



**We're Back!**  
**October 3-10, 2021**  
**8 Full Days • Sunday to Sunday**



*Photo by  
Scott Linscott*



*Photo by  
Ed Kinney*



*Photo by  
Veronica Kugelman*

**8 Days of Agriculture & Livestock**  
**Woodsmen's Field Day**  
**Firemen's Muster**  
**Exhibitions & Museums**  
**Tractor & 4WD Pulls • Harness Racing**  
**Night Shows & Fireworks • Grand Parade**  
**Spectacular Food**  
**Midway & Rides**  
**Campsites Maine &**  
**NH-made Products**



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



**Key**

Agriculture Expo Center	D4	Horses & Pony Barns	D1, E1
ATM Machine	A4, E5	Pulling Horses (3)	D1, E1
Beano Building	F5	Show Horses (2)	E1, F1
Beef Barns (2)	C2, D2	Show Ponies (3)	F1
Bloodsmn Shop	C5	Race Horses (5)	G1, H1
Camping Offices	E1	Horse Scales	E1
Fairview	E5	Information Booths (2)	E5, F2
Livestock	D1	Judges Stand	F4
Trackside	H3	Line Red Schoolhouse	C5
Catholic Church Food	F3	Livestock Office	D3
Comp. Church Dairy Bar	D3	Livestock Show Arena	C2
Craft Beer	H3	Llama Alpaca Barn	E2
Craft Center	D4	Loretta's Kitchen	C5
Dairy Barns (7)	D2, D3	Main Office	E5
Denmark Lions Food	F3	Midway Office	E5
Draft Horse & Pony Show	F3	Mixing Parlor & Demo Area	D3
Emily's Restaurant	E2	Mother's Lounge	C4
Energy Row	C4	Mountain View Pavilion	D2
Entertainment	C4	Museum	E1
Draft Horse Park	E1	Museum	C5, D5
Hayseed Theater	G1	Mutuel Windows	F3, F4, G1
Water Wheel Park	E5	Natural Resources Center	F4
Xmas Tree Park	E2	New Church Restaurant	E4
Expo 1	E5	Old MacDonald's Park	C5
Expo 2	E5	Old MacDonald's Petting Zoo	C5
Expo 3	E5	Ox Judging	C1, C2, C3, D3
Fandangoli's Restaurant	E4	Ox Pulling (F1)	C3
Fiber Center	E2	Ox Pulling (F1)	C3
Fireman's Muster	C3	Ox Scales	C1
Fire Tower	C3	Padock	H2
First Aid	E5, F1	Poultry Barn	E2
Fryeburg Fire Department	E2	Pulling Ring	E2
4-H Exhibit Hall	E2	Rabbit Barn	E2
4-H Horse Show	F3	Placing Office	H1
4-H Livestock Barn	D2	Security	E5
Fryeburg Lions Food	E3	Sheep Barns	D2
Garden Center	C4	Sheep Dog Trials	D2
Galleys	C4	Sheep Show Ring	D2
Blue	A4	Specialty Foods Pavilion	D4
Green	H1	Sugar House	C5
Main	E5	Swine Barn	C3
Change	F1	Toilet Booth	A4, E5, F1, H1, H5
Walk-in	H6	Tractor Pulling	C3, F3
Grandstands	F3	Truck Pulling	F3
Men	F3	Wash Racks	C2, D1, D2, D3, F1
Coat	C3	Water Wheel Park & Stage	E5
Hay & Grain Barn	C1	Woodsmen's Field Day	F2
		Woodward Show Arena	D2
		Xmas Tree Exhibits	E2

**COLOR KEY**

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

May 2013

To Lovell, Bethel, Norway → Gate #4

← Gate #1 Main Gate #1

← ROUTE 5 Fryeburg Village

← ROUTE 302 & Fryeburg Village

← Gate #2 No. Fryeburg Fire Dept.

