



NEWMAN

Fall Festival

SEPT. 3RD THRU 6TH 2021



A Special Supplement Published
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& Gustine Press-Standard
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Felbers selected as 2021 festival grand marshals

By SABRA STAFFORD

SSTAFFORD@WESTSIDECONNECT.COM

When the Newman Fall Festival parade starts to wind through the streets of downtown Newman, it will be a pair of familiar faces for many Newman residents that will be leading the fanfare.

Van and Vicki Felber were selected to serve as the grand marshals for the parade. Van recently retired after 36 years as a kindergarten teacher with the Newman Crows Landing Unified School District, while Vicki continues to work as an administrative secretary with the District.

"We were overwhelmed," Van said of learning that he and his wife had been selected to serve as grand marshals for the long-standing Newman parade. "It is such an honor. This year they

said they got community input about who it should be, so that made it even extra special because we were chosen by the community."

"The public sees and knows who has a positive influence in our community and we appreciated their input," said Newman Fall Festival chair Christine Eddington. "Van and Vicki Felber both work for the NCLUSD and have given their time to the children of our town. Van retired this year after 36 years as a kindergarten teacher. The NFF honors them for their dedication and overall love for the children of our community."

Van and Vicki Felber were high school sweethearts and even when he went off to college, he continued to comeback to Newman to visit Vicki. They have been married

for 44 years and have four children, three of whom are math teachers for the District and one who is a business owner.

A career in education was not the immediate career path for Van. After graduating from college he worked on a farm with his father-in-law.

"I never thought in a million years that I'd be in education, it was never a thought," Van said. "Back when we moved to Newman after going to college, I was farming with my father-in-law and in the wintertime I was able to have extra time after I serviced all the equipment. My father-in-law says 'why don't you substitute teach so you can keep busy. And from the moment I walked into that classroom, I knew that was going to be it. So I went back to school



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Van and Vicki Felber will serve as the grand marshals for the Newman Fall Festival.

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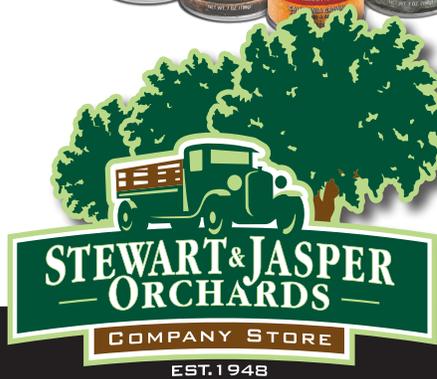
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FELBERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

and got my teaching credential.”

The chance to see some of the people that he has taught over the years is what has Van the most excited about his grand marshal duties.

“The kids were my life for the last 36 years and they’ve sort of been like a family to me,” Van said. “I’ve gotten to know them and their families and watched them grow up, so I think it will be great to see all those faces again.”

The parade is set for 11 a.m. Sept. 5.

Auto club continues tradition of cars, community

By SABRA STAFFORD

SSTAFFORD@WESTSIDECONNECT.COM

The Westside Auto Club will be bringing out plenty of classic cars and trucks for the Newman Fall Festival.

The Club will have some classic autos in the Sunday parade, which will then be followed by a car show at Pioneer Park. The car show starts at 12 p.m. Sunday. Awards will be given out at 3:30 p.m. Entry into the car show is free.

Started in 1948 by six men, the Westside Auto Club is one of the older car clubs in the region. It now has a membership of 35 classic car enthusiasts who are more likely to host charitable car shows than country drag races.

Don Gomes has been the president of the club



WESTSIDE CONNECT FILE PHOTO

See AUTO CLUB | PAGE 4

Classic cars of all eras will be on display at the 2021 Newman Fall Festival as the Westside Auto Club hosts its annual car show.

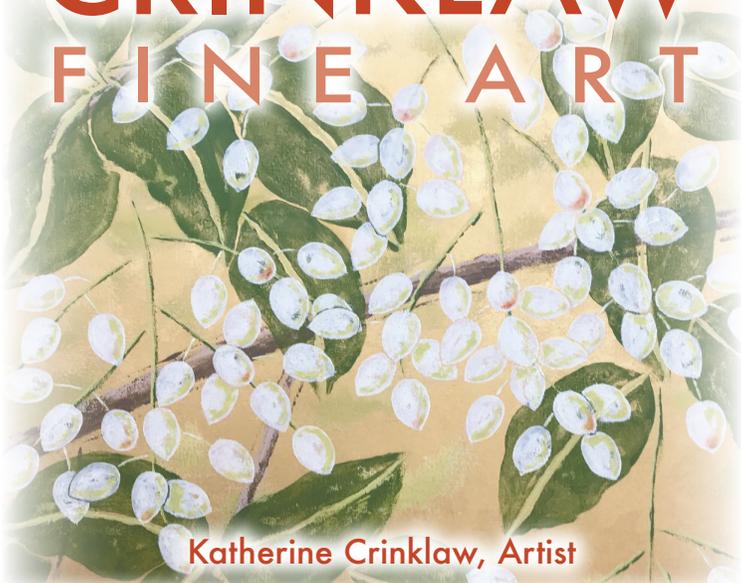
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AUTO CLUB

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

for 24 years. Most of the members come from Newman, Gustine, Patterson, Crows Landing and Turlock, but membership is open to anyone in the Central Valley.

When the opportunity arises, the club likes to

gather for meet ups or mini cruises in Newman and Gustine.

The club is committed to giving back to the community. It routinely provides scholarships to students pursuing jobs and careers in the automotive, machinery and agricultural industries. The club also supports local food banks and help with the Toys for Tots events.

Individuals interested in learning more about the Westside Auto Club or becoming a member can follow them at <https://www.facebook.com/Westside-Auto-Club-136069073133258/>

Anyone interested in showing a classic car or truck at the Newman Fall Festival can contact Don Gomes at (209) 765-1273.



WESTSIDE CONNECT FILE PHOTOS

The Westside Auto Club car show is always a crowd favorite at the festival.

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Fall Festival!



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Bakers, start your ovens

By SABRA STAFFORD

SSTAFFORD@WESTSIDECONNECT.COM

The intoxicating aromas of cakes, cobblers, cookies and other confectioneries will be wafting through downtown Newman with the return of the Newman Fall Festival baking contest.

Sponsored by Diamond Nuts, the contest will select winners in six categories: pies and cobblers; cookies and macaroons; cakes and coffee cakes; bars and brownies; breads

and muffins; and a children's division, which is open to children ages 8 to 14 years and can be any type of baked good.

Each category will have first, second and third place winners. The first place winners will get a gift basket and a plaque, while the second and third place finishers will be bestowed with ribbons.

The overall winner will be awarded with the Fall Festival Sweepstakes plaque.

Bakers will present

their entries at 8 a.m. Saturday at the L. J. Newman Memorial Center at 649 Orestimba Road.

All entries must be placed in disposable containers or plates. No dishes will be returned.

Participants baked goods will be served at the Fall Festival VIP breakfast.

Entry forms can be picked up at the Westside Connect office at 1021 Fresno Street from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Historical walking tour offered

This year the Newman Fall Festival will provide attendees an opportunity to learn a little more about the community with a guided historical walking tour.

The Downtown Newman Historical Walking tour will take place Sun-

day following the parade. Guided tours will begin at 1 p.m. and at 2:30 p.m. at St. Claire's Corner (Merced & Main).

Participants will walk up Main Street and learn about some of the early history and architecture of the downtown area.

Participants will have an opportunity to win tickets to the West Side Theatre in a drawing they can enter at the Newman Museum.

Self-guided tour sheets also will be available at the Fall Festival Booth on Sunday, after the parade.



NEWMAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Festival-goers are invited to take a guided stroll through Newman history Sunday following the parade.



