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Pleasanton Today

October 10, 2008

The City of Pleasanton Newsletter

www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us

Alviso Adobe Community Park Grand Opening on October 25

All Pleasanton residents are invited to the Grand Opening festivities of the city's newest park, the Alviso Adobe Community Park, located at 3465 Old Foothill Road. The fun begins at 10:00 a.m. and continues throughout the day until 4:00 p.m. The day-long event features a bird walk hosted by the Ohlone Audubon Society, authentic Californios music and dance, park tours led by the park designers, landscape architect, and City Naturalist, lectures, period displays, games and crafts for children such as candle making, planting and ceramics.

Alviso Adobe Community Park is a unique historic resource that tells the story of California from its earliest human occu-

pation, dating back to 3420 B.C. A \$4.5 million restoration developed the site into an interpretive park where school children and visitors can learn about the history of the Amador Valley and get a rare glimpse of times past.

The restored Alviso Adobe, the first building in the Pleasanton area, is the physical and interpretive centerpiece of the park. A re-creation of the historic Meadowlark Dairy Milking Barn and Bunk House will accommodate new uses

and indoor interpretive displays. Special exhibits and interpretive programs are being developed in partnership with the Museum on Main.

For more information, please call (925) 931-5350.



PHOTO BY DINO VOURNAS

Officer Michael Murazzo with the new black and white Ford Crown Victoria "Police Interceptor."

Black and White (and Green All Over)

Fleet Changes in Pleasanton

In a throwback to the past, Pleasanton is joining cities across the nation in a trend to convert back to using black and white patrol cars in a look made famous by the television series *Adam 12* in the late sixties. But the change has little to do with TV, pop culture, style, or black and white being the 'new' black.

"The primary intent is to increase the force visibility so we are easily identifiable in an emergency, and also to create more of a crime deterrent and perhaps make drivers more mindful of safe driving behaviors," says Pleasanton Police Chief Mike Fraser.

Studies have shown that black and white police vehicles are more recognizable on the street than all white vehicles, and offer greater visibility. The conversion of the entire patrol fleet to black and white should be completed by the end of the year.

The new black and white patrol cars will soon be green as well, as part of a recent mandate to convert the entire city fleet to fuel efficient vehicles. The rising cost of fuel and a commitment to environmental stewardship are at the core of this new policy, which supports the purchase of hybrids and a conversion



LPFD's new CA-OES Type III Wildland fire engine.

to reduce diesel emissions to reduce particulate matter by 75%.

Meanwhile, the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department (LPFD) heralds the arrival of a new California Office of Emergency Services Type III Wildland engine. Specially designed to operate in a wildland-urban fire environment, this multi-mission unit features four-wheel drive, a short wheel base, high ground clearance, and pump and roll capability. The new engine will augment LPFD's existing fleet and can respond to local emergencies as well as assist with mutual aid requests.

Pleasanton + Livermore = Solar Cities



As energy costs escalate and consumers become more aware of their own carbon footprints, more and more homeowners are considering solar energy. Sun-generated energy offers independence through the use of a clean power.

On the residential front, solar energy is used more for heating swimming pools than for any other single use, with more than 300,000 pools heated by solar in the U.S., but homeowners are realizing its potential elsewhere. For example, water heating accounts for about one-fourth of the total energy used in a typical single family home. Solar energy systems can save owners up to 85% on their utility bills over the costs of electric water heating.

In an effort to provide an educational resource to residents, the Cities of Pleasanton and Livermore have teamed up to develop the Solar Cities program. The program features free educational workshops, web resources, and targeted information to assist homeowners in making a decision about investing in a photovoltaic solar system.

More than 60 residents attended the first such workshop on September 24 in the Veterans Memorial Building in Pleasanton. Peter Shoemaker of PG&E presented an overview about residential solar energy and rebate programs, followed by a Q & A session and the opportunity to meet with solar installers.

All Pleasanton and Livermore residents and businesses are invited to attend a second workshop that is scheduled on Thursday, January 29, 2009 in Livermore. More information will follow as we approach that date. For more information, please visit www.solarcitiesnow.com.

