

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Vol. VIII, Number 10 • March 30, 2007

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It's all about Pleasanton



STATE OF THE CITY

**PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS,
STRONG ECONOMY
BOLSTER CITY'S APPEAL,
QUALITY OF LIFE**

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Around Pleasanton

by Jeb Bing

Juanita Haugen's friends help to the end

Stories abound about Juanita Haugen, Pleasanton's longest-serving school board member and its past president, who died March 5. Some were told by speakers at Juanita's memorial service held last Saturday, a service filled with the kind of music and pageantry that she always liked. A speaker at the service, Kerry Clegg, who now has Juanita's position as regional director of the National School Boards Association, told of a weekend meeting not long ago where he offered to carry a large bag Juanita was shouldering along with a heavy purse. It was Clegg's awakening to Juanita's pack-rat characteristics. She was seldom without heavy bags of books, transcripts, agendas and reports, which Clegg said he carried around Washington D.C. for three days much to Juanita's delight.

Like me, Juanita kept every scrap of information that came her way and we used to laugh together about what others might have to do with all these materials should we ever go away. Actually, that challenge befell her close friend Jerri Long and some in the family when Juanita's bedroom had to be cleared of reference materials to make way for a larger bed and medical equipment. Now her daughters, with Long's help, have the task of going through these documents, many with dog-eared pages and Post-It notes marking key points. Juanita had many friends, with more than 800 at her memorial service and a steady stream of well-wishers long before during her days at hospitals in San Ramon, Pleasanton and Southern California. More than 100 gave their time to make sure the memorial service would be the best. Alex Sutton, head of the Classified Employees union, made sure that Hart Middle School where he works had a shining polish on its gymnasium floor and power-scrubbed the outside patio before last Saturday's reception. School district secretary Lisa Lorentz used her graphic art and computer skills to prepare the colorful cover of the memorial service programs, an 18-page document that included the music we sang at the service and notes about Juanita and the many

friends and organizations who had a part in her final day of recognition. Among these were Kay Huff, Colleen Botelho and Rosemary Hosterman who worked tirelessly for the previous two weeks to handle logistics and arrangements, ranging from shuttle buses from the Hart parking lot to St. Elizabeth Seton's Catholic Church, where the service was held. JoAnn Koobatian persuaded the Foothill High School choir that she directs to dress up on a Saturday afternoon to join the St. Clare's Episcopal Church Chancel choir in a songfest tribute to her good friend Juanita.

Also there were many of the Bobs and their spouses, members of an exclusive club that Juanita and her husband Gil (he died in 1900) counted as their favorite. Founded by the Haugens' next door neighbor, Bob and Mary Ann Butler, the club's first function was New Year's Eve 25 years ago. Other Bobs who were early members included Bob and Sarah Warnick and Bob and Pat Lane. Gil was admitted because his name was Gilbert, with the same last four letters as all the Roberts. Over the years, it was recognized around Pleasanton as the most prestigious club in town, with its members serving in the city government, on the City Council and on numerous public and nonprofit boards, including Juanita on the school board. With the name Bob maturing along with the club's members, Juanita won approval last year to invite Councilman Jerry Thorne and his wife Sandy to join the group. Now someone else will have to handle membership.

All of us knew of Juanita's long hope to have grandchildren. With three married daughters, you'd think that wouldn't be hard. As the daughters said at the service, they kept presenting her with household pets, but she quipped that granddogs are not like grandchildren. To everyone's delight, daughter Holly Haugen Morello and her husband Mark gave her a grandson on Jan. 5, two months before she died. A prized photo at the service was one we ran in the Weekly, showing a very proud Juanita holding Giovanni Sebastian Morello a few days after his birth. ■

About the Cover

In her annual "State of the City" message, Mayor Jennifer Hosterman said that the city has numerous public improvements under way or planned that will add to the city's "remarkable quality of life" and continue to attract new residents and businesses to the community. Photo by: Harry Arruda. Cover design by Ben Ho.

Vol. VIII, Number 10

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Creative Writing	7/16-7/20	7/30-8/3
Presentation Skills	7/23-7/27	8/6-8/10
Computer Booster	7/30-8/3	8/13-8/17

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Streetwise

Q: Do you think Walnut Creek was right in changing the Easter Bunny to the "Spring Bunny" for city events?

Asked Downtown



Alison Spiller

Mental Health Assistant

I think that Easter is a recognition and celebration of Jesus. If they want to change the name of the Easter Bunny to the Spring Bunny it is fine. The bunny has nothing to do with the true meaning of Easter.

Christine Hein

Merry Maids Owner

I think it has been the Easter Bunny for so many years, that it only leads to confusion with kids. It isn't a Spring egg hunt with the Spring Bunny; it's an Easter egg hunt with the Easter Bunny.



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The Celebration Run features 5K and 10K courses through Livermore, beginning and ending at LifeStyleRx.

Saturday April 14, 2007

7:00am Event Day Registration Opens

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Location: LifeStyleRx, 1119 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore



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Bob Tedrick

Construction Manager

I think it is ridiculous. Any time we can spend time doing good things in the name of "God," regardless of how you define that God, it's not a bad thing. Maybe we should stop taking away things that celebrate spirituality and start adding things from all of the other religions alive and well in our country today.

Don Ruffner

Retired

In all the years I've been on this good Earth, having been a Christian, I don't think it ever hurt me to talk about the Easter Bunny nor do I see why it should offend anyone else. I don't think it matters that much. It's like lots of things, such as Santa Claus, that don't do damage to anyone. There are much more important things to worry about.



Wendy Irving

Retired

If I remember correctly, the Easter Bunny came from Pagan festivals that were not part of the Christian religion to begin with. I think we can still honor everyone's different faiths and religions, but I think there is a better way to do it.

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

Compiled by Cybele Ryan

Newsfront

News Digest

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews offers Passover seder

In observance of the start of Passover this Tuesday, the Tri-Valley Cultural Jews will host a Passover seder Sunday celebrating the heroism and courage of the human participants in the original freedom struggle of the Jewish people. Children will ask four questions, four cups of wine will be drunk and a festive meal will be held.

An affiliate of the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations, the Tri-Valley Cultural Jews will hold the seder at 5 p.m. on April 1 at the Bothwell Center, 2466 Eighth St. in Livermore. It is a potluck and reservations are required. A donation of \$10 per adult (over 13) is requested. For reservations and food assignment, call 485-1049.

Blue Agave raises funds for MS Society

The Blue Agave Club, 625 Main St., celebrates its 10th anniversary April 7 from 6 to 10 p.m. with a performance by Latin rock band La Ventana, appetizers and a no host bar. Proceeds from the event will be donated to the MS Society. There is a minimum cover charge donation of \$20. Additional donations can be made by visiting www.nationalmssociety.org. Call The Blue Agave Club, 417-1224 for more information.

Ask the Doctor on TV30

Endocrinologist Mahmood Kazemi, M.D. and Chief Clinical Dietitian Pam Wilson, R.D., MS, are the doctors on call to discuss diabetes during "Ask the Doctor," a call-in show from 7 to 8 p.m. April 4 on TV30. Viewers will learn about recent advances in the treatment for type 2 diabetes, including new oral medications and drugs that can improve glycemic control. To participate, call 462-3030 during the live show time. Sponsored by San Ramon Regional Medical Center, the show will be available through live Web cast on www.tv30.org.

Pleasanton Canal trail closed until April 13

The Pleasanton Canal trail will be closed temporarily through April 13, according to the city. The portion that's closed is from the confluence of the Arroyo de la Laguna to Hopyard Road. It's due to Zone 7 Water Agency's work to improve the drainage system there.

Pleasanton outvoted by Dublin and Livermore on Triangle Committee decision

Group's recommendation details traffic improvements to Interstates 580, 680 and State Route 84

by Janet Pelletier

Members of the Triangle Committee formed to address the region's traffic congestion voted on a final action plan last Tuesday, ending the group's two-year effort. But not everyone was happy with the end result.

The committee was formed to include representatives from the Tri-Valley's three contiguous cities and advocate for funding from the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency. After more than two years of meeting, the group decided Tuesday to recommend an

action plan in a 5-2 vote, with Dublin Mayor Janet Lockhart, Dublin Councilwoman Kasie Hildenbrand, Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena, Livermore Councilwoman Marjorie Leider and county Supervisor Scott Haggerty voting in favor. Pleasanton's representatives, Mayor Jennifer Hosterman and Councilwoman Cindy McGovern, cast the dissenting votes.

Two plans went before the committee at the meeting's start—one named Alternative 1 and a slight variation of that plan named Alternative 1A. Both shared the following improvements:

Interstate 580

- A westbound HOV (carpool)/HOT (toll) lane and ramp metering from Foothill to Greenville roads
- A westbound auxiliary lane from First Street to Isabel Avenue
- A direct connector from westbound 580 to southbound 680
- An eastbound truck-climbing lane
- A HOV/HOT lane from Foothill Road to Hacienda Drive

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Representatives from the six nonprofits who received funds from the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund stand alongside editor and publisher Jeb Bing, far left, and President Gina Channell-Allen, second from left.

6 nonprofits receive record-high Holiday Fund gifts totaling \$112,419

Pleasanton Weekly, Tri-Valley Community Foundation partnership benefits local groups

The Pleasanton Weekly and the Tri-Valley Community Foundation distributed checks totaling \$112,419 this week to the six nonprofits that were the beneficiaries of the 2006 Pleasanton

Weekly Holiday Fund.

Accepting the checks at a reception at the newspaper's office at 5506 Sunol Blvd.

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School board opts to appoint

New member will fill open seat May 18

by Emily Atwood

At its meeting last Tuesday night, the school board unanimously chose to appoint the late board president Juanita Haugen's replacement rather than hold a special election.

No restrictions or stipulations, such as promising not to run in the next election, were placed on the applicants, as the board said they would take each applicant's conditional terms on a case-by-case basis throughout the appointing process.

The schedule, as proposed by Superintendent John Casey, would include an application deadline of April 16, a community screening panel held on April 19, board interviews on April 24 and the official seating of the member May 18.

The board came to the decision to appoint

after receiving more than 200 emails, phone calls and in-person feedback. Several people made suggestions to the board about how to go about filling the Haugen's seat, including appointing runner-up Jill Buck, bringing back a previous board member to step in and keeping the current four-member board and asking the candidates to not run in the following election. These suggestions were dismissed as the board said they would hinder the democratic process that the appointment process allows.

Trustees encouraged those who have previously applied as well as those who have not to submit an application. Information about how to apply will be available through the Pleasanton Unified School District later this week. Call 462-5500 or visit www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us for more information. ■

Another mountain lion spotted

2nd sighting in two weeks near an elementary school; this time in resident's back yard

by Emily Atwood

Amountain lion was spotted Wednesday morning in a resident's back yard just south of Vintage Hills Elementary School, according to police.

The wildcat was seen at 7:25 a.m. in the back yard of a home on Grillo Court off of Concord Street, according to Sgt. Suzanne Soberanes. A resident had noticed the wildcat in her neighbor's

(continued on page 11)

Sex offender alert

Man posing as a prospective homebuyer causing concern

by Emily Atwood

The Pleasanton Police Department issued a notice this week about a registered sex offender behaving suspiciously around town. Daniel Duran, a 41-year-old San Jose resident, has been frequenting various Pleasanton real estate offices and open homes over the past couple weeks, posing as a potential homebuyer.

Duran is described as a 5-foot, 10-inch-tall Hispanic male, with brown hair and brown eyes and weighing 200 pounds. He has a scar on his left forearm and a tattoo on his chest.

He was also seen parked in front of homes for sale and looking into the windows of occupied homes for sale. Female real estate agents, homeowners and their neighbors said Duran contacted them despite being told to contact the proper listing agent. The report said his behavior "prompted fear and suspicion."

Police Captain Eric Finn said his behavior

(continued on page 10)



Hundreds pay their respects to school leader Juanita Haugen

Speakers praise her work as community, national leader in education

by Jeb Bing

More than 800 friends of former Pleasanton school board president Juanita Haugen joined her family last Saturday in a vibrant, music-filled memorial service to the nationally-known education leader, who died March 5.

Speakers included Pleasanton school Superintendent John Casey; Jane Gallucci, president of the National School Boards Association, and Kerry Clegg, the association's past president and now its regional director. Tim Hunt, former associate publisher of the Tri-Valley Herald, also spoke about Juanita Haugen and her late husband Gil, who died in 1990, who Hunt and his family had known since the 1970 when the Haugens moved to Pleasanton.

The Rev. Ronal Culmer, rector of St. Clare's Episcopal Church, where Mrs. Haugen was a member, remembered her as a friend and devoted parishioner who was passionate about her religion and community service.

Her four daughters, Heather Rizzoli, Heidi Peart, Hilary Haugen and Holly Morello, remember their mother in a series of one-liners,

called "What Mom Taught Us."

In his remarks, Casey said the "legacy of Juanita Haugen lives on, and the influence she had on the Pleasanton Unified School District will guide positively the education of our students for years to come."

"As I look out at the many people who are in attendance today, I don't think that she would have ever expected such an out pouring of love and appreciation," he said. "Along with her many committee appointments, her visibility in the community, and her continuous thinking of yet another good idea, she was very humble. She did not do her work for 28 years on the board, and before that be actively engaged in school issues for the attention; she did not get involved in regional and national education issues, using her own finances and time, for the recognition, nor did she serve to be liked, or for the awards and accolades. She served only to make the experience for students the best that it could be."

The memorial service was held at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, which was able to accommodate the large crowd. It started after the fam-

ily was driven to the church from Mrs. Haugen's Vintage Hills neighborhood with a police motorcycle escort and a procession that filled the entryway to the church and the sidewalk outside. The pageantry included Mrs. Haugen's much-loved bagpipe music, played by bagpiper Jeff Campbell of Livermore, choirs from St. Clare's and Foothill High School, a brass band and some of Mrs. Haugen's favorite hymns that the congregation sang, including "Amazing Grace" and "Shall We Gather at the River." At the conclusion, led by the band and choirs, everyone sang another of her favorites: "When the Saints Go Marching in."

A reception followed at Hart Middle School, where the Pleasanton school district and the California School Employees Association provided tables, chairs and kitchen and parking lot monitors. Caterers included Kit Little, Joanie Fields, Skip Hinsley of Girasole Grill, Wendy Kirkup and students from Village High School.

Mrs. Haugen was first elected to the old Amador Valley Joint Union



The St. Clare Episcopal Church Chancel Choir leads the processional into St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, where services were held last Saturday for former school board president Juanita Haugen.

Jeb Bing

High School District board in 1979. Following the school district unification in 1988, she continued her service with the new board, and was the longest serving board member at the time of her death. During her many years of service, she also was a member of a number of state, regional and national school organizations that helped develop curriculum and standards for public schools.

Besides her four daughters, she is survived by their husbands Christopher Rizzoli, Bruce Peart and Mark Morello, and grandson Giovanni Sebastian Morello, who was born last Jan. 5. Daughter

Hilary is engaged to be married in July to Jeffrey Dito of San Francisco.

Those wishing to make donations in honor of Mrs. Haugen may still do so to the organizations she supported: St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588; University of Southern California East Bay Alumni Club Scholarship Fund, c/o Chris Anderson, Treas., PO BOX 300, Orinda, CA 94563; Juanita Haugen Community of Character Scholarship, care of Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation (PPIE), 333 Division St., Pleasanton, CA 94566. ■



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Staples Ranch residents voice opinions, concerns about projects

Senior care community, auto dealership representatives present their proposals

by Janet Pelletier

Residents whose homes border the currently vacant 124-acre Staples Ranch property on the northeastern Pleasanton border voiced their concerns at a recent neighborhood meeting in the City Council Chambers for plans to develop a senior care retirement community and auto mall on the land. Concerns ranged from noise, traffic, safety, accessibility, aesthetics, cost, flood control and parking.

Staples Ranch is currently county land, but is expected to be annexed to the city from the Alameda County Surplus Property Authority. Deputy City Attorney Steve Bocian told the roughly two dozen who attended the meeting that the planning process for the property actually began back in 1989 with a 200 to 300-acre area. Since then, some of the land has been developed and 124 acres remains today. Also part of the county's deal to annex the property is a 17-acre portion of the parcel for development of a public park, free of charge to the city. Eight acres of that may include a San Jose Sharks public ice facility.

The portion of the proposed development that dominated



most of the discussion was the Continuing Life Communities-led 1.4-million-square-foot senior care retirement community. The project proposes to build 800 units on a 45-acre parcel bordering current Staples Ranch residents to the south and west.

"Things are not set in stone here at all and we are interested

in your comments," Continuing Life Communities CEO Rick Aschenbrenner told the group. "We're going to be in Pleasanton for the long haul so we know we have to be a good neighbor."

Aside from asking general questions inquiring about what ages the

(continued on page 9)

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Sewage scare at Foothill

A backed up pipe damages uniforms, part of the band room

by Emily Atwood

During the annual Winter Colorguard and Percussion Show at Foothill High School last Saturday, a sewer line backed up, causing “gray water” from a small sink in a custodial closet to lightly flood an area that’s used as a storage room for the school band, and a small part of the band room.

But it wasn’t raw sewage as rumors suggested and a crew cleaned and disinfected the area that day, according to Myla Grasso, a spokeswoman with the Pleasanton Unified School District. No one attending the performance that day was affected and by Monday, a group tested the area for further contamination. Until the tests come

back declaring the area as being safe, Grasso said the students are using the high school multi purpose room.

No musical instruments were damaged, Grasso said, but some boxes containing uniforms had to be thrown away. The school is investigating any further damage caused by the leak. ■

Triangle

(continued from page 5)

- An eastbound mixed flow lane from Santa Rita to Vasco roads
- BART right of way protection

Interstate 680

- Ramp metering
- Southbound HOV/HOT lane from Alcosta Boulevard to State Route 84
- Northbound HOV/HOT lane from Alameda Creek to Alcosta Boulevard

The plan that did not win approval, Alternative 1A, was favored by Hosterman and McGovern, which in addition to the improvements listed above also includes the widening of State Route 84 from Pigeon Pass to Interstate 680 and the construction of a southbound auxiliary lane on 680 from 84 to Andrade Road.

What split the vote between Pleasanton and the cities of Dublin and Livermore was the controversial issue of whether Pleasanton would decide to extend Stoneridge Drive to connect with Livermore and Interstate 580.

“From Dublin’s perspective, I find it hard to support 1A without the extension of Stoneridge,” Councilwoman Hildenbrand said. “Plan 1A makes the most sense, but there’s not enough impact on Dublin—it would only reduce traffic in our area by 5 percent.”

Hosterman said Pleasanton is moving forward on a decision for Stoneridge Drive. A traffic study is being conducted to show both scenarios—if it was built and if it wasn’t. A meeting to share the results of that study was scheduled for last Tuesday but was cancelled and is expected to be rescheduled in the next couple weeks.

The Stoneridge extension has been contentious with Pleasanton residents. Many who live along Stoneridge Drive in the Mohr-Martin neighborhood have said it will encourage cut-through traffic for drivers looking to avoid gridlock on 580. Supporters of the extension say it should be built because it has always been in the city’s General Plan and would ease congestion at the Valley Avenue/Santa Rita Road intersection, which is the city’s worst when it comes to traffic.

Lockhart, Livermore Mayor Kamena and Supervisor Haggerty have all previously voiced their support of a Stoneridge extension.

