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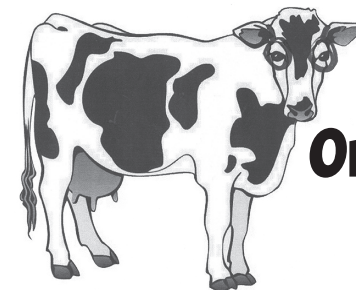
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# Happy birthday!

## Racine County Fair celebrates 100th year

By Tracy Ouellette  
EDITOR

The Racine County Fair is celebrating a milestone this year, its 100th anniversary.

The annual festival highlights the county's agriculture and youth with animal shows and auctions, contests and more.

Richelle Kastenson, of the Racine County Fair, said the anniversary celebration will see a few changes and expanded offerings.

"There are a lot of new things coming to the 100th Annual Racine County Fair!" she said. "We will have three nights of Tractor and Truck Pulls (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday). Each night will feature different pulling classes. Thursday night will also feature a combine demolition derby at the conclusion of the pulls."

Cow Town USA is also new to the fair, Kastenson said.

"Fair patrons will get a hands on farm experience when they visit this area," she added.

To honor the fair's history, organizers have been collecting artifacts and memorabilia to display.

"Community members and volunteers have been busy working on renovating the Mercantile Building," Kastenson said. "This building will feature the history of the Racine County Fair."

Also new this year is the Wine Tasting in the Beer and Wine Garden which will be open Thursday and Saturday.

The fair opens Wednesday, July 27, in front of the Mercantile Building with cupcakes to follow.

In celebration of the 100th anniversary, the fair will feature:

- 100th anniversary fair clothing for purchase;
- Fireworks on Saturday, July 30;
- A history of the fair in the Mercantile Building;
- Decorations throughout the grounds;
- Special open class categories for exhibitors; and
- Surprise giveaways at the gates.

### Fun for all

"There is something for everyone at the 100th Annual Racine County Fair," Kastenson said. "Throughout the grounds will be many vendors featuring everyone's fair food favorites. Be sure to check out the animal barns, as well as youth and open class exhibits. We have two stages featuring live local music every day."

Children's Day will be Thursday, July 28, and is filled with activities, Kastenson added. The day offers a kiddie tractor pull, cream puff eating contest and more.

"The grandstand will feature

entertainment every night including, truck and tractor pulls, monster trucks, and demolition derby," Kastenson said. "As always the fair features free entertainment throughout the grounds, including a petting pen, Cow Town USA, Wolves of the World, the Rhinestone Roper, Kids are People Too, All Star Stunt Dogs, bingo and so much more!"

### Making memories

Many people can think back to the times they have visited the Racine County Fair and recall memories from their time there.

"The Racine County Fair board continually works together to provide experiences for fairgoers," Kastenson said. "The fair also showcases the many talents and accomplishments of youth and community members."

The annual event brings the community together while also providing five days of fair fun, Kastenson added.

"We appreciate all the community members, volunteers, exhibitors, vendors, and everyone else in between that allows us to celebrate Racine County annually at the fair. We are very proud of the heritage of the fair, and look forward to the next 100 years," she continued.

"We cannot wait to see you at the 100th Annual Racine County Fair, July 27 to 31!"

## Racine County Fair 2022

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**above:** Kelsey Henderson and her father, Craig, hug after she won Grand Champion steer at last year's Racine County Fair. Read about Henderson's successful run last year along with the other 2021 livestock winners at the fair on Page 13.

