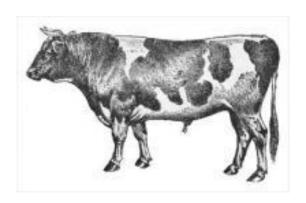
2026 JUNIOR FAIR - DAIRY MARKET STEER RULES AND ENTRY FORM Online



Remember: You are responsible for your own entry!!

Entry Deadline is July 24, 2026 NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED

ALL ANIMALS MUST BE IN PLACE BY 8 PM ON MONDAY, AUGUST 31st, 2026

Please note 2026 Rule Changes!

ABSOLUTELY NO STALL CLEANING DURING LOAD-OUT!

Website: www.starkcountyjrfair4h.com

Committee Facebook Page: Stark County Jr. Fair Dairy Committee

Important: Please Read- Changes have been made to these rules.

Stark County Junior Fair – OVERALL General Rules for ALL Species

The Stark County Junior Fair operates under the authority of and in conjunction with the Stark County Senior Fair Board. The Junior Fair Board is a department of the Stark County Fair with its own objectives. These objectives in many instances, require rules or guidelines that differ significantly from those of other Stark County Fair Departments.

Any boy or girl enrolled in a Stark County Youth organization is eligible to participate in the Stark County Junior Fair. They must abide by the rules and age limitations of said youth organization (4H, FFA, Grange, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, etc.)

- 1. To participate in 4H activities, youth must comply with the State 4H membership policy. 4H eligibility begins at age 5 (and in kindergarten as of January 1) and ends December 31st of the year in which they attain the age of 19.
- 2. Exhibitors in 4H classes must be enrolled in 4H club work in Stark County. Exhibits must be from 4H projects approved by the State or Local Extension office.
- 3. All members are encouraged to show in open class events.
- 4. Health rules for the livestock exhibits are the same as those governing all open class exhibits. Health papers must be shown, if requested, to the proper person before an animal is assigned a stall.
- 5. The Board of Directors of the Stark County Agricultural Society will, to the best of their ability, safeguard persons, livestock and articles on the grounds, but will not be responsible for injury, damage, disease, theft or loss of any kind.
- 6. Animals released due to illness or injury must have a signed release from the Fair Veterinarian, Junior Fair Coordinator and/or Barn Superintendent. Any animal removed without proper permission will be subject to 1-year suspension for the exhibitor.
- 7. Members are required to clean stalls or pens daily and maintain a neat and presentable area. Failure to keep the area clean or properly feed and water livestock may result in the committee withholding payment.
- 8. Anyone assisting with showing another exhibitor's animal must be enrolled as a current 4H or FFA or other youth organization member in Stark County.
- 9. All animals must remain on exhibit at the fair until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, the last day of the fair.
- 10. All animals sold remain the property of the member and in the member's care until Fair release time, 4:00 p.m., Monday, the last day of the fair. *Please be advised, some market animals may be released to contracted Livestock Brokers prior to the 4pm release time.*
- 11. Animals sold are not eligible to be shown again by that exhibitor or any other 4H or FFA member in any Junior Show in the County or State or Independent Fair in the calendar year. All Grand and Reserve Grand Champion market animals are terminal**. **Does NOT apply to the Dairy Beef Feeder project**
- 12. Exhibitors are responsible for their own veterinary bill.
- 13. Veterinarians assigned to the Fair for check-in will decide all matters of health, presence of disease and stall release.

