

OPEN THE HANGAR DOORS!

SPACIOUS, BAR-STYLE EATERY READY TO ROLL AT MERCED AIRPORT

BY JONATHAN
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If you're watching the Niners season opener against the Packers on TV this Sunday, Sept. 8, and you see the jets fly over the stadium before kickoff, you may want to jump in your car and head over to the Merced Airport.

Because after the Patriots Jet Team shoots across the Bay Area, they are going to be screeching to our local skies in a matter of minutes.

Why?

The professional air performers don't want to miss the grand opening of the Hangar BBQ — just off the flight line of Merced's aviation center.

Doors open at noon, and the jets arrive at 1:45 p.m. There will be classic cars, live music, and a wood-fired smoker will be cookin' up pulled pork, ribs, chicken and beef.

The new bar-style eatery — built in an actual 1940s era airplane hangar — is actually one of the most innovative multi-use, entertainment venues to hit the local scene in recent years.

"This place is going to be like a holiday weekend every day," says Steve Stuhmer, the excited new owner. "We're going to have good food, at affordable prices in a very relaxed atmosphere."

The Hangar BBQ features a whopping 6,000 square feet of outdoor, beautifully landscaped, patio space for drinking

and dining. And incredibly, the hangar's giant, rolling, side doors are able to swing around to reveal additional bar space, an 80-inch flat screen TV for sporting events, and a stage for bands that faces the lush lawn.

There are picnic tables, lounge chairs, fire pits, and virtually unlimited parking space in the highly-secure airport grounds.

And that's just the outside.

Inside, patrons will find more flat screens and a full-bar stocked with high-end brands of scotch and tequila and more. Beer lovers will enjoy a menu of 99 different beers on the wall, and a nice and cold selection of drafts.

Stuhmer is a wine aficionado so he is building what he claims will be a wine selection that is second to none in all of Merced. He's talkin' Opus One and Frank Family Vineyards, and a whole array of varietals.

The local pilot and Turlock resident says he is counting on his fellow aviators — like the Patriots Jet Team — to take a liking to the place. Pilots are known to specifically travel to airports for entertainment, meetings and that \$100 burger (which includes the cost of fuel to travel). But Stuhmer also strongly believes people from all over Merced and the surrounding countryside will find his easy-to-access spot a very attractive place to go.

He hired an experienced, professional chef, Mike Ortiz, who is creat-

ing juicy, mouth-watering, smoked meat that falls off the bone. Fresh baked buns from a Hilmar bakery are being used, and there's also a dozen or more special house BBQ sauces.

Try the smoky cheese-stuffed Hangar Burger that's flame-broiled and smoked. They also have a spicy Hangar Margarita with a punch.

Maggie Watkins will be one of the smiling faces behind the bar, and she is sure to win customers over again and again. She's also a singer with the local band Cottonwood Creek, and she says they plan on playing regularly at the Hangar.

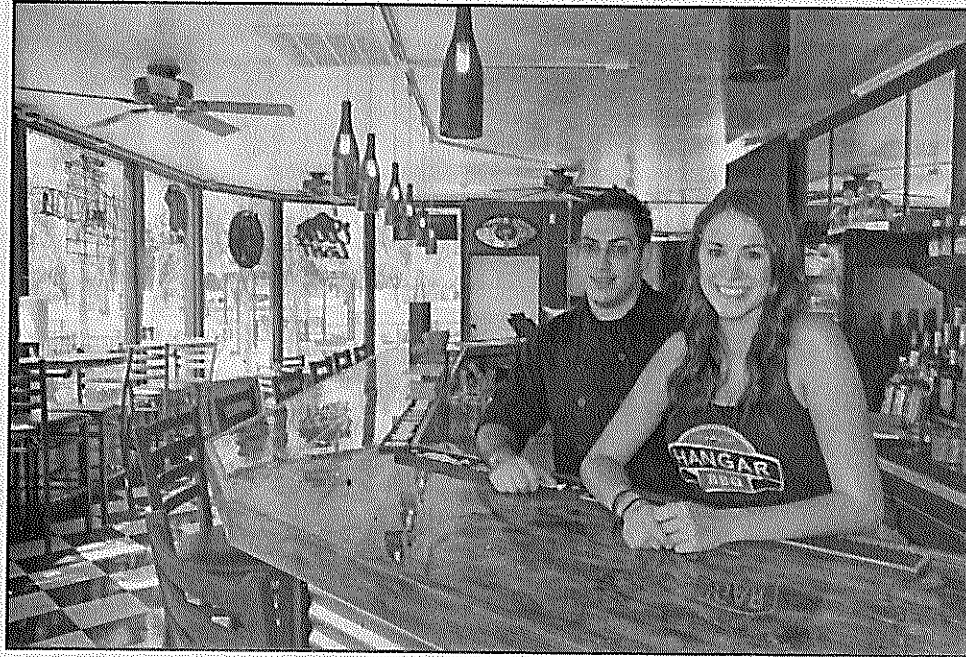
It took Stuhmer about two years of planning and restoration to turn the old hangar into the place of his dreams.

