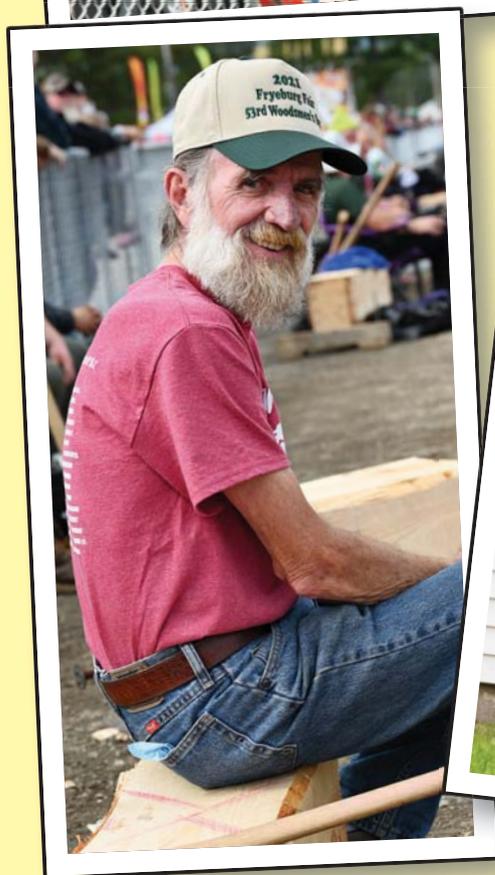




**October 2-9, 2022**

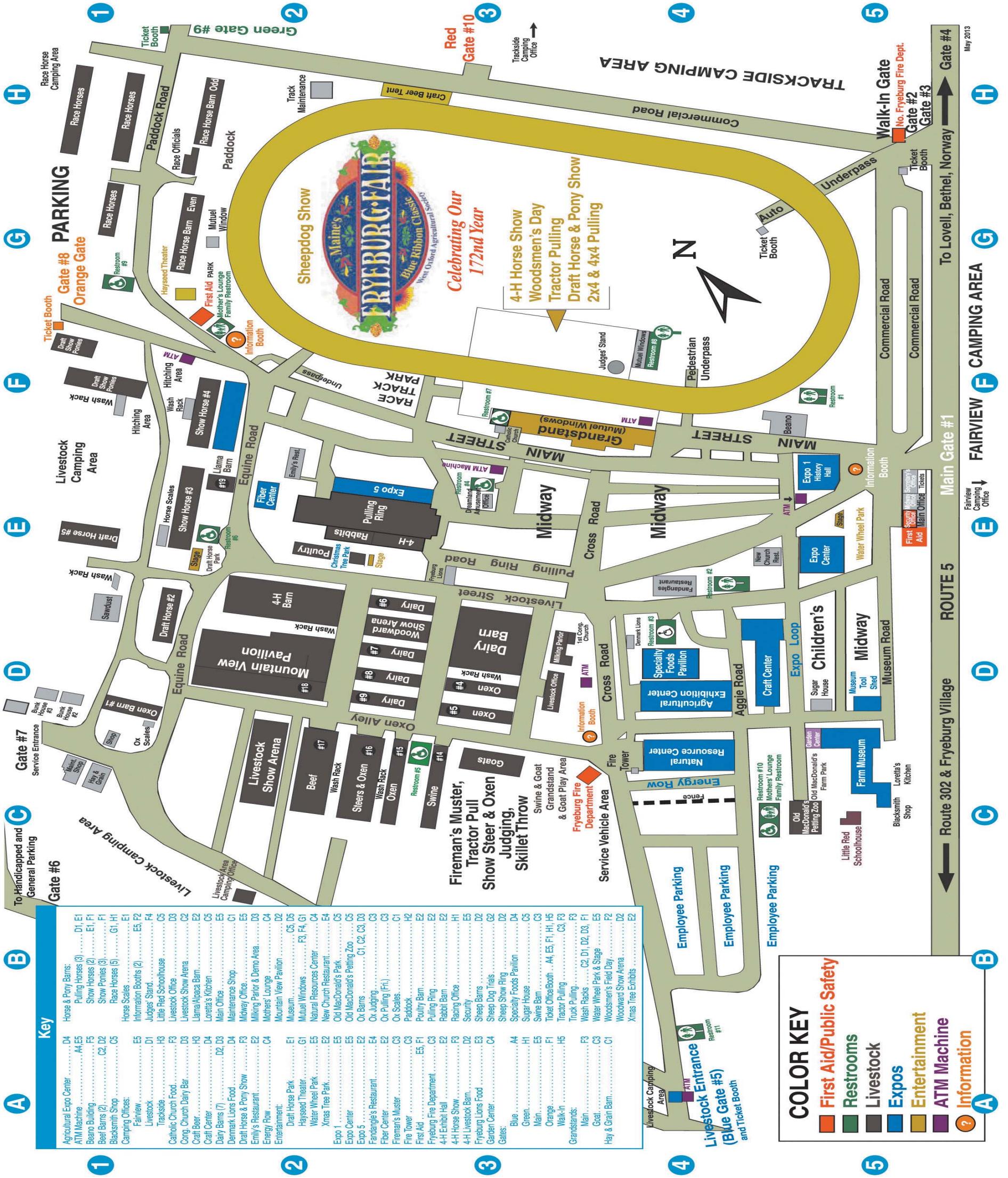
**8 Full Days • Sunday to Sunday**



**Agriculture & Livestock  
Woodsmen's Field Day  
Exhibitions & Museums  
Tractor & 4WD pulls  
Harness Racing  
Night Shows & Fireworks  
Grand Parade  
Spectacular Food  
Midway & Rides  
Campsites**



**[www.fryeburgfair.org](http://www.fryeburgfair.org)**



Key	
Agricultural Expo Center	D4
ATM Machine	A4, E5
Beano Building	F5
Beef Barns (2)	C2, D2
Blacksmith Shop	C5
Camping Offices:	
Fairview	E5
Livestock	D1
Trackside	H1
Catholic Church Food	F9
Cong. Church Dairy Bar	H3
Craft Beer	H3
Craft Center	D4
Dairy Barns (7)	D2, D3
Denmark Lions Food	F3
Draft Horse & Pony Show	F3
Emily's Restaurant	E2
Energy Row	C4
Entertainment:	
Draft Horse Park	E1
Hayseed Theater	G1
Mutual Windows	F3, F4, G1
Natural Resources Center	C4
New Church Restaurant	E4
Old MacDonald's Petting Zoo	C5
Expo Center	E5
Expo 5	E2
Fandangle's Restaurant	E4
Fiber Center	E2
Fireman's Muster	E2
Fire Tower	C3
First Aid	E5, F1
Fryeburg Fire Department	C3
4-H Exhibit Hall	E2
4-H Horse Show	H1
4-H Livestock Barn	D2
Fryeburg Lions Food	D2
Garden Center	C4
Gates:	
Blue	A4
Green	H1
Main	E5
Orange	F1
Walk-in	H5
Grandstands:	
Main	F3
Goat	C3
Hay & Grain Barn	C1
Xmas Tree Exhibits	D2
Horse & Pony Barns:	
Pulling Horses (3)	D1, E1
Show Horses (2)	E1, F1
Show Ponies (3)	F1
Race Horses (5)	G1, H1
Horse Stables	E1
Information Booths (2)	E5, F2
Judges Stand	F4
Little Red Schoolhouse	C5
Livestock Office	D3
Livestock Show Arena	D3
Llama/Alpaca Barn	C5
Loretta's Kitchen	C5
Main Office	C1
Midway Office	E5
Milking Parlor & Demo Area	D3
Mothers Lounge	C4
Mountain View Pavilion	D2
Museum	C5, D5
Mutual Windows	F3, F4, G1
Natural Resources Center	C4
New Church Restaurant	E4
Old MacDonald's Petting Zoo	C5
Ox Barns	C1, C2, C3
Ox Judging (Ft.)	C3
Ox Pulling (Ft.)	C3
Ox Scales	C1
Paddock	H2
Poultry Barn	E2
Pulling Ring	E2
Rabbit Barn	E2
Racing Office	H1
Security	H5
Sheep Barns	D2
Sheep Dog Trials	G2
Sheep Show Ring	D2
Specialty Foods Pavilion	D4
Sugar House	C5
Swine Barn	C3
Ticket Office/Booth	A4, E5, F1, H5
Tractor Pulling	C3, F3
Truck Pulling	F3
Wash Racks	C2, D1, D2, F1
Water Wheel Park & Stage	E5
Woodsmen's Field Day	F2
Woodward Show Arena	D2

**COLOR KEY**

- First Aid/Public Safety
- Restrooms
- Livestock
- Expos
- Entertainment
- ATM Machine
- Information

May 2013

**24 Hour Emergency Number  
During Fair 207-935-3268**

# PROGRAM OF EVENTS 2022

**No Pets Allowed Inside  
The Fairgrounds  
SERVICE DOGS ONLY**

Subject to change if necessary

Strollers, wheelchairs & scooters are available to rent at the "Blue Gate" and "Orange Gate" on a first come, first serve basis.  
Free Admission to Grandstand (Except Racing Boxes)  
Agricultural Exhibition Center Open Daily 9 am - 9 pm  
Schoolhouse Open Daily 9 am - 5 pm Farm Museum Open Daily 9 am - 8 pm  
Museum Craft Demonstrations Open Daily 10 am - 5 pm  
Fiber Demonstrations Open Daily 9 am - 9 pm  
Llama/Alpaca Demonstrations Daily @ 11 am and on-going