- 14. The Fair Board will provide ribbons and/or appropriate awards. If the budget is exceeded, the Fair Board reserves the right to prorate cash premiums.
- 15. Eligible youth may participate in both 4-H (clubs) and Vocational Agriculture (FFA) or be members of either organization. However, those involved in both must carry separate and distinct projects, including different animals and/or products, for each organization. Examples of distinct projects include Sheep Breeding, Market Lambs, Pullets, and Broilers. The same or similar animals or products cannot be exhibited in both organizations, even if classified under different projects or programs. Additionally, an animal or product may not be shown in more than one county in 4-H or FFA classes.
- 16. Stark County youth programs and the Junior Fair Board will not condone the use of alcohol or drugs by any of its members, volunteers or anyone else associated with the Junior fair. The Junior Fair Coordinator, Junior Fair Board advisors, FFA advisors, Extension office and the Senior Fair Board will contact parents or legal authorities to handle individuals caught using or under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- 17. In the event that a project animal dies after the designated possession date, members will not be permitted to replace the animal for the purpose of exhibition or sale in any Junior Fair event.
- 18. All Entries are Due at midnight By or July 24th NO EXCEPTIONS No Changes will be permitted after entry deadline.
- 19. A junior livestock show exhibitor shall be responsible for the continuous care, grooming, and preparation of the livestock entered in the junior livestock show. An exhibitor may receive assistance in the care, grooming, and preparation of the livestock entered in the junior livestock show, provided that the assistance shall be limited to explanation or demonstration provided by the following: Family members (as identified in OAC Rule 901-19-31); Household members; Advisors or adult volunteers of 4-H or FFA in the exhibitor's club or county; Agricultural education instructors; County extension agents; Department representatives; Veterinarians; Members of the exhibitor's 4-H club, FFA chapter, or other youth organizations; and Guest speakers of the 4-H, FFA, or other youth organizations. Additionally, a current Stark County Junior Fair exhibitor may assist. This rule applies to all projects entered in the Stark County Junior Fair show during the Stark County Fair from September 1, 2026, to September 7, 2026. Violation of this rule will result in the animal being ineligible for sale. * Any person not specified in paragraph (B) of OAC Rules 901-19-31 who provides assistance to a junior livestock show exhibitor shall register in writing with the sponsor. The responsibility to register rests with the exhibitor. An assistant may register for more than one exhibitor. Failure to register constitutes grounds for disciplinary action against the exhibitor. Assistance shall be limited to explanation and minimal demonstration.
- 20. No one may handle a Junior Fair exhibitor's animal(s) without the exhibitor's permission, except in an emergency. Committee members are permitted to handle animals as part of their regular duties, including during the show, sale, weigh-in, photos, loading, and unloading.
- 21. Judges' Decisions are Final.
- 22. Any Medical/School excuses must be submitted in writing to Committee Chair and Junior Fair Coordinator.
- 23. ALL Junior Fair Exhibitors are REQUIRED to attend a QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA) CLINIC by JUNE 1 before the fair. Exhibitors who do not complete this requirement will be ineligible to show at the fair or bring a carcass.

24. Exhibitors must complete an online DRUG USE NOTIFICATION FORM (DUNF) for all market and lactating animals before the show. Failure to comply WILL result in disqualification from showing. This requirement is mandated by the Ohio Department of Agriculture under Ohio Revised Code 901-19-06 and 901-19-07. All Junior Fair livestock must be free of drug residues on the first day of the fair unless otherwise noted on the DUNF. Exhibitors are responsible for the care of their market animals until the fair concludes, the drug withdrawal period ends, or if the animal is placed under quarantine.

Junior Fair Coordinator

Julie Pinter <u>jrfair@starkcountyfair.com</u> 330.455.7856

Junior Fair Livestock Barn Superintendents (Subject to Change)

Beef	Amber Shoemaker	Danny Schmucker
Dairy	Justin Durkin	Dan Farnham
Goat	Jill McNeil	Mikayla Durkin
Horse	Mikayla Durkin	Dan McCracken
Poultry	Julie Nicholas	Justin Durkin
Sheep	Dave Stock	Jill McNeil
Swine	Mikayla Durkin	Sarah Yungen
Rabbit/Cavy	Jill Sterling	Drew Kissel

(Please refer to the Fair Book for contact information or leave a message at office@starkcountyfair.com)

