



News Release: June 25, 2016

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## Alameda County Fair to Host 2nd "Drop Zone Drive" to Help Send Care Packages to Deployed U.S. Troops

Free admission and \$1 Rides for each 2-item donation

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2016

11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Pleasanton, Calif. – Alameda County Fair will once again host the annual "Drop Zone Drive" on Wednesday, June 29, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Blue Star Moms, a group that sends care packages to thousands of deployed troops twice a year, is organizing the event.

A list of items most requested by our service men and women stationed in the Middle East is provided on the next page. The Fair will offer free admission to everyone who brings 2 items from the list to any of the entrance gates the day of the drive.

"Twice a year we send care packages to our deployed troops in the Middle East," said Joan Jachowski, lead organizer of the event. "The packages contain everyday things that we might take for granted but are welcome treats and necessities for our soldiers far away from home."

Volunteers will be stationed at all 4 entrance gates at the Fairgrounds to collect the donations the day of the event. Pop/country star BJ Thomas will perform at 8 p.m. as part of the Big O Tires Concert Series at the amphitheater that night. For more information visit [www.alamedacountyfair.com](http://www.alamedacountyfair.com).



## DROP ZONE DRIVE DONATION REQUEST LIST

Wednesday, June 29, 11am to 5pm

Bring any 2 items from the list and receive one free general admission

Contents of packaged items must be individually factory wrapped for distribution.

### Food

- Jif-to-Go – 8+ count
- Pop Tarts – 8+ count
- Fruit Snacks – 8+ count
- Slim Jim – 16+ count (or Giant stick)
- Rice Krispies Treats – 8+ count
- Instant Oatmeal – 8+ count
- Hot Chocolate – 8+ count
- Chewing gum, 15-stick packages – 3+
- Granola bars – 6+ count
- Nuts – 5+ count packets
- Starbucks Via (or other instant coffee) – 6+ count
- Tuna, chicken or ham salad kit such as Bumblebee “Snack on the Run”
- Cheese crackers – 8+ count
- Cookies – 8+ count
- 5-Hour Energy drink 2oz – 3 or more

### Travel-sized Toiletries

- Deodorant – 3 or more
- Mouthwash – 3 or more
- Hand sanitizer – 3 or more
- Wet Ones pack – 3 or more
- Lip Balm – 3 or more

### Other Items

- Black crew socks – men’s adult size
- Puzzle books – crossword, word search, Sudoku, etc
- Baby wipes
- Disposable razors

## 2016 Alameda County Fair Information

**Dates:** June 15 – July 4 (Open Tuesday – Sunday, plus Monday, July 4th)

**Hours:** 11 a.m. – 11 p.m. daily

**Carnival Hours:** Tues -Thurs, 12 p.m. to closing, Fri-Sun, 11 a.m. to closing

**Horse Racing:** June 16 - 19, June 23 --26, and July 1 - 4

**Big O Tires FREE Concerts:** 8 p.m. – 9:15 p.m., nightly. Special effects fireworks show with video celebrating local youth immediately following concerts.

**Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup>:** Blues Festival, 1-9 p.m., Fireworks Spectacular featuring Oakland Symphony, 9:30 p.m., Budweiser Grandstand.

### Gate Admission\*:

- Adults (13-61) -- \$12
- Seniors (62+) -- \$10
- Kids (6-12) -- \$10
- Children under 6 – FREE
- Carnival Wristbands - \$30 / Tues-Thurs, \$35 / Fri-Sun

### Special Days (ALL SPECIAL PRICING ENDS AT 5 P.M.):

- Military Appreciation, FREE Fair admission with valid Military ID – ALL DAY, EVERYDAY
- \$2 Tuesdays: June 21 & 28 -- Enjoy \$2 admission and \$2 samples of select Fair treats, UNTIL 5 P.M.
- Seniors FREE Thursdays (62+) – June 16, June 23, & June 30, UNTIL 5 P.M.
- Kids FREE Fridays (12 and under) – June 17, June 24, & July 1, UNTIL 5 P.M.
- Drop Zone Drive & \$1 Rides: June 29 (Support our troops: Bring 2 items from donation list and receive FREE admission) – UNTIL 5 P.M.

### Big O Tires Presents 2016 Concert Series:

6/24 – Great White

6/25 – Smash Mouth

6/26 – LeAnn Rimes

6/28 – Journey Revisted

6/29 – BJ Thomas

6/30 – Kool & The Gang

7/1 – Expose

7/2 – The Guess Who

7/3 – Crystal Gayle

7/4 – Red, White & Blues Festival (1 p.m. – 9 p.m.)

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 7<sup>th</sup> largest Fair in California. The Fairgrounds is home to the Oldest One-Mile Race Track in America.

