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1993-2023

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SEPTEMBER 14-17, 2023

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FRIDAY
9 PM



SATURDAY
9 PM

DUKE CHEVROLET GMC STAGE

BRANDON LAY

Friday, 7 pm: Spencer Hatcher

DILLON CARMICHAEL

Saturday, 7 pm: Runnin' Shine

ADULT ADMISSION: Friday, Saturday & Sunday: \$10 online; \$15 at the gate

Children Ages 6-12: \$8 online; \$10 at the gate, Children 5 & under FREE!

Carload Night: Thursday, September 14: \$50 per vehicle online; \$55 at the gate

Includes Admission & 'All You Can Ride' Midway Wristbands for up to 8 guests legally seated.

Senior & Elementary Kids Day, Sunflower Hours: Friday, September 15

Seniors (55+) & School Kids: \$1 admission 10 am - 2pm

Sunflower Hours 12 pm - 4pm:

\$1 admission each for individuals with disabilities & 1 caretaker/companion

Military Appreciation Discount: Sunday, September 17

\$5 off regular admission with valid Military ID



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Harvest Festival
Saturday, October 21st,
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From The Chairman

To our Fair Friends and Family:

On behalf of the entire Isle of Wight County Fair Committee, I would like to cordially invite you to the 30th annual County Fair, winner of International and Statewide awards. The Committee has planned another wonderful event this year to honor and celebrate our great community. The theme for this year is "Come One, Come All—Isle of Wight's Got It All" to commemorate the Isle of Wight County Fair Committee's commitment to bring you the best Fair it can to honor its deep and strong agricultural heritage. We are looking forward to and hoping for this year's fair to be our very best!!!

We have two popular events for an early kick-off to the fair again this year. Our very exciting Truck and Tractor Points Pull the night of Saturday, September 9th and the wonderful, delicious Seafood Fest on Wednesday, September 13th featuring all you care to eat fried catfish, steamed shrimp, fried chicken, coleslaw, baked beans, hushpuppies and beverages, with entertainment by the regional band "Nashville Nights."

There are some new and exciting things at the fair this year in addition to a few of the great attractions we have had in past years. We are bringing the popular Southwest Dairy Farmers Mobile Dairy Classroom back this year, where they will be doing educational milking demonstrations over by the Field and Garden Building. Laser Tag is coming back and best of all, it is free to the patrons. Another returning and popular attraction we are having this year, is Axe Throwing, a great experience indeed. The Demolition Derby is back again on Sunday afternoon, bringing a bigger show than ever to our fair, including the kids Power Wheels competition! The ever-popular Hay Bale decorating contest, is back again, where round bales of hay are decorated by the schools, various businesses and a few by individuals. In addition, this year, fair attendees will be able to get admission tickets cheaper if bought online in lieu of at the gate!!! Please visit our website at thefairiscoming.com for more detail.

Again, this year, the fair is bringing back the excitement of "Bull Riding"

and "Barrel Racing" along with "Mutton Bustin" and "Mini Bull Riding" at the Rodeo arena with real cowboys!! In the Field and Garden building, our local farmers and gardeners can compete for best crops, and the little ones can play in a corn /soybean box. In partnership with the Isle of Wight Schools, there will be goats, rabbits, chickens and maybe even a heifer or two, where they are showcasing their Land Lab farming skills. Our local 4-H folks will feature a feeder pig, heifer show, goat show, and ham competitions in the 4-H building.

Be sure to visit our International Award Winning, Agriculture Education Center, a donated grain bin that houses flat screen tvs with various videos featuring planting, growing and harvesting a variety of farm crops and the raising of livestock including "birthing" of animals. If you watch closely, many of the videos feature some of our local area farmers. In that area is a farm life wall mural that the children will be able to color and fill in and various games. Outside, the kids milk a cow in our Farmer for a Day display, and play to their hearts content, in the huge sand box out in front of the center.

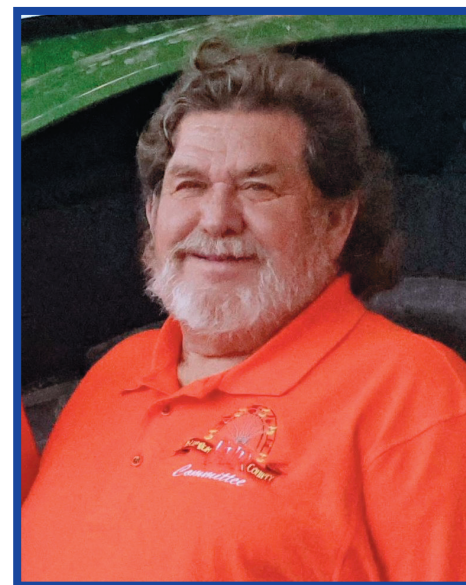
We have four ground acts planned again this year including a new and a little different "The Pompeyo Family & Their Amazing Dogs" as seen on America's Got Talent with many stunts and tricks with their rescue dogs!!! Another new show this year is "MAX Power and Nitro", a roaming show with a 9-foot tall and 5-foot-wide robot walks, talks and dances throughout the fairgrounds. New this year, is "Rock-N-Circus", a fast paced, high-energy show of juggling, aerial stunts magic and a 65-foot-high dive, amazing audiences everywhere. In addition, the "Firefighter Training Show" is back, a family oriented educational show and entertaining kid event., where kids will be invited to participate.

We have a fantastic entertainment lineup, with performances of several genres, on either the Duke Chevrolet GMC Stage or the Barton Ford Stage almost the entire time the fair is open. On Friday night, there will be Virginia's own Spencer Hatcher opening for National recording star, Brandon Lay with songs such as "Speakers, Bleachers and Preachers".

On Saturday night will be regional band, Running Shine will be opening for country singer and songwriter Dillon Carmichael with chart topping songs, such as "Son of A", "Lucky Man", and "Dancing Away With My Heart". In addition, we have many popular regional and local bands entertaining on both stages, including Soul Patch, Zen Mojo, Strictly Bizzness and on Sunday during the car show, there will be Main Street Band!!

Deggeller Attractions will be here to provide a large variety of midway rides for all ages. We will have twenty-four food vendors (mostly local) to provide a huge variety of wonderful fair food, to satisfy almost any appetite. There will be Antique Tractors and equipment, Monster Truck Rides, the Car Show, Award-winning Face Painting and Camel and Pony Rides.

Thursday night is carload night where admission and ride tickets for up to eight legally seated in a car is \$50.00 if bought online in advance, a very good deal for families. Friday is school day with special group rates and Senior Day where Senior Citizens get in between 10 am and 2 pm for \$1.00. We also have special "Sunflower Hours" on Friday from 12 pm - 4 pm where our patrons with disabilities can get in for \$1.00. Sunday is Military Appreciation Days with a valid Military ID admission is only \$5.00 if bought online in advance, or \$5 off regular admission at the gate. This year, there will be the option to buy ride wristbands for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday for \$22.00 for any one day if bought in advance. If bought the day of, they will



Danny Byrum

be \$25.00 for Friday and Sunday and \$30.00 for Saturday.

It is nearly impossible to do everything that we have at the fair. It is this Fair Committee's sincere desire that this year's fair will be the best fun-filled family entertainment for our community, with a celebration of our agriculture heritage and with a bit of education thrown in. We certainly hope you come to visit us and make the most out of what our fair has to offer. Welcome and enjoy every single bit of the "Come One, Come All, Isle of Wight's Got It All" as we Celebrate 30 Years at the 2023 Isle of Wight County Fair!

**Sincerely,
Danny Byrum,
Chairman, Isle of Wight County Fair**


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Ride Information

SAVE UP TO \$8 IN ADVANCE - Ride an unlimited number of rides at the 2023 Isle of Wight County Fair (Friday-Sunday, not valid on Thursday) for just \$22.00 per person per day when you purchase online on or before September 15 at 5pm.