JASON ARNDT Racine County Fair

**on the cover:**  
Meadow Hoy pets a French Lop rabbit during last year's Racine County Fair.

CHAD HENSIKAC Racine County Fair

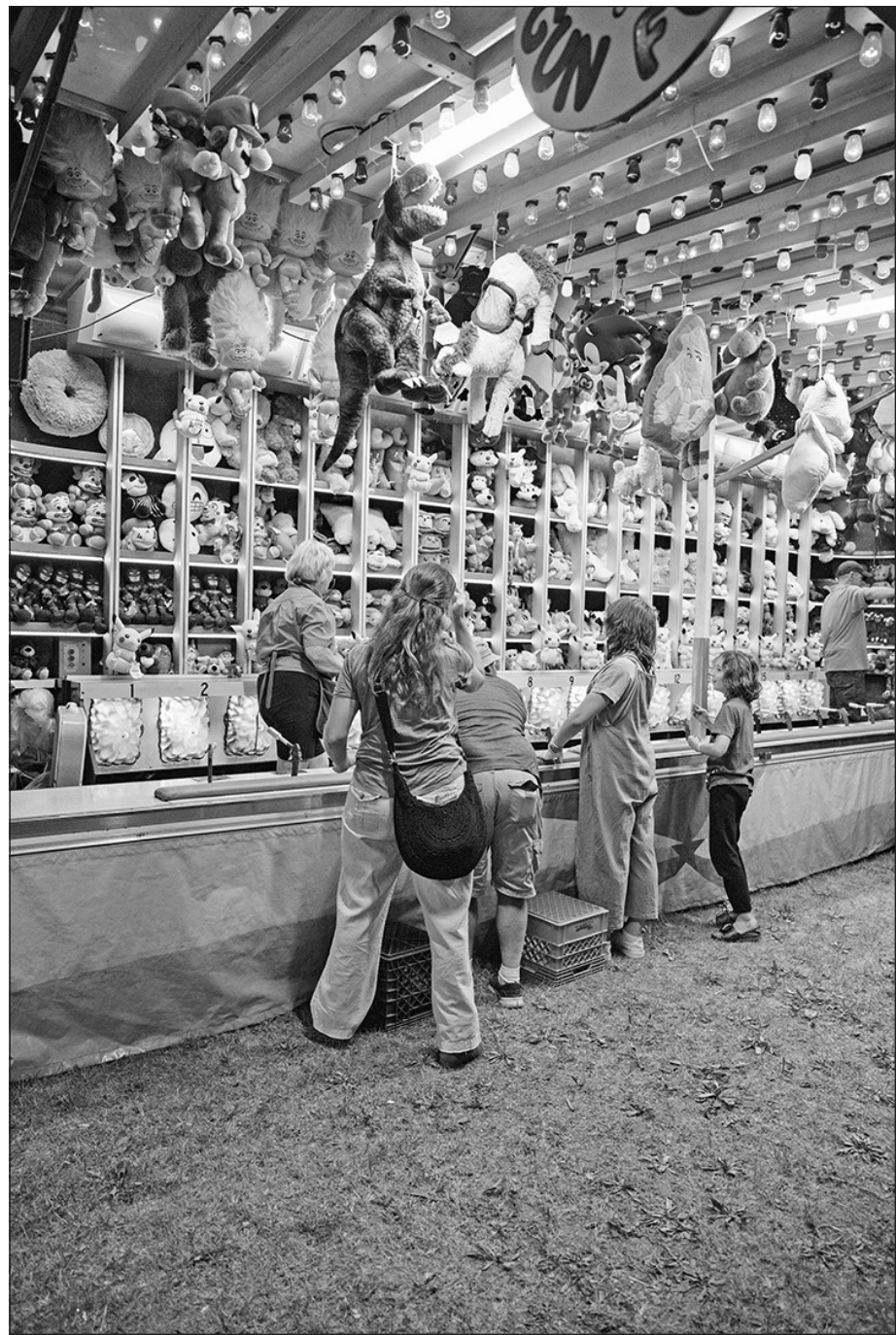


# Last year at the fair

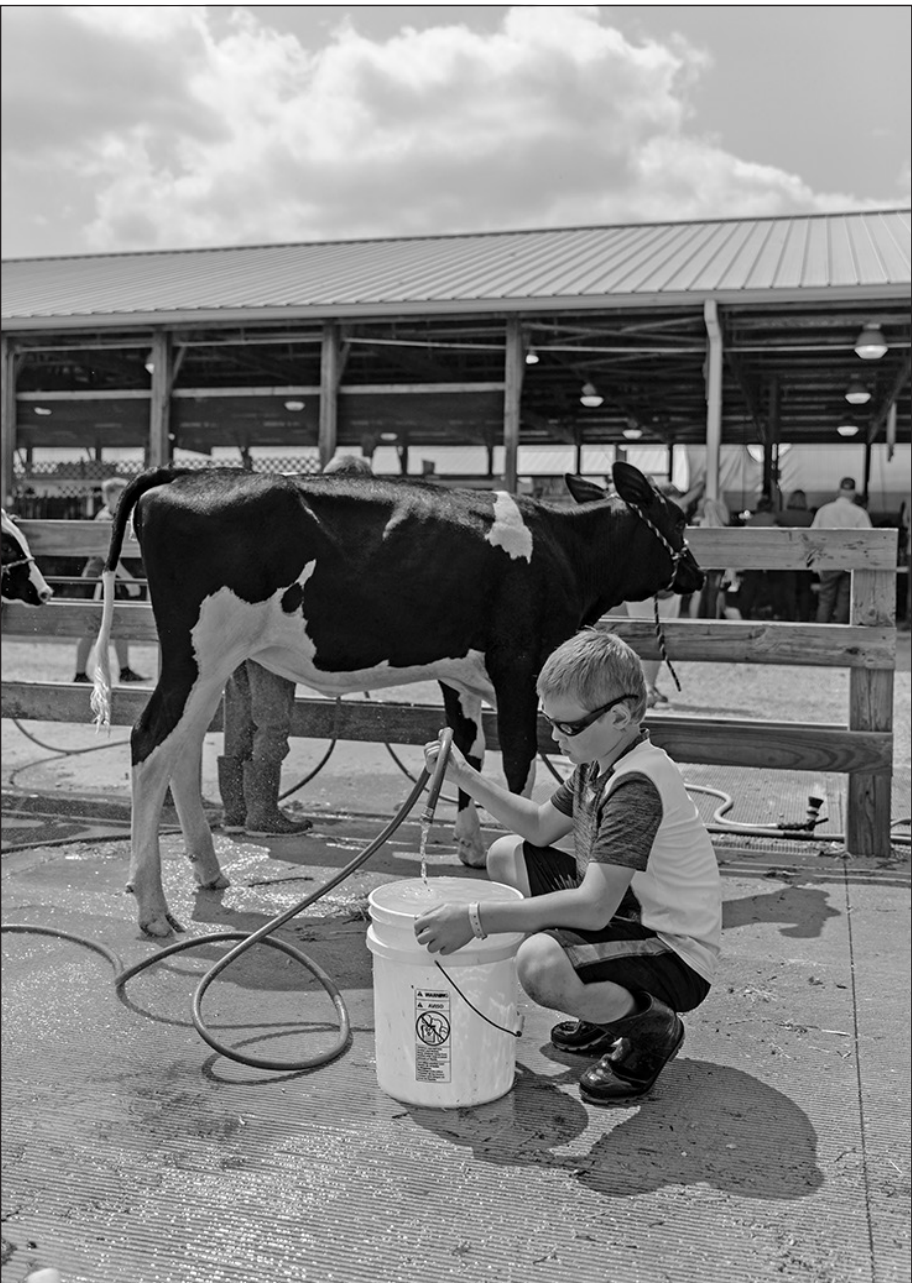
The Racine County Fair's 2021 run saw a return to normal operations after pandemic restrictions eased. The crowds returned and fun was had by all.