### Key to Buildings

AEC	Agricultural Exhibition Center	PR	Pulling Ring
CC	Craft Center	RB	Rabbit Barn
CTE	Christmas Tree Exhibit	RG	Racing Grandstand
FC	Fiber Center	SGG	Swine & Goat Grandstand
LSA	Livestock Show Arena	WSA	Woodward Show Arena
MVP	Mountain View Pavillion		

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

8:00 am Official ADGA Dairy Goat Show - LSA  
8:30 am Church Service - Hayseed Theater  
9:00 am 4-H Riding Horse Show - Infield  
Firemen's Muster - SGG  
Ox Pulling - 2100 lbs. - Distance - PR  
10:00 am Flower Show - Expo 1  
Poultry Show  
Sheepdog Trails - Infield  
11:00 am Catholic Mass - Hayseed Theater  
Fleece and Fiber Show & Sale - FC  
Sheep Shearing Demo - MVP  
Wreathmaking Demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
Society Pig Scramble - (must reside in towns of our Society) - PR  
(Ages 8-10) Entries close at 10:30 am  
12:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
12:30 pm Horse Pulling 3000 lbs. - Distance - PR  
1:00 pm Parent/Child Baking Contest - AEC  
Dairy Goat Show continues - LSA  
Duck Herding Demo - MVP  
2:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Wreathmaking Demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
Decorate a Pumpkin Contest - AEC  
3:30 pm Ox Pulling - 2500 lbs. - 6' Elimination - PR  
4:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Tractor Pull & Big Rig Pull - after Horse Show - Infield Area  
Sheep Shearing Demo - MVP  
Decorate a Pumpkin Contest - AEC  
6:30 pm Horse Pulling - 3200 lbs. 12' Elimination - PR

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 3

9:00 am Show of Market Lambs - LSA Showmanship  
Woodsmen's Field Day - RG  
10:00 am Flower Show - Expo 1  
4-H Dairy Goat Show - WSA  
Horse Pulling - 3000 lbs. - 12' Elimination - PR  
11:00 am Wreath Making Demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
Duck Herding - MVP  
12:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Skillet Throw - SGG - Entries close at 10:30 am  
12:30 pm Ox Pulling - 1700 lbs. - Distance - PR  
4-H Beef Steer Show - LSA - Showmanship followed by Belted Galloway Steer Show  
Show of Scramble Calves - LSA  
Ox Pulling - 1700 lbs. - Distance  
1:00 pm Whoopie Pie Contest - AEC  
Sheep Shearing Demo - MVP  
1:30 pm Anvil Throw for Men - SGG  
2:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Wreath Making Demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
2:30 pm Sheep Shearing to Show! - MVP  
3:00 pm Oxen Demonstrations & Scooting Contest - SGG  
Ox Pulling - 2500 lbs. - Distance - PR  
4:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
5:00 pm Horse Pulling - 3200 lbs. - Distance - PR  
6:30 pm 4-H Market Hog Show - LSA - Showmanship  
7:00 pm Ox Pulling - 2100 lbs. and under 6' Elimination - PR  
8:00 pm Night Show - Nouveau Redneck

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4

Senior Citizens Day (65 and over - gate free)

Antique Tractor Show Day  
8:30 am Show of Draft Horses, Ponies, Cart, 2 & 4 Hitch, 4 Abreast, NACCS Cart - RG  
Belted Galloway Youth Showmanship - LSA  
9:00 am Sheep Show - Open Show all day - MVP  
Tractor Pull - SGG  
Dairy Show Jersey and Guernsey - WSA  
Beef Show - Belted Galloway - AOB - LSA  
Ox Pulling - Ladies Pull - 2900 & under - (One team per Driver) - PR  
10:00 am Flower Show - Expo 1  
10:30 am 2900 - 3100 lbs. Percentage Distance - PR  
11:00 am Wreath Making Demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
12:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Sheep Shearing Demo - MVP  
Blueberry Dessert Contest - AEC  
1:00 pm Sheep Show - MVP  
1:30 pm Harness Racing - RG  
Draft Horse & Pony Show - Halter Classes - PR  
2:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Wreath Making Demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
4:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Sheep Shearing Demo after Sheep Show - MVP  
4:30 pm Steer & Ox Costume and Parade - SGG  
6:00 pm Ox Pulling - Ladies Pull - 2900 lbs & over - PR  
7:00 pm Horse Pulling - 3 Horse Hitch Percentage - Distance - PR  
8:00 pm Night Show - Ell Young Band

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5

8:30 am Show of Draft Horses, Ponies, Cart Class, Male Driver Unicorn, 6 Hitch - Youth Cart - RG  
Show of Working Oxen, Show Oxen & Steers - SGG  
9:00 am Sheep Show - (all day) - MVP  
Dairy Show Milking Shorthorn & Brown Swiss - WSA  
Beef Show Chianinas, Hereford & Simmentals - LSA  
Ox Pulling - 2900 lbs - Distance - PR  
10:00 am Flower Show - Expo 1  
10:30 am Ox Pulling - 3600-4100 lbs. Percentage Distance - PR  
11:00 am Wreathmaking demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
12:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Sheep Shearing Demo - MVP  
1:00 pm Open Pig Scramble - PR (Ages 8-10) Entries close 12 PM (Drawing)  
Show of Working Steers Handy Class for kids - SGG  
2 Crusted Apple Pie Contest - AEC  
Sheep Show - MVP  
1:30 pm Harness Racing - RG  
2:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Wreathmaking demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
Horse Pulling - Sweepstakes - Distance - PR  
3:30 pm Horse Pulling - 3400 lbs. - 15' Elim. (Ralph Gushee Memorial) - PR  
4:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Sheep Shearing Demo after Sheep Show - MVP  
6:30 pm Horse Pulling - Sweepstakes - 15' Elim. (Frank Gleason Memorial) - PR  
8:00 pm Night Show - Dirty Deeds - The AC/DC Experience

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

8:30 am Show of Working Oxen, Show Oxen & Steers - SGG  
Show of Draft Horses, Ponies, Tandem, Pair, 4 Horse/Pony Hitch, 8 Horse Hitch - RG  
9:00 am Sheep Show - MVP  
Beef Show Beef Shorthorns, Angus, Aberdeen - LSA  
Dairy Show - Holstein and Ayrshire - WSA  
10:00 am Ox Pulling - 3300 lbs. - Distance - PR  
11:00 am Flower Show - Expo 1  
12:00 pm Wreathmaking Demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
Flower Show - Expo 1  
Sheep Shearing Demo - MVP  
1:00 pm Anything Pumpkin - AEC  
Sheep Show - MVP  
1:30 pm Harness Racing - RG  
Horse Pulling - 3100 lbs. - Distance - PR  
2:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Wreathmaking Demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
3:00 pm Horse Pulling - 3300 lbs. - 15' Elimination - PR  
4:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
4:30 pm Overall Champion Dairy, Beef Females, Sheep Ewes, Beef Bulls, Sheep Rams - LSA  
5:30 pm Horse Pulling - 3400 lbs. - Distance - (Arthur & Andy Libby Memorial) - PR  
7:00 pm Ox Pulling - Sweepstakes - Distance - (Irving & Rodney Holbrook Memorial) - PR  
8:00 pm Night Show - Rave X Outer Limits Tour features Ronnie MacI

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7

9:00 am Ox Pulling Youth Teamster Class 1100 lbs. - (Teamster age 12 & under)  
G Robinson Youth Outstanding Teamster Award (Yoke),

10:00 am Fryeburg Fair Presidents Trophy and Runner-up Award - PR  
Flower Show - Expo 1  
Calf Scramble - RG  
Pig Scramble (Students MSAD #72) - (third grade) - RG  
10:30 am Draft Horse & Pony Jr. & Sr. Youth Show - WSA  
Ox Pulling Youth Teamster Class 1300 lbs - (Teamster age 16 & under)  
G Robinson Youth Outstanding Teamster Award (Yoke),  
Fryeburg Fair Presidents Trophy and Runner-up Award - PR  
11:00 am 4-H Market Hog Auction - LSA  
4-H Market Lamb Auction - LSA  
4-H Beef Steer Auction - LSA  
Sheep Shearing Demo - MVP  
Wreathmaking Demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
12:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Horse Pulling - 3100 lbs - 12' Elimination - PR  
1:00 pm Swine Show - SGG  
Calf Show and Sale - LSA  
Decorated Cupcakes - AEC  
1:30 pm Harness Racing - RG  
2:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Wreathmaking Demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
Sheep Shearing Demo - MVP  
3:00 pm Haunted Gingerbread House Decorating Cookies - AEC  
3:30 pm Ox Pulling Sweepstake 6' Elim. (Gordon Robinson Memorial) - PR  
4:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Haunted Gingerbread House Decorating Cookies - AEC  
6:30 pm Horse Pulling - Ride the Boat - 3400 lbs., 20' (NO Touch) - PR  
8:00 pm Night Show - Alexandra Kay  
Fireworks After Night Show

