



4-H Fair Focus



Tompkins County 4-H Youth Fair

July 27, 2024
Saturday

Today's Events

- 8:00 Rabbit and Dog Check-in
- 8:30 Rabbit Showmanship, Rabbit and Cavy Chow
- 8:30 Dog Show
- 11:00 Garden of Healthy Eatin'
- 11:30 Chicken Barbecue
- 2:00 Herdsmanhip Awards
- 3:00 Animals Released
- 3:30 Plant Science Awards
- 4:30 Awards Ceremony

"To Make the Best Better"

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Rabbit Hopping



Emily's rabbits leapt the rails (left and right), while Ariana's rabbit raced through the course (middle).

Rabbit hopping will be taking place during the rabbit and cavy show, in between classes for our rabbit hoppers and showmen.

Rabbit hopping is an adorable competition to watch, since the rabbits get to hop over little jumps set up like horses would. Their exhibitors run along side them, encouraging the rabbits to hop as fast as they can. Sometimes, the rabbits have other ideas, but there are a few particularly speedy bunnies that race right through the course.

Did you know ...

- Rabbit hopping is fairly recent, introduced in Europe in the '70s?
- Rabbits can jump different types of courses, but these rabbits jump the straight course

Congratulations, exhibitors!

Let's take a look at the results from yesterday!

Dairy Show and Showmanship: Congratulations to all the exhibitors who competed in this year's Dairy Show!

Allie Carpenter won Grand Champion Showman with her calf, Titan. Roz Cuykendall won Champion Junior Showman with her calf, Ladylove.

Congratulations, Claira, on winning Top Senior in Round Robin!

Meet the Cows



Rosy the Red and White Holstein is a very well-trained, four-year-old cow. Not only did Claira show her in the showmanship and confirmation classes, Rosy was shown by Kennedy in the Cloverbud class. Both Rosy and Claira have been mentors to Kennedy in their own unique ways, and have given Kennedy a head start for her future years showing in 4-H.

A few years ago, one of the farms with kids who showed at the 4-H Fair had to sell their show cattle. A few of these Jerseys were bought by another 4-H family, the Carpenters. "My dad swore never to have Jerseys, and now he has six." Allie said, pointing to her Jersey. This year, 2 of these Jerseys were in the show, and they were shown by Allie and her cousin, Nathaniel.

Both Ladylove and Ravenclaw, shown by Rozlyn and Nathaniel, were second-generation show animals. Claira and Allie showed Ladybug and Ritz together a few years ago, and now, their daughters are being shown by siblings and cousins. Let's keep this tradition going!

Cassie is a new cattle showman this year, but she's showing a beef cow instead. Her cow's name is Rudy, short for Rudolph, since he was born just a few days before Christmas. Her family has raised beef cattle for a very long time, but this is the first time Cassie has been able to show one. Congratulations on the show, Cassie!



The Showcase

Members of the Little Bunny Foo Foos and Jr. Tailwaggers 4-H Clubs will be competing for grand champion rabbit and dog titles today. Wish them luck!

Rabbit Showmanship

Rabbit showmanship is a very unique showmanship competition. Rather than showing off your animal to make them look their best, with rabbits, the exhibitor must demonstrate their knowledge about what is healthy on their rabbit, and what to look for. The exhibitor will first pose their rabbit, then check them over, nose to tail. No part of the rabbit goes untouched, with the exhibitor examining every part of the rabbit. To do this, the exhibitor has to flip the rabbit upside-down to examine the nose, teeth, legs, and belly. Once they're done, they have to flip the rabbit back upright and pose them once more as they demonstrate the rabbit's fur type. Those who excel in rabbit showmanship are very knowledgeable about potential disqualifications, breed standards, and how to monitor the health of their rabbit. Good luck, rabbit exhibitors!

Dog Show

Dogs compete in any of three events, including obedience, showmanship, and rally. Obedience requires dogs to perform commands off-leash, with more experienced exhibitors only allowed to use hand signals to give commands. Showmanship, on the other hand, requires exhibitors to show their knowledge about the dog breed. They also need to be able to pose and gait their dog properly (jog with their dog at a smooth trot). Rally is the most difficult of all the dog show events. The dog must perform exercises that are specified by signs on the ground alongside their exhibitor, off-leash. It's extremely difficult. Good luck to the Jr. Tailwaggers, and to Connor and Olivia from 4-H Four Paws!

Did you know...

