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# Pleasanton Today

July 5, 2013

The City of Pleasanton Newsletter

[www.cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov)

## Stoneridge Drive Extension Nears Completion

The long awaited construction of the Stoneridge Drive extension to El Charro Road is nearing completion and is expected to be done by early fall of this year. Construction is rapidly advancing on the project that will include two parallel bridges across the Arroyo Mocho, one for eastbound traffic, the other for westbound traffic. Once open, traffic on the bridge will initially be limited to one lane in each direction.

As we prepare for the opening, improvements are also being made to Santa Rita Road around the intersection at Stoneridge Drive to accommodate and improve traffic flow. A northbound dedicated right turn lane from Santa Rita Road onto Stoneridge Drive is one of the most distinctive changes. In addition, an existing eastbound curb lane on Stoneridge Drive will be converted to a free right turn lane onto Santa Rita Road. Finally, the east side of Santa Rita Road will connect to a trail improvement project along the Iron Horse Trail.

A five-acre neighborhood park adjacent to the Stoneridge Drive extension will provide residents with two new tennis courts, a grass field and a walking path. Nearby, progress continues on Stoneridge Creek, which encom-



Eastbound Stoneridge Drive between Trevor Parkway and the bridge.



Westbound Stoneridge Drive, just east of the new bridge.

passes 46 acres of the Staples Ranch property. The continuing care retirement community is scheduled to open in September and will feature several hundred residences, restaurants, a library, game room, business center, spa and fitness center, performing arts theater, and many other amenities. An on-site health center will also be located on the property and will feature options for assisted living, memory support, and skilled nursing needs.



## Library Summer Reading Game Comes in with a Roar

*Young Readers Tap Into Theme of Pre-Historic Pleasanton*

The Pleasanton Public Library goes Jurassic for Pre-Historic Pleasanton, the theme of the 2013 Summer Reading Game that continues through August 4. Each year, a theme is selected for the reading incentive game that is enhanced with an elaborate set that is constructed within the Children's Library area. The area is then transformed to bring the game alive. This year, Pre-Historic Pleasanton comes complete with dinosaurs, saber-toothed tigers, ancient sea creatures and cave men. Children of all ages can sign up for the program to become "junior paleontologists" and pick up a game board.

Playing the game is simple; participants track the time they spend reading (or are read to) on their game board. They are then rewarded with prizes each time they complete ten hours of reading. Pre-school children who cannot read themselves are also welcome to play the game with help from parents who read to them.

Last year, nearly 4,000 Pleasanton youngsters signed up to participate in the Summer Reading Game. This summer is also packed with activities for library junior paleontologists including weekly movies, story times, and craft activities. Pre-School Fridays is a summer mix

of storytelling, music, dance and crafts for ages 3 to 5. Free Wednesday programs include the Busy Bee Canine Acrobatic Troupe on July 10, and an end-of-summer carnival on August 1 and 2. Free Tuesday movies are shown at 2:00 p.m. and require a ticket, which is distributed in the Children's Reading Area on movie day at 1:30 p.m.

For more information about Pre-Historic Pleasanton and a complete listing of the library's exciting programs and activities, please visit [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/library.html](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/library.html) or call the Children's Desk at (925) 931-3400.





## Upcoming Events

### Shakespeare in the Park Saturdays and Sundays

July 6, 7, 13 & 14 7:30 p.m.

Macbeth, generally regarded as one of the Bard's major tragedies, comes to Amador Valley Community Park this summer as performed by the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival. The play includes a suspenseful plot and thrilling scenes of witchcraft and swordplay. Don't miss free Shakespeare in the Park at the Amador Valley Community Park, 4301 Black Avenue, behind the Aquatics Center. Come early to claim the best spot, bring your family, friends and a picnic dinner and make an evening of it! For more information, please call (925) 931-3456.



### Free Movies in the Park Thursdays from July 11 through August 15 6:30 p.m.

Grab a picnic dinner, a blanket and low beach chairs to enjoy family film favorites every Thursday from July 11 to August 15 at Amador Valley Community Park, 4455 Black Avenue. Fun activities, contests, sing-a-longs and games are planned prior to the film. Arrival by 6:30 p.m. is advised, movies start at dusk. The season kicks off on July 11 with Dr. Seuss' "The Lorax". For more information, please call (925) 931-4828.



### Arroyo del Valle Creek Clean-Up Saturday, August 24 10:00 a.m. to Noon

Students ages 6 to 12 are invited to become a steward of the land and take part in a creek clean-up. Join staff from the Pleasanton Community Services Department and students from the Earth Club at Foothill High School and Amador High School to clean the creek that runs through downtown. There is no cost for this event. For more information, please call (925) 931-3479.



