

St. Joseph County Open Class 2026



2026 Open Class Exhibit

Co-Chairmen

Jim & Julia Miller

Department Chairpersons

American Heritage.....	Christina Paul
Baked Foods.....	Diane Zymslo
Barn Quilts.....	Julia Miller
Canning (Food Preservation).....	Diane Zymslo
Canning (Food Preservation) Misc.....	Diane Zymslo
Collections.....	Joyce Schalliol
Family Heirlooms.....	Joyce Schalliol
Farm Crops.....	Jim Miller
Fine Arts.....	Ginger Moritz
Flowers.....	Jim Miller
Flowers-Indiana Native Flowers.....	Jim Miller
Gardening.....	Jim Miller
General Crafts.....	Antonette Needham
Gourds.....	Jim Miller
Legos.....	Christina Paul
Models.....	Amy Kanouse
Model Diorama/Farm Toy Scene.....	Christina Paul
Needlecraft.....	Becky Wasio
Photography.....	Lorraine Borton/Darlene Morris
Quilting.....	Alene Klopfenstein/JoAnn Overmyer
Recycled Items.....	Joyce Shalliol
Sewing.....	Ginger Moritz
Table Settings.....	Christina Paul
Woodworking.....	Julia Miller
Little Hands.....	Kristen Sikorski-Conklin, Amy Prince, Becky Wasio
Stenographer.....	Diana Kuhn

Notice: This booklet changes each year. Please be sure to read the rules, regulations and class information.

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General Rules

1. Open Class participants must be 18 years old or older by January 1, 2026 and not eligible for 4-H.
2. Little Hands are for Pre-Kindergarten children, who are at least 3 years old by fair time and not yet in Kindergarten.
3. Entries must be made/prepared within the last three years by the exhibitor and entered in his/her own name. All entries must have not been judged at the St. Joseph County 4-H Fair.
4. **YOU MAY ONLY ENTER TWO ENTRIES PER CLASS. NO EXCEPTIONS!**
5. If there are more than 5 items of the same craft entered in the category of **Other Than Above**, they will be **judged as a new class**.
6. All food exhibitors must follow Food Safety Regulations and recipe requirements as stated under the Food Department Rules.
7. Participants may cover their exhibit(s) appropriately.
8. The St. Joseph County 4-H Fair Board will not be responsible for damage or theft of articles.
9. Each class will have placings from 1 through 4 only as merited. Best of Show will be awarded in EACH category.
10. Judging is not open to the public except as publicized.
11. St. Joseph County Extension Homemakers can enter up to 3 categories FREE.
12. **Exhibits entered in the wrong class will be disqualified.** It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to know which department, section, class name and number to enter.
13. The judges decision is final.
14. For more information email Jim Miller at Miljim1501@gmail.com.

State Fair Entries

Any current Indiana resident can enter exhibits in the Home and Family Arts Building at the Indiana State Fair. Online entry begins early spring and can be completed by visiting indianastatefair.com/p/state-fair. Inquiries can be submitted on their website or you may call 317-927-7515. Indiana State Fair, 1202 East 38th St., Indianapolis, IN 46205.

Date and Time of Entry

1. Bring your items to the south end of the Esther Singer Building (annex) on Monday, June 29, 2025 from 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
2. **Entry fee is \$1.00 per entry**, paid at the time of entry. Each ten entries entitle exhibitor to 1 daily fair pass with a maximum of 3 passes available. There are no fees for Little Hands.
3. No refunds will be made.

Exhibit Entry and Release

1. NO entry is to be removed before the hour of release established by the Board. Entries removed without permission will forfeit any special awards.
2. Articles will be released on Sunday, July 12, 2026 from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. If you are a 4-H family, you may pick up entries when you come to pick up 4-H entries. All participants will receive pick up information at entry. **ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST STOP AT THE PROJECT CHECK OUT TABLE BEFORE CONTINUING TO PICK UP YOUR PROJECT(S).**
3. The committee is not responsible for items NOT CLAIMED by 4:00 p.m. on July 12, 2026. If you cannot pick up your own exhibit(s), you must give your designated person the release card you are given at the time of entry. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Trial Projects

All new projects are starred with an asteric. They will be on a two year trial basis. Then in two years they will be reviewed to see if there was enough interest to continue those projects.

Little Hands

Pre-Kindergarten children who are 3 by fair time, but not yet in Kindergarten are eligible to exhibit. (There is no fee for Little Hands)

1. See general rules page one.
2. Little Hands participants may choose up to two exhibits, chosen by the child and labeled properly.
3. There will not be a fee collected for Little Hands participants. Project ideas are in the 4-H Fair website:
<https://www.4hfair.com/little-hands>

American Heritage

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11 a.m – 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. Be prepared to share information with an approximate date and background information. Items must be 50 years or older.
3. All 6 categories will be new each year.

