

August 26 to September 3

A Family Tradition Since 1888

Trustees add a meandering T-Rex, magic show, sawmill and windmill to fair offerings

BY NANCY GALLAGHER

Correspondent

indsor Fair attendees will enjoy some new and grand experiences on its grounds this year, drawing on history and magic for entertainment.

DinosaurXperience

What's 11 feet long, has a mouth full of impressive teeth and loves spending time with children? It is DinosaurXperience time at the Fair. Beginning Friday, August 31, a baby T-Rex will meander the fairgrounds as part of its North American tour, offering thrilling sightings and photo opportunities. Smile for the camera, (the T-Rex always smiles), post it on Facebook, and wait for the amazed comments from friends.

Grand Illusions by the Blooms

From Friday through Monday, Grand Illusions by the Blooms magic show will offers its special blend of family-pleasing magic and humor, captivating audiences with amazing feats of prestidigitation staged by the entire Bloom family: John, Chance, and their four daughters. The Blooms have performed with rock star Alice Cooper and country great Billy Bob Thornton as part of their eastern seaboard

Sawing logs in Memory Lane

The T. H. Ricker and Sons sawmill being introduced this year in the Windsor Historical Society Museum Complex was built in the late 1800s; it's like a dream come true, according to President Bob Brann. A generous Albion resident donated an operating sawmill, and while it hasn't run since about 1990, it will be retooled and sawing logs in the Complex's Memory

Lane during the Fair.

60-foot-tall windmill

Also making its initial appearance in Memory Lane is a historic 60-foot-tall windmill tower that once supplied city water for Weeks Mills. Brann helped a friend disassemble it and put it in storage 35 years ago. Its height makes it a rarity among windmills. It has been reassembled, complete with new gears, to once again turn in stately glory during the Fair.

Living history on Memory Lane

These tools of daily life from long ago are just a part of what's on display in Memory Lane. Hear the clang of hammer on anvil during the blacksmith demonstrations. The 1865 one-room schoolhouse and the 1889 cider mill can be eye-opening to today's young people. A carriage shed also houses a collection of antique chainsaws, and the 1800 cattle barn features carriages and sleighs from that period.

In addition to the artifacts in the Maine Museum, ongoing weaving demonstrations, a barber shop, a tin shop and a quilt display help round out memorable images of what life was like decades ago.

So how did people cook before microwaves? Follow your nose to the smokehouse to see what type of meat is being smoked each day, and also see the fireplace cooking demonstrations in the 1803 house. While there, have a little dress-up fun modeling some of their vintage clothing. Snap a few pictures as mementos.

Sundays at the Fair bring The Ancient Ones, a 1790s reenactment group that sets up tents for an overnight stay on

More NEW AT FAIR, PAGE 3



Contributed photo

In addition to the expected farm animals, this 11-foot T-Rex will appear on the fairgrounds Labor Day weekend.



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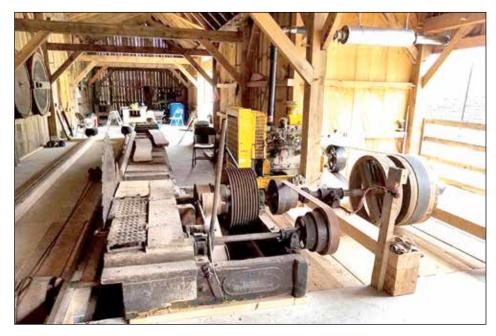
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New at Fair

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

the fairgrounds, complete with campfire demonstrations and blacksmithing. Children have the opportunity to participate in camp life—cooking over a campfire, learning about muskets and watching demonstrators hurl tomahawks into wood blocks.

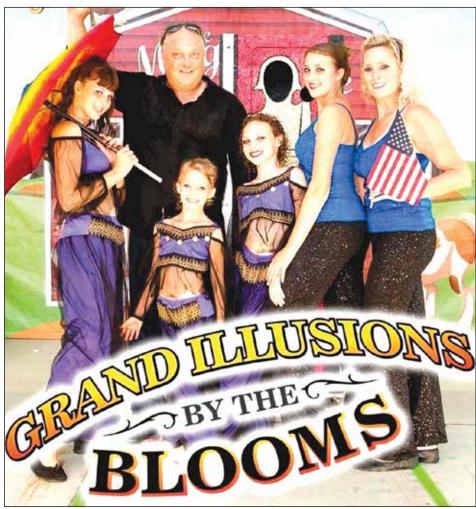
"These could probably be used to kill a bear," Brann said.

