

## Moving forward

Oak Grove opponents meet deadline to force referendum > **page 5**

Vol. VIII, Number 45 • December 7, 2007

www.PleasantonWeekly.com

## County crown

Amador Theater to host scholarship pageant

> **page 7**

# PLEASANTON WEEKLY

## Holiday happenings

Thousands crowd Main Street for annual parade

> **section 2**

**'A date which will live in infamy'**  
**page 16**

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# Around Pleasanton

by Jeb Bing

## Whatever happened to Christmas?

**S**ure, Dec. 25 is just 18 days away. But except for a brief flash of "Merry Christmas" on Wheels Bus No. 12 that I saw Monday, the word "Christmas" seems to have metastasized into "Holiday," "Season's Greetings" or nothing at all. Last Saturday, the once fabled Pleasanton Christmas Parade was the Hometown Holiday Parade. Marching units celebrated "the holiday." Even the Pleasanton Weekly convertible carrying our President Gina Channel-Allen and me boasted a "Happy Holidays from the Pleasanton Weekly" sign. In the parade, only Santa shouted a boisterous "Merry Christmas to All" from his high perch on a fire truck, and that was at the end of the hour-long parade. Even the city's gaily-decorated and lighted tree outside the Museum On Main is no longer a Christmas tree, but it's become a less meaningful "holiday tree," whatever that is. At least that's a bit more festive than Dublin's, which calls theirs simply a "community tree." Perhaps Dubliners are afraid the word "holiday," just as some in Pleasanton view "Christmas," as a word that could offend non-believers.

Even Santa has run into the idiotic political correctness wall. Santa's helpers at the mall are no longer allowed to say "Ho-ho-ho," for fear it will frighten children or offend women. Santas also aren't allowed to pick kids up and plop them on their knees. In fact, they aren't allowed to touch kids at all and are instructed to keep both their hands in full view at all times when photographs are being taken. In some stores where there's no "bowl full of jelly" Santa, there are Santa helpers who are dressed much the same. But they can't say "Merry Christmas," and are told by their trainers to say "Happy Holidays" or "Season's Greetings." When you and I were 5 years old and counting the calendar days until Santa came, did anyone ever wish you "Season's Greetings?" What's a season, anyhow? When

does a season start and stop? Are we in mid-season now or nearing the end of one?

Of course, it's hard to sing Christmas (holiday?) carols without mentioning words that you're supposed to avoid, words like "Jesus," "Savior," "Christ" or even "manger." The three PleasanTones walked the line carefully in their tree-lighting concert last Saturday, belting out old holiday favorites such as "Jingle Bells" and "Sleigh Bells Ringing." Political correctness rules unofficially governing what we say at Christmastime are everywhere and growing. Many stores are advertising that they'll be closed on Dec. 25 and early the day before. Schools will be out for Winter Break. I bought a Christmas (er, Holiday) gift the other day at Macy's and asked to have it wrapped. She graciously showed me the wrapping desk and wished me a "Happy Holiday." When I asked why not "Merry Christmas," she cringed, explaining that her department supervisor said never to say such a thing to a customer. There are even some extremes. A Christmas tree was removed from the atrium of a student center at Missouri State University two weeks ago after the school president said it was inappropriate. This week he backed down and the tree went up again. But up in Eugene, Ore., Jim Johnson, the city manager, has banned all Christmas trees on public property, saying they're too often associated with Christmas and the Christian religion. Then there's Lowe's, which will open its new Dublin store next Friday. Lowe's issued an apology after customers were outraged at the home improvement store's 2007 "Holiday" catalog, which refers to what most of us call a Christmas tree as a "family tree." Lowe's says it was just a typo. It's worth a trip there next weekend just to see if anyone there wishes customers a "Merry Christmas." I might even buy our tree there if they do. ■

### About the Cover

USS Shaw explodes during the Japanese raid on Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941. On the anniversary of "the date which will live in infamy," residents recall everything from what they were wearing to what they were doing when they heard the news of the attack that would lead to the United States entering World War II. Cover photo courtesy U.S. National Archives Vol. VIII, Number 45

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# Streetwise

**Q:** Are you prepared should a major earthquake hit the Bay Area?

Asked Downtown



**Tom Spitzer**  
IT Consultant

Well, I don't know that there is any way to be truly prepared. I have a bunch of non-perishables and water stored away. My job is on the other side of the bridge so when the "Big One" hits I will most likely be separated from my family. It's the reality of living in the Bay Area.

**Kathy Christensen**

Massage Therapist

I don't think I am as prepared as I should be. I lived through the earthquake in Kobe, Japan. We all got very prepared after the quake for the subsequent aftershocks. Thinking back on how we handled that, as opposed to complacently sitting back and hoping it doesn't happen here, seems rather ignorant. I have a little food stored and heavy objects secured, but sadly that's the extent of it.



**Annie Cameron**

Aesthetician

No. I don't feel that I'm fully prepared. I do have some extra canned goods, but I need to get 5-gallon containers of water and a long-term emergency kit. The earthquake that happened last month shook us up a bit but, unfortunately, did not inspire me to get more prepared.



**Karen Moirano**

Stay-at-Home Mom

I am certainly not prepared. Every time I hear a public service announcement or read something, I think I should be doing more to prepare. I don't feel that we are in that great of danger, although Loma Prieta shook me up. Unlike folks that live in the Midwest and prepare yearly for tornadoes, earthquakes are so unpredictable. We roll along in 80 degree weather in December.



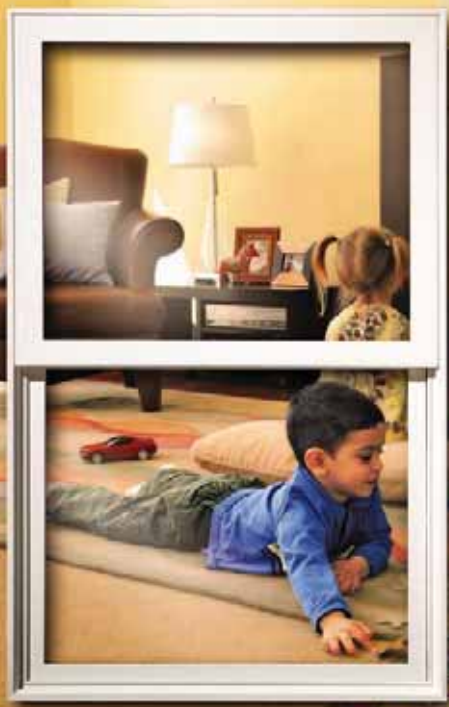
**George Ostergard**

Retired

I am not. I don't think about the possibility much. I think we just don't believe a big one is going to hit. People have so much on their minds they don't give it all much thought. Even the one last month—I just shrugged it off and didn't really take it too seriously.



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

Compiled by Cybele Ryan

# Newsfront

## News Digest **Home Depot loses bid for 2nd store in town**

*Studies show local businesses could lose 16% of revenue if big box store built*

### Mega Open Mic to be held at Century House

Pleasanton Civic Arts presents a Mega Open Mic from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday at the Century House, 2401 Santa Rita Road. In a departure from the usual format, aspiring and accomplished poets of all ages will be invited to read a favorite or original poem of 40 lines or less. Admission is a new children's book or small stuffed animal to be donated to Project Night Night. Light refreshments will be served. Visit [www.civicalartsliterary.org](http://www.civicalartsliterary.org) for more information.

### Unite 4 Life group comes to Foothill

Foothill High parents are invited to attend a parent education night from 7 to 8:30 p.m. next Monday at the school's multi-purpose room. Livermore-based support group Unite 4 Life will lead the meeting as Executive Director Aaron Chidester will discuss at-risk behaviors, depression, suicide and more. The group's Web site will be up soon at [www.unite4life.com](http://www.unite4life.com). Their 24-hour help line is 1-877-827-HELP.

### Stoneridge hosts holiday happenings

Stoneridge Shopping Center is hosting several holiday events. Pets can tell Santa Paws what they want this year and take a photo from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Sunday. Enter through Entrance D, between Sweet River Grill & Bar and the Cheesecake Factory. Small to medium cats and dogs only. The Stoneridge Kidgits Club presents "Santastic! Santa's Fantastic Musical Revue" at 1 p.m. Dec. 14. This event includes singing and dancing elves, arts and crafts and photo opportunities. Call 463-2778 for details about these events.

### Counseling, teen life coaching open house

Trinity Life Solutions is holding a Christmas open house from 5 to 7 p.m. Dec. 14 at 4625 First St., Ste. 235. Meet staff who are trained in counseling and teen life coaching as well as Trinity Search and Recovery staff. Refreshments will be served. RSVP to [bridget@trinitylifesolutions.com](mailto:bridget@trinitylifesolutions.com). Visit [www.trinitylifesolutions.com](http://www.trinitylifesolutions.com) for more information.

### Corrections

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

**H**ome Depot lost its two-year-long bid Tuesday to build a second home improvement store in southeast Pleasanton as part of a major 200,000-square-foot retail development at Bernal Avenue and Stanley Boulevard, across from McDonald's.

Members of the City Council, after hearing more than two hours of often hostile complaints about Home Depot and its proposed second store location, said the big box store was being proposed for the wrong site and would be bad for Pleasanton.

If anyone favored Home Depot, they weren't in the packed City Council chambers for the so-called workshop discussion. Scores of speakers followed one another to the lectern

to talk against Home Depot, citing new traffic studies that showed 25 semi-trailer trucks would make deliveries to the store each day, and also new financial studies that showed the financial benefits to Pleasanton would be minimal.

Two representatives of Home Depot were in the audience, but did not speak. They left the presentation of store plans and the colorful, architecturally-inviting Gateway shopping center it would anchor to Pete Knoedler of Regency Centers, a commercial center development firm.

Knoedler was visibly shaken by the decision, especially by the harshness of some comments from homeowners who live near the proposed

site and by Councilman Matt Sullivan, who said the project "doesn't make sense for that location and doesn't make sense for our local economy."

"It's clear to me that this is a bailout plan for Home Depot," Sullivan said. "They are going to lose business (at their Johnson Drive store) to Lowe's but would be ahead by 22 percent with this second store. Meanwhile, our local home improvement stores would lose 16 percent of their business."

"This site is probably the worst place in town where we can think of building a big box retail development," he added. "Sometimes a project comes through and you look at it and say

(continued on page 12)



Proponents of a referendum to block construction of 51 homes in the southeast hills above Kottinger Ranch deliver boxes containing 5,266 signatures to qualify their measure for a vote in the June 3 primary election. They are (from left) Allen Roberts, Kay Ayala, Bill Rasnick and Karla Brown.

## Anti-Oak Grove group gains 5,266 signatures to force referendum

*Coalition wants voters to block plan for 51 homes on hilltop*

by Jeb Bing

**O**pponents of a City Council-approved plan to allow the construction of 51 estate homes on the hilltop above Kottinger Ranch and Vintage Hills submitted 5,266 signatures of registered voters in Pleasanton to City Clerk Karen Diaz Wednesday, more than enough needed to force a vote on a referendum to overturn that decision.

Former Councilwoman Kay Ayala said more than 100 volunteers joined in the effort to gather

signatures, walking city streets and sitting at booths at shopping centers and even on soccer fields to meet the filing deadline, which was 5 p.m. yesterday, Dec. 6. Some gathered signatures at last Saturday's Holiday Parade, while others solicited signatures from shoppers at the Farmer's Market and even from motorists in parked cars awaiting their children at schools across Pleasanton.

(continued on page 10)

## Toys for Tri-Valley tots

*Several local groups collecting for less fortunate children during the holidays*

by Emily Atwood

**S**everal local groups joined with the U.S. Marine Corps to provide toys for children during the holidays. In its 60th year, the Toys for Tots program benefits children in the Tri-Valley area through local agencies.

Pleasanton letter carriers are continuing their tradition by picking up toys as well as mail in the weeks leading up to Christmas. Donations of unwrapped, new toys are still being accepted this way or at the post office at 4300 Black Avenue from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, except Sundays.

They will also be hosting their annual toy drive from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 15 at the Blake Avenue post office. Marines will also be there to accept the toys.

Postmaster Gurjant Khosa said the holiday season is about helping those in need and that postal employees around the country often do this every day.

*"The age group typically lacking is the boys and girls ages 13 to 17."*

— Fire Capt. Ken Atkinson

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department is on its way to achieving this year's goal of collecting 15,000 toys, up from the 12,000 collected last year. They currently have about 2,000 and hope to get a large amount at a toy drive event, scheduled from 7 a.m. to noon tomorrow at the Toys R' Us in Dublin, 6850 Amador Plaza Road. An antique fire engine and firefighters in uniform will be there to encourage people to donate toys.

"The age group typically lacking is the

(continued on page 8)

# Threat of school shooting puts Village High under lockdown

Friday's two-hour incident marks second scare this year in the district

by Emily Atwood

A phone call about a shooting threat last Friday at Village High School led to a two-hour lockdown of the campus. The Pleasanton Unified School District offices and community television station TV30 were also closed as they share the property at 4665 Bernal Ave.

Myla Grasso, district spokesperson, said the phone call was received around 9 a.m. and prompted an immediate closure of the property.

The threatening call reportedly came in at 9:11, according to police, but it was unknown if there was any significance to that.

The community news channel's office is on the adjacent to the district offices, which also houses the Village High School campus.

"At around 9 a.m. we got a call from Pleasanton's finest (the Pleasanton Police Department) to lock the doors and stay inside," said Dennis Miller, a sports personality for TV30, about an hour and a half into the lockdown.

Police were staked out around the entryways as officers investigated the campus for a potential threat. Grasso added that the other schools were notified of the situation, but were not under lockdown.

After two hours, the lockdown was called off as police could find no credible evidence of a threat,



Emily Atwood

Pleasanton police barricaded the entrance to Village High School and the school district offices Nov. 30 during the lockdown situation.

Grasso said.

The school and offices resumed normal schedules as school resource officers remained on campus throughout the day. The investigation into the threatening call is continuing.

This is the second lockdown situation the district has faced during this school year, the first happening at Amador Valley High School Oct. 15. Police have said there was no

credible evidence in that situation either.

The most recent lockdown is one of a number of unusual events in the school district since early October. There have been two teen suicides, a report of an attempted abduction at Vintage Hills Elementary School (that police have now ruled a case of mistaken identity) and a sixth-grader who was struck by a vehicle near Pleasanton Middle School. ■

# Investigation continues into Baci restaurant fire

Police look into who could be to blame

by Emily Atwood

A fire that broke out at Baci Seafood and Steak restaurant around last Friday has fire officials exploring leads that indicate it was arson.

