



greatCENTER
GREAT CITY

A publication of the Alliant Energy Center

EVENT UPDATE NEWSLETTER

April 2007

Animal Instincts

March 30–April 1, hunting enthusiasts from across the state rendezvous in **Exhibition Hall** for the 23rd annual **Wisconsin Deer and Turkey Expo**. The largest deer and turkey expo in the country features over 550 exhibitor booths, special trophy displays and contests, seminars, live big game animals and much more. www.deerinfo.com

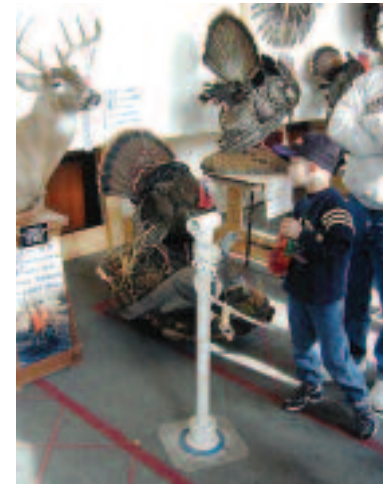
April 13–14, the **Midwest Spring Holstein Show** assembles a herd of over 200 beautiful bovines in the Arena. The National Red and White Show and the Junior Showmanship Contest will be held on Friday, and the Midwest National Holstein Spring Show will be held on Saturday. www.wisholsteins.com

The 28th annual **Midwest Horse Fair** gallops into the **Alliant Energy Center April 20–22**, using the full campus to “Rock, Roll, & Ride”. Expected attendance is over 53,000, making the Midwest Horse Fair the number one 3-day horse fair in America. This event not only attracts over 800 equines representing forty-three different breeds, but also the top equine clinicians from across the U.S. In addition to numerous contests and seminars, more than 700 commercial booths will be filled with vendors, providing a top-notch shopping experience. Every year the Midwest Horse Fair gets better! www.midwesthorsefair.com



Veterans Memorial Coliseum is the place to be on **April 27–29** to “Discover the Magic of Alpacas”. The **Great Midwest Alpaca Festival** provides attendees the opportunity to observe hundreds of alpacas, learn about alpacas and their fiber, purchase alpaca products and much more through vendors, demonstrations, alpaca competitions and a silent auction. For more information on the fleecy fun, visit www.greatmidwestalpacafestival.com

April 28, **Madtown Throwdown 11** brings the excitement of freestyle combat challenge to **Exhibition Hall**. Jimmy Bruketta and Mark Buscaske will battle it out to see who will survive “Capitol Punishment”. Doors open at 6:30pm and fights begin at 7:30pm. www.madtowntrowdown.com



Spring Shows, Conferences And Conventions

April 11, the **Future Lifestyles Show** springs into **Exhibition Hall**. This event offers everything from health screenings and consultations with veterans benefit specialists to caricature artists and a Dean Martin look-alike. Madison Police Chief Noble Wray and health and wellness guru Nancy Selfridge are the featured speakers at this fun, health-focused event. www.ogarapub.com

The **Art Glass and Bead Show** brings beautiful beads and creative crafts to **Exhibition Hall April 13–15**. Classes, make-n-take projects and vendors will abound as crafters from across the state come to town for this exciting show. Seminars will be held Friday through Sunday, and the show in Exhibition Hall will be open on Saturday and Sunday. www.beadshowmadison.com

April 14, the **Tupperware Super Saturday Event** assembles America’s favorite cookware sales personnel in **Exhibition Hall**. Tupperware Consultants from surrounding areas will come together to recognize top performers, receive training, and learn about new products and incentives for 2007. www.tupperware.com

Wisconsin conservation issues are being discussed in **Exhibition Hall** at the **DNR Spring Hearing April 16**. Residents can provide input on proposed fishing and hunting rule changes, bring conservation issues to the Conservation Congress and elect new delegates to the Congress. www.dnr.wi.gov

UW Department of Ophthalmology hosts the annual **Macular Degeneration: Progress in Sight VI Conference** on **April 18** in **Exhibition Hall**.

This all-day seminar provides information on recent advances in macular degeneration prevention and treatment and shares ideas on coping with personal feelings about vision loss. To register, call 1-800-783-5213 or (608) 255-1166. Registration ends April 6.

April 24–25, the **SkillsUSA/HOSA Conference** develops student leadership in **Exhibition Hall**. Over 1,500 students participate in student leadership and skill events to recognize state champions in the health care and technical fields of their choice. www.skillsusa-wi.org

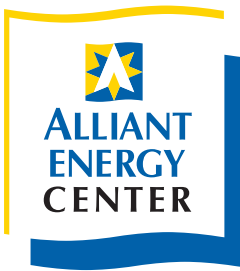
UW Department of Pediatrics presents the **Child Abuse Conference** in **Exhibition Hall** on **April 27**. Through a series of lectures and discussions, participants learn how to keep children safe while they surf the Internet. For registration information, call (608) 267-6386.

