

TV30 chief quits

Mayors work to curtail station's financial woes > page 5

Vol. IX, Number 6 • March 7, 2008

www.PleasantonWeekly.com

Breaking free

Man with paralysis aims to help others like him

> page 5

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Dialing the spirits

Local psychic hosts séance

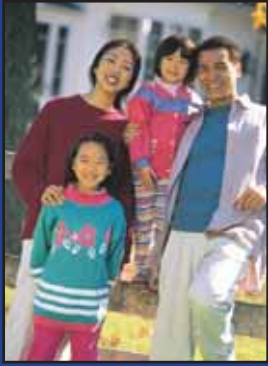
> section 2



The WINEMAKER

*From vine to glass,
Chris Graves is
creating unique
blends for the new
Ruby Hill Winery*

Page 10



LOOKING FOR A HOME LOAN?

Local Knowledge • National Strength



Whether you are looking to buy up, purchase an investment property or you're a first time homebuyer, we can help you finance your dreams.

Let us show you how you can achieve this goal!

WALNUT CREEK

Mark Vanderveen
500 Ygnacio Valley Rd, Ste 190
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
mvanderveen@firsthorizon.com
925.944.3136



LIVERMORE

Sandy, Chris & Stephen
Team009.com
2217 2nd St • Livermore, CA
Team009@firsthorizon.com
925.449.1275



All loans subject to approval. Certain restrictions may apply. First Horizon is a division of First Tennessee Bank National Association. Member FDIC © 2008 First Horizon National Corporation.

DESTINATION PLEASANTON

Everything Pleasanton
DestinationPleasanton.com

With over 40 years of combined experience in financial services and asset management, Summit Financial Group partners Nathan Bennett, Steve Wilcox and Don Ledoux specialize in retirement planning and helping small business owners coordinate their financial plans and strategies. Summit's focus is not only the success of their clients, as they take strong interest in their client's business and personal lives, but also the Tri-Valley community. Their heavy community commitment includes involvement with youth and non-profit programs and the educational seminars put on by the firm.



Comprehensive Financial Services
2010 Crow Canyon Place, Suite 120
San Ramon, CA 94583 • www.summitfingroup.com
925-866-7800

Securities and Investment Advisory Services offered through Securian Financial Services Inc. Securities Dealer, member FINRA/SIPC. Summit Financial Group LLC is independently owned and operated. TR#6305 DOFU 11/2007

TATTERED TREASURES *With Flair*

Spring Affair

MARCH 13, 5-7pm & MARCH 15, 2-4pm

Showcasing New Spring Merchandise
In Store Specials & Drawings • Refreshments
Premiere of our new service
"Space Lift Interior Redesign".
Meet the designers.



HOPYARD VILLAGE
5737 VALLEY AVE STE A/B, PLEASANTON, CA 94566
925-426-8844 • STORE HOURS: MON-FRI 10-6 • SAT-SUN 11-5
Bring this ad and save 10%



Around Pleasanton

by Jeb Bing

Back to the basics in Ms. V's classroom

"Read Across America" is an annual reading motivation and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading in conjunction with Dr. Seuss's birthday, which was March 2. So to honor the popular children's author, local TV personalities, politicians, civic and city leaders and just plain ordinary Pleasanton citizens like me fanned out to elementary schools across the city this week to read our favorite children's stories. Congressman Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton) read at Donlon Elementary; Channel 5 weathercaster Roberta Gonzales went to Mohr; fellow TV personality Juliette Goodrich read at Lydiksen; school Superintendent John Casey was at Fairlands, and our City Manager Nelson Fialho was a special hit at Alisal, where he had the animated company of Sharkie from the San Jose Sharks and local police and firefighters to cheer him on as he read to students there.

I had the honor of reading in Renee Vernon's first grade class at Walnut Grove, where, in the spirit of full disclosure, I'll admit that's also my grandson Christopher Nally's classroom, which is no doubt why I was invited. Christopher, of course, did a superb job of introducing me, but I was also impressed by the well-delivered thanks that I received from the 20 boys and girls afterwards. It was a pleasure to get to know "Ms. V" as Renee Vernon is affectionately called by her roomful of 6- and 7-year-olds. A bright, personable first-year teacher, she knows Pleasanton and understands better than many the pressure on youths growing up here as well as the many opportunities they have. She went to Valley View and Pleasanton Middle schools and graduated from Foothill High before going on for a bachelor's degree in liberal studies at Sonoma State, a multiple subject teaching credential and then a Master's

degree in education at Cal State East Bay.

An avid Wii player, she represents a new generation of teachers who can compete in electronic games with the best of them in the first grade she teaches, and yet has the skills to "decode," as she puts it, that talent to keep the kids focused on learning, studying and reading, not on "things." Her objective is to direct these first grade students toward becoming lifelong readers. It's important to her that her students learn to share her passion for learning and reading throughout their life long after completing their education. By a show of hands after I read "Mouse Mess" by Linnea Riley, a favorite in Christopher's

All 20 of her students said they visit our public library regularly, read diligently at home and even while riding in the car.

home, I found that Ms. V is right on track. All 20 of her students said they visit our public library regularly, read diligently at home and even while riding in the car. While they enjoy their Gameboys, they look at these mainly as diversions for when they need a break. Interestingly, television isn't the draw—and distraction—that teachers used to complain about when these first graders' parents were in school some 30 years or so ago.

Teachers cannot say it enough, Ms. V told me: If parents do anything with their child at home, they should please read, read, read! A child that is exposed to a variety of reading at home on a daily basis comes to school with an extended vocabulary and is better prepared for the academic arena. ■

About the Cover

Chris Graves, vintner for the new Ruby Hill Winery, is the man behind the wines. After opening to the public Feb. 9, the winery expects to draw customers to its 4,800-square-foot tasting room, and to the adjacent Casa Real event center when it opens next month. Photos by Shannon Corey. Cover design by Manuel Valenzuela.

Vol. IX, Number 6

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

Negative stories about real estate often miss the mark

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

READ MORE/COMMENT

Town Square Forum

PLEASANTON WEEKLY.COM

Brett Gregory Guitar Studio



Private Studio
Downtown Pleasanton

Exclusive
1 on 1
Guitar
Lessons

Adults and Kids
Ages 10 thru 110
established in 1997

4625 First Street 417-0561

www.BGGS.net



THE HOP YARD
AMERICAN ALEHOUSE & GRILL

Come In for the Beer
Come Back for the Food

30 BEERS ON TAP

Our patio is open!

Pleasanton Weekly's
BEST OF PLEASANTON
2007

Our St. Pat's celebration starts on Friday all weekend long!

PLEASANTON

(925) 426-9600

3015-H Hopyard Road

www.hopyard.com

Enjoy The Ride Tire Sale!

Sale ends April 5, 2008



Starting at
\$47.95

P205/65R15 \$55.95
P215/60R15 \$58.95
P225/60R16 \$67.95

Black Serrated Letter
Tire disposal fee does apply in some states
No other discounts apply



Starting at
\$58.99

P185/65R14 \$66.95
P185/65R15 \$77.95
P215/70R15* \$76.95

Black wall. *Extra Narrow Whitewall
50,000 Mile Tread Life Limited Warranty



Starting at
\$71.95

P215/50R16 \$102.95
P205/45R17 \$127.95
P255/40R17 \$133.95

Blackwall
Tire disposal fee does apply in some states
No other discounts apply



Starting at
\$74.95

P195/60R15 \$78.95
P215/65R15 \$79.95
P225/60R16 \$84.95

Vertical Serrated Band
50,000 Mile Tread Life Limited Warranty

Get up to a
\$50

Rebate by mail-in offer with the purchase of a set of four select Goodyear tires.
*Subject to credit approval. Offer valid 03/08/08 - 04/05/08. One check per customer.

Or, double your Rebate up to
\$100

when you make the purchase on the Goodyear Credit Card! See below for more details!

GOODYEAR
12 Months
No Interest*
On Goodyear Credit Card purchases of \$500 or more from March 8 through April 5, 2008. Minimum payments required.

Lube, Oil filter Change & 4-Tire Rotation **\$17.95**

Includes:
• Synthetic Blend Oil, New Filter (up to five quarts)
• 32-pt. Inspection
• Chassis lube (if applicable)

Most vehicles. Save thru 03/16/08

Coolant / Antifreeze Service **\$49.95**

Includes:
• Pressure test system for leaks
• Drain radiator, refill with up to 2 gallons 50/50 antifreeze

Most vehicles. Save thru 03/16/08

Front / Rear Break Service **\$50 OFF**

Front AND Rear Axle

\$25 OFF

Front AND Rear Axle

Lifetime Warranty on Disc Pads, Brake Shoes

Most vehicles. Save thru 03/16/08

Computerized Vehicle Alignment **\$50 OFF**

Front AND Rear Axle

\$25 OFF

Front AND Rear Axle

12 mo/12,000 Mile Warranty. Save thru 03/16/08

NOW OPEN! PLEASANTON - 2 California Avenue 925-461-4290

*ALAMEDA 861 Marina Village Pkwy. 510-523-2900
*LIVERMORE 1485 First St. 925-455-4330
*CASTRO VALLEY 3430 Castro Valley Blvd. 510-886-9500
*PLEASANTON 4216 Rosewood Dr. 925-734-3444
*CONCORD/CLAYTON 5288-A Clayton Rd. 925-363-5900
PLEASANTON 3420 Stanley Blvd. 925-462-4900
DUBLIN 6028 Dougherty Rd. 925-833-9700
*WALNUT CREEK 1400 E. Newell Ave. 925-944-8174

Mon thru Fri - 7am to 6pm, Sat - 8am to 5pm • Locations with a * are open Sun - 8am to 5pm



RyNck TIRE & AUTO CENTERS



SERVICE YOU CAN TRUST

RyNck Tire & Auto Centers has been family owned and locally operated for over 25 years.

We offer a 100% customer satisfaction guarantee.

elevate
your family fitness



Healthy families come together at ClubSport for fitness and fun.

ClubSport fitness resorts offer programs and activities for everyone, regardless of age or fitness level.

Receive 10% Off Kids Spring Camps*
(with this ad)

**Become a ClubSport Member in March
and Receive \$100 Towards Any Program!***

ClubSport...life elevated

Club Sport
PLEASANTON
sports • fitness • spa
www.clubsports.com

Or Call
(866) 851-8735
7090 Johnson Drive
Pleasanton, CA 94588

*Some restrictions apply. Membership not required to receive camp discount. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Offer expires March 31, 2008.

PUT DRY, WINTER SKIN BEHIND YOU.

Show off your
**HEALTHY, GLOWING
radiance.**

SKIN BEAUTIFUL PACKAGE | It is the complete skin care package that corrects and repairs your skin to deliver the results you want! Package Includes:

- Clarisonic Skin Care Brush (\$200 value)
- 9 Therapeutic Skin Care Treatments:
 - HYDRAFACIAL
 - 2 Cosmedix Peels
 - 2 Medical Diamond Microdermabrasions
 - 2 IPL Photofacials
 - 2 Laser Genesis Collagen Restoration

ONLY \$999 (REG \$2500)

BOTOX | \$75 Off
25 unit minimum, new clients.

**Essence
MEDESPA**

PLEASANTON'S PREMIERE LASER SPA

Offers expire on 3/30/08.



700 Main Street Pleasanton 925.426.1008
www.essencemedespa.com

Streetwise

Q: Do the social or political values of a company influence your buying decisions?

Asked Downtown



John Chavez
Student

They absolutely do. When American companies go overseas to have their products made and then pay those people a substandard wage and take away American jobs, I don't want to buy those products.

Irene Trevizo
Account Clerk

I don't want to shop at places like Wal-Mart that import so many products from foreign countries and take manufacturing jobs from American companies. These products are lower quality and the people that make them are not paid well. Our economy is weak as it is. We need to keep America strong and buy American made products whenever possible.



Marquessa McDowell
Nursing Student

If a company feels they need to save extra money by hiring out to sweat shops or paying people poorly, I don't want to spend my money with them. I'd much rather pay a little more for something that I knew was manufactured fairly.

Alicia Robertson
Engineer

It affects me a little bit, but not nearly as much as the price. If a company were blatantly mistreating people I might not buy there, but for the most part I'm looking for the best deal.



Matthew Corsetti
Finance

If there are two equal priced stores or products, I'd go with the one with more positive social values. If the one with more negative social values has a lower price, I'll go with the lower cost. I don't investigate these things. Unless it was glaringly obvious, I wouldn't notice it. Every one's just too busy these days.

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

Newsfront

News Digest

Daylight saving time starts Sunday

Be sure to set your clocks ahead one hour at 2 a.m. Sunday when Daylight Saving Time (DST) returns again. Under federal guidelines, daylight time was observed from 1986 to 2006 from the first Sunday in April to the last Sunday in October. But starting last year, the law was changed to extend daylight time from the second Sunday in March to the first Sunday in November, adding about a month to daylight saving time.