According to Det. Derek Hooper of the Pleasanton Police Department, at about 7:30 a.m.,

someone appeared to have thrown a jar of a substance, believed to be gasoline, through a window into the back of the restaurant building. Hooper said this ignited the fire, but the sprinkler system contained it quickly.

He said the incident is still under investigation and they don't have any suspects as of yet.

While a manager was unavailable to comment, an employee of Baci, located at 4889 Hopyard Road, said the fire damage wasn't extreme and therefore, the restaurant remained open for business after the minor damage was cleaned up.

If anyone has information about the incident, they are asked to call police at 931-5100. ■

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# A need for scholarships pushes pageant revival

*Miss Alameda County contest to be held at Amador Theater in February*

It's been over 20 years since Alameda County has held a pageant, but that is about to change as a "Miss" will be crowned in February.

Barbara Davies Walsh, executive director of the Miss Alameda County Scholarship Pageant, said it was brought back out of need for scholarship money. Each participant will receive a scholarship, with the bulk of it going to the overall winner.

The contest is open to young women ages 17 to 24, who either live, work or attend school in Alameda County. They also must be a U.S. citizen, never married and with no children. The county level competition is an official preliminary round to the Miss California Pageant, which takes place in Fresno in June.

Walsh said some may remember that there used to be a Maid of Pleasanton as well as the Miss

Alameda County Pageants held at the fairgrounds.

Scheduled to be held at 7 p.m. Feb. 23 at the Amador Theater, Miss Oakland 2006 and Miss California finalist, Rachel Kerstner, will be the Mistress of Ceremonies. Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty is slated to be one of the "celebrity judges."

According to Walsh, there will be swimwear and evening gown segments, although the point values are weighted so that the talent and overall intelligence account for more than 50 percent of the total points.

For those interested in entering or businesses interested in supporting the program, call Walsh at 846-6277. The deadline for entries is Dec. 20



Rachel Kerstner

—Emily Atwood

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**Toys**

(continued from page 5)

boys and girls ages 13 to 17," Fire Capt. Ken Atkinson said.

LPCD saw a need for toy collections five years ago and started assisting in the U.S. Marine Corps' program. Next year the fire department will become their own charter in an effort to meet needs of children in the Tri-Valley.

Donation barrels are located at every fire station in Pleasanton and Livermore, as well as in each of the city's city halls. Pleasanton City Hall is located at 200 Old Bernal Ave. They would like to have donations in by Dec. 24, but will still collect through the end of the year.

When asked what the most popular gift is this year, Atkinson said it's no different than year's past: Barbie dolls.

The Pleasanton Police Department also has a bin for donated toys and they're participating in the Pleasanton Police Officers Association's annual Giving Tree Program that benefits families and seniors in need. Tags are available in the lobby at the police station, 4833 Bernal Ave. There are several tags left asking for things such as pants and shoes.

Wrapped Giving Tree gifts should be returned to the police department prior to next Wednesday so they can be delivered to the local families. ■

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# Breakfast for Martin Luther King, Jr. planned Jan. 28

Tri-Valley YMCA will host event celebrating civil rights leader's legacy, life

Leaders from across the community will converge next month to honor the life and legacy of one of the nation's most prominent civil rights figures.

The Tri-Valley YMCA will host the 8th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Fellowship Breakfast on Jan. 28. The program, also hosted by Assemblyman Guy Houston, (R-San Ramon), will include a number of inspirational speakers related to this year's theme-- "Everybody can be great. Because anybody can serve." Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is a holiday observed the third Monday of January. This year, it falls on Jan. 21.

According to Kelly O'Lague Dulka, the breakfast began in the

Tri-Valley after Houston learned of a similar event organized by the Oakland YMCA and suggested having one locally.

Along with the breakfast, the YMCA is holding a Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. essay and poster contest for third through 12th grades. Students who live or attend school in the Tri-Valley are eligible. The contest submissions will be on display at the breakfast and winners will be awarded prizes during the program.

The breakfast will take place from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Jan. 28 at the Pleasanton Plaza Hotel (formerly the Crown Plaza Hotel), 11950 Dublin Canyon Road.

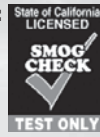
—Janet Pelletier

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## Pleasanton Real Estate News



by Gerarda Stocking

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**Negative stories about real estate often miss the mark**

On April 12, there an article in the Wall Street Journal entitled, "Hot Homes Get Cold."

[READ MORE/COMMENT](#)

**Town Square Forum**

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## Oak Grove

(continued from page 5)

"We are submitting these signatures one day early with many more than the 3,672 needed (10 percent of the 36,720 who voted in last November's municipal election)," Ayala said. "We took some time off for the Thanksgiving holiday. Without that, we could have collected at least twice as many more signatures."

Ayala and the co-sponsors of the "Save Pleasanton's Hills" coalition sat Wednesday afternoon with Diaz as the city clerk carefully counted the signatures. They included Karla Brown, vice president of the Kottinger Ranch Homeowners Association, and businessmen Allen Roberts and Bill Rasnick.

Once Diaz was sure there were more than the minimum required, she packaged the four boxes of documents and dispatched them to the Alameda County Registrar's office. There the Registrar and assistants must determine that at least 3,672 of the signatures are from currently registered voters in Pleasanton.

Once that's done, the City Council will be notified that the signature filing has been certified. It will then be up to the council to decide if it wants to reverse its own decision on Oak Grove or let the issue go to the ballot box. If it goes to a vote, the Registrar's office said it would most likely appear on the June 3 state primary ballot.

At issue is a plan that the council approved to allow three offshore developers—Jennifer, Frederic and Kevin Lin—to build 51 homes on 77 acres that they own at the end of Hearst Drive in Kottinger Ranch, an upscale neighborhood that the Lin family also built in the 1990s. These new homes would range in size from 8,000 to 12,500 square feet and would be among the larg-

est homes in Pleasanton.

As part of the agreement approved by the council, the Lins would give the rest of the hilltop land they own—496 acres—to the city of Pleasanton. The city, in turn, plans to build hiking trails and equestrian paths on the land, along with a staging area, parking lot and rest rooms. Except for the trails and an emergency fire and evacuation road, the hilltop acreage would be left as open space.

The open space also would be part of a 2,000-acre swath of permanent open space the City Council is hoping to acquire as other developers seek building approvals, extending from Callippe Preserve Golf Course to Shadow Cliffs Regional Park.

Ayala opposed the council action at the time and launched the referendum initiative the day after the vote. She had only 30 days to obtain the necessary signatures.

As hard and fast as the Ayala group was working, an even larger group of political, civic and business leaders moved just as quickly to urge Pleasanton voters not to sign the petitions. Led by businessman Jerry Pentin, the group, known as "Keep Our Park," posted its supporters at many of the same street corners, coffee shops, schools and other busy locations, often urging those approaching the opponents' signing tables to not sign the documents and explaining why they shouldn't.

One of the best recognized advocates of keeping the Oak Grove deal in place has been former Mayor Tom Pico, who is now a paid consultant to the Lin family and its Oak Grove project representatives.

Ayala urged the council to recognize the opposition to the Oak Grove project and rescind its vote to avoid a ballot-box election decision.

"But if it goes to a vote, I can assure you this project will go down by an 80 to 90 percent margin," she said. ■

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**Bank near mall robbed Friday**

Around 1:12 p.m. Friday a man reportedly robbed a Washington Mutual Bank on Stoneridge Mall Road threatened to use a gun, although no weapon was seen

[READ MORE/COMMENT](#)

**Town Square Forum**

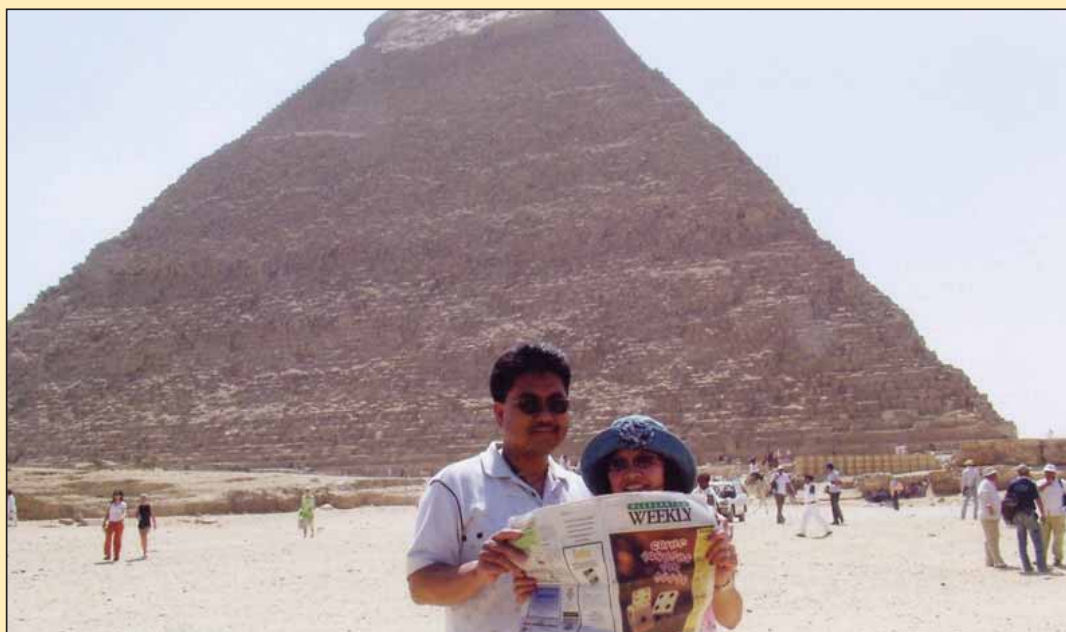
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## Home Depot

(continued from page 5)

this project is not a good one for Pleasanton. This project fits that bill exactly."

Although Tuesday's meeting was a workshop and no votes were taken, it was clear Home Depot and the Regency Center plans were dead in the water. Mayor Jennifer Hosterman and three council members—Sullivan, Cheryl Cook-Kallio and Cindy McGovern—said they would not vote in favor of the second reading of an ordinance that early on approved the project. Councilman Jerry Thorne, who supported the first reading of the ordinance, left Tuesday's meeting early because of illness and missed much of the discussion.

The turnout was particularly devastating for Knoedler, who has tenderly and cautiously nursed the Regency Center project along. He won a 4-1 approval of his plans from the Planning Commission; the city's Economic Vitality Committee unanimously endorsed the project, and the City Council voted 4-1 to approve it two months ago, with McGovern casting the only negative vote.

But because of mounting opposition from neighborhoods along Valley Avenue and Santa Rita Road that feared excessive noise from delivery trucks and higher traffic volumes from Home Depot customers, the council ordered a cooling-off period, using the time for a series of roundtable discussions with city staff. It was during this long delay that opposition grew, especially as new studies showed Regency's and Home Depot's estimates of tax revenue to be gained from sales and promised controls over heavy truck traffic were changing. By Tuesday's

meeting with the full council, it was clear Home Depot had lost the battle.

Although Hosterman encouraged Knoedler and Regency to bring back conceptual plans for developing the long-vacant corner, which is across from McDonald's on Bernal at Stanley, Sullivan was not supportive. He said the council should give the site a rest until after the council adopts a revised General Plan, now under consideration, and develops an East Side Specific Plan that could include the Regency site, which is owned by longtime city landowner and developer Frank Auf der Maur. That could take several years if not well into the next decade.

Since the council did not vote on the second reading of the Regency approval ordinance, it will take up the application for final consideration and hold another public hearing on Jan. 15.

"At that time, the council may also wish to consider alternative actions based on the expanded public review process and continued public opposition to the project," said City Manager Nelson Fialho.

Those alternatives could include from denying the project as submitted and moving on, or allowing for reconsideration of the retail development other than Home Depot, which could include proposals for a Longs Drugs, coffeehouse and small retail stores. Another alternative would be to include the property into the East Side Specific Plan process, a plan that would take 24 to 36 months to complete.

Knoedler said he will meet with his development team in the coming weeks to determine what action Regency might take, if any, to revive its project plans.

—Jeb Bing

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# Community Pulse

## WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

### Planning Commission

Wednesday, December 12, 2007 @ 7:00 p.m.

Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- **PAUP-4, Jennifer Hosterman**  
Application for an animal use permit to allow a red tailed hawk to be kept in the rear yard accessory structure of an existing residence located at 2922 Chardonnay Drive.
- **PCUP 200, John Pfund, Tri-Valley Martial Arts**  
Application for a conditional use permit to allow a martial arts academy which would (1) include (a) up to 30 students ranging in age from four years to adult, and (b) up to four employees; (2) operate on Monday through Friday between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.; and (3) provide (a) child transportation to the academy from elementary and middle schools, (b) an afternoon program for children between the hours of 2:50 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., (c) after school tutoring and homework services, (d) after school games and activities, (e) seasonal camps, and (f) full day holiday care supervision, in an existing building located at 1262-A Quarry Lane.
- **PCUP-204, Ian Fitz-Simon, Windsor Retro Corporation**  
Application for a conditional use permit to operate a car dealership and car storage business located at 3440 Stanley Boulevard, Suite H.
- **PCUP-206, Norcal Volleyball Club**  
Application for a conditional use permit to allow the operation of an indoor volleyball facility for up to 24 players at a time, ranging in age from 12 years to 18 years, from December through June, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on weekdays and from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on weekends, in an existing building located at 7069 Commerce Circle.

### Trails Ad Hoc Committee

Monday, December 10, 2007 @ 7:00 p.m.

Chamber Conference Room, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Review of Committee's Purposes and Priority Projects

### Youth Commission

Wednesday, December 12, 2007 @ 7:00 p.m.

Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd

- Discussion Regarding the Book "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens," by Sean Covey

### Youth Master Plan Implementation Committee

Monday, December 10, 2007 @ 6:00 p.m.

Operation Services Center, 3333 Busch Road

- Tri-Valley Health Initiative Presentation and Discussion
- Nominate and Elect Chair and Vice Chair for January – December 2008

### Library Commission

- The regularly scheduled meeting of the Library Commission on December 13, 2007 has been cancelled. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on January 10, 2008 have been canceled

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Notice of Pleasanton City Grant Application Availability

Nonprofit, community-based organizations providing human services, youth programs and services, or promoting culture/arts.

### Civic Arts, Human Services and Youth Commissions

#### Welcome Applications

Application Packets will be available to the public Beginning December 5, 2007.

- Pick-up packets - Department of Parks and Community Services Main Office 200 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton
- Request packets to be mailed by calling (925) 931-5346
- Packets available through the City website: [www.ci.Pleasanton.ca.us](http://www.ci.Pleasanton.ca.us).

#### Application Deadline Wednesday, March 5, 2008

- Completed applications must be received by 5:00 p.m.
- No postmarks/Fax/emails.

