

## Chamber News

### Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce

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By Ashlee Tondre Bates

It's time for this week's interesting visitors. On Monday we had a couple of ladies come in who were so excited to be here because they had been recently researching their family and realized their ancestors were from Alsace. One of the women had been to Castroville several times and brought her sister along this time. Their family is originally from South Carolina where her ancestors settled after traveling from Alsace. They just loved all the neat antique items the Steinbach House holds. They said they ate lunch at the Alsatian Restaurant and had a wonderful Alsatian meal. They also did some shopping and were planning on coming back on Friday for Fiorella Friday. One sister said she had already bought several pieces of pottery from Castroville Pottery and couldn't wait to come back to spend her birthday money. We just love meeting all these visitors!

This Friday we'd love for you all to join us for the Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting of Cataplana – a Unique Kitchen Store. The store, located at 810 Hwy 90 E, is like a mini Williams Sonoma. Owner, Cecilia Fetty offers customers an extensive line of high end kitchen products. Some of these products include canisters, pots and pans, small kitchen appliances, cutting boards, glassware, cookware, food items, plus every gadget you can think of. The pots and pans are by Mauviel and her main line of cookware is Emile Henry, a flame ceramic which cooks like cast iron but can go in the microwave or straight onto the BBQ pit. She even carries a line of ceramic dishes called Dignity which are specifically designed for the disabled and those with Alzheimer's. I was really excited when I walked into her store because I just love kitchen gadgets. I can't wait to go back to shop. Cecilia has an extensive background in the culinary art and offers free cooking classes on the first Thursday of the month at Amazing Grace Lutheran Church. She plans to offer cooking classes at the store as well as tea parties for little girls and an after hours recipe club. You can check out her new store Monday-Thursday from 10am to 6pm, Friday from 10am to 8pm and Saturday from 9am to 6pm. Cecilia also said that if you ever have a cooking emergency or really need her to open the store for you, please call her at (210) 323-8891 and she will be there to help. So please join us at 5pm on Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup> and check out the newest store in town.

Hidden Treasures is having a Summer Sale! Select items in the store are on sale including 20% off select Native American and Silver jewelry. Each week they will feature new sale items. They are also planning on having a special event in October with more details to follow. Hidden Treasures is located at 415 Madrid, across from the Mary Gray Event Center and right off Houston Square. For more details on the sale please call (830) 538-3969.

This weekend don't forget about Fiorella Friday starting at 6pm. All sponsoring businesses will be open including Albros Casa y Garden, Castroville Café, The Station, Chateau Lafayette, Bippert's Bottle Shop, and Castroville Pottery. Enjoy some good wine, good company, and great music. Live music begins at 7pm. As always, Saturday brings the Farmers Market in front of Alsace Hair Nails and Tan beginning at 9am. Get there early to get the best items! Hope you all have a safe Labor Day weekend!