $1 for children age 6-12, $6 for pit pass.

Grandstand events

Sunday

■ 3 p.m. — Windsong.

Monday

■ 9 a.m. Boy scouts raise flag
■ 1:30, 2:30, & 4:30 p.m. — Zane Trace High School band
■ 5 p.m. — Girl Scouts lower flag
■ 5:45 p.m. — Junior fair queen & court interviews
■ 6 p.m. — Music by Tad Free
■ 7 p.m. — Chillicothe Christian School band
■ 7:40 p.m. — Junior fair queen & court interviews
■ 8:15 p.m. — Bedes & Beaus square dancing

Tuesday

■ 9 a.m. — Boy Scouts raise flag
■ 1, 2:30 & 4:30 p.m. — Southeastern High School band
■ 3 p.m. — Boy Scouts lower flag
■ 5:10 p.m. — Junior fair queen & court interviews
■ 7 p.m. — Harmony Four gospel
■ 7:45 p.m. — Junior fair queen & court interviews
■ 8:30 p.m. — Gospel Four

Wednesday

■ 9 a.m. — Boy Scouts raise flag
■ 1, 2:30 & 4:30 p.m. — Unioto High School band
■ 5 p.m. — Girl Scouts lower flag
■ 5:10 p.m. — Junior fair queen & court interviews
■ 6:15 p.m. — Carson Clouser Jr. & brothers show
■ 7 p.m. — Country Velvet band

Thursday

■ 9 a.m. — Boy Scouts raise flag
■ 1, 2:30 & 4:30 p.m. — Huntington High School band
■ 1:30 p.m. — Senior citizens group
■ 2 p.m. — Golden Days
■ 5 p.m. — Girl Scouts lower flag
■ 5:45 p.m. — Junior fair queen & court interviews
■ 6 p.m. — Calico Country Cloggers
■ 7 p.m. — Last Generation band
■ 8:30 p.m. — Jerry Holman & Larry Cook

Friday

■ 9 a.m. — Boy Scouts raise flag
■ 1, 2:30 & 4:30 p.m. — Paint Valley High School band
■ 5 p.m. — Girl Scouts lower flag
■ 5:10 p.m. — Junior fair queen & court interviews
■ 5:15 p.m. — Pianist Sonny Harris
■ 8 p.m. — Major Young

Saturday

■ 9 a.m. — Boy Scouts raise flag
■ 9 a.m. — Junior fair pet show
■ 1, 2:30 & 4:30 p.m. — Adena High School band
■ 2 p.m. — Youth races & games
■ 4:30 p.m. — Adena Twirlers
■ 5 p.m. — Star Spangled Banner
■ 5:15 p.m. — Junior fair queen & court interviews
■ 5:30 p.m. — Sounds of Latter Reign
■ 6:30 p.m. — Class A horseshoe competition
■ 8 p.m. — Rock'n'roll with Dead Sara

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