- Rabbits can rotate their ears 180°
- When rabbits are very happy, they do a binky (a jump with a twist at the top)
- Yawning is contagious for dogs, and even more so if a human they know yawns
- Dogs can sense heat with their noses



The Daily Project (Featuring Fiona)

Fiona is one of the most enthusiastic, curious 4-Hers I've had the pleasure of meeting. Her projects are full of variety, and reflect all the questions she's asked at the Botany Besties meetings. Take a look at her honey in Kiwanis Hall or come over to the Plant Science Tent to see her container gardens!



Chicken Barbecue

Every year, there's a chicken barbecue at the 4-H Fair, and it sells out fast. Lots of people love eating it, but do you know what goes into it?

Brioche buns
with extra sugar
and eggs

Secret Recipe Wilcox
barbecue sauce

Sweet beans with
bacon chunks

Sweet
buttercream with
cinnamon

Chicken quarters from
Texas Roadhouse

Cookie or brownie

Butter potatoes

Can you make this meal at home? Of course!

But does it taste better at the 4-H Fair? For sure.

Today's Craft: Quilling

Quilling is a very fun craft that used to be popular in the early 1900s. In quilling, crafters use a special tool that looks like a small rod with a slit down the middle to hold the paper. Then, they twist until the paper strip has been curled around in a circle. Come take a look at Emily's quilling insect exhibit in Kiwanis Hall!

1. Cut 1/4" strips of paper in varying colors. Cut them to 2", 4", or 8.4" long, depending on how thick you want the curls you make to be. Experiment!
2. Slide the strip of paper into the dash in the middle of the quilling tool, and spin the paper until it forms a circle.
3. Release the paper and allow it to expand to the desired size. Use a dab of glue to secure the end.
4. Pinch the circle as needed to make different shapes.
5. Alternatively, leave the end unsecured or quill in opposite directions on both ends.
6. Arrange the pieces on paper, and use a dab of glue to secure them.



Herdsmanship

Being a good herdsman means that your animal is well cared for, always fed and given water, and has a clean place to sleep. Beyond that, the best herdsmen make sure that their space is neat, their animal has their name and feeding schedule posted, and that the straw is raked and pressed into the animal's stall.

On Monday, one person was given the Herdsmanship banner for excellent herdsmanship. Each night afterwards, another person was given the banner, so it was passed around the Pole Barn. Today, everyone will be given awards for their herdsmanship. Some of the awards are candy, but others include new halters, or brushes. Once, someone won a new pair of clippers, which they've used ever since at the Fair.

Herdsmanship is also a good way for older 4-Hers to mentor the younger or newer 4-Hers. When I first joined 4-H, no less than 6 older 4-Hers showed me all the tricks of being a good herdsman. Let's make sure to keep this tradition going!

Garden of Healthy Eatin'

Did you know that the recommended volume of vegetables eaten per day is 4-5 servings? For leafy greens, that's 8-10 cups per day, or 2-3 cups of chopped frozen greens per day. That's a lot of veggies!

Pamela and Jackson are offering healthy vegetable snacks (and cherries) in the Plant Science Tent to help kids see the importance of eating healthy, and just how easy it is to cook with vegetables.

Peyton and Kennedy came down to see what was happening in the tent, and Karen asked Kennedy which veggie snack was the best. Here was her response:

"Carrots, cucumbers, celery, peppers, peas..." Kennedy said.

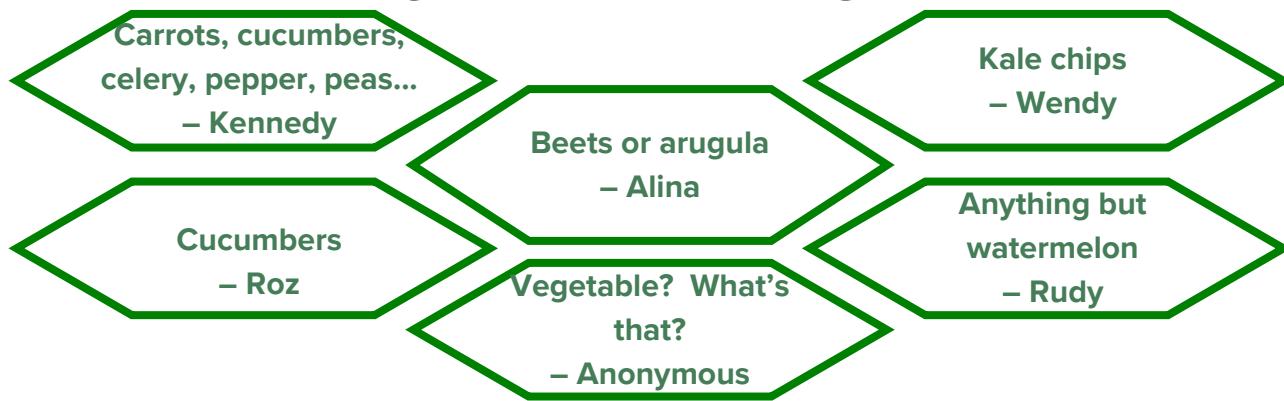
"You like them all?" Karen asked, and Kennedy nodded. "Did you try the zucchini?"

