

GERMAN AMERICAN SOCIETIES  
OF SAN DIEGO  
presents

# OKTOBERFEST 2009

**Friday, Saturday, Sunday**  
**Oct. 2, 3 & 4**  
**Oct. 9, 10 & 11**

EAST COUNTY  
GAZETTE  
**CLASS ACT**  
DINING & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

SECTION B TO THE EAST COUNTY GAZETTE VOL. 10, NO. 17, OCTOBER 1, 2009



# Out and about in the County

**Thursdays: Farmer's Market**, 2 - 6 p.m. at Lindo Lake Park - north parking lot. Local Fresh fruits and vegetables, local fine arts and crafts, California native plants and more. For more information contact: Lakeside Chamber of Commerce at (619) 561-1031.

**Through Nov. 15: The Julian Apple Days Centennial celebration** kicked off on Sept. 8 with a historic apple display in Town Hall reminiscent of the one held on Oct. 9, 1909. The display, which will run until Sept. 20, will feature the many different apple varieties found in the Julian area, along with other local produce, fruit preserves, and much more. The display is open to the public free of charge to give people a better idea of the historic agricultural contribution Julian once made to San Diego County. The Julian Apple Days Centennial celebration, which runs from Sept. 8 until Nov. 15 is a historic community tradition and serves as an excellent opportunity to bring the town together to produce a world-class event celebrating the Fall harvest.

**Oct. 2-4 & 9-11: German American Societies Oktoberfest.** Fridays from 4 to 10 p.m., Saturdays from noon until 10 p.m., and Sundays from noon until 9 p.m. Open to the public with an entry fee of \$5 for ages 21 and up, guests under age 21 and all active military are admitted for free. Authentic German food, such as bratwurst, ox-on-the-spit, potato salad, potato pancakes, sauerkraut and red cabbage will be served, along with a tasty variety of German pastries. Soft drinks and adult beverages will be available, including a fantastic selection of German beers and liquors. Again this year, our Band, Guggenbach-Buam, joins us from Baden-Württemberg, Germany. These fine musicians dress in traditional clothing, and play

a variety of German music, just as you would hear in the beer gardens of Bavaria! Activities include folk dancing performances, games and contests, vendor and craft booths, and a Kids' Fun Zone. A raffle prize giveaway of a round-trip flight for two to Germany is a highlight, along with many other door prizes. On Saturday nights, the clubhouse holds a dance with live music, 8 pm to midnight. Bring your family to El Cajon and experience a real German Oktoberfest! For more information please phone (619) 442-6637. The address is 1017 S. Mollison Avenue, El Cajon (from San Diego, I-8 East, take Mollison Avenue exit south). Website [www.OktoberfestElCajon.com](http://www.OktoberfestElCajon.com).

**Oct. 3: Brooks and Dunn** at Viejas Concerts in the Park. Doors open at 7 event starts at 8 p.m. \$60. GA Standing Room Only. Brooks & Dunn are an American country music duo, consisting of Kix Brooks and Ronnie Dunn. For more information see page 3 or visit [www.viejass.com](http://www.viejass.com)

**Oct. 4: La Mesa Oktoberfest**, 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. Ten blocks long with over 300 vendor booths. Three beer gardens with live music in the Big Beer Garden, El Cajon German Band 12 -1:30 p.m. Helix Highlander Band and Bagpipes 1:30 -2 p.m. The Heroes-San Diego's Favorite Dance Band 2-5 p.m. Contests every 45 minutes. For more info visit [lmvma.com](http://lmvma.com) and [lamesachamber.com](http://lamesachamber.com)

**Oct. 4: Viejas Day Parade**, 2 - 4 p.m. The Alpine Stagecoach Lions Club presents the Alpine Viejas Days Parade. This Year's theme is Youth in Sports. Call Mary Rynearson at (619) 938.9771 for additional information.

