

Environmental error?

Groups threaten to sue over Staples Ranch > **page 5**

Vol. X, Number 9 • March 27, 2009

www.PleasantonWeekly.com

Remembering Dunakin

Fallen Oakland officer
was Pleasanton native

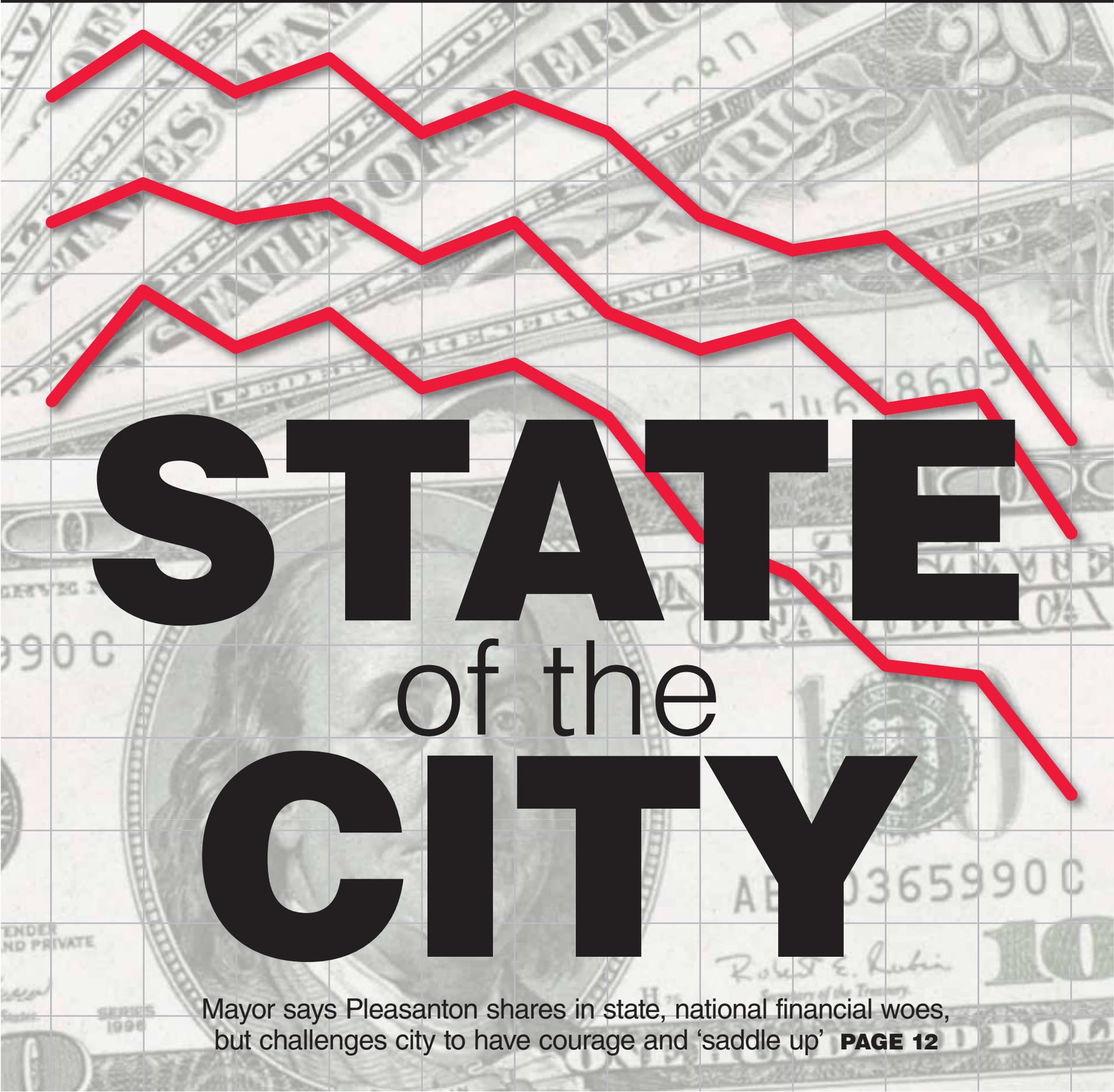
> **page 5**

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Buying & Selling

Learn about the local
real estate market
inside this edition

> **Second section**



STATE of the CITY

Mayor says Pleasanton shares in state, national financial woes,
but challenges city to have courage and 'saddle up' **PAGE 12**



ZenStrength
THE ART OF FITNESS

3950-B Valley Ave
(925) 417-2265



Personalized Fitness Training

An enlightened approach to strength training. A simple, effective resistance system using slow, form-focused movements, open breathing, and zen-like concentration.

BRING IN THIS COUPON FOR YOUR COMPLIMENTARY EVALUATION/WORKOUT and RECEIVE A FREE T-SHIRT

For every disciplined effort there is a multiple reward.

—Jim Rohn

www.ZenStrengthCa.com

ZenStrength - It's simple really. Just slow down . . . and breathe.



Summer is Learning Disguised as FUN!



Safe and fun summer programs for ages 2 to 10

Program Highlights:

- Gardening Education Projects
- Linking to Kindergarten- Kindergarten readiness
- Reading Adventures
- Art and Science Projects
- Water slides, petting zoo, magicians, and musicians
- Field trips for older children

Lic#070200709

www.tcdschools.com

Pleasanton
(925) 462-1866

San Ramon
(925) 820-2515

Lafayette
(925) 284-7092

Moraga
(925) 376-5110

Antioch
(925) 754-0144

Announcing the birth of a world-class prenatal diagnostic center at ValleyCare.

UCSF's exceptional women's services just got closer to home.



The UCSF Prenatal Diagnostic Center is now providing services at ValleyCare Medical Center in Pleasanton. The center provides the most technologically advanced screening and diagnostic tests available, including some with same-day results.

If you want information about your baby's risk for birth defects or genetic disorders, our counselors can help guide you and your doctor through the options.

UCSF Prenatal Diagnostic Center at ValleyCare Medical Center
5565 West Las Positas Blvd., Pleasanton
(415) 476-4080
www.ucsfhealth.org/valleycare



UCSF Medical Center
Women's Health
at ValleyCare Medical Center

CARDEN WEST SCHOOL



CARDEN WEST SCHOOL

Success for every child, every day

School Tours Every Wed. & Sat. 10 am to 12 noon or by appointment at (925) 463-6060 or www.cardenwest.org

- 1st-5th Grade
- Full-Day Kindergarten
- Pre-Kindergarten
- Preschool
- Toddler Program
- Extended Care
- Summer Camp



Providing high academic standards for over 30 years in Pleasanton

- Licensed
- Nonsectarian
- Nonprofit

4576 Willow Road, Pleasanton
info@cardenwest.org

Get your news delivered directly to your inbox

introducing

express

Top stories & hot picks

Express is a daily update from the Pleasanton Weekly delivered via e-mail every Monday through Friday.

Express provides the perfect quick-read digest of local news and events in Pleasanton from the last week to the next. And all without any environmental impact.

Pleasanton Weekly.com offers 24/7 coverage of everything local:

- breaking news
- searchable restaurant and movie reviews
- conversations among community members on Town Square
- and much more.

PLEASANTON WEEKLY
.COM



Around Pleasanton

by Jeb Bing

Partridge parents support 3 sons in Iraq

When it comes to Pleasanton military families, probably none is more committed in terms of numbers than Jenetha and Don Partridge, whose three sons are in the Marines with two now stationed in Iraq and a third son heading there this weekend. All graduated from Foothill High School, which is just a short walk away from the Partridge family home on Ginger Court that backs onto the school's football field. The son's names are also posted together on a Main Street banner in front the Veterans Memorial Building, one of many banners flying from downtown light poles in tribute to scores of Pleasanton men and women who are now in military service.

Jenetha's oldest son is Capt. Matthew Weaver, 29, a Marine CH-53 helicopter pilot who is serving his second tour in Iraq. His unit is based in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, where his wife Heather and newborn son Brady live. He was deployed before Brady was born last month and is due back in August. Next is Marine 1st Lt. Dustin Partridge, 27. He is in ground intelligence and currently one of 11 Marines training Iraqi soldiers and living on their base, which is somewhat primitive by American military base standards, even in Iraq. Dustin's unit is based in Camp Lejeune, N.C., where his wife Mary and their two children live. His daughter Daisy is 6 and baby Luke just turned seven months old, but at least Dustin was there for his birth. Dustin graduated from Foothill in 2000, where he was the Falcons' varsity football quarterback in his senior year, and then from Cal State Sacramento in 2004, when he joined the Marines.

The Partridges' youngest son, Marine Lance Cpl. Christopher Partridge, 19, has completed his training as a rifleman at the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center at Twentynine Palms, the largest Marine Corps base in the world and home to Wadi al Sahara, or "village in the desert," a recreation of a large Iraqi town used for combat training purposes. He is scheduled to ship out this weekend for Iraq. He went to Lydiksen Elementary,

Hart Middle and Foothill High schools, graduating in 2007 when he joined the Marines.

Altogether, the Partridges have seven children in what they call their blended family. When they met and married, Jenetha and Don were both single parents, Don with two children and Jenetha with three. With the addition of two of their own, their laughingly call their full family truly, "Yours, mine, and ours." As a result of interacting with other single parents and stepfamilies, they realized that their personal experiences and difficulties were shared by many other single parents and stepfamilies and, in 1989, embarked on an effort to provide knowledgeable, well-researched, practical solutions for single parents and stepfamilies. Together, they have established the Institute for Family Research and Education, building on Don's advanced degrees in theology and philosophy and his writing and consulting experience. Jenetha is a registered nurse and consultant for a national home health and hospice company, commuting to Kansas, Missouri and Washington four days a week.

The couple is also active in the Pleasanton Military Families organization and works with Operation SAM and others to welcome home returning military men and women coming back to Pleasanton. They also contribute and help the military groups pack parcels to those still in Iraq and Afghanistan. Last week, they just completed the first shipments to local service men and women to reach them in time for Easter.

The Partridges say that while they can see their four daughters frequently, even though they live in different cities, they miss the ability to join Matt and Dustin for a day together, with Christopher's pending deployment making for an added loss. But like their sons, they are proud of the Marines and the duties they're sons are fulfilling in helping to rebuild a war-torn country.

For more information on the Partridges, check out www.blendingfamily.com.

Lose Weight Rapidly
Gain Optimal Energy and Health
Easily Adopt New Nutritional Habits

LOSE 15 TO 30 LBS. in 2 Weeks

Serious ailments and medical conditions can be minimized or eliminated through this life changing program!

Tahara
Detox Weight Loss Center

You may qualify through your insurance!

(925) 249-9642
4725 First Street #270
Downtown Pleasanton
Visit www.taharacenter.com

FREE (Typical Medical Office's Rate \$80)
Body Composition Analysis!

True Value.
Start Right. Start Here.

FREE KEY!

WITH COUPON. APPLIES TO REGULAR SINGLE SIDED HOUSE KEYS ONLY. EXPIRES 4-30-09.

Workbench True Value Hardware
1807 Santa Rita Rd, Pleasanton
Phone (925) 846-0660
www.truevalue.com

WHEN YOU NEED US WE'RE HERE

TO PROVIDE YOU QUALITY AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE & VALUE

GOODYEAR WRANGLER RADIAL

\$75.99 235/75R15 OWL SALE PRICE

Optimized Tread Design helps provide traction in a variety of conditions. Large Tread Blocks help provide a stable footprint and confident handling.

Buy 4 Goodyear or Dunlop® brand tires and receive 4 FREE tickets to the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM
886 CANNERY ROW, MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA 93940-1085
P. 831-648-4800 WWW.MONTEREYBAYAQUARIUM.ORG

Offer valid at participating retailers for the tire purchase made 03/01/09 - 04/04/09. See Retailer for complete details. Subject to availability. While supplies last. Tickets valid through 12/31/09

LUBE, OIL, FILTER & 4-TIRE ROTATION

\$19.95 Most vehicles Plus disposal fee Reg. \$39.95

- Includes up to 5 quarts 5w30 premium oil
- New Oil Filter
- Chassis lube (if applicable)
- 32-pt. Visual Inspection

FREE PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE CHECK

Must present coupon to get this offer. Most vehicles. No other discounts apply. Conister, filter diesel, high-mileage, synthetic-blend, full-synthetic and 5W20 oil extra. \$2.00 disposal fee will be added. Expires 4/3/09

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE FREE

Alignment Check • Air Check
Fluid Check • Battery Check
4-Tire Rotation

Must present coupon. Expires 4/3/09

THE "SLIDING SCALE" COUPON SAVE

IF YOUR VEHICLE'S SERVICE TOTALS: YOU WILL RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING DISCOUNT:

\$ 50.00- 99.00	\$ 5.00 OFF
\$100.00- 149.00	\$10.00 OFF
\$150.00- 199.00	\$15.00 OFF
\$200.00 or MORE	\$20.00 OFF

Must present coupon. Expires 4/3/09

PLEASANTON 3420 Stanley Blvd. 925-462-4900
PLEASANTON* 4216 Rosewood Dr. 925-734-3444
Also Dublin, Livermore, and Castro Valley
Mon thru Fri - 7am to 6pm, Sat - 8am to 5pm • Locations with a * are open Sun - 8am to 5pm

RyNck TIRE & AUTO CENTERS

About the Cover

Mayor Jennifer Hosterman delivered the State of the City address Tuesday, saying while national and state financial woes do have an effect on Pleasanton, the city must be willing and able to—quoting John Wayne—'saddle up' to the challenge.

Vol. X, Number 9

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. © 2009 by Embarcadero Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

Tri Valley Plastic Surgery

Spring is a wonderful time to renew yourself.

Call us for a free consultation.

- Breast Augmentation
- Tummy Tuck
- Liposuction
- Brazilian Buttock Lift
- Facelift & Blepharoplasty
- Botox, Injectables & Laser
- And more ...



Tri Valley Plastic Surgery Model

Tri Valley
VSV
Plastic Surgery

Steven Williams, MD
Yale University Trained,
Board Certified,
Plastic Surgery Excellence

4000 Dublin Blvd. Suite 300 | Dublin, CA
(925) 875-0700 www.trivalleyplasticsurgery.com

Streetwise

Q: Have you ever played an April Fool's joke on someone or has someone played one on you?

Asked Around Town



Ann Peterson

I received an email that said to look at the snake. The caption read, "Listen closely to the birds chirping." The sound was faint so I had to get close to the screen and all of a sudden this huge snake's head popped out and made a screeching noise. I jumped out of my seat and said a few choice words to the person who sent it. Then I forwarded it to all my friends and they had a few choice words for me.

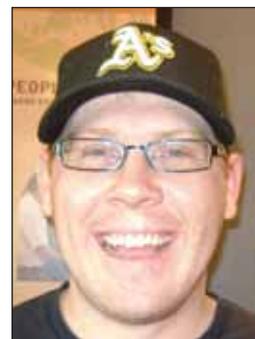
Rebecca Warren

When I was a freshman in high school I got really sick around March and April and I was using a lot of toilet paper as Kleenex at the time. My brother and sister took the toilet paper and decorated my entire room (including my ceiling fan) and wrote, "Get better soon" in green writing all over the toilet paper. It took weeks to clean up the mess.



Garret Heinrich

I worked at a sports bar in a casino in Las Vegas and my work friends called me during my entire eight-hour shift and left messages on my phone telling me someone tampered with my car in the parking garage. I was stressed the entire day because I couldn't leave to check on my car during my shift. When I finally had a chance to check on the car it was fine. My friends were just messing with me all day.