Purchase Restrictions

One armband per person per day. Armband may be redeemed for use on any one day of the 2023 fair. Ride height restrictions apply (please see the ride list for this event on www.Deggeller.com for specific height requirements). This armband is not recommended for children under 36" tall. Absolutely no refunds will be given under any circumstance including but not limited to weather.

Redemption Instructions

Print this voucher and bring it to the designated pre-sale redemption location on the Deggeller Attractions carnival midway for redemption. Be sure the barcode is clearly printed. Charge on your credit card will appear as "Innovativeticketing.com"

Midway Hours of Operation:

Thursday: (Carload Night) 5 pm-10 pm
 Friday: 10:30 am - 1:30 pm Kiddie Rides ONLY
 Friday: 3 pm - 11 pm
 Saturday: 10 am - 11 pm
 Sunday: 11 am - 6 pm

Midway All You Can Ride Wristband Prices:

Advance Sales (until Thursday, September 15 at 5:00 pm): \$22.00
 Friday & Sunday Wristbands: \$25.00 at the gate
 Saturday Wristbands: \$30.00 at the gate
 Midway Individual Ride Prices:
 \$10 for 100 credits
 \$20 for 200 credits
 \$50 for \$550 credits

Each ride is approximately 30-70 credits.





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ELECTION DAY

NOVEMBER 11, 2023





- ✓ **Keeping Our Communities Safe**

I am committed to transforming the tragic reality of daily gun violence in Virginia, I vow to persist in championing stringent gun laws and robust safety measures in the Senate, safeguarding our communities and securing a safer future for our children.
- ✓ **Creating Good-paying Jobs for All**

I am committed to promoting a prosperous economy where individuals retain more of their earnings and corporations contribute their fair share, thus fostering the creation of good-paying jobs accessible to all.
- ✓ **Making Healthcare Accessible**

I am committed to transforming Virginia into a beacon of accessible healthcare and broadband access, I pledge to dismantle barriers, foster transparency in healthcare pricing, and spearhead innovative mental health initiatives, ensuring every citizen enjoys the right to a healthier, prosperous life.
- ✓ **Protecting The Right to Choose**

In Virginia, we fervently uphold and champion every woman's irrefutable right to make autonomous decisions about their health, a protection vital to advancing initiatives that safeguard the right to choose and combat rising maternal mortality rates, particularly among Black women.
- ✓ **Improving Education for All**

Through fostering literacy, supporting teachers, and initiating universal pre-kindergarten, I am steadfast in my commitment to creating a Virginia where every child, regardless of background or zip code, has the opportunity to thrive in a world-class educational environment.

Paid for and authorized by Clinton for Virginia

Important Information

To make your fair experience more enjoyable:

Pets are not permitted on the Fairgrounds, with the exception of Service Animals.

No coolers or alcoholic beverages permitted through the gates, beer and wine can be purchased and consumed inside the Fairgrounds.

Wear comfortable shoes ... the Fairground is large and requires some walking between attractions, concessions, displays, rides, etc. There is a shuttle that runs inside the Fairgrounds, simply flag it down and hop aboard.

Personal golf carts are not permitted, although motorized wheel chairs are okay ... keep in mind that some of the gravel paths can be hard to navigate with these devices.

Credit cards will be accepted at each admission booth to pay admission charges and ATMs are available inside the Fairgrounds.

Sorry, but checks are not accepted at the admission booths.

Wednesday, September 13, 2023 – Seafood Fest (4 p.m.-9 p.m.)

Tickets are \$40 per person online or \$45 per person at the gate. There will be a limited number of tickets available at the gate. No other events will be taking place.

Thursday September 14, 2023 – Carload Night: Best Bargain of the Fair! (5 p.m.-10 p.m.)

Bring your entire family or friends in one car, van or truck and pay \$50 online or \$55 at the gate to enter the Fair and enjoy “all you can ride” wristbands for everyone in the vehicle.

Limit 8 people per vehicle.

Passengers must be legally seated in vehicle. (No passengers in truck beds please).

Single entry admission only tickets are available for \$10 online or \$15 at the gate each for guests age 6 and older (does not include rides).

NOTE: Individual ride tickets will NOT be available for purchase on Carload Night.

Friday September 15, 2023

(10 a.m.-11 p.m.)

Saturday September 16, 2023

(10 a.m.-11 p.m.)

Sunday September 17, 2023

(11 a.m.-6 p.m.)

Ages 6 to 12 years \$8 (online) \$10 at the gate

Ages 13 and above \$10 (online) \$15 at the gate

Children 5 and under enter for FREE

2 Day pass \$18 (online only)
3 Day pass \$26 (online only)

Friday, September 15, 2023 (10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Only)

Senior Citizens (55 and up) and Elementary School Children pay \$1 between 10a.m. and 2 p.m. and enjoy the Fair for as long as you care to stay.

Sunflower Hours (Noon - 4 p.m. Only)

Guests with disabilities + 1 caretaker/companion pay \$1 each between noon and 4 p.m. and enjoy the Fair for as long as you care to stay.

All other patrons must pay regular fair admission. Gates close at 11 p.m..

Sunday, September 17, 2023 - Military Appreciation Day

Guests with valid military ID – \$5 off regular admission on Sunday, September 17, 2023 only.



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New Branch Farms is one of Virginia's newest wedding and event venues located in Smithfield just outside of Hampton Roads and the Southside area. A modern, industrial farmhouse vibe with 6 large glass panel doors that open up to a view of blue skies and open fields is a perfect backdrop for the casual bride and groom looking for a clean, fresh-air feel to compliment their Amazing Day.

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Tickets

\$9 One Day \ \$13 Two Day
Children \$6 \ Strollers Free

Online ticket sales start on **Oct 1**
at **bodaciousbazaar.com**



bodaciousbazaar.com

Fair committee



Members of the 2023 Isle of Wight County Fair Committee are, from left, Allen Brown, Phil Bailey, Lauren Bradshaw, Theresa Woodall, Jenilee Hallman, Michelle Billups, Jennifer Bracy, Regine Walme-Edwards, Donna Claud, Tasha Hedgepeth, Shannon Gavin, Richard Preisser, Yvonne Munson, Fred Peedle, Kirk Jones, Debbie Braswell, Robie Claud, Kevin Bowman, Mike Frickanisce, Danny Byrum, Ronnie Byrum, Laurie Gust, Kim Garrett, Jake Redd and Billy Goodman.



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45th Annual



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& The Legendary Ils Sont Partis Band

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NATHAN & THE ZYDECO CHA CHAS

THE DELOREANS

Snackbar Jones | Griffin Lane
Luke Willette Band | The Sam Floyd Band

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DEMOLITION DERBY | FIREWORKS | CONCERTS
SHRIMP FEAST W/MUSIC BY ISLAND BOY