While Hosterman said the road



From left to right: Mayors Janet Lockhart of Dublin, Marshall Kamena of Livermore and Jennifer Hosterman of Pleasanton are all members of the Triangle Committee. Hosterman, in her plea to choose an action plan, was outvoted by committee members from Dublin and Livermore.

extension is a decision that will be made by the residents of Pleasanton and that she can’t speak for the community, Kamena said “as a leader, I can speak for Livermore.”

Hosterman clarified that she meant that she can’t speak for the other City Council members who will collectively make the vote on whether to keep a Stoneridge extension in the city’s General Plan, which is currently in the process of being updated.

“I really thought that this was a regional (action plan) and not just based on one road extension,” said Councilwoman McGovern.

It’s short-sighted, she said, adding that Livermore and Dublin are using Stoneridge Drive as a negotiating tool.

A majority on the Pleasanton City Council oppose the extension, with Council members Jerry Thorne and Cheryl Cook-Kallio undecided.

Hildenbrand said that Dublin has done its part to build major connector roads to ease traffic flow such as six-lane Dublin Boulevard which parallels 580.

“What happens if Pleasanton residents take Stoneridge to a vote and vote it down? We have to look at the bigger picture,” she said.

Referring to the number of people who commute from the San Joaquin Valley to jobs at the Hacienda Business Park in Pleasanton, Haggerty said city leaders want to

have their cake and eat it too.

“You want the jobs, but you don’t want to take responsibility for the traffic. That’s the frustrating part. It doesn’t get discussed,” he said.

“It does get discussed ad nauseum internally,” Hosterman countered.

“Let’s discuss it publicly,” Haggerty quipped.

Lockhart reasoned with Hosterman that Dublin has dealt with the same issue Pleasanton now faces with traffic circulation.

When Dougherty Valley in southeastern San Ramon was built as a master planned community, Dublin officials worked with the city of San Ramon to provide Dougherty Road as a major thoroughfare for residents north of its city limits to reach 580.

“We’re not islands,” she said of neighboring cities.

Hosterman said she was frustrated by the group’s decision to support a different action plan.

“I’m disappointed that this discussion started two years ago with Stoneridge and ends with Stoneridge,” she said, referring to the time that’s lapsed since the Triangle Committee was formed.

“It started with Stoneridge and ended with Stoneridge because it’s so important regionally,” Lockhart responded.

The 5-2 vote means that the Alternative 1 action plan will now be submitted to the Congestion



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Consignment boutique gives back to community

Savvy Seconds, an upscale consignment boutique located downtown at 327A St. Mary St., has been giving back to the community since it opened last November.

As a consignment store, Savvy Seconds shares proceeds on sales with the person who brought in the item. With agreement of the consigner, the shop donates all clothing not sold after 60 days to such community programs as Wardrobe for Opportunity, Shepherd's Gate and the Princess Project, according to co-owners Patricia Kesselring and Debbie Lopes. Savvy Seconds plans to open the store for private parties for charitable organizations with 10 percent of the proceeds going to that charity.

For information, call 846-6600.

Loard's Ice Cream and Candy undergoing makeover

Pacific Blend Café, a newly formed Pleasanton-based business has purchased Loard's Ice Cream and Candy, located at 5424 Sunol Blvd. in the Oak Hills Shopping Center. The purchase includes incorporating ice cream, candies and gourmet coffee all under one roof, according to co-owner Jerry Vargas.

Ice cream will continue to be the primary business, with Loard's being the store's exclusive ice cream brand. Loard's Ice Cream and Candy has been a Bay Area tradition for more than 50 years.

A phased remodeling has been taking place over the past couple months. Makeover plans include expanding the menu to include homemade treats, desserts and espresso drinks. The remodel

Business Briefs

and name change will take place throughout this year, Vargas said.

The store also plans to be involved in the community, hosting events for schools and other organizations and participating in local events. For more information, contact Vargas at 922-2354 or by email at pacificblendcafe@yahoo.com.

Shaklee founding member of climate change business council

Pleasanton-based Shaklee Corporation, a natural nutrition company, has become a founding member of the Business Council on Climate Change, a partnership of Bay Area businesses committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and advancing corporate environmental leadership.

In 2000, Shaklee became the first company in the world to obtain Climate Neutral certification and offset its CO2 emissions, resulting in net zero impact on the environment. In 2002, Shaklee received the Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Protection Award for its CO2 emission-reduction programs.

"Participating in the Business Council on Climate Change is a natural step in our commitment to both grow our business and our environmental leadership position," said Roger Barnett, Shaklee chairman and CEO. For more information on the council, email bc3@sfgov.org.

FDA accepts new Roche blood screening test for review

Roche Diagnostics announced

that the U.S. Food & Drug Administration has accepted for review its application for a new test designed to detect a broad range of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and viral hepatitis infections in donated blood and plasma.

The test, called the cobas TaqScreen MPX Test, detects HIV type 1, HIV type 2, hepatitis C and hepatitis B.

"We believe this automated test, with detection of HIV-1 Group O and HIV-2, may help blood banks and laboratories improve blood safety, workflow efficiency and donor retention.

FunMobility names Vice President of Product Management

FunMobility, a leading mobile entertainment, community and lifestyle company, announced that it has appointed Fred Clarke as VP of Product Management. In this role, Clarke will drive FunMobility's product roadmap and lead the product management and pre-visualization teams.

"Fred brings a wealth of knowledge, backed by 10 years of international experience in the mobile media space to FunMobility," said Adam Lavine, CEO of FunMobility.

Prior to joining FunMobility, Fred Clarke ran all Product Management for InfoSpace's \$200 million mobile media product lines, including their music and graphics products. He also served as the president of Unity In Values, where he launched the first mobile pure-play in the mobile video space and established the leading Christian brand in mobile.

Staples Ranch

(continued from page 7)

facility would serve (the average age now is 78) and how much it would cost to live there (entrance fee could range from \$200,000 to \$1 million and monthly fees could range from \$2,500 to \$4,000), residents said they were very concerned about the community's proximity to the Livermore Airport.

Some referenced the airport's plans to house more jets there, which could increase activity and make more noise.

Aschenbrenner said the units will be built more solidly and to a higher standard than regular residential units, but that still didn't satisfy residents, who asked what would happen if there was a plane crash in the area.

"It's our opinion that it's not that close to the airport—in fact, it's out of the airport protection zone," Aschenbrenner said.

When residents questioned how much impact to traffic the community would have on the region, he said more of the seniors will drive in the beginning of their living there. The facility will also

provide shuttle buses.

While many of the residents offered their critiques of the plans, one woman from Dublin said she thought the retirement community, which offers levels of care from independent apartment living to skilled nursing beds, would be a great asset.

"I find it really exciting," she said, adding that she and her husband are looking for a community to move into in a few years. "We can have our same friends, go to the same church, but give up some of the responsibilities we have right now with a house."

Another piece of the project, an auto mall with six dealerships on 37 acres, was also presented to residents.

Ron Tye, regional financial officer for Hendrick Automotive Group, said the auto mall's current location on Rosewood Drive is too small for the growth it's experienced in the past 20 years it's been open.

Included in the 294,000-square-foot of space in three buildings with rooftop parking will be such dealers as Infiniti, Volvo, Mini, Acura, BMW and Lexus. Mercedes Benz also plans to take a portion of the property for a dealership, relocat-

ing from its current dealership on Owens Drive.

Residents didn't take issue with much of the auto mall plans except commenting that the proposed sign for it was too large and resembled a missile silo.

Tye said if the plans are approved, the company would sell the Rosewood property to a developer/s.

The entire Staples Ranch property will be designed so that only portions of it can be reached by specific routes to deter people from using the area as a cut-through to reach Interstate 580. For example, the senior care community can only be accessed by a two-lane bridge overpass extension to Stoneridge Drive that leads right into the community. The auto mall will only be reached by taking El Charro Road, which is planned to be extended by the city of Livermore. Currently, El Charro is used for a private rock quarry access road.

Bocian told residents that portions of the project will have to get approvals from various city commissions and will then go before the Planning Commission in the later part of the summer. Construction could begin as soon as spring of next year. ■

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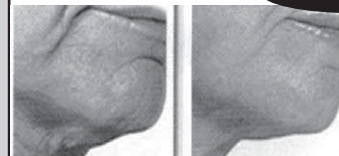


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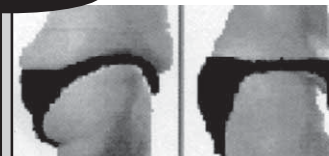
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Safe surrender bill passes

Bill extends state's Safe Surrender Baby law from 72 hours to 30 days

By an 8-2 vote, a bill put forward by 20th District Assemblyman Alberto Torrico regarding the safe surrender of babies, was passed last Tuesday in the state Assembly Judiciary Committee.

Currently, a parent has only 72 hours to safely surrender an unwanted newborn at a designated facility, such as a hospital or fire station.

"Extending the safe surrender period will help save the lives of more babies across the state," Torrico said. "Mothers will gain more time to recover from giving birth and a better opportunity to clearly consider their options. An improved public awareness cam-

paign is also desperately needed to educate parents on how they can safely surrender a newborn at a designated site. These two steps will help reduce the number of tragedies that occur when babies are abandoned in garbage cans or bushes."

Twenty-two states in the U.S. have enacted a 30-day provision, according to Torrico.

The bill, titled AB 81, would increase the awareness of the law through the Department of Social Services and establish and operate a toll-free number for assistance. Competitive grants would be awarded to county social service agencies to conduct outreach.

The original law took effect in 2001 and the state Legislature made the law permanent in 2005. Since 2001, 187 babies have been safely surrendered and 146 have been abandoned, according to Torrico. Also part of the law, the parent has a 14-day cooling off period before their parental rights expire and no criminal action is taken on anyone who surrenders their baby. Under AB 81, as with the original law, parents can still be prosecuted if a child was abused.

Torrico pushed for the law's reform early last year after a newborn was found dead beside a restaurant in Newark.

—Janet Pelletier



Emily Atwood

North Rotary donates van to ValleyCare

Pleasanton North Rotary members Jerry Pentin, Aidee Martin, North Rotary President Esther Becker, COO ValleyCare Health System Cindy Noonan, Angela Adkins and Tina Case stand with the transport van the group recently donated to ValleyCare Health System. Once an ambulance for the San Ramon Valley Fire Department, the group bought it for \$1 and refurbished it to transport people not needing emergency care and supplies to and from the Pleasanton and Livermore facilities. A new transport van has an estimated value of \$30,000.

Sex offender

(continued from page 5)

at an open home made one female real estate agent uncomfortable, and she asked him to leave. She later looked him up through the Megan's Law Web site which publicly discloses if someone is a sex offender and where that person lives, and contacted the police upon discovering he was listed.

Finn said Duran was charged with rape by force in 1988 and

assault with intent to commit rape in 2000. Details on the charges were unavailable at the time of the report, Finn said. Duran served time in state prison and was released in 2005. He has a history of criminal behavior, which Finn said included violence.

Although he is not wanted for anything at this time, Pleasanton police want the community to be aware of his background.

"That's the spirit of Megan's Law," Finn said. "It gives law enforcement the opportunity to

proactively protect. It's a tool that everyone should feel comfortable using as a resource and this is what it's all about."

He continued, "We worry about these folks reoffending. Of course [it's potentially dangerous] any time you have a sex offender with any kind of suspicious behavior that makes women fearful."

If anyone encounters Duran, they should call Pleasanton police at 931-5100. Additional information on Duran can be found at www.meganslaw.ca.gov. ■



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Cinderella Classic returns for 31st year

Women bike riders from across the state join 65-mile Tri-Valley tour

This Saturday thousands of women will grab their bikes and head down to the Alameda County Fairgrounds for the annual Cinderella Classic Bike Tour, organized by the Valley Spokesmen, a local bike riding club.

The 65-mile, women-only bike tour starts and ends at the Fairgrounds, winding through Dublin, Sunol, Danville and Livermore. This is the 31st year the Valley Spokesmen has organized the classic and 2,500 riders are expected to join the event coming from all over California and eight other states, including places as far away as Alaska and Hawaii, said event coordinator Bonnie Powers.

The event originally started as a way for the men in the club to thank the women for supporting them during bike rides, Powers said. Since then, the event has grown to be one of the club's major events.

The route is slightly different this year with the starting gate moving from Camp Parks on Dublin Boulevard to the Fairgrounds, a change that only affects the first and last couple miles of the race. A complete route map will be handed out to

participants the day of the event.

The ride is meant to be a fun time for riders of all ages and skill levels, which is why it is considered a tour and not race. The gates open at 6:30 a.m. and check-in is between 7 and 9:30 a.m. Riders have from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. to complete the course and are encouraged to take their time and enjoy the day.

"The camaraderie is incredible," Powers said. "Some get dressed up, wearing funny hats and tutus."

More experienced riders looking for an extra challenge can take the Cinderella Challenge, a separate course that splits from the original at mile 31 and adds an additional 30 miles and 2,000-foot climb.

Ten percent of the event proceeds will go to a yet to be named charity. On the day of the race, riders are asked to suggest organizations to receive the donation. Usually an organization that provides services to women is chosen, such as past beneficiary Tri-Valley Haven.

Visit www.valleyspokesmen.org or e-mail cinderellaclassic@comcast.net for more information.

—Rebecca Guyon

Mountain lion

(continued from page 5)

yard, but lost sight of it. Police searched the area by setting up a perimeter and checking other yards on the cul-de-sac, which is just down the street from Vintage Hills Elementary at 1125 Concord St., but could not find the animal. Large paw prints were found leading into a greenbelt area that runs behind the homes and police believed it returned to the wilderness region.

At the time of the sighting, classes weren't to begin at the school for an hour and a half. As a precaution, Vintage Hills students had limited outdoor activity. Both Vintage Hills and Valley View Elementary School also had additional staff to assist with supervision and parents were notified of the incident when they arrived to drop their children off at school.

This is the second mountain lion sighting in a two-week period near an elementary school. The first sighting was reported by a city parks worker who saw a 50-pound mountain lion walking near the back fence of Valley View Elementary

School in the Kottinger Park area, also near residences, on March 14. The two sightings occurred three-quarters of a mile apart.

It's unknown if it was the same animal in both instances. Soberanes said the mountain lion spotted Wednesday was estimated to weigh 75-80 pounds.

A mountain lion was shot and killed last June by state Fish and Game officers at a residence off Vineyard Avenue, just east of downtown. Police were called to that incident when residents reported seeing a mountain lion jump a fence into an adjacent housing tract. Officers tried to get the animal to return to the wilderness, but it instead jumped into the back yards of other residences.

Pleasanton police planned to meet with Fish and Game officials Thursday to discuss how to keep the wild animals out of residential neighborhoods, Soberanes said.

Anyone in close proximity to a mountain lion should stand still and not run, and let the animal leave the area. If such an incident occurs, contact police immediately, 931-5100. ■

Holiday Fund

(continued from page 5)

were:

- Ronald Greenspan, Chief Executive Officer, Axis Community Health;
- Ken Mercer, Vice President, ValleyCare Foundation;

- David Stegman, Executive Director, Valley Humane Society;
 - Vicki Thompson, Associate Director, Tri-Valley Haven; and,
 - Debbie Look, Campaign Director, Pleasanton Firehouse Arts Center Foundation Board of Directors.
- Carol Beddome, Executive

Director of Open Heart Kitchen, received her check later.

Gina Channell-Allen, President of the Pleasanton Weekly, and Jeb Bing, Publisher and Editor, handed out the checks, which amounted to \$18,736.50 for each of the six organizations.

Joining in the distribution was Dave Rice, Executive Director of the Tri-Valley Community

Foundation. Contributions made during the six-week Holiday Fund campaign conducted between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day totaled \$62,419, with the Tri-Valley Community Foundation providing matching funds for the first \$50,000 in contributions, making the grand total \$112,419.

This was the fourth year of the Holiday Fund effort and by far

the most successful, exceeding the 2006 goal of \$100,000. Last year, the fund raised \$76,575, just over its goal of \$75,000. The Pleasanton Weekly donated all administrative and support services so that all of the contributions would go directly to each of the six recipient organizations.

—Jeb Bing

Take Us Along



Fishin' for a story

Hal Strunk, Hal Swanson, George Mayo and Don Bartel take a break from fishing off Kodiak, Alaska to read the Weekly.



Keeping in touch

Gina and Fred Poff read the Weekly after attending a 24-member family reunion in Valmaggione, Italy. Gina's parents were born in Valmaggione and moved to America in 1929.



Human couch

What a great set up Sarah Uhler has—any time she wants to read the Weekly, (l-r) Jeff Helfrich, Zakk Uhler, Eric Nunn and Mike Laine are there to lend a hand. Here Sarah enjoys the Weekly at Pinecrest Lake.

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Opinion

Editorial

Council's actions against Trinity Lutheran raise questions


For a City Council that works very hard to preserve vast acres of open space in the hills above Pleasanton, it was puzzling last week to see how quickly three of its five council members voted to destroy much of the green space and trees down on ground level between Trinity Lutheran Church and a nearby park so that 24 protestors might avoid more traffic on Golden Road where they live. None of us like traffic or parked cars that aren't ours in front of our houses. But few have such immediate response from city legislators, especially those who have tried without much success for the last three years to resolve traffic issues citywide so that they can complete the 1996 General Plan update, which is woefully overdue.

For two years, Trinity has hired at considerable expense to its 1,100-member congregation an architectural firm to design a permanent building for its fast-growing Sunday school and popular Sunshine Preschool. That plan, carefully prepared with the constant eyes of the city Planning and Building Inspection departments, received a 4-0 vote of approval last January by the Planning Commission. Commissioner Jennifer Pearce abstained because she lives near the church. Trinity occupies a 6.5-acre site that it has owned since 1965, which is bounded by Del Valle Parkway, Hopyard Road and Golden. The approved plan called for a 12,000-square-foot, one-story education building for its schools, a second smaller youth center off the new main sanctuary, which the church opened in 2001, and a readjustment of its parking lots off Del Valle Parkway and Golden to allow more parking in the Golden lot since the new school building would take some of the spaces on the Del Valle side. Unlike Pleasanton Presbyterian, St. Clare's Episcopal and St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic churches that have come before planners and the council recently, Trinity was not planning an expansion, only a parking lot realignment.

It was either the luck of the draw or a premeditated decision to favor the 24 appellants, but the council approved a plan that appeared to have been drafted over the weekend by City Manager Nelson Fialho and Principal Planner Donna Decker. Decker, who serves as liaison to the Planning Commission, made no mention of her objections to the plan the commission approved, which her department had earlier favored. So it was curious that this new plan, called "Option 3," suddenly surfaced. It closely resembles a plan the city and its planning staff rejected, along with the church, in 1998 when the church submitted a master plan for constructing a new sanctuary, which was built and opened in 2001. Vice Mayor Cindy McGovern, along with Councilman Jerry Thorne, voted against Option 3 and, like us, said it's a bad plan. It would force churchgoers who can't find a parking space in the small Golden Road lot to drive around to Del Valle, make U-turns to reach the side of Del Valle that has a driveway entrance, and then drive down a 25-foot-wide street between the church property and the park to reach a new Golden Road parking lot, but one that would have no outlet onto Golden. That road also would come within 3 feet of Sunshine Preschool, which McGovern questioned for safety and church officials said could cancel the preschool's operating licenses. We also agree with McGovern that, for lack of a better label, the Fialho Plan, would take out grass, trees and other foliage, with the new asphalt roadway replacing the landscaping that buffers the church property and the park.


