

Chamber News

Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce

By Ashlee Tondre Bates

The 2010 Chamber Membership Directories are here! Every year, we put together a directory of all current chamber members. We are currently trying to deliver as many as possible. If you happen to be out and about and would like to stop in to pick yours up, you are more than welcome. The Chamber office is located in the Steinbach House directly across from Sammy's and Bill Miller BBQ. If you aren't able to pick yours up, don't worry, we will either deliver it to your office or mail it to you. If you have more than one membership with the chamber, be sure to pick up a directory for each membership.

Speaking of Bill Miller BBQ, I am sure many of you have noticed that they are moving right along with their newest location here in Castroville. I recently spoke with Carol Lagutchik, the project manager, who told me that they are right on schedule and plan for a July opening. The Castroville location will be similar to the store located at Potranco and 1604 and will feature a mural on the entry wall of the Castroville Grist Mill. A local artist from San Antonio is working on the mural and plans to have it depict our area. Starting this week they will also be accepting applications at the Potranco and 1604 store location. That is where the new employees will be doing their training. So if you are interested in working for Bill Miller, head on over and pick up your application today.

The Texas Archeological Society (TAS) has already begun its digs here in Castroville and the Eagle Bluff site. They are working hard to uncover some wonderful artifacts native to this area. This week, they will be hosting two open houses and an artifact ID night. Do you have a shoebox of artifacts in your attic or under your bed? If you do and you have no idea what they are, bring them to the Artifact Identification Night on Thursday, June 17, from 7-9 pm at the Medina County Fairgrounds in Hondo for professional archeologists to identify. And on Friday the 18th, TAS will be hosting an open house from 9am to 11am at both dig sites. Everyone is welcome to come see the archeologists in action. The Castroville site is located behind the Old Alsatian Steakhouse and Ristorante at 1403 Angelo St. The other site is located 18 miles north of Hondo on FM 462 across (southwest) from Cow Camp Massacre Historical Marker.

This Saturday night, the Bluebonnet Children's Center will be hosting a Casino Night, "A Night for the Children." The event will take place from 6:30-10:30pm at Hermann Sons Hall in Hondo, Texas. They will have Blackjack Tables, Crap Tables, Roulette Tables, Texas Holdem Tables, a silent auction, door prizes and a raffle. All proceeds raised will benefit abused and neglected children in Medina, Uvalde and Real Counties. Tickets are \$75 per person or \$125 a couple. Call (830) 426-8848 for more information or to purchase tickets.

We have two new members so far in June and I wanted to tell you a little about both of them. The first is HANK, Inc., a new nonprofit corporation which stands for "Helping Abused and Neglected Kids." HANK was conceived and formed by John & Debbie Southwell of Hondo, Texas. They are both volunteers in the CASA program working with abused children through the Bluebonnet Children's Center. HANK was designed to work very closely with the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) and Bluebonnet Children's Center which includes the tri-county CASA Program in Medina, Uvalde and Real Counties. Their hope is to meet the needs of the over 250 children that are in the care of DFPS each year. With your donations they can provide that help.

Our other new member this month is Simply Rose, located at 413 Lafayette, Suite 2, in Castroville. Owners Rose and Johnny Dominquez recently opened Simply Rose, a gift shop with unique items. They also offer Holistic Healing which means taking an holistic approach when seeking treatment for imbalances and choosing to live a more balanced lifestyle. Physical health is not necessarily the main focus. Stop by today and check out what all they have to offer. Have a great weekend everyone.