



★ 2023 ★

“America’s Family Reunion”



September
25TH - 30TH

All live entertainment is **FREE**

★ DEKALBCOUNTYFAIR.ORG ★

Welcome to the 92nd Annual Free Fall Fair



Table of Contents

Mayor's Greeting.....	4
Our Sponsors	6-7
DeKalb County Fair Association Mission	8
From the President	8
About Us.....	10-11
92 nd DeKalb County Fair Highlights	12
2023 Schedule of Events	13-20
Parades & Safety	21
Merchant Tent.....	22
Fairground Facilities Available for Rental.....	22
Fair Volunteers.....	22
Map	26-27

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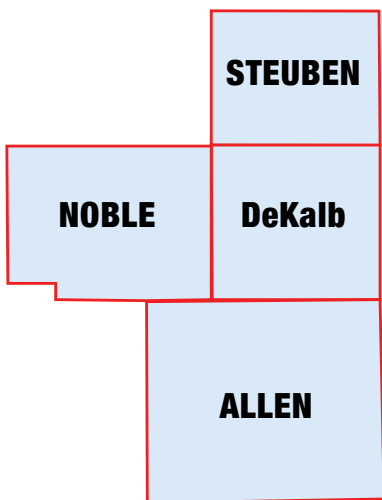
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Mayor's GREETING



Dear Patrons,

As mayor, it is my honor to welcome you to the 92nd DeKalb County Free Fall Fair. The DeKalb County Fair prides itself on promoting the agricultural, horticultural, educational, industrial and mechanical interest of DeKalb County, Indiana, as well as promoting the relationship between rural and urban citizens of the county.

As a fair association board member and volunteer for over two decades, it is an honor to welcome you as Mayor of the City of Auburn. The DeKalb County Free Fall Fair is one of the largest street fairs in the state as well as the county's 4-H Fair with many activities and events taking place at the fairgrounds.

The Fair Association and the 4-H Clubs have worked diligently to improve the facilities and campus that you see today, while continuing to offer many activities "free". The DeKalb Free Fall Fair is a time-honored tradition in our county and one that we hope will become a family tradition to every one of you.

I must recognize our city utilities, street, fire and police departments provide services, in cooperation with the Fair Association, to ensure safety and continued success during fair week. As well as all the improvements and beautification to our downtown corridors we have made over the last year that will make walking around the Fair even more enjoyable for all of our visitors.

It takes a lot of volunteers, and months of preparation to bring this event to fruition. I am grateful to be a part of it and grateful for every volunteer, local business owner, city employee, and resident that makes the fair an honored tradition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael D. Ley".

Michael D. Ley
Mayor



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Thank You, **SPONSORS!**

The DeKalb County Fair Association would like to extend their appreciation to the following community minded organizations. Our fair has grown into what has become "America's Family Reunion". The solid commitment these organizations have given to the fair is truly commendable. The official fair sponsors play an important and integral role each year and deserve to be recognized for their continuous support. Again, a special thanks to the following sponsors for your partnership with the 92nd Annual DeKalb County Free Fall Fair.

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Our MISSION

The DeKalb County Fair Association's mission is to provide a traditional community event that promotes agriculture, education and entertainment in a safe family environment.

From the PRESIDENT



Welcome to the 2023rd DeKalb County Free Fall Fair! Our board is excited to welcome you to our 92nd year of the Fair.

I hope you'll take some time to visit not only the vendors around our court house square and enjoy some of the entertainment, but also to wander through the Merchant's Tent, down to the exhibits in Middaugh Hall, and to see the display of livestock raised by our 4-H members. Middaugh hall holds an impressive display of open class antiques and photography exhibits as well as our Made in DeKalb display. Stop by to check out the companies, you might be surprised what is made in your own county!

The livestock barns also hosts a number of shows. From horses and swine to goats and chickens, DeKalb County is known for their quality livestock raised by our hardworking 4-H members. Also returning are the Draft Horse and Garden Tractor Pulls and some tasty pork burgers at the 4-H food stands.

