

Management by...

Howard County Agricultural Society

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2026 OPEN CLASS EXHIBITOR GUIDE & FAIRGOER CONTESTS



Updated 4/27/2026

MIGHTY HOWARD COUNTY FAIR

CRESKO, IOWA

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This guide is available on the Fair's website, www.mhcfair.com.
Pre-entries not accepted. Enter projects as noted for each department.

HOWARD COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**** Denotes Voting Member**

President		Mike Walton **	Cresco
1st Vice President		Darrel Andera **	Cresco
2nd Vice President		Tim Huhe **	Cresco
Treasurer		Dan Ollendick **	Cresco
Executive Secretary		Tom Barnes	Cresco
Carol Burnikel **	Maple Leaf	Michael Ollendick **	Lime Springs
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Kenny Dotzler **	Cresco	Dr. Sarah Polashek DVM	Protivin
Becky Dunn **	Cresco	Jason Ryan	Ridgeway
Cory Ferrie **	Cresco	Eric Reicks **	Cresco
Don Ferrie **	Cresco	Vicki Reinhart	Cresco
Brad Holten **	Cresco	Dalton Scheidel	Cresco
Brent Holten **	Cresco	Lon Scheidel	Schley
Jim Irvin **	Riceville	Lynn Scheidel	Cresco
Susie Irvin	Riceville	Heather Slifka **	Cresco
Don Koshatka	Protivin	Paul Sobolik	Urbana
Dean Lickteig **	Cresco	Logan Thompson	Cresco
Dallas Linkenmeyer Howard County Extension Council Liaison	Riceville	Joe Wacha **	Cresco
Bill Mahr **	Lime Springs	Kennie Waller **	Schley
Janice Ollendick **	Cresco	Tim Walton **	Cresco

RULES & REGULATIONS of the MIGHTY HOWARD COUNTY FAIR

GENERAL RULES

NOTE: Fair Management reserves final and absolute right to interpret these Rules and Regulations and to settle and determine arbitrarily all matters regarding exhibiting or selling at the Howard County Fair.

1. The term "Board" as found in these rules & regulations refers to the Board of Directors of the Howard County Agricultural Society.
2. Violation of any of these Rules and Regulations, and the Show Ring Code of Ethics, of the Fair, shall result in disciplinary action by a committee, acting for and appointed by the Board.
3. The Howard County Agricultural Society reserves to its Board the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations and arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions, and differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of, connected with, or incidental to the fair.
4. In the event of conflict between the general and special rules, the latter will govern.
5. The Society will use diligence to ensure the safety of stock or articles after their arrival and placement, but in no case will the Society be responsible for any theft, accident or loss of property that might occur.
6. The Board of Directors will be in session at the Fair Office each day of the Fair for the transaction of any necessary business. Meeting times will be posted in the Fair Office.
7. Unless special permission is obtained from the Fair Secretary or Manager, the promiscuous distribution by individuals, businesses or organizations of handbills or other promotional matter is prohibited, and no tacking or posting of advertising, bills, cards, etc., will be permitted on any buildings or elsewhere on the Fairgrounds. The only posting of advertising materials allowed will be the promotion of official Fair sponsors and Fair events, and such posting of official Fair sponsors and Fair events will be under the control of the Fair Secretary or Manager.
8. To protect the health of all fairgoers, food and/or beverages cannot be served or otherwise distributed in all livestock areas (stalled areas and show arenas) of the fairgrounds. Refrigerators not allowed in livestock barns and adjoining area.
9. Campers must be parked in area designed for RV camping on the Fairgrounds and pay fees for camping as set by the Fair
10. No horses, bicycles, mopeds, motorcycles, or other motorized vehicles may be ridden in the immediate area of livestock barns, exhibit buildings, or outdoor exhibit areas. Only golf carts used by Fair personnel allowed. Refer to "Policy Statement in Reference to Disabled Persons" printed elsewhere in these rules & regulations.
11. No animal shall be allowed to run at large on the grounds. All animals must be on a leash, confined to a cage or otherwise restrained. While every precaution will be taken for safe keeping of the same the Board will in no case be responsible for loss or damage that may occur. **Pets are not allowed on the grounds unless entered in a Fair competition.**
12. **Service dogs**, as defined in the Code of Iowa, are allowed on the grounds but must be on a leash.
13. No person can serve on an awarding committee or advisory committee in any department, in which the person may directly, or indirectly, be interested in the result, as owner, agent or otherwise. The Board shall govern appointment of persons serving on such committees, as well as appointment of department superintendents.
14. No alcoholic beverages allowed on the fairgrounds, except for the licensed beverage area as governed by the Society. Consumption of alcoholic beverage allowed in the licensed beverage area only. Any persons found to have in possession, and/or consuming alcoholic beverages outside of the licensed beverage area will have beverages confiscated and could face criminal charges if the situation is determined to warrant the filing of criminal charges.
15. Absolutely no alcoholic beverages allowed in the youth areas of the fairgrounds and no alcohol may be consumed during any competitions, shows or other judging involving youth. Violation of this rule will result in the disqualification of the family from all activities and competitions of the Fair, forfeiture of all premiums, awards and other prizes earned by the family and the filing of criminal charges on the offending persons.
16. The Society, its superintendents and office personnel are not responsible for articles left at the Fair.

JUDGING & JUDGES

1. Judges are required to carefully read the general rules and special rules under the heading of the department in which they are to serve, before entering upon their duties, and to specifically note and mark those bearing on the classes to be judged by them. Judges are required to meet with department superintendent and Fair office prior to the show to finalize show schedule and rules.
2. Judges must not award prizes to an unworthy animal or exhibit. It is the intention of the Fair Board that no premium or distinction of any kind shall be given to an exhibit that is not deserving. This rule must be strictly adhered to whether there is competition or not.
3. Where there are fewer entries in the class than the number of premiums offered, judges may in their discretion, award a prize or prizes of such grade as the exhibit deserves.
4. Judges must report to the Superintendent of the department any exhibitor, who in any way, whether in person or by agents interfere with them during the judging or showing any disrespect to them. Whereupon the Superintendent shall, at his discretion, demand a proper apology or exclude him from further competition, and the Board may withhold from such exhibitor any premiums earned, and expel them from further exhibiting at the Fair.
5. In the case of all junior departments, absolutely no parental participation in the judging is allowed. The exhibitor is responsible for the actions of his/her parents, guardians, and other family members and friends that intercede in the judging of that exhibitor.
6. The judge and person acting as clerk to the judge must take special pains after making an award to see that the same is properly entered in the award class.
7. The decision of every judge shall be final in all cases, except where error, fraud, misrepresentation, or collusion, discovered at time of award is obvious. In such case, the Superintendent may render a decision.

ENTRIES

1. All entries must be filed with the department superintendent and in its proper place at the time listed.
2. All entries must be made on forms provided by the Fair.
3. Should any individual enter an animal or article in a name other than the bona fide owner or attempt to perpetrate a fraud by misrepresenting any fact, the entry thus made shall not be allowed to compete for any premiums. In case as to the age of any animal, the superintendent shall appoint an expert whose decision will be final.
4. Exhibits, which may have been erroneously entered, may, at the digression of the Fair Secretary and the Superintendent of the department, be transferred to their proper class before judging. In case such classes have been judged they shall not be re-judged.
5. No animal can be entered or exhibited as a purebred unless the same has been recorded in the recognized books of record for their respective breeds, and exhibitors must produce certificates of registry at the request of the Superintendent in charge any time during the Fair.
6. Stall and pens will not be reserved unless the required fee accompanies application. All stall or pen rates will be doubled when occupied by animals not exhibited.
7. All premiums and awards earned by an Exhibitor will be forfeited if the Exhibitor's entries, or any part of the entries, are removed before the designated checkout time. This also applies to any entries left after designated checkout time.
8. Fair Office and department superintendents make stall assignments. Any changes made in stall assignments without permission of Fair Office and Superintendent will result in forfeiture of all awards and premiums earned by the exhibitor(s) involved. In case of involvement by non-exhibitors, those exhibitor(s) who benefit from the situation will be penalized.

PREMIUMS & AWARDS

1. Unless noted, premiums will be distributed to exhibitors as soon after the Fair as possible.
2. The standard colors of awards will be used: Champion - Royal Purple; Reserve Champion – Lavender; First - Blue; Second - Red; Third - White.
3. If the award for a competition is something other than ribbons (plaque, trophy, etc.), then ribbons will not be given.
4. If an entry is made up of more than one person, it shall be referred to as a 'group entry'. If a group entry wins a major award (plaque, rosette or similar), the group entry shall be awarded the award that represents the competition of which the group entry participated in, and members of the group entry shall each receive a blue ribbon.
5. Should circumstances beyond the control of the Society prevent the usual income and thus diminish the funds so far as to fall short of funds to pay premiums in full they will be paid pro rata.
6. Special prizes will not be accepted for classes that do not conform to the regular classifications of the department in which they are offered unless for urgent reasons satisfactory to the Board and the Superintendent of the department in which they are offered.
7. Specials are limited to money prizes or articles of intrinsic value. Cups, medals, or other articles offered as special must be in the hands of the Secretary on opening day of the Fair or awards will not be made. The Board, in no way, will guarantee the delivery of such prizes offered.
8. No animals will be awarded a prize unless promptly brought into the show ring when class is called.
9. All entries will compete for listed premiums in the Class or Class LOT they are entered in. Should any Classes or Class LOTS be combined for any reason, premiums will be paid for the Class or Class LOT the entries are competing in. Premiums will not be combined between Classes or Class LOTS.
10. The Society will have absolute jurisdiction over all awards, premiums and trophies presented to exhibitors. Any special awards, other than those presented by the Society, must first be approved by the Society.

PROTESTS

1. All protests must be made in writing and accompanied by a deposit of \$30 in the livestock department and \$20 in all other departments, which will be forfeited if protest is not sustained.
2. Such protest must state plainly the cause of the complaint or appeal and must be filed with the Secretary within 12 hours after cause of protest.
3. The Board will consider no complaint or appeal based upon the statement that the judge or judges are incompetent.
4. Where the protest is to be made against the competition of an animal or article in any class, notice of the same should be filed with the Superintendent of the department before the class is passed upon, that the judges may be instructed to place a reserve award, that premiums may be properly distributed in the event of the protest being sustained.
5. The person(s), exhibitor, or agent of the same, who the protest decision is rendered against, shall pay all costs incurred in resolving the protest, including fees paid to persons hired by the Board to test, investigate and evaluate the animal or article that has been protested.