Classes:

AH-1 – Vintage Quilts and Tops	AH-4 – Old Hymnals
AH-2 – Children's Furniture	AH-5 – Watches
AH-3 – Military Items	AH-6 – Post Cards

Best of Show

Baked Foods

Entries due: Sunday, July 5, 2026 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. in the Esther Singer Annex.

1. See general rules page one.
2. All foods judged on appearance, taste and texture.
3. Recipes must be provided that show which ingredients were used in each part of the product. Recipes should be complete and typed or neatly written on one side of an 8 1/2" x 11" sheet of paper. Be sure to include your name, complete address, and phone number on the back side. These recipes will become the property of the St. Joseph County 4-H Fair with the right to use them for fair publicity.
4. All products should be displayed on disposable material. Pies should also be in a disposable pan.
5. Entries need to be covered in plastic wrap or placed into plastic bags as they may be setting for a period of time until judging.
6. Bread entries need to be standard size loaves; muffins may be any size or shape.

Food Safety Regulations

1. No home-canned fruits, vegetables or meats are permitted in products.
2. 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 exhibits for competition within 48 hours of recovering from any illness.
3. Whenever possible, baked products should be transported and stored in chilled coolers (41 degrees F)

Classes:

Cookies – Plate of 3

BF-1 – Chocolate Chip
BF-2 – Oatmeal
BF-3 – Peanut Butter
BF-4 – Sugar
BF-5 – Holiday
BF-6 – Bar
BF-7 – Other Than Above

Pies – (No Cream Pies)

BF-8 – Apple
BF-9 – Berry
BF-10 – Cherry
BF-11 – Peach
BF-12 – Pecan
BF-13 – Other Than Above

**Quick Breads
(Standard Size Loaf)**

BF-14 – Banana
BF-15 – Pumpkin
BF-16 – Zucchini
BF-17 – Cornbread*
BF-18 – Other Than Above

Muffins (Plate of 3)(No Liners)

BF-19 – Fruit
BF-20 – Vegetable
BF-21 – Whole Grains
BF-22 – Other Than Above

Yeast Rolls (Plate of 3)

BF-23 -- Crescent
BF-24 -- Whole Wheat
BF-25 -- Onion*
BF-26 -- Other Than Above

Best of Show

Cobbler/Crisp

BF-27 – Apple
BF-28 – Blueberry
BF-29 – Peach
BF-30 – Cherry
BF-31 – Other Than Above

Single Layer Cake

BF-32 – Applesauce-Frosted
BF-33 – Chocolate Fudge-Frosted
BF-34 – Gingerbread-Unfrosted
BF-35 – Pound, Loaf, Bundt
BF-36 – Other Than Above

Multiple Layer Cake Frosted

BF-37 – Devil's Food
BF-38 – Spice
BF-39 – German Chocolate
BF-40 – White
BF-41 – Other Than Above

Cakes – Unfrosted

BF-42 – Angel Food
BF-43 – Chiffon
BF-44 – Coffee Cake
BF-45 – Other Than Above

Best of Show

Candy

- BF-46 – Brittle Any Kind
- BF-47 – Divinity
- BF-48 – Chocolate Fudge
- BF-49 – Peanut Butter Fudge
- BF-50 – English Toffee*
- BF-51 – Maple
- BF-52 – No Cook
- BF-53 – Other Than Above

Candy Collection

BF-54 – Four different kinds of candy from the above list,
four each to be arranged in a decorated box or
basket that you could use as a gift. -
Only candy listed above can be used. Place one of
each kind in your display in a bag for your judge to
taste.

Gluten Free

Create an entry that is completely gluten free (no wheat, barley, rye). Entries will be judged on taste, appearance, and adherence to all gluten free ingredients.

- BF-55 – Bread
- BF-56 – Cakes
- BF-57 – Cookies
- BF-58 – Other Than Above

Best of Show

Barn Quilts

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. A barn quilt is a basic quilt pattern painted on a piece of wood. Large and bright enough to be seen from a distance. They are inspired by fabric quilt patterns and are one block of the quilt.
3. The size of the board will be 24" x 24" ready to hang with wire.

Classes:

BQ-1 – Barn Quilt on Wood

Best of Show

Canning (Food Preservation)

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one
2. Must be in colorless, standard jelly glasses or standard canning jars (no salad dressing or peanut butter jars, etc...) with new lids and rings.
Please use current canning techniques from USDA/National Center for Home Food Preservation: <https://nchfp.uga.edu>; call (202)720-2791 or email askusda@usda.gov. Contact the County Extension Office for the current USDA canning regulations and head space.
3. Entries must be labeled on top of jar with the name of item, month and year of processing, processing method, and processing time.
4. No frozen products will be accepted.