Some residents might remember the old Hangar Cafe that operated for many years at the site, but the building has been completely refurbished, and bathrooms were added.

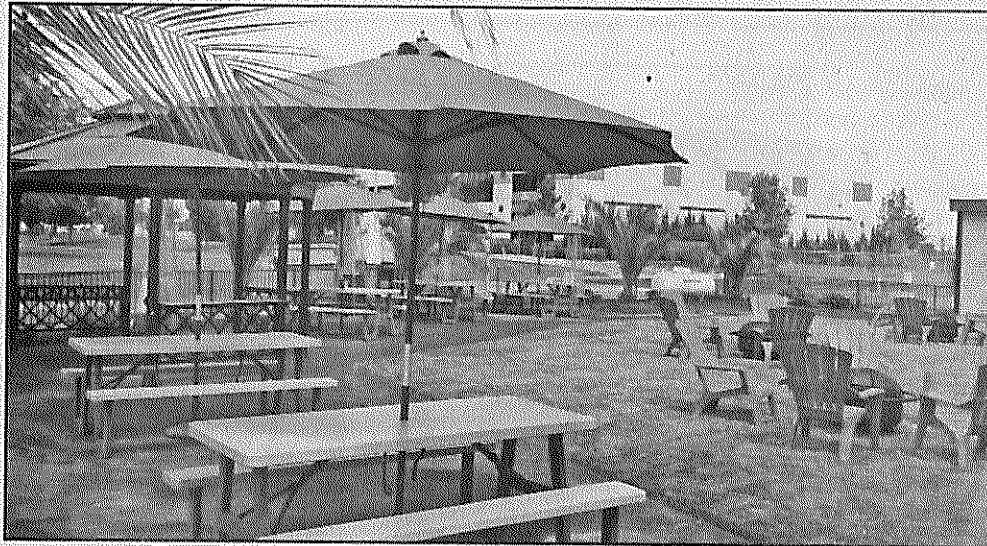
Now Stuhmer spends a lot of his time just contemplating all the indoor and outdoor events he wants to hold at the hangar that can accommodate practically anything.

Get your landing gear down, he says, because Merced residents have never quite experienced anything quite like the Hangar BBQ.

The new Hangar BBQ is located at the Merced Regional Airport, 26 Macready Dr., in Merced.



Chef Mike Ortiz and Maggie Watkins are excited to be part of the new venture.



This is one view of the patio area that is too large to capture in a single photo.



This is how the side hangar of the entire building used to look. Today it houses additional bar space, an 80-inch flat screen TV, and a stage for bands.

PILOTS, BANDS, CLASSIC CARS CELEBRATE NINERS AT HANGAR

A Niners win capped off some good times at the grand opening of the Hangar BBQ at the Merced Airport on Sunday.

