

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Vol. VIII, Number 6 • March 2, 2007

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It's all about Pleasanton



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McNerney next year page 14*

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Around Pleasanton

by Jeb Bing

Come put yourself into Melanie's paintings

She was a 3-year-old when she started painting, in high school when teachers said her talent was extraordinary and at the California College of Art in Oakland when she perfected her style and began a career as an artist. Now, 33 years after she moved to Pleasanton and began to paint professionally in earnest, Melanie Lacki is a nationally-known artist who has more than 50 of her paintings on exhibit through March 18 at Studio 7 Fine Arts on Main Street.

Melanie Lacki—that's her professional name—grew up in Colorado and came west to the Oakland school, which was then called the California College of Arts and Crafts. She married Jeff Lotz, who owns Lotz Realty in Hayward, and they raised their two children, Kristina Lotz Schafer of Petaluma and Joe Lotz of Pleasanton. Besides being a soccer and baseball and other youth sports mom, Melanie worked on her paintings in a studio the couple built behind their home off Foothill Road. A frequent traveler, she always carries along a little bag of basics, searching for landscapes, people and other scenery. On moments, she can stop the car or pause while hiking, pull up a seat on the grass or nearby bench and put what she sees to oil or watercolor that will live forever.

It's hard to look at her paintings on display at Studio 7 without thinking that I've been there or finding that a distant barn or fishing stream in her paintings reminds me of a long-age family farm or outing. In fact, Melanie's greatest satisfaction is having patrons tell her art restores memories of similar scenes and faces. Commenting last weekend on one of her Sierra landscape paintings, an admirer looked long and closely, saying "I can hear those trees and smell them." That's Melanie's secret: to create paintings that viewers can put themselves into or just want to go visit wherever it is that she's painted.

Melanie started painting in oils, but switched to watercolors in 1977 because of allergies she had with some of the enamels. In the 1980s,

new paints and inks became virtually toxic-free, giving Melanie a chance to return to oils. Both mediums can be seen in her Studio 7 exhibit, where artists on hand can explain the different techniques. The subject dictates the medium, Melanie says, with the everyday people and places she paints connecting with the emotional aspect of the situation.

Known for her sense of color and design, Melanie's paintings are a symbiotic relationship of light, value and composition. As a testament to her sense of color, she was featured in a special article on color in American Artist Magazine. She has also earned signature membership in many watercolor societies, including the National Watercolor Society, an honor that distinguishes her as an outstanding artist and competitor. Her artwork also has been included in numerous books about and for artists, and she has held exhibits in galleries throughout the Bay Area as well as in St. Helena and Seattle. Her paintings have been showcased in prestigious exhibitions in museums and galleries across America and her paintings and limited edition Giclee prints have been included in art collections worldwide.

In response to a question asked when she opened her Studio 7 exhibit last weekend—"Why were you inspired to paint this particular subject?"—Melanie said an artist has to be touched by the subject emotionally, physically or spiritually and sometimes, if you're lucky, all three. One painting she's truly proud of and one that is drawing many compliments is a smaller painting at the lower end of one long wall of Melanie's paintings. It's a painting of her daughter Kristina with her young son Cole, now 5. Since that painting, Kristina had a second child, Amy, now 3. With the four posed in front of the painting for a photo, I could see in Melanie's eyes that there will soon be a new painting to update the artwork of the growing family.

For more information, see Lacki's Web site at www.melanielacki.com. ■

About the Cover

Assemblyman Guy Houston, a Republican who represents Pleasanton's 15th State Assembly District, is considering running against newly-elected U.S. Rep. Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton) in the 11th Congressional District race next year. Houston, who lives in San Ramon, grew up in Pleasanton, where his parents still live. If both McNerney and Houston are on the November 2008 ballot, it would be the first time two from the Tri-Valley have vied for the 11th District seat. Photo by Jordan Doronila. Cover by Ben Ho.

Vol. VIII, Number 6

The Pleasanton Weekly is published weekly by Embarcadero Publishing Co., 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840. USPS 020407. The Pleasanton Weekly is mailed free upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. Voluntary subscriptions at \$30 per year (\$50 for two years) are welcome from Pleasanton residents. Subscription rate for businesses and for residents of other communities is \$40 per year. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566. © 2007 by Embarcadero Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

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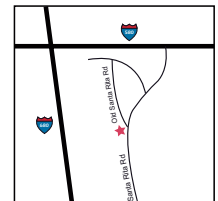


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Streetwise

Q: San Francisco may charge motorists to drive downtown during rush hours. Would this affect you?

Asked Downtown



Kerri Ely
Supervisor

I think it will definitely affect my decision to drive into the city. Parking is already very expensive and an additional charge would deter me. It might encourage me to use public transit more.

Kathleen Yurchak
Supervisor

It would probably affect my decision to go at peak hours. If I did I would try to carpool and split the charges with the passengers equally.



Katie Finegan
Teacher

I would be more inclined to take BART. It would irritate me to pay a \$4 bridge toll and be charged again to enter San Francisco.

Luke Peterson
Housing Intern

I would still drive in. There's a lot to do in the city that is not offered on this side of the hill. I drive in for the music, shopping and shows. So, no, it would not change my habits.



Dan Biggs
Computer Technician

It would make no difference for me. I travel into the city so infrequently that an extra charge would not bother me.

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

Compiled by Cybele Ryan

Newsfront

News Digest

Blood drive for Sarah

Sarah Banholzer, 4, was recently diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia—a fast-growing cancer of the white blood cells that the body uses to fight infections. Her parents, Teri and John, have organized a blood drive March 10 at Trinity Lutheran's Fellowship Hall, just off Del Valle Parkway and Hopyard Road. There are still slots left for donors. Go to www.harrismith.org/sarah for more information.

Town Hall meeting

"Start the Conversation," a meeting about adolescent drinking, drug and tobacco use in Pleasanton, is scheduled from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. March 29 at the Amador Valley High School library, 1155 Santa Rita Road. It will feature guest speaker Ralph Cantor of the Alameda County Office of Education's drug-free school program. To RSVP or learn more, call the Amador Valley Adult School at 426-4280.

Kohl's helps foot tuition bills

In its seventh year, Kohl's is accepting nominations for the 2007 Kids Who Care scholarship. Kohl's honors young volunteers ages 6 to 12 and 13 to 18 in three categories. Store-level winners receive a \$50 gift card and a certificate, regional winners receive \$1,000 for post-secondary education and national winners receive a \$5,000 scholarship and a \$1,000 grant to the charity of their choice. Click Community Relations at www.kohlscorporation.com for details.

ACT deadline is next week

College-bound high school students can register by March 9 for the national ACT test date April 14. Those registering late will incur a fee and must be completed by March 23. For information and study help, visit www.actstudent.org.

Country Folk Art craft show

Coming to the Alameda County Fairgrounds March 9 through 11 is the Country Folk Art craft show. The home decorating show features artisans from across the country, including handmade gifts and gourmet delights. The cost is \$7 for adults, \$2 for children ages 5 to 10, and children under 5 are free. Parking is \$8. Find out more at www.country-folkart.com.



Although scheduled to be completed and open by Memorial Day 2005, a walk-through of the Splash Waterpark at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park shows only some progress in the construction of the steel framework for a future food concession, ticket sales office and an administration building.

Time running out for \$10.7 million waterslides project

Developer seeks city's OK to move completion date to May 2008

by Jeb Bing

City officials are reassessing a conditional use permit that was issued three years ago to allow construction of a \$10.7 million California Splash Waterpark next to Shadow Cliffs Regional Park on Stanley Boulevard.

The proposed 16-acre waterpark could be given another year extension from its original May 2005 opening date or the developers could be required to resubmit their proposal and go through the city approval process once again.

Developer Glenn Kierstead, who owns the waterslides now at the site, said work on the expanded project has been delayed, moving the opening date to May 2008, three years later than planned. The existing waterslides are scheduled to open in late May.

City Planning Director Jerry Iserson said his group, along with City Manager Nelson Fialho and City Attorney Michael Roush, will meet next week to discuss whether to extend the construction permit.

He said conditional use permits carry a one-year time limit and require developers to make substantial progress toward completing their projects.

If officials determine that not enough progress has been made, they could refuse to extend it and require that Kierstead and his investment group resubmit their plans. That would force the developers to seek approval from the city planning staff, Planning Commission and the City Council again.

Kierstead won approval for the project in 2004 after more than a year of public meetings, hearings and debate. Crowds jammed public hearings before both the Planning Commission and the City Council, with about half opposed and another half favoring the project. Then Mayor Tom Pico broke a tie on the council, voting in favor of building the waterpark and giving Kierstead a 3-2 voting edge in his petition.

Most of those objecting to the proposed park said the facility is too big for the area, would draw

(continued on page 10)

Foothill student selected as U.S. ambassador to Indonesia

Michael Kim hopes to major in business, travel more

by Emily Atwood

Michael Kim is a junior at Foothill High School taking four AP classes, is on the varsity dive team, started Organization of Peace to promote global issue activism among Pleasanton youth, and salsa dances. And yet, he somehow managed to squeeze in a three-week trip to Indonesia recently.

After a tough application process, Kim was one of 10 students

selected in a national competition to participate in a two-way exchange between Indonesian and U.S. high school students titled LINC (Linking Individuals, Knowledge, and Culture): Youth Voices in Democracy.

His sophomore AP world history teacher Cindy Juarez found information about the Legacy International program and encouraged him to apply. Financed and supported by the U.S. State Department, the program is organized by Legacy International, which seeks to link cultures and

(continued on page 9)

Commissioners jab mayor over Planning appointment

Say selection was political fallout for supporting opponent

In an unprecedented move, several current and former members of the Pleasanton Planning Commission publicly criticized Mayor Jennifer Hosterman for appointing Kathy Narum at the Feb. 20 City Council meeting to fill a commission vacancy, bypassing Greg O'Connor who had served as an alternate for the last 10 months.

Narum, a member and former chairwoman of the Parks and Recreation Commission, and O'Connor were among 11 who had applied for commission seat that was vacated last September when planning Commission Chairman Brian Arkin resigned. As an alternate, O'Connor was seated on an interim basis to replace Arkin, which he did through the Feb. 14 Planning Commission meeting.

Actually, O'Connor was bypassed twice. After the 11 applicants were interviewed, Hosterman chose Rick Dobbs to fill Arkin's spot. That

appointment was withdrawn hours later after discrepancies were found in Dobbs' application. Dobbs, who recently served on the city's Economic Vitality Committee, also created the election campaign Web site for Hosterman, which she used while seeking reelection as mayor last November.



Kathy Narum

Planning commission chairwoman Anne Fox, Commissioner Phil Blank, and former commissioners Arkin and Mary Roberts urged Hosterman to change her appointment to give O'Connor the permanent seat, and appoint Narum as an alternate.

But Hosterman declined, saying she had reasons that she did not want to discuss publicly as to why she did not name O'Connor to the permanent seat.

"While this is a public process, I find it uncomfortable to talk about an individual's qualifications," Hosterman said. "I have sound rea-

(continued on page 9)

Sounds like Summer

County fair announces this year's theme, four concerts scheduled

"The Sounds of Summer" will be the theme for this year's Alameda County Fair, which will run from June 22 to July 8.

This will be the fair's 95th anniversary, and to mark that milestone, the theme is a throwback to priceless memories of summer: no school, vacations and daydream-filled afternoons with nothing to do, according to fair spokeswoman April Mitchell.

Four concerts have been lined up so far: ConFunkShun on June 30, the Village People on July 1, the Tommy Castro Band on July 2, and 3 Blonde Moms on July 3. ConFunkShun, a Bay Area group, offers melodies, inventive horn arrangements and ballads. Over a 10-year period with Mercury Records, the group garnered four gold albums, one platinum, eight

(continued on page 9)



In the Sasak Village, Michael Kim is taught to make intricate designs as a part of his trip as a U.S. ambassador to Indonesia.

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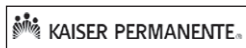
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Honoring Arbor Day

Second grade students learn the importance of trees

The Livermore-Amador Garden Club and Alden Lane Nursery will present their annual Arbor Day program to all second grade classrooms in the Pleasanton Unified School District starting this week and continuing through the next two weeks of March.

As part of the presentation, each child will be given a Coastal Redwood seedling to adopt after learning how to properly plant and care for it. The Coastal Redwood is California's state tree. Alden Lane Nursery donated all the seedlings for the presentation and the California Association of Nurseries and Garden Centers provides financial support for the

printed materials.

California Arbor Day is observed on March 7 in commemoration of the birthday of Luther Burbank, an American botanist and pioneer in agricultural sciences who worked in California and is well known for developing improved varieties of flowers, fruits, grains and trees. Arbor Day is observed to celebrate the importance of trees and the great benefit they provide to our well being. During presentations to the second grade students, club members encourage the children to identify the many uses of trees and tell how trees make our environment better.

