

September 17-25 GREAT FREDERICK FAIR IS ALL ABOUT AG-SENSUATING YOUR SENSES!



It won't be long until your eyes, ears, nose, mouth and hands will come alive and be "Ag-Sensuated" with all that The Great Frederick Fair has to offer. In just about six months, the 142nd annual fair will get underway, focusing on the theme: Ag-Sensuate Your Senses...See IT! Taste IT!

Hear IT! Touch IT Smell IT!

No other event allows attendees to test their senses quite like a county fair, and The Great Frederick Fair is no exception! All during the nine-day event, September 17-25, special programs, events and displays will "sensuate" your senses, whether you're SEEING a calf being born at Birthing Center; whether you're TASTING the smorgasbord of fair food; whether you're HEARING a concert in front of the grandstand; whether you're TOUCHING a lamb for the first time; or whether you're SMELLING all of the aromas of the fair.

The fairgrounds will also come alive with the color schematics of purple and orange to decorate showrings, buildings, signage and special exhibits and displays.

School aged youngsters will be able to pack in all the fun and education during Friday's traditional Fair Day, September 24. Initially the county's public school calendar had the Fair Day set for Friday, Sept. 17. School officials changed the date once they learned that their initial day was actually scheduled for the first day of the fair. Children ages 18 and under will receive free admission to the fair from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. All rides will be reduced by one ticket until 5 p.m. Regular prices will be charged after 5 p.m.

"All in all the plans for this year's fair are coming along very nicely," said fair board President J.R. Ramsburg Jr. "We're anticipating a good and successful fair in 2004.

One thing is for sure...if you can FEEL it! If you can HEAR it! If you can TASTE it! If you can SEE it! If you can SMELL it! then it must be fair time!

2004 GROUNDS/MAINTENANCE INITIATIVES LISTED

The Great Frederick Fair's Property and Maintenance Committee in reviewing the maintenance and improvement needs for the fairgrounds for the coming year has announced its list of priorities.

A portion of the upgrades have already been addressed, such as installing heaters and hot water heaters in three restrooms on the fairgrounds. "This way, the restrooms can be made available for year round use," said co-committee chairman Joseph Devilbiss, "and we don't have to worry about turning the water off to them in the winter." The interiors of all the restrooms on the fairgrounds have been painted.

Currently, the interior of Building 2 where grandstand ticket sales are conducted from, is undergoing a major upgrade. The office will also be the site for Harness Racing operations during the non-fair season. During fair time, the Harness Racing Office will be located at the horse stables.

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2004 FAIR GRANDSTAND ENTERTAINMENT LINEUP ANNOUNCED



JoDee Messina

All nine days/nights of the 142nd Great Frederick Fair will feature entertainment in front of the grandstand come this September, and the fair is again offering one of the best lineups of country music performers available. The fair's dates are September 17-25.

Life members of The Frederick County Agricultural Society Inc. will soon be
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The Great Frederick Fair Inc. and The Frederick County Agricultural Society Inc. publish *AG AveNEWS* as a general information service for its Life Members, business clients and associates. Additional information regarding any of the matters published within may be obtained from the Administration Office.

BOARD OFFICERS

- J.R. Ramsburg Jr., President
- James S. Grimes, Vice President
- Robert W. Frank, Secretary
- Maurice A. Gladhill, Treasurer

BOARD OF MANAGERS

- John E. Bare
- John W. Bell
- Charles B. Cramer
- Clyde C. Crum
- Julien P. Delphey
- Joseph F. Devilbiss, Sr.
- Joseph C. Free
- Nancy N. Hendricks
- Dr. James E. McClellan

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Becky Brashear, CFE

OFFICE ASSISTANT

Robert Fogle

The Great Frederick Fair Inc. is a member of:



The Maryland Association of Agricultural Fairs and Shows Inc.

The International Association of Fairs and Expositions



CHAMBER of COMMERCE of FREDERICK COUNTY

The Chamber of Commerce of Frederick County

The Frederick County Tourism Council

The Pennsylvania Association of Fairs

HERE'S HOW TO REACH US

The Administration Office at The Great Frederick Fair is open from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Our phone numbers are 301-663-5895 or 301-663-6319. The fax number is 301-663-9719.

Our street address is 797 East Patrick Street, or to reach us by mail, address materials to P.O. Box 604, Frederick, MD 21705.

