

STEVE SMITH
PRESIDENT
2000-2001
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

KATHY SMITH

 Opening Plenary Session - Second Seating
 2000 Rotary International Convention
 Buenos Aires, Argentina
 Sunday, 4 June 2000 1845-2100 hours
 La Rural, Pavilion C

ADMIT ONE

Please be seated 15 minutes prior to the starting time.



Casa Rosado
 Eva Peron Spoke
 to Crowds from
 Balcony Behind
 Steve's Head



VOTING DELEGATE'S CARD

The Rotary Club of
 SIMI SUNRISE, CA. USA
 USA
 1 D-5240 23930
 has certified Eve Smith
(Name of Rotarian)
 is an accredited delegate (or Proxy of Delegate)
 of that club.
 Name of Proxy's club
 if applicable _____
 The credential of the above named Rotarian has
 been received and filed and he/she is recognized
 as entitled to participate in the Convention of
 Rotary International as a voting delegate.
 Credentials Committee, Convention, R.I. 2000
 By Edward Sweet
 Preserve Carefully. This card, after it has been
 issued by the Credentials Committee, is
 evidence of the right to vote and must be
 presented at the polls in order to vote.
 DUPLICATE WILL NOT BE ISSUED

MULTIPLE VOTES 3

SEEING SOUTH AMERICA

These pages contain our initial suggestions for those who
 want to visit several places in South America. Pick the destina-
 tions that interest you and then call us. We will help you make a
 final plan and then we will price your entire trip.

MAY 28 - JUNE 1ST
 STAYED
 RIGHT
 ON THE
 BEACH

Amazon

Rio
 JUNE 2ND
 2 AMAZING
 DAYS
 EXPLORING
 THE FALLS

Iguazu Falls
 JUNE 3RD - JUNE 9TH
 STAYED 1/2
 BLOCK FROM
 THIS CORNER

Recoleta area
 in Buenos Aires

TRIP ON
 JUNE 8TH

Gauchos on Pampas
 near Buenos Aires
 VISITED
 ESTANCIA DE
 ANILCO

Galapagos

Macchu Picchu

Bariloche

CALIFORNIA & FAR WEST BREAKFAST
2000 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Monday, June 5, 2000

Doors open at 7:00 A.M.

Breakfast served at 7:30 A.M.

Breakfast Cost: \$22.00 per person

Sheraton Hotel & Convention Center

San Martin 1225

Buenos Aires, Argentina

San Greene / Director and Host



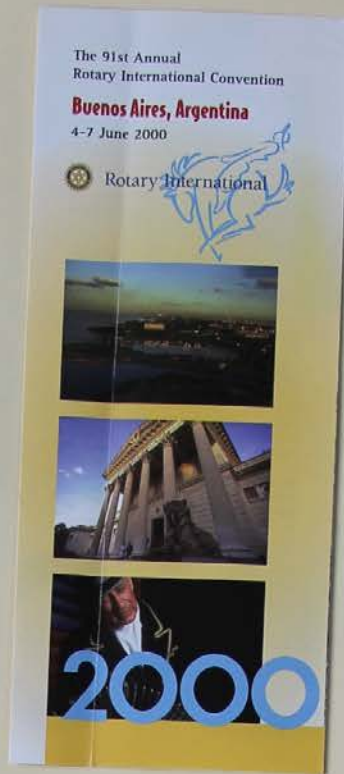
Traveling bunch @ Iguazu Falls Between Brazil & Argentina



Gaucha w/Steve



LIVING ART & Steve



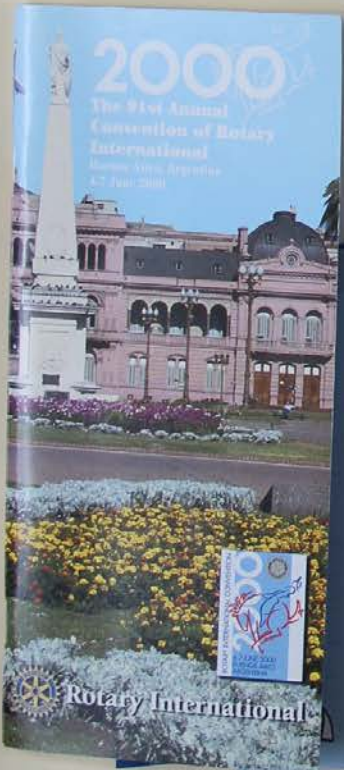
Steve & Kathy @ Iguazu Falls



Guide & Steve w/ Argentinian Flag



Boat Trip
to Resort Is



Session @ Convention



Eva Peron's
Burial Place
Buenos Aires

THE STAR
MONDAY
MAY 15, 2000
SECTION B
Bureau chief:
Karen Hibdon
579-1946
1720 Los Angeles Ave.,
Unit H-1, Simi Valley,
CA 93065



SIMI VALLEY

"Available day and night as police chaplain, I firmly believed he was a truly dedicated and humble man. Then I saw his car: Mr. Hot Stuff with the Mustang and the personalized plate that reads 'COVREV'."

— Randy Adams, Simi Valley police chief



Staff photo by James Claver II

GOOD SPORT: Kurt Fredrickson, senior pastor of Simi Covenant Church and a police chaplain, sits in the fellowship hall of his church which soon will be renovated with the proceeds from the \$50-per-plate dinner and roast Saturday night in Simi Valley.

Simi pastor finds himself on a skewer

150 roast police chaplain to raise money to refurbish church's fellowship hall

By S.L. Salamone
Correspondent

Kurt Fredrickson had to stand at the front of the room while he was laughed at, ridiculed and, at one point, dressed up in a mockery of a police uniform.

It was done by the people who care about him the most, all for a good cause.

Fredrickson, 45, senior pastor at Simi Covenant Church, was roasted by 150 of his closest friends Saturday night at the Clarion Hotel in Simi Valley.

The event was sponsored by the three organizations Fredrickson is affiliated with: the church, the Simi Sunrise Rotary Club, where he is a member; and the Simi Valley Police Foundation, where he is one of two police chaplains.

The \$50-per-plate dinner was a fundraiser to help refurbish the fellowship hall at the church.

The roasters were Randy Adams, Simi

Valley police chief; Brad Boeckmann, vice president of Galpin Ford in Simi Valley; Bruce Brunz, pastor at Simi Covenant Church; Ron Merrill, pastor at Lake Arrowhead Baptist Church; Paul Miller, Simi Valley councilman; Dave Peckham, chaplain at Simi Valley Hospital; and Steve Smith, owner of Round Hill Securities.

