



The Faircracker

SPRING 2017

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This year's Convention will have a "fresh coat of paint" on it – you'll see lots of changes and great new ideas!

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THIS YEAR'S FLORIDA FEDERATION OF FAIRS ANNUAL CONVENTION AND IAFE ZONE 2 MEETING – MAY 18-20

This year's Florida Federation of Fairs Annual Convention and IAFE Zone 2 Meeting will be held May 18th – 20th at the awesome Hilton Buena Vista Palace in Orlando, Florida. This exceptional hotel is directly across the street from the new Disney Springs (with a bridge walkover). The Federation has sought to hold the Convention in Orlando for many years and it's finally happening. Attendees will have access to discounted Disney and other Orlando attractions, we hope everyone will come, bring their family, and enjoy the Orlando area!



Dawn Rowe and the Convention Program Committee have a great Convention planned for you. The Committee has spent a great deal of time "putting a fresh coat of paint" on this year's event. The schedule has been streamlined (with shorter lunches) and expanded with new and creative workshops and round table sessions.

On Wednesday, May 17th, in addition to the Annual Giles Ellis Golf Tournament, which will be at the awesome Disney Magnolia golf course, there will also be Mix & Mingle at Splitsville for everyone who comes in on Wednesday! It will be something fun and will be a GREAT chance to get to meet other Fair folks! So plan to come on Wednesday! More details will follow.

Thursday's program has a whole new look and will feature very specific, targeted topics with extended workshops that will provide attendees with a very in-depth training on specific issues – from an Active Shooter Workshop, Crowd Training Certification Program, to a special workshop put on by our keynote speaker. SO be sure to PLAN TO BE AT THE CONVENTION ON THURSDAY BY 1:00 PM for the Trade Show Opening and special workshops.

Continued on page 4



Get a PDF version of the Award Winning Faircracker online at www.floridafairs.org

ANNUAL MEETING AND BOARD MEETING NOTICE

The Florida Federation of Fairs Board of Directors will meet on Thursday, May 18th at 10:00 am and also on Saturday, May 20th after the Annual Business Meeting at the Buena Vista Palace in Orlando, Florida in conjunction with the Annual Convention.

The Federation Annual Business Meeting will take place on Saturday, May 20th after the luncheon at the Buena Vista Palace in Orlando, Florida in conjunction with the Annual Convention.

A Publication of the Florida Federation of Fairs & Livestock Shows, Inc.

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President's Column

It has really been busy since I have written to you. Our fair had a successful run in October, and we could not have asked for better weather. We fell just short of a record year. Fortunately, we were able to recoup some of our losses due to the bad weather from the prior year's fair. Before I know, October will be here again, and it will be time to hold another successful fair.

After Thanksgiving, I attended the IAFE convention in Las Vegas where I was able to show my pride of all the awards that the IAFE had given to the Florida Federation. The Federation received 1st place for the newsletter, e-news, social media, and the convention program. On Page 46, you will also see the awards that were received by many of our Florida Fairs. Besides the awards, we also have 4 Florida members representing us in positions at the IAFE. Rick Vymlatil is 1st Vice President. Lisa Hinton is the State & Provincial Associations Representative. Miranda Muir is the Vice chairman of the YPI group, and Vicki Chouris is the Membership Chair for Zone II. We are so proud of our members. Our Florida Federation group members are go getters, trend setters, and just simply Awesome. Way to go!

In December, the FFF Board held our meeting at the Hilton Buena Vista Palace Hotel, so we could review the layout of the hotel and make the final arrangements for the convention. Some of the committees were also able to join us, and we were all able to work together and plan to make this a bigger and better convention. I am so excited about the new facilities and some of the changes in the convention format that the con-

vention program committee has made. The committees have all worked so hard, and I thank you all for your efforts. If you have not made your reservations to attend "A Royal Affair," you need to hurry up and book your rooms. If not, you will miss an awesome convention. We are also looking forward to

having IAFE Zone 2 at the convention again this year and their contributions.

The spring fairs are in full swing now. By the time you read this, I would have visited the IISA Gibtown Town Trade Show, the 2nd Annual Fair Partner's Shootout, the "Florida Fair Appreciation Reception," the Florida State Fair, and 4 other fairs while in South Florida. I love visiting fairs because I have had an opportunity to learn and apply so much from these fairs. I have grown up in the fair business, and my grandfather actually started the Pensacola Interstate Fair in 1935. Our board has continuously blessed my family with managing the fair. We have always been so proud to say that we have visited and continue to visit fairs to learn from others. Visiting fairs is an interactive and informative classroom environment to learn how to operate and assemble a fair. Thank you to all of my teachers.

I hope we will have a good turnout in Tallahassee at the Farm Bureau Legislative Days and Taste of Florida Agricultural Reception on March 7th & 8th. This will be a great opportunity to meet our elected officials face to face and inform them of the importance of the Florida fairs for our communities.

As President of the Florida Federation of Fairs, I would like to thank everyone for their support and what they do for this Federation. The committees, volunteers, sponsors, entertainers, fair staff, and associates make up this Fair Family, and I do appreciate all of the hard work you do to make the Federation a success. I would especially like to thank Lisa Hinton who helps put everything together, for she is amazing and an asset to our Federation and our industry. THANK YOU!

I look forward to seeing all of you in May if not sooner.

FAIR-ly Yours,
Felecia Chivington



OFFICERS

President

Felecia Chivington, President
Pensacola Interstate Fair
2172 W. Nine Mile Road PMB 210
Pensacola, FL 32534-9413
Phone: 850-944-4500 • Fax: 850-944-4526
felecia@pensacolafair.com

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Paul Davis, Florida Strawberry Festival

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2017 FAIR DATES

Mar 2-7	Alachua Cty Youth Fair	Gainesville	Mar 17-26	Sarasota County Fair	Sarasota
Mar 2-12	FL Strawberry Festival	Plant City	Mar 30-Apr 2	Levy County Fair	Williston
Mar 2-19*	Central Florida Fair	Orlando	Mar 23-Apr 16*	Miami-Dade County Fair	Miami
Mar 3-Mar 11	Sumter County Fair	Webster	Mar 27-Apr 2	Citrus Country Fair	Inverness
Mar 7-12	Bradford County Fair	Starke	Mar 30-Apr 8	Clay County Ag Fair	Green Cove Sp
Mar 10-19	Firefighters' County Fair	Vero Beach	Mar 31 Apr 8*	Santa Rose County Fair	Milton
Mar 14-19	Okeechobee Cty Fair	Okeechobee	Apr 5-9	Flagler County Fair	Bunnell
Mar 16-26	Collier County Fair	Naples	Apr 6-15	Lake County Fair	Eustis
Mar 17-25	Putnam County Ag Fair	East Palatka	Apr 13-24	Brevard County Fair	Cocoa
Mar 17-25	Suwannee County Fair	Live Oak	Apr 21-29	Hernando County Fair	Brooksville

*check closed days

Please Patronize Our Advertisers

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26 Belmont Magic	25 Farmers' Almanac/Geiger	11 Triangle Talent
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From the Executive Director

It's hard to believe that the Spring Fair season is almost half over – where does the time go! Whether your Fair is already over or still ahead of you, I know what each of you gives to your Fair and your community – your heart and soul and a good chunk of your time – to make your Fair the best it can be! My “hat” is off to each of you for the commitment you make and the time and dedication you give to your Fair. You essentially give up your “life” for six weeks or more and “live and breathe” the Fair. Only those of us that have been through it know how exhausting it can be...but we also know how rewarding it can be. Thanks to each of you – Fair members and Associates - for all you do!

The Federation has been exceptionally busy with new events. We held our first ever Florida Fall Fair Trip which you will read more about in this issue. It was a great trip and a great networking experience!

We held our 2nd Fair Partner's Shoot Out – it is a great networking opportunity. It was a great time for all—shooters and non.

The State Fair hosted a Florida Fair Appreciation Reception which was a gracious offer on their part to invite all our Florida Fairs to join them for a day at the State Fair. We appreciate their efforts to reach out to all our Florida Fairs to strengthen their relationship across the state.

The really exciting thing was that many came to Tampa and participated in BOTH the Fair Partner's Shootout AND the Florida Fair Appreciation Reception! As well as the annual NICA Business Expo and Fare Food Show.

We will also be participating in the Farm Bureau Legislative Days in March in an effort to further our relationships with our elected officials.

I wish that there was time for me to visit every Fair in Florida but my priority has been to visit the Fairs that I have never been to. I can't tell you what an “adrenaline” rush it is every time I set foot on a Fairgrounds. I get so excited about what Fairs are doing in our communities and in the lives of young people!!!! I've been working in this industry for 35 years and it is still as exciting today as it was the first day I started!

I also have to thank Doris Graska and Elaine Miller for taking over the entire newsletter process! As the Federation has added more and more events which need my attention, they have stepped forward to take over these responsibilities. A special thanks to each of you ladies!

A special thanks also to our Associate Members for your continued support of the Federation and our Fairs. You are such a vital part of our “Fair Family”!

Hope we see you at the Convention – it's going to be a great one!



Lisa Hinton, CFE
Executive Director

Attorney's Corner

MUSIC COPYRIGHT ISSUES

Often times fairs wonder if they need to have a license in order for music to be performed on the fairgrounds. It all depends on the facts. Chapter 17 of the United States Code Section 110(6) provides for a qualified exemption from liability for a fair during its annual fair. However, there is no such exemption for the actual performers. Therefore, we always suggest that a fair incorporate into its contract with the performer that the performer secure the proper licensing and indemnify the fair for any violation. This should especially be done for any offseason events.

Below is the specific and controlling federal copyright law:

Sec. 110. Limitations on exclusive rights: Exemption of certain performances and display.

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 106, the following are not infringements of copyright:

6) performance of a nondramatic musical work by a governmental body or a nonprofit agricultural or horticultural organization, in the course of an annual agricultural or horticultural fair or exhibition conducted by such body or organization; the exemption provided by this clause shall extend to any liability for copyright infringement that would otherwise be imposed on such body or organization, under doctrines of vicarious liability or related infringement, for a performance by a concessionaire, business establishment, or other person at such fair or exhibition, but shall not excuse any such person from liability for the performance.



Lance Fuchs
Foster & Fuchs, P.A.

Important Dates

May 17, 2017

Golf Tournament / Mix & Mingle at Splitsville

May 18-20, 2017

FLORIDA FEDERATION OF FAIRS CONVENTION
AND IAFE ZONE 2 MEETING
Buena Vista Palace
Orlando, FL

July 28-29, 2017

SUMMER WORKSHOP
Osceola County Fairgrounds
Kissimmee, FL

November 26-29, 2017

IAFE CONVENTION
Paris/Bally Hotel
Las Vegas, NV

Convention Highlights

Plan to attend Convention continued from page 1

New this year will be “speed round table sessions!” Instead of 1 hour sessions, there will be 2 thirty minute sessions so every group will have to get into high gear to hear everyone’s ideas then move on to the next session to hear more great ideas!

Thursday morning also starts out immediately with workshops and round tables and then flows into a new style Opening Session. Opening Session will be primarily focused on our keynote speaker Candy Whirley. She will be presenting “It Takes 4 To Tango.” You won’t want to miss this!

Thursday night’s President’s Party will be in honor of President Felecia Chivington, and will be themed “My Fair Lady” – so come decked out to enjoy an evening of fun and fellowship as well as some great showcases!

For the first time ever, we are planning lunch on Friday in the Trade Show. This will give everyone the chance to pick up a box lunch, find a quick place to eat, then enjoy the trade show. Word is that the Door Prize Committee has some very interesting events going on in the Trade Show that day that will make you want to stay until the END!

Last year’s Friday Night Showcase Extravaganza was so suc-

cessful we are doing it again! There will be food, drinks, good company, and lots of great showcases. We are also ending the program earlier on Friday so everyone can go out for dinner but be back for the Extravaganza.

We are also delighted that Fairs from IAFE Zone 2 will be joining us again! What a great way to network with other Fairs in the southeast as well as our own Florida Fairs.

The Convention Committee also felt strongly that the way for our Associate members to get more involved with our Fairs is to participate more in our workshops and round tables. So, this year’s Saturday morning sessions will feature topics of interest to both Fairs and Associates and the trade show will be closed until after lunch. Then, you’ll have some final time in the Trade Show Saturday afternoon to “finish up your business” as well as a few dynamic final workshops to close out the program!

And the grand finale will be Saturday night’s “Gala” with a whole new look and feel – so plan on putting on your “fancy duds” and joining us for a spectacular presentation of awards, showcases, and our presentation of the Hall of Fame and Associate of the Year recipients.

Make plans now to attend! Look for more details about the convention on our website!

Convention and IAFE Zone 2 Highlights At A Glance—May 18 – 20th

Wednesday, May 17th – Giles Ellis Memorial Golf
Disney Magnolia Golf Course

Wednesday, May 17th – Mix & Mingle & Splitsville
Open to everyone , sponsored by YPI

Thursday, May 18th – **NEW AND EXCITING**
You will want to be at the Convention
by 1 pm, on Thursday

As this year’s program will feature in-depth
workshops including an Active Shooter Workshop and a
Workshop by our keynote speaker.

