



Tarmo Hannula/Register-Pajaronian

Louis Keiser (left) and Ed Zimbrick of the 10th Avenue Jazz Band Happy offer a variety of jazzy tunes Sunday during Aromas Day in Aromas.

Celebrating an Aromas day in the country

Food, bands highlight annual event

REGISTER-PAJARONIAN STAFF REPORT

Hundreds gathered in Aromas for the annual Aromas Day under sunny skies and pleasant conditions. With events spanning from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m., the family-oriented event was dubbed "a day in the country."

Live music, clowns, a petting zoo, arts and crafts, a country-style breakfast, a scarecrow contest, a gospel graffiti demonstration, loads of food and a midday small-town parade punctuated the day.

A host of booths, featuring homemade jams, popcorn, plants, games, information and a variety of foods and original arts and crafts were set up in the heart of town. Throughout

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ABOVE: Free hay wagon rides sponsored by Graniterock were a popular draw Sunday during Aromas Day. BELOW: The streets of Aromas brim with people of all ages.

AROMAS

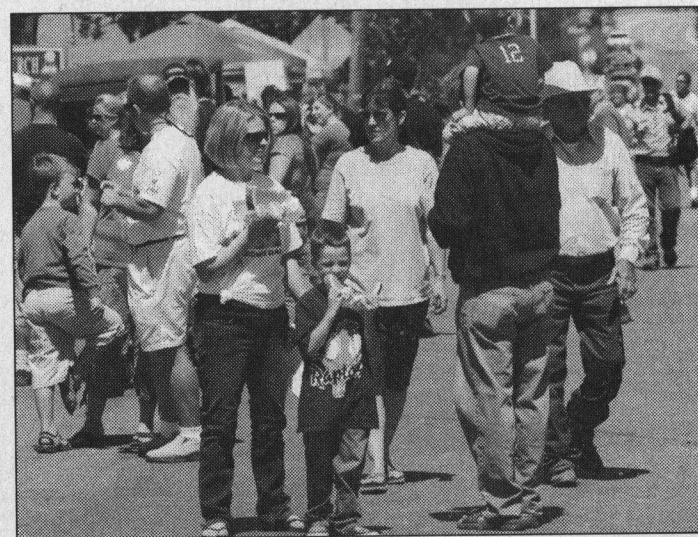
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the day, families took advantage of the free wagon rides pulled through town by a team of horses.

"I think this is one of the best Aromas Day events yet," said Linda Bjornson, one of 12 Aromas Day committee members. "It's fantastic. There're so many people. This is the result of a great collaboration of so many volunteers. The Boy Scouts, The 4-H Club, church groups and on and on. Everybody is having a good time."

Indeed, with Capenteria Road and Blohm Avenue shut to motor traffic, the crowds continued to swell throughout the day as the aroma of grilled foods blended with the sounds of live music from numerous bands.

Adding to the event each



year are dozens of garage and yard sales around Aromas. Scores of people wandered through Aromas with lamps, boxes of old books, rolled up antique carpets or potted plants in hand.

Watsonville Police Cadets pitched in with 11 volunteers, starting out at 7 a.m., to help

with traffic control and crowd control.

Cadet Veronica Valladares said it was an honor to be of help.

"I'm enjoying the day and the crowds," she said. "I like being able to help the community like this. It's a good way of giving back."