**Oct. 10: Tribute to the Stars 5 - 10 p.m.** The Mother Goose Parade Association presents a Tribute to the Stars at the East County Performing Arts Center, Main Street in El Cajon. Red Carpet event begins at 6 p.m. Food and wine tasting 5-7:30 p.m. Live auction at 7:30 p.m. and a concert by the No Doubt tribute band No Duh will perform from 8 - 10 p.m. Participating vendors are: Taste of Italy, Gio, Savanna Grill, Press Box Sports Lounge, New York Bakery, Downtown Cafe, Por Favor and Rock Bottom Brewery. Admission is only \$15 and everything goes to support this year's Mother Goose Parade

**Oct. 17: 5th Annual Smokin' in the Park**, 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. Event is free. The 5th Annual Smokin' in the Park BBQ event is an annual event held that brings together



**Guggenbach-Buam band will be performing at this year's Oktoberfest presented by the German-American Societies of San Diego Oct. 2-4 and Oct. 9-11.**

the State's best BBQ teams who cook up their award-winning food for over seven thousand barbecue enthusiasts in and around the award-winning Viejas Casino. Attracting people near and far to celebrate America's authentic culinary and musical traditions, the event also includes a fantastic line up of music, vendors, merchandise and more. This year's live music line up includes: Stage A: Los Lobos, Texas Tornados, Dave Alvin & The Guilty Women, Jesse Dayton & Billy Midnight. Stage B: Karl Denson's Tiny Universe, JJ Grey & Mofro, The Mother Hips, Dirty Sweet & Dusty Rhodes and The River Band.

**Through Oct. 29: Wheelchair Ballroom Dance Classes** - Learn to do the Fox Trot, Swing, Cha-Cha, and Rumba in a creative, fun setting. Ballroom and Latin dancing has recently become available at Sharp Grossmont Hospital to wheelchair users in the community. In addition to physical benefits such as increased strength, endurance and range of motion, students also experience greater emotional well-being. The free eight-week session will be held from noon to 1 p.m. on Thursdays, beginning Sept. 10 and continuing through Oct. 29, 2009. Classes take place at Sharp Grossmont Rehab Center, 5555 Grossmont Center Drive, La Mesa, 91942. For more information, contact: Beverly Weurding, (858) 573-1571. Learn more about wheelchair dancing: [www.wheelchairdancing.tv](http://www.wheelchairdancing.tv)

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# — OKTOBERFEST —



**Oktoberfest committee.** German-American Societies of San Diego Oktoberfest is located at 1017 S. Mollison Avenue, El Cajon (from San Diego, I-8 East, take Mollison Avenue exit south). Website [www.OktoberfestElCajon.com](http://www.OktoberfestElCajon.com). Or call (619) 442-6637 for more information.

## — What is Oktoberfest? —

It began with the Royal Wedding on 12 October 1810.

Crown Prince Ludwig, later to become King Ludwig I, was married to Princess Therese of Saxony-Hildburghausen on 12 October 1810. The citizens of Munich were invited to attend the festivities held on the fields in front of the city gates to celebrate the happy royal event. The fields were renamed Theresienwiese ("Theres'a Fields") to honor the Crown Princess, although the locals have since abbreviated the name simply to "Wiesn". Horse races in the presence of the royal family marked the close of the event that was celebrated as a festival for the whole of Bavaria. The

decision to repeat the horse races in subsequent years gave rise to the tradition of Oktoberfest.

In 1811, an added feature to the horse races was the first Agricultural Show, designed to boost Bavarian agriculture. The horse races, which were the oldest - and at one time - the most popular event of the festival are no longer held today. But the Agricultural Show is still held every three years during the Oktoberfest on the southern part of the festival grounds.

In the first few decades, the choices of amusements were sparse. In 1818, the first carousel and two swings were set up.

