

Press Release
Redwood Empire Centennial Celebration
Eureka, June 23-27

EUREKA, California (release at will): EUREKA!

Eureka-- a symbolic word in California history. From the Greek, it means "I have found it". And many a miner of Gold Rush Days in California undoubtedly uttered it with a cry of joy as he found the yellow metal which led to the early day settlement and development of California.

It is a word that has remained symbolic, also, throughout California's history, for on the great seal of the state it appears in bold letters above the legendary goddess who watches over her ships in San Francisco Bay.

It is a word that has doubled significance this summer in California as Eureka (the city itself on the shores of Humboldt Bay) presents its Redwood Empire Centennial Celebration, commemorating one hundred years of history in the redwood country of which Eureka is the northern capital.

The present site of Eureka was discovered in the month of December, in the year 1849, when a party led by Dr. Josiah Gregg trekked across the Trinity mountains from the gold mines of what is now Trinity county, ending up on the northern shore of Humboldt Bay.

Honoring this event of early day history and depicting one hundred years of progress and development, the Redwood Empire Centennial Celebration includes many phases of a five-day program dedicated to the hardy pioneers whose descendants still head the first families of the redwood country.

Opening on June 23, with the formal dedication of Eureka's new \$200,000 small boat basin, home of the Humboldt fishing fleet, the celebration continues through June 27, with feature events scheduled ea ch day. The harbor dedication itself will be a gala affair, with a gigantic free fish fry on Fishermen's Wharf at which thousands of pounds of freshly caught ocean fish will be served to the hungry visitors.

June 23 also marks the opening of the Humboldt Bay Fish Derby, in which attractive prizes are being offered for top sports catches of salmon, black cod, ling cod, rock cod and snapper, in which all sportsmen are invited to participate.

The annual Redwood Empire Rodeo opens on June 25, continuing through the 27th, with top riders and performers scheduled to participate for the \$4500 in prize money (entry fees added), second largest rodeo money in California this season. The rodeo will be held at Redwood Acres, which also will be the scene of the annual Redwood Acres Horse Show and the Ninth Agricultural District Fair and Livestock Show, with some \$30,000 in prizes for exhibitors.

Eureka will be the setting for the picturesque and colorful Pioneer Pageant to be staged in the downtown area Saturday, June 26, with a parade featuring floats and units depicting many phases of Humboldt county history, industry and attractions.

Other events on the five-day program include an open horseshoe pitching tournament; a "Roaring Gulch" presentation in downtown Eureka; water sports and a boat regatta; a "horse-a-thon"; re-enactment of the discovery of Humboldt Bay by the Gregg party and many other features.

The northern California redwood country is at its peak in scenic and recreational attractions during late June, with the rhododendrons hanging in great clusters in the redwood forests lining the famed Redwood Highway, fishing at its best for the early summer, and Humboldt hospitality in evidence to make the visitor feel at home.

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