

Caspar Community News

February, 2015

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mamajowali

Friday, February 6th

Doors at 7:30 Concert 8pm



Joe Craven

Mamadou Sidibe

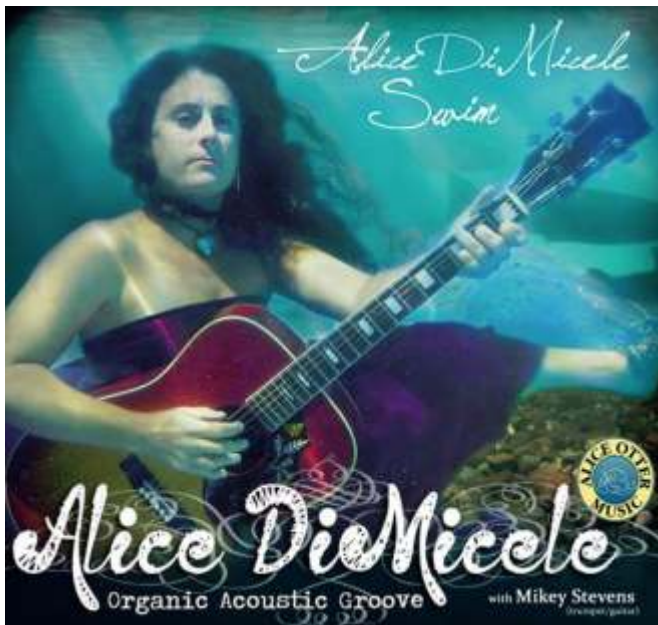
Walter Strauss

Fridays, February 6 & 20 9:30am
Caspar Community Board
All Welcome

Friday, February 13, 6:30 - 9 pm
Caspar Pub Night

In February, the Caspar Community is presenting two unique musical events. On Friday, February 6th at 8pm, Joe Craven's latest musical collaboration, **Mamajowali**, will perform for a benefit concert and dance at the Caspar Community Center.

[more about Mamajowali](#)



Alice DiMichele

Friday, February 20th

Doors at 7:30 Concert 8pm

On Friday, February 20th, also at 8pm, singer, songwriter and guitarist **Alice DiMichele** will be joined by Mikey Stevens on trumpet and strings for a concert celebrating the release of her latest album, **Swim**.

[more about Alice DiMichele](#)

Sunday, February 22, 9 - 11 am
Caspar 4th Sunday Breakfast

[A complete schedule can be found at our website.](#)

also in this issue...

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Rethinking Privilege

Alice DiMicele Concert February 20th

Alice's music explores the humor, depth, and wonder of the human experience through exquisite songcraft and her incredibly soulful voice. 30 years of touring and her deep connection to the State of Jefferson gives her special relevance and poignancy when she comes to Caspar. She's shared the stage with some of music's best, including Bonnie Raitt, Joan Baez, JJ Cale, David Grisman, Arlo Guthrie, Steve Winwood, and many more. Mendonesian Bonnie Raitt says it this way: "Alice's music has that great combination of earthiness and groove that keeps it funky from the inside out. She's for real."

Alice's February 20th concert in Caspar is part of the Launch Tour for her new CD – she's produced 12 – DiMicele assembled a bevy of kindred musical contemporaries to create a record that can only be characterized as a family affair. Backed by some of her most beloved community of musicians, DiMiceles's multi-octave voice dives deep and soars high, invoking passionate emotion creating a fresh funky stew all her own as she explores folk, jazz, funk, rock, and soul.

Doors open at 7:30pm. Admission is \$10 to \$15 sliding scale. Children free. Proceeds benefit the Caspar Community.



photo credit: Tina Bolling Photography

"Alice DiMicele writes songs of consciousness and loving patience for the world we live in and, more importantly, delivers them with a sincerity, power and positivity that wakes the heart and gives us refreshment for hope." –**Joe Craven**



Photo: Sienna M. Potts

Mamjowali Concert February 6th

Honorary Casparado Joe Craven led Gertie, Caspar's reclusive Gorse Monster, around the grounds of CasparFest, then delighted us when he joined other musicians on stage. A consummate collaborator, his work (percussion, mandolin, fiddle and vocals) with his musical conspirators Mamadou Sidibe (*kamale ngoni*, the hunter's harp of Mali, and vocals), and Walter Strauss (six string guitar, vocals) is energizing and fun. They call the high energy result, an improvisational blend of West African, old time Americana and spirited originals, "Afromericana."

Joe is remembered by many for his innovative "Found Music" workshops in Caspar, where he urged people to make music with pie plates, egg beaters, and whatever other unlikely instruments that came to hand. In that spirit, this collaboration with Mamadou and Walter is uncommon and familiar while traditional and innovative – all at the same time. 'Everything Joe touches turns to music,' says David Grisman, who Joe played with for almost 17 years.

Mamadou Sidibe is from the Wassoulou Region of Mali, West Africa. Twenty-five years ago Mamadou played a groundbreaking role in transforming the music of this region from its origins in hunters' sacred melodies- -played on six string donso ngoni (hunter's harps)– to a music of philosophical observations, politics and daily life.

Fingerstyle guitar ace Walter Strauss draws on American roots, world music traditions, and jazz to create a sound uniquely his own.

President's Letter

At the heart of our Community are our volunteers. They get done what needs to be done, and more importantly they form the human bonds that link us together. The friendships that grow in this environment of working together are the basic building blocks of community.

