

96th Annual

WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS

We're Celebrating Our 'Western Heritage' in 2022

THANK YOU TO OUR MAJOR SPONSORS





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Our family would like to thank the communities throughout Mendocino County for their continued support and love over the last 15 years. We started this business with you in mind! Our goal is to offer quality hay & grain, pet food & pet supplies as well as some fun things to keep your shopping experience new and exciting! We continue to expand on toys and gifts throughout the store and now offer a full lunch menu 7 days a week in our Sweet Shop. We still offer our customer favorites, Cowlick's Handmade Ice Cream and Kemmy's Homemade Pies.

To make your shopping trip even sweeter, store owner Darlene Bixler continues to make our handmade fudge. We've continued to grow our Clothing Department. In addition to our work and western brands, we have included outdoor lifestyle brands as well as some fashion and contemporary brands to best suit the needs of our community. There truly is something for everyone at J.D. Redhouse & Company and we thank you for shopping at your locally owned mercantile in the heart of downtown Willits.

Visit us online: www.willitsfrontierdays.com



Above: Willits Frontier Days President, Fred Barry. Below, right: The Barry family: Danielle, Fred and Marcy Barry.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fred Barry

Welcome to the 96th Annual Willits Frontier Days! I would like to welcome each and every one of you to this year's Fourth of July events.

After two years of less-than-totally-normal celebrations, the 2022 events are back in full swing, including the truck pulls, parade, rodeos and carnival.

This year's theme "Western Heritage" hopes to continue to bring back memories of how it used to be, and celebrate them again this year.

All of our great events would not happen year after year without the volunteers and the generosity of our community.

Hope your visit with us is not only entertaining, but memorable. We can't wait to see you at all the upcoming events.

I personally would like to thank my family, Marcy and Danielle Barry, for hanging in there with me – you guys are my rock. Thank you again for all the continued support.

Program cover, content and design:

Maureen Jennison, Marcy Barry and Karen Cavanaugh

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Photo Galleries: <http://photographress.zenfolio.com/willitsfrontierdays>

Past Presidents of Willits Frontier Days

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



Willits Frontier Days' 2022 Event Program

WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS

2022 Schedule of Events

Friday, June 17:

HOMETOWN CELEBRATION

Main Street - Downtown Willits | 5 to 9 pm

Friday, June 24:

TRUCK & TRACTOR PULLS

Jack Tharp Arena | 6 pm

Adult: \$20, Child (3+): \$10

STREET DANCE

featuring The Flat Busted Band

Following rodeo | Free

Saturday, June 25:

SWEETHEART JUDGING

Appearance & Poise

Noon | Rodeo Grounds

WFD JRS. BARRELS & POLES

Kick off series event

1 pm | Jack Tharp Arena

Sunday, June 26:

HORSESHOW

Jack Tharp Arena | 8 am

SWEETHEART JUDGING

Horsemanship:

During Horse Show | Jack Tharp Arena

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Rodeo Grounds | Noon

Wednesday, June 29:

CARNIVAL OPENS

Saturday, July 2:

JUNIOR RODEO

Jack Tharp Arena | 1 pm

Adult: \$10, Child (2 and under): free

Sunday, July 3:

LIONS COWBOY BREAKFAST

Rec Grove Park | 7 am

Adult: \$12, Child: \$8

CCPRA PROFESSIONAL RODEO

7 pm | Jack Tharp Arena

Box: \$25, Adult: \$20, Child (3+): \$10

WESTERN DANCE

featuring Lance Michael Cornwell Band

Following rodeo | Free

Monday, July 4:

HORSESHOE CONTEST

Rec Grove Park | 10 am

PARADE "Western Heritage"

Main Street - Downtown Willits | 11 am

COUNTRY MUSIC RODEOLA

Rec Grove Park | Noon

BEEF BARBECUE

Rec Grove Park | Noon

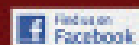
Adult: \$20 & Child/Senior: \$12

CCPRA PROFESSIONAL RODEO

Jack Tharp Arena | 4 pm

Box: \$25, Adult: \$20, Child (3+): \$10

More info: www.WillitsFrontierDays.com



Sweetheart will be crowned
on Friday, July 1

Visit us online: www.willitsfrontierdays.com



At left:

Board of Directors:

Back row, from left: Bruce Cartwright, Karen Cavanaugh, Hailey Riley and Jeff Cook.

Front row, from left: Steve Spackman, Rick Crowder and Steven Hoyle.

Below:

Executive Board:

From left: 2nd Vice President Willie England, Secretary Tracy Evans, Vice President Marcy Barry, and President Fred Barry.

Not pictured:

Treasurer June Sizemore.

Photos by Maureen Jennison

WFD CREW

2022

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 and the American Legion Post, a plan was hatched, and the first Willits Frontier Days Rodeo occurred in July 1927.

Coincidentally, at this same time, Frank R. Howard, the young son of Charles S. Howard, owner of Ridgewood Ranch and champion racehorse Seabiscuit, was injured in an automobile accident at the ranch. The boy's doctor, Dr. Babcock, approached Howard about erecting a hospital in Willits in memory of young Frank, who did not survive the fatal crash. Mr.



Howard agreed and decided to build 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 for the event anyway.

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 businessmen and ranchers took over the proverbial "reins" of the event. The continuity of Willits Frontier Days has remained unbroken since 1926.