Our website address is www.thegreatfrederickfair.com.

GREAT FREDERICK FAIR WINS NATIONAL AWARDS

The Great Frederick Fair received two Agricultural Awards of Excellence during the recent International Association of Fairs and Expos (IAFE) Convention in Las Vegas, NV. There are 14 agricultural award categories. The Great Frederick Fair's Awards of Excellence were won in a Program Designed to Correct an Issue or Problem Related to a Competitive or Non-competitive Agricultural Program, and Printed Material Developed and Produced by a Fair to Promote Agriculture Program(s). The IAFE entries were evaluated and judged by a team of fair industry leaders.

Hurricane Isabel which hit the Frederick area in the midst of the 2003 Great Frederick Fair presented many challenges for fair officials, exhibitors and fairgoers in general. The Great Frederick Fair was honored with its handling of the many challenges, and the steps taken to ensure the safety of all as well as the recognition given to livestock exhibitors who kept their animals at the fair throughout the storm.

In the second awards category, The Great Frederick Fair received the Award of Excellence for its Ag-Venture Passport. This educational program, introduced at the 1999 fair, has won national awards for its educational impact in four of the past five years. The local-based passport program has been copied and improvised into many of other agriculture educational programs at fairs and shows across the country and even around the world.

"It is truly a thrill to be part of this fair that receives much honor and recognition from other fairs and shows," said J.R. Ramsburg Jr., fair board president. "So much has been done by The Great Frederick Fair in recent years in the areas of education and hands-on experiences for our fair goers and to know that our peers recognize what we do and how we do it, is really gratifying."

Fair Board of Managers Maurice Gladhill and John Bare, along with the fair's Executive Assistant Becky Brashear, CFE, and Robert Fogle, office assistant, accepted the awards in Las Vegas.

With the Ag-Venture Passport, the fair has developed and strengthened partnerships within the community between the fair, educators, business and industry. "The public school system has embraced this program so much that curriculum specialists have written pre and post lesson plans for fourth through sixth grade students," Ramsburg added. Support for the passport program was also received from the Schools-to-Careers Program, the Board of Frederick County Commissioners, the Kiplinger Foundation, Frederick County Agri-Business Council, the Maryland Ag Education Foundation and The Red Barn Group/HDI Corp./Agri-Visions.

During the recent Maryland Association of Agricultural Fairs and Shows Convention in Harrington, DE, The Great Frederick Fair won 11 statewide awards for its educational, marketing and promotional endeavors.

"The Great Frederick Fair has a lot of be proud of," Ramsburg said," and to know that these are all ideas and concepts that came from our staff makes it even more enjoyable."

Congratulations to the Wilcoms!

Our congratulations go to Anthony and Alice Wilcom and family of Walkersville who were named Frederick County's 2003-04 Farm Family of the Year. The Wilcoms are also Life Members of the Frederick County Agricultural Society Inc. Through the year, the family has been and will continue to be recognized at numerous functions around the county for their designation. Nominations for the 2004-05 Frederick County Farm Family of the Year are currently being accepted at The Great Frederick Fair Office. Call 301-663-5895 or visit the fair's website at www.thegreatfrederickfair.com for more details on the program or to learn how to nominate a family for the top honor.



Alan, Alice, and Anthony Wilcom.

LOCAL FAIRS ON-LINE CAPABILITY GOES LIVE APRIL 1

Starting April 1, livestock exhibitors showing at The Great Frederick Fair, The Maryland State Fair or The Montgomery County Agricultural Fair will be able to register on-line for the coming summer and fall shows. The same capability for 4-H/FFA, Household and Farm and Garden exhibitors will be up and running soon there after.

One of the biggest attractions to the on-line open class livestock entry capability is that exhibitors can enter their animals at either The Great Frederick Fair, The Maryland State Fair or The Montgomery County Agricultural Fair with only the click of a mouse!

The on-line entry program has been developed and standardized for open class livestock classes between the three fairs, thus creating a standardized open class livestock entry form that enables exhibitors to only have to complete one entry form instead of the multiple ones..

“What is being accomplished is that it takes less entry time and it’s much more convenient,” said officials from the fairs. “People seem to like having the convenience of entering on-line, and especially the livestock folks of only having to complete one set of entry forms.