Visitors were able to quench their thirst at small beer stands, which grew rapidly in number. In 1896 the beer stands were replaced by the first beer tents and halls set up by the enterprising landlords with the backing of the breweries. The remainder of the festival site was taken up by a fun-fair. The range of carousels offered was already increasing rapidly in the 1870's as the fair-ground trade continued to grow and develop in Germany.

Today, the Oktoberfest in Munich is the largest festival in the world, with an international flavor characteristic of the 20th century.

At the foot of the Bavaria

Statue, adjacent to the Huge Oktoberfest grounds there are also carousels, roller coasters and all the spectacular fun for the enjoyment and excitement of visitors of all ages.

The festivities are accompanied by a program of events, including the Grand Entry of the Oktoberfest Landlords and Breweries, the Costume and Riflemen's Procession, and a concert involving all the brass bands represented at the "Wiesn".

The Oktoberfest celebrated its 197th Anniversary in 2007, only Wars and cholera epidemics have briefly interrupted the yearly beer celebration.

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Mike Anderson  
Realtor / Oktoberfest Chairman

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## Friday, October 2



4:00 pm Grounds open - Live music begins with Germany's own  
Guggenbach-Buam

5:30 pm Raffle Drawing

8:00 pm Adult Sauerkraut Eating Contest – Do you have what it takes  
to be a champion?

9:30 pm Raffle Drawing

**City Days honoring El Cañon, Lakeside & Julian**

Noon	Grounds open
1:00 pm	Live music begins with our favorite German import, Guggenbach-Buam
1:45 pm	Raffle Drawing
3:30 pm	Traditional German and Bavarian folkdances by the Gemütlichkeit Alpine Dancers
4:00 pm	Oktoberfest Opening Ceremony! Join the Mayor of El Cajon, Mark Lewis, many local dignitaries, plus Miss El Cajon, Miss Julian, and Miss Lakeside, as we tap our imported wooden keg, toast the Oktoberfest tradition, and crown our 2009 Oktoberfest Queen!
5:30 pm	Raffle Drawing and Contest Adult Apple Peeling - Win great prizes for the longest continuous peel!
6:00 pm	Special appearance by the Jägermeister Girls!
7:00 pm	Raffle Drawing and Contest Adult Pitcher Holding - An Oktoberfest favorite! Prove your beer strength & stamina to your friends!
8:00 pm	Dancing continues with live music by Guggenbach-Buam
9:00 pm	Raffle Drawing
10:30 pm	Outdoor music ends, but the party continues inside!

**City Days honoring Lemon Grove & Spring Valley**

Noon	Grounds open
1:00 pm	Kick off Sunday with live music from Guggenbach-Buam
2:00 pm	Raffle Drawing



**El Caion Mayor Mark Lewis and wife Chris.**



**Oktoberfest Queen Michelle and daughter.**

3:15 pm Raffle Drawing  
4:30 pm Traditional German and Bavarian folkdances by the  
Gemutlichkeit Alpine Dance  
5:00 pm Raffle Drawing and Contest  
Adult Nail Pounding - Compete for great prizes and show  
off your carpentry!  
Kids Pitcher Holding - Cheer on our future bartenders during  
four exciting rounds of pitcher holding! Four events:  
Boys and Girls ages 6-9 and 10-14  
7:00 pm Raffle Drawing and Contest  
Adult Pitcher Holding - Now's your chance to show off your  
beer muscles!  
8:00 pm Entertainment ends... but only until next weekend!!!!

*Schedule subject to change without notice*

## Friday, October 9

4:00 pm Grounds open - Live music begins with Germany's own Guggenbach-Buam  
5:30 pm Raffle Drawing  
8:00 pm Adult Sauerkraut Eating Contest – Show your friends what you've got!  
9:30 pm Raffle Drawing



**Little Nate Anderson enjoying the spirit of Oktoberfest.**



**Dunking booth at Oktoberfest 2008. Dunkee watches ball as it approaches the target.**

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— SCHEDULE OF EVENTS —



Getting ready for the Chicken Hat contest.