Wayne Watts

I worked on the USS Carlton as a nuclear reactor operator in the Navy. One April Fool's a bunch of my friends and I dressed in our anti-radiation suits pretending there was a nuclear accident. We ran into the mess hall screaming with our Geiger counters in our hand, and pretended to scan everybody for radiation. The looks on everyone's faces was priceless. We did get into a lot of trouble afterwards.



Ralph Fabiel

I filled my supervisor's office with foam packaging pellets. We entered through the ceiling and dumped 30 bags into the office so it filled his entire office. He was on vacation and couldn't open his door when he got back. He ended up going home because he wasn't about to clean up the mess. The poor janitors ended up cleaning it up and months later there were still remnants.



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



Callippe Preserve Presents

THE

Player Development Program
PDP

Come out and enjoy Golf and become a member of the Callippe Preserve Player Development Program! A club for all ages, offering a variety of amenities to improve your game. This is a monthly membership program that includes the following;

- * Unlimited Range Balls
- * PDP Member Events
- * Discount on Pro Shop Merchandise
- * Free Weekly Clinics



PDP Packages

- **3 months \$180.00**
- 10% off Merchandise**
- **6 months \$280.00**
- 15% off Merchandise**
- **12 months \$420.00**
- 20% off Merchandise**

For more information or to sign up please contact:

Mike Ash 925-426-6666 x17 General Manager or Doug Giannini 925-426-6666 x20 Head Golf Pro
8500 Clubhouse Drive, Pleasanton CA, 94566
Phone: 925-426-6666 Fax: 925-426-6618

Newsfront

News Digest

Germain's court case continued

Former Castlewood tennis pro Henry Germain's court case was continued Wednesday. Out on \$1.4 million bail for 16 counts of child molestation with six female victims, he will appear before the judge at 2 p.m. April 28 at the Pleasanton courthouse on Stoneridge Drive. The 62-year-old Dublin resident was first arrested Sept. 2 and pled not guilty Jan. 9.

Adopt an animal

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue will host a pet adoption faire from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday at the East County Animal Shelter, located at 4596 Gleason Drive in Dublin. Anyone adopting dogs will receive free training classes, a bed, collar, leash and dog food. Cat adopters will receive a blanket and toys. For details, visit www.tvr.org or call Sue James at 408-202-6708.

Mardi Gras for music

Mardi Gras! The Magic of Music is the annual fundraising event for the Amador Friends of Music, the parent booster organization supporting the music department at Amador Valley High School. The gala evening is at 6 p.m. April 4 and includes food, wine, silent and live auctions, raffles, games and dancing to the Amador jazz bands. Tickets are \$75 with proceeds benefiting the school's music program. To purchase, call Pam Sangiacomo at 846-7634.

Amador hosts health fair

From 9:15 a.m. to 2:05 p.m., Tuesday, March 31, the Amador Valley High School large gym will be filled with nearly 40 exhibitors in Health Quest 2009. The public is invited to join students and parents to learn about local health resources and organizations. Visitors must sign in at the front office. The fair is made possible by a grant from Las Positas College's Allied Health program. For more information, email Diane Farthing, dfarthing@pleasanton.k12.ca.us.

Corrections

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

Environmental groups claim City Council erred on Staples Ranch

Threaten suit unless city rescinds EIR that allows development, Stoneridge extension

by Jeb Bing

The Center for Biological Diversity, Alameda Creek Alliance and an organization named "Safe Streets Pleasanton" delivered a detailed letter to Pleasanton city officials this week of their intent to file a suit forcing a reversal of the City Council's approval of an environmental impact report for Staples Ranch.

That report, approved in a 3-2 vote by the council, allows a multi-million-dollar commercial, retail, sports and senior residential development to move forward on Staples

Ranch, is an undeveloped, unincorporated 124-acre parcel currently owned by Alameda County at the southwest corner of I-580 and El Charro Road.

Last month, after several years of public hearings, the council agreed to develop the land in concert with an agreement with the county and at the same time to allow the extension of Stoneridge Drive through Staples to connect to El Charro and Livermore.

The letter from the environmental organizations follows the disclosure by the Pleasanton Weekly a day earlier of the groups' strategy to

work with Pleasanton environmentalist Matt Morrison, a tax research specialist and Sierra Club activist and what Morrison described as an "inner circle" of environmental advocates to nullify the council's action. At one time, Morrison was part of a citizens' group coalition, Pleasanton First and Friends of Pleasanton, which submitted a joint statement earlier defining their "common interest in acquiring and constructing community park amenities on the Staples Ranch property, and to request a community process to plan what will be Pleasanton's fourth largest park."

Stating that their organizations plan to seek a court order under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Ralph Kanz, director of the Alameda Creek Alliance, and Jeff Miller, director of the Center for Biological Diversity, contend that the Pleasanton council and staff failed "to properly assess and mitigate the environmental impacts of the proposed Staples Ranch development and Stoneridge Drive extension. The letter states that the city that the environmental impact report certified by the City Council

(continued on page 8)



The motorcycles of Sgt. Mark Dunakin and Officer John Hege were on display at the Oakland Police Department's Eastmont Substation.

Community remembers fallen Oakland officer Mark Dunakin

Pleasanton Police Department motorcade to leave early this morning for public funeral service at Oracle Arena

by Janet Pelletier

Longtime Pleasanton resident and former Mayor Frank Brandes Jr.'s heart sunk when he learned one of the four Oakland police officers slain Saturday in one of the state's deadliest police killings was Sgt. Mark Dunakin.

Dunakin, who grew up in Pleasanton and graduated from Foothill High School in 1987, had been a close family friend. Brandes' youngest son went to school with Dunakin's brother Chris.

Two days after the shooting, Brandes recalled the life that Dunakin led.

"If you met him, you'd like him five seconds after," he said. "He died doing what he loved."

Dunakin was an officer in one of the most crime-ridden cities, and he did it by choice

to make a difference in the community, Brandes said.

"This guy's an exceptional guy," he said. "He chose to stay in Oakland because he said there was work to do there."

Dunakin, 40, is survived by his wife, Angela Schwab, and their three children, who all live in Tracy. He was an 18-year veteran with the Oakland Police Department.

He graduated from Chabot College in Hayward. State Assemblywoman Mary Hayashi (D-Castro Valley), adjourned the assembly Monday in honor of the fallen officers. Congressman Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton) issued a statement this week saying he'd submit legislation honoring the

(continued on page 6)

Batmobile to be featured at Goodguys car show

Others include custom roadsters owned by Metallica singer, Oakland Raider

by Janet Pelletier

If being in the presence of a bevy of custom and classic cars is your forte, this weekend will be like going to the promised land.

Not only is the Goodguys All American Get-Together, in its 27th year, going to be in town for a two-day extravaganza, but among the hundreds of cars to be shown include the original Batmobile, the "Capone," owned by Oakland Raider Robert Gallery and two cars owned by Metallica frontman and Bay Area resident James Hetfield.

The Batmobile, one of only two cars built for the television series starring Adam West, was designed and constructed by George Barris, who builds cars for a number of Hollywood movies, according to Goodguys spokesman John Drummond.

"It's probably one of the most famous cars ever built," he said.

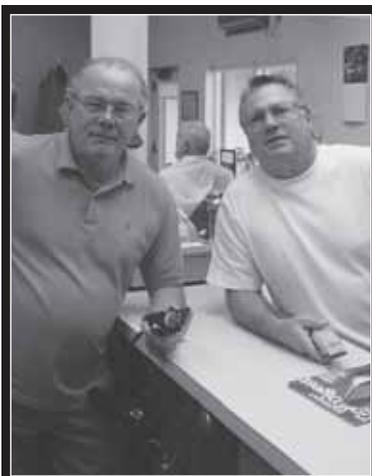
The Batmobile, which will be on display near the clocktower at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, was a last-minute addition to the show.

Mike Gray of Advanced Restorations, who restored the car, had a show fall through the same weekend in Seattle.

Aside from the Batmobile, another draw will be cars owned by other celebrities. Hetfield will display his 1937 Ford he calls the "Crimson Ghost," and a 1956 Ford custom pickup truck. Gallery will present his new 1954 Cadillac he calls "Capone," after Al Capone. Those cars will be in the Young California building at the fairgrounds.

There will also be more than 3,000 American-powered thousand cars of all years, makes and models. Drummond said Goodguys is expect-

(continued on page 7)

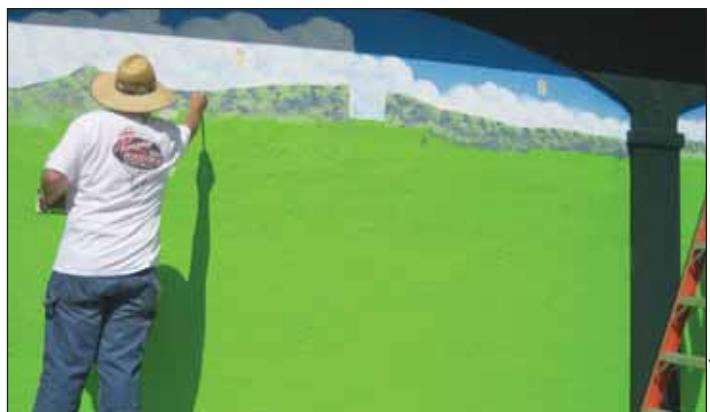


Last of the *Real* Barbershops!

Dan is back...
**"Twice the Experience...
 Half the Wait!"**
 Both barbers with over 40 years experience!



462-0864
448 MAIN STREET
Located behind the 450 Main St. Building



Emily West

Meadowlark mural gets a facelift

Amidst a line of cars waiting for a chilly treat from the Meadowlark Dairy, Artist "Big Al" Meadows worked to preserve springtime in Pleasanton. It's been 14 years since he painted the original mural on the drive-through dairy wall, and this time he's adding history with each stroke of the paint brush.

With the last artwork, Meadows said he didn't have time to research and just painted a typical dairy. This time, he is including the historical dairy and making a replica of the view from the Pleasanton Ridge. Even owner Bruce Takens will be waving hello from a dairy truck.

Dunakin

(continued from page 5)

four policemen.

Dunakin's wife Schwab, a former Alameda County Sheriff's deputy, was held captive by three robbers at an Outback Steakhouse in Dublin after responding to a 911 call. The 1998 incident left Deputy John Monego dead. There is a street off Tassajara Road in Dublin named after Monego.

Dunakin was shot to death as he was riding his police motorcycle at 74th Avenue and MacArthur Boulevard in east Oakland just after 1 o'clock Saturday afternoon. What started as a routine traffic stop he made with Officer John Hege turned violent as the suspect, Lovelle Mixon, 26, fired shots and fled to a nearby apartment. Hege, 41, of Concord, was pronounced braindead Sunday and was taken off life support Monday.

After the initial shootings, a SWAT team was called to the scene, where police say several attempts were made to communicate with Mixon. When the SWAT officers entered the apartment, Mixon fired an assault weapon, killing Sgt.

Ervin Romans, 43, of Danville and Sgt. Daniel Sakai, 35, of Castro Valley. Another officer, who was also shot, was released from the hospital Saturday. Hege was a 10-year veteran of the police department and is survived by his mother, father and two sisters. Romans was a 13-year veteran of the department and is survived by his wife and three children. Sakai was a nine-year veteran of the department and is survived by his wife and child.

Flags were lowered Monday to half staff at Pleasanton City Hall, the Pleasanton Police Department headquarters and at Foothill High School. In an email sent to Foothill High faculty, Principal John Dwyer said he'd "received a number of calls and emails from those who remember (Dunakin)."

Foothill Band Director Bob Moorefield said Dunakin played the trombone all four years of high school.

"I've been devastated," Moore-



Sgt. Mark Dunakin

field said. "He was an excellent trombone player. I've seen him once or twice since he graduated. As a kid in high school, he was very active. He was one of my finest young men. He was an extremely good kid. He was very responsible, very resourceful, very helpful with other students. He was the perfect example of what a young man should be."

A contingent of officers, likely all members of the traffic division from the Pleasanton Police Department, will join thousands of law enforcement agencies in attending a funeral service for the slain officers. Their motorcade is expected to leave Pleasanton at about 7:30 this morning.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. at Oracle Arena, 7000 Coliseum Way in Oakland, according to Oakland police spokesman Jeff Thomason. Funeral services are open to the public, but officials are asking attendees to arrive early. Up to 18,000 people are expected to attend, and Oakland police said officers from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Boston Police Department and other police and fire departments nationwide. ■

CROSSFIT PLEASANTON

Join Pleasanton's fittest!
 Personal training for the cost of a gym membership

925-353-4894
 www.crossfitpleasanton.com

Under New Ownership

LIVERMORE
J & R SPORTS SUPPLY LLC
 BUY • SELL • TRADE • CONSIGNMENT

- Ammunition • Optics
- Reloading • Knives
- HSC Provider • Firearms

J & R SPORTS SUPPLY LLC
Present This Coupon
And Get 10% OFF
Accessories
 Expires 4/30/09

DISCOUNT PRICES

OPEN M-F: 10-6 SAT/SUN: 10-3
925-443-9691 • TOLL FREE 877-937-4668
2558-B Old First Street, Livermore

VISA AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER ATM

N.E.A.T Award

Neighborhood Environment Attractiveness Team

This quarter's Pleasanton Downtown Association NEAT award is presented to the City of Pleasanton for Civic Park which is located at 100 Main Street at the south entrance of Downtown Pleasanton at Main and Bernal. The City adorned the beautiful mature trees with bright lights during the holidays and they remain to "light the way" into our beautiful downtown. At its meeting of June 20, 1989, the City Council resolved to dedicate "Civic Park" to community volunteers and approved the placement of the three mosaic monument art pieces we see today, symbolizing "volunteerism."

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.

Window-ology®
We Have Window Coverings Down To A Science

Blinds, Shades, Shutters and More...

We Are Committed To:
Exceptional Customer Service
Highest Quality Products • Great Selection

925.462.1207
 Showroom and Factory located at
4225 Stanley Blvd., Pleasanton, CA 94566
www.window-ology.com
 Contractor's License #904282

U.S. Attorney's Office arrests Vassallo in Ponzi scheme

by Janet Pelletier

The U.S. Attorney's Office announced it has charged Anthony Vassallo for his role in a massive investment fraud scheme.

A spokeswoman for the attorney's office said Vassallo turned himself in to authorities last Friday. Vassallo, 29, grew up in Pleasanton, graduating from Foothill High School in 1997 as a star athlete. He most recently lived in Folsom, Calif. where he was president and CEO of Equity Investment Management and Trading, Inc. (EIMT).

The criminal charges come on the heels of a civil complaint filed March 11 by the Securities and Exchange Commission, alleging Vassallo worked with Kenneth Kenitzer, 66, of Pleasanton, to bilk 150 investors of more than \$40 million through EIMT, promising a rate of return of 3.5 percent per month with little risk of loss. Many investors he met through his church, according to the civil complaint.

The SEC has located one bank account in Redding, Calif. operated by Vassallo and containing \$1.2 million, which it has frozen.

The spokeswoman said Kenitzer is still being investigated, but so far, no criminal charges have been filed against him.

