2026 PREMIUM BOOK



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Specialty Baskets. Scarecrows. Pumpkins. Largest, longest, Biggest, Tiniest Farm Product: Fine Arts. Flowers Arrangements. Folk Arts. Home Arts. Home Economics. Legos and Models. Photography.

General Rules for Exhibiting:

1. All entries must be made by the owner, joint owner, actual grower, or producer.
2. Application for entries in all departments must be made on the fair entry online application. There will be computers available at the Fair office for your convenience. **Fair entry deadline for livestock is Friday September 11, 2026.** **https://fairentry.com/Fair/SignIn/23271**
3. Every article or animal at the Fairgrounds will be under the control of the St. Joseph County Grange Fair Association.
4. All exhibits shall be judged in competition to receive premium money.
5. Premium checks will be available on the last Saturday of the fair or Sunday during the release of exhibits.
6. Premium checks will be cashed within 90 days of the fair.
7. The Fair Association reserves the right to withhold premiums in a case in which regulations have not been complied with, or that fraud or deception has been practiced or attempted.
8. Any Exhibitor has the right to protest or appeal a decision, or complaint which must be put in writing and provided to the fair manager or Board President. The Executive Committee with then hear the protest and or appeal, and a decision will be provided within 24 hours of receiving a complaint.

General Rules for Still Exhibits

Still Exhibits will be accepted on Friday, September 18 from 12 to 8 PM and Saturday, September 19 from 9 am to 2 PM. Judging will take place after 2 PM on Saturday.

1. All exhibitors will enter through the Fair Entry Application. Computers will be available at the Fair Office in August for your convenience.
2. Still Exhibits will be released at 10 PM on Saturday, September 26 or Sunday, September 27 from 9 am till noon. Free admission to grounds Saturday night after 930 pm to obtain your Exhibits.
3. Premium checks will be available during pick up of projects. If you cannot come during these times to obtain your projects, please contact the Fair Office.
4. No exhibits are released early unless special consideration from the Executive Committee. We understand that emergencies may arise and we will work with you for a resolution.
5. Any projects not picked up from the Fair will be destroyed after October 31.
6. Upon these conditions, only entries will be accepted.

Testing Rules for Livestock

The Fair has the legal authority to require drug testing under the Animal Industry Act. Act 466 of 1988, as amended, in section 40(3). "A Fair, exhibition, exposition or show authority may require additional testing or vaccination of animals before entry and during the fair."

1. St. Joseph County Grange Fair follows MDARD rules, testing, and guidelines.

Livestock General Rules

1. Livestock exhibitors must follow the most current year of Animal Health Requirements for Livestock exhibited in Michigan. www.michigam.gov/mdard

2. Livestock entries will be accepted utilizing the Fair Entry online application. Please note, that 4-H is not integrated with the Fair application. FFA and other youth may enter utilizing the Fair Entry On-Line Application.
3. Livestock pens and classes will be paid in advance of the start of the Fair, either via Fair Entry or at the Fair office.
4. Stalls will be filled at the discretion of management according to barn availability.
5. Exhibitors need to verify all entries 24 hours before the start of the open livestock show.
6. Animals must be on the grounds before 3 PM Sunday of the fair unless other arrangements have been made with the Open Class Livestock Director.
7. Open Livestock released after 10 PM on Saturday of the fair. Trailers and semis must not be parked by the barns until midnight for loading.
8. All walkways in the barn must be clean from 10 am to 10 pm for public visitation.
9. No livestock in the camping area.
10. Exhibitors/family members must be present with livestock when not in the barn. This means no tying to the trailer and walking away.
11. If Livestock needs to leave early, please see the division superintendent for discussion.
12. Animals entered into the fair open classes must be shown and judged, and then will be awarded premium money if placed.
13. All animals will be expected to have documentation of proof of pedigree, breeding, age, or ownership. This must be provided upon entry to the fair and be available for State Vet.
14. It is the expectation that all animals will be exercised daily. Stalls cleaned daily. Manure bins are available for your convenience.
15. The Fair reserves the right to refuse any animal to the fairgrounds for any reason.
16. Parking of trailers, semis, and trucks for all animals will be in designated areas.
17. No smoking in barns.
18. No dogs in barns.
19. Upon these conditions, will entries be accepted.

Thank you

Meet your Superintendents:

Open Still/Livestock Director – Kristine Kirsch

Beef Superintendent – Steve Trattles and Kelsey Kulpinski

Dairy Superintendent – Steve Trattles and Kelsey Kulpinski

Chicken Superintendent – Norma Switalski, Regina Schinker and Samantha Johnson

Goat Superintendent – David Troyer and Maree Troyer

Draft Horse/Pony/Mini – Diane Zinsmaster and Maddie Yuhas

Still Projects at the Grange Building – John Tate and Darlene Tate.

Their cell numbers will be available for Fair Week.

Draft/Open – Horse, Pony and Mini

Entry Fees: Stall/tack rental: $25.00 after August 22, 2026 price increases to $40.00

Class Fee: $5.00 per youth and pee wee - $7.00 per halter class - $10.00 per Driving Class –
$13.00 Draft Hitch/Pony Hitch. - $24 6 Horse Hitch Class
$ 7.00 Light Horse Adults and $5.00 for Youth and Pee Wee

Judging Times: Thursday, September 24, 2026 - 9 am Pony Halter followed by Draft Halter
Friday, September 25, 2026– 1:30 PM Pony Driving followed by Draft Driving

Just for Fun Shows with the Drafts – Wednesday September 23, 2026 – Campfire Challenge – No Premiums
Friday September 25, 2026 – Obstacle Driving Class – After Hitch Show
Saturday September 26, 2026 – Fun Show- No Premiums.

