

COMMUNITY

Butter & Egg Days Parade Applications Due

Applications to enter a float, band, novelty, or other unit in the April 29th Butter & Egg Days Parade are due ASAP. The Early Bird Deadline to return a completed form for the lowest entry fee is Friday, March 3rd. The application and all supporting information (including any required insurance documentation) must be at the Petaluma Downtown Association office by 5 PM. Postmarks do not count. Early Bird fees are \$40 for non-commercial entries (nonprofits, service clubs, and individuals) and \$150 for commercial businesses. Regular fees, levied between March 3rd and 10th, are \$50 for non-commercial entries and \$250 for commercial businesses. School marching bands pay no entry fee if they apply by March 10th.

Computers Get Second Chance

Modeled after other successful Goodwill Computer Collection Programs nationwide, Goodwill Industries of the Redwood Empire is accepting electronic waste (E-Waste). Goodwill will accept donated computers, parts, televisions and monitors, working or not, for recycle or reuse. They will also continue to accept small household appliances in sellable condition.

E-waste is electronic equipment at the end of its useful life. Electronics, including computers, are considered at the end of their life when they are inoperable or when the system is considered to be outdated or obsolete. Computers can be disassembled for valuable parts or recycled. They contain four main hazardous materials: lead, mercury, arsenic and cadmium. In addition, the picture tubes in computer monitors contain 2

to 5 pounds of lead and other hazardous materials. That's why the need for computer collection and recycling programs is evident. The E-waste Collection Program also provides valuable training and work experience opportunities for Goodwill's disabled program participants.

Sonoma and Mendocino county residents can donate to any of the 10 Goodwill donation stations including the Outlet Center located at 651 Yolanda Avenue in Santa Rosa, which will begin selling refurbished computers, monitors and accessories later this year. Other drop-off locations are 3535 Industrial Avenue in Santa Rosa, 645 Sebastopol Road in Santa Rosa, 172 Petaluma Boulevard in Petaluma, 513 Healdsburg Avenue in Healdsburg, 4 Padre Center Parkway in Rohnert Park, and 100 Raley's Town Center in Rohnert Park.

For The Love of Cats

Cat lovers and cycling enthusiasts will have the chance to bid on an exclusive ride with Levi Leipheimer at "For the Love of Cats," an auction to raise funds for Forgotten Felines of Sonoma County. The highest bidder and up to four friends will join the elite road racer in September for a ride around Santa Rosa and Healdsburg.

"I've seen a lot of feral cats in my travel around the world. Thanks to Forgotten Felines, feral cats in Sonoma County have a good life," says Leipheimer.

Rodney Strong Vineyards will host the event on Sunday, April 9th, from noon to 4 PM. In addition to the live auction, cat enthusiasts can participate in a silent auction of original feline-themed art. The afternoon will also feature food and wine tasting and dancing to the 17-piece swing band, Swing and a Miss.

For \$35, the cost of admission to the event, Forgotten Felines can spay or neuter and vaccinate one feral cat. "There is a feral cat population explosion in this county and we're the only organization providing low-cost spay/neuter clinics for feral cats," explains Executive Director Jennifer Kirchner. "We were able to alter more than 1,000 feral cats in 2005, and we're hoping the proceeds from this year's event will allow us to double the number of clinics we currently provide."

Feral cats are domestic cats that have reverted to the wild. The population explosion exists because of the abandonment of pets.

Tickets are available at Pick of the Litter, 1701-A Piner Road in Santa Rosa, or by calling 707.576.7999. Rodney Strong Vineyards is located at 11455 Old Redwood Highway in Healdsburg.



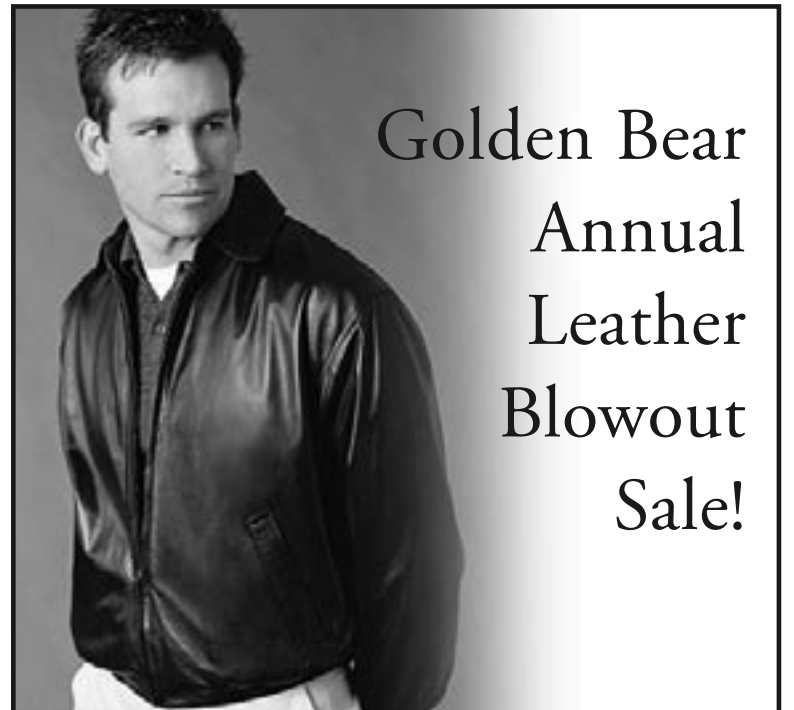
The founders of two Petaluma-based non-profits were recently honored at a ceremony and reception in San Francisco. Left to right, Robert Pope and Lee Justice, who co-founded Giant Steps Therapeutic Equestrian Center, and Arnie and Susan Cohen, co-founders of Carousel Fund, were presented with the Jefferson Awards for Public Service. The awards program – founded by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Senator Robert Taft Jr. and Sam Beard -- recognizes citizens all over the United States who have made outstanding contributions to their communities. Giant Steps provides life-changing, equine-assisted therapy for children and adults with physical, emotional and developmental disabilities. The Carousel Fund provides funds and support to families who have a child with a catastrophic or life threatening illness. Photo by Jim Johnson, Studio 7.

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