Bill Jones has a family history of heart disease. Even though there were no symptoms, he had a stress test that lead to an angiogram. The alarming result: Bill’s coronary arteries were dangerously occluded and a triple bypass was urgent. Fortunately for Bill, our surgeons used a minimally invasive procedure called “beating heart” bypass surgery. Less traumatic, this advanced procedure meant a faster recovery. Within weeks, Bill was a regular in our cardiac rehabilitation program. Now he’s in better shape, running and feeling grand. What does your hospital mean to you? To Bill Jones it means he’s right where he wants to be.

I’m here because you’re here.

THIS TESTIMONIAL REFLECTS RESULTS ACHIEVED BY THIS PATIENT. AS EACH CASE IS DIFFERENT AND MUST BE INDEPENDENTLY EVALUATED AND MANAGED, ACTUAL RESULTS WILL VARY.
City's recycling program truly a winner

Three small, old television sets that I found stored in the back of closets and on a garage shelf are now back with their makers—or at least new manufacturers—thanks to an electronics recycling program sponsored by the city of Pleasanton. I was among nearly 2,000 motorists who showed up last Saturday at the Pleasanton Operations Service Center to drop off everything from old cell phones to the big screen projection TVs, and everything in between. There were even some 1960s-style television cabinets made out of real walnut and pine that, though dated, were still in good shape. Apart from my small portable-style TVs that were capable of being battery-powered to carry to football games and on camping trips, most of the electronics being discarded were big and old, including computer servers and bulky monitors.

It was really quite an amazing sight as the hundreds of us in line snaked around the Operations Center at the direction of volunteers who worked frantically to unplug the intersection of Valley Avenue and Busch Road. Jacqui Diaz, assistant to the city manager who manages what the city calls “E-Waste Day,” said 90 cars were lined up at the center at 7:30 a.m., a half hour before opening. As soon as workers were in place from E-Recycling of California, the recycling company that handles the discards, Diaz opened the gates. There wasn’t a break in traffic until after 3 p.m., when the center closed.

Looking at all of the old electronics, I had to ask why anyone would hang on to it for so long. My small TV sets simply got covered up with closet clothes, but it’s hard to miss a 60-inch projection TV that stopped working four years ago. Kent Moore of Northway Road had his car filled with old monitors and servers, even a large facsimile machine. We agreed that it was environmental foresight, whether intentional or not, for all of us to hang on to these old computers, VCRs, stereos and printers until the Pleasanton E-Waste program got started. Had we discarded these earlier, they’d be in the Altamont landfill, adding to the toxic waste problems already there. Ron Proto of Oakland-based E-Recycling of California said his company takes everything apart and breaks it into components for recycling, with a 99 percent success rate for making use of all of the materials again. My three small TVs would probably end up as materials in new electronics, he said, with a chance that a wire or part of a circuit board could make it back into my family room once again.

Diaz didn’t have a final count on what was collected last Saturday, but she’s sure it was more than the 92 tons of electronic waste that Pleasanton residents brought to the recycling program last April, the first year of the program. This year, there were more newer TVs and computer monitors being discarded, some that appeared to be good working order. They’re being replaced by flat screens and the large plasma TVs, just as the iPod revolution is probably responsible for the many DVD players and hand-carried recorders we saw being thrown in the recycling bins. With some motorists turned away at the end of the day after the gates were closed, Diaz said the city may schedule a follow up E-Waste Day this fall. In this throw-away society of ours, six months might even be too long to wait.

Had we discarded these earlier, they’d be in the Altamont landfill, adding to the toxic waste problems already there.

About the Cover

Swim instructor Jennifer Green helps Mackenzie Van Valkenburgh, 4, learn how to kick while Sofie Ricker, 4, waits her turn on the wall during a swimming class taught at the Dolores Bengtson Aquatic Center. With summer fast approaching, parents need not worry because there is a multitude of activities available in Pleasanton to keep their children busy. With the help of our Kids World guide, parents are sure to find the perfect summer fun for their child. Cover photo courtesy Pleasanton Parks and Community Services.

Vol. VII, Number 12

A day in the life

of your local computer guy

9am. Receive “dead” notebook. Discover it’s a simple BIOS setting. Call client in the car to go buy a new system to tell him to return home.

10am. Help new client restore data. Bring 80GB portable drive; client was ready with a stack of diskettes and had planned to take the day off from work. He was back at work by noon.

1pm. Computer so full of popups, AdAware not strong enough. Scrub Registry and coach mom of teenagers in house on safe downloading.

3pm. Install router and connect five PCs in one home.

5:30pm. Once home, 13-year-old asks for help with Sims. No clue. “Gee Dad, don’t you know anything??”

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Q:
Do you think California should have a law like the one just approved in Massachusetts that requires all citizens to have some form of health insurance?

As asked at Hart Middle School Gymnasium.

Ben Herzfeldt
Student

Universal health care could be a good thing but in reality I think the drain on our resources would be bigger than the benefits realized. It would take away from the health care we have now. When you stretch a system to the limits you give up quality for quantity. The money would be better spent supporting education or law enforcement.

Rekha Mohata
Fulltime Mom

I think there should be a law supporting health care for all. I am originally from India, of course health care is much cheaper there, but still everyone is able to see the doctor regularly because everyone is covered. If you are unable to pay for insurance the government should help.

Celina Leal
Assistant Director of Preschool

I think health care coverage should be mandatory for everyone. I work with children and if all Californians were covered children could have regular check ups and be vaccinated. This would not only benefit them but all of the children they came in contact with. I’m for it!

Jennifer Wilner
Supply Chain Manager

I’m not in favor of a law that requires all citizens to have health insurance, in my mind it resembles socialized medicine and I’m against that. I like being able to pick my own doctors, that is important, and I think the quality of care would suffer.

David Jordan
Attorney

In California the uninsured can go to a county hospital. Unfortunately the care at these facilities can be substandard. Everyone should have a minimum level of quality health care available to them. Every human being has the right to life, liberty and happiness and one must have health to enjoy these rights. I feel the government has an obligation to provide its citizens with the coverage needed to stay healthy.

Have a Streetwise question? E-mail: editor@PleasantonWeekly.com
Compiled by Cybelle Ryan
Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council is accepting applications for the annual Young Artist Achievement Awards. Artists ages 14-20 who live or go to school in Pleasanton are invited to apply. PCAC will award $300 to the winners in creative writing, visual arts, music and performing arts. Winners will be notified in mid-May and will be honored at the annual PCAC Awards Banquet, Wednesday May 31. Applications are due by April 24. Visit www.pleasantonarts.org for an application form or call Rebecca Bruner at 426-3815 for more information.

Alumni needed

Alumni of Foothill High School are invited to present at Foothill’s annual Alumni Career Day happening Friday May 19. The day will start with a luncheon followed by alumni visits to junior and senior classrooms where they will share information about their current career. Visit www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/foothill and click on “Alumni Information” for more information about the program. E-mail acd_fhs@hotmail.com to sign-up as a presenter.

Brozosky to run against Hosterman for city mayor’s post

Decision means he gives up his council seat

City Councilman Steve Brozosky said Wednesday that he will run against Mayor Jennifer Hosterman in the Nov. 7 election for the city’s top post. Elected four years ago, Brozosky chose not to seek re-election to a second term in order to campaign for mayor. Council members can serve two four-year terms where as the city’s mayor is elected every two years, with an eight-year term limit in that position.

His decision also opens a vacant seat on the City Council. Councilman Jerry Thorne, elected to the council last June in a special election, is expected to announce that he will seek re-election later this month. Planning Commissioner Brian Arkin and businessman Dan Faustina, who also ran for the council seat Thorne won, have indicated that they will try again in November.

Hosterman announced last week that she will seek re-election, saying that there were a number of issues she wanted to continue tackling in a second term. Among those, traffic was a number one concern.

“Solving some of our traffic problems is also a top priority for me, too,” Brozosky said, “but there are many more issues that I want to address.”

“I will also focus on efficiencies in government and how we spend our public money, both internally and in the community,” he added.

“I also want to improve the way that we as a city deal with businesses so that businesses can be productive and profitable in our city.”

Brozosky said he made the decision to seek the mayor’s post after talking to friends and business and civic associates.

“A lot of people have asked me to run,” he said. “These are all different people from different groups, all strongly encouraging me to run for mayor.”

