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Second Quarter 2021

www.CalhounCountyFairgrounds.com



Calhoun County Fairgrounds Newsletter

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Relocation of the historic Isaac Lockwood Granary nearing completion

The CCAIS Board has been pleased to help steer the relocation and preservation of this rare and significant structure. The granary was built in the Italian Villa style on the Lockwood Farm around 1853-1855. In the early 1900s it was moved across the road to the farm currently owned by Tyler and Lisa Avery. It is a one-of-a-kind building, with all of its original bins, leather belts, and metal drive equipment intact.

Long-time fairgrounds supporter Vic Parker's memorial contributions were dedicated to this project and funding the move of the building from Verona Road to the fairgrounds. The Andersons Inc has contributed \$10,000 for a new roof. The goal is to restore the building to be used as a visitor highlight of the fairgrounds, educating about agriculture systems, new and old, and bridging the gap between food producers and consumers. The building is not far from being fully functioning with reasonable investment and has great potential to be a showcase for Calhoun County agricultural heritage and education.

Many thanks to the volunteers and donors that have brought the project this far! Donations may be sent to the fairgrounds office with "Granary Project" noted in the memo.

Updates from the Office 2021 Calhoun County Fair is a go!

We have known for many months that this year's fair was going to be different. While no one knows for sure where we will be in mid-August in terms of COVID restrictions, I remain optimistic and continue to work diligently with our county health department and industry experts to make a plan which places the health and safety of our community as our highest priority, allowing our youth to show their livestock and projects that they have worked so hard on all year. ~ Jen Rice ~

CCAIS Board President Jim Olds wants the community to know that we are planning on having a typical fair using the Health Department's guidance. "The Calhoun County Fair is the oldest in the State of Michigan and even though we couldn't hold it last year, we want people to know that we plan to have grandstand events, carnival rides, fair food, auctions, etc," said Olds. "We are planning on a normal fair, and things may dictate differently as time progresses, but as of right now we are planning to have a full schedule of grandstand events and livestock shows as normal as can be." Olds noted concern that sponsors may be reluctant to donate if they think there won't be a fair like last year. "But here's the double edged sword: without the sponsorships, we really can't fund a fair," he said.

Sponsorship opportunities range from \$100 to \$7000 and beyond. Title sponsorships include Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, and Friend of the Fairgrounds, and include year-round exposure benefits. Fair week sponsorship opportunities include: Bike, Bull, Truck Pulls, Demolition Derby, Combine Derby, Horse Pulls, Horse Hitch, Fair King & Queen, and Fair Fireworks.

Cruise at the Fountain (car show) and Fairgrounds Benefit Golf Outing sponsorships are also available.

With over 300,000 guests visiting our fairgrounds annually, sponsors receive great benefits and return on their donations.

Contact the office for complete details on all of our sponsorship opportunities!



Bylaw Changes Approved by Membership Vote

At the 2020 Annual Meeting, the following CCAIS Bylaw changes were voted on and approved by the members present at the meeting



Membership

Removed the provision that a member is entitled to a fair week pass for payment of membership dues (current members will receive a 2021 fair week pass). Changed the membership term to the actual calendar year (current memberships will be valid through December 31, 2021).

Absentee Voting

Eliminated absentee voting for election of directors. Beginning with the 2021 Annual Meeting, members in good standing must be present at the meeting to vote for directors, or designate

another member in good standing to vote on their behalf by proxy. Any one member may not vote more than two Proxy Ballots and proxy designees may only vote in the Election of Directors, not any other matters brought before the membership for a vote.

Term Limits for Directors

No Director shall serve more than two consecutive three-year terms. If a Director is selected by the Board to fill a vacancy for a partial term of any length, that partial term shall not be counted toward the two-term limit. A Director may be re-elected or re-appointed to the Board if there is at least a one year hiatus between the end of the Director's service on the Board and being re-elected or re-appointed. This provision shall take effect starting with the Election of Directors in 2021 and as any then current Board member reaches the end of a second term to which they were elected so that the staggered Board terms are not affected.

Upcoming Events!

