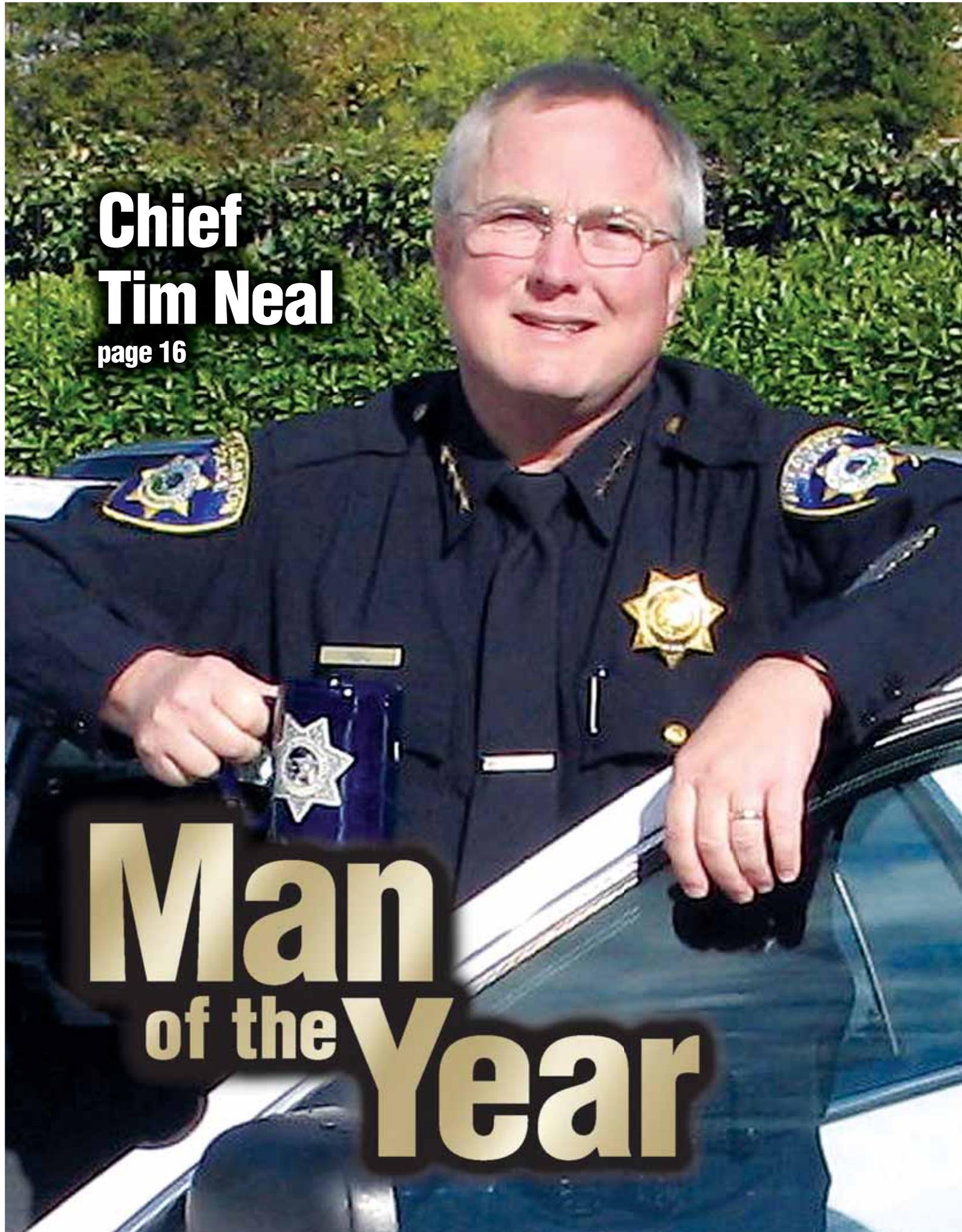


PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Vol. VII, Number 47 • December 15, 2006

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It's all about Pleasanton



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Tim Neal**
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of the Year**

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REAL ESTATE SERVICES

OPEN SAT/SUN 1:00-4:00



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6189 SPRINGTIME COMMON \$725,000
4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. 2233 +/- square feet. This beautiful features a gourmet kitchen, luxurious master suite and bath, large family room with gas fireplace.
SANDRA GILBERT 925.251.2521



PLEASANTON

3666 WOODBINE WAY \$420,950
Condo 2 beds 1 bath 867 square feet, New appliances, new bathroom, new tile floors and new carpet. Great starter unit.
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1444 FLORENZA COURT \$2,140,000
Unique Craftsman Style Former Model Ruby Hill Estate on .75 acre Lot with many upgrades. 4 bedrms + office + Game room 5 baths 5car garage.
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www.3398Manchester.com
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Around Pleasanton

by Jeb Bing

Historic Pleasanton in watercolors

Those of us who like to send photos of Pleasanton along with our Christmas cards to far-away friends and relatives are in luck. Local watercolor artist Nancy Eddinger has just produced another in a series of local landmarks in a card-sized format. Eddinger, a special ed teacher at Harvest Park Middle School, said in a Pleasanton Weekly story about her artwork last year that she had painted her last Christmas card. Meticulous in every detail, these projects took most of her summer months and she wanted to move on to other kinds of creative arts. But the howls from disappointed readers echoed all winter long, so she spent this summer—again—hunkered over her kitchen table carefully painting the photo-perfect-like replica of the Meadowlark Dairy.

This card, now available for sale at the Museum on Main and the Sincerely Yours gift shop next to the gas station on Main Street, is different. It has no Christmas message or artwork and is suitable to use at anytime you want to send off a note atop a beautiful watercolor of the city's famed drive-through dairy. Her other cards—of the gas station, Veterans Memorial Building, Pleasanton Hotel, Kolln Hardware, the Museum on Main and the old church on Neal Street, always included a bit of Christmas. One card showed a small Christmas tree in front of Veterans Hall, a wreath on a door at the hotel or colored lights running across another building. Those are still available in boxes of five or more, although the Veterans building has sold out and will not be reproduced. Eddinger plans to let the entire stock of cards sell out, which will probably make them collector's cards.

Eddinger is from a small community near Allentown, a Pennsylvania city where she began a career as an emergency room nurse. Then she met and married Charles (Chuck) Eddinger, a Penn State University graduate, and moved with him as

he advanced through the management ranks of Ashley Furniture, a Wisconsin-based company that is now the third largest furniture manufacturer in the country. While living in Pittsburgh, their son Nate, now 30, was born and at 18-months-old, in 1977, they moved to Pleasanton where Chuck Eddinger took on Western District sales responsibilities for his firm. They still live in the same house on Touriga Drive where Nancy began pursuing her life-long interests in art while Chuck served on the school board for 12 years.

Nancy Eddinger went back to college in 1988, studying art and watercolor painting at Las Positas College. She was also working as a special ed teacher in the Sunol Glen school district, and transferred to Harvest Park when Pleasanton schools were unified into a single district. Even at Harvest Park, she teaches students about painting and especially Chinese brush painting, which she says anyone can do and enjoy. Because it represents "free expression" by the artist, it's also free of criticism.

Not so, of course, when you're painting famous Pleasanton landmarks. Even the slightest detail must be perfectly drawn, and Eddinger spends hours in studying digital photos she has taken of the buildings, art pencil in hand, before committing a watercolor brush.

Her first watercolor was of the Pleasanton Hotel in 2000, which she transferred to a Christmas card size and reproduced to send to her family back in Pennsylvania to show historic Pleasanton at its best. Along with sending her family the new Meadowlark Dairy card, Eddinger is also making these cards available to families to send to loved ones serving in Iraq and Afghanistan through Realtor Chris Miller and his Pleasanton Military Families organization. Eddinger said she may do other cards, but for now plans to turn her skills to full-sized watercolors, such as those she has displayed at the museum and have won blue ribbons at the Alameda County Fair. ■

About the Cover

Police Chief Tim Neal, 52, whose 125-member department, including 87 sworn officers, has helped reduce the crime rate in Pleasanton to its lowest level in the last 20 years, is the Pleasanton Weekly's Man of the Year for 2006. A 30-year veteran in police work, Neal greatly improved community relations with programs that involved the public, volunteer law enforcement training and assignments and special academies to utilize the skills of the city's youth. He'll retire after seven years as chief next month. Cover design by Ben Ho. Photo courtesy of the Pleasanton Police Department.

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2006 - 5767



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5th Year Max Monthly Payment	\$2,145	\$1,686

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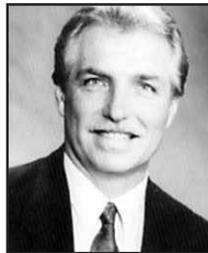
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Streetwise

Q: A recent psychiatric study concludes that women talk three times as much as men.

Do you believe it?

Asked Around Town



John Warner
Auto Technician

I disagree with those findings. I think it depends on the individual. I know women that talk all the time and others that are pretty quiet.

Laurie Boze
Rocket Scientist



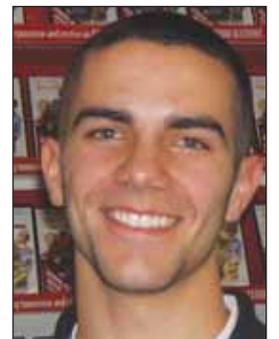
I tend to agree. Women do talk too much at times. I am trying to concentrate on listening more; there are so many important things to observe and listen to these days. It's all about balance.



Shelia Bernardi
Assistant Manager at Hollywood Video

I think women do talk three times as much as men. Women are more passionate about their issues, they want opinions, they want validation. Men are passionate but they don't get as emotionally involved in their issues as women. Men get over things quickly and move on.

Kevin Amar
Entrepreneur



I believe guys like to keep things short and simple. Girls have a lot of drama and relationship issues they like to talk about all the time.



Mariah Bryant
Student

I agree. When I was involved in co-ed tennis lessons the girls would all be together chatting, visiting and talking about their day and the guys would be silent. Girls are more emotional, they like to express themselves; guys just keep it all inside. What can I say? We like to talk!

Have a Streetwise question? E-mail: editor@PleasantonWeekly.com
Compiled by Cybele Ryan



Request for Proposals Survey Services for City-Based Paratransit Programs

The Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA) is seeking proposals for **Survey Services for City-Based Paratransit Programs funded by Measure B**, Alameda County's half-cent transportation sales tax.

Please visit the ACTIA website at www.acta2002.com/opportunities.html for more information.

Send all inquiries to:
Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority
426 17th Street, Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612
Attention: Tess Lengyel
"City-Based Paratransit Services Survey – RFP, ACTIA"
510-267-6111

A Pre-proposal meeting will be held at the ACTIA offices on **Monday, December 18, 2006, at 10:00 A.M.**

Deadline for submitting a response to the RFP is **Monday, January 22, 2006, at 4:00 P.M.**

Any contract to be awarded as a result of this Notice will be awarded without discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or national origin.

Newsfront

News Digest

MADD president comes to town

Glynn Birch, national president of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), will be attending the Pleasanton Police Department's DUI checkpoint tonight.

She will speak to Tri-Valley officers as well as the Alameda County Sheriff's Department and California Highway Patrol. The checkpoint will kick off the "Avoid the 21" campaign against drunk drivers in Alameda County.

Cheerleaders take home second place prize

The Harvest Park Middle School competition cheerleading squad placed second at the USA Regional Competition held Dec. 9 in Tracy.

Their performance qualified them to attend the USA Nationals to be held in Anaheim in March. In addition, both Harvest Park stunt teams performed well, placing second and fourth overall.

CHP recruit meeting

For those interested in a career with the statewide law enforcement agency, the California Highway Patrol will have a recruitment meeting 7 p.m. Dec. 20 at the Dublin office, 4999 Gleason Drive.

There are hundreds of openings throughout the state, with the majority being in San Francisco and Los Angeles. For more information, contact Officer Steve Creel at 828-0466.

Callippe recognized by Golf Digest

Golf Digest magazine has named Callippe Preserve Golf Course ninth on its list of top 10 best new courses in the under \$75 category.

A panel of more than 800 low-handicap male and female golfers nationwide played and evaluated nominated golf course that opened between May 1, 2005 and April 30, 2006. The courses were rated on shot values, design variety, memorability, resistance to scoring and aesthetics. The average scores for each criterion were combined and totaled to determine the winners.

Corrections

The Weekly desires to correct all significant errors. To request a correction, call the editor at (925) 600-0840 or e-mail: editor@PleasantonWeekly.com



Robert Lipman, 13, has collected 600 DVDs, VHS tapes and books that he plans to donate to Tri-Valley Haven before Christmas as part of his Mitzvah project.