I. DAIRY STEER – GENERAL RULES

- 1. Exhibitors may show a combination of up to three DMS and/or Dairy Market Cross Steers. (A carcass steer is counted as one of the 3). Exhibitors may tag up to 4 DMS/DMXS animals. It is only permitted to bring a max of two pure bred DMS and 1 DMXS. ONLY ONE cross animal is permitted per project type. (*See special rules regarding Carcass Show).
- 2. All members will be responsible for the care of their animals from the official date of enrollment, December 6, 2025 until 4:00 pm the last day of the 2026 Stark County Fair (*See special rules regarding Carcass Show).
- 3. Steers will be tagged in by family (same address) and not project member. Dairy market steers <u>MUST</u> be 90% of one of the following breeds: Holstein, Jersey, Brown Swiss, Ayrshire, or Milking Shorthorn. Dairy steers may be crosses of any of these dairy breeds. NO BEEF CROSSES WILL BE PERMITTED. Committee reserves the right to make the final decision on breeds.
- 4. Genetic testing at the Dairy Steer Weigh-in/ Tag-in, the first Saturday of December, will be taken to determine all DMS projects' percentage of Dairy, testing will be a \$14.00 charge per head to the exhibitor due by cash or check to the Diary Committee, at time of tagging. These genetic results will be used to determine the exhibitors project class DMS or DMXS. The dairy committee reserves the right to make final determination of the project animals class designation (DMS or DMXS (Dairy Market Cross Steer, see section XII of these rules)).
- Market dairy steers must be castrated and de-horned before December 6, 2025. If the animal is not castrated and dehorned, the animal will **NOT** be tagged and will be disqualified from the 2026 Fair.
- 6. Market Dairy steers must weigh a minimum of 900 pounds and also must have gained an average of at least 1.50 pounds per day, average daily gain, between December 6th, enrollment and Fair weigh-in. Exhibitors whose animals weigh-in within five pounds under these limits will have the option to re-weigh their animals at the end of the weigh-in in order to qualify within the limits. Committee must be notified immediately at weigh-in if you choose to re-weigh. Lightweight or under-gained market beef may enter competition in the show ring. (Unless other problems pertain) but may not qualify for Grand Champion or Reserve Champion.
- 7. Market Dairy Steers to be show in the live show must be identified on the entry form due July 24th. No changes will be permitted after the deadline. The Dairy Committee will strictly enforce all deadline dates, rules and regulations.
- 8. All grooming chutes and awnings must be at least twelve (12) feet from the Dairy Barn.
- 9. All grooming chutes must be removed from the fairgrounds by 10am Sunday after the shows. All awnings must be removed by 10pm on Thursday after the shows.
- 10. All fans must be placed at the sides or at the heads of the animals. **Absolutely no "butt** fans" will be permitted.

- 11. All gates, tack, feed and unused bedding must be removed by 8am Tuesday, September 8, 2026 to allow for cleaning of the barn. If your items are not removed by 8 am, you will be required to clean out your own stall by Thursday at 5pm.
- 12. A member's Dairy Market Steer project exhibit must be stalled in the area assigned for his/her project. No other stall location will be permitted.
- 13. All animals must stay with-in the designated area (barn area, wash racks) during the fair, Animals cannot be outside the fence. If the animal is taken outside the fence, you will not be permitted to bring the animal back inside the fence.
- 14. Kickboards at least 8" high must be placed behind the animals. Members must clean stalls and keep area neat and attractive at all times while exhibiting at the fair.

 Participation in animal clean-up is required, exhibitors who fail to help with clean will lose eligibility to show or sale at next year's fair.
- 15. Dairy Market Steers must be double restrained in the barn at the fair. One restraint is to be a halter; the second restraint is to be a collar or non-cinching neck tie with lead rope.
- 16. Each exhibitor is responsible for his/her animal. YOU MUST CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR ANIMAL WHEREVER THEY HAVE BEEN OR ARE GOING... (wash rack, aisles, milking parlor, show/sale arena, etc.) or you may be subject to a fine for each offense.

II. PURCHASING/POSSESSION OF DAIRY STEER PROJECT ANIMAL

Project animals must be in your possession by December 6, 2025.

III. <u>TAG-IN</u>

All Dairy Market Steers will be identified, ear-tagged and weighed by the Junior Fair Dairy Committee on December 6, 2025 from 8am – Noon at the Fairgrounds. (Bad weather date will be December 13th)

- a. The exhibitor shall be required to sign an enrollment slip (weight card) acknowledging the breed and weight of the steer as it appears on the slip.
- b. The Dairy Committee reserves the right to make final judgement should any questions arise.
- c. If a dairy steer loses an ear tag, the Advisor and a Dairy Committee member must be notified immediately so the tag can be replaced (at the fairgrounds).

