

Home  
& Garden  
In this  
issue

# PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Vol. VIII, Number 8 • March 16, 2007

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It's all about Pleasanton

**51 custom homes, plus gift of 500  
acres of public open space, trails,  
awaits city approval** page 12



# Oak Grove

**INSIDE  
this week**

### **Curb the appeal**

Neighbors ask Council  
to stop church expansion  
page 5

### **Hintzke honored**

PTA president named 18th  
District Woman of the Year  
page 7

### **Paint the town green**

Dublin comes alive for  
St. Patrick's Day tomorrow  
page 27

### **Fair weather buyers**

January sales were down,  
along with temperatures  
page 31

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# Around Pleasanton

by Jeb Bing

## Here by day, back across the Altamont at night

Thousands of commuters from Manteca and Lathrop come our way every workday—and many to our stores, golf courses and sports fields on weekends—spending 2 1/2 to three hours on the freeways in rush hours before settling down in the dream homes they bought far away. We see the impact these commuters have as they fill up parking lots in the Hacienda Business Park, at the BART station or jam I-580 and our city streets trying to make their way to jobs south, west and north of Pleasanton. But what's the impact in their hometowns?

That's the question I asked Carlon Perry and his business partner Cecilia Drake a week ago in Sacramento where we served as judges at the annual California Newspaper Publishers Association's "Better Newspapers Contest." Perry is the publisher of the Manteca-Lathrop Sun-Post, a weekly magazine-style newspaper much like this one. He estimates that 45-55 percent of the workforce in those two communities leave home between 5:30 and 6 a.m. to head west over the Altamont. They work eight hours or more at their companies in Hacienda, Bishop Ranch or the Silicon Valley, arrive back at their homes around 7 p.m. to spend time with their kids, have supper, watch a little TV, go to bed, and then wake up before daylight to start the commute all over again.

For many homeowners, who Perry estimates are in their mid-to-upper 30s, both spouses work and commute together since they once lived on this side of the Altamont and have long held jobs here. Even with two incomes, these are couples who just didn't earn enough or wanted more upscale homes than they could afford here or even in cost-spiraling Tracy. They followed their passions to Manteca, Lathrop, Lodi and the other newer, fast-growing communities along Interstate 5. Many have a relative who tagged along, or have found a neighbor or a nanny to watch their children from dawn to dusk, getting them fed, off to school and after-school activities. Manteca and Lathrop are especially attractive to

these young parents because both cities have built swimming pools, playgrounds, sports fields, tennis courts and other youthful amenities.

Perry was born and raised in Lathrop when the city had only 800 residents. He attended high school in Manteca, which was slightly larger, but the big cities with their business parks, shopping malls and sports teams were on the other side of the Altamont. That started to change about 1995 as home prices soared in the Tri-Valley and even more so on the Peninsula. New subdivisions opened up regularly as housing demand moved east, with Lathrop's population now over 15,000 and Manteca's now over 63,000, just under Pleasanton's. Perry projects Manteca to grow to 130,000 by 2020, Lathrop to 70,000.

Still, despite the growth, many of the commuters who drive into or around Pleasanton on workdays also come back on the weekends to shop downtown, at Stoneridge Shopping Center and to play golf at Callippe. Many still have their roots here, including dentists, doctors and even hairdressers. That'll change over time, Perry believes, but Pleasanton and the Tri-Valley and, of course, San Francisco, are still destinations of choice for the tens of thousands of transplants. Local governments and investment groups hope to change that with new business parks, upscale restaurants and retail centers, but most plans have fizzled as commercial developers see the continued alliance of much of the population to this side of the Altamont.

Still, all this has been good news for Perry and Drake whose Sun-Post is the best-read newspaper in the area, outpacing the dailies whose limited staffs and wide coverage areas tend to miss the news and features that count to Lathrop and Manteca residents. The dailies are competing against the Internet and cable news. Perry said his weekly paper just keeps gaining readers and advertisers, focusing on the local government, schools and other community news that homeowners—and commuters—in Manteca and Lathrop want to read every Friday after a hard week on the road. ■

### About the Cover

Most of these southeast, heavily wooded Pleasanton hills could soon belong to the public forever if the Planning Commission on March 28, and later the City Council, approves a development plan for 51 custom homes on a 562-acre site atop Kottlinger Ranch, with 497 acres to be given free of charge to the city as open space for trails, horseback riding and hiking. Photo by: Dorian Glanville. Cover design by Ben Ho. Vol. VIII, Number 8

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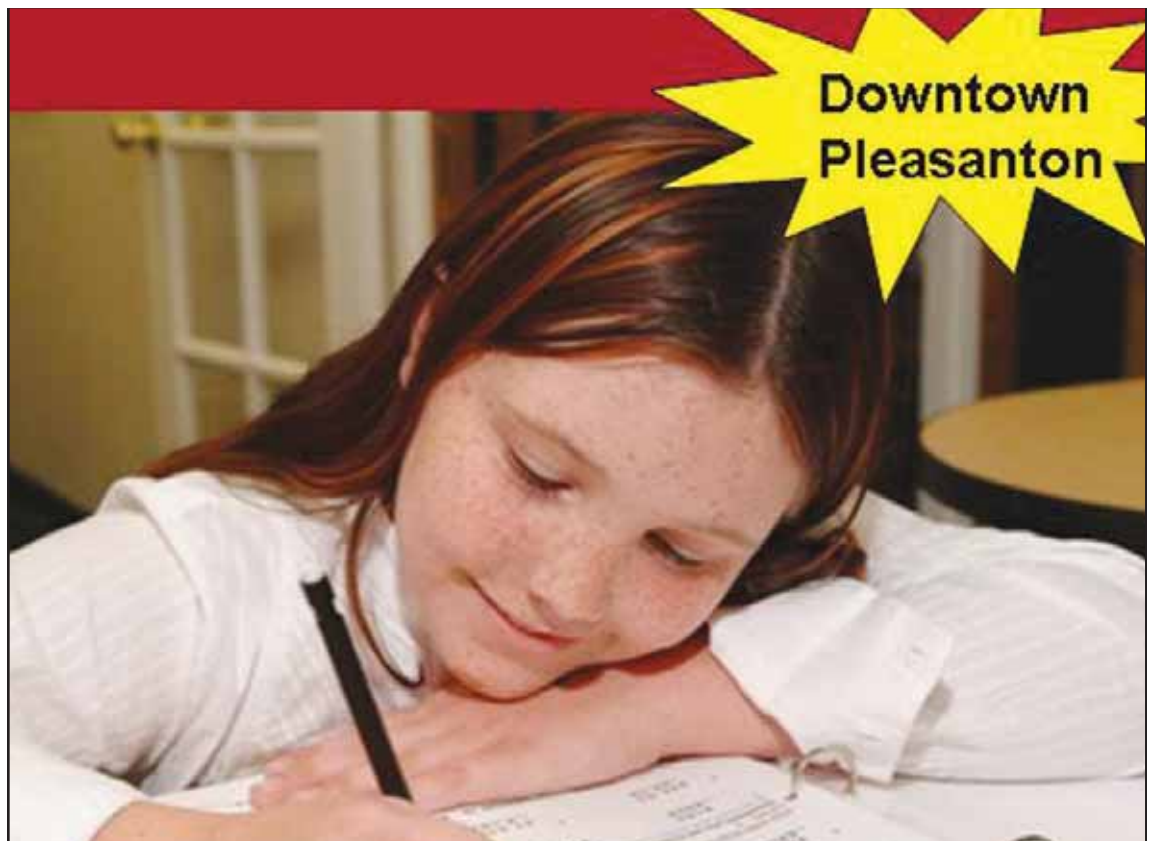
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# Personal Safety Tips...

- Always be aware of your surroundings. Avoid using shortcuts or areas with minimal foot-traffic.
- Walk with confidence, at a steady pace and make eye contact with people you encounter.
- If you are being followed, go to a well lit, public place. Do not go home.
- When walking avoid dark areas, cul-de-sac, alleys and suspicious looking people.
- Carry your car keys in your hand and be ready to unlock the door and enter car quickly.
- Most importantly...trust your instincts.

By working together,  
we can ensure a safe  
community.



*A reminder from the  
Pleasanton Police Department.*

# Streetwise

**Q:** Former Chairman of the Fed Alan Greenspan recently said conditions are right for a national recession. Do you agree?

Asked Around Town



**Nils Lommerin**  
Executive

I have a high level of regard for Alan Greenspan. I am sure he must have credible signs and indications to support that idea. I do see signs of commodity inflation. I'll be a bit more cautious in my spending until I see greater signs as the year progresses.

**Julie Jackson**  
Retail

No, I disagree. We are a rich country and regardless of what he says people will still be spending money to keep the economy going.



**Rob Pfeifle**  
Computer Industry

I disagree. I think things are going well, the stock market is coming back, companies are hiring and unemployment numbers are very low. Most companies here in the Bay Area seem to be ramping up for growth.

**Sheryl Morgan**  
Program Manager

I think it is certainly possible. Historically the economy follows up and down cycles, and it has been strong for sometime. At this point I won't change my everyday life but that may change if we move towards a recession.



**Paul Vande Roovaart**  
Business

I think history would say we are overdue for a recession, whether it happens this year or not. We have a stock market correction possibly coming up. I won't do anything because I think it is cyclical. If you hold onto your assets and don't react too fast to things, in history you'll see it come back stronger than before a recession.

Have a Streetwise question? E-mail: [editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:editor@PleasantonWeekly.com)

Compiled by Cybele Ryan

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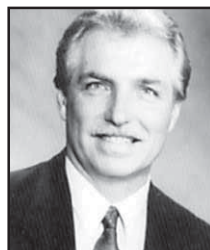
Example	30 year	40 years
Loan Amount	\$500,000	
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2nd Year Max Monthly Payment	\$1,728	\$1,358
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# Newsfront

## News Digest

### Homeless Iraq war veterans documentary, discussion

The Journalism Club of Las Positas College will screen a documentary about homeless Iraq war veterans, "When I Came Home," 6:30 p.m. March 19 in the student center. After the film a panel will discuss the film and the increasingly prevalent problem and address ways society can rectify the problem. For more information, contact Journalism Club President Andre Kim at 424-1240.

### Student musician represents California

John Palowitch, a junior at Amador Valley High School, has been selected by Music for All to perform in the 20-piece 2007 Jazz Band of America tonight in Indianapolis, Ind. Palowitch was selected amongst hundreds of applicants from across the nation for membership in the honors ensemble. John is the son of Marilyn and Carl Palowitch. His band directors are Jon Grantham and Mark Aubel.

### New board officers to lead water recycling agency

The Dublin—San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) and East Bay Munciple Utility District (EBMUD) Recycled Water Authority (DERWA) added new board officers to the team. John Coleman will represent EBMUD as chair and Daniel Scannell will represent DSRSD as vice chair. For details, visit [www.derwa.org](http://www.derwa.org).

### Volunteers needed

Valley Humane Society, located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton, is currently seeking volunteers to help with the Hope Hospice program. The new partnership will help Hope Hospice provide quality end-of-life care for patients in their homes by providing assistance for the family pet. VHS/Hospice volunteers will visit patients in their homes and walk dogs, scoop cat boxes or perform other pet-related services a terminally patient may not be able to provide. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Valley Humane Society at 426-8656.

### Corrections

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

## School board may appoint Haugen's successor

*Special election would take 8 months, cost \$150,000*

School board members indicated Tuesday that they will likely appoint a successor—and not hold a special election—to fill the remaining 20-month term of longtime trustee Juanita Haugen, who died March 5.