Master of ceremonies for the evening was Jim Lowry, longtime member of the church, a rotarian and a former police sergeant.

"One of the things that happens when you roast someone is that you get all kinds of people who call up and say, 'Let me tell you...'"

Adams dressed Fredrickson up in a mock police vest, a helmet with a siren attached to the top and a junior police badge. Adams also armed Fredrickson with a foam rubber rifle, taping it to his hands with yellow crime-scene tape.

"Available day and night as police chaplain, I firmly believed he was a truly dedi-

cated and humble man," Adams said. "Then I saw his car: Mr. Hot Stuff with the Mustang and the personalized plate that reads 'COVREV.'"

All six took their turns, and some were funnier than others, but there's nothing hotter than inside information. At the very end, Fredrickson's 18-year-old daughter, Lindsey, brought the house down with her vignettes of life with father.

All kidding aside, Lowry said, there is no man with such compassion for others.

"He has probably helped as many people as there are seconds in a lifetime," Lowry said of Fredrickson. "And I wanted to take this opportunity before it is lost, and thank him for everything he is to me and everyone else in this room."

When it was finally over, Fredrickson got up and said a few words.

"I'm overwhelmed," he said. "People are measured by the company they keep, not the car they drive. If that's true, then I'm truly blessed and very rich indeed."

Pastor's roast will help church refurbish hall

GOOD FUN: Money to help expand facilities and meet needs of growing congregation.

By Karen Hibdon
Staff writer

If you can't say anything nice, don't say anything at all.

That may be what Kurt Fredrickson is thinking these days as he contemplates the upcoming roast friends and colleagues have in store for him on May 13. The evening is a benefit to raise money to refurbish the fellowship hall at Simi Covenant Church where Fredrickson, 45, has been senior pastor since 1985.

The event is sponsored by the church, the Simi Sunrise Rotary Club of which Fredrickson is a member, and the Simi Valley Police Foundation. Fredrickson is one of two Simi Valley Police chaplains.

Heading up the shenanigans is Jim Lowry, longtime member of the church, a fellow Rotarian and a former police sergeant.

"I'm a retired LAPD sergeant, so many times I saw people who had lost a dear loved one or friend and never had a chance to say thanks or tell them what a great job they've done," Lowry said. "It dawned on me that Kurt's helped a lot of people and no one every says anything nice about him."

Lowry promises tons of fun, but says he has no control over the panel of guests who plan to take

potshots at Fredrickson.

The dinner, at the Clarion Pasadena Royale, 1775 Madera Road, will get under way with a reception from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. followed by dinner, a silent auction and the program. Entertainment will be provided by pianist Spence Brodie. Tickets are \$50 and on a first-come, first-served basis. Checks, made out to Simi Covenant Church, can be sent to 4680 Alamo St., Simi Valley, CA 93063, Contact Lowry at (818) 880-9203, ext. 115, for more details.

Simi Covenant Church was founded in 1964. Fredrickson came on board as youth minister in 1975, "as a baby," said church secretary Mary Brill.

The current fellowship hall was then the sanctuary used by the 185 members of the church. Today, average Sunday attendance is 700 to 800 people. The fellowship hall is a multipurpose facility for church activities and is used by the congregation's Hispanic ministry, youth ministry and Boy Scouts.

He's not worried about the roast, but Fredrickson said it's a bit unnerving when people approach and say, "Kurt, I can't wait."

"The only roasts I know of are the old Dean Martin roasts. It's very flattering, I guess," the pastor said. "I'm just going to giggle a lot or have my head in the salad a lot and have lots of disclaimers (ready)."

— Karen Hibdon's e-mail address is: hibdon@insidestv.com

Are you my type?

Blood is grouped into four types: A, B, AB, and O. Each type is also classified by an Rh factor—either positive (+) or negative (−). When a blood transfusion is necessary, donor and patient blood must be compatible. If not, the patient's body will react to the incompatible donor cells, leading to complications, maybe even death. (Please see the back of this page for more information about blood type compatibility.)

Your ABO blood grouping and Rh factor are inherited from your parents. Check the chart below to see what percentage of the population shares your ABO grouping.

| | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|----|
| O+ | 37% | O- | 6% |
| A+ | 34% | A- | 6% |
| B+ | 10% | B- | 2% |
| AB+ | 4% | AB- | 1% |

When you donate, United Blood Services will send you a card with your blood type. Whatever type you are, someone in this community can benefit from your blood donation. Donate today. You'll feel terrific!

Donate Blood!

United Blood Services

BS 281C (7/90)

There's something about your type...

A+

- Type A+ blood can be given to patients with types A+ and AB+.
- Patients with type A+ can receive O+, A+, O-, and A- blood.
- Type A plasma and platelets can be given to almost any patient. People with type A blood are needed to become regular cytopheresis donors.



Check the chart below to see what percentage of the population shares your blood type.

| | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|----|
| O+ | 37% | O- | 6% |
| A+ | 34% | A- | 6% |
| B+ | 10% | B- | 2% |
| AB+ | 4% | AB- | 1% |

United Blood Services

July 14, 2000

Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise
P.O. Box 11
Simi Valley, CA 93062

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your recent Corporate Sponsorship donation of \$1,500.00, for which you received no goods or services. Your donation helps continue the high level of programs we desire to offer.

As with many non-profit organizations, public funding is not keeping pace with the needed growth of our organization. While we continue to expand programs and services for our 7 to 12 year old members, there is an urgent need to better serve the teenage population. That need is a club priority.

Statistics unfortunately indicate a growing concern regarding gang activity, teen truancy, and teen loitering after school and during evening hours. We want to provide an alternative for these teens in need, a place to call their own. Activities must be teen oriented, patient to those at risk, and open to all. A glorified babysitting service we know will fail.

The club now provides limited programs including dances, sports nights/ leagues, social recreation/ interface, and a computer technology-mentoring program. For those unable, we intend to offer an in-home computer complete with training. This, we believe, will offer a vital interest and help prepare the teen for the future.

Your Corporate Sponsorship will help to expand these important programs. We hope to be able to call upon you in the future.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF SIMI VALLEY

Linda
Linda White
Executive Director
LW/jw
Tax ID 95-2811018



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF SIMI VALLEY

2850 Lorton Drive
Simi Valley, CA 93063
(805) 527-4437
(805) 527-4516 FAX

Officers
Alex Gaudel
President

Brain Troop
Past President

Jay Toledo
V.P. Fund Development

Tony Palmer
V.P. Finance/Treasurer

Vickie Wallock
V.P. Planned Giving

Shari Schultz
V.B. Program

Wayne Schultz
V.P. Property Mgmt.