Thursday, May 18th – President’s Party honoring
President Felecia Chivington
The theme for the Party will be “My Fair Lady”

Friday, May 19th – Opening Session and Keynote speaker
Candy Whirley - “It Takes 4 to Tango”

Saturday, May 20th – **It’s a “Gala”!**

This year’s grand finale will be a “Gala” with a whole new
look and feel – so plan on putting your “fancy duds”
and joining in for a spectacular presentation
of awards and showcases!

Thursday, Friday, and Saturday – Educational
Sessions featuring many guest speakers and many of our
own “Florida” experts.

Fantastic Showcases throughout the Convention!

Be sure to join us for the Lunch on Friday in the **Trade Show** —a great chance to mix, mingle, and do some Fair business!
There will be some awesome door prizes!

AND AGAIN THIS YEAR – A FRIDAY NIGHT EXTRAVAGANZA OF SHOWCASES!

Plan to get dinner early on Friday night and be back by 8 pm for two hours of GREAT showcases.

Federation Hospitality Suite open nightly -
a great place to network!

Trade Show featuring over 90
Associate member businesses

Round Table Discussions for exchanging
thoughts and ideas

And a whole lot more.....

THANK YOU SPONSORS!

**PLEASE THANK OUR CONVENTION SPONSORS
A COMPLETE LIST WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE
SUMMER ISSUE OF THE FAIRCRACKER.**



**LOOKING FORWARD TO ANOTHER EXCITING SEASON
WITH ALL OF OUR FLORIDA FAIRS**

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CONTACT US FOR YOUR NEXT FAIR OR EVENT

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Florida Federation of Fairs - Convention and IAFE Zone 2 Meeting

May 17, 2017 – Golf Tournament and Splitsville Mix & Mingle

May 18 – 20, 2017 – Convention and Zone 2 Meeting

The Hilton Buena Vista Palace, Orlando, FL 1900 Buena Vista Drive, Orlando, FL 32830

ALL CONVENTION INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE
WEBSITE AT www.floridafairs.org
Under Events/2017 Convention and IAFE Zone 2 Meeting

CONVENTION REGISTRATION AVAILABLE ONLINE

Convention Registration is now available on our website.

You can register and pay online with a credit card or send in a check with the form. *Please note: Discounted*

Pre-Registration available through May 1st - Registration fees increase after May 1st

All Registrations after May 1st will be handled at the Convention and will be an additional \$25 per person.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

PLEASE make your hotel reservations early. Hotel Reservations can be made by calling **855-757-4984**. To ensure the group rate of \$145.00 per guestroom (\$218 for One Bedroom suite), you must identify the group name, Florida Federation of Fairs & Livestock Shows, and make your reservation **no later than April 15, 2017**. Please note: The room block may fill prior to this date so it is recommended that you make your reservation as soon as possible. You can also make your reservations through the link to their online reservation system on our website at www.floridafairs.org under Event/2017 Convention and IAFE Zone 2 Meeting.

ASSOCIATE AND TRADE SHOW REGISTRATION

Associates can now register and reserve a Trade Show Booth on our website.

Trade Show Booth Space - \$230

Registration - \$150 for basic registration required for each person.

GILES ELLIS MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Wednesday, May 17th - Disney's Magnolia Golf Course

1950 Magnolia Palm, Orlando, FL 32830

Golf Tournament registration can be requested online with your convention registration or by downloading the Golf Registration flyer from our website.

SPONSORSHIPS

We welcome your support of the Federation with a Sponsorship for the Convention.

A Sponsorship Opportunity Flyer can be found on our website.

You can also indicate your interest in a sponsorship on the online registration form and we will contact you.

Splitsville & Mix & Mingle (OPEN TO EVERYONE) Sponsored by YPI

A fun night is planned for **Wednesday, May 17th** from 7:30-9 pm at the Splitsville at Disney Springs.

This Mix & Mingle will be fun as well as a great chance to meet new people.

OTHER CONVENTION OPPORTUNITIES

Make the most of this year's Convention. Be sure to participate in these activities-information is on website.

[Welcoming Committee Participation Form](#)

[Auction Donation Form](#)

[Hospitality Suite Donation Form](#)

[Directory Cover Photo Contest Rules and Entry Form](#)

[What A Great Idea Display Form](#)

[YPI Institute of Fair Management Scholarship](#)

[YPI Convention Registration Scholarship Application](#)

[FL Fair Convention Registration Scholarship Form \(for Fairs that have not attended in the past 2 years\)](#)

[Zone 2 Attendee Scholarship Application](#)

[YPI Charity Fundraiser and YPI Grant Applications](#)



17th Annual Giles Ellis Memorial Golf Tournament May 17, 2017

FORMAT: 4 Man Scramble
Entry: \$125.00 per player
Entry Deadline: May 12, 2017
Registration/Lunch - 11:00am to 12:45 pm
Shotgun Start - 1:00 pm
Dinner & Awards immediately following play



Disney Magnolia Golf Course
 1950 Magnolia Palm, Orlando, FL 32830

Entry fees include greens fees, cart, range balls, FREE DRINKS on the course, Lunch, Dinner & Prizes

Sponsorship Opportunities

Title Sponsor - \$ 2,500.00

Includes signage at Registration,
 recognition in program (if received in time),
 (4) Hole Signs, (8) Players,

Silver Sponsor - \$750.00

Includes signage at Registration,
 recognition in program (if received in time),
 (1) Hole Sign, (4) Players.

Drink Cart Signage - \$400.00

Gold Sponsor - \$ 1000.00

Includes signage at Registration,
 recognition in program (if received in time),
 (2) Hole Signs, (4) Players.

Bronze Sponsor - \$250.00

Includes signage at Registration,
 recognition in program (if received in time),
 (1) Hole Sign, (1) Player.

Hole Sign - \$100.00

I agree to a:

- Title Sponsorship
- Gold Sponsorship
- Silver Sponsorship
- Bronze Sponsorship
- Drink Cart Sign
- Hole Sign

Sponsor's Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

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Make checks payable to:
**Florida Federation
 of Fairs**
 Mail to:
 Central Florida Fair C/O
 Shawn Krauel 4603 West
 Colonial Dr Orlando
 Florida 32808
 Phone: 407-295-3247
 Shawn@Centralfloridafair.com

Visa Mastercard # _____ exp ____/____ CVV _____

I will Participate in the Golf Tournament @ \$125 per golfer

PLAYER _____ PLAYER _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED
 \$ _____

PLAYER _____ PLAYER _____

Convention News



Get Along To Get It Done...and make it FUN!



Candy brings 'real world' experience from many industries including: training, retail, customer service (certified by International Customer Service Association – ICSCA), restaurant, entertainment, management, youth ministry and business owner. Candy has been speaking over 25 years

and has owned SBG Services, LLC for 14 years. She has spoken nationally and internationally, some clients include: Million Dollar Round Table, Society of Human Resources Associations, and International Society of Association Executives, GE, Hallmark Cards, Inc., WalMart, AgStar Financial and Johns Hopkins Medical Center. Candy brings 'real world' experience from many industries including: training, retail, customer service (certified by International Customer Service Association – ICSCA), restaurant, entertainment, management, youth ministry and business owner. Candy has been speaking over 25 years and has owned SBG Services, LLC for 14 years. She has spoken nationally and internationally, some clients include: Million Dollar Round Table, Society of Human Resources Associations, and International Society of Association Executives, GE, Hallmark Cards, Inc., WalMart, AgStar Financial and Johns Hopkins Medical Center.



SIGN UP for Golf Tournament
REGISTER for Convention
MAKE hotel reservations
SEND IN VOTING DELEGATE forms by March 15th. If you have not received your form notify lisahinton@floridafairs.org

HELP honor and recognize our friends in the Fair industry who

passed away during the year by sending their NAME—PHOTO-YEARS OF SERVICE to atchleyterry@gmail.com and copy to lisahinton@floridafairs.org

ENTER Directory Photo Contest.

SEND Year in Review Photographs by May 1st

SEND What a Great Idea Photographs by May 1st

ENTER IAFE Institute of Fair Management Scholarship By April 1st

SIGN UP to bowl at Splitsville by May 1st

BRING your donation for YPI Charity (See pages 27-28)

LET Lee know what you will contribute to the Hospitality Suite.

LET Lisa Dudding know what you will be contributing to the Auction.

LET Leah know what you are donating for door prizes.



HOSPITALITY

The Hospitality Suite at the Florida Federation of Fair's Convention and IAFE Zone 2 meeting is a vital part of the networking opportunities available during the Convention. With over 500 attendees at the convention, we would certainly appreciate everyone's support in helping with donations for product or the purchase of product for the suite.

Between all our Fairs and our Associates – you have been most generous in the past to make contributions so that the suite is a success!

Lee Bakst, Chairman of the Hospitality Suite is again seeking donations of product or financial contributions. You can let him know if you would like to participate by sending him an email at lee@flstrawberryfestival.com or calling him at 813-752-9194.

If you would like to send a donation, it can be made to the Florida Federation of Fairs and sent to 12802 Balm Boyette Road, Riverview, FL 33579. Make check payable to the Florida Federation of Fairs.

Thanks for your consideration in helping!

Florida Fall Fair Trip

First Florida Fall Fair Trip

By: Tim Lovett, Florida Strawberry Festival



Felecia Chivington, Dawn Rowe, and Kathy Ross at the North Florida Fair.

As a newcomer to the fair industry, I am eager to learn; to see other fair operations and learn from the wisdom of others who have decades of experience within our industry. With this in mind, I recently joined Ellany, Sandee, Phil, Lisa, Felicia, Rhonda, Pat and Kathy on a weekend trip to visit three fairs within our federation: the Volusia County Fair, the Greater Jacksonville Fair and the North Florida Fair.

Each of our visits, along with the terrific company, made for an enjoyable and educational experience for me.

Our tour began at the Volusia County Fair. Upon entering their gates, I was immediately impressed with their grounds. It was more than clean; it was impeccable. A clean, well-kept fair lets patrons know you have prepared and looked forward to their visit, and we certainly felt that at their event. I also felt a great sense of pride in seeing Dennis Lee honor our veterans during his show.

On our next stop at the Greater Jacksonville Fair, we toured, among other areas, their horticulture building and their agriculture facility. I was thoroughly impressed with the quality of their plant exhibition and enjoyed watching the kids in their ag barn. Tom Umiker was showing them how to make rope, and as often as I see children behind phones and tablets nowadays, it was a pleasure for me to see them enjoying something as simple as making rope.

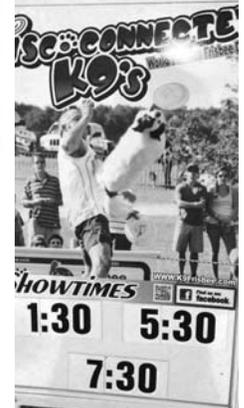
At the North Florida Fair, they also had a clear focus on educating their youngest visitors. I saw children touching corn and grain and stomping on cotton seeds to hear them crack. I also saw them riding a double carousel, which I have never seen before. I appreciated their attention to kids and their desire to teach them about the agriculture industry from which most kids are so far removed.

As much as I enjoyed our tours, I equally enjoyed getting to know my fellow federation members. Traveling all over the state made for many hours in a vehicle, and we truly had fun. To pass the time, we played trivia and we talked about each others' fairs. We had the opportunity to bounce ideas off one another and learn what has worked and what hasn't. We had some terrific fellowship, and I'm blessed to now know some very kind, talented individuals within our federation.

Whether you've been in the industry for 40 years or you're a newcomer like me, we all have more to learn and areas of our fairs we can improve upon. I urge you to consider joining in on a tour trip like this one. You'll learn a great deal and ultimately be better prepared to teach and entertain your valued patrons.

Continued on page 10

It was great to see so many of our Associates on our Fall Fair Trip





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- Lumberjack Shows
- Children's Science Exhibits/Shows
- Dance and Music Performances
- Educational, Museum Quality Exhibits

Contact Us Today!

DAVID MUSSELMAN davidm@capitolint.com

Florida Fall Fair Trip



Rockin' and relaxin' at one of the "sit and rest a spell" stations at the North Florida Fair.



A special thanks to Charles and Shari Panacek with Belle City Amusements for providing lunch at the Greater Jacksonville Ag Fair.



The group helped Sandee Sytsma celebrate her birthday - so glad she chose to spend her birthday with us!



Ellany Johnson shows us all how to use a pitcher pump!



The Strawberry Festival group visiting with Belle City. L to r: Phil Waldron, Charles Panacek, Tim Lovette, Sandee Sytsma, and Ellany Johnson.



The Florida Fall Fair group at the Volusia County Fair.



A special thanks to Strates Shows for providing dinner for the group. L to R: Jay Strates, Mark Harvey, and John Strates.



A warm welcome at the Greater Jacksonville Ag Fair.



