

PLEASANTON Pathways

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Volume 3 Issue XXIII

Pleasanton, California

December 9, 1985

TSM Success Story

City Receives Daily Calls

While other communities are searching for answers to their traffic woes, Pleasanton receives daily inquiries from city managers across the nation regarding its successful Transportation Systems Management (TSM) program.

Implemented in November, 1984, the Pleasanton TSM Ordinance is the nation's toughest, calling for a reduction in peak-hour commute trips by 45 percent over a four-year period. Now, one year after the adoption of the ordinance, Pleasanton has attained a 33.7-percent reduction in peak-hour traffic, well beyond the first-year goal of 15 percent.

"We're very encouraged with the positive results and the spirit of cooperation from businesses and their employees," says Gail Gilpin, transportation coordinator for the city of Pleasanton.

Statistics on commuting habits and compliance with the Pleasanton TSM Ordinance were gathered from a comprehensive citywide survey completed by 10,121 employees — representing approximately three-fourths of the entire Pleasanton workforce.

"The surveys provide the city with a staggering amount of information on how employees get to work," Gilpin says. "Pleasanton probably knows more about its commuters than any other community in the country."

Gilpin characterized corporate compliance with the TSM Ordinance as "enthusiastic," with 27 of Pleasanton's largest companies exceeding the 15-percent, first-year reduction goal.

Corporations actively involved with the city's TSM program include AT&T, Clorox, The Prudential Insurance Company of America, Pacific Bell, Viacom, Kaiser Corp., Farmers Insurance and Dillingham Construction.

Also enthusiastic about the Pleasanton TSM Ordinance is the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the regional transportation plan-

ning agency for the greater San Francisco Bay Area. The commission recently presented a special "Award of Merit" to the city of Pleasanton for its innovation in transportation solutions.

"Unlike communities that wait for traffic congestion to become a problem, Pleasanton tackled the issue early," says Shana O'Hare, commute alternatives manager for the commission. "We suggest that any community looking into a TSM program review the Pleasanton model and adapt it to their particular conditions and needs."

A unique aspect of the Pleasanton TSM Ordinance is the cooperation from public, as well as private parties, in ensuring the success of the program.

The ordinance was drafted with the help of local business leaders, developers, residents and city staff. A volunteer task force, which includes representatives from companies with 100 or more employees, is responsible for implementing, maintaining and enforcing compliance with the TSM program.

Although the vast majority of companies in Pleasanton seems to realize the importance and benefits of the TSM Ordinance and are willing to comply, there are measures which can be used to "encourage" participation. Companies that fail to comply, will face fines and possible misdemeanor charges.

"It's the peer pressure that really make TSM work," claims Gilpin. "No company wants to see its name in the newspaper as the bad guy, the one that didn't pull its weight in the program."

"Only one company was fined \$85 during the first year of TSM and that company is now in full compliance," she adds.

While many companies are making great strides in cooperating with the ordinance, no entity has equalled the resolve and commitment of Hacienda Business Park.

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Louise Clausnitzer replaces the nose on a stuffed bear.

Putting Fun In Children's Lives

Clausnitzer A Year Round Santa

Although Louise Clausnitzer is a great-grandmother now, she still likes to take care of children. Children, that is, who need a little fun in their lives.

The Valley Memorial Hospital Auxiliary member cleans and repairs used toys, which are then sold for a fraction of their original cost through the auxiliary's thrift shop in Livermore.

Now that Christmas is approaching, Clausnitzer's house is bursting at the seams with stuffed animals, dolls and other toys donated by people in the community.

"It's a lot of work," said Clausnitzer. "But it means that a child will have something that he otherwise wouldn't have had."

Clausnitzer, a 25-year member of

the hospital auxiliary, began repairing toys from her home about ten years ago. A past president of the hospital volunteer organization, she has been in charge of the hospital's gift store, the auxiliary thrift shop in Livermore and the pink-uniformed women who run the hospital's information desk.

As manager of the Livermore thrift store at 1111 E. Stanley Blvd., Clausnitzer said she began bringing the toys home because of an overflow of broken toys at the store.

Before the toys are considered saleable, she cleans and repairs them, adding a fresh coat of paint where it's needed. Her husband, Arch, fixes the tricycles and wagons.

Continued on page 12

General Electric Credit Corp. Opens Regional Headquarters

The General Electric Credit Corp. recently celebrated the grand opening of its Northern California regional headquarters in Hacienda Business Park.

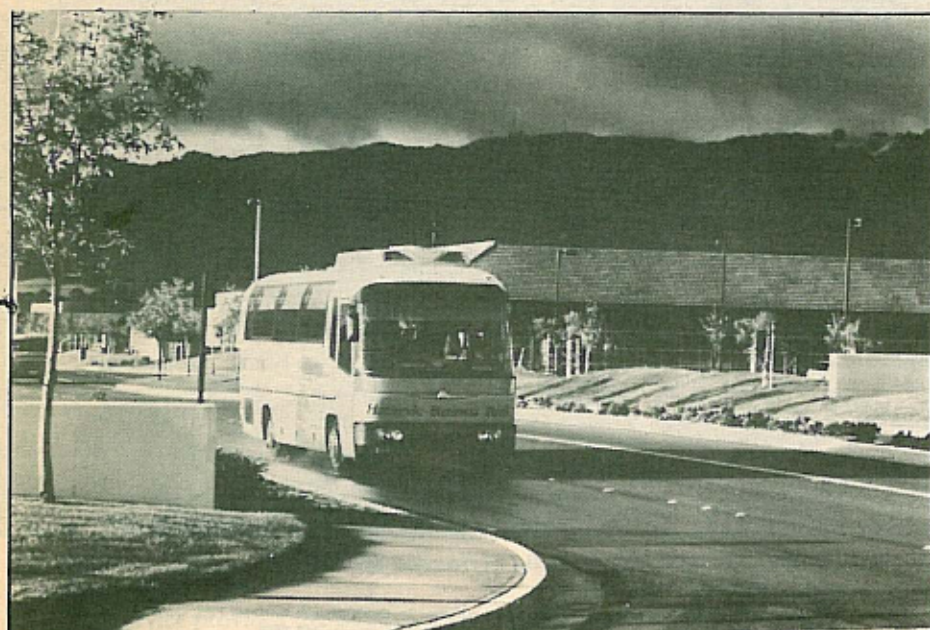
"We are very pleased to be in the Hacienda facility and happy to become part of the Pleasanton business scene," said Jim Henderson, operations analyst for General Electric Credit Corp.

Before the move to Hacienda, the company was located in Dublin. General Electric now occupies a one-story 25,528-square foot office building at 4440 Willow Rd.

Operations at the facility include credit processing for major retailers and handling of consumer/retailer credit for Apple Computers.

The grand opening was attended by the facility's 190 employees, as well as city officials and principals of Hacienda Business Park.

Brief speeches were given by Pleasanton City Councilman Bob Butler, Mark Sweeney of CPS, the commercial real estate company that handled leasing arrangements for General Electric and G.E.'s Jim Henderson.



Karen Fraser-Middleton: "Between our shuttle bus system and ridesharing programs, we're effectively eliminating 700 cars a day from the streets of Pleasanton."

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



In My Opinion is a bi-monthly column featuring the opinions of guest editors. This column is by A.S. Dutchover, a Pleasanton landscape architect.

The city of Pleasanton has taken on a new look in the last few years. As many of you are aware, landscaping of the city's major streets has finally taken place.

"It was not until the mid-1970s. . . that trees were replaced."

In the late 1960s, when Valley Avenue was completed from Santa Rita Road to Hopyard Road, a median was installed for future landscaping.

Unfortunately, city funds were not available to accomplish that task. The one-time country road that was lined by mature box elders and maples became a four-lane divided road with the old trees on the northside and in the median.

