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St. Louis Day Celebration Features New Biergarten

It's been 129 years since a small gathering of St. Louis parish families gathered in Biediger's river bottom to celebrate the feast of St. Louis IX of France. And this the annual St. Louis Day Celebration was born.

This year's event, which be held on Sunday, August 21st, will feature the new St. Louis Day Biergarten with plenty of live music, beer, wine, food and more.

The Biergarten, which is an open air area that is common in Germany, will feature music throughout the day including Davey Suehs & Gang, The Lonestar Statesmen, Fiddler's Ensemble, San Antonio Community Oompah Band, Castroville locals Lonny & Cody Ahr and Keith Lutz and Sid Fly.

Start the day off with a 9am Mass in the 141 year old St. Louis Catholic Church where Archbishop Gustav Garcia-Siller will preside and the Liederkrantz Choir will sing.

Then head on over to the pecan tree shaded Koenig Park and enjoy a delicious

BBQ meal which is the highlight of the day. Tons of fresh Alsatian sausage will be prepared by skilled hands and cooked to perfection early Sunday morning. The beef brisket is smoked over a hearty supply of mesquite coals. To top off the meal, homemade potato salad, coleslaw and beans are added to the plate along with a slice of Alsatian bread and some cold iced tea. And don't forget the homemade cake for dessert. Over 500 volunteers will be working round the clock to make sure everyone gets served quickly.

The live entertainment on two outdoors stages begins at 11:30am and runs until 7pm. Along with the Biergarten entertainment, there will be several featured on the shaded outdoor stage including tumblers, Fire on the Mountain Cloggers, Flemish Folk Dancers, The Nathan Mathis Band and the featured band: Buster Jiggs.

And for all your family fun, there are plenty of activities for everyone to enjoy. Children can enjoy kiddie rides

and games for all ages. The ever popular St. Louis Downs "Horse Racing" will be back as well as the annual Horseshoe and washer pitch tournaments. Bingo is always fun and live mariachis will play throughout the day.

Don't miss the Silent Auction located in the air conditioned hall of Koenig Park. The auction will feature antiques, crafts and beautiful handmade items.

Numerous food and drink booths will be available offering everything from snow cones and ice cream to BBQ on a bun and soft drinks.

The Big event of the day is the giant raffle and quilt drawings that take place at the end of the day. Beautiful hand-stitch quilts will be auctioned off as well as numerous merchandise prizes and gift certificates.

The event is always free to the public and free A/C bus rides will be given from St. Louis Church to Koenig Park. Hope to see you all out there!

Special points of interest:

- Chamber Luncheon—Tuesday, August 2, 2011, 12 noon at Sammy's Restaurant.
- Purchase an ad in the Newsletter, just \$20 per month.
- Congratulations to those celebrating a major milestone anniversary this month:
AAA Storage—5 yrs
Alsace Hair Nails & Tanning-5 yrs
Heidi White Jewelry - 5 yrs
Security Service - 45 years

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Chamber to hold 8th Annual Volksmarch in September



For the eighth year, the Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual Volksmarch on Saturday, September 3, 2011. This event is co-sponsored by the American Volkspport Association.

The noncompetitive walk, jog or run 10km/6km will start at the Castroville Regional Park and weave its way through historic Castroville. Start time is from 8am to 11:30am and the event will end by 2:30pm.

Everyone is welcome to join in on this walk/run. The

cost is just \$3 per person and first time walkers are complimentary. The route may be walked twice to receive 20km distance credit.

The route is considered easy and is on city sidewalks and low traveled city streets. A major highway will be crossed at a crosswalk. The route also crosses the Medina River. The historic cemeteries will also be a part of this year's route. The trail is also suitable for strollers but may be difficult for wheelchairs due to a couple of hills.

Back this year is the addition of a walking trail through beautiful Regional Park. Everyone really enjoyed this scenic walk last year so we decided it needed to come back. Several other points of interest along the route include historic homes, the Medina River, the Steinbach House and more. Stop at one of the wonderful restaurants or shops along the way.