As a non-profit organization, Willits Frontier Days still operates as it did in the beginning, with no associated 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.

Interested in getting involved and helping the tradition of Willits Frontier Days continue into the future? Call 707-459-6330 or email us at: willitsfrontierdays@gmail.com for information on joining.

Willits Frontier Days' 2022 Event Program



Photos by
Maureen
Jennison

IN MEMORY

Lanae Lamkin

On March 1, 2022, Lanae (Shuster) Lamkin, beloved mother, friend, and daughter passed away at the age of 50. Lanae was born in Ukiah on December 7, 1971 and over her childhood years, she enjoyed gymnastic shows, swimming and horses.

Her love of horses continued through adulthood; She attended a multitude of horse shows, from jumping at Cow Palace to the Frontier Days show where she won multiple trophies throughout the years. In 1991, she was crowned Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart like her mother before her.

Lanae married Luke Lamkin in 1996, and they had three daughters: Lilja, Hayden, and Blighe. During this time, Lanae shifted her focus from horses and swimming to raising her children and staying active by running. Many Willits locals can attest to seeing her

push a stroller for miles through the valley, alongside her dear friend Sharon Sasso. Due to her athleticism and unyielding determination, she went from running local 5ks to participating in marathons.

Lanae was a devoted mother and taught her daughters many valuable lessons. She modeled what it means to be compassionate, how to be part of a family, a supportive friend, and showed them the meaning of "a force to be reckoned with."

Lanae will be missed by all who had the joy of knowing her. She is survived by her daughters and husband; father Steven Shuster; mother Leslie and stepfather Robert Scaglione; brother Curtis and wife, Kate Shuster; mother-in-law Lauren and husband, Barry Campbell; and sister-in-law Rachael Lamkin and wife, Ali Fenn.

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Family Tree Service continues to support Utility Line Clearance for our community and Family Tree Resource supports tree services for residential, commercial, municipalities and state agencies to support Mendocino, Humboldt, Lake, Sonoma, Napa and Marin Counties. Services include tree removal, trimming, hazard tree removal, storm damage cleanup, arborist evaluations, and insurance reports.

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The 2022 Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart contestant is Willits' Danielle Barry, 18, who has been looking forward to this experience since she was just a li'l cowgirl.

"I decided to run for Sweetheart this year, because I have always looked up to the Sweethearts that got me started in riding ... and since I have basically grown up at the rodeo grounds!" laughed Barry.

She's not wrong; Barry certainly can call the Willits Frontier Days rodeo grounds her second home, as she's spent many years there riding, helping, and volunteering alongside parents Fred and Marcy Barry who have both served as volunteers, vice-president, president, and board members for the non-profit group for over a decade.

"I will be riding my own horses for this year's competition, Rebel and Whiskey," explained Barry. "Rebel has been my partner for 10 years, and I can't imagine doing this without him (I always said I will only run for Sweetheart if Rebel was still able to be my partner and if he wanted to), and well, this is the year and we are ready!"

Danielle has been riding in gymkhanas, horse

shows, and trail rides as well as in high school rodeos. Whiskey joined the team this year, and Barry noted that she couldn't be any happier with his performance. "He is teaching me new things every day!"

Barry attributes her initial interest in horses and the rodeo life to years of encouragement from past Sweethearts, many of whom continue to support her to this day.

"The past Sweethearts are the ones who really got me interested in horses," said Barry. "They were the ones who put me on their horses for the first time at the arena. Thank you to Mary Fosen for giving me lessons; to Marta Bartow for entering me in my first horse show; to Nicol Persico Kunka for lessons in riding, taking care of my horse and everything in between; to Amanda Hiatt for pushing me to be the best I can and to not give up when I wanted to; to Riata and Twila King for encouraging me to always do better than my last competition and to go ahead and do high school rodeo; and to Courtney Figg-Hoblyn, who not only shared her Sweetheart parade ride with me, but her horse, Clue, year after year, too.

"I also can't forget to thank the entire Persico

family, and especially Mike Persico, who told me 'if you're going to ride horses, you show them who is the boss, and if you fall off, you get back on.' I think I might have been only 4 or 5-years old when he told me that, but I have never forgotten," said Barry.

Barry is graduating from Willits High School this June and will be heading to Feather River Junior College in Quincy in the fall, where she will compete on the college rodeo team while completing her college prerequisites before moving onto a four-year college to follow her dream of becoming a large animal vet.

"I am very excited to be able to run this year," said Barry. "I'm looking forward to meeting new people and representing Willits Frontier Days during this year's contest. I want to also thank everyone that is helping me along the way, and give a big thank you to the Willits community as well as my Willits Frontier Days family for always supporting me. I want to wish everyone a happy and safe Fourth of July!"

Barry will be selling tickets to all the upcoming events and is available by calling or texting 707-272-1340.

Willits Frontier Days' 2022 Event Program

Visit us online: www.willitsfrontierdays.com



Lee Persico
and Margie
Handley

HERITAGE AWARD

Margie Handley

The Willits Frontier Days Board of Directors proudly announces the recipient of the 2022 Heritage Award, Margie Handley who was married and now is known as Margie Hawthorne.

Margie is a longtime supporter of Willits Frontier Days, as she has sponsored this award in memory of her father Robert E. "Bob" Harrah for over 3 decades!

