

Grand Marshal
Mary Lou Toly

We are pleased to honor Mary Lou Wheelwright Toly as our 2010 Summit County Fair Grand Marshall. Mary Lou is a true modern day Pioneer woman who exemplifies this year's fair theme "The Tradition Continues". She was born and raised on Empire Avenue in Park City and has strong ties with family, friends and business acquaintances that she has kept and cherished through the years.

She gets her Pioneer spirit honestly being the Great, Great Grand Daughter of Ephraim Knowlton Hanks who is often referred to as a "Fearless Mormon Scout" who rescued the pioneer hand cart party stranded at Sweetwater, Wyoming.

Mary Lou has owned and operated the Red Banjo Pizza Parlour at 322 Main Street in Park City since 1962. She was a business owner when women didn't own businesses and had to work twice as hard to be successful. Failure was never an option for her and her hard work has paid off. For years her children, Scott, Roxanne and Steven could be found working along-side their mother as she taught them the value of hard work. The tradition of family values continues with her first Granddaughter Tana Toly-Ireland who now handles day-to-day operations at the Red Banjo Pizza Parlour keeping the same family-friendly atmosphere and using business savvy passed down to her from Mary Lou.

Mary Lou has a great love of Summit County and the Summit County Fair. She encourages residents from all over the county to bring their best to the fair and they are then hooked! The tradition continues when they discover the fair and they always pledge to return the next year for more fun at the fair.

Her first memory of the Summit County Fair was the 4H in the late 1940s. Her mother taught 4H sewing classes in Park City. Those items were entered into the Summit County Fair.

Each year Mary Lou volunteers countless hours in the Home Arts building, getting to know the other volunteers and entrants at the fair. She is a supporter of the fair and especially the folks in the Home Arts. She believes that the Summit County Fair is the best! We appreciate and acknowledge her Pioneer spirit and hope that the tradition of Mary Lou Toly at the Summit County Fair continues on and on! It is with all sincerity and gratitude that we thank Mary Lou Toly for all that she has done!