Blankets For Kids celebrates 5 years

A fifth anniversary party for the Blankets For Kids organization is happening at noon March 19 at Ridgeview Commons, 5200 Case Ave. Ladies living at Ridgeview have made 8,000 fleece blankets for at-risk, abused and neglected children through agencies like the Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon and Livermore police departments; Alameda County Child Protection Agency; Tri-Valley Haven; Shepherd's Gate and more. Since the group was founded by Pleasanton resident Jo Molz, volunteers have made and distributed more than 14,000 blankets. To donate, volunteer or learn more, call Molz at 846-6155.

PTA Council offers free stage shows

The Pleasanton PTA Council presents free performances of "Pinocchio" and "A Midsummer Night's Dream" next Tuesday at 6:30 and 8 p.m., respectively. Performed by Will and Company, a multicultural theater ensemble from Los Angeles, each performance is 45 minutes with a question-and-answer session following. Info: www.pleasantonpta.org.

Scholarships for women are available

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin branch will award two or more scholarships (between \$500 and \$1,500) to women who: currently live in Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin or Sunol; or graduated from a Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin or Sunol high school; and are college undergraduates who will be juniors or seniors at the beginning of the 2007 college fall term and plan to complete their full course of study at an accredited four-year college or university. Application deadline is April 1. Contact Pam Copeland at pamcope@aol.com for more info.

TV30 exec quits after being cleared on harassment charges

Four city mayors now in charge of reining in runaway costs at nonprofit station

by Jeb Bing

Glenn Davis, executive director of TV30 since July 2005, has resigned, leaving the station with a shrinking staff with only one reporter and facing major financial and organizational restructuring.

Davis, 57, who earned \$77,000 a year, has been on a paid leave of absence for the last 2-1/2 months pending an investigation into two sexual harassment charges, one by former News Director Linda Elliott and the second by TV30 television producer Misty Ty, who is still on the job.

Although sidelined since the end of 2007, Davis, who was hired to manage the financially troubled station in 2005, is credited with updating and upgrading old software and hardware, including buying new cameras and computers that brought TV30 and its sister channels, 28 and 29, into the digital age. He also added new programs and beefed up the live news coverage, called "Live at Four," to four days a week.

The revenue from the shows Davis produced never paid its way and last year the four cities TV30 serves—Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and San Ramon—had to bail out the nonprofit

with a cash infusion of \$260,000 from unbudgeted city funds. With that, the mayors of the four cities, with the approval of their councils, ousted the all-volunteer board of directors and put themselves in the directors' chairs, with their city managers at their side and sometimes filling in. Paul Rankin, administrative services director of Dublin, was named treasurer and charged with reconciling current and past budgets, a process just now being completed.

Now the four cities are being asked to reach

(continued on page 7)



Eugene Tejada, 27, works with trainer Jerry Rainer on the electro-stimulation bike. Tejada was paralyzed after a player fell on top of him during a basketball game in the Philippines.

Oak Grove hearing tabled

Vote likely to move to November if referendum battle succeeds

The Pleasanton City Council postponed indefinitely a possible public hearing on a citizens' coalition's request for a referendum on the proposed Oak Grove housing and open space project until an Alameda Superior Court judge decides if their plea can be heard.

Since Feb. 22, all eyes have been on Dept. 31, the courtroom of Judge Frank Roesch who heard arguments by lawyers representing the developers of the Oak Grove project and its opponents. Although he issued a temporary ruling two days earlier siding with the developers, it's his permanent ruling that counts and he has yet to issue it.

City Atty. Michael Roush said he has seen judges completely reverse their temporary rulings after hearing the legal arguments in court. He believes Roesch could go either way.

At stake are land use plans for 600 acres of wooded hilltop land above Kottinger Ranch and Vintage Hills, property long owned by Jennifer Lin and her brother Frederic, who also developed Kottinger Ranch in the 1990s. They won approval from the City Council last fall to develop 51 large custom home lots on 77 acres of their property with a development agreement that also gives 496 acres free of charge to the city of Pleasanton for permanent use as parkland, hiking trails and open space. It would be the largest land grant ever given to Pleasanton.

Before the ink was dry on the agreement, however, a citizens' coalition called Save Pleasanton's Hills was organized by former councilwoman and 2004 mayoral candidate Kay Ayala and others to seek a voter referendum to overturn the council's action. In November and early December, the group collected more than 6,000 signatures calling for the referendum. The Alameda County Registrar's office later confirmed that more than 4,000 of the signatures came from registered Pleasanton voters, more than the 3,600 needed to qualify their petitions.

But the Lins sued to block the referendum, arguing that Ayala's group failed to adhere to state law in soliciting signatures by having all the information necessary for the public to inspect before they signed.

Ayala countered with a motion also filed in Superior Court seeking the dismissal of the

(continued on page 9)

Standing tall

Man with paralysis helps others regain their independence

by Janet Pelletier

Dan and Annabelle Dumas are much like any other young couple—they love to vacation, especially in exotic locales such as Maui. But one summer in 2005, an accident would change everything.

As Dan tells it, he was swimming in the ocean when a giant wave crashed against him, forcing his body to topple over, snapping his neck against the ocean floor.

"I don't remember hitting my head," Dumas said. "If I didn't have someone with me, I would have drowned. I didn't have any pain, but I didn't feel anything either."

Friends who were vacationing with the couple helped Dan to shore, where he was rushed by ambulance to the nearest hospital. What had

happened was a devastating spinal cord injury that would mean life confined to a wheelchair.

Looking at Dan Dumas now, he's come a long way—longer than most and far exceeding every one of his doctors' expectations. The 34-year-old walks with the aid of crutches and has regained movement in his legs and arms.

He attributes his remarkable recovery, which continues to this day, in-part to exercise-based rehabilitation. More than two years after beginning the therapy, Dumas and his wife are now running a center in Pleasanton to help others who have faced a similarly debilitating injury or other neurological disorders. SCI-FIT, which stands for Spinal Cord Injury Functional

(continued on page 9)

N.E.A.T Award

Neighborhood Environment Attractiveness Team



The building at 366 St. Mary St. which houses newly opened, Redcoats British Pub & Restaurant, receives the N.E.A.T. award this quarter. After remaining vacant for many years, this former Oddfellow Hall has undergone a complete makeover leaving it looking better than ever. Especially inviting is the outside terrace to the side of the building. Congratulations to the Byrds, owners of this building, for improving the architecture in downtown Pleasanton.



redcoatspub.com
(925) 462-6600

The "NEAT" Neighborhood Environment Attractiveness Team award is designed to highlight a particular downtown building or property that has been improved or that is considered unique in design, architecture or style.

Two of a kind

Weekly wants photos of mother-daughter look-alikes

Mothers and daughters can be so much alike in mannerisms, personality, thoughts and, of course, appearance.

With Mother's Day coming right up, the Pleasanton Weekly will hold a mother-daughter look-alike contest. If you think you and your daughter could be twins, please send a digital photo to gallen@pleasantonweekly.com by Monday, April 21. Photos can be black and white or color, need to be in JPG format, at least 300 dpi and no larger than 1 MB.



The staff at the Weekly will choose the finalists, and readers will be able to vote on which mother and daughter in Pleasanton look most alike. Prizes will be awarded for the first- and second-place winners. Photos of the winners will be published in the May 10 edition of the Pleasanton Weekly.

FT

FITNESS TOGETHER

For more information call
925.461.6379

Personal training
www.ftrubyhill.com

3 FREE
sessions with
purchase of a 4 month
training package!
(48 sessions or more)

Our programs offer a safe, effective way to help women and men achieve their fitness goals in a friendly, non-threatening atmosphere.

Personalized } With a Fitness Together personal trainer, results come quickly because you maximize exercise time, follow an eating plan, set goals, and have the accountability one often needs to stay with an exercise program. Our private training rooms, individualized programs, and motivating atmosphere set us apart from the average gym. **Whether your goals are to firm up, lose inches, add stamina and strength, or add muscle, we have a program for you.**

101 E. Vineyard Ave. Suite 111 | Livermore, CA 94551
Rich Cunha-Owner/Trainer | Maria Cunha-Owner/Client Relations

Take Us Along



Sea the Weekly

Ken Cook reads the Weekly with the beautiful Candlewood Isle of Western Connecticut as the backdrop. Who's ready for summer?

Your Community Credit Union



Auto Loans

as low as **6.25%** APR*

7180 Koll Center Pkwy. Pleasanton
(across from the Pleasanton Golf Center with 24-hr ATM onsite)

www.sterlencu.org 1-866-783-7536

Mention This Ad & Receive A
FREE Membership!



Many Paths. One Road.

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. The APR listed includes the maximum discount available on a new automobile loan with Sterlent's Incentive Loan Rate Program. Receive up to 0.75% in total combined loan rate discounts when utilizing the following services: 0.50% discount with direct deposit of net paycheck, and / or 0.25% with payroll deduction / automatic payment, Sterlent Auto Buying Service and / or by electronic application. An additional 0.25% rate discount is available for Premier Gold Checking account-holders. 100% financing including tax, title, registration and extended warranty is available. Terms available up to 84 months. The monthly payment on a \$20,000 auto loan with a 60 month term and an APR of 6.25% would be \$389.05. APR, conditions and terms are subject to change without notice. New Members must open and maintain \$25 in a regular share savings account. Visit www.sterlencu.org for current rates. Free membership offer is valid through 3/31/08.



TV30

(continued from page 5)

into their taxpayer funds again to contribute another quarter-million-dollars to keep the public broadcast system on the air through the rest of its current budget year, which ends June 30.

For Pleasanton, that will require a special appropriation by the City Council of \$62,428, roughly the same as the other three cities for a total of \$249,000. Although Dublin Councilman Tony Oravetz complained about the surprise budget drawdown a year ago, the councils are expected to approve this month's request. Dublin Mayor Janet Lockhart now chairs the TV30 board and the other mayors approved the most recent bailout.

They're hoping it will be the last. Rankin and the board, working with outside consultants, have identified major cost problems at TV30 and plan to move later this month to stop the financial bleeding.

Key among these is the staff, itself. Expenditures for operating TV30 are heavily weighted towards employee wages, benefits and taxes, along with temporary fill-in personnel costs. Total expenditures for 2007-08 are \$737,008, with staffing costs totaling \$605,470, or 82 percent of the total. But with falling revenues and a static annual budget contribution from Comcast of about \$435,000 a year, the gap between revenue and expenses is widening with, as the consultant said, no end in sight.

To help it better understand viewer interest in TV30, the board commissioned a survey sample of 1,000 Tri-Valley Comcast subscribers. National Research Center conducted telephone interviews with an equal sampling from each of the four cities and is expected to report its finding at the TV30 board meeting March 20 in the Dublin City Hall. Its questions ranged from "Do you know (TV30) exists?" to how often do they watch any of the three channels TV30 hosts.

"We're trying to figure out the value to the community and the value of the news, the timing, the way it's presented, and what kinds of programs are we really looking for in our local television system," Lockhart said. "The news program is the most expensive in the station lineup and we have to determine who's watching it."

"It makes no sense to me to have a live traffic report aired at 4 p.m. and then the same news repeated through the evening," she added. "I also don't understand why our local station reports on news you can watch on regular stations, such as the latest Britney Spears scandal."

In a strategic planning session, the four mayors—Jennifer Hosterman from Pleasanton, Marshall Kamena from Livermore, H. Abram Wilson from San Ramon and Lockhart—vowed to develop a budget for fiscal 2008-09 that will not exceed revenue. That won't be easy.

Comcast, in long-term agreement with the four cities that it signed as part of its franchise application to serve the communities,

added 50 cents to each subscriber bill. This 50 cents has stayed the same for nearly a decade although Comcast has more than tripled its subscriber fees. Of concern, too, is the increased reliance on Direct TV satellite programming, which doesn't carry TV30 broadcasts, doesn't collect any fees to support it and yet is nibbling away at Comcast's market.

Also, sponsorships from key revenue-producers obtained by Glenn Davis and his predecessor Bruce Goddard are leaving. Kevin Wing, hired as news director, has been named interim executive director at \$20 an hour. With a shrinking staff, he has been unable to spend the time required to retain sponsors or look for new ones. Bay East Realty recently cancelled its monthly sponsored programs; ValleyCare Health Systems has cut its programs back to one every other month; San Ramon Regional Medical Center's popular call-in show, "Ask Your Doctor," has been temporarily shelved; Big O Tires has delayed signing a new contract. These cut-backs have cost TV30 thousands of dollars in anticipated revenue that is still on the books.



Glenn Davis

In its staff survey, the consulting firm of Kirchoff & Associates found little cheer among those working or volunteering their services at TV30. Some of the comments:

"The building is way too small and the setup of the building is also bad. There are wires everywhere."

"Technology at TV30 is outdated and needs to be repaired. Today there is no newscast due to a control room breakdown."

"A pay raise is needed in order for me to continue working for this company. I was promised a review and a raise after six months at hiring which, when I brought it up, was quickly shot down."

Kirchoff's report gave a blistering review on how TV30 is operated:

- This mission of the station is unclear.
- TV30's management lacks the

required business skills and financial acumen.