Honoring Our Grand Marshals and Miss Newmans

GRAND MARSHALS

1972	Franklin "Patch" Patchett	1998	Frank Marks
1973	Francis T. McGinnis	1999	Lee Jasper
1974	Rev. H.J. Von Renner	2000	30th Anniversary Celebration
1975	Martha Thompson		Honoring All Previous Grand Marshals
1976	William "Bill" Miller	2001	Helen Barsanti
1977	William "Bill" Sherman	2002	Barbara Powell
1978	Paula Davis	2003	Kathy Ponce de Leon
1979	Domenic Matteri	2004	Bob McConnell
1980	Tom Yancey	2005	Phill & Dotty Mulkey
1981	Richard Smith	2006	George & Roberta Vargas
1982	John Mowry	2007	Ed Ford
1983	Hurd Barrington	2008	Joe & Kathy Evans
1984	Alfred Rose Sr.	2009	Dave & Farris Larsen
1985	Ben Arnhold	2010	40th Anniversary Celebration
1986	Julia Asselstine		Honoring All Previous Grand Marshals
1987	William "Bill" Brunette	2011	Ernest L. "Ernie" Prien
1989	Janet Carlsen	2012	Jim Jasper
1990	William "Bill" Mattos	2013	Marge Carvalho
1991	Alfred "Bush" Rose Jr.	2014	Ed Katen
1992	Augustine "Augie" Alves	2015	Sharon Andrade
1993	Tony Fraga	2016	Mike & Carla Perez
1994	Pat Morgan	2017	Westside Pallet
1995	Gilda Cabral	2018	Joe's Landscaping & Garcia Family
1995	Honorary: Glennis Kidder	2019-20	Newman Police Department
1996	Laura Amarin	2021	Van and Vicki Felber
1997	Mel Souza		

MISS NEWMANS

1971	Evelyn (Mora) Avila	1997	Shaula Gonzales
1972	Susan (Barrington) Carlos	1998	Julie (Cope) Filippini
1973	Becky (Wortman) Ellington	1999	Jessica (Amaral) Gonzalez
1974	Eleanor (Ramos) Mendes	2000	Amber Prochaska
1975	Cindy (Freitas) Spinelli	2001	Dominique Neely
1976	Kimberly Forbus	2002	Sarah Perry
1977	Colleen (Nolte) Thacker	2003	Ashley Haines/Drew Crow-Bray
1978	Carla "Cricket" (Champion) Marin	2004	Kris Alair-Matthews
1979	Lana (Beach) Ennis	2005	Julia Crisanti
1980	Trina (Canter) Beauchamp	2006	Onjynea Correa
1981	Nelia (Texeira) Chen	2007	Rebecca Crisanti
1983	Michelle Castro	2008	Mallory McLaughlin
1984	Debbie Costa	2009	Tiffany McConnell
1985	Lisa (Sanches) Tuttle	2010	Shelby Fields
1986	Gina (Coelho) Dayton	2011	Adriana Lopez
1987	Jennifer Williams	2012	Olivia Tejada
1988	Sandi (Mendonca) Solano	2013	Jasmine Miller
1989	Deanne Andrade	2014-2015	Bobbi Solano
1990	Michelle (Arnett) Marroquin	2016	Mary Pimentel
1991	Jill (Jackson) Landeros	2017	Maria Martinez
1992	Jennifer (Maier) Galas	2018	Riley Marroquin
1993	Amber Lopez	2019-2020	Doreen Dyt
1994	Sarah (Arnett) Bagnani		
1995	Krisiey (Rocha) Salsa		
1996	Cyndi Dupont		

Thank You For Representing Newman!

Volleyball tournament set for Saturday morning

The annual Newman Fall Festival volleyball tournament will see the first serve at 9 a.m. Saturday at Densmore Park. Sign-ups will start at 8 a.m.

Teams of two to four players will compete in upper and lower divisions in a series of elimination rounds until two teams meet for the final round.

Entry fee is \$10 per person.

The first 150 people to register will receive a T-shirt.

This will mark the 31st year that Kiyo Yamamoto has been organizing the tournament and the popularity of it still amazes her.

"I start setting up around 6:30 a.m. and I'll look up around 7:30 a.m. and there will be all these people ready to sign-up and pop-up tents all around with people to watch the games," Yamamoto said.

For more information contact Yamamoto at (209) 324-7281.



WESTSIDE CONNECT FILE PHOTO

Volleyball teams will give it their all in a Fall Festival tournament Saturday morning in Densmore Park.



The 2021 Newman Fall Festival will feature Pets on Parade Saturday, featuring critters big and small.

WESTSIDE CONNECT FILE PHOTO

Pets and critters at Fall Festival

Parading pets and cute critters of different varieties will be on display Saturday at the Newman Fall Festival.

The popular Pets on Parade event will be held at the gazebo stage at Pioneer Park at 11 a.m. Saturday. Local pet owners and their pets can take to the catwalk to strut their stuff and compete in fun categories.

Prior to the Pet Parade, the gazebo will be home to Cruzin' Critters, a nonprofit animal education program operating in

the Central Valley. The interactive presentation features an assortment of exotic creatures, including reptiles and birds.

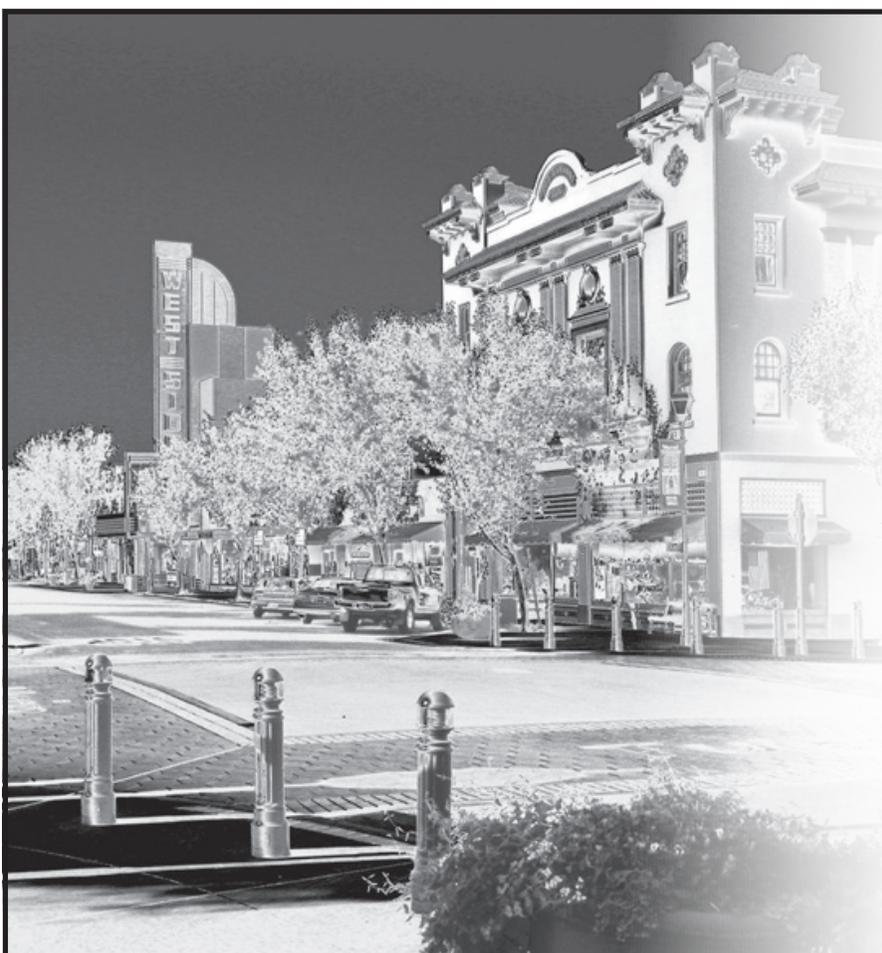
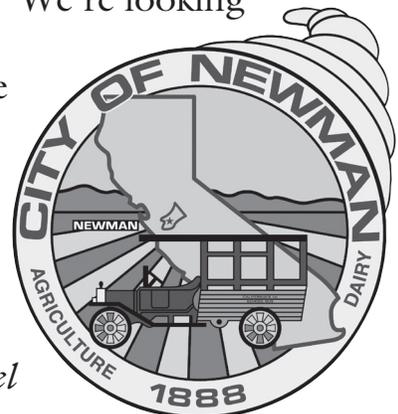
"At Cruzin' Critters we provide homes for injured, displaced, non-releasable, unwanted, and geriatric animals," the organization's website states. "These animals have become ambassadors to help us educate you about the marvels of the animal kingdom."

The Cruzin' Critters show will be at 10 a.m. Saturday.

WELCOME TO NEWMAN!

We want to welcome you to our beautiful city and to the 50th Newman Fall Festival. This year, as always, the Fall Festival Committee has organized a weekend of fun-filled events with something for everyone. We're looking forward to the many activities that celebrate all that makes Newman the vibrant community it is. We invite you and your family to join us for a wonderful weekend.

*Casey Graham, Mayor
Nicholas Candea, Scott Bell,
Laroy MacDonald, and John Pimentel
Councilmembers*





50th Annual NEWMAN FALL FESTIVAL

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

ALL EVENTS AT PIONEER PARK, NEWMAN - UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

► Friday, September 3

3:00 PM • BOOTHS OPEN IN THE PARK Some food booths will be open for business starting Friday afternoon at the Park.