The Maryland Association of Agricultural Fairs and Shows website at www.maafs.com, serves as the central location for exhibitors to complete and submit their entries. However, on-line users can also access the entry form capability from the individual fairs’ websites at marylandstatefair.com, www.thegreatfrederickfair.com, or mcagfair.com. Entry payments on the secured site are required, and can be made via credit card. Entries are not confirmed until the complete payment is made.

“This continues to be an exciting time for fairs in Maryland,” fair leaders said. “The program that we have set up is the topic of discussion at a lot of fair meetings across the country.” The fairs participating in this service also run the Blue Ribbon Fair Premium Program which has made the task of standardizing the class offerings easier. Some minor modifications to classes have been made, although fairs can still continue with special class offerings.

For more information, contact The Great Frederick Fair at 301-663-5895.

LIFE MEMBER DAY FOR TICKET PURCHASES IS MAY 1, 2004

Life Members of The Frederick County Agricultural Society Inc. are invited to make advanced purchases of the reserved seats for all of the events in front of the grandstand Saturday, May 1, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the fair’s Ticket Office in Building 2.

Within the next few weeks, Life Members will receive their mailing concerning Life Member Day that will also include the ticket order form. Life Members have the first chance to purchase tickets before they go on sale to the public.

Life Members can purchase the amount of tickets they are entitled to at the reduced rate. The reduced rate is the difference between the price of reserve track or grandstand seats versus general admission seats. Life members can also purchase four additional tickets above their entitled allotment at the regular ticket prices for reserved track or reserved grandstand seats on Life Member Day, May 1. However, if you want to purchase additional tickets after Life Member Day, you may do so at the fair’s Ticket Office at Building 2 Monday, May 3—Friday, May 7, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Ticket sales to the grandstand events will be opened to the public **on May 10**, via mail order only.

HAVE WE GOT A QUESTION FOR YOU!

The question of whether or not to initiate a Life Member access only page on The Great Frederick Fair’s website surfaces every now and then. And so, who better to ask than the Life Members themselves?! Please cut out, complete, and mail this survey back to the Fair.

We’d like your feedback and input on:

HAVE YOU VISITED THE FAIR’S WEBSITE? _____ Yes _____ No

If no, why not? _____

DO YOU HAVE AN E-MAIL ADDRESS? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, please provide your e-mail address _____

WOULD A LIFE MEMBER PAGE ON THE FAIR’S WEBSITE BE BENEFICIAL TO YOU? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, what on-line information/services would you like to see posted/available to Life Members only through password access? _____



October 28-30

IT'LL BE A FAIRFEST AT 2004 MAAFS CONVENTION

The Delaware State Fairgrounds will again be the site of the 2004 Maryland Association of Agricultural Fairs and Shows. October 28-30 are the dates for the event that will be hosted by the MAAFS Board.

In addition to the tax-free outlet shopping, ice skating and slot machines, the three-day event will be filled with more seminars and workshops than ever. Dennis Hazzard, CFE, manager of the Delaware State Fair, said he and his staff are prepared again to help spearhead the annual conference which starts on Thursday, Oct. 28, with the judges school. The actual convention gets under way Friday morning, Oct. 29, with an array of activities.

Accommodations for the convention will again be available at several area motels, most of which are within one or two miles of the fairgrounds. Room rates will be released as that information becomes available. In addition, the fairgrounds will have camping spaces available at \$17 per night that will include electric and water hook-ups.

For more information on the convention, visit MAAFS' website at www.maafs.com.

RAMSBURG IS RE-ELECTED FAIR BOARD PRESIDENT

The Board of Managers of The Frederick County Agricultural Society Inc. and The Great Frederick Fair Inc. re-elected J.R. Ramsburg Jr. of Thurmont as president during the Board of Managers' reorganizational meeting last December 14. The Board's reorganizational meeting followed the agricultural society's annual stockholders' meeting also held that same day.

James S. Grimes of Frederick was re-elected vice president. Robert Frank of Frederick was re-elected secretary, while Maurice Gladhill of Frederick resumes as treasurer.

Other ag society board members re-elected were Joseph Free, John Bare, Dr. James E. McClellan and Julien Delphey, all of Frederick; Clyde Crum of Thurmont; Nancy Hendricks of Middletown; and John Bell of Walkersville. Joseph Devilbiss Sr. of Frederick and Charles Cramer IV of New Market remain as board members of The Great Frederick Fair Inc.