CONCESSIONS AND COMMERCIAL EXHIBITORS

1. All desiring to obtain leases for the sale of articles or for exhibitions must pay the price of such permits in advance. Contracts issued by the Fair office must be returned by the deadline date with payment in full for space fee, both as specified on the contract or the contract will be voided, and the space will be leased to another exhibitor.
2. Set up hours for commercial exhibits and concessions will be Monday from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Tuesday from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. of Fair week.
3. Space assigned and not occupied before 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, the first day of the Fair will be forfeited.
4. Commercial exhibit spaces must be occupied by the lessee by 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday of the Fair and remain in place until 7:30 p.m. on Sunday of the Fair. Vendor display hours will be set by the Fair Office.
5. Any lessee of space leaving before designated time loses right to return to the Fair, unless expressed permission has been secured from the Fair Office. Lessee also forfeits any deposits made to Fair for the space.
6. **The Fair reserves the right to restrict products or services offered by any and all vendors.**
7. No parking of vehicles, unless a part of the concession, will be allowed around the exhibit and central building complex. Vehicles may enter the area to load/unload goods or exhibits only. **No vehicles are allowed in this area from 10:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., unless expressed permission is received from the fair office.**
8. All special electrical and water hookups will be charged to exhibitor and collected for at time of hookup.
9. All concessions must furnish the Fair proof of product liability insurance for products sold. Those who do not have insurance must apply through the Fair office for proper insurance coverage, at a rate set by the Board of Directors of the Fair. Concessionaires will not be allowed to lease space without proper insurance and proof of such.
10. Charge for camping, electrical needs and water needs must be made with the Fair office.
11. All campers must park in the campground of the fairgrounds and pay fees for camping as set by the Fair Office.
12. All food concessionaires shall cause to be posted in a conspicuous manner, at the front or entrance of place of business, a sign showing the price charged for meals, lunches, drinks or articles of food offered for sale.
13. Exhibitors and concessionaires may advertise and distribute from their assigned concession space only.
14. To protect the health of all fairgoers food and/or beverages cannot be served or otherwise distributed in all livestock areas (stalled areas and show arenas) of the Fairgrounds.
15. No part of a commercial exhibit, inside or outside, may be in any way attached to any buildings and other property of the Fair. All exhibits must be free standing.
16. Expo Center exhibitors are prohibited from using nails, pins or other metal fasteners on walls and ceilings of Expo Center. Only approved tape may be used. At no time may any inside exhibitor hang or attach any signs, materials, banners, articles and such from light fixtures and/or any part of the ceiling.
17. Any commercial concession wanting to sell its product in the grandstand during the shows must first receive permission from the Fair office and pay any fees deemed appropriate by the office. All persons selling for vendors during the grandstand shows must pay the normal admission price to the shows.
18. A contracted concession or commercial exhibitor cannot sub-lease exhibit space to another party.
19. All commercial and food concessions must pay local and state sales tax on their food and goods sold and must provide to the Fair the Federal ID number, Iowa State Sales Tax number and/or personal Social Security number of the owner or agent of the concession. Temporary Iowa sales tax forms are available at the Fair office.
20. The Society will carefully guard against extortion in any form being practiced on the patrons of the Fair. A violation of the rule will cause forfeiture of contracts, money paid, and the expulsion from the grounds.

OPEN CLASS SUPERINTENDENTS

1. Each Superintendent shall have full charge of his, or her, department. They shall have the authority to select assistants and helpers unless otherwise provided, subject to the approval of the Board.
2. It shall be the duty and responsibility of Superintendents of departments, in cooperation with the Fair Board, to make and enforce such rules and interpretations as may be needed to insure proper functioning of departments. This shall cover eligibility and handling of entries, and all matters of procedures and conduct on part of exhibitors, in their relationship with the Fair, other exhibitors, and judging officials. Decisions shall be made that will carry out the policy of the Fair, to serve all interests in a dignified and beneficial manner with absolute fairness to all.

LIVESTOCK

1. All animals presented for exhibition at the Fair shall be subject to daily inspection during the Fair. Should any animal be found to be affected with any contagious, infectious or communicable disease, it shall be immediately removed. The Fair reserves the right to pregnancy check any market heifer.
2. Any exhibitor with animals requiring medical attention for any reason will go through the following steps:
 - a. Notify Superintendent of the department.
 - b. Superintendent will contact the Fair veterinarian to inspect the animal in question.
 - c. At any time after an animal arrives on the Fair premises, all treatments involving the use of drugs and/or medications shall be administered by a licensed veterinarian.
 - d. Upon diagnosis a licensed veterinarian will determine if treatment is necessary. If treatment is necessary, the owner's veterinarian will be notified to treat animal unless owner requests a Fair veterinarian to treat the animal.
 - e. Costs incurred in treating animals during the Fair will be paid by the Exhibitor.
 - f. Animals requiring treatment will be removed from the Fair if deemed necessary. If an animal is requested to be removed from the Fair by the Superintendent, it must be done so immediately.
3. Animals shall be presented to show events where they will enter the food chain free of forbidden drug residues. The act of entering an animal in the Mighty Howard County Fair is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor and/or ultimately responsible person for Fair Management to obtain any specimens of urine, saliva, blood or other substances from the animal to be used in testing. Animals not entered in an event which cumulates with the animal entering the food chain shall not be administered drugs other than in accordance with applicable federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules.
 - a. Livestock shall not be exhibited if the drugs administered in accordance with federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules affect the animal's performance or appearance at the event.
 - b. If the laboratory report on the analysis of saliva, urine, blood or other sample taken from livestock indicates the presence of forbidden drugs or medication, this shall be prima facie evidence such substance has been administered to the animal either internal or externally. It is presumed that the sample of urine, saliva, blood or other substance tested by the laboratory, to which it is sent, is the one taken from the animal in question, its integrity is preserved and all procedures of said collection and preservation, transfer to the laboratory and analysis of the sample are correct and accurate and the report received from the laboratory pertains to the sample taken from the animal in question and correctly reflects the condition of the animal at the time the sample was taken, with the burden on the owner, exhibitor or absolutely responsible person to prove otherwise.
 - c. Costs for testing of any animal shall be the responsibility of the owner, exhibitor or ultimately responsible person.
4. Any surgical procedure or injection of any foreign substance or drug or the external application of any substance (irritant, counterirritant, or similar substance) which could affect the animal's performance or alter its natural contour, confirmation or appearance, except external applications of substances to the hoofs or horns of animals which affect appearance only and except for surgical procedures performed by a duly licensed veterinarian for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal is prohibited.
5. An animal will be disqualified from exhibition if the animal's conformation (body shape) has been altered in any way to change the appearance of the animal; also included are diuretics before and after weighing or falsifying the age.
6. By the act of entering an animal in the Mighty Howard County Fair is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor or ultimately responsible person to have disciplinary action taken by the Fair for violation of the rules of competition of the Fair without recourse against the Fair.
7. By the act of entering an animal in the Mighty Howard County Fair the owner, exhibitor or ultimately responsible person shall allow Fair Management, at its discretion, to engage testing to authenticate the validity of any livestock entry. All exhibitors must present, upon request of Fair officials, proof of ownership, length of ownership and age of all animals entered. Misrepresentation of ownership, age, or any facts relating thereto is prohibited.
8. Owners, exhibitors or ultimately responsible persons shall provide animal health certificates from licensed veterinarians upon request by Fair officials.
9. Exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals while at the Fair.
10. Livestock must remain in place until posted release time of the Fair. Anyone removing livestock before release time without consent of Superintendent will lose all premiums awarded.
11. All animals must be raised in their natural environment. No artificial means shall be allowed.
12. When only one entry is exhibited in a class, the quality of the individual entry determines the award. A class does not necessarily have to have a blue or red award if the projects do not merit the placing.
13. All entries will compete for listed premiums in the class or class LOT they are entered in. Should any classes or class LOTs be combined for any reason, premiums will be paid for the class or class LOT the entries are competing in. Premiums will not be combined between classes or class LOTs.
14. Purebred calves may be registered in the name of the member or jointly as father and son or daughter.
15. Paper bedding is NOT allowed. Bedding is to be straw, wood chips or the like.
16. All awards and premiums earned by exhibitor will be withheld if stalls are not cleaned at close of the exhibition.
17. All swine, market beef and market lambs must be ear tagged (late ear tags will not be accepted).
18. Aisles in all barns must be kept open at all times.
19. Grooming chutes are allowed only in designated areas. Animals are to be groomed in their own stall/pen, or if more room is needed, outside of barn in area set aside for grooming by the Superintendent of the department. Designated areas for grooming chutes will be posted.
20. Exhibitors must wear closed-toe shoes or boots in livestock barns, show arenas and wash racks.

Livestock continued ...

21. Refrigerators are not allowed in livestock barns and adjoining area.
22. Unless otherwise approved by the Fair Office, exhibitor's supplies/tack shall be stored in the same housing area/building as their animals or in the exhibitor's truck/trailer.
23. Any exhibitor who in any way, whether in person or by agents, interferes with the judging procedure shall forfeit or cause forfeiture of all awards and premiums he/she would have gotten for that department.
24. The decision of every judge shall be final in all cases, except where error, fraud, misrepresentation, or collusion, discovered at time of award is obvious. In such case, Superintendent may render a decision.
25. Fair Management reserves final and absolute right to interpret these Rules and Regulations and to settle and determine arbitrarily all matters regarding exhibiting or selling at the Howard County Fair.
26. Refer to "PENALTIES" regarding penalties and sanctions for violation of any of the rules listed in this area.

PENALTIES

1. All premiums and awards earned by an exhibitor will be forfeited if the exhibitor's entries, or any part of the entries, are removed before the designated checkout time. This also applies to any entries left after designated checkout time.
2. Any lessee of commercial exhibit space leaving before designated time loses right to return to the Fair, unless expressed permission has been secured from the Fair Office. Lessee also forfeits any deposits made to Fair for the space.
3. Any person(s) consuming alcohol in the youth areas of the fairgrounds, and/or during any competitions, shows or other judging involving youth will result in the disqualification of the family from all activities and competitions of the Fair, forfeiture of all premiums, awards and other prizes earned by the family and the filing of criminal charges on the offending persons.
4. Regarding violations in livestock departments the following shall apply:
 - a. Any violation shall result in immediate disqualification of the animal(s) from the department that the violation occurred in and forfeiture of all premiums and awards earned, and disqualification from the ribbon auction. Violations for this penalty shall include, but not limited to:
 - i. Intervention of judging by family and/or friends
 - ii. Changing stall assignments without consent of the department superintendent and/or Fair office.
 - iii. Failure to care, feed and water animal(s).
 - iv. The grooming of animals by parties other than the exhibitor and his/her family.
 - v. Failure to comply with direction of, or intervention with the duties of, the department superintendent.
 - vi. The animal(s) have been found to be entered in, or shown at, another 4-H and/or FFA achievement show or fair.
 - vii. Other violations as determined by the superintendent and/or Fair office.
 - viii. Should the exhibitor violate another rule the following year that the exhibitor has been disqualified due to any of the previously mentioned rules, the exhibitor shall be in "serious violation" of the rules and section "b." shall apply.
 - b. If a serious violation of the rules is found, the following shall be sanctioned upon the exhibitor, and the exhibitor's family if they are deemed involved with the violation;
 - i. The exhibitor and family shall be barred from exhibiting in all livestock departments at the Howard County Fair and the Iowa State Fair for the next calendar year's fair.
 - ii. The exhibitor and family shall be barred from exhibiting in the livestock department that the violation occurred at the Howard County Fair and the Iowa State Fair for the next two calendar year fairs.
 - iii. The exhibitor, and the exhibitor's family, shall be placed on probation for the remainder of their years eligible to exhibit. Any further violation of the rules and regulations of the Fair shall permanently bar the exhibitor, and the exhibitor's family they are deemed involved with the violation, from exhibiting at the Howard County Fair and the Iowa State Fair.
 - iv. In the case of a serious violation of these rules, the name of the exhibitor and family, and the particulars of the violation(s) shall be forwarded to the International Association of Fairs and Expositions to be placed in a file that could prevent exhibition at livestock shows in the United States and Canada. Refer to guideline #10 in the Show Ring Code of Ethics.
 - v. Serious violations shall include, but not limited to;
 1. Altering the conformation of an animal by artificial means.
 2. Administering illegal drugs, or drugs that are not prescribed by a licensed veterinarian.
 3. Administering prohibited or dangerous drugs, or the use of legal drugs to artificially alter the appearance or performance of an animal.
 4. Falsifying records regarding ownership, age, or any facts thereto.
 5. Misrepresenting an exhibit, such as switching an animal(s) after they have been officially weighed in or otherwise entered.
 6. Leaving the Fair prior to scheduled release day and time unless permission is granted by the Fair Office and Department Superintendent.
 7. Repeated violations as outlined in 'a.' above.
 8. Other violations as determined by the superintendent and/or Fair office.

