

the OUTLOOK

of Pleasant Hill, California

Pleasant Hill has a grand event planned for the Fourth

From “dawn’s early light” to the “twilight’s last gleaming,” the Fourth of July Commission has another star spangled event planned for the residents of Pleasant Hill.

The day begins with a bang at 8:00am as the Firecracker 5K Fun Run makes its fourth annual appearance. Last year this event drew over 650 runners who raised over \$9,700 for our Pleasant Hill schools. Get a prime viewing spot for the parade along Crescent Drive and cheer the runners on. Once again, the 7-year-olds and younger kick off the Fun Run on Crescent Drive with their own 100-meter dash.

The Parade begins at 9:30am and winds its way from the corner of Woodsworth Lane and Contra Costa Blvd through the downtown shops along Crescent Drive. Buttons the Clown, this year’s Grand Marshall, reflects the theme for this year’s parade—“Let’s Party...Small Town Fun for a Big Nation Celebration!” Look for local clubs, scouting groups, the Concord Blue Devil C Team, the Alameda County Sheriff’s Bagpipe Band, and the International Suburban Dads’ BBQ

Association celebrating the Red, White, and Blue. Got an idea for an entry? Let us know! A new trophy has been added this year for the best entry that promotes saving our environment.

The Party In The Park, at Pleasant Hill Park, immediately follows the parade. Two new stage bands have been added, as well as a second stage for the “garage bands”...our hometown emerging rock stars. The popular Petting Zoo, sponsored by Dawn Block and Michael Harris, makes a return visit. There will be great games for the kids, new attractions, and pie-eating as well as



Entire families join in the fun!

watermelon-eating contests. Back Forty Texas BBQ will once again be serving up some great ribs and eats. Root beer floats will be available to help take the sting out of the predicted warm day.

Preceding the “rocket’s red glare and the bombs bursting in air” over College

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Update on new garbage and recycling program and rates

On April 1, 2008, Allied Waste introduced new rates for both garbage and recycling for all residential customers in Pleasant Hill. Under the new program the City switched to weekly recycling and all customers were given the opportunity to downsize your garbage cart in

order to save money or prevent your monthly rate from increasing.

The table below indicates the new monthly charges which include both recycling and trash disposal (one rate for both):

To date, a significant number of residents have switched from a

—continued on page 2



Creative floats are the highlight of the parade!

CART SIZE (GALLONS)	OLD MONTHLY RATE	NEW MONTHLY RATE	DISCOUNTED SENIOR RATE*	
			OLD RATE	NEW RATE
20	\$23.46	\$19.00	\$21.26	\$17.10
32	\$25.46	\$22.00	N/A	\$19.80
64	\$25.96	\$30.00	N/A	\$27.00*
96	\$26.46	\$45.00	\$24.13	\$40.50*

* To qualify for the discounted Senior Rate you must be 62 years or older and have a household income of \$29,300 or less after April 1, 2008.



Help celebrate the 25th anniversary of National NIGHT OUT!

National Night Out is a nation-wide celebration of the partnership between local communities and their police departments. Held annually across the country on the first Tuesday evening in August, National Night Out gives citizens and police officers the chance to interact in a relaxed atmosphere to both enhance communication and celebrate their accomplishments.

It takes place this year at City Hall, 100 Gregory Lane, on August 5, 6-8pm. The event will feature a free BBQ catered by our local Outback Steakhouse, beverages courtesy of our local Target store, live music on the City Hall stage, a bouncy house for the kids, a fire truck from our local Engine 5, and a K9 demonstration. In addition, numerous police officers will be present to answer questions or just to chat. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to spend a relaxing evening with your family while getting to know your local police officers, listening to some great music, and enjoying delicious Outback BBQ.

If you have questions or would like more information please contact:

Officer Peter Agnost,
Community Resource Officer
Pleasant Hill Police Department
(925) 288-4637 or pagnost@ci.pleasant-hill.ca.us

Sponsored by: Target, City of Pleasant Hill, Pleasant Hill Police Department, Outback Steakhouse.



Election Of City Councilmembers, City Clerk, and City Treasurer

On November 4, 2008, Pleasant Hill voters will elect three Council members, a City Clerk, and a City Treasurer. The nomination period will begin at 8:30am on Monday, July 14, 2008 and end at 5:00pm on Friday, August 8, 2008. However, if one of the incumbent officeholders does not file by the August 8th deadline, the nomination period for that vacancy will be extended until 5:00pm on Wednesday, August 13, 2008.

Nomination Papers must be obtained from the City Clerk's office during the nomination period. Candidates must be registered voters of Pleasant Hill at the time the Nomination Paper is issued.

Candidates are invited to contact the City Clerk's office at 671-5237 for election details. ♣

Update on new garbage and recycling program and rates —continued from page 1

96-gallon cart to a 64, 32 or 20-gallon cart. In fact, around 60 percent of Allied customers who previously had 96-gallon carts have now downsized to a smaller cart. This cart replacement is an ongoing program and customers can downsize their cart at any time by calling Allied Waste at 925-685-4711. Also, if you do not have a green cart for yard waste, and do not require one, then you are entitled to a yard-waste exemption and a lower monthly rate—you should contact Allied to process this.

Preliminary reports indicate that the new program resulted in a 22 percent increase in recycling during the months of

April and May 2008. This is significant because the City is mandated to divert at least 50 percent of all its waste into recycling. The most recent findings from the State of California show that Pleasant Hill dropped slightly below this level to 49 percent in 2006, and the City is now under increased scrutiny by the State's Waste Management Board to demonstrate that it has improved its recycling program.

During the transition to the new rate structure, Allied Waste encountered several issues which resulted in billing errors, non-processing of new carts, and long

delays in taking customer calls. The company's General Manager, Tim Argenti, formally apologized to the City Council at its meeting on June 2, 2008 and subsequently published a full-page apology in the Pleasant Hill Record on June 5. The City has received assurances from Allied Waste that these issues have all been resolved.

If you need to contact the City in regard to any aspect of your service, please call Martin Nelis at (925) 671-5229 or email him at mnelis@ci.pleasant-hill.ca.us. ♣

The number for Allied Waste Customer Service is (925) 685-4711 and the website is http://alliedwasteservicesofcontracostacounty.com/customer_service_wizard.cfm

**3%
Interest**



City of Pleasant Hill Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program*



Spruce up your home!

- Replace your roof, gutters, downspouts.
- Install energy efficient windows.
- Paint the interior and exterior.
- Update your kitchen and bathrooms.
- Remove tripping hazards and more.

