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## Salute to Heroes at the Sonoma County Fair

*There are heroes all around us at the 2018 Sonoma County Fair. Enjoy a thrilling carnival, big name entertainment, live horse racing, and a whole lot of fun!*

SANTA ROSA, CA – April 26, 2018– Heroes are all around us, and they are the centerpiece of the 2018 Sonoma County Fair’s “Salute to Heroes”. “There were so many people who were heroes for us during the fires last October,” says Fair CEO, Becky Bartling, “and we wanted to take a moment to acknowledge them. We want to celebrate all the things that make us Sonoma Strong!”

In addition to tributes to all sorts of heroes, visitors to the Fair will find all the makings for a fun-filled family outing. A floral tribute to Sonoma County, free entertainment and tasty fair foods are just the beginning. From the exhibit buildings filled with your neighbors’ works of art to the livestock in the barns; from the cheering horse race fans to the screams of excitement in the carnival, the Fair has something for everyone.

This year’s Fair Flower Show reflects the ‘Seasons of Sonoma’. From the rugged coastal bluffs to the majestic redwoods, from the hillside vineyards to the iconic oak studded hills, local gardeners will show what makes “Sonoma Strong.” The centerpiece of the show is an enormous water feature with a phoenix rising, representing the resiliency of our county and its rebirth.

The 2018 Fair will also feature another spectacular line up for our FREE Community Concert Series. We kick off with Queen Nation on August 2, followed by the Batalla de Bandas on August 3. New this year is our Blues Festival on August 4, featuring Joe Louis Walker, Carolyn Wonderland and Grady Champion. August 5 features Ismael Gallegos and Uri Ceballos. Country music star John Michael Montgomery joins us August 6, and Blood Sweat and Tears rocks out August 7. On August 8 we will have Super Diamond, a Neil Diamond Tribute group, and August 9 will feature La Raza Obrera del Gurrumino y El Viejito. As we head into the final weekend, the

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lineup doesn't disappoint with Sawyer Brown on August 10, the ever popular Elvis Singing Contest on August 11, and finally Arkangel R-15 on August 12. You won't want to miss these acts!!

Grab your capes, wands, or guitar and come prepared for fun! We have tons of Superhero fun planned, culminating with a big celebration on "Super Sunday," August 12, when Spiderman and Black Panther make special appearances. Kids are invited to dress as their favorite superhero, every day of Fair, and claim a special prize. Heroes of another sort are celebrated at Wizard Fest, on August 5, with contests, activities and fun featuring 20 years of a favorite literary hero, Harry Potter! On August 11, the Fair pays tribute to the King with "Elvis Day at the Fair". Events include performances by Michael & TLC and day filled with Elvis-themed audience participation contests. The highlight of the day is the musical Impersonation Contest, featuring ten Elvis impersonators performing with a live band, competing for a \$1,000 cash prize!

The Fair's carnival, presented by Butler Amusements, will include some of the newest and most exciting rides and attractions available in the carnival industry. Feature attractions will include the 100 foot tall Vertigo, Music Express, Inversion and the spectacular White Water Flume Ride. Unlimited ride wristbands will be available every day of the Fair. Plan ahead and save by taking advantage of special carnival presale deals, on sale through August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Wine Country Racing returns August 2-5, and 9-12....which means 8 thrilling days of live horse racing! Racing is free with Fair admission, so fairgoers are encouraged to come often and cheer on their favorites. For more serious racing fans, VIP seating, reserved boxes, and trackside tables are on sale beginning April 28. Be sure to reserve your tickets early, as the more popular seating sections sell out fast!

Pre-sale tickets for the Fair go on sale this Saturday, April 28. Sonoma County Fair Box Office will open April 28 at 9 am for pre-sale tickets. Online tickets will be available at noon on April 28.

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The Box Office will be open Monday through Friday 9 am to 6 pm through August 1. Special Saturday hours (9 am to 4 pm) start July 7th.

Make this summer memorable by joining the Fair team!! Job opportunities will be posted online April 30, Go to [sonomacountyfair.com/fair/jobs-volunteers.php](http://sonomacountyfair.com/fair/jobs-volunteers.php) for more information.

Join in a "Salute to Heroes" at this summer's Sonoma County Fair from August 2 to August 12! In addition to tributes to the many heroes of Sonoma County, visitors to the Fair will find all the makings for a fun-filled family outing. A floral tribute to the beauty of Sonoma County, free entertainment and tasty fair foods are just the beginning. From the exhibit buildings filled with your neighbors' works of art to the livestock in the barns; from the cheering horse race fans to the screams of excitement in the carnival, the Fair has something for everyone. For details, visit [SonomaCountyFair.com](http://SonomaCountyFair.com) or call (707) 545-4200. Like us on Facebook, and follow us on Instagram and Twitter to keep up with the fun. See you at the Fair!

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