

Chamber News

Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce

By Ashlee Tondre Bates

Spring is here and that means it's time for our third annual Chamber sponsored Wine Fest, "A Taste of the Vine." This year's event will be held on Friday, April 17 from 7-10 p.m. at the beautiful Hotel Alsace and Spa. Enjoy an evening filled with plenty of wines to sample and tasty hors d'oeuvres catered by the Alsatian Restaurant. And since it has been so popular in the past, this year we will have a full live auction complete with everyone's favorite, Terry Dickerson as our wonderful auctioneer. Maybe we can even convince former Chamber President Tot Albro to wear one of her Mexican dresses. They always seem to get the crowd going! Teri Barrow will be back again with her cigar bar, featuring a variety of cigars and drinks to go with them. The night will also feature live music throughout the evening from some of Castroville's locals. Tickets are just \$40 per person and can be purchased at the Chamber Office, located in the Steinbach House. This year we have added a special hotel package which includes a one night stay for two at the Hotel Alsace and two tickets to the Wine Fest. This package is just \$150 plus tax. Enjoy a night out with friends and don't worry about driving home. Enjoy the wonderful amenities the Hotel and Spa have to offer. We hope to see you all at this year's event.

There's a new event happening in town and it's called the "Fourth Friday Featured Business." Several people in town have come up with this wonderful idea to showcase local businesses in the area each month. Here's how it will work. Every month a different business will be featured. That business will provide snacks and drinks from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on the fourth Friday of the month. By word of mouth (or email) potential customers will be told where to show up. The event committee guarantees a minimum of 50 people who will show up for the event. This is a great way to let more people know about your business by getting them in the door. The owner of the business will be able to show everyone around and explain their business. The Chamber thinks this is a great idea and is excited about sharing this information with everyone in the community. The first featured business will be Castroville Pottery on March 27th. The new flower shop, Fantastic Flowers will be featured on a special day, April 10th, right before Easter. The month of May will feature Commerce Title of Castroville on the 22nd. We look forward to seeing you all at the new Fourth Friday Featured Business event.

Castroville will be a hopping place this weekend. You are sure to find something that will interest you and you won't even have to drive that far. Friday get your sugar fix by stopping at Community National Bank for a bake sale to benefit the Relay for Life. Enjoy dinner at the American Legion Hall for their Scholarship Fundraiser then head on over to Lundquist Automotive to enjoy all the sites and sounds of Friday Night Fever!

Saturday, start your day at Houston Square for the first Market Trail Days of the year. Local and regional crafters will offer their handmade decorations, crafts, plants and food items. That afternoon, enjoy the many flavors of the St. Louis Society Wild Game Dinner, which will be held from 4-7 p.m. at Koenig Park. Tickets are just \$20 each and don't forget your wallet so you can bid on one of the items in the silent auction. And last but not least, end your evening at the Irish Jig which begins at 7pm at the Braden Keller Community Center. This year's event will feature a meal catered by Castroville Café and special music by Gabe Garcia and Touchstone McDonald. Tickets for the Irish Jig are \$50 and they are still in need of Silent Auction items if you'd like to donate. Hope you all have a fun filled weekend!