← Gate #3

← Gate #4

← Gate #5

← Gate #6

← Gate #7

← Gate #8 Orange Gate

← Gate #9 Green Gate

← Gate #10 Red

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**We're Back!**

**October 3-10, 2021**

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

*Program of Events  
2021*

**SUNDAY Oct. 3 THRU SUNDAY Oct. 10**  
Harness Racing TUES. Oct. 5 thru SUN. Oct. 10

**TICKETS \$12 SUN. thru SUN.**

Children under 12 FREE

Weekly Pass \$80

PARKING ON GROUNDS

General - \$5.00 Premium - \$10.00

FOR INFORMATION - 207-935-3268

Senior Citizens Day - TUESDAY  
65 years and over - FREE

Exhibition Halls & Farm Museum Open 9 am - 9 pm  
Museum Craft Demonstrations 10 am - 5 pm  
Fiber Demonstrations 9 am - 9 pm

**PLEASE CHECK WEBSITE FOR  
PROGRAM UPDATES**  
[www.fryeburgfair.org](http://www.fryeburgfair.org)

1154 Main Street, Fryeburg, ME 04037

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

# PROGRAM OF EVENTS 2021

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

**Subject to change if necessary**  
Strollers, wheelchairs & scooters are available to rent at the "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  
Farm Museum Open Daily 9 am - 9 pm  
Museum Craft Demonstrations Daily 10 am - 5 pm  
Fiber Demonstrations 9 am - 9 pm / Last Sunday 9 am - 6 pm  
Llama/Alpaca Demonstrations Daily @ 11 am and on-going

**Key to Buildings**

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

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6**

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  
Sheep Show - (all ages) - MVP

9:00 am Dairy Show Milking Shorthorn & Brown Swiss - WSA  
Beef Show Chianinas, Hereford & Simmentals - LSA  
Ox Pulling - 2900 lbs - Distance (1st place halters) - PR

10:00 am Flower Show - Expo 1  
10:30 am Ox Pulling - 3600-4100 lbs. Percentage Distance (1st place award) - PR

11:00 am Wreathmaking demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
12:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
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 Shearing Demo - MVP  
1:30 pm Harness Racing - RG  
2:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Wreathmaking demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
Horse Pulling - Sweepstakes - Distance - (Frank Gleason Memorial Trophy & set of halters) - PR  
Horse Pulling - 3400 lbs. - 15' Elim. (1st place award) - PR

3:30 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
4:00 pm Sheep Shearing Demo - MVP  
4:30 pm Photo World's Largest Assembly Yoked Steer & Oxen - SGG  
5:30 pm Horse Pulling - 3600 lbs. - Distance. (1st place award) - PR  
6:30 pm Horse Pulling - Sweepstakes - 15' Elim. (Ralph Gushee Memorial set of halters) - PR

**8:00 pm Night Show - Rave X, The Outer Limits Tour**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7**

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  
Ox Pulling - 3300 lbs - Distance (1st place award) - PR  
10:00 am Flower Show - Expo 1  
11:00 am Wreathmaking demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
12:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
1:00 pm Maple Syrup Creations - AEC  
1:30 pm Harness Racing - RG  
Horse Pulling - 3000 lbs. - 12' Elim. (1st place award) - PR  
2:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Wreathmaking demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
Sheep Shearing Demo - MVP  
3:00 pm Horse Pulling - 3200 lbs. - Distance (1st place award) - PR  
Decorated Cupcake Contest - AEC  
4:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
4:30 pm Overall Champion Dairy, Beef Females, Sheep Ewes, Beef Bulls, Sheep Rams - LSA  
5:00 pm Horse Pulling - 3400 lbs - Distance - (Arthur & Andy Libby Memorial 1st Place set of blankets) - PR  
7:00 pm Ox Pulling - Sweepstakes - Distance (1st place award) - PR  
8:00 pm Night Show - "Studio Two", a Beatles Tribute Night

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8**

9:00 am Ox Pulling Youth Teamster Class 1100 lbs - (Teamster age 12 & under)  
G Robinson Youth Outstanding Teamster Award (Yoke).  
Fryeburg Fair Presidents Trophy and Runner-up Award - PR  
10:00 am Flower Show - Expo 1  
Calf Scramble - RG  
Fig Scramble (Students MSAD #72) - (third grade) - RG  
Draft Horse & Pony Jr. & Sr. Youth Show - WSA  
10:30 am 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' Elim. (1st place award) - PR  
1:00 pm Swine Show - SGG  
Calf Show and Sale - LSA  
Fudge Contest - 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 Ox Pulling Sweepstake 6' Elim. Gordon Robinson Memorial Trophy & Halters PR  
Haunted Gingerbread House Decorating Cookies - AEC  
4:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
6:00 pm Horse Pulling - Ride the Boat - 3400 lbs., 20' (NO Touch) - (1st place halters) - PR