We are grateful for the sponsors, volunteers, and vendors that come together to make this a successful event. There is a sense of community that the fair brings out like no other time of the year! It makes us realize how fortunate we are to be here, in DeKalb County, celebrating the best we have to offer. We appreciate everyone who helps make the fair so enjoyable!

Enjoy the Fair!

Respectfully,

Eric Rowe
President





THE 4TH ANNUAL

5K RUN/ WALK

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

- Open to All Ages
- \$25 Entry Fee
- Race Begins at 8:00 am

Check-in @ 7:15 am - Auburn YMCA

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About Us **FAIR INFO**

MAIN OFFICE:

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CONCESSION & RIDE OFFICE:

9th & Cedar St., Auburn, IN

OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	Eric Rowe
1st VICE PRESIDENT	Mike Ley
2nd VICE PRESIDENT	Mike Rakestraw
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ASST. SECRETARY	Andrea Oster
TREASURER	Josie Rinehold
ASSISTANT TREASURER	Arlene Knott
AREA I DIRECTOR AT LARGE.....	Chris Heffley
AREA II DIRECTOR AT LARGE.....	Kendall Edwards
AREA III DIRECTOR AT LARGE.....	Peter Hathaway
CONCESSION/RIDE MANAGERS	John & Holly Hoffman
ASST. CONCESSION/RIDE MGRS	Mike & Sara Ley
MERCHANT TENT.....	Dave Bunn
BUILDING & GROUNDS.....	Ron Strahm
ENTERTAINMENT MANAGER.....	Jeff Morr
CAMPING MANAGER	Chris Rowe
PARKING MANAGER	Kendall Edwards

COMMISSIONERS

Todd Sanderson | Bill Hartman | Mike Watson

FAIR BOARD ATTORNEY

Neal Blythe

COUNTY EXTENSION EDUCATORS

EXTENSION EDUCATOR (Agriculture and Natural Resources).....	Elysia Rodgers
EXTENSION EDUCATOR (Health and Human Sciences)	Angela Sorg
EXTENSION EDUCATOR (4-H Youth Development)	Effie Campbell

4-H DIRECTORS

4-H COUNCIL PRESIDENT	Mark Carunchia
FAIR EXEC. COMMITTEE REP	Mike Rakestraw
4-H COUNCIL REP.....	Matt Blomeke



About Us **FAIR INFO**

AREA I DIRECTORS

Union Township.....	Nancy Zion
Keyser Township	Terry Yarde
Spencer Township.....	Ron Strahm
St. Joe (town)	Jeanine Arnett
Butler (city)	Kendall Edwards
Concord Township	Rod Walker
Butler Township.....	William Knott
Auburn (city)	Mike Littlejohn

AREA II DIRECTORS

Franklin Township.....	Chris Rowe
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Richland Township	James Stahl
Grant Township	Brian Ferguson
Ashley.....	Ashley Edwards
Fairfield Township.....	Myron Stackhouse

AREA III DIRECTORS

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Auburn.....	Brandy Coburn
Garrett	Tim Griffin
Spencerville	Mike Benbow
Waterloo	Dexter Crossley
Stafford Township.....	Karen Basset
Troy Township.....	John Hoffman

Official PHOTOGRAPHER

JOHN MOHRE

The DeKalb County Fair Association will be taking photographs that will be used on the Internet, televised, or in other forms of distribution. By entering the premises you are consenting to be photographed and you are granting, free of charge, the right to use you or your likeness for the purpose of promoting the DeKalb County Free Fall Fair.

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2023 FAIR HIGHLIGHTS

Monday, September 25th marks the beginning of the 92nd Anniversary of the DeKalb County Free Fall Fair. This premier Indiana event often called “America’s Family Reunion” is held on the beautiful downtown streets and fairgrounds of Auburn, IN.