- Programming policies are vague and are not connected to specific goals.

It's this report, which was based on conditions at TV30 that led to deficit spending, as well as the viewer survey that the board will now use to restructure the station for the coming budget year.

Sacred for certain to the four mayors and their city staffs will be continued live coverage of the City Council meetings of each city; the "Mayor's Forum," a monthly interview with each of the mayors; school board meetings, which the school district pay for; and specialized reports, such as "COPPS," a program sponsored and produced by the Pleasanton Police Department.

The mayors have also supported bringing in back "Media Roundtable," a monthly discussion session with editors and reporters from newspapers covering the Tri-Valley. The program was dropped by Goddard as too time-consuming and costly to produce.

In leaving the station, Glenn Davis, who has a television production consulting business in El Cerrito, where he lives, called his time at TV30 and in the Tri-Valley "wonderful."

"I've enjoyed working with the great staff at TV30 and will always value the friendships I made there. I can't help but leave a bit of my heart there."

"I wanted the investigator to submit her report so that I could resign with dignity," Davis added. "I didn't want the community to think I was trying to evade those allegations. Now is absolutely the right time to move on."

Lockhart said the investigation into charges against Davis by Elliott and Ty showed insufficient evidence to support their claims. ■

Check out
PLEASANTON WEEKLY
.com
every day

WRITE NOW!
WRITE NOW!
Summer Writing Camps
for grades 2-8

	Hacienda School Pleasanton, 925-485-5750	Emerson School Palo Alto, 650-424-1267	FEES	
Expository Writing	7/28-8/1	7/7-7/11	1 week	\$500
Creative Writing	8/4-8/8	7/14-7/18	2 weeks	\$950
Presentation Skills	7/14-7/18	7/21-7/25	3 weeks	\$1,350

HOURS: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, with extended care available from 8:00 AM until 6:00 PM
writing@headsup.org • www.headsup.org

DIABLO FLOORING, INC

WHERE SERVICE AND QUALITY MATTER



FREE ESTIMATES

Exact pricing, no rough estimates
Residential/Commercial
Financing Available

Experience A New
Flooring Today!

CARPET HARDWOOD LAMINATE TILE VINYL

(925) 426-RUGS (925) 426-7847

www.DiabloFlooring.com

5600-D Sunol Blvd, Pleasanton, CA 94566

CA License #898787

Get Bikini Ready

At Crunch Inches by Skin Laser

LASER HAIR REMOVAL

\$99 per visit

Underarms, Bikini, Lip & Chin
(with a purchase of 5 treatments per area)



FREE

MICRODERMABRASION OR FACIAL
WHEN YOU PURCHASE BOTOX
AND OR RESTYLANE

NANO FACE LIFT
NON INVASIVE



Before Treatment After Treatment
Helps to regain the sagging jaw line.
Contours the cheek area. Overall radiance.
VISIBLE RESULTS IN ONE TREATMENT Individual Results May Vary

Fight Flab
without sweat

NANO TECH INCH LOSS SYSTEM



Before Treatment After Treatment
Medically supervised **inch loss 15"-50"**
Weight loss - **Guaranteed up to 4 lbs/per week**
Body tightening, bust, butt lift

Crunch Inches by Skin Laser

4550 Dublin Blvd., Dublin
(925) 829-7722

www.skinlaseressentials.com

Skin Laser Essentials Inc.

210 Fremont Hub Courtyard, Fremont
(510) 793-2277

SMOG INSPECTION

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

Harry's Auto Repair
Test and Repair
925-462-3237

We can smog any vehicle!

- Test Only
- Gross Polluters
- Change of Ownership
- Bi-annual

No Appointments Necessary!

Mon-Sat 8-5pm

183-A Wyoming St., Pleasanton

— Gold Shield Station —

WEARABLE ART • POTTERY • FRENCH COUNTRY • VINTAGE • PHOTOGRAPHY

Country Folk Art®
presents...

Home Decor & More!!!

— THE ULTIMATE CRAFT SHOW —
March 7-8-9
Pleasanton
ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
I-680 to Bernal Ave. Exit, East to Fairgrounds

SHOW HOURS:
Friday 5-9
Saturday 10-5
Sunday 10-4
adm. \$7 - \$8 with online coupon
YOUR HANDSTAMP RE-ADMITS YOU ALL 3 DAYS!

Country Folk Art Shows, Inc.
15045 Dixie Hwy, Holly MI 48442
Ph: (248) 634-4151
em: info@countryfolkart.com

DISCOUNT COUPONS available online at CountryFolkArt.com (this newspaper ad has no discount value)

Thousands of Fun & Fabulous Goodies for Sale!

Country Folk Art® presents...
JEWELRY • SHABBY CHIC • WHIMSICAL FLORALS • HANDMADE SOAPS & CANDLES • GOURMET FOODS • HANDCRAFTED FURNITURE • SHELVING & CABINETRY

GRAHAM-HITCH MORTUARY

Dignified Care & Compassionate Service Since 1891



Advance Planning Made Easy

Call Deanna for a FREE consultation. In-home visits available.

4167 First Street, Pleasanton
925-846-5624
Crematory Privately Owned & Operated

FD#429



John Brink

A day at City Hall

Jim Gotcher, public works inspector for the city of Pleasanton, talks to high school students about construction work set to begin later this month on three new baseball fields on the Bernal property. Located just off Valley Avenue near the Union Pacific Railroad tracks, the fields represent the first improvements on the 318-acre Bernal site, which the city was given free of charge by a developer consortium led by Greenbriar Homes.

Forty-five Pleasanton students from Amador Valley, Foothill, Horizon and Village high schools converged on Pleasanton City Hall and the Pleasanton Unified School District offices on Tuesday to participate in the annual "Youth in Government Day" program.

Students had the opportunity to job shadow elected City Council and PUSD board members, City Manager Nelson Fialho, school Superintendent John Casey and others. Following a luncheon, the students broke into groups to discuss the issues of student mental health and substance abuse and then report their comments to all the day's participants.



Life Begins at ValleyCare

At ValleyCare we know that giving birth is one of life's most joyous experiences. That's why your health and comfort, and the health of your baby, is our top priority.

Last year, 1550 babies began their life at ValleyCare. Our birth center combines the latest in technology with the warm, caring atmosphere that has long been associated with our health system. An anesthesiologist is available 24 hours a day to aid you or your baby in case of emergency or if a Cesarean delivery is necessary. A pediatric hospitalist will attend your delivery to care for your baby at the time of birth and is available 24 hours a day.

We also have a Level II nursery for babies who require additional medical care.

ValleyCare offers family-centered care which means the same nurse will care for both you and your baby after delivery. New mothers prefer this arrangement because they get to know their nurse and feel comfortable asking questions.

Is there a baby in your future? CHOOSE VALLEYCARE.

Physician Referral 1-800-719-9111
Maternity Classes and Tours 1-800-719-9111
Lactation Services 925-416-3598



A not-for-profit health system

ValleyCare Medical Center, Pleasanton • www.valleycare.com

City seeks to fill open commission, committee seats

Applications can be turned in through today

Interested in the arts, economic vitality, parks or the library? There are a number of vacancies on city commissions and committees concerning these such topics.

Openings include seats on: the Civic Arts Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Human Services Commission, Library Commission and Youth Commission. On the city's Economic Vitality Committee, seats are available for representatives for commercial services, biomedical business, environmental and telecommunications.

The city is also accepting applications for vacancies on the Youth Master Plan Implementation Committee, including: a nonprofit agency representative, senior citi-

zen representative, health and crisis representative, Village High School representative (two), Harvest Park Middle School representative, Pleasanton Middle School representative, and a parent-at-large each from preschool-, elementary- and high school levels.

Applications are available at the City Clerk's office, 123 Main St. or on the city's Web site, www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us. Those interested in serving on a commission or committee that currently doesn't have open seats are encouraged to complete an interest card on the city Web site or from the City Clerk's office. The deadline to apply is 5 p.m. today.

For information, call 931-5027.

—Janet Pelletier

Of Note

Choral singer Ward Belding to perform in SF, Alameda

Ward Belding, also known as "Uncle Sam" at Pleasanton's annual Fourth of July and Veterans' Day events, will be performing a solo in an upcoming classical choral music concert, 5 p.m. Saturday at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 1111 O'Farrell St. in San Francisco and 3:30 p.m. Sunday at St. Joseph Basilica, 1109 Chestnut St. in

Alameda.

Included in the program is a presentation by Soli Deo Gloria of three choral masterworks spanning the 17th to the 20th centuries: Faure's "Requiem," Charpentier's "Denial of St. Peter," and the U.S. Premiere of Canada composer Allan Bevan's "Nou Goth Sonne Under Wode."

Belding will be one of three soloists in the role of the narrator in the Charpentier oratorio.

Tickets are \$17 in advance or \$20 at the door. For information, go to www.sdgloria.org or call 1-888-734-7664.

Therapy

(continued from page 5)



Janet Pelletier

Dan and Annabelle Dumas, owners of SCI-FIT, want to give other victims of paralysis the same exercised-based therapy that proved so rewarding for Dan.

Integrated Therapy, located at 1031 Serpentine Lane, is one of the few facilities in the area that offers this type of treatment.

"It's not really recognized by the medical community," he said.

After a three-month stay in the hospital, several surgeries including a spinal fusion and what Annabelle described as three near-death experiences, Dan went to Santa Clara Valley Medical Center for rehabilitation.

"My wife and I refused to accept it," he said of his diagnosis. "We thought there had to be other options."

"We're fighters," Annabelle added.

While Dan acknowledges he's had moments of despair about his future, it was the thought of leaving behind a life of activities such as traveling, waterskiing and playing golf that kept him positive about his recovery.

So, the couple's journey took them to Southern California to find special programs that would help him gain more movement in his limbs. They sold their Danville home and temporarily left their chain of laundromats and other business affairs to his father-in-law while he enrolled in intensive treatment programs in San Diego.

"I exercised five days a week, two hours a day," he said.

For two years, he continued that schedule and despite having first arrived in San Diego unable to feed

himself, by the time he left, he was able to stand up and take steps (at six months), and walk at one year.

The Dumases moved back to the Tri-Valley last March with the goal of opening a facility like the ones Dan received training in.

"It was like karma," Annabelle said.

"I wanted to give this gift to others," Dan said. "We're business people. So, we took two trainers from San Diego, brought them up here and started SCI-FIT."

The result is a personal training facility that offers special accommodations for people with disabilities. Inside, the fitness machines are just like ones you'd see at any regular gym, some modified for the disabled. There is also special equipment such as an electro-stimulation bike that pushes the user to utilize their muscles and re-educate neuro-pathways, increasing muscle mass and blood circulation. From the get-go, SCI-FIT had five clients ready to start training and since, people have come from as far away as Bakersfield, Novato and Sacramento to train. The 16 clients who currently train at SCI-FIT have individualized programs and work out one-on-one up to six hours per week with trainers Bianca Clinch and Jerry Rainey, who were among Dan's team of trainers in San Diego.

The injuries and level of disability range from client to client—everything from sports injuries to pool accidents, a cheerleading fall, slipping in the bathroom to a tumor and having to breathe with a tube to paralysis from the tailbone down. Clients also range from 15 years old to 60 years old and while some are only seven months post-injury, others are up to seven years post-injury.

Sean Simonson of the Milpitas Fire Department, credits SCI-FIT for his great strides in recovery.

"I'm grateful to have a program like this nearby," he said. "Exercise-based therapy has created an avenue for me to gain my independence. As a C6-C7 quadriplegic, I am now often confused with the ability level of a paraplegic."

While Dumas is realistic in both his and others' recoveries, he said he is seeing positive improvement.

"My recovery was not typical," Dan said. "Only 3 percent ever walk again."

But, that doesn't take away approval or call for a public vote.

Tuesday, the council was poised to call for a vote if Roesch ruled for Ayala, and considered continuing the public hearing until yesterday and or even this morning in case his ruling came then. All paperwork for a referendum, including 300-word opinions for and against the measure to overturn, must be submitted to the County Registrar by 5 p.m. today to qualify for the June 3 Primary, which a majority on the council wanted to do. In the end, however, the council agreed with Roush that there would be too little time to get everything ready by tonight's deadline.

—Jeb Bing

the fact that clients are seeing improvements to their quality of life, he said. By providing SCI-FIT, the mission was to offer a program for people in the Bay Area that wouldn't require them having to relocate like he did for recovery. Annabelle added that they don't turn any clients away if they have trouble affording the program's expense.

Eventually, the couple plans to move to a larger facility once they can save enough money. Donations from the public on behalf of clients are welcomed.

For more information on SCI-FIT, visit www.sci-fit.org. ■

WE UNDERSTAND COMMITMENT

For decades, Edward Jones has been committed to providing personalized investment service to individuals.

From our office here in San Ramon, you can rely on:

- **Convenience**
Face-to-face meetings, when and where you're available.
- **Timely information**
Technology that gives you instant access to information on your account and other investments.
- **Personal service**
Investment guidance for your personal needs.