—Rebecca Guyon

Even cooking has a history

Pleasanton cookware retailer gives lecture this weekend

Local business owner and food columnist Linda Wyner will be a featured speaker this weekend at the Clayton Community Foundation's Fourth Annual Community Celebration.

Wyner recently opened Pans on Fire, a gourmet cookware retail store in downtown Pleasanton, and is a regular food columnist for the Clayton Pioneer. Her columns are collected and published in her book "Food for Thought: Musings on the History and Uses of Food."

Tonight, Wyner will present a "culinary chat" about the history of cooking with tomatoes, which were

once called wolf peaches, during the opening preview of the festival from 5 to 8 p.m. Events will continue this weekend with a "Meet the Authors and Artist" gathering and live art demonstrations from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. tomorrow and more of the same from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, as well as live music and another presentation by Wyner.

All of the events will take place at the Clayton Community Library, 6125 Clayton Road, and is free to the public. Call the library, 673-0659. Visit www.pansonfire.com for more information about the store.

—Rebecca Guyon

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Linda Wyner, owner of the recently-opened specialty cookware store Pans on Fire in downtown Pleasanton, will be speaking this weekend about the history of cooking with tomatoes at the Clayton Community Foundation's Fourth Annual Community Celebration.

Rebecca Guyon

Five promoted in Pleasanton Police Department

Eric Finn named captain, takes over Chief Michael Fraser's old post

New Police Chief Michael Fraser announced the promotion of Lt. Eric Finn to captain last Saturday.

Finn got his start in law enforcement with the Alameda County Sheriff's Office in 1988 as a Deputy Sheriff and worked in the Santa Rita Jail. He came to the Pleasanton department in July 1990 and moved up in the ranks to sergeant in 1997 and lieutenant in 2002. He was sworn in on Monday.

"Eric has been a key member of the police department for many years," Fraser said. "I am looking forward to working closely with Captain Finn and his counterpart, Capt. Dave Spiller, as we lead the Pleasanton Police Department into the future."

Also granted promotions were sergeants Craig Eicher and Michael Elerick to the rank of lieutenant and officers Joseph Leonardo and Leigh Ridgers to the rank of sergeant, effective last Saturday.

Eicher began his career at the police department in December 1989 as a police reserve officer. His assignments include bike patrol, field training officer, motor officer, detective and detective sergeant. He was promoted to the rank of sergeant in May 2002. He also holds a master's degree from St. Mary's College.

Starting out as a police officer with the city of Richmond from 1991 to 1993, Elerick was hired as an officer in Pleasanton in April 1993. His various assignments have included SWAT



Lieutenant Craig Eicher



Lieutenant Michael Elerick



Captain Eric Finn



Sergeant Joseph Leonardo



Sergeant Leigh Ridgers

team member, personnel and training, detective, and field training officer. Currently, he serves as an administrative sergeant. He earned a bachelor's degree from St. Mary's College.

In August 1989, Leonardo came to the department as an entry-level officer. Since that time he has served as a SWAT member, DARE officer, bike patroller, narcotics officer and field training officer, and now is a detective.

Previously working in the Piedmont Police Department as an explorer, reserve police officer, dispatcher and police officer, Ridgers came to the Pleasanton department in November 1989. His duties have included motor officer, field training officer and detective. He now is the treasurer for the Pleasanton Police Officers' Association board.

"I believe this is the largest single promotional ceremony we have ever had in the history of the Pleasanton Police Department," Fraser said. "All totaled, these five men have 80 years of law enforcement experience with Pleasanton."

He continued, "They are consummate professionals and I am looking forward to many good things coming from each of them. Over the years I have enjoyed working with each of them watching them grow and mature professionally. I am very happy for the officers and their families, they have worked hard for this opportunity and deserve all the credit."

—Emily Atwood

Pleasanton Albertson's to change name within next nine months

Modesto-based grocery chain Save Mart completes sale of Northern California Albertson's stores

by Janet Pelletier

The Pleasanton Albertson's store on West Las Positas Boulevard will change names within the next nine months. Modesto-based grocery chain Save Mart announced last Friday that the sale to acquire Albertson's LLC Northern California Division has been finalized.

In the deal, 130 stores in Northern California and Northern Nevada, distribution centers in Roseville and Vacaville and the division office in Dublin will now be owned by Save Mart. Terms of the sale have not been released because both companies are privately held.

The Pleasanton grocery store will continue to operate as Albertson's until it's decided which Save Mart banner name it will convert to, according to a news release. Save Mart also operates under the brands

S-MART and Food Maxx. The latter has locations across the East Bay Area, including Concord, Fremont, Oakland, Hayward and San Leandro. The closest Save Mart to Pleasanton is in Milpitas.

The store conversion process schedule is still being determined and will be announced soon. All 13,000 Albertson's LLC Northern California employees will be able to work for the Save Mart company and those in bargaining agreements will maintain their seniority within their agreement as well as all non-bargaining employees, the news release says. About 95 people are employed at the Pleasanton store, according to city Economic Development Director Pamela Ott.

Save Mart Supermarkets currently operates 124 stores. It is an independently owned grocery chain that was founded in 1952. ■

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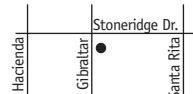
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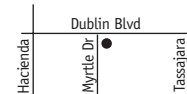
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Sheraton celebrates grand opening

Renovated hotel near Stoneridge Mall boasts VIP clubhouse level

The new Sheraton Pleasanton hotel celebrated its official grand opening with style and flair Feb. 22. The Hollywood-themed affair featured champagne, hors d'oeuvres, even a Marilyn Monroe impersonator. After the ceremonial red ribbon was cut, guests at the grand opening were given tours around the hotel.

The newly-renovated hotel, located at 5990 Stoneridge Mall Road, opened its doors to the public Dec. 20. The 170-room hotel used to be a Wyndham, but was bought out last year, making it the second Sheraton in town. The other is the Four Points Sheraton on Hopyard Road.

The renovation, performed by hotel developer Rim Hospitality, cost \$3.5 million. New features include a VIP clubhouse level on the sixth floor that offers special treatment to guests staying on that



Janet Pelletier

Dave Bouchard (right), president of the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, poses with Sheraton and Rim Hospitality Corporation officials and a Marilyn Monroe impersonator after the ceremonial ribbon was cut marking the hotel's grand opening.

floor such as free Wi-Fi, complimentary breakfast, bottled water and robes.

All of the beds in the hotel were upgraded to Sheraton's signature "sweet sleeper" beds. Other new additions include a staffed business

center, gift shop, bell and concierge service, dry cleaning service and the full service Connections Café. Each hotel room contains high-speed Internet access and a 32-inch flat screen LCD HDTV.

—Janet Pelletier

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Dr. Rakhee Shah has joined ValleyCare Health System specializing in general, laparoscopic and cancer surgery.

Dr. Shah received her medical degree from Sheth KM School of Medicine & Research in India in 1994 and went on to complete her residency in general and cancer surgery in India. After coming to the United States, she fulfilled internship requirements in general surgery at Illinois Masonic Medical Center in Chicago in 2001, where she received honors, and then completed her

residency at the University of Missouri, Kansas City in 2005. Dr. Shah recently completed a fellowship in advanced laparoscopic surgery in Oakland, California. She is board certified in general surgery and has participated in several research projects.

Dr. Shah has joined the surgery practice of Dr. Chau Dang and Dr. Raman Nambisan at 5575 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suite 270, Pleasanton. For an appointment, please call **925-460-3883**.



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Janet Pelletier

P.O.'d at BofA Pleasanton resident Audrey DeHart, 77, protests in front of the Bank of America in downtown Wednesday. A self-described activist and a former paralegal, DeHart said she's fed up with the bank, with whom she used to have an account, because it recently began issuing credit cards to illegal immigrants and others without a Social Security number. The Wall Street Journal reports that the credit card is open to people who lack both a Social Security number and a credit history, as long as they have held a checking account with the bank for three months without an overdraft. The bank stands by its program, saying that it complies with all U.S. banking and anti-terrorism laws.



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Courtesy Michael Kim

Michael Kim and another LINC participant taught English to these Indonesian girls in November.

Exchange

(continued from page 5)

provide tools for emerging “solution providers,” according to the group’s Web site.

Kim went to Virginia for three weeks last summer to train for the trip. The preparation included learning about the Indonesian culture, politics, government, history and more.

The group left for Indonesia in late November. During the three-week stay, they flew about every four days to a new province/island to learn about the Indonesian cultures, history, and politics, and to create cultural understanding.

The group also taught English to girls, attended lectures and meetings to increase their political awareness about the country and went sightseeing.

“There were many U.S. warnings about this country, but most of the reasons given were blown way out of proportion,” he said. “The environment and overall experience was very educational. The people were generous and gladly educated us on their culture, and were very patient with us, while we were getting used to their customs.”

He enjoyed the food, the places he visited (such as the BoroBudur Buddhist temple), and staying with a host family for a couple of days.

“These 10 students are traveling to the most populous Muslim country in the world, not as tourists, but as representatives of all youth; as ambassadors of hope,

peace and understanding,” Legacy International President, J.E. Rash said. “In their experiences, they will find a bond with young people around the world of shared goals and a collective future, a bond that will build bridges of understanding, now and in the future.”

Upon arriving home, the trip helped give Kim a new perspective.

“I have always been somewhat aware of global issues,” he said. “However, this trip helped me realize how minimal and insignificant many of the things I am doing in high school and in Pleasanton—especially compared to the disasters that many kids face, such as the kids in Yogyakarta, who have lost homes and families because of the earthquake that occurred before our arrival.”

Yet his work in Pleasanton seems quite significant, as he has founded the Organization of Peace for the city’s youth.

“The goal of OOP is to not only educate and encourage activism in global issues, but to educate Pleasanton youth in more obscurely-known issues that may have major impact on their lives,” he said.

His travels also made him hungry to see more of the world. He plans to have a career in business, possibly one that would allow him to travel and maintain international relations.

“The country of Indonesia is amazing and the people there are some of the most wonderful people that I have met,” he said. “I made several friends there that I still keep in contact with today.” ■

Fair

(continued from page 5)

top 10 R&B hits and a No. 1 hit—“Fun.” Clearly recognizable hits such as “Y.M.C.A.,” “In the Navy,” and “Macho Man,” will be performed by the 70s dance group the Village People. Tommy Castro Band began its humble existence playing the blues at small bars in San Francisco to opening up for B.B. King. They were named Artist of the Year in 2006 by readers of BluesWax, the larg-

est subscriber blues publication in the world. Comedy trio 3 Blonde Moms will bring their humor to the fair, joking about being a mom, having a mom, husbands, in-laws and more. The moms include strawberry blonde Maryellen, very blonde Joanie and dirty blonde Helen. The women have performed to crowds at Tommy T’s Comedy and Steakhouse in Pleasanton.

The 2007 Fair Web site is currently under construction and is available at www.AlamedaCountyFair.com.

—Janet Pelletier

Planning

(continued from page 5)

sons for making my choice and I hope the City Council will ratify my choice.”

But Fox pressed on, suggesting that O’Connor may have been a political casualty of last November’s mayoral race.

“To pass Greg O’Connor over not once, but twice is a slap in his face,” Fox said. “First, you appointed Mr. Dobbs, a one-year resident who developed a Web site for the mayor’s campaign. And now, Kathy Narum, who was the treasurer for (Councilman) Jerry

Thorne’s campaign.”

Fox said that O’Connor and his family contributed both to Brian Arkin’s campaign for City Council last year, and also to the campaign of former councilman Steve Brozosky in his bid to unseat Hosterman as mayor.

“I believe that actively participating or not participating or contributing or not contributing to a particular campaign should not be part of the criteria for being chosen to have a voice in Pleasanton’s future by being a planning commission member,” Fox added.

Hosterman was incensed by the comments, and said so.

“I am absolutely flabbergasted

that you could possibly think that this would be politically motivated,” the mayor replied to Fox. “Anyone who has looked at my appointments and the council’s ratification of my appointments since I have served as mayor will note that I have appointed many people who have not only not necessarily been supportive of me but have actually supported others. So I find it disturbing that you feel this way.”

In the end and despite the pleas of the planning commissioners, the council voted 4-1 to ratify Hosterman’s appointment of Narum to the Planning Commission. McGovern voted no. ■

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Foothill student receives Congressional Award

Congressman Pete Stark presented Tyler Cornfield, a senior at Foothill High School, the Congressional Award Bronze Medal Jan. 20 in Fremont. To earn the award, Cornfield put in more than 200 hours of public service and personal development. The latter led to the success of his two-man acoustic band Posterboy, which also features his brother and fellow bronze medal winner Clint. He is close to completing the requirements for the silver and gold medals as well. He plans to attend either UC Santa Cruz or San Francisco State and study to become a high school English teacher.

Waterslides

(continued from page 5)

while he recovered.

This time, in a letter to Iserson, he said funding problems are forcing the delay.