So be sure to head on over to the Regional Park on September 3rd and participate in this year's Volksmarch!

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New Chamber Building Receiving a Facelift

It's been a long time coming but the Chamber will soon be located in a new home.

In April of this year the Chamber purchased an historic home from Faustina Sharp and we have been working to get the house office ready.

Crews from J.H. Storey Construction have been getting the home ready for our offices with a beautiful new paint job on the outside. Paint is currently taking place inside as well and should be finished by the time you read this.

A&L Floors will be coming in to lay new wood floors in the kitchen and back two rooms.

The front rooms, which will house our staff office space and visitor information will have the carpet removed and the concrete stained.

Small plumbing repairs are being done by Bofessional Plumbing and are courtesy of Wommack Chevrolet.

Wood carports were removed on the east side of the lot and the space will be used for future parking.

Boehle's Sign is working on a sign for the new building which will be located on Highway 90.

Once all these repairs are completed, it's just a matter of moving us in and getting the office set-up with phones and internet.

We are very excited that we will soon have a new home and the much needed extra room and storage space.

We can't wait for everyone to see what has been done so look for more information to come on a mixer at the new building once we get settled!

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AN AD IN OUR
NEWSLETTER**

Newsletter Information

Editor: Ashlee Tondre Bates

Asst. Editor: Pat Davila

New Members since July 1, 2011

Son'Shine Coffee House, Lorrie Tidwell

La Isla, Vincent Torres

August Calendar of Events

Here's what's happening in Castroville in August. All details can be found on the calendar of events at www.castroville.com. If you have an event to add, please email all the information to the web mistress at ashlee@castroville.com.

Monday & Thursday: Free Computer Class at the Library, courtesy of American Legion

Every Wed: Hondo Lions Club, 12 noon, Hondo Community Center

Every Thursday: Live Music at Cora's, 6 - 9pm

Every Saturday: Family Day at Sunny Day Farms, 9am to 5pm

Every Saturday: Farmer's Market at Alsace Hair, Nails and Tan, 9am to 3pm

01: Chamber Board of Directors Meeting, 12 noon, Hotel Alsace & Spa

02: **Chamber Luncheon, 12 noon, Sammy's Restaurant. All Members invited!**

02: **3rd Annual National Night Out, 5-9pm, Castroville Regional Park**

05: American Legion Scholarship Dinner, 5-7pm, American Legion Hall

06: **Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting for Son'Shine Coffee House, 10am, 1829 Hwy 90 W**

08-12: Blast Off With Piano Course, for children ages 6-10, Stephanie Melton (210) 473-5364

10: **Monthly After Hours Mixer at Medical Clinic of Castroville, 5pm, 1028 Country Lane**

10: Adult Social, 12 noon to 3pm, MV Methodist Church, cards, games and fellowship

10: Rotary Club Meeting, 11:45, Old Alsatian Steakhouse

10: Breast Cancer Support Group, 6pm, United Methodist Church in Hondo

10: Medina Valley VFW Post 8134 Meeting, 8pm, 11012 Castro Ave, La Coste

11: **Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting for La Isla, 11am, 901 Hwy 90, 830-538-9266**

12: Friday Night Fever, 6-10pm, Wommack Chevrolet, evening of cars, trucks, bikes, food, music and shopping, (830) 931-2479

13: Market Trail Days, 9am-4pm, Houston Square, (830) 741-2313

14: Movies at Shooting Star Museum, 6pm, FREE!! (210) 386-6038

18: Senior Citizens Luncheon, 1pm, Medina Valley VFW Hall in La Coste

20: Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group, 10:30am, Castroville Public Library

20: Archeology Fair, 9am to 3pm, Landmark Inn State Historic Site, (830) 931-2133

19-21: Castroville Pottery Workshop, Daily, 1215 Fiorella Street, (830) 538-9705

21: **129th Annual St. Louis Day Celebration, 9am Mass at St. Louis Catholic Church, 11am meal and fun at Koenig Park**

21: Castroville VFD "Fill the Boot," street intersections in Castroville

24: Adult Social, 12 noon to 3pm, MV Methodist Church, cards, games and fellowship

30: Rotary Club Bingo at MV Rehab Center, 7pm-8pm, everyone welcome!