The day started with a fly-in by the Patriots jet performance team who had just performed at the opening of the 49ers opening home game at Candlestick Park. The jets flew in to the airport spreading red, white and blue smoke over the crowd below that had gathered at the new venue. Later, the Patriots pilots mingled with patrons, and everyone enjoyed BBQ food, cocktails and the Niners game.

Throughout the day classic cars and motorcycle clubs showed up and parked in the ample parking lot provided by the airport. Many of the participants came from Snelling after the Valve Burners Car Show.

Meanwhile, the side Hangar doors swung open for the outdoor crowd and made the perfect stage for the Josh Rosenblum Band and Cottowoon Creek.

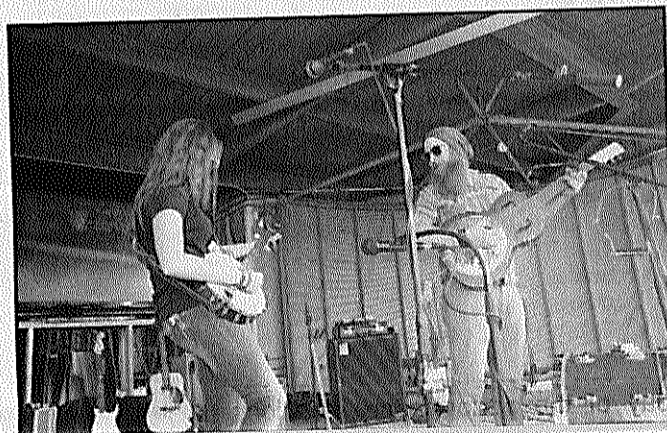
The party went into the night ...



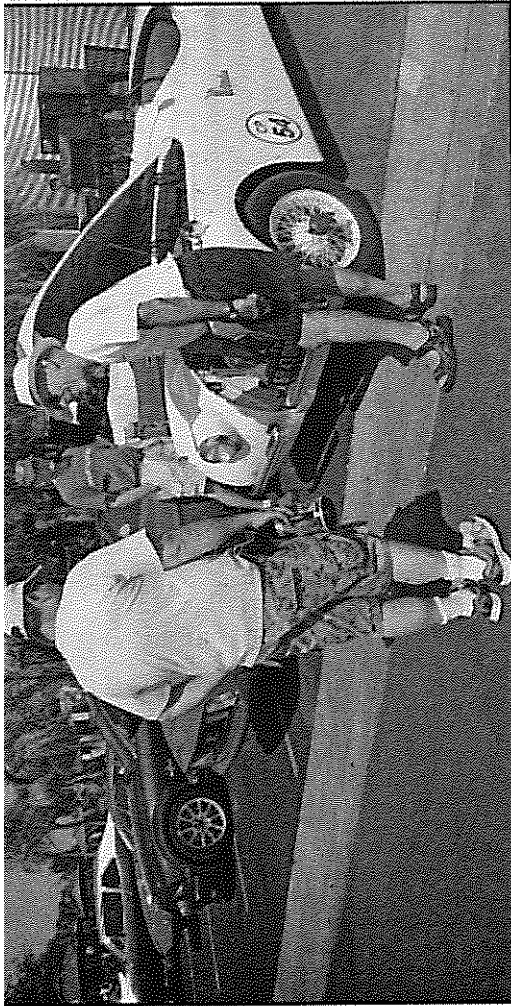
Pilots and crew members of the Patriots jet performance team get behind the bar with the new Hangar staff.



The Josh Rosenblum Band rocking the Hangar.



Local bikers and club members were having a good time taking pictures on the tarmac of the Merced Airport with Patriots jets that flew in for the day.



That's Paul Ward showing off his vintage convertible in front of the restaurant.



Some Cottonwood Creek fans party on as the band gets going in the side stage.

Evangeline

Continued from B1

drawn from their 40-year catalogue, marking the first time the songbook is part of an original production. One new Hidalgo/Pérez

Evangeline has been in development since 2010 and has benefited from workshop performances in June 2010 and June 2011. In addition, work-in-progress performances were presented by the Autry National Center as

tions is a critically acclaimed L.A.-based company that creates original interdisciplinary theater work and educational programs that provoke new perspectives on history and humanity. The company is dedicated to col-



Guests enjoyed the Hangar grand opening inside and outside.

