



COUNTY OF LAKE

MARKETING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 24, 2009

2010 CALENDAR OF EVENTS LAKE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

ONGOING

Guided Bald Eagle Viewing Hikes, Cache Creek Natural Area

Saturdays, mid-January through mid-February

Bureau of Land Management natural resource specialist lead guided four-mile hikes. Enjoy the scenes of Cache Creek canyon where eagles, tule elk, osprey, and other wildlife may be seen. The first mile consists of a 600-foot climb. All participants should wear sturdy hiking boots and dress for cold weather. Bring water, lunch, and binoculars. Reservations required. 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (707) 468-4000, www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/ukiah/cacheecreek.html

Concerts with Conversations, Upper Lake

Last Saturday of the month, January through May

Monthly concert series January – May features live music in an intimate setting with sumptuous hors d'oeuvres and wine. A benefit for the Soper-Reese Community Theatre Fund. An informal concert and dialogue with the artist follows wine, hearty appetizers, and coffee with dessert. Tallman Hotel, 9550 Main Street. Reservations are suggested as seating is limited. (707) 275-2244, www.tallmanhotel.com

Historic Family Ranch Day Trip, Clearlake Oaks

April through October, by reservation only

Guests' journey begins with a 90-minute narrated mule-drawn wagon ride that meanders through a valley rich with history and wildlife. The ride ends with an authentic chuckwagon barbecue, complete with Dutch oven cobbler and complimentary Lake County wine. Spectacular wildflowers are the highlight during April. Eleven Roses Ranch. (707) 998-4471, www.elevenrosesranch.com

Monday Night Blues, Upper Lake

Mondays, year round

Great musicians play the blues inside the Blue Wing Saloon & Café. Guests are welcomed to have dinner at a cozy table indoors, sit down for a drink or appetizers at the handcrafted walnut bar, or appreciate the stars outside on the heated veranda. Monday evenings, 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Blue Wing Saloon & Café, 9520 Main Street. (707) 275-2233, www.bluwingsaloon.com

Tuscan Village Music & Art Series, Lower Lake

Fridays, year round

Live music every Friday evening by great performers. Great food, wine tasting, and arts and crafts. Outdoors in the orchard during nice weather; inside during other seasons. Presented by 2Goombas Deli and Terrill Cellars. \$5 suggested donation. Tuscan Village, Main Street. (707) 994-3354, www.terrillcellars.com

Guided Bird & Nature Walks, Lakeport

Saturdays, year round

The Lake County Land Trust hosts guided bird and nature walks at the Rodman Slough Preserve on Saturdays. The walks, which last 90 minutes, begin at 8:00 a.m. June – August, and 9:00 September – May. Free admission. Rodman Slough Preserve, 6350 Westlake Road, off Highway 29, near the Cutoff. (707) 279-0923, (707) 995-1398, www.lakecountylandtrust.org

Bird and Nature Walks, Kelseyville

Check website for schedule

Clear Lake State Park Interpretive Association offers guided bird and nature walks at Clear Lake State Park. Meet at the Visitor Center. For schedule, visit website. Clear Lake State Park, 5300 Soda Bay Road. (707) 279-2267, www.clearlakestatepark.org

Sunday Champagne Brunch in the Garden, Upper Lake

Sundays, year round

A Champagne brunch is held every Sunday at the Blue Wing Saloon & Café and held outdoors in the garden from May to early November. Different local musicians play 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. When the weather gets cold, the music moves inside to the intimate Saloon setting. Blue Wing Saloon and Café, 9520 Main Street. (707) 275-2244, www.bluwingsaloon.com

Winemaker Dinner Series, Kelseyville

First Tuesday of each month

The Saw Shop Gallery Bistro features a local or regional wine paired with a special menu highlighting the wine on the first Tuesday of each month. Dine al fresco on the wraparound porch or inside where walls of the circa-1902 building are festooned with local art. Saw Shop Gallery Bistro, 3825 Main Street. (707) 278-0129, www.sawshopbistro.com

Meet the Winemaker Series, Upper Lake

First Friday of each month

The Blue Wing Saloon & Café hosts the owner and/or winemaker of one of the great Lake County wineries whose vintages are featured on the wine list on the first Friday of each month. Special menu items for that day are carefully paired with the featured wines. Blue Wing Saloon & Café, 9520 Main Street. (707) 275-2233, www.bluwingsaloon.com

Meet the Winemaker/Artist, Upper Lake

First Friday and Saturday of each month

On the first Friday and Saturday of the month, the Lake County Wine Studio (LCWS) showcases a local winery as the featured tasting for the evening. Local artists – photography, painting, and more – also will be featured. Friday 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Saturday 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. LCWS, 9505 Main Street. (707) 275-8030.

First Friday Fling, Lakeport

First Friday of each month

A reception spotlighting artists currently showing in the Main Street Gallery, with music, hors d'oeuvres, and wine; student gallery open. Sponsored by the Lake County Arts Council. 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Main Street Gallery, 325 N. Main Street. Free. 707-263-6658, www.lakecountyartscouncil.com

Fondue Friday, Upper Lake

Second, third, fourth, and fifth Friday of each month

On the second, third, fourth, and fifth Friday of the month, the Lake County Wine Studio (LCWS) will offer a selection of fondue pots by 24-hour advance reservation, along with different Lake County wines. LCWS pours wines from more than two dozen Lake County wineries with a rotating tasting menu of eight to 10 wines each week, with more than 40 wines available for purchase by the bottle. LCWS, 9505 Main Street. (707) 275-8030.

Windows to the Universe, Kelseyville

Third Saturday of each month

Telescope observing and planetarium show. Third Saturday of each month. 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. \$3 suggested donation. Taylor Observatory, 5725 Oak Hill Lane. (707) 262-3499, www.taylorobservatory.org

Art Classes and Demonstrations at Harbor Village Artist Complex, Lucerne

Second Saturday of each month, April - September

Join the Harbor Village Artists on the second Saturday of each month April through September for classes and demonstrations. Lakeside Art will provide classes/demonstration in creating one-of-a-kind couture hats, hand-painted silk scarves, beautiful painted furniture, paintings, and creative jewelry. Pomo Fine Art Gallery will conduct classes in Native American art and basket weaving. Konocti Art Gallery will give demonstrations in chalk, pastels, and watercolor. The Gourd Gallery will provide classes in decorative gourd art. Harbor Village Artist Complex, 6193-6199 E. Highway 20, Lucerne. (707) 274-2346.

