Price County
Fair Impressions

Final Report

“Great fair – I’d like to go again!”

August, 2008

Prepared by:

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Iron County UW-Extension
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Visit Information

Fair Visited: Price County

Visitation Team Profile:

Name: Will Andresen  
Age: 47  Gender: Male  Occupation: UW-Extension Educator

Name: Marianne Andresen  
Age: 48  Gender: Female  Occupation: Social Worker

Name: Tom Salzmann  
Age: 57  Gender: Male  Occupation: Forester

Name: Greg Massoglia  
Age: 45  Gender: Male  Occupation: Teacher

Name: Debra Massoglia  
Age: 44  Gender: Female  Occupation: Assistant Manager/Loan Officer

Name: Tate Massoglia  
Age: 11  Gender: Male  Occupation: Student

Name: Carol Alonen  
Age: 45  Gender: Female  Occupation: Vet Tech/Office Manager

Date of visits:

Friday, August 15, 2008 (4 visitors)

Saturday, August 16, 2008 (3 visitors)

Weather on date of visits:

Sunny and Warm
Information Gathering

How easy was it to get information by mail and telephone about the fair you are visiting?

I contacted the Price County Extension office asking for information to the fair. I was referred to the fair’s web-site. I also contacted the Phillips Chamber of Commerce and was sent a schedule of fair events through the mail.

Are you satisfied with the quality of information received?

Yes

Did the information arrive in a timely fashion?

Yes

Please comment on the fair’s online web materials and information.

Web-site was very attractive and seemed to include all relevant information. It was colorful and well-designed with great pictures and graphics. Information seemed to be complete, with directions, schedules, contact information, etc.

However, if you Google “Price County Wisconsin Fair”, the first choice to select from is a listing of all county fairs in the state. When you select Price County, you are actually taken to the Phillips Chamber of Commerce web-site and not the official fair’s web-site.

Could you obtain a copy of the fair book? Was it well organized and easy to read? Does it include prices and schedules?

I did not ask for a fair book ahead of the visit. However, they were available at the fair office and appeared to include all relevant information.

Prior to Your Visit

What was your perception of the community before your visit?

Nice, small town on the lake

Rural

Depends heavily on the forest products industry and is the county seat.

Phillips is a nice, clean community.

Small, quiet community
What was your perception of the fair before your visit?

I was expecting a huge fairgrounds with modern buildings, grandstands and pavilions. I was also expecting a nice carnival.

What are you expecting to see?

4-H exhibits and livestock

Traditional exhibits, animals, buildings, rides and food

Having never been to this fair before, I did not know what to expect

A nice, neat fairgrounds

Small town, not much industry

Please comment on what you know about this community.

Next to nothing

Virtually nothing

I’ve been in Phillips many times, my brother worked there, I coached there and competed there as an athlete.

Not all that much. Does have a school

Community Entrances

As you are travelling to the fair, do you see evidence and community support for the fair?

Travelling south on Highway 13 from Mellen, we only saw one sign advertising the fair before we entered Phillips. A welcome to the county fair sign was added to the Fifield Welcome Sign on the south side of Fifield. No other indication before the city limits or at the city limits.

Yes – I saw mention of the fair on signs on a restaurant in Fifield and a root-beer stand in Phillips.

We saw one sign in Fifeld and the Phillips A & W mentioned that they were having “Fair” specials.

Not very well

Billboards/advertising

No
Didn’t notice any billboards

Did not see any

**Directional Signing to Fairgrounds**

No directional signage before entering Phillips or near the city limits. This was lacking. I had to stop in town for directions to the fair and was told that there was a directional sign at Co. Highway H, but I was unable to find the sign, even when I left the fair and went back to town.

Didn’t see the sign until we left the grounds. More signage and directions are needed.

**Had to stop to ask for directions**

**Around Town**

Is there any promotion or indication of a fair taking place in the community (i.e. posters, banners, signs)?

We drove into Phillips on Highway 13 from Mellen, drove through downtown Phillips and turned around at Hilly Haven Lane on the south end of Phillips. We noticed almost no public or private signs supporting or advertising the fair around town. There was a “Get Your Fair Deals Here” lettering on the Phillips A & W marquee sign and a sign for the fair on the Phillips Chamber of Commerce information board.

Just the above signage in Fifield and A & W. If it weren’t for the radio broadcast WCQW Park Falls, we would not have known where to turn. They even mentioned on the radio how some people had trouble finding the fair.

