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garfieldcountyfair.com

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GARFIELD COUNTY FAIR BOARD



Leah Bergener



Oliviya Daugherty



Donna Marye



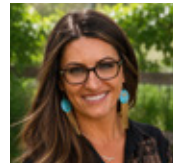
Dean Perkins



Brackett Pollard



Scott Schilt



Kaitlyn Snyder

The purpose of the fair board is, in collaboration with Garfield County administration, to ensure the successful promotion, production, and execution of the fair each year.

The fair board shall ensure fair programming is of high quality and that programming improves annually, as needed. Fair programming:

- Shall embrace all ages, persons, cultures, and entities within Garfield County
- Shall foster a spirit of community values.
- Shall promote the western and agricultural heritage and history of Garfield County.

WELCOME TO THE GARFIELD COUNTY FAIR!

On behalf of the Garfield County Fair Board, welcome to the 2026 Garfield County Fair!

This is a very special year as we celebrate three important milestones: 110 years of 4-H, Colorado's 150th anniversary, and the 250th birthday of the United States of America. As you explore the fairgrounds and the 4-H barn, you will see displays of patriotism and respect for these three institutions reflected in both the decorations and the spirit of the fair.

Our fair royalty is here in all its glory, with an enthusiastic coordinator and four new members of the royal court. The queen and princesses will be active throughout the fairgrounds each day and evening. They are happy to sign autographs for future members of the royal court and assist visitors however they can — just ask!

4-H and FFA are more popular than they have been in recent memory. Staff has worked diligently to provide opportunities and leadership for the youth of Garfield County and De Beque. There are countless ways to experience the outstanding work of our 4-H and FFA members. From livestock husbandry to shooting sports, there is a competition sure to interest everyone.

Open Class once again is being held in conjunction with 4-H, showcasing the best talents and creations in Garfield County. If you have a favorite pickle recipe, a fantastic chocolate chip cookie, or a quilt you are especially proud of,

consider entering it in Open Class. Registration is open through August 3.

We are continuing many of your favorite events, including the Rifle Chamber of Commerce Parade, car show, nightly free stage entertainment, family rodeo, PRCA Xtreme Bulls, PRCA ProRodeo, the Garfield County fair concert, and the demolition derby. We have also added several new food vendors — and yes, the funnel cake favorites are returning this year! The midway features even more fun attractions for all ages.

Thank you to our Garfield County Fair sponsors for their generous and continued support. We encourage everyone to patronize these local businesses.

We hope you will join us for what promises to be a truly memorable event.

Sincerely,
Dean Perkins
Board President
Garfield County Fair Board



4 COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

This fair is for you!

Well, ladies and gentlemen, and boys and girls of all ages, it's that exciting time again when we put on our best Western wear and head on over to the Garfield County Fairgrounds for a week of fun and entertainment. The 88th annual Garfield County Fair and Rodeo takes place August 4-8, with our annual kick-off parade along Railroad Avenue on August 1.

This is going to be a special one as we are not only welcoming the Western Slope's preeminent agricultural and Western heritage event to Rifle, but we're also celebrating 110 years of 4-H, 150 years of Colorado statehood, and 250 years of the United States of America.

This year's theme, "Red, White and Blue – A Fair for You!" is a patriotic shoutout to these special anniversaries, as well as a big thank you to our attendees who make this

amazing event happen.

"Welcome to the Garfield County Fair & Rodeo! Thank you for your attendance and a special 'shoutout' to all who volunteer countless hours with their time and talents to make these events so wonderful," said Garfield County Commissioner Mike Samson. "I hope that you have a great time and especially get to reunite with some acquaintances that you might not have seen for a while. Take it all in ... Garfield County, what a great place to live and enjoy!"

Returning this year are the Xtreme Bulls, PRCA ProRodeo, demolition derby, and the always fantastic Friday night concert, featuring county rock legends Sawyer Brown. Casey Donahew is warming things up on what will be a night of singing and dancing under the Rifle skies.

As anyone who attends the fair knows well, much of the fun takes



place outside of the arena on the free stage, in the north and south halls, and over at the indoor arena. We also have a host of local musicians performing, including the Hwy 82 Band, Desert Heartstrings, The Tyler Rust Band, the High Desert Sky Band, and A Band Called Alexis.

"For more than 80 years, the Garfield County Fair & Rodeo has brought our community together to celebrate our roots, our resilience, our way of life, and our time-honored traditions," said Commissioner Perry Will. "It truly is more than an event; it's a tradition that reminds us of who we are and where we came from! Talk about hometown pride, it is where generations gather, stories are told about fair memories of our youth. I can't think of a better way to spend summer days than at our fair. I think my favorite thing about the fair is that it reminds us that the West is still very much alive and a reminder of why we love this place we all call home. Red, White and Blue - A Fair for You, so come on out and celebrate America the Garfield County way!"

The 4-H competitions and events begin on July 10, and run throughout the month, leading up to the fair. From shooting sports and animal shows to model rockets, cake decorating, and much more, come on out and support these kids as they put their amazing talents on display.

Don't forget to swing on by the Midway for some delicious food and a bit of fun with carnival games and mini golf. You can also test your mettle atop the mechanical bull - we can't wait to watch some of those rides!

"I have been a Garfield County Commissioner for 16 years, and the county fair is my favorite event of the year," said Commissioner Tom Jankovsky. "As I retire as a commissioner, I am honored to have served and recognize the fair as the premier celebration of our agricultural way of life and Western heritage."

We'll see you at the fair!
Tom, Mike, and Perry

The Garfield County Fairgrounds & Events Center hosts the fair



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GARFIELD COUNTY FAIR 2026 EVENTS SCHEDULE