Wildflower Tours, Cache Creek Natural Area

April

Bureau of Land Management natural resource specialists lead tours to discover the native wildflowers in the Cache Creek Natural Area. All participants should wear sturdy hiking boots. Reservations required, call for times and dates. (707) 468-4000, www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/ukiah/cacheecreek.html

Specialty Tasting & Tidbits, Kelseyville

First Thursday of the month, May through August

On the first Thursday of each month, Stephanie Cruz-Green, sommelier and owner of Focused on Wine, will offer a specialty wine tasting served with tasty tidbits and wine education pointers. \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Focused on Wine, 3940 Main Street. (707) 279-2112, www.focusedonwine.com

Kelseyville Certified Farmers' Market, Kelseyville

Saturday and Tuesday, May through October

Local farmers offer their finest, freshest produce, eggs, baked goods, olive oils, cheese, arts and crafts, and handmade soaps. Live music. Saturdays, 8:30 a.m. to noon. Steele Wines, 4350 Thomas Drive. Tuesdays, 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 pm., Kelseyville Lumber, 3555 N. Main Street. (707) 263-4211, www.lakecountyfarmersfinest.org

Tulip Hill Winery Concert in the Garden Series, Nice

Select Saturdays, May through September

Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy music in the garden May 15, June 12, July 3, August 14, and September 11. Doors open at 3:00 p.m.; music 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Includes wine tasting with food pairing and admission. Wine also available for purchase by the glass or bottle. Tulip Hill Winery, 4900 Bartlett Springs Road. (707) 274-9373, www.tuliphillwinery.com

Concert in the Vineyard Series, Kelseyville

Select Saturdays, May through September

The Moore Family Winery hosts a family-friendly concert in the vineyard series on Saturdays in the summer. Doors open at 5:00 p.m.; concert begins at 6:00 p.m. Bring a blanket or a low-back lounge chair. Wine, food, and soft drinks available for purchase. \$10 per person. Moore Family Winery, 11990 Bottle Rock Road. (707) 738-0507, www.moorefamilywinery.com

Friday Night Farmers' Market, Clearlake

Friday evenings, June through September

Live music sets the scene weekly at Redbud Park where local and regional farmers, restaurants, and bakeries offer freshly grown, prepared and baked goods, and artisans and crafters sell their wares. Redbud Park, 14655 Lakeshore Drive. (707) 994-3600, www.clearlakechamber.com

Coyote Film Festival, Various

Select weekends, June through November

Presentations by local, regional, and national independent filmmakers June through September presented by EcoArts of Lake County as a fundraiser for the Lake County Sculpture Walk. Admission fee. Screening locations vary. (707) 928-0323, www.coyotefilmfestival.org

EcoArts: Lake County Sculpture Walk, Middletown

Daily, June – October

The installation of sculptures “in dialogue with nature” will be available for viewing June through October. Stroll along the center trail of the 107-acre county park to view the sculptural expressions of award-winning artists, as well as local schools and community groups. Sensible shoes and water are recommended. Park open dawn until dusk. Middletown Trailside Nature Preserve County Park, 21435 Dry Creek Cutoff off of State Route 175. Free. (707) 928-0323, www.ecoartsoflakecounty.org

Summer Concerts in Library Park, Lakeport

Mid-June through Mid-August

Pack your picnic supper and head to the park to hear top-notch musical acts perform in the gazebo. Every Friday evening from June through August. Sponsored by KXBX 98.3 FM and other local businesses. 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Free admission. Library Park, Park Street. (707) 263-6113.

Teddy Bear Reunion, Upper Lake

Thanksgiving through January 2

A Lake County tradition for nearly 30 years, holiday magic is everywhere as the entire town of Upper Lake is decorated with teddy bears throughout the holiday season. Sponsored by the Upper Lake Community Council. A benefit for the Holiday Light Parade and Christmas Tree Lighting. Downtown shops on Main Street. (707) 275-2309.

Lake County Wine Tours, Countywide

Year round by reservation

Guests taste award-winning wines at a variety of tasting rooms, as well as out in the vineyards amid spectacular views of Clear Lake and the surrounding countryside. Tours include comfortable seating in a 16-passenger motor coach, a knowledgeable guide, all tasting fees, and a gourmet lunch to further stimulate the palate. Reservations required. (707) 998-4471, www.lakecountywinetours.com

Langtry Estate & Vineyards Tour, Middletown

Tuesday – Saturday, year round

Guided tours of the historic vineyard travel to the higher elevation of Tephra Ridge for spectacular views of Guenoc Valley. Tours are offered Tuesday through Saturday, 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Includes picnic-style lunch in the vineyard and wine tasting. \$45 per person. 48-hours advance reservations required. Langtry Estate & Vineyards, 21000 Butts Canyon Road, Middletown. (707) 987-2385, www.langtryestate.com

Tulip Hill Winery Tours, Nice

Saturdays year round

Guided tour of the winery’s production of world-class wines offered every Saturday at 1:30 p.m. Admission is free. Tulip Hill Winery, 4900 Bartlett Springs Road. (707) 274-9373, www.tuliphillwinery.com

Vines, Mines, and Wines at Six Sigma Ranch and Winery, Lower Lake

Year round by reservation

Hop into the Six Sigma Ranch Pinzgauer for the rugged accent to the high-altitude Diamond Mine Vineyard (Lake County “diamonds” are often found glittering in the volcanic soil). Following the vineyard tour, return to the Stage Coach House for a tasting of current Six Sigma Winery releases. Advance reservations required, weather permitting. Allow 90 minutes. \$125 for up to 12 people. 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Six Sigma Ranch and Winery, 13372 Spruce Grove Road. (707) 994-4068, www.sixsigmaranch.com

Water Tours, Clear Lake

Year round by reservation

Guests discover the beauty of Clear Lake from the lake. Tours include deluxe seating for eight in a 21-foot pontoon boat with canopy and a knowledgeable guide. Tours are customized to guest specification. Wildlife and nature, wine tasting, fishing, or sightseeing. Indian Beach Resort, 9945 E. Highway 20, Clearlake Oaks. (707) 998-3760, www.theindianbeachresort.com

