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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Monday, July 24, 2017**

**MONMOUTH COUNTY FAIR IS ALMOST HERE!**



FREEHOLD --- The best part of summer is almost here! The **Monmouth County Fair** opens at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, July 26 at East Freehold Showgrounds, Kozloski Road, Freehold. Opening night brings the Monmouth County Firefighters Association's Hose & Ladder Competition at 7 p.m., performances by the **Moroccan Shepherders** at 8:15 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., and fireworks at 9:15 p.m., weather-permitting.

Organized and presented by the Monmouth County Park System in cooperation with the Monmouth County 4-H, this five-day event runs Wednesday-Sunday, July 26-30. Each day offers rides, family entertainment, 4-H shows and exhibits, Home & Garden competitions and demonstrations, touch-a-truck and so much more! Live musical performances include **Jackson**

***Pines*** on Thursday; students from ***Lakehouse Music Academy*** on Friday; ***Nicole Atkins*** on Saturday; and ***The Chuck Lambert Band*** on Sunday.

Other entertainment highlights are ***Hell on Wheels, World of Wonders & Escape Explosions*** and ***Mutts Gone Nuts*** as well as returning favorites ***Robinson's Racing Pigs, Bwana Jim Wildlife Show*** and ***Hilby the German Juggler***.

Fair rides are once again provided by Reithoffer Shows and will feature a separate ***Kids Zone Ride Area*** designed for younger children. Be sure to get your fill of rides by taking advantage of ride wristbands. Now available daily, these wristbands allow fairgoers to enjoy unlimited rides on any one day. Wristbands will be available for purchase at the Fair for \$25 on Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday; and \$30 on Friday and Saturday. Single ride tickets will also be available daily. Please note that rides are weather permitting.

Throughout the Fair, the Monmouth County 4-H will be hosting contests, animal shows, demonstrations, and a quilt raffle. Fairgoers in grades K-13 are invited to take part in the ***4-H's Open Youth Fun Day*** and the ***4-H Open Youth Pet Show***. The ***4-H Open Youth Fun Day*** starts at 6 p.m. on Thursday, July 27; registration starts at 5:30 p.m. The ***4-H Open Youth Pet Show*** starts at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, July 30; registration starts at 11 a.m. For more information about these 4-H events, please call the 4-H office at 732-431-7260, ext. 7264.

In all the excitement of the Fair, be sure to get a bite to eat. There will be plenty to choose from including Empanada Guy, Delicious Orchards, Sweet Carolina BBQ, Tasty Trolley, and Freehold Jersey Freeze. Fair vendors from Country Candles, Kitchen Magic, Pete Airbrush, Scentsy, Tastefully Simple and The Tooth Fairy will be selling their goods among many others! Stop by the Made in Monmouth tent and discover a variety of goods available from local businesses. Then purchase some of the freshest, local produce in the area at the FFA Farm Stand.

Filled with fun and excitement, the Fair is open 5-11 p.m. on Wednesday-Friday, July 26-28; 3-11 p.m. on Saturday, July 29; and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. on Sunday, July 30. Admission is \$8 per person. Children age 12 and under are free. Parking is free.

For more information about the Fair, visit [www.MonmouthCountyParks.com](http://www.MonmouthCountyParks.com) or call 732-842-4000, ext. 4312. The Monmouth County Park System, created in 1960 by the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders, is Monmouth County's Open Space, Parks and Recreation agency.

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PICTURED - Freeholder Director Lillian G. Burry visited last year's FFA Tent.