Directors
Randy G. Adams
Glen Beerna
Mary Bibb
Joseph Borowitz
June Dubresil
Robert Erickson
Daniel Giff
Karen Hibdon
John Jackson
Tom Mackel
Jan Meek
Mark Richardson
Bob Scott
Fred Thomas
Dr. Mike Willis

Executive Director
Linda L. White



KIDS Cafe



**Feeding
Ventura County's
Children**



**FOOD Share
Ventura County's Food**

*Simi
Valley
Kids
Cafe
or
Lemon
Ave!*

DONOR APPOINT

Sponsored By SV Sunrise Rotary
Lifesaving Goal = 18 sign-ups for
Date Thurs 7/13/00 Hours 700 to 1000
Coordinator Name/Phone Jim Lowry

| TIME | DONOR'S NAME (Print) | PHONE |
|------|----------------------|-------|
| 700 | 1 Jeanie Mortenson | |
| | 2 George Bencour | |
| 720 | 1 Jim Lowry | |
| | 2 Laura Magelnehi | |
| 740 | 1 Paul Muller | |
| | 2 Mike McAffrey | |
| 800 | 1 Roger | |
| | 2 Weber | |
| 820 | 1 Rich Lawrence | |
| | 2 Eugene Gilbert | |
| 840 | 1 John Superson | |
| | 2 Anne Riedel | |
| 900 | 1 Kathy Lowry | |
| | 2 | |
| 920 | 1 Kelley Gilliland | |
| | 2 | |
| 940 | 1 | |
| | 2 | |
| 1000 | 1 | |
| | 2 | |
| | End of drive | |

Please FAX Completed Sign-Up Sheet to: 658-65



United Blood Services

1756 Eastman Avenue / Ventura, CA 93003
1321 Thousand Oaks Blvd., Suite 126 / Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
2108 Pickwick / Camarillo, CA 93010

July 24, 2000

Jim Lowry
Simi Sunrise Rotary
P.O. Box 11
Simi Valley, CA 93062

Dear Mr. Lowry:

Congratulations and thank you for your efforts in planning and organizing another blood drive at Simi Sunrise Rotary. Your commitment and dedication to this vital community project enabled us to collect 12 units of blood with 1 deferral.

Simi Sunrise Rotary's continued participation in this community service is greatly appreciated. Through your support, United Blood Services is able to meet the daily needs of patients in the area hospitals we serve.

Mr. Lowry, your personal support of the community blood program is very much appreciated -- not only by United Blood Services, but by the many people who need blood each and every day. You really do make the difference!

I look forward to organizing another successful blood drive with you.

Sincerely,

Tracee Elder

Tracee Elder
Community Relations Representative

cc: Kelley Gilliland



THE
STAR

WEDNESDAY
AUG. 30, 2000

SECTION B

Bureau chief:
Karen Hibdon
579-1946

1720 Los Angeles Ave.,
Unit H-1, Simi Valley,
CA 93065

SIMI VALLEY

THE CASE OF THE MISSING
ROTARY BELL

Crime decreases 5.3 percent in Simi

DECLINE IN ARSON:
Crimes against people increase by about 20%, according to police.

By Jim Perez
Staff writer

Though crimes against people increased in the first six months of the year over 1999, the total number of crimes in Simi Valley decreased, police said Tuesday.

For the period of Jan. 1 through June 30, there were 75 violent crimes in the city, about a 20 percent increase over the 62 for the same time last year, according to

figures released by the police department. Violent crimes are crimes against people, including rape, homicide, robbery and aggravated assault.

In total crimes, police said, there was a decrease of 5.3 percent over the same period with 869 crimes in 1999 and 823 this year.

Overall, we're very pleased with the initial results of the first six months, but I'm of the position that one crime is too many," Police Chief Randy Adams said.

The crime that saw the biggest decline is arson, dropping from 30 in 1999 to nine in 2000. Adams said a serial arsonist who set fire

to trash cans near houses caused the increase. He has been caught, including when they see something suspicious in their neighborhood. And the council has been very supportive, Adams said. Whenever the chief needs resources to initiate a program, council members have been more than willing to help.

The chief also said cooperation with other agencies helps hold down crime. "We continue to work closely with the parole and probation department," he said. "We will do searches to make sure those on probation or parole are exercising the conditions of their terms."

proactive approach to fighting crime, including such things as calling when they see something suspicious in their neighborhood.

He also cited the gang task force and the special problems unit, which identifies and works to keep gang activity in check in the city.

"I think those type of proactive activities minimize crime in our city," Adams said.

"We like to think that if you commit crime in our city, the likelihood of being apprehended is greater than any other city."

Jim Perez's e-mail address is
jperez@insidem.com.

TO _____
DATE _____

TIME _____

while you were out
of you will blow it!

Don't \$10.00 or

Area Code _____
Number _____
Extension _____

TELEPHONED ☐ RETURNED YOUR CALL ☐
WILL CALL AGAIN ☐ URGENT ☐
PLEASE CALL ☐ WANTS TO SEE YOU ☐

MESSAGE _____

\$50.00
Donation!
or The horn set it
I mean it This Time

ATTENDANCE REPORT

KURT FREAKRICKSON
(NAME)

SIMI SUNRISE
(CLUB)

RELIGION - PROTESTANT
(CLASSIFICATION)

MAKE UP FOR MEETING OF: 8/31/00

Please give this Rotarian
attendance credit for attend-
ing our meeting today.

Date 8-31-
THE ROTARY CLUB OF
Simi Valley





Staff photo by Matt McClain

TOAST: From left, Gary Lord of Zimbabwe, Catherine Olivares of Fillmore and Denis Paul of Zimbabwe get acquainted of Yolanda's in Ventura before the California group leaves for Africa.

Rotary sends study team to Africa

BUSINESS: Five area professionals will share expertise, help build friendships.

By Helen Gao
Staff writer

Five young professionals from Ventura and Santa Barbara counties led by a longtime Rotary Club member will embark Friday on a monthlong adventure to Africa, hoping to build bridges of friendship, share professional expertise and extend a helping hand in humanitarian endeavors.

The trip is being financed by the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, which sends hundreds of teams to different countries each year on similar missions.