"California Splash finds it necessary to delay the completion of the project until Memorial weekend 2008," Kierstead stated in a letter dated last Jan. 27. "The time lines I sent to (planning associate) Steve Otto and (Chief Building Inspector) George Thomas on Dec. 15, 2006, could probably have been met if we hadn't lost one of our primary funding sources."

Kierstead told the Weekly that "I am working to put that money back together. But that's all I have to say on it."

Kierstead said he has already invested \$1.5 million in the project, so he wants to see it through.

"If I had to do this all over again, I would have asked for a much longer timeframe," Kierstead said. "The project requires much more than one year. I thought I could do it faster, but it's taken longer."

Downtown Attorney Peter MacDonald, who is the legal representative for the California Splash project, said the city's conditional use permit requires "diligent progress but does not set a specific date for completion. We have not asked for a discretionary extension of the conditional use permit."

Although the city could pull the discretionary use permit and require developers to try again, officials also have the East Bay Regional Park District to consider. East Bay already has granted Kierstead another year on its development permit. It also owns the land used by the city's new BMX (bicycle motocross) park on Stanley and allowed that park to be developed only after Pleasanton approved the California Splash Waterpark, which East Bay parks favors. ■

too much traffic from outside Pleasanton and is a facility that belongs close to a freeway ramp, not on the eastern edge of downtown Pleasanton.

Traffic projections range up to 200,000 visitors in a typical warm weather summer season of operation, or about double the 2,000 cars a day that now head to the existing waterslides during the summer months.

The new, expanded park would have twice the number of its current four waterslides and numerous ground level water activities. These would include a Lazy River water ride, children's wading and large swimming pools, a more challenging wave pool and a corporate picnic area that would have its own water-related amenities.

Although scheduled to be completed and open by Memorial Day 2005, a walk-through of the parkland shows only some progress in constructing the steel framework for a future food concession, ticket sales office and an administration building. Kierstead's group also has graded the portion of the site that would be used for overflow parking. Underground piping and electrical lines needed for the major rides, pools and pump buildings will get underway next fall after the existing waterslides close on Labor Day and the water needed for those slides can be turned off.

A year ago, Kierstead said the project's delay was caused by delays in fiberglass component and rolled steel availability and also by personal health issues that had sidelined him for several months

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Take Us Along



Romantic reading

Michelle and Glenn Foy read the Weekly before going down a jungle canopy zip line during their honeymoon in Costa Rica.



Summer reading

Roan Delamain (bottom row, l-r), Natalie and Brianne O'Sullivan, Aidan Delamain (front row, l-r) and Brendan, Bridget and Sean O'Sullivan read the Weekly while their two families enjoy a vacation at Pinecrest.



Roadside reading

Julie Rivas reads the Weekly during a stop in Dubrovnik, Croatia on her way to Medjugorje, Bosnia.



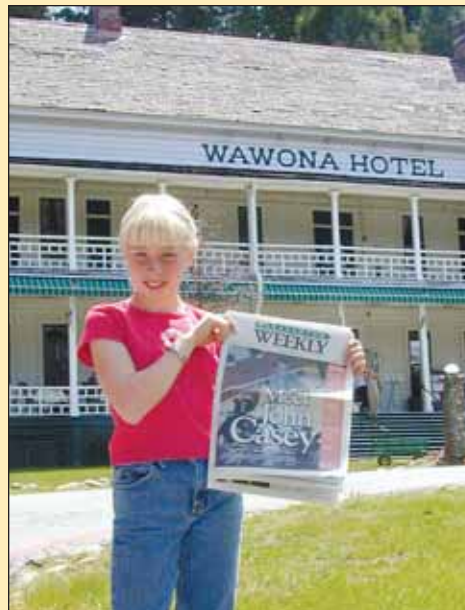
They're 'Alaskan' for it

Andy and Janeen Smith read the Weekly during a stop on their Alaskan cruise.



Reading all night long

Jesse and Casey Heidohrn take advantage of Iceland's 24 hours of sunlight to read the Weekly well into the wee hours of the night.



Family activity

The Mortenson family spend quality time together during their trip to The Woodlands, Texas by reading the Weekly.

Historical event

Christy Bissinger reads the Weekly in front of the Wawona Hotel, a National Historical Landmark and working hotel, located in Yosemite.

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The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Publishing Co., 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100 Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840.

Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407. The Pleasanton Weekly is mailed free upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. Voluntary subscriptions at \$30 per year (\$50 for two years) are welcome from Pleasanton residents.

Subscription rate for businesses and for residents of other communities is \$50 per year.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

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Opinion

Editorial

Our mayor's rough month— Will March be better?

We'll bet that Mayor Jennifer Hosterman is looking forward to a less stressful, gentler month starting today than the one just passed. She's taken quite a bashing from her constituents (Note that we did not say supporters!) in recent weeks.

First came the objectors to her long and misguided plan to have the City Council host a forum on the war in Iraq. While we like the idea of community forums on a variety of issues—from the war to global warming to extending Stoneridge Drive to affordable housing—we favor a nonpartisan, non-government sponsor, whether it's this newspaper with TV30, the Rotary clubs or similar organizations. Just not the City Council which, unfortunately, is increasing its partisan outlook, particularly on global and national issues. Veterans, members of Pleasanton Military Families and many others agreed and expressed their views, not always diplomatically, to Hosterman at council meetings in February. Hosterman acknowledged that the war issue, itself, was splitting the community along partisan lines, although there didn't seem to be much of a split. More than 90 percent of those who spoke and sent emails wanted all plans for a war forum dropped, and they were.

Then came the Great Email flap over whether Hosterman's frequent use of city-owned computers, including a city laptop made available to her for use at home violated state rules about not using government property for electioneering. Hosterman apologized and promised to quit sending emails on these computers seeking campaign support, funds and attendance at rallies, although even after warnings from City Manager Nelson Fialho, she continued. That led to a request by the city to seek a determination from the Alameda County District Attorney's office if Hosterman had violated state regulations. Assistant DA Trevor White read through computer disks of the emails and determined that there was insufficient information for him to press charges. Then just as Hosterman was breathing easier again, political watchdog Dan Carl reminded the public that Hosterman had used city resources nearly 40 times to generate multiple campaign flyers, solicit votes and campaign fundraisers, calling it unethical behavior. He said the California public watchdog organization Citizens for Ethical Leadership in Government disagrees strongly with the DA's opinion and will pursue this matter with the Attorney General and the State Legislature. For Hosterman, the case is not yet closed.

Then came the flap over her appointment of Parks and Recreation Commissioner Kathy Narum to the Planning Commission. Few question the mayor's right to make these kinds of appointments, which are allowed under municipal code, but commissioners publicly questioned why she would name Narum over Planning Commission alternate Greg O'Connor, whom she had appointed to that post less than a year earlier. O'Connor has won high praise from fellow commissioners and others and has actually served as an interim regular commissioner for the last five months. Hosterman stuck to her guns and Narum had the uncomfortable task of taking her seat on the commission last Wednesday night next to two members, including Chairwoman Anne Fox, who didn't want her there.

To top it off, Hosterman crammed as much time as she could last month to prepare for her third—and we hope successful—try at passing the California State Bar exams, which were given this past Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. We wish her well along with a long weekend of relaxation away from the law books and critics. But then there's another council meeting on Tuesday.

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Letters

War Forum mislabeled as 'debate'

Dear Editor,

Contrary to the misinformation pipeline, the Pleasanton City Council never intended the proposed Iraq Forum as a debate. This forum would've been an open-ended, citizen-guided effort seeking to discover what this war means to us, our community, and how as a community we can further support our troops and veterans.

For example, my idea was to have people sew and send cooling scarves made out of desert camo material to our soldiers. Fred Norman belongs to a program encouraging cities to adopt disabled Iraq veterans that he'd like Pleasanton to participate in. A veteran speaking at the city council meeting shared his ideas to streamline help to returning Iraq veterans. Many of us had looked forward to unifying our community through this venue.

However, a loud and vocal group of people (many of them Steve Brozosky supporters) demanded that Pleasanton not hold this forum, twisting its meaning and subjecting Mayor Jennifer Hosterman to an onslaught of unpleasant verbal attacks.

Hosterman said, "I'm sorry that you didn't trust me to do the right thing." She went on to say that she had hoped that if this forum was successful and citizens enjoyed it, she thought Pleasanton might be able to do forums like this on a variety of topics. It's unfortunate that the wonderful community ideas that Hosterman has are being scuttled by this myopic, vengeful "tyranny of the few."

*Paulette Kenyon
Pleasanton*

Pleasanton soldier chimes in

Dear Editor,

It was brought to my attention from my parents that the people of Pleasanton have been talking about the war in Iraq. I just got back from there and I think that's great to know that people from my town are talking about it. I like to know that the Pleasanton people are talking more about some stupid unpaved road or how fast people should be driving in residential areas.

I read in the Weekly's Town Square forum online what people were talking about and saw some pretty nasty responses. Now, people may not agree or they do agree with war or even talking about it, but who cares what side you're on? And if it hurts someone's feelings because they have a child in Iraq/Afghanistan or lost a child—I'm sorry, suck it up. It's not like this impact on our nation is ever going to go away. Isn't it nice to have a group discussion with others rather than debating with your spouse after watching the evening news? Personally, I like my voice to be heard whether people agree or they don't. It's

not like little old Pleasanton can stop the war.

*Specialist Jessica Brogden
Pleasanton*

Cold Stone educated in food allergy procedures

Dear Editor,

For the longest time after Cold Stone Creamery on Main Street opened, we did not go. Our son has life-threatening food allergies to all tree nuts including peanuts. The mix-ins being mixed all on the same surface was just a little too scary. We were feeling a little left out, so after about two years, we finally decided to enjoy their ice cream. We went into the store and stated our situation and we found that the staff is educated and trained on how to serve a customer with a nut allergy. Our son can go in and say that he has a nut allergy and they will mix his ice cream in a separate container using clean paddles. He has never felt different or ostracized by the employees and they always honor his request with respect. Not

all Cold Stone Creamerys are created equal. We would like to extend heartfelt gratitude and commend Mike and Cindy Salas for their diligence to their customers' safety.

*The Hintzke Family
Pleasanton*

Only striking controllers were fired

Dear Editor,

Rebecca Guyon has incorrectly phrased her comments about the air traffic controllers' strike ("Going once, going twice, sold!" Living, Jan. 26) in 1981. Ronald Reagan did not fire all the controllers; he fired the striking controllers who had been warned that the strike was illegal. He first gave them 48 hours to go back to work, and promised he would fire those who did not. Around 70 percent of the controllers chose not to return to work. If Mr. Kenny was fired, it was because he was breaking the law by participating in an illegal strike designed and timed to cripple the country, and he did not pay attention to what the president said.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, information released by the Russians showed that the communists were paying close attention to the traffic controller strike to see how tough Reagan would be as a negotiator.

*Susanna Gordon
Pleasanton*

Troops withdraw—then what?

Dear Editor,

Although I never supported the invasion of Iraq, it was for different reasons than the "left wing" (let's all have a group hug) contingent. You really do not have to be a Middle Eastern scholar to realize that the three factions comprising Iraq—Sunnis, Shi'ites and Kurds—do not particularly like each other and never have. Why the United States ever believed that we could get their joint cooperation and establish a viable democratic society remains a mystery to me.

Unfortunately, we now have a "tiger by the tail," and to those

who support immediate withdrawal of all troops, I would suggest the following scenario. Iran, who has been covertly supporting the Shi'ite militia, would escalate their activities. I very much doubt that Saudi Arabia would stand by passively while Sunnis get slaughtered. As hostilities increased, the Kurds in the north could possibly make a push for independence. During the ensuing chaos it is not out of the question that the Israelis would be provoked into military action.

No big deal, you say; I maintain that the world would quickly become a much more dangerous place, with our liability increasing proportionately. I'm sure that Mayor Hosterman and Fred Norman have a strategic game plan to address these problems, but as far as I know, they would be the only people that do.

*Mitch Fidziura
Pleasanton*

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Jordan M. Doronilla

Aiming for Congress?

*Pleasanton's 15th District Assemblyman considers
run against McNerney next year*

by Jeb Bing

"It's crazy the way the city is... residents here would be better... Assembly district. The Assem... devote much more time to stat...

Assemblyman Guy Houston, who represents Pleasanton in the 15th State Assembly District, may seek the 11th District Congressional seat now held by U.S. Rep. Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton).

In an interview, the former mayor of Dublin and lone Bay Area Republican now in his third and final term in the Assembly, said he is meeting with GOP strategists and party officials here and in Washington, D.C. to plan his political future. He emerged as a front-runner for the Republican nomination last month after former Congressman Richard Pombo signed on with a Washington lobbying firm, which political analysts believe will end his chance of trying to recapture the seat he held for 14 years.