**Call
Now!!!**

**David Boatwright,
Housing Coordinator (925) 671-5266**

*Maximum loan amount is \$60,000 and available to persons with limited income. Low credit scores accepted. Certain restrictions apply.



Frequently Asked Questions



Do these loans require monthly payments?

Not always; it depends on your finances. The loan may be deferred until your home sells.

How are the loans secured? All loans are secured by a Deed of Trust.

What kind of work can be done? Most types of work that remove safety hazards or improve your home to a safe, decent, and sanitary condition.

Do you have contractors perform the work?

Yes, the program has many pre-qualified contractors from which to choose.

Who funds this program? The Pleasant Hill Redevelopment Agency, using its property tax funds.

I already have a mortgage and an equity line.

Can I still apply? It may be possible. Call for more information.

Are there income requirements? Yes, for example a family of three can make up to \$77,500 annually. Call for details.

Can I use this program to add a room to my house? No, the program can only rehabilitate the existing structure.

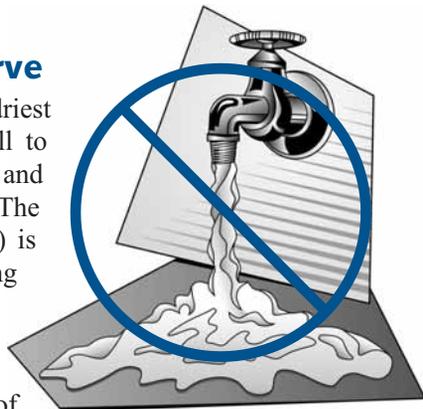
Can I use the funds for other purposes? No, the funds must be used to improve your home.

How much are your loan fees? Only a few hundred dollars, once your loan is approved. There are no points to pay and fees are paid by the loan (i.e. not out of pocket).

How do I apply? Call (925) 671-5266 and request an application.

CCWD calls on customers to renew efforts to conserve

This year was California's fourth driest winter on record, so it is time for all to renew water conservation efforts and ensure we are using water efficiently. The Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) is asking all customers to focus on using water wisely in light of continuing dry weather conditions. There are many ways we can save water both indoors and outdoors. Below is a list of conservation tips which can help each of us do our part to save this precious resource—water.



■ Indoors

- ❑ **High-efficiency toilet:** You can save up to 60% by replacing your older (pre-1992) toilet with a new High-Efficiency Toilet (HET). HETs use advanced technology to improve water efficiency and improve flushing performance. For a limited time, CCWD is offering rebates of up to \$175 per qualifying toilet. For a list of qualifying HET models and program guidelines, visit their website at www.ccwater.com and click on the link for water conservation.
- ❑ **High-efficiency clothes washer:** By replacing your older top-loading clothes washer with a new high efficiency model, you can save a significant amount of water and energy. High efficiency washers use 50% less water and energy than conventional washers, and they are kinder to your clothes. For a limited time, CCWD is offering rebates of up to \$100. For a list of qualifying models and program guidelines, visit their website at www.ccwater.com and click on the link for water conservation.

■ Outdoors

- ❑ **Landscape watering schedule:** Managing your landscape watering schedule can be the single biggest water saving action you can take! Automatic sprinkler timers can be a great tool to save time, but if not managed, they can automatically waste water every day. Adjust the watering schedule at least monthly to reflect changes in the weather. Inspect your landscape, including the soil moisture, to determine if and when you need to water. For a typical home, reducing the watering schedule by one-minute on each sprinkler station will save more than 50 gallons per day!
- ❑ **Mulch:** Apply a 2 to 3-inch layer of mulch to your landscape. This will reduce water evaporation by up to 70%. It will also reduce weeds and keep your plants' roots cool in the summer.
- ❑ **Lawn:** Turf grass or lawn is the single biggest water-using plant in most home landscapes. Consider replacing some or all of your lawn with a beautiful garden. There are many plants that will thrive in Contra Costa County. For a free Waterwise Gardening CD-ROM, visit the website at www.ccwater.com.

To schedule a conservation survey of your home please contact the Water District at 925-688-8320 or go to www.ccwater.com/conserve.



Friends of Pleasant Hill Creeks

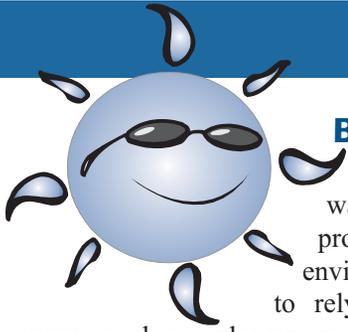
Friends of Pleasant Hill Creeks want to thank everyone who volunteered for their weekly work days during the spring months of 2008. The volunteers made a large impact on cleaning up Ellinwood Creek. Volunteers have been an important contribution to the efforts to restore Ellinwood creek back to the natural habitat that it once was. But there is still a long way to go.

Every Saturday FOPHCreeks has a creek cleanup day that runs from 9am to 11am. This is a perfect opportunity for anyone who wants to help improve the Pleasant Hill natural areas or needs to put in community volunteer time for a school or other organization. They will also have a project for Pleasant Hill's Community Service Day on Saturday, September 20. Please contact them or the Pleasant Hill City webpage for more on this event.

Efforts will continue as weather and time permits. Please write to find out more information on how you can volunteer and make a difference in the community where you live. You can write to Bill at contact@land4urbanwildlife.org to receive more information on volunteer events.

You are encouraged to sign up with their electronic mailing list to receive pertinent email postings on creek-related issues and FOPHCreeks announcements. You will find a link to the sign-up page on the website above or you can write to fophcreeks@land4urbanwildlife.org and request to have your email address added. You may also write to about any creek-related issues or questions you may have.

Friends of Pleasant Hill Creeks will hold its next meeting on August 6, 7pm, large conference room, Pleasant Hill City Hall, 100 Gregory Lane. Visit their website at: www.fophcreeks@land4urbanwildlife.org for information on Saturday creek cleanups, featured speakers for meetings, and other FOPHCreeks items. ♣



Bring the power of the sun to your business

One key way to help protect the environment is to rely on clean energy such as solar power, which is a non-polluting, renewable and sustainable form of energy. By taking advantage of financial incentives available, business owners who install solar panels can reduce their energy costs and help protect the environment.

As part of the Million Solar Roofs Program, California has set a goal to create 3,000 megawatts of new, solar produced electricity by 2017. The California Solar Initiative (CSI) supports this goal with rebates and tax incentives.