Phil Waldron watched the activity in the hands on science exhibit at the North Florida Fair.



Mark Harvey talks with Tom Lovette and Sandee Sytsma.



Martha Leverock and Tom Umiker visit during the Jacksonville Fair stop.



Bill Olson welcomed the group.



Mark Harvey, manager of the North Florida Fair and Strates Shows gave the group a warm welcome.



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Florida Fall Fair Trip



Nick & Debbie Viscomi of Belle City Amusements with Rex & Dawn Rowe



Always great to see more Fair friends! Dawn Rowe with David and Paulette Viers.



Ronnie Hull, manager of the Volusia County Fair, welcomes the group and gives everyone an overview of the fair.



Jim Ward from the Pasco County Fair with Pat Cookson and Rhonda Ward at the Volusia County Fair.



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Florida Fair News



By: Hal Porter, Manager

It's an exciting time! The Fair is almost here. The dates are March 27-April 2, 2017. We invite everyone to come join the FUN

We are working on all the final plans at this time. There will be lots of entertainment, including Matt's Family Jam, Laser Tag, Kachunga, Sally Ann and The Danny Grant Show.



Mary Hiers and pie eating contestants.

There will be local entertainers, Public Speaking, Karaoke and Pie Eating.

The Youth Livestock Programs will be on display all week. It's a specials week for the exhibitors to share fellowship, education and have a successful end to their projects.

The Fair will have a display on our History, all the Arts & Crafts, Quilts, Plants, Baked Goods, Photos and much more. The exhibits are always awesome.

Belle City Amusements will be here to provide a thrilling Carnival with specials all week on the Midway.

The 18th Annual Truck & Tractor Pull was a huge success. We had two great days of pulling all classes of Tractors & Trucks. We had people from all over the country participate, as well as many volunteers to help put on the show. The Fair funds scholarships from this event. We are thankful to be able to support our local youth.

We hope everyone will come join us March 27-April 2, 2017. We know you will have a great experience.

See ya' at the Fair!



PENSACOLA INTERSTATE FAIR



THE PENSACOLA INTERSTATE FAIR "SHINES"

The glorious Florida Sunshine was shining brightly on the 2016 PENSACOLA INTERSTATE FAIR during its' 82nd year October 20 thru 30.

The theme of the Fair was *"There's a Good Time Waitin' For You"* and the crowds turned out in almost record numbers.

The 2016 Fair was the second best year ever experienced in it's 82 years. The entertainment, all free with the cost of admission, was a huge success featuring "the Little River Band," Brett Michaels, "Smash Mouth," "Eric Paslay," "White Tie Rock Ensemble," "The Last Bandoleros," "Jay White -Tribute to Neil Diamond" and a meet and greet of "Scooby-Doo & Shaggy" for the kids on our open air theater. In addition we had "Eudora Farm's Animals from around the World," "Pages White Tiger Show" and a "Miss Pensacola Interstate Fair Beauty Pageant. All shows were well attended with Bret Michaels filling our theater an hour before the show started.

Reithoffer Shows put on a spectacular show with their magnificent display of fully LED lighted midway of 62 rides. Reithoffer Show has been a sensation each year for the past 24 years they have been with the Fair.

Steve White of, EMC Tickets, provided our Walgreens Ticket Sales promotion has been a very popular addition to our Fair and resulted in a tremendous promotion and asset to our advanced ticket sales.

The perpetual theme and slogan of the Fair is and has been "Progress Through Education." The Fair awards \$30,000 each year to students in the furtherance of their education. Since the adoption of our scholarship program in 1982 the Fair has given over \$1,500,000.00.

Plans are already being laid for another successful fair for 2017 with the question that is always on our mind—

WHAT DO WE DO FOR AN ENCORE?"



CREATIVE

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Impressionist Mike Walker and Friends From Branson, Missouri

Mike Walker & Friends

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Creative Community Promotions LLC brings to stage "Mike Walker & Friends" which proves that there's nothing more entertaining than a gifted impressionist! An incredibly talented mimic, Walker brings his repertoire of more than fifty celebrities to one stage. He also expertly performs his own music in this incredibly entertaining show. Watch him channel a variety of singers, including Ray Charles, Willie Nelson, Justin Beiber, Journey, Tina Turner, Rod Stewart and Elvis Presley. He has shared the stage with huge acts like Jay Leno, Toby Keith, Lonestar, Keith Urban, The Coasters, Brooks & Dunn, Alabama, Mickey Gilley, and more, helping him develop his skills as an impersonator. Close your eyes and get lost as one famous singer after another takes over Mike's voice! If you enjoy songs from a variety of singers, don't miss booking "Mike Walker & Friends," with Creative Community Promotions LLC. You will get all your favorite artists in one sensational Branson performer with Creative Community Promotions LLC!



CREATIVE COMMUNITY PROMOTIONS LLC



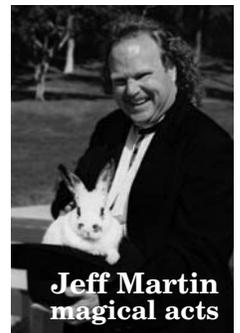
Sundown



308-234-5283



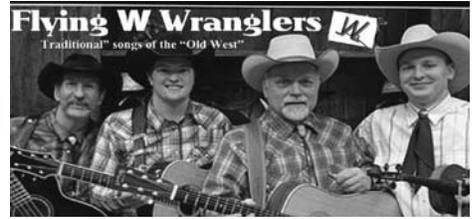
Kevin
Morris



Jeff Martin
magical acts



Yesterdayze



Flying W Wranglers
Traditional songs of the "Old West"

Creative Community Promotions LLC is a full service talent consulting/concert producing entertainment agency for Country, Rock, Comedians, Movie and TV Celebrities, Christian Recording Artists and Variety Acts. We specialize in all your live entertainment needs from building a show from the ground up, determining the type of show that is appropriate for you, your facility and your budget.

Florida Fair News



The Northeast Florida Fair was held October 13-23, 2016 in Callahan. Hurricane Matthew didn't slow us down as we prepared for the greatest event of the year. Our fair theme "Country Nights & Carnival

fair. Flying G Rodeo put on a first class show with cowboy's and cowgirls' competing in roughstock and timed events.

The Northeast Florida Fair is a time to showcase youth, agriculture, entertainment, art, and education. The Home Arts Building was full of exhibits including school booths set



Miss NEFF 2016 Brooke Toy and her court.

Lights" was highlighted throughout our beautifully decorated grounds. The Fair began 69 years ago and continues to encourage and celebrate the best in our community.

There was fun for the whole family! This year's entertainment included Nashville recording artists Branch & Dean who paid tribute to the men and women who serve in the military. Other entertainment included our local school bands, a variety of local entertainers, and



Youth Beef Show

up by Nassau County schools. Our livestock barns were full of animals on display. The youth who participate in the fair work hard on their projects all throughout the year.

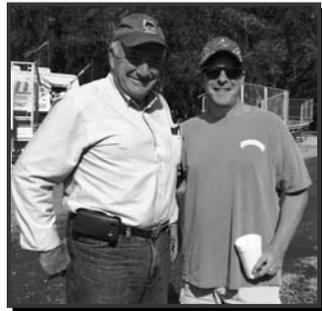
Our Board of Trustees owe special thanks to all of the hard working men and women who continue to work hard all year long. The help and

support of those in the community is greatly appreciated. For updates visit our website, www.nefffair.org or like us on Facebook, Northeast Florida Fair-Callahan, FL.



President Keith Wingate with the monkey from Sunshine Monkey Shines.

Nick's Kid Show. Sunshine Monkey Shines strolled the grounds daily for all to see. As usual, the Mud Swag Truck show was held the first weekend. Folks were able to vote on their favorite monster truck. The rodeo was held the second weekend of the



Tom Umiker, Hillsborough County Fair Manager and Lee Bakst from the Florida Strawberry Festival



Tom Umiker and Dr. Stephen Chambers, former Plant City FFA member.



Long time Fair volunteers at the Hillsborough County Fair - Jodi Holcomb, Julie Umiker, and Susie Churchwell.



Fran and Randy Crone with the Southwest FL & Lee County Fair had a great visit at the Hillsborough County Fair.



Sandy and Vernon Blackadar have been coordinating the Hillsborough County Cattlemen's booth for many years at the Hillsborough County Fair.

Florida Fair News



St. Lucie County Fair *It Started at the Fair!*

Each year in our home arts building we have various stations of Woodworkers, Artists, Quilters and Seamstresses. The projects are usually simple and many times the public will sit down to learn the craft.

Linda Kroll is one of our dedicated volunteers and she picked the Knitted Knockers to demonstrate at the 2016 St. Lucie County Fair.

Knitted Knockers are a super soft handmade breast prosthesis for those that have had mastectomies, waiting for reconstruction or want an inexpensive solution to their surgery.....How inexpensive.....well they are free.

From demonstrating at the fair Linda has 11 dedicated volunteers that continually knit or crochet Knit Knockers for those in need. In April her group organized and in May they became the Florida affiliate of KnitKnockers.com. To date they have mailed or delivered 132 knockers to fellow Floridians! Linda also has helped to start a similar group in Pell City, Alabama. Linda continues to present the idea to various yarn and craft clubs in our area.

Linda distributes the knockers via the many breast cancer surgery centers, medical supply stores and of course on the PSL KnitKnockers website.

Lots of good things are experienced at our fairs every year...when Linda gave me an update of the Knockers last week she ended her email with Thank You St. Lucie County Fair....**WELL NO LINDA, THANK YOU!!!**



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Now sit back and enjoy your show!!

Florida Fair News



Manatee County Fair

The Manatee County AgVenture Day took place Thursday, November 17th in the Mosaic Arena at the Manatee County Fairgrounds. Over one thousand third graders from Manatee County Schools took part in the program which teaches students about all aspects of agriculture. Thanks to the Manatee County Farm-City Week Committee and numerous volunteers this program has thrived over the years.



Fair News – Caption for photo attached: Kathy Ross visited the Manatee County Fair to see Ricky Skaggs – and friends – seen here with Dan West, Fair Manager.



The first theatrical performance at the Manatee County fair. "Neighbors" by the Parrish Play Works.

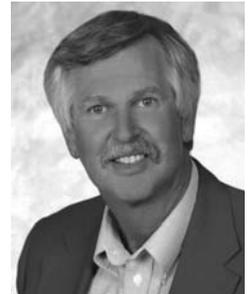
The Manatee County Fair featured a display on the Florida Federation of Fairs. This exhibit will also be used for the Federations booth at the Taste of Florida Reception in Tallahassee in March.



Ricky Skaggs (sic) and Tom Umiker

Hugh Taylor named Manatee County's 2016 Agriculturalist of the Year

Mr. Hugh Taylor, Director and Past President of the Manatee River Fair Association was named Manatee County's 2016 "Agriculturalist of the Year" at the Manatee County Farm-City Week Luncheon at Kiwanis Hall. Hugh and his wife Linda along with their daughters Amanda and Alicia live in Myakka City where they have citrus and cattle operations. Hugh has served as a director on the Manatee Fair Board for many years. *Congratulations Hugh!*



Robert Blalock receives Manatee River Fair Association's Distinguished Citizen Award

Pictured L to R: Jon Neuhauser, President of the MRFA, Daniel West, General Manager MRFA, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Blalock, Mayor Shirley Groover Bryant, City of Palmetto, and Mrs. Janelle Esposito of the Esposito Law Group which sponsors the Distinguished Citizen Award.



Florida Fair News



South Florida Fair kicks off fair season on a high note

By Doreen Marcial Poreba

Officials of the 2017 South Florida Fair are declaring this year's fair to be one of the most successful fairs in its 105-year history. The fair's New Orleans theme was a big hit and although rain literally rained on its parade on the last day, the first 16 days of sunny skies and comfortable temperatures helped bring out the crowds.

Two Fat Tuesday promotions — where admission, rides and food bites were just \$2 each — also enticed people to come out during the week. The second Tuesday resulted in more tickets sold at the gate on a weekday than ever before.



The daily Mardi Gras parades, which featured seven floats direct from Mardi Gras World and New Orleans entertainment — including Dr. John and the Nite Trippers and the Preservation Hall Jazz Band — proved to be popular along with New Orleans dishes that included crawfish, jambalaya and shrimp and grits.

The fair honored one of its food vendors, The Ice Kremling Mill, for participating with

the South Florida Fair for 50 years! Lenny and Russell Goetz and their brother Kenny Burton have been serving ice cream, milk shakes, and ice cream floats since the 1970s.

For those brave enough, nightly Bayou Ghost Tours were conducted and many participants reported that they experienced some paranormal activity in the three locations they visited in Yesteryear Village, which features many historical buildings that have been relocated to the fairgrounds from other areas in Florida.

On the last Friday of the fair, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services administered the Oath of Allegiance to 448 candidates who became America's newest citizens during a naturalization ceremony on the Coca Cola stage. They hailed from more than 60 countries, from Argentina to Vietnam.



The agricultural area, which represents the fair's roots, also had its share of highlights.