Tallman Hotel Wine Touring Package, Countywide

Year round by reservation

Guests of the hotel can enjoy this five-hour limousine tour with a personable and knowledgeable driver. Guests can choose a guaranteed private tour or a shared tour with others, up to eight guests total. Book the tour and a room by contacting the hotel. Gratuity to driver not included. Add picnic lunch box for \$20 per person. Tallman Hotel, 9550 Main Street. (866) 708-5253, (707) 275-2244, or www.tallmanhotel.com

GAMING & ENTERTAINMENT

Robinson Rancheria Resort & Casino, Nice

Lake County's largest casino features 600 video slots and several table games, an 800-seat bingo hall with a non-smoking area, 48-room hotel, state-of-the-art conference center and banquet facility, a full-service restaurant and 24-hour snack shack, a sports bar featuring a video wall with high-definition TV screens, and more. Features an 800-seat showroom where well-known artists frequent the stage; check website for upcoming events. 1545 E. Highway 20. (800) 809-3636, www.rrrc.com

Konocti Vista Casino, Resort & Marina, Lakeport

The only casino resort on beautiful Clear Lake. A haven for water sports enthusiasts year round. The gaming resort also features an expanded casino with new slot machines, table games, the new Vista Steakhouse, full bar, and banquet facility. Next door to the casino is a 74-space RV park, an 80-room hotel overlooking the 90 slip marina and scenic Clear Lake. Just off Soda Bay Road in Lakeport. 2755 Mission Rancheria Road. (707) 262-1900, (800) FUN-1950, www.kvcasino.com

JANUARY

Ice Bowl Disc Golf, Lakeport

January 30, 2010

Singles tournament. Presented by Disc Golf World News and sponsored by Highland Springs Basket Cases. 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Canned food drive and benefit for Lake County Community Action Agency's food cupboard held the last Saturday in January each year. Highland Springs Disc Golf Course, 3600 E. Highland Springs Road. \$15 entry fee. Rain or shine. (707) 263-3210.

Crab Feast, Middletown

January 30, 2010

Hosted by the Middletown Rotary Club, the annual Crab Feast and auction raises funds for community support. The live and silent auctions allow guests to bid on vacation trips, stays at area Bed and Breakfasts, and much more. Dinner includes salad, pasta, crab, dessert, and coffee with a no-host bar. Reservations required. Tickets \$40. Lions Club. (707) 998-1564.

FEBRUARY

Crab Boil at Moore Family Winery, Kelseyville

February 6, 2010

Be prepared to get messy at the second-annual Crab Boil at Moore Family Winery. Fresh hot crab, potatoes, corn, and artichokes are served straight from a giant pot to your table. The dinner also includes salad, pasta, French bread, and a glass of wine. Wine bar will be open where wine by the bottle and glass will be available for purchase. There also will be silent auction items for bidding and a live pie auction to benefit the Cobb Elementary School and The Cobb Elementary Garden Project. Live music and dancing to follow. 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Tickets \$65.00 per person. 21 years and older. Please make reservations by January 27. Moore Family Winery, 11990 Bottle Rock Road. (707) 738-0507, www.moorefamilywinery.com

Venetian Carnival Masquerade Party at Rosa D'Oro Vineyards, Kelseyville

February 12, 2010

Wear a mask and enter the contest at the annual Venetian Carnival Masquerade Party, held in the tasting room of Rosa D'Oro Vineyards in downtown Kelseyville. Guests will enjoy food, winetasting, and fun. Prizes awarded for costumes, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Admission is \$5. Rosa D'Oro Vineyards, 3915 Main Street. (707) 279-0483, www.rosadorowine.com

Wine & Chocolate, Lakeport

February 13, 2010

Fourth-annual benefit for programs and activities of the Lake Family Resource Center. Taste ultra-premium Lake County wines – everything from pear champagne to award-winning Syrah and Port – and luscious chocolates masterfully paired by Sommelier Stephanie Cruz-Green, who will lead workshops on wine sensory and pairing food with wine. The event also will feature live music, a silent auction, olive oil tasting, and wine store. Tickets: \$35 advance; \$40 at door. Noon to 4:00 p.m. Mt. Konocti Growers, 2550 Big Valley Road. (707) 262-1611, (888) 775-8336.

Tulip Hill Winery Food & Wine Pairing and Release Party, Nice

February 20, 2010

Sample new release wines from Tulip Hill Winery expertly paired with scrumptious appetizers. 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tulip Hill Winery, 4900 Bartlett Springs Road. (707) 274-9373, www.tuliphillwinery.com

Living History Day at the Lower Lake Historic Schoolhouse Museum, Lower Lake

February 20, 2010

Take a step back in time and learn about local history at the Lower Lake Historic Schoolhouse Museum as staff dress in period costume and demonstrate Victorian-era household items as well as toys and games from the early 1900s. Guests are welcomed to participate in this event that is fun for the whole family. 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is free. Lower Lake Historic Schoolhouse Museum, 16435 Main Street. (707) 995-3565.

Winter Music Festival, Lakeport

February 27 – 28, 2010

The 17th-annual Winter Music Festival showcases the talent of local musicians and performers. Sponsored by and a benefit for the Lake County Arts Council. Saturday performance: 7:30 p.m. Sunday matinee: 2:00 p.m.. \$15 general admission, \$20 reserved seating. Soper-Reese Community Theatre, 275 S. Main Street. (707) 263-0577, www.lakecountyartscouncil.com

MARCH

Pruning and Pastries at Six Sigma Ranch and Winery, Lower Lake

March 6, 2010

Six Sigma Ranch and Winery hosts the third-annual "Pruning 101" from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Vineyard manager David Weiss leads a hands-on winter pruning demonstration. \$15 per person; pastries, coffee and juice will be served. Reservations suggested. Six Sigma Ranch and Winery, 13372 Spruce Grove Road. (707) 994-4068, www.sixsigmaranch.com

Holder Ford Team Bass Tournament, Lakeport

March 13 – 14, 2010

Considered by some sportsmen to be the most popular event on Clear Lake, this annual event in its 22nd year has a laid-back atmosphere that draws pro and amateur teams alike. A barbecue dinner is served at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday at the Lake County Fairgrounds. The teams especially appreciate the 100 percent payback in prizes on the entry fees for the event. Sponsored by Holder Ford and the Lake County Chamber of Commerce. (707) 263-5603, www.lakecochamber.com

Wine Tasting and Art Show, Clearlake

March 13, 2010

Eighteenth-annual event featuring wine by local vintners, exhibitions by local artists, and live music. Sponsored by the Park Study Club; a benefit for the club's scholarship fund. \$20 per ticket. 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., call for information and location. (707) 995-9316.

