

Fall 2018

Amarillo, Texas

# Tri-State EXPOSURE

SHOWCASING OUR TRI-STATE CULTURAL HERITAGE



TEXAS  
FARM  
BUREAU  
INSURANCE  
AUTO / HOME / LIFE



The annual Texas Farm Bureau Insurance Company Tri-State Fair & Rodeo presented great family fun, competition and outstanding fall weather for the 2018 run.

Not only did sea lions make an appearance in Amarillo, so did all the great things the Fair has to offer - livestock shows, fair food, creative arts competitions, 602 rodeo contestants and a TOP 5 PRCA Rodeo nomination!

"This year's Fair was one of the greatest ever. We had great crowds, a sell-out at the rodeo, the largest steer show in history and tremendous numbers in all the other livestock events," said Jim Jennings, Exposition president. "We just could not have asked for a better Fair."

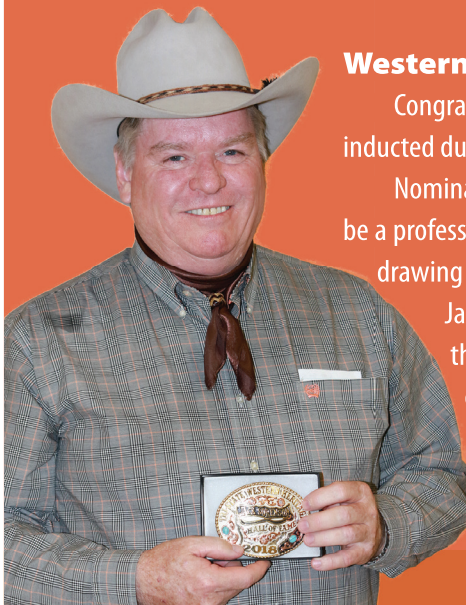
Take a look inside for a recap of the 2018 event.



#tristatefair to keep up with us







## Western Heritage Hall of Fame Induction

Congratulations to Jack Sorenson, Amarillo, as the 2018 Western Heritage Hall of Fame inductee. Jack was inducted during the Boot's & Business event Sept. 8 in the Commercial Exhibits Hall.

Nominated by Alby Peters, Jack is a man of family and faith. Jack knew from an early age that he wanted to be a professional artist. His mother always told the story of Jack placing the family dog on the couch and quickly drawing him - at age 6. She also said he could draw a horse before he could write his name.

Jack Sorenson believes that to those who are given much, much is expected, and Jack said he feels like the most blessed man on earth. He says, "I'm in exactly the right place, at exactly the right time and I'm doing what I know God wants me to do. You can't ask for more than that."

The Western Heritage award, started in 1996, honors those who have made significant contributions to the agricultural community of the Golden Spread area.

## Youth Market Steer Show Dedication

The 2018 Tri-State Fair steer show was dedicated to Joe Don King. Joe Don has served as the "Voice" of the Tri-State Fair cattle shows for 19 years.

Joe Don served as the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service county agent in Wheeler County from 1973 to 1999. Prior to that, he served as assistant and associate county agent in Young County. During his career he made an impact on hundreds of young people through his passion for the beef cattle project.

Following his retirement, he has volunteered every year with the Tri-State Fair as the announcer for all of the cattle shows. It has been said that no one individual has logged more hours than Joe Don volunteering at the fair. In past years, Joe Don has been recognized as ambassador of the year by the Tri-State Fair.



## "Fiesta Time" Held in Downtown Amarillo

The Tri-State Fair & Rodeo parade kicked off the annual event as it always has the first Saturday of the Fair, thanks to Fiesta Foods.

Beautiful weather, excited attendees and participants all helped make the annual parade a great success. The Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Motorcycle Drill Team kept the crowd on their toes until the 10 a.m. kick-off. Once the color guard kicked off the parade it was "Fiesta Time," complete with a mariachi band on the Fiesta Foods float. Ken and Kaki Coperanham and granddaughter Ella served as grand marshals of the parade.

"The executive committee and I are very appreciative of Fiesta Foods and the Coperanham family for stepping up and sponsoring this tradition," said Virgil Bartlett, general manager, Tri-State Fair & Rodeo. "The parade crowd was outstanding, and we look forward to the future."

Fiesta Foods has locations in Amarillo, Pampa and Midland.





## Exceptional Rodeo Held

What's it like to be a cowboy or cowgirl? On Sept. 6, with the help of the Turn Center, 28 exceptional children found out. Events such as roping, barrel racing, pole bending, horseback riding, stick horse racing, bronc bucking and a goat petting area were featured in the inaugural event held at the Bill Cody arena.

"The Tri-State Fair Rodeo Committee came up with the exceptional rodeo as a way to give back to the community and give the children the opportunity to interact with animals and experience rodeo in a special way," said Johnny Johnson, rodeo committee chair. "It was a very heartwarming experience to see the looks on the children's faces and the appreciation of the parents and grandparents."

Carolina Walden, Turn Center director of development, added, "The exceptional rodeo provided a brand new opportunity for our children with special needs and disabilities."

