

**CALHOUN  
COUNTY  
EXPOSITION**



**JULY 7-12, 2026  
FAIRGROUNDS-ROCKWELL CITY**

**ADULTS/CHILDREN  
OPEN CLASS EXHIBITS**

**SUPERINTENDENT:  
Hillaree Meyer – (712) 830-8657**


OPEN CLASS DIVISION  
GENERAL RULES

These rules apply to every class; however, each class may also have other requirements. Additional requirements are listed separately under each division.

1. Entry fees will be charged. Ribbons and premiums will be awarded. Entry fee must be paid on day of check-in at fair. Entry Fee: Adult - \$ .50 per entry; Children - None
2. Exhibitors must currently live in Calhoun County or a county that is touching Calhoun County. Which includes Sac, Pocahontas, Webster, Greene & Carroll.
3. Adult division:18 & up; Children's division 4 – 17.
4. Exhibitors are allowed up to two entries per category. Articles must be made by the exhibitor and completed since the previous year's fair.
5. No items that have previously been displayed at the Calhoun County Exposition or any other fair will be accepted.
6. The Fair board will not be responsible for loss or damage of exhibits.
7. Decision of the judges will be final.
8. Premiums will be awarded for blue, red and white ribbons.
9. An "Overall Best of Show" ribbon and \$10.00 premium will be awarded to one exhibit from all open class entries.
10. Entry check-in will be on Thursday, July 9th between 4:00-6:00 p.m. Check-in must be made by the person exhibiting. Results will be available on Friday at noon when the Exhibit Building opens.
11. All exhibits will be released at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 12th. Any article removed prior to release time will forfeit premiums. The Fair board will not be responsible for items left more than one hour after release time.

**DIVISIONS**

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## New to the 2026 Calhoun County Exposition

Quilt Block Challenge: Theme Patriotic

Want to participate?  
Submit a 12x12 patriotic quilt block with a  
pattern of your choice. This challenge is open to  
youth and adult participants.

Kits can be purchased at Lee's Quilt Shed!

### **THREADS OF TRADITION QUILT BLOCK CHALLENGE**

2026 Theme: Patriotic (Red, White & Blue)

Create and submit a 12" x 12" quilt block using a pattern of your choice.

Deadline for entries will be 6pm on Thursday, July 9<sup>th</sup> at the conclusion of the Open Show check in.

The blocks will be voted on this year, using a 'Cast your Kernal' method during the Expo.

After this year's Expo, blocks will be made into a quilt that will be raffled off at the following years Expo.

All Adult and Youth blocks entered will be included in the quilt and judged on by the public equally.

Kits with material included are available at Lee's Quilt Shed or at the Extension office.  
Please call ahead to check on availability before stopping and picking up a kit.

Contact Caitlyn at the Extension Office with any questions.  
712-297-8611

## **DIVISON A – FLOWERS**

All specimens, whether cut or container grown, must have been grown by the exhibitor and labeled with type/named. Container grown plants must have been in the possession of the exhibitor for not less than (3) months. The exception is multiple plantings, which must have been grown together for at least (6) weeks. Double potting is permitted.

Specimens must be displayed in clear bottles supplied by the exhibitor. They should have no lettering or decorations and should be in proportion to the size of the specimens. A small piece of wood, Styrofoam or plastic wrap may be inconspicuously placed in the neck of the bottle to prop the specimen upright.

All entries should be clean and well groomed. Self-foliage should be below water level. No polishing or oiling of foliage is permitted. Decision of the judges is final. No noxious weeds allowed.

An exhibitor may have more than one entry in horticulture in any class or sub-class; however, each must be a different cultivator, color or type.

Exhibitors are responsible for knowing in which class their specimens are to be entered and name the variety. Incorrectly entered entries will not be judged. When entering put name of flower on back of entry tag.