Call or stop by your local financial advisor today.



Sima A Alefi
Financial Advisor

9260 Alcosta Blvd, Ste B11
San Ramon, CA 94583
925-828-9115

www.edwardjones.com Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



Artwork by
John Crawford

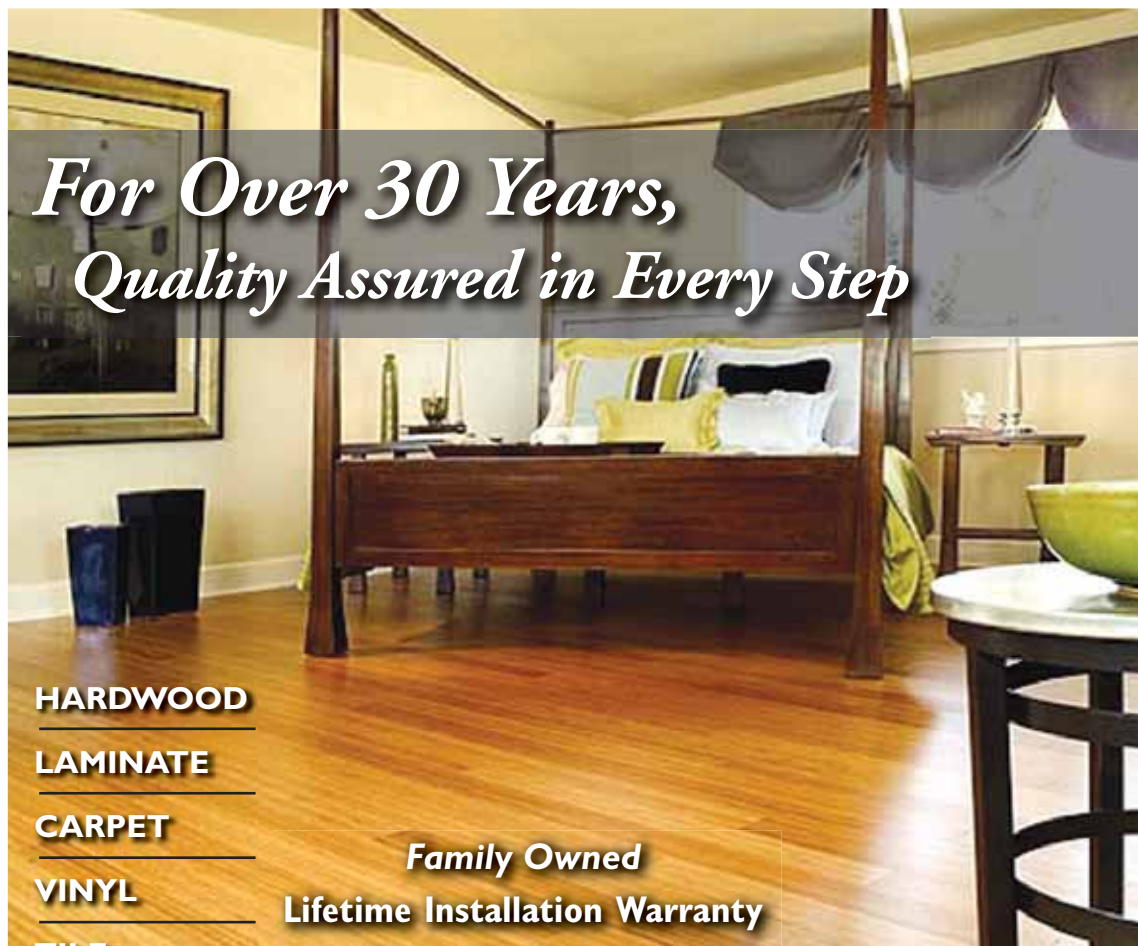
Exhibit:
March 1
through
March 16

Join us!



Studio 7 Fine Arts

400 Main Street • Downtown Pleasanton
925.846.4322 • www.studio7finearts.com



*For Over 30 Years,
Quality Assured in Every Step*

HARDWOOD

LAMINATE

CARPET

VINYL

TILE

Family Owned

Lifetime Installation Warranty

Free Estimates

**Hours: M-F 10:30am-5:30pm,
Sat 10:30am-4pm**

3950-C Valley Ave., Pleasanton

SILMAR
FLOORING
Residential • Commercial • Hospitality

(925) 846-7600
www.silmarflooring.com

Oak Grove

(continued from page 5)

Lins' suit on grounds that it violates a state statute that protects individuals from "Strategic Lawsuits against Public Participation, known as SLAPP.

It's these two legal issues that Judge Roesch is now reviewing.

If Roesch makes permanent his temporary ruling, the Ayala petition is cancelled out and the Lins can proceed with their development. If he reverses himself and supports Ayala, then the City Council must decide if it wants to rescind its

THE WINEMAKER

From vine to glass, Chris Graves is creating unique blends for the new Ruby Hill Winery

Story by Janet Pelletier
Photos by Shannon Corey

Chris Graves knew wine was his calling when he was 16 years old.

A native of the Sierra Foothills, the 28-year-old credits his parents for encouraging him to pursue vinification, or winemaking as it's commonly called, because of his interest in the outdoors and science.

After completing a two-year viticulture and enology program at UC Davis, where he learned about everything from "wine sensory science" to "grapevine pests and diseases," Graves landed an internship with Wente Vineyards, working under his mentor Karl Wente. It was there he moved into a regular position, and eventually to assistant winemaker. Two years ago, he became winemaker at Tamás Estates, another winery owned by Wente in Livermore. And this past

summer, Graves became vintner of the new Ruby Hill Winery in Pleasanton.

While the name isn't new—there's a long history associated with it—the winery is.

Michael Callahan, owner of the Palm Event Center and Mitchell Katz Winery in Ruby Hill, purchased the property a few years ago. Located at the corner of Isabel and Vineyard avenues in Pleasanton's southeast border with Livermore, Ruby Hill Winery opened to the public with a tasting on Feb. 9 and 10.

At 4,800 square feet, the tasting room is the largest in the Livermore Valley wine country, according to Michelle Pangrazio, director of marketing for the winery and the adjacent event center that will be opening in a matter of weeks.

Called Casa Real, the event center will complement the winery, and will host weddings, corporate retreats, fundraisers and galas. Alyssia Jones, event director for Casa Real, said 92 weddings are already booked and reservations



Tasting room manager Debbie Cristiano pours a glass of red wine for tasting as she reflects on the public's reaction to the grand opening held Feb. 9-10.



The Ruby Hill Winery has a Mediterranean flavor and sits adjacent to the Casa Real event center, which will open next month.

are going well into 2009. The first wedding will be held April 18.

Pairing the winery and event center on one parcel will allow shared uses and cross promotion. For example, the wines that will be served at Casa Real will only bear the Ruby Hill label. And clients who are planning weddings at the event center plan to have cocktail hours next door in the tasting room, Pangrazio said. With Mitchell Katz and the Palm, which opened in 2004 farther west along Vineyard, event organizers hope to offer the new winery and event center as

another booking option. It's also a good fit with restaurant Campo di Bocce located across Isabel, where some wedding parties will have their rehearsal dinners.

The winery has had a good response so far, although construction on the event center still somewhat impedes the property, but finishing touches are expected to wrap up soon.

"Most people are surprised at how good our wine is and how little it costs," said tasting room manager Debbie Cristiano.

Cristiano said all of the wines for tasting sell for under \$20 except for one.

In addition to wine, the tasting room is also filled with wine-related merchandise such as olive oil (with the Ruby Hill Winery label and made by Olivina of Livermore), coffee, jam and home décor. Guests are also encouraged to have a picnic and stay a while. Deli meats, cheeses and baguettes are for sale in a refrigerator and guests can dine in the tasting room by a fireplace or in a courtyard outside at wrought-iron tables with firepits. It's a smaller-scale version of V. Sattui Winery in Napa, which is often packed with picnickers during the harvest season.

To prepare for the winery's opening last month, Graves said he sourced wines up and down



Inside the winery tasting room, guests can browse wine-related merchandise, grab a seat by the fireplace and purchase meats, cheeses and baguettes and have a picnic.



Outside the Ruby Hill Winery cellar, barrels of wine are fermenting in the relatively cool sunshine, while other blends stay cooler inside.



Currently, the winery has a stock of 5,000 cases of wine, seen here, but has room and plans to prepare 10,000 cases.



The science behind the wine: This is where winemaker Chris Graves blends special concoctions of wine and checks for alcohol and sulfur levels.

the California coastline and began blending. Some vintage 2006 wines are currently fermenting in a wine cellar across the vineyard from the winery.

For some it's a hobby, but for Graves, it's a full-time job that sometimes requires waking up at oddball hours to check on the process in the cellar. Good thing he's only a few footsteps away, where he lives with his family in a house on the property.

"It's an intricate process," he said. "Winemaking is a million decisions. The attention to detail is what makes a good winemaker."

While last year's harvest was crushed off-site, Graves said he plans to purchase crushing equipment soon and the harvesting will be done in Pleasanton this year.

The cellar stays a cool 58 degrees year-round. Right now, the air conditioning is off with the moderate temperatures, but come summer, it will be running constantly to keep the wine from spoiling. Inside the cellar is a laboratory where Graves takes different varieties of wines from merlots to cabernets to sirahs and makes his own blends. He'll also check for quality control, checking the alcohol and sulfur levels.

Ruby Hill wine is sold only at the winery. Campo di Bocce began serving their wine last Monday and Graves said they are in talks with other local restaurants to begin serving.

The current offerings of wine are champagne, two kinds of chardonnay, a Central Coast cabernet, North Coast cabernet, Sangiovese and a port.

The benefit to Ruby Hill Winery is that it is a small operation, run

by Graves and one other cellar worker. The wines are all bottled and labeled on site and everything is handmade.

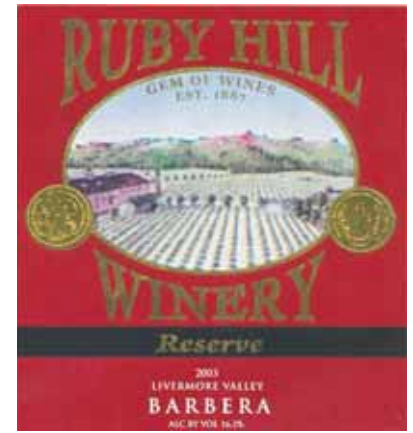
"It's very rewarding to be involved in the process and to have control over what goes on," Graves said.

The logo for the winery is an ode to the former Ruby Hill Winery, which was established in 1887. Graves said he took the historic design and restored it with a few changes. It still bears the original tagline, "Gem of Wines." The name Ruby Hill came from the fertile soil which was bright red in color and produced award-winning wines.

At the same time that the Wentes were building their winery business in Livermore, a man named John Crellin planted vines in Pleasanton. In the 1920s, Crellin sold the Ruby Hill Winery to Ernest Ferrario, who fashioned "Gem of Wines" on his labels. Prohibition stalled the winery for a time until it was repealed. A fire, believed to be the work of an arsonist, gutted the abandoned Ruby Hill Winery building in 1989. In 2002, Callahan, who was the developer of the Livermore Airport Business Park, purchased the property and two years later, Mitchell Katz Winery and the Palm Event Center were born.

Callahan said he's excited about bringing back a name which bears so much historic significance and he believes the name, shared by the neighboring gated residential community and golf course, will have recognition.

The Ruby Hill Winery is located at 400 Vineyard Ave. For more information, visit www.rubyhill-winery.net. ■



The restored Ruby Hill Winery label, the "Gem of Wines."



Graves holds a wax-sealed bottle of port wine.



The Casa Real event center, which boasts nearly 20,000 square feet for weddings, corporate retreats and other events, will open mid-April.

WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

Planning Commission

Wednesday, March 12, 2008 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- **PAP 117, Xin Chen/Frank Nguyen, Appellants (PADR-1762/ PUD-99-09-02M, Aman and Tee Bawa, Applicants)**
Appeal of the Zoning Administrator's approval of an application for administrative design review to construct an approximately 700-square-foot, detached second unit with an approximately 250-square-foot covered porch at the property located at 2632 Ingrid Court; and application for a major modification to an approved PUD development plan, Case PUD 99 02, to allow additional grading and retaining walls along the rear and side yard slope banks of the property located at 2632 Ingrid Court and to relocate two developer-installed trees along the rear yard slope bank of the property.
- **PDR-623, Scott and Shelly Adams**
Application for design review approval to: (1) demolish an existing one story single family home; and (2) to construct a new two story single family home with 8,325 square feet of living area, 2,215 square feet of attached garage area, and an attached 8,476 square foot indoor tennis court on a 58,703 square-foot lot located at 2751 Crellin Road in Foxbrough Estates.
- **PUD 53, Bringhurst, LLC**
Work session to review and receive comments on a proposal to subdivide an existing 3.28-acre parcel located at 990 Sycamore Road into five lots whereas the North Sycamore Specific Plan has allocated three lots for the subject site.