Handouts - Agenda Item 4 September 17, 2013, Council Mtg

Sharon Davis

From: MacDonald, Paul <pmacdon@kla-tencor.com>
Sent: Friday, September 13, 2013 8:03 PM
To: Council
Cc: Cynthia MacDonald; Molly Lowe
Subject: Community-Focused Aquatic Center

To the Tracy City Council,

I am unable to attend the City Council meeting on September 17th due to business travel. I would like to voice my strong support for continuing to pursue development of a community-oriented swim center, and not a commercial water park.

Swimming pools also increase safety and health in the community. According to ESPN's Richard Lapchick, well-known African-American swimmer Sabir Muhammad says, "No one dies from not being able to play basketball." In other words, swimming is not just exercise; it is a life-saving skill. Competition and camaraderie with other groups in tournaments and swim meets helps a community come together for a common goal. Having a therapeutic or ADA-approved pool helps people in the community who have special needs. Findings released in 2009 from a study in Taiwan found that unlike other forms of cardiovascular exercise, swimming is unlikely to provoke asthma attacks. The study found that the children who participated gained additional benefits that complemented their increased fitness, such as increased confidence and increased lung volume.

A swimming pool is a great place to spend time, where people of all ages can enjoy time together competing or simply splashing and playing. My family greatly benefits from participating in Tracy Triton swim team. Swimming is a great option for young girls (and boys) to participate in competitive sports. As a father with 3 daughters, this is important to me. The creating of a community-focused aquatic center will allow more residents to participate in swimming at a reasonable cost. I ask the City Council to continue to pursue the plans to build a community-focused aquatic center and not pursue the ENA with Wild Rivers.

Thank you.

Paul MacDonald
Senior Director, KLA-Tencor Corporation
City of Tracy resident since 2001

Sharon Davis

From: Austin Lowe
Sent: Monday, September 16, 2013 10:05 PM
To: Council
Subject: Swim Center regarding the City Council Meeting

Dear City Council,

Hello, my name is Austin Lowe. I would to advocate my support for the Swim Center for the City of Tracy. I have attended countless meetings for this cause yet we are still trying to move forward. It is extremely important that we do not cut corners in the eleventh hour. There have been countless hours that have gone into this project and it would be foolish to throw that all away. There are so many new jobs associated with this project, what with construction, pool maintenance, lifeguards, swim instructors, and even landscapers. Conversely we have the Dr. Powers Pool, which hasn't been operational in several years, not to mention that it is already established and will not bring any new economic benefits to the region. As a member of the Tracy Triton coaching staff these last 3 summers and a member on the team for the last 12 years, I have been very involved in the swimming. Swim meets, especially invitationals, bring a lot of people to the area; they in turn purchase items from the stores in Tracy. Swim meets are also a fun way to bring the community together; I would like to reference a video from the Tracy Triton Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=666576866701733&set=vb.207467955945962&type=2&theater>

As you can see we have a 'community'. This community can and will grow; it will benefit from an Swim Center NOT an aquatic facility partnership with Wild Rivers. The last thing we want for Tracy is a private enterprise that builds a facility that is not community oriented. So in conclusion I feel that you should remain with the current plan to build a Swim Center with The Surland Companies and abandon the idea of entering into a partnership with Wild Rivers.

Sincerely,

Austin Lowe

Sharon Davis

From: Tierney Baldwin <
Sent: Tuesday, September 17, 2013 12:34 PM
To: Council
Subject: Competition Pool

My boys swim for Ellis Aquatics and we are in need of a year round competition pool! Swimming is the best exercise for our children and very therapeutic. Asking that you consider my request! :) Thank you The Baldwin Family

Sent from my iPhone

Sharon Davis

From: sangeetha prakash <[redacted]@[redacted].com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 17, 2013 5:05 PM
To: Council
Subject: Swimming pool

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am Sangeetha living in Mountain House. I have two daughters (Ages: 9, 8), both are in Ellis Aquatics club and swimming for last 2.5 years. Currently my daughters are practicing in high school swimming pools, it takes 15 to 20 mins to come back home after swimming and taking a bath. It's good to take bath immediately after swimming to have good skin, but bathrooms are not available in High school pools.