### **CLASS NO. 1 CUT FLOWERS (except Roses)**

Examples include but are not limited to: Achellia (yarrow), 3 stems; Ageratum, 3 stems; Baby's Breath, 1 spray; Bachelor Button, 3 blooms; Begonias, Semperflorens, 2 stems or Tuberow, 1 blossom in water; Bells of Ireland, 1 stalk; Canna, 1 stalk; Celosia (cockscomb) any color, crested or plume, 1 stalk; Coleus, 3 stems; Columbine, 1 spray; Coreopsis, 3 stems; Clematis, 3 blooms; Cosmos, 3 stems; Dahlia, 1 spike; Daisy, 3 blooms; Delphinium, 1 spike; Dianthus, 3 stems; Geranium, 1 stem; Gaillardia, 3 blooms; Gladiolus, 1 spike; Hollyhocks, 2 blooms or more; Hostas, either 3 leaves or 1 lead and 1 flower; Hydrangea, 2 stems; Impatience, 3 stems; Larkspur, 1 spike; Lily, 1 scape; Nasturtium, 3 blooms; Marigolds, under 3", 3 blooms or over 3", 1 bloom; Monarda, 1 stalk; Ornamental Grasses, 5 blades; Pansies, 3 blooms; Petunias, 3 sprays; Phlox, 3 stems; Salvia, 3 stems; Sedum, 1 stem; Snapdragon, 3 stems; Statice, 3 stems; Sweet Pea, 3 stems; Verbena, 1 stem; Vinca, 1 stem; or Zinnia, small, 3 blooms or large, 1 bloom.

### **CLASS NO. 2 ROSES**

Examples include but are not limited to: Hybrid Tea, 1 bloom; Grandiflora, 1 bloom or spray; Foribunda, 1 bloom or spray; Miniature, 1 bloom or spray; Climber, 1 branch, 12"-18"; Polyantha, 1 spray; or Shrub or old-fashioned, 1 stem or spray.

### **CLASS NO. 3 FRESH HERBS**

Examples include but are not limited to: Basil; Chives; Dill; Garlic; Lavender; Mint; Oregano; Parsley; Rosemary; or Sage.

### **CLASS NO. 4 CONTAINER GROWN PLANTS**

Examples include any foliage, blooming, or vining plants but are not limited to: African violets; Cactus and/or Succulent, etc.

## **DIVISION B- FRUITS & VEGETABLES**

All entries must be displayed on a paper plate. All entries in these departments must be grown in exhibitor's own garden or on the exhibitor's own farm. Entries should not be washed, but dirt should be and stems (leaves) should be left on when indicated. Judges may reject any entry which may have any indication of not having been produced in the exhibitor's garden/farm.

CLASS NO. 1	APPLES- (3) summer apples- wealthy and earlier maturing varieties, same variety
CLASS NO. 2	BEANS- edible state (6 specimens)
CLASS NO. 3	BEETS- for table use (3-1" stem)
CLASS NO. 4	BROCCOLI (2 bunches)
CLASS NO. 5	CABBAGE- (1) do not remove outer leaves
CLASS NO. 6	CAULIFLOWER- (1) with some outer leaves
CLASS NO. 7	CARROTS- (3) retain 1" stem
CLASS NO. 8	CUCUMBERS- (3) retain some stem
CLASS NO. 9	EGGPLANT- (1) retain some stem
CLASS NO. 10	GRAPES- (2 bunches) same variety
CLASS NO. 11	KOHLRABI- (3)
CLASS NO. 12	ONIONS- (3) retain 1"-3" tops
CLASS NO. 13	PEACHES Plate of peaches, same variety (3)
CLASS NO. 14	PEARS- Plate of pears, same variety (3)
CLASS NO. 15	PEPPERS- (3) retain some stem
CLASS NO. 16	POTATOES- (3)
CLASS NO. 17	SQUASH- (1) retain some stem
CLASS NO. 18	SWEET CORN- (3) strip husk on one side
CLASS NO. 19	TOMATOE- (3 small OR 2 large)
CLASS NO. 20	ANY OTHER FRUIT (3 or 2 if large)
CLASS NO. 21	ANY OTHER VEGETABLE- (3 small OR 2 large)

## **DIVISION C – CANNED GOODS**

Special Rules: All entries must be in clear pint or quart jars. No coffee or salad dressing jars. Entries must be canned within the last year (previous 12 months). No open kettle tomatoes and no refrigerator jams allowed. Do not use paraffin or wax. Write recipe and process used (pressure or water bath) on index card and attached to jar. If no date is on jar, exhibit will be assumed to not be of current canning year (2021-2022) and disqualified. If a paperclip scratch is on seal lid, it will be assumed to be previously shown at another fair and disqualified. Superintendents reserve the right to paperclip scratch seal lid.

