

Florence County Fair: different, and yet the same

If you haven't been at the Florence County Fair in recent years you just may be surprised at what has been accomplished and what the fair has to offer.

The 2018 Florence County Fair, set for August 24-26, marks the 115th annual anniversary celebration of this family-friendly tradition. While many items and activities have changed throughout the last 115 years, one very important item has not changed. The Florence County Fair is a celebration of the many and varied talents of our Florence County residents as well as serving as a showcase of our county's agricultural and natural resources.

Admission to the Florence County Fair will be free for children ages

12 & under. There is an admission fee for people ages 13 and older of \$5, which is good for the entire three days of the fair. Once you are at the fair, most of the entertainment and activities are free to watch and participate in. The complete schedule of events can be found online at www.florencecountyfair.com. Out of all those activities, there are only three which require an additional entry fee for you to participate in—the Mud Bog, the Bean Bag Tournament, and the Classic Car and Motorcycle Show. These events are free for the general public to watch, so the only additional costs are the entry fees for the events.

All of the music, old-fashioned kids games, kids Coin Scramble, ex-

hibits, Comedy Magic Shows, Air-Powered Rocket workshop, horse pull, horse show, kids cricket spitting contest, plus many many more activities are all free to attend and participate in.

Charging admission to the fair is one of the ways that the fair is able to afford to provide the complete schedule of entertainment and activities. In addition to admission, the fair also operates Lydia's Kitchen and the Beer Stand during the fair to provide food and beverages to attendees while earning additional money to put towards the fair activities and expenses. The fair board strives to keep food prices low and affordable, charging between \$3 and \$5 for a sandwich (porketta, hamburger, hot turkey, barbe-



A Classic Car and Motorcycle Show is scheduled for Sunday of the Florence County Fair. Pictured above is Dale Sanford receiving a trophy from 2015 Junior Fairest of the Fair Crystal Leffler.

cue) and just 50 cents to \$3 for beverages (soda, water, lemonade, milk, coffee, beer, wine coolers, and more). There are also a variety of other items available such as cheese curds, French fries, walking tacos, corn on the

cob, chips, a wide array of homemade desserts, pies, and more.

The 115th Annual County tradition of the Florence County Fair is a family-friendly event affordable for everyone

who is attending. The Florence County Fair Park is located at 5505 County Highway N just 1/3 mile South of US 2 in Florence. Mark your calendars for "A Fair to Remember!" August 24-26.



Magician Jim Lenz is returning to the 2018 Florence County Fair on Saturday and Sunday. He will do strolling magic shows, comedy and magic shows, and air powered rocket workshops. He is pictured here at the 2015 Florence County Fair with an assistant from the crowd, Gavin Holdaway.

The Coin Scramble is sponsored by local businesses and individuals who donate money for kids to find in sawdust. This money is used at the fair and at businesses throughout Florence County. Pictured is Dwaine Drewa pouring the change into the sawdust pile at last year's fair.



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