

It's Fair'ly Important

News from the Fair Office



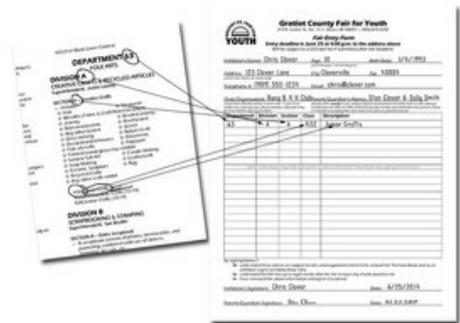
June 24, 2016

Office (Mailing) Location: 219 N. State St. ♦ Alma, MI 48801
989.875.5292 ♦ www.gcffy.org ♦ info@gcffy.org

Fair location: 701 S. Lincoln Ave., Alma, MI 48801

Fair Entry Forms Due 4:00 p.m., Monday, June 27

What one thing does every GCFY exhibitor have in common? They will have all completed their Fair Entry Form and turned it into the fair office. Completed and signed forms (along with the release found at the end) are due June 25 but since that day is a Saturday, the deadline is extended to the following business day so they are due at 4:00 p.m., Monday, June 27 to the fair within the MSU Extension Suite in Alma (after June 27, forms may be completed but must include a \$25.00 late entry fee). Forms can be hand delivered, mailed or emailed to bgardner@gcffy.org. Fair classes are found in the fair book and entry forms are available at http://www.gcffy.org/parts/Registration%20Forms/fair_entry_form_v2016.pdf.



If you would like instructions or help completing the fair entry form, click on http://www.gcffy.org/fair_entry_form_instructions.html.

Who Does Not Need to Complete a Fair Entry Form?

Exhibitors participating in **only** Horses, 4-H Archery or 4-H Robotics do not need to register on a Fair Entry Form. In fact there are no classes in the Fair Book to sign up under for these classes. These exhibitors will though need to complete a Liability Release Form ([which is available as the last page of the fair entry form and horse registration form](#)). If these exhibitors are interested in showing anything else such as a pie or a rabbit, they then must complete the fair entry form. If you have preregistered your market beef, feeder beef, goat, sheep or swine project you still **MUST** complete the Fair Entry Form. It is on this form where you will register for the classes you will be exhibiting in such as your market class, showmanship, record book, skillathon, etc. If you have questions please contact Brian Gardner the Fair Office at 989-875-5292 or bgardner@gcffy.org.

Open Exhibitors Will Pay \$15 Registration Fee

This past year, GCFY imposed a \$15 registration fee for exhibitors who are **not** currently enrolled and in good standing in a 4-H Club or FFA Chapter. This is to help cover the costs needed to supply these exhibitors with their entry tags, and additional information they will need to be successful which is typically sent to club leaders and chapter advisors. This fee is payable to GCFY and due when forms are turned into the office.

Poultry Projects Allowed

Many people remember last year the state's Department of Agriculture and Rural Development banned all birds from exhibiting at county fairs which meant there were no poultry projects at GCFFY last year. This year there has been no indication of a risk of transmitting disease so the state has lifted this ban meaning poultry will show as normal.



Last year buyers enjoyed being able to purchase the processed birds at the sale. In response to this the fair will send birds to a federally inspected poultry processing plant to have them processed after Monday August 1's Poultry Show. For birds who sell in a pen of three birds, two birds will be sent to the processor to be ready for the sale and the third project bird will remain at the fair on display. At the sale, buyers can determine if they would like to pick up the extra bird or donate the bird to the fair.

Mark Your Calendar For GCFFY Sales



Annually GCFFY has two sales where youth are able to sell projects they have worked on throughout the year. The first sale is the fair's Still Exhibit Sale which will be held on Sunday, July 31 at 5:00 p.m. This is your opportunity to support projects hand crafted by the fair's youth participants in areas such as foods (and by foods I mean amazing desserts, meals and culinary creations), wood working, photography, welding and more. Later on Friday, August 5 at 11:00 a.m. the fair will have it's annual Livestock Sale where youth will be able to sell market projects. Species selling will be Rabbits, Chickens, Turkeys, Ducks, Geese, Goats, Feeder Beef, Sheep, Swine, Dairy Milk, Crops & Beef. Be sure your calendar is marked for these great events.

The Charles J. Strosaker Foundation, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation Award Grants

The Charles J. Strosacker Foundation, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation have awarded generous grant funding to Gratiot County Fair for Youth to pave roads which travel throughout the fairgrounds and connect these roads to buildings and venues they pass. The current plan is to pave the road parallel to Alger Road from the north entrance to the road through the center of the fairgrounds. Furthermore the fair will pave the road that travels in front of the Bill & Grace Vanderbeek Fair Office and the road that travels in front of the John Siefka Memorial Building to the Covered Arena. To make buildings along these roads more accessible the grant funding will also help us connect the blacktop to the buildings along these roads. Construction will begin following the 2016 fair.