To participate in CSI and earn incentives for installing a solar system on your commercial, industrial, or agricultural property, please follow steps 1-6.

STEP 1: Complete an energy audit

Phone Audit: Call PG&E's Business Customer Center at 1 (800) 468-4PGE (4743). **Online:** Use PG&E's Business Energy Tools at www.pge.com/mybusiness/energysavingsrebates/analyzer/onlineaudit/. **Direct:** Contact your local PG&E division account representative.

STEP 2: Contact and choose an installer to do a solar site survey

It's a good idea to obtain at least three bids from installers before making your selection. Consider company reputation, warranty service, installed-system price, and energy output.

STEP 3: Complete and submit applications for CSI

CSI offers financial incentives to PG&E electric customers who install solar systems with onsite generation capacity ranging from 1 kilowatt to 1 megawatt.

STEP 4: Schedule a final building inspection

Contact the City of Pleasant Hill Building Division to schedule your building inspection. The inspector will either approve it or require you to make corrections or modifications to your system.

STEP 5: Schedule final utility inspection

Send the final, signed approval form from your building inspection to PG&E in order to schedule an onsite utility inspection and meter installation. After a passing inspection, PG&E will provide the written authorization for parallel operation.

STEP 6: Claim your incentive and tax credits

Complete the CSI application process to claim your rebate. In addition, you may be eligible for tax credits for your system. The Tax Incentives Assistance Project (TIAP) at www.energytaxincentives.org is a good place to learn more. ♣

Why the Pleasant Hill Community Foundation.....?

We all enjoy the well balanced nature of Pleasant Hill. But what makes Pleasant Hill such a great place—it's the people! Behind the scenes there are people raising funds from the community and distributing those funds in the most needed areas.

The Pleasant Hill Community Foundation (PHCF) is a great example of those very people.

PHCF's goal is to provide funds to projects that need them—at schools, the senior center, drama schools, the recreation and park district, health & welfare centers—the needs are endless and varied. And to that end, PHCF recently selected winners of their annual community grants and delivered checks to the fortunate recipients. The very diversified grants awarded this spring were for projects to:

- Purchase children's chairs, tables, and mats in a day care center
- Purchase all-in-one printer for an adult day services network to promote consumer awareness and injury prevention activities

- Purchase *Quick-Word Handbooks for Practical Writing* for middle school students
- Purchase class set of *Current Science* for middle school students
- Install irrigation and walkways for public-use garden beds at Rodgers Ranch
- Purchase audio books and copies to improve comprehension skills at an elementary school
- Provide food boxes, fresh produce, referrals, and more for low-income families in Pleasant Hill
- Develop and implement an after-school woodshop program for middle school students
- Purchase shade canopies for outdoor patio at an adult day health care facility
- Support this year's concert season of *Music in Pleasant Hill*
- Build an informational kiosk to educate visitors at the Pleasant Hill Instructional Garden on the need for water conservation



In 2007 a PHCF grant funded the construction of public-use garden beds at Rodgers Ranch.

These are just a few examples of the annual grants provided for education, seniors and youth, scholarships, the arts, sports, health and welfare, etc., in our community—and how PHCF affects your life in a very positive way!

But they are always in need of funds to continue to support and expand their efforts. If you would like to help PHCF continue their good work for the community of Pleasant Hill, you can send a check to PHCF, 147 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill. Funds can even be donated to a specific project, school, or organization. All contributions are tax deductible. ♣



The Contra Costa Community College District recently hired a marketing research firm to randomly survey members of Contra Costa County communities to learn how well the district's three colleges are communicating their programs and services to the communities they serve.

The good news is that in general terms the communities of central Contra Costa County recognize that DVC is an invaluable resource with a long standing reputation of excellence that reaches far beyond our immediate community.

There is an awareness of the college's outstanding track record in transferring young people to prestigious four-year institutions, but there is substantially less awareness when it comes to many of the other programs and services that the college offers to so many additional segments of the communities' populations.

Naturally, it is in the best interest of both the college and the community for

the college to look for new ways to communicate more complete information about their programs and services. Here are some of the best kept secrets about Diablo Valley College:

- DVC is an intellectual, cultural, professional, and economic resource for the tri-valley region.
- DVC has an exceptional record of success in preparing students for the local workforce, college readiness skills, and transfer preparation.
- DVC offers a variety of high-quality programs and degrees that meet

educational, professional, and personal needs.

- DVC faculty and staff are committed to putting their expertise and experience to work for students' well-being and success.
- DVC features a well-rounded and vibrant college experience.

In short, Diablo Valley College is the region's premier transfer institution, advancing the intellectual and professional development of central Contra Costa County and the tri-valley region. DVC serves more than 34,000 students annually on its main campus in Pleasant Hill, a brand new campus in San Ramon, and an outreach center in Walnut Creek. For more information please visit www.DVC.edu. ♣

DVC's Emeritus College: learning fun for the 50+ crowd

If you're over 50, curious about the world and people around you, and love to learn and explore, DVC's Emeritus College is the place for you.

It gives you all the benefits of college—meeting new people, studying a wide array of topics, experiencing new places—with no tests, no grades, no homework, and no stress.

Can you just imagine....

- Visiting Ruth Bancroft's succulent garden (Bancroft Garden Tour, September 11)
- Seeing a performance of "Will Rogers Follies" (September 27)
- Learning about women in contemporary Iran (September 8 and 15)
- Studying Italian for travelers (September 15, 22, 29, October 6 and 13)
- Touring Eugene O'Neill's home, Tao House (October 24 or October 31) in Danville where he wrote his last (and some of his most famous) plays.

*OR.....*Join a group of fellow Shakespeare lovers on a trip to Ashland (September 26-28) for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and see three plays. Visit art galleries, see theater and music productions, or even take a trip to Peru (June 6-18, 2009—only four spots left)! Learn about the Islamic religion, identify theft, great concertos, Pulitzer Prize winners, developing your intuition, mystery writers, yoga, cholesterol, and creating your own web site.



These are just some of the many offerings of Emeritus College for fall 2008. To be mailed a schedule of classes, call the Emeritus College office at 925-906-9105 or 9106 and leave your name, address, and phone number. Fall schedules will be mailed in August. For more information, you may also visit the DVC website at www.dvc.edu, go to Academics on the top bar, and click on Emeritus College.