Classes:

Jams/Preserves

FP-1 – Peach
FP-2 – Raspberry(Black/Red)
FP-3 – Strawberry
FP-4 – Other Than Above

Jellies

FP-5 – Apple
FP-6 – Grape
FP-7 – Strawberry
FP-8 – Other Than Above

Fruit Butters

- FP-9 – Apple
- FP-10 – Peach
- FP-11 – Pear
- FP-12 – Other Than Above

Pickled Products

- FP-13 – Beets, Pickled
- FP-14 – Bread/Butter Pickles
- FP-15 – Dill Pickles
- FP-16 – Last of the Garden
- FP-17 – Sweet Pickles
- FP-18 – Other Than Above

Sauces

- FP-19 – Sauce (Chili, Taco)
- FP-20 – Salsa (Fruit, Vegetable)*
- FP-21 – Spaghetti
- FP-22 – Tomato Ketchup
- FP-23 – Other Than Above

Soups

- FP-24 – Bean
- FP-25 – Tomato
- FP-26 – Vegetable and Meat
- FP-27 – Other Than Above

Relishes*

- FP-28 – Corn
- FP-29 – Sweet
- FP-30 – Dill
- FP-31 – Other Than Above

Peppers*

- FP-32 – Hot
- FP-33 – Mixed
- FP-34 – Sweet Banana/Bell
- FP-35 – Other Than Above

Vegetables

- FP-36 – Beans(Green/Yellow)
- FP-37 – Beets, Red
- FP-38 – Carrots
- FP-39 – Corn
- FP-40 – Potatoes
- FP-41 – Other Than Above

Juices

- FP-42 - Apple
- FP-43 - Grape
- FP-44 - Tomato
- FP-45 - Other Than Above

Fruit

- FP-46 – Applesauce
- FP-47 – Peaches
- FP-48 – Pears
- FP-49 – Tomatoes
- FP-50 – Other Than Above

Meat

- FP-51 - Beef
- FP-52 - Poultry
- FP-53 - Fish
- FP-54 - Pork
- FP-55 - Other Than Above

Best of Show

Canning(Food Preservation) Misc.

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. JAR TOPS SHOULD BE DATED AND LABELED WITH CONTENTS.
3. Samples are required for all honey, vinegar, syrup and jerky.
Samples are not returned.

Honey

Sample required.

Can be exhibited in standard honey jars or canning jars.

FP-56 – Comb Honey

FP-57 – Extracted Honey

Syrup

Sample Required

FP-58 – Maple

FP-59 – Other Flavored Syrup

Flavored Vinegars

Sample Required

FP-60 – Herb

FP-61 – Raspberry

FP-62 – Other Than Above

Dried Vegetables*

FP-63 – Green Beans

FP-64 – Onions

FP-65 – Peppers

FP-66 – Potatoes

FP-67 – Soup Mix

FP-68 – Squash

FP-69 – Sweet Corn

FP-70 – Other Than Above

Dried Meat (6 pcs)*

Sample Required

FP-71 – Beef Jerky

FP-72 – Other Than Above

Dried Fruit (pint jar filled)*

FP-73 – Apples

FP-74 – Apricots

FP-75 – Bananas

FP-76 – Candied Fruits

FP-77 – Peaches

FP-78 – Tomatoes

FP-79 – Other Than Above

Dried Herbs (½ pint jar filled)*

FP-80 – Dill (pint or quart)

FP-81 – Mint

FP-82 – Oregano

FP-83 – Parsley

FP-84 – Marjoram

FP-85 – Thyme

FP-86 - Other Than Above

Best of Show

Collections

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. Include story about the collection.
3. Three to ten pieces in a collection.

Classes:

CCC1 – Collections

Best of Show

Family Heirlooms

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11:00 a.m. - 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. Include a story about the item.
3. Family heirlooms can be items that have been passed down through generations or it can be something that is only a couple of years old that someone wants to make it an heirloom in their family for generations to come.

Classes:

CCH-1 – Heirloom

Best of Show

Farm Crops*

Entries due: Friday, July 3, 2026

1. See general rules page one.
2. Crops, corn, oats, ie... must be exhibited in pint jars.
3. Exhibitor may enter only one exhibit in each class.
4. Hay exhibits should be one flake/cake only, up to 24" x 24" and up to 3 1/2" thick. Please indicate 1st cutting, 2nd cutting etc...

Classes:

FC-1 – Soybeans	FC-8 – Popcorn 3 ears
FC-2 – Corn	FC-9 – Alfalfa Hay
FC-3 – Oats	FC-10 – Red Clover Hay
FC-4 – Wheat	FC-11 – Grass Hay
FC-5 – Barley	FC-12 – Mixed Hay
FC-6 – Field Corn 3 ears	FP-13 – Other Than Above
FC-7 – Indian Corn 3 ears	

Best of Show

Fine Arts

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. Exhibit must be ready to hang; gallery wrapped canvas items are considered ready to hang/no kits allowed.

