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.

Wine & Dine Soiree
Tuesday, August 7th
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
You are invited to Santana Row for an evening of wine tastings, appetizers and everything new!
RSVP: svcowinedinesoiree.eventbrite.com
Welcome reception will take place in Oak Tree Lounge in front of Pinkberry from 6:30 p.m.

REGALE
Wines and Winesports
(408) 353-2500 • 24040 Summit Road • Los Gatos, CA
www.regalewine.com

• Aug 11 & 12 Low-n-Slow Food Cuisine will roll in again sure to showcase such delights as pork sliders with cherry BBQ sauce—perfect with the ’08 O’Neel Pinot Noir...
• Aug 18 Pizza Gypsies are back!
San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art
560 South First Street San Jose, CA 95113
408.283.8155

Aug. 30, 2012
Downtown San Jose
City Beneath The City
Historical Walking Tour
5pm - 7pm
$30 p/person, includes family style Chinese food dinner at P.F. Chang's China Bistro in downtown San Jose. Space is limited. Advance reservation is required. To reserve, call 408-283-8155

‘Happy Birthday Car 124’ at History Park on August 12 & the Annual Fandango! at the Peralta Adobe in the San Pedro Square Market on August 19

The second of the series of the History San José’s Family Days will be on Sunday, August 12, Happy Birthday Car 124!, a celebration of Trolley #124’s 100th birthday party at History Park. A great place for a birthday party, this signature red trolley will be running on its track, there will be a trolley car drawn by a horse, and visitors can pump themselves a ride on a vintage hand-car. Vintage vehicles on display will include fire engines, an electric car, and Model T’s.

There will be crafts for the kids, live music featuring the Peninsula Banjo Band. And what a birthday party—cake included! Even the San Jose Giants will celebrate. Party-goers can stay, picnic and watch the fireworks after the baseball game. Food typical of the Gay Nineties will be available for purchase all afternoon.

August 19, is the annual Fandango! at the Peralta Adobe, in the heart of the new San Pedro Square Market.

This date is significant in that it commemorates the death 161 years ago of Maria Luis Peralta. He was the California who lived in the Peralta Adobe with his family, and was one of the first Accolades (mayor) of Pueblo de San Jose de Guadalupe.

Typical of that era, there will be music and dancing, as well as a descendant of the original horses that were brought by the Spanish explorers. Children will have the opportunity to make adobe bricks, corn husk “pocket buddies”, candles, rope a steer and learn more about the mission and rancho period of California.
Penguins & Pajamas is the perfect opportunity to come to the Academy with your little ones and listen to the evening songs of the rainforest birds and sing “twinkle twinkle” to a sea star at the Discovery Tide pool. You can become a stargazing guru at an after-hours planetarium show, and settle in for a bedtime story while snacking on cookies and milk. When the lights go out, unroll your sleeping bag in African Hall, next to the swaying kelp of the California Coast tank, or even at the Swamp window, face-to-face with Claude the albino alligator. In the morning, rise and shine, then head over to the Academy Café for a continental breakfast.

There are 4 opportunities this year to take part in this one-of-a-kind experience and the next one is on Friday, September 21st!

For information about discounted tickets for groups of 10 or more contact Cyd Antang at 415-379-5205 or cantang@calacademy.org, or Scott Black at 415-379-5853 or sblack@calacademy.org

2012 Sleepover Dates
- Friday, September 21st, 2012 - Grownup Sleepover!
- Friday, October 12th, 2012
- Saturday, November 10th, 2012
- Sunday, December 30th, 2012
Hello again!

In August the local excitement of America's Cup in San Francisco begins as the city plays host to a World Series qualifying race from August 21-26. The AC World Series is a new tournament created by Larry Ellison that features races in venues worldwide to build excitement for the main event — the America's Cup Finals.

Next year’s 34th America’s Cup Finals, taking place Sept. 7-22, 2013, will truly be history in the making; the San Francisco course is the first in history that can be viewed in entirety from the shore. In addition it will be the first time the race has been contested in the United States since 1995. The race is a 16-day event playing out in the spectacular natural amphitheater of San Francisco Bay. New boat designs for the race include the AC45 catamarans—and the AC72s, 72-foot catamarans raced in San Francisco for the first time ever.

During next month’s World Series eight teams from six countries will compete in identical 45-foot catamarans in various locations. These locations include Cascais, Portugal; Plymouth, England; San Diego, California; and Naples and Venice, Italy in April and May of next year. The first year of racing, which concluded in Newport, Rhode Island in July, saw ORACLE TEAM USA crowned the champions. The second season begins in San Francisco, with the races in August and also in early October; teams will compete in the identical high-speed AC45 class.

So grab your shades and your SPF and head down to the water to witness all the excitement—and history in the making. We'll see you there!

