

## "A lifetime of service -- you get paid for it in the heart." Fred Groverman honored as Grand Marshal

etaluma is indeed a Fertile Ground for developing business, raising livestock and growing product . Nothing is more important the fertile ground to raise our children and investing in our youth. When they are given the support to flourish and become the leaders of tomorrow, then that is the most precious gift if all. This year, the Butter & Egg Days Parade honors Fred Groverman as Grand Marshal for his lifetime of service, vision and leadership of the 4-H Foundation and the Petaluma Community Foundation.

Born and raised in Petaluma, Dr. Fred Groverman, "Dr. Fred" as he is known by many, has been a practicing veterinarian for almost 57 years. Fred is a strong 4-H supporter, is director of the Sonoma County 4-H Foundation and has also served as Sonoma County's Fair's veterinarian for more than 30 years, ensuring that the livestock are healthy and safe during their stay at the fair. But his service does not

end there. Along with his Artisan Cheese Festival, all wife Pat, who passed away in 2012, the Petaluma couple spent more than 50 years serving the Sonoma County community, agriculture and farm youth activities. Their contributions have made a true difference in the lives of Sonoma County people and animals.

Fred has also connected with children in the classroom, teaching Veterinary Adventures to fourth, fifth and sixth graders during the summer at Sonoma State University. He leads field trips to his ranch, with the primary goal of teaching the kids about animals.

Fred's family represents five generations of living in this community and he is proud of his children: daughter Karen, who works at the Agricultural Commissioner Office in Sacramento; son James and his family, who owns the successful Petaluma Pumpkin Patch; daughter Judy, who manager of the Luther Burbank Rose Parade and is Executive Director of the California



while managing a successful event company; and son Bill, an appraiser who works with agricultural and commercial properties. Fred knows firsthand the value of 4-H and recognizes the leadership that propelled them to be excellent at what

Fred has judged many sheep shows, hosted sheep health seminars, served as President of the American Shropshire Sheep Association, and has authored many scientific articles for national sheep and veterinary publications. Fred also maintains a flock of Shropshire and Dorset sheep. From 1980 to 1990, Fred was a director of the Sonoma County Fair. He is a longtime member of Sonoma County Farm Bureau and founded Farm Bureau's first Young Farmers & Ranchers group.

A founding member of the Petaluma Community Foundation, Fred's leadership has been dedicated to strengthening our community and changing lives through partnership and collaboration. Fred is the only Honorary member board member and has played an integral role in funding and governing Petaluma Valley Hospital.

Fred's ultimate goal is that his legacy live on though the lives that he's been able to reach. "Teaching a kid something he uses for the rest of his life, that is an impact -then he can do the same. It becomes contagious and infectious."

## **Butter & Egg Days Button** Launch and Fundraiser at Lagunitas

etaluma's most spirted celebration of tradition and community kicks off with a fundraiser on Monday, April 6 at Lagunitas Brewing Company, 1280 North McDowell from 5:30 to 8:30 PM.

Keeping the parade going has become increasingly challenging. The city is unable to provide any financial support to cover the operational costs of putting on the parade. "We are grateful to returning and new sponsors who are keeping our parade alive in this difficult economy," said Marie McCusker, Executive Director of the Petaluma Downtown Association which produces the parade. "We're hoping the community will come out for a great night of entertainment and purchase a commemorative button to support this year's parade."

This is the official launch of our Friends of the Parade 2015 buttons! You can get a button at the event, or if you've already bought yours, make sure to wear it! Button buyers/wearers

the night of the event will be entered for a special surprise!

Dinner will be catered by Lombardi's BBQ, serving Rocky & Rosie Chicken from our sponsors Petaluma Poultry. Live music from Randy & The Special Agents and Blue Moment, trivia, raffle, coloring for kids, beer, wine and FUN! 100% of our proceeds will go to keeping the Butter & Egg Days parade marching!

Tickets are \$20 in advance and can be purchased at Brown Paper Tickets or at the Petaluma Visitor's Center, 210 Lakeville Street. Day of event tickets are \$25 and are first come, first served at the door. Tickets are limited and there is no guarantee there will be any available at the door -- so get yours now! Children's tickets are \$5 in advance or at the door. Ticket admission includes entry, dinner, and a beer, glass of wine or soft drink.

Visit petalumadowntown or call 707.762.9348 for more information. B+E15\_ lagunitas3\_legal-1.jpg