Boxes of shoes in all styles, colors and sizes fill up 11-year-old Eric Page's garage. The sixth-grader wants to donate them to poor children in Kenya.

The giving spirit

Students fill garages with goods to help locally and abroad

by Janet Pelletier

It was during a trip to Kenya that 11-year-old Eric Page noticed that students his age weren't wearing shoes—an unimaginable feat for a country that's filled with snakes, spiders, thorns and other potentially painful hazards. After he and his family got back from the African country on vacation last July, the Pleasanton Middle School sixth-grader decided he was going to collect tennis shoes and find a way to send them across continents.

Eric's mother Kim said she had planned for the trip to Africa to go on a safari and take in the beautiful scenery, but also visit a school there. She was careful to warn her son that the people were in a much more dire situation than Americans.

The family decided to bring a box of school supplies with their luggage and asked their tour guide to take them to a school. When they gave the pencils and pens and other accessories to the children, Eric said their faces lighted up.

"If you gave some students here that stuff, they probably wouldn't even really care, but there, they were so excited," he said.

But school supplies were not the only things the Kenyan children were lacking.

"We realized the students didn't have any shoes," Eric said. "And those that did, some of the shoes were too small or too big."

Upon departing, the family got their tour guide Benard Makau's e-

(continued on page 9)

Haugen named school board president

Governor calls Pulido to Alameda County Superior Court judgeship

by Emily Atwood

Juanita Haugen was appointed to president of the school board last Tuesday night, as she participated via speaker phone from her Vintage Hills home. The ailing veteran school board member is undergoing extensive cancer treatment after battling the disease for about three years.

School Board President Stephen Pulido announced his resignation from the board as Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger appointed to a judgeship on the Alameda County Superior Court. Pulido has served on the school board since November 2003 and has two years left to go in his term. He practiced at a small

law firm from 1978 to 1998 before having a private practice specializing in family law. He earned a Juris doctorate degree from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law and a Bachelor of Arts degree from UC Berkeley.

Pulido called his leaving "bittersweet," also saying it was unfortunate that he had to resign from the school board, effective Feb. 2.

"We are happy for you, but also very sad," trustee Pat Kernan said, adding that Pulido often brought resolution to the board.

The board approved that the empty trustee seat be filled by provisional appointment, which includes a workshop, community

screening panel and board interviews. There was some concern that the holidays would prevent the applications from coming in, and they talked about advertising the vacancy more than once. If all goes according to schedule, the board would have a new member sworn in at the Feb. 13 meeting.

Pulido then asked the board to nominate the president for 2007; his personal nomination being Kernan. However, Kernan nominated Haugen, saying that she was more deserving of the position. The board agreed and also nominated Kernan to the clerk position, and

(continued on page 10)

Pleasanton goes solar with Livermore

Program will incorporate eco-friendly products into homes

by Janet Pelletier

Continuing toward a trend of green building and energy-efficient endeavors, the city of Pleasanton, along with the city of Livermore, plan to develop a program that will help people incorporate solar products into their homes.

The cities have agreed to each pay \$20,000 to Spectrum Energy of Elk Grove to design and develop the program.

Referred to as a photovoltaic (PV) project, it will help simplify green building practices for the consumer, according to Lorie Tinfow, the former director of administrative services for Pleasanton, who is providing consulting on the program for the city.

"To do that, (Pleasanton and Livermore) are going to bring together community stakeholders and hear from them about what the issues are that they would like assistance with in order to consider solar energy for their business or their home or their development," she said.

Stakeholders could include residents, city staff and officials, commercial property owners, new home developers, architects, engineers, designers and the solar industry community.

(continued on page 10)

Health workers to strike at Santa Rita Jail

Strike demanding improved staffing levels planned for Tuesday

by Janet Pelletier

More than a hundred health care workers at Santa Rita Jail plan to strike this Tuesday if their demands aren't met. The employees of Nashville-based Prison Health Services, which contracts out to Alameda County, claim they are understaffed at the jail and it's having an enormous impact on the prisoners' care.

On any given day, about 50 percent of the staffing levels required under PHS's contract with the Alameda County Sheriff's Department are being met, according to Dana Simon, a spokesman

(continued on page 10)

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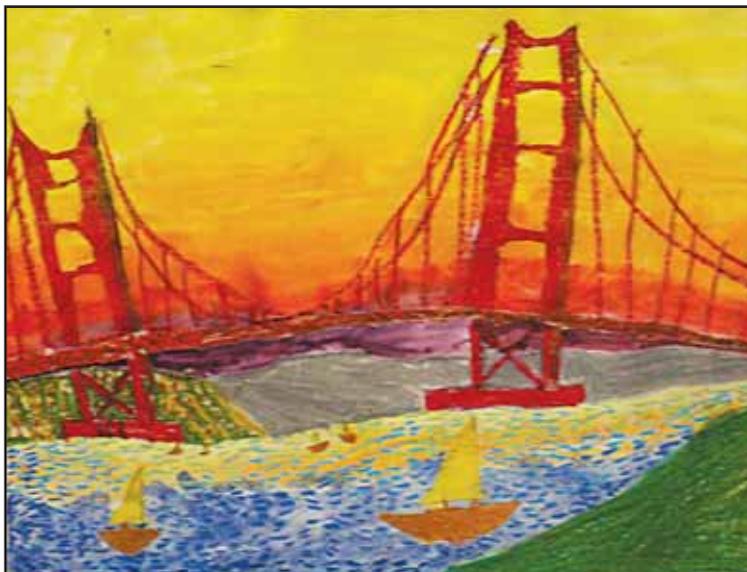
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Clockwise from top:
 "Golden Gate Bridge"
 by Bryan Park
 "Park" by Chase Partridge
 "Day on Baker Beach"
 by Daniela Williams
 "Redwoods"
 by Anuja Jashi

PTA Reflections contest awards young artists

Winners in the district go on to county competition

The PTA Council completed judging for the annual Reflections art competition, a competition that honors students across the district, state and country for achievements in visual arts, music, literature, photography and film and video.

Students compete against others from their age group and are divided into three age levels, primary for grades 1-3, intermediate for grades 4-5, middle for grades 6-8 and senior for high school students. Each school site chooses a winner who then goes on and competes at the district level where community members judge the entries and pick a final district winner. The Pleasanton Weekly was happy to once again serve as judge for the visual arts and photography categories.

The winners are chosen for their skill and how well they convey the competitions theme. This year's theme was "My favorite place." District winners will now go on to be judged by the county PTA and winners from there will move on to the state level. Here are this year's Pleasanton winners.

Photography

Primary: Jenilee Chen, Vintage Hills
Intermediate: Daniela Williams, Fairlands
Senior: Chase Partridge, Amador Valley

Literature

Primary: Miyuko Carballo, Fairlands
Intermediate: Kailey Sanchez, Vintage Hills
Middle: Marie McCoy-Thompson, Harvest Park
Senior: Jeysree Ramachandran, Amador Valley

Visual Arts

Primary: Bryan Park, Mohr
Intermediate: Anuja Jashi, Mohr
Middle: Amanda Wu, Harvest Park
Senior: Kendra Knudsen, Amador Valley

Musical Composition

Primary: Jenilee Chen, Vintage Hills
Intermediate: Christine Xu, Mohr
Senior: Max Loh, Amador Valley

Film/Video Production

Primary: Vincent Tantra, Mohr
Intermediate: Piyush Patil, Mohr

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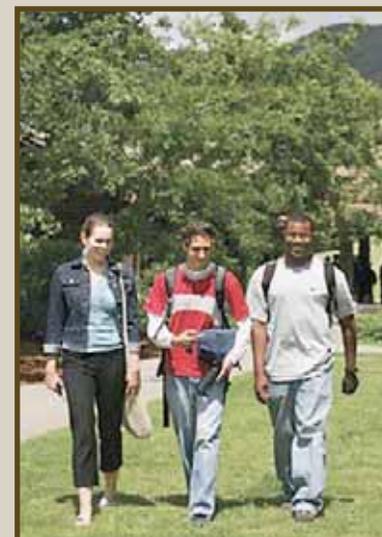
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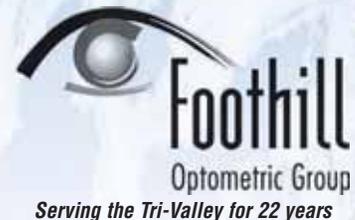
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Giving

(continued from page 5)

mail address and vowed they would find a way to send some shoes to him so he could distribute them to the schools.

Since the vacation, Eric made a PowerPoint presentation with pictures from a safari he'd taken there to show to his class.

"That was just to get them interested," he said.

He then told them that Kenyan students their age couldn't afford shoes and instead went barefoot. He asked them to donate shoes they didn't wear anymore by bringing them to school, giving other sixth grade classes at PMS the same presentation. Since then, Eric has collected 200 pairs of shoes in all colors, styles and sizes.

"The kids have been really good," Kim Page said. "Every day it seems we get a bag of shoes."

Eric said he couldn't have organized the effort without his fifth grade teacher from last year at Valley View Elementary School and that school and Pleasanton Middle School's contributions.

"This is so exciting," he said. "I feel like I'm doing my part to be a good citizen in this country. It's just a warm feeling that you feel inside being able to do this for other people."

Coincidentally, the Page's travel agent that helped them book

their African trip, Nancy Grant of Pleasanton Travel, decided to take a trip to Kenya in November after hearing what a great vacation the Pages had.

She took 45 pairs of the donated shoes with her and gave them to the Page's tour guide.

But about 150 pairs of shoes remain in the Page's garage. About 45 pairs will be sent by Pipeline Systems of Concord, who agreed to ship them for free. Kim Page said she's hoping other local businesses will help in the effort to get the shoes shipped to Africa. They've set up an e-mail account, shipshoes@sbcglobal.net, for anyone interested in helping.

While Eric has been stocking up his garage with new, gently worn and used shoes, 13-year-old Robert Lipman has been filling his garage with DVDs and VHS tapes that he plans to donate to Tri-Valley Haven, a shelter for abused women and their children.

For Robert, his act of kindness stems from a Mitzvah project he is doing after having his Bar Mitzvah—a celebration of when a Jewish boy turns 13 and crosses into manhood—in October.

The seventh-grader at Quarry Lane School said he thought of donating films because he is a movie buff.

He's also visited the shelter before and wanted to help the children there who are less fortunate than he.

"They're very poor, the kids. They

own nothing and a lot of the kids don't have much to do so I thought this would help," he said. "My goal is to set up a movie and book library at Tri-Valley Haven," he said.

Robert first decided to write a letter to the nonprofit and made a few phone calls to let them know of his idea back in August. He then spread the word by putting notices in his community's newsletter, Ruby Hill's "The Grapevine" and in his temple's newsletter, Congregation Beth Emek's "Hagafen." After setting out some empty cardboard boxes outside his house, at his school and at his church, the donations started pouring in, including a big contribution of books.

"I have at least 600 items in there," Robert said as he glanced at the stacks of bins in his garage.

From his birthday/Bar Mitzvah money, he purchased a DVD/video player that he will also donate to Tri-Valley Haven.

"People were very appreciative of what he's doing," said Robert's mother Karen. "He did it with good intentions. It didn't personally cost him anything; it was more about the thought."

Karen Lipman said she and her son have also met some new people with Robert's project.

"It makes me feel good to do this because I'm in a community that gives me a lot, so I wanted to give back," Robert said.

He plans to drop off the donations before Christmas. ■

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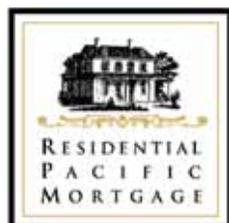
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Solar

(continued from page 5)

It can be a daunting task to try and sift through the millions of green building documents.

“The program would link people up with how to get the incentives,” Tinfow said. “You have to submit a lot of paperwork. This program would help folks do that; it would also help folks who are interested but don’t know a lot about PV to educate themselves. There will

also be some referrals or a list of providers.”

The use of solar powered products in buildings is a burgeoning trend. The state and federal governments have padded incentives to the consumer for going green, including a recently passed initiative by the California Public Utilities Commission that will give performance-based incentives Jan. 1 for those who use solar systems.

Ponderosa Homes, which is building The Classics at Ironwood and The Estates at Ironwood off Busch Road, offers a solar package to prospective homebuyers and so far, it has been a success.

The products not only save home owners on their utility bills but also make them feel like they’re doing their part to save the environment, according to Pamela Hardy, manager of land planning for Ponderosa.

