

# FESTIVAL

Continued from 1

crackers to thousands of festival visitors.

The 21st annual Cheese Eating Nationals begin at 1 p.m. under the Cheese Tent at the corner of Vine and Illinois streets. Everyone is encouraged to participate. Those who want to participate should arrive at the tent around 12:45 to register.

Teams of four square off on the Cheese Festival "rink" at 2 p.m. in the 21st annual International Cheese Curling Championships. The "rink" is located in the intersection of Vine and Illinois streets. Teams wanting to partici-

pate should report to the area around 1:45 to register.

The "Big Cheese Parade" celebrating the 48th year of the Arthur Amish Country Cheese Festival steps off at 3:48 p.m. from the old Progress Industries property along East Progress Street and proceeds west on Progress to Vine Street, south on Vine to Logan Street, east on Logan to Pine Street, and north on Pine back to Progress where the units will be dismissed.

Following the 5 p.m. cheese giveaway, vendors downtown remain open through 6 p.m.

### Sunday Only Events

Sunday is traditionally Family Day at the Arthur Amish Country Cheese

Festival. Activities begin at 10 a.m. with a Community Church Service in the Gazebo Parking Lot. The service is hosted by Arthur United Methodist Church and Arthur Baptist Church. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend regardless of church affiliation.

Merchant sidewalk sales; Artie's Party Zone attractions; Cheesy Hollow; and flea, craft, and food vendors open at 10.

Local dignitaries and politicians return for the Cheese Giveaways, one at 11 a.m. and the second at 2 p.m. at the Cheese Tent.

Creative minds will compete in the Eighth Annual Arthur Amish Country Cheese

Festival Cheese Carving Championships. Registration is at noon, and competition starts at 12:30. The event will be held at the Cheese Tent, intersection of Vine and Illinois streets. The competition is limited to 10 participants who must be 16 years of age or older. The competition is sponsored by the Arthur Graphic-Clarion

The Kiddie Tractor Pull Circuit returns to conduct the annual Cheese Festival Children's Tractor Pull. Registration begins at noon on East Illinois Street near the Cheese Tent. Competition starts at 1 p.m. at the intersection of Illinois and Hickory streets in Cheesy Hollow.

The Gunny Sack Revue

will perform from 2 to 4 p.m. at Penn Station, located east of the Welcome Center.

Family Day at the Cheese Festival closes at 5 p.m.

### Monday Only Events

Arthur Lions Club opens the final day of the festival with breakfast from 6 to 10 a.m. at the Community Building, 120 East Progress Street, one block east of the Welcome Center.

Merchant sidewalk sales; Artie's Party Zone attractions; Cheesy Hollow; and flea, craft, and food vendors open to the public at 9.

Buggy rides will be available from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rides originate from and return to the parking lot on the north side of the Wel-

come Center.

The final free Cheese Giveaway will be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Cheese Tent, intersection of Illinois and Vine streets.

Portions of a giant 60-foot sub sandwich will be given away at 12:30. Everyone is invited to gather at the Cheese Tent around noon to watch the sandwich being assembled. The giveaway is sponsored by Arthur Subway Restaurant.

Anyone having questions concerning the festival should contact the Welcome Center at (217) 543-2242. Information can also be found on the festival website, [www.arthurcheesefestival.com](http://www.arthurcheesefestival.com).

# BOARD

Continued from 1

Holiday Calendar.

\* Approved Ordinance 21-O-4 establishing a standing committee to advise the county board about technology resource and management. This committee was deemed necessary due to the

increasing use of electronic data and improvements in equipment on an ongoing basis.

\* Approved Ordinance 21-O-5 amending the duties of the building and grounds standing committee. It was noted that this needed to be updated to include the grounds of other county buildings and offices.

\* Approved Ordinance 21-O-6 establishing the compensation of the Douglas County Sheriff by the county board.

\* Approved Ordinance 21-O-7 establishing the compensation of the Douglas County Coroner by the county board.

\* Approved Ordinance 21-O-8 establishing the com-

penensation of the Douglas County Circuit Clerk by the county board.

\* Approved Ordinance 21-O-9 establishing the compensation of the Douglas County Clerk by the county board.

\* Approved Ordinance 21-O-10 establishing the compensation of the Douglas County Treasurer by the county board.

\* Accepted a bid proposal from Mid West Restoration Inc. for Courthouse repairs in the amount of \$85,510.

\* Approved Resolution 21-R-31 for maintenance under the Illinois Highway Code to appropriate \$300,000 of Douglas County Motor Fuel Tax funds for County Engineer salary.

\* Appointed Pat Titus to the Douglas County Ag Cen-

ter Board of Directors for a three-year term.

\* Adjourned until the August 19 meeting at 4 p.m.

**Editor's Note:** Guidance on booster shots has been updated since the Douglas County Board meeting and is available on the Douglas County Health Department's Facebook page.



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## Fire Marshal's Small Equipment Grant Program now accepting applications

All applications must be postmarked no later than October 22, 2021

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) today announced the application period is open for the Small Equipment Grant Program. All interested departments should send an application to OSFM no later than October 22, 2021. OSFM will award \$2.5 million to eligible fire departments and ambulance services during this application period.

The Small Equipment Grant Program was established to provide grants of up to \$26,000 for the purchase of small firefighting and am-

balance equipment. A total of \$3.3 million was awarded to 149 fire departments/districts and EMS providers across the state in June.