Superintendent: Diane Zinsmaster **Assistant:** Maddie Yuhas

Rules:

1. **Please be advised that the order of classes in the Premium book may be different on show day due to the numbers entered. An order of classes will be available at the start of the Fair. The order of the Premium book will also appear different in Fair Entry Application. Click on Department name of HORSE, look for the division of Breed, cart, hitch, showmanship, pony etc. then click on desired class. Each class is tied to a fee to enter. You do not need to keep track of classes; the application automatically charges accordingly.**
2. All exhibits in this division shall occupy box stalls, any questions contact Diane Zinsmaster
3. Fair understands there will be tack changes and horse changes; our goal is safety for all.
4. The age of the horse/pony is computed on January 1
5. Ponies/Horses shown may have one handler and one tailer. The Tailer retired to the rail when duties are finished
6. All Youth Draft classes must have an Adult accompany the exhibitor
7. Champion Classes Rosette only
8. Halter Class Premium: 1st. $15 – 2nd. $13 – 3rd. $12 – 4th. $11 – 5th. $10 – 6th. $9
9. Driving Class Premium: 1st. $35 – 2nd. $30 – 3rd. $25 – 4th. $20 – 5th. $15 – 6th. $10
10. 6 Horse Hitch Premium: 1st. $400 – 2nd. $300 – 3rd. $200 – 4th. $100 – 5th. $90 – 6th. $80
11. 4 Horse – 3 Horse – 2 Horse Hitch – Tandem: 1st. $75 – 2nd. $60 – 3rd$45 – 4th. $30 – 5th. $23 – 6th. $17
12. Light Horse Premiums 1st - $11.00 2nd - $10.00 3rd- $9.00 4th- 8.00 5th – 7.00 6th-6.00

Horse Pulling

Tuesday September 22, 2026 – Mini Pulls **Saturday September 26, 2026 – Draft Pony Pulls**

DRAFT / OPEN HORSE SHOW
FUN NIGHT

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

NO PREMIUMS – FUN SHOW

Show Starts at 5:30 p.m.

5:30 p.m. <u>COSTUME – YOUTH FUN CLASS</u>
Open to mini, pony, light horse, and draft horse participants
Judged by Superintendents

6:00 p.m. <u>CAMPFIRE CHALLENGE CLASS</u>
Sponsored by FEDORE VETERINARY SERVICES, CASSOPOLIS
And Cupp Retro Fit (custom hat & laser engraving)

IF we have enough entries, we will separate into pony and draft horse classes

Bring your wits! This is an opportunity to showcase you & your teams driving skills as you work together to navigate a course and go on a mission to retrieve items needed for an overnight stay in the old west. Watch out for varmints because they may be out & about! You just never know! You never know when the sheriff may pop up! This will be a FUN filled family event. This IS a TIMED race!

DEADLINE to SIGN UP: Tuesday, September 22nd @ 5:00 p.m.
See Draft/Open Horse Superintendent - Diane Zinsmaster or Asst. Superintendent - Maddie Yuhas to sign up.

DRAFT / OPEN HORSE SHOW - Thursday, September 24, 2026
9:00 am

*Grand & Reserve Champion Classes will include the 1st and 2nd place exhibitors) *
IF less than 2 entries in a class, class may be combined with another class

MINIATURE HORSE – 38" & UNDER

1. Stallions
2. Aged Mare
3. Aged Gelding
4. Foal of the current year or yearling

PONY – 39-46"

5. Stallions
6. Aged Mars
7. Aged Gelding
8. Foal of the current year or yearling

PONY – 47"-56"

9. Stallions
10. Aged Mare
11. Aged Gelding
12. Foal of the current year or yearling

MINI / PONY

13. Color Class
14. *Grand and Reserve Champion MINIATURE HORSE / PONY

MINIATURE HORSE SHOWMANSHIP (age of EXHIBITOR)

15. Over 18 Years Old
16. Youth 8-17 Years Old
17. Pee Wee – Under 7 Years Old (adult must be present in the ring with the showman)

PONY SHOWMANSHIP (age of EXHIBITOR)

18. Over 18 years Old
19. Youth 8-17 Years Old
20. Pee Wee – Under 7 Years Old (adult must be present in the ring with the showman)

PONY CART CLASSES – SINGLE MINIATURE / PONY – 2-WHEEL CART

21. Ladies Cart (over 18 years of age)– all breeds – under 38"
22. Men's Cart (over 18 years of age)– all breeds – under 38"
23. Youth Cart (8-17 years of age)- all breeds – under 38"
24. Ladies Cart (over 18 years of age) – all breeds – 39-46"
25. Men's Cart (over 18 years of age) – all breeds – 39-46"
26. Youth Cart (8-17 years of age)– all breeds – 39-46" (IF under 13, adult must ride with you)

27. Ladies Cart – All breeds – 47-56” and above
28. Men’s Cart– all breeds – 47-56” and above
29. Youth cart (8-17 years of age) – all breeds – 47-56” and above
30. Adult driver (under 50 years of age) – all breeds – all heights
31. Elite driver (over 50 years of age) – all breeds – all heights

Draft Halter – Pony Draft Halter

Belgians:

28. Stallions
29. Filly Foal & Yearling
30. Mares 2 to 4 years of age
31. Mares 5 and over
32. Geldings
33. Matched Pair
34. *Grand and Reserve Champion Belgian

Percherons:

35. Stallions
36. Filly Foal & Yearling
37. Mares 2 to 4 years of age
38. Mares 5 and over
39. Geldings
40. Matched Pair
41. *Grand and Reserve Champion Percheron

Other Drafts:

42. Stallions
43. Filly Foal & Yearling
44. Mares 2 to 4 years of age
45. Mares 5 and over
46. Geldings
47. Matched Pair
48. *Grand and Reserve Champion Other

Draft Pony:

49. Stallion
50. Filly Foal & Yearling
51. Mares 2 to 4 years of age
52. Mares 5 and over
53. Geldings
54. Matched Pair
55. *Grand and Reserve Champion Draft Pony

