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21

**GEM BOISE**  
COUNTY FAIR & RODEO

*Where Traditions have Become Treasures!*

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**JULY 24 - JULY 31, 2021**



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## Welcome to the Gem/Boise County Fair!



Dan Heaton

On behalf of the Fair Board, I would like to thank you all for coming out to enjoy the festivities. As you can see, the board has been busier than ever. We are extremely excited to offer spectators a safer and more comfortable place to sit in our brand-new bleachers! We could not have done this without the support that the community gives us throughout the year. We would also like to give a special thank you to our Gem County Commissioners for their support in securing our new seating. Through the money generated by our events held on the grounds we were able to put in new bucking chutes and install a new announcers booth to give you an even better Rodeo experience.

As always, we encourage you to bring the whole family to enjoy the selection of great food, shop our vendors, and enjoy the nightly entertainment. We have an action-packed week with live music following each of the nightly events: Truck Pull kicking off a week of events on Wednesday, Dirt Bike Rodeo Thursday, and our ICA Rodeo on Friday and Saturday. Saturday night we will crown our next Gem/Boise Rodeo Royalty, so you will not want to miss it!

Our local 4-H and FFA kids have been working hard on their projects all year and would love to have you walk through the barns and display areas to see what they have been working on. Please remember to also attend the Youth Livestock Sale on Saturday morning and help reward all of their hard work, time, and effort.

Thanks for coming out to see us this year and have a wonderful, fun, and safe Fair!

Dan Heaton  
Chairman  
Gem County Fair Board



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## 2021 Gem County Fairgrounds Board



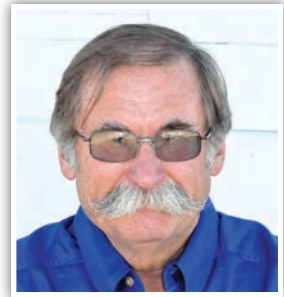
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**Sarah Beth Henderson**  
Board Member



**Debbie Lawrence**  
Board Secretary



This past year the Gem County Fair Board has been able to make a number of long-anticipated upgrades to the Fairgrounds. The biggest and most noticeable is the replacement of the old wooden grandstands with a new ADA compliant aluminum structure with expanded seating capacity.



# “Where Traditions Become Treasures”

**T**raditions are taken seriously in Gem and Boise Counties. A reverence for our local history and a stubborn refusal to let all traditions fade away has been a trademark of rural Idaho. One of those traditions is the treasury of memories community events create

For the past 106 years, citizens of Gem County have had a good time celebrating the western America way of life with a fair and entertainment event each summer.

The entertainment has taken many forms over the years and since 1952 rodeo has been at the heart of the event. This is one of the largest Idaho Cowboy Association (ICA) rodeo events in the state.

One of the elements that has been prominent in every Fair and Rodeo in Gem County, since 1915, has been a tremendous volunteer commitment. From 4-H and FFA participants and leaders to rodeo and special event coordinators, thousands of hours are contributed to make the events possible. To those who volunteer we say thanks! To those who would like to join the team, please feel free to contact the Gem County Fair Board office with your interest to be part of the 2022 Gem/Boise County Fair and Rodeo.

## 2021 Grand Stand Nights

### Wednesday, July 28

FFA Recognition Night

Wear **BLUE**

7 p.m. - Believe Pulling Sled Truck Pull

### Thursday, July 29

4-H Recognition Night

Wear **GREEN**

7 p.m. – Dirt Bike Rodeo

### Friday, July 30

Military Recognition Night

Wear **RED WHITE** and **BLUE**

7 p.m. - Pre Rodeo Events

7:45 p.m. - Grand Entry

8 p.m. - Local and ICA Rodeo

### Saturday, July 31

Cancer Awareness Night

Wear **PINK**

7 p.m. - Pre Rodeo Events

7:45 p.m. - Grand Entry

8 p.m. - Local and ICA Rodeo



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## 2021 Gem/Boise County Fair & Rodeo Grand Marshall



Lori Herman

**T**here really is no need for an introduction to our 2021 Grand Marshall. This individual was born and raised in Emmett, is a business owner and a volunteer. She has helped promote 4-H and FFA youth either by donation or through the Youth Livestock Sale committee for years.