Pombo lost to McNerney last November. If the race is between McNerney and Houston, it would mark the first time the 11th District Congressional contest would involve two Tri-Valley candidates.

Having grown up in Pleasanton, where his parents still live, Houston hasn't forgotten his roots. Although the 15th District is the smallest of three that cover Pleasanton—representing only about 15 percent of the city—Houston is considered by local politicians and business leaders as the most approachable and responsive. In fact, the former Dublin mayor likes to talk about how he set his goals when he was first elected to that city's City Council at age 32 to make Dublin just like Pleasanton, and more—with the same excellent sports fields, swim center and economic advantages that he envied from across I-580.

"I remember telling (now former) Mayor Ken Mercer that we don't want anything more than Pleasanton has," Houston recalled. "I'm real proud that Dublin has been able to do that and to become a community with great amenities, growth and tax revenue to pay for all of them."

Houston grew up in Highland Oaks and attended Lydiksen Elementary and Wells Junior High in Dublin, which then served that neighborhood. Since his father Fred was the football coach at San Ramon High School, Guy Houston was able to commute as a student to that school where he played varsity football, graduating in 1976. After earning undergraduate and MBA degrees at St. Mary's College, which he attended on football and basketball scholarships, Houston joined the family's mortgage business in Dublin. He ran for City Council, winning on his first try, and then was elected mayor two years later.

While he was considering a run for the State Assembly, the Legislature redistricted the 15th out of Dublin, putting the city in the 18th Assembly District which historically is Democratic controlled. So Houston quit the mayor's post in his fourth term and the family moved to Livermore, and later to San Ramon, which is also in the 15th. In the redistricting that took effect in 2002, the 15th was downsized in Pleasanton with the 18th gaining about 60 percent of the city and the rest staying in the 20th.

Assemblywoman Mary Hayashi (D-Castro Valley) was just elected to serve the 18th; Assemblyman Alberto Torrico (D-Newark) was re-elected in the district, which is also historically a Democratic Party stronghold.

Pleasanton has been split into three Assembly districts since 1982. Up to then, the city was part of a single district that included Fremont, San Leandro and Hayward. When longtime Assemblyman Carlos Bee of Hayward died, Pleasanton City Councilman Floyd Mori was elected to fill his unexpired term.

Then, with the rapid growth of cities within the district, including Pleasanton, as shown in the 1980 Census, new districts were created and Pleasanton, with its largely

s split up. It's not good. I think
 r represented by having only one
 mby representative could then
 te issues that affect Pleasanton."

At right, Houston, one of few Bay Area Republicans in the State Assembly, greets fellow Republican Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger after swearing-in ceremonies.



Aaron Bone



Jeab Bing

State Assemblyman Guy Houston (R-15th) sits with San Ramon Mayor H. Abram Wilson (right) at a recent breakfast honoring Martin Luther King, Jr., where both spoke. With Houston termed out in 2008 and considering a run against newly-elected Congressman Jerry McNerney (D-11th), Wilson may seek Houston's State Assembly seat.

Republican constituency, became part of others that had more Democrats in the mix. As a result, Mori was the first and last State Assemblyman from Pleasanton. Former Mayor Tom Pico ran three years ago for the Democratic nomination in the 20th, but was defeated by Torrico.

Many voters in Pleasanton are unaware that their assembly district is only a part of the city since they vote only in one. Further, each of the three Assembly districts is controlled by the larger voter bases outside of Pleasanton, which means it really doesn't matter to the three representatives in the Assembly how Pleasanton votes except in very close races, which are more likely to occur in Houston's 15th.

Still all three come to Pleasanton for political, social and, in Houston's case, family events. And they all say they want to hear from their Pleasanton constituents.

As for the 15th, which Houston said was gerrymandered in its alignment to make sure nearby Democratic districts stayed "safe," Houston has responsibility for citizens from Walnut Creek to Livermore (except for Dublin and most of Pleasanton), Brentwood, Byron, Discovery Bay, and much of the I-5 corridor, including Galt, Elk Grove and South Sacramento County.

"We'll be talking about redistricting throughout the state this year, and I think we'll see some positive changes," Houston said. "Many in the Legislature want to place the responsibility for redistricting that will be based on the 2010 Census handled by an independent board of judges, not individual legislators as we've seen in the past. That's a better way to go although I don't know what it will mean for Pleasanton."

Houston would like to see Pleasanton returned to the days when one legislative district represented the city.

"It's crazy the way the city is split up," he said. "It's not good. I think residents here would be better represented by having only one Assembly district. The Assembly representative could then devote much more time to state issues that affect Pleasanton."

None of this will affect Houston, who is now in his

third and final two-year term of office in the Assembly as permitted under term limits. Besides McNerney's congressional seat, he is considering running for the State Senate seat held by Tom Torlakson (D-Antioch), who will also be termed-out in 2008. That district covers San Ramon, where Houston lives with his wife Inge and their three children: Bartlett, a seventh grade student; Sumner, a sixth grader; and Glynnis Rose, who is in the third grade. All attend Valley Christian School in Dublin and the two boys play on the Pleasanton Junior Football League teams.

Houston has joined Assembly Speaker Fabian Nuñez, who himself is termed out in 2008, in calling for changes in the voter-mandated term limit provisions. He said the days of politicians spending 30 years in the State Legislature are over, but there could be a "creative readjustment" so that elected officials would still be limited to 12 years in the Legislature, as they are now, but they could mix or match their service by staying in the Senate for three four-year terms or in the Assembly for six two-year terms, or a combination of those offices.

"Six years is just too short to accomplish major goals," Houston said. "For example, I have focused on improving infrastructure funding and improvements. By the time we write the bond measures and get voter approval, there is not enough time left to make sure the money for I-580 and other highway improvements is property earmarked. More time in the Assembly would give me an opportunity to see these major projects through."

Houston, the only Bay Area legislator in the Republican Party Caucus in Sacramento, also has long-ongoing legal problems locally, where he has been sued by investors of a firm called Winning Action Investments, which his father operated and has since closed. The suit accuses of Guy Houston of being part of a Ponzi style scheme involving the firm and fraudulent investments. Houston said he had no part of the business and has asked an Alameda County court to dismiss the charges. ■

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SCIENCE ON SATURDAY

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MAKING STAR POWER ON EARTH

By Ed Moses, Rick Sawicki, Chris Ebbers, LLNL scientists; and Dan Burns, teacher, Los Gatos High School

**March 3, 9:30 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.,
Amador Theater, Pleasanton**

Imagine a sphere much smaller than a pea releasing enough energy to supply all of the electricity needs of the United States for a brief moment in time! How could this be possible? At the National Ignition Facility (NIF), a huge laser in Livermore, California, scientists and engineers are nearly ready to make this a reality. NIF will compress and transform electrical energy into 192 extraordinarily powerful laser beams capable of safely igniting a small star in its experimental facility. Come and see how this will be accomplished and learn how energy can be compressed to potentially provide for a future of clean energy for our world.

Science on Saturday is a five-week series of free lectures for middle and high school students. The program runs March 3 - March 31.

All lectures are held at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton, at 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Seating is first come, first served. No pre-registration. For directions see <http://education.llnl.gov/sos>



Contact:
Richard Farnsworth, LLNL,
farnsworth1@llnl.gov



UCRL-BR-227845

WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

City Council

Tuesday, March 6, 2007 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

- **Public Hearing:** PUD 56, Michael Aminian/Mohsen Sadri – Consider an application for PUD development to plan approval to allow three new single family homes on an approximately 2.45 acre parcel located at 865 Clara Lane, in the Vineyard Avenue Corridor Specific Plan area
- Discussion of recommended alignment for Iron Horse Trail (Dublin-Pleasanton BART Station to Santa Rita Road)
- Zone 7 presentation on the Stream Management Master Plan

Civic Arts Commission

Monday, March 5, 2007 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

- Please visit our website at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us to view the agenda.

Human Services Commission

Wednesday, March 7, 2007 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

- Identify Priority Projects for City Council Consideration as Part of the FY 2007/08 through FY 2010/11 City Capital Improvement Program
- Presentation from Nonprofit Agencies and Recommendation to Allocate Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds for Fiscal Year 2007 (2007-08)

Library Commission

Thursday, March 8, 2007 @ 7:00 p.m.
Library Community Room, 400 Old Bernal Ave.

- Library Technical Study

Excellent Career Opportunity



POLICE RECRUIT

\$30.81 per hour

The City is currently recruiting qualified individuals interested in a career in law enforcement with the Pleasanton Police Department. This is an entry level position.

For more information, contact the Human Resources Department
123 Main Street, Pleasanton
call (925) 931-5056 or visit
www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us

Application Deadline: 5 p.m., Friday, March 2, 2007. EOE

ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
AND PUBLIC COMMENT IS WELCOME

The above represents a sampling of upcoming meeting items. For complete information, please visit
www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/community/calendar

Community Pulse

Police Bulletin

Laptop, TV stolen from building

Sometime between 6:30 p.m. Feb. 22 and 8:30 a.m. Feb. 23, a suspect forced entry into two businesses at 500 Hopyard Road. A laptop and TV, valued at \$5,200, were reported missing last Friday. The forced entry caused \$200 worth of damage at the property.

Police Report

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

February 16

- Theft:
 - 9:30 a.m. in the 7800 block of Lafayette Court; from vehicle, worth \$50-199
 - 3:18 p.m. in the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road; credit card fraud
 - 7:08 p.m. in the 5500 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard; stolen vehicle
- Vehicular burglary:
 - 8:00 a.m. in the 5900 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; worth \$200-400
- Alcohol violations:
 - 1:45 a.m. in the 7800 block of Kentwood Way; public drunkenness
 - 11:45 p.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Road; possession by a minor
- Unauthorized entry:
 - 8:20 a.m. in the 5800 block of Owens Drive
- Domestic violence:
 - 10:32 p.m. in the 3900 block of Stoneridge Drive

February 17

- Theft:
 - 6:55 a.m. in the 7300 block of Johnson Drive; stolen vehicle
 - 5:30 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; stolen vehicle
- Burglary:
 - 11:33 a.m. in the 3600 block of Andrews Drive
- Drug/alcohol violations:
 - 1:18 a.m. in the 5800 block of Parkside Drive; public drunkenness
 - 11:57 p.m. in the 100 block of Main Street; under the influence of narcotics
- Assault:
 - 2:01 a.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Road
- Minor driving:
 - 11:04 p.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Northway Road

February 18

- DUI: 1
- Theft:
 - 4:25 p.m. in the 5400 block of Sunol Boulevard; forged checks
 - 8:00 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; vehicle parts, worth over \$400
- Vandalism:
 - 9:21 a.m. in the 6200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; commercial, worth \$1,000 or less
- Assault:
 - 2:35 a.m. at the intersection of I-680 and Sunol Boulevard
 - 1:04 p.m. in the 4200 block of Krause Court
- Drug/alcohol violations:
 - 7:05 p.m. in the 5800 block of Laurel Creek Drive; paraphernalia possession
 - 11:12 p.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Road; public drunkenness

February 19

- DUI: 1
- Theft:
 - 7:39 a.m. in the 4200 block of Sheldon Circle; stolen truck
 - 8:21 a.m. in the 5700 block of Northway Road; identity theft
 - 6:10 p.m. in the 4100 block of Vineyard Avenue; snatched purse, worth \$200-400
 - 7:40 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting, worth \$200-400
- Vehicular vandalism:
 - 12:35 a.m. in the 4300 block of Valley Avenue; worth over \$1,000
- Burglary:
 - 9:05 a.m. in the 6000 block of Kolb Ranch Drive; commercial
 - 10:53 a.m. in the 4200 block of Sheldon Circle; vehicular, worth over \$400
 - 10:54 a.m. in the 4100 block of Amberwood Circle; vehicular, worth \$50-199
- Drug/alcohol violations:
 - 2:02 p.m. in the 1000 block of Serpentine Lane; marijuana possession
 - 7:35 p.m. in the 400 block of Main Street; public drunkenness
- Domestic animal bites:
 - 11:59 p.m. at the intersection of

- Lewd/lascivious acts:
 - 6:41 p.m. in the 500 block of Main Street; in public restroom

February 20

- Found property: 1
- Annoying phone calls: 2
- Theft:
 - 9:20 a.m. in the 7300 block of Linwood Court; stolen vehicle
 - 2:45 p.m. in the 4400 block of Hacienda Drive; from building, worth over \$400
 - 2:52 p.m. in the 3700 block of Mohr Avenue; worth over \$400
 - 6:33 p.m. in the 6600 block of Koll Center Parkway; from building, worth over \$400
 - 7:44 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting, worth \$200-400
- Commercial burglary:
 - 8:40 a.m. in the 6600 block of Koll Center Parkway
- Residential trespassing:
 - 10:12 p.m. in the 1100 block of Lund Ranch Road

February 21

- DUI: 1
- Vandalism:
 - 8:52 a.m. in the 800 block of Chateau Heights Court; commercial, worth over \$1,000
 - 10:30 a.m. in the 4400 block of Willow Road; vehicular, worth \$1,000 or less
 - 3:14 p.m. in the 8000 block of Rockford Place; commercial, worth \$1,000 or less
- Concealed gun:
 - 12:53 p.m. in the 7200 block of Johnson Drive

February 22

- Theft:
 - 12:48 p.m. in the 1700 block of Stoneridge Mall; from building, worth \$50-199
- Burglary:
 - 12:44 p.m. in the 300 block of Neal Street; vehicular, worth \$50-199
 - 6:24 p.m. in the 6600 block of Owens Drive; attempted commercial burglary
- Assault:
 - 1:21 a.m. in the 5300 block of Hopyard Road



Voice your opinion in Town Square at
www.PleasantonWeekly.com

Transitions

Obituaries

Frank Milina

Frank Milina died Feb. 17 at the age of 75.