CLASS NO. 1	JAM, JELLY, MARMALADE OR PRESERVES
CLASS NO. 2	FRUITS OR PIE FILLING
CLASS NO. 3	JUICES (fruit or vegetable)
CLASS NO. 4	VEGETABLES
CLASS NO. 5	MEATS
CLASS NO. 6	PICKLE & RELISH

### **DIVISION D – BAKED GOODS & PIES**

Each entry must include recipe. Cakes & Breads must be on covered cardboard and placed in a plastic bag (no plastic wrap). No frozen dough or bread machine or box mix allowed. Pies should be in a 9" disposable pan. Identify kind of pie on tag. Identify possible food allergies on tag.

#### CLASS NO. 1      CAKES

Examples include but are not limited to: Angel Food or Sponge, unfrosted; Decorated Cake, any occasion (cake/cardboard form may be used); Cupcakes, unfrosted (paper cups) 3 per plate; White layer cake, white frosting; Chocolate layer cake, chocolate frosting; Rhubarb cake, unfrosted (8x8 or 9x9); Carrot cake, unfrosted (8x8 or 9x9); or Bundt cake, unfrosted.

#### CLASS NO. 2      BARS & COOKIES

Examples include but are not limited to: Unbaked Bar, 3 per plate; Unbaked Cookies, 3 per plate; Brownies, unfrosted, 3 per plate; Sugar, frosted, 3 per plate; Sugar, unfrosted, 3 per plate; Peanut Butter, 3 per plate; Chocolate Chip, 3 per plate; Snickerdoodle, 3 per plate; or Oatmeal, 3 per plate.

#### CLASS NO. 3      YEAST BREADS & ROLLS

Examples include but are not limited to: White or Whole Wheat Bread (small loaves); Rye (50% dark flour, small loaves); Parker House (3 on a small plate); Clover Leaf Rolls (3 on a small plate); Cinnamon Rolls, unfrosted (3 rolls); or Butterhorns, (3 rolls).

#### CLASS NO. 4      NON-YEAST BREADS

Examples include but are not limited to: Baking Powder Biscuits (3 on a plate); Corn Bread; Swedish Tea Ring (small size, use cardboard sheet); Nut Bread, no fruit; Banana Bread; Pumpkin Bread; Zucchini Bread; or Muffins (3 on a plate).

#### CLASS NO. 5      PIE

Examples include but are not limited to: Apple; Cherry; Custard; Peach; Pecan; Pumpkin, or Rhubarb.

#### CLASS NO. 6      CANDIES

Examples include but are not limited to: Chocolate Fudge, 3 pieces; Divinity, 6 pieces; Mints, 6 pieces; or Popcorn Balls, 3 balls.

## **DIVISION E – NEEDLEWORK**

Special Rules: Pre-entry must be made- see inside cover of fairbook for entry instructions. Check-in must be made by person exhibiting.

All articles must be made by the person exhibiting it. Article should have been completed within the last year (previous 12 months).

### **CLASS NO. 1 SEWING**

Examples include but are not limited to: Infant clothing; Girls clothing; Boys clothing; Women's clothing; Men's clothing; Accessories for men or women such as bags, purses, hats, or cap; or Apron.

### **CLASS NO. 2 NEEDLEPOINT**

Examples include but are not limited to: Wall Hanging or Pettipoint.

### **CLASS NO. 3 CROCHETING**

Examples include but are not limited to: Afghan; Doily; Baby items; Bedspread; Tablecloth; or Dresser Scarf.