If you have any questions regarding the City Grant process, please contact Kathleen Yurchak, Community Services Manager at (925) 931-5346

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

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

## Police Bulletin

### Reward offered for attempted murder suspect

A \$2,500 reward is being offered for a suspect who reportedly shot a 59-year-old Pleasanton man Nov. 1.

The Pleasanton Police Department and Crime Stoppers of Southern Alameda County are offering the reward, which was made possible by a city donation and a standard reward offered by Crime Stoppers.

According to police, the reward will be given for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the suspect. The suspect allegedly shot the man in the arm around 10:30 p.m. near the victim's home in the 7900 block of Paragon Circle.

The suspect is said to have been armed with a shotgun when he confronted the man with intent

to steal the car that he just parked in the garage. When the victim refused, police said he was shot in the arm and the suspect fled after discharging the weapon.

The suspect is described as male, approximately 25 years old, 5-foot 8-inches to 5-foot 10-inches tall, 150 to 160 pounds and wearing a dark jacket and dark colored skull cap.

Anyone with information on this investigation should call the Crime Stoppers Tip Line at 510-293-7197.



## Police Report

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

### Nov. 23

- DUI:  
-10:56 p.m. in the 200 block of Carnation Court

### Nov. 24

- Public drunkenness:  
-1:14 a.m. in the 6000 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

### Nov. 25

- Petty theft:  
-12:08 a.m. in the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road
- Public drunkenness:  
-2:38 a.m. at the intersection of Hansen Drive and Valley Avenue
- Battery:  
-1:39 a.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Road

### Nov. 26

- Theft:  
-12:20 a.m. in the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road  
-9:45 a.m. in the 3100 block of Bernal Avenue; grand theft  
-11:56 a.m. in the 1200 block of Quarry Lane; forgery  
-12:07 a.m. in the 3700 block of Kamp Drive  
-4:15 p.m. in the 3400 block of Andrews Drive  
-4:57 p.m. in the 3600 block of Shenandoah Court; identity theft
- Burglary:  
-4:09 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

### Marijuana possession:

- 5:43 a.m. in the 5700 block of Hopyard Road

### Recovered vehicle:

- 5:09 p.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue

### Nov. 27

- Theft:  
-12:58 p.m. in the 6000 block of Stoneridge Drive; petty theft  
-2:38 p.m. in the 8200 block of Golden Eagle Way; grand theft  
-5:14 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

- 8:34 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; embezzlement

- Burglary:  
-2:34 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

- DUI:  
-11:36 a.m. in the 5300 block of Hopyard Road

- Recovered vehicle:  
-4:28 p.m. at the intersection of Ivy Court and Springdale Avenue

### Nov. 28

- Theft:  
-9:32 a.m. in the 4200 block of Sheldon Circle; stolen vehicle  
-12:24 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; embezzlement  
-3:40 p.m. in the 5000 block of Case Avenue  
-5:43 p.m. in the 800 block of Madiera Drive; identity theft

- Burglary:  
-12:24 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting  
-5:28 p.m. in the 6400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

- Driving with marijuana:  
-6:42 p.m. at the intersection of Washington Street and California Avenue

### • Assault:

- 1:36 p.m. at the intersection of First and Abbie streets

- Recovered vehicle:  
-3:18 a.m. at the intersection of Alameda Drive and Brooktree Way

### Nov. 29

- Theft:  
-10:25 a.m. in the 6400 block of Calle Esperanza; petty theft  
-12:00 p.m. in the 900 block of Mingola Street; grand theft  
-12:24 p.m. at the intersection of Pimlico and Brockton drives  
-2:52 p.m. in the 5300 block of Prato Court; petty theft

- Vandalism:  
-2:23 p.m. in the 1900 block of Santa Rita Road; worth less than \$400

- Drug/alcohol violations:  
-12:06 a.m. at the Pimlico and Brockton drives; possession of marijuana for sale; marijuana possession  
-2:07 p.m. in the 6100 block of West Las Positas Boulevard; public drunkenness  
-4:15 p.m. at the intersection of Vineyard Avenue and Ruby Hill Boulevard; driving with marijuana  
-9:39 p.m. at the intersection of Bernal Avenue and Kottinger Drive; DUI

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# Transitions

## Obituaries

### C.M. "Frenchie" Allec

C.M. "Frenchie" Allec died Oct. 30 after complications from intestinal surgery. He was 79.

Mr. Allec was born May 6, 1928 in San Francisco. He graduated from Amador Valley High School in 1947 and served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He retired from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in 1990 after 31 years.

He is survived by his wife of 17 years, Marie; sister Lea Larson; two daughters Amy Helm and Michelle Tonowski; stepchildren Janine Schiller and John, Jeff and Joe Morey. He will also be greatly missed by grandchildren Shaun and Eric McInnis and step-grandchildren Chris Morey and Jake and Samantha Schiller, as well as his sons-in-law, additional family and many friends.

Mr. Allec was preceded in death by his first wife, Bette, in 1987.

A memorial service was held Nov. 16 in Walnut Creek. Donations may be made to Saint John Vianney Building Fund or a charity of your choice.

### Karen Diane Rudolph

Karen Diane Rudolph died Nov. 19 at the age of 56.

She was born June 13, 1951 to Agnes and Chester Douglas, who grew up in Okla h o m a during the Depression and knew a hard life as farmers.

Mrs. Rudolph's parents worked hard to survive and eventually came to Fresno, Calif. in the early 1950s, where they made a living picking cotton.

Her parents were at the fiber of her being. Mrs. Rudolph was bright, courageous and a very hard worker. She was loyal to her friends and most of all, her dogs. She loved her garden and collecting antiques. She particularly loved garden antiques. She, along with her brother Art, were the first members of her family to graduate from

college. The two graduated from San Jose State University and Mrs. Rudolph graduated with a nearly 4.0 grade point average.

Mrs. Rudolph met her husband at West Valley College in Saratoga in 1971. The couple enjoyed going to Vasona Park, Villa Montalvo and to the Santa Cruz Mountains, where they hiked and enjoyed nature. Exploring the country in their 1965 Ford Mustang, Mr. Rudolph proposed in that very car, where they later had their honeymoon. The car still resides in Mr. Rudolph's garage. Next to it is their 1957 Ford Thunderbird, a passion of Mrs. Rudolph's.

Mrs. Rudolph loved downtown Pleasanton and every day, after work, she would make the rounds with her friends. She supported all the local thrift stores and would come home each day with her finds. Everyone downtown enjoyed her jokes, her beautiful smile and her love of life. She listened to people's problems and helped them. She was described as a great wife, partner and true friend.



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She is survived by her loving husband of 33 years, Bill Rudolph; and her parents Agnes and Chester Douglas of San Jose.

**Madeline Clark**

Madeline Clark died in Pleasanton Nov. 16 at the age of 90.

She was born July 26, 1917 in Battle Creek, Mich. An Army wife, Mrs. Clark was the widow of Melvin D. Clark, a retired colonel.

Mrs. Clark was a master bridge player, a consummate cook and hostess.

She is survived by her sons, David Clark and Richard Clark; daughter, Julia Drummond; daughters-in-law, Judy Clark and Wendy Clark; brother, Don Robinson of Michigan; sister, Esther Robinson of Arizona; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband of 54 years, Melvin Clark, who died in 1995.

A funeral service will be held at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, where she will be buried beside her husband.

**Mary C. Mitchell**

Mary C. Mitchell died Nov. 28 in Pleasanton at the age of 79.

Mrs. Mitchell was born Nov. 11, 1928 in Pipestone, Minn.

She attended college at the University of Minnesota and later went on to be a professor of nursing. She enjoyed college sports

(University of Notre Dame) and bridge.

She is survived by her son, Stephen W. Mitchell (Debra) of Durham, N.C.; daughters, Anne M. Moselle (Dave) of Pleasanton, M. Susan Frost (Craig) of Phoenix, Ariz.; brothers, Jim Crook of Minneapolis, Minn., Jack Crook (Linda) of Council Bluffs, Iowa, and Den Crook (Cathy) of St. Joseph's, Mo. She is also survived by grandchildren, Tyler, Marcus and Brett Frost and step-grandchild, Zachary Hatch.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, John T. Mitchell, and her brother, Thomas Cook.

A memorial service was held Dec. 1 at Heritage Estates in Livermore. She will be buried at Colgate University Cemetery in Hamilton, N.Y.

Donations may be made to PanCan (Pancreatic Cancer Action Network), in memory of Jack Mitchell.

**Evelyn Tracy**

Evelyn Tracy died Nov. 24 in Pleasanton at the age of 92.

Mrs. Tracy was born Nov. 5, 1915 in Brooklyn, N.Y.

She is survived by her daughters, Janis Niedermyer and Pat Speka; sister, Eleanor Groves; grandchildren, John Speka, Jeanny de Dianous, Kelly Gossett, Carrie Swany, Nikki Hoy and Ashley Hoy; great-grandchildren, Jack

Speka, Jamie Speka, Taylor de Dianous, Tiana de Dianous, Hanna Gossett, Emily Gossett, Sophia Swany and Chloe Swany; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Woodrow Tracy and daughter, Susie Hoy.

A memorial mass was held Dec. 4 at St. Augustine Catholic Church. Burial followed at St. Augustine's Cemetery.

Donations may be made to Hope Hospice, 6500 Dublin Blvd., Ste. 100, Dublin, CA 94568.

**Mildred Outzen**

Mildred Outzen died Nov. 27 in Pleasanton at the age of 91.

Mrs. Outzen was born in January 1916 in Philadelphia.

She met her husband Frank O'Connor, married and moved to Livermore in the late 1960s.

She lost her brother, a U.S. Navy pilot, on the U.S.S. Franklin aircraft carrier during World War II.

She worked as a secretary at Camp Parks in Dublin and the Livermore Veterans Hospital. She especially enjoyed her 23 years as a legal secretary for the law firm of the late William Struthers, Esq.

A past president of the Livermore-Amador Valley Legal Secretary Association, she was also actively involved with the Women's Auxiliary. She and her second husband Robert Outzen enjoyed entertaining their many

friends at home, sharing her great Irish humor and playing cards and board games. She treasured the many friends who came into her life. She was a warm and loving woman who will truly be missed by all who knew her.

She was preceded in death by two husbands, Frank O'Connor and Robert Outzen; her son, Terrence O'Connor; and sister, Loretta McCarty.

She is survived by her nephew Dr. Richard McCarty; nieces, Toni McCarty, Loretta Harris and Gloria Galey.

A memorial mass was held Dec. 7 at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church in Pleasanton. Donations may be made to a favorite charity.

**(Marion) Edward Hjerpe**

(Marion) Edward Hjerpe died Nov. 30 at the age of 75.

He was the beloved husband of Millie Hjerpe, cherished father of Kenneth (Malika), Stephen (Gerry), Michael, Therese (Kevin), Mark (Amy) and Jeanett Vu.

He was also the doting grandfather of Ashley, Kristen, Haley, Nick, Annabelle, Samuel and great-granddaughter Alexcia.

Mr. Hjerpe was an active coach in Little League, basketball and soccer for his children. He enjoyed membership at St. Augustine Catholic Church and serving on their social justice committee as well as belonging to SIRS.

In retirement, he greatly enjoyed golfing with his buddies. His biggest joy was his family, which he adored.

Visitation and a vigil were held Dec. 5. A mass was held Dec. 6 at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Pleasanton.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Autism Speaks, 2 Park Ave., 11th floor, New York, N.Y. 10016 or to a charity of the donor's choice.

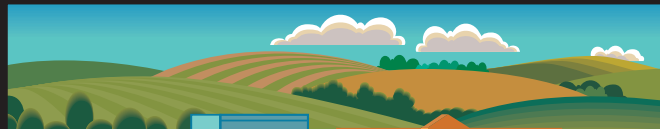


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# Remembering PEARL HARBOR

**‘A date which will live in infamy’**

by Jerri Pantages Long

**“Yesterday,** Dec. 7, 1941—a date which will live in infamy—the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the empire of Japan.” So began the war message to Congress of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

“There is no blinking at the fact that our people, our territory, and our interests are in grave danger,” he told Americans crowded around their radios. The surprise attack early on a Sunday morning in Hawaii had a ripple effect of tsunami proportions throughout our nation. Pleasanton was changed forever from a sleepy agricultural town as the nation went to war. It was senior year for members of Amador Valley High School’s Class of 1942. The news reached them midday, creating memories forever frozen in time.

Verna (Delucchi) Garibaldi can even remember what she was wearing.

“I had on a beige suit and a beige turned-up hat with a green ribbon,” she said. “I was just back from church. I remember I was walking out the screen door when we heard about it on the radio.”

“My father had gone fishing, so my mother and I went to Cozy Corner for lunch,” said Verna’s classmate and lifelong friend, Barbara (Lanini) Wolfenberger. “Someone came in and said Pearl Harbor had been bombed, and we weren’t sure where that was. I said I thought it was in Hawaii. We were shocked.”

“I happened to be on a date,” remembered Shirley (Oxsen) Butler. “I was with Bob (Casterson, Amador Class of 1938), my first husband, on the way to the Paramount Theater in

Oakland to see “Honky Tonk,” starring Clark Gable. When we heard the news on the radio, we pulled to the side and stopped, listening in disbelief. None of us had any idea of how the world was going to change for us.”

The next day, Amador coach and teacher George Patterson was missing, a captain in the reserves already called to active duty.

“All the boys were talking about enlisting,” Wolfenberger said. “They were all ready to go.”

In fact, one of their classmates, Louis Jackson, left school before graduation to join the Army, and the school yearbook—with the nation’s eagle on its cover—was dedicated to him. Most of his male classmates would also sign up for Army, Navy, or Marines within four months of their graduation. That was the case for Jack Butler, who grew up in Sunol. He enlisted in the Navy.

“It was the thing to do,” he said.

By November, he was on a troop train to Idaho for basic training. At the end of that three-day trip, he found himself in a different world, along with several thousand other sailors.

“I was living in a great big open barracks, with no privacy whatsoever,” he said. “I remember how tired I was when I got that four-hour watch after a full day’s work. You really

matured fast.”

Butler’s military training took him to Tennessee, for aviation machinist training, followed by gunnery training in Florida—all new worlds for the teenager. He crisscrossed the nation again by train to Treasure Island for two weeks before shipping out to the South Pacific.

“At least I could hitchhike home from there,” he said.