Howard County Agricultural Society, Cresco Iowa

dba Mighty Howard County Fair

Animal Care Policy

Purpose of the Animal Care Policy

The Animal Care Policy was established to ensure all animals involved with events of the Society receive the best care that is possible and practical. Some attendees of these vents are not familiar with common standards of care for livestock, pets and other animals. The animal displays and exhibits are intended to provide education and enjoyment for exhibitors and the public. The Society diligently works to enhance the image of animal ownership and to provide a positive experience for all.

General

- The Society does not tolerate animal cruelty, abuse, neglect or discomfort.
- The image of quality care is as important as the reality.
- The Fair serves as a teaching medium and offers the opportunity to educate the public about animal husbandry.
- The Fair provides a positive venue for exhibition, education and competition for youth and adults.
- The Society recognizes the standards of animal care have changed throughout the years.
- The role of animals, especially companion animals, in the quality of life of many members of the public has increased.
- Some may confuse tradition with acceptable standards. They are not the same.
- The Society works to ensure the safety of the public as well as animals at the Fair.

Superintendents of the Fair

- Superintendents are responsible to the Fair for ensuring accepted standards of animal care and for assisting in the enforcement of the rules/regulations of the Fair.
- Animals, contests, displays, pens and related environment should be viewed from the perspective of Fair visitors who know little about husbandry, the standards of care and related matters.
- Animals should be clean, well-bedded, fed and watered at all times.
- Problems and concerns should be called to the attention of the exhibitors immediately.
- Violations should be dealt with in a professional manner, but Superintendents should insist on corrective action.
- Report evidence of disease, significant discomfort and other serious problems to the Fair Veterinarians and to Fair Management.
- Animal abuse or neglect is cause for removal from the Fairgrounds. This action should be taken by the Iowa
- Rules require that all animal treatments, injections or administration of medications, including oral medications, must be approved by the Fair Veterinarians. **This means all animals, all classes, no exceptions.**
- Watch carefully for signs of discomfort or distress, especially heat stress, and take corrective action immediately.
- Any animal showing signs of infectious or contagious disease will be immediately isolated and removed from the Fairgrounds as soon as possible.
- The Board has implemented a policy that no pets will be allowed on the Fairgrounds, except for exhibition or those that provide assistance such as guide dogs for the blind.

Regulatory Matters

- The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship Veterinarians are responsible for enforcing state and federal animal disease control regulations. Only the IDALS Veterinarians and their designees have authority to make decisions related to disposition of animals that have or are suspected of having an infectious or contagious animal disease.
- All animals must be free of infectious, contagious or communicable disease or exposure thereto.
- Issues related to control of infectious diseases and regulatory matters shall be referred to the State Veterinarian or members of his staff.
- Animal drug use is governed by the Food and Drug Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Illegal use of animal drugs is a criminal violation of the U.S. Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, Animal Medical Drug Use Clarification Act, and other laws and regulations of the FDA.
- Rigorous control of veterinary drugs in show animals is necessary in order to protect the reputation of the Society and the market for animals exhibited at the Fair.

Fair Veterinarians

- The Fair Veterinarians are responsible for the delivery of veterinary services and performance of health procedures at the Fair.
- All issues of animal care, welfare or health should be referred to the Fair Veterinarians.
- The Veterinarians will report all major health and animal care issues to Fair Management.

Other Personnel

- It is the responsibility of Board Members, employees, volunteers and especially the exhibitors to help provide and enforce high standards of animal care at the Fair.
- Discrepancies or concerns should be reported to the Superintendents, responsible employees, Veterinarians and Board Members.
- Confrontation should be avoided if possible, but animal abuse or neglect will not be tolerated.

Biosecurity

- Signs that address prevention or introduction of contagious foreign animal diseases are posted throughout exhibition areas.
- Food is discouraged in all livestock housing and showing facilities.
- No raw food products prepared in a foreign country may be brought onto the property of the Society.
- Questions regarding these matters should be addressed to the Management.
- Being alert and observant can do much to help protect the livestock industry of the state and nation.

Protests and Demonstrations

- The Society recognizes the First Amendment of the US Constitution relating to free speech.
- If confrontations or protests occur or appear likely to occur, notify the Society's Manager and/or President of the Board immediately. Do not take personal or direct action.
- Media questions about protests, picketing or issues related to animal care should be addressed by the Manager, the Board President or their designees.
- Rules for protests/demonstrations on property of the Howard County Agricultural Society:
 - No individual or group may interrupt the normal activities of the Fair or other events of the Society.
 - Handing out literature of any type must be from a rented booth or similar facility.
 - A protest/demonstration must be arranged with Management of the Society.
 - Amplified methods are not allowed at any protest/demonstration.
 - Protesting/demonstrating group or individual shall be responsible for the proper disposal at their expense of any or all debris resulting in their event.
 - Protesting/demonstrating group or individual shall be responsible for the actions of all persons involved during their event and shall be held responsible for the actions of all persons.
 - Location of a protest/demonstration shall be in west parking lot adjacent to horse arena.
 - A protest/demonstration shall be allowed between 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.
 - The Society shall not be held liable for any actions or activities brought forth by and group or individual participating in a protest/demonstration.
 - The Society reserves final and absolute right to interpret these rules and to settle and determine arbitrarily all matters regarding protesting/demonstrating at any event/activity of the Society.

Animal Care Policy adopted by the Board of Directors of the Howard County Agricultural Society on April 5, 2016.

Attested by:



Executive Secretary, Howard County Agricultural Society

POLICY STATEMENT IN REFERENCE TO DISABLED PERSONS

HOWARD COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY CRESCO, IOWA

It is the desire of the Howard County Agricultural Society to comply with Chapter 104A of the Iowa Code and the Americans for Disability Act reference to public attendance at functions held on the Howard County Fairgrounds. To this end, the Howard County Agricultural Society has adopted the following policies:

1. **Handicapped parking.** Handicapped parking shall be available at several locations on the fairgrounds at clearly marked spaces, all of which shall be located as closely as possible to the area of activities relative to the function held.
2. **Motorized wheelchairs.** All motorized wheelchairs will be accepted and permitted on the fairgrounds proper, except where emanate risk of injury is apparent, such as the fairgrounds' speedway during racing events.
3. **Golf carts, ATVs and similar vehicles of conveyance.** Golf carts, ATVs and similar vehicles of conveyances shall be limited to fair personnel and staff. There shall be no public use of said vehicles on the fairgrounds, except as may be permitted reference to grandstand activities in which such vehicles are employed.
4. **Children on fair equipment and fair displays.** Children will not be permitted to sit or stand on unattended motorized vehicles, fair related displays of all types of equipment and vehicles. Staff and other personnel authorized to use golf carts or ATVs will be subject to sanctions if this rule is violated.
5. **Request for assistance.** Upon request for assistance by a disabled person to enter upon, go to and from the grandstand or other place of activity, if reasonably possible, authorized personnel will assist.
6. **Public policy.** The restriction reference golf carts, ATVs and similar vehicles is placed in our policy due to congestion which occurs in the traffic area of the fairgrounds and is intended for protection of the public and public safety and is not in any manner discriminatory not intended to be discriminatory against any person suffering physical or mental disabilities.

The policy is passed and adopted on this 5th day of February 2002.

Attested by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas V. Barnes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Thomas V. Barnes, Executive Secretary, Howard County Agricultural Society

HOWARD COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY CRESCO, IOWA

POLICY FOR WILD OR DANGEROUS ANIMALS

As per official action by the Board of Directors of the Howard County Agricultural Society, the following wild or dangerous animals are not allowed on the property of the Society. The only exemption to this policy shall be if the Society enters into contract with a State licensed attraction for the educational display of any of the following in a controlled enclosure during an event sponsored by the Society, such as a zoo or exhibition open to the public.

1. "Dangerous animal" means any animal (including a dog) which has bitten or clawed a person and the attack was unprovoked, or any animal that has exhibited vicious propensities in the past or present, including such that said animal (i) has bitten or clawed a person on one or more occasions within a 12-month period; or (ii) could not be controlled or restrained by the owner at the time of the attack to prevent the occurrence; or (iii) has attacked any domestic animal or fowl on three separate occasions within a 12-month period.
2. "Wild animal" means: (i) any animal that is not naturally tame or gentle, and which is of a wild nature or disposition, and which is capable of killing, inflicting serious injury upon or causing disease among human beings or domestic animals and having known tendencies as a species to do so; and (ii) the following animals, which are deemed to be wild animals per se:
 - a) Lions, tigers, jaguars, leopards, cougars, lynx and bobcats
 - b) Wolves, coyotes and foxes
 - c) Badgers, wolverines, weasels, skunk and mink
 - d) Raccoons
 - e) Bears
 - f) Monkeys and chimpanzees
 - g) Bats
 - h) Alligators, crocodiles and caimans
 - i) Scorpions
 - j) Snakes and reptiles that are venomous
 - k) Snakes that are constrictors, regardless of size or length
 - l) Gila monsters
 - m) Opossums
 - n) All apes, baboons and macaques
 - o) Piranhas

Adopted on 6/4/2024 by a majority vote of the Board of Directors of the Howard County Agricultural Society.

Attested By:



Thomas Barnes, Executive Secretary, Howard County Agricultural Society

2026 HEALTH REQUIREMENTS FOR EXHIBITION OF LIVESTOCK, POULTRY AND BIRDS AT A COUNTY 4H/FFA FAIR EXHIBITION


ANY EVIDENCE OF WARTS, RINGWORM, FOOT ROT, PINK EYE, DRAINING ABSCESSSES OR ANY OTHER CONTAGIOUS OR INFECTIOUS CONDITION WILL ELIMINATE THE ANIMAL FROM THE SHOW.

No individual Certificate of Veterinary Inspection will be required on Iowa origin animals or poultry exhibited at County 4-H/FFA Fair, but the animals must be inspected when unloaded or shortly thereafter by an accredited veterinarian. Swine are required to be inspected either before being unloaded or before leaving a designated isolation and inspection area (prior to mixing with any other pigs). All animals moving from out of state into an Iowa county 4H/FFA Fair must meet Iowa Animal and Livestock Importation requirements. Each show must have an official veterinarian.

Quarantined animals or animals from quarantined herds cannot be exhibited.

Official identification listed on a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection required for all cattle and bison of any age **coming in from out of state** used for rodeos, recreational events, shows and exhibitions.

SWINE

All swine must originate from a herd or area not under quarantine and must be individually identified. All swine are required to have individual official identification. All 4-H and FFA tags bearing the US shield  are official identification tags.

Swine originating outside of Iowa. All exhibitors must present a test record and Certificate of Veterinary Inspection that indicate that each swine has had a negative test for pseudorabies within 30 days prior to the show (individual show regulations may have more restrictive time restrictions), regardless of the status of the herd, and show individual official identification on test report. Electronic identification will not be considered official identification for exhibition purposes.