Sometimes school has water polo games and kids are missing practice. So it is very important to have swimming pool for swimming families and I can lot of families are swimming in Tracy now. Please allocate budget for swimming pool and implement as soon as possible.

Regards,
Sangeetha R

Sharon Davis

From: Rick <
Sent: Tuesday, September 17, 2013 4:51 PM
To: Council
Subject: RE: competition pool in the City of Tracy

Hi.

We are a Family of Tracy resident and strongly support to build a Competition Pool in the City of Tracy.

Thank you,

Rick Liu

Sharon Davis

From: Vickie Sichau
Sent: Tuesday, September 17, 2013 3:55 PM
To: Council
Subject: Need for Competition Pool

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of our family to stress the importance of a community pool in our area. Our twin boys, now 15, started competitive swimming at the relatively late age of 11. At that time, one boy was extremely thin with no muscle tone, and the other was fairly heavy. Although both boys were into video games, our heavier son was, in my opinion, addicted to them. Once he started playing, he could not quit, and he loved having sodas and snacks while he played. Suffice it to say that his weight problem came about during this time of heavy "gaming". I knew things had to change so I pursued a year-round swim team. Unfortunately, at that time, the closest such team was Tri Valley Aquatics in Livermore, so we ended up driving over the hill, to and fro, five days a week.

.When my husband and I heard about Ellis Aquatics, we decided that it was worth a try, especially since it was local. To make a long story short, our twins have gone on to become excellent swimmers, and both boys have trimmed up and increased their muscle tone substantially. In fact, if you look at a picture of my heavier son just 4 years ago and see him now, you wouldn't believe the difference! We primarily attribute this change to Ellis Aquatics who, in my opinion, have the best coaches and supporting families that I've ever seen! They are truly committed to helping each and every swimmer attain maximum success as a swimmer. The only drawback is that they do not have a permanent "home" in which to practice. In fact, during certain times of the year, we have to find other pools in which to practice, which is inconvenient and, in some cases, expensive when they are far away.

My husband and I are SO happy that we started our boys swimming. As I've already mentioned, their health has improved beyond our expectations, and they no longer play video games. In fact, they are too busy to sit and play video games all day long, which is what more kids in our community need. If you look around in the stores, restaurants, etc., you will notice a lot of overweight children. I am convinced that video gaming has become an epidemic and will contribute to the dumbing down/fattening up of our youth! Let's help to make our community exceptional by installing a city-owned 50 meter competition pool that is accessible all year round! Not only will our children benefit, but the city itself will benefit in many ways. Families contemplating moving to Tracy use this as a deciding factor as to whether or not to move here. The city itself will take in money from the year-round swim meets. Local businesses will sponsor these meets to gain more customers. We need to get our kids off the streets, couch, and/or gaming chair, and into year-round sports, and what better sport that swimming?

Please consider our request.

Sincerely,

Ron, Vickie Nick, and Nathaniel Sichau

P.S. We would love to attend the Tracy City Council meeting tonight, but our boys will be swimming from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., after which time they eat dinner, do their homework, and go to bed. Thank you for listening.

Sharon Davis

From:
Sent: Tuesday, September 17, 2013 5:51 PM
To: Council
Subject: Aquatic Programs

Hi Council Members,

Just wanna say how much I would love to see a great aquatics program here in Tracy. Tracy is hot as hell during the summer. This is an ideal location for some relief from the heat. We have potential swimming champions in this city. If we had a central Location for our children to train we would see massive support for sport of professional swimming. My daughter was swimming for Ellis but the constant changing of swim locations was a turn off. Please vote to find a permanent home for developing swimmers.

Thanks,

Tony Long