

Moffat County Fair Dedicated to Bill Sixkiller

The 2022 Moffat County Fair is dedicated to William “Bill” Sixkiller. Bill was born and raised in the Eagle/Gypsum area and moved to Craig in 1972 with his family. His mother Faye, played the organ at the Fair & other events around town & ran the Intermountain Music Store here in Craig. Bill finished out his high school years at Moffat County High School, this is where he met his wife Carma who was living with her family in Browns Park while attending MC High school. In 1975 Bill Graduated High School, got married, and had his first daughter Brandy.

He started working for the County in 1982 with his father, who was the Fairgrounds manager at the time. In 1984, they moved his father’s trailer out and moved his trailer into where it sits today. Bill became the Manager of the Fairgrounds, raised his family, rodeoed, and helped put on some amazing events that community leaders brought to town for our entertainment throughout the years. Bill has helped with 41 fairs, helped with numerous events, and been through 28 county commissioners in his time working for the County. He took over managing the Craig Cemetery in 2005, he has 3 full-time employees and 2 part-time summer help. Bill was very active in FFA, he enjoyed judging animals, and his specialty was dairy cows & horses. Bill followed his daughters through years of Rodeo’s, FFA events, and Fairs, he was the High School Rodeo Coach in 1996 & 97. In 1997, his youngest daughter Ryan won National Reserve Champion goat tying at the High school rodeo finals. Bill is still very active in the Roping Club of Craig.

Bill enjoys looking back at some of the events that have happened at the fairgrounds, along with the Fair & Rodeo, there have been horse races, chariot races, the Lipizzaner Stallions, concerts, silver bullet supercross with motorcycles & snow machines, the circus, the carnival, tractor pulls, and the Budweiser Clydesdales to name a few.

Erin with the County states that “he is great to work with & he is very dedicated to his job. We all hear the compliments from people from out of the area on the fairgrounds, that is thanks to Bill & his crew each year.” Bill has always been known for his dirt in the outdoor arena, anyone that rides here loves the footing in the arena and he gets plenty of compliments on it “one of the best arena’s in the State”. In 2021, Bill received the Best footing award from the Mountain States Women’s Professional Barrel Racers Association, and he was very proud because that is what he strives for every year.

Bill has a knack for putting on events at the fairgrounds. He never complains when we bring him unusual requests, he just asks what time we need it done by. He has the same attitude toward managing the Cemetery when there needs to be a funeral, he just asks what time they plan to have the burial and he just has everything ready, it doesn’t matter if it is the weekend or weekday. Bill knows what each event needs or what they are going to need & tries to stay on top of it. From emptying the trashes, cleaning the bathrooms, and managing the grass area to caring for the arena or track, Bill knows what to do & when to get it done. Jackie Goodnow states “It has been an honor to work with Bill for over 30 years. We have coordinated many 4-H and Fair events throughout the years. Bill has always been great to work with and somehow makes everything run smoothly. His dedication and passion for his job are truly one of a kind.” Events that came to the Fairgrounds used to have to clean their own bathrooms & empty their own trash during and after each event, but Bill saw a need for someone to take care of that so that events could run smoothly, so he does it. Our fairgrounds always look immaculate, it doesn’t matter

what time of year and if there is an event or not going on. He takes pride in the Fairgrounds and it shows. Mardi Anson says that Bill is so easy to work with, I put on a Draft Horse show each year & Bill is so good about having the arena worked before the show. For my show, the horses pull a wagon, so he tills it special for my event. I never have to worry about the arena, the grounds, or the stalls. Even though he has a big Rodeo event the weekend before my show, he makes sure everything is cleaned up and ready for me the next week. He has a long week of work, but he does it without complaint each year.

The Moffat County Fair Board proudly recognizes all the work Bill puts into the fairgrounds, for the Fair, the Rodeo & all our special events the week of the Fair. Bill is always a friendly face that is kind and willing to help us out in an instant when needed and easy to work with when there is an issue. We are grateful for all things he does without us even noticing or having to ask!

Bill is going to be hard to replace when he retires, which he is planning on doing sooner than later he says. Even though we don't say it enough, we appreciate all you do for the Fair events, fairgrounds, and community. Congratulation on the Best footing award, it is well overdue!