

Town of Wellton Newsletter

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The Town of Wellton is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Town Hall Hours: Monday—Thursday, 6:30 AM—5:00PM

March 2018



Alley Clean-Up

The Town of Wellton Alley Clean-Up is scheduled to begin the first week of April. Please call Town Hall at 928-785-3348 to be put on the list.

41st Annual Pioneer Day Parade

The results are in for the 2018 Pioneer Day Parade winners.

A BIG Thank You to our judges. *THANK YOU for volunteering!*

CDBG SSP Public Hearing

The Community Development Block Grant State Special Projects Public Hearing will be held on March 20, 2018 at 5:30PM in the Council Chambers (28634 Oakland Avenue).

2018 Pioneer Day Parade Division Winners



A “Thank You and Great Job” to everyone who participated in the 41st Annual Pioneer Day Parade on Saturday, February 24, 2018.

A special Thank You to all of our parade judges for donating their time .

It is because of your continued support and enthusiasm for our parade, that we can say it was a great success again this year.

Here are the winners in each categories:

Sweepstakes	22	Yuma Sub Vets—Barbel Base
Floats - Youth	25	Mohawk Valley School
Floats - Adult	30	VFW Post #6790
Open	32	Coach Stop RV Park
Auto	46	Boling, Wilce & Lewis—1929 Model A
Pioneer	42	Cesar Moreno - 1948 Chevy Stylemaster
Riding	7	Yuma County Sheriff's Posse Mounted Color Guard

Wellton World of Wheels



Wellton World of Wheels will be held on Saturday, March 10, 2018 at Butterfield Park (10234 Dome Street—Wellton).

Check-In: 8:00AM—10:00AM

Show: 10:00AM—2:30PM

Entrants and attendees will for Best in Show and submit their votes to the coordinator by 1:30PM. The Awards Presentation will be at 2:30PM.

41st Annual Pioneer Day Parade & Fiesta Grand Marshall Shirley Murdock



If ever there were an apt choice as Grand Marshall of Wellton's annual parade, it would be Shirley Woodhouse Murdock.

The parade takes its name from the pioneering spirit that made the east county what it is, and Murdock comes from and perpetuates that tradition.

Her parents homesteaded the Mohawk Valley, using mules to clear out mesquite on a 160-acre plot for a farm that Murdock and her late husband George later enlarged tenfold. Living there to this day, Murdock has herself been a leader in the community, serving as a 4-H leader, school board member, church elder and organist. Murdock says she expects to ride in a red 1964 Buick convertible, one owned and lovingly

restored by George, in the 41st Annual Pioneer Day Parade that gets underway at 10:00AM Saturday, February 24, 2018 near Westside Park in Wellton.

"It's always nice to have the parade and people enjoy that," Murdock said this week. "And I'm honored."

Except for having lived the first days of her life in California, where her parents had gone for her birth, Murdock is a lifelong resident of Yuma County. Her parents, Harold and Ethelind Woodhouse, built a simple wood frame house on the land that Murdock's father cleared with the help of two mules in the 1920s.

Her parents also played a role in bringing water to the Mohawk Valley, allowing it to be cultivated by them and other farmers. The challenges faced in settling the Mohawk Valley were recounted in a book Murdock wrote, "The Mules Go In Front."

With Jim Gillaspie, Murdock also wrote "The Longest Flight," an book about a world record-setting endurance flight, in which an Aeronca airplane named the City of Yuma stayed in the air 47 consecutive days in 1949. One of the two pilots for the flight was Murdock's older brother, Bob Woodhouse, and her future husband did the maintenance for the car from which fuel and other supplies were passed up to the plane. The flight was staged as part of a campaign to convince the military to reopen the previously shuttered Vincent Air Force Base.

When Murdock's parents died in an airplane crash in 1954, George and Shirley Murdock moved to the farm, where she continues to live in the adobe home that replaced the original wood frame dwelling.

The Murdock's eventually expanded the farm to 1,500 acres. Their sons continue to farm that land today. Although the Mohawk Valley is outside Wellton's town limits, Murdock considers both to be part of one big extended family in the east county.

"It's a wonderful community in which to raise a family, and it's still a close-knit community, and it's probably one of the best," she said. "We're really close neighbors, so I include (Wellton) in all my favorable comments of the area."

Courtesy of the Yuma Sun

Artisan's Guild of WMFA/Pioneer Museum



The Pioneer Museum and the Artisans' Guild would like to thank everyone who has helped us this year. We've been able to make significant repairs to the museum, we've provide numerous art classes and by the end of season we will have had three art shows. We appreciate the contributions from several of the RV parks, residents and visitors of Wellton, the tireless hours our volunteers have given to us, the art instructors who have provided classes and everyone else who have contributed to our success. Thank You Very Much!

The Artisans' Guild would like to thank the Board of Wellton-Mohawk Fine Arts and Historical Association for taking a chance with us and giving us an opportunity to start the Artisans' Guild.

Pioneer Museum

The hours for the museum are Saturday and Sunday 1:00PM—3:00PM. We will be asking those residents with knowledge of the history of Wellton to consider volunteering a few hours a week to man the museum, so we can extend the hours we are open next season.

The museum is looking for historical items, in good condition, with written history of the items that you can either donate or loan to the museum for display. We are wanting to create a wonderful museum for the Town of Wellton. We will be reorganizing the museum during April and May. If you can help us in either endeavor, please contact Shirley at 406-761-6983.

Artisans Guild of WMFA

The Artisans' Guild of Wellton-Mohawk Fine Arts will meet October thru March on the second Thursday of the month at 2:00PM in the Wellton Library. Our next meeting is on March 8th.

There will be an ART SHOW at the Pioneer Museum on March 10th from 10:00AM to 3:00PM. Open to all residents. Set up is between 8:30AM to 9:30AM. Call Kathy Smith at 928-723-5564 for information and to sign up since space is limited. There is no fee to show your work. We will be raffling off two pieces of art and an art set with canvases and brushes. There will be a People's Choice rosette given, so stop by and cast your vote. We are also hoping to have an art show in April for the students from Wellton Elementary School the date is to be determined.

There is a new beading class on Fridays from 1:00PM—3:00PM. Please contact Jennifer at 480-235-7372 to sign up.

Contact Us

Pioneer Museum: Shirley Reynolds 405-761-6983

Artisans' Guild: Lynn Morgan 928-785-8587

10402 Fresno Street, Wellton

www.wmfaha.com

Facebook: Wellton-Mohawk Fine Arts and Historical Association

March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Council Meeting 7:00PM	7	8	9	10 Wellton World of Wheels Butterfield Park 8:00AM— 2:30PM
11 Daylight Savings Time Begins	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 CDBG SSP Public Hearing 5:30PM	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Mayor Cecilia McCollough
Mayor Pro Tem Brian Claar
Town Council Kenneth Baughman, Lisa Jameson, & Michelle Jones
Town Manager Larry Killman