Contributed photo

This T. H. Ricker and Sons sawmill, built in the 1800s, will once again be sawing logs in the Windsor Museum Complex Memory Lane.

Contributed photo The Bloom family brings magic and humor to the Fair with their Grand Illusions

by the Blooms magic show.







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The Windsor Fair blends the familiar and the fantastic for farm-style fun

BY NANCY GALLAGHER
Correspondent

fifth generation farmer, third generation Windsor Fair trustee and president of the Windsor Fair for 26 years, Tom Foster attributes the Fair's impressive 130 years of success to the hard work and long-range planning of dedicated trustees, a love of farming and a loyalty to traditional family values.

That tradition extends not only to the 200 people involved in the Fair, but also to the more than 100,000 people who attend.

"It's Maine's second largest agricultural fair," Foster said.

Here's a sampling of what's new.
The free Historical Village has added both a windmill and a sawmill along its Memory Lane. And while it's not Jurassic Park, fairgoers should still be on the lookout for an active baby T-Rex wandering the fairgrounds starting Friday, August 31 through Labor Day weekend, according to officials.

Adding to the fun are all the other favorites that make Windsor Fair the

place to be from Aug. 26 to Sept. 3: Music, Monster trucks, some of Maine's best horse racing and farm animals galore.

The Fair's family-friendly admission structure admits children 15 and younger free of charge. Wednesday, Aug. 29 admission and rides are half price. Seniors also get special treatment with a \$4 admission fee on Monday, Aug. 27 and Thursday, Aug. 30. Meanwhile, veterans are honored with free admission on Thursday, Aug. 30.

By keeping and expanding on what's popular with fairgoers—and adding exciting new features each year, (remember that T-Rex)— the Windsor Fair paves its way to continued success with a blend of respected agricultural practices, a historical museum complex illustrating how farming has grown and changed in its century-plus history and, of course, the rides and food that go with it.

For more information on dates, events and locations, consult the detailed Windsor Fair website at www.windsorfair. com or see their Facebook page.



Contributed photo

President Tom Foster has presided over the Windsor Fair for 26 years.

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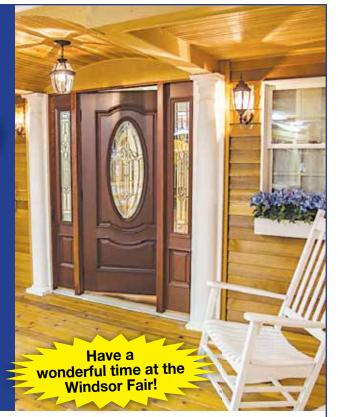
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Music, magic, fun and fantasy are included in the Windsor Fair entertainment schedule

BY NANCY GALLAGHER

Correspondent

he Mainely Country Band will rock the entertainment stage at 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 26, with its brand of traditional country tunes and a sprinkling of light rock.

Band leader Jeff Simon began his career at the age of 10 on Bangor television's "Frankenstein's Jamboree." In 1976, following his high school graduation, he formed The Mainely Country Band. In addition to Simon on lead guitar, the band currently includes drummer Richard Knipping, bass guitarist Frank Dow, and lead guitarist and fiddler Bobby Kelley, a former bluegrass fiddler with the Blistered Fingers Bluegrass Band. All four band members perform vocals.

Wednesday night, Aug. 29, the modern country and classic rock group Sharon Hood & Dixon Road fill the entertainment stage area with lively tunes from 6 to 8 p.m. Hood plans to perform her award-winning single, "Loretta," during the show, adding her high-octane dance moves to energize the crowd. "I love to dance around and get the crowd into it," Hood said.

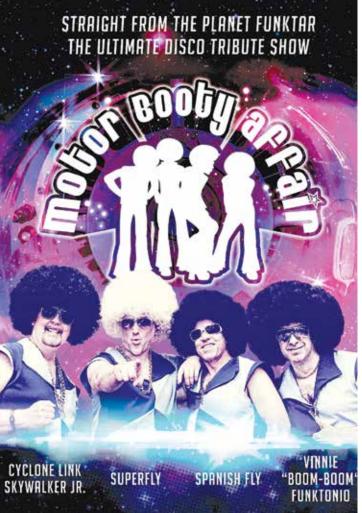
Fast forward to flashy fireworks following at 9 p.m. It's the first day of school for many students. What better way to end it than with music and fireworks.