Donkeys / Mules

56. Stallion
57. Filly Foal & Yearling
58. Mares

59. Geldings
60. Matched Pair
61. *Grand and Reserve Champion Donkey/ Mule

DRAFT Showmanship: (age of EXHIBITOR)

62. Over 18 Years Old
63. Youth 14-18 Years Old
64. Youth 8-13 Years Old (adult must be present in the ring with showman)
65. Pee Wee- 7 and Under (adult must be present in the ring with showman)

DRAFT HORSE YOUTH DECORATION (MANE and TAIL JUDGING)

66. Youth 8 to 17 years old

LIGHT HORSE – RIDDEN CLASSES

67. Western Horsemanship – rider 18 & over
68. Western Horsemanship – Youth 8 to 17 years old
69. Western Horsemanship – Pee Wee Lead Line WALK TROT (adult must be in the ring with rider)
70. Western Pleasure – rider 18 & over
71. Western Pleasure – Youth 8 to 17 years old
72. Western Pleasure – Pee Wee Lead Line WALK TROT (adult must be in the ring with rider)

DRAFT CART CLASSES

73. Ladies Cart – all breeds
74. Men's Cart – all breeds
75. Youth – driver 14 to 18 years old (adult must ride with youth)
76. Youth – driver 8 to 13 years old (adult must ride with youth)
77. Mare cart
78. Gelding cart
79. Pleasure cart

Driving Classes and Hitch Classes Friday, September 25, 2026 - 1:30 p.m.

DRIVING CLASSES

1) SINGLE MINIATURE – 4-wheel cart – UNDER 38"
2) Ladies – SINGLE PONY – 4-wheel cart – PONY UNDER 56"
3) Men's – SINGLE PONY – 4-wheel cart – PONY UNDER 56"
4) Youth 14 to 17 years old – SINGLE PONY – 4-wheel cart – PONY UNDER 56"
5) Youth 8 to 13 years old – SINGLE PONY – 4-wheel cart – PONY UNDER 56"
6) DOUBLE MINIATURE – 4-wheel cart – UNDER 38"
7) Ladies – DOUBLE PONY – 4-wheel cart – PONY UNDER 56"
8) Men's – DOUBLE PONY – w-wheel cart – PONY UNDER 56"
9) Youth 14 to 17 years old –DOUBLE PONY – 4-wheel cart – PONY UNDER 56"
10) Youth 8 to 13 years old – DOUBLE PONY – 4-wheel cart – PONY UNDER 56"

11. Draft Horse Ladies TEAM – all breeds
12) Draft Horse Men's TEAM – all breeds
13) Draft Horse Youth Team – 14 to 17 years old (adult must ride with youth)
14) Draft Horse Youth Team – 8 to 13 years old (adult must ride with you)

15) Draft Horse TANDEM

16) Draft Pony TANDEM

17) Draft Horse Unicorn
18) Draft Pony Unicorn

19) Draft Horse 4-Horse Hitch
20) Draft Pony 4-Pony Hitch

21) Draft Horse Farm Wagon
22) Draft Pony Farm Wagon
23) Draft Horse OR Draft Pony 6-Horse/Pony Hitch
FINALE: To end the show for the day – Hitch exhibitors will be invited back into the arena

Dairy Cattle

Superintendent: Steve Trattles Assistant: Kelsey Kulpinski

Entry Fee: $3.00 per head
Judging Time: Wednesday 10 am
Rules: All entries made through the Fair Entry Application

1. The age of the cow will be computed as of September 1st. before Fair
2. The exhibitor must be prepared to present a certificate of registry for all cattle to the superintendent 48 hours before show time. No animal will be exhibited without approval from the superintendent.
3. Horns-cattle shall be polled properly or dehorned properly except calf.
4. Animals that are shown in group classes must be shown in individual classes.
5. No milk will be accepted for Grade A milk unless it has been milked in a Fair milking parlor.
6. The fair expects stalls to be clean and maintained during the Fair.
7. Walkways cleaned before public viewing each day from 10 am to 10 pm.
8. Premiums: 1st - $25. 2nd - $24 3rd - $23 4th - $20 5th - $19 6th - $18

Breed Sections: Holstein – Guernsey - Jersey - Ayrshire - Milking Shorthorn - Brown Swiss - Dutch – Any Other Breed.

Classes:

1 - Spring Heifer Calf, born March 1 - July 21, 2026.

2 - Winter Heifer Calf, born December 1, 2025 - February 28, 2026

3 - Fall Heifer Calf, born Sept. 1 - Nov. 30, 2025

4 - Summer Yearling Heifer, born June 1 - August 31, 2025

5 - Spring Yearling Heifer, born March 1 - May 31, 2025

6 - Winter Yearling Heifer, born December 1, 2024 - February 28, 2025

7 - Fall Yearling Heifer, born September 1, - November 30, 2024 (Fall Yearling Heifers in production must be shown in class 10 yearling production class below)

8 - Junior Champion Female (winners of classes 1 - 7)

9 - Reserve Jr. Champion Female (winners of classes 1- 7 except Jr. Champion, plus the second-place animal in the Jr. Champion's age class)

10 - Yearling Heifer in Production, born September 1, 2024 - February 28, 2025

11 - Junior Two-Year-Old Cow, born March 1 - August 31, 2024

12 - Senior Two-Year-Old Cow, born September 1, 2023 - February 29, 2024

13 - Three-Year-Old Cow, born September 1, 2022 - August 31, 2023

14 - Four-Year-Old Cow, born September 1, 2021 - August 31, 2022

15 - Aged Cow, five years old and older, born before September 1, 2021

16 - Senior Champion Female (winners of classes 10 - 15)

17 - Reserve Senior Champion Female (winners in classes 10 -15 except Sr. Champion, plus the second-place animal in the Sr. Champion's age class)

18 - Grand Champion Female (winners of classes 8 and 16)

19 - Reserve Grand Champion Female (winners of classes 8, 9, 16 and 17 except Grand Champion).