Upcoming Events

Dancing in My Nightgown

Free lecture with author Betty Auchard
Wednesday, October 15 | 1:30 p.m.
 Pleasanton Senior Center

The Friends of Pleasanton Seniors in cooperation with the Pleasanton Senior Center welcomes local author and inspirational speaker Betty Auchard. Her humorous and touching stories have appeared in the *Chocolate for a Woman's Soul* series, the *San Jose Mercury News*, and *Today Senior Magazine*. Auchard will share short, upbeat and inspiring stories from her book, *Dancing in My Nightgown*, which include reflections on how she coped with the passing of her husband of 49 years. Copies of her book will be available on loan at the Pleasanton Senior Center as supplies last.



Halloween Teen Improv

Friday and Saturday, October 30 & 31
5:30-7:30 p.m. Pre-show Halloween mini-carnival
7:30-9:30 p.m. "Tri-Valley High: Episodes of Terror"
 Veteran's Memorial Building

The City of Pleasanton Parks and Community Services Department brings you its first improvised horror show, "Tri-Valley High: Episodes of Terror." Join the Teen Improv troupe *Creatures of Impulse* to create the story, setting and characters for two nights of fun, interactive and completely unscripted theater on Thursday and Friday, October 30 and 31. Come in costume to enjoy a free pre-show Halloween mini-carnival from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. both nights. For tickets and more information, please call (925) 931-3481.



Magical Holiday Evening

Friday, November 21 | 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Downtown Pleasanton decks the halls to usher in the holidays with festive décor, twinkling lights and beautiful window displays. Join us for this special kick-off to the season as individual stores offer special treats for visitors on this magical holiday evening!



Hometown Holiday Celebration: Sights and Sounds of the Season

Saturday, December 6 | 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
 Parade starts at 5:30 p.m., tree lighting ceremony at 6:30 p.m. Main Street between Ray and Abbie Streets.

Join us for a hometown tradition as Pleasanton marches in the holidays with a parade, tree lighting, and a holiday sing-along, as well as the annual Toys for Tots drive. To volunteer, please visit www.hometownholiday.com for more information and forms.



Pleasanton Joins Nation in 'The Great Gatsby' Big Read

"They were careless people, Tom and Daisy—they smashed up things and creatures and then retreated back into their money of their vast carelessness, or whatever it was that kept them together, and let other people clean up the mess they had made."

—F. Scott Fitzgerald,
'The Great Gatsby', Ch. 9

The Pleasanton Public Library kicked off the 2008 Big Read Program on September 7, with 'The Great Gatsby' by F. Scott Fitzgerald. This marks the second consecutive year that Pleasanton has been one of more than 200 communities around the country to participate in the program. A program of the National Endowment of the Arts, the Big Read initiative was designed to restore reading to the center of American culture.

The Pleasanton Public Library offers a full slate of events and activities to complement the novel and take Pleasanton readers back to the "Jazz Age" of the roaring 1920s. It all culminates in a Great Gatsby Speakeasy Party on Saturday, October 25 from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. at the



PHOTO BY MELANIE JAMES

Pleasanton residents joined in the fun of the Big Read Kick-Off on September 7.

Veteran's Memorial Building and everyone is invited. Of course Gatsby-era costume is encouraged as you swing to the sounds of Don Neely's Royal Society Jazz Sextet featuring Carla Norman. There will be wine,

jazz and dance demonstrations of the Foxtrot, Charleston, and the Lindy. Tickets are available at the library and Towne Center Books for \$10 for adults and \$5 for seniors 65+. For more information, please call (925) 931-3405.



The members of the Pleasanton Trails Ad Hoc Committee need your input! They are conducting a survey to gauge the use of the trails system within Pleasanton. To fill out a brief survey, please visit www.tinyurl.com/trailsurvey. Your input will assist the Trails Ad Hoc Committee in providing better recreational experiences for you!

Civic Arts Unveils Fall Season

Pleasanton Civic Arts unveils its fall season with a spectacular new performing arts series, *SATURDAY!*, especially designed for young children and their families. These 11:00 a.m. Saturday matinees will profile puppets and masks, seasonal fun, music and storytelling.