He said some in the business community have been irritated by the time it takes to obtain expansion and construction permits in Pleasanton, and by a process that Brozosky said can result in costly delays. He wants that to change and would work with city staff to streamline the permitting process, even doing away with the need for structured condition use permits for more simple operating permits, such as opening a dance studio.

He cited the number of hours by both applicants and the Planning Commission recently over public hearings that were required for conditional use permits to keep a few chickens in the backyards of homes.

“That was a complete waste of time, and it’s also an example where

(continued on page 7)
Which of these costly mistakes will you make when you sell your home this summer?

A new report has just been released which reveals seven costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a nine-step system that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today’s market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of home sellers don’t get what they want for their home and become disillusioned and – worse – financially disadvantaged when they put their home on the market.

As this report uncovers, most home sellers make seven deadly mistakes that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable.

In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled The 9 Step System To Get Your Home Sold Fast And For Top Dollar.

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your free copy of this report, call 1-888-258-3224 and enter ID # 6511.

You can call anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Or visit www.TriValleySellerMistakes.com to order your report online.

Order your report NOW to find out how you can get the most money for your home.
**Bunnies are cute, but a lot of work**

**Think before choosing a bunny as a pet**

W ith Easter this Sunday, many children are expecting to wake up and find baskets filled with candy and eggs hidden around their home. Some might even find a special little bunny of their own. While these bunnies are adorable and fun at first, many parents don’t realize how much work goes into raising a bunny every day. Bunnies are active—they may dash around the house, hide behind furniture and chew on baseboards. They can make very nice pets for the home and will bond with humans and other household pets if owners take time to play with them.

Bunnies can be litter box trained and can roam around freely inside the house as long as they have enough sun-lit exercise space. Families who keep their bunny in an outdoor cage will miss out on their special personalities.

- If your children are young, you will need to supervise their interaction with the bunny. Bunnies are very delicate, which means they are easily hurt when children pick them up. They also feel frightened when held and children may get hurt by a bunny kicking and struggling to run, or they may get bit.

- Bunnies are healthier if spayed or neutered, lowering their chance for cancer and relieving sexual aggression. Costs for altering a bunny can range from $100-$200.

Bunnies can be great pets if given the time and Bishop Ranch Veterinary Center and Urgent Care suggests families adopt a foster bunny first before deciding they want to buy one.

—Rebecca Gavon

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**Hosterman seeks federal aid for city projects**

**Delegation calls on Washington senators, congressmen**

by Jeb Bing

Pleasanton has found a new source of revenue for major improvement projects: the federal government.

A three-member delegation of Pleasanton officials, led by Mayor Jennifer Hosterman, traveled to Washington, D.C. on a two-day trip to lobby California politicians for $500,000 in federal aid to help pay for local projects. If granted, the funds would be used for the redesign work under way on Vineyard Avenue, the planned renovation of the Veterans Memorial Building on Main Street and the restoration, rebuilding and expansion of the Alviso Adobe Community Park on Foothill Road.

Working with a Washington, D.C.-based lobbying firm, Hosterman, City Manager Nelson Fialho and Andy Jorgensen, Civic Arts Manager, made presentations to senior aides in the offices of California Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer and to U.S. Representatives Richard Pombo (R., 11th) and Pete Stark (D., 13th). The districts for both congressmen include parts of Pleasanton.

“We put on quite a dog and pony show with good visuals and messages,” Hosterman said. “We had beautiful folders about Pleasanton to show these people, and our lobbying firm pinpointed for each senator and congressman what specific federal programs contained funds that could be used for these three projects.”

“We actually met with Mr. Stark and then with key staff reps. of our other elected officials,” she added. “They all said that no other city has come to them with such a well-designed, clear presentation. Every one of them was blown away by our effort.”

Hosterman said the Vineyard Corridor improvements are costing the city about $7 million, with specific transportation funds available to help cities like projects like that where cross-town and inter-city traffic is involved.

The historical Veterans building could receive federal funds because of its multiple uses by veterans and community organizations, she said. The Alviso Adobe is eligible for federal aid because it provides software programs and monitors local government efficiency and service response. The cities of San Ramon and Tracy and the Livermore Airport are among the firm’s clients.

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**Mayor race**

(continued from page 5)

we made changes to simplify those kinds of requests,” Brozosky said. As vice mayor last year, Brozosky said he had a chance to “learn the ropes” and now believes he is the best qualified to be mayor of Pleasanton.

Another priority as mayor, Brozosky said, would be to continue work on the General Plan update, which is now in its third year of review and drafts.

“This work seems to be much like the commercials for the Eveready Battery,” Brozosky said. “It just keeps going and going! And it’s tiring for all of us and confusing for the public.”

He wants to hold day-long workshop sessions and public hearings on Saturdays to better exercise the process and to allow for ongoing reports and reviews. Currently, the council holds workshop sessions with the Planning Commission and other commissions once or twice a month for two to three hours at a time.

“At each of these meetings, we often go over part of what was said and done at the last one,” he said. “We sort of regurgitate all the same stuff each time.”

Brozosky, who is 44, lives on Brozosky Way in the Vineyard Corridor with his wife Anne, who is the manager of the Pleasanton Spa. They have two daughters: Robin, 19, a sophomore at UC Santa Barbara, and Richelle, 15, who is in the eighth grade at Pleasanton Middle School.

Brozosky has lived in Pleasanton since 1982 and owns and operates Government Outreach, a firm that provides software programs and monitors local government efficiency and service response. The cities of San Ramon and Tracy and the Livermore Airport are among the firm’s clients.

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**Pleasanton Weekly** • April 14, 2006 • Page 7
support of federal funding measures to add more carpool lanes to I-680 and build new ones on I-580. He also would seek to accelerate the feasibility study he sponsored for a new freeway between Patterson in I-5 and east San Jose. Dubbed the “Pombo Freeway” because of his initiative to gain appropriations from the House Transportation Committee to get the project started, the new roadway would provide an alternative for commuters who now travel on the 580 and 680 freeways between jobs in the Silicon Valley and their homes in San Joaquin and Stanislaus counties.

The 580 has got to the point where it is much like the 405 in Southern California—congested all the time,” Pombo said. “Traffic studies show that between 6-7 and 25 percent of the traffic on 580 and 680 is pass-through traffic coming from the Central Valley, so there would be enough that much of a reduction with an alternative route like we are proposing.”

As chairman of the House Resources Committee, Pombo views rising oil prices and increased foreign dependence as major challenges for the federal government to spur faster development of renewable energy sources. Already, he said, federal aid and incentives have helped develop more efficient turbines to produce more electricity from the wind, solar panels that are twice as efficient as the ones in use today, and a greater focus on national conservation.

Still, he said, continued development of new domestic oil and natural gas production is essential until renewables can assume a major portion of the country’s energy demand.

“When you talk about Alaska, the estimate of additional supply is about 10.5 billion barrels of oil, or about 1 1/2 million barrels a day, which is equal to what we import from Saudi Arabia today,” he said. “That won’t solve our energy problem, but it is that development amongst other steps that we need to take in order to meet our short- and medium-term demands for energy.”

Pombo also said that he favors establishing a guest worker law for undocumented immigrants so that they have an opportunity to become part of the country’s legal workforce.

“We just can’t go out and evict the 15-20 million people who are already here and working,” Pombo said. “But just can’t let this problem go on as part of an underground economy.”

Undocumented immigrants, primarily from Mexico, have been a problem for Pombo’s 11th District for decades, and were a concern of the Tracy City Council when he was a councilman there.

“We recognize the problem in the Central Valley, there are others in Congress from states that don’t see this as a concern and just don’t want to give illegal immigrants a chance to legally work and live in the U.S.,” Pombo said.

“Since this goes on, though, this will become more of an issue.”

Pombo said he recognizes that some of his political positions on natural resources, greater domestic oil development and national parks don’t please his Democratic opponents, but he believes he is making the right decisions for the country as a whole.

The Sierra Club is one organization that is taking out full-page newspaper ads and writing its members to oppose Pombo’s plan to sell off or redesignate unused federal lands. Last year, the organization opposed his plan to make it easier for developers to build windmills on Bureau of Land Management acreage, even though Pombo said the Sierra Club once supported wind-energy projects.