Kelseyville Olive Festival, Kelseyville

March 21, 2010

This celebration of locally grown olives will introduce guests to the olive oil and olive products produced from Lake County olives. Hosted by Rosa D'Oro Vineyards and the Kelseyville Olive Mill, which is located on a 10-acre olive orchard (formerly the St. Gregory Olive Farm) with 3,000 olive trees. This family-friendly event also will feature an olive pit spitting contest, as well as Olive oil tasting workshops by a certified olive oil taster, food demonstrations, and wine tasting. Sponsored by Rosa D'Oro Vineyards and Kelseyville Wine Company/Kelseyville Olive Mill as a benefit for the programs of the Lake Family Resource Center. Admission is free, \$10 for wine tasting. Kelseyville Wine Company, 5625 Gaddy Lane. (707) 279-2995, www.kelseyvilleolivemill.com

Festival of Tulips, Nice

March 27, 2010

Sixth-annual event will feature wine, food, and entertainment set amid Tulip Hill Winery's gardens blooming with 30,000 tulips imported from Holland. Admission includes a Tulip Hill wine glass for unlimited tastings, sumptuous hors d'oeuvres from several upscale Lake County restaurants, live music, winery tours, barbecue and dessert, and demonstrations. Winery tours will be given and guests will get a chance to explore the crush pad, cellar, and bottling room as the tour guide explains the winemaking process. Noon to 4:00 p.m. Tulip Hill Winery, 4900 Bartlett Springs Road. (707) 274-9373, www.tuliphillwinery.com

APRIL

Historic Family Ranch Day Trip: The Wildflower Tour, Clearlake Oaks

April 1 – 30, 2009 by reservation only

Wildflowers are the highlight of April's daytrips as guests experience a 90-minute narrated mule-drawn wagon ride that meanders through a valley rich with history, wildlife, and other flora and ends with an authentic chuckwagon barbecue, complete with Dutch oven cobbler and complimentary Lake County wine. Eleven Roses Ranch. (707) 998-4471, www.elevenrosesranch.com

Lakeport Yacht Club Spring Regatta 2010, Lakeport

April 16 – 18, 2010

A weekend of sailing, including three sailboat races on Saturday and two on Sunday. Friday night begins with a welcome dinner of spaghetti at 6:30 p.m. prepared by the Lakeport Yacht Club. Cost is \$10 per person. Races begin at 12 noon Saturday and Sunday. Following the races Saturday night, there will be a tri-tip dinner at 6:30 p.m., also served by the Lakeport Yacht Club. Cost for the tri-tip dinner is \$15 per person. An awards banquet will be held Sunday afternoon following the races. Registration is \$25 per entry. All other clubs from the region, including those in Lake, Humboldt, Mendocino, and Sonoma counties, are invited to attend. Sponsored by the Lakeport Yacht Club. North boat ramp, 15 Fifth Street. (707) 739-7285.

Blue Lakes Trout Derby, Blue Lakes

April 24 – 25, 2010

This derby is sponsored by the Blue Lakes Association and local merchants and businesses donate prizes. Now in its 22nd year, proceeds from the event go to support volunteer firefighters, emergency medical personnel, and other Blue Lakes community projects. Held Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Sunday 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with weigh-ins each day at the Narrows Resort. Entry fees are \$8 per person; \$4 for those under 16. The top prize is \$150, second place is \$75, and third place is \$50. Every child wins a prize. The derby is open to the public and hosted by the Narrows Lodge Resort, 5690 Blue Lakes Road. (707) 275-2718, www.thenarrowsresort.com

Heron Festival and Wildflower Brunch, Clear Lake State Park, Kelseyville

April 24 – 25, 2010

This fun, family-oriented weekend features pontoon boat tours, birding and naturalist-led nature walks, nature talks and exhibits, arts and crafts vendors, and children's activities that will inspire the whole family. Saturday features a create-your-own-omelet at the Wildflower Brunch, held on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Reservations are requested. Ninety-minute pontoon boat bird-watching excursions will be held between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Reservations are required. Bird sightings usually include American white pelicans, horned grebes, yellow-headed blackbirds, and the festival's namesake, the great blue heron. A naturalist will be aboard to point out some of the area's over 300 bird species and lake features. The Clear Lake State Park Visitor Center will be open with interpretive displays of Lake County's natural and cultural resources. Speaker presentations, slide shows, and videos on local birds and wildlife will be held at the Visitor Center Auditorium. Presented by the Redbud Audubon Society and the Clear Lake State Park Interpretive Association. Free admission to the festival. Clear Lake State Park, 5300 Soda Bay Road. (707) 263-8030, www.heronfestival.org

Camp K9 at The Lodge at Blue Lakes, Upper Lake

April 30, May 1 – 2

A full weekend of camping events for adults and their four-legged friends, The Lodge at Blue Lakes hosts Camp K9, designed for dogs and their owners to enjoy together. Activities include hiking, campfires, kayaking, swimming, crafts (including making and decorating your own dog treats). Year-round dog agility course onsite. The Lodge at Blue Lakes, 5135 W. Highway 20. (707) 275-2181, www.thelodgeatbluelakes.com

MAY

Mother's Day High Tea, Lakeport

May 1, 2, 5, 8, and 9, 2010

Traditional English afternoon high tea with a "Miniature Quilts" show and prizes for best Mother's Day corsage. Enjoy scones, Devonshire cream, tiny sandwiches, tarts, and cakes. Pre-order a gift for mom, \$15.50. Served at noon and at 2:30 p.m. Reservations required. \$22.50 per person. The Lakeport English Inn, 675 North Main Street. (707) 263-4317, www.lakeportenglishinn.com