The DeKalb County Fair Executive Board, DeKalb County 4-H and hundreds of volunteers have worked hard to make this year’s event a special one for all those attending. Throughout the week be sure to enjoy all the delicious food, exciting carnival rides and games found along the Midway.

As always, the DeKalb County Fair Association continues to offer FREE entertainment all week long on the ProFed Credit Union Main Stage. The tradition continues with the Miss DeKalb County Queen Pageant on Monday. Don’t miss the crowning of this year’s Queen and the exciting competition! Tuesday features High School Swing Choir Show. With our own local young people performing, it’s always a crowd pleaser. Come cheer on your favorites and enjoy the show!

Wednesday, September 27th starts off our four nights of FREE music concerts. First up on Wednesday: **Megan Mullins** and **Frank Foster** take the stage. Thursday brings us **Paradise** and **Quiet Riot**. Friday’s music continues with **REKT** and **Confederate Railroad**. Saturday we wrap things up with **jd3** and **Creedence Revived**.

ENJOY it all at the 92nd Annual DEKALB COUNTY FREE FALL FAIR! There’s something for everyone at “America’s Family Reunion”!

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Schedule of Events

Saturday **SEPTEMBER 23**

8:00 AM @ Downtown

4th Annual 5K Run/Walk

Garrett State Bank & Multimatic

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM @ Middaugh Hall

Entries for Antiques, Creative Arts, Culinary (canned & baked), Creative/Domestic Arts, Fine Arts, Flowers, Hobbies and Photography

12:00 PM - 3:00 PM @ Exhibit Hall

4-H Exhibit Hall Projects Due

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM @ Poultry/Rabbit Barn

4-H Rabbit check-In

12:00 PM - 5:00 PM @ Exhibit Hall

Entries for Agriculture and Horticulture

Sunday **SEPTEMBER 24**

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM @ Draft Pony Barn

Draft Pony and Mule check-in

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM @ Fairgrounds

All other large animals check-in

1:30 PM - 3:30 PM @ Poultry/Rabbit Barn

4-H Poultry Check-In

5:00 PM @ Draft Horse Barn

Draft Horse check-in

6:30 PM @ Horse Arena

Battle of the Barns

ALL ENTERTAINMENT IS FREE!

Events and times are subject to change.

Garden Tractor Pull

September 30th at 6pm



Indiana Garden Tractor Pullers Group

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Monday SEPTEMBER 25

QUEEN DAY

Sponsored by: 3Rivers Federal Credit Union, Carbaugh Jewelers and Sprinkling Can

8:00 AM @ 4-H Show Barn

4-H Rabbit Show

10:00 AM - 9:00 PM @ Fairgrounds

Exhibit Hall / Middaugh Hall open

10:00 AM @ Fairgrounds / Horse Arena

Draft Horse Halter Classes

4:00 PM @ 4-H Show Barn

4-H Goat Show (Market Does/Wethers/Showmanship)

5:00 PM @ Fairgrounds / Horse Arena

Saddle Horse Show

5:00 PM @ Downtown

CARNIVAL OPEN - DAILY SPECIAL

7:00 PM @ Downtown

MISS DEKALB COUNTY QUEEN PARADE (pg 21)

8:00 PM @ Main Stage

MISS DEKALB COUNTY QUEEN PAGEANT

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Tuesday **SEPTEMBER 26**

MERCHANTS DAY

Sponsored by: DABA

8:00 AM @ 4-H Show Barn

Swine Show

10:00 AM - 9:00 PM @ Fairgrounds

Exhibit Hall / Middaugh Hall open

10:00 AM @ Fairgrounds / Horse Arena

Draft Horse, Pony and Mule Ground Drive

3:00 PM @ Fairgrounds / Horse Arena

Draft Harness and Hitch Show

4:00 PM @ 4-H Show Barn

4-H Poultry Show

5:00 PM @ Downtown

CARNIVAL OPEN - DAILY SPECIAL

7:00 PM @ Main Stage

High School Choir Expo




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Wednesday SEPTEMBER 27

OLD SETTLERS / SCOUT DAY

Sponsored by: Miller's Merry Manor, Nugen Law,
The Andersons and Smith Farm Manor