5:00 PM • CARNIVAL Open in Park on R Street throughout the day until 10:00 pm, continuing through the weekend.

7:00 PM • AN EVENING UNDER THE STARS A place to gather with friends to sample wine, craft beer, and gourmet food in the City of Newman Downtown Plaza. The cost is \$40 per person, 21 & Over Only. This popular event typically sells out; we encourage you to get your tickets early! Tickets are available at the West Side Index office or from Newman Fall Festival Committee Members.

► Saturday, September 4

8:00 AM • BAKE CONTEST DROP-OFF Drop off your prize winning treats at the L.J. Newman Memorial Building. Judging will take place late Saturday morning and winners will be announced Sunday afternoon at 1:30 pm at the Gazebo.

9:00 AM • VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT AT DENSMORE PARK Sign-ups begin at 8:00 am; upper and lower division team splits. \$10 entry fee per person includes a commemorative t-shirt, while supplies last. Please visit NewmanFallFestival.org or contact Kiyo Yamamoto at 209-862-0620 for more information.

9:00 AM • PARK BOOTHS OPEN FOR BUSINESS Sounds in Motion will be providing musical entertainment and festival announcements throughout the weekend at the Gazebo.

9:00 AM TO 7:00 PM • "KNIGHT EXPRESS" TRAIN RIDE Purchase tickets on Q Street and meet at the Train Station for your departure. \$5/ticket; 2 and under: Free

10:00 AM TO 11:00 AM • CRUIZIN CRITTERS ANIMAL SHOW Join us and kick off the Newman Fall Festival park entertainment by meeting some AMAZING creatures at the park gazebo. Cruizin Critters has some cool friends they would like to introduce to us!

11:00 AM • CARNIVAL Open in Park on R Street throughout the day until 11:00 pm.

11:00 AM TO 4:00 PM • FIRE TRUCK RIDES AND OBSTACLE COURSE Fire Truck rides will be offered by the Fire Department and can be accessed from Fresno Street. There will also be an obstacle course and a CERT booth will be on-site.

11:15 AM • PETS ON PARADE A Newman Fall Festival favorite, returns on Saturday morning on the park gazebo stage. Local pet owners and their pets can take to the catwalk to strut their stuff and compete in fun categories. Check-in begins at 10:00 am; forms are available on NewmanFallFestival.org or at the West Side Index office.

12 NOON TO 5:00 PM • KIDS ZONE OPEN The City of Newman Recreation Department will have a host of activities and arts & crafts for kids.

12 NOON - LOS JEFES DEL VALLE Los Jefes Del Valle take the stage at the park gazebo. Their Sierreño style group from Patterson is looking forward to making their Newman debut and sharing their beautiful music with our community.

1:30 PM • SETH D. BAKER Seth D. Baker is a multi-genre singer/songwriter taking the stage at the park gazebo, performing a variety of songs, from Bruno Mars to ZZ Top with a sprinkling of his own original music in between!

3:00 PM • KAT'S LEVEL UP DANCE STUDIO Performing on the Gazebo Stage. Check out local dancers as they show off their moves!

5:00 PM • NEWMAN FALL FESTIVAL PRESENTS THE LITTLE MR. AND LITTLE MISS NEWMAN PAGEANT AND MISS NEWMAN PAGEANT The pageant returns to the gazebo stage for all to watch and enjoy the crowning of our new Miss Newman and her Littles. The pageant will begin with the Littles, with the Miss Newman pageant following directly after.

8:00 PM TO 10:00 PM • GOTCHA COVERED Gotcha Covered is a high-energy cover band from Modesto, CA performing at the park gazebo. With Gotcha Covered, expect to dance the night away with all the top hits from the 80s to today.

10:00 PM • KID'S DANCE PARTY Open for all kids to dance on the Gazebo stage!

► Sunday, September 5

SOUNDS IN MOTION WILL BE PROVIDING MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT AND FESTIVAL ANNOUNCEMENTS THROUGHOUT THE DAY AT THE GAZEBO

9:00 AM • PARK BOOTHS OPEN FOR BUSINESS Arts and Crafts, Commercial Booths, Informational Booths and More!

11:00 AM • CARNIVAL Open in Park on R Street throughout the day until 11:00 pm.

11:00 AM • FALL FESTIVAL PARADE Grab a seat on Main Street and watch the parade make its way through Downtown Newman. Several entries including classic cars, equestrian entries, local groups, and more.

12 NOON TO 4:00 PM • WEST SIDE AUTO CLUB CLASSIC CAR SHOW Classic cars on display on Tulare Street, between R and Q Street. Contact Don Gomes at 209-765-1273 for more information.

12 NOON TO 5:00 PM • KIDS ZONE

12 NOON TO 7:00 PM • "KNIGHT EXPRESS" TRAIN RIDE Purchase tickets on Q Street and meet at the Train Station for your departure. \$5/ticket; 2 and under: Free

1:00 PM • DOWNTOWN NEWMAN HISTORICAL WALKING TOUR Meet up at St Claire's Corner (Merced & Main) to join a stroll through Newman's History. At the end of the tour, participants will have an opportunity to win tickets to the West Side Theatre through a drawing that they can enter at the Newman Museum. Self-guided tour sheets will also be available at the Newman Fall Festival Booth on Sunday, after the parade.

1:00 PM TO 4:00 PM • NEWMAN MUSEUM OPEN Stroll through the collection of Newman History on display at the Newman Museum. Drop off your tour raffle tickets here for the Sunday evening drawing for a chance to win!

1:30 PM • PARADE AND BAKE OFF AWARDS AT GAZEBO

2:00 PM CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT AT DENSMORE PARK 3 divisions: Advanced, Competitive and Social. There is a maximum number of teams that can register for each division. Register in advance on the Scoreholio App or sign-up the day of the tournament before 2:00 pm.

2:00 PM • SPOTLIGHT STUDIOS DANCE COMPANY Performing on the Gazebo Stage. Check out local dancers performing ballet, tap, jazz and hip hop routines.

2:30 PM • DOWNTOWN NEWMAN HISTORICAL WALKING TOUR #2 A second chance available to learn some of the history and architecture of our beautiful downtown buildings.

3:30 PM • WESTSIDE AUTO CLUB CAR SHOW AWARDS AT GAZEBO

4:00 PM • POWERS PRODUCTIONS Performing at Gazebo Stage. Local dance group with performers of all ages will show off their dance moves!

5:30 PM • KELLY McDONALD BAND The good-times begin on the park gazebo as Kelly and the band play their good ol' country/rock and country gold hits.

7:30 PM • WALKING TOUR DRAWING The winner of the West Side Theatre tickets will be drawn and announced at the park gazebo.

8:00 PM • RJAЕ HASS BAND Performing at the gazebo stage, this powerful 3-generation cover band of outstanding musicians will definitely ROCK the crowd and have them up and dancing in no time!

