



83rd Annual

Willits Frontier Days

June 26-July 3, 2009



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In Loving Memory of...



Don Norred was a long time resident of Willits and a Willits Frontier Days Volunteer. Don served on the Board of Directors from 1980 to 1989, Vice President, and was the Heritage Award Recipient in 2003.

Don became a volunteer when his employer Lee Persico of Persico Fossil Fuels told him his employment was contingent upon his volunteering with the Willits Frontier Days Association. That condition of employment was not only of great benefit to the Frontier Days Association, but also to the people who got to know Don.

Don was a big part of important projects like the removal of the racetrack, installation of the arena lights, planning and construction of the pens, arena fencing, and so many others. To those of us who had the privilege and honor of knowing Don, working with him was something truly special.

Don always took time to help mentor the youth of the association—teaching them how to weld and operate equipment and what it meant to work hard and have fun doing it.

As the Frontier Days celebration grows and moves forward, we will always take time to remember an old friend, and know that the time he spent with Frontier Days was special and that the same dedication Don had continues on to this Day.

We will truly miss our friend.



Florence Elizabeth Persico became an integral part of the Willits Frontier Days Celebration in 1935 when she married Leandro "Dink" Persico. At the time Dink was a member of the Frontier Days Board of Directors.

Early on Florence competed and won one of the horse races that was held on the track during the rodeo. She went on to show and win her share of the horse show and track events, and served as track events Secretary for many years.

Florence's sons Lee & Chuck performed trick riding at many fairs and rodeos on the west coast. Both later went on to serve as Frontier Days President. Florence was the grandmother of three Frontier Days Sweethearts—Kathy, Elizabeth, and Nicole. Her grandson Michael competed in bull riding on the professional rodeo circuit for many years. Florence was honored as the Heritage Award recipient in 1990.

Florence attended every Frontier Days Celebration from 1935 to 2008, and opened the festivities for many years singing the National Anthem. This will be the first year Florence won't be sitting in her box seat, and she will certainly be missed, but we all know she will be watching over us from above making sure we're doing it right and staying healthy, fair, honest and safe.

Florence will always be in our hearts and memories and will remain a historic part of the Willits Frontier Days Celebration!



Colleen Smith was a member of the Board and past Treasurer for the Willits Frontier Days Association.

A charter member of the Soroptimist Club, Colleen helped run the Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart contest. She and her husband Perry Smith were an important part of the Willits Frontier Days organization for many years and were later honored as Parade Grand Marshals.

After she passed away, Past President Chuck Persico fondly recalled, "Colleen really stepped up and did a great job for the organization when nobody else would."

We were so fortunate to have Colleen as a member of the Willits Frontier Days family and she will always be missed.

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President's Message



President Chris White

Hello and Welcome,

As President, and on behalf of the Willits Frontier Days Association, I want to personally welcome you to the home of California's "oldest continuous rodeo," and the 83rd Annual Willits Frontier Days 4th of July Celebration.

I often think about history and how it has a way of repeating itself. In 1926 when Frontier Days began, our country and our community were going through some tough times of their own. Instead of hunkering down, people came together with the common goal to build a hospital. In order to build the hospital, they came up with an idea to start a community celebration that included a rodeo — which continues to this day!

Although a lot has changed over the years and we have all been through tough times, the one thing that hasn't changed is the community's commitment to come together to achieve a common goal. The Willits Frontier Days celebration is living proof. Its volunteers have never wavered in their commitment to ensure our history and heritage continues.

We truly live in a special community. Once again during tough times the community is working together with the common goal to build a new state-of-the-art hospital. Eighty-three years later, the Willits Frontier Days celebration has grown into an essential part of our community, and it says a lot about who we are today.

The Willits Frontier Days members, who volunteer so much, come from all walks of life and from as far away as Arizona. The most important lesson handed down from the past is how important it is not to just live in a community but to be a part of it. The Willits Frontier Days volunteers not only work diligently to put on the Frontier Days celebration, but you will see them participating in many other community functions throughout the year. I tip my hat to each and every one of these volunteers who I call my friends and say, "Thank you."

Being a part of the Willits Frontier Days organization, and now serving as President, is an honor and privilege. I have met some very special people and have learned so much from so many. I can't begin to say how fortunate I am. Above everything else, I still love the excitement and anticipation of what it's all about—the rodeos, parade, barbeque, and seeing the carnival going up. I can't help but laugh a little remembering how excited I got when the carnival came to town. Now I see kids flock to the carnival, and share their excitement as it opens.

The Willits Frontier Days celebration has been a place where friends and family come together to remember the old times and to celebrate our small town's heritage and traditions. Whether this is your first time to the Willits Frontier Days celebration, or are an old timer, you will have a great 4th of July experience. It's my sincere hope you and your families leave with the same respect that I have for the past, but also take away new memories that will last a lifetime.

Chris White, President



Past Presidents

- Dale Briggs
- Kent Standley
- Kathy Goss
- Richard White
- Jim Jennings
- Jack Tharp
- Ralph Baker
- Dennis Rohrs
- Logan Anker
- Rick Crowder
- Harold Jorgenson
- Chuck Persico
- Dr. Raymond Babcock
- Lee Persico
- Louis Zanella
- Galen Hathaway
- Merrill Williams
- Kenneth Jamieson
- Gus Goren
- Mel Clatty
- Frank Whitney
- Faris Whitney



Heritage Award Recipient

Claudia Smith Hill



Claudia Smith Hill is the recipient of the 2009 Willits Frontier Days Heritage Award. Doug Goss, Chairman of the Heritage Award Committee announced the award recently at a Willits Frontier Days Meeting.

Honored for her years of support as a representative of the *Willits News*, Claudia frequently volunteered to write the news release articles for Willits Frontier Days.

A long-time resident of the Willits Community, Claudia met her first husband, Bige in College. Bige's family owned timber property in Mendocino County and they arrived here to build a mill in the community. A "city girl," Claudia was a little skeptical of what a small town community would offer. Seven decades later, she does not regret the decision to move and raise her family here.

The busy mother of three children (Mark, Ken and Margaret), Claudia worked outside the home before most women of the time. A college journalism graduate, she first worked at the Willits School District as well as volunteering to write articles for the local paper. Little did she know she would put her journalism skills to work full time with the *Willits News* – ending up as a co-owner with the Burton's, Lewis' and Alf Olsen. As Editor of the *Willits News*, her writing skills were often called upon by the volunteers of Willits Frontier Days to author many of the articles for the annual celebration.

Claudia's early memories of Willits Frontier Days were its colors, the parade, horses, rodeo and, of course, the carnival.

Every year on the 4th of July she said, "you feel like a kid again."

The annual celebration became quite personal when her daughter Margaret Smith participated and was crowned Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart in 1971.

Through her years with the *Willits News* she enjoyed sorting through hundreds of pictures of kids riding their animals and pictures of the winners.

For Claudia, Willits Frontier Days "brings the community together, coming from all walks of life."

The Heritage Award is awarded each year to an individual, group or business that contributes to the annual success of Willits Frontier Days. The award is sponsored by the Harrah Family in memory of R.E. "Bob" Harrah.