The fair board needed little discussion on our choice for this year's Marshall. Lori Herman has been serving the fair attendees since 2007 at the Gem Supply Co-op booth during the Gem/Boise County Fair & Rodeo. She has served on our Youth Livestock Sale Committee for approximately 12 years and has been the manager at the Co-op for 34 years.

Lori and Jim have been married for 42 years and have 3 children, Ryan, Jason and Staci and 6 grandchildren, Layci, Lydia, Jayce, Otis and Isabella and Ellie. You can see these kids competing at fair, on fields and courts and their grandparents are always there cheering them on.

The Gem County Fair Board would like to thank Lori for her dedication and service she has given to not only our fair board but to the community of Emmett.

Lori, congratulations!

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## Lucas returns as voice for the Gem/Boise Rodeo arena

Jeff Lucas is making a return engagement behind the microphone at this year's rodeo, after informing and entertaining rodeo fans in Emmett for the first time last year. A resident of Lebanon Tennessee, Lucas is a veteran announcer at all levels of the rodeo game.



Jeff Lucas

He began his career in rodeo as a young participant at the age of ten but soon became a bullfighter rather than a competing cowboy. It wasn't long however before he determined that he would have a longer career taking a different view of the bull.

Raised primarily in Iowa, Lucas did put in an 18-month stay in the Treasure Valley before making the move to near Nashville to base his rodeo announcing business. The two-time Idaho Cowboy Association announcer of the year is excited to return to Emmett this summer.

## Superior Stock makes a Superior Rodeo

Drew Blessinger and top performing rodeo stock are inseparable in the minds of most rodeo oriented folks in southwestern Idaho. Blessinger has been raising bucking horses and bulls at his ranch near Emmett for a number of years.



His stock is used at all levels of competitive rodeo in Idaho. The younger animals are trained in high school and Idaho Cowboy Association (ICA) events and as they achieve greater levels of skill and competitive temperament many have advanced to the highest level of rodeo – the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association.

Blessinger learned bucking stock from on top the animals. A former competitor, he not only provides stock to local events like the Gem/Boise County Rodeo, he serves as a pickup man in the arena. It gives him a close up view of what the animals are doing and how they are reacting to the cowboys attempting to stay on them.

Gem/Boise Rodeo is proud to have Drew Blessinger and Superior Stock as a partner again for this year's events.

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# The Events of Rodeo

## BAREBACK RIDING

Bareback riding, developed in the rodeo arena many years ago, consistently produces some of the wildest action in the sport. A bareback rider begins his ride with his feet placed above the break of the horse's shoulder. If the cowboy's feet are not in the correct position when the horse hits the ground on its first jump out of the chute, the cowboy has failed to "mark out" the horse properly and is disqualified. Throughout the eight-second ride, the cowboy must grasp the rigging (a handhold made of leather and rawhide) with only one hand.

A rider is disqualified if he touches his equipment, himself or the animal with his free hand or bucks off. The rider is judged on his control during the ride and on his spurring technique. The score also is based on the rider's "exposure" to the strength of the horse. In addition, the horse's performance accounts for half the potential score.



## TIE DOWN (CALF) ROPING

Like bronc riding, tie down roping is an event born on the ranches of the Old West. Sick calves were roped and tied down for medical treatment. Today, success in tie down roping depends largely on the teamwork between a cowboy and his horse. After the calf is given a head start, horse and rider give chase. The contestant ropes the calf, then dismounts and runs to the animal. After catching and flanking the calf, the cowboy ties any three of the animal's legs together using a "pigging string" he carries with his teeth until needed. If the calf is not standing when the contestant reaches it, the cowboy must allow the animal to stand. When the cowboy completes his tie, he throws his hands in the air as a signal to the judge. He then remounts and allows the rope to become slack. The run is declared invalid if the calf kicks free within six seconds. As with any timed event, a 10-second penalty is added if the roper does not allow the calf the proper head start – this is known as "breaking the barrier."