“To a large degree, it was the environmental community that moved the windmill projects forward,” he added. “It’s gotten to a point where no matter what I propose, they’re opposed to it.”

He also blamed Democrats for a widely circulated document that names Pombo has one of the “13 most corrupt members of Congress.” Prepared by Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW), the group charged that Pombo paid his wife and brother $375,329 in campaign funds in the last four years. It also claims that he supported the wind-power industry before the Department of Interior without disclosing that his parents received hundreds of thousands of dollars in royalties from wind-power turbines on their ranch.

Pombo said his Republican opponent in the June primary, Pete McCloskey, is listed as a source of the CREW project along with other leading Democrats.

He discounted the report, saying that every complaint the CREW project stated in its report was either unsubstantiated or were trips, expenditures and actions the House Administration Committee had approved.

“Up until a year ago, nobody ever questioned me on my ethics or on breaking any laws or rules of the House,” Pombo said. “Now all of a sudden, the Democrats are target- ing me as one of the 13 most corrupt members of Congress. They are trying to lie to me to whatever the scandal of the day is.”

Moreover, the Republican primary in June will face the winner of the Democratic primary for the 11th District Congressional seat.

The candidates are environmental consultant Jerry McNerney of Pleasanton, and pilot Steve Filson and electrical Engineer Steve Thomas, both of Danville.

Pleasanton Weekly

Celebrating an Indian ‘Holi’-day

Students got covered with colored powder and water on the Hearst Elementary School field earlier this month as part of the “Holi Blast” sponsored by the Amador Valley High School PTA. Holi, also called the Festival of Color, is an annual Hindu spring festival celebrated in India and Nepal for two days around late March or early April. On the first day, a bonfire is lit at night and on the second day, people go around until afternoon throwing colored powder and water at each other. During Holi Blast, attendees not only doused each other with paint, but also enjoyed authentic Indian snacks and Indian music played by Foothill High School students. The event raised money for the Amador Library.

Pombo (continued from page 5)

Tax

adding more counselors to all school levels, add more technology support, class size reduction, add visual and performing art teachers, provide wireless access throughout all middle and high schools and expand vocational programs.

Pulido, Haugen and Kernan were supportive of hiring the group.

“Preliminary work is crucial,” Haugen said. “We need to have a survey of the community to see what they think because there is no reason to go out for a parcel tax if we don’t have the community support.”

While Kernan said he was comfortable with trying for either the November or March election, Pulido and Haugen were convinced that March was the best option saying November is too soon and will already be an intense election with two open board seats.

“November is overly optimistic. I just don’t see us being ready, even if we had a full board,” Pulido said.

Recruit

DARE officer left me with a positive outlook on law enforcement, she said. “Throughout middle and high school, I kept having these positive interactions and it made we want to make a positive difference in my community like the Pleasanton police had made in mine.”

Knowing she was interested in police work, one of Pickett’s friends told her that she should go on a “ride along,” a program that let’s members of the community join a police officer on patrol. She did and was assigned to ride with Sergeant Brian Laurence who leads the Youth and Community Services division. Pickett was 15 at the time and the department was just starting its current Explorer Program. Laurence suggested she sign up, and the rest is history.

The Explorer Program is sponsored by the police department and the Boy Scouts of America to give teens the opportunity to learn about law enforcement through a hands-on approach. Explorers receive training in various aspects of law enforcement, ranging from arrest procedures to crime scene investigation, during meetings held once every two weeks. Community members may be familiar with the program as the students work in many community events, such as the First Wednesday street parties and car shows. For Pickett, who is now also an advisor to the program, being part of the Explorer Program solidified her desire to become a police officer.

“Through the different trainings, you get a better grasp of what law enforcement is like,” she said.

Now, Pickett is living her dream and hopes to make a difference in the Pleasanton community.

“Pleasanton police made a difference in my life—not police in general, but specifically Pleasanton police—and I figured if I can do both (work in Pleasanton and be a police officer), then why not?”

Take Us Along

Kauai vacation

Apparantly Peter Meuleners found a story in the Weekly so riveting story that he forgot he was surrounded by the beautiful natural life in Kauai, Hawaii.

(continued from page 5)

Page 8 • April 14, 2006 • Pleasanton Weekly
Parks Department offers variety of summer classes for students

Summer can be hard on parents who need to find ways to keep their children entertained and active while they are out of school. If your child loves sports or is eager to leave the house for summer camp, this might not be a problem. But even if your child is not interested in those activities, there are still plenty of things to keep them busy right here in Pleasanton. The city of Pleasanton’s Parks and Community Services Department provides a variety of classes every summer and there’s sure to be something for everyone.

Art

Is your child a budding Picasso? Then you can nurture that passion for art by signing them up for a variety of art classes, ranging from drawing to sculpture, and all right in town. For preschool and elementary school-age children, there are many clay classes available where students can learn the basics of sculpture and have fun getting messy—but not so messy that you won’t want to take them home. There are two “Critters ‘n Clay” classes this summer, one for children 3-5 and another for children 4-9. Both classes will focus on a different “critter” each day and students will not only learn how to make the critter, but also get a dose of science and literature as they learn about the critter’s anatomy and history. By the end of the class, each student will leave with four creations that they can take home and show off to the rest of the family.

There are two new art classes this year for students 6-9 and both are perfect for students who are not only interested in art, but who also love science. In “Coral Reef Art” students will learn how to draw different coral reef animals and create an underwater scene. Students will learn how to work in watercolor, mixed media and printmaking to create three different works of art. In “Rainforest Art” students will learn how to draw bright ani-
mals and plants from the rainforest. Because the rainforest is filled with many vibrant colors, the class will focus on using oil pastels, watercolor and paint. Students who love drawing and nature can also sign up for “Still life painting—Nature Appreciation.” This class for students 3-5 will teach children how to paint pictures of flowers and plants that they collect at the beginning of class and through their drawing they’ll learn about the different parts of flowers.

If your child loves cartoons—and let’s be honest, that’s most children—then “Cartoon Workshop” is perfect for them. Students ages 7 and older can sign up for this class where they will learn to draw their favorite cartoon characters from Sponge Bob Squarepants to Buzz Lightyear from “Toy Story.” This one-day workshop is led by Matthew Lhun, a PIXAR animator and cartoonist who has worked on movies you’ve probably seen with you kids a million times—“Toy Story,” “Toy Story 2,” “Monsters Inc.,” and “Finding Nemo.”

Children 9 and older can take advantage of a new class titled “Simple Jewelry Making” where they can learn a wide range of jewelry making techniques. Students will learn how to wirework and bead, and use stretchy cord and memory wire. By the end of class, students will have several beaded pieces to take home.

For students who want to experience many different kinds of art, the “Summer Art Camp” is a perfect fit. The camp’s a week-long chance for students 8-10 years old to learn how to make tie-dye, origami, papier-mâché and more. There is also an opportunity for older students to learn how to make ceramics with summer sessions of “Youth Ceramics” for ages 7-15, 7-11 and 12-15. The class is for all skill levels and will focus on hand building ceramics. Wheel throwing will not be covered.

Getting close to nature

If an art class doesn’t appeal to your child, but being outside does, then the “Nature World” series of classes is what you need. “Ridge Runners Day Camp” for students 6-11 is a week-long camp held in Augustin Bernal Park and Sunol Regional Wilderness where students will explore nature through arts, crafts, environmental games, storytelling, hikes and scientific exploration. Younger children can also explore nature with the “Preschool Nature Exploration” class for students 3-5. Because the grand parks on the ridge might be too much for little kids, this class instead will spend its time exploring a garden and students will learn appreciation through crafts, stories and games. For more adventurous students in the 6-8 age group, there is the class “What’s Bugging You? Exploring the World of Bugs!” Each week, students will learn about a different bug, such as worms, ladybugs, bees and butterflies, through stories, exploration and art.

Perhaps your child has an interest in gardening. If that’s the case, there are many gardening class available and each takes a different approach on the topic. “Fairies in My Garden” for children 6-8 gets students using their imagination as they learn about the world of fairies through stories, play and crafts and make their own small fairy garden in a pot. “How Does Your Garden Grow?” for students 3-5 focuses more on the science of gardening as students learn about six main plant parts and how a plant starts to grow through stories, crafts and observations.