**8:00 pm Night Show - Motor Booty Affair  
Fireworks After Night Show**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9**

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  
4-H Swine Show - SGG  
12:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
4-H Sheep Show Class - MVP  
12:30 pm Ox Pulling 2900 lbs. - 6' Elim. (1st place award) - PR  
1:00 pm 4-H Dairy Show - WSA  
Sheep Shearing Demo - MVP  
1:30 pm Harness Racing - RG  
4-H Beef Heifer Show - LSA  
2:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Wreathmaking Demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
4-H Showmanship - Working Steer - SGG  
2:30 pm Horse Pulling - 3500 lbs - Distance (1st place award) - PR  
3:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
4:00 pm Sheep Shearing Demo - MVP  
5:00 pm Ox Pulling 3300 - 6' Elim (1st place halters) - PR  
7:00 pm Horse Pulling, Ride the Boat - Sweepstakes, 20' (NO Touch) - (1st place halters) - PR  
4-H Sheep Lead Line - MVP

**8:00 pm Night Show - Peter Allen & Hurricane Mountain Road**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10**

8:30 am Church Service - Hayseed Theater  
4-H Working Steers Scooting Contest - SGG  
9:00 am 4-H Sheep Breed 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 9:50 am (Drawing)  
11:00 am Catholic Mass - Hayseed Theater  
Wreathmaking demo at Christmas Tree Exhibit  
12:00 pm Ox Pulling - 4 Ox Pull - NEW! (Two pair of Oxen Driven by one Driver) Percentage Distance (each team must weigh 2400 lbs) (1st place award) - PR  
1:00 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Scooting Contest - SGG  
1:30 pm Sheep Shearing Demo - LP  
Children Pie Eating Contest - AEC  
2:00 pm Harness Racing - RG  
2:30 pm Flower Show - Expo 1  
Horse Pulling - 2 lbs of rock per lb. of horse Percentage Distance - (1st place award) - PR  
3:00 pm Children Decorate a Farm Themed Cookie - AEC  
5:00 pm Following Races is 4WD Pull - RG  
(Grandstand seats reserved until racing ends) - Infield Area

**See you in 2022 - Oct. 2 through Oct. 9**

**Pay One Price!**

"PAY ONE PRICE" for all mechanical rides on Tuesday (10/5), Wednesday (10/6), Thursday (10/7), and last Sunday (10/10) from 10:00 am to 9:00 pm - \$25.00! Kiddie Land mechanical rides on Sunday (10/3) from 10 am to 6 pm - \$15.00 and Monday (10/4) from 10 am to 6 pm - \$15.00.

**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.

**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.

# Fall Savings

**BUY NOW AND WE WILL STORE IT UNTIL SPRING!**

2021 Winnebago Minnie 2801BHS **MSRP \$48,450**  
Sleeps up to 8. Double Size Bunks, Tri-Fold Sofa, Walk-In Pantry, LED TV, Power Tongue Jack, Outside Kitchen

2022 Winnebago Hike 1705 **MSRP \$38,570**  
**SOLD!** Spacious Exterior Deck, Exterior Rack System

2022 Winnebago Hike 172BH **MSRP \$40,779**  
Bunk Beds, Pull-out Cooktop, Exterior Rack System

2022 Winnebago Minnie 2201MB **MSRP \$47,929**  
Arriving Soon! Murphy Bed, Exterior Kitchen.

2016 Forest River Sunseeker 2400MBS **\$73,900**  
Class C Mercedes Diesel. Full Wall Slide Out!

2015 Thor Miramar 34.2 **\$89,900**  
Sleeps Up To 8. Full Length Slideout!

2013 Winnebago Vista 26HE **\$59,900**  
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**CATHEDRAL LEDGE RESORT**

# Crowds throng the fairgrounds on opening day

By MARK GUERRINGUE  
THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

FRYEBURG, Maine — After going virtual last year during the pandemic, the Fryeburg Fair didn't miss a beat Sunday as crowds thronged the fairgrounds for opening day.

"With COVID precautions and the rain, I thought the crowd might be a little down but it was just a mob scene of people at the opening," said Rachel Damon, head of publicity and advertising for the fair. "A ton of people came out for the first day, it was awesome."

