

# Buttonwillow Goes Country Old & New!

Our annual **Fall Farm Festival** will be held **Saturday, September 13, 2014** at the Buttonwillow Park. The Festival celebrates the harvest of the many agricultural crops and related businesses in our area. This is an opportunity for the the community, individuals, businesses, organizations or special group to highlight *themselves* and their *products*. So gather up your family, friends & co-workers and join us as we celebrate “**Buttonwillow Goes Country Old & New!**”

The festivities begin at 7:00 a.m. with a pancake breakfast by the **Pioneer Senior Citizens** at the Anita Merlo Community Center. The breakfast includes pancakes, sausage, orange juice and coffee.

**The parade** begins at 10:00 a.m. and will include clowns, farm equipment, floats, cars, pets, music and more. The antique tractors and other parade entries will be on display at the park following the parade. The public is invited to vote for their favorite tractor entry. For additional parade information contact Louie Andreotti at 331-7261.

**At the park**, the Chamber is selling a delicious deep-pit beef BBQ lunch which includes beans, salad, roll & salsa for only \$10. This lunch will be served from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. only. Lots of other vendors will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and will include a kettle corn, shaved ice, cold drinks, hot dogs, tamales, games, clothing, crafts and much more! **Kiddie Amusement** is providing games & rides for the kids. There will be a petting zoo, pony rides and **The Mike Montano Band** will be providing musical entertainment from 11:00 to 3:00 p.m. and **Hember Ortiz DJ Services** will be providing Karaoke and music.

We will be selecting our parade **Grand Marshal** and **Festival Princess** within these next few weeks. The selection recognizes individuals whose contributions enhance and promote our desired quality of life in Buttonwillow. If you would like to nominate someone for Grand Marshall please contact this office. The Board

of Directors will make their selection at the August board meeting. All 8th grade girls residing in a 93206 zip code address or having parents that are Buttonwillow Chamber members are eligible to vie for the title of “**Festival Princess**” whose mission is “*To encourage young girls to learn about agriculture and its importance to Buttonwillow, to develop pride in their community and to promote public speaking and appearance skills*”. Contact Jennifer Giannini at 764-5273 or this office for detailed information.

# Chamber and Community News!

The Buttonwillow Chamber of Commerce will be holding a Community clean up day August 23 8 am to 12pm! With the help Supervisor David Couch and Field Rep. Ryan Shultz. Volunteers will meet at the Buttonwillow Recreation and Park 556 Milo Ave lunch will be served. For more information contact the Chamber office 661 764-5406.

The Bill Brannon Memorial Fundraiser 5th Annual Car Show will be held during the Fall Farm Festival from 8:30 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Awards will be presented at @ 2:30 p.m. Entry fee is only \$25, after 9/5/14 \$30 with ALL proceeds benefitting the *Vanderbilt University Research* in finding a cure for MSA (Multiple System Atrophy). For more information contact Cindy Brannon at 764-5498 or 332-5498.

The Vintage Auto Racing Association (VARA) celebrated their 19th year of the British Extravaganza at the Buttonwillow Raceway Park on May 3. The Chamber prepared the Saturday evening meal. Funds from this event benefit our scholarship program.

Buttonwillow organizations awarded \$9,250.00 in scholarships to area high school graduates. The Buttonwillow Chamber awarded \$4,000.00 and the BW Lions Club awarded \$4,500.00. This year's recipients from Buttonwillow are: Rolando Ramirez, Salvador Vargas, and Jose Vieyra. The Pioneer Senior Citizens awarded \$250 each Rolando Ramirez, Salvador Vargas, and Jose Vieyra. Congratulations to ALL graduates, scholarship recipients, AND the community for their continued support of these scholarship programs.

The Buttonwillow Lions Club installed their new officers at their 73rd Anniversary Celebration on July 16 at Wool Growers Restaurant.. The new officers are: President-Matt Cauzza, Vice President-Matt Thomson, Secretary-Ryan Torigiani, Treasurer-Todd Tracy, Tail Twister-Alex Chicca. The Directors are: Jake Cauzza, Jack Gonzales, Jon Slikker Jr., Brian Romanini, Kevin McDermott, and J.B. Hay. The Lions Club always welcomes new members. If you are interested in joining, contact Jennifer Giannini at 764-5273.

The Buttonwillow 4H Club is looking forward to another year at the Kern County Fair. The fair runs from Sept. 17 to Sept. 28. We will have members showing pigs, sheep, goats, rabbits, and chickens. Please stop by and show your support. We always welcome new members! Our meeting of the new year will be Sept. 8th at 7:00 p.m. at the Lions Den, 291 Main St.

The Buttonwillow Chamber of Commerce currently has 2 vacant position on our Chamber Board of Directors. The Board of Directors meets the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. and must appoint someone to fill these vacancies. If you are interested in serving in this position, please contact this office as soon as possible.

# **NEWS from Buttonwillow Union School District**

Welcome back to another year at Buttonwillow School,

This will be a great year as we head into the 2014-2015 school year. The compliments from around the county continue to come into the school about the condition of our school facilities, as well as the programs we are beginning to offer. We are even in the process of working on two multi-million dollar grants to improve health and fitness as well as provide a teacher residency program for future teachers.

We are all very proud of what is being accomplished at the school. During the past 9 months we have worked with parents, civic groups, staff and students to develop a comprehensive plan for improving the academic environment at the school. This environment is changing with funding coming in from the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) and the plans through the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)

In the coming year you will see four new teachers to the school that will reduce class sizes to a projected average of approximately 20 in grades K-8. Our teachers will return to utilizing more instructional strategies that get our students to do more thinking and communicating rather than memorization. Our students will be able to see the music program return to a greater degree than the past two years. Students will be exposed to real life lessons that will help them realize why it is important to learn the basic skills. These lessons will be taught through various delivery methods including a school wide wireless system that provides each student in grades 3-8 with a small lap-top computer for use in writing and researching.

