Small Town Makes Good

It seems that the county fair just to our south will be getting some national attention. Chris Cuomo, who is the news anchor for ABCs morning program "<u>Good Morning America</u>," will be making an appearance at the Defiance County fair on Thursday August 21. While there, he will be taping a segment presumably on the Tractor Pulls or maybe it is to report on the sister cities Hicksville, OH and Hicksville, N. Y. But, here is the full article for your enjoyment.

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HICKSVILLE – The ABC News morning news program, "Good Morning America," and anchor Chris Cuomo will arrive at the Defiance County Fairgrounds on Thursday to tape a news segment to be seen on GMA.

The program segment is expected to feature highlights of the fair, including Cuomo's participation in an exhibition tractor or truck pull, to be held at the grandstand between 2 and 5 p.m. before the Kids Day bicycle raffle.

A fair board spokesman believed the segment will air next month, and "Good Morning America" officials could not be reached for confirmation.

Fair board president Pat Slattery said he believes the show is filming in Hicksville due to the National Tractor Pullers Association. "The pullers like our track," he says. "We could probably hold a national pull with our track.

"I think it's great the show is coming here. It may even help to bring in funds faster for our (new) grandstand (construction project)."

As Hicksville is the sister city to Hicksville, N.Y., the fair board looks forward to showing the town to the GMA crew.

"When Mr. Cuomo comes here, he'll be ... right back in the country," Slattery said.

While Cuomo is scheduled to be on the grounds only between 2 and 5 p.m., GMA camera crews will be seen throughout the fair, taping Thursday evening's sanctioned tractor and truck pulls as well as conversations with attendees to be shown during the show.

According to the county fair board office, the National Tractor Pullers Association set up the opportunity months ago, but the board could not alert the media until everything was confirmed this week.

Those wishing to see the sanctioned truck and tractor pulls may purchase tickets (infield, \$8; grandstand, \$7) from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. daily in the fair board secretary's office.