"In recent months, the sluggish U.S. economy has brought to light many Ponzi schemes that are likely to cause investor losses reaching into the billions of dollars," said FBI special agent-in-charge Drew Parenti. "

On the same day as the press conference, the U.S. Department of Justice unsealed court documents that detail the specific evidence they claim against Vassallo. Named in those documents is Michael David Sanders, also known as David Dennis Sanders, 41, of Fair Oaks, Calif., who has been charged with an investor shake-down scheme. The attorney's office charged Sanders with "conspiracy, impersonating a federal law enforcement agent and attempting to extort money in connection with recovering funds for EIMT, Vassallo and others."

The criminal complaint alleges that on March 8, Sanders and at least four others met with two businessmen who had previously invested with Vassallo in an

office in Folsom. Upon entering the office, Sanders and several others, allegedly wearing bulletproof vests, radio earpieces and badges, displayed guns and handcuffs. The complaint goes on to say that Sanders and his crew identified themselves as agents with the FBI, SEC and the Attorney General and told the businessman that they had until noon the next day to wire \$378,000 to a bank account at a local credit union. The complaint says Sanders threatened them with search and arrest warrants if they didn't comply. Sanders appeared in court March 19 and has been released on bond. A preliminary hearing has been set for April 8. Vassallo remains in custody.

If convicted, the attorney's office said Vassallo faces up to 20 years in prison for mail and wire fraud offense; up to 20 years for money laundering; and up to 10 years for securities law violations, with fines up to twice the value of the victims' losses. Sanders faces up to five years for conspiracy, three for impersonating a federal law enforcement agent and three years for extortion. ■

Goodguys

(continued from page 5)

ing upwards of 70,000 people to turn out.

"Everyone's got cabin fever," he said. "It's the first real warm spring weekend of the year and people are looking to get out."

Drummond said the car club hasn't seen a dropoff in attendance due to the economy. In fact, it's been the opposite.

"The first show of the year was March 14 in Orange County and attendance was actually up 7 percent from 2008," he said.

The reason? "People are looking for local, affordable family entertainment," he said. "This show is recession-proof because it's an affordable ticket. A movie costs \$12 and for \$3 more, you can go to the Goodguys show for eight hours, looking at cars, people watching, being part of a real big event."

The All American Get-Together is one of four annual shows held in Pleasanton, estimated by the Tri-Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau to bring \$10 million in tax revenue to the region.

At the show, Goodguys will have a contest to win a vintage 1965 Buick Le Sabre muscle car. The winner will be announced at the Nov. 14 show. There will also be a swap meet and a cars for sale corral.

The show will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$6 for children ages 7-12 and free for children 6 and under. Parking is \$8. For information, call 838-9876 or visit www.good-guys.com. ■



The Batmobile, one of only two existing, will be on display at the Goodguys show.

Upcoming Events For Seniors at Rosewood Gardens

Wednesday, April 8, 6pm

Health and the Aging Eye

Learn about: Macular Degeneration, Glaucoma, Dry Eye
Presented by Dr. Michael Gagnon of Valley EyeCare Center

Saturday, April 11

Easter Brunch

(Please call for more details, limited seating)

Tuesday, April 21, 6pm

Myths of Public Health Care Benefits

Clear up any confusion on Medicare/Medical
Presented by Attorney Julie Fiedler

Please call for more info. and to RSVP



Rosewood
GARDENS
Assisted Living

Call today for a free tour.
925-443-7200

Mention this ad and get a free gift
when you tour.

35 Fenton Street • Livermore, CA 94550
Tel. (925) 443-7200 • Fax (925) 443-7212
rosewoodgardensseniorliving.com
Lic. #015601306

Paid for by Robert Byrd

Downtown

"Free Market or Rules"

Citizens of Pleasanton, recently I argued that since downtown's business district always has and always will rely mostly on its citizens for success, in the grand scheme of things downtown really belongs to everyone. That it's a partnership. So partners, lets get down to business. The issue before our City Council today is, "What do we want downtown to be tomorrow, and how do we get there?" And specifically, should downtown continue to evolve under Pleasanton Downtown Association's (PDA's) "official" free market policies, or should there be some form of first floor "retail only" rule along Main Street? I'd like to help clarify the issue if I can by dividing Pleasanton's revitalization process into three stages.

Stage One: As described by Joel Garreau in "Edge City", the arrival of the 680 Freeway in the 70's transformed sleepy little Pleasanton into an edge city. And like many edge cities low vitality, land consuming, automobile-oriented projects soon spread in the valley (Stoneridge, Hacienda). Downtown businesses relocated or closed and Main Street stagnated. Seeking street exposure and affordable rents, low dollar volume, high space consuming, low rent paying business like antique stores clustered along Pleasanton's neglected Main Street. I leased to an antique store during Stage One. Niles is a typical stage one downtown today.

Stage Two: Changing values and a nationwide "back to the city movement" in the 90's and Main Street became town center again. Higher rent paying businesses like restaurants moved in while antique stores moved out. We widened the sidewalks, paved Main Street, planted trees and wrote new rules. Pleasanton led Livermore into this stage, but with its new movie theater, parking garage, abundant land and forward looking leadership, Livermore's downtown seems prepared to propel itself into stage three, when or if conditions arise.

Stage Three: A self functioning, self sustainable pedestrian environments with restaurants, retail, entertainment and social gathering places for people of all ages, and where the lights don't go off at eight o'clock at night (Las Gatos-Walnut Creek). A former PDA board member said recently that property owners should determine rents downtown – that he charges between 1.43 and 2.00 per sq. ft. for his Main Street properties and at 4.00 owners are just soaking their tenant's dry. Maybe, but I understand some spaces in the Tully building generates 7.00 rents or more for its owners. Is Tully building wrong for downtown?

I argue it's the support, or lack there of, of the citizens of Pleasanton that really determine rents and values downtown, and that rising rents are signs of success, good for downtown as a whole, and what draws investors like the owners of the Tully building to revitalizing downtowns like ours in the first place. I also argue that events have unfolded on Main Street undeniably revealing that signs of success also draw low vitality automobile-oriented businesses downtown as well. Interrupting downtown's pedestrian environment continuum, slowing downtown's pedestrian vitality buildup and stalling downtown's climb towards its ultimate goal — stage three. I can walk you down Main Street and point out the interrupting spaces that have been created since we paved Main Street.

And in reality, anyone constructing a "new" building downtown today, or restoring an "old" one, and then renting for 2.00 a foot would no longer be a businessperson. By definition they would be a philanthropist – I know, I did both. It's what I call a "50/50 and 5 deal" – 50% for the project and 50% and 5 years getting permits and permission to build it. And, is it really a free market when half a dozen people decide which property owners are granted free parking passes, or other considerations that translate into real money to those owners. I guess it depends on who's free market one's marketing?

Partners, I look at it this way. The so-called free market may have allowed downtown to motor on through stage one in the old days, but time and events have proven that the old bus broke down in stage two. What do you think? "**Free Market, or Rules**" – rhetoric or reality, you decide. Remember, you own the town, the PDA, "and" the bus. And would the bus driver, PDA's Vitality Chairperson, Mr. McDonald, please turn off the key, step out of the bus and show the "Downtown Partnership" the "official" free market roadmap that the "new" PDA intends to use to take downtown from where it is today to where we want it to be tomorrow, parked safely somewhere in "Stage Three". Thank you.

—Robert W. Byrd

Teens to get job help Saturday

Workshops cover interviewing, job hunt techniques

by Emily West

Getting a job in this economy can be difficult, but teens can get an edge on the competition by attending Saturday's job fair.

Put on by the cities of Pleasanton, Dublin and San Ramon and the Dublin/San Ramon Women's Club, the fair will connect teens ages 14-19 to more than 30 employers, including Wal-Mart, YMCA, Jamba Juice, the Alameda County

Fair, Best Buy, In-N-Out Burger and the Pleasanton Library. There will also be information on volunteer positions.

The free fair also includes several workshops on how to get a job, mock interviews, how to dress for a job interview and other techniques.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for teens in the workplace," said Hiram Berhel, a teen supervisor for the city of Pleasanton.

"For those are too young to work, there are volunteer opportunities so that when they become eligible to be employed, they'll be in a real good position."

The Valley Teen Job and Community Service Fair will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday at the Shannon Community Center, located at 11600 Shannon Ave. in Dublin.

For more information, call 931-3480. ■

Take Us Along



Looking out for the Weekly
Ellen and Joe Aguirre took the Weekly to the Waimea Canyon lookout, elevation 3,400 feet, in Kauai, Hawaii.

Staples

(continued from page 5)

on February 24 did not adequately assess the environmental impacts of the project.

"The groups are concerned about potential impacts to habitat for sensitive species at the site, species such as the California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, western pond turtle, San Joaquin spearscale and steelhead trout," the letter states.

The letter adds:

"The EIR fails to meet the legal requirements to reduce environmental impacts to less than significant levels and does not adequately address the biological impacts of

the development and proposed road extension. This site is adjacent to important aquatic habitat in Arroyo Mocho that needs to be protected and have adequate stream buffers.

"Two tributaries of Alameda Creek, Arroyo Las Positas and Arroyo Mocho, flow together adjacent to the project site. The arroyos provide important wildlife habitat and corridors."

The organizations argued that the environmental impact report approved by the council did not analyze the Stoneridge Drive extension.

"The Stoneridge Drive extension was added to the project at the last minute by the city of Pleasanton," the groups' letter states. "Impacts of Stoneridge Drive on nearby

residential neighborhoods and the environment were not analyzed, nor were potential mitigation measures that would have reduced the impacts of the project on neighborhoods, traffic, and the environment. The failure of the report to analyze these impacts is a direct violation of the California Environmental Quality Act's mandate to mitigate the impacts of the project to less-than-significant levels."

Kanz added: "The city's own consultant admitted that the project must mitigate for species currently found on the site, but instead they (the City Council and staff) refused to do what CEQA requires and left out mitigations for the spearscale."

He said that the Center for Biological Diversity and Alameda

Creek Alliance are

The groups also claim that an environmental impact report for the adjacent city of Livermore's El Charro Project contains a mitigation measure requiring the control of bullfrogs in Arroyo Las Positas, Cottonwood Creek and the golf course ponds.

The Center for Biological Diversity claims that there are 15 local, state, and federal agencies cooperating on fish-passage projects in Alameda Creek, including dam removals and the construction of fish ladders and fish screens. These restoration projects will make up to 20 miles of Alameda Creek and its tributaries, including the arroyos, accessible to ocean-run fish as early as 2011 or 2012. The

potential impacts to steelhead habitat from the Staples Ranch project were not analyzed in the environmental impact report.

During some of the public hearings, Miller, Morrison and environmental advocate Richard Pugh told both the council and the Planning Commission that the environmental impact report did not address how the Staples Ranch project will provide for the upland habitat requirements of this species so that it will continue to survive at the location.

However, those arguments were determined to be irrelevant by both a majority on the council and by attorneys representing Pleasanton and Alameda County. Check www.pleasantonweekly.com for any updates on potential litigation. ■

AAA Travel Fair—Dublin/Livermore



Join AAA Travel - Dublin/Livermore for our Travel Fair. Meet representatives from our preferred partners and learn about worldwide vacation destinations.

When: Saturday, April 4, 2009

Hosted by: AAA Dublin/Livermore

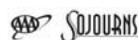
Where: 4460 Tassajara Rd, Suite B
Dublin, CA 94568

Time: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

RSVP: (925) 479-7884
dublin_travelagency@csaa.com

- Exclusive AAA Member benefits*
- Day-of-event special savings*
- Light refreshments and door prizes
- Informative vendor presentations
- Non-Members welcome to attend

* Restrictions apply.



CST#1003968-80 Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.

All lenders...are not created equal

It's important to choose a lender you know will give you honest answers, low rates and great service.

We are here for you!



Lori Smith
Certified Mortgage Planner

925-461-6959

lsmith@rpm-mtg.com



Angel a Al oise
Sr. Loan Agent/VP

925-461-6955

angela@rpm-mortgage.com

Over 40
Years Experience &
Still Going Strong!



30 W. Neal Street, #105, Pleasanton, CA 94566

New Luxury Baths

BATH & KITCHEN SHOWROOM

25% OFF SALE!

Trust the EXPERTS at New Luxury Baths to help you create a fresh and pleasurable atmosphere in your home's most intimate room. Come in and experience for yourself the benefits of doing business with us.

LARGE SELECTION, AFFORDABLE, OUTSTANDING SERVICE
FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED WITH 30+ YEARS EXPERIENCE

Plumbing • Lighting • Hardware
13 E AIRWAY BLVD • LIVERMORE • NEWLUXURYBATHS.COM
Showroom Hours: Mon-Fri 9-5 • Sat 10-4

President

Gina Channell-Allen, Ext. 119

Publisher

Jeb Bing, Ext. 118

EDITORIAL

Editor

Jeb Bing, Ext. 118

Managing Editor

Janet Pelletier, Ext. 111

Features Editor

Emily West, Ext. 121

Editorial Assistant

Amory Gutierrez, Ext. 221

Contributors

Hillary Bessiere

Julie Nostrand

Jerri Pantages Long

Joe Ramirez

ART & PRODUCTION

Art Director

Rick Nobles, Ext. 117

Designers

Trina Cannon, Ext. 114

Lili Cao, Ext. 125

Kristin Herman, Ext. 114

Manuel Valenzuela, Ext. 120

ADVERTISING

Advertising Sales Manager

Esmeralda Escovedo-Flores, Ext. 123

Account Executive

Paul Crawford, Ext. 113

Karen Klein, Ext. 122

Real Estate Sales

Nancy Taresh, Ext. 110

Ad Services

Sandy Lee, Ext. 116

Real Estate Ad Services

Tracey Fordahl, Ext. 130

BUSINESS

Business Associate

Lisa Oefelein, Ext. 126

Circulation Director

Bob Lampkin, Ext. 141

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.

© 2009 by Embarcadero Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.



Opinion

Editorial

State of the City: Other mayors wish they were here

With most, if not all, California cities experiencing a reduction in general revenues, many mayors would have welcomed the chance to deliver to their own constituents the State of the City address that Mayor Jennifer Hosterman gave Tuesday. Speaking to a public luncheon sponsored by the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, Hosterman said the city, even in these economically depressed times, is more robust than most, has municipal revenue that still outpaces expenditures, with multi-million-dollar retail, commercial, residential and sports complex projects under way. The City Council, she reiterated, just approved the city's fourth largest development project ever on the 124-acre unincorporated Staples Ranch, behind only Stoneridge Shopping Center and Hacienda Business Park in the 1980s and Ruby Hill in the early 1990s in size, scope and investment. The new \$5-million lighted baseball fields in Bernal Community Park will be dedicated later this year and next year the community will open its \$13-million downtown Firehouse Arts Center. Even with a downturn in sales and property tax revenue, the city government has been able to cut \$9 million from its current two-year-fiscal budget and still add \$3 million to its rainy day reserve fund.

Of course, not everything is coming up roses nor is the city immune to the budget-breaking, billion-dollar shortfall in Sacramento. Many who live here have lost their jobs, adequate health benefits or both. Downtown businesses are grappling with low profit margins; some have closed. New housing and major home remodeling jobs are nearly stalled as evidenced by a declining number of building permits that have been issued. In 2004, the peak year for builders and remodelers so far in this century, the city issued 7,400 construction permits; in 2008, the total number dropped to 3,700, and year-to-date numbers are even lower. Across First Street, the Pleasanton Unified School District is facing a near-\$9-million budget shortfall, and Hosterman said the city will continue looking at cost-sharing opportunities where the two governments can save taxpayers money, as already is being done with jointly-operated school and recreational facilities, bulk purchases of fuel, and more. Like the school district, Hosterman said the city is tightening its fiscal belt, spending less on operations, not filling vacant positions and reassessing its capital priorities in line with the current state of the economy.