The results of the unofficial straw poll of the four board members came as a surprise since School Supt. John Casey had said that the district would call for an election the next time a board vacancy occurred.

But board members said they favored appointing a replacement

because it would take less time than a special election, which would be held in November and would

*"It seems the price of democracy is very high. When I think what we can do for kids with that (\$150,000) coming out of our General Fund, it doesn't make a lot of sense to hold a special election."*

— Kris Weaver, School Board member

cost as much as \$150,000. Other than taking the time of candidates and board members for the inter-

view process that accompanies an appointment, it costs nothing and the individual selected can be on

the board with two months or less.

New board member Chris Grant was seated a month ago to replace

Steve Pulido, who resigned after being appointed a Superior Court judge. Grant was chosen from among nine who applied for the appointment, although only seven stayed for final interviews, with school advocate and PTA activist Jill Buck and Grant selected as the two finalists. In a public verbal vote, Grant was the board's majority choice.

"After going through that process, I said we're not doing that again," said Jim Ott, a board member who

(continued on page 6)



Courtesy Jim Ott

### Cycling for civics

School board trustee Jim Ott (left) and Parks and Recreation Commissioner Jerry Pentin recently returned from a 7 1/2-hour, 105-mile bike trek through Death Valley March 3 to raise money for Amador Valley High School's "We the People..." civics team. The civics team will travel to Washington, D.C. in April. To date, Ott and Pentin have raised \$1,967 and with partial matching funds from the Pleasanton Rotary North, they expect to donate close to \$2,500 to assist with travel expenses.

## School of Imagination opens in Dublin

*Preschool program serves those with and without special needs*

by Emily Atwood

Imagine that your child was just diagnosed as mentally retarded. You were told his mind wouldn't develop beyond the age of 10.

Pleasanton resident Sabrina Sanchez was told this and knew the diagnosis couldn't be right. So she set out to find a preschool where her son, Luke, now 10, would be challenged and receive individualized attention. She found

Happy Talkers, a preschool program founded by Charlene Sigman and run out of her home on Valley Trails Drive. There, Sigman promised "speech language therapy services in a fun and nurturing environment." Happy Talkers has since moved to Dublin at 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., Ste. 210.

After a short time in the program, Luke was diagnosed with an auditory processing disorder—not mental retardation. Through therapy and specialized teaching, Sanchez said he gained two years

(continued on page 10)

## Neighbors ask council to reject Trinity Lutheran expansion plan

*Claim larger church will add to traffic, child safety woes*

by Jeb Bing

A group of 26 neighbors of Trinity Lutheran Church at Del Valle Parkway and Hopyard and Golden roads will ask the City Council Tuesday to overturn a decision by the Planning Commission last January that approved a \$2 million expansion plan that they claim would add more traffic on their streets.

In their petition appealing the commission's 4-0 vote approving the plan, the homeowners argue that in addition to more traffic, the church's proposed expansion includes a 100-car parking lot with an entryway on Golden Road.

"The church operation has not been compatible with the surrounding neighborhood and certainly a 100-car parking lot would not complement the neighborhood," the document states.

It also asserts that the church hasn't been a good neighbor to the community and the traffic pattern and timing for church activities "are such that peak use periods occur on weekends, weekdays, mornings, mid-day and evenings, thereby maximizing adverse effects on local traffic."

Trinity has been conducting a fundraising drive for the last two years to build an 8,110-square-foot classroom building to house its Sunday school classes and its popular community Sunshine Preschool. The one-story structure would replace temporary structures which the city allowed to be placed on the site until a permanent structure could be built.

Along with a smaller youth center to be constructed next to the church's new sanctuary, the church

(continued on page 10)



Jeb Bing

These portable buildings off Golden Road would be replaced by Trinity Lutheran's new school structure.

## McNerney water bill heads to State Senate

*Healthy Community Water Supply Act taps funding for alternative water supplies*

A bill sponsored by Congressman Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton) that would authorize \$125 million in funding for projects to increase the water supply is now being read in the Senate.

The bill passed the House of Representatives March 8 by a 368-59 vote.

Called the Healthy Communities Water Supply Act of 2007, the bill would authorize \$125 million in funding for projects that encourage innovation in water reclamation, reuse and conservation.

Applicants for funding would be required to match 50 percent of the funds.

"There is a buy in which means that this is the federal government

helping local communities do what they want to do and do it in a way that they can," said Congresswoman Ellen Tauscher (D-Walnut Creek), who co-sponsored the bill.

The bill was first introduced to the House on Jan. 27 and seeks to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize alternative water resource projects.

"This bill authorizes funds to develop alternative sources of clean drinking water, as well as water for agricultural and industrial purposes," McNerney said in a statement. "That's an important consideration this winter in California with lower than normal

rainfall totals and a Sierra snow-pack just 65 percent of its normal size—sources that are essential to the state's water supply."

The water supply act is McNerney's first piece of legislation.

"It will be encouraging businesses to develop new ideas in terms of desalination, in terms of filtering water, reclaiming water—any kind of idea that will work to develop a new water supply in local communities," McNerney said in a conference call with reporters. "That's an opportunity for business to get started across a clean spectrum of technologies so that's why it's so acceptable and inviting because it lets people innovate and find the best possible ways for their communities."

—Janet Pelletier



Jerry McNerney

## Visitors bureau hires new communications director

*Natalie Alvanez joins Tri-Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau*

The Tri-Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) recently hired Natalie Alvanez as the director of communications and membership.

Alvanez is the primary interface for the organization's 360-plus members, and is responsible for recruitment, retention and ongoing member service and communication. She will also plan and execute numerous CVB events as well as oversee the bureau's marketing and communication efforts.

"Natalie is a wonderful addition to the CVB team," said Amy

Blaschka, president and CEO of the CVB. "Her experience in marketing communications, membership development, and as a meeting and event planner will greatly benefit our members and the communities we serve."



Natalie Alvanez

Alvanez most recently worked as a corporate event planner for RITA Medical Systems, where she managed national and international tradeshows, educational symposiums, hands-on workshops and hospitality programs.

—Janet Pelletier

Alameda County Office of Education, Pleasanton Unified School District, Pleasanton Police Department, and Amador Valley Adult & Community Education Present:

## A Town Hall Meeting to Start the conversation... About Adolescent Drinking, Drug and Tobacco Use in Our Community



### We all need to know ...

- 32% of 11th graders in Pleasanton have used marijuana
- 23% of 11th graders have engaged in "binge" drinking in the past 30 days
- 24% of 11th graders have been in a car with a driver under the influence

(California Healthy Kids Survey Data, 2005)

### It's up to all of us...

*Come hear local experts, youth, and your neighbors discuss these issues, how they affect us all, and what we, as a community, can do.*

Guest Speaker: **Ralph Cantor**, Coordinator, Safe & Drug-Free Schools Program, Alameda County Office of Education

Thursday, March 29, 2007 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Amador Valley High School Library • 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton

To RSVP or for more information, please call Amador Valley Adult School at: (925) 426-4280.

## Successor

(continued from page 5)

was also appointed, not elected to the post in 2005. "But now that I am looking at the \$150,000 cost for a special election, I'm changing my mind."

Board member Kris Weaver agreed.

"It seems the price of democracy is very high," she said. "When I think what we can do for kids with that (\$150,000) coming out of our General Fund, it doesn't make a lot of sense to hold a special election."

Interim board president Pat Kernan reminded his colleagues that the board has gone without full active membership for a long period of time during Mrs. Haugen's illness and that "we can't afford to wait nine months for a special election."

Board members accepted a suggestion by Grant to seek public input on whether to appoint a successor to Mrs. Haugen, whose term expires in November 2008, or spend the money on a special election.

The board will make a decision at its next meeting on March 27.

—Jeb Bing

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**Rate a movie**  
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PLEASANTON WEEKLY.COM

# Jamie Hintzke named Woman of the Year

*PTA president recognized for being advocate for health, education in Pleasanton and beyond*

by Emily Atwood

In honoring National Women's History Month, Assemblywoman Mary Hayashi named Pleasanton PTA Council President Jamie Yee Hintzke as the 18th District's Woman of the Year.

Hintzke was honored March 5 in a special ceremony at the state legislature in Sacramento.

Her passion for education and health is what led her to become an active member in several committees in Pleasanton and beyond. Much of her success was inspired by a few men along the way, she said.

The first is a very important man in her life, her father. A conservative Chinese immigrant, he had a passion for speaking out for positive changes. While working at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in the 1970s, he protested on the UC Berkeley campus.

As a girl, Hintzke said she didn't understand the issues, but was impacted by her "non-hippy" father standing with others, braving police officers who often sprayed mace.

"I can picture him doing it still," she said. "He doesn't speak English well, but still has a passion to speak out."

In July 2000, former Secretary of State Colin Powell spoke to the Valley's high tech industry leaders about the nonprofit organization America's Promise. Hintzke said she was moved by his statement, "It's our responsibility to pick up the downtrodden in our society."

"To hear him say that," she said, "something just



Speaker of the Assembly Fabian Nuñez and Assemblymember Mary Hayashi (left) present Jamie Hintzke with the Woman of the Year award on the Assembly floor in Sacramento March 5.

struck a chord with me."

So when a parent urged her to take over the Pleasanton PTA, she hit the ground running.

"It's not who's going to make cookies," Hintzke said. "It's about mentoring other people who could be leaders and letting parents know about the issues."

The majority of her work focuses on health, which was inspired by Tony Iton, Alameda County public health director.

"I heard him give a talk about the health state of the county—where we are and where we're going—and it really scared me," she said. "If we don't all band together to do something, the health care costs are going to be astronomical. If the children aren't healthy now, they're not going to be healthy as adults."

Another shock, she said, was finding that the larg-

(continued on page 8)

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# Who are these Young Men?

**Elder Straight**  
Hilo, Hawaii

**Elder Jorgensen**  
Bedford, Texas



You have probably seen the Missionaries with their white shirts and bikes before. They are representatives of THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS (NICKNAMED MORMONS). They are 19-22 year old young men (and women) "volunteers". They're here in Pleasanton for 4-6 months at a time during their full time two-year mission service. They are two of over 52,000 worldwide missionaries.

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THE CHURCH OF  
JESUS CHRIST  
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

## Taste of China benefit cancelled

*Valley Dance Theatre fundraiser scheduled for Sunday*

A Taste of China, a Chinese cooking demonstration and wine tasting benefit to support the Valley Dance Theatre, has been cancelled.

The event was scheduled from 4 to 7 p.m. this Sunday in Ruby Hill, but was cancelled after the father of the chef for the event died last week. According to religion, the chef is not allowed to attend any parties or functions for 30 days from the date of the funeral service, according to a spokeswoman.

There are no plans to reschedule,

according to Rochelle Abrantes with Valley Dance Theatre.

"It's a really unfortunate situation. We have so many other things going on that it doesn't look like we'll be able to reschedule it," she said. "We will have a gala in September so we probably could invite everyone to that."

Those who have already paid for a \$50 ticket will be refunded, Abrantes said. For information, call 243-0927.

—Janet Pelletier

## Hintzke

(continued from page 7)

est portion of uninsured people in the county are working, Hintzke said.

With two children in the schools and one with allergies that require special attention, Hintzke began researching health issues and sharing her knowledge. She created a wellness committee and currently serves as Pleasanton's council president, as well as being a vice president and chair for health on the Peralta District PTA, covering the county.

Even with her vast record of

volunteer efforts and accomplishments, Hintzke remains very modest.

"I felt really guilty [to be picked as Woman of the Year] because everyone I know is a volunteer," she said, adding that she may spend more time on her soapbox than others.

She doesn't know what the future will bring, but she isn't slowing down any time soon.