Classes:

FA-1 – Crayon/Colored Pencil Art (Any item)
FA-2 – Drawing Animal (pastel, pencil, charcoal, ink)
FA-3 – Drawing Portrait (pastel, pencil, charcoal, ink)
FA-4 – Drawing Landscape (pastel, pencil, charcoal, ink)
FA-5 – Drawing Still Life (pastel, pencil, charcoal, ink)
FA-6 – Animals (oil, acrylic, synthetics, watercolor)
FA-7 – Portrait (oil, acrylic, synthetics, watercolor)
FA-8 – Landscape (oil, acrylic, synthetics, watercolor)
FA-9 – Still Life (oil, acrylic, synthetics, watercolor)
FA-10 – Abstracts

- FA-11 – Saws – Painted
- FA-12 – Wooden Items – Painted
- FA-13 – Other Than Above

Best of Show

Flowers

Entries due: Friday, July 3, 2026 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. Exhibit three stems with foliage in glass container.
3. All exhibits must be home grown flowers unless exhibiting in the Creative Design Classes.
4. Fresh arrangements should be no larger than 8" x 8" x 8".

Garden Flowers

3 Stems with Foliage

FL-1 – Aster	FL-5 – Marigold
FL-2 – Daisy	FL-6 – Snapdragon
FL-3 – Cosmos	FL-7 – Zinnia
FL-4 – Sunflower	FL-8 - Petunia

Best of Show

Dried Arrangements

- FL-9 – Dried Arrangements
- FL-10 – Dried Wreath/Door Decoration

Fresh Arrangements

- FL-11 – Creative Design in a Campbell's Soup Can (Leave label on can)
- FL-12 – Creative Design using flowers of one color.
- FL-13 – Creative Design using Foliage of different colors.
- FL-14 – Deck The Halls – Christmas Arrangement.
- FL-15 – Spooky Corner- Halloween Arrangement.
- FL-16 – County Fair – What best depicts the fair arrangement.
- FL-17 – Garden Harvest – Using Flowers and Vegetables.

Best of Show
Hanging Basket
FL-18 – Geranium
FL-19 – Impatiens
FL-20 – Marigolds
FL-21 – Other Than Above

Planter
FL-22 – Flowering
FL-23 - Foilage

Best of Show

Flowers – Native Indiana Flowers*

Entries due: Friday, July 3, 2026 9am – 1pm

1. See general rules page one.
2. Exhibit three stems with foilage in glass container.
3. All flowers must be home grown.

Native Flowers

3 stems with foilage
FLNI-1 – Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
FLNI-2 - Pale Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea pallida*)
FLNI-3 - Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)
FLNI-4 - Hoary Vervain (*Verbena stricta*)

Arrangements-Native Foilage/Mixed Bouquet

FLNI-5 – Native foilage
FLNI-6 – Mixed bouquet of native Indiana flowers/foilage

Best of Show

Gardening

Entries due: Friday, July 3, 2026 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. Paper plates will be provided to the exhibitor.
3. Exhibitor may enter only one exhibit in each class.

Beans (10 per plate)

GA-1 – Green
GA-2 – Wax
GA-3 – Lima
GA-4 – Other Than Above

Beets (3 per plate)

(Topped to $\frac{1}{2}$ ")
GA-5 – Long
GA-6 – Round

Broccoli (1 head)

GA-7 – Any Variety

Brussel Sprouts

(5 per plate)
GA-8 – Any Variety

Cabbage (1 head)

GA-9 – Round
GA-10 – Flat
GA-11 – Red
GA-12 – Other Than Above

Cauliflower (1 head)

GA-13 – Any Variety

Corn (3 ears)

GA-15 – Sweet Corn White
GA-16 – Sweet Corn Yellow
GA-17 – Sweet Corn Bi-Color

Carrots (3 per plate)

(Topped to $\frac{1}{2}$ ")
GA-14 – Any Variety

Melons (1 Melon)

GA-18 – Cantaloupe
GA-19 – Muskmelon

Peas (10 pods)

GA-20 – Any Variety

Rhubarb (3 stalks)

GA-21 – Any Variety

Radishes (5 per plate)

GA-22 – Any Variety

Watermelon (1 Melon)

GA-23 – Any Variety

Squash (1 per plate)

GA-24 – Yellow Zucchini
GA-25 – Green Zucchini
GA-26 – Yellow Straight Neck
GA-27 – Yellow Crooked Neck

GA-28 – Spaghetti
GA-29 – Butternut
GA-30 – Acorn
GA-31 – Sweet Dumpling

Tomato (3 per plate)

GA-32 – Red
GA-33 – Yellow/Red Cherry

GA-34 – Roma
GA-35 – Yellow/Orange

Cucumbers (3 per plate)

GA-36 – Slicing
GA-37 – Burpless
GA-38 – Pickling

Onions (3 per plate)

GA-39 – Red
GA- 40 – Spanish
GA-41 – Yellow
GA-42 – White

Potato (3 per plate)

GA-43 – Red
GA-44 – White
GA-45 – Yellow/Gold
GA-46 – Sweet
GA-47 – Blue

Pepper (3 per plate)

GA-48 – Sweet Banana
GA-49 – Sweet Bell
GA-50 – Jalapeno
GA-51 – Chili/Large
GA-52 – Hungarian Wax

Best of Show

Herbs (3 stems in vase)

(Provide cultivar name)

GA-53 – Basil
GA-54 – Dill
GA-55 – Lavender
GA-56 – Parsley
GA-57 – Marjoram

GA-58 – Mint
GA-59 – Oregano
GA-60 – Rosemary
GA-61 – Thyme
GA-62 – Sage

Best of Show

General Crafts

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. All items must be clean.