"We had a record year in our market auction, exceeding half a million dollars at \$522,000," said Agricultural Operations Manager Matthew Daly. "Our previous record was near \$460,000 back in 2015.

There were 190 market hogs and 26 market steers at the auction with the highlight of a hog selling at \$109 per pound. The \$27,000 dollar hog was a brow raiser that helped set the tone of the auction.

The new indoor auction ring made it comfortable for the fair's buyers to be close to the sales action with their families and friends.

"I really believe the stepped-up hospitality we are providing is showing toward the bottom line at our auction," added Daly.

In addition, 27 calves were born during the fair, including two sets of twins. Ironically, on one of the Fat Tuesdays, two cows were in labor and delivered at the same time, which is when one of the sets of twins was born.

Fair representatives also hosted daily school tours and reached out to many community organizations and nonprofit organizations during its 17-day run. These included local colleges, community leaders and politicians, Leadership Palm Beach County, chambers, and Kiwanis and Rotary clubs.

More than 400 attended this year's annual gala, Bourbon Street Bash, sponsored by Frank Zaitshik, owner of Wade Shows. Held the second Friday of the fair, the silent auction at the event raised more than \$16,000 that goes toward local high school student scholarships. The South Florida Fair's scholarship program was established in 1982, and has awarded approximately \$563,000 in scholarships since then, including \$35,000 that was awarded during this year's fair.

"The colorful rides light up the night skies whenever the fair's in town, making it obvious to anyone passing by that it's 'fair time,' but there are a lot of events that happen within the fair that benefit the community," said Chief Operating Officer Vicki Chouris. "We love knowing that we're bringing joy to fairgoers and beyond."

Next year's South Florida Fair will be held January 12-28, 2018.

Dale was here again!



If you saw our television commercial for the 2016 Fair, you may remember

Dale: a distracted office worker who walks into a corner cafe, hoping to get a coffee and a bite to eat. Startled by the unusual food offerings, he hears giggles, only to discover a face-painted, happy little girl holding a giant stuffed bear. Wondering, he looks around the

place filled with authentic South Florida Fair characters. He suddenly gets it: Must be Fair season!



Megan Price
Miss South Florida Fair
will be competing
in the Miss Florida Pageant
June 27th—
July 1st in
Lakeland, Florida

Florida Fair News



North Florida Fair

75th North Florida Fair is the Best Ever

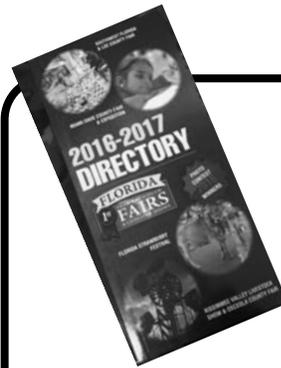
The 75th North Florida Fair was held November 3-13. To celebrate the anniversary of the 75th fair, admission was only 75 cents on opening day. To say that it was a significant way to kick off the fair is an understatement. The crowd size was more than three times the size of any other opening day. A number of people at the gate were “paying it forward”, actually paying for strangers admission behind them in line. It was a festive atmosphere and the fair was off to a rocking start. The weather cooperated and every day of the fair was clear and the temperatures were mild. When all was said and done, the North Florida Fair set an attendance record for the sixth consecutive year. Gate admissions and midway gross were also records. More importantly, the customers were treated to a fantastic experience.

The Anastasini Circus was on hand with their family style circus under a big top tent. As a way to announce the start of a show, a tightrope walker would walk across the span above the tent. It attracted the attention of a crowd every night. When the heads were craned skyward, people would look to see what others were looking at. It was a fantastic show. Also on hand for entertainment was the Pittman Magic Show, a fast paced show

with magic, juggling, and balance acts. It was also a crowd favorite. The Wild World of Animals, the Show-Me Safari Swine Racers, and the Show-Me Safari Petting Zoo rounded out the grounds acts for the fair.

Strates Shows provided the midway for the North Florida Fair and also helped host a contingent of Florida Federation of Fairs members who were participating in the first Florida fall fair tour. Tallahassee was the last stop on their tour after having visited the Volusia County and Jacksonville fairs. We enjoyed hosting the group and hopefully they got something out of each stop on the tour.

The 75th North Florida Fair is now history but, more importantly, one for the history books.



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Florida Fair News



The Clay County Agricultural Fair has had some big changes and adjustments in 2016, which is sure to make the 2017 Fair one of the best that we have had! One of our most exciting changes is a new LED

sign. It will be one of the show pieces of our fairgrounds, since it's the first thing people see when they arrive to the fair. With our new sign we are able to show our headliner videos on it, pictures of our fair to lure in the public, sponsor information and much more. We also launched a new website in August that will be assisting the thousands of inner-webs people find out information about our 2017 fair.

New this year is a BIG change and surprise for our Early Florida Village. If you promise not to tell anyone we'll tell you what it is. Shhh! We have turned our Red Barn, which historically has featured static displays, into a live functioning baby barnyard called "The Little Red Barn." We will have a baby donkey, a pony, baby goats, piglets, calves, baby sheep, kittens (that will be adoptable from our local shelter), and baby chicks. The main area will be a baby duck pond with a tractor waterfall; yes we destroyed a perfectly good tractor for this project, but just wait until you see it! Our visitors will be able to watch the baby ducks slide down the water slide in their new antique habitat with lush landscaping. With the renovation of the barn we were also able to turn

part of the barn into a farm equipment museum and we built a woodshed in the village as well.

New to the 2017 Clay County Agricultural Fair on the entertainment front is: a fireworks show, a strolling dragon, Street Beat, Team Rock Ninja Experience, Extreme Pogo Mania, Agri-Puppets and homecoming day where we will have local gospel and bluegrass music all day with Steven Curtis Chapman headlining. Our entertainment schedule is Chris Lane, Wynonna Judd, Granger Smith, and Steven Curtis Chapman.

With the addition of our new Agriculture Education Director, you will notice many more opportunities for educating our visitors about agriculture in the county and state. Our new social media street team will be venturing out to local farms and broadcasting live via social media to our fair attendees. We'll be bringing the local farms to the fair in a fun and innovative way.

We would like to invite each of you to visit our fair March 30-April 8, 2017. We're proud of our fair and hope to see you all there!

Miami-Dade County Youth Fair & Exposition Named 2016 Trustee of the Year by South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce



The Miami-Dade County Fair & Exposition received the 2016 Trustee of the Year Award from the South Florida

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for administering opportunities that encourage young people to reach their full potential in life.

"A major part of The Youth Fair's mission is to give back to the Miami Dade community. A significant program hosted by The Youth Fair is the Walter B. Arnold Jr. Youth Hall of Fame Community Service Award, which recognizes middle and high school students from all walks of life who have volunteered hundreds of hours to help others," said Robert Hohenstein, president and chief executive officer.

The Youth Fair's community service award stands out as the only one of its kind in South Florida. Each year, eight student finalists from public and private schools are selected through a competitive nomination process. The finalists receive a plaque in recognition of their achievements along with a stipend of \$100 each. The Youth Fair inducts two finalists into the Youth Hall of Fame and rewards them with a \$1,000 check.

The Youth Fair accepted the award at the chamber's 22nd Annual Sunshine Awards luncheon on Nov. 4. Every year, the Sunshine Awards aim to honor organizations for their leadership, contributions, successes, participation and involvement in the Hispanic community.



Collier County Fair had 4,000 people turnout for our Country Jam Music Festival at the end of January, featuring Josh Turner, Joe Nichols & Easton Corbin.

Florida Fair News

Osceola County Fair – Post Fair, Rocked and Rolled Out... February 10th-19th | 73rd Annual | www.OsceolaCountyFair.com



The tents are down, instruments packed, animals sold, ribbons handed out, entertainers back out on the road, the carnival is being loaded onto the trailers, and here we are in our office in the afterglow, still whistling happy songs and smiling wide, like coming home after seeing your favorite rock band play in the amphitheater. That's our Osceola County Fair and Kissimmee Valley Livestock Show. We once again saw hundreds-of-thousands of faces stroll through our gates, ready to *Roc N' Roll* with our brand-new fair mascot, Rocco the Rooster. They were able to experience the music of *Hotel California: A Salute to the Eagles*, Nashville recording artists *Kari & Billy*, and dozens of incredible, soon-to-be rock stars of their own in our many community shows, talent shows, and karaoke contests. But if rocking-out wasn't your thing, we had you covered



with the classic fair entertainment of Florida-native entertainers like the Orlando-based magician, Kardenni, Roisaire's Racing Pigs, NoJoe's Circus, and former-FFF President, Tom Umiker's *All About Ag* exhibit, which all helped our attendees create new memories with the things they love most about fairs. The Strates Carnival Company is always a rockstar group to us, but this year they held **nothing** back— making this year's fair one of the most high-flying, full-throttled adrenaline junkies dream with over 80 rides and games to explore.



Even with all of the lights, music, and fast-paced excitement, our fair wouldn't be the fair we love without the Livestock Shows, and this year we well exceeded our expectations from last year. We feel so proud and rewarded constantly on



our commitment to double-down on agriculture and livestock events for the Greater Orlando area here in Central Florida. We had incredible success with our brand new, *Read & Win* program for 2nd grade classes around the community to promote agriculture literacy, and we owe immense gratitude to our friend Stacey Wade from *Central Florida Fair* for her help and advice in getting this program off the ground. We saw more new livestock buyers than ever before, and a great amount of new interest in our programs from everyone includ-



ing local commissioners and our new, local minor league baseball team. All the visitors to our barns made our 4-H and FFA kids feel like the rock stars

we know they are.

Watching everything move off our property and onto their next endeavor feels like a whirlwind— an adventure. So many ideas to share, and already plans for next year. We cannot wait to share what we have for 2018, but for the moment, we'll bask in the afterglow of 2017



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Test Replicated (slide)	Average Escherichia coli cfu/mL recover from control#	Average cfu/mL recovered from test replicate	Percent Reduction
A	8.1 X 10 ⁵	Non Detected <.045**	>99.9999%
B		Non Detected <.045**	>99.9999%
C		Non Detected <.045**	>99.9999%
D		Non Detected <.045**	>99.9999%
E		Non Detected <.045**	>99.9999%

Miami-Dade County Youth Fair & Exposition

Letter of warning: It's not too early to protect your fairgrounds from speculators

As Florida's population continues to expand, fairs could be thrust into the predicament facing the Miami-Dade County Youth Fair & Exposition for the past six years: an unwelcome and disruptive attempt at a land grab.

The Youth Fair could well be just the first battleground of many attacks that could affect our Florida Federation of Fairs members, large and small, throughout the state.

Sadly, and inexplicably, Florida International University launched a relentless campaign to take over the Tamiami Park Fairgrounds and banish The Youth Fair & Exposition to certain death 30 miles south in Homestead.

FIU is waging a relentless, nasty, politically charged "take no prisoners" campaign. Leveraging its considerable weight as a state university, FIU has used its economic impact in Miami-Dade County, its hundreds of thousands of alumni, its 54,000 students, millions of its Foundations' dollars and hordes of consultants and lobbyists in an attempt to force our eviction from the Fairgrounds. An eviction at a lowball price that doesn't reach one-quarter the value under our lease with the county for 86 acres plus parking for 14,000 vehicles.

The Youth Fair started in 1952 and in 1972 settled into Tamiami Park, the site of the closed Tamiami Airport on the fringe of urban development. Miami-Dade's population then was less than 1.4 million people. Today it's nearly double at almost 2.7 million residents.

Also in 1972, a portion of Tamiami Airport adjacent to the Fairgrounds was given to FIU, a start-up school at the time. For nearly 40 years we lived in harmony as good neighbors. We worked out problems like parking and use of buildings collaboratively and without confrontation.

Six years ago, FIU declared it needed to expand. The county asked that we cooperate with FIU to find a win-win solution. For the next four years, we met almost every month. We looked at more than two dozen potential fairground sites and narrowed it down to three, including county-owned land in far south Miami-Dade.

We jointly commissioned independent studies of the sites. When the results came in, pegging the cost of relocating The Youth Fair at \$230 million plus the cost of land acquisition, all hell broke loose at FIU.

Our lease states the county can relocate us if it provides a site equal to or better in all respects and pays the full cost of relocation, including reimbursing us at full replacement cost for the infrastructure and investments we've put into county parks. Those investments are appraised at more than \$90 million.

While two of the sites held great potential for attendance and revenue growth, the third was too small. FIU immediately declared one of the other sites too expensive. That left Homestead, where the analysis showed The Youth Fair would die a quick

death. We would lose half our attendance, more than half our exhibitors and nearly all our livestock exhibits. Our Exposition business would be destroyed immediately.

FIU anticipated it could get "free" land from the county and relatively low costs for utilities, infrastructure and roads, so it jumped on what it calls the Homestead win-win-win.

Then things started to get nasty. FIU and its lobbyists convinced the county in 2014 to hold a referendum granting FIU a technical exemption to build on the Fairgrounds, contingent on no costs to the county to move the Fair. FIU launched a \$1.6 million campaign, asking voters to "support education." When it won, FIU immediately – and still today – claimed a voter "mandate" for expansion. The vote was for nothing of the sort.