Touch-A-Truck | Straw Maze | Petting Zoo | Corn Hole

Clogging Jamboree | Peanut Butter Sculpting

Kent Family Circus | Chalk Art | Johnny D Robot

Monster Truck Rides | Showman on Hi-Wheel Bike

Arts & Crafts | Imagination Station | Pony Rides

Swamp Roar Motorcycle Rally | JB Rattles Reptiles

Tomahawk Toss | The Peanut Cup Auto Race

Princess Sing-Along | Tractor Tire Sandbox

TUNNEL TO TOWERS

9/11 NEVER FORGET

MOBILE EXHIBIT

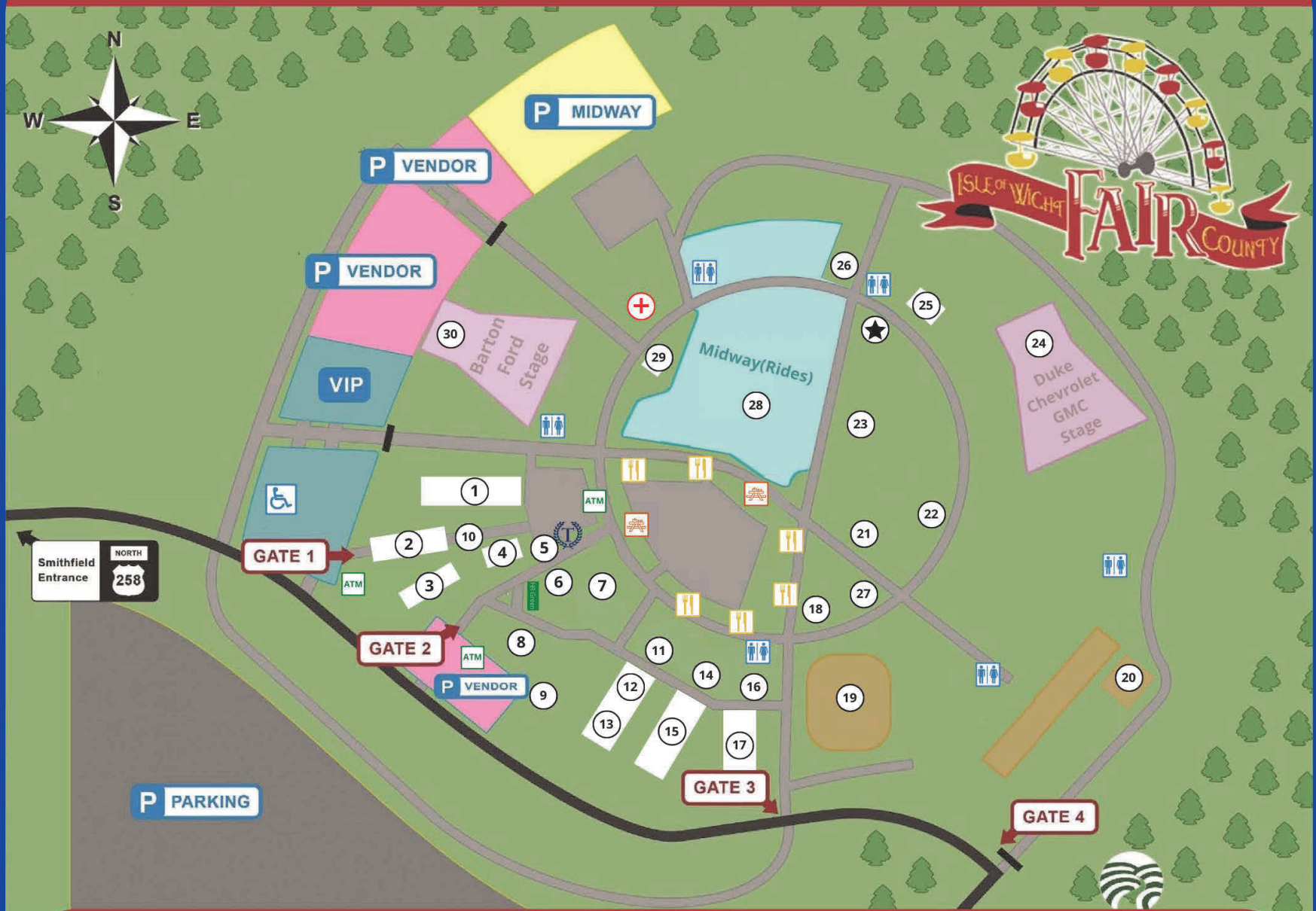


\$10 per person | Children 10 & Under FREE | Parking is Free | Cash/Debit/Credit Cards Accepted

Carload Night is **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5**, admission is FREE (for everyone) and \$50 for up to **EIGHT** all-you-can-ride wristbands.

(Carload Night Wristbands must be purchased on-site at the Carnival) | \$30/per person all-you-can-ride wristbands are available on **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8**.

Military Appreciation Day is **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8** (Half-price admission for active, retired military and active first responders; Valid I.D. required).



ICON LEGEND

- P** Parking
- Handicap/VIP Parking
- ATM
- Restrooms
- Food Court
- Patron Dining
- Sheriff's Department
- First Aid

PLACES OF INTEREST

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 1. Arts & Crafts Tent | 13. Southwest Dairy Farmers
Mobile Dairy Classroom | 22. Command Center |
| 2. Commercial Tent | 14. Face Painting | 23. The Pompeyo Family &
Their Amazing Dogs |
| 3. Heritage Tent | 15. 4-H Show Building | 24. Duke Chevrolet GMC Stage |
| 4. Non-Profit/Political Tent | 16. Camel Rides | 25. Sentara VIP Sponsor Tent |
| 5. Information/TowneBank Tent | 17. Livestock Building/
Petting Zoo/Pony Rides | 26. Monster Truck Rides |
| 6. Patron Dining sponsored by IWCS | 18. Ax Throwing | 27. Laser Tag |
| 7. Fire Fighter Training Show | 19. Rodeo Arena | 28. Midway |
| 8. Touch-A-Truck | 20. Demolition Derby Pit | 29. Diaper Changing Tent |
| 9. Agricultural Education Center | 21. Rock-N-Circus | 30. Barton Ford Stage |
| 10. Official Fair T-Shirts/Merchandise | | |
| 11. Antique Farm Equipment | | |
| 12. Field & Garden Building | | |

ELECT

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Agricultural Education

There will be many exhibits highlighting the work of the small farmer. You will see displays on bee hives, small barns, peanut stacks, pumpkin patches, portable chicken houses and fenced areas, row crops, farmers markets, and even lemonade stands. In addition, there will be several displays on gardening and horticulture put on by the Western Tidewater Master Gardeners and competitions for field crops, vegetable crops, and floral displays.

The Agriculture Education Center is a 1000 square foot grain bin that was generously donated by fair supporters in 2014 and is used to educate young people and adults about the importance of farming, crop growing, gardening and

raising livestock. Six workstations offer games to play that provide a journey through owning and operating a farm, selling at a farmer's market, the importance of whole grains in our diet and understanding the mysteries of where our food comes from. The Agriculture Education Center is set up with hands-on activities and large screen monitors to see animal birthing demonstrations, planting and harvesting by local farmers. The grain bin is totally educational and fun for families.

For more information on the Agriculture Education Center, contact Theresa Woodall at therwoodall@gmail.com



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WITH US!**



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Concessions

Capt Harrell + Son's Seafood Kitchen
 Deep Fried Inc.
 Farmer Frank's Farm Market
 Fun Time Ice Cream Co. Inc.
 Isle of Wight Ruritan Club
 Kona Ice of Chesapeake
 Little Piggy's Wurst Nightmare
 Lodschi-Taste of Germany
 Mediterranean Appetite
 Mimi's Ice N' Custard
 Over the Moon Pizza
 Pitt County BBQ
 Salsa Libre Mexican Street Food
 Skrimp Shack Truck
 Sno Kingz Snoballz LLC
 Southern Hospitality
 Speedy Pops Concession
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 Sun's Yums
 The Chicken Smells Good
 The Funnel Cake Factory
 The Sausage King



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Authorized and paid for by Laura Smith for Clerk



Laura Smith for
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Endorsed by

Kathy Torrence, Clerk
 Sharon Nelms Jones, Retired Clerk
 William "Bill" Laine, Jr, Retired Clerk
 Steven Bowman, Smithfield Mayor
 Isle of Wight County Bar Association



Royalty



2023 Queens, from left, Amelia Pulley (Teen Miss IOWCF), Madison Lowe (Miss IOWCF), Addison Crown (Junior Miss IOWCF)



Junior Contestants , from left, winner-Addison Crown, 1st runner-up-Olivia Woodard, photogenic award-Tegan Carter, 2nd runner-up-Caroline Priddy, Georgia McKellar, Marjorie Jones, Gabrielle Lowe, 2022 Jr. Miss-Emma Ruth Hasty



