

Finger-Lickin' Fun! State Fair Meadowlands Announces Food Lineup

For this year's 30th Anniversary, State Fair will host over 50 food vendors with savory, sweet and daring food for all ages and tastes; event kicks off on Thursday, June 23

East Rutherford, NJ – May 11, 2016 – **State Fair Meadowlands** is gearing up for some finger-lickin' fun for this year's 30th Anniversary Fair, with a delicious array of savory, sweet and daring food for all ages and tastes. Over 50 food vendors will offer acres and acres of endless treats, from grilled corn on the cob, curly fries and pulled pork to chicken wings, gyros and bacon-wrapped goodies. Fun seekers can keep cool with ice cream sundaes, old-fashioned flavored sodas, freshly squeezed lemonade and much more.

The event kicks off on Thursday, June 23 and runs through Sunday, July 10, at the State Fair Meadowlands fairgrounds in East Rutherford, N.J. (*The fair is closed to the public on Sunday, June 26 for Copa Americana Soccer Finals.*)

New this year is **Eat Our Bacon**, a food stand that focuses *just* on bacon: jumbo bacon on a stick, bacon wrapped meatballs, bacon corn dogs, bacon and cheddar fries, chocolate-dipped bacon, candied bacon and much more. Southern-inspired **Funtastic Foods**, returning this year with a new and expanded menu, will be bringing Hog Fries – skin-on French fries topped with North Carolina-style pulled pork, cheddar cheese, barbeque sauce and maple-flavored bacon bits. Corn-on-the-cob lovers can grab a grilled ear and top it with cheesy mayonnaise, flavored parmesan or Mexican hot sauces. Or, try out chicken wings with mango peach habanero sauce, made with fresh seasonal fruit.

Chester's Gators & Taters will again be jazzing fairgoers with its delicious and unusual creations, including gator sliders, gator mac n' cheese and shark kebabs. The **Deep-Fry** stand, of "Brian-the-deep-fry-guy" fame, will feature deep-fried Oreos wrapped in bacon, deep-fried grilled cheese sandwiches, deep-fried Pop Tarts, and even crunchy deep-fried bug larvae. If that's too much for you, fear not: Traditionalists can seek out a plate of spaghetti at **Spaghetti Eddie's**, turkey legs, real Philly cheesesteaks, pizza, zeppoles or crisp deep-fried veggies.

Those watching their waistlines can visit one of two large Greek stands for a fresh and healthy Greek salad with Kalamata olives, feta and crunchy red onions, topped with delectable marinated grilled chicken.

For the sweetest among us, try out Funtastic's Xango, a deep-fried Spanish-style cheesecake with whipped cream and a sprinkle of brown sugar, or sweet potato fries with a dollop of marshmallow Fluff. Kids will head straight for the **Ice Cream Mill**, with its iconic purple neon sign, for a delicious ice cream sundae with home-made peanut butter sauce, hot fudge or strawberry sauce.

Fairgoers can stay cool with **Cactus Jack's Olde-Fashioned Soda** stand, offering refillable stainless-steel mugs with fun flavors such as Renegade Root Beer, Black Jack Birch Beer,

Cactus Jack's Vanilla Cream, Old West Orange Cream, Bleeding Cowboy Black Cherry and Southern Gentry Ginger Ale.

Adults and kids alike will want to check out the **Bulk Candy Store**, an old-fashioned candy-by-the-pound tent that even has Kosher-certified candy. Grab a basket and enjoy the mix of modern and retro candy brands.

In addition to scrumptious food, the fair is proud to be showcasing a wide range of family entertainment that is FREE with entry ticket to the event. New this year is **The Death-Defying High Dive Show**, which features an 80-foot high dive tower from which daredevil divers plunge at 50 miles per hour into a 9 ½-foot pool. Don't miss the "Fire Dive" during the last show each day. Other exciting entertainment includes **The Great American Thrill Show** – an open-air performance of gymnastic acrobats and aerialists, dazzling audiences on the high wire and 90-foot sway pole. Back by popular demand for their 28th year will be **The Racing Pigs**. Throw your arms in the air and cheer them on as they rip up their real piggy racetrack!

The well-loved **Master Hypnotist Steve Bayner** will be back daily on the Main Stage. Hypnotist Bayner manages to be silly and amazing at the same time; take your chances and get up on stage with him. The fair will also hold a wide range of concerts on the American Stage. Visit the njfair.com [website](#) for concert information.

State Fair wouldn't be State Fair without the **Educational Petting Zoo**, where kids can get up close and personal with animals of the world – a perfect spot for ridiculous selfies. Like all the other entertainment, the Petting Zoo is free with entry ticket.

Instead of opening on a Friday, this year State Fair will kick off with a special "Throwback Thursday" preview night on June 23. Throwback Thursday celebrates the fair's opening in 1986 with a bargain handstamp, for both admission and rides, of just \$19.86 (non-handstamp entry price is \$7 for adults, \$5 for children). Friday, June 24 is Dollar Day, with admission \$10 for all ages, and just \$2 each for rides, food, games, select food and drinks and parking. Families also won't want to miss other bargain days, including Kids Go Free and Cheap-Cheap Night. Visit www.njfair.com for information.

State Fair Meadowlands has over 50 exciting rides and the largest Kiddieland in New Jersey. A family favorite, the **Sky Ride**, is back this year, providing sky-high views of the fair and NYC skyline, and for Batman fans, the **Batcopter** will provide rides with panoramic views of the fair in the original helicopter from the 1966 TV series.

State Fair Meadowlands occupies over 35 acres of fairgrounds plus parking. Fair hours are Monday through Thursday, 6 pm to midnight; Fridays, 6 pm to 1 am; Saturdays, 2 pm to 1 am; Sundays, 2 pm to midnight. Special hours are: Preview Night, Thursday, June 23, 6 pm to midnight; Dollar Day, Friday, June 24, 5 pm to 1 am; Sunday, July 3, 2 pm to 1 am; Monday, July 4, 2 pm to 1 am; Kids Go Free Night, Wednesday, June 29, 4 pm to midnight; and Cheap-

Cheap Night, Wednesday, July 6, 4 pm to midnight. The fair is closed to the public on Sunday, June 26.

Parking is free Monday through Wednesday, and \$5 Thursdays through Sundays and on July 4. On Dollar Day, Friday, June 24, parking is just \$2. The fair will again be offering free shuttle buses from/to Secaucus Junction; details to come. Visit www.njfair.com for information about the event, Bargain Days and to buy Advance Sale Tickets.

Note to Editors

Photos are available for download [at this link](#).

Media Contact (*journalist queries only*):

Patty Buchanan

Fastlane on behalf of SFM

(973) 670-1203

patty@fastlane.co