

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

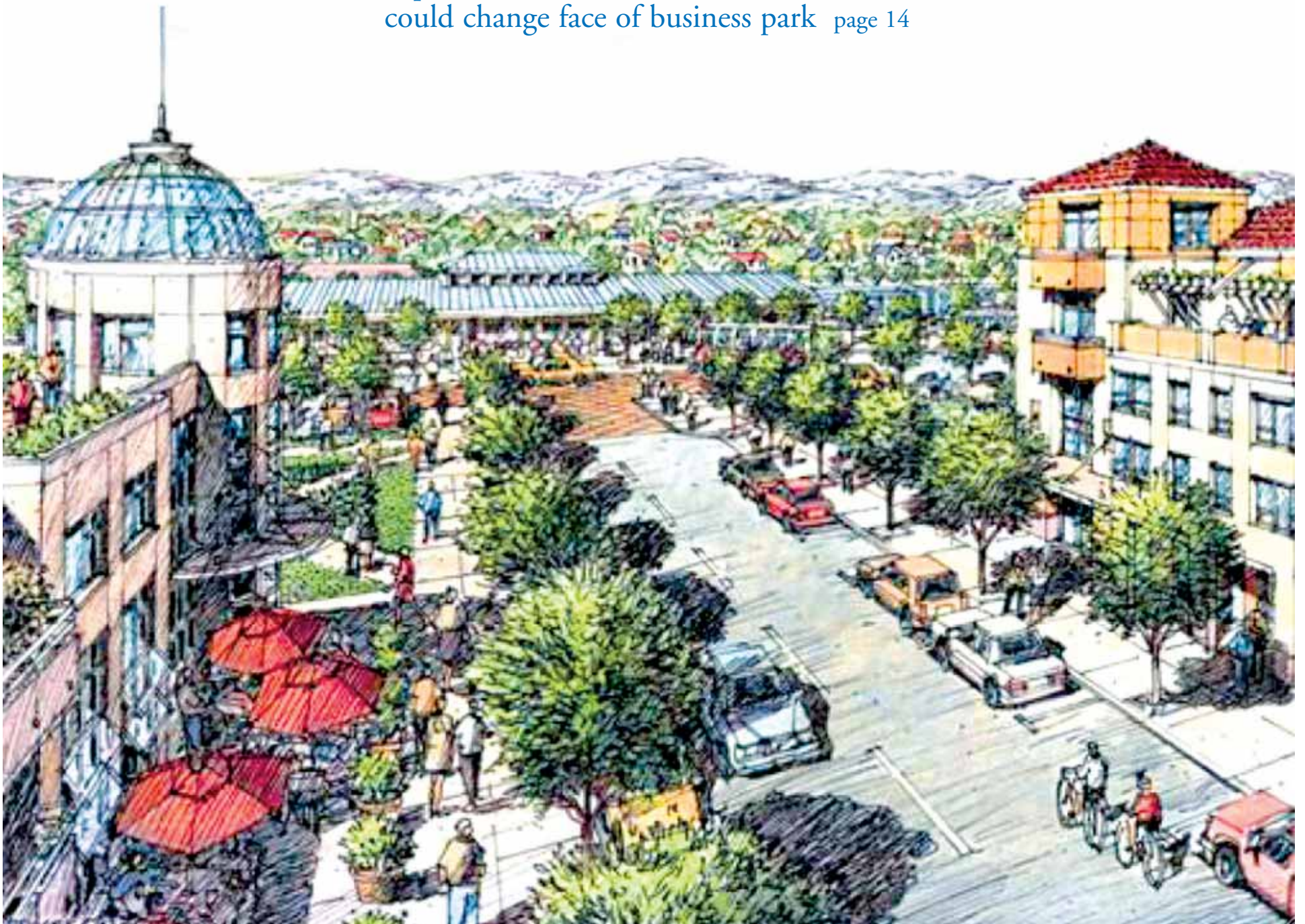
Vol. VII, Number 10 • April 7, 2006

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It's all about Pleasanton

The New Hacienda?

Shops, more homes, narrow tree-lined streets
could change face of business park page 14



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this week

Election 2006

Open spaces make
for interesting race
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Ride Now!

BART pilots new
carpool program
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Lotsa' Matzo

Jewish families
prepare for Passover
Section 2

Soft market

Mortgage interest rates
and housing inventory rise
page 32



INTERO
REAL ESTATE SERVICES



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512 BUNKER LANE \$1,795,000
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Robin Young 1.800.877.5811x401



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5381 SPRINGDALE AVE \$649,500
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Sang Kang 925.200.3939



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Sang Kang 925.200.3939



OPEN SUN 1-4

DANVILLE

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Bob Mezuel 925.251.2579



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

DUBLIN

7310 CRONIN CIRCLE \$499,950
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Mark Kotch 925.989.581



OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4

DUBLIN

3637 WHITWORTH DRIVE \$639,000
2 master bedroom suites, 2.5 bathrooms, HUGE Loft +/-1634 Sq Ft, Gas Fireplace, 2 Car Garage, Refrigerator, Washer and Dryer Included
Darrell Green 925.251.2545



OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4

DUBLIN

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OPEN SUN 1-4

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Pleasanton

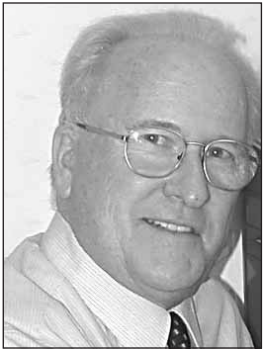
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Around Pleasanton

by Jeb Bing

Making a difference the Mendenhalls's way

Diana and Howard Mendenhall have volunteered their services with Habitat for Humanity for more than 14 years, building homes and providing housing improvements for those in need both locally and in various parts of the world. But nothing prepared them for the devastation they saw and the challenges they faced a week ago when they led a 12-member Habitat team from Pleasanton Presbyterian Church to Slidell, a Louisiana city just across Lake Pontchartrain from New Orleans. Nearly a year after Hurricane Katrina slammed into the Gulf Coast, followed by heavy rain, flooding, ocean surges and breaks in the levees, much of rural Slidell, where the team was assigned to work, is still in ruins. Their job was to rebuild the homes, repair others and to clear properties where houses once stood. For the first few days, they built sheds to store materials that would be used in new construction while they awaited building permits, which Diana Mendenhall said are slow in coming, and getting slower. Once in hand, the homes are rebuilt on stilts, or piers pounded deep into the ground, after Habitat found that homes build on slab foundations were washed off the concrete. Presumably, the slightly raised pier-type foundations will allow any future flooding to pass under the house without carrying it away.

The Mendenhalls knew they were on a special mission once they headed into the New Orleans airport terminal from their plane. They were among hundreds passing through the airport. Most, like them, were dressed in work clothes, and carried backpacks and sleeping bags. Many were in large groups from churches and service clubs, including a large number of college and high school students who were using their Spring Break

to help rebuild New Orleans and adjacent areas. From the airport, the Mendenhalls and their team drove to Slidell, passing by mile after mile of totally devastated and not yet rebuilt communities in New Orleans, including the Ninth Ward, the hardest hit. Forewarned by her husband, Diana was still not prepared emotionally for the sites and displaced people she saw.

Slidell appeared to have missed much of the deep flooding and high winds, but water damage was everywhere. Area churches opened their facilities to the volunteers, and the Mendenhall team found floor space at the First Baptist Church, a large building where wall marks in the sanctuary showed that flood waters had reached six feet in height. Folding chairs had replaced the destroyed pews, most doors were gone and even the stall doors in the women's bathrooms had been destroyed. Fortunately, there were enough dark plastic bags that were strategically taped to afford some privacy. Outside the church, a contractor had donated a trailer with showers—three for women and six for men, the theory being that more of the volunteers for this rugged work would be men. But it didn't make much difference. Only one 50-gallon water heater served all nine showers as well as a washing machine in another room. Unless you came back early from what were typically 10-12-hour days in the hot, humid weather, the volunteers could count on taking cold showers.

Accompanying the Mendenhalls on this 10-day mission to Slidell were Don Bartel, Carol Holder, Jack Ogden, Dan Ashton, Terry Bedell, Bob Sanchez and Cathy Lipman. Howard Mendenhall, who is 69, and Diana, 63, aren't finished. With so much needed by the good people in Louisiana, they will return to the region next week with a church group from Lodi. ■

About the Cover

This bold new plan for transforming Hacienda Business Park into a mixed use urban transit center of business, residential, retail stores adjacent to bus lines and the BART station is being considered by city planners. The new center would retain its corporate emphasis while also adding needed, more affordable housing for its workforce and retail services. Cover rendering taken from the Hacienda Business Park Specific Plan.

Vol. VII, Number 11

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Streetwise

Q: If you won the Lottery, what would you do with your winnings?

Asked at Noah's Bagels.



Ray Murphy

Aviation Safety Inspector

If I won the Lottery I would buy myself a helicopter and a Citation Cessna. I would give the rest to my kids to open a bed and breakfast in Calistoga.

Isobel Thompson

Bar Manager

After I got over the delirium and shock, I'd put the money in the bank and get some sound financial advice. When I was done being sensible I'd take a long trip around the world and visit all of the places I've always wanted to see.



Ethan Righter

Aspiring Photographer

First off, I would open my own photography shop, set up with a darkroom and computers. I would definitely get myself a new car and buy my parents a retirement home in New Mexico.

Scott Summerfield

Communications Consultant

If I won the Lottery, I would make sure my friends and family were taken care for the rest of their lives. I think I'd buy myself a few toys and share the winnings with the several charities I'm involved with.



Maureen Murphy

Fulltime Mom

If I won the Lottery, I'd take most of the money and invest it. I'd use about 10 percent to pay off my house. Then I would give the rest to charity.

Have a Streetwise question? E-mail: editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

Compiled by Cybele Ryan

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Newsfront

ELECTION 2006

News Digest

Electronic disposal

Pleasanton residents can dispose their old computers, televisions, VCRs and other electronics during the Electronics Collection Event sponsored by the city of Pleasanton Saturday, April 8. Electronic items, such as TVs or computer monitors, can carry 5-7 pounds of lead, which is why they need to be recycled or properly disposed. Collection will take place from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Operations Service Center, 3333 Busch Road. Call Pleasanton Garbage Service at 846-2042 for more information.

Donation drive

The Military Appreciation Day Donation Drive sponsored by Operation: S.A.M. will collect treats for U.S. troops from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday April 15 at Wal-Mart, 4501 Rosewood Drive. Products donated will create "comfort packages" for troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Some of the most critical items needed are Crystal Lite, eye wash (Visine), nasal spray, deodorant (gel or stick), razors, white cotton tube socks, wash cloths, bug repellent, Tylenol, sun block, Tums, trail mix, granola bars, power drinks and bars, nuts, sunflower seeds, jerky, Slim Jims, Chapstick, medicated anti-fungal cream, muscle cream, foot powder, AA batteries, travel-size games, puzzle books and disposable cameras. Remember to purchase small, travel size items. All donations are tax deductible. Notes of appreciation to be included in each comfort package are also welcome.

Visit www.operationsam.org or contact Operation S.A.M. at Operationsam@comcast.net or 443-7620 for more information.

Host Austrian students

Edu-Culture International, a non-profit educational organization based in Pleasanton, is looking for families to host one or two high school students from Austria from July 11-August 1. All the students speak English and have a schedule of activities arranged for them in advance by Edu-Culture, in which host families are invited to take part. Families provide a shared or private room, meals and transportation to and from week-day events. If interested, contact Judy Norbriga at 462-9634 or jamn53@comcast.net. Visit www.educulture.org to find out about the program.

Fredette resignation gives newcomers a chance in upcoming board elections

Kernan says he'll run in November

by Rebecca Guyon

The upcoming November school board election just got a little more interesting with the announcement last Friday that Trustee Gloria Fredette is resigning from the position and will not run for re-election. Fredette was one of two trustees up for re-election, the other being Trustee Pat Kernan who, despite a new job that takes him to Sacramento three times a week, said in an interview with the Pleasanton Weekly that he "probably will run" in November.