"I was told, 'Don't ever get off your soapbox,' and I won't," she said. "I'll be there with a sword in one hand and the education code in the other."

And helping her along is her "secret weapon," her husband, and her children Max and Ally. ■

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# Assemblyman Alberto Torrico sets goals for second term

3rd part in our three-part series: Torrico looks to bring more jobs in high tech, biotech and nanotech to the district

By Rebecca Guyon

Assemblyman Alberto Torrico first arrived at the State Assembly in 2004 as the representative for the 20th District, which includes south Pleasanton and Sunol and stretches into the South Bay Area covering Union City, Fremont, Newark and Milpitas. After his first two-year term, Torrico came back for more, winning a second term this past November by defeating Republican challenger Ken Nishimura.

Although his district stretches more toward the south, Torrico said he is committed to Pleasanton and recognizes that there could be more done to make sure Pleasanton constituents are equally heard.

"We have done more than most other representatives of this district in the past to make sure I have regular communications with the mayor of Pleasanton," Torrico said. "In my second term, we'll do greater outreach efforts to every city in my district, including Pleasanton." In the past, Torrico and his staff have held mobile office hours, traveling to cities, including Pleasanton, to meet with constituents and he hopes to continue these in the coming two years, he added.

This past election campaign, Torrico did get very involved with Pleasanton's City Council election

by stepping in to support newly-elected Councilwoman Cheryl Cook-Kallio. Cook-Kallio teaches at Irvington High School in Fremont, the school from which Torrico graduated. The two first met via the "We the People..." civics competition program when Cook-Kallio coached the Irvington team, regularly taking them to the state finals in Sacramento.

"Cheryl Cook-Kallio is, as far as I'm concerned, a dream candidate whose very much invested in Pleasanton, her neighborhood and very active and knowledgeable about the issues in Pleasanton," Torrico said.

Looking toward this year, Torrico said finding ways to promote economic development will continue to be his main focus for the district and the state as a whole.

"My focus is always economic development," Torrico said. "The stronger the economy is, the more we collect in revenue to the state. When people have jobs, they have money and they buy things, and we collect sales tax there, too. It's all connected as far as I'm concerned."

In order to increase the number of good blue and white collar jobs in the area, Torrico believes the state needs to invest in its infrastructure and offer incentives to large companies to open shop in California.



Assemblyman Alberto Torrico is shown here at his swearing-in ceremony in Sacramento with his daughter, Amy-Elyzabeth and son Mateo.

"I think there is a fundamental misunderstanding among Democrats about the benefits of giving companies incentives," Torrico said. "Many Democrats call that corporate welfare, but I don't think it is. It's something we need to do to be competitive, especially in industries of the future. What are the careers our kids are going to have? High tech, biotech and nanotech—those are the emerging fields. Those are the jobs of the future. How do we get them to come to California? Change our tax policy."

The importance of keeping jobs in the area is something Pleasanton residents should care about, especially given the recent merger of PeopleSoft and Oracle where, although jobs were lost, more would have left if Oracle decided to close the Pleasanton office altogether, Torrico said.

"If you want jobs near where people live in Pleasanton, you need to find ways to bring back and encourage businesses to come and expand in the Bay Area," Torrico added.

Tied into the overall plan for economic development is the issue of health care. Torrico said he is glad to see Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger taking an interest with his universal health care proposal, but believes the governor is taking a wrong approach. Instead of getting more businesses to offer health care plans, the real focus should be on getting HMOs to reduce their premiums.

"There are hundreds of thousands of employers in California doing the right thing by providing health insurance to employees and have been doing it for a long time, so the first order of business is rewarding them by lowering the cost of health care," Torrico said. "Go after the HMOs. It's not an easy thing to do in Sacramento or Washington, D.C. because they're a very powerful

interest group, but it needs to be tackled. They need to lower how much they spend on administrative costs and overhead. You got to take a look at some of these salaries for CEOs—they're ridiculous. There needs to be real reform."

Reflecting on his past term, Torrico said he is most proud of the work he did protecting transportation funds for the Bay Area and a bill he sponsored to increase the number of days a woman can safely surrender her newborn child to a hospital or firehouse without facing prosecution for child abandonment. The current law allows new mothers a three-day window and Torrico sought to extend that timeframe to 30 days. In the end, the bill passed both the Senate and the Assembly, but was vetoed by the governor.

"It was one of last bills the governor vetoed, but I'm still proud it got to the governor and started a dialogue and debate on this issue," he said.

In the coming year, Torrico said he plans to continue pushing to get transportation funding to the Bay Area through his seat on the California Transportation Committee and will also focus on environmental issues, sponsoring bills to make state and school buildings more energy efficient and to increase the use of recycled oil. ■



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Rick Heidebrecht (l-r), Ernie Bastone, Jeff Repine, Mark James, Tim Shalk and Rick Kuhle all brought the same Weekly on their trip to the Harley-Davidson Motorcycle store in Sturgis, S.D. Oh well, it was a good issue.

Women's workshop March 22

Event aims to inform women on how to be appointed to boards, commissions

Women seeking to become more involved on various public boards and commissions are welcomed to attend a free workshop that aims to inform and guide them through that process.

The workshop will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on March 22 at the San Leandro Library, 300 Estudillo Ave. It is being sponsored by the East Bay Chapter of the California Elected Women's Association. Pleasanton resident Jill Buck, who founded the Go Green Initiative employing environmentally-responsible initiatives in schools, is the vice president of the chapter.

Other sponsors include the Political Action Committee for

Excellence, Commission on the Status of Women in Contra Costa and Alameda counties and the California Women's Leadership Association.

Those who attend will learn about current local and state board and commission openings and the application process for these positions.

The women's association encourages women to apply for appointments because many public policy decisions made by boards and commissions have a significant impact on the lives of women, yet women are underrepresented or nonexistent in many decision-making boards, according to association spokeswoman Laura Niznik.

"So many women want to have a voice or impact in the community, but aren't always sure where to look or what the processes are," said Rachel Michelin, executive director and CEO the association.

Speakers at the event will include Timothy Simon, appointments secretary for Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger; Liz Figueroa, former senator and current state appointee; Supervisor Scott Haggerty, and Danville Councilwoman Candace Andersen.

The deadline to register is March 20 and can be done online at [www.cewaer.org](http://www.cewaer.org). For information, call 916-551-1920 or email [admin@cewaer.org](mailto:admin@cewaer.org).

—Janet Pelletier

Imagination

(continued from page 5)

in speech after only six months. He now attends a Montessori school where he studies Chinese, Spanish and music, and also plays baseball.

Sanchez said the progression was a miracle. In fact, she was so moved by her experience there that she now does pro-bono public relations work for the school. Other parents enjoy the program so much that they began asking if Sigman had anything for preschool kids without special needs. With young children of her own, she had a difficult time finding a preschool she loved. And with the success of Happy Talkers, she founded the School of Imagination in Dublin. It is a one-of-a-kind inclusionary program that seeks to work around a child's needs and put him or her into an adaptive program where they belong.

Sigman's goal was to create an environment for typical kids as well as special needs kids "to learn and flourish with a small ratio and class size...as well as learn language and behavior skills."

The student to teacher ratio now stands at 4-to-1, with 12 students per classroom, where Sigman said other preschool programs in the area have an 8-to-1 or 12-to-1 ratio.

Sanchez's research into autism and developmental disorders has showed her that early prevention is everything. This is why she said Sigman's program and expertise is vital for children with special needs. Sanchez also said parents find the school to be more convenient when it comes to dealing with the challenge of helping their special needs child.

"If one mother has a special needs child and another who's not, she can bring both [to the preschool]," she said.

It also is a one-stop solution to getting a child's therapy, instead of having to travel to different locations several times a week.

Another positive aspect of integration is that the students don't feel ostracized, Sanchez said.

"At public school kids think



Emily Atwood

Preschool students play Duck Duck Goose at the School of Imagination in Dublin, which integrates children with and without special needs and boasts a 4-to-1 student-teacher ratio.

there's something wrong or that they're not okay," she said. "The School of Imagination is based on who you are and what you need. It's so satisfying to see the kids as a result [of this program]."

Pleasanton Planning Commission Chairwoman Anne Fox has also had a good experience with her child attending the program and has become an advocate over the years.

*"I know I'm doing the right thing. I'm just here to help."*

—Charlene Sigman, Happy Talkers founder

"[Sigman] does a phenomenal job," she said. "She has the ability to develop ways to communicate with children that people think can't be taught. The staff is talented and really dedicated. I would recommend it for any child."

Until the group has its own property, the school is currently housed at Crosswinds Church on Sierra Court in Dublin. Although the church has no ties to the program, Sanchez said a wing of the building was donated because they wanted

to bring something like that school to the community. In turn, the community showed its appreciation by donating materials to build a playground that was needed in order for the state to recognize the program.

After more than five years of working with Happy Talkers, the most rewarding part for Sigman is being able to help the families and make a difference in the lives of the children.

"I know I'm doing the right thing," she said. "I'm just here to help."

With the program running by the large efforts of the group, the nonprofit could use some help of its own. Sigman said that helpers and donations are always welcomed.

"Charlene's work is so powerful," Sanchez said. "I'm putting behind my time because it's needed. To see how the community came together, I think her dream is too small."

For parents worried about the cost of such programs, Sigman said they don't turn families away. For more information about the school, visit [www.schoolofimagination.org](http://www.schoolofimagination.org). For information about Happy Talkers, visit [www.happytalkers.com](http://www.happytalkers.com).

Trinity

(continued from page 5)

also would expand its parking lot off Golden Road to accommodate 122 spaces and add landscaping improvements.

Those signing the petition include: Kathleen and Ken Bedford, Barbara and Marvin Lee, Mork and Elizabeth Giovanetti, Becky and Rick Altman, Kris Moxley, Anders Gjekde, Kenneth Cook, Deb Updegraff, Michael and Angela Serrano, Karey Gunther, Deb and Bob Cilk, Pat Merrigan, Mary Jane Medieros, Tracy and Robert Hare, Thomas Milus, Rick Lydon and Jackie and Fred Martin. They represent 16 residences on Golden Road, Harvest Road and Greentree

Court—all near the church.

Trinity is the third Pleasanton church whose neighbors have opposed expansion plans. The Valley Trails Homeowners Association and individual residents successfully won design and land use changes from St. Clare's Episcopal Church last year before construction could begin. Neighbors also protested expansion plans by St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church earlier this year, but the council voted 4-1 to allow the Planning Commission's approval of that project to stand.

The public hearing on the Trinity appeal will be part of the council's regular meeting, which will start at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the council chamber at 200 Old Bernal Ave. ■



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# Opinion

## Editorial

### Council should OK Trinity expansion

Here we go again. Another Pleasanton church—Trinity Lutheran—will go before the City Council Tuesday to face the wrath of homeowners who live nearby and even some who don't because of this city's absolute obsession with traffic. Already nearly a year behind in the approval process, this church, built in 1965 on Hopyard Road between Del Valle Parkway and Golden Road, has a \$1-million-plus plan to tear down two portable classroom structures used for preschool and Sunday school classes and replace them with a one-story classroom building and a second to serve its young parishioners. The fast-growing church needs the extra space to serve its congregation. But neighbors, most who moved into their homes long after the church was built, don't want any more traffic or a large parking lot that Trinity has proposed so that church-goers and others won't park in front of neighborhood homes.

The Planning Commission approved the plan 4-0 (with Commissioner Jennifer Pearce recusing herself because she lives near the church), but the neighborhood's appeal is now forcing consideration once again to a higher level, the City Council. The church has held numerous meetings with the neighbors and downsized its expansion and designed new structures to be less visible, but neighbors still aren't satisfied.

