Soccer stars Montero, Hurtado visit fair on Fiesta Sunday

Los Lobos brings Tex-Mex music sound to Grandstand

Soccer stars Fredy Montero and Jhon Hurtado will sign autographs at the Evergreen State Fair as part of Fiesta Sunday activities.

The two will be at the fair from 3 to 4 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 29, located near the Comcast Courtyard Stage. Montero and Hurtado, both originating from Colombia, are mainstays of soccer in the United States, one a forward with the other playing defense.

Last year, Montero and Osvaldo Alonso signed autographs and posed for pictures at the fair following Snohomish County Parks and Recreation’s opening of the new Fairfield County Park, boasting nine of the best soccer fields in the county. The soccer park, operated in conjunction with the Sky River Soccer Club, is only minutes away from the fairgrounds.

“Interest in soccer continues to grow in Snohomish County, so it’s pleasing to see two stars such as Montero and Hurtado spend part of their day at the Evergreen State Fair,” said Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon. “Children and adults will enjoy this great opportunity.”

Fiesta Sunday also will feature musical talent Los Lobos at the Grandstand. Winner of multiple Grammy awards, Los Lobos has been making music since 1974, rocking out with their own hits as well as classics such as Ritchie Valens’ “La Bamba.”

With sunny skies and warm weather ahead, the Evergreen State Fair is the place to be this weekend and next week through Labor Day. Despite rain and cooler temperatures Thursday, more than 12,000 people took advantage of the free entry offered during the first hours of the fair’s opening day.
Plenty of specials and discount opportunities still exist at the fair, including Senior-Free Monday, Two for Tuesday, Family Package Wednesday and Kids-Free Thursday.

The Evergreen State Fair opens at 10 a.m. each day and closes at 10 p.m. except for closing day, Sept. 6, when the fair closes at 7 p.m. Carnival hours are 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. except for closing day, when it also closes at 7 p.m.

For more information and a full listing of the fair’s specials, go to www.evergreenfair.org or call 360-805-6700.

“Living Evergreen” essay winners honored at fair

Snohomish County and Allied Waste honored six students during the Evergreen State Fair on Thursday for their winning essays in the “Living Evergreen” contest.

Divided into two categories – middle school students (grades 6-9) and high school students (grades 10-12) – contestants were asked to discourse on the growing need to be environmentally friendly. Some contestants focused on the changes they and their families had made, while others looked at solutions for a changing world, including business impacts on the environment.

“Contestants wrote very thoughtful essays on how we can improve our conservation measures and sustainable living practices,” Reardon said. “The winning essays demonstrated students’ individual concerns and innovative ideas for dealing with environmental issues.”

Middle school winners were:

• First Place - Tannim Salisbury, Twin Falls Middle School, North Bend;
• Second Place - Laurel Kroschel, Mount Si High School, North Bend;
• Third Place - Katie Snook, Centennial Middle School, Snohomish;
• Honorable Mention - Carmen Abbe, Roosevelt High School, Seattle.

High school winners were:

• First Place - McKenzie Baker, Stanwood High School, Camano Island;
• Second Place - Keely Cummings, Mariner High School, Everett;
• Third Place - Sara Rood, Granite Falls High School, Granite Falls.

First-place winners received a $200 U.S. treasury bond and will have an opportunity to read their essays before Snohomish County’s elected leadership. Second-place winners received $100 bonds, while third-
place winners received $50.

Students were asked to answer one of the following questions:

• What steps can you take in your everyday life to enhance and maintain the environment and improve sustainability?
• What current technology and green-living practices do you and your family use today that helps improve the environment, and what impacts do you think this makes on the environment?
• What future technical advancements can you imagine for solving current environmental and sustainability challenges?

Reardon invited a panel of distinguished judges to join him, including Neal Pattison, executive editor of The Daily Herald; Jennifer Langston, editor of Sightline Daily of the Sightline Institute, a nonprofit sustainability organization; and Joe Casalini, development director for Allied Waste Northwest.

The judges were impressed at the caliber of entries considering that a summer essay contest meant no prodding by teachers to enter.

“These students wrote straight from the heart,” Casalini said. “Sustainability is something they truly think about and incorporate into their lives every day. It validates everything we do to promote green living to see our youth with such thoughtfulness about our environment.”

Deputy Executive Gary Haakenson and Allied Waste's Joe Casalini with "Living Green" essay winners at the Evergreen State Fair opening ceremony on Thursday.
The Evergreen State Fair’s opening ceremony held Thursday, highlighted generational changes found in Snohomish County as officials honored a new Centennial Farm Family.

“Snohomish County is a rich mix of cultures, ages and people,” said Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon. “It’s only fitting that the opening ceremony features a diverse cross-section of the county’s population.”

Tualco Valley farmer Dale Reiner and family received this year’s Centennial Farm certificate. The Reiner family has actively farmed land in the Tualco Valley outside Monroe since 1873 when Grannis and Amelia Reiner homesteaded property there.

Sons George and Ernest were pivotal dairy farmers in the area and were a key part of the Carnation Condensery in Monroe. All that is left of the factory is the old smoke stack at Main Street.

Generations of Reiners continued to farm the land, splitting land and time between dairy and Willamette raspberries, which produced so well that other farmers in the area began growing them, too.

Currently, Dale Reiner farms about 420 acres. They run more than 30 head of purebred Angus cows and calves for custom meat production and breeding stock, they have 81 acres in the area’s first and largest Conservation Reserve Enhancement Project (a habitat and bank restoration program), and 18 acres of Christmas trees and native nursery tree stock. The family also grows 15 acres of canola for biofuel production as well as 60 acres rented to a local dairy farm for field corn and hay production.

“The Reiner family has been one of the most productive farm families in Snohomish County,” Reardon said. “What makes them successful is their willingness to adapt to changing markets and innovate when needed.”

Residents invited to comment on shoreline management plan

Snohomish County residents are invited to hear an update on the county’s Shoreline Management Program and offer their comments on proposed changes during a Sept. 1 public hearing.

The county’s original Shoreline Management Program (SMP) was adopted in 1974 and last updated in 1993. Several changes are being
proposed and will be discussed beginning at 1 p.m. Sept. 1, in the Henry M. Jackson Board Room, 8th Floor, Robert J. Drewel Building, 3000 Rockefeller, Everett.

The purpose of the SMP is to implement the goals and policies of the state Shoreline Management Act. State requirements include a coordinated plan that:

- protects the public's opportunity to enjoy the physical and aesthetic qualities of natural shorelines;

- proposes uses consistent with control of pollution and prevention of damage to the natural environment, or are unique to or dependent upon use of the state's shoreline.

Proposed changes were developed by a citizen and stakeholder committee. Updates to Snohomish County’s SMP include new shoreline areas added to the county’s shoreline jurisdiction, management and land-use policies.

The proposed SMP also contains policies and regulations addressing land-use preferences within shoreline areas, public access to shorelines and no net loss of shoreline ecological functions consistent with the state requirements. Policies and regulations also address conservation and monitoring; cultural, archaeological and historic preservation; and specific shoreline uses and modifications (agriculture, aquaculture, boating facilities and docks, in-water structures, commercial, dredging and spoil disposal, fill, flood protection, forestry, industry and ports, institutional uses, mining, recreation, residential, shoreline and bank stabilization, bulkheads, shoreline restoration and enhancement, transportation, utilities and vegetation management).

The proposed SMP documents and maps, along with the public hearing schedule, are available for review by clicking here.

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