



## Everything's happening in EDH

By Mike Roberts | Village Life staff writer | May 25, 2010 11:46

San Francisco Chronicle columnist Herb Caen would often open with “Item, item, whose got an item?”

In El Dorado Hills these days the answer seems to be “everyone.”

This week we’ve got the California Welcome Center opening and the big announcement that Tony Mansour is bringing fireworks to Town Center for the first time ever on July 3, capping off a day of family festivities. Expect a big crowd.

There’s no end of great free events coming up this summer. The CSD is once again putting on classic rock shows monthly in the Community Park, starting with a Van Halen tribute on June 11. Town Center will also be “puttin’ out the jams” on Thursday nights starting June 17 with Steelin’ Dan.

The “Sex in the City” themed girl’s night out party is on Thursday, May 27. The boys get their turn on Saturday, May 29, when local vets put on the Fallen Warriors Car and Motorcycle show. Both should be cool events.

Have you checked out Interior Elements, the amazing new home furnishing store that dominates the first floor of Town Center’s New Orleans building? And did you know that the El Dorado County Sheriff’s Department will soon have a satellite office in Town Center? Well now you do. We’ll have stories on both those developments in upcoming issues.

With so much going on it’s easy to miss some of the really cool, but less dramatic stories in El Dorado Hills. Back on Saturday, May 8, while the history re-enactors were donning their costumes in Clarksville and the artists were setting up in Town Center, hundreds of Mormons and other volunteers quietly improved parks in El Dorado Hills.

CSD watchers know the district has tried for years to harness volunteer-power. The results have been sporadic at best. Liability issues, organization, supervision and materials all conspire to make volunteer projects difficult.

The LDS Silva Valley and Oak Ridge wards showed up in mass at their assigned park, shovels in hand, ready to work, with a multi-tiered management structure in place. Work groups were pre-assigned, as were work assignments.

The CSD had roughly \$15,000 in materials waiting for them. What followed was an amazing example of the power of volunteers. At Murray Homestead Park in the Sterlingshire neighborhood roughly 100 Mormons of all ages, sizes and shapes built fences, planted bushes, moved dirt and spread mulch.

It was a model volunteer project. Here's a big shout out to everyone that helped that day.

As May wanes, get out there and check out their efforts. I bet you don't even know where Murray Homestead Park is. They also worked on New York Trail and areas of the Community Park.

And get over to Folsom Lake this spring. It's full and gorgeous. Have you checked out the Sweetwater Trail? The wildflowers are crazy right now. Take a camera and a kid.

Just keep an eye out for Mr. Rattlesnake. Battalion Chief Brad Ballenger has warned us that it's going to be a banner year for the Diamondbacks, and I don't think he was talking about baseball.

Keep an eye on Village Life. We promise to do our best to let you know what's coming up, and what just happened. And oh yes, please keep those items coming. We depend on you.

The Mountain Democrat Newspaper is published Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday by Mountain Democrat Inc.

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