NOTE: <u>ALL CARCASS DAIRY MARKET STEERS MUST BE BROUGHT TO WEIGH-IN.</u> (*See special rules for Carcass Show)

IV. SKILLATHON

Skill-a-thon and project record books are MANDATORY for all Dairy projects. Skill-a-thon and records must be completed by August 26, 2026 or member will be ineligible to show at Fair. BOOK REQUIREMENTS: Dairy Steer #117M, please use one book per project type (example: One book for your Dairy Steer project(s) and one book for your

Diary Feeder project(s)). Books can be purchased through your club or at the OSU Extension office at R.G. Drage.

V. CARCASS PROJECT

A. CARCASS PROJECT GENERAL RULES & REQUIREMENTS

All the general rules and requirements of the traditional Junior Fair Dairy Market Steer Program pertain, additionally the following:

- 1. One Dairy Steer or Dairy Market Cross steer may be entered in the Junior Fair Dairy Market Steer Carcass Show per member. No change is made in the number of dairy steers that may be nominated on December 6, 2025 for the Dairy Market Steer Program. Tag number of dairy market steers to be shown in Carcass Class must be identified on the fair entry form, due July 24, 2026. No changes will be permitted after entry deadline. The Dairy Committee will strictly enforce all dates, rules and regulations.
- 2. Members taking a carcass project should make a poster to be displayed in the barn during the fair. Members displaying a poster will receive a premium for their carcass projects. Poster should be a minimum of half a poster board and educate the public on the project.
- 3. There will be a Dairy Cross Carcass Steer Class in 2026. Steers containing less than 90% of Dairy genetics will be placed into the Dairy Cross Carcass Steer class. All other rules of the Dairy Carcass Steer and Dairy Market Steer apply.

B. CARCASS CONTEST (Live evaluation)

- 1. All animals must be halter broke and a halter available if needed for unloading.
- 2. All paperwork and DUNF forms should be filled out prior to arriving at 3D Meats.
- 3. To be considered for Grand and Reserve Champions, carcasses must weigh a minimum of 600 pounds. While there are no live-weight rules, exhibitors should keep in mind the relationship of carcass weight to live-weight. (Carcass weight is usually 55-60% of live-weight) **Subject to Change**
- 4. Market Beef will be presented at 3D Meats on Sunday, August 23, 2026 between 4:30-5:30 PM. Project member MUST BE PRESENT at the time of carcass Weigh in.

C. CARCASS CONTEST (cooler evaluation)

- 1. Market beef will be graded, and the appropriate stamp will be rolled.
- 2. Final placing and awards for the Carcass Contest will be determined by the judge.
- 3. Carcass judging will be on Thursday, August 27, 2026 time 6 pm at 3D Meats, Dalton.

- 4. To be eligible for Grand and Reserve Champion, member must be present at the cooler evaluation. * A noted approved by the Dairy Committee or an emergency will be the only excused
- 5. All exhibitors are to dress in show attire as per Section VIII, rule 6 of these rules.

VI. LOAD-IN

All paperwork and DUNF forms should be filled out prior to arriving at the fairgrounds. All tack must be brought in on Sunday, with animals only on Monday.

VII. RULES FOR LIVE DAIRY MARKET STEER SHOW

- 1. Dairy steers must be broken to lead by Fair time
- 2. All Dairy steers must be shown by the club member who is enrolled in the project. Medical exceptions will be at the discretion of the Committee. In the event that an exhibitor has two animals in the same class, the second animal must be shown by a member who is currently enrolled in a Stark County Junior Fair organization. (Please see rule A1 regarding enrollment)
- 3. All Dairy Steer show grooming must be done by the Stark County Junior Fair exhibitors or their immediate family (Please reference Jr Fair General Rules #20 and the OH Admin. Code 901-19P). This includes all projects entered in the Stark County Junior Fair show during the Stark County Fair.
- 4. Dairy market Steers should be fitted and shown in the same manner as a beef animal. The use of show sticks is permitted.
- 5. **A show halter** and number card holder (back or belt) must be used. Show sticks are highly recommended.
- 6. The members must wear clean clothes. Clean jeans and western shirt or blouses are recommended. Tee shirts, slogan shirts, hats or clothes with advertising on them are highly discouraged. Solid shoes or boots must be worn NO tennis shoes or soft soled shoes.
- 7. Each exhibitor is responsible for getting his/her animal in the correct class as announced.
- 8. Dairy steers will be shown by weight classes.
- 9. Animals with horns, skull attached or a growth more than a half an inch from the skin will be sent home. Also, animals with testicular tissue or unruly animals (to the point where the Dairy Committee considers it to be a safety hazard) will not be shown in the show ring. Any questions please contact a Dairy Committee Member.
- 10. The Stark County Junior Fair Dairy Committee will make the <u>final decision on</u> <u>questions that are raised</u>.