Sunday, October 11  
It's Chicken Hat Day!!

Noon Grounds open  
1:00 pm Kick off Sunday with live music from Guggenbach-Buam  
2:00 pm Raffle Drawing  
3:30 pm Raffle Drawing and Contest  
3rd Annual Chicken Hat Contest!  
Join El Cajon Mayor Mark Lewis as Adults and Kids compete for the titles of Creative Cluck, Funniest Foul and Popular Poultry!



"We want YOU at the Oktoberfest!"

Saturday, October 10  
City Days honoring La Mesa, Alpine & Santee

Noon Grounds open  
1:00 pm Live music begins with our favorite German band, Guggenbach-Buam  
1:45 pm Raffle Drawing  
3:30 pm Traditional German and Bavarian folkdances by the Gemütlichkeit Alpine Dancers  
4:00 pm Special Keg Tapping ceremony with County Supervisor Dianne Jacob and kids parade. Bring the young ones to join in on the festive march in!  
5:30 pm Raffle Drawing and Contest  
Adult Apple Peeling - Win great prizes for the longest continuous peel!  
6:00 pm Special appearance by the Jägermeister Girls!  
7:00 pm Raffle Drawing and Contest  
Adult Pitcher Holding - An Oktoberfest favorite!  
Prove your beer strength & stamina to your friends!  
8:00 pm Dancing continues with live music by Guggenbach-Buam  
9:00 pm Raffle Drawing  
10:30 pm Outdoor music ends, but the celebration continues....



German American Societies of San Diego Diego Oktoberfest is full of fun, dancing, food and drinks.

5:00 pm Traditional German and Bavarian folkdances by the Gemütlichkeit Alpine Dancers  
5:15 pm Kids Pitcher Holding - Cheer on our future bartenders during four exciting rounds of pitcher holding! Four events: Boys and Girls ages 6-9 and 10-14  
6:30 pm Raffle Drawing and Contest  
Adult Nail Pounding - Compete for great prizes and show off your carpentry!  
8:00 pm GRAND PRIZE RAFFLE DRAWING – The winner will be drawn for the round-trip tickets for TWO to Germany (plus one week car rental - courtesy of Fleetridge Travel)!!!! Buy your raffle tickets early and feel the excitement waiting for your name to be called!



Never too young to dance.



Gitta serving up the beer!  
Nine German beers on tap.



Schedule subject to change without notice



Serving the tap!



Mike Anderson (right) with one of the club founders, Hannes Schuster, recently departed.

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— OKTOBERFEST —

Oktoberfest recognized by City



The German-American Societies Oktoberfest was recognized by the City of El Cajon and October was proclaimed as “German-American Month.”

[www.oktoberfestelcajon.com](http://www.oktoberfestelcajon.com)

Karnevalgesellschaft  
(Karneval or Mardi Gras)

KARNEVAL SEASON – The group meets the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. and weekly during the Karneval season. We celebrate the Fasching in the German tradition. Called Karneval in Rio, and Mardi Gras in the United States, all you need is a love for life and a willingness for fun and frolic in the spirit of Karneval. We will also have a children’s Karneval group.

What is “Karneval” or “Mardi Gras”?

The Mardi Gras season starts on Nov. 11th. and ends with Ash Wednesday. It is a time of festivity and merrymaking.

Our tradition dates back to Germany in medieval times, particularly in the Rhineland where many counties existed under harsh rulers. Kings, princes and even smaller potentates, each maintained their own courts. In doing so, they competed with each other as to pomp and splendor at the expense of their populations.

At “Karneval Season” common people took a chance at “Living it up”, chose a mock government – like our eleven wise governors (fools actually) – selected a prince and princess to ostensibly rule the country during Marti Gras season. Current political features and their sovereigns were the target of ridicule. Parades, dancing in the street, masquerade balls and comical skits filled the days and nights.