## BREAKAWAY ROPING

Breakaway roping is a variation of calf roping where a calf is roped, but not thrown and tied. It is a rodeo event that features a calf and one mounted rider. The calves are moved one at a time through narrow runs leading to a chute with spring-loaded doors. The horse and rider wait in a box next to the chute that has a spring-loaded rope, known as the barrier, stretched in front. A light rope is fastened from the chute to the calf's neck, releasing once the calf is well away from the chute and releasing the barrier, which is used to ensure that the calf gets a head start. Once the barrier has released, the horse runs out of the box while the roper attempts to throw a lasso around the neck of the calf.

Once the rope is around the calf's neck, the roper signals the horse to stop suddenly. The rope is tied to the saddle horn with a string. When the calf hits the end of the rope, the rope is pulled tight and the string breaks. The breaking of the string marks the end of the run. The rope usually has a small white flag at the end that makes the moment the rope breaks more easily seen by the timer. The fastest run wins.



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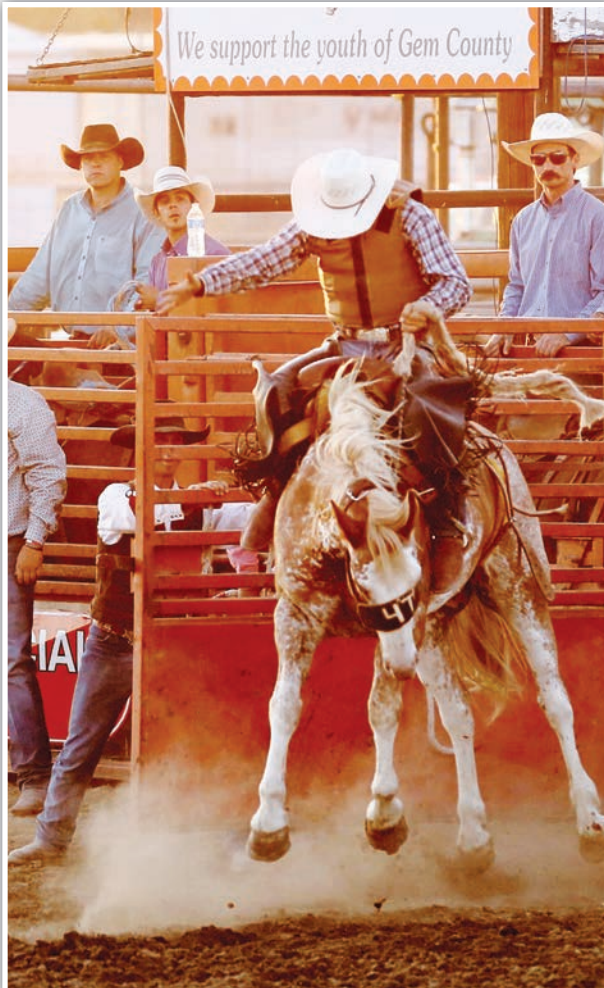
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## SADDLE BRONC RIDING

Rodeo's "classic" event, saddle bronc riding, has roots that run deep in the history of the Old West. Ranch hands would often gather and compete among themselves to see who could display the best style while riding untrained horses. It was from this early competition that today's event was born. Each rider must begin his ride with his feet over the bronc's shoulders to give the horse the advantage. A rider who synchronizes his spurring action with the animal's bucking efforts will receive a high score. Other factors considered in the scoring are the cowboy's control throughout the ride, the length of his spurring stroke and how hard the horse bucks.

Disqualification results if, prior to the buzzer which sounds after eight seconds, the rider touches the animal, himself or his equipment with his free hand; if either foot slips out of a stirrup; if he drops the bronc rein; he fails to have his feet in the proper "mark out" position at the beginning of the ride; or he bucks off.



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## STEER WRESTLING (Bull Dogging)

Wrestling a steer requires more than brute strength. The successful steer wrestler, or bulldogger, is strong but he also understands the principles of leverage. The steer wrestler on horseback starts behind a barrier, and begins his chase after the steer has been given a head start. If the bulldogger leaves too soon and breaks the barrier, he receives a 10-second penalty. The steer wrestler is assisted by a hazer, another cowboy on horseback tasked with keeping the steer running in a straight line. When the bulldogger's horse pulls even with the steer, he eases down the right side of the horse and reaches for the steer's horns. After grasping the horns, he digs his heels into the dirt. As the steer slows, the cowboy turns the animal, lifts up on its right horn and pushes down with his left hand in an effort to tip the steer over. After the catch, the steer wrestler must either bring the steer to a stop or change the direction of the animal's body before the throw or is disqualified. The clock stops when the steer is on his side with all four legs pointing the same-direction.