Re-elected as legal counsel were Michelle Martz Bowles for The Frederick County Agricultural Society and W. Jerome Offutt for The Great Frederick Fair.

Ramsburg said he continues to look forward to moving ahead with the agricultural society and the fair in the areas of agriculture education, family entertainment, and maintaining a positive presence in the city and county's business sector.

During the Frederick County Agricultural Society's annual 250-member stockholders' meeting, Ramsburg, in his report to the membership, detailed many of the progresses made over the past year.

**The Great Frederick Fair, Inc.
P. O. Box 604
Frederick, MD 21705-0604**

2004 FAIR COMMITTEES ANNOUNCED

Listed are the 2004 committees for The Great Frederick Fair. The person's name listed to the left indicates committee chair.

2004 COMMITTEES

President is Ex-Officio Member of All Committees

*EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

J.R. Ramsburg Jr. James Grimes Nancy N. Hendricks

PLANNING & FINANCE

Maurice A. Gladhill James S. Grimes Clyde C. Crum
Charles B. Cramer

CONCERTS & ADVERTISEMENT

Dr. James E. McClellan John W. Bell James S. Grimes

CONCESSION

Clyde C. Crum Nancy N. Hendricks James S. Grimes

LIVESTOCK

Charles B. Cramer Robert W. Frank John W. Bell
Joseph F. Devilbiss Sr. Joseph C. Free

HOUSEHOLD, ARTS & HOMECRAFT

Joseph C. Free Dr. J.E. McClellan Maurice A. Gladhill

FARM & GARDEN

Clyde C. Crum John W. Bell Dr. James E. McClellan

POULTRY

John E. Bare Nancy N. Hendricks Julien P. Delphey

MACHINERY ROW

Julien P. Delphey John W. Bell John E. Bare

EMPLOYMENT

Robert W. Frank Joseph F. Devilbiss Sr. Nancy N. Hendricks

4-H

Robert W. Frank Charles B. Cramer Joseph C. Free
Joseph F. Devilbiss Sr. John W. Bell

LEGISLATIVE

Dr. J.E. McClellan Maurice A. Gladhill Julien P. Delphey

PROPERTY & MAINTENANCE

James S. Grimes Joseph F. Devilbiss Sr. John W. Bell

RENTAL AGREEMENTS & CONTRACTS

John E. Bare Maurice A. Gladhill Robert W. Frank

SAFETY/PARKING/SECURITY

James S. Grimes Clyde C. Crum Dr. J.E. McClellan

HARNESS RACING/EQUINE EVENTS/MOTORSPORTS

Nancy N. Hendricks Dr. J.E. McClellan Joseph C. Free

FARMERS MARKET

Joseph C. Free Julien P. Delphey Robert W. Frank

LIFE MEMBER RELATIONS

Nancy N. Hendricks Clyde C. Crum John E. Bare

* Executive Committee elected by Board of Managers; standing committees appointed by the President

2004 FAIR GRANDSTAND ENTERTAINMENT LINEUP ANNOUNCED

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mailed their ticket order forms to enable them to make their ticket purchases before they go on sale to the public.

The 2004 fair will kickoff on the first night, Friday, Sept. 17, with the crowning of the 2004-05 4-H Royalty. This year marks the 40th year for the contest. The evening program will also include the announcement of the county's new Farm Family of the Year, and the recognition of some of the county's top students in the Character Counts Program. It all begins at 7 p.m. in front of the grandstand

"We are very pleased to be able to again crown the new 4-H royalty and recognize the new Farm Family of the Year," said J.R. Ramsburg Jr., fair board president. "And we are especially pleased that we will again be recognizing some students with the county school's Character Counts Program. The 4-H and FFA programs already signify the pillars of the Character Counts, and it's nice that students can be honored on those same merits.

"It's nice having the new royalty crowned early in the week so they can participate in the fair's activities at the beginning," Ramsburg said. "With the horse shows and other judging events starting on Saturday it's nice having the 4-H Royalty present to make ribbon and award presentations," he continued.

Musical entertainment starts in front of the grandstand at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18, with JoDee Messina.

"The whole week from beginning to end is filled with great entertainment," said James McClellan, chairman of the fair's Entertainment Committee. "We are very fortunate to still be able to attract some of the biggest names in country music."