7

Friday, July 10 - shooting sports contest

Air rifle & air pistol: 11 a.m., south hall, fairgrounds

Saturday, July 11 - shooting sports contest

Archery: 7 a.m., Rifle Sportsman's Club Range

Sunday, July 12 - shooting sports contest

.22 pistol, Western heritage: 9 a.m., Rifle Sportsman's Club Range

.22 rifle, muzzle loading: 10 a.m., Rifle Sportsman's Club Range

Saturday, July 18 - shooting sports contest

Shotgun trap & skeet: 9 a.m., Rifle Sportsman's Club Range

Sunday, July 19 - shooting sports contest

Shotgun sporting clays: 8 a.m., Glenwood Springs Gun Club

Wednesday, July 22 - 4-H contests

Fashion revue: 10 a.m., Event Hall, fairgrounds

Cake decorating contest: 1 p.m., event hall, fairgrounds

Thursday, July 23 - Horse show

4-H English show: 9 a.m., indoor arena, fairgrounds

Written tests: 1 p.m., event hall, fairgrounds

Friday, July 24 - Horse show

4-H Western & halter show: 9 a.m., indoor arena, fairgrounds

Saturday, July 25 - Horse show

4-H working western: 9 a.m., indoor arena, fairgrounds

4-H gymkhana: 30 min. after, indoor arena, fairgrounds

Awards: 1 hour after, event hall, fairgrounds

Saturday, July 25 - 4-H contests

Model rocket launch: 8 a.m., outdoor arena, fairgrounds

Wednesday, July 29 - Dog show

4-H dog show: 9 a.m., indoor arena

8 GARFIELD COUNTY FAIR 2026 EVENTS SCHEDULE

Saturday, August 1

Premier exhibitor interviews: 8 a.m.-5 p.m., event hall

4-H general projects judging: 8 a.m.-5 p.m., north hall

Parade: 10 am - 12 p.m., Railroad Avenue

Car Show: 12 - 4 p.m., Garfield County Fairgrounds

Open Class exhibit entries: 1 - 5 p.m., Garfield County Fairgrounds

Hwy 82 Band: 12 - 3 p.m., live music on the free stage

Sunday, August 2

Open Class exhibit entries: 1 - 5 p.m., Garfield County Fairgrounds

Monday, August 3

Poultry show: 8 a.m., indoor arena

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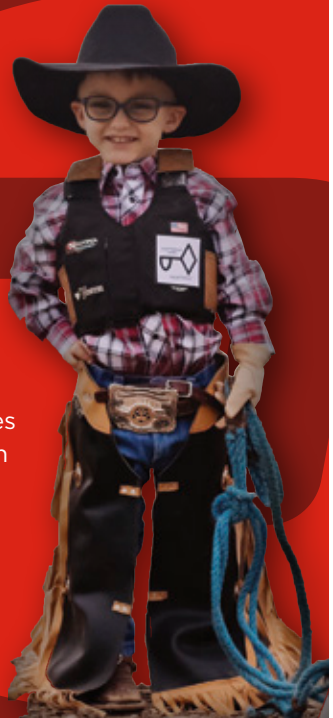
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GARFIELD COUNTY FAIR 2026 EVENTS SCHEDULE

9

Tuesday, August 4

Rabbit show: 8 a.m., indoor arena

Sponsor BBQ (ticketed sponsor event): 5:30-7 p.m., fairgrounds

Family & Kidz Rodeo: 6:30-9 p.m., outdoor arena

Wednesday, August 5

Swine show: 8 a.m., indoor arena

4-H general project exhibits: 10 a.m.-7 p.m., north hall

Open Class exhibits viewing: 10 a.m.-7 p.m., south hall

MIDWAY: 3-10 p.m., Fairgrounds

PRCA/WPRA ProRodeo: 7-9 p.m., outdoor arena

Desert Heartstrings: 9-11 p.m., live music on the free stage



please join us in pink at the PRCA ProRodeo to honor survivors, remember those we've lost, and support the families and friends whose lives have been touched by breast cancer.

WEDNESDAY MAIN EVENT

PRCA/WPRA ProRodeo 7 - 9 p.m., outdoor arena



garfieldcountyfair.com/schedule/prca-rodeo

GARFIELD COUNTY FAIR 2026 EVENTS SCHEDULE

Thursday, August 6

Sheep show: 9 a.m., indoor arena

4-H general project exhibits: 10 a.m.–7 p.m., north hall

Open Class exhibits viewing: 10 a.m.–7 p.m., south hall

Goat show: 1 p.m. or one hour following the sheep show, indoor arena

MIDWAY: 3–10 p.m., Fairgrounds

Beef showmanship: 5 p.m., indoor arena

PRCA Xtreme Bulls: 7 – 9 p.m., outdoor arena

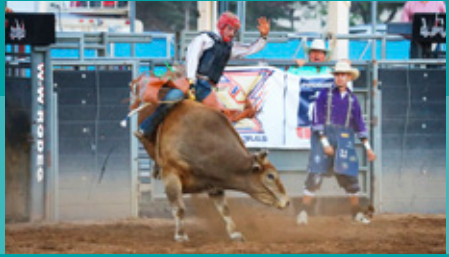
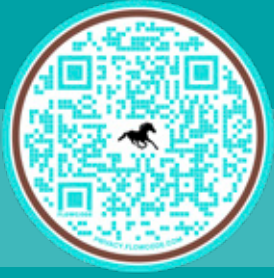
Veteran's night at the fair – show support by wearing red, white and blue!

Tyler Rust Band: 9 – 11 p.m., live music on the free stage

THURSDAY MAIN EVENT

PRCA Xtreme Bulls

7 – 9 p.m., outdoor arena



garfieldcountyfair.com/schedule/prca-prorodeo-xtreme-bulls

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GARFIELD COUNTY FAIR 2026 EVENTS SCHEDULE

Friday, August 7

Beef show: 9 a.m., indoor arena

4-H general project exhibits: 10 a.m.–7 p.m., north hall

Open Class exhibits viewing: 10 a.m.–7 p.m., south hall

Round robin showmanship contest: 2 p.m., indoor arena

MIDWAY: 3–10 p.m., fairgrounds

Sawyer Brown with special guest Casey Donahew:

7 p.m., gates open at 6 p.m., outdoor arena

High Desert Sky Band: 9–11 p.m., live music on the free stage

FRIDAY MAIN EVENT

Sawyer Brown and Casey Donahew

7 p.m., gates open at 6 p.m., outdoor arena



garfieldcountyfair.com/schedule/concert

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PROUD



2026

SUPPORTER

GARFIELD COUNTY FAIR 2026 EVENTS SCHEDULE

Saturday, August 8

4-H general project exhibits: 10 a.m.–7 p.m., north hall

Open Class exhibits viewing: 10 a.m.–7 p.m., south hall

Buyer's BBQ (buyers only): 11 a.m., event hall

Livestock awards: 12:30 p.m., indoor arena

Jr. livestock show: 1 p.m., indoor arena

MIDWAY: 3–10 p.m., Fairgrounds

Demolition Derby: 7 – 9 p.m., outdoor arena

A Band Called Alexis: 9 – 11 p.m. live music on the free stage

SATURDAY MAIN EVENT

Demolition Derby

7 – 9 p.m., outdoor arena



garfieldcountyfair.com/schedule/demolition-derby



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GARFIELD COUNTY FAIR 2026 EVENTS SCHEDULE

Sunday, August 9

Open Class exhibits check out: 7-11 a.m., south hall

Livestock check out: 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., indoor arena

4-H general projects check out: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., north hall

THANK YOU

To the volunteers who assisted
with 4-H contests, shows, sales, exhibits at
the 2025 Garfield County Fair.

Your help was greatly appreciated.



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Levy Burris

The 2026 Garfield County Fair Board is proud to announce the selection of Levy Burris as this year's Hall of Fame Award recipient. This award recognizes individuals who have made significant and sustained contributions to the Garfield County Fair and 4-H program. With a combined 37 years of volunteer service, Levy is exceptionally deserving of this honor.