Each spring as The Youth Fair gears up, FIU generates news media stories that mislead the public into thinking our fair is moving.

FIU offered a \$50 million investment to southern Miami-Dade cities for job creation, a think tank, agri-tourism and "incubators" along with the Fair's relocation, even though the Fair's Board of Directors voted twice unanimously that we would not move to Homestead. The university also obtained resolutions from those cities to further lobby the county.

For the 2016 Youth Fair, FIU closed off garages we have rented for decades, used university police to block access to streets that run through their campus and padlocked county-owned pedestrian gates at Tamiami Park.

Two days after The Youth Fair ended, FIU's president announced a \$150 million engineering building to be built on the Fairgrounds – land that FIU doesn't own, doesn't lease and has no legal right to. This was not about a new engineering building. It was a sham to ratchet up the political pressure.

FIU reported to the state university system board of governors that the Homestead site had been chosen for our relocation. This was news to us and to everyone else. They told the state it would cost only \$50 million.

In October, they asked Miami-Dade County to file eminent domain proceedings against its own lease with The Youth Fair so FIU could take over the land. Or FIU may try eminent domain on its own. It would need the approval of its board of trustees, then a yes vote from Gov. Scott and two cabinet members.

At the moment, we are at an impasse thanks to our strong lease with the county, the popular support The Youth Fair has with the public, and ironically, the 2014 referendum that prohibits county funding for our relocation or FIU expansion.

To reach this impasse we have spent more than \$2 million. Money better spent on college scholarships or site upgrades and capital improvements. It has absorbed huge amounts of staff time that should have been applied to operations. And it has caused great confusion for the general public.

As Florida's population continues to grow, as cities spread into pasture land, as land prices rise, many fair sites will be in the cross-hairs of developers, government agencies and community groups that will want your land.

Fairs should prepare now by stating your benefits, communicating these to all your key publics and launching a pre-emptive lobbying effort with local and state officials.

Six years ago, we never would have thought this was needed. We learned.

Fairly Important Matters

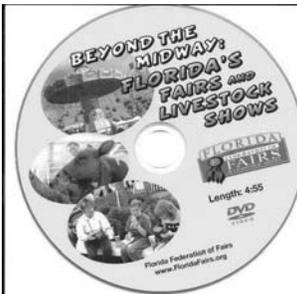
AG FACT SIGNS AND FOLLOW OLE RED SIGNS ARE AVAILABLE.

We know that many of you are getting ready for your Spring Fairs and just wanted to remind you that the Ag Fact Signs and Follow Ole Red Signs that debuted at last year's Convention are available for you to download and print for your Fair.

They are a great way to promote Florida Agriculture! Here is the link if you want to use them:



Dan West and Happy Norris attended the Florida Farm Bureau Convention in the Fall - proudly representing how Fairs and Farm Bureau work together.



This CD is an excellent tool to use when you are looking for sponsorships, new members and to familiarize your local government and legislators. Contact Lisa at lisahinton@floridafairs.org.

What a Great Idea!

Great Idea Display—The entries will be used to create a display of ideas instead of being judged as a contest. This is a quick and easy way to recognize all the great things our Florida Fairs are doing. All it takes is to send in pictures of “great ideas” that you see at other Fairs you visit and even your own Fair.

This year it is easier than ever to send in entries and it is open to ALL Florida and Zone 2 Fairs—all you do is:

Email your photo (photo must be sent as a jpeg attachment) to stacey@centralfloridafair.com

Include your name, the name of your Fair and the name of the Fair where the photo was taken. Deadline for submittal is May 1st but just do it when you take them so you won't forget! More information is at www.floridafairs.org.

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YPI Update—Miranda Muir, Chair



The Young Professionals Committee is looking forward to another awesome convention. This year we will be supporting Orlando's Harbor House. This 501c3 organization works to support victims of domestic abuse. Half of their annual spending is dedicated to providing assistance to women and children in emergency situations. However, they also offer legal assistance, children's services, and community outreach.

They have provided us with the following wish list and we know our Florida Fair Family will do what they do and help in a big way!

- Baby Needs: Baby bottles (new) - Toddler cups (new)
- Baby lotion - Diapers sizes 4,5,6 only - Baby shampoo
- New women's underwear (all sizes)
- Socks (all sizes women and children)
- Children's Pajamas (all sizes)
- Bath towels, hand towels, wash cloths
- Personal Care: Deodorant -Body wash
- Cleaning Supplies: Bleach - Floor Cleaner -Dish Soap
- Lysol Wipes -All purpose spray cleaner - Comet -Brooms
- Miscellaneous: Plastic bed covers -Silverware -Pots & Pans
- Cups & Mugs -Ziploc Bags
- Gently used or new suitcases

With the support of our FFF Board of Directors, we will also be sponsoring two more Community Service Grants. We are looking for young professionals (under 40) who are doing great things in their community. Applications are due April 3 and all of the information is available on the website, www.floridafairs.org. Two \$500 grants will be awarded so do not miss out on this awesome opportunity to fund your next project.

Finally, we are actively planning for an all new MIX & MINGLE activity at this year's convention. Look for details soon and plan to join us Wednesday evening for a social hour and good times. EVERYONE is welcome! Young, old, newcomers, or repeat attendees, we hope all of you will plan to join us and look forward to exploring Disney Springs and our new convention home together.

If you have questions about any of the activities listed above, please feel free to contact me at any time. As the YPI Committee Chair I am grateful to have the support of the FFF Board of Directors and the entire committee. We set the bar high with last year's inaugural Charity Drive, but I know together we can do it again in 2017!

miranda@osceolacountyfair.com 321-697-3050



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YPI is looking for donations to support
Harbor House of Central Florida



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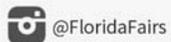
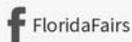
GIVES BACK



Harbor House of Central Florida is an organization committed to preventing and protecting victims of domestic abuse. Providing emergency services for those in trouble, accounts for almost 50% of what they do, but they also provide children's services, legal assistance, community outreach, and more.

Items can be dropped off at the YPI table during the **2017 Florida Federation of Fairs Annual Convention in St. Augustine, May 18 - May 20, 2017** at Buena Vista Palace in Orlando.
Questions? Email miranda@osceolacountyfair.com

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Harbor House of Central Florida wish list includes items such as:

- New Women's Underwear (all sizes)
- Bars of Soap & Body Wash
- Towels, Hand Towels, and Face Cloths
- Deodorant
- Strollers
- Baby Bottles
- Toddler Cups
- Diapers (sizes 4, 5, 6)
- Twin-sized Bedding
- Pillows & Pillow Cases
- Plastic Bed Covers
- Silverware
- Suitcases

Convention Highlights

Mix & Mingle at Splitsville

Wednesday, May 17th

7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Reserved bowling \$30 with a portion
of the proceeds benefitting the
YPI Charity Drive

Register before May 1st

Register online

www.floridafairs.org



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Legislative Update

The Legislative Committee met on December 9th in Orlando at the Buena Vista Palace hotel.

The Federation is proud to announce that we will be working with CAS Governmental Services, LLC as our lobbyist for 2017.

The CAS Governmental Services, LLC Lobbying Team, consists of three principals of the firm, James R. "Jim" Spratt, Vice President; Dale Milita, President, Connie Vanassche, Vice President, and in association with Mr. Richard Coates, Esq. of Tidewater Consulting, Inc. Every member of this team is a Registered Florida Lobbyist.

Jim Spratt has a clear understanding of the operations of the Florida Department of Agriculture and the state statutes that govern County and State Fairs for the State of Florida. Jim is recognized as "top tier" in appropriation acquisition and working closely with agricultural issues, including the State and County Fair Associations and Federation. Jim has been a registered lobbyist for over 10 years, working the FDACS and he will be the Federation's primary contact and project manager.



Dale Milita has previously served as a Hospital Special Tax District Administrator, a City Manager, and a County Manager, providing the CAS team with unique knowledge and understanding from both sides of the podium. Dale has nearly 20 years as a successful lobbyist.

Connie Vanassche brings a total of 17 years' experience in fund acquisition, administration of funding and lobbying. Connie is not only a very capable lobbyist, she also brings technical and administrative aspects to the Legislative Team.

The Federation looks forward to our relationship with CAS Governmental Services, LLC for the upcoming year.

Greetings from Tallahassee-

First, thank you on behalf of myself and my colleagues, Dale Milita and Connie Vanassche; the CAS Governmental Services team appreciates the opportunity to represent you in Tallahassee. Collectively, CAS has over 50 years of lobbying experience on policy and budget issues for clients ranging from associations and individual companies to county and municipal governments. Moreover, many of these clients have been working with CAS for well over a decade. We pride ourselves on being your advisor, your advocate and, quite frankly, part of the family. We are truly excited about this new relationship with the Federation and we look forward to meeting each of you during the upcoming months.

It is certainly an exciting time in Tallahassee the House and Senate have new presiding officers (Speaker Richard Corcoran and President Joe Negron, respectively) and there are roughly 50 new members between the two chambers. Given this dynamic it provides some potential challenges but, more importantly provides a tremendous opportunity to educate these new legislators on the statutes and laws that we operate under and, encouraging the opportunity for these new legislators to visit their local fair to see first hand the benefits provided to their local community.

Preparing this update I am reminded the start of the 2017 session is right around the corner and this session may prove to be uniquely challenging. Translation: there are usual "big ticket" issues which take much band width. For example, will both chambers be able to agree upon and pass fixes to Florida's Workers' Compensation laws? Will there be legislation establishing the framework for a new Seminole Gaming Compact? Will the Senate President's priority of bonding money to purchase agricultural land south of Lake Okeechobee get any traction in the House of Representatives? Although these questions are complex, the final answers will not happen in a vacuum. Thus, when you add to the mix the House Speaker Richard Corcoran's outspoken positions on business incentives, local government funding projects and staunchly conservative views, the best outlook for 2017 may be: it's going to be a bumpy ride and if you believe fewer bills should be passed during the annual session then this is probably going to be a session which you will really like!

Regardless, of the discourse or number of bills which pass, it is critically important for the Federation to continue its great grass roots work and use every opportunity to educate new and re-elected legislators. Former US Senator Alan Simpson once said "Take part in the process or be taken apart by it." This quote rings truer today than the day it was said; given the new normal in the political world we cannot waste any opportunity to educate or develop a relationship. To this end, I hope each of you are able to join the Federation in Tallahassee during the first week of session. If you have not yet made plans please do so and let Lisa know. I also hope each of you have / or are planning an opportunity to interact with your local legislators, be they old friends or friendships you have yet to foster. Please continue to keep us posted on your local meetings and interactions. It may not seem important at the time but each of these interactions are invaluable if we have an issue arise in Tallahassee, these relationships will be our first stop for advocates.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to represent you. We are looking forward to seeing those of you who are planning to travel to Tallahassee in March and we look forward to a long and beneficial relationship into the future.

Respectfully,

Jim

James R. Spratt
Vice President of Government Affairs
CAS Governmental Services
PO Box 35—Canal Point, FL 33438 / 561-924-7702





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FDACS

The fair season is well underway. I wanted to take this opportunity to remind everyone of the minimum requirements to qualify as a Chapter 616 event. The entire Statute can be found at <http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/>
616.17 Minimum exhibits.—

(1) An annual public fair conducted by a fair association may not be approved by the department for a tax exemption certificate unless the fair association displays at least the following exhibits:

(a) Three exhibits from 4-H Clubs or Future Farmers of America chapters which are officially approved by those clubs or chapters.

(b) Three exhibits of community, individual, or county farm displays.

(c) Three exhibits of field crops in at least three different crops.

(d) Three exhibits of horticultural products.

(e) Three culinary exhibits such as canned fruits, canned vegetables, canned pickles or juices, jams, jellies, cakes, bread, candies, or eggs.

(f) Three exhibits of household arts such as homemade spreads, towels, luncheon sets, rugs, clothing, or baby apparel.

(g) Three exhibits of fruit or vegetable crops in at least three different crops.

(h) Three exhibits of arts, crafts, photography, or antiques or of scout handiwork.

(i) Three exhibits from home demonstration, home economics, educational, religious, or civic groups.

(j) Three exhibits of livestock such as dairy cows, beef cattle, hogs, sheep, poultry, horses, or mules.

(2) The provisions of subsection (1) do not apply to specialized livestock shows or fruit or vegetable festivals, the minimum exhibits of which shall be as follows:

(a) Each specialized livestock show shall consist of at least 50 head

of animals or 300 head of poultry.

(b) Each specialized fruit, vegetable, or crop festival or exposition shall consist of at least 50 entries in the specialty, which shall occupy at least 1,000 square feet of display area.

(3) The department may provide a waiver to the minimum exhibit requirements of this section to any fair association that submits an application for the waiver to the department, at least 30 days before the annual public fair in need of the waiver, and shows good cause why the requirements of this section cannot be met.