As the trees became diseased or died, they were removed. It was not

"Those developers have set high standards for landscaping within their developments."

until the mid-70s, when a group of citizens (Judge William Gale, John Stanley and John Edmonds) formed the Trees for Pleasanton Committee, that trees were replaced.

The committee was responsible for planting more than 750 London Plane trees on Valley Avenue, Santa Rita Road, Hopyard Road, Foothill Road and around the Civic Center on Bernal Avenue.

Most of the landscaping that has taken place, until recently, was done by developers within their own developments. From one development to the next, continuity was lost. Some developers installed large specimen trees while others only met the city's minimum requirements.

Fortunately for Pleasanton, the North Pleasanton area has been developed by only a few major developers. Those developers have set high standards for landscaping within their developments. The streets are fully landscaped and major streets leading to those developments are landscaped.

Landscaping around new buildings is more attractive, and most important, is being maintained. The developers in North Pleasanton have established a Landscape Maintenance District that takes care of the maintenance of all the street landscaping in their area, including Hopyard and Santa Rita roads north of Valley Avenue.

When the trees on Hopyard and Santa Rita roads mature, the entrance to our city will be even more attractive than it is now.

In 1964, when I commuted to Pleasanton down a two-lane Hopyard Road with only a few volunteer trees growing along drainage ditches, I never dreamed that that country road would be such an attractive entrance to Pleasanton.

Many of my colleagues that come to our city are amazed at the landscape improvements they see. Many of them remember Pleasanton when Hopyard and Santa Rita roads were wide roads without landscaping, except for plantings along housing developments.

In the past, landscaping has taken a back seat to the amenities of most developments and, in some cases, only token landscaping was installed. Unfortunately, in most cases the token

"... the city now requires businesses and developers to maintain their landscaping."

landscaping was not maintained. I am glad to see that those days have passed and that the city now requires businesses and developers to maintain their landscaping.

As the downtown area is redeveloped, the city's new Revitaliza-

"The developers in North Pleasanton have established a Landscape Maintenance District. . ."

tion and Design Ordinance will play a very important part in the development of an attractive core area that will make us proud. Attractive landscaping in our downtown area will help entice more people and revitalize our community's core area.

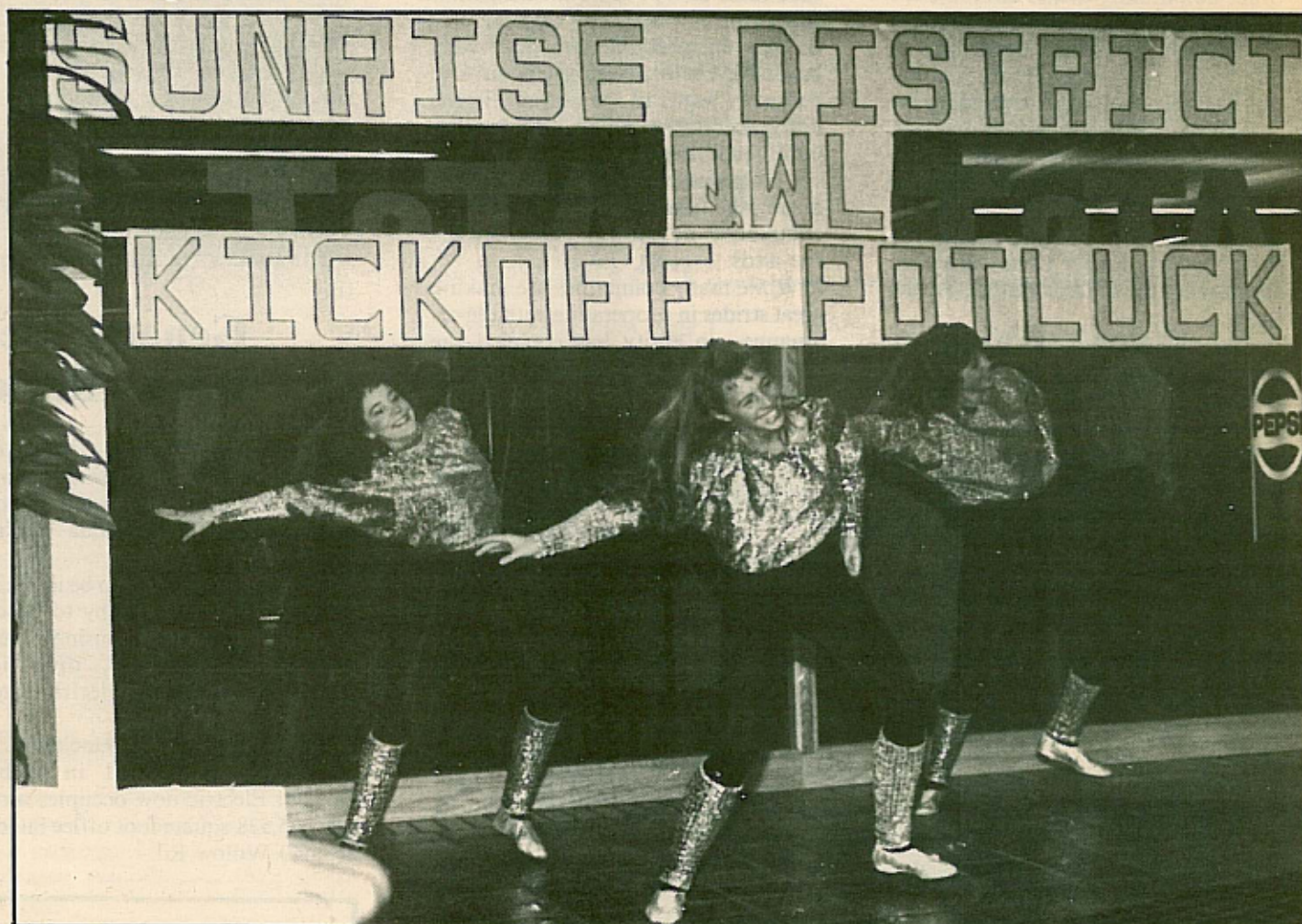


Employees of AT&T enjoy entertainment during Sunrise District QWL Kickoff.

AT&T Employees And Management Meet To Improve Quality of Work Life



Chuck Meier, district manager of AT&T addresses employees.



Shannon Weber, Shannon Quinlan and Rolleen Meyers of Carol Jean Dance Studio performed for AT&T employees.

Pleasanton Pathways is a bi-monthly newspaper published by the Hacienda Business Park Owners' Association

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Dean Cummings with his wife, Julie, and son, Roger, in their recently opened retail office supply store.

Personality Profile

A Family Operated Business

The idea of a "mom and pop" organization has never really appealed to Pleasanton businessman Dean Cummings.

So adverse was Cummings to family-run businesses where "professionalism fell by the wayside" that he spent nearly 20 years as owner of a successful commercial drugstore supply firm staffed by total strangers.

But all that has changed.

Today, Cummings is telling a different kind of success story. The owner and manager of The Stockroom at 5686 Stoneridge Dr. in Hacienda Business Park, opened his first family-operated office supply company on Nov. 1.

"I consider myself fortunate," he said. "A lot of family run businesses don't do well because things get out of control, but that isn't the case here."

Although the 52-year-old businessman had some reservations when his wife, Julie, began filling in as a part-time order clerk, Cummings said, "Now she's indispensable. I have expertise here that I probably could not hire."

He feels that one of the major reasons for such harmony is that his wife and 27-year-old son, Roger, understand that "when we're at work, family doesn't enter into it. I'd be lying if I said that things were always perfect. What matters is that we are always professional," said Cummings.

In addition to the new retail outlet on Stoneridge Drive, Cummings has owned an office supply warehouse on Commerce Circle for the past two years. Before that, he owned Quality Rack Distributors in Hayward, a business which he established out of his garage 20 years ago.

"When I sold Quality, it was the second largest company of its type in Northern California," said Cummings, who had 24 employees when he sold

the firm five years ago.

Cummings said he had no formal business training other than a decade spent as a supervisor with a large San Leandro-based drugstore supply firm.

