Heritage Fair in full swing

BY MONICA KREBER
THE JOURNAL

SENECA — The sound of antique tractors popping and sputtering interrupted the '70s music blaring from the swings filled with giggling children on opening night of the South Carolina Foothills Heritage Fair.

Folks spent Tuesday evening milling in and out of the rides, games and booths at the event's new location off U.S. Highway 123, midway between Westminster and Seneca in celebration of the fair's fifth year.

In addition to rides and vendors, attendees have enjoyed an antique power parade, honey judging, storytelling, a baking contest, livestock demonstrations and more.

For Tamassee resident Elizabeth Airey and her 1-year-old daughter, Cora, this was their first experience at the Heritage Fair.

"We have spent all of our time in the petting zoo," Airey said Tuesday night. "I think the sheep were Cora's favorite thing. They were loving."

Airey attended the fair with her friend Amanda Callahan and her 1-year-old daughter, Aria, from Westminster.

"The fair showcases local talent," said Callahan, who is a vendor at the Heritage Farmer's Market on Saturdays. "I'm looking forward to the honey judging and finding out who has the best honey."

Kids have been lining up to enjoy rides such as the spinning "Bear Affair," the Ferris wheel, the tilt-a-whirl, the

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swings, the rotating "Super round up" and more.

The fair will be open today from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday.

Today is 4H and FFA Day, where 4H and FFA members get into the fair for $1 with a membership card. Today's events include FFA tractor driving, a 4H goat show at the livestock arena, pony rides, an antique power parade and wrestling.

Every day includes cotton gin, wheat thresher and hay baler demonstrations throughout the day.

Westminster resident Leanna Taylor said she planned to keep coming back throughout the week.

"I love all the rides — spinning around and going up and down, looking down at everyone," she said. "All the adults normally like shopping and the stands, and the kids come for toys and rides."

Adults get in for $5, and students from kindergarten through college get in for $3. Children preschool-aged and younger are admitted free, while admission for active military and family members is $1.

In addition, there is a $1 discount for those whoe complete the giant corn maze at Little Creek Farms — or $1 off the giant corn maze with admission to the fair.

FAIR: Continues until Saturday

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The final event of the SC Foothills Heritage Fair will be bull riding at the outdoor arena from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday.

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a round in the "Bear Affair" on
ocation didn't hinder families
ls and festival rides.