

Kiddy Tractor Pull, Date Night, Alaskan Pig Races, Cake Eating

Several new special events will debut at this year's Fair including Date Night and a Cake-Eating Contest, as well as appearances by some much-loved favorites, like the Kiddy Pedal Tractor Pull and Alaskan Pig Races.

Want to get in touch with your inner child or take a time-out from the kids for a few hours? Bring your special someone to the first ever "Date Night at the Monterey County Fair" (Friday, August 18th), or come meet a new friend, and make some magic at the Fair. The event is being sponsored by Rosine's Restaurant of Monterey. The owners of Rosine's Restaurant Jim and Rosine Culcasi met at the Monterey County Fair more than 25 years ago. Although they came from different high schools and attended the Fair with different friends, sparks flew between Jim and Rosine the night they met and the Fair has held a special spot in their hearts ever since. For Date Night, Corpo-

rate Kids' Events/VIP Baby-sitting Service will provide 2 hours of complimentary baby-sitting (with paid Fair admission) from 7 to 9 PM and parents are invited to pre-register for this safe, secure and free service, which is limited to 75 kids, ages 4 to 12. While you're off holding hands with your honey, the kids will be entertained and supervised on site at the Turf Club at the Fairgrounds. Corporate Kids Events has a fun-filled line-up of activities to tucker out the kids including arts, crafts and games.

In addition to hosting Date Night, Rosine's is sponsoring the first ever Cake-Eating Contest, also to be held Friday, August 18th. Those who have visited Rosine's located at 434 Alvarado St. in downtown Monterey fondly remember one main feature: the dessert display by the entrance. All of the delicious desserts at Rosine's are made fresh daily and vary from day to day, including such tasty

highlights as Oreo cookie, Kit-Kat and peanut butter cup cakes, as well as more traditional dessert items like strawberry pie, German chocolate cake and carrot cake. Even Rachael Ray, the popular host of several shows on the Food Network, including "30 Minute Meals with Rachael Ray" and "\$40 a Day with Rachael Ray", recently lunched at Rosine's Restaurant. If you've got a sweet tooth and a competitive spirit, be sure to sign up for what is bound to be one of the tastiest (and messiest!) events at the Fair.

Alaskan Racing Pigs is always a highlight at the Fair, attracting enthusiastic fans both young and old. Come cheer on the swift little swine as they are released from



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their starting gates, race around a short course jumping hurdles, and make a mad dash for the mash. Don't be late for this event—it always attracts a big crowd. We'll also have daily pedal tractor pulls on little tractors loaded down with hay bails for the kids.

To register for complimentary baby-sitting, please complete the request form at www.vipbabysitting.com/free_events.htm and we will send you a confirmation. For more information or to sign up for the Cake-Eating Contest, please call **(831) 372-5863**.

Kids' Club

By Charyn Pfeuffer

The Monterey County Fair has started a brand new club just for kids who want to enjoy the Fair all year round. Monterey County Fair's Kids' Club was created exclusively for children ages 12 and under. "This is a fun, free program for kids and parents to get involved with not only fair time activities, but also year round activities that are available here at our fairgrounds" says Kristyn Coulter, Kids' Club Coordinator.

As a Monterey County Kids' Club member, children will receive a special VIP membership package complete with Kids' Club Badge, Monterey County Fair "That's Entertainment" Plushie Animal, e-Newsletters, exclusive Kids' Club activities on Kids' Day (held during the Fair on Tuesday August 15th), cool prizes and discounts, coloring contests and information about the Read and Ride program.

With our popular Read and Ride program, the Monterey County Fair offers free carnival ride tickets to Monterey County kids who read extra books during the months of June and July. This is a great way to get that required summer reading out of the way and earn some free carnival ride tickets at the same time.

As a member of Monterey County Kids' Club, children and their families receive regular e-newsletters with ad-

vance notice of upcoming Fair-related entertainment and events. Monterey County Fair Kids' Club members will also receive special VIP access to a special 70th Birthday Party for the Monterey County Fair on Tuesday, August 15th in the Turf Club complete with birthday cake, fun activities and special visits from fair-time entertainers!

This year during the Fair, Kids' Day is being held **Tuesday, August 15th from noon to 10:00 PM**. The day will be packed with fun kid-friendly games, activities and giveaways, including an appearance from a special four-legged guest, Gibson, the world's tallest dog. At 170 pounds, this "Harlequin" Great Dane stands more than 7 feet. Gibson holds several world records, including the world's tallest dog, tallest therapy dog and tallest Great Dane. The celebrity dog has appeared on Good Morning America, The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, Montel Williams Show, as well as a recent appearance on the Ellen Show with Paris Hilton. The big, friendly puppy dog will be on hand for thrilling demonstrations, "PAW-To-Graphs" and a whole lot of fun.

The fun doesn't stop once the Fair is over. The Monterey County Kids' Club will send e-newsletters through-

out the year featuring educational entertainment, community classes or craft activities provided by local and regional organizations.

Membership for the Monterey County Kids' Club is free and parents can sign their kids up by registering online, at the Fairgrounds office or at any Monterey County Kids' Club event. To receive an application, please call **(831) 372-5863** or check out www.montereycountyfair.com for fun contest and promotional information and start having fun today! ■



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