

## SILVER DAY

Wednesday, August 19, 2026

A.M.P. CARNIVAL Rides Open At 6:00 p.m.

On The Midway - Wristbands \$35.

- 6:45 a.m. WAKE-UP BREAKFAST – Gobin Building, Downtown Rocky Ford, 105 N. Main St. - *Sponsored by the Arkansas Valley Fair, Rocky Ford Chamber of Commerce and Rocky Ford Rotary Club*
- 7:00 a.m. EXPOSITION BUILDING OPEN FOR EXHIBITORS SETUP
- 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. EXPOSITION BUILDING OPEN – Crafts and Fine Arts and Open Class Foods And Crops Also On Display
- 11:00 a.m. SILVER KING AND QUEEN LUNCHEON AND PROGRAM – Gobin Building, 105 N. Main St., Rocky Ford - *Sponsored by Pioneer Health Care Center of Rocky Ford*
- Noon to Midnight BEER GARDEN OPEN Under the Grandstand
- 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. BINGO – Bingo Building
- 7:00 p.m. CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT – Beer Garden Under the Grandstand
- 7:00 p.m. FAMILY NIGHT – Grandstand  
*FREE Entertainment*  
*The Bragg Family*  
*Sponsored by RF Ministerial Alliance*
- 8:30 p.m. to Midnight ENTERTAINMENT In the Beer Garden – Under the Grandstand, *Country Music* by TOMMY V

## 4-H and FFA Program 2026 Arkansas Valley Fair

(Continued from first outside page)

Friday, August 21, 2026

- 10 a.m. Parade of Champions in Fair Parade
- 5:00 p.m. Buyers Dinner
- 6:30 p.m. Fat Stock Sale and Foods Sale
- 9:00 p.m. Release Poultry and Rabbits after sale but before barn closes
- Saturday, August 22, 2026
- 7:00 a.m. Barn Opens
- 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Release all animals - YOU MUST CLEAN YOUR PEN AREA and tear down your pen!

## KIDS DAY

Thursday, August 20, 2026

A.M.P. CARNIVAL

Ride all you want from 12 noon to 6 p.m.

\$25 wristband. Regular Admission \$35 each day carnival wristband (12 Noon to Midnight)

- 8:30 a.m. TRICYCLE RACES SIGN UP - Pavilion
- 9:00 a.m. TRICYCLE RACES – Pavilion  
Must be a tricycle!
- 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. OPEN CLASS NEEDLEWORK – Roundhouse
- 9:30 a.m. SIGN UP For BIKE RACES – Infield
- 10:00 a.m. BIKE RACES – Infield
- 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. ENTRIES FOR FLOWER SHOW – Roundhouse
- 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. EXPOSITION BUILDING OPEN – Booths, Crafts / Fine Arts, Open Class Foods and Crops
- 11:00 a.m. STICK HORSE RODEO - Pavilion, Ages 1 to 6
- Noon to Midnight BEER GARDEN OPEN Under the Grandstand
- 1:00 p.m. SANDBOX TREASURE HUNT - Ages 4-7 – East End of Midway  
*Sponsored by PB&T*
- 2:00 p.m. HULA HOOP CONTEST – In Front Of Exposition Building -  
*Sponsored by Black Hills Energy*
- 2:00 p.m. JUNIOR CAR SHOW – All Kids Ages 1-13 – Pavilion
- 2:30 p.m. FLOWER SHOW OPEN JUDGING – Roundhouse
- 3:00 p.m. BABY LOOK-A-LIKE CONTEST – Pavilion
- 3:30 p.m. BABY CRAWLING CONTEST – Pavilion
- 4:00 p.m. KIDS' TALENT SHOW – Pavilion
- 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. ONLY – REGISTRATION FOR HORSE RACE MEET – *Race Office or call 719-316-1004*
- 5:30 p.m. LEGO BUILDING TRUST CONTEST - Pavilion - *Sponsored by Tri County Family Care Center*
- 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. BINGO – Bingo Building
- 7:00 p.m. **FIGURE 8 JUMP RACES** – Grandstand Arena - 6 p.m. CALCUTTA, 7:00 p.m. to Midnight ENTERTAINMENT in the Beer Garden under the Grandstand – *Country Music* by TOMMY V