“There are people who are pragmatic and recognize that the additional cost they spend on the system—over time, they can wrap that into the mortgage, that over time, it will pay for itself and they see that in their monthly reduced PG&E bills,” she said.

As a home builder, “it’s a combination of what is appealing to buyers in this market, providing it at a price that won’t kill them and just recognizing that green building is an important part of the home construction practice,” Hardy said.

Initially, Ponderosa offered a complete energy package, but many people didn’t want to spend

that much money.

“What we’re doing now is we’ve priced out the solar systems separately from a whole energy package, allowing people to independently pick different green building features in the homes,” Hardy said. “I understand in our later phases where we’ve offered that, it’s been well received.”

Pleasanton signed off its portion of the program agreement in October and Livermore signed off in November, giving Spectrum Energy the go ahead to develop it. Tinfow said Pleasanton had been considering the program after a couple City Council members said they admired the city of Sebastopol’s solar program.

Tinfow gave a presentation on her research findings to the council in March and later found out Livermore was considering something similar. They were farther along in the process, having already interviewed potential consultants and settling on Spectrum to develop a program. Pleasanton then decided to interview Spectrum and agreed to join forces with Livermore.

“It makes a lot of sense to do this on a more regional basis than just as an individual city,” Tinfow said.

Pleasanton set aside \$250,000 for the program and the \$20,000 cost was deducted from that. The remaining funds will help implement the program should the City Council decide, Tinfow said. ■

Pleasanton Real Estate News



by Gerarda Stocking

DEALING WITH DIVORCE

What are the tax ramifications when, because of a formal separation, one spouse moves out of a home and the other remains, and then the house sells? Is it still possible to use the \$500,000 gains exclusion?

Yes, but the matter needs to be approached carefully. If the couple will file a joint return and is still married at the time of doing so, they will almost certainly be able to take the full \$500,000 exclusion.

If, however, they file separate returns, each will be able to use an exclusion of up to \$250,000. They must have jointly owned the property for at least two of the years before the sale at the time of the sale, and one of the two must have used the property as a personal residence for two of the five years preceding the sale. Further, if they are separated, they must have a court decree that grants one of them use of the property.

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Haugen

(continued from page 5)

ran the rest of the meeting. Would Haugen not be able to complete her presidential duties, Kernan would assume the seat.

To honor Haugen’s commitment to service, the school board announced an award in her honor. The crowd applauded wildly upon hearing the news, and Haugen was surprised and grateful for the honor. The Juanita Haugen Civic Engagement Award will recognize her hard work in the community while highlighting individuals and groups of students from elementary to high school involved in civic service. More details about the award will be discussed at the school board meeting next July.

If her strong presence at the Dec.

12 meeting didn’t prove her dedication to civil service, her track record would suffice. She has been on the board longer than anyone else, starting in the joint Amador Valley Joint Union High School District in 1979 until the districts split and she was among the first elected Pleasanton school board trustees. Her service spreads further than the Pleasanton Unified School District as she has also been involved at the county, state and national levels, holding leadership positions in many education organizations.

“She kept the district on the cutting edge in many areas,” Superintendent John Casey said at the meeting. “It’s important to be civically engaged. That’s what she’s preached to us and drummed into us over the years. It warms our heart to be able to have an annual award in her recognition.” ■

Prison workers

(continued from page 5)

with Oakland-based SEIU United Healthcare Workers-West.

“People are forced to do mandatory overtime of 17-hour shifts, 20-hour shifts,” said Terri Grandlund, a nurse who’s worked at the jail for 17 years. “We are dealing with diabetes, heart attacks, strokes, wounds that are uncared for and are threatening people’s life. This is not just passing out a pill. You have one nurse trying to take care of 15 major wounds.”

Employees also want retirement benefits.

Prison Health Services, which is the nation’s largest provider of

inmate medical care, serves more than 310 jails and prisons in 37 states. Last year, PHS was the subject of an expose in the New York Times regarding health and staffing conditions in prisons.

“Unfortunately, the same kind of patient care problems that were documented by the New York Times are happening here in the Bay Area,” said Thea Lavin, a communications specialist with SEIU.

Officials with Prison Health Services have repeatedly denied all allegations against them.

According to the county sheriff’s department, Santa Rita Jail houses about 4,000 inmates. It is considered a “mega jail” and is the third largest facility in the state and fifth largest in the nation. ■

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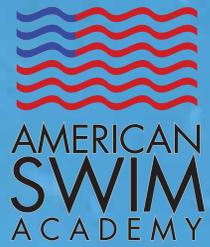
Irv and Elaine Howton read the Weekly in Budapest, Hungary.



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Marti Christiansen, Connie Roney, Marlene Sandberg and Jane Lister read the Weekly at Dana City, Tioga Pass near a rock cabin from the Great Sierra consolidated silver mines.

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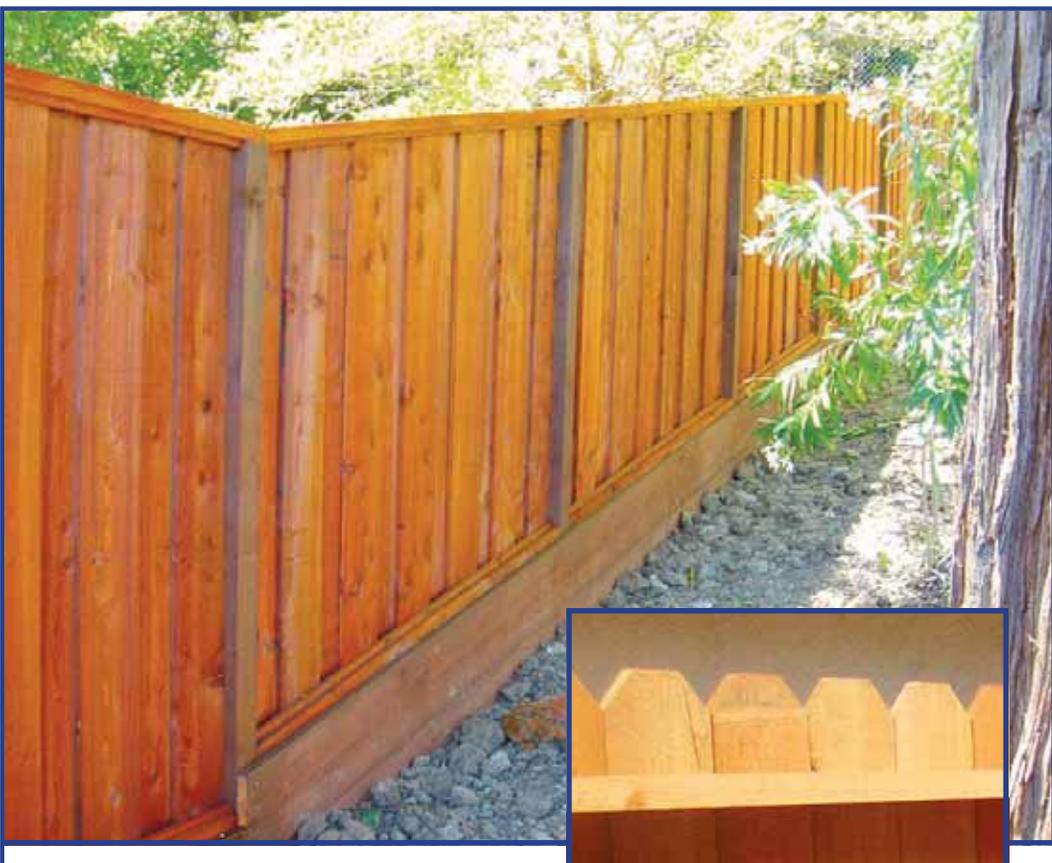
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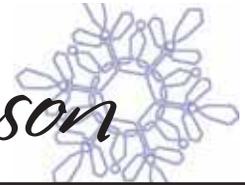
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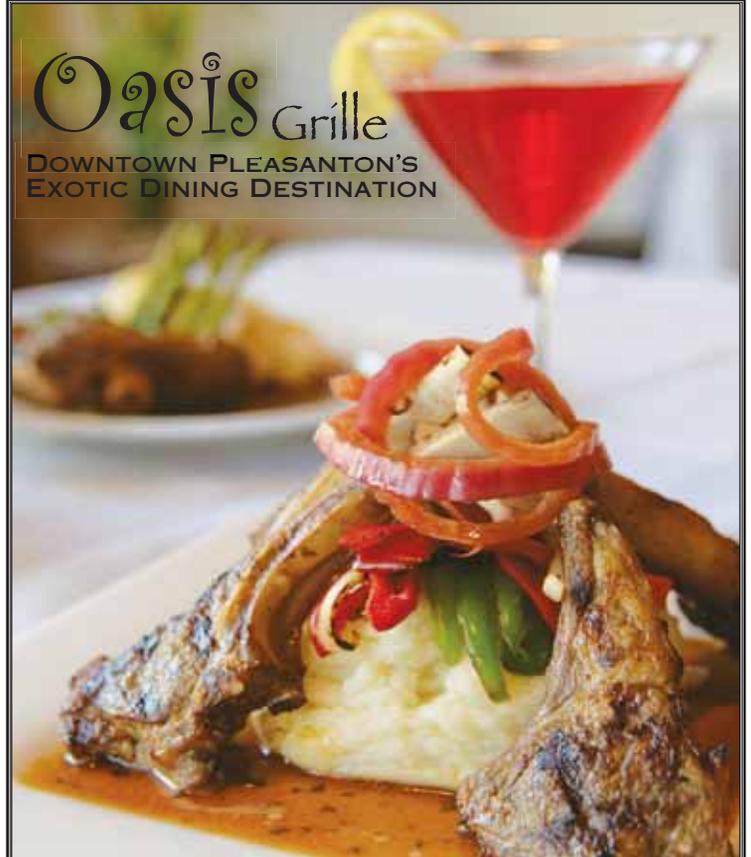
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Opinion

Editorial

Brozosky deserved better in leaving City Council

Steve Brozosky deserved a better, friendlier send-away last week from his four colleagues on the City Council, and from the general public, for that matter, when he stepped down after four years of service as a councilman. He left the council after choosing not to seek re-election to another four-year term, which he likely would have won, so that he could run against the incumbent Mayor Jennifer Hosterman for the city's top post. He lost, but only by 188 votes, which means that nearly half the voters in the mayor's contest thought Brozosky did a good enough job as councilman to take over the mayor's reins. Yet, except for the obligatory, staff-prepared plaque presented by Hosterman to commend Brozosky for his service, and 12 minutes of time for Brozosky to thank voters and talk about his accomplishments, only two spoke publicly about Brozosky's work on the City Council. Councilwoman Cindy McGovern took the microphone to thank him for his support of youth programs, which have been her passion both on the council and previously as a long-time member of the school board. Later, after Brozosky was gone and a new council seated, community activist Julie Testa talked tearfully about the many projects Brozosky was involved in that helped her, the Ruby Hill community where she lives and the city as a whole. One instance she cited involved the crowded Wheels bus that takes Ruby Hill middle school students to and from their schools. When one of her sons mentioned this to Brozosky, who was the council's representative and a board member of the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority that operates Wheels, another bus was added to the route to ease the overcrowding.

That's the kind of councilman Brozosky was. We may not always have agreed with Steve Brozosky, and, in fact, supported his opponent Jennifer Hosterman for re-election as mayor. Even so, we admired Brozosky for his hard work as a councilman, serving on numerous committees and public projects. Without his strong efforts, the BMX track on Stanley Boulevard might still be in the planning stage, where it was stuck for years. His work in successfully bringing together the council, city staff and the school district to share the cost in rebuilding the playground and soccer fields at Donlon Elementary School that is now under way resulted in part from his determination to add more sports fields in town. He worked with staff and outside consultants to speed up the construction work of the Callippe Preserve Golf Course, pushed the right political buttons to raise the city's allocation for the downtown Firehouse Arts Theater to \$8 million, and to repeatedly side with a community group that wanted the city to buy the deteriorating Memorial Gardens Cemetery on Sunol Boulevard, which it now has done. Some said his insistence on holding a design competition for developing the 318 public acres on the Bernal property slowed the process down. But it worked, with San Francisco architect Michael Fotheringham winning the contest and creating a conceptual plan that voters approved by an 87 percent margin on Nov. 7. Reflecting on his accomplishments, Brozosky was skilled at raising the council's and public's awareness of issues and projects that he thought would make Pleasanton a better place to live. We think he did that. We're just sorry that only one fellow councilman thanked him for his work before he left City Hall and only two of the 11,483 voters who thought he should be mayor bothered to attend his last council meeting. Not a good show for a city that cares.