The dispute recalls the opposition from Valley Trails homeowners last year, represented by their neighborhood association, which blocked expansion plans by St. Clare's Episcopal Church for months before the church caved in to pressure from the City Council to make amends, a decision that resulted in few changes but is costing St. Clare's an extra \$250,000 due to rapidly-rising construction costs.

Last month, the Catholic Community of Pleasanton finally won approval for its long-planned community gymnasium and new parish center at its St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church complex on Stoneridge Drive. Again, the development—which all officials publicly stated would be good for the community as well as the church—was delayed by neighbors who complained about traffic. The added cost to the Catholic community because of long delays in its city approval process? An estimated \$350,000.

Now it's Trinity's turn, with delays already costing several hundred thousand dollars. Let's hope the council allows Trinity to move forward with a carefully-drawn expansion plan that eliminates the aging "temporary" portable classroom buildings and makes the neighborhood more attractive on the Del Valle Parkway and Hopyard and Golden Road sides, adding value for homeowners and Trinity Lutheran Church.

### Appoint Jill Buck to school board

At their meeting last Tuesday, Pleasanton school board members indicated that they may appoint a successor—not hold a special election—to fill the seat of long-time trustee Juanita Haugen, who died March 5. While we have stated before that those holding elective office, whether on the City Council or the school board, should be elected, not appointed, we're not opposed to the school board's move in this particular case. Whether elected or appointed, the individual named to Mrs. Haugen's position would have only until November 2008 to serve, the date her term of office would expire. A special election would cost the district \$150,000 and it could take eight months to prepare for and hold a special election.

Last year, no one ran against board members Patrick Kernan and Jim Ott. As a result, there was no election and both men were declared winners, including Ott, who had been appointed to the board a year earlier. Just last month, Chris Grant was also appointed to the board to succeed Steve Pulido, who resigned to accept an appointment as a judge on the Alameda County Superior Court. By appointing one more, the school board would have a majority of trustees who were not elected to their positions.

Still, with the terms of three board members set to expire in November 2008—Kris Weaver, Grant and whoever fills Mrs. Haugen's seat—it probably makes sense to spend the \$150,000 on schools and curriculum. With the cost of campaigns rising every year, it's also possible that no one would seek election to what would be a one-year term. Why not appoint long-time school advocate Jill Buck, who finished second in the school board's two-months of paperwork and interviews of nine candidates before Grant was chosen. That would save even more time and money and give the board a full five-member complement, which it hasn't had for several months.

## Letters

### Retired teacher remembers Juanita Haugen

Dear Editor,

I realize you have many comments about Juanita Haugen from Pleasanton civic leaders, but let me tell you what she meant to those of us "in the trenches," a.k.a. classroom teachers. Prior to my retirement from teaching last June, I served on committees with this glorious lady. She was always calm and looked you straight in the eye when she spoke. You always felt that she was listening when you spoke. She would come to the classrooms for Back to School Night and Open House whenever she could. When she came to the school for a daytime visit, she would sit down in the classroom and spend some time because she valued you and your commitment to the job you were doing. For a lady with her schedule, this was amazing. When I retired last year, she made a point of coming to my send-off, and I treasure the picture taken when she gave me a hug of congratulations. I received an email from her after our move to Arizona last summer...just to keep in touch. I will save that also. I'm not sure those who have received their education in Pleasanton realize the scope of her influence on that experience, but they should. That influence will continue because she left a lasting mark on the community. I consider myself very fortunate to have known Juanita and will hold dear the time I spent with her.

*Marsha Buck  
Chandler, Arizona*

### Alcohol watch at restaurants a good use of tax dollars?

Dear Editor,

I read with interest a recent article on the alcohol audit conducted by the Livermore Police Department, where a number of restaurants were cited for serving alcohol to minors. Although I strongly support the local police and their efforts to curb both underage alcohol consumption and driving while intoxicated, the focus of this particular operation was somewhat confusing. I have eaten in some of these family restaurants, Uncle Yu's recently, and have trouble identifying them as "havens for underage drinking."

I would think that young people looking to get "served" illegally would gravitate toward sports bars and taverns with some type of nightlife. I have a hard time picturing a group of underage kids thinking "Let's go to Strizzi's or Uncle Yu's, have a fine meal and maybe score a couple glasses of Riesling."

I can also sympathize with the staff members who made the mistakes, since they are probably not used to minors attempting to buy alcohol. In any event, this is not a criticism of local police, since their "DUI checkpoints" during holiday periods and constant efforts to reduce underage drinking have been highly successful. I am simply recommending that we put the effort and tax dollars where we can make the greatest impact.

*Mitch Fidziura  
Pleasanton*

### No semi trucks on Hwy. 84

Dear Editor,

I would like to register my opinion about Highway 84. It is very curvy and unsafe. There are many accidents on this highway. Sometimes it is bumper to bumper from I-680. Even though it is only 4 miles from I-680 to Ruby Hills East Gate, it takes 20-30 minutes for my dad to get home at night.

I suggest that semi trucks not be allowed to use this road.

*Scott Nicholas  
Pleasanton*

# Building out the South

## Oak Grove plan for 51 hilltop homes, 500 acres of open space

by Jeb Bing

A trio of developers will seek approval from the Planning Commission March 28 of their plan to build 51 individually-designed estate homes in the southeast hills of Pleasanton in a new high-end community to be called Oak Grove.

As part of their petition, the developers also have offered to give to the city of Pleasanton free of charge 497 adjoining acres of wooded land that they also own for public purposes.

If approved by the Planning Commission and then in April or May by the City Council, development of the historic site that was first settled by pioneer John Kottinger in the 1800s will finally be achieved.

The old Kottinger site was purchased in 1977 by three out-of-town landowners and developers: Jennifer Lin, Frederic Lin and Kevin Lin. In partnership with others, they built Kottinger Ranch, a distinctive community of high-priced custom homes along Hearst Drive and other streets off Bernal Avenue, unincorporated Alameda County land that was annexed into Pleasanton as the homes were built in the 1980s.

In 1992, the Lin family won City Council approval for an extension of Kottinger Ranch and Hearst Drive that would have added 86 homes and an 18-hole championship golf course in a new community to be called Kottinger Hills. The new residents of Kottinger Ranch were enraged and, garnering support from homeowner groups across Pleasanton, successfully turned down the development plan in a hard-fought referendum.

The Lin family came back 10 years later—in 2003—with this new plan for developing the 562 acres of open space above Kottinger Ranch that called for building 98 homes on 12 percent of the property and leaving almost 500 acres in open space.

That, too, proved too much development for the Kottinger Ranch Homeowners Association. With a new Planning Commission and City Council now publicly opposed to adding more major housing developments in the southeast hills, the Lin family, represented by Attorney Marty Inderbitzen and at the urging of City Manager Nelson Fialho, held a series of meetings with Bing Hadley, president of

the Kottinger Ranch homeowners Association and others from the neighborhood. The proposal going to the Planning Commission on March 28 for 51 homes—down from 98—and 497 acres of open space to be given to the city, is a result of those meetings.

The Lin family, which has not appeared at any of the public meetings on Oak Grove, also has taken in

James Tong of Charter Properties in Pleasanton as a partner. In addition to Inderbitzen, the developers also have hired former Mayor Tom Pico as a consultant, Nanette Leuschel, a marketing expert from San Francisco, and San Francisco land use architects Michael Fotheringham and Miles Berger as principal designers. Fotheringham also is the architect hired



Marty Inderbitzen

by the city of Pleasanton to design the “illustrative plan” for the 318 acres of public lands—called the Bernal Property—that was given to Pleasanton in 2000 by Greenbriar Homes and associates as part of a housing development plan.

“Oak Grove is situated on a beautiful, natural site with grassy, gently rolling hills and large stands of mature oak trees,” Fotheringham said. “It has been envisioned and planned as a quiet, environmentally integrated neighborhood situated within an open space preserve of native California oak woodlands and grasslands. Home sites were selected to best preserve the natural experience for both Oak Grove homeowners and local residents, and the development provides for the offer of a dedication of nearly 500 acres of open space parkland.”

“In addition, my years on the Design Review Board, Planning Commission and Town Council in Tiburon have taught me how guidelines should be flexible in terms of style but very tight in terms of controls,” he added. “Marty (Inderbitzen) said that

was the kind of project Oak Grove should be and gave me full freedom to create a state-of-the-art set of guidelines.”

In order to ensure that the future homes blend well with the natural setting and with each other, the developers have pledged that new construction at Oak Grove must comply with strict architectural and landscape design guidelines created by two highly respected design professionals, Fotheringham and his associate architect, Miles Berger. Inderbitzen said that he expects Oak Grove will grow into what may become Pleasanton’s nicest neighborhood.

Although some homeowners in Kottinger Ranch said they would prefer no new homes in the hills above their community, homeowner association president Hadley and others said they will support the compromise plan they reached with the Lin family and its representatives. The Lins wanted 98 houses, homeowners and some on the City Council would prefer none. So 51 may be a compromise everyone can live with.

The gift of the 497 acres of open space—the largest land grant ever to Pleasanton—also fits in with longstanding plans by Mayor Jennifer Hosterman and City Councilman Matt Sullivan to create a 2,000-acre stretch of public open space the would wrap around Pleasanton’s south and east borders.

Trails to be built by the Oak Grove developers before the fifth home lot is sold will extend toward the proposed Lund Ranch development off Sycamore Creek Way and the flatlands owned by rancher Al Spotorno along Alisal Street in Happy Valley. Eventually, the two city officials hope to link by hiking and equestrian trails the city’s new Callippe Preserve Golf Course and open space to the East Bay Regional Park District’s Shadow Cliffs regional park.

Still, there were concerns expressed at the January public hearing by the Parks and Recreation Commission—mostly about added traffic on Hearst Drive and public disturbances in the new city parkland beyond.

Dolores Bengtson, retired director of Parks and Community Services, said she has heard from homeowners who believe that increased traffic on Hearst

Drive will become a ma

“They are also concerned that the staging area will become a staging area for young adults,” she added. The commission to address the concerns will support traffic controls such as traffic signals or speed



Michael Fotheringham

lot more juveniles going to the park. The fire concerns me. I think there should be a staging area anywhere.

Another Kottinger Hill resident, Budenbender of Hearst Drive, said he saw showed that the trails would not be accessed on the golf course, not from the top of the hill.

Bengtson explained that the plan had changed to make it easier to hike or “just sit a

“It’s absolutely beautiful. Without a staging area, you couldn’t climb the steep hills. The trails would never be used, probably the majority of

The public hearing starts at 7 p.m. March 28 at the Civic Center, 200



# theast Hills

## open space, awaits city approval

major problem. Concerned that this parkland and open space would be lost, the city council approved an additional hangout for the community. "It will be important for the city to address these concerns upfront and to make changes for Hearst Drive, either with guardrails, or both."

