



... Contact Information ...

Howard County Agricultural Society

P.O. Box 83

Cresco, Iowa 52136

Executive Secretary of the Society

Tom Barnes

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The Howard County Agricultural Society is the parent organization that is listed as owner of the fairgrounds and most all amenities located there on, and is charged with overseeing all activities on the Howard County Fairgrounds.

The Society is a non-profit organization in the State of Iowa, and is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501 c3 charitable organization. Your gift to the Society is considered a charitable donation and therefore could be tax deductible.

Check with your tax preparer.



***Howard County Fairgrounds
Cresco Iowa***

Website: www.mhcfair.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MHCfair

Reicks View Ag Education Center Overview

The Howard County Agricultural Society (Fair Board) has realized one of its dreams - replacing the swine barn and small show arena that are two of the original fairgrounds buildings from the 1920s, with a state-of-the-livestock building that would also include a new show arena, restrooms and showers. Five outdated buildings were removed after the 2015 Fair to make room for the new Ag Education Center, which was completed in time for the 2016 Fair.

The Ag Education Center is a 22,900 square foot livestock facility located on the Howard County Fairgrounds in Cresco Iowa. The Center features a modern swine production area, a modern milking parlor, large show arena with A/V and WIFI, and ADA compliant restrooms and showers. The Center also houses dairy, sheep, goats and bottle calves projects of the area 4-H & FFA members during the yearly Mighty Howard County Fair. The Center has a video surveillance system that offers on-line viewing of the activities of the Center, and provides a higher level of security for the Center.

One of the main goals with the new swine production area was to give area youth the opportunity to show pigs at the Fair while assuming the responsibility of hands-on care of their animals and also learning about current swine production. For three months before the Fair, late March to late June, any 4-H & FFA members can raise their pigs in the swine production area of the Center.

And to further the educational aspect of the Center several industry experts, Iowa State University Extension and NICC (Northeast Iowa Community College) partnered with the Fair Board to host educational workshops for the youth. Topics included Genetics, Future of Production Agriculture, Health & Nutrition, Marketing, Bookkeeping, Animal Welfare and Show Ring basics.

The Center also features a modern dairy parlor, giving the dairy exhibitors an up to date milking system for their Fair entries in the dairy department. The parlor is designed for easy viewing by fairgoers so the milking process can be viewed during the Fair. Videos relating to the dairy industry are played on a big screen monitor mounted on the outside of the milking parlor, giving fairgoers the opportunity to learn about the dairy industry. An area is set aside in the dairy housing area of the Center for the birthing of dairy calves giving fairgoers an opportunity to be part of this birthing process. Birthing activity was expanded at the 2017 Fair.

In addition to an opportunity for the area youth, the Center will be used as an educational tool for the general public. During the Fair the swine production area is cleaned and disinfected each morning and opened to the public so they could experience what a modern swine production facility is like. And the Center has hosted several tours of area organizations and school field trips. The school field trips focused on the youth learning about the basics of both swine and dairy animals. They were able to watch cows being milked, learned about dairy cows and where milk comes from, viewed baby pigs and market-ready pigs, and learned about what pigs eat and how they are taken care of.

More information and photos of the Ag Education Center can be found on the Fair's Facebook page. A photo album on the page shows construction activity of the Center and posts sharing the experiences of the public and youth during the time the youth were working with their animals and during the Fair week in 2016. Go to www.facebook.com/MHCFair.

Reicks View Ag Education Center - Contribution Information

Invest in the Future of Our Youth and Education of Production Agriculture

You are invited be a part of the Center. Your contribution will assist in the mission of the Ag Education Center, which is teaching production agriculture to our area youth and general public.

All Contributors to the Ag Education Center will be recognized in the Center.

Multi-year payments (up to 3 years) is an option to assist in making a commitment to the Center.

** Recognition of a contribution of \$50,000 and more will be determined between the Contributor and representatives of the Center.

The Howard County Agricultural Society is a not-for-profit organization in the State of Iowa and is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501-c3 tax-exempt organization. A contribution (monetary & in-kind) to the Society is considered a charitable donation and therefore could be tax deductible. Check with your tax preparer.

We look forward to your commitment to the Reicks View Ag Education Center.

Breakdown of Contribution Levels

(Monetary & In-Kind)

Up to \$499

\$500 to \$999

\$1,000 to \$2,499

\$2,500 to \$4,999

\$5,000 to \$9,999

\$10,000 to \$49,000

** \$50,000 & above

Livestock Pen Sponsor
\$1,500 each

Make check payable to:

Howard County Agricultural Society

Send to:

P.O. Box 83, Cresco Iowa 52136

A receipt of your contribution will be sent to you.

Date:	Contribution: \$	Type of Contribution (Circle one)	Monetary	In-Kind
Contact Name:				
Business: <i>If Applies</i>				
Address:				
Phone:		E-mail:		
Information for recognition:				