During Tuesday's meeting, the trustees discussed how they were going to fill Fredette's

vacant seat, which they must do within 60 days of the vacancy. Fredette's resignation was effective April 1. The board has three options to fill the seat: hold a special election, appoint a new member or leave the seat open. In the third option, the county superintendent of schools could order a special election to fill the spot. Not wanting to take that chance and citing the need for "five heads" to help the board make decisions on upcoming issues, the trustees dismissed that option, as well as the special election saying it would be too costly and unnecessary given the upcoming election in November. Based on that, the trustees opted to appoint a new member to the seat.

"I feel strongly that we need to make an appointment," Kernan said. "We have a lot of work to do and, besides saving the cost from a

special election, this gives the opportunity for someone from the community to step forward. If I hadn't applied as an appointment, I never would have run. It's a nice halfway step to test the waters."

Kernan was originally appointed to the board in 1997 when Trustee Judith Markoff resigned. When his appointment was up, he ran for the position that same year and won. Board President Steve Pulido and Fredette also applied for the appointment.

The district staff has already started accept-



Gloria Fredette

(continued on page 7)

Hosterman to seek 2nd term as mayor

Sees traffic congestion as No. 1 concern

Mayor Jennifer Hosterman announced this week that she will seek reelection as mayor in November, becoming the first in city government to launch her 2006 campaign.

"I have some projects that I would like to finish up over the next two years," she said. "My biggest concern is traffic and I really want to have an opportunity to make a difference in getting that under control."

Hosterman, who recently took the Bar exam to become a lawyer, is awaiting

results on that test, which are expected to be announced this summer. Her husband Michael is an attorney whose practice is located downtown on Peters Avenue.

Hosterman long chaired the Bernal task force and was first elected to the City Council in 2002, on her second try. She was elected mayor in 2004, succeeding Tom Pico, who chose not to seek reelection. Hosterman serves on numerous regional committees, including several that are focused on highway planning and traffic.

"I am going to focus my next term in office on being the very best mayor of the very best city that I possibly can," she said.

Councilman Steve Brozosky, who has been

rumored as planning to run against Hosterman for the mayor's post, said he will probably make an announcement on his intentions next week.

"I just returned from Tulancingo, our sister city, where I represented the City Council, so I need to review my options and make a decision," Brozosky said. "Elected to the council in 2002, Brozosky is completing the first four year term. He can seek reelection to another four-year term. If he decides to seek the mayor's post, he would not be able to run for a council seat."

Councilman Jerry Thorne is expected to announce his candidacy for reelection at a breakfast at the Fairgrounds April 26.

—Jeb Bing



Farmers' Market helps the hungry

Pat Lane (above), marketing coordinator for the Pleasanton Farmers Market, replaces one of a score of food baskets that are being filled quickly each Saturday as part of a special program to benefit Open Heart Kitchen. Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Director John Silveira said he teamed up with the Pleasanton Presbyterian Church to make it easy for shoppers to help Open Heart Kitchen, which serves 3,500 meals weekly to families, children and senior citizens in the Tri-Valley.

"We have eight collection stations at the Pleasanton market and we've had very enthusiastic responses," Silveira said. "The baskets fill up quickly as our shoppers recognized the help their donated food will provide to the needy."

City to seek bids for \$1.2 million Kottinger Creek project

Restoration, new bridges, meandering creek aimed at revitalizing park

by Jeb Bing

City engineers were preparing detailed specifications this week in an effort to seek public bids later this month for an estimated \$1.2-million plan to restore and rebuild Kottinger Community Park and the creek that flows through it. "We want to get these bid requests out right away so that we can do this project before the rainy season comes next winter," said City Manager Nelson Fialho.

The Friends of Kottinger Creek, a grassroots citizens' group that claims to have more than 200 members, won a six-year-long lobbying effort, gaining a unanimous vote by the City Council to restore and rebuild the park and creek alongside Kottinger Drive at an estimated cost of more than \$1 million.

"This will truly be a wonderful development," said Mayor Jennifer Hosterman who has been a leading supporter of the park project. "For us as a city not to safeguard and protect this site would be tragic."

The vote actually was not to proceed with building the park, but to seek bids for the project and then to determine how and if the city can afford to fund it. With all on the council expressing their support, the Kottinger Creek advocates said they look for continued support when the final costs are known.

Public Works Director Rob Wilson said he will ask contractors who bid on the project to break down the costs of

(continued on page 7)

Pulling the curtain on a 20-year career

Marsha Buck leaves legacy of the 'Panther Players' behind

by Rebecca Guyon

When Marsha Buck started teaching at Pleasanton Middle School in 1990, she probably didn't know at the time how much she would impact the school during her career. Teaching eighth grade English and classes in drama and sixth grade QUEST, Buck is perhaps best known on campus for the work she does with the Panther Players, an after school student acting troupe she founded in 1996. The troupe meets once a week from November to March and students put together a play, which they perform for the elementary schools in the district.

After 20 years of teaching and 10 years of leading the troupe, Buck is retiring at the end of the school year, meaning when the Panther Players perform their last show of

the year at Lydiksen Elementary School next Tuesday, it will also be the last performance in Buck's Panther Player career.

"The greatest thing is watching some of the students who have been in the program and see where they are now," Buck said. "Our very first kids are now graduating from college and some have gone into musical theater programs. They are exceptionally talented people and it's wonderful to know that in some way we've thrown something into the mix to make them who they are."

Each year, students audition for the group in October and nearly 100 students usually come out for the 20-30 open spots. Jan Berry, a teacher at PMS and Buck's co-leader of the Panther Players, said



Marsha Buck (left) discusses ways to improve the upcoming Panther Players performance with the troupe as troupe member Kersten Jaeger (right) listens.

students get one shot to "knock my socks off." This year, there are 25 players who are performing a play titled "Princess" about a frog that wakes up and finds he's a prince.

Princesses from familiar fairy tales make appearances throughout the show and hilarity ensues. Buck said the group chooses plays that are light, funny and are easy to

add characters and improvisation so that every student has a role.

"We have a great group," said Liz Lommerin, an eighth grade student who has been in the Panther Players for three years. "We have a lot of fun, especially with the play we're doing this year. We really made it our own."

Buck first got the idea to start the Panther Players when she was considering applying for a Parent Partnerships In Education teacher grant. Having studied theater as a student at Cal State Fullerton, she thought forming an after school group centered on acting would be a great opportunity for the students. In addition to learning acting skills and having fun, Buck saw the troupe as a place where students could build their confidence, which is why she decided the students should perform for elementary school children, instead of their peers.

"Sometimes middle school kids aren't as confident as may come across," Buck explained. "The idea

(continued on page 9)

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8:00am & 10:00am
Holy Eucharist and Procession of the Palms

Maundy Thursday, April 13
7:00pm Holy Eucharist with foot washing, stripping of the altar and watch through the night

Good Friday, April 14
Noon Stations of the Cross
7:00pm Stations of the Cross and Good Friday Liturgy

Easter Day, April 16
8:00am & 10:00am Holy Eucharist with baptism

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Holy Week Services

April 9 - Palm /Passion Sunday - 8:30 and 10:00 a.m.
April 13 - Maundy Thursday - 7:30 p.m.
Remembering Jesus' Last Supper with His disciples
April 14 - Good Friday - 7:30 p.m.
Remembering the moment of our Lord's death
April 15 - Children's Easter Egg Party - 10:30 a.m.
Bring a basket of plastic eggs/candy and share in the Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Morning Services

April 16 - Resurrection Sunday - Easter Festival Worship
6:30 a.m. Sunrise Worship in Trinity Park sponsored by our Youth Ministry
8:30 & 10 a.m. Festival Worship and the celebration of Holy Communion at both services

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Holy Week at Valley Community Church

| Palm Sunday | Maundy Thursday | Easter Sunday |
|---|--|---|
| April 9th Services at 9:00 & 10:45am Children's Palm Processional featuring Children's Choir Sanctuary Choir | April 13th Family Communion Service 7:00pm Childcare for birth-kindergarten | April 16th Three Identical Services 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am Celebrate the Risen Savior! featuring Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra |

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| April 9 - Palm Sunday 8:30 - Traditional Influence 10:15 - Contemporary Influence | April 16 - Easter Sunday 6:00 - Sunrise Service, Shadow Cliffs 8:30 & 10:15 - Celebrate with fantastic praise music, orchestra and choir, drama and inspiring message |
| April 13 - Maundy Thursday 7pm - To commemorate the original Lord's Supper | April 14 - Good Friday 7pm - Theatrical Candlelight Svc. |

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School board

(continued from page 5)

ing applicants who will have to fill out an application and interview with a screening committee and the trustees. The screening committee will be chosen by the district staff and will be made up of teachers, parents and interested community members. The board is aiming to have the appointment chosen during its May 23 meeting so the new member can be present for the Superintendent's Report on May 30. The appointee's term will last through December 12 when the members elected in November will be sworn in.

Although the trustees did not discuss specific people they would like to see fill the seat, they did say they are looking for someone who understands the dynamics of the board and has a clear understanding of all the job entails.

"A school board doesn't run on dissension; it runs on collaboration," said Trustee Juanita Haugen. "And one person can't do it all. There has to be collaboration with the Superintendent and the school district." She added that Fredette embodied this ideal and was a great asset to the board.

Fredette, who has been on the board since 2001, said she decided to resign due to increased responsibilities with her position at Advantage Sales and Marketing. She started at the company in 2003

as a claims administrator and was promoted to become an administrative manager of four employees. Now, she manages 12 employees and is working 60-hour weeks, she said. Knowing that she potentially had an upcoming campaign that would add many more hours of work, in addition to the hours she already spends performing her school board duties, she decided not to run for re-election.

"I then thought I could stick it out until November, but I thought that wasn't best for everyone," Fredette said. "I got to the point where I could continue what I'm doing with the expense being me and I just couldn't push any further." She added that the resignation is not due to any serious health problems. Fredette is a breast cancer survivor.

Kernan has also taken a new position as a partner with the law firm Riegls, Campos and Kenyon based in Sacramento. He works there two or three days a week and stays in the Bay Area the rest of the week where he works with his clients, most of whom are based in the Peninsula, San Francisco and Silicon Valley.

"I have no idea who will run, but I anticipate there will be a lot," Kernan said. "We always get a lot of people coming forward because schools are very important in this community."

This is the first year school board elections will be held on an even number year to coincide with the City Council elections. Elections are scheduled for November 7. ■

Kottinger

(continued from page 5)

several of its more costly components, including a steel bridge and another bridge that would be wooden to replace old concrete bridges now in place. The bridges serve as pedestrian crossovers between Adams Way and Bernal Avenue as the creek flows along Kottinger Drive and, to the east of Bernal Avenue, along Concord Drive.

"Frankly, the estimates we have that this project would cost \$1.2 million are probably quite out of date," Wilson said. "I would expect that the bids will come in higher."

The wetlands restoration project would add trees and foliage to the park while also allowing the creek to flow in a meandering path uninterrupted toward downtown Pleasanton. It did just that 100 years ago, but over time developers routed much of it through culverts and trenches. The result has been a loss of wildlife in much of Kottinger Park, according to proponents of the restoration project.

The restoration projects actually started as a \$30,000 maintenance improvement effort. But when city crews moved equipment onto the site and tore out a group of 30-foot-high willow trees that line the creek, neighbors across Kottinger Drive from the creek complained to the city and formed the Friends of Kottinger Creek organization.

The council's endorsement came despite reservations by its own Parks and Recreation Commission that the restoration plans, including new bridges across the creek,

were too ambitious and costly. A proposed bridge opposite Sherry Court would cost \$200,000 and another at Cabernet Court would cost \$150,000. At least one bridge would be built to accommodate park equipment, including tractor mowers and other machinery.

Fialho said costs for restoring Kottinger Park have escalated due to the rising costs of steel, cement and other building materials.

"Frankly, we've been pretty unsuccessful at estimating construction costs on city projects recently because prices keep going up," Fialho said. "Right now we estimate the cost for this project at \$1.2 million, but I have no doubt that the bids will come in higher."

Bob Lane, who lives downstream of where the restoration work will take place, said the waterway is not a creek, but a drainage ditch that is dry in the summer except for seepage from the park's irrigation system.

