

Agua Dulce Living

ISSUE 5

• ESTABLISHED 2005 TO KEEP YOU INFORMED •

March 2006

The Television and Motion Picture business is very important to Agua Dulce as a lot of our residents make their living in the business, both in front and behind the camera. We even have our very own "Agua Dulce Walk of Fame" out in front of Sweetwater Café and the Hardware store. Check it out next time you're in town.

Every year in August or September, Agua Dulce celebrates "Wild West Days". Naturally it's the Women's Club that organizes everything, but they do get a lot of help from other local volunteers.

The day starts with a pancake breakfast in the morning followed by a parade. The streets of downtown Agua Dulce are lined with parade watchers; everybody comes out for the spectacle! After the parade, since we're already in town, they hold the ceremony to induct the new honoree for the "Walk of Fame".



Monty Montana and Rex



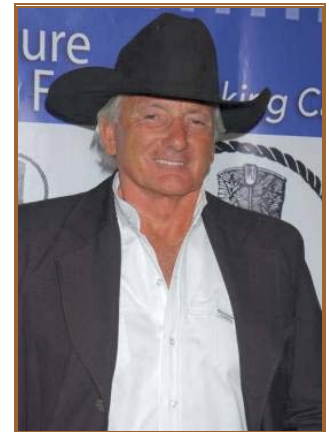
"Cowboy" Chef Gerard and Me

Throughout the day we have a fair, games, talent show, and other types of family entertainment. In the evening we have a more adult fare with food, beer, wine, live music and dancing. It's a lot of fun and there's something for everybody.

The "Walk of Fame" started back in 2003 when the great western film star Monty Montana was our first honoree. Most people probably knew him best for his many appearances in the Pasadena Rose Parade and the Hollywood Christmas Parade, where Monty performed rope tricks as he rode on a pinto named Rex, which sported a fancy silver saddle.

I remember seeing him when I was a little kid at the Rose Parade with my family; he was so impressive prancing down the boulevard on Rex with all that gleaming silver and Cowboy attitude.

In 2004 Terry Leonard, our world renowned stuntman, stunt coordinator, actor and director was honored. Terry has been involved in over 150 film projects. If Terry's not out of town on a movie location you'll often run into him over at Sweetwater Café.



Stuntman Terry Leonard

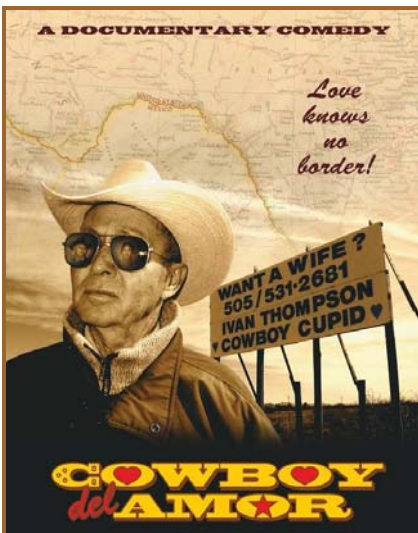
And last year Jerry Wills, a second generation stuntman, his father Henry Wills blazed the trail, was honored.

Montana, Leonard and Wills all have their very own "Star" on the "Agua Dulce Walk of Fame". I guess we'll just have to wait and see who receives the 2006 Star.

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I'm looking forward to The 78th Academy Awards Show coming up on Sunday, March 5th. I love Oscar home parties where a group of us get together and watch the show and have a "friendly" bet on who/what will take home the coveted statue. The rules are simple, but strict; your ballot must be filled out completely and submitted in a sealed envelope along with your \$20.00 to the party host prior to the start of the show. No ballot will be accepted after the show begins, this is very serious business. At the end of the evening whoever picked the most winners takes home the prize, it's a winner take all. Because there are so many different categories that nobody really has a clue about (animated short, sound, documentary, etc...) a couple of good guesses could make your night. In addition to rooting for your favorite movie/actor/actress it's always fun to check out what the stars are wearing. Click on this link and get your copy of the ballot. <http://www.oscar.com/nominees/ballot/index.html>



This year with all the hoopla regarding Brokeback Mountain another "Cowboy" movie has been

overlooked: "Cowboy del Amor", a documentary comedy based on Ivan Thompson's book "Cowboy Cupid". Ivan Thompson is the country's most colorful matchmaker and has been introducing disillusioned American men to Mexican women for more than 10 years. Yes, the story is completely politically incorrect as is Ivan himself!