At the same time, Hosterman said that she and the mayors of neighboring Tri-Valley cities, including Danville, Dublin, Livermore and San Ramon are working together to make sure this area receives its share of stimulus funds and available earmarks. The mayors went to Washington, D.C. to ask for financial help from the California congressional delegation, and already have been assured of millions of dollars to help fund an area-wide emergency communications system, to resurface roads, build carpool lanes on Interstates 580 and 680 and provide more funding for affordable housing projects. Pleasanton recently approved a major senior housing development in Ponderosa Homes Ironwood community, which will start construction this summer. Besides agreeing to extend Stoneridge Drive to El Charro Road and Livermore, Hosterman and others on the City Council are serving on regional agencies to secure funding for widening State Hwy. 84 over Pigeon Pass to provide an expressway between 680 and 580 that traffic experts believe would significantly reduce cut-through commuter traffic on Pleasanton streets.

Hosterman did not discount the economic uncertainties and downturn we face. Nevertheless, it was good to hear that Pleasanton is one of a handful of municipalities with solid, healthy financial reserves and a fierce determination to keep the city moving forward. ■

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



Seascape Resort Getaway • Chef's Evening • Romance Package
Professional Landscape Design • Day of Beauty at Salon Tivoli
Wine Tasting Package • Castlewood Golf Package

Tickets on Sale Now! (\$20 each or 6 for \$100)

Drawing May 6th!

Tickets available at several locations including:

Axis Behavioral Health 6666 Owens Drive Pleasanton	Pleasanton Weekly 5506 Sunol Blvd. Pleasanton
---	--

Download more info and order form at www.axishealth.org

Or send check, payable to **Foundation for Axis Community Health**
4361 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton 94566

NORCAL Weight Loss Center

Lose weight...and keep it off!

- A Variety of Healthy Diet Programs
- Staffed by Professional Doctors & Nurses
- Lunch, Evening & Saturday Appointment Available
- Non-Medication Programs Available
- Latest FDA Approved Medications



Also Offering Botox® / Restylane® Treatments

Dr. David Melamed, MD
Dermatologist
925-846-5614



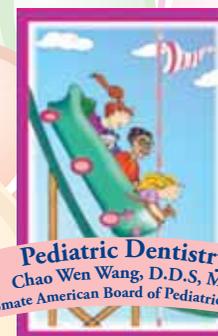
Unretouched clinical photo taken while frowning before and 14 days after treatment with Botox® Cosmetic

NEW Botox® Service for underarm perspiration problems!

\$75 OFF
Botox® Treatment
plus Free Consultation to new clients only
Not valid with other offers.

FREE CONSULTATION New clients only	Pleasanton 374 St. Mary St. 925 846-5614	San Ramon 2701 Crow Canyon Blvd. 925 837-6400
---------------------------------------	--	---

A Special Place For Children of All Ages



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



Pediatric Dentist

Most Insurance Accepted

426-8011

55 W Angela Suite 200 Pleasanton

www.kiddodentist.com

**Accepting
New
Patients!**

Letters

A better way

Dear Editor,

California's dysfunctional governance process was all too evident in its latest and worst budget crisis. Our state is too large, diverse and important to try to continue to limp along with this outmoded structure.

Perhaps there's a better way. The Bay Area Council, the League of Women Voters, Joint Venture: Silicon Valley Network, Common Cause, the Greenlining Institute and New America Foundation are

calling for a state constitutional convention to bring state government into the 21st century. The time has come for this idea.

Ward Belding

Parcel tax worth it

Dear Editor,

I believe it's important for Pleasantonians to know exactly what our school district has done and needs to be able to continue.

I've had a daughter, Chloe, in PUSD for the last four and a half years, four at Alisal. When Chloe started, in second grade, she has not yet been properly diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome, or as I call it "Autism-Light." After

the staff, Principal Amy Simone, counselor Tracy Zuelsdorf and teachers Rebecca Briggs, Teresa LeMay assessed her. This was done out of sheer compassion and love for this little girl they were simply watching struggle.

Well, we had three out of four fabulous years at Alisal. I am so grateful to this team, that would be cut if a parcel tax is not approved in Pleasanton.

I'm closing this with something I never thought I'd see. Chloe, now a sixth-grader at PMS, is being celebrated this week, as she made the honor roll. I give all the credit for this accomplishment to PUSD and ask our community to see the lifelong gift that she's getting

from all staff and educators here in Pleasanton. One hundred dollars to \$250 is definitely worth every penny when it goes to a lifelong education, GPS's that stand out and identify our children's achievements, self-esteem, self-worth and honor roll for all—even those with autism. Please continue to help our children succeed in Pleasanton.

Andrea Mosely

Support spay, neuter law SB 250

Dear Editor,

Kudos to State Sen. Dean Florez for proposing SB 250, which would require dogs in California

to be spayed or neutered unless their guardians obtain an unaltered dog license, and requires guardians of unaltered cats to keep them indoors.

Every year, about 1 million cats and dogs enter our state's animal shelters. More than half of them are euthanized, simply because there aren't enough good homes for them. This bill would help reduce those numbers, by encouraging people to do the responsible thing and have their animals spayed or neutered.

Even people who don't give two cents about animals should support this bill, because our state's companion animal overpopulation crisis affects every taxpayer: It costs more than \$250 million to shelter and euthanize homeless animals every year.

Please choose what's best for the animals and our state: Support SB 250 and have your cats and dogs spayed or neutered.

Barry Kipperman, DVM, DACVIM
Veterinary Emergency & Specialist
Care Center, Dublin

ARE YOU SEARCHING FOR A DENTAL MIRACLE?

- * Do you feel hopeless and frustrated about your broken, missing and decayed teeth?
- * Does the thought of your needed treatment cause you to hyperventilate?
- * Are you looking for a dental home that restores your trust?

HOPE IS JUST A PHONE CALL AWAY!

YES, YOU CAN HAVE A BEAUTIFUL SMILE!



YOU CAN NOW TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR DENTAL HEALTH

ACT NOW!

Call now and mention this ad to reserve your appointment for an exam, x-rays and smile consultation

only \$57.00

(A \$180.00 value! – Offer Expires 4/30/09)

“Gently eliminating years of failing, frustrating and unattractive dentistry, leaving our patients with smiles and confidence they never imagined possible, guaranteed!”

- ➔ **Our fear reduction program includes:** Big time TLC, relaxing nitrous oxide gas, emphasis on painless, gentle shots and very numb teeth.
- ➔ **The comfort of home:** Relax, and forget you are even having treatment. You'll feel right at home with a pillow, and soothing music.
- ➔ **Our patient friendly TOOTHACHE relief:** Keep your teeth instead of pulling them, pre-treating abscesses with 3 different medicines to fight infections and inflammation. Comfortable, calm abscess treatment with an emphasis on numbing anesthesia, post op painkillers, antibiotics and anti-inflammatories for comfort.
- ➔ **Daily appointments available for people in pain.**
- ➔ **Beautiful smiles created using state of the art dentistry backed by 22 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE.**
- ➔ *We have extensive certification and our expertise includes: Root Canal, Cosmetic Veneers, Implants, Partial & Dentures, so you can have virtually all phases of your dentistry done under one roof without seeing a specialist.*

IMPORTANT FREE REPORT!

Call our toll free 24 hour recorded message at (877) 439-2434 to receive your complimentary copies of "10 Fundamental Questions You Must Ask Before Choosing a Dentist," PLUS a Bonus Report "Advances in Cosmetic Dentistry"

“Before I came to Dr. Gowey, I could not bite into anything like an apple or ribs, and I had to eat sandwiches with my side teeth. Whenever I used to smile, I put my hand in front of my mouth because my teeth looked so bad! After Dr. Gowey fixed my teeth, I began to feel more confident about myself which has improved my social life. My kids and work associates enjoyed watching the process of me going from ‘goblin teeth’ to a perfect smile! And now I can chew gum until the cows come home. Most importantly, this has given my kids good dental habits because they don't want to end with teeth like Dad once had!” –Eric G.



John M. Gowey, DDS

Fellow of the Academy of General Dentistry

(925) 846-1011

www.pleasantondental.com

1436 Cedarwood Lane Suite B Pleasanton, CA 94566

Amador Valley Optometric

Complete eyecare for Men, Women, Teens, & Children

We “Care” For your eyes For Now and For your Future!



Convenient Weekday & Evening Hours

- Trend Styled Eyewear
- “No-Line” Progressive Lenses
- Complete eyewear
- Complete contact lens care, including Orthokeratology (nearsightedness reduction)
- Laser Vision Care
- “Dry Eye” Treatment and Management
- Macular Degeneration Assessment



Most Vision Plans Accepted
Medicare Assignment Accepted

Keep Your Eyecare Local!

Serving Pleasanton for more than 25 years

Dr. Barry C. Winston
Faculty, UC Berkeley
School of Optometry

Board Certified
in the Treatment
of Ocular Disease

Black Avenue Professional Offices
4450-C Black Avenue,
Pleasanton
925.462.2600

off Santa Rita Road behind
Lynne Wood Methodist Church

Community Pulse

Police Report

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

March 16

- Theft:
 - 2:45 p.m. in the 7600 block of Stoneridge Drive; petty theft
 - 3:55 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; forgery
- Vandalism:
 - 8:57 a.m. in the 4500 block of Lakewood Street
 - 10:12 a.m. in the 4100 block of Hacienda Drive
 - 5:56 p.m. in the 100 block of Spring Street
 - 7:13 p.m. in the 4100 block of Vineyard Avenue
- Public drunkenness:
 - 11:18 p.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and Main Street
- Found property:
 - 9:49 p.m. in the 800 block of Main Street

March 17

- Theft:
 - 9:50 a.m. at the intersection of Vineyard Place and Vineyard Avenue; grand theft
 - 10:39 a.m. in the 4900 block of Hopyard Road; petty theft
 - 4:04 p.m. in the 3100 block of Persimmon Circle; identity theft

- DUI:
 - 6:48 p.m. in the 4000 block of Rennellwood Way
- March 18**
- Theft:
 - 5:59 p.m. in the 3000 block of Hopyard Road; stolen vehicle
 - 8:33 p.m. in the 1600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft
- Burglary:
 - 8:14 a.m. in the 4900 block of Pleasanton Avenue; vehicular
 - 1:07 p.m. in the 6000 block of Sterling Greens Circle
- DUI:
 - 12:00 a.m. in the 6200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- March 19**
- Theft:
 - 2:50 a.m. in the 4400 block of Sierrawood Lane; stolen vehicle
 - 3:00 a.m. in the 4600 block of Sierrawood Lane; grand theft
 - 11:01 a.m. in the 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue; identity theft
 - 2:39 p.m. in the 600 block of Main Street; petty theft
 - 9:19 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft
- Vehicular burglary:
 - 9:08 a.m. in the 5000 block of Glenwood Court
- Drug/alcohol violations:
 - 2:53 a.m. in the 4500 block of Muirwood Drive; marijuana pos-

- session
- 10:59 p.m. in the 100 block of Neal Street; public drunkenness
- 11:06 p.m. in the 4200 block of Rosewood Drive; public drunkenness, paraphernalia possession
- March 20**
- Identity theft:
 - 6:39 p.m. in the 1800 block of Zenato Place
- Burglary:
 - 4:48 p.m. in the 7600 block of Cottonwood Lane
 - 9:24 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- Vandalism:
 - 9:57 a.m. at the intersection of Touriga and Arbor drives
 - 11:51 a.m. at the intersection of Bernal Avenue and Kottinger Drive
 - 10:53 p.m. at the intersection of East Ruby Hill and Piemonte drives
- Drug/alcohol violations:
 - 2:07 a.m. at the intersection of Koll Center Parkway and Valley Avenue; DUI
 - 6:14 p.m. in the 4700 block of Saginaw Circle; marijuana possession
 - 10:22 p.m. at the intersection of Ray and Main streets; DUI

Police Bulletin

Pleasanton teen charged with 26 counts of vandalism

Police charged a 17-year-old Pleasanton boy Tuesday with 21 counts of misdemeanor vandalism and five counts felony vandalism for allegedly slashing tires on 27 vehicles in the early hours of March 6 in northeast Pleasanton.

Pleasanton Det. Eric Fredgren said they a phone call tip led them to the boy, who reportedly admitted to consuming two 24-ounce malt liquor drinks before puncturing the tires with a knife. He said the boy was "unable to articulate" his motives, but the boy had mentioned anger management issues.

Fredgren said he believed there was no one else involved in the vandalism, which resulted in \$6,075 in damage.

After his arrest, the boy was released to his parents and is awaiting a court date. Police said if he is convicted, restitution for the victims will be sought by the juvenile court.

Obituaries

Elizabeth E. (Betty) Dawson

Betty Dawson died peacefully on March 13 after a determined, nearly two-year fight against ovarian cancer. She was 66.

She was born in Jersey City, N.J. on July 17, 1942, and grew up in New Hyde Park, N.Y., graduating from Great Neck South High School. She received a bachelor's degree in elementary education from the State University of New York at Cortland in 1964, and a master's degree in elementary counseling from Boston University in 1970. She married her husband, Dan, on Aug. 14, 1965, after which they initially moved to suburban Boston, and then to Pleasanton in 1974.

Mrs. Dawson had a passion for teaching, and easily commanded love, respect and admiration from her students, their parents and her fellow teachers. She returned to teaching at Walnut Grove School in Pleasanton in 1984, and retired in 2003 after 18 wonderful and memorable years. She became known as



"The Math Queen," and in her teaching demonstrated an instinctive ability to connect with students at the fifth and sixth-grade age level.

Over the years she was an active and dedicated member of many organizations, including serving as president of the Livermore-Pleasanton branch of the American Association of University Women. She loved to travel to the four corners of the globe with her husband.

She is survived by her husband of 43 years, Daniel B. Dawson of Pleasanton; sons, Daniel W. of Novato, Calif., and Jonathan (Karen) of New York City; mother, June Enzel of Needham, Mass.; sisters, Linda Morgan (Jack) of Wellesley, Mass., Audrey Enzel of Las Vegas, and Janet (Joel) Sefczek of Mt. Juliet, Tenn.; as well as a wide circle of friends. She was preceded in death by her father, Cornelius Enzel.

Services were held March 19 at First Presbyterian Church of Livermore. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hope Hospice, 6500 Dublin Blvd. Ste. 100, Dublin, CA 94568 or the American Cancer Society.

Carol Porter

Carol Porter died peacefully at her Pleasanton home March 21 after a courageous battle with cancer, surrounded by family and friends. She was 68.

As Pastor of Women at Valley

Bible Church, she ministered to many women and families. Always a loving presence, she encouraged others to walk gracefully with God. She was a learned Bible scholar who loved everyone she met and was always ready to share her faith. Even while undergoing chemotherapy, she reached out to her caring doctors and nurses at Stanford University Hospital and ValleyCare Medical Center in Pleasanton. Her unconditional love for others will be greatly missed by all who knew her from her many ministries. She frequently traveled to Romania where she had a strong relationship with women from all parts of the countryside.