Paid attendance on Sunday, which had overcast skies all day, was 16,235, according to Vince Osgood, ticket department superintendent at the fair. That compares to 25,498 on opening day in 2019, which Osgood noted was a beautiful, sunny day.

Daily paid attendance records over the years are: 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.

The fair in 2019 drew 161,476 paid attendees. COVID, of course, forced the fair to go virtual-only in 2020, and this year, with nearly 70 percent of



People frequent the food booths at the Fryeburg Fair on Sunday. According to fair officials, there are more food vendors than ever at the fair this year. (MARGARET MCKENZIE PHOTO)

Maine's population vaccinated — one of the most vaccinated states in the union — few masks were seen.

The fair, however, said Damon, worked proactively to assure that fairgoers would feel comfortable.

"This year was all about COVID,"

said Damon. "We put up signage and sanitizers, and require all employees to mask up when getting something to eat. We are pretty stringent."

Damon said the fair made no special requirements of the public other than requesting that they wear masks

inside buildings, though she admitted she didn't "notice very many people doing that."

Another change this year: Two of popular food vendors were absent. Tom of Tom's Donuts retired three years ago and Sunflower Pizza reportedly bowed out due to lack of help.

Replacing Tom's is 88 Donuts, which Damon she heard is good, though she hadn't tried any of the 88 varieties.

Overall, she said, there are lots of new food vendors.

Stalls and food trucks offering barbecue sandwiches, bloomin' onions, fried dough, sausage and peppers and all the traditional fair treats were much in evidence Sunday.

"We are not down on vendors," Damon noted. "It is packed out there."

In addition, craft beer fans will find solace in knowing that instead of having to walk all the way around the commercial displays on the north side of the grounds, a second beer tent is now located by the Natural Resources building.

Sunday's highlights always include the Fireman's Muster, which this year was won by Lovell, Maine.

The pig scramble is also an opening

see **OPENING** page 15

## ELIZABETH'S TOP PICKS!



20 Wildflower Trail,  
N. Conway, NH  
MLS #4881869 ~ \$349,000

Fabulous townhouse in a peaceful country setting, located in the desirable Village at Kearsarge. Very close to North Conway Village, Mt. Cranmore and all the amenities offered by the Mt. Washington Valley such as hiking, skiing, shopping and many wonderful restaurants. The location is absolutely superb! Great home for both year-around or vacation living. Spacious dining/living room with a gas fireplace, lots of natural light and a fantastic screened in porch off of the living area. There is bonus space in the lower level with a spacious family room, murphy bed and full bath. This floor plan allows for comfortable living as well as additional space for friends and family. Pool and tennis are on site and within walking distance from this condominium. This one has it all!



118 Kimball Lake Shores Rd.  
Lower Kimball Lake ~ Fryeburg, ME  
MLS #1506785 ~ \$349,000

Completely remodeled from top to bottom and inside and out! This home is perfect for year round living or for use as a vacation home with endless rental potential every single season! Gorgeous unobstructed mountain and water views that will never be built on. The home is literally steps from the lake. Enjoy direct access to the large association beach on Lower Kimball Pond where you can swim, fish, boat, sun & run! This pond has been described as the world's best kept secret. Located only 15 minutes from downtown Fryeburg, 25 minutes from the attractions of N. Conway, NH, 20 minutes from Shawnee Peak and not to mention the White Mountain National Forest is not far from your door. The winter also offers great ice fishing on the pond and direct snowmobiling to major ITS trails. Waterfront couldn't get any better at this price!



Elizabeth Scully ABR CRS GRI  
603-570-3903 (office)  
603-986-9581 (cell)  
elizabethscully@kw.com  
elizabethsoldmyhouse.com  
3641 White Mountain Hwy.,  
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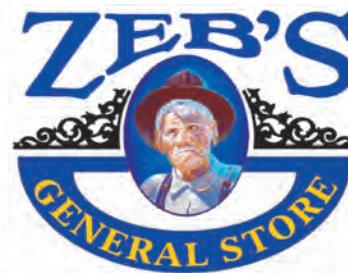
Dishwasher  
Hotel Maintenance  
Lifeguard  
Night Auditor  
Banquet Server



Fairgoers stroll past the front entrance of the Fryeburg Fair on Sunday. (MARK GUERRINGUE PHOTO)

**Fall Foliage  
in the  
Mt. Washington  
Valley,  
Fryeburg Fair  
and a visit  
to Zeb's.**

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SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 11AM-3PM throughout Settlers Green

