



# The Fair Focus

Wednesday, July 27  
2023

## Today's Events:

- 8:00 - 9:30 am Hot Breakfast at Country Kitchen
- 11:00 a.m. Dying with Plants (Plant Tent)
- 11:00 - 3:00 p.m. Jr. Iron Chef Contest (Kiwanis)
- 11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Country Kitchen Open
- 1:00 p.m. Stuffed Animal Show (Pole Barn)
- 2:30 p.m. Tissue Paper Butterflies and Flowers (Plant Tent)
- 3:00 p.m. Sheep Show (Pole Barn)
- 4:00 p.m. Kahoot Dairy Challenge (Kiwanis)
- 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Country Kitchen
- 5:30 p.m. Cardboard Car Build
- 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Adult Iron Chef (Kiwanis)
- 8:00 p.m. Bonfire & Overnighters' Meeting (fire ring)

## Tompkins County 4-H Youth Fair



## Country Kitchen



The Country Kitchen has been a long-time tradition started by the club leader and members of Club F.L.O.W (Future Leaders of the World). And each year, people have loved it. So, I asked a few people about their experience with the Country Kitchen.

What's your favorite meal?

"Egg cheese ham on a muffin with hashbrown." - Jess Wright

"Fried bananas." - VendaMae Harris

"Fried pickles." - Nathaniel Carpenter

"Fried pickles." - Josiah Carpenter

"Snow cone." - Cameron Mayo

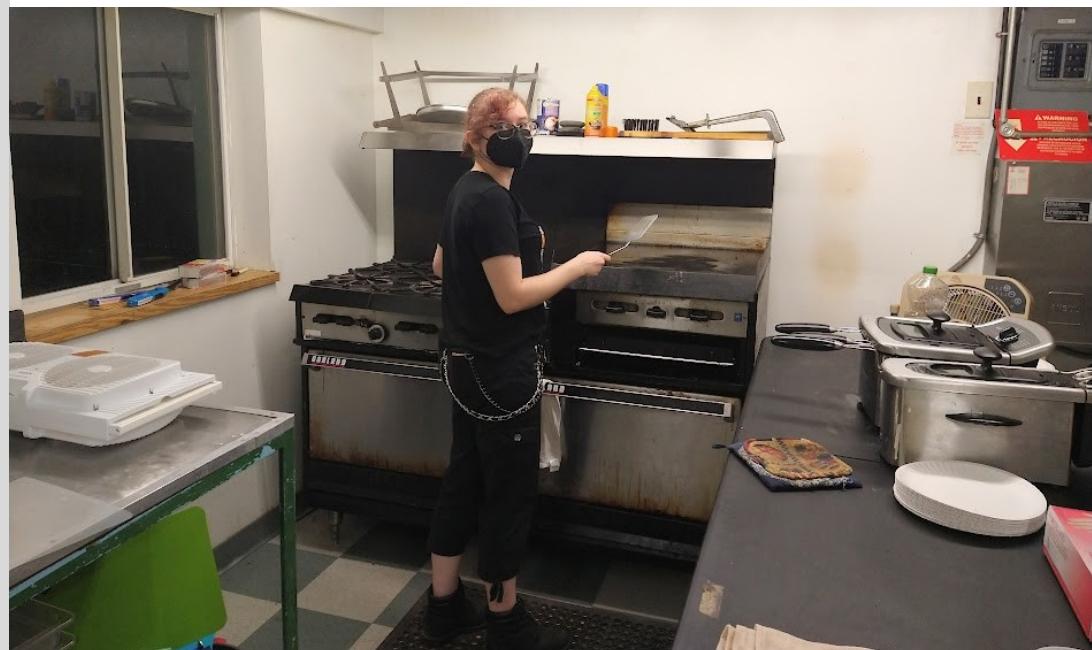
What's your favorite thing about working in the Country Kitchen?

"I get to eat." - Josiah Carpenter

"We get to have dairy-free, allergen-friendly food." - Morgan Wilcox

"When everyone has a job and is working in sync ... when the delegation of tasks works out." - Arabella Hartino

"Observing the Morgan-Mitchell-Arabella work dynamic." - Alina Loginov



Arabella Hartino cooking in the Country Kitchen

## Turmeric Dyeing Workshop

Heather and Rebecca Woodie taught about dyeing with turmeric. Turmeric is a natural dye derived from the turmeric root, which is a spice commonly used in Indian-style cooking, especially curries. Here's how we did it:

1. Fill large, foil casserole pans half-full with water
2. Dissolve 3 tablespoons turmeric powder into each pan
3. Using a dishtowel, scrunch and fold it to make patterns in the dye, securing it with rubber bands
4. Let your white, cotton dish towel sit in the dye for 2 hours
5. Put your dish towel in a gallon-sized baggie for 24 hours
6. Rinse

Now, your naturally-dyed turmeric dishtowel is ready to use! The dye isn't fixed, so take care to keep it out of the washing machine. It may help keep the dye in the fabric longer if you iron your fabric.