On Sunday, Sept. 19, the fair will feature the return of Trick Pony. The popular tractor and truck pull returns to the fair on Monday, Sept. 20, beginning at 6:30 p.m., followed on Tuesday and Wednesday with two nights of the popular Demolition Derby. The derby begins at 7 p.m. both nights.

Neal McCoy makes a return to The Great Frederick Fair on Thursday, Sept. 23, at 7:30 p.m. Brad Paisley takes to the center stage at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 24, and the week ends on Saturday, Sept. 25, with Sawyer Brown at 7:30 p.m.

Grandstand lineup and ticket prices are:

FRIDAY, SEPT. 17, 7:30 P.M.

4-H Royalty Contest/Farm Family of the Year Announcement; FREE

SATURDAY, SEPT. 18, 7:30 P.M.

JoDee Messina; Tickets: \$25/\$23/\$18

SUNDAY, SEPT. 19, 7 P.M.

Trick Pony; Tickets: \$25/\$23/\$18

MONDAY, SEPT. 20, 6:30 P.M.

Tractor Pull; Tickets: \$15

TUESDAY, SEPT. 21, 7 P.M.

Demolition Derby; Tickets: \$15

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 22, 7 P.M.

Demolition Derby; Tickets: \$15

THURSDAY, SEPT. 23, 7:30 P.M.

Neal McCoy; Tickets \$22/\$20/\$16

FRIDAY, SEPT. 24, 7:30 P.M.

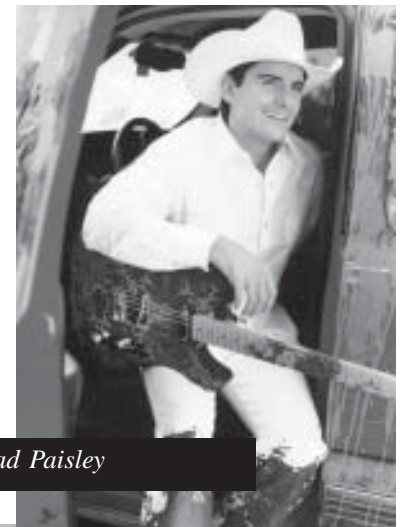
Brad Paisley \$25/\$23/\$18

SATURDAY, SEPT. 25, 7:30 P.M.

Sawyer Brown: \$25/\$23/\$18



Trick Pony



Brad Paisley



Sawyer Brown



Neal McCoy

2004 GROUNDS/MAINTENANCE INITIATIVES LISTED

(continued from page 1)

Other upgrades/improvements in 2004 include:

- cover the ends of three dairy barns with white metal
- paint four barns roofs
- upgrade floodlights on poles as they deteriorate
- install three wall pack lights on various buildings
- paint soffit, fascia, posts and the inside and outside of both gable ends on the grandstand
- remove the small fans from the beef barn and replace with 48 inch fans
- building new walk in doors on the eastside of Building 13 and slide walls with doors on Buildings 14 and 14A
- install two new fans to accommodate the vent tubes in Building 7 for air circulation.

GFF RECEIVES MD AG COUNCIL GRANT FOR NEW ED PROGRAM

The Great Frederick Fair has been awarded a \$1000.00 grant from the Maryland Agriculture Council Inc. for the fair's Let's Grow a Pizza educational program. The presentation was made by David Miller, President, during the council's recent annual legislative dinner at Michael's Eighth Avenue in Glen Burnie.

The fair's objective with the Let's Grow A Pizza program is to show how agricultural products are used in the food chain. One of the ways this is being done is through part of one of America's favorite food, "pizza."

The program is targeted for anyone to participate in, but lessons are geared toward students between ages of 6-8.

For the educational component, first through third grade teachers in Frederick County's Public School System will receive a pizza box which will include instructions on how to grow a pizza along with lesson plans to incorporate with the class project.

The contents of the box will include:

- Eight pizza slice shaped containers—to grow the pizza in
- Tomato seeds—represents sauce
- Wheat seeds —represents dough
- Corn seeds —oils used for baking
- Olive, onion, mushroom, or other vegetable seeds— represents toppings
- Toy pig – represents pepperoni topping
- Toy cow – represents cheese (this can be taken even further to include a recipe for making their own cheese.
- Toy beef animal – represents hamburger topping

Teachers planning to attend the fair as a class field trip will receive a pizza shaped dial, and recipe cards for each student to guide them to various locations on the fairgrounds that relate to products used in making pizza. A large slice of pizza with information about that area and how much of that ingredient is used to make a large pizza will be showcased. Students will be instructed to write the recipe ingredient and amount on their individual recipe card. When they are finished, students will not only have a better understanding of how a pizza is "grown," but will also have a completed recipe to take home and make a pizza.

