

179th Annual Exhibition
1840-2019

FARMINGTON FAIR

Franklin County
Agricultural Society

SEPTEMBER
15TH - 21ST

Wednesday, September 11, 2019
Advertising Supplement to the
Morning Sentinel



Doors open on 179th celebration of Franklin County Agricultural Society event

BY VALERIE TUCKER
Correspondent

The Farmington fairgrounds will open its doors on Sunday, Sept. 15 for the Franklin County Agricultural Society's 179th celebration of the region's agrarian history.

All eight days offer plenty of activities and exhibits for youngsters. Monday morning starts with Agricultural Education Day, with dozens of exhibits and hands-on activities planned just for elementary school-aged children.

During the week, the Lane Family Barnyard's friendly baby animals and other livestock in smaller pens will be accessible for the youngest visitors. On opening days, both the children's pie eating and costume contests will

offer some low-key competition. For those boys and girls who are eager for a rowdier challenge, the Mutton Bustin' bareback sheep riding competition offers rodeo-style excitement.

Now in its third year, the Monday night Drag Your Neighbor race continues to grow in popularity, and the Saturday night Demolition Derby remains a crowd favorite. The Western Maine Blacksmiths, Western Maine Beekeepers, Maple Syrup Sap House and Little Red Schoolhouse offer daily live demonstrations of traditional skills.

Cushing Amusements will bring an exciting new midway and ride specials during the week. This fifth-generation family entertainment business, based in Massachusetts, has traveled for decades all over New England for

special events, fairs, festivals and fundraisers, according to Peter Cushing, one of the most recent generation of co-owners. In the 1930s, his great-great-grandfather, Lawrence Carr, started the family carnival tradition. His daughter Marion grew up working the food stands and selling tickets. She married Lawrence Cushing Jr. in the late 1950s, and they continued the family business as LMC Amusements.

Today, the carnival rides and classic midway games continue as Cushing Amusements, with Peter and his father Lawrence Cushing III continuing to add exciting new rides, including the Sea Ray and a Mardi Gras double-decker glass house. One of their most popular attractions is the spectacularly-lit Ferris wheel, one

of only three in the country, he said.

"It's a fantastic light show that has to be seen to be believed," he said.

Pari-mutuel harness racing starts at 2 p.m. daily, with stake races on Sept. 17, 19, 20 and 21.

For those who want to stay for a night or longer, there's plenty of space for RVs and pop-ups with hook-ups that are available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

All pets must stay outside the grounds. Admission prices, which include parking, vary by age groups and days, so check online at farmingtonfairmaine.com and see page 3 of this section. Brochures are also available at local businesses. For further information, call 778-6083.

Harness racing, drag racing, demolition derby delight fans

BY VALERIE TUCKER
Correspondent

Attendees at the 2019 Franklin County Agricultural Fair can look forward to plenty of racing excitement, whether on four wheels or four feet.

Harness racing starts daily at 2 p.m., and the folks behind the scenes have been hard at work readying their tack and horses for the annual exciting competitions. Not only are there owners, drivers, trainers, photographers, announcers, promoters and track maintenance workers in preparation mode, there also are farriers, veterinarians and transporters who make sure each horse is ready to run.

At one of the fairground barns, trainer and farrier John Beckwith of Millinocket worked on a shoe on the back right foot of Bet You, one of the top harness racing challengers in the region. In August, Bet You claimed his second Hight Memorial Pace title in four years, with a winning time of 1:53.3 at this year's Skowhegan State Fair. At the 2019 Farmington Horsemen's Banquet, Joe and Michele Nelson topped the list for earning the most money with their horse: Rambling Art, with five wins and a total of \$74,000. Their son, Ryan, helps his father train and care for the horses at the stables, and this time of the year is always busy, he said.

"There's always plenty to do," he said.

Drag racing has made a comeback at the fair. This year's Monday night Drag Your Neighbor competition starts at 6:30 p.m. on the track in front of the grandstand. The drag races are simply two, street-legal cars accelerating from a standing start over a measured distance.

