

THE

WHICKER

SEPTEMBER 2017

Monthly Newsletter from the Salt Lake County Equestrian Park



Salt Lake County Fair Brings Fun and Excitement to Equestrian Park

This year's Salt Lake County Fair brought in thousands of people who enjoyed various concerts, spectator sports and displays. The event had all the elements of a good, old-fashioned fair, with a midway, amusement rides, lots of entertainment and food choices.

The Fair ran August 2 through 5. Joe Diffie's concert on Friday night attracted an estimated 4,000 attendees and the monster truck show drew an estimated 2,500 on Saturday night. Dozens of 4-H members displayed their animals in hopes of capturing a blue ribbon.

See *Fair* next page.



About *The Whicker*

"Whicker" is another word for whinny or neigh. It's horse talk, essentially, and that's the idea behind this newsletter. We want to talk about our great facility, patrons and friends. There are many exciting changes on the way and we want you to stay informed, be part of the dialogue and help us reach our potential as a park that serves our diverse clientele. If you have a story idea, please send it our way!

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Fair's Blood Drive A Success!



The Red Cross brought its bloodmobile to the Midway at the Fair on Friday, August 4th. Enough blood was donated to help save 27 lives! Thanks to all who participated. All three SMG-managed properties held blood drives this summer to benefit the American Red Cross.



SALT LAKE COUNTY
EQUESTRIAN PARK
& EVENT CENTER

A SALT LAKE COUNTY FACILITY



Fair

(from Page 1)

4-H Livestock Auction Nets over \$166,000 for Local Clubs



4-H Members Show Their Pigs to the Judges

Salt Lake County 4-H Junior Livestock had a huge impact on the fair this year as the 800 barn was turned into an auction and show ring for all of the animals and 4-H members. Participants brought 53 goats, 67 lambs, 27 steers and 76 hogs to display and auction this year. The “Best of Show” hog was featured on Channel 2’s morning show.



Lambs are front and center in the covered arena

Several prizes, including ribbons, plaques, jackets and belt buckles were awarded to the proud winners. The Fair also featured 4-H and open class small stock events this year.

Visitors were treated to a great display that included chickens, rabbits, pigeons and even a duck. A change of venue brought the animals to the mezzanine level of the Event Center, moving out of the building known as the

“rabbit barn.” This proved to be the ideal place to view all of

the competitive displays and brought an added element of interest into the facility.



Utah Barrel Racing Association Event Attracted Over 100 Entrants at Fair

Competitors on Saturday vied for the coveted UBRA belt buckle, as well as prize money from the event. Barrel racing is a timed rodeo event in which the rider guides the horse in a cloverleaf pattern around three, pre-set barrels in the center of an arena. It is a test of the horse’s athletic ability and a demonstration of horsemanship skills by the rider.



Utah Horse Pullers Provide Action and Drama

- *South Jordan Team Takes Title*



It takes plenty of horsepower to compete in the Horse Pulling event at the Fair.

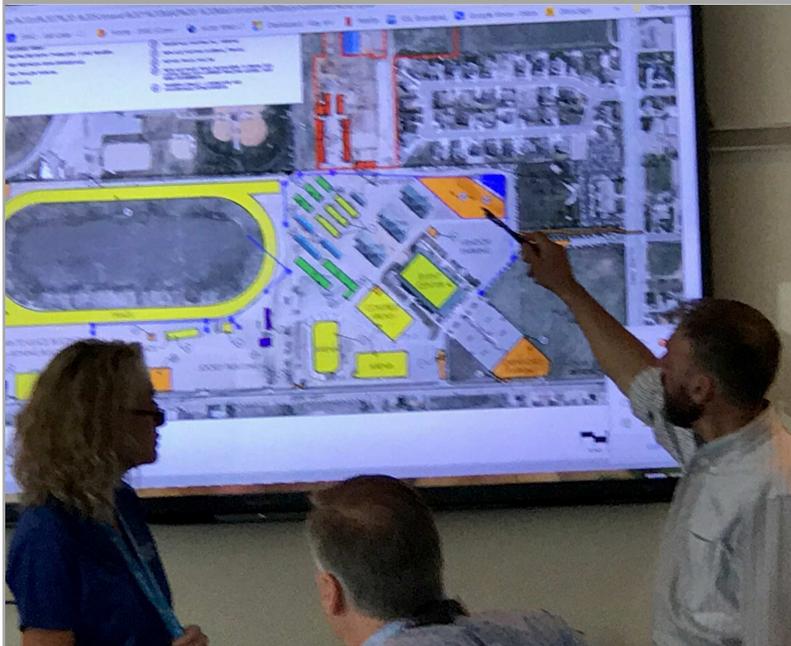
The Utah Horse Pullers Association held their event in the Rodeo Arena on opening night of the Fair. Over 20 teams competed in the event that tests horses' strength by pulling a weighted