The Charles J. Strosacker Foundation has awarded the fair a grant of \$30,000 and the Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation awarded \$10,000. The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development awarded GCFFY \$20,000 in grant funding from their competitive Fair Capital Improvement matching grant program. The completed project is expected to cost GCFFY over \$70,000. Other donations of in-kind services will help offset the costs of the improvements.

Breckenridge Insurance Agency Provides New Swine Gates



Breckenridge Insurance Agency provided a generous gift which funded the purchase of new swine gates that will be hung in the Covered Arena for the fair. The new gates will be easier for GCFY's exhibitors to use and help our swine show be more functional.

GCFY Donors Make A Difference

Thanks to the incredible support of 234 different fair donors this fiscal year, GCFY is able to better provide a great fair experience to its exhibitors. The fair is also able to maintain, repair and improve its facilities and infrastructure thanks to a generous community. [Annual donors and supporters to date can be found by clicking here.](#) For information on how you can invest in the fair, contact the fair office at 989-875-5292 or bgardner@gcffy.org.

Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee Awards GCFY Grant for Soy Based Products

From the diesel fuel that powers GCFY grounds equipment to the soap pumped in the bathrooms, GCFY is utilizing many soy based products thanks to a generous matching grant from the Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee. This grant helps the fair use green, renewable resources. In the three years funding has been awarded the fair has used these biorenewable products in its paint and stain, bio-diesel fuel, hand soap, and even the ink in our commercially printed products. Funding for this grant comes from money soy bean farmers contribute and supports community fairs across the state.



Plan to Join GCFY at the Tradewind Energy Rodeo!!!



TradeWind Energy and GCFY invite you to join us for an amazing rodeo at 6:00 p.m., Saturday, August 6. The rodeo is put on by Super Kicker Rodeo Productions who are proven to put on an incredible rodeo with great stock and riders as well as provide us with a fun and entertaining rodeo. Rodeo tickets will be \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door.

A huge GCFY thank you to the sponsors to date:

Major Rodeo Sponsor

TradeWind Energy, Inc., Lenexa

Chute Sponsor

Four D Farms, LLC, Perrinton

Spartan Insurance Agency, Ithaca

The Fields Golf Course, Ithaca

Mutton Busting Sponsor

Alma Bolt Co., Alma

Alma Towing, Alma
ASAP Sales & Service, Alma
Bader & Sons Co., St. Louis
GreenStone Farm Credit Services, Alma
Hirschman Grain, Ithaca
Maple Rapids Lumber Mill, Inc., St. Johns
Petersen Oil & Propane, Greenville
Wendy's of Alma, Alma
Z92.5 The Castle/WMLM AM, Owosso

Partners of the Rodeo Sponsor
Capital Equipment, DeWitt
Cargill Animal Nutrition - Jody Whitmore, Ithaca
MAC Middleton, Middleton
Mercantile Bank, Alma
Mid-State Printing, Ithaca
Pat's Auto, Inc., St. Louis
True Value Hardware of Alma & Carson City, Alma
Vanderploeg Holsteins LLC, Ithaca

Other Rodeo Sponsor
United Producers, Inc., Fowler

If you are interested in supporting the fair's mission and its rodeo contact the fair office at 989.875.5292 or bgardner@gcfy.org.



Include #GCFFY2016 on Posts

Don't forget to include #GCFFY2016 on your social media when posting your fair pictures. These pictures may be shared so please post accordingly. There will be some unique prizes available for random and favorite shots. Let's see some great pictures and happy posting!!!

Expanded Midway Brings New Rides and Great Deals



This past summer Maple Leaf Amusements dazzled us with a great assortment of rides, games and amazing fair food. Maple Leaf Amusements will be back again this coming summer and will be setting up their new giant Ferris Wheel, the screaming fast Himalaya, the dazzling Star Trooper and much more. The result will be a larger midway with several rides all ages will enjoy. Furthermore, Maple Leaf will feature Nagel Concessions which are well known for bringing exceptional fair food. Expect to find fair favorites like elephant ears, cotton candy, caramel corn, fresh squeezed lemonade, sausages and fries. To see a list of rides and more information about the amusement company visit <http://mapleleafamusements.com/rides/>.

This year, Maple Leaf is allowing us to sell presale wrist bands at an incredible rate of just \$10.00 each. The wrist bands will be for one person to ride all day on any ride. The catch is they are only available presale through Sunday, July 31 so plan ahead and get your tickets early.