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## BARREL RACING

In barrel racing, the contestant and her horse enter the arena at full speed. As they start the pattern, the horse and rider trigger an electronic eye that starts the clock. Then the racer rides a cloverleaf pattern around three barrels positioned in the arena, and sprints back out of the arena, tripping the eye and stopping the clock as she leaves. The contestant can touch or even move the barrels, but receives a five-second penalty for each barrel that is overturned. With the margin of victory measured in hundredths of a second, knocking over one barrel spells disaster.



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## TEAM ROPING

Team roping is unique in that two cowboys work together for a shared time. The first cowboy, known as the "header," ropes the steer either by the horns, around the neck, or "half head" which is one horn and the neck. After this catch is made, the header wraps his rope around the saddle horn, commonly known as dallying, and turns the steer in a wide arc to the left. The second cowboy is known as the "heeler." He trails along beside the steer until the header turns the steer, then moves in behind the steer and attempts to rope the back feet. If he only manages one hind foot, the team receives a five-second penalty. Time is stopped when both cowboys' horses are facing each other.



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## BULL RIDING

Unlike the other roughstock contestants, bull riders are not required to spur. It's usually impressive enough just to remain seated for eight seconds on an animal that may weigh more than a ton and is as quick as he is big. Upper body control and strong legs are essential to riding bulls. The rider tries to remain forward, or "over his hand," at all times. Leaning back could cause him to be whipped forward when the bull bucks. Judges watch for good body position and other factors, including use of the free arm and spurring action. Although not required, spurring will add points to a rider's score.

As in all the riding events, half of the score in bull riding is determined by the contestant's performance and the other half is based on the animal's efforts. A bull rider will be disqualified for touching the animal, himself or his equipment with his free hand or bucking off.

A promotional graphic for Emmett's Steakhouse. It features a cowboy hat, a logo with a cowboy hat and the text "COWBOYS CHOPHOUSE STEAK AND ALE", and a photo of cocktails. The text includes "Family Owned and Operated", "GREAT FOOD ALL AGES", "Cocktails", "BARI OPEN TILL 10PM", and "EMMETT'S STEAKHOUSE".

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# ICA sanctioning rodeos, preserving a lifestyle

**T**he Idaho Cowboy's Association has been in existence since the early 1950's. The objective of the ICA is to promote the sport of rodeo. All ICA approved rodeos meet standards designed to enhance the quality of the rodeo, the talent of all competing cowboys and cowgirls, and the safety of rodeo stock.

The ICA approves rodeos in Idaho, Oregon, Washington and Nevada. Most rodeos average three performances with 1500 spectators per performance. Many of the July and August rodeos are held in conjunction with county fairs, therefore attracting many agriculture and livestock related consumers.

The ICA has eight standard events: bareback riding, calf roping, steer wrestling, saddle bronc riding, bull riding, team roping, barrel racing and breakaway roping. In November of each year the ICA sponsors a year-end awards banquet to honor the year-end Champions, All-Around Champion, rodeo committees and sponsors.

The flavor of an ICA rodeo is a spirit many seek to experience from days gone by. Many rodeos have been an annual tradition where generations of



cowboys have competed, and many rodeos represent the single, largest and most exciting event that comes to town.

The Idaho Cowboy's Association is dedicated to promoting rodeo; an important link to our Western Heritage and some today's best most action packed entertainment. Proud to be sanctioning the Gem/Boise County Rodeo.

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To the fans and supporters of  
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## Free After Grandstand Music

**Wednesday, July 28**

*after Believe Truck Pull*

**Brooke Nicole and the Jake Leg Band** plays danceable blues selected from over 100 years of the best of this roots music. True to the soul of the blues while putting their own interpretation on the classics, this group will always get feet moving and engage with their audience.



**Friday, July 30**

*after ICA Rodeo*

**Buckin' Country** is the standard for country music fans in the Treasure Valley.

Great country, classic rock. You can catch Buckin' Country at the rodeo dances around the valley and in many of the most popular steakhouses and watering holes.



