

UMATILLA COUNTY FAIR

New faces, new places

East Oregonian

There are a lot of new things in new places at the 2017 Umatilla County Fair. After all, it is the first one held at the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center, which is surrounded by brand new fairgrounds south of Hermiston. There is a new rodeo arena, a new performance stage,

new foods, new performers, new games — even new parking lots and bathrooms. Almost everything is new.

Yet despite all the change, there's a lot that remains the same.

Inside new barns, young 4-H and FFA members prep their animals for show and sale, just as they did in the old days.

Inside new chutes, young bullriders take a final breath before exploding bareback into the arena, just as they did in the old days.

There are works of art plastered on the walls of the new building, and agricultural and baked goods aligned on table after table. Sound familiar?

And there are the classic carnival games and foods that you remember from years past. But, thanks to the extra space, there are some new offerings, too.

And judging from these photos, there are lots of smiling faces — just like the old days.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Watermelons sit on display in the exhibit hall on Wednesday at the Umatilla County Fair in Hermiston.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Drako the Dragon wanders on the promenade Wednesday at the Umatilla County Fair in Hermiston.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Vance Nelson, 10, pushes Degan Patton, 12, both of Pendleton, in a wheelbarrow as Kellan Smith, 7, of Hermiston walks beside them on Monday at the Umatilla County Fair in Hermiston.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

A young Light Brahma Bantam Rooster peers out of its cage Tuesday in the small animal barn at the Umatilla County Fair in Hermiston.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Blair Aichele, 18, of Pilot Rock pets the Legendary Longhorn named Shotgun as Harley Hornecker of Eugene rides the animal through the commons area Wednesday at the Umatilla County Fair in Hermiston.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Indie Loveland, 12, of Hermiston, checks her social media while relaxing on her duroc hog, Gunner, in the animal's pen in the swine barn Tuesday at the Umatilla County Fair in Hermiston.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Children ride the Scream Machine at the carnival Wednesday.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

A heifer sticks her snout out of the window of a livestock hauler Monday during the unloading of animals at the Umatilla County Fairgrounds in Hermiston.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Tanner Miller, 11, and Jonathan Rome, 10, both of Hermiston, take a selfie together at the EOT Selfie Space Contest at the EOT booth in the exhibit hall on Wednesday at the Umatilla County Fair in Hermiston.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Fairgoers walk the promenade Wednesday evening at the Umatilla County Fair in Hermiston.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Contestants wait to compete with their livestock in the beef barn Wednesday at the Umatilla County Fair in Hermiston.