Montalvo Arts Center’s extraordinary Carriage House Theatre Performing Arts Series returns this fall with a brand new line-up of critically acclaimed performances.

All performances take place in the intimate 300-seat Carriage House Theatre at the Montalvo Art Center. Shows begin in October and will run through April 2013.

***Members’ ticket presale will run from July 10-15, with tickets going on sale to the general public on July 16, at 10 am.

***Tickets may be purchased by calling 408.961.5858 (M-F, 10am-4pm) or online at montalvoarts.org or ticketmaster.com.

Enjoyed by some 3.5 million people, Cavalia is a lavish production involving 47 magnificent horses and featuring 38 riders, aerialists, acrobats, dancers and musicians from all over the world. A show unlike any other, Cavalia celebrates the relationship between humans and horses, virtually reinventing the equestrian arts. Cavalia has received critical acclaim from around the world, including The New York Times, which noted that the theme of Cavalia is “Celebrating horses, humans and their bond,” while O Magazine called the show “breathtaking!” Jay Leno of The Tonight Show raved, “The greatest show I have ever seen!” The Washington Post exclaims, “Impressive, highly refined, indeed a wonder,” and the San Francisco Chronicle affirms “Cavalia takes horse play to a new level, even for non-horsey folk.”

Tickets are priced from $44.50 to $139.50 + applicable fees. For guests who desire an extraordinary outing, the show can be customized for an extended experience from $169.50 to $239.50, including a Horse Lovers Package that lets patrons tour Cavalia’s stables after the show, and the VIP Rendez-Vous Package that includes a post-show tour of the stables, a cocktail/dinner reception and much more. Special pricing is also available for children (2-12), juniors (13-17), senior citizens (65+) and for groups.

Cavalia: A Magical Encounter Between Human and Horse, an innovative multi-media and multi-disciplinary production created by Normand Latourelle, one of the co-founders of famed Cirque du Soleil, will come to San Jose for the first time this July. The show will premiere July 18, 2012 under its signature White Big Top, at the intersection of Hwy 101 and 87 East, across Hwy 101 from the San Jose Airport.

CHM Presents: August 8th - The Art & Technology Behind Google Doodles

Doodles are the fun, surprising and sometimes spontaneous changes that are made to the Google logo to celebrate holidays, anniversaries and the lives of famous artists, pioneers and scientists. The Art & Technology Behind Google Doodles

**Google!**
History San José Hosts Series of Family Days: Gold Rush Day on July 15 Launches Series

Summer is a good time to have an adventure, and History Park will provide the backdrop. Gold Rush Adventure Day will allow families to be a ‘49er for a day—as in the original gold rushers of 1849—Sunday, July 15 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

There will be family activities, including panning for gold, cowboy grub (food available for purchase) and good old-fashioned music. Other activities will include the hand car, trolley rides, pony express relay and the Wells Fargo Stage Coach will be available for photo opportunities.

The second of the series of Family Days will be on Sunday, August 12, Happy Birthday Car 124! a celebration of Trolley #124’s 100th birthday party. This signature red trolley will be running on its track, there will be a horse car, and hand-car rides will be available. The newly-acquired caboose will also be featured. Vintage vehicles on display will include fire engines, an electric car, and Model T’s.

History San José Presents Photographic Exhibit Through My Father’s Eyes

The Filipino-American Experience in the Bay Area

Though the celebration of Filipino American History Month (FAHM) is not until October, History San José (HSJ) will present, in partnership with the Filipino American National Historical Society’s (FANHS) Santa Clara Valley Chapter, Through My Father’s Eyes, a photographic experience documenting Filipino American life in San Francisco during the 1940’s and 1950’s, opening July 11 at the Gallery in the Pacific Hotel at History Park.

Through My Father’s Eyes: The Filipino American Photographs of Ricardo Ocreto Alvarado (1914 – 1976) is a collection of 50 photographic chosen from more than 3,000 discovered by his daughter, Janet Alvarado after his death. This exhibit offers a rare view into the daily life of the Filipino-American community in the post-World War II era in the Bay Area.