JASON ARNDT Racine County Fair



CHAD HENSIK Racine County Fair



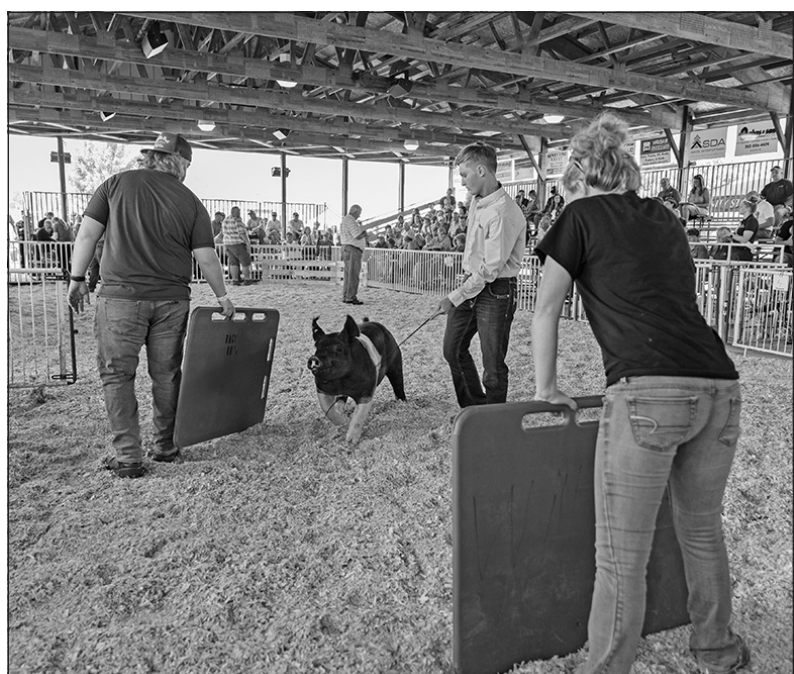
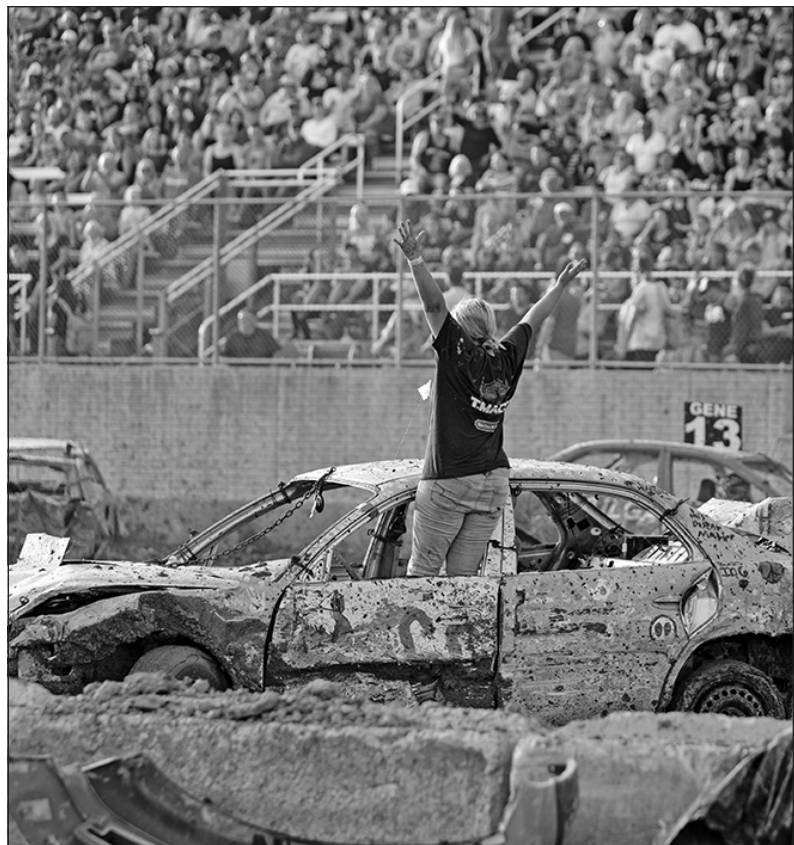
CHAD HENSIK Racine County Fair



CHAD HENSIK Racine County Fair

**clockwise from top left:** Taylor Himebauch, who won Reserve Grand Champion Steer, displays the 1,349-pound Simmental breed animal during last year's Racine County Fair livestock auction. Himebauch is a member of Honey Creek Hoofers 4-H Club; A family tries their luck at one of the games on the midway; Terry Vearrier serves up a sarsaparilla soda in the Wild Werst Soda booth; Harris Carson fills a bucket to wash his 8-month-old Holstein.





**clockwise from top left:** Fairest of the Fair Kynzi Cole hosts “Cookies with the Queen” in the 4H Activity Barn; Leatte Kashmere shows Oliver a chick at the animal petting area; Chase Rosenow takes the first-place trophy in the midsize car category.; Bennett Wilks walks his cross-breed hog in the auction; Quad runners tear their way down the track during the motocross event; Breaking Cadence performs in the Activity Building. The band returns to the fair for another show this year.



Enjoy the Racine County Fair!

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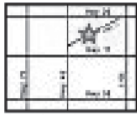


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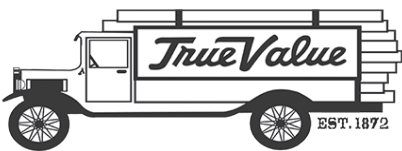
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# RACINE COUNTY FAIR 2022

## Celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 27

##### Opening Day

9 a.m. Judging, Jr. Dairy  
 9 a.m. Judging, Jr. Horse Hunt Seat  
 9 a.m. Junior and Open Rabbits  
 9:30 a.m. Junior Poultry Showmanship  
 10 a.m. Poultry Photo Contest Judging  
 11 a.m. Pictures with a Goat, Goat Barn  
 Noon Official Opening of the 100th Annual Racine County Fair, Mercantile Building  
 2 p.m. Judging, Open Class Dairy  
 2 p.m. Pictures with a Goat, Goat Barn  
 3 p.m. Goats on Parade  
 4:30 p.m. Dog Demonstration, Showcase Stage  
 6:30 p.m. Truck and Tractor Pull, Grandstand  
 7 p.m. TW & Company, Activity Building  
 7 p.m. Northcape Express, Center Stage

#### THURSDAY, JULY 28

##### Children's Day

8:30 a.m. Rooster Crowing Contest, Poultry Barn  
 9 a.m. Judging, Jr. Horse-Western Discipline

## Appearing daily

##### South end of grounds

- All-Star Dog Stunt Show – Wednesday, 3:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.; Thursday through Sunday, 2:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
- Wolves of the World – Wednesday, 3 p.m. and 6 p.m.; Thursday through Sunday, 1:30 p.m., 4 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

- Kids Are People Too – Daily, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. in the Children's Area.