20 - Produce of Dam - two daughters, any age, produce of one cow, owned by one exhibitor

21 - Dam and Daughter, owned by one exhibitor

22 - Three Best Females

23 - Overall Supreme Female

Beef Cattle

Superintendent: Steve Trattles Assistant: Kelsey Kulpinski
Entry Fee: $3.00 per head
Judging Time: Tuesday following the 4H Beef Market Show
Rules for Beef Cattle:

1. The age of the cow will be computed on September 1 preceding the Fair.
2. The exhibitor must be prepared to present a certificate of registry for all cattle 48 hours before the start of the show. The superintendent may check all certificates and the identity of all animals.
3. Horns- cattle shall be polled properly for specific breeds.
4. No Bull over one year of age shall be allowed at the Fair unless a substantial nose ring and a handler can manage the Bull.
5. Premiums: 1st - $25 2nd - $24 3rd - $23 4th - $20 5th - $19 6th - $18

Breed Sections:

Aberdeen Angus – Hereford – Maine Anjou – Shorthorn – Dexter – Chianina – Limousin – Simmental – Scottish Highland - other registered Breeds – Commercial

Classes for each Breed:

1. Junior Bull Calf – born after May 1 or after of current year
2. Intermediate Bull Calf – born January 1 thru April 30
3. Senior Bull Calf – Born September 1 through December 31 previous year
4. Summer Yearling Bull Born May 1 through August 31 previous year
5. Junior Yearling Bull born January 1 through April 30 previous Year
6. Junior Champion Bull
7. Reserve Champion Bull
8. Senior Yearling Bull born September 1 thru December 31
9. Bull 2 years and over
10. Champion Senior Bull
11. Reserve Champion Senior Bull
12. Grand Champion Bull
13. Reserve Grand Champion Bull
14. Junior Heifer Calf born May 1 and after the current year
15. Intermediate Heifer Calf born January 1 through April 30 current year
16. Senior Heifer Calf born September 1 through December 31 previous year
17. Summer Yearling Heifer Calf born May 1 through August 31 previous year
18. Junior Yearling Heifer Calf born January 1 through April 30 previous year
19. Junior Champion Female
20. Junior Reserve Champion Female
21. Senior Yearling Heifer born September 1 through December 31
22. Cows 2 years old with calf born current year
23. Cows 3 years old with calf born current year
24. Senior Champion Female
25. Senior Reserve Champion Female
26. Grand Champion Female
27. Reserve Champion Female
28. 2 Females owned by the Same Exhibitor
29. 2 Bulls owned by the Same Exhibitor
30. Pair of Calves – 1 Bull and 1 Heifer
31. Pair of Yearling – 1 Bull and 1 Heifer
32. Breeder Herd – 1 Bull and 3 Females
33. Overall Supreme Female
34. Overall Supreme Bull

Goats

Superintendent: David Troyer and Maree Troyer
Entry Fee: $3 per head
Judging Time: Monday at 10 am.
Rules:

1. Goat age will be computed as September 1 before the Fair
2. All Dairy goats must be dehorned or naturally polled. All non-dairy goats may be exhibited with horns.
3. Exhibitors must be prepared to show certificates or registry/identification for Goats that will show.
4. No Bucks of any age will not be allowed to show

5. Milking on show day at the discretion of the Exhibitor
6. Premiums: 1st - $25 2nd - $24 3rd - $23 4th - $20 5th - $19 6th - $18

Dairy Goats:

1. Junior Doe Kid born after April 1 of the current year
2. Intermediate Doe Kid born March 1 through 31
3. Senior Doe Kid born January 1 through February 28
4. Junior Yearling Doe born May 1 through December 31 or previous year
5. Senior Yearling Doe born January 1 through April 30 of the previous year
6. Junior Champion Doe
7. Junior Reserve Champion Doe
8. Yearling Milker under 2 years of age
9. Junior Milker 2 years and older but under 3 years of age
10. Intermediate Milker 3 years of age and under 5 years of age
11. Senior Milker 5 years and older
12. Senior Champion Doe
13. Senior Reserve Champion Doe
14. Overall Grand Champion Doe
15. Overall Reserve Champion Doe
16. Best Udder
17. Dam and Daughter

Non- Dairy Goats

1. Doe Kid under 1 year of age
2. Yearling Doe 1 year and under 2 years of age
3. Junior Doe – 2 years and under 4 years of age
4. Senior Doe – 4 Years and older
5. Grand Champion
6. Reserve Grand Champion
7. Dam and Daughter
8. Pee Wee Showmanship – under 8 years of age – Ribbons only

Chickens

Superintendent: Regina Schinker Assistant: Norma Switalski and Samantha Johnson

Entry Fees: $3 per chicken **No entry fee for Eggs or egg carton entry**

Judging Time: Sunday September 20 at 10 am. Chickens judged in their cages – the exhibitor does not need to be present. Barn will be closed during judging of chickens.

Rules:

1. Please enter by September 11, 2026 utilizing Fair Entry.
2. 5 Chicken, unless a pair, then up to 6.
3. Chickens must arrive with identification band secured. (leg band or wing band)
4. All Chickens must be Pullorum tested with proof of paperwork. Testing available at check in.

5. Chickens must be free of parasites (lice, mites, etc.) Chickens will be checked for parasites and lice at check in, if any found Chicken will be sent home.
6. An individual chicken may only be entered in one class
7. **Check-in for Chickens starts Saturday September 19, 2026 starting at 11 AM until 3 PM**
8. Feeding, watering, and cage cleaning are required daily.
9. Bedding, feed, and cages provided by Fair
10. An Exhibitor representative is asked to sign-up and assist with monitoring and cleaning barn during the week. A sign-up sheet will be provided during check in.
11. **Chickens released last Saturday of the Fair at 10 PM. Must be picked up before 11 PM. Please note: The barn will not be monitored after 11 PM.**

12. Premiums for Chickens and eggs: 1st - $10 2nd- $8 3rd- 7 4th - $6 5th- $5 6th – 4
13. Premiums for Decorated classes – 1st $3 2nd $2 3rd $1
14. There will be a People's Choice Award given. The Prize is a generous gift donation of $175.00 for the celebration of the Fair celebrating their 175 years.