None seen

**Consider stopping at the local Chamber of Commerce or Tourism Information booth to request information on the fair...Are they knowledgeable about the fair?**

We stopped at the Park Falls Chamber of Commerce on Friday, August 15 and asked the staff-person if there was anything interesting happening today. The first thing mentioned was the fair. She was very helpful and gave us good information about the times and location of the fair. We also stopped at the Phillips Chamber of Commerce with the same question. Again, the first comment was the county fair and again good information and directions were shared.

I could not find the chamber office. An employee at one gas station did not know how to get to the fair, but employees at another station gave good directions.

I did not see a chance.
Could you have found the grounds without the Ferris wheel (other times of the year)?

In Phillips, from the North on Highway 13, we saw a white, wooden directional arrow sign indicating the turn to the fair. The sign was in the middle of eight arrows and would be easily missed. Driving north through the downtown, there was no directional signage until the Highway H intersection. Again, it was difficult to find because it was in the middle of five similar directional arrow signs. Unless you knew where you were going, it would be difficult to find the fair.

Not without stopping for directions.

No (2)

Parking for the Fair

Is there an adequate amount of space provided for parking?

Yes (3)

Great parking! (Could not see most of the fair from where I parked)

Yes – excellent parking!!

Very adequate

Is there adequate support staff to assist with parking and maintain traffic flow?

Yes (4)

Yes – having 2 crews of attendants was a good idea.

Is the parking in close proximity to the fair activities or is alternative transportation provided between the parking area and the fairgrounds.

Yes (3)

The location of parking was fine for folks who can walk alright. Handicapped folks would have to be driven to the side of the parking lot that is closest to the fair.

Very close

Are parking provisions being made for the elderly and disabled?

Yes (3)

Yes – witnessed senior citizen/disabled group being dropped off inside fair grounds – very nice!
Not sure, but I assume that it was.

Is there a parking fee and did you find it to be reasonable?

No parking fee, was included in entry fee

Parking fee was included in total price – very reasonable

No special fee for parking

No, $7 a piece to get in - a bit pricey for what you get

No

Entering the Fair

Is the fairgrounds site signed ("Grant County Fairgrounds").

Yes (3)

Yes, but sign on Highway H could be more attractive. Entry signs were nice.

The signs at the entrance were informative and well done.

Is the sign lit for night time viewing?

No

Don’t think so

I don’t know if they were illuminated at night.
Not sure if lighted for night

How well is traffic flow controlled?

Traffic flow good

Fine – lots of workers

The entrances were fine and easy to understand. Traffic was light when I got there so traffic in the parking lot was not a problem. I think that there could be some confusion with traffic was heavy.

Was adequate

Driveway not well marked

Could you easily identify the appropriate entrances?

Yes (2)

Are there any safety concerns?

No (2)

When you first enter the fair grounds, how does it feel to you? Does it feel positive, lively, warm and friendly?

Friendly and quaint

Very initial entry was a little overwhelming with very large, open parking lot. Once I left my vehicle and walked into the fair, I felt that it was a very comfortable and friendly fair.

Very inviting – just like fairs that I attended as a child.
Kind of confused - I could not find a restroom right away.

Very slow

Does it seem organized?

Yes (5)

Are the fair staff and volunteers friendly?

Yes (2)

Yes, everybody we talked with was very, very friendly and positive.

Very much so!!

Didn’t see any

Does the entrance price seem reasonable?

Yes (2)

Yes, very reasonable

A good bargain – especially since it included free carnival rides.

A bit high for what you get.

Information and Assistance

Is the information area/fair office visible and easy to find?

Yes (3)

It was in the center of the grounds – a bit hard to find at first.

Somewhat

Is information regarding the fair readily available?

Schedule is posted. Pre-fair newspaper articles posted, too.

Information readily available at the fair office and posted in a central location - liked the daily schedule on one sheet of paper.
Yes – great handout about fair events.

Is the staff at the information area/fair office as well as the agents and superintendents helpful and friendly?

Yes (3)

Very much

Other points related to fair office (hours, appearance, locations, was it easy to find)

Central location – good signage

Easy to find, centrally located when you first walk into the fair

Neat, clean, well organized and attractive

Hard to find. Thank goodness for the radio.

Very nice area – seemed clean

Is there a public address system that is used to publicize activities and announcements (and can you understand it/hear it)?