He graduated from Rifle High School in 1974 and immediately answered the call to serve his country by joining the United States Marine Corps. Levy served honorably for four years before beginning a law enforcement career that has spanned more than four decades. Throughout his distinguished career, Levy has held virtually every position in law enforcement, from patrol officer to undersheriff, serving several organizations throughout Garfield County.

In addition to his professional service, he has dedicated countless hours to volunteering in his community. His volunteer service includes:

- Garfield County Fair Board – 17 years
- 4-H – 20 years
- Boy Scouts – 6 years
- Silt Hey Days Board – 12 years
- Silt Classic Car Show – 10 years
- Burning Mountain/Colorado River Fire Rescue Board – 10 years

Levy has always been someone who steps forward to help, generously



volunteering his time and talents whenever needed.

Levy and his wife, Jacque, have been married for 43 years. Levy has raised four children, and has eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

The Garfield County Fair Board has been fortunate to serve alongside Levy and continues to be inspired by his unwavering commitment to public service, community involvement, and leadership.

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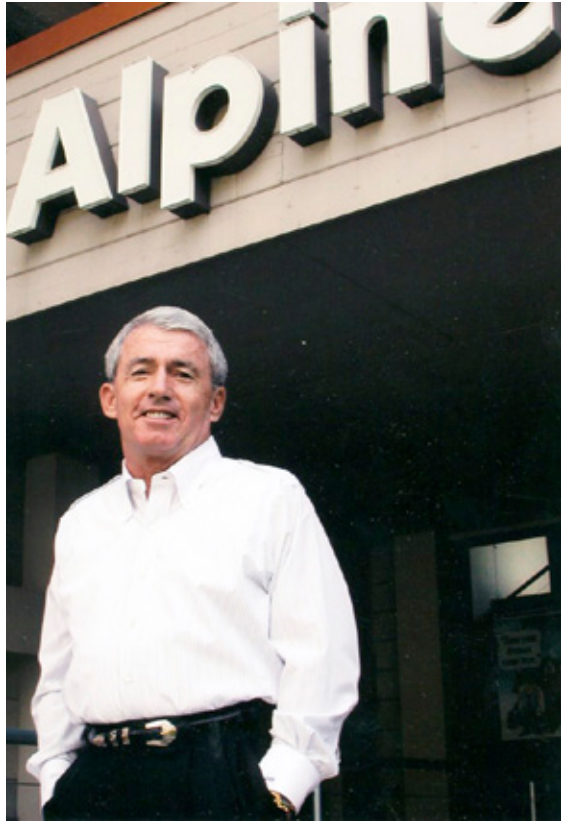
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Bob Young

John Robert "Bob" Young was born in Kansas in 1938 and moved to Carbondale, Colorado in 1973 to open Roaring Fork Bank. Bob had five children and five grandchildren, and lived in Glenwood Springs with his life partner, Geny.

Bob's generosity was legendary, having donated millions to charities and established more than 300 scholarships. He was named Colorado's Outstanding Philanthropist in 1995, and Western Colorado Philanthropist of the Year in 1997; inducted into the Colorado Business Hall of Fame in 2011; and received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals (Colorado) in 2023.

His strong entrepreneurial spirit helped grow Roaring Fork Bank into Alpine Bank, which now serves 39 communities and employs roughly 900 people.



His humble, charitable legacy lives on through the continued giving by his family foundation and in all the tales of his generosity from the lives he inspired.



Terry Dean Broughton

Terry Broughton was a man out of an Ernest Hemingway novel, having fought bravely in Vietnam, rode horses as a jockey in the West, lived countless adventures as an outdoorsman, and spun tales of mischief from his old bar (The Alley) on Railroad Avenue. Terry was born in Oakland, CA, in 1944, graduated from Rifle Union High School in 1962, and was drafted into the U.S. Army in February of 1969.

Honorably discharged from the Army, Terry was extremely proud of his time serving our country. He served as the Colorado Veterans of Foreign Wars All-District Commander for District 14 and attended many Veterans Day ceremonies at the local schools.

He felt most comfortable atop a saddle and volunteered as a 4-H leader at agriculture and horse-related events, even into his 80s. A gifted storyteller, Terry sure could keep an audience enraptured,



making them feel as if they were trailside on one of his many adventures.

Terry was so proud of his four daughters, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. His story lives on in the hearts and minds of his many friends, neighbors, and relatives, where he often elicits a wry smile.

PLATEAU VALLEY ANIMAL HOSPITAL

To all the participants:

Fair week is a true testament to your dedication, patience, and hard work. We celebrate the exceptional care you provide and the incredible bond you share with your animals, and we're right here cheering you on!
May you have a safe, successful, and memorable fair week.

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Paul Nieslanik

As much a cowboy as there ever was, Paul Nieslanik was born on a cold January day in 1935 up on the family ranch in Spring Valley, the eighth of 12 children. Raised at a time when leaving the house qualified as an adventure, Paul felt at home in the outdoors.

He graduated from Yampah High School in 1952, and enlisted in the U.S. Army, serving as a radar tech in the 8th Infantry Division. After being honorably discharged, he started the Nieslanik Brothers Ranch in Carbondale with his brothers, John and Bob. In 1967, Paul married the love of his life, Celia, at St. Stephens Catholic Church in Glenwood Springs.

Together, they raised five and a half children, and were overjoyed to welcome 13 grandchildren, all of which they would cheer on in their sporting interests, whether they took



place on wood, pavement, dirt and grass, or snow. Paul and Celia rarely missed a game and cherished every moment with their wonderful family.


Known for his firm handshake, wonderful sense of humor, infectious laugh, and unwavering faith, all considered themselves blessed to have known Paul.

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Ernie Gianinetti

For more than 90 years, Ernie Gianinetti was the heart and soul of Carbondale, carrying with him the love, laughter, and grit of his community. Born in 1934, Ernie left a lasting mark on the Roaring Fork Valley, having never met a stranger he wouldn't welcome, a task he wouldn't complete, or a polka he wouldn't dance to.

Family was his inspiration and honesty his only policy. He was extremely proud of his Italian heritage and his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. He loved his wife, Carol, with every ounce of his being, laughing and loving for 72 grand years.

A staple of Carbondale community events, Ernie relished his time leading anything from a Potato Day parade to the Mt. Sopris 4-H Horse Riding Club. He founded the Mt. Sopris Recreational Riders Snowmobile Club and helped establish Alpine Bank and the Heritage Park Nursing Home. Ernie



left a legacy for all to enjoy with Gianinetti Spring Creeks Ranch, where his dedication to hard work and family can be seen in every fiber.

As Ernie would say, "It's been a great ride!"