Catfish Derby, Clearlake Oaks

May 14 – 16, 2010

“The largest catfish derby west of the Mississippi” and a benefit for community projects, the 27th-annual Catfish Derby features both an Adult Derby, with a grand prize of a new boat, motor, and trailer, plus cash prizes; and a Kids Derby for those 16 years old and younger, with the winner receiving a four-wheel ATV. The event will be held from noon Friday through noon Sunday. Early registration will be from noon to 11:00 p.m. Thursday, May 13, for \$40. Registration also will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Friday, May 15, for \$45. No registrations will be accepted after 11:00 p.m. Friday. Registration is \$10 for kids. Sponsored by the Clearlake Oaks/Glenhaven Business Association. 12655 E. Highway 20. (707) 998-3795, www.clearlakeoaks.org

Lake County Passion Play, Lakeport

May 15 – 16, 2010

This annual outdoor play re-enacting the passion, death, resurrection, and ascension of Christ is now in its 29th year. No entrance fee; spectators are asked to bring their own chairs. Beltramo Ranch, 7010 Westlake Road. (707) 279-0349, www.lakecountypassionplay.org

Tulip Hill Winery Food & Wine Pairing and Concert in the Garden, Nice

May 15, 2010

Sample new release wines from Tulip Hill Winery expertly paired with scrumptious appetizers while enjoying live music in the garden. 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Tulip Hill Winery, 4900 Bartlett Springs Road. (707) 274-9373, www.tuliphillwinery.com

Memorial Day Parade & Celebration, Lakeport

May 29, 2010

Annual community celebration, featuring an arts and crafts show and Memorial Day Parade. Main Street. (707) 263-5092, www.lakecochamber.com

Memorial Day Parade and Barbecue, Lower Lake

May 30, 2010

Annual horse parade, pet parade, awards and prizes, live music and dancing, artists and crafters. Barbecue from noon to 3:00 p.m. Horse rides by Wiloth Equine Therapy, “Horses Helping Children”. Sponsored by Lower Lake Community Action Group. Benefit for Lower Lake High School and community. 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is free. Russell Rustici Park, 16375 Second Street. (707) 995-2515.

JUNE

Wood & Glory XI, Lakeport

June 5, 2010

Annual event featuring more than 60 classic wooden boats on Clear Lake. Photography is encouraged and guests vote on their favorite boat, thereby entering a drawing for a commemorative Wood & Glory poster. Sponsored by the Lake County Chamber of Commerce and the Antique Classic Boat Society. 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Admission is free; fee for barbecue. The Docks at Library Park, Park Street. (707) 263-5092, www.lakecochamber.com

Car Roundup, Lakeport

June 5, 2010

Eighteenth-annual car show with food, entertainment, vendors, music, and awards. Sponsored by the Lake County No Name Car Club. Benefit for local charities. Registration is from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Awards ceremony is from 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Third Street boat ramp, Park Street, Library Park. (707) 262-1508.

Release Party at Six Sigma Ranch and Winery, Lower Lake

June 5, 2010

Taste the new releases from Six Sigma Ranch and Winery at this party on the Six Sigma crush pad. Great wines paired with tasty food. Reservations suggested. Six Sigma Ranch and Winery, 13372 Spruce Grove Road. (707) 297-2927, www.sixsigmaranch.com

Wild West Day, Upper Lake

June 5, 2010

Seventeenth-annual Western-themed street festival with Old West skits, a parade, pancake breakfast, tri-tip barbecue, wagon rides, and country music. Contests for best beard, bonnet, and costume. Sponsored by the Upper Lake Community Council for community projects and the Northshore Fire Protection District. 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission is free. Main Street. (707) 275-2000, www.upperlakeca.org

Tulip Hill Winery Food & Wine Pairing and Concert in the Garden, Nice

June 12, 2010

Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy music in the garden. Doors open at 3:00 p.m.; music 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Admission price includes wine tasting expertly paired with scrumptious appetizers. Wine also available for purchase by the glass or bottle. Tulip Hill Winery, 4900 Bartlett Springs Road. (707) 274-9373, www.tuliphillwinery.com

Living History Day at the Lower Lake Historic Schoolhouse Museum, Lower Lake

June 19, 2010

Take a step back in time and learn about local history at the Lower Lake Historic Schoolhouse Museum as staff dress in period costume and demonstrate Victorian-era household items as well as toys and games from the early 1900s. Guests are welcomed to participate in this event that is fun for the whole family. 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is free. Lower Lake Historic Schoolhouse Museum, 16435 Main Street. (707) 995-3565.

Kulture Shock Car Show, Lakeport

June 19, 2010

Fifth-annual car show presented by Los Diablos Car Club. "No billet" show for 1964 and older traditional 50s and 60s-style hot rods, customs, gassers, and classics. Motorcycles include original, traditional 50s and 60s chopper and bobber styles. 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Trophies for Best Hot Rods, Best Customs, and Best of Show will be awarded at 3:00 p.m. Live rock-a-billy and classic rock-n-roll bands all day, beer, great food, vendors, pin-strippers, raffle, trophy award presentations. Admission \$5 for spectators. Lake County Fairgrounds, 401 Martin Street. (707) 263-3283, www.kultureshockcarshow.com

Middletown Days, Middletown

June 18 – 20, 2010

This 49th annual Western-themed event the third weekend of June features a ranch rodeo, live music, craft and food booths, children's activities, and more. Saturday begins with a parade and ends with a dance. Sunday features the gymkhana. Middletown Central Park, Central Park Road. (707) 994-1954.