Breeding Stock

1. Large Fowl Cock One Year and Older
2. Large Fowl Hen One Year and Older
3. Large Fowl Cockerel Under One Year
4. Large Fowl Pullet Under One Year
5. Bantam Cock One Year and Older
6. Bantam Hen One Year and Older
7. Bantam Cockerel Under One Year
8. Bantam Pullet Under One Year
9. Best Pair one Male/one Female
10. Most Colorful Individual
11. Grand Champion Breeding Stock
12. Reserve Grand Champion Breeding Stock
13.

Backyard Beauty Mixed or Uncertain Breed

1. Large Fowl Cock One Year and Older
2. Large Fowl Hen One Year and Older
3. Large Fowl Cockerel Under One Year
4. Large Fowl Pullet Under One Year
5. Bantam Cock One Year and Older
6. Bantam Hen One Year and Older
7. Bantam Cockerel Under One Year
8. Bantam Pullet Under One Year
9. Best Pair One Male / one Female
10. Most Colorful Individual
11. Egg Layer
12. Grand Champion Backyard Beauty
13. Reserve Champion Backyard Beauty

1. Large Fowl One Dozen White Eggs
2. Large Fowl One Dozen Brown Eggs
3. Large Fowl One Dozen Color or Multi Color Eggs
4. Bantam eggs One Dozen white, brown, color or multi-color Eggs
5. Grand Champion Eggs
6. Reserve Grand Champion Eggs
7. Adult Decorated Egg
8. Adult Decorated Egg Carton

Youth Division

1. Breeding Stock – Youth 8 years of age and under
2. Breeding Stock – Youth 9 to 18 years of age
3. Most Colorful Breeding Stock – Any age of Youth
4. Back Yard Beauties – Youth 8 years of age and under
5. Back Yard Beauties – Youth 9 to 18 years of age

6. Most Colorful Back Yard Beauty – Any age of Youth
7. Over all Grand Champion Chicken for Youth Classes
8. Over all Reserve Champion Chicken for Youth Classes
9. Egg Decorating – Youth under 8 years of age
10. Egg Decorating – Youth age 9 to 18 years of age
11. Egg Carton Decorating – Youth under 8 years of age
12. Egg Carton Decorating – Youth 9 to 18 years of age
13. Cage Decorating – Youth – any age
14. Pee Wee Showmanship – under 8 years of age – Time and Date TBA

Antiques

1. **Exhibitors acknowledge that the article if more than 50 years old**
2. **Exhibitors acknowledge that the Fair will take all precautions to keep your antiques safe and secure, however the Fair will not be liable for items that may be come damaged, broken or stolen.**

Antique Dishes: Categories will be entered per type not individual glass ware.

1. **China Glass**
2. **Pottery/Ceramics**
3. **Depression**
4. **Cut Glass**
5. **Colored Glass**
6. **Clear Glass**
7. **Art Glass**

Historical Events/Cultural/Political Classes

St. Joseph County Grange Fair Item	Viet Nam War
American Revolutionary War Item	Desert Storm
Civil War	All Other War Items
World War I	Commemorative Dishes
World War 11	Native American Items
Korean War	All Other Items

Silver Shop/Brass/ Other Metals Category – enter any item

Dry Goods Classes

Personal Items	
Medical Supplies	

Entertainment	
Home Decorating	
Other Items	

Kid's Corner

Indoor Toys	Books, Magazines, School Items
Outdoor Toys	Any Other Child Item

Grandma's Home

Any Kitchen item	Bathroom Items
Bedroom Items	Any Other Item from Grandma's Home

Grandpa's Workshop

Hunting/Fishing Item	Garage/Barn Tools/Items
Farming Tools/Items	Any Other Item from Grandpa

Electrical Shop – Any Item

Furniture

Baby Furniture	Any other Furniture
Chair Rocking/any other	Any other Furniture

Early Transportation

Automotive any	Motorcycle Item
Bicycle/tricycle/unicycle	Rail Road Item any
Horse/Buggy Item	Any Other Item

Antique Tractors

1. Open to Public – Entry through Fair Entry online application – office will be open to assist with entering.
2. Tractors must be 50 years or older – Please include the make and age of the tractor
3. Judged on uniqueness, completeness of restoration, and overall pleasing appearance.
4. All Entries must be in working order
5. Trophies awarded each class.
6. The exhibit will be located by the Garden at the West end of the Fairgrounds property by the Nottawa walk-in gait.

Classes are as follows:

1. Allis Chalmers
2. Case
3. Ford
4. John Deere
5. IHC Farm All
6. Lawn and Garden
7. Massey
8. Minneapolis Moline
9. Oliver
10. Implement
11. All Others

Grange Building – Open Still Exhibits

Adult Division

Superintendent: John Tate Assistant: Darlene Tate

1. All projects will be located in the Grange Building
2. All projects will be entered through the Fair Entry Online application. See Link. The office will be available during August to assist you with the application process. When using the application, remember to go through each page, past the payment page, and complete each page until the end. There is **no fee to enter projects.**
3. Judging will be on cleanliness, uniformity, and market size.
4. Items will be disposed of during the fair if spoiled.
5. Youth age is computed on the Birthday date. There is a separate youth division, however, Youth may enter into the Adult Division for Farm–Garden and Orchard Products.
6. All still projects premiums as follows: 1st place - $3. 2nd place - $2. 3rd place - $1.
7. Judge's specialty award $10. Second place $5.

