

La Porte County Home and Family Arts



2026

Registration: Registration begins June 1st. Registration is strongly recommended by July 3rd. You can continue to add more entries after registration. Please register at the Fair Office during office hours or online. Registration is open to La Porte County and surrounding counties. Minimum age of 15 years and not in 4-H.

Entry Fee: \$40 with Season Pass, \$20 without Season Pass. You may enter as many entries as possible you would like. You may also enter classes in Agriculture and Horticulture.

Entries: All exhibits must be the work of the exhibitor and be completed by him/her since August 2025, and NOT shown previously at the La Porte County Fair. You can exhibit up to 3 items per division. All articles will be displayed in the Community Building. The Fair Board will not be responsible for theft of articles. Every possible care will be taken of articles.

Exhibitors MUST have their entry tag securely attached to the exhibit when brought in for entry. The exhibitor's name and address must be on the backside of the entry tag. ALL ITEMS MUST BE DRIED AND FINISHED BEFORE ITEM WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Each division may also have additional rules listed. Please be aware.

Arrival and Release Times: All entries must be on grounds by the start of judging for that division. You may also drop off items to the Fair Office starting July 1st. Exhibits may NOT be

removed before Sunday, July 19th (with the exception of plants). Release times are from NOON - 2:00 p.m. Sunday July 19th. Please note that this is the ONLY time you can pick up your items.

Judging: Judging will be open. Comment cards will be supplied for each individual item. If there are less than three (3) articles in any class, the exhibit will be placed according to the judge's decision as to the quality of work.

Premiums: Premiums are listed within each division. Premium checks will be available Sunday July 19, between Noon and 2:00 pm. They will also be available during normal office hours after the fair. Checks will not be mailed and will be forfeited after Sept 15th.

Schedule of Judging:

- Tuesday, July 7 - Crafts, Flowers 1, and Food Preservation
- Monday, July 13 – Cookies, Candies, Breads, Muffins, Quick Breads
- Tuesday, July 14 - Cakes
- Wednesday, July 15 – Pies
- Thursday, July 16 – Flowers 2

NEEDLEWORK & HANDICRAFTS

1. All needlework and handicraft articles to be entered must be brought to the Home and Family Arts Department in the Community Building by **Tuesday, July 7, between 4:00 - 6:00pm. Judging will begin at 6:00pm.**
2. All general rules above apply.

NEEDLEWORK

PREMIUMS AS FOLLOWS:

1st Place: \$5.00 2nd Place: \$4.00

3rd Place: \$3.00

1. Knitting

- a. Afghan
- b. Baby Afghan
- c. Other

2. Crocheting

- a. Afghan
- b. Baby Afghan
- c. Amigurumi
- d. Other

3. Cross Stitch

- a. Framed - ready to hang
- b. Other

4. Embroidery

- a. Crewel Embroidery picture or wall hanging - ready to hang
- b. Basic Embroidery
- c. Machine Embroidery – any item

5. Sewing

- a. Infant (sizes NB-12mo)
- b. Children's Playwear (child sizes 2T-children's 12)
- c. Teen Wear – any item
- d. Adult Day Wear (dress, jacket dress, jumper, blouse or pants)
- e. Special Occasion Wear – any size
- f. Non-Wearable (wall hanging, stuffed animal, tote, etc)
- g. Doll Clothing (any size, to fit a child's doll)

6. Wearable Art

- a. Top
- b. Other

7. Tatting

- a. Any Item

8. Weaving (Loom)

- a. Any Item

9. Other Needlework

- a. Any Needlework other than above

ROSETTE – NEEDLEWORK SWEEPSTAKES

QUILTS

PREMIUMS AS FOLLOWS:
1ST Place: \$6.00 2nd Place: \$5.00
3rd Place: \$4.00

10. Quilts

- a. **Hand Quilted & Finished- ANY item**
- b. **Hand Quilted & MACHINE finished- ANY item**
- c. **Machine Quilted- Pieced**
 - i. Computerized long arm finish- regulate
 - ii. Manual long arm finish- regulated
 - iii. Basic machine finish- nonregulated
- d. **Machine Quilted Child's Bed or Crib**
 - i. Computerized long arm finish- regulate
 - ii. Manual long arm finish- regulated
 - iii. Basic machine finish- nonregulated
- e. **Machine Quilted- Two or more techniques**
 - i. Computerized long arm finish- regulate
 - ii. Manual long arm finish- regulated
 - iii. Basic machine finish- nonregulated
- f. **Quilted Item – Other than above**
- g. **Quilt – Hand quilted by Quilting Guild or Group**

