

Chamber News

Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce

By Ashlee Tondre Bates

This past Monday night, August 9th, the Chamber met with the Zoning and Adjustments Board to go over the parking variance we submitted for the new Chamber Building. We are happy to say that the Board approved our parking variance and our final plans have now been submitted to City Administrator Paul Hofmann. We are told we now have everything we need to receive our permit. We hope to hear from Mr. Hofmann later this week. Because the new building will have a meeting room which can seat approximately 100+ people, the current parking on the property is not enough, according to the city's engineer. Due to several underground utilities including a high power gas line, sewer lines and a large drainage system, there is no other possible place on the city property to incorporate more parking. Because of this, the city asked us to submit a parking variance to use the city owned lot adjacent to where the new building will be, directly behind Sammy's Restaurant, as overflow parking. The Board felt this was the only possible resolution to our problem and therefore approved the variance. We will keep you posted when we receive our building permit and will be going out for bids.

School is about to start and that means that the students enrolled in the Medina Valley Career Preparation Program are looking for jobs. Do you have a business and need someone to help out around the office, farm, ranch, automotive shop or other place of business? If so, then you may want to look to the Career Prep Program. This program allows students to work within the community for class credits while gaining marketable employment skills and valuable experience. The program incorporates work place training and classroom instruction. Students are available to work mornings, afternoons or evenings and most are released from class by 12 noon. It is the goal of the program to place students in a trade or industry in which they can receive training, become skilled in an occupation and learn about potential career opportunities. If you are interested in hiring a student in this program, please contact Judy Weiblen at (210) 414-2542.

The Moyer Retreat Center would like you to mark your calendars now to attend their fundraiser, "A Night Under the Stars" on Saturday, September 18 at Josabi's in Helotes, Texas. The event is being co-sponsored by the Sisters of Divine Providence and monies raised will help protect and preserve the Moyer Retreat Center for the future. The evening will run from 6pm to midnight and tickets are \$40 each. The night includes a fajita dinner, music, dancing, raffle and door prizes. For more information contact Linda Follis, Director of Moyer Retreat Center at (830) 931-2233.

Are you a mother of an Aggie student? If so, then the Medina County Aggie Mom's Club would like to invite you to their "Howdy Party" this coming Monday, August 16th at 7pm at the Alsatian Golf Course clubhouse. This is a kick-off event for all new and old members of the Aggie Mom's Club. Come out and enjoy an evening where you can meet up with other Aggie Mom's and find out how you can get involved in their yearly events.

This weekend holds several things to do here in Castroville starting with a Wine Tasting at the Old Alsatian Steakhouse on Thursday evening. Enjoy some selected imported wines paired with delicious entrees in a Euro-Mexican theme. You must have a reservation so call today at (830) 931-9191. Also Thursday night is live music at Cora's starting at 6pm.

Friday afternoon, the Chamber will be hosting our 4th Annual New Teacher Luncheon at Medina Valley Middle School Cafeteria. We will welcome new teachers to Castroville with a lunch catered by the Alsatian Restaurant, goody bags with items from local businesses and a free membership to the Chamber for the remainder of the year.

Friday evening head on out to Wommack Chevrolet for Friday Night Fever. This free event is filled with cars, trucks, motorcycles, shopping and live music. Saturday morning be sure to head over to Houston Square for Market Trial Days. There will be plenty of artisans there selling their handmade items. Hope you all have a great weekend and good luck trying to beat the heat!