### David Lanz

Saturday, September 14  
8:00 p.m.

Grammy nominee David Lanz is a contemporary piano legend whose compositions helped to forge the New Age music movement more than 20 years ago. See him perform at the Firehouse Arts Center in downtown Pleasanton, at 4444 Railroad Avenue. For ticket information, please visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), or call (925) 931-4848.



### Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr. October 11-October 20 Friday and Saturday 7:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 2:00 p.m.

The Emmy® Award-winning cartoon series is brought to life by the Civic Arts Stage Company in one of the most fun and energetic musicals ever to hit the stage! SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK LIVE! JR. turns grammar, math, social studies and science into a rollicking fun-filled show for the whole family. Don't believe it's possible to make conjunctions exciting? Come and check out the Conjunction Junction and a whole lot more! See it at the Amador Theater, for tickets please visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org) or call (925) 931-4848.



## Free Summer Bicycle Classes

The City of Pleasanton and the East Bay Bicycle Coalition have teamed up to offer free summer bicycle safety classes. The first workshop teaches cycling basics to families with children who are able to ride a bike. Parents and kids must attend together, bring their own bikes, and be prepared for a day of fun games, safety drills, skills building, and a neighborhood ride.

For adults over age 18, a two-day workshop is on tap. On Day 1, the focus is Urban Cycling 101, a class that covers the basic rules of the road, helmet fit and how to avoid a crash, to name a few. Day 2 is an on-road, on-your-bike practice session conducted by certified League of American Bicyclists instructors. Learn how to improve your handling skills, crash avoidance maneuvers, and the ability to bike confidently and safely.

All workshops are taught by certified instructors and will be held at Thomas Hart Middle School, located at 4433 Willow Road in Pleasanton. Pre-registration is required at [www.pleasantongreenscene.org/transportation](http://www.pleasantongreenscene.org/transportation) or [www.ebbc.org/safety](http://www.ebbc.org/safety). For more information, please call (925) 931-5039.



**Family Cycling Workshop** (Bring your bike & helmet!)  
Saturday, July 13, 2013 • 10:00 am - 12:30 pm  
Thomas Hart Middle School Parking Lot

**Day 1: Urban Cycling 101 Classroom Workshop** (no bike necessary)  
Saturday, August 10, 2013 • 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm  
Thomas Hart Middle School Multi-Purpose Room

**Day 2: Road Workshop** (Bring your bike & helmet!)  
Saturday, August 24, 2013 • 10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Thomas Hart Middle School Gymnasium & Parking Lot

## Plan an Extraordinary Day inPleasanton.com!

Be sure to visit *inPleasanton.com*, a new website to learn where to shop, dine and recreate in Pleasanton. Throughout the community, you can enjoy performing arts, great dining, and unique shops for every taste, whether in downtown or at

extraordinary!  
**PLEASANTON**  
california

Stoneridge, our regional shopping mall. The site provides information on more than 300 retail shops,

200+ restaurants and numerous recreation spots right here in Pleasanton. An interactive map can help you navigate your way around town. An extraordinary experience is waiting for you in *inPleasanton.com*!

## Coming Soon to Downtown Pleasanton: Hi Tech, Solar-Powered Trash Compactors

The popularity of downtown Pleasanton is sometimes visible through overflowing bins which cannot accommodate the volume of trash generated by large crowds such as Friday Concerts in the Park or First Wednesdays. Help is on the way in the form of two new solar powered trash compactors that are double-sided, with one side for trash and the other for recyclables. The new bins can hold up to five times more than standard waste and recycling bins.

Purchased with Measure D funds, the compactors have indicator lights to reveal if the can is empty, almost full, or full. This web-based technology also allows monitors to determine the amount of recyclables collected in each can. The new bins are expected to dramatically reduce the collection frequency and overflows, without reducing service levels; divert recyclables from the waste stream; and use wireless monitoring to optimize collection performance.

Two BigBelly Solar Intelligent Waste and Recycling collection bins will be located in downtown Pleasanton, one near the Firehouse Arts Center and Wayside Park, and one on the plaza in front of Tully's. Three other portable units have also been purchased to supplement at large events, soccer tournaments and swim meets.





## Apply to Become a City Commissioner

President John F. Kennedy left us with an important legacy regarding the value of participating in government service. He thought that those who were interested, wanted to participate, and felt strongly about any public question should translate their interest into action. The success of American democracy has been attributed to the vibrancy of our civic life.

This spirit prevails on a local level too, and Pleasanton residents are encouraged to participate on any one of 11 city commissions that address issues such as civic arts, energy and the environment, housing, human services, the library, trails



for pedestrians and cyclists, parks and recreation, planning, and youth.