Emeritus College's short-term classes are held at nine locations, including Diablo Valley College, DVC's Walnut Creek Center, Leshner Center for the Arts, The Gardens at Heather Farm, JFK University, Rossmoor, Bancroft Gardens, Hearst Art Gallery, and the Lafayette Community Center, plus tour/travel locations. ♣

An Interview with the President

John F. Kennedy University recently changed its tagline to “Transforming Lives, Changing the World.” The Outlook (TO) recently had the opportunity to meet with JFKU President Steven Stargardter (SS) to talk about this change.

TO: What prompted the change in your tagline?

SS: At all levels throughout the University, the feeling was that we had evolved beyond our original statement—that “Inspiring Dreams, Realizing Potential” no longer captured the essence of JFKU. In my own conversations with alumni and students, I have repeatedly heard how JFKU changed their interactions, their outlooks, their lives and essentially their view of themselves. This personal observation was reinforced when campus leaders held focus groups with University constituents. We offer transformative education, and now our tagline expresses just that.

These are not mere words to us, but an actual reflection in the experiences of more than 14,000 current and former students over the past four decades.

TO: How does JFKU see itself “changing the world?”

SS: We believe that the global perspective can be altered through education. We are empowering students with the knowledge and skills to affect changes not only in themselves, but in other individuals, the communities in which they live and work, and ultimately, the world. Our faculty and staff pride themselves on the individualized attention provided in supporting students to not only achieve their educational goals but realize personal growth.

The University itself has taken on a more global outlook. Schools cannot afford to lead a sheltered existence—the very definition of “community” is changing in size and scope. JFK University is already involved in global partnerships in Asia, Europe, and South America—we are exploring opportunities in China, Turkey, and Switzerland. We continue

to be proactive in extending our reach not only by taking our programs around the world, but also by drawing students to our northern California campuses.

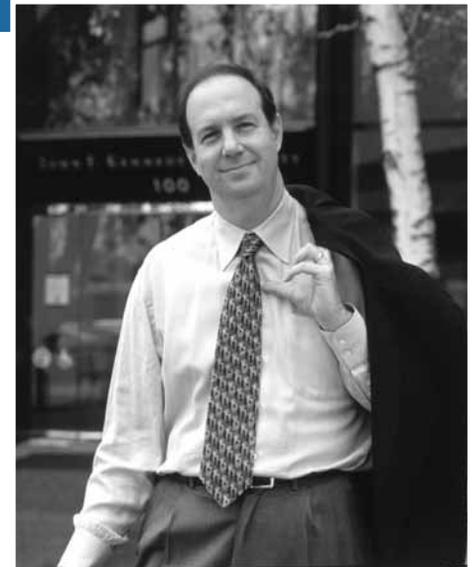
The University itself is grassroots, grounded in our local communities. We continue to serve as an integral part of the Bay Area, providing both educational services and community services. Our School of Law operates an Elder Law Clinic in our Pleasant Hill campus, providing legal assistance to low-income elderly citizens to prevent and defend against financial abuse. Last year alone, we opened 122 new cases of elder abuse and gave thousands of hours of free legal service—three times the projected number of hours.

And our community counseling centers in Oakland, Pleasant Hill, Sunnyvale, and East County continue to provide affordable services to children, adults, couples, and families in the Bay Area. Our Pleasant Hill Center will be celebrating 35 years of service next year and currently provides low-cost mental health services to families, individuals in the local area. Community service in the area of mental and physical health is an integral part of John F. Kennedy University’s mission, as inspired by our late President’s passionate call for active community involvement.

TO: What do you see as the key to education for the future?

SS: The key is access – making education accessible to individuals at their convenience. In 2014, when JFKU celebrates its 50th anniversary, what is novel and cutting edge now—e.g. podcasts and iPhones—will be outdated.

At JFKU, integrating distance learning platforms is part of our strategy moving forward. We will be taking from the lessons learned by others who have gone



JFKU President Steven Stargardter

into this arena and identifying unique opportunities for us to pursue.

We have the Essentials Coaching Certificate program in conjunction with JFKU alumni and well-known author Debbie Ford and the Ford Institute for Integrative Coaching that offers classes via a telephone. Students dial into class weekly from the comfort of their home or office.

We also offer a Certificate in Integral Theory in conjunction with the Integral Institute. This is an online program and is one of the world’s first accredited certificate programs on the Integral Model developed by Ken Wilber. This course is drawing people from all across the U.S. and Europe.

Drawing these types of information and resources from around the world to transform individuals and their lives and empower them to change the world—that’s what JFKU is all about. ♣



JFKU's Community Counseling Center: a local mental health resource

The Pleasant Hill Community Counseling Center, located in the YMCA complex on Taylor Boulevard, is a tangible expression of JFK University's commitment to community service. For over 34 years, it has offered low-fee individual and group counseling to people of all ages. This important mental health resource strengthens the social fabric of Contra Costa County, providing services that public agencies cannot afford to offer.

"Our services are high-quality and are accessible to anyone who needs help," explains Center Director Diana Methfessel. "We work with clients of all ages and ethnicities to make personal growth, transformation, and healing all possible."

The Center offers services in two ways: 1) clients come to the Center for treatment and 2) the Center provides services to children and youth in local schools. The Center currently treats over 5,000 clients per year, providing nearly 20,000 hours of direct counseling and supervisory training.

Counseling is provided by students enrolled at JFKU's Graduate School of

Professional Psychology, who are studying to become licensed California Marriage and Family Therapists. Once licensed, many graduates begin work as professionals in local hospitals, managed care facilities, government mental health agencies, and private practice.

The Center offers individual counseling for adults and youth, couples' counseling, child/family therapy, group therapy, and referrals for acute crisis intervention. **Treatment is offered on a sliding scale, and no one in financial need is denied service.** Unlike other mental health service providers, there are no limits on how long a client can be treated.

"The Community Counseling Center provides both **intervention and prevention** services," says Gail Kinsley-Dame who oversees the MA Counseling Program at JFKU. The University also operates centers in Oakland, Sunnyvale, and East County. "We intervene to prevent our clients from initiating or resuming behaviors such as violence or drug use, which not only negatively impacts their own life, but also the quality of life in the community."

The Center is currently raising funds to upgrade and enhance the Center's inventory of therapeutic children's games. Games are key counseling tools for helping children to express their feelings and experiences. Many of the Center's games are old and badly in need of replacement. These expenses are not a current part of the Center's budget. For more information about mental health services or about supporting the Center, call (925) 798-9240. ♣

DVC horticulture: conserving water through better plant selection and irrigation design

As a good member of the community, the Diablo Valley College horticulture department will try to set an example for water conservation this summer by shutting down greenhouses and reducing plant stock. Much of the existing stock was sold at the last plant sale of the semester.