Farm – Garden – Orchard Products

Farm

Grains – 1 quart

Cow Beans	Soy Beans	Winter Rye
Oats	Wheats	Any Other
Kidney	Beans	

Corn

Hybrid (non-Irrigated)	Sweet Corn - any variety	Indian Corn
Hybrid (irrigated)	Popcorn – any variety	

Potatoes – plate of 4

White Variety	Red Variety
Yellow Variety	Any Other

Hay and Foliage

Hay – any Variety	Straw

4 Stalks

Soy Beans	Sorghum
Corn	Peanuts

Vegetables

Display Vegetable types that are 1 to 6 items each.

Asparagus	Cucumber	Lima Beans	Peppers - Hot
Beans – green or yellow	Egg Plant	Melons – any variety	Peppers - Sweet
Beets	Garlic Buds	Mushrooms	Pumpkins - any
Brussel Sprouts	Gourds – any variety	Okra	Squash - any
Cabbage	Herbs	Onions	Tomato - any
Carrots	Kohlrabi	Parsnips	Any Vegetable not mentioned
Cauliflower	Leeks	Peas	
Corn	Lettuce – any variety	Peppers - Bell	

Largest, Longest, Biggest, Tiny Division – Display any Vegetable or Fruit – Adult Section

Measurements of items will be displayed

Biggest Sunflower - weight	Smallest Flower	Longest Cucumber	Smallest Pumpkin

Largest Diameter Sunflower	Longest Zucchini	Tallest Bean Stalk	Longest or Largest Fruit or Vegetable
Tallest Sunflower	Longest corn of ear	Longest Bean Length	Tiniest Fruit or Vegetable

Orchard Products

Apples Plate of 4	**Tree Fruit Plate of 4**	**Grapes 1 bunch**	**Berries 1 pint**	**Nuts (plate of 12)**
Crab apples	Peaches any variety	Any kind	Blueberries	Chestnuts
Golden Delicious	Pears any variety		Raspberries	Hazelnuts
Honey Crisp	Plum		Strawberries	Hickory nuts
Red Delicious	Any other Tree Fruit		Any Other	Walnuts
Any Other				Any Other

Specialty Baskets and Novelties

Fruit Basket	Vegetable Basket	Gourd Basket
Pumpkin Decorating	Scarecrow Decorating	Herb Basket or Garden

Fine Arts

The exhibitor or an immediate family member must produce articles. No articles purchased or made in a factory will be accepted.

Cartooning	Ceramics	Diamond Art	Drawing	Handmade Pottery

Painting

Oil Still Life	Acrylics Still Life	Water Color Still Life	Pen/Ink Any
Oil Landscape/Sea	Acrylics Landscape/Sea	Watercolor landscape/sea	Pencil Any
Oil Animals	Acrylics Animal	Watercolor Animal	Ink on Glass
Oil Flower	Acrylics Flower	Watercolor Flower	Stipple Any
Oil – any other	Acrylics any other	Watercolor - any other	Chalk Any

Floriculture

Flowers in Vases – Exhibitor's choice of number of stems displayed

African Large Marigold	Marigold – French Double	Salvia
Aster	Mini Sunflowers	Snap Dragons
Calendula	Nasturtium	Zinnia
Chrysanthemum	Petunia	Gaillardias
Cleomes	Pansies	Annual Any Other
Cosmos	Roses Hybrid Tea	Perennial – Any Other
Dahlias	Roses – Miniatures	
Impatient	Sedum	

Flower Arrangements

The competition is open to Amateurs. Exhibitors may refresh flowers during the week as needed.

Judging is based on: 40% Design. 30% Originality. 20% Color Harmony. 10% Condition.

Summer Basket	Snow White Basket	Autumn/Indian/Fall Basket
Momma's Kitchen Basket	Patriot Basket	Halloween Basket
Easter Basket	Christmas Basket	Fairy Garden
Miniature Basket	Welcome Home Soldier Basket	Fair Theme – Celebrating 175 Years

Plants

Fern	Christmas Cactus	Philodendron	Succulents	Wondering Jew
Bridal Veil	Coleus	Spider	Shamrock	Any Other
Single Violet	Herbs	Flowering Brogna	Hoya	
Geranium	Cactus	Novel Pot	Ivy	
Jade Plant	Aloe	Dish Garden	Impatient	

Folk Arts

Baskets -any weave	Crafted Gourds	Jewelry Making	Resin Art
Black Smithing	Candle Making	Latch Hook	Soap Making
Calligraphy	Dolls	Leather Craft	Stenciling
Toy Boxes	Toys	Bird Houses	Macramé

Wood Working

Wood Carving	Intarsia	Scroll

Wood Burning	Wood Toy Box	Wood Bird Nest
Any Other Wood Item		

Home Arts

Articles must be neat and clean. Articles must be completed by the Exhibitor or an immediate family member.

Judging Basis: Workmanship 40%. Harmony Color: 25%. Beauty or Design: 25%. Appearance 10%

Pillows	**Dollies**	**Center Pieces**	**Bed Spreads**
Pillow Cases Embroidered	Dollies Embroidered	Center Pieces - Embroidered	Bed Spreads – Embroidered
Pillow Cases Crocheted/Edge	Dollies Crocheted	Center Pieces - Crocheted	Bed Spreads - Crocheted
Pillow Cases - Any Other	Dollies - Any Other	Center Pieces – any Other	Bed Spreads – any other

Accessories	**Framed Pictures**	**Table Toppers**
Dolls – any kind	Cross Stitched	Table Cloth
Hand bag or tote	Needle Mixed	Table Placemat
Pillows	Any Other Kind	Table Runner
Rugs		Table – any other
Any Other Item		

Wall Hangings

Applique	Hand Woven	Hooked	Patch Work
Cross Stitch	Quilted	Any Other Kind	

Afghans, Baby Afghans, Knitted Items, Hand Spun, and Crochet

Afghan	**Baby Afghan**	**Knitted Items**	**Hand Spun**	**Crochet**
Crocheted	Crocheted	Adult Sweater	Adult Sweater	Adult Sweater
Embroidered	Embroidered	Child Sweater	Child Sweater	Child Sweater
Any Other	Any Other	Baby Sweater	Baby Sweater	Baby Sweater
		Gloves or Mittens	Gloves or Mittens	Gloves or Mittens
		Hat or scarves	Hat or Scarves	Hat or Scarves
		Socks	Socks	Socks
		Any Other item	Any Other Items	Any Other Item

Sewing

Baby Item	Child Item	Adult Item	Formal Dress
Any Other Item	Any Other Item	Any Other Item	Any Other Item

Quilts:

Quilts will be divided into two categories: Hand Stitched and Machine Stitched.