She also loved life and God's creatures. As an avid bird watcher and hiker, she frequently headed outdoors to enjoy His creation. She recently hiked Half Dome in Yosemite National Park with her son, Tim.

She is survived by her husband, Mark of Pleasanton; sons, Greg and his wife, Debbie and children Sarah and Emily of Portland, Ore.; Tim and his wife, Erika and children Jake and Jordan of San Ramon.

Services will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday at Valley Bible Church, 7106 Johnson Drive. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations to Mrs. Porter's favorite mission organizations through Valley Bible Church or to Valley Pregnancy Center in Dublin or to Shepherd's Gate in Livermore.



WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

Human Services Commission

Wednesday, April 1, 2009 @ 6:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Presentation from Non-Profit Agencies and Recommendation to Allocate City Grant Funds for Fiscal Year 2009/10

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department (LPFD) invites the public to the following informational events:

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training

April 1, 2009 through

May 6, 2009 - 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

LPFD - Training Tower, 3301 Busch Rd., Pleasanton
Enrollment Fee: \$50.00 Enroll at Livermore Adult Education,
Call (925)606-4722 or
www.livermoreadulted.org;

Learn how to help your neighborhood when disasters strike. Enroll in Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. Training includes: Disaster Basics, Disaster Medical, Hazards Materials Awareness, Fire Suppression, Utilities Shutoff, Light Search & Rescue, CERT organization, Disaster Psychology and a drill. Registration is required. For more information about the CERT Program, please email CERT@lpfire.org

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



Ken Maxwell, city of Pleasanton

Workers prepare the form boards for the bleacher seating adjacent to one of two new lighted baseball diamonds now under construction at Bernal Community Park as part of Phase I of the project. A public opening of the two ball fields is anticipated by late summer of this year.

State of the City

Mayor says Pleasanton shares nation's financial woes, but challenges city to 'saddle up'

by Janet Pelletier

Mayor Jennifer Hosterman delivered a rousing State of the City speech Tuesday at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel, acknowledging the dire economic crisis, but emoting an upbeat tone for Pleasanton's financial situation.

Saying the U.S. economy has "reverberated across the world, touching every continent" and "circumstances on the state level are just as grim," Hosterman said Pleasanton is not immune to the downturn.

"We have experienced lost jobs and home foreclosures, just as much as the nation has," she said. "Real estate values have dropped, although not as significantly as in other areas."

Without giving any financial figures, Hosterman said property and sales tax revenue is down, a result of declining retail sales from a "consumer fear of spending."

"Development fees, once the icing on the revenue-generating cake, are diminished—during the heyday of 2004, building permits numbered almost 7,500, while in 2008, only 3,700 applications were processed," she said.

To meet this decline, the mayor said under the direction of City Manager Nelson Fialho and with support from the City Council, all



The \$4.5-million Alviso Adobe Community Park, an interpretive site where school children and visitors can learn about the Amador Valley history, opened to the public in October and was touted by the mayor as one of many city accomplishments last year.

city departments are trimming their budgets, something that will affect resident services.

"We will put some capital improvement projects on hold and defer replacement of equipment until the economy gains momentum," she said.

To date, Hosterman said \$9 million has been cut, but she didn't elaborate as to what projects would be postponed.

Quoting John Wayne, she told the audience of just over 100 who attended the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce luncheon, which was more downscaled this year than in years' past, that "courage is being scared to death—and saddling up anyway."

With that segway, Hosterman said the city recently applied for and received a \$1.5-million check from the federal economic stimulus package for local streets and roads projects. The money will be used to repair and repave 13 miles of roadway. She added that the city will also pursue stimulus money for housing, transportation, public safety and economic development.

"Construction is under way to build an 11-mile carpool lane on eastbound Interstate 580 to relieve gridlock on the second most congested freeway in the Bay Area," the mayor said. "This is the first Northern

Dino Youmans, city of Pleasanton



Janet Pelletier

A couple walk their dogs just past the barrier to the end of Stoneridge Drive in northeast Pleasanton. Mayor Jennifer Hosterman, in talking about the Stoneridge extension and Staples Ranch project, said the city will move ahead on both endeavors, expecting the potential for "return fire," but without mentioning the threat of a lawsuit by environmentalists.

California project to be built with Prop. 1B transportation bonds passed by California voters in 2006. Our new southbound Interstate 680 HOT (high-occupancy toll) lane project is under way and slated for completion in late 2010."

Hosterman, who traveled with other Tri-Valley mayors to Washington, D.C. in January to meet with the California congressional delegation and also to attend the U.S. Conference of Mayors, said some of the projects they requested federal funding for include:

- An East Bay Regional Communications System that will link all public safety agencies in the region;
- Transportation improvements; and,
- Developing a regional Recycled Water Master Plan

Back on the local front, the city continues to work toward the completion of the General Plan update, a roadmap for Pleasanton policies. The mayor touted a number of projects and programs that have been completed or are nearing completion, including:

- The Firehouse Arts Center, slated to open in spring 2010, which Hosterman said will bring an economic catalyst to the downtown area;
- The Alviso Adobe Community Park, an interpretive park off of Foothill Road showcasing the history of dairies and the Ohlone Indians;
- Bernal Community Park, where Phase I has been completed for baseball fields off of the newer portion of Valley Avenue behind Hearst Elementary School;
- The acquisition of the former Southern Pacific Railroad corridor downtown, which will supply parking for the Firehouse Arts Center and downtown businesses;
- The formation by the City Council of the Committee on Energy and the Environment, which will address environmental issues and a commitment to help lead the city towards a sustainable future;
- The Solar Cities Program, a joint project with the cities of Livermore and Dublin, which has been educating consumers about solar energy through free workshops, web resources and other information to help homeowners;
- New online city services, including an online campaign finance system that allows the public to access candidates' financial contribution and expense information in a show of transparency, check sports field status updates, register for Parks and Community Services programs, submit a police report, view web streaming of City Council meetings and listen to podcasts for Planning Commission meetings;
- A second bridge set to open soon on Bernal Avenue over the Arroyo del Valle near Vineyard Avenue to improve traffic circulation in the Vineyard Corridor; and
- A downtown paratransit route free to those 65 and older that operates through downtown

Pleasanton, connecting seniors to shops, grocery stores and local hospitals.

Hosterman also broached the subject of one of the most talked about city projects—Staples Ranch—a 124-acre parcel in northeast Pleasanton where the City Council recently approved a development plan for millions of dollars in projects, including an auto mall, senior care community, Shark's Ice facility and a commercial and retail center. As part of the development, the council also approved a \$5-million to \$6-million extension of Stoneridge Drive to El Charro Road and Livermore, a project Alameda County has agreed to finance if it was included in the overall Staples Ranch development plan.

She called the Staples Ranch development Pleasanton's "very own local stimulus package," but made no mention of a notice sent to city officials Monday by The Center for Biological Diversity, Alameda Creek Alliance and an organization named "Safe Streets Pleasanton" of their intent to file a suit forcing a reversal of the City Council's approval of an environmental report allowing development to proceed.

"We can't build a 124-acre development project that has no road to it," Hosterman said. "General George S. Patton once said that the ability to make decisions is the most important quality in a good leader."

"Patton warned against falling victim to the 'Ready, Aim, Aim, Aim, Aim, Aim Syndrome,' when you must be willing to fire," she added. "We may see some return fire, but in the meantime, we are moving ahead on the adjacent Staples Ranch project."

Pleasanton has received state and national accolades for a variety of programs, Hosterman said, including the award for Excellence in Budgeting by the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers for a seventh consecutive year. That announcement earned city Finance Director Dave Culver a round of applause after Hosterman asked him to stand up.

In closing, the mayor hammered home the point that Pleasanton's success is based on partnerships, which was the central theme of her State of the City address in 2008.

"This is a community built on a solid foundation of partnerships," she said. "Those partnerships exist through the city, the school district, our residents, our business community through the Pleasanton Downtown Association, the Tri-Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau, the Chamber of Commerce, and others, all working towards the common goal of making this an ever-better place to work, live and raise families."

"We will also rely on that foundation even more in the coming months as we battle a waning economy, workforce layoffs, more need and fewer dollars," she added. ■

www.kathyshealthclub.com
#1 in Group Exercise
HUGE FITNESS SALE
 Offer ends 3-31-09
NO ENROLLMENT FEE
20% OFF
MONTHLY DUES
NO LONGTERM CONTRACT
 Reduced Processing Fee
Kathy's
 ladies healthclub
 426-0105 Pleasanton 855-3855 San Ramon

BANKHEAD THEATER
 2400 First Street, Livermore

JAZZ APPRECIATION MONTH
JAM APRIL 2009
SPONTANEOUS. NEVER ORDINARY. COMPLETELY GENUINE.

Irvin Mayfield and The New Orleans Jazz Orchestra All-Stars
Authentic New Orleans Jazz
 Artistic Director Irvin Mayfield is a Grammy nominated, Billboard Award winning trumpeter and composer and the official Cultural Ambassador for the City of New Orleans. The group's lively performance will evoke the wondrous blues sound, the incredible food, the magnificent architecture, the creative literary spirit and the celebratory *joie de vivre* of New Orleans.
Sunday, April 5 • 7pm

Marcus Roberts Trio
World-Renowned Improvisational Jazz Trio
 Marcus Roberts' highly innovative piano style as well as his philosophy of jazz improvisation merges his love for great music with his creativity to produce a thoroughly modern sound. Several of his recordings have reached the No.1 spot on Billboard's jazz chart. The trio's imagination and quick musical reflexes project a style that is powerful, rhythmic, and free.
Thursday, April 9 • 8pm

"A Tale of Three Cities" David Kennedy
Pulitzer Prize Winner and Stanford Professor Emeritus of History
April 2 • 7:30pm

Beppe Gambetta and Dan Crary
Acoustic Guitar Masters and Bluegrass Heroes
April 3 • 8pm

Tommy Tune
With The Manhattan Rhythm Kings
 Enjoy Champagne, Dessert & Coffee after the Performance
April 18 • 8pm

Tickets 925.373.6800
www.bankheadtheater.org

THE VALLEY TIMES CONTRACOSTATIMES.COM 101.7KKIO YOUR HOMETOWN STATION! Tri-Valley Herald

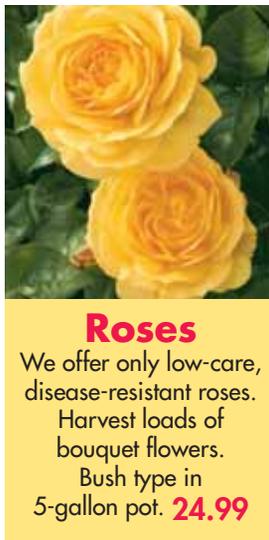
ANNIVERSARY SALE

Celebrating 120 Years with

Great Savings!



Impatiens
California's favorite low-care flower! Non-stop color all year long.
Best price of the year!
97¢
4-inch pot



Roses
We offer only low-care, disease-resistant roses. Harvest loads of bouquet flowers. Bush type in 5-gallon pot. **24.99**

Colorful Blooming Shrubs



Azalea Savings
Loads of bloom for months of garden color. Easy, low care. 1-gallon pot. **Now 5.99**



Azalea Planting Mix
Get plants off to a healthy start with Azalea, Camellia & Gardenia Planting Mix. 1.5 cu. ft. bag **8.99**



Azalea Food
For healthy plants, safe yards and bright blooms. Azalea, Camellia & Gardenia Food. 4-lb. box **6.99**



19.99
12-inch basket

Hanging Basket
Colorize your porch, patio and courtyard. Our top-quality show-stoppers will bloom all season long.



The Edible Garden
Tomatoes
1-gallon pot. Reg. 3.99 ea.
Buy 3, get one FREE
Nothing's fresher and healthier than homegrown



Pottery Sale
15% OFF
Classic shapes and styles in glazed white or terracotta.



Veggies and Herbs
100% Certified Organic!
Veggies
3-inch pot. **1.99**
Herbs
3-inch pot. **2.99**



Warm-Climate Blueberries
We offer only the best varieties for California gardens. 1-gallon pot. **Now 10.99**



Seeds
Choose from gourmet favorites, heirlooms and new hybrids. Growing from seed is easy and fun.



Citrus
Harvest loads of sweet, juicy fruit from these easy-to-grow trees. 5-gallon pot. **29.99 ea.**



Danish Potting Soil
Our exclusive water-retentive soil will save you time and give you water-bill savings. 1.5 cu ft bag. **12.99**

Open Daily 8am-6pm
For the garden center nearest you call 1-800-557-5268 or visit www.armstronggarden.com
Effective Now Through Tuesday, March 31, 2009
Items Limited to Quantities on Hand.

FREE Class
Container Veggies
Saturday, March 28 • 9am
We'll demonstrate and discuss how to grow a wide range of yummy, fresh veggies.

FREE Delivery with minimum purchase

The Ultimate Guarantee
Trees and shrubs are guaranteed forever!

Armstrong Garden Centers

Calendar

Author Visits

Book Signing Authors Lynette Pierce, Len Harris, Linda Meckler and Linda Athey will be signing copies of their books from 4-5 p.m., Saturday, March 28, at Cafe Delatti, 5424 Sunol Blvd. This event is sponsored by Booklockerbooks.com.

Classes

Community Emergency Response Team Training Learn how to help your neighborhood when disasters strike from 6-9 p.m., Wednesday, April 1-May 6, at Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department, 3301 Busch Rd., Fire Dept. Training Tower. Cost is \$50. To register, visit www.livermoreadulted.org.

Free Tri-Valley Citizen 2.0 Training Training on how local citizens can make a difference using social media tools to build community, advance issues, drive local business development, and participate in local policy making will be from 1-3 p.m., Sunday, March 29, at Elan Community Room, 5501 DeMarcus Blvd., Dublin. Visit www.dublintownhall.com/2009/02/coming-march-29-to-dublin-free-citizen.

Concerts

Pleasanton Community Band Spring Concert Pleasanton Community Concert Band Annual Spring Concert will be at 2 p.m., Sunday, April 5, at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd. The band will play selections including Concert Piece No. 2 for 2 Solo Clarinets, a tribute to Benny Goodman and other favorites. This concert is free. Call 846-9497 or visit www.pleasantonband.org.

Winter Guard/Percussion Show Foothill's world-renowned band is hosting a winter guard and percussion show from 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Saturday, March 28, in the large gym. The competition will feature more than 55 groups from all over Northern California. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors. Visit www.foothillband.org/events.

Events

Annual CFA All Breed Cat Show Over 200 cats and kittens of 41 breeds will be on exhibit and competing for Best in Show Saturday-Sunday, April 4-5, at Alameda County Fairgrounds, Hall of Commerce, 4501 Pleasanton Ave. Rescue organizations will have loving cats for adoption. Tickets are \$8 for adults; \$5 for seniors and children under 10; \$16 for families. Proceeds to benefit feline health research. Call 827-2722.

Barrel Tasting Weekend Come and enjoy Livermore Valley's first Barrel Tasting Weekend from noon-5 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, March 28-29, at various Livermore wineries. Taste wines right out of the barrel, meet winemakers, and more. Cost is \$20 in advance; \$25 day of event. Visit www.LVwine.org.

Tri-Valley Singles Lock and Key Party Meet new single friends and dance the night away at the Tri-Valley Singles Lock and Key Party from 8-11:45 p.m., Friday, April 3, at the Marriott Hotel, 11950 Dublin Canyon Rd. Women get locks; men get keys, and the fun comes when you match them up. Cost is \$20. Call (415) 507-9962.