The plan makes no sense. The process that has a city manager drafting substitute architectural plans is unusual. The quick vote by Mayor Jennifer Hosterman and Councilman Matt Sullivan, with Councilwoman Cheryl Cook-Kallio reluctantly joining them to make it a majority vote, leaves many with questions over why Trinity, its parishioners who jammed the public hearing and its carefully reviewed plan were treated so shabbily. ■

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Guest Opinion

Legacy of school board president Juanita Haugen lives on

by John Casey

We recently lost our school board president Juanita Haugen, our compass, our rudder. However, because of the force and character of that board president, her legacy lives on and the influence she had on the Pleasanton Unified School District will positively guide the education of our students for years to come. Because Juanita was with us, families and students in Pleasanton have been and will continue to be well served.



I think that each of us, even the most humble of us, when one departs this earth, wants to have had a positive impact, wants to be remembered and wants to be missed. Juanita's education family, fellow current and former board members, our teachers, counselors and administrators, classified employees and the students and families, who had the chance to interact with Juanita over the years, all miss her.

As I looked out at the many people who attended her memorial, I don't think that she would have ever

expected such an outpouring of love and appreciation. Along with her many committee appointments, her visibility in the community and her continuous thinking of yet another good idea, she was very humble. She did not do her work for 28 years on the board, and before that be actively engaged in school issues for the attention; she did not get involved in regional and national education issues, using her own finances and time, for the recognition, nor did she serve to be liked, or for the awards and accolades. She served only to make the experience for students the best that it could be.

And while doing this work, she knew how important it was to work with people. She knew that it was people feeling valued, appreciated and respected that provided students the grand experience they deserved. It was always fun to go to a school site or an open house with her; to observe our teachers and our classified employees welcome, hug, and thank her for her help and support.

Lary Aledine, president of the Association of Pleasanton Teachers, shared this feeling that people have for Juanita. He stated "She was loved by many and appreciated by many, but she was MY friend." Her contact with each individual person was personalized to them, and she was always sincere in her support of people. But be careful, because she

was never a pushover. Oh, yes she would tell you what she thought, but it was a "telling" that made one feel that they were listened to and respected, just disagreed with. And after the disagreement, you would consider her to be your best friend.

She always liked to celebrate accomplishments of the school district, with that big smile of hers and her warm hugs, and maybe at times even with a gin martini, dry, with one olive. But at the same time she was always looking at how else we might better serve our students and families. She thrived on the belief of continuous improvement and so do we, that being her legacy.

As an organization, we are involved in work and discussions not just locally but regionally, nationally and globally. She badgered us incessantly (if you can imagine) to see beyond our little community and even beyond the borders of our great state. We are now involved in a broader scope of business almost to the level she insisted that we be.

She was passionate about education and the community of Pleasanton; we in the district are more passionate than you would expect about education and the community of Pleasanton because Juanita taught us to be so, that being her legacy.

And to recognize and celebrate

that legacy, it is our honor to create the Juanita Haugen Civic Engagement and Service Learning Award. This award will be granted annually to an individual, group of students, or a school site level organization that has engaged in civic activities and/or in service learning. This award will recognize Juanita for her lifelong dedication to students, and it will keep civic engagement and service learning alive and well in our district.

Finally, I know that kids and families in heaven have a brighter future as a result of Juanita joining them. I'll bet she is already involved in schools up there and in addressing educational issues. She won't push her way in too quickly or strongly, that is not her style. She is getting to know the challenges and most importantly she is getting to know the people. She will be board president some day (soon, I imagine), but can't you hear her already starting the conversation, the conversation about community of character, about the civic mission of school, and about service learning. Juanita, you are remembered and missed.

Dr. John Casey is Superintendent of Schools in the Pleasanton Unified School District. This is a condensation of his remarks at the March 24 memorial service for Juanita Haugen, past president of the school board, who died March 5. ■

Letters

Closed school board sessions in bounds of Brown Act

To the Editor:

I am writing to respond to statements published in the March 23 editorial ("New school board may offer chance to settle 4-year-long Signature-school district suit"). In the editorial, the District was accused of holding "secret meetings" with "no public accountability," and the writer suggests that the District has spent funds on an "unnecessary legal fight."

Let's start by saying that closed session meetings have been held by the school board regarding the lawsuit with Signature Properties and Standard Pacific but that these meetings have been held in strict accordance with the Brown Act. The meetings have been legal and necessary to keep the board fully apprised of the status of the case and to discuss issues pertinent to the litigation. The Ralph M. Brown Act, enacted in 1953 by the California State Legislature, limits what school boards can discuss in "closed" session but clearly allows for issues of "existing litigation." The basis for the act is that it is in the best interest of the public to maintain, at appro-

priate times, a level of confidentiality. Such agenda items must be duly listed on the board's agenda, and for the Pleasanton Unified School District, closed session agenda items are listed and acted upon appropriately.

In the editorial, it is stated that secret meetings have been held with "no public accountability." To hold open meeting discussions of this legal matter would clearly harm the District's litigation strategy. Divulging confidential information and positions taken regarding the law suit would be irresponsible on the part of the District, and in fact, to keep the public apprised of this matter, the staff and Board have provided statements and updates in open session.

Public accountability also occurs as trustees are seated to the board. Since this case was initiated, the make-up of the Board has changed over time, and with each change, the case has been supported on its merits. The Board stands committed to prevailing in this action through either a court ruling or an acceptable out of court settlement.

The District stands firm on issues that impact our organization and at times is required to seek legal remedy. This is a responsible and necessary use of public funds to protect the public interest.

*John M. Casey, Ed.D.
Superintendent*

Fight global warming, high energy costs

Dear Editor,

I wanted to let your readers know about an exciting program to help fight global warming while protecting Pleasanton families and seniors from high energy prices. GRID Alternatives, a local non-profit, has partnered with the City of Pleasanton to create an exciting program where teams of community volunteers are trained to help install solar electric systems for the folks who need the savings the most. GRID Alternatives and the city of Pleasanton are looking for income-qualified homeowners who are interested in getting solar power on their home.

Mary, a low-income Pleasanton resident, received a solar electric system through the program last year. All the installation labor was provided at no charge by GRID Alternatives and their volunteers, and the city helped Mary pay for the equipment through a no-interest loan, with all payments deferred until Mary sells the house. Now Mary generates her own clean, renewable solar electricity from her own roof, and her PG&E bills have been reduced by \$30/month. Mary says that, "I always thought I'd love to have solar power on my home, but never thought it would be feasible until I heard about this

program." You can watch a short film about Mary's experience at www.gridalternatives.org/video.

If any of your readers are interested in participating in this program, or know someone in the community who they think might be a good candidate, please contact us at (415) 839-8437, or email me at ubelfrey@gridalternatives.org.

*Utuma Belfrey
GRID Alternatives, San Francisco*

Your Turn

The Pleasanton Weekly encourages comments on our coverage or issues of local interest.

Submit letters to the editor of up to 250 words and guest opinion pieces up to 500 words with a short bio to editor@PleasantonWeekly.com. Include your name, address and daytime phone number so we can reach you. We reserve the right to edit contributions for length, objectionable content, libel and factual errors known to us. Anonymous letters will generally not be accepted.

Submitting a letter to the editor or guest opinion constitutes a granting of permission to the Pleasanton Weekly and Embarcadero Publishing Company to also publish it online, including in our online archives and as a post on Town Square.

For more information contact Editor Jeb Bing at 600-0840.

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Pleasanton Real Estate News



by
Gerarda
Stocking

WRIGHT ON OWNERSHIP

Frank Lloyd Wright, one of the greatest and most creative architects ever to live, was delighted with the growing variety of building styles available to us. For him, this created both an opportunity and a danger. It allowed us to create more beauty than ever in our cities, towns and neighborhoods. But it also allowed us to build mindlessly, creating a devastating sprawl (for Wright felt that beauty was central to a well-lived life, not a fringe benefit). At the heart of the matter was a conscious sense of the culture we were creating, and a commitment to giving it both integrity and variety.

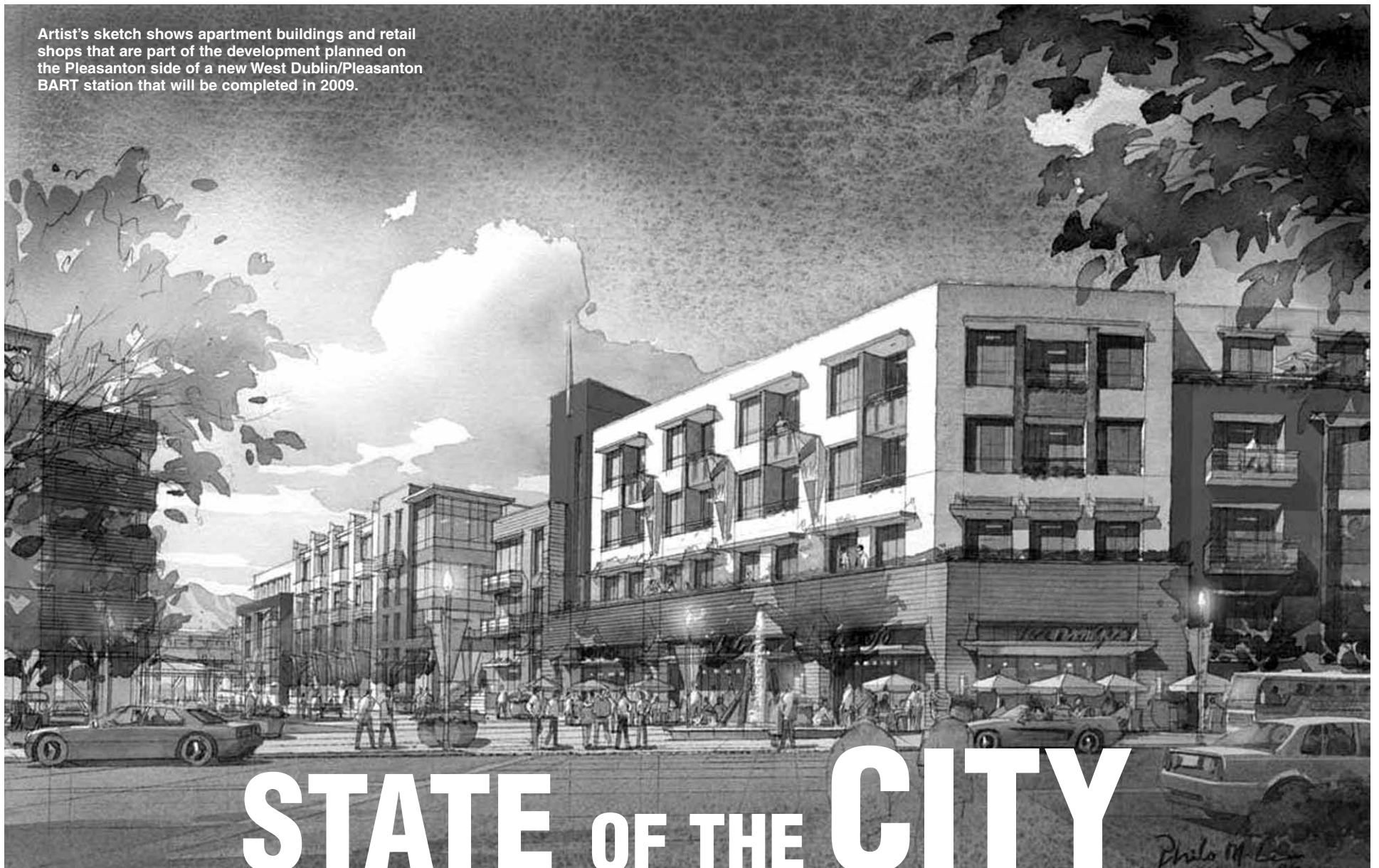
"The style of each building may be much more than every individual," he wrote. "Therefore the necessity for a new cultural integrity enters: individual sensitivity and personal responsibility are now essential. So comes a man-sized chance to choose a place not only in which to be alive, but in which to live as a distinguished entity, each individual owner genuinely a contributor to the indigenous culture of his time."

Our homes, it would seem, are an expression of our freedom and our highest ideals. Given today's attitudes toward homes, this is truer today than ever before. For answers to your questions just call Gerarda Stocking at 846-4000 or visit her website at www.gerardastocking.com.

Gerarda Stocking is the Owner/
Broker of Stocking Realty.

*Gerarda Stocking is the Owner/Broker
of Stocking Realty.*

Artist's sketch shows apartment buildings and retail shops that are part of the development planned on the Pleasanton side of a new West Dublin/Pleasanton BART station that will be completed in 2009.



STATE OF THE CITY

In a fast-paced “State of the City for 2007” report to a Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce luncheon audience, Mayor Jennifer Hosterman said the city has numerous public improvements under way or planned that will add to the city’s “remarkable quality of life” and continue to attract new residents and businesses to the community.

Coupling photos and videos on a screen beside her, Hosterman identified both recent accomplishments and future plans that she said will affect every sector of the city.

These included:

- Callippe Preserve Golf Course—Opened in November 2005, the course has already been ranked as the sixth best public access course in California by Golf Week Magazine, ranked 13th in the nation as the best new golf course priced under \$50 by Golf Magazine and ranked the ninth best new golf course under \$75 in the nation by Golf Digest.
- Open space—A new development plan called Oak Grove has reduced the number of homes to be built in the southeast hills to 51—or half of what once was planned—with the developers giving nearly 500 acres in open space free of charge to the city, including putting in trails and equestrian pathways.
- Traffic—With a new West Dublin/Pleasanton BART station scheduled to open in 2009 and \$1.8 billion available for Northern California in voter-approved bonds, improvements are forecast on Interstate 580 and State Route 84 that could reduce traffic congestion around Pleasanton and cut-through traffic by out-of-town commuters on city streets.
- Staples Ranch—This undeveloped and unincorporated 124-acre site at the corner of I-580 and the El Charro Road interchange are

being planned to accommodate a 800-unit retirement and assisted living development, a six-dealer auto mall, and possibly a San Jose Sharks-affiliated ice rink.

- Bernal Community Park—A city concern since the 1930s when San Francisco bought this 510-acre site for its abundant underground water sources, Pleasanton now has 318 acres dedicated for public uses. Three baseball fields are being constructed there, but the rest could take years and millions of

off Foothill Road, Hosterman said she and Councilwoman Cheryl Cook-Kallio recently met with Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer and Congressman Jerry McNerney in Washington to seek funding assistance to restore this 160-year-old adobe as part of a unique historic and culture center. The project would give Pleasanton a chance to learn more about its heritage.

Hosterman’s presentation to a sold-out luncheon crowd digressed from her previous

and future success.

“The Tri-Valley continues to grow, experiencing an 8.3 percent increase just from 2000 to 2005,” Hosterman said. “During that time Pleasanton growth was 5.9 percent, bringing in almost 3,800 residents. Compare that to the 2.4 percent in the greater Bay Area.”

Focusing on the city’s economic health and vitality, she shared more numbers.

“As of 2005, there were more than 59,000 jobs in Pleasanton,” she said.

Almost 50 percent of those jobs were in technology and business services which incorporates information, administrative and support, management of companies and enterprises; professional, scientific and technical services, finance and insurance, and other services, she said.

Although most of Pleasanton’s jobs occur in larger companies with 76 or more employees, and which represent 57 percent of the total number of jobs in the city, Hosterman said small businesses are playing an increasingly prominent role in the local economy.

“Many of these small, rapidly growing firms are involved in ‘knowledge’ economy activities, such as producing biomedical research, software and communications technology,” she said. “These types of entrepreneurial, innovative companies are considered the linchpin to economic sustainability, and create a strong foundation for Pleasanton’s economy.”

To illustrate, Hosterman cited figures showing that almost 85 percent of Pleasanton companies have 25 or less employees, and almost half have fewer than five employees.

“In fact, one-third of the business licenses issued for in-town companies are granted to home-based businesses,” she said. “Supporting and assisting small, start-up

“We are, no doubt, lucky people. Beyond our luck, we work hard, through partnerships with one another, to provide the very best place to live and work and play possible.”

—Mayor Jennifer Hosterman

dollars to develop.

- Firehouse Arts Center—Planned as part of an expansion and restoration of the old firehouse on Railroad Avenue, the city has committed \$8 million toward this \$12 million to \$14 million project and is working with the Cultural Arts Foundation and other groups to secure corporate and individual donations to complete the funding campaign.

- Alviso Adobe Community Park—Recognizing the historic and cultural value of this proposed park, located just

“State of the City” reports in that it offered no financial commentary. Although the city has a record-high \$150-million total operating budget and the third highest property tax and sales tax revenues in Alameda County, Hosterman focused on “vision and partnerships,” not money. Among the projects she identified as city priorities, she gave no estimates on how the municipal government could pay for them. She said, however, that continued business growth and a prosperous downtown are keys to the city’s continued

companies is going to have to be a focus for the city, the Chamber and other business organizations over the coming years. Our efforts will include increased access to high-speed broadband services or flexible land use permitting.”

Another sign of economic progress, Hosterman said, were figures showing the office vacancy rate has fallen to under 10 percent, reporting in at 9.9 percent this year, down from 11.1 percent a year ago.

“That’s excellent news as the Pleasanton office market encompasses just over 12-million square feet of commercial space, representing almost one-half of the total inventory in the Tri-Valley,” Hosterman said. “And Pleasanton is home to three Fortune 500 companies: Safeway, Oracle and Ross Stores.”

“But we’re not going to sit around and rest on our numbers,” she added. “We’re going to keep working to ensure that Pleasanton maintains its competitive business climate.”

On the city’s downtown commercial district, Hosterman said:

“We have a strong local economy in large part due to Hacienda Business Park and Stoneridge Shopping Center. But our historic downtown consists mainly of mom and pop businesses, and we have to do everything we can to keep them. It’s a challenge.

“So this is my opportunity to make a small commercial for downtown and to urge you to go downtown not to just to look around, but to pull out your wallet and buy something. That’s the way we are going to be able to continue to keep our lovely downtown.

“If we don’t support those businesses, we are going to look like Walnut Creek someday I fear.”

Hosterman said it is also increasingly important to safeguard our environment, including our natural resources, to ensure water quality and availability and to provide policy for an energy efficient community.

“I hope this year to provide a new Commission on Energy and the Environment to tackle these issues,” she said.

In the meantime, Pleasanton is partnering with Livermore and Spectrum Energy, Inc., to develop a community-wide solar development program. Community meetings for both commercial and residential stakeholders are expected to be scheduled shortly.