Ease on down to the Grandstand for a bootyshaking beginning to the Labor Day weekend at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 31 with the funk and groove of Motor Booty Affair. The music of the '70s is still "Stayin' Alive" when Superfly, Spanish Fly, Vinnie "Boom-Boom" Funktonio and Cyclone Link Skywalker Jr. slip into their platform shoes, fluff up their afros, flare out their bell bottoms, and shimmer in their polyester suits.

This ultimate disco party band renders authentic versions of hits by KC and the Sunshine Band, Barry White, Abba, the Bee Gees and more — sprinkling in the lingo and animated antics from the '70s for a seamless retro performance. A fireworks display keeps the excitement going into the night. \$5 admission.

At 2 p.m. on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 3, Sue Deane, aka the "Karaoke Lady," opens her giant songbooks so song lovers of every age can croon, belt, warble or just plain sing their favorites for the audience. Seniors tend to choose older country songs, but young people are welcome to choose their own favorites as well. Settle in with a snack or a meal at the nearby picnic tables and enjoy. Deane hopes Della, "a hot ticket," once again joins in the show. Della's hot pink and red outfits add extra sizzle to her singing. Deane will perform at the Route 32 Roadhouse, the former 4-H building.

Demolition Derbies at 7 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 26 and Thursday, Aug. 30 roar into the



Contributed photo

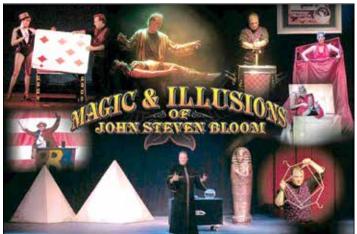
Straight from the planet Funktar, Motor Booty Affair's Cyclone Link Skywalker Jr., Superfly, Spanish Fly and Vinnie "Boom-Boom" Funktonio will land on the Windsor Fair Grandstand for one sizzling performance on Friday, Aug. 31.

Grandstand arena to crash, crunch and collide, creating ear-splitting mayhem, much to the delight of the audience.

Sunday and Monday, Sept. 1 and 2, the Monster Truck Show will rev up the Labor Day weekend crowds in the Grandstand with amazing four-wheel feats. Get ready to be amazed. \$5 admission.

Four Grand Illusions Magic Shows plus occasional sightings of a T-Rex over the Labor Day weekend round out the Fair's exciting family fun schedule for children and parents

Nine days filled with music and peppered with magic, fireworks, daring driving demonstrations, clowns, and a wandering T-Rex-Now that's entertainment.



Contributed photo

The feats of prestidigitation performed by the Bloom family will keep audiences amazed and filled with wonder.



the Monster Truck Show will rev up the Labor Day weekend crowds in the Grandstand with amazing fourwheel feats.

Contributed photo

Sunday and Mon-

day, Sept. 1 and 2,

Contributed photo

Sharon Hood & Dixon Road band members in a light-hearted moment. From left: Bruce Burpee, Kyle Melcher, Sharon Hood, Sherwood Olin and Michael Tuell.

THE MANNER COUNTERY BAND



Contributed photo The Mainely Country

Band members, sporting their intricately embroidered stage costumes. From left: Richard Knipping, Jeff Simon, Frank Dow and Bobby Kelley.



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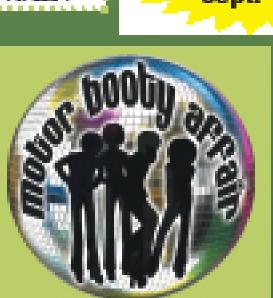
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The whole family will enjoy demonstrations such as the hard-operated printing press and the blackwith shop.

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Young Gun Driver Challenge, special appearance by Foiled Again highlight this year's harness racing on Windsor track

BY NANCY GALLAGHER Correspondent

n historic 100 victories. Earnings of over \$7.5 million. At age eight the oldest pacer on record to have a million-dollar year. The 2011 Pacer of the Year. And this amazing pacer will race at the Windsor Fair as part of a farewell tour.

Foiled Again has eclipsed record after record throughout his 14 years. He will race on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 3, and more than likely be at the track on Sunday, Sept. 2 as well, said Director of Harness Racing Bill McFarland.