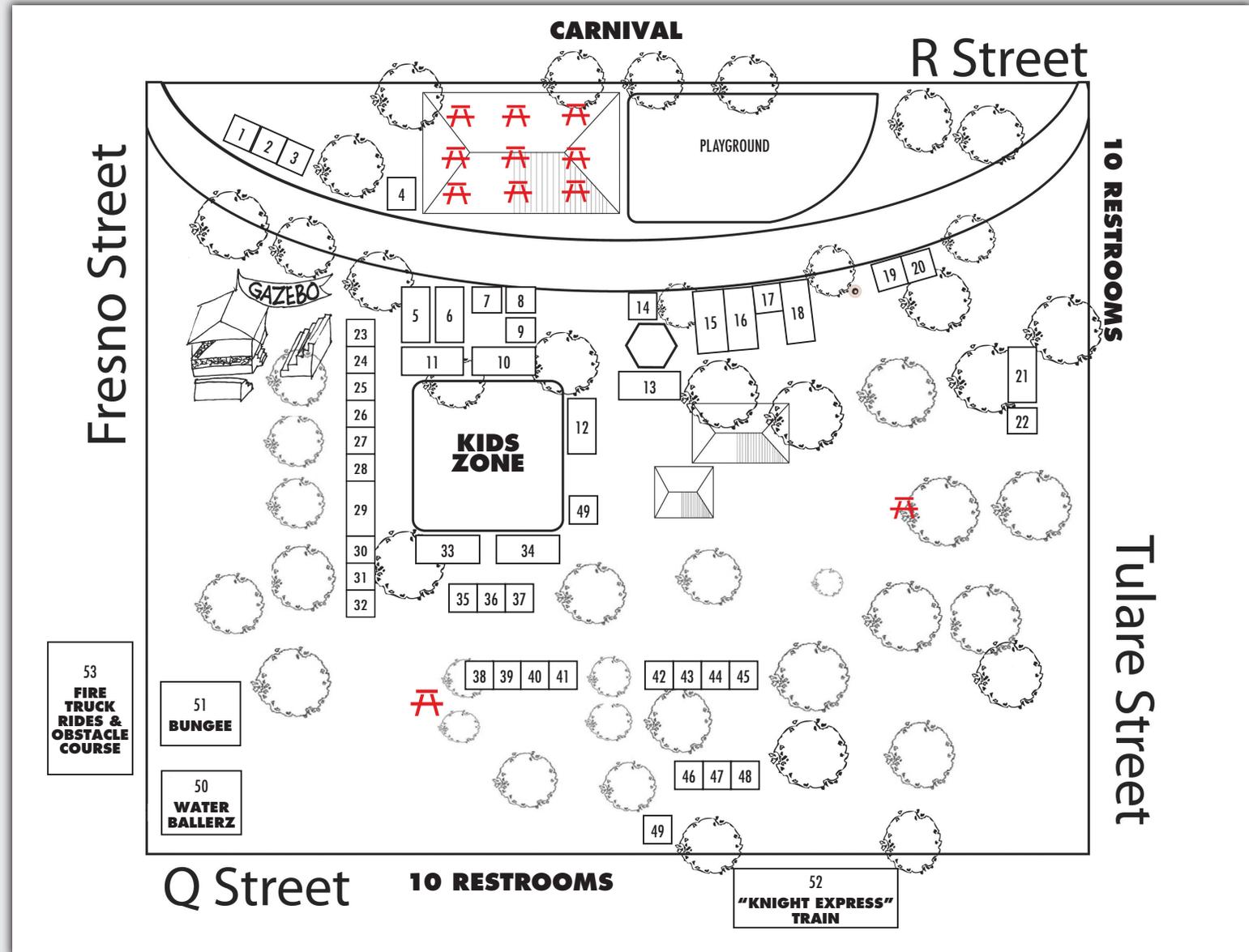
8:30 PM • 50TH NEWMAN FALL FESTIVAL FIREWORKS SHOW Join us at the Orestimba High School Football Field to view the firework show celebrating Newman Fall Festival's 50th Year! Gates open at 7:45 pm. Bleacher seating available or bring a blanket/chairs and watch from the grass. No outside food or drink permitted; drinks will be available for sale from the OHS Senior Class.

10:00 PM • KID'S DANCE PARTY Open for all kids to dance on the gazebo stage!

► Monday, September 6

9:00 - CO-ED SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT AT BARRINGTON FIELDS 10 players per team plus alternatives, \$180 per team. Minimum of 6 men, 4 women. Pre-registration required. Registration and questions, contact Marc Chittim at 209-262-5420.

2021 NEWMAN FALL FESTIVAL



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2. Newman Police Department
3. ID Booth
4. Newman Rotary Beer Booth
5. The Margarita Stop
6. Big Al's Backyard BBQ
7. OHS Class of 2022 Soda & Water
8. Maria's Mexican Food & Seafood
9. Dippin Dots
10. The Lemonade Yard
11. Country Chicks
12. Kona Ice
13. Woody's Hawaiian BBQ
14. Crepa Mia

15. Katherine Arena
16. Rigo's Tacos
17. Fruit Friz
18. Artfull Food Creations
19. Shrimp City
20. Pupusas Martitas
21. Wing It on Wheels
22. Vic's Churros
23. Newman Fall Festival
24. City of Newman
25. Westside Connect
26. Jeff Dirkse for Sheriff
27. Harvest Community Church
28. Orestimba Presbyterian Church

29. Steward & Jasper Orchards
30. Knight of Columbus #2517
31. The Salvation Army
32. Turlock Mosquito Abatement District
33. Fun Time Toys
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43. All Things Cheetah
44. Wild Manes
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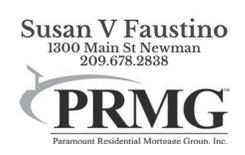
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Thank you to the many local businesses who support the Newman Fall Festival with generous donations for the many events during Fall Festival weekend!

Monday softball tournament brings festival to a close

A softball tournament will close out the 2021 Newman Fall Festival on Monday.

Teams will compete at Barrington Park.

Entry fee for the co-ed tournament is \$180.

Teams will take the field to start the competition at 9 a.m.

All teams will play a minimum of three games. Teams consist of 10 players plus substitutes. Each team must have a minimum of six men and four women. A Mush Ball will be used, but players can use gloves if they want.

A general rules sheet will be handed out and posted up near the brackets at the park on Monday morning.

Prizes will be awarded to the first and second place teams.

Visit www.newmanfallfestival.org/forms/ for a registration form.

Call Marc Chittim, 262-5420, or email marcchittim.nsacal@yahoo.com, for additional information.



WESTSIDE CONNECT FILE PHOTO

Co-ed softball teams will compete in a Fall Festival tournament Monday at Barrington Park.



A fireworks show will entertain the crowd Sunday night at Orestimba High School.

WESTSIDE CONNECT FILE PHOTO

Fireworks on tap Sunday night

The Newman Fall Festival will mark the 50th year of the event with a fireworks show Sunday night.

Viewing will be at Orestimba High School. Gates open at 7:45 p.m. and the show will start at 8:30 p.m.

Entry to the fireworks show is free.

The show will be produced by Fireworks America.

The Newman Fall Festival is taking donations to help pay for the fireworks show. One option is through Venmo and another is through GoFundMe. Both accounts are under Newman Fall Festival.



Celebrating our
50th Year!

On behalf of the Newman Fall Festival and the City of Newman, we would like to invite you to join us for the 50th Newman Fall Festival. The committee has worked hard planning special festivities and we are excited for you to experience them. This year, in commemoration of our 50th year, we are elated to announce the addition of a Fireworks Show, helped made possible by the generosity of the City of Newman!

The Newman Fall Festival wouldn't be possible without the tireless efforts of the committee and dedicated volunteers. The Executive Committee would like to thank those who helped plan out the many events coming up this weekend! Their hard work and dedication, along with many community members who volunteer, donate, or provide services make the Newman Fall Festival possible.

We would also like to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to Julie Barcelos, former NFF Chairman, for years of dedication in organizing the Newman Fall Festival. We could not have done this without your help and knowledge.

The Newman Fall Festival is fortunate to have the continued support of corporate sponsors and community partners who help with the cost of many of the events and entertainment provided throughout the weekend. We extend our heartfelt thanks for your continued partnership.

We hope you and your family enjoy all of the events, entertainment, food and fun! Enjoy the 50th Newman Fall Festival!

—Christine Eddington, Chairman

FALL FESTIVAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: *Kristy Cordeiro, Vice-Chairman; Terri Eddington, Vice-Chairman; Michelle Wood, Treasurer; Brandon Melo, Secretary*

FALL FESTIVAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS: *Brett Short, Ali Mendoza, Keith Bowen, Greg Stonebarger, Patty Brooks, Virginia Inthichack, Mari Anaya, Janet Brown, Katie Ramsour, Coral Muñoz, Zoe Muñoz, Yaya Muñoz, Patty Lindquist, Jacki Inman, Cathy Woodruff, Dottie Goulet, Loveada Fresquez, Kari & Jim Thompson, Catt Thompson, Carlos & Micah Santos, Don Gomes, Kiyo Yamamoto, Marc Chittim, Michelle Smith, Glennis Kidder, David & Farris Larson, April Holder, Teri Chesko, Vanessa Aguilar, Lorena Sanchez, Jessica Swafford-Guajardo*

Newman Fall Festival lines up musicians, dancers

By SABRA STAFFORD

SSTAFFORD@WESTSIDECONNECT.COM

The entertainment options for the 2021 Newman Fall Festival will include a variety of performers and styles that organizers expect will delight those in attendance.

“Entertainment on the Pioneer Park gazebo stage brings back some festival favorites and introduces some fun new shows,” said Newman Fall Festival Entertainment Chair Kari Thompson. “A variety of live music throughout the weekend, has a little something for everyone: Sierrano, country, pop, rock, Latin, and blues.”