- Nick's Kids Show – Daily, 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. in the Children's Area.

- Petting Zoo – Wednesday, 10 a.m. to noon 2 to 5 p.m., 7 to 9 p.m.; Thursday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon, 2 to 5 p.m., 7 to 9 p.m.; Sunday, 8 to 11 a.m., 1 to 4 p.m., 6 to 8 p.m., in the Children's Area.

- Cow Town USA – Wednesday, 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Thursday through Sunday, 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.

- Rhinestone Roper – Wednesday, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Thursday through Saturday, 2 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 2:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

##### Other daily activities

- Bingo by the Lions Club of Waterford – Wednesday through Friday, 4 to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 2 to 7 p.m.; and Sunday, 2 to 6 p.m., in the Bingo Shelter. Last game of the day starts at the last time listed.

- Center Stage Craft Beer and Wine Garden with free entertainment daily.

## Fair hours

### Wednesday through Saturday

8 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

### Sunday

8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Note: Junior and Open Class exhibits (including animals and competitive exhibits) close around 5 p.m. on Sunday.

*All events are subject to change.*

9 a.m. Jr. Swine, Swine Showmanship  
 10:30 a.m. Kiddie Tractor Pull registration, Children's Area  
 11 a.m. Pictures with a Goat, Goat Barn  
 11 a.m. Kiddie Tractor Pull, Children's Area  
 2 p.m. Children's Cream Puff Eating Contests – 4 to 6 and 7 to 10 year olds – Farm Bureau Building; registration required  
 4 p.m. Marty Martin and the Crowd Pleasers, Center Stage  
 4:30 p.m. Dog Demonstration, Showcase Stage  
 6 p.m. Wine Tasting, Beer and Wine Garden  
 6:30 p.m. Truck and Tractor Pull/Combine Demo Derby, Grandstand  
 6:30 p.m. Fair Night Photo Shoot, Open Class Building  
 7 p.m. Breaking Cadence, Activity Building  
 7:30 p.m. New Piano Guys, Center Stage

#### FRIDAY, JULY 29

##### 4-H, FFA, Youth Day

8:30 a.m. Judging, Junior Poultry  
 9 a.m. Judging Open Class Beef, Junior & Open Goats  
 9:30 a.m. Judging, Junior Beef  
 10 a.m. Horse Drill Team Demonstration  
 11 a.m. Junior Sheep Judging  
 11 a.m. Poultry Auction Sign up  
 1 p.m. Saw and Shingle Making Demo, Antique Tractor Area  
 2 p.m. Steve Meisner Polka Band, Activity Building, sponsored by Community State Bank  
 3 p.m. Saw and Shingle Making Demo, Antique Tractor Area  
 3 p.m. Laura Bell, Center Stage  
 4:30 p.m. Dog Demonstration, Showcase Stage  
 5:30 p.m. Antique Tractor Parade, Grandstand  
 6:30 p.m. Truck and Tractor Pull, Grandstand  
 7 p.m. Under the Lights Speed Event, Horse Arena  
 7 p.m. Lunch Money Bullies, Activity Building  
 7 p.m. Eddie Butts Band, Center Stage

#### SATURDAY, JULY 30

8 a.m. Horse Show, Gymkhana, Horse Arena  
 9:30 a.m. Livestock Auction, Sale Arena. Sale Order – Beef, Swine, Lambs, Goats



**above:** Addie Beth shows her Toggenburg goat at last year's Racine County Fair. Area youth show animals throughout the annual fair. **top:** The Monster Truck rally returns to the Racine County Fair at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 30. The show, presented by JM Motorsports, is at the Grandstand.

CHAD HENSIK Racine County Fair

10 a.m. Beer and Wine Judging, Open Class  
 10:30 a.m. Dog Demonstration, Showcase Stage  
 11 a.m. Pictures with a Goat, Goat Barn  
 1 p.m. Ben Barels, Center Stage  
 1 p.m. Log Sawing & Threshing Demo, Antique Tractor Area  
 2 p.m. Wine Tasting, Beer & Wine Garden  
 2 p.m. Pictures with a Goat, Goat Barn  
 3 p.m. Milk in a Bottle Competition, Goat Barn  
 3 p.m. Log Sawing & Threshing Demo, Antique Tractor Area  
 4:30 p.m. Pat McCurdy, Center Stage  
 4:30 p.m. Dog Demonstration, Showcase Stage  
 7 p.m. Bootjack Road, Activity Building  
 7:30 p.m. Monster Trucks presented by JM Motorsports, Grandstand, \$5 per person admission  
 8 p.m. Bedlam/Lines of Loyalty, Center Stage  
 9:30 p.m. Fireworks

#### SUNDAY, JULY 31

8 a.m. Garden Tractor Pull, Grandstand  
 9 a.m. United Methodist Churches Service, Center Stage  
 10 a.m. Horse Fun Show, Costume Class  
 10 a.m. Beer Bloody Mary's and Mimosas, Beer/Wine Garden  
 11 a.m. Fur and Feather Auction, Poultry Building  
 11 a.m. Pictures with a Goat!, Goat Barn  
 Noon Steve L. Show (Elvis), Center Stage  
 Noon Chocolate Dessert Contest, Park Pavilion  
 1 p.m. Hay Bale Throwing Contest, Dairy/Beef Barn  
 1 p.m. Log Sawing and Threshing Demo,

## Kid's Cream Puff Eating Contest

1 p.m. on Thursday, July 28  
 Farm Bureau Building  
 For ages 4 to 10  
 Register at Cream Puff Stand

## Monster Trucks

Monster Truck Freestyle Show will be presented by JM Motorsports at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 30, at the Grandstand.