Teens 16 years and older who are interested in gardening have three classes available to them: “Wildlife Gardener,” “Organic Gardening 101” and “All About Lavender.” Wildlife Gardener teaches students how to turn their backyard into an oasis for wildlife by learning what plants, water features and habitat enhancements they can install.
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LearningRx
Walnut Creek, Pleasanton and Fremont locations
925.416.1400 www.learningrx.com

Enroll for our Summer Session 2006 now!
Wednesday, July 5 - Tuesday, August 1, 2006
Just 15 Minutes Away off Mission Blvd. in Fremont.
Call us at 510.353.0400 for more information or email: directorsabraw@millcreekacademy.com
Check out our results at www.millcreekacademy.com

Mill Creek Academy, LLC
1544 Washington Blvd. Fremont, CA 94539

Proven Results
After school and summer enrichment—made simple.

attract local animals. Organic Gardener gives students the skills they need to make their garden a healthier place for people and animals by teaching about pest control, healthy soil, composting and weed control. All About Lavender is just what it says, a class that teaches students not only how to grow lavender, but also teaches about the history and folklore surrounding the herb.

Cultural Experiences
As Pleasanton becomes more diverse, students may want to learn a little bit more about cultures different from their own.
Many people are familiar with Origami, the Japanese art of paper folding. Students 9 and older can learn about unit origami, a form of origami that uses many small, identical units to create large figures, such as keepsake boxes, polyhedrons and more. For students 7 and older, there is a regular origami class where they will learn to make an origami garden, zoo and sea.
Less familiar to students may be the art of “Maedup,” a traditional Korean decorating art that they can learn in the class “Korean Knotting.” For students 11 and older, this class will teach

Hannah McClintoch and Yasmine Fathi read to a group of children at the Library.

MILL CREEK ACADEMY, LLC
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Proven Results
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Unlock your child’s true potential.
Free Dyslexia Testing through April 30th

Your child can be a winner
If your child has difficulty learning, we can help.
Unlike tutoring services, our programs strengthen cognitive performance, which makes successful learning possible.
• Increases ability to read, think, study and learn
• Improves cognitive skills
• Average gains of two to three years
• Customized, one-on-one training program
• 12 to 24-week programs

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Hannah McClintoch and Yasmine Fathi read to a group of children at the Library.

Gymnastics IN Pleasanton
12,000 sq foot Facility • State-of-the-Art Equipment
Recreational
Kindergym
Boy’s and Girl’s
Foam Pits
Competitive
Trampoline
Ages 18 months to 18 years
NOW ENROLLING
West Coast Olympic Gymnastics Academy
1056 Serpentine lane, Pleasanton • (925) 846-1010 • www.wcoga.com

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★ SAT II
★ Writing and Vocabulary, Math, and Public Speaking Classes Available
★ Literary Analysis Gr 6-8 and 9-12
★ Small Classes

Mill Creek Academy is coming to Pleasanton in 2007.

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If your child has difficulty learning, we can help.
Unlike tutoring services, our programs strengthen cognitive performance, which makes successful learning possible.
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students how to use a single cord to make lots of decorative ornaments such as bracelets, necklaces, key chains and dragonflies.

Students who like to stay active may enjoy learning Salsa, a dance popular in Latin America. There are two sections—Salsa 1 for beginners and Salsa 2 for the more advanced—where students 16 and older can learn how to keep in time with the music and gain basic dance moves. Students in this age group may also enjoy learning about yoga, the Eastern art of stretching and meditation. There is a “Gentle Yoga” class for students who want to relax and enjoy the meditative aspects of the exercise and an Intermediate class for students interested in pushing their flexibility skills. New this year for students 14 and older is the Tai Chi class. Tai Chi is an Asian activity that focuses on slow body movements and rhythmic motion to improve physical and mental health. It’s also a martial art where each movement has application, teaching participants to be present and bringing them closer to their inner nature.

Swimming

Of course, summer just isn’t summer without at least a few days at the pool. And because knowing how to swim is almost a necessity in California, there are many swimming classes offered at the Dolores Bengtson Aquatic Center for children of every age and skill level. Students 15 and older can also sign up for Red Cross Certification classes such as “Lifeguard Training,” “Basic Water Rescue” and train to be a Junior Lifeguard.

For those who want to just have fun at the pool, there are several scheduled “Pool Play Time” sessions for adults with children 6 months to 4 years old. This is an opportunity for parents and children to explore and experience the fun of swimming. Also for families is “Friday Family Fun Night” from 6-9 p.m. where the pool holds games and activities for the entire family.

Children should be plenty busy this summer as they take advantage of all Pleasanton has to offer. All classes and activities have a fee associated with them. For more information about classes, schedules and fees, pick up the Pleasanton Parks and Community Services Department’s Summer 2006 Activities Guide available at 200 Old Bernal in the City Hall complex or call 931-5350. Information is also available at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/recreation.

—Rebecca Guyon
Monday is Tax Day 2006, a two-day extension offered by the Internal Revenue Service since the usual April 15 deadline falls on a Saturday. An increasing number of Pleasanton taxpayers have found that their 2005 taxes are significantly higher as more middle wage earners reach the threshold of a tax code called the alternative minimum tax (AMT). For others who aren’t there yet, wait another year or two. The bracket creep that subjects more and more incomes to the AMT is likely to continue unless Congress takes action to repeal this 1969 law aimed at the super rich. It may be a bit disconcerting, therefore, to hear that both the Pleasanton school board and the Pleasanton City Council are considering news taxes that will add even more to the local tax burden. The school board may seek voter approval in November or next March at the latest for a parcel tax to fund some 22 priorities identified by the district’s Excellence Committee to make Pleasanton’s highly-regarded school system even better. These proposals could include more schools, a third high school, more classrooms to accommodate class-size reduction proposals, more school counselors and a long list of new or expanded academic programs. For starters, the board also plans to hire consulting groups to test public attitudes toward a parcel tax and to recommend programs for winning voter approval.

Across First Street at City Hall, staff and elected officials are putting the finishing touches on a broad-based conceptual plan to take to voters in November for developing the 518-acre Bernal public lands, which were given to the city free of charge by a developer consortium in return for permits to build houses and an office complex on the rest of the 510 acres they purchased from San Francisco. The homes are either built and occupied or still under construction; the office park is on hold for now. Early planning for the public acreage includes lighted sports fields, a cultural arts center, youth center, 4-H demonstration farm and gardens and pathways. Estimates for developing the land range up to $100 million, with several on the council suggesting that the city seek voter approval of a bond measure to pay for the Bernal improvements quickly, rather than over two or three decades as General Fund appropriations became available. As with the first priority, if the school district’s projects, the city would need to obtain voter approval for a bond issue and parcel tax to build out Bernal. As the onerous AMT drags deeper each year into the pockets of more Pleasanton taxpayers, the new parcel tax proposals could be a tough sell. According to Wallace Mayer Sr. of WH Mayer Accountancy Corp. in Pleasanton, among those hit by the AMT increases in 2005 are 54 percent of families with adjusted gross income of $100,000 to $250,000 and 27 percent of those earning $75,000 to $100,000, based on type of income and deductions. Along with higher rates being proposed for everything from vehicle licenses to bridge tolls, taxpayers may say enough is enough. With school board and City Council election campaigns getting under way for the November ballot, higher taxes are likely to be a top issue for the candidates. How do you feel about higher taxes in Pleasanton? Make sure before you vote this fall that you know where your City Council and school board candidates stand on additional taxes.

If the homeowner does want to pursue a test, that is fine too, but some type of remediation should eventually take place. If the mold is caused by condensation, I recommend correcting the problem causing the condensation and offer simple instructions on home remediation. If mold is caused by water intrusion, then it has to be handled more aggressively.

Ken Benson, Advance Look Building Inspections & Environmental Testing, Pleasanton

**Letters**

**Use certified mold inspectors**

Dear Editor,

In a recent home inspection article (Real Estate, “Know what you’re buying,” March 3, 2006), the appropriate quote should have read: “Most home inspectors perform a visual mold screen during the home inspection, yet home inspectors are typically not certified to address mold.”

Mold has been a growing concern. With over 10,000 articles having been written about mold, there is more misinformation than facts available to the general public. But it’s time we calm the hysteria about mold. Most nationally certified home inspectors are required to disclose if they see mold, but the difference between a Certified Residential Mold Inspector (CRMI) and other inspectors is that they can’t say the word “mold.” They can only say, “a mold-like substance” because they are not certified or certified to say anything different. Then they refer the observation to a qualified specialty service person who can say if it is mold or not and offer a test on the spot and have the results back from the lab in the same day or even the next. The last thing you want is to have mold and not know what it is. This is where the mold inspectors can help.