Cowboy del Amor was directed by Oscar nominated filmmaker Michele Ohayon and has already won the "Best Film" award at the 2005 Santa Fe International Film Festival. Unfortunately, you've already missed the limited showing at the Nuart Theatre in West Los Angeles, but keep your eye out for it on the Showtime cable channel.



Me with Morgan Freeman

I saw the screening recently in Beverly Hills, where I met one of my favorite actors, Morgan Freeman, (you had to love him in Shawshank Redemption, Million Dollar Baby, Driving Miss Daisy as well as anything else he's ever done). He was there to introduce the film and his friend director Ohayon.

I absolutely loved this film! Under Michele's direction the story is so subtly sweet, laugh out loud funny and heartbreakingly tender you'll find yourself laughing and crying at the same time. I hope you get a chance to see it. For more information you can check out the web site at

www.cowboydelamor.com

On a new subject, one of the best things about living in Southern California is our weather! It's the main reason housing prices are so high. Although I admit the monotony of perfect day after perfect day does wear on a girl.

I guess that's why we all got so excited over the "blizzard" we had in Agua Dulce on Sunday, February 18th. It snowed lightly all Saturday night and my neighbor, Mitchell, was out at 1:30 in the morning having a snowball fight with his brothers, Mike & Cody.

About 6:30 Sunday morning it started to come down in big fat flakes and since I'm a lot older than Mitchell, I waited until this more civilized hour to take my dog Riley out to play in the snow. By 7:30 AM I was convinced I would be snowed in for the day as we had at least three inches on the ground!

Imagine my surprise when it was all gone by 10:00 AM. All that was left was the snow on the mountain tops. It was really beautiful.



Agua Dulce Living in a winter wonderland!

Save the Date!

A couple things coming up on Saturday, April 1st so get out your calendar and ink it in.

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Lion's Club 11th Annual 5K Run (or Walk)

Start off the morning with the Lion's Club 11th Annual 5K Run at Agua Dulce Vineyards.

Proceeds from the race are used to support the Lion's Clubs charitable activities here in Agua Dulce, primarily youth clubs and youth scholarships. Check-in is at 7:30 AM. The race through the vineyard starts at 8:30 and should be over by 10:00. Pre-registration tickets are \$18.00 with T-shirt. If you snooze and wait till the day of the race tickets will be \$22.00 with T-shirt and \$18.00 for race only. Come on, get off the couch and call Scott at 661 268-0230 and sign up!

Santa Clarita Symphony

Ultimate Mix

classical music
noun
serious or conventional music following long-established principles rather than a folk, jazz, or popular tradition.

CAFE

jazz
noun
a type of music of American origin characterized by improvisation and syncopation. Piano is particularly associated with jazz, although guitar and occasionally violin are also used.

The most unique musical experience ever. Our guest artists will amaze you as they mix classical music with improvisational cafe jazz. It's smooth, cool, and very hip.

Featuring
Nationally Renowned Musicians

Bryan Pezzone • Piano
Armen Annasian • Violin
Armen Ksajikian • Cello

Vital Express Center for the Performing Arts
Saturday, April 1, 8pm
Tickets go on sale February 20th, \$20, \$30, \$40
For more information
(661) 284-6044 or info@scsymphony.com

This is not your Father's Symphony! And they are going to change the way you think about symphony music.

Nothing proves that point more than their upcoming April 1st concert, where they will mix classical music with improvisational jazz.

Please join them for the most unique musical experience ever, as their guest artists Bryan Pezzone (Piano), Armen Annasian (Violin), Armen Ksajikian (Cello), perform together alone on stage (without the orchestra) to create the Ultimate Mix. It's smooth, cool, and very hip.

TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW! To purchase tickets, go to their website www.scsymphony.com and click on the purchase tickets link. Ticket prices are \$20, \$30, \$40. Showtime: 8pm, Vital Express Center. Be there!

My Favorite Things



If you don't have it yet, what are you waiting for! This will totally change the way you watch TV. No more commercials and you watch whatever you want, whenever you want. I promise you, you'll end up watching less TV and enjoying it more. TIVO even has a mind of its own and based on the type of shows you record it will record shows it thinks you will like. All though why it taped Boxing in Spanish, I still haven't figured out.

Set up and equipment cost is about \$100.00 and a \$5.00 a month charge. It's worth every penny!