Didn’t hear any

Not sure

I never heard it, but I have a hearing loss, so this might be my fault

Yes

Did not hear any while there

Are fair superintendents, board members, judges and other volunteers identified in a visible manner (shirts, hat or button identifying them)?

Badge on some

Didn’t notice

The person in the fair office had a name tag. Other than that, I did not notice any special ID.

Yes

Yes, tag with name
Are there any directional maps ("you are here") or informational booths which provide a map and directions for the various buildings and activities?

Signs for restrooms, first aid and office – no map

Could have used a map at first, but didn’t take long to get oriented.

I did not see or receive any maps, but I don’t think that any were necessary.

Some signage pointing out restrooms, buildings, etc

No

Is a program published and distributed at the fair listing events, judging times, locations and a map of the fairgrounds?

Not locations – no map

Yes, but no map

I was given a good printed schedule of fair events

No

Did not receive or see any

Is the fair office well staffed, or is there a long wait for help?

No wait – friendly people

No wait

Well-staffed – no wait

N/A

Is there directional signing on the grounds?

Yes

Yes, to office, restrooms and first aid

Yes, it was plentiful and well done

Some

None seen
Buildings and Grounds

All buildings, clean, well lit, airy

All of the buildings were very nicely maintained, clean and light

Commercial Buildings:

**Function:**

Open with plenty of room to move

Displays of local businesses

Crafters, paintings for sale

Women’s entries and vegetable and other open exhibits

**Appearance:**

Clean and well organized – good lighting!!

Nice, clean

Older building, rustic

Educational Exhibits Buildings:

**Function:**

Nice to have a separate “education” and “commercial” building

Nicely laid out

Featured displays from local governmental service departments and antiques gathered by a local historical society. Also, an old school house complete with teacher in period costume

New building, very nice

**Appearance:**

Nice variety of displays (2)

Very nice and appropriate for the displays - it was nice to see so many
Very nice, clean, but old. Love the displays. No chicken wire to look through. You could see and get close to the photography displays, woodwork, canning, etc.

Clean, well organized

Livestock Barns:

**Function:**

Great design

House the livestock (cows, steers, etc)

Dairy, sheep, beef, goats

Cattle and sheep entries in one building; swine in a separate building

**Appearance:**

Very nice, clean, well ventilated

Beautiful building! Very colorful displays

This is a grand old building!! Do all that you can to preserve it as it really is a treasure!! Start with a paint job and repair of louvers on the building

Very nice and clean whitewashed. Appropriate sawdust/shavings and not an overly amount. I loved the auction area within the livestock barn.

Older, rustic barn, wood structures, need some work.
Small Animal Barns:

**Function:**

Good

*House poultry, rabbits, pigs, etc*

*Rabbits, we didn’t notice poultry. Swine in another barn*

*Animals well displayed*

**Appearance:**

Very clean

*Some could use better lighting and new paint on the exterior. Otherwise they are fine.*

*Nice, neat, clean concrete, beautifully whitewashed buildings.*

*New buildings, very nice, very clean, attendants keep area very clean*

Youth Buildings:

**Function:**

Good

*Youth displays, 4-H displays*

*4-H very informative*

*To display youth entries*

**Appearance:**

*Lively – colorful*

*Nice pictures and displays*

*Clean, well organized – well done!!*

*Very clean. More awards of excellence (grand champ’s) given and more diversified. I like that. I loved the board displays with lattice on them. Very professional*

*New buildings, very nice, very well kept and organized*
Fair Office:

**Function:**

Fine

_Central office for fair operations and first aid station (an excellent idea!!)_

_Did not visit_

**Appearance:**

Nice

_Very clean and attractive_

_Seems to be adequate_

Fair Tents:

**Function:**

_Beer tent located near entertainment so people could watch_

_Liked the location of beer tent – not a major focus of fair_

_Beer tent, rest tent, woodcarving tent, make-shift stages_

_None seen_

**Appearance:**

_Beer tent - nice tent and well fenced in to avoid unauthorized entrance by under-aged persons_

_OK. Beer tent was fenced in and was not serving in the afternoon._

Other Buildings (please list):

_Pioneer Building – interesting historic display_
_Swine (Hog) building – very tight_
_Open Class Judging – Nicely laid out – liked the storefront look_
_4-H Dining Hall – Very nice and clean – Lots of indoor seating - A little tight and awkward having the food line-up next to the doorway_
_Elk River Theatre – empty when we visited, but lots of potential!_
_Old Log School – my favorite, very nicely done, great programming!_
The old school house was great!!