## PARADE DAY

Friday, August 21, 2026

A.M.P. CARNIVAL

Ride All You Want 11:00 a.m. to Midnight

\$35 Wristband

- 10:00 a.m. ARKANSAS VALLEY FAIR GRAND PARADE – Downtown Rocky Ford Main Street  
*Sponsored by Rocky Ford Lions Club*
- 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. EXPOSITION BUILDING OPEN – Booths, Crafts / Fine Arts, Open Class Foods and Crops On Display
- 11:00 a.m. AVF QUEENS' & MAYORS' LUNCHEON – *by invitation only*
- Noon to Midnight BEER GARDEN - Open Under the GRANDSTAND and in the PAVILION
- 12:30 p.m. Calcutta for Ranch Rodeo & Open Bronc Riding
- 1:00 p.m. **GRAND ENTRY, RANCH RODEO, OPEN BRONC RIDING & HORSE RACES - CALCUTTA** - Grandstand Arena and Track
- 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. FLOWER SHOW, OPEN CLASS NEEDLEWORK EXHIBITS – Roundhouse
- 1:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. BINGO – Bingo Building
- 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. ONLY – REGISTRATION FOR HORSE RACE MEET – *Race Office or call 719-316-1004*
- 6:00 p.m. to Midnight Entertainment and Beer Garden in the PAVILION - *Sponsored by Familia Pueblo Events*
- 7:00 p.m. 17TH HORSEBITE MUTTON 'BUSTIN' Grandstand Arena - limited to 25 contestants
- 7:00 p.m. **AVF RODEO (CPRA)** – Grandstand Arena
- 7:00 p.m. to Midnight ENTERTAINMENT in the Beer Garden under the Grandstand  
*Country Music* by TOMMY V

For Information about the Arkansas Valley Fair:

Fair Office 719-254-7723  
Horse Races 719-316-1004  
Sally Cope, manager www.arkvalleyfair.com  
Exhibits: 719-254-7723  
4-H / FFA 719-254-7608

## WATERMELON DAY

Saturday, August 22, 2026

A.M.P. CARNIVAL

Ride All You Want 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

\$30 Wristband. Regular Admission \$35.00  
Carnival Wristband 1:00 p.m. to midnight

- 6:30 a.m. 5K & 10K RUN Registration – RFJSHS Melon Field Track
- 7:00 a.m. 5K & 10K, HALF MARATHON – RFJSHS Melon Field Track  
*Sponsored by Graphic Design*
- 8:00 a.m. 2 MILE KIDS' RACE – RFJSHS Melon Field Track
- 8:00 a.m. RODEO SLACK – Arena
- 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. FLOWER SHOW and NEEDLEWORK – Roundhouse
- 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. EXPOSITION BUILDING OPEN – Booths, Crafts and Fine Arts, also Open Class Foods and Crops
- 10:00 a.m. CARVED WATERMELON CONTEST – in front of Roundhouse  
*Sponsored by Hollar and Company*
- 10:30 a.m. WATERMELON SEED SPITTING CONTEST – Near 4-H Event Center  
*Sponsored by the Rocky Ford Rotary Club*
- 11:00 a.m. OPEN WATERMELON PILE – In Front of 4-H Event Center -  
*Sponsored by the Rocky Ford Rotary Club*
- Noon to Midnight BEER GARDEN - Open Under the GRANDSTAND and in the PAVILION
- 12:30 p.m. **GRAND ENTRY, 2027 AVF QUEEN CORONATION**
- 1:00 p.m. **AVF RODEO (CPRA), HORSE RACES & CALCUTTA**
- 1:00 to 10:00 p.m. BINGO – Bingo Building
- 5:00 p.m. to Midnight Entertainment and Beer Garden in the PAVILION - *Sponsored by Familia Pueblo Events*
- 7:00 p.m. to Midnight Entertainment in the BEER GARDEN under the Grandstand -
- 7:30 p.m. **DEMOLITION DERBY**, Arena  
Calcutta at 6:30 p.m.

**The Oldest Continuous Fair  
In the State of Colorado**

## FAMILY DAY

Sunday, August 23, 2026

No Carnival Rides

- 8:00 a.m. to noon Exposition Building Closed – Vendor Teardown
- 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. PICK UP ENTRIES – Fine Arts, Crafts, Photography, Foods, Crops from Expo Building – Needlework, Flower Entries from Roundhouse

Corporate Sponsors



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A Grid United Project



**Rocky Ford**  
COLORADO *sweet melon capital* since 1887

**A.M.P. CARNIVAL**  
Amusement Midway Providers  
[www.amp4fun.com](http://www.amp4fun.com)

TICKETED EVENTS

**Ticket Box Office Opens Each Day at Noon**  
(located at the west end of the Grandstand)  
All Events Are General Admission  
**Wed., August 19 – Sat., August 22, 2026**

**FIGURE 8 JUMP RACE**  
Thursday, August 20, 2026  
ALL Seats – \$20 ALL Pit Passes – \$20

**RANCH RODEO, OPEN BRONC RIDING**  
Friday, August 21, 2026 ALL Seats – \$10  
**AVF RODEO (CPRA)**  
Fri., Aug. 21 & Sat., Aug. 22 All Seats – \$10