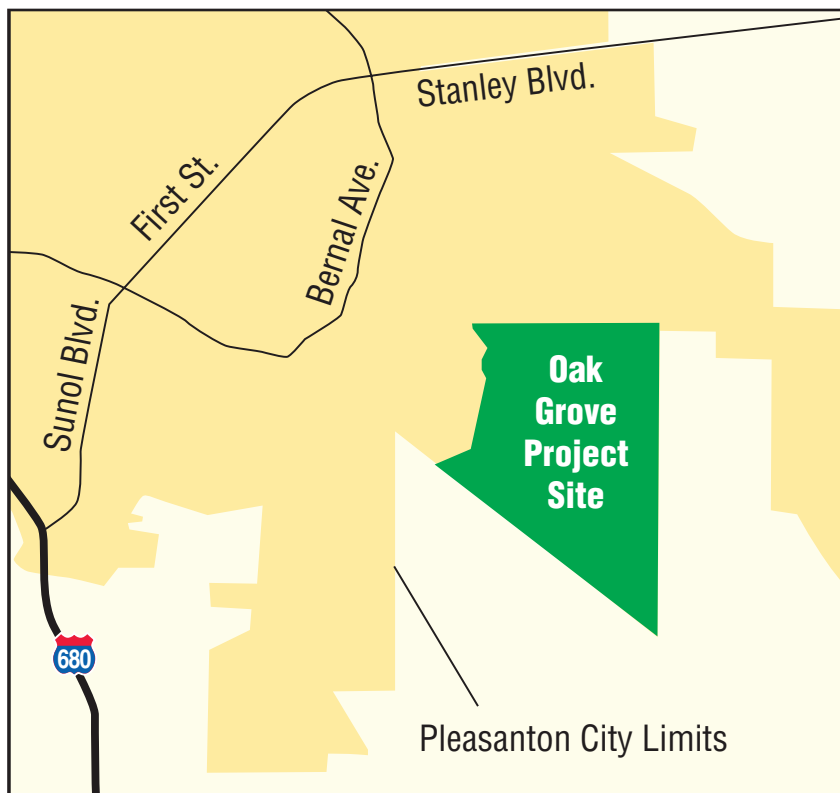
Carolyn Newton of Smallwood Court in Kottinger Ranch said the community has experienced two fires, and is concerned about more.

"I live near open space and I see people all the time hiking into these steep hills to party and make campfires," she said. "If the city provides trails and rests areas in a wonderfully remote location like this, I expect there will be a lot of people there and the danger of more fires. I think it would be unwise to build a park in our city."

Ranch homeowner, Christy Hearst, said the initial plan she had in mind was to build a trail above her neighborhood that would run from Vineyard Avenue and down to Hearst Drive.

She said that those earlier designs were not as appealing for the public to reach the open space by car, and then to hike up and enjoy the view. "But we want everyone to be able to reach that beautiful up there," she said. "But if we can't get everyone to reach, those who can't hike up hills off Vineyard or along Hearst Drive will be able to enjoy them. That's the goal of us."

The city council approved the Oak Grove proposal on March 13 in the City Council Chamber. The project is located on Old Bernal Ave.



**"It has been envisioned and planned as a quiet, environmentally integrated neighborhood situated within an open space preserve of native California oak woodlands and grasslands."**

— Architect Michael Fotheringham



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## WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

### City Council / Pleasanton Unified School District Joint Meeting

Monday, March 19, 2007 @ 7:00 p.m.  
PUSD Board Room, 4665 Bernal Avenue

- Please visit our website at [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us) to view the agenda.

### City Council

Tuesday, March 20, 2007 @ 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chambers, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

- **Public Hearing:** PAP-105, Heather Brillhart, Appellant (PCUP-155/PDR-513, Trinity Lutheran Church, Applicant) – Consider an appeal of the Planning Commission's approval of an application for a conditional use permit and for design review approval for the expansion of the existing Trinity Lutheran Church consisting of the replacement of the existing temporary modular buildings with the construction of an approximately 8,110 square foot one story education building to the east of the existing Church facility; the construction of an approximately 3,108 square-foot multipurpose room addition to be attached to the south of the existing Church facility, fronting Hopyard Road; the expansion of the existing parking lot; and on site landscaping removal and replanting. The project site is located at 1225 Hopyard Road
- **Public Hearing:** PUD 85-10-7M, Peter Shutts/Goble Properties – Consider an application for a Planned Unit Development (PUD) major modification and development plan to demolish an existing drive through bank building and related site improvements and construct an approximately 2,530 square foot one story commercial building in its place at the property located at 5765 Valley Avenue
- **Public Hearing:** PUD 60, Christopher Andrews/Darrell Scherbarth – Consider an application for Planned Unit Development to demolish an existing 2,125 square foot home and to subdivide the parcel into three lots to construct three custom homes at the property located at 2500 Vineyard Avenue, within the Vineyard Avenue Corridor Specific Plan Area

### Library Commission

Saturday, March 24, 2007 @ 9:00 a.m.  
Library Community Room, 400 Old Bernal Ave.

- Commission to meet at the Pleasanton Public Library at 9:00 a.m.
- The Library Commission will then be going on a tour of the Alameda City Library, Hercules Library and the Dougherty Station Library

### NOTICE OF COMMISSION/COMMITTEE VACANCIES

The City of Pleasanton is now accepting applications to fill vacancies on the following commissions or committees:

City of Pleasanton Commissions/Committee (Four-Year Term)

- \* Human Services Commission, 2 Members, 1 Alternate
- \* Parks & Recreation Commission, 1 Alternate

\* Youth Commission, 4 Members, 2 Alternates

\* Economic Vitality Committee

(1) Biomedical Representative

(1) Financial Institution Representative

Youth Master Plan Implementation Committee (One-Year Term)

- At-Large Parent Representatives

(1) Pre-School Representative; (1) Elementary School Representative

- 1 Health and Crisis Representative
- 1 Non-Profit Agency Representative
- 1 Senior Citizen Representative
- 1 Youth and 1 Alternate Representative from Village High School
- 1 Youth Representative from Hart Middle School

Applications are available at the City Clerk's office, 123 Main Street, Pleasanton or on the City's Website at [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us). For additional information, call the office of the City Clerk at (925) 931-5027.

Applications must be received no later than 5:00 P.M., FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 2007. Postmarks are not accepted.

**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](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/community/calendar)

# Community Pulse

## Police Bulletin

### DVDs stolen from library

Between last December and March 5, DVDs from the city's public library at 400 Old Bernal Ave were stolen and sold for profit. A city librarian said 13 items were stolen, some of them being DVD sets. The value of the goods is \$1,339. It was not yet determined whether it was the act of a single individual or a group. If anyone has information regarding this incident, contact the Pleasanton Police Department at 931-5100.

## Police Report

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

### March 2

- Theft:
  - 11:41 a.m. in the 3800 block of Mammoth Cave Court; worth over \$400
- Burglary:
  - 9:20 a.m. in the 1200 block of Quarry Lane
  - 4:45 p.m. in the 4100 block of Creekwood Court; residential

### March 3

- DUI: 1
- Threats by fear: 1
- Stolen vehicle:
  - 3:23 p.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Crestline Road
- Domestic animal bites:
  - 12:00 a.m. in the 5800 block of Parkside Drive
- Assault:
  - 12:54 a.m. in the 5300 block of Hopyard Road
  - 5:01 a.m. in the 4100 block of Nevis Street
  - 10:43 p.m. in the 3000 block of Hopyard Road

### March 4

- DUI: 1
- Theft:
  - 2:05 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting, worth \$50-200
  - 5:55 p.m. in the 800 block of Rose Avenue; stolen vehicle
- Assault:
  - 12:07 a.m. in the 800 block of Rose Avenue
- Public drunkenness:
  - 2:27 a.m. in the 3700 block of Hopyard Road
  - 3:28 a.m. in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

### March 5

- DUI: 1
- Found property: 1
- Annoying phone calls: 1
- Theft:
  - 9:44 a.m. in the 50 block of California Avenue; stolen vehicle
  - 1:54 p.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Laguna Creek Lane; worth over \$400
  - 2:42 p.m. in the 400 block of Old Bernal Avenue; worth over \$400
- Public vandalism:
  - 8:13 a.m. in the 7300 block of Johnson Drive; worth less than \$1,000

### Residential burglary:

- 3:00 p.m. in the 4800 block of Golden Road
- Alcohol possession by a minor:
  - 1:28 a.m. in the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road
- Unauthorized residential entry:
  - 7:34 a.m. in the 3800 block of Muirwood Drive
- Assault:
  - 12:06 p.m. in the 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue
  - 7:57 p.m. in the 3600 block of Gettysburg Court

### March 6

- DUI: 1
- Theft:
  - 2:08 p.m. in the 3900 block of Vineyard Avenue; from vehicle, worth \$50-200
  - 2:45 p.m. in the 1500 block of Trimmingham Drive; forged checks
  - 9:51 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting, worth \$200-400

### March 7

- Found property: 1
- Theft:
  - 1:59 p.m. in the 5700 block of Valley Avenue; vehicle parts, worth less than \$50
  - 2:06 p.m. in the 3400 block of Cornerstone Court; identity theft
  - 3:45 p.m. in the 5700 block of Trimmingham Drive; forged checks
  - 4:35 p.m. in the 3400 block of Norton Way; false pretenses
- Marijuana possession:
  - 8:38 p.m. in the 1100 block of Santa Rita Road

### March 8

- Theft:
  - 8:36 a.m. in the 200 block of Main Street; identity theft
  - 6:49 p.m. in the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road; shoplifting, worth less than \$50
- Drug/alcohol violations:
  - 2:10 a.m. at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Inglewood Drive; public drunkenness
  - 4:20 p.m. in the 16100 block of Marcella Street; marijuana possession for sale
  - 4:45 p.m. in the 2000 block of Santa Rita Road; heroin possession

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# Transitions

## Obituaries

### Gilbert (Gill) E. Cruz

Gilbert (Gill) E. Cruz died Feb. 20 at the age of 60.

The near lifelong Valley resident was the son of late Edward Cruz, Elayne (Cruz) Troutman and Joe Troutman. He was a man of many passions, including first and foremost his family, which was obvious if you were around him. Mr. Cruz adored his grandchildren who on very tough days took away his pain and gave him an even greater desire to fight his courageous battle.

His other passions included his love of his alma mater Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, his second career as an engineering instructor at Las Positas College, travel, fine food and wine, gourmet cooking, scuba diving, still photography, award-winning underwater photography and golf, to name a few. He was much closer to being a master of these passions than a jack of all trades.

The Amador Valley High School graduate, class of 1964, was a worldwide traveler and published author. It has been said, a person is lucky to count the number of close friends they have on one hand. He didn't have enough hands to cover the number of close friends and for that his friends say they are privileged and blessed.

Mr. Cruz is survived by his cherished wife of 38 years, Janice; son Brandon of Milwaukee, Wis.;

daughter Kendra (Phil) Frerich of Livermore; grandchildren Brooklyn and Adam Frerich; siblings Greg (Gina) Cruz of Colorado, Gary (Trish) Cruz of Arizona, Edward (Marla) Cruz of San Diego, and Michelle Matthew and Steve McNabb of Livermore.

A celebration of life ceremony was scheduled Feb. 25 at one of his favorite places, Fenestra Winery, 83 E. Vallecitos Road, Livermore. In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate your donations to Hope Hospice of Dublin or the Las Positas College Foundation in the name of Gill Cruz.

### James Lee Bohanna

James Lee Bohanna died Feb. 20 at the age of 65.

Mr. Bohanna lived in Pleasanton for 40 years and was the president and CEO of Bohanna & Pearce, Inc. He was also a proud retired captain in the U.S. Navy.

He is survived by Gloria, his wife of 43 years; sons Scott and Todd Bohanna; grandsons Zack and Lars Bohanna; sister Denese Bohanna and her daughters Kim Bohanna and Kelly Brownlee; mother-in-law Evelyn McBuderus; daughter-in-law Belinda; and numerous nephews, nieces and dear friends.

A memorial service was planned for Feb. 24 at Graham-Hitch Mortuary. Donations can be made to the American Cancer Society, 7000 Village Parkway, Ste. E, Dublin or Hope Hospice, 6500 Dublin Blvd., Ste. 100, Dublin, CA, 94568.

### Juan Kot

Juan Kot died Feb. 21 in Oakland at the age of 60.

