

Overview of the 91st Putnam County Fair
August 3 – 12, 2017



May, 2017

The Putnam County Fair Board has wrapped up planning for the 91st Putnam County Fair. We have finalized the schedule, secured contracts from promoters and the fair book is at the printers. The fair book will be available in early May.

We welcome new fair board members Susanna Clouse, Thom Steger, Jeremy Glascock and Kim Milligan. All of these people have been volunteers with the Putnam County Fair in the past. Jeremy has supported all our livestock shows and Thom chaired our new Outdoor Meat Cookery Contest in 2016 – Kim chaired our Fairest of the Fair Pageants and Susanna was on the Junior Fair Board, Chaired the Junior Fair Board in 2016 and now provide support for the new Chair this year.

All of our Junior Fair Board Members have committed to continuing their support in 2017 and we have added two new members Abbi Dalton and Adaline Clouse. Dawson Davidson Chairs this year's board.

New Things This Year...

We are working on adding changing tables and breast feeding areas to the fairgrounds along with a couple of cooling stations where our guests can stop and enjoy a fan. These things were top on the list of things suggested for making the fair better in 2017.

- ***NEW Family Day at the Fair – a tradition from years ago will be returning to the fair. Carol Vinson, Olivia Rathunde and other fair board members are planning for a fun Sunday afternoon with food,***

games, and prizes for young and old alike. Children under 12 and Veterans with i.d. get in free from 11a until 2p.

- ***Six nights of Motorsports is again in the plan. After breaking Sunday night's attendance record at the 2016 fair you can be sure the Demolition Derby will be returning on Sunday night in 2017. Mud Truck Racing, Monster Trucks, Truck and Tractor Pull, and two nights of Motorcycle Races will all be on the 2017 schedule. Roger Dereske, Gina Hooper and David Hunter are in charge of motorsports events.***



***9,308 people filled our grandstands for the return of the Demolition Derby!
Our largest one night attendance in 2016.***

- ***Livestock Shows confirmed for 2017. A full calendar of livestock shows – Goats, Sheep, and Beef are all confirmed and on the schedule along with the Dairy Show. The Goat Show will kick off on Saturday, followed by the Sheep Show on Sunday, the Dairy Show on Tuesday, and finally the Beef Show on Saturday afternoon, August 12. Matt Gaw and Jeremy Glascock are in charge of our livestock and dairy shows.***
- ***Mule Pulling and Draft Horse and Mule Show, and a new feature, Pony and Pony Mule Pulling will move to Monday night, August 8 in the main arena. We are trying something new. All three events will happen simultaneously in the main arena – our guests will be able to see all three shows in the grandstands and enjoy the largest mule show in the southeast under the lights. Carl Bilbrey will continue to give leadership to our mule events.***

And, the east arena will be hosting the Wild Horse and Mule Show at the same time --- it's mule night at the Putnam County Fair.

- ***New Attractions*** this year include: *Cruz In of antique cars, Spirit Jam of high school cheerleaders, Glass Blowing, Red Cedar Art, Live Demonstrations of Pick Tennessee Products, Showmanship Demonstrations for all four dairy and livestock shows, Pet Adoption by the Putnam County Animal Shelter and many more new features coming to this year's fair.*
- *Little Miss Fairest of the Fair will move off the fairgrounds to the Community Center on July 29, 2017 in order to have the event in an air conditioned building. Fairest of the Fair will open the fair at the fairgrounds on Thursday, August 3.*
- *Our Corn Hole Tournament expands to two tournaments, one on the weekend and one during the week. Josh Brown is in charge of these tournaments.*
- *Team Ropings, the Wild Horse and Mule Show, the County Horse Show, and the Middle Tennessee Junior Rodeo will all be returning to the East Arena schedule in 2017. A new county team roping event will be held on opening night Thursday, August 3.*

The County Horse Show will be on Tuesday night August 8. Check the schedule for other events. The big Western Horse Show will start in the main arena on Saturday, August 5, and finish up with barrel racing, pole bending and team roping in the east arena. Wes Roberson, Melanie Bussell, Myra Walker and Lori Love are in charge of the east arena events.

- *Our Open Walking Horse Show and Team Roping will again happen before the fair opens -- July 8, 2017.*
- *Entries in the cultural arts building, and the south grandstand will be taken on Saturday, August 5. Kay Sliger, Jessica Clark, and Geri Nixon are in charge of our entry process. Bar codes will be available from 7:30a until 11:30a and entries will be taken from 8a until 12 noon. Entries close promptly at 12noon so come early to get all your things entered.*

We are offering \$165,000 in premiums and cash awards at this year's fair...the largest premium offering in the history of the fair and \$30,000 more than last year.

- *Outdoor Meat Cookery will move to an evening event in the Music Barn and Thom Steger will be in charge along with Patti Clark.*

- ***Senior Citizen Day will be Monday, August 8 with Carol Vinson in charge this year. Brenda Gentry will chair our Pacesetter's Day on Sunday, August 7; Special Children's Day on Tuesday, August 8; and our new Pre-School Day on Friday, August 11.***
- ***Media Night will be Wednesday, August 2 and David Hunter will be in charge.***
- ***Wilson Bank & Trust is supporting music in the main arena for seven nights prior to the evening's main events.***
- ***Concessions and Commercial Space contracts were sent out in January to allow our vendors to reserve space in time to be included in the 2017 Fair Book. There will be less space available outside for commercial exhibits due to the need for more parking spaces for our concession operators. Outdoor space will be on a first come, first serve basis. Brenda Gentry is the contact for commercial space.***
- ***Fair Books will be out in early May and available at many locations in Putnam and adjoining counties that touch Putnam County. Look for them at the Putnam County Extension Office, Putnam Farmer's COOP, City Halls in Cookeville and Algood, the Baxter Depot, and the Herald Citizen as well as most local banks, and your favorite grocery stores.***

A complete schedule of the fair and an electronic fair book is available at: info@putnamcountyfair.org.