



June 7-11, 2017  
Five Best Days of Summer

35th District Agricultural Association

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Merced County Fair Announces 2017 Entertainment Line-Up

*Great Musical Entertainment and Action-Packed Grandstand Shows Are a Winning Combination for the Fair*

**MERCED, CALIFORNIA, February 13, 2017...**The Merced County Fair is excited to announce its full entertainment line-up for the 2017 Table Mountain FREE Concert Series presented by Coors Light, which is held on the Outdoor Theatre Stage, as well as its Grandstand Entertainment presented by Table Mountain Casino, O'Reilly Auto Parts, Coors Light and Rancho San Miguel Markets.

"We switched a couple things up with entertainment and I'm really excited to see how the community responds to it," said Teresa Burrola, CEO of The Merced County Fair. "This year we are bringing in a Michael Jackson tribute show on opening night to kick off the Fair. Then we will also have a Bull Competition in the Grandstand where you can see young bucking bulls graded before they enter into the rodeo circuit. It's unlike anything we have had before and has really gained in popularity."

DATE:	TIME:	SHOW:	ARTIST WEBSITE:
June 7	8:30 p.m.	I Am King...The Michael Jackson Experience	<a href="http://iamkingtheshow.com/">http://iamkingtheshow.com/</a>
June 8	8:30 p.m.	John Michael Montgomery	<a href="http://www.johnmichael.com/">http://www.johnmichael.com/</a>
June 9	8:30 p.m.	WAR	<a href="http://www.war.com/">http://www.war.com/</a>
June 10	8:30 p.m.	Moonshine Bandits	<a href="http://moonshinebandits.com/">http://moonshinebandits.com/</a>
June 11	7:30 p.m.	Noel Torres (Show starts at 7:30 p.m.)	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/NoelTorresMusica">https://www.facebook.com/NoelTorresMusica</a>

Admission to these concerts is free with your paid Fair admission, which is \$8 for Adults and \$4 for kids 12 and under (remember, kids 5 and under are always free) at the gate entrance. Save big on your Fair admission and carnival rides now with a special, online only pre-sale starting Wednesday, March 15 at 10 a.m. Pre-sale Admission tickets will be just \$6 for Adults; Season Passes are only \$25 and you can visit the Fair every day if you want; and Unlimited Carnival Ride Wristbands are just \$25 and are good for any one day of the Fair! Pre-sale tickets can be purchased [www.MercedCountyFair.com](http://www.MercedCountyFair.com).

Last year the Grandstand shows boosted the biggest crowds in years and part of that can be attributed to the new mix of shows such as the return of monster trucks. Merced County Fair Management expects big crowds again with this year's great line-up. All shows begin at 7 p.m. and are \$5. Children 5 years and under are free.

DATE:	SHOW:	EVENT WEBSITE:
Wednesday, June 7	Auto Racing	<a href="http://www.racemerced.com">http://www.racemerced.com</a>
Thursday, June 8	WGAS Motorsports' Monster Trucks, Free Style Moto X & Tuff Truck Racing	<a href="https://www.wgasmotorsports.com">https://www.wgasmotorsports.com</a>
Friday, June 9	Bull Competition	<a href="http://www.goldcoastbuckingbulls.com">http://www.goldcoastbuckingbulls.com</a>
Saturday, June 10	Valley Tractor Pullers' Tractor Pull	<a href="http://www.vtpapullers.org">http://www.vtpapullers.org</a>



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### MORE INFORMATION ON OUTDOOR THEATRE ARTISTS:

**I Am King...The Michael Jackson Experience** takes the audience on a musical and visual journey into the world of the "King of Pop" featuring an incredible cast of talented musicians and Broadway and Las Vegas dancers to bring Jackson to life! These talented tribute artists sing live while mastering the intense dancing that Jackson was so famous for. It's a show you don't want to miss featuring hits like "Bad," "Billie Jean," "Thriller," "Man in the Mirror" and many more!

**John Michael Montgomery's** career has spanned more than two decades, featured more than 30 top Billboard country chart singles, include seven that reached #1: "I Love the Way You Love Me," "I Swear," "Be My Baby Tonight," "If You've Got Love," "I Can Love You Like That," "Sold (The Grundy County Auction Incident)," and "The Little Girl." Many have described his ability to connect to the audience and relate to fans as one of the many reasons he has had such a long, successful career.

Formed in 1969, **WAR** was one of the most popular funk groups of the '70s and also one of the most eclectic, freely melding soul, Latin, jazz, blues, reggae and rock influences into an effortlessly funky whole. WAR's career spans more than four decades and hits have included: "Spill the Wine," "The World Is a Ghetto," "The Cisco Kid," "Why Can't We Be Friends?," "Low Rider," and "Summer." Over time, members of WAR have changed but the unique musical style is unwavering, consistently led by founding member Leroy "Lonnie" Jordan.

High School friends from Los Banos, Dusty "Tex" Dahlgren and Brett "Bird" Brooks first formed their country-rap group **Moonshine Bandits** in 1999 and later released their first album *Soggy Crackerz* in 2003. Formed at a time when only Bubba Sparxxx, Haystak and a few other artists were mixing country, rap, and rock – the Moonshine Bandits stood out with their unique sound, energetic show and outlaw music anthems. Their music has included collaborations across musical genres; Bubba Sparxxx on their 2006 *Prohibition* album, as did Danny Boone from the group Rehab. Bay area rapper, E-40, lent his skills to 2009's *Divebars and Truckstops* album. In 2011, Moonshine Bandits released *Whiskey and Women*, then in 2014, *Calicountry* was released and reached #22 on Billboard's Country Albums chart and then *Blacked Out* (2015) topped out at #13.

Regional Mexican singer and songwriter **Noel Torres** from Badiraguato, Sinaloa, grew up around music with his father singing at family gatherings and parties. Influenced by the music of Los Tucanes de Tijuana and Ramon Ayala, Noel Torres loved to sing romantic ballads and corridos. Torres released his first album, *Al Frente y de Frente* in 2011, with its single, "El Tiempo Contigo" landing on the charts. He followed quickly with a second album that year entitled *Llegamos, Estamos y Seguimos*. The first single, "La Guanábana," spent 20 weeks on the airplay charts and was nominated for Corrido of the Year at the 2012 Premios de la Radio awards. A second single, "Sigo Sencillo," spent almost six months on the chart. He released his third album *La Estructura* in 2013 and then his fourth album *La Balanza* in 2014, off which he earned five top singles including "Me Interestas" and "Para Que Tantos Besos." Recent singles include "No Andan Canado Venados" and "Pensarte."



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**About The Merced County Fair:**

The Merced County Fair, first founded in 1891, represents the 35<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.MercedCountyFair.com). Connect with the Fair on Facebook (@mercedfair), Twitter (@Merced\_CA\_Fair) and now Instagram (@mercedcountyfair).

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