Today, his new business has a stock of about 10,000 items, including office furniture, paper goods and computer diskettes. With the help of an in-house computer system, Cummings said he has access to about 30,000 items through West Coast suppliers.

"We do a great deal of research for our customers," he said. "If someone calls wanting something unusual, we can generally find it and get it out by the next morning."

His wife, Julie, a former office manager, handles the ordering while his son, Roger, is a sales manager for the firm.

Since competition in the office supply industry has greatly increased over the last decade, Cummings believes that prompt and courteous service is the only way to go.

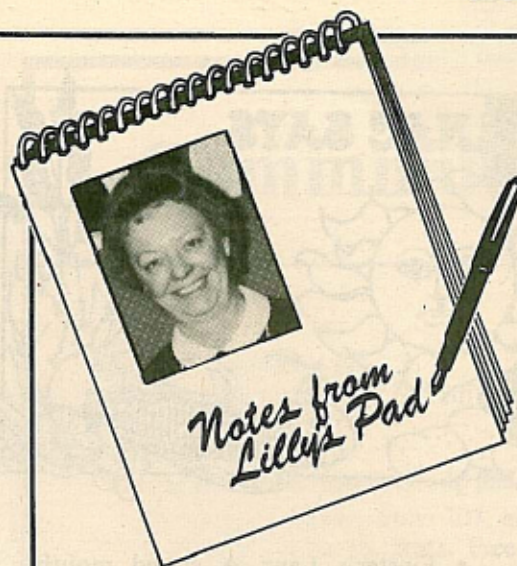
"Good service is a thing that I lived and breathed for 20 years," he said. "When I came to this (present) company, I brought a certain urgency that's necessary to retail stores."

And while it may seem silly to deliver a \$1 order, that's exactly what The Stockroom does. Cummings thinks that fast, free delivery is the route to establishing regular customers.

After 30 years in the commercial supply industry, Cummings has changed his mind about the success factor of family-owned businesses.

His wife, Julie, said working with her husband has been a real eye-opener.

"It's been interesting," she said. "I get to see all the behind the scenes activity. Having worked for someone else all these years, I never really understood what he has to go through. Working for my husband has its ups and downs, but I like it."



To me, there was one luxury in life I always wanted to obtain.

I am happy to say, after many years of attempting to acquire that luxury, I am now completely happy in enjoying that goal.

My enjoyment is Marsha. Marsha appears on the scene of my somewhat disorganized home and digs in to put things in their proper places. She makes the house sparkle.

Marsha is the type of person who has a place for everything, and she sees to it that everything goes into its place.

Today is Marsha's day to perform her miracle. When I left the house bright and early to attend a 7:30 a.m. meeting, I took one glance at the house, which looked like a tornado hit it, and shivered.

My stomach flipped, and I thought to myself, "I'm going to hate to return to this place

tonight." Now I'm floating on air knowing that Marsha will take care of all my woes. It will be a delight to walk through that front door after work.

The place will be spotless and smell as clean as a hospital. This household technician is a one-in-a-million, believe me. I've tried many others before, but Marsha is really special.

She treats my home as if it is her home. If she sees something that needs attention, she goes right to it and takes care of it without waiting to be told.

And, yes, Marsha does do windows! I've never had such a clean, bright, shiny view of the foothills.

I waited a good two years before Marsha became available. She did my friend Jeanne's house, which always looked great. When I started inquiring as to who cleaned Jeanne's home, I immediately asked her to let me know if Marsha ever had an opening. The day came and I jumped for joy.

I had one fear, however. We live in a tri-level home and I thought she would take one look at the place and turn away from the ups and downs of cleaning my house.

But this ball-of-fire just rolled up her sleeves and dug in. And I do mean dug in.

With my schedule of coming and going, I hardly had time to keep up with the daily routine of cleaning, let alone all the deep down nitty-gritty of it all.

What more can I say but, 'Eat your heart out, ladies,' and God bless Marsha!

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Grant Applications Available To Non-Profit Groups

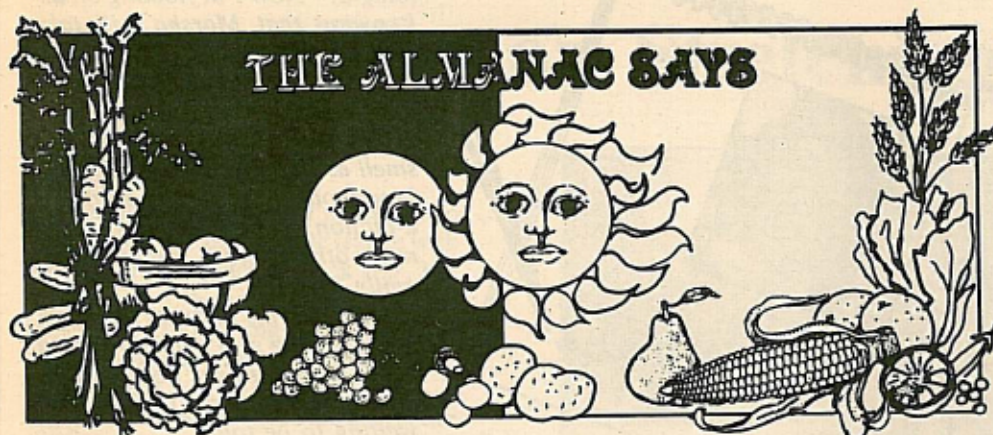
The Tri-Valley Community Fund has announced that \$40,000 is available to non-profit groups during the current funding cycle.

Grant applications are available at the Valley Volunteer Center, 333 Division St., Pleasanton, or by calling 484-1818. Any non-profit organization that primarily serves residents of Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, San Ramon, Danville or Alamo is eligible to apply for a grant.

Grants are given in the areas of health and human services, education, recreation and cultural arts. The application deadline is Jan. 24 for grants to be awarded in April.

During the past year and a half, grants totaling more than \$85,000 have been awarded to more than 50 non-profit agencies in the tri-valley area.

For more information about the current funding cycle, call Dawn Gordner at 846-3591.



If there is anyone who is not familiar with Murphy's Law by the time they reach adulthood, they are either very lucky or they are not alive to talk about what went wrong. And if you can't count on things to go awry, then you can be sure there's probably a new law against it. Here are some other laws that govern our lives:

- O'Rielly's Law of the Kitchen: Cleanliness is next to impossible. Lieberman's Law: Everybody lies; but it doesn't matter, since nobody listens.
- Denniston's Law: Virtue is its own punishment.
- Gold's Law: In any organization there will always be one person who knows what's going on. This person must be fired.
- Green's Law of Debate: Anything is possible if you don't know what you're talking about.

- Finster's Law: A closed mouth gathers no feet.
- Lynches' Law: When the going gets tough, everyone leaves.
- Glymes Formula for Success: The secret for success is sincerity. Once you can fake that, you've got it made.
- The Sausage Principle: People who love sausage and respect the law should never watch either of them being made.
- First Rule of History: History never repeats — historians merely repeat to each other.
- Handy Guide to Science: If it's green or it wriggles, it's biology. If it stinks, it's chemistry. If it doesn't work, it's physics.
- Oliver's Law of Location: No matter where you go, there you are.

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Oval Table: (with leaf), wood grain, with four chairs. Excellent condition, \$85, negotiable. Call 6:30-8:30 p.m., 846-7107.

Suzuki GS450: silver, just tuned and serviced; excellent condition; always garaged. \$1,000 or best offer. Call 463-2754(day); 484-4649(evening).

Widowed Men And Women Hold Meeting

The monthly business and planning meeting of the Widowed Men and Women of Northern California will be held Dec. 16, in the Hacienda Business Park Community Center, Suite 107, 4637 Chabot Drive, Pleasanton, at 7:30 p.m.

There will be election of officers for 1986, a Christmas gift exchange and refreshments.

Widowed persons of all ages are invited and encouraged to participate in the organization events.

