



COUNTY OF LAKE

MARKETING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 12, 2011

SPOTLIGHT ON SPRING EVENTS IN LAKE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA MARCH 1, 2011 – MAY 30, 2011

MARCH

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

March 5, 2011

Six Sigma Ranch and Winery hosts the 4th-annual "Pruning 101" from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The Six Sigma vineyard crew leads a hands-on winter pruning demonstration. \$15 per person; pastries, coffee, and juice will be served. Reservations suggested. 13372 Spruce Grove Road. (707) 994-4068, www.sixsigmaranch.com

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

March 5, 2011

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. 3915 Main Street. (707) 279-0483, www.rosadorowine.com

Holder Ford Team Bass Tournament, Lakeport

March 12 – 13, 2011

Considered by some sportsmen to be the most popular event on Clear Lake, this annual event in its 25th 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

Irish Feast, Kelseyville

March 12, 2011

Enjoy a night of fun where guests will dine on a traditional Irish feast complete with corned beef and cabbage and Guinness chocolate mousse paired with Moore Family wines. Come dance a jig with the live Irish band. \$40 per person. 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Must be 21 years old to attend. 11990 Bottle Rock Rd, (707) 279-9279, www.moorefamilywinery.com

Wine Tasting and Art Show, Lower Lake

March 12, 2011

Nineteenth-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. 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., call for information and location. (707) 995-9316

Kelseyville Olive Festival, Kelseyville

March 20, 2011

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 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. 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 26, 2011

Seventh-annual event will feature wine, food, and entertainment set amid Tulip Hill Winery's gardens blooming with thousands of tulips. Admission includes wine tastings, barrel tastings, sumptuous hors d'oeuvres, winery tours, and live music. \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door. Noon to 5:00 p.m. 4900 Bartlett Springs Road. (707) 274-9373, www.tuliphillwinery.com

APRIL

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

April 1 – 30, 2011 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 historic family ranch rich with history, wildlife, wildflowers, 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

Blue Lakes Trout Derby, Blue Lakes

April 16 – 17, 2011

This derby is sponsored by the Blue Lakes Association and local merchants and businesses donate prizes. Now in its 23rd 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 30 – May 1, 2011

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 are 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, 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 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 are 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

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MAY**Mother's Day High Tea, Lakeport**

May 7, 8, 11, 14 and 15, 2011

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. 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 13 – 15, 2011

"The largest catfish derby west of the Mississippi" and a benefit for community projects, the 28th-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 15 years old and younger, with the winner receiving a special prize. 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 14 – 15, 2011

This annual outdoor play re-enacting the passion, death, resurrection, and ascension of Christ is now in its 30th 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 21, 2011

Sample new release wines from Tulip Hill Winery expertly paired with scrumptious appetizers while enjoying live music in the garden. \$10 per person. 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. 4900 Bartlett Springs Road. (707) 274-9373, www.tuliphillwinery.com

Oyster and Sauvignon Blanc, Kelseyville

May 21, 2011

Oysters and Sauvignon Blanc are an undisputed culinary delight. Moore Family Winery will host a feast of oysters both barbecued and raw, along with Sauvignon Blancs from the winery. Admission: free, Oysters: \$1 each and wine \$5 per glass. 11990 Bottle Rock Road, (707) 279-9279, www.moorefamilywinery.com

Memorial Day Parade & Celebration, Lakeport

May 28, 2011

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

Lake Renaissance Festival, Lower Lake

May 28 & 29, 2011

For two frolicking, fun-filled days in May, the Lake Renaissance Festival brings merriment and reveling to the Tuscan Village in Lower Lake. Tickets are \$7; \$2 discount for students, seniors, guests in costume, with a donation to our food bank, or with a coupon (one discount per person). Food and beverages, fortune telling, belly dancers, games, sea shanties, stage acts, and sword fights. 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. 16175 Main Street, www.lakerenfest.com

Memorial Day Parade and Barbecue, Lower Lake

May 29, 2011

Annual horse parade, pet parade, awards and prizes, live music and dancing, artists and crafters. Barbecue from noon to 3:00 p.m. 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.