Exhibits

Art Show: 'Recombinant' An exhibit of new paintings by Lisa Gentile will be featured until April 10 at Me & My Friend's Cafe, 4713 First St. Acrylic abstracts, diptychs, experimental watercolor on canvas will be featured. The cafe is open from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 518-4436.

LAA Gallery features Michele Buckett Michele Buckett is LAA Gallery's featured artist for the month of March. Michele creates jewelry from semi-precious stones, pearls, and crystals. Drop by and see those and other artworks, made by local artists from 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Wednesday-Saturday, until March 31, at the Carnegie Building, LAA Gallery, 2155 3rd St., Livermore. Call 449-9927.

Film

'Fields of Fuel' Amador Valley High School's STAND Club will be showing the film "Fields of Fuel" at 6 p.m., Tuesday, April 7, at Amador Valley High School, Multi-Purpose Room, 1155 Santa Rita Rd. This event is free. E-mail amadoryouth4hr@yahoo.com.

Fundraisers

Athletic Boosters Meat Sale Foothill Athletic Boosters will be selling a variety of meat choices and seafood from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, April 4-5, in the Foothill parking lot, 4375 Foothill Rd. Proceeds will benefit the boosters.

Bras for the Cause Breast Cancer Walk A 10K (six miles) fundraising walk through Pleasanton will be complete with a bra-decorating contest from 7-11 p.m., Saturday, May 9. Cost is \$39 before March 31; \$50 thereafter. Proceeds benefit Axis Health and Komen for the Cure. Visit www.trivalleysocks.org.

Sisters in Service Fourth Annual Indian Dinner A family-oriented fundraiser event to benefit marginalized women and children in India, with special music, delicious Indian food and guest speaker, Kay Strom, co-author of Daughters of Hope, from 5:30-8 p.m., Sunday March 29, at Valley Christian Center, 7500 Inspiration Dr., Dublin. Cost is \$10 for adults; \$3 for children. Call Gloria at 998-3785.

Tri-Valley YMCA Golf Tournament The Tri-Valley YMCA's second annual Golf Tournament will be held from noon-8 p.m., Monday, May 4, at Ruby Hill Golf Club, 3400 W. Ruby Hill Dr. Cost is \$225 per person; \$250 after April 1. Proceeds benefit kids and families in Y programs. Call 475-6108 or visit www.trivalleyymca.org.

Health

Axis Health Raffle Tickets go on sale March 27 for a drawing on May 6 for a community fundraising raffle to help fill the funding gap left by county and state government cut-backs for Axis Health. Tickets are \$20 each or \$100 for six. Visit www.axishealth.org.

Spring Immunization Clinics for Children Scheduled Clinics open to all Tri-Valley families who are low income or uninsured, including those enrolled in Medi-Cal and Medi-Cal Managed Care, will be offered from 9-11 a.m., April 4, May 2 and June 6, at Axis Community Health Clinic, 4361 Railroad Ave. Parents should bring child's immunization records

and information about family income and medical insurance; fee for some immunizations. Call 462-1755.

Holiday

Carden West School Spring Festival There will be an egg hunt, pancake breakfast, "The Easter Bunny" and "Clifford the Big Red Dog", crafts and activities for all ages from 9-11 a.m., Saturday, April 4, at Carden West School, 4576 Willow Rd. Cost is \$30 for a family; \$7 per person for families of 5 or more. Call 463-6060.

Easter Egg Hunt Living Vine Fellowship will host a special Easter service and Egg Hunt from 10:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Sunday, April 12, at the church, 4100 First St. Refreshments will be provided. Call

Easter Egg Hunt Tesla Vintners will host an Easter Egg Hunt at 1 p.m., Saturday, April 11, at 5143 Tesla Rd., Livermore. Kids will enjoy arts and crafts and a coloring contest with prizes; parents will sample wines and listen to live music. Cost is \$5 per child. Call 606-9463.

Lectures/ Workshops

Free Cisco VOIP Seminar Cisco Systems, and SoftNet Solutions, a Cisco Business Partner, present a free lunchtime seminar on how to cut costs in these tough economic times from noon-1:30 p.m., Thursday, April 9, at Cisco's Pleasanton office, 5890 Owens Dr., 4th Floor. Space is limited and reservations are required by calling (408) 542-0888.

On Stage

'Bye Bye Birdie' Amador Valley and Foothill High Schools present its spring musical performance "Bye Bye Birdie" at 7:30 p.m., Thursday-Saturday, March 19-21 and 26-28, at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd. Tickets are \$12 for adults; \$10 for students. Call 931-3444 or visit www.civcartstickets.org.

Seniors

Day Trippers to Blackhawk Plaza Visit the Blackhawk Museum to view classic autos and a special docent led tour of the Smithsonian Exhibit from 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Thursday, April 2, meeting at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$30 for residents; \$33 for non-residents. Pre-registration is required; call 931-5365.

Spiritual

'Passion for Creation: Using Creativity for Good' Rev. Steve Maynard will expound teachings on "Passion for Creation: Using Creativity for Good" at 10 a.m., Sunday, March 29, at Tri-Valley Unity, meeting at the Radisson, 6680 Regional St., Dublin. All are welcome; ongoing classes and groups are available. Call 998-0038 or visit www.trivalleyunity.com.

Procession of the Palms Celebrate Palm Sunday at St. Clare's Episcopal Church with a procession of the palms followed by Holy Eucharist from 10:15-11:15 a.m., Sunday, April 5, at St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Rd. All are welcome. Call 462-4802.

A HOPEFUL 2009 ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

There are more opportunities than three months ago. With the investment landscape quickly changing, there are tax, investment, and estate planning changes that may be opportunities for you. How will you and your family weather the current financial landscape? Now is not the time to ignore your finances – it's time to develop a quality plan.

No Cost Discussion and Dessert: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2009

Wednesday, April 1
Office of Reed Scott, Attorney at Law, 7901 Stoneridge Drive
Suite 404, Pleasanton, CA 94588

Reception at 7:30p.m. Discussion at 8:00p.m.

Please RSVP one week in advance of event by calling
925-827-4393 ext. 314 or emailing ttaylor@napavwm.com.
All attendees will be offered a no obligation consultation with Kelly Crane.



Napa Valley Wealth
Management

Kelly Crane, CFP[®] is a Registered Principal offering securities and some investment advisory services through Financial Network Investment Corporation, Member SIPC. Napa Valley Wealth Management is not affiliated with FNIC or ING. CA Insurance License Number 0668025. FNIC nor any of its representatives give legal or tax advice. For details, consult with your tax advisor or attorney.

Pleasanton Unified School District and Amador Valley Adult & Community Education Present:

The Power of



Green & Red Language: Choose

Green Language: A type of communication that is free of words that can imply negative or judgmental references.

Red Language: A habitual way of speaking and thinking that can raise the heart rate, release adrenalin and other stress hormones, and lead to control-ing and out-of-control behavior.

The class will include:

- Practice in replacing everyday **Red Language** pitfalls with **Green Language** alternatives
- Building Positive Family Communication, Self-esteem, and Interpersonal competence assets

No fee!!! Adults over 18 welcome!

When: Monday, March 30, 2009 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Where: Amador Valley High School Library

Instructor: John Tompkins is a counselor for individuals, families, teachers, and work teams. Using **Green Language** approaches, John trains clients to grow and prosper in relationships free of blame and drama. Please visit John at: www.greenlanguage.com

To register, please call Amador Valley Adult School: (925) 426-4280

For more information, please visit us online: www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/adulted

Foothill Optometric Groups SPRING SUPER SALE

30% OFF
TEYE by Panoptix



Sunwear designed for Wind, Water, Snow, and Sun.
All In Stock Inventory Must Go!
Prescription sold separately



Serving the Tri-Valley for 25 years

463-2150

6155 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 100, Pleasanton
(at the corner of Stoneridge & Franklin, between Hopyard & I-680)

Living



photos by Michael Soo

Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery in Pleasanton will be the scene for a custom, luxury proposal for one lucky couple.

A PERFECT PROPOSAL

Contest helps a lucky couple pop the question in style

by Emily West

The florist, baker, photographer, videographer, venue and jeweler have been booked. The only thing missing is a couple ready to have their dream proposal come to life.

The nationwide contest will bring a lucky couple to the Bay Area, with an elaborately planned and decorated proposal to be held at Pleasanton's own Casa Real event center at Ruby Hill Winery.

Lea McIntosh, who has hospitality experience ranging from catering to event planning, is coordinating the winning proposal to custom fit the couple. After helping several brides, she started Ready to Propose, a service where she helps grooms create a memorable proposal. Until now, McIntosh said there isn't much industry attention given to popping the big question, which is a major milestone for many.

The key to popping the question, she says, is building anticipation.

"I wanted the person to think that the proposal was coming and then be thrown off," she said, referencing the mock proposal that was filmed for the contest. "She pulled the Tahitian pearls out of the cake and she thought a ring was coming. When he puts the pearls on her, he asked to see. When she turns around, he's already on one knee."

In order to enter the contest, the future groom—or bride, for those bucking tradition—submits their love story and proposal idea at www.readytopropose.com. Once the deadline is up April



Proposal planner Lea McIntosh said the key to popping the question is building anticipation.

30, McIntosh will peruse the entries and select a lucky winner.

"Several [entries] are going to be regurgitations," McIntosh said, "stuff that's been done before. What's definitely going to catch my eye are the stories where they talk about their dream proposal that would reflect each other."

From the idea, McIntosh will put her creative gears to work alongside 15 area professionals with a sampling of services

including videography, photography, transportation, cake, invitations and lighting design. The end results promise to be a magical moment.

"Casa Real has the ability to be a blank canvas," McIntosh said, adding that she could transform the space into anything from Tahiti to Paris.

Michelle Pangrazio, marketing director for Casa Real, said the site has been mostly booked when it comes to weddings since the event center opened last spring, but never for a proposal.

"We are always there when people get married," she said. "It's fun to be a part of beginning process. It will be a luxury proposal."

Andrew Hsu of VSM Videography in San Ramon, who is also lending his services for the contest, said he's done a proposal video in the past, and it's an idea that is likely to gain popularity.

"The proposal is one of the most emotional and dramatic events leading up to the actual vows on the wedding day," he said. "It's typically not very well documented."

"People always ask the newly engaged couple who it happened and they have to recount it," he added. "Often, they can't remember exactly what was said."

Recording a proposal is another way to spread the message, as anyone can upload a video online and share it with family across the globe.

The deadline for entries is April 30, with the proposal taking place Nov. 10. ■

Quality theater without the commute

Livermore Shakespeare's Associates present 'Copenhagen' in April

by Emily West

Formed about three years ago, the Livermore Shakespeare Associates group is on a mission to attract visitors to the area through the arts.

While they do use some community actors, SA generally brings in Bay Area professional actors.

"We call ourselves professional theater without the commute," said Katie Marcel, administrative associate for SA. "You can stay in the area and see quality productions with quality actors."

With several performances throughout the year, the group also puts on a Shakespeare Festival in the summer and performs among the vines.

"There are a lot of Shakespeare festivals all over the country and California," said Katie Marcel administrative associate at SA. "We're unique in that we're the only outdoor Shakespeare festival in a vineyard—that we know if."

"We have really high aspirations to be like the Oregon Shakespeare Festival," she added. "Eighty percent of their audience is from California."

See 'Copenhagen'

Science brought two men together; politics divides them. German nuclear physicist Werner Heisenberg visits his former mentor, scientist Niels Bohr, in Nazi-occupied Copenhagen and they engage in a secret conversation—or quarrel. Writer Michael Frayn re-imagines that mysterious meeting in Copenhagen, and leaves us to ponder how one can stay true to science, family and friends, one's country and one's God when at the forefront of discovery. It is directed by Virginia Reed.

When: Weekend performances April 2 to 26

Where: Bothwell Arts Center, 2446 8th St., Livermore

Tickets: \$15 for April 2 preview; \$30 for general admission; \$25 for seniors, educators and military; \$20 for full-time students 22 and under.

Contact: www.livermoreshakes.org or 1-800 838-3006

The theater company is advancing on that goal as they have already outgrown their first venue at Retzlaff Vineyards. As of last year, their new home is at the new outdoor amphitheater in

front of the old Victorian house at Concannon Vineyard.

As for their hopes of attracting people from outside the region, Marcel said SA was pleasantly surprised to find that about 50 percent of their audiences come from outside of the Tri-Valley.

This year's festival will be held from July 9 to August 9 and will include performances of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "The Seagull." They are planning to have alternate shows for a couple weekends as well as putting together wine-tasting and dining packages to attract tourists to the local wine country for the weekend.

Outside of the annual festival, the group performs at the Bankhead Theater and the Bothwell Arts Center. The group's next show, "Copenhagen," runs April 2 to 26 at Bothwell.

"Coincidentally, we have done a science theme [with the Bothwell performances] because of our audience," Marcel said, referencing the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

To learn more about Shakespeare's Associates, visit www.livermoreshakes.org. ■

Looking for an Affordable Individual or Group Health Plan?

FREE No Obligation Consultation
Call Today to Save Money!



Charlene Beasley

Lic#0C26292

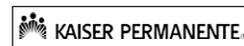
Beasley Insurance Services

925-803-9799

Plans as low as

\$45⁰⁰ per month

*Based on Blue Shield's PPO Plan Vital Shield 2900 for singles ages 19-29.



Free Quote go to www.beasleyinsurance.com

ADVERTISEMENT

How Six Figure Income Families get Thousands of Dollars in Free Money for College

Local experts teach free workshops to help parents save thousands in process

Pleasanton—East Bay parents that are planning on sending a child to college in the next few years, but aren't quite sure how to pay for it can now rest a little easier. Gerna Benz of Bay Area College Planners has been educating families in the community for over 15 years.

"It's really sad, but most parents that we talk to have done real well financially, but never found the time to save for college, and now they're facing a bill of \$18,000-\$45,000 a year, and they don't know who to turn to," he says. "Further, most of the time, all they hear is to not even bother applying for any aid because they make too much money. However, most of the time, that is simply not true even if they make a six-figure income."

Gerna would know, because his group has worked with over 1400 families in the last 10 years ranging from single moms to corporate CEO's, and they say they can help anyone get through the process and save a bundle...no matter how good of a student they have or how much money they make.

"I got started in this because I was a very good student, but no one told us anything about how to access money for college, or even how to pick a career...so I didn't go right away. But, I vowed that I would learn the process and devote my time to helping families not fall into the same trap that we did. 'Simply put, we show parents the truth that they aren't hearing anywhere else about how the college process really works and save thousands of dollars in the process.'" Tri-Valley parents will have a couple

opportunities to hear Gerna speak. He is teaching his class 'How to Give Your Kid a 4-Year College Education Without Going Broke!' on Tuesday April 7th at Round Table Pizza located at 3203 Crow Canyon Place, San Ramon, CA 94583 from 7:15 PM – 8:45 PM and Wednesday April 8th at Round Table Pizza located at 530 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566 from 7:15PM- 8:45PM .

"We'll discuss everything from the greatest myths about the college process, to how to send your student to a fancy private school for less than the cost of a junior college...it'll be like learning how to get a brand new Lexus for the price of a used pick up truck," he grins.

