



**WHAT'S OLD IS NEW AGAIN!** Demolition Derby action will return to the 2019 Mercer County Fair on Thursday, August 15, at 7 p.m. All tickets are reserved grandstand seating and can be purchased at the fairground office or online at [www.mercercountyohiofair.com](http://www.mercercountyohiofair.com)

## Demo Derby is back!

CraSH! BaNg! CrUNCh! SCREeCh!

These are all sounds you will hear at this year's Mercer County Fair because the Demolition Derby is back! Set to commence at 7 p.m. on Thursday, August 15, the demo derby will

## Reverse Raffle tickets; only a few left

Only a few tickets remain for the Reverse Raffle to be held on Saturday, March 23. The Cooper Farms' Junior Fair Building doors will open at 5 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m., and drawings/auctions will follow at 7 p.m. Grand prize winner will receive \$5,000.

Last year's event sold out, so the Mercer County Fair Board urges everyone to get their tickets as soon as possible, as only 250 tickets are sold. Each year, the fair board chooses an improvement to earmark the profits. The 2019 event's proceeds will go toward ground improvements including campground spaces, gravel driveways, parking and lighting.

"This is a fast-paced event," Mercer County Fair Manager Cara Muhlenkamp said. "We don't want anyone to miss out on all of the  
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conclude fair week in front of the grandstands.

"We've not had a demo derby for several years due to lack of entries," stated fairground manager Cara Muhlenkamp. "The public has expressed a huge interest in this event returning, so we are going to give it our all."

Gettin' Junked Promotions will be the promoters and all classes are preregister only. Classes will be: Mod, Wire, Mini and Windshield. "These are the ONLY classes for this show!" the promoter states on their Facebook page. "It's a Thursday night and these will fill the allotted time."

For rules, phone numbers and registration, visit their Facebook page.

All tickets are reserved seating with prices set at \$5 for grandstand sections I-O (center and toward the east), \$7 for grandstand sections A-H (center and toward the west), \$10 for box seats and Pit Passes at \$15. All tickets can be purchased at the fairground office or at [www.mercercountyohiofair.com](http://www.mercercountyohiofair.com) starting February 14. It is strongly urged to purchase now instead of waiting till the last day of the fair.

**CALL 419-586-3239  
FOR HALL RENTALS**

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# Specialized sponsorships added; drive in full swing

Even though the 2019 Mercer County Fair is seven months away, the sponsorship drive has been in full swing for a couple of months. This project has supplied the fairgrounds with funds to add new and innovative attractions to the fair.

“Our sponsors are our family,” explained fairground manager Cara Muhlenkamp. “They have a passion for the fairgrounds in many different ways. Family members support each other and this is a huge family that are there for you when you need them most.”

Individuals and businesses can be sponsors. Many families and individuals return

every year as a sponsor. Not only are they avid supporters of the fairgrounds, but it saves them money on their weekly admissions. Different ticket bundles and advantages come with each sponsorship.

Those wanting their donation to go directly towards a specific place can now do so by being a Specialized Sponsor.

“There are several different monetary levels to choose from,” Muhlenkamp explained. “We have added several new specialized sponsorships this year. Everyone should check them out to see if they want to earmark their sponsorship toward a certain

event.”

New additions to the sponsorship list include: Golf Carts, Beer Garden, Junior Fair Tent, Tractor/Truck Pull, High School Band Show, Day of Praise, Country Concert, Christian Concert, Demo Derby, Horseshoe Tourney, Senior Day, Trams R Us, Show Me Safari, Chef Ray Duey, Street Drum Corps, Jimmy Riffle of the Gator Boys & His Road Crew and Buford Bear.

Fair board president Ryan Fennig stated, “We would not be able to bring new and innovative attractions to the fair if it were not for our sponsors. They are our backbone. Everything they do for us is greatly appreciated.”

Sponsorship forms have been mailed out, but if you did not receive one, call the office at 419-586-3239 to get all of the information



‘STOCK YOUR CROCK’ attendees prep meals that go from freezer to crockpot.

## ‘Stock Your Crock’ successful

“It was a success!” said Mercer County Fairground Manager Cara Muhlenkamp about the first “Stock Your Crock” freezer meal prep event. Those in attendance prepared five different meals without having to do grocery shopping. All ingredients and utensils needed were supplied. When finished, they went home with meals read to go from freezer to crockpot.

Each meal prepared served four to six people. “One person lived alone, so she broke up her meals into two freezer bags which made it to fit her lifestyle,” Muhlenkamp added.

“We had a blast today!” said Beth Barhorst. “We will be back for the next one. Today’s meals were easy to prepare.”

