

Wamego Chamber of Commerce/Mainstreet

July 2006



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Ridiculous Days

2006

The Chamber Promotions committee has announced the dates for what has become one of Wamego's most successful merchant/retail promotion weekends. Ridiculous Days 2006 will be held Friday through Sunday, August 18, 19 and 20.

That weekend coincides with the return of students to the KSU campus in Manhattan. The Promotions Committee is hoping this event can take advantage of the added traffic in the area.

In the past local merchants plan special

sales and unique promotions to piggyback on the weekend's theme. As well the Promotions Committee is looking into what "ridiculous" events to have throughout the weekend.

Last year Ridiculous Days drew hundreds of shoppers and visitors to Wamego. Local merchants overwhelmingly were pleased by the buzz created by an event that is now in its third year. So look for the red and white balloons and signs that will lead the way to those ridiculous sales, as you shop during Ridiculous Days.

2006 Yellow Brick Road Ride

Pretend you're Miss Gulch, the Wicked Witch of the West, and pedal down the road for the 2006 Yellow Brick Road Ride Oct. 21 in Wamego.

The Yellow Brick Road Ride is in conjunction with OZtoberfest, and will begin and end at Wamego High School. The ride includes 15, 28 and 50.5 mile routes. The pre-registration form must be postmarked by September 29, 2006 to guarantee a 2006 Yellow Brick Road Ride T-shirt. Registration is \$20 for the 28 and 50.5 mile routes. Registration is \$15 for the 15 mile route. All entry fees are non-refundable.

A \$25 entry fee will be charged

for those who do not pre-register or who register the morning of the ride for the 28 and 50.5 mile routes. A \$20 entry fee will be charged for riders who do not pre-register or who register the morning of the ride for the 15 mile route.

Registration includes a 2006 Yellow Brick Road Ride T-shirt, breakfast before the ride, snacks and drinks at stops, bicycle mechanic available at start, SAG support and shower facilities at the high school.

Rest stops will be approximately every 8-13 miles. Beverages and snacks will be provided. We will have support vehicles traveling the route. Each rider should carry a

spare tube, patch kit, and frame pump just in case. Riders unable to finish will be transported back to Wamego.



Please visit www.ecodevo.com/yellowbrickroadride for more information and to download a registration form and route maps. We hope to see you there!

Flint Hills Freedom Run

There's nothing better than getting together with other riders; those like-minded individuals who understand the passion for riding and the sense of freedom it can bring in a world that seems to be run by everyone else but you. And nothing increases your feeling of being a decent human being like getting together with other riders for an amazing cause.

Saturday, July 22nd will be the region's premiere motorcycle event, The Flint Hills Freedom Run, in Wamego, Kansas. The day will be packed with events and all proceeds (yes, all proceeds!) will go to the Central Kansas Chapter of the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) Wounded Soldiers Fund (WSF). That's a mighty long acronym, but when soldiers connected with Fort Riley are evacuated from operations due to illness or injury, the WSF steps in to assist with incidental expenses. The WSF aids in flights for visiting family members, hotel accommodations for loved ones visiting their wounded soldier, etc. Expenses add up very quickly, so the AUSA WSF is there to help Fort Riley soldiers on the road to recovery. Local Manhattan and Wamego business owners, Todd Nutsch and Tate Fisher of T² Wireless, are organizing the Flint Hills Freedom Run—their goals are to raise a truck-load of money for the WSF, and make the Freedom Run *THE* bike event in the Mid West.

Events begin early on July 22nd with a Biker Breakfast beginning at 7 a.m. put on by the Wamego City Hospital Foundation. The Hooters Girls of Topeka will be showing their civic duty with a bike wash from 8 to 11 a.m. and *KC's Most Wanted* motorcycle stunt team will dazzle onlookers from 9 until 10 a.m. At 10 a.m. you won't want to miss a rare opportunity at the Columbian Theater—Former U.S. Army Special Forces Major and native Kansan Mark Nutsch will talk about his experiences in Afghanistan, leading a Special Forces team into combat on horseback, during the fall of 2001, as a part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Registration for an afternoon Poker Run begins at 8 a.m. and the ride will begin at noon. Riders will be escorted south on Highway 99 by 101.5 KROCK's Air Force One truck. They will travel through Alma to Alta Vista, stopping at The Bulldog Inn owned by Bruce and Millie Sample. The run will then travel through Dwight on Highway 57 to Junction City's Harley Davidson & Kawasaki Dealership, City Cycle Sales. There riders can take advantage of great one-day-only specials and

enjoy refreshments provided by Black Jack Hills Catering, Alma Creamery, and American Family Insurance. The tour will then travel on Highway 77 past scenic Milford Lake, breaking in Riley, Kansas at the Liberty Corner Store owned Jay and Vonda Copeland. Traveling through Manhattan via Highway 24, riders will head back to Wamego for after-ride events at the Lincoln Street Station owned by Tom Eveland, Pat Bargas, and Doug Long. Thanks to the good people at Capital Distributing Company, Inc., the after-ride party will be the perfect way to end a day of riding through some of the most scenic routes in Kansas. The organizers have put together thousands of dollars in raffle prizes—including a customized 2003 Honda Shadow—and free entertainment by *Southwind*, one of the best classic rock cover bands in the region.