Swine exhibition requirements. “Swine exhibition” means an exhibit, demonstration, show, or competition involving an event on the state fairgrounds, a county fair, or other exhibition event. The sponsor of the exhibition must retain an Iowa licensed veterinarian to supervise the health of the swine at the exhibition location. The sponsor must electronically file the approved registration form and obtain approval from the state veterinarian at least 30 days before the event. The registration form includes the name of the exhibition and the address and telephone number of its location; the name, address and telephone number of the veterinarian; and the date of the planned exhibition. Sales of swine will not be allowed unless the event has been registered and received approval from the state veterinarian 30 days prior to the event.



Swine exhibition report required. The sponsor of the swine exhibition shall electronically submit to the department the approved report form within five business days after the conclusion of the exhibition. The form includes the name of the exhibition and the address and telephone number of its location; the name, address and telephone number of the veterinarian; the date that the exhibition occurred; the name, address and telephone number of the owner of the swine; and the address and telephone number of the premises from which the swine was moved after the exhibition if such premises is a different premises.

SHEEP AND GOATS

All sexually intact sheep must have an individual Scrapie Flock of Origin identification tag (Ex. IA1234-5678) or another official Scrapie tag. All sexually intact goats must be identified with an individual Scrapie Flock of Origin identification tag (Ex. IA1234-5678), another official Scrapie tag, or by an official tattoo registered with USDA (to register, call 1-866-USDA-TAG; 1-866-873-2824). Wethers less than 18 months of age are required to have an individual identification and a Scrapie tag may be used, but a Scrapie tag is not required.

POULTRY AND BIRDS

All poultry exhibited must come from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid clean or equivalent flocks, or have had a negative Pullorum-Typhoid test within 90 days of public exhibition and the test must have been performed by an authorized tester. (SEE GENERAL SECTION 1.B) **Please note: Poultry purchased from a hatchery and raised for exhibition are not exempt from Pullorum-Typhoid testing requirements.**

However, "Market Classes" of poultry consigned to a slaughter establishment are exempt from the Salmonella testing requirements. "Market Classes" of poultry must be separated from all other poultry by a distance of ten or more feet and/or an eight-foot-high solid partition.

DOGS AND CATS

All dogs and cats exhibited must have a current rabies vaccination certificate.

FARM DEER

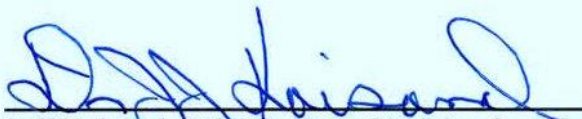
Accredited veterinarians must be approved to administer tuberculosis tests on Cervidae.

“Cervidae” means all animals belonging to the cervidae family, and “CWD susceptible cervidae” means whitetail deer, blacktail deer, mule deer, red deer, elk and moose. Native Iowa Cervidae may be exhibited without other testing requirements when accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection that lists individual official identification.

All Cervidae must have been part of the herd of origin for at least one year or were natural additions, or must have originated from a chronic wasting disease monitored or certified herd in which these animals have been kept for at least one year or were natural additions. Cervidae originating from a herd with a diagnosis, signs, epidemiological evidence, or area under quarantine for chronic wasting disease may not be exhibited. The following statement must appear on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection:

“All Cervidae on this certificate have been part of the herd of origin for at least one year or were natural additions to this herd. There has been no diagnosis, signs, or epidemiological evidence of chronic wasting disease in this herd for the past year.”

THE DECISION OF THE OFFICIAL SHOW VETERINARIAN WILL BE FINAL.



Jeff Kaisand, D.V.M., State Veterinarian
Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

2026 MIGHTY HOWARD COUNTY FAIR
CREATIVE ACTIVITIES FAIR LISTINGS

Becky Dunn, Myranda Carey, Julie Dietzenbach, Vicki Reinhart & Sara Ryan, Superintendents
Mighty Howard County Fair Board, Caretakers

Enter & Display in the *Featherlite Center*

- ⇒ One entry per class lot; All entries must have been made since June 2025
- ⇒ Entries are accepted from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23
- ⇒ Entry release time is 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, June 28
- ⇒ All premiums earned by an Exhibitor will be forfeited if the Exhibitor's entries, or any part of the entries, are removed before the designated checkout time. This also applies to any entries left after designated checkout time.
- ⇒ Exhibitors are to refer to the Rules and Regulations for all matters concerning this department.
- ⇒ ENTRY FEE: (Would appreciate correct change) 25 cents

YOUTH -- DEPARTMENT 110

Open to all youth 17 years of age and younger

Department Premiums (unless otherwise noted): Blue, \$2.00; Red, \$1.00

CLASS 1 -- PICTURES

Lot 1, Oil; Lot 2, Acrylic; Lot 3, Watercolor; Lot 4, Pencil Drawings; Lot 5, Pastel Chalk; Lot 6, Charcoal;
Lot 7, Colored Markers; Lot 8, Colored Pencils; Lot 9, Acrylic Kit or Paint by Number; Lot 10, Crayon;
Lot 11, Crayon Etching; Lot 12, Diamond Dot; LOT 13, Other

CLASS 2 -- SCULPTURED

Lot 1, Wire; Lot 2, Wood; Lot 3, Clay; Lot 4, Other

CLASS 3 -- MODELS

Lot 1, Cars; Lot 2, Farm Machinery; Lot 3, Trucks; Lot 4, Airplanes; Lot 5, Animals; Lot 6, Other

CLASS 4 -- BOOKMARKS

Lot 1, Cross Stitch; Lot 2, Stencil; Lot 3, Plastic Mesh; Lot 4, Other

CLASS 5 -- SUN CATCHERS

Lot 1, Kit; Lot 2, Homemade

CLASS 6 -- REFRIGERATOR ITEMS

Lot 1, Felt or Foam; Lot 2, Plastic Mesh; Lot 3, Bread Dough; Lot 4, Pompom; Lot 5, Other

CLASS 7 -- NOVELTIES

Lot 1, Hair Accessories; Lot 2, Jewelry; Lot 3, Other

CLASS 8 -- STUFFED ITEM

Lot 1, Doll; Lot 2, Animal; Lot 3, Other

CLASS 9 -- MASKS

CLASS 10 -- PLASTIC MESH NEEDLEPOINT

CLASS 11 – CERAMICS

CLASS 12 – WOODWORKING

Lot 1, Car; Lot 2, Truck; Lot 3, Machinery; Lot 4, Other

CLASS 13 -- CLAY POTTERY

Lot 1, Animal; Lot 2, Vase; Lot 3, Pitcher; Lot 4, Mug; Lot 5, Thrown; Lot 6, Slab; Lot 7, Hand Built; Lot 8, Clay Sculptures; Lot 9, Dish; Lot 10, Other

CLASS 14-- WALL HANGINGS (ready to hang)

Lot 1, Cross Stitch; Lot 2, Stencil; Lot 3, Crewel; Lot 4, Other

CLASS 15 -- HOLIDAY CORNER

Lot 1, Christmas; Lot 2, Easter; Lot 3, Halloween; Lot 4, Thanksgiving; Lot 5, Ornaments, set of 3 or 4; Lot 6, Other

CLASS 16 -- SEWING (Constructed by youth through 17 years of age)

Lot 1, Dress; Lot 2, Blouse; Lot 3, Sportswear; Lot 4, Vests; Lot 5, Skirt; Lot 6, Sleepwear; Lot 7, Recycled; Lot 8, Doll Clothes; Lot 9, Other

CLASS 17 – QUILTS

Lot 1, Pieced, Machine Quilted; Lot 2, Pieced, Hand Quilted; Lot 3, Pieced, Tied; Lot 4, Printed, Machine Quilted; Lot 5, Printed, Hand Quilted; Lot 6, Printed, Tied; Lot 7, "My First Quilt"; Lot 8, Fleece; Lot 9, Other

CLASS 18—Knitting

Lot 1, Scarf; Lot 2, Leg/Arm Warmer; Lot 3, Other

CLASS 19—CROCHET

Lot 1, Dolls; Lot 2, Doily; Lot 3, Rugs; Lot 4, Purse; Lot 5, Other

CLASS 20 – JEWELRY

Lot 1, Embroidery Floss; Lot 2, Beads; Lot 3, Woven; Lot 4, Other

CLASS 21 – PUPPETS

CLASS 22 – SCRAPBOOK

CLASS 23 – GRAPHICS

Lot 1, Greeting Cards, set of 2; Lot 2, Invitations; Lot 3, Note Cards; Lot 4, Stationary; Lot 5, Other

CLASS 24 – ROCKS

Lot 1, Painted; Lot 2, Models; Lot 3, Other

CLASS 25 – PUZZLES

Lot 1, 250 plus pieces; Lot 2, 3-D; Lot 3, Photo Mosaic; Lot 4, Other

CLASS 26 – RECYCLING

Lot 1, Birdhouse; Lot 2, Lawn Ornaments; Lot 3, Household; Lot 4, Multi-Media; Lot 5, Other

CLASS 27 - PHOTOGRAPHY (5"x7" Mounted or Framed)

Photo to be no smaller than 4"x 6" or larger than 8"x10"

Lot 1, Animals; Lot 2, People; Lot 3, Landscape; Lot 4, Flowers; Lot 5, Birds or Fowl; Lot 6, Sunrise/sunset; Lot 7, Building/barn, house, etc.; Lot 8, Other

ARTS & CRAFTS – DEPARTMENT 111

Open to all Ages

Department Premiums (unless otherwise noted): Blue, \$2.00; Red, \$1.00

CLASS 1 – DOLLS

CLASS 2 – ANIMALS

Lot 1, Knit; Lot 2, Crochet; Lot 3, Sock; Lot 4, Soft Sculpture; Lot 5, Fur; Lot 6, Fabric; Lot 7, Other

CLASS 3 -- PICTURE

Lot 1, Embroidered; Lot 2, Crewel; Lot 3, Needlepoint; Lot 4, Stencil; Lot 5, Charcoal; Lot 6, Abstract; Lot 7, Dot drawing; Lot 8, Other

CLASS 4 -- FLORAL ARRANGEMENT

Lot 1, Silk; Lot 2, Dried; Lot 3, Bridal Bouquet; Lot 4, Swags; Lot 5, Other

CLASS 5 – WOODWORK – WOOD ART

Lot 1, Lamps; Lot 2, Small Furniture; Lot 3, Cradle; Lot 4, Quilt Rack; Lot 5, Clocks; Lot 6, Toys; Lot 7, Trays; Lot 8, Wall Hanging; Lot 9, Plaque; Lot 10, Kitchen Accessory; Lot 11, Animal; Lot 12, Models; Lot 13, Birdhouse; Lot 14, Wood Lathe; Lot 15, Sculptures; Lot 16, Carving; Lot 17, Chip Carving; Lot 18, Other

CLASS 6 – JEWELRY

Lot 1, China Painting; Lot 2, Wooden; Lot 3, Gems; Lot 4, Clay; Lot 5, Beads; Lot 6, Other

CLASS 7 -- SCRAPBOOKING

CLASS 8 – NOVELTIES

Lot 1, Kitchen; Lot 2, Bathroom; Lot 3, Other

CLASS 9 -- PLASTIC MESH NEEDLEPOINT

CLASS 10 – WREATH

Lot 1, Grapevine; Lot 2, Cornhusk; Lot 3, Straw; Lot 4, Fabric; Lot 5, Other

CLASS 11 -- REFRIGERATOR ITEM

Lot 1, Soft Sculpture; Lot 2, Needlepoint; Lot 3, Felt or Foam; Lot 4, Macramé; Lot 5, Bread Dough; Lot 6, Plastic Canvas; Lot 7, Other

CLASS 12 -- PAINTING

Lot 1, Animal; Lot 2, Scenery; Lot 3, Buildings; Lot 4, Birds; Lot 5, Saw; Lot 6, Cream Can; Lot 7, Saws; Lot 8, Other

CLASS 13 -- THINGS FROM NATURE

Lot 1, Gourd; Lot 2, Rock; Lot 3, Pine Cone; Lot 4, Leaf; Lot 5, Other

CLASS 14 – CERAMICS/POTTERY

CLASS 15 -- PHOTOGRAPHY (5" X 7" - Mounted or Framed)

(Photo to be no smaller than 4"x6" and no larger than 8"x10")

Lot 1, Animals; Lot 2, People; Lot 3, Landscape; Lot 4, Flowers; Lot 5, Sunrise/Sunset; Lot 6, Building/Barn, House, etc.; Lot 7, Birds or Fowl; Lot 8, Other

ARTS & CRAFTS – DEPARTMENT 111 continued ...