Hand Stitched	**Machine Stitched**
Applique	Applique
Baby Quilt	Baby Quilt
Cotton Patchwork	Cotton Patchwork
Crazy Quilt	Crazy Quilt
Hand Embroidered	Hand Embroidered
Lap Quilt	Lap Quilt
Any Other	Any Other
2025 Theme – Growing the Future since 1851	Theme – Celebrating 175 Years

Home Economics

Baked Goods and Canned Goods

Breads	**Cookies**	**Cakes**	**Pies**	**Muffins**	**Breakfast Cakes/Rolls**	**Candy**	**Ginger Bread House**
White	Sugar	Frosted Any	Cherry	Fruit Muffin	Coffee Cake	Chocolate Fudge	Decorated
Wheat	Chocolate Chip	Cup Cakes – 6	Apple	Non-fruit muffin	Cinnamon Rolls	Peanut Butter Fudge	
Gluten Free	Grandma's Giant Cookie	Brownies	Any Other	Any other	Any Other	Hard Candy	

Dinner Rolls	Decorated Cookie	Any Other Decorated Cake				Filled Candy	
Any Other	Any Other					Any Other	

Canned Goods

Canned Fruits	**Canned Meats**	**Canned Vegetables**	**Pickles**
Applesauce	Beef	Asparagus	Beets
Blackberries	Chicken	Beans	Bread and Butter
Cherries	Pork	Beets	Cucumbers
Peaches	Any Other Meat	Carrots	Dill Pickles
Any Other Fruit		Peppers – any	Sweet Pickles
Any Fruit Juice		Tomatoes - Juice	Fruits - any
		Tomatoes - Stewed	Green Tomatoes
		Tomatoes Whole	Red Tomatoes
		Spaghetti Sauce	Any other Pickle
		Salsa	
		Any Other Vegetable	

Dried Foods – Honey – Jelly – Jams – Maple Syrup

Dried Foods	**Honey**	**Jelly – Jams - Marmalade**	**Syrup**
Any Kind	Honey in a Jar	Jelly – any kind	Maple
		Jam – any kind	Any Other Kind Syrup
		Marmalade – any kind	
		Apple Butter	
		Any Perserve	

Hay Bale Contest

1. Open to anyone – Groups, 4-H Clubs, Service Clubs, Church's, and or individuals.

2. The theme for Fair 2026 is **Celebrating 175 Years or America celebrating 250 years.**
3. **Must register via Fair Entry Application by Monday September 14, 2026. However, if you are unable to enter via computer please call us. Phone: 269 – 467- 8935.** This will give us time to plan for the display of the Hay Bales.
4. The Hay Bale Display will start Friday, September 18, 2026, and be finished by Saturday, September 19 at 5 PM. Judging will take place on Saturday evening.
5. Must be removed by Tuesday, September 29, 2026.
6. Entries will be placed throughout the fairgrounds at the Fair's discretion.
7. No lights or illumination.
8. Entry size cannot be larger than 12 feet wide and 15 feet long.
9. Prize Money 1st. $100 2nd. $75 3rd. $50 4th. $25
10. For Questions, contact Fair office 269-467-8935 or Kristine Kirsch at 269-503-1391

Horticultural Quilt

This year's theme is "Celebrating 175 Years". This is your chance to be creative with no pattern specifics. The Fair Theme dates back to 1851, and consider how the County Fair looked over 100 years ago. So, get creative. Last year, the Quilts were amazing and very unique.

1. Open to individuals, groups, or clubs. Your choice
2. A 36 x 36 by 3 high boxes, inside diameter 34 x 34. The Fair has 12 Boxes currently. However, Exhibitors can bring their box if desired.
3. The exhibitor must create the Quilt utilizing produce, seeds, beans, dried flowers, etc. This year, you will be allowed to create at home and then finish assembling at the Fair. This was a request from participants. No artificial objects are allowed in the box.

4. The Grange Building will be open on Friday, September 18, 2026, from noon until 8 PM. Saturday, September 19, starting at 9 am until 3 PM. If you need alternate time please call the fair office and we will make arrangements.
5. Judging will begin on Saturday, September 19, 2026, in the evening.
6. 1st. $45. 2nd. $40 3rd. $35 4th. $30 5th. $25 6th. $25 7th. $20

   8th. $20 9th. $15 10th. $15 11th. 10 12ths. $10

Photography

Color Photos

Scenic any Season	Portrait
Night Scene	Patriot Theme
Still Life	Sports/Recreation
Animals/Wild Life	Any Other Category
Animal Domestic	Fair 2026 Theme –Celebrating 175 Years

Black and White Photos

Scenic any Season	Portrait
Night Scene	Patriot Theme
Still Life	Sports/Recreation
Animals/Wild Life	Any Other Category
Animal Domestic	Fair 2026 Theme – Celebrating 175 Years

Home Maker of the Year

This honor is open to St. Joseph County residents aged 25 and older. Per the premium book, entrants must enter 5 categories in 3 different divisions (not including livestock). All entrants will complete the application along with an essay. Interviews of applicants will take place on Sunday, September 20, 2026, at 2 PM.