Teen Contestants , from left, winner-Amelia Pulley, 1st runner-up & photogenic award-Lana Janas, 2nd runner-up-Sadie Pearson, Saige Hetke, Community Impact Award Winner-Marlee O'Donnell, 2022 Teen Miss-Keegan Shannon



Junior Miss winners, from left, 2023-Addison Crown, 2022-Emma Ruth Hasty, 2021-Lana Janas, 2019-2020-Amelia Pulley



Miss Contestants , from left, winner-Madison Lowe, Savannah Hyers, Alexis Morel, 2nd runner-up & photogenic award-Taylor Curro, 1st runner-up-Madelyn Ruth, Leilah Holm, 2022 Miss-Madelyn Cosby



Miss winners, from left, 2023-Madison Lowe, 2022-Madelyn Cosby, 2021-Taylor Curro



Teen Miss winners, from left, 2023-Amelia Pulley, 2022-Keegan Shannon, 2021-Ariel Hawkins, 2019-2020-Madison Lowe

The 2023 Miss Isle of Wight County Fair Scholarship Pageant was held on Sunday, Aug. 13, at Georgie D. Tyler Middle School with a total of 18 contestants: 7 in the Junior Division (ages 9-12), 5 in the Teen Division (ages 13-16) and 6 in the Miss Division (ages 17-22).

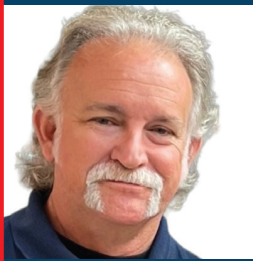
Contestants performed an opening number to Taylor Swift’s “Shake It Off” and competed in six categories: Private Interview, Photogenic Award, Personality Wear, Community Platform, Gown and On-Stage Question.

Miss Isle of Wight County Fair 2023, Madison Lowe, will compete at the 2023 Miss Virginia Association of Fairs Pageant at the Annual Virginia Association of Fairs Conference, Jan. 4-7, at the Williamsburg Lodge.

Scholarship Awards: Miss-\$1500, Teen- \$250, Junior- \$150

Re-Elect J Mark Wooster

Isle of Wight School Board
District 2



Proven Leadership, Trust, & Experience

On November 7, 2023 I am asking for your vote to continue working for the students, parents and citizens of Isle of Wight County.

Let’s continue the progress accomplished this past year and look toward a brighter future for our children’s education.

To learn more about my platform and what I’ve accomplished on the school board please visit my webpage.

www.woosterforiowschoolboard.com

Paid For By: J. Mark Wooster For Isle of Wight County School Board District-2

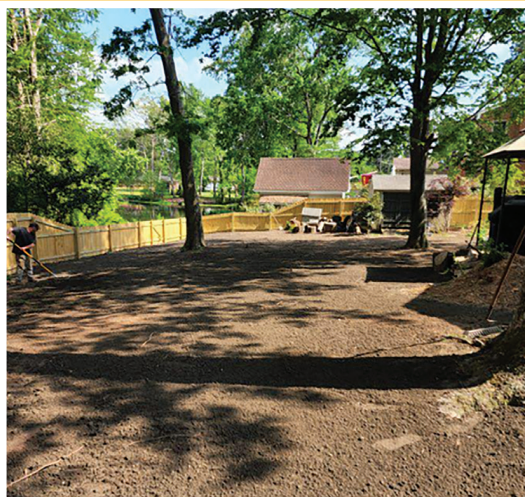
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At Bryant's Grading LLC, we strive to meet your satisfaction and all your needs!

757-374-1399

Schedule

Saturday, September 9th

9 AM – 12 PM

Heritage Arts, Crafts, & Canning
On-Site Registration* (no baked goods until 9/13)

5 PM

Gates Open for Truck & Tractor Pull

7 PM

TRUCK & TRACTOR PULL begins

Tuesday, September 12th

4 PM – 7 PM

Heritage Arts, Crafts, & Canning
On-Site Registration* (no baked goods until 9/13)

Wednesday, September 13th

8 AM – 11 AM

Heritage Arts, Crafts, & All Foods

On-Site Registration*

3 PM – 6 PM

Entries for Field & Garden
Competitions*

4 PM – 9 PM

SEAFOOD FEST

Thursday, September 14th

Events during Fair Hours: Midway,
Face Painting, Monster Truck Rides,
Petting Zoo, Camel Rides, Field &
Garden Displays, Ag. Education
Center with school demonstrations,
Coloring/Crafts, Ax Throwing, Laser
Tag ONLY (Thurs: 5pm-10pm; Fri &
Sat: 12pm-10pm; Sun: 1pm-6pm)

5 PM

FAIR OPENS – Carload Night \$50
(online) \$55 (at the gate) per vehicle
includes admission to the fair and
wristbands for “all you can ride”
Midway rides for up to 8 persons
(legally seated)

5:15 PM

Fire Fighter Training Show

5:45 PM

The Pompeyo Family & Their
Amazing Dogs

6 PM

4-H Country Ham Show
Rock-N-Circus

6:30 PM

Southwest Dairy Farmers Mobile
Dairy Classroom

7 PM

Fire Fighter Training Show

7:30 PM

The Pompeyo Family & Their
Amazing Dogs

8 PM

Ag. Education Center CLOSSES

8:30 PM

Rock-N-Circus

9 PM

Information Tent CLOSSES

10 PM

FAIR CLOSSES

Friday, September 15th

Events during Fair Hours: Midway, Face
Painting, Monster Truck Rides, Petting
Zoo, Camel Rides, Field & Garden
Displays, Ag. Education Center with
school demonstrations, Coloring/
Crafts, Ax Throwing, Laser Tag
(Thurs: 5-10pm; Fri & Sat: 12-10pm;
Sun: 1-6pm)

10 AM

FAIR OPENS – Senior Citizens and
Elementary School Special \$1 –
Seniors and Students must enter the
gates between 10 am and 2 pm)
Smithfield High School Band (Barton
Ford Stage)

Society for Preservation of Antiquities
Guest – Barbara Roshholdt (Livestock
Building)

10:30 AM

Bingo (Senior Tent Activity)

10:45 AM

Southwest Dairy Farmers Mobile
Dairy Classroom

11 AM

Windsor High School Band (Barton
Ford Stage)

TRACY HENDRIX FOR ISLE OF WIGHT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

I am a 23-year Retired Air Force Master Sergeant and a resident of District 2 – Carrollton since 2004. I am called to serve, no one will work harder. I have worked in the local and federal government as a Paralegal and Policy Analyst with a strong background in government acquisitions, policies, and regulations. No one is more prepared. After retiring from the military, I deployed to Afghanistan to fight terrorism, and continued

to serve our great country. I am a hard worker. As a member of the IOW District 2 Board of Supervisor, I will guarantee responsible government expenditures and policies to ensure a strong economic future for Isle of Wight County. Her husband of 26 years, Eugene Hendrix is a local small business owner and they have one son, Eugene 'EJ' Hendrix.



TRACY HENDRIX
CANDIDATE FOR IOW BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Please visit my website at
the QR code below.