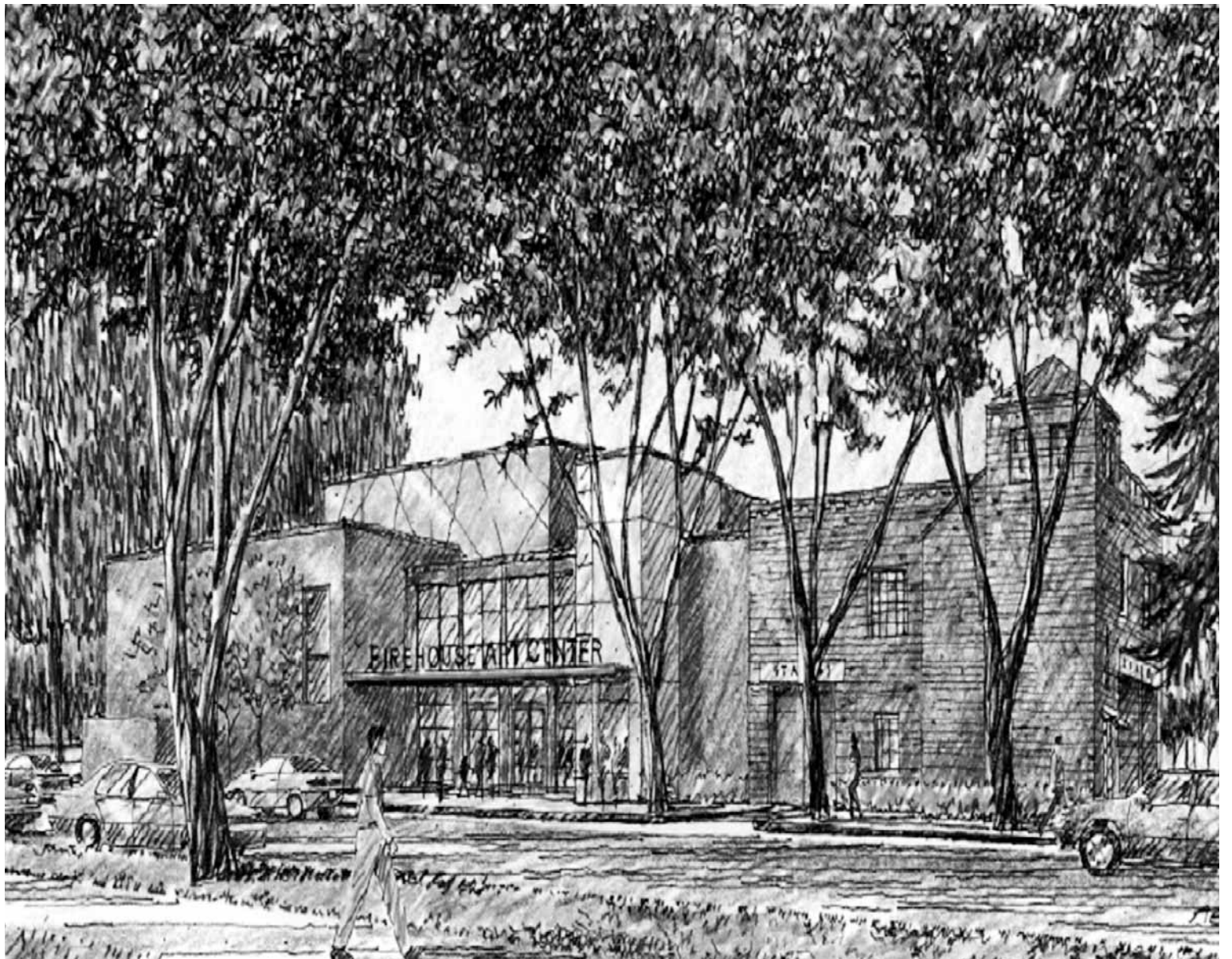
“All people want the same for their families,” Hosterman concluded. “We are no different in Pleasanton. Good paying jobs, the opportunity to own a home, high quality education, a community which embraces the arts and our history, maintaining a healthy community, committed to protecting our diversity as well as our natural resources, and providing for a sustainable future, economically, environmentally, and socially, for our children. We are, no doubt, lucky people. Beyond our luck, we work hard, through partnerships with one another, to provide the very best place to live and work and play possible.”

“Good vision and partnerships bring good results,” she said. ■



Left: Val Vista Community Park, which was built three years ago, is one of the many major achievements in the city, offering a children’s play area, water-play facilities, all-weather soccer fields and a skate park.

Below: Mayor Jennifer Hosterman said small businesses are playing an increasingly prominent role in the local economy, citing that 85 percent of Pleasanton companies have 25 or fewer employees.



The Firehouse Arts Center is another project Hosterman mentioned in her State of the City speech. It will feature arts classrooms, gallery space and a theater.

WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

City Council

Tuesday, April 3, 2007 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

- Review of the Tri-Valley Triangle Traffic Study final report
- **Public Hearing:** Status report regarding community needs for medical marijuana, Alameda County's Identification Card Program, dispensaries within the County, and effects of dispensaries operating in other jurisdictions, and consider introduction of an Ordinance to add a new Chapter 6.18 to the Municipal Code to prohibit the operation of medical marijuana dispensaries
- **Public Hearing:** Consider Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME) Funds for Fiscal Year 2007

Civic Arts Commission

Monday, April 2, 2007 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

- Review of FY 2007/08 City Grant Applications in the Civic Arts Category
- Review and Approval of draft FY 2007/08 City Grant Recipient Compliance Requirements and Funding Reallocation Plan

Human Services Commission

Wednesday, April 4, 2007 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

- Review of FY 2007/08 City Grant Applications in the Human Services Category

Parks & Recreation Commission Workshop

Thursday, April 5, 2007 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

- Continued discussion of potential recreational amenities for the proposed Staples Ranch Community Park

Staples Ranch EIR Scoping Session

Wednesday, April 11, 2007 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

- Staples Ranch is approximately 124 acres of undeveloped land within the larger 293-acre Stoneridge Drive Specific Plan (Specific Plan) area. The Alameda County Surplus Property Authority proposes to amend the 1989 Specific Plan to revise planned land use designations, development intensities, and circulation patterns. The Alameda County Surplus Property Authority is the owner of the project site, and Hendrick Automotive Group and Continuing Life Communities propose to develop portions of the property.

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. 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

Community Pulse

Police Bulletin

DUI checkpoint nets 5 arrests; 28 cars impounded

A total of 28 vehicles were impounded for drunk driving or driver's license violations and five drivers were arrested for driving under the influence (DUI) at a DUI checkpoint March 17 on Stanley Boulevard, according to Pleasanton police. Just east of the Shadow Cliffs East Bay Regional Park, Pleasanton and Livermore police departments screened cars in both directions between 8 p.m. and 1 a.m. more than 1,440 vehicles were screened with 25 drivers given field sobriety tests and 44 drivers receiving further investigation. Funding for this project was provided by a grant from the California Office

of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Safety Administration.

CD player, marijuana stolen from car

Between 11 p.m. March 21 and 2:30 a.m. March 22, someone smashed the driver's-side window of a victim's 1995 Honda Civic and stole an in-dash CD player, about 200 CDs and a backpack which was located in the trunk. The report listed the backpack's contents as 5 grams of marijuana, a water bong and a vapor pipe. An officer said there were pry marks on the top of the door. The stolen items were valued at \$1,025 and the damage was estimated at \$200.

Police Report

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

March 16

- Theft:
 - 4:55 a.m. in the 7700 block of Canyon Meadow Circle; from vehicle, worth over \$400
 - 4:55 a.m. in the 7700 block of Canyon Meadow Circle; from building, worth over \$400
 - 2:00 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; from building, worth over \$400
 - 3:44 p.m. in the 3900 block of Vineyard Avenue; forged checks
- Vandalism:
 - 8:35 a.m. in the 4100 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard; vehicular, worth \$1,000 or less
- Attempted residential burglary:
 - 6:41 p.m. in the 4600 block of Cochise Court
- Cocaine possession:
 - 3:50 p.m. in the 4300 block of Railroad Avenue
- Child abuse:
 - 12:00 p.m. in the 3800 block of Brockton Drive

March 17

- DUI: 3
- Theft:
 - 4:05 p.m. in the 5700 block of Hidden Creek Court; worth over \$400
 - 8:45 p.m. in the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road; embezzlement
- Vandalism:
 - 9:42 a.m. in the 5700 block of Owens Drive; public, worth \$1,000 or less
 - 12:10 p.m. in the 6400 block of Hansen Drive; vehicular, worth \$1,000 or less
- Burglary:
 - 1:23 p.m. in the 1600 block of Cindy Way; residential
- Public drunkenness:
 - 2:05 a.m. in the 3900 block of Santa Rita Road
 - 10:33 a.m. in the 7200 block of Valley Trails Drive

March 18

- Credit card fraud:
 - 2:00 p.m. in the 1200 block of Ridgewood Road
- Residential vandalism:
 - 12:25 a.m. in the 8000 block of Rockford Place; worth \$1,000 or less
- Vehicular burglary:
 - 4:41 p.m. in the 7300 block of Johnson Drive; worth \$50-199

March 19

- DUI: 1
- Found property: 1
- Theft:
 - 12:32 p.m. in the 3900 block of Santa Rita Road; identity theft
 - 1:15 p.m. in the 7000 block of Commerce Drive; identity theft
 - 5:45 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; stolen truck
- Burglary:
 - 7:23 a.m. in the 5600 block of Stoneridge Drive; worth over \$400
 - 9:09 a.m. in the 3800 block of Hopyard Road; commercial
 - 12:13 p.m. in the 5600 block of Owens Drive; vehicular, worth less than \$50

Assault:

- 2:38 p.m. in the 6600 block of Koll Center Parkway

March 20

- Theft:
 - 5:34 a.m. in the 6400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; stolen vehicle
 - 12:07 p.m. in the 3500 block of Ballantyne Drive; identity theft
 - 1:39 p.m. in the 7200 block of Stonedale Drive; identity theft
 - 5:55 p.m. in the 2200 block of Camino Brazos; stolen vehicle
 - 7:27 p.m. in the 1100 block of Santa Rita Road; stolen bicycles, worth over \$400
- Vehicular burglary:
 - 4:26 a.m. in the 5500 block of Spring House Drive; worth less than \$50
- Assault:
 - 9:30 a.m. in the 1100 block of Santa Rita Road

March 21

- DUI: 1
- Found property: 2
- Theft:
 - 4:40 p.m. 5000 block of Foresthill Drive; credit card fraud
 - 5:41 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; shoplifting, worth over \$400
- Vandalism:
 - 12:00 p.m. at the intersection of W. Las Positas Boulevard and Apache Drive; worth less than \$1,000
- Vehicular burglary:
 - 6:59 a.m. in the 5700 block of Owens Drive; worth over \$400
 - 9:30 a.m. in the 5600 block of Owens Drive; worth less than \$50
 - 10:05 a.m. in the 5600 block of Owens Drive; worth \$200-400
 - 11:43 a.m. in the 5600 block of Owens Drive; worth \$200-400
 - 12:50 p.m. in the 5600 block of Owens Drive; worth less than \$50
- Assault:
 - 5:41 p.m. in the 3900 block of Stoneridge Drive

March 22

- Theft:
 - 3:06 p.m. in the 1000 block of Serpentine Lane; credit card fraud
 - 9:11 p.m. in the 6800 block of Santa Rita Road; stolen vehicle
- Vehicular vandalism:
 - 11:43 p.m. in the 2300 block of Willet Way; worth \$1,000 or less
- Vehicular burglary:
 - 2:36 a.m. in the 6300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; worth over \$400
 - 10:03 a.m. in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road; worth over \$400
- Amphetamine possession:
 - 2:40 p.m. in the 5300 block of Owens Court
- Assault:
 - 9:53 p.m. at the intersection of Stoneridge and Denker drives

Transitions

Obituaries

Gladys A. Nehring

Gladys A. Nehring died March 5 in Livermore at the age of 87.

Born Aug. 18, 1919 in Chicago, Mrs. Nehring lived in Livermore for six years, and Pleasanton for 14 years prior. She was a secretary and was affiliated with Trinity Lutheran Church. She also enjoyed reading and crafts.

She is survived by daughter Barbara Richards; grandchildren Kathy and Chris Morano, Jenni and Steve Fineberg, and Rob and Belinda Richards; great-grandchildren Jordan, Casey and Faith Richards, Tyler and Joshua Moreno, and Jacob and Elizabeth Fineberg.

Mrs. Nehring was preceded in death by her husband of 27 years, Edward.

Services were private, with a burial scheduled to take place in Chicago.

Zelma L. Hill (Depue)

Zelma L. Hill (Depue) died March 9 at the age of 83.

Mrs. Hill, of Pleasanton, was born in Oakland on Nov. 21 1923 and was a longtime resident of that city. She was an active member of the Millsmont Cultural Society and Horseless Carriage Club. She was a Tri-Valley resident since 1951.

A career woman for most of her adult life, Mrs. Hill owned and managed several businesses. She was retired for the last 25 years and has enjoyed traveling, gardening and spending time with her

husband, friends, relatives and her very special cat, Tia.

She is survived by her husband of 19 years, Donald Hill of Pleasanton; children Ronald Michael Depue and his wife Shane of Napa, and Paul Depue and his wife Rosanne of Tracy; four grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

A service was scheduled for March 17 at Sunset Community Church in Livermore.

George F. Stewart

George F. Stewart died March 14 in Pleasanton at the age of 86.

Born in Oakland Nov. 20, 1920, Mr. Stewart lived in the Bay Area for many years: in San Leandro for 40 years, Fremont for a year, Pleasanton for 12 years and Livermore for two years. He served in the U.S. Army in World War II and was a teamster.

He is survived by daughters Shirley (Ed) Martin of Pleasanton and Barbara (John) Ferreira of Fremont; grandchildren Kim (Dirk) Christen of Pleasanton, Johnny (Tracy) of Simi Valley, Tammy (Dan) Reddell of Dublin, and Karen (Darin) Shaw of Keizer, Ore.; and 10 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by wife of 53 years, Dorothy Stewart.

A funeral mass was scheduled for March 19 at St. Augustine Catholic Church.

A private burial will take place at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Hayward.

Arlene Hederman

Arlene Hederman died March

16, following a brief illness, at the age of 85.

Although born and raised in Michigan, Mrs. Hederman spend most of her adult life in California, most recently in Pleasanton and Livermore.

She is survived by brother Clare Richard of Oregon; daughters Linda Ballou of Livermore, Susan (George) Schmidt of Brentwood, and Sandra Wood of Dublin; and loving grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her son Steven and former husband Albert Hederman.

A celebration of Mrs. Hederman's life was scheduled for March 26 at Trinity Lutheran Church. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations in her name be made to the American Red Cross, 85 - 2nd Street, San Francisco, CA, 94105.

Births

February 12

Meghan and Ryan Rogers, a boy

February 15

Gena and Carlos Hernandez, a girl

February 26

Jennifer and Elias Reynoso, a girl

February 27

Angela and Richard Buttafoco, a girl

March 1

Sonia and Pramesh Vashist, a girl

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Oven-Roasted Mushrooms

- 1 lb. white mushrooms (cleaned with a Shroom Groom)
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- Salt and pepper
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- ¼ tsp ground cumin
- ½ tsp smoked paprika (available at Pans on Fire)
- ¼ tsp cinnamon
- ¼ tsp nutmeg (try our measuring spoons that fit into spice jars)
- Juice of one-half lemon



Pans on Fire
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www.pansonfire.com

Preheat oven to 450°F. Toss mushrooms in olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Arrange in a single layer in a low-sided baking dish or cookie sheet (use Anolon Suregrip Bakeware!). Roast until juices have been released, about 12-15 minutes. Remove mushrooms and place in a bowl (have you tried a Spoonula?). Toss in spices and garlic. Return to the oven to roast another 5 minutes. Toss with lemon juice and serve warm or at room temperature. (There's so much "tossing" in this recipe, it's like playing with your food!)

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Living



Everyone can party on the high seas

Volunteers lead cruise vacation for adults with developmental disabilities

by Rebecca Guyon

Between the off-shore adventures, on-boat activities and all-you-can-eat buffets, it's no wonder cruises are such a popular vacation activity. But what is just a fun side trip for many people can be a greater challenge for people with developmental disabilities.

Pleasanton resident Sue Johnson knew this first hand from her work as a case manager at the Regional Center for the East Bay where she helped adults with developmental disabilities, such as mental retardation, cerebral palsy and autism, find supported or assisted living options in the Tri-Valley. Wanting to give these adults the chance to go on a vacation and experience the fun just like everyone else, Johnson began organizing a vacation program in her free time with the help of other volunteers. Now, 17 years after the first trip, she just returned from leading a group of 26 adults and six volunteers on an 8-day cruise to Mexico, making this the program's 12th expedition.

"There's nothing like seeing the joy in the folks and their growth as they see that they can do things

like anyone else," Johnson said.

While having a good time is at the heart of the program, it also benefits the participants by giving them a chance to learn that they can do the same activities as everyone else.

"They learn a lot of independence," Johnson said. "They participate in activities they want, talk to other people, interact and just have a good time. They learn they can have a vacation like anyone else that's not just a camp."

Realizing that, despite the fact these are independent adults, going on a trip away from nearby family members and caregivers maybe be a daunting prospect—perhaps even more so for the family who will worry while at home—Johnson originally recruited participants who she knew through her case load at the Regional Center for the East Bay. That way, family members could feel secure that their loved ones were with someone they knew and trusted.

Now that she is retired, many of the participants come from the case loads of the program volunteers, all of whom also work with people with disabilities. That's not to say that others cannot join—they can—but they must first go through an interview process with Johnson so she can make sure it is a good match.

Janice Ochoa, a volunteer who has worked with Johnson on these trips since the beginning and still works as a case manager for the Regional Center of the East Bay, said the community aspect of the cruise vacations is part of what makes it such a special trip for the participants.

"These cruises are with people we know, people we have relationships with, and the big bonus is that the folks who go already know each other or get to know each other during the cruise time and then maintain those friendships because they will still see each other," Ochoa explained.

Although cruises are the most popular trips now, the first vacations Johnson and Ochoa organized were actually trips to Disneyland and Yosemite. It wasn't until Johnson and her husband went on their own cruise vacation that she got the idea to expand the program. The first cruise was a 5-day trip leaving from Los Angeles and traveling to Catalina Island and Ensenada and Mazatlan, Mexico. Johnson and Ochoa were the only two advisors on the trip, supervising 17 participants. Although it was exhausting for the two, it was also a lot of fun, Johnson said.

"It's a little more structured now," Johnson said. "I serve more like an administrator now and don't do direct care needs, and we have the regulars who come back, so people learn from them. It's a lot easier than the first one and I'm older, so that's a good thing."

Since that time, groups have gone to several stops in Mexico, Bermuda, Hawaii, Jamaica, the Caribbean, Central America and New England.

For the participants, the vacation is an experience of a lifetime and that is part of the joy of being on the trips, Ochoa said.

"It's a party," Ochoa said. "The sky's the limits for them. It's something they look forward to months before and talk about months afterwards. Some of the folks have lived somewhat sheltered lives, some not so much. They may have traveled with family, but it's different when you travel with family or friends, and most of our folks can't travel with friends because they need some support. That's where we come in. On the trip, we're all friends traveling together."

Being on a cruise ship also provides a unique opportunity to interact with new people in a way not available on other vacations due to all the onboard activities, such as talent shows and karaoke nights, Johnson said.

"The hidden thing in all this is others on the cruise learn how to accept folks with disabilities," Johnson said. "Most people are accepting, some are not as accepting, but most turn out being great ... the other people on the ship see that our folks are like anyone else. They just want to have a good time and that's one thing I

wanted people to see, that folks with disabilities are pretty great."

Ochoa said one of her fondest memories from all 12 trips was a talent show during the Jamaica cruise when one of the participants brought down the house with his Elvis impersonation.

