

"Our Town"

June 2003

Published by the Town of Apple Valley

For information contact the Public Information Department at (760)240-7000 x 7072

### **Committee seeking Apple Valley history**

The Historical Advisory Committee (HAC) of the Town of Apple Valley completed the long-term project of publishing the "Historical Points of Interest" booklet last year, but they are by no means resting on their laurels! The committee includes Chairperson Al Bush, Vice-Chair Joan Lopez, Bill Bascom, Art Bolding, Debi Trudeau, James Woody and Carl Mason.

The HAC continues to collect artifacts and stories on the colorful history of our Town. Their current project is to name and decorate the six Town Hall conference rooms according to chosen historic themes. Items they are specifically seeking for this purpose include photographs or memorabilia of equestrian activities such as the Dancing Hooves, rodeos and the Livery Stables. Also, photos of celebrities known to have lived in or frequented the area and photos and information about early guest ranches.

If you have any information, artifacts, memorabilia or personal recollections on any topic related to Apple Valley, we would love to hear about it. Donations are graciously accepted. In the case of printed material, we can make copies if you prefer to retain the original.

Another ongoing task of the HAC is answering frequent inquiries on Apple Valley history. The committee draws on the Victor Valley Museum, the Victor Valley College Local History Collection, and the Mohahve Historical Society, along with long time residents and a store of resources to answer people's questions. However, we've recently come across a plaque that has us asking the questions!

In a storage room in our very own Community Center, an employee discovered a plaque that reads, "This fountain dedicated in loving memory of Capt. Lyle N. Leavitt USAF. Born June 1, 1917, who was active in the early growth of this community in Apple Valley. Killed in service to his country August 23, 1950."

We have newspaper articles about his pending move to Apple Valley in 1948, and about his death in a plane crash near El Mirage in 1950. People involved with the Park District at that time recall a water fountain dedicated in front of the community center. However we do not have any photographs, any indication as to the date the fountain was dedicated, or information as to the role he played in the early growth of Apple Valley.

For inquiries or information on the Historical Advisory Committee, please call Kathie Martin, Public Information Officer, at 240-7000 x 7070.

### **Apple Valley celebrates Independence Day**

The Town of Apple Valley has the recipe for fun at the 6th Annual Freedom Festival, coming Friday, the 4th of July! Exciting live entertainment, lots of festival food and down-home family games will thrill the whole family. Bring your lawn chairs and canopies down to Brewster Park and shop, eat and play all day!

Kids can enjoy the bounce house, rock climbing wall, pony rides and choo choo train. Plus the dunk tank, kite-flying contest and water spectacular are back! The day starts early with a 5 & 10k run/walk and concludes with an awesome fireworks show at 9:00 pm! Barbecued ribs, tacos, corn on the cob, and kettle corn are just a few of the tasty items available from food vendors. A beer garden will also be available; however no outside alcohol may be brought into the park.

The California Cadet Corp will help us with a special welcome home to our Armed Forces who have returned from Iraq. If you are an Apple Valley resident who served in the recent war efforts, and plan to attend the Freedom Festival, please call ahead so that you can be recognized at this ceremony. The Apple Valley Fire Protection District will provide a moving flag retirement ceremony at dusk. Classic rock band Fault Line will rock the crowd until the first burst of fireworks at 9:00 pm

Brewster Park is located at 21024 Otoe Rd - just follow the signs from Highway 18 and Dale Evans Parkway. For the safety of all patrons, please leave your pets at home. Admission and parking are free. For more information call 240-7000 x 7071.

A very special thank you goes out to our Freedom Festival sponsors: Century 21 Fairway, Altec Engineering Corp., Burrtec Waste Industries, Daily Press, Y102, Cooley Construction and Desert Sun Insurance. We appreciate their partnership is bringing "A Better Way of Life" to the residents of Apple Valley.

#### **SIDEBAR:**

Firecracker Run 5K Walk and 5/10K Run: Check in at 6:45 for a 7:15 a.m. start. Cost for runners is \$8 pre-registration (by July 2, 4:30 p.m.) or \$10 day of the race. Walkers are \$5, or \$7 on race day. Commemorative t-shirts are only \$9 while supplies last. Awards will be given for 12 & under, 13-17, 18-25, 26-36, 37-45, 46-59 and 60+. Ages 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult. To register, call 240-7880.

#### **Want to play in the mud?**

The Town of Apple Valley Parks & Recreation Department is sponsoring the 4th Annual MUD FEST 2003. This event will be held on Saturday, August 23rd from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at Horseman's Center. MUD FEST is a free event open to 6th through 12th graders. Deadline for team registration is August 15th. Registration will not be accepted on the day of the event.

Horseman's Center will be transformed into an oasis of mud pools. The event will feature mud volleyball, mud tug-o-war, mud obstacle course, bobbing for letters and Mud

Mountain! Teams of 6-10 players will compete against each other for points. The winning teams will receive an official MUD FEST t-shirt, perpetual trophy and bragging rights for one year. Spectators for the event are welcome.

For more information, please contact Rosanna Lafler, Event Coordinator at (760) 240-7000, ext. 7071.

### **Jazz Night Street Fair series continues**

The Jazz Night Street Fair summer series for 2003 continues on July 26 in the Apple Valley Town Hall parking lot, from 6 - 10 p.m.! The Gary Whitesides band will play their special brand of jazz music, with special guest Katarina New, talented vocalist and saxophonist from Sweden.