Topics will also include why private scholarships and 529 plans are a waste of time, how to double or even triple the amount of free money you receive from each school, and how to avoid the one mistake that will kill your chances of getting any money at all that almost every other parent will make this coming January, and much, much more.

"They will learn a ton, and I do my best to make the class fun," he says. "It's like I'm giving them a super bright flash light to navigate a pitch black cave, while all the other parents continue to stumble around blindly! 'Don't forget: the class is totally free, but seats are limited. Also, we are not sure when we will be teaching these classes in the Tri-Valley again since our April and May calendar is already filling up, so come on out and see us.' You can reserve a seat online at PayForCollegeNow.com/TRI or by calling our 24 hour reservation line at (800) 676-0496 ext. 680

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

HARDWOOD

LAMINATE

CARPET

VINYL

TILE

Family Owned

Lifetime Installation Warranty

Free Estimates



(925) 846-7600
www.silmarflooring.com

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

3950-C Valley Ave., Pleasanton

REAL ESTATE DISCOUNT FOR SENIORS

**FREE information on selling your home.
NO PRESSURE, STRESS FREE CONSULTATION**

When you list your home with me you will receive the following:

- Landscape/yard cleanup
- House Cleaning/General Cleanup
- Garage Sale/Estate Sale
- Hauling to donation centers
- Handyman Services/Contractors
- Professional Home Staging

Call for Details

800-319-8991

www.madelinewalker.com

J. Rockeliff

MW
Madeline Walker



Living

Get to work

The Las Positas College Performing Arts program brings Studs Terkel's best-selling book "Working" to life. Students will infuse singing and dancing into the lives of fascinating, everyday people, such as a waitress, truck driver, fireman, office worker, executive and a migrant worker.

Performances will be at 8 p.m. March 27-28 and April 3, 4 and 17, as well as at 2 p.m. April 5 and 9 at the Las Positas College Theater, 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore. Tickets are \$15, \$12 for seniors and \$10 for students, and may be purchased at the college bookstore, Fine Fretted Friends in downtown Livermore, or by calling 424-1812.



Ken Ross



Joshua English, Kelly Ruiz, Brian Dauglash, Allison Meneley, Adam Neylan and Ryker Johnson portray the interesting lives of everyday workers.

The Perfect Blend

THE INDEPENDENCE YOU WANT, THE ASSISTANCE YOU NEED.



THE PARKVIEW
ASSISTED LIVING IN PLEASANTON

**Please Join Us for our FREE
"Spring into Action Seminar Series"**

CALL TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY. SPACE IS LIMITED!
• Refreshments Provided

Wednesday, April 1, 2009 at 6pm

**"How to Work Through Loss, Grief and Bereavement,"
sponsored by Vitas Innovative Hospice Care**

925/461-3042

100 VALLEY AVE (AT SUNOL BLVD), PLEASANTON

WWW.ESKATON.ORG

MANAGED BY ESKATON



License #015601283

**Do You Feel Tired,
No Energy, Bloating, Gassy,
or Just out of Sorts?**

Let Us Show You How to "Clean-up" and Detoxify

In the stressful and toxic lifestyle of 21st century America we can all get "polluted." Let the Institute of Natural Cleansing and Weight Loss help you with our natural and holistic techniques for Health.

**Institute of Natural Cleansing
and Weight Loss**

25% Off

Initial Services with Ad



2324 Santa Rita Road Suite 2A, Pleasanton CA

Phone: 925-931-1135

Website: www.naturalcleansinginstitute.com

Email: info@naturalcleansinginstitute.com

Specializing in: Detoxification and Nature Weight Loss

Poetry festival is back

Two-day event includes workshops, local art exhibit

Roses are red, violets are blue, the Poetry, Prose and Arts festival is back next weekend, with plenty of things for the whole family to do.

The Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council and the city's Civic Arts host the eighth annual event April 4 and 5 at the senior center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Opening with a keynote address is Dana Gioia, a poet, critic and best-selling anthologist who recently served as chairman for the National Endowment for the Arts. Al Young, poet laureate



Al Young



Dana Gioia

emeritus of California, will also return after being the keynote

speaker in 2006.

In addition to 17 workshops for youth and adults, there will also be an awards banquet with music by harpist Dominique Piana, authors' reception, book signing and literary row.

The Pleasanton Art League and regional artists will host a free fine arts exhibit from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Saturday with music by classical guitarist Jim Steinke.

To learn more, visit www.pleasantonarts.org.

—Emily West

Ready to Rent

Let the Right One In

Magnolia Home Video DVD

1 hour, 55 minutes

Director: Thomas Alfredson

There's a shocking early moment in director Tomas Alfredson's "Let the Right One In" that takes the audience completely by surprise: a first of many. It involves what appears to be a twilight serial killing deep in the snowy Swedish woods, where the perpetrator, an older man who carries a well-supplied duffel bag, attacks a jogger. The accoutrements he has are doubly grotesque, especially the container he uses to catch the blood from his victim. What's more unsettling is the way he silently conspires with his adolescent niece about the crime, mostly in facial expressions, before and after the crime, as if this has been going on for a while. This all comes under the watchful eye of their next door neighbor, 12-year-old Oskar (Kare Hedebrant), whose own tortures at school and home make you think he will find sociopathic kinship with the pair, but there is much more that Oskar will discover.

This is the basic premise of "Let the Right One In," a retort, as you will, to the fantasies of the again popular vampire legend. There was a great book written in the '70s by San Francisco author Leonard Wolf called "A Dream of Dracula" that details the modern western obsession with the vampire lore (and it's also a good snapshot of post-hippie San Francisco). There is a fascinating passage, however, in which the author gets a midnight call from a vampire-practicing quarreling couple, one of whom feels that the other is taking too much blood. As he listens to them argue (both of whom sound stoned) you begin to feel a certain sense of dread in the conversation, that this is serious, and that one drainee cannot escape the drainer, no matter how much he protests, because of the allure of it all, without Oprah or Dr. Phil to guide them (I would love to see that episode).

Oskar is an angelic-looking blond Swedish boy who is bullied to the point of indifference in school.

He's almost comatose in a way, walking the halls and through the streets with a blank, sad expression that makes you think he is somewhat autistic, and also a little dangerous. One night, as he sits on the snowy playground outside his apartment complex, the girl from next door, Eli (Lina Leandersson), appears behind him, and they both begin talking. Her uncle sees them together and protests lightly, but you get the feeling of surrender from him, as if Eli and Oskar's friendship is inevitable, and that he will get caught more sooner than later. As Oskar discovers, Eli's friendship is somewhat skewed, she is too ethereal and mysterious, but she treats him with kindness, which is what keeps Oskar close to her.

"Let the Right One In" is a movie that takes its aesthetic cue from Ingmar Bergman, despite the Swedish kinship. Photographed by Hoyte Van Hoytema in the cool, monotonous tones of apartment lighting and harsh street lamps, the characters carry out a courtship that belongs more in a European realist drama from the '60s than what, on the surface, is presented as a horror movie, and I can tell you that "Let The Right One In" is more than just a horror movie. Yes there are moments that are more creepy than scary, but wrapped in these fantasy dressings is a movie about revenge, and anger, and the need to protect yourself, but at what price.

We hate to see little Oskar bullied, but at the same time we feel chilled at his deal with Eli, amplified by the last shot, which is anything but comforting, because we already know his fate.

—Joe Ramirez



Sports

Parent photographers

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



Ballistic United U19 Black advances to quarterfinals

The Ballistic United U19 Black team (pictured above) advanced to the quarter finals in the 2009 CYSA Association Cup after winning their group last weekend at Cherry Island, Sacramento. Ballistic won all three games 4-0, 2-0, and 1-0 over Fruitridge Pumas, Mission Falcons 415, and Oakland Tepa United, respectively. Dorsey, Roberts, and Norton (2) did all the scoring with assists from Gehring, Gomez, and Johnston against the Fruitridge Pumas.

Seahawks achieve new records

Spring fever was definitely in the air as the Pleasanton Seahawks swim team swam at a frenzied pace at the Orinda A+/JO - Last Chance Swim Meet March 7-8. Many new and best times were achieved, including numerous Far Western and Junior Olympic cuts. Cassidy Booe achieved three new Junior Olympic times in the 100/200/500 free. Chloe Bantock realized a new Far Western time in the 200 breast. Jon Ong burst into the Far Western category achieving his first 11-12 Far Western times in the 100/200 back. Nick Johnston completed a new Far Western cut in the 100 back. Cate MacGregor knocked off two new Far Western times in the 200/500 free. Katie Woods swam her first 11-12 Far Western cut in the 500 free. Kayla Lindsay added two new Far Western times. Chris Dourov exploded through the water, achieving 100 percent best times.

Lady Panthers are No. 1

The Pleasanton Lady Panthers won the 2008-09 Tri Valley Athletic League Girls' Basketball Championship recently. The last girl's basketball championship at Pleasanton Middle School was in 2001. The Lady Panthers, coached by John Ehlert, Adrian Cukar and Dave Miller, won all of their regular season games by a large margin. Team members are: Haley Brodnick, Emily Christensen, Chole Connolly, Cambi Cukar, Rebecca Dumanski, Sabrina Ehlert, Kirsten Jensen, Nisha Kale, Rachael Miller, Emily Oakland, Jaime Rinetti, Courtney Seams and Madison Steele.

Mariah win against Ravens

Pleasanton Girls Lacrosse Mariah prevailed with a 9-1 win against the Folsom Cordova Ravens on March 22. Leading the offense with two goals each were Kayla Bouchard and Meghan Serrano. Goals were also scored by Jennifer Gubner, Lindy Castro, Victoria Barnes, Haley Traynor, Samantha Kim, and Mallory Manzano. Mallory Manzano was goalie, and Jessica Young Kaylee Udinski, and Alaina Thomas were relentless against the Ravens offense.

Hurricanes swipe through with 3 wins

The Pleasanton Hurricanes, under-13 boys lacrosse team rolled to three wins March 14-15, running their record to 7-0 on the season. The Hurricanes started the weekend with a 7-5 win over El Dorado Hills. In their final game of the weekend, the Hurricanes thumped the Granite Bay Grizzlies 14-2. So far this season, the Hurricanes have outscored their opponents 69-15.

Swimmers participate at All Star Meet

Six swimmers from Tri Valley Aquatics were selected by Pacific Swimming to participate in an Zone All Star Developmental Meet on March 1 in Burlingame. Tri Valley Aquatics is a USA year round swim team that practices locally at Pleasanton Valley Swim Club. Team members include: Claire Suen, Kori Conlon, Catherine Ku, Marissa Bergh, Kali Conlon and Natalie Tang.

Tornados go down in defeat to Scorpions

The Pleasanton Tornados 14-year-old boys lacrosse league lost to the Danville Scorpions March 20-21 by a score of 13-3, with goals scored by Devin Bell, Jake Ackman, and Brent Richwood. On Saturday they played the Santa Cruz Warriors and won 11-4 with three goals scored by Jack Ackman, two by Alex Acosta, and two by Justin Gibson. Finally, on Sunday they played the Berkeley Bears and were mauled 6-7 with two goals by Jake Ackman, three assists by Michael Roeder, and six shots by Jack Ackman.

Angels defeat the Giants

In the Pleasanton Foothill Little League majors league the Angels

defeated the Giants 10-7 Saturday in a well-played and exciting game. In the top of the first inning, Jordan Ott sparked a two-out rally by beating out an infield hit. In the bottom of the first, John Anthon of the Giants hit a two run home run to tie the game at two. Brock Gustafson then doubled to right center field scoring Bush, and Carl Mubarak singled scoring Gustafson. In the top of the fifth inning the Angels were at it again when Stephen Chipman walked and then stole second base with an acrobatic slide to avoid the tag. Brock Gustafson fouled off five pitches before singling to left field driving in Chipman. In the top of the sixth, Jordan Ott led off the inning with a single, his third hit of the day. Luther Little singled Ott to third, who then scored on

a wild pitch, advancing Little to third.

Ballistic United U-16 off to compete in CYSA State Cup

In preparation for CYSA State Cup, the Ballistic United U-16 team played in the Tenth Annual Diablo Cup in Concord March 14-15. Winning its two Saturday games qualified Ballistic for the semi-finals. Ballistic dominated its second game from start to finish. This game ranks as one of the team's best performances this season. Its 3-1 victory earned Ballistic a spot in the U-16 championship game.

In the championship game, Ballistic earned second place after conceding to San Juan Lightning 93 Blue for a final score, 0-4. Next up, Ballistic faces Santa Clara Sporting

92 (nationally ranked), Redwood Juventus and Fremont United at the CYSA State Cup, March 28-29 in Morgan Hill.

Amador Valley men's and women's swimming updates

The women's team won eight of 12 events against Cal High on March 13. The eight first place finishes propelled the Dons to a 112-79 win over the Grizzlies. The swim meet started slowly for the Dons Men's team as Cal took first and third in the medley relay to expand their lead to 17-10. With the score 82-71 and only two events left, things looked good for Amador, but the Grizzlies came on strong in the breast stroke, going 1-2-3 to make the score 85-84 Amador entering the final relay.

Navigating through market volatility.



These are volatile times in the financial markets.

Given substantial declines in asset values over the past year, and continued volatility on a daily basis, you may be wondering about how this will impact your goals and what to do next regarding your portfolio.

Merrill Lynch can help you determine what's best for you.

We'll offer our insight to help you address the current environment, while staying focused on your longer term goals, like retirement and leaving a legacy.

In this seminar, we'll discuss

- The dynamics of market volatility
- What history may suggest about recovery following similar market declines
- Specific investment strategies to help reposition your portfolio for the future
- How Merrill Lynch safeguards your assets



TOTAL MERRILL®

Merrill Lynch
invites you to join us
for a **FREE Seminar**
that can help you
stay on track.

**Wednesday, April 22, 2009
6:00 P.M.**

**Faz Restaurant
5121 Hopyard Road
Pleasanton, CA 94588**

Speakers:

David Persin, VP, CFM, Merrill Lynch
**John Cardente, Regional Manager,
Structured Solutions, Merrill Lynch**

Please RSVP to Amber Strock
at (925) 227-6601 or email
amber_strock@ml.com to
reserve your place by April 6th.



Ravinder Sood, Ted Simos, David Persin, Scott Edgington, Amber Strock

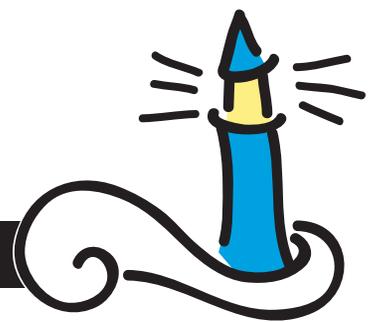


Global Markets & Investment Banking | Global Research | Global Wealth Management |

Total Merrill (design) is a registered service mark of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. Total Merrill is a service mark of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.
© 2009 Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated. Member SIPC.

fogster.com THE TRI-VALLEY'S FREE CLASSIFIEDS WEB SITE

Fogster.com offers FREE* postings online and the opportunity for your ad to appear in print to more than 80,000 readers. You can log on to fogster.com 24/7, and your online ad starts immediately.



TO RESPOND TO ADS WITHOUT PHONE NUMBERS GO TO **FOGSTER.COM**

*Some ads require payment. Home Services and Mind & Body ads require contact with the customer service representative at 925-600-0840, Ext. 112.