Horse barns, log school building, antique building, 4-H dining building. Uncovered grandstand

Newer metal pole buildings

Are the buildings signed to identify their purpose?

Yes (3)

Excellent signs throughout the fair – professionally printed and easy to read

Are the grounds well maintained?

Yes (3)

Seems to be

Fair Entries

Number of entries and the number and variety of departments

Good

Looked good

A good variety of entries, which displayed and organized well

Very many and very good variety
Quality of the displays

Good

Looked good

Nice quality, friendly staff.

Very nice quality

Were special award winning projects prominently displayed?

Yes (3)

Special awards displayed well

Are the exhibit areas full?

Pretty full

I was impressed by the number of exhibits

They could use more exhibits.

Very full

Judging

Judging was intimate, personable, friendly and positive with a good learning environment created.

I was not present for any of the judging.

Seemed to be fair
The type of judging used (conference, standard, face-to-face)

*Face-to-face*

*N/A*

*Not sure – swine was standard*

Are educational opportunities utilized during judging?

*Definitely an important part of the judging*

*N/A*

*Yes*

Speed in which the judging took place.

*Seemed to be OK*

*N/A – all items were judged before 1:00 PM on Saturday. No judges were judging after noon.*

*Large classes took awhile in swine department*

Are the superintendents and judging assistants well prepared, knowledgeable and organized?

*Seemed like it*

*Yes (2)*

Is anyone explaining what is being done between classes?

*Didn’t notice*

*Yes*

**Entertainment**

*Nice to have two stage areas. Could be marked (i.e. “Center Stage”)*

**Quality of the entertainment**

*Mime was very good. Polka band was appreciated – some people dancing. Safari Greg seemed to be popular with families.*
Quality of entertainment was good, especially for the middle of the afternoon.

The entertainment listed on the schedule appeared to be of good quality, but more acts are needed (not enough entertainment).

OK, nothing great. A magician, Safari Greg and DJ music. They had a balloon lady making balloon sculptures for the kids. Nice touch! Many kids enjoyed it, mine included.

None seen

Was there a reasonable admission charge?

Yes

Yes, all entertainment included in entry fee, I believe

Yes – all included in entry fee

Not sure - $5 to get in the rodeo

None noticed

Does the entertainment appeal to various age groups and interests?

Yes (2)

Yes, nice variety for all age groups – families, kids, seniors

More variety is needed

Are entertainment schedules posted?

Yes (3)
No, it was on the web-site

**How are the various facilities for entertainment?**

A larger seating area, with a pavilion style roof over it is needed. A very good polka band was playing when I was there but seating to watch them was very limited, with little shelter from sun and/or rain.

**Seating**

*Lots of picnic tables – both in sun and shade for main stage.*

*Good seating options including picnic tables, but not much benching near stage*

*Could use more covered seating. Nice, huge grandstand in the horse arena.*

**Stage**

*Good*

*Fine*

*Make-shift*

**Sound system**

*Good*

*Fine*

*OK*
Rain accommodations

Didn’t notice

Very few

Track conditions

N/A

OK

Signs promoting event sponsorship

Yes

Didn’t see any

A few kiosks with sponsors on them

Other

How is the midway?

Liked that it circled around one end as opposed to midway – easier to hear entertainment

Fun and lively

Poor – too spread out. Could lose your kids easily

Condition of rides

Good (2)
Dirty and old

Poor

Variety of rides

Good (2)

Fair

Poor. Carnival denied my son a ride due to his size

Employees

Good

Seemed fine

The ones that I talked with were friendly and helpful

Poor – very dirty - dirty prizes on the concessions

Food Service

Cleanliness of food booths/areas

Good (2)

Excellent! Especially the 4-H food building/kitchen

The carnival concessions were messy. The Boy Scout booth was nice and reasonably priced.

Seating areas

Good (2)

Plenty of places to sit

Could use more with better tables

Variety of food available

Good (2)

Better variety than many fairs – very nice
Good variety
Yes

Quality of the food
Good (2)
Quality seemed good
OK
Very well

Were any unique foods available?
Home made ice cream from St. Germain

Were there any locally grown foods available?
Didn’t see any
No

Price of food
4-H very good – others reasonable

Food in the 4-H dining hall very reasonable – rest was normal fair prices
Appropriate

Very high priced except for the Boy Scout booth. They were reasonable. The other booths including the carnival were gouging.