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Past Heritage Award Winners

1977	Leandro "Dink" Persico	1993	Jack Tharp
1978	Harold Jorgenson	1994	Chuck Persico
1979	Logan Anker	1996	Little Lake Fire Department
1980	Don Coleman	1997	George & Jane Akins
1981	Virginia Ciancio	1998	Jimmy Nyhen & Russ Oakley
1982	Grace & Ralph Laswell	1999	Fred Page
1981	George Kincade	2000	Rick Crowder
1984	Frank Boomer	2001	Johnny Mayer
1985	The Colli Sisters	2002	Dan Pinon
1986	Lee Persico	2003	Don Norred
1987	Annette Ciancio Pinon	2004	Evelyn Persico
1988	R.E. "Bob" Harrah	2005	Richard & Francee White
1989	Ken Jamieson	2006	Kathleen Goss
1990	Florence Persico	2007	Doug Goss
1991	Orval Archer	2008	June Sizemore
1992	Fred Steele		

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Willits Frontier Days

Schedule of Events



Date	Day	Time	Event	Location	Admission
June 26	FRI	5P	Local First Hometown Celebration	Downtown Willits	FREE
		7:00P	Truck Pull	Jack Tharp Arena	\$13 - Adult \$5 - Child
		9:30P	Street Dance - II Big	Rodeo Grounds	FREE
June 27	SAT	9:30A	Cutest Little Cowboy & Cowgirl Contest	Rodeo Grounds	FREE
		10:30A	Sweethearts Judging	Jack Tharp Arena	FREE
		12N	Parade National Anthem Contest	Rodeo Grounds	FREE
		3:30P	Gymkhana	Jack Tharp Arena	FREE
June 28	SUN	8A	Horseshow	Jack Tharp Arena	FREE
July 1	WED	5P	Carnival Opens	Old Ball Field by Rodeo Grounds	
July 3	FRI	7P	CCPRA Rodeo West Coast Rodeo Stock	Jack Tharp Arena	\$15 - Box Seats \$12 - Adult \$5 - Child
		9P	Western Dance - SK2	Rodeo Grounds	FREE
July 4	SAT	11A	Parade	Hwy. 101	FREE
		12N	Western Barbecue	Recreation Grove	\$15 - Adult \$8 - Child
		3P	Black Bart Gunfighters	Recreation Grove	FREE
		4P	CCPRA Rodeo West Coast Rodeo Stock	Jack Tharp Arena	\$15 - Box Seats \$12 - Adult \$5 - Child
		9P	Karaoke - Grand Slam Mobile DJ	Rodeo Grounds	FREE
July 5	SUN	7A	Lions Club Cowboy Breakfast	Recreation Grove	\$8 - Adult \$5 - Child
		11A	Junior Rodeo	Jack Tharp Arena	\$12 - Adult \$5 - Child

Many thanks...

...to the Willits Frontier Days Sponsors who have been both generous and supportive. It is much appreciated!

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 Ukiah Ford L Willits Power w Willits Rental Center

Willits Frontier Days

Executive Board • Board of Directors

Staff & Committee Chairpersons



2009 Executive Board: L to R: Kent Standley, 2nd Vice President; June Sizemore, Treasurer; Chris White, President. Not Pictured: Marcy Barry, 1st Vice President; Kathy Graves, Secretary



2009 Board of Directors: Back L to R: Marshall “Kelly” Figg-Hoblyn, Jeff Cook, Dale Briggs, Bobby Persico, Mike Persico, Jerry Harris, Seated L to R: Lee Persico, Elaine Figg-Hoblyn, Keith Johnson, Kat Harris Not pictured: Tanya Petitclerc, Fred Barry, Tracy LeGris.



2009 Committee Chairpersons & Staff:
 Arena–Jack Tharp, Chris White; Award's Dinner–Chris & Mary Horger; BBQ–Mike Frahm; Beer Sales–Kent Standley, Fred Barry; Black Bart Gunfighters–Al & Elaine Robinson; Concessions–Keith Johnson; Dances/Entertainment–Hal Wagenet; Drawing–Marcy Barry, Mary Fonsen; Gardens–Marcy Barry, Pat Mayer, Gina Bartolomie; Grounds–Jerry Harris, Jack Tharp, Jeff Cook; Heritage Award–Doug Goss; Holding Pens–Jack

Staff & Committee Chairpersons:

Tharp, Chris White, Jerry Harris, Mike Persico; Horseshow–Mattie Pinon; Junior Horsemen's Gymkhana–Elaine Figg-Hoblyn,Courtney Figg-Hoblyn; Jr. Rodeo–Lee Persico, Bobbie Tilley; Lion's Breakfast–Lion's Club; Maintenance–Jeff Cook, Keith Johnson, Jerry Harris, Denny Pinon, Chamberline Creek Fire Crew; Margarita Booth–Shelley Revling; Parade–Bobby Persico, Tanya Petitclerc, Julie Goss; Parking– Kenny Persico; Official Photographer–Steve Eberhard;

Program–Lana & Steve Eberhard; Rodeo Director–Chris White; Sponsor Advertising–Elaine Figg-Hoblyn, Marcy Barry, Tracy LeGris; Scholarship–Bobbie Tilley, Jeff Cook, Dan Pinon; Security–Marshall “Kelly” Figg-Hoblyn; Souvenirs–Michele Briggs; Sweetheart–Soroptimists of Willits, Nancy Riggs, Beth Green; Ticket Gates–Carlin Horger, June Sizemore, Bill Horger; Web Site–Lana Eberhard; Wine Sales– Jackie Standley, Marcy Barry

Independence Day Parade



“Red, White, and Blue: . Our Hope, Our Pride”

The Willits Frontier Days 4th of July Independence Day Parade is always an entertaining event—and one you and your family won’t want to miss.

The 2009 Willits Frontier Days theme is “Red, White, and Blue: Our Hope, Our Pride.”

Travelling down the Main Street of Willits, the parade closes Highway 101 for several hours, and is an all-time favorite event during the Willits Frontier Days Celebration. This hometown

parade is filled with horses, floats, cars, gunfighters, and many other unique entries. And when we say “hometown” we mean just that because you will find folks who, years back, were in the parade as children and are in the parade now as grandparents.

So plan on staking your seat out early, and join us in a “hometown” celebration of our nation’s independence this 4th of July at 11:00 a.m. in downtown Willits. We think you’ll be glad you did.

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Mary Anne Trevey

Congratulations to Sabrina Garcia of Ms. Pierce’s third grade class at Blosser Lane Elementary School! Sabrina’s entry was selected as the 2009 Parade Theme Contest Winner.

As the winner of this year’s contest, Sabrina received a framed award certificate, an all day ticket for the carnival, two adult passes and two children’s passes for one day of the 2009 Rodeo events, a special delivery from Flowers by Annette for a balloon bouquet with gift certificate for Cold Stone Creamery, and a special recognition ride in this year’s parade.