Los Jefes Del Valle, a Sierrano style group from Patterson will make their Newman debut at 12 p.m. Saturday.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The RJae Haas Band will be the headliners for Sunday. The RJae Haas Band is a multi-generational band performing cover hits from the likes of Santana, Selena, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Jimi Hendrix, Eric Clapton, Beatles, Pink Floyd, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Peter Frampton, Lynyrd Skynyrd and more.

See ENTERTAINMENT | PAGE 12

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ENTERTAINMENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

Newman local Seth D. Baker will perform at 1:30 p.m. Saturday. Baker is a multi nominee and winner of the Modesto Area Music Award. He will be performing a variety of songs, from Bruno Mars to ZZ Top, with some of his original songs thrown in.

Gotcha Covered, the high-energy cover band from Modesto will headline Saturday night's festivities. Started in 2010, the band has played private events, night clubs, casinos and fairs all over the West Coast with a set that includes hits from the 1980s to today.

Laura Rankin provides lead vocals and plays keyboard. Jeff Rankin is on bass guitar and vocals and Shawn Reynolds is on guitar, synth and vocals.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

See ENTERTAINMENT | PAGE 13

The Kelly McDonald Band will perform their mix of country and rock covers at 5:30 p.m. Sunday.

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ENTERTAINMENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE I3

Gotcha Covered set lists includes rock, pop, classic rock and rap hits all designed to get audiences up and dancing.

Gotcha Covered will take the stage at the gazebo at 8 p.m.

Fall Festival fan favorites, the Kelly McDonald Band will perform their mix of country and rock covers at 5:30 p.m. Sunday.

The RJae Haas Band will be the headliners for Sunday. The RJae Haas Band is a multi-generational band performing

cover hits from the likes of Santana, Selena, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Jimi Hendrix, Eric Clapton, Beatles, Pink Floyd, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Peter Frampton, Lynyrd Skynyrd and more.

The band is headed by RJae Haas on lead guitar and vocals. He has been performing since he was 13 years old and has opened for acts like Tony, Toni, Tone, Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks and top Selena Tribute band Los Chicos Del 512.

Lead vocalist Denise Gomez joined the band in 2015. Misael Flores is on keyboards, John Braselton on bass guitar and vocals and Devin Lesneski is on

drums.

Festival organizers expect this band to “definitely rock the crowd and have them up and dancing in no time.”

The RJae Haas Band will perform on the gazebo stage starting at 8 p.m.

The festival also will feature several dance numbers from troupes around the area:

- Kats Level Up Dance Studio 3 p.m. Saturday.

- Spotlight Dance Company 2 p.m. Sunday.

- Powers Production Dance & Choreography 4 p.m. Sunday.

“It wouldn’t be the Newman Fall Festival without dance studio performances,” Thompson said.

GOTCHA COVERED
SATURDAY SEPT. 4TH - 8PM
NEWMAN FALL FESTIVAL
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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Gotcha Covered, the high-energy cover band from Modesto will headline Saturday night’s festivities with a mix of rock, pop, classic rock and rap hits all designed to get audiences up and dancing.



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Evening Under the Stars event to feature tasting, raffle

By **SABRA STAFFORD**

SSTAFFORD@WESTSIDECONNECT.COM

The Newman Fall Festival starts with the Evening Under the Stars fundraising event on Friday.

The night will feature a wine and micro brew tasting from Stewart & Jasper from Newman, Jessie's Grove from Lodi, Berry Hill from Ceres, Tsymbal winery from Turlock, Silk Woods from Modesto, Los

Arabis from Lafayette, 18Seventy from Modesto and Dust Bowl from Turlock.

Catering will be provided by In Good Taste Catering and St. George Club.

The night, which is the organization's lone fundraiser, will have a silent auction and a raffle. Items include themed gift baskets, home decor, food and beverage options, and event tickets.

The event will be from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at Newman's Downtown City Plaza.

Tickets for the event are \$40 and can be purchased with cash or check at the Westside Connect office at 1021 Fresno St. A Venmo option is available @NewmanFall Festival. IDs will be checked at the event.

Attendees must be 21 years or over.



WESTSIDE CONNECT FILE PHOTO

"An Evening Under the Stars" wine, micro-brew and cheese tasting will be held Friday evening in Newman's downtown plaza.



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Homecoming for Fall Festival food vendor

By SABRA STAFFORD

SSTAFFORD@WESTSIDECONNECT.COM

When Wing It On Wheels rolls into town for the Newman Fall Festival, it will be a homecoming for owner and operator Manuel Duarte and a return to the spot where his journey to make his culinary dream a reality first began.

Duarte lived in Newman up until the fifth grade and is well-acquainted with the Newman Fall Festival.

"I was a runner up for little Mr. Newman one year and grew up loving the Fall Festival," Duarte said. "The Fall Festival was my absolute favorite thing every year in Newman."

Duarte's father worked as a mechanic at M&M Chevrolet and was a volunteer firefighter. His mother worked at Marty's Inn and ran her own business in downtown Newman, Mary's Beauty Korner. They enjoyed time spent with extended family, especially the occasions when family recipes were pulled out and dishes of delicious foods filled the table.

"My mother and father are both full Portuguese,



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Newman native Manuel Duarte is excited to return to town for the Newman Fall Festival with his new mobile eatery Wing It On Wheels.

so we were raised on many Portuguese dishes between my grandparents that all lived in Newman and my parents," Duarte said.

Those family gatherings sparked an interest in cooking for Duarte, but it would be years before he decided to follow that calling. Instead, he followed his father into his field as a diesel mechanic.

After leaving Newman

the family moved to Oregon and stayed there all through Duarte's high school years and beyond.

"My father lived in Oregon when he passed in March of 2019 and that's what sparked my passion and dream to start a restaurant," Duarte said. "We had his memorial at

See **VENDOR** | PAGE 16



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Parade kicks off full slate of Sunday festivities

The Newman Fall Festival parade will kick off a full day of activities Sunday.

Classes include floats, bands, color guard, automobiles, automobile clubs, novelty/dance groups, novelty/local clubs and organizations, novelty/miscellaneous and mounted.

The colorful parade be-

gins at 11 a.m. and will make its way through downtown Newman before concluding at Pioneer Park.

Organizers anticipate about 70 entries will take part in the parade. This year's theme is "A Golden Harvest."

Participants will be competing for a variety

of honors, cash prizes, plaques and ribbons.

Top honors include parade sweepstakes for the top overall entry, best Newman entry, best themed entry and mounted sweepstakes.

Parade awards will be announced at 1:30 p.m. Sunday at the Pioneer Park gazebo.

VENDOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

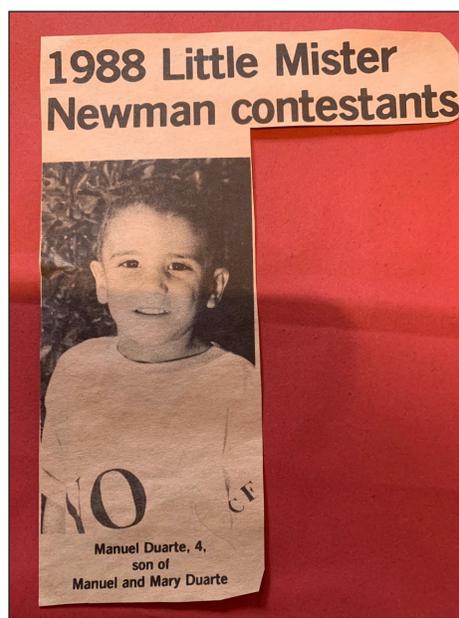
Pioneer Park in Newman. He always told me that I was too smart to be a mechanic and that I should run my own business and to follow my dreams. So I finally listened after he passed and became my own boss."

Wing It On Wheels began in 2019 as a restaurant in Jackson in Amador County. Duarte said the business started off well for his partner and himself, but then a series of setbacks, like repeated power outages during the wildfires, and then the statewide shutdown because of the pandemic, proved to be too much for the new business.

"We struggled with the mandatory shutdowns for the pandemic and couldn't keep any employees on board," Duarte said. "Around October of 2020

The Newman Fall Festival is a tradition for Manuel Duarte and his family. He even competed in the Little Mr. Newman contest when he was a child.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



my partner and I made the hard decision to close down fully."

But Duarte was not ready to just give up on his dream and had already put a new plan into motion.

"I couldn't go out like that so I decided to raise

money to build a concession trailer to sell our amazing wings and dogs on the road," Duarte said. "After months of raising funds from our great customers and amazing community, we had the money to build a trailer. By this time it's August of 2021

and our trailer is finally done. In the process of raising funds, I decided to buy out my partner and proceed alone with my wife and family on this new journey and dream of mine."