Reasonable

Are there healthy food choices?
Yes, in the 4-H dining hall

4-H dining hall had some nice, healthy food choices – very much appreciated

This is a strange question. Going to a fair for “health food” is somewhat like going to a tavern for redemption. You might find a little bit of it there, but if that’s your main expectation then you’ve missed the whole point of the operation.
Some at the 4-H dining area

Yes

Is food prepared and served in a healthy and safe manner?

Appears so

Yes (2)

Yes – I was impressed with the cleanliness of the facilities and the workers.

The local booths were

Fair Amenities

Public restrooms (ease in finding, condition, handicapped accessible, maintained, diaper changing areas, etc.)

Good

Nice to have two sets of restrooms, good locations, directional signage. Diaper changing in women’s restrooms.

All very good!!

Hard to find. Were maintained, running water with diaper changing.

Yes

Phone access

Didn’t notice (2)

Unknown – I did not see any phones, but that is not unusual in this era of cell phones.

N/A

Yes

Water fountains, benches (rest areas), etc.

Benches

Lots of benches – benches seemed to be located outside of just about every building, which was
very nice.

Fine

No, benches could use more

Yes

**Are any of these amenities sponsored by businesses or civic groups?**

*Picnic tables had sponsor names*

*Picnic tables*

*I did not notice evidence of that*

*Didn’t notice*

*Not sure*

**Lighting of grounds for safety and visibility**

*N/A – visited during day*

*Noticed some light posts, but visited during the day*

*Unknown – it was day time when I was there*

*N/A*

*Was daylight*

**Availability of showers**

*Yes (3)*

*Yes – in the 4-H building – a good idea!!*

*None seen*

**ATM Machines**

*Didn’t notice (2)*

*None that I saw*

*No*
None seen

**Camping Facilities**

*Camping on-site was nice option*

*Nice to see camping, not sure if it was just for exhibitors or for the general public*

*There were some campers by the horse arena - that was about it*

*No*

None seen

**Accessibility of walkways and grounds**

*Good (3)*

*OK*

*Very nice*

**Miscellaneous**

**Costs (rides, food, etc.) Did the prices reflect the value of the product that you received?**

*All rides included in entry fee of $7.00*

*Price seemed very reasonable considering it included parking, rides and entertainment. And just $5 for seniors.*

*Yes*

*No, too pricey. The quality of rides were not worth the $7 admission*

*Yes – carnival not set up totally*

**Safety Concerns. Are the first aid stations and law enforcement easy to find?**

*Yes (3)*

*Yes – the only fair I’ve seen where a first aid station was clearly identified.*

*Did not see any*
Were there any unique educational or commercial exhibits?


I especially liked the school house with hourly “classes” – very fun. Also liked the “Hidden Prairie” and the wood carving demo

Old school house and the 2 buildings with antique equipment – both were excellent!

Wood carving tenets and demonstration. Had an old Indian type village

Yes

Was there any recognition of donations or sponsorship?

Yes

Didn’t notice

Yes – I don’t recall details, but there was.

Yes, on kiosks

None seen

Was there any merchandise or prizes offered at the fair that would be considered offensive to the average fair participant?

Didn’t see any

No (2)

Not that I saw

None seen

Was there evidence of sustainability (energy conservation, sustainable education, “green” initiatives, recycling efforts)

Sustainable education and recycling efforts

I didn’t see anyone who was green – all were healthy. There were many good environmental displays in the building that had the displays from local governmental agencies.

Yes, many recycling bins - very clean and informative

Yes
Noticed recycling barrels and signs encouraging people to recycle – several energy conservation booths in education building. Educational signage regarding lake restoration efforts. “Going Green: Learning for Life” 4-H motto was nice.

Does it appear as though young people were involved in organizing and running the fair?

A lot of 4-H clubs represented

Lots of youth involved, especially in 4-H dining hall – seemed to be doing a good job

Yes (2)

Not sure

Was youth education and service an important part of the fair (inter-generational service learning opportunities, youth asset building efforts)

Yes (3)

Yes, at the judging and the 4-H dining hall in particular

4-H had a large presence and I saw young people working in just about all phases of the fair.

Was the community (community organizations such as boy/girls scouts, historical societies, chambers of commerce) involved in the fair?

Yes (3)

Yes – especially 4-H, boy scouts and the local historical society

Not sure
Was the consumption of alcohol managed in an appropriate way?