Letters

Thanks from Open Heart Kitchen

Dear Editor,

The spread you did last week on the Holiday Giving Campaign was beautiful! Thank you so much for all of your support. It's daunting to think that this year we'll have served around 140,000 meals up from 127,000 meals last year and somehow the community stays true to our mission by offering their loving support as the need continues to grow.

Thank you for being a supporter of Open Heart Kitchen.

*Carol Beddome
Executive Director,
Open Heart Kitchen*

Disappointed with city's cemetery plan

Dear Editor,

I wanted to tell you how pleased I was to read your editorial regarding the cemetery. I agreed with everything you wrote. I was all for the City of Pleasanton taking over the responsibility of the Odd Fellows Cemetery to the point of circulating one of the numerous petitions to try and convince the city council to take over this responsibility. I was thrilled when the council voted in favor of doing that.

I was stunned and terribly disappointed to read the follow-up articles that explained that the city had no intention of maintaining the cemetery as anything other than a Pioneer Cemetery. Those words "Pioneer Cemetery" sounded nice until I read the description of pioneer status.

I think that the council's decision is an insult not only to the people of Pleasanton who have loved ones buried there, but to those pioneers who settled this lovely community and who gave their names to our streets and buildings.

*Diane Haddad
Pleasanton*

Extension would make a 'cut-through' city

Dear Editor,

I just read the opinion of Mr. George Withers ("Don't make the same mistake twice: Stoneridge extension part of original planning," Guest Opinion, Nov. 24) about the extensions through our town. It seems to me that Mr. Withers is just trying to find faster ways to get out of town. Not taking into consideration that opening another cut-through will only bring more traffic from people trying to get to Livermore and Tracy where they live, making our beautiful town just a cut-through city. Also Mr. Withers did not talk about the children that would have to cross Stoneridge Drive to get to school and the park. The east end of Stoneridge Drive is all residential and opening it up to more traffic will endanger the children.

*Donna Wilkinson
Pleasanton*

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WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

City Council

Tuesday, December 19, 2006 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, 200 Old Bernal

- **Public Hearing:** Pleasanton Downtown Business Improvement District Advisory Board Report and Budget and Levy of the Assessment for 2007
- **Public Hearing:** PUD-93-02-8M/PCUP-181, Michael Callahan, applications for a major modification to the Ruby Hill PUD development plan to allow: 1) the construction of an approximately 19,872-square-foot event center with a 4,800-square-foot wine tasting facility, and 2) using the existing farming buildings for wine production, barrel storage and equipment storage, and for a conditional use permit to allow the operation of the event center and winery/wine tasting facility and for alcoholic beverage service at the event center after 10:00 p.m.; and consider the Negative Declaration
- Consideration of Grant of Easements to Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Zone 7, for the Mocho Groundwater Demineralization Plant Project located on Stoneridge Drive at Santa Rita Road

Housing Commission

Thursday, December 21, 2006 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, 200 Old Bernal

- Recommendation regarding proposed affordable housing plan for the Oak Grove project.
- Recommendation regarding the Countywide Homeless and Special Needs Housing Plan.
- Review of Process for Additional Review of Amended Condominium Conversion Ordinance and Inclusionary Zoning Ordinance.
- Update regarding the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) Process

Due to the holidays, City Hall will be closed on the following days:

Friday, December 22, 2006

Monday, December 25, 2006

Monday, January 1, 2007

General Information

The next regular Parks and Recreation Commission meeting will be held on January 11, 2007.

The January 1, 2007 Civic Arts Commission meeting has been cancelled. A Special meeting has been scheduled for January 8, 2007.

The January 3 Human Services Commission meeting has been cancelled. The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 7, 2007.

The next regular Youth Commission meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2007.

**ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
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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

Community Pulse

Police Bulletin

Pedestrians struck by vehicle

At 6:45 p.m. Dec. 12, a male and female, both 18 and from Pleasanton, walked eastbound in the crosswalk across Santa Rita Road at Francisco Street. As they began to cross the northbound lanes of Santa Rita Road, they were struck by a 1998 Cadillac El Dorado driven by an 85-year-old

Pleasanton man. Both pedestrians sustained injuries and were transported to Eden Hospital where they are listed in stable condition.

The driver was not injured and alcohol was not a factor. The collision is still under investigation. Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to call Officer Jon Blanchard or Officer Tom Hansen at 931-5100.

Police Report

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

December 2

- Assault:
 - 12:03 a.m. in the 1100 block of Laguna Creek Lane
 - 1:23 a.m. in the 3000 block of Hopyard Road

December 3

- Found property: 1
- Theft:
 - 1:15 p.m. in the 3900 block of Santa Rita Road
 - 4:10 p.m. in the 1600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting, worth \$50-200
- Possession of heroin:
 - 1:00 a.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Road
- Assault:
 - 11:17 a.m. in the 3800 block of Pinot Court
- Brandishing a weapon:
 - 2:23 p.m. at the intersection of Embarcadero Court and Stoneridge Mall Road

December 4

- Threatening phone calls: 1
- Theft:
 - 8:35 a.m. in the 3700 block of Boulder Street; vehicle parts, worth less than \$50
 - 2:50 p.m. in the 7700 block of Knollbrook Drive; worth \$50-199
 - 6:04 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; shoplifting, worth \$50-200
- Vandalism:
 - 10:30 a.m. in the 3900 block of Vineyard Avenue; vehicular, worth \$1,000 or less
 - 12:50 p.m. in the 10 block of Foothill Lane; residential, worth \$1,000 or less
 - 12:56 p.m. in the 4100 block of Muirwood Drive; public, worth \$1,000 or less
- Vehicular burglary:
 - 8:20 a.m. in the 5700 block of Owens Drive; worth \$200-400
- Public drunkenness:
 - 5:32 a.m. in the 5000 block of Hopyard Road
- Domestic animal bite:
 - 10:18 a.m. in the 2300 block of Meadowlark Drive
- Indecent exposure:
 - 10:15 p.m. in the 1800 block of Santa Rita Road

December 5

- Found property: 2
- Theft:
 - 9:47 a.m. in the 1900 block of Santa Rita Road; worth \$50-199
 - 3:30 p.m. in the 3100 block of Thistle-down Court; embezzlement
 - 5:45 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

-7:39 p.m. in the 7900 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; worth \$50-199

- Burglary:
 - 7:11 a.m. in the 4800 block of Hill Crest Way; from vehicle, worth less than \$50
 - 8:39 a.m. in the 1700 block of Orchid Way; residential
 - 2:52 p.m. in the 6400 block of Calle Altamira; from vehicle, worth over \$400

December 6

- DUI: 1
- Found property: 1
- Theft:
 - 8:50 a.m. in the 500 block of Angela Street; from vehicle, worth \$50-199
 - 10:30 a.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; credit card fraud
 - 1:30 p.m. in the 1200 block of Quarry Lane; worth over \$400
 - 5:15 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting, worth \$50-200
- Vandalism:
 - 9:00 a.m. in the 5800 block of Parkside Drive; public, worth \$1,000 or less
 - 10:19 a.m. in the 6100 block of Hansen Drive; vehicular; worth \$1,000 or less
 - 12:00 p.m. at the intersection of Chabot and Inglewood drives; public
 - 12:10 p.m. at the intersection of Owens Drive and the BART station; public, worth \$1,000 or less
- Assault:
 - 11:00 a.m. in the 800 block of Rose Avenue
 - 1:08 p.m. in the 2600 block of Becard Court
 - 5:05 p.m. in the 2300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- Minor alcohol possession:
 - 8:37 p.m. in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road
- Possession of marijuana:
 - 10:07 p.m. at the intersection of I-680 and Bernal

December 7

- DUI: 1
- Found property: 1
- Theft:
 - 2:09 a.m. in the 600 block of Palomino Drive; from vehicle
 - 5:30 p.m. in the 3600 block of Virgin Islands Court; worth less than \$50
 - 6:30 p.m. in the 4400 block of Oracle Lane; from building, worth less than \$50
 - 7:08 p.m. in the 3000 block of Mall Lot; from building, worth over \$400
- Vandalism:
 - 7:22 a.m. in the 600 block of Palomino Drive; residential, worth \$1,000 or less

-8:57 a.m. in the 1100 block of Santa Rita Road
-10:29 a.m. in the 6900 block of Valley Trails Drive; worth less than \$1,000

- Vehicular burglary:
 - 8:32 a.m. in the 4000 block of Cristobal Way; worth less than \$50
 - 9:05 a.m. in the 11900 block of Dublin Canyon road; worth \$50-199
 - 9:57 a.m. in the 11900 block of Dublin Canyon Road; worth \$200-400
- Possession of marijuana:
 - 1:20 p.m. in the 4300 block of Foothill Road
 - 8:15 p.m. at the intersection of First Street and Vineyard Avenue
- False identification:
 - 10:10 p.m. in the 200 block of Kottinger Drive

December 8

- Theft:
 - 1:30 a.m. in the 6800 block of Santa Rita Road; stolen car
 - 10:11 a.m. at the intersection of Palomino Drive and Bernal Avenue; from vehicle, worth \$50-199
 - 7:02 p.m. in the 4400 block of Hacienda drive; from building, worth over \$400
 - 8:00 p.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue; identity theft
- Vandalism:
 - 11:19 a.m. in the 5700 block of Owens Drive; public, worth \$1,000 or less
 - 2:25 p.m. at the intersection of Thistle Way and Pimlico Drive; graffiti
 - 5:08 p.m. in the 3000 block of Mall Lot; worth \$1,000 or less
 - 6:30 p.m. in the 3000 block of Mall Lot; worth \$1,000 or less
 - 7:15 p.m. in the 3000 block of Mall Lot; worth \$1,000 or less
- Vehicular burglary:
 - 8:27 a.m. in the 5400 block of San Juan Way; worth over \$400
 - 8:45 a.m. in the 5500 block of San Juan Way; worth over \$400
- Under the influence of narcotics:
 - 2:15 a.m. at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Valley Avenue
- Possession of marijuana:
 - 1:41 p.m. in the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road
 - 2:41 p.m. in the 6100 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

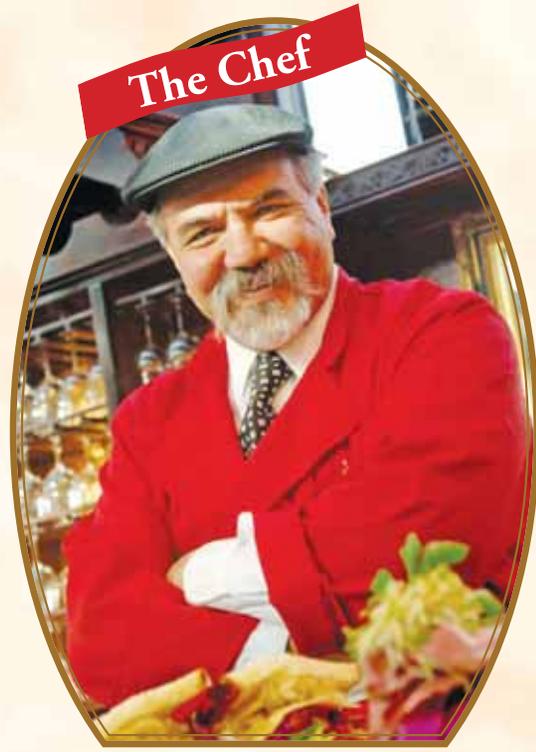
ACCIDENTS**December 4**

- 9:50 a.m. - Injury accident at the intersection of West Las Positas Boulevard and Hacienda Drive
- 5:00 p.m. - Injury accident at the intersection of Sunol Boulevard and Mission Drive

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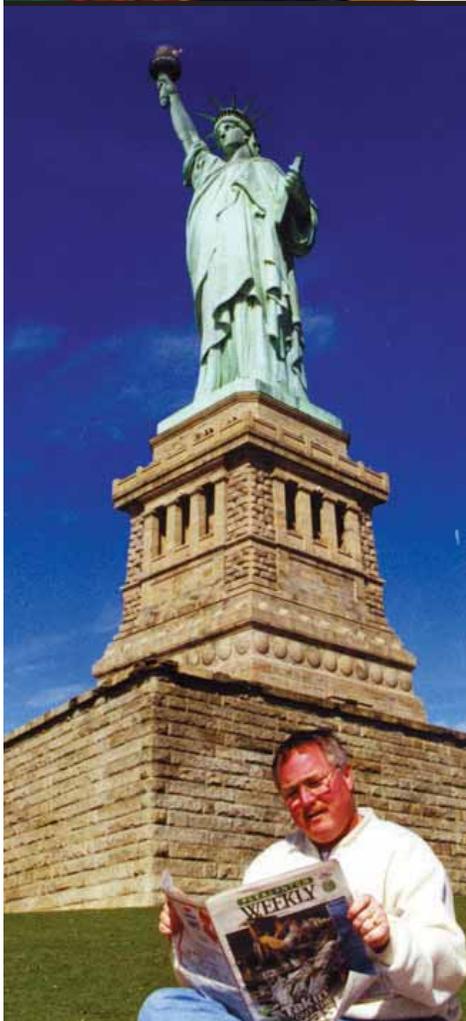


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Tim Neal family



Robin Neal

Man of the Year

Pleasanton Weekly honors top cop on eve of his retirement

by Jeb Bing

Police Chief Tim Neal has been named Man of the Year for 2006.