Drivers go through tournament-style eliminations, with the losing racer eliminated. The

winning racers continue until one remains. Each race is started by an electronic device commonly called a Christmas Tree. This system allows drivers to advance in stages and avoid false starts.

According to the National Hot Rod Association, this classic lighting system was invented in the 1950s. The vertical tower of lights was simple, with five amber lights, a red, and a green light and one beam across the starting line. When the drivers got about a foot from the beam, the starter would activate the tree lights in an exciting countdown sequence. Since then, there have been design variations, but the classic red and green flashing bulbs remain an essential part of the original Christmas Tree design.

The Demolition Derby will be a free-for-all smash-up at 7 p.m. on Saturday night, ending the fair with a grandstand packed with fans who start claiming their seats by mid-afternoon. The event is loud and rowdy and continues until one champion vehicle is able to limp off the field to claim the trophy.

Each spring, Building and Grounds Superintendent Tom White organizes his crew to keep the grandstand in good shape for the thousands of visitors who sit on the bleachers. This year, the crew restored the former judges' viewing stand on the far side of the track. Although the structure has not been used for years, it's part of the history of the fair.

"This building is well over 100 years old," he said. "It was moved here many years ago by an ox team, but it fell into disrepair."

One of his volunteers, Josh Brochu, 17, faces a special challenge. He and his younger sister, Ashley, are living with Ataxia Telangiectasia, or A-T, a rare genetic degenerative disease that causes progressive loss of muscle control, immune system problems and a high rate of cancer. Despite



Valerie Tucker photo
Ryan Nelson (standing), and trainer and farrier John Beckwith, of Millinocket, work with Bet You, one of the top harness racing challengers in the region. In August, the horse claimed his second Hight Memorial Pace title in four years at this year's Skowhegan State Fair. Nelson's father, Joe, and mother, Michele, own and train horses at the Farmington fairgrounds stables.

being confined to a wheelchair, Brochu shows up twice a week to paint and crack jokes at lunch with the rest of the crew. He also tours the grounds and helps White make adjustments that improve accessibility for people with disabilities.

"Josh tags the areas of the fairgrounds that



Valerie Tucker photo
Building and Grounds Superintendent Tom White works with volunteer Josh Brochu, 17, who has a rare genetic degenerative disease which confines him to a wheelchair. Brochu shows up twice a week to paint and helps White make adjustments that improve accessibility for others with disabilities.

need fixing," White said. "For example, there might be an area that someone in a wheelchair would have a hard time navigating."

That's an invaluable service, White said, because Brochu sees everything from a different point of view.



Farmington Fair

Sunday-Saturday Ongoing Exhibits and Demonstrations

- Lane's Barnyard Animals – Livestock Area
- Western Maine Beekeepers – M.
- Western Maine Blacksmiths – M.
- Maple Syrup – M.
- Red School House – M.

NOTE: For bike drawings, enter at the Exhibition Hall; entrants must be present to win.

179th ANNUAL EXHIBITION 1840-2019 FRANKLIN COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Sunday, September 15 - Saturday, September 21



<p>ADMISSION SUN.-THUR.... FRI.-SAT. Ages 12 and Up \$8.00 \$10.00 Ages 8-11 \$4.00 \$5.00 Age 7 and Under FREE FREE Tuesday Everyone..... \$4.00 Thursday 62 and Up..... \$4.00</p>	 <p>Ride Specials Mon., Sept 16 Tues., Sept 17 Wed., Sept 18</p>	<p>Demolition Derby - Sat., Sept. 21st Large Grandstand at 7:00 p.m.</p>  <p>Pari-Mutuel Racing Every Day at 2 p.m.</p>
--	---	--