Wing It On Wheels' menu is primarily chicken wings, both bone-in and boneless and gourmet hot dogs. For the wings, Duarte offers hot wings, Teriyaki, barbecue, classic and the Sticky Icky.

"The Sticky Icky is made up of honey and Sriracha sauce," Duarte said. "It's our number one seller."

Wing It On Wheels won Best Hot Dog in Amador County last year. The most popular options is the Western Dog, with barbecue sauce, fresh cooked bacon chunks and topped with shredded cheddar cheese on a quarter pound juicy steamed all beef hot dog.

They also just added chicken nuggets to the

menu after getting asked by several parents and kids.

"For the Fall Festival we will be adding a few specialty items that my mother is helping out with," Duarte said. "Like a linguica sandwich with

all the fixings along with my mother's famous Portuguese beans and possibly a classic to Newman, a Marty's Inn steak sandwich that my mother made while working there years ago."



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Pageant contests return to the gazebo stage

The 2021 Little Mr. and Miss Newman Contest and Miss Newman Pageant will be returning to the gazebo stage at Pioneer Park, with the show set for Saturday.

Seven boys and eight girls will compete for the Little Mr. and Miss Newman titles. The contestants are between the ages of five to seven years. They will all perform a dance routine and answer questions from the judges. The two winners will be part

of the court for Miss Newman and will get to ride in the parade. The winners also will attend events throughout the year to help represent Newman.

“It’s a great group of kids and they are very excited for the dance,” said pageant organizer Coral Munoz.

Seven contestants will take part in the Miss Newman Pageant this year. The winner will be representing the city during parades, festas, at ribbon-cuttings and special events. The event also will see a first-runner up and a Miss Congeniality crowned.

Munoz said both of her daughters were on previous courts and it was an experience they remembered fondly.

The Little Mr. and Miss Newman Contest begins at 5 p.m., with the Miss Newman Pageant to follow at approximately 6:15 p.m.



ALEX BANKS/WESTSIDE CONNECT

The 2021 slate of Miss Newman contestants includes, from left, Ciera Thibodeau, Daphne Ruvalcaba, Kali Reeves, Natalie Velasquez, Jacquelyn Lujan and Tatianna Veloz.

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Meet the Contestants: *Miss Newman Pageant*

Ciera Thibodeau

My name is Ciera Thibodeau, I am sixteen years old and the daughter of Derek and Kimberly Thibodeau. I have one sibling, her name is Olivia and she is six years old. At home, I enjoy keeping up with pop culture, current events and spending time with my parents, sister, and dogs. When I am not at home I spend most of my time playing sports, including volleyball, basketball, softball, and track and field. I am also very involved in student government planning school events and many other things with my fellow officers. I am also a part of the Interact club at Orestimba where a lot of community service is involved.

The opportunity to run for Miss Newman for 2021 is a huge honor



this year. Recently, many people in our community have struggled on multiple fronts, but as a whole, we always come back together. I am an optimistic person and I know we will be able to bounce

back. I want to be Miss Newman because being able to represent my hometown that I admire is a gift. I have spent my whole life here and it has shaped me into who I am today. I have found my people in the town of Newman and I could not be more grateful for the opportunity to represent it. As a caring person, I want to help kids realize that nothing can stop them. I want them to realize their full potential and have all the confidence they can in themselves. These are goals that I myself am still working towards and using Miss Newman as a stepping stone. I am hoping that running for Miss Newman will allow me to be a better role model for young kids.

As a young girl, I would see

the Miss Newman pageants along with the parades and I knew when I was older, I wanted to do that. The past young women who have run inspired me. I want to be a role model for my younger sister and all the other kids in my community. I have always struggled with a few problems surrounding self-confidence. For most of my life growing up, I have been taller and larger than most other kids my age. This led to some insecurities but they have not stopped me from doing the things I love. Despite my insecurities, I have participated in extracurriculars and put myself out there. I have found things I am good at because of who I am and used them to gain confidence. Height and strength are things I admire

about myself now. I want to be Miss Newman to be an example for young children that no matter what their insecurities are, they can do anything. They can represent their town and be someone to look up to.

I would like to thank my sponsors Oasis Pool Service and Liz Munoz: Stephens and Borrelli Inc. for their support along with my friends and family. My family has been my support system my whole life and I cannot thank them enough. They have raised me here in Newman which has shaped me into who I am today. I am excited to represent my hometown and accept the responsibility of being a role model.

Natalie Velasquez

My name is Natalie Velasquez. I am 17 years old and a Senior at Orestimba High School. I am the daughter of Josefina Velasquez and have three sisters; Erika, Jessica, and Isabel. I was born in Turlock, California, but was raised in Newman. Growing up I was involved in many sports including dance which I grew a strong passion for. I am running for Miss Newman 2021 and am so excited for the many opportunities and connections that will be made. I am also involved in my school through the Future Farmers of America (FFA), Student Council, and volleyball.

I am so honored and thankful for the opportunity to run and represent my hometown community. I spend most of my time at the dance studio studying and competing in various genres of dance. I also spend time with family since I've grown up with a close family and my mom is my biggest supporter along with the rest of my family. My mom being my main role model has



taught me how to be confident, self-sufficient, and always being 100% committed to everything I do.

Growing up I was shy and never would have imagined running for Miss Newman because of fear, although through dance and in high school I broke out of my shell and learned how to take more risks. In the Agricultural Department at OHS I have been given many opportunities and found another home. Thanks to the dedication and

care of one of the Agricultural teachers, Mrs. Costilla helped me become the confident and outgoing leader that I am today. Since day one when I walked into her classroom my freshman year, she constantly encouraged me to take risks where I then competed in many public speaking contests as well as taking on leadership roles through the FFA. I also had incredible dance instructors at Cornerstone Dance Studio that brought me out of my shell when I was younger. Cornerstone Dance Studio is where I spend a lot of my time learning so much more than dance. I also take on leadership roles at the studio where I work with younger dancers. All three of my dance instructors; Mrs. Monica, Mrs. Vanessa, and Mr. Nathan have taught me numerous life lessons and qualities that will help me in the future and that have helped me already. I want to teach and inspire the kids that they can do anything that they set their mind to. As well as teach-

ing them all the qualities that I learned growing up from the amazing role models I had in my life. Interacting with the future generations is very important to me since they are such a big part of our community.

My biggest support system is my family who have been behind me since day one. I also have amazing support from my dance family, everyone in the Agriculture Department, and my friends from volleyball and school.

I would like to thank my sponsor, Cornerstone Dance for constantly supporting me throughout the Miss Newman process. I am even more thankful for my sponsor to be a business in which I have an important connection to. Thank you for being my home away from home and teaching me valuable life lessons for as long as I can remember. I also like to thank the pageant coordinators, and Fall Festival committee for giving me the opportunity to run for Miss Newman and putting on an

amazing Fall Festival.

I have attended the Fall Festival since I can remember. I especially remember watching the pageants and looking up to the past Miss Newman courts. Giving back to the community is always something that I aspire to do which is why running and possibly being able to represent Miss Newman would be an amazing opportunity to give back to the community. Which is why when I heard that the Miss Newman pageant was coming back this year I was excited since this pageant is such a big part of the community. All of the past courts have been incredible role models. As well as creating the connections between the other girls running this year. Newman is an amazing town and community and I would be honored to be given the chance to represent the town that I love and grew up in.

Meet the Contestants: *Miss Newman Pageant*

Jacquelyn Lujan



My name is Jacquelyn Lujan. I am 16 years old and currently a Junior at Orestimba High School. I am the daughter of Ruben and Tamera Lujan; I have 3 brothers Ruben Lujan 35, Adrian Lujan 29, and Joesph Lance 28 along with my 3 sisters Yesenia Lara 25, Aundria Lujan 25, and Anhalena Gallegos 23. I was born in Hollister and lived in Gilroy the first year I was born, but moved to Newman when I was 1. I grew up in a very athletic family, in my family we joke around that I basically live at a football/softball field. I am running for Mrs. Newman in 2021 and I am so excited for not only the pageant but also for the more I can connect with my community and fellow contestants.