(4) An authority or fair association as defined in this chapter that provides any of the exhibits set forth in subsection (1) or other exhibits or concessions, whether such exhibits or concessions are provided directly or through an agreement with a third party, is not subject to criminal penalties or civil damages arising out of the personal injury or death of any person, or property damage, resulting from such exhibits or concessions. This subsection does not apply if the personal injury, death, or property damage was due to an act or omission committed by the authority or fair association in bad faith, with malicious purpose, or with wanton and willful disregard of human rights, safety, or property. This subsection does not apply to third parties providing exhibits or concessions.

Should you have any questions regarding these points, please don't hesitate to contact us. Good luck on your event this year!

Danny Raulerson



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NICA Update by Michelle Card



National Independent
Concessionaires Association, Inc.
"Together We Can!"

A few months ago, I had the pleasure of attending the Georgia National Fair in early October. It is a beautiful fairground situated around a stunning lake that will take your breath away when all the fair lights illuminate it after sundown. I was impressed with the great entertainment, excellent balance of concessions and a great setup.



What impressed me the most, were the 4,000 plus students that arrived each morning during the weekdays, every-day! Each day the numbers grew with a lot of chatter among the concessionaires regarding preparations for Thursday. When I arrived Thursday, I couldn't believe what I was witnessing with numbers nearing 10,000 students packing the fairgrounds.

Paulette Keene, Past President of NICA and I sought out answers. We came upon Mrs. Keaton Walker and learned the secrets to the student attendees' success. Walker has several programs that not only encourage local classes to attend the fair, she has created statewide programs that allow organizations such as FBLA, DECA and others to hold their annual rallies at the fair. What this amounts to is thousands of students in these clubs arrive from all over Georgia and neighboring states to participate in their clubs' rally at the fair.

Paulette and I were so impressed with Walker's programs, NICA sponsored her to attend the Western Fairs Association this past January in Reno, Nevada to share her programs with Fair Managers attending the convention. Her presentation was very well received and accepted with much excitement and appreciation for the sharing of such successful programs.

The success for the fair, the concessionaires and the carnival is worthy of reviewing these programs and consideration of how they could potentially impact your fair too.

NICA intends to continue sharing this information as well as identifying new opportunities that will benefit both the Fair and NICA members. To share stories with me or to gain contact information for Mrs. Keaton Walker, please contact me at michelle@nicainc.org.

Michelle Card

"Together We Can!"

Executive Director of NICA, Inc.

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OABA Update-by Bob Johnson, OABA President & CEO



Many industry events took place in Tampa (Feb. 8-11) and will be covered in our April ShowTime magazine. With

much happening, including our State Fair, OABA's 52nd Annual Meeting, NICA/Fare Foods trade show, the Florida Federation events and the Gibsonton Trade Show, we'll have lots to report, pictures to show and more importantly, many college scholarships to award young people in this industry.

Our 2016 Chair Tom Gaylin (Maryland) has fulfilled his Chairmanship duties, steered the board and provided leadership on many fronts. As with all Chairs, as they get to the end of their term, they are comfortable in their role, and many want to continue. Tom doesn't sail off into the sunset, he'll stay in a leadership role, as a Trustee, with the Executive Board for three, more years.

Fortunately, like many industry associations we have a first, second and third vice chair, chomping at the bit to take the reins and place their mark on our trade association. Next up is E. J. Dean, who will receive the gavel next week, as our 2017 Chair. E. J., with Fiesta Shows, hails from New England (a huge Patriots fan) and has the largest carnival operation in New England serving some of the

finest fairs in MA, NH and Maine. He and his father, Gene, have built an excellent midway operation and they are members of the OABA's *Circle of Excellence*.

Our DC lobbying team will be presenting a new, revised strategy on February 9th to the OABA Board, regarding the H-2B visa program, which we understand will change direction from getting annual relief and the "returning worker exemption" in federal government Appropriation bills, to advocating new, legislation to fix some of the problems, reduce red tape and ease the burden on small, seasonal businesses. Again, more to follow on the H-2B front, as the new Administration and Labor Secretary take control. There are several bills being drafted and will be dropped by key legislators, who see things as we do, and will be designed to save American jobs!

Also in February the Florida State Agriculture's Bureau of Fair Rides met to discuss ride safety in the State of Florida with all amusement ride industries, including zip-line and challenge course attractions. As appointed by Commissioner Putnam, I have Chaired this important Committee, which I am honored. At this meeting, we reviewed the ride safety statistics, statewide as provided by the Bureau, comprised of very capable and trained ride inspectors and management.



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Becky Brashear Named 2017 Chair of IAFE

LAS VEGAS, NV — November 30, 2016 — Becky Brashear, assistant general manager of the Maryland State Fair in Timonium, was elected the 2017 chair of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE).

Ms. Brashear, a veteran fair professional for 27 years, previously served as manager of The Great Frederick Fair in Frederick, Md. and executive director of the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair in Gaithersburg, Md.

She is past Zone 2 director of the IAFE, and in 2013 served as IAFE convention program chair. She is past chair of the IAFE's Concessions Committee, and sat on the IAFE's National Consumer Protection Task Force for Fairs, Shows and Petting Zoos. Ms. Brashear served twice as the IAFE's Zone 2 Membership Chair, as well as the national organization's membership chair. She served on the IAFE's initial advisory board of what is now the Institute of Fair Management, as well as numerous other committees.

Ms. Brashear has given numerous presentations and workshops across the country and at the IAFE Convention. She has also written numerous articles for the IAFE's *Fairs & Expos* magazine. She continues to judge many county, state, regional and national 4-H and FFA youth competitions ranging from proficiency awards to public speaking, as well as the IAFE's agriculture awards, competitive exhibits, and advertising and promotions.

Ms. Brashear is past president of the Maryland Association of Agricultural Fairs and Shows. In November 2009, she was named the Maryland Association of Agricultural Fairs and Shows Fair Person of the Year.

Prior to becoming involved in the fair industry, Ms. Brashear was the "Agriculture" and "Greenhouse" sections editor of the daily published *Frederick News-Post* for 12 years. In 1989, she was recognized for the Best Coverage of Agricultural News by the National Newspaper Association's Better Newspaper Contest.

She also serves on the Maryland Agriculture Council, and was appointed by the Frederick County Board of County Commissioners to sit on the Frederick County AgriBusiness Council. She is a governor appointment to the Maryland Ride and Safety Advisory Board and the Maryland Emergency Management Board. She also sat on the Board of Directors for LEAD Maryland.

She has served in advisory capacities for the Frederick County 4-H royalty and the Farm Family of the Year program. Ms. Brashear has served on several Boards of Directors including the Frederick County 4-H Camp and Activities Center. In her community, Ms. Brashear is involved with the Chamber of Commerce, was listed as one of Frederick's Mostly Likely To Succeed by Diversions Publication's *Frederick Magazine*, and sits on the Strategic Planning Team at her church.





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Rick Vymlatil, South Florida Fair 1st Vice Chair

FLORIDA IS WELL REPRESENTED AT IAFE FOR 2017



Lisa Hinton State and Provincial Associations Representative



Vicki Chouris South Florida Fair Zone 2 Membership Chair

Miranda Muir Osceola County Fair YPI, Vice Chair



Marla Calico IAFE President & CEO

Strike It Rich in 2017!

The Strike It Rich campaign is underway and many fairs have already shown how they strike it rich in their community with the scholarships they provide. In addition, each IAFE member has an opportunity to strike it rich by participating in IAFE meetings throughout the year, including the Impact & Impressions Specialty Seminar, the Management Conference, and the IAFE Zone meetings. Coins collected at these events can be redeemed at the IAFE Convention for a shot at winning a great prize provided by Etix. For more information, go to <https://www.fairsandexpos.com/>. To submit information about the scholarships your fair offers, go to <http://bit.ly/FairScholarships> (case sensitive) or provide the information on your IAFE Fair Report submission.

Get a FREE Ag Activity for your Fair

The IAFE has partnered with Events Unlimited to offer a FREE ag activity to member fairs (shipping costs apply). Sign up for the limited number of units. They are going fast! Apply for Farmer for a Day, Milk Maker, or Corn is Everywhere activities by filling out the form at <http://bit.ly/IAFEAgActivityDisplay>. These popular activities are excellent tools in teaching young fairgoers about agricultural production.

IAFE Directory Will Be in Your Mailbox Soon

The IAFE Directory is currently being printed and will arrive in the mailbox of each IAFE fair and associate. Be on the lookout for this valuable resource, which includes 2017 fair dates, contact information for each organization in the IAFE, general association information, and much more.

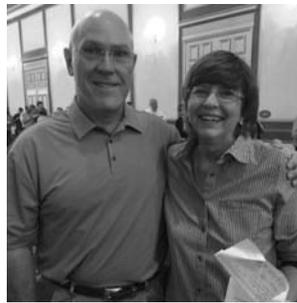


IAFE Convention



The Whole Florida Group

Great to see so many Florida faces at the IAFE Convention!



Marla Calico presents Sharon and Randy Ross a quilt made out of T-shirts from past Fun Runs.



Starting off the IAFE Convention with the Fun Walk/Run. Thanks Robinson Racing Pigs for sponsoring the event!



127th Annual Convention and Trade Show

NOVEMBER 26-29, 2017
PARIS AND BALLY'S HOTELS
LAS VEGAS, NEV.

Help us tabulate the data on scholarships you provide.

In 2017 the IAFE will embark on an initiative that will further demonstrate our relevancy and positive impact both as an important international sector and in our own communities. Your fair will be asked to share the facts and figures associated with scholarship programs.

Scholarships – the money that you raise and then award as monies to an individual who will use it for continuing education is an investment in your own community, but more importantly, an investment in the citizens of our world. The youth we serve today will become our leaders tomorrow.

At the 2017 IAFE Convention we will report on the culmination of those scholarship dollars, realizing the impact of that investment will also allow for all Fairs around the globe to report that figure within their own communities.

All you have to do is answer 4 very short questions! Tell us how many scholarships you award and the approximate value (in USD) and where your fair is located – easy to do! Please help us by going to this special website where you will input the information and click submit!

<http://bit.ly/2fovWLh>

Let us know about the scholarships at your fair!

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IAFE Zone 2 News

Zone 2 Meeting



**NEWS
FROM ZONE
2 and YOUR
ZONE 2
DIRECTOR
NANCY
SMITH, CFE**

Greetings Zone 2 Fair Friends!

Our new year is well underway with lots of fair fun yet to be experienced. Thank you to our Florida Federation of Fair friends as we join together (May 18-20) for our Zone 2 meeting. This year we're in a new location – Orlando! If you've not done so, get registered and ready for the fun. Of special note...ATTEND YOUR ZONE 2 MEETING ON SATURDAY AND RECEIVE A SPECIAL GOLD COIN. Bring your GOLD COIN to the IAFE CONVENTION for your chance to win a HUGE PRIZE!

Just in case you don't know, that gold coin is a part of "Striking It Rich," the 2017 IAFE initiative that is well on its way to showcasing the relevancy and positive impact the fair industry has on our communities, our states and our world. We want to know how much in scholarship money your fair awards annually. Check it out at fairsandexpos.com. Click on the special website, <http://bit.ly/2fovWLh>, complete 4 short questions and help us come up with an amazing grand total. We are honored our own Zone 2 Becky Brashear is the 2017 Chair of the IAFE. Thank you for your leadership Becky!

You've heard it before, but don't forget that 2017 is our last convention in Las Vegas (Nov. 26-29). Mark your calendars for this historic occasion. And don't forget, in 2018 we are San Antonio bound! Get your GOLD COIN at the Zone 2 meeting and join us in Vegas for your chance at that huge prize!

Vicki Chouris, our Zone 2 Membership Chair is hard at work to get the word out about the 2017 Membership Contest, sponsored by Coca-Cola. This year, in addition to individual competition, each Zone has an opportunity to win CASH – a minimum of \$500 and up to \$1,500! So get ready to beat those fair bushes for some new members.

If you have Zone 2 news to share, Miranda Muir, Zone 2 Facebook representative is hungry to receive it! You may send photos directly to her cell 217 415 0279 or email miranda@oseolandcountyfair.com. Let us know what's happening in your Zone 2 area.

In January of this year, the Georgia Association of Agricultural Fairs made history. This year marked the first time Georgia met outside of their state – in 102 years – for their convention. Their leap of faith paid dividends, as they, along with their joint partner, South Carolina, experienced their largest convention ever. This is a good reminder to us of the power of networking within our industry.

To quote our current Chair, Becky Brashear, "The next time you count the beautiful things in your community and what impacts they hold, don't forget to count your fair and YOU, because YOU make "Striking It Rich" happen!"

Here's to "rich fairs" for all!



So proud of our Zone 2 scholarship winners -

ANDREA SIMEONE with the South Florida Fair (I) and **SUZANNE HOLCOMB** with the Hillsborough County Fair.

Shown with Zone 2 director, Nancy Smith.