CLASS 16 -- GRAPHICS

Lot 1, Cards; Lot 2, Gift Tags; Lot 3, Stationary; Lot 4, Wall Hanging; Lot 5, Other

CLASS 17 – FOYER - OUTDOOR POSTS

Lot 1, Spring; Lot 2, Summer; Lot 3, Fall; Lot 4, Winter; Lot 5, Other

CLASS 18 – PUZZLE

Lot 1, 250 plus pieces; Lot 2, 3-D; Lot 3, Photo Mosaic; Lot 4, Other

CLASS 19 – RECYCLING

Lot 1, Birdhouse; Lot 2, Lawn Ornaments; Lot 3, Household; Lot 4, Multi-Media; Lot 5, Other

CLASS 20 – LEATHERWORK

Lot 1, Wallet; Lot 2, Belt; Lot 3, Other

CLASS 21 - DIAMOND DOT

Lot 1, Flower; Lot 2, Animals; Lot 3, Landscape; Lot 4, Holiday; Lot 5, Other

CARRYING ON TRADITION – DEPARTMENT 112

Open to all Ages

Department Premiums (unless otherwise noted): Blue, \$2.00; Red, \$1.00

CLASS 1 -- TABLE RUNNER

Lot 1, Pieced, Machine Quilted; Lot 2, Pieced, Hand Quilted; Lot 3, Appliqué; Lot 4, Seasonal; Lot 5, Other

CLASS 2 -- PILLOW CASE

**Lot 1, Embroidered; Lot 2, Crochet Edge; Lot 3, Appliqué; Lot 4, Stencil; Lot 5, Cross Stitch;
Lot 6, Cut Work; Lot 7, Tatting Trim; Lot 8, Knit Edge; Lot 9, Other**

CLASS 3 – TOWEL

Lot 1, Embroidered; Lot 2, Appliqué; Lot 3, Stencil; Lot 4, Other

CLASS 4 -- LUNCH CLOTH

**Lot 1, Embroidered; Lot 2, Appliqué; Lot 3, Czech Stitchery; Lot 4, Stencil; Lot 5, Hardanger;
Lot 6, Cross Stitch; Lot 7, Crochet; Lot 8, Other**

CLASS 5 -- TABLECLOTH

**Lot 1, Embroidered; Lot 2, Appliqué; Lot 3, Crochet; Lot 4, Pieced; Lot 5, Placemats; Lot 6, Hardanger;
Lot 7, Cross Stitch; Lot 8, Czech Stitchery; Lot 9, Knit; Lot 10, Other**

CLASS 6 -- DOILY & CENTERPIECE

**Lot 1, Crocheted; Lot 2, Knit; Lot 3, Embroidered; Lot 4, Cross-Stitch; Lot 5, Appliqué; Lot 6, Hardanger;
Lot 7, Czech Stitchery; Lot 8, Pieced or Quilted; Lot 9, Tatting; Lot 10, Other**

CLASS 7 – PILLOW

**Lot 1, Knit; Lot 2, Crocheted; Lot 3, Needlepoint; Lot 4, Embroidered; Lot 5, Crewel; Lot 6, Pieced;
Lot 7, Appliqué; Lot 8, Latch Hook; Lot 9, Stencil; Lot 10, Hardanger; Lot 11, Quilted;
Lot 12, Printed/Quilted; Lot 13, Other**

CLASS 8 – RUG

Lot 1, Braided; Lot 2, Crocheted; Lot 3, Knit; Lot 4, Hook; Lot 5, Loom; Lot 6, Latch Hook; Lot 7, Other

CARRYING ON TRADITION – DEPARTMENT 112 continued ...

CLASS 9 -- DRESSER SCARF or RUNNER

Lot 1, Crochet; **Lot 2**, Knit; **Lot 3**, Embroidered; **Lot 4**, Hardanger; **Lot 5**, Appliqué; **Lot 6**, Cross Stitch; **Lot 7**, Czech Stitchery; **Lot 8**, Tatting Trim; **Lot 9**, Other

CLASS 10 -- COSTUME

Lot 1, Halloween; **Lot 2**, Dance; **Lot 3**, Other

SEWING -- DEPARTMENT 113

Open to all Ages

Department Premiums (unless otherwise noted): Blue, \$2.00; Red, \$1.00

CLASS 1 -- GARMENT

Lot 1, Dress; **Lot 2**, Formal; **Lot 3**, Blouse; **Lot 4**, Skirt; **Lot 5**, Coat; **Lot 6**, Slacks; **Lot 7**, Suit; **Lot 8**, Vest; **Lot 9** Swimwear; **Lot 10**, Nightwear; **Lot 11**, Housecoat; **Lot 12**, Sportswear; **Lot 13**, Bonnet; **Lot 14**, Bibs; **Lot 15**, Other

CLASS 2 -- SWEATSHIRT

Lot 1, Applique; **Lot 2**, Painting; **Lot 3**, Cross Stitch; **Lot 4**, Other

CLASS 3 -- ACCESSORY

Lot 1, Apron; **Lot 2**, Purse; **Lot 3**, Tote; **Lot 4**, Other

CLASS 4 -- KITCHEN ACCESSORY

Lot 1, Potholders, set of two; **Lot 2**, Hot Pads, set of two; **Lot 3**, Other

CLASS 5 -- NURSERY ITEMS

Lot 1, Wall hanging; **Lot 2**, Diaper Bag; **Lot 3**, Other

CLASS 6 -- HOMEMADE DOLL CLOTHES

Lot 1, Barbie; **Lot 2**, China Doll; **Lot 3**, American Girl; **Lot 4**, Cabbage Patch; **Lot 5**, Other

CLASS 7 -- RECYCLING

Lot 1, Clothes; **Lot 2**, Quilt; **Lot 3**, Dolls; **Lot 4**, Rugs; **Lot 5**, Accessories; **Lot 6**, Other

CLASS 8 -- NOVELTY

CLASS 9 -- COSTUME

Lot 1, Halloween; **Lot 2**, Dance; **Lot 3**, Traditional; **Lot 4**, Other

HOLIDAY CORNER -- DEPARTMENT 114

Open to all Ages

Department Premiums (unless otherwise noted): Blue, \$2.00; Red, \$1.00

CLASS 1 -- CHRISTMAS STOCKING

Lot 1, Knit; Lot 2, Crochet; Lot 3, Fabric; Lot 4, Appliqué; Lot 5, Felt; Lot 6, Quilted; Lot 7, Other

CLASS 2 -- DOOR DECORATION

Lot 1, Spring; Lot 2, Summer; Lot 3, Fall; Lot 4, Winter; Lot 5, Other

CLASS 3 -- ANGEL

Lot 1, Crochet; Lot 2, Fabric; Lot 3, Other

CLASS 4 -- CENTERPIECE

Lot 1, Easter; Lot 2, Halloween; Lot 3, Thanksgiving; Lot 4, Christmas; Lot 5, Other

CLASS 5 -- WREATH

Lot 1, Easter; Lot 2, Halloween; Lot 3, Thanksgiving; Lot 4, Christmas; Lot 5, Other

CLASS 6 -- CHRISTMAS TREE

Lot 1, Ceramic; Lot 2, Fabric; Lot 3, Other

CLASS 7 -- HOLIDAY TREE SKIRT

CLASS 8 -- WALL HANGING

Lot 1, Easter; Lot 2, 4th of July; Lot 3, Halloween; Lot 4, Thanksgiving; Lot 5, Christmas; Lot 6, Other

CLASS 9 -- TREE ORNAMENTS (Set of 3 or 4)

Lot 1 Knit; Lot 2, Crochet; Lot 3, Fabric; Lot 4, Plastic Canvas; Lot 5, Dough Art; Lot 6, Stained Glass; Lot 7, Hardanger; Lot 8, Clothespin; Lot 9, Soft Sculpture; Lot 10, Specialty; Lot 11, Other

CLASS 10 -- PATRIOTIC

Lot 1, Flag; Lot 2, Doll; Lot 3, Centerpiece; Lot 4, Ornaments, 3 or 4; Lot 5, Other

CLASS 11 -- SNOWMEN

Lot 1, Fabric; Lot 2, Wood; Lot 3, Centerpiece; Lot 4, Lot 5, Other

COUNTED CROSS STITCH -- DEPARTMENT 115

Open to all Ages

Department Premiums (unless otherwise noted): Blue, \$3.00; Red, \$2.00

CLASS 1 -- COUNTED CROSS STITCH

Lot 1, Picture (ready to hang); Lot 2, Wall Hanging (ready to hang); Lot 3, Christmas Stocking; Lot 4, Towel; Lot 5, Dresser Scarf; Lot 6, Other

QUILTING, CROCHETING & KNITTING -- DEPARTMENT 116

Open to all Ages

Department Premiums (unless otherwise noted): Blue, \$4.00; Red, \$3.00

CLASS 1 – ADULT QUILT

Lot 1, Pieced, Hand Quilted; Lot 2, Pieced, Tied; Lot 3, Appliqué; Lot 4, Embroidered;
 Lot 5, Miniature, (Not more than 15 inches square); Lot 6, Pieced, Machine Quilted; Lot 7, Printed, Hand Quilted;
 Lot 8, Printed, Machine Quilted; Lot 9, Pieced, Free Motion Quilting; LOT 10, Printed, Tied;
 Lot 11, "My First Quilt"; Lot 12, Other

CLASS 2 – BABY QUILT

Lot 1, Tied; Lot 2, Embroidery; Lot 3, Pieced, Machine Quilted; Lot 4, Pieced, Hand Quilted; Lot 5, Other

CLASS 3 – FLEECE

Lot 1, Blanket or Throw; Lot 2, Pillow; Lot 3, Other

CLASS 4 – SPECIALTY QUILT

Lot 1, Machine embroidery; Lot 2, T-Shirts; Lot 3, Photo; Lot 4, Paper piecing; Lot 5, Thread painting;
 Lot 6, Fabric painting; Lot 7, Memory (include story about the memory on 3x5 card); Lot 8, Art; Lot 9, Other

CLASS 5 -- WALL HANGING

Lot 1, Applique; Lot 2, Embroidery; Lot 3, Printed, Hand Quilted; Lot 4, Printed, Machine Quilted;
 Lot 5, Pieced, Hand Quilted; Lot 6, Pieced, Machine Quilted; Lot 7, Needlepoint; Lot 8, Free Motion Lot 9, Other

CLASS 6—Table Runner

Lot 1, Easter; Lot 2, Spring; Lot 3, 4th of July; Lot 4, Summer; Lot 5, Halloween; Lot 6, Fall;
 Lot 7, Christmas; Lot 8, Winter; Lot 9, Specialty; Lot 10, Other