- May 1-2**
 - Scrap Metal Drive
 - Renaissance Festival
 - Beef Show
 - Livestock Weigh-in
- May 8**
 - Vintage Market & Camper Show
- May 14-15**
 - Pig Show
 - Marshall FFA Plant Sale
- May 22**
 - Goat Show
 - Cornhole Tournament
- May 25-27**
 - Sheriff K9 Training
- June 4-6**
 - Fair Food Drive Thru
 - Franke Center Performances
- June 12**
 - Autism Benefit Concert
- June 19**
 - Goat Show & Clinic
 - Rising Stars Horse Show
- June 25-27**
 - Watson Diesel Michigan Nationals
- July 3-4**
 - Cruise at the Fountain Car Show
- July 9-10**
 - Relay for Life
 - Leaders Horse Show
- July 15-18**
 - Franke Center Performances
 - BC Kennel Club Dog Show
- July 24**
 - Fairgrounds Benefit Golf Outing
- July 25-31**
 - Bluegrass Festival

board member spotlight >>>

2021 CCAIS Board

- President – Jim Olds (2021)
- First Vice President – Doug Wildt (2023)
- Second Vice President – Steve Benham (2022)
- Treasurer – Cynthia Newsome (2021)
- Secretary – Hope Horton (2023)
- Trustee – Harmony Dawson (2021)
- Trustee – Tommy Miller (2022)
- Trustee – Lisa Sands (2022)
- Trustee – Teri Letts (2022)
- Trustee – Todd Landis (2023)
- Trustee – Mike Burkwalft (2021)

Board meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month and are open to the public.

Board meeting agenda requests/submissions should be sent to board secretary, Hope Horton at hopehorton@aol.com, at least three days prior to the meeting.

2021 CCAIS Committees:

- Finance Committee
- Operations Committee
- Building Restoration Committee
- Nominating Committee
- Volunteer Appreciation Committee
- Livestock Committee
- Nonlivestock Committee

- Fair King & Queen Committee
- Grandstand Events Committee
- Membership Committee
- Cruise at the Fountain Committee
- Golf Outing Committee
- Halloween Camping Committee
- Merry Mile Committee

Merry Mile has Best Year Yet in 2020!

The fifth annual Merry Mile Christmas light display kicked off in late November 2020. The perfect socially distanced event to round out a pandemic year, the event brought in over \$90,000 for fairgrounds programming.

Beginning in September each year, Santa's elves come to life at the fairgrounds, gathering supplies, checking strands of lights, and planning for what has grown to be a well-loved community event, the Merry Mile. Lead by Harmony Dawson and Cindy Thomas, their army of volunteers donates thousands of hours throughout October and November, ensuring that when the switch is flipped December 1st, the fairgrounds is aglow with over 3 million LED bulbs.

Last year, the City of Marshall's Christmas Parade Committee worked with our Merry Mile Committee, and planned a "drive through parade" for our community to enjoy free of charge! Due to gathering restrictions and executive orders, this provided a safe alternative to the traditional downtown parade...and even included Santa at the end of the route! In this three hour special event, over 1500 cars came through to enjoy the Christmas display!

Santa also made three more appearances throughout December, bringing joy to the little one's faces after a rough year. Elsa also joined Santa for one night!

The traditional Christmas craft show in Floral Hall was cancelled due to the pandemic, but we look forward to bringing it back this year.

The Merry Mile would not be possible without the support of many volunteers and community donors. Grants have been received from the Battle Creek Community Foundation and the Homer Area Community Foundation to help refurbish several large displays.

If you are interested in helping to make the 2021 Merry Mile bigger and better than ever, please contact the committee chair, Harmony Dawson, at drharmonydawson@yahoo.com.



Appreciation & Thanks

Thank you for believing in our mission enough to support us.

Sponsors/Donors

Lisa Sands State Farm
 Calhoun County Visitors Bureau
 Wenda Dissinger
 Enbridge
 Clayborn & Sons
 John B Sullivan Attorney at Law
 First Class Lawn Care
 AA Trucking LLC
 Voyce's Elevator Inc
 Katz Well Drilling Inc
 Vietnam Veterans Chapter 313
 Quality Excavators Inc
 Marshall Rotary Club
 Marshall Community Credit Union
 Doors Unlimited
 Eric Dale Heating & Air
 Matthew C Christopher DDS PC
 Jen Rice – Marshall City Council
 Washburn Concessions
 Midwest Communications
 Case Farms – Doug & Darlene Mack

fair entry information >>>

Important 2021 Fair Deadlines

May 15, 2021

- Youth Participation Forms due (for first-time participants)
- DNA Submissions & Species-Specific Paperwork due (beef, swine, sheep, goats)
- Final rosters for Registered Youth Organizations due
- Second livestock weigh-in at 8:00am (back racehorse barn, enter at Clinton Street)