Yes – nice location near stage. Could sit and watch entertainment. Fenced to keep minors out – nice.

Yes – fencing was used to control location of drinking.

Yes – very well done.

Yes, there was none served during the day.

Yes.

Is garbage handled appropriately?

Appears to be.

Yes – plenty of trash cans.

Yes – very well done.

Yes.

None seen.

Wrap Up

Using your "senses"…

What does the fair TASTE like? (Specialty bakery/local products, etc.)

Fried green beans and fresh lemonade.

Healthier food choices than many fairs.

Bad question – I did not eat the fair.

Dirty, not appetizing.

Nothing was being cooked at time there.

What does the fair SMELL like?

Funnel cakes and cows! Love those smells.
Normal fair smells

Very clean – even the pig barn was well ventilated and smelled fine

Nothing special, fresh air. No smells of a “typical” fair.

Wood shaving

What SOUNDS did you hear?

Polka music – people visiting – kids laughing

Sounds like a lot of people having a great time

With my hearing loss I am happy to hear anything

Fairly quiet. They did have a live radio broadcast which I think EVERY fair should have. It seems that the radio is supportive and informative. We would not have found the fair without the radio

Animals, machinery

What did the fair feel like (emotional response, i.e. cold/warm, crowded/deserted, inviting, etc., or physical response, poorly maintained, muddy, too small)

Warm and inviting – friendly

The fair felt very warm and friendly. The longer I stayed the more I liked it, the more comfortable it was. Very well maintained.

A very nice and inviting small town fair. Overall, very well done and a credit to Price Co.

Rather small, but friendly fair workers, especially in the exhibition buildings.
Very slow. Was inviting, did not have many things occurring while there

List the 5 most positive things you observed about the fair:

1. Clean
2. Nicely laid out (animals, rides, entertainment)
3. Lots of seating
4. Lots of kids in the animal barns
5. Not too loud

1. Friendly people
2. Well-organized – office, signage, schedules, etc
3. Clean buildings
4. Nice variety of entertainment
5. Low-key environment

1. Cleanliness and friendly people
2. The historical displays
3. The wonderful old cattle barn/display arena
4. Great variety of livestock and craft displays
5. Great involvement by local governmental agencies

1. Live radio broadcasts. Very important. Some people from here are going because of the excitement that they project
2. Very clean buildings – old but presentable
3. Not overly loud
4. Accessibility to the exhibits, visually and aesthetically – no chicken wire to look through
5. Helpful and informative exhibit workers

1. Ground cleanliness
2. Adequate parking
3. Newer buildings were very well maintained
4. Quality of exhibits very nice

What are the five biggest obstacles or challenges facing this fair?

1. More community advertising downtown
2. Does Butternut Fair same weekend affect attendance?

1. Lack of community support/visibility/advertising in town
2. Directional signage on highway and entry sign on County H could be much better
3. Could do something more with lake-front – could be a great asset to the fair!

1. Need for a pavilion to house entertainment
2. Keeping up with maintenance of older buildings (exterior painting, stalls, etc)
1. Location and lack of signage to the fair (thank goodness for the radio)
2. Poor carnival
3. Food is way too pricey. Hard for a family of four to afford
4. Need more covered/sheltered areas
5. A lull or lack of continuous entertainment. Not much going on during the day.

1. Cattle barn needs some updating

Describe ONE idea that you will borrow for use in your own fair and describe how you will start to implement it within the next 72 hours:

Provision of first aid services – I won’t do anything during the next 72 hours, but do intend to work on this.

Line up a live radio broadcast to draw people from home to the fair.

What will you remember most about this fair six months from now?

How cute it was

Great small community fair

The historical displays and the great cattle barn/display ring

Lack of a variety of entertainment. But, the “balloon lady” had many kids of all ages captivated and she gave them balloon sculptures.

Other comments:

If you want to promote the fair to people outside the community, better signage would help.

Could use a better carnival with friendlier and cleaner staff. The web-site outdid the actual fair.

It seems like there is the potential to create a unique “historic northwoods” brand for your fair, packaging together several unique features that you already have, such as the Old Log School, the Elk River Theatre and the Hidden Prairie – along with the lake-frontage – that would differentiate the Price County Fair from the rest.

Hidden Prairie was a unique fair exhibit. I wonder if it could be better located. It was kind of out of the way and behind the dumpster. Maybe by the lake?

Great fair – I’d like to go again!!