"Many fire departments are facing budget cuts while their operating costs continue to increase. Our Small Equipment Grant Program allows these departments to acquire items that they may otherwise have to wait to purchase or just do without. Illinois' firefighters and EMS personnel deserve our support to safely and effectively provide service to their communities," said Illinois State Fire Marshal Matt Perez.

This program is an innovative approach to a problem that has long caused difficulties for the fire departments and not-for-profit ambulance services in Illinois, particularly those that have hardships in generating the necessary revenue for small equipment. The purpose is to allow eligible applicants the opportunity to purchase small tools and equipment that they may otherwise not be able to purchase. In addition to firefighting personal protective equipment (PPE), applicants can also apply for personal infection control items such as masks, gowns and gloves this application cycle. Most Illinois fire departments, fire

protection districts and township fire departments are eligible to apply. In addition, stand-alone, not-for-profit ambulance service providers are eligible to apply.

Fire department, fire protection districts and township fire department applicants are required to have participated in the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) for a minimum of two years prior to applying. The OSFM will require departments to be current through June 2021 for this grant period.

**Additional information including the application can be found here:** <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfml/Iam/FireDepartment/Grants-and-Loans/Pages/default.aspx?fbclid=IwAR2IKJADTq30x027VLZUaZoBZVtynRWd91meoygszVGPng61et5NS-FhbIXc>

**Completed applications should be submitted to:**

Office of the State Fire Marshal  
Small Equipment Grant Program  
1035 Stevenson Drive  
Springfield, IL 62703

**FREE CHEESE and crackers!**  
800 pounds of fresh cheddar & colby jack will be sliced and served free to festival goers.

This festival made possible by:

- Arthur Area Association of Commerce
- Heartland Deli & Delights

[www.arthurillinois.us](http://www.arthurillinois.us)

**Annual Arthur Amish Country Cheese Festival**

48<sup>th</sup>

September 4, 5 & 6

**Festival Sponsors**

- Arthur IGA
- Casey's General Store
- Dicks Pharmacy
- Heartland Deli & Delights
- McGuire, Yuhas, Huffman & Buckley, P.C.
- Oye's Hardware
- State Bank of Arthur
- The Wood Loft
- Tri County Welding
- Yoder's Seed/Brandon Yoder
- Yoder's Kitchen
- Yoder's Lamps and Antiques

**Open Sat. & Mon. 9 am**  
**Sun. 10 am**

*\*No golf carts, bicycles, unicycles, segways, hoverboards & skateboards, etc. allowed at festival*

**SATURDAY**

- 6-11 am: Firemen's breakfast @ Firehouse
- 9 am: • Festival/Vendors/Artie's Party Zone opens
- 10 am-4 pm: Rides: Buggy @ Welcome Center  
Pony @ Arties Party Zone
- 10 am: Ceremonial Cutting of the Cheese @ Intersection of Vine & Illinois
- 11 am: FREE CHEESE @ Cheese Tent
- 11 am-4 pm: Vine Street Christian Church  
Ice Cream @ South Vine St.
- 11:30 pm-2:15 pm: Community Blood Services of Illinois  
Blood Drive @ East Progress St.
- 1 pm: 21st Annual Cheese Eating Nationals @ Cheese Tent
- 2 pm: 21st Annual International Cheese Curling Championships @ Illinois & Vine Street
- 3:00: Cheese Chaser Kids Run starts (Vine Street)
- 3:48 pm: The Big Cheese Parade
- 5 pm: FREE CHEESE @ Cheese Tent
- 6 pm: • Festival/vendors close

**SUNDAY**

- 10 am: • Community-wide church service hosted by Arthur United Methodist and Arthur Baptist churches @ Gazebo area
- Festival/Vendors/Artie's Party Zone opens
- 11 am: FREE CHEESE @ Cheese Tent
- Noon: • Cheese Carving Registration @ Cheese Tent
- Kiddie Tractor Pull registration @ Cheesy Hollow
- 12:30 pm: Cheese Carving Contest @ Cheese Tent - Sponsored Arthur Graphic
- 1 pm: Kiddie Tractor Pull @ Cheesy Hollow
- 2 pm: FREE CHEESE @ Cheese Tent
- 2 pm: Gunny Sack Revue @ Penn Station
- 5 pm: Festival closes for Sunday

**MONDAY**

- 6-10 am: Arthur Lions Club breakfast @ Community Center
- 9 am: • Festival/vendors open
- 10 am-4 pm: Rides: Buggy @ Welcome Center  
Pony @ Arties Party Zone
- 10:30 am: FREE CHEESE @ Cheese Tent
- 11:30 am: 8th Annual World Championship
- 12:30 pm: Free 60-ft. sub sandwich giveaway @ Cheese Tent - Sponsored by Arthur Subway Restaurant
- 1 pm: FREE CHEESE @ Cheese Tent
- 3 pm: Festival closes

**ARTIE'S PARTY Zone**

West Illinois and Walnut

**KAZ Inflatables**

**Pony Rides**

**Face Painting**

**CHEESY HOLLOW**

Corner of Illinois & Hickory  
**Kiddie Tractor Pull (Sunday)**




[www.arthurcheesefestival.com](http://www.arthurcheesefestival.com)



## United Prairie Seasonal CDL Drivers and General Laborers Needed

Contact Josh Rund at  
217-649-2206 for more information.



United Prairie, LLC  
929 Co. Rd. 700N  
Tolono, IL 61880

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