The rodeo committee was assisted by the Tri-State Fair Junior Board and WTAMU's Ag Leadership Ambassadors.

"By the end of the evening, many new friendships had been formed. So many smiles from everyone - the participants, volunteers, parents. . . it was a great night. We are looking forward to next year," said Walden.



## Youth Ag Fun at the Fair Program – Big Hit

Over 3,000 children, teachers, parents and Fair attendees saw first-hand how agriculture affects their daily lives. The "Ag Fun at the Fair" programs presented by Southwest Dairy Farmers, Texas Farm Bureau and Thank a Farmer saw large crowds each day.

The Monday – Friday morning shows were filled with students from 30 different schools from all over the Texas Panhandle. Exposition board members, junior board members and volunteers escorted the groups to the shows and handed out materials provided by Texas Farm Bureau, Texas Department of Agriculture and Joyce Rice, the Thank a Farmer Ag Magician.

"Due to the popularity of this program, we are making plans to expand some of the educational components," said Maryann Hueston, Exposition development and fundraising coordinator. "If you know of a group or school that might be interested in attending, have them contact the Exposition office and ask to be placed on the mailing list for reservation information."



## Eagle Scout Project at Xcel Energy Park

Colin Caverly of Amarillo Boy Scout Troop 80 has designed and planted three flower beds in the Xcel Energy Park as his Eagle Scout project. Colin and his troop members and leaders completed this project just before the Fair. They set the borders, removed old grass, tilled in planting soil, added a drip irrigation system and planted 55 various flowering perennial plants. Once established, these heavily mulched plants will need very little water.

This project is part of the development of this park, which will eventually contain more xeriscape plantings, fruit trees and berry bushes. Megan Eikner, the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service agriculture and natural resources agent for Potter County, is helping with the park design project. She is adding an educational component to complement the demonstration gardens at the Rex Baxter Building, where students and adults can learn about urban gardening.



Amarillo Tri-State Exposition  
3301 S. E. 10th Avenue  
Amarillo, TX 79104

## Upcoming Events

### November

- 3 | American Cancer Society  
Cattle Baron's Ball | *Rex Baxter*
- 10 | Welcome home Veterans | *Rex Baxter*
- 10-11 | Panhandle Cutting Horse  
| *Bill Cody Arena*
- 15 | Wine Down & Dessert Wars | *Rex Baxter*
- 17-18 | C4 Team Roping | *ANC*
- 20 | Carden Circus | *ANC*
- 30-Dec. 2 | Christmas Ca\$h Barrel Race | *ANC*

### December

- 18-20 | Salvation Army Gift Distribution  
| *Rex Baxter*

### January

- 4-6 | Discover the Dinosaurs | *Rex Baxter*
- 11-12 | Tri-State Open Chili Cook-Off  
| *Rex Baxter*
- 11-13 | McCracken Team Roping | *ANC*
- 19-20 | Panhandle Cutting | *Bill Cody Arena*
- 19-20 | Original Team Roping | *ANC*
- 25-26 | Potter County Junior Livestock Show  
| *Glenn McMennamy*

### February

- 1-2 | Monster Trucks | *ANC*
- 9 | Original Team Roping | *ANC*
- 16-17 | Three Star Memorial Roping | *ANC*
- 16 | Panhandle Team Penning  
| *Bill Cody Arena*
- 23-24 | Panhandle Cutting | *Bill Cody Arena*

### March

- 2 | Kicker Arenacross | *ANC*
- 5 | Jordan World Circus | *ANC*
- 7 | Restaurant Roundup | *Rex Baxter*
- 9 | Original Team Roping | *ANC*
- 9-10 | Panhandle Cutting | *Bill Cody Arena*
- 16-17 | Wiley Hicks Memorial Roping | *ANC*
- 16-17 | Panhandle Golden Spread  
Quarter Horse Show | *Bill Cody Arena*
- 22 | Junior League | *Rex Baxter*

Visit [www.TriStateFair.com](http://www.TriStateFair.com)  
for a complete list of events!

## Mission Statement

The Amarillo Tri-State Exposition will provide a wholesome, educational, cultural and recreational experience for area citizens by hosting the Tri-State Fair & Rodeo and other events to strengthen the Amarillo economy.

### Exposition Staff

Virgil Bartlett-General Manager  
Kellye Baker-Office Manager  
Lindsay Robertson-Events Coordinator  
Angela Ragland-Sponsorship/Marketing Director  
Maryann Hueston-Development/Fundraising  
Tawney Sippy-Bookkeeping  
Alton Wilson-Grounds/Maintenance Supervisor  
Jonathan Strader-Assistant Supervisor

### Exposition Officers

Jim Jennings-President  
Dennis Horn-President Elect  
Virgil Bartlett- Secretary  
Trent Winings-Treasurer  
Scott Hindman-Treasurer Elect

Call or Check our website for additional information  
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[www.tristatefair.com](http://www.tristatefair.com)

The Amarillo Tri-State Exposition is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization.  
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