“It is such an honor for History San José to offer the South Bay premiere of this photography exhibit, Through My Father’s Eyes,” said Alida Bray, CEO of History San José. “Mr. Alvarado’s creativity has kept alive the Filipino-American life in mid-century San Francisco and surrounding communities.” The exhibit will be open to the public beginning July 12 at the Gallery in the Pacific Hotel at History Park in Kelley Park. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; the Museum Store and O’Brien’s Café are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Admission: Tuesday through Friday is free; Saturday and Sunday: Free for HSJ members, Adults $8, Seniors and Students $5, Children under 6 are free.
Hospitality Services Opportunities in a rapidly changing environment!

Two areas have lately attracted my attention. To the initiated they have existed for some time, for those engaged in the daily maelstrom, they may be thought provoking:

The first area and its opportunities are related to the aging population – the “Baby-Boom” generation. Whether its members are still living at home, or whether they are in “Assisted Living” or “Retirement Home” environments, we, the experts in matters hospitality, can provide services to those retirees. Physical fitness becomes more important to them; health-related impairments may require assistance; assisted living may offer opportunities such as transportation; recreation in- or outdoors; advice for travel to relatives or long thought-of sightseeing destinations other than cruises.

Such personalized services will increasingly be sought. Some of them are offered by a variety of organizations (AARP being one of them). However, there are many as yet unaddressed niches that retirees would be willing to visit if the services were offered at reasonable fees. Concierges, Meeting Planners, and other experts in the hospitality industry may want to revisit their skills inventory and check the market for service opportunities for the elder generation.

The second area is that of services for visiting tourists. They can be from other parts of the country or from abroad but are, in many instances, insufficiently prepared for the many challenges and opportunities waiting for them.

- While English is – by now – an almost universal language, there are still visitors who rely on guides who speak the language of their country of origin.

- They will arrive with chip-and-PIN smartcards or EMVs that may or may not work or be accepted in the US (the process involves encryption, digital signatures and entry of the cardholder’s personal identification number, or PIN, a technology that accounts for 70 percent of all cards in Europe. chip cards are accepted by 90 % of merchants and ATMs in Europe.

    - Many of them will arrive with computing and communication devices that may have to be compatible with domestic conventions (apps, currency converters, etc.)
    - Access to a country’s embassy, visitor’s bureau or tourist office may be needed for matters passport, visa, etc.
    - Car Rental companies have to stand ready to familiarize visitors with US rules of the road, AAA or other road assistance.

Now, tourists could run around to each of the various places where such services are provided, or they can find a central point that can provide most of them on the spot. At airports – for a fee, wouldn’t you know – there are already helpful individuals that will speed up check-ins (security checks, luggage, seat assignments, process frequent flyer privileges etc.) that will shorten the waiting in line. I have personally spoken to acquaintances from abroad that have postponed a non-business trip to the US because the requirements by US airport security and border control staff are, in their opinion, close to paranoid behavior. Well, since 9-11 we have all lived with these matters and accepted them as the price for our security. These would-be tourists, if they could avail themselves of the services of local concierge-type staff might change their minds.

Gus Holweger (gusholweger@comcast.net)
Contributing Editor to VAM and SVCA Board Member.

PS.: Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.
SAVE THE DATE – INVITATION TO FOLLOW

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SanJoseMuseumofArt @sjoart
Hi everyone,

It’s full blown summer so thought I’d pass along a taste of what’s going on in the city during July.

Baseball is in full swing – pun intended! – and with Matt Cain’s ‘perfect game’ you can feel the Giants buzz not just here in the city but across the Bay area. We spent some one-on-one time with SF Giants pitcher Matt Cain for our July national baseball issue (contact me if you’d like a copy!) where he shares what he loves about living here (hint: you might spot him at Patxi’s Pizza in North Beach).

In theater news Broadway classic “Les Miserables” returns to the San Francisco stage at the Orpheum Theater (July 10-August 26). It’s a classic story that’s always a hit and timed quite nicely with the updated feature film being released shortly.