"He had a standing ovation—he was the grand final—and there were at least a couple thousand people in audience," Ochoa said. "People were just going crazy. I'll never forget that. It was really fun."

Although they just got back from their last cruise, Johnson has already started planning the next. Usually it takes about 18 months to get everything in order, ranging from big things like picking the next location to smaller details like assigning roommates. The time frame also allows the participants enough time to save money for the trip, which usually costs a little more than \$1,000.

And, despite all the work, it's no wonder Johnson is ready to start planning the next cruise the second she's back on dry land.

"All of us come back with a high," Johnson said. "You're tired, but it's a high." ■



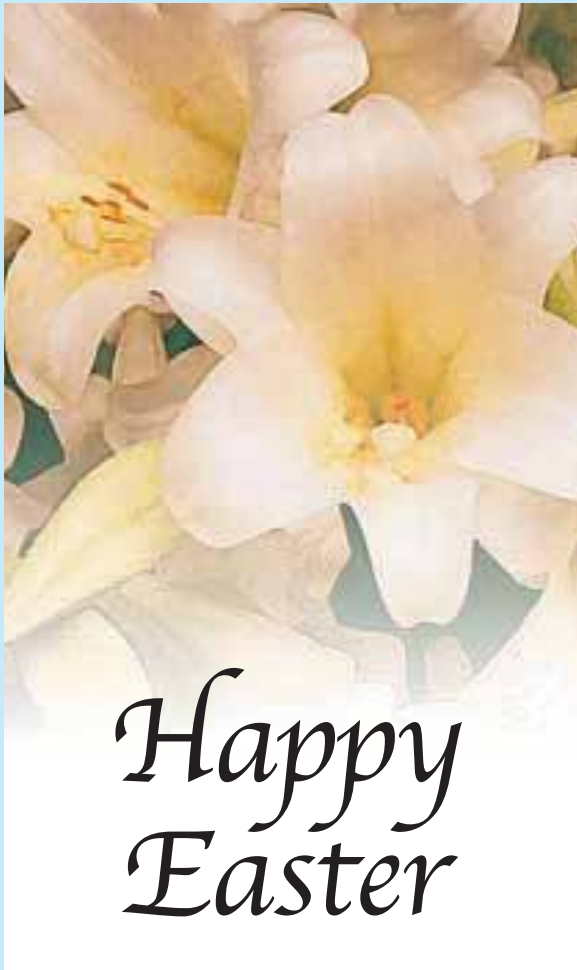
Get on board

Those interested in joining the next cruise can contact Sue Johnson, stsjohns2@sbcglobal.net or 846-4537.



Participants and volunteer supervisors on the most recent cruise to Mexico led by Sue Johnson enjoy getting dressed up for an evening on the ship. They are (back to front, left to right): Tony Wade, Paul Malaspina, Roland Loshakoff, Victor Almeida, Dean Fredrick, Janice Ochoa, Dennis Bolander, Sue Johnson, Scott Mitchell, Alex Grogans, Angela Lewis, Rosie Llamado, Teressa Woodside, Amelia Williams, Jenny Mello, Jessica McWilliams, Donna Anderson, Annie Johnson, Carol Selak, Fernanda Martinho, Cheryl Cochran, Diana Eskenazki, Amy Alexander, Adam Pinney, Mark Tafoya, Donna Hilendahl and Matt Pinney.

Top photo: Sue Johnson (fourth from the right) reads the Weekly with (left to right) Alex Grogans, Matt Pinney, Janice Ochoa, Annie Johnson, Scott Mitchell, Jon Myers, Matt Pinney and Debbie Worley on the beaches of Mexico during their cruise vacation. —Photos courtesy Sue Johnson



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• HOLY SATURDAY •

April 7

St. Elizabeth Seton Church

Easter Vigil 8:00PM

(No 5:00pm Mass this day)

• EASTER SUNDAY MASSES •

April 8

St. Augustine Church:

8:00AM, 10:00AM, 12:00PM,

10:05AM Outside Grotto Behind Church

St. Elizabeth Seton Church:

9:00AM, 11:00AM

4:00PM & 6:30PM (both youth-oriented)

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3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton

Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday, April 1

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

Maunder Thursday, April 5

7:30pm Holy Eucharist,
foot washing, stripping
of the altar and watch through the night

Good Friday, April 6

Noon Stations of the Cross
7:30pm Stations of the Cross
and Good Friday Liturgy

Easter Day, April 8

8:00 & 10:00am Holy Eucharist

925-462-4802

www.stclarespleasanton.org

Resurrection Lutheran Church

Holy Week Services

Maunder Thursday

April 5, 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday

April 6, 7:30 p.m.

**Easter Morning
Services**

Sunday, April 8

8:30 & 10:30 a.m.



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Trinity Lutheran Church of Pleasanton

Holy Week Services

April 6 - Good Friday - 7:30 p.m.

Remembering the moment of our Lord's death

April 7 - Children's Easter Egg Party - 10:30 a.m.

*Bring a basket of plastic eggs/candy and share
in the Easter Egg Hunt*

Easter Morning Services

April 8 - Resurrection Sunday - Easter Festival Worship

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Worship in Trinity Park

sponsored by our Youth Ministry

8:30 & 10 a.m. Festival Worship and the celebration
of Holy Communion at both services

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Holy Week at Valley Community Church

Palm Sunday Weekend

Maunder Thursday

Easter Weekend

March 31 & April 1

Saturday 6 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 & 10:45 a.m.

featuring

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Sanctuary Choir

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April 5th

Family Communion Service

6:30 p.m.

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www.valleycommunitychurch.org

April 7 & 8

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6:30 a.m. Parking Structure

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Saturday 6 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 & 10:45 a.m.

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Sunday, April 8

6:00 - Sunrise Service

Shadow Cliffs Park

8:30 & 10:15 - Celebration Services

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500 MILES AT 400 DEGREES BELOW ZERO

By Gene Berry, LLNL scientist;
and Ken Wendel, teacher, Tracy High School

March 31, 9:30 a.m., Amador Theater, Pleasanton

Today, hydrogen is used as rocket fuel in spacecraft, but it has the potential to become a clean, efficient, and permanent alternative fuel for all our vehicles here on Earth. We will learn about promise and the challenges of: generating hydrogen from water, storing hydrogen fuel as a pressurized gas and cryogenic liquid, and its use in a prototype hybrid car aimed at achieving a 500+ mile range.

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



Now Showing

The Astronaut Farmer

★★

Rating: PG for thematic material, peril and language
1 hours, 44 minutes.

Logan Polish and Billy Bob Thornton in *The Astronaut Farmer*

Director Michael Polish offers one small step for man, if you can take one giant leap and suspend your disbelief about a farmer who wants to launch a rocket from his barn and orbit the earth in it. Why? That's his dream—and "if we don't have our dreams, we have nothing."

But this drama won't fly for anyone who considers Charles Farmer's mission a self-indulgent obsession that places a family of five at risk.

Billy Bob Thornton plays the Texas astronaut-farmer named Farmer, a surname contributing to the excessive amount of too-cute touches. Trained as an aerospace engineer and Air Force pilot, Farmer had to abort his plans to become a rocket man due to family obligations. Now he's back at the ranch with wife Audie (Virginia Madsen), 15-year-old son Shephard (Max Thieriot), a pair of daughters (Jasper and Logan Polish) and a home-built spacecraft sharing the barn with the horses. Although the bank plans to foreclose on the farm in 30 days, Farmer primarily worries about coming



up with \$50,000 to buy the 10,000 pounds of high-grade fuel needed for lift-off.

Michael Polish and his identical twin and co-screenwriter, Mark (who collaborated on "Twin Falls Idaho" and "Northfork," and also plays FBI Agent Mathis), have crafted an odd movie. On one hand, the film espouses father-knows-best values within a predictable plot, providing a very old-fashioned feel. Despite Audie's fears of losing their home, she and her children indulge the head of the family to such an extent that they become space cadets in the worst sense of the term.

These traditional values don't extend to respect for government policies. Farmer thumbs his nose at the Patriot Act that "twisted the laws up so much" and a bureaucratic NASA that will "look stupid" if his space project succeeds. The Polish Brothers rage against the establishment like rebels with a cause, while reinforcing gender stereotypes better fitted for the Fifties.

M. David Mullen's ("Akeelah and the Bee") gorgeous camerawork captures open spaces with nostalgic longing, as though nodding to John Ford's elegiac Westerns. But the film's most honest moments take place at the Farmers' dinner table, where parents and siblings interact with warmth and spontaneity—finally showing the right stuff.

—Susan Tavernetti

Ready to Rent

Children of Men

Universal Home Video DVD
1hr 50mins
Director: Alfonso Cuarón

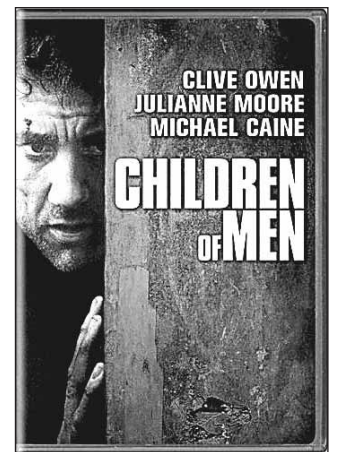
Alfonso Cuarón's "Children of Men" is a great Spielberg film without the Spielberg schizophrenic sadism to get in the way of the audience's good time. It's an unabashed thriller that was wrongfully wrapped up in a marketing ploy to make audiences think that it was the second coming in terms of a holiday film and they stayed away, it seems, in droves. Now it makes its video debut this week (Only two months after its wide release in January! I'm beginning to feel like a theatrical release is a preview for the DVD) and I highly recommend it. However, sadly, its experience is one that is best expressed on the giant canvas of a movie screen, so the brilliant mechanics of the movie can be appreciated through its overwhelming images.

What is also unique about "Children of Men" is its end of the world scenario that truly does feel like Armageddon (only in the movies). In the future, women have suddenly and mysteriously stopped being able to conceive and the world has degenerated into inevitable chaos. England has become a hybrid resemblance of fascist Germany coupled with images from Iraq and Guantanamo. Professional cynic Theo (Clive Owen) begins his day with a coffee and news report that the youngest person in the world, "Little Diego," has been stabbed to death in a pub brawl and, with that, all public hope seems to die out. Terrorists against the government's treatment of refugees, who are seen beaten and carted into internment camps, continue bombing public places in protest and the news shows worse conditions outside the country. Despair runs rampant in everyone except for Theo who wantonly mutters "it doesn't matter—it'll all be over in 50 years."

Enter Theo's estranged ex Julian (Julianne Moore) who asks him for help in smuggling a young girl, Kee (Claire-Hope Ashitey), to the coast. He aggresses after a big payout and, along with her associate Luke (always charming Chiwetel Ejiofor), they set out driving across the countryside. It is here when "Children of Men" really picks up, and it is here that I have to stop because telling you would spoil the experience.

"Children of Men" works because director Cuarón ("Y Tu Mama También") wisely does not turn up the soundtrack with angelic choirs or involve the audience in extensive litigious or moralistic (and simplified) discussion. That would have been an insulting and lazy cheap shot. Instead, he would rather move us brusquely through this hellish war zone, volleying the audience from one rather incredible set piece to the next with enough time to resuscitate before another jolt. It's a movie not with "boo!" as its marker, but with a sense of dread to inflate our uneasiness and therefore experience. This also serves to further punctuate one incredibly small and moving scene towards the end where a character affectedly states how he'd forgotten the sound of a baby's cry. With this moment Cuarón seals his film, because we know what could have been done in terms of unnecessarily proselytizing, but he spared the audience, which is a sign of a great moviemaker.

—Joe Ramirez



Music for Vietnam

Local sisters host annual benefit concert this weekend



Courtesy Chi Nguyen

Proceeds from the Annual Children's Benefit Concert go to support shelters for street children (above) in Can Tao, Vietnam.

Continuing with their annual tradition, sisters Chi and Truc Nguyen will host the 8th Annual Children's Benefit Concert, raising funds for the street children in Can Tao, Vietnam. The show will be at the Amador Theater 2 p.m. April 1 and features classical and jazz performances by San Francisco Symphony cellist Lawrence Granger, San Francisco Ballet associate principal cellist Eric Sung, New Pacific Trio cellist Nina Flyer, New Century Chamber Orchestra and Stratos chamber orchestra founder Miriam Perkoff, a California State University, East Bay jazz sextet and Stanford music students.

This concert tradition started in October 1998 when at the age of 10 Chi Nguyen began raising money with her sister Truc for children in Vietnam, her parents' homeland. The two sisters have since organized seven benefit concerts and sold homemade almond toffee and Chi's personal collection of Beanie Babies annually for the last nine years.

Chi got to see the impact of their efforts three summers ago when she visited a street children's shelter in Can Tho where funds from the concerts have been used to help provide clothing, meals, books, literacy classes and basic medical needs for about 500 street children over the eight years.

Both sisters grew up in Pleasanton and now Chi is a sophomore at Stanford University. Truc graduated from Stanford with a bachelor's of science in management science



Chi and Truc Nguyen perform at last year's concert, a now annual tradition organized by the two sisters.

and engineering. Over the years, Chi has been recognized for her philanthropy by several organizations, including Target, the Tiger Woods Foundation and NetAid.

Tickets for the show are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door and are available for purchase locally at Towne Center Books, 846-8826. All proceeds will be donated to the Viet Nam Health Education and Literature Projects, a nonprofit organization helping children and communities in Vietnam. Visit www.vnhelp.org or www.vnyouth-projects.net for more information. Contact 275-9250 or worldinterchange@gmail.com.

—Rebecca Guyon

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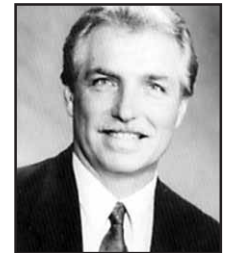
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Fogster.com is a unique Web site offering FREE postings from communities throughout the Bay Area and an opportunity for your ad to appear in the Pleasanton/Danville Weekly.

Now you can log on to fogster.com, day or night and get your ad started immediately online. Most listings are free print ad in our Peninsula newspapers with the option of photos and additional lines. Exempt are Business Services and Employment ads, which include a web listing charge. Home services and Mind & Body Services, require contact with a Customer Sales Representative.

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

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REAL ESTATE
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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

* DEADLINE *

The Pleasanton/Danville Weekly Classified Advertising deadline is:

Tuesday 12 Noon
through the business office

925-600-0840 x12

Tuesday 11:59 PM
through Fogster.com

*Avoid the last-minute rush -
Place your ad early!*

Dinner and Dancing at Westover

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

Donate your car
Children's Cancer Fund! Help Save A Child's Life Through Research & Support! It's Fast, Easy & Tax Deductible. Please Call Today 1-800-252-0615. (Cal-SCAN)

HOME ASSISTANT NEEDED
Seeking aide to run errands in my vehicle. Clean DMV record. Light cleaning & cooking. Disabled mom- no nursing reqd. Hrs 11am-3:30pm twice weekly. Compensation to be negotiated. Call **925-736-4960 Rocy (Rosie)**

Pregnant?
Considering Adoption? Talk with caring people specializing in matching birthmothers with families nationwide. EXPENSES PAID. Toll free 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions 1-866-413-6293. (AAN CAN)

Take a free SAT test!

Tri-Valley Cheer

120 Auctions

* Land Auction *
200 Properties must be sold! Low down/E-Z Financing. Free catalog. 1-877-253-2161. www.LandAuction.com (Cal-SCAN)

133 Music Lessons

HARP LESSONS

for all ages

Try something new for Spring!

Call Benneta Heaton

(925) 820-1169

~ located in Danville ~

135 Group Activities

Art Appreciation Class



Finding The Deep River Within
Taming the "To-Do" List: A Woman's Guide to Recovering Balance and Meaning in Everyday Life
Two 7-week workshops to be offered in April. For more information, visit www.nowville.com/barbarakelley

Learn How To Play Bocce!

140 Lost & Found

Lost Dog

150 Volunteers

Host Families needed

Meals on Wheels Drivers

For Sale

201 Autos/Trucks/Parts

\$500 Police Impounds
Cars from \$500! Tax Repos, US Marshal and IRS Salest Cars, Trucks, SUVs, Toyotas, Hondas, Chevys, more! For Listings Call 1-800-298-4150 ext. C107. (AAN CAN)

BMW 2002 530i - \$29,000

BMW 2003 X5 3.0i - \$29,888

Chevrolet 2005 Corvette - \$39,999

Honda 2001 Accord EX V6 - \$11800

obo

Mercedes-Benz 2003 E Class E500 - \$28,888

Pace Arrow 1989 Motor Home - \$15,000.

Toyota 1994 4RUNNER- 4 X 4 - \$3300

210 Garage/Estate Sales

Livermore, 356 Edythe St, Mar 24 & 25 9-3:30

Livermore, 366 Anna Maria Street, March 24 & 25, 1-4pm

Pleasanton, 1308 Vailwood Ct., Mar. 31, 7am-12pm

We are selling furniture and other household items as well as some baby clothes and toys.

Pleasanton, 7936 Kemper Ct, Sun 8-11

Lots of furniture in great condition. new bombay china cabinet; glass top table; brand new toys. Sun 8-11.

215 Collectibles & Antiques

Blue Delft pitcher - \$59

Coffee Mill, Pepper Mill & Spice - \$89

Garantied Forged Grinder - \$39

220 Computers/ Electronics

Misc. Computer Accessories - \$8

Stereo Color Zenith TV 21Inches, - 15

WINDOWS VISTA Home Basic - \$140

240 Furnishings/ Household items

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

Candles - \$15

Computer Unit - \$900

Dining Room Set. - \$500.00

fogster.com

SMOG INSPECTION

Special \$35 + \$8.25 CERT. (with coupon)

EPPS TEST ONLY SMOG **Harry's Auto Repair**
925-462-1097 **Test and Repair**
925-462-3237

No Appointments Necessary!
183-B Wyoming St., Pleasanton • Mon-Sat 9-5

Furnishings

Oak ent. ctr \$250, Computer desk \$100, 8' artif. potted tree \$7.50
Call 925-837-2870

KitchenAid Refrigerator - \$ 200

round dinner table - 20

Salton Toastermaster SandwichMaker - \$6

sectional sofa\$ 400.925-461-9085

TV/Stereo Armoire - \$500.00

245 Miscellaneous

\$9 Prescription Eyeglasses
Custom made to your prescription, stylish plastic or metal frame, Highindex, UV protection, antiscratch lens, case, lenscloth for only \$9. Also available: Rimless, Titanium, Children's, Bifocals, Progressives, Suntints, ARcoating, etc. [Http://ZENNOPTICAL.COM](http://ZENNOPTICAL.COM) (AAN CAN)

2 nice lamps with table, basket - \$10 each

No phone number in the ad?
GO TO
fogster.com
for contact information



2006 CLUB CAR GOLF CART
2003 CLUB CAR/GOLF CART BLACK. LIFTED, POLISHED WHEELS, CUSTOM CD PLAYER AND SPEAKERS, RUNSONGAS, \$8,000.00ORBEST OFFER

Y V S O F T B A L L @ A O L . C O M
BOB 925-766-0593

6 feet high Christmas Tree - \$25

A round table, - \$20

DIRECTV

Satellite Television, FREE Equipment, FREE 4 Room Installation, FREE HD or DVR Receiver Upgrade w/rebate. Packages from \$29.99/mo. Call 1-800-380-8939. (AAN CAN)

Polaroid Joycam - \$7

Power Wheelchairs

and SCOOTERS at little or no cost to seniors/disabled with Medicare, MediCal or Insurance. Free Delivery, Training and Warranty. ProHealth Mobility. 1-877-740-4900. www.ProHealthMobility.com (Cal-SCAN)

Stamping and Scrapbook Supplies

Steel Buildings Hardship

Sales: \$10,000 Delivered. Others Available. 1-800-964-8335. Ref Code NP1.(Cal-SCAN)

250 Musical Instruments

Patio Chairs & more - \$1 - \$10

Yamaha Portable Grand DGX-500 --- \$ 500

260 Sports & Exercise Equipment

Iron Master - \$500

Kid's Stuff

330 Child Care Offered

LINA'S DAY CARE
Many years experience. Accept newborn to 4 yrs. Small group - more attention. Call Lina 925-249-1298

355 Items for Sale

A box of boys clothes only - \$15

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

Huffy Seastar 12.5 inches bike, - 20

Pajamas for kids 3-4 years old - \$3-\$7

Mind & Body

455 Personal Training

TriValleyTrainer.com (dublin/pleasanton/livermore)



WOMENS FITNESS BOOT CAMP CLASSES

Danville, Alamo, Walnut Creek, Lafayette. LOOSE WEIGHT, GAIN STRENGTH AND ENDURANCE! Fun, motivated classes, One hour a day. NO MATTER YOUR FITNESS LEVEL - YOU CAN TRAIN LIKE AN ATHLETE, MOVE LIKE AN ATHLETE AND LOOK LIKE AN ATHLETE. WE'LL SHOW YOU HOW! 925-457-4587 www.ContraCostaBootCamp.com

Jobs

500 Help Wanted

BUILDING ATTENDANT, CITY OF SAN RAMON

Part Time- starts at \$10.95 per hour. Flexible shifts, afternoon, evenings and weekends. Must be 18 years of age. Set up rooms for recreation activities, monitor building, light clean-up and securing facilities. Please call 925.973.3218 for a full job description and interview.