Neal, 52, launched his career as a police officer after graduating from San Jose State University in 1978 with a degree in Justice and Administration. He was promoted to sergeant in 1980 before joining the Mountain View force, where he worked for 10 years, he was hired as police chief in Tracy, Calif. in 1990, and to accept an offer from Pleasanton in 1997.

Determined to put "a human face" on the police, Neal made community relations a focus of his tenure. He led a successful Citizens Police Academy and later, a Youth Master Plan, which the City Council approved. He assigned officers to both high schools as an outreach effort.

"As police chief in Pleasanton, my goal was to reach out to teenagers, seniors and all the others—see them wherever they are," Neal said. "I want them to look with pride on us as people and a place that is needed."

Even as he improved community relations, Neal also put his extensive experience to work in crime and pursuing those who committed crimes. It was successful.

During his seven years as chief, crime has decreased. Seven years ago, with a population of 45,370, serious crimes call Part I totaled 1,626, which meant that for every 1,000 people there were 36 victims of a crime in this category. In 2005, the rate was 23.5 people per 1,000. In 1985, the rate was 33 percent more likely to be a victim of a crime in 2005. And, the rate is down again during the last year.

Neal has also fostered better relations with the union, moving quickly when he took over a four-day work week of 10 hour daily shifts to a five-day work week, placing more officers on duty during evening hours when more is needed.

When he took over seven years ago, Neal changed shifts so that most officers work 10 days off each week. Those new hours also eliminated evening rush hour and weekend party time problems, again patrolling the busiest streets to help if trouble occurred.

His work with high-tech companies in his previous experience for the growing technical expertise in the city, and Neal maintains a close relationship with Pleasanton for regular updates of information.

Police cruisers are now equipped with the ability to search databases and communicate with dispatch. Officers regularly patrol streets and hotel parking lots to check on suspicious vehicles and license plates.

Neal was just 16 and a student at Cupertino High School when he worked several Santa Clara city traffic officers at an internship while he worked part-time.

"I remember Anton Morec, who is now a retired officer, how great his job was, with something new to do," Neal said. "I was hooked and decided to make it my career."

Although he worked with the park district as an intern, it wasn't until he was ready to apply for a police job. He worked with Vietnam vets filling the ranks, he earned a job. When Union City called to schedule an interview, he got lost on a Bay Area map. Then he got lost in the test. Fortunately, the city manager let him skip the test. He refused to grant him any make-up time. He passed, anyhow, scored high, and was hired. Within a few weeks, he was in the police academy in Eureka, where he became a police officer. Randy Ulibarri and Michael Holland. Ulibarri is still in Union City; Holland has just retired as deputy chief.

"Morec of the Santa Clara police department was never be bored in this job, that every day was a challenge. He had been shot at, cussed out and slapped around on numerous investigations. I learned quickly from him. I know what to expect when you stop a motorist."

Top left - Tim Neal, who was named the city's Man of the Year, with his wife Robin (left), daughter Katie, 19, who is a police officer, and son Scott, 22. The Neals have lived in Pleasanton for 10 years. He has police duties in Union City and Mountain View. Pleasanton hired him. Chief Neal will retire next year. He is a Property and Evidence Technician for the Fremont Police Department.

Lower left - Not one to miss the local news, Chief Neal took Pleasanton Weekly to New York City where he visited the Statue of Liberty. We ran the photo in July 2006 edition. Other readers followed and we have now seen photos as they take the Weekly along on their globe-trotting adventures.

ed Pleasanton Weekly's Man of the
 rookie cop in Union City right after
 in 1976 with a degree in Criminal
 ed several times and stayed 11 years
 here he became a captain. After 10
 leaving that position two years later

the police organization, Neal has
 work here, starting the highly suc-
 the Teen Citizens Police Academy.
 a citizens group to write the city's
 adopted, and has assigned resource
 to teachers, students and their par-

has been to make sure everyone—
 our officers throughout the city and
 n to drive by the police station and
 where they can come to get help if

s with the police department, Neal
 aggressively protecting Pleasanton
 it it. His record shows he has been

s steadily decreased. Twenty years
 mes in what law enforcement agen-
 35.8 people per 1,000 in the popu-
 gory. Last year, with a population
 e area, Part I crimes totaled 1,660,
 n other words, Pleasanton residents
 victims of a serious crime than in
 e first nine months of 2006.

between his office and the police
 to grant the union's request for a
 . That actually helped the force by
 ing hours when extra law enforce-

al worked with the Police Union to
 hours a day, with three consecutive
 allowed police to double up on the
 es when they encounter their most
 s to increase visibility as well as to

Mountain View provided seasoned
 rtise required these days in police
 ip with the high tech companies in
 on, software and equipment.

aptop computers, giving officers the
 ate across the city while on patrol.
 parking lots, using their laptops to
 ates.

no High School when he befriended
 a El Camino Real gas station where

retired police sergeant, talking about
 and different happening every day,"
 ke police work a career."

ric and the Santa Clara Sheriff's
 e graduated and turned 21 that he
 wanted to work in Santa Clara, but
 nded up No. 151 on the wait list.

interview, Neal had to look up the
 driving there, arriving late for the
 start taking the exam, although she
 Neal finished ahead of the others
 d days, he was on the way to a state

me friends with two other rookies:
 parri is now the chief of police in
 uty chief of police in Oakland.

ment was right when he told me I'd
 ould be different," Neal said. "I've
 d, worked long overnight shifts and
 kly that in police work you never
 torist or burst through a door into

police chief in 1999, stands with
 s holding the family dog Zoey, and
 for 26 years while Tim commuted to
 and then as chief in Tracy before
 ct month while Robin will continue as
 remont Police Department.

chief Neal took an early issue of the
 wife snapped this photo in front of
 2000, just six months after our first
 ow printed hundreds of reader pho-
 dal travels.



State Police Academy

Tim Neal (left) joins fellow Police Academy graduates Randy Ulibarri and Michael Holland in September 1976 as they started their police careers with the Union City department. Ulibarri is now Police Chief in Union City. Holland just retired as Assistant Chief from the Oakland Police Department.

a suspected crack house. There's a chunk of my right arm that was taken out when I was shot during a drug bust."

Still, Neal made community relations a priority in his police work. While on patrol on Thanksgiving Day in the 1970s, he spotted an elderly woman standing in the street taking pictures of her family, which was standing in front of her home's garage door. Neal turned on his squad car's flashing lights, got out and approached the woman, while her family thought he was going to order her off the street. Instead, Neal took the camera, had the woman join her family, and took a series of photos that they'll no doubt remember for a long time.

"That's how we get people to think better of the uniform we wear and what we do," Neal said.

As a captain in Mountain View, Neal worked with the Shoreline Amphitheater to curb drug trafficking, which was hurting its reputation as a safe place for teenagers and families. Since he knew dealers would flee if they or their spotters saw cops, Neal had some officers dress as dealers and work the crowds in search of buyers. Then, uniformed officers rushed with lots of noise and fanfare, handcuffed the "dealers" and hauled them away. It wasn't long before regular dealers decided Shoreline and Mountain View were just too risky to ply their trade and moved elsewhere.

Mountain View is also where Neal was picked to serve on Secret Service details that guarded presidents Gerald Ford, George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton during visits they made to the Silicon Valley. Photos of Neal with the presidents adorn his office.

A 26-year Pleasanton resident, Neal and his wife Robin raised their two children Scott and Katie here during most of the years he served with the four police departments. Robin works as a Property and Evidence Technician for the Fremont Police Department.

Chief Neal said he is retiring now because he's reached the eligibility level—30 years on the job and at least 50 years old—in a state retirement system that penalizes survivors if the employee dies before retiring. Neal, who has agreed to stay until his successor is on the job, said he may teach once he's retired, and will also continue working with philanthropic and nonprofit organizations. Currently, he is vice president of the board of directors of Hope Hospice and plans to continue that role.

"Tim is an exceptional police chief," said City Manager Nelson Fialho. "In his years with Pleasanton, he developed strong relationships with the community, regional law enforcement agencies and the Pleasanton Unified School District."

"His ability to foster relationships and introduce innovative programs will be his legacy," Fialho continued. "These are programs like the School Resources Officers, DARE, COPPS TV and the use of volunteers to patrol the community. He is passionate about Pleasanton and the law enforcement profession. As a resident, he cares about protecting and preserving our great quality of life."

Former City Manager Deborah McKeenan, who hired Neal in 1999, agreed.

"Tim Neal was the right person at the right time to be Police Chief in Pleasanton," she said. "He came to us with a strong background in law enforcement and management and he was already an active Pleasanton resident with a thorough knowledge of the city. It made for a very smooth transition as a key member of the city's management team."

"During his tenure Tim can be extremely proud of his role in leading the Police Department to be even more responsive to the community needs and ideas than in the past," she added. "He took a particular interest in making the department more youth friendly. He was a solid professional yet brought a common sense style of policing. His approachability and his sense of humor made him accessible to everyone."

Fifty applicants submitted paperwork before the Dec. 8 deadline to be considered for the Pleasanton police chief's job. A recruiting agency is now screening the resumes and holding initial interviews with some of them. The recruiter's final recommendations will be sent to Fialho next Thursday. Fialho and several others will interview the finalists on Jan. 12, with Fialho expected to announce the selection by mid-January. Three of the applicants hold key positions on the Pleasanton force. ■

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It's time to give

Valley Humane Society digging new roots

Animal shelter outgrew Spring Street facility, will set up temporary portable building until money is raised for long-term center

by Janet Pelletier

Proceeds from pet photos with Santa Claus have helped, but the Valley Humane Society is going to need a lot more money to be able to reach its goal of building a long-term facility to house the many homeless cats and dogs that are brought to them.

While the only animal shelter in Pleasanton prepares for a new home three to four years

down the road, it will relocate to the land it purchased for that facility and set up portables in the interim.

Previously located at 273 Spring Street, the shelter had outgrown the dinky 900-square-foot building, Program Director Wendy McNelley said.

Valley Humane Society has been in that building since 1991, but the rundown facility just wasn't adequate for the number of ani-

mals that were being brought in.

"It's one of those old buildings where you can just clean it and clean it and it still looks dirty," McNelley said. "People would come in and I would find myself apologizing for its appearance."

Since staff moved out of the Spring Street facility in August, cats and dogs have been

(continued on page 19)



The humane society recently offered pet photos with Santa earlier this month to help raise money for operating expenses.

Valley Humane Society

Holiday Fund Donors

As of December 12, 2006, 200 donors have contributed \$35,610 to the fund. With the 100% match, a total of \$71,220 has been raised for the six 2006 beneficiaries.