ONGOING

Concerts with Conversations, Upper Lake

Last Saturday each month, January through May

Monthly concert series January - May that features live music in an intimate setting. A benefit for the Soper-Reese Community Theatre Fund. An informal concert and dialogue with the artist follows coffee with dessert. Reservations are suggested as seating is limited. Tallman Hotel, 9550 Main Street. (707) 275-2244, www.tallmanhotel.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. 9520 Main Street. (707) 275-2233, www.bluewingsaloon.com

Winemaker Dinner Series, Kelseyville

First Tuesday of each month

Each month, the Saw Shop Gallery Bistro features a special menu paired with a local or regional 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. 3825 Main Street. (707) 278-0129, www.sawshopbistro.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. Main Street. (707) 252-8444, www.terrilcellars.com

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. 9520 Main Street. (707) 275-2244, www.bluewingsaloon.com

Meet the Winemaker Series, Upper Lake

Select Thursdays 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. 9520 Main Street. (707) 275-2233, www.bluewingsaloon.com

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Meet the Winemaker/Artist, Upper Lake

First Friday and Saturday of each month (except January)

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. 325 N. Main Street. Free. 707-263-6658, www.lakecountyartscouncil.com

Fondue Friday, Upper Lake

Year-round by reservation

The Lake County Wine Studio (LCWS) offers a selection of fondue pots by 48-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, (707)293-8752.

Windows to the Universe, Kelseyville

Second Saturday of each month

Telescope observing and planetarium show. 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. Serendipity Art and Boutique will conduct various classes. The Gourd Gallery will provide classes in decorative gourd art. 6193-6199 E. Highway 20, Lucerne. (707) 274-2346.

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

Saturdays, 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. (707) 263-6076, 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. 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. 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. \$15-\$30 per person. Kids 12 and under free. 11990 Bottle Rock Road. (707) 738-0507, www.moorefamilywinery.com

Coyote Film Festival, Middletown

April through October 2011

Presentations by local, regional, and national independent filmmakers April through October at the Calpine Geothermal Visitors Center. One Saturday matinee and evening screening each month highlights the best in independent film with guest filmmakers participating in audience Q&A's. For full details visit www.EcoArtsofLakeCounty.org or www.CoyoteFilmFestival.org

TOURS

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. 21000 Butts Canyon Road. (707) 987-2385, www.langtryestate.com

Tulip Hill Winery Tours, Nice

Year-round by reservation

Guided tour of the winery's production of world-class wines offered every Saturday at 1:30 p.m. Admission is free. 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 ascent 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 10 people or \$25 per person. 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 13372 Spruce Grove Road. (707) 994-4068, www.sixsigmaranch.com

Gregory Graham Winery Vineyard Tours, Lower Lake

Year-round by reservation

Join owner and winemaker Gregory Graham on a one-hour informational tour of his vineyards then head back to the tasting room for samples of current release wines while viewing the winery. \$25 per person. Advance reservations required. 13633 Point Lakeview Road. (707) 995 3500, www.ggwines.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. 9550 Main Street. (866) 708-5253, (707) 275-2244, or www.tallmanhotel.com

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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

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/cachecreek.html

Bird and Nature Walks, Kelseyville

Saturdays, year-round

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 web site. 5300 Soda Bay Road. (707) 279-2267, www.clearlakestatepark.org

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

GAMING & LIVE 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

Twin Pines, Middletown

California's newest casino features slot machines and table games, wine tasting of Lake County and regional wines at Off the Vine tasting room/gift shop, and a smoke-free Grapevine Bar & Lounge. Restaurant serves dinner Wednesday through Sunday. Lake County's newest hotel offers 60 smoke-free rooms with three luxury suites. (800) 564-4872, www.twinpine.com

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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

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