**Stop the stop lights**

Regarding the article “Easing Gridlock” (Editorial) in the March 24 issue. I was dismayed to hear the city plans to add an additional 26 stop lights. Currently there are about 100 stop lights in Pleasanton, many university students would love to have a carpool lane on I-580. With more cars per mile, the city will have to add more stop lights. This will cause a huge traffic problem, as more and more people will be using the carpool lane. The city should think about the environment and the future of Pleasanton. If the city continues to add more stop lights, it will only make the traffic worse.

Ken Ryan, Pleasanton

**Code of ethics**

The Pleasanton Weekly seeks to adhere to the highest level of ethical standards in journalism, including the Code of Ethics adopted Sept. 21, 1996, by the Society of Professional Journalists. To review the text of the Code, please visit our web site at www.PleasantonWeekly.com

**Opinion**

**Taxes, taxes and more taxes**

Come to our Easter Egg Hunt
All day Saturday, April 15
Special Treats and Surprises For Kids and Adults

**Letters**

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Police Report

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available. Under the law, those charged with offenses are considered innocent until convicted.

April 3
- Theft: 7
- Burglary: 3
- Found property: 1
- Annoying phone calls: 1
- Possession of marijuana: 1
- 3:30 a.m. at the intersection of Hopyard and El Cerrito drives

April 4
- Theft: 4
- Vandalism: 1
- Burglary: 1
- Assault: 1-12:13 a.m. in the 5500 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard
- Battery: 1-2:21 a.m. in the 4600 block of Bernal Avenue
- Animal Bite: Noon in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue

April 5
- Theft: 5
- Vandalism: 2
- Burglary: 2
- DUI: 1
- Assault: 1-9:37 a.m. in the 400 block of San Gabriel Court

April 6
- Theft: 6
- Disorderly conduct: 1-10 a.m. in the 5300 block of Hopyard Road
- 4:43 a.m. in the 4000 block of Stanley Boulevard
- Possession of synthetic drugs: 1-1:51 p.m. at the intersection of Gale Avenue and E. Angeline Street

April 7
- Theft: 5
- Vandalism: 2
- Burglary: 2
- DUI: 1
- Assault: 1-9:37 p.m. in the 400 block of San Gabriel Court

April 8
- Theft: 1
- Vandalism: 3
- Burglary: 1
- DUI: 2
- Found property: 1
- Assault: 1-4:24 a.m. in the 4200 block of Valley Avenue
- Disorderly conduct: 1-9:50 a.m. in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

April 9
- Theft: 6
- Vandalism: 1
- Found property: 2
- Threatening phone calls: 1
- Seized contraband: 1-7:51 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

ACCIDENTS

April 4
- 3:15 p.m. - Non-injury accident at the intersection of County of Alameda and Rosewood Drive

April 5
- 9:08 a.m. - Injury accident at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Honor Drive

April 6
- 8 a.m. - Injury accident at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Storied Drive
- 4:03 p.m. - Non-injury accident at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Dublin Canyon roads

April 8
- 8 a.m. - Injury accident at the intersection of Stoneridge and Denker drives
- 9:13 a.m. - Non-injury accident at the intersection of I-580 and Foothill Road

April 9
- 12:33 a.m. - Non-injury accident at the intersection of Main Street and Rose Avenue
- 9:01 p.m. - Non-injury accident at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Quarry Lane

City Council Bulletin

Pleasanton teen indicted for online piracy

A federal grand jury in San Jose indicted Allen Soares, 19, of Pleasanton and four other people for allegedly participating in an online community where users illegally swapped copyrighted music, movie and software files.

Soares is accused of violating federal copyright laws by helping install a server to upload or download more than $2,500 worth of protected material from a network of Web sites, the U.S. attorney’s office said. Four other people from around the country, including Tom Leung, 53, of Cupertino, were charged in the indictment.

Tom Leung, 53, of Cupertino, around the country, including Soares, is accused of violating several copyright laws by helping install a server to upload or download more than $2,500 worth of protected material from a network of Web sites.

The U.S. attorney’s office said four other people from around the country, including Tom Leung, 53, of Cupertino, were charged in the indictment.

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Community Pulse

Weekly Meeting Notices

City Council

Tuesday, April 18, 2006 @ 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal

- Memorandum of Understanding between the Alameda County Surplus Property Authority and the City of Pleasanton concerning the development of the Staples Ranch area to include an auto mall, senior continuing care community, city park, emergency vehicle access, road right of way, utility improvements, and a yet to be determined future commercial/retail site.
- Review of Potential Future Uses for the City’s Lower Income Housing Fund.

Planning Commission

Wednesday, April 19, 2006 @ 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal

- PCUP-154, Rimma Radayeva, Radayeva Music Studio
- Application for a conditional use permit to operate a trade school at 1228 Quarry Lane, Suite A, within the Valley Business Park.
- PCUP-156, Peter Chan, Aloha Cabinetry
- Application for a conditional use permit to allow administrative offices for a general contractor to be located at 3942 Valley Avenue, Suite P.
- PDR-530, Valley Humane Society
- Application for design review approval to allow the temporary installation of a modular building and parking area for office, storage and work space for Valley Humane Society and for caring facilities for cats during the construction of its new facility at 3670 Nevada Street.
- PUD-99-14, Kazuo Hatushi
- Application for PUD development plan approval of a new development consisting of 13 new and one existing single-family homes on an approximately 15-acre site located at 2756, 2770, and 2798 Vineyard Avenue in the Vineyard Avenue Corridor Specific Plan Area.
- This item is continued to April 26, 2006.
- PDR-520/PCUP-162, City of Pleasanton
- Application for: (1) design review approval for a City water tank to be constructed on a portion of a 20-acre site located at 5 Windy Oaks Drive (formerly 1860 Vineyard Avenue) in the Vineyard Avenue Corridor Specific Plan Area; and (2) conditional use permit approval to allow the temporary stockpiling of approximately 14,000 cubic yards of excess soil from the City water tank project on the upper portions of 5 Windy Oaks Drive.
- This item is continued to May 10, 2006.

Housing Commission

Thursday, April 20, 2006 @ 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers, 200 Old Bernal

- Approval of Tenant Representatives for Ridge View Commons and Kottinger Place.
- Discussion Regarding Process for Reviewing the Working Draft of an Amended Condominium Conversion Ordinance.

All meetings are open to the public and public comment is welcome.

The above represents a sampling of upcoming meeting items. For complete information, including any agenda amendments, please visit www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/community/calendar.
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Free bed frame with Sealy mattress purchase

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"Rococo" pillowtop queen set rated best value $699
"Galliani" Ultra Luxury king set with latex and memory foam $1,999

Book Clubs
Livermore Book Club
The Livermore Book Club meets 7-9 p.m. every fourth Tuesday monthly at the Livermore Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave.
Mother Daughter Book Club
Mother Daughter Book Club for teens will be discussing Dana Reinhardt's "Brief Chapter in My Impossible Life" 7:30 p.m., Wed., April 19. Mother Daughter Book Club for grades 4-6 will be discussing Shannon Hale's "Princess Academy" 5 p.m., Fri., April 21 at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Call 846-8826.

Last chance to catch Wharton One Acts
Nikolai Lokteff (right) and Marsha Howard (center) play a married couple who adopts an abandoned baby and Donna Blevins (background) is their maid in "The Mission of Jane," part of the Wharton One Acts presented by the Valley Shakespeare Festival this weekend. The two one-act plays are adapted by Dennis Krasnich from the short stories of Edith Wharton. The other play, titled "The Promise," follows two colleagues in the marriage business who understand and appreciate each other, with other intentions hiding below the surface. This is the last weekend to catch the show with performances at 8 p.m., Fri.-Sat., April 14-15 and 4 p.m., Sun., April 16. All performances are at Downtown Yoga, 2208 Division St. Tickets are $25 general admission and $20 for seniors, students and military. Visit www.valleyshakes.org for more information and to purchase tickets or call the ticket hotline at 1-800-838-3006.