TRACY HENDRIX

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Schedule

11:15 AM

Stars & Stripes Drill Team (Rodeo Arena)

11:30 AM

Fire Fighter Training Show

12 PM

Rock-N-Circus
Serama Tabletop Demo with Tammy
Pittsley Greenway (Livestock Building)

12:15 PM

The Pompeyo Family & Their Amazing Dogs

1 PM

Southwest Dairy Farmers Mobile Dairy Classroom
Carson Robertson (Barton Ford Stage)

1:30 PM

Stars & Stripes Drill Team (Rodeo Arena)

4 PM

Fire Fighter Training Show

4:30 PM

Southwest Dairy Farmers Mobile

Dairy Classroom

5 PM

The Pompeyo Family & Their Amazing Dogs
Pete Atkinson (Barton Ford Stage)

6 PM

True Grit Rodeo
4-H Rabbit Show

6:15 PM

Southwest Dairy Farmers Mobile Dairy Classroom

7 PM

Fire Fighter Training Show
Soul Patch (Barton Ford Stage)
Spencer Hatcher (Duke Chevrolet GMC Stage)

7:30 PM

The Pompeyo Family & Their Amazing Dogs

8 PM

Rock-N-Circus

9 PM

Headliner- Brandon Lay (Duke Chevrolet GMC Stage)
Ag. Education Center CLOSSES

10 PM

Information Tent CLOSSES

11 PM

FAIR CLOSSES

Saturday, September 16th

Events during Fair Hours: Midway, Face Painting, Monster Truck Rides, Petting Zoo, Camel Rides, Field & Garden Displays, Ag. Education Center with school demonstrations, Coloring/Crafts, Ax Throwing, Laser Tag ONLY (Thurs: 5pm-10pm; Fri & Sat: 12pm-10pm; Sun: 1pm-6pm)

10 AM

FAIR OPENS

10:30 AM

4-H Feeder Pig Show
Fire Fighter Training Show

11 AM

Southwest Dairy Farmers Mobile Dairy Classroom
Serama Tabletop Demo with Barbara Robinson Morgan (Livestock Building)
Studio 37 (Barton Ford Stage)

11:30 AM

Windsor Gymnastics (Barton Ford Stage)

12 PM

Allonge Dance Academy (Barton Ford Stage)

1 PM

Zen Mojo (Barton Ford Stage)
4-H Heifer Show

1:30 PM

The Pompeyo Family & Their Amazing Dogs

1:45 PM

Southwest Dairy Farmers Mobile Dairy Classroom

2 PM

Rock-N-Circus

2:30 PM

4-H Market and Breeding Goat Show

2:45 PM

Fire Fighter Training Show

3:15 PM

Southwest Dairy Farmers Mobile Dairy Classroom

3:30 PM

Southside Ballet Studio (Barton Ford Stage)

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Schedule

4 PM
Footnotes School of Dance (Barton Ford Stage)

4:15 PM
The Pompeyo Family & Their Amazing Dogs

4:30 PM
Dynamic Movements (Barton Ford Stage)

5 PM
Everafter (Duke Chevrolet GMC Stage)
Rock-N-Circus

5:15 PM
Fire Fighter Training Show

5:45 PM
Southwest Dairy Farmers Mobile Dairy Classroom

6 PM
Kiss the Heifer Contest Winner Announced (4-H Building)
Strictly Bizzness (Barton Ford Stage)
True Grit Rodeo

6:45 PM
The Pompeyo Family & Their

Amazing Dogs

7 PM
Runnin' Shine (Duke Automotive Stage)

8 PM
Rock-N-Circus

9 PM
Headliner- Dillon Carmichael (Duke Chevrolet GMC Stage)
Ag. Education Center CLOSSES

10 PM
Information Tent CLOSSES

10:30 PM
Fireworks Show by American Fireworks

11 PM
FAIR CLOSSES

Sunday, September 17th

Events during Fair Hours: Midway, Face Painting, Monster Truck Rides, Petting Zoo, Camel Rides, Field & Garden Displays, Ag. Education Center with school demonstrations,

Coloring/Crafts, Ax Throwing, Laser Tag ONLY (Thurs: 5pm-10pm; Fri & Sat: 12pm-10pm; Sun: 1pm-6pm)

9 AM
Car Show Registration & Entry (Barton Ford Stage)

11 AM
FAIR OPENS

11 AM – 3 PM
Custom Car Show (Barton Ford Stage)

11:45 AM
Fire Fighter Training Show

12 PM
Southwest Dairy Farmers Mobile Dairy Classroom
The Pompeyo Family & Their Amazing Dogs

12:30 PM
Rock-N-Circus

1 PM
Main Street Band (Barton Ford Stage)
Mock 4-H Show (4-H Building)

2 PM
The Pompeyo Family & Their Amazing Dogs

2:30 PM
Firefighter Training Show

3 PM
Car Show Awards (Barton Ford Stage)
Southwest Dairy Farmers Mobile Dairy Classroom

3:30 PM
Demolition Derby presented by Chaos in the Valley

4 PM
The Pompeyo Family & Their Amazing Dogs

4:30 PM
Firefighter Training Show

5 PM
Rock-N-Circus

6 PM
FAIR CLOSSES

**See Premium Book for additional Judging, Entry, & Contestant Information.*

Please visit the "Information/Farmers Bank" Tent for more information about the Fair.

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Barton Ford Stage Schedule

Friday, September 15

- 10 - 10:45 a.m.**
Smithfield High Band
- 11 - 11:45 a.m.**
Windsor High Band
- 1 - 2 p.m.**
Carson Robertson
- 5 - 6 p.m.**
Pete Atkinson
- 7 - 9 p.m.**
Soul Patch

- 1 - 3 p.m.**
Zen Mojo
- 3:30 - 4 p.m.**
Southside Ballet Studio
- 4 - 4:30 p.m.**
Footnotes School of Dance
- 4:30 - 5 p.m.**
Dynamic Movements
- 6 - 8 p.m.**
Strictly Bizzness

Saturday, September 16

- 11 - 11:30 a.m.**
Studio 37
- 11:30 a.m. - noon**
Windsor Gymnastics
- 12 - 12:30 p.m.**
Allonge Dance Academy

Sunday, September 17

- 9 - 11 a.m.**
Car Show Entry
- 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.**
Car Show
- 1 - 3 p.m.**
Main Street Band
- 3 p.m.**
Car Show Awards



Ashlyn Dailey, Presley Jernigan and Kathryn Jones of Allonge' Dance Academy perform on stage at the 2022 IW County fair.



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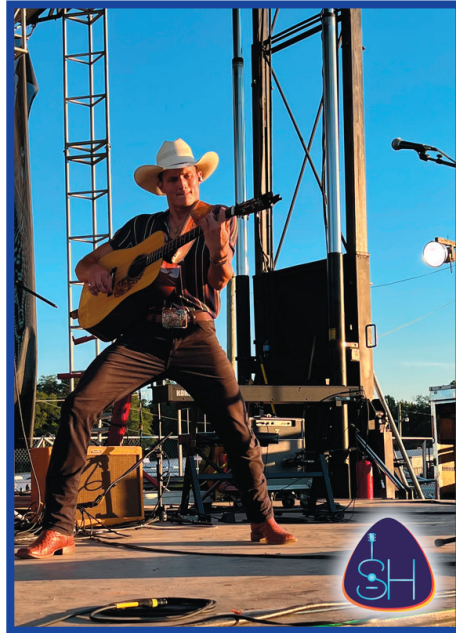
Friday, September 15

Opening, 7 p.m.:
Spencer Hatcher
Headliner, 9 p.m.:
Brandon Lay

Saturday, September 16

5 p.m.:
Everafter
Opening, 7 p.m.:
Runnin' Shine
Headliner, 9 p.m.:
Dillon Carmichael

Spencer Hatcher



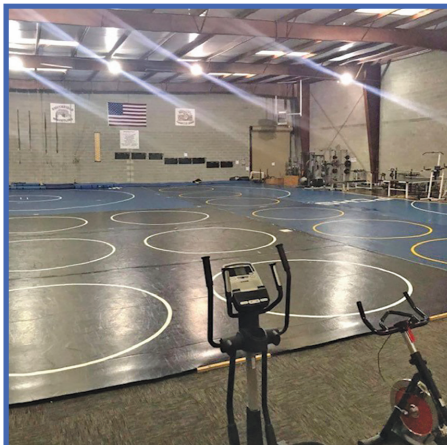
Runnin Shine

Everafter



SMITHFIELD YOUTH WRESTLING SIGN UP TODAY!