According to Professor Mike Lang-Moreland, this upcoming fall the department's irrigation class, HORT 177, "Landscape Irrigation Installation," will stress water conservation through good irrigation design and installation. The department will also offer HORT 150P, "Planting Design," that stresses the use of drought-tolerant plants.



The department's horticulture courses, both noncredit and degree-applicable, offer a wealth of information for both the amateur gardener and those seeking a certificate of achievement in horticulture or landscape construction, design, or maintenance. The curriculum includes such courses as plant terminology;



pest management; tree, shrub, or ground covers and vines identification; California native plants; revegetation and restoration practices; soil science and management, and many more. For more information, contact Mike Lang-Moreland at mlang-moreland@dvc.edu, or Kathy Echols at kechols@dvc.edu, or check the online fall schedule of courses at www.dvc.edu. ♣

Less Talk, More Action! Community Service Day returns

Devote a few hours to giving back to your community...join your friends and neighbors and make Pleasant Hill an even better place to live!

On Saturday, September 20, families from all over Pleasant Hill will gather at Pleasant Hill Park for a pancake breakfast and then disperse throughout the city to work on various projects which help make our community a great place to live, work, and play. It's called Community Service Day and YOU are invited.

Last year more than 600 volunteers worked on 26 projects citywide. Projects included landscaping parks, repairing bicycles, painting preschools, cleaning up creeks, and donating blood. Event organizers—the Pleasant Hill Civic

Action Commission—plan to do even better this year with more volunteers and possibly more projects to work on.

“All we’re asking is for citizens to work for a few hours on a project that benefits them and other residents. It could be a school or church project, cleaning up a creek, helping seniors or fixing bikes. But regardless of the actual project, the fact that so many people come together on this one day makes an incredible statement about the strength of our community,” said Tim Flaherty, Civic Action Commission Chairperson.

If you want to volunteer or register a project for inclusion in the event go to www.ci.pleasant-hill.ca.us/CSD and submit the appropriate form online. For more information call Martin Nelis,



City Public Information Officer, at (925) 671-5229. This event is open to all ages—families and children are very welcome.

All volunteers and project leaders will receive a free pancake breakfast, a free T-Shirt and snacks to sustain them during their work period on the day. ♣

Something for everyone at the Pleasant Hill Library!

- ▶ Catch the **Reading Bug Summer Reading Programs**—something for everyone! June 9–August 18
 - ❑ **Baby Activity Program** for babies 0–24 months. Sing, Read and Play with your baby and earn prizes
 - ❑ **Kids’ Summer Reading Program** for kids age 2–5th grade. Read for the fun of it and earn prizes
 - ❑ **Teen Reading Program** for 6–12th graders. Earn cool prizes for summer reading
 - ❑ **Adult Reading Program.** Read and write a review; be entered for a drawing
- ▶ **Weekly Storytimes** July 8–August 15
 - ❑ **Picturebook Time** for children 3–5 years old. Tuesdays at 1:30pm
 - ❑ **Lapsit** for children 6–24 months. Wednesdays at 10am
 - ❑ **Toddler Time** for children 2–3 ½ years old. Wednesdays at 11am or Fridays at 10 a.m.
 - ❑ **Family Storytime** for children age 3 and up. Thursdays at 7pm
- ▶ **Midsummer Writers’ Workshop** for kids in 3rd–5th grade. Learn the six processes of writing which take you from an idea through to a published

piece. Sponsored and taught by SCORE! Education Center instructors. Monday and Wednesday, July 14 and 16 from 1–2pm

- ▶ **Summer Reading Program Celebration—P & T Puppet Theatre** for all ages. Thursday, August 14 at 7pm

Join us at Pleasant Hill Library for an evening of music!

Wednesday evening, July 23, at 7pm, Pleasant Hill Library hosts a musical performance by Music Con Moto, a group of Bay Area musicians playing lyric instrumental and vocal selections of traditional and classical music. The group promotes the healing power of music through their performance. This adult program is suitable for attentive children ages 4 and up.

Brazilian music comes to the Pleasant Hill Library!

Special Brazilian music trio Caji & Salome’ will transport you to Latin America with the passionate acoustic sounds of Brazilian Jazz, Samba and Bossa Nova. Wednesday, September 3 at 7:00pm. This adult program is suitable for attentive children ages 4 and up.

Music made possible through the support of the Friends of the Pleasant Hill Library

Literacy Tutor Training

Project Second Chance (PSC), the Contra Costa County Library Adult literacy Program, announces tutor training for VOLUNTEER literacy tutors. It starts Wednesday evening, September 17, 6:30–8:30pm and continues September 20 and 27, 9am–3pm. All 14 hours are required.

Training will be held at the PSC office, 75 Santa Barbara Road in Pleasant Hill. Please call 925-927-3250 or email us at psc@ccclib.org for pre-registration information. *Volunteers: You have the power to change a life!*



For more information about programs at the Pleasant Hill Library, please call the library at 646-6434 during open hours on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 12am–8pm; or Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 10am–6pm; or visit the library online at ccclib.org.

4th of July —continued from p. 1

Park High School's soccer field, Outback Steakhouse will be serving up great eats so that Mom and Dad don't have to cook at home. New this year, the Diablo Valley College Pops Orchestra, under the direction of Monte Bairos, will be playing live popular and patriotic music to warm up the crowd before our signature fireworks light up the skies. Fireworks begin at 9:20, but come early to grab a great spot on the lawn and to enjoy food and music.

Many thanks to our "star-spangled" sponsors for helping the Pleasant Hill Fourth of July Commission make this a great Yankee Doodle, hometown

event—Allied Waste Services, Pleasant Hill Recreation & Park District, Campbell Security Equipment Company, The Chateaus, City of Pleasant Hill, Pleasant Hill Civic Action Commission, Comcast, Downtown Pleasant Hill, Don and Norma Flaskerud, Fleet Feet



Sports, John F. Kennedy University, Pete Sabine & Lori O'Brien, Rotary Club of Pleasant Hill, Pleasant Hill Lions Club, and Safeway. This special day simply wouldn't be possible without such broad community support!



Need more information about our Fourth of July festivities? Check out the Fourth of July Commission's website at www.phjuly4.com designed by the Computer Class at College Park High School.