Again this year there will be an opportunity to win a pre-owned vehicle. Maple Leaf Amusements will be giving every person who gets a daily wrist band (and YES the presale wrist bands are included in this) a ticket to get their name into a drawing for a free pre-owned car (car awarded "as is"). The drawing will be held at 4:30 p.m., Saturday, August 6 at the carnival's ticket booth. Only those present at the drawing will be eligible to win and winner must be 18 years old to claim the car.



Gratiot County Community Foundations Awards Two GCFFY Memorial Scholarship Recipients



Austin Brittain from Breckenridge and Emily Maslovich from Alma were awarded the Gratiot County Fair for Youth Memorial Scholarship from the Gratiot County Community Foundation. These scholarships will be paid from the community foundation's endowed GCFFY Memorial Scholarship Fund.

This fund is still growing and awards only the earnings from the fund's balance as scholarships.



Austin Brittain recently completed his freshman year at Central Michigan University where he is studying Engineering. Austin has been exceptionally active in the fair and is currently planning the third annual Science Fair to be held on Thursday during Kids' Day. Brittain is an avid runner and was the winner of last year's Hoofing It for Ag 5K at the fair.

Emily Maslovich graduated Salutatorian from Alma High School this past month. Emily has grown up with the fair where she has participated in numerous different project areas. Emily is finishing her second year as a teen representative on the Gratiot County Fair for Youth Board of Directors and is currently serving on the Gratiot County 4-H Leaders' Council. For the past several years, Emily has volunteered to help the fair office organize ribbons and materials for GCFY superintendents.

Fair Clean Up Days Announced

Gratiot County Fair for Youth will be holding Fair Clean Up events on Wednesday, July 20, Sunday, July 24 and Wednesday, July 27. These three clean ups will start around 5:30 p.m. and will run for a while. For each clean up day the fair office will have a list of projects which need to be done and each 4-H Club and FFA Chapter will be provided a list of activities to help with before and after the fair. On Wednesday, July 27 pens will be assigned by the animal superintendents and the exhibit barn will be ready to be decorated. Anyone wanting to help is encouraged to drop by and give us a helping hand. Along with jobs posted in the fair office, GCFY will also have pre-fair parking passes, carnival passes and rodeo tickets for sale.



The fair will again be asking clubs to help clean-up after our fair on Sunday, August 7. The fair will be asking 4-H Clubs and FFA Chapters to help and as such will be assigning clubs certain tasks and provide them with clear directions to make it as simple as possible. We are hoping this will help make sure our grounds are put back in tip-top shape after the fair.

Lance Fowler and Phil Lombard Return to GCFY's Team

GCFY is pleased to welcome back Lance Fowler and Phil Lombard aboard our fair's staff team. Lance is serving in the position of the Fair Intern where he is already in the office entering data and helping to coordinate events. Lance is spearheading the fair's Kids' Day activities as part of his responsibility. If you have driven by the fairgrounds lately and have thought wow this place looks great, you can thank Phil. Phil is returning as our fair's grounds keeper as well as a former fair dad and current fair grandfather. Phil and Lance are a valuable part of the GCFY team.

Presale Carnival Wristbands for \$10

The best deal on the fairgrounds just might be the \$8.00 presale ride pass for unlimited carnival rides. Presale passes are good for one person to unlimited rides for one day between Monday, August 1 and Saturday, August 6. So if you think your kids would like to ride a couple days you would buy each kid two wrist bands and they would be good for any day during the week. Presale wrist bands will be eligible for a ticket into the carnival's car drawing. Plan well as tickets will only be sold through Sunday, July 31 from the GCFY Fair Office.

Curious about the rides Maple Leaf Amusements will be bringing to the fair? Check them out on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MapleLeafAmusements?fref=ts>. Last week Maple Leaf posted a video of one of their rides called the Star Trooper and let's say it looks pretty



awesome for the thrill seekers.

Don't forget while you come to purchase a presale parking ticket for just \$12 from the office through Sunday, July 31.

King Arthur Flour Baking Contest



Calling all bakers... I want to challenge you to sign up for the 2016 King Arthur Flour Baking Contest. Fair exhibitors will see this as a class in this year's fair book (Class 414 on pg. 41) for youth interested in baking cupcakes. There is an adult (over 19 years old) class as well and the fair will accept projects during still exhibit judging on Saturday, July 30 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Invite the bakers in your family to dust off their favorite recipes. Registration is simple. Check out the rules and entry information found at <http://www.gcffy.org/parts/kafcontest.pdf> . The best part of this is great prizes awarded by King Arthur Flour Company with the top prize being a \$75 gift certificate to their store. I hope to see you there, and I hope you bring samples to the fair office.



[Click to view this email in a browser](#)

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line or simply click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#)

[Click here](#) to forward this email to a friend

Gratiot County Fair for Youth
219 N. State St.
Alma, MI 48801
US

[Read](#) the VerticalResponse marketing policy.

vertical DELIVERED BY
response
Try It Free Today!