Antique Tractor area  
 1:30 p.m. Fun and Fashionable Sheep, Sale Arena  
 1:45 pm Favorite Pie Contest, Park Pavilion  
 2 p.m. Demo Derby, Grandstand  
 2 p.m. Pictures with a Goat, Goat Barn  
 2:30 p.m. Pie Auction, Park Pavilion  
 3 p.m. Kid's at Heart Cream Puff Eating Contest ages 13 and up \$5.00 registration benefits Ronald McDonald House  
 3 p.m. Chainsaw Carving Auction, Park Pavilion  
 3:30 p.m. Sadie, Center Stage  
 4:30 p.m. Dog Demonstration, Showcase Stage  
 6 p.m. Genesee Depot, Activity Building  
 6 p.m. Demo Derby, Grandstand  
 7 p.m. Kenny and the Night Owls, Center Stage



# Fun in 2022

# AT THE RACINE COUNTY FAIR



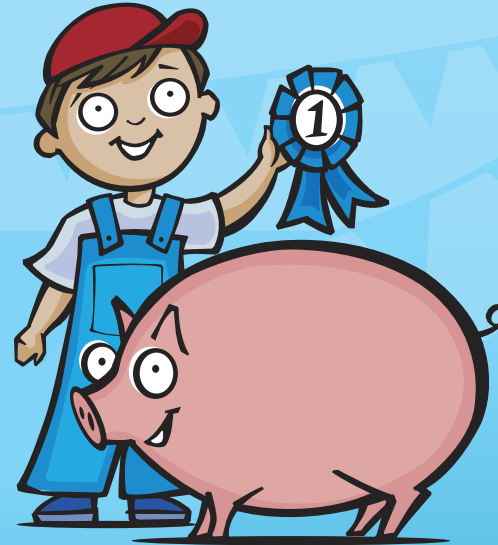
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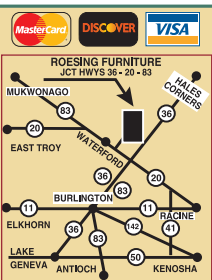
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Waterford High School student Kennedy Boasch is crowned 2022 Racine County Fairest of the Fair by her predecessor Kynzi Cole June 3.

CHAD HENSIKAC Racine County Fair

## Who's the fairest of them all?

*Waterford's Bosch named Racine County Fair's ambassador*

By Jason Arndt  
STAFF WRITER

Kennedy Bosch said she was humbled and honored to receive the Racine County Fairest of the Fair crown from predecessor Kynzi Cole.

Bosch, who graduated from Waterford Union High School this year, became Fairest of the Fair during a June 3 ceremony in the Expo building on the Racine County Fairgrounds in Union Grove.

The panel judges of selected Bosch among three finalists, including 2020 Burlington High School graduate and

former Racine County Agriculture Ambassador Chase Pirocanac, along with 2019 Racine Case graduate Alyson Buchholz, who served as Racine County 4-H Outstanding Teen.

"To be honest, I really wasn't expecting it," Bosch said. "Chase and Alyson, they are wonderful competitors, they are amazing women in agriculture and I really thought that either one of them could have easily been Fairest of the Fair."

Bosch, a three-year Waterford FFA member, has also been involved with Raymond 4-H Club while showing exhibits at the Racine County Fair ranging from cake decorating to raising pigs on her grandparents' farm.

She said she felt honored, especially since she selected by a panel judges, who needed to consider the other two finalists.

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



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**FAIREST** • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

“I was quite shocked and honored that the judges thought I would be the best ambassador for the Racine County Fair, so there is a lot of honor there,” she said.

Bosch, said the crown carries special meaning because the Racine County Fair will celebrate its 100th anniversary from July 27-Aug. 1.

While Bosch enjoys all aspects of the Racine County Fair, she anticipates some new features for the 100th anniversary, including a fireworks show set for Saturday evening on the Fairgrounds.

“This is our 100th annual Racine County Fair, so I am really, really looking forward to it,” she said.

For Bosch, the Racine County Fair has had a lasting impact on her life, which she noted is more than just a one-week event.

The daughter of Theresa Baumann and Kyle Bosch is the older sister of Keegan and spends a year preparing for the Racine County Fair.

“We show swine. All year round we are working with our pigs in our barn,” said Bosch, who raises her show pigs on her grandparents’ farm. “It is really a family affair and us working together all year round to make it happen.”

Bosch plans to attend the University of Wisconsin-Platteville in the fall.

She intends to major in animal science focused on pre-veterinary medicine with hopes of becoming a Small and Large Animal Veterinarian.

Growing up around animals, she has come to love caring for animals, Bosch said.

**Strong competition**

Pirocanac, who attends UW-Whitewater, is studying to earn a degree in elementary education with a minor in special education.

She has been involved with the Racine County Fair for many years including exhibiting through the Burlington Back 40 4-H Club and Burlington FFA Chapter.

Pirocanac, has volunteered for the auctions and youth building judging and served as Fair Board Representative for Racine County 4-H.

“Chase is no stranger to the community as she stays involved as a Racine County 4-H Adult leader and is a collegiate shotgun athlete and coach,” the Racine County Fair wrote on its Facebook page. “In the future, she hopes to become an excellent Elementary School teacher by drawing on her experiences from 4-H and FFA leadership positions.”

Buchholz attends UW-Madison, where she is studying to earn a degree in agricultural economics with certificates in sustainability and agricultural business management.

“Some of Alyson’s favorite involvements in the Racine County Fair include serving as Racine County 4-H Outstanding Teen, competing in the Sue Isaacson Master Showmanship, volunteering at the Case IH Booth last year,” fair officials wrote on the Facebook page. “She credits the Racine County Fair for pushing her to grow as a leader and inspiring her to pursue a career in the agricultural sector.”



Fairest of the Fair finalists Chase Pirocanac (from left), Alyson Buchholz, and Kennedy Bosch pose for a photo during the ceremony at the fairgrounds in Union Grove.