Cardio Fitness Trainer

Sound of the Wind is a unique, fun personal training facility located in San Ramon. Our cardio fitness trainer position is an entry-level part-time position. The hours are Monday-Thursday evenings or Monday-Friday mornings. Job Description: The cardio fitness trainer follows and implements cardio fitness programs written specifically for the clients of Sound of the Wind. Prior experience is not necessary. Will train for the position. Must work well with a variety of ages, both genders, and a multitude of personalities. Need to be open-minded to learning. If you are interested, please contact Michelle at soundofthewind@yahoo.com.

Educator

The Dublin San Ramon Services District is looking for a temporary, part-time science teacher to make classroom presentations about conserving water, keeping it clean, and recycling it. If you're interested, please call the DSRSD jobline at (925) 551-7230 or go to www.drsrd.com for more information. EOE

HAIRSTYLIST, MANICURIST, ESTHETICIAN

STATIONS FOR RENT
Great downtown Danville location w/parking.
Call Jane 925-389-1805 (c)

Hiring Great Executive Assistant - High Growth Consulting Firm

Leading medical consultant needs top-level support 25+ hrs/wk to keep business running smoothly. Great phone/PC skills. \$25/hr +bonus sm2exec@comcast.net

Home Mail Processors needed. Freelancer Job.

Easy, pleasant work in the mail-order industry. Up to \$35k per a year. No Experience needed. Info: <http://www.businesspack.biz/vacancies.html>

HOUSECLEANERS NEEDED

Good Wages ~ Weekly Pay
Ideal Hours ~ Paid Mileage
Car, CDL & insurance are necessary
Call Merry Maids/Pleasanton
(925) 462-0991

MARKETING / PUBLIC RELATIONS

PT position in small Pleasanton insurance office; Avg 20 hrs per week; No insurance exp necessary - past PR and marketing experience a plus. Email resume to: eileen@superiorrtc.com

NANNIES NEEDED!!!

Awesome Positions! No Fee!
\$13-18/hr
A Nanny Connection
925-743-0587
www.nannyconnection.com

Retail Sales Associate

Scandia Down, San Ramon - Bishop Ranch, has openings for perm P/T day hours. Enjoy selling bed/bath items & bed linens in a great store. Apply in person.

SENIOR BUILDING ATTENDANT, CITY OF SAN RAMON

Part Time- \$15.45-\$20.34 per hour. In a supervisory role to Building Attendants, provide leadership and functional supervision for facility rentals. This position ensures that all policies are executed during all events. This position is available weekday evenings and weekends. Primary tasks include enforcement of facility policies, setup for events, assisting with staff needs, monitoring events and securing the facilities. Moderate physical labor is required. Must be at least 18 years of age. Please call 925.973.3218 if interested.

Work At Home

Hiring People for Home Based Work. Part-time Job offering. Stable income from \$3,000 to \$5,000 Every Month! No set up fees, Nothing to buy. Visit us at www.finway.biz/vacancies.html or email staff@finway.biz

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Hiring People for Home Based Work. Part-time Job offering. Stable income from \$3,000 to \$5,000 Every Month! No set up fees, Nothing to buy. Visit us at www.finway.biz/vacancies.html or email staff@finway.biz

550 Business Opportunities

\$250,000.00
FIRST YEAR Potential. Successful Entrepreneur Seeks 3 Motivated Self Starters. Must Be Money Motivated and Ready To Start Now. Call 1-888-579-0374 Now! (Cal-SCAN)

\$700-\$800K Free Cash Grants
2007! Personal bills, School, Business/Housing. Approx. \$49 billion unclaimed 2005! Almost Everyone Qualifies! Live Operators Listings 1-800-592-0362 Ext. 235. (AAN CAN)

**** Credit Repair ****
We Legally Remove Collections, Repo's, Bankruptcies, Medical, Judgments, others etc. Raise credit scores! Honest. No Gimmicks. Member Better Business Bureau. www.USLCR.com 1-888-687-1300, 1-888-687-1400.(Cal-SCAN)

1000 Envelopes = \$5000
Receive \$5 for every envelope stuffed with our sales material. Guaranteed! Free information: 24 hour recording 1-800-785-7076. (AAN CAN)

A Cash Cow!
30 Vending Machines/You Approve Each Location. Entire Business \$10,970. 1.800.VENDING (1.800.836.3464). www.1800Vending.com(Cal-SCAN)

All cash candy route.
Do you earn \$800 a day? 30 machines and candy for \$9,995. MultiVend LLC, 880 Grand Blvd., Deer Park, NY. 1-888-625-2405. (Cal-SCAN)

Climbing the Corporate Ladder?
Opportunity to earn Executive level income from home. Average people using a simple system. 2 minute msg : 877-407-3071

Discover how to
Earn up to \$750 a day from your home! Be your own boss. Enjoy Financial Freedom. www.750aDay.com Phone 1-904-346-1165. (Cal-SCAN)

Display Advertising
Reach over 3 million Californians. 140 community newspapers. Cost \$1800 for a 3.75"x2" display ad (that works out to about \$12.86 per newspaper). Call (916) 288-6019 displayad@cnpa.com (Cal-SCAN)

Earn Extra Income
assembling CD cases from Home. Start Immediately. No Experience Necessary. 1-800-405-7619 ext. 150 <http://www.easywork-greatpay.com> (AAN CAN)

Make \$150/Hour
Get Paid Cash for Your Opinion! Earn \$5 to \$75 to fill our simple surveys online. Start NOW! <http://www.paidchoice.com> (AAN CAN)

Movie Extras, Actors, Models!
Make \$100-\$300/day. No Experience Required, Meet celebrities, Full Time/Part Time, All looks needed! Call Now! 1-800-556-6103 extension 528. (AAN CAN)

Online Travel Business
60% comm - no selling - Great Opp. 925-321-4774

Post Office Jobs Available
Avg. Pay \$20/hour or \$57K Annually including Federal Benefits and OT. Paid Training, Vacations. PT/FT. 1-800-584-1775 Ext. 4401 USWA (AAN CAN)

Reach over 6 million
Californians! 240 newspapers statewide. Classified \$550 for a 25-word ad. Call (916) 288-6019 classad@cnpa.com. (Cal-SCAN)

fogster.com

Start your own
Landscape Curbing Business- High Demand. Low Overheads. High Profit. Training Available. Priced from \$12,000. 1-800-667-5372. www.EdgeMaster.net (Cal-SCAN)

Vending Routes
Professional. All Brands, All Sizes. Drinks & Snacks. Healthy & Energy. Great Equipment. Great Support! Finances w/ \$6,500 Down! (877) 843-8728, Local B02002-037 (AAN CAN)

560 Employment Information
\$22,000 -Chance of a Life
Become a CA Surrogate! If you're already a parent, healthy, a nonsmoker, you could become a surrogate! www.surrogateweb.com (Cal-SCAN)

Awesome First Job!
Kay's Naturals, 12 new hires, Over 18, Travel USA! \$500 sign-on! Cash Daily! No Experience Necessary. Call Kay, today. 1-800-988-0650, 1-800-988-0651, 602-421-3015. (AAN CAN)

Bartenders
Many great opportunities. Part time and full time shifts available. Make \$200-\$300 per shift. No experience is required, training provided. Call (877)966-9266 ext. 1000. (AAN CAN)

Cool Travel Job!
One Month paid Training! \$500 Sign on Bonus Must be free to travel & Start Today. 1-800-735-7409. (AAN CAN)

Driver
Don't Just Start Your Career, Start It Right! Company Sponsored CDL training in 3 weeks. Must be 21. Have CDL? Tuition Reimbursement! wgreen@crst.com 1-800-781-2778. (Cal-SCAN)

Driver take care
of your Family. Join ours. Consistent miles, regional and dedicated runs. Company paid Commercial Drivers License training. www.SwiftTruckingJobs.com 1-866-476-6828. EOE. (Cal-SCAN)

Driver-
\$5K SIGN-ON Bonus for Experienced Teams: Dry Van & Temp Control available. O/Os & CDL-A Grads welcome. Call Covenant 1-866-684-2519 EOE. (Cal-SCAN)

Drivers - Experienced
& Trainees Needed. Earn up to \$40k+ next year. No experience required. \$0 down. CDL Training Available. Central Refrigerated 1-800-727-5865 x4779. (Cal-SCAN)

Drivers act now!
Miles Benefits* Bonus* 36-43cpm/ \$1.20pm * SO Lease New Trucks Only 3 months OTR. 1-800-635-8669. (Cal-SCAN)

Europe or Asia?
You decide! International TEFL Diploma cert. course for teaching English abroad. 4-wk training program in Czech Republic or China with FULL JOB PLACEMENT! <http://www.boland-china.com> or <http://www.boland-czech.com> or call us at 314-732-0316. (AAN CAN)

Government Jobs
\$12-\$48/Hr. Full Benefits/Paid Training. Work available in areas like Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Wildlife & More! 1-800-320-9353 x2001. (AAN CAN)

Jobs Jobs Jobs
California Army National Guard. No experience. Will pay to train; High school Jr./Sr. & Grads/Non-Grads/GED. May qualify for \$10,000 BONUS. Call 1-800-GO-GUARD. (Cal-SCAN)

Media Make-Up Artists
Earn up to \$500/day for television, CD/videos, film, fashion. One week course in Los Angeles while building portfolio. Brochure 310-364-0665 <http://www.MediaMakeUpArtists.com> (AAN CAN)

Movie Extras, Actors, Models!
Make \$100-\$300/day. No Exp. Req., FT/PT All looks needed! 1-800-799-6215 (AAN CAN)

Sign Painting
Hand-painted and vinyl lettering
Vehicles, wood, windows, murals, banners and more.
Art Works for You
Melissa
925-580-2810
Pleasanton

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National Accesion
Training Jobs. Outstanding training package with signing bonus up to \$20,000. No experience necessary. 8 weeks Recruit Training, 4 to 12 months job training various locations. Return to Hometown Navy Reserve Center as a drilling reservist, 1 weekend a month and 2 weeks a year. Must be U.S. citizen or legal alien under 39. Call 1-800-345-NAVY. (Cal-SCAN)

Outdoor Youth Counselor
Do you love the outdoors and helping troubled teens? Immediate openings at Eckerd outdoor therapeutic programs in Florida, Tennessee, and North Carolina. Year-round residential position, free room/board, competitive salary/benefits. Info and apply online: <http://www.eckerdoutdoor.org>. Or fax resume to Career Advisor/AN, 727-442-5911. (AAN CAN)

Work from home
on Your PC. Earn \$500-\$1500/mo PT. \$2000-\$5000/mo FT. FREE Information Online @ www.working2play.com or 1-510-315-6861. (Cal-SCAN)

Business Services

601 Accounting/Bookkeeping
NEED HELP WITH QUICKBOOKS?
Over 18 years experience in all aspects of bookkeeping. No job too big or too small! Call Linda at 925-918-2233

615 Computers
Computer Help
Tri-Valley PC MEDIC
2006 Diablo Magazine "Best of the East Bay"
Ken Cook
"I Make House Calls!"
Tune-up/Repair/Upgrade/Training
More info/rates: <http://come.to/pc-medic>
M-F 8a-8p / Wknds & Hols 9a-6p
Lic #011068 - PCC, PDA & BBB
Call 485-9040 or 989-7722

624 Financial
\$700-\$800K Free Cash Grants
2007 Never Repay! Personal/Medical Bills, School, New Business/Home etc., Live Operators! Avoid Deadlines! Listings, call 1-800-270-1213 Ext. 232. (AAN CAN)

Credit Repair!
Erase bad credit legally Money back Warrantly, FREEA Consultation and Information: 888.996.3672 www.amfcs.com

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659 Sewing/Tailoring

Custom Designed Sewing Work
Draperies, Bedding, Pillows, Cushions, Embroidery, Alterations and More! References available.
Contact Lina, 925-249-1298

Home Services

715 Cleaning Services
A+ / ISABEL'S HOUSECLEANING
Local business since 1980
Residential is our specialty
925-846-9603

BETTY'S OFFICE CLEANING
Affordable ~ Reliable
17 Yrs Experience
Cleaning schedule as you require!
925-497-8369
Fax 925-429-3861
Lic# 5002770 / Bonded

COMPLETE CLEANING SERVICES
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Reliable, affordable, efficient, trustworthy.
~ 18 Yrs Experience ~
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Changing spaces
One-Day Interior Redesign
Color Consultation, Decorating and Staging
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Arbors • Heritage Vinyl Fencing
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
"Unsurpassed Quality at Reasonable Prices"
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Fully Insured PL & PD • State Lic. #771763

741 Flooring/Carpeting/Tiling
A+ CARPET CARE
Carpet Cleaning, Upholstery, Tile & Grout Restoration
(925) 462-3306
Call for free estimate

748 Gardening/Landscaping
COMPLETE YARD MAINTENANCE
Tree Service and Clean-Up
Good Refs Avail ~ 10 yrs Exp
Reasonable Rates / Free Estimates
\$70 2x mo ~ \$100 4x mo
925-768-4528

MARTHA'S CLEANING SERVICE
- All Types of Cleaning -
Move In/Out Our Specialty!
10 Yrs Exp ~ Dependable, Quality Service
925-997-4669

ED'S CLEANING SERVICE
Commercial / Residential
Carpets, floors, upholstery & window cleaning.
European Job at an American Price!
Call 925-609-7822

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European Job at an American Price!
Call 925-609-7822

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"One Less Thing To Worry About"
We are insured, bonded & tailored to meet your needs.
925-462-0991

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JUST CROWN MOULDING
(925)216-8163
Trim Installation
Contractor Lic. # 805208

REMODELING CONTRACTOR
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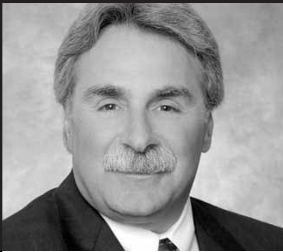
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Pet of the Week



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At 10 years old, Nickie is a mem-
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Nickie will chase small animals
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keep her safe and warm inside
the home. Nickie weighs 60
pounds and she loves to go for
walks. Visit Nickie at the Tri-Val-
ley Adoption Center of the East
Bay SPCA, 4651 Gleason Drive,
Dublin, open Wednesday and
Thursday from 1 to 8 p.m. and
Friday through Sunday from 11
a.m. to 6 p.m. Call 479-9670. See
Nickie and more pets in the Silver
Muzzle Club at [www.eastbay-
spca.org](http://www.eastbay-
spca.org).

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Sports

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Local synchronized swimmer competes in Australia

Kate Hooven and team eye 2008 Olympics in Beijing

Synchronized swimmer Kate Hooven, daughter of Pleasanton residents Robert and Katherine, competed in Melbourne Australia from March 17 to 24 in the FINA World Championships.

Hooven, 22, is in her second year as co-captain of the U.S. National Team and has been a part of the team for seven years. At FINA, the team finished fourth overall (238) behind Russia (334), Japan (290) and Spain (288), and received a bronze in the free combination.

FINA is known as the biggest aquatic competition prior to the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing. Robert said the team has a good shot in qualifying for the Olympics.

Her interest in synchronized swimming started 10 years ago when she signed up for a class at the Dolores Bengtson Aquatic Center. Since then she's been a member of the Walnut Creek Aquanauts, Santa Clara Aquamaids and Ohio State University teams, as well as competed in national and international competitions.

For more information about the U.S. National synchronized swimming, visit www.usasynchro.org.

Foothill frosh baseball gets the win

The Foothill freshman baseball squad recorded their sixth win of the young season with a 5-1 victory over Clayton Valley High School. Held to only five hits, the boys in blue were able to combine timely hits, walks and solid base running to produce five runs. The offense was led by Will Anderson with a double and two RBIs; Brandon DeFazio with a triple, three walks, three runs and one RBI; and Matt Owen contributed two singles. Falcon pitchers Anderson and Michael Slifer scattered six hits over seven innings while giving up only two walks.

The Falcons were scheduled to open the EBAL season opener Wednesday.

Hart wrestlers take home medals

The Hart Middle School Huskies grabbed 13 medals, out of 23 participants, making for a very successful tournament at the Harvest Park Invitational last weekend.

Four Huskies grabbed gold medals with Perry Cheney taking first place in the sixth grade bracket, Kevin Thompson in the seventh grade bracket, and Michael Meneses and Andrew Abbey in the sixth/seventh combo brackets.

Falling just short, but still earning second place was Cesar Caranvang. Cal Dutrow came tantalizingly

close to taking first, falling 11-10 in the championship match.

Pleasanton Rage U 15, Division 1 AC finishes tourney season

In their final tournament competition of the season the Rage traveled to the Turlock to compete in the CYSA U15 State Cup. In Saturday's game against the Manteca Rangers, the Rage scored early off a Brittany Carrolan through pass and a Julia Frizzel shot to the deep left corner of the goal. The Rangers came back late in the first half to tie the game at 1-1. In the final minutes of the second half the Rangers scored the decisive goal on a direct kick.

In Sunday's games the Rage fared better; walking away with two ties against two formidable opponents; SF Vikings Tremors and Heritage Strikers. Frizzel once again supplied the scoring punch, scoring once in each game. The final score was 1-1 in both games. The Rage played well in all three matches and out shot their opponent in each one.