ROSETTE – QUILT SWEEPSTAKES

HANDICRAFTS - GROUP 1

PREMIUMS AS FOLLOWS:
1ST Place: \$5.00 2nd Place: \$4.00
3rd Place: \$3.00

11. Woodworking

- a. Any Item

12. Woodcarving

- a. Any Item

13. Baskets- Non Pro – Hand Woven

- a. Reed Basket – Any Size
- b. Basket & Lid
- c. Other Basket

14. Rock Painting

- a. Any Item

15. Hand Made Jewelry

- a. Any Item

16. Ceramics – Non Pro

- a. Cast piece – fired-on glaze
- b. Cast piece – non-fired finish
- c. Other

17. Pencil Sketch – No Nudes – Non Pro

- a. Not to exceed 36” – ready to hang/display- B & W
- b. Not to exceed 36” – ready to hang/display – Color

18. Charcoal – not to exceed 36” – ready to hang/display - No nudes – Non Pro

19. Pen / Ink – not to exceed 36” – ready to hang/display – No Nudes – Non Pro

20. Oil synthetics on canvas – No nudes – Non pro

- a. Any item – not over 36” – ready to hang/display

21. Acrylic, synthetics on canvas – No nudes – Non pro

- a. Any item – not over 36” – ready to hang/display

22. Watercolor painting – No nudes – Non Pro

- a. Not to exceed 36” – ready to hang/display

[ROSETTE – HANDICRAFT GROUP 1 SWEEPSTAKES](#)

PHOTOGRAPHY

Not less than 8” x 10” nor more than 16” x 20” overall size. Must be matted or mounted on self-adhesive photo board. No frames.

23. Photography – No Nudes – Non Pro

- a. **Color**
 - 1. Animals
 - 2. Portrait
 - 3. Other

- b. **Black & White**
 - 1. Animals
 - 2. Portrait
 - 3. Other

[ROSETTE – PHOTOGRAPHY SWEEPSTAKES](#)

24. Photography – No Nudes – For Professional

- c. **Color**
 - 4. Animals
 - 5. Portrait
 - 6. Other

- d. **Black & White**
 - 4. Animals
 - 5. Portrait
 - 6. Other

HANDICRAFTS - GROUP 2

PREMIUMS AS FOLLOWS:

1ST Place: \$5.00 2nd Place: \$4.00
3rd Place: \$3.00

25. Bead Craft

- a. Any item

26. Stained or Blown Glass – Non Pro

- a. Any item
- b.

27. Tole or Decorative Painting

- a. Any item

28.. Scrap Booking – Non-Pro

- a. 1 Album Special Event - Not to exceed 12” x 12”
- b. 1 or 2 Page Layout

29. Recycled Craft

- a. Any item recycled

30. Pottery

- a. Any item

31. Holiday Decor- Any Holiday

- a. Tree Ornament– Any Material- single ready to hang
- b. Tree Ornament- Any Material- set of 3
- c. Garland
- d. Holiday Wreath – Ready to hang
- e. Holiday Door Decoration- Ready to hang, non-wreath

32. Diamond Painting

- a. Any item not over 36” ready to hang/display

33. Models

- a. Any item

34. UFO- Unfinished Projects completed in the current year.

b. Any item

ROSETTE – HANDICRAFT GROUP 2
SWEEPSTAKES

****VIRGINIA SEITZ AWARD FOR
OUTSTANDING HANDICRAFT****

FLOWERS GROUP 1

PREMIUMS AS FOLLOWS:

1ST Place: \$5.00 2nd Place: \$4.00

3rd Place: \$3.00

1. **Exhibit due on Tuesday, July 7, between 4:00 - 6:00 P.M. Judging will begin at 6:00 P.M.**
2. NO distinction between Amateur and GCM
3. Exhibits need to have an exhibit tag attached.
4. Accessories Optional