For additional information, call Blanche at 829-3977; Jim at 846-7076; or Connie at 828-4908.



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Mervyn's manager Jim Dougherty presents a \$4,000 check to Children's Theater Workshop actress Judi Johnson, Nutcracker director John Clark, CTW Executive Director Andy Jorgensen and actor Mackenzie McMahon. Photo courtesy of Steve Honett

Mervyn's \$4,000 Donation Underwrites "The Nutcracker"

Children's Theater Workshop announced that it has received \$4,000 from Mervyn's in Dublin. The money will be used to underwrite this season's production of "The Nutcracker."

Since 1983, Mervyn's has donated a total of \$12,000 toward underwriting costs of three December productions at the theater.

The store's contribution is "a way to add to the joy of the season for residents of the Valley," according to Mervyn's manager Jim Dougherty.

"Seeing a fine production such as Children's Theater Workshop's adds pure enjoyment to a sometimes hectic time of the year," Dougherty said. "It

restores that special magic of the season."

This season's production is an adaptation of E.T.A. Hoffman's "The Nutcracker" directed by Mervyn's employee, John Clark.

"The Nutcracker" opened on Dec. 6 at the Dublin Little Theatre. The performance will be repeated Dec. 13-15 in the Livermore Veterans Hall at 522 South L St. From Dec. 20-22, the play will run at the Pleasanton Veterans Hall, 301 Main St.

For performance times and tickets, call the CTW box office at 846-5400 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

St. Jude Christmas Social

The Tri-Valley Chapter of St. Jude will hold its Annual Christmas Social on Dec. 17 at 7:30 p.m. The community is welcome.

St. Jude is affiliated with the St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital in

Memphis, Tenn. The Pleasanton chapter frequently sponsors fund-raising events to help support the children's hospital.

For further information, call Alma at 846-9328 or Barbara at 447-2392.

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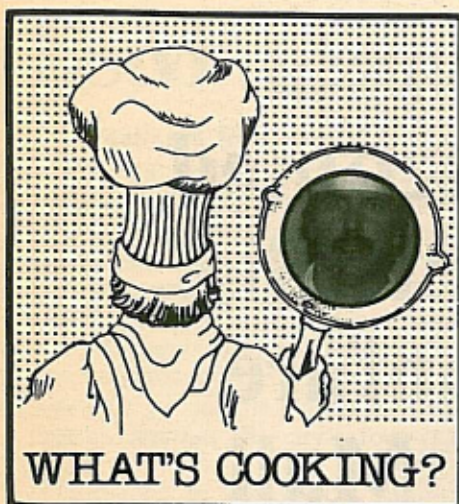
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Lately, Jeff Seapan, executive chef for the Pleasanton Velvet Turtle, has his hands full, but not with pots and pans.

Trying to juggle kitchen operations for a high-volume restaurant such as the Velvet Turtle is no easy feat.

"Right now, my specialty is just running the kitchen," said Seapan. "It's a lot of work."

He estimates that the average number of dinners served per night is about 200, which means the restaurant is usually filled to capacity every evening for dinner.

With a staff of 23, the Velvet Turtle serves three meals a day seven days per week.

Seapan joined the Velvet Turtle at the Pleasanton Sheraton less than a year ago. Formerly with the Colorado Springs, Co. Velvet Turtle, Seapan also was executive chef for that restaurant. Velvet Turtle restaurants are owned and operated by the Hayward-based Saga Corp.

The 25-year-old chef finds the hotel restaurant industry attractive for a number of reasons.

"I'm not stuck behind a desk all day," he said. "And working in a large hotel restaurant is exciting, especially if it's in a nice area and it's pretty busy."

The restaurant makes its own stocks, sauces and pastry from scratch. Seapan said his specialty is pastry-making.

"I grew up learning pastries," he said. "I think pastymaking allows you to be the most creative, whether you're doing wedding cakes or French pastry."

The following recipe offered by Seapan should satisfy any creative appetite.

CHOCOLATE STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

Serves 8

5 T. cocoa powder
2 cups sifted all-purpose flour
½ tsp. baking soda
½ tsp. salt
1 T. baking powder
½ cup granulated sugar
1 stick unsalted butter, chilled and cut into small pieces
½ cup buttermilk
½ cup milk
2 T. granulated sugar mixed with 1 T. light brown sugar for topping
3 pints strawberries, rinsed
Granulated sugar as needed
2 oz. bittersweet or semisweet chocolate
Hot Fudge Sauce, (recipe follows) cooled and thinned to a pouring consistency
1 tsp. unflavored gelatin
1½ T. cold water
1½ cups heavy cream
1 tsp. vanilla extract
¼ cup confectioners' sugar, or to taste

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Butter two round 10-inch pans.

Sift together the cocoa, flour, baking soda, salt, baking powder and sugar into a bowl. Add the chilled butter and cut it into the dry ingredients with a pastry cutter or your fingertips. When the mixture resembles oatmeal, sprinkle on the buttermilk and milk and lightly pack the dough into a ball. Divide dough in half.

Roll out each portion of dough on a floured surface, then pack and press it gently into the baking tins. Sprinkle top of one cake with the mixed granulated and brown sugar and dash a few drops of cold water over the sugar.

Bake cakes for 15 minutes in the hot oven. Remove cakes, cool them briefly, then turn out onto racks and let cool completely.

Melt chocolate over hot water. Set aside. Line a baking sheet with wax paper.

Dip or brush the bottom half of each whole berry in the chocolate. Place the berries on a tray and refrigerate until needed.

Fit a pastry bag with a large plain nozzle.

To prepare the cream filling, place gelatin and cold water in a Pyrex measuring cup. Place cup in a saucepan containing an inch of water and heat gently until the gelatin melts.

Place cream and vanilla in a bowl and beat until the cream has thickened slightly. Stir two tablespoons of the cream into the warm gelatin and quickly add mixture to the cream. Resume beating immediately. Sprinkle on the confectioners' sugar and continue beating until the cream is thick.

Spoon ¼ of the cream into the pastry bag; set aside. Spread a lot of the remaining cream on top of the bottom cake layer and top with some chopped strawberries. Put other cake layer on top. Place on serving dish. For an unusual display, place cake on a glass cake stand covered with large green leaves.

Place more chopped strawberries on top, then pipe five large swirls of cream around the top edge. Pipe five more swirls around the bottom edge. The cake can be refrigerated at this point for an hour or so.

Top each dollop of cream with a chocolate-dipped strawberry and drizzle with fudge sauce, if desired. Serve the strawberry sauce on the side.

Hot Fudge Sauce

Yields 2 cups

5 T. unsalted butter
¼ cup cocoa powder, preferably Dutch process
2 squares unsweetened chocolate, chopped
¾ cup granulated sugar
⅓ cup evaporated milk
Pinch salt
1 tsp. vanilla extract

In a small sauce pan, melt the butter. Remove from the heat, add the cocoa, and whisk until smooth.

Stir in the chopped chocolate, sugar and evaporated milk. Bring sauce to a boil over medium heat, stirring all the while. Remove from heat at once and stir in salt. Cool briefly, then stir in vanilla.

NOTE: This sauce keeps well in the refrigerator.

Anyone wishing to share a favorite recipe with Pleasanton Pathways readers, please call 463-2750.

Jim Georgis with a 'collectable.'



Pet Of The Month

A collector by nature, Jim Georgis says that his friends always give him things that they can't use anymore.

And Georgis saves it for them.

Consider, for example, a pair of rabbits he received from a friend several months ago.

"I just put two in a cage and then there were four," says Georgis. "I don't know what I'm going to do with them all."

At last count, there were about 20 bunnies in his backyard warren.

A retired postal worker and 40-year volunteer firefighter, Georgis divides his time now bet-

ween the fascinating occupants of the warren, about 50 canaries, several Golden Bantam roosters and his cat, Six Toes.

"I don't know how I end up with all these critters," he said. "People just keep leaving them here."

