

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Napa Mustang Days Returns to Napa

Wild Horse & Burro Celebration with Adoption, Training, Entertainment

The public is invited to the Napa Valley Horsemen's Association Friday afternoon, May 15, and all day Saturday, May 16, for the second bi-annual Napa Mustang Days celebration of America's Living Legends – Wild Horses & Burros - and all things horsey.

This free public event is built around a Bureau of Land Management (BLM) adoption for wild horses and burros gathered off public lands. It includes demos by expert trainer, Lesley Neuman of Lostine, Oregon, who will show the public how to "gentle" (tame) wild horses. Other experts giving "mini-clinics" to teach "After Gentling, What's Next?" skills include Sue Watkins of Sheridan, CA, Janet Titus of Mammoth Lakes, CA, and Midori Morgan of Napa, CA.

Starting at 1 PM on Saturday, the main arena will be the venue for an exciting and free program of horses and horsemanship, which will include "The Radical Riders Rodeo Trick Team", an "At Liberty" act with Brandy Worley, in which horse and trainer communicate through body cues and verbal commands with no ropes or bridles, a thrilling bareback riding exhibition by 2008 Extreme Mustang Makeover Finalist Janet Titus, Gymkhana rider Lauren West with her winning Mustang, Napa's own Wendee Walker performing dressage with her Mustang, Yogi, and a parade showcasing successfully adopted wild horses and burros who live in the Napa and Northern California area. Children are invited to a "Wild Horse Annie Story Time" on Saturday morning with Napa Lit readers.

The event also marks the Napa Valley Horsemen's Association's 70th Anniversary, so come on out and celebrate Horses with the Horsemen! Another group participating in Napa Mustang Days will be Leadership Napa Valley, Class XXII, who will hold an informational booth to encourage all Napans to "Fight Nature Deficit Disorder" and get outside to enjoy all the wonderful outdoor opportunities – including but in no way limited to horses - in the Napa County area.

Approximately 40 healthy young wild horses and burros recently gathered from public lands by the Bureau of Land Management will arrive Friday afternoon around 2 PM. In addition to the 40 wild ones, we anticipate having 4 halter-trained Mustangs, who have been gentled and trained by BLM employees or volunteers, and are ready to go to a new home. The public is invited to come and watch these "Living Legends of the Old West" arrive and settle in to their adoption pens. Those wishing to adopt may register on Friday or Saturday morning. The adoption begins at 9 AM on Saturday and will continue until 4 PM or when all animals are adopted, whichever comes first. Many enthusiastic volunteers will be on hand – many with their own adopted horse or burro in tow – to meet the public and answer questions.

The Napa Valley Horsemen's Association, now in its 70th year, is located at 1200 Foster Road in Napa. For more information about Napa Mustang Days, as well as how to adopt a wild horse or burro, see the website at www.napamustangdays.com.

CONTACT: Mike or Nancy Kerson, event co-chairs Phone: 707-226-9193

**Websites: www.napamustangdays.com
www.napahorsemen.org
www.mustangs4us.com**