**Saturday, July 31**

*after ICA Rodeo*

**Random Stranger** features tasty "Rockin' Americana", classic rock and country, served up with sweet vocals and award-winning musicianship. This northern California-based band plays throughout the western United States and will be making its first trip to Emmett.





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# Snakes to slither on Midway

**A** new feature of the 2021 Gem/Boise County Fair and Rodeo will be the appearance of Corbin Maxey, a nationally reknown reptile and exotic animal expert. Maxey will be performing on Friday, July 30 beginning at 5 p.m. in the 4-H building at the Fairgrounds. He is bring his traveling menagerie to town – snakes and turtles to other exotics.



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# Fair provides a wide variety of options


**B**etween the livestock and exhibit barns and the Grandstand arena, there is a full schedule of activities to participate in during the 2021 Gem/Boise County Fair and Rodeo.

Wednesday through Saturday there will be plenty to see in the Exposition Building where the Open Class competition, the 4-H non-animal displays, and numerous vendors will be open. Check out the 4-H building for additional activities of interest. These areas are open 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday and from 11 a.m. until 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Lots of food booths and other special attractions are also available those hours in the middle of the fairgrounds: jump houses, climbing walls, a kiddie train, mechanical bull, and mini golf just to name a few.

One of the biggest current rages is ax throwing. The Section 37 Ax Room will bring that to Emmett.






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# Two-year reigns conclude for Royal pair

**T**he Gem/Boise County Rodeo will be crowning a new queen and princess during the Fair and Rodeo this year.

Princess Taylor Henderson of Kuna will be relinquishing her tiara on Friday night of the ICA rodeos. Queen Brooke Keller of Middleton will be passing on her crown on Saturday night. Each are completing a second year representing the Gem/Boise County Fair and Rodeo. Both graciously took on the responsibility of a second year term since so much of their initial year of representing the local rodeo throughout the region was halted by coronavirus event cancellations.

Who will be taking up the royal reigns for the 2022 rodeo year?

That is actually determined with a two-day contest, July 24 and 25, that will conclude with a Gala the evening of July 25.

Queen candidates must be between the ages of 16 and 23. Princess candidates are to be aged 10-15. If you are younger than ten and are an aspiring rodeo queen, the two-day event will also feature a "sweethearts of the rodeo" opportunity.

The Royalty Contest includes a horsemanship portion in the grandstand arena at 5 p.m. on July 24. An interview segment will be conducted at 2 p.m. on July 25 to be followed with modeling and a speech presentation at 5 p.m. with Gala Dinner to follow at 7 p.m.

The public is invited to the Gala, tickets are \$15, and there is a limited number available.

For more information contact the Gem County Fair office at 208-365-6828 or Queen program coordinator Paulette Henderson at 208-629-6817.



**Brooke Keller**  
Gem/Boise Rodeo Queen



**Taylor Henderson**  
Gem/Boise Rodeo Princess



# Pulling Competition returns for Wednesday performance

**Believe Pulling Sleds  
Wednesday, July 28  
7 p.m.**





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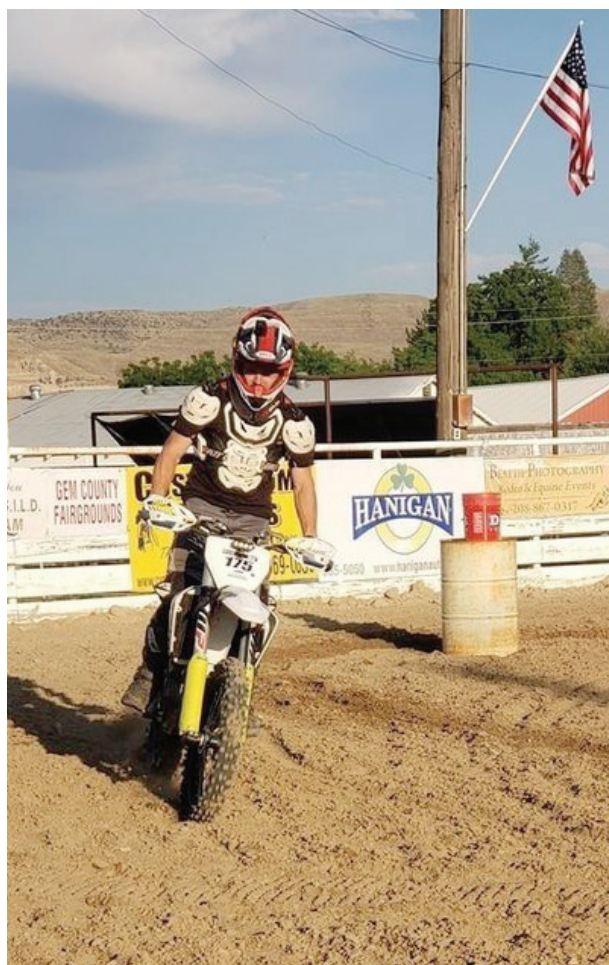
## **Dirt Bike Rodeo Returns for Thursday performance**