"Les Miserables," winner of 8 TONY Awards, comes to Pleasant Hill

Les Miserables is the epic story of Jean Valjean and his life in 19th century France. Valjean must overcome incredible hardships but just when all seems lost, Valjean attains the peace he has sought for so long. Through some of the most beautiful music written for the Broadway stage, *Les Miz* is a powerful affirmation of the human spirit—a true masterpiece.



Joaquin Hara, Hanna Newton, Lainey Garrity, and Pablo Hara

This powerful story can be seen July 25-August 3 at Diablo Valley College Center for the Performing Arts, 321 Golf Club Rd. It is put on by the Stars 2000 Teen Theatre, sponsored by Diablo Light Opera Company, at 1948 Oak Park Blvd in Pleasant Hill. Talented teens from Pleasant Hill and surrounding areas are given the opportunity to work with a professional staff so they can hone their theatrical and musical skills while performing in a full-scale Broadway musical.

Tickets are available by calling 798-1300. General \$17; students \$14; seniors \$15, groups of 15+ \$14. ♣

Diane Kamrin, Founder of STARS 2000

After attending San Francisco State College as a musical theatre major, Diane used her skills as a performer throughout the Bay Area. A Pleasant Hill resident, she has worked with children and teens of all ages in many of Contra Costa County schools for over three decades. She started the teen theatre division of the Pleasant Hill Recreation & Park District before founding STARS 2000 in 1992.

Diane was a finalist for the Contra Costa Woman of the Year (1998) and was a recipient of the Arts and Cultures Commission of Contra Costa County Award in 2003 for her contribution to the arts. This year she was the winner of the Contra Costa Women's Hall of Fame, "Women Contributing to the Arts." ♣



Here's a new challenge...Derby Day!

On July 18, teens, kids and families are invited to Derby Day, a new special event at Pleasant Hill Aquatic Park. Here's your challenge: build a boat that can accommodate 2-6 persons *made entirely from recycled materials*. Start collecting cardboard, duct tape, plastic soda bottles, and milk jugs for your boat and your paddles now! In this creative event teams will race across the shallow water of the training pool at Pleasant Hill Aquatic Park. Everyone will be required to wear a Coast Guard approved life jacket (the park district will provide them, if necessary).

Think of a theme! Decorate your boat, and come in costume, but prepare to get wet. Competition will be in three age categories: Kids (12 and younger); families (all ages); teens (age 13-19).

Derby Day, July 18, at Pleasant Hill Aquatic Park, \$5 per boat. Pre-registration is required for all entrants by July 15. For rules and to register, call 682-0896. ♣



Classic cars return to the American Iron Car Show

Celebrate America's passion for the automobile at *American Iron Car Show* Sunday, August 17, 10am-3pm. Pleasant Hill Recreation & Park District is proud to present the seventh year of this summertime tradition in the parking lot at the Pleasant Hill Community Center. Enjoy a sunny day packed full with barbeque, music, and classic American cars of the 30s, 40s, 50s, 60s, and 70s.



Best of Show last year

including: best make-out car, best beach car, and car responsible for the oil crisis. Trophies will be awarded for best of each decade, best interior, best engine, and best of show.

The event is free for spectators, and just \$25 to enter a car, deadline August 8. For more information, contact the Pleasant Hill Community Center at 676-5200. Registration forms are available on the District's web site, www.pleasanthillrec.com. ♣

"American Iron" Car Show features awards, prize drawings, coffee from a Wake Up Call, barbeque from Maverick's BBQ, lively music by Strawberry Fields, a bounce house for the kids, and lots of fun.

This family-friendly event will be judged by spectators who vote for winners in creative award categories,

Don't miss the Senior Center's open house

This year's annual open house at the Pleasant Hill Senior Center will feature over 60 programs, classes, sports, activities, and services—all geared to seniors and healthy living. You'll be amazed at all of the activities offered at the Pleasant Hill Senior Center!

Held at the Pleasant Hill Senior Center, 233 Gregory Lane, the event will have demonstrations from the wide variety of classes, mouth-watering food samples from the Senior Center kitchen, and door prizes every half hour.

Every class/program/activity will have a booth or a table set up with friendly people to provide information. The Pancake Breakfast table will challenge visitors with their Pancake Flip. If you can make it land face up, you'll win a prize! You could win a gift certificate for Bingo at the Bingo table too!

If a member of the Pleasant Hill Senior Center refers a new member who signs up at the Open House, both will be entered into a drawing for a prize. Come and see what great prizes you can win.

Open House at the Pleasant Hill Senior Center, Friday, August 22, 10am-1pm. 233 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill. Admission is free. For more information, contact the Senior Center at 798-8788. ♣



...and more!

Support the victims of the SiChuan, China earthquake

On May 12, 2008 the lives of more than 5 million people were forever changed in the blink of an eye!



An earthquake measuring 8.3 crashed through SiChuan, China, leaving devastation beyond belief. Currently there are over 100,000 victims either injured, killed or to date still missing.

SiChuan Fortune House and the Pleasant Hill Chamber of Commerce invite the community of Pleasant Hill to a ribbon cutting and fund raiser to help the victims of this horrific event.



On Thursday, July 10 starting at 4pm any donation made at the restaurant will receive a coupon for equal value in food from SiChuan Fortune House. The coupon can be used that night or at a later date. The donation/matching process will continue through August 31.

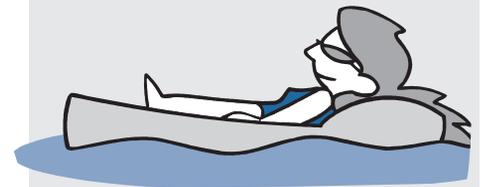
Funds raised will be sent to the Red Cross Society of China, SiChuan Provincial Branch. All proceeds will go directly to help the victims of the earthquake.

For more information, please call the Pleasant Hill Chamber of Commerce at 925-687-0700 and ask for Ingrid. SiChuan Fortune House is located at 41 Woodsworth Lane, Pleasant Hill. ♣

Watch a movie from a pool—so much fun!

Here's some cool entertainment! Pleasant Hill Recreation & Park District is proud to present its second "Dive-In" Movie of the year on Friday, August 22.