"The \$1.2 million is a disproportionate amount of money to spend on what I think is a cosmetic workover of Kottinger Park," he said. "All that's needed is continued good maintenance."

But Cheri Pulls of the Friends of Kottinger group disagreed.

"This is an excellent plan," she said. "We've been going to the schools—both high schools and the three middle schools—and the students are absolutely thrilled. This new park will serve as an outdoor classroom and a special place for all our students."

"I'm astounded that someone would think that this natural habitat for our city is not worth \$1 million," she added. ■

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Catch a ride to BART

Ride Now! program brings 'casual commute' to Pleasanton

Hoping to free up more parking spots and take some cars off the road, BART, in conjunction with the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency and the cities of Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and San Ramon, launched a pilot ride-sharing program last week. Named Ride Now!, the program aims to connect BART riders who live in the Tri-Valley through a web-based software to help passengers find rides between their homes and the BART station during morning and afternoon commutes.

"This program is unique because most alternative transportation programs focus on employees, but this one focuses on residences," said Beth Walukas, project manager for the Ride Now! program.

Participants in the program must fill out a registration form and then they are in the system, free to either give or get rides from the Pleasanton/Dublin BART station. If someone is looking for a ride during the morning or afternoon commute, he or she can either call the Ride Now! automated telephone system or visit the Ride Now! Web site and the system will match the rider with a driver based on location and time.

The program will last through May when it will go through an evaluation process and, if it is successful, could possibly expand to other stations, Walukas said. Pleasanton/Dublin BART was chosen as the pilot site because of the high parking demand and the lack of public transit options to the station.

"We wanted a suburban market without a lot

of transit choices," Walukas said. "While there is a bus system, it doesn't go everywhere, and Ride Now! gives riders another alternative to BART access."

The program is similar to other transit programs in the East Bay, such as the Casual Commute, which is used to connect commuters traveling from the East Bay to San Francisco. Riders line-up at designated locations in the East Bay and drivers pick up two passengers at a time, dropping them off at designated locations in San Francisco.

The drivers get to be in the carpool lane and do not have to pay a bridge toll and the riders get a free ride. The system has been in place for more than 30 years. Walukas said Ride Now! is similar to the Casual Commute in that participants do not have

to make a consistent carpool commitment and passengers will most likely be paired with a different driver each day. However, it differs because the program can provide door-to-door service and all participants must first register with Ride Now!, making the program more formal.

To encourage participation in the program, BART is offering incentives, such as a \$10 BART ticket, preferential parking spaces at the BART station and a guaranteed ride home if a ride match is not made.

"It always helps to get fewer drivers off the road and free up some parking at the station," said BART Director Gail Murray.

—Rebecca Guyon

Get on the Ride Now! train

Visit www.ridenow.org or call 855-RIDE to register with Ride Now! or learn more about the program.



Linda Rhine (left), a project manager for Ride Now!, explains how the program works to a BART rider at the Pleasanton/Dublin BART station.

Rebecca Guyon

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Pleasanton Schools earn stellar API scores

The state of California recently released the base Academic Performance Index scores for the state's schools. The API scores are based on a composite of several standardized tests including the California Standards Test, California Alternate Performance Assessment, the California High School Exit Examination (high schools only) and California Achievement Test. Schools are ranked on a numeric index with a low of 200 and a high of 1,000. A score of 800 or higher is considered "exemplary." Schools scoring below 800 are required to show improvement each year until the 800 mark is reached. The below graph shows the scores of Pleasanton's schools, all of which scored 800 or better, as well as the scores of schools in the Livermore, Dublin, San Ramon Valley, San Francisco, Berkeley, Piedmont and Oakland school districts.

Sources: Pleasanton Unified School District, Livermore Joint Unified School District and the Education Data Partnership.

| SCHOOL | CITY | SCORE | SCHOOL | CITY | SCORE |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------|--------------------|--------------------|-------|
| Elementary | | | Middle | | |
| Alisal | Pleasanton..... | 874 | Hart | Pleasanton..... | 884 |
| Donlon | Pleasanton..... | 881 | Pleasanton | Pleasanton..... | 902 |
| Fairlands | Pleasanton..... | 925 | Harvest Park | Pleasanton..... | 893 |
| Hearst | Pleasanton..... | 911 | Christensen | Livermore | 790 |
| Lydiksen | Pleasanton..... | 893 | East Avenue | Livermore | 807 |
| Mohr | Pleasanton..... | 950 | Junction Avenue | Livermore | 714 |
| Valley View | Pleasanton..... | 889 | William Mendenhall | Livermore | 826 |
| Vintage Hills | Pleasanton..... | 918 | Wells | Dublin..... | 798 |
| Walnut Grove | Pleasanton..... | 927 | Wood | Danville..... | 891 |
| Altamont Creek | Livermore | 808 | Stone Valley | Alamo..... | 887 |
| Arroyo Seco | Livermore | 851 | Iron Horse | San Ramon..... | 911 |
| Croce | Livermore | 837 | | | |
| Jackson Avenue | Livermore | 813 | High | | |
| Marylin Avenue | Livermore | 662 | Amador | Pleasanton..... | 836 |
| Michell | Livermore | 798 | Foothill | Pleasanton..... | 843 |
| Portola | Livermore | 707 | Granada | Livermore | 794 |
| Rancho Las Positas | Livermore | 815 | Livermore | Livermore | 737 |
| Smith | Livermore | 889 | Dublin | Dublin..... | 789 |
| Sunset | Livermore | 893 | Monte Vista | Danville..... | 857 |
| Dougherty | Dublin..... | 928 | San Ramon Valley | Danville..... | 857 |
| Dublin | Dublin..... | 832 | California | San Ramon..... | 836 |
| Frederiksen | Dublin..... | 822 | Berkeley | Berkeley..... | 725 |
| Murray | Dublin..... | 832 | Piedmont | Piedmont..... | 925 |
| Nielsen | Dublin..... | 863 | Skyline | Oakland..... | 674 |
| Coyote Creek | San Ramon..... | 951 | Oakland Senior | Oakland..... | 598 |
| Baldwin | Danville..... | 939 | Lowell | San Francisco..... | 946 |
| Alamo | Alamo..... | 912 | Marshall Academic | San Francisco..... | 634 |
| | | | Independence | San Francisco..... | 521 |
| Continuation | | | | | |
| Village | Pleasanton..... | 600 | | | |
| Del Valle | Livermore | 604 | | | |
| Phoenix | Livermore | 478 | | | |
| Valley | Dublin..... | 540 | | | |
| Del Amigo | Danville..... | 453 | | | |

Marsha Buck

(continued from page 6)

is that by performing for younger kids, they will have a greater confidence level. The younger kids love it—they even ask the older ones for their autographs. The students feel free to take risk with the performance when they are with younger kids."

"We do a lot of improvisation and just sort of make it up as we go along," said Sarah Weinberg, an eighth grade student who has also been in the Panther Players for three years.

Berry said she can tell that the Panther Players has a positive impact on the students because many of them continue their involvement with theater in high school.

"(Buck and I) always go together to the Amador/Foothill spring musical and count how many students on stage have been Panther Players," Berry said. "There were

times when eight of the kids on stage had been in the program." She added that the two always go backstage after the show and congratulate their former students. "(Buck)'s really loved by the students. She's a hard working, impressive person."

Hardworking is a good description of Buck when looking at her long list of activities. In addition to teaching six classes and leading the Panther Players, she can also be seen organizing PMS's Academic Olympics, Talent Show, Career Day and annual drama productions. As if that wasn't enough, she is also involved with the school's WASC review, works on PMS's Distinguished School applications, is part of the district's writing committee and is the middle school faculty representative for the Tri-Valley Education Collaborative.

Buck started teaching in Pleasanton in 1984 as a substitute teacher and later went to Donlon Elementary School where she was a long-term substitute. From that

position, she became a PE teacher at Donlon and later taught a sixth grade class (at the time Donlon was K-6). She initially moved to Pleasanton for her husband's work and her two children, now ages 29 and 33, both graduated from Foothill High School.

After spending 21 years in Pleasanton, Buck and her husband, who is already retired, plan to move to Chandler, Ariz. by the end of summer. The location is closer to both her children—one lives in Long Beach, Calif. and the other in Texas.

Although it will be hard to leave her students, Buck said she is looking forward to starting over in a new place and trying something different. She can be sure that, no matter where she goes, she'll surely be remembered here in Pleasanton.

"Mrs. Buck is my favorite teacher," Weinberg said. "She treats everyone like they're old enough to have their own opinion and is everyone's friend." Lommerin added, "She's awesome." ■



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Pleasanton Real Estate News



by
**Gerarda
Stocking**

PARTIAL TAXABLE GAINS EXCLUSION

As most readers are aware, current tax law allows us in certain circumstances to take a part of our taxable gains exclusion, even if we haven't lived in the home in question for a full two years. If, for example, we've lived in it a cumulative 12 months, then we may be able to take half of the full exclusion. Thus, married couples filing jointly can exclude up to \$250,000 in gain from taxation (half of what they could exclude had they lived in the home the full cumulative two years) and a single head of household can exclude up to \$125,000.

Fine and good—but what are the “certain circumstances” that allow us to take a partial exclusion? They are “unforeseen circumstances,” as CPA Diane Kennedy explains, and they are “defined liberally. They include, for example, natural disasters, a change in employment or becoming self-employed, divorce or legal separation, and multiple births from the same pregnancy.”

Note, for example, “a change in employment.” This literally can include a promotion, a demotion, a change of your role in your current job, or the creation of a home business. The IRS has made it difficult not to enjoy this exclusion from gains taxation. Don't give up! Be sure to consult your tax advisor. For assistance with real estate transactions call Gerarda Stocking at 846-4000 or visit her website at www.gerardastocking.com.

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5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100
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Phone: (925) 600-0840
Fax: (925) 600-9559

President

Deborah Acosta McKeehan, Ext. 19

Publisher

Jeb Bing, Ext. 18

EDITORIAL

Editor

Jeb Bing, Ext. 18

Staff Writer

Rebecca Guyon, Ext. 11

Contributors

Sandy Christman
Kathy Cordova
Deborah Grossman
Cathy Jetter
Jeri Long
Julie Nostrand
Joe Ramirez
Cybele Ryan

ART & PRODUCTION

Art Director

Shannon Corey, Ext. 17

Assistant Art Director

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Designers

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How to reach the Weekly

5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Phone: (925) 600-0840
Fax: (925) 600-9559

Editorial e-mail:

editor@PleasantonWeekly.com
calendar@PleasantonWeekly.com

Display Sales e-mail:

sales@PleasantonWeekly.com

Classifieds Sales e-mail:

ads@PleasantonWeekly.com

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circulation@PleasantonWeekly.com

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Opinion

Editorial

Special interest spending has to stop

The Friends of Kottinger Creek, a relatively unknown group in Pleasanton, may not be the best friends of Pleasanton taxpayers. This group and the project it represents is just another example about how the tail is wagging the dog of Pleasanton politics and the budget process. This recent decision to spend at least \$1.2 million to rebuild and restore Kottinger Creek follows the \$1-million flip-flop decision to install and then tear out the roundabouts on Vineyard Avenue. These million dollar expenditures for special interests are not in the best long-term interest of our community. It has to stop.

The Friends, an organization that claims it has more than 200 members and is affiliated with the Alameda Creek Alliance, has just won a six-year-long lobbying effort to undertake the creek and Kottinger Community Park restoration, an area that runs through their neighborhood. A project that started out to develop a maintenance manual for the park so that plants and vegetation are properly maintained has grown into a gigantic plan to completely rebuild and redesign it into a meandering creek the way it looked 100 years ago.

While there have been individuals who have been opposed to this plan, there is no organized citizen opposition. The Parks and Recreation Commission has weighed in from the start, opposing this project as the commissioners did not believe it was a priority in our park system. We believe that many in our community share their point of view and have difficulty understanding how so much money can be spent on this project and other special interest projects that do not represent priorities for the entire community. Many have asked what is wrong with Kottinger Park the way it is.

