

MEDIA RELEASE

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August 11, 2016



Thursday is another busy day at the Western Montana Fair, with events starting this morning at 7:30 a.m. and culminating with the Missoula Stampede RAM Rodeo at 7 p.m. and local country music artist, Tyler Barham performing at 9 p.m.

Attendance and concession figures continue to be higher than in past years. Last night's PBR Rodeo was attended by nearly 1,400 fans. Concessions, which opened on Tuesday, have been continually busy and brought in nearly \$24,000 on the first day. Fair staff will have yesterday's count later this afternoon.

A few new events will kick off Thursday, including the Kiddie Rodeo, sponsored by rodeo royalty. Youth participants will be able to run barrel races with stick horses and ride the Mighty Bucky – a pink motorized bucking bull. The Kiddie Rodeo will be held from 3 to 4 p.m. at the Stomping Ground Community Place.

AKC Diving Dogs and Canine Allstars will be on stage throughout the afternoon and were among the crowd favorites yesterday during their practice rounds. Several four-legged competitors have traveled several states to participate in these events.

4-H will be showing and judging market hogs, lambs, goats and beef throughout the day. The petting zoo is open all day, along with pony rides and the educational displays to provide many fun activities for Kid's Day. Kids, ages 6-17, receive free gate admission until 6 p.m. today. As a reminder, admission is free for all ages from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. every day of Fair Week.



The Fair offers the best of an 11 county region in agriculture, education, history, and family entertainment while showcasing new technology and science. This six day event features 4-H exhibits and livestock, carnival rides, night shows, free daily entertainment, commercial displays, great food vendors, a demolition derby, professional bull riding and the Missoula Stampede PRCA Rodeo. Fine arts, photography, home arts and culinary displays can be found throughout the fairgrounds. The Western Montana Fair brings more than 60,000 participants and food concessionaires contribute their proceeds to more than 115 non-profits.