CLASS 7 – Piece Maker Quilt Guild Challenge

Lot 1, Smaller Than 8" x 8"; Lot 2, Wall Hanging; Lot 3, Table Runner; Lot 4, Other

CLASS 8 – CROCHETING

Lot 1, Afghan; Lot 2, Bedspread; Lot 3, Stole or Cape; Lot 4, Poncho; Lot 5, Sweater;
 Lot 6, Vest; Lot 7, Baby Set, (sweater & bonnet); Lot 8, Scarf; Lot 9, Hand Wear; Lot 10, Hat;
 Lot 11, Baby Item; Lot 12, Purse; Lot 13, Potholder, set of two; Lot 14, Other

CLASS 9 – KNITTING

Lot 1, Afghan; Lot 2, Bedspread; Lot 3, Stole or Cape; Lot 4, Poncho; Lot 5, Vest; Lot 6, Sweater;
 Lot 7, Baby Set, (sweater & bonnet); Lot 8, Scarf; Lot 9, Hand Wear; Lot 10, Hat;
 Lot 11, Baby Item; Lot 12, Purse; Lot 13, Potholders, set of two; Lot 14, Other

GOLDEN AGE CREATIONS -- DEPARTMENT 117

Residents of Care Facilities Only – No entry fee

Department Premiums: Blue, \$2.00; Red, \$1.00 (unless otherwise noted)

CLASS 1	QUILTS & BEDSPREADS	CLASS 8	NOVELTIES
CLASS 2	LUNCHEON or TABLECLOTH	CLASS 9	WEAVING
CLASS 3	DOILY or CENTERPIECE	CLASS 10	CROSS STITCH
CLASS 4	KNITTING	CLASS 11	PHOTOGRAPHY
CLASS 5	CROCHETING	CLASS 12	PAINTINGS
CLASS 6	EMBROIDERY	CLASS 13	MISCELLANEOUS
CLASS 7	WOODWORK		

SPECIAL NEEDS -- DEPARTMENT 118

Department Premiums: Blue, \$2.00; Red, \$1.00 (unless otherwise noted)

CLASS 1	QUILT	CLASS 7	NOVELTIES
CLASS 2	CENTERPIECE	CLASS 8	CROSS STITCH
CLASS 3	CROCHETING	CLASS 9	PHOTOGRAPHY Photo no smaller than 4" x 6" or larger than 8" x 10"
CLASS 4	KNITTING		
CLASS 5	EMBROIDERY	CLASS 10	PAINTINGS
CLASS 6	WOODWORK	CLASS 11	MISCELLANEOUS

2026 MIGHTY HOWARD COUNTY FAIR

FLOWERS & PLANTS

DEPARTMENT 140

Superintendents: Becky Dunn, Carol Burnikel, Myranda Carey, Julie Dietzenbach, Suzanne Ollendick, Vicki Reinhart, Sara Ryan, Joe Wacha and Kennie Waller

Open to All --- Entries must be from July 1, 2025, to date

Enter & Display in the *Featherlite Center*

- ⇒ Open to all persons, pre-school age to adults.
- ⇒ Professional Growers may not compete for prizes.
- ⇒ All plants exhibited must have been in the Exhibitor's possession at least 60 days prior to entry day.
- ⇒ Entries accepted from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23
- ⇒ Entry release time is 2:30 p.m. Sunday, June 28
- ⇒ All premiums earned by an Exhibitor will be forfeited if the Exhibitor's entries, or any part of the entries, are removed before the designated checkout time. This also applies to any entries left after designated checkout time.
- ⇒ Superintendents reserve the right to refuse any entry.
- ⇒ Exhibitors are to refer to the Rules and Regulations for all matters concerning this department.
- ⇒ ENTRY FEE: (Would appreciate correct change) 25 cents per entry
- ⇒ PREMIUMS PAID -- First \$2.00 Second \$1.00

CLASS 1 – Arrangements

Open to All Ages

- LOT 1 – “Let’s Be Unusual” – Anything goes ... Use Your Imagination
- LOT 2 – “Fairy Garden” – Be Creative
- LOT 3 - “250th Celebration of USA”-Red, White, and Blue

CLASS 2 -- POTTED PLANTS

LOT 1	African Violet	LOT 9	Gloxinia
LOT 2	Begonia, Rex, Angel, Large leaf	LOT 10	Hanging House Plant
LOT 3	Herbs	LOT 11	Succulents
LOT 4	Cacti	LOT 12	Tropical
LOT 5	Coleus	LOT 13	Vines
LOT 6	Fern	LOT 14	Hanging Blooming Baskets
LOT 7	Firecracker	LOT 15	Other
LOT 8	Fuchsia		

CLASS 3 -- SPECIMENS (one stem of each or not more than 3 stems)

LOT 1	Allium	LOT 26	Flax	LOT 51	Primrose
LOT 2	Alyssum	LOT 27	Fox Glove	LOT 52	Rose
LOT 3	Astilbe	LOT 28	Gaillardia	LOT 53	Rose/Miniature
LOT 4	Bachelor Button	LOT 29	Geranium	LOT 54	Rose/Other
LOT 5	Bee Balm	LOT 30	Honeysuckle	LOT 55	Rudbeckia
LOT 6	Bleeding Heart	LOT 31	Hosta (Limit of 2 Entries)	LOT 56	Salvia
LOT 7	Butterfly	LOT 32	Hydrangea	LOT 57	Scabosia
LOT 8	Calendula	LOT 33	Impatient	LOT 58	Sedum
LOT 9	Cala Lily	LOT 34	Iris	LOT 59	Snapdragon
LOT 10	Calibrachoa	LOT 35	Lambs Ear	LOT 60	Spider Wort
LOT 11	Campanula	LOT 36	Larkspur	LOT 61	Spike
LOT 12	Canterbury	LOT 37	Lavender Bell	LOT 62	Spirea
LOT 13	Carnation	LOT 38	Lily	LOT 63	Statice
LOT 14	Clematis	LOT 39	Lithium	LOT 64	Sweet Pea
LOT 15	Coleus	LOT 40	Lupine	LOT 65	Sweet William
LOT 16	Columbine	LOT 41	Marigold	LOT 66	Verbena
LOT 17	Coral Bells	LOT 42	Osteospermum	LOT 67	Veronica
LOT 18	Coreopsis	LOT 43	Pansies	LOT 68	Viola
LOT 19	Daisy	LOT 44	Peony	LOT 69	Yarrow
LOT 20	Daylily	LOT 45	Petunia	LOT 70	Other
LOT 21	Delphinium	LOT 46	Phlox	LOT 71	
LOT 22	Dianthus	LOT 47	Penstemon	LOT 72	
LOT 23	Echinacea/Cone Flower	LOT 48	Pin Cushion	LOT 73	
LOT 24	Fern	LOT 49	Poppy	LOT 74	
LOT 25	Fever Few	LOT 50	Potentilla	LOT 75	

2026 MIGHTY HOWARD COUNTY FAIR

OPEN CLASS BUCKET CALF SHOW -- Department 101

Wednesday June 24, 9:00 a.m.

Participation Ribbons will be awarded

NOTE: This department is not limited to 4-H and FFA youth. It is open to all youth, ages 4 years old through 3rd grade. No pre-entry is required.

This department will be judged before the start of the 4-H and FFA Dairy Show

NOTE: The intent of the Open Class Bucket Calf Show is to introduce livestock care and showing to youngsters. This show does not rate the animals nor the exhibitors. The animals are used as a means of learning and a hands-on tool offering the youngsters a taste of showing livestock at the county fair, including show-ring ethics, communicating with a judge and being in a show-ring in front of others. This show is not a competition but intended to be a fun activity for the young exhibitors.

1. **Entries must have calved after March 1, 2026.**
2. Limit is one entry per exhibitor. Entry for this show will be taken at the Emmett Wilson Arena prior to the show. Livestock show coordinators will take entries for this department prior to the show.
3. All calves shown in this department must be unique to this department. This means any calves shown may not compete in any other department, including any in the junior achievement show, and vice versa.
4. Calves may be crossbred, straight bred, dairy or beef.
5. All bucket calves will be shown at halter. The superintendent may divide or combine entries depending on total entries.
6. The exhibitors could be asked the following questions, to name a few:
 - a. What the exhibitor has learned about the care and raising of the calf.
 - b. The fitting and showing (according to breed guidelines) of the calf with emphasis on what the exhibitor learned.
 - c. The general health and appearance of the calf and the exhibitor's knowledge in the health area.
 - d. The exhibitor's observations and comments on raising bucket calves.
7. Calves will not be stalled during the Fair. Exhibitors must present their entry for judging at the time and day specified. Entries will be allowed to return to the exhibitor's home immediately after the conclusion of the show.

MIGHTY HOWARD COUNTY FAIR

CRESCO IOWA



Tuesday, June 23, 2026 - 6:30 p.m., Scheidel Plaza Stage

Contest Rules

Basic Contest Regulations

- Two age classes: 16 years & under; 17 years and above – solo or groups welcome
- Family friendly entertainment only
- No animal acts or dangerous acts
- Acts could include any of the following types of entertainment:
 - Singing
 - Dancing
 - Magic
 - Animal Calling
 - Skits
 - Musical
 - String Instruments (banjo, guitar, etc.)
 - Keyboard (piano, organ)
- CD player and micro phone provided. Act to provide any other equipment needed for performance
- 3-minute time limit per act
- Judging Criteria shall be:
 - Entertainment value
 - Confidence of performers
 - Audience reaction

Prizes include:

- First place, \$250; 2nd place \$100; 3rd place \$50.
- All persons shall receive participation ribbon.

Entry information:

- Entry form available at www.mhcfair.com.
- No entry fees.

Questions, please contact Kelly Bartling at 319-404-8008; E-mail kellybartling@gmail.com

Dean Lickteig, 563-547-0444

MIGHTY HOWARD COUNTY FAIR

CRESCO IOWA



Entry Form – Print clearly

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Current Age: _____

Main Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Age Group (circle one); Sprout Senior

Circle one: Solo Act Group Act (no more than 5 persons)

Briefly describe your act & list other persons if a group: _____

Hold Harmless Agreement:

I agree to indemnify, hold harmless and defend the Mighty Howard County Fair, its individual members and Directors against any and all claims arising out of or resulting from my participation in the Mighty Howard County Fair's Got Talent Contest. In addition, I hereby certify that I have read and agree to follow the rules of the contest and to respect the judges' rulings.

Participant Signature: _____ Date: _____

*Mail Entry Form to: Mighty Howard County Fair, P.O. Box 83, Cresco, IA 52136
Or drop off at Fair Office during Fair week.*



Management by...

Howard County Agricultural Society

P.O. Box 83, Cresco, IA 52136

Fair Office: 563-547-3400

Secretary: 563-547-4996

E-mail: info@mhcfair.com

Web site: www.mhcfair.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MHCFair

2026 FAIRGOER CONTESTS

The following pages detail the 2026 Fairgoer Contests open to people of all ages, unless noted in the contest guidelines.

There is no cost to enter each contest. Enter as many contests as you wish.

All contests, except for the Baby Contest, are held in the Featherlite Center on the Fairgrounds. The Featherlite Center also houses the Fair's open class exhibits, such as Arts & Crafts & Flower Departments.

All these contests are sponsored by area individuals and businesses. We thank them for their involvement and encourage others to express their appreciation to all the contest sponsors.

The contests are listed in the order of their entry day, Wednesday to Saturday.