**DEMOLITION DERBY**  
Satday, August 22, 2026  
ALL Seats – \$20 ALL Pit Passes – \$20

**4-H and FFA Program  
2026 Arkansas Valley Fair**

- Saturday, July 11, 2026**  
8 a.m. Otero County 4-H Shooting Sports Shoot Off – Muzzleloading and .22 Events
- Sunday, July 12, 2026**  
8 a.m. Otero County 4-H Shooting Sports Shoot Off – Shotgun, Air Rifle, Archery Events
- Saturday, July 18, 2026**  
8 a.m. District VI Cat and Dog Show - Dog Agility, Obedience, Showmanship and Rally
- Monday, August 3, 2026**  
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Fashion Revue Narrations Due
- Wednesday, August 12, 2026**  
1 p.m. Fashion Revue Judging  
7 p.m. Fashion Revue & Talent Show (Talent will be judged during public show – Rocky Ford High School Auditorium)
- Thursday, August 13, 2026**  
6 p.m. Barn/Exhibit Hall/Kitchen Clean-up/Set-up
- Saturday, August 15, 2026**  
9 a.m. Family Consumer Science and General Project Interview Judging – All Projects must be checked in by 11 a.m. – 4-H Event Center  
11 a.m. Cloverbud Fair – 4-H Event Center Building
- Monday, August 17, 2026**  
8 a.m. Horse Showmanship, Halter Classes, Riding  
8 a.m. Farm Mechanics Check in before 5 p.m.  
8 a.m. Barn open to bring **equipment only**.  
**5 to 7 p.m. Swine only may arrive**
- Tuesday, August 18, 2026**  
**All Market Animals Must Be On The Grounds Before Weigh-In Begins For Each Species**  
Barn Opens – Exhibitors meeting just before weigh-in starts for each species
- 8 a.m. Swine Weigh-In  
9 a.m. Goat and Sheep Weigh-in  
11 a.m. Rabbit and Poultry Weigh-in  
2 p.m. Beef Weigh-in  
3 p.m. Swine: Showmanship, Breeding, Market, Tiny Tots
- Wednesday, August 19, 2026**  
8:30 a.m. Dairy Goats: Showmanship, Dairy Goats  
9:30 a.m. Goats: Showmanship, Breeding, Market, Tiny Tots  
3:00 p.m. Poultry: Showmanship, Tiny Tots (poultry area)  
6:30 p.m. Sheep: Showmanship, Breeding, Market, Tiny Tots
- Thursday, August 20, 2026**  
9 a.m. Dairy Cattle: Showmanship, Dairy Cattle  
9:30 a.m. Beef Cattle: Breeding, Bucket Calf, Market, Showmanship, Tiny Tots  
3:00 p.m. Rabbit: Showmanship, Breeding, Market, Tiny Tots  
6:00 p.m. Round Robin, participants report by 5:45 p.m.  
8:00 p.m. Sale Order Posted - no changes after 10:00 a.m. Friday morning  
(Continued on first inside page - Silver Day)

**Come Join Our Celebration**

In 1878 Senator George Swink shared his bountiful crop of watermelon with passengers at the Rocky Ford Depot. The tradition continues every year when Fair visitors are given a free watermelon.

**2026 Fair Theme:**  
**“STARS, STRIPES, AND SUMMER NIGHTS”**  
Free Front Gate Admission • Enjoy All The Exhibits

**PRE-FAIR EVENTS**

- SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2026**  
10:00 a.m. AVF YOUTH RODEO – Grandstand Arena
- SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2026**  
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. ENTRIES FOR CRAFTS, FINE ARTS & PHOTOGRAPHY ACCEPTED Exposition Building.  
10:00 a.m. AVF YOUTH RODEO – Grandstand Arena  
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. CAR SHOW – Railroad Park, Downtown Rocky Ford
- MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2026**  
5:00 to 8:00 p.m. ENTRIES FOR OPEN CLASS NEEDLEWORK – Roundhouse – Contact Linda Fenter 719-468-7184  
5:00 to 8:00 p.m. ENTRIES FOR CRAFTS, FINE ARTS & PHOTOGRAPHY – Exposition Building. NO entries accepted after this time.  
7:00 p.m. AVF OPEN JACKPOT BARREL RACE – Grandstand Arena – Contact Dayla Elliott 719-980-3365, Exhibiting 6:00 p.m.
- TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2026**  
7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. ENTRIES FOR OPEN CLASS NEEDLEWORK – Roundhouse – Contact Linda Fenter 719-468-7184  
NO entries will be accepted after this time.  
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. ENTRIES FOR OPEN CLASS FOODS – Exposition Building. NO entries will be accepted after this time. Judging will take place at 2:00 p.m.  
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. ENTRIES FOR OPEN CLASS CROPS & VEGETABLES – Exposition Building NO entries will be accepted after this time. Judging will take place at 2:00 p.m.

**Front Gate Admission Free**

The oldest continuous Fair in the State of Colorado

**ARKANSAS VALLEY FAIR**

**149th**

Arkansas Valley Fair  
P. O. Box 188  
Rocky Ford, Colorado, 81067



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**ARKANSAS VALLEY FAIR**  
Rocky Ford, Colorado  
[www.arkvalleyfair.com](http://www.arkvalleyfair.com)

**FREE Front Gate Admission**  
Enjoy All The Exhibits

Corporate Sponsors



**Wednesday, August 19 to**  
**Saturday, August 22, 2026**  
Peak of the Season Local Produce