Artificial/dried* Flower Arrangements

* silk, plastic, wood, dried flowers etc. NOT

FRESH

35. “Oldies but Goodies“ – fill an antique/vintage container with artificial flowers

36. “My Favorite Hobby” - incorporate items/tools in your artificial arrangement to depict your favorite hobby

37.”Holiday Time” - make an artificial arrangement depicting your favorite holiday

38. Artificial arrangement in your choice of container

39. “Harvest Time” - artificial arrangement in your choice of container, include faux fruits and/or vegetables to depict the harvest season

40. “Thinking Outside the Box” - re-purpose a container and fill it with artificial flowers

ROSETTE – FLOWERS 1 SWEEPSTAKES

GREEN THUMB AWARD

There will be a sweepstakes ribbon given for the best plant entry!

41. Non-blooming (foliage only) houseplant

42. Terrarium

43. Vining Plant in your choice of container - (i.e. Wandering Jew, Ivy, Pothos etc.)

44. Dish Garden - Use 3 or more succulents or foliage plants in container of your choice to make a dish garden display

45. Blooming Houseplant - (i.e. African Violet, Orchid, etc.) SHOULD BE IN BLOOM for exhibit

46. Floor Plant - blooming or non blooming

PLEASE NOTE: Tuesday’s “Artificial” and “Green Thumb” entries will be on display the entire fair week. Please check on your plants to make sure they are watered, if necessary, during this time. Exhibits will be released with other open class projects on Sunday, July 19.

*****FOOD SAFETY REGULATION***
FROM PURDUE EXTENSION FOOD SAFETY
POLICY (revised 11/2013):**

FOR BAKED PRODUCT COMPETITIONS:

“Filling, frosting, glazing, pie filling, and meringue, whether uncooked or cooked ARE NOT PERMITTED to contain cream cheese, sour cream, heavy cream or whipped cream as the nature of these products increases the moisture content and water activity of the food. Foods with a higher moisture content and water activity can be ideal for growing conditions for food borne pathogens, even if the ingredient is part of a batter or baked. Additionally, raw milk, raw milk products or uncooked eggs/egg whites are not permitted. Eggs/egg whites that have been cooked to 160 degrees Fahrenheit (i.e. pasteurized or included as part of a batter and baked) are acceptable. No home-canned fruits, vegetables, or meats are permitted in products. Recipes must be provided that show which

ingredients were used in each part of the product. Contestants should carefully wash their hands and make sure that their hands do not have any open cuts before preparing foods. Contestants should not be preparing food exhibits for competition within 48 hours of recovering from any illness. Whenever possible, baked products should be transported and stored in chilled coolers (41 degrees Fahrenheit). Judges and individuals who will consume products from county and state competitions should be informed that they are at risk for food borne illness since the established policy cannot guarantee that an entry which is a “potentially hazardous food” has been properly prepared or handled before, during or following competition. The taste of a food product is solely at the discretion of the judge. Judges are NOT to taste any low-acid or acidified preserved food, like green beans or tomato products, and are discouraged from tasting any other home preserved food. Consumers of competitive food exhibits being sold at auction or used for hospitality purposes should be notified they could be at risk for foodborne illness since the established policy cannot guarantee that any entry which may be a potentially hazardous food has been properly prepared or handled before, during or following the competition.

Food Preservation

PREMIUMS AS FOLLOWS: 1ST Place: \$4.00
2nd Place: \$3.00 3rd Place: \$2.00

1. General Rules apply
2. **Exhibits should be brought in Tuesday, July 7, between 4:00 - 6:00 pm. Judging will begin at 6:00 pm.**
3. **Each exhibit must have the exhibitor’s tag securely fastened with a rubber band on the neck of the jar. Each jar should be clearly labeled with the product name and date of processing ON THE LID. RECIPES ARE A MUST. INDICATE PROCESSING METHOD ON RECIPE. NO ITEMS REQUIRING REFRIGERATION MAY BE ENTERED.