SUNDAY, SEPT. 15

- 10 a.m. Barrel Racing - S.R.
- 10 a.m. Steer & Oxen 2100, 2500 & Under - P.R.
- 10 a.m. Alderun Wood Creations - M.
- 10 a.m. Poultry Show & Judging - S.B.
- 10 a.m. 4-H Working Steer Pull & Show - W.A.
- 12 p.m. American Legion Beano; Midway opens
- 12 - 2 p.m. Music of Arizona Rose & Rich Ric Band - P
- 1 p.m. Oxen 2,900, 3,300 & Under, Kids' Class - P.R.
- 2 p.m. Pari-Mutuel Racing - R.G.
- 2 p.m. Kid's Costume Contest (ages 3-4) - W.A.
- 3-5 p.m. Taylor-Made Music - P
- 4 p.m. Pie Eating Contest for 5-8 year-olds W.A.
- 5 p.m. Bike Drawing - P.
- 6 - 7 p.m. Music of Crooked Bill - P
- 6:30 p.m. Miss Farmington Fair Pageant - S.

MONDAY, SEPT. 16

- 9 a.m. 4-H Horse Show - S.R.
- 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Alderun Wood Creations - M.
- 10 a.m. Oxen 3,700 & Under - P.R.
- 12 p.m. American Legion Beano
- 12 - 2 p.m. Music of Mark Gentle- P
- 1 p.m. Oxen Sweepstakes - P.R.
- 2 p.m. Midway opens- Ride Specials: \$15 from 5-10 p.m.
- 2 p.m. Pari-Mutuel Racing - R.G.
- 2 p.m. Oxen 2,900 & Under 6-foot Elimination - P.R.
- 3 - 5 p.m. Brian Plato Music - P.
- 3:30 p.m. Oxen 3,300 & Under 6' Elimination -P.R.
- 4 p.m. 4-H Dairy - W.A.
- 6 p.m. Bike Drawing - P.
- 6:30 p.m. Drag Your Neighbor - R.G.
- 6 - 7 p.m. Music of Bill Louvat - P.
- 6:30 p.m. Oxen 3,700, Under-Over Elimination - P.R.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 17

- 9 a.m. Farmers' Steer & Oxen Scooting -P.R.
- 10 a.m - 5 p.m. Alderun Wood Creations - M.
- 10:30 a.m. Exhibition of Best Oxen & Steer Teams - S.R.
- 12 p.m. Farmer's Steer & Ox Pull - P.R.

- 12-2 p.m.
- 12:30 p.m.
- 2 p.m.
- 2 p.m.
- 3 - 4 p.m.
- 4 p.m.
- 4 p.m.
- 4 p.m.
- 6 p.m.
- 6 - 7 p.m.
- 6:30 p.m.
- 7 - 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 18

- 9 a.m. Horse Twitching - P.R.
- 10 a.m. Horse Scooting - PR
- 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Alderun Wood Creations - M.
- 11 a.m. Farmers' Draft Horse Pull - P.R.
- 12 p.m. American Legion Beano - B.
- 12 - 2 p.m. Sammie Angel & Jim Harris Music - P.
- 1 p.m. Horse Pull 2,900 & 3,000 & Under - P.R.
- 1 p.m. Midway opens - Ride Special: \$20 from 1-9 p.m.
- 2 p.m. Pari-Mutuel Racing - R.G.
- 3:30 p.m. Horse Pull 3,000 12 ft. Elimination - P.R.
- 3-5 p.m. Music of Denny Breau Trio - P.
- 5 p.m. Kids' Pedal Tractor Pull - P.R.
- 6 p.m. Bike Drawing - P.
- 6-8 p.m. Music of Mark Gentle- P.
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Market Lamb, Steer, Hog , Poultry Show & Sale - S.B.
- 6:30 p.m. Horse vs. Ox 6-foot Sweepstakes

THURSDAY, SEPT. 19

- 9 a.m. Sheep Show - S.B.
- 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Alderun Wood Creations - M.
- 10:30 a.m. Ugly Veggie Contest - W.A.
- 10:30 a.m. Horse Pull 3,100 & Under - P.R.
- 12 p.m. American Legion Beano - B.
- 12 - 2 p.m. Music of Pat Libby & Shilo Creek - P.