We are also excited for the annual Fillmore Jazz Festival taking place the weekend of July 7 and 8. It’s the largest of its kind on the West Coast and will include live music from dawn to dusk, fine art offerings and gourmet food and drink. There will also be a tribute to Etta James by local vocalist Kim Nalley this year, as well as swing dancing lessons and contests at the O’Farrell Street stage!

You probably know the Golden Gate Bridge is celebrating 75 years however it’s also the Stern Grove Music Festival’s 75th anniversary too! It’s always a great time to sit outside, enjoy a picnic and enjoy the music... and best of all it’s free every Sunday from 2pm. Just make sure to get there early to grab your spot!

San Francisco has plenty in store this summer, so gear up for a great time and enjoy!
Hello Sailing Friends -
We have a busy month of fun sailing adventures!

Wednesday Evening Sailboat Races
Each week during the summer months, you'll find upwards of 75 sailboats heading out onto Monterey Bay for the Wednesday Night Beer Can Races. There isn't a winner, just lots of fun, fast boats, and smiles all around. Sail Dates are July 4th, 11th & 25th: Tickets are $30.00 per person.

Wine Sails
Vino Tabi Winery - July 18th- 6:30- 8:00 $40
Vine Hill Winery – Aug. 8th - 6:30- 8:00 $40
Sit back, relax, & enjoy the wind, water & wines.

Day Sails are still a great deal at just $20.00 and the 1 ½ hour sail is just $30, and as always, wee ones under 5 ride for free with a paid day sail adult ticket. See the complete Summer calendar.

Our Feature Sails will certainly sell out - so reserve early. To purchase by phone call our ticketing company, Zerve, at 800-979-3370.

The Team O’ Neill Catamaran is also available for private adventures, where guests can charter the boat for Weddings, Corporate Events, Private Parties and Memorials at Sea.

The Mountain Winery Premium Concert Dining Package includes:
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Chateau Deck: Fresh, simple, seasonal, delicious … describes the three course prix-fixe dinner prepared by our Executive Chef and Culinary Team. Feast while enjoying breathtaking views from The Chateau Deck. View sample Chateau Deck Menu.

Winery Deck: This exciting new prix-fixe dining option features a country cuisine created by our award winning Executive Chef. Reservations are recommended. View sample Winery Deck Menu.

Buy Dinner & Ticket Package: Concert.MountainWinery.com

ELVIS HAS LEFT THE BUILDING reminds us why we continue to love Presley’s songs—no matter who is singing them. And why, even though Elvis is really gone now, we can’t bring ourselves to let him go. Before each performance, patrons will have the chance to get in the mood by participating in a lively “Karaoke Elvis” session that lets them croon and gyrate to The King’s music.
Summer’s the Time for Al Fresco Dining

One of the many benefits of Silicon Valley’s mild summers, with balmy temperatures and low humidity, is the opportunity to enjoy outdoor dining. Restaurants throughout the South Bay, Peninsula and Half Moon Bay Coast offer a creative medley of alfresco gardens, terraces, sidewalk seating and patios. Here are some great options for delectable open-air meals:

- by Regan Crisp, Discover Silicon Valley

With its Italian architecture in Mediterranean pastels and stately palms lining the center’s lush boulevards, Santana Row is quite the setting for sidewalk seating, with a range of international cuisines to choose from. Options include Left Bank Brasserie, Pizza Antica, Village California Bistro. (San Jose: Hwy 280 & Winchester Blvd.; 408/551-4611)

For traditional Oaxacan cuisine, head for Mezcal, where mole sauces combine with lime, garlic and chilies to create complex Mexican dishes. Patio dining and an impressive list of tequilas complete the festive experience. (San Jose: 25 W. San Fernando St.; 408/283-9595)

Crisp beers, made-from-scratch food and a relaxing atmosphere make the patio at Rock Bottom the perfect meeting place. (Campbell: 3635 De Anza Blvd.; 408/270-0707)

Elegant yet contemporary, Parcel 104 serves up gourmet seasonal dishes using mostly local ingredients on their outdoor patio. (Santa Clara: Marriott Hotel, 2700 Mission College Blvd.; 408/970-6104)