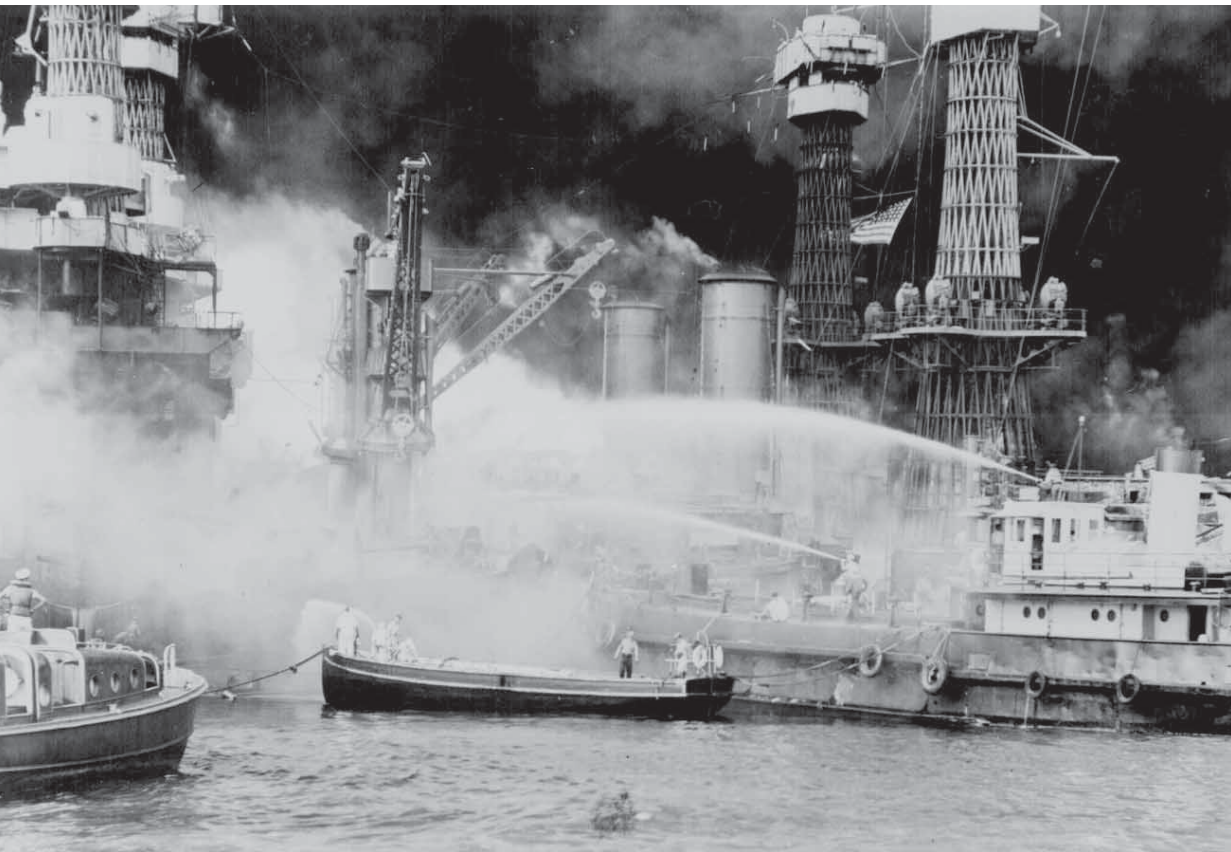
“In those days, hitchhiking was a common practice. When you drove out Hopyard onto Highway 50 (now 580), there’d be a whole line of sailors waiting to hitch-hike,” Butler said. “You’d stop and pick up as many as you could fit into your car. These were someone’s sons, brothers, and husbands, and you watched out for them.”

But that came later, after Pearl Harbor Day’s impact was understood.

“We were just kids, and the biggest thing on our minds was the Senior Ball,” Wolfenberger said. “I don’t think it hit me until Ambrose Regalia was killed—he was the first (from Pleasanton)—that was reality.”

“One impact on us was that we had Japanese kids who went all through school with us, and they took them away,” Butler said. “We definitely felt that when they were gone from our class.”

Four of the 34 members of the Class of 1942 were shipped



The USS Arizona burns after Japanese bombers made a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941. This event brought the United States into World War II. Above: Many U.S. Navy fleets, like the USS West Virginia, were aflame after the Japanese aerial attack.

to internment camps the April before graduation. One of the managers, Tom Sakata (now deceased), enlisted in the famous Japanese-American battalion. That battalion was sent on dangerous missions and suffered the highest rate of battlefield deaths. Blackouts became a part of life on the homefront. Blockades were assigned to make sure that no light was showing from anyone's windows. Verna Garibaldi recalled getting down on the kitchen floor so she could practice her shorthand home-work by the pilot light of the water heater—surely one of the most heroic student efforts on record. Fear and rumors swirled through town, particularly when full blackouts were announced and the prolonged wailing of sirens.

My mother had washed white sheets and left them out to dry, Wolfenberger said. "I was scared that we'd get bombed. I'd heard the (false) rumor that Japanese troops had come over as San Jose. We were supposed to turn out every light and stay inside but of course, we didn't. We all went down to Main Street. It was so dark you couldn't even tell who you were talking to in the crowd."

She noted that, despite the persistent myth to the contrary, the search sign was totally blacked out, not left with the letter glowing, for "P-Town." Pleasanton was invaded, but not by enemy agents. The government took over farmland just north of Pleasanton (now Alameda) for the site of Camp Parks and Camp Shoemaker. The McNeil Construction Company of Southern California won the bid for the job, and they moved 4,000 construction workers to the site for the speeded-up project.

"That's when the town changed," Garibaldi said, "when they built Camp Parks for Seabees (CB for Construction Battalion) and Camp Shoemaker for the Navy. Almost every man in town worked out there at one time or another."

Harriety Butler was working for a local bank after graduation from high school. "You have to imagine here's sleepy little Pleasanton, and here comes this huge construction crew. It was mind-boggling," she said. "We would keep the bank open late on Saturday nights to cash all the construction workers' paychecks, and there would be a line down the block." Later, she left her post at the bank to go work at the military hospital at Camp Shoemaker. According to the historical society's records, that hospital served 45,960 military patients between October 1943 and January of 1946. (Pleasanton's population was approximately 1,500 at the start of the war.) "Mind-boggling" might be the appropriate term to describe the immensity of the construction underway to transform farmland into military bases. The May 18, 1943 edition of the Oakland Tribune reported that William Curlett, general manager of the McNeil Construction Co., "revealed that 238 structures have been erected in the 176 working days since the start of the project last November. In addition, more than 2 million cubic yards of dirt was moved, 20 miles of road laid, and a water system with capacity of more than 3 million gallons installed."

It would seem that the construction company did its best to live up to their motto: "The difficult we can do immediately—the impossible takes a little longer."

Soon, up to 60,000 military personnel were being housed in 60 barracks and 1,000 quonset huts. This led to a tremendous local housing shortage as wives of sailors came to say farewell before their husbands were deployed or later, to visit husbands recovering in the hospital, awaiting discharge.

"People would walk the streets, to see a two-story house and ask for rental room," Butler said. "My folks rented our attic out to a Navy inspector and his wife. They became our 'Uncle George and Aunt Grace,' and while they were with us, he completely finished the attic space."

One unusual space that was occupied round-the-clock, beginning two hours after the Pearl Harbor attack, was the so-called "Eye in the Sky" room atop the former grandstand of the Alameda County Fairgrounds' racetrack. Butler, Garibaldi and Wolfenberger all served four-hour duty shifts up there, as did Bill Trimmingham (Amador Class of 1946).

"You had to walk out on the roof of the building and use field glasses to distinguish between plane lights and stars," Trimmingham said.

Sightings of aircraft were reported by telephone to a central command station from which interceptor planes could be dispatched if needed. With nearly all adult males in military service, Trimmingham and his classmates were required to help harvest local crops. One of the more unusual duties he recalls was tending to guayule plants near the racetrack. This was a U.S. Department of Agriculture Research station, seeking an alternative source for rubber.

One of the urgent needs that comes in a time of war is figuring out recreation for military personnel far from home. The (then) tiny town of Pleasanton rose to the challenge, hosting USO gatherings at the Veterans Memorial Building. The stated purpose of USO was to "aid and entertain military personnel and their wives." Someone came up with the brilliant idea of offering as bingo prizes coveted long-distance telephone calls home for homesick sailors. Monthly USO dances were organized, and many local teenagers got to be USO Girls, dancing with lonely sailors. However, they were carefully chaperoned.

"I was never there without my mother," recalled former USO Girl Gloria (Joseph) Stahlnecker (Amador Class of 1945). "My mother always ended up working in the kitchen."

Another person with fond memories of being a USO Girl is Harriet (Nilson) Causey (Amador Class of 1946).

"Although I was only 15 when I started attending the dances, I was allowed to be there because my good friend, Norma (Robey) Scruggs' mother, Mrs. Irma Robey, would help in the kitchen serving food to the sailors, so she was there to chaperone us," Causey said. "We had good bands from the base and learned lots of new dances from sailors from different parts of the country. Causey's friend Norma later

(continued on page 18)

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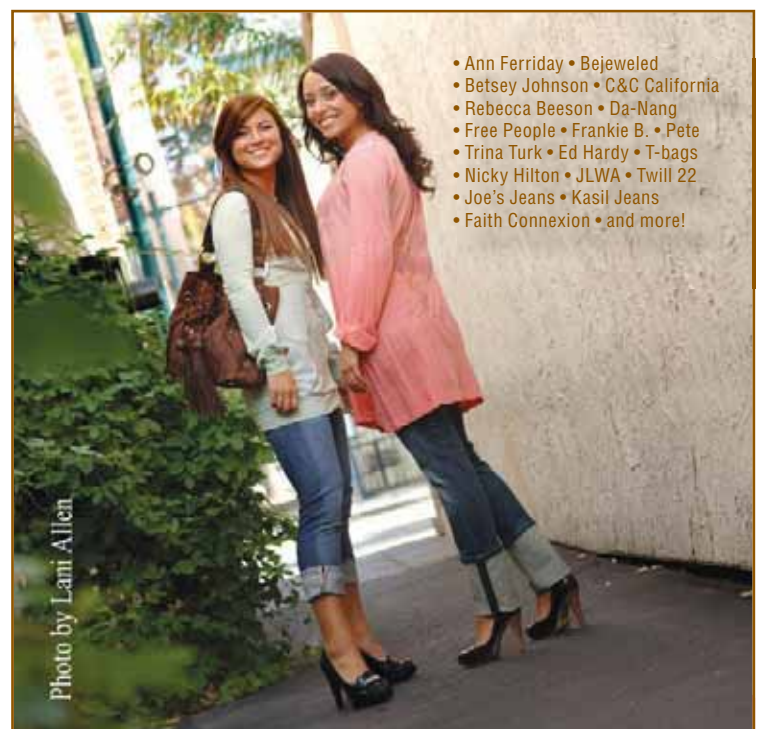
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Anador-Livermore Historical Society

Mrs. Jorgenson cuts pieces of cake for Swede "Bubbles" Nelson and Gloria (Joseph) Stahlnecker during intermission at the USO Anniversary dance on Feb. 1, 1945. Hazel Machado waits her turn.



Jerri Pantages Long

Barbara (Lanini) Wolfenberger and Verna (Delucchi) Garibaldi look at 1942 Amador Valley High School yearbooks, which featured a red and blue American eagle design on the cover instead of the school mascot.

## Pearl Harbor

(continued from page 17)

### They were there: perspective from Hawaii

married classmate Bob Scruggs (now deceased), who retired from Pleasanton Unified School District as director of media services. In an earlier interview, Bob Scruggs told of being one of the few teenagers living at Camp Parks.

"There were three of us who arrived at school in a Navy limousine, which was a little unusual," he said.

Scruggs also recalled that one of the buildings on the high school campus was converted into a cannery. Local families could preserve produce from their Victory Gardens, so that commercially canned goods could go to the military. Other ways that local families were encouraged to support the war effort included buying war bonds and donating scrap metal. Families learned to live with rationed sugar, meat, butter, shoes, gasoline, and tires.

No one was untouched by the war. Sixty-six years have passed since Pearl Harbor was attacked. As Roosevelt predicted, Dec. 7, 1941, is a date that continues to live in infamy not only for those who can remember it, but for all Americans.

Nancy (Torrey) Elsnab was 12 years old when her father's company transferred him to Hawaii in September 1941. On Dec. 7, she had ridden a bus to Sunday school, but when she arrived, all the adults and children were standing outside. "Your parents will be here to get you shortly," she was told.

When her family arrived, "We went out to Red Hill where we could see the destruction," she remembered.

As soon as they got home, Elsnab's mother began baking food that could be packed in case they were ordered to evacuate. Her father strung wire in the yard as a way of tripping up any invaders sneaking up on the house.

"We thought the Japanese might invade us that night," Elsnab said. "All the men had to go down to form some sort of military patrol, but my father had never fired a gun in his life. For a kid, it was exciting. I didn't realize the enormity of the whole thing."

School was dismissed until March. Civilians were ordered to dig bomb shelters at their homes.

"We all worked on it. There was just tons of military activity over there," Elsnab said. "Soldiers across

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Amador-Livermore Historical Society

View(s) of Camp Shoemaker, which was built in 1943 just east of Camp Parks in Dublin. The \$10-million construction project erected 200 buildings, including a Navy hospital and a disbursement center for sailors returning from World War II.



Jeri Pentages Long

Shirley and Jack Butler (left and above) had been high school classmates, saw each other when they were members of a mutual friend's wedding party in 1942, then went their separate ways, each marrying and raising two children. They met again at a class reunion in October 1989. By then, both were widowed. They were married the following February, to the joy of their children and (now) eight grandchildren

the street dug bunkers. They were in them night and day, so they became friends with all the kids in the neighborhood. After all, they were just a few years older than we were."

When they moved to Hawaii, their Pleasanton neighbors came to see them off in their first-class stateroom aboard the Lurline. One year later, they returned aboard the same ship, but it had been transformed for war duty as a troop ship.

"Coming back, we had to sleep in bunks and stand in a chow line. Soldiers who were returning from Guadalcanal were on the ship, and so was Hilo Hattie, who sang and played the ukelele," Elsnab said. "Our house (in Pleasanton) had been rented out, so we had to move in with neighbors for a few months."

Hilton Haile, who later worked in the Pleasanton post office until his death, was stationed at Pearl Harbor as a pharmacist mate. Although military personnel were forbidden to keep written records of their experiences, he spent the night of Dec. 7, 1941 writing down in the back of his hospital manual what he had experienced after being rousted out of bed at 8:15 that Sunday morning and ordered to report to his battle station.

A transcript includes the following: "The first thing I saw was several of our ships on the horizon. They were undergoing a terrific bombardment, but as I was on the bus, my view was not so good and (I) cannot verify any hits or planes lost."