It's disappointing to us that there is an absence of any organized concern on the part of Pleasanton residents who often pack the City Council chambers on issues that affect them. The escalating costs of this project have gone by unnoticed. But when millions are being spent at a time, we should all be asking is this how we want our money spent? There are so many desires in our community that could use another couple million dollars. When the money is not there to help finish the Alviso Adobe park, build the sports fields planned for Bernal, create other amenities on the Bernal property or a myriad of other priorities, it will be because we weren't watching as each million is spent that could be better allocated. It's time to stop special interest spending in Pleasanton and it's time we took notice and communicated with our elected officials. It has to stop.

This recent decision to spend at least \$1.2 million to rebuild and restore Kottinger Creek follows the \$1-million flip-flop decision to install and then tear out the roundabouts on Vineyard Avenue.

Letters

McCloskey has ethics

About ten years ago, when my family was considering selling property we owned near Woodland, a neighbor couple, we hadn't then met, made an offer. Knowing our ties to the property through our deceased parents, they stipulated that we could come back to visit or stay at the property—anytime. We didn't take that offer. They bought another property, and a year later we finally sold, for less money.

The neighbor who made that generous gesture was former U.S. Congressman Pete McCloskey, who has come out of retirement to run for the 11th District Congressional seat, against Richard Pombo.

As mentor Tom Delay's appointee to the House Resources Committee Chairmanship, Mr. Pombo wields tremendous power over environmental, energy-related and public resource issues. But rather than issues, I want to discuss ethics—because this race is a choice between ethically opposite Republicans.

One choice is for a man who has dedicated his considerable skills, in and out of office, to public service, benefit and trust and, the gracious notion I encountered, that the greater good does not always follow from the narrow-minded pursuit of self-interest.

The other choice is for a man whose record of actions—championing public lands development, removal of endangered species protections and releasing from liability companies whose products have put environmental and public health at risk—is a monument to selfish special interests.

As a Democrat, I must re-register and 'Decline to State' a party to vote in the Republican primary for the ethic that earned my respect many years ago. This time I'm taking Pete McCloskey's generous offer—to serve as my representative.

*Bob Nickeson
Pleasanton*

What's happening in NOLA

Check out nola.com and see the crime, corruption and insanity the people of New Orleans are dealing with. See how racism coming from Jessie Jackson, the NAACP, the Black Panthers and Mayor Ray Nagin are dividing the city. Go to the forums and see what the people living there are dealing with on a daily basis. See the stories about entire towns gone. I think you'll be amazed at what these people are going through.

*Debbie Bell
Pleasanton*

Obituaries

Karen Engman Ragsdale



Karen Ragsdale passed away peacefully on March 23 at the age of 64 following complications caused by a cerebral AVM.

She graduated from Santa Rosa High School, attended Santa Rosa Junior College and completed her education at San Jose State University.

A resident of Pleasanton for the past 35 years, she is survived by her husband Richard Ragsdale; children Ross Davis, Julie Davis Stewart, Todd Davis and Annika Ragsdale; brothers Robert and Dave Engman; and two grandchildren. Her greatest joy in life was spending time with friends and family.

Services will take place at 2 p.m., Saturday April 8 at Santa Rosa Memorial Park, 1900 Franklin Ave., Santa Rosa.

Donations may be made to Santa Rosa High School Foundation, P.O. Box 11002, Santa Rosa, CA 95406.

Ofelia Drucila Martine

Ofelia Martine of Pleasanton passed away March 16.

She was born in Chihuahua, Mexico in 1927 and moved to Eagle Pass, Texas in 1929 where she graduated valedictorian from high school, was secretary for the Superintendent of Schools, married and had children.

She lived in Turkey, Morocco, Texas, Maine, New Mexico, Colorado and California. She retired from Amrep Corporation in 1997.

She is survived by her daughters Mary C. McNeerney and her husband Gerald of Pleasanton, Frances Ricker and her husband Thomas of Superior, Colo.; sister Tere Cline of Plano, Texas; brother Carlos Sepulveda of Anniston, Ala.; and five grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband Joseph Martine.

Services were held in Pleasanton. Burial will be at Santa Fe National Cemetery.

Donations may be made to the American Red Cross.

Karen Elizabeth Handley

Karen E. (McCreery) Handley passed away on March 18 at the Hacienda Care Center in Livermore of cancer.

She was born in East Oakland on January 26, 1938. In 1956 she

met and married Henry Cassady. They had daughters, Kari Anne and Beverly, and resided in Dublin. In 1972, she became a single mom raising her two daughters and working at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in Livermore. She married Hugh H. Handley of Pleasanton in 1984 and became a step-mother to his three children Buzz, Connie and Polly. They have eight grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at Graham-Hitch Mortuary in Pleasanton. She will be interred in the Chapel of the Memories in Oakland next to other family members.

Stanley E. Isakson

Stanley Isakson, a 37-year Pleasanton resident, passed away on March 21.

He was born August 24, 1926 in

Oakland. He served in the United States Navy. He was employed as a control systems engineer. His hobbies were photography, backpacking and camping. He was a member of the Star Gazers Society of Livermore.

He is survived by his wife of 1 and 1/2 years Mary Isakson of Brookings, Ore.; son John Sturgill; daughters Yvonne Montano and Jennifer Sturgill; brothers John and Walter Isakson; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 54 years Bernice Isakson; parents Elmer Walton and Annie Victoria Isakson; and son Douglas Isakson.

Services were held at Graham-Hitch Mortuary in Pleasanton.

Donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, 7000 Village Parkway, Suite E, Dublin 94568.

Births

The following information on Pleasanton births was provided by the Hoffiz family.



Feb. 5 Daniel and Jennifer Hoffiz became the parents of Samuel David Hoffiz, an 8 pound 5 ounce, 20 and 3/4 inch baby boy.

Deaths, Weddings and Births are a free editorial service. Information should be submitted, typewritten or emailed no later than Monday at 5 p.m. Send to:

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Take Us Along



Keeping current with the ancients

Jospeh and Ellen Aguirre read the Weekly on top of El Castillo Pyramid in Chichen Itza, Mexico. In the background is the Temple of the Warriors. Both temples are relics from the ancient Mayan civilization that once spread across Mexico.

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La vita é bella!

Longtime friends and Pleasanton residents Richard and Judy DelTredici, Gail and Tom Frost, Mary and Mark Smith and Ann and Don Rathjen enjoy life, and the Weekly, at Villa Maria in Fronzano near Florence, Italy.



Family fun in Mexico

The Broyer and Ringheim families take time from their vacation in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico to read the Weekly. Joe (l-r), Annie, Rich, Thomas, Ole, Beverly, Toby and Andy all enjoyed the trip, especially since it was their Thanksgiving holiday!



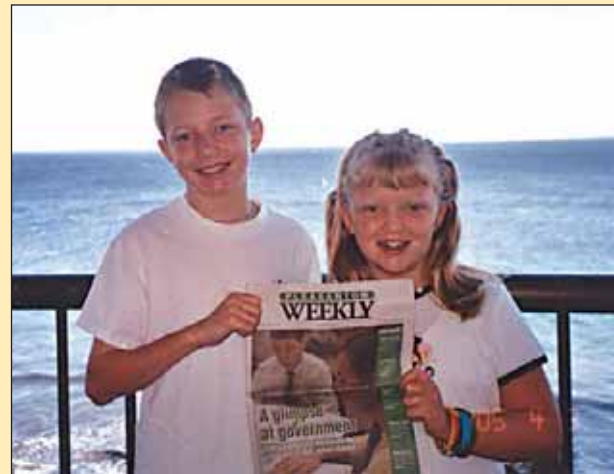
Relax and unwind

After playing and winning two volleyball games in the Junior Olympics in Louisville, Ken., Patrick Young unwinds by reading the Weekly with his mom, Ruth Young.



Romance and art in Italy

Members of the Valley Community Church read the Weekly during a "Christ in Renaissance Art" trip. The group visited Milan, Lake Garda, Venice, Bologna, Florence, the Umbria countryside and Rome. George and Evelyn Mitschelen (center) also had a special reason for taking the trip: They were celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary!

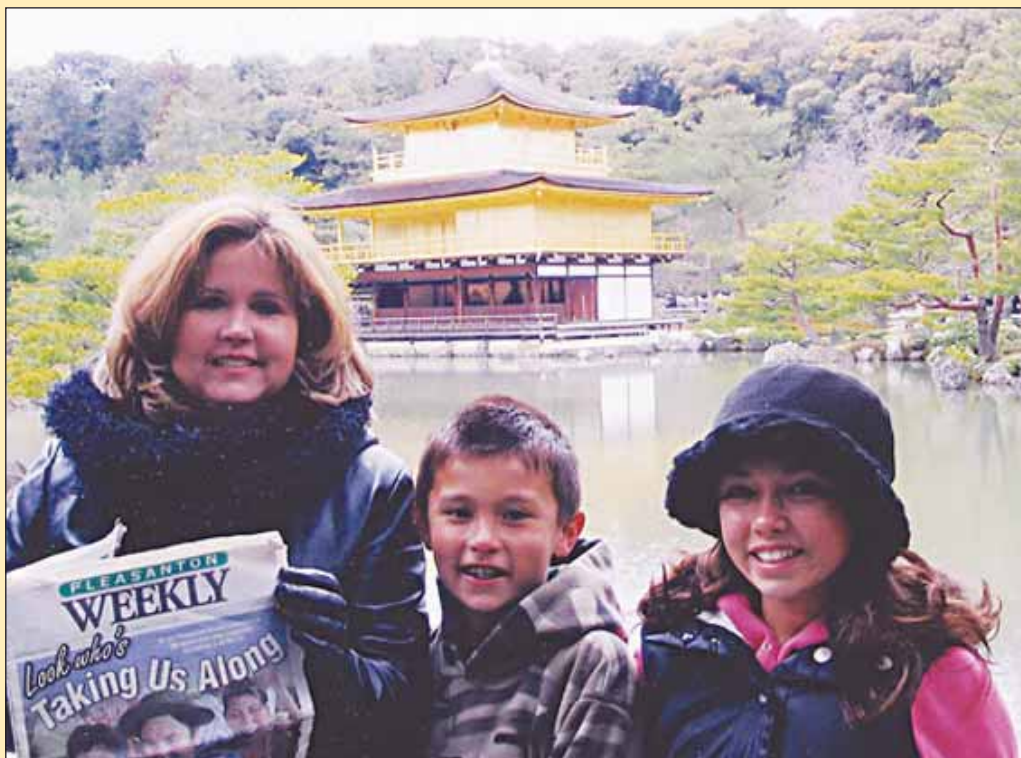


Keep on reading

Willie and Katie Ludington stay close to Pleasanton by reading the Weekly during their family vacation to Kaanapalii, Maui.



Take Us Along



Reading at Rokuon-Ji

Julie, Amanda and Andrew Villar read the Weekly in front of the Rokuon-Ji Temple in Kyoto, Japan. The temple is also called The Golden Pavilion because of the gold leaf covering the entire building.



Please 'Belize' me

Hedi Brewer reads the Weekly while soaking up some sun on the beaches of Caye Caulker Island, Belize.



Shrine time

While visiting relatives in Tokyo, the Ong family made sure they brought the Weekly with them. Here, mother Akiko, 7-year-old Jonah and 4-year-old Audrey read the Weekly at a Shinto Shrine while father Huey takes the photo.



College coincidence

It was an unlikely meeting that brought Michelle Faris and Kristine Bucchianeri together on a rainy day in Boston. Faris, a junior at Amador, was visiting Boston University and her tour of the campus was led by Bucchianeri who is a Foothill graduate. Fortunately, Faris brought a copy of the Weekly and was able to update Bucchianeri on all of the Pleasanton news she missed in Boston.



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Space Reservation and Copy Due:

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The New Hacienda

Shops, more homes, narrow tree-lined streets could change face of business park



Artist's rendering (left) of its narrower tree-lined streets, shops, contrasts with today's office center. Companies and facilities would still dominate, but new town homes and apartments would add a rental number of 1,500 units. Conceptual plans are under review.

by Jeb Bing

If planners and developers have their way, Hacienda Business Park could one day provide a greater variety of affordable town homes and apartments, retail shops and offices connected by tree-lined streets and additional transit that would transform this nationally-recognized center into a model for mixed use progress in the 21st Century.