- 1 p.m.
- 2 p.m.
- 3 p.m.
- 3 - 5 p.m.
- 6 p.m.
- 6 - 7 p.m.
- 6:30 p.m.
- 7 p.m.

- Horse Pull 3,200 & Under, 2 lb. Rock - P.R.
 - Pari-Mutuel Racing - R.G.
 - Midway opens
 - Music of Sammie Angel - P
 - Bike Drawing - P.
 - Music of Paul Bright - P.
 - Truck & Tractor Pull - R.G.
 - Horse Pull 3,100 & Under, 12-ft. Elimination, 2-Hitch - P.R.
- FRIDAY, SEPT. 20**
- 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Alderun Wood Creations - M.
 - 10:30 a.m. Horse Pull 3,300 & Under - P.R.
 - 12 p.m. American Legion Beano - B.
 - 12 - 2 p.m. Music of Cooper's Country - P.
 - 1 p.m. Horse Pull 3,400 & Under & Sweepstakes - P. R.
 - 2 p.m. Pari-Mutuel Racing - R.G.
 - 3 p.m. Midway opens
 - 3-5 p.m. Music of Sammie Angel - P.
 - 4 p.m. 4-H Dairy Goat Show - W.A.
 - 6 p.m. Bike Drawing - P.
 - 6 - 7 p.m. Music of Off the Hill Band- P
 - 6:30 p.m. Truck & Tractor Pull - R.G.
 - 6:30 p.m. Horse Pull 3,300 lbs, Under-Over, 12-f Elimination - P.R.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 21

- 9 a.m. Heart of Maine Dairy Goat Show
- 9 - 10 a.m. Music of Travis Pinkham & Friends - P
- 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Alderun Wood Creations -M.
- 10 a.m. Midway opens
- 10 a.m. Junior Farmers Frolic (weather permitting) S.R.
- 12 p.m. American Legion Beano - B.
- 12 p.m. Mutton Bustin' Kids (ages 7-8) - P.R.
- 1 p.m. Three-Horse Distance Pull - P.R.
- 1 - 2 p.m. Music of Davidson County Line- P.
- 2 p.m. Pari-Mutuel Racing - R.G.
- 3 p.m. Three-Horse 20-foot Short Pull - P.R.
- 3 - 5 p.m. Charlie Marle Music - P.
- 5 p.m. Bike Drawing - P.
- 7 p.m. Demolition Derby - R.G.

BUILDING KEY:

1. E = Exhibit Hall
2. P. = Park

3. P.R. = Pulling Ring
4. R.G. = Race Grandstand

5. S.B. = Sheep Barn
6. S.R. = Show Ring

7. S. = Stage
8. W.A. = Worthley Arena

9. M. = Museum
10. R.S. = Red Schoolhouse

For more information:
www.farmingtonfairmaine.com

Popular musicians line up to entertain at the Farmington Fair

Local fan favorites fill the air with a mix of genre

BY VALERIE TUCKER
Correspondent

Each year, the Franklin County Agricultural Fair brings a daily lineup of popular musicians and bands to the fairgrounds. Many of the performers have had long successful careers and return to play for their local fans. Others have been local favorites for many years and just enjoy playing music.

"We offer plenty of country music, Christian music, some blue grass and plenty of easy listening," said Bob Underwood, the fair's long-serving musical talent booker.

Crooked Bill is a local three-piece acoustic band, with Bill Colwell on the mandolin and fiddle, Mike O'Brien on the dobro and banjo and Mike Worthley on guitar. They have been playing as Crooked Bill for nearly three years and played together in another group for several years before that. They combine those years of musical experience and styles to produce crowd-pleasing renditions of "Foggy Mountain Breakdown" and "Watching the River Flow." They also perform their own songs, including one called "The Blizzard of '78."