Mr. Milina graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1950. He served in the U.S. Air Force for 12 years. After working for American Tractor for 22 years, he went to Electro-Plating Specialty for 15 years.

A resident of Pleasanton for 21 years, he loved gardening and wood working. He always enjoyed a trip to Reno and had a good sense of humor. Mr. Milina was a true fan of the Oakland A's and Raiders.

He is survived by his wife of 20 years, Ola; sister Jane Tabor; son Paul Milina; daughter Kathleen (Jim) De Lauro; stepchildren Phyllis, Rick, Mike, Bob, Ron, Chuck, Don and daughter-in-law Maria; grandchildren Mallory and Kyle De Lauro, Brett, Janelle, Justin, Sarah and Mike Bower; great-grandchild Calista; nephews Garry, Larry and Greg Tabor and their families.

Darwin S. Clayton Jr.

Darwin S. Clayton Jr. died Feb. 18 at the age of 62.

It gave Darwin great pleasure to frequently take his wife, Beverly, and their family to Maui, leaving them with lasting memories of enjoying its tropical beauty, recreational activities and entertainment, and feasting on its culinary

delights. He had a passion for the whole Hawaiian experience.

Characteristically, he lavished gifts on his many nieces, nephews and especially his precious granddaughters. He had a knack for picking out the perfect toy or sport memorabilia that would thrill each child. He also enjoyed taking the family little ones to Disneyland, enjoying him itself with childlike wonder.

The San Francisco 49ers lost one of its most dedicated fans and the loss will be felt by those he often invited to join him in his day-long tailgate parties at Candlestick Park. He had an amazing recollection of all facts pertaining to 49er game statistics and had incredible team loyalty.

Mr. Clayton loved animals in general, having treasured family

pets throughout the years. He had an amazing interest in backyard creatures and it was heart-warming to watch him lovingly care for those little visitors most of us simply ignore. Only the finest Diamond walnuts were given to those squirrels in his tender care. He truly took time out to appreciate and care for nature.

Through commitment and dedication, he built the Clayton's Pest Control family business. He cared about meeting the needs of his customers and spent countless hours planning and organizing his day to accommodate each one. He had much energy and enthusiasm.

He loved the community of Pleasanton, which he called home for 40 years, and leaves behind many lifelong relationships.

Mr. Clayton is survived by wife of 20 years, Beverly; sister and brother-in-law Darlene (Sandy) and Chuck Kelly; niece Tamie Kelly; son and daughter-in-law Ed and Theresa Isaacs; son and daughter-in-law Randy and Karen Isaacs; son Eric Sutherland; daughter Jennifer Mauldin; five granddaughters, Stephanie Brown, Melissa Grant, Alyson Isaacs, Haley Isaacs and Alicia Mauldin; great-granddaughter Kaylee Grant; and numerous nieces and nephews.

To those involved in any aspect of his life, his family would like to invite you to join them in a celebration of that part. They will host a day-long Hawaiian luau/49er tailgate party April 14 in the Darwins' backyard celebrating the things he loved most.

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:

Transitions
Pleasanton Weekly
5506 Sunol, Suite 100.
Pleasanton, CA 95926
Or fax: (925) 600-9559
Or e-mail:
editor@PleasantonWeekly.com
(subject: Transitions)

Please include a contact name and telephone number. Not responsible for lost photos. Information how to send a photo digitally can be found on the Weekly's web site: www.PleasantonWeekly.com

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Calendar

Calendar submissions

Beginning March 9 our printed calendar listings will be gathered from our online database. To make sure your listing is included, please visit www.pleasantonweekly.com to fill out a calendar submission form. For questions, e-mail calendar@pleasantonweekly.com.

Auditions

Valley Concert Chorale holds auditions

The Valley Concert Chorale is looking for singers who enjoy performing a wide range of music and have sight reading skills. Auditions are Mar. 19 in Livermore by appointment only. 462-4205. www.valleyconcert-chorale.org.

Book Clubs

Great Books of Pleasanton

The Great Books of Pleasanton book club meets at 7:30 p.m., the fourth Monday monthly at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Call Sadie, 846-1658.

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 March 6.

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 March 15.

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 March 7.

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 March 8.

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 March 8.

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 Feb. 28.

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 Feb. 27.

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 March 14.

Classes

Belly Dancing Classes

The city of Dublin is offering women's belly dancing classes with 4-week sessions beginning Feb. 23 and March 3. Level 1 class meets 10 to 11 a.m. and level 2 class meets 11 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$46 for a 4-week session. Call 556-4500 or visit www.dublinrecguide.com to register.

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.

Papier-mache Whimsy

ClassWorthington Gallery will host a two-day Papier-mache Whimsy class led by artist MJ Wilson Mar. 24 and 31. The event is free, but reservations are required. Participants must bring a roll of 1-inch masking tape, a full newspaper, scissors and two wire hangers. Attendance both days is required. 2-4 p.m. Free Worthington Gallery West, 739-J Main Street, Pleasanton. 485-1183. [www.worthington-gallerywest.com](http://www.worthingtongallerywest.com).

Clubs

P-Town Street Rods

Truck or car enthusiasts club

meets from 6 to 9 p.m. the second Wednesday and fourth Thursday monthly at Chicago's Metropolitan Deli, 6003 W. Las Positas Blvd. Call George, 846-5550.

Phi Delta Kappa

This international organization includes professional educators and those interested in education and meets at various locations four to six times during the school year. Call Pat, 443-5526.

Pleasanton Amador Valley Lions Club

Meets at noon on the first and third Thursday monthly at Round Table Pizza, 530 Main St. Call Tom, 846-4749.

Pleasanton Art League

Pleasanton Art League and Livermore Art Association features demonstrations by nationally recognized artists held at the Cultural Arts Center, 4477 Black Ave. Call 462-5917 or visit www.pal-art.com.

Concerts

Fry Street Quartet

The Fry Street Quartet will perform 8 p.m. March 3 at First Presbyterian Church, 2020 5th St., Livermore as part of the Del Valle Fine Arts Classical Concert Series. General admission is \$18, and \$16 for seniors 62 or older and college students. High school students are free. Call 447-2752 or visit www.delvallefinearts.org for more information.

Jewish Rock Concert

Congregation Beth Emek is hosting a rock concert by Jewish rock band Dan Nichols & E18teen 6:30 p.m. Mar. 17. 6:30 p.m. \$36 for reserved seats; \$20 adults; \$18 teens; \$12 seniors and children ages 3 to 12; free for child Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada St., Pleasanton. 931-1055. www.bethemek.org/dan_nichols.

'The Mikado' Opera Party

John Christopher Cellars, Retzlaff Winery and the Livermore Valley Opera will host a joint Mikado Opera Party featuring a wine tasting and heavy-appetizer party followed by the

Weekend Preview



Best of Comedy returns to Pleasanton

Finalist in the 2003 San Francisco Comedy Competition Rob Little (above) will headline the Best of San Francisco Comedy show 8 p.m. March 10 at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road. Little will be joined by standup Drake Witham and a surprise host and special guest. The show is appropriate for an adult audience. Tickets are \$15, \$20 and \$25 and can be purchased online at www.civcartstickets.org or by calling 931-3444.

LVO's production of "The Mikado," an English comedic operetta in two acts, Mar. 10. The wine tasting party is from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Blacksmith Square, 25 South Livermore Ave. The performance will immediately follow the party at the Livermore High School Theater. 5:30 p.m. \$65 Blacksmith Square, 25 South Livermore Ave., Livermore. 456-9463. www.livermorevalleyopera.com, www.johnchristophercellars.com.

Three Tableaus of Faure

The Valley Concert Chorale presents "Three Tableaus of Faure" 8 p.m. Mar. 17 at First Presbyterian Church, 4th and L streets, Livermore and 3 p.m. Mar. 18 at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Road. Faure's music was slow to gain recognition outside of France, but now he is recognized as one of the greatest French composers. The Valley Chorale is now in its 43rd season. 3 p.m. In advance: \$17 adults, \$14 seniors 62 and older; At the door: \$20 adults, \$17 seniors 866-4003.

Events

Country Folk Art

Country Folk Art is coming to town! This ultimate craft show includes gourmet delights, shabby chic, jewelry, garden art and so much more. One paid admission is valid for show re-entry all three days and \$1-off admission discount coupons and times are available on our Web site. Adults \$7, ages 6-12 are \$2, ages 5 and under are free Alameda County Fairgrounds. www.countryfolkart.com.

Dreams Bridal Faire

Dreams Are A Wish Your Heart Makes presents the first-ever Bridal Faire March 4 at the Historic Pleasanton Hotel Victorian Room. Come see the best wedding professionals in the business! Thousands of dollars in door prizes! Enter to win the Grand Prize for Northern California: a free wedding! For tickets call Sharon at 989-7242. 3:30-8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance/\$20 at the door Pleasanton Hotel, 855 Main St., Pleasanton. (925) 989-7242. www.grapevideo.com.

Foothill Grad Night Tickets

Available Grad Night 2007 tickets are on sale every Tuesday and Thursday on Campus during lunchtime. Tickets are currently selling at \$135 per student but hurry before the prices go up! Also see Web site <http://www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/foothill> and look under the Announcements/Activities section for information. \$135 Foothill



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15th Anniversary Celebration
March 15, 2007 7:30 p.m.
Castro Valley Center for the Arts
19501 Redwood Road, Castro Valley
Purchase tickets at
www.cvartsfoundation.org
adults \$26. Seniors \$22. Students \$12

Calendar

Grad Night, Club Sport Pleasanton, Pleasanton. 925 426-8602.

Iranian New Year

The Iranian-American Youth Group of Pleasanton celebrates the first day of Spring, Norooz meaning "new day" in Farsi, the Iranian New Year. This celebration includes: music, play, talent show, dance, craft. All are welcome. 2-6 p.m. Free admission Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. 931-0203.

Irish Dance at the Library

The Pleasanton Library will host students from the Moore School of Irish Dance 2 p.m. March 10 for a free program celebrating Irish culture. The program is open to all ages and no registration is required. 2-3 p.m. Free Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. (925) 931-3400 x 8.

Livermore Valley Wine Country Championship

Four-day passes for the Livermore Valley Wine Country Championship at Wente Vineyards are now on sale at Museum On Main, 603 Main St. The tournament will be held from March 29 through April 1. Tournament passes are \$30. The event includes wine and food tastings, demonstrations and a tech exhibit. The museum receives half of every ticket sold. Call 462-2766 or e-mail valleymuseum@sbcglobal.net for more information.

Poetry, Prose and Arts Festival Early Registration

Those interested in joining the Poetry, Prose and Arts Festival March 31 at the CarrAmerica Conference Center can sign up early and receive a discount on registration. Registration before March 3 is \$80 for adults age 20 or older, \$15 and \$25 for teens age 13 to 19 and \$15 for youth age 4 to 12. After March 3, cost is \$95 for adults, \$20 and \$35 for teens and \$20 for youth. Contact Michelle Russo, 931-5350 or mrusso@ci.pleasanton.ca.us for more information. Visit www.pleasantonarts.org.

Red Cross: Paint the Town Big Time Gala

The American Red Cross Bay Area invites you to Paint the Town Big Time, an annual red tie gala benefiting local disaster preparedness and emergency response efforts. Includes dinner, award presentation, silent & live auction, entertainment & dancing. March 10. 6 p.m. Westin St. Francis, 335 Powell Street, San Francisco. 415-427-8170. www.redcrossbayarea.org.

Red Skye Release Party

Join Red Skye Owner and winemakers Mark and Betty Christopolous at Tesla Vintners Tasting Room. Red Skye will release their 2004 Ruby Hill Zinfandel. Taste Red Skye wines paired with various cheeses, and learn from the winemaker himself how to pair wine with cheese. free Red Skye Release Party, 5143 Tesla Rd, Livermore. 925-606-9463.