Classes;

Artificial Floral Design

GC-1 – Centerpiece
GC-2 – Wall/Door/Wreath
GC-3 – Silk Flower Arrangement
GC-4 – Other Than Above

Cards/Paper Crafts

GC-5 – Cards & Paper Craft
GC-6 – Quilling
GC-7 – Other Than Above

Stuffed Animals

GC-8 – Bear
GC-9 – Monkey
GC-10 – Other Than Above

Basket Weaving*

GC-11 – Basket with Lid
GC-12 – Flat Reed Basket
GC-13 – Round Reed Basket
GC-14 – Specialty Type - (as wagon, sleigh, etc)
GC-15 – Other Than Above

Best of Show

Jewelry

GC-16 – Bracelet
GC-17 – Earrings
GC-18 – Necklace
GC-19 – Pin
GC-20 – Other Than Above

Best of Show

Miscellaneous Crafts

GC-21 – Wire Sculpture
GC-22 – Glass Etching
GC-23 – Diamond Dotz
Painting
GC-24 – Leather
GC-25 – Wreathes (non floral)

Snow/Winter Crafts

GC-26 – Free Standing Snowman
GC-27 – Table Decoration
GC-28 – Wall/Door/Wreath
GC-29 – Wearable
GC-30 – Other Than Above

Pottery(Low-fire, Raku, Redware,*
Whiteware, Stoneware)
GC-30 – Sculpture
GC-31 – Wheel-thrown
GC-33 – Other Than Above

Ceramics*
GC-34 – Sculpture
GC-35 – Hand Formed
GC-36 – Wheel Thrown
GC-37 – Other Than Above

Wonder Where It Goes
GC-38 – Not An Existing Category

Best of Show

Gourds*

Entries due: Friday, July 3, 2026

1. See general rules page one.
2. All gourds must be clean, free of dirt, mold or loose skin.
Natural gourds may not have a finish applied to the gourd or be decorated in any manner.
3. Crafted gourds may be decorated by painting, wood burning, drilling/cutting, or a similar procedure. Anything that changes the appearance of the gourd would be considered crafted.

Classes:

GO-1 – 1 Natural Gourd	GO-7 – Painted Gourd
GO-2 – 3 Natural Gourds	GO-8 – Carving – Cut or Carved
GO-3 – Longest Gourd	GO-9 – Pyrograph – Woodburning only.
GO-4 – Largest Girth Gourd	GO-10 – Embellished – Weaving, Coiling, etc...
GO-5 – 2 Gourds Same Variety	
GO-6 - Crafted Gourd Mixed Media – Any Technique allowed.	

Best of Show

Greenware

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. All items MUST be clean.

Classes:

GW-1 – Greenware

Best of Show

Holidays At The Fair

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. Items must have been made within the last three years.
3. Items MUST be clean.

Classes:

Christmas

HF-1 – Tree Ornaments (Ready to hang)

HF-2 – Tree Skirt/Table Runner/Placemats

HF-3 – Stockings

HF-4 – Wreath/Centerpiece

HF-5 – Figures (Limit 3 – 15" high) Free Standing

Easter

HF-6 – Table Decorations

HF-7 – Wall/Door/Wreath

HF-8 – Figures (Limit 3 – 15" high) Free Standing

Patriotic Items

HF-9 – Table Decorations

HF-10 – Wall/Door/Wreath

HF-11 – Figures (Limit 3 – 15" high) Free Standing

Halloween

HF-12 – Table Decorations
HF-13 – Wall/Door/Wreath
HF-14 – Figures (Limit 3 – 15" high) Free Standing

Thanksgiving

HF-15 – Table Decorations
HF-16 – Wall/Door Wreath
HF-17 – Figures (Limit 3 – 15" high) Free Standing

Wonder Which Holiday

HF-18 – Not an existing category

Best of Show**Legos**

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. Board may be finished and a theme may be used. Board should be size appropriate and not to exceed 24" x 24" x 24".
3. Your display can be from a Kit or Scratch Built.

Classes:

LE-1 – Lego Display

Best of Show

Models

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. The following will apply to all models:
 - a. Kit Built – Made from a kit.
 - b. Kit Conversion – Modify kits. Made from two kits.
 - c. Scratch Built – Made from materials not in a kit.