**SEE YOUR AD
HERE**

129th Annual St. Louis Day Celebration

Medina Healthcare System Hosts After Hours Mixer

The Medina Healthcare System and Methodist Healthcare will team up to host this month's Chamber After Hours Mixer on Wednesday, August 10, 2011.

The Mixer will be held at the Medical Clinic of Castroville, which is located at 1028 Country Lane. The evening will begin at 5pm and feature appetizers, refreshing drinks and a quick cooking demo featuring cool summer treats prepared by Registered Dietitian Amanda Rothe.

During the mixer they welcome everyone to meet and greet their new CEO at Medina Regional Hospital, Janice Simmons.

Medina Regional Hospital has been providing care to Medina County since 1964 when a group of community leaders saw the need for a new hospital facility. Additions in 1983, 1986 and 1989 increased service in the outpatient and emergency services departments.

In February of 2009, the hospital completed it's latest renovation of 30,000 square feet and an addition of 35,000 square feet to the hospital.

In April of 2011, the hospital went into a management agreement with Methodist Healthcare of San Antonio.

We hope you will all plan to attend the Chamber's Monthly After Hours Mixer and get to know the new CEO and some of the staff of the Medina Healthcare System.



Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce

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Business of the Month: Landmark Inn State Historic Site and B&B

Often times we forget about a precious gem that is right in our own backyard. If you haven't ever visited the historic Landmark Inn, then you must. It is not only rich in history but has been said to be one of the most beautiful sites in Castroville.

Settled on 5 acres on the Medina River, the Landmark Inn was built in around 1849 by Cesar Monard and was first used as his residence and store for those traveling the San Antonio-El Paso Road.

It was purchased in 1853 by John Vance who felt the travelers not only needed a store, but a place to stay as well. He quickly added a second floor with bedrooms and a family residence between the main structure and the river.

The structure became known as the Vance Hotel and also

held a post office which Vance ran himself. In 1854 Vance sold a portion of the land on the Medina River to George L. Haass and Laurent Quintle who built a grist powered by the water from the river as well as a steam engine.

The mill processed corn and wheat until it was purchased by Joseph Courand in 1876 and was expanded to also mill cotton and lumber. In 1925 the entire complex was purchased by Jordan T Lawler who converted the mill to provide Castroville's first electricity around 1927.

Lawler, along with his sister Ruth, restored the main building and named it Landmark Inn. They operated the complex until 1974 when it was gifted to the State of Texas. It received renovations and was reopened in 1981.

The original building, as well as

the grist mill, all still stand on this beautiful property now run by the Texas Historical Commission.

The Landmark is open daily from 8am to 5pm and they offer guided and self-guided tours, exhibits, fishing, swimming and picnicking. And the view of the Medina River and dam are just breathtaking!

Eight beautifully decorated rooms offer visitors a step back in time with their 19th century furniture and 1940s lighting fixtures. Televisions and phones won't be found in these rooms so you can really get away from it all.

A continental breakfast is served to all overnight guests and bicycles are available for a tour around Castroville.

They also offer several beautiful outdoor and indoor settings for your next event whether it be a

wedding, family reunion or corporate meeting.

It's amazing that all this history and beauty exists right here in Castroville. Although we have many beautiful locations in Castroville, if you haven't visited the Landmark Inn then you are truly missing out. Stop by and let them give you a little history lesson or enjoy a quiet evening in one of their beautiful rooms.

**402 Florence Street
(830) 931-2133
www.visitlandmarkinn.com**

