



# Musical Moments & More

October 2008

## Andrea's Musical Adventures

### Special Appearances by Andrea

- Art, Jazz, and Wine Fest  
Downtown Pleasant Hill  
(near Pasta Pomodoro)  
Saturday, October 4, 11:00am-12:00pm  
Sunday, October 5, 12:00-1:00pm  
Free event!
- Fairytale Princess Party  
Pleasant Hill Community Center  
Wednesday, October 22, 3:30-4:30pm  
Preregistration required at  
[www.pleasanthillrec.com](http://www.pleasanthillrec.com) or 676-5200  
\$7 per child

### Rhythmic Piano and Me Parking

I forgot to tell you about parking! Please park two cars side by side in the three designated parking areas. I have a map if you are not sure or just ask. It makes it much easier for everyone when pulling in and out. Also there is one spot only on the drive itself, close to the parking area. Do not park on the driveway farther down toward the street. That belongs to the neighbors.



## Class Highlights!

### Sing and Swim

Sing and Swim is finished now until April. Your children were kicking using their arms and getting braver and braver about going under the water and jumping in. Keep them in the water whenever you can throughout the year and we will see you in the spring.

### Let's Make Music

We are ready to make some apple pie. We have been going up the tree in crescendo and the apples have been falling in decrescendo. We are playing our sticks fast, slow, loud, soft, high, and low. We are working on our timing and rhythm patterns while also learning our numbers in different languages. We are learning about Autumn and collecting leaves - helping us with one to one correspondence as well as fine and large motor skills. There is so much more learning and fun to be had and we will be adding some new songs and activities as we move further into the semester. I will have CDs for you soon as well to use at home. This semester they are by donation only, so whatever you can afford!

### Group Piano

We are working on recognizing our letters numbers and musical notes. We are locating our left hand and right hand and going up and down the c scale and musical staff with both our bodies and our eyes. We have explored the inside and outside of our bodies and have found the voices of the piano that match our own voices. We are working on our timing and recognizing our notes as well.

### Rhythmic Piano and Me

We are having so much fun and have a great group this year!!! Colleen and I are very excited to see so many students from Piano and Me who have graduated up to Rhyth-

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Andrea's Musical Adventures

Andrea Gaspari  
3103 Diablo View Road  
Lafayette, CA 94549  
925-280-7364  
andreagaspari@comcast.net



Andrea's Musical Adventures will take your child from their first musical exploration as a baby/toddler, all the way through their preschool and pre-piano musical stages and into group piano lessons that teach music reading and performance as well as composition skills preparatory to private piano lessons.

Did you know...

- Kids who have early childhood music consistently test at least 35% higher on intelligence exams?
- Music helps to boost your child's brainpower in subjects such as high level math and science as well as builds self-esteem.

## Local Events and Happenings

### Pumpkin Playland

Visit the Clayton Valley Pumpkin Farm and Christmas Tree Farm. Ride the Pumpkin Farm express train through a tunnel and around the gardens. Get your pumpkin!

Open Daily  
www.cvpumpkinfarm.com

### Disney on Ice

See your favorite Disney characters perform in a dazzling ice-skating show.

Wednesday-Saturday, October 15-18  
coliseum.com

### Yerba Buena Gardens Festival

Family Festival with performances, carousel rides, climbing wall, jump houses, lawn games, yoga, hands-on art projects with SFMoMA, Exploratorium and Zeum.

Saturday, October 18; 11:00 am-3:00 pm  
ybgf.org

### Boo at the Zoo

Come to the Oakland Zoo in costume, solve scavenger hunt clues, visit with the animals and collect yummy treats.

Saturday-Sunday, October 25-26  
10:00 am-3:00 pm  
oaklandzoo.org

## More Class Highlights

*(Continued from page 1)*

mic Piano. We also have a few new students. We are happy to have Cora and Bella with us now. We are working on visually and auditorially recognizing our notes. We have been playing games and doing activities to help. Everyone has now been on the piano and most of you are playing songs already!!! Wow! You are amazing! For the students who have been with us a bit longer you are going to start playing with two hands - sometimes at the same time and we are learning some harder notes and symbols. We will also be practicing to play in ensemble with others and writing our own songs. You may work on a song of your own making for the recital as well as the one you pick out from Colleen.

Parents, remember our philosophy is a little different from the traditional method. We are hoping to nurture lifelong lovers, players, and creators of music; not just teach them by memorization a few impressive songs and to copy only the works of others. At times it looks like they are learning the same thing over and over but music is a language and needs lots of repetition. Keep encouraging fun for now. Do not ask your children to practice. We don't want it to be work for them. Instead ask them if they will teach you how to play a song or to play music class with you or their stuffed animals. We want only to encourage them to get onto the piano, the rest will come naturally.

Musical Babies

Let's Make Music

Piano and Me