Individuals

Anonymous (200)	\$3,415
Duffy Aceret	100
Jon & Janet Allen	**
Angela Aloise	250
Pamela & David Alpert	100
Andrew Bailey & Lauren Purcell	**
Verla R. Becker	30
John & Phoebe Bell	300
Chris & Glenda Berattis	500
Mr & Mrs Bielby	**
Jeb & Jan Bing	200
Bert & Dee Brook	200
Ryan Brown & Julie Harryman	100
Mike & Diana Camplin	500
Linda & Tony Carrozza	200
Julie & Miguel Castillo	**
Herbert & Stella Chang	**
Vincent & Sarah Ciccarello	1000
Pat & Wendy Costanzo	200
Barbara Daniels	**
Lynn Dantzker	250
Ms. Susan Davis	200
Alice Desrosiers	100
Jean, Joy, Bryn & Paige Doyle	50
Roy & Cheryl Dronkers	250
Joel & Linda Ebright	**
Kay Fogarty	200
Rich & Gloria Fredette	**
Frank Fuentes	**
Dave & Roz Gamble	**
Judith Geiselman	**
Terry & Bobby Gillit	100
Roy & D'Aun Goble	100
Steve & Jori Grant	100
RJ and Marsha Grimes	**
Bing & Laura Hadley	**
Bernice B. Hansen	**
Michael & Lorene Herbert	500
Janice Hermann	50
Garrett & Angela Ramirez Holmes	25
Kay & Charles Huff	**
Bill Y Cathy James	**
The Jeffrey Family	**
Steve & Bobby Jensen	250
Marge & Rudy Johnson	**
Steven Jones	200
Jean P. Jones	50

Keith & Stacey Kang	**
Dick & Peggy Karn	100
Rod & Barbara Kerr	**
Jim & Elaine Keysor	250
Betty Kirvan	100
Jake & Nancy Krakauer	**
The Lambert Family	**
Bob and Pat Lane	**
Gary Lazarotti	**
Richard Leirer	100
Ronald Lingl	50
Jerri & Rob Long	**
Chris & Debbie Look	50
Cam, Jill, Jake & Claire Lorentz	**
John & Lisa Loundagin	50
Walt Lupeika, CPA	100
Peggy Magoffin	100
Srikant & Christina Mantha	**
Violet T. Masini	50
Nancy McGhee & Clayton Newman	100
Peter & Diana McIntyre	**
James & Deborah McKeenan	1000
Scott & Erica McNerney	100
The Medeiros Family	**
The Moffet Family	**
Jeff & Kathy Narum	100
Mr. & Mrs. Gregory O'Connor	**
Daryn & Jennifer Oxe	100
Norman & Joyce Pacheco	50
Dorene Paradiso-Carroll	**
The Pennisi Family	**
Jerrold & Josine Pentin	100
Bob & Orley Philcox	500
John & Roxanne Plotts	**
Andy & Valerie Poryes	100
Steve & Kellie Pulido	100
Alan & Jean Purves	100
Susan Reid	100
The Richwood Family	100
The Ristow Family	100
Herb & Cathy Ritter	50
Lou & Margene Rivara	500
Mary & Ford Roberts	100
Tenne and Bob Rogers	**
Sheri & Chris Scarborough	200
Rose Schoop	**
Peter Schulze	**
Jerry & Charlotte Severin	**

Ajay & Sonal Shah & Family	**
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Joseph Silva	25
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Jill Anderson & Geoff Southworth	100
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Steve & Ellen Thomas	**
Sheldon & Vivian Thorson	**
Deborah Tomlin	**
Mark & Kathy Tucker	**
Olivia Vukman	50
Janet & Glenn Wenig	100
Walter Wensel	**
Evan & Carolyn White	**
Ralph & Pat Williams	50
Kristen Winslow	250
Bruce & Cindy Yamamoto	**
Jeff and Debi Zentner	100

In Memory Of

Ed Regalado & Rich Thole from Brian Wright	50
Dick Waldron from Virginia Waldron	50
Ed Kinney, Walt Wood and George Spiliotopoulos from Brad & Sandra Hirst	300
Mary L. Erickson from A.L. Copher	**
Irene Baeta from J.M. Teghtmeyer	**
John Mavridis from Ted Mavridis	100
Rick Fatland from Howard Merrill	100
Ed Kinney from Jerri Long	**
H.G. Pantages from Jerri Pantages Long	**
James V. Medeiros from the Medeiros Family	**
Bob Williams from Mavis Williams	**
Leo Stefani from Kimberly Warren	**
Elizabeth Little McGilvray from Anne & Wayne Emery	**
Aldo Cassani from Mike & Kris Harnett	**
Dr. Edward W. Schlies from Christopher Schlies	200
Francis J Condon "The Dude" from Brenda Condon	150
Bobbi Sachs from Bruce & Debbie Parelskin	200

Ernie Bridges from Cindy, Alexi & Andrew Bridges	100
Roger Dabney	**
Richard Biggs from Janice & Joe Biggs	**
Gil McPeak from Bruce & Linda Arthurs	100
Richard Tandowsky from Eleanor Tandowsky	**
Roger Dabney, Ed Kinney and George Spiliotopolous from Ken Mercer	150
Thomas S and Mary C Hart	200
Ruth & Jay Chinn	100
Gene & Keith Storm and William Kolb	300
Tom & Karen Elsnab	100
Robert Meyer	**
Lottie & Carl Arndt	**
Michael Carboni	50
Dan Gabor	100
Don Foreman	**
Mike Meier	100
Helen Martin	100
Mothers/Grandmothers Adeline & Eva	100

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Our mom, Lora from Dmitriy & Lada Kosarikov	**
Our Treasured Friends from Frankie & Paul Brooks	100
Hank Gomez	50
Liz & Rick Ganji, Tom & Stacey Daggett, Ben Daggett & Brian Daggett	**

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Big O Tires of Pleasanton	200
DeBernardi Development, Construction & Remodeling	500
Dolls and Ducks	100
Foothill Optometric Group	35
High Tech Connect	500
Jerry Thorne for Council Committee	500
LawTech	100
Madden Charities, Inc.	2,500
Mission Pipe Shop & Cigars	200
Ponderosa Homes	500
Tyco Matching Gifts Program	200
Vic's All Star Kitchen	250
Wholesale Autos 'R' Us	**

The asterisk designates that the donor did not want to publish the amount of the gift.

Valley Humane

(continued from page 18)

placed in "foster care"—a network of volunteers. There are currently 12 cats and three to five dogs being cared for.

"We have this great base of foster families that are willing to take in animals into their homes temporarily until they get adopted," McNelley said. "There's always that sense that we've sort of disappeared, which we worry about, but we keep our phone number open and we keep checking our phone messages and keep communicating with people and we're out every Saturday showing our animals for adoption."

While many foster families have stepped up to take in cats and dogs, the shelter has had to turn away some animals, which has been personally difficult for McNelley, but she added that she is referring people to other area shelters and animal rescue groups.

Staffers hope to move into a mobile modular building on the newly purchased land at Nevada Street sometime next month.

"The rain is really slowing things down, but we hope to be in by the New Year, which would be really nice," McNelley said. "It would be nice to start off 2007 with a nice new building."

The portable will be 2,100 square feet and the shelter will be able to double its capacity for cats. The cat area will be called Kitty City and will allow the felines to



Valley Humane Society

Longtime volunteer Joan Gigliati holds a kitten that was brought to the animal shelter.

socialize and look out to the scenic property which is located next to the Arroyo.

Dogs, which weren't housed at the old facility due to lack of space, will continue to be put into foster care for the same reason. The long-term facility is expected to be much larger than the portable and will have kennels for dogs.

The permanent facility won't get under way for three to four years and by then, the current estimated \$3 million price tag could escalate with rising construction costs. Valley Humane Society plans to begin its capital fundraising campaign for that project in a year to two years.

In the meantime, the society needs money to pay for current expenses, mainly for the coming year to help pay for medical costs. While figures haven't been released for next year, the 2006 operating budget was \$350,000.

The Pleasanton Weekly's Holiday Fund, as it has in year's past, will help the nonprofit pay for direct operating expenses such as vaccinations, cat litter and medical care. Many of the animals brought to the shelter are injured or have special needs.

"The medical care is very expensive," McNelley said. "A lot of the vets that we work with are great and they give us discounts but you still have to pay for it somehow."

"Valley Humane Society has always been a sort of teeny, grassroots organization and I think it's important that the Weekly readers know that we're the only animal shelter in the city of Pleasanton right now and we've been in this sort of state of limbo so anything they can do to help us out and help us get in sooner and more quickly is always appreciated," McNelley said.

For more information, call the shelter at 426-8656 or visit www.valleyhumanesociety.org. ■



Valley Humane Society

A terrier participates in the humane society's Picnics 4 Pets fundraiser held in September.

The Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund

The Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund was created to provide financial support from our readers for a select group of local nonprofit organizations to help alleviate the needs that exist, despite our community's prosperity. This marks the fourth year of the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund. It provides an opportunity to aid local groups at a time when the numbers of those without jobs or with low-paying jobs and few if any health benefits have increased.

The Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund drive could not exist without the help of the Tri-Valley Community Foundation and its generous donors. This will enable us to double your donation and allow your gift of \$1 to total \$2 to the nonprofits. An added benefit: Neither the Pleasanton Weekly nor the Tri-Valley Community Foundation will take any fees or expenses for administering the fund. One hundred percent of donations go to the intended grantees.

We appreciate your support of the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund and these worthy nonprofits.



How to Give

Your gift helps seniors, children and others in need

Contributions to the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund will be increased by the Tri-Valley Community Foundation. For every \$1 contributed, \$2 will be donated to these local organizations. All contributions will go directly to programs that



benefit Pleasanton and Tri-Valley residents. Contributions will be distributed by the Tri-Valley Community Foundation to the six agencies listed below. No administrative costs will be deducted from the gifts, which are tax-deductible as permitted by law.

This year, due to the tremendous need of all nonprofits, donations will be shared equally among the six recipient agencies.

For more information call us at 600-0840 or e-mail editor@pleasantonweekly.com.

The following agencies will be supported by the Pleasanton Weekly's Holiday Fund:

• **Axis Community Health:** Provides medical, mental health, addiction counseling and health education services to more than 20,000 patients and clients each year, regardless of their ability to pay. An estimated 70 percent have no medical insurance or are underinsured, including some that have recently lost their jobs and health benefits. Call 201-6017 or visit www.axishealth.org.

• **Firehouse Arts Center:** The Cultural Arts Foundation is seeking public contributions of \$4 million to complete its funding effort for the downtown Firehouse Arts Center. The facility, which will renovate and expand the historic old firehouse on Railroad Avenue, will include a 240-seat theater and art classrooms with emphasis on school-age students and younger children. For more information on the center, call Greg Reznick at 417-2074 or Debbie Look at 846-1007.

• **Open Heart Kitchen:** As the only nonprofit free soup kitchen in the Tri-Valley area, this service provides nutritious meals for low-income people in the Pleasanton-Livermore area at Trinity Lutheran Church in Pleasanton and Asbury United Methodist Church in Livermore. Visit www.openheartkitchen.org or call 580-1616.

• **Ryan Comer Cancer Resource Center:** Located inside the ValleyCare Health Library, it offers personalized reference assistance and access to medical databases, some in other languages, including Web sites and articles, plus books, videos and models. The library has both a librarian and nurse on staff to help with research. Call 734-3315.

• **Tri-Valley Haven:** Runs a domestic violence shelter as well as a homeless shelter for families and a rape crisis center. Its mission is to aid those who have experienced abuse and offers counseling, a legal clinic and other practical advice. Call 449-5845; 24-hour hotline: (800) 884-8119 or visit www.trivalleyhaven.org.

• **Valley Humane Society:** This nonprofit group is all volunteers, with the mission to educate on responsible pet ownership. It assists in rescuing and placing abandoned or injured animals and operates an adoption center in downtown Pleasanton. It does not euthanize unless health problems dictate. Call 426-8656.

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The Tri-Valley Community Foundation is located at 5674 Stoneridge Dr., Ste. 112, Pleasanton, CA 94588. More information about the Foundation can be obtained by contacting the organization at the above address, by calling its President David Rice at (925) 734-9965 or through its Web site: www.tvcfund.org. The Pleasanton Weekly will make every effort to publish donor names for donations received before Dec. 31, 2006, unless the donor checks the anonymous box. All donations will be acknowledged by mail.

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Transitions

Obituaries

Jay Robert Husband

Jay Robert Husband died Nov. 30 at the age of 56.

Mr. Husband was born in Oakland on May 22, 1950. He was later raised by his aunt and uncle, Margie "Mom" and Harold "Pop." As a preteen he was involved in the Boy Scouts of America, which was an important experience as he frequently referenced his mentor, Mr. Pruitt.

Swimming, reading and music, especially jazz, were his favorite diversions. He also enjoyed cooking; potato salad was his specialty. He also enjoyed camping and card playing with the guys, especially with his "bud" Pete. Attending jazz festivals with Pete and his wife Sharon were always a highlight for Husband.

Husband is survived by his beloved wife Debbie; his son Robert and future daughter-in-law Irene; Margie and Harold; sisters and their husbands Bonnie and Les and Janis and Courtney; nieces and their husbands, Kristen and Craig, Michelle and Vince, and Stephanie;

nephews and their wives Kurt and Elsie, Nicolas, Mark and Tina and their daughter Elliot; and many more family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents Robert "Bob" and Eunice in 1962.