Women's History Month at the USS Hornet

A celebration of Women's History Month will take place onboard the

USS Hornet from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Mar. 17. Visitors will learn about the changing roles of women in the military. A panel of women pilots, space technicians and military veterans will give a special presentation at 1 p.m. 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. \$14 for adults, \$6 for children ages 5 to 17 USS Hornet, 707 W. Hornet Ave., Pier 3, Alameda. (510) 521-8448, ext. 237. www.hornetevents.com.

Exhibits

Discovery & Awareness

Alexander's Main St Gallery presents "Discovery & Awareness," an art exhibit with work by Sara Zimmerman. It opens from 4 to 7 p.m. March 3 and runs through March 17. Zimmerman's paintings encompass contemporary modernism and science illustration with a spiritual touch, depicting scenes and silhouettes of flowers, trees and fish. 4-7 p.m. free Alexander's Main St. Gallery, 610 Main St., Pleasanton. (925) 846-6015. www.alexandersmainstreetgallery.com.

Melanie Lacki Exhibit at Studio 7 Fine Arts

Melanie Lacki creates watercolors with timeless appeal. See how her works harmoniously suffuse glorious light and vivid color at her exhibition Feb. 24 through March 18. Free Studio 7 Fine Arts, 400 Main Street, Pleasanton. 925.846.4322. www.studio7finearts.com.

Music in the 1890s, 1920s and 1940s

"Music in the 1890s, 1920s and 1940s" is on display at the Museum On Main, 603 Main St., now through mid-April. The exhibit highlights the history of music in the three eras that produced important musical styles and artist songs and includes sheet music, clothing and instruments. Admission to the museum is a \$2 requested donation. Call 462-2766 or visit www.museumonmain.org for more information.

Up Close and Far Away

Worthington Gallery West is hosting "Up Close and Far Away," a group show featuring landscapes and still lifes by artists Uwe Bangert, Seamus Berkeley, Klaus Fussman, Tricia Leonard, Marc Velten and more. The show closes March 3. Call 485-1183 or visit www.worthingtongallerywest.com for more information.

Fundraisers

Chinese Cooking and Wine Tasting for Valley Dance Theatre

The Valley Dance Theatre is hosting "A Taste of China" featuring Chinese cooking demonstrations and wine tasting to benefit the theatre. Reservations are \$50 per person. Informal attire requested and adults

(continued on page 20)

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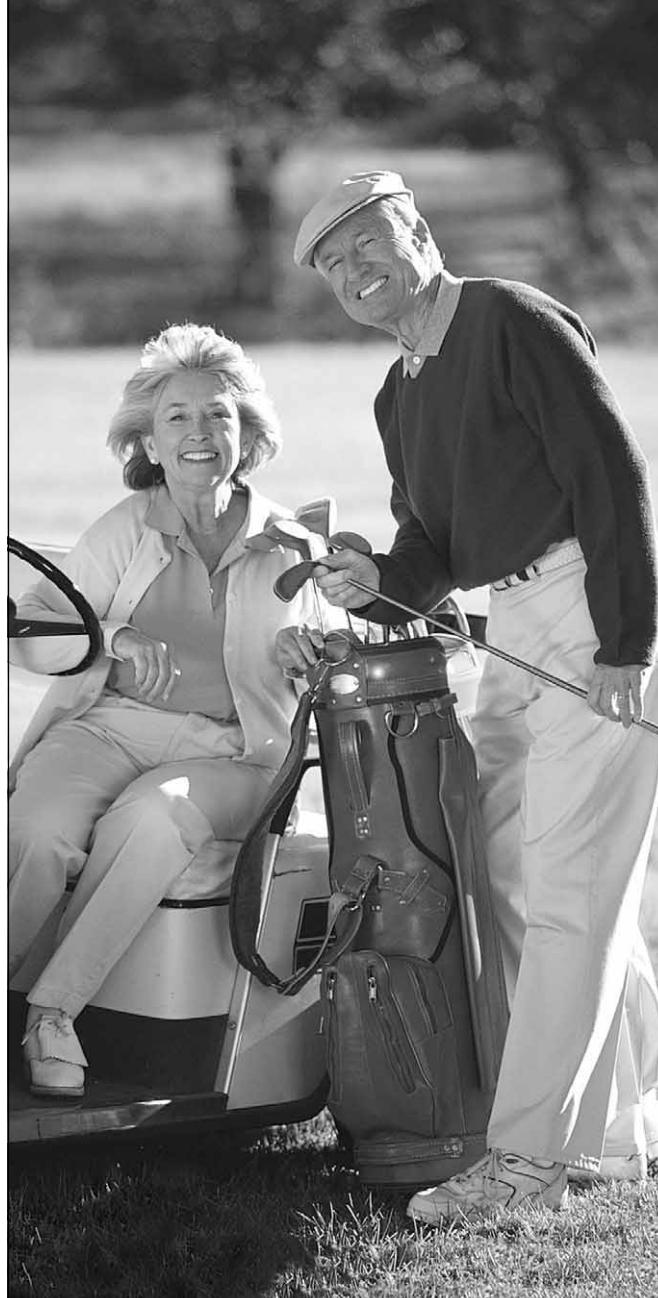
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SAN RAMON REGIONAL
MEDICAL CENTER

Advances in Diabetes Treatment

A free educational seminar



Learn about recent advances in the treatment for type 2 diabetes, including new oral medications and drugs that can improve glycemic control. Our endocrinologist will discuss the risk factors and symptoms of type 2 diabetes, and how it increases your risk for other serious health complications. Also, hear the good news! The recently completed Diabetes Prevention Program study conclusively showed that people with pre-diabetes can prevent the development of type 2 diabetes by making changes in their diet and increasing their level of physical activity.

Speakers:

Mahmood Kazemi, M.D.

Endocrinologist

Pam Wilson, M.S., R.D.

Chief Clinical Dietitian

A Free Educational Seminar

Thursday, March 8, 2007

7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

San Ramon Regional Medical Center
South Building
South Conference Room
7777 Norris Canyon Road

Reserve your place by calling

925.275.8230

or online www.sanramonmedctr.com

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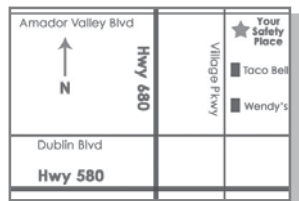
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Calendar

only. 243-0927. www.valleydancetheatre.com.

Bingo

Choice for Children Education Foundation hosts Bingo at 4 p.m. every Sunday at Bingo Ranch, 3070 Pacific Ave., Livermore. All proceeds benefit Livermore Valley Charter School. Call Maria, 201-3422 or e-mail ccef@lvcs.org.

Recycle for Breast Cancer

Recycle electronics, empty ink jet and toner cartridges to support the fight against breast cancer. Free pick up, drop off, or prepaid envelopes and shipping labels available. Call Larry, 735-7203 or e-mail larry@recycleforbreastcancer.org.

Medical Center, South Conference Room, South Building, 7777 Norris Canyon Road, San Ramon. 925.275.8230. www.sanramonmedctr.com.

World School Free Seminars

World School of Massage will offer a free seminar for the general public from 3:30 to 5 p.m. March 8 called "Breast Health: Lymph Loving!" This stand-alone seminar will teach self-massage. Participants will leave with self-care techniques to use at home. 3:30-5 p.m. free World School, 699 Peters Ave., Pleasanton. 925-461-2533. www.worldschoolmassage.com.

Kids & Teens

Bilingual Storytimes

The Pleasanton Public Library will host a series of Spanish-English storytimes the first Wednesday evening of the month through April. The program lasts 30 minutes and is open to children of all ages. Admission is free. Call the children's desk, 931-3400, ext. 8 for more information.

Girl of the Month Nominations

Pure Girls--a boutique providing fashion, party packages, and salon beauty services for girls of all ages--seeks nominations for Pure Girl of the Month, one of the ways the business recognizes the achievements of girls. To nominate please include the girl's name, age, phone number and accomplishment. free Pure Girls, 660 Main Street, Pleasanton. 925-485-4380. www.puregirlsclub.com.

Pre-Dance Beauty Prep Parties

Pure Girls will have pre-dance Beauty Prep Parties on Fridays in March so girls can get ready for the school dances. Girls will need a student ID or ticket from the school hosting the upcoming dance. Girls will receive 20 percent discounts on all beauty services and products. Reservations recommended. 3-7 p.m. Pure Girls, 660 Main Street, Pleasanton. 925-485-4380. info@puregirlsclub.com

Health

American Red Cross Blood DriveThe American Red Cross is holding a blood drive Mar. 19 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Eden Medical Center, 20103 Lake Chabot Road, Castro Valley. Call (510) 1234 or e-mail www.BeADonor.com (code: EH) to schedule an appointment. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Eden Medical Center, 20103 Lake Chabot Road, Castro Valley. (510) 594-5204. www.BeADonor.com.

Exercise Class

The Pleasanton Department of Parks and Community Services offers a month-to-month fitness class in the morning and Exercitement Fitness class for those ages 13 and over in the evening at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost varies from \$3 to \$4.50 per class. Registration required. Call 931-5365 for 50 Fitness Plus and 931-5340 for Exercitement Fitness.

Free CPR Training

The American Red Cross Bay Area Chapter will hold its annual FREE CPR Preparedness Saturday, March 3, during Red Cross Month. Learn Adult CPR, care for choking victims, rescue breathing and disaster preparedness. There are two sessions taking place at 8:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. 8:30 a.m. FREE Acts Full Gospel Church, 1034 66th Ave, Oakland, CA. 1-800-520-5433. www.redcrossbayarea.org.

Laughter Yoga

Laughter Yoga classes are held from 7 to 8 p.m. Mondays at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin. All ages welcome. The cost is \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors. Call (510) 390-4105 or visit www.laughinglydia.com for more information.

Seminar on Advanced Treatment of Diabetes

Endocrinologist Mahmood Kazemi, M.D., and Chief Clinical Dietitian, Pam Wilson, M.S., R.D., will discuss Advanced Treatment of Type 2 Diabetes. What are some of the new oral medications, and which drugs can improve glycemic control? What are the risk factors and symptoms? Please register. March 8 7-8:30 p.m. no charge San Ramon Regional

Lectures/ Workshops

Child Care Initiative Project

Licensed and license-exempt child care providers are encouraged to participate in the CCIP project to receive technical assistance and support, free training and support materials, and more. No cost for this workshop. Call Donnamarie, 249-3923.

Children of Alcatraz

Filmmaker Scott Cornfield will show and give a talk on his film "Children of Alcatraz" 7 p.m. Mar. 15 at the Museum On Main, 603 Main St. Reservations are requested. Admission is \$5 for museum members, \$10 for non-members. Call 462-2766 for more information.

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2nd Year Max Monthly Payment	\$1,728	\$1,358
3rd Year Max Monthly Payment	\$1,857	\$1,460
4th Year Max Monthly Payment	\$1,996	\$1,569
5th Year Max Monthly Payment	\$2,145	\$1,686

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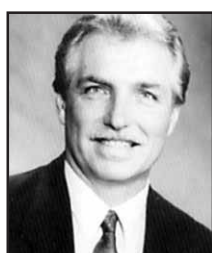
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Eliminate Credit Card Debt

Cheri Keefer of Residential Pacific Mortgage is hosting a free seminar titled "Build Your Financial Future by Eliminating Credit Card Debt" from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Mar. 21 at 30 W. Neal St., Ste. 105. Learn statistics about credit card debt, facts about zero percent offers, key signs to recognizing when you're in too deep and how to maximize cash flow using home equity. RSVP requested. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free 249-3433.

When Mom or Dad Has

CancerSchool-age children can participate in fun, creative activities to help them express themselves while teens have a group where they can discuss concerns. Parents meet concurrently. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. None The Wellness Community, 3276 McNutt Avenue, Walnut Creek. (925) 933-0107. www.twc-bayarea.org.

Live Music

Chris Bradley's Traditional Jazz Band

Chris Bradley's Traditional Jazz Band performs at The Pleasanton Hotel Lounge on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Visit www.pleasantonhotel.com for a complete calendar of events.

Miscellaneous

Excellence in Education

AwardsPleasanton PTA Council and PUSD present the 17th Excellence in Education Awards, sponsored by Steven M Chew DDS. The community is invited to nominate a special teacher, admin. or staff of the PUSD for the award. Applications can be downloaded at www.pleasantonpta.org. The deadline is 3/23/07. 925-462-4891. www.pleasantonpta.org.

Pleasanton Chamber Tradeshow Mixer

Join us at Sheraton Pleasanton Hotel for the March Tradeshow Mixer from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. March 14. Enjoy delicious appetizers, beverages and networking! Register today for your company's exhibit space! General admission is \$10 due at the door. 5:30-7:30 p.m. \$10 Sheraton Pleasanton, 5990 Stoneridge Mall Road, Pleasanton. (925)846-5858. www.pleasanton.org.