"We all sing and do a lot of three-part harmonies," said Worthley. "We each have our own style, and we all love to play music."

Sammie Angel has been singing since she was two years old and has had a music career that has taken her all over the country. She always came back to Maine each summer, and she's settled permanently in

"We offer plenty of country music, Christian music, some blue grass and plenty of easy listening."

BOB UNDERWOOD, FAIR'S MUSICAL TALENT BOOKER



Contributed photo by Cindy Worthley

At 6 p.m., on Sunday, Sept. 15, Crooked Bill will bring a mix of acoustic music to the Farmington fairgrounds. The local three-piece acoustic band features, from left, Mike Worthley on guitar, Mike O'Brien on the dobro and banjo and Bill Colwell on the mandolin and fiddle. They'll play a mix of bluegrass, creative covers and their own eclectic jams.

More MUSIC, PAGE 5

OTIS

FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

170 Main Street, Jay

(207) 897-0900

www.otisfcu.coop



131 Hannaford Drive, Farmington, ME 04938 • 207-778-0434

Hours 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Music

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

the area. The whirlwind on-the-road lifestyle was a lot of fun and hard work and she's had the opportunity to have worked with some of the best in the business, including Reba McEntire, Tammy Wynette, Sonny James, Tanya Tucker, Ernest Tubbs and Bo Diddley. She toured for 18 years with her own band, Sammie Angel & Southwind, playing mainly country and gospel, mixed with a lot of favorites from the past century. She likes to surprise the audience with unexpected renditions that don't fall into any genre. "You just never know what else I'll throw in," she said.

Travis Pinkham started playing the guitar at age 12 and has honed his songwriting skills to reach award-winning levels and national recognition. He's opened the show for Georgette Jones, daughter of Tammy Wynette, and George Jones, for blues legend Eddie Kirkland and for Christian rock band The Wrecking. He always gets requests for his original song, "Jesus Strong," a staple of Christian music radio stations.

"At the Boots 'n Bulls rodeo in 2016, I opened for the Joe Diffie concert," Pinkham said. "It was a great honor to be chosen to perform, and I'll never forget the experience."

Pinkham has taken home several awards from the Down East Country Music Association for writing and performing.

In 2018, he was inducted into the Pine Tree State Country Music Association's "Maine Ole' Opry," and he received its award for the 2019 Modern and Traditional Male Vocalist of the Year.

"I'm pretty sure I'm the youngest inductee," Pinkham said. "I'm grateful for everything I've learned and the support I've gotten from these folks over the years."

Other performers are listed on the schedule available online at farmingtonfairmaine.com and in brochures available at local retail stores in the area.



Contributed photo

Sammie Angel has had an exciting career that included 18 years traveling around the country with her band Sammie Angel and Southwind (1990s photo). Even though those years are long past, Sammie still plays for audiences who know her as a soulful singer of classic country, gospel, old favorites and even some Broadway. She'll perform several times during Farmington Fair week.



Contributed photo

Travis Pinkham has performed since age 12 and has honed his songwriting and guitar playing to reach award-winning levels and national recognition. One of his favorite performances was at the Boots 'n Bulls rodeo in 2016. "I opened for the Joe Diffie concert," Pinkham said. "It was a great honor to be chosen to perform, and I'll never forget the experience." He'll perform several times at the 2019 Farmington Fair.

Since 1978

Good Times

UNLIMITED

778-3482

RV Sales and Service

Parts/Accessories • New/Pre-owned Trailers and 5W's

RV Blow Out Sale

Seasonal Store Specials

ACCREDITED BUSINESS Find us on Facebook

372 Farmington Falls Road, Farmington | www.goodtimesrvsales.com

LAND FOR SALE

DEVELOPERS DREAM
207-474-0778

FARMINGTON MAINE 04938 - COMMERCIAL LAND

- JUST OFF RT 2 & 4 MAJOR EAST WEST HIGHWAY WITH 31,000 VEHICLES PASSING EACH DAY
- POPULATION OF 60,000 WITHIN A 20 MILE RADIUS
- LESS THAN A QUARTER OF A MILE ON THE RIGHT ON THE WHITTIER ROAD
- 6.6 ACRES OF MOSTLY CLEARED LAND 370 FEET OF ROAD FRONTAGE
- 4 WATER HOOKUPS 4 SEWER HOOKUPS
- ELECTRICITY ON SITE
- TAX INCENTIVES POSSIBLE
- PLEASE CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call today to make an appointment to view the property.