**Thursday, July 29**

**7:30 p.m.**

**A**fter a popular reception in its initial performance last year, the Dirt Bike Rodeo is back this year at the Gem/Boise County Fair and Rodeo. This year's performance will be Thursday, July 29 with motors to roar beginning at 7:30 p.m.

This unique event blends moto-cross dirt bike racing and some traditional rodeo events. Riders competing in two separate classifications — Pro and Amateur — will begin their ride by coming out of a bucking chute, and then tackle a challenging course around the arena. The run will include a number of jumps and motorcycle skill challenges but will also include elements of barrel racing and pole bending. It concludes with a grandstand sprint on a 2 X 4 rail.







# 2021 Gem/Boise 4-H Program Fair Schedule



## Friday, July 23, 2021

6:30 PM	Pre-Fair Orientation and Clean-up, Pavilion
7:00 PM	Non-Animal booth clean-up and set-up Expo Building
7:00-9:00 PM	Booth Set up Expo Building

## Saturday, July 24, 2021

8:30 AM	4-H Dog Obedience/Showmanship, Expo Building
*11:00 AM	Cat/Pocket Pet Show, Expo Building
^12:00-5:00 PM	Booth decorating Only^
6:30 PM	Decorating Horse barn

## Sunday, July 25, 2021

3:00 PM	Horse vet check
4:30 PM	Horse One on One Evaluations

## Monday, July 26, 2021

7:30 AM	4-H Horse Judge's Meeting
7:45 AM	Pledges
8:00AM	Horse show starts, Main Arena.
	Showmanship
	Bareback
	English
	Lunch
	In-Hand trail
	Trail
	Western
	Free Style Reining

Awards will be handed out during the show in the infield

8:00-11:00 AM	Check-in of Non-Animal 4-H/ FFA Exhibits, Expo Building
4:00-7:00 PM	Check-in of Non-Animal 4-H/FFA Exhibits, Expo Building
5:00-8:00 PM	Vet Check of Alpaca, Poultry, Rabbit, all Goats, and Sheep
6:00-8:00 PM	Weigh-In: Market Goat, Market Sheep

## Tuesday, July 27, 2021

6:30-8:30 AM	Vet Check/Weigh-in Swine
9:00-10:30 AM	Vet Check/Weigh-in Beef
10:00 AM	Horse Games Following Barn check out, Main Arena
8:30 AM	Exhibit area closed for Judging
5:30 PM	Pack Goat Showmanship/Quality
*6:30 PM	Alpaca/Llama Showmanship following Pack goat show

## Wednesday, July 28, 2021

9:00 AM	Cloverbud Mini-Goat Showmanship, Pavilion
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9:30 AM	Dairy Goat Showmanship/Quality, Pavilion
	4-H Dairy Goat Milking Contest immediately following
11:00 AM	Fashion Revue and Boxed Dessert Auction, 4-H Building
11:30 AM	Pygmy Goat Showmanship/Quality, Pavilion
*1:30 PM	Market Goat Showmanship/Quality, Pavilion
5:00-10:00 PM	Exhibit area open to public, Expo Building
6:00 PM	Non-Animal and Special Awards Presentation, 4-H Building
7:00-10:00 PM	Swine show set up, Pavilion open for practice.