After Pat Franzer completed her meals, she used one when she got home. “This was fun! We have the chops in crock right now. Ready for supper! Yum!” she said.

Those in attendance highly recommend Stock Your Crock and look forward to the next one. They said it was a “fun event” with “no stress of doing the grocery shopping and cleaning up the mess.”

“A special thanks goes out to Cassie’s Cupboard and Friendly Markets for helping us get this all put together,” Muhlenkamp concluded.

Plans for a repeat edition are in the planning stages at this point. Follow the fairground’s Facebook page for up to the date information.

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## Reverse Raffle

laughter and community involvement, so get your ticket from the fairground office or any fair board member.”

If anyone has items they wish to donate for the silent and live auctions, call the office. Plans will be made for pick up or delivery.

Tickets are \$100 each and include a buffet meal for two and one ticket for the reverse raffle. Other games, drawings, live/silent auctions and 50/50 will be held throughout the evening.



AUCTIONEER Kevin Anspach will return to keep the bidders going at the Reverse Raffle on March 23.

# April means Garage Sales

It's time to clean out the closets, as Garage Sale season is right around the corner. The annual Community Garage Sale is scheduled for Saturday, April 27, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Mercer County Fairgrounds.

This is the tenth year for this event. "Every year, we get our returning sellers along with new people to sell their garage sale items," said fairground secretary Tessie Collins.

Sellers rent booth space for the day. Each space is 10-feet by 10-feet and sell for \$25 if registered by April 12. After that date, booth rate increases to \$30.

"We offer a special for people who want to purchase multiples," Collins explained. "When they buy two spaces, they get the third one for free."

The contract to exhibit include the following information:

- Tables will not be provided. Fairgrounds will provide phone number if exhibitors need to rent tables.
- No guns, knives or weapons will be allowed.
- Each person will be responsible for their own money and change needed
- Not responsible for accidents or exhibitor's merchandise.
- No items to be left on grounds or placed in dumpster after sale.

To register for the garage sale, call or stop at the fairground office.

# '19 Fair Christian Concert performers to be announced

Anticipation is mounting as the 2019 Mercer County Fair Christian Concert headliner and opening act will be announced on Monday, April 12.

Last year, was the first Christian style concert for the fair. It was received with an overwhelming success with the Newsboys as the main act.

Ticket prices are the same as for the annual country concert except there will be no Party Pit area. Track/Box Seats are \$40, Grandstand/Handicapped Seats are \$30, and Grandstand Wing Sections are \$25. All seats are reserved.

Tickets go on sale Good Friday, April 19.

# REMINDER...

**MERCER COUNTY FAIR CONCERT TICKETS**  
*(Friday Night & Saturday Night Concerts At The Grandstands)*

**DO NOT INCLUDE THE PRICE OF GATE ADMISSION**  
*(Single Gate Admission Is \$6 • Weekly Passes Apply To Enter)*

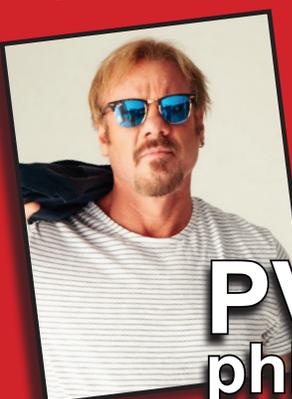
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# MERCER COUNTY *fair*

PARTY PIT/STANDING ONLY \$50 • TRACK & BOX SEATS \$40  
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PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE OR CALL THE BOX OFFICE AT 419-586-3239






WWW.MERCERCOUNTYOHIOFAIR.COM

## May Campout; reserve your site

Although the schedule of events has not been secured, there will be a May Campout at the Mercer County Fairgrounds May 17, 18 and 19.

This weekend formerly featured a Food Truck Rally and Ribfest. Weather plays a big part in these events and most years have seen rain or snow.

“The community really enjoys our campouts,” fairground manager Cara Muhlenkamp explained. “Mother Nature hasn’t really been our friend the past several years, so we are working on events that will work with any type of weather.”

Several camp sites have already been reserved for \$60 for the weekend. This includes Friday and Saturday night, with pulling out on Sunday. If campers wish to stay on Thursday, there will be an additional \$15 charge.

“It’s all about family,” Muhlenkamp explained. “Any camper takes a chance when it comes to weather. We have some real troopers in our ‘family of campers.’ They want a relaxing time with a few activities and we are going to do our best to give them that.”

The fairgrounds welcomes campers all through the camping season.



## Did You Get Engaged Over The Holidays?



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Call Us To See The Options We Have  
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**419-586-3239**

**SAVE  
THE DATES**

**AUG.  
9-15**

**2019 MERCER COUNTY FAIR**