



*For Immediate Release*

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## **Make State Fair history – enter a competition!**

### ***New competitions – from Pies and Cakes, to Bull Riding and Table Setting!***

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DOSWELL, VA (August 20, 2009) – Virginians young and old can be part of State Fair of Virginia history, when they enter their favorite hobby or animal in a State Fair competition! They can be among the first exhibitors – and among the first to win a coveted blue ribbon – at the State Fair’s new permanent home: The Meadow Event Park in Caroline County, Virginia.

Located 20 miles north of Richmond and 30 miles south of Fredericksburg in Doswell, Virginia (Interstate 95 at exit 98 next to Kings Dominion), The Meadow Event Park’s grassy fields and views of rolling hills are the perfect setting for the hundreds of competitions: from animals, agriculture and equestrian sports, to crops, baked goods and crafts!

2009 competition registration is now being taken for the 2009 State Fair, to be held Thursday, September 24, through Sunday, October 4. Entry forms and other information on 2009 competitions can be found at [www.statefair.com/competitions/](http://www.statefair.com/competitions/).

New baked goods competitions include the **King Arthur Flour Classic Apple Pie Contest**, to see who can bake the best of an American tradition, following a recipe using King Arthur Flour. On Saturday, September 26, the new **Search for the Best Angel Food Cake Dessert State Championship** invites cake winners from local fairs across the Commonwealth to compete in the State Championship for the Grand Prize! In the Arts & Crafts Building, Fairgoers can check out – and vote on – the best table in the **Table Setting for Two Competition** – whose new theme this year, “**Triple Crown**,” takes its cue from the historic nature of the State Fair’s new home - The Meadow Event Park. Famous race horse Secretariat, winner of the 1973 Triple Crown, was born and trained on the property.

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Registration is being taken online or by mail through August 15 for Livestock – and through September 4 for the Arts & Crafts, Baked Goods, Honey, Plants and Crops & Vegetables competitions.

Faxed entries will not be accepted. Please note the following fees and surcharges for entry:

**Adult General Competition Competitors** (Adult Arts & Crafts, Adult Plants, Adult Crops & Vegetables, Giant Pumpkins, Open Honey):

- On-line entries are charged \$0.20 per class.
- Mail-in entries must be accompanied by a surcharge of a \$5.00 check or money order per exhibitor.

**Youth General Competition Competitors** (Youth Arts & Crafts, Youth Plants, Youth Crops & Vegetables, 4-H & FFA Competitions):

- On-line entry is FREE
- Mail-in entries must be accompanied by a surcharge of a \$5.00 check or money order per exhibitor.

**All Livestock Competitors:**

- On-line and mail-in entries are FREE but there are PER CLASS FEES for Open shows.

Through competitions, the State Fair of Virginia Scholarship Program rewards Virginia youth for their hard work and achievement in 33 sanctioned State Fair competition areas. In 2009, new competition scholarships will be offered in the 4-H Dog Show, 4-H Equine, FIRST Robotics, and SkillsUSA – cosmetology.

Fairgoers also can watch new must-see competitions unfolding before their own eyes! The **Equine Area** will feature many new competitions, including the **Tundra Tough Trucks Bull Riding (Sept. 29-30)**, with the **Halftime Show** featuring **The One-Arm Bandit**, which is sure to become a Fair favorite! Other new Equine competitions include **Team Penning (Sept 24-25)**, the **4-H Horse Show / Demonstrations (Sept 26-27)**, **Virginia Horseshoers Association State Competition (Sept. 30)**, **Barrel Racing (Oct. 2)**, and more! Returning Equine favorites include **Cowboy Mounted Shooting (Sept. 26-27)** and **Mutton Bustin' (Sept. 26-27)**! Over in the **Thrill Pit**, the **State Fair of Virginia Demolition Derby Championships** return on Oct. 2-4, along with **Tractor Pulls** on Sept. 25-27.

For general competition information and schedules, please contact Jennifer Ross at 1-800-LUV-FAIR (1-800-588-3247), or by e-mail [jross@statefairva.org](mailto:jross@statefairva.org).

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*The State Fair of Virginia event is presented each Fall by SFVA (State Fair of Virginia, Inc.)*

*SFVA is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization not affiliated with state government. In a world where Virginia's open land and traditions that shaped our culture are rapidly vanishing, SFVA's goal is to keep cherished ideals and experiences alive in the Commonwealth.*