Richard Strayer of Simi Valley, a business professor at California State University, Northridge, and former owner of a semiconductor company, is leading the group that includes a photographer, surgical technician, construction estimator, phone company manager and technical writer.

The group is scheduled to stop in Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe, where it will be hosted by local Rotarians. The members will make presentations to local Rotary Clubs on their vocations and visit humanitarian projects, such as orphanages, to better understand how they may help in the future.

Otto Austel, governor of Rotary Club District 5240 from which the team members were selected, said this trip to Africa is part of Rotary's effort to make the world a better place.

"The main objective of Rotary is to advance international understanding, good will and peace through fellowships of professionals," said Austel.

From about 40 applicants, Strayer said the local district picked five for the team based on each one's ability to further Rotary's mission.

"One of the things we look for is ability to be ambassadors of goodwill," he said. "We are developing friendships with different

About Rotary

Rotary is a service organization founded in 1905 in Chicago by a group of men led by Paul Harris, a lawyer.

The mission of Rotary, which is open to both men and women, is to promote world peace and goodwill, encourage high ethical standards in all professions and provide humanitarian service, such as funding grass-roots projects to alleviate hunger and reduce illiteracy in Third World countries.

The named Rotary came from the practice of early members rotating the meeting sites among their offices.

Today, approximately 1.2 million Rotarians work to better their communities and the world through some 29,000 clubs in 160 countries. Rotary's motto is "Service above self."

In Rotary District 5240, which includes Ventura, San Luis Obispo, Kern and Santa Barbara counties, there are 62 clubs and approximately 3,400 members.

For more information about Rotary, call Nancy Falconer, 578-1061.

On the Net:

Rotary International:
www.rotary.org

countries. If we have friends in different countries, we can't go to war with them."

The team is passionate about the mission.

Donna Granata's eyes light up with excitement when she talks about the trip. Granata is an Ojai photographer and arts educator who hopes to establish connections with African artists through her trip.

"To me art is such a universal language. It transcends all boundaries," she said. "Sharing the language of art is personally what I want to document."

Granata is bringing 150 rolls of film to document the trip. She has read up on the Shona tribe, which is recognized for its stone sculptures, and the Ndebele tribe, which is famous for its wood work.

Brian O'Leary, a service manager for Lucent Technologies from Camarillo, said he is eager to learn about telecommunications in Africa and see how he can help the needy there.

"Lucent is a global business. We are expanding throughout the world. We have technologies that can help out everyone," he said. "I will have an opportunity to find out how much they are using wireless, compared to wired, find out how they are using the Internet."

At the same time, O'Leary

wants to learn how Rotary can help the orphanage project that is being proposed in Masvingo, Zimbabwe. It will shelter children left behind by AIDS-afflicted families.

Strayer said the local district is considering paying for the equipment for the project. Other Rotary Clubs around the world are working on financing and other aspects.

The rest of the team members are Tara Racine, a technical writer from Thousand Oaks; Devon Quinn, a construction estimator from Santa Barbara; Catherine Olivares, a surgical technician from Fillmore.

—Helen Gao's e-mail address is hgaos@insidemag.com.

Camp Rotary

Simi Valley, California



ENCOURAGING
POSITIVE
DIRECTIONS



CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE

Certificate of RECOGNITION

Presented to

ROTARY CLUB OF SIMI SUNRISE

In Honor of Your
Outstanding Service and Dedication
To the
Simi Valley Unified School District's
Special Education Advisory Committee

Presented on
September 25, 2000



Cassie Wright
SENATOR



Spouse: Sharon
Res. Address: 1854 Autumn Pl.
Simi Valley, CA 93065
Res. Phone: 805.582.1738
Res. Fax: 805.582.1738
Cell Phone:
Pager:
e-mail: MikeGSM@aol.com
Bus. Name: Rancho Sequoia Vet. Hospital
Bus. Address: 3280 Los Angeles Ave.
Simi Valley, CA 93063
Bus. Phone: 805.522.2476
Bus. Fax: 805.522.2144
Joined Club: 06/16/93
Sponsored by: Mike Mutai
Paul Harris: Yes
PRS:
Master PRS:
S. Sunrise Fellow:
Birthday: 04/02/57
Anniversary: 07/29/78
Interests/Hobbies: Biking, Weightlifting, Internet
Surfing

**MIKE GERARDO
GREAT PERSON,
GREAT VET
GREAT FRIEND
GREAT ROTARIAN
WE WILL MISS YOU
DECEMBER 12, 2000**

Simi Valley and Moorpark

A supplement to the Los Angeles Times
published by

Times
COMMUNITY NEWS

MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 2000

Rotary clubs seek pros for exchange

Local rotary clubs are looking for four professionals who are willing to visit Italy.

The Simi Sunrise Rotary club of Simi Valley and Moorpark wants to recruit local residents to travel to Italy April 8 through May 7, 2001, as part of the Group Study Exchange program of the Rotary Foundation.

The cultural exchange is designed to promote international understanding between the two countries. While in Italy, the experts will share knowledge of their country while learning the customs and lifestyles of the other country.

While abroad, team members stay at the homes of Rotary Club members. The Rotary Foundation will also provide round-trip air tickets.

Those interested should be employed full-time in a recognized business or profession. Applicants must live or be employed in Rotary District 5240, which covers the area from Paso Robles to China Lake to Westlake Village.

For an application, call B.J. Anderson, Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise by either phone (805) 581-1184, Fax (805) 581-1239 or e-mail bjdesign2000@aol.com.

—Jeffrey Jen



Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition

Presented to
Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise
Major Contributor - Special Education Advisory Committee
in recognition of outstanding and invaluable
service to the community.

September 25th, 2000
DATE

Elton Sawyer
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Sunday, Oct. 15, 2000 EG The Star

Rotary gives Boys & Girls Club fall cleaning

WORTHWHILE: 'As long as we can help out, we're happy,' says group's director.

By S.L. Salomone
Correspondent

On a bright, beautiful fall morning, 20 volunteers put on their work clothes, picked up paintbrushes and spruced up the interior of the Boys & Girls Club of Simi Valley.

It was the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise to the rescue. Spills and stains on carpets, smudgy fingerprints on walls, cracked and peeling paint, and the bathrooms all came under attack.

"The bathrooms were the worst," said Linda White, Boys & Girls Club's executive director. "Can you imagine 400 kids going through there, most under 15

years old, all unsupervised. We really needed this."

The club periodically has maintenance work done, and the Rotary Club has helped out before.