An advertisement for Mountain Paw Pet Supply & Barkery. The background features a stylized mountain range in shades of green and blue. On the left is a circular logo with a mountain, sun, and trees scene, surrounded by the text "MOUNTAIN PAW" at the top, "ESTD" on the left, "2022" on the right, and "PET SUPPLY & BARKERY" at the bottom. In the center, the address "311 Railroad Ave Rifle, CO 81650" and phone number "970-781-2028" are listed. Below this, it says "Proudly sponsoring Garfield County Fair & 4-H". At the bottom, it says "Thank you for supporting local business!". On the right, there is a QR code and a "LOCALS' CHOICE" logo with a ribbon that says "Sponsored by the City of Rifle 2025".

ROYALTY PROGRAM

Royalty mission statement

The Garfield County Fair & Rodeo Royalty program is dedicated to providing an opportunity for young women to be spokespersons for the Garfield County Fair & Rodeo, the sport of rodeo, the western way of life, and their community of Garfield County. The royalty program utilizes teamwork, organizational skills, public speaking, community service, and relationships to prepare participants in becoming future community leaders.



Queen – Reagan Lenard

Hello, my name is Reagan Lenard and I want to introduce myself as your 2026 Garfield County Fair and Rodeo queen. It is an honor to serve you. I am 17 years old and come from the small community of Rulison, Colo. I am a sixth-generation cowgirl here in Garfield County with a passion for our Western way of life.

I've spent most of my life around horses and cattle and plan to pursue a degree in agribusiness after high school. Though I enjoy ranching, I live for the rodeo side of things. I am involved in the Colorado State High School Rodeo Association and compete in the spring and fall for my chance to qualify for the National High School Rodeo Finals during the summer. I compete in numerous events including team roping, breakaway roping, barrel racing, and goat tying. I always enjoy the chance to train a new horse or learn the trade of being a farrier.



Although rodeo is my first passion, I also care for the future of agriculture, which led me to join the Rifle FFA chapter. For the past three years, I've spent time sharing my passion for agriculture with others and serving as an officer for the chapter team. Outside of agriculture, I like to play guitar and write short poems about my life experiences.

My family has always been highly

involved in the fair, from showing animals to sponsoring some of the kids there. I, however, have only shown 4-H one year in the goat class. I still enjoy going and watching my peers show and sell their animals each year. I've also been involved in the family rodeo for the past few years and always come to watch the PRCA ProRodeo or Xtreme Bulls with my family.

I am excited about being a part of the royalty at this year's fair and rodeo and for all the experiences that are to come with it. I'm looking

forward to being more involved in my community, my team, and being an ambassador for the Lord and the Western way of life.

A huge and special thank you to the people who have supported me through this experience and life I live: God, my family, Ashley Doose, Trish Romero, my team, and my talented equine athletes. God bless Garfield County.

"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans."
- Proverbs 16:3

Jr. Queen – Ariza Dominguez

I'm Ariza Dominguez, 15 years old, and a sophomore at Rifle High School. For the 2025-2026 year, I have been chosen to represent my county as the junior queen for rodeo royalty. I'm excited to help and serve my community this year.

I've been in the agricultural industry since I was little, and I've been in 4-H for 9 years showing sheep and horses. This is my fifth year showing hogs. I am a well-known figure in the 4-H industry for our county as a sheep showman, as well as a breeder. I love my animals, creating art, making connections with others, and reading.

As the junior queen, I'm excited this year for the opportunities to make connections and get my name out there. I'm here to support and help my community and to be a representative of our good home.

I love Garfield County; the people here are kind, brave, and full of pride. We take pride in our work and make



sure things are done right. I love how not everyone here gets along, but people still won't put others down and always lend a helping hand to those in need.

I want to be a prime example of our courageous spirit and always lend a helping hand. As a young lady with a good work ethic and experience with tough animals, I'm excited to see what this royalty year will throw my way.

ROYALTY PROGRAM

Princess – Sadie Potter

Hello! My name is Sadie Potter. I am 13 years old, and currently live outside of Rifle. I am a 7th grader at Rifle Middle School.

I have many hobbies: I love to ride my horse, draw, and bake! I also play sports. My favorite sports are volleyball, basketball, and track. I've participated in 4-H the last couple of years, showing my chickens and goats, and I took part in cake decorating, too. The experience of showing at the fair is one of my favorite experiences - I love being at fair!

My favorite things about the fair are definitely watching the 4-H kids showing their animals and the PRCA rodeo. I've always admired the royalty, so I am very excited to participate in the program this year. I look forward to carrying the American flag and seeing the community get together for such an amazing time of the year!

I am very excited to represent Garfield County this year as a princess because it gives me a chance to prove myself as a



responsible, hardworking cowgirl here in our small town. It also gives me a chance to represent our community to the best of my ability.

I am super grateful for this opportunity and thank my parents and fellow participants of the royalty program for all their support. It means the world to me that they have sacrificed their time and are so dedicated to this program. I am very excited to see the bright future ahead. Hope to see you at the fair!

**“LET OUR FAMILY
HELP PROTECT
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Princess – Gentry Velazquez

Hi! My name is Gentry Velazquez, and I am proud to serve as one of your 2026 Garfield County Fair and Rodeo princesses! I am a fifth-generation cowgirl who has a passion for agriculture and a love for my community.

For many years, I have participated in rodeo and 4-H. One of my favorite things about the Garfield County Fair is how it brings everyone from the community together and how it sets a stage for those who participate in 4-H to show all the hard work they have poured into their projects.

When I am not in school, practicing, on the road for rodeo, or working with my 4-H projects, you can find me behind the lens of a camera or in the dance studio, as photography and dance are my favorite hobbies. I am very excited for the opportunity



to represent Garfield County as princess this year, alongside my teammates, with positivity and professionalism.

I am looking forward to learning, developing my leadership skills, and growing with my community. I can't wait to see you at fair!

Donate to the Royalty Scholarship Fund

If you would like to support the Royalty Scholarship Fund with a donation, please download the form on the royalty page of the Garfield County Fair website and follow the submission instructions. Your tax-

deductible contribution will be used to fund academic scholarships for rodeo royalty participants and for no other purpose. Thank you for your support!

garfieldcountyfair.com/royalty

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Fair & Rodeo

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GARFIELD COUNTY FAIR PARADE

Railroad Avenue, Rifle

Saturday, August 1, 10 a.m.

One of the most historic and cherished events in American history is the local parade. People of all ages line up to see which float is just around the corner. Get there early and find a spot along the parade route to enjoy this colorful community celebration. Interested parties may elect to enter their group's float, classic car, or marching band to be part

of the parade. Groups or people who participate in the parade can win 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place in each of four categories: Float, classic auto, performance team, horse entry, and the coveted "Best Themed Float Award" will also be given.

The parade starts at 10 a.m.

