

**For Immediate Release**

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**CONTACTS:**

Bernie Butcher, Owner – Tallman Hotel and Blue Wing Saloon Restaurant  
9550 Main St., Upper Lake CA, 95485  
707-275-2244 (Hotel)  
707-245-0041 (Cell)  
Email: [bb@tallmanhotel.com](mailto:bb@tallmanhotel.com)

Susan Mesick, Hotel General Manager  
707-275-2244, extension 501  
Email: [manager@tallmanhotel.com](mailto:manager@tallmanhotel.com)

## **NINTH BLUE WING BLUES FESTIVAL SET FOR AUGUST 7, 8 AND 9 IN UPPER LAKE**



Photo by Nathan DeHart

### **Good Food and Music in the Gardens of the Tallman Hotel and Blue Wing Restaurant in Upper Lake**

The Tallman Hotel and Blue Wing Saloon Restaurant in Upper Lake have announced the lineup for their ninth annual Blue Wing Blues Festival August 7 through 9. Details of a follow-up show on Labor Day, September 7 will be announced shortly.

Headliners this year include the Ford Blues Band with Volker Strifler, Harriet Lewis and the Family Band and Rick Estrin and the Nightcats. Blues guitar legend Bernie Pearl from Los Angeles will open each of the shows.

Starting at 6:30 each evening, these top blues musicians will perform on the veranda of the Hotel with the audience gathered in the intimate garden between the Hotel and Restaurant. "It's a nice time of day and a great spot to enjoy world-class music," says owner Bernie Butcher. "With a top quality barbeque dinner thrown in with the price of admission, it's a great value for music lovers."



Mike Berry and Bernie Pearl ([www.berniepearl.com](http://www.berniepearl.com), [berniepearl@hotmail.com](mailto:berniepearl@hotmail.com), 562-426-0761)

Opening each evening of the August dates is LA-based blues guitarist **Bernie Pearl** accompanied by Mike Berry on bass. Bernie is a fixture on the Los Angeles blues scene with his solo performances, his band backing all the big names in the area and as host of a popular all-blues radio station.



Volker Striffler and the Ford Blues Band (Patrick Ford, [www.bluerockit.com](http://www.bluerockit.com), [pkford@pacific.net](mailto:pkford@pacific.net), 707-485-8308)

The **Ford Blues Band** will headline opening night, **Friday August 7**. Led by veteran bluesman Patrick Ford on drums, the band includes Mark Ford on harp and vocals, Dewayne Pate on bass and features German-born Volker Striffler on guitar and vocals.

Volker and his band have won several blues awards, Mark's solo releases on Blue Rock'It Records have been best sellers, and Dewayne is one of the most sought after session men on the West Coast. Together they make for one of the most skillful and intriguing bands on the blues scene today.



Harriet Lewis & the Family Band (Harriet, [songbirdhll@yahoo.com](mailto:songbirdhll@yahoo.com) 530- 933-3150)

Headlining the show on **Saturday, August 8** is the dynamic soul, blues and jazz vocalist **Harriet Lewis** with her "Family Band" including backup vocalists. Originally from Philadelphia of Jamaican Heritage, Harriet began singing in her Baptist church at the age of 12 and has been perfecting her craft ever since.

She has performed as lead or backup vocals on some 13 CDs. Now residing in California, Harriet has travelled widely in Europe, particularly Germany where, in 1995, she won an award as "Best Soul, Blues and Jazz Singer in Europe."



Kid Andersen, Rick Estrin, Lorenzo Farrell and J. Hansen  
([www.rickestrin.com](http://www.rickestrin.com), Rick [rsestrin@yahoo.com](mailto:rsestrin@yahoo.com), Lorenzo [lorenzofarrell@hotmail.com](mailto:lorenzofarrell@hotmail.com),

**Rick Estrin and the Nightcats** top the bill on **Sunday August 9**. Rick Estrin ranks among the very best harmonica players, singers and songwriters in the blues world today. His quick wit and signature look -- coifed hair, pencil-thin mustache and sharp attire - add even more color to his performances.

Backing Rick are virtuoso musicians in their own rights. Kid Andersen is a fiery showman on guitar together with Lorenzo Farrell on bass and keys and J. Hansen on drums.

"I'd like to thank the many excellent local businesses that have helped us to support quality live music here in Lake County," says Bernie Butcher. Full sponsors of the Festival include Bicoastal Media (KNTI and KXXB), Chacewater Wines, Gregory Graham Wines, Lake County Record-Bee, Lincoln-Leavitt Insurance, Mendo-Lake Credit Union, Six Sigma Wines, Steele Wines and Wildhurst Wines.

Also sponsoring this year are Bill & Patti Brunetti, Blues Express Records, Brassfield Wines, Kelseyville Lumber, Lake County Wine Studio, Laujor Wines, Moore Family Wines, R Vineyards, RB Pest Control, Rosa d'Oro Wines, TFI Ltd., UCC Rentals, and Upper Lake Mercantile.

Blue Wing Chef Mark Linback summed up the 2015 Blue Wing Blues Festival this way: "Our staff puts a lot of effort into this festival every year and we look forward to giving our guests a great time and serving them a fabulous barbeque dinner while they enjoy the music."

Tickets are limited to 100 each evening and may be purchased directly at the Tallman Hotel, located on Main St. in Upper Lake, or by calling the Hotel reception desk at **707-275-2244 ext. 0**. Ticket prices are \$50 plus tax if purchased in advance and \$55 at the gate. More information including the barbeque menus for each night can be found at [www.tallmanhotel.com/concerts](http://www.tallmanhotel.com/concerts).

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