## Junior Iron Chef Contest

In the Junior Iron Chef contest, youth are given two secret ingredients, common pantry items, and an hour and a half to form a yummy meal. Yesterday's secret ingredients were Coconut Milk and Ramen noodles, two items that seemingly don't pair well together. The Potatoes, yesterday's winning team, made Ramen noodles topped with potatoes (with coconut milk and ramen seasoning in place of butter and chicken broth) and sauteed vegetables. They added a side dish of ice cream topped with coconut curd and fresh fruits to complete the meal. Today's winning team, the Tasty Chickens, was made up of Miruna, Mason Hall, Emily Ralph, and Nathaniel Carpenter. They made Ramen Noodles with Fried Bananas with their secret ingredients: Bananas and ramen noodles. Congratulations, Tasty Chickens!



Left: The Tasty Chickens; right:  
The Thingamajigs



## Stuffed Animal Show

At the Stuffed Animal Show, Cloverbuds brought their stuffed animals to a judge's table with Allie Carpenter and Claira Cuykendall. As Eli described to Ben, a fellow cloverbud, the judges asked what his name was, what his stuffed animal's name was, and what his stuffed animal would eat if it were real. Cloverbuds got a chance to show off their favorite stuffed animal to two friendly judges!

Eli Carpenter, Kennedy and Peyton Griffin, Evelyn Carpenter, Ben, and Nathaniel Carpenter participated in



Left: Peyton and Kennedy  
Griffin; middle: Ben; right: Peyton Griffin, Eli  
Carpenter, and Evelyn Carpenter

## Sheep Show and Showmanship

The sheep show consists of two portions: Conformation and Showmanship. Conformation is a competition of which sheep is closer to the ideal form, and which has better fiber. Showmanship, on the other hand, is a competition of which competitor can show their sheep in a way that makes them look their best. This includes things like setting up a sheep's feet (they should be square), being able to handle the sheep even in the face of adversity, and knowing when the sheep was born. Grand Champion Showman went to Claira Cuykendall for her remarkable handling of her sheep even when it was jumping all over and her unbreakable attention to the judge. Reserve Grand Champion went to our only Novice showman, Nathaniel Carpenter. His sheep was very well-trained and his attention was always centered fully on the judge. Grand Champion Ewe for conformation went to Shawn Mayo. Congratulations, sheep showmen!



Left: Shawn Mayo, Claira Cuykendall, Allie Carpenter, and Nathaniel Carpenter; right: Shawn Mayo, Mahkia Gumaer, and Anna Gumaer

## Adult Iron Chef

The Adult Iron Chef competition is a slight twist on the Junior Iron Chef competition. Like the Junior Iron Chef competition, teams of 3-4 people are given secret ingredients and common pantry items they must use to create a meal. However, the three secret ingredients must be kid-friendly, and so must the meal. In fact, three teens (Claira Cuykendall, Allie Carpenter, and Emily Ralph) were chosen to judge the final meals! The three secret ingredients are fish sticks, goldfish, and fruit cups. All these must be used in a kid-friendly meal. So, I asked a few people in the Adult Iron Chef Competition what they think the biggest challenge would be. Here are a few of their answers:

"Creating an original dish that incorporates secret ingredients and tastes good" - Pete Angie

"Making a good enough dish that's kid-friendly" - Allie

"Figuring out the nutritional value of the meal...and [writing] down the recipe" - Laura

"Not eating the whole thing before we make it" - Dan

Here's the recipes each team made:

CJ and Crew: Fish nachos

The Misfits: Soft fish tacos with luau sauce

Unknown Substance: Vegetable noodle stir fry with rainbow fish crumb garnish. They made their mystery ingredients disappear into the dish!