Andrea Simeone currently serves as a graphic designer at the South Florida Fair, West Palm Beach. She joined the South Florida Fair team five years ago after receiving her A.S. Degree in Graphic Design Technology. For Ms. Simeone, the fair business is a "family affair" and she follows in the footsteps of her grandmother and father.

Suzanne Holcomb, is actively involved in the Greater Hillsborough County Fair of Dover, FL, Livestock Committee and has served the last six years as the Dairy Show Committee chair. She has been instrumental in bringing educational value to the livestock exhibits and coordinating pre-school tours.

IAFE Convention

FLORIDA Fairs **Win BIG at the** **IAFE Conventions**



2016 IAFE Agricultural Awards Program

Category 1 - Snapshot/Overview of Agricultural Program Participation and Trends

Division 4—3rd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 2 - Agricultural Exhibitor Events, Awards, Participation Incentives or Retention Programs

Division 4—1st Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 3 - Technique/Procedure/Policy Developed by Fair Management to Correct an Issue or Challenge Related to an Agricultural Program

Division 1—1st Place—Collier County Fair

Category 8 - Innovative Way(s) Technology Is Used To Benefit Agriculture Program(s) at Your Fair

Division 3—2nd Place—Florida State Fair

Category 11 - Agriculture Individual Photo

Division 2—3rd Place—Kissimmee Valley Livestock & Osceola County Fair

Division 4—2nd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 13 - Any Other Agriculture Program/Exhibit

Division 4—2nd Place—Tie: Miami-Dade County Fair

2016 IAFE Hall of Honor Communications Awards

Category 1 - Television

Division 4—1st Place—South Florida Fair & Palm Beach County Expositions

Division 4—3rd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair & Exposition

Category 3 - Newspaper Ad—Black & White

Division 4—2nd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 4 - Newspaper Ad—Color

Division 4—3rd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 7 - Electronic Newsletter

Division 4—2nd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 8 - Printed Promotional Material

Division 4—1st Place—South Florida Fair and Palm Beach County Expo

Category 10 - Promotional/Advertising Poster

Division 4—1st Place—South Florida Fair and Palm Beach County Expo

Category 11 - Miscellaneous Marketing/Promotional Display or Piece

Division 2—1st Place—Clay County Agricultural Fair

Division 4—2nd Place—Florida Strawberry Festival

Category 12 - Promotional Advertising—Outdoor

Division 4—2nd Place—Florida Strawberry Festival

Category 14 - Unique Advertising Specialties/Merchandise/Souvenirs

Division 4—3rd Place—Florida Strawberry Festival

Category 15 - Overall Social Media Campaign

Division 4—3rd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 17 - Promotional Event

Division 4—3rd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

2016 IAFE Competitive Exhibits Awards

Category 2a - New or Unique Single Class of Competitive Exhibits

Division 4—1st Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 2b - New or Unique Division of Competitive Exhibits

Division 4—1st Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 6b - Competitive Exhibit Display Photo (Series)

Division 2—2nd Place—Kissimmee Valley Livestock Show

& Osceola County Fair

Division 4—2nd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 7a - General Display Photo (Single)

Division 2—2nd Place—Kissimmee Valley Livestock Show & Osceola County Fair

2016 IAFE Competitive Exhibits Awards

Category 2b - New Or Unique Division of Competitive Exhibits

Division 4—2nd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 4b—Participatory Contest

Division 2—3rd Place—Clay County Fair

Category 6 - Competitive Exhibit Display Photo (Single)

Division 2—2nd Place—Clay County Fair

Division 4—1st Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 7 - Competitive Exhibit Display Photo Series

Division 4—1st Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 8a - Single Photo of a General Display

Division 4—2nd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 8b - General Display Photo Series

Division 4—2nd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

2016 IAFE Agricultural Awards Program

Category 1 - Overall Program for Competitive Agricultural Exhibitors

Division 4—1st Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 2 - Special or Specific Event for Agricultural Exhibitors

Division 3—2nd Place—Florida State Fair

Category 3 - Overall Agricultural Program for The Non-Agricultural Fair going Public

Division 2—2nd Place—Clay County Fair

Division 4—3rd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 4: Special or Specific Agricultural Educational Event, Exhibit, or Program for the Fair going Public

Division 1—2nd Place—Kissimmee Valley Livestock Show & Osceola County Fair

Division 2—3rd Place—Clay County Fair

Division 3—2nd Place—Florida State Fair

Category 5: Overall Program for Commercial Agricultural Vendors

Division 2—2nd Place—Clay County Fair

Category 7: Consumer Awareness/in Agriculture Environment

Division 2—2nd Place—Clay County Fair

Category 9: Program Designed to Correct an Issue or Problem Related to a Competitive/Non-Competitive Agriculture Program

Division 1—1st Place—Collier County Fair

Category 10: Fair and Sponsor/Partner Joint Exhibit Program

Division 10—3rd Place—Florida State Fair

Category 13a: Agricultural Photo—Fair Agriculture Photo

Division 2—3rd Place—Clay County Fair

Division 4—3rd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 13b: Agricultural Photo—Fair Agriculture Series

Division 3—3rd Place—Florida State Fair

Division 4—3rd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

2016 IAFE Communications Awards

Category 2 - Radio

Division 3—1st Place—Florida State Fair

Division 4—3rd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 3 - Newspaper Ad—Black & White

Division 4—1st Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Division 4—2nd Place—Florida Strawberry Festival

Category 4 - Newspaper Ad—Color

Division 3—3rd Place—Florida State Fair

Division 4—3rd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 5 - Magazine Ad

Division 4—3rd Place (tie) - Miami-Dade County

Category 6 - Single Brochure/Flyer

Division 4—1st Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 7 - Electronic Newsletter

Division 4—1st Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 11 - Misc. Marketing/Promotional Display or Piece

Division 4—3rd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 13 - Web Advertisement

Division 4—2nd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 14 - Unique Advertising Specialties/Merchandise/Souvenirs

Division 4—2nd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 15 - Overall Social Media Campaign

Division 4—3rd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 17 - Promotional Event

Division 4—2nd Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 18 - Website

Division 4—1st Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 19 - Mobile Web

Division 4—1st Place—Miami-Dade County Fair

Category 20 - Mobile App

Division 2—2nd Place—Clay County Fair

2016 IAFE State and Provincial Association Awards

Category 1A - Newsletters—

Traditional Paper Newsletter

1st Place—Florida Federation of Fairs

Category 1B - Newsletter—E-Newsletters

1st Place—Florida Federation of Fairs

Category 4—Convention Program

1st Place—Florida Federation of Fairs

Category 5 - Unique Program

Tie for 1st Place—

Florida Federation of Fairs

Category 6 - Social Media

1st Place—Florida Federation of Fairs

Other Winners included:

Kitchen Kraft IAFE Institute
Scholarship

Winner: **Lisa Dudding,**
South Florida Fair

Errol McKoy IAFE Institute
Scholarship

Winner: **Lisa Dudding,**
South Florida Fair
Jayson Lynn,
Osceola County Fair

2016 Institute Graduate
Matt Daly, South Florida Fair

IAFE Convention

Team Florida was well represented at the Raisin For A Reason event.



**More
Florida
Faces**



**Associates
at the
Convention**



Florida was well represented at the Zone 2 Meeting.



Federation Awards—See page 46

Spotlight On Associates

Belmont Magic Show Returns to Florida Strawberry Festival with Exciting New Show!

The 2016 Belmont Magic Show met a great reception in Florida and throughout the Northeast. The Florida Strawberry Festival, the Quick-Chek New Jersey Festival of Ballooning, and the Middletown Grange Fair have all re-booked the Belmonts for 2017. Bob Habel, Entertainment Chair at Middletown says, "Belmont's shows were an overwhelming success full of fresh, exciting material. Professionalism puts Belmont's show in the top of those that I have hired during my 19 years as Entertainment Chair."

The Belmonts always present a fun-filled family show with amazing demonstrations of classic magic that delight the young and the young at heart - a world of wonders complete with appearing birds, audience participation and comedy. Belmont's World of Magic is an award winning, fast-moving Broadway style magic show is a true theatrical experience.

But this year, Al and Sue will present an exciting new show with lots of new Magical Surprises including a spectacular new opening number featuring productions of beautiful

flowers and even a working water fountain. In addition, there will be several new illusions including a Neon Light Cabinet Illusion and a Floating Lady Levitation. Younger audience volunteers will "Learn to be a Magician," while adult volunteers, will experience ESP and Parapsychology.



The Belmonts look forward to seeing you at the Strawberry Festival in March, and the Federation Meeting in May.



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Associate Members Update



Paul Laughter, Etix

Associate Director

Here we are, already into 2017 and spring is around the corner, which means the Federation Convention and IAFE Zone 2 meeting is almost upon us. Make sure you register and secure your hotel now. This means you too, fellow

Associate members! I hope to see a sold out trade show this year! Many of our Associate members are already well into Fair season in Florida. Here at Etix, we're gearing up to hit the road in March, starting with the Florida Strawberry Festival and then Miami-Dade County Fair. Fair members please encourage all vendors and Associate members working at your Fairs to participate in the convention and trade show this year. As my term comes to an end, I also want to take a moment and thank Lisa Hinton and the Federation board for the opportunity to contribute to the success of the Federation and its members for the past two years as an Associate board member. It has been an honor. I hope my input has made a difference and I'm looking forward to continuing to contribute to the Federation's success, as all Associate members should.

To all Federation members, Fairs and Associates, here's to a successful 2017!

Federation to Participate in Legislative Days in Tallahassee

The Florida Federation of Fairs will be participating in the Farm Bureau Legislative Days and Taste of Florida Agricultural Reception in Tallahassee on March 7th and 8th.

The two days of activities will include an orientation meeting on Tuesday, March 7th, time to schedule visits with our elected officials on March 8th, and then conclude with the Taste of Florida Reception on the evening of the 8th.

This is an IMPORTANT opportunity for us to meet with our elected officials – face to face – to help educate our elected officials on the importance of Fairs to our Florida communities and the vital role they play in Florida agricultural education.

The Federation will be having a booth at the Taste of Florida Reception on the evening of March 8th and we will be distributing flyers, videos, as well as a "Fair" treat.

We are inviting all Fairs to participate in this event – please come join us to meet with the elected officials in your area. Please contact Lisa Hinton if you are interested in attending.



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FAIRGROUNDS DESIGN



Mallet Event Center & Arena
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Spotlight On Associates

Populous Continues to make News!

Planning the future for Miami-Dade County Youth Fair & Exposition

Populous, a global fairgrounds planner and architecture firm, recently conducted a kick-off meeting for the development of a 10-year master and business plan for Miami-Dade County Fair and Exposition's 86.6-acre site within Tamiami Park in southwest Miami-Dade County in Florida.

"We were pleased to present our vision to the Miami-Dade County Fair & Exposition's board of directors during its annual retreat. We received the directive that the master plan for the next 10 years will encompass the annual Youth Fair and the organization's Fair Exposition Center, both situated on 86 acres within Tamiami Park and we are excited to continue to work on this project," said Charlie Smith, senior principal and senior architect at Populous.

The annual 21-day Youth Fair hosts more than 600,000 guests each spring, and the Fair Exposition Center is host to 70 events annually for an additional total attendance in excess of 350,000. The Fair Exposition Center is the second largest convention center in Miami-Dade County. Its annual Youth Fair is one of the 30 largest fairs in North America and the largest in the state of Florida.

Populous' influence in south Florida can be seen in projects that include the University of Miami's and Miami Dolphins' Hard Rock Stadium and Miami Marlins' Marlins Park. Other Populous projects around the state include the Amway Center in Orlando, the University of Central Florida's CFE Arena in Orlando, the University of South Florida's Sun Dome Arena and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers' Raymond James Stadium in Tampa. The firm's designs for the Jacksonville Jaguars' Amphitheater and Flex Field and Orlando City Soccer Club Stadium are each scheduled to open in 2017.



Photo at left: Attending the Miami-Dade County Fair & Exposition retreat for its board of directors are, from left to right, Charlie Smith, AIA, NCARB, senior principal and architect at Populous;

Bob Hohenstein, president and CEO at Miami-Dade County Youth Fair & Exposition; Roger C. Cuevas, chairman of the board; and Rod Markin, president of Markin Consulting.

Populous is a global architecture and design firm that designs the places where people love to be together, like Yankee Stadium, the London Olympics, and the Super Bowl. Over the last 30 years, the firm has designed more than 2,000 projects worth \$40 billion across emerging and established markets. Populous' comprehensive services include architecture, interior design, event planning and overlay, environmental graphics and wayfinding, master planning, landscape design, urban planning and sustainable design consulting. With regional headquarters in Kansas City, London, and Brisbane, Populous has 15 offices on four continents.

Populous Hosts "Show Us The Money" Panel on Funding at IAFE

LAS VEGAS – Dec. 9, 2016 – Populous, architects and fairgrounds master planners, hosted a panel at the International Association of Fairs & Exhibitions (IAFE) Annual



Conference recently held in Las Vegas titled "Show Us The Money." This panel represented over \$1.7 billion in fairgrounds funding for the five projects presented. The panel discussed funding options, methodologies and project examples underway.