CHAD HENSIKAC Racine County Fair

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Bootjack Road



Lunchmoney Bullies

# The sounds of summer: Musical acts featured at the 2022 Fair

The Racine County Fair is headlining several musical performances at the Activity Building. From classic rock to country to polka music, there's sure to be something for everyone to enjoy. The musicians slated for 2022 include:

## Bootjack Road

Hailing from country towns in the State of Wisconsin, Bootjack Road is one of the Midwest's newest rockin' country bands. "The band's sound combines all things country/rock, with a few contemporary jams sprinkled in – and they're all played with edgy, contemporary muscle. Vocals are strong, and their talent and performance skills are sharp as a tack," a reviewer wrote.

"Our goal has always been to connect with our audiences," says the band on its website, [www.bootjackroad.com](http://www.bootjackroad.com). "We might seem like a ragtag bunch, but there's passion and sincerity that underscores everything we do, and that's apparent every time you hear us play."

Comprised of Joey Carini (guitars, vocals), Brad Schwechel (drums, percussion), Justin Haugen (lead vocals) and Jeremy Kirschnik (bass, vocals), the hardworking ensemble has earned the spot as Wisconsin's most sought-after country rock band, the website states. Performing an average of 100 to 120 shows per year throughout the Midwest, including headlining at Country Thunder, the band brings toe-tapping music to the masses –



Genesee Depot



Breaking Cadence

## On stage at the Activity Building

Live entertainment at the Activity Building will include:

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 27**  
TW & Company • 7 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JULY 28**  
Breaking Cadence • 7 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JULY 29**  
Steve Meisner • 2 p.m.  
*Sponsored by Community State Bank*  
Lunchmoney Bullies • 7 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JULY 30**  
Bootjack Road • 7 p.m.

**SUNDAY, JULY 31**  
Genesee Depot • 6 p.m.

one gig at a time.

### Breaking Cadence

Breaking Cadence is a rock party band that plays a variety of hits from the 1960s to today.

With less than two years on the scene – and one was a pandemic – Breaking Cadence is the fastest growing band in Milwaukee, according to the band's Facebook page. The multi-festival headlining band is highly energetic and puts on a high-energy show that keeps the crowd moving.

### The Lunchmoney Bullies

The Lunchmoney Bullies are from southeast Wisconsin and another returning

fair favorite. The group plays cover rock, county, reggae and rap songs, with a twist.

For more information, visit [www.lunchmoneybullies.com](http://www.lunchmoneybullies.com).

### Genesee Depot

Genesee Depot began performing 11 years ago in their hometown of Redgranite. Now they typically do anywhere for 30 to 70 events a year, according to the band's website.

Genesee Depot is predominately a county cover band, but do offer original music as well.

Although the band does mostly covers at their events, concertgoers will notice

## Taking Center Stage at the Fair

The Center Stage provides entertainment outdoors. Watch local talent while enjoying the beer and wine garden.

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 27**  
Cheryl McCrary Band, 4 p.m.  
Northcape Express, 7 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JULY 28**  
Marty Martin and the Crowd Pleasers, 4 p.m.  
New Piano Guys, 7:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JULY 29**  
Laura Bell, 3 p.m.  
Eddie Butts Band, 7 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JULY 30**  
Ben Barels, 1 p.m.  
Cork N Classics, 4:30 p.m.  
Bedlam – Lines of Loyalty, 8 p.m.

**SUNDAY, JULY 31**  
Church service, 9 a.m.  
Steve L Show (Elvis), noon  
Sadie, 3:30 p.m.  
Kenny & The Night Owls, 7 p.m.



Steve Meisner



# DOWN *on* the farm

## Return of breakfast event brings 'em out in the rain

By Jason Arndt  
STAFF WRITER

Malchine Farms in Wind Lake waited three years for its time to shine as Racine County Breakfast on the Farm host.

The family-owned farm, in its sixth generation under brothers Kevin and Mike Malchine, initially expected to serve as the venue in 2020 before the COVID-19 pandemic cancelled the event in back-to-back years.

In spite of a little rain June 18, the annual event brought in more than 2,000 people, who savored a hearty farm breakfast, explored a petting zoo, and learned more about agriculture.

Mike Malchine, whose son, Ryan, will become the seventh-generation owner, called the event a success considering how long the family waited since learning it would become hosts upon conclusion of the 2019 Racine County Breakfast on the Farm.

"I am just glad that we were able to finally get it in after three years," Mike said. "The day finally happened, we had a good turnout. It was a raining, which was good for us, we need the rain."

The rain carried a particular benefit for Malchine Farms since the operation primarily focuses on grain production such as soybeans and corn.



Children play in a bin of corn during the Racine County Breakfast on the Farm at the Malchine Farms in Waterford. It was one of the many activities for children at the event.

MAUREEN VANDER SANDEN Racine County Fair



State Assembly Speaker Robin Vos, R-Rochester, serves scrambled eggs during Racine County Breakfast on the Farm. In addition to eggs, the meal included sausage, milk and ice cream with strawberries.

MAUREEN VANDER SANDEN Racine County Fair

### More than dairy

Unlike other counties promoting breakfasts as a day on a dairy farm, Racine County Breakfast on the Farm looks to showcase diversity in agriculture through selecting a variety of farming operations for its annual event.

Jonathan Bird, Racine County Breakfast of the Farm committee member, said Racine County offers multiple agriculture industries.

"In Racine County, we have got everything. We have got vegetable, grain, dairy, hogs, beef," he said. "Anything with agriculture is grown in Racine County. This county has so much to offer and they supply so much food to the people."

Kevin Malchine, meanwhile, found the event uplifting since many people came to learn more about farming and agriculture.

"It is an amazing feeling that there is this many people who have taken an interest in what agriculture is," Kevin said. "We are more than happy to show them the things that we do."

Visitors, and even eager breakfast eaters, learned how Malchine Farms performs daily operations.