9:00 AM @ 4-H Show Barn

Dairy Feeder/Dairy Steer Show

10:00 AM - 9:00 PM @ Fairgrounds

Exhibit Hall / Middaugh Hall open

12:00 PM @ First United Methodist Church

Old Settlers Lunch

1:00 PM @ First United Methodist Church

Old Settlers Day Program

4:00 PM @ 4-H Show Barn

4-H Beef Show

5:00 PM @ Fairgrounds / Horse Arena

Saddle Horse Show

5:00 PM @ Downtown

CARNIVAL OPEN - DAILY SPECIAL

7:00 PM @ Downtown

SCOUT PARADE (pg 21)

7:00 PM @ Main Stage

Megan Mullins | Frank Foster

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Thursday **SEPTEMBER 28**

HOMEMAKERS DAY

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9:00 AM - 12:15 PM @ Exhibit Hall

HOMEMAKERS DAY (see website for contest guidelines)

9:00-9:30 AM - Bundt Cake Contest

9:45-10:15 AM - Essential Oils

10:15 - 10:45 AM - Sour Dough Baking

10:45-11:00 AM - Short Break

11:00-12:00 AM - Craft

12:00 PM - Announce Contest Winners

9:00 AM @ Fairgrounds / Horse Arena

ANNUAL INDIANA FALL CLASSIC DRAFT HORSE PULL
(see page 12 for details)

10:00 AM @ 4-H Show Barn

Dairy Interviews

10:00 AM - 9:00 PM @ Fairgrounds

Exhibit Hall / Middaugh Hall Open

11:00 AM @ 4-H Show Barn

4-H Dairy Show

1:00 PM @ Fairgrounds / Horse Arena

Draft Horse Fun Show

4:00 PM @ 4-H Show Barn

4-H Sheep Show

5:00 PM @ Downtown

CARNIVAL OPENS - DAILY SPECIAL

6:00 PM @ Fairgrounds / Horse Arena

DRAFT PONY PULL

7:00 PM @ Main Stage

Paradise | Quiet Riot





Friday SEPTEMBER 29

KID'S DAY

Sponsored by: F & M Bank and Therma-TRU

9:00 AM @ Fairgrounds

Mini Horse Pull - Horse Arena

10:00 AM @ 14th & Jackson St.

Pet Parade Judging

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM @ Downtown

CARNIVAL OPEN - DAILY SPECIAL

10:00 AM - 9:00 PM @ Fairgrounds

Exhibit Hall / Middaugh Hall Open

10:30 AM @ 4-H Show Barn

4-H Auction Introductions

10:45 AM @ Downtown

PET PARADE (pg 21)

11:00 AM @ 4-H Show Barn

4-H LIVESTOCK AUCTION

4:00 PM @ Fairgrounds/Horse Arena

Mini Horse Show

5:00 PM @ Fairgrounds/Horse Arena

Saddle Horse Show

5:00 PM - Close @ Downtown

CARNIVAL - DAILY SPECIAL

7:00 PM @ 4-H Show Barn

Supreme Showman Contest

7:00 PM @ Main Stage

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Saturday SEPTEMBER 30

GRAND FINALE / REUNION DAY

Sponsored by: Heidtman Steel, Mediacom, Steel Dynamics and WXKE 96.3

10:00 AM @ Downtown

GRAND FINALE PARADE (pg 21)

11:00 AM @ Downtown

CARNIVAL OPEN - DAILY SPECIAL (11 AM - CLOSE)

12:00 PM - 9:00 PM @ Fairgrounds

Exhibit Hall / Middaugh Hall Open

1:00 PM @ 4-H Show Barn

Future 4-H'er Show

6:00 PM @ Horse Arena

Garden Tractor Pull

6:00 PM @ 4-H Show Barn

Premiere Showmanship Contest

6:00 PM @ Main Stage

Grand Finale Parade Awards

7:00 PM @ Main Stage

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6:00 AM - 12:00 PM @ Fairgrounds