Fall Session Begins Sept 5th! Season Begins November 7th!



Who We Are: Smithfield youth wrestling is a club consisting of wrestlers K-8 from Smithfield and the surrounding areas. Teaching self-confidence, integrity, good sportsmanship, and mental toughness are just a few things that we focus on in the wrestling room.

Our Season, The When and Where: Our pre-season will begin Sept 5 and run thru Oct 31 (K-12th grade) every Tues/Thurs from 6-7:30 pm. Winter wrestling season runs from November – March and practices will vary depending on skill level of each wrestler (K – 8th grade). The competition schedule varies depending on the wrestler's skill level. Some wrestlers stay local and compete in events in the surrounding areas (these events normally take place at area high schools); while others compete on a higher level and travel from NY to GA against some of the best wrestlers in the country. **No matter what the experience or skill level, there is a place for EVERYONE at Smithfield**



How Can I Learn More? Follow us on Facebook at Smithfield Youth Wrestling Club or you can get information and register at www.smithfielddyouthwrestling.com. Contact the head coach, Bryan Roggie, at 757-651-8523 or email bryan.roggie@allfirstllc.com with any questions or concerns.

Brandon Lay

Sometimes all it takes to move forward is remembering where you've been. And for Nashville artist Brandon Lay, that's where his next step lies.

Back with a new batch of vintage-inspired country rock, the hard-to-tame son of a Tennessee preacher has reembraced the organic edge of his own sound – a potent style he knows by heart.

Born in Jackson, Tennessee, Lay's early life was a perfect illustration for his gutsy musical identity, raised right in the geographical middle of Memphis rock and Nashville country. Coming out of college, he combined that influence with a reputation for captivating crowds and guitar-slinging charisma, signing a major-label recording deal in 2017. But after a handful of early singles took him elsewhere, Lay's primed for an all-natural change.

"Every artist is different, but I'll

put it this way. I grew up playing all the honky tonks and biker bars, but that aggressive kind of sound didn't match what was on the radio," he explains, considering his new path. "That was a bridge that I felt like this project had to make. ... We wanted to match the live show with what people were hearing."

The shift arrives just in time for this gifted singer-songwriter – and in a way, it all feels meant to be.

Wearing his soul on his sleeve, Lay's disconnect between the studio and stage brought him dangerously close to disillusion. But with the forced recalibration of a global pandemic, and the move to a 50-acre spread on the outskirts of Nashville with his wife and two children, he pulled himself back from the brink. And with tracks like "Broke," he's trusting his instincts once again.

Co-written with Country Music Hall of Famer Dean Dillon ("The

Chair," "Oceanfront Property"), "Broke" welds Lay's gravel-road vocal to a smooth-driving power ballad, comparing a relationship on the rocks to broken-down car – and imagining Lay as the mechanic who can fix it.

With a wide open country-rock sound and all the passion he was missing, it's an anthem custom built to take another shot at forever. And with it, Lay turns the ignition on a new chapter.

"It's the one song we cut where I almost feel like I'm singing a classic George Strait song," he says. "Comfortable is a great way to describe it. It will point my fans in the direction this whole project is going. ... It's got that throwback feel and it's harmony friendly, and I think it's got the elements that are gonna let people know what's on the way."



Brandon Lay



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- Have had 22 years of successful audits for the Treasurer's office with no findings
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- I am currently researching ways to streamline our billing and payment processes while utilizing the latest technology to improve efficiencies in the office.
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Dillon Carmichael

Hailed by Rolling Stone as “country music’s most convincing young star since Stapleton,” Dillon Carmichael isn’t just an artist; he’s a force of nature.

Born and raised in Burgin, Kentucky, the 6-foot-4 troubadour first rose to fame in 2018 on the strength of his critically acclaimed Riser House debut, the Dave Cobb-produced “Hell On An Angel,” which prompted NPR to praise his “deep holler” and the New York Times to declare that his voice moves “with the heft and certainty of a tractor trailer.”

Dates with everyone from Lynyrd Skynyrd and Trace Adkins to Dwight Yoakam and Justin Moore followed, as did festival appearances from Faster Horses to Tortuga and Artist To Watch nods from the likes of Billboard, Rolling Stone, Pandora and more.

Carmichael followed it up in 2021

with “Son Of A,” another neo-traditional gem that’s racked up more than 50 million streams across platforms (Carmichael’s catalog boasts more than 160 million streams collectively) and yielded similarly glowing reviews for its feel-good mix of wry humor and raw heart. The album’s title track debuted as the No. 1 most added single at country radio and continues to climb the charts.

Carmichael remained busy as ever on the road in 2022, headlining his “Son Of A” Tour and opening for the likes of Brooks & Dunn, Cody Johnson, Brothers Osborne and more. In addition to working on material for his next major release, Carmichael is playing the Jack Daniels Old No. 7 and Country Cocktails Presents Luke Combs Bootleggers Tailgate Party on select dates of Luke Combs’ 2023 tour.



Dillon Carmichael

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Featured Ground Acts

Firefighter Training Show

The Firefighter Training Show plays off every child's curiosity to one day be a "Firefighter - Hero."

The show allows volunteers from the audience, usually kids but we can use adults, to become our firefighter trainees (audience participation show). After being fitted in fire jacket and helmet the new trainees are introduced to the audience as their next generation of heroes and the volunteer firefighters are divided into two teams.

When the alarm tones sound calling engine one to duty it's all trainees on deck. Each firefighter trainee/team gets to complete the basic tasks at our simulated fire scene: laying out fire hose, attaching it to the fire truck and putting on a nozzle. Using a real fire extinguisher to squirt water at simulated flames in our smoke rescue building in hopes they can knock the flames out of the window putting out the fire. (To enhance the simulated fire effect we use an odorless, non-toxic, white smoke; smoke dissipates in about 1 to 3 minutes) The dialog between our fire chief the audience and the new trainees is riddled with humor and educational information such as, in case of fire "Get Outside and Stay Outside" only firefighters attempt rescues. In between fire alarms the fire chief also introduces important fire safety lessons "Don't Hide, Get Outside" and "Crawl Low, Under Smoke."



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Featured Ground Acts

Southwest Dairy Farmers Mobile Dairy Classroom

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The Isle of Wight Ruritan Club has been serving our community since 1948. Our proceeds go back to helping our community.

We started serving food at the Isle of Wight County Fair when it was across the street at the Court House. We have enjoyed all of the years since, and will be present again at this year.

Come by our new metal structure at the Fairgrounds and enjoy some good food. We are still on the corner of Blue Ribbon and Cotton Candy Lanes. Ask any one working how you might join our club and enjoy the fellowship shared by our members. We hope to see you there!

Don't forget our Brunswick stew the first Saturday in November!

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Featured Ground Acts

Max Power & Nitro

People of all ages line up to meet MAX POWER and take photos with him & NITRO.

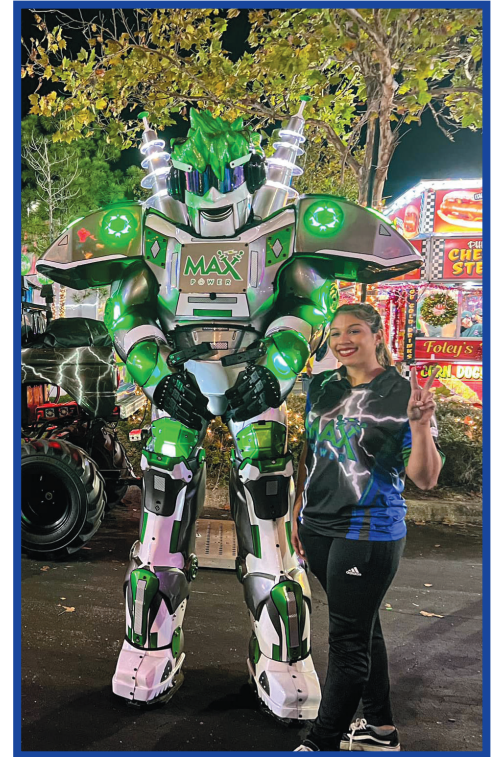
At 9' tall & 5' wide and decorated with extensive LED lighting, MAX POWER towers over crowds - visible from across the grounds. MAX's detailed facial features make him photogenic & life-like. MAX walks, talks, dances, and more - creating an instant party wherever he shows up! Equipped with a built in sound system for playing music and interacting with guests, MAX runs the show solo when he isn't with his monster truck NITRO.