After arriving at Hicam Field, wrote Haile, "I could see huge billows of smoke rising and many puffs of anti-aircraft fire which seem to be only five-sixths as high up as the planes were. Over this smoke was the first double rainbow that I ever saw in the morning here or anywhere. Between these rainbows the



Amador-Livermore Historical Society

Ladies of the community volunteered their time and baking talents at the USO in the Veterans Memorial Building. Pictured on Oct. 27, 1944, are (left to right) Mary Joseph (mother of Gloria Stahlnecker), Lee Wells, Hilda Giger, Ruth Amaral and Zorinne Jorgenson.

planes came like a waterfall in a stream. One after another they dove down into the smoke billows, and it appeared that they would surely be unable to pull up, for they actually dove within feet of their marks, not two or 3,000 like the movies, but within at least 300 feet they dove. I could see them plainly. This I believe was the last torpedo plane. It came in so low and close to me that I could see the (pilot) smile and the velvety blue uniform he was wearing. I do believe I could have shot him down with a shotgun if one were on hand. He was that close." ■

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# Opinion

## Editorial

### Three elections coming in 2008: Are you ready?

If you're confused about the various elections scheduled for 2008, join the crowd. For Californians, there will be three, with the first one—the Presidential primary—less than two months away on Feb. 5. Absentee ballots for that primary will be mailed out just one month from today on Jan. 7, giving registered Republicans, Democrats and others a chance to vote right away for their favorite presidential candidate. It's part of "Super Tuesday," moved up on the calendar to give us and some other states an earlier voice in who gets their party's delegates' votes at next summer's conventions. But we could be voting before the dust—or snow—even settles on the primary caucuses and balloting early next month in Iowa and New Hampshire. A recent California field poll shows that nearly half of us now cast absentee ballots. This means that by the time presidential candidates start campaigning here, a big chunk of the votes they'll be soliciting will already have been cast.

Then there's the statewide primary on June 3. Here's where we'll choose the candidates who will appear on the Nov. 4 General Election ballot for Congress and State Assembly. Remember, we will have already picked the candidate we want to head our party's ticket for president. For Pleasanton voters, Congressman Jerry McNerney is likely to run unopposed for nomination as the Democrat's choice for re-election to Congress with former State Assemblyman Dean Andal of Stockton, the apparent front-runner as the Republican party nominee to that 11th Congressional District seat. In the State Assembly, Democrats Alberto Torrico (20th) and Mary Hayashi (18th) are likely to be their party's nominees for re-election. The 15th Assembly District seat, however, is wide open with current Assemblyman Guy Houston, a Republican, being termed out. Candidates already are lining up for both the Republican and Democrat party nominations. Pleasanton voters also are likely to be asked to vote June 3 on a measure to overturn the City Council's vote last month to approve the 51-home Oak Grove project and the 496-acre open space land grant offer that went along with it. There might also be a second local measure on the ballot seeking voter approval of tighter building restrictions on hillsides with a 25 percent slope or greater. Again, with absentee ballots scheduled to be mailed out May 5, campaigns for these measures and primary election candidates will no doubt start long before the June 3 primary date.

Then there's the Big One: the General Election on Nov. 4, when Americans pick their new president. Anyone tired of the electioneering under way for the Iowa caucuses or New Hampshire primary should brace themselves for much, much more as the California primaries and General Election highlight political activity in 2008. Absentee ballots for this election will be sent out Oct. 6. Locally, three seats on the City Council and two on the school board also will be up for grabs. Mayor Jennifer Hosterman has already started campaigning for another two-year term in office. The first four-year terms of Council members Matt Sullivan and Cindy McGovern also expire next November, and they are expected to seek re-election. On the school board, the terms of Steve Brozosky, Chris Grant and Kris Weaver also will expire. When appointed to fill a one-year unexpired term last year, Brozosky said he would not seek election to that post. In 2006, Brozosky lost by only 188 votes in his bid to unseat Hosterman in the mayoral race. He might try again.

#### Code of ethics

The Pleasanton Weekly seeks to adhere to the highest level of ethical standards in journalism, including the Code of Ethics adopted Sept. 21, 1996, by the Society of Professional Journalists. To review the text of the Code, please visit our web site at [www.PleasantonWeekly.com](http://www.PleasantonWeekly.com)

# Letters

## Ridgeline ordinance needed

Dear Editor,

Don't tie the hands of our city government by badly conceived initiatives.

As citizens and residents of Pleasanton, I think most of us recognize that encroaching residential development on our surrounding hills requires the creation of a ridgeline ordinance. A decade ago this need was recognized and put into the General Plan, yet inaction has caused our attention to wane. With the pending Oak Grove project, now is the time to act, but let it not be through the initiative process. Let us work on forming a taskforce of city staff and Pleasanton residents who could come together and create a well-planned and thoughtful ridgeline ordinance that reflects our commitment to be a City of Planned Progress.

As Friends of Pleasanton and Pleasanton First have shown by their leadership on the Staples Ranch issue, groups in opposition to each other can still find ways to work together for the benefit of the greater community of Pleasanton.

Pleasanton is in danger of losing its chance at composing a smart ridgeline ordinance that could take into account differences between primary and secondary ridgelines. If the "Save our Hills" initiative ends up on a ballot and is voted for, it will make it almost next to impossible for Pleasanton to work towards this end. Please don't support the initiative.

Stacey Borsody  
Pleasanton

## Parents' silence does not mean acceptance

Dear Editor,

How does the school district and board begin to right a wrong? Superintendent Casey can and has the right to fluff up his feathers and defend the position of the school district—that is his job ("Testa, still badgering the educators," Around Pleasanton, Nov. 2, page 3). State guidelines, not mandates, is what this district falls back on. At 151 percent overcrowded status at Amador, why is this acceptable to the parents of this school? The PUSD needs to remember that silence from the parent community does not mean acceptance. It just takes one parent to lead them. Again, after 10 years of advocating, Julie Testa is that person.

Paula Plunk  
Pleasanton

## No national politics at council meetings

Dear Editor,

A recent letter stated that, in a Veteran's Day speech, Mayor Hosterman reminded residents they could speak about world issues at City Council meetings (Letters, "Hosterman, Sullivan use parade for politics," Nov. 9, page 17).

Does Hosterman encourage us to discuss, at council meetings, the failed Clinton policies which led to 9/11?

While he dallied, terrorists bombed the World Trade Center in 1993, the Khobar Towers, embassies in Africa and the U.S.S. Cole. They openly estab-

(continued on page 22)



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## Letters

(continued from page 21)

lished terrorist training camps in Afghanistan. According to the Iraq Survey report, with money from the corrupt Oil for Food program, Saddam was funding Secret Service laboratories developing biological and chemical weapons during this time.

More than 3,000 innocent civilians were murdered on 9/11 as a result of Clinton's feeble responses to these terrorist actions. Since then we have deposed two brutal dictatorships, cleaned out the terrorist training camps in Afghanistan and shut down the Iraq Secret Service chemical and biological programs. We have established two democracies, imperfect as they are. Further, while Iraq was a terrorist training ground, it is now a terrorist burial ground.

Our conflicts today are the result of a previous failed foreign policy, not the current one.

Is this discussion relevant to the City Council? I think not. It should be discussed in the context of national politics. It has no place at council meetings and Hosterman should stop suggesting that it does.

*Ted Tully, Pleasanton*

### Good reporting on bridal shop proposal

Dear Editor,

While I have not always been

a fan of the Weekly's reporting of Planning Commission activities, I did want to thank you for the excellent job you did in your recent article entitled "Commissioners say 'we do' to bridal shop," (Nov. 23, News, page 8).

While I am writing this as an individual and not representing the commission, from my perspective, it was a balanced, fair and accurate representation of the events.

This was a difficult issue for the commission to deal with and from my viewpoint, the Weekly did it right to produce this article. No secondary sources, no reliance on minutes: A reporter from the Weekly was present during the meeting and they called to verify the accuracy of what they were writing. We may not always agree but, in this case, hats off to the Weekly for 'doing it right' and keep up the good work.

*Phil Blank*

*(Planning Commissioner)*

### Location wrong for Oracle building

Dear Editor,

Oracle's application to build an office building next to the BART parking lot in Pleasanton is bad news for commuters and should be denied. The company's interest in keeping jobs in Pleasanton is commendable, but the location is wrong.

For years the irresponsible BART board has failed to provide adequate parking at the Dublin-Pleasanton station and has failed

to extend service to Livermore taxpayers who have paid for BART for decades.

BART is happy to make commuters' situation worse by charging for parking and by building an expensive garage.

None of this makes sense when there is vacant land available for more parking. The city should provide leadership where BART has failed. It should arrange for more BART parking and help Oracle find a more suitable location.

*Bob Hucker*

*Pleasanton*

### Chimney smoke affects our health

Dear Editor,

My neighbors don't understand how much it physically hurts to breathe in their dirty chimney smoke. When they burn I can't walk my dog or work in the yard. I've tried wearing a mask, but it's uncomfortable and hard to get enough air for these activities. Their chimney smoke came through the closed windows of my upstairs office. I was unable to work in there until I had all the windows replaced. In addition, I've followed my doctor's recommendation to install air filter systems in my house. And to be a good neighbor, I converted my fireplace to natural gas.

If people would voluntarily stop burning or convert their fireplaces to natural gas, we would all benefit. I worry about the long-term health consequences to our young children, seniors like myself, and our dear pets. Times have changed, and although I miss the crackling and dancing flames of a friendly old-fashioned wood fire in my fireplace, I am satisfied with other alternatives.

*Nancy Storch*

*Pleasanton*

### Archives on Weekly's Web site are great

Dear Editor,

Thank you so much for the archives on [www.pleasanton-weekly.com](http://www.pleasanton-weekly.com). I just love searching through the Weekly for articles that I remember reading and want to read again. The Web site is set up perfectly for doing this.

*Phyllis Brown*

*Pleasanton*

# Talking Points

by Gina Channell-Allen



## Not a matter of preference, but a matter of style

Our vice mayor, Cindy McGovern, wrote a guest opinion in the Nov. 23 edition of the Pleasanton Weekly and last week followed it up with a letter to the editor. Cindy made a few comments I am sure are asked often by readers, especially those who have written letters to the editor and press releases.

Cindy wrote in the letter, "why was southeast hills not capitalized through out my piece? Look at my piece and the General Plan and you will see that Southeast Hills is capitalized as the geographical name of this part of our ridges."

All editorial text—stories, letters, photo captions, headlines and so on—is subject to editing for clarity, context, grammar, spelling and style. The standard "style" by which journalists live is called Associated Press style.

According to the Associated Press, the stylebook was created in the 1950s to "provide a uniform presentation of printed word, to make a story written anywhere understandable everywhere." It is also helpful when newspapers are using stories from other newspapers or news wires because less editing is required.

The stylebook addresses just about every question imaginable, from the standard spelling of Hanukkah to the correct use of a semicolon. When teaching journalism students about style, the first thing I tell them is to forget everything their English teachers said about capitalization and composition titles. The second thing is to buy an AP Stylebook and never let it out of sight.

Remember your high school English teacher saying that books, newspaper and magazine titles should be in italics? In college, the style your professor preferred had books, newspaper and magazine titles underlined? In AP style nothing is italicized or underlined; newspaper titles don't even get quote marks. And there is no comma before the word "and" in a

series, which would earn red marks for students.

One particularly bothersome AP Stylebook entry, at least for me, is state abbreviations. AP style has yet to change to the two-letter ZIP code standard, except when there is a full address. How awkward is it to write Pleasanton, Calif., when the rest of the civilized world has been using "CA" for decades?

To be honest, print media editors are a strange crew. I have witnessed heated debates over whether the word "ballplayer" is one or two words (it's one), whether "pace-maker" should be capitalized (it's no longer a trademark, so it's not capped) and when it's appropriate to use "versus" versus "vs."

However, just as with everything, even the stylebook is all-encompassing. There is a Web site (Web site: two words, capitalized) called APStylebook.com where people from across the United States ask dozens of questions daily. Since May there have been 47 questions on the capitalization of regions.

The AP Stylebook entry on directions and regions instructs to lowercase north, south, northeast, northern, etc., when they indicate compass direction; capitalize when they designate regions, such as in the Midwest or Northern California.

The editor of the guest opinion took "southwest hills" as referring to the hills to the southwest since this area is not designated as an official region.

It was a judgment call on the part of the editor. I think it was correct.

But, then again, I was often a participant in the aforementioned heated arguments over word usage and style and love a good debate.

*Gina Channell-Allen, a 20-year journalism veteran, is the president of the East Bay division of Embarcadero Publishing Company, president of the Pleasanton Weekly and publisher of the Danville Weekly. Send questions to [gallen@pleasantonweekly.com](mailto:gallen@pleasantonweekly.com).*

This discussion will outline the criteria for a "good toy" for the full age range of children from birth through elementary school, the types of toys to consider, and the different ways the toys may be used to help children develop their full potential. We will also address safety and playthings to avoid, with time at the end for questions.

# Selecting Good Toys

by Charles D. Bernstein, Ph.D.  
President, Early Learning Institute

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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 (925) 600-0840.

# Calendar

## 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

**City Council** The Pleasanton City Council meets at 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

**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.

**Planning Commission** The Planning Commission meets at 7 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at the City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

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

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

## Classes

**Basic Yoga Class** Every Monday at 6:30 p.m. Beth Fox, certified yoga instructor, will teach a yoga basics class in Lynnwood United Methodist Church's multipurpose room, 4444 Black Ave. The class is \$12, open to the public and is appropriate for all levels of experience. Call 846-0221 or visit [www.lynnwood.org](http://www.lynnwood.org).

## 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.

**Daughters of the British Empire** Come for a friendly "cuppa" and a chat with your sister Brits in the local chapter of the Daughters of the British Empire. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month in Pleasanton. Call 875-0828 or 494-1273. Visit [www.dbenca.org](http://www.dbenca.org) or [www.dbesociety.org](http://www.dbesociety.org).

**eBig Startups/VC SIG Holiday Party** Please join us at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 10 for this year end gathering and celebration at Randick O'Dea & Tooliatos, 5000 Hopyard Rd., Suite 400. It's free for eBig Members and \$11.50 for pre-registered non-members. Visit [www.ebig.org](http://www.ebig.org).

**Everything Poetry** This poetry workgroup meets from 9 to 11 a.m. the first Saturday of the month to critique poetry and the third Saturday for a

## Calendar Spotlight



### Express to Success holds holiday party

The Express to Success holiday party and monthly meeting will be held from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Dec. 13 at Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, 5115 Hopyard Road. Non-members are welcome to attend at a cost of \$5 per meeting. The 2007-08 board of directors include Denise Colvin, Vera Packard, Sharon Almeida, Nancy Hill-Sapp, Sue David, Sue Evans and Patty Manzi. Call 202-9077 or visit [www.expresstosuccess.org](http://www.expresstosuccess.org) for details about this club.

workshop pertaining to an aspect of poetry business at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Bring 10 copies of a poem.