Since its founding in 1854, Machine Farms went from horse drawn plows to GPS guided technology as of today, according to information from the family.

"Malchine Farms has given our family nearly 170 years of livelihood and yielded great memories along with adventures for kids and a lifestyle based on hard work, tenacity, optimism, self-sufficiency, family, faith, and community."

Meanwhile, as for the future, Mike said the farm is in good hands under his son, Ryan.

Ryan, according to Mike, has shown a passion for farming and technological advancements needed for a sustainable farming future.

"He is very much into agriculture, he is all about new technology," Mike said.

### Hearty breakfast

The breakfast featured scrambled eggs, sausage, milk and ice cream at a cost of \$8 for adults while children younger than 3 ate for free.

Activities included children's games, a petting zoo, live music, and more.

Kevin said while people enjoyed the breakfast, many visitors flocked to the petting zoo, courtesy of Waterford FFA.

The club members, Kevin said, began bringing in their animals the night before and kept children engaged inside a barn.

The long hiatus sparked many people to visit Malchine Farms, according to Bird, who credited an army of volunteers and sponsors who made the event possible.

"The rain didn't seem to deter anyone, everyone still wanted to come down," he said. "We had a great turnout and a good breakfast. I think people wanted to get out and get together again."

As for the next year, Racine County Breakfast on the Farm organizers have not yet decided on a venue, Bird said.

But he offered assurances of the event returning.

"We are still working on that, we have a couple of leads," he said. "We will find a place."

Malchine Farms became the sixth farm to serve as hosts since Racine County Breakfast on the Farm returned after a long hiatus.



# A double distinction

*Henderson claims grand champions in two fair categories last year*

By Jason Arndt  
STAFF WRITER

Kelsey Henderson shed a few tears of joy and tightly embraced her family members after winning the title of Grand Champion steer at last year's Racine County Fair.

Henderson, a 2020 Union Grove High School graduate, called the accomplishment unforgettable and said she cannot wait to show her 1,360-pound beef crossbred steer named Bobby in the Governor's Blue Ribbon Livestock Auction at the Wisconsin State Fair.

Taylor Himebauch, of Honey Creek Hoofers 4-H Club, won reserve Grand Champion with her 1,349-pound Simmental steer.

"It has an incredible week and there are no words for it," said Henderson, a member of Union Grove FFA.

Henderson, however, didn't only have a Grand Champion steer during the Racine County Fair.

A day before she captured the steer title, Henderson won Grand Champion swine for a 272-pound crossbred pig she called Gunn, a name which came from the person who bred the animal.

Cooper Willis, from Union Grove FFA, captured reserve Grand Champion with 272-pound crossbred pig.

Henderson, who attends Iowa State University, said raising both livestock came with challenges and the project required teamwork with her family chipping in.

"I worked with my steer since last September, so that is a little bit longer time frame, but there is definitely a lot of effort that goes into both," said Henderson. "Between all of our family members, we spent probably at least eight hours in the barn. It is a full-time job everyday."

Henderson, the daughter of Craig and Sue, has a younger sister, Madisyn, who also took home a couple of showmanship titles at the County Fair.

Madisyn won the best in breed for her 1,267 Hereford beef steer. She also plans to show her steer at the State Fair.

The Kelsey Henderson, who will be a sophomore at Iowa State said she couldn't have achieved her championships without her supportive family as well as countless others.

"I was lucky that my parents and my sister were home to hold down the fort," Henderson said.

"It is definitely a family project and I wouldn't be able to do it without them."

Henderson rattled off a series of names including Dan Gunn, of Gunn Showpigs, and Jordan and Megan Tibbits from Tibbits Show Pigs for helping her raise a champion pig.

As for the steer, she credited Ty and Carrie Webster, of Webster Cattle Company, along with Jake and Haley Lee. "There is a long, long list of people that I can thank," Henderson said.

Winning at the Racine County Fair, however, isn't anything new for Kelsey Henderson. In 2019, Henderson won Grand Champion Market Hog for a pig she named Knockout. She also won champion steer in the Chianina category during the 2019 Racine County Fair.

But winning isn't everything for the



Kelsey Henderson stays focused while showing her Grand Champion steer, Bobby, during the 2021 Racine County Fair beef show in Union Grove. Henderson was a member of Union Grove FFA.

JASON ARNDT *Racine County Fair*

Union Grove FFA member.

"We have been really fortunate. It is not always about the banner at the end of the day," she said. "It is about the memories, it is about the people, it is so much more than the banner up there."

Henderson many of the people showing at the Racine County Fair exhibit an equal passion and work ethic, as well as general competitiveness.

The Racine County Fair, she said, has one of the most competitive steer and pig shows among county fairs statewide.

"There are a lot of hardworking people around here and it is great to do it around the best," said Henderson. "The competition is really tough, Racine County has a very competitive steer and pig show."

Henderson, 19, majors in agriculture business with an animal science minor at Iowa State.

## 2021 Racine County Fair Livestock winners

### Lambs

Grand Champion - Olivia Spaight, Hampshire  
Reserve Grand Champion - Ainsley

### Balfanz, Cross

Champion Pen - Olivia Spaight, Cross  
Reserve Champion Pen - Hunter Drissel, Hampshire  
Reserve Champion Pen - Hunter Drissel, Cross  
Champion Natural - Alexa Tenhagen  
Champion Suffolk - Isaac Erickson  
Champion Katahdin - Kellyn Henningfeld  
Champion Dorset - Lilli Steffenson  
Champion Shropshire - Rebecca Swantz  
Champion Carcass - Josiah Johnson  
Reserve Carcass - Keegan Waldron-Boldt

### Beef

Grand Champion - Kelsey Henderson, Beef Cross  
Reserve Grand Champion - Taylor Himebauch, Simmental  
Champion Maine Anjou - Sam Henderson  
Fourth Overall - Chloe Uhlenhake, Beef Cross  
Champion Chianina - Nathan Andis  
Champion Shorthorn Plus - Abigail Vessel  
Champion Charolais - Brayden Hoppa