Lavender Festival at Ceago Vinegarden, Nice

June 26, 2010

Each year, the fragrant fields of lavender on the shore of Clear Lake at Ceago Vinegarden is harvested and distilled. Join the festivities at Ceago on the shore of Clear Lake and home to the tasting room of Ceago Vinegarden, the organic and biodynamic wine label of Jim Fetzer. The lavender is used to produce essential oils, soaps, and more which are for sale in the tasting room. Small fee. Ceago Vinegarden, 5115 E. Highway 20. (707) 274-1462, www.ceago.com

Lake County Home Winemakers Festival, Lakeport

June 26, 2010

Seventh-annual festival for tasting the winemaking efforts of more than 40 Northern California amateurs, as well as those from leading Lake County commercial wineries; tasters vote on their favorites. This year's venue will be shaded Library Park, on the shores of Clear Lake. Live music will set the mood and plentiful food from local purveyors will be available. Sponsored by and a benefit for Clear Lake Performing Arts. 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tasting is \$15 per person in advance, \$20 day of event and includes a commemorative wine glass and a chance to vote on the winners. Library Park, Park Street. (707) 277-7076, www.clearlakeperformingarts.org

JUNE – JULY

Independence Day Fireworks, Countywide

June 26 – July 5, 2010

Lake County is home to numerous fireworks shows during the Fourth of July holiday, many of which dazzle the skies over Clear Lake, illuminating the water's surface. The city of Lakeport hosts its Independence Day fireworks show following a lighted boat parade. Other fireworks shows include the city of Clearlake fireworks display, the Maxine Sherman Annual Fireworks show in Clearlake Oaks, and more. (800) LAKESIDE, www.lakecounty.com

Tulip Hill Winery Red, White & Blush Food & Wine Pairing and Concert in the Garden, Nice

July 3, 2010

Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy music in the garden. Doors open at 3:00 p.m. Music 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Admission price includes wine tasting expertly paired with scrumptious appetizers. Wine also available for purchase by the glass or bottle. Tulip Hill Winery, 4900 Bartlett Springs Road. (707) 274-9373, www.tuliphillwinery.com

Clearlake International Worm Races, Clearlake

July 4, 2010

Internationally recognized worm race competition that has summoned competitors ranging from children to senators and congressmen. Over the years, this 40th annual event has attracted the attention of Animal Planet, NBC, and Bay Area Backroads. Held in conjunction with the City of Clearlake Independence Day Festivities. Austin Park, 14077 Lakeshore Drive. (707) 994-3600.

JULY

Lake County Rodeo, Lakeport

July 9 – 10, 2010

This year marks the 81st-annual Lake County Rodeo, featuring CCPRA-sanctioned professional rodeo, steer wrestling, bull riding, bareback riding, team roping, barrel racing, mutton bustin', cow chip bingo, and more, plus barbecue, vendors, horse parade, and a dance Saturday night. Sponsored by the Lake County Rodeo Association. Admission fee. 7:00 p.m. Lake County Fairgrounds, 401 Martin Street. (707) 263-1845, www.lakecountyrodeo.com

All Horse Parade, Lakeport

July 10, 2010

As part of the Lake County Rodeo, this parade begins and ends at the fairgrounds, but clip-clops through downtown Lakeport. A parade of horses, burros, goats, and other four-legged animals begins at 4:30 p.m., some pulling carriages. Parade viewing in Lakeport is free. (707) 995-2515.

Music Festival at Moore Family Winery, Kelseyville

July 10, 2010

Set high in the mountains of the Red Hills AVA, the Moore Family Winery hosts a music festival surrounded by stunning natural scenery. Enjoy a variety of live music including blues, rock, and soul along with a variety of foods, arts and craft vendors, and wine tasting. Moore Family Winery, 11990 Bottle Rock Road. (707) 738-0507, www.moorefamilywinery.com

Lake County Wine Adventure Weekend, Countywide

July 24 – 25, 2010

Sixth-annual Wine Adventure offers guests a chance to explore many wines and wineries of California's Lake County. Eventgoers can sample distinct high-elevation award-winning wines from a limited number of Lake County participating wineries and enjoy tasty hors d'oeuvres. During this two-day, passport-style event, many locations also feature barrel tastings, entertainment, winery tours, wine and food pairings, and other fun and sustainable wine activities. At the end of the Lake County Wine Adventure route, all participants will be eligible to enter a raffle drawing. The purchase of a two-day Wine Adventure ticket includes a logo wine glass, tasting booklet, adventure map, and a weekend of fun in fabulous Lake County. Designated drivers are encouraged. 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. each day. Countywide. (800) 595-WINE (9463), www.lakecountywineries.org

AUGUST

Blue Wing Blues Festival, Upper Lake

August 5 – 8, 2010

Fourth-annual four-day blues festival in which acclaimed musicians take turns each night on the hotel veranda, performing for a full crowd in a garden setting. A delicious barbecue dinner is served and each night of the festival is sponsored by a different Lake County winery with tasting available. Tallman Hotel, 9550 Main Street. (707) 275-2244, www.tallmanhotel.com

Quilt and Textile Exhibition, Lower Lake

August 6 – 28, 2010

Seventeenth-annual show features work by the members of the Clear Lake Quilters Guild, renowned weaver Sheila O'Hara and her students, and members of the Sheep Thrills Spinning and Weaving Guild. Public viewing during regular museum hours, Wednesday through Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Hosted by the Lower Lake Historic School Preservation Committee. Lower Lake Historic Schoolhouse Museum, 16435 Main Street. Admission is free. (707) 995-3565.

Tulip Hill Winery Food & Wine Pairing and Concert in the Garden, Nice

August 14, 2010

Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy music in the garden. Doors open at 3:00 p.m.; music 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Admission price includes wine tasting expertly paired with scrumptious appetizers. Wine also available for purchase by the glass or bottle. Tulip Hill Winery, 4900 Bartlett Springs Road. (707) 274-9373, www.tuliphillwinery.com

Taste of Lakeport, Lakeport

August 20, 2010

Thirteenth-annual winetasting event featuring food, wine tasting, live music, and dancing. Businesses in downtown Lakeport stay open late for the event, which features hors d'oeuvres at the many tasting stations, as well as live music and dancing. Purchase of a tasting ticket includes a commemorative wine glass and a chance to win raffle prizes donated by the local businesses. Presented by Lakeport Main Street Association; a benefit for the revitalization of downtown Lakeport. 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Main Street. (707) 263-8843, www.lakeportmainstreet.com

SEPTEMBER

Lake County Fair, Lakeport

September 2 – 5, 2010

The Lake County Fair traditionally occurs Labor Day weekend each year at the fairgrounds in Lakeport. The fair is one of Lake County's most popular summertime events enjoyed by nearly 40,000 people each year. Live entertainment, exhibits, carnival rides, food, livestock, and fun for the whole family. Lake County Fairgrounds, 401 Martin Street. (707) 263-6181, www.lakecountyfair.com

