
ADVOCATE ALLEY

Volume 2, Issue 8

August 2008

“We worry about what children will become tomorrow, yet we forget that they are someone today.”- Stacia Tauscher

CASA Corner

Greetings Advocates and happy August!

Summer is all too quickly coming to a close, so we've included some event ideas for you and your CASA child to enjoy a bit more summer sun!

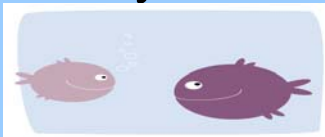
You can expect to see Continuing Ed offerings to be scheduled more in advance than previously. We hope this will enable you to fit some of these classes into your already busy schedules. Please save the date for a drug training from the NARC unit of the Salinas Police Dept. on November 12 at 6pm. Also, on the last page of the newsletter, we've included a brief survey so we can best meet your needs. If you could take the time to complete and resubmit it to us, it would be greatly appreciated!

Also, we have included pictures of the new activity room, which we strongly encourage you to utilize with your child. We've got books, games, puzzles, even an Xbox (thanks to David Olsen!). If you'd like to spend time with your child in the room, please contact me so we can schedule it for you. We look forward to seeing you all soon!

With gratitude,
Michelle Arnold

Recruitment & Training Coordinator
455-6800 or michelle@casamonterey.org

We need your HELP!



We're almost out of Aquarium tickets, but we've been notified that many of the tickets we gave out haven't been used.

We will not be eligible to receive any more tickets unless we can document when they were used.

If you came and picked up tickets, please contact Edna at edna@casamonterey.org and let her know when you and your CASA child used them.

We really appreciate your help and look forward to being able to offer these tickets again in the future.

Event Expressway

August 2-3- 11th Annual Turkish Festival

Custom House Plaza, Monterey 655-7509 www.turkfestca.org

A celebration of Turkish culture and arts, featuring live music and folk dances, dance workshops, belly dancing, crafts, delicious food.

August 7 - 10- Steinbeck Festival (Steinbeck and Mexico)

Call 775-4724 or email colleen@steinbeck.org. Steinbeck Festival 2008 will explore Steinbeck's regard for Mexico in broad cultural contexts. The Mexico that so inspired Steinbeck's work will come to life at Festival 2008 through presentations on Mexican and Mexican American culture and heritage.

August 11- Summer Harvest at "The Farm"

Salinas Valley 455-2575 www.thefarm-salinasvalley.com

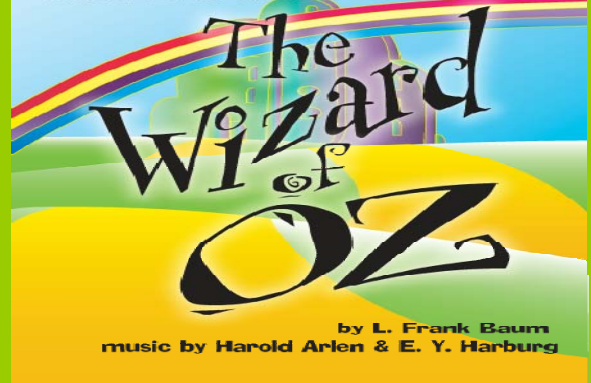
Aug 16th (Sat) Summer Harvest-Puppet show 11am.

Followed by a watermelon-eating contest, grilled corn & hayrides. Open until 9pm. Moonlight hayrides, music and more!

Aug 30th (Sat) Honey Day-Learn about bees from our local honeyman Dale Hillard. 11am.



PacRep's Summer Family Musical
Aug 21 - Sept 28
Outdoor Forest Theater



Did you know...you can hold your own peer review?



Pictured above is Epsilon class, advocates since March of this year. This group, lovingly called "Donnie's Angels", meets monthly and holds their own peer review. Since they started work on their cases at almost the same time, it's a great way for them to continue to learn together, develop closer connections with each other, and fulfill their continuing education requirements. Most of these folks have already exceeded it! If you're interested in setting up a peer review with your fellow trainees, or maybe advocates who lives near you, please contact and let us know. We'd be happy to help set up more... there's no such thing as too much of a good thing, right?

