

Chamber News

Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce

By Ashlee Tondre Bates

The Chamber is now accepting applications from anyone interested for this year's Old Fashion Christmas which will be held Friday and Saturday, December 3rd and 4th. This is the first year we have expanded the event to include Friday evening and we are excited about the new addition. Besides having booths on Houston Square on Friday night, we will also have a walking parade which will start at September Square and head down Fiorella to Paris and then on to Houston Square. We will end in the square with a lighting ceremony. Vendors will be set up along Houston Square Friday night from 6-10pm as well as Saturday from 9am to 4pm. Friday night is optional for vendors, but we will have quite a few set up so be sure to head out there and check out all they have to offer including handmade crafts, wood work, jewelry, quilts, crosses and of course plenty of delicious food. If you are interested in being a vendor for this year's event, please contact the chamber at (830) 538-3142 or ashlee@castroville.com to have an application packet mailed or emailed to you. You can also download one from our website at www.castroville.com starting September 1st. We hope to make this year's event bigger and better!

It's official! The Friends of the Castroville Regional Park (FCRP) will be building a brand new outdoor amphitheater in Regional Park and the fundraising has officially begun. On Saturday, October 16, they will host a Reverse Raffle at the Braden Keller Community Center to raise funds for the new theater. Tickets are now on sale for this event which will feature dining, drinks, a silent auction and a grand prize of \$10,000!! Tickets are \$100 per couple. Ticket registration will begin that night at 4pm with dinner at 6pm followed by the drawing which starts at 7pm. All proceeds will go directly to the Friends Amphitheater Fund to build the public amphitheater in Regional Park. The silent auction will feature original works of art by local artists. FCRP is a non-profit organization so all donations are tax deductible. Only 250 tickets will be sold so be sure to get yours today at the Chamber Office or contact Teri Barrow at (210) 382-8302 or Helen Delevan at (830) 931-2157. Ticket holders must be present to win the grand prize and second place prize of \$1,000.

This Friday, Deborah Jones, Phyllis Santleben and Deborah Ammoniacci, the new owners of Antiques and More, invite you to check out what they have done with the shop at their grand opening and ribbon cutting from 5pm to 6:30pm at 410 Paris Street. They will have a champagne toast to celebrate the occasion as well as appetizers and a raffle prize drawing. Everyone is invited to come and the Red Vest Committee will be on hand to help them cut the ribbon. Hope to see you all there.

Also this Friday, be sure to head over to the American Legion Hall for their Scholarship Dinner from 5-7pm. Plates are just \$6 each. After you've enjoyed your meal, walk just a few steps down the street and have a blast at Fiorella Friday. Most of the businesses along Fiorella and Paris will be open late for you to do some shopping, enjoy some wine, listen to live music and so much more. It's a great time to visit with friends and check out what the local shops have to offer.

Saturday starts bright and early with a Regional Park Work Session from 6:30am to 9:30am. This is likely to be their last work session until late Fall, so they have a lot to accomplish. Volunteers should bring limb loppers, work gloves and a gas weed-eater if you have one. All volunteers must "sign in" at the pool office. Also happening at the Regional Park this Saturday is the 7th Annual Volksmarch which starts at 8am. This 10K/5K run or walk is free to anyone who wants to come out and enjoy a wonderful stroll or run through Castroville. To receive IVV Credit, it is just \$3 per person. Everyone participating must register and carry a Start Card. For more information, check out the brochure online at www.castroville.com. Parents don't forget to check out the newly opened Sunny Day Farms Animal Sanctuary where you and your kids can meet and greet rescued farm animals and have a fun filled day. The farm is open to the public every Saturday from 9am to 5pm and it's just a \$5 donation to get in. Have a great weekend everyone and try to stay cool!