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

9:45 am Speaker - American Farm Bureau - RG  
10:00 am Flower Show - Expo 1  
Grand Parade - Trophy Presentations - RG  
11:00 am Wreathmaking Demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
Sheep Shearing Demo - MVP  
11:30 am 4-H Swine Show - SGG  
12:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
4-H Sheep Show Type Classes - MVP  
Ox Pulling 2900 lbs. - 6' Elimination - PR  
1:00 pm 4-H Dairy Show - WSA  
1:30 pm Harness Racing - RG  
2:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Wreathmaking Demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
4-H Beef Heifer Show - LSA  
2:30 pm 4-H Showmanship - Working Steer - SGG  
Horse Pulling - 3300 lbs - Distance - PR  
4:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Ox Pulling 3300 - 6' Elimination - PR  
5:00 pm Sheep Shearing Demo - MVP  
6:00 pm Adult Beef & Dairy Showmanship - LSA  
6:30 pm Horse Pulling, Ride the Boat - Sweepstakes, 20' (NO Touch) - PR  
7:00 pm 4-H Sheep Lead Line - MVP  
8:00 pm Night Show - TBA

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

8:30 am Church Service - Hayseed Theater  
4-H Working Steers Scooting Contest - SGG  
9:00 am 4-H Sheep Showmanship Classes - MVP  
4-H Beef Heifer Show - LSA  
4-H Dairy Show - WSA  
10:00 am Flower Show - Expo 1  
10:30 am Open Pig Scramble - PR (Ages 8-10) Entries Close at 9:30 am (Drawing)  
11:00 am Catholic Mass - Hayseed Theater  
Wreathmaking Demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
12:00 pm Ox Pulling - 4 Ox Pull (Two pair of Oxen Driven by one Driver)  
Percentage Distance (each team must weigh 2400 lbs) - PR  
Flower Show - Expo 1  
Sheep Shearing Demo - MVP  
12:30 pm Scooting Contest - SGG  
1:00 pm Children Pie Eating Contest - AEC  
1:30 pm Harness Racing - RG  
2:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Horse Pulling - 2 lbs of rock per lb. of horse Percentage - Distance - PR  
Children Decorate a Farm Themed Cookie - AEC  
3:00 pm Following Races is 4WD Pull - RG  
5:00 pm (Grandstand seats reserved until racing ends) - Infield Area  
See you in 2023 - Oct. 1 through Oct. 8

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE FRYEBURG FAIR

The West Oxford Agricultural Society (presenters of the Fryeburg Fair) was incorporated on June 3, 1851. Originally nine Maine towns were included, with six New Hampshire towns added in 1888.

After moving from town to town for the first few years, a permanent fair site was purchased in Fryeburg. After nearly 30 years it moved to its present location, north of town, with the purchase of 26 acres for \$133. The first fair was held there in October 1885. During the next 100 plus years it has expanded to 200 acres and includes 100 permanent buildings, with over 3,000 camping sites. Currently, about 300,000 attend the fair annually.



**Pay One Price** for all rides on Tuesday (10/4), Wednesday (10/5), Thursday (10/6), and last Sunday (10/19) from 10:00am to Close - \$30.00! All rides on Sunday (10/2), Monday (10/3) from 10am to Close - \$25.00!

### DAILY ENTERTAINMENT

Fryeburg Fair is pleased to present over 200 of Maine's most talented musicians and entertainers throughout the Fair week. Performances are ongoing in five different locations, the Waterwheel Park by the Front Gate, Christmas Tree Park next to the Pulling Ring, Hayseed Theater by the Orange Gate, and the Draft Horse Park by the Llama Barn. Entertainment brochures are available at each gate and the information booth.

**No Pets Allowed Inside  
The Fairgrounds  
SERVICE ANIMALS ONLY**

### FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

Historically, traffic has been heavier on Saturday's due to our great morning Parade, afternoon Midway and Harness Racing. To avoid traffic we suggest that you Come Early and Stay Late. Also, for your convenience and to help with traffic flow, Fryeburg Fair has posted alternate routes to and from the Fairgrounds.

**Call 935-3268  
for parking and general information.  
For camping info  
call 935-2912.**

# Fair returns with new midway, old favorite events

By RACHEL ANDREWS DAMON  
SPECIAL TO THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

Fryeburg Fair, Maine's Blue Ribbon Classic, returns this weekend with eight days of agricultural exhibits, farm animals, rides, food and entertainment.

The 172nd annual eight-day fair runs from Sunday, Oct. 2 through Sunday, Oct. 9.

The big news for this year's fair is that organizers have contracted with a new amusement provider — Dreamland Amusements, which will debut spectacular new rides to Fryeburg fairgoers.

David Andrews, general superintendent, says: "We're always making improvements at the fair. We're very excited about Dreamland Amusements. The midway is going to feel new and better this year.

"We've added another 50 picnic tables and have focused on improving seating and rest areas in order for fairgoers to enjoy all we offer. We have more ATM machines, expanded food options, and have made the midway more spacious. It's going to be a great year."

Dreamland provides amusements for fairs and carnivals from Florida to New England. This is Dreamland's first time in the state of Maine.

Dreamland ride tickets can be purchased online. They will accept credit cards on site this year and fair officials say they expect this to make a big difference in ticket lines.

Fair organizers recommend ride lovers try the Dream Catcher, Super Himalaya, Starship 200 and the Wacky Worm Coaster.

Go to [dreamlandamusements.com](http://dreamlandamusements.com) for tickets and more information.

Other online options have been added to help fairgoers and exhibitors. Buying fair tickets online at [fryeburgfair.org](http://fryeburgfair.org) can save time getting into the fair.

Fair programs, maps and the complete 160-page Fryeburg Fair Book, with details on every exhibit, pulling competition, animal show and auction, can also be downloaded from the website. Printed copies are at the fair office.

Also online now are entry forms for most exhibitors and vendors, which organizers say makes everything much easier for those wanting to display and sell their products.

The 2022 Fryeburg Fair opens at 7 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 2, and highlights include the firemen's muster, 4-H horse show, sheepdog trials, the first of four pig scrambles, ox and draft horse pulling, flower, poultry, dairy goat, fleece, fiber and sheep shows, wreathmaking, baking contests and the very popular tractor and big rig pull.

Woodsmen's Field Day is on Monday, Oct. 3, starting at 9 a.m. and is the largest spectator woodsmen's event in North America. Contestants come from all over the U.S. and Canada to compete in over 34 woods skills events.

Also on Monday, the fair's very popular women's



Norman and Grace Miller of Florida, pet one of the many goats at the Fryeburg Fair's goat barn in 2021. (RACHEL SHARPLES PHOTO)

skillet throw starts at noon followed by the men's anvil toss. Both events are open to members of the public who wish to throw heavy objects.

Animal exhibitions, shows and auctions are the heart of the Fryeburg Fair, with 3,000 head of cows, horses, oxen, poultry, rabbits and more. This year, the fair's Baby Beef Show marks a milestone with its 85th consecutive year.

Randy Hall, the superintendent of the beef department at the fair, says, "Fryeburg is the longest running baby beef show in New England and it is, by far, the premiere show of them all. Every kid dreams of winning Fryeburg. It was that way when I was in 4-H as a youngster and it is now."

Hall, 60, knows what he's talking about as he won in 1977, 1980 and 1981. His mother, Pauline Small, won three times in the 1950s. They are the only parent/child to have won it three times each.

Fellow Mainers and three-time champions include Morris Keane in the '40s, Julie Jack in the '70s and Amy McGee in the late '90s and 2000s.

To give more background on this show, Hall adds: "Each year Fryeburg Fair donates eight steers for the calf scramble held on Friday morning at the Grandstand at 10 a.m. Ten 4-H kids participate in the scramble and eight of them win a steer.

"The next year, those steers and the kids who have raised them from scramble calves return to the fair for showing and auctioning. The auction is held at the Livestock Show Arena on Fridays after the scramble. Anyone can bid on them."

The 2022 Fryeburg Fair annual fair poster with artwork by Johanna Hoffman of Saco honors fair's Baby Beef program.

You can also see highlights of the livestock during the Grand Parade on Saturday, Oct. 8, beginning at 10 a.m., with a narrated showcase of the fair's best livestock, floats, bands, businesses and antique cars.

Not to be missed, is the antique wagon display. The fair wouldn't be the fair without fair food,

see FAIR page 22

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Large crowds flow between buildings, rides and food stands on a busy Monday at the Fryeburg Fair in 2021. (RACHEL SHARPLES PHOTO)

# Annual attendance can reach 300,000 at the fair

The Fryeburg Fair annually draws about 300,000 people during its eight-day run.

That number includes both paid and free admissions. Children under 12 get in free every day, and senior citizens over 65 are free on the Tuesday of the fair.

Fair attendance in recent years hasn't quite been up to the all-time record for paid attendance of 199,266, set in 2004.