MARGIE DAVIS LEWIS | 207-474-0778

TAX MAP U33-10 U33-10A U33-11 U33-11A

Our Most Important Member is You!



1-800-339-3228 1-877-952-5800

Farmington Kingfield Skowhegan
Madison Stratton

www.f-sfcu.com



4-H projects remain an active part of the agricultural events at the fair

Members often become leaders and judges

BY VALERIE TUCKER
Correspondent

The 4-H clubs and show projects are a big part of the week during the 179th annual Franklin County Agricultural Society fair that opens Sept. 15.

Young people learn to present their sheep, goats, beef, dairy, poultry and horses before judges who ask them questions about the breed, the animal's physical attributes and what the 4-H member has learned from the experience. Many choose to sell their livestock to the highest bidders at the market steer, swine and lamb auctions later in the week.

As young people progress with their 4-H projects, they gain knowledge and confidence that is useful throughout their lives. Often, when those 4-H members become parents, they continue as 4-H volunteers and leaders. That's one of the most gratifying parts of the whole 4-H experience, according to Judy Smith, community outreach assistant for the Franklin County Cooperative Extension Office. This year, she's excited to see that two former 4-H participants have acquired the skills required to serve as judges for both goat and horse shows.

"It's great to see young people continue to be involved and share their experience and knowledge with the 4-H clubs," she said.

The job of judging isn't easy, she said. Judges have to learn to evaluate a show animal and handler more quickly and efficiently. Horse shows require expert judging and a wide range of knowledge.



Photo contributed

At the 2019 Franklin County Agricultural Society Fair, the 4-H Heart of Maine Dairy Goat Show will start at 9 a.m. On Saturday, Sept. 21. In her new role as a judge, New England 4-H champion Chloe Leeman offers 11 years of showing and fitting advice to pass on to the young hopefuls in the show ring. Raised on the Leeman Family Farm in Etna, she started showing her dairy goats when she was 10 years old. She's won dozens of championship awards and competed at four coveted invitational Eastern States Exposition shows in Massachusetts with Cocoa, her Lamancha dairy goat.

Teagan Newhall of Winthrop decided to take that challenge. Today, she is the head trainer and co-owner of the Tea-Bri-Lee Farm and is a certified, or "carded," New England 4-H Novice Judge. She started

riding at age 5, loved participating in 4-H and feels very comfortable transitioning into the role of a judge. She knows very well how each young person feels and how much care and work goes into preparation for the show.

Often, family members and friends are part of the audience, and the handler's first time in the ring is always stressful.

"Everyone's always nervous," she said. "I know that, to this day, I still get nervous when I show, and that's normal."

With such strict guidelines for each breed and discipline, little is left to chance or personal opinion, she said. The New England 4-H Horse Shows and Guidelines booklet lists exact standards for breeds and discipline. The competitors don't have to have the most beautiful, the most expensive, or the biggest horse to score the most points.

"I like to say that they're not really competing against others," Newhall said. "They really should think of it as competing against themselves."

Judges look for a responsive, well-groomed, fitted and conditioned animal and a responsible and dedicated handler. Newcomers can outshine experienced competitors, she said, simply because they've put the time and effort into working with the horse. Horses and handlers will all be in the ring at the same time, and judges will ask them all to do the same required performances. She talks afterward with competitors who didn't win, highlighting their strengths and their challenges. Youngsters may not notice their easily correctable mistakes, so that personal chat can sometimes make a great difference in the individual's performance in future shows.