Rock-N-Circus

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Staff report

There's no shortage of things to do at the State Fair of Virginia. With this year's theme, "Your Fair, Your Way!" guests are encouraged to create their own exciting fair adventures.

The State Fair will be held Sept. 22 through Oct. 1 at The Meadow Event Park in Caroline County.

Music enthusiasts can see a variety of concerts on the fair's Main Stage. This year's performances feature several Virginia artists, including the Bart Chucker Band, Chase Payne, Gone Country and Wilson Fairchild. Other artists taking the stage are The BRENCORE Allstars Band with Motown's greatest hits, rock band Pablo Cruise, new country artist Megan Moroney, bluegrass artists the Travelin' McCourys, country legend John Anderson and TikTok sensation George Birge.

Details and a schedule for the Main State Concert series can be found at StateFairVa.

org. All shows begin at 7:30 p.m. and are included in the cost of fair admission. Fairgoers may bring their own blankets and lawn chairs for the concerts.

Among other experiences fairgoers can choose from are new acts, including DanDan the Farmer Man, a family-friendly comedy show. Also performing is the Cast in Bronze bell carillon, a unique musical experience featuring the world's largest and heaviest musical instrument.

Returning crowd-pleasers include two nights of Revenge Roughstock Rodeo Company's adrenaline-pumping professional bull riding, bronc riding and barrel racing; and families can root for their favorite speedy swine at the famed Rosaire's Royal Racers track.

Master chainsaw carver Ben Risney will wow guests by sculpting logs into one-of-a-kind masterpieces, with some auctioned off to benefit the fair's scholarship program.

The fair also showcases the best of Virginia, featuring hundreds of unique cre-

ations from talented artisans, cooks and crafters, with winning entries displayed for baking, quilting, woodworking, metal-smithing and more.

Families can get their animal fix by visiting Young MacDonald's Farm on the fair's south side to interact with farm animals and see the iconic duck slide and chick incubator. Guests also can experience hands-on farm fun at the petting zoo in Harvest Landing.

After exploring the fairgrounds and taking a spin on carnival rides, indulge fair food cravings from vendors serving up traditional treats like funnel cakes, turkey legs and deep-fried delights.

Many vendors also are debuting new fair foods for the "Flavor of the Fair" contest. Current contenders on the menu include dessert turtle beignets by Parnell Foods, crabcake eggrolls by Phat Boyz Catering and breakfast macaroni and cheese by Holy Macaroni.

Fairgoers are encouraged to vote for their

favorite "Flavor of the Fair" on Facebook Sept. 22 through noon on Sept. 27. Winning foods, including the fan favorite, will be announced on Facebook.

For local fare, check out the first-ever "Taste of Virginia," a ticketed event for sampling Virginia foods and beverages in the historic Meadow Hall. Ticket proceeds will benefit the fair's scholarship program and Virginia Agriculture in the Classroom.

And finally, what would be the fair without a fun, educational peek into Virginia agriculture? Families can learn all about the state's largest private business sector at the commodities pavilion; see gargantuan pumpkins, watermelons and squashes in the horticulture tent; and witness all kinds of equine and livestock exhibits and competitions.

Visit StateFairVa.org, for more information. Additional live updates can be found by following the fair on Facebook at Facebook.com/StateFairVa and Instagram at statefairva.



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IW fair wins

state, national awards

Staff report

The Isle of Wight County Fair attended the International Association of Fairs & Expositions (IAFE) Convention Nov. 26-Dec. 1 in Indianapolis and returned with 1st Place for Agriculture Individual Photo: Equine for Fairs with an Attendance of up to 100,000.

The IAFE is composed of more than 1,100 fairs around the world and more than 900 members from allied fields.

The Isle of Wight County Fair also attended the Virginia Association of Fairs (VAF) Conference Jan. 12-15 at The Williamsburg Lodge and returned with the following awards:

- Best Overall High Point Champion**
- Best Overall – Fair Attendance of 30,000 & Over**
- Best of Show**
 - Facebook Campaign
 - Pageant Booklet
- 1st Place**

- Radio Ad
- Pageant Scrapbook
- Pageant Booklet
- B&W Newspaper Ad
- Facebook Campaign
- Promotional Advertising

Merchandise

2nd Place

- Theme
- Website
- Color Newspaper Ad
- Web Ad
- Tabloid
- Newsletter
- Premium Book
- Photo Essay Board

3rd Place

- Fair Scrapbook
- Brochure
- Poster
- Logo

Teen Miss Isle of Wight County Fair, Keegan Shannon, placed 7th in the Youth

Leadership Scholarship Contest and received a \$500 scholarship. Volunteer, Jessica Holgado, placed 6th in the Youth Leadership Scholarship Contest and received a \$750 scholarship.

The goals of the Youth Leadership Scholarship Contest are to:

Recognize superior leadership characteristics among junior members of the Association's member fairs and festivals and overall fair industry.

Encourage and develop leadership and speaking skills among youth members so they will be able to better serve their local communities and fair/festival organizations.

Develop necessary skills for the workforce and future job placement.

Share, as well as receive, ideas and concepts that have proven successful or unsuccessful at local fairs/festivals in Virginia.

The contest includes a typed essay, resume, letter of recommendation, panel

interview, digital symposium, prepared speech, and extemporaneous speech.

Fair & Events Coordinator, Jenilee Hallman, was the winner of the 2023 Hazel M. Staley Award which recognizes individuals for their leadership and service in the fair industry. The award also includes a \$1,500 scholarship that can be used towards continuing education in the fair industry. Miss Isle of Wight County Fair, Madelyn Cosby, placed 4th runner up out of 27 contestants in the 2023 Miss Virginia Association of Fairs Scholarship Pageant and received a \$700 scholarship.

The Virginia Association of Fairs serves over 70 association members of fairs and festivals across the state through representation, education, information and direction which will enhance their productivity, economic viability and administrative capability, thus enhancing the economic growth, development and quality of life of Virginia Communities.

IT'S NOT JUST
CHURCH IT'S
LIFE





Pageant directors Regine Walme-Edwards and Jenilee Hallman with 2022 Miss Isle of Wight County Fair, Madelyn Cosby.



(Left to right) Janette Jeffrey, Parks & Rec Administrative Services Coordinator, Madelyn Cosby, Miss Isle of Wight County Fair 2022, Jenilee Hallman, Fair & Events Coordinator, Theresa Woodall, Ag Education Chairman, Danny Byrum, Fair Chairman, Regine Edwards, Pageant Co-Director after the 2023 Annual VAF Gala & Awards Ceremony



Jenilee Hallman, Isle of Wight County Fair & Events Coordinator, recipient of the 2023 Hazel M. Staley Award with Donnie Yancey, Chesterfield County Fair Association Secretary, recipient of the 2023 Fair Person of the Year Award.