"They're a godsend," White said. "They come out here to help. They're skilled and in just about one day, it's all done."

There was work going on outside as well; volunteers took water and scrub brushes to banquet tables. Inside, fresh paint permeated the air.

Wearing a yellow T-shirt decoratively splashed with deep teal paint was Steve Smith, Rotary Club president. Wielding a small, long-handled roller brush, he talked and painted at the same time.

"We had a meeting and learned the club needed some work done," he said. "So we got a work party together. We've helped them out before when

they were at their old location.

"These things are fun," he said. "We get together, do some work, have some fun and it's over in a couple of hours. What's not to like?"

Standing in his stocking feet, with his paint-covered sneakers in hand, was Alex Gandel, Boys & Girls Club board president.

"This is wonderful," Gandel said. "With the number of kids that go through here on a daily basis, we've got to keep up with the maintenance. There was quite a little work party that came out and for a few hours of work a lot got accomplished."

While painting was the biggest project, tile floors were buffed, and rooms with carpet on the walls and floors were steam-

cleaned.

"We're all about helping the less fortunate," said Kjell Seeger, director of Rotary's community services. "As long as we can help out, we're happy."

"Everybody's doing their part. We've got one guy pumping up tires. It makes it holidaylike."

— Rick McClure,
Simi Bike Works

SOME ASSEMBLY REQUIRED: Dr. Dick Strayer shares a laugh with another Rotarian as members of the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise put together 100 bicycles for needy children.



Staff photo by Matt McClure

Rotarian elves assemble bikes for needy

SIMI VALLEY: Members of Sunrise club make Christmas brighter for 100 kids.

By Alissa Semchuck
Correspondent

A Simi Valley warehouse looked like a toy shop Tuesday evening when members of the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise gathered to assemble 100 bicycles for needy children.

Most of the 30 participants worked in teams of two or three, tightening nuts and bolts on the assembly line-style project. They attached front wheels, seats, pedals, reflectors and handlebars to the black frames of boys' bikes and purple frames of girls' cycles.

Patti Jenkins, novice mechanic and a new member of Rotary, discovered she had put the handlebars backwards on a bike she assembled with club president Steve Smith.

Smith, a burly man wearing a Santa's hat, kid-

ded Jenkins as Rick McClure of Simi Bike Works fixed the handlebars.

"We have quality control," said Rotary president-elect Bob Mitchell, pointing to McClure. McClure, a pro in the bike world, said he was overseeing the project and would inspect each bike before it goes out to a child for Christmas.

"I will make certain all the parts are on right and tight," McClure said.

He commended the group's effort. "Everybody's doing their part," McClure said. "We've got one guy pumping up tires. It makes it holidaylike."

Some of the teams turned the project into a contest to see who could finish assembling a bike the quickest.

"We've got it down to 15 minutes," said Connie Miller who worked on a three-member team that included her husband, former Simi Valley Councilman Paul Miller and Rotarian George Berrow.

Smith said the Rotary Club spent about \$7,000 on the bikes, money raised at the group's annual Cajun Festival. He said he "stole the idea" of a

bike giveaway from his father's Rotary group in Chula Vista, which has done the project for at least 10 years.

Bicycle recipients also will be given helmets and pads.

The Rev. Kurt Fredrickson of Simi Covenant Church, in charge of distributing the bikes, is impressed with the project results.

"When they first got there (to the warehouse) it was intimidating," he said.

Some of the participants had never used a screwdriver, much less put a bike together, he said. But the crew members quickly developed a knack and within three hours, all 100 bicycles stood upright and rider-ready.

Tough Fredrickson already has several churches, a synagogue, and an elementary school that have asked for bicycles for less-fortunate children. He is still taking requests from organizations.

"Not all the bikes are spoken for yet," he said.

For more information, contact Fredrickson at 326-8835.

ELLEEN WIEBEN
Past Service/Banking
ACTIVE MEMBER

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Simi Valley, CA 93065
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805.584.0284

Joined Club: 07/02/97

Sponsored By: Doug Wieben

Paul Harris: Yes

PHLS: Yes

Master PHLS: S. Sunrise Fellow

Birthday: 08/24/46

Anniversary: 10/06/90

Interests/Hobbies: Wine tasting, Fine dining, Volunteering

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Strayer - Cultural/Social Event?
Guyanese Students - Barbados



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Guyana S. A.



THE
STAR
THURSDAY
JAN. 18, 2001
SECTION B
Bureau chief:
Karen Hibdon
579-1946
1720 Los Angeles Ave.,
Unit H-1, Simi Valley,
CA 93065

THE
STAR
THURSDAY
MARCH 22, 2001
SECTION B
Bureau chief:
Karen Hibdon
579-1946
1720 Los Angeles Ave.,
Unit H-1, Simi Valley,
CA 93065



News 118

Rotary ambassador scholarships set

The Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise is accepting applications through Friday for those who would like to be a part of the Ambassadorial Scholarship Program of The Rotary Foundation.

The program supports the mission of The Rotary Foundation to further international understanding and peace. The scholarship is for one regular academic year of full-time study at an institution assigned by foundation trustees. Funding is provided to cover round-trip transportation, required fees for a normal course load, reasonable room and board and some educational supplies.

Candidates are now being considered for the 2002-03 academic year and must possess the potential to be an ambassador for the United States while studying abroad. They must be proficient in the language of the host country and have completed at least two years of university or college course work when the scholarship begins.

Preference will be given to students willing to study in a less developed country, and special consideration may be given to candidates who propose to study fields related to Rotary's mission: concern for the aging, drug and alcohol abuse prevention, freedom from hunger, literacy promotion, peace eradication,

preservation of the Earth and urban peace.

Those interested in applying are asked to immediately call Cynthia Wells at 520-9500.

Group Study Exchange



The Rotary Foundation



California Team

District 5240
to
Africa
District 9210
May, 2000



Simi Rotarian works to ease world poverty

GLOBE-TROTTER: Dick Strayer has immersed himself in many humanitarian missions.

By Helen Gao
Staff writer

At age 68, Simi Valley resident Dick Strayer has earned the right to take it easy.

He's had a distinguished teaching career, built two successful businesses on the side and raised three children, each of whom has an established career.

The walls of his home office are covered with plaques, certificates of achievement and higher-education diplomas — all signs of someone who has made something of himself.

But Strayer is hardly in retirement mode.

Three years ago, he found a new outlet for his energy: making a difference in the lives of the poor, sick, disabled and orphaned living in Third World countries.