Theme contest winner Sabrina Garcia with Frontier Days President Chris White, Parade Committee members Bobbie Persico (left) and Tanya Pettilerc (right)

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Independence Day Parade Grand Marshal — Jeff Smith

Jeff Smith was born on March 5, 1948 at Howard Memorial Hospital to Perry and Colleen Smith of Willits. Their family home was on the Smith Ranch on Sherwood Road. Grandpa and Grandma Smith were close by on the same property that overlooks the Little Lake Valley. Raised in Willits, Jeff was very active in sports through school. He also bragged about receiving an award at his graduation from Willits High School for never having missed a day of school in his life.

After graduation, he left Willits for the first time to attend college at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo from 1966 through 1969, where he studied Ag Engineering and rode with Cal Poly’s Rodeo Team. Jeff’s parents were very active in the Cattleman’s and Cattlewoman’s Associations, both having served as President. His sister Clydeen was an accomplished “Horsewoman” and earned the title of Frontier Day’s Sweetheart in 1968.

After college, like many of his childhood friends, Jeff returned to Willits to begin his career. In 1971 he started Jeff Smith Heavy Hauling after purchasing the business from Bob Peters. He ran the low bed service until 1983 and then went to work for Mendocino Construction Services.

After being in business for a few years, he met and married Jann in 1977. They were blessed with two sons, Shawn who was born in 1980 and Chad in 1983. Just like their Dad, they were fortunate to have also been raised on the family ranch. Jann said, “Jeff loved motorcycles and hated horses.”

In 1977 Jeff became a volunteer with the Willits Fire Department under Chief Bob Alcott. The Fire Department became his passion, and he was hired as Chief in January of 1986, and remained so for the next 22 years. During that time he worked with the board of directors to acquire equipment, hire two full-time engineers, and bring order that made the Little Lake Fire Department the first-class unit it is today.

Jeff was well known throughout the State, having served on the County Fire Chief’s Association as County Mutual Aid Coordinator and on a CDF Incident Command Team. He represented the interests of volunteer firefighters before county and state elected officials on many occasions. Twice in his career the California State Firefighters’ Association presented him with the Medal of Valor.

Jeff reluctantly retired from his beloved Fire Department in April of 2008 after 31 years of devoted service. He took a couple of weeks off then went to work at the Rock Quarry for a short time running a D-11. Then he went to work for his long time friend Bud Garman driving a water truck. When he wasn’t working he enjoyed his motorcycles and was even doing a little fishing. Unfortunately his retirement was cut short on February 2nd of this year. He suffered a fatal heart attack while at home working on his Suburban.

At a huge gathering his friends remembered him with these words; “Jeff had a serious side and was a true leader, he was humble and led by example, he had a crazy sense of humor and he had great compassion.” “He had tremendous ability and integrity, and his family, his wife Jann and his two sons, were very important to him.” “Jeff was always ready to cheer up an old friend, he made friends of every generation he touched, and he served the town, made a difference, walked with pride, confidence and compassion.” “He had a love of motorcycles and a passion for his fire department.”

He is loved and missed...

Honorary Grand Marshal

Edie Ceccarelli

Edie Ceccarelli is one of the most extraordinary individuals you’ll likely ever meet. At 101 years of age, this fine lady is especially impressive. Whether she is gracefully moving across the dance floor, attending the Catholic church or enjoying friends, fun is apparently the secret to Ceccarelli’s youthful demeanor. “All my life I have been truly blessed with friends and a wonderful caring family.”

Edie is far too modest to mention all of her accomplishments in life, but talk to her about dancing, and she lights up. “Of course, it helps to have a great dance partner,” claims Edie. (Thanks, Mr. Ed Burton.)

Willits Frontier Days is especially proud to have Edie Ceccarelli as our 2009 Honorary Grand Marshall and with her presence an exciting, sun-filled 4th of July.

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A secret to reaching our 83rd continuous year of successful rodeo and 4th of July festivities is the enormous efforts made

by the Sweetheart Contestants and their pre-sale of tickets to all the Frontier Days events.

The annual Sweetheart Contest has been conducted by our local Soroptimists club since 1973. They do a great job of orchestrating the competition. Dedicated young women vie for the honor of being named Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart. Contestants are judged on their horsemanship, appearance and personality, as well as their advance ticket sales to various Frontier Days activities. While some incentive might come from contestants earning 15% of their ticket sales, a stronger motivation is their love of horses and rodeo combined with their desire to see rodeo succeed as a way of life.

You can show your support by purchasing your tickets from a contestant. Or you can call the Willits Frontier Days office at (707) 459-6330 and leave a message, or email us at frontier-days@willitsfrontierdays.com. Tickets may also be purchased from the Willits Chamber of Commerce.

We look forward to a fantastic 2009 Willits Frontier Days Celebration, and we're glad you'll be joining us.

Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart Contestants 2009



Photo courtesy of Darby Johnson

Lindsey Bowlds

Hi, my name is Lindsey Bowlds, and I'm running for the Sweetheart of this year's Willits Frontier Days.

I was born and raised in Willits and have been involved with the 4-H and FFA. I've shown sheep and dairy cattle at various Fairs in the area. I'm graduating from Willits High School in June and plan to attend Yuba College before transferring to Chico State University where I hope to earn a degree in veterinary medicine.

I've participated in gymkhanas, junior rodeos, parades and more, and have dreamed of being the Willits Frontier Days Sweethearts since I saw my first rodeo when I was five. I grew up watching the Sweethearts, and I looked up to them. If I am crowned Sweetheart, I want to make sure to be a positive role model for the youth in our community, just as past Sweethearts were for me.

Please call to purchase your event tickets from me at 707-354-4802 or 707-459-1638.



Photo courtesy of Steve Eberhard

Alisha Roysum

Hi, I'm Alisha Roysum, and I'm running for the 2009 Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart.

Many of you know me as family or as my friends. For those of you who don't, please let me tell you a little about myself.

I am 20 years old, live in Hopland on my family's ranch, and work at the Cloverdale Starbucks. I grew up in Ukiah with 4-H and FFA shaping me into the gal I am today. Rodeo has always been my biggest passion. I have been riding since kindergarten albeit not very well at first, but with the help of my family and friends, I gained the skill and confidence I show today. They encouraged me to ride in the local gymkhanas and junior rodeos, including the Willits Frontiers Days. In high school, I joined the District Two California high school rodeo team.

Please call me for event tickets at 707-391-5814. I hope to see everyone at the Willits Frontier Days celebration this 4th of July week!

Willits Frontier Days — Souvenirs & Drawing Tickets

Frontier Days Souvenirs



Don't forget to stop by our buckle booth and purchase your official Willits Frontier Days souvenirs. We have a small selection of commemorative belt buckles. Along with our great souvenirs listed below, you will find fascinating memorabilia from past Frontier Days rodeos. You can pay for all your treasures with cash, credit cards, or local checks. So come on in, and say "Hi" to Michele and her hard-working crew. We look forward to seeing you soon.

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Drawing Tickets

Awhile back, the our Board of Directors decided to make the Street Dances free to the public to allow more of the rodeo spectators and participants enjoy the great music and camaraderie. To compensate for this loss in revenue, it was suggested to the Board that they hold a drawing. And they agreed.