- Candie Tremblay DellaValla Bluegrass Trio
- Fabio Gutierrez Julia Velie Majestic Loonbirds
- Meghan Clark Reed Van Rossum
- Riley Parkhurst Duo Rob Viola String Equinox
- Trenton Graham Willow Carter

**HEADLINE PERFORMANCE**

SUNDAY, 3-6PM at the Tuckerman Pop-Up Beer Garden in the Courtyard

Shark Martin

**OCTOBER 9 & 10 AT SETTLERS GREEN**

This is a free event! See street musician play times and locations at [settlersgreen.com/events](http://settlersgreen.com/events)

Settlers Green • White Mountain Hwy • North Conway, NH

Discover music around every corner!

**5th Annual Busker Fest**

Street musicians play Saturday & Sunday of Columbus Day Weekend

**Settlers Green**  
NORTH CONWAY

# Rave X Outer Limits Tour headlines Wednesday show

FRYEBURG, Maine — The night show at Fryeburg Fair shifts into high gear on Wednesday with Rave X, The Outer Limits Tour.

This freestyle motorsports show promises spectacular stunts and big air.

The Outer Limits Tour, based in South Portland, Maine, includes all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles and dirt bikes.

The owners of Rave X Motorsports, Ralph Gallagher and Dave Carlberg, started hosting freestyle shows in 2005 with a small freestyle ramp and some good friends. The show was a hit, and over the years the air kept getting bigger, the ramp gaps longer and the tricks gnarlier gaining fans across North America.

Today, Outer Limits Tour performs in front of thousands of people and features riders from all over the world. But you can see them right here at the fair. Find out more at [ravexmotorsports.com](http://ravexmotorsports.com).

Other night shows will include:

- On Thursday, Studio Two — The Beatles Before America will take the stage to bring the Fab Four's music to life. Studio Two re-creates the Fab Four's music, appearance, instruments and onstage banter, and performs hits that promise to bring people to the dance floor.

Hailed as "New England's Best Beatles Tribute Band" by The British Beer Co., Studio Two is a headlining Beatles band that pays tribute to the early Beatles years, choosing songs from before the Sgt. Pepper era.

The band includes Stephen Murray as John Lennon, Al Francis as Paul McCartney, Robert Murray as George Harrison and Richard Rampino as Ringo Starr. For more info, go to [studiotwotributeband.com](http://studiotwotributeband.com).

- Thursday's Night Show will include a special "Dress for the '60s" event. To participate, 1960s-themed fairgoers must stop by at the Front Gate Information Booth between 5-6:30 p.m. for a photo and to complete an entry form. Three winners will win prizes of four fair tickets per prize awarded at the beginning of the Night Show. Winners will be called up on stage and must be present to win.

- On Friday, the '70s disco band Motor Booty Affair takes the stage. Motor Booty Affair has been lighting up stages across America with their '70s extravaganza for several years, continually improving on the show that has been dubbed "The Ultimate Disco Party Band."

The band plays hits from '70s greats like Earth Wind & Fire, The Bee Gees,



Brody Wilson does a freestyle stunt as part of the Rave X Outer Limits Tour. (ART PEPIN PHOTO)

KC and the Sunshine Band, Chic, The Commodores, Barry White and Abba.

Decked out in wigs, bell-bottoms, platform shoes and polyester, the band also brings to their performance the dance moves and lingo of the '70s, the highest quality sound and light show this side of 1975. Find out more

at [motorbootyaffair.com](http://motorbootyaffair.com). Friday's performance will be followed by the fair's annual fireworks show.

- Saturday brings country music with Peter Allen & Hurricane Mountain, playing all styles, including

see **SHOW** page 7

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Studio Two — The Beatles Before America will perform Thursday, paying tribute to the early years. Thursday is also “Dress for the ‘60s” night. See story for details. (FACEBOOK PHOTO)

**SHOW** from page 6

swing, Southern rock and classic rock.

The lineup is classic, contemporary and outlaw country, with a little classic rock, blues, and swing.

You will hear music from artists including the Eagles, Zac Brown Band, Steve Earle, Lee Roy Parnell, Jamie Johnson, Brad Paisley and Chris Stapleton, among others.

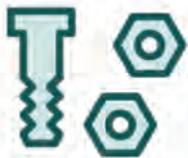
Allen received the recent Maine Country Music Association award of Male Country Vocalist of the Year.

