

MEDIA RELATIONS DEPARTMENT PO BOX 389 RHINEBECK, NY 12572 PHONE: (845) 876-4000 FAX: (845) 876-4003

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dutchess Country Fair Star Family Day

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Rhinebeck, NY - For the second year, the Dutchess County Fair, Powers Great American Midways and Dutchess County Fair Food Concessionaires are teaming up to treat Dutchess County Gold Star and Blue Star families to a day of fun at the Dutchess County Fair. Guests will be treated to a day of free rides and food along with all the traditional Fair activities. Invitations were sent to the families through the Survivor Outreach Services Program Manager and Military Family Assistance Specialist.

"Our families that participated last year had a wonderful time. What a terrific opportunity that they can enjoy the Fair again," Raul Lopez, Survivor Outreach Services Program Manager at West Point told the Fair staff. In 2017, ten families accepted the invitation and came to the Fair for the day. "I'm sure, once word gets out, we'll have more families participate," Lopez said.

"What an impact the program had on all who participated," said Andy Imperati, Manager of the Dutchess County Fair. "The feedback we got from the behind-the-scenes people- the office



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staff who wrapped wristbands on family members, the ride operators and concessionaires who treated family members to Fair fun, the Society Board members who greeted them- was very enthusiastic. That we got to watch the families enjoy their day and say thank you to them was a real gift."

Dutchess County Fair, run by the Dutchess County Agricultural Society, Inc, a 501C3 not-for-profit, is open August 21-26, 2018. Powers Great American Midways, of Burgaw, NC, has been the carnival operator at the Dutchess County Fair since 2005. Their 53 rides for all ages is one of the highlights of the Fair. Almost half the 88 independent food concessionaires at the Fair participated with everything from free meals to free water all day for the families.

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