Come join the fun!

Register at coloradorivervalleychamber.com
or call the chamber at 970-625-2085.



11 a.m. - 9 p.m. seven days a week

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SUMMER OF THUNDER CAR SHOW

Garfield County Fairgrounds

Saturday, August 1, 12 - 4 p.m.

We are honored to continue the celebrated tradition of the 19th Annual Summer of Thunder Car Show on Saturday, August 1, at the Garfield County Fair and Rodeo. Come check out these fantastic restored and well-preserved vehicles up close at the Garfield County Fairgrounds, 1001 Railroad Avenue, Rifle. Both the show and judging take place at the fairgrounds.

The Summer of Thunder Car Show is free to viewers, and the owners will be on hand to talk about their prized possessions. A swap/shop car parts flea market is also revved up

for this year's event. Bring your spare parts and sell, trade, or donate them to someone that is working on a classic. All parts must be removed at the end of the show. Several vendor specialty booths are included with entry into the show or a \$25 table/booth space, prior to July 24, 2026.

Entry costs on the day of the show are \$30.

Questions? Contact Levy Burris at (970) 589-7903 or lredman95@icloud.com

Come see these steel beauties!

Enter your classic at
garfieldcountyfair.com/schedule/car-show





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FREE STAGE CONCERTS

Live music on the free stage:



Hwy 82 Band

Saturday, August 1

12 to 3 p.m.



Desert Heartstrings

Wednesday, August 5

9 to 11 p.m.



Tyler Rust Band

Thursday, August 6

9 to 11 p.m.



High Desert Sky Band

Friday, August 7

9 to 11 p.m.



A Band Called Alexis

Saturday, August 8

9 to 11 p.m.

MIDWAY EVENTS



Midway fun in the Rifle sun

Wednesday-Saturday, August 5-8, 3-10 p.m.

This year's Midway is packed with fun for kids of all ages. Come on out and test your strength and agility on the mechanical bull as it thrashes about. Can you hold on for eight seconds? Next, Mosey on over to Partick's Putt-Putt for a round of fun with mini-golf. These challenging greens are enjoyable for all levels

of skill. Make sure you check out the inflatable carnival games. Display your accuracy with a football, kick a soccer ball through the goal, drain an ace in giant cornhole, burn a fastball by the batter, and much, much more with these exciting games of skill. The Midway has something for everybody!

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Worship 10:00a
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FAMILY AND KIDZ RODEO

Outdoor arena

Tuesday, August 4, 6:30 p.m.

Pull on your boots and dust off your cowboy hat for the 88th annual Garfield County Fair & Rodeo on Tuesday night. This fun-filled event brings in all the local cowboys and

cowgirls for the Family and Kidz Rodeo. Anyone can compete in the events on Tuesday night. These are free events for the whole community to watch!

Registration for all participants 4-5:30 p.m.; line-up at 6 p.m.

Events and entry fees

Mutton bustin' - \$15/entry

Steer riding - \$15/entry

Mixed team roping - \$25/team

Breakaway roping - \$15/entry

Jr. breakaway roping - \$15/entry

Barrel racing - \$15/entry

Jr. barrel racing - \$15/entry

Pole bending - \$15/entry

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Outdoor arena

Wednesday, August 5, 7 p.m. gates open at 6 p.m.

The Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) and the Woman's Pro Rodeo Association (WPRA) return to Rifle with the ProRodeo competition. Not for the faint of heart, these cowboys and cowgirls display their strength, skill, and grit under the lights of the arena. Events include bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, bull riding, steer wrestling, team roping, tie-down roping, and barrel racing.

Wednesday night is "tough enough to wear pink" night at the fair. One in eight women in the United States will develop invasive breast cancer in their lifetime. Each of us has been touched by this disease either through a family member, friend, or personally.

Tough Enough to Wear Pink is more than a color – it's a symbol of strength, courage, and hope. At the Garfield County Fair, please join us in pink at the PRCA ProRodeo to honor survivors, remember those we've lost, and support the families and friends whose lives have been touched by breast cancer. Together, we stand as a community, showing that no one fights alone.



Don't miss out on the action!

Reserve your tickets at:
garfieldcountyfair.com



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PRCA XTREME BULLS



Outdoor arena

Thursday, August 6, 7 p.m. gates open at 6 p.m.

The Garfield County Fair and Rodeo welcomes back the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) Xtreme Bulls competition. The dust and dirt will fly as some of the world's top bull riders tangle with more than 1,500 pounds of unbridled fury.

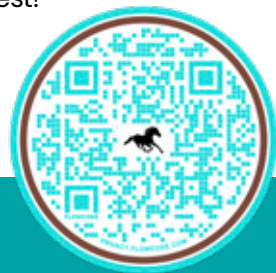
In America's original extreme sport, these riders are sure to take your breath away.

You won't want to miss the toughest show on dirt!

Reserve your tickets at:
garfieldcountyfair.com

Garfield County celebrates Veterans' Night together with the Xtreme Bulls event, honoring all branches of service.

Come on out and celebrate our veterans and the sacrifices they've made for all of us at home. We're asking everyone to wear your most patriotic red, white, and blue to honor our bravest!



GARFIELD COUNTY

CASEY DONAHEW

Texas Country powerhouse and Fort Worth native, Casey Donahew continues to define the sound of Texas country. Over more than two decades, Donahew has earned a devoted following by delivering vivid, relatable narratives that blend cowboy grit, love stories, and offbeat characters. His latest release, *Never Not Love You*, a 17-track tour de force, underscores his ability to capture life's highs and lows with a storyteller's precision and a showman's heart.

With 12 albums and an astounding 29 singles reaching the top of the Texas charts, Donahew has proven himself a consistent hitmaker and one of the genre's most durable voices. Known for writing the majority of his material solo, he maintains a deeply personal connection to his music, allowing fans to experience his unmistakable perspective. His songs have also crossed into mainstream culture, landing placements in hit television dramas including *Yellowstone* and *Tulsa King*, as well as the feature film *Vengeance*, further solidifying his reputation as one of country music's most authentic storytellers.

Beyond the studio and stage, Donahew has emerged as a creative entrepreneur. Alongside



his wife Melinda, he founded the acclaimed "Boots on the Beach" festival in Cabo San Lucas, now in its 9th year and featuring a powerhouse roster of Texas and country stars. This annual event reflects Donahew's dedication to fostering community, elevating fellow artists, and creating unforgettable fan experiences. With decades of chart-topping hits, acclaimed live performances, and a steadfast commitment to authenticity, Donahew remains at the forefront of modern Texas country music.

Stage

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Premium seating

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FAIR CONCERT

Outdoor arena

SAWYER BROWN

Friday, August 7, 7 p.m.
gates open at 6 p.m.