It has been a priority of her family to support an award that honors individuals, clubs and organizations that are primarily responsible for the continued success of this event in our small community.

The 2022 Theme Western Heritage brings focus to how important our heritage is to this organization. Margie has been an invaluable supporter of Willits Frontier Days and our entire community over the years. Her love of our town and energy is primarily responsible for the existence of the newly built Howard Hospital.

Join us in honoring Margie this year as the well-deserved recipient of this honor.

Award Sponsor: Harrah Industries Photos by Maureen Jennison

Happy 4th of July!!

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GRAND MARSHAL Cooley Family

The 2022 Willits Frontier Days Parade theme Western Heritage could not be better suited for their Grand Marshal: the Cooley Family! If you see Art and Annette Cooley around town these days, you'll no doubt notice the sparkle in their eyes.

Art and Annette are living their dream. Both from ranching families, Annette's family, Bob and Earlene Whitaker and Art's family, Stan and Betty Cooley (from Montague and McCloud). The two met while in college at Cal Poly. Smitten, they married on the Whitaker Ranch and have since made it there forever home. Their children have carried on the tradition by choosing their mates also from ranching families.

Son Stan, married Katie (from San Luis Obispo County) and has moved to Willits to work alongside Art and Annette on the family ranch. Their children, Clayton and Grady, are active in football, basketball, baseball,

and high school rodeo.

Daughter Casey, married Chris Gudel (from the Elk Grove area) and they own the Gudel Cattle Company, producing bulls and project heifers for junior showmen, including their children, Gentry and Kade.

This 4th of July, you'll see them all grinning ear-to-ear leading the parade down Main Street.

Submitted photo

Award Sponsor: Willits Frontier Days



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Willits Frontier Days' 2022 Event Program



CCPRA RODEO

California Cowboys
Pro Rodeo Association

WHEN & WHERE:

7/3 | 7 p.m. & 7/4 | 4 p.m.

Jack Tharp Arena

\$20/Adults, \$10/Kids (5-12)

The California Cowboys Pro Rodeo Association is a group of top-ranked cowgirls and cowboys who participate on a circuit of professional-grade rodeos throughout the state.

The contestants participate in eight events – bareback, saddle bronc, team roping, calf roping, steer wrestling, breakaway roping, barrel racing and bull riding – hoping to win the coveted All-Around title. After the points from all the events are tallied, the cowgirl and cowboy with the highest cumulative scores win the title, a coordinating engraved buckle created at Outlaw Saddlery, a wad of cold hard cash, and bragging rights for the duration of the year.

The livestock for the events, the bulls, broncs and horned-alike – ‘rodeo stock’ as they are referred to in the trade – are provided by Humboldt County’s Lou Bugenig of West Coast Rodeos. Known throughout the state as a premiere stock contractor, West Coast bulls and broncs give the boys a challenge to hang on to, and the steer and calves try to give the ladies a run for their money.

In addition to the eight CCPRA Rodeo events, cowboys and cowgirls from Lake, Mendocino and Humboldt counties can compete in local team roping events as well. Trophy buckles, also engraved by Outlaw Saddlery, are awarded to the top-scoring Header and Heeler.

Buckle Sponsors:

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Steer Wrestling:
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Bareback Riding:
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Willits Frontier Days' 2022 Event Program

GIVING BACK

Willits Frontier Days donates back to the Willits Community

Every year, Willits Frontier Days chooses several organizations to donate to, spreading around the wealth in the community.

This year's recipients included: The Willits Lions Club who received \$3,000 for the Boy Scout Hut; Willits Youth Football who received \$2,000; the Willits Swim Team who received \$1,000; Little Lake Fire who received \$1,000; the Boy Scouts Troop 42 who received \$500; the Seabiscuit Riding Program who received \$1,000; and to the Willits Frontier Days Juniors program who received \$2,500. Donations were also made to the High School Rodeo District 2 and to the graduating class of 2022.



Photos by Eric Pham

TRUCK PULLS

Locals & Professionals

WHEN & WHERE:

6/24 | 6 p.m. | Jack Tharp Arena |
\$20/Adults, \$10/Kids (5-12)

The Jack Tharp Arena gets to serve a different use on Friday night, when the Truck and Tractor Pulls replace the bulls and broncs that usually inhabit the space.

Local boys and girls, and a roster of professional drivers who are a part of the MLM Motorsports crew, try their trucks and tractors against The Terminator, a weighted sled that is hooked to competitors' vehicles.

The drivers must begin from a parked position, be hooked to the sled, then methodically, or with much gusto, drag the

sled down the arena and hope to make it across the 300-foot-mark finish line.

The sled has an increasable weight that can be altered to allow different levels of resistance for each class of drivers.

Classes include: Super Street, Street Diesel, OMG Class, Stock Diesel, 4,500-pound, 5,500-pound, 7,200-pound, Pro Modified trucks, 5,800-pound tractors, Country Modified, 6,000-pound and 8,000-pound.

Awards are given, as are bragging rights, to those who are able to dominate The Terminator. Many drivers compete with MLM at their other events, and come back to Willits year after year for this fun event.