**Juggling Writing and Real Life** From 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 15, Susan Taylor Brown will present "Writing at Red Lights: How to Keep Going When the World Tells You to Stop," at Oasis Grille, 780 Main St. Brown, a speaker known for her ability to weave humor into her presentations, will discuss how writers can motivate themselves as they balance their time during the holidays. The meeting cost is \$20 for members and \$25 for nonmembers. Visit [www.trivalleywriters.com](http://www.trivalleywriters.com).

leywriters.com.

**Local Writers Meet for Support and Learning** The California Writers Club Tri-Valley branch meets the at 11:30 a.m. the third Saturday of each month at Oasis Grill, 780 Main St., to support experienced and aspiring writers in learning about their craft and sharing their work. Anyone who is curious about the group is invited to attend with no obligation to join. Call Kathy Urban, 296-0447 or visit [www.trivalleywriters.com](http://www.trivalleywriters.com).

**MOPS--Mothers Of Pre Schoolers** If you have a child/children from birth-6 years old, come join us and be

refreshed, equipped and encouraged. MOPS meets from 9 to 11 a.m. the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month through May 2008 at 4 Circle E Ranch Place, San Ramon. Enjoy breakfast, crafts and speakers. The cost is \$20 for the remaining semester. Call Silvia, 560-1411.

**NARFE** The Livermore Chapter 0397 of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association meets at 12:30 p.m. the second Thursday monthly at Emil Villa's Restaurant at the corner of Pacific and S. Livermore avenues in Livermore. Call 484-0813 or 846-7167.

**Pleasanton Newcomers Holiday Luncheon Buffet** The Pleasanton Newcomers invite you to enjoy a wonderful holiday buffet at 11:30 a.m. Dec. 12 at the Pleasanton Hotel, 855 Main St., as we support the Tri-Valley Haven. Suggested gifts worth around \$15-30: picture frames, gift cards, slippers. The cost is \$26. Contact Joyce at 399-5840 or [jwange1953@comcast.net](mailto:jwange1953@comcast.net).

**Porsche Club of America, Diablo Region** This club is for owners and enthusiasts of all Porsches. It meets at 8 a.m. every Saturday for breakfast at Marie Calendar's 1101 S. California Blvd., Walnut Creek and at 6:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at Strizzi's 3456 Camino Tassajara, Danville. Visit [www.pca.org/dia](http://www.pca.org/dia).

**Toastmasters** Pleasanton Community Toastmasters holds meetings Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Recreation Center, 4530 Sandalwood Drive. Learn the art of public speaking in a fun-filled supportive environment. Call Bobbi at 846-8654 or visit [pleasantontoastmasters.com](http://pleasantontoastmasters.com).

**Tri-Valley Democratic Club Dinner Party** The public is invited to the Tri Valley Democratic Club meeting and potluck seasonal party at 7 p.m. Dec. 10 at IBEW 595 Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy., Dublin. Meet local political figures and candidates. Please bring cans for the food bank. Bring main dishes, appetizers, drinks, desserts to share and a party attitude. Free admission, wheelchair accessible. Call Ellis, 831-8355, or visit [www.trivalleydems.com](http://www.trivalleydems.com).

**Tri-Valley Holistic Moms Network**

The group meets from 7 to 9 p.m. the third Monday of the month at CrossWinds Church, 6444 Sierra Court, Dublin. Dads and children are welcome. See [www.holisticmoms.org](http://www.holisticmoms.org).

**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.madzzyurgists.org](http://www.madzzyurgists.org) for more info and location of the next meeting.

**Tri-Valley Wood Carvers** Tri-Valley Wood Carvers meet each Tuesday at the Pleasanton Senior Center, wood shop room, from 12 to 4 p.m. The regular business meeting is held the second Saturday of the month, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Call Ken Morgan, 462-6586.

**TwinValley Mothers of Twins Meeting** Join us for our monthly Twin Valley Mother of Twins meeting, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at John Knox Presbyterian Church, 7421 Amarillo Road, Dublin. Our goal is to provide support, information and friendship to Mothers of Multiples. Roundtable question and answer time is at 6:30 p.m.; dads are encouraged to attend the roundtable. Call DeAnna at 948-0004 or visit [www.tvmotc.com](http://www.tvmotc.com).

## Concerts

**Bay Bells in Concert** The city of Dublin's Winter Concert Series presents Bay Bells "Snow Angels" at 7 p.m. Dec. 15 at Old St. Raymond's Church, 6600 Donlon Way. The group performs with over 100 bells and chimes representing over 200 years of musical experience. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for ages 12 and under. Admission at the door only.

**Contra Costa Wind Symphony** Duane Carroll leads the wind symphony in a free family holiday season concert at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 17 at Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Drive, Lafayette. The event

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## Fundraisers

**GourMade Cook for a Cause** In December, GourMade Cookery will be donating proceeds of its sales to support Open Heart Kitchen. Five percent of sales of every December menu item sold will be donated. To register for a session or place an order visit [www.gourmadecookery.com](http://www.gourmadecookery.com) or call 846-4774.

**Keep Someone Warm Drive** Foothill Knolls neighborhood is hosting their third annual clothing drive from 9 a.m. to noon Dec. 8 at the corner of Foothill Knolls and Prairie Drive. Drop off new or gently used coats, blankets, gloves, hats and umbrellas. Donations will be distributed to local shelters and community organizations serving those in need. Call 417-6657 or email [Chefmcrac@aol.com](mailto:Chefmcrac@aol.com).

**Sole Mates** BasicNecessities.org is accepting donations of gently used or new shoes in children's sizes K8-K12, or financial donations. This holiday season we will be providing shoes and socks to needy children in three K-5 Livermore schools. Call 858-5382 or visit [www.BasicNecessities.org](http://www.BasicNecessities.org).

**The Mother Bear Project** Knit This, Purl That owner Beth Spisak has a goal of sending 100 teddy bears to needy children by December. She seeks knitters and crocheters who want to participate by purchasing an inexpensive pattern from The Mother Bear Project and completing a bear by December. Call 249-9276 or visit [www.yourknittingplace.com](http://www.yourknittingplace.com).

**Toys 4 Tots Drive** Dinner My Way has started collecting toys for the Toys 4 Tots drive. Anyone can drop off new and unwrapped toys at 1989 Santa Rita Road in Mission Plaza. Call 485-4286.

includes an audience sing-along of familiar carols, and harpist Shannon Polley and actor Ken Baggot narrating "The Night Before Christmas." Visit [www.ccwindssymphony.org](http://www.ccwindssymphony.org).

**Pianist Jon Nakamatsu** Del Valle Fine Arts concert series presents pianist Jon Nakamatsu at 8 p.m. Dec. 8 at Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets are \$29, \$24 and \$19. They can be purchased from the LVPAC box office (373-6800) from noon to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday or online at [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org). Visit [www.delvallefinearts.org](http://www.delvallefinearts.org) for concert information.

**Sing-It-Yourself Messiah** A Sing-It-Yourself Messiah will be held at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 14 at First Presbyterian Church, 4th and L streets, Livermore. Professional soloists, piano accompaniment. Tickets are \$10 at the door, or call 866-4003 or email [info@valley-concertchorale.org](mailto:info@valley-concertchorale.org).

**Valley Concert Chorale Performs Annual Holiday Concert** Holiday music and audience sing-a-long of traditional carols will be performed by the Valley Concert Chorale at 8 p.m. Dec. 9 at First Presbyterian Church, 4th and L streets, Livermore. Tickets are \$18 in advance or \$20 at the door. Students age 18 and under are free. Visit [www.valleyconcertchorale.org](http://www.valleyconcertchorale.org).

**Valley Concert Chorale Performs Annual Holiday Concerts** Holiday music and audience sing-a-long of traditional carols will be performed by the Valley Concert Chorale at 8 p.m. Dec. 8 at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Road. Tickets are \$18 in advance or \$20 at the door. Students age 18 and under are free. Visit [www.valleyconcertchorale.org](http://www.valleyconcertchorale.org).

## Events

**ADAS Awards Art Grants to SRV Teachers** Alamo-Darville Artists Society's annual holiday party celebrates fundraising efforts for arts educators in San Ramon Valley Schools Dec. 11. Over \$72,000 has been donated since 1994. After dinner, checks are presented to teachers who share personal stories about using these funds. Public is encouraged to attend! Email [artpromoter@sbcglobal.net](mailto:artpromoter@sbcglobal.net).

## Health

**Free Classes in Holistic Health** In December the World School of Massage, 699 Peters Ave., will offer three free seminars for the public: Lymphatic Breast Health from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Dec. 5; Body Intelligence: Talking to Your Body to Reduce Stress from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Dec. 6, and Health and Foot Freedom from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Dec. 13. Visit [www.worldschoolmassage.com](http://www.worldschoolmassage.com).

## Exhibits

**Colors! Judy Seidel and Tivol Studios Art Show** Worthington Gallery West, 739 Main St., will have an art show featuring artists Judy Seidel and Jane Tivol. The exhibit runs from Nov. 17 to Dec. 29. Call 485-1183.

**LPC Paints Pets** Las Positas College art students will stage an exhibit--"LPC Paints Pets: A Holiday Show of Loved Ones"--from Nov. 3 to Dec. 7 at the Tri-Valley SPCA Galley, 4651 Gleason Dr., Dublin. Email [choffman@eastbayspca.org](mailto:choffman@eastbayspca.org). Animal paintings by students of Bill Paskewitz.

**Recent Works By Linda Ryan** An exhibition of new works by Livermore abstract figurative artist Linda Ryan will be on display from Nov. 13 through Dec. 8 at artspace contemporary fine arts & crafts gallery, 133 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Ryan's work combines an exploration of energy, motion and the figure. Visit [www.artspace-gallery.com](http://www.artspace-gallery.com).

## Holiday

**Breakfast with Santa** Santa is coming to the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd., Dec. 8. The first sitting is at 8:30 a.m. (activity no. 16702) and the second at 10 a.m. (activity no. 16703). The cost is \$5 for residents or \$6 for non-residents. Proceeds benefit the Dublin High School Irish Guard Band. Register online at [www.dublinrecguide.com](http://www.dublinrecguide.com).

**Cantabella Children's Chorus Winter Concert** Cantabella Children's Chorus presents its annual winter concert "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year," at 2 p.m. Dec. 8 at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Pkwy. Ring in the season with the beautiful sounds of children voices singing holiday songs. Tickets are \$10. Call 292-2663 or visit [www.cantabella.org](http://www.cantabella.org).

**Family Chanukah Party** Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, a Secular Humanistic Jewish Community, is sponsoring a family Chanukah party at 10:30 a.m. Dec. 9 at the Bothwell Center, 2466 Eighth St., Livermore. We'll cook and eat latkes, play games, and light candles. Free to members, \$10 per household for non-members. Call Judith, 485-1049.

**Holiday Food Drive** Pleasanton CPA firm JL Consulting is coordinating a holiday food drive benefiting people in need served by the Alameda County Community Food Bank. Donations of nutritious and non-perishable foods can be dropped off at 1021 Serpentine Lane, Ste. 105 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday until Dec. 17. Call 846-1859.

**Holiday Food Drive** Pleasanton CPA

## Film

**Romantico** This documentary is a "beautifully realized, subtly-hued, and bittersweet portrait of family, fatherhood, identity, and survival" through the eyes of Mariachi musicians, Carmelo and Arturo. It will be shown at 7 p.m. Dec. 8 at IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy., Dublin. Meet & greet starts at 6:30 p.m., refreshments are served, and event is wheelchair accessible. All are welcome. A \$3 donation is suggested.

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**Holiday Craft Craze** From noon to 4 p.m. Dec. 15 and 16, dozens of local artists and crafters will gather at 1152 Crellin Road for the Holiday Craft Craze. Extraordinary products will be featured, including art, jewelry, fashion, toys, and papierie. Admission is free and there will be goody bags, door prizes and refreshments. Visit [www.PCMwebsite.com](http://www.PCMwebsite.com) or call 249-0979.

**Toys For Tots** The 2007 Toys-for-Tots Campaign runs through Dec. 24. Delivery of new, unwrapped toys can be made to Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Stations and the Livermore and Pleasanton Police Departments. Firefighters have pledged to collect 15,000 toys to benefit the Tri-Valley. Call 454-2302 or visit [www.lpfire.org](http://www.lpfire.org).

## Kids & Teens

**Abbie 4-H Meeting** 4-H is a nationwide youth organization for ages 5 to 19 that helps young people gain citizenship, leadership and life skills, and participate in community service.

The Abbie 4-H club has numerous animal, non-animal and leadership projects. It meets at 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month at Mohr Elementary School, 3300 Dennis Drive. Visit [www.abbie4h.org](http://www.abbie4h.org).

**Hero Sled Dogs at the Library!** The Mountain Musers come to the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., at 2 p.m. Dec. 15. Meet patrol sled dogs from Denali National Park, Alaska; view a film of the dogs in action; see a fully-equipped dog sled; and learn about their life in the rugged wilderness. Free tickets given out at 1:30 p.m. Best for ages 3 and older.

**Winter Holidays Fun--Strings Attached!** The Fratello Marionettes present the "North Pole Review" at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Dec. 8. Featuring a juggling penguin, a Brazilian ice skating snowman, and the sensational Hawaiian Hi-Fi Sisters! Free tickets distributed 30 min. ahead of each show. For all ages.

## Lectures/ Workshops

**Coffee & Conversation** Beating the Holiday Blues: Feelings of sadness and depression are common during the holidays, but not inevitable. Help

yourself or a loved one identify these feelings and address them. Discover a variety of practical tips to help keep the blues away during the holidays. Held at 10 a.m. Dec. 11 at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., the cost is \$1.50 for residents and \$2 for non-residents.

## Live Music

**Pride of the Pacific Chorus - Come Sing!** Drop by the chorus rehearsal Dec. 5 and make a joyful noise. We are a new women's cappella chorus and we would love to have you join us. We rehearse at 7:30 p.m. at Lynnewood

United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Avenue, Pleasanton. Call 209-830-7444 or visit [prideofthepacific.org](http://prideofthepacific.org).

## Miscellaneous

**Free The Cat Campaign** For a limited



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time, Tri-Valley Animal Rescue will offer no-fee adoptions of all adult cats. Strict adoption criteria will still apply. Adoptions are held at Pleasanton Farmers Market (9:30 to 1 p.m. Saturdays), Dublin Pet Food Express (2 to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays) and Dublin PetSmart (weekdays during regular business hours and noon to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays). Call 803-7043 or visit [www.tvr.org](http://www.tvr.org).

