

Celebrating ten years of PULL.....

Edgar FFA Alumni to celebrate a decade of pulls

An abundance of antique tractor pulls are held here in central Wisconsin every summer, but one very special pull will be held in Edgar come this August.

The Edgar FFA Alumni will host the 10th annual Edgar tractor pull at Oak Street Park, Edgar, on Aug. 9.

"It is going to be bigger and better than ever," pull coordinator Steve Soczka said.

In addition to the pulls there will be a craft sale in Oak Street Park. Playground equipment is right in the park as well as a handicap treehouse, and to make this year's pull even more special there are plans of bringing in a blow-up bouncy jungle gym for the children.

"We want to celebrate ten years of doing it in Edgar," Soczka said.

The Edgar native said the Edgar pull began because the village wanted a pull there. The Edgar FFA Alumni tried to coordinate a pull but was unable to get an eliminator for the event.

"We couldn't get anyone to do it and we couldn't get an eliminator so we built our own," Soczka recalls. "Ray Streveler designed and built it and donated a large amount to it.

Without Ray I don't think we'd have been able to have a pull."

That eliminator is the same one that is currently used at the Halder, Fenwood, Marathon and Athens pulls each summer.

"When we built it we thought it would be great to use it for all the pulls around us," Soczka said.

Because of the work it took many of the FFA Alumni members to get the first pull in Edgar Soczka says they plan to honor them at this special 10th anniversary pull.

"We will do some extra fun things," he said.

One of those things includes a DJ in the park until 10 p.m.

The money raised at the pull is used for scholarships awarded to seniors each year and is used for various other FFA programs. The FFA Alumni, which has grown significantly over the past ten years, due largely to the success of the tractor pull, donates money to the village park commission.

The pulls are all free to public spectators.

Soczka remembers through the past decade and says there have been good years and there have been bad years but overall it has been a great run.

"It is a perfect atmosphere there in the park," he said. "It is a great community function based around the family."

Here is an outline of other area pulls:

Stratford Heritage Days

In it's second year, the Stratford Heritage Days antique tractor pull will take place on Third Ave., Stratford, in front of the village clerk's office, on Saturday, June 14.

Marathon FFA Alumni

Held at Marathon Feeds on STH 107 south of Marathon City, the Marathon FFA Alumni antique tractor pull is Sunday, June 15, at 11:30 a.m.

Athens Jaycees

In its third year, the Athens Jaycees antique tractor pull will take place on Caroline St., Athens, in front of St. Anthony's Catholic Church, on Friday, July 4.

Held in conjunction with the Jaycees 4th of July celebration the pull will coincide with an array of activities throughout town, such as a volleyball tournament, horseshoe pitching and an antique car show.

Halder Lions

The Halder Lions antique tractor pull, which gave the town it's trademark name, *A Small Town with alot of Pull*, is in its 15th year.

An antique tractor show will be held Saturday, July 19, and the pull will take place on Sunday, July 20, in downtown Halder. The show will set up on the ball diamond and a dance will take place under the ball diamond