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350 Franklin Ave, Willits (707) 459-4845
Tuesday - Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

COVELO TRANSFER STATION

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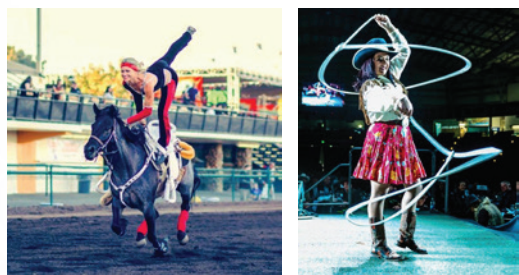
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Willits Frontier Days' 2022 Event Program



CENTER ACT

Riata Ranch Cowboy Girls

WHEN & WHERE:

Half-time during the CCPRA rodeos on 7/3 and 7/4

Since the performance team's founding in 1976, Riata Ranch Cowboy Girls have performed in 20 countries, on five different continents, building their reputation as world-class performers. Over the years, their unique brand of entertainment has taken them from the rodeo arena dirt to professional sporting arena turf to Windsor Castle in England. Riata Ranch Cowboy Girls present an entertaining western vignette incorporating American-style trick roping, trick riding, Australian Stock whips, and horses at liberty that is truly breathtaking and entertaining. The team for 2018 consists of masterful equestrians from the United States and Australia, making this the only international team in professional rodeo. Their unique brand of entertainment, under the direction of Jennifer Nicholson, has led to performances at rodeos and events around the world such as the Wrangler National Finals in Las Vegas, Reno Rodeo, Pendleton Round Up, Salinas, Cheyenne Frontier Days, Dodge City and many more.



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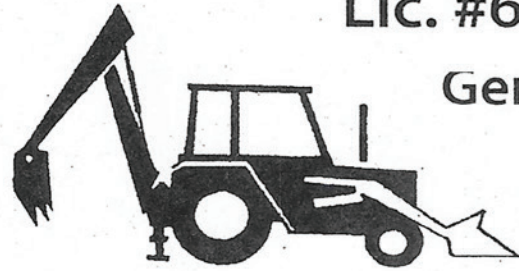
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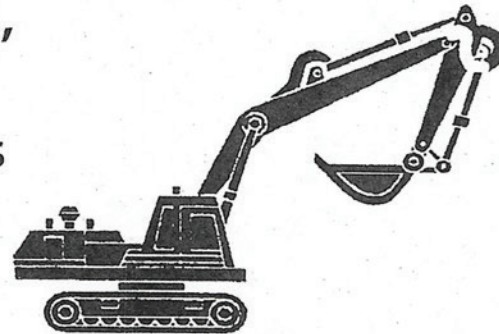
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PARADE

Commercial Street to
East Valley Street

WHEN & WHERE: 7/4 | 11 a.m. | Main Street | Free to Attend

The strip of Main Street between Commercial Street and East Valley Street gets a holiday-themed makeover on the morning of July 4, as the annual parade kicks off and turns Main Street into a red, white and blue extravaganza.

Community members and visitors from all over the county and beyond line the sidewalks of historic downtown Willits to watch the glitter, horses, dancers, floats, balloons, gunfighters, bands, flags, tractors – and usually a surprise or two – march down Main Street.

Several entrants have made the parade an annual or generational tradition for their families – some riding since they were just little buckaroos, including members of the Persico families and many others.

Annual favorites include the Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart contestants, the current Grand Marshal and Heritage Award winners, Roots of Motive Power antique logging equipment, Willits Horsemen's Association, Willits Police Department, Little Lake and Brooktrails Fire Departments, CalFire, as well as many other emergency personnel – with sirens and lights blazing, of course.

The announcer's stand, located at the corner of East Mendocino Avenue and Main Street, introduces each entry and provides information. It also serves as the stage for the winner of the National Anthem contest to sing at the opening of the parade. Though many viewers stake out seats in the early hours of the morning, the parade starts at 11 a.m. and is free to attend.



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JUNIOR RODEO

WHEN & WHERE:

7/2 | 1 p.m. | Jack Tharp Arena
\$10/Adults, Kids free

CCPRAers have to start somewhere, and the Junior Rodeo event is the place for the little buckaroos to hone their arena skills before competing with the big guys and gals. Many of the junior contestants also have been in the saddle since they were very little, many with practical ranch experience already under their belts.

Events at the Junior Rodeo include many of the CCPRA events, just on a smaller scale. Calf and steer riding offer the little ones a chance to get ready for the bulls, and the Mystery Scramble gives everyone – contestants AND spectators – a great giggle. Though competition can be fierce even on the smaller scale, the parents of these little ones are always cheering them on and supporting them in every event.

Like the CCPRA Rodeos, the stock is provided by Humboldt County's Lou Bugenig and Mike Mora of West Coast Rodeos, and the winner of the event also receives the All-Around title and an engraved buckle. The overall high-point winner for the day will have the honor of receiving the Bud Suttles Memorial Trophy.



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COWBOY BREAKFAST



By the
Willits Lions Club

WHEN & WHERE:

7/3 | 7 to 11 a.m. | Rec Grove Park |
\$12/Adults, \$8/Kids (5-12)

One great tradition of Willits Frontier Days is the Willits Lions Club Cowboy Breakfast held at the Rec Grove Park in the morning. The Lions Club gets busy early to make sure the crowd can grab a hot plate of pancakes, ham, eggs and hot coffee. Tables are available at the park to sit and eat, and tickets are available from the Sweetheart contestants and at the event, which runs from 7 to 11 am.