Working side by side with other volunteers, people I know and have a history with, people I respect and feel respected by is a great source of satisfaction for me. That together we have so successfully built our community and our community center is of even greater satisfaction. It is this satisfaction that keeps me coming back.

Part of the Caspar Community Board's responsibility is to identify projects or events that will contribute to this building of our community. These events or projects need to be satisfying for those whose sense of community is based on volunteering and making events happen and of enough interest to our greater community that they turn out and have a good time, providing the volunteers the sense of accomplishment and satisfaction they need to keep volunteering.

This is true whether the event is a food and music event, a work party or a meeting addressing a mutual community concern.

When we want to talk about water or land use or emergency planning or any other Caspar concern we need to do so in a way that provides our volunteers and our greater community this sense of mutual satisfaction and accomplishment. We can do this by defining our projects in ways that allow for successful outcomes, tackling problems in small enough pieces so that we are always making progress.

The future of our community lies in anticipating what these events and projects are and organizing them in a way that makes them fulfilling for our volunteers, organizers and patrons. If you have ideas for events or community projects you would like to be a part of let the board know; we try to be open to input from all our fellow Casparados. If you want to join your neighbors in working on events as a volunteer talk with Dalen. She can help you find the opportunity that is right for you.

Be involved in whatever ways are fulfilling to you, try it, you'll like it.

—*Paul Reiber*

Caspar Community Board president

Among your New Year's Resolutions...

How about Getting Ready! Now that we are past the holiday flurry, we are revisiting steps we can take to be prepared for an emergency.

As emphasized at the last Community Meeting, our primary focus is to be sure each household has developed a plan and gathered resources. How are you doing? Suggestions and check lists are available on the internet or from Annie Lee:

annielee@hotmail.com

We continue to research options for getting and stocking a trailer for the Center and will be scheduling various Red Cross trainings, such as CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams), CPR, First Aid and Site Management.

Look for another round of neighborhood get-togethers to share information, ideas and delectables before the next Community Meeting this spring.

—*Annie Lee*

Striving for Resilience

As we pass the one-year anniversary of our **Sustainable Caspar conference**, we might do well to review our one-year goals, and how well we are doing with them.

In our [November edition](#), we were pleased to read Bob Frey's report on the Center's new renewable **energy** system. Already in the works last February, with financing secured and a plan being developed, this success wasn't small, yet it's done. Many other homestead energy goals – replacing incandescent light bulbs with more efficient lighting, rewindowing, getting more solar on our homes – is a slow process. How's our neighborhood doing with ride-sharing? Contacting neighbors to see if they need anything when we go to town? Combining and postponing errands to make each town run more productive? Or are we enjoying the momentary relaxation of gasoline anxiety due to jockeying amongst petroleum nations on the world stage? (Asher Miller warned us about this!) Local government grinds slowly on the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program, but we hope for more information and community buy-in.

Notable progress has been achieved with **food** security. The wonderful Caspar Community Garden, Sakina's garden sessions, Marty's well-attended canning workshops, added to Dalen's use of local, organic, sensitively prepared foods put Caspar

continues 



Sienna's Winter Market Basket

Rethinking Privilege

1. No cell service.
2. Sand in the living room.
3. Walking alone, even at night.
4. A book more compelling than anything on Netflix.
5. Sunrises out of the forest.
6. Sunsets into the sea.
7. Milky Way nights.
8. Knowing all of my neighbors.
9. Two beaches within easy walking distance (see #2).
10. Sea lion song. Bird song. Frog song.
11. Looking in on migrations (whale spouts, Canadian honkers, osprey fly-bys).
12. Two community meals every month.
13. Weekly Farmers Market all winter.
14. Bookmobile visits every 2 weeks.
15. All of these privileges available in Caspar, no driving involved.



Can you name this beach!

Photos and the list in this column are the work of Sienna M. Potts

Resilience concludes

cuisine ahead of other organizations' grub. Were we more supportive of the Caspar Winter Market, mightn't we see more vendors and edible choices there?

You can read Annie's report on continuing preparations for **emergency** readiness on the preceding page.

The conference's **water** and **economy** goals both urged progress toward managing Caspar's aging water system. Many in Caspar experienced dry wells during 2014. As of this writing, rainfall is again lagging well behind averages for the season, and we cannot expect the deficit to be made up before the dry season. Water is an example of the kind of "insurmountable opportunity" that Caspar has faced and overcome before. Challenges to our resiliency can be counted on to present themselves in indivisible, awkward, complex, and stubborn forms, like water.

The Casparado spirit – "we are small, but we are mighty" – was an essential ingredient in our previous triumphs. Protecting Caspar Beach and our sacred Caspar Headlands, acquiring and upgrading our stellar Caspar Community Center and building its spectacular kitchen – these were not small projects. Thanks to a courageous, far-seeing, and transparent Community Board and lots of brilliant volunteer work, major projects get done. We appreciate the Board's work in maintaining the brightness of our Community Center. The good feelings of our major successes will last longer than we do.

—Michael & Rochelle
with a little help from Judy

*please come and help Michael explain
Resilient Caspar
(the successor to Sustainable Caspar)
to the League of Women Voters
at 10am on Tuesday, February 10th
at the Caspar Community Center*

This edition of
Caspar Community News
was laid out by Michael Potts

The Spring edition will appear in March. Submissions of activities, events, or information of interest to Casparados is invited. Send them to lists@casparcommons.org