Since becoming a Rotary member in 1997, Strayer has involved himself in numerous humanitarian missions initiated around the world by the international service organization.

Last year alone, he traveled abroad seven times — to India, Guyana, Thailand, Malaysia, Cambodia, South Korea and Africa — to meet with local Rotarians to see where Rotary can help.

Whereas most travel abroad for sightseeing, he along with others

visited clinics, orphanages, villages to study examples of microeconomic projects and other institutions that serve the needy.

Those trips abroad left Strayer with indelible memories of extreme poverty and hardship: a 3-year-old child weighing 13 pounds; a primitive clinic with a corrugated roof and equipped with minimal equipment and medications; mothers walking

barefoot for miles and miles to have their children checked at clinics.

"The difference in poverty is really striking," said Strayer, comparing poverty he's seen abroad to what is considered poverty in this country.

In a trip to Africa last April, he was confronted with the staggering human toll AIDS has taken. "They have so many orphans down there. Many are in bad shape," he said.

His reaction to what he has witnessed is asking himself what he can do, Strayer said.

Working with Rotarians from around the world, he has established a long list of more than 20 projects to help improve life for the needy.

Some of the projects are: building a 48,000-acre orphanage in Maungbo, Zimbabwe; supplying

Please see ROTARIAN on B2



Staff photo by Chuck Kirman

FINDS: Dick Strayer wears a necklace from Guyana, and the ornate yami stick in his right hand is from Malawi. The walking stick and elephant at left are both from Zimbabwe.

Selling
Beer/Bananas
from tree top to
to people on elephants



Pleasure Moment -
Chingma, Thailand



GSF Team member
Strayer Visits Tea
Plantation
Malawi



National Immunization Day
Kanpur, India



Kanpur India

SANTA YNEZ WINE COUNTRY
TOUR FEB. 28, 2001

W



Randy & Kathleen
Adams



N



E



CAJUN CREOLE 2001

Cajun Creole Fest adds country fare to this year's fun

By Karen Hibdon
Staff writer

It's Cajun gone country! Well, not quite, but the 12th annual Cajun Creole Festival in Simi Valley this year is going to have a taste of country to go along with traditional Cajun fare of the highest caliber.

The event, May 26 and 27 (Memorial Day weekend), will again be on the grounds of Rancho Santa Susana Community Center at Stearns Street and Los Angeles Avenue, Simi Valley. The event is the largest fund-raiser of the year for the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise, which funnels all proceeds back into the community in supporting its local charities, said Dennis Barbee, chairman of this year's fest.

"We're expecting bigger-than-ever crowds and have a great entertainment schedule," he said. "We've mixed in a little country with the program to attract bigger audiences."

"A little country" is an understatement. Headlining the event are country greats Hal Ketchum and Lynn Anderson. Ketchum will perform at 7:30 p.m. May 26, and Anderson at 5:30 p.m. May 27.

Ketchum's newest single release, "She Is," is climbing the charts, but he's already had 15 hits make the top 10 and sold more than 2 million records. Anderson is a fixture in the entertainment industry and has collected numerous industry awards, including Country Female Artist of the Decade and a Grammy for best country vocal for the song she made famous, "Rose Garden." Fans have bought more than 16 million of her records and she's performed numerous times at the White House, as well as for the prince of Monaco and the queen of England.

In addition to this year's special guests, festival fans will enjoy the California Cajun sounds of Oxnard-based Acadiana, Leroy Thomas & The Zydeco Road Runners and Lisa Haley & the Zydecats.

A real show-stopper this year is expected to be Hunter Hayes, a 9-year-old blond, blue-eyed, accordion-playing youngster who can belt out Cajun French songs with the best of them. He's been featured on the Rosie O'Donnell Show and in People magazine.

The Cajun Festival hours are 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. May 26 and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. May 27. Presale tickets are \$12. Admission at the event is \$15, with children younger than 12 admitted free.

In addition to ongoing entertainment, the festival will feature 25 to 30 food and beverage booths and 40 to 50 crafts booths and a children's area with ceramics, face-painting, wall climbing and a

CAJUN: 'One of the best festivals'

Continued from B1
Moon Bounce.

"A big thing for the kids is the daily Mardi Gras parade planned for 3:20 p.m. Saturday and 3:10 p.m. on Sunday," Barbee said.

A large shaded dance floor and high-quality sound system will add to the festival fun, he added.

"We're recognized as one of the best Cajun festivals in the country. We have people coming from all over the United States, including Louisiana and Texas."

Last year's two-day event drew more than 15,000 people.

Presale tickets for this year's fest are available at First Western Bank in Simi Valley, Fillmore and Moorpark; Patterson & Tinforti.

Restores in Oxnard; and Supercuts, Carlson Travel, Del Taco, Baskets & Bows and Bob's Transmission, all in Simi Valley. Tickets will also be sold at the two admission gates to the festival.

Parking will be available on site and in the nearby Metrolink station parking lot and commuter buses will provide transportation for those parking at Simi Valley High School.

For more information on the Cajun Festival, call 520-4894 or call up the festival Web site at www.simi2000.com/rotary/cajun.html.

—Karen Hibdon's e-mail address is khibdon@coxnet.com

THE
STAR
MONDAY
MAY 7, 2001
SECTION B

Bureau chief:
Karen Hibdon
579-1946

8720 Los Angeles Ave.,
Unit H-1, Simi Valley,
CA 93065



THE
STAR
FRIDAY
MAY 25, 2001

SECTION B

Bureau chief
Karen Hibdon
579-1946
1720 Los Angeles Ave.,
Unit H-1, Simi Valley,
CA 93065

Cajun fest is short on Cajuns

Nobody promised Louisiana culture purists a rose garden. But now a thorny issue entwines this weekend's Cajun Creole Music Festival in Simi Valley.

For the first time in its 12 years, the festival will be headlined by country-western entertainers — crooner Hal Ketchum and songbird Lynn Anderson, whose big hit is "I Never Promised You a Rose Garden."

Four other acts at the two-day do have varying Cajun-Creole pedigrees and likely know gumbo from Dumbo.

Organizers of the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise charity event argue Cajun acts failed to draw well last year. They need to cover that shortfall by courting the bigger country-western clientele. Well-meaning critics say the festival has too little Cajun flavor for their taste. They caution to call it Cajun but to spotlight country is misrepresentation and exploitation.