Marti Gras festivities have become annual events around the world. The most famous of them are Cologne (K lm) - Germany, Nice - France, Trinidad, Rio de Janeiro - Brazil, and New Orleans - USA. Carnival in Rio is probably the craziest wingding of them all. Germany is the most enthusiastic carnival center of Europe. Nearly every town and village has its own festivities.

Call (619) 442-6637 for more information.



Performing at Oktoberfest 2009.

*Guggenbach-Baum*

— MENU ITEMS —

OKTOBERFEST MENU

All Plates include Meat, a Roll & choice of 2 Side Orders  
(German Potato Salad, Sauerkraut or Red Cabbage)

Ox Plate	\$9.50
Leberkäse (Veal Loaf) Plate	\$8.00
Bratwurst Plate*	\$8.00
Ox & Roll	\$5.00
Leberkäse & Roll	\$4.50
Bratwurst & Roll*	\$4.50
Soup de Jour & Roll	\$4.50
Wiener & Roll	\$3.00
Side Order	\$3.00
Roll	\$ .50

\* can substitute Bockwurst or “Hot Brat”



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CLASS ACT

DINING & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

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## — AT THE MOVIES —

# 'Bright Star' paves the way for Oscar Buzz



Abbie Cornish and Ben Whishaw. Photo credit: Apparition

Review by Diana Saenger

After a few anticipated summer blockbusters, film critics and fans eagerly await the arrival of fall and the push of some possible Oscar contenders. Settling in to watch director/writer Jane Campion's *Bright Star*, I didn't expect it to be so delightful. The story of the affair between poet John Keats and his neighbor Fanny Brawne is wistfully told yet unfolds with the charm and beauty of a treasured family heirloom.

In 1818 London, Keats (Ben Whishaw) and his friend

Charles Armitage Brown (Paul Schneider) serve as each other's muse. They work endlessly on the written word. While Keats struggles to get his work seen, Brown believes in his friend, even sacrificing his own time and money to support him while he waits to be discovered.

Enter Fanny Brawne (Abbie Cornish), a quiet girl whose handiwork with a needle is only a simple measure of the exuberance she finds when in the room with Keats. She wants to learn about poetry, and Brown sees that Keats brightens at her visits. When Brown believes

she's stealing his friend's creative energy, he becomes sullen and unfriendly.

When Keats' brother dies, Fanny is there for him in ways Brown is not. Keats becomes more infatuated with her; teaching her poetry and writing poems about her. It opens up a world of imagination and hopefulness Fanny never imagined for herself. Warned by her mother (Kerry Fox) of the improprieties of the couples' closeness, Fanny turns a deaf ear. All might have ended well if Keats had not been sent to Italy after becoming very ill. He promised to return to Fanny — but died at the age of 25.

Campion has done an incredible job with the layering of *Bright Star* — which gets its name from a verse Keats wrote for Fanny in the margin of a Shakespeare volume ( "Bright Star, would I were steadfast as thou art — Not in lone splendour hung aloft the night...").

This film exudes the era of a time when days were long and filled with necessity more than pleasure. Each scene appears so detailed: it's like taking in a deep breath and holding it as long as you can, then watching as the conventional becomes

something extraordinary. Everything here seems enhanced by Greig Fraser's exceptional cinematography plus set and costume designs that become the framework holding the story together, and by Campion's eloquent script.

"I was reading a biography of Keats," Campion said. "I got to the part where he met Fanny and I fell in love with their story. I was drawn to the pain and beauty and innocence of their love affair. I was incredibly moved by Andrew Motion's book. They were so young; it was a true life Romeo and Juliet story well-documented but one I had not known."

Casting was foremost in telling this beautiful story. Expecting an actor to set a mood for his character and maintain it throughout a film is a tall order. Whishaw's rare ability to appear dangerous and fascinating as well as dark and innocent was exactly what his previous director Tom Tykwer wanted for *Perfume: The Story of a Murderer*. Whishaw also stands out in *Brideshead Revisited*, and Campion found he surpassed her expectations.