Vortex lacrosse falls to Diablo Scorpions

Last Sunday the sixth-grade, 12-year-old boys PUP lacrosse, Vortex, was stung by the Diablo Scorpions 5-8 in a grueling intense battle. Alex Trombadore scored two goals, with one each also scored by Kenton Koos, Jose Salas, and Daniel Arthur,

who also made the most shots at six. Zach Wilner won the most faceoffs at three.

Blizzard lacrosse continues winning streak

The Pleasanton Lacrosse Girls Blizzard team continued their reign on the field as they beat the South Marin Wolfpack and Lamorinda Fire at Acalanes High School in Lafayette March 25. The Blizzard beat the Wolfpack with a score of 4-1. Excellent passes were made by Madison Steele and Mallory Manzano. Melissa West brought the ball down the field with amazing speed. Outstanding ground balls were made by Lindsey Kail. Goalie Meghan Serrano showed no fear as she blocked the Wolfpack's shots. Kirsten Jensen scored the first goal of the game from an assist by Cambi Cukar. Rebecca Dumanski, Kira Ewanich and Cierra Kocik also scored goals.

It was a fierce and physical battle against the Lamorinda Fire, but the Blizzard overcame their injuries with a 7-3 victory. Tough defense was made by Andrea Bright and Jennifer Gubner. Haley Brodnick, Cukar, Lauren Hall, Kocik, Jensen and Serrano scored the goals for the Blizzard. Outstanding ground balls by Sarah Monday. Strong support was also shown by Jessica Young, Jaime Rinetti, and Alyssa Marceno.

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Calendar

Author Visits

Sam Perone

Sam Perone, author and previous Pleasanton Resident, will present his mystery books "Judgement Day" and "Murder Almighty" from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. April 18 at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Call 846-8826 or visit www.townecenterbooks.com for details.

This Is Not the Life I Ordered
"This Is Not the Life I Ordered" is for anyone who has ever felt overworked, overwhelmed, or just plain unlucky. Deborah Collins Stephens, Michealene Cristini Risley, Jackie Speier, Jan Yanehiro will be speak about their lives and their book from noon to 1 p.m. April 18 at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Call 846-8826 or visit www.townecenterbooks.com for details.

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 at 846-1658.

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.

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.

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.

Weekend Preview



Modern ballet at the Amador Theater

Company C Contemporary Ballet, a repertory dance company based in Walnut Creek, will perform its high-energy, innovative contemporary show during two performances starting 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. April 7 at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road. The 13-member ensemble is comprised of established professional dancers of diverse backgrounds and technical accomplishment. Tickets are \$15, \$20 and \$25 for adults, and \$10, \$15, and \$20 for students and can be purchased online at www.civcartstickets.org or by phone by calling 931-3444.

Classes

Acting Training

Professional, in-depth training in acting for adults ages 15 and up will be offered by The Playhouse West Academy, 1345 Locust St. in Walnut Creek, Saturdays from 10 to 1 p.m. April 7 through May 26. Classes are for beginning, intermediate and advanced students. There will also be an on camera commercial class offered this quarter. Classes taught by artistic director Lois Grandi. The cost is \$235. Email playhousewest@sbcglobal.net, call 943-6464 or visit www.playhousewest.org.

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. Cost is \$46. Call 556-4500 or visit www.dublinrecguide.com.

Learn How To Play Bocce

Eat pizza and play bocce ball amongst the vineyards of beautiful Livermore Valley's Wine Country from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 7 at Campo Di Bocce, 175 E. Vineyard Ave., Livermore. Bocce (pronounced baw-chee) is a fun indoor/outdoor game a little like bowling with an Italian flair. It's perfect for any skill level, even if you've never played before. The cost is \$35 per person. Email bocce@bayareacritic.com, call 249-9800 or visit www.BayAreaCritic.com.

Wine Basics Class

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is designed to help you understand the basics of wine appreciation and become more comfortable buying wine or ordering wine from a list in a restaurant. It meets from 7 to 8:30 p.m. May 2 at The Wine Steward, 641 Main St. Cost is \$50 per person. Email wineclass@bayareacritic.com or call 600-9463. Visit www.BayAreaCritic.com for details.

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.

Everything Poetry

This poetry work-group meets from 9 to 11 a.m. 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.

Good News Bears

Be a part of providing comfort to children and adults by giving stuffed animals. Good News Bears meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Livermore Police Station, 1110 S. Livermore Ave. Join us on the third Thursday of the month to see how you can provide "stuffed love" in our community. Club dues are \$30 per year. Contact Jeanie Haigh at jhaigh@webbearings.com or 373-7982. 6:30-8 p.m.

Hearing Loss Association of America

Would you like to get help from people with similar problems? Come to the meeting of HLLA, the Hearing Loss Association of America, Tri-Valley chapter, at 7 p.m. April 19 at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Parkway. Christopher Ash will demonstrate the free telephones and other assistive listening devices available to the hard of hearing. Attendance is free and refreshments are served. Contact Hiram Van Blarigan at 455-6591 or hvanblarigan@hotmail.com.

New Tri-Valley Homebrewing Club

Want to meet other brewers and advance your brewing techniques? Mad Zymurgists of the Tri Valley meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. the second Thursday of each month. We welcome brewers of all levels of expertise, and have sponsorship from Hoptech in Dublin. See www.madzymurgists.org for more info and location of the next meeting.

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 Drive, Dublin. Contact Mark Triska, mtriska@colliersparish.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, lifelong education and positive societal change. For information about membership, contact Membership Chair Roz Wright, 484-0614 or 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, 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 for more information.

Everything Poetry

This poetry work-group meets from 9 to 11 a.m. the first Saturday monthly to critique poetry and the third Saturday monthly for a workshop pertaining to an aspect of poetry business at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Bring 10 copies of a poem. Call Michelle, 931-5350 or e-mail mrusso@ci.pleasanton.ca.us.

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 Road. Visit www.expresso-success.org or e-mail info@expresso-success.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 Road. Call Irv, 556-1177 or visit 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 Drive, room C2. Call 927-2444, or visit www.pleasanton-mothersclub.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.

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.

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.pleasanton-newcomers.com.

Pleasanton North Rotary Club

The Pleasanton North Rotary Club meets at 12:15 p.m. every Friday at the Hilton, 7050 Johnson Drive. 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.

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 Road. Call Izak, 830-8838 or visit www.clubtmug.com.

Tri-Valley Rotary

The Rotary Club meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Girasole Grill, 3180 Santa Rita Road. 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

Cantabella Children's Chorus Spring Concert Cantabella Children's Chorus announces its 15th anniversary.

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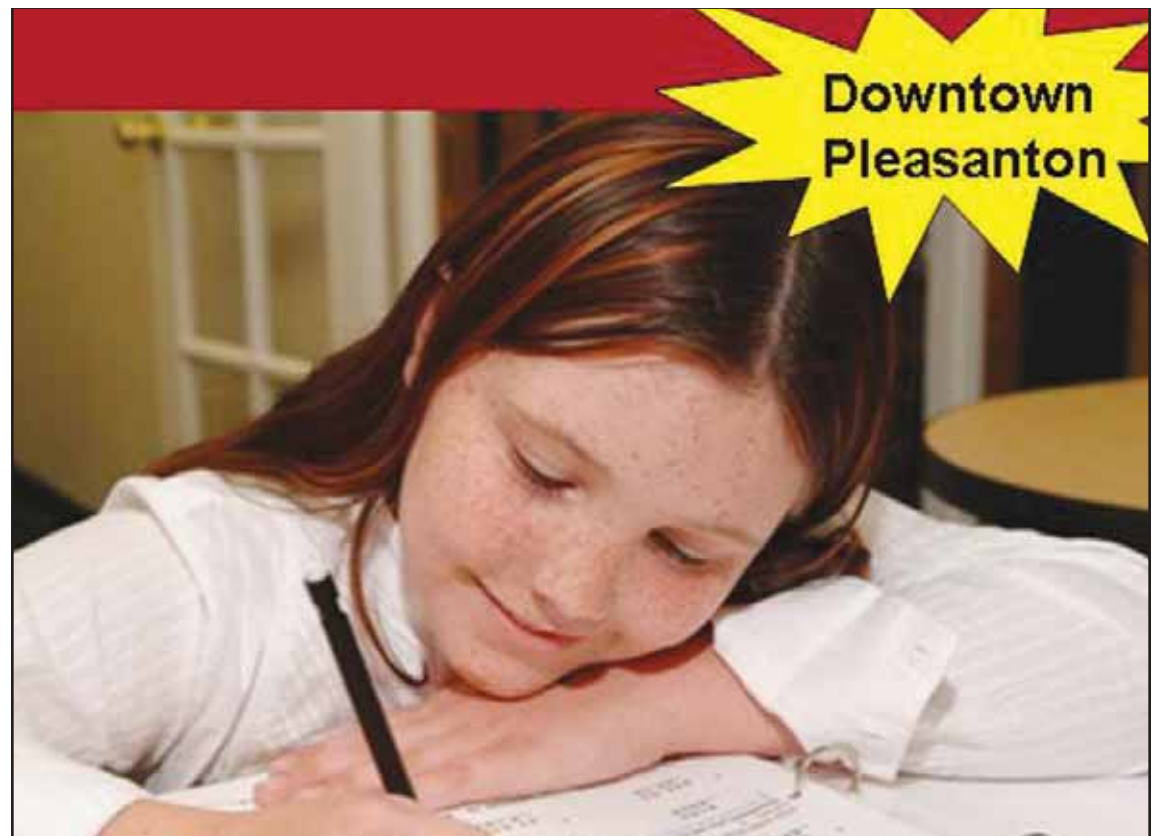
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sary season with their Spring Concert, "15 years of Beautiful Singing" from 2 to 4 p.m. May 19 at Our Savior's Lutheran Ministry, 1385 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore. All alumni are specially invited to return and help celebrate and have the opportunity to share the stage with our two performing choirs. A \$5 donation is suggested. Contact Bee Chow at director@cantabella.org or 292-2663. Visit www.Cantabella.org.

Pianist Chu-Fang Huang

Del Valle Fine Arts concert series presents 23-year-old Chu-Fang Huang in concert from 8 to 10 p.m. May 5 at First Presbyterian Church, 2050 5th St., at L St., Livermore. He became the first Chinese pianist to win first prize at the prestigious Cleveland International Piano Competition in August 2005. Tickets are \$18, \$16 for seniors and high school students are free. Visit www.delvallefinearts.com for details.

Events

Annual CFA Allbreed Cat Show

Approximately 250 cats and kittens of 41 breeds will be on exhibit and competing for best in show from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 7 and 8 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. Rescue organizations will also be present with loving cats for adoption. Come for arts and crafts, gifts and gadgets for sale for both cats and cat lovers, doorprizes and raffles. Proceeds to animal disaster relief. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for seniors and children 10 and under, or \$16 per family. Call 827-2722 or visit www.alamedacountyfair.com for details.

Booktalk Lunch

Ron Shoup, a representative from Random House, will discuss his favorite books for the spring season at the Read It and Eat Luncheon April 17 at

Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Social time begins at 11:30, presentation and lunch at 12:00. Reservations are required. Tickets are \$10. Call 846-8826 or visit www.townecenter-books.com for details.

Couples And Family Relationships Conference

Unlock the secrets to quality couple and family relationships, including parenting techniques, at this unique learning experience from 8 a.m. to noon March 31 at First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. You will use the skills taught at this conference your entire life. Tickets are \$59 per person. Visit www.kivaspirit.org for registration and information.

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. Visit www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/foothill and look under the Announcements/Activities section for information.

Pleasanton Hotel Entertainment

The Pleasanton Hotel, 855 Main St., is hosting several free events from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. in the month of March, including The Tornados March 30 and Major Link (Terry & Mary) March 31. Call 846-8106 or visit www.PleasantonHotel.com for details.

Poetry, Prose & Arts Festival

The Poetry, Prose and Arts Festival is March 31 at CarrAmerica Conference Center, 4400 Rosewood Drive. See the visual Arts Exhibit, presented by the Pleasanton Art League and other regional artists, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit the Literary Row from 12:30 to 2 p.m. and meet, talk and mingle with talented local authors. Enjoy music played by guitar, mandolin and mandocello artist Dr. Jim Steinke during the afternoon hours. Call 931-5350 for info.

Preserving Home Ownership Forum

The East Bay Chapter of the California

Association of Mortgage Brokers will hold a free homeowner's forum for current and prospective homeowners who want help in understanding their mortgage. The forum is from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. March 31 at the Preservation Park Ginn House Meeting Room, 660 13th Street, Oakland, and is designed to educate homeowners on their mortgages to avoid defaults and foreclosures. Call (510) 339-2121 or email john@mortgageholmgren.com.

Spring Sidewalk Sale

The Pleasanton Downtown Association presents the Spring Sidewalk sale from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. April 7 in Downtown Pleasanton. Visit shops and businesses for what's hot in fashion, home decor and more. Visit www.pleasantondowntown.org for details.

Tesla Vintners Easter Egg Hunt

Join us for our third annual Easter Egg Hunt from 1 to 4 p.m. April 7 at 5143 Tesla Road, Livermore. Children 12 and under are invited for crafts, music and prizes. For the parents, wines are from Fenestra, Hidden Creek, Red Skye and The Singing Winemaker. Email patty@teslavintners.com or call 606-9463 for details.

Wildflower Train and Wine Tasting with Christy

Join us for wildflowers and wine while riding the rails from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. April 22 at Niles Canyon Railway, 6 Kilkare, Sunol. Tickets are \$10 for members and \$30 for non-members (includes membership). Call (408)849-4749 or visit www.ace-club.com for details. 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Exhibits

ADAS Spring Gala Art Show

The 30th annual show of local 2-D art runs March 31 through April 20 at the Danville Fine Art Gallery, 233 Front St., Danville. Sales go to grants for

art teachers in the San Ramon Valley School District. The opening reception and award ceremony is from 4 to 6 p.m. March 31. Meet judge Stefan Baumann (of PBS's "The Grand View"). All art juried-in and for sale. Weekly hours Tue-Sat 12-5pm. Call 838-1959 or visit www.adas4art.org for details.

Festival of the Arts 2007

Foothill High School will be displaying over 500 pieces of incredible student art from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 2 through 5 in their multi-purpose room, 4375 Foothill Road. We encourage the community come by and admire amazing paintings, drawings, ceramics and photographs. Please get a pass from the office to come on campus. Call Nancy Scotto 461-6600 for details.

Landscapes and Mindscapes

Nova Starling, a Livermore artist, photographer and graphics artist, will present a one-woman show at the SPCA, 4651 Gleason Drive, Dublin. The show, "Landscapes & Mindscapes," features both photography and paintings by this talented and witty artist. The show runs through April 19. The facility is open to the public Wednesdays and Thursdays, 1 to 8 p.m., and Fridays-Sundays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The show is sponsored by the Las Positas College Art Club, of which Starling is a member.

Vineyards, Hills and Pathways of Stephen Sanfilippo

This showcase of Stephen Sanfilippo's vineyards, hills and pathways will include about 20 of his oils ranging from 8-by-10 inches to 24-by-36 inches. Don't miss this award-winning artist from Alamo. Meet Stephen at the opening reception from 4 to 7 p.m. April 7, and see his work from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. through April 30 at Alexander's Main Street Gallery, 610 Main St. His work also at www.stephensanfilippo.com. Call 846-6015 or visit www.alexandersmainstgALLERY.com for info.

Film

Shut Up and Sing

On March 31 "Shut Up And Sing," a film starring the Dixie Chicks, will be shown in honor of International Women's Month, at the IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. The event is open to the public, free (donations accepted), wheelchair accessible, refreshments are served, and has convenient parking. A meet-and-greet starts at 6:30 p.m. and a discussion follows the movie. For more information, call 925-462-3459.

Fundraisers

Empty Bowls

Join us for an evening of nourishment as we help fill empty bowls in our community from 5 to 8 June 5 at the Alameda County Community Food Bank, 7900 Edgewater Drive, Oakland. This fundraising event is held in conjunction with National Hunger Awareness Day. Enjoy delicious soup, take home a hand-decorated ceramic bowl and bid in the silent auction. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$40 for families up to two adults and two children under 18. Contact Pam Gidwani at pgidwani@accfb.org or (510) 635-3663 ext. 328. Visit www.accfb.org.

Good Medicine 7 Piece Band @ Westover Winery

At 4:30 June 3, Good Medicine, a 7-piece band, is playing at Westover Vineyards, 34329 Palomares Road, Castro Valley. Tickets are \$50 per car load (10 people max). Armadillo Willy's BBQ dinner is available for \$20 per person and three ribs, 1/4 chicken, BBQ beans, green salad, muffin and 1 non-alcoholic drink. Taste any five ports with glass for \$10. Call 426-0929 for more info.

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Hidden Gardens of the Valley Tour

From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 5, join us on a tour featuring 10 beautiful Pleasanton homes. Tickets are \$35 per person and the tour benefits the Valley Humane Society. Email wendymcnelley@comcast.net for info.

Ship of Hope Gala

Join us for "A Night in Rio de Janeiro," with emcee KPIX 5's Roberta Gonzales from 6:30 to 11 p.m. May 4 at the Blackhawk Museum, 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville. Be a part of "Carnaval," the world's most famous party! Cuisine by Scott's. The night features a floor show with Samba do Coracao, silent and live auctions, and dancing to the CoolTones. Tickets are \$85. Call 829-8770 or visit www.hopehospice.com for details.

Health

Spring Immunization Clinics For Children

Axis Community Health free immunization clinics are open to Tri-Valley families who are low income or uninsured, including Medi-Cal and Medi-Cal Managed Care from 9 to 11:30 a.m. May 5 at 4361 Railroad Ave. Bring immunization records, insurance and income information. There is a fee for some immunizations. Call 462-1755 for details.

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World School Free Seminar

From 4:30 to 6 p.m. April 26, the World School of Massage, 699 Peters Ave., will offer a free seminar for the general public called "Foot Freedom: My Feet Are Healthy." Patricia Cramer, the owner and founder of World School, teaches the seminar. This free class offers a chance for participants to give well-deserved attention to their feet. Contact Nick Tangney at world-schoolpl@yahoo.com or 461-2533. Visit www.worldschoolmassage.com.

Kids & Teens

Educulture International Foreign Exchange Fun

Host a foreign exchange student from July 8 to 30 and enjoy the cultural exchange without leaving your home. It's a fun filled educational activity based program that keeps everyone busy during the week. Coordinators needed. Call (415) 290-4028 or visit www.educulture.org for details.

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. Call 485-4380, email info@puregirlsclub.com or visit www.puregirlsclub.com.

Russian Dance at the Library

Members of Banynya's Russian Collection Dance Ensemble will thrill audiences with a dynamic program of music and dance at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., as part of the library's series Dance and Sing Around the World from 2 to 3 p.m. April 14. Call the children's desk at 931-3400 ext. 8 for info.

Lectures/ Workshops

Amador Valley Quilters

Becky Goldsmith--quilt artist, author and fabric designer--is the guest speaker at Amador Valley Quilter's April 14 meeting from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at Pleasanton Middle School. Becky, who is a master of applique, will conduct a workshop the following day. Guests and new members are always welcome. Email publicity@amadorvalleyquilters.org or visit amadorvalleyquilters.org for details.