Adults can also look forward to a full season of music, comedy, and adventure. For jazz enthusiasts there's the Brubeck Brothers Quartet, the musical progeny of jazz legend Dave Brubeck, as well rising star vocalist Sophie Milman, the Celtic music ensemble Golden Bough, and the incredibly innovative ScrapArts Music group.

Comedy lovers will have no farther to go than the Amador Theater for the San Francisco Comedy Competition and the boffo *MacHomer*, featuring performance artist Rick Miller's



ScrapArts Music Group

impersonation of the entire cast of the Simpsons doing *Macbeth!*

Family audiences will enjoy three theatrical productions from Civic Arts Stage Company including the *Legend of Sleepy*

Hollow, *Holiday Celebrations Around the World*, and *Ramona Quimby*. For more details and ticket information, please visit www.pleasantoncivicarts.org or call (925) 931-3444.



PHOTO BY DINO VOURNAS

Construction is underway on a new bridge at the intersection of Bernal and Vineyard Avenues.

A Bridge to Somewhere

Relief is on the way for one of Pleasanton's most impacted intersections, located at Bernal and Vineyard Avenues, where a bridge with two northbound lanes is scheduled to open next spring. The new bridge will also provide better access for emergency vehicles traveling from nearby Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Station #1.

Plans have been underway for nearly a decade to make the bridge a reality for the busy intersection, according to City Engineer Jim Kelcourse. "This project required an extraordinary amount of mitigation to protect the creek environment that it crosses," says Kelcourse.

The \$3.9 million construction contract for the project was award-

ed to Gordon N. Ball Construction of Alamo, California. Expect to see the bridge rising from the creek level by late October now that the bridge supports have been installed. The next phase will be to lay decking for the two lanes that will carry traffic in the northbound direction. The existing two-lane bridge will be oriented for southbound traffic.

Construction Update

West Dublin/Pleasanton Station Pedestrian Overpass

A flurry of construction activity is underway on the new West Dublin/Pleasanton BART Station, located in the median of I-580 between Castro Valley and the existing Dublin/Pleasanton BART station. When construction is complete in late 2009, the site will include a development

with 1,200 parking spaces, housing, office space and a hotel.

The Pleasanton side of the new station will feature a mixed-use 350-unit apartment complex and approximately 14,000 square feet of commercial/retail development. The Dublin side of the station will feature a 150-room hotel, a 309-unit apartment project, and a 7,500 square foot commercial building.

The new station is projected to

serve more than 6,000 commuters per day who will access the station via a pedestrian overpass that will be built over the next several months. A pre-constructed bridge will be moved into place during a scheduled freeway closure of I-580 between 2:00 and 6:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings,

when the traffic volume is the lowest. This will necessitate closing the freeway on three separate occasions to move the pre-constructed bridge and sign structures. The closures will likely take place this October/November and will be posted by CalTrans on a changeable message board along the freeway.

For more information, please visit <http://www.bart.gov/about/projects/wdp/index.aspx>.



COURTESY OF BART

Rendering of West Dublin/Pleasanton BART Station.



COURTESY OF GOLFSMITH

Changes at Rose Pavilion

A spacious new Golfsmith superstore opened its doors in Pleasanton's Rose Pavilion shopping center in August, filling more than 28,000 square feet of a building that was originally constructed to house a Broyhill furniture store that was never occupied, and, prior to that, was the site of the former Galaxy 8 Cinema.

For Golfsmith, the new Pleasanton store offers amenities found in its superstore footprint in other parts of the country but, due to space limitations, couldn't be offered at the chain's smaller stores in Dublin, Fremont and Palo Alto. The new Rose Pavilion location features an indoor golf driving range and a full-size tennis court where customers can test equipment and take lessons.

In addition to golf and tennis products, the store carries a broad range of sports apparel and accessories. Golfsmith has six locations in the Bay Area; the Pleasanton location replaces the Dublin Golfsmith.

Meanwhile, Rose Pavilion owner Centro Properties is gearing up for a new Fresh & Easy store that has been

approved to open in 2009. Owned by British-based Tesco, Fresh & Easy stores are smaller than a typical supermarket (six Fresh & Easy stores would



fit in a standard supermarket) and focus on natural foods without antibiotics, hormones, added trans fats, artificial color or flavor. Tesco has 78 Fresh & Easy stores in Arizona, California and Nevada.

