

## What a Great Wise County Youth Fair!!!

Well the 2020 Wise County Youth Fair is in the books and it was an awesome one! I thoroughly enjoyed the entire week and getting to know so many of you and your kiddos!! Everyone I met was super nice and down to earth and ya'll my kind of folks! I have to say it was one of the smoothest run shows that I have been involved with all these years.

Thanks to the Fair Board and Junior Fair Board members, Ag Teachers, County Agents, parents, friends, judges and to the youth with their projects, it was a well oiled machine! I was really impressed by the youth and how courteous and friendly they were in and out of the show ring, great showmanship, you all have some great kiddos and should be very proud of them for a job well done!

I was running around like a chicken with its head cut off and trying to help and learn how ya'll do things here, and I have to say I like what I saw. It may have seemed to some that I was just in the way but I really was trying hard to walk that fine line between being in the way and being helpful. Its hard when you first come to a county trying to learn everyone's name and face. I appreciate your patience with me.

I was impressed with the quality of livestock we had at the show and really impressed that a lot of these projects were raised right here in Wise County. An example being the Grand Champion Steer shown by Blake Morrow! Boy, that was a super good calf! They had a Kodac moment when Blake came out of the ring and his dad Trent picked him up in his arms and they hugged and shed happy tears together! It's a moment I will never forget at my first youth fair here. A lot of hard work and dedication they endured to get to this moment!

I was also very impressed by the fact that you have some very talented youth that can not only show livestock but also cook and bake, and I enjoyed looking at all the food projects, but better yet I got a sample taste of each of the Grand champions deserts and oh boy they were delicious! The art projects exhibited lots of talent as well and what about the Ag Mechanics, all Very Impressive!!! These are some very talented youth you have here in Wise County!!

I really enjoyed getting to help with the livestock judging contest Saturday morning as everyone has done a great job building this program so congrats to them and the young folks for an awesome job! Congratulations to all of the youth that had projects in the show, ribbons or not, you are all winners in my book! There were many other moments throughout the show and my most memorable moment of the entire week was the Heart of a Champions Show!!! Seeing those special needs youth and adults showing a project across the ring with excitement and receiving a ribbon was very touching!!! Now if that don't jerk a tear, then you're made of stone!!!

The last thing I will say is Wow, What a great Premium Sale!!! I was very impressed by all of the monetary support from local businesses and groups who support the youth whole heartedly during the sale and throughout the year. Without their help and generosity it wouldn't be possible for the kids to be rewarded for all of their hard work! A Big Hats Off to everyone involved! I'm already looking forward to next year!!!