The trouble might be everyone loves the idea of Cajun music but can't get next to the fact it is sung in French. This is a definite barrier in a country where most people would rather drink Tabasco sauce than watch a movie with subtitles.

And a good chunk of the music is mournful, befitting a people exiled from their land by the British in the 1790s.

"I'm certain my husband's Cajun grandmother — the late Mom Mom — would find this ideological brouhaha amusing. In fact, she found it a boot when Cajun culture became hip and happening in the late '90s — about the same time the Simi Valley festival started."

You see for most of this century the Cajuns of southern Louisiana were considered the bumpkins of the swamps by ignorant outsiders. They called them a mean-spirited ethnic slur I won't repeat.

Outsiders made fun of their diet as well. Now a pricey delicacy, crawfish was then the pork rind of seafood. "People used to say only Cajuns would eat that trash food," Mom Mom told me of the crustaceans that infested flooded rice fields.

Then — maybe because of the understandable pride Cajuns took in their culture — the world discovered French Louisiana's charms.

Overnight, fleets of tourist excursion boats flooded the swamps where the Cajuns once trapped and fished. My husband's boyhood friend and his band BeauSoleil went almost overnight from starving Cajun musicians to Grammy Award-winning recording artists.

So maybe Cajun is not the current ethnic flavor of the month. But I doubt few people down on the bayou are losing sleep over falling temporarily off the top of the bill in Simi Valley.

Cajuns truly believe in letting the good times roll, and that means rolling with the punches.

— Colleen Cason's e-mail address is cason@insidemag.com. Her telephone number is 655-5830.



THE
STAR
SUNDAY
MAY 27, 2001
SECTION B
County editor:
John Moore,
655-5815



Cajun festival spices up Simi Valley

By Roberta Freeman
Staff writer

Simi Valley offered a little taste of Louisiana Saturday as thousands of folks flocked to the 12th annual Cajun Creole Music Festival.

Opening day of the two-day event featured ongoing entertainment, food and crafts booths, kids' activities and a Mardi Gras parade. This year, the festival also went a little bit country, featuring recording artists Hal Ketchum and Lynn Anderson.

The festival is the major fund-raising event for the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise, raising an average of \$100,000 each year that is donated to more than 40 local charities, according to Simi Sunrise President Steve Smith.

Smith said the country music was added in an attempt to draw a wider audience — a move that has raised the ire of folks who would prefer a "pure" Cajun event.

But the crowds didn't seem to mind what the music was; they just wanted to eat, dance or just sit back and watch the crowd. Some sat at shady long tables along the dance floor, and others spread out around the grounds of Rancho Santa Susana Park.

Peggy Higgins of Los Angeles said she was a Cajun music enthusiast, but she likes country music as well.

"I have been a fan of Hal Ketchum for years. He was a big

draw for me," Higgins said. Jennie Gudath, another Cajun music fan from Los Angeles, agreed. "I think Hal Ketchum has kind of a Cajun sound," Gudath said.

Whatever the genre of music, crowds filled the dance floor. While some couples danced as the spirit moved them to, others tackled the rhythms with evident skill.

Mary Kato and Amy Rosenstien have been taking Zydeco dancing lessons in the South Bay area, and said there is a growing interest in the dance form.

"There is a whole core group of people here. Our dance instructors are here," Rosenstien said.

Kato explained Zydeco dance as a style that does resemble country dancing, "only more flat-footed and you keep your body even and low."

Members of the band Acadiana were having as much fun as the crowd. The group, founded eight years ago by Oxnard Realtors Terry Tintori and Pat Patterson, is made up of Ventura County residents.

"The band is my hobby," Tintori said, noting that he and Patterson draw no salary, giving the money to the professional musicians in the band.

"They call us imitators, but we love the music so much. I idolize the artists who started this type of music," Tintori said.

One of the highlights of Satur-



PRETTY IN PINK: Amber Harris, 5, models the latest Louisiana styles at the "To Please" custom clothing booth at the 12th annual Simi Valley Cajun Creole Music Festival. This festival brings Southern California a little closer to the South with spicy comfort food, kick-up-your-heels dance music and a variety of unique arts and crafts. For more information on the festival, see — B7.

day's entertainment lineup was 9-year-old Hunter Hayes. When Hunter came on stage to play and sing with his five-piece band, the crowds stopped dancing to watch the giant talent in such a little guy. The event is as much about the food as it is the entertainment. Menus featured alligator, gumbo, and crawfish by the bucket.

Mike Parks and Leslie Hall sat on a blanket in the shade, relishing some large portions of the shiny red crustaceans. Hall is a native of Louisiana who willingly drove the hour to Simi Valley from Long Beach for some of the comfort food and music of home. St. Francis Episcopal Church of Simi Valley sponsored a food

booth for the first time this year. Volunteer Vicky Beasley said members of the parish had been working on their recipes for alligator chili and gumbo for months. A Mardi Gras parade on Saturday was the highlight for kids. Led by the band Acadiana, kids wrapped themselves up in beads and masks, marching around the

grounds and gleefully throwing more beads and coins to the crowd.

Festival hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. today. Admission is \$15; children younger than 12 are admitted free.

— Roberta Freeman's e-mail address is rfreeman@insidemag.com.



THE
STAR
SUNDAY
MAY 20, 2001
SECTION B

County editor:
John Moore,
655-5815



Kurt Fredrickson

Critics say festival strays too far from Cajun music

COUNTRY SINGERS: Sponsors say, however, that variety draws bigger crowds.

By Karen Hibdon
Staff writer

With less than a week to go before the gates open to the 12th annual Simi Valley Cajun Creole Music Festival, the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise is coming under attack for misrepresenting the southern Louisiana culture.

In recent days about a dozen folks have written in their displeasure with this year's festival that

has, to some extent, "gone country." Headlining the May 26 and 27 event are country stars Hal Ketchum and Lynn Anderson. Their appearance, some say, is a daily highlight. The big draw, however, has always been the entertainment lineup, which has focused on providing Cajun and Zydeco sounds for listening and dancing.

This year's lineup, despite the addition of Ketchum and Anderson, is still dominated by Cajun entertainment, said Dennis Barbee, event chairman. He admits, however, this year's music festival is a divergence from that of years past.

"Some of their complaints are very justified," Barbee said. "They

are coming at it from the standpoint of wanting a pure Cajun/Zydeco festival." In 1999, Simi Sunrise brought in star Doug Kershaw as a headliner and got good response, enough so that last year the club was able to bring in six well-known Cajun/Zydeco groups for the 2000 festival.

