

# 2026 Schedule of Events

## Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup>

9:00 a.m.	<b>Car Show</b> <i>Sponsored by Heartland Towing</i>
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Freedom 250 Museum
6:00 p.m.	<b>Pro Pulling League Champions Tour</b> <i>Sponsored by Beck's and Nelson Trucking</i>

## Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>

7:30 a.m.	5K Run/Walk
8:00 a.m.	Church in 4-H Arena
11:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Freedom 250 Museum
Noon	Jeffers Memorial Stakes <i>Sponsored by Leisure Times And Peoples Bank &amp; Trust</i>
3:30, 5:30 p.m.	Community Showcase in Schuetzenfest Bldg
1:00 p.m.	Free Stage – <i>Ashley Jo Acoust</i>
4:30 p.m.	<b>Parade in front of Grandstand</b>
5:00 p.m.	Free Stage – <i>The Mutineers</i>
6:00 p.m.	Master Showmanship (4-H Arena)
6:30 p.m.	<b>Talent Show</b>
7:30 p.m.	<b>Jr. Miss Pageant and "Little Mister"</b>

## Monday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>

11:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Freedom 250 Museum
Noon	Illinois Standardbred Racing
3:30, 5:30 p.m.	Community Showcase in Schuetzenfest Bldg
5:00 p.m.	Free Stage – <i>Cole Burrell</i>
6:00 p.m.	<b>I.T.P.A. Truck, Tractor, and Garden Tractor Pull</b> <i>Sponsored by Dust &amp; Son and Wix Filters</i>

## Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>

11:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Freedom 250 Museum
Noon	Illinois Standard Bred Racing
3:30, 5:30 p.m.	Community Showcase in Schuetzenfest Bldg
5:00 p.m.	Free Stage – <i>Ryan Craig</i>
6:00 p.m.	Luehrs Carnival <i>Open Wrist Band Night</i>
7:00 p.m.	<b>Miss Effingham County Fair Queen Pageant &amp; "Little Miss" Pageant</b>

**3 - \$100 Drawings -- Saturday Thru Friday After the Evening Event. Must be present to win!**

**\*Free Stage Entertainment, next to Society Horse Barn, will perform sometime between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.**

## Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>

11:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Freedom 250 Museum
Noon	Illinois Standard Bred Racing
3:30, 5:30 p.m.	Community Showcase in Schuetzenfest Bldg
5:00 p.m.	Free Stage – <i>Balloons by Kimberly</i>
5:00 p.m.	4-H Livestock Auction at 4-H Show Arena
6:00 p.m.	Luehrs Carnival Opens <i>Family Bargain Night</i>
7:00 p.m.	<b>Pro Pulling League Champion Seed Western Series &amp; Local Tractors/Semis</b> <i>Sponsored by Dust &amp; Son and Wix Filters</i>

## Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup>

11:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Freedom 250 Museum
Noon	Harness Racing
3:30, 5:30 p.m.	Community Showcase in Schuetzenfest Bldg
5:00 p.m.	Free Stage – <i>Avery Bonhoff</i>
6:00 p.m.	Luehrs Carnival Opens <i>Wrist Band Night</i>
7:30 p.m.	<b>Whippoorwill Rodeo</b> <i>Sponsored by Rural King</i>

## Friday, August 7<sup>th</sup>

11:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Freedom 250 Museum
Noon	Topline Harness Racing/Kids Racing
3:30, 5:30 p.m.	Community Showcase in Schuetzenfest Bldg
3:30 p.m.	Kid's Pedal Pull and Safety Day in 4-H Arena
5:00 p.m.	Free Stage – <i>Evan Williamson</i>
6:00 p.m.	Luehrs Carnival Opens <i>"2 for 1 Night"</i>
7:30 p.m.	<b>Jo Dee Messina Concert with Cole Goodwin</b> <i>Sponsored by A-1 Emergency Medical Service and R &amp; H Plumbing &amp; Heating &amp; Nick Patton Country Financial</i>

## Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>

9:30 – Noon	C.O.P.S. - Kids & Teens Day <i>Effingham Co. School Resource Officers</i>
Noon – 8:00 p.m.	Freedom 250 Museum
2:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Luehrs Carnival Opens <i>"Last Blast" Wrist Band</i>
6:30 p.m.	<b>Demolition Derby</b> <i>Sponsored by Tri-Power Towing</i>

**\*See page 12 for Livestock Schedule**

**\*See page 44 for Community Showcase Information**

**\*See page 136 for more Carnival Information**

## Glen Mathias Memorial Scholarship Program

1. The three winners of the nightly drawing will nominate a school to qualify for the Fair Scholarship.
2. At the fair board annual meeting, we will have a drawing of the schools that were nominated.
3. Two schools will be drawn to receive a \$500 scholarship each.
4. Kirby Foods, McDonalds, Luehrs Ideal Rides, and Fair Board will present scholarship to winning schools.
5. In March or April of 2027, students from winning schools will submit applications for this scholarship.
6. Application will include writing a 200-word essay on "Why is Agriculture Important to Effingham County". Judging will also be based on school activities and fair involvement.
7. Scholarship is then awarded to selected student at a time selected by the school.