Old Time Bluegrass Festival, Lower Lake

September 11, 2010

Fifth-annual event features bluegrass performances plus demonstrations and vendors selling old-time handmade crafts, Art in the Barn, food, beer and wine garden with Lake County wines, children's activities, and musician workshops. Sponsored by the Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association and the Clear Lake Chamber of Commerce; benefit for science, history, and performing arts programs for local schools. 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Anderson Marsh State Historic Park, 8853 Highway 53 at Anderson Ranch Parkway. (707) 994-0958, www.andersonmarsh.org

Tulip Hill Winery Food & Wine Pairing and Concert in the Garden, Nice

September 11, 2010

Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy music in the garden. Doors open at 3:00 p.m.; music 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Admission price includes wine tasting expertly paired with scrumptious appetizers. Wine also available for purchase by the glass or bottle. Tulip Hill Winery, 4900 Bartlett Springs Road. (707) 274-9373, www.tuliphillwinery.com

Harvest Education at Six Sigma Ranch and Winery, Lower Lake

September 18, 2010

The Six Sigma Ranch vineyard team, lead by winemaker Matt Hughes, will lead a hands-on harvest education on the Six Sigma crush pad. The event is followed by a light lunch served with Six Sigma wines. \$25 per person. Reservations suggested. Six Sigma Ranch and Winery, 13372 Spruce Grove Road. (707) 994-4068, www.sixsigmaranch.com

Tulip Hill Winery Food & Wine Pairing and Release Party, Nice

September 18, 2010

Sample new release wines from Tulip Hill Winery expertly paired with scrumptious appetizers. 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tulip Hill Winery, 4900 Bartlett Springs Road. (707) 274-9373, www.tuliphillwinery.com

Clear Lake Splash-In, Lakeport

September 24 – 26, 2010

Annual event featuring all types of seaplanes, including Grummans, Republics, Lakes, Cessnas, Pipers, and DeHavillands, plus exhibits, film, presentations and seminars, spot landing and water bombing contests. In its 31st year, the weekend-long event begins at noon Friday and lasts through Sunday. Seminars, presentations, and planes at Natural High School, 810 North Main Street. (877) 828-2286, www.clearlakesplashin.com

Kelseyville Pear Festival, Kelseyville

September 25, 2010

Eighteenth-annual festival celebrates Lake County's agricultural heritage with a showcase "Pear Pavilion" that features pear tastings, demonstrations, historical photos, agricultural memorabilia, storytelling, fresh pears, pear products, and pear-inspired gift items. This fun-filled festival held the last Saturday each September, includes a quilt show, fine arts exhibits, arts and crafts vendors, farm animals, parade, children's activities, musicians, cloggers, dancers, and even an antique tractor and farm equipment display. 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Parade begins at 9:30 a.m. Main Street. (707) 279-9022, www.kelseyvillepearfestival.com

OCTOBER

Haunted Barn at Rancho de la Fuente, Lakeport

October 1 – 30, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays

Prepared to be scared in the Haunted Barn at Rancho de la Fuente in the month of October. Open Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays until October 30. Dancing, Disc Jockey, and fun – costumes encouraged. \$10 for adults (\$15 without costume), \$3 for children six to 12 years-old (\$5 no costume). 2290 Soda Bay Road, Lakeport. (707) 263-3160, www.ranchweddingevents.com

People's Choice Wine Awards, Lake County

October 2, 2010

Premier wine competition showcasing Lake County wines and wines made from Lake County fruit. This second-annual event is a fun and informative blind tasting where "the people" determine the winners. Event-goers have the opportunity to taste, judge, and vote for wines by casting ballots in a variety of categories. An event not to be missed by fine wine lovers. Please designate a driver. (707) 355-2762, (707) 994-4068, www.lakecountywineries.org

The Konocti Challenge, Lakeport

October 2, 2010

Nineteenth-annual bicycle ride set in beautiful Lake County features three challenging courses: a 30-mile course that winds through the resort and vineyard sections of north Lakeport; a 65-mile adventure course along the lakeshore; and the endurance-testing 100-mile course around the lake; plus an 18-mile family fun ride. A project of the Rotary Club of Lakeport, the course includes rest stops offering snacks and drinks, including the Lakeport Yacht Club, where riders begin and end the ride. Thirty-mile riders and family fun riders leave between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.; the 65- and 100-mile riders leave between 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. Barbecue follows. Lakeport Yacht Club, 15 Fifth Street. www.konoctichallenge.com

Falling Leaves Quilt Show, Lakeport

October 2 – 3, 2010

Judged, open-entry show of 200-plus quilts with a featured quilt artist. Vendor mall with quilt fabric, books, patterns, notions, and more. Country store, opportunity quilts, challenge and round-robin exhibits, door prizes, silent auction, demonstrations, and food. Sponsored by the Ladies of the Lake Quilt Guild. Admission is \$6 for adults; \$2 for children under 12. Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Lake County Fairgrounds, 401 Martin Street, Lakeport. (707) 262-1201.

Steele Wines Harvest Festival, Kelseyville

October 9 – 10, 2010

Fourteenth-annual festival famous for its grape-stomping competition for kids and adults, as well as its Vineyard Run for Literacy — a certified 5K/10K run and 5K walk amid autumn-colored vineyards and orchards. Held the second weekend each October, various musicians will perform live both days. Visitors taste the wines of Steele's extensive collection and enjoy the 4-H Club's barbecue, as well as a myriad of vendor booths with plentiful food, fine art, arts and crafts, and other unique souvenirs and gifts. A kids' corner features a storyteller and face painting. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. both days. Vineyard Run for Literacy will be held Sunday. Steele Wines, 4350 Thomas Drive. (707) 279-9475, www.steelewines.com

Vineyard Run for Literacy, Kelseyville

October 10, 2010

The Vineyard Run for Literacy takes off on Sunday Morning as part of the Steele Wines Annual Harvest Festival. Run or walk past vineyards and orchards on a paved course, beginning and ending near Steele Wines. Prizes awarded to overall male and female winners of the 5K and 10K Run. Additional prizes awarded to winners in male/female age divisions. All proceeds benefit the Lake County Literacy Coalition, an organization promoting literacy in Lake County. Family registration rate is available. Steele Wines, 4350 Thomas Drive. (707) 263-7633.

