

Times-Herald

Web site tracks AmCan activities

By Rachel Raskin-Zrihen/ Times-Herald staff writer

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AMERICAN CANYON -- Someone wanting to know what's going on in this town had no centralized place to find out.

Until now.

Thanks to resident Aimée Beaugrand and City Councilwoman Joan Bennett, AmCanLive.com is up and running.

"We're really excited about AmCanLive.com," Bennett said. "We've been working on it for a while, Aimée and myself. We started talking about it over a year ago."

Beaugrand, a real estate broker, said she moved to town a couple of years ago, and discovered a need.

"I had a hard time finding volunteer opportunities and events," Beaugrand said. "We wanted to get involved but couldn't get any traction on what was going on, what groups existed here, what events were happening."

Beaugrand's computer skills allowed her to build this site, Bennett said.

"She has great computer skills, which I'm lacking in a little. We felt we're a pretty active community and needed a community calendar," Bennett said. "The Park & Rec Department has one, but it doesn't include any events that are not part of the city."

Bennett says the new Web site is a handy tool for anyone looking for American Canyon's happenings.

"You can log on and click on an event and get details," Bennett said. "It's still a work in progress; we haven't advertised it yet so many people don't know about it yet. But I think she's done a magnificent job of it, and that it will be very handy. It already has been for me."

Seeking a sense of community, Beaugrand said she realized that this was made more difficult without a central repository of community event information. So she made one.

"What took so long, is that I had to find out who the players are, make friends and alliances," she said.

Beaugrand said she is volunteering time to research and upload American Canyon happenings, attending monthly city activities committee meetings and trolling for information elsewhere. There is also a submission link on the site, which Beaugrand monitors.

Submissions must include an event's time and place as well as contact in case she has questions. No anonymous submission are allowed, she said.

"It's about building community and respecting each other," Beaugrand said.

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