Applications for all commissions are always accepted and are available at the City Clerk's office at 123 Main Street, or on the City website at [www.cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov).

Applications are reviewed and applicants are interviewed and selected through an appointment

process that takes place twice a year, once in the spring and once in the fall.

Commission members must be Pleasanton residents, with the exception of the Economic Vitality Committee, in which case members must be employed in Pleasanton.

For more information, please contact the City Clerk's office at (925) 931-5027.

## The Search for the Pleasanton's Next Teen Poet Laureates is Underway

The City of Pleasanton is searching for teens that love to write and want to contribute to their community! One Teen Poet Laureate from each high school will be selected to serve during the 2013-2014 school year.

The Teen Poets will coordinate events such as poetry readings, gatherings on school campus, and possibly also accompany the Adult Poet Laureate on school visits. They will also help to develop and foster an appreciation for composing, reading, reciting, and listening to poetry.

To be eligible, applicants must be entering grades 11 or 12 and be enrolled and in good standing at a Pleasanton



high school. Applications are due Friday, August 2, 2013, after which a brief interview will be scheduled. For more information please visit [www.firehousearts.org/programs/literary-arts](http://www.firehousearts.org/programs/literary-arts)

## View "The Contemporary Landscape" at Harrington Gallery through July 19

Currently on exhibit at the Harrington Gallery in the Firehouse Arts Center is "The Contemporary Landscape", an exhibit featuring five regionally acclaimed painters.

Large format works depicting land, water, and atmosphere are included, and styles range from Impressionism, to Expressionism and Symbolism. The exhibit artists include John Crawford, John Maxon, Margaret Rinkovsky, Jenn Shifflet, and Jeff Snell.

The Harrington Gallery hours are from noon to 5:00 p.m. each Wednesday through Friday, and 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday. Stop by before or after a visit to the Pleasanton Farmer's Market! The Gallery is also open one hour prior to most theater events.

The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton. Admission to the Harrington Gallery is free.



Garapata Hillside by John Crawford

## Schedule a FREE Green House Call with California Youth Energy Services

For the second year, the City of Pleasanton is partnering with California Youth Energy Services (CYES) to provide residents with free home energy assessments. This non-profit group places Pleasanton youth (ages 15-22) in paid summer jobs that provide technical and leadership training, while dispensing a valuable service to the community.

CYES trains teams of energy specialists who will schedule appointments and perform free water and energy assessments and retrofits. These "green house calls" are available to both homeowners and renters and include the installation of CFL light bulbs, high-efficiency showerheads, faucet aerators, retractable clotheslines, and power strips. In addition, teams will check for water leaks and verify attic insulation levels, all free of charge.



Appointments are available through August 8 while space is available. To schedule a free green house call, please call (510) 665-1501, x10 or visit [www.risingsunenergy.org](http://www.risingsunenergy.org).

## Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War

The Museum on Main in downtown Pleasanton is the host of this special exhibit developed by the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia. Adapted as a traveling exhibit, visitors will get a glimpse into three topics that challenged our nation during the tumultuous period of the Civil War: "Are We a Single Nation?" "Can Slavery Be Uprooted?" and "Must Civil Liberties Give Way?"

The Pleasanton Public Library joins the

Museum on Main in presenting a series of films and events to complement the exhibit.

All events are free and include:

### Lincoln and the Constitution Today

Sunday, July 7 at 2:00 p.m.

Pleasanton Public Library

Legal scholars Margalynne Armstrong and Daniel Farber discuss with moderator Jesse Choper how the issues of the Civil War still affect America today.

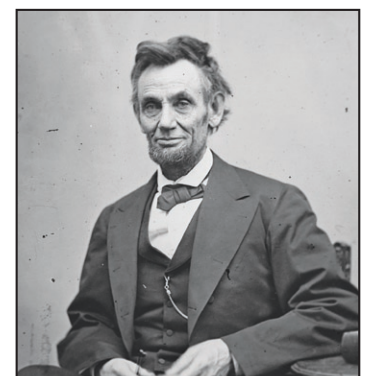
### Family Day: Civil War Encampment

Saturday, July 13 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Museum on Main front lawn

Civil War re-enactors present the daily lives of soldiers on campaign, with a visit from President Lincoln!

For a full schedule of events, please visit [www.museumonmain.org](http://www.museumonmain.org).



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## Police Volunteers Serve the Pleasanton Community

Volunteers in Police Services (V.I.P.S.), are a vital component of the Pleasanton police organization. The volunteer corps was first initiated in 1999 as part of the department's community oriented policing and problem solving philosophy and supports the goals, objectives, and overall mission of the Police Department. Through their efforts, stronger partnerships are forged between the Police Department and the community. This in turn leads to an increased awareness, a reduction in crime through high visibility, and an improved quality of life.