Born in Carmen del Parana, Paraguay, Mr. Kot lived in Buenos Aires, Argentina for 24 years before moving to San Leandro 23 years ago. He was a teamster and a devout born again Christian. He enjoyed fishing, gardening, carpentry, and stamp and coin collecting.

He is survived by wife of 35 years, Marta Susana Kot; daughters Myraind Elizabeth Neciuk and her husband John of San Mateo, Rosana Mariel Neciuk and her husband Ricardo of Pleasanton, and Veronica Laura Kot of San Leandro; brother Pablo Kot; sisters Nadia Kulinka, Ana Daciuk, Eugenia Nieczypruk, Lidia Hurin and Maria Kot; grandchildren Andrew Dawson Neciuk, Caitlin Alyssa Neciuk, Kylene Giselle Neciuk, Jacob Paul Neciuk, and Jack Gregory Neciuk; and many nieces and nephews.

### Judy Jackson

Judy Jackson died at Eden Hospital on Feb. 17 at the age of 70.

Mrs. Jackson was born on June 11, 1936 in Little Rock, Ark. Described as a dynamic woman, she lived for those who needed a little help. She was the director of CAPE Headstart in Livermore that enabled low income families to place their children in preschool to get the best "head start" in their schooling. Also,

in retirement, she and her husband bred and raised Vizslas. She served as the Northern California Vizsla Club Rescue Contact for many years and was honored by the group when she retired. She loved that breed of dog and wanted to make sure each dog that reached her could have a safe and loving home.

Mrs. Jackson will be missed by many. She brightened each room she stepped into and her family and loved ones say their hearts hold that shine and they can all smile a little brighter for knowing her.

A celebration of life is scheduled for a later date. Donations can be made to the Vizsla Rescue, P.O. Box 1443, Oakley, CA 94561.

## Births

The following information on Pleasanton births was provided by ValleyCare Medical Center.

### Katie Schick

Parents Jeff and Sheila Schick welcomed their daughter, Katie, into the world Jan. 24. Born at 8:26 p.m., she weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces and was 20 inches long.

### February 6

Sandra Daughtry-Honda & Henry Honda, III, a boy



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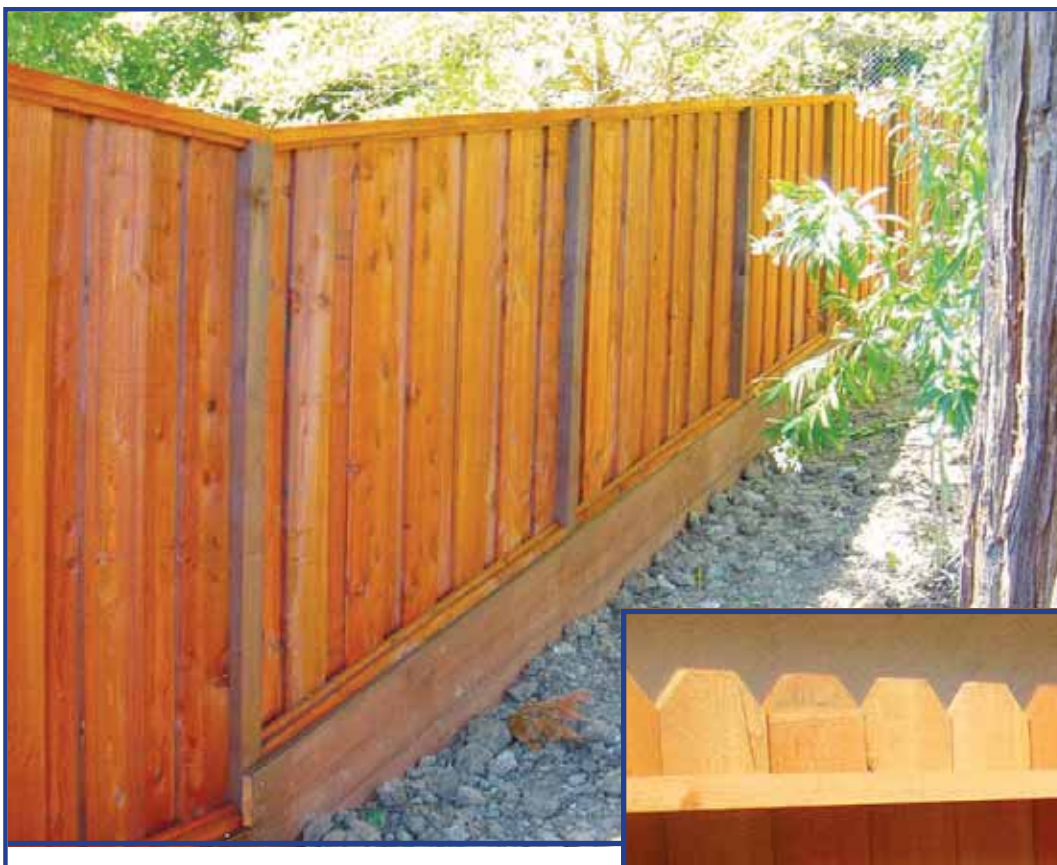
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# Sports

## Seahawks win 2007 CA-NV spring sectionals

### Former swimmer sets new American record

The Pleasanton Seahawks continue to receive accolades this season, winning the 2007 California-Nevada Spring Sectionals in Long Beach last weekend, beating the UC Davis team to put the impressive win in perspective.

Along the way, the Seahawks swimmers had some outstanding swims and the women's 400 free, 800 free and 400 medley relays dominated, but Catherine Breed had the meet of her life. She picked up four national reportable times (NRTs) in the 200 free, 500 free, 1000 free, and 1650 free, in which she earned her first national cut and placed fifth.

Brandon Fischer swam to second place in the 200 breast and fourth in the 100 breast. Karen Wang placed fifth in the 200 back and seventh in the 100 back in which she earned a new national cut.

Katrina Anderson, Kayleigh Foley, Chris Guido, Tory Houston, Josh Meints, Lisa Narum, Neda Nguyen, and Andrew Seitz all contributed to the team win with impressive swims.

Also making national waves was Seahawk Hailey DeGolia last week as she set a new American Record as a member of the University of Arizona 200 medley relay at the NCAA Championships. Her 50 back time of 24.2 helped set the record.

In addition, she placed seventh in the 200 IM (1:58.30), sixth in the 100 fly (52.60) and second in the 100 back (52.66).

### Hart girls basketball crowned TVAL champs



The Hart Middle School eighth grade girls basketball team won the 2007 Tri-Valley Athletic League Basketball Championship.

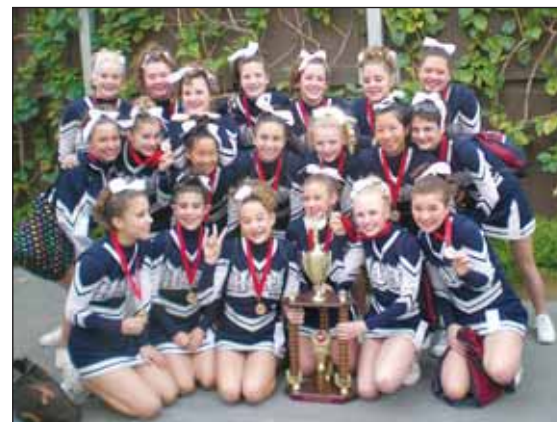
In the first round of the playoffs, the Huskies beat Wells Middle School of Dublin 41-16. In the semi-finals vs. East Avenue Middle School of Livermore, Hart was able to record a 40-20 victory. In the championship game vs. Harvest Park, Hart opened up a 12-3 halftime lead and rolled to a 35-10 win which gave the Huskies a second consecutive Tri-Valley League Basketball championship as they also won as a seventh grade team last season.

"Going into the playoffs, both East Avenue and Harvest Park had lost only one game during the regular season so we knew they were good and had high respect for them," said Hart Coach O.C. Schott, "Since they also had defeated us twice as well, I felt we had to play a full 28 minutes having lost halftime leads previously. To the players' credit, they were able to sustain complete defensive pressure in both of the games, which opened up some offensive opportunities that we were able to convert."

The Huskies were led by Annie Amos, Maddie Biehl, Vivian Climent, Kristen Desprez, Marianna Irby, Courtney Kyer, Alex Matsu-Buen, Anissa Mendez, Sabrina Malki, Kara Schott, Andrea Tanada and Alex Villanueva.

The Huskies finished their two championship seasons with a record of 37-5 which also included the Tournament Championship of the 2007 City of Palo Alto/SANCRA 16-team eighth grade invitational in February.

### Hart Huskies cheerleaders compete at Junior Nationals



After competing against 11 teams from California and Arizona, the Hart Middle School Huskies cheerleaders placed second at Junior Nationals in Los Angeles this past weekend. The girls competed in the Junior High Show Cheer Novice division at Disney's California Adventure. Coached by Julie Craney and Kim DeJoy, the routine was choreographed by members of the Foothill High School competition cheer team Meghan O'Malley and Cameron Smead.

### Harvest Park wrestling team places third

Harvest Park Middle School wrestlers competed in the Canyon Middle School Wrestling tourney this past Saturday in Castro Valley. The Harvest Park team placed third as a team losing by two points to the champion, Junction Middle School. Top individual scorers were as follows: sixth graders Max Niels placed second, Austin Hamilton and Austin Bay placed first; seventh graders Jack Bergquist placed third and Tim Young placed fourth; eighth graders Adam Aslam placed third, Scott Freeland placed second, Mitchel Grimes placed first, Jacob Maslana placed fourth, and Nich Skinner and Michael Flores placed first.

### Volunteers still needed for Special Olympics

Pleasanton is once again playing host to the Special Olympics of Northern California this year and is in need of volunteers for the track event and volleyball tournament on May 5. There will be two shifts, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 12 to 5 p.m., and volunteers can sign up for both. Lunch is provided. Email Kent Young at zenkent@comcast.net or call him at 413-0378 to register. ■

### Parent photographers

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

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# Calendar

## Auditions

**Chorus Auditions** Soli Deo Gloria, an auditioned chorus seeks additional members in each voice part for its May concert program, featuring Mozart's C minor mass and Haydn's Te Deum accompanied by orchestra and conducted by Artistic Director, Allen Simon. Call for an appointment. Rehearsals are Mondays nights. Trinity Lutheran Church, 1323 Central Ave., Alameda. 888-734-7664. [www.sdg-loria.org](http://www.sdg-loria.org).

## Author Visits

**C-Span2 Book Bus and Peter Sussman** The C-Span2 Book Bus will be at the Pleasanton Public Library to interview Peter Sussman editor of "Decca-The Letters of Jessica Mitford" on March 18. You are invited to listen to Mr. Sussman talk about his book and tour the bus. 1-3 p.m. free Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. 925-931-3405.

**Lisa Rovetch Visits Library** Children's author and artist Lisa Rovetch will visit the Pleasanton Library on March 23 as part of the library's Meet the Author series. Ms. Rovetch has written the Hot Dog & Bob books. 4-5 p.m. Free Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. (925) 931-3400 x 8.

**Michael Chabon** Michael Chabon, two-time best seller author, will speak of his literary experiences March 31. Chabon's first novel, The Mysteries of Pittsburgh, became a feature film. His second novel, "Wonder Boys," was also made into a critically acclaimed film featuring actors Michael Douglas and Tobey Maguire. 8 p.m. Adult - \$25, \$30, \$35; Student - \$15, \$20, \$25 Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. (925) 931-3444. [www.civcartstickets.org](http://www.civcartstickets.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 7:30 p.m.

## Civic Meetings

**Housing Commission** The Pleasanton Housing Commission meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday

of the month at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave. 7 p.m.