Drawing tickets are available at the Rodeo Grounds or from a Sweetheart contestant until the rodeo starts on July 4th. Drawings are held throughout the Rodeo for fantastic prizes generously donated by local merchants, for which we are deeply grateful.

You'll have a chance at many wonderful prizes when you purchase Willits Frontier Days Raffle tickets. Following are just some of the prizes available this year:

Ton of Hay (Flying S Ranch); **Lucky Purse** (Tiger Lily's Boutique); **90-Minute Thai Massage plus Sauna** (Body Rituals); **Initial Acupuncture Appt** (Body Rituals); **5 Free Saunas** (Body Rituals); **\$25 Gift Certificate** (Gateway Gifts); **Coffee mug & 1 lb. of fudge** (Willits Rexall); **Caribbean Therapy Gift Bag** (Jixi Spa); **Saddle Pads** (T&T Salvage); **Sweatshirt and Shirt** (Shanachie Pub); **Willits Frontier Days 75th anniversary buckles** (Willits Frontier Days); **Willits Frontier Days 67th anniversary buckles** (Willits Frontier Days); **Willits Frontier Days 2006 Belt Buckles** (Willits Frontier Days); **Gift Cards for 10 Passes to Gym** (Body Works); **Gift Card for day Pass to Martial Arts Center** (Body Works); **\$50 Gift Certificate** (Sparetime Supply); **\$25 Gift Certificates** (Al's Redwood Room); **Winery Tour & Reserve Tasting for four plus 2 bottles of Lake County Petite Syrah** (Langtry Estate & Vineyards); **Champagne Garden Tour and Wine tasting for up to 8 people** (Robert Hunter Winery); **Gift Certificates for Two Meals** (Redwood Valley Cafe); **Gift Certificates for Subway Sandwich** (Willits Subway); and much more.

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California Cowboys Professional Rodeo



Let’s rodeo! Willits Frontier Days CCPRA Rodeos feature top-ranked cowboys and cowgirls in the State of California competing in one or more of eight rodeo events: bareback, saddle bronc, team roping, calf roping, steer wrestling, breakaway roping, barrel racing, and bullriding.

Our rodeo stock contractor is West Coast Rodeos, owned by Lou Bugenig and Mike Mora families of Humboldt County. Known throughout the State as premier stock contractors, their rough stock not only challenges the top-ranked California riders, but their steers and calves are the fastest you’ll see!

A trophy buckle is awarded to the CCPRA All-Around Champion. This beautiful buckle is hand-engraved by Gary Johnson. Willits Frontier Days also awards \$600 per event to the jackpot prize to the timed events and \$1,100 to the rough stock events.

In addition to the eight rodeo events, local cowboys and cowgirls from Lake, Mendocino, and Humboldt counties compete in Local Team Roping events. Trophy buckles engraved by Gary Johnson are awarded to the Local Team Roping Header and the Local Team

Roping Heeler. And the Black Bart Gunfighters demonstrate how the West was really won at both performances.

Join us on Friday, July 3rd at 7:00 p.m. followed at 9:00 p.m. by our Western Dance featuring SK2, and again at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 4th for some outstanding rodeo action. Join us again at 9:00 p.m. for Karaoke.

Log on to www.willitsfrontierdays.com and get all the details on all the events, as well as other events taking place during this 4th of July celebration.

WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS Buckle Sponsorships

Sweetheart Buckle: *Willits Frontier Days*
Heritage Award Buckle: *R.E. Harrah Family*
CCPRA All-Around: *Ardella’s*
CCPRA Bull Rider: *Todd Hollifield*
CCPRA Saddlebronc Rider: *Ginger Fonsen in memory of Don Fonsen*
CCPRA Bareback Rider: *North Coast Plumbing*
CCPRA Barrel Racer: *Shuster’s Transportation, Inc.*
Local Team Roping Header: *In memory of Big Bud Vann by his sons Ronnie & Randy Vann*
Local Team Roping Heeler: *Bud Garman & Sons Construction*
Junior All-Around Cowboy: *Sparetime Supply*
Junior All-Around Cowgirl: *Rich Huddle*

WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS Event Sponsorships

CCPRA Bull Rider: *Willits Frontier Days*
CCPRA Barrel Racing: *Willits Solid Waste*
Local Team Roping: *Sherwood Rancheria & Casino*

Official Veterinarians Michelsen & Witt and Mobile Equine Veterinary Services

In 1996, the California Cowboys Professional Rodeo Association required rodeo committees to have a veterinarian on-site during rodeo performances. Willits Frontier Days set the standard years ago by recruiting local large animal veterinarians Michelsen & Witt to attend our rodeo performances. Experienced professional veterinarians available in the event of an injury to or illness of an animal, Michelsen & Witt also ensure that all rodeo animals are treated humanely.

We are also delighted that Dr. Sheri Cronin of Mobile Equine Veterinary Services is joining them again this year to lend a helping hand should the need arise. Please remember Dr. Michelsen, Dr. Witt and Dr. Cronin whenever you need assistance with your large animals.

Thanks again to our wonderful attending veterinarians, Drs. Michelsen & Witt, and Dr. Cronin. Willits Frontier Days is very grateful for your many years of dedicated services!



The Gate that Jake Built

For many of the folks who volunteer their time and energy, working on Willits Frontier Days is a family tradition that’s carried on from generation to generation. Jake Standley, a graduating high school senior, is no exception. His folks have been actively involved with Willits Frontier Days for nearly as long as Jake can remember. A Past President, his dad Kent is on the Executive Board. Over the years, Mom Jackie has chaired the Garden and Wine Sales committees. Both work tirelessly and with great pride to support this incredible community event and ensure its success.

Their devotion to Willits Frontier Days has rubbed off on Jake, so much so that for his Senior Class project he decided to give back to the organization that had given him so much over the year by designing and fabricating a new (and much needed) entrance gate for the rodeo grounds. It’s a beauty. This 600-pound structure is powder-coated in black with the Willits Frontier Days words and logo in red. It is as eye-catching as it is stout and functional. Jake’s handy work will be around for all to appreciate and admire for many generations to come.

Thank you, Jake.

Frontier Days Special Award

Dave and Jenny Watts of San Hedrin Nursery are receiving a Willits Frontier Days Special Award in recognition of their design and hard work on the landscaping of the Commercial Street Project adjacent to the rodeo grounds.



While Dave spent hundreds of hours planting and maintaining the trees and shrubbery, he acknowledged Jenny was the designer of the team. The addition of the beautifully landscaped median has added a lovely dimension to the sports activities area of Commercial Street.


We learned in a recent interview that from Dave’s proposal through the “One Town, One Vision” program, a colorful alley of the trees on Commercial Street came to fruition. The eight-foot strip in the median is still his favorite — he suggests “the alley of the trees slow people down in a busy, sporting area.”

Designed and planted over a year ago, Dave still spends considerable time weeding and maintaining the plants to compensate for a short City staff. Dave commented, “I was a little more than frustrated with the flooding the second year. All the chips surrounding the plants flooded away!”


Through their business San Hedrin Nursery, Dave and Jenny are long-time supporters of Willits Frontier Days. Each year they provide hundreds of blooming plants to the Willits Frontier Days gardening group to continue adding floral color to the grandstand and concessionaire areas.