Essay

1. Describe your community involvement – volunteer activities.
2. Define “homemaker”.
3. What would being SJCGF Homemaker of the Year mean to you?
4. What would representing SJCGF at the State Homemaker of the Year Contest mean to you?
5. What else should our judges know about you?

Special Ceremony to crown Home Maker of the Year Sunday, September 20, 2026, at 4 PM in the Community Tent.

1st Place $100.00 2nd Place $75.00 3rd Place $50.00

Youth Division

We hope you enjoy the Youth Division. Fair also added many classes called “any other,” hoping to welcome any project that you have **created**. If your youth wishes to participate in the Hay Bale Contest or Horticultural Quilt, please see page 21-22.

Youth Classes are divided as follows:

1. Any Youth under age 7.
2. Youth age 7 and under age 10
3. Youth age 10 and under age 13
4. Youth age 13 to 18 years of age

Specialty Baskets and Novelties

Fruit Basket	Vegetable Basket	Gourd Basket
Pumpkin Decorating	Scarecrow Decorating	Herb Basket or Garden

Largest, Longest, Biggest, Tiny Division – Display any Vegetable or Fruit – Kids Section

Measurement’s will be displayed with item

Biggest Sunflower - weight	Smallest Flower	Longest Cucumber	Smallest Pumpkin
Largest Diameter Sunflower	Longest Zucchini	Tallest Bean Stalk	Longest or Largest Fruit or Vegetable
Tallest Sunflower	Longest corn of ear	Longest Bean Length	Tiniest Fruit or Vegetable

Fine Arts

Articles must be of the exhibitor or immediate family member. No articles purchased or made in a factory will be accepted.

Cartooning	Ceramics	Diamond Art	Drawing	Handmade Pottery

Painting

Oil Still Life	Acrylics Still Life	Water Color Still Life	Pen/Ink Any

Oil Landscape/Sea	Acrylics Landscape/Sea	Watercolor landscape/sea	Pencil Any
Oil Animals	Acrylics Animal	Watercolor Animal	Ink on Glass
Oil Flower	Acrylics Flower	Watercolor Flower	Stipple Any
Oil – any other	Acrylics any other	Watercolor any other	Paint by Number

Flower Arrangements

The competition is open to Amateurs. Exhibitors may refresh flowers during the week as needed.

Judging is based on: 40% Design. 30% Originality. 20% Color Harmony. 10% Condition.

Summer Basket	Snow White Basket	Autumn/Indian/Fall Basket
Momma's Kitchen Basket	Patriot Basket	Halloween Basket
Easter Basket	Christmas Basket	Fairy Garden
Miniature Basket	Welcome Home Soldier Basket	2026 Fair Theme Basket – Celebrating 175 Years

Folk Arts

Baskets -any weave	Crafted Gourds	Jewelry Making	Resin Art
Black Smithing	Candle Making	Latch Hook	Soap Making
Calligraphy	Dolls	Leather Craft	Stenciling
Toy Boxes	Toys	Bird Houses	Macrame
Gift Wrapping			

Home Arts

Articles must be neat and clean. Articles must be completed by Exhibitor.

Items must be Handmade, no store purchased items will be allowed

Judging Basis: Workmanship 40%. Harmony Color: 25%. Beauty or Design: 25%. Appearance 10%

Handmade Pillows - Any	Wall Hangings - any	Quilts – either hand or machine stitched
Handbag – Purse - Tote	Knitted Items	Sewing Items
Table Toppers - any	Crocheted Items	

Home Economics

Baked Goods and Canned Goods

Breads	**Cookies**	**Cakes**	**Pies**	**Muffins**	**Breakfast Cakes/Rolls**	**Candy**	**Ginger Bread House**
White	Sugar	Frosted Any	Cherry	Fruit Muffin	Coffee Cake	Chocolate Fudge	Decorated
Wheat	Chocolate Chip	Cup Cakes – 6	Apple	Non-fruit muffin	Cinnamon Rolls	Peanut Butter Fudge	
Gluten Free	Grandma's Giant Cookie	Brownies	Any Other	Any other	Any Other	Hard Candy	
Dinner Rolls	Decorated Cookie	Any Other				Filled Candy	
Any Other	Any Other					Any Other	

Canned Goods

Canned Fruits	**Canned Meats**	**Canned Vegetables**	**Pickles**
Applesauce	Beef	Asparagus	Beets
Blackberries	Chicken	Beans	Bread and Butter
Cherries	Pork	Beets	Cucumbers
Peaches	Any Other Meat	Carrots	Dill Pickles
Any Other Fruit		Peppers – any	Sweet Pickles
Any Fruit Juice		Tomatoes - Juice	Fruits - any
		Tomatoes - Stewed	Green Tomatoes
		Tomatoes Whole	Red Tomatoes
		Spaghetti Sauce	Any other Pickle
		Salsa	
		Any Other Vegetable	

Dried Foods – Honey – Jelly – Jams – Maple Syrup

Dried Foods	**Honey**	**Jelly – Jams - Marmalade**	**Maple Syrup**
Any Kind	Honey in a Jar	Jelly – any kind	Any Kind
		Jam – any kind	
		Marmalade – any kind	
		Apple Butter	
		Conserves – any kind	

Legos and Models

Legos Utilizing 2026 Fair Theme “Celebrating 175 Years”	Models of any material to create the Theme “Celebrating 175 Years”
Any Other Lego project	Any Other Model project

Photography

Color Photos

Scenic any Season	Portrait
Night Scene	Patriot Theme
Still Life	Sports/Recreation
Animals/Wild Life	Any Other Category
Animal Domestic	Fair 2026 Theme – Celebrating 175 Years

Black and White Photos

Scenic any Season	Portrait
Night Scene	Patriot Theme
Still Life	Sports/Recreation
Animals/Wild Life	Any Other Category
Animal Domestic	Fair 2026 Theme – Celebrating 175 Years