The band is comprised of musicians Frank Coffin on bass guitar and vocals, Tedd Hamilton on lead guitar, harmonica and vocals, Rick McAlister on drums and Chris Floyd on lead guitar and vocals.

All night shows begin at 8 p.m. at The Racing Grandstand.

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Steve Norton (right) is the superintendent of Show Steers & Oxen at Fryeburg Fair, while Paule Cote (left) is assistant superintendent. Norton and Cote have been heading this department for 15 years. (COURTESY PHOTO)

# Fryeburg Fair's oxen couple: Steve Norton and Paule Cote

BY RACHEL ANDREWS DAMON  
SPECIAL TO THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

At Fryeburg Fair, we have two departments for oxen — one for pulling oxen and one for show steers and oxen. For those confused about what an oxen or steer is, here you go: A female cow is a heifer. They show in the Dairy Department. A male cow is a bull. When a bull is castrated, it becomes a steer. At 4 years old it becomes an ox. Two or more are oxen.

Farms keep a few bulls for breeding. Otherwise, too many bulls can be difficult to handle. Castration

totally calms down a bull's disposition because testosterone is removed.

Breeds of oxen include Brown Swiss, Jerseys, Holsteins, Shorthorns, Devon, Guernsey, Lineback and some crossbreeds.

Steve Norton and Paule Cote are the superintendents of the Show Steers & Oxen Department at Fryeburg Fair. There's a lot of organization involved in this department and many details to tend to before the fair's opening.

see **OXEN** page 9

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**OXEN** from page 8

Norton and Cote have been heading this department for 15 years.

Norton grew up on Oaklawn Farm, a dairy farm in Albion, Maine, with Holsteins and Jerseys. His hometown fair was Windsor Fair, where he participated in 4-H with his twin Jersey heifers, Lucy Locket and Little Lulu.

"Daily chores were the priority in all our lives. Chores always needed to be done and, as a youngster, it was a big responsibility caring for the lives of animals," he said.

Because of these fond memories and early lessons, Norton later gravitated back to his cattle and farming roots by getting involved with agricultural fairs in Maine.

Cote was born in Fort Kent, Maine. Her connection to farming and oxen has been through her relationship with Steve Norton. She's taken to it like a pro.

Norton and Cote met through mutual friends 32 years ago. They live in Windham, Maine, and have a property on Sebago Lake.

Norton has three children and two granddaughters. His career was in home building, and he specialized in interior finish and trim. His most recent big project was building his son's home.

Cote retired in 2015 after 44 years in information technology at Maine Med.

She also owned and operated a company that sold

catamarans and pontoon boats and started a children's clothing company called Guppies. She has been a custom painter of canvas pieces for floors and sailboats.

"I can multitask, and I like to stay busy," she says.

Norton and Cote volunteer at Common Ground Country Fair in Unity, Maine, and Waterford Fair. Norton has been oxen coordinator at Common Ground for 20 years.

At the Fryeburg Fair, Norton said: "We have 700 classes of show steer and oxen, and judging and competitions within every breed and crossbreed all based on weights.

"The handler — man, woman or child — is called a teamster," he explained. "Judges will critique the oxen and their teamster on control, handiness, smoothness, training and their use of voice commands. No sticks. The goad stick is used to gain the oxen's attention and to strike the yoke, not the animal. You can usually tell immediately how much time a teamster has spent working with their pair."

"There's a lot of paperwork and organization," said Cote. "After the entries come in, we assign stalling in one of four barns. In 2019, we had 114 pair competing.

"I'm much more comfortable with these massive horned animals than I used to be," she added. "One time, one of them ran up behind me and I jumped up on a fence and was hanging on a light pole until the

see **OXEN** page 10



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Mark Winslow of Falmouth, Maine (left, shown with Steve Norton), raises Devons and Holsteins and has won many awards. He is past leader of Brass Knobs 4-H Club, which his father established over 50 years ago. Norton says, "Mark is held in the highest esteem by teamsters, to the point that if they felt they could beat Mar, they had a pretty good pair of cattle!" (AMANDA WELCH PHOTO)



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**OXEN** from page 9  
owner came along.”  
Norton recommends attending the demonstrations on Monday and the scooting contests.