On Stage

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Amador Valley and Foothill high schools present "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" 7:30 p.m. Mar. 15 through the 24 at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road. Tickets are \$10 for students, \$12 for adults and are available through www.civcartstickets.org or at the door the night of the event. 7:30 p.m. \$10 for students, \$12 for adults Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. www.civcartstickets.org.

SUDS: A Rocking 60s Musical Soap Opera

The Walnut Creek Crossroads Theatre kicks off its sixth season with "SUDS: A Rocking 60s Musical Soap Opera" running through March 31. The show is about a lonely Laundromat lass and the guardian angels who help her find true love with more than 50 well known chart-topping songs from the 1960s. Shows are 8 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays and 2 and 8 p.m. Saturdays at the CTA Crossroads Theatre, 1277 Boulevard Way, Walnut Creek. Tickets are \$24 to \$29. Call 944-0587 to purchase tickets or for more information.

Taming the Wild Wild West in a Dress

The Sunol Repertory Theatre presents "Taming the Wild Wild West in a Dress or Let's Give the Villain the Slip" 8 p.m. Mar. 10 through the 31 at the Sunol Glen School auditorium, 11601 Main St., Sunol. Tickets are \$12.50 and can be purchased at www.sunol.net or by phone at 862-0664. 8 p.m. \$12.50 Sunol Glen School, 11601 Main St., Sunol.

The Fantasticks

The Pleasanton Playhouse presents "The Fantasticks" through March 18 at The Pleasanton Playhouse Studio Theatre, 1048 Serpentine Lane, Ste. 309. Shows are at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors 60 or older and juniors 18 or younger. Call 462-2121 or visit www.pleasantonplayhouse.com to purchase tickets.

Recreation

Enrichment Classes
Pleasanton Parks and Recreation

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

Scholarships

AAUW Local Scholarship

The American Association of University Women Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin Branch will award two or more scholarships between \$500 to \$1,500 each to students either currently living in Livermore, Dublin, Pleasanton or Sunol or graduating from a Livermore, Pleasanton or Dublin high school and have plans to complete a full course of study at an accredited four-year college or university. Deadline to apply is March 15. Contact Devon LaHar, devonlahar@gmail.com or 548-4333 for applications and further information.

Tri-Valley Macintosh Users Group

The Tri-Valley Macintosh Users Group will award a \$500 scholarship to a high school senior graduating from high schools in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and San Ramon. The scholarship will be awarded based on how creative the student uses a Mac to support his or her educational goals. Applications are available through high school counselors and are due by March 30. E-mail izak Mutlu, imutlu@comcast.net for more information.

Tri-Valley Retired Educators Scholarship

Tri-Valley Retired Educators is offering four scholarships worth \$1,000 to graduating high school seniors and Las Positas College and California State University, East Bay students who are residents of Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore and Sunol and are planning a career in education. Applications for the scholarships are available at local high schools, LPC and CSUEB. Deadline is March 2. Contact Olive Egan Greene, 443-6097 or greegns@pacbell.net for more information.

Seniors

Bingo
Play Bingo 12:30 to 3 p.m. on the first, third and fifth Monday monthly and 1 to 3 p.m. every Friday at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$1.25 for residents,

\$1.75 non-residents. Game cards are 50 cents. Call 931-5365.

Emotional Wellness Group

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

Friday Night Dance

Join the crowd for ballroom dancing once a month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Advanced tickets are \$7 for residents, \$8 non-residents, and \$8 for residents, \$9 non-residents at the door. Singles welcome. Reservations recommended. Call 931-5365.

Internet Access Workstation

The Internet workstation is available 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to noon most Saturdays at the library section of the Pleasanton Senior Center. Cost is \$1.25 for residents, \$1.75 non-residents. Call 931-5365.

Luncheons

The Dublin Senior Center hosts special themed luncheons on the second Thursday monthly at the Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin. The luncheon fee is \$6.50 for residents and \$7.50 for non-residents and includes special entertainment. Call 556-4511 or visit www.ci.dublin.ca.us. Reservations needed by the Friday prior to the luncheon.

Movie Madness

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

Paratransit Service

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

Pleasanton PC Users Group

The PC User Group meets monthly on the 4th Thursday of the month at 10 AM at the Pleasanton Senior Center. You don't need to be an expert to attend, we have all skills levels in our meetings. The usual Senior Center charges apply, \$1.25 for Pleasanton Residents, \$1.75 for all others. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd, Pleasanton. 925-931-5365.

Senior Dinner

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

Senior Lunch

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

V.I.P. Senior Club

The Pleasanton V.I.P. Senior Club meets the second and fourth Monday monthly from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. The second Mondays are business meetings and the fourth Mondays are social meetings. Snappy Cafe serves lunch at noon with a \$3.25 donation. Reservations for lunch must be made by the Thursday before each meeting by calling 931-5385 or call Verla, 846-2992.

Sports

AAU Basketball Tryouts
Sixth grade boys/under 12 years old

(continued on page 22)

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Pleasanton Real Estate News



by
Gerarda
Stocking

IS YOUR HOME AN INVESTMENT?

Many people still argue that our homes really are not an investment. Obviously, to make such a claim, you need a rather restrictive definition of "investment."

The argument usually is that a home often requires unexpected repairs and improvement, that we spend a lot of money on our homes over the years, and that the true expenses of home ownership are usually grossly minimized when people tally up how much money they've made by selling their home. Fair enough—but with recent rapid appreciation of home values, it's very difficult not to say our homes are showing us better returns than most of our other investments.

Further, there is nothing else that we can own that will provide such benefits (such as the backing for the home equity loan that will finance a college career) and such a return on further investments (such as the modernization of a kitchen). There is almost no other investment that offers such great tax benefits.

And there is more. Quoting Roy T. Maloney in Real Estate Quick and Easy, "To invite friends to your home for good food, good music, and good conversation amidst beautiful surroundings creates an emotional value and 'equity' that is not found on a balance sheet." For assistance call Gerarda Stocking at 846-4000 or visit her website at www.gerardastocking.com

Gerarda Stocking is the Owner/Broker of Stocking Realty.

Tri-Valley Wildcats AAU basketball team is holding tryouts for its late Spring through Summer 2007 team. Tryouts are from 7 to 8 p.m. March 2 at Pleasanton Middle School. For more info: Mike at 925-413-1618 or Charles at sommerpr@comcast.net 7-8 p.m. Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave., Pleasanton. 925-371-6341.

Sea Devils

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

Support Groups

Cancer Support Group

A free support group for people with cancer and their loved ones. Facilitated by The Wellness Community. 2-4 p.m. None Valley Care Health Library and Ryan Corner Cancer Resource Center, 5725 W. Las Positas Boulevard, Suite 270, Pleasanton. (925) 933-0107. www.twc-bayarea.org.

Bereavement Support Group

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

Breast Cancer Prayer & Support

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

Cancer Support

Anyone facing cancer and care persons may join the Living Beyond Limits group that meets from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on the first, third and fifth Thursday monthly at ValleyCare Health

Center, 5575 Las Positas Blvd. No fee. Call Ken Smith, 846-8594.

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.

Catholic Community Bereavement Support

The Catholic Community of Pleasanton Bereavement Support Ministry will be offering meetings 7:30 p.m., Jan. 11 and 25, Feb. 8 and 22, March 8 and 22 and April 12 at St. Elizabeth Seton Church in the chapel, 4001 Stoneridge Dr. Call Kim, 735-3741.

CHADD

Meetings are held for parents of children with ADD/ADHD from 7 to 9 p.m. on the second Wed. of each month at Thomas Hart Middle School, 4433 Willow Road in the library. Call 484-2173 or visit www.chadnorcal.org.

Diabetes Support Group

Groups meet from noon to 1 p.m., on the first Wednesday monthly. Also from 6 to 7 p.m. every third Thursday monthly and for diabetics using insulin pumps, from 6 to 7 p.m. the second Thursday of every other month, Diabetes and Nutrition Education Center, Valley Care Medical Plaza, 5725 West Las Positas, Suite 220. Call 416-6710.

Domestic Violence

A Domestic Violence Support Group is meeting from 5 to 6:30 p.m., every Thursday at the Tri-Valley Haven for Women in Livermore. There will be a fee of \$40 for every eight weeks or based on a sliding scale. For information and registration, contact Elizabeth, 449-5845 ext. 109.

DRC

Meet other men and women in their

early stages of Alzheimer's disease or any other memory loss related diseases from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at Grace Presbyterian Church, 2100 Tice Valley Blvd., Walnut Creek. For women, call Angie and for men, call Norman at 210-6196.

East Bay Cancer Support Group

The East Bay Cancer Support Group, Inc. meets on Thursdays at the Faith Lutheran Church, 20080 Redwood Road, Castro Valley. All services are provided free of charge. Call (510) 889-8766 or visit www.ebcancersupport.org.

Forty Plus of Northern California

The group is for professionals over the age of 40 who are unemployed or in career transition. The free classes are held 8:30 a.m. to noon Mondays at 770 Edgewater Drive, Suite 626, Oakland. Call (510) 568-7587 or visit www.fortyplus.org.

Grandparents Visitation Support Group

Grandparents who have problems visiting their grandchildren meets at 7 p.m. every Thursday in March at Pleasanton Public Library in the small conference room, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Space is limited. Call Joyce, 339-4700.

Head Injury Support

This group provides support for brain-injured individuals and their caregivers. It meets from 7:30 to 9 p.m. every fourth Wednesday in the Blackhawk Room at San Ramon Regional Medical Center, 6001 Norris Canyon Road, San Ramon. Call Jo Ann, 443-4366.

Hope Hospice Bereavement Support

The nonprofit organization offers a wide range of support groups, including grief support for adults, teens, children; young adult support; tragic loss; loss of children; men in grief; terminal illness; loss of parents; and loss of

spouse; among others. Meetings are held at 6500 Dublin Blvd., Suite 214, Dublin. Call 829-8770 or visit www.hopehospice.com.

TV30

Ask the Doctor

"Ask the Doctor," a live question and answer show, will air Mar. 7 from 7 to 8 p.m. on Channel 30. Doctors will discuss back pain and treatment. Viewers can phone in medical questions about these topics by calling TV30, 462-3030. Tri-Valley Sports - 7 & 10 p.m. Fri, Sat, Sun 7 p.m. (925) 462-3030.

Community News

Community News focusing on the Tri-Valley. Live at 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday with repeat broadcasts airing at 7, 9 and 11 p.m.

Growing Old in a New Age

"Growing Old in a New Age," the award winning hour-long Annenberg series, explores what it is like for seniors to grow older in today's world. This show airs on Channel 30 at 1 p.m. Monday through Friday and every night at 8 p.m. 1 p.m.

Tri-Valley Sports Final

Tri-Valley Sports Final. This weekly show covers team and initial high school sports in the Tri-Valley. It airs at 7 and 10 p.m. Friday through Sunday on Channel 30. Hosts: Ian Bartholomew, Dr. B and Dennis Miller. 7-10 p.m. Pleasanton. (925) 462-3030.

White House Chronicles

"White House Chronicles," an interview and panel program focusing on national and international news with a sense of humor and led by hosts Llewellyn King and Linda Gasparello, airs Saturday, Sunday and Monday at noon and 11 p.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.



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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

* DEADLINE *

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140 Lost & Found

LOST: SMALL WHITE DOG-Crow Cyn - BIG REWARD

155 Pets

Flea Meds, healthfulpets.com

For Sale

201 Autos/Trucks/ Parts

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BMW 2002 530i - \$29,900

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running or not accepted! Free Towing. Tax Deductible. Noahs Arc - Support No Kill Shelters, Animal Rights, Research to Advance Veterinary Treatments/Cures. 1-866-912-GIVE. (Cal-SCAN)

210 Garage/Estate Sales

Pleasanton, 3106 Half Dome, sat mar 3rd 8a-4p

215 Collectibles & Antiques

Blue Delft pitcher - \$59

Coffee Mill, Pepper Mill & Spice - \$89

Garantied Forged Grinder - \$39

220 Computers/ Electronics

4 LINE TELEPHONE SYSTEM - \$59

Brookstone Sound Machine - \$10

Brookstone Sound Machine - \$6

DSL ROUTER ETC. - \$20

Misc. Computer Accessories - \$8

PROJECTOR, TEL & COMPUTER STUFF - \$20

230 Freebies

COUCH - FREE

240 Furnishings/ Household items

10 taper Candles - \$8

2 NEW BEDSIDE COMMODES - \$30 each

2 White patio chairs, 5 baskets - \$1 - \$5

8 Gold taper Candles - \$6

Beautiful Wood Inlaid Bedroom set - \$1,600.

Candles - \$15

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CONFERENCE TABLE - \$15

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Sectional Sofa \$500 925-461-9085

Triple Dresser, Vclero - \$75

Twin Bed and Nightstand - \$200

Various items - \$ by item

Wicker Dresser - \$300

245 Miscellaneous



1998 21ft SKI CENTURION FALCON 1998, 21FT CENTURION FALCON. INCLUDING TOWER, WITH SPEAKERS AND LIGHTS. UPGRADED STEREO/CD PLAYER WITH AMP. VERY LOW HOURS INCLUDES TRAILOR, \$18,000.00 OR O.B.O. CONTACT BOB AT 925-766-0593 \$18,000.00

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260 Sports & Exercise Equipment

Lee Progressive 1000 - 125.