Born in Texas, Dave always thought he would grow up to be a cowboy – little did he know that it would be years and a move to Northern California to make that dream come true! Proprietors of San Hedrin Nursery since 1981, Dave and Jenny also often contribute their landscape materials and talents to Sober Grad and many of the high school proms.

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Willits Frontier Days

History

What has been billed as the longest continuous rodeo in the State of California, will once again be a featured attraction of the Willits Frontier Days Celebration in 2009. This year the 4th of July extravaganza represents 83 years of spirit, cooperation and pride in the community of Willits by its citizens.

In 1926, the Willits Development Association came up with the idea of sponsoring a community activity to raise funds for the construction of a much-needed hospital. Through the efforts of many prominent citizens including Dr. Raymond Babcock, Frank Taft, Judge E.M. Whitney, Judge Fred Foord, Deed Wimmer, Frank and Bill Whitney, Joe Quadrio, Edward Morris, Carl Edenfeldt, Allen Sacry, the American Legion Post adopted the plan. The first Willits Frontier Days Rodeo occurred in July 1927.

It was at this time that Frank R. Howard, young son of Ridgewood Ranch owner Charles S. Howard, was fatally injured in an automobile accident while vacationing at the ranch. Dr. Babcock, who ministered to the injured boy before his death, approached Howard about erecting a hospital in Willits in memory of his son. Howard built the Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital shortly thereafter.



Even though the original idea of having a rodeo to fund construction of a hospital was no longer necessary, the American Legion decided to carry on with their plans. They used the meager Willits Frontier Days profits to benefit the community in many other worthwhile ways.

The celebration was an instant success, and the American Legion ran the show until 1932 when the Willits Volunteer Fire Department accepted the leadership role. Looking to the future, the Fire Department borrowed money to improve the rodeo grounds by having individual volunteer firefighters sign promissory notes.

The Willits Frontier Days Association was born and incorporated in 1950 when a

group of local businessman and ranchers took over. The continuity of Willits Frontier Days remains unbroken since 1926.

A non-profit organization, Frontier Days still operates as it did in the beginning with no individual or organization getting any financial reward. Residents and clubs work together to put on the events and decide together how to spend the profits of each show to benefit our community.

The association works throughout the year to provide the maintenance and improvements to the property in order to enhance both the property and quality of the shows performed each year.

Photo by the former Reynolds Photo Shop, Willits

Willits Frontier Days

Junior Rodeo



Have you ever wondered where all those strong, athletic cowboys and cowgirls come from you see competing in rodeos? Why from strong, athletic little cowboys and cowgirls like the ones you'll see at our Junior Rodeo.

Many of these young folks have been riding since they could walk, and their ages and experience vary. The excitement is

always high and the concentration intense—especially for the moms, dads, and many others behind the scenes supporting them. You'll see some real talent here, folks. You'll also get a taste of the hard work and commitment Lee Persico and Bobbie Tilley have put into the Junior Rodeo for over 30 years. They give their hearts to this event and help create the

performance of a lifetime for both the audience and these budding young cowboys and cowgirls. It is an action-packed event.

Mike Mora and Lou Bugenig of West Coast Rodeo Company provide the stock. And never fear, veterinarians Michelsen & Witt and Sheri Cronin will be on hand to ensure the animals' safety and well-being.

Kathleen Goss will once again be our announcer. She always does a fantastic job, and we are always delighted to have her help. We are also pleased to have Mary Burgess and Diane Ford on board as our timers. Timing is often overlooked, but it ensures all the contenders have a fair chance at the coveted All-Around Buckle. We always remember our judges, too, and gratefully applaud Art Cooley and Mike Persico for their willingness to be up front and center. We also want to acknowledge our bullfighter Tim Goss who has volunteered for one tough and sometimes-risky job. These folks make it all happen, and we can't thank them enough.

Stick around for the announcement of this year's All-Around Cowboy and All-Around Cowgirl. Sparetime Supply and Rich Huddle sponsor the buckles for these events. The overall high-point winner for the day will have the honor of receiving the Bud Suttles Memorial Trophy.

Bring your family and friends and join us on Sunday, July 5th at 11 a.m. You just might catch a glimpse of a future big name in rodeo.



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Willits Frontier Days Gymkhana



The fun starts at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 27th for this year’s Willits Frontier Days Gymkhana. The fast-paced display of horse and rider talent exhibited in these speed events is amazing to watch. Riders compete in their age group for the High Point and Reserve High Point awards. There will also be three lead line events. This gives our littlest cowpokes the chance to participate.

Free to spectators, the Gymkhana is put on by hardworking volunteers. We’d like to thank each and every one of these dedicated individuals because without them events like this and the horse-show couldn’t happen. We would also like to thank the riders, parents, and spectators for their great sportsmanship and participation. Entry forms are available at www.willitsfrontierdays.com.

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Willits Frontier Days Horseshow



Come join us on Sunday, June 28th at 8:00 a.m. at the Jack Sharp arena for the annual Willits Frontier Day’s Horseshow—it’s as old as Frontier Days itself.

First held in conjunction with the first Frontier Day’s rodeo and July 4th celebration in 1926, the show was held on the rodeo grounds during the rodeo performances giving spectators the benefit of watching the rodeo or the horseshow. In 1976, it was moved from the race track and was scheduled as a separate event during the Frontiers Days celebrations.

2003 Past Sweetheart Mattie Pinon is our Show Manager and is assisted by her sister Dina Pinon Parker, the 1989 Past Sweetheart. They are giving back to Frontier Days like their family has done for many years beginning with their great grandfather and including their grandmother, mom and dad, and brothers.

There are five local perpetual trophies. Three of the trophies are in memory of Barbara Hamilton, John Fish, Randy Clark and Don and Petie Coleman. The other two are sponsored by R-Horse Ranch, and the Goss family. These trophies are for local riders 17 and under who live in Mendocino County. The first perpetual trophy was offered in 1980.

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Dances & Karaoke



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SK2 - Friday, July 3

SK2 blends their extraordinary vocal and musical talents to faithfully reproduce the sounds of a wide variety of artists while delivering a modern, action-packed performance including Rock, R&B, Country, Funk and Disco. Get ready to dance the night way following the rodeo on Friday, July 3.

Karaoke - Saturday, July 4

Following the CCPRA Rodeo on Saturday, July 4, it's karaoke time with Grand Slam Mobile DJ. Here's an opportunity to showcase your own vocal talents beginning at 9:00 p.m. See you at the Rodeo Grounds!



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Lion's Cowboy Breakfast



A local favorite, our Cowboy Breakfast draws hundreds to Willits' Recreation Grove for great grub prepared by the Lion's Club of Willits. Please join us on Sunday, July 5th from 7:00-11:00 a.m.

A traditional fare of hotcakes, ham, eggs, and good hot coffee is the perfect remedy after an evening of kicking up your heels at the Street Dance! Purchase tickets from any of our Sweetheart contestants—\$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children. Tickets are also available the morning of the breakfast at the serving line.

Many thanks to the Lion's Club members for their endless achievements and work in our community.