Last year, no one was making any predictions for how many people would attend the fair as the number of COVID-19 cases was rising in the early fall but ultimately, the fair reported a strong return after being held only virtually in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Looking back on the 2021 fair shortly after it ended last fall, Fryeburg Fair publicist Rachel Andrews Damon said, "We had plenty of everything, and people seemed to appreciate it more than ever (after having been a virtual fair the year before)."

The fair went virtual in 2020, with online videos, photos, music and contests covering a wide variety of fair subjects.

It was the only fall that the fair hadn't opened its gates since its founding in 1851.

As things returned mostly to normal in 2021, some COVID-19 precautions were put in place, mainly signs, beefed up hand-washing and sanitizing stations (for which the fair bought 300 gallons of hand sanitizer), the request for people to wear masks in expo buildings, and more attention paid to keeping people flowing through buildings in one direction.

Despite continuing pandemic concerns, attendance at the fair was up

over 2019, the last time the in-person fair had been held.

Total paid attendance for the 2021 fair was 165,817, up over 4,000 from 2019's tally of 161,476.

No daily attendance records were set in 2021, but five days of the eight-day fair showed higher totals than 2019. The biggest single day is always Saturday; fair attendance on that day was 34,450.

Daily paid attendance records over the years include:

- Opening Sunday — 29,995 in 2001.
- Monday — 26,017 in 2014.
- Tuesday — 17,014 in 2006.
- Wednesday — 20,125 in 2001.
- Thursday — 20,438 in 2009.
- Friday — 31,451 in 2012.
- Saturday — 46,834 in 2000.
- Closing Sunday — 28,011 in 2001.

### Avoid the traffic

With all that attendance, getting in and out of the fair can be a challenge, and Damon offered some insider tips on avoiding the worst of the traffic.

Tip No. 1: Arrive early and stay late if you can. There are plenty of seating and resting spots at the fair. Enjoy an easy day.

Tip No. 2 Weekends and perfect fall weather days are busiest. Adjust your plans accordingly.

Tip No. 3: Come into the Fair arriving from the North and leave the same way if possible.

Those who want to just stay at the fair all week and avoid the traffic altogether, the fair has 3,200 campsites. To reserve a spot call (207) 935-2912 or email [camping@fryeburgfair.org](mailto:camping@fryeburgfair.org).

DISCOVER MUSIC AROUND EVERY CORNER!

# 6th Annual Busker Fest

Street musicians play Saturday & Sunday of Columbus Day Weekend at Settlers Green

## Featured Buskers:

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 11AM-3PM

Majestic Loon Birds

String Equinox

Rob Viola

Meghan Clark

Julia Velie

North Country Jazz

Eric Kukler

DellaValla Bluegrass Trio

Willow Carter

Trenton Graham

Dan Parkhurst

Catwolf

Katie Dobbins

## SPONSORED BY



Scan here for more info!

See street musician play times and locations at [settlersgreen.com/events](http://settlersgreen.com/events)

**FAIR** from page 20

and you can find everything from fried dough, candied apples and blooming onions at carnival vendors to blueberry or apple crisp at cooked up by local churches.

Tops on many lists is Sunflower Farms Pizza, which returns this year in a fresh new location near the Dairy Bar after skipping last year's fair due to staffing issues.

Posting on Facebook last year, Sunflower owner Vinnie Lanavaro said deciding not to come was a personal decision "specific to our business, to the workers, the congested gathering and seating of our customers."

After missing two years of the fair, Damon said Vinnie is happy to be back and this year, fairgoers can expect to find plenty of great seating in the new location to enjoy Vinnie's cheese, pepperoni or black olive and garlic pizza.

Another big draw is the entertainment. Last year, the fair stayed local, with almost all performers coming from Maine.

This year, bringing in Nashville Alexandra Kay on Friday and Nate Smith on Saturday night's big musical event of the week, country music band The Eli Young Band from Texas on Tuesday, as well as New England performers Nouveau Redneck on Monday, Dirty Deeds — The AC/DC Experience on Thursday, and Rave



**LEFT:** Workers from Dreamland Amusements, the new provider for rides in the midway, clean off one of the attractions as set-up continued for the Fryeburg Fair on Sept. 29. The fair kicks off on Oct. 2. (RACHEL SHARPLES PHOTO) **RIGHT:** The official poster for this year's Fryeburg Fair celebrates the 85th anniversary of the 4-H Baby Beef Auction. (COURTESY IMAGE)

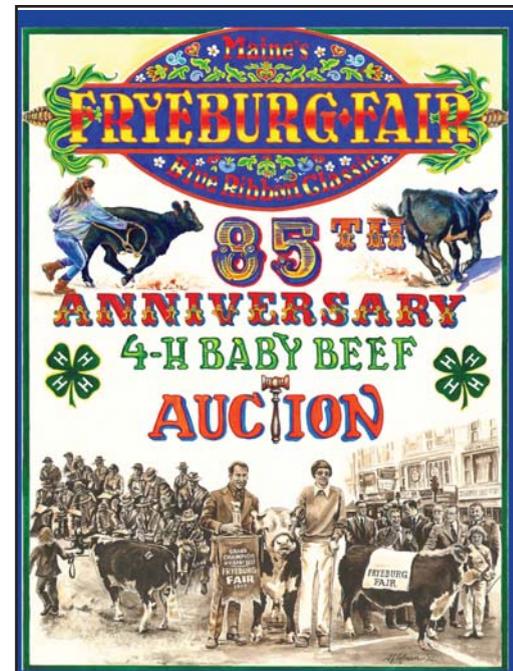
X, The Outer Limits Tour freestyle motorsports show on Wednesday.

The fair also has expo buildings with shopping, crafts, gifts, flower arts, fiber arts, farm and history museums, and harness racing.

General admission continues to be \$12 daily and includes the 8 p.m. night show. Tickets can be pre-purchased online or in-person at the gate.

Weekly passes (for all eight days) are \$80 and must be purchased at the fair in person. Children under 12 are always free. Tuesday is senior citizen's day (65 & over are admitted free). Gates open at 7 a.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 4 is senior citizen's day — and we celebrate being that young by giving free admission to all those 65 and older.



Group tickets sales available from the fair office. For more information on Fryeburg Fair, go to fryeburgfair.org, email info@fryeburgfair.org or call (207) 935-3268.

*Rachel Andrews Damon is a trustee of the West Oxford Agricultural Society and head of publicity and advertising for the Fryeburg Fair.*



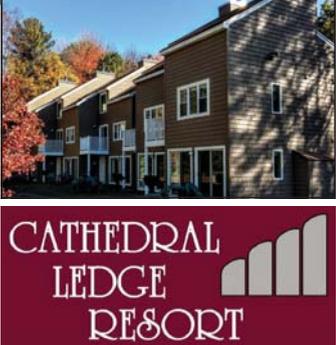
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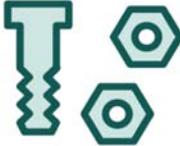
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Hanna Severy of Wales, Maine, and Lexi Bernier of Brunswick, Maine, compete in the women's cross-cut saw event at the Woodsmen's Field Day at the Fryeburg Fair in 2021. (RACHEL SHARPLES PHOTO)

# Popular Woodsmen's Field Day on Monday

BY RACHEL ANDREWS DAMON  
SPECIAL TO THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

The annual Woodsmen's Field Day will be held on Monday, Oct. 3.

Woodmen's Field Day is a Fryeburg Fair tradition — always the first Monday starting at 9 a.m.

Throughout the day, men and women compete in more than 34 woods skills events.

Contestants come from all over the U.S. and Canada to compete in bucksaw, standing block, the ax throw, tree felling, crosscut and springboard, they have it all.

Fryeburg Fair Woodsmen's Field Day is the largest spectator woodsmen's event in North America.

Events run all day with winners announced and awards given out throughout the day and also at the closing of the day, typically around 5 p.m.

Several contests run concurrently with the rest of the program, not necessarily in the same order. The registration fee is \$35.

There is no registration the day of the event, except skidders and truckers, who may register until 8 a.m. on Oct. 3.

The fair's very popular Women's Skillet Throw also starts at noon on Monday, followed by the Men's Anvil Toss. Annette Bennett Metcalf of Naples, Maine, is the superintendent of these events.



Amanda Dalton of Rhode Island throws her pan high during the 30-45 age group at the Skillet Toss at the Fryeburg Fair in 2021. (RACHEL SHARPLES PHOTO)

"The skillet toss brings women from all around the country. It's a fierce competition. Our anvil throw is new but growing. Come give it a try," she said.

For more information, contact the fair at (207) 935-3268.

Rachel Andrews Damon is a trustee of the West Oxford Agricultural Society and head of publicity and advertising for the Fryeburg Fair.



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LEFT: The Super Himalaya Ride is one of Dreamland Amusements' premier rides. RIGHT: Dreamland will also be bringing a number of kiddie rides, including the Jumbo Dumbo ride, to the Fryeburg Fair. (COURTESY PHOTOS)

# Dreamland Amusements to bring new rides to fair

By RACHEL ANDREWS DAMON  
SPECIAL TO THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

Fryeburg Fair's new midway amusements provider Dreamland Amusements of Long Island, N.Y., has been providing amusement rides from Florida to New England for years.