More 4-H, **PAGE 7**

MT. BLUE DRUG

624 Wilton Road
Farmington, Maine 04938
www.mtbluedrug.com

Phone (207) 778-5419
Fax (207) 778-5983

Rob Witt
Jim Witt
Jason A. Pratt
Kevin R. Holland

Registered
Pharmacists



Free Delivery to the
Farmington/Wilton Areas
Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Saturday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

TRANTEN'S FAMILY MARKET

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK!

Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.-9 p.m.;
Sat: 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sun: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

180 Main Street
Downtown Farmington
(207) 778-2202



4-H

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

“I might explain that I had to mark someone down because the horse broke from a canter into a trot,” she said.

Learning to judge dairy goats requires years of raising and showing them. Chloe Leeman learned all about raising goats on the Leeman Family Farm in Etna.

“I entered my first 4-H goat show when I was 10,” she said.

Leeman learned the finer points of showmanship well enough to win many local and state competitions. As she grew more skillful and confident, she competed four times at the Big E, or Eastern States Exposition, in West Springfield, Mass.

Now, at 21, she has enough knowledge and experience with the different goat breeds to sit as a new judge for 4-H shows. She said learning to pay close attention to detail is critical for young handlers who want to be successful.

“I look for a clean and neatly trimmed coat, no matter what the breed,” she said. “Grooming and showmanship are really important points in judging a show.”

Handlers must learn to keep their animals under control in the show ring. Goats are especially energetic and social animals, so less experienced handlers shouldn't be discouraged if they don't achieve success right away.

“That's something that only comes with practice,” she said.

She said she's happy to share her years of experience and advice with any young 4-H members who ask.

Whether or not they are part of 4-H, Judy Smith said she also hopes to see lots of adults and kids at the first-ever Ugly Vegetable contest at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 19 at the Worthley Arena. Participants should bring their entries for this fun competition that celebrates the misfits in every garden. Vegetables can have inner beauty, even