Food Stamp Workshop

Free food stamp enrollment workshops are offered monthly at the food bank office, 7900 Edgewater Drive, Oakland. From 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. April 30, bilingual food bank staff are available to help participants complete the food stamp application and will submit it to the food stamp office for them. Contact Liz Gomez at outreach@accfb.org or (510) 635-3663. Visit www.acfb.org for information.

Free Genealogy Seminar

Come hear informative and lively presentations by Dr. Stephen P. Morse of "OneStep" web pages fame, and local genealogy instructor Susan Goss Johnston to help you "Find It" and "Cite It" from 9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. April 21 at LDS Church, 950 Mocho Street, Livermore. Seating is limited so preregister by April 19. Call 447-3898 or visit www.L-AGS.org/seminar07.html for details.

Stress Reduction Through Guided Imagery

This workshop, from 6 to 8 p.m. April 19 at ValleyCare Medical Plaza, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd, Suites A & B, will help those with cancer and their caregivers focus and relax the mind and body to experience relief from negative emotional states. These techniques have been shown to help stimulate the immune system and reduce the impact that physical and emotional stress can have on your body. Call 933-0107 or visit www.twc-bayarea.org for details.

You Did What?

"You Did What?" a lively talk by Amador Valley High School teachers of the 50s to the 70s, will be held 7 to 8:30 p.m. April 19 at the Museum On Main, 603 Main St. Teachers in the panel include Neil Sweeney, Barbara Norton and George Jacobson. The talk will be moderated by Bob Lane, a retired teacher. Tickets are \$5 and \$10. Call 462-2766 or visit www.museumonmain.org for info. \$5/\$10

Live Music

Rod Piazza and The Mighty Flyers

Rod Piazza and The Mighty Flyers will perform at 8 p.m. April 13 at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road. They are known for their new style of blues that combines low-down Chicago grit, West Coast swing, jazz and the rhythmic drive of early R & B and rock and roll. Tickets are \$15, \$20 and \$25. Call 931-3444 or visit www.civcartstickets.org for info.

Miscellaneous

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.

Letter Carriers Food Drive

Help stamp out hunger with the National Association of Letter Carriers' 15th annual food drive. Leave non-perishable food donations near your home or business mailbox for pickup on May 12 when your mail is delivered. Call (510) 635-3663 ext. 318 or visit www.acfb.org for information.

On Stage

City of Angels

Las Positas College, 3033 Collier Canyon Road, Livermore, presents the Tony Award-winning musical "City of Angels" March 23, 24, 30, 31 and April 6, 7 at 8:00 p.m. and April 1 and 7 at 2:00 p.m. The jazzy, sophisticated musical comedy is about an author creating a film noir movie in 1940s Hollywood. Tickets are \$14; \$10 students and seniors. For reservations call 424-1812, for info call 424-1166.

Company C Contemporary Ballet

Company C dancers will demonstrate high voltage athleticism in their performance of innovative, contemporary ballet dances at 2 and 8 p.m. April 7 at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road. Tickets are \$15, \$20, or \$25 for adults; \$10, \$15, \$20 for students. For details, call 931-3444 or visit www.civcartstickets.org.

Grease

It's 1959 and Rydell High is filled with rebellious, thrill-loving students. Sandy Dumbrowski enters as the new girl in school, and it turns out that she and the leader of the Burger Palace Boys gang, Danny Zuko have had a brief love affair the over the summer. Will they find love? Presented by Pleasanton Playhouse, shows are at 8 p.m. April 20 through May 6 at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$28 for seniors, \$20 for under 18. Call 462-2121 or visit www.pleasanton-playhouse.com for details.

Raising The Barre

Valley Dance Theatre presents a mixed repertory at 7 p.m. May 26 and 2 p.m. May 27 at Livermore HS Performing Arts Center, 600 Maple St., Livermore. It's sure to delight audiences of all ages featuring two full-length ballets, The Firebird, a magical creature captured by a prince; and La Boutique Fantasque, a magical toyshop that comes to life. Also featuring scenes from Romeo & Juliet.



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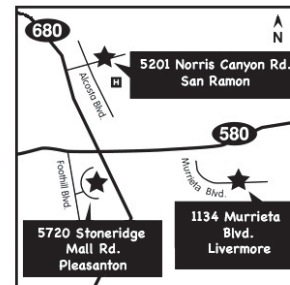
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Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$15 for seniors and ages 13 and over, free for children under 12. Call 243-0927 or visit www.valleydancetheatre.com.

Taming the Wild Wild West in a Dress

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

Political Notes

Hunger Action Day Training

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 17 at the Alameda County Community Food Bank, 7900 Edgewater Drive, learn basic advocacy tips and what bills are on Capitol Hill that will help eradicate hunger. Members of the food bank's advocacy committee will give you all the tools you need to become a successful advocate. Contact Betsy Edwards at advocate@acffb.org or (510) 635-3663 ext. 307. Visit www.acffb.org.

Recreation

One Year Anniversary Party at John Christopher Cellars

John Christopher Cellars in Blacksmith Square is celebrating its first anniversary from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. May 5 and 6 at 25 So. Livermore Ave., Suite 103 in Livermore. Come enjoy wine tasting, grilled sandwiches by Blue Sage Catering, live music and local artists work on display, and more during the Wine Country Festival weekend in downtown Livermore. Email chris@johnchristophercellars.com, call 456-WINE (9463) or visit www.johnchristophercellars.com for details.

Seniors

Computer Classes for Seniors

55+ The Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., offers computer classes from 9 to 10 a.m. 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. Email mcorpora@ci.pleasanton.ca.us or call 931-3400 ext. 21 for details.

Oakland Museum Trip

Meet at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., for a trip to the Oakland Museum, visiting the "100 Families Oakland: Art and Social Change" along with permanent exhibits. The trip is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will travel via BART. Lunch on your own at the museum cafe. It is \$17 for residents or \$20 for non-residents. Email lwarren@ci.pleasanton.ca.us or call 931-5372 for info.

Pleasanton PC Users Group

The PC User Group meets monthly at 10 a.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. 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. Call 931-5365 or email pleaseniort@yahoo.com for info.

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 meeting 2:30 to 4 p.m. every Wednesday at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Call 931-5379 for info.

Spiritual

Basketball Camp

Registration is now open for the Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp, which is by invitation only. Boys and girls ages 10 to 19 are eligible to apply. Players from 50 states and 17 foreign countries attended last year's camp. College scholarships are possible for players selected to the all-American team. A summer camp is also available for boys and girls ages 6 to 18 of all skill levels. For a brochure, call (704) 373-0873.

Author Cheri Huber Speaks

Cheri Huber will speak about her book "Making a Change for Good" from 12 to 1 p.m. and again at 7:30 April 2 at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Huber is founder and teacher at the Zen Monastery Peace Center in Murphys, Calif. and the Palo Alto Zen Center. She is also founder and director of Living Compassion and host of Open Air Radio Show. Call 846-8826 or visit www.townecenterbooks.com for details.

Easter Sunday Service

Tri-Valley Unity Church celebrates Easter Sunday 10 a.m. April 8 at the Radisson Hotel, 6680 Regional St., Dublin. The Tri-Valley Unity choir will perform, and the age-old mystery of that first Easter morning will be explored in the message "As It Began to Dawn." All are welcome. Rev. Mary Anne Harris, minister. Call 829-2733 or visit www.trivalleyunity.com.

Good Friday Service

Tri-Valley Unity Church joins with Unity Church of Castro Valley to hold a special Good Friday service at 7 p.m. April 6 at the Castro Valley church, 20121 Santa Maria Ave. All are welcome. Call 829-2733 or 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.

Sports

Tri-Valley Cheer Sign-Ups

Tri-Valley Cheer Xtreme is a competitive cheer program based in Dublin. If you are between the ages of 10 to 15, sign-ups for the upcoming 2007 season are at Fredereiksen

Elementary School, 7243 Tamarack Drive, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. the following days: April 4, 18 and 25; and May 2, 9 and 16 from 5:30 -7:30. Registration fee is \$50.00. Contact Carol at Mosescheer4you@aol.com or 216-6742. Visit <http://trivalleycheer.tripod.com>.

Windermere Real Estate Rowing Classic

Drawing nearly 1,000 athletes and countless spectators each year, this fifth annual regatta is one of the most anticipated rowing events on the West Coast. From 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. April 14 and 15 at Redwood Shores Lagoon in Redwood City, the regatta features more than 100 crew races between the nation's top universities as well as more than 400 club and high school rowers. Call (206) 527-3801 or visit www.windermere.com/events for info.

Support Groups

Cancer Support Group

A free support group for people with cancer and their loved ones meets from 2 to 4 p.m. every Tuesday at the Valley Care Health Library and Ryan Comer Cancer Resource Center, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd, Ste. 270. Facilitated by The Wellness Community. Call 933-0107 or visit www.twc-bayarea.org. 2-4 p.m.

Domestic Violence

A Domestic Violence support group is held 5 to 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday at Tri-Valley Haven, 3663 Pacific Ave., Livermore, for Women in Livermore every Wednesday evening. Survivors will be able to address issues of abuse in relationships. The cost is \$40 for every eight weeks, or based on a sliding scale. Call 449-5845 ext. 202 for details.

Manspeak

This weekly men's group meets 8 to 9:30 p.m. Monday nights at Kiva Counseling Group, 11740 Dublin Blvd., Suite 202 in Dublin, 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. The cost is \$30 per session or \$100 per month. Call 485-9370 or visit www.kivaspirit.org for details.

TwinValley Mothers of Twins Club

This club meets the second Tuesday of each month at John Knox Presbyterian Church, 7421 Amarillo Road, Dublin, and its goal is to provide support, information and friendship for Mothers of Multiples(MOMs). A roundtable Q&A forum dealing with the challenges of parenting multiples begins at 6:30 p.m. and is open to new and prospective members. The general meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. Babies to eight months welcome. Call 948-0004 or visit www.tvmotc.com for details.

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.

Bereavement Support Group

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

Breast Cancer Prayer & Support

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

Cancer Support

Anyone facing cancer and care

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

Caregiver Support Group

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

Catholic Community Bereavement Support

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

CHADD

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

Diabetes Support Group

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

Domestic Violence

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

DRC

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

East Bay Cancer Support Group

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

Forty Plus of Northern California

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

Grandparents Visitation Support Group

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

Head Injury Support

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

Hope Hospice Bereavement Support

The nonprofit organization offers a wide range of support groups, including grief support for adults, teens, children; young adult support; tragic loss; loss of children; men in grief; terminal illness; loss of parents; and loss of spouse; among others. Meetings are held at 6500 Dublin Blvd., Suite 214, Dublin. Call 829-8770 or visit www.hopehospice.com.

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If you or your loved one need a personal assistant to help maintain independent living, Community Resources for Independent Living can help with specific needs. Call 371-1531; TTY, 371-1532. Visit www.cril-online.org.

Jobs Networking Group

CSIX East Bay, helping individuals in career transitions, meets from 1 to 3:30 p.m. every Thursday at WineCentives, 6040 Dougherty Road, Dublin. Cost is \$3. Call Doug Herz, 277-6600.

League Of Extraordinary Gentlemen

This group is designed to create a community between men to resolve problems, express feelings, form friendships and understand and improve relationships with women. The group meets from 7 to 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday at Anthropos Counseling Center, 326 South L. St., Livermore. Call 449-7925.

Live Beat Dads

Fathers who are raising their children meet at 7 p.m. Wednesdays at 1550 Springtown Blvd., Suite 7E, Livermore, for discussions and speakers on individual's rights, custody issues, networking and parenting programs. Child care is available. Call Pete, 449-8436, or visit www.lbduk.org.

Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group

The Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group meets at 10 a.m. the fourth Tuesday of the month at Heritage Estates Retirement Community, 900 Stanley Blvd., Livermore. There will be no December meeting, but the group will reconvene in January. Contact Lorene Stack, 447-6158.

Men at Work

This Al-Anon group meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays at the Pleasanton Presbyterian Church, 4300 Mirador Drive. Call Tom, 417-7540.

Men's Support Group

Anthropos Counseling Center provides support for men to improve personal growth and change and become aware of emotional habits and attitude. Group meets from 7 to 8:30 p.m. every Friday, 326 S. L. St., Livermore. Call 449-7925.

Military Group

Pleasanton Military Families, a support group for families of service members, meets at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday monthly, held at different group member's home. Call Chris, 730-1604.

Narconon Arrowhead

Narconon Arrowhead offers free addiction counseling, assessments and referrals to rehabilitation centers nationwide. Call (800) 468-6933 or visit www.stopaddiction.com.

Newcomers to Al-Anon

This group, for those who are new to Al-Anon and anyone who is affected by someone else's drinking, meets 7 to 7:55 p.m. Thursdays at John Knox Presbyterian Church, 7421 Amarillo Road, Room H, Dublin. Call 277-7661.

Operation SAM

The group, offering emotional support to families with loved ones in the military, meets at 7 p.m., the second Monday monthly at the Livermore Police Station, 1110 S. Livermore Ave. Call Kristin, 443-7841.

Overeaters Anonymous

Meetings are held from 7 to 8 p.m., Thursdays at St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road. Call Lisa, 931-0994.

Parents of Alcoholics

Parents of alcoholics are welcome to join this Al-Anon group that meets 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and at 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Sundays at CalFed Bank, 3101 Crow Canyon Road, San Ramon. Call 277-7661.

Parents of Children with Autism

For parents of children with autism in the East Bay, this group uses e-mail-based discussions for parent-to-parent support. Visit <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/eastbayautism> to join. E-mail autismtrivalley@yahoo.com for questions.

Parents of Diabetics

The POD Squad, a support group for parents of diabetics, meets from 7 to 8:30 p.m. the third Wednesday

monthly, September-May, at the Laguna Oaks neighborhood clubhouse. Call 461-1170 or visit www.podsquad.com.

Parents of Special Needs Children

Receive and give support with other Pleasanton parents in an e-mail-based discussion. Visit <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/pleasantonspecial> to join. E-mail pleasantonspecial@yahoo.com for questions.

Parkinson's Support Group

The Parkinson's Network of Mount Diablo and the city of Pleasanton sponsor a support group for the Tri-Valley area from 10 a.m. to noon on the second Saturday monthly at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Call 931-5366.

Pleasanton Senior Grief Group

Not limited to seniors, this group is open to all grief issues. It meets from 10 to 11:30 a.m. on the second and fourth Fridays at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Call 931-5366.

Volunteering

Alameda County Community Food Bank

Volunteers are needed to sort food, answer the food helpline and general office work from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Alameda County Community Food Bank, 7900 Edgewater Drive, Oakland. Groups and individuals are welcome. Contact Charles Beyer at cbeyer@accfb.org or (510) 635-3663 ext. 308. Visit www.accfb.org.

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 at Saturday Salon at 4th St. Studio, 2235 Fourth St., Livermore. Email karenwrites@pacbell.net or call 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 anytime Monday through Friday. Call 443-4283, ext. 217.

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. Call 462-7374 for details.

Alameda County Community Food Bank

Volunteers are needed to staff the Emergency Food Hotline from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Food sorters are needed to sort, screen, box and shelve donated food from 8 to 11 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Individual volunteers need to attend a 50 minute orientation held 1 p.m. every Wednesday at the food bank. Call (510) 834-3663 or visit www.accfb.org.

Community Service for Teens

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

Foster Homes Needed

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

Historical Performers

The Museum On Main is looking for people who will attend the museum's events, walk around the city and talk to visitors in the persona of someone living in the early 1900s. The museum will provide training, but is looking for someone who has their own costume.

Call Rebecca Bruner, 577-8802 for more information.

Jewish Community Federation

Jewish Community Federation of the Greater East Bay offers opportunities to volunteer within the community, such as serving meals, tutoring children, and serving on Jewish agency committees or boards. Call (510) 839-2900, ext. 261.

Open Heart Kitchen

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

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. Call Lyn, 443-4283, ext. 217.

Student Exchange Representatives

ASSE International Student Exchange Programs is looking for volunteers to serve as area representatives. Area representatives recruit and screen prospective host families, interview students to study abroad, and supervise visiting exchange students in their community. They are reimbursed for their expenses and are provided with some travel opportunities. Contact the regional office, (800) 733-2773 for more information.

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. Call 462-7374.

Tri-Valley Haven

Tri-Valley Haven provides services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and homelessness in the Tri-Valley, and needs volunteers to help with childcare, answer the crisis line and assist clients with restraining

order paperwork. Training starts at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday. Volunteers must be at least 21 years old. Call Melissa, 449-5845, ext. 111 or e-mail melissa@trivalleyhaven.org.

TVAR Volunteer Orientation

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue offers volunteer orientations on the second Saturday and fourth Sunday of every month from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the East County Animal Shelter, 4595 Gleason Drive, Dublin. For more information, contact Cathy Bergren at calico-cathy@yahoo.com or 426-2472.

Volunteers Needed at RCJL

The Reutlinger Community for Jewish Living provides assisted living, Alzheimer's and skilled nursing care to its residents. Volunteers play a key role. RCJL has a wide range of opportunities matching volunteer's interests while ensuring the needs of residents. To apply, call Irma, 964-2098.

TV30

Ask the Doctor

Watch "Ask the Doctor" live the first Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. on Channel 30 and thereafter the show will repeat every Wednesday at 7 p.m. Viewers can phone in medical questions to the doctors by calling TV30 at 925-462-3030. It's also Web cast on www.tv30.org. Sponsored by San Ramon Regional Medical Center.

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. Visit www.TV30.org.

Tri-Valley Sports Final

This weekly show covers team and individual high school sports in the Tri-Valley. TVSF airs on Channel 30 at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Friday through Sunday. Hosts: Ian Bartholomew, Dr. B., and Dennis Miller. Visit www.TV30.org for details.

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201 Main St., Pleasanton, (925) 484-0789. Vic's delivers a starry mix of American food, fast service and a cheery atmosphere. Owner Vic Malatesta teamed his love of sports with his passion for good food to create a solid dining experience. Vic's is open daily 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Evening banquets and daytime catering are available.

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.

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Fontina's Catering

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

Chinese

Chinese Szechuan

3059 Hopyard Road #G, Pleasanton, 846-5251. Chinese Szechuan is

Pleasanton's best-loved Chinese restaurant. Family owned and run since 1987, it has friendly service, delicious food and great prices, including lunch specials from only \$5.25.

Panda Mandarin Cuisine

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

Willow Tree Chinese Cuisine

6512 Regional St., Dublin, 828-9111. Since 1978 Willow Tree has offered authentic Dim-Sum and banquet buffet cuisine. We prepare each dish with the freshest ingredients and are dedicated to hospitality. View our complete menu at www.willowtreerestaurant.com

Continental

Barone's

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

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Italian

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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.

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

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

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 405 Main St., Pleasanton, 417-2222. Pastas Trattoria has an elegant atmo-

sphere and a one-of-a-kind menu. We feature steaks, seafood and our famous pasta, plus a superb selection of spirits and fine wines. Live music will jazz up your Friday and Saturday evenings. The banquet facilities have wireless Internet for large parties, up to 70 guests.

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

Pizza

Gay Nineties Pizza Co.
 288 Main St., Pleasanton, 846-2520. Gay Nineties is family-oriented with an extensive menu, including our renowned pizza, Italian dishes, salads and sandwiches. We also have wine, beer, patio dining and games for kids. Come for groups, take out and call-ahead lunch orders. We're open seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

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