After judging the food contests, a 'tasting party' is held, where fairgoers can sample the entries for that contest.

Other than the food contests, if you want your contest entry it must be picked up between 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Sunday of the Fair unless other arrangements have been made.

For specific contest questions please contact the Fair Office at 563-547-3400 (Fair week).

All are encouraged to take part in these contests. Enjoy and have fun!

The Cresco Times Plain Dealer proudly presents ...

“MY WORLD” PHOTO CONTEST

Featherlite Center

Entries accepted Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. - Judging at 5:00 p.m.

No Entry Fees – Limit of 2 entries per person – Open to all ages!

ALL ENTRIES WILL BE ON DISPLAY THROUGHOUT THE FAIR IN THE FEATHERLITE CENTER

All entries must be picked up between 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday. Entries not picked up will be disposed of.

The purpose of the contest is to promote an interest in creative, quality amateur photography; to recognize the expertise of area photographers; and to provide another cultural attraction for the Howard County Fair.

Creative photography is important and something that needs to be displayed!

AWARDS & CATEGORIES

\$50 in Cresco Chamber Dollars to overall “BEST of SHOW” (selected out of the submitted entries)

\$25 Cresco Chamber Dollars and 2 Cresco Theatre Movie Passes to winner in each category.

2nd, 3rd & Honorable Mention Ribbons and “People’s Choice Award” are sponsored by the Howard County Fair.

1. **People: Family, Children, Special People**
2. **Scenic, Nature & Places: Still Life, Flowers, Insects, Wildlife, USA, International**
3. **Life in Iowa: At the Fair, Farm Life, Animals**
4. **Youth - 18 years & Under: Anything Goes**
5. **Black & White: Anything Goes**

STANDARDS OF JUDGING

Quality of Composition; Quality of Printed Product; Creativity; Quality of Presentation

GENERAL RULES INCLUDE ...

1. **Photos may be black and white or color**
2. **Limit two entries per person**
3. **Contest is open to all amateur photographers**
4. **Photos must be original and 8 x 10 or larger**
5. **Photos must be mounted on foam core or matted; no framed photos**
6. **Neatness and quality of presentation counts**
7. **Each entry must have 25-100 word “backgrounder” on the image, along with name, address, phone # of and short bio on photographer.**
8. **Judges (selected by the Cresco TPD staff) reserve the right not to make any awards in any category and have the right to accept or reject any entry.**
9. **Please e-mail copy of photo to tpdeditor@crescotimes.com for possible reprint.**
10. **Winning entries may be published in the Times Plain Dealer and Monitor Recorder.**

Disclaimer: The Cresco Times Plain Dealer, Evans Publishing, Howard County Fair and sponsors take no responsibility for any damage or theft of the photographs that are entered. Entrants submit photos at their own risk. Entrants grant the Times Plain Dealer and Monitor Recorder the right to publish submitted photographs, “backgrounders,” and biographical information in the newspaper and in other printed material advertising and publicizing the contest.

BECKY DUNN proudly presents...

STAR QUILT BLOCK CHALLENGE

Featherlite Center

1. One block per exhibitor. Open to all Iowa residents.
2. 2026 theme is Red, White & Blue, celebrating America's 250th Anniversary.
3. Kits are available by April 14, 2026. Exhibitor to contact Becky Dunn at 563-203-7263 to arrange pickup of the block kit.
4. Finished blocks, unfinished blocks and unused kits are to be turned into Becky Dunn by June 15, 2026
5. Exhibitors must use only, and all fabrics included in the kit. Do not add fabrics.
6. Appliqueing is allowed. Quilting is not allowed. Machine or hand embroidery is not allowed
7. Paper piercing is allowed but the exhibitor must remove the paper backing before entering the block.
8. Exhibitors may use an established pattern of a star or create an original block with a star incorporated.
9. Block size must be 12 ½" x 12 ½", that will finish to 12" x 12".
10. Blocks entered become the property of the Mighty Howard County Fair.
11. Blocks will be made into a quilt. The 2026 quilt will be donated to Quilts of Valor.
12. \$25 prize will be awarded for Viewer's Choice.



This contest courtesy of BECKY DUNN, Cresco



WALTON'S TREE SERVICE, Cresco proudly presents ...

ROCK CREATIONS CONTEST

Featherlite Center



Use Your Imagination – Make Your Favorite Rock Creation
Entries accepted Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Open to All Ages - No Entry Fees – Please note age on entry.

ENTRIES WILL BE ON DISPLAY THROUGHOUT THE FAIR

Judging will take place on Thursday

Prizes – 1st place \$25, 2nd place \$15, 3rd place \$10

Entries must be picked up between 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Sunday unless other arrangements have been made.



ERICKSON PROCHASKA REAL ESTATE, Cresco, proudly presents...

GUESS THE ITEMS CONTEST

Featherlite Center



Fairgoers guess the number of assorted Fair Buttons in a large jar.

Winners chosen on the three closest guesses of the number of Fair Buttons in the Jar.

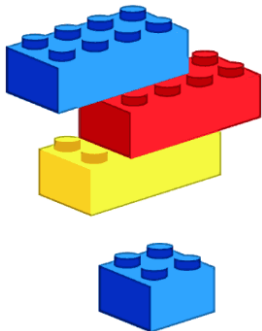


Winners Announced Saturday Evening

Prizes: 1st place \$25, 2nd place \$15, 3rd place \$10

A & J CONSTRUCTION, Cresco, proudly presents ...

LEGO CONTEST



Entries accepted Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

No Entry Fees – One entry per exhibitor

Use Your Imagination – Make Your Favorite Lego Creation

NO KITS ALLOWED! Kits will be disqualified!

Entries must be different than those entered and judged as a 4-H project.

Entries on Display throughout the Fair

Judging will take place on Thursday

2 Age Groups: 7 years and younger; 8 years and older

Prizes for each age group: 1st place \$25, 2nd place \$15, 3rd place \$10

All entries must be picked up between 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday unless other arrangements have been made.

HOWARD COUNTY MUTUAL INSURANCE proudly presents ...

MY FAVORITE APPETIZER CONTEST

Featherlite Center

Entries accepted Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. - No Entry Fee



Judging at 12:00 p.m. (Noon) Friday

Limit of 1 Entry per Individual

Homemade appetizers only. Recipe included with each entry.

Judge's decision will be final.

Prizes: 1st -- \$25 cash, 2nd – \$15 cash, 3rd – \$10 cash

Fairgoers invited to a tasting party after judging

MiEnergy COOPERATIVE, Cresco, proudly presents...

LIGHT BULB DECORATING CONTEST

Featherlite Center

Open to Kids ages 12 and under

Entries accepted Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

No Entry Fees - Judging will take place on Thursday

Each child entering will receive a new LED light bulb.

Entries on Display throughout the Fair

Prizes: 1st place \$25, 2nd place \$15, 3rd place \$10

All entries must be picked up between 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday

unless other arrangements have been made.



MUDSLINGER'S CONSTRUCTION, Cresco proudly presents ...

REPURPOSED/RECYCLED PROJECT CONTEST

Open To All Ages

Featherlite Center

Entries to consist of items made from recycled products.
Items used could be plastic bottles, clothing, tin cans, clay pots and more...

Entries accepted Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

No Entry Fees – Please note age of youth on entry.

ENTRIES WILL BE ON DISPLAY THROUGHOUT THE FAIR

Judging will take place on Thursday

Prizes – 1st place \$25, 2nd place \$15, 3rd place \$10

All entries must be picked up between 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday unless other arrangements have been made.



This contest courtesy of MUDSLINGER'S CONSTRUCTION, Cresco

CRESKO BUILDING SERVICE & HARVEY'S USED AUTOS, CRESKO proudly presents ...

CREATE A GNOME CONTEST

Two Age Groups: 12 years old and under; 13 years and older

Featherlite Center

Imagination is key – All seasons, holidays and special events can be featured

Entries accepted Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

No Entry Fees – Please note age of youth on entry.



ENTRIES WILL BE ON DISPLAY THROUGHOUT THE FAIR

Judging will take place on Thursday

Prizes for each age group...

1st place \$25, 2nd place \$15, 3rd place \$10

All entries must be picked up between 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, unless other arrangements have been made.

This contest courtesy of

Cresco Building Service & Harvey's Used Autos, Cresco



MiEnergy COOPERATIVE, Cresco, proudly presents ...

HOMEMADE SALSA MAKER CONTEST

Featherlite Center

Entries accepted Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

No Entry Fee -- Open to All Persons

Judging at 1:00 p.m.



One pint per Entry

Limit of 2 Entries per Individual

Entries judged on appearance, taste, texture.

Recipes appreciated with each entry.

Chips will be furnished.

Judge's decision will be final.

Prizes: 1st -- \$25 cash, 2nd -- \$15 cash, 3rd -- \$10 cash

Fairgoers invited to a tasting party after judging

MiEnergy COOPERATIVE, Cresco, proudly presents...

STRAWBERRY DESSERT CONTEST

Featherlite Center

Entries accepted Wednesday from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

No Entry Fee -- Limit of 2 Entries per Individual

Open to all persons 12 years of age and older

Judging at 2:00 p.m.

Homemade desserts only, must be in
a disposable container.

Entries judged on appearance, taste, texture.

Recipes appreciated with each entry.

Judge's decision will be final.

Prizes: 1st -- \$25 cash, 2nd -- \$15 cash, 3rd -- \$10 cash



Fairgoers invited to a tasting party after judging

CRESCO MOTOR COMPANY proudly presents...

CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIE CONTEST

Featherlite Center

Entries accepted Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



Judging at 1:00 p.m. - No Entry Fees

Limit of 2 Entries per Individual

Any type chocolate chip cookie allowed.

4 cookies on paper plate per entry

Entries judged on appearance, taste, texture



Prizes: 1st -- \$25 cash and Collector Cookie Plate 2nd -- \$15 cash; 3rd -- \$10 cash

Fairgoers invited to tasting party after judging.

MANLY & LINDA BIGALK & GOLDEN RIDGE HONEY, Granger, proudly presents their ...



TASTE OF HONEY CONTEST

Featherlite Center

Entries accepted Thursday, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. -- No Entry Fees

Judging at 2:00 p.m. – 12 oz. Honey Bear given to each entry.

Limit of 2 Entries per Individual

Entry must include honey, no sugar.

Recipe required as a part of the entry.

Open to any item made with honey.

Prizes: 1st place \$25, 2nd place \$15, 3rd place \$10



LYNCH LIVESTOCK, Cresco, proudly presents ...

TASTE OF BACON CONTEST

Featherlite Center

Entries accepted Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Judging at 12:00 p.m. (Noon) -- No Entry Fee

Limit of 2 Entries per Individual

Any home-made food item that contains bacon.

Recipe to be included with each entry.



Judge's decision will be final.

Prizes: 1st -- \$25 cash

2nd -- \$15 cash

3rd -- \$10 cash



HOLSTROM'S GIFT & JEWELRY, Cresco, proudly presents its ...

HOMEMADE WINE CONTEST

Featherlite Center

Entries accepted on Thursday from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Judging at 5:45 p.m. -- No Entry Fees -- Open to amateurs only

Home-made Wine Entry Guidelines

- Exhibitor must be 21 years of age or older to enter.
- One bottle per entry.
- No limit to the number of entries per exhibitor, but each entry must be a different type of wine.
- Exhibitor can submit entries in both categories.
- The exhibitor must give a description of each wine by the main ingredient (i.e. rhubarb, grape, etc.).
- Wine shall be in standard wine bottles, 23 to 30 ounces, with labels removed and be properly sealed.
- Bottles shall contain at least 20 ounces of wine.