IV. Dairy Market Cross Steer (DMXS) Class -New for 2026.

DMXS class rules will mirror the DMS rules with the exceptions highlighted below:

- 1. Calves eligible for the Dairy Market Cross Steer(DMXS) class, will have a genetic test percentage less than 90%. Genetic content must be at least 45% Dairy breed to be eligible for the Dairy Market Cross Steer (DMXS). **(If a Dairy Market Steer is found to be less than 45% project animal will be moved to a "Prospect Class" and will not be eligible for Grand and Reserve awards, but may still show and sell. (Similar to the heavy and light weight feeder calves)).** (Subject
- A maximum of three animals total for exhibitors in the DMS/DMXS program will be permitted to be exhibited at the fair. Broke down as 2 purebred DMS and 1 DMXS (Dairy Market Cross Steer). Only one DMXS is permitted per exhibitor for 2026.
- 3. DMXS (Dairy Market Cross Steer) shall be slick sheared and hair length to be no longer than ¼".

RULES FOR DAIRY MARKET STEER SHOWMANSHIP

Dairy Market Steer Showmanship will be held on Tuesday, September 1, 2026. immediately following the Dairy Beef Feeder Showmanship which starts at 9 am.

1. Class order (age as of January 1 of the current year)

a. SENIOR DIVISION
 b. INTERMEDIATE DIVISION
 c. JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP
 d. FIRST YEAR SENIOR SHOWMANSHIP
 e. FIRST YEAR JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP
 9 - 11 years
 9 - 11 years

2. Members <u>must</u> use their own Dairy Steer.

X. SALE OF DAIRY MARKET STEER

- 1. Dairy Market Steers will be sold in the order placed by the judge and Dairy Committee.
- 2. Any Dairy Steer not in sale place at the proper time will sell at the end of the sale.
- 3. Clean attire, solid shoes or boots and a show halter are required to lead Dairy Steer in the sale ring.
- **4.** To cover Auction, Promotional, "Thank you's" and miscellaneous expenses, there will be a 5% commission fee for Auction committee plus \$37.00 flat fee (\$35.00 plus \$2.00 Beef Check-Off Fee) for the Grand Champion, a 2.5% commission fee for Auction committee plus \$37.00 flat fee (\$35.00 plus \$2.00 Beef Check-Off fee) for the Reserve Grand Champion. For all other animals, \$37.00 flat fee (\$35.00 plus \$2.00 Beef Check-Off Fee) will be deducted from each check.

- 5. Any animal not shown in the ring will not be permitted to be sold at the Fair.
- 6. On the night of the sale, each exhibitor will be receiving an envelope. DO NOT GIVE IT TO YOUR BUYER. Inside the envelope there will be instructions (PLEASE READ THEM) and Thank You cards for your buyer(s). Cards will need to be filled out and deposited in the box at the display in the Dairy Barn at the Fair. **Deadline for turning in THANK YOU cards 11:00 am Monday, September 7, 2026.** Missing the deadline will result in the delay of receiving your check for your project.

XI. SALE OF CARCASS MARKET BEEF

- 1. The Champion and Reserve Champion Market Beef Carcasses will be sold at the Live Dairy Market Steer Auction on September 6, 2026. To cover Auction, Promotional, "Thank you's" and miscellaneous expenses, there will be a 5% commission fee for Auction committee plus \$37.00 flat fee (\$35.00 plus \$2.00 Beef Check-Off Fee) for the Grand Champion, a 2.5% commission fee for Auction committee plus \$37.00 flat fee (\$35.00 plus \$2.00 Beef Check-Off fee) for the Reserve Grand Champion. For all other animals, \$37.00 flat fee (\$35.00 plus \$2.00 Beef Check-Off Fee) will be deducted from each check.
- 2. If carcass animal is first place Rate of Gain winner, exhibitor has the <u>option</u> to sell the carcass at the Dairy Steer sale on Saturday, September 6, 2026.

