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salinasvalleyfair.com

MAY 14, 2018 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SALINAS VALLEY FAIR STARTS THURSDAY

Lots of affordable family fun at the fair in King City

KING CITY – "Lettuce Turnip The Beet" is the 2018 fair theme for the 74th Salinas Valley Fair in King City and it opens Thursday and runs through Sunday. "We can't wait to share what we've planned for our guests. We know you're going to have a great time," said TJ Plew, CEO. "We've packed in bushels of fun for folks of every age."

The Salinas Valley Fair, a South County tradition for 74 years, will provide guests and exhibitors with four days of jam-packed entertainment and amusement. The fun begins on Kids Day – Thursday when all children age 12 and under get in free. School tours entering the fair on opening day can look forward to visiting with Smokey the Bear, the Animal Cracker Conspiracy and Comedian Greg Frisbee!

Every day events include a bigger carnival with challenging games that are sure to give anyone an adrenaline rush. For the young ones, there are also free children's activities and entertainment, including the STEM-based Imagination Gallery and the Petting Zoo. Other daily features include JD Platt and the K-9 Kings Stunt Show, the educational Sea Lion Splash, comedian Matt Baker as seen on America's Got Talent and Last Comic Standing.

The Steinbeck Stage will start with the Fair's Amateur Talent Show on opening night followed by Pro Wrestling on Friday night and the hilarious master hypnotist Tyzen opening for Journey Unauthorized on Saturday night. And on the grounds, you'll enjoy livestock competitions, unique crafts and gift vendors and the exhibits from thousands of residents including, some of your friends and neighbors, who have entered everything from class art projects to photography to quilts to flowers to the best produce in the world on display in the exhibit buildings.

And let's not forget the fabulous food. From mouthwatering barbecued ribs and tri-tip to corn dogs and funnels cakes, even the largest appetite will be satisfied. The newest food offering this year is from the Nitro Shack, "Dragon's Breath". This treat is rice fruit cereal infused with nitrogen. Be ready to press record when you consume this treat, as you create your 'Game of Thrones' moment.

Adults can enjoy drinks and music at the Long Branch Saloon with Mark Mackay (Thursday), The Money Band (Friday) and The Tommy Moon Band (Saturday).

Don't forget Thursday night, May 17th, is also the Grand Tasting sponsored by Rabobank (separate ticket event, but more than worth the \$25 admission price) in the Orradre Building. Taste wine, craft brews,

MISSION STATEMENT

To showcase the annual fair, promote the talent and education of our youth, and provide a year-round setting for community services.



cheeses, chocolates, and food prepared by local caterers. The first 100 guests to the event will receive a free gift from Across The Prarie!

In addition to Kids day, there is also Senior Day on Friday when those 60 or older receive free admission.

The Salinas Valley Fair is proud to honor our servicemen and women and their families Saturday for Military Appreciation Day when all active duty military and their dependents will be admitted free. Military employees and contractors may also receive admission discount with valid identification. It's just a small thanks from the Fair to all those who serve our country and their families.

Dia del Hispano takes place on Sunday, May 20th, and will feature entertainment, Mexican Rodeo and the annual Tardeada dance on Steinbeck Square.

If fair-goers prefer a more action-packed event, Farmer 500 AgriRace Invitational will take place Thursday night, May 17th, in the Stampede Arena followed by 4x4 Truck Pulls sponsored by Always Towing on Friday night, May 18th. Or maybe you prefer the Bull Riding competition presented by the L.A. Hearne Company in the arena, which begins at 7 p.m on Saturday, May 19th.

Hundreds of supporters of 4-H and FFA are expected on Saturday, May 19th, as the Junior Livestock sales and auction starts at 8 AM (sharp). Over 900 livestock will be sold in the sale. It's the culmination of months of hard work for hundreds of FFA and 4-H exhibitors. This year's Junior Livestock Auction is dedicated to Mission Ranches, a local business that has provided much support to the auction and the Salinas Valley Fair.

Fair admission is \$10 for adults, \$6 for seniors, \$6 for youth 6-17 and children 5 and under are free every day at the fair.

The Salinas Valley Fair draws tens of thousands of people every year. It's a great four-day spring fair. For more information, call (831)385-3243 or visit the Salinas Valley Fair website at <u>www.salinasvalleyfair.com</u>.

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