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RANCH RODEO

SAVE THE DATE: October 8, 2022



After the official Willits Frontier Days and Fourth of July events are over, the Jack Tharp Arena quiets down for a few months, but when October rolls around, it livens up once again and plays host to the annual Ranch Rodeo event.

The Ranch Rodeo differs from the traditional rodeo events by offering teams of riders the chance to try their hands and hooves at more practical, working-ranch-lifestyle tasks like "ranch doctoring," "trailer loading," and "team sorting." These events are more common for everyday life on a ranch and take a different skill set than, say, barrel racing.

A barbecue, Calcutta auction and more are held during the rodeo. Check out "Year-Round Events" on www.WillitsFrontierDays.com for more information and entries when they become available.

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generation

For yet another year, the Willits Frontier Days Juniors helped make the season bright for many children in Willits, preparing the stockings that get handed out alongside other free gifts and goodies provided by the Willits Children's Christmas Program.

Juniors were able to make sure that 175 kids received stockings for Christmas this year through fundraising efforts in connection with the Willits Children's Christmas Program. They also were able to help with wrapping and passing out the gifts.



BARRELS & POLES

A series put on by the Willits Frontier Days Juniors Club



This year's Poles and Barrels series will consist of 10 different events, kicking off on June 25, 2022.

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WHEN & WHERE:

Appearance & Poise:

6/25 | Noon | Rodeo Grounds

Horsemanship: 6/26 | Jack Tharp Arena

During Horse Show | Free to attend


Crowning Winner: 7/1

Selecting the next lady to represent the Willits Frontier Days celebration is decided on ticket sales, poise and personality, modeling, a speech, equestrian knowledge, and a horsemanship riding pattern. Candidates are responsible for helping create awareness of the WFD events by selling tickets in the community.

Those crowned Frontier Days Sweetheart help out in the arena every year, handing out awards, chasing cattle, riding in the parade, and posing with winners for photos, as well as making appearances at other rodeos in the name of Willits Frontier Days.



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RODEO ANNOUNCER

Ted Dwyer

With almost 40 years experience in the sport of rodeo, starting with riding rough stock including bareback, saddle bronc, and bull riding.

In 1974 Ted turned to the baggy pants and the football cleats of a rodeo clown and bullfighter, working about 35 shows per year for about 10 years. He was injured in a career-ending bull fight in 1984. After that injury Ted worked on a few movie series, but love for the sport kept him involved in rodeo.

In 1987, Ted got started announcing rodeos and now is announcing about 50 performances per year. He also announces about 20 ice hockey games per year as well.

Ted has been voted the International Pro Rodeo Associations "Western Region Announcer" of the year eight times, and has been selected to be the announcer for the California Cowboys Pro Rodeo Association five times, as well as for the Pacific Collegiate Hockey Association's Adams Cup Playoffs & Finals.

Dwyer hopes his work as a rodeo announcer helps give rodeo-goers a feeling for the way the Wild West was, while also blending in an understanding of the difficulties of the modern-day cowboy.



At right: Ted Dwyer, rodeo announcer.

Submitted photo

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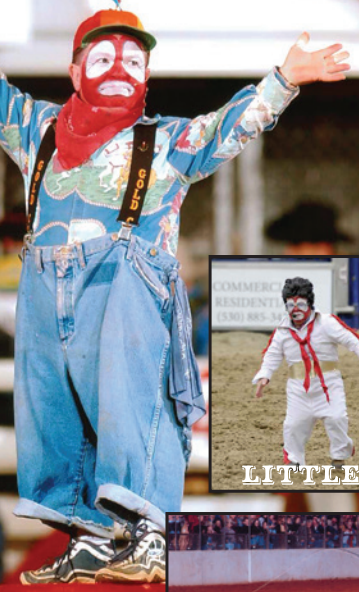
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WHEN & WHERE:

Opens 6/29 | Old Ball Fields

The night sky overlooking the Jack Tharp Arena glows bright with the lights from the Johnston Amusements carnival every year. The carnival offers rides, food and fun for kids and adults. Classics like the Gravitron and the Zipper give those hoping for a thrill a run for their cotton candy, and carnival games including darts, ping pong balls for goldfish, and more test the skills of all attendees. Everyone is welcome to enjoy tasty food including popcorn, candy apples, ice cream, and treats as they stroll through the clean and well-lit midway. Johnston Amusements has been bringing these quality family entertainment options to Central and Northern California fairs and festivals for over 50 years, spanning three generations.

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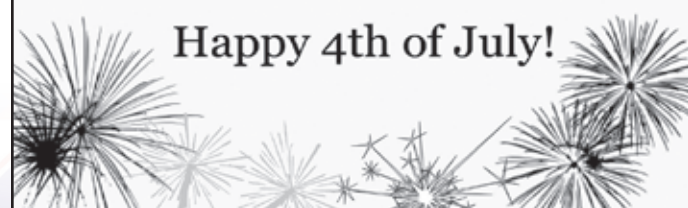
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HOMETOWN CELEBRATION

On Main Street



WHEN & WHERE:

6/17 | 5 to 9 p.m. | Downtown Willits

Free to attend

The Hometown Celebration is held along the Main Street corridor in downtown Willits.

