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Old Fashion Christmas Just Around the Corner

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Mark your calendars now for the 26th Annual Old Fashion Christmas which will take place on Saturday, December 5, 2009. This event, which is hosted by the Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce, is one of the largest arts and craft fairs of its kind in the Medina County Area.

Last year's event was such a huge success that we had to add an additional 50 spots. Many of those same vendors are back again this year as well as a lot of new faces. That brings our grand total to just over 250 vendors for you to check out!

Never been to Old Fashion Christmas? Then you have to head down to Houston Square this year. There is always something for everyone with items such as handmade Christmas décor, handmade and commercial jewelry, handcrafted wood

items, quilts and blankets, artwork, yard art, handmade soaps and candles, handbags and accessories, barbwire items, pottery and much more.

And make sure to come hungry and enjoy one of the many delicious food items that will be on sale. This year features brisket sandwiches, pizza, gorditas, fresh tamales, shrimp kabobs, kettle corn, funnel cakes, burgers and many more mouth watering items for you to feast on.

And who could have a craft fair without some great entertainment! Enjoy the sounds of choirs, Scottish Bagpipes, and musical groups. There will also be a classic car display and a tumbling group. And kids can ride the Jolly Trolley. Then don't miss Santa Claus who arrives at 1pm to take pictures with anyone in attendance.

Don't forget to visit the Chamber booth to pick up your commemorative Old Fashion Christmas shopping bag. We will also have several other items on sale including a new Castroville mug, Castroville t-shirts and Castroville caps. The Steinbach Committee will also be selling their Steinbach House ornament and the Garden Club will have their blanket for sale. The Chamber booth will be located on the corner of Houston Square across from Dan's Meat Market and Castroville State Bank.

So get your shopping done early and invite everyone you know to this year's Old Fashion Christmas on Saturday, December 5, 2009. Come to eat, drink, shop and have a great time in historic Castroville.

Special points of interest:

- Chamber Luncheon— November 3, 2009, 12 noon at Sammy's Restaurant.
- Don't miss the City Wide Yard Sale this Saturday, November 7th!
- Congratulations to Royce Groff Oil Company who this month celebrate 40 Years of Service in the Castroville Community!
- Want to put something in the Newsletter? Email us and let us know: chamber@castroville.com



Chamber Banquet to be Held on January 21st



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It's only a few short months away till the Chamber's Annual Banquet and we are getting geared up already.

This year's banquet will be held on January 21, 2010 at the Grande Hall at the Hofmann Ranch. So mark your calendars now because we will begin selling tickets in mid December. Tickets will be \$30 per person.

The night will begin with a getting acquainted mixer complete with appetizers and drinks. The dinner and program will follow the mixer featuring an awards ceremony. This year we have added a new award for "Business of the Year." More details to come soon on that.

It is with great pleasure, that this year we will again recognize the Citizen of the Year for 2009. Applications are now available at the chamber office. So put your thinking caps on and decide who you would like to nominate and stop by the office to pick up an application.

We will also again recognize the outstanding high school senior boy and girl from the Castroville Area. If you know a senior boy or girl that is active in the community, please pick up an application at the Chamber office or have them stop by. Each student must write an essay on what their community means to them.

Don't miss this year's raffle filled with plenty of prizes and gift certificates from local shops and businesses. If you or your business would like to donate a raffle prize, please contact the Chamber office. Each admission ticket will include 1 raffle ticket and extra raffle tickets can be purchased for \$5 each.

We would love to see you all at this great event to honor some of Castroville's finest. The banquet is open to all individuals, but seating is limited so make sure to watch for ticket information in mid December. We will be sending out letters and emails with a reservation form. Hope to see you all there.

Members Luncheon Date to Change Slightly

The Chamber Board of Directors recently met and decided to move their monthly meetings back to the first Monday of the month, which was the way it was for many years. This change will take place in December.

This past year the directors meeting was changed to the last Tuesday of the month, however, it was difficult to have accurate office reports because we were meeting before the end of the month. Going back to the old way will be better for the officers and the office staff.

Because of this change, we

will be moving the Members Luncheon back to the first Tuesday of the month, following the first Monday, beginning in December.

This is not a huge change, but we like the Members Luncheon to be after the Directors Meeting so we can inform the members of what is going on at the Chamber as well as throughout the community.

The meeting location will still be the same, Sammy's Restaurant, and the time will still be 12 noon.

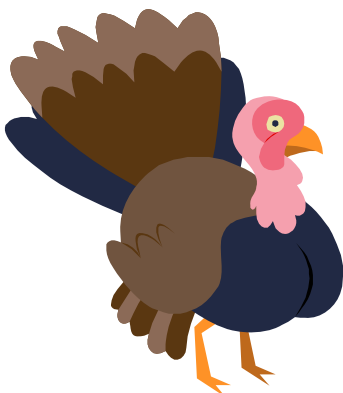
If you are a member of the

chamber and have never attended at Member's Luncheon, you definitely need to check it out. The meeting is held each month to let the members know what the chamber is up to and what things we have in store for them. We also have a speaker lined up each month to talk on a different subject.

So we hope to see you at the next Members Luncheon. This month will still be held on November 3rd and December's luncheon will be held on the December 8th.



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Newsletter Information

Editor: Ashlee Tondre Bates

Asst. Editors: Pat Davila

New Member since October 1, 2009

Hendrick Painting, Daniel Hendrick
Station Creek Windows and Doors, Chad & Nicole Martin

November Calendar of Events

Here's what's happening in Castroville in November. 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.



