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FRIDAY
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ENTERTAINMENT

Dear Abby
Teen feels entitled to
parent-free trip **B6**

SEASIDE GALLERY

Western art riding into PB

STAFF REPORT

The Spanish word "rodeo" is commonly translated as "round-up," and Seaside Gallery in Pismo Beach has rounded up some of the most affordable and best western art available for a special show.

Reception to introduce the gallery's first SLO Pole Western Art Rodeo from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, will include country-western music by Don Francisco de Goleta.

The art was selected by the gallery's staff to represent award-winning artists whose works are often exhibited and sold at such famous western art shows as the Masters of the American West Fine Art Exhibition in Los Angeles, the Court d'Alene Art Auction in Reno, Nev., the C.M. Russell Museum Biennial Exhibition in Great Falls, Mont., and the Jackson Hole Art Auction in Wyoming.

Original paintings and sculptures as well as museum-quality giclées by such famous artists as Martin Grelle, George D. Smith, Andy Thomas, Z.S. Liang, Mian Situ will be on display and on sale through Aug. 26.

Local western artists whose works will be featured include Darrell Williams, Robert Copley, Dee Adams Prater, Frank Gray, Iris Wise and Annie Cappelli.

Artist Mary Beth Strausburg will create equestrian sketches for sale during the reception. Gallery staff will be dressed in western garb, and visitors are invited to dress that way, too. Refreshments will be available.

Gallery co-owner Tom Bunker said western art is a distinctly recognizable genre of painting and sculpture.

Most often, it depicts wildlife, western landscapes, native American tribal life, cowboys, early western American settlements and horse or cattle ranching scenes in a realistic, representational style.

He noted that western art — new and old alike, especially by the artists included in this show — is avidly collected.

Bunker said he and co-owner Sherie Bunker have researched western art for several years and decided to make it a permanent part of Seaside Gallery's works.

The pair recently made two visits to Jackson Hole and Cody, Wyo., to peruse the western art exhibited in local galleries there as well as the National Wildlife Art Museum.

"We fell in love with this art and want to make it available to our collectors and customers throughout Central California as well as collect it ourselves," Sherie Bunker said.

For more information, call the gallery at 775-8057 or visit www.seasidegallery.com.

COMIC BOOK FILM KEEPS ACTION FLOWING



Associated Press photo

In this publicity image released by Paramount Pictures, Chris Evans who plays Steve Rogers is shown in a scene from the film "Captain America: The First Avenger."

MARVEL-OUS FUN

'Captain America' mixes real human emotion and fantasy

By Brad McInerney

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Showing a lot of heart, weakling Steve Rogers is not allowed to join the army in order to fight in World War II. He is jealous that his best friend Bucky Barnes is going off to war, and he would love nothing more than to join him in battle.

Through an exiled German scientist named Dr. Abraham Erskine, Rogers joins a military experiment that proves to be quite successful. Ladies and Gentlemen — Meet Captain America.

In the latest Marvel Comics film, director Joe Johnston does a nice job of keeping the action flowing, while screenwriters Christopher Markus and Stephen McFeely kept the soul and humanity of Rogers intact.

Markus and McFeely, who together wrote the three "Chronicles of Narnia" films, proved as they did in that series, that there can be room for lots of action along with good story-telling and heart.

Johnston has a pretty good



From left, Tommy Lee Jones portrays Colonel Chester Phillips, Hayley Atwell portrays Peggy Carter, and Chris Evans portrays Steve Rogers in a scene from "Captain America: The First Avenger."

rouse of good films which includes, "I Knew I Shook the Kids," in 1989, "Jumanji" in 1995 and "Hidalgo" in 2004. Here he atones for the horrible "The Wolfman" from last year with entertaining tale.

Chris Evans, who played the Human Torch, Johnny Storm in the "Fantastic 4" films is very good as Rogers. He exudes an earnest likability as the All-American kid.

There is a nice piece of screen magic that makes Rogers look like a skinny runt before an experiment makes him quite buff. The



"Captain America: The First Avenger"

Rated: PG-13 for intense sequences of sci-fi violence and action.