Legendary country rock band Sawyer Brown brings its electric live show to this year's fair and rodeo concert on Friday, August 7. Country music star Casey Donahew kicks things off at the Garfield County Fairgrounds in Rifle.

Sawyer Brown's classic sound has been forged over 40 years on the road, having played more than 6,000 concerts for legions of fans. Whether its "Step That Step," "Thank God for You," "The Race is On," "Some Girls Do," or any other of their timeless classics, Sawyer Brown is sure to get people up out of their seats and boogying.

Founded in 1981, these road warriors have produced 24 albums, which include 51 charted singles and three number one hits. Sawyer Brown was named the Academy of Country Music Awards Top Vocal Group in 1997.

"One of the unique things about the band is we don't really have a lot of love songs. We have life songs," said founding member and singer Mark Miller.

Known as the "Rolling Stones of Country Music," Sawyer Brown's musical journey began in 1981 in Apopka, Florida, when five members



of country singer Don King's traveling band knew they had found something special. When King retired from playing, they formed Sawyer Brown and "built a reputation as one of the most electrifying live acts in any genre — touring 275–300 nights a year in their early career and never really coming off the road."

Fresh off the success of their new album, *Desperado Troubadours*, which was produced by Blake Sheldon, Sawyer Brown keeps doing what they do best, playing live music for sold-out audiences across the nation.



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99.5 Rifle/Silt
103.7 New Castle/Silt
95.9 Carbondale
105.5 Old Snowmass
97.1 Thomasville

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AUGUST 7, 2026



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Outdoor arena

Saturday, August 8, 7 p.m.

It's time to get smashed, bashed and crashed at the Garfield County Fair and Rodeo. This year's demolition derby spins crowd excitement into steam and flames at the Garfield County Fairgrounds, on Saturday, August 9, at 7 p.m.

The goal is simple: the last operating vehicle wins. Vehicles are equipped with seat belts, rollover bars and cages inside to protect the drivers. When a vehicle can no longer move, its flag goes up and it's all over until the winning driver extricates out to celebrate on top of the vehicle. Watch as daredevil drivers crash

and smash their way to glory under the lights!

Come on out and cheer on these drivers from the grandstands as they and their vehicles give it their all. This popular and thrilling event always sells out, so be sure to pick up your tickets early.

For entry forms, rules, and more derby related information, contact Trent at 970-776-0369 or coddra@hotmail.com

Come watch the wreckage!

Reserve your tickets at:
garfieldcountyfair.com







2026 LIVESTOCK SALE

The Garfield County Fair Junior Livestock Sale represents the culmination of a full year of hard work and dedication by our 4-H and FFA members. Throughout the year, youth carefully select, raise, and care for their animals in preparation for this event. By supporting the sale, buyers provide important funding that helps youth invest in future projects or contribute to college savings. Your participation also reinforces essential life skills, such as responsibility, leadership, teamwork, and community involvement, while recognizing these young exhibitors at one of the most important events of fair week. The Livestock Marketing Committee, in partnership with Loma Livestock Sale Barn, conducts the in-person sale and manages all online add-on contributions.

Buyers are invited to attend a complimentary barbecue held in their honor at 11 a.m. in the Event Hall on sale day. Buyers receive both recognition in local media and a keepsake color photograph featuring their purchase and the 4-H or FFA exhibitor.

How to participate

There are several ways to participate in the sale: buyers may purchase top-quality beef, pork, lamb, goat, rabbit, or poultry. Payment is due at the conclusion of the sale and may be made by check or credit card, with applicable processing fees. Cash is not accepted. Processing arrangements for purchased animals are handled separately by the buyer. Those who prefer may choose to participate in a split purchase, sharing both the cost and the product with others.

Buyers may also select the buyback option, allowing them to support a youth exhibitor without taking possession of the animal by paying the difference between the final bid price and the established buyback price listed in the sale program.

Add-on contributions are also available, allowing individuals or businesses to support a specific exhibitor with a flat monetary amount starting on Monday prior to the sale and ending Wednesday after the sale.

Sale details

The Junior Livestock Sale takes place at 1 p.m. on Saturday, August 8, 2026, at the Garfield County Fairgrounds.

Beef and swine are sold by the pound. Sheep, goat, poultry, and rabbit are sold by the head or by entry.

For more information or to register as a buyer, please contact the Garfield County Extension Office at 970-625-3969.



The open class program of the Garfield County Fair gives residents the opportunity to brag and say, "See what I can do!"

Adults, seniors, children, and professionals have the opportunity to enter exhibits in a range of categories, including: artwork, photography, quilting, needlework crafts, home goods, baked goods, farm goods, food preservation, horticulture, and special contests.

Saturday, August 1

1 – 5 p.m.: drop off exhibits, entries accepted in all divisions. Artwork and photography entries must be entered by Sunday.

Sunday, August 2

1 – 6 p.m.: drop off exhibits, entries accepted in all divisions. Artwork and photography entries must be entered by Sunday.

Monday, August 3

7 a.m. – 6 p.m.: drop off exhibits, entries accepted for baked goods, farm goods, food preservation, home goods, crafts, horticulture, needlework, and quilting.

Tuesday, August 4

Hall closed for judging

9 a.m.: Judging of artwork, photography, and quilting

10 a.m.: Judging of all remaining departments

Wednesday, August 5

12 – 7 p.m.: Exhibit Hall open for public viewing.

2 – 6 p.m.: Entries accepted for commissioners' cookie jar contest and apple pie contest.

Thursday, August 6

12 – 7 p.m.: Exhibit Hall open for public viewing.

10 – 11 a.m.: Entries accepted for commissioners' cookie jar contest and apple pie contest.

12 p.m.: Judging commissioners' cookie jars

12:30 p.m.: Judging of apple pies

Friday/Saturday, August 7/8

12 – 7 p.m.: Exhibit Hall open for public viewing.

Sunday, August 9

7 – 11 a.m.: Entry pick-up and premium payout. Entries not picked up shall forfeit premiums. Vehicles will not be allowed on the midway. Assistance will be given by staff as needed.



To enter your exhibits or to view a full copy of the open class booklet please visit: garfieldcountyfair.com/open-exhibits



Commissioners' cookie jar contest

Show your creativity and baking skills in the Commissioners' Cookie Jar Contest — where presentation and flavor come together to celebrate the spirit of the fair.

Entries must include a cookie jar with a minimum capacity of one-half gallon and a wide mouth. Participants are encouraged to use recycled, food-safe materials to create a functional and decorative container. Each jar should reflect this year's fair theme, "Red, White and Blue – A Fair for You."

The cookie jar must be filled with at least three different varieties of cookies, with a minimum of one dozen cookies per variety. For judging purposes, participants must also provide three cookies of each variety displayed on a paper plate and covered with plastic wrap for easy access.