April 28, the **Home Buyers Fair** in **Exhibition Hall** provides a one-stop-shopping experience for potential home buyers looking to learn about home buying process programs and financial assistance. Attendees receive free credit report consultations and participate in workshops on a variety of topics ranging from finance to home inspection. www.homebuyersroundtable.org.

Tupperware®



Continued



greatCENTER
GREAT CITY



A publication of the Alliant Energy Center

EVENT UPDATE NEWSLETTER

April 2007

Events at the Midwest Horse Fair



The 28th annual **Midwest Horse Fair** is coming this month, featuring a multitude of great events. Here is just a sample of some of the interesting and entertaining events that the fair offers:

- **Hippology Contests:** Hippology is the study of horses. The Youth Hippology contest will involve answering a variety of questions all related to horses, from horse health to types of tack. Any youths ages 8-13 and 14-19 can enter the contest—cost is included with admission. The Hippology area will also be open on Saturday from 10am-5pm and Sunday from 10am-3pm for attendees to test themselves!
- **Driving Derby:** First introduced at the 2006 fair, the Driving Derby is back by popular demand. Drivers direct their horses and ponies through gates of cones and lettered obstacles at top speed and are given two tries to score the fastest time. Trotting and galloping to loud music and cheering fans, these daring drivers and fast horses will provide thrilling driving and entertaining competition for a lively crowd.
- **The 4th Annual Miss Midwest Horse Fair Pageant:** The Miss Midwest Horse Fair pageant is a competition that showcases the horsemanship, creativity, communication skills, and professionalism of accomplished young horsewomen. One Queen and one Princess will be crowned at the fair. Prizes are awarded, and the Midwest Horse Fair Queen also gets to represent the Midwest Horse Fair at other events throughout the year.
- **Parade of Breeds:** The Parade of Breeds is a collection of unique demonstrations of various breeds and disciplines, performed by state and nationally recognized associations and clubs. In 2006, 43 breeds and disciplines were represented at the fair. Many fairgoers are unaware of some of the breeds that exist until they see them in Parade of Breeds at the Midwest Horse Fair.
- **Kids Korral:** Looking for fun activities for the kids at Midwest Horse Fair? Take them to the Kids Korral for equine-related arts & crafts that will keep them entertained for hours.

To learn about all of these events and more, visit the **Midwest Horse Fair** at the **Alliant Energy Center April 20-22**. The Fair will be open on Friday and Saturday from 7am to 10pm and Sunday from 7am to 6pm. Parking is free and admission is \$10 per day, with 3-day passes available for \$30. Children 7 and under are admitted free. For more information on the Fair, visit www.midwesthorsefair.com.



More Than Just a Pretty Face: All About Alpacas

You may have seen them at festivals and fairs, or even used their fleece, but how much do you really know about alpacas? Here are some fun facts about these unique animals:

- Alpacas are members of the Camelid family, which also includes llamas. They are native to the Andean Mountain range of South America, and are primarily found in Peru, Bolivia, and Chile. They have been domesticated for over 5,000 years and initially provided clothing and transportation to the Incas.
- Alpacas were first imported in the United States in 1984. There are currently about 60,000 registered alpacas in the US.
- Alpacas' main end-product is fiber. Their fiber comes in 16 natural colors. It is as soft as cashmere and lighter and warmer than wool. In ancient times, alpaca fiber was known as the "Fiber of Gods"
- There are two kinds of Alpacas: Huacaya (pronounced wah-KI-ya) and Suri (pronounced surrey).
- Alpacas do not have hooves... instead they have soft padded feet with two toes.
- The average lifespan of an alpaca is 20-25 years. Adult alpacas generally weigh between 150 and 200 pounds.
- Baby alpacas are called crias.
- Alpacas communicate by softly humming. They also communicate with neck posturing, ear and tail positioning and head tilts.

To see these furry favorites up close, come visit the **Great Midwest Alpaca Festival** on **April 27-29** in **Veterans Memorial Coliseum**. There will be a private Breeders Meet and Greet on Friday from 5:30pm to 8:30pm. Tickets for the Meet and Greet are \$15 for adults and \$9 for children. The festival itself is free and will be open to the public on Saturday from 9am to 5pm and Sunday from 9am to 2pm. For more information on the Festival, visit www.greatmidwestalpacafestival.com.