4. All products must be exhibited in standard colorless glass canning jar (except where otherwise noted) JAR RINGS must be exhibited on jar
5. All products must have been canned since July 2024.
6. All food must be processed by water bath or pressure canner to secure seal. Unsealed jars will be disqualified.
7. Jars may be opened at the discretion of the judge. A sticker will be attached to the exhibit if the jar has been opened.
8. After judging, all jars will be on exhibit
9. Ribbons may be picked up between NOON & 2:00 P.M. Sunday, July 13.
10. **Jars not picked up on release date will be disposed of immediately.

DIVISION

47. Fruits – Standard colorless jars

48. Vegetables – Standard colorless jars

49. Jams – Standard colorless jars – appropriate texture

50. Jellies – Natural Color, flavor, transparent – standard colorless jars

51. Butters (Soft Spreads) – standard colorless jars

- a. Apple
- b. Single Fruit- Other Than Apple
- c. 2 or More Fruits
- d. Other

52. Pickles and Relishes- standard colorless jars

- a. Bread & Butter
- b. Sweet Pickles
- c. Dill Pickles
- d. Pickled Beets
- e. Other Pickled Items
- f. Sweet Relish
- g. Corn Relish
- h. Other Relish
- i. Salsa

53. Juice

- a. Fruit
- b. Vegetable
- c. Other

54. Sauces

- a. Tomato
- b. Fruit
- c. Other

55. Soups

56. Other

[ROSETTE – BEST OF FOOD
PRESERVATION SWEEPSTAKES](#)

CANDY, COOKIES & BREADS

1. General Rules apply.
2. **Exhibit should be brought in Monday, July 13, between 8:00 and 10:00 am
Judging will begin at 10:30am.**
3. After judging, only winning samples will be on exhibit, and the exhibitor may pick up the remaining portion. Anything left may be discarded.
4. RECIPES ARE A MUST. The exhibitor number must be on recipes.
5. NO ITEMS REQUIRING REFRIGERATION MAY BE ENTERED.

PREMIUMS FOR
CANDY, COOKIES, & BREADS
AS FOLLOWS:
1st Place: \$5.00 2nd Place: \$4.00
3rd Place: \$3.00

57. Candy - 5 pieces

- a. Brittle – any kind
- b. Fudge
 - i. Chocolate Fudge
 - ii. Peanut Butter Fudge
 - iii. Miscellaneous
- c. Divinity
- d. Molded Candy
- e. English Toffee
- f. Truffles
- g. Miscellaneous Candy - Any Candy, except for above

[ROSETTE – BEST OF CANDY
SWEEPSTAKES](#)

58. Cookies - paper plate of 5

- a. Unbaked
- b. Chocolate Chip Cookie
- c. Fancy Party
- d. Bar
- e. Rolled
- f. Drop
- g. Brownies
- h. Graham Crackers
- i. Formed/Shaped
- j. My Favorite Cookie – (Any Kind)

[ROSETTE – BEST OF COOKIES
SWEEPSTAKES](#)

59. Bread – Yeast

- a. White
- b. Whole Wheat or Rye
- c. Sourdough
- d. Sweet Dough (tea ring or braid)

60. Yeast Rolls - paper plate of 3

[ROSETTE – BEST OF YEAST BREAD SHOW
SWEEPSTAKES](#)

61. Quick Breads – Loaf or Bundt/Angel Food Pan

- a. Nut
- b. Fruit
- c. Vegetable
- d. Fruit and Nut
- e. Coffee Cake
- f. Zucchini

62. Quick Breads - plate of 3

- a. Baking Powder Biscuits
- b. Corn Bread
- c. Cake Donuts
- d. Scones

63. Muffins - plate of 3

- a. Plain
- b. Fruit
- c. Vegetable
- e. Other than above

[ROSETTE – BEST OF QUICK
BREADS/MUFFINS SWEEPSTAKES](#)

CAKES

PREMIUMS FOR CAKES AS FOLLOWS:

1ST Place: \$5.00 2nd Place: \$4.00
3rd Place: \$3.00

1. General Rules Apply
2. **The exhibit should be brought in Tuesday, July 14 between 8:00 - 10:00 A.M. Judging will begin at 10:30 A.M.**
3. Exhibits should be on cardboard 1" larger than cake or on your own cake plate. (Put name on bottom of cardboard or plate)
4. Only a sample of the winning entry will be on exhibit. Exhibitors may pick up cakes after judging. Pick up ribbons on Sunday, July 19, between NOON and 2:00 p.m.
5. Bake angel food, chiffon cakes in center tube pan.
6. Bake cakes in round, square, oblong or bundt pans.
7. CAKE DECORATING – Non-Pro - SEE RULES BELOW

64. TUBE CAKE – USE CENTER TUBE PAN

- a. Angel Food without frosting
- b. Chiffon cake with choice of frosting
- c. Sponge cake with choice of frosting

65. SINGLE LAYER CAKE: TUBE OR LOAF CAKE

- a. Pound Cake
- b. Applesauce with choice of frosting
- c. Pineapple Upside-Down Cake

66. MULTIPLE LAYER CAKE

- a. Yellow with white frosting
- b. Chocolate with chocolate frosting
- c. White with white frosting
- d. Banana (banana in the batter) - with choice of frosting
- e. Spice with a choice of frosting.
- f. Other than above with choice of frosting

67. MISCELLANEOUS CAKES

- a. Cup Cakes (3 decorated)
- b. Single or Layer with choice of frosting – start with your choice of boxed cake mix
- c. Cake Decorating- single or multi-layer cake or form decorated using any variety of

techniques (NON-PRO ONLY- cannot have received monetary compensation for decorated cakes prior to date of exhibit)
d. Sheet Cake

ROSSETTE – BEST OF CAKES SWEEPSTAKES

PIES

PREMIUMS FOR PIES AS FOLLOWS:

1ST Place: \$5.00 2nd Place: \$4.00
3rd Place: \$3.00

1. General rules apply
2. **The exhibit should be brought in Wednesday, July 15 between 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. Judging will begin at 10:30 a.m.**
3. Not responsible for pie pan (put name on bottom of pan)
4. Pies will be judged on flavor, texture of the crust, filling, and general appearance.
5. After judging, only a sample of the pie will be on exhibit. Exhibitors may pick up the remaining portion after judging.
6. No items requiring refrigeration may be exhibited.
7. RECIPES REQUIRED FOR FILLING AND CRUST.
8. Two crust pies may either be lattice or CUT OUT top crust.
9. Items not picked up on the release date will be disposed of immediately.

68. Apple

69. Berry

70. Cherry

71. Pecan

72. Fruit - Dutch Crumble Topping

73. Combination

74. Apple Dumplings

75. Other

ROSETTE – BEST OF PIES SWEEPSTAKES

FLOWERS GROUP 2

PREMIUMS AS FOLLOWS:

1ST Place: \$5.00 2nd Place: \$4.00

3rd Place: \$3.00

1.Exhibit due on Thursday July 16, between 8:00 - 10:00 A.M. Judging will begin at 10:30 A.M.

2. NO distinction between Amateur and GCM

3.Accessories Optional

76. Bud vase arrangement using 3 flower blooms of your choice with greenery

77. “Tea Time” - fresh arrangement suitable for a tea party

78. “Hooray for the U.S.A.!” - fresh flower arrangement celebrating America

79. “Fresh Foliage Arrangement” - using ONLY foliage/plant materials make an arrangement in your choice of container

80. “Let’s get Cookin’!” - use your imagination to fashion a fresh arrangement for the kitchen table using a kitchen themed container (kitchen utensils a plus)

81. “Miniature Fresh Arrangement” - not to exceed 6” in any direction

82. “Welcome Baby” - fresh arrangement to celebrate a new arrival

83. “Lovely as a Rose” - display one single rose in either a bud vase or rose bowl (may use greenery)

84. “Happy Birthday!” - a festive fresh arrangement to celebrate a special birthday

85. “Barn Style” - fresh arrangement using a farm themed container

86. “2026 La Porte County Fair Theme Arrangement” - make a fresh arrangement using the 2026 fair theme “Dream Big. Work Hard. Show Proud.”

87. “A Tisket a Tasket” - arrange wildflowers in a basket of your choice

[ROSETTE – FLOWERS SWEEPSTAKES](#)