Parks and Recreation Commission

Thursday, March 13, 2008 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Introduction of Callippe Preserve Golf Course General Manager Mike Ash
- Approval of Trails Ad Hoc committee's proposed priority projects for 2008 and 2009

Library Commission

Thursday, March 13, 2008 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber Conference Room, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

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

Youth Commission

Wednesday, March 12, 2008 @ 7:00 p.m.
Pleasanton Senior Center, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Evaluation of 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament
- Discussion of Valley Teen Job Faire

Youth Master Plan Implementation Committee

Monday, March 10, 2008 @ 6:00 p.m.
Operation Service Center, 3333 Busch Road

- Approve, review and comment on YMPIC Master Plan Update
- Update regarding the YMPIC Ad-Hoc Committee and the Tri-Valley Adolescent Health Initiative

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

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

Community Pulse

Police Bulletin

Oven fire temporarily closes Stacey's Cafe

Around 5:45 a.m. last Friday, the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department responded to a fire at Stacey's Café, 310 Main St. Co-owner Scott Adams said they are unsure of the cause.

"We know it was from the oven," he said. "We're not entirely sure why."

The damage is estimated to be under \$25,000. The kitchen was in decent shape with fairly extensive smoke damage that a crew had to remove.

Adams, also known as the creator of the Dilbert comic strip, said co-owner Stacey Belkin drove to Oakland early that morning to buy a new stove.

"She got back and it was installed before 11 that morning, trying to open for lunch," he said.

However, health inspectors had to inspect the kitchen before allowing the restaurant to re-open. Those with reservations at Stacey's Café were called and granted reservations at the sister restaurant Stacey's At Waterford in Dublin.

"It's nice to have an emergency back-up restaurant," Adams said with a laugh.

The restaurant re-opened last Saturday.

Police Report

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

Feb. 22

- Grand theft:
 - 10:02 a.m. in the 4400 block of Oracle Lane
- Vandalism:
 - 10:07 a.m. in the 4400 block of Rosewood Drive; worth less than \$400
 - 10:41 a.m. in the 4100 block of Vineyard Avenue; worth less than \$400
- Burglary:
 - 10:02 a.m. in the 4400 block of Oracle Lane
 - 3:43 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- Mental health danger:
 - 7:09 p.m. in the 5600 block of Owens Drive
 - 8:42 p.m. in the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Feb. 23

- Theft:
 - 6:48 a.m. in the 500 block of Main Street
 - 12:19 p.m. in the 1900 block of Clover Court; forgery
 - 9:37 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive
- Vandalism:
 - 10:13 a.m. in the 300 block of Rose Avenue; worth less than

\$400

-12:25 p.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and Sutter Gate Avenue; worth less than \$400

-12:45 p.m. in the 4700 block of Augustine Street; worth less than \$400

• Vehicular burglary:

-4:33 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

• Alcohol violations:

-12:31 a.m. in the 4300 block of Valley Avenue; DUI

-1:27 a.m. in the 3000 block of Hopyard Road

• Assault:

-1:27 a.m. in the 3000 block of Hopyard Road

Feb. 24

• Vandalism:

-6:02 a.m. in the 1800 block of Santa Rita Road

-6:05 a.m. in the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard; worth over \$400

• Drug/alcohol violations:

-2:10 a.m. at the intersection of Stoneridge Drive and Trever Parkway; DUI

-7:11 p.m. in the 4200 block of Rosewood Drive; marijuana possession

• Lost property:

-12:15 p.m. in the 4100 block of Garibaldi Place

Feb. 25

• Identity theft:

-8:09 p.m. in the 3100 block of Snowdrop Circle

• Vandalism:

-8:27 a.m. in the 5600 block of West Las Positas Boulevard; worth over \$400

-8:43 a.m. in the 7300 block of Johnson Drive; worth less than \$400

• Burglary:

-8:08 a.m. in the 4300 block of Railroad Avenue

Feb. 26

• Theft:

-12:48 p.m. in the 5700 block of Las Positas Boulevard

-4:13 p.m. in the 7400 block of Muirwood Court; petty theft

• Vandalism:

-6:16 p.m. in the 4500 block of First Street; worth less than \$400

Feb. 27

• Grand theft:

-5:03 p.m. in the 2400 block of Foothill Road

-6:02 p.m. at the intersection of Greenwood Road and Alameda Drive

• Burglary:

-7:21 a.m. in the 3600 block of Andrews Drive; vehicular

-8:44 p.m. in the 5000 block of Case Avenue

• Loitering:

-5:52 a.m. in the 5100 block of Independence Drive

Feb. 28

• Theft:

-11:31 a.m. in the 4100 block of Garibaldi Place; forgery

-12:20 p.m. in the 300 block of Main Street; forgery

-12:28 p.m. in the 6100 block of Via de los Cerros; petty theft

• Vandalism:

-8:13 a.m. in the 4100 block of Moller Drive; worth less than \$400

• Alcohol violations:

-2:16 a.m. at the intersection of Dublin Canyon and Foothill roads; DUI

-4:41 p.m. in the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard; public drunkenness

Alexandria's Flowers

Flower Happy Hour at Alexandria's
Enjoy a fresh Bouquet for \$15.00 (reg \$25.00) Saturdays from 10AM-3PM

BRIGHTEN YOUR HOME WITH FRESH FLOWERS

484-1149 • 3037 Hopyard Road, Suite F
www.ptownflowers.com • M-F 9-5, Sat 10-3

GAY NINETIES PIZZA CO.

Italian Style Spaghetti & Ravioli

BEST OF PLEASANTON 2007

- Lunches Dinners • Beers on Tap
- Orders to go • Patio Dining Available

288 Main Street • 846-2520 • www.gayninetiespizza.com

Transitions

Obituaries

Roger Dean Underwood

Roger Dean Underwood died Feb. 24 at the age of 94.

Beloved dad, grandfather and great-grandfather, Mr. Underwood was born Aug. 30, 1913 and raised in Portland, Ore.

A man of integrity, Mr. Underwood was liked by all, especially for his quiet manner and sense of humor.

His main hobbies in life involved his family. He was an active Boy Scout leader, took an active part in DeMolay and Job's Daughters and took great pride in being a Master Mason. He was initiated in Park Boulevard Lodge in Oakland, then transferred to Pleasanton Lodge No. 321 when he moved to Pleasanton in 1980. He chartered the High Twelve, which is a senior part of the Masonic Lodge.

Loved for his humor and kindness, he was known by all as a genuine



gentleman and devoted family man.

He was preceded in death by his late wife, Martha Underwood in 1978. Mr. Underwood and Martha left Oregon with their 3-year-old son, Roger Dwight Underwood, around 1945 and lived in California for the remainder of their lives. They also raised a daughter, Barbara Lynn. In 1980, he married Lucille Robbiano and enjoyed 27 years of marriage with her.

He is survived by his two children, Roger (Carolee) Underwood of Hat Creek, Calif. and Barbara (Dick) Sullivan of Sonoma. Grandchildren include: Jennifer (Paul) Haynie of Winchester, Calif., Keri (Tim) Jacobs of West Sacramento, Calif., Rev. Jay (Julie) Underwood of Weaverville, Calif. and Julie Renee (Brad) Maxham of Fair Oaks, Calif. Great-grandchildren include: Jack, Will and Lily Underwood, Jessica and Julia Haynie, Austin and Kayleigh Jacobs.

Mr. Underwood and "Lue" have been lovingly attended to for the last few years by Mrs. Underwood's daughter, Roxana (Hans) Hoehne of Pleasanton, her five children and 12 great-grandchildren.

A Masonic memorial service was held March 2 at the Pleasanton Masonic Lodge No. 321. Donations in his memory may be made to Pleasanton Masonic Lodge No. 321, F.& A.M., 3370 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

Raellen Dorough

Raellen Dorough died unexpectedly of post-operative complications on Feb. 26, just shy of her 75th birthday.

"Rae," as she was known to her family and friends, was born in Los Angeles. A California native, she was a longtime Livermore resident.

Besides caring for her large family, Mrs. Dorough enjoyed a long professional career. In the 1950s and '60s, she worked for Kaiser Steel and for a dozen years, she was a secretary and administrative assistant in the chemistry department at what was then the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory. In the 1970s she undertook a career in real estate, and was a successful Realtor/broker for more than 30 years.

In the last 15 years, she was co-owner of the well regarded, locally

owned firm, Valley Properties. Over the years, she gave generously of time and money to cultural and social enterprises. She was a founding member of Del Valle Fine Arts, and with her husband, Gus Dorough, endowed a professor's chair in chemistry at UC Berkeley.

She is survived by her four children, Drake McCarthy of Oakland, Valerie Bays of Santa Clara, Maureen McCarthy of San Ramon and Colleen Faith of Livermore. She was also stepmother to Susan Fisher of Blythe, Calif., Lisa Giannini of Hickman, Calif., and Dan Dorough of Emeryville. She is also survived by 10 grandchildren, including Jared and Alec Faith locally, and one great-grandchild.

Mrs. Dorough's family invites friends to join them in a remembrance of her at 2 p.m. Sunday, which would have been her birthday, at the Palm Event Center, 1184 Vineyard Ave.

Fred Garrison

Fred Garrison died Feb. 24 in Pleasanton at the age of 79.

Mr. Garrison was born Sept. 20,

1928 and raised in Anderson, S.C. He lived in numerous cities across the U.S., until he met the love of his life, Barbara. They settled a family in Pleasanton in 1971.

A retail buyer and manager for most of his career, Mr. Garrison had an amazing work ethic. He was a loving brother, husband, father and papa. The happiest moments of his life were spent with his family.

Mr. Garrison was known for his kind heart, honesty, sincerity, strength and his family values. All of these attributes will live on within all who met and loved him. He was thankful for everything he had and appreciated every one of life's moments.

Mr. Garrison is survived by his sister, Doris of Spartanburg, S.C.; son, Michael of Honolulu, H.I.; daughter, Kayla of Pleasanton; and many extended family in South Carolina. He was preceded in death by his parents, Fred and Ruth; sister, Pat; and his beloved wife, Barbara.

Family and friends attended a celebration of his life on March 1. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hope Hospice, 6500 Dublin Blvd., Ste. 100, Dublin, CA 94568.

Weddings



Jamie Allmendinger & Jeffrey Osborn

Jamie Allmendinger and Jeffrey Osborn were married in a beautiful sunset ceremony Nov. 4 at Camp Arroyo in Livermore. The bride's grandmother and minister, Ramona Tennison, officiated at the 4 p.m. ceremony. A reception followed.

The groom is the son of Robert and Patricia Osborn of Pleasanton. The bride is the daughter of Mark and Pam Allmendinger of East Moline, Ill. and Virginia and George Leiner of Greensburg, Pa.

Maid of honor was Rebecca Allmendinger, best man was Gregory Osborn. Flower girl was the groom's niece, Brooke

Osborn. The bride's sister, Ashley Gregory, performed a reading at the ceremony.

Jeffrey graduated from Amador Valley High School; Chico State University and earned his teaching credentials at Sacramento State University. He is currently employed by the San Ramon Valley Unified School District where he teaches seventh grade English and history at Windemere Ranch Middle School.

Jamie graduated from United Township High School in East Moline, Ill.; Augustana College in Rock Island, Ill. with a bachelor's degree in psychology. She is employed as a special events coordinator for The Taylor Family Foundation in Livermore.

The honeymoon destination was Grand Cayman Islands. The couple resides in Livermore.

Births

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

Jan. 25

Dina Gonzales and Dionicio Juarez, a boy
Sulak Shana and Vishnanath Sheno, a girl

Jan. 29

Maria and Mark Bonitz, a boy

Feb. 2

Charlotte and Todd Umentum, a girl

PLEASANTON
TRAVEL

Hawaii on Sale

2 for 1 Airfare to Hawaii**

Bookings 3/1/08 through 3/16/08

Travel 4/1/08 through 6/5/08

San Francisco to Maui, Kauai or Honolulu

Call Today!

UNITED

** 2 for 1 airfare must be booked in conjunction with Hawaii World land package
Call for details and restrictions

925.462.8484

We've Moved! Come Visit us at Our New Larger Office

3037 Hopyard Rd., Suite P, Pleasanton, CA 94588

CST 205502340
CST 100432840

See Your Best! Look Your Best!

- LASIK - on site (Special pricing & 0% financing available)
- New! Bifocal implants for cataract surgery
- Medical and surgical treatment of eye disease
- Dry Eye Clinic
- Eye examinations
- Contact lenses & Fashion eyewear



VALLEY EYECARE CENTER Medical Associates

Jonathan Savell, M.D. Jay DeLaney, O.D.
Robert Neves, M.D. Gina Trentacosti, O.D.
Michael Gagnon, M.D. Kerri Owyang, O.D.