Tom Tom Go 700: I can't say enough about this portable, door to door, GPS navigation system. As a realtor, I'm all over the place and Agua Dulce & Acton have many, many dirt country roads that are

impossible to find. After getting lost one night and "off-roading" for about two hours trying to follow my "Yahoo map-it" directions, I broke down and bought this wonderful, easy to use system. Not only will you never get lost again, you'll know where every restaurant, gas station, hospital or point of interest is anywhere in the United States and Canada. I can't wait to take a road trip and really put it to the test!

You can buy it on-line or at the electronic stores for \$899.00 or I found it at Sam's Club for \$790.00. It would make the perfect gift for the one you love, even if that happens to be you!

www.tomtom.com

Agua Dulce Vineyards



Gloria, Don, Barbara and Raquel at the Valentines Day Dinner at the Vineyard



Winemaker Jim Yerkes in the barrel room

Everybody had a great time at the Vineyard Valentines dinner on February 14th. If you haven't made it to one of their events or wine pairing classes you're really missing out.

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Carley, Shannon, "floating head" Donny, Val and Tawney get ready for the party.

Give the vineyard a call and find out about the new expanded wine pairing classes featuring holiday themes. Forget buying Dad a Tie and bring him to a complimentary Fathers Days pairing with Port and Cigars!

In case you were wondering the "February Blizzard" did not hurt the vines. This time of year the vines are dormant and it's only after they began to bud out that a freeze could hurt them.

Out with the old in with the new! In order to make room for the soon to be released 2002 Angeles Crest Syrah the 2001 Angeles Crest Syrah is on special until the end of March. Call the vineyard and place your order before they run out. Only \$96.00 for a case of 12, if you do the math that's only \$8.00 a bottle! Syrah is perfect with anything off the grill or with my favorite, sweet & salty pecans and blue cheese. Hmmm, Hmmm.

Agua Dulce L70 Airport



The Pilatus with Dave, Ted, Eric & Martin

On Wednesday, February 22nd I joined a small group of friends on a mission. Grueling as it was our task was to fly the Spears Pilatus to their hanger near Boulder Dam

and bring back their Bell 407 Helicopter. Work, work, work!

Now, how boring would it be to just fly direct to Boulder, so we took a side trip and had lunch in Sedona, Az.



Flying into Sedona, Az



At the Airport in Sedona

Ted flew in the left seat from Agua Dulce to Sedona and Dave flew from Sedona to Boulder. Martin, a commercial airline pilot, former flight instructor and neighbor of the Spears was in the right seat making sure all went well.



Proof Dave has flown the Pilatus!



Flying over Boulder Dam, damn!

I was in such awe of this incredible state-of-the-art airplane I don't think I said two words all the way to Sedona. On the flight from Sedona to Boulder Ted was in such awe after actually flying the plane he couldn't speak! Thank goodness Eric was there to keep the conversation going.



Bell 407 Helicopter

But by the far the best part for me was the ride back home in the helicopter, where I got to sit in the left seat! Martin is also a helicopter pilot (oh and Sea Plane) and we flew low and slow over the desert and landed twice in the middle of nowhere, just because we could. The first time we landed I refused to get out of my seat; although I didn't admit it at the time, I feared Eric might want to snag my e-ticket front seat. I know, I know I was being selfish and not playing well with others, but I just couldn't help myself. Connie Spears says she completely understands and didn't blame me a bit (Eric may think otherwise).

While we were off playing with his toys, Mr. Spears was in downtown LA attending another hearing regarding the Agua Dulce Airport modifications. Nothing final yet, but surely it will all be resolved at some point.

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Featured Property



**13732 Oscar St, Sylmar
\$699,000**



Guesthouse and pool bath

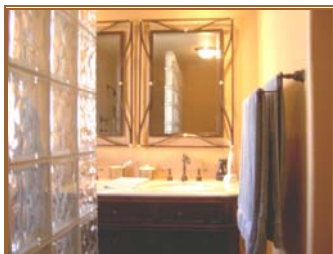
This beautiful home is located in rural Sylmar, on a quite cul-de-sac, north of Foothill Blvd.

The 3 bedroom, 3 bath main house is 1,341 square feet and there is a 600 square foot guesthouse/rental in back.



Back patio & pool

The newly remodeled master bedroom used to be 2 bedrooms and now it's just one lovely room with built in closets and a bathroom with a 7 foot long tiled shower with 6 shower heads!



Master Bath has a 7 foot tiled shower complete with 6 showerheads!



Master bedroom with French doors

French doors open out to a well maintained backyard and huge sparkling pool. Perfect for parties and family gatherings! Call me and set up your private showing!



Living room with French doors

California Real Estate Tips It's all About the Financing!