### **CLASS NO. 4 KNITTING**

Examples include but are not limited to: Stocking cap; Mittens; Sweater; Afghan; or Baby items.

### **CLASS NO. 5 EMBROIDERY**

Examples include but are not limited to: Tea Towel; Dresser Scarf; Bed Spread; Tablecloth; Placemats & napkins; or Table runner & napkins.

### **CLASS NO. 6 COUNTED CROSS STITCH**

Examples include but are not limited to: Picture or wall hanging.

### **CLASS NO. 7 TATTING**

Examples include but are not limited to: Hankies; Pillowcases; Dresser scarves; or Bookmarkers.

### **CLASS NO. 8 QUILT**

Quilts may be hand or machine quilted. Quilts may be made by one person or a group. Examples include but are not limited to: Patchwork; Applique; Embroidery; Baby/child's; Wall Hanging; Cheaters; or from recycled fabric (i.e. – ties, t-shirts, etc.).

### **CLASS NO. 9 TOYS AND DOLLS**

Items can be either durable for play or ornamental. Exhibit may be a toy or doll or an accessory such as doll clothes.

### **CLASS NO. 10 HANDMADE RUGS**

Examples include but are not limited to: Braided; Crocheted; or Hooked – latch or other. NO kits.

## **DIVISION F – ARTS & CRAFTS**

Special Rules: Pre-entry must be made- see inside cover of fairbook for entry instructions. Check-in must be made by person exhibiting.

All articles must be made by the person exhibiting it and be an original design unless otherwise stated. NO copyright or trademark images will be displayed without written approval from original artist, company, or organization (i.e.- Mikey Mouse, ISU, Pepsi). Article should have been completed since the last fair.

### **CLASS NO. 1      PAINTING**

Examples include but are not limited to: Acrylic; Oil; or Watercolor. Themes can include but are not limited to: Animals; Children; Adults; Birds or Still Life.

### **CLASS NO. 2      CERAMIC OR POTTERY**

### **CLASS NO. 3      WOODWORKING OR CARVING**

Examples include but are not limited to: Shelves; Animals; Toys; Furniture; Birdhouses; Scroll work; OR Wall Decoration.

### **CLASS NO. 4      HOMEMADE LOTION, SOAP, SALVES**

### **CLASS NO. 5      LEATHERWORK**

Examples include but are not limited to: Belt or Knife sheath (no knife for display).

### **CLASS NO. 6      ANY OTHER CRAFT ITEM**

Examples include but are not limited to: China Painting; Jewelry; Bead Work; Stenciling; Decorated Sweatshirt or T-shirt; Pottery; or Baskets.

## **DIVISION G- PHOTOGRAPHY**

Special Rules: Pre-entry must be made- see inside cover of fairbook for entry instructions. Check-in must be made by person exhibiting.

All exhibits must be work of amateurs. All entries must be mounted on white poster board with not more than 1" border. All entries must be labeled below the photo with the name of the entry caption. No prints larger than 13" x 15". Snapshots should be recently taken within the last year.

Examples include but are not limited to: Country Living (people included); Urban Life (people included); Three or more series (picture to tell a story); The Four Seasons (4 pictures); Buildings; Flowers; Fun in the Sun; Water Fun; Winter Wonderland; Scenic or Nature View; Rural or Urban Scene; Animals; Birds; Landmarks; Pets; Close-ups; or International.

### **CLASS NO. 1      BLACK AND WHITE**

### **CLASS NO. 2      COLOR**

### **CLASS NO. 3      DIGITAL ENHANCEMENT OR SPECIAL EFFECTS**

### **DIVISION H – SCRAPBOOKING**

Special Rules: Pre-entry must be made- see inside cover of fairbook for entry instructions. Check-in must be made by person exhibiting.

All articles must be made by the person entering it. One entry per person per class. Examples include but are not limited to: Vacation; Holidays; Wedding; Sports; Family; or Birthday.

CLASS NO. 1        SINGLE PAGE  
CLASS NO. 2        COMPLETE ALBUM

### **DIVISION I- HOBBY COLLECTION**

Special Rules: Pre-entry must be made- see inside cover of fairbook for entry instructions. Check-in must be made by person exhibiting.