## On Stage

**Century House Reading: Mega Open Mic** From 2 to 4 p.m. Dec. 9 at the Century House, 2401 Santa Rita Road, Mega Open Mic hosts aspiring and accomplished poets reading a favorite or original poem of 40 lines or less. Light refreshments served. Admission is a new children's book or small stuffed animal to be donated. Call 931-5350.

**'Twas The Night Before Christmas** A realistic dramatic and musical story based upon the inspiration for Clement Moore's famous poem, "Twas the Night Before Christmas," will be held at Front Row Theater, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon. It runs Dec. 14-23; Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30, Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets range from \$10-15. Call 973-3372 or visit [www.sanramonperformingarts.com](http://www.sanramonperformingarts.com).

## Seniors

**Computer Tutoring** One-on-one computer tutoring is available every day at the Pleasanton Senior Center. The tutor works with you on topics where you need help. No formal program to follow, just help where you need it. Internet, Office applications, picture editing, etc. Call 931-5365 to set up an appointment. The cost is \$1.50 for residents and \$2 for non-residents.

**Dublin Senior Center Extends Hours** Do you yoga? Have a question about computers? Enjoy playing games? Sign the interest list and we will try to organize new activities on Wednesday nights at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd. The senior center extended its Wednesday hours to 8 p.m. Call 556-4511.

**Gujarati Dinner** Tri Valley Gujarati Seniors holds monthly meetings with varied themes. Interested Gujarati Seniors are welcome to attend as

guests. For additional information, call 846-3521. 6:30-9:30 p.m. None

**Holiday Lights Tour** The lights tour will be held at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 13 at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. The evening begins with hot cider and holiday cookies. Then we meander through festively decorated neighborhoods riding in paratransit vans. Ride along, sing holiday carols and have a great time! The cost is \$10 for residents or \$13 for non-residents. Call 931-5365.

**Lunch Downtown** Meet at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., at 11:30 a.m. Dec. 12 and paratransit will take seniors to Amelia's Deli-Bistro on W. Angela St. in downtown Pleasanton for lunch and back. This is a great way to make new friends and to dine downtown. The cost is \$15 for residents or \$18 for non-residents. Call 931-5365.

**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. The cost is \$1.50 or \$2.00.

## Spiritual

**Peace Meditation** A one-hour silent meditation on peace will take place on the second Saturday of the month at Downtown Yoga, 220B Division St. No talking--just sitting. No political affiliation or religious denomination. Free to all. Call 819-9983.

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

**Worship Service** The Fountain Community Church, 4455 Stoneridge Drive, holds a worship service at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday. It's a place to connect with God and people. Upbeat contemporary worship and challenging messages. Call 600-8182 or visit [www.fountaincc.org](http://www.fountaincc.org).

## Sports

**14's Fastpitch Travel Team Tryouts** Lady Hustle will be holding tryouts for their travel team Dec. 1 and 9.

Visit [www.ladyhustlefastpitch.com](http://www.ladyhustlefastpitch.com) to register. Call coach Teresa Borchard, 785-0846

**Fastpitch Softball Tryouts** Young Guns 18A girl's fastpitch softball team will be holding tryouts for the upcoming 2008 summer travel season. Tryouts will be held at noon Dec. 2 and Dec. 9 at Creekside Middle School, Castro Valley. Call Rocky, 510-886-0243 or Jeff, 510-828-3812.

**Pleasanton Rage Winter Academy** Come have fun and continue to work on your soccer skills through the winter months from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Mondays at Val Vista Soccer Complex. Pleasanton Girls Soccer will be hosting an academy for U8-U10 girls soccer players. Details can be found at [http://www.pleasantonrage.org/docs/Youth\\_Academy07.pdf](http://www.pleasantonrage.org/docs/Youth_Academy07.pdf). The cost is \$100.

**Saturday Morning Beginner Road Ride** This weekly no-drop ride at 8 a.m. every Saturday is for those new to cycling, who haven't been on their bike for a while or just want to ride at a slower pace. Rides depart from Cyclepath Pleasanton, 337-B Main St., and will generally be 10-12 mph, 20 miles and no more than 2 hours. E-mail rides@cyclepath.com if you plan to attend.

**Sunday Morning Group Ride** Join cyclists of all levels for this friendly, no-drop ride. Routes vary weekly (25-55 miles) and last approximately two hours. We meet at 8:30 a.m. at Cyclepath, 337-B Main St., to determine our route and fill tires for a 9:00 a.m. departure. Riders warm up together and split into smaller groups based on skill level. Call 485-3218.

## Support Groups

**Cancer Support Group** A free support group for people with cancer and their loved ones. Facilitated by The Wellness Community. The group meets from 2 to 4 p.m. every Tuesday at the Valley Care Health Library, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd. Call 933-0107 or visit [www.twc-bayarea.org](http://www.twc-bayarea.org).

**ClutterLess (CL) Self Help Group** Is clutter stressing you out? We are a self help support group for those with difficulty disposing of stuff. Cluttering is a psychological issue, not just an organizing issue. If you are ready to change your life, just come to the meeting from 7 to 8:30 p.m. every Monday at Pleasanton Presbyterian Church Rm. 7, 4300 Mirador Drive. Call 297-9246 or 846-5060 Box 2. Visit [www.clutterless.org](http://www.clutterless.org) or email [clutterlesspleasanton@hotmail.com](mailto:clutterlesspleasanton@hotmail.com). The group is free, however

**THE CITY OF PLEASANTON**

### It's that time of year again!

The City of Pleasanton's Leaf Pick Up Program is now in full swing!

From mid-November to mid-January, the City's Street Division has the unparalleled task of removing piles of leaves throughout the residential and commercial neighborhoods. Although there is no set schedule for when the leaf crew will be in your neighborhoods, as a rule of thumb, it is usually a day or two prior to your scheduled street sweeper date. If you would like to verify your street sweeping date, you can go to the City's website at [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/government/departments/works/sweep.html](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/government/departments/works/sweep.html). Please bear in mind, however, that circumstances beyond our control, e.g., inclement weather, equipment failures, etc., could cause a slight delay.

We ask that you rake your tree leaves into the curb and gutter area, keeping the storm drain clear of all leaves and debris. It is recommended that you rake the leaves slightly away from the curb line so that the leaf loader can reach as many leaves as possible.

The leaf vacuum trucks are designed to pick up LEAVES ONLY. Please do not place other debris such as yard clippings, tree branches, dirt, gravel, etc. in the curb and gutter as these materials can damage the City's leaf loader equipment. Should other materials such as these be placed in the City's curb and gutter areas, this will be considered littering and you could be liable to pay a fine. We ask that all commercial landscapers please haul away all leaves upon completion of their work. All residential landscapers are asked to remove their own leaves and debris; however, they may be left in the curb and gutter if approved by the individual homeowner. Please do NOT blow leaves in the middle of the street as this will also be considered littering.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation in this matter. If you have any further questions, please feel free to call the City's Operations Service Center at (925) 931-5500,

## CALLAHAN TILE & STONE

Our large designer showroom displays an extensive selection of stone, tile and unique decorative accents featuring manufacturers as:

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4811 Hopyard Rd • Pleasanton

**Pet of the Week**



Catherine Hansen Rush

**Loves to play**

Meet Cletus, a 2-year-old, neutered male Coonhound with a desire to play, play, play. This goofy hound dog needs lots of exercise and he would make a great hiking partner. Cletus likes to play ball and go for walks. He has lived with children in the past and he gets along well with other dogs.

For more information about Cletus, visit him at the Tri-Valley SPCA, 4651 Gleason Drive in Dublin, It's open Wednesday and Thursday from 1 to 8 p.m. and Friday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 479-9670. Check out Cletus on the Web at [www.eastbayspca.org](http://www.eastbayspca.org).

[kivaspirit.org](http://kivaspirit.org) for details.

**Pleasanton Military Families** Pleasanton Military Families, a support group for families of service members, meets at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month. The group includes families who have loved ones serving in Iraq, Afghanistan and in the Global War on Terrorism. Meetings are held at a different group member's home each month. Call Chris Miller for information on the placement of a yellow streamer for the military person on Main Street and for information on the group, 730-1604.

**Stress and Pain Management Strategies and Support** Learn how to use visualization, relaxation techniques and new ways of thinking (cognitive restructuring) to help reduce stress levels and down-regulate pain. Share experiences and ideas in a supportive, caring environment. †Free classes are held from 11 a.m. to noon the first Wednesday of each month at ValleyCare Health Library, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suite 270. Facilitated by Betty Runnels, M.A., Counseling Psychology, Marriage and Family Therapy. Call 734-3315 or email [tyrunnels@earthlink.net](mailto:tyrunnels@earthlink.net).

**Tri-Valley Parkinson's Support Group** This group provides peer support for those affected by Parkinson's disease and for their caregivers, families and friends. The group meets from 10 a.m.-noon, the second Saturday of the month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Call 831-9940 or email [jackiebard@pacbell.net](mailto:jackiebard@pacbell.net).

**Vision Support Group** Individuals with low vision, and their loved ones, are invited to join us on the third Tuesday of each month from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Join us for low vision information, speakers, resources, discussions, and day trips. No reservations are required. Nominal fees may apply. Call 931-5369.

**Volunteering**

**Blankets for Kids** Blankets For Kids, founded by Pleasanton resident Jo Molz, makes and distributes soft fleece blankets to at-risk, abused and neglected children in the Tri-Valley, Alameda County and even Los Angeles. The easy-to-make blankets are constructed

of a soft fleece material with pleasant designs. Volunteers have made more than 10,000 blankets for distribution since the organization began. Those interested in volunteering, or donating money or fleece to the nonprofit organization call Jo, 846-6155.

**Tri-Valley Animal Rescue** Do you love animals? Become a volunteer or a Foster with Tri-Valley Animal Rescue. Orientations are held at East County Animal Shelter (ECAS) from 1 to 2:30 p.m. the second Saturday and fourth Sunday of each month. Registration is not required to attend the orientation. Call 803-7043 or visit [www.tv-ar.org](http://www.tv-ar.org).

**TV30**

**Ask the Doctor** Depression and Mood Disorders are the topics for Ask the Doctor TV30's LIVE call-in show at 7 p.m. Dec. 5. Episode will rerun Wednesdays in December at 7 p.m. on Channel 30. Guests Michael Levin, M.D. & Michael Schierman, M.D. Host, Bela Kenessey, M.D. Also view on [www.tv30.org](http://www.tv30.org).

**Let's Talk Sports** TV30's George "Dr. B" Baljevich LPGA Golf Special with the LPGA's best including Park, Creamer, and more. On Channel 30 weekdays at 11:30 a.m., 2 and 6 p.m., Fri. and Sat. at 4 p.m.

\$2 to \$5 donation appreciated.

**Crohns and Ulcerative Colitis Support Group** This support groups meets the third Thursday of every month at the ValleyCare Health Library, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Ste. 270. Walk-ins are welcome. Feel free to bring a guest. No meeting in December. Call 462-6764 or 846-4653.

**East Bay Cancer Support Group** The East Bay Cancer Support group is an independent, non-profit, non-sectarian organization serving cancer patients, caregivers and the bereaved at Faith Lutheran Church, 20080 Redwood Road, Castro Valley. All services are provided free of charge. For scheduled meeting times, please call (510) 889-8766 or visit [www.ebcancersupport.org](http://www.ebcancersupport.org).

**Grief Share** Are you looking for community, understanding and support? If you have lost a spouse, child, family member or friend, you've probably found that there are not many people who understand the deep hurt you feel. The grief support group meets

from 7 to 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday at Valley Christian Center, 7500 Inspiration Drive, Dublin. It is \$35.00, with scholarships available. Call 560-6202 or register at [www.dublinvcc.org](http://www.dublinvcc.org).

**Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group** The Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group meets at 10 a.m. the fourth Tuesdays of the month at Heritage Estates Retirement Community, 900 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore. All are welcome. Call 443-4098 or 447-6158 or email [ral-aye@comcast.net](mailto:ral-aye@comcast.net).

**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.kivacounseling.com](http://www.kivacounseling.com).

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**Advertising Sales Account Executive**

The Danville Weekly is seeking a Sales Account Executive to join our growing team. This position is responsible for driving revenue growth in our print and online editions by proactively prospecting and qualifying potential new advertising accounts; handling incoming leads for designated territory or category; and meeting revenue targets.

A background in media sales is a plus. The successful candidate will have a proven sales record, excellent organization and communication skills along with a strong ability to build and foster client relationships. If you can develop strategic creative briefs, marketing plans/proposals and are comfortable making cold calls and prospecting, send a cover letter with salary requirements and resume to: Mary Hantos, advertising sales manager, [mhantos@danvilleweekly.com](mailto:mhantos@danvilleweekly.com); The Danville Weekly, 315 Diablo Road, Ste. 100, Danville, CA 94526; or fax to 925-837-2278. Equal Opportunity Employer.

