



Garden Grove Strawberry Festival Association
P.O. Box 2287, Garden Grove, California 92842 (714) 638-0981
www.strawberryfestival.org

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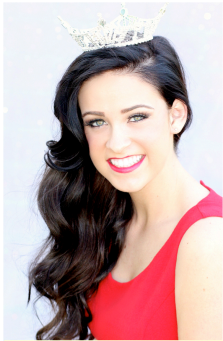
CONTACT:

Judy Cooper 949-280-6545 cell; jcpr@pacbell.net

**TV AND FILM STARS TO SERVE UP FREE STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE
AT GARDEN GROVE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL ON MAY 22nd**

-- Charity Fundraising Booths Selling Strawberry Treats and other Fun Food --

GARDEN GROVE, CA (May 12, 2015) – Since 1958 the Garden Grove Strawberry Festival has treated the community to free strawberry shortcake at its grand opening ceremony, this year to be held in the Showmobile Friday, May 22nd at 6 p.m. at Main and Acacia streets in Garden Grove. The giant cake will be created by French's Pastry Bakery in Costa Mesa. In the past as many as 2,000 have come out for free cake.



Miss Garden Grove Shannon Galipault

Some of the Saturday parade celebrities, who cannot resist having a taste, will be there to say a few words and help pass out cake to the crowd. They include **Theme Grand Marshal Lt.Col. Patricia Murray** (CA Air National Guard pilot) and **Miss Outstanding Teen Josie Pearce**. Plus film and TV stars **Jacob Hopkins** (The Goldbergs, Gumballs), **Ava Kolker** (Girl Meets World), **Jaida-Iman Benjamin** (Liv and Maddie), **Santana Dempsey** (The Newsroom), **Emily Robinson** (Transparent), **Julie Adams** (Creature from the Black Lagoon), **Erin Murphy** (Bewitched), **Forrest Wheeler** (Fresh Off the Boat), **Kate Linder** (The Young & The Restless) and **Ms. America Dr. Stephanie Mills**.

Many local dignitaries also attend. **Garden Grove Mayor Bao Nguyen** will cut the first piece and present the giant strawberry cake top to **Miss Garden Grove Shannon Galipault**.

During the 4-day Memorial Day weekend event over 300,000 annual attendees head for the festival's 200+ food and commercial booths where they find treasures to buy and all kinds of treats to try. Booths open at 1 p.m. on Friday May 22nd and at 10 a.m. on May 23rd through the 25th.

CHARITIES BENEFITTING FROM FOOD BOOTHS

The 2015 Festival Theme is "Honoring Our Returning Veterans." Twenty-five veterans and their families will ride in the 10 a.m. Saturday parade. This year 12 charities will be selling food to fill their coffers: Garden Grove's Assistance League, Boys and Girls Club, Emblem Club, High School Band Boosters, High School Baseball Boosters, Kiwanis Club, and Lions Club, in addition to the Guardettes of Orange County, Job's Daughters, Pacifica High School Girls Softball, Shakespeare of Orange County and the Vietnamese Young Adult Ministry of St. Columban. Collectively, the food booths bring in approximately \$90,000 for their charities.



Offerings include strawberry treats such as strawberry smoothies, cheesecake, crepes, bowls of strawberries with soft ice cream, strawberry sundae, strawberry shortcake, strawberry bread, strawberry royals, tart cups, chocolate covered strawberries and boxes of strawberries. Fairgoers will also find nacho supremes, pizza, chicken wings, hamburgers, cheeseburgers, carne asada, chicken tacos, cheese quesadillas, funnel cakes, baked potatoes, breakfast muffins, corn on the cob, hot dogs, chilitos, BBQ beef sandwiches, popcorn chicken, deep fried squid, deep fried fish balls, fried bananas and egg rolls.

SATURDAY BREAKFAST PROCEEDS HELP NEEDY FAMILIES

La Casa Garcia is donating food for the festival's annual pre-parade breakfast Saturday, May 23rd at 8 a.m. at the Garden Grove Community Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue at Euclid. Scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausage, ham, a scrambled egg/bacon combo, fried potatoes, plus orange juice and coffee will be served for \$7.00 per person paid at the door with all proceeds benefiting *We Give Thanks*, a charity annually providing Thanksgiving dinners for thousands of needy people.

Sponsorship support this year comes from Southern California Ford Dealers, Garden Grove Tourism Promotion Corporation, Clear Channel Outdoors, McDonalds, Care Ambulance Service, Sam's Club, Garden Grove Hospital, Brandywine Homes, Garden Grove Secured Storage, Allspace Storage, Embassy Suites, Hilton Garden Inn, Hampton Inn and Suites and La Casa Garcia. Media sponsors include Parenting OC, OC News and its Community Newspapers, OC Weekly, Garden Grove Journal, Korea Times, Nguoi Viet Daily News, El Panamericano, Farandula USA, Miniondas, and radio stations 103.4 MYfm, KOST, JACK FM, KABC, KLOS, KDAY-FM, KWVE 97.3, KSWB 100.3fm The Sound LA, KWIZ La Ranchera 96.7, AIR1 Radio, Radiocentro 93.9, KEARTH 101 and The Wave.

The Festival has donated over \$6.5 million to local charities since 1958. For more information, visit www.strawberryfestival.org.