

***Happy Birthday to the Putnam County Fair  
It's 90 years old this year – 2016***



***Putnam County was re-established as a Tennessee County in 1854 and our first Putnam County Fair was held two years later in 1856 just north of the square on C.E. Wilson's property on Dixie Avenue. The fair was not held during the Civil War. Six years after the Civil War in 1871 the fair board purchased six acres of land for \$60. This site was still known as the old fairgrounds in 1909 when Dixie College acquired the land.***

***In 1895, five years after the railroad came to Cookeville, a new fairgrounds was built next to the railroad near 10<sup>th</sup> Street and Washington Ave. The fair has its own railroad spur, which would bring fair goers from as far away as Nashville and Harriman. In 1932 another site became the fairgrounds at 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Maple Avenue.***

***The fair stayed there for 24 years until a big fire broke out during the 1956 fair and burned several buildings. The next year we moved to our present location on Jefferson Ave. and we have been in this location for 59 years.***

***Three years ago the fair board set out to create the fair of our memories and each year we have moved closer and closer to that dream. The 90<sup>th</sup> Putnam County Fair will be the third year of "Making Lifetime Memories..." as the theme and we expect it to be another award winning fair.***

***This year's fair offers the largest premium offering in history -- \$100,000, that's -- \$100,000 offered in premiums, cash and awards. We hope that will provide the incentive for more people to bring entries and be part of this year's fair.***

***This year's line-up is by far the biggest and most diverse in our fair's history...so big, we have to have the Open Walking Horse Show and Jackpot Roping two weeks before the fair on July 16. The fair opens with two nights of the Lonestar Rodeo, followed by a new feature -- Mud Truck Racing, Sunday will be Kids and Family day at the fair with free ice cream and cake -- to celebrate the fair's 90 birthday -- and \$.50 hot dogs. Sunday night we will have a Demolition Derby, Monday night Fairest of the Fair, then the County Horse Show, Dirt Bike and ATV Racing, Monster Trucks, the Middle Tennessee Junior Rodeo and then on our final night -- Truck and Tractor Pulling a family favorite.***

***Come join us and help us celebrate its 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Putnam County Agricultural & Industrial Fair.***