

Jefferson County Fair to be held July 9-13

By Diane Graff Managing Editor | Posted: Thursday, July 3, 2014 9:35 am

The 162nd edition of the Jefferson County Fair will be held July 9-13 at the Jefferson County Fairpark.

This is the year of the steer.

Gates open daily at 8 a.m. with a variety of activities, programs, events and entertainment.

Opening day, July 9 is Kid's Day. All children 12 and under will receive free admission until 5 p.m. The first 1,000 kids will receive a free gift from an insurance company.

Daily family entertainment will include Welde's Big Bear Show. There will also be Hoo's Woods Birds of Prey, The Magic of Jim Mitchell and Granpa Cratchet will be on the grounds.

The LogHoggers wood carving show will return to the fair this year.

The activity center will have lots of 4-H exhibits and projects, including Cloverbuds, the dog exhibit, flowers and house plants, home environment, mechanical sciences and youth leadership.

Animal lovers can check out the horse arena, horse barn, swine barn, rabbit barn, poultry barn and milking parlor. There will also be an ag-adventure tent.

Three young Jefferson County women are competing for this year's title of Fairest of the Fair. The contestants include Cierra Ehrke-Essock of Fort Atkinson, Olivia Peter of Lake Mills and Morgan Stendel of Sullivan. This year the contestants will promote and represent the fair throughout its run. The 2014 fairest of the fair will be crowned at 12:30 p.m. Sunday.

The program is being extended this year and one of the contestants running for the fairest will be crowned the 2015 Jefferson County Fairest of the Fair. She will then reign through next year's fair, set for July 8-12, 2015.

The Jefferson County and Badger State tractor pulls will kick off the fair entertainment Wednesday. The county tractor pull begins at 10:30 a.m. and the Badger State Tractor Pull will be before the main stage starting at 7 p.m. DJ Dylan will perform in the pavilion at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, along with 8 p.m. Thursday night, 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights. He plays Top 40's music and takes requests. He also has a laser show.

Thursday's activities begin with a carnival wristband special from noon to 10 p.m. Bingo will be in the pavilion at 1 p.m. Thursday and there will be a cooking show at 2:30 p.m.

The Badger Truck Pull returns to the fair at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the grandstand. The trucks will compete to pull the eliminator down the 300-foot track.

Draft horse halter judging will be held in the draft horse arena starting at 11 a.m. Friday, July 11. The carnival will have special for \$25 from noon to 11 p.m.

Colt Ford with Jon Pardi will perform on the main stage at 6:30 p.m. with Madison County in the Miller Lite Tent at 7:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

A dairy honors auction will be held on the grounds at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, July 12. Zoozort, exotic animals will perform at noon on Saturday.

The meat animal project auction will be held at 1 p.m. followed by the small animal auction at 5 p.m. Draft horse hitch judging will be held at 5:30 p.m.

The main stage entertainment on Saturday will be Justin Moore with Megan Ruger. Ruger will also perform at 10 p.m. in the Miller Lite Tent.

Sunday, July 13 is Celebrate Freedom Day with a ceremony at noon. The fair will salute current and former members of all branches of the military. All active and former military members will receive free access to the fair.

The 4-H dress review will be held at 1 p.m. There will be two demolition derby heats in the grandstand at 1 and 4:30 p.m.

The LogHoggers Chainsaw Carvings auction will be held at 3:30 p.m.

There will be daily Pleasure Valley Pig and Duck Races at 11:30 a.m., 1, 2:30, 4 and 5:30 p.m. and daily K9 Demonstrations at noon, 2 and 4 p.m.

Admission is \$10 daily, \$5 Wednesday, Thursday and Friday before 5 p.m. or \$35 for a family five-pack before July 8. Children under 5 are free.