Volunteers support nearly all of the functions within the Police Department including Citizens on Patrol, crime prevention, special events, investigations, records, administration, property and evidence, and more. Patrol volunteers serve the community in a uniform capacity, providing a conspicuous and supportive presence in the community. These valued members of the organization are frequently seen conducting vacation checks, assisting with lost or missing persons, conducting parking enforcement, assisting officers with traffic control and serving as the eyes and ears of the department by calling in crimes in progress or suspicious persons.

All members of the Police Department's volunteer program are either residents or work in Pleasanton, and must be graduates of the



Pleasanton Police Animal Service Officer Kristen Hart and VIP Dorothy Van Brakel with canine pal Minnie.

local Citizens Police Academy.

There are currently 24 volunteers who, in 2012, accumulated a total of 7,317 hours of volunteer service to the community, or the equivalent of 3.5 full-time employees! The Pleasanton Police Department appreciates the commitment and dedication of its police volunteers for their contributions to the organization and community.

The Pleasanton Police Department is currently accepting applications for this rewarding volunteer opportunity. For more information, or to obtain an application, please contact Sergeant Maria Munayer at [mmunayer@cityofpleasantonca.gov](mailto:mmunayer@cityofpleasantonca.gov).

## SAFETY CORNER

### Cooking Up Safety, Indoors and Outdoors

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department offers some tips for outdoor cooking this summer season with safety in mind. More than 14 million U.S. households use propane barbecue grills. If you are one of them, be sure to check the connection between the propane tank and the fuel line to ensure that the tubes aren't blocked or leaking. If you ever smell gas while cooking, move away from the grill immediately and call the fire department; do not try to move the grill!

Some general safety guidelines for propane and charcoal grills include:

- Be sure to keep a three-foot radius clear around the grill and designate the area as a "no play zone" for children and pets.

- Prior to grilling, position the grill away from the house, deck railing, overhanging eaves, or tree branches.

- Propane and charcoal grills are for outdoor use only, and if used inside, can expose you to toxic carbon monoxide and pose a serious fire risk.

- Don't wear loose fitting clothing while grilling. If clothing does catch on fire, remember to Stop, Drop, and Roll!

- Always use long handled grill tools to keep your hands far from the flame.

- Never leave a grill unattended.

As we head into fall later this year, the National Fire Protection Association will observe Fire Prevention Week in October. The 2013 theme

is Prevent Kitchen Fires, since cooking is the leading cause



of home fires and home fire injuries. Not surprisingly, unattended cooking was a factor in 34% of reported home cooking fires, and two-thirds of those fires started with the ignition of food or other cooking materials, such as oil.

For more information on fire safety visit [www.fpw.org](http://www.fpw.org).

City Council 931-5001

**Jerry Thorne**, Mayor  
**Cheryl Cook-Kallio**, Vice-Mayor  
**Karla Brown**, Councilmember  
**Kathy Narum**, Councilmember  
**Jerry Pentin**, Councilmember

City Manager 931-5002  
**Nelson Fialho**

City Attorney 931-5015  
**Jonathan Lowell**

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  
Community Services 931-5340  
Pet Licenses 931-5425  
Pleasanton Senior Center 931-5365  
Police/Fire Emergency 911  
Non-Emergency Fire 454-2361  
Non-Emergency Police 931-5100  
Operations Service 931-5500  
Water/Sewer Billing 931-5425

#### 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@cityofpleasantonca.gov](mailto:jhall@cityofpleasantonca.gov)

#### City Meetings

All meetings are held at the City of Pleasanton Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue, unless otherwise noted. Meeting dates and/or times are subject to change, please check [www.cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov) calendar for current meeting information.

**City Council** First and Third Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m.  
(televised on Comcast cable channel 29)

**Bicycle, Pedestrian & Trails Committee** Fourth Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m.  
held at Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Boulevard

**Civic Arts Commission** First Monday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

**Economic Vitality Committee** Third Thursday of noticed months, 7:30 a.m.  
held at Operations Service Center, 3333 Busch Road

**Energy and Environment Committee** Fourth Wednesday of every other month, (next meeting in August), 5:00 p.m.  
held at the Operations Service Center, 3333 Busch Road

**Housing Commission** Third Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

**Human Services Commission** First Wednesday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

**Library Commission** Second Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m.  
held at Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Avenue

**Parks and Recreation Commission** Second Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

**Planning Commission** Second and Fourth Wednesday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

**Youth Commission** Second Wednesday of each month during the school year, 7:00 p.m.  
held at Operations Service Center, 3333 Busch Road, Conference Room



Another spectacular spring in Pleasanton!