Until next month…

Kendra Lee
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Impressions of Paris

I had not been to Paris in a decade and Viva la difference! This time the Parisians were welcoming and actually appreciated my feeble attempt at speaking French.

I found the transportation remarkable. The bus system is efficient. Busses are fast and nearly direct if you know your destination. They do not stop on every corner.

Bicycles can be rented easily. Racks of them are positioned around Paris at automated Velib stations. For a small fee with your credit or debit card you can ride for hours thru out the city. They are sturdy, with a large basket and lights. All I needed to do was check the tires. Bike lanes are plentiful and many streets are closed to cars on weekends. Bikes can be returned at a station and pick up another and you can nearly ride for free, since the first 1/2 hour is free.

Electric cars are like the bike operation. Similar to the Zip Cars but more accessible. The only mode of transportation not easily accessible was taxis, unless you were near a popular hotel or major hub. This trip I was staying in the 11 arrondissement and taxi stands were rare.

The 11 arrondissement is like our Mission District in San Francisco as far as the food scene goes. In May and June when I was there, Paris was light until 10 PM. Cafes seem to pop up everywhere by Happy Hour. I was surprised to see more people drinking beer than wine. Wine was not discounted at happy hours, only mixed drinks and beer. Craft beers have not caught on but there are plenty of good Belgium beers.

French roast coffee beans were hard to find. I finally bought coffee beans at Starbucks. Maybe Parisians drink their coffee at cafes and not home. The two Apple stores were in amazing locations, one being under the Louvre. McDonalds are very popular in Paris. They serve beer and wonderful pastries and their takeout business is very strong.

Cafes are the best show in town. Sitting inside is still less expensive and gratuities are included in your bill.

Death is an art form in Paris. The cemeteries are fascinating, huge and very popular. I was lost in the Pere Lachise even with a cemetery map. The Catacombs was one of the most bizarre and interesting sites I have ever seen. I walked over a mile alone underground surrounded by artistically arranged bones.

If you go to Paris I would recommend having a credit card with EMV chip and one with no foreign transaction fee. If you like museums buy a pass to avoid the long lines. Always carry a bus/metro map. The public transportation is wonderful and it is a fabulous walking city but even the Parisians get lost.

Maria Lange
mlange206@aol.com
**Thru Aug 26:** Shakespeare Santa Cruz. The acclaimed stage company presents: Shakespeare’s comic masterpiece Twelfth Night. (7/24-8/26) The Man in the Iron Mask (7/25-8/26) and Henry IV, Part II (8/7-8/26). (Santa Cruz: UCSC, Meyer Dr. & Heller Dr.; 831/459-2159; www.shakespearesantacruz.org)

**Aug 4-5:** San Jose Renaissance Faire. Visit the days of Shakespeare and Queen Elizabeth II at this full-scale, authentic faire featuring two days of entertainment and interactive events. Sat, 10-6; Sun, 10-5. (San Jose: Guadalupe River Park, 494 W. Santa Clara St.; 415/354-1773)

**Aug 11:** Buddy Guy with Lonny Lang. Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee and iconic Chicago blues guitarist Guy performs with Grammy Award-winning blues and rock guitarist Lang. 7:30. (Saratoga: Mountain Winery; 888/9-AXS-TIX)

**Aug 11-12:** Los Gatos Fiesta De Artes. Los Gatos’ art and wine tradition brings together the town’s artisans, vintners, micro-brewers, entertainers and merchants for two days of crafts, live music, gourmet food, wine, locally brewed beer and art in every medium. Sat-Sun, 10-6. (Los Gatos: Civic Center, 110 E. Main St.; 408/395-8016)

**Aug 15-19:** Ringling Bros. & Barnum & Bailey Circus brings the legend of Dragons to life. Myth and majesty take the arena by storm in this live show melding fire, glittering costumes and breathtaking sets with astonishing aerial, trapeze and animal stunts. Wed-Fri, 7:30pm; Sat, 11am, 3pm & 7pm; Sun 1 & 5pm. (San Jose: HP Pavilion, 525 W. Santa Clara St.; 800/745-3000)

**Aug 16:** Diana Krall. Grammy Award-winning jazz pianist and vocalist Krall is known for her sultry, contralto vocals. Denzal Sinclaire also performs. 7:30pm. (Saratoga: Mountain Winery; 888/9-AXS-TIX)

**Aug 25-26:** Palo Alto Festival of the Arts. One of the area’s largest arts and craft festivals boasts more than three hundred artist’s booths, an Italian street painting expo, a kinetic sculpture garden, live music, fine wines and microbrews, gourmet food and a children’s art studio. Sat-Sun, 10-6. (Palo Alto: Downtown, University Ave.; 650/324-3121)
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