Classes:

Plastic Models

PWM-1 – Kit Built

PWM-2 – Kit Conversion

PWM-3 – Scratch Built

Wood Models

PWM-4 – Kit Built

PWM-5 – Kit Conversion

PWM-6 – Scratch Built

Best of Show

Model Diorama/Farm Toy Scene

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. Diorama should be no larger than 24" x 24" x 24" piece of plywood.
3. Try to keep board all the same scale.

Classes:

MD-1 – 1800's Farmstead

MD-2 – Spring Planting

MD-3 – Fall Harvesting

MD-4 – Farmer's Market

MD-5 – Modern Farmstead

MD-6 – Other Than Above

Best of Show

Needlecraft

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. All items MUST be clean.
3. Wrap in clear plastic or Ziplock bag.

Classes:

Knitting

NCK-1 – Hats
NCK-2 – Scarves
NCK-3 – Socks
NCK-4 – Afghans/Blankets
NCK-5 – Doll Clothes
NCK-6 – Sweater/Vests
NCK-7 – Baby Blankets *
NCK-8 – Baby Clothes*
NCK-9 – Other Than Above

Crocheting

NCR-1 – Hats
NCR-2 – Scarves
NCR-3 - Socks
NCR-4 – Afghans/Blankets
NCR-5 – Doll Clothes
NCR-6 – Sweater/Vests
NCR-7 – Baby Blankets*
NCR-8 – Baby Clothes*
NCR-9 – Other Than Above

Best of Show

Best of Show

Other

NCO-1 – Felted - Purse/Bag/Figure*
NCO-2 – Locker Hooking
NCO-3 – Needle Punch
NCO-4 – Tatting
NCO-5 – Latch Hook
NCO-6 – Plastic Canvas (1-6 pcs)
NCO-7 – Knitting Machine (Any item)
NCO-8 – Knotted Comforter
NCO-9 – Other Than Above

Hand Embroidery

NCO-10 – Pillowcases
NCO-11 – Picture
NCO-12 – Pillow
NCO-13 – Tablecloth
NCO-14 – Other Than Above

Machine Embroidery

NCO-15 – Picture
NCO-16 – Household Item
NCO-17 – Clothing
NCO-18 – Other Than Above

Best of Show

Counted Cross Stitch
NCO-19 – Christmas or Holiday
NCO-20 – Sampler
NCO-21 – Picture
NCO-22 – Afghan
NCO-23 – Other Than Above

Rug
NCO-24 - Braided
NCO-25 - Crocheted
NCO-26 - Woven
NCO-27 – Hooked, primitive*
NCO-28 – Other Than Above

Wool*
NCO-29 – Table Mat
NCO-30 – Penny Rug
NCO-31 – Figures
NCO-32 – Spinning
NCO-33 - Weaving
NCO-34 – Other Than Above

Best of Show

Photography

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. All images are to be original images taken by the participant.
3. Nudes are not acceptable.
4. Print shall be no less than 8" x 10" and no larger than 11" x 14".
5. The print should be mounted on a 11" x 14" board. The board can be foam core board or matte board, (exhibit should be sturdy enough for display purposes). Image should be mounted flat on the board; a matte frame is not required. Photo can be displayed landscape or portrait.
6. Prints must be covered in plastic. (Plastic sleeves will be available for purchase at check in for \$1.00).

Classes:

Black & White or Toned

- PBW-1 – County Fair Theme
- PBW-2 – Portrait - Self/Family/Friend
- PBW-3 – Nature - Landscapes
- PBW-4 – Animals
- PBW-5 – Insects
- PBW-6 – Nature - Flowers
- PBW-7 – Creative & Experimental (digitally manipulated)
Original photograph must be adhered to the back
of the exhibit.
- PBW-8 – Human Interest
- PBW-9 – Sports
- PBW-10 – Unclassified

Best of Show – Black & White or Toned

Classes:

Color Photography

- PC-1 – County Fair Theme
- PC-2 – Portrait - Self/Family/Friend
- PC-3 – Nature - Landscapes
- PC-4 – Animals
- PC-5 – Insects
- PC-6 – Nature - Flowers
- PC-7 – Creative & Experimental (digitally manipulated)
Original photograph must be adhered to the back
of the exhibit.
- PC-8 – Human Interest
- PC-9 – Sports
- PC-10 – Unclassified

Best of Show – Color

What Judges Look For

Impact – Center of Interest – Composition
Technique – Print Quality – Presentation
Story Telling – Universal appeal
Creates a feeling or emotion

Quilting

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. Small quilts are under 60", while large quilts are over 60" and up to 110".
3. Must be quilted, clean, and in good condition. This refers to all quilts, including infants. Please have quilts folded right side out ready for judging.