The City Council and Planning Commission will review plans within the next few months to again consider changing Hacienda into an even larger mixed-use development than it is today. While retaining the core business emphasis of this 875-acre complex of office buildings, research facilities and information and software technologies, new plans call for increasing the number of town homes and apartments, where more than 1,500 residents now live, with additional affordable, higher density units to create a greater integration of uses.

"We have an opportunity to create a popular mixed use transit office development with retail and commercial activities to serve residents and the more than 17,000 employees who work in the park every day," said James Paxson, General Manager of the Hacienda Owners Association.

An artist's rendering shows a far different concept for future growth at Hacienda from the extra-wide streets and sidewalks with large office building setbacks that have marked Hacienda since it opened in 1983. The new concept is aimed at reducing the need to drive for those who live and/or work in Hacienda, making it easier to walk to nearby cafés and coffeehouses, even to the dry cleaners. And, for those who live and also work there, to walk to their jobs and back home again.

"When we talk about adding retail in Hacienda, we'll

be looking for shops that workers and residents want and will use without having to drive their cars, making this a somewhat self-contained village," Paxson said.

The redevelopment of Hacienda is being prompted by:

- An interest in revisiting site plans which, in some cases, are now over a decade old.
- Changes in the demand for office space, which, while improving, still has produced a market with vacancies close to 10 percent.
- A desire to enhance the attractiveness of Hacienda as the needs and demands of park users change over time.
- A pent-up demand for retail, with the vacancy rate for retail in Hacienda, mostly in strip shopping centers on Hopyard Road, now at around 1 percent.
- A need by Pleasanton housing authorities to find vacant land for smaller, more affordable housing.

Initially, Hacienda studies looked at adding 150,000-200,000 square feet of retail, which analysts said could be accommodated in the current market. But that would likely have involved bringing in major retailers and chain stores, Paxson said, and such a large-scale development was not in accord with the mix of retail land uses, housing and employment that planners and analysts preferred.

"We have reduced our retail program considerably (over the analysts' initial demand projections)," Paxson said, "and we're now planning on probably no more than 80,000 square feet of additional retail."

That pleased members of the Pleasanton Downtown Association's Downtown Vitality Committee, who told Paxson they were concerned over seeing competitive businesses established in Hacienda. Downtown Pleasanton, they said, already is faced with stiff competition from Hacienda Crossings in Dublin, with more competition likely as similar types of downtown retailers move into Livermore, Dublin and San Ramon.

"I'm not a downtown expert," Paxson told the PDA group at a meeting. "But what I am hearing from our analysts is that Main Street Pleasanton is great. They love our downtown and they're not suggesting that Hacienda try to compete. If anything, we want to make it easier for Hacienda residents and workers to go downtown."

He said the rebuilding of Hacienda would add more housing for the business center's workforce, whose thousands of workers now drive to Tracy and farther to find affordable homes. Working with city planners, Paxson hopes to find buildable sites for housing units that would consist of smaller-sized apartments and town homes with, hopefully, lower sales and rental prices than in other parts of Pleasanton. Located near the BART station, and with at least one moderate-size grocery store and service businesses in the neighborhood, the redeveloped Hacienda could make it possible for more couples and young families to live there more cheaply.

Fielding questions by downtown merchants, Paxson said Hacienda would not be a shopper's destination, such as Fourth Street in Berkeley or Union Street in San Francisco. Downtown Pleasanton is a destination, both for Hacienda workers and residents and many thousands beyond, he emphasized.

"We're not planning to have retail stores with a wide area draw in Hacienda, or a large Safeway or Albertson's," he said. "Our focus will be on creating an attractive, locally serving neighborhood retail base so that those who live here or want to leave after work to have a beer or dinner with friends can find places to go."

He said the new Hacienda would be designed to increase "trip capture," a contemporary term planners use as they create special kinds of services and retail establishments that allow people to move about in their neighborhoods during the course of the day without having to drive somewhere else.

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of a transformed Hacienda Business Park, with streets and housing units over ground floor retail day's view (above) of the 23-year-old corporate and their office, manufacturing and research facilities. The nationally-recognized business park, and apartments would more than double the residents, with more retail stores and services. Undergoing review by city planners.

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—James Paxson, General Manager of the Hacienda Owners Association

to capture people in a particular area so that inclination will be to use services nearby, "like a laundry or going to lunch," he said. "We destination for those outside of Hacienda and, residents and workers will continue going

the office vacancy rate in Hacienda is dropping much lower than Pleasanton's as a whole, the retail space is soaring, Paxson said. Stores like which are located in Hacienda, have a regional growing, with Kohl's Department Store and opening last year in the same Metro 580

plans for Hacienda to add more housing and were presented to the Planning Commission Council at a meeting last October. Hearings to the next two months or so will seek comment from the public and land use regulators as part of that will likely see changes in the early construction. A major hurdle will be traffic, with both drive and West Las Positas Boulevard cross-Hacienda. Traffic engineers are already measuring counts, especially during peak rush hours. They will help city lawmakers in deciding if the development in Hacienda, which now has 890,000 square feet of development, will add to Pleasanton's traffic.

adding retail stores to serve those who live and work in Hacienda, the business park may be able to show developers that the development will generate less traffic than the park, not more.

"It's a tremendous opportunity to integrate various uses around the park that will provide affordable housing, services and jobs," Paxson said. "We have an opportunity to do it all."

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WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

Planning Commission

Wednesday, April 12, 2006

The Planning Commission meeting scheduled for April 12 has been canceled. The next regular scheduled meeting for the Planning Commission is April 26, 2006.

Parks & Recreation Commission

Thursday, April 13, 2006 @ 7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers, 200 Old Bernal

- Proposed Small Dog Exercise Area for Muirwood Community Park
- Review and Consideration of a Draft General Plan Conservation and Open Space Element

Library Commission

Thursday, April 13, 2006 @ 7:00 p.m.

Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal

- Teen Services - Update on BALIS Project and Young Adult Summer Reading
- Library Service Measurement - Discussion of ways to survey the public satisfaction of our library community outreach

The June 8 Library Commission meeting has been changed to June 22, 2006.

Youth Commission

Wednesday, April 12, 2006 @ 7:00 p.m.

Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd.

- Review of FY 2006/07 City Grant Applications in the Youth Category
- Discussion Regarding the Book "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens"

City Council - Planning Commission Joint Workshop scheduled for April 11 has been rescheduled for April 25.

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

GENERAL INFORMATION

E-WASTE DAY

E-Waste collection day is scheduled for April 8, 2006 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the City Operations Service Center located at 3333 Busch Road. This event provides an opportunity to dispose of old electronic equipment such as computers, printers, and scanners.

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

Police Bulletin

Domestic violence suspect arrested

Pleasanton Police investigated a case of domestic violence when a 51-year-old Pleasanton woman came to the police department on March 27. The alleged victim told officers that her boyfriend, Kenneth Sanchez, 38, had been battering her over the past week. During the various arguments in her home, the alleged victim claimed Sanchez threw her on the floor, hit her and on one occasion pressed an ink pen against one of her eyes threatening to poke it out and kill her, police said. During one of these incidents, Sanchez also sodomized the victim against her will, police said.

Officers were at the victim's home conducting a follow-up report when Sanchez returned to the

home, police said. He was arrested on suspicion of domestic violence, criminal threats, assault with a deadly weapon and sodomy. He was later booked into Santa Rita Jail and charges will be sought through the District Attorney's Office, police said.

No contest plea on sexual assault charges

John Stewart Dietz, the Pleasanton man arrested last September after his wife found child pornography on the family computer, entered a no contest plea to two felony charges last month.

Dietz pled no contest to two counts of sexual penetration by a foreign object on a minor under the age of 14. Dietz will be formally sentenced in Hayward April 26.

Police Report

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

March 27

- Theft: 5
- Vandalism: 1
- DUI: 1
- Assault:
 - 12:17 p.m. in the 6800 block of Rayland Court
- Brandishing a weapon:
 - 1:27 p.m. in the 4300 block of First Street
- Resisting arrest:
 - 2:51 p.m. in the 4100 block of Vineyard Avenue

March 28

- Theft: 3
- Vandalism: 1
- Burglary: 1
- DUI: 1
- Disturbing the peace:
 - 12:52 p.m. in the 1100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

March 29

- Theft: 3
- Vandalism: 2
- Burglary: 6
- DUI: 1
- Assault:
 - 8:11 p.m. in the 300 block of Amador Court
 - 9:30 p.m. at the intersection

of Driftwood Way and Highland Oaks Drive

March 30

- Theft: 8
- Vandalism: 4
- DUI: 1
- Assault:
 - 8:45 p.m. in the 5500 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard

March 31

- Theft: 2
- DUI: 2
- Found property: 2
- Threatening phone calls: 1
- Assault:
 - 6:58 a.m. in the 500 block of St. Thomas Way
- Possession of drug paraphernalia:
 - 8 a.m. in the 3500 block of Carlsbad Court
- Child concealment:
 - 10 a.m. in the 1400 block of Olivina Avenue
- Assault:
 - 8:09 p.m. in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

April 1

- Theft: 3
- DUI: 2
- Possession of marijuana:
 - 2 p.m. at the intersection of Gibraltar Drive and Hopyard Road

Assault:

- 3:10 a.m. in the 4300 block of Fairlands Drive
- 11:18 p.m. in the 2000 block of Eilene Drive

April 2

- DUI: 1
- Disorderly conduct:
 - 1:20 a.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Road
 - 6:47 a.m. at the intersection of Case and Bernal avenues
 - 7:49 a.m. in the 300 block of Angela Street

ACCIDENTS

March 27

- 2:45 p.m. - Non-injury hit-and-run accident in the 4300 block of Foothill Road

March 29

- 7:38 a.m. - Injury accident at the intersection of Bernal Avenue and Foothill Road
- 12:19 p.m. - Injury accident at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Stanley Boulevard

March 31

- 6:12 p.m. - Non-injury accident in the 1800 block of Valley Avenue
- 6:41 p.m. - Non-injury accident at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Santa Rita Road

April 1

- 7:38 p.m. - Injury accident at the intersection of Bernal and Pleasanton avenues



Calendar

Author Visits

A Mysterious Evening

Meet mystery authors and members of Sisters-in-Crime Rhys Bowen, Cara Black and Lyn Hamilton 7 p.m., Fri., April 7 at Bay Books, 2415 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon. Call 855-1524.

Linda Carucci

Join Linda Carucci, author of "Cooking School Secrets" at the Read It and Eat luncheon noon, Mon., April 10 at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Cost is \$28 for lunch and book, \$10 for lunch. Call 846-8826.

Book Clubs

Adult Book Club

The Adult Book Club will be discussing Sean Stewart's "The Mockingbird" 7 p.m., Wed., April 12 at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Call 846-8826.

Livermore Book Club

The Livermore Book Club meets 7-9 p.m. every fourth Tuesday monthly at the Livermore Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave.

Civic Meetings

City Council

The council meets 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday monthly at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave. The next meeting is April 18.

Housing Commission

The commission meets 7:30 p.m. on the third Thursday monthly at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave. The next meeting is April 20.

Human Services Commission

The commission meets 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday monthly at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave. The next meeting is May 3.

Library Commission

The commission meets 7 p.m. on the second Thursday monthly at Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. The next meeting is April 13.

Parks & Recreation Commission

The commission meets 7 p.m. the second Thursday monthly at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave. The next meeting is April 13.

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. Note: April 12 meeting is canceled in observance of the first day of Passover.

School Board

The Pleasanton Unified School District Board meets 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday monthly in the district office board room 4665 Bernal Ave. The April 11 meeting has been cancelled. The next meeting is April 25.

Youth Commission

The commission meets 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday monthly at Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. The next meeting is April 12.