The change this year was made to bring in bigger crowds, Barbee said. "Even though the Cajun/Zydeco folks are very loyal, their numbers are not big enough to bring in the ticket sales."

Each year tens of thousands of dollars raised at the Simi Valley Cajun Creole Festival are funneled back into the community through

Simi Sunrise's contributions to youth, senior and social support programs in the community, the county and internationally.

"It's difficult to stay a pure Cajun/Zydeco festival and I'm not so sure that's the way the music is going," Barbee said. Venues like the New Orleans Jazz Fest, Rhode Island Rhythm and Roots Fest, and Fort Lauderdale Crawfish Fest have all added entertainment this year outside the "pure" Cajun offerings.

"We really think by adding these mainline entertainers we'll have more money to invest next year in a bigger Cajun festival."

Ketchum is slated to play Saturday night and Anderson Sunday on

the festival grounds at Rancho Santa Susana Community Park. But the rest of the day is filled with the likes of Hunter Hayes, Leroy Thomas, Lisa Haley and the Zydecats and Acadiana. The lineup is not pure Cajun, but there's plenty of representation of the lifestyle and the music there, Barbee contends.

"It's a mix, we'll be the first to admit," Barbee said. "But it's designed that way to maximize the turnout. It's predominantly Cajun, 95 percent of the food booths are Cajun. ... We're most definitely a Cajun/Creole festival."

— Karen Hibdon's e-mail address is hibdon@insidemag.com.

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— Karen Hibdon's e-mail address is hibdon@insidemag.com.

THE
STAR
SATURDAY
MAY 26, 2001
SECTION B
Bureau chief
Karen Hibdon
570-1946
1720 Los Angeles Ave.,
Unit H-1, Simi Valley,
CA 93065



*this job was
a piece of cake!*

Dennis
Barbee
Chair Person
for Cajon
2001

9-year-old brings true Cajun spirit to festival

HUNTER HAYES: He's just a kid who's had two CDs and played at the White House.

By Roberta Freeman
Staff writer

Hunter Hayes passed during a performance for 800 students at Berywood School in Simi Valley on Friday to introduce himself as "a regular 9-year-old fourth-grader."

But the audience full of clapping, toe-tapping, screaming and shrieking fans who later lined up for autographs was proof that Hayes is anything but the average fourth-grader.

The accordion-playing, Cajun, who has been performing since he was 2, has written 40 songs, orchestrated and fronts a five-piece band, and boasts an enviable list of credits. He's produced two CDs, performed at the White House, in movies, television and made live appearances around the country and abroad.

Visits to the elementary school and the Boys & Girls Club of Simi Valley were a preview of his performances at the 12th annual Simi Valley Cajun Creole Music Festival today and Sunday.

"I love what I'm doing or, believe me, I wouldn't do it," Hunter told adoring fans as he walked through the crowd with a microphone to answer questions. A natural born performer with astonishing talent, he exudes poise, maturity and a stage presence far beyond his years.

Hunter, who hails from Louisiana, will perform both days at the Cajon Festival, which is under fire for not having a "pure" Cajun feel this year with the addition of country stars Hal Ketchum and Lynn Anderson.

Hunter said he loves all types of music but admits a fondness for the Cajun music of his hometown, Breaux Bridge, La.

Asked to define "Cajun," Hunter simply described it as fun. Hunter's father, Leo Hayes, explained Cajun music started in the late 1800s and early 1900s when French Canadians moved to Louisiana and their only entertainment was to sit on the porch and play music. Hayes defined Zydeco as having more of a Creole influence from the music of African and South American slaves.

Both Hunter's parents claim they have no musical talent and want to allow Hunter to pursue his music in any direction he chooses. But they believe Hunter has done a lot to revive an interest in Cajun music, especially with children.

In addition to a velvety singing voice, the youngster plays bass and lead guitars, keyboard, drums and his favorite instrument — a Cajun accordion, technically named a diatonic melodeon. His custom-made instrument is just his size, sporting only nine keys instead of 10.

Hunter's parents try to limit his appearances to weekends, in an effort to keep life as normal as possible. Hunter attends school five days a week in Louisiana.

"We want to give him a chance to be a kid," Leo Hayes said. "I don't like to make him practice extensively."

Hunter said he plans to continue his music.

"I just love being on the road. I love when we get on a plane and go somewhere to play," Hunter said, taking a big drink of water and returning to sign autographs for his fans.

— Roberta Freeman's e-mail address is mredree.com.



Staff photos by Ed Compton

ON STAGE: Hunter Hayes, a 9-year-old with his own band and two CDs to his credit, tunes up for this weekend's 12th annual Simi Valley Cajun Creole Music Festival by performing for 800 students at Berywood School Friday morning. He later answered questions, left, from his young audience.



Cajun Creole Music Festival

WHAT: Two days of music, dancing, food and arts and crafts mark the 12th annual Cajun Creole Music Festival sponsored by the Rotary Club of Simi Valley. Proceeds are funneled back into the community.

WHEN: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. today and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday. **WHERE:** Grounds at Rancho Santa Susana Community Center, 5005 Los Angeles Ave., across from the Metrolink Station in Simi Valley.

ADMISSION: \$15 at the gate, with children under 12 admitted free.

ENTERTAINMENT:

■ Saturday — noon, Acadiana; 2 p.m., LeRoy Thomas and the Zydeco Road Runners; 3:30 p.m., Mardi gras children's parade; 4 p.m., Hunter Hayes; 5:30 p.m., Lisa Haley & the Zydeklats; 7:30 p.m., Hal Ketchum.

■ Sunday — noon, Hunter Hayes; 1:30 p.m., Mardi gras parade for kids; 4 p.m., Lisa Haley; 5 p.m., Lynn Anderson. **PARKING:** On the grounds, at the Metrolink Station and at nearby Simi Valley High School where a bus will shuttle patrons to the festival grounds.

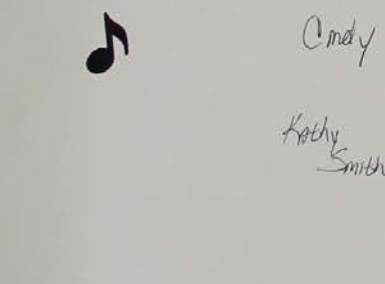


Rodney Skidmore

Beer Booth #3 Rocks



Michelle Foster



Michelle Skidmore

Britt Skidmore



Saw #4 Britt