If anyone in the community noticed an unusual number of doves last year, Georgis said it was probably his fault.

"Last year, I had a few doves here but, you know, they multiply," he said. "So I cut a little hole in the cage and now they're all over town."

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. "It's a Wonderful Life"
2. Miami
3. Boris Karloff
4. "Holiday Inn"
5. Edward Church
6. Edmund Gwenn
7. Gene Autry
8. Mel Torme
9. "Christmas in Killarney"
10. Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donder and Blitzen



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Children march in the Stoneridge Mall Christmas Parade.

Santa Welcomed With Big Fanfare at Mall

With a marching band and dancing children, the holiday season officially opened recently at Stoneridge Mall in Pleasanton. To the children's delight, Santa Claus arrived in an open sleigh.



Santa is welcomed by young and old alike.



Despite the fanfare, young Justin Rosenfeld ate his lunch with the aid of his mother, Jan Rosenfeld.



Young Jennifer Scott just wasn't sure how to react to that funny man in the red suit.



CAREER HOTLINE

Partial listing of local job opportunities:

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- INVENTORY/DOCUMENT SPECIALISTto \$26K
- CUSTOMER SERVICE - Lite Type\$17K
- CLAIMS TRAINEE - Degree & 2 yr Bus. Exp.\$18K
- ADMIN. ASSIST. TO VP - Budgets/Financeto \$28K

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Pleasanton
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TSM

Continued from page 1

With a full-time transportation manager and support staff, a four-bus shuttle fleet, bicycle lanes, preferential parking for car- and vanpool users and the non-stop promotion of TSM policies, Hacienda has reduced peak-hour commute trips to and from the business park by 43.5 percent. After a one-year period, the Hacienda figure almost matches the city's four-year goal.

Regarded as one of the nation's largest privately-owned, master-planned business parks, Hacienda requires its tenants to meet the city's TSM guidelines.

"Between our shuttle bus system and ridesharing programs, we're effectively eliminating 700 cars a day from the streets of Pleasanton," says Karen Fraser-Middleton, Hacienda's transportation manager.

Currently, the Hacienda-funded shuttle serves more than 200 employees daily between the business park and the San Leandro BART Station during peak-hour commuter traffic. Dur-

ing the noon hour, Hacienda shuttle buses operate between the business park and local shopping centers. There are an estimated 1,200 Hacienda employees who use car- or vanpool transportation.

Pleasanton's Gilpin, Hacienda's Fraser-Middleton and members of the TSM task force aren't resting on the first-year success of the ordinance. They will continue to promote the benefits of alternative transportation modes and educate the more than 2,000 new employees who will work in Pleasanton.

"Although we're more than satisfied with the results of the program's first year, we think we can do an even better job in the second year," says Gilpin. "For most companies, the first year of the program was used to establish a network and to help employees become familiar with the TSM concept."

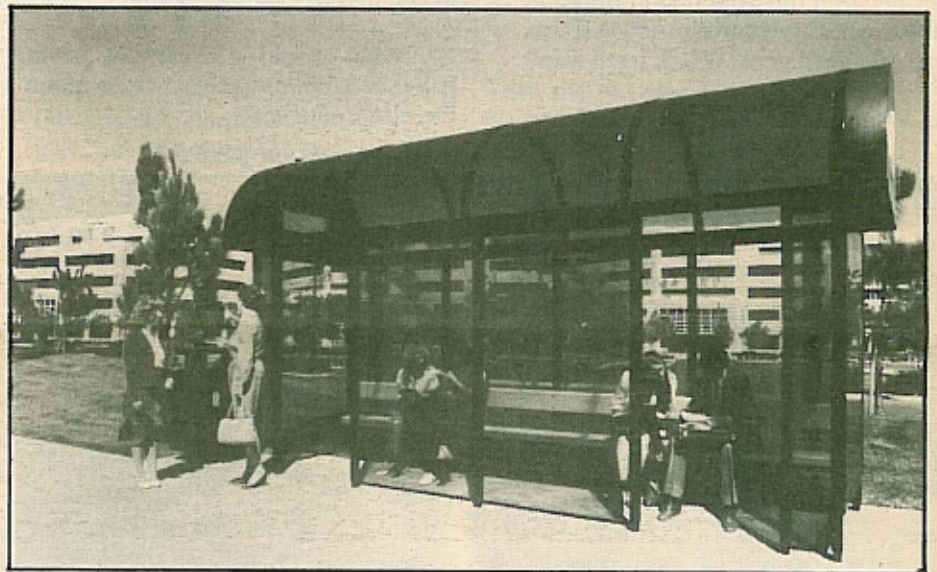
"Now that TSM has been so widely accepted, I think companies can begin to implement more ambitious plans for further reducing peak-hour traffic."



Riders enjoy the plush seats, roomy interior and the option to pull down the shades.



Employees at AT&T use the shuttle bus for short trips within the business park.



Riders await the shuttle in one of the business park's enclosed bus stops.



Hacienda commuters now have a convenient and comfortable ride between the business park and the San Leandro BART Station.

a bit of trivia

By Ben Fernandez

Pleasanton and the rest of the Valley made its impact on the Great World of Trivia at the recent 6th Annual Western Regional Trivia Tournament at Kings X in Oakland. The Dublin Corral team finished in the semi-finals of the Intermediate group and the Pleasanton Insignificants fared extremely well during their flight in the same division. Your not so humble trivia question writer proved that, although aging, he is still nimble of mind. As captain, he led the Sidd Finch All-Stars to the coveted Expert Division Championship for the second time in three years. Enough of that, I could go on all day.

1. It is the most watched movie of the Christmas season and stars James Stewart as George Bailey, a man who wishes he had never been born. An angel shows him the folly of this thought. What is the name of this grand Christmas traditional movie?
2. The only National Football League game ever played on Christmas Day was between the Miami Dolphins and the Kansas City Chiefs in 1971. It was won on a field goal. Which team won?
3. Who narrates the television

- Christmas show, "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas"?
4. "White Christmas" is probably the most famous yuletide song of them all. Bing Crosby introduced it in a 1942 movie. What was the movie title?
 5. Who wrote the famous newspaper editorial, "Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus"?
 6. Another famous Christmas movie is "Miracle on 34th Street." What Oscar-winning actor originated the part in the 1947 movie?
 7. "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" was the biggest selling record in the career of what singer?
 8. "Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire" is part of the holiday season, usually sung by Nat "King" Cole. Who wrote "The Christmas Song"?
 9. The only record that Dennis Day ever made that sold any copies was a yuletide song with an Irish theme. What was it?
 10. What would a Christmas trivia game be without asking you to name the eight reindeer?

Trivia answers on page 5



Pleasanton volunteers Charlotte Severin, R.N., P.H.N., and Janet Hall received honors last month from the Alameda County chapter of the American Cancer Society for outstanding service in the community. Severin received an award for seven years service as coordinator of the Breast-Self-Exam training program. Hall was honored for outstanding leadership in the society's fundraising programs.

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ON THE STREET "Name One Good Trait And One Bad Trait You Inherited From Your Parents"

Danielle Quinlin — "Being short! It can be both good and bad."



Butch Holmes — "My dad gave me his impatience, but made up for it by giving me his tan."

Nichalos Deluna — "My parents are terrific. They taught me how to work and how to treat people."



Anna Robertson — "Good, how to be a good worker, and bad, having a bad temper."

Chris Maples — "My mom taught me how to stretch a dollar, but my dad taught me how to demand my own way."



Telephone Techniques And Wardrobe Selection For Job Searching

"Advanced Telephone Techniques for Job Search - Part II", and "Choosing Your Interview Wardrobe for 1986", are the topics of discussion at the Dublin Library Job Club, on Dec. 13 at 10 a.m. The group meets weekly in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Dublin Library, 7606 Amador Valley Blvd. in Dublin. Mr. Rod Meyer, Executive Director of MODERN CAREER DECISIONS, along with his Associate Director, Marlyn Karrasch, facilitate the group,

offering support, enthusiasm and practical tips for Career Changers and Job Seekers in the Tri-Valley Area. Sharing their expertise on such topics as "Effective Resumes and Cover Letters", "Successful Interviewing Techniques", and "Defining Work Values", Meyer and Karrasch present these programs as a free public service. For further information contact Mr. Meyer at (415) 846-9071.