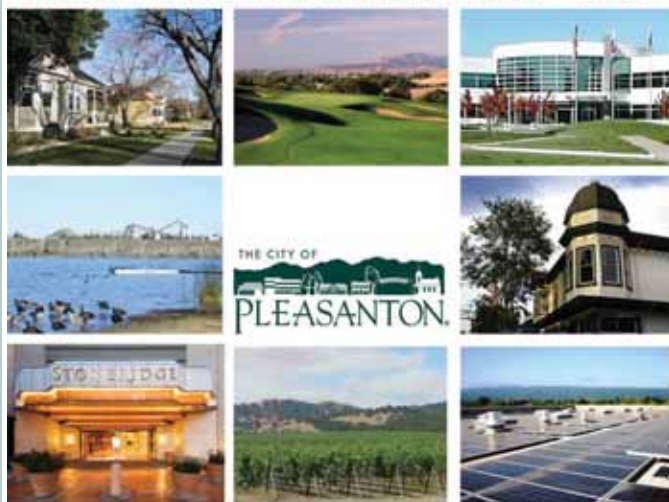
New Draft General Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report Now Available

After several years of public input, information gathering, analysis, and debate at commission and City Council meetings, the new Draft General Plan is now available for public review. You can view a copy of the Draft General Plan online at www.pleasantongeneralplan.org, or request a disk or hard copy at the Planning Division counter at 200 Old Bernal Avenue between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. on weekdays or call (925) 931-5600.

The Planning Commission will begin discussions about the Draft General Plan at its October 15, 2008 meeting but will not take any formal action on the plan until early 2009. The meeting is scheduled at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber at 200 Old Bernal Avenue. Public input continues to be a critical component of the plan and your comments can be submitted either in person at the upcoming Planning Commission meeting, or by contacting Principal Planner Janice Stern at (925) 931-5606 or jsstern@ci.pleasanton.ca.us.

Also available online and at the Planning counter is the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) on the proposed Draft General Plan, which includes information regarding the potential environmental impacts of the Draft General Plan. Public comment on the DEIR will be taken through November 6, 2008, with the opportunity to provide oral comment at the Planning Commission meeting on October 15.

Pleasanton General Plan 2005 - 2025



Ready or Not?

Put Emergency Preparedness at the Top of Your 'To Do' List for 2009

Emergencies come in many forms and comprise a frightening roster that includes hazardous materials spills, heat waves, earthquakes, floods, pandemics, utility outages, and fire. The City of Pleasanton prepares to meet such challenges with an emergency plan that is designed to protect the well-being of our residents and their property, and to keep governance intact in our community during an emergency. A Local Emergency Action Program (LEAP) is also in place to prepare local businesses for an emergency, and to ensure that goods and services continue to be available in that event.

All Pleasanton city employees are charged with responding as disaster services workers in the event of an emergency. The City has identified locations where residents can be sheltered and receive medical attention if necessary. There are

supplies stored and equipment ready for employees to tap into during a local emergency which requires them to remain on duty and on site.

Residents can bolster these efforts with their own individual Emergency Preparedness Plan. There are many ways to do this, but a great way to start is to contact the Emergency Preparedness Unit of the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department (LPFD) to schedule a presentation to your neighborhood, church group or local organization. Learn how your family can develop its own emergency plan and learn lifesaving emergency skills such as First Aid, CPR and automatic external defibrillator (AED). To schedule a presentation, please call LPFD at (925) 454-2361. You can also find emergency preparedness information at <http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/fire/emergency-preparedness.html>.



It's a wrap—another fabulous summer in Pleasanton!