Bring the family (and an innertube or a noodle) to Pleasant Hill Aquatic Park for Jaws! Relax in the cool water and watch the movie from the pool! Snacks will be available for purchase. Movie begins at dusk at Pleasant Hill Aquatic Park, 147 Gregory Lane. Tickets: \$5/advance; \$8 at the door; children 2 years/under, free. Call 682-0896 for information. ♣



Our rockin' community! Events for July and August 2008

Date	Event	Location	Organization	Contact
Jul 4	4th of July Celebration!	Downtown, PH Park, CPHS	4th of July Commission	938-5433
Jul 6	Sunset by the Lake Summer Concerts	City Hall Lawn	City of Pleasant Hill	671-5229
Jul 10	SiChuan Earthquake Fundraiser	SiChuan Fortune House	PH Chamber of Commerce	687-0700
Jul 16	Chamber of Commerce Mixer	Chateau I	PH Chamber of Commerce	687-0700
Jul 18	Derby Day	PH Aquatic Park pools	PH Recreation & Park District	682-0896
Jul 18	Garage Band at the Lake	City Hall Lawn	City of Pleasant Hill/Rec & Parks	682-0896
Jul 20	Sunset by the Lake Summer Concerts	City Hall Lawn	City of Pleasant Hill	671-5229
Jul 25	"Les Miserables"	Diablo Light Opera Company	Stars 2000	944-1565
Jul 27	Sunset by the Lake Summer Concerts	City Hall Lawn	City of Pleasant Hill	671-5229
Aug 1	Brown Bag Lunch Series	JFK University	PH Chamber of Commerce	687-0700
Aug 1	Garage Band at the Lake	City Hall Lawn	City of Pleasant Hill/Rec & Parks	682-0896
Aug 3	Sunset by the Lake Summer Concerts	City Hall Lawn	City of Pleasant Hill	671-5229
Aug 5	National Night Out 25th Anniversary	City Hall	Pleasant Hill Police Department	288-4637
Aug 15	Garage Band at the Lake	City Hall Lawn	City of Pleasant Hill/Rec & Parks	682-0896
Aug 17	American Iron Car Show	Pleasant Hill Community Center	PH Recreation & Park District	676-5200
Aug 17	Sunset by the Lake Summer Concerts	City Hall Lawn	City of Pleasant Hill	671-5229
Aug 20	Chamber of Commerce Mixer	Kensington Place	PH Chamber of Commerce	687-0700
Aug 22	Casino Night	PH Community Center	H Chamber of Commerce	687-0700
Aug 22	Dive-In Movie Night	PH Aquatic Park	PH Rec & Parks	682-0896
Aug 22	Senior Center Open House	Pleasant Hill Senior Center	Pleasant Hill Senior Center	798-8788



Finding Stella! Pop-rock band integrating 70s and 80s rock sound with a contemporary flare



Enjoy the sounds at the... 2008

Sunset By The Lake



Big Rain! Uplifting and high energy crossing over from Rock, to Country, to Blues



Tari LaCourt—Funk, Soul and Blues

Free! Summer Concerts

On the lawn by the lake at **Pleasant Hill City Hall**

Gregory Ln & Cleveland Rd

LIVE Music 6-8pm!

- May 25 FINDING STELLA
- Jun 8 BIG RAIN
- Jun 22 TARI LACOURT
- Jul 6 FISH RANCH ROAD
- Jul 20 TEE FEE SWAMP BOOGIE
- Jul 27 TIME OUTS
- Aug 3 GRACE WOODS TRIO
- Aug 17 COVER2COVER
- Aug 31 SPIN OUT



.. It's a GREAT season!!

Sponsored by the Pleasant Hill Civic Action Commission and the following businesses:



Fish Ranch Road! An original acoustic-rock band with "Americana" twist



Tee Fee Swamp Boogie...Energetic Cajun-Zydeco with California twist!



Grace Woods Trio! Original Jazz combining elements of Pop Ella Fitzgerald, Paul Simon and Tori Amos



Time Outs for the kids!



Spin Out! Classic rock and rockabilly songs from the 1950s to today



Cover2Cover!! Exciting Pleasant Hill Club/ Dance Band with music from 5 decades



City of Pleasant Hill



May 25



Jun 22



Jul 20



Aug 3

Dawn Block & Michael Harris

Aug 17

"We love Pleasant Hill!"

STRENGTHEN FROM WITHIN

A PILATES STUDIO ALISON KLIPPEL

Aug 17



Aug 31

Clip our this flier and keep for the season! And visit www.pleasanthillconcerts.com for all concert information.

The City of Pleasant Hill is committed to promoting and supporting the business community within the City. The economic vitality of Pleasant Hill is dependent on a strong business sector and the City plays an important role in making this happen. To find out more about Economic Development efforts in Pleasant Hill or for additional information on locating or expanding your business operations in the city, please contact Kelly Calhoun at 671-5213.

New businesses in April 2008

Alisa Hill Skin Care

81 Gregory Lane, Ste. 210
925-708-5031

Diamond Motor/Homa

Motor Group (Auto Wholesaler/Retailer)
2255 Morello Ave., Ste. 207
925-285-8913

Hair By Nicole

2611 Pleasant Hill Road
925-286-0443

Quikley

(Café-Drinks & Snacks)
60-A Golf Club Road
925-356-0188

Save on Smogs

(Test Only Smog Checks)
1250 Contra Costa Blvd.
510-381-2948

3 Thai Restaurant

1600 Contra Costa Blvd, #1A
925-798-8424

Tiana Yeoman

(Massage Therapy)
70 Doray Dr., #1
707-342-0602

Traveler Luggage, Inc.

955 Contra Costa Blvd.
925-827-3758

Wesco Logistics

(Transportation Brokerage)
3333 Vincent Rd., #209
925-944-9906



Junk Cab (Hauling Service)
925-354-8922

Meston Carpet Cleaners
925-727-8182

New businesses in May 2008

Active Health Clinic

(Chiropractic Clinic)
1610 Oak Park Blvd., #2
925-943-2222

Collier Rehabilitation

Systems (Orthotic & Prosthetic Devices)
3161 Putman Blvd.
925-943-1119

Crystal-Ann Platt

(Massage)
2367 Pleasant Hill Road
415-238-7593

Crystal-Ann Platt

(Massage)
395 Civic Drive, Suite C
415-238-7593

Katie Pilgrim

Massage Therapy
1610 Oak Park Blvd., #2
925-925-1357

Reychelle Orenca, CMT

(Massage)
1610 Oak Park Blvd., #2
925-943-2222

Celestial Transportation

(Mortuary Transport Services)
925-116-1367

Davam Auto Detail

925-726-7487

Heart & Soul Handyman Service

925-708-3053

Jay's Drinks

(Red Bull Vending Machines)
925-949-7797

Ortho Express

(Courier Service)
925-949-7692

SD Consulting

(Consultation in Non-Profit Work)
925-487-5326

Woemer Enterprises, Inc.

