



News Release: June 25, 2017

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Doritos Corn on the Cob, Pineapple Chicken & Rice Bowl and Deep-Fried Mac & Cheese Balls Among Top Winners at Alameda County Fair's 2017 SNACKDOWN

Pleasanton, Calif. – There's a new golden goddess at Alameda County Fair and her name is *Doritos Corn on the Cob*. The treat that topped all at the 4th Annual SNACKDOWN competition features locally grown roasted corn rolled in a blanket of spicy, crushed chips and topped with warm, melted cheese.

The crisp, crunchy creation won rave reviews from SNACKDOWN judges and audience tasters alike, and earned Nate Janousek of the California Corn Company his first Grand Champion title and belt. The concession is new to the Fair this year and is located near the Green Gate entrance.

A total of nine formidable contenders battled for the top spot on Friday, June 23 at the Fair's Grandstand Stage. More trophies were awarded for individual categories:

BEST MAIN EVENT

Pineapple Chicken & Rice Bowl

"Marinated chicken with homemade pineapple salsa and white rice, served in half a fresh pineapple." Available at Sharky's Fish Fry located in food park area across from the Grandstand.

BEST NEW SIDE OR SNACK

Deep-Fried Mac & Cheese Balls

"Fresh-cooked macaroni blended with five creamy cheeses, dipped and deep-fried to golden perfection." Available at the Mac Shack located outside of building "C" across from building "D."

BEST NEW SWEET TREAT

Gelato Donut Sandwich

"A scoop of fresh, creamy gelato smothered between warm glazed donut halves." Available at Fabe's Churros and Gelato (formerly Colossal Gelato) located near the Green Gate entrance.

Continued:

BEST NEW CRAZY CREATION

The Chickie

"Large, juicy kosher pickle slice filled with spicy grilled chicken and topped with zesty sriracha mayo and bleu cheese crumbles."

Available at Get Pickled in the Action Zone area

The competition's panel of judges included Passport magazine food writer and contributing editor Jim Gladstone, Bay Area radio legend Chuy Gomez, Visit Tri-Valley Marketing & Communications Director, Robin Fahr and Facebook contest winner Krissy Merolla. KCBS Foodie Chap, Liam Mayclem, hosted the event.

Food vendors were invited to participate in the competition earlier this year and first-round judges selected the finalists from entries received. Contestants are allowed to enter as many different items as they wish, but all entries must be original creations and new to the Fair. Judges at the live competition score each entry on appearance, creativity and taste.

The Fair's website "Food Finder" feature helps visitors locate a particular food or vendor. SNACKDOWN "Champion" signs will also be posted at the designated food stands. Food vendors also offer "\$2 Taste of the Fair" sample-size servings of select menu items every Thursday until 5PM.

Additional SNACKDOWN Finalists & Locations:

50/50 Burrito

"A beef burrito mash-up featuring chicken, shrimp, pico de gallo and avocado." Available at Pepe's Mariscos located near the Amphitheater.

Flaming Hot Cheetos Corn Dog

"A classic corn dog covered in an intense, crunchy blanket of Flaming Hot Cheetos." Available at the Mac Shack located outside the "C" building and at Hog Daddy's located across from the Heritage House.

Orange Chicken Burrito

"Asian-inspired burrito with sweet & tangy orange chicken and rice & veggies, wrapped in a warm flour tortilla." Available at Eddie's Asian Cuisine located across from the front of the "B" building.

Turkey Leg Tacos

"Fresh, grilled turkey leg meat with beans, pico de gallo and parmesan cheese on warm corn tortillas." Available at both Juicy's Grill & BBQ locations; one across from Amphitheater and one in the Action Zone area.

For information on vendors and locations, visit

<http://annual.alamedacountyfair.com/entertainment/live-music-special-events/snackdown>

2017 Alameda County Fair Information

Dates: June 16-July 9 (Closed June 19, 20, 26, 27)

Hours: 11AM-11PM daily

Carnival Hours: Wed-Thurs 12PM to closing, Fri-Sun 11AM to closing, July 3 & 4 11AM to closing

Horse Racing: June 22-25, June 30-July 4 & July 7-9

Big O Tires FREE Concerts: 8PM-9:15PM nightly. Fireworks show immediately following at Concert Lawn.

Tuesday, July 4th: Blues Festival, 1-9PM, Fireworks Spectacular featuring Oakland East Bay Symphony, 9:30PM at Budweiser Grandstand

Gate Admission*:

- Adults (13-61) -- \$15
- Seniors (62+) -- \$10
- Kids (6-12) -- \$10
- Children under 6 -- FREE
- Carnival wristbands -- Wed-Thurs \$30, Fri-Sun and July 3 & 4, \$35

*Purchase in advance (before June 15) and save up to 33%

Special Days (ALL SPECIAL PRICING ENDS AT 5PM):

- Military Appreciation — One FREE Fair admission with valid Military ID, ALL DAY, EVERYDAY
- \$2 Taste of the Fair: June 22, 29, July 6 — \$2 samples of select Fair treats, UNTIL 5PM
- Seniors FREE Thursdays (62+): June 22 & 29, July 6, UNTIL 5PM
- Kids FREE Fridays (12 and under): June 16, 23, 30 & July 7, UNTIL 5PM
- Feed the Need Food Drive benefitting Alameda County Community Food Bank: June 28, UNTIL 5PM — Bring 4 non-perishable food items and receive FREE admission & \$1 rides)
- First Responders Day: July 4th – Free admission until 5PM, check website for details
- July 5 - \$1 Admission & \$1 Rides until 5PM

2017 Big O Tires Concert Series:

6/25 – Rose Royce

6/28 – Clint Black

6/29 – Ann Wilson of Heart

6/30 – Super Diamond (Neil Diamond tribute)

Continued:

7/1 – Sheila E

7/2 – America

7/3 – Queen Nation (Queen tribute)

7/4 – Red, White & Blues Festival

7/5 – Wynonna & the Big Noise

7/6 – Journey Revisited (Journey tribute)

7/7 – Foreverland (Michael Jackson tribute)

7/8 – Jody Watley featuring Shalamar Reloaded

7/9 – Night Ranger

The Alameda County Fair is operated by the non-profit Fair Association without any tax funding from the government. It is ranked one of the Top 50 North American Fairs and the 7th largest Fair in California. The Fairgrounds is home to the Oldest One-Mile Race Track in America.