I am so incredibly thankful

for this amazing opportunity to run and possibly represent our small-town community that has watched over and supported me over the years. Through all the challenges we have overcome in the years, last year was definite-

ly the hardest. As Miss Newman I would be more than honored to represent the people of this town. Although going into my freshman year of high school I was more nervous than I had ever been before but I was also excited to meet new people. Even though I am just a junior, my time at Orestimba has taught me more than I could ever imagine. I have always loved to watch my grandfather build projects, and thanks to my passion and love for animals I quickly found my home in the Ag Department. Working in Ag Mechanics with Mr. Vazquez has given me incredible new skills. I grew to love all aspects of woodworking, giving me another way to bond with my grandpa. I want to be Miss Newman to show all the

athletes and tomboys that you don't have to be the stereotypical girl to be a princess. Also, with perseverance and determination you can do anything.

I am very involved in my community in organizations, including umpiring for the little league softball and baseball games, volunteering at the Salvation Army Center, Orestimba Softball, Volleyball, and Basketball, as well as Newman FFA.

With all my extra-curricular activities I have been able to connect with a very large amount of our community. To give back to my community as much as possible, to show people how important is it to give back to the people that make you who you are.

I would like to thank my sponsors/sisters the owners of Glam-

our Lounge and Shop .B.Lish. For not only supporting me through my life but also through this pageant. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to run for Miss Newman. A special thanks to my family specifically my parents for raising me to be the strong and outgoing young woman I am today. Thank you to my brothers and sisters who have supported me though all my crazy ideas. A final thanks to my Grandparents Ruben and Janie Lujan, thank you for putting up with my busy schedule and making time come watch me play and teaching me how to drive. I would love to be Miss Newman to show all the young athletes and any young women that you don't have to be perfect to be a princess.

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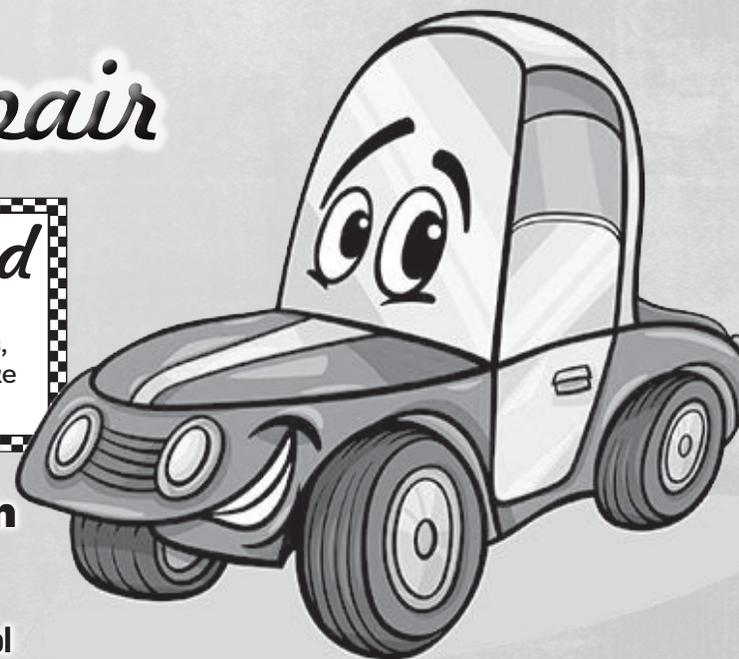
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Meet the Contestants: *Miss Newman Pageant*

Kali Reeves

My name is Kali Reeves. I am 15 years old and I am a Junior at Orestimba High School. I am the daughter of Hardy and Randi Reeves who both work at Orestimba High School. I have two brothers, my older brother Alex who is 25 and my younger brother Cooper who is 12. I was born in Modesto and have grown up in Newman. I am excited to be running for Miss Newman 2021 and for the opportunity to represent our town.

Out of everything I do in life, musical theater is a huge part of it. All the performances I have taken part in have helped me with my confidence and has given me the opportunity to meet so many amazing people who I consider family. When I first started I had so many people to look up to. They helped me



along the way with lines, dances and my own problems. Now that I am older I have become that person for the younger kids in the group. I've been told they look up to me as an older sister or cousin and I strive to be the best role model I can be for

them. Other than theatre, I am an active member of the Gaming Club at Orestimba and plan to run for the office of vice-president. I play video games as much as I can in my spare time whether it be with my brothers, friends or just by myself. Through gaming I was able to meet three of my closest friends who have helped me a lot over the past two years. Every year the club hosts a 24 Hour Gaming Night that I take part in to help raise money for Children's Miracle Network. Since we are going to be able to bring our annual event back, I am excited to be in an officer position to help ensure the event runs smoothly.

I have lived in Newman all my life and it would be an honor to be Miss Newman. Newman is a small town with an outstand-

ing community that is there for others when needed. When I was younger, I would watch the Miss Newman pageants with my grandparents and they both said I would be able to do this when I was old enough. At first I thought they were crazy, but watching the older girls participate in this event made me realize I wanted to do this too. I want to have the same positive impact on younger kids as the former Miss Newman contestants did for me. I would like these kids to see me go up there and think, "If she can do this, so can I".

Along with being a positive impact for the younger kids, I would like to have the ability to help in more community events. I want to be able to show people that Newman is not just a tiny

town in the country, it is a diverse community full of life.

I would like to thank my sponsor, Newman Mini Mart, for their generous donation which has allowed me to have the opportunity to represent them in this pageant, because I would not have been able to do this without their support. To my family and friends, thank you for encouraging me along the way, believing in me, and just being there for me when I needed your love and guidance.

To the other girls, thank you for making this experience as fun as it has been. You all have made this memorable for me and I could not have asked for a better group to do this with.

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Meet the Contestants: *Miss Newman Pageant*

Daphne Ruvalcaba

My name is Daphne Ruvalcaba, I am a 16 years old Junior at Orestimba High School. I am the daughter of Elba Landeros and José Dario Ruvalcaba. I am the oldest of four children, which is amazing but sometimes stressful. My first younger sister is Dulce, age of 13 and second younger sister is Daniella, age of 6. I also have a 1 year old brother, Jose Damian. I am proud to say that I've lived in this delightful town for 10 years. I was born in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico and then came to Newman at the age of 6. I am so excited to be running for Miss Newman 2021, not only am I excited to be running but I am also looking forward to getting closer to all my peers and getting closer to the community.

As a member of this loving community and its people, I would like to come closer and contribute in making this town an enjoyable and better place. Newman has shown us that all these caring residents can come together as a family. This is why I have learned to enjoy and love our town and its people. I am so thankful for all the opportunities that have been given to me such as being a contestant for Miss Newman 2021.



Coming to Newman from Guadalajara, I was a child who didn't know what she was doing. My dad decided that Newman was the ideal town for us to be in and I am extremely happy for his decision. My dad was born and raised in Newman, this town has been his home since day one along with Guadalajara. As a little girl, who only knew how to speak one language and did not know what was happening around me, I began to get a bit nervous and scared. I remember that there were several days where I went to bed with a lack of motivation for the next day and the same thing would happen the next day and so on. I began to get very easily frustrated

and began to shut down myself and everyone else. My mom, my sister and I would travel the town looking for our destination while my dad was working to give us a better life. Traveling through these historical streets is so memorable to me. However, walking down main street, day and night is my favorite. Although we had support from our family when they were free to help. We made relationships with the people in Newman and those relationships became support and some even became family. Thankfully I had that support that my family needed. To be honest there were some obstacles throughout my path but I'm finally on top and there is much more ahead of me.

Growing up I had a very enjoyable and unforgettable childhood in Guadalajara. Coming to live over here was truly one of the most wise decisions. I was able to enjoy my elementary school years at its fullest before I had complications with my health. After all my health complications, there were many changes within me emotionally and physically. My middle school years were a roller coaster for me and high school was a huge change. However,

the COVID-19 Pandemic had a huge impact. While I was in quarantine, I had plenty of time to work with myself and notice quite some things. That made me realize who I was as a person and it made me get a bit out of my comfort zone.

Newman has taught me valuable and unforgettable memories. I am involved in Newman FFA, HYLIC, Interact, and I take part in activities that embrace public speaking. I have also found many of my passions here in this town like helping people. I have a great passion for helping children out. I love to help and support local businesses with organization and with everything. Overall, I am always prepared and excited to take part in something awesome.

I would love to help others in Newman. Bringing them support and comfort is much more than necessary. Thanks to comfort from people in this town, me and my family were able to get through things when it got dark. I would like to support local businesses, every academic school here, its people and this town. Getting new and passionate people involved would be a great way to start off. Volunteering at local businesses in

making them even more great than what they are already. Volunteering in school and with its students in getting them prepared, supporting them, helping them get situated, and helping them gain confidence. Supporting our loving and caring people of Newman. Most importantly, influence and motivate the people to take part in this charming and lively community.