Small Quilts (Pieced, applique, or embroidery – done entirely by one person)

Classes:

SQ-1 – Hand done entirely
SQ-2 – Machine done entirely
SQ-3 – Combination of hand and machine done

Small Quilts (Pieced, applique, or embroidery – done entirely by more than one person)

Classes:

SQMP-1 – Hand done entirely
SQMP-2 – Machine done entirely
SQMP-3 – Combination of hand and machine done

SQO-1 – Other Than Above

Best of Show – Small Quilts

Large Quilts (Pieced, Applique, embroidery – done entirely by one person)

Classes:

- LQ-1 – Hand done entirely
- LQ-2 – Machine done entirely
- LQ-3 – Combination of hand and machine done

Large Quilts (Pieced, applique, embroidery – done entirely by more than one person)

Classes:

- LQMP-1 – Hand done entirely
- LQMP-2 – Machine done entirely
- LQMP-3 – Combination of hand and machine done

LQO-1 – Other Than Above

Best of Show – Large Quilts

Quilted Non-Wearables

Classes:

- QNW-1 – Purse or Bag
- QNW-2 – Pillow
- QNW-3 – Table Runner/Topper
- QNW-4 – Placemats
- QNW-5 – Other Than Above

Best of Show

Recycled Items

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. No size limitations.
3. Must include BEFORE pictures with your exhibit.
4. Upcycling is the process of transforming old, discarded into new, more functional objects. This creative reuse can involve anything from clothing to furniture, giving items a second life and reducing waste.

Classes:

R-1 – Recycled Item

Best of Show

Sewing

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. Wearables should be on hangers.
3. All projects should be covered in plastic.

Classes:

Children's

S-1 – Dress
S-2 – Sleepwear
S-3 – Pants
S-4 – Costume
S-5 – Apron
S-6 – Other Than Above

Women's

S-7 – Active Wear
S-8 – Coat/Jacket – Lined
S-9 – Coat/Jacket – Unlined
S-10 – Suit with Pants or Skirt
S-11 – Costume
S-12 – Apron
S-13 – Dress
S-14 – Other Than Above

Men's

S-15 – Active Wear
S-16 – Necktie
S-17 – Shirt
S-18 – Costume
S-19 – Apron
S-20 – Other Than Above

Best of Show**Sewing Non-Wearables**

S-21 – Doll Clothes
S-22 – Purse or Bag (Any Size)
S-23 – Child's Book
S-24 – Backpack
S-25 – Other Than Above

Home Decorating

S-26 – Comforter
S-27 – Pillow
S-28 – Table Runner/Topper
S-29 – Placemats
S-30 – Other Than Above

Best of Show**Table Settings***

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11a.m – 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. You need to supply a 34" x 34" card table to display your table setting.
3. Your table should be set with two place settings.
4. You will be judged on accurate placement of dishes, glassware, silverware, your selection of same; choice of table covering/napkins, accurate placement as viewed from front of table; your centerpiece – appropriate to theme and placement; menu card – neat, centered on a 5 x 8 card; your menu – variety, nutritional value; at least 3 food groups represented; color, texture and temperature of food go well together.

Classes:

TS-1 – Sports (Baseball, Football, Basketball, etc...)
TS-2 – Holidays (Christmas, Easter, Thanksgiving, etc...)
TS-3 – Wedding
TS-4 – Birthday

Note: For the Open Class Table Setting Project, you will design a Table Setting based on a creative theme, develop a coordinating menu, and present your work to the public.

Judges typically score projects on criteria such as theme, creativity, craftsmanship, and proper table setting techniques

Woodworking

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. All projects should be complete with an appropriate finish.

Classes:

WW-1 – Toys or Figures
WW-2 – Furniture
WW-3 – Carvings
WW-4 – Scroll Saw Project
WW-5 – Nature Houses/Feeders*
WW-6 - Working Musical Instruments*
WW-7 – Home Accessories*
WW-8 – Lathe Turned Item*
WW-9 – Other Than Above

Best of Show

At The Fair Contests

Salt & Pepper Shaker Contest

Entries due: Monday, June 29, 2026 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

1. See general rules page one.
2. Item must be clean.
3. Salt & Pepper Shakers can be an antique or a newer one.

Bring in your Salt & Pepper Shaker. It can be an antique one or a newer one. The Salt & Pepper Shakers will be placed in a showcase so they can be viewed by the public. The public will then be asked to vote for their favorite Salt & Pepper Shaker.

Prizes:

1st Place - \$20.00 2nd Place - \$15.00 3rd Place - \$10.00

Lego Build Contest **Saturday, July 4, 2026**

Bring your Legos to the Open Class Department in the Esther Singer Building Annex (south end of building) on Saturday, July 4, 2026. Due to space limitations all teams need to be pre-registered by Wednesday, July 1st by calling Jim Miller at 574-229-1501.

Bring your own supply of Lego bricks/building materials and come ready to spend 3 hours creating your own unique build based on the theme “Life On The Farm”. No pre-built parts allowed. Each team will have one 4 foot-long workspace ($\frac{1}{2}$ of an 8 foot folding table). Supplies can be kept under the table while creations are being built. Please bring along a 24” x 24” board (plywood or underlayment) to display your creations on. Your creation will remain on display throughout the fair. They can be picked up on Sunday, July 12th between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Registered participants should arrive between 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. with their supplies. Check-in at the Open Class area in the Esther Singer Building (south end of the building). Lego building will begin at 1:00 p.m. You will have three hours to complete your build. Judging will take place at 4:00 p.m. following the build.