Costume designer Margaret Watts puts some last minute touches on a dress.

CTW Production

The World of Fantasy

At the Children's Theater Workshop in Pleasanton, children aren't the only ones who can appreciate a fantasy world.

The grownups at CTW work hard to make children's visions come alive. Ironically, the business of creating a fantasy world such as the one in this season's production of "The Nutcracker" is not as easy as it looks, according to CTW director John Clark.

"You have to create a little world where all the rules are different," said Clark. "It's both difficult and exciting."

"The Nutcracker" opened in Dublin on Dec. 6. The production will move to Livermore Veterans Hall on Dec. 13-15 and wrap up its final performances from Dec. 20-22 at the Pleasanton Veterans Hall.

In its simplest form, the story is about the friendship between a young girl named Maria and the Nutcracker, a fantasy character who comes to life in the real world because of Maria's uncompromising devotion to him.

Clark, a recent graduate of Brigham Young University's theater arts program, said he read through several versions of the original story by E.T.A. Hoffman before the final script was completed just weeks prior to the production's opening.

"Even though people are familiar with the ballet, they are probably not familiar with the original story," he said. "If there's no dancing, then you don't have much to work with in a play. Re-creating the original story is like going into uncharted waters."

In the story, the action moves quickly between Maria's fantasy world and her parent's home in Nuremburg during the early 1800s. Clark said he

decided on early 18th century period costumes for the fantasy world characters because he wanted to point out the contrast between the real world, which is portrayed as plain and simple, as opposed to the fantasy world where more elaborate clothes and hairstyles lend an exaggerated, dreamlike quality to the action.

Although the set designed by Greg Bilke and John McInnis employs a shadow box effect to illustrate the dream stages, Clark said that the most important elements that portray the

fantasy imagery are character development and elaborate costumes.

"The costumes, as well as the actors, carry a lot of the period and the feeling of fantasy," said Clark.

After the actors were chosen several weeks ago, Clark and CTW costume designer Margaret Watts set to work selecting fabric, styles and colors. As a designer, Watts must determine first what the director considers important for each character's dress.

Normally, the theater rents or recycles costumes, using the same dresses with detachable accessories. However, The Nutcracker is an exception.

"We had to build the costumes from scratch," said Watts. "Fantasy is wide open — it's whatever you want."

Watts, who holds a masters degree in costume history from the University of Missouri in Columbia, has been with CTW for the past five years, two of which she volunteered her services. For this season's production, she designed and constructed approximately 30 costumes over a six-week period.

Since the children's theater frequently operates on a shoestring budget, Watts manages to complete the sewing with the help of a few volunteers.

In order to further point out the contrast between reality and fantasy, she designed costumes for the reality period in dark colors, while the fantasy costumes are in pastels.

And while the audience may be spellbound by the skirmishes between the Mouse King and the Nutcracker, Watts is concerned with more practical aspects.

"I have to build for the action," she said. "If the queen is going to be throwing her arms up, she'll need heavy underlining in her dress, otherwise she'll either rip her dress on stage or the audience will be able to see that she's perspiring heavily."

While actors frequently perspire on stage, both Watts and Clark agree that once the production work is in progress, they feel high stress until the play actually opens.

"About two weeks before the curtains go up, you can't see that it's ever going to go together," said Watts. "It takes its emotional toll."

Community Calendar

Monday, December 16

Goalsetting workshop. For information, call 462-7302 or 484-3753.

Tuesday, December 17

Great Books Discussion Group meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Chabot Center Community Room, Suite 107, at 4637 Chabot Dr. The Group will discuss poetry by Yeats. Free copies available. For more information, call 462-8431.

Monday, December 23 through Friday, January 3

School winter break.

Wednesday, December 25

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Friday, January 17

Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce 39th Annual Installation Dinner and Community Awards, Castlewood Country Club. Call 846-5858 for further information and reservations.

Like hundreds of other Valley Memorial Hospital Auxiliary volunteers, Ruth Crossley (right) is helping to brighten a patient's day at Valley Memorial. The hospital welcomes new volunteers in surgery, emergency room, hospital services and other departments. Potential volunteers should call the Auxiliary at 443-4482.



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Tips on Stretching Your Skiing Dollar

By David Ryan Williams

To enjoy skiing it's not necessary to have an income in the same league with an NFL quarterback or rock star, but it does pay to be savvy and learn how to stretch your skiing dollar so your checkbook doesn't race downhill all winter long.

And since the larger ski resorts are raising their lift ticket prices to \$24 and higher this year, it makes more sense than ever to take some cost saving measures.

During the regular ski season (Thanksgiving through Easter Sunday), perhaps the easiest way to save money is to ski on weekdays. Nearly all lodging properties offer midweek specials, some shaving as much as 30 to 40 percent off their weekend rates.

In addition, most of the smaller and mid-size ski areas still offer discounted lift ticket prices to encourage off-peak skier visits. All this adds up to skiing the old-fashioned way: uncrowded slopes, minimal lift lines and prices you can stomach.

More and more people are trying to take advantage of weekday skiing, and many skiers sneak away for a Friday fling on the slopes. For convenience and sanity, skiers are opting for a Friday-Saturday ski weekend, returning home on Sunday. There are so many Friday skiers now, that at some resorts, Friday is rivaling Sunday as the second busiest day of the week on the slopes.

As for the least crowded day to go skiing? If you can nab a Tuesday off from work, you may be waiting for people just for their company on the lift ride up. The next best days, in order, are: Wednesday, Thursday, Monday, Friday, Sunday and Saturday.

If there's absolutely no chance of taking a day off during the week, and like 80 percent of us who can only ski on weekends, you can maximize your skiing time by taking advantage of the Sunday afternoon exodus.

Many skiers, in their haste to return home at a "decent time," leave the slopes between 2 or 2:30 in the afternoon, sometimes only to get caught in a slow moving conga-line of cars winding their way down through the mountains.



Outfitting children with ski equipment can be expensive. Buying used skis, boots and poles is a great way to stretch your skiing dollars.

Some of the best skiing of the week can be had on Sundays from 2 p.m. to closing. The slopes are uncrowded, the temperature is still comfortable and you have a great capper to the weekend. Moreover, by the time you

finally get on the road, particularly if you've had dinner first, traffic has subsided and you can cruise home unimpeded while enjoying that delightful burning in your thighs from a full day of skiing. For the price of arriving home about 90 minutes later, you've gained an extra two and a half hours of quality skiing.

Equipment

Nearly all ski equipment manufac-

tured in the past three to four years is of consistent quality. In this competitive market, it is truly difficult nowadays to find a pair of poorly constructed skis. For this reason, buying used ski equipment is an excellent and safe way to save big bucks.

The average skier will ski about eight to ten days a year. The average length of time a skier will hang onto his equipment is three or four years. After that period, his skis may have seen anywhere from 20 to 50 days of active service. Skis with such little use haven't even begun to compromise their effectiveness. Better still, those four-year-old skis which sold new for \$300 can be had now for \$35 to \$50.

There's even a used market for those skiers who demand the best, and relatively latest technology. In every activity and pursuit there is a core of enthusiasts who must have the absolute newest wrinkle in the sport. In the sport of skiing, these people will buy a set of new skis and bindings every year, sometimes even twice a year! To fund this obsession, they have to sell perfectly good, slightly used equipment. Watch for these bargains in the classified section of your newspaper and at posting boards in ski shops and supermarkets. The deals are plentiful.