Class Reunions

Amador Valley High School Reunion, 1996

Amador Valley High School will be holding a 10-year reunion for the class of 1996 7 p.m.-midnight, Sat., June 24 at Pan Pacific Hotel, 500 Post St., San Francisco. E-mail Christina_Mantha@yahoo.com, visit

Weekend Preview



Indian dance at the Library

Students from Kalaikoil Music, Dance and Arts of India will perform classical Indian dance at the Pleasanton Public Library 2 p.m., Saturday, April 22. The event is part of the library's ongoing "Dance and Sing Around the World" series that features dance and music programs celebrating Pleasanton's international heritage. Students will perform the Tanjore style of dance from Bharatanatyam, India. Admission is free. Call 931-3400, ext. 8 or visit www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/library for more information.

www.reunionmakers.com, or register on classmates.com.

Clubs

Pleasanton Newcomers

Newcomers Club meets 10 a.m. the first Wednesday monthly for coffee and at 10 a.m. the second Wednesday monthly for lunch. Call 215-8409 or visit www.pleasanton-newcomers.com.

Pleasanton North Rotary Club

The Pleasanton North Rotary Club meets at 12:15 p.m. every Friday at the Hilton, 7050 Johnson Dr. Call Wayne, 426-2510.

Quilt Guild

The Quilt Guild Club meets 1:30 p.m. on the second Saturday monthly at Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave. Call Marion, 828-5656.

Soroptimist

Soroptimist International is dedicated to issues affecting women and children and meets at noon the second and fourth Wednesday monthly at Vic's All Star Kitchen, 201 A Main St. Call 846-6644.

Toastmasters No. 2452

Join the Toastmasters Club No. 2452 to improve your communication and leadership skills 7-8 a.m. every Thursday at Mimi's Cafe, 4775 Hacienda Dr., Dublin. Call 413-1096

Tri-Valley Leads

Tri-Valley Leads meets 7:15-8:30 a.m. every other Wednesday beginning

Feb. 22 at Carrow's, 7505 Dublin Blvd., Dublin. Call Donna, 586-3952 or e-mail donna@diamonddonna.com.

Tri-Valley Rotary

The Rotary Club meets 6:30 p.m. every Thursday at Girasole Restaurant, 3180 Santa Rita Rd. Call Marlene, 846-1000.

V.F.W. Auxilliary

V.F.W. Post 6298 Auxilliary meets 7 p.m. the first Tuesday monthly at Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main St. Call Dan, 846-7320.

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 premiere of "Symphony No. 1: New Day Rising," 8 p.m., Tues., April 18 at Dean Leshner Regional Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. General admission is \$18, \$15 for seniors and students. Call 943-7469 or visit www.CCWindSyphony.org.

Concerts

Sotto Voce Tuba Quartet

Del Valley Fine Arts classical concert series concludes its season 8 p.m., Sat., April 8 at First Presbyterian Church, 2020 5th St., Livermore. Tickets are \$15 general, \$13 seniors and college students, free for high school students. Call 447-2752 or visit www.delvallefinearts.org.

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Deadline:

Space Reservation and Copy Due:

Thursday, April 20

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WEEKLY

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Events

Augustin Bernal Hike

Hike 4-5 miles with an elevation gain of 800 feet 8:50 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Sat., April 8. Fee is \$18 and includes a group picture and a discussion facilitated by Sue Evans during lunch time. Sign up at the Pleasanton Recreation Department or call 484-0239.

Champagne Buffet Brunch

Stacey's at Waterford is featuring a Champagne Buffet Brunch 10:30 a.m.-3:30 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 to RSVP, or visit www.opentable.com.

Community Sedar

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews will hold a Secular Community Passover Sedar

5 p.m., Sun., April 16 at Highland Oaks Community Room. The Sedar is a non-kosher-for-Passover potluck featuring a non-religious, progressive haggadah. Cost is \$15 for non-members ages 13 and up. Call 455-0542 to RSVP.

Haven Promotes Sexual Assault Awareness

Join the Tri-Valley Haven community at the candlelight march in honor of Sexual Assault Awareness 7 p.m., Fri., April 7 at First St. and Livermore Ave., Livermore. Call 449-5845.

LifeStyleRx Fitness Celebration Run & Bike

Benefit Healthy Kids P.E. programs in the Tri-Valley elementary schools by walking, running or biking at the Fitness Celebration Run & Bike on Sat., April 8 at LifeStyleRx/Valley Care, 1119 E. Stanely Blvd., Livermore. Call (209) 795-7832 or

visit www.onyourmarkevents.com for registration fees.

Musical Night at the Movies

Danville Community Band and "The Three Tenors" presents "A Musical Night at the Movies," 7:30 p.m., Sun., April 9 at Blackhawk Country Club, 599 Blackhawk Club Dr., Danville. The no-host bar begins at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m. Cost is \$45. Call 736-6500, ext. 0.

Mystery Dinner

The Pleasanton Hotel presents "Murder at the Pleasanton Hotel" 7 p.m., Fri., 14, at 855 Main St. Cost is \$60, a three-course dinner and a four-act show are included. Call 846-8106 or e-mail VernieLaube@yahoo.com.

Plant Sale

The Garden Club is having a plant sale from 9 a.m.-noon, Sat., April 8 at Amador High School, 1155 Santa Rita Rd. Call Betty, 846-7688.

Poetry reading

Join Cynthia Bryant, Carolee Harari, Tamara Grippi, Peggy Messerschmidt, Martha Meltzer, Alice Knight and Liz Fortini for a poetry reading 7:30 p.m., Fri., April 28 at Towne Cener Books, 555 Main St. Call 846-8826.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Donate blood 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Tues., April 25 at DCA Corporate Center, 4140 Dublin Rd., Dublin or 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Fri., April 28 at Toyota Motor Sales, 2451 Bishop Dr., San Ramon. Call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE.

Second Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Tesla Vintners will host the 2nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt for children 12 years and younger at 1 p.m., Sat., April 15 at 5143 Tesla Rd., Livermore. Call Patty, 606-WINE.

Ship of Hope

Cruise with the "Ship of Hope" to the Greek Isles from 6-11 p.m., Sat., April 22 at Castlewood Country Club, 707 Country Club Cir. Tickets are \$75 per person, \$750 for a table of 10. Call 829-8770 to RSVP.

Six Dreams in Four Days

Habitat for Humanity East Bay's Earth Day Build-A-Thon will take place from Thurs., April 20 through Sun., April 23 in Livermore. Help build frames of six homes in four days. Breakfast, snack and lunch will be provided. Call Patti, (510) 251-6304, ext. 313 or visit www.habitatEB.org.

Spring Preview and Customer Appreciation

Pleasanton Downtown Association is hosting the Spring Preview and Customer Appreciation Days 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat., April 8 and noon-5 p.m., Sun., April 9 downtown. Call Nickie, 484-2199 or visit www.pleasanton-downtown.net.

Exhibits

Art in the Family

Different styles of art from six painters will be on display until Sat., April 15 at Alexander's Main Street Gallery, 610 Main St. Call 846-6015.

Bouquets to Art

Worthington Gallery West presents "Bouquets to Art," a floral exhibit, Sat., April 8 through Sun., May 7. Artist reception is from 4-6 p.m., Sat., April 8 at 739 J. Main St. Call 485-1183.

Film

Black and White

The Pleasanton Library and Las Positas College presents a series of classic black and white films 7 p.m. on the first Thursday monthly at Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Admission is free. The next showing will be "On the Waterfront", starring Marlon Brando, on April 8. Call Penny, 931-3405.

Ice Age 2

Vine Theater, located at 1722 First St., Livermore, is donating 300 movie tickets for "Ice Age 2: The Meltdown" to benefit the Barton reading program at Pleasanton schools. Go to any matinee showing on Sat., April 8 or Sun., April 9. Tickets are \$15, popcorn and soda included. Call 447-2545.

Invisible Ballots

"Invisible Ballots: A Temptation for Electronic Voter Fraud," will be shown 7 p.m., Sat., April 8 at IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy., Dublin. Admission is free. Beverages and snacks served. Call Paulette, 462-3459.

King Kong

"King Kong" will be shown at 2 p.m., Wed., April 19 at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Admission is free. Call Teresa, 931-3404.

Movie Time at the Library

The animated film based on "White," written by E.B., will show 2 p.m., Sat., April 8 at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Popcorn will be provided. Call 931-3400, ext. 23.

Sonoma Valley Film Festival

Enjoy food, wine, and more than 75 new independent films from all over the world from Wed., April 5 through Sun., April 9. Call (707) 933-2600 or visit www.CinemaEpicuria.org.

Fundraisers

Mr. Amador Charity Fundraiser

Students at Amador Valley High School are holding a "Mr. Amador" contest 7 p.m., Mon., April 10 at the Amador large gym. The event is raising money for The Alameda County One Stop Local Assistance Center for Hurricane Katrina evacuees, an organization that helps Katrina victims who relocated to the Bay Area. Sophomore, junior and senior male students will compete in a Miss America-style beauty pageant and one will be named Mr. Amador. Tickets are \$5 when purchased in advance through the Student Activities office and \$7 at the door.

Big Bucks Purple and Gold Gala

Amador Valley High's Athletic Booster Club is hosting the 20th Annual Big Bucks Purple and Gold Gala featuring dinner, raffles, auctions and more 6 p.m., Sat., May 6 at CarrAmerica Conference Center, 4400 Rosewood Dr. Call Lori, 426-6786 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 Valley Charter School. Call Maria, 201-3422 or e-mail ccef@lvcs.org.

Blankets for Babies

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at ValleyCare and Lucile Packard are collecting sewn, knitted, and crocheted 24- or 36-inch blankets. Call 426-4307 or 426-9635.

Dictionary Project

Bay East Association of Realtors partners with a national non-profit, The Dictionary Project, to provide dictionaries for third graders in local schools. There are more than 200 classes waiting to be adopted. One call per Realtor member. Call Marla, 730-3269 or e-mail marlak@bayeast.org.

Entertainment Books

Entertainment books are on sale for \$25 available at the Apoption Center, 273 Spring St. Proceeds go to Valley Humane Society programs. Call 426-8656.

Kidsave's Summer Miracles

Buy raffle tickets for \$50 each or three for \$100. Only 2,000 tickets available. Winner will choose from two vacations, Monaco or Florida. All proceeds support Kidsave's Summer Miracles and Weekend Miracles programs. Drawing will be held 9 p.m., Sat., May 20. Call 310-479-5437.

Locks of Love

The Girl Scout Gold Award project raises awareness for Locks of Love, an organization providing free wigs to children with cancer and other chronic illnesses that cause hair loss. Donate 10 inches of your hair to help a child in need and receive a free haircut and style 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun., April 9 at Hairlights Salon, 4307 Valley Ave. Call 462-HAIR.

Recycle for Breast Cancer

Recycle electronics, empty ink jet and toner cartridges to support the fight

against breast cancer. Free pick up, drop off, or prepaid envelopes and shipping labels available. Call Larry, 735-7203 or e-mail larry@recycleforbreastcancer.org.

The Magic of Music

Amador Valley's jazz bands, winter percussion and color guard is hosting the "The Magic of Music," Sat., April 8 at the Hilton, 7050 Johnson Dr. This is a black tie event with dinner and dancing and a live and silent auction. Tickets are \$75. Call Viki, 462-4218 or to donate, call Cindy, 426-1481.

Health

Exercise Class

The Pleasanton Department of Parks and Community Services offers morning and evening adult exercise classes at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., and at the Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main St. Cost varies from \$3 to \$4.50 per class. Call 931-5340.

Free Dyslexia Screening

Learning Rx is offering a free dyslexia screening until Sun., April 30. Call 416-1400 or visit www.learningrx.com.

Kids & Teens

AAU Track & Field Sign Ups

Youths between 6-18 years of age are welcome to join the Tri-Valley Track Club. Practices are held 4 p.m. every Wednesday and 3 p.m. every Sunday at Sunset Park, 1040 Florence Rd., Livermore. Call 862-085 or 518-9356.

Art Competition

Congressman Richard W. Pombo invites all high school students residing in the 11th Congressional District to participate in "An Artistic Discovery." Submit entries by Fri., May 12 at one of Pombo's district offices. Visit www.house.gov/pombo/students/students.htm.

Glam Up Picture Day

Pure Girls is hosting a Glam Up Picture Day with Meritage Photography 12:30-4:30 p.m., Sat., April 8 at Pure Girls, 660 Main St. Cost is \$30 and includes the glam up, sitting fee and a 5x7 picture. Limited space available. Call 485-4380.