Commission General Plan Land Use Joint Workshop #7 will be at 6:30 p.m., Tues., April 25 in the City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave. The next meeting is April 26.
Human Services Commission Planning Commission
The commission meets 7 p.m., the second and fourth Wednesday monthly at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave. The next meeting is April 26.

American Legion Post 237
American Legion Post 237 meets 7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday monthly at Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main St. Call Rene, 846-7532 or Dan, 846-7320.

B2B Power Exchange
B2B Power Exchange meets 7:45-10 a.m., Thurs., April 20 for breakfast at Mimi's Cafe, 4775 Hacienda Dr., Dublin. Cost is $50 non-members, $30 if pre-pay before Tues., April 18. Members attend for free. Call 201-3410 or visit www.b2b-powerexchange.com/dublin.htm.

Crossroads Business Network
Crossroads Business Network meets 7:30 a.m. every Friday at Vic's All Star Kitchen, 201 A Main St. Call Bill, 249-1400.

American Legion Post 237
The John McLaren Chapter meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday monthly. Members and long-time residents are welcome for tea and a chat. Call Jenny, 494-1273 or Veronica, 846-4579.

Weekend Preview
Last chance to catch Wharton One Acts
Nikolai Lokteff (right) and Marsha Howard (center) play a married couple who adopts an abandoned baby and Donna Blevins (background) is their maid in "The Mission of Jane," part of the Wharton One Acts presented by the Valley Shakespeare Festival this weekend. The two one-act plays are adapted by Dennis Krasnich from the short stories of Edith Wharton. The other play, titled "The Promise," follows two colleagues in the marriage business who understand and appreciate each other, with other intentions hiding below the surface. This is the last weekend to catch the show with performances at 8 p.m., Fri.-Sat., April 14-15 and 4 p.m., Sun., April 16. All performances are at Downtown Yoga, 2208 Division St. Tickets are $25 general admission and $20 for seniors, students and military. Visit www.valleyshakes.org for more information and to purchase tickets or call the ticket hotline at 1-800-838-3006.

Concerts
100th Anniversary of the SF Earthquake
Conductor Duane Carroll will lead a concert commemorating the 100th anniversary of the San Francisco earthquake and fire with the pre-miere of "Symphony No. 1: New Day Rising," 8 p.m., Tues., April 18 at Dean Lesher Regional Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. General admission is $18, $15 for seniors and students. Call 943-7469 or visit www.CCVWindsphony.org.

Events
16th Annual Bike Tour for Cyclists
The Northern California Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society hosts the 16th Annual Bike Tour, rain or shine, on Sat., April 22 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave. Check in time for the 75-mile route is 6:30 a.m., 50-mile route is 7 a.m., and 25-mile route is 8 a.m. Call Alina, (510) 268-0572, ext. 2149.
California Department of Real Estate License #01198426. APR is based on $250K loan amount. Certain restrictions apply. LIMITED TIME OFFER!

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Lower Than The Prime Rate of 7.75%.

7.19% (APR 7.21%)

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- **$100K.** .................. $678/month
- **$250K.** .................. $1,695/month
- **$500K.** .................. $3,390/month

• Convert your adjustable rate lines of credit to a fixed rate.

• Cash-out for any reason and keep your low rate 1st mortgage.

Boutique Textile Art
Create home accessories, wearable art or soft sculpture. Learn how to piece, applique and embroider ideas into art from 10 a.m.-noon every Tuesday at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Class is free. Bring fabric scraps, a yard of uncut muslin, sharp scissors and dressmaker pins. Call 935-8972.

C.S.I. Pleasanton
Andrew Galvan will be lecturing 7 p.m., Thurs., April 20 at Museum on Main, 603 Main St. Admission is free for members, $10 non-members. Call 462-7266.

Preparing and Presenting the Business Plan
Technology Ventures Corporation presents “Preparing and Presenting the Business Plan” 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wed., April 19 at the CamAmerica Conference Center, 4400 Rosewood Dr. Admission is free. Call 960-1920 or visit www.caconference.com. To register, visit www.123signup.com.

Spring Bereavement Workshop
If you are dealing with the death of a loved one, join the 7-week workshop and begin to heal 7:30 p.m., every Thursday, April 27 through June 8, at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Storer Dr. Stated $160 donation is required. Registration is free. Call Mary, 846-3377.

Women’s Connection presents “Don’t be a Desperate Housewife!” from 9-11 a.m., Wed., April 26 at Radisson Hotel, 6680 Regional Dr. Contact Debra Alexander, 6680 Regional Dr. Contact Debra Alexander, or Jil, (510) 582-2351. For more information, contact Hiram at 381-4060 ext. 8.

Mystery Dinner
The Pleasanton Hotel presents “Murder at the Pleasanton Hotel” 7 p.m., Fri., April 14 at 855 Main St. Call 962-7266 or visit www.caconference.org. Admission is free. Call 462-7266 to RSVP.

Exhibits
Art in the Family
Different styles of art from six painters will be on display. A coffee and ad

Spring Strokes
American Heart Association is hosting the 2nd Annual Spring Strokes event Sun., April 23 at Pleasanton Library Center. Physical therapists and trained PGA golf professionals will be there to introduce stroke survivors to the game of golf. Contact Mark, 462-7266.

July 5-11 a.m., Thurs., April 20 at Museum on Main.

**Kids & Teens**

AAU Track & Field Sign Ups
Youth sports season is heating up! Students grades K-8 are welcome to join the Tri-Valley Track Club. Practices are held 4 p.m. every Wednesdays in April and 3 p.m. every Sunday at the City Gymnasium, 4400 Rosewood Dr. Call Lori, 426-6796 or visit www.amadorsports.com.

Bingo
Choice for Children Education Foundation hosts bingo at 4 p.m. every Sunday at Bingo Ranch, 3070 Pacific Ave., Livermore. All proceeds benefit Livermore Charter School. Call Marla, 201-3452 or e-mail cecww@cs.com.

Military Appreciation Day Donation Drive
Donate goodies, hygiene and other products and we will ship it to our troops deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Sat., April 15 at Main-Marin Regional Library. All donations are tax deductible. Call Eric, 640-2908.

Health
Free Dyslexia Screening
LearningRx is offering a free dyslexia screening until Sun., April 30. Call 416-1400 or visit www.learningrx.com.

Hearing Loss Association of America
The Tri-Valley Chapter of HLAA will demonstrate the LACE program and a training to your brain to see and hear better. In addition to this, our Annual Shop Fest will also take place from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Thurs., April 20 at the Valley Community Center, 4455 Chabot Parkway, Pleasanton. Open to the public and attendance is free. For more information, contact Hiram at 455-6591 or hvanblarigan@hotmail.com.

Holiday
Champagne Buffet Brunch
Dine on a delectable lunch featuring a Champagne Buffet Brunch 10:30-1:30 p.m., Sun., April 16 at 4500 Tassajara Rd., Dublin. Cost is $32.95 for adults, $14.95 for children age 6-11. Call 551-8325 or RSVP or visit www.opentable.com.

Saturday, April 15 at 846-8106 or e-mail VernieLaube@ yahoo.com.

— By Debbie Leyvas

— By Marylou Edwards

Debbie Leyvas
(925) 485-5129

cdlev@fslc.com

Marylou Edwards
(925) 485-5132

cdu@fslc.com

Lectures/Workshops
Administering Health Care Costs
Marcy Fred, president and CEO of ValleyCare, will speak about “Administering Health Care Costs and Current Challenges.” Call 862-085 or 518-9356. 

Spring Wine & History Tour
Museum On Main is sponsoring the “Spring Wine & History Tour” 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Sun., April 16 at 1560 Old Bernal Ave. Admission is free. Call Katherine, 485-5272.

Community Sear
Tri-Valley Cultural Jews will hold a Secular Community Passover Seder 5 p.m., Sun., April 16 at a non-kosher-for-Passover potluck featuring a Secular Passover Haggadah. Cost is $15 for non-mem-

— By Martha Meltzer, Alice Knight and Liz Tamara Grippi, Peggy Messerschmidt, JoAnn Eagan.

— By Debbie Leyvas

— By Marylou Edwards

Bouquets to Art,” a floral exhibit, will be held from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun., April 16 at 5143 Tesla Dr., Livermore. Cost is $34.95, $12.95 for children 10 and under, free for children 3 and under. Easter egg hunt will begin at noon for $7. Reservations required. Call 978-6140 or visit www. gameawy.com.