Board Certified Ophthalmologists & Licensed Optometrists

(925) 460-5000
5575 W. Las Positas Blvd #240
Pleasanton, CA 94588

NOW 0%
Financing on LASIK

(925) 449-4000
28 Fenton St
Livermore, CA 94550



Caring for the Tri-Valley Since 1975
VALLEYEYECARECENTER.COM

Providers and LASIK site for TruVision

GOLDEN GATE MEDIATION SERVICES



*“Mediate
Don't Litigate”*

Divorce Mediation helps **You** decide:
Parenting / Support / Property Issues
Less Cost - Less Time - Less Stress

Free phone consultation **925.735.3341**
www.goldengatemediation.com

Two of a kind

The Weekly wants photos of mother- daughter look-alikes.

Mothers and daughters can be so much alike in mannerisms, personality, thoughts and, of course, appearance.



With Mother's Day coming right up, the Pleasanton Weekly will hold a Mother-Daughter Look-Alike contest. If you think you and your daughter could be twins, please send a digital photo to gallen@pleasantonweekly.com by Monday, April 21. Photos can be black and white or color, need to be in JPG format, at least 300 dpi and no larger than 1 MB.

The staff at the Weekly will choose the finalists, and readers will be able to vote on which mother and daughter in Pleasanton look most alike. Prizes will be awarded for the first- and second-place winners. Photos of the winners will be published in the May 10 edition of the Pleasanton Weekly.

PLEASANTON
WEEKLY

PLEASANTON
WEEKLY

5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100
Pleasanton, CA 94566

Phone: (925) 600-0840
Fax: (925) 600-9559

President

Gina Channell-Allen, Ext. 19

Publisher

Jeb Bing, Ext. 18

EDITORIAL

Editor

Jeb Bing, Ext. 18

Managing Editor

Janet Pelletier, Ext. 11

Features Editor

Emily Atwood, Ext. 21

Contributors

Jerri Long

Joe Ramirez

Cybele Ryan

ART & PRODUCTION

Art Director/Operations Manager

Shannon Corey, Ext. 17

Designers

Trina Cannon, Ext. 14

Lili Cao, Ext. 25

Kristin Herman, Ext. 14

Manuel Valenzuela, Ext. 20

ADVERTISING

Advertising Sales Manager

Esmeralda Escovedo-Flores, Ext. 23

Account Executive

Paul Crawford, Ext. 13

Karen Klein, Ext. 28

Real Estate Sales

Nancy Taresh, Ext. 10

Inside Sales/Classified Advertising

Susan Thomas, Ext. 12

Ad Services

Sandy Lee, Ext. 16

Real Estate Ad Services

Tracey Fordahl, Ext. 30

BUSINESS

Business Associate

Lisa Oefelein, Ext. 26

Circulation Director

Bob Lampkin, Ext. 41

Front Office Coordinator

Kathleen Martin, Ext. 0

How to reach the Weekly

5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Phone: (925) 600-0840
Fax: (925) 600-9559

Editorial e-mail:

editor@PleasantonWeekly.com
calendar@PleasantonWeekly.com

Display Sales e-mail:

sales@PleasantonWeekly.com

Classifieds Sales e-mail:

ads@PleasantonWeekly.com

Circulation e-mail:

circulation@PleasantonWeekly.com

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

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

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

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

© 2008 by Embarcadero Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.



Opinion

Editorial

Save our schools effort needs everyone's support

Concern and opposition is mounting, as it should be, to Governor Schwarzenegger's state budget proposal that would address the state's estimated \$14-billion deficit by making the largest reduction to education funding in California history. For 2008-09, the governor proposes that the legislature suspend Proposition 98 (the minimum funding guarantee for schools) and cut \$4.4 billion (more than 9 percent) in education funds. The governor also proposes \$400 million in education funding reductions in the current 2007-08 budget year.

Although the details are still being analyzed, Schwarzenegger's proposal calls for:

- \$2.6 billion in cuts by eliminating the statutory 4.94 percent Cost-of-Living-Increase (COLA) for schools, and reducing the revenue limit allocation by an additional 2 percent. This would create a combined "deficit factor" (money that is statutorily owed to schools as part of Proposition 98) by a total of \$2.6 billion, or nearly 7 percent.
- \$1.1 billion in cuts by reducing categorical programs funding, including reductions to the class size reduction program, instructional materials, transportation, supplemental school counselors and many others.
- \$360 million in cuts by eliminating the COLA and "growth" funding for special education, as well as additional cuts to special education, which is already chronically underfunded.
- \$200 million in cuts by eliminating COLA and growth funding for child development programs (nearly \$200 million), which would eliminate nearly 8,000 existing child care slots.
- Reductions in funding for community colleges, as well as the University of California and California State University systems.

In his letter to parents last week, Bill Radulovich, principal of Walnut Grove Elementary School, listed some of the actions the Pleasanton school board and administration are considering to prepare for this less-than-pleasant scenario:

1. Release teachers who are on "Temporary" contracts. For Walnut Grove, that would include four new staff members who joined the school just last August.
2. Reduce elementary reading specialists by 55 percent.
3. Approve the use of reserve funds totaling \$2 million for next year.
4. Explore the viability of a parcel tax initiative for the November '08 election.

We will undoubtedly be hearing more about these actions very soon. If any new teachers are released, they will have to be notified by next Friday at the latest. The reduction of reading specialists means essentially that full-time functions will be cut to half-time. Where each elementary school now has 1-1/2 reading specialists, they will be pared down to just a half-day person.

The release of reserve funds may be done through one of three methods: Dipping into the current 5 percent General Fund cash reserve, borrowing against the "Sycamore fund," an interest-bearing account that supports technology, or a combination of those two options. Drawing down the reserves only makes sense if the board and district plan to pursue a parcel tax that might be in place for the following year if the residents of Pleasanton chose to take this route. The parcel tax concept has yet to be fleshed out before any action is taken. Livermore hit the fiscal skids a few years ago, losing virtually all specialists, and class size reduction was dropped, with kindergarten through third grade going back to 30 students in each class. These actions being considered in Pleasanton are being done to prepare our district for a worst-case scenario. With the support of parents, the PTA and others, we hope that can be avoided as Schwarzenegger and our legislators understand that the most pressing challenge is to enact a balanced budget that continues the momentum of educational improvement that has been built since the late 1990s. This budget proposal does not do that and anything less is unacceptable.

Talking Points

by Gina Channell-Allen



Who's responsible for plagiarism?

"Thou shalt not steal. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor." —Exodus 20:15-16

Please note the quote marks around the statements above. This means they were said by someone other than me. Not correctly attributing thoughts, ideas or statements is called plagiarism. It is also called theft and can be considered lying.

Timothy Goeglein, White House liaison to conservatives and Christian groups, lost two jobs last week as a result of not taking his elementary school or his Sunday school lessons to heart.

For the past 20-plus years, Goeglein has been submitting guest opinion columns for his hometown newspaper in Indiana, the News-Sentinel. It was recently learned that 27 of Goeglein's 38 pieces were blatantly plagiarized. In one, I'm sorry to report, Goeglein misrepresented a quote from the Pope as his own.

While there is absolutely no excuse for plagiarism, what makes this story even more difficult to believe is that Goeglein's columns were unsolicited. Other such cases have been blamed on deadline pressure and an editor's expectations. Goeglein had no deadline pressure and no editor breathing down his neck.

I empathize with the publica-

tion's editorial page editor, who is now taking a public flogging for not checking to make sure the columns were not plagiarized. I say empathize because I, too, was duped by a columnist once. However, that was a teen writer, not a respected White House aide.

The News-Sentinel's editorial page editor wrote, "...writers of guest columns are given a certain level of trust to ensure the information they supply is correct and not plagiarized. You don't have the time or the manpower to check everything that comes in. If you can't trust the faith-based assistant to the president, who can you trust?"

One News-Sentinel Web site comment suggested the paper no longer accept guest opinions and that only paid opinion pieces be published. While I understand the outrage and the subsequent idea that stems from the outrage, isn't limiting the number of voices to those that come from wire services or staff members going against everything the public wants from their local media outlet? Aren't people looking for venues to voice their opinions?

Another of the News-Sentinel's Web site visitors, who also berated the section editor, suggested a software that has been designed to

detect plagiarism, particularly in student papers. Instructors can also use the threat of the software as a deterrent.

It is unfortunate that software has to be written to detect and deter what we should teach is wrong. However, today's society seems to call for this. Today's society also wants someone to blame for this happening. So who exactly is to blame? Is it the editor who trusted someone who was a hometown hero and respected White House aide? It's obvious a few of the News-Sentinel's Web site visitors blame the editor. Or is it the writer who should have known better? Or is it current state of society that has allowed such a degradation of the moral principles such as trust, honor, accountability and integrity?

I am saddened that it seems much effort is going into building systems to detect moral infractions and little effort is going into building character.

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.

Letters

Game shows and local politics

After four years of meetings between citizens, the City Council, and Oak Grove property owners, the Pleasanton citizens involved felt they had pounded out a fabulous deal.

If we were on that show, "Deal or No Deal," maybe it was a \$200,000 or a \$400,000 deal in their minds.

They visualized all that really cool open space that could connect up with other open spaces.

"Wow. Four hundred and fifty-six acres of righteous open space in exchange for 70 acres of 15 more ugly houses is not a bad deal," they thought.

Along comes Kay Ayala who seeks to recreate an echo of the "Save the Pleasanton Ridge" citizen's movement in her "Save the Hills" petition firestorm. That's all fine and good; but, can Kay deliver us the big deal, which would be to take back the 70 acres (that was formerly traded away to the homes) and keep the 456 acres as parkland and open space? Do we go with the deal that citizens pounded out 51 ugly

luxury homes with 456 acres of donated open space to the East Bay park system-or do we go for the possible million-dollar deal, whatever that is?

Who is going to pay for the open space park then? Are we going to ask our fellow citizens to ante up for the whole lot up there or what? If we don't go with the deal, trusting the judgment of our neighbors who worked on this project, what will we get

instead? What if we ultimately wind up with 200 acres of luxury multi-story condos overlooking the beautiful town of Pleasanton? It could happen.

I'd like to see the whole place saved for perpetuity; but, is it realistic or even reasonable in this economy at this moment? Maybe Bill Gates would like to buy it and give it to us as a gift?

*Paulette Kenyon
Pleasanton*

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

Your Turn

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

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

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

For more information contact Editor Jeb Bing at (925) 600-0840.



Hacienda School

brings out the extraordinary in every child.

NURTURING TOMORROW'S LEADERS

- Superior Academic Preparation
- Individualized Montessori Curriculum
- Cultivation of Gifts & Talents
- Emphasis on Thinking Skills & Personal Values
- International Curriculum (Chinese, Spanish)
- Year-Round, Full-Day Program

3800 Stoneridge Drive
Pleasanton, CA 94588
www.headsup.org

Jo Anne Camara, M.Ed., Dir.
jcamara@headsup.org
925 - 485 - 5750

Parent Information Dates

March 13 5:00 Apr 9 4:30

Affiliated Programs:

Emerson School - Palo Alto
HeadsUp!
Child Development Centers -
Pleasanton . San Jose . Palo Alto



The Perfect Blend

THE INDEPENDENCE YOU WANT, THE ASSISTANCE YOU NEED.



INDEPENDENCE IS ALL ABOUT CHOICE.

- Apartments with kitchenettes
- A wide array of amenities
- On-site memory care

CALL TODAY!

925/461-3042

WWW.ESKATON.ORG

MANAGED BY ESKATON



THE PARKVIEW

ASSISTED LIVING IN PLEASANTON



License #015601283

Hot New Denim

Save 10%

On any purchase with ad
Exp. 3/3/08

Now carrying a Full
Line of Maternity!



Visit our new location!
560 Main Street
Downtown Pleasanton
925 846-6600



Calendar

Author Visits

Writing Winning Poetry and Prose Award-winning poetry and prose author Kim Addonizio will speak at the next meeting of the California Writers Club Tri-Valley Branch from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 15 at the Oasis Grille, 780 Main St. She will speak about her sources of inspiration, how to capture the right words on paper, and how to market writing for success. The cost is \$20 for members or \$25 for nonmembers. Lunch is included in price. Call 296-0447 or visit www.trivalleywriters.com.

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.

Non-Fiction About Our Fantastic Brains This book club meets at 7:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. "How Doctors Think" by Dr. J Groopman will be discussed in April and May, and "Einstein Never Used Flash Cards" by Drs. Hirsh-Pasek, Golinkoff and Eye. This is not a lecture series; book must be read before discussion. Call 846-8826. The cost is \$2.

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.

Clubs

Amador Valley Quilters At 1:30 p.m. March 8 at Pleasanton Middle School, quilt artist Rose Hughes will present her lecture "Raven Wisdom." Rose will conduct a workshop "Color Magic" the following day. Visit www.amador-valleyquilters.org.

Amador Valley Toastmaster Club Wake up your career and improve your communication skills by joining the Amador Valley Toastmaster Club. They meet at 7 a.m. Thursdays at Mimi's Cafe in Dublin.

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.