Fryeburg Fair announced in March it had signed with Dreamland Amusements to provide midway rides and for booking and organizing midway carnival concessionaires.

Dreamland Amusements replaces Smokey's Greater Shows, which provided rides at the fair for many years.

Dreamland Amusements is owned by Bob and Kathy DeStefano, longtime professionals in the carnival and amusement business. They own over 50 rides and serve large county fairs, state fairs, corporate and private events on the East Coast.

Dreamland Amusements recently added three new large-scale events to their 2022 schedule,

including Fryeburg Fair.

"We are very honored that after a long interview process, Fryeburg Fair has chosen us to be their midway provider," Bob DeStefano said.

Dreamland Amusements will bring about 32 rides to Fryeburg Fair 2022: the Super Himalaya, the Dreamcatcher, the Zipper and Starship, to name a few. There will be a Wacky Worm roller coaster that

see **DREAMLAND** page 25

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# Readying for fabulous Fryeburg Fair food and fun

By TOM EASTMAN  
THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

FRYEBURG, Maine — Like the musical “Brigadoon” about the fabled Scottish village that appears for only one day every 100 years, the Fryeburg Fair — “Maine’s Blue Ribbon Classic” — returns every fall, rising out of the morning fog to present us fairgoers with eight days of amazing fun. This year it’s taking place Oct. 2-9.



I stopped by the fairgrounds Thursday to get my press pass from Sharon Keefe, and while there walked around to take in the busy goings

on, as baseball-capped, plaid flannel-shirted crew members worked to set up the rides and game booths while local and regional vendors drove food trailers into place on the midway.

Everywhere you looked, something was going on. I walked past the yet-to-open food stands, with my imagination dialing up the savory scents from past fairs as I came upon the Conway Congregational’s (the Brown Church) Famous Apple Crisp booth, next to the orange Blooming Onions cart. Later, I passed the blueberry and apple crisp stands, and too many french fry places to count.

At the Fryeburg Recreation Department canopy near the front entrance, I saw a nice restored white Jeep on display. Fryeburg Rec Director Rick Buzzell told me they are offering a raffle choice between that 1990 Jeep, a four-wheeler and a golf cart, so make sure to buy some raffle tickets when you go to the fair.

As I walked along, it really drove home all of the organizational work that it takes for members of the West Oxford Agricultural Society to prepare for the



Kevin Smith and Chris Lewis check lightbulbs on the Stan’s French Fries stand as setup continued Thursday at the Fryeburg Fair. Owner Stan McGray, based out of Skowhegan, said the stand has been in the same spot at the fair for 35 years. (RACHEL SHARPLES PHOTO)

fair, just as it has since 1852.

Also coming to mind were the names of people I’ve gotten to interview over the years who enriched my appreciation for the fair’s history — people like the colorful C. Earl “Bub” Osgood, late superintendent of the midway, who told me in 1985 that Fryeburg Fair’s motto has always been “something for young and old, male and female alike.” Though he joked that after trustees voted to do away with the hootchie-kootchie tent that year, that slogan was going to be changed to “something for old and female alike.”

There was late fair president Phil Andrews, who pulled up as I was taking photos of the entrance. He rolled down the window of his Cadillac and asked if I was busy. Replying that for once I actually did have some free time, he said, “Hop in.” That I did, and it was like LBJ asking you to go on a tour of the ranch, as Phil drove me around the fairgrounds, telling me great stories about its history.

Ed and Diane Jones, both of whom recently passed, were a Fryeburg couple, who, like many, gave their all to the fair, bringing the Farm Museum to life, with Ed building the replica of the horse-drawn railroad trolley wagon. Diane was a historian.

And then there was Phil’s son Roy, who succeeded his dad as president. Roy retired last year, and David Hastings III was named president by trustees in December. I always loved interviewing Roy, who was fond of saying “Anything up to 30 percent is just exaggerating; anything after that is lying.”

See you there. And save me a seat at the grandstand as I try my luck at the track, which I tried (very unsuccessfully, I might add) last year for the first time after all of these years.

LONG LIVE HOOT: For the first time in two years (due to the pandemic), I ventured north to check out Hoot Night at the Wildcat Inn & Tavern in Jackson.

Driving through the once-again hit Jackson Covered Bridge (can you believe, what, for the fifth time?), I had no idea of what to expect in terms of the turnout for Hoot, which is now offered during very civilized earlier hours compared to when it was held pre-pandemic.

Walking into the friendly confines of the tavern, home of so many good memories of music and friends dating back to when late friend Rod MacKenzie used

see VOICE page 12a



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## IN REVIEW

# Week

Sept. 24-30, 2022

### DIGEST OF STORIES IN THE SUN THIS WEEK

#### Saturday, Sept. 24

- The Mount Washington Observatory is celebrating 90 years of studying the weather on the summit of the Northeast's highest peak with a Founders' Day open house at the summit station on Oct. 15 and a talk Oct. 11 by Dr. Peter Cane, curator of the Obs' Gladys Brooks Memorial Library. The Obs also welcomed Dr. Drew Fulton Bush as its new executive director.

- Gene Chandler (R-Bartlett) announced he will seek one of two open seats to represent Carroll County District 2 (Albany Bartlett, Chatham, Hale's Location, Hart's Location, Jackson and Sandwich) after a primary write-in campaign garnered 52 signatures for him in Bartlett. Chandler and Daniel Bacon (R-Chatham) will face Democrats Anita Burroughs of Bartlett and Chris McAleer of Jackson in the general election.

- The Friends of the Big Nansen Ski Jump in Milan hosted a tour for former ski jumpers to view the work done on the big jump as well as the new 39K and 10K jumps. Among the former jumpers was Vinko Bogataj, better known as the "Agony of Defeat" jumper whose jumping crash for years was part of the opening footage to ABC's "Wide World of Sports."

- Local farmers' markets and farm stands, including Sherman's, Weston's and Grand View farms in the Mount Washington Valley, provide produce and opportunities to support local agriculture.

#### Tuesday, Sept. 27

- Fryeburg Academy Head of School Erin Mayo said that a letter to the Sun by former Maine resident Nathan Kempthorne arguing that taxpayers deserve more transparency from private schools that take public students had "fundamental errors." Mayo said the private school's financial information is available on IRS documents and that people in MSAD get to vote on tuition contracts with the school.

- State and local police asked the public for help in identifying the driver of a white Subaru sedan that they said sideswiped the Honeymoon Covered Bridge on Sunday night, then took off.

- A Carroll County Superior Court grand jury indicted Christopher Churchill, 51, of West Buxton, Maine, who police say struck two pedestrians in a crosswalk on Main Street in North Conway in June, on a Class B felony charge of driving after revocation or suspension.

#### Wednesday, Sept. 28

- Mike DiGregorio, a Conway Village Fire Com-



Workers with Dreamland Amusements, the new provider of rides on the midway, clean off a canvas for one of the children's rides as set up continued for the Fryeburg Fair on Thursday. The fair opens Sunday and runs through Oct. 9. (RACHEL SHARPLES PHOTO)

mission member and a Republican candidate for state House District 1, was chosen by the Conway selectmen to fill a vacant seat on the Conway School Board next April. The Conway School Board created a new policy to make sure the it never has to go to the selectmen to appoint someone to fill a seat again.

- Tin Mountain Conservation Center opened a new 1.3-mile Accessible Nature Trail at the center in Albany.

- The Conway Planning Board OK'd a plan by Cranmore Mountain Resort to erect a temporary tent for use this winter while work continues on the new Fairbank Lodge.

- State Rep. Steve Woodcock (D-Conway) reported on House votes relating to Gov. Chris Sununu's vetoes of various bills, including safety zones around landfills, buffer zones around health centers/abortion centers, ivermectin, masks in schools, Congressional redistricting and immigration tests for New Hampshire students. None of the vetoes were overridden.

- Conway Daily Sun Publisher Mark Guerrigue announced that The Berlin Sun, which he also publishes, will be published once a week on Thursdays from now on.

- Officials gathered for a groundbreaking ceremony last Friday to mark Portland-based Avesta Housing's start of construction of its River Turn Woods rental housing project in Conway.

- The Conway Planning Board gave conditional site-plan approval to developer Robert Barsamian to turn Building G at Settlers Green in North Conway into a restaurant/lounge at 359 Common Court.

#### Thursday, Sept. 29

- SAU 9 Superintendent Kevin Richard told Conway School Board members a \$3.9 million surplus from the 2021-22 school year can be returned to offset taxes.

- Ossipee Selectman Jonathan Smith said that when the Whittier Covered Bridge reopens after \$2 million worth of repairs, it will be for pedestrian/bike traffic only. Resident Dallas Emery said the bridge should be open to cars, but Smith said the purpose of its restoration was to preserve a historic landmark.

- Conway selectmen at their next meeting Oct. 11 plan to visit Norcross Circle in North Conway to see whether six parking spaces behind the Schouler Park backstop really need to be eliminated to make it easier for firetrucks to leave the new fire station.

- The state Supreme Court case between the town of Conway and local short-term rental owner Scott Kudrick is heading to oral arguments in November.