Another outstanding bargain on used ski equipment can be found at reputable ski rental shops. Most shops replace all their equipment every two to three years. The equipment is usually in good repair but cosmetically looks a bit tired with a trail map worth of nicks, dings and scratches. Sets of skis, boots and poles can go for as little as \$40 from rental shops — a perfect set up for the beginner or low intermediate skier, or for kids who grow out of their boots every year.

Smart skiers can save hundreds of dollars a year by looking for bargains and banding together in groups. Equally important, skiers can maximize the quality of their ski time by skiing when others are eating and eating while others are skiing. Simple.

But even with employing all the tricks, let's face it — skiing is never going to be as benign to the pocketbook as a set of tennis or a pick-up game of basketball. For peace of mind, look at skiing this way: In what other activity can you "rent" \$25 million worth of lifts, base facilities and mountain improvements, support staff and thousands of acres of land for about \$3.40 an hour? See how long \$3.40 will last at the batting cages.

Chabot Offers 22 Courses at Foothill

Chabot College-Valley Campus will continue the evening program at Foothill High School in Pleasanton, with 22 courses being offered during the Winter Quarter as well as counseling services.

The course offerings for Winter will be of interest to those who wish to upgrade their job skills, those who are progressing with their educational goals, those who are interested in learning for personal growth, and those who are exploring new occupational fields.

Courses related to business include introduction to busines, money management, introduction to computing, principles of economics, technical writing, retail store management, and interpersonal relationships.

Health related courses include con-

temporary human biology and nutrition.

Two courses designed to increase self-confidence in front of groups are theater improvisation and readers theater.

Other courses include administration of justice, early childhood development, history, math, political science, real estate, spanish, travel & tourism.

Registration is currently taking place for the classes that will be held on Monday and Wednesday evenings beginning January 6.

For information concerning the 22 course offerings and registration procedures, call Valley Campus, 455-5300 or Foothill Evening Program, 846-3094 on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

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GOOD SPORTS



Basketball Takes Center Stage Dec. 11 — 14

The Amador Basketball Classic, one of the longest running high school basketball tournaments in the state, takes center stage for the 24th consecutive year on Dec. 11-14.

This year's classic should be just that, a classic display of the best in Northern California high school basketball. For one of the few times in its history, the 1985 Classic will feature the same eight teams as last year.

The host team, Amador Valley, will enter a small and inexperienced team. Amador's tallest players are two sophomores Mike Allen, a 6-foot-4 center, and Karl Chrisman, a 6-foot-4 back-up center. Point guard Dave Griffin saw considerable playing time last year. The Dons will depend on defense and strong overall team depth in pursuit of their 13th consecutive East Bay Athletic League championship.

Last year, the Dons, coached by Don Underwood, finished with 22 wins and 6 losses.

The other local team, the Dublin High Gaels, will return to the Amador Classic with a very young team. The Gaels will be led this year by three-year starter, Bob Rogers, and six-foot junior forward Ernesto Smith. The Gaels finished fourth in the EBAL last year. The team's coach is Tony Costello, who played on the 1973 Amador Valley Championship team with Logan High coach Will Biggs.

Logan returns to the Amador Classic after completing the greatest season in the high school's history. Last year the Colts won the Northern California Championship and finally lost in overtime to Crenshaw in the state championship game. Once again,

they figure to be one of the top teams in the state. The Colts will be led this year by 5-foot-6 point guard Mike Peason and 6-foot-1 strongman David Parker.

For the second consecutive year, Daniel Murphy High will be traveling from Los Angeles to play in this year's Amador Classic. Murphy was a young team last year but still finished fourth in their appearance in the Amador Classic. Murphy will be led by 5-foot-6 point guard Andre Gougis, an All-Tournament selection last year, and 6-foot-9 Arthur Phillips, who is a great shot blocker and rebounder. Murphy draws defending Amador Classic champion and pre-tournament favorite Riordan, in what should be a great first round game. The match up of centers, Murphy's Phillips and Riordan's Chris Munk, should pack the gym with college scouts.

Once again the Delta Kings of Stagg High in Stockton return to the Amador Classic. Every year, Stagg has proved to be one of the most powerful teams in the Central Valley and this year promises to be an exceptional season. Stagg returns with nearly the same team as last year's, which won the league championship.

The Delta Kings will be led this year by 6-foot-8 William McDowell, who has already signed a letter of intent to the University of Portland, and 6-foot-6 Dion Thurman, a three-year starter who was All-Tournament last year and is expected to be one of the top players in California.

The Delta Kings are coached by Myron Jordan, a former star player at University of the Pacific in Stockton.

A high school making its second ap-

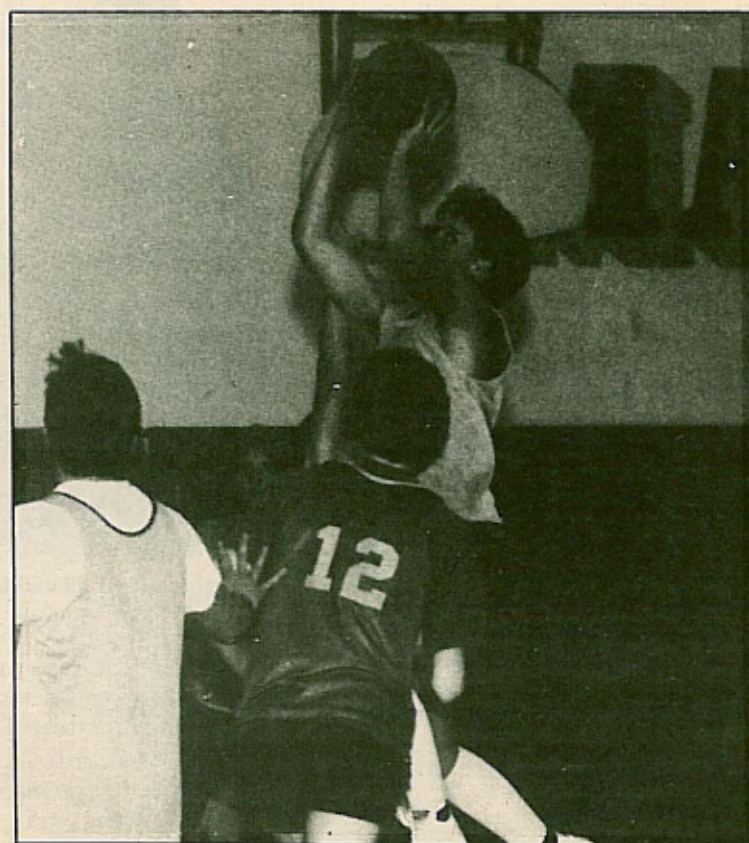
pearance in the Amador Classic is Merced. With 3,500 students, the high school has become a basketball powerhouse under the coaching of former Fresno State star Vince Clemons. Over the past years, the Bears won the California Conference, compiling a perfect record of 45 wins.

This year Merced returns with two starters and five lettermen. The team will be led by junior Gerald Madkins, and seniors, Curtis Brown and Anthony Nutt.

Noted for its strong, competitive basketball teams, Saint Joseph Notre Dame returns to Amador this year. Led by C.A.L. guard Joe Martin, this year's varsity will be a strong contender for the C.A.L. New players to watch include freshman Calvin Byrd and junior Rico Lyles.

Before coming to Saint Joseph, Frank La Porte coached the Bishop O'Dowd Dragons, the Saint Mary College Gaels and the San Francisco Pioneers in the women's professional league.

The final entry is defending tournament champion Riordan High. Street and Smith magazine has rated this year's Crusaders as the best team in the nation. The Crusaders are led this year by 6-foot-8, 220-pound Chris Munk and 6-foot-3 Terrence Mullins. Both are All-Tournament selections last year and both young men are pre-season All-American selections. Munk is rated the best high school power forward in the nation and will attend Stanford



Chuck Mercer hits his patented jump shot

University next year. Mullins has signed a letter of intent to play at Oklahoma State University next year. Riordan is coached by one of the most highly-regarded coaches in the state, Ron Isola.