Outstanding fusion cuisine, beer brewed in-house and lakeside dining consistently rank Faultline Brewing as one of the area’s best outdoor bars. Dine comfortably on the outdoor patio, overlooking the lake, while the friendly, knowledgeable wait staff happily educates you on the more than 25 handcrafted ales and lager. (Sunnyvale: 1235 Oakmead Pkwy.; 408/736-2739)

Cascading in downtown Mountain View affords a pleasant sidewalk ambience, while bold fish dishes and an exciting bar program bring Spanish and Latin American tradition to the table. (Mountain View: 400 Castro St.; 650/940-9500)

Madera at the Rosewood Sand Hill Hotel offers elegant dining rooms opening onto picturesque outdoor terraces, with views of the gardens and the Santa Cruz Mountains. Radiant fireplaces offer warmth in the evenings, while the food pays homage to local tradition with wild, sustainable ingredients and a wood-burning kitchen reminiscent of a California ranch house. (Palo Alto: 2625 Sand Hill Rd.; 650/561-1540)

Town & County Village’s popular organic restaurant, Mayfield Bakery & Café, is dedicated to sustainable and wood-fired cuisine. The Café offers sunny, outdoor dining in addition to a rustic dining room, and the Bakery boasts spectacular desserts and breads. (Palo Alto: 855 El Camino Real; 650/853-9200)

Fresh fish from local distributors, warm favors and elegant surroundings define the experience at Scott’s Seafood, whether you’re dining indoors or on the covered patio. (Palo Alto: 855 El Camino Real; 650/323-1555)

You’ll feel welcomed into the stylish surroundings at St. Michael’s Alley, where the outdoor patio offers a chance to take in savoury, comforting dishes at quiet tables nestled between trees and flowering plants. (Palo Alto: 140 Homer Ave.; 650/326-2530)

Welcome your comments............

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Thru July 15: San Jose Repertory Theatre presents Bill W. & Dr. Bob. This inspiring docu-drama tells the true story of the founders of Alcoholics Anonymous, whose paths crossed at just the right moment to create a formidable and historic alliance. By Samuel Shem and Janet Surrey, directed by Richard Seer. Tues, 7:30pm; Wed-Sat, 8pm; Wed, 11am; Sat, 3pm; Sun, 2 & 7pm. (San Jose: 101 Paseo de San Antonio; 408/367-7255)

Thru July 24: San Jose Stage presents Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson, a satirical rock musical and the story of America’s original political maverick. An exhilarating comedy of historic proportions, this show oozes political intrigue and wit as it journeys back to the humble beginnings of America’s seventh president, from the Tennessee frontier to the White House. Music and lyrics by Michael Friedman, directed by Rick Singleton. Wed-Thurs, 7:30pm; Fri-Sat, 8pm; Sat, 3pm; Sun, 2pm. (San Jose: California Theatre, 345 S. 1st St.; 408/283-7142)

July 13: Al Green. Soul legend Reverend Green performs at Montalvo’s beautiful outdoor Garden Theatre. 7:30pm. (Saratoga: Montalvo Arts Center, 15400 Montalvo Rd.; 408/961-5800)

July 14: Fountain Blues Festival. A number of world-class blues and roots musicians gather annually for this outdoor music festival. This year’s acts include slide guitar great Elvin Bishop, The Chicago Blues Guitar Shootout with Lurrie Bell and John Primer, and Woodstock headliners Canned Heat featuring Fito de la Parra, Harvey Mandel, Larry Taylor and Dale Spalding.12-3pm. (San Jose: St. James Park, St, James St and 2nd St.; 408/353-3087)

July 14-15: Palo Alto Clay & Glass Festival. The largest show of its kind, this event brings together ceramics artists, jewelers, glass blowers and more for a celebration of unique, handcrafted art. Sat & Sun, 10-5. (Palo Alto: Rinconada Park, 777 Embarcadero Rd.; 650/329-2366)


July 29: Gladys Knight & Natalie Cole. Motown singer Knight, best known for her work with the Pips, performs with R&B and jazz vocalist Cole. 7:30pm. (Saratoga: Mountain Winery, 14831 Pierce Rd.; 888/9-AXS-TIX)
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