During the past 6 months we have presented to the community the plan for our school garden. This plan has been quite successful as many folks have contributed time, supplies or funding to the project on top of the approximately \$30,000 in grant funding. What we saw was a large number of students get actively involved in helping to maintain, water, and provide learning opportunities in the garden. We have grown watermelons, peppers, zucchinis, onions, cucumbers, sunflowers, pumpkins, basil, tomatoes, cantaloupes, radishes, and corn.

This educational opportunity has provided students the science of agriculture as well as the healthy eating habits that come from natural foods. Some students did not even recognize the radishes as they were harvested. We are working toward greater real learning happening on our campus as we improve our school's academic performance as well as improving the community as a whole. We encourage your ongoing commitment to the school.

One additional note that is important to all concerned is that our school saw a drop in both office referrals and suspensions of 82% and 78% respectively. This translates to greater learning and a more connected student body moving forward.

Thank you for your support of our school.

**Stuart Packard**  
Superintendent/Principal  
Buttonwillow School

# Greetings from Buttonwillow Community Resource Center!

Come by our office at Buttonwillow School, 42600 Highway 58, Buttonwillow, CA to check out our valuable programs and services! We have a certified counselor for health insurance applications, center-based activities for preschoolers, parent education classes, emergency food and clothing (and links to other resources), commodity food distributions (monthly), assistance with paperwork, translations services, and many other programs.

BCRC heads up the Buttonwillow Community Collaborative, comprised of agencies throughout Kern County, which meets during the year to pool resources and information which ultimately benefit our local population.

Staff at Buttonwillow Resource Center works hard to achieve its Mission Statement—To ensure that health care, educational success and public safety needs are met for all families in Buttonwillow and the surrounding communities.

Finally, a fond farewell to Lucette Garcia, former program coordinator, who retired at the end of June after 14 years of service. She will be deeply missed, but the work she began will continue on and grow according to the needs of our Buttonwillow Families.

Our phone number is 661 764-9405, fax number is 661-764-9445, and we are open from 8 am-4:30 pm Monday through Friday all year (including the summer months).



## Grand Opening of the NEW LIBRARY

# **Exciting Summer Programs at the Buttonwillow Recreation Department...**

We are nearing the end of our summer activities at the Buttonwillow Recreation Department. Many children in the community enjoyed four fun filled weeks of activities with our Day Camp Program. Weekly trips to Bakersfield for the day campers to enjoy roller skating, Pump it Up, Bowling and the final trip to Wild Waters Adventure in Clovis on July 31st. This program serves over 70 children and enables us to hire counselors within our community.

Our Aquatic Program provided daily open swim sessions, Wednesday Night Swims, Movie Night and Swim Lessons were available. On August 9th we will have an end of Summer Dance at the Pool. The Pool will be available for Private Rental now through the middle of September.

Special thanks to Buttonwillow School for allowing us to use their facility for our "Annual Firework Show". We are very pleased with this year's attendance. Children enjoyed Michael the Magician, the water games by our Aquatic Staff and best of all Pyro-Spectaculars Team provided 20 minutes of non-stop fireworks. We could not have done this without our sponsors, Buttonwillow Chamber of Commerce, Buttonwillow Lions Club, Buttonwillow Community Foundation and NAPA. Thanks to all of you for coming out and supporting our vendors.

It's time to "Take a Walk in the Park". The South Park Improvements are almost completed. Walk one lap around and you have walked a half mile. Lights come on at dusk and off at 10:00 p.m. Our Disc golf Course is already popular. Visit [www.dgcoursereview.com/course](http://www.dgcoursereview.com/course) and see our Course. We have been rated 3 out of 5 and we have not officially opened yet. That's pretty good. Our course is popular and is the only one on Interstate 5 between Los Angeles and San Francisco.

It is never too late to start a Fitness Routine. Fitness Center Summer Hours are Monday and Fridays 6:00 a.m.- 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, 6:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Once again the Buttonwillow Recreation and Park District is opening its doors for the Cooling Center. For the health, safety, and comfort of our residents, the Kern County Parks Department, in cooperation with the Department of Aging and Adult Services, will open Cooling Centers throughout the County when temperatures are forecast by the National Weather Service (NWS) to exceed certain highs. Cooling Centers open in the San Joaquin and Kern River Valleys when the Temperatures are forecast to be 105 degrees or higher. The center is open from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at 556 Milo Ave. The Cooling Centers Daily Report will be issued by 11:00 a.m. on the day before the Center opens. Weekend Cooling Center openings will be released by 11:00 a.m. on Friday. Residents using the Cooling Centers are encouraged to bring their favorite non-alcoholic beverages, snacks, reading material, games, etc. to better enjoy the Center.

Stay Cool and Join us at Buttonwillow Recreation and Park District

Marie Parsons  
General Manager

## Message from the chamber...

The regular Board meeting for the month of August will be on Wednesday August 13, at 6:00 pm. at the Chamber office. We hope you all have had a Great Summer!

### 2014-2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - Merced Moreno  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President - Jennifer Glannini  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Christina Luca

Louie Andreotti  
John Parsons

Amanda Barton  
Jr. Montemayor

Mike Burleson  
Randy Chamblee

2014 Honorary Mayor - Chon Hernandez  
Secretary/Office Manager - Diana Parsons

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