“Scooting is taking a pair of steers and they are hooked to a wood scoot, a sled of sorts, and then they negotiate an obstacle course similar to what they would do in the woods to clear land and bring out logs,” he said.

“Winners are the oxen that score closest to zero as they receive points if they hit something. This really shows how much effort the teamster has put in and demonstrates how well the three of them communicate.”

For the past four years, Norton and Cote have managed to bring all the pulling and show oxen together for a group photo on the Wednesday of Fryeburg Fair at 4 p.m. in an attempt to gain the world record for the largest number of yoked oxen in one place.

Cote is working with the Guinness Book of World Records to make it official.

Norton said: “Families come back year after year. It’s generational, and for them it’s often their vacation time. A lot of them have farmed enough to sustain their passion for keeping steers. It’s their vocation and hobby. They pick four or five fairs on the circuit to attend.

“Our show steer and oxen people come in and stay Sunday to Sunday while pulling oxen go in and out of the fair during the week.

“We have lots of socializing, partying and ‘talking oxen’ at Fryeburg Fair. We have line dancing, a pizza party, barbecue and pot-luck dinner.



Jake Cash is from Poland, Maine. He raises shorthorns but has owned various breeds as well. He is the superintendent of 4H Working Steers at Fryeburg Fair. Steve Norton says, “Jake Cash is an expert at showing cattle and he’s very meticulous and particular about his herd.” (JANE LOUNSBURY PHOTO)

It helps breed fellowship in our oxen community,” Norton said.

“I really like the fact that tradition continues with young people following their parents’ and grandparents’ heritage. It builds lots of self-confidence in kids and teaches responsibility.”

Norton is proud to say: “Oxen built this country. We all get very attached to these animals. They are incredibly strong and have great and calm personalities. They are the original loggers. They have tilled the soil and cleared the land since the beginning.”

For more information on the fair’s Show Steers & Oxen Department, 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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# Harness racing: Much more than just wagering on horses

Horse racing with pari-mutuel betting has been one of the principal features of agricultural fairs in the state of Maine since 1935.

Fryeburg Fair, held annually in the first week in October, is fortunate in getting many of the better horses in New England because of lack of competition from other tracks this time of year.

It is noteworthy to acknowledge that the money handle at Fryeburg Fair surpasses the per-race handle anywhere in the state. The total bet was over a million dollars for the week for the years 1992-94.

Some years, Fryeburg Fair has close to 10 percent of the entire live handle for the year in the state with a total of 60 races over six days.

Regarding betting, Paul Lusky, consultant for the racing division at the Fryeburg Fair, said, "The basic bet, which is a \$2 bet, hasn't changed in my time, and it probably goes back even further than that. It is not reflective of inflation. I mean a \$2 bet today compared to, say, 40 years ago, you are not even beginning to talk the same thing.

"Naturally, you are not limited to betting \$2, but the basic bet and return on it for the amount of time (if you wish to bet \$2 on an odds-on favorite horse), you might get back \$2.40 or \$2.60. So, you'd better be getting enjoyment other than what you are receiving for your money," he said.

"You've got to be getting your entertainment enjoyment, which, as I alluded to earlier, is a love of the animal, a love of the sport, everything that goes along with it — pageantry, if you will, the ambiance, friendship. It is a lot more than just making money. If you want to make money, you can put your quarter in a slot machine and have instant gratification," Lusky said.

A commercial racetrack has basically one source of revenue for the fair, and that is the revenue from the pari-mutuel wagering and the fair's cut from that wagering.

The fair gets its revenue from many different sources. Racing is just a minor part of it. It used to be about a third: there was always the midway,

see **HARNESS** page 12

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The horses that run in the harness races at Fryeburg Fair come from as far away as Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia and as close as New Hampshire and Vermont. Harness racing takes place at the fair Tuesday-Sunday. (COURTESY PHOTO)

## HARNESS from page 11

then ticket sales, and there was racing.

Well, guess what: Campers have pulled in, and now racing is fourth as far as the amount of income it brings in.

Over the week, how many horses do you need? "If we were to have an ideal situation," said Lusky, "running 60 races in a week, eight horses for each race, 10 races a day for six days, we would need 480 horses. Now, over six days (harness racing takes place at the fair from Tuesday-Sunday) some horses that race on

the first day may come back and race again."