Final arrangements will be private, but donations may be made to Stanford University School of Medicine, Dr. Michael Fowler. Please indicate on your check Heart Failure Research. In a separate note, please include "in memory of Jay Husband." Send checks to Stanford University School of Medicine, Dr. Michael Fowler, Falk CVRC-295, 300 Pasteur Dr., Stanford, CA 94305-5406.

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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Or e-mail:
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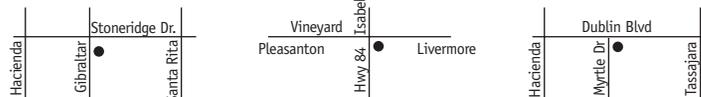
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Calendar

Civic Meetings

City Council

The council meets at 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday monthly at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave. The next meeting is Dec. 19.

Housing Commission

The commission meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Thursday monthly at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave. The next meeting is Dec. 21.

Human Services Commission

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

Library Commission

The commission meets at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday monthly at Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. The next meeting is Jan. 11.

Parks & Recreation Commission

The commission meets at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday monthly at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave. The next meeting is Jan. 11.

Planning Commission

The commission meets 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday monthly at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave. The next meeting is Dec. 27.

School Board

The board meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday monthly in the district office board room 4665 Bernal Ave. The next meeting is Jan. 9.

Youth Commission

The commission meets at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday monthly at Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. The next meeting is Jan. 10.

Classes

International Folk Dancers

The Del Valle International Folk Dancers welcome beginning and experienced dancers for Balkan, Israeli and other world dances. Weekly

classes meet from 7:45 to 9:30 p.m. on Tuesdays in the upstairs studio at Triple Threat Performing Arts, 315 Wright Brothers Avenue. Cost is \$4. Call George Pavel, 447-8020.

Parent Education Class

The first Parent Education class of the fall semester runs 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesdays through Dec. 20 at the Pleasanton Presbyterian Church. The class is designed for parents of young children 2-12 and is ongoing. Parents may join anytime during the semester.

Widow/Widowers Grief Recovery Class

This 10-week class for widows and widowers focuses on finding hope and providing support for successful ways to process this significant life event. The course is open to all widows and widowers. Winter enrollments are now being accepted. Pre-Registration required. The workbook is \$5. Classes are held at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Pkwy. Call Linda Husted, 833-9013.

Clubs

Horseshoe Pitching

The Horseshoe Pitching Club meets at 1 p.m. every Tuesday at Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave. Call Martha, 462-4283.

Ladies Choice Investment

Ladies Choice Investment meets at 7 p.m. on the second Monday monthly to discuss educational stock selections and investments. Call Jeannie, 846-5106.

Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club

The Garden Club meets at 7 p.m. the first Tuesday monthly at Alisal Elementary School, 1454 Santa Rita Rd. Call Marilyn, 462-1461.

Exhibits

Dee Haag at WaMu

Local artist Dee Haag's work is on display now through the end of January at Washington Mutual Bank, 561 Main

Street. Haag's work is a variety of original landscape watercolor paintings. The public is invited to view her work during regular bank business hours.

Local Artists Display Work

The Pleasanton Art League Public Art Circuit has made its fall rotation. New pieces by local artists can be viewed at the Pleasanton branch of Bank of America, Keller Williams Realty and Towne Center Books, all on Main Street; the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce on Peters Avenue; and R.E. Realty Experts on Hopyard Road. For additional locations, call Lisa Davis, 518-4436.

Fundraisers

Holiday Donations for Families in Need

The Amador Valley High School Booster's Club is collecting donations of \$5 or more to go to gifts for 26 families in need this holiday season. Donations may be left with the school receptionist or mailed to AVHS PTSA, P.O. Box 37, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

Hyphy 4 HIV Benefit Concert

The Hyphy 4 HIV Benefit Concert is an event put on by Bay Area High School Leadership students to raise money for the Keep a Child Alive organization, a nonprofit that delivers anti-retroviral drugs to HIV positive children and their families in Africa. The event features Bay Area hip-hop artists and proponents of the hyphy movement and will take place at the Alameda County Fairgrounds 1 p.m., Dec. 16. Tickets are sold at www.inticketing.com, keyword hyphy. Call Michelle Sastri, 963-8990 or e-mail msastri07@hotmail.com for more information.

Ryan Gordan Foothill-Amador Alumni Soccer Game

The fourth annual Ryan Gordon Foothill-Amador Alumni Soccer Game will be Dec. 30 at the Amador Valley High School soccer field. Foothill and Amador soccer players from the '70s, '80s, '90s and '00s will face off. Women play at 4 p.m. and men at 6:30 p.m. Tickets

Weekend Preview



Silver Bells

Students in the Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Bell Choir practice for their choral performance 7 p.m., Dec. 17 at the church, 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. The Bell Choir will be joined by the Youth Choir and together the groups will play favorite Christmas and traditional music numbers. The church is also hosting a live Nativity production 6:30 p.m., Dec. 16. Call 846-0431 for more information.

are \$7 for adults and \$4 for students. Proceeds benefit the soccer programs at both schools. Call Curt Gordon, 426-1540 for more information.

Toys for Tots Drop Off

Toys for Tots will be accepting new, unwrapped toys for donation from 4 to 7 p.m., Dec. 18 at the home of Lonnie and Marti, 298 Junipero St. Santa will be there from 5 to 6 p.m. and will pose for photos. Appetizers, desserts and beverages will be provided. Call 846-7736 for more information.

'Wigged Out'

Victoria's Hair on Stage, 520 San Ramon Valley Blvd. in Danville, is hosting "Wigged Out," a comedy event

benefiting nonprofit organization Hats Off America 8 p.m., Dec. 16. Hats Off America benefits the families of American soldiers currently serving in Afghanistan or Iraq. Tickets are \$40 and the evening includes a champagne reception at 7 p.m. Contact Sparky George, 855-1950 or thebearlagrunner@yahoo.com for tickets and information.

Health

Blood Drive

The Livermore Asbury United Methodist Church is holding a blood



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drive from 1 to 7 p.m. Dec. 15 at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. Call Tom, 447-1950 or e-mail blooddrive@asburylive.org to schedule an appointment.

Newly Diagnosed Breast Cancer Workshop

This 16-week workshop is for women who have just been diagnosed and are either in treatment or starting treatment. Guest medical experts will present information to assist in understanding the disease and the group assists in finding the tools for coping and provides support of others who sharing similar experiences. Meetings are from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every Wednesday from Jan. 10 through April 25 at The Wellness Community, 3276 McNutt Ave., Walnut Creek. The class is free. Registration is required. Call 933-0107.

Reiki Workshop

Reiki is a gentle and non-invasive Eastern tradition used to channel energy for self-care, stress reduction and healing. This class teaches how to give Reiki to yourself and to others. This is a four-session class facilitated by Gisela Mehta that meets Jan. 16 and 30 and Feb. 13 and 27 from 3 to 5 p.m. at The Wellness Community, 3276 McNutt Ave., Walnut Creek. This class is specifically for cancer patients, their families and friends and

is free. Reservations are required. Call 933-0107.

Yoga Workshop

The Art of Living center is hosting two hours of yoga, breathing and meditation 7 p.m., Dec. 18 at the Pleasanton Public Library. The event is open to all 18 years old or older. No prior experience required. The Art of Living Foundation is a nonprofit educational humanitarian organization in over 142 countries worldwide. Bring a yoga mat, a blanket for warmth in meditation and dress in loose comfortable clothing. Admission is free and no registration is required. Call Penny Johnson, 931-3405 for more information.

Holiday

Big Fat Year End Kiss Off Comedy Show

Civic Arts Presents will host political satirist Will Durst and friends in "The Big Fat Year End Kiss Off Comedy Show XIV" 8 p.m. Dec. 29 at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd. This show is appropriate for adult audiences. Tickets are \$15, \$20 and \$25. Visit www.civictickets.org or call 931-3444 for tickets.

Blackhawk Chorus

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"Rejoice Greatly!" 5 p.m., Dec. 17 at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 7557 Amador Valley Blvd. in Dublin. Tickets are \$15. Call 828-1580 or visit www.resluthdublin.org for more information.

Chanukah Wonderland at Stoneridge

Chanukah Wonderland at Stoneridge Shopping Center will open Dec. 19 kicking off with a menorah lighting ceremony at 5 p.m. There will be holiday games, crafts, raffles, face painting and treats, and children can take a picture with Judah the Maccabee. Prominent and distinguished government officials will participate. Call Chabad of the Tri-Valley, 846-0700 or visit www.JewishTriValley.com.

Christmas Concert

San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church of Alamo presents its annual Christmas Concert 4 p.m., Dec. 17 at 902 Danville Blvd, Alamo. Eight choirs will perform, including choral and bell, organ and instruments. Visit www.srvumc.org or call 837-5243 for more information.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Tri-Valley Unity Church is holding a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7 p.m., at the Radisson Hotel, 6680 Regional St., Dublin. All are welcome. Call Rev. Mary Anne Harris, 829-2733 or visit www.trivalleyunity.com for more information.

CSUEB Presents "A Christmas Carol"

California State University, East Bay presents its stage version of "A Christmas Carol" 8 p.m., Dec. 15 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., Dec. 16. Each show will take place in the University Theatre on Cal State East Bay's Hayward campus, 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd. This year's version will incorporate unworldly creatures in the form of puppets, multimedia video streaming and theatrical special lighting and smoke effects. Tickets are \$7 for general admission, \$6 for youth and

seniors, \$5 for CSUEB students, \$3 for children and \$16 for a family of four. Tickets are available by phone at (510) 885-3261 or at the door each day of the show.

Live Nativity Scene

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints is hosting a live nativity scene with music 6:30 p.m. Dec. 16 at the church, 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. Refreshments will be served. Call 846-0431 for more information.

Menorah Lighting for Chanukah

A public Chanukah celebration will be held at Hacienda Crossings in front of Regal Cinemas in Dublin 7:30 p.m., Dec. 16. The program will include a 9-foot menorah lighting, jump-slide and crafts for children, music and dancing. City dignitaries will be present. Call Chabad of the Tri-Valley, 846-0700 or visit www.JewishTriValley.com for more information.

NY New Year's Eve Bash

Pure Girls, 660 Main St., is hosting its second annual NY New Year's Eve Bash for girls ages 6 and older from 6 to 9 p.m. on New Year's Eve. This is a "parent-free" event and girls will get glammed-up, dance, win prizes, dine and drink as they count down to the ball drop in New York City. Cost is \$35 and girls who bring a friend get \$5 off. Call 485-4380 to reserve a space.

Outdoor Ice Rink

Downtown Walnut Creek opened its annual outdoor ice skating rink, scheduled to run through Jan. 15, 2007. The rink is open 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Mon.-Thu.; 10 a.m. to 11 p.m., Fri.-Sat.; 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sun. Cost is \$11, including skate rental, Mon.-Thu. and Fri. until 5:30 p.m.; weekends are \$10, plus \$5 skate rental. Call 935-SNOW or visit www.iceskatewalnutcreek.com for more information.

Sing-It-Yourself Messiah

The Valley Concert Chorale is hosting a Sing-It-Yourself Messiah 7:30 p.m. Dec. 15 at the First Presbyterian Church, 4th and L streets, Livermore. Admission is \$10. Participants will sing Handel's popular "Messiah" and soloist will be highlighted. Participants should bring a score, if possible. Visit www.valleyconcertchorale.org for more information.

Teddy Bear Tea Service

The Pleasanton Hotel is hosting a Teddy Bear Tea Service during the month of December. Bring your child to enjoy a festive tea in the holiday decorated Victorian dining rooms. Each child will receive a teddy bear to take home. The teas are Mon. through Sat. from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$18.95 for adults, \$15.95 for children. Reservations required. Call 846-8106.

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Toys for Tots

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage offices will serve as official collection centers for Toys for Tots from now until Dec. 15. The location in Pleasanton is 5980 Stoneridge Dr., Ste.122. Call 847-2200 for more information.

USS Hornet New Year's Eve Party

The USS Hornet Museum is hosting a New Year's Eve party from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. featuring music by David Martin's House Party. Tickets are \$48 for general admission, \$65 for reserved seating and \$95 for premium reserved seating. All tickets include party favors. Food and beverages are separate. Proceeds benefit the restoration and preservation of this national and state historic landmark. For ticket information, call (510) 521-8448, ext. 282 or visit www.hornetevents.com.