Release All Horses

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM @ Fairgrounds

Release All Other Livestock

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM @ Exhibit Hall

Release Exhibit Hall

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM @ Middaugh Hall

Release Middaugh Hall

9:00 AM @ Exhibit Hall and Fairgrounds

Clean Up Begins

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(SEE PAGE 12 FOR DETAILS)

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Erin Dove, Director 260-403-3593

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Federal Credit Union & Pence's Concessions*

**The Queen Parade begins on south Main Street to
7th Street, 7th Street east to Cedar Street, then Cedar
Street south and ending on 10th Street.**

SCOUT PARADE | Wednesday @ 7:00 P.M.

Tom Bassett 260-925-0868

Sponsored by: Pence's Concessions

**The Scout Parade begins on south Main Street to 7th
Street, 7th Street east to Cedar Street, then Cedar
Street south and ending on 9th Street.**

PET PARADE | Friday @ 10:45 A.M.

Judging @ 10:00 A.M.

Nancy Zion 260-925-0544

Sponsored by:

DeKalb Molded Plastics & Pence's Concessions

**The Pet Parade starts at 14th and Jackson Street,
heads north on Jackson Street to 10th Street, east
on 10th Street to Main Street, turning south on Main
Street and ending back at 14th and Jackson Street.**

GRAND FINALE PARADE | Saturday @ 10:00 A.M.

Brandy Coburn 260-242-0632

**The Grand Finale Parade is a 1.3 mile route that
commences on South Main Street to 10th Street, east
on 10th Street to Union Street, Union Street north to
4th Street, west on 4th Street to Jackson Street, and
Jackson Street to 14th Street.**

Parades are entertaining for crowds of all ages and their participants!
Keeping the crowds at a safe distance from the parade is a priority for
the DeKalb County Free Fall Fair. Our goal is to keep the parade routes
open for all types of traffic to pass. Also, please refrain from crossing the
street during the parade for your safety.



7th Annual Draft Horse Pull

**DeKalb County Fairgrounds • Auburn, Indiana
Thursday, September 28, 2023 @ 9:00 AM**

\$3,000 Purse - Split between light & heavy weight horses.

For rules, visit: **www.DeKalbCountyFair.org**

For more information, contact Denis Oster at **260-908-5690**

DEKALB COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION, INC.

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Merchant TENT

Sponsored by Gibson's Heating & Plumbing and Propane People

The Merchant Tent at the DeKalb County Free Fall Fair continues to be the largest Merchant Tent in Indiana. The Merchant Tent covers five city blocks, with over 30,000 square feet under one roof. You can find over 200 vendors with exhibits that vary from lawn and garden equipment, beauty products, apparel, health products, RV's, ATV's, advertising, civic organizations, and so much more! Businesses interested in participation may visit the website at www.dekalbcountyfair.org and click on the Merchant Tent tab for the application and rules.

FACILITIES & RENTAL

Do you have an upcoming event that will require renting a facility? The DeKalb County Fair Association has numerous buildings that can be rented based on the occasion including the Middaugh Hall, Show Arena, or the entire Fairgrounds. The fairgrounds can host events such as conventions, auctions, and private gatherings. For more information, contact Dave Bunn -Middaugh Hall 260-255-0752 or Mike Rakestraw-Grounds and Buildings 260-668-1913.

Fair VOLUNTEERS

Many families have frequented the DeKalb County Free Fall Fair, either as a participant, spectator or volunteer. The fair has numerous volunteers of all ages. Some are past participants, or 4-H members and others who just simply love the fair. Each combines their many talents with other volunteers to make the fair a successful event. Our volunteers give countless hours throughout the entire year to make sure that you have the best exhibits, entertainment, food and fun for the entire family while visiting the fair. We thank the past, present and future volunteers for making the DeKalb County Free Fall Fair "America's Family Reunion." If you would like to be a fair volunteer please email dekalbcountyfair@yahoo.com.