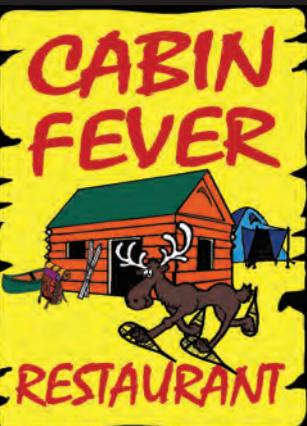
Where do the horses come from? "They come from the Maritime Provinces in Canada, New Brunswick in particular, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia. They come from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, New York State, and there will be a certain amount of ownership that goes farther away," Lusky said.

"Of course, with our stabling facility, we are able to move some in. The ones that come down from

see **HARNESS** page 13

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**HARNESS** from page 12

Montreal are coming in just for us. It would be impossible to operate without our stabling system, and each year it becomes more and more imperative that we are able to get facilities for these people who want to come."

Lusky has become a racing leader in Maine, representing the fair, particularly as far as dealing with the Maine Harness Racing Commission.

Could he give advice to other fairs? "Over a 20-year period, a lot rubs off on you. I try to use very strong business practices. The racing industry historically has been the most loosely managed industry that you can imagine. I think Fryeburg Fair has been on the forefront with commonly accepted business practices."

After the size of the grandstand was doubled and the betting facilities improved, Wilbur Hammond Jr. went to considerable effort to get other fairs interested enough to make it attractive to a computerized betting company to move to the area with betting machines and a tote board.

This was accomplished in 1986 with a signed contract and since then, all betting facilities after a trial period have changed to computerized betting.

"I look at racing," said Lusky, "and I think the fair does also, as a source of income, but it's also a source of entertainment. We pay dearly for night



**Paul Lusky**

shows as far as entertainment, and if we can entertain these people and keep our expenses to a minimum, this is why racing is going to go on at the fairs. It's playing to a good crowd and playing for the majority of the people there. It still serves a very, very valuable function for the fair as entertainment."

Fryeburg Fair was selected as a "Blue Ribbon Fair" by the readers of Hoof Beats Magazine in 1996.

That November, Fred Noe, executive vice president of the United States Trotting Association, wrote a column asking readers to nominate the fairs with the best harness racing programs. He received an overwhelming response, and out of 80 fairs nominated, the Fryeburg Fair was one of the three most supported fairs from readers of Hoof Beats.

*This article was excerpted from the Fryeburg Fair website, fryeburgfair.com.*

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# Camping at the Fryeburg Fair is popular, economical

By RACHEL ANDREWS DAMON  
SPECIAL TO THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

If you want to avoid the traffic at Fryeburg Fair, just get yourself a camper and spend the week. A very popular vacation destination, Fryeburg Fair has 3,000 campsites.

Many campers return annually. Arthur Adams, 34, of Fryeburg is the camping supervisor. He is also a local tax practitioner and part of a family that is heavily involved with the fair.

Arthur's father, Terry Adams, is the treasurer, and his brother, Charlie, works in the buildings and grounds department.

The Adams family also owns T & A Accounting on Main Street in Fryeburg.

According to Arthur, "The vast majority of our campers are older and come here with other family and friends. They are pretty friendly and easy to work with."

"It's a really fun week and enjoyable seeing everyone come back year after year."

He added: "Our campers come

from mostly the New England states. We have quite a few from Canada and from as far away as Texas, California and even Germany."

For those interested in getting a camping spot at Fryeburg Fair, call the Camping Office at Fryeburg Fair at (207) 935-2912. Sites are \$29 per night for a regular 16-foot-wide site and \$34 for a slideout 20-foot site, plus state of Maine 9 percent lodging tax. There is no minimum number of nights required.

"You can stay just one night, but we don't do reservations for one night," Arthur said. "Just show up and we will find you the best possible spot possible."

The fair does not allow tents. Many employees camp at the fair all week.

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



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Kids play at a cow info display at the Fryeburg Fair on Sunday. (MARGARET MCKENZIE PHOTO)

OPENING from page 4

day tradition, and Damon reported that 10 happy kids left with a pig.

New this year is duck herding. This event involves the same sheep dogs that corral sheep for a crowd favorite

event, but instead of chasing around mutton, the canines round up ducks.

Not to use a fowl pun, but in terms of this year's opening day, Fryeburg Fair organizers have plenty to quack about.

*Bart Bachman contributed to this article.*

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