"I looked at this young man, this creature, beautiful like a cat,

not real almost," Campion said. "When he spoke, he sounded like Keats, not posh, slightly London or northern. In the audition he was completely brave, open emotionally, febrile yet strong and very sensual and intimate with the actress reading for Fanny. Later in rehearsal I found his presence addictive."

I found Whishaw's performance mesmerizing, and Cornish delivers an equally skilled turn as the complex Fanny. Together, they achieve a sexual chemistry that's derailed only by the era in which they live. Edie Martin is also charming as Fanny's younger sister Margaret "Toots" Brawne.

Campion won the Best Screenplay Academy Award for *The Piano* and was also nominated as Best Director for that film. She has created a large footprint as a female filmmaker, and I think *Bright Star* is her best film yet.

Although not a movie for anyone who expects action, predictability or a cookie-cutter Hollywood movie, *Bright Star* is one of those rare films that critics wait for and moviegoers can't wait to tell their friends about. Oscar nominations may be on their way at last.

## 'Surrogates' — a robotic bore

Review by Michael Black

*Surrogates* is a science fiction whodunit. The premise of controlling a robot with only your mind is an interesting topic, however even Bruce Willis couldn't help this deficient Disney story.

It's the not too distant

future where mankind has discovered a new way of being lazy; using robots that are basically clones of themselves. Instead of expending energy on waking up and getting ready for work, just lay back into an electric Lazy Boy and activate your robot, or surrogate, to go to work for you.

Never leaving home is tempting and people don't have to worry about getting hurt or killed since their robot can take the damage. Crime goes down to zero and everyone is happy. Until...the day someone kills an operator through a surrogate. This was not supposed to be possible and threatens the entire program.

FBI agents Tom Greer (Willis) and Peters (Radha Mitchell) must find out who killed a prominent citizen using a strange weapon that nobody has seen before. Greer's surrogate follows the suspect into a surrogate-free area where robots are considered abominations and terminated on site. This action gets Greer suspended, and he must conduct the rest of his investigation without the help of his super sturdy robot.

From start to finish, the film moves at a slow unexciting pace. Most of the actors look plain but that's what robots are, and in the end this hurts the film since most moviego-



Radha Mitchell and Bruce Willis star in *Surrogates*. Photo credit: Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures

ers like to see some emotions from their lead characters. The cast also includes Rosamund Pike, Ving Rhames and James Cromwell, all very prominent actors but all who lack any real screen time to make a difference.

There should have been a

lot more action to this plot, but the filmmakers chose to make it more about society and how easy humans can become lazy. *Surrogates* had potential but lacked the opportunity to develop the storyline into something audiences would enjoy instead of being a robotic bore.

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### Bright Star

Studio: Apparition  
Gazette Grade: A-

MPAA: "PG" for thematic elements, some sensuality, brief language and incidental smoking.

Who Should Go: Anyone who likes extremely well-made films

### Surrogates

Studio: Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures  
Gazette Grade: C

MPAA: "PG-13" for intense sequences of violence, disturbing images, language, sexuality and a drug-related scene.

Who Should Go: Bruce Willis fans

5TH ANNUAL

SMOKIN' In The PARK

BBQ & MUSIC FESTIVAL

AT VIEJAS

STAGE 1

LOS LOBOS

TEXAS TORNADOS

DAVE ALVIN  
AND THE GUILTY WOMEN

JESSE DAYTON  
BILLY MIDNIGHT

FREE!

STAGE 2

KARL DENSON'S  
TINY UNIVERSE

JJ GREY & MOFRO

THE MOTHER HIPS

DIRTY SWEET  
DUSTY RHODES  
AND THE RIVER BAND

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ALL AGES

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