



June 7-11, 2017
Five Best Days of Summer

35th District Agricultural Association

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The 2017 Merced County Fair Kicks off Wednesday, June 7 with Opening Ceremonies *Opening Day at the Fair will be packed with big savings and exciting entertainment*

MERCED, CALIFORNIA, June 6, 2017:

WHAT: In two days, the 2017 Merced County Fair will be officially underway marking the Fair's 126th year of showcasing the best in Merced County for the more than 70,000 Fairgoers that attend the five-day Merced County Fair each June. The Fair will officially kick off with Opening Ceremonies activities beginning at 5 p.m. Plus, there are lots of big savings and exciting entertainment that Fairgoers can take advantage of. .

WHEN: Wednesday, June 7 at 5:00 p.m. Gates Open and Opening Ceremonies Begins

WHERE: The Merced County Fair
900 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Merced, California 95341
*** Note: Opening Ceremonies will be held by the flagpole just south of the Outdoor Theatre near the Martin Luther King Jr. Way entrance.

OFFICIAL KICK-OFF: 5:00 p.m. Opening Day Ceremony - Flag Pole South of Outdoor Theatre
Flag Presentation - Merced County Sheriff Department's Honor Guard
National Anthem - Performed by 12-year old Niara Jones
Speakers - Merced County Fair Board of Directors 1st Vice President, Emily Haden
Merced County Fair CEO, Teresa Burrola
Special Award Presentation - Merced County Fair Board of Directors Second Vice President, Lori Gallo, will present the special "Blue Ribbon Award" to Merced County Sheriff Vern Warnke for all of his collaboration and focus on making the Merced County Fair the safest place to be during the annual Fair.

SAVINGS: **Mercy Medical Center's We Care Wednesday**
Community Food Drive, presented by EECU and University Industrial Park:
Bring 5 or more cans of food to the Fair anytime from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. one June 7 and get into the Fair for FREE in exchange for food donation. All food will go to the Merced County Food Bank to feed those in need in our community. This effort is supported by UC Merced as part of their effort to give back to the community while also building awareness about food insecurity among students. Last year, 4,800 lbs. of food was collected in just two hours!



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Seniors' Day:

Seniors 62 and BETTER are able to enjoy the Fair for free on June 7! This will include a special Seniors Lifestyle Expo from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. near the Martin Luther King Jr. Way gate entrance.

ENTERTAINMENT:

5:45 p.m. Tractor Parade throughout the Fairgrounds
6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. Karen Quest, Cowgirl Tricks- Bear Creek Plaza Stage
7:00 p.m. Auto Racing- Grandstands, *\$5 Admission, FREE for kids 5 & under*
7:00 p.m. Let Us Chant, Reggae Band- Coors Light Stage
7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Tina Maria Hypnotist- Bear Creek Plaza Stage
8:15 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. Studio K Color Guard and Dance- Bear Creek Plaza Stage
8:30 p.m. I Am King...The Michael Jackson Experience- Outdoor Theatre
9:00 p.m. – 9:45 p.m. Carousel Cloggers- Bear Creek Plaza Stage
10:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Tina Maria Hypnotist- Bear Creek Plaza Stage

LIVESTOCK:

7:30 a.m. FFA Market Swine & FFA Showmanship – Hilmar Cheese Barn
8:00 a.m. Meat Goat Show – Glacier Barn
8:00 a.m. Beef Show – Les McCabe Arena
4:00 p.m. Beef Bred Heifers – Les McCabe Arena
7:30 p.m. Beef Bred Heifer Sale – Dairy Show Ring

About The Merced County Fair:

The Merced County Fair, first founded in 1891, represents the 35th District Agricultural Association and is celebrating 126 years of operation this year. More than 70,000 people from throughout Merced County and beyond attend the five-day Merced County Fair each June. Members of the Board of Directors include: President; Flip Hassett, First Vice President; Emily Haden, Second Vice President; Lori Gallo; Vicky Banaga; Mark Erreca; Lee Lor; Kim Rogina; Carol Sartori-Silva; and Dr. Santokh Takhar. Teresa Burrola heads up the daily operations in her role as CEO. The 2017 Merced County Fair will run June 7 - 11. For more information about the Merced County Fair, please visit www.MercedCountyFair.com. Connect with the Fair on Facebook (@mercedfair), Twitter (@Merced_CA_Fair) and now Instagram (@mercedcountyfair).

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