Poker Run registration is \$25 per bike and includes one poker hand, one raffle ticket, a coupon for a 3 cent per gallon discount on fuel at the Wamego Short Stop owned by Leiszler Oil, and one event t-shirt. Passenger registration is \$15 and includes an event t-shirt. In a shameless ploy to raise more money for the WSF (not to mention increase your chances of winning!), additional poker hands may be purchased during registration for \$10 per hand (limit four per person). The first place prize for best poker hand is **\$1000**, second is **\$700** and third is **\$300**. Hit the web and get pre-registered at www.flinthillsfreedomrun.com. Or contact Todd Nutsch at 785-458-9911 or Tate Fisher at 785-410-4353 for more information.

Of all the motorcycle events in the region, none will compare with the Flint Hills Freedom Run, Saturday, July 22nd organized by authorized Alltel agents T² Wireless. Check out *Wide Open's* October issue for a follow-up article and photos of the event. Do what you love best - ride and do it for the Fort Riley AUSA Wounded Soldiers Fund.

Many local businesses are doing various activities to promote this event. Just to name a few: ATA Blackbelt is waiving their startup fee, if a donation of \$50 is made to the AUSA Wounded Soldiers Fund. Body Works Massage is giving massages on the 22nd with the proceeds going to the fund. The Hospital Foundation is having a fundraiser breakfast and a bake Sale at the Wamego Senior Center the morning of the ride, with the proceeds going to the fund.



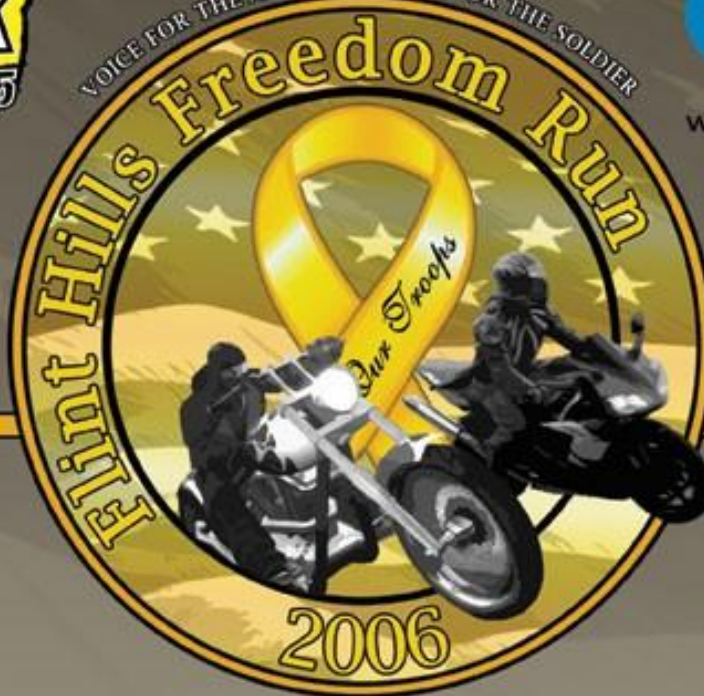
SATURDAY JULY 22ND WAMEGO, KS

BIKE RALLY

BENEFIT FOR THE FORT RILEY AUSA WOUNDED SOLDIERS FUND



VOICE FOR THE ARMY - SUPPORT FOR THE SOLDIER



9am to 10am



KC's Most Wanted Stunt Bike Team

7pm to 11pm



After-Ride Party

8am to 11am



POKER RUN

1ST \$1000
2ND \$700
3RD \$300
Registration \$25
7am to 11am
First Bike Out At Noon

10am to 11am



Former U.S. Army Special Forces Major Mark Nutsch

Biker Breakfast 7am to 10am
Courtesy of Wamego Hospital Foundation

WWW.FLINTHILLSFREEDOMRUN.COM

CHECK OUT THE PREREGISTRATION DISCOUNTS





Wamego Chamber of
Commerce/Mainstreet

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Chamber Calendar of Events

July 22

Flint Hills Freedom Run

August 18, 19 & 20

Ridiculous Days

August 11

Teachers Welcome Back to School Breakfast

August 21

Membership Meeting

Wamego Welcomes New Specialty Food Market

If you are looking for that something special, there is no longer a need to drive to get it. It is right here in Wamego.

Emerald City Market is a specialty food store featuring world class truffles, chocolate bars from 10 countries, fine cheeses from around the world, a wide variety of pastas, at least a dozen olive oils and an assortment of fine foods that range from sea salt to balsamic vinegars sweet enough for ice cream.

Located at 415 Lincoln, the newly renovated space began life in the

Emerald City
MARKET



1870s and by the 1890s was the W.R. Johnson grocery store. Most recently it was 21st Century

Education.

The store is owned by Larry Costlow and Clark Balderson. Larry is the manager after spending the last 10 years as the garden store manager at Blueville Nursery in Manhattan, and the prior 13 years as manager of West Side Market in Manhattan.

Emerald City is a welcomed addition to the eclectic mix of stores, Wamego has on Main Street.