Miss Virginia Association of Fairs Top 5 with the judges. From left, Kristel Wittensoldner, Miss Virginia USA 2001, Caressa Cameron-Jackson, Miss America 2010, 4th runner up-Madelyn Cosby, Miss Isle of Wight County Fair, 2nd runner up-Olivia McCarty, Miss Russell County Fair, 2023 Miss Virginia Association of Fairs/Miss Frederick Fair-Natalie Woodward, 1st runner up-Natalie White, Miss Duffield Daze, 3rd runner up-Megan Day, Miss Fauquier County Fair, and Blaire Borum Willis, Miss Virginia United States 2013.



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**DOWNTOWN SMITHFIELD
UPCOMING EVENTS**

Downtown Autumn Vintage Market



**Saturday,
September 30**

Enjoy shopping for antiques, vintage, re-purposed and handcrafted items along all three blocks of Main Street. 75+ vendors, live music and food! Event is held 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Scarecrow Stroll

October 16 - 31

Shops, restaurants & attractions will display themed scarecrows throughout downtown. Visitors will vote for their favorite to be entered into a raffle for a great prize.



Witches Night Out



**Thursday,
October 26**

Celebrate Ham-o-ween from 5 - 7:30 p.m. at participating downtown shops and restaurants. Put on your witchiest outfit and enjoy discounts, raffles, & more.

Holiday Open House



**Saturday & Sunday,
November 4 & 5**

Kick off your holiday season in Genuine Smithfield! Enjoy fabulous sales and specials at our merchants plus a cheery welcome in our restaurants.



Tree Lighting

**Friday,
November 17**

Bring the family and meet up with your friends for the Annual lighting of the downtown Christmas tree ceremony. The town tree will be on the lawn at Main Street Square (228 Main Street) at 6 p.m.



Mistletoe Marketplace

**Saturday,
November 18**

Celebrate the season with family and friends! 75 + Vendors will offer holiday hand-crafted and unique items. Also enjoy food, music, and live performances. Held 3 - 8 p.m.



More Events coming up in Downtown Smithfield...

OCTOBER

- 10/7: Farmers Market**
- 10/14: Pickers Market**
- 10/28: Farmers Market**
- 10/31: Ham-o-Ween**

NOVEMBER

- 11/4: Farmers Market**
- 11/11: Farmers Market**
- 11/11: Pickers Market**

DECEMBER

- 12/2 & 12/3: Christmas In Smithfield**
- 12/2 & 12/16: Farmers Markets**
- 12/9: Christmas Parade**
- 12/14: Elves Night Out**



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Eat and drink for a cause

at one of the State Fair's special events

STAFF REPORT

This year's State Fair of Virginia is offering fairgoers several opportunities to experience an event within an event — two of which benefit scholarship and agriculture education.

During this year's fair, which will be held Sept. 22 through Oct. 1, Virginians will be able to immerse themselves in Virginia foods, enjoy craft beverages and kick up their heels in their fanciest boots while enjoying a VIP night at the fair.

A brand-new Taste of Virginia ticketed event on Sept. 28 offers fairgoers the opportunity to sample foods and beverages grown and produced across the commonwealth. Local produce will be transformed into culinary delights by celebrity chefs inside the historic Meadow Hall.

One of the chefs is Hampton Roads' Kip Poole, who has appeared on the

television show *The Big Brunch* and on Food Network's *Guy's Grocery Games*.

Another celebrity chef is Steve Glenn, a finalist on Gordon Ramsay's *Hell's Kitchen*, and the culinary director at *The Underground Kitchen* in Richmond.

Other chefs include Leah Branch, executive chef at *The Roosevelt* in Richmond and a contestant on *Cooking Channel's Sugar Showdown*, and Mike Lindsey, owner, founder and executive chef for *Lindsey Food Group*, which operates *Lillie Pearl*, *Buttermilk and Honey* and *Bully Burger* restaurants in Richmond.

Additional chefs creating tasty fare during the event are Keya Wingfield, the Food Network's 2020 baking champion; Tammy Brawley, owner of the *Green Kitchen* catering company in Richmond and chef on *Virginia Farm Bureau's Real Virginia* television program; and Kaniyah Cary, a

top contestant on the Food Network's *Kids Baking Championship*, season 3, and owner of *KC's Buttercream Sweet Shoppe*.

Only 250 tickets are available for \$100 each at <https://tinyurl.com/yfy8vm8x>

Tickets include fair admission, premium parking and access to live music on the Main Stage. Part of the proceeds will benefit the Virginia Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom and the State Fair of Virginia Scholarship Program.

Another tasty event is the *Blue Ribbon Craft Beer Fest* on Oct. 1. Dozens of Virginia breweries will be at the fair for attendees to sample their craft beverages. Past breweries included *Ballad Brewing*, *Harpers Ferry Brewing LLC*, *Lost Barrel Brewing*, *New Realm Brewing*, *Strangeways Brewery* and many more.



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Earn blue-ribbon bragging rights

in State Fair competitions

Staff report

You can't win blue-ribbon bragging rights if you don't enter the State Fair of Virginia competitions.

Blue-ribbon winner Novelle Wilkerson of Prince George County said people need to "get out of their comfort zones" and enter a competition. That's what she did.

Wilkerson had purchased a beginner crochet kit to take on a long-distance road trip. After she taught herself to crochet, she decided to enter a couple of crochet categories in the State Fair's creative arts competitions last year.

A mosaic crocheted afghan that took her 8 months to make won a blue ribbon and a "Best of Section" award.

Over 3,500 Virginians entered the State Fair's creative arts, culinary and horticulture competitions last year, and their entries were displayed during the fair.

Some categories offer winners small cash prizes in addition to bragging-right ribbons. But it's the blue ribbons that many competitors care about the most.

The fair's competitions have categories for bold bakers, green growers, knowledgeable knitters, weaving wizzes and more. And there are categories for both adults and youth.

Competition guides with entry deadlines, registration and category descriptions for culinary and creative arts and horticulture entries are online at StateFairVa.org. The 2023 State Fair of Virginia will be held from Sept. 22 through Oct. 1.

New this year are grilled cheese and charcuterie competitions. "Grilled Cheese Your Way" will be held on Sunday, Sept. 24, at 1 p.m. Competitors will be invited to bring ingredients for their signature grilled cheese, which they will prepare in front of a live audience using skillet and

burners provided by the fair.

Those interested in competing in the Charcuterie Competition will need to assemble their boards using at least four Virginia products, and then bring the charcuterie platters to the fair for judging.

The fair also is offering new Virginia outdoor-themed categories, including deer and fish mounts and antler art.

Returning favorites include a salsa competition and a scarecrow contest—both part of the horticulture category.

Longtime competitor and multiple-ribbon winner Lesley Russell from Henrico County said everyone has something they are good at, and she encourages other Virginians to try their hand at entering at least one of the competitions.

"They don't have to be crazy like me and bake for four days straight," Russell quipped. "But everyone should try."

Sarah Jane Thomsen, the fair's manager

of agriculture education and strategic programming partnerships, noted that anyone can enter the arts and crafts, culinary and horticulture competitions if they meet the criteria.

"Some people think you have to win at a county fair before you can compete at the state fair, but that's not the case," she said.

She added that in addition to winning ribbons and bragging rights, competitors in many classes contribute to the fair's mission of educating the public about agriculture and drawing connections to where fairgoers' food is grown.

The State Fair is held each fall at its permanent home at The Meadow Event Park in Caroline County. The event celebrates the best of Virginia's past, present and future through scholarship initiatives, creative programming and a focus on the commonwealth's agriculture and natural resources industries.

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The Isle of Wight County Newcomer's Guide provides all the information those who are new to the area and residents need on county services, recreational opportunities, elected officials, utilities, emergency services, and much more. The guide is available at the county complex or it can be downloaded from the county's website.

IWUS.net
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Newcomer's Guide FEB. 2020

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- ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY SOCIAL MEDIA: iwus.net/SocialMedia
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- ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY SCHOOLS: 800 West Main Street, Smithfield, VA 23148
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