LifeStyler Stairstepper - \$40

280 Gourmet Foods & Wine

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Kid's Stuff

340 Child Care Wanted

CareSquare.com needs caregivers Free online social network connects you directly with parents looking for help. Sign up at www.CareSquare.com

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\$100/week - drive teenagers to MVHS & Los Cerros to & from Blackhawk. David @ 925-352-6698.

345 Tutoring/ Lessons

FRENCH, SPANISH TUTORING

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PIANO LESSONS - \$25.00

www.YounglvyAcademy.com

350 Preschools/ Schools/Camps

ABC Preschool/Childcare - 484-2554

HACIENDA SCHOOL Open Houses

355 Items for Sale

A box of baby boy's clothes etc. - \$10

booster & step, potty, potty seat - \$5-\$10

Mind & Body

415 Classes

Martial Arts Classes

455 Personal Training

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Jobs

500 Help Wanted

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We are looking for an Account Executive with a proven sales record, excellent organization and communication skills and a strong ability to build and foster client relationships. The successful candidate will be able to develop strategic creative briefs, marketing plans and proposals and comfortable making cold calls and prospecting.

The Weekly is a division of Embarcadero Publishing Inc., a dynamic organization with a 27-year history of a commitment to high quality journalism. We offer medical and dental benefits, paid vacation and 401(k).

Send a cover letter and resume to Gina Channell-Allen, president / publisher, gallen@pleasantonweekly.com; The Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Ste. 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566 or fax to 925-600-1433.

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560 Employment Information

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American

Vic's All Star Kitchen

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Bridges

44 Church St., Danville, 820-7200. Executive Chef Kevin Gin interprets California-American cuisine with European and Asian influences with expansive lunch and dinner menus. Add dessert, wine and cocktails and you have Bridges' casual fine dining experience. Visit www.bridgesdanville.com for event and private party details.

Asian-Pacific

Mahalo Grille

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Mahalo Grille featuring a variety of Pacific seafood, Hawaiian fresh fish and shell fish, and "Mahalo" signature selections. Also try our various vegetarian-friendly offerings, California wines and island cocktails. Visit www.mahalogrille.com.

Barbecue

Red Smoke Grill

4501 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 734-0307. Home of the Tri Tip and Blue, Red Smoke Grill was voted best take out food by Pleasanton Weekly readers in 2006. Dine in or take out rotisserie chicken, ribs, prawns, salads and tri tip, or pulled pork sandwiches. Relax with a beer or a bottle of wine. Visit www.redsmokegrill.com.

Brewpub/Alehouse

The Hop Yard American Alehouse and Grill

3015H Hopyard Road, Pleasanton,

426-9600. Voted Best Watering Hole in Pleasanton, The Hop Yard offers 30 craft beers on tap as well as great food. †The full-service menu includes appetizers, salads and grilled fare that will bring you back time and again. †Banquet facilities available. †On the web at www.hopyard.com.

470 Market Place, San Ramon, 277-9600. Featuring a giant 8-foot projection screen for major sporting events, they also feature 30 beers on tap and a great grill. Go in for the beer, go back for the food. More at www.hopyard.com.

Catering

Fontina's Catering

349 Main St., Downtown Pleasanton, 462-9299. Fontina Ristorante's award-winning menu can now be delivered to your home or office. Our lunch and dinner specialties feature homemade soups and pastas, premium seafood and meats, and a vegetarian menu. For parties of 10 or more, we'll include

free dessert or 10 percent off your total bill (excluding tax).

Chinese

Chinese Szechuan

3059 Hopyard Road #G, Pleasanton, 846-5251. Chinese Szechuan is Pleasanton's best-loved Chinese restaurant. Family owned and run since 1987, it has friendly service, delicious food and great prices, including lunch specials from only \$5.25.

Panda Mandarin Cuisine

30 W. Angela St., Pleasanton, 484-4880. Panda offers several delicious specials using fresh ingredients and spices that make traditional northern Chinese cuisine such a delight. Open for lunch Monday through Friday, dinner Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday. A private banquet room is available. Visit www.pandapleasanton.com

Willow Tree Chinese Cuisine

6512 Regional St, Dublin, 828-9111. Since 1978 Willow Tree has offered authentic Dim-Sum and banquet

buffet cuisine. We prepare each dish with the freshest ingredients and are dedicated to hospitality. View our complete menu at www.willowtreerestaurant.com

Continental

Barone's

475 St. John St., Pleasanton, 426-0987. Pleasanton's most romantic continental cuisine restaurant features innovative pasta, seafood and meat entrees, outdoor dining, and a full bar. Barone's is open for dinner seven nights and lunch Monday through Friday, with live music on Friday and Saturday evenings. Ask about our banquet facilities and special events.

Fusion

Oasis Grille

780 Main St., Pleasanton, 417-8438. Visit downtown Pleasanton's exotic dining destination. Oasis features kababs, rice and vegetarian dishes, to

MORE THAN THE ULTIMATE STEAK EXPERIENCE THE ULTIMATE SEAFOOD EXPERIENCE



- 100% All Nature Kobe Steaks
- Prime Certified Angus Beef
- Fresh Seafood
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Sunday is Half Off Selected Wines
Through March

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Italian Style Spaghetti & Ravioli

Lunches • Dinners • Beers on Tap • Orders to Go

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Open 7 Days **288 Main Street • 846-2520**



Savory Delights of Northern China

LUNCH SPECIALS: Monday-Friday 11:30-2:00

DINNER: Monday-Thursday 5:00-9:30

Friday & Saturday 5:00-10:00

Closed Sunday

PRIVATE BANQUET ROOM TAKE-OUT

30 West Angela St., Downtown Pleasanton
925 484 4880 • www.pandapleasanton.com



THE PANDA

It's Always Summer at Mahalo Grille

Beat the Bad Weather Blues with a Trip to
Sunny Mahalo Grille!

Come in and try our new desserts, including our
House-made Oreo Cookie Ice Cream Sandwiches.



425 MAIN STREET
PLEASANTON, 94566
(925) 462-2800



Dining Out

name a few. Check out our updated wine and exotic cocktail menus. We also cater! Visit www.OasisGrille.com.

Italian

Fontina Ristorante

349 Main St., Pleasanton, 462-9299. This popular downtown restaurant gets rave reviews from both locals and visitors. Fontina offers a changing, seasonal menu and daily specials--including homemade soups, pastas, seafood, chicken and veal--served in a comfortably elegant atmosphere. We have indoor and outdoor seating. Join us for Saturday and Sunday champagne brunch.

Frankie, Johnnie & Luigi Too!

11891 Dublin Blvd., Dublin, 828-9380. Lively chatter and the aroma of garlic fill this warm and friendly, classically "Italian" restaurant. Watch cooks hand toss dough at this Tri-Valley pizza Mecca. It's perfect for romantic couples and the entire family. Authentic Southern Italian cooking includes traditional dishes such as Veal Scaloppini, Lamb Osso Bucco and Scampi.

Garlic di Pasta

3037-G Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 485-4500. Garlic di Pasta was rated "A" by the Contra Costa Times restaurant critic and voted the best Italian restaurant by the readers of the Tri-Valley Herald. We're located off the beaten path of downtown Pleasanton in the Hopyard Village Shopping Center.

Girasole Grill < 0x000A>3180 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton, 484-1001. Girasole serves fresh "Italian with a California attitude" and features signature cuisine in a warm Tuscan villa setting. Experience Absolut! Prawns, Chicken Gorgi, Salmon Provencale, our daily fresh catch and savory steaks, and our infamous Scoozzi! We have two private banquet rooms and a great bar. Visit www.girasolegrill.com.

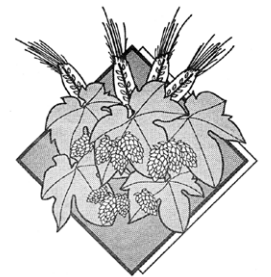
Pastas Trattoria

405 Main St., Pleasanton, 417-2222. Pastas Trattoria has an elegant atmosphere and a one-of-a-kind menu. We feature steaks, seafood and our famous pasta, plus a superb selection of spirits and fine wines. Live music will jazz up your Friday and Saturday evenings. The banquet facilities have wireless Internet for large parties, up to 70 guests.

(continued on page 28)



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AMERICAN ALE-HOUSE & GRILL

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30 BEERS ON TAP
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P A S T A S
T r a t t o r i a

405 MAIN STREET
PLEASANTON, 94566
(925) 417-2222



March at PASTAS

NEW SPECIALS...

CREAMY SPINACH & ARTICHOKE DIP, with Dungeness Crab & Bay Shrimp
BABY SPINACH WITH HONEY DIJON VINAIGRETTE, Fresh Grapefruit, Pine Nuts & Feta Cheese
ROLLED VEAL SALTIMBUCCA WITH PROSCIUTTO, MOZZARELLA & SAGE with Crimini Mushroom & Red Wine Demi Glace
BOWTIE PASTA TOSSED WITH HOUSE SMOKED SALMON, ROCK SHRIMP & GRILLED MUSHROOMS in a Saffron Cream Sauce
PAN-SEARED FRESH ORANGE ROUGHLY Topped with Caramelized Onions, Served with Rosemary Fingerling Potatoes
GARLIC & PARMESAN CRUSTED FILET OF SOLE, Topped with Roasted Pepper & Kalamata Salsa
GRILLED USDA PRIME FLAT IRON STEAK, Marinated in Red Wine & Herbs, Sliced & Topped with a Wild Mushroom Ragout

... & NEW DESSERTS

SPUMONI ICE CREAM SUNDAE with Biscotti Crumbs & Cherry Jubilee Sauce
AMARETTO PEACH CRISP Cling Peaches, Amaretto, Biscotti Crumbs, Served Ala Mode
GIANT HOMEMADE BROWNIE Lucious & Truly Homemade, with Walnuts, Vanilla Bean Ice Cream, Lots of Hot Fudge & Whipped Cream

VINNY'S pizza

New York Style

\$3 off

Any Large Pizza
Valid Thru March 3

4001-5 Santa Rita
925.463.0280

"Best of Pleasanton Take-Out 2005"

Fine Dining
Family Groups
Rehearsal Dinners
Birthdays
Chianti Lounge
with Piano Dining



Campo di Bocce Of Livermore



175 E Vineyard Ave
Livermore, CA 94550
(925) 249-9800

www.campodibocce.com

Japanese

Ume Sushi

4855 Hopyard Road #7 in Gateway Square, 734-0996. Acclaimed chef David Win brings delicious Japanese cuisine to Pleasanton at an affordable price! We have a daily fresh fish delivery, teriyaki and tempura. We are open Monday-Saturday, with lunch from 11:30-2:30 and dinner from 4:30-9:30, Saturday until 10 p.m. Party platters are available. Visit our website: www.umesushi.com.

Pizza

Gay Nineties Pizza Co.

288 Main St., Pleasanton, 846-2520. Gay Nineties is family-oriented with

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"

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in this dining
directory, please call
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Dining Out

an extensive menu, including our renowned pizza, Italian dishes, salads and sandwiches. We also have wine, beer, patio dining and games for kids. Come for groups, take out and call-ahead lunch orders. We're open seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

To have your restaurant
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full restaurant
listings on

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Dine in or Take Out

— Dinner Only —

One coupon per customer.
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Sushi
JAPANESE RESTAURANT

4855 Hopyard Road #7,
Gateway Square - Pleasanton

Ph. (925) 734.0996

Fax 925.734.8714

www.umesushi.com

HOURS: Mon - Thurs 11am-2:30pm & 4:30-9:30pm
Fri 11am-2:30pm & 4:30pm-10pm • Sat 11am-10pm



Elegant banquet room and wine bar
combination ideal for all your special occasions.

• Catering Service • Take Out Menu



The euphoria of fine Italian food

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RISTORANTE

Garlic di Pasta

Same Ownership - Same Great Food

3037-G Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton (At Valley Ave in Hopyard Village)

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www.LaViteRestaurant.com

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"Fresh Italian with a California Attitude"

THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS

- Mahi Mahi en Papillote with dry vermouth and a touch of butter and capers, leeks and carrots with linguine
- New Zealand Lamb Loin with honey, mint and fig sauce
- Seared Fillet Mignon, portabello mushroom cap with a balsamic reduction and crumbled gorgonzola
- Every Friday and Saturday Evening
Traditional Slow Roasted Prime Rib Au Jus

Enjoy our "hidden gem"

at the corner of Santa Rita Road and West Las Positas.

Pleasanton (925) 484-1001

www.girasolegrill.com



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