Many brick-and-mortar vendors, restaurants, cafes and shops open their doors with specials and sales for those who come and celebrate for the evening.

Pop-up booths are set up for many other businesses in several parking lot areas. South-of-town and other businesses, service groups, clubs and organizations offer goods to buy, raffles, and games and fun for the kids.

Food, treats and tasties are available from local restaurants and vendors who serve many street-friendly eats for attendees as they stroll around downtown.

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NATIONAL ANTHEM

Come and Sing

WHEN & WHERE:

6/26 | Noon

Rodeo Grounds | Free to attend

Being the one chosen to sing the iconic National Anthem at the Willits Frontier Days Parade, Junior Rodeo and CCPRA Rodeo is something the winner of the annual contest will be able to remember for years.

In years past, vocalists of all ages and singing styles have tried their hand at the patriotic stanzas of "The Star Spangled Banner," including some very young kiddos, dads, moms, amateurs, semi-professionals and even a barber-shop quartet. Everyone is invited to come and cheer on their favorite singer at the contest held at the Rodeo Grounds.



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Willits Rotary Club

The Willits Rotary Club helps with the annual Willits Frontier Days Barbecue, helping to coordinate and serve the delicious lunch to the hungry crowd. The Rotary International motto "Service Above Self" conveys the humanitarian spirit of the organization's more than 1.2 million members. Strong fellowship among

SERVICE CLUBS

American Legion

The American Legion Post 174 and the Ladies Auxiliary helped initiate 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. The Guard also presents the colors at each Rodeo, and raises the huge garrison-sized flag while the National Anthem is sung. Post 174 and its Ladies Auxiliary meet at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month in the Veterans Memorial Building at the intersection of Sherwood Road and Main Street. If you would like to become involved with the Post, contact 707-272-1997.



Rotarians and meaningful community and international service projects characterize Rotary worldwide.

Willits Rotary offers programs for students and youth that can change the lives of those who participate. Through these programs, young people can earn scholarships, travel on cultural exchanges, or help a community through a service project. To become involved with Rotary, contact 707-391-0433.



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HORSE SHOW

English & Western

WHEN & WHERE:

6/26 | 8 a.m.

Jack Tharp Arena Free to Attend

Equestrians have been showing their skills as accomplished riders at the Willits Frontier Days Horse Show since the beginning of the event in the late 1920s.

English and Western disciplines are both showcased, and a high point and reserve high point winner are selected from each group and are awarded prizes for their day's efforts.

Five local perpetual trophies are available: Barbara Hamilton, John Fish, Randy Clark and Don and Petie Coleman, the R Horse Ranch, and the Goss family. These trophies are for local riders aged 17 and under who live in Mendocino County.



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BEEF BBQ

Enjoy lunch in the park

WHEN & WHERE:

7/4 | Noon | Rec Grove Park

\$20/Adults, \$12/Kids (5-12)

Even as the parade comes to an end, the sizzling aroma of barbecuing beef can already be caught in the air, wafting out of the barbecue pit at the Rec Grove Park. The line can get long, but anyone who's been through it before can testify that the Annual Beef Barbecue is worth the wait – even when the team serves some 4,000 people during the luncheon.

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, the event continues to be a success.

The barbecue fire crew lights the coals around midnight to make sure they are just right by the time the cooks arrive around 6 a.m. Many dedicated volunteers work through the night and into the day preparing cowboy-style beans, salad, garlic-buttered French bread and corn on the cob.

Roasted over oak coals since the crack of dawn, the Black Angus tri-tip roast is absolutely delectable. Tickets are available from the Sweetheart contestants and at the event, which starts at noon.

Horseshoe Tournament

WHEN & WHERE:

7/4 | 10 a.m. | Rec Grove Park | Free to attend

Country Music Rodeola

WHEN & WHERE:

7/4 | Noon | Rec Grove Park | Free to attend

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ROOTS OF MOTIVE POWER

WHEN & WHERE:

Events throughout the year

Info: www.rootsofmotivepower.com

Roots of Motive Power acquires, restores and preserves steam logging and railroad artifacts of historical importance.

The Roots collection of over 60 pieces of machinery ranges from small stationary engines to locomotives. Roots was first organized in 1982 and began with a single piece of equipment.

The Roots building 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.

OUR THANKS

to the National Guard Clean-up Crew

A big thank you goes out to the members of the National Guard and Calfire who came to help out at the Willits Frontier Days Rodeo grounds and ready the space for the upcoming festivities.

Weed wacking, raking, clearing brush and picking up around the bleachers, office, bathrooms, alleyways and the rest of the grounds is an ongoing task and having a group of capable hands take a big day and make a huge difference was amazing.

Thank you to: Raul Montez, Jan Acop, Lupe Sanchez, Ricardo Garcia, Mario Ramirez, Gustavo Gonzalez, Chris Ferrano, Daniel Wilson, Christian Zeon, Ryan Clay, Cesar Yudziz, David Mora and Nickolai Sockol from the National Guard and to Jerry Smith, Bobby Hernandez and Aaron Harris of Calfire for their help.



