

Making Memories On The Midway

A year has passed quickly, and fairgoers can once again look forward to the sights, sounds and excitement of the Mighty Thomas Carnival as it returns to the Clay County Fair.

The family-owned and operated carnival will roll into the fairgrounds July 9, 10, 11 and 12, bringing with it the thrill of the rides, the challenge of the games and the classic tastes and smells of the midway. From young children taking in their first carnival ride to longtime fairgoers returning for a favorite tradition, the carnival offers something for all ages.

The Mighty Thomas Carnival includes attractions for every kind of rider, from kid-friendly options to rides for those looking for a bigger thrill. Fairgoers can also enjoy midway games, concessions and the lively atmosphere that has made the carnival a familiar part of the Clay County Fair experience.



The carnival will again offer an advance ride coupon special. When purchased before the fair, \$25 will buy one advance coupon. That coupon may then be traded at a carnival ticket booth for either a bracelet to be used during one of the

designated bracelet-special times or for 30 tickets that may be used any time during the fair. Ride coupons purchased at the fair will cost \$30.

Bracelet-special times are Thursday, July 9, from 5 p.m. until closing; Friday, July 10, from 2-6 p.m. and again from 6-10 p.m.; Saturday, July 11, from 1-6 p.m. for the 2-for-1 Buddy Special and again from 6-10 p.m. for the regular bracelet special; and Sunday, July 12, from 1-7 p.m.

Those using the Friday sessions should remember that a different bracelet is needed for each session. During Saturday's

Buddy Special, held from 1-6 p.m. only, two riders can ride for the price of one. The Buddy Special is only available during those designated hours.

Wristband bracelets and ride tickets will also be available for purchase at the fair. The operation of the midway rides and games will coincide with the designated bracelet-special times.

Advance coupons will be available through the close of business Tuesday, July 7, at several locations throughout the county. In Barnesville, coupons may be purchased at Midwest Bank, Barnesville Grocery,

4 Corners Convenience, Barnesville C-Store & Motel and Ratz's Pool Hall. In Dilworth, coupons are available at Bell Bank. In Moorhead, they are available at the Extension Office, Hornbacher's and Bell Bank. In Sabin, coupons are available at the C-Store. In Hawley, coupons may be purchased at Tony's SuperValu, Kirk's Super Stop, Express Lane, Valley Premier Bank and Bell Bank.

The Thomas Carnival was founded in 1928 by Art B. Thomas in Lennox, S.D. Throughout the decades, the carnival has remained continuously owned and operated by members of the Thomas family. Today, fourth-generation family members continue to work in the business.

What began with two attractions operating in southeastern South Dakota has grown into a carnival that serves fairs and celebrations throughout the region. The Mighty Thomas Carnival can offer a wide variety of family attractions, kiddie rides, spectacular rides for thrill seekers, midway games and food concessions.

With rides, games, food and plenty of fair memories waiting to be made, the Mighty Thomas Carnival is once again ready to help bring the midway to life at the Clay County Fair.



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Welcome to the Clay County Fair!