

Adventures in Agriculture -- "Bringing Agriculture to the Community..."



The 93rd Putnam County Agricultural & Industrial Fair will provide a wide variety of experiences for youth and adults as we showcase agriculture.

Agriculture and industry were the foundation of the Putnam County Fair over 100 years ago and this year we are celebrating our agriculture heritage with a new initiative Adventures in Agriculture -- "Bringing Agriculture to the Community."

In some respects we are returning to our roots, and reaching back and remembering why our fair was created over 100 years ago. Traditions hold us together, and the traditions of our county fair should be shared with children and young people.

From the chicken house, to the Big Barn, to the Fair Office, the Cultural Arts Building and all over the fairgrounds we will feature farm animals, gardening and field crops, and domestic arts to emphasize the importance of farm life in today's society.

Our Petting Zoo and Farmer for the Day are the starting place for children and adults to see farm animals up close. Then it's a short hop over to the Chicken House where renovations have taken place and new ideas are visible. Around the fair office we will feature a horse, cow, sheep, mule, hog and goat so everyone can see all the different species that feed us, entertain us, and carry us along our way.

Our Junior Fair Board is providing the leadership for much of this new initiative with support from our volunteers and the fair board. They have created games, displays for all the species, and even a scavenger hunt

focused on farm animals, plants and crops and farm equipment. A new farm equipment display will help us remember the tools and equipment used many years ago to grow our food and cultivate the land and some of the new equipment in use today. All this is complimented by the the Master Gardener's exhibit which reminds us of the beauty and importance of appreciating Nature's gifts of flowers and plants.

Thanks to the Putnam County/UT Extension Service and 4-H and the College of Agriculture & Human Ecology at Tennessee Tech who have partnered with us to make "Bringing Agriculture to the Community" possible.

Additionally, our fair will feature seven nights of motorsports in the main arena, including the Antique Tractor Pull, western horse show, Lone Star Rodeo, the Middle Tennessee Junior Rodeo, traditional beef, dairy, sheep, hog and goat shows. Our Open to the World Walking Horse Show, Draft Horse and Mule Show and Team Roping will be held July 13. The Fairest of the Fair Pageant will be held July 31, the night before the fair opens. Our fair has grown so much that we can no longer get everything into ten days.

The County Horse Show, Corn Hole and Horse Shoe Tournaments, Adopt a Pet Day at the Fair, CRUZ In, Pet Show, and over 60 live demonstrations round out the ten day schedule.

The Junior Fair Board presents a new "Farmer for the Day" an interactive series of exhibits, games and fun things to do for children of all ages and even adults. Experience farm animals close up and learn about how important farming and agriculture is to our lives. It's located in the middle of our new Petting Zoo and Pig Races at the West Exhibit Hall.

We will have the Pick Tennessee Products Eating Contest near the fair office and in the main arena we will have the Greased Pig Catching Contest, and the Herding Dogs Demonstration and our Salute to Veterans on stage.

You will want to stop and listen at one of our outdoor concerts on the Wilson Bank stage near the Petting Zoo. These concerts will offer some of the best bluegrass, gospel and ole' time music in the shade of our oak trees. Bring a partner and enter the new horseshoe tournament or our ever popular Corn Hole tournaments.

Don't miss the 93rd Putnam County Agricultural & Industrial Fair – August 1-10, 2019.