Lake County Wine Auction, Lake County

October 16, 2010

Sponsored by the Lake County Wine Alliance, the 11th-annual Wine Auction gala, a benefit for the arts, health, and community of Lake County, is a must-attend event with live and silent auctions, wine and gourmet foods from local purveyors, and music. Black-tie is encouraged. Additional winemaker and dinner events are scheduled the Friday before the gala. The Wine Auction begins at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday; \$125 per person. For tickets and information, contact (866) 279-WINE, www.winealliance.org

Living History Day at the Lower Lake Historic Schoolhouse Museum, Lower Lake

October 23, 2010

Take a step back in time and learn about local history at the Lower Lake Historic Schoolhouse Museum as staff dress in period costume and demonstrate Victorian-era household items as well as toys and games from the early 1900s. Guests are welcomed to participate in this event that is fun for the whole family. 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is free. Lower Lake Historic Schoolhouse Museum, 16435 Main Street. (707) 995-3565.

NOVEMBER

Victorian Christmas Faire & High Tea, Lakeport

November 13 – December 19, 2010

Seventh-annual Christmas Faire with handmade candy canes, dolls, candles, French soaps, tea pots, carolers, holiday decorations and more for sale. Hot tea for all visitors. 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Tea servers in full Victorian costume serve traditional English High Tea with Devonshire cream, tarts and tiny sandwiches at noon and 2:30 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays, and Wednesdays during the faire. Faire admission is free; fee for high tea. Reservations strongly recommended. Lakeport English Inn, 675 N. Main Street. (707) 263-4317, www.lakeportenglishinn.com

Tulip Hill Winery Food and Wine Pairing, Nice

November 20, 2010

Celebrate autumn by sampling world-class wines from Tulip Hill Winery expertly paired with scrumptious appetizers. 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tulip Hill Winery, 4900 Bartlett Springs Road. (707) 274-9373, www.tuliphillwinery.com

Dickens' Christmas Market, Lakeport

November 27, 2010

Annual Christmas event transforms Lakeport into an old English village, complete with costume-clad characters, food booths, and entertainment, as well as an all-day Christmas Market from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Lighted parade begins at 6:00 p.m. and Christmas tree lighting follows at 6:30 p.m. Main Street. (707) 263-5092, www.lakecochamber.com

DECEMBER

Christmas in the Country, Kelseyville

December 3, 2010

Old-fashioned country Christmas featuring a merchants' open house and parade of lights. Eventgoers are invited to enjoy hot cider, hot chocolate, Christmas cookies, and other hors d'oeuvres with downtown merchants, as well as a lighted parade, pictures with Santa Claus, and a tree lighting at the firehouse. A chowder and chili dinner, provided by the Presbyterian Church, is held in conjunction with the event. Sponsored by Kelseyville Business Association. 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Admission is free. Main Street. (707) 279-8559, www.visitkelseyville.com

Holiday Light Parade and Tree Lighting, *Upper Lake*

December 4, 2010

Annual holiday celebration in historic downtown Upper Lake. Tree lighting presentation, holiday light parade at 7:00 p.m., caroling, 4-H barbecue, and refreshments. Santa arrives to take Christmas wishes and photos. Sponsored by Westamerica Bank and the Upper Lake Community Council. Benefit for the Upper Lake Auxiliary Fire Department Toy Drive. Free admission. 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Main Street. (707) 275-8170.

Middletown Tree Lighting Ceremony, *Middletown*

December 3, 2010

The 20th-annual tree lighting ceremony also includes caroling, dancers, photos taken with Santa, crafts, and face painting. The event will take place at the Middletown Central Park beginning at 5:30 p.m. and will feature the 4-H community Christmas choir. Middletown Central Park, Central Park Road. (707) 987-3373.

Renaissance Christmas Pageant and Feast, *Middletown*

December 3 – 5 and 10 – 12, 2010

Sixteenth-annual pageant features a three-course sit-down dinner around which a lively costume drama unfolds. Delicious food, gorgeous costumes and sets, a cappella Renaissance and traditional Christmas songs, and entertainment, as well as dances and games in which all guests – known for the night as “nobles” – are encouraged to join. Produced by the Middletown Community United Methodist Church and Community Players. “Greystone Castle,” 15843 Armstrong Street. (707) 987-2653, www.middletownmethodist.org

Clearlake’s Downtown Christmas Parade of Lights, *Clearlake*

December 4, 2010

Themed floats wind their way through downtown Clearlake, lighting up the winter night at this festive family-friendly event. Parade begins at Redbud Park at 6:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Clear Lake Chamber of Commerce. (707) 994-3600, www.clearlakechamber.com

Holiday Tree Lighting, *Hidden Valley Lake*

December 4, 2010

Eleventh-annual celebration featuring pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus, musical entertainment, horse-drawn trolley rides, face painting, refreshments, and fireworks. Sponsored by the Hidden Valley Lake Association. 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Tree lighting at 6:00 p.m. Free admission. Greenview Restaurant, 19210 Hartmann Road. (707) 987-3138, www.hvla.com

Avenue of Lights, *Lakeport*

December 15 – 19, 2010

Animated displays consisting of over 40,000 lights will light the 1,000-foot long roadway through the fairgrounds. Tune in to a low-power FM station for continuous holiday music during the half-hour tour. Refreshments available for purchase. Sponsored by Lake County Fairgrounds. Benefit for non-profit organizations. Admission fee per car. Lake County Fairgrounds, 401 Martin Street. (707) 263-6181, www.lakecountyfair.com

Tulip Hill Winery Open House and Food & Wine Pairing, *Nice*

December 11 – 12, 2010

Holiday open house at Tulip Hill Winery includes tasty holiday treats, as well as a sale on wines and merchandise. 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tulip Hill Winery, 4900 Bartlett Springs Road, Nice. (707) 274-9373, www.tuliphillwinery.com

Located in beautiful Northern California, Lake County is just two hours by car from the San Francisco Bay Area, the Sacramento Valley, and the Pacific Coast. Lake County is home to Clear Lake, the largest natural freshwater lake in California and possibly the oldest lake on the continent. Visitors to Lake County experience the state’s cleanest air basin, spectacular scenic beauty, fine wines, and unsurpassed recreational opportunities — from hiking, biking, golf, and off-road adventures to boating, fishing, kayaking, birding, and even rockhounding. The local area code is 707. For visitor information, contact the Lake County Visitor Information Center at (800) 525-3743 or www.lakecounty.com