"No." Kennedy walked over to try the zucchini, making a face as she tasted it. "Trying it is what counts!" Karen got a high-five from Kennedy. I think it's safe to say she won't be looking for zucchini anytime soon, but she sure was excited about cucumbers, carrots, peas, and all the other vegetables on the table.

What can we cook with vegetables to make them taste really good?

- Shred mozzarella on top of sliced zucchini or summer squash and roast it in the oven until soft
- Saute onions, celery, and peppers until soft. Add marinara sauce and chopped frozen greens to make spaghetti sauce.
- Toss chopped kale in olive oil and salt, and bake on 375°F for 14 minutes to make kale chips.
- Shred beets and chop chard leaves, boiling them in broth to make borscht. Add vinegar and sour cream to taste.

What's your favorite vegetable?



Congrats and Good Luck, 4-H Graduates!

There's a lot of 4-Hers graduating from high school this year, including Claire, Allie, Cassie, Lucia, Josiah, and Ariana. Many plan to come back and continue either helping out with 4-H or showing for one more year. Whether it's studying marine biology at University of Florida–Tampa Bay, mentoring all the upcoming cloverbuds and youth in 4-H, or using their nursing skills to help a rural village in Zambia, these 4-Hers have been amazing examples of people dedicated to finding a way to make the best better. We'll miss you so much, but we know that you'll be doing great things!



Allie and Claire competing for Champion Senior Showman



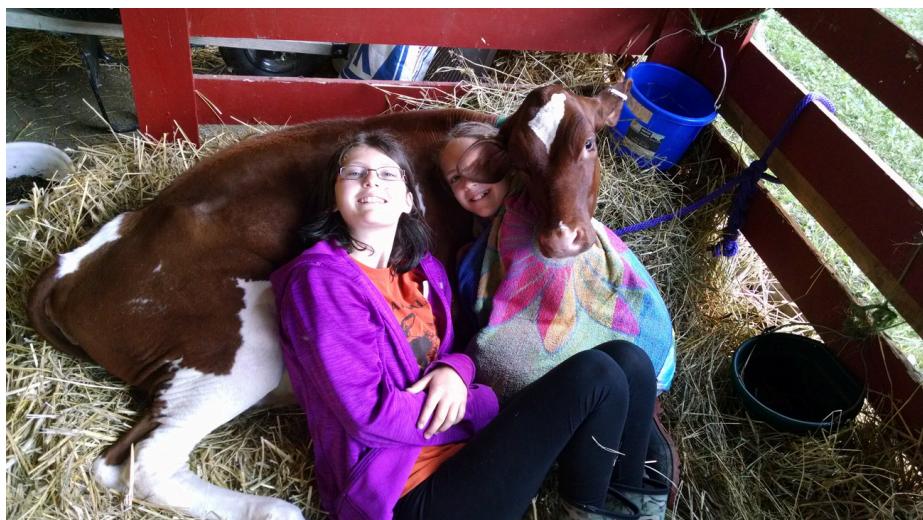
Cassie and Claire showing sheep during Round Robin



Lucia showing an Aussie in Round Robin



Claire and her rabbit just after the Round Robin senior tie-breaker



Ariana and Alina relaxing and warming up in the morning



4-H Sudoku



Can you find all the 4's?

1								3
		7	2	6		4	8	
4			9	3	5			6
	3		4	8		2		
4	1	6		9	3			
	6					8	9	
5	7	8		4				2
			3			7		
2								5

Thank you to all the friends, family, and sponsors for making this year's 4-H Fair possible! Please help us continue all the good that is being done next year and beyond.



“Be yourself; everyone else is already
taken.”

- Oscar Wilde