Submitted photo

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WILLITS CLASSES - FALL 2022

FRIDAYS

ENG-200 COLLEGE COMPOSITION

Section #0120 - Late Start 8/26/22 - 12/9/22

On Ground meetings: 8/26, 9/9, 9/23, 10/7, 10/21, 11/4, 11/18 and 12/2 from 5:30 - 8:20 p.m.

North County Center - Room 8020

SATURDAYS

PSY-210 LIFE SPAN & DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

Section #0211 - Late Start 8/27/22 - 12/3/22

On Ground meetings: 9/10, 10/8, 11/5, and 12/3 from 9:00 - 11:50 a.m. in Room 8030

HST-222 NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY

Section #0219 - Late Start 8/27/22 - 12/03/22

On Ground meetings: 9/10, 10/8, 11/5, and 12/3 from 12:30 - 3:20 p.m. in Room 8020

BUS-200 FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING

Section #0204 - Late Start 8/27/22 - 12/3/22

On Ground meetings: 8/27, 9/24, 10/22, and 11/19 from 9:00 - 11:50 a.m. in Room 8020

CDV-180 CHILD, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

Section# 0181 - LATE START 8/27/22-12/3/22

On Ground meetings: 8/27, 9/24, 10/22, and 11/19 from 12:30 - 3:20 p.m. in Room 8030

*Hybrid classes are mostly online with on-ground
(in-person) meetings.*

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Willits Frontier Days' 2022 Event Program

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LIVE MUSIC

Dance to the bands

WHEN & WHERE:

Flat Busted | 6/24 | Following Truck Pulls
Rodeo Grounds | Free to Attend

Lance Michael Cornwell Band | 7/3 | Following Rodeo
Rodeo Grounds | Free to Attend

The street dances and band performances give the over-21 crowd a chance to hang out with friends or make new ones while dancing the night away to DJ or band-made country tunes.

This year the Lance Michael Cornwell Band and Flat Busted will perform for the gathered crowds, Flat Busted on 6/24 and Lance Michael Cornwell on 7/3.

The Beer Garden offers cowboys and cowgirls a watering hole, and something for the youngsters to long for.

Remember: no backpacks will be allowed. Please leave them at home. Dances are held at the Rodeo Grounds from 9 pm until midnight. Be safe, have fun, and make each dance a night to enjoy for all!



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Flat Busted

6/24 | Following Truck Pulls | Rodeo Grounds
Free to Attend

Flat Busted is all about entertaining! Brian McPherson, our lead vocalist is a true entertainer. Utilizing his wireless mic, you'll find him in the middle of the party, gettin' down with whoever is on the dance floor. Brian and the band have one goal... to give their fans/friends an evening they will remember (unless they have one too many "Holler & Swallers"!), and more fun than they expected! Whether it's a local hot spot, a private event or a casino, Flat Busted will make it a party!



Lance Michael Cornwell Band

7/3 | Following Rodeo
Rodeo Grounds | Free to Attend

Lance Cornwell - Lead Vocals

Joe Vanderpool - Lead Guitar

Bill Mangan - Bass

Donnie Tyner - Drums

Lance Michael Cornwell is a high energy country band out of Northern California that plays a solid mix of hard driving 90's Country music

& more, all done with a rockin' twist. This also influences their own unique style of original music. LMC band is always encouraging and promoting audience involvement & participation! Lance Michael Cornwell Band has also recently had the opportunity to open for Justin Moore and is slated to open for Dylan Scott in the near future.



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Willits Frontier Days' 2022 Event Program

SUMMER CONCERT

Save the Date for Saturday, August 27, 2022



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Willits Frontier Days' 2022 Event Program



OUR THANKS

to Sheri Cronin



Willits Frontier Days would like to express our gratitude to Willits' equine vet Sheri Cronin of Mobile Veterinary Equine Services for providing us on-site veterinary supervision at our events.

This year, Sheri will not be able to be on site, but we miss you and wish you a speedy recovery and hope to have you back next year.

Thank you for all you do, Sheri!