Valley Dance Theatre Nutcracker

Valley Dance Theatre will perform "The Nutcracker" 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Dec. 16 and 17, and 7 p.m. Dec. 19 at the Livermore High School Theater, 600 Maple St., Livermore. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$15 for students and seniors for ground floor reserved seats; \$15 for adults and \$13 for students and seniors for open balcony seating. Call 243-0927 for information and tickets. Group rates available.

Winter Concerts

Amador Valley High School will present two winter concerts at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd. Director Mark Aubel will lead the AVHS orchestra, choir and jazz A ensemble with special guest, the Foothill High School Chamber Choir at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 18. Director Jon Grantham leads the

AVHS wind ensemble, wind symphony, symphonic band and jazz B ensemble at 7 p.m. Dec. 19. Both shows are general seating.

Youth and Bell Choirs Perform

The annual Christmas Youth Choir and Bell Choir holiday concert will be held 7 p.m. Dec. 17 at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. The choirs will perform Christmas favorites and traditional music numbers. Call 846-0431 for more information.

Camp featuring a Master Class with Broadway's Kristy Cates, who plays Elphaba in the musical "Wicked." The camp is from Dec. 26 to Jan. 1 at YMCA Camp Arroyo in Livermore and is open to students ages 8-18. Call 858-3548 or visit www.youngactors-theatre-camp.org to register or for more information.

members. Prepay by the Tuesday prior to the event and the price is \$35. Attendance is limited to 25 people. Visit www.b2bpowerexchange.com or call 201-3410 for more information about membership and the event.

The Art of Storytelling

Tri-Valley Writers welcomes storytellers Bobbie Kinkead and Jean Ellisen to discuss "The Art of Storytelling" and how oral skills complement the writing process from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Dec. 16. An accompanying luncheon will be held at Girasole Grille, 3180 Santa Rita Rd. Cost is \$18 member for Tri-Valley Writers members and \$25 for non-member. Reservations are necessary. Contact Fred Norman, Fnorman300@aol.com for more information or visit www.trivalleywriters.com.

Lectures/ Workshops

B2B Power Exchange

B2B Power Exchange's next meeting will be 7:45 to 10 a.m., Dec. 21 at Mimi's Cafe, 4775 Hacienda Dr., Dublin. Cost is \$40 for non-members, free for B2B Power Exchange

Kids & Teens

Young Actors' Theatre Camp

The Young Actors' Theatre Camp is accepting students for the upcoming "Wicked!" Winter Holiday Break

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Live Music

Swing Band at Library

The Pleasanton Public Library presents the JB Smooth Sounds Band from 1 to 3 p.m., Dec. 19. Admission is free. Call 931-3400, ext. 37 for more information.

Spiritual

12 Steps Through Psalm 23

This 12 Step group discusses how Psalm 23 can help with codependency, addiction and other problem behaviors. This on-going women's group meets Saturdays from 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. at R-Quest, 40 California Ave., Ste. B. Visit www.rquest.org or call 426-0501, ext. 21 for more information.

Support Groups

Cancer Support Group

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

Caregiver Support Group

Meetings are held from 1 to 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.

TV30

Past Lives, Dreams, Soul Travel

Eckankar, a nonprofit organization and church based in Minnesota, is hosting a show on TV 26 every Friday at 4 p.m. titled, "Past Lives, Dreams, Soul Travel." Visit www.eckankar.org for more information.

Santa Claus on TV30

Santa Claus will make special annual stop at TV30 from 7 to 9 p.m., Dec. 22. Children in the Tri-Valley area can watch this live TV show on channel 30 and talk to Santa by calling 462-3030. The show will include visits from Santa and his elves, classic holiday cartoons, puppet shows, magic songs and performances by local singers including this year's "Livermore Idol."

Tri-Valley Sports Final

This weekly show covers team and individual high school sports in the Tri-Valley and airs on Channel 30 at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Volunteering

Alameda County Community Food Bank

Volunteers are needed to staff the Emergency Food Hotline from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Call (510) 834-3663 or visit www.accfb.org.

Community Service for Teens

Open Heart Kitchen's Ridgeview Commons Senior Meal Program needs 10 to 12 teens (at least 16 years of age) from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. 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.

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- Keratoconus



Dr. Gagnon did his undergraduate studies at St. Mary's College in Moraga and his Doctorate of Medicine degree from Creighton University School of Medicine. He completed his ophthalmology residency at Wake Forest University, and then spent an additional year of subspecialty training in Cornea and Refractive Surgery at the University of Utah, Moran Eye Center.

In addition to his private practice at Valley EyeCare Center, **Dr. Gagnon is on the Clinical Faculty in the Department of Ophthalmology at Stanford University School of Medicine.**

Dr. Gagnon will be available to see patients at:

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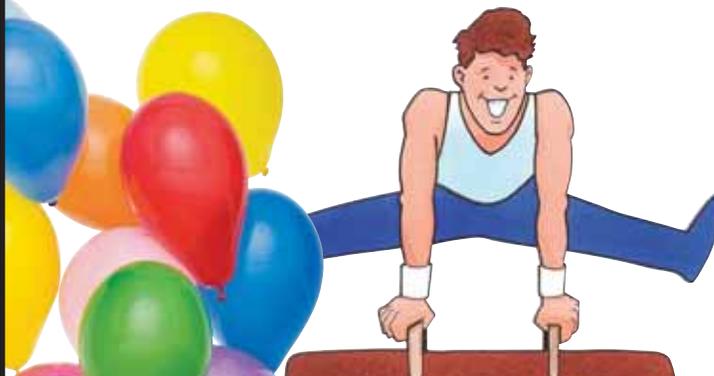
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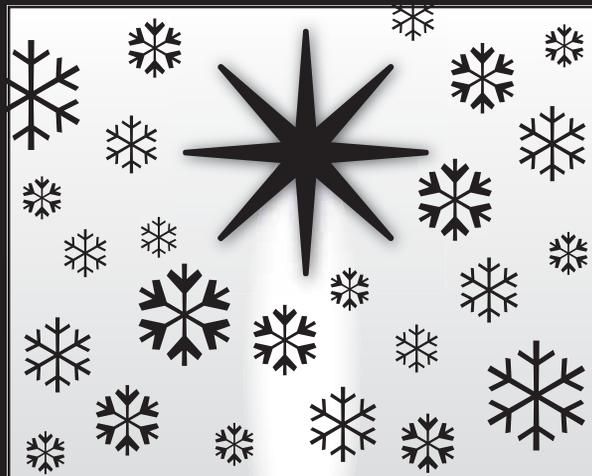
At our Christmas Eve Services, Everyone is Welcome!

4:30pm Family Worship
A special service that celebrates our Savior's birth through the eyes of a child.

8:00pm & 10:00pm Festival Candle Light Worship
The service of Candlelighting will highlight these Communion Services.



1225 Hopyard Road (Del Valle & Golden)
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Join Us In Celebration

December 17th
9:00 & 10:30 Festival of Lessons & Carols
December 21st
7:00 Service of the Longest Night
December 24th
10:30 Special Children's Celebration and Adult Worship Service
5:30 Family Service
8:00 Candle Light Service
11:00 Communion Service

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Advent & Christmas at St. Clare's

Sunday Services During Advent

December 17 Advent 3:
Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.

December 24 Advent 4:
Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m. only

Christmas Eve - Sunday, December 24
5 p.m. Family Service with Children's Pageant and Carols

8 p.m. Festival Service of Christmas with Lessons and Carols

11 p.m. Candlelight Holy Eucharist with Chamber Music

Christmas Day - Monday, December 25
11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

St. Clare's Episcopal Church

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Worship with us this Christmas Eve

Sunday December 24

10:30am - Carol Service

5pm - Family Candlelight Service

10pm - Candlelight & Carols Service

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To Make God's Love Known*

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Invites you...

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Christmas Eve Masses

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

St. Augustine Church

6:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight

(11:30 p.m.-Adult Choir Musical Prelude)

St. Elizabeth Seton

6:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight

(11:30 p.m. - Teen Choir Musical Prelude)

Christmas Day Masses

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

St. Augustine Church

8:00 a.m. (no incense), 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon

St. Elizabeth Seton

9:00 a.m. (no incense) & 11:00 a.m.

Confessions

Communal Reconciliation Service:
Wednesday, December 20 - 7:30 p.m.
St. Augustine Church

St. Augustine
3999 Bernal Avenue
846-4489

St. Elizabeth Seton Church
4001 Stoneridge Drive
484-5020

<http://www.CatholicsofPleasanton.org>



Christmas Season at Valley Community Church

Saturday & Sunday December 16th & 17th

Christmas Musical Worship Services

Saturday 6:00pm Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 am

"A Child This Day"

Featuring Sanctuary Choir, Orchestra, Children's Choir and VCC Big Band

Saturday & Sunday December 23rd & 24th

Christmas Weekend Services

Saturday 6:00 pm,

Sunday 9:00 & 10:45 am

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Communion Service, Sunday 9:00 p.m.

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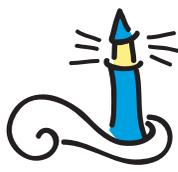
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mation about Tabitha, call Wanda, her
Tri-Valley Animal Rescue foster mother,
at 872-0589. Tri-Valley Animal Rescue
holds cat adoption fairs every Saturday
from noon to 4 p.m. and every Sunday
from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Dublin Petsmart,
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Bistro

Regional Street Bistro

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(continued on page 32)

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*Fruitcake or Crab Cakes? The Choice is Pretty Obvious to Us.
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Mahalo Grille
425 Main Street
Pleasanton, Ca 94566
(925) 462-2800
for Reservations use OpenTable.com

**And Don't Forget About
the New Menu!**

Mahalo Seafood & Steaks
NOW Not Just Fabulous Seafood,
But **Great Steaks at Affordable Prices**

- NEW ADDITIONS INCLUDE -

Mai Tai Coconut Prawn Cocktail, Coconut Curry
Steamed Mussels & Clams, New England Style
Chowda', Seafood Paella, Mahalo Cioppino,
Garlic Hoisin Mahi Mahi and
a Variety of USDA Choice Steaks!

It's Not Too Late!

We Still Have Limited Space Available!
So Book Your Holiday Party Now.
Call Mahalo for More Information.

Chinese Szechuan



Szechuan Mandarin
—No MSG—

LUNCH SPECIALS
DINE IN
FOOD TO GO

Banquet Room
Available

Closed Mondays

We also serve 'Brown Rice'

3059 Hopyard Road #G
Hopyard Village @ Valley
Pleasanton
(925)846-5251

"Open Since 1987"

Faz. Pizza from the wood burning oven, salads and luscious pasta of all descriptions round out the menu. Faz has a wonderful Sunday brunch and a full catering service.

Italian

Garlic di Pasta

3037-G Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 485-4500. Rated "A" by the Contra Costa Times restaurant critic. Voted the best Italian restaurant in the year 2000 by the readers of the Tri-Valley Herald. Located off the beaten path of downtown Pleasanton in the Hopyard Village Shopping Center.

Bakery

Primrose Bakery

350 Main at West Angela, Pleasanton, 249-1261. Specializes in cakes for all occasions, including delectable and creative wedding cakes. Primrose Bakery also features tarts, cookies and a delightful assortment of pastries artistically created in classic and colorful old-European style. The bakery uses only the best and finest French and Belgian chocolates, and no preservatives or shortening. The quaint storefront is open Tuesday-Sunday. Email: orders@primrosebakery.com. Primrose Bakery has been in operation in Castro Valley for over eight years.

The Blue Cupcake Bakery & Caf 
7083 Village Parkway just north of

Dublin Boulevard, Dublin, 556-4380. Come experience the personal friendly service where all bakery items are handmade from scratch. Special occasion cakes include children's character and photo cakes, cookies, cupcakes, coffee and espresso. Sandy (owner) offers Kreative Kid's Classes. Call for details. Open 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Closed Sunday and Monday.

into a Banana Caramel Crunch Love It, in a chocolate-dipped waffle bowl. Pick an ice cream cake or pie to take home for the family. Our pints, quarts & buckets are great for birthdays, anniversaries or any occasion or party. Open Sunday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

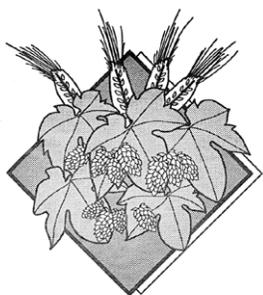
Ice Cream

Coldstone Creamery

349 Main St., Pleasanton, 600-9177. Voted Best Ice Cream Store in Pleasanton. Come and choose your favorite ice cream and mix-in, and we will create for you a delicious creation on the stone. Imagine biting



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