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**From:** Alameda County Fairgrounds <pmosca@alamedacountyfair.com>  
**Subject:**NEWS: Looking To Fill Vacancies on Fair Board  
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**ALAMEDA  
COUNTY  
FAIRGROUNDS**  
PLEASANTON

Alameda County Fairgrounds  
4501 Pleasanton Avenue  
Pleasanton, CA 94566

Call (925) 426-7600  
Fax (925) 426-7599

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: April Mitchell, 925-426-7565**

### **ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS LOOKS TO FILL VACANCIES ON ITS BOARD**

#### **Applications For Directors Now Being Accepted**

**PLEASANTON, CA – July 28, 2010** – The Board of Directors for the Alameda County Agricultural Fair Association announced its intent to fill three positions on the Board. All interested parties are required to complete and submit a formal application by Friday, August 13th 2010. Formal Applications are available by calling the CEO’s office at (925) 426-7501. Applicants should include information on their community involvement, as well as brief detail on how their experience and professional expertise would be of benefit to the Fair Association. Applicants must reside within the County of Alameda.

Submissions should be addressed:

**Alameda County Agricultural Fair Association  
Attn: Executive Committee  
4501 Pleasanton Avenue  
Pleasanton, CA 94566**

The Board of Directors is responsible for policy oversight and general operation of the 267-acre Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton. The Fairgrounds is home to more than 300 events year round, with an annual attendance in excess of 3,000,000 patrons. Since the Fair Association is a 501(c)3 Nonprofit Corporation, no compensation is provided to its Board Members. Board Members are requested to invest a minimum of 10 hours each month.

The Alameda County Fairgrounds is recognized as one of the Top 50 Fairs in America and was named the “Fastest Growing Fair in America” in 2009. The Fair Association has received more industry awards and recognition than any other Fair in the United States and Canada for each of the past four years.

#### **STEPPING DOWN**

Retiring Board member, Pete Ruggeri has served on the Board for the past seven years. Ruggeri served as President

and Chairman of the Board of the professional consulting firm Ruggeri-Jensen-Azar & Associates. “Director Ruggeri, with his almost 40 years of professional civil engineering experience, has been a valuable contributor to the success of the Fair Association. We will truly miss his expertise,” said CEO Rick Pickering. Ruggeri is a Registered Civil Engineer and a graduate of the University of Santa Clara. He is moving his home outside of Alameda County and thus retiring from the Fair Board.

Also stepping down, due to a move outside Alameda County, is Castro Valley resident Bonnie Sabraw whom has served Alameda County as a Judge since 1988. She attended San Francisco Law School and earned her State Bar License in 1979. Sabraw is also a member of the California Judges Association, Alameda County Bar Association, Women Lawyers of Alameda County and the Shack Riders located at the Stanford Campus. Sabraw used her 30 years of experience in her law career that focused on land use, environmental law business interests, agriculture, government, labor, and insurance issues, and contributed to the community and the goals of the Fair Board.

Retiring Board Member, Tony Macchiano, a well known Pleasanton resident and chairman and co-owner of Pleasanton Garbage, began his service on the Fair Board in 1998. He has served with much distinction including positions of both Vice President and President. Macchiano is known for his continuous support of the Alameda County Fair within the horse racing industry, serving as chair of the Fair’s Racing Committee for many years. He has also worked tirelessly to insure that all members of the Fair Board share equally in the governance of the Fair Operations. Macchiano is retiring from the Fair Board having served the maximum allowable years on the Board – twelve years.

### **FAIR BOARD PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT ELECTED**

Board Member Patrick O’Brien has been elected as President. O’Brien is the Chief Financial Officer for Leisure Sports in Pleasanton. His responsibilities include financial planning, debt financing, property sales and acquisitions and legal matters. He also coordinates the entitlement process for development projects. O’Brien has a strong background in both finance and real estate development, and is a CPA. “To be associated with an organization that is here to specifically serve the community is a pleasure, to be named President is an honor. With my background and nine years of Board Member service under my belt, I am confident in my abilities and vision to guide the Fairgrounds into the future,” said O’Brien. “Outgoing President Anthony Pegram did a great service for the Board and I simply look to extend his progress and establish new strengths within the Association.” O’Brien began his service on the Fair Board in 2001.

Board Member Janet Lockhart has been elected as Vice President. She is the former Mayor of Dublin and Executive Director of Dublin Partners in Education. Prior to her election to the Dublin City Council, Lockhart was a member of the Board of Directors of the Dublin Chamber of Commerce for several years, serving as President of the Board in 1995. Her strong commitment to the community has included employment as a school librarian, owner of a small business, and published author of children's books. Lockhart began her service on the Fair Board in 2005 when she was appointed by Supervisor Nate Miley.

### **About the Fair Association**

The non-profit Fair Association continues to provide a significant public benefit without receiving any tax support. The Fair Association’s nonprofit Board of Directors seeks to operate the Fairgrounds in a professional business manner & maintain prudent cash reserves. In addition to maintaining & enhancing the existing facilities, the Fair Association originally purchased the 268-acre fairgrounds in the 1930’s and deeded the property to the County of Alameda in the 1940’s.

With the “Oldest One-Mile Race Track in America,” the Fair Association hopes to continually enhance its horse training and racing program in Pleasanton.

For more information, please visit [www.AlamedaCountyFair.com](http://www.AlamedaCountyFair.com), or call (925) 426-7600.

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