Easter Egg Hunt
All kids and adults are welcome to participate in the hunt, rain or shine, from 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Sat., April 15 at Bay Books, 5688 Stoneridge Dr. at Gibraltar Dr. Special treats and surprises for all. For more information, call 460-3213.

Second Annual Easter Egg Hunt
tesa Volunteers will host the 2nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt for children 12 years and younger every year. Call 960-1600 or visit www.caconference.org.

Special Easter Week Services
Presbyterian Church is holding Special Easter Services 8:30 a.m., April 13, 7 p.m., Fri., April 14, and 8:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., Sun., April 16, 4300 Mirador Dr. Call 486-4438.

March 27 through June 8.

Administering Health Care Costs
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March 27 through June 8.
April 17 at Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Only for those 18 years or older. Call Penny, 931-3405.

### Miscellaneous

**Adopt a New Best Friend**
Tri-Valley Animal Rescue hosts dog and cat adoptions 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays at the Farmers’ Market and noon-4 p.m. at Dublin PetMart. Call 931-7434 for more times and locations or visit www.tvart.org.

**Poetry Open Mic**
Beginners and long-time writers bring up to 10 minutes of poetry to share for the open mic or listen to poetry from 7-9 p.m. on third Thursday monthly at Used and Rare Books, 2911 Hopyard Rd. Call Michelle, 933-5350 or e-mail mroccoli@pleasontan.com.

**Rabbi Education and Adoption**
Tri-Valley Animal Rescue is hosting a bunny event, focusing on education while showcasing homeless bunnies from 1-4 p.m., Sat., April 29 Petsmart, 6960 Amador Plaza Rd. Call Marnia, 447-2130 or e-mail bunnybait@yahoo.com.

### On Stage

**Comedy Wednesday**
John DeCoven's Comedy Showcase is every second and fourth Wednesday monthly at Main Street Brewery, 430 Main St. Cover charge is $3 with a two drink minimum. Call 264-4413 or visit www.trivalleycomedy.com.

### Recreation

**DBAC Swim Team Tryouts**
Dolores Bengston Aquatic Center
Recreational swim team is accepting applications for the summer swim team. All new swimmers must attend one of the following try-out dates 9 a.m.-noon: March 18, April 15, or May 6. Call 931-3420 for fees and guidelines.

**Enrichment Classes**
AIDS Foundation: This track and field club's mission is to promote the development of all levels of track and field athletes in any season or sport to make them faster, stronger, and healthier. Applications for the summer and year-round youth programs are now being accepted. Call 518-9366 or visit www.athenianathletics.com.

**How do you close your purchase in 15 days or less?**
By using Lori Smith at RPM, a 1 billion dollar mortgage lender right here in your backyard!

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**Support Groups**

**CHADD**
Meetings are held for parents of children with ADHD from 7-9 p.m. on the second Wed. of each month at Thomas Hart Middle School, 4433 Willow Road, Dublin. Call 444-2173 or visit www.chaddorcal.org.

**ClutterLess Self Help Group**
If you are feeling overwhelmed from the inside out, come to the Presbyterian Church from 7:30-8 p.m. every Monday, except April 17 and May 29, at 4300 Mirador Dr., room 8. Call 426-5311.

**Diabetes Support Group**
Groups meet from noon-1 p.m. on the first Wednesday monthly. Also from noon-1 p.m. the third Thursday monthly and for diabetics using insulin pumps, from 6-7 p.m. the second Thursday of every other month, Diabetes and Nutrition Education Center, 575 West Las Positas, Suite 220. Call 416-6710.

**TV30**
LARPD Board of Directors meeting from Wed., April 12 will have 6 p.m., Sat., April 15 and 16 on channel 26.

**Main Street Games**
Learn about the Sunol Water Temple 4 p.m., Sat., April 15 on channel 29.

**Tri-Valley Sports Final**
A recap of the week's local sports action will air 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 1 p.m., 5 p.m., Sat., April 15 and Sun., April 16 on channel 30.

**Volunteering**
Senior Center Volunteers
The Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., has an array of daytime volunteer opportunities available to adults of any age including receptionist, bingo caller, teacher's aide and lunch program assistant. Call Raymond Figueroa, 931-5366.

Shepard's Gate
Volunteer at Shepard's Gate Shelter, 1860 Portola Ave., Livermore or their thrift stores, 7381 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin, and 1362 Railroad Ave., Livermore or their thrift stores, 7381 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin, and 1362 Railroad Ave., Livermore on any Mon-Fri. Call Lyn, 443-4283, ext. 217.

**The American Cancer Discovery Shop**
The American Cancer Discovery Shop needs volunteers any time from 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Mon.-Thurs., from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Fri.-Sat., or from noon-5 p.m. on Sun. Call 462-7374.

**Tri-Valley Animal Rescue**
TVAR has two volunteer/shelter orientations 1-3 p.m., Sat., April 8 and Sun., April 23 at East County Animal Shelter, 4565 Gleason Dr. Dublin, Call Cathy, 426-2472 or e-mail care@trivalleyrescue.com.

**ValleyCare Auxiliary**
Volunteers are needed at ValleyCare Medical Center. With nine volunteer service areas in Pleasanton and Livermore, opportunities are available at the information desk, office, library, gift and thrift shop. Call 734-3368.

**Volunteers Needed at RCJL**
The Reutlinger Community for Neighbor’s, opportunities are available to volunteers! To volunteer, call 734-3368.

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**Smog King**
$20 Off in 60 minutes
All Smogging Included:
• DMV Renewal
• Test Only
• RV's
• Cross Poulders

**Landscape Materials**
For projects for your name brand: Topsoil! Bark! Sand! River Rock! Paper! Rock! • PVC Pipe & Fittings • Minutemen • Fertilizers • Sod • Bleachers! • Pavement Marking • Lilac • Sprinkle Heads

**Richter Lumber Company**
5055 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton • 925-846-5049
Free Delivery on materials and recycled sheets for a minimum purchase.

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**Calendar**

**Chamber Calendar**
Is your dog running off your property and into someone else’s property or a Neighbor’s yards? Wilderness areas? Or chasing other dogs, or even people? Then let Invisible Fence® Brand show you how your dog can stay safe behind a wall that no one can see - but that your dog is guaranteed not to cross!

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**Invisible Fence®**
Is your dog getting into danger?
We can help.

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**CLOCK REPAIR**
Timely Service
Free Estimates
Free Pick-up & Delivery in Tri-Valley

**Byfield's Clock Shop**
Call (925) 736-9165

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**Volsor Smith**
How do you close your purchase in 15 days or less?
By using Lori Smith at RPM, a 1 billion dollar mortgage lender right here in your backyard!
Dining Out

American

Chicago's Metropolitan Deli
6003 W. Las Positas Blvd. & Hopyard, Pleasanton, (925) 426-1678. A new Rockin' Restaurant that features: Italian Beef, Chi-Dogs, Gyros, and more. We have over 50 menu items that are hot, juicy, fun and flavorful. Recently remodeled to create a festive atmosphere with a new bar, beers on tap and three sport TVs. We are family friendly with a nice Kids Menu, soft serve ice cream, shakes and sundaes. Come check out the flavors of Chicago right in Pleasanton's back yard.

Jim's Country Style Restaurant
5400 Sunol Blvd, next to Raley's, Pleasanton, (925) 426-7019. Loved by locals and famous for its ranch-style omelets and large portions, Jim's serves up the country-style fixings from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. So if you're in the mood for chicken-fried steak, an omelet, a stack of pancakes, a deluxe sandwich or just a good old-fashioned burger, you won't be disappointed. Jim's friendly staff invites you to drop in and say, "Howdy!!"

Pleasanton Hotel
855 Main St., Pleasanton, (925) 846-6106. This restored Victorian "hotel" combines the ambience of the past with the exciting contemporary cooking of Chef Ned Marquis. Also offering Mystery Dinner Theater and Winemaker Dinners, live music every Thursday, Friday and Saturday, some Sundays. Open for lunch, dinner and Sunday Champagne Buffet Brunch, patio dining, banquets and weddings to 200.