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

Every Monday: Free Computer class at the Castroville Public Library, 10am-12 & 1-2pm

Every Wed: Rotary Club of Medina Valley, 11:45am, Old Alsatian Steakhouse

- 01: Bird Walk, Castroville Regional Park, 8am
- 03: **Chamber Luncheon, 12 noon, Sammy's Restaurant. All Members invited!**
- 06: Fiorella Friday, live music, artisans, wine tasting and much more, 6-9pm.
- 06: First Friday Happy Hour, Dan's Meat Market, 7-12 midnight
- 07: City Wide Yard Sale, 8am-4pm, 830-931-2525
- 08: Movies at Shooting Star Museum, 6pm. FREE!! (830) 931-3837
- 09: Grief Rite Book Study, Stephanie's on the Plaza Salon, 6:30pm, (210) 845-8049
- 09: Chamber Director's Meeting, Hotel Alsace, Alsatian Restaurant, 12 noon
- 11: WOW Social, MV Methodist Church, 12 noon to 3pm, cards, games and fellowship
- 11: Memorial Day Services, September Square, 11am
- 13: Friday Night Fever, Lundquist Automotive, 6-10pm, evening of cars, trucks, bikes, food, music and shopping, (830) 931-2479
- 14: Market Trail Days, Houston Square, 9am-4pm, (830) 538-2316 or (830) 426-9196
- 14: Wild Game Dinner in God's Country, 5:30pm, Medina County Fair Grounds
- 14: Regional Park Work Session, 8am, Regional Park
- 21: Christmas in God's Country, 10am, Along 18th Street in Hondo
- 21: Mowing Service Essentials/Winterization Clinic, Tractor City, 9am, (830) 538-3451.
- 23: Grief Rite Book Study, Stephanie's on the Plaza Salon, 6:30pm, (210) 845- 8049
- 25: WOW Social, MV Methodist Church, 12 noon to 3pm, cards, games and fellowship
- 26: HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!

SALLIE L. HARBORTH

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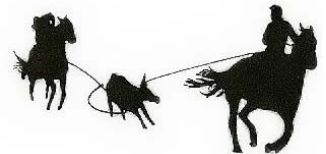
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Park-n-Ride Relocated, Chamber gets more Parking

.TXDot has officially move the Castroville Park-n-Ride to the East side of Castroville. The new area, located near Hwy 90 E and 471 S, is in the median in front of Alamo Area Vet Clinic.

With the relocation of the Park-n-Ride, the Chamber will now have more space for visitors and those coming to the office. The space will soon be signed over by TXDot and become a part of

city property again.

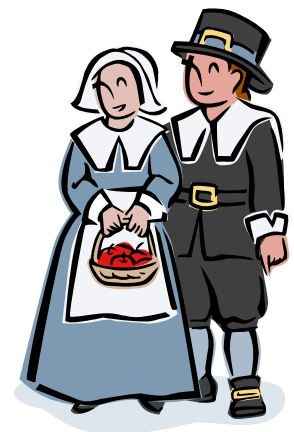
TXDot has put up a temporary sign letting those currently parking in the old Park-n-Ride know where the new location is. They will also be placing notices on the cars so that people can begin parking in the new location.

We are very excited here at the Chamber to have our own place to park. Some days it was so packed that we had to park across the street.

Visitors coming to get information on the town sometimes had no where to park. This will alleviate many of our parking issues.

With the addition of the new Chamber building, this new parking will allow for event parking and tours coming through.

So if you currently park at the Park-n-Ride or know someone who does, be sure to let them know of the new location.



Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce

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Business of the Month - JT Advertising & Graphics

Here at the chamber, there is always something needing to be designed, printed or copied and we try to use our members for those needs. One such business we rely on heavily is JT Advertising and Graphics, owned and operated by Joan Boehme Tinar.

Joan started JT Advertising back in 1991 when she decided it was time for her to stop working for someone else and start working for herself. Since that time her business has grown more than she could have expected.

Joan specializes in design, editing, all types of printing including four color, advertising, stamps, business cards and stationary, business forms, brochures, flyers, invitations including wedding and graduation, caps, t-shirts and so much more. If

you can put a logo on it, she can probably do it for you.

Currently, Joan is working hard to re-design the Castroville Visitor Guide working alongside Ashlee Bates in the chamber office. Joan has spent many tireless hours coming up with new ideas and making sure it is going to be a product that we at the Chamber can be proud of.

Joan is a Castroville native who lives on the Thomas Boehme farm where she grew up. She and her husband, Mark, have three sons, Paiten, Landen and Tristen. Although much of Joan's time is spent working, she does enjoy getting out and frequenting her son's athletic games.

Something you may not know about Joan is she has a degree in Journalism from Southwest Texas State University so designing and advertising come

very easily for her. She has the ability to create something for you that is appealing to your clients and can help market your business. We have yet to find a task she cannot handle when it comes to our needs at the Chamber.

She hasn't just helped us out with our printing and designing needs; Joan also served as Chamber President for two years from 2002 to 2004. She was very active in the Chamber while she was a director and still is today.

So whether you are in need of a printer or designer/typesetter or looking for promotional products, call on Joan Tinar with JT Advertising & Graphics. She is sure to have what you need.

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