Two Categories ...

Wine Made from Scratch

Wine Made from Kits

Judging Criteria...

Aroma, (2) Appearance, (3) Taste, and (4) Overall Impression.

-- Prizes for Each Category --

1st place, 4 Wine Goblets, custom engraved

2nd place & 3rd place, 2 Wine Goblets, custom engraved



JOE & ROCHELLE BRAUN of Cresco proudly present their ...

MY FAVORITE HOMEMADE BARS CONTEST

Featherlite Center

Entries accepted Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. - *No Entry Fees*

Judging at Noon, Friday

Each entry to consist of 4 bars per plate

Limit of 2 Entries per Individual

Any kind of bar acceptable. Recipe appreciated with each entry

Prizes: 1st place \$25.00, 2nd place \$15.00, 3rd place \$10.00

Fairgoers invited to tasting party after judging



DR. PAUL & JAYNE JENSEN, Cresco, proudly presents ...

BLUEBERRY DESSERT CONTEST

Featherlite Center

Entries accepted on Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - *No Entry Fees*

Judging at 1:00 p.m.

Each entry to consist of 4 pieces of dessert per plate.
(Disposable plates only)

Limit of 2 Entries per Individual

Recipes appreciated with each entry.

Prizes: 1st place, \$25, 2nd place \$15, 3rd place \$10

Fairgoers invited to tasting party after judging.



JEFF BOEKE AND SONS proudly presents their annual ...

BEST KOLACHE MAKER CONTEST

Featherlite Center

Entries accepted Friday from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. -- No Entry Fees

Judging at 2:00 p.m.

Four Kolaches of same filling per entry

Limit of 2 Entries per Individual

Any fillings may be used

Entries Judged on Appearance, Taste, and Texture

\$50 and a special plaque awarded to the ' BEST KOLACHE BAKER'

Runner-up to receive \$25



Fairgoers invited to tasting party after judging

QUAM'S AUTO SERVICE & SALVAGE, Lime Springs, and

REINHART MACHINE & REPAIR – CHAD, VICKI & FAMILY of Cresco proudly presents ...



Celebrate America's 250th Birthday



Cookie Make and Take Featherlite Center

Friday

3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.



*CUSB Bank, The Cresco Shopper, Holstrom's Gift & Jewelry
and Dawson Rasmusson Photography of Cresco proudly present their ...*

35th Annual BABY CONTEST

Saturday – 10:00 a.m. – Scheidel Plaza Stage

Open to all Babies up to 12 months of Age

Awards will be given to each baby who is judged to have the best in each of the following categories:

Chubbiest Cheeks

Least Hair

Most Hair

Youngest Child

Oldest Child

Twins - Most Alike

Twins - Least Alike

Sweetest Smile

Prettiest Eyes

Also named will be the Mighty Howard County Fair's

"Prince" (overall cutest boy) and "Princess" (overall cutest girl)

- Registration will be from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at the Scheidel Plaza Stage.
- Early Bird Drawing – register by 9:00 a.m. for chance to win \$50 Cresco Chamber Bucks
- Judging starts at 10:00 a.m. on the Scheidel Plaza stage.
- Baby is to be registered in ONLY one of the judging categories.
- Overall Cutest will be chosen from all contestants.
- This contest is open to all babies in our Fair trade area.
- Each contestant will receive a special ribbon.
- Age of contestants is up to 12 months of age.
- A member of the immediate family must accompany each contestant.
- Entry is free of charge to contestants and spectators
- Current photo of baby is required. Photo will not be returned.

*Dawson Rasmusson Photography of Cresco will give a free mini-session
to the overall cutest girl and overall cutest boy.*

Overall Cutest trophies sponsored by Holstrom's Gift & Jewelry, Cresco

Other prizes courtesy of CUSB Bank, The Cresco Shopper and participating area merchants.

**This contest courtesy of CUSB Bank, The Cresco Shopper,
Holstrom's Gift & Jewelry and Dawson Rasmusson Photography**

132ND The MIGHTY

GRANDSTAND ENTERTAINMENT

JUNE 24-28, 2026

CRESCO, IA

www.mhcfair.com
www.facebook.com/mhcfair



Save \$\$\$ -- Buy a Pay-One-Price FAIR FUN CARD
 Attend all grandstand shows with purchase of Fair Fun Card. Price is just \$50 each before Fair or \$60 at the Fair (9 yrs. & up). Free 8 yrs. & under. Single night admission available.



EVANS UNITED SHOWS ON THE MIDWAY



EXPO PAVILION
 LIVE Entertainment Wed-Sat.

Wednesday, June 24 - 6:45pm

STOCK CAR RACES



National Points to USRA Sanctioned Classes



USRA Stock Cars
 USRA B-Modifieds
 USRA Hobby Stocks
 USRA Tuners
 Eco-Mods



Top 4 A-Feature placings in USRA Hobby Stock, USRA Stock Car and USRA B-Modified Classes automatically qualify for their respective features for the MHC Fair races on Thursday, June 25.

Thursday, June 25 - Hot Laps 6:45pm

STOCK CAR RACES



Karl Chevrolet Premier Late Model Tour
 Also racing USRA Stock Cars, USRA B-Modifieds, USRA Hobby Stocks



National Points to USRA Stock Cars, B-Mods & Hobby Stocks. USRA B-Mod alternative rules will be allowed.

Karl Chevrolet Premier Late Models \$2,000 to win, USRA Stock Cars \$1,000 to win, USRA B-Modifieds \$1,000 to win, USRA Hobby Stocks \$1,000 to win

Friday, June 26 - 7pm

3 PROMOTIONS DEMOLITION DERBY

CLASSES INCLUDE:
 Midsize Limited Weld - 1st \$2,000; 2nd \$1,000; 3rd \$750
 Bone-Stock Full-Size - 1st \$1,500; 2nd \$750; 3rd \$500
 Full-Size 1/2 Ton Gut and Go Trucks - 1st \$1,500; 2nd \$750; 3rd \$500
 MWFA - 1st \$1,000; 2nd \$500; 3rd \$250



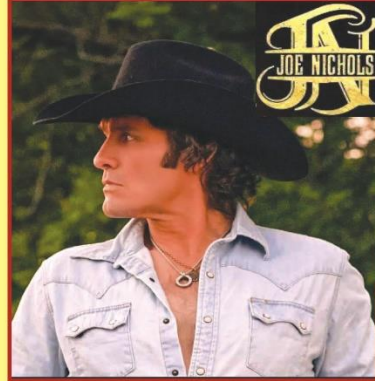
Sunday, June 28 - 6pm

T&C PRO RODEO



Saturday, June 27 - 8pm

PARTY IN THE PIT!



Featuring **JOE NICHOLS**

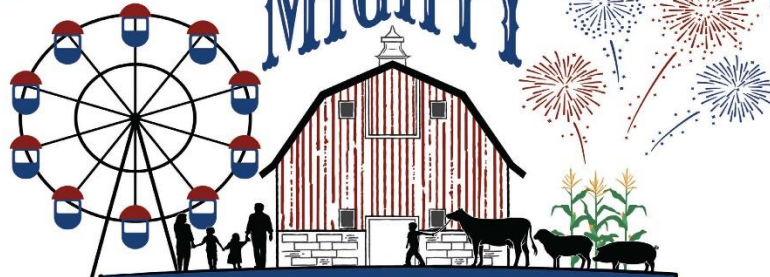
Thank you to our friends at KNEI 103.5, Waukon, IA
KNEI 103.5
 BLUFF COUNTRY

Getting the Party Started is Special Guest

HAILEY WHITTERS



132ND The MIGHTY



Since 1858

HOWARD COUNTY FAIR

CRESO, IOWA

FREE ENTERTAINMENT & ATTRACTIONS

JUNE 24-28, 2026

CRESO, IA

www.mhcfair.com
www.facebook.com/mhcfair



Over 20 Free Fairgoer Contests!

Details on the fair's website.

Talent Show

Tuesday • 6:30pm • Scheidel Plaza Stage

2026 FAIR QUEEN CORONATION

Wed. • 5:30pm
Scheidel Plaza Stage

Mobile Safari

Circle S Mobile Safari

Grandpa Tom's Barne'

Hands-on, Interactive Ag Education
for Kids of All Ages



Open all 5 days

HOWARD COUNTY FARM BUREAU
PEOPLE. PROGRESS. PRIDE.™



Turn a day of walking into an interactive adventure!



Entry forms can be picked up at the Featherlite Center
Wed-Fri 10am-5pm & Sat 10am - Noon
Entries must be turned in by Sat at 2pm



Stop in & cheer on the participants!

The Bacon Buddies Show will take place on Friday during the Fair's swine show.

This initiative offers individuals with disabilities the opportunity to show a pig, paired with a knowledgeable 4-H or FFA member

NICK'S KIDS SHOW

Several Shows Daily. Check Fair Schedule for Show Times.
Music, fun & entertainment for the kids! www.nickskidsshow.com

MORE THAN JUST BOOKS! SAT., JUNE 27 1-4pm
Featherlite Center

Visit the Howard County Librarians to learn about the variety of services & new developments. Enter to win a prize and get activities for the kids!

Kid Power

Pedal Tractor Pulls

Free to all Youth

Do something special for the kids of your community!

Saturday, Scheidel Plaza Area

Registration at 3pm - Pull Starts at 3:30pm
8 Age Classes - Age 4 to Age 11
3 Trophies Awarded in each of the 8 classes

EXPO PAVILION

LIVE Entertainment Wed-Sun.

Doyle CARVING NICHE

Chainsaw Sculptures

Carving all 5 days

CARVING AUCTION
Sun. • 3:30pm
Scheidel Plaza Stage

BINGO

American Legion Post 135
LEGION BINGO STAND - All 5 Days
Check Fair Schedule for Times

MASTER GARDENER
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

Face Painting

Wed. - Sat.
3pm-6pm
Featherlite Center

LET'S POLKA

Tim's Mobile Music
Sunday • 1-3pm
Scheidel Plaza Stage

CRESO WILDLIFE CLUB WILDLIFE DISPLAY

Open Daily at 1pm
Live Fish - Wildlife Mounts
Hunting & Fishing Displays

"Halos for Angels"

Thurs.
5:30-7:30pm
Featherlite Center

REICKS VIEW AG EDUCATION CENTER

AT THE MIGHTY HOWARD COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
Baby Pigs, Birthing Calves, Milking Cows, Tour a Modern Swine Production Facility

spelling bee

Thursday • 4pm
Little Red School House

All Faiths Worship Service

Sunday • 9am • Featherlite Center

HOWARD COUNTY HISTORICAL PRESERVATION CENTER

Open at Noon Daily

- Antique Appraisal, Friday, 1-4pm, Historical Center
- Trace Your Family's Ancestry, Saturday, 2pm, Featherlite Center
- On loan to the museum this year, see a collection of Railroad Memorabilia

EVANS UNITED SHOWS ON THE MIDWAY

SPECIAL SAVINGS OFFER WITH WRISTBAND DAYS
Enjoy all the rides with the purchase of a wristband.
Cost is \$25 each if purchased prior to the Fair. Bands are \$30 each if purchased at the Fair.
Bands may be used at either Wristband Day!
Bands on sale at area banks during the month of June.

Fri., 6-10 p.m. Moonlight Mania
(In case of inclement weather on Friday, will be held Saturday evening)

Sun., 1-5 p.m. Family Day