The Dans: Soft taco with boiled, fried ramen, and gold fish; relish made from peppers, onions, a fruit cup, pineapple juice, and sour cream; garnish made of cheddar cheese and goldfish

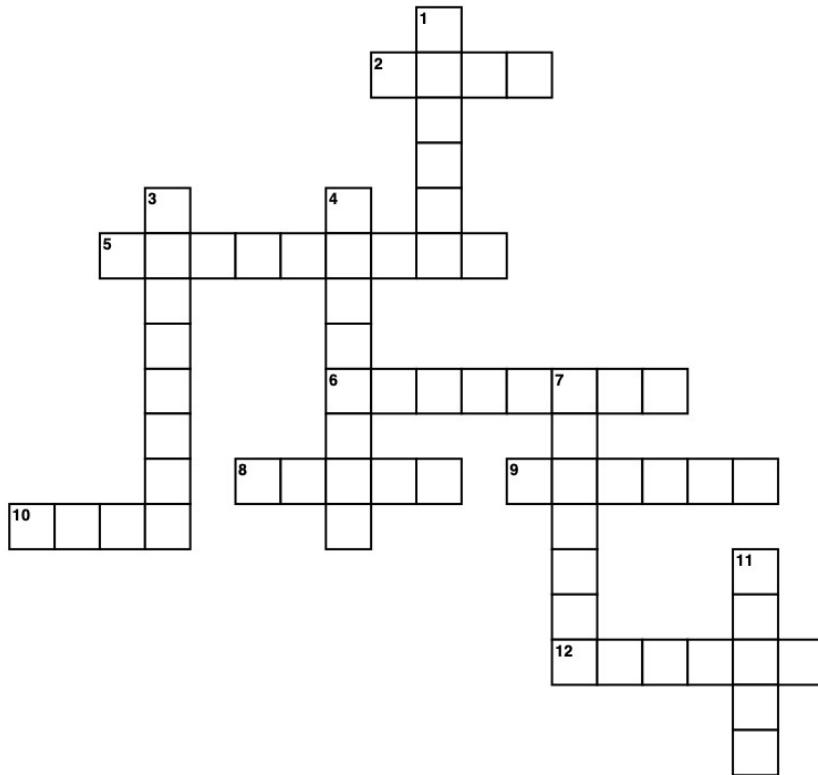
Winning team: CJ and Crew

Congratulations!



Top left: The Dans; top right: Unknown Substance; bottom left: CJ and Crew; bottom right: The Misfits

## Friday's Crossword



### Across

- [2] A plant growing where it's not supposed to.
- [5] An important club that meets once per month and makes Fair-related decisions.
- [6] This year's 4-H Fair theme.
- [8] A baby chicken.
- [9] Trees and undergrowth surrounding the 4-H Acres.
- [10] First of Four H's.
- [12] Term used for seeds of the buckwheat grain.

### Down

- [1] Last word of the 4-H motto.
- [3] Last name of the person the quilt in Kiwanis Hall honors.
- [4] Most common breed of dairy cattle in the US.
- [7] It's not just cows and \_\_\_\_\_.
- [11] Breed of "oreo cookie" rabbits.

Go on a scavenger hunt to find clues 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11. Look for the letters and punctuation at the sites of the clues and spell a word!

— — — — —

Once you have the word, come down to the Country Kitchen to collect an Icy Pop!

## Silly Sheep

If you haven't met them already, I'd encourage you to come to the Pole Barn and meet Black & Jack, Claira and Allie's sheep. These two sheep are the most adorable little lambs I've ever seen, though I suppose that doesn't extend to the show ring. All was well until Claira's sheep, Black, decided they were done. They refused to walk, falling over into the sawdust. But then, when Claira tried tugging on the halter to pull them up, they jumped straight in the air, and I swear their four little hooves were hovering two feet above the ground! After landing, that sheep started hopping all over for just a few seconds, but those were the most hilarious seconds of sheep antics I've ever seen!

I think it was amazing that Claira managed to keep that sheep walking in a straight line around the showring. Congratulations on a well-earned Grand Champion Showman award, Claira!



## Focus Question of the Day:

What 4-H project did you enter, and/or what animal do you show at Fair?

Nathaniel  
Many, including  
sheep, cookies,  
place setting

Evelyn  
Blanket,  
chicken

Coralynn  
Painted  
tote bag  
and topiary

Mahkia  
Chicken, sheep,  
and lemon pound  
cake

Anna  
Watermelon neck-  
lace, woodburning,  
fruit necklace,  
sheep

Nora  
Goats and  
cows

Eli  
Goat, beef cow,  
and dairy cow

Allie  
Two dairy  
cows, one sheep

Jaden  
"Neither, but I  
helped with the  
sheep"

Contributors for this issue: Karen Barden  
Photographs by: Alina Loginov, VendaMae Harris, Wendy Sthokal  
Editor: Alina Loginov