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Old West Style Beef BBQ

Each and every 4th of July, whether getting together with old friends or meeting new ones, you have the opportunity to eat some of the greatest food west of the Pecos. The annual Willits Frontier Days Beef Barbecue, held in the Recreation Grove Park next to the Rodeo Grounds, is a mouth-watering delight.

Putting this monumental meal together takes the combined efforts of many local individuals, service clubs and businesses. However, under the direction of Mike Frahm and the help of many others, we manage to satisfy the appetites of nearly 4,000 hungry buckaroos who have come to celebrate the birthday of our great nation in the tradition of the Old West.

The barbecue fire crew light the coals around midnight to make sure they are just right by the time the cooks arrive



around 6:00 a.m. The Odd Fellows Lodge, Rotary Club and many dedicated volunteers work through the night and into the day preparing cowboy-style beans, salad fixin's, and garlic-buttered French bread. Anyone with a spare minute helps shuck and clean the freshly-picked corn on the cob. Roasted over oak coals since the crack of dawn, the Black Angus Tri Tip Roast provided by Ray's Food Place is absolutely delectable. Everyone involved is proud to help make this what is widely acclaimed to be the "World's Best Beef Barbecue."

At noon the familiar sound of the dinner bell calls everyone to "come and get it."

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Willits Frontier Days Carnival



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Open July 1 through the July 5, Johnston Amusements carnival is the newest addition to Willits Frontier Days. For three generations and over 50 years, Johnston Amusements has been bringing quality family entertainment to Central and Northern California fairs and festivals. With a selection of both new and classic kiddie rides, riders of all ages can experience the thrills of the carnival. One and all are invited to enjoy the games, rides and aromas that can only be experienced at a carnival. Laugh and enjoy great food, popcorn, candy apples, ice cream, and treats as you and your friends and family enjoy our large selection of games as you stroll through a clean and well lit midway.

Childhood carnival memories always stay with you. When you visit this year's carnival, let the magic of the sights, smells, and sounds transport you back to your childhood. It's in our heart-of-hearts where the carnival and its rides, games, stuffed animals, and smells stay with us into adulthood. In its own special way, the carnival makes us kids forever.

Eh Capa Bareback Riders of Boise, Idaho



Photo courtesy of Eh Capa Bareback Riders

Willits Frontier Days welcomes back the Eh Capa Riders—an amazing group of riders who will perform at both our CCPRA rodeos and in our July 4th Independence Day Parade.

These young, talented riders will take you on a breathtaking journey through maneuvers and jumps—all without the aid of saddles or bridles. The Eh Capa riders, ages 8 through 19, develop a unique relationship with their horses based on sound horsemanship principles. They control their mounts with leg cues, their voices, and a one-inch wide leather strap around the horse's neck known as a "tack rein." Eh Capa believes when youngsters learn to build trust in the horses they love, the results can be remarkable. The program emphasizes commitment, patience with self, consistent practice, active team participation and mentoring others.

Founded in 1956 as an inexpensive way for children to ride and enjoy their horses, Eh Capa is a family-oriented horseback riding club for boys and girls. Their horses are every shape, color, and breed, with no specific qualification except that they are

trained and loved by the children who ride them.

Their routine varies from season to season, but always includes an exercise at "Liberty" (a special drill during which the "tack rein" is removed), pinwheels of various dimensions, and a show-stopping display of jumping—in pairs, in small groups, and up to sixteen abreast—that thrills the audience.

As the club's riding style is reminiscent of Native Americans, the name Apache was selected to be spelled in reverse, thus the name Eh Capa. The organization rides in the hope of bringing honor to Native Americans, from their beautiful handmade clothing to the traditional native symbols painted on the horses.

Eh Capa is a nonprofit, charitable organization and is financed by its participation in horse-related events, as well as through sponsors and fundraisers, and has a 25-plus year history with the PRCA (Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association).

Folks, this is an thrilling exhibition of horsemanship you won't want to miss.

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Willits Frontier Days

Black Bart Gunfighters



The Black Bart Gunfighters are a theatrical group who specialize in taking a humorous look at the Old West.

“One of the main purposes of our club is to go out and enjoy ourselves, while at the same time making sure everyone has a good time. We strive to have fun providing good-olde western entertainment while keeping the memory of the Old West alive. We don’t just come out and put on a show. We mingle and invite our audience to participate in some of our skits.”

The Black Bart Gunfighters Club is affiliated and insured through the National



Rifle Association. Each and every member goes through an extensive gun safety course before participating in any skits involving gunfights. At the beginning of every show a gun safety demonstration is given so the audience can see the dangers of what a blank can do.

The Black Bart Gunfighters Club is a nonprofit organization. In addition to local performances, they book shows in advance and travel to various locations outside of Willits. Occasionally they make surprise appearances and are known to perform shotgun weddings.

Donations are all directed toward scholarships and are gratefully accepted by Al (Crusty) Robinson, P.O. Box 862, Willits, CA 95490, or you can give him a call at (707) 459-3409.

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Willits American Legion Post 174

Willits American Legion Post 174 and its Ladies Auxiliary heartily welcome you to Willits, the Frontier Days Celebration, and the longest continuous rodeo in the State of California. Post 174 instigated the 4th of July Parade and Rodeo in 1926 to raise funds toward building the hospital. In 1927 the event was made permanent, and has occurred ever since with no interruptions. This is a record that Willits and the Frontier Days Committee are justifiably proud of.

The American Legion Color Guard has led the 4th of July Parade each year. It also presents the colors at each Rodeo, and raises the huge garrison-sized flag while the National Anthem is sung. Each year Post 174 hold its “Community Programs Drawing” to raise funds for our many community programs. Winning tickets are drawn at the last CCPRA Rodeo. Winners need not be present. Drawing tickets will be available at each rodeo, or you can call Commander Bob Sisson at 707-456-0399 or Finance Officer Paul “The Elder” Bliss (Paul Jr. is known as “The Younger”) at 707-459-2965.

American Legion Post 174 and its Ladies Auxiliary have been an active part of the Community and assisted Veterans continuously



since October 15, 1920—that’s 88 years! Post 174 and its Ladies Auxiliary meet at 7:00 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month in the Veterans Memorial Building at 189/191 North Main Street. We have numerous functions open to everyone, and we warmly welcome all Veterans and their families to participate with us. All inquiries can be addressed to the Commander Bob Sisson at (707) 456-0399.

We are happy to welcome you to Willits Frontier Days 2009!

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As proud Americans, the members and volunteers of Willits Frontier Days celebrate our nation’s independence with you. We salute our active military and all veterans, and thank you for your service, sacrifice and bravery.

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A Day at the Races

Back in the late 1920s, the community of Willits desperately needed a hospital to serve its residents. Willits Frontier Days was formed to help raise funds for the construction costs of the new facility. Charles Howard, owner of the famed racehorse Seabiscuit, served as the Grand Marshall of the first parade. Eighty years later, Willits is once again in need of a new hospital, and Willits Frontier Days is helping lead the charge.