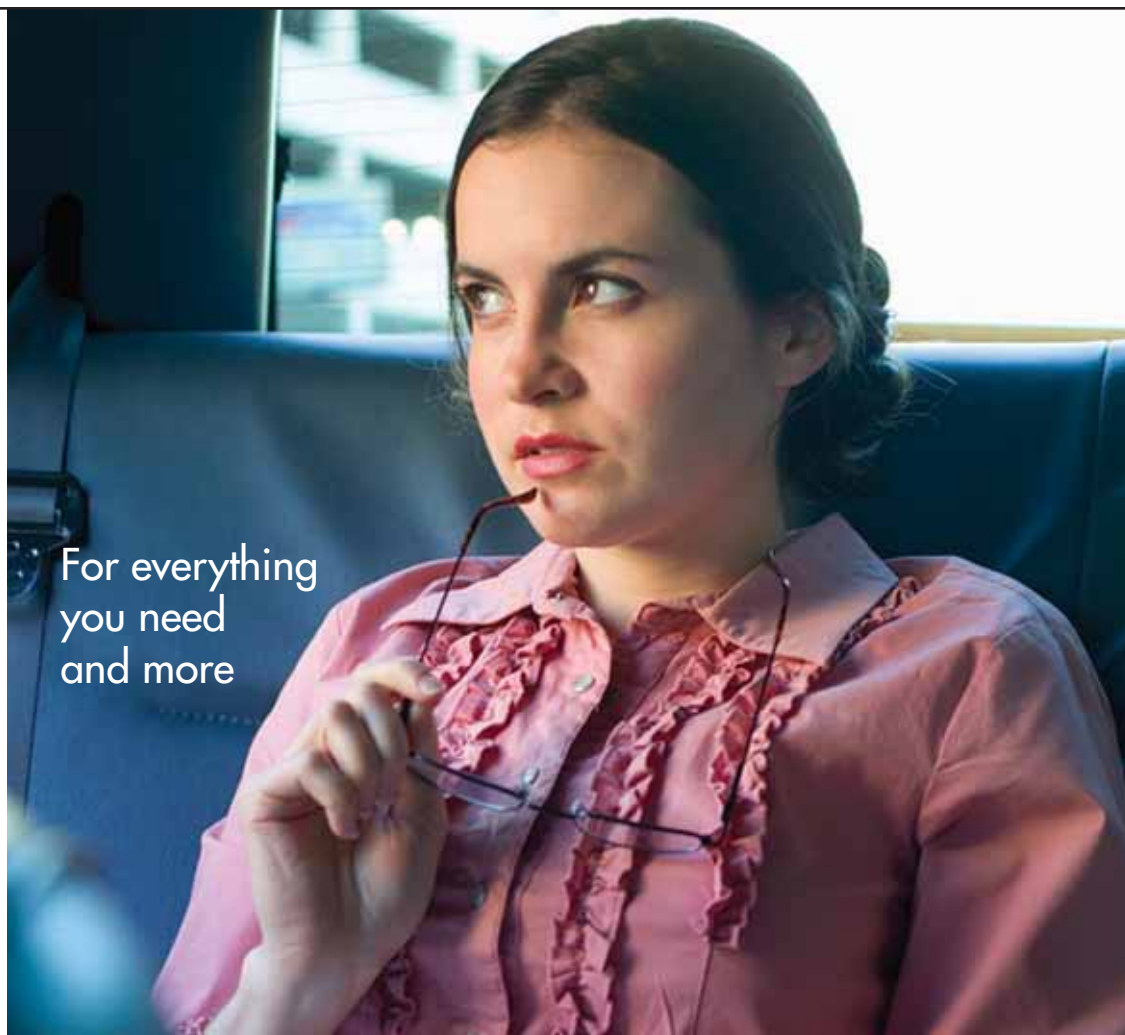


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### Bulletin Board

#### 115 Announcements

##### Considering Adoption?

We match Birthmothers with Families nationwide. Living Expenses Paid. Toll Free 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions. 1-866-459-3369. (Cal-SCAN)

##### Pregnant? Considering Adoption

Talk with caring agency specializing in matching Birthmothers with Families nationwide. LIVING EXPENSES PAID. Call 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions 1-866-413-6293 (AAN CAN)

##### Writers Wanted

The Academy for Alternative Journalism, established by papers like this one to promote diversity in the alternative press, seeks talented journalists and students (college seniors and up) for a paid summer writing program at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. The eight-week program (June 22 - August 17, 2008) aims to recruit talented candidates from diverse backgrounds and train them in alt-weekly style feature writing. Ten participants will be chosen and paid \$3,000 plus housing and travel allowances. For information and an application visit <http://aaj.aan.org>. You may also email us at [altacademy@northwestern.edu](mailto:altacademy@northwestern.edu). Applications must be postmarked by February 8, 2008. Northwestern University is an equal opportunity educator and employer. (AAN CAN)

##### "Good" & Safe Toys selection



**Bay Area New Years Eve Party**  
The Biggest and Best Elegant New Years Eve Party! visit [www.pguild.com](http://www.pguild.com) or call 925-937-4744

Betty L. Runnels, MFT Pain Mgmt

JOHN PENA - URGENT!

Pain Management Psychotherapy

Parenting & Attachment, BLR, MFT

Parenting Class, BLR, LMFT

Stress and Pain Mgmt

Stress Management Psychotherapy

#### 120 Auctions

##### Arcade and Pinball

1,000 Coin Op machines to be auctioned. Perfect Christmas gifts and Public welcomed. Saturday, December 15, 10:00am. 11085 Olinda Street, Sun Valley, CA. Info 1-714-535-7000 or [www.SuperAuctions.com](http://www.SuperAuctions.com) 13% Buyers Premium. Robert Storment. (Cal-SCAN)

#### 130 Classes & Instruction

##### 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)



**Danville Boot Camp for Women**  
Discover YOUR Inner Athlete! Outdoor Exercise Class Women of all fitness levels. 1hr./day, 3,4,5 day/wk. 457-4587 [ContraCostaBootCamp.com](http://ContraCostaBootCamp.com)

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Call **Bennetta Heaton**

(925) 820-1169

~ located in Danville ~

##### LEARN TO SING & PERFORM!

Voice Studio of Cherie Michael

Call **925-462-4419**

for further information and to reserve your weekly lessons.

##### MUSIC CLASSES - NOW ENROLLING!

MUSIC CLASSES FOR ALL AGES!

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Call Courtney (925)600-1573

**Piano. Grace 510-352-0546**

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#### 140 Lost & Found

RING FOUND - Danville



#### 201 Autos/Trucks/Parts

##### \$1,000 Gift! Donate Car

IRS Deduction, Any Condition, Lost Title OK, Help Kids. Espanol. 1-888-307-3682. (Cal-SCAN)

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Cars from \$500! Tax Reps, US Marshal and IRS Sales! Cars, Trucks, SUV's, Toyota's, Honda's, Chevy's, more! For Listings call 1-800-298-4150 xC107. (AAN CAN)

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

##### Donate Your Car

Children's Cancer Fund! Help Save A Child's Life Through Research & Support! Free Vacation Package. Fast, Easy and Tax Deductible. Call 1-800-252-0615. (Cal-SCAN)

##### 2000 FLEETWOOD WILDERNESS

Special Edition, 26' Tow-type travel trailer, 6200# gvw. Front queen bed. Center side kitchen w/4-burner stove. Ref, TV, Radio, AC. Cable hook-up & telescoping antenna. Rear bath with comb. tub/shower, sink & toilet. Outside awning. Located in Danville. \$10,750. **(925) 820-3816**

BMW 2003 X5 3.0i - \$25,999

Cadillac 1999 Escalade - \$10,000

##### Ford 1997 Ford Explorer

Selling a white 1997 Ford Explorer, with am/fm CD stereo, good condition. This Explorer has 120,000 miles. The maintenance has been kept up, excellent engine condition. A must see for the price. 2 x 4 drive. Very solid SUV. Please call 925-963-9901.

#### 215 Collectibles & Antiques

Coffee Mill, Pepper Mill & Spice - \$89

Garantied Forged Grinder - \$39

Hood's Sarsaparilla bottle - \$28

James Bond Special Edition DVD

Lenox Rose China - \$900.00

Olympic Pins - \$3

Precious Moments

Radio Flyer pumpercar - \$50 OBO

TOUCHES AFRICA. - \$500

#### 230 Freebies

Free 36" TV - FREE

#### 240 Furnishings/ Household items

Candles - \$15

Custom Coffee Table - \$400

Kenmore Elect Dryer - \$35

Sewing Machine, Viking Designer 2 - \$1,950

Signed Print - \$7

#### 245 Miscellaneous

##### \$8 Prescription Eyeglasses.

Custom made to your prescription, stylish plastic or metal frame, Highindex, UV protection, antiscratch lens, case, lenscloth for only \$8. Also available: Rimless, Titanium, Children's™, Bifocals, Progressives, Suintints, ARcoating, etc. <http://ZENNOPTICAL.COM> (AAN CAN)

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Coach Replica Handbag - \$55.00

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Electric Toy Train Sets - \$45-\$175

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##### Treadmill - Keys 8500

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#### 345 Tutoring/ Lessons

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##### REIKI

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#### 450 Personal Growth

##### Individual/Couples Counseling

Feel better about yourself and your relationships. Dublin/Hayward offices Amy Greenberg, MFT 925 989-9826

#### 455 Personal Training

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##### Sales Account Executive

The Danville Weekly is seeking a Sales Account Executive to join our growing team. This position is responsible for driving revenue growth in our print and online editions by proactively prospecting and qualifying potential new advertising accounts; handling incoming leads for designated territory or category; and meeting revenue targets.

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

The Danville Weekly is a division of Embarcadero Publishing Inc., a dynamic organization with a 27-year history of a commitment to high quality journalism. We offer a compensation plan of a base salary plus commission on sales from the first dollar, medical and dental benefits, paid vacation and 401(k).

Send a cover letter with salary requirements and resume to Mary Hantos, advertising sales manager, [mhantos@danvilleweekly.com](mailto:mhantos@danvilleweekly.com); The Danville Weekly, 315 Diablo Road, Ste. 100, Danville, CA 94526; or fax to Pleasanton, CA 94566; or fax to 925-837-2278. EOE; drug-free workplace

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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)

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**All Areas - Roommates.com**  
Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: [www.Roommates.com](http://www.Roommates.com). (AAN CAN)

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# Dining Out

## American

### Vic's All Star Kitchen

201 Main St., Pleasanton, (925) 484-0789. Vic's delivers a starchy 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](http://www.bridgesdanville.com) for event and private party details.

### Pleasanton Hotel Restaurant

855 Main St., Pleasanton, 846-8106. Executive Chef Neil Marquis offers exciting contemporary American cooking at lunch and dinner, featuring a wide selection of fresh fish entrees. Also offering our famous Sunday Champagne Buffet Brunch full bar and patio service. Visit us at [www.pleasantonhotel.com](http://www.pleasantonhotel.com) for menus and private party and catering details.

### Zorn's Restaurant

3015 Hopyard Road, 462-0994. Located in the Hopyard Village Shopping Center, Zorn's serves breakfast all day. Open seven days a week from 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. with breakfast and lunch specials. Dine in or take out. Catering also available.

## 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](http://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](http://www.redsmokegrill.com).

## Brewpub/Alehouse

### Main Street Brewery

830 Main St., Pleasanton, 462-8218.

Pleasanton's only BrewPub, some ales (Attaboy IPA) are brewed with locally grown hops. We also have a rotating selection of guest brews and seasonal ales. To-go orders welcome and we're available for parties up to 100. Live music every Friday and Saturday, visit [www.mainstreetbrewery.com](http://www.mainstreetbrewery.com) for activities and specials.

### The Hop Yard American Alehouse and Grill

3015H Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 426-9600. Voted Best Watering Hole in Pleasanton, The Hop Yard offers 30 craft beers on tap as well as great food. The full-service menu includes appetizers, salads and grilled fare that will bring you back time and again. Banquet facilities available. On the web at [www.hopyard.com](http://www.hopyard.com).

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

## California Cuisine

### Stacey's Cafe

310 Main St., Pleasanton, 461-3113. Located on Main Street in downtown Pleasanton, Stacey's is open for lunch and dinner seven days a week, serving fresh California cuisine. Come as you are and enjoy our dining room, banquet room, outdoor patios and full bar. Visit [www.staceyscafe.com](http://www.staceyscafe.com).

## Catering

### Fontina's Catering

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

### Girasole Grill/Pampered Palate Catering

831-4888. Offering affordable and elegant catering, Girasole Grill/Pampered Palate provides quality food and generous portions at a fair price. Services include: decorated buffets with hors d'oeuvres and carving stations; sit down meal service; strictly hors d'oeuvres, both buffet and server passed; and a variety of beverage packages with no corkage fees. Visit [www.ppceastbay.com](http://www.ppceastbay.com).

## 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 and carry-out. A banquet room is available.

### 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](http://www.pandapleasanton.com).

## Continental

### Barone's

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

## Fusion

### Oasis Grille

780 Main St., Pleasanton, 417-8438.

**All of us at Bighorn Grill wish you the best for the holidays.**

Why not take the stress out of them and join us for our daily specials.

We will be open on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, please make your reservations now.



**Receive a 10% discount on your meal with this ad.\***



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425 Main Street  
Pleasanton, 94566  
(925) 462-2800  
reservations recommended



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## Dining Out

Visit downtown Pleasanton's exotic dining destination. Oasis features kabobs, rice and vegetarian dishes, to name a few. Check out our updated wine and exotic cocktail menus. We also cater! Visit [www.OasisGrille.com](http://www.OasisGrille.com).

## Greek

### Simply Greek

4220-C Rosewood Drive, 463-8801. From the neighborhoods of Greece to you. Menu features gyros, souvlaki and more. Located in the Rose Pavilion Shopping Center, they're open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mon. through Thurs., 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fri. and Sat. Catering services available. Visit [www.simply-greek.com](http://www.simply-greek.com)

## Italian

### Fontina Ristorante

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

### La Vite Ristorante

3037-G Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 485-4500. La Vite Ristorante 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 at West Las Positas Boulevard, Pleasanton, 484-1001. Girasole, a locally owned family business, is an award winning California style Italian restaurant. It was voted Best Italian Restaurant by

Pleasanton Weekly readers for 2007. We feature signature cuisine such as Scoozzi, Absolut! prawns, chicken gorgi, ppinach for Veronica, Tuscan pork and signature fresh seafood...just to name a few. We are upscale, but California casual with friendly prices.

### Pastas Trattoria

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

## Japanese

### Sato Japanese Cuisine

3105-K Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 462-3131. Makoto Sato, Owner Operator has been serving traditional Japanese cuisine for over 25 years in Pleasanton. Enjoy the variety of our sushi bar and Japanese tempura and teriyaki sushi. We are open for lunch and dinner. We also do catering. Open Tuesday through Sunday and closed Monday.

## Mexican

### Blue Agave Club

625 Main St., Pleasanton, 417-1224. Come downtown for fine dining and casual lunches in our outdoor patio. Our menu includes a variety of selections from classic tortilla soup and mole poblano to grilled salmon (a house specialty) and filet mignon with a spicy Chipotle Chile sauce. We also specialize in premium "sipping" tequilas and carry over 200 different varieties. Visit [www.blueagaveclub.com](http://www.blueagaveclub.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.

## Steakhouse

### Bighorn Grill

2410 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon, 838-5678. Relax in our luxurious mountain lodge with a quintessential martini. Experience the aroma and flavors of our wood-fired grill. Enjoy a savory steak, traditional prime rib, smoked ribs, fresh seafood, and a variety of signature dishes. Fabulous wine list and two private banquet rooms. Visit [www.bighorngrill.com](http://www.bighorngrill.com).

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**All of us at Girasole and Pampered Palate Catering wish you the best for the holidays.**

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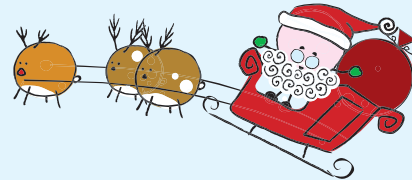
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## Holiday Celebration

Friday, December 14  
1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. in Grand Court  
Entertainment, Arts & Crafts and Santa!



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A portion of all purchases made from  
November 16 to December 24 will be donated to the  
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Pleasanton Cultural Arts Foundation  
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