Score: B on the Brad-O-Meter

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Generation Nation: Bands perform in SM



Joanne Sparks

High school band members performed at the Abel Maldonado Center July 22. Front row from left: Matt Martinez, Pablo Maldonado, Brock Row, Miguel Lopez, Brandon Martinez, Matthew Diaz, Izzy Dougherty, Victor Estrada Jr., Oscar Ortega and Enrique Montano Jr.

Two high school bands played at the Abel Maldonado Center July 22 as part of Generation Nation: Teen Concerts.

It's a great experience," said "Above the Hype" band member Miguel Lopez. "It's a fun way to get rid of any stress." The group plays reggae and rock and plan to put out their first CD this summer or fall. It will have six songs.

It's a really nice venue. It's nice to have a place to play," said The Dougherty, manager of the "More than Maybe" band. They play alternative punk.

The City of Santa Maria sponsors the program. The bands volunteer

their time and youth aged 12 to 18 get to free. (No one else is allowed).

Teresa Mitchell, mentor program coordinator of the concerts said "The community needs a positive, safe, and hip place for teens to go to, and I truly believe that the Abel Maldonado Community Youth Center is that place."

The idea behind Generation Nation: Teen Concerts is to promote a positive, safe, and healthy environment in which teens can listen to and participate in a music atmosphere. We invite all teenage bands with appropriate lyrics to contact



Joanne Sparks
Toast of the Coast

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By
JULIA MCHUGH

'Show me the way'

Peter Frampton asks the musical question: "Do You Feel Like We Do?" in a Santa Barbara concert this weekend. His response could be another of his hits, "Show Me the Way" — with Fiesta starting next week, many people will be on their way to Santa Barbara.

Come alive!

Frampton celebrates the 35th anniversary of the release of his landmark album "Frampton Comes Alive!" by performing the entire album, plus his other hits, in concert. He lands at the Bowl Sunday at 7 p.m. His signature flowing locks of curly hair may be gone (he goes for the shaved head look these days) but his guitar chops remain. "Baby, I Love Your Way" leads the string of unforgettable songs from the 1970s. Tickets range from \$37.50 to \$69.50 (962-7411, www.sfbowl.com).

Go Greek

Many of Santa Barbara's ethnic festivals have recently gone down (most recently the French Festival), so this weekend's Greek Festival is warmly welcomed. Oak Park is the site of this joyful celebration, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Food and dancing are at the heart of this festival. Sure, there is shopping and some special activities for the little ones, but the cuisine is outstanding and the performances are exuberant. Admission is free (683-4492, www.santabarbagreekfestival.org).

Fiesta begins

Sunday night's Reception del Presidente is the first event of Santa Barbara's signature Old Spanish Days, known locally simply as Fiesta. Dinner, entertainment and dancing by the 2011 Junior Spirit and Spirit of Fiesta highlight this festive evening this year's La Presidenta Joanne Hernandez, starting at 5 p.m. at the Pech Parker Double Tree Resort. Tickets are \$85.

The dancing is free at Wednesday's Fiesta Piquena. Held on the steps of the Old Mission, this "Little Fiesta" features tunes of the Californios, Flamenco, Spanish-classical and Mexican folkloric dances. Food is available. The dancing starts at 8 p.m.

Thursday night is the wild and woolly Celebración de los Dignatarios, where local restaurants and wineries provide the food and drink in the stunning setting of the Santa Barbara Zoo's garden hilltop from 5 to 10 p.m. A live band keeps guests out on the dance floor late into the evening. Tickets are \$85 (check the webpage for availability).

Other Fiesta activities from Wednesday through Saturday include:

Two mercados (Mexican marketplaces): Mercado de la Guerra, downtown across from City Hall; and Mercado del Norte, in MacKenzie Park on "El Popo," State Street at Las Positas. There is live entertainment, food, crafts and souvenirs at both locations. Del Norte has the family-friendly Carnival with rides and attractions for kids.

Las Noches de Ronda ("Nights of Gaitery"), featuring music, singing, fiery Flamenco and colorful folkloric Mexican dances at the Santa Barbara County Courthouse's Sunken Gardens.

Fiesta Rodeo, with varied activities at the Earl Warren Showgrounds — bull riding, team roping, barrel racing, steer stopping, the down roping, and the ever popular "reunion bustin'" that involves local kids and sheep. For a full schedule, visit www.oldsponsoredays-fiesta.org or call 962-8101.

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