



COUNTY OF LAKE

MARKETING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 15, 2010

SPOTLIGHT ON SPRING EVENTS IN LAKE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA MARCH 1, 2010 – MAY 30, 2010

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 23rd 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. This family-friendly event features an olive pit spitting contest, as well as olive oil tasting workshops by a certified olive oil taster, food demonstrations, and wine tasting. Presented by Rosa d'Oro Vineyards and the Kelseyville Wine Company and hosted at the Kelseyville Olive Mill and Winery, 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

- more -

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 thousands of tulips. Admission includes wine tastings, barrel tastings, sumptuous hors d'oeuvres, winery tours, and live music with Bill Noteman and the Rockets. \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door. Noon to 5:00 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, 2010 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

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. Cost is \$10 per person. Races begin at 12 noon Saturday and Sunday. A tri-tip dinner will be held on Saturday at 6:30 p.m. 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

Clearlake Cruise-In and Car Show, Clearlake

May 7 – 9, 2010

Cruise the shores of beautiful Clear Lake, California's largest natural lake, at the Clearlake Cruise-In and Car Show. Includes cruising for all pre-1973 automobiles, show and shine, poker run around the lake, vendor row, pin-up girl contest, sock hop, and more. Set along Lakeshore Drive in the city of Clearlake, the Lake County "strip" since the 1950's. (707) 994-3600, www.clearlakecruisein.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 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 15, 2010

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. 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.

ONGOING

Concerts with Conversations, Upper Lake

Select Saturdays each month, January through May

Monthly concert series January 30, February 27, March 27, April 24, and May 22 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. \$25. 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. Blue Wing Saloon & Café, 9520 Main Street. (707) 275-2233, www.bluwingsaloon.com

Tuscan Village Music & Art Series, Lower Lake

Fridays, yea- 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

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

Meet the Winemaker Series, Upper Lake

First Saturday 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 Fridays 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.

Second Sundays, Upper Lake

Second Sunday of each month

Stroll historic Main Street and step into California's Western past while exploring antique stores, stop in for a taste of award-winning Lake County wines, grab a bite to eat, and more. Merchants open 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; music 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. in front of Westamerica Bank. (707) 274-8872.

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. The Gourd Gallery will provide classes in decorative gourd art. Harbor Village Artist Complex, 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 and Tuesdays, 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 at Steele Wines, 4350 Thomas Drive. Tuesdays, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at 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

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. Langtry Estate & Vineyards, 21000 Butts Canyon Road. (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

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) 350-0700, www.lakecountywinetours.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 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

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. Tallman Hotel, 9550 Main Street. (866) 708-5253, (707) 275-2244, or 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

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

Lake County Bi-Plane Tours, Lakeport

Daily by reservation, April through October

Get a better perspective of the stunning natural beauty of Lake County with an aerial tour in a fully-restored WWII open cockpit Stearman Bi-Plane. With only 1,000 of these special planes left in the United States, visitors enjoy a one-of-a-kind flying experience over rolling vineyards, Clear Lake, the largest natural freshwater lake in California, and Mt. Konocti, a 5-million-year-old dormant volcano with its highest peak reaching 4,299 feet. (707) 245-5147, www.fly-a-stearman.com

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

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 web site. Clear Lake State Park, 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

Clear Lake Tours, Clear Lake and Cache Creek

Year-round by reservation

Observe wildlife in Anderson Marsh along Cache Creek by boat; tours perfect for bird watching, video, and photography. Tours of Clear Lake also available. (707) 272-6640, www.clearlaketours.com

Kayak Adventures, Lucerne

Year-round by reservation

Explore the beauty and wildlife of Lake County from the water by kayak with a guide. Follow one of the seven water trails to enjoy the beauty and wildlife of Clear Lake or customize your experience. (707) 274-2170, (707) 349-0090.

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

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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