I would like to thank my family for their support system. Thanks to my parents for always wanting the best for me and supporting me through every step of the way. Thanks to my sisters for pushing me to do my best and always being there for me. Even though we are not the most loving sisters we always come together. Thanks to my baby brother for always bringing out the best in me with his little charming face. Thanks to my family for being with me every step of the way. Thanks to all my friends and mentors. Lastly, I would like to thank my sponsors, J's Style And More and The Official Angie because without them I wouldn't be able to be a contestant for Miss Newman 2021.

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Meet the Contestants: *Miss Newman Pageant*

Tatianna Veloz



My name is Tatianna Alize Veloz. I am 17 years old and a junior at Orestimba High School. I am the daughter of Susan and Phillip Anderson, and the sister of two brothers, Clark who is 9, Lucas who is 11, and a little sister Kara who is 4.

I was born in St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands. My family and I moved to Newman, 10 years ago when I was 7 years old. When I was 8 years old my mom had put me into dance and I absolutely fell in love with dancing and have danced for nine years. I am very thankful to have had great dance teachers at Powers Productions Dance and Choreography.

Even though I truly loved dancing, it was just taking a lot of time and I realized that I wanted to be more involved in school and focus more on my future goals.

I had spent most of my life dancing so I wasn't really in-

involved in school sports or clubs until high school. I had decided to focus more on school and take more challenging classes and join clubs like the Interact Club. I would love to join more clubs and be more involved in my community. I also love art like painting or drawing in my free time. I have always been a creative

person especially when it comes to art. Art was always one of my ways of expressing myself other than dancing.

I am very thankful to have grown up in such a nice and friendly town with amazing people. Everyone that I have met growing up in this town has been extremely kind and supportive of me and my family. I want to be Miss Newman because I want to be an inspiration to my little sister and many other children. I want to be a good role model to them and show them that they can always be themselves.

I would be so thankful to represent this amazing town that I have been so lucky to have grown up in. I have lived most of my life in this town and never had anything bad to say but instead how beautiful it is.

I would have never seen myself voluntarily participating in

a pageant because I have always been known to be very timid. I have always been scared of talking or just being in front of an audience of people because dance was always my way of expressing myself in front of a crowd or audience. Over time I have slowly started to break out of my shell, and participating in this pageant has definitely been a great way of helping me do that and with my public speaking. Throughout this experience so far, I have been a little nervous but I'm so thankful to have been able to go through this process with an amazing group of girls that are also running for Miss Newman. They are the most supportive group of girls I have ever met, and I'm so happy to be running for Miss Newman with them.

I have been so happy to have grown up in this town and made

a great group of friends while living in Newman. I have been around the most positive and supporting group of people I have ever met and I couldn't be more thankful. I enjoy living in a small town because I have made such a good small close group of friends. I would love to be that friend in the community to be there for others when the need it the most.

Lastly, I would like to thank my amazing sponsor Superior Truck Lines for sponsoring me and giving me this wonderful opportunity. Without my amazing sponsors I wouldn't be able to have participated in this pageant. I'm very excited to see what else this pageant entails. I am also very thankful for my parents for raising me to become the young woman I have become today, I don't know what I would be without them.



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2021 Little Miss Newman Contestants



Aubree Bettencourt, 5, is the daughter of Sarah Bettencourt and Hunter Obanda.

Falynn Wilkinson, 6, is the daughter of Morgan and Caleb Wilkinson.

Elianna Jade Garcia, 5, is the daughter of Amicaya Flores and Luis Garcia.

Nayeli Lopez, 5, is the daughter of Edgar and Rosie Lopez.



Kara Anderson, 5, is the daughter of Susan and Phil Anderson.

Emery Eddington, 6, is the daughter of Christine and Shane Eddington.

McKinley Silveira, 6, is the daughter of Joe and Megan Silveira.

Zyleih Hopkins, 6, is the daughter of Yvonne Lee.

2021 Little Mister Newman Contestants



Warren Santos, 6, is the son of Jonessa and Mike Santos.

John Johnston, 5, is the son of Lorena and David Johnston.

Jackson Sotelo, 6, is the son of Jenny and Jaime Sotelo.

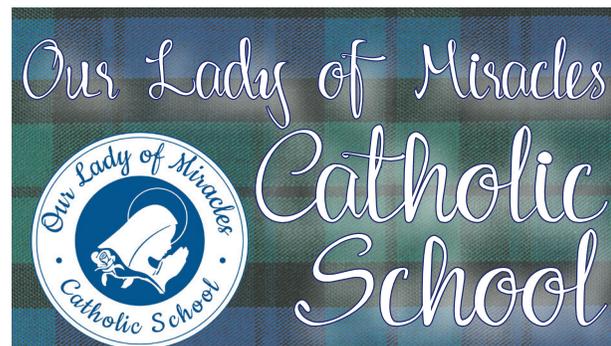
Killion Kowalskie, 6, is the son of Eric and Jessica Kowalskie.



Isaiah Ramirez-Castro, 7, is the son of Felix Castro and Christina Ramirez-Castro.

Ayden Izaiah Quiroz, 6, is the son of Laura Hernandez and Julio Quiroz.

Zachary Frost, 5, is the son of Sharon and Jeff Frost.



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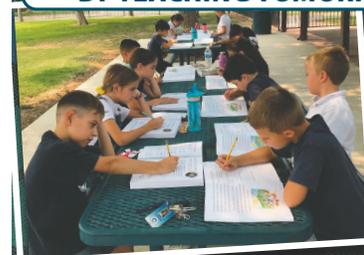
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Fall Festival plans cornhole tournament

By SABRA STAFFORD

SSTAFFORD@WESTSIDECONNECT.COM

Those with a keen eye and a knack for tossing might want to consider the Newman Fall Festival cornhole tournament.

The tournament, returning for the third year, will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 5 at Densmore Park at 1325 Kern Street.

The tournament will be broken into three divisions — advanced, competitive and social. The maximum number of teams for the advanced and competitive division will be capped at 32 and the social division will allow for up to 20 teams. Each team must consist of two members.

The advanced and competitive divisions will be played in a four game Round Robin ending with a double elimination. The social division will be played in a two game Round Robin

ending with a single elimination.

The Advanced division has a registration fee of \$60 per team. Competitive has a registration fee of \$40 and Social is \$30.

There will be cash prizes for the first, second and third place teams in each division. For the Advanced division the payout is 80 percent of the registration fee. For Competitive it is 70 percent and for Social it is 50 percent, according to tournament organizer Carlos Santos.

Teams wanting to compete in the tournament are encouraged to register on the Scoreholio app under the Newman Festival tag. Sign-up will be available the day of the tournament if the maximum number of teams has not yet been reached.

For more information about the tournament contact Carlos Santos at (209) 450-7016.

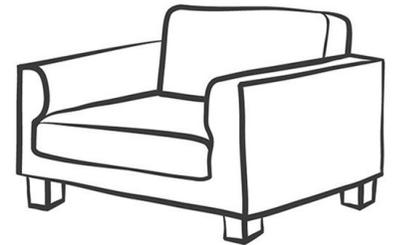
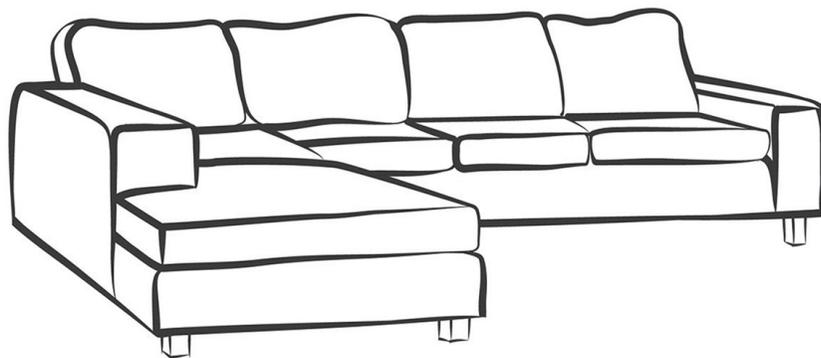


WESTSIDE CONNECT FILE PHOTO

Cornhole has become a popular addition to the Newman Fall Festival. A tournament will again be held as part of the upcoming festivities. The tournament will be held Sunday afternoon.

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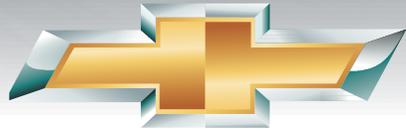
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