Entries are due on Thursday, August

6, by 11 a.m., with judging beginning at 12 p.m. They are judged equally on two components: 50 percent for the creativity and overall design of the container and how well it represents the theme, and 50 percent for the flavor, texture, and appearance of the cookies. The use of copyrighted characters or slogans is not permitted.

All cookie jars will remain on display throughout the fair. Cookies will be removed and shared with Garfield County employees and fair volunteers.

Champions in both adult and youth divisions receive a rosette and a cash award. Prizes are awarded as follows: first place receives \$40, second place \$20, and third place \$15.

This contest is proudly sponsored and judged by the Garfield County commissioners.



Apple Pie contest

Join us in celebrating 110 years of Apple Pie Days by entering your best apple pie creation.

From classic double crust to creative options like gluten-free, artistic tops, tarts, and empanadas, this contest honors tradition while welcoming innovation. Open to youth and adult divisions, the goal is to showcase 110 apple pies across six classes.

All general open class and baked goods rules apply, and entries must be submitted in disposable tins.

Entries are due on Thursday, August 6, by 11 a.m., with judging beginning at 12:30 p.m.

Following judging, pies will be served in individual portions, with donations supporting the 2027 Open Class Awards.

Champions in each division will receive a rosette and additional award. Ribbons and cash prizes will be awarded as follows: first place - \$25, second place - \$15, and third place - \$10.

Classes include double crust; crumb

top with bottom crust; lattice top with bottom crust; gluten-free crust; artistic top with bottom crust; and hand pies, tarts, or empanadas (6 pieces required).





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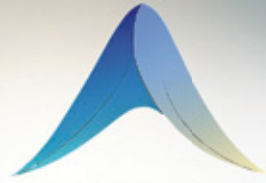
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Ava Rodriguez

Ava Rodriguez will do anything for her animals.

The confident Rifle High School student has developed a strong bond with animals over her many years in 4-H, along with a quiet assurance that she can take care of any task that gets in her way.

"It's all about the animals," Ava said. "I like them all, but my goats are probably my favorite."

Ava, 17, participates in market goats and swine, and she's showing breeding goat, and chickens for egg production at the Garfield County Fair and Rodeo. She's junior superintendent for the poultry side of 4-H and has earned the Herdsman Award for the past two years, acknowledging her strong work ethic.

"I enjoy it and I get to handle the chickens," Ava said.

"Families come in and tell her to be careful, and the bird is already going to sleep in her arms," her mom Rosa added of Ava's way with animals.

She also earned "rate of gain" honors for her goats in 2024, for displaying the top consistent weight gain.

"Awards are great for recognition, but being with the animals and learning more about them is what's important," Ava said. "During fair, I hang out all week and check out everything, but I stay close so I can be there for my animals. The only



time I leave is when I go home to sleep."

Ava said she's hoping to work with steers and noted that her time playing tackle football in middle school and freshman year in high school has prepared her for wrangling the strong animals.

"I'd say the hardest animal to work with would be the steers," she said. "While I haven't personally worked with them yet, I'm looking forward to doing it next year. I would like to take on that challenge."

Ava's tenacity even earned her a nickname from her gridiron teammates.

"Back in middle school they called me 'cookie monster' because I got so many sacks," she said. "They

would bribe me with cookies, and I was okay with that.”

Ultimately, attending the fair and rodeo offers Ava a chance to learn new skills, enjoy the rodeo, and to hang out with friends, whether they're her peers or the ones in fur or feathers.

“It's all about meeting new people and learning new things,” she said. “The round robin looks like so much fun and hopefully, I can do it this year. I know my animals well; it's just the steers, sheep, and horses that I need to learn more about and I'm a pretty fast learner when it comes to animals.”

Ava's mom told her that she needs

to work her way up to wrangling steers but knows that she's ready for the challenge.

“Every obstacle that's been put her in front of her, she's overcome,” Rosa said.

Ava's interested in possibly becoming a veterinarian someday and plays basketball, soccer, and golf in her free time. She added that she also would like to give bull riding a try, drawing a wry smile from mom.

“I think it would be fun. I like things that are hands on,” Ava said. “That's why I like sports, that's why I like 4-H. I'm hands on with everything I do.”



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Lewis Hood

Lewis Hood likes to live in the now.

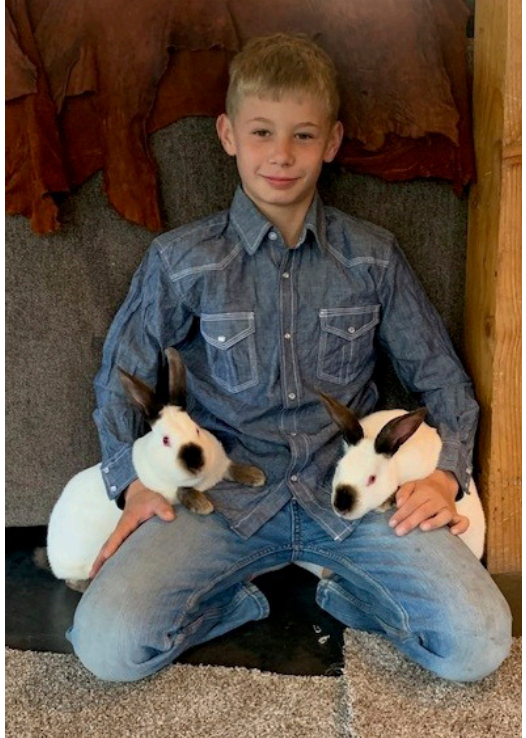
The adventurous 11-year-old is enjoying his time in 4-H and preparing for gymkhana events at this year's Garfield County Fair and Rodeo. He relishes the opportunity to let the dirt fly as he deftly navigates obstacles in the arena. But as wild as riding the arena events can be, Lewis also enjoys the quiet time raising his producer rabbits, ensuring they are ready for the 4-H junior livestock show.

He first took to the saddle at two years old, riding up to Budge's Wilderness Lodge on the Flat Tops.

"I like trail riding a lot," he said. "At fair, I'm participating in most horse events, outside of English riding. I really like gymkhana and showmanship. If I can place in the top two in showmanship, then I'll get to go to the round robin."

Lewis's family has three horses at their home near Glenwood Springs. Of those three, he plans to ride Patrón at the fair this year.

"I hadn't ridden in the arena until



I started 4-H," he said. "The arena is totally different; trail riding is just riding along and taking in all the views, while gymkhana is barrel racing and weaving through the poles in timed events. Plus, they add a mystery style that we won't know until we compete."



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Like all things learned in 4-H, Lewis' skill on horseback has paved the way for new interests and opportunities.

"I'm proud of how I've done with horses in my first two years in 4-H," he said. "Last year, I won showmanship, which allowed me to go to round robin and I really enjoyed that. That experience has me thinking about showing poultry in the future."