At least 4 items or sets but not over 6. Put collection in a container such as a shoebox lid or pop flat. Examples include but are not limited to: Cup & Saucer; Salt & Pepper Shakers; Sugar Bowl & Creamer; Santa's; Buttons (such as political, etc.); or Thimbles.

CLASS NO. 1        HOBBY COLLECTION

### **DIVISION J – CHILDREN (Ages 4-17)**

NO ENTRY FEE – Pre-entry must be made- see inside cover of fairbook for entry instructions. Check-in must be made by person exhibiting.

CLASS NO. 1        CUT FLOWERS

Special Rules: All specimens, must have been grown by the exhibitor and labeled with type/named. Specimens must be displayed in clear bottles supplied by the exhibitor. They should have no lettering or decorations and should be in proportion to the size of the specimens. A small piece of wood, Styrofoam or plastic wrap may be inconspicuously placed in the neck of the bottle to prop the specimen upright. Specimen should consist of 3 small blooms, 1 large bloom, 3 stems, 3 leaves, 1 leaf and 1 flower, or 1 scape. Each entry should all be the same color.

All entries should be clean and well groomed. Self-foliage should be below water level. No polishing or oiling of foliage is permitted. Decision of the judges is final. No noxious weeds allowed.

An exhibitor may have more than one entry in the Cut Flower class; however, each must be a different cultivator, color or type.

Exhibitors are responsible for knowing the name the variety of each specimen. Incorrectly entered entries will not be judged.

Examples include but are not limited to: Marigolds; Petunias; Zinnia; Impatiens; Hostas; Daisy; DayLily; Salvia; or Sedum.

CLASS NO. 2        BAKED GOODS

Special Rules: Each entry must include recipe. Cakes & Breads must be on covered cardboard and placed in a plastic bag (no plastic wrap). No frozen dough or bread machine or box mix allowed. Exhibit should consist of a complete cake or loaf or 3 samples. Pies should be in a 9" disposable pan. Identify kind of pie on tag. Identify possible food allergies on tag.

Cakes; Cupcakes; Cookies; Brownies; Baking Powder Biscuits; Banana Bread; Pumpkin bread; Muffins; or Pies.

### CLASS NO. 3 NEEDLEWORK

Special Rules: All articles must be made by the person exhibiting it. Article should have been completed since the last fair.

Examples include but are not limited to: Crocheting; Latch Hooking; Embroidery; or sewing.

### CLASS NO. 4 ARTS & CRAFTS

Special Rules: All articles must be made by the person exhibiting it and be an original design unless otherwise stated. NO copyright or trademark images will be displayed without written approval from original artist, company, or organization (i.e.- Mikey Mouse, ISU, Pepsi) or purchased as part of a kit. Article should have been completed since the last fair.

Examples include but are not limited to: Painting; Spin Art; Drawing; Models from Kits; Potholders; Woodworking; Ty-die; or Paint on fabric.

### CLASS NO. 5 PHOTOGRAPHY (Color or Black and White)

Special Rules: All exhibits must be work of amateurs. All entries must be mounted on white poster board with not more than 1" border. All entries must be labeled below the photo with the name of the entry caption. No prints larger than 13" x 15". Snapshots should be recently taken within the last year.

Examples include but are not limited to: Holiday; Birthdays; Family; Pets; or Flowers.

### CLASS NO. 6 SCRAPBOOKING

Special Rules: All articles must be made by the person entering it. One entry per person. May be a single page or complete album. Examples include but are not limited to: Vacation; Holidays; Wedding; Sports; Family; or Birthday.

### CLASS NO. 7 HOBBY COLLECTIONS

Special Rules: At least 4 items or sets but not over 6. Put collection in a container such as a shoebox lid or pop flat. Optional – a brief story of 1 or 2 sentences on why collection is special. Examples include but are not limited to: Dolls; Cars; Tractors; Building set creation (LEGO); Trading cards (6 only); Buttons or Pins; or Coins.