The Frank R. Howard Foundation hosted a fundraising event called, "A Day at the Races" last August featuring hospital bed races, a BBQ, live music, and arts & crafts booths. Fourteen teams representing various community groups hurtled hospital beds down Haehl Creek Drive in a furious competition. The hospital bed races served as the cornerstone of the event with each team eligible for prizes and recognition. Contests ranged

from the best-decorated bed to teams that raised the most money by collecting sponsorships and donations. Due to the leadership of President Chris White, Willits Frontier Days won the best-decorated prize and was one of the top three fundraising teams.

As the Howard Foundation carries on its mission of creating the first rural "green" or LEED certified hospital and healthcare campus in the country, Willits Frontier Days remains committed to its original mission by supporting this important community investment. On August 15, 2009, the tradition will continue with the return of "A Day at the Races." We invite you to join us as we watch Willits Frontier Days compete once again to take the lead.

Contact Ian Fitzpatrick, Howard Foundation fundraiser at 459-3047 or ian@howardfoundation.org for more information.



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44 Madrone Street, Willits, CA 95490
(707) 459-2777 jannl@howardfoundation.org

Willits Frontier Days Scholarship Fund

X Each year the Willits Frontier Days Board of Directors presents scholarships to deserving Willits High School seniors. Three Board members interview all potential recipients to determine their qualifications based on moral character, academic achievement and community involvement. This year's Willits Frontier Days Scholarship Fund recipients are:

Joanna Johnson

Joanna is a Willits native and plans to attend Mendocino College in the Fall. Her goal is to become a Registered Nurse. Joanna's father has had health problems since she was very young. *"I believe that is where I developed my desire to help other people who are suffering."* She is currently employed at Baechtel Creek Medical Clinic.

Juliana Kang

"Through schooling and college I can become the best person I can be, and I am proud to live in a country where that is possible." The 2008-09 Willits High School student body president, Juliana plans to attend the University of Rochester in the Fall, with her sites set on becoming a high school biology teacher. Julianna has five brothers and sisters.

Crystal Cardona

Crystal will attend California State University East Bay in the Fall majoring in nursing to become a Family Nurse Practitioner. She has dreamed of helping people her entire life. Crystal works at El Mexicano and enjoys reading, bike riding, guitar and art. Crystal says, *"...the simple act of reaching out for someone's hand will be what truly changes the world, and that is what I plan to do."*

Willits Frontier Days is honored to assist these fine young women achieve their academic and career goals.

Ridgewood Ranch Home of Seabiscuit



Bronze Seabiscuit statue. Photo courtesy Debbie Clark, The Willits News

Willits has, at one time or another, been called a “one-horse town,” and that “one horse” was Seabiscuit. The horse was catapulted back into the international limelight through Laura Hillenbrand’s *New York Times* best selling book “Seabiscuit: An American Legend,” an Academy Award nominated motion picture, and worldwide news coverage about Seabiscuit’s home Ridgewood Ranch. The incredible publicity brought people from around the world to Willits, and specifically to Ridgewood Ranch where jockey Red Pollard and Seabiscuit came to recuperate from injuries in 1939.

You’re invited to spend some time at Ridgewood Ranch—home of many historic buildings. A guided walking tour includes several buildings important to the Howard ranch operation. Stops along the tour include the upper mare barn with hand-penciled notes on stall walls about Seabiscuit’s mates and offspring, and the house the Howards called home, with a special guest room set aside for crooner and horse race aficionado Bing Crosby.

The crown jewel of the tour is Seabiscuit’s barn! Charles S. Howard had the barn constructed for Seabiscuit’s homecoming after his triumphant win of the 1940 hundred-grander at Santa Anita. This structure was renovated by the Rotary Club of Willits, including its signature Howard logo and jockey and horse weather vane.

For reservations and information call 707-459-7910 or visit the Willits Chamber of Commerce web site at www.willits.org/seabiscuit.htm.

The Golden Rule Church Association is actively working with the Mendocino Land Trust for the long-term protection of Ridgewood Ranch. A conservation easement is being developed that would protect 4,600 acres of the ranch. The California Department of Conservation has already committed up to \$1,000,000 for a farmland easement on the property. In addition, plans are being developed to preserve most of the historically significant buildings of this extraordinary ranch.



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Roots of Motive Power



Roots of Motive Power, Inc. acquires, restores and preserves steam logging and railroad artifacts of historical importance. Its collection of over 60 pieces of machinery ranges from small stationery engines to locomotives. One of the biggest attractions is a 1932 Bucyrus Erie Steam Shovel. Roots' members steam-up the restored equipment for community events, school groups, and special occasions. In the spring, summer and fall, Roots' volunteers have workdays on the first and third Sundays of the month at the Mendocino County Museum.

After nearly 20 years, Roots of Motive Power in collaboration with the Mendocino County Museum and Mendocino College realized their "Redwood Empire Railroad History Project (RERHP)." Roots was first organized in 1982 and began with a single piece of equipment. The new RERHP building is a monument to superb woodwork construction. It has two railroad tracks within the building and provides over 5,000 square feet of display space in the "Engine House" for heavy steam-powered equipment. It was made possible with a "Transportation Enhancement Act" grant through the Mendocino Council of Government Office of Ukiah. To learn more, visit their web site at www.rootsof-motivepower.com.



Mendocino County Museum



Mendocino County Museum is a regional "Community Storyteller." Explore our local history from its beginning. Follow the intriguing story of Mendocino County from the shipwreck that opened the region to logging and settlement in the 1850s, to a diverse way of life by viewing the inside of a '70s "hippie van." See Dr. Babcock's homemade movie of Mendocino County's most famous equine Seabiscuit. Enjoy the museum's exhibits of Pomo baskets, logging, wine making, commercial fishing and ranching.

Located at 400 East Commercial Street, Willits, California 95490, hours are Wednesday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Call (707) 459-2736 for more information or visit www.co.mendocino.ca.us/museum.

E

Wet & Wild Waterfights

As Dave Shelton recalls, the Annual Water Fight got started in the late 40s or early 50s to promote community awareness of the need for Volunteer Firefighters. The object of a water fight is to drive a barrel, by means of water pressure and hose handling skill, into your opponents' area.

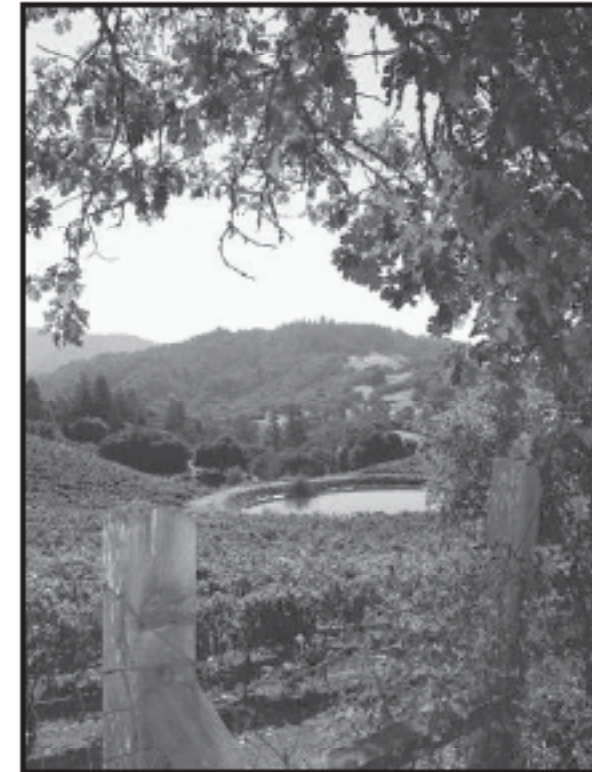
Initially, the water fight was between Willits firefighters team and a firefighting team from Fort Bragg. They battled each other for a perpetual trophy—first in Willits on the 4th of July and then in Fort Bragg during Paul Bunyan Days. The match was the best two out of three, and was originally fought on East Commercial Street in front of Willits City Hall.

