

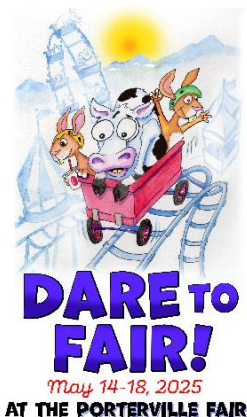
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

(Porterville, CA) - As President of the Porterville Fair Board, I am honored to be a part of the 77th annual community wide celebration. This milestone represents the collective work of countless community members who volunteered their time and support to build this organization. The Porterville Fair has become a much-anticipated iconic event that brings the community together and is engrained in memories and hearts. The fair embodies the spirit of the community by focusing on core values such as community service, volunteerism, education, leadership, and youth engagement. These attributes are reflected in the Porterville Fair Board's mission statement; "To provide a venue of community entertainment as well as a showplace for local businesses, civic groups, and youth groups. To provide an avenue for local community groups to participate in community service and to do these things in a professional and businesslike manner."

The original three-member 1948 board set the tone for growth and built a foundation of success that few have accomplished. The Porterville Fair is one in a handful of not-for-profit community fairs that still exist in the state of California. Now functioning with a twelve-member volunteer working Board of Directors, and a small, tight knit, hard-working staff lead by Fair Manager Susie Godfrey along with countless volunteer hours from incredibly dedicated members of our "Fair Family". The group draws passion and commitment from the engagement and involvement of local youth throughout the year. This is most evident and inspiring during the Jr. Livestock Auction. Over 2,000 Jr. exhibitors participate each May with their livestock and indoor projects. This event has reinvested approximately 179.5 million back into our youth which is possible thanks to tremendous community support. Thank you for supporting the Porterville Fair and the youth in our community!

On behalf of the Porterville Fair Board of Directors I am proud to state after 16 years at our forever home, with the increase in livestock exhibitors each year, we have outgrown our very large livestock barn. The time has come to expand. Construction will begin on a second barn mid-summer 2025 and be ready to fill with dairy and beef cattle next spring. Moving the cattle over will allow much needed space for the hogs, sheep and goats. It is growth that every livestock department will benefit from. A fundraising campaign for the new barn will kick off at the upcoming Fair. Renderings and donation opportunities will be posted. Several very generous donations have gotten the ball rolling on a much-needed project and could not be appreciated any more.

In addition to the May Fair, annual events produced by the Porterville Fair include Sierra Winter Classic; a steer and heifer show each January, Orange Blossom Klassic; a lamb, hog and goat show each February and California Collegiate Livestock Show; a lamb, hog, goat and steer show each March. These shows bring exhibitors and spectators from all over, which has a positive economic impact on the community increasing hotel stays, shopping, fuel sales and dining.

If the trying past few years have taught us anything, they have taught us how special and important our families, friends, and community are. We invite you to join the celebration at the 77th Porterville Fair. Our founding Fair Board may feel things have surely changed in 77 years. Some have; others remain the same. You'll see that same tradition shining with excitement in the eyes of your children living and loving their Fair visit, with a few updates, just as you did.

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