

Chamber News

Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce

By Ashlee Tondre Bates

Even though the sky looked gloomy and we had a few showers here and there, the Independence Day Parade had a great attendance and the floats were a plenty! With approximately 60 entrants in this year's parade, co-chairwomen Bonni Keller and Priscilla Garrett were very happy with the turnout, considering the threatening weather. They had 22 floats total this year, which is more floats than they have ever had in the 10 year history of the parade. All entrants were colorfully decorated in this year's theme "God Bless America" and everyone felt that God truly blessed us by keeping the rain away. Following the parade, the Chamber had tables set up where they were handing out water, watermelon and BBQ sandwiches, all donated by local businesses. The Chamber would like to thank everyone who donated items to hand out. Castroville State Bank, Community National Bank and State Farm-Hazel Russell all donated water. Gary Carter of Castroville Café donated the watermelons which were deliciously sweet! Sammy's Restaurant and Haby's Alsatian Bakery donated the BBQ sandwiches. The Chamber also handed out small American flags for all to wave during the parade.

Each year this city sponsored parade is held thanks to some of the gracious businesses of Castroville. Bonni Keller explained that if it weren't for these businesses they would not be able to hold the event or give out the ribbons and trophies for the winners. The Parade co-chairwomen would like to send a huge thank you to each of these businesses which include: Albros Casa y Garden, Broadway Bank, Dr. William Burges, the Castro Garden Club, the Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce, the Castroville Conservation Society, Royce Groff Oil Company, H & R Block, Hardt Realty, Old Alsatian Steakhouse, Super S Pharmacy, Tondre-Guinn Funeral Home, Valley Marts, Inc. and Wommack Chevrolet. It was an outstanding parade and everyone really enjoyed themselves. To check out pictures from the event, please visit the photo gallery on the Chamber website at www.castroville.com. There was also a local photographer there snapping a few photos. A link to his photos can also be found on the 4th of July page of our photo gallery.

For all you parents out there, I am sure there are times when you just need a break! We all love our kids but sometimes it's nice to get away and enjoy some quiet time together. Well, Zion Lutheran Church is proud to announce that they will be holding a Parent's Night Out on Saturday, July 24 from 5pm to 10pm. Babysitters will be on hand to keep your children entertained with fun, food, games and crafts. So if you are looking for a night away, call today and make your reservation, space is limited. Call Irene Robbins at (210) 842-2246 for more information and to make your reservation.

The Rotary Club of Medina Valley-Castroville will be partnering once again with Broadway Bank for their annual "Stuff the Bus" program which collects school supplies for students attending Medina Valley Schools. The program will be going on throughout July. You can drop off your school supplies at these locations: Broadway Bank, Mission Title, Jason Hunt DDS PA, Old Alsatian Steakhouse, Mary Gray Event Center, Castroville Anvil, Zion Evangelical Church, Castroville Chamber of Commerce, Edward Jones and Station Creek Windows & Doors. If you are interested in joining the Rotary Club, stop by one of their meetings and find out what it's all about. They meet every Wednesday at 11:45 at the Old Alsatian Steakhouse.

Start your weekend off this Thursday night at Cora's for some live music and nachos! Have you checked out their new salad bar? On Friday night, Friday Night Fever is back again and will start at 6pm out at Wommack Chevrolet. Enjoy cars, trucks, food and more! Saturday be sure to get your fresh fruits and veggies at the Farmer's Market in front of Alsace Hair, Nails and Tanning on Hwy 90. Then head over to Houston Square for Market Trail Days. Vendors will be set up selling all types of items. The Shooting Star Museum will show a free movie Sunday night and have free popcorn. Hope everyone is rested after a long 4th of July weekend! Have a great one!