**Human Services Commission** The Human Services Commission meets at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave. 7 p.m.

**Parks & Recreation Commission** The Pleasanton Parks & Recreation Commission meets at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

**School Board** The Pleasanton Unified School District Board meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday monthly in the district office board room, 4665 Bernal Ave.

**Youth Commission** The Pleasanton Youth Commission meets 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month at Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd.

## Classes

**Art of Living** Pleasanton Public Library presents the "Art of Living"-a free Yoga and Breath Workshop taught by an Art of Living teacher March 19. 7-8 p.m. free Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. 925-931-3405. [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/library](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/library).


**Belly Dancing Classes** The city of Dublin is offering women's belly dancing classes with a 4-week starting March 3. Level 1 class meets 10 to 11 a.m. and level 2 class meets 11 a.m. to noon. \$46 925-556-4500 . [www.dublinrecguide.com](http://www.dublinrecguide.com).

**Papier-mache Whimsy Class** Worthington Gallery will host a two-day Papier-mache Whimsy class led by artist MJ Wilson March 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. Worthington Gallery West, 739-J Main Street, Pleasanton. 485-1183. [www.worthingtongallerywest.com](http://www.worthingtongallerywest.com).

## Clubs

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

### Weekend Preview



### Start your engines

Exotic custom cars like this 1952 Chevrolet will be featured at the Goodguys 25th All American Get-Together March 24 and 25 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. The All American Get-Together is the Bay Area's oldest and largest automotive festival, featuring more than 3,000 hot rods, custom cars, classics, trucks, muscle cars and street machines of all years, makes and models, a massive automotive swap meet, a "cars for sale" corral and manufacturer's exhibits. The show is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are only available for purchase the day of the event. Cost is \$13 for adults, \$6 for children ages 7 to 12 and free for children 6 or younger. Parking is \$8. Call the Goodguys, 838-9876 or the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 426-7600 for more information. Visit [www.good-guys.com](http://www.good-guys.com).

**Everything Poetry** This poetry workgroup meets the first Saturday of the month to critique poetry and the third Saturday for a workshop pertaining to an aspect of poetry business at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Bring 10 copies of a poem. 9-11 a.m.

**Good News Bears** Be a part of providing comfort to children and adults by giving stuffed animals. Good News Bears meets at the Livermore Police Station. Join us to see how you can provide "stuffed love" in our community. Meets on third Thursday of the month. 6:30-8 p.m. Club dues: \$30/year. 1110 S. Livermore Ave, Livermore. 925-373-7982.

**Amador Valley Quilters** The Quilt Guild Club meets at 1:30 p.m. on the second Saturday monthly at Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave. Call Debra, 454-1971 or visit <http://amadorvalleyquilters.org>.

**Amador Valley Toastmasters** Amador Valley Toastmasters meets every Thursday morning at 7 a.m.

at Mimi's Café Restaurant in the Hacienda Crossings Shopping Center, Dublin Blvd. and Hacienda Dr., Dublin. Contact Mark Triska, [mtriska@colliersparrish.com](mailto:mtriska@colliersparrish.com) or 227-6210 for more information.

**American Association of University Women** Membership in the American Association of University Women is open to both men and women with associate's or bachelor's degrees and higher. The organization promotes equity for all women and girls, life-long education and positive societal change. For information about membership, contact Membership Chair Roz Wright, 484-0614 or [dawright@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dawright@sbcglobal.net).

**American Legion Post 237** American Legion Post 237 meets at 7:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday monthly at the Regalia House, 4133 Regalia. Call Rene, 846-7532, or Dan,

(continued on page 18)

## Smog King

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## Pleasanton Real Estate News



by  
Gerarda  
Stocking

### TAX CREDIT VS. TAX DEDUCTION

A tax deduction reduces the amount of your income that will be taxed in a given year. Thus, for example, the amount of interest you pay on your mortgage debt (up to a certain amount) is subtracted from your taxable income. Thus, you end up paying less tax than you otherwise would have. Good deal!

A tax credit, on the other hand, is a straight reduction, not of taxable income, but of taxes themselves. For example, say the government allows a certain amount of the money you shelled over for a new solar system for your home to be used as a tax credit. If you owe \$35,000 in taxes that year and the allowable tax credit is \$2,000, you will owe \$33,000 in tax, instead. An even better deal!

Tax credits are usually allowed for limited time periods for special items such as energy-saving purposes, specific investments and for each child in your household. They are worth their weight in gold—though there is no reason to buy something you have no need for, just to gain the tax credit. For investments, though, allowable tax credits can often offset less attractive and riskier aspects of the investment, as in the case of certain rental housing investments and historical buildings. Questions? Just call Gerarda Stocking at 846-4000 or visit her website at [www.gerardastocking.com](http://www.gerardastocking.com).

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## Calendar

846-7320.

### British Women's Club

The local chapter of Daughters of the British Empire hosts meetings the third Tuesday of the month where British women can meet and chat. Call 875-0828 or 484-1273 for meeting time and location. Visit [www.dbesociety.org](http://www.dbesociety.org) for more information.

### Express to Success Network

Women's Express to Success Network meets from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday monthly at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel, 5115 Hopyard Rd. Visit [www.expresstosuccess.org](http://www.expresstosuccess.org) or e-mail [info@expresstosuccess.org](mailto:info@expresstosuccess.org).

### Foothill Kiwanis Key Club

Foothill Kiwanis Key Club meets from noon to 12:30 p.m. every Thursday at Foothill High School, 4375 Foothill Rd. Call Irv, 556-1177 or visit [www.kiwanis-pleasanton-sunrise.com](http://www.kiwanis-pleasanton-sunrise.com).

### Horseshoe Pitching

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

### Ladies Choice Investment

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

### Mothers Club

The Pleasanton Mothers Club meets from 7 to 9 p.m. the third Tuesday monthly at Mohr Elementary School, 3300 Dennis Dr., room C2. Call 927-2444, or visit [www.pleasantonmothersclub.org](http://www.pleasantonmothersclub.org).

### Mt. Diablo Rose Society

Mt. Diablo Rose Society meets from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. the second Wednesday monthly, except in December, at Dublin Civic Center, 100 Civic Plaza, Dublin. Call Pat, 846-4913.

### 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](http://www.pal-art.com).

### Pleasanton Downtown Association

Pleasanton Downtown Association meets at 8:30 a.m. the third Tuesday monthly at Pleasanton Downtown Association, 830 Main St., Suite A. Call Frances, 484-2199.

### Pleasanton Kiwanis Sunrise

Pleasanton Kiwanis Sunrise Club meets at 11:45 a.m. every Friday at Vic's All Star Kitchen, 201 Main St. Call Irv, 556-1177 or visit [www.kiwanis-pleasanton-sunrise.com](http://www.kiwanis-pleasanton-sunrise.com).

### Pleasanton Lions Club

Lions Club meets at 7 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday monthly for dinner at Round Table Pizza, 530 Main St. Call Rick 462-1062.

### Pleasanton Newcomers

Newcomers Club meets at 10 a.m. the first Wednesday monthly for coffee and at 10 a.m. the second Wednesday monthly for lunch. Call 215-8405 or visit [www.pleasantonnewcomers.com](http://www.pleasantonnewcomers.com).

### Pleasanton North Rotary Club

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

### Soroptimist

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

### Tri-Valley Leads

Tri-Valley Leads meets from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m. every other Wednesday, at Carrow's, 7505 Dublin Blvd., Dublin. Call Donna, 586-3952 or e-mail [donna@diamonddonna.com](mailto:donna@diamonddonna.com).

### Tri-Valley Macintosh Users Group

TMUG meets at 7 p.m. the third Thursday monthly and at 9 a.m. the Saturday following the third Thursday, at Amador Valley High School, 1155 Santa Rita Rd. Call Izak, 830-8838 or visit [www.clubtmug.com](http://www.clubtmug.com).

### Tri-Valley Rotary

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

### V.F.W. Auxiliary

V.F.W. Post 6298 Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. the first Tuesday monthly at the Regalia House, 4133 Regalia. Call Dan, 846-7320.

### Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6298

VFW Post 6298 meets at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday monthly at the Regalia House, 4133 Regalia.

### Women's Investment Club

Women's Stock Investment Club meets on the third Wednesday of each month in Livermore. Club follows NAIC principles for studying stocks and investing for the long term. For meeting location, times and details, call Barbara, 484-1319 or Eleanor, 846-6911.

## Concerts

### Glenn Miller Orchestra at USS

**Hornet** The Glenn Miller Orchestra is scheduled to perform big band and swing music onboard the USS Hornet Museum March 24. The show opens at 7 p.m. with Singing Blue Star Moms performing a tribute to the Andrew Sisters and dance lessons provided by the San Francisco Jitterbugs. The Glenn Miller Orchestra goes on at 8 p.m. with dancing on three large dance floors on the enclosed, heated hangers. Period attire is encouraged. 7 p.m.-12 a.m. \$40 for general admission in advance, \$45 at the door, \$85 for Cabaret Reserved seating USS Hornet, 707 W. Hornet Ave., Pier 3, Alameda. (510) 521-8448, ext.282. [www.hornet-events.com](http://www.hornet-events.com)

### Jewish Rock Concert

Beth Emek is hosting a rock concert by Jewish rock band Dan Nichols & E18teen 6:30 p.m. March 17. 6:30 p.m. \$36 for reserved seats; \$20 adults; \$18 teens; \$12 seniors and children ages 3 to 12; free for children. Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada St., Pleasanton. 925-931-1055. [www.bethemek.org/dan\\_nichols](http://www.bethemek.org/dan_nichols).

### Romantic Russia

The Pleasanton Community Concert Band's annual spring concert on March 18 will feature the theme Romantic Russia. The band will play Rimsky-Korsakov's Clarinet Concerto, as well as work by composers Borodin, Kabalevsky and Tchaikovsky. 2 p.m. Free Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. 846-9497. [www.pleasantonband.org](http://www.pleasantonband.org).

## Dyslexia / Learning Disorders

### Albert Einstein Was A Genius- And A Dyslexic!

**As many as 15% of school children are affected by dyslexia**

or other learning disorders. Many parents and teachers associate dyslexia with the most commonly known symptom of reversing "Ps and Qs" and "6s and 9s," yet this is present in less than

20% of those who have the disorder. Dyslexic kids can be smart but struggle with reading and other school-related tasks, such as writing, comprehension and even math.

They can confuse directions (right/left) or misread small words (the, he, is). Because these tasks are difficult for them, they tire easily while performing them and can develop avoidant techniques. This often causes people to assume that the child is lazy or has ADD/ADHD. Tutoring

can provide temporary relief and advance the child to the next grade; but, in the long run, it does more harm than good by giving parents a false sense of security. It delays him or her from receiving the right kind of help, which is desperately needed, and does nothing to fix the core cause of the problem, which will continue into adulthood if left untreated.



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## Events

**CAMB Hosts Annual Mortgage Trade Show** The East Bay Chapter of the California Association of Mortgage Brokers is pleased to announce their Annual Mortgage Market Place March 22. The event offers local mortgage professionals and lenders the opportunity to network and learn about the transitioning market as well as the latest industry practices. 1-6:30 p.m. \$25 per person. San Ramon Marriott Hotel, 2600 Bishop Drive, San Ramon. 510-206-2389.

**Foothill Grad Night Tickets** Grad Night 2007 tickets are on sale every Tuesday and Thursday on Campus during lunchtime. Tickets are currently selling at \$135 per student. Also see Web site <http://www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/foothill> and look under the Announcements/Activities section for information. \$135 Foothill Grad Night, Club Sport Pleasanton, Pleasanton. 925 426-8602.