"The 'Let's Grow a Pizza' program is yet another to add to the fair's list of educational programs that teach people, especially youngsters, about the role agriculture plays in so many ways, such as food," said fair board President J.R. Ramsburg Jr. "All kids can relate to pizza, and virtually every aspect of the products used in making pizza are on exhibit or display at fair time."



David Miller, left, makes grant presentation to Maurice Gladhill.

FARMERS MARKET TO FEATURE COMMUNITY YARD SALES

The Great Frederick Farmers' Market will feature three Community Yard Sales this season, starting with the first one on Saturday, May 22. Other dates for the yard sales are Saturday, June 19, and Saturday, July 24. The yard sales will be held outside in the area adjacent to the Farmers Market parking area.

Now is the time to go through your garage, attic, basement and storage unit and gather everything that you no longer use or need and plan to rent a space at Frederick's biggest yard sale!

Spaces are \$10.00 and are selling quickly. If you would like to have a space in the yard sale, contact the fair office at 301-663-5895 or visit the fair's website at www.thegreatfrederickfair.com and print a copy of the application.

The Great Frederick Fair Farmers' Market is open each Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. with a large offering of products such as fresh meats, baked goods, herbs, fresh vegetables, handmade items and now will be the location of Frederick's largest yard sales. Located on the fairgrounds at Gate 2, the corner of Monroe Avenue and East Patrick Street, and is serviced by Transit Services of Frederick County by the Blue Route and Flex Route.

The Great Frederick Fair Farmers' Market is in its 30th year, and is still the only year-round market in Frederick County. The market was started in 1974 by members of the Frederick County Agricultural Society as an outlet for producers to market and sell their products to consumers wanting to purchase fresh agriculture products. Check the website for a list of vendors and updates and information on additional programs being offered in the market.

Looking for something to do on a weekend in the next several months? Why not take in a craft show or antique auction or home show or computer sale or cattle show or sale?

Many various activities are held at the Frederick Fairgrounds throughout the year. Schedule of events by month are available. To be added to the mailing list, please drop us a postcard with your name and address, and we'll send you the next issue. Or check out our website for a listing of monthly events at www.thegreatfrederickfair.com

APRIL

- 3-4 Silverado Gun Show
301-874-5012
- 7-10 Homier Distributing Sale
260-359-6738
- 9-10 Wolfe Industrial Auction
301-898-0340
- 10 Parzow's Auctions
301-977-6741
American Auction Associates
301-639-8871
- 17 MD All Breed Calf Sale
301-898-8206
- 17-18 Handcraft Unlimited Craft Show
717-656-4849
- 23-24 MD Assn. Christian Home School
301-271-0123
- 24 Mid Atlantic Brown Swiss Calf Sale
301-371-5206
Spring Valley 5th Edition Cattle Sale
410-346-7100
- 24-25 African Handcraft Sale
336-379-8455
- 30 Mid Atlantic Packards
301-384-4433

MAY

- 1 Mid Atlantic Packards
301-384-4433
Central Md. Equip. Dirs. Auction
301-662-1125
Willowdale Auction Company Auction
301-473-8100
- 5-6 Elder Expo
301-228-2806
- 7 Jim Martin Pig Sale
410-374-4495
- 8 Maryland Beer Fest
410-769-8223
PAGER Chilli Cookoff
301-601-9541
- 12-15 Armed Forces Celebration
301-619-2081; 301-619-3237
- 22 American Auctions
301-639-8871
- 27-31 Maryland Good Sam Campers
301-259-2267

JUNE

- 4-5 Relay for Life
301-694-8576
- 5-6 MD. State Police FOP Circus
- 5 Family Expo
301-748-3626
- 20 Frederick Amateur Radio Club
301-865-0865
- 26-27 Silverado Gun Show
301-874-5012

All scheduled events are subject to change without notice. For rental information of the fairgrounds, call 301-663-5895 or www.thegreatfrederickfair.com.