The nine days of racing will again be streamed throughout Maine to the four (Off Track Betting) OTBs and the two commercial tracks, according to McFarland. A Pick 5 betting opportunity (picking the winning horses in five consecutive races on the same day) also returns this year.

Weekday post time is 3 p.m. for Monday through Friday, Aug. 27 through 31, with a post time of 1 p.m. for all other race days.

An "Always a Bridesmaid" series for pacing mares that have pre-qualified by finishing in a top position in three out of four prior venues continues a traditional racing opportunity "for the ladies," as McFarland calls the mares.

A "Behind the Gate" series for geldings, and the "High Stepper" series for trotting horses will both have their finals at Windsor Fair during the nine days of racing. All must pre-qualify by finishing in a top position in three out of four prior venues.

This year a horse must have raced one start in Maine in 2018 to be eligible to start in the Labor Day \$12,000 Windsor Fair Invitational.

A new Young Gun Driver Challenge pits eight younger drivers in four legs at different locations prior to reaching the Windsor Fair. The fifth leg occurs Friday, Aug. 31 at Windsor, with the final leg at Windsor on Sept. 3. Highest accumulated points determine the winner.

In the past two years, two separate Windsor racers have tied the Maine record and track record of 1:51 2/5 for fastest time raced: JJSJet and Givenupdreaming. Come join the crowd to see what will happen this year and also see one of the great standardbreds of all times.



Contributed photos
A pacer in full stride at Windsor
Fair's renowned harness racing
series

At left, historic standardbred gelding Foiled Again paced his lifetime mark in 1:48 flat at age nine.

Poster winner Gail E. Hawes is inspired by memories of youth

BY NANCY GALLAGHER Correspondent

n introduction to agricultural as a youth is embodied in the life and works of poster contest winner Gail E. Hawes, shaping her childhood, her career and her return to her Maine roots.

Hawes grew up on a Midcoast dairy farm, her summers highlighted by family travel to Maine's many agricultural fairs.

Memories of traveling to Windsor with a show string of Holsteins inspired her prize-winning poster of a cow, right down to the green show box, said Hawes.

Cultivating, observing, and working with the nature of living things are traits she acquired while growing up here in Maine. This labor-intensive and curiosity-driven foundation in life skills served her well in her city career as a medical researcher in cellular immunology.

But farm life clearly percolated in her memory, as demonstrated by a colleague's observation that "you can take the girl off the farm, but you can't take the farm out of the girl."

and uncle's Holsteins reminded her of a happy childhood steeped in agriculture. After years of out-of-state education and a science-driven career, Hawes returned in 2000 to her farm roots in Union, family in tow. Those roots run deep, carrying forward a family tradition of not only exhibiting at many agricultural fairs, but also serving the state fair association as well.

"Being away for a few years allowed me to truly appreciate the unique quality of life in Maine," Hawes said.

Although she loved sketching and drawing while growing up, an earnest focus on watercolor and illustration drawing gradually coalesced in her adult

Hawes has no formal art training. Instead, adapting and reinventing the style of her favorite artists shapes Hawes' charming current scenes of pastoral landscapes, Maine farms and rural life.

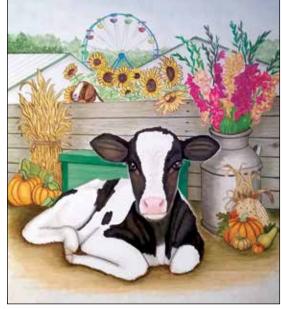
Hawes and her entire family find "doing art" a relaxing way to spend time. To see more of her works, visit the Union Library during the month of August.

"Being away for a few years allowed me to truly appreciate the unique quality of life in Maine."

GAIL E. HAWES



Contributed photo 2018 Windsor Fair Poster winner Gail E. Hawes during a rare quiet moment in her active professional and personal life.



Contributed photo The whimsical 2018 Windsor Fair poster reflects happy childhood memories of artist Gail E. Hawes exhibiting her family's show string of Holsteins.

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 31 @ 3:00 P.M. SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 @ 1:00 P.M. SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 @ 1:00 P.M.

Maine Harness Racing Commission - Maine Standardbred Breeders and Owner's Association - Maine Harness Horsemen's Association https://www.maine.gov/dacf/harnessracing/





Contributed photo These four-legged kids will charm two-legged kids visiting the Windsor Fair.



Contributed photo

The kiddie tractor pull lets even the littlest "farmers" test their driving skills.



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