- Fryeburg, Maine, selectmen said the town's planning board will look at short-term rental regulations.

#### Friday, Sept. 30

- Fryeburg Academy's football team will play its first game on the school's new Clarence E. Mulford Field, a synthetic turf field with lighting for night games.

- Local residents at a public hearing at Albany Town Hall on Route 16, told the state Department of Transportation that it needs to reduce the speed limit on Route 16 in Albany.

- An old White Mountain Airport hangar — currently a building in the Settlers Green outlet village — has been deemed by an engineer to be structurally unsound and is to be demolished.

- Conway selectmen were cool to the idea of moving voting to the new North Conway Fire Station after North Conway Water Precinct Commissioner Suzanne Nelson offered the facility as a voting location.

### Quote of the Week

**"I'm going to tell you, just the whole road is a hazard. Come out and spend the day on a weekend. Watch motorcycles go by at 100 miles an hour. I'm not exaggerating." — Albany resident Howard Hatch, who wants to see the speed limit lowered on a stretch of Route 16.**

# New Hampshire Moose Hunt dates set for Oct. 15-23

CONCORD — For nine days, a group of moose permit holders and their hunting partners will get to take part in New Hampshire's annual moose hunt, set for Oct. 15-23.

Two Carroll County residents — James Lewkowicz of Jackson and Dana Taylor of Moultonborough — were among 40 permit holders whose names were pulled from a pool of more than 6,033 applicants in the state's 35th annual moose hunt lottery drawing in June.

One charitable permit each was issued to the N.H. Wildlife Heritage Foundation and N.H. Wildlife Federation Dream Hunt program.

Seventy alternates were also

selected, including Sandra Vizard of Albany, who is alternate No. 24, and John Clattenburg of Moultonborough, who is alternate No. 17.

Seven of the 40 lottery winners are non-residents, with two each from Massachusetts and Pennsylvania and one each from Florida, Georgia and New York.

Last year, according to Fish and Game, hunters harvested 30 moose, a success rate of 73 percent.

In 2020 and 2021 the lottery was not held due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The moose hunt has been an annual event in the Granite State for more than 20 years. The state's first modern-day moose hunt took place in

1988, with 75 permits issued in the North Country for what was then just a three-day hunt. At that time, New Hampshire was home to about 1,600 moose. In 1992, the number of permits rose to 190 and the following year to 317 permits. By 1994, the number had increased to 405 and topped out at a record 495 in 1995.

The herd stood at 5,000 in 1994. In 2017, according to the National Wildlife Foundation, "The New Hampshire moose population has plummeted by more than 40 percent in the last decade from over 7,500 moose to just 4,000 today."

According to foundation biologists, some of the decline is due to "increas-

ing parasite loads influenced by shorter winters caused by climate change."

The state's current moose population, say Fish and Game biologists, is estimated at about 3,000 animals.

The state's moose population is being observed by drones and 140 cameras in the woods over the next few years to help determine their population numbers and better understand their health, which is being stressed by climate.

The study approved in late May will work to corroborate observation numbers voluntarily collected each fall by deer hunters to get a more verified picture of the situation using unmanned, infrared technology.

## VOICE from page 6a

to host it, I was amazed to see so many musician friends and music fans.

I found a seat right up front as guitarist/vocalist Al "the Rev" Shafner took to the stage, backed by host Jonathan Sarty on bass, Jeremy Dean on lead, Don O'Leary on drums, Hank Walther (an original member of Roomful of Blues, now living in Silver Lake) on keyboards and Dave Trooper on sax.

They grooved their way through a splendid rendition of Van Morrison's "Moondance" and other tunes. I also enjoyed friend Thom Perkins' earlier acoustic set.

Hoot Night is held every Tuesday from 6-8:30 p.m. Go to wildcattavern.com for the scoop on entertainment at the tavern in the heart of the village.

IN ADDITION, Chimera plays today at Tuckerman Brewing Co.'s Beer Garden Stage and Pig's Eye plays there Sunday, both 3-6 p.m.

Ledge Brewing in Intervale is hosting a Ledgetoberfest today with an oompah band, games, special beers and music by Diana's Bath Salts.

BLUES EXTRAORDINAIRE: Vermont guitarist/harmonica player John Lackard and bandmates presented a great show at the Red Parka



Bluesman John Lackard hopped on the bar to play blues harp at the Red Parka Pub in beautiful downtown Glen to the delight of Dennise Hayes of North Conway last Sunday. (TOM EASTMAN PHOTO)

Pub's Blue Sunday on Sept. 25. At one point, John — always a great showman — ventured into the crowd, singing and playing his blues harp, lying down on the bar at one point while

still playing. The next Blue Sunday on Oct. 16 will feature Dirty Blonde and Cheryl Arruda.

Local band Torque is at the RPP tonight, and the Parka kicks off its

50th anniversary celebration with Dennis & Davey on Oct. 13. Go to redparkapub.com for more.

IN HAPPY BIRTHDAYS, we extend best wishes to all Libras, including: Nina Perry, Stacy Sand and Rob Owen (10-1); Holly Reville and Bobby Blake (10-2); Caren Hutchinson, Doug Albert and my bro-in-law Chas Riopel (10-3); Sandi Poor, Joanne Gandolfo, Carrie Burkett and Kevin Flanagan (10-4); musician Andrew Gravel, Lori Cashman Irwin and Corey Madden (10-5), back-in-the-valley entertainer/Wicked Yankee Productions videographer Bucky Lewis (10-6); and Rhonda Rosand and Bill Kane (10-7).

I also extend a belated happy 50th wedding anniversary to Jim and Karen Umberger, who celebrated with friends at Stonehurst Manor on Sept. 25.

DON'T MISS BIG Dave's Bagels & Deli with Guy Fieri on "Diners, Drive-ins and Dives" on the Food Network on Oct. 7 at 9 p.m. Moat Mountain Smokehouse & Brewing was featured Sept. 30. And we're still waiting for when Barley + Salt's segment will be aired — stay tuned, says proprietor Ben Williams. Pretty cool for the valley to get this recognition for our culinary establishments, isn't it?

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**DREAMLAND** from page 24

is 93 feet long in Kiddie Land, as well as a Dumbo ride with 10 super-large elephants.

“These are family rides basically for two adults and two kids, kids being 9 years old and under,” Bob said.

“We also provide light towers, baby changing stations, more seating. We think people will really enjoy everything we bring,” he added.

Dreamland Amusements is an online ticket provider, allowing consumers to purchase wristbands and packages much more easily.

David Andrews, Fryeburg Fair’s general superintendent, said: “We’re excited about this change. It will mean bigger and better offerings for our fairgoers. Dreamland has rides that haven’t been seen in Maine before. They will encompass the same footprint and space as Smokey’s did at Fryeburg Fair. I think it’s a great move.”

Fryeburg Fair will be Dreamland Amusements’ first time serving a fair in the state of Maine. While they own all their rides, they do not own food and concessions, but they book them all as part of their shows.

Current concessionaires at Fryeburg Fair will be booking through Dreamland Amusements going forward and can reach the Dreamland office through their website dreamlandamusements.com.



The DeStefano family, owners of Dreamland Amusements of Long Island, N.Y. Seated, from left: Jaclyn Bob, Layla the dog, Kathy, Kaitlin holding Giovanni. Standing, from left: Gerry holding Reagan, Ryan holding Jaxon, Christina and Cole. (COURTESY PHOTO)

Bob DeStefano says his phone is always on. “We want all the regular Fryeburg Fair concessionaires as always.”

The DeStefanos go back several decades in carnival history. Bob started at 16 years old and Kathy at 14.

Her grandfather Bill Mince did all the lighting contracts for Coney Island. He then bought the company Feltman’s, which was a factory that built pneumatic BB machine gun games. Kathy’s

father, Charlie Wagner, was working for him, then formed his own carnival on Long Island. When Wagner’s Carnival appeared in Levittown, Bob said he ran over looking for a job. He met Kathy, and they started going together. Seven years later they married.

Right before their wedding, Kathy’s parents decided to sell. Bob says they took all their wedding gift envelopes and went to Dallas and bought a Kiddie Land rollercoaster. They began

Silver Dollar Shows in a partnership with others and ran it from 1984-2002.

When the partnership ended, Dreamland Amusements was formed. “Between Kathy and I — well, we’ve skyrocketed,” Bob said.

“We have over 50 rides now. Our show is excellent, and we keep it that way by staying on top of everything especially safety, esthetics and quality control. Our customers come for the rides and that is our total business focus,” Bob said.

“We have great employees (over 120). We believe in family, and truly family is first. Without that approach we can’t do this. Some of our employees, while not blood family, are just like family,” he said.

The DeStefanos have three daughters and five grandchildren, all under the age of 4. Two of their daughters work with Dreamland Amusements.

Reflecting back on the DeStefanos’ long history in carnivals and amusements, Bob says, “It’s been a great ride.”

David Hastings III, president of Fryeburg Fair, says, “Dreamland is going to bring a fresh look to Fryeburg. We encourage our long-term vendors to apply with Dreamland. We’re very enthusiastic about them and think we’ll have a great show.”

For more information on Dreamland Amusements, go to dreamlandamusements.com. For more information on Fryeburg Fair, go to fryeburgfair.org.