Speaking of too much of a good thing, congratulations, appreciation and praise are in order for the amazing advocates below who have already surpassed their continuing education requirements for the 2008 year!

Yolonda Young Armstrong, Michelle Arnold, Paula Arnold, Edna Chinn, June Deome, Chris Farmerie, Anissa Ferraro, Albert Gonzalez, Jo Greenshields, Dick Holm, Catherine Horan-Walker, Alice Knapp, Don Manzagol, David Olsen, Barbara Singer, Ruben Urzua, Sonya Splane-Wilson, Roelof Wijbrandus

ROAD MAP TO SUCCESS:

Important date reminders to keep you off the bumpy roads!

August 15- 'The Quail' a Motorsports Gathering: Volunteers are still needed for the day of this event. The funds we receive are directly related to the number of volunteer hours we provide. Please email, fax or call in your registration form to Edna .

August 17- The Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance: Volunteers are still needed to sell tickets on the day of and beforehand for this event. The funds we receive are directly related to the number of tickets that we sell. Please email, fax or call in your registration form to Edna or let her know how you would like to be involved.



Advocate Avenue



We would like to wish the following advocates a very happy birthday during the month of July...

Ann Aaroe	8/1
Ann Preston	8/1
June Deome	8/7
Narit Gessler	8/13
Liz Burklo	8/14
Brenda Raspberry	8/18
Wendy Conway	8/20
Meechie Pierce	8/26
Susan Szasz	8/30
Yolonda Young Armstrong	8/30

Yellow Light: Slow down and Refresh your CASA knowledge!

Sharpen your Advocate skills by attending a new advocate training session. Having the opportunity to share your personal experience and CASA knowledge would greatly benefit the new advocate trainees, and keep you up to date on the current training agenda.

Next Training is in August!

Please contact Michelle if you are interested in sharing your experience with the next group of CASA trainees. It's a wonderful opportunity to meet new advocates, share the lessons you've learned as a CASA and present your current case plan.

**Photos from the
Activity Room Ribbon Cutting Event
Many thanks to our many contributors!**



Judge Curtis & Board Chair Paula Arnold



**Advocates Paula Arnold, David Olsen,
Susan Gardner & Anissa Ferraro**



The Jungle Mural



The Ribbon is Cut!



It's already being utilized!



A glimpse of the Advocate Tree...

San Benito Street

The first half of 2008 has gone by lightning fast and for CASA San Benito we can reflect back at some of our successes. Two groups of CASA Advocates graduated and have been sworn in, currently there are 16 trained Advocates serving approximately 20 children in the San Benito County Dependency System. The first major fundraiser HeART of CASA was a success and an awesome event with many local businesses and community members donating funds, gifts and time.

We want to keep the successful momentum going into the second half of the year. First and foremost, we are here to serve the children of San Benito County, there are over 100 children in the Dependency System and more volunteers are needed. I know I am preaching to the choir, but most of you who are trained Advocates know others who can be fantastic Advocates as well. Look around you, your friends, family, neighbors, co-workers, church members, etc. They too can be the difference, spread the word about CASA San Benito and about the great organization we volunteer for and refer your contacts to the San Benito office.

Let's keep the volunteer train rolling and thank you again for doing an awesome job for our kids and our community!

Traffic School: Extended Education Opportunities New Avenues: Explore your July extended education opportunities!

Come to the CASA office for Mandated Court Reporter Training(TWO hours of credit)

With whom? David Maradei, Director of Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC)

What day? August 21st

What time? 6-8pm

*****STRONGLY recommended for any advocate who has not yet participated in this training class*****

Participate in a Peer Review (TWO hours of credit)

With whom? Bree Nakashima

What day? August 27th

What time? 6-8pm



RSVP: to Ruben at 455-6800 or ruben@casamonterey.org

If you have any ideas, suggestions, etc regarding our continuing education program, consider joining the Continuing Education planning committee. The next meeting will be held on Saturday, August 23rd at 10am. Call or email Ruben for more information!

