

Monday August 3, 2020

2019 Antrim County Fair Evaluation
As written by Michael Sizen Fair Board President

The 2019 Antrim County Fair started a little rough due to it being the first fair without Crystal Swain, the fair was dedicated to Crystal at the first day opening ceremony and we were up and running from the very beginning. The first day we saw four buses of children from the local day cares and we had just under the large numbers of horses in the horse show as we had in 2018. Thursday started busy and never slowed down until Saturday at the close of the horse pull which again had a large attendance by 7 teams.

The livestock numbers were about normal as in the previous fair with another large crowd in attendance for the livestock auction. We had the veteran's memorial at the beginning of Fridays fair. Everyone pulled together and pitched in to make the Fair a huge success.

Saturday was a banner day with large numbers in attendance for the family fun day. The Antrim county K-9 unit did a demonstration for the crowd in center ring that was well received.

The DARE program, the State Police, DNR Fire and Law Enforcement, Bellaire Mancelona Township and Mancelona Fire Departments all had crews there doing demonstrations, Moms and tots were there doing crafts with the fair attendees.

Saturday was the largest day of attendance with Thursday coming in a close second. Live music and several vendor booths rounded out the festivities for the 3 day fair.

The Fair saw the expansion of the concession stand that was made possible by a \$100,000 grant that was given to the fair board for capital improvements. The roof was extended so the people could order under shelter and eat at picnic tables under protection from sun and rain. There were 6-30 amp and 6-110 outlets electrical sites put in the north side of the fair grounds. These sites are used only for superintendents and for exhibits that require electricity on the north side of the fair grounds. This is also so superintendent's that have to stay onsite for security can have their campers on the grounds and not have to travel from the camp grounds to the fair grounds to make checks on the animals. All 4 H exhibitors had to use the camp grounds to stay.

At the close of the 2019 fair the large animal barn was removed and the new large animal barn was built. The new building is a 60x80 open structure with a full poured floor, in addition we added a 10 x 20 storage unit with shelves and poly sealed the floor of the bath house and restroom and the kitchen floor and repaired wiring in the kitchen.

Again thank You for your continued support of the Antrim County Fair which makes it possible for us to continue to provide the community an opportunity to display their agricultural abilities for the community to enjoy.

Antrim County Fair Board President


Michael Adam Sizen