XII. ENTRY DATE

The entry dates and deadlines for the Carcass Contest are the same as for the traditional Dairy Market Steer Show and <u>all deadlines will be strictly enforced.</u> OTHER RULES MAY BE ADDED, OR CLARIFICATIONS PROVIDED IF DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE COMMITTEE. Number of dairy market steers to be shown in Carcass Class must be identified on the fair entry form, due July 24, 2026. No changes will be permitted after entry deadline. The Dairy Committee will strictly enforce all dates, rules and regulations.

The Carcass project is recognized as one of the most valuable learning experiences in beef production that exhibitors can take part in and is highly recommended. It is also noted that this program likely will not result in the high premium prices that exhibitors in the traditional market project have enjoyed in recent years. (Going market rate)

XIII. LOAD OUT

There will be NO CLEANING of pens during Load Out!

Dairy Market Steer Awards

Grand Champion Dairy Market Steer Reserve Champion Dairy Market Steer Reserve Champion Dairy Carcass Steer

Grand Champion Rate of Gain Reserve Champion Rate of Gain

Grand Champion Dairy Market Cross Steer Grand Champion Diary Cross Carcass Steer Grand Champion Dairy Cross Steer Rate of Gain

Champion Showman Dairy Market Steer

Senior Champion Showman DMS Intermediate Champ. Showman DMS

Junior Champ- Showman DMS
First Yr Sr Champ. - Showman- DMS
First Yr Jr. Champ- Showman- DMS

Reserve Champion Rate of Gain
Reserve Champion Dairy Market Cross Steer
Reserve Champion Dairy Cross Carcass Steer
Reserve Champion Dairy Cross Steer R of G
Res. Champion Showman Dairy Mkt Steer
Outstanding Exhibitor -Sr Division- DMS
Outstanding Exhibitor- Int. Division -DMS
Outstanding Exhibitor- Jr- Division- DMS

Sr. Skill-a-thon – DMS

Intermediate Skill-a-thon - DMS

Jr. Skill-a-thon - DMS

2025-2026 DAIRY MARKET STEER PROJECT DATES

December 5 Weigh-In set-up at Fairgrounds, 5pm

December 6 Dairy Market Steer Tag & Weigh-In at Fairgrounds, 8am-12 noon.

March TBD Dairy Steer home visits (Date TBD)

March- June Attend a Quality Assurance event

July TBD Dairy Projects Clinic

July 24 ENTRY DEADLINE – Entries are due to Junior Fair Coordinator by

midnight! No Changes will be permitted after the deadline date.

August TBD Dairy Projects Skill-a-thon (1-3 pm, mandatory) (Make-up Date TBD)

August 23 Dairy Market Steer Carcass Weigh-In, 5:00 – 6:30pm @ 3D Meats.

August 27 Dairy Market Steer Carcass Contest, Cooler Evaluation at 3D Meats,

Dalton, TBD.

August 31 Dairy Market Steer Weigh-in, Center Aisle of the DAIRY barn, immediately

following the Dairy Beef Feeder Weigh-In.

September 1 Showmanship – Immediately following the Dairy Beef Feeder

Showmanship which starts at 9am

September 2	Dairy Market Steer Show - Immediately following the Dairy Beef Feeder Show which starts at 9am
September 5	Dairy Steer Sale – (Dairy Steer sale in conjunction with Market Beef Sale)
September 7	Market Animal Release at TBD, all other projects and open classes at 6pm

2026 Junior Fair Dairy Committee and Executive Committee

Aaron	Dickerhoof	Louisville	330.581.2971	Chair, Marketing Rep
Ashley	Royer	Alliance	330.206.8129	Vice Chair
Jennie	Schulz	Alliance	330.206.2509	Secretary
Kayla	Farnham	Louisville	330.605.4397	Treasurer
Allison	Dawson	Louisville	330.806.9686	
Deb	Dysle	East Canton	330.806.4280	
Jacob	Dawson	Louisville	330.575.3939	
Kim	Schulz	Alliance	330.428.6222	
Matt	Wentling	Navarre	330.600.9068	
Paige	Smith	Minerva	330.614.0195	
Pamela	Parsons	N. Lawrence	330.844.3020	
Emma	Ramsey	Louisville	234.360.9137	