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PAST SWEETHEARTS

1926	None	1958	Letha Schumaker Wiley	1990	Melanie Ulvila
1927	Marie Scholegel Novaglie	1959	Marian Whitely Ross	1991	Lanae Shuster Lamkin
1928	Martha Warner Kelton	1960	Carol Collier McClendon	1992	Amanda Hiatt Hower
1929	Lola Butts	1961	Mardi Wilson Hinton	1993	Amy Ford
1930	None	1962	Linda Allen Banks	1994	Marta Trevey
1931	None	1963	Susan Fonsen Neilson	1995	Tori Nunnemaker Minton
1932	Enola McKenzie Reed	1964	Sue Hardaway	1996	Georgeanne Dawson Crosky
1933	Betty Akins	1965	Sharon Baker Arno	1997	Patricia Garrity Murray
1934	Amy Gardner	1966	Leslie Cogburn Scaglione	1998	Ileah Leone
1935	Jemma Pedroncelli Serventi	1967	Joan Scholegel	1999	Mary Garrity Fonsen
1936	Elizabeth Wendt Ferguson	1968	Clydeen Smith Dick	2000	Olivia Grupp
1937	Alice Gibellini Wade	1969	Mousey Clatty	2001	Katherine Whitby
1938	Dorce Brown	1970	Kam Maize LaLaguna	2002	Sandi Short Sandroni
1939	Ernistime Casteel DeBoer	1971	Margaret Smith	2003	Mattie Pinon Owen
1940	Evelyn Robley Bergson	1972	Paulette Wilcott Somdahl	2004	Tina Holguin Shull
1941	Pauline Standley Perez	1973	Jann Clatty Rickey	2005	Ashtan Bloomquist
1942	Melba Dempsey Lewis	1974	Kathy Persico Graves	2006	Darcy Ford
1943	Ann Cox McGinnis	1975	Lorraine Soulliere Crabtree	2007	Courtney Figg-Hoblyn
1944	Anna Ford Hardwick	1976	Tami Tharp Romberg Mayfield	2008	Kinzie Barlow
1945	Lillian Kroh Nolan	1977	Kelly Bielenberg Eoff	2009	Lindsey Bowlds
1946	Georgia Stovall Welch	1978	Julie Canepa Belvin	2010	Stephanie Standley Hightower
1947	Anne Crabtree Henderson	1979	Liz Persico Day	2011	Riata King
1948	Lillian Kroh Nolan	1980	Cindy Kostanecki Kelly	2012	Rachel Belvin Ramirez
1949	Betty Mast Campbell	1981	Stacey Blalack McKinley	2013	Lilja Lamkin
1950	Wanda Lane Johnston	1982	Caroline Kostanecki Durupt	2014	Haley Schuck
1951	Gretchen Mullen Weber	1983	Saundra DuCross Norman	2015	Caitlyn Forrester
1952	Yvonne Dusseau Leever	1984	Chrissy Kostanecki	2016	Halee Reed
1953	Claire Shawnago Huffman	1985	Tracey Ford Moody	2017	Hailey Riley
1954	Joan Neary Von Weien	1986	Kristine McBride Tyrrell	2018	Lilah Garman
1955	Shirley Merritt Nikolashin	1987	Kim Colwell Lebo	2019	Jaden Doak
1956	Betty Ann Stansberry Erbes	1988	Nicol Persico Kunka	2020	Jaden Doak - No contest held
1957	Patricia Moreno Door	1989	Dina Pinon Parker	2021	Claire Case Brackett

At right: Past Sweethearts who attended the dinner included, from back row, left: Jaden Doak, Hailey Riley, Caitlyn Forrester, Riata King, Ashtan Bloomquist and Tina Shull. Front row, from left: Olivia Grupp, Nicol Perisco Kunka, Tracey Ford Moody, and Liz Persico Day with granddaughter Kaydance Lopez.



Far right: 2021 Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart Claire Case Brackett.



THANK YOU



Thank You!

The Executive Board, the Board of Directors and Staff Committee Chairpersons wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to the folks who show up "just because" and lend a helping hand with the many tasks that need doing before, during and after our annual 4th of July celebration.

All BBQ Crew helpers; Bobbie and John Tilley; Bouthillier's Construction; the Cavanaugh family; the Cooley Family; the Dalton family; Deanna Rutledge; Twila, Rita and Doug King; Doug and Kathy Goss; Danielle Barry; the Garman family; Candi Tharp; Laura and Danny McBride; Willits Lions Club; Little Lake Fire Department volunteers; Mary Burgess; Maureen Jennison; Mendo Mill of Willits; Mike and Michael Frahm; Nita Tharp; Nor-Cal Recycled Rock; Northern Aggregates; the parade crew; the Persico family; the Pinon family; Amerigas Propane; the Riley family; Todd Hollifield; Rotary Club of Willits; Shuster's Trucking Co.; T&T Salvage and Storage; Tammy Cartwright; the City of Willits employees; Med Star Ambulance; Willits Boy Scouts; Willits Chamber of Commerce; Willits High School baseball team; Willits Frontier Days Jrs.; Willits Police Department; and Willits Weekly.

We sincerely apologize if we have missed listing any of our other "caretakers" and hope you will understand and forgive us. 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.

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2022 Committee Chairs

Rodeo: Lee Persico

Junior Rodeo: Riata King

Horse Show: Mattie Owen and family

National Anthem Contest: Johnetta Lippincott

BBQ: Mike Frahm

Parade: Mattie Owen, Katie Cooley and Leslie Cooke

Gates: Riley Family

Breakfast: Willits Lions Club

Advertising: Karen Cavanaugh, Marcy Barry and Maureen Jennison

Sweetheart Contest: Persico family, Tina Shull, Kiri Silva, and Bear Kamoroff

Sweetheart Dinner: June Sizemore

Entertainment: Marcy Barry and Jeff Cook

Truck Pulls: Marcy and Fred Barry

Security: Rick Crowder and Bruce Cartwright

Behind the Chutes: Deanna Rutledge

Carnival: Marcy Barry, Tracy Evans and June Sizemore

Grounds: The WFD Crew

Arena: Fred Barry and Bruce Cartwright

Gardening: WFD crew and Willits Frontier Days Juniors

Sweetheart Raffle: Kelly Brackett

Margarita Booth: Persico Ladies

Beer Booth: Fred Barry, Willie England, Bruce Cartwright and Rod Cavanaugh

Vendors: Alexis England

Hometown Celebration: Ashtan Bloomquist

Scholarship: Jeff Cook, Mattie Owen, and Bobbie Tilley

Local Barrels: Riata King

Local Team Roping: Bobbie Tilley

Rodeo Stock: West Coast Rodeo and Lou Bugenig



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