This event offers something for all. Vendors will offer a delicious array of food, including barbecue, tri-tip sandwiches, turkey legs, tacos, kettle corn and smoothies. A unique variety of shopping opportunities will offer everything from Mexican pottery to patio furniture and jewelry. Handcrafted soaps, home décor, painted mailboxes and candles are just a sample of the wares available from local artisans. Classic cars will be on display and new this year is an offering of game booths for children.

For the grown-ups, the Apple Valley Rotary Club will offer an expanded Beer Garden with more seating and a great view of the stage. Celebrate a "Better Way of Life" in Apple Valley under the desert evening sky. Parking and admission are free! Other dates this year are August 9 and September 6. For more information, please call Rosanna Lafler, Event Coordinator at (760) 240-7000, ext. 7071.

### **Department Highlight: Apple Valley Police**

The Town of Apple Valley was pleased to welcome Captain John McMahon, our new police chief, in April. It is definitely familiar territory for Captain McMahon, having spent 17 years of his youth in Apple Valley, even graduating from Apple Valley High School in 1982. He comes to us with 18 years experience with the San Bernardino County Sheriff, most recently as the commander of the central detention center.

Always with an eye on efficient use of resources, the Town of Apple Valley Police Department is utilizing reserve officers and Citizen on Patrol (COP) volunteers for many functions, providing valuable services to the community while freeing up deputies for patrol and more serious matters.

School attendance and juvenile crime: Reserve deputies Rich Cambridge and Howard Beck contribute 30 to 40 hours each week to curb truancy and teach kids to avoid drugs. Reserve Deputy Cambridge works with the Let's End Truancy (LET) program in the elementary school. He and COPs visit the homes of chronically truant kids, motivating the kids and educating parents on the importance of attendance. Among this group, attendance has improved approximately 30%.

Both Cambridge and Beck are involved with the Junior DARE Program (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) in the elementary schools, teaching kids about drugs, stranger awareness and other safety issues. Beck also assists with traffic control at various schools, five days a week.

Finger printing and bicycle registration: Manned by COPs, the Town of Apple Valley offers free children's fingerprinting and bicycle registration at the Police Substation, located at 21989 Highway 18 #2, just behind "A Flower Cart." It is open the 1st and 3rd Saturdays from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Special events: A visit to almost any Town event - like the Freedom Festival and Jazz Night in July - will reveal reserve deputies and COPs helping in many functions. From traffic and parking control, to walking the grounds to serving pizza at Teen Scene - the event staff is grateful for the assistance of these volunteers.

### **Town opens official Town store**

Golf shirts, license plate frames and key chains are just a few of the logo items now available from "Town Treasures," the official Town store. A display cabinet in the lobby of Town Hall showcases many items promoting "Take Pride in Apple Valley," as well as other programs including Sister City and the Historical Points of Interest. Retired street signs are also sold through "Town Treasures."

Store proceeds benefit AVCRF

Proceeds from the store benefit the Apple Valley Community Resource Foundation, a corporation for public charitable purposes under the umbrella of the Town. AVCRF allows the Town to seek grant opportunities from private sources that only fund non-profit agencies. The Town of Apple Valley encourages residents to use water wisely, and offers the following tips to help conserve this critical natural resource:

- Water in several short sessions to allow water to soak in.
- Avoid runoff by positioning sprinklers to land on lawn and shrubs, not on sidewalks and streets.
- During the summer, water lawns late at night or early morning to avoid evaporation.
- Practice "grasscycling." Set your lawnmower to cut only a third of the grass height, and leave the clippings on the lawn to decompose. This reduces the amount of fertilizer and water needed by the lawn.
- For long-term water savings, plant native or drought-tolerant plants that require less water and fertilizer. Use micro and drip irrigation systems with mulch to retain water.

Community Yard Sale spaces now available

The Town of Apple Valley is currently accepting applications for the semi-annual Community Yard Sale on Sept. 6, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The location at Lion's Park on Highway 18 allows for great visibility.

In May we had over 60 vendors and upwards of a thousand shoppers! A 12' x 12' space rents for \$15.00. Non-profit organizations, clubs, churches, youth, civic groups or individuals that are interested in selling, please contact Rosanna Lafler at 240-7000, ext. 7071 for information.

#### Volunteers for 2003 Youth Track Meet

##### GHHS Interact Club

Lauren Duncan

Garrett Quigley

Will Pfeffer

Caitlin Labberton

Stephanie Keen

Jacob Gallagher

Stephen Soto

Optimist Club

Jack Brown

Dan Austin

Tom Schibusch

Fritz Durfee

Yolanda Austin

Dan Wikoff

Empire Pageants

Young Miss Empire America- Brittany Wagner

Miss Apple Valley- Angel Blue

Teen Miss Apple Valley- Claudia Torres

Young Miss Apple Valley- Laura Bailey

Granite Hills High School Cheerleaders

Edynn Prevost

Breanna Nelson

Courtney Edwards

Belinda Gonzalez

Ashley Allen

Bryanna Arroyo

Chanelle Panitch

Shiloh Betterley

Amber Denault

Meagen Johnston

Juley Pepper

Cherie Birnbaum

Jessica Scott

Brittany Hooper

Adreana Mills

Katie Oemig

Jennifer Watson

Ryana Davis

Evalina Schwable

Heather Donley

Nicole Croel

Leticia Lopez

Dalelisha Smith

Heather Ridenour

Briana Pettus

Amanda Stephens

Kayla Gavinsky

Nikki Snyder

Alexandria Carlucci