Communication Arts Network The East Bay's Communications Arts Network (CommArt) meets from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at Mudd's restaurant in San Ramon. Tickets are \$20 cash, includes lunch. Call Terry, 462-8083, or visit www.commartnet.org.

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 or www.dbesociety.org.

Hearing Loss Association of America The Tri-Valley chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America meets at 7 p.m. March 20 at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Parkway. Jenifer Pesek from the California Center for Law and the Deaf-Outlook will speak on ADA information and self advocacy. Call 455-6591 or email hvanblarigan@hotmail.com.

Local Writers Meet for Support and Learning The California Writers Club Tri-Valley branch meets at 11:30 a.m. the third Saturday of each month at Oasis Grille, 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.

MOPS—Mothers Of Pre Schoolers If you have children from birth to 6 years old, be refreshed, equipped and encouraged at MOPS. It meets from 9 to 11 a.m. the second and fourth Tuesdays monthly at Valley Bible Church, 7106 Johnson Dr. Enjoy breakfast, crafts and speakers while the kids are in MOPPETS! It's \$60 for the January to May 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.

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,

Weekend Preview



Man of La Mancha continues into March

Dianna Schuster directs "Man of La Mancha," the Tony award-winning musical with a score that includes "The Impossible Dream," based on Cervantes' "Don Quixote." Shows are at 8 p.m. March 7, 8, 13, 14 and 15 and at 2 p.m. March 15 and 16 at the Leshner Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Drive in Walnut Creek. Tickets are \$28-\$40. Call 943-7469 or visit www.leshercenter.org.

Danville. Visit 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.

Tri-Valley Holistic Moms Network The Tri-Valley Holistic Moms Network hosts a discussion on vaccinations at 7 p.m. March 17 at CrossWinds Church, 6444 Sierra Court, Dublin. Dr. Tim O'Shea, author and international speaker, will present "Vaccines: It's Your Choice." Contact Katherine Havener at 922-7615 or tri-valleyhmn@hotmail.com, or visit www.holisticmoms.org.

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.

Concerts

Carmina Burana Carmina Burana comes to the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore, at 8 p.m. March 8. Accompanied by two pianos, per-





Cherish the First Look!

See Your Baby Before Birth

The Gold Standard in
3D/4D Ultrasound
(Over 10,000 scans performed)

- Family and friends are always welcome! There's room for ten in our comfortable exam theatre.
- Walk out with all your photos, CDs and DVDs in hand!

Spring Special!
FREE "Baby's First Photo" Frame & 5"x7" color photo with every package.

4713 First Street Suite 100 (corner of 1st and Abbie)
In Downtown Pleasanton
888.332.2298 • www.3DBabyVu.com



Pawfection!

Pamper your pooch & make your cat purrrrr!



We have an unparalleled selection of beds, collars, leashes, treats, toys and much, much more!



410 MAIN STREET . PLEASANTON . (925) 600-8925
www.murphyspaw.com



"Most Romantic Restaurant"



Joseph & Maricela Barone
Your Hosts Since 1995

Barone's Restaurant

Come Taste Our New Lunch & Dinner Entrees

- Innovative Cuisine
- Rehearsal Dinners
- Entertainment on Weekends
- Banquets
- Full Bar

475 Saint John Pleasanton
426-0987

Pet of the Week



Catherine Hansen Rush

Tennis anyone?

Meet Alex, whose life revolves around tennis—balls, that is. She loves to chase them, catch them in mid-air and even bring them back to you—you'd think she was a retriever. In fact, Alex is a 5 to 6-year-old, spayed female, brindle and white Pit Bull who loves people and needs a chance to shine. Alex knows all the basic obedience commands and she'll watch you to see what you want her to do next. Alex loves to cuddle. If you are looking for a sweet, smart, affectionate companion to join your family, consider Alex. You may visit her at the Tri-Valley SPCA, 4651 Gleason Drive in Dublin, 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. See more of Alex on the Web at www.eastbayspca.org, and look for dogs at the Tri-Valley facility.

cession, and professional soloists. Also Daniel Glover, concert pianist, performing piano selections by Franz Liszt. Tickets are \$25. Call 373-6800 or visit LivermorePerformingArts.org.

Duke Ellington Orchestra Whether you're "In a Sentimental Mood" or "Don't Get Around Much Anymore," cozy up to the signature sounds of the incomparable Duke Ellington Orchestra at 8 p.m. March 7 at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Conductor and leader Paul Mercer Ellington continues the orchestra founded by his father. Tickets are \$28-\$41 or \$11 for students. Call 373-6800.

SFJAZZ Collective At 8 p.m. March 19 at The Grand Theatre, 715 Central Ave., Tracy, SFJAZZ Collective will perform. Tickets are \$25-\$50. Visit www.atthegrand.org or call (209) 831-6TKT (6858).

Events

80,000-egg Easter Egg Hunt Valley Christian Church, 7500 Inspiration Drive, Dublin, hosts four hunts March 22 at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. Other activities include pony rides, a petting zoo, inflatable jumpers, a giant slide, and more. Advanced registration is recommended. Visit www.dublinegghunt.com.

Country Folk Art Craft Show The Country Folk Art Craft Show comes to the Alameda County Fairgrounds March 7-9. The show hours are 5 to 9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$7. A hand-stamp re-admits all three days. Visit CountryFolkArt.com.

Persian New Year (Norooz) Celebration The annual Persian new year celebration (Norooz) will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. March 16 at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Norooz means new day and happens on the first day of spring (equinox). Program includes cultural dances, music and more. Refreshments are served. Free admission. Call 297-9700.

Séance at the Pleasanton Hotel At 7 p.m. March 12 at the Pleasanton Hotel, 855 Main St., psychic and author Irma Slage will make contact with the spirits of the historic hotel to tell of Pleasanton's history. Psychic questions will be answered. Tickets are \$25. Call 846-8106 or visit www.pleasantonhotel.com.

Exhibits

Barbara Jean Solos at Brushes Art Gallery "Entering the Mystery through Art," a vibrant and evocative body of work by abstract Pleasanton artist Barbara Jean will be shown from 4:30 to 7 p.m. through May 16 at Brushes Gallery, 21001 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Suite C-7, in the San Ramon Dental Center, Gateway Center Mall, San Ramon. Call 829-0994.

La Primavera—A Celebration of Spring The fine art and painted wine barrel planter exhibit will be on display from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays through Sundays through April 6 at Deer Ridge Vineyards, 1828 Wetmore Road, Livermore. An artists' reception and wine barrel planter silent auction will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. March 29. Call 292-2222.

Oh Pleasanton! Worthington Gallery West, 739 Main St., will have Pleasanton writers, multi-media artists and musicians, together for a thrilling Pleasanton—past, present and future themed show. The exhibit runs through March 29. Call 485-1183 or visit www.worthingtongallerywest.com.

Spring Art Show at Tri-Valley SPCA Artists Carol Hart and Helene Ha welcome spring with a show of recent artwork at the Tri-Valley SPCA Art Gallery. A reception for the artists will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. March 8. Visit www.eastbayspca.org.

Fundraisers

'Wigged Out' for Hats Off America See "Wigged Out" for a laugh you won't soon forget from 9 to 11

p.m. March 8 at Hair on Stage, 520 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Danville. Proceeds benefit Hats Off America, a nonprofit organization for families of the brave American soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom in Iraq and Afghanistan. Tickets are \$40. Call 855-1950 or visit www.hatsoffamerica.us.

Family Pancake Breakfast San Ramon Senior Foundation will be having a Family Pancake Breakfast from 9:15 to 11:30 a.m. March 9 at San Ramon Senior Center, 9300 Alcosta Blvd. The foundation's fundraising events support activities and a variety of programs to enrich the lives of seniors. Tickets are \$3.50 for adults and \$2 for children ages 12 and under.

Sisters in Service Third Annual Indian Dinner Sisters in Service's third Annual Indian Dinner, takes place at 5:30 p.m. March 9 at Valley Christian Center, 7500 Inspiration Drive, Dublin. The event includes special music, delicious food and guest speaker, Kay Strom, co-author of "Daughters of Hope." Kay will share her SIS related experiences at the hardest places in the world researching child trafficking for her next book. Tickets are \$10 for adults or \$10 for children 10 and under. Call 998-3785.

Tri-Valley YMCA Golf Tournament A golf tournament to benefit the Tri-Valley YMCA will be held April 28 at Poppy Ridge Golf Course in Livermore. Tickets are \$195 and includes lunch, dinner, refreshments, a round of scramble golf, a raffle, and live and silent auctions. Call 475-6108 or email mcasper@ymcaeastbay.org. Corporate involvement is also available.

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.

Bill Harley Comes to Amador Stage At 7:30 p.m. March 20 at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Grammy winner Bill Harley will share his stories, songs and wacky humor, which have delighted family audiences around the country for years. Tickets are \$14-\$20 for adults and \$8-\$16 for children. Visit www.civcartstickets.org or call 931-3444.

Easter Rabbit Comes to Stoneridge Mall Mr. Bun E. Rabbit will be at Stoneridge Shopping Center, One Stoneridge Mall Road, from March 1 to 22. He will visit from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. The center's kid's club, Kidgits, will also host a special event from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 8 that will include crafts and an egg hunt with Mr. Bun E. Rabbit. Call 463-2778 or visit shopstoneridge.com.

Teen Games Teens grades six through 12 are invited to the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 15 to play Wii sports on the big screen and unlock songs from Guitar Hero. Call 931-3404.

Lectures/ Workshops

California Employment Law in 2008 - Tracking the Trends At 7:30 a.m. March 12 at the Radisson Hotel, 6680 Regional St., Dublin, Marc L. Jacuzzi will lead attendees through an overview of 2007 case law and legislative changes which affect employers' day-to-day operations. Tickets are \$25 for NCHRA members or \$55. Call 415-291-1992 or visit www.nchra.org.

California Gold Rush Era Jody Hornor will give a lecture, "19th Century

California Gold Rush Era" at 7 p.m. March 20 at the Museum On Main Street, 603 Main St. Reservations are requested. Step back in time to the 19th century through the images from Hornor's award-winning Golden History Books. Tickets are \$5 and \$10. Call 462-2766 or visit www.museumonmain.org.

College Admissions Seminar Parents, learn more about college admissions at 7 p.m. March 10 at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. If you have a freshman, sophomore or junior in high school, this free seminar will introduce you to how colleges evaluate applicants, how to find colleges that are a good match, and what to do before senior year to be successful. Call 963-2932.

Disaster Risks & Preparedness In the event of a disaster, what are your risks? The class is at 10 a.m. March 11 at the Pleasanton Senior Center,

5353 Sunol Blvd. Learn basic safety measures, how to make a disaster plan, and assemble an emergency supply kit for you, your family, and your pets. The cost is \$1.50 for residents or \$2 for non-residents. Call 931-5365.

Discovering the IT Entrepreneurial Opportunities Ebig presents "Discovering the IT Entrepreneurial Opportunities in 2008" at 6:30 p.m. March 10 at the University of Phoenix, Room #101, 7901 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 100. The class is free for eBig members or \$11.50 for non-members in advance. Visit www.ebig.org.

Open Your Heart Through Art Using art and movement, this free workshop at 6:30 p.m. March 20 at the Valley Care Medical Plaza Building, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., promotes self-awareness and connection of body, mind, and emotion. The focus is on

Specializing in Europe and the South Pacific

Established in 1985

Destinations Unlimited

Certified HAWAII Specialist

Accredited by the Hawaii Visitors and Convention Bureau

1989-C Santa Rita Road • (925) 462-0402

www.travel-desk.com • CST#101368810

A strong infrastructure is the key to success!

We provide essential business services

- Business Solutions
 - Bookkeeping PLUS
 - Virtual CFO
 - Payroll services
 - Consulting
- Design Solutions
 - Website development
 - Website redesign
 - Graphic design
- Tax Solutions
 - Personal tax return
 - Business tax return

Get a **25% off** for your first year tax return with us
* Call us for details

Contact us for a free consultation

Website packages start at **\$399**

MAGELLAN BUSINESS SERVICES

1-877-620-8792

www.magellandesign.com

4713 1st ST, Suite 235 Pleasanton, CA 94566

A Special Place For Children of All Ages

Pediatric Dentistry
Chao Wen Wang, D.D.S., M.S.
Diplomate American Board of Pediatric Dentistry

Dr. Wang has always had a deep love and affection for children. "My staff is unbelievable," enthuses Dr. Wang. "Patients are as trusting and attached to staff members as they are to me. They are very good with the children and work well as a team. Parents always comment on what a wonderful staff I have. We work together as one big happy family."

Our mission is to provide a dental experience that makes kids say 'I can't wait to come back.'

Now Open Accepting New Patients!