sled. This year, the average weight was just over 8,000 pounds.

The winning team from South Jordan, Utah were World Champions in 2015, pulling over 14,500 pounds to win the title.

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Equestrian Park Advisory Board Considers How to Spend Bond Dollars

\$5 Million Earmarked for Park

Facility Director Jo Stowell, Advisory Board member Brian Preece and Equestrian Park General Manager Dan Hayes review proposed improvements to the facility at a recent board meeting.

In November 2016, Salt Lake County residents voted to approve the Parks and Recreation bond which authorized the county to issue \$90 million in bonds to build new parks, trails, recreational amenities and a recreation center, as well as renovate and improve existing facilities.

Five million dollars has been earmarked for improving buildings, grounds and infrastructure at the Equestrian Park. Here is the latest update on projects being considered by the Equestrian Park Advisory Board:

Storm Drain Additional Phase/Repair – This project has been discussed with Salt Lake County project managers and facility staff. The County is in the process of assessing the facility infrastructure and will make suggestions based upon their findings.

Remodel/Replacement of Barns A – D – This project is in the discussion phase with the Advisory Board. A sub-committee has presented suggestions, but no final decisions have been made.

Panels in Five Arenas/Panel Upgrades – Information continues to be gathered to determine the exact needs at the Park. Facility staff is working with Salt Lake County project managers in drafting a Request for Proposals (RFP) for this project.

Trailer Parking – The scope of this project is being assessed and it may be integrated into the RV Parking project.

Arena Footing – This project is moving forward with the gathering of information pertaining to facility needs. Facility staff is working with Salt Lake County project managers in drafting an RFP.

Restroom/Shower Facilities – This project is being assessed.



Athleticism and Grace Featured at American Vaulters' Event

The American Vaulters Association held Nationals at the Equestrian Park during the week of August 21st-27th. The show had nearly 200 participants with more than 300 additional supporters. The 700 barn was used for stabling the horses. This was a big event, using a total of 461 stalls and 59 RV power connections. The track office was used for a judges' rest area and a national board meeting.



Paint Horse and Quarter Horse Show Held Over Labor Day Weekend

The Utah Paint Horse Club hosted the American Paint Horse Association and the American Quarter Horse Association event at the Equestrian Park September 1st through 4th. This annual event booked 236 stall nights and featured a variety of events, from Western riding to barrel racing.

Upcoming Events

- Wasatch Horse Show Association 10/4 to 10/8
- Rocky Mountain Professional Rodeo Association 11/10
- Salty Dogz Agility Club 11/24

Check our Calendar of Events for more information.

<https://www.visitsaltlake.com/slco-equestrian-center/attend/event-calendar/>

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Visit Us At

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Work on Capital Projects Continues with Some Modifications



IMPROVED FOOTING FOR THE RACETRACK

The outdoor racetrack footing project is in the design phase and will move forward this fall.

SOUND SYSTEM PROJECT is in the design phase.

RV PARKING COMING IN 2018

The RV Parking area is in the design phase with proposed modifications from the Advisory

Board presented to Salt Lake County. We look to move forward with the project in 2018.

ASPHALT FACELIFT The main parking lot adjacent to the Event Center is slated to be repaired this month.

HOLD YOUR HORSES!

Three projects have been placed on hold pending further study:

- The removal and replacement of metal stalls in the 400 – 600 barns
- Construction of attendant booths and gates
- Installation of an access card reader and gates