(Computer Networking/Maintenance)
925-349-5349

Practical Business Management Training

All about money—knowing how much you have and how to get more

■ Accounting Basics for Small Business — FREE

Monday, July 21, 7pm–9pm
Pleasant Hill Library, 1750 Oak Park Blvd, Pleasant Hill

Accounting Basics for Small Business' aim is to instill a wholesome respect for and attraction to the accounting discipline. Aslanian-Williams will review in user-friendly form the basics of accounting as a wealth-measuring system and discuss in detail the simple analytical techniques that empower entrepreneurs to make the six most critical decisions in the life of a company. Which six? Join us and see!



No prior knowledge of either accounting or higher mathematics is required.

■ Getting the Banker to Yes — FREE

Monday, July 21, 7pm–9pm
Pleasant Hill Library, 1750 Oak Park Blvd, Pleasant Hill

Getting the Banker to Yes is a non-technical workshop for the small business owner or “soon to be business owner” seeking financing. How does a banker think when considering a business loan request? This “real world” practical workshop will help you understand the “Six C’s of Credit” that lenders use to make loan decisions and unravel the mysteries of the FICO score. Get hints, tips, and insights to develop a more compelling business loan request and help in mastering the human dimensions of the loan process. Being prepared beforehand will help in obtaining the loan your business needs.

Please register for each workshop you wish to attend by calling (925) 646-5377 or e-mail zaziz@ContraCostaSBDC.com.

City Meetings



WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
Wed 2 6:30pm	Civic Action Commission	City Hall Small Community Room
Thu 3 5:00pm	Architectural Review Commission	City Hall Small Community Room
Fri 4	FOURTH OF JULY HOLIDAY—CITY OFFICES CLOSED	
Mon 7 7:30pm	City Council-Redevelopment Agency	Council Chambers
Tue 8 6:00pm	Traffic Safety Commission	City Hall Community Room
Tue 8 7:30pm	Planning Commission (Public Hearing)	Council Chambers
Thu 10 2:00pm	Zoning Administrator (Public Hearing)	Planning/Public Works Conference Room
Thu 17 5:00pm	Architectural Review Commission	City Hall Small Community Room
Mon 21 7:30pm	Redevelopment Agency-City Council	Council Chambers
Tue 22 7:30pm	Planning Commission (Public Hearing)	Council Chambers
Wed 23 7:00pm	Education/Schools Advisory Commission	City Manager's Conference Room
Thu 24 2:00pm	Zoning Administrator (Public Hearing)	Planning/Public Works Conference Room
Thu 24 7:00pm	Redevelopment Advisory Commission	City Hall Large Community Room

AUGUST

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
Mon 4 7:30pm	City Council-Redevelopment Agency	Council Chambers CANCELLED
Wed 6 6:30pm	Civic Action Commission	City Hall Small Community Room
Thu 7 5:00pm	Architectural Review Commission	City Hall Small Community Room
Tue 12 6:00pm	Traffic Safety Commission	City Hall Large Community Room
Tue 12 7:30pm	Planning Commission (Public Hearing)	Council Chambers
Thu 14 2:00pm	Zoning Administrator (Public Hearing)	Planning/Public Works Conference Room
Mon 18 7:30pm	Redevelopment Agency-City Council	Council Chambers
Thu 21 5:00pm	Architectural Review Commission	City Hall Small Community Room
Tue 26 7:30pm	Planning Commission (Public Hearing)	Council Chambers
Wed 27 7:00pm	Education/Schools Advisory Commission	City Manager's Conference Room
Thu 28 2:00pm	Zoning Administrator (Public Hearing)	Planning/Public Works Conference Room
Thu 26 7:00pm	Redevelopment Advisory Commission	City Hall Large Community Room



CITY OF PLEASANT HILL
100 Gregory Lane
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523-3323
925-671-5270
www.ci.pleasant-hill.ca.us

CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor John Hanecak
 Vice Mayor Suzanne Angeli

Councilmembers

David E. Durant
 Michael G. Harris
 Terri L. Williamson

City Manager June Catalano
 City Clerk Marty McInturf
 Treasurer Suzanne J. Salter

City Council meetings are broadcast on Comcast channel 26 on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 7:30pm.

CITY HALL HOURS

Monday–Wednesday 8:30am–5:00 pm
 Thursday 8:30am–6:00 pm
 Friday 8:30am–1:00 pm



The City of Pleasant Hill newsletter is published bimonthly. Deadline for stories and story ideas for **Sep/Oct** is **August 7**. Ideas are always welcome. Local non-profit groups may submit articles to the Public Information Officer at 100 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523. For information, call Martin Nelis at 671-5229, fax to 680-0294, or email to mnelis@ci.pleasant-hill.ca.us.

PUBLISHED ON RECYCLED PAPER



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COVER: Bridging City and Business

Important Phone Numbers

Police/Fire Emergency 911
 Police (Business) 288-4600
 Fire (Business) 930-5500
 Public Services Center 671-4646
 Chamber of Commerce 687-0700
 Recreation & Parks 682-0896
 PH Bayshore Disposal 685-4711
 PG&E 800-743-5000
 Senior Center 798-8788
 Senior Van Service 671-5272

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“Evening for Heroes”



A fundraising event benefiting
Special Olympics Northern California East Bay Region

Wine Tasting, Dinner & Auction

Sat, Sep 6, 2008

Tickets now on sale!

This event is held in a beautiful patio setting at the Left Bank Brasserie in downtown Pleasant Hill. Your donation includes a variety of wines and hors d'oeuvres provided by our event sponsors: Nibblers Eatery & Wine Bar, Left Bank Brasserie, and Wine Thieves. Additionally, a catered dinner is provided and cooked onsite by Back Forty Texas BBQ.



Hosted by Steve and Lise Wallace and the Pleasant Hill Police Officers' Association. 100% of all money raised at this event goes to Special Olympics Northern California. Your donation stays local and supports Special Olympics Athletes from the East Bay Region.

For more information or tickets contact:

John Pratt (925) 408-4134 / jpratt@sonc.org or
Steve Wallace (925) 408-7838/steve44wallace@yahoo.com
Seating is limited and tickets must be obtained in advance.

No tickets sold at the door



Sponsorship and donation opportunities available



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