Healthy Kids Day

YMCA is sponsoring a "Put Play in Your Day" for kids and families from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Sat., April 8 at Fairlands Elementary School, 4151 W. Las Positas Blvd. Admission is free. Activities includes face painting, dodgeball, obstacle course and more. Call 475-6107 or e-mail David, dvoltz@ymcaeastbay.org.

Little League

Registration for Farm (ages 7-8) and T-Ball (ages 5-6) is still open. Visit www.pleasantonamerican.org or e-mail pallregistrar@comcast.net. All games are played at the Sports Park. Call 890-7679.

Ten Star All Star Basketball Camp

Boys and girls age 10-19 are eligible to apply for the Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp in Thousand Oaks, Calif. College basketball scholarships available for players selected to the All-American team. Call (704) 373-0873 for a free brochure.

Lectures/Workshops

Administering Health Care Costs

Marcy Feit, president and CEO of ValleyCare, will speak about "Administering Health Care Costs and Current Trends in Stem Cell Research," 6-8:30 p.m., Tues., April 18 at Wyndham Garden Hotel, 5990 Stoneridge Mall Rd. Cost is \$29 and includes dinner. Call Robert, (510) 304-1406 or e-mail rthulin@theima.org to RSVP.

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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 unbleached 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 \$5 for members, \$10 non-members. Call 462-7266 to RSVP.

Latest Techniques for Hip Replacement

Dr. Stephen Viess and Dr. Joseph Donnelly will discuss the latest techniques being used for hip replacement, what to expect during rehabilitation and the future of replacement from 10 a.m.-noon, Tues., April 11 at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$1.25 for residents, \$1.75 non-residents. Call 931-5365.

Life with an Autistic Son

Laura Shumaker will share her insights about autism and how it has affected her family 2 p.m., Sun., April 9 at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Call Penny, 931-3405.

Papier-Mache Wimsy

Learn techniques that spark your imagination and encourage creativity 2-4 p.m. every Tuesday at Village High School, 4645 Bernal Ave., room 207. Bring newspaper, roll of 1" masking tape, and two wire coat hangers. Call 935-8972.

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 CarrAmerica Conference Center, 4400 Rosewood Dr. Admission is free. Call 960-1600 or visit www.caconference.com. To register, visit www.123signup.com

Women's Connection

Women's Connection presents "Don't be a Desperate Housewife!" from

9-11 a.m., Thurs., April 20 at the Radisson Hotel, 6680 Regional St., Dublin. Guest speaker Jeannie Sartre, author of "Eight is Not Enough" will share her source of strength in raising a large, international family with humor and hope. Cost is \$17 inclusive. Reservations and cancellations requested by April 17. Call Jan, 462-9142, or Jill, (510) 582-2351.

Yoga and Breathing

The Art of Living Foundation will present a free two-hour yoga, breathing and meditation series 7 p.m., Mon., 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 PetsMart. Call 803-7043 for more times and locations or visit www.tvr.org.

Child Care Initiative Project

Licensed and license-exempt child care providers are encouraged to participate in the CCIP project to receive technical assistance and support, free training and support materials, and more. Call Donnamarie, 249-3923.

Donate to Help Fight Cancer

Help fight cancer by donating new or gently used clothing and accessories, household items, and furniture to the American Cancer Discovery Shop, 1987-A Santa Rita Rd. Call 462-7374.

Family Read Night

Read stories and craft with the family at Family Read Night, offered in English and Spanish. Admission is free. Space is limited so registration is required. Call Donnamarie, 249-3923 for dates and locations.

Farmers Market

Shop for fresh produce, flowers, and baked goods from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

every Saturday on West Angela Street between Main and First streets. Call 825-9090.

Free Tax Preparation

If your household income was less than \$38,000 in 2005, you may qualify for a free tax preparation and filing service. Call 485-5266 or 485-5272.

Open Heart Kitchen

Open Heart Kitchen provides hot meals to the underprivileged from 4:30-6 p.m. every Friday at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Rd., noon-6 p.m.; every Tuesday and Wednesday at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore; and 4-6 p.m. every Thursday at Vineyard Christian Fellowship, 460 N. Livermore St., Livermore. Call Carol, 580-1616.

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. every third Thursday monthly at Used and Rare Bookstore, 2911 Hopyard Rd. Call Michelle, 931-5350 or e-mail mrusso@ci.pleasanton.ca.us.

Rabbit Education and Adoption

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue is hosting a bunny event, focusing on education while showcasing homeless bunnies 1-4 p.m., Sat., April 29 at PetsMart, 6960 Amador Plaza Rd. Call Marisa, 447-2130 or e-mail bunny@aino.com.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Donate blood 1-7 p.m., Fri., April 7 at Fellowship Hall, 4743 East Ave., Livermore. Call 800-GIVE-LIFE or visit www.BeADonor.com, enter in code: Asbury, to schedule an appointment.

Self-Defense Clinic

Pure Girls is sponsoring a mother/daughter self-defense clinic 7 p.m., Thursdays, April 13, 20, 27 and May 4. Cost is \$30 per pair, \$20 per individual with a 10 percent discount if you sign up for all four sessions. Call 485-4380 to RSVP.

On Stage

Comedy Wednesday

John DeKoven's Comedy Showcase is every second and fourth Wednesday monthly at Main Street Brewery, 830 Main St. Cover charge is \$7 with a two drink minimum. Call 264-4413 or visit www.trivalleycomedy.com.

Junie B. Jones & A Little Monkey Business

Junie B. Jones and A Little Monkey Business will show 2 p.m., Sat., April 15 at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Call 931-3400, ext. 8.

Urtinetown

Las Positas College presents "Urtinetown: The Musical," at 8 p.m., April 7, and 8; and at 2 p.m., Sun.,

April 9 at 3033 Collier Canyon Rd., Livermore. General admission is \$14, students and seniors \$10. Call 424-1812 or 424-1166.

Valley Shakespeare Festival

Volunteers are needed to help at the Valley Shakespeare Festival, the West Coast premier of The Wharton One-Acts by Dennis Krausnick, based on Edith Wharton short stories on April 7, 8, 14-16. Call Judy, 462-6585 or e-mail Judy@valleyshakes.org.

Recreation

Enrichment Classes

Pleasanton Parks and Recreation offers enrichment classes ranging from art, aquatics, sports, health, and cooking at 200 Old Bernal Ave. Call 931-5340 or visit www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/parks.html.

Scholarships

PTSA Seniors

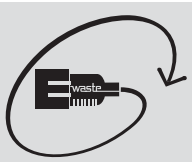
Twelve \$500 scholarships are available to Amador's PTSA Seniors. Based on essay, extra-curricular involvement, community service, honor/awards, GPA, ACT, SAT scores and work experience. Visit www.capta.org.

Electronics Collection Event

For Residents of Pleasanton

TVs and computer monitors contain lead and cannot be thrown in the trash. Other electronics may also contain toxic components, and can be recycled or reused.

The City of Pleasanton and Pleasanton Garbage Service are making it easy to recycle or properly dispose of your unwanted electronics (E-waste) with a free, one-day collection event.

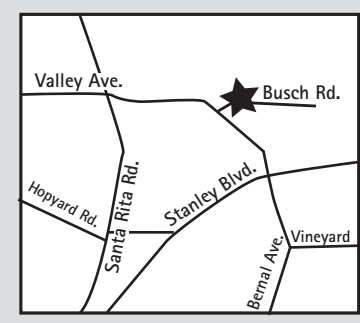


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- computers
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- copiers
- VCRs
- cell phones
- DVD players
- printers
- PDA's
- fax machines
- stereos
- camcorders



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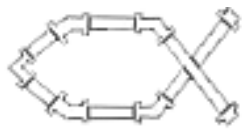
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Calendar

U.S. Commission for Scholastic Assistance

Learn more about applying for scholarships and lists of scholarships available by sending a self-addressed, stamped, business size #10 envelope to: The U.S. Commission for Scholastic Assistance, P.O. Box 650067, Potomac Falls, VA 20165-0067.

Seniors

Bingo

Play Bingo 12:30-3 p.m. on the first, third, and fifth Monday monthly and 1-3 p.m. every Friday at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$1.25 for residents, \$1.75 non-residents. Game cards are 50 cents. Call 931-5365.

Emotional Wellness Group

Learn more about depression, anxiety, and how medications and alcohol may affect emotional well-being 2 p.m. every other Thursday at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Call Charlene or Jode, 931-5382.

Friday Night Dance

Join the crowd for ballroom dancing once a month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Tickets are \$7 for residents, \$8 non-residents. Singles welcome. Reservations required. Call 931-5365.

Internet Access Workstation

The internet workstation is available 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Mon-Fri. and 9 a.m.-noon most Saturdays. Cost is \$1.25 for residents, \$1.75 non-residents. Call 931-5365.

Luncheons

The Dublin Senior Center hosts special luncheons on the second Thursday monthly at the Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin. Call 556-4511 or visit www.ci.dublin.ca.us. Reservations needed by the Friday prior to the luncheon.

Movie Madness

Seniors are invited to watch free movies on the big screen 1 p.m. on the first and third Monday monthly at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Popcorn and refreshments available. Call 931-5365.

Paratransit Service

The paratransit service provides door-to-door bus service to seniors 65 and older, and individuals with disabilities of any age and is available 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Mon-Fri., and 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sat. Call 931-5376.

PC Users Groups

Meets 10 a.m.-noon on the fourth Thursday monthly at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$1.25 for residents, \$1.75 non-residents. Call 931-5365.

Personal Computers Group

Meets 10 a.m.-noon the fourth Thursday monthly at Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$1.25 for residents, \$1.75 non-residents. Call 931-5365 or e-mail please-nior@yahoo.com.

Senior Dinner

Open Heart Kitchen provides seniors 60 years and older with an evening meal from 4-6 p.m., Mon-Fri. at Ridge View Commons, 4200 Case Ave. Suggested donation is \$3. Call 484-5131 for reservations.

Senior Lunch

Spectrum Community Services provides seniors 60 years and older with a noon meal at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Suggested donation is \$3.25. Call 931-5385 for reservations.

V.I.P. Senior Club

Meets from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. the second and fourth Mondays monthly at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Call 931-5385.

Woodshop Program

The woodshop program is open from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. every Tuesday at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353

Sunol Blvd. Drop-in fees are \$1.75 for residents and \$2.75 for non-residents. Call 931-5365 for additional drop-in hours.

Spiritual

Community Bible Study

An interdenominational bible study invites women in the community to a study of Ephesians from 9:30-11:30 a.m. every Thursday until May 18, at 4300 Mirador Dr. Childcare is available. Call 820-3481.

Faith Chapel Assembly of God

Sunday school for all ages begins at 9:30 a.m., worship at 10:30 a.m., and Children's Church Program (ages 3-12) at 11:15 a.m. Every Wednesday the Women's Bible Study meets at 10 a.m., Choir Practice and Boys & Girls Mission Crusade Club (grades K-5) all begin at 7 p.m. Singles and Young Married home bible study meets at 7:30 p.m. every Thursday. Seniors 55+ meets at 7 p.m. the third Thursday of each month. Call Sophia, 846-8650.

Special Easter Week Services

Presbyterian Church is holding Special Easter Week Services 7 p.m., Thurs., 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 846-4436.

Tri-Valley Unity Church

Tri-Valley Unity Church will meet until further notice at 10 a.m., every Sun. at the Radisson Hotel, 6680 Regional St., Dublin. Worship service and children's school will be offered as well. Call 829-2733 or visit www.trivalleyunity.com.

Walk to the Water

Chapter of Sisters in Service is holding a two or five-mile journey for the "Walk to the Water" event to empathize with women living in harsh conditions across the world who must walk everyday for clean water, and to raise

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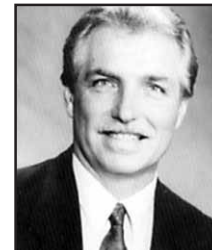
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| Example | 30 year | 40 years |
|------------------------------|-----------|----------|
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| 1st Year Monthly Payment | \$1,695 | \$1,379 |
| 2nd Year Max Monthly Payment | \$1,822 | \$1,483 |
| 3rd Year Max Monthly Payment | \$1,959 | \$1,594 |
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| 5th Year Max Monthly Payment | \$2,264 | \$1,842 |

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funds for women and children living in oppressed conditions 8 a.m.-noon, Sat., April 8 at Lake Chabot Park, Castro Valley. Call Rekha, 866-9621.