Prizes: 1 person team

1st Place - \$20.00 2nd Place - \$15.00 3rd Place - \$10.00

Prizes: 2 person team

1st Place - \$40.00 2nd Place - \$30.00 3rd Place - \$20.00

Charcuterie Board Contest
Entry due: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 at 11:30 a.m.
Judging begins at 12 Noon

1. Anything goes on a no larger than 11" x 14" board.
2. This contest is to promote the use of Michiana grown agricultural products, i.e. fruits, vegetables, meats, cheeses, etc...
3. Participants are limited to one entry. Bring your entry to the south end of the Esther Singer Building at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 1st.
4. Please provide a listing of items used on a 8 1/2 x 11 sheet of paper.

Prizes:

1st Place - \$20.00 2nd Place - \$15.00 3rd Place - \$10.00

Cut Out Cookie Contest
Wednesday July 8, 2026

Made by adults, judged by the 4-H Fair Queen and Children.
Bring your cut out cookies to the Open Class Department in the Esther Singer Building Annex (south end of building) from **Noon until 2:00 p.m.** Judging will take place at 2:00 p.m. as an open judging.
Six cut out cookies should be brought on a disposable container.

Prizes:

1st Place - \$20.00 2nd Place - \$15.00 3rd Place - \$10.00

Donors

St. Joseph Co. 4-H Fair
5117 S. Ironwood Drive
South Bend, IN 46614

Michiana Farm Toy
Collector's Club
P.O. Box 157
Wyatt, IN 46595

Make South Bend
2228 Mishawaka Avenue
South Bend, IN 46628

Farm Bureau
5032 Miami Street
South Bend, IN 46614

J & M Quilts, Crafts & More
66626 State Road 331
Wyatt, IN 46595

Matthys Farm Market
57754 Crumstown Highway
South Bend, IN 46619

Rosanna Balmer
Lakeville, IN 46536

Tom's Car Care Center
3201 Sugar Maple Lane
South Bend, IN 46628

Rick's Auto Body
Dan Biggs
55259 Mayflower Road
South Bend, IN 46628

Stitch In Time Fabrics
2305 Miami Street
South Bend, IN 46614

A Wee Bit Warped-South Bend
Farmer's Market
1105 Northside Blvd.
South Bend, IN 46615

Hilltop Farms
13825 Dragoon Trail
Mishawaka, IN 46544

The New Kitchen Store
1100 Roosevelt Road
Walkerton, IN 46574

Gleaner Life Insurance
24449 Riley Road
North Liberty, IN 46554

Olde District 5 (Woodland)
63991 State Road 331
South Bend, IN 46614

St. Joseph County
Extension Homemakers
(For Volunteers)

The Enchanted Knot
Mishawaka, IN 46544

Then & Now Resale Shoppe
Town & Country Shopping Center
2322 Miracle Lane
Mishawaka, IN 46545

VanHorne Jewelers 7145 Heritage Square Granger, IN 46530 Tammy Boyer	CRK Farms American Blue Cattle 11564 Pierce Road Wakarusa, IN 46573
Kris's Kountry Kitchen 2212 Miami Street South Bend, IN 46613	DLZ 2211 E. Jefferson Blvd. South Bend, IN 46615
McCormick Electrical Services Inc. 606 E. Center Street North Liberty, IN 46554	Miller's Woven Rugs, Pillowcases & More 66768 State Road 331 Wyatt, IN 465954
Farmer Bill's Market 65801 State Road 331 Bremen, IN 46506	Stone Soup Batiks 1355 N. Bendix Drive South Bend, IN 46628
Senior Knitizen South Bend, IN 46614	Madison Township Lions Club P.O. Box 82 Wyatt, IN 46595
JEMA Academics 13700 Layton Road Mishawaka, IN 4	South Bend Farmer's Market 1150 Northside Blvd. South Bend, IN 46615
Woodies Supermarket 116 N. Bowen Avenue Bremen, IN 46506	Sew Unique by Jackie 51095 Bittersweet Road Granger, IN 46530
Glendale Automotive Jon Kuhn Indianapolis, IN	Holmgren Farms South Bend, IN 46614
B C Gnomes 66641 State Road 331 Wyatt, IN 46595	Beck Seeds/Richard Schmidt 16600 Nicar Road Bremen, IN 46506
Madison Township Fire Dept. 66341 State Road 331 Wyatt, IN 46595	Madison Township Fire Department Auxiliary 66341 State Road 331 Wyatt, IN 46595 36

K-Wood Products
25785 State Road 2
South Bend, IN 46619

Russell's Trees & Treasures
27978 North Street
North Liberty, IN 46554

St. Joseph County 4-H Fair
Open Class
5117 S. Ironwood Drive
South Bend, IN 46614