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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**May 7, 2025**

**A SUCCESSFUL 9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL KERMAN ALMOND FESTIVAL!**

Saturday's rain couldn't keep people from enjoying the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Kerman Almond Festival on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>! The event kicked off with the Almond Festival 5K Run/Walk. After the race, activities enjoyed by festival goers included the Reptile Ron Animal Presentations, Arts and Crafts vendors, the Kid Zone featuring bounce houses and an obstacle course, Salsa Tasting, and more. This year's festival goers enjoyed entertainment provided by R & L Music Entertainment, Folklorico Dancers, and a crowd-pleasing Car Show.



Festival goers enjoy their delicious finds at the picnic tables with 15 food vendors to choose from.

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**"COMMUNITY COMES FIRST"**

All 5K racers earned an Almond Festival medal to commemorate the day, and 1<sup>st</sup> place racers from each age group went home with Schaad's Family Almonds Trail Mix and a Fruta Fresca Gift Card, Almond Festival Wine Glass, or a City of Kerman mug. This year was the best 5K Run/Walk yet! A total of 75 Racers competed for their best times and the race featured its first ever road closure to encourage even faster times!

5K Race winners: 5k Run: Violet De Anda, Ellie Montalvo, Brenda Leyva, Jessica Gutierrez, Lori Quan, Dominic Montoya, Maximiliano Lopez, Wyatt Barrett, Jeremiah Lediae, Julian Archila. 5k Walk: Ashley Alvarenga, Lorena Rico, Barbara Schaad, Josiah Figueroa, Morris Tolmachoff, and Brad Carpenter. ½ Mile Sprint: Chris Velasquez, and Jenna Velasquez. ¼ Mile Sprint: Camilla Razo-Rico



5K Racers Gearing Up for their Run; Photo Courtesy of City of Kerman Parks and Recreation.

The event also featured the first Salsa Tasting to promote next year's Salsa Competition. Two lucky tasters won a cooking basket with a knife set, cutting boards, measuring cups and spoons, an apron, and more.



Salsa Tasting Raffle Winners: Candice B. (left) and Tino H. (right). Photo Courtesy of City of Kerman Parks and Recreation.

Baking and Photo competitions were also held at the festival. All baked goods needed to highlight the delicious flavor of the almond, while photos featured images of Kerman and its surrounding agricultural landscape.

#### Photo Competition Winners:

Grand Prize: Patricia Roma, "One Town, One Team, One Dream" (Center)

Adult Category: Maiyah Orozco, "Where Agriculture Meets the Horizon" (Right)

Youth Category: Erick Rivera Madrigal, "A Walk Down Memory Lane" (Left)



Photos Courtesy of Participants of the 2025 Photo Competition.

**Baking Competition Winners:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place Overall: Sierra Valley Almonds**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place Cakes: Sierra Valley Almonds**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place Cookies & Bars: Alejandra Torres**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place Breads: Mae Sween**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place Candies & Chocolates: Herlinda Figueroa**



Overall Winner Prize basket from Sierra Valley Almonds. Photo Courtesy of City of Kerman Parks and Recreation.

The Kerman Senior Center hosted the Car Show during the event. 48 vehicles were featured, with a large variety of years, makes, and models. Car enthusiasts were seen throughout the day looking at each vehicle and socializing with one another. Many seniors from the Kerman Senior Center entered their own vehicles as well.



Having some fun during the Car Show! Photo Courtesy of City of Kerman Parks and Recreation.

Car Show Winners: Best Car: Robert Hernandez, 1968 Chevy Camaro SS; Best Truck: Johnny Mendiola, 1953 Ford F-100; Best Motorcycle: Mike Biggs, 2006 Harley Deuce; Participant's Choice: Marc Antonetti, 1972 Chevelle Super Sport



Car Show winners pictured: Robert Hernandez, Johnny Mendiola, Mike Biggs, and Marc Antonetti. Photo Courtesy of City of Kerman Parks and Recreation.

Congratulations to all the 2025 Kerman Almond Festival Contest Winners!

The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Kerman Almond Festival was a great success! We want to extend a thank you to our event sponsors that make it possible to host an event of this caliber. We greatly appreciate their generosity and offer a special thanks to Fresno Grangers Federal Credit Union, Mid Valley Disposal, and Holland Nut Company.

Sheldon the Almond made a visit to the Kerman Almond Festival to see what all the fuss was about! He too thinks “You’d be Nuts to Miss It,” and is already planning to join us at the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Kerman Almond Festival on Saturday, May 2, 2026.



Sheldon the Almond with Parks and Recreation Staff Members. Photo Courtesy of the City of Kerman Parks and Recreation Department.

To learn more about the Kerman Almond Festival, participate in next year’s event, or for any other information about Kerman Parks, Recreation, and Community Services please contact Shannon Barrett at (559) 550-0985 or by email at [sbarrett@cityofkerman.org](mailto:sbarrett@cityofkerman.org).



**See you at the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Kerman Almond Festival on Saturday, May 2,  
2026.**

**“You’d be Nuts to Miss It!”**

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