The line up could be possibly the best ever in the Amador Classic. Four of the eight teams entered; Staggs, Merced, Riordan and Logan are expected to win in their respective leagues, and there are at least ten future Division I college players on display.

Although the tournament is sponsored by Amador Valley High, the T-shirts which each player will receive have been paid for by the Hacienda Business Park. The Pleasanton Jaycees will provide a pre-tournament dinner for the coaches at Augusta's in Pleasanton, and Pleasanton insurance agent Art Gordillo provided tournament bags for the All-Tournament players and the coaches.

AMADOR CLASSIC OPENING DAYS SCHEDULE

All games will be held in the Amador Valley High gym at 1155 Santa Rita Rd. in Pleasanton.

Dec. 11
Stagg vs. St. Joseph, 7 p.m.
Logan vs. Amador, 8:30 p.m.

Dec. 12
Murphy vs. Riordan, 7 p.m.
Merced vs. Dublin, 8:30 p.m.

For additional info call 846-2818.

Seavers Donate \$25,000 To "Lifeline" Program

On December 4, Valley Memorial Hospital will begin installing a new service — Lifeline, an in-home personal emergency response system. Lifeline is designed for those handicapped, isolated or elderly individuals who may experience a medical emergency at home.

The service provides the isolated person with a direct line to the hospital. A Lifeline subscriber wears a wireless, pushbutton device which is elec-

tronically connected to the telephone. If there is a medical emergency, the subscriber need only press the button and a signal is sent from the telephone to VMH's response center where trained hospital staff alert the necessary help. Lifeline also works if the phone is off the hook or during a power outage.

This new system is possible because of assistance from Tri-Valley residents like Don and Billie Seaver of Pleasanton who recently donated \$25,000 to the Lifeline program. Nearly 1000 of the Seaver's friends and community members contributed money to help pay the cost of their daughter Donna's extended illness.

Donna, 26, was employed at Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton as a teacher and softball coach. She collapsed during a softball practice and remained comatose for nearly two years until her death in

January 1985. Donna's parents decided to donate the money to a worthy cause. "We were looking for a service that would benefit the entire community," said Mrs. Seaver, adding, "We settled on Lifeline."

Interested persons can obtain Lifeline on a lease basis. There is a \$10 installation fee and a monthly charge of \$15.

For more information call 373-4020.

Tips on Holiday Safety

Christmas Trees Don't Start Fires, People Do

By Lee Lynch

As fire inspector for the Pleasanton Fire Department, I frequently receive phone calls from concerned people wondering how to guard themselves against the tragedy of a fire during the holiday season.

One citizen complained that Christmas trees cause too many fires. I've yet to hear of a Christmas tree setting itself on fire! But I have heard of many people who think they can get through another year with the same old electrical equipment. If this is the case in your home, I've rounded up some of the best ways to set fire to your Christmas tree and house.

- Buy a tree that is dry, one that is brittle to the touch. When it is shaken, plenty of needles will drop to the ground. (If the tree has a deep green color, strong scent and the trunk butt is sticky with sap the tree will not burn as easily because it is still too fresh.)

- Do not cut one inch off the tree trunk or place the tree in a water holding stand that can be replenished every day. (Trees are thirsty and providing yours with water will prevent it from drying out.)

- Place the tree near a heater vent or fireplace. This is one of the best ways to speed up the drying process. (The drier the tree, the faster it will burn. If located remotely from a heat source, the tree will not dry out as fast.)

- Use non-U.L.-approved light



Firefighters Jim Gill and Gary O'Connor decorate the fire house Christmas tree with U.L.-approved light strands.

strands and be sure to overload the wiring by "piggy-backing" or "stacking" strands in excess of the acceptable amount. The cords should be frayed and worn in several places, with cracked sockets and loose connections. These items should provide an excellent ignition source. (If you read the

directions on the box, you would know that proper use of U.L.-approved light strands reduces the chance of fire.)

- Do not flame proof your live tree at a local hardware store using an approved method by the California State Fire Marshal. (If you do flame proof your tree, it has even less chance of

becoming a towering inferno.)

- Use only flammable decorations which will greatly accelerate the spread of fire. (Use of glass or other noncombustible decorations would slow down the spread of fire.)

- After the holiday, do not discard the tree. The longer it sits around, the better the chances that an ignition source will set it on fire. (If you properly dispose of your dried out tree, you will remove the possibility of a fire.)

- If the preceding steps don't entice firefighters to your house for Christmas, you will increase further the chances of a fire by:

- Placing burning candles near the tree.

- Leaving decorative tree lights on while no one is home.

- Using a lightweight extension cord where a heavyweight one is needed. This can cause the wiring to overheat and cause a fire.

These items, combined with the absence of a multi-purpose fire extinguisher and smoke detector, may start the fire of your wildest dreams.

It's important to remember that people, not trees, cause fires. With this in mind, the Pleasanton Fire Department hopes you have a safe and happy holiday season.

For additional fire safety information, call the Fire Department Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. at 847-8114.



Karl Deshler, Carolyn Golitham and Sandi Bohner gather for the chestnut roasting.

Holiday Events Planned

Time For Roasting Chestnuts

Chestnut roasting, Christmas tree lighting and Santa Claus are among the holiday events planned at the Hopyard Village Shopping Center on the corner of Hopyard Road and Valley Avenue.

On Friday, Dec. 13, Hopyard Village merchants will light their Christmas tree and roast chestnuts at 8 p.m.

Santa Claus will come to Hopyard Village on Dec. 14 between noon and 5 p.m. From 1-2 p.m., the Carol Jean Dancers will perform. They will be followed by the Young Life Singers at 3 p.m. and twelve-year-old rock singer David Davelaar at 4 p.m.

On Dec. 16, Sweet Adelines, an all-female barbershop quartet, will perform at 6:30 p.m.

The Hopyard Village merchants also will raffle off a ride for two in a hot-

air balloon. The proceeds will benefit a local needy family at Christmastime.

For further information, call 846-4477.

Newcomers To Hold Cookie Exchange

Pleasanton Newcomers' monthly "get acquainted coffee" and Christmas cookie exchange will be held at noon Wednesday, December 18 from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

For reservations, call Kay at 846-5585 before December 16.

Attendees are requested to bring seven dozen cookies in 14 separate half dozen bags.

Starting Fifth Year

CTW 1985-86 Membership Campaign

Children's Theatre Workshop has announced the beginning of its 1985-86 membership campaign.

The popular children's theater will mark its fifth anniversary next year.

"Thousands of families and school children in the Valley have enjoyed our productions of such favorites as 'A Christmas Carol,' 'Dr. Doolittle,' 'Winnie the Pooh,' and 'The Arkansas Bear,' said Andy Jorgensen, executive director for the children's theater.

Jorgensen said the theater is appealing to the community for "continued support, an increased number of

schools committed to our touring show and a larger conservatory program."

Persons who wish to become members may do so by sending tax-deductible contributions to CTW at 519 Kottinger Drive, Pleasanton, 94566. Members will be entitled to a 10 percent discount on season tickets, attendance at all after-show demonstrations by cast and crew members and a CTW refrigerator magnet.

Supporters may become members in the following categories: patrons — \$1,000 or more; benefactors — \$500 or more; sustainers — \$100 and up; and contributors — \$25 or more.

Clausnitzer

Continued from page 1

"I only keep the very best toys," she said. "And I make sure everything is in working order."

She said most of the used toys sell for about half the original price. And since tattered doll clothes are replaced with a new outfits handmade by Clausnitzer, she said the refurbished

dolls can often be purchased for less than \$10.

Unfortunately for Clausnitzer, the toys continue to pour into the thrift store and her Pleasanton home resembles Santa's workshop, except there are no little elves to share the workload.

"I never finish," she said. "There's just so much I can do."



Just in time for the holidays! Louise Clausnitzer gave this doll a new hair style.