## Thursday, July 29, 2021

*8:00 AM	Swine Showmanship/Quality, Pavillion
*3:00 PM	Sheep Showmanship/Quality, Pavillion
5:00-10:00 PM	Exhibit area open to public, Expo Building

## Friday, July 30, 2021

*8:00 AM	Dairy Cattle Showmanship/Quality, Pavillion
*8:30 AM	Beef Cattle Showmanship/Quality, Pavillion
11:00AM-11:00PM	Exhibit area open to public, Expo Building
*^12:00 PM	Rabbit Showmanship/Quality, 4-H Building^
*^2:00 PM	Poultry Showmanship/Quality, 4-H Building^
4:00-5:30 PM	4-H Livestock Judging Contest, Pavilion
6:30 PM	All Species Animal/Human Costume Contest, Pavilion

## Saturday, July 31, 2021

8:00-10:00 AM	Livestock Buyers Breakfast
10:30 AM	Youth Livestock Sale, Pavilion
11:00AM- 11:00PM	Exhibit area open to the public, Expo Building
3:30 PM	Small Animal Round Robin, 4-H Building
5:00 PM	Large Animal Round Robin, Pavilion
10:30 PM	Release of non-market animals with approval from species specific Superintendent (ex. Beef superintendent must approve beef release, goat approves goat, etc.)

## Sunday, August 1, 2021 –

### NO YOUTH permitted on grounds until 8:30 AM

8:30 AM	Barns Open for Clean Up
8:30-9:30	Release of Non- Animal items to Booth Leader Only

Premium Payout BEGINS after ALL Superintendents approve their areas and not before 9:30 AM.

\*Adult Showmanship after each species

^ New for 2021 ^

# 4-H is a Community for all Kids

**I**n 4-H, we believe in the power of young people. We see that every child has valuable strengths and real influence to improve the world around us.

What is 4-H? 4-H is delivered by Cooperative Extension — a community of more than 100 public universities across the nation that provides experiences where young people learn by doing. For more than 100 years, 4-H has welcomed young people of all beliefs and backgrounds, giving kids a voice to express who they are and how they make their lives and communities better.

Through life-changing 4-H programs, nearly six million kids and teens have taken on critical societal issues, such as addressing community health inequities, engaging in civil discourse and advocating for equity and inclusion for all.

Today, 4-H serves youth in rural, urban, and suburban communities in every state across the nation. 4-H'ers are tackling the nation's top issues, from global food security, climate change and sustainable energy to childhood obesity and food safety. 4-H out-of-school programming, in-school enrichment programs, clubs and camps also offer a wide variety of STEM opportunities – from agricultural and animal sciences



to rocketry, robotics, environmental protection and computer science — to improve the nation's ability to compete in key scientific fields and take on the leading challenges of the 21st century.

In Gem and Boise counties, these programs are administered through the University of Idaho Extension Service housed on the Gem County Fairgrounds.

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# What is FFA (Future Farmers of America)

**F**FA is a dynamic youth organization that changes lives and prepares members for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

FFA develops members' potential and helps them discover their talent through hands-on experiences, which give members the tools to achieve real-world success.

Members are future chemists, veterinarians, government officials, entrepreneurs, bankers, international business leaders, teachers and premier professionals in many career fields.

FFA is an intracurricular student organization for those interested in agriculture and leadership. It is one of the three components of agricultural education.

The official name of the organization is the National FFA Organization. The letters "FFA" stand for Future Farmers of America. These letters are a part of our history and our heritage that will never change.



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# 2021 Youth Livestock Action

The conclusion of months of raising animals often comes on Saturday of Fair Week. After months and weeks of preparations to show their animals at the Gem/Boise County Fair and Rodeo, 4-H and FFA youngsters see the fruits of their labors at the annual Youth Livestock Auction. With tremendous support from the community, the majority of the award winning animals are placed on the auction block beginning at 10:30 a.m. in the Pavilion at the Gem County Fairgrounds. The sometimes emotional day begins with a Livestock Buyers Breakfast from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. followed by the livestock auction.

Animals are traditionally auctioned in the following order, beginning with the Grand Champions and Reserve Grand Champions in each breed:

- Sheep
- Swine
- Goat
- Beef

The auction is open to all interested bidders







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