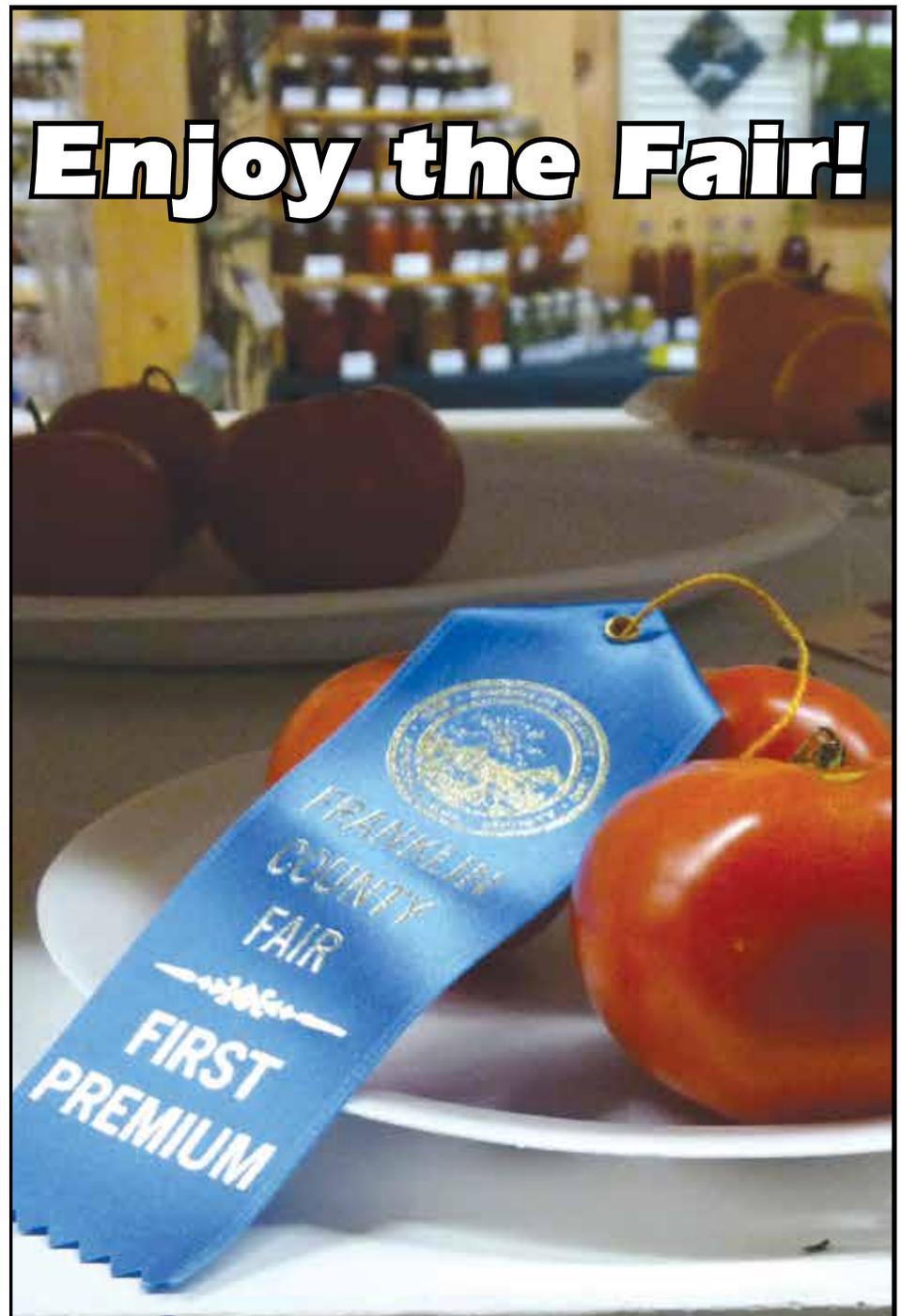
Contributed photo

Teagan Newhall, right, will be a 4-H horse show judge. She and her mother, Robin Newhall, left, are co-owners of the Tea-Bri-Lee Farm in Winthrop. Teagan started riding at age 5, loved participating in 4-H, and decided to earn her New England 4-H Novice Judge certification. She understands how much care and work each youngster puts into preparation for a 4-H horse show, and she's willing to share advice and suggestions.

though they don't fit the standard grocery store image of perfection, according to Smith.

“Carrots and potatoes can be pretty funny looking,” she said. “I know, because I've seen a few in my own garden.”

Even if they're cosmetically-challenged, these veggies still are nutritious and tasty. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has stated its goal of reducing food waste by 50 percent by the year 2030. Up to 40 percent of produce harvested each year is thrown away because it does not meet accepted standards for store shelves. Nearly half of the available food supply in the U.S. is never eaten, according to the National Institutes of Health, wasting an estimated 35 tons of food per year.



Enjoy the Fair!

We're in your neighborhood.

Visit us today for all your insurance needs!



Independent, local, experienced agents with a personal touch.

670 Wilton Road - Farmington.....778-3300
 20 Main Street - Livermore Falls897-4313
 160 Congress Street - Rumford364-8293
 10 Snell Hill Road - Turner.....225-2334



Franklin Savings Bank

800-287-0752



Farmington River Valley Jay Rangeley Skowhegan Wilton Ellsworth

www.FranklinSavings.Bank

MEMBER FDIC



Visit www.hight100.com to view dealer history.

FARMINGTON • SKOWHEGAN

866-728-7909

474-3371

www.hightchev.com

www.hightchev.net



BUICK



GMC

WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE



Ford

Madison Ave. - Skowhegan

474-3334



DODGE

CHRYSLER



Jeep

Dodge - Chrysler - Jeep

Route 201 - Madison

474-7171



Since 1911

One Family Name NOW WITH 4 LOCATIONS