Champion Dairy - Job Bratz, Dairy Steer  
Champion Hereford - Madisyn Henderson  
Champion Angus - Parker Schaefer  
Champion Beef/Dairy - Sarah Henningfeld  
Champion Shorthorn - Braden Kastenson  
Champion Carcass - Jake Krusemark  
Reserve Carcass - Jay Dewees

### Swine

Grand Champion - Kelsey Henderson, Crossbred  
Reserve Grand Champion - Cooper Willis, Crossbred  
Champion Yorkshire - Maya Weinkauff  
Champion AOB - Kiara Quilling, Poland China  
Fifth overall - Brannt Balfanz, Yorkshire  
Champion Spot - Megan Baker  
Champion Berkshire - Hollyn Halter  
Champion Hereford - Colton Naber  
Champion Duroc - Hollyn Halter  
Champion Hampshire - Clayton Naber  
Champion Carcass - Matyson Schaal  
Reserve Carcass - Brooklyn Bailey



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**MUSICAL ACTS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11**

they put their own spin on songs, adding harmonies or hearing the two sisters take on songs normally done by guys. With the three lead vocalists being siblings they easily switch out rolls and provide great energy and dimension.

Genesee Depot did their first original release to the world June 22, 2018, and they have streamed in 16 different countries. They hope to reach even more people with this next album.

**Steve Meisner**

Steve Meisner is a multi-talented musician, entertainer, composer and arranger. According to the biography at [www.stevemeisner.com](http://www.stevemeisner.com), he began playing the accordion at the age of 5 and has been earning a living in the music business

since he was 16. Steve's family has a rich musical heritage and he is a second-generation full-time working musician. His father, the late Verne Meisner, had a successful music career for more than 57 years.

Meisner has brought his brand of traditional American polka into the 21st century with a fresh spark and swing while retaining the roots of this music.

"I believe that good music is simply good and I believe people know the difference," Meisner states on his website. "They may not always understand what the mechanics of it are, but they feel it. And that is where I've always placed my faith in people. They too feel that good music is simply good and it makes them feel good."

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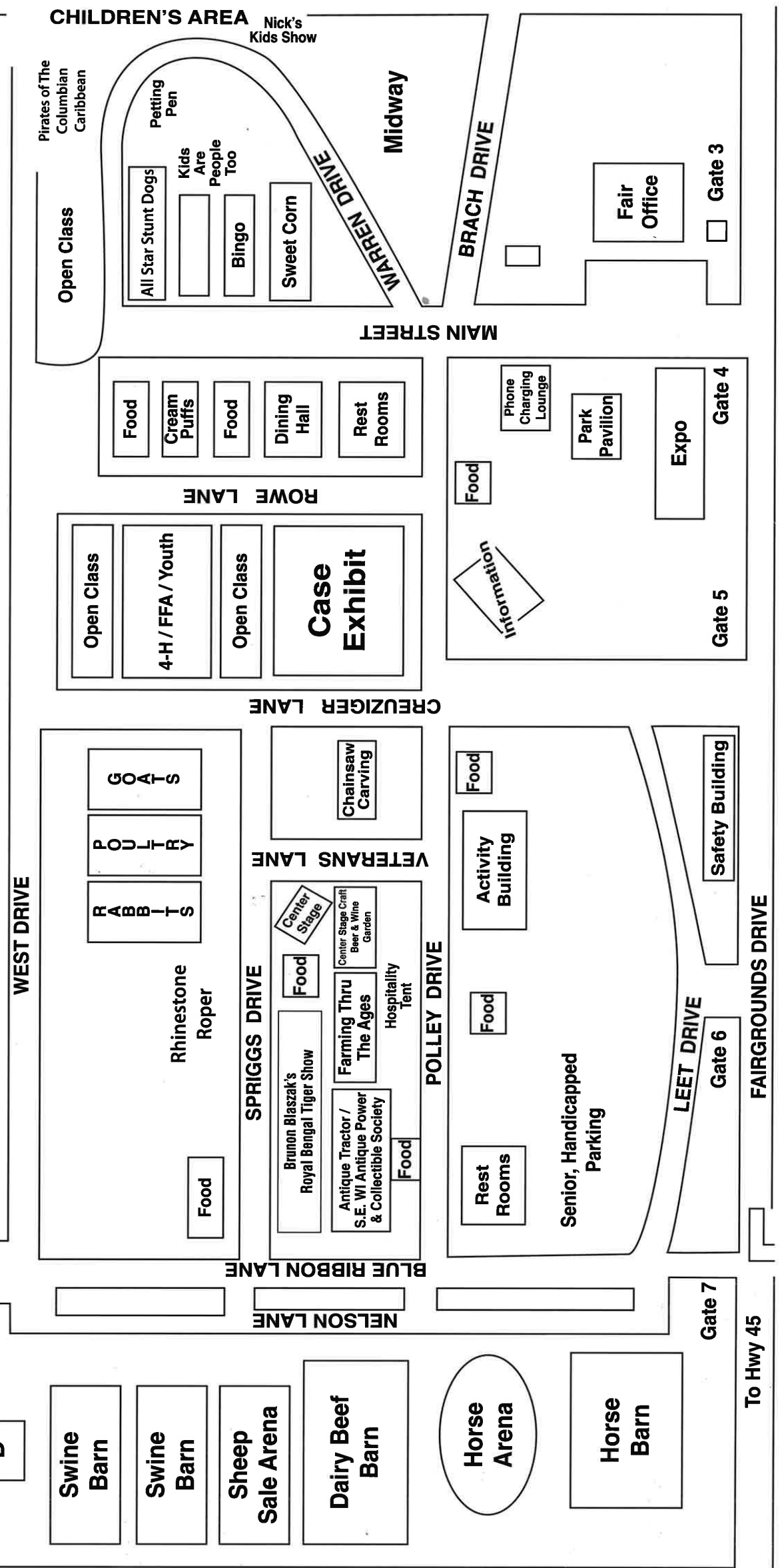
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