Dave remembers one year when he was Willits' nozzle man. He went head-to-head with Fort Bragg's nozzle man for three hours in just one of the rounds. In the end, they both collapsed with no winner declared. After that a time limit was set, and because of liability, the loose barrel was tethered (the loose barrel would sometimes end up in the crowd).

Come have a blast, literally, in saluting our Volunteer Firefighters. You might just want to "cool off" in the mist after watching exciting CCPRA Rodeo on the 4th of July.

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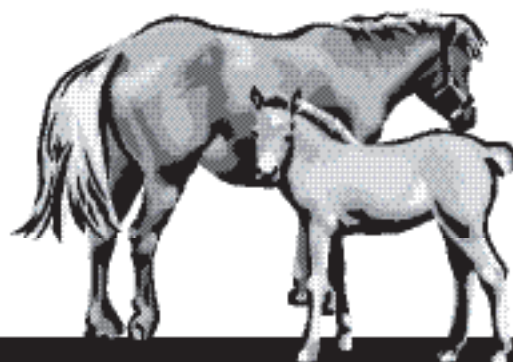
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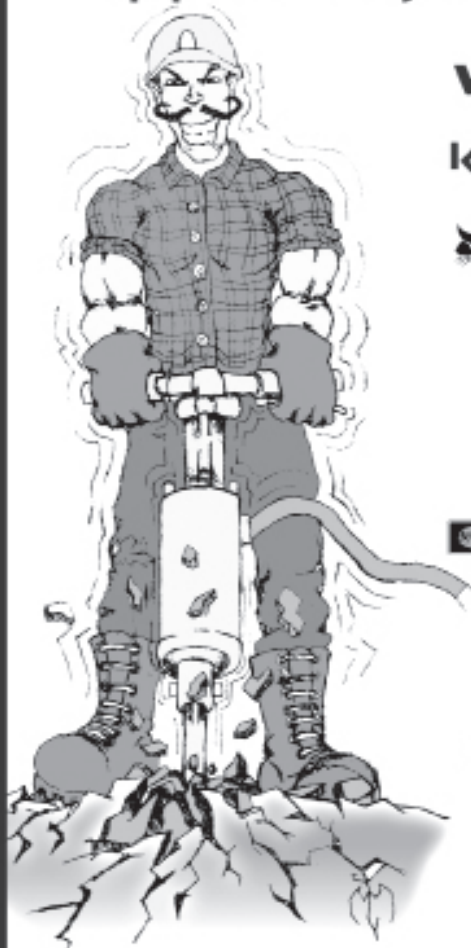
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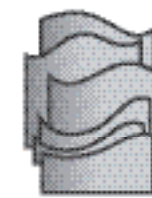
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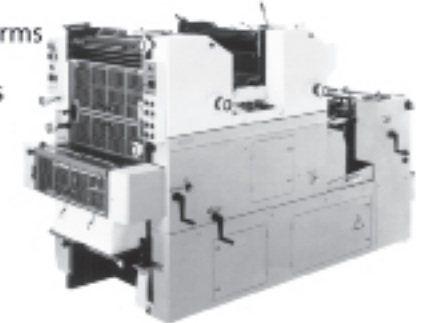
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Willits Frontier Days

Hat's Off & Thank You

The Executive Board, Board of Directors and Staff & Committee Chairpersons wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to the “folks” who just show up “because” and who lend a helping hand with the many tasks that need doing before, during and after our annual 4th of July celebration. You “helpers” make a world of difference on many levels. We sincerely believe it is your invisible, helping hands that pull the pieces together as the final preparations for Willits Frontier Days are being made.

We sincerely apologize if we have missed listing any of our “caretakers” and hope you will understand and forgive us. With so many of you showing up over the past few weeks, it is near impossible to keep track of all the comings and goings. Please know this is far from being a complete list of those we want to publicly acknowledge, but our gratitude is heartfelt just the same.




All the helpers for the BBQ	Ray & Peggy Hebard	Greg Purvis	Chris Wilkes
Daniel Alvarez	Todd Hollifield	Chris Ramsey	Willits Boy Scout Troop
Fred & Marcy Barry	Mike & Jenny Horger	Janice & Craig Rivera	The City of Willits and
Gina Bartolomie	Bill & Carlin Horger	Tim & Pam Shields	their employees
Black Bart Gun Fighters	Chris & Mary Horger	Wayne and Tina Shull	Willits Chamber of Commerce
Mike Boomer	Brent Horger	Brian and Dena Shuster	Willits Junior Horsemen's
Brian Bouley	Katie Horger	Shuster Trucking Co.	Association
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Whitney Briggs	Rich Huddle	Tyler Sizemore	Willits Police Department
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Michele Briggs	Steve Kesling	Soroptimists	Willits-Les Schwab Tire
Mary Burgess	Lions Club	Jake Standley	Dr. Mike Witt
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Davis Figg-Hoblyn	Mike Persico		
Kelly Figg-Hoblyn	Kenny & Bobbie Persico		
Mary Fonsen	Chuck Persico		
Diane Ford	Tanya Petittclerc		
Carl Gallups	Denny Pinon		
Doug & Kathy Goss	Dan & Annette Pinon		
Tim & Julie Goss	Mattie Pinon		
Kathy Graves	John Pinon		
Brooke Harris	Shelley Powers		
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*Ray's Food Place Willits partners
with the Willits Senior Center's Major Fund Raiser -*

BUFFALO BLOW-OUT

**We will be cooking buffalo burgers in the parking lot of Ray's Food Place
July 2nd & 3rd 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

We are offering: **Single Buffalo Burger, chips and a drink...\$5.00
Double Burger, chips and a drink...\$6.00**

All proceeds go to Willits Senior Center for this important community project!

RAY'S FOOD PLACE WILLITS WILL ALSO FEATURE TASTY BUFFALO ON SALE ALL WEEK!

Buffalo is a lean, flavorful meat that should not be overcooked.
Our meat manager Norma can help you with cooking tips. We are offering the following:



90% Lean
Ground
Buffalo
\$3.99 lb.

Buffalo
Rib Eye Steak
\$14.99 lb.

Buffalo
Tri-Tip Roast
\$7.99 lb.

Buffalo
New York Steaks
\$14.99 lb.

1718 S. Main Street
Willits, CA 95690



phone 707-459-5139 (Scott)
fax 707-459-5174

Prices effective 7/1/09-7/31/09