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## Cash for Coneflowers! Bucks for Barbecue! Moolah for Merlot! *Fair offers \$105,000 in competition premiums*

FRANKLIN – Though farmers shine at the Williamson County Fair presented by Tractor Supply Company, you don't have to know one end of a Hereford from the other to win prizes in dozens of categories.

More than 1,500 exhibitors participated in the 2006 Fair, taking home nearly \$50,000 in award money for everything from prize lambs and spring heifers to cookies, pickled cucumbers, photographs and men's clothing.

This year \$105,000 in premiums will be awarded in categories that include agriculture, creative arts, culinary arts, cultural arts, livestock, 4-H and Youth, pageants and special events, including a 5-K run, bluegrass music festival, Walking Horse show and antique auto show.

"Competitions are the lifeblood of a Fair," says Dave Crouch, Fair chairman. "Livestock shows, photography, culinary and creative arts, wine-making and beauty pageants are just a few of the ways you can share your gifts and talents with your neighbors. By bringing your skills to the Fair you help ensure its success and make certain that your children and grandchildren have fond memories to share."

Cheryl Lauritsen of Brentwood, winner of the 2005 Grandma's Cookie Jar competition first prize for her chocolate chip cookies, spends her days not on the farm but as a hostess at Logan's Roadhouse in Cool Springs.

"I entered because I enjoy baking and I am a grandmother – I had to show a picture of my grandchild as proof – so I was qualified," says Lauritsen, whose childhood memories of the Washington State Fair inspired her to enter state and local fair competitions when she moved to Tennessee. "I had a good time thinking up the idea for the cookie jar presentation, creating it and baking the cookies. It's the kind of good old-fashioned fun we need more of in this fast-paced world we're in."

Deadlines for competitions vary, and begin in mid-July. For a complete description of competitions, rules and deadlines, consult the Fair's comprehensive premium catalogue online at [www.williamsoncountyfair.org](http://www.williamsoncountyfair.org). Catalogues are also available at the Williamson County Ag Expo Park, Williamson County Rec centers, Williamson County libraries and the Williamson County Mayor's office in the Administrative Complex.

*About the Williamson County Fair presented by Tractor Supply Company*

The third annual Fair will be held August 3–11, 2007 at the Williamson County Ag Expo Park in Franklin, Tenn. The Williamson County Fair presented by Tractor Supply Company is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization created to present a County Fair celebrating our agricultural past, present and future. This summertime tradition is an educational and entertaining experience for people of all ages, and also generates significant revenue for Williamson and surrounding counties. Additional information is available at [www.williamsoncountyfair.org](http://www.williamsoncountyfair.org) or (615) 794-4FUN.