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(260) 920-4377
21 Years and Older

Mon: CLOSED | Tues-Thur: 12 - 7 PM

Fri-Sat: 12 - 8 PM | Sun 12 - 5 PM

Open until 9PM on Fri & Sat in the Summer.

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Foster Parents Needed!



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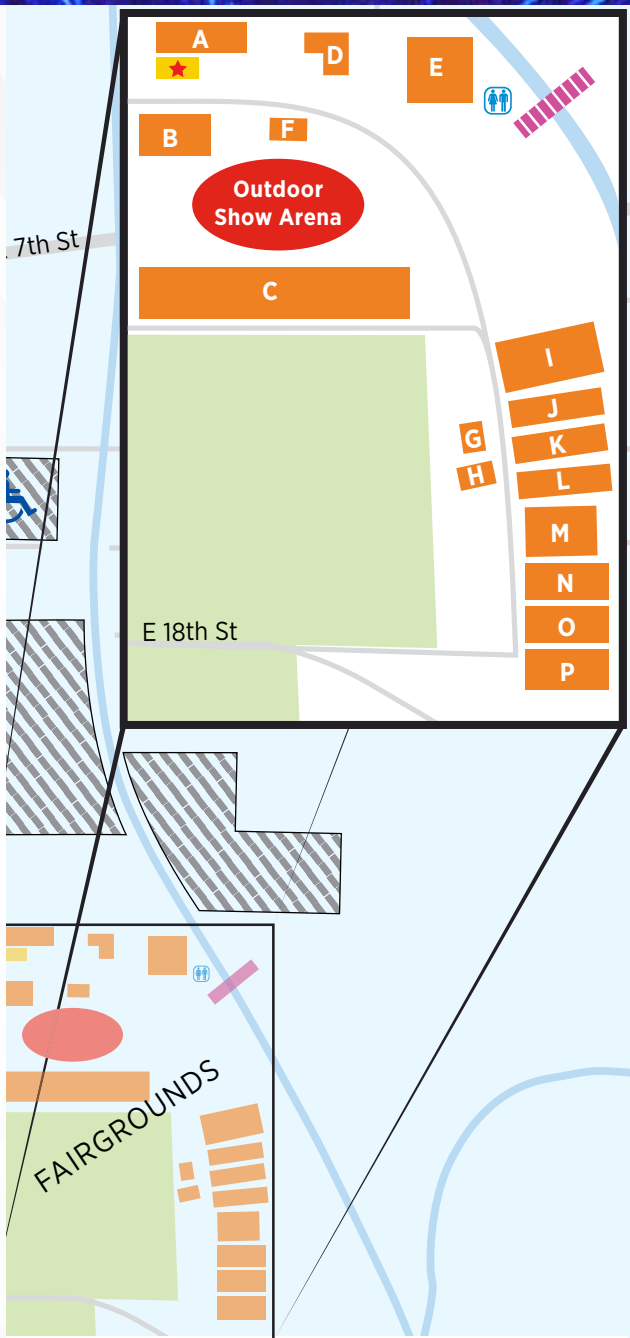
STEPSTONE
FAMILY & YOUTH SERVICES



WEAVER
OUTDOORS



- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| MIDWAY - Food/Games/Rides | Pedestrian Bridge |
| Food | Fair Office |
| Merchants Tent | Restroom |
| Fair Parking | Outdoor Show Arena |
| Main Stage | |



- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| A Middaugh Hall | I Draft Horse Barn |
| B Exhibit Hall | J Sheep Barn |
| C Saddle Horse Barn | K Rabbit/Poultry Barn |
| D Saddle Club | L Swine Barn |
| E Pony Barn | M Indoor Show Area |
| F North 4-H Food Stand | N Beef Barn |
| G South 4-H Food Stand | O Feeder Barn |
| H 4-H Fair Office | P Dairy/Goat Barn |



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