**Road To Freedom** St. Clare's Episcopal Church hosts a festival service in celebration of Black history, faith and hope March 18. Discover the powerful story of the African-American people and their journey from slavery to liberation through music and readings from both biblical and historical texts. 5:15-6 p.m. Free, donations gratefully accepted St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton. 925-462-4802. [www.stclarespleasanton.org](http://www.stclarespleasanton.org).

**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. March 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](http://www.hornetevents.com).

## Exhibits

**Discovery & Awareness** Alexander's Main St Gallery presents "Discovery & Awareness," an art exhibit with work by Sara Zimmerman. It runs through March 17. Zimmerman's paintings encompass contemporary modern-

ism 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.alexanders-mainstreetgallery.com](http://www.alexanders-mainstreetgallery.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 through March 18. Free Studio 7 Fine Arts, 400 Main Street, Pleasanton. 925.846.4322. [www.studio7finearts.com](http://www.studio7finearts.com).

## Film

**1950 Movie Classic--Harvey** On March 20, Pleasanton Public Library's Mature Adult Program presents the film classic "Harvey" starring James Stewart, as Elwood P. Doud. Refreshments will be served. 1-3 p.m. Free. Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. 925-931-3400 ext 37. [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/library](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/library).

**Mistaken Identity--Sikhs in America** Pleasanton Public Library presents guest speaker Kahmir Singh Shahi and the film "Mistaken Identity--Sikhs in America" March 17. 2-5 p.m. free Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. (925)931-3405. [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/library](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/library).

## Health

**"Foot Freedom: My Feet Are Healthy"** On March 21 World School presents "Foot Freedom: My Feet Are Healthy." Attendees will learn daily self-care and specialized foot self-massage techniques. This class offers a chance for participants to give well-deserved attention to their feet. 12:30-2 p.m. Free. World School of Massage, 699 Peters Ave., Pleasanton. 925-461-2533. [www.worldschoolpl@yahoo.com](http://www.worldschoolpl@yahoo.com).

**All About Colon Cancer** San Ramon Regional Medical Center will present a free seminar, "All About Colon Cancer," March 29. Jeffrey Mark, M.D., will discuss the risks, ways reduce the risks of the disease, and screening. The seminar will be held at the hospital's South Conference Room in the South Building. 7-8 p.m. free South Conference Room,

7777 Norris Canyon Road, San Ramon. 800.284.2878. [www.sanramonmedctr.com](http://www.sanramonmedctr.com).

**American Red Cross Blood Drive** The American Red Cross is holding a blood drive March 19 from at Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Eden Medical Center, 20103 Lake Chabot Road, Castro Valley. (510) 594-5204. [www.BeADonor.com](http://www.BeADonor.com) (code: EH).

## Kids & Teens

**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](http://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](mailto:info@puregirlsclub.com).

## Lectures/ Workshops

**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" March 21. 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 30 W. Neal St., Ste. 105. 249-3433.

**Free Gardening Workshop** "Bay Friendly Gardening Basics" is a free workshop that will provide an overview of design and maintenance considerations and practices that will help you make smarter choices at the nursery. Compost bin drawing is at every workshop. The event is from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 17 at Wente Vineyards, 5050 Arroyo Road, Livermore. Reservations are required. Call (510) 444-SOIL or visit [www.BayFriendly.org](http://www.BayFriendly.org).

(continued on page 20)

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Pleasanton - (925) 463-1234  
Livermore - (925) 449-7795  
Tracy - (209) 839-1432

**Phoebe Apperson Hearst Lecture**  
Kathleen Cha will give a presentation on the outstanding contributions by Phoebe Apperson Hearst to Pleasanton and California at the museum March 18, 2-4 p.m. \$5/\$10 Museum On Main, 603 Main Street, Pleasanton. 925-462-2766. www.museumonmain.org.

## Live Music

**Chris Bradley's Traditional Jazz Band**  
Chris Bradley's Traditional Jazz Band appearing at The Pleasanton Hotel the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Playing New Orleans traditional jazz (and music from the

1920s, 30s and 40s) for listening and dancing. 7:30-9:30 p.m. No Cover Pleasanton Hotel, 855 Main Street, Pleasanton. 510-825-0746. [pleasantonhotel.com](http://pleasantonhotel.com).

## Miscellaneous

**Excellence in Education Awards**  
Pleasanton 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, administrator or staff of the PUSD for the award. Applications can be downloaded at [www.pleasantonpta.org](http://www.pleasantonpta.org). The deadline is March 23. 925-462-4891. [www.pleasantonpta.org](http://www.pleasantonpta.org).

**Kittens Seek Foster Homes**  
The East Bay SPCA's Foster Care Program seeks foster homes for the upcoming kitten season. For more information, contact the East Bay SPCA at (510) 563-4632 or visit [www.eastbayspca.org/foster](http://www.eastbayspca.org/foster).

## 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. March 15 through the 24 at the Amador Theater. Tickets are \$10 for students, \$12 for adults and are available through [www.civcartstickets.org](http://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](http://www.civcartstickets.org).

**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" March 10 through the 31 at the Sunol Glen School auditorium in Sunol. Tickets are \$12.50 and can be purchased at [www.sunol.net](http://www.sunol.net) or by phone at 862-0664. 8 p.m. \$12.50 Sunol Glen School, 11601 Main St., Sunol.

## Seniors

**Computer Classes for Seniors 55+**  
The Pleasanton Public Library offers computer classes for mature adults. Join us to learn to surf the internet and send email. Absolute beginners welcome. The second Tuesday of month is Beginning Internet, the third Tuesday of month is Beginning Email, and the fourth Tuesday of month is Advanced Email. 9-10 a.m. free Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. 925-931-3400 ext 21.

**Pleasanton PC Users Group**  
The PC User Group meets monthly on the fourth Thursday of the month at 10 a.m. 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 Health Fair**  
Ridge View Commons will be hosting a free Senior Health Fair March 24 at Ridge View Commons. There will be a free raffle and refreshments. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Ridge View Commons, 5200 Case Avenue, Pleasanton. 925-484-5080.

**Transitions Support Group**  
Are you or someone you know: 60 or older and living in Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore or Sunol? Looking for a warm and supportive environment to connect with others? In need of a place to share, support and reminisce? Join the Transitions Support Group. 2:30-4 p.m. Free Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. (925)931-5379.



## 2007 LECTURE SERIES SCIENCE ON SATURDAY

By Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

### ACCELERATOR MASS SPECTROMETRY

HOW AMS WORKS IN BIOLOGY AND HEALTH CARE

By Bruce Buchholz, Ken Turteltaub, LLNL scientists; and Bret States, teacher, Tracy High School

**March 17, 9:30 a.m.,  
Amador Theater, Pleasanton**

A technology borne out of archeologists' desire to obtain a faster method for dating ancient artifacts has also spawned exciting applications in biomedical science. Carbon dating techniques refined at LLNL's Center for Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (CAMS) are being used to address research questions as diverse as "how old is the DNA in our brains?" to "how long do chemicals remain in our bodies?" This lecture will highlight the principles of carbon dating and how AMS technology is being used to provide insights into challenging problems in biomedicine.

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. to 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](mailto:farnsworth1@llnl.gov)



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Walk In: 215 Abbie St. Pleasanton, CA 94566

Call: (925) 426-4280

## Spiritual

**A Taste of Heaven in 2007** Tri-Valley Unity Church hosts guest speaker Rev. Jewell McCrary March 18 and will speak on the topic "A Taste of Heaven in 2007." All are welcome. The church meets at the Radisson Hotel, 6680 Regional St., Dublin. Call 829-2733 or visit [www.trivalleyunity.com](http://www.trivalleyunity.com).

**Tri-Valley Unity Church** Tri-Valley Unity Church meets for Sunday service and children's school 10 a.m. at the Radisson Hotel, 6680 Regional St., Dublin. There are ongoing classes and groups with Rev. Mary Anne Harris, minister. Call (925) 829-2733 or visit [www.trivalleyunity.com](http://www.trivalleyunity.com).

## Support Groups

**Cancer Support Group** A free support group for people with cancer and their loved ones meets every Tuesday. Facilitated by The Wellness Community, 2-4 p.m. Valley Care Health Library and Ryan Comer Cancer Resource Center, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suite 270, Pleasanton. (925) 933-0107. [www.twc-bayarea.org](http://www.twc-bayarea.org).

**Domestic Violence** A Domestic Violence support group is being held every Wednesday at Tri-Valley Haven for Women in Livermore every Wednesday evening. Survivors will be able to address issues of abuse in relationships. 5-6:30 p.m. \$40 for every eight weeks, or based on a sliding scale. Tri-Valley Haven, 3663 Pacific Ave., Livermore. 925-449-5845 x202.

**Manspeak** This weekly men's group meets Monday nights and is designed to create a community between men to resolve problems, form friendships, and understand and improve relationships. It provides a source of support for personal growth and change in a safe environment so we can become aware of our own emotional habits and attitudes. 8-9:30 p.m. \$30/session or \$100/month Kiva Counseling Group, 11740 Dublin Blvd., Suite 202, Dublin. 925-4859370. <http://www.kivaspirit.org>.

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

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

**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 Dr., room B. Call 461-8411. All are welcome.

**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 Rd. in the library. Call 484-2173 or visit [www.chadnorcal.org](http://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.

**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 Rd., Castro Valley. All services are provided free of charge. Call (510) 889-8766 or visit [www.ebcancersupport.org](http://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](http://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](http://www.hopehospice.com).

## Volunteering

**Saturday Salon** The American Cancer Discovery Shop needs volunteers any time from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday and Saturday, or from noon to 5 p.m., Sunday. 7:30-9:30 p.m. No charge Saturday Salon at 4th St. Studio, 2235 Fourth Street, Livermore. 925 456-3100.

**Shepherd's Gate** Volunteer at Shepherd's Gate Shelter, 1660 Portola Ave., Livermore or their thrift stores, 7381 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin, and 1362 Railroad Ave., Livermore any time Monday through Friday. 443-4283, ext. 217. [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com)

**The American Cancer Discovery Shop** The American Cancer Discovery Shop needs volunteers any time from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday and Saturday, or from noon to 5 p.m., Sunday. 462-7374.

## TV30

**Community News** Community News focusing on the Tri-Valley will air live at 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday with repeat broadcasts airing at 7, 9 and 11 p.m. [www.TV30.org](http://www.TV30.org)

**Tri-Valley Sports Final** Tri-Valley Sports Final is a weekly show that covers team and individual 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.



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## Informational Meeting

Mar. 21 - Wed.  
4:45PM; RSVP

Jo Anne Camara

Director  
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[jcamara@headsup.org](mailto:jcamara@headsup.org)

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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**  
425 Main St., Pleasanton, 462-2800. Treat yourself to a taste sensation at

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

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## 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 name a few. Check out our updated wine and exotic cocktail menus. We also cater! Visit [www.OasisGrille.com](http://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.

To have your restaurant listed in this dining directory, please call the Pleasanton Weekly Advertising Department at (925) 600-0840



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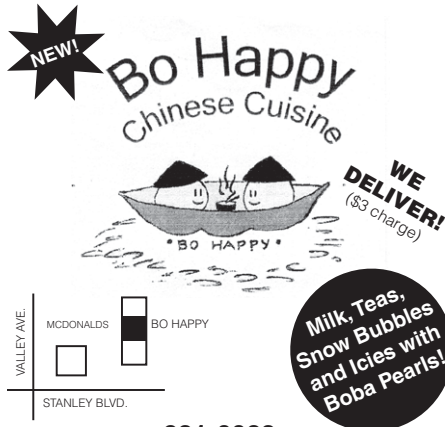
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