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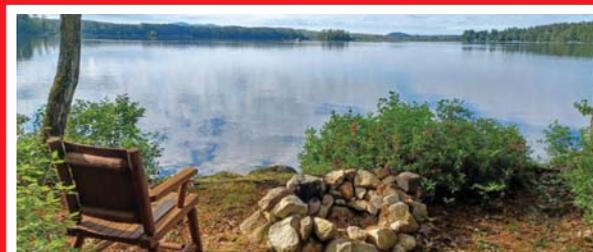
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# Night shows feature rock, country, flying motorbikes

This year's night shows feature roll and roll and country music, as well as a return of the Rave X Outer Limits freestyle motorsport show.

The Maine-based Nouveau Redneck band, described on its Facebook pages as "a badass country/rock cover band that will take you where you want to go," kick's off the week's night show entertainment with the Monday night show.

All night shows start at 8 p.m. at the Grandstand. Admission to the fair covers the night show with no extra charge.

Nouveau Redneck covers songs from Waylon Jennings, Creedence Clearwater Revival, the Rolling Stones, Dwight Yoakam, Johnny Cash, Queen and others. Their focus is on the best classic rock and county music they can find. They say they like to stray some from the typical bar band set lists to provide listeners with some variety. Band members include Jeffrey Williams, guitar/lead vocals; Tyler Johnson, lead guitar/vocals; Joshua Christensen, bass guitar/vocals; and Mike Bean, drums.

The Fryeburg Fair may be your last chance to see this band, which formed in 2011, as the members recently posted on its Facebook page that they are disbanding after filling out their current run of shows. Find out more at [nouveauedneck.com](http://nouveauedneck.com) or on Facebook at [facebook.com/NouveauRedneck](https://facebook.com/NouveauRedneck).

Tuesday's performance is by the Eli



LEFT: Maine's own Nouveau Redneck band kicks off the Fryeburg Fair's night shows on Monday night. RIGHT: Dirty Deeds — the AC/DC Experience brings the sounds and appearance of an AC/DC concert to the main stage at the fair Grandstand on Wednesday. (COURTESY PHOTOS)



Young Band. Members Mike Eli (lead vocals, guitar), James Young (guitar), Jon Jones (bass guitar), and Chris Thompson (drums) have been performing together since they met as students at the University of North Texas in the early 2000s, debuting with an album on Carnival Records in 2005.

The band first hit the Billboard Country Music Charts in 2008 "Always the Love Songs" and country music fans might recognize their No. 1 hits "Crazy Girl," "Even If It Breaks Your Heart," "Drunk Last Night" and "Love Ain't."

The Eli Young Band, which has produced six studio albums as well as singles, a live album and greatest hits album, is also known for its enthusiastic live show that brought them loyal audiences in the Southwest. Find out more at [eliyoungband.com](http://eliyoungband.com).

On Wednesday, the fair's night show is Dirty Deeds — The AC/DC Experience out of Boston. The band has been touring for 20 years, bringing a high energy tribute to one of the world's best rock bands, AC/DC, to venues around New England. Not only do

they capture the unique tones of the supergroup but they also mimic the antics and appearance of AC/DC. Find out more at [theacdcexperience.net](http://theacdcexperience.net).

Thursday's show is not a musical performance but rather a return of RaveX, a the spectacular motorsports show that appeared at the fair last year. This freestyle motorsports show promises spectacular stunts and big air.

The Outer Limits Tour, based in South Portland, Maine, includes

see **MUSIC** page 27

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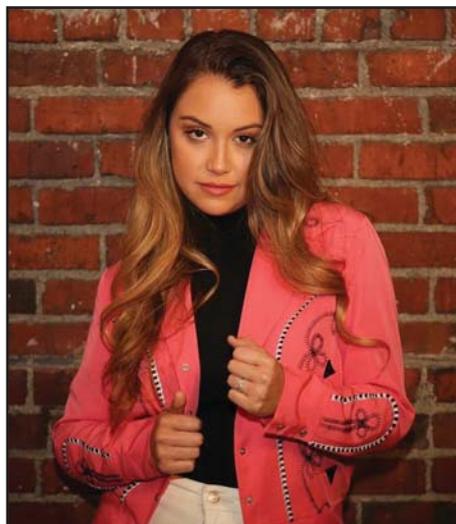
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LEFT: The Eli Young Band will perform at the Fryeburg Fair on Tuesday night. ABOVE RIGHT: RAVE X performs on Thursday. BELOW RIGHT: Alexandra Kay performs on Friday. (COURTESY PHOTOS)

**MUSIC** from page 26

all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles and dirt bikes.

Find out more at [ravexmotorsports.com](http://ravexmotorsports.com).

Friday's performance features country music performer Alexandra Kay and ends with a fireworks display.

Kay is an independent country music artist, with a background in R&B and hip-hop. Her voice and style have been compared to country music legends Dolly Parton, Lee Ann Womack and Alison Krauss. Her website notes Kay's music has been viewed hundreds of millions of times across Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and YouTube, and says she is "bringing country music back to it's roots."

She topped the country streaming charts with the single "I Kinda Don't." That song, along with "All the Cowboys" and "Dive Bar Dreamer," appeared on her 2021 debut EP. For more information, go to [alexandrakayofficial.com](http://alexandrakayofficial.com).

Saturday's night show features Nashville up-and-coming super talent Nate Smith, known for such hits as "One of These Days," "Wildfire," "Under My Skin" and his latest release, "Whisky On You."

Featuring a mix of gritty backwoods soul, rock 'n' roll swagger and velvet-thunder vocals, Smith signed a record contract with Sony Music Nashville in 2020.

The California native gained national recognition in 2018 when his song about the devastating Camp Fire that tore through his hometown of Paradise, Calif., "One of These Days," went viral online.

He cites Garth Brooks, Elvis Presley and Bob Seger among his musical influences. Among his songs, "Wildfire" and "Under My Skin" have been described as mixing timeless country soul with a touch of '70s-rock toughness, a sweet-and-sour sound with deeper implications. Earlier this year, he debuted at the Grand Ole Opry.

For more information, go to [natesmithofficial.com](http://natesmithofficial.com).

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Members of the Denmark Fire Department are seen competing in the "Water Ball" event at last year's Firemen's Muster at the Fryeburg Fair. (RACHEL ANDREWS DAMON PHOTO)

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# Firemen's Muster on Sunday

BY RACHEL ANDREWS DAMON  
SPECIAL TO THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

The annual Firemen's Muster is always on the first Sunday of the fair's eight-day schedule, with contests starting at 9 a.m.

The Fryeburg Fair has hosted the muster since 1977, when local firemen and forest rangers approached Fryeburg Fair with the idea after attending similar events in nearby North Conway and Bridgton, Maine.

Everyone agreed that a muster to highlight the skills, commitment and camaraderie of firefighters would happen on the first Sunday of Fryeburg Fair.

The newly formed Firemen's Muster organization invited town fire departments within the Fryeburg Fair Society (Fryeburg, Lovell, Stow, Waterford, Stoneham, Hiram, Sweden, Porter, Bridgton, Otisfield, Cornish, Baldwin, Standish, Harrison, Denmark, and Brownfield in Maine; Freedom, Eaton, Bartlett, Chatham, Conway and Jackson, in New Hampshire) to participate in competitive events like the Ladder Climb, Bucket Brigade, Water Barrel, Dry Hose, Rescue and Water Ball.

Each town would bring their pumper truck filled with water and they would run through timed exercises. The events were competitive in every sense of the word, overseen by knowledgeable and experienced judges and timers.

Announcer Bob Walker, who was also the announcer for Oxford Plains Speedway and a firefighter, emceed the 1977 event.

The backbone of the Fryeburg Fair Firemen's Muster during its 40-plus-year history has been the Watson family of Fryeburg.

The patriarch of the family was Corliss Watson, who passed away on Oct. 8, 2017, on the last day of that year's fair and just after the celebration of the Fireman's Muster's 40th anniversary.

Corliss grew up in Fryeburg, graduated from Fryeburg Academy in 1948 and joined the Army, serving in Korea. He was an occasional chauffeur for Gen. Douglas MacArthur, driving him to West Point.

After the military, he returned to Fryeburg, owned and operated his business, Watson's Sunoco, as well as an apartment building and a trash-hauling business. He and wife, Shirley, were married for 64 years. They had three children, Sheila Watson Smith, Clyde Watson and Teresa Watson Prouty.

Clyde joined the Fryeburg Fire Department in 1970 and worked side-by-side with his father organizing and running the Firemen's Muster right from the start.

see **MUSTER** page 29



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# Bird flu keeps poultry away from this year's fair exhibits

Visitors to this year's Fryeburg Fair will notice an absence of poultry exhibits, demonstrations and shows this year as the state of Maine has advised cancellation of any events that would bring together domestic fowl or poultry due to concerns about bird flu.

The fair put out a news release shortly before the opening of the Fryeburg Fair, saying that "Due to current conditions involving highly pathogenic avian influenza, also known as the bird flu virus, the poultry barn and the duck herding demonstrations scheduled at this year's Fryeburg Fair will not take place and Old McDonald's Farm will not have poultry this year."