Lewis followed in his dad's footsteps in joining 4-H but also had a little nudge from other family members.

"My grandma told me to do it," he said.

Lewis's father, Joe, said 4-H was the essence of summertime fun when he was a kid.

"We went from showing horses and pigs, to goats and rabbits and chickens," Joe said. "I think we took the whole stock trailer to fair when we went."

"I work with horses and rabbits, and I enjoy working with them equally," Lewis added. "We have six adult rabbits, and one just had five babies (kits)."

He plans to participate in 4-H shooting sports in the coming years and loves to play team sports in his spare time.

"I've shot a .22 and I shoot bows. I also play football, basketball, wrestling, and used to play soccer," he said. "I also really enjoy Destination Imagination ... You create a skit and this year our theme was engineering. We had to build something that can hold weight. It was a lot of fun."

Lewis said his time in 4-H is so enjoyable because of the skills he's learned, the experiences he's had, and the friends he's made.

"I like making new friends and seeing what everybody is into. I also like working the concession stand, which is fun, and we always go to the demolition derby," he said. "Overall, I'm in 4-H because I enjoy it. I haven't given a ton of thought on what I want to do when I'm older ... I've been living in the moment."

**Good luck to all of this year's
4-H and FFA participants!**

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Reagan Koehler

Life on the ranch is a labor of love for De Beque's Reagan Koehler.

The compassionate 12-year-old enjoys caring for her animals and working with her siblings to prepare for the junior livestock show at the Garfield County fair and Rodeo.

Reagan attends school in De Beque, where she lives on a cattle ranch, and has been active in 4-H for five years. Joining 4-H was an easy choice because it was an opportunity to be close to the animals she adores, especially steers and sheep.

"I joined because my mom was in 4-H when she was a kid and I really love animals," she said. "I Work with steers and sheep, but I like the sheep a bit more ... it's really close."

Reagan has one steer and five lambs, and when she's not tending to the animals, she also likes to play basketball and volleyball.

When it comes to showing animals, Reagan said that a little friendly competition with her sister helps them both to get better and the overall family camaraderie leads to award-winning results.



"Yeah, we like to go against each other, but we work together to help each other win, so that's fun," she said. "I have a lot of ribbons. It's been fun and I won the overall market trophy one time and got my name on the plaque."

Her brother and sister also show pigs but that's not for her. While Reagan loves taking part in the round robin, she's focused on caring for her favorite animals.

"I worked with goats once, but they were bad," she added with a laugh.

Ashley Scarlett, Agent

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"It was still fun. And rabbits ... one bit me one time at fair. No chickens either. They don't stay put and one even flew off the table during judging."

While she loves being around all the animals, Reagan is content to focus on her steer and five wonderful lambs at home.

"I just love them. My lambs have so much personality and they're so friendly. I raised two of the lambs, but I don't think we'll show one of them," she said. "Unfortunately, he was sick when he was little. But my other one is so friendly and he's big! His name is Toby and my sister named the little one; he's Bean. I also have Piper, Roxy, and Finn."

Reagan added that Bean was so little, he once got some food stuck in his throat when he was real young and it took some quick thinking to save his life.

"It was not good. We had to cut open the bump in his neck and get the hay out," she explained.

Reagan said her love of animals will create opportunities for her when she gets older and she's looking forward to what's to come.

"I'd like to do some judging someday when I'm older," she said. "I really like helping out with ranching work. I'd like to either ranch or be a nurse when I get older. I like caring for living things."

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4-H Youth Development Specialist

Rosa Granados

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Beyond ready: Rooted in tradition, growing the future of 4-H and county fair

From the earliest apple pie socials to today's Garfield County Fair & Rodeo, 4-H has been at the heart of our county's traditions and we're just getting started. Since 1916, when the first boys' and girls' clubs formed in Glenwood Springs, Grand Valley, and Rifle, and youth proudly exhibited livestock at local community fairs, young people in Garfield County have been learning by doing, leading, and serving. That

legacy continues today through Colorado State University (CSU) Extension and 4-H, where research-based education meets real-world experience.

Volunteers are the lifeforce behind every event, program, and hands-on learning opportunity. As a 4-H volunteer, you can share your expertise by leading club meetings or workshops, empowering young people as they tackle projects



Grand Valley Horse Show Judging at the Community Fair in Grand Valley, photo by RC Allred, Garfield County Agriculture Agent (1916)

GARFIELD COUNTY CSU EXTENSION

from robotics to baking, and by supporting signature events like the fair & rodeo.

Over the past century, our programs have expanded to meet the needs of today's youth and communities. From AmeriCorps-supported outdoor education in schools, libraries, and recreation centers, to STEM explorations in rocketry and robotics, to timeless life skills like sewing and cooking, CSU Extension and 4-H continue to evolve while staying grounded in tradition.

CSU Extension also strengthens our communities through countywide resources in agriculture, horticulture,

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We can't wait to welcome you into our historic and ever-growing 4-H and CSU Extension family.



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James Brennan's pig that made a daily gain of 1.25 pounds, photo by RC Allred, Garfield County Agriculture Agent (1916)

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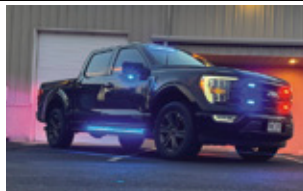
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Ring in blue and gold: building leaders through FFA

Coal Ridge, Grand Valley, and Rifle high schools are home to active FFA chapters that provide students with meaningful opportunities to grow as leaders, individuals, and agricultural advocates.

Through FFA, students engage in the three-component model of agricultural education: classroom and laboratory instruction; supervised agricultural experience (SAE) projects; and FFA leadership development. Wearing the blue and gold jacket represents a commitment to premier leadership, personal growth, and career success in agriculture and beyond.

Students participate in a wide range of hands-on learning experiences, including woodworking, wildlife management, agricultural structures, leadership development, welding, and plant science. They also compete in career and leadership development events, such as floriculture, food science,

veterinary science, livestock and horse evaluation, agricultural mechanics, and more.

FFA members across all three chapters proudly showcase their livestock and project work at the Garfield County Fair & Rodeo, connecting their classroom knowledge and SAE experiences to real-world applications. The Coal Ridge, Grand Valley, and Rifle FFA chapters are proud to be part of this community and are dedicated to developing the next generation of agriculturalists, leaders, and informed citizens.



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Market Beef



Trey Teter
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Market Beef



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Reagan Koehler
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Rylee Johnson
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Brooke Barnett
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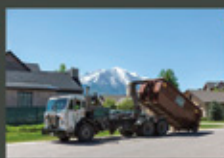
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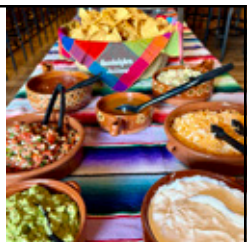


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