Shown from left to right at the workshop were panelists, David Forkner, ASLA, Principal and Senior Planner with Populous, Ron Rohr, Vice President of Administration with the National Western Stock Show & Rodeo, Charlie Smith, AIA, NCARB, Senior Principal and Senior Architect with Populous, Ray Allison, Vice President of Administration with the Indiana State Fairgrounds & Event Center, Clint Chitsey, General Manager with the Williamson County Expo Center and Scott Munz, Vice President of Marketing and Public Relations with the Oklahoma State Fair.

Williamson County Debuts Expo Center

Williamson County recently unveiled its new Williamson County Expo Center in Taylor, Texas. The major components of the 130,000 sf Populous designed complex consist of a 25,000 sf exhibit hall,



meeting room and offices; 25,000 sf covered multipurpose pavilion; 15,000 warm-up arena; and restrooms, concessions and other improvements to the existing 3,000 seat arena. The facility will host numerous local and regional events including the Taylor Rodeo and the Junior Livestock Show.

Other recent Texas projects by Populous include the Mallet Event Center in Levelland, Texas A&M University's Kyle Field in College Station, and the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio.

The above photo is from the November 10 ribbon cutting. Shown left to right are facility General Manager Clit Chitsey; associated architect Ryan Hansanuwat; Populous Principal and Senior Planner, David Forkner ASLA; County Judge Dan Gattis, past President-CEO of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo; Randy Bell, Director of Parks and Recreation and Precinct 4 Commissioner, Larry Madsen.

Florida's Dairy Farmers Are Proud of Their FARMS AND WAY OF LIFE



The Sunshine State is home to more than 130 farms, stretching from the Panhandle to South Florida. With around 125,000 cows producing more than 300 million gallons of milk each year, Florida ranks 19th in production nationwide.

Dairy is a key component of the state's agricultural industry, and is second only to tourism in Florida's economy. That's a lot to *moo* about.

Almost all of the farms are family owned and operated by second-and third-generations of dairy producers. In many cases, the men and women who today run the farm grew up there, learning the business from their moms and dads. In turn, they are teaching their sons and daughters what it takes to be a dairy farmer. Love of the land. Love of the cows. Love of the life.



FloridaMilk.com



Spotlight on Associates

TOM DAVIS FEATURED IN IAFE MAGAZINE

Tom Davis is featured as Associate Close Up on page 70 of the January/February issue of Fairs & Expos. You can read about Tom by visiting the IAFE website:

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/iafe/magazine/2017/janfeb17/kliye.html>



See Tom's ad on page 49 of this newsletter

Ivan Arnold inducted into the Michigan Association of Fairs and Events Hall of Fame

Ivan Arnold of Arnold Amusements was inducted into the Michigan Association of Fairs and Events Hall of Fame on Friday, January 13, 2017. For over seven decades, Ivan has enjoyed a fascination with the carnival industry. In 1980, Ivan started Arnold Amusements and along with his wife Agnes and family, have grown the company to entertain millions of visitors each year throughout the states of Michigan and Florida. Ivan is also an active member of the International Independent Showmen's Association in Gibsonton, Florida; helping coordinate club events and the annual trade show and extravaganza each February. Congratulations Ivan on being inducted into the MAFE Hall of Fame!



NETTERFIELDS POPCORN & LEMONADE, INC.

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Russ Harrison of

Rudy's, Inc. of Hernando, Florida took second place in the 2016 IAFE Membership Contest.

The 2017 Contest is open now.

Each individual, associated with an

active member, who recruits a new member, will receive 1 entry, into a drawing for the \$3,000 Gift of Travel.

Those sponsoring new members into IAFE's network will receive one entry in the drawing for each new member sponsored. The more new members you sponsor...the greater your chances are to win!! The drawing will take place at the 2017 IAFE Convention. Coca-Cola will recognize the top 3 recruiters at the Convention in Las Vegas during a General Session. These individuals will receive plaques for their efforts in recruiting new members to the IAFE. Our overall top recruiter will receive \$500 cash award (in the event of a tie, the cash award will be divided equally).

For more information or membership application contact

Vicki Chouris, Zone II Membership Chairman, at the South Florida Fair.

Fairly Important Matters

Regarding what I read in the IAFE newsletter....Cumberland forbids exhibition of wild, exotic animals on county-owned land

Dear Bill,

My name is David Musselman. I have worked with exotic animals in an effort, even a ministry, if you will, to show the plights of many of them and raise awareness promoting the well-being and health of animals who are close to being extinct. Unless we protect and care for them by allowing the public to see them they will become extinct. Many have already.

Our USDA has very strict rules for animals that travel to protect them and make sure their facilities are safe and comfortable. As well as vets to make sure the animals are being fed, cared for and given proper medical care. If these animals are banned and unable to be shown to the public. Who will support and care for them? The animals lose. The trainers lose. The public loses also because now many children will never see these animals and learn about how they can help preserve them. My question is to you, who wins?

I am sure your group has good intentions regarding exotic animals and trying to protect them. However, I question whether everyone in your group has been told the entire truth of the situation they are attempting to control.

It is easy to make rules and laws but what happens to the animals and the trainers who have been put out of work. By your group taking a stand that you assume protects animals, with all due respect, you are inadvertently sentencing many of them to certain demise.

Unfortunately, by local groups making local rules and laws that the "humane societies" many with their own agendas, have promoted, the unintended consequences are the death or lack of care for the very animals they think they are protecting. Remember without a way to support these animals the trainers who love and care for them are out of jobs and the animals are being cheated out of

a future. Will these "law makers" care for the animals they are banning from their county? Have they checked into the cost of the medical care and feeding of these animals that now will be deprived of any support in your county?

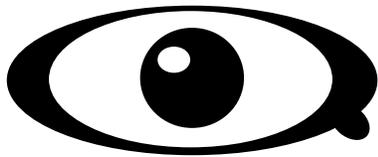
By allowing the USDA to do their job and not interfering and putting animals out of business and trainers who love and care for them out of work, we can serve the animal community in a much better way. Remember. The "Animal Rights" people are coming for the cows, chickens and pigs next. They believe they have rights too.

If you bow to this influence as was done here you are setting the stage for the rights of chickens, and other animals that feed our nation to outweigh our health and well-being. Unfortunately, if these types of laws spread to other fairs, counties and states, it could easily be the sole cause of more deaths and lack of care of more animals than any one cause or epidemic in the past.

Yes, there may be trainers who don't care for their animals properly. That is why we have the laws in place to force them to comply to USDA standards. However, by making your own laws like we see happening in your county you are punishing the good trainers and their families. Many who have devoted their lives and their well-being to the care and love for the animals they are showing to the public. Often these families break their banks to follow USDA standards and give the best care to their animals and for most, the only way to pay all these expenses, is to show them to the public and get a fee from a fair or festival to do so. They certainly are not getting rich doing so. For them it is a labor of love.

Please reconsider this decision. Let's not be responsible for the deaths and demise of many of God's incredible creatures. They deserve love and care and need your support to be shown to the public which raises love and awareness that will help care for them in the future. Thank you for your consideration.

The views expressed by the author are his and not endorsed by the Florida Federation of Fairs.



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Phone cell or alt: 954-899-8300
E-mail: tod@uncletodmotorsports.com
Website: <http://www.kidkj.com>
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Business: Mini Monster Truck Shows and
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Phone cell or alt: 814-495-4686
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Website: <http://stinemanribbon.com>
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Michael Hasselman
9603 ESCADA CT.
CHESTERFIELD, VA 23832
Phone: 804-297-9431 **Fax:** 804-790-1569
E-mail: mike.zip@outlook.com
Website: <http://www.atlanticconcessions.com>
Category: Concessions/Food/Beverages
Business: Specializing in Seafood

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Brian Wilson
2810 SYDNEY ROAD
PLANT CITY, FL 33566
Phone: 813-305-1415 **Fax:** 813-305-1419
Phone cell or alt: 813-436-1067
E-mail: bwilson@gtgrandstands.com
Website: <http://www.gtgrandstands.com>
Category: Equipment & Tents
Business: Manufacturer of Bleacher and
Grandstand seating including announcer's booths

Majestik Spectacular Thrill Show

Erick Dominguez
1023 STONER ROAD
ENGLEWOOD, FL 34223
Phone: 512-705-2229
E-mail: erick_dominguez@live.com
Website: <http://www.dominguezent.com>
Category: Attractions/Entertainment
Business: Motorcycle stunt thrill show -
25 min. show full of thrills

Mystik Illusion Magic Thrill Show

Giovanni Anastasini
1811 ENGLEWOOD RD, SUITE #276
ENGLEWOOD, FL 34223
Phone: 941-416-2548
E-mail: giovannianastasini@yahoo.com
Website: <http://www.giaentertainment.com>
Category: Attractions/Entertainment
Business: Illusion magic thrill aerial cirque
show all combined in one

Nancy Roth Ventriloquist Statue

Nancy Roth
825 ANTELOPE WAY
LAS VEGAS, NV 89145
Phone: 702-755-3575
E-mail: vent-statue@cox.net
Website: <http://ventriloquismstatue.com>
Category: Attractions/Entertainment
Business: Comedy ventriloquism stage act;
Living statue stationary grounds act

Team Rock-Ninja Experience

Kyle Palmer
319-6TH AVENUE SE
DYERSVILLE, IO 52040
Phone: 563-920-4794
Phone cell or alt: 563-920-4943
E-mail: kylepalmer@hotmail.com
Website: <http://www.ninjaexperience.net>
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*In loving memory
of those who cared to make a difference . .*

JOHN W. OWENS, JR.
7-17-1946—10-24-2016

John spent much of his life working in the Fair industry, most recently at the Volusia County Fair. Prior to that he was the general manager of the Nevada State Fair and Anderson County Fair in South Carolina. John also worked for the OABA for several years as Director of Marketing and Membership Services. John was the proud author of "Opening Night," a book he wrote about creating successful events within the fair and festival industry. He was a Vietnam veteran. He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Sarah. Son John III (Tamara), daughter Ann Marie Pike (Billy), five grandchildren and one great grandchild.



JEANNE KAY WARFORD
6-4-1947-7-10-2016



Jeanne K Minshew Warford served the Collier County Fair for over 30 years. During that time she was a bookkeeper, ran the auction, wife of a board member, board member and treasurer. If she was not at work, at church or the fair you could be sure to find her at one of the grandkids sporting events. She is survived by her husband Stanley Warford, daughter Tammy K Bass (Ricky) and daughter Katherine E Dion (Chris) and 7 grandchildren.

DR. VIRGINIA HASH
9-23-1927—10-30-2016

Virginia spent most of her life teaching and was a Professor at the University of Northern Iowa. After moving to Florida she joined several historical societies including Clay County. She established and decorated the Old School House at the Clay County Fair. She received many community service awards. She was the widow of William Eugene Hash. She is survived by her daughter Dr. Jean Otte, two grandsons and one great grandson.



JOHNNY D. WELDE III
9-26-1956—1-25-2017

Johnny's grandfather had a fascination with bears, his love for the animals became a reality when he put together his first trained bear act and in 1948 he made his American debut with the Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus. Grandson & 3rd generation animal trainer, Johnny offered his bears for movies, commercials, advertising, and of course their famous bear shows. Welde's love and concern for bears in the wild urged he and his wife, Monica, to develop an educational presentation and exhibit stressing the importance of habitat preservation and conservation for all bears.



JAMES "JIM" CONAWAY
6-6-1934—11-3-2016

Jim served in the Navy and retired from the Duval County School Board after 30 years of service. He was a 6 term president of the Clay County Cattlemen's Association and could be found working the back gate for the 4-H and FFA at the Clay County Fair. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Marlene. Daughter Cindy Rhoads (David), sons: Everett (Edie), Harry (Sharon), and Charles (Tammie). Ten grandchildren, thirty-six great grandchildren and five great, great grandchildren.



Dennis, Rachel, and Matthew Lee

For the loss of Rachel and Matthew's mother
SAUNDRA PAYANT LEE
3-2-1964—11-20-2016

Dawn Rowe

Director, Osceola County Fair
For the loss of her brother

ROBERT FRANZEN

2-12-1959—11-26-2016

Paul McPherson

Director, Citrus County Fair
For the loss of his father

LEONARD "MAC" McPHERSON

3-26-1939—1-13-2017

Please help us honor and recognize our friends in the Fair industry who pass away during the year by sending their names and Fair affiliation to the Federation for inclusion in the Resolutions passed at each year's Convention and also be included in the next issue of the newsletter. lisahinton@floridafairs.org
Complete obituaries for most of those listed here can be found at www.findagrave.com



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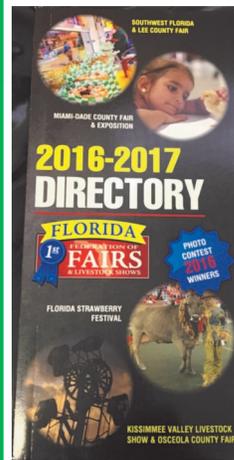
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