Sports

Athenian Athletics

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 518-9356 or visit www.athenianathletics.com.

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.

Sea Devils

The Tri-Valley Sea Devils team is looking for year-round swimmers. Call Hope, 469-8495.

Support Groups

Al-anon and Al-a-teen

Al-Anon is a Tri-Valley support group for family and friends of alcoholics that meets from 6:30-8 p.m. every Sunday at San Ramon Presbyterian Church, 12943 Alcosta Blvd., upstairs in the Kindergarten room. Call 277-7661 or visit www.ncwsa.org.

Bereavement Support Group

This group of the Catholic Community of Pleasanton meets at 7:30 p.m., the second and fourth Thursdays monthly, and is for anyone of any faith at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive. Call Mary, 846-5377.

Bipolar Support Group

The Tri-Valley Bipolar Support Group, which provides peer support for people with mood disorders, meets 7:15-8:45 p.m. every Wednesday at St. Claire's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road. Call 560-0842 or e-mail trivalleybipolar@hotmail.com.

Breast Cancer Prayer & Support

The Breast Cancer and Support Group of the Catholic Community of Pleasanton meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month 7 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., room B. Call 461-8411. All are welcome.

Breast Cancer Support

The free, professionally facilitated group is for women in any breast cancer treatment stage; meetings are 6:30-8 p.m. on the first Wednesday monthly in the south building's west day room at San Ramon Regional Medical Center, 7777 Norris Canyon Road, San Ramon. Call 275-8414.

Cancer Support

Anyone facing cancer and care persons may join the Living Beyond Limits group that meets from 7-8:30 p.m. on the first, third and fifth Thursday monthly at ValleyCare Health Center, 5575 Las Positas Blvd. No fee. Call Ken Smith, 846-8594.

Cancer Support Group

The Cancer Support Group meets from 2-4 p.m., every Tuesday at the ValleyCare Health Library and Ryan Comer Cancer Resource Center, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suite 270. Call 933-0107.

Caregiver Support Group

Meetings are held from 1-2:30 p.m. the second Monday of the month for people caring for persons with Alzheimer's and dementia-related illnesses, at the Pleasanton Senior Center Support Program Sunroom, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Call 931-5389 or Jode, 931-5382, ext. 1.

Tri-Valley ADHD Adult Support Group

This group meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month at Lynnewood United Methodist

Church, 4444 Black Ave. Call Pattie, 548-4247.

Vision Support Group

This is for individuals and their loved ones who have any kind of vision impairment and meet from 10-11:30 a.m. on the third Tuesday of every month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Call Jill, 931-5369.

TV30

Heart Smart and Annual Plant Sale

Dr. Matthew DeVane discusses how to keep our hearts healthy and Tia Allman of the Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club discusses planting and annual sale at 6:30 a.m., 2 p.m. and 11 p.m., Sat., April 8 on channel 30.

Local Activities and Events

Join Eboni Wamking for a look into local events at 8 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 9 p.m. and 11:30 p.m., Sat., April 8 on channel 30.

Volunteering

Alameda County Community Food Bank

Volunteers are needed to staff the Emergency Food Hotline from 9 a.m.-

noon and 1-4 p.m., Mon-Fri. Call (510) 834-3663 or visit www.accfb.org.

Assistance League

Assistance League, a nonprofit organization, is looking for volunteers to assist with ongoing philanthropic projects and meets at 7 p.m., the third Thursday of every month at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Rd. Call 484-1354 or visit www.amador-valleyassistanceleague.org.

Community Service for Teens

Open Heart Kitchen's Ridgeview Commons Senior Meal Program needs 10-12 teens (at least 16 years of age) from 3:30-6:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri. Job includes serving seniors from the buffet line, helping seniors get to their tables, bussing tables, cleaning, etc. Adults also welcome to apply. Call 580-1619.

Foster Homes Needed

Valley Humane Society, 273 Spring St., is urgently seeking temporary homes for rescued kittens, puppies, cats and dogs. Food and medical expenses are provided. Also needed are Adoption Volunteer Coordinators and counselors. Call 426-8656 or visit www.valleyhumane.org.

Jewish Community Federation

Jewish Community Federation of the Greater East Bay offers opportunities to volunteer within the community, such as serving meals, tutoring chil-

dren, and serving on Jewish agency committees or boards. Call (510) 839-2900, ext. 261.

Museum Volunteer

Come and learn about upcoming events and special programs at 9 a.m. on the fourth Wednesday of every month at the Museum On Main Street, 603 Main St. Call Heather, 462-2766.

Open Heart Kitchen

If you love to cook and have a passion to end hunger, volunteer at Open Heart Kitchen, the Tri-Valley's only free hot meal service for the needy. There are many volunteer opportunities for teens and adults. Call Dianne, 580-1619 or e-mail dadamson@open-heartkitchen.org.

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, 1660 Portola Ave., Livermore or their thrift stores, 7381 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin, and 1362 Railroad Ave., Livermore any time Mon-Fri. Call Lyn, 443-4283, ext. 217.

Special Olympics Tournament

The Amador Valley Booster Club

needs volunteers for the Special Olympics basketball tournament 7 a.m.-noon or 12:30-5:30 p.m., Sat., April 8 or Sun., April 9. Call Kent, 413-0378 or e-mail zenkent@comcast.net.

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., Sun. Call 462-7374.

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

TVAR will host two volunteer/shelter orientations 1-2:30 p.m., Sat., April 8 and Sun., April 23 at East County Animal Shelter, 4595 Gleason Dr., Dublin. Call Cathy, 426-2472 or e-mail calicocathy@yahoo.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 Jewish Living provides assisted living, Alzheimer's and skilled nursing care to its residents. Volunteers play a key role. RCJL has a wide range of opportunities matching volunteer's interests while ensuring the needs of residents. To apply, call Irma, 964-2098.

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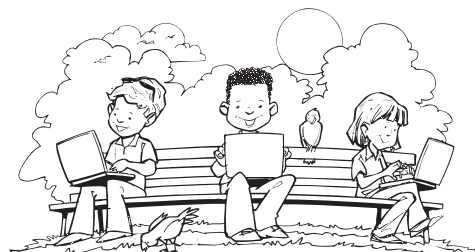
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Sports

Parent photographers

Send a jpeg to Editor@PleasantonWeekly.com of the best action shot from your child's game for consideration for our Sports page. Remember to include caption information: who, what, when, where—and the score.

AVHS Competition Spirit Squads Rule

Amador Valley High Schools' three Competition Spirit Squads competed in the USA High School Spirit Nationals on March 18 and 19 in Anaheim. The Varsity Comp Squad took second place in its division. The girls performed twice and competed against 22 other teams from around the state. They tumbled, cheered, flew and danced their way to an almost perfect routine, said Lori Rice, mother of competitor Catie Rice. Students (pictured) on this year's Varsity Comp Squad are: Emi Anderson, Kendal Aguilar-Erdei, Mallory Brown, Danielle Butler, Kristin Hong, Emily Pesicka, Catie Rice, Kelly Wevill, Kelci Gilmour, Ashley Miller, Michelle Lanning, Alyssa Browning, Sabrina Libert, and Lauren Bayly. Rice adds that the JV Competition Spirit Squad performed its best routine of the year. "Although they didn't make it to the finals, their performance was amazing!" she said. Competing on the JV Comp Squad are: Annie Harbottle, Caterina Natale, Alexa Gill, Alyssa St. John, Rebecca



The girls on the Group Stunt Team are: Emi Anderson, Danielle Butler, Kristin Hong, Sabrina Libert and Alyssa Browning. Competition Spirit Squad coaches are Katie Pesicka, Maria Annicchio, Erin Gilmour and Mike Grenz.

Mackenzie, Danellie Suchon, Sara Danko, Lauren Jancoski, Ashley Patula, Shelbie Chubb and Lauren Bayly.

Despite some last minute changes to Amador's five-person

Group Stunt Team, with only a few hours of practice the girls took seventh place in their division out of 53 teams. "They were unbelievable!" Rice said.

—Carol Bogart

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Amador Dons on the upswing

At Ruby Hill Country Club Wednesday March 22, senior captain Mike Ortega led the golfers with a round of 38 against visitors from Acalanes and helped the team bring the Dons home with a 206 to their lowest 9 hole score of the year. The Dons battled Livermore the following day on Livermore's home course at Wente Golf Course, adding to a tour that has included Sequoia Country Club, Discovery Bay, Lone Tree Golf Course, Ruby Hill Country Club and Wente Vineyards. The boys have been consistently shooting in the high 30's to mid 40's so far this season, allowing them to move into second place in league after their game Thursday March 16 against Livermore, at the beautiful Wente Golf Course. Freshman Kurt vonTrapp medaled with a 41 in his first league start. The boys have also played another league round against Granada.

—Carol Bogart

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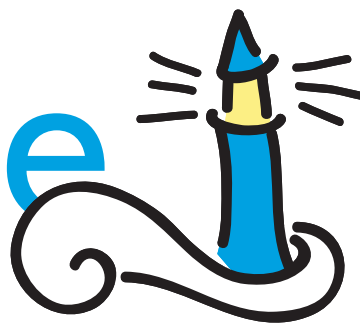
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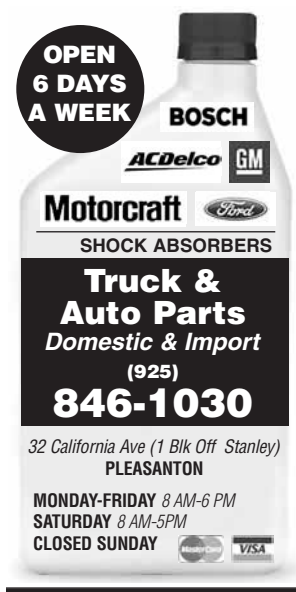
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Jim's Country Style Restaurant
 5400 Sunol Blvd., next to Raley's, Pleasanton, (925) 426-7019. Loved by locals and famous for its ranch-style omelets and large portions, Jim's serves up the country-style fixings from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. So if you're 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) 846-8106. This restored Victorian "hotel" combines the ambiance of the past with the exciting contemporary cooking of Chef Neil 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.

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Vic's All Star Kitchen
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Indian

Chef India Cuisine

5100 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton, (925) 463-8773. Newly arrived in Pleasanton, its lunch buffet features over 25 items on every week day. They have a special Brunch buffet on every Sat. and Sun. which features more than 30 items. The dinner menu is extensive with many authentic Indian dishes to choose from, along with a full bar and large dining facility. Chef India invites you to hold your banquet with them. Conveniently located near the corner of Hopyard and Owens (next to Chevron) with plenty of parking. Check their website www.chefindia.com for details.

Gold Indian Cuisine

824 Main St., Pleasanton, (925) 600-0202. Popular Livermore restaurant has opened a second location in downtown Pleasanton, presenting delicious North Indian food, seasoned to your taste: mild, medium or hot. Fresh menu daily. Parking in rear. Patio dining. Open for lunch 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Dinner seven days a week, 5-10 p.m.

Italian

Fontina Ristorante

349 Main St., Pleasanton, (925) 462-9299. This popular downtown restaurant gets 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.

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11891 Dublin Blvd., Dublin, (925) 828-9380. Lively chatter and the aroma of garlic are the first things you notice in this warm and friendly classically "Italian" restaurant, complete with red checked tablecloths. It has an open kitchen where patrons can watch the cooks "hand toss" the dough for this pizza mecca of the Tri-Valley. It is perfect for romantic couples as well as the entire family, and the authentic Southern Italian cooking includes traditional dishes such as Veal Scaloppini and Lasagna as well as Lamb Osso Bucco and Scampì.

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Mediterranean

Athens West Restaurant

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Sandwiches/Deli

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