Highly pathogenic avian influenza, or HPAI, affects poultry and birds of all kinds. It is not a danger to humans and should not raise alarm about poultry-to-human transmission.

Maine Animal Health, a division of the Maine State Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, is continuing to advise cancellation or postponement of competitions, exhibitions, shows, swaps or other in-person events encouraging the gathering or commingling of domestic fowl or poultry.

According to the website [maine.gov/dacf/hpai](http://maine.gov/dacf/hpai), the HPAI risk remained high over the summer, although the risk usually drops in

summer months.

The state issued a news release in July saying "The trends observed with past North American HPAI outbreaks are that we often see a reprieve in the summer months.

Unfortunately, this is not the pattern observed in the current outbreak.

"Animal health officials in Maine now recommend that all competitions, exhibitions, shows, swaps, or other in-person events encouraging the gathering or comingling of domestic fowl or poultry be postponed until at least 30 days after the last detection of an infected flock in our state."

That recommendation has not been changed.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, all bird owners, whether commercial producers or backyard enthusiasts, should practice protective security measures to help prevent disease and should prevent contact between their birds and wild birds.

To report a strange-acting or dead wild bird, call the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife at (207) 287-8000 or the USDA at (866) 536-7593.

To learn more about the bird flu virus in Maine, go to [maine.gov/dacf/hpai](http://maine.gov/dacf/hpai).

## Favorite memories of the fair



Herb Gingras, 59, Dover: "My favorite memory is breaking the log rolling record and winning the modify class." Wife, Brenda Gingras, 63, Dover: "My favorite memory was winning the ax throw one year and last year placing first in the women's crosscut competition. Every year we love seeing all the scorekeepers, timers and judges. While we're at it, we'd love to give a shout-out to Sheridan Doyle for all the years he has helped out at Woodsmen's Field Day cutting chopping blocks and helping prep for the show. We enjoy Elaine Emery's hard work and seeing her smile every year." This year will be Herb's 38th year at the Fryeburg Fair and 32nd for Brenda. (COURTESY PHOTO)

## MUSTER from page 28

It's not just for the boys. Both Watson daughters, as well as daughter-in-law Twyla Morris Watson, have worked on the administrative and record-keeping end of the musters.

Gabe Watson, 39, is a captain at Fryeburg Fire Department and joined the Firemen's Muster organization in 2000. The Watsons were interviewed in 2017 on the eve of the 40th anniversary of the musters. At that time, Corliss talked about the great community effort it takes to make the muster a reality each year. He said, "We've had some great people work with us on the muster."

The muster remains traditional in its events and organization today except for the fact that in 1990 it was opened to departments throughout New England and Canada.

Corliss said, "When we started back in 1977 we had about 15 teams locally. Last year we had 24, which often includes teams from Canada, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Participation in the Muster is on a first-come, first-served basis."

Gabe said, "The fair's muster is out of the ordinary routine for everyone. It's a great time to get together. It's a real social event and it's all about family. Everyone sets up a tent and tailgates with their teams. You can't beat it."

Who's the best team at Fryeburg Fair's Firemen's Muster?

Gabe said, "Brownfield has attended the muster every year — perfect attendance. We recognized them at the 35th event with a special award. They also won the sportsmanship award last year."

"North Conway has had great participation too," says Clyde. "We have a plaque for the team with the most event wins. Waterford is a very impressive department. They muster all summer long in different locations. For a while they competed on a professional level."

Should a fire break out while local firefighters are at the muster, Gabe said, "We have an engine staffed downtown so they can respond immediately. And the rest of us are ready to go right behind them if necessary."

Andy Dufresne, a life-long firefighter, and chief of the Fryeburg Fire Department, said the department has been fortunate to have the Watsons serving there. "They are very dedicated and hardworking individuals," he said.

Clyde said, "Unfortunately, volunteer firefighters are not joining at the rate we need. The family legacies just aren't around anymore. And it's much harder to get the younger ones to join. There's a lot more going on for them now. ... All of us would like to see more people come out and serve."

For more information on becoming a volunteer firefighter, contact Fryeburg Fire Chief Dufresne at (207) 935-2615 or at [fryefire@fryeburgmaine.org](mailto:fryefire@fryeburgmaine.org).

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# Sheepdogs to show their stuff on Sunday morning

By RACHEL ANDREWS DAMON  
SPECIAL TO THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

Fryeburg Fair's sheepdog trial experts and organizers are Gabriel "Gabe" Deschambeault Merrill, 87, of Brownfield, Maine, and her niece, Lynn Deschambeault, 59, of Denmark, Maine.

Lynn says, "Sheepdog trials are competitive events where dogs and their handlers herd sheep. We use obstacles and timing to judge their success. Actually I think trials started when a couple of guys got together and one said my dog's better than yours!"

Gabe Merrill says, "I grew up on a farm and we had dogs that would round up the cows and bring them in. Morris MacGregor was a local Scotsman who sold farm products. He was an experienced handler and told us we ought to get into it. That's where we started. It's a real talent and my brother is a natural."

Roger Deschambeault, 81, Gabe's brother and Lynn's father, lives in East Conway, N.H., and trains and runs dogs daily. He and his wife, Krys, have six dogs at their home — Nearfield Farms.

Roger started working with sheepdogs when he was 9 years old. He is a

renowned dog trainer and has been in Scotland, England, Wales and all over the U.S. participating in trials.

Gabe says, "Sheepdog competitions started in the mid-1800s in New Zealand, the British Isles, Ireland and England. Waine Bartlett of Denmark started them at Fryeburg Fair in the '80s. He was the sheep superintendent at the time. Back then, a few women did some demonstrations of sheep herding. This eventually led to what is now a full day of events. We have an average of 30-40 dogs who participate with their handlers. Some handlers have more than one dog."

Trials are open to any dog but it's mostly border collies that participate. Success is as much about the handlers as about their dogs who love to work herding sheep.

Roger Deschambeault participated in Fryeburg Fair's trials as well as provided the sheep from 1986 to 2014 — about 50-60 horned dorsets.

Tim Molinero of Heartstone Farm in Milton, N.H., has provided the sheep since 2015, numbered still about 60 for the day. Each dog works with three to five randomly selected sheep.



A sheepdog is seen working during trials in a previous year's Fryeburg Fair. (COURTESY PHOTO)

see **SHEEPDOGS** page 31



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*Favorite memories of the fair*



Betty Bachman, 75, Center Conway, N.H.: "I've been enjoying the Fryeburg Fair for a very long time. I would have to say that meeting my sisters and brother there every year for my birthday on Oct. 4. And betting on the harness races with them. And of course introducing my husband, Bart, to Fryeburg Fair fries with salt and vinegar." (COURTESY PHOTO)

## Catholic Mass to be offered at Fryeburg Fair on Sundays

Catholic Masses will be offered on both the opening day (Sunday, Oct. 2) and closing day (Sunday, Oct. 9) of the 2022 Fryeburg Fair.

Both Masses will begin at 11 a.m. and be held outside at the fairground's Hayseed Theater, located next to Old MacDonald's Farm near the Orange Gate (No. 8).

"There is no Mass at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Fryeburg the week of the fair, but the church offers fairgoers parking as a fundraiser,"

said Father Edward Clifford, pastor of St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish in Norway and St. Joseph Parish in Bridgton, of which St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church is a part. "There is a 6:30 p.m. Mass at the church the night before the fair on Saturday, Oct. 1."

The church, located on 857 Main St. (Route 5), is a short walk from the fairgrounds, and proceeds from the parking lot fundraiser help cover winter heating costs and other church expenses.

**SHEEPDOGS** from page 30

Lynn Deschambeault is also a breeder of border collies.

"These dogs are very smart and have a great instinct for herding. They absolutely love it," she said. "I'll bring out a young puppy and that instinct is already there. These dogs can read sheep. They understand each other."

Fryeburg Fair is one of only three Maine fairs hosting sheepdog trials — always the first Sunday starting at 9 a.m. at the infield near the grandstand.

Thanks to the Deschambeault family, the crowds at Fryeburg Fair are growing each year.

Lynn is the emcee of the event and

Gabe is running the show.

Carroll Goodwin of Alfred, Maine, is the judge. His wife, Polly, is the scorekeeper.

Goodwin says, "The skill of the handlers and the dogs together is amazing to watch. You get to appreciate the depth of the human and dog connection."

For more information on sheepdog trials go to the North East Border Collie Association at [nebca.com](http://nebca.com). For more information on Fryeburg Fair go to [fryeburgfair.org](http://fryeburgfair.org).

*Rachel Andrews Damon is a trustee of the West Oxford Agricultural Society and head of publicity and advertising for the Fryeburg Fair.*



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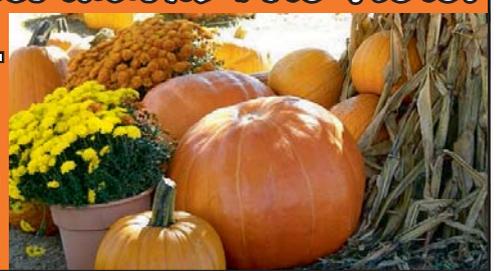
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