June 30, 2021

- Fair week camping agreements due (completed and signed)

July 9, 2021

- Fair entries due (link to register will be online at www.CalhounCountyFairgrounds.com)
- Fair week camping payments due in full



Volunteers

Boy Scout Troop 337
 Jerrid Stepp – 2 Stepp Construction
 Mike Burkwalt – MAK1 Construction
 Ken and Teri Letts
 Justin Dew
 Berens Tree Service
 Erik Myers
 Phil Smith
 Nick Newcomb
 Matt Ivey
 Billy Amaro
 Wyatt Hoffman
 Tracey Kenworthy
 Pat Herman
 Kim Mowry
 ...and many more!

Cruise at the Fountain

On July 3-4, Marshall's Cruise at the Fountain will transform the fairgrounds into one of Southwest Michigan's favorite car shows. Highlights include vendors, swap meet, door prizes, food trucks, cruising downtown Marshall on Saturday at 7:00pm, awards ceremony on Sunday at 4:30pm, and free fireworks for the community July 4th at dusk. Complete information online at www.CruiseMarshall.com



Membership Benefits!

Membership in the Calhoun County Agricultural and Industrial Society is open to any person 18 years of age and older. We need new members with fresh ideas as we continue to celebrate our heritage and plan for our future while providing safe, fun, family-friendly events year-round!

Several membership levels are available:

BASE MEMBERSHIP - \$25

- Voting rights
- Quarterly newsletter

PATRON MEMBERSHIP - \$100

- Voting rights
- Quarterly newsletter
- Free printed fair book
- Listed as Friend of the Fair sponsor

PATRON PLUS MEMBERSHIP - \$150

- Voting rights for 2 people
- Quarterly newsletter
- Free printed fair book
- Listed as Friend of the Fair sponsor
- Reserved parking during fair week

Membership year is January 1 – December 31

For voting rights at the 2021 Annual Meeting and Election of Directors, membership forms and payment must be received at the office by October 18, 2021 at 5:00pm.

CCAIS MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Calhoun County Agricultural and Industrial Society is to preserve its agricultural heritage; foster connections between agriculture, business, education, industry, and technology; and to engage an ever-increasing number and diversity of people from across the county and beyond.

Membership Forms available online at:

www.CalhounCountyFairgrounds.com

Have something to submit for the next newsletter? News or updates about your club, event, or committee? Shout outs or thanks? Please email any content/pictures to the office at ccaioffice@gmail.com (issue deadlines for submissions below):

- August issue – July 15
- November issue – October 15
- February issue – January 15
- May issue – April 15

next issue >>>

August 2021

Fair Week Overview

Committee Updates

Halloween Camping Registration

Winter Storage Information

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities!

May 8 – Vintage Market & Camper Show – gate workers, greeters, people counters

June 4-5 – Fair Food Drive Thru – gate workers, greeters, people counters

July 3-4 – Marshall's Cruise at the Fountain Car Show – gate workers, greeters, people counters

July 24 – Fairgrounds Benefit Golf Outing at The Medalist – various jobs, free lunch!

Contact the fairgrounds office at 269-781-8161 for information and for additional opportunities!

Washburn Concessions

Corn Dogs
Polish Corn Dogs
Cheese on a Stick
Chicken Strips
Boneless Wings
Mini Chicken Tacos
Chicken Taquitos
Mac & Cheese Bites
Deep Fried Pickles
Fried Mushrooms

Katie's Ice Cream Parlor

Banana Split
Hot Fudge Sundae
Flurries
Sugar Cone
Waffle Cone
Shakes/Malts
Frozen Cheesecake

Brad's Concessions

Elephant Ears:
Cinnamon Sugar
Powdered Sugar
Bavarian Cream
Cherry
Apple
Deep Fried Oreos
Soft Drinks

A Fair Food Affair!

Calhoun County Fairgrounds

June 4-5 - 11:00am-8:00pm

June 6 - 11:00am-6:00pm

Katie's Pizza

By the Slice
Breadsticks
Pizza Special
Whole Pizzas
Spaghetti Dinner
Meatball Sub

Fasel Concessions

Italian Sausage
Polish Sausage
Steak Sandwiches
Corn Dogs
Onion Rings

Fiske Concessions

Fiske Fries
Flavored
Lemonades

www.CalhounCountyFairgrounds.com