If you're like me you've probably been wondering how in the world people are able to afford the high prices commanded in today's housing market! Well, it's all in the financing, today buying a home is like buying a car was years ago. The actual price is not as important as the monthly payment.

I have been working with Kerri Schmidt over at CTX Mortgage Company and she has pulled together the following loan examples for me to share with you. Based on a home priced at \$699,000 here's how it pencils out.

Home Price \$699,000

100% Financing

5 year Interest Only

80% Interest Only 1st of \$559,200
= **\$2,796 Month**

20% Interest Only 2nd of \$139,800
= **\$1,049 Month**

Monthly Payment = **\$3,845 Month***
Interest Only Payment does not include Principal, Taxes or

Insurance. Interest only 1st at 6%, apr 6.114. Interest Only 2nd at 9.5%, 9.63apr based on the prime rate plus margin, rate and apr may increase.

90% Financing

Pay Option Arm with 10% down
80% 1st of \$559,200 = **\$1,799**

10% 2nd Interest Only of \$69,900 =
\$466

Monthly Payment = **\$2,265**
Month*

APR of 4.902 is based on a 1% start rate with an LTV of 80% for the 1-month MTA, rate and apr may increase and may result in deferred interest, does not include taxes and insurance. Interest only 2nd at 8% with apr of 8.217%.based on the prime rate plus margin, rate and apr may increase.

80% Financing

30 year fixed

80% 1st of \$559,200 = **\$3,443**

Monthly Payment = **\$3,443**
Month*

Principal and Interest payment does not include taxes or insurance Based on a rate of 6.25% apr 6.373%

*All rates, fees, programs and information subject to change without notice. Certain restrictions apply. Not all will qualify at these terms.

For more information you can contact Kerri direct at CTX Mortgage, 661· 254-9841 ext 202 or check out her website at kerrischmidt.com she'll be happy to answer any of your questions or help you find the loan that's right for you!

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Classified

Unless you send me something, I got nothing. E-mail me at

MarilynMerlotAD@sbcglobal.net

Contact Information

For more information or for any of your Real Estate needs, no matter where you live, please feel free to contact me direct or visit my website. You can search the MLS listings from the privacy of your own home and sign up for free automatic e-mail alerts and be the first to know when a property becomes available.

www.marilynmerlotinscv.com



Agua Dulce Vineyards

9640 Sierra Highway
661-268-7402

www.aguadulcevineyards.com

Agua Dulce L70 Airport

33638 Agua Dulce Cyn Rd
661-268-8835

www.L70airport.com

Agua Dulce Flower Finesse By Marisol Jenkins

33336 Agua Dulce Canyon Rd
661-268-7601

Marilyn Garner REALTOR®

Buyer's agent for Chuck Messmer



661-904-1323

Or e-mail me at:

MarilynMerlotAD@sbcglobal.net

Agua Dulce Hardware

33314 Agua Dulce Canyon Rd
661-268-0167

Agua Dulce Nursery

33355 Agua Dulce Canyon Rd
661-268-0676

American Water Well

33604 Agua Dulce Cyn Rd
661-268-1080

Boston-Henry

33605 Agua Dulce Cyn Rd
661-268-1731

Bullwinkel's Gifts & Antiques

33302 Agua Dulce Canyon Rd
661-268-1535



661-212-3920

Wireless High Speed Internet
Connection

www.canyonwave.net

Images Salon

33336 Agua Dulce Canyon Rd
661-268-1626

Maria Bonita Mexican Restaurant

33311 Agua Dulce Rd
661-268-8804

Realty Executives

24106 Lyons Avenue
Santa Clarita, CA 91321
661-286-8600 vm 4105

SCV Bookmobile

33301 Agua Dulce Canyon Rd
Wednesdays, 10am-12& 1-4pm
661-260-1792

Sweetwater Café

33310 Agua Dulce Canyon Rd
661-268-1213

Sweetwater Farms Market

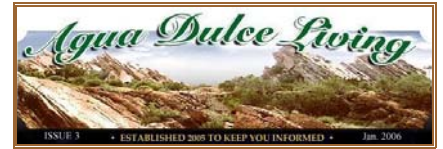
33301 Agua Dulce Canyon Road
661-268-0700

Vasquez Rocks Park

10700 W. Escondido Canyon Rd,
661-268-0840

Vincenzo's Pizza

33323 Agua Dulce Canyon Road
661-268-8833



Masthead courtesy of Bob Wynne

Wynne Fine Arts

818-761-8956

www.wynnefinearts.com

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Agua Dulce Living is published monthly by Garner & Gibson Publishing

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