Red Smoke Grill
4501 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, (925) 734-0307. The place to go for great tri-tip, rotisserie chicken and baby back ribs. The wonderful staff serves up sandwiches, salads and family dinner meals. So come by for a glass of wine and a great meal. Crossroads Shopping Center off Hopyard just one block south of Stoneridge.

Swensen's
1991-A Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton, (925) 426-1266. Swensen's Ice Cream has called the Bay Area its home since 1948. Known for its deli-sandwiches, pho beef noodle soup and baby back ribs. The wonderful staff invites you to drop in and say, "Howdy!!"

Pleasanton's back yard!

California Cuisine

Silver Palate Restaurant
680 Main St., Downtown Pleasanton, (925) 417-5900. Silver Palate's menu is based on a concept of whole-some cooking, using the most natural ingredients available. The ambiance of this restaurant evokes the light-filled expanse of a European marketplace, while the outdoor patio captures the best in al fresco dining. Choose from a wide selection of flavorful entrees and side accompaniments ... among them risottos, specialty soups, Kobe beef burgers, wild salmon, Organic Sonoma MfF salads and handcrafted desserts. Country Brunch Buffet every Sunday. Open seven days a week.

Barone's
475 St. John St., Pleasanton, (925) 426-9600. Voted Best Watering Hole in Pleasanton, the Hop Yard offers 30 beers on tap and a variety of great food, everything from finger food to full blown meals. Ask about new banquet menu.

Chinese

Chinese Szechuan

Fontina's Ristorante bring "the taste of Italy" home to you soon. For parties of 10 or more, we'll include free dessert, or we'll take 10 percent off your total bill (excluding tax).

Continental

Jewish Deli
5400 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton, (925) 426-9600. Voted Best Watering Hole in Pleasanton, the Hop Yard offers 30 beers on tap and a variety of great food, everything from finger food to full blown meals. Ask about new banquet menu.

Fontina's Catering
349 Main St., Downtown Pleasanton, (925) 426-9396. The seasonal tastes of Fontina's award-winning menu can now be custom delivered to you—direct to your home or office. Our lunch and dinner specialties feature homemade soups and pastas, premium seafood and meats, and a newly expanded vegetarian menu. Let Fontina's Ristorante bring "the taste of Italy" home to you soon. For parties of 10 or more, we'll include free dessert, or we'll take 10 percent off your total bill (excluding tax).

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Are you paying too much for COBRA?
Or do you just need individual or group health coverage at affordable rates?
Call today to save money!

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Shield Spectrum (PPO Plan 5000)

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Family

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Health Coverage Rates Effective 2/1/06. Rates apply for Contra Costa, Alameda & Santa Clara Counties.

Authorized Independent Agent

Blue Shield of California
An Independent Member of the Blue Shield Association

Italian
Fontina Ristorante
348 Main St., Pleasanton, (925) 462-9299.
This popular downtown restaurant has rave reviews from both locals and visitors. Offering a changing, seasonal menu and daily specials, including homemade soups, pastas, seafood, chicken and veal served in a comfortably elegant atmosphere. Indoor or outdoor seating. Saturday and Sunday champagne brunch.

Frankie, Johnnie & Luigi Too!
11891 Dublin Blvd., Dublin, (925) 828-9389.
Lively chatter and the aroma of garlic are the first things you notice in this warm and friendly classical Italian restaurant, complete with red checked tablecloths. It has an open kitchen where patrons can watch the cooks “hand toss” the dough for pizza or bread. Cornerstone Restaurant group.

Japanese
Hasegawa Japanese
4855 Hopyard Road, Dublin, (925) 734-0996.
Japanese owner Kazutoyo “Joe Cool” Hasegawa has 26 years experience as a Sushi chef. Traditional Japanese dining. Lunch served at 11:30am, 12:45pm and 2:15pm. Sat & Sun at 11:30am, 12:45pm and 2:15pm. Full bar. Banquet facilities available with wireless Internet for large parties, up to 70 guests. The place to meet your friends!

Easter Specials

This Weekend at Pastas

Rack of Lamb
Salmon Roulade
rolled with dungeness crab
Grilled Ribeye
with scampi prawns

And Don’t Forget...

Mother’s Day
Sunday, May 14th

Join Us For Easter Sunday!

Featuring Easter Brunch Specials and our regular lunch menu
11:30am - 4:00pm
Reservations available at 925.461.3113
310 Main Street • Suite A • Pleasanton, CA. 94566

Dining Out

Are you paying too much for COBRA?
Or do you just need individual or group health coverage at affordable rates?
Call today to save money!
Dining Out

Mediterranean

Athens West Restaurant
6999 Dublin Blvd., (925) 843-9601.
Truly authentic Mediterranean cuisine featuring Greek specialties including delicious steaks and seafood. Large upscale dining facility with full bar located adjacent to the original Athens Burger Restaurant. Opens Tuesday-Sunday at 4:30 p.m.

Pizza

Gay Nineties Pizza Co.
288 Main St., Pleasanton, (925) 846-2520.
Family oriented with an extensive menu. Renowned pizza, Italian dishes, salads and sandwiches. Patio dining. Antique games for the kids. Groups, take out, call-ahead lunch orders. Wine, beer, open seven days a week, 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

Little Caesars
2889 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, (925) 417-8880.
Feeling hungry on a low budget? Original round large Pepperoni Pizza only $5 every day, eight pieces of our famous crazy bread w/sauce $1.99, 10 delicious Caesars wings only $5. Look for other coupon specials in the dining section weekly.

Vinny’s 2 Go!
4101-5 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton, (925) 463-0280.
Vinny’s 2 Go is the Rose Pavilion’s newest authentic Italian pizzeria. Lunchtime favorites include New York pizza slices, meatball sandwiches and the popular Mona Lisa panini. Savory Meals 2 Go and fresh carrots are available for last pickup. Catering is offered for special occasions and office lunchrooms. Visit Vinny’s 2 go for quality, freshness and great taste!

Sandwiches/Deli

Togo’s
3120-D Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton, (925) 846-8644.
Togo’s has been voted “Pleasanton’s Best Sandwich” for five consecutive years. Conveniently open seven days a week, Togo’s features its popular “Endless Combo” (1/2 sandwich, 1/2 salad or small soup) ... choose any two for only $5.19 plus tax. Everyday favorites include the Hot Pastrami #9 and the tasty Turkey-Avocado #24. Togo’s also features specialty soups for winter.

Wine Bars

The Wine Steward
614 Main St., Pleasanton, (925) 600-9463.
A secret little wine shop with the largest selection and the most competitive prices in the East Bay area. Our friendly and knowledge-able staff can help you select a single bottle or perfectly pair wines for your next dinner party. Our Wine Bar is open Thursday through Saturday with a new theme every week—check our Web site, www.thewinesteward.com, for details.

Here’s the scoop.
The Pleasanton Weekly is recruiting for a Reporter and an Associate Editor that:

- Will Cover and/or edit news and feature stories about the Pleasanton Community
- Has a journalism degree and experience (if Associate Editor Candidate) has a resume which reflects continuing advancement and proficiency in writing and editing
- Would enjoy professional challenges and rewards of a community newspaper.

Send resume and clips to:
editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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Fogster.com is a unique Web site offering free postings from communities throughout the Bay Area and an opportunity for your ad to appear in the Pleasanton/Danville Weekly. You can now log on to fogster.com, day or night and get your ad started immediately online. Most listings are free print ad in our Peninsula newspapers with the option of photos and additional lines. Exempt are Business Services and Employment ads, which include a web listing charge. Home services and Mind & Body Services, require contact with a Customer Sales Representative.

So, the next time you have an item to sell, barter, give away or buy, get the perfect combination: print ads in your local newspapers, reaching more than 35,000 readers, and unlimited free Web postings reaching hundreds of thousands additional people!

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- **KIDS STUFF**
- **JOBS**
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- **DANVILLE**
- **PIER 39**

**PLACE AN AD**

- **ONLINE**
- **E-MAIL**
- **PHONE**

Fogster.com is a unique Web site offering free postings from communities throughout the Bay Area and an opportunity for your ad to appear in the Pleasanton/Danville Weekly. You can now log on to fogster.com, day or night and get your ad started immediately online. Most listings are free print ad in our Peninsula newspapers with the option of photos and additional lines. Exempt are Business Services and Employment ads, which include a web listing charge. Home services and Mind & Body Services, require contact with a Customer Sales Representative.

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