Gearing Up for Winter

Storing the patio furniture and pool toys come to mind when many homeowners think about seasonal preparedness and maintenance. The Street Maintenance Division of the City of Pleasanton has a year-round calendar of check-off items to keep our streets safe and stable. For example, this unit handles the weekly sweeping of the downtown business district and the monthly sweeping of all other streets and City parking lots. Visit <http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/government/departments/works/sweep.html> to view city street cleaning maps and schedules.



all leaves and debris. Rake the leaves slightly away from the curb line so that the leaf loader can reach as many leaves as possible. By the way, leaf vacuum trucks are designed to pick up LEAVES only, so please do not place other debris such as yard clippings, tree branches, dirt or gravel in the curb and gutter as these materials can damage the City's leaf loader equipment. Some of this material can be put in the green waste container. For more information about street sweeping and leaf pick up in your neighborhood, residents may call (925) 931-5550 for weekly schedules.

There's also a Leaf Pick-Up Program that gets underway in November and continues through January. City trucks remove piles of leaves throughout the residential and commercial neighborhoods. There isn't a set schedule, however City crews try and schedule leaf pick up in areas two days before the street sweeping is scheduled. Residents can prepare by raking tree leaves into the curb and gutter area, keeping the storm drain clear of

When winter flooding occurs, city crews are often the first line of defense. Small streams, drain inlets and storm drainpipes are constantly monitored when a big storm hits. Residents and businesses can obtain free sandbags to protect their Pleasanton properties during these times. During stormy weather, the sandbags are available in the administration parking lot of the City's Operations Service Center, located at 3333 Busch Road.

The Cities of Livermore, Dublin and Pleasanton are co-sponsoring application workshops for all FY 2009-10 Livermore Housing and Human Services Grant, Pleasanton City Grant and Pleasanton and Dublin Community Development Block Grant applicants. Staff will discuss the application process and review the grants guidelines. Agencies **MUST** attend one workshop to have their application considered for funding. Please RSVP at (925) 960-4016 or tmshurtleff@ci.livermore.ca.us. For specific questions about the City of Pleasanton's Grant Programs, please visit www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/community/grants/.

Grant Workshops
 Monday, December 8
 1:30-3:30pm
 Pleasanton City Council Chamber
 200 Old Bernal Avenue
 Wednesday, December 10
 10:00am-12:00pm
 Livermore City Council Chamber
 3575 Pacific Avenue

<p>City Council 931-5001 Jennifer Hosterman, Mayor Cheryl Cook-Kallio, Councilmember Cindy McGovern, Councilmember Matt Sullivan, Councilmember Jerry Thorne, Councilmember</p> <p>City Manager 931-5002 Nelson Fialho</p> <p>City Attorney 931-5015 Michael Roush</p> <p>Business License 931-5440 City Clerk 931-5027 Economic Development 931-5038 Facility Rentals 931-5340 Graffiti Hotline 931-5245 Human Resources 931-5048 Job Hotline 931-5056 Library 931-3400 Parks, Recreation and Community Services 931-5340 Pet Licenses 931-5425 Pleasanton Senior Center 931-5365 Police/Fire Emergency 911 Non-Emergency Police 931-5100 Public Works 931-5650 Water/Sewer Billing 931-5425</p> <p>Pleasanton Today Pleasanton Today is published for residents and businesses of Pleasanton and reports on issues and events that affect our city. You are encouraged to contact us with your questions and comments. Please direct all correspondence to: Joanne Hall, Public Information Officer P.O. Box 520, Pleasanton, CA 94566-0802 (925) 931-5044 jhall@ci.pleasanton.ca.us</p>	<p>City Meetings All meetings are held at the City of Pleasanton Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue, unless otherwise noted. Times are subject to change, please check www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us calendar for current meeting information.</p> <p>City Council First and Third Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m. (televised on Comcast cable channel 29)</p> <p>Civic Arts Commission First Monday of the month, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Housing Commission Third Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Human Services Commission First Wednesday of the month, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Library Commission Second Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m., held at Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Avenue</p> <p>Parks & Recreation Commission Second Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Planning Commission Second and Fourth Wednesday of the month, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Youth Commission Second Wednesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., held at Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Boulevard</p> <p>Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee Third Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Economic Vitality Committee Third Thursday of noticed months, 7:30 a.m. held at Operations Service Center, 3333 Busch Road</p> <p>Trails Ad Hoc Committee Fourth Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Youth Master Plan Implementation Committee Second Monday of the month, 6:00 p.m. held at the Operations Service Center, 3333 Busch Road</p>
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