

2025 Fair

The 2025 Dolores County Fair was a successful event with numerous activities and experiences for everyone! Starting on Wednesday, August 6th, with the open-class entries and the judging of the 4-H projects and the open-class exhibits; then ending on Sunday, August 10th with the second day of this season's last Jr. Rodeo. We had a total of over 300 open-class entries across the nine different departments, including items such as gorgeous quilts, beautiful flowers, excellent crafts, and magnificent vegetables and crops, to name a few. There were over 150 visitors that came to see the exhibits and voted for the People's Choice Award.

The open-class had an outstanding turn-out. The Art department had 97 entries, Stephanie Knight won the Sweepstakes with 125 points, and Glenda Hankins won Grand Champion for the department. The Field Crops department had 4 entries and David Fisher won Grand Champion and the Sweepstakes with 29 points. There were 17 entries in the Large Fancy Works department, and Mary Davis won Grand Champion and the Sweepstakes with 32 points. Eight items were entered into the Baked Goods department, and Fran Deegan won Grand Champion and the Sweepstakes with 32 points. The Canned Foods department had 10 entries. The Sweepstakes Award was given to Robin Nodland, who scored 15 points, she also won Grand Champion. The Crafts department had 61 entries with Melissa Gray winning both Grand Champion and Sweepstakes with 100 points. The Flowers department had 43 entries, and the Sweepstake award went to Stephanie Knight with 94 points. Kayleen Kesterson won Grand Champion in the Flowers department. There were 37 entries in the Fruits & Vegetables department and Patsy Smith won the Sweepstakes with 68 points. Finally, the Small Fancy Works department had 29 entries, Charmaine Boyd won Grand Champion, and Elizabeth Barlley received the Sweepstakes Award with 38 points. The People's Choice Award was presented to Blake Carhart for his 4-H Woodworking project, a beautiful nightstand with a drawer and a door and handles made of antlers.

Our 4-H kids had 23 entries in the County Fair, 5 of these exhibits went to the Colorado State Fair. Blake Carhart took overall 2nd Reserve Grand Champion at the State Fair in Woodworking, Daniel Fisher took 6th place with Gardening, Braxten Huskey took a qualifier in Foods & Nutrition, Eli Lane took 1st with Sportfishing and Morgan Proffitt had a qualifier with cake decorating.

Our 4-H Livestock shows occurred on Thursday, August 7th, with six members showing their animals with pride and passion. To start the day, Eli Lane showed his 4-H market yak. Eli and his yak earned a blue ribbon, a Champion ribbon, and a Reserve Grand Champion ribbon. Next up was the market beef shown by Mykaela Fury and Ashley Fury. These girls displayed knowledge and experience that they gained from their participation in last year's show. Ashley and her steer earned a blue ribbon and a Champion ribbon. Mykaela and her steer earned a blue ribbon, a Champion ribbon, and a Grand Champion ribbon. Hailey Kelshaw and Pepper Kelshaw showed their market sheep. Hailey and her lamb earned a blue ribbon and a Champion ribbon. Pepper and her lamb also earned a blue ribbon and a Champion ribbon. To finish off the

morning, Grace Fisher showed her goat, Luke Bryan, and earned a blue ribbon and a Champion ribbon.

The 4-H Horse show happened Friday, August 8th, with nine 4-H members showing their horses in multiple different disciplines. These kids competed in Showmanship, Western Riding, Western Horsemanship, Reining, Broken Heart Barrels, Water Keyhole, a Cowboy Race, and In-Hand Trail events. The Junior division consisted of five members, including Dakota Lane, Rowdy Short, Lenora Williams, Brynlee Fury, and Pepper Kelshaw. There were three kids in the Intermediate division, Hagen Short, Ashley Fury, and Hailey Kelshaw. The only 4-H member in the Senior division was Mykaela Fury. The Dolores County 4-H Club had multiple participants that entered projects into the fair with the chance to get their exhibits to the Colorado State Fair. Some amazing creations were displayed, showing the talent and dedication that our members have put into their projects. There was participation in woodworking with two exhibits, cake decorating, cooking, gardening, sport fishing, robotics and engineering, and fowl – companion chickens each with one exhibit. Eli Lane with his sport fishing display board, Blake Carhart with his nightstand, Braxten Huskey with zucchini bread, Morgan Proffitt with a softball field cake, Daniel Fisher with his gardening project display board, Addison Davis with a wooden step stool, and Benjamin Davis with his robotics and engineering project display board had the opportunity to send their projects to the state fair. We want to tell all the 4-H kids what a awesome job they did this summer.

Thursday, August 7th, during the afternoon, the Public Health Office hosted our Kid's Games. Outside, they had games with prizes, and Eric Stiasny put on a bike race. At the end of the day, these ladies set up a huge water fight for everyone to join in on. We would like to thank them tremendously for their contribution to our fair. We couldn't have organized that day without them. The kids had a blast playing games, water fighting, and riding their bicycles!

The Small Animal Show and Ice Cream Social took place on the evening of Friday, August 8th. Many community members and seniors, given transportation by the Pioneer Center, gathered to enjoy ice cream sundaes, popsicles, and root beer floats while they watched the children show their small animals. There were 7 participants in the show with animals varying from dogs and cats to roosters and leopard geckos. The small animal show was judged by Kenny Smith, assisted by Lexi Gray and Margret Daves. Each kid got to enjoy silly awards that they received, along with prizes and goodie bags. Everyone seemed to have had a great time watching, and the children had fun showing their pets.

The final Jr. Rodeo of the summer wrapped up the fair on Saturday and Sunday. With the San Juan County Fair in Monticello happening the same weekend, there were fewer competitors than there normally are that participated in the events. However, there were still enough kids to have a good time and finish off the season.

Overall, the 2025 Fair was a success and full of fun for everyone! There was a great turnout for all the events and lots of competition. For full results of all the events, visit the Dolores County Webpage. We are very thankful for all the community members that contributed their time to help us out and those who participated in this year's events!