Most Insurance Accepted

426-8011

55 W Angela Suite 200 Pleasanton

www.kiddodontist.com

BANKHEAD THEATER

DUKE ELLINGTON ORCHESTRA

The quintessential American composer
Friday, March 7 • 8 pm • SOLD OUT

LLNL SCIENCE ON SATURDAY

Free Lecture Series for Middle & High School Students
Saturday, March 8 • 9:30 & 11:15 am • FREE

CARMINA BURANA

Experience the Passion and Power, Valley Concert Chorale
Saturday, March 8 • 8 pm • \$25

OPERA WEEK! CARMEN

Livermore Valley Opera
March 14-16, 21-23 • 2 pm & 8 pm • \$26, \$36, \$46, \$56

THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES

Tri-Valley Haven
March 28 & 29 • 2 pm & 8 pm • \$26, \$31, \$41

LIVERMORE VALLEY WINE COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP

PGA Nationwide Tour Golf Tournament at Wente Vineyards
Thursday thru Sunday, April 3-6 • \$20
Buy tickets at the Bankhead Theater and support LVPAC!

Season Sponsor

SheaHomes
Caring since 1881

2400 First Street, Livermore

For tickets 925-373-6800

www.livermoreperformingarts.org



Moms, get fit with Baby Boot Camp at Stoneridge!

Visit babybootcamp.com to register for classes or call 925.413.3624.

See Guest Services for more details and a class schedule.

First Class FREE!



SIMON HILLS | more choices®
STONERIDGE SHOPPING CENTER



Located in Pleasanton at the intersection of I-680 and I-580. 925.463.2778

simon.com®

Calendar

Seniors

Friday Night Dessert Dances The Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., offers monthly Friday Night Dessert Dances. Enjoy an evening of ballroom dancing to live music performed by various local bands. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., dancing from 7 to 9 p.m. Advanced tickets are \$7 for residents or \$8 for nonresidents, or \$8 or \$9 at the door. Call 931-5372.

Lunch Downtown Meet at the Pleasanton Senior Center at 11:30 a.m. March 12 and paratransit will provide transportation to and from Hunan Chef Wong, located in downtown Pleasanton. This is a great way to get out and make new friends. Pre-registration required. Tickets are \$15 for residents or \$18 for non-residents. Call 931-5372.

Seniors Computer Tutoring One-on-one computer tutoring is available every day at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. 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 appt.

Seniors PC User Group The Pleasanton Senior Center PC Users Group meets at 10 a.m. the fourth Thursday monthly 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. Senior Center charges apply. Call 931-5365.

Spiritual

The Bible: The Word of God for the People of God At 6 p.m. March 10 at St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road, explore Anglican Christianity and the American Episcopal Church in a contemporary context. (Part of Via Media.) A simple meal at 6 p.m., followed by video and discussion from 6:45 to 8:30. Call 462-4802.

The Crucifixion A Meditation on the Sacred Passion of the Holy Redeemer. A Passion cantata by Sr. John Stainer (1841-1901) at 5:15 p.m. March 9 at St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road. Performed by St. Clare's Episcopal Church Choir under the direction of The Chevalier Jason R. Fredrick, Organist-Choirmaster with soloists Edward Coverdale, tenor and Kurt Haller, bass. Donations accepted. Call 462-4802 or visit www.stclare-spleasanton.org.

Sports

Athenian Athletics Track Club Athenian Athletics Track Club invites youth athletes ages 7-18 to participate in Track and Field practice sessions to prepare for the 2008 track and field season and Cal-Berkeley All-Comer meets. Practices will be held on a voluntary/drop-in basis Monday through Friday. Adults of all ages and ability are also encouraged to come for a work out. For club membership, practice times and locations, visit www.athenianathletics.com or call Coach Rik Richardson at 518-9356.

BUSC Soccer Registration Online registration for the 2008-2009 season is now open. Please visit our Registration Page for fees and instructions on how to register. Visit www.busc.org.

Callippe Niners Callippe Niners is a fun group of nine-hole women golfers. We are currently welcoming new members into our group. Our play days are Tuesday mornings. Call Joan, 462-1054.

Support Groups

Amador Mothers Club General Meeting Hear Jerilynn Shaker, owner of KidsAssured, talk about childproofing your home and other

safety topics at 7:30 p.m. March 11 at 1020 Serpentine Lane, Suite 102. Visit www.amadormothersclub.com.

Crohns and Ulcerative Colitis Support Group This support group meets at 6:30 p.m. 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. Call 462-6764 or 846-4653.

Fibromyalgia Plus Support Group Fibromyalgia Plus Support Group meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. the first Thursday monthly at the ValleyCare Health Library, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd Suite 270. All are welcome. Call 734-3315.

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.

Prostate Cancer Support Group The Man to Man American Cancer Society program is designed to help men cope with prostate cancer by providing community based education and support to patients and their family members. The group meets at 7:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at San Ramon Regional Medical Center's south conference room, 7777 Norris Canyon Road, San Ramon. Men at any stage of prostate cancer and their family members are welcome. Michael Stephens, MST, facilitates. Call 933-0107.

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 bettyrunnels@earthlink.net.

Tri-Valley ADHD Parent Support Group Network with other parents as we share experiences and information on topics related to parenting ADHD children. The group meets from 7 to 8:45 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month at Thomas J. Hart Middle School. Email JoAnn, jmatone@comcast.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.

Volunteering

Hats Off America Volunteers are wanted for the Hats Off America Casino Night April 19; Muscle Car, Hot Rod, and Art Fair May 16 to 18; Red T-Shirt 10K runs/5K walks June 7, Sept. 13 and Nov. 8. HOA is a non-profit organization benefiting families of fallen soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan. Email Sparky George, thebearflagrunner@yahoo.com.

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.tvvar.org.

reconnecting with sources of inner strength and hope using simple exercises. All exercises will be modulated to your energy level and needs. No creative experience necessary. Call 933-0107 or visit www.twcba.org.

Youth Employment Program Are you age 14-21 and looking for a job? Need help writing a resume? Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., will host a career counselor from the Tri Valley One Stop Career Center the first Monday of each month until June. Call 931-3411.

Live Music

Carmen-Livermore Valley Opera "Carmen," the opera by composer George Bizet, will be performed by the Livermore Valley Opera in March at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Opening March 14, Carmen is opera's bad girl, a smoldering gypsy seductress who will not be possessed. Tickets are \$20-\$55. Call 373-6800 or visit www.LivermoreValleyOpera.org.

Chris Bradley's Traditional Jazz Listen and dance to the live, traditional jazz every second and fourth Tuesday at the Pleasanton Hotel, 855 Main St.

Miscellaneous

Excellence in Education Awards Applications are now being accepted for the Pleasanton PTA Council's 18th annual Excellence in Education awards for the Pleasanton Unified School District. Nomination forms and a list of past honorees are available at <http://www.pleasantonpta.org/#ee>. All applications are due on March 19. Call Kim Chew, 426-2492.

TVAR Adoption Faire From noon to 4 p.m. March 8 at 4595 Gleason Drive, Dublin, a dog trainer will be on site to give expert advice and help evaluate and modify dog behavior. Adopt a dog and receive three free private, professional dog training classes (an \$180+ value), dog bed, leash, collar and bag of Science Diet dog food. Adopt a cat and receive a goodie bag with toys and more. Call (408) 202-6708 or visit www.tvvar.org

On Stage

Tales & Scales' 'Just Beyond the Junkyard' Tales & Scales uses music, theatre and dance to set the scene for the story of a 9-year-old girl's quest to help those in her community. The show is at 9:30 a.m. March 14 at the Grand Theatre, 715 Central Ave., Tracy. Tickets are \$7 and can be purchased at www.atthegrand.org, by phone at (209) 831-6TKT (6858) or in person.

Thoroughly Modern Millie Amador Valley and Foothill high schools join talents again to bring a high spirited musical romp with a full score of new songs and bright dance numbers. Filled with frisky flappers, dashing leading men & a dragon-lady of a villainess, audiences will be tapping and clapping. Shows are Thursday through Saturday from March 6 to 15. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students/seniors. Call 461-6100 ext. 6197 or visit www.civcartstickets.org.

Political Notes

California Assembly District 15 Candidate Forum Democratic candidates for California's Assembly District 15 will debate critical state issues at a forum sponsored by the district's local Democratic clubs at 7 p.m. March 11 at the San Ramon Valley Community Center, 12501 Alcosta Blvd., San Ramon. Lisa Vorderbruegggen of the Contra Costa Times will moderate the discussions followed by questions from the audience. Visit www.ad15.org. The suggested donation \$10 or \$5 for students and seniors.

Dining Out

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

American

Vic's All Star Kitchen

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

Bridges

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

Zorn's Restaurant

3015 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 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.

Barbecue

Red Smoke Grill

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

Brewpub/Alehouse

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 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.

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

Catering

Fontina's Catering

349 Main St., Downtown Pleasanton, 462-9299. Fontina Ristorante's

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

Chinese

Chinese Szechuan

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

Fusion

Oasis Grille

780 Main St., Pleasanton, 417-8438. 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.

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

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.

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.

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.

Savory Delights of Northern China

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

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

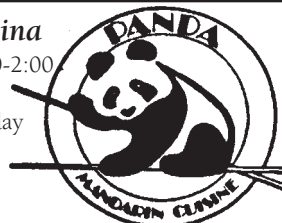
Friday & Saturday 5:00-10:00 Closed Sunday

PRIVATE BANQUET ROOM TAKE-OUT



2004/2005 & 2006 WINNER

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



The euphoria of fine Italian food

La Vite

RISTORANTE

- Catering Service
- Take Out Menu

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

Garlic Di Pasta – same owner and same great food
3037-G Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton (At Valley Ave in Hopyard Village)

925-485-4500
www.LaViteRestaurant.com

FONTINA Ristorante

- 3 New Specials Every Week
- Seasonal Menu

BEST OF PLEASANTON 2007

Kids eat free*
Monday & Tuesday

*One free child meal (under 12 yrs) with one paying adult

925.462.9299
349 Main Street, Downtown Pleasanton • www.fontinas.com

House of Omelettes

Deans Cafe

Breakfast • Lunch
6am-2:30pm
Monday - Saturday
7am-2:30pm Sunday

620 MAIN STREET, PLEASANTON, CA
846-4222

Lunch • Dinner • Catering
Open Tuesday-Sunday
Closed Monday

Sato

JAPANESE CUISINE

OWNER OPERATED FOR 25 YEARS
MAKOTO SATO

Sushi Bar
Tempura
Teriyaki Sushi

In Hopyard Village Shopping Center
3015-K Hopyard Rd.
462-3131

fiery • hot • exotic

BEST OF PLEASANTON 2007

SHISH KABOBS • EXOTIC CHAMPAGNE COCKTAILS • PATIO DINING

Oasis

grille & wine lounge

925.417.8438
780 Main Street, Downtown Pleasanton
www.oasisgrille.com

Easter Brunch
March 23
make your reservations today!

WINE & JAZZ WEDNESDAYS!

PLEASANTON MAIN ST. BREWERY- PLEASANTON'S ONLY BREWERY

Featuring:
Livermore Valley Wineries

March 12, 6-10pm
Fenestra Winery

LIVE MUSIC...Every Friday & Saturday
462-8218 • 830 Main St. • www.mainstbrewery.com

Serving

BREAKFAST & LUNCH

7 Days a Week 7am-2pm
Banquet/Catering Available

Voted Best Breakfast!

BEST OF PLEASANTON 2007

(925) 484-0789 • 201 Main Street • www.vicsallstar.com



Dr. Robert F. Gray, MD, FACS,
Dual board-certified plastic surgeon.



Robert F. Gray, MD, FACS

Dr. Gray answers your questions concerning all types of facial rejuvenation:

Q: Dr. Gray, I have acne scars and wrinkles on my face. What non-surgical ways are there to help my complexion?

A: MD Laser Spa has the most advanced lasers to treat just that problem. We have an amazing combination of lasers that can go deep in the skin to treat the acne scars and wrinkles (Profractional Laser) and at the same time treat the surface of the skin to make the skin look smoother and softer (Microlaser Peel). This is the type of laser that was just featured on The Today Show. The downtime is very minimal with this laser.

This is the most advanced technology ever in laser skin rejuvenation and we are very proud to offer it at MD Laser Spa. Trust your Face to a Facial Plastic Surgeon.



FREE
Microlaser Peel
with Profractional Laser
Treatment (\$500 Value)
New clients only.
Mention this ad.
PLW Exp. 4-30-08

\$75 off
BOTOX®, Restylane®,
Juvederm, Perlane,
or Radiesse
New clients only.
Mention this ad.
PLW Exp. 4-30-08



Lunchtime, Evening & Weekend Appointments
Financing & Gift Certificates Available

531 Main Street, Downtown Pleasanton

925.846.2772

www.MDLaserSpa.com

Expect more from your retirement.



When it comes to retirement, a beautiful location is a great start. But you should expect more from the lifestyle you've worked all these years to enjoy. Introducing Stoneridge Creek, the new continuing care retirement community coming to Pleasanton — where the amenities of a world-class resort are combined with the peace of mind that comes from knowing you have provided for your future.

For more information on Stoneridge Creek, call us today at **800-849-0023**, stop by our Information Center, or visit us online at stoneridgecreek.com.