BULLETIN BOARD

115 Announcements

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS
in 111 alternative newspapers like this one. Over 6 million circulation every week for \$1200. No adult ads. Call Rick at 202-289-8484. (AAN CAN)

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

Danville Community Band Concert
Easter Egg Hunt
Hacienda School
Livermore Lioness Club
Senior Health Fair - Free
Sewing Camp! www.KidzKraftz.com
Stress Mgmt Troubled Times
Stress/Pain/FM Support BLR/MFT

130 Classes & Instruction

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA!
Fast, Affordable & Accredited
FREE Brochure. Call NOW!
1-800-532-6546 Ext. 97 http://www.continentalacademy.com (AAN CAN)

PALMISTRY CLASSES and READINGS
www.palmistryschool.com,
www.partyalchemist2.com.925 2499154

133 Music Lessons

SINGING LESSONS FOR ALL AGES!
Voice Studio of Cherie Michael
Call 925-462-4419
for further information and to reserve your weekly lessons.

HARP LESSONS FOR ALL AGES
Try Something New!
Call **Bennetta Heaton**
(925) 820-1169
- located in Danville -

135 Group Activities

"GIRLS NIGHT IN"
CROSSFIT SAN RAMON!
FREE CROSSFIT CLASSES
Girl's Lunch Out! Spa Day
Lock & Key Singles Dance
Sewing Camp! www.KidzKraftz.com

140 Lost & Found

Found a Cat

Lost Camera from Sports Park
Lost - Canon Elph 600 from Pleasanton Sports Park on Saturday 3/14 AM. (925)425-9686. Reward \$20.



FOR SALE

201 Autos/Trucks/Parts

Donate Vehicle
Receive \$1000 Grocery Coupons, Your Choice. Noah's Arc, No Kill Animal Shelters. Advanced Veterinary Treatments. Free Towing, IRS Tax Deduction. Non-Runners. 1-866-912-GIVE. (Cal-SCAN)

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

Chev or GMC TRUCK 88 To 2000 TRAILER HITCH - \$65

Chrysler 2001 PT Cruiser/BRA - \$40



Jeep 1989 Wrangler Sahara YJ
51267 miles ,2 DR WAGON SPORT UTILITY ,Automatic Transmission,4.2L L6 2BL (Mopar Fuel Injected) ,\$2700, ecarla@luckymail.com

Lexus 2004 SC430 - \$35,000.00

Mazda 2003 Miata MX5 Shinsen - \$11,500

210 Garage/Estate Sales

Danville, 242 Linda Mesa Ave, March 28
Rummage/Bake Sale
Join the Danville Women's Club from 9-1 for a Garage/Bake Sale! Search through treasures while satisfying your sweet tooth.

Pleasanton, Benedict Court, Saturday, March 28, 8am - 1pm
Garage Sale at Benedict Court, Saturday, March 28, 2009 81m-1pm
Camping, kitchen items, books +

215 Collectibles & Antiques

Cameo Depression Glass
Royal Doulton figurine - \$45
Western Railroad Photographs - \$10 each

220 Computers/Electronics

DIRECTV Satellite
TV Special Offer: Save \$21/month for one year, Free HD-DVR, Plus 3 Free months of HBO/Starz/Showtime! Call Expert Satellite 1-888-246-1956 (credit card required) (AAN CAN)

DIRECTV Satellite
TV Special Offer:
Save \$21/month for one year, Free HD-DVR, Plus 3 Free months of HBO/Starz/Showtime! Call Expert Satellite 1-888-246-1956 (credit card required) (AAN CAN)

GET A NEW COMPUTER
Brand Name laptops & desktops
Bad or NO Credit - No Problem
Smallest weekly payments available. It's yours NOW - Call 800-803-8819 (AAN CAN)

GET A NEW COMPUTER!
Brand Name laptops & desktops
Bad or NO Credit - No Problem
Smallest weekly payments avail. CALL NOW 1-800-816-2232 (AAN CAN)

230 Freebies

Old sewing machine - FREE

240 Furnishings/Household items

1940's Cavalier cedar chest - \$150
3 piece kitchen carving set - \$10
Argenta Sofa leather - \$699
Fantastic study include 4 pieces - \$355
MEDIA CABINET - \$375.00
Oversized Log Rocking Chair - \$250.

245 Miscellaneous

DIRECTV Satellite
TV Special Offer: Save \$21/month for one year, Free HD-DVR, Plus 3 Free months of HBO/Starz/Showtime! Call Expert Satellite 1-888-246-2215 (credit card required) (AAN CAN)

ONLINE PHARMACY
Buy Soma, Ultram, Fioricet, Prozac, Buspar \$71.99/90 \$107/180
Quantities, PRICE INCLUDES
PRESCRIPTION! Over 200 meds. \$25
Coupon Mention Offer: #71A31.
1-888-661-4957.
tripharmacy.net (AAN CAN)

Sawmills
From only \$2,990 - Convert your Logs To Valuable Lumber with your own Norwood portable band sawmill. Log skidders also available. www.NorwoodIndustries.com/300N -FREE Information: 1-800-578-1363 x300-N. (Cal-SCAN)

Cottage Inspired Landscaping - \$16.95
Non-stick stove top grill - \$20

RED WORMS FOR COMPOSTING - \$25.00

Scrapbooks

250 Musical Instruments

WANT TO FORM/JOIN "GEEZER" BAND - SN/A

260 Sports & Exercise Equipment

Custom Golf Cart - \$3,500
Yakima Cargo Rack
Yakima Cargo Rack, like new. (Used on one summer trip) 4x8 but can be easily shortened to 4x4 in size. Comes with Yakima ski rack. 925-462-6041



KID STUFF

330 Child Care Offered

Child Care

345 Tutoring/Lessons

FRENCH, SPANISH TUTORING

Math & Chemistry Tutoring
Retired Scientist now enjoying TUTORING STUDENTS of all ages in math, algebra, pre-calculus, geometry, & chemistry
CALL DOUG @ 925-858-5842



MIND & BODY

425 Health Services

Tramadol
TRAMADOL 180 Tablets \$112 with FREE overnight delivery! No prior prescription needed. No hidden fees! U.S. Pharmacy 1-888-738-3822 www.PegasusPills.com (Cal-SCAN)



EMPLOYMENT

500 Help Wanted

horse groom
Groom wanted for FEI Dressage trainer in Pleasanton. Must be an independent contractor. Mature with reliable transportation. \$10.00 per hour. Thurs. 12:30-4:30 Some horse shows and away shows possible.
Contact Nellie at 510-520-4110

550 Business Opportunities

100% Recession Proof
Be Your Own Boss! Your Own Local Vending Route. Includes 25 Machines and Candy for \$9,995. MultiVend LLC, 1-888-625-2405. (Cal-SCAN)

Up To \$275K+
1st year Potential Income. We train. Serious, Motivated and Driven Only. Don't MLM, Don't Believe it, Don't Call. 1-800-821-9551. www.CashFlowPowerHouse.com (Cal-SCAN)

560 Employment Information

DATA ENTRY PROCESSORS
Needed! Earn \$3,500-\$5,000 Weekly Working from Home! Guaranteed Paychecks! No Experience Necessary! Positions Available Today! Register Online Now!
http://www.DataPositions.com (AAN CAN)

\$\$\$HELP WANTED\$\$\$
Earn Extra income assembling CD cases from Home. CALL OUR LIVE OPERATORS NOW! 1-800-405-7619 ext. 150 http://www.easywork-greatpay.com (AAN CAN)

\$600 WEEKLY POTENTIAL\$\$\$
Helping the Government PT. No Experience, No Selling.
Call: 1-888-213-5225 Ad Code L-5. VOID in Maryland and South Dakota. (AAN CAN)

Cable Line Installer Job
In growth industry. Paid training, great benefits, vacation. No experience needed. HS grads ages 17-34. Call Mon-Fri 1-800-345-6289. (Cal-SCAN)

Dietary Manager
Become a Dietary Manager. (Average annual salary \$40,374) in eight months in online program offered by Tennessee Technology Center, Elizabethton. Details www.TTCelizabethton.edu, 1-888-986-2368 or email patricia.roark@ttcelizabethton.edu. (Cal-SCAN)

Driver
Currently Hiring Experienced Teams and Solos with HazMat. Dry Van and Temp Control available. O/Os welcome. Call Covenant 1-866-684-2519 EOE. (Cal-SCAN)

Driver - New Hiring Area
West Coast Regional. Newest equipment on the road. Competitive Pay. Run the Western 11 States. On Site - Full Service Maintenance Shop. Reasonable Home Time. Western Express - 22 yrs. old. Good MVR, EOE, CDL-A, 1 yr. OTR. Call Edna Today! 1-866-863-4112. (Cal-SCAN)



BUSINESS SERVICES

605 Antiques & Art Restoration

Antique Furniture Restoration & Repair
"A Labor Of Love"
925-462-0383

624 Financial

CASH FOR GOLD
We buy Gold, Silver, Plat.
Get Cash NOW!
Highest Payouts - Satisfaction
Guaranteed 1-877-548-1550 (AAN CAN)

In today's economy
most people have credit card debt. Credit Card Rescue has the solution. Get out of debt in months not years - save thousands.
Call 866-910-5252 (AAN CAN)

640 Legal Services

Reglan Injury Alert!
The acid reflux medicine Reglan has been linked to TARDIVE DYSKINESIA, a serious condition causing continual involuntary movements of the mouth and other parts of the body. If you've taken REGLAN for more than 12 weeks and have developed Tardive Dyskinesia you may be eligible for Money Damages. Call the attorneys at James Rolshouse and Associates at 1-800-969-5633. Licensed in Minnesota. (Cal-SCAN)

Pet of the Week



CATHERINE HANSEN HUSH

A poodle mix in need of love

Meet Jake. Last month this young, blonde Poodle mix with hazel eyes and three other small dogs were abandoned in Pleasanton. After a week, a matted, dirty, and hungry Jake was caught by animal services and has since proven he just needed some loving care to become what he is today—a happy, affectionate, and well-mannered companion. Jake has been groomed, vaccinated and neutered. He is currently in a Tri-Valley Animal Rescue foster home where he gets along well with other dogs and loves to sit in your lap. Jake rides well in a car, walks nicely on a leash, and relishes the attention of loving people. He is still a little head-shy so we recommend him for adults or a family with children over 10 who will give him a loving, forever home. Meet Jake, and many other foster dogs, at TVAR's weekly adoption fair at Pleasanton Farmer's Market, First St. at W. Angela St. on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Contact Jake's foster mom Terri at 417-1180 (weekends and evenings) and see photos of available TVAR foster pets at www.tvvar.org.

645 Office/Home Business Services

Classified Advertising
In 240 Cal-SCAN newspapers for the best reach, coverage, and price. 25-words \$550. Reach 6 million Californians! FREE email brochure. Call (916) 288-6019. www.Cal-SCAN.com (Cal-SCAN)

Display Advertising
In 140 Cal-SCAN newspapers statewide for \$1,550! Reach over 3 million Californians! FREE email brochure. Call (916) 288-6019. www.Cal-SCAN.com (Cal-SCAN)

News Release
Cost-efficient service. The California Press Release Service has 500 current daily, weekly and college newspaper contacts in California. FREE email brochure. Call (916) 288-6010. www.CaliforniaPressReleaseService.com (Cal-SCAN)

657 Online/Websites

Win Big at Video Keno
Win Big Jackpots on the now...Hottest... slot game in the casino. First 4 principles FREE. Download instantly at www.WinBigAtVideoKeno.com (Cal-SCAN)



HOME SERVICES

715 Cleaning Services

Andrea's Cleaning
Trustworthy, Prof., Reliable, Affordable. Ref's avail.
14yrs exp
925-339-2461

Best Cleaning by Beatriz
My housekeeper, Beatriz, has an open- ing. Reasonable, reliable, honest. Call Cindy for a reference. (925) 736-6800.

fogster.com

Marketplace

Pleasanton Weekly

General Contracting



LET OUR WORKER BEEZ DO IT FOR YOU!

Commercial/Residential

- Repairs • Installation
- Restoration • Tenant Improvements
- Assembly

Receive \$25 off
Service of \$250
or more for 1st time
customers

(925) 846-0400

www.HoneyDoHandypersons.com
LIC# 922264

Fresh news delivered
directly to your inbox



This week's top stories & hot picks

COMPETITIVE EDGE

Gen Contractor - Molding, Windows
and Doors. Complete Kitchen & Bath
Remodels. Add'l Alterations
Visa & Mastercard Accepted
925-736-4513 ~ #788080

Complete Maintenance

Landscaping Service
Brickwork • Rockwork
New Sod • Tile Work
Concrete • Painting
Retaining Wall
General Maintenance

CALL MARTIN

925-768-4528 • 925-864-4368
FREE ESTIMATES

The Bath Studio

Toto High Efficiency Toilets



35% OFF
Save Money, Save Water
\$150 Rebate

(925) 735-1400 500 Bollinger Canyon Way, San Ramon

AFFORDABLE HOME REPAIRS

- Carpentry • Electrical •
 - Drywall Repairs/Texturing •
 - Tile • Crown Molding •
- www.A-ZCompleteHomeRepairs.net
925-989-6179 / 510-733-5582

NASTY GROUT

"MAGICALLY RESTORED"

Tired of Moldy, Missing, Dirty, Cracked
Grout? We will Clean, Seal, Repair, Re-
Grout, Change Grout Color, Re-Caulk
and Eliminate Mildew.

FREE ESTIMATES

10% OFF YOUR JOB WITH THIS AD

GROUT WIZARD®
(925) 866-5000

OVERHEAD STORAGE

48" x 48"

\$200 Installed

Holds 250 lbs., Over 35 cubic feet,
White steel rack

GARAGE FUSION
925-735-1900

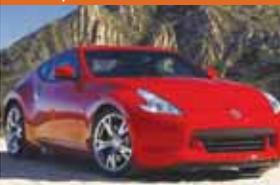
Fresh news delivered
directly to your inbox



This week's top stories & hot picks

Automotive Sales

Alamo, CA 888.830.8722



**Guaranteed
Lowest Prices**

One call is all it takes to buy
any new car for the lowest price
in the market. Guaranteed.



www.InsideTrackAuto.com

Personal Training



Are YOU ready to
be a CrossFit hero?

www.CrossFitSR.com • (925) 457-4587

WEIGHT LOSS
SECRETS...

REVEALED.
CALL FOR YOUR
FREE REPORT
925-457-4587
FITNESS BOOT CAMP
WWW.CONTRACOSTABOOTCAMP.COM

Accounting/Bookkeeping

**NEED HELP
WITH QUICKBOOKS?**

No job too big or too small!!!
Over 23 years experience
in all aspects of bookkeeping.

Call Linda 925.918.2233

Pet Care/Grooming/Training



Accommodating
Healthy and Special
Needs Pets

Furry Friends

Pet Sitting Services

Trained professional, daily visits,
basic home care, reliable & caring.

Call Monika Harris 417-0424

Registered Veterinary Nurse www.furryfriends.tv

Computers

Computer Help
Tri-Valley PC MEDIC

2007-08 Pleasanton Weekly

"Best Computer Repair"

2006 Diablo Magazine

"Best of the East Bay"

Ken Cook

"I Make House Calls!"

Tune-up/Repair/Upgrade/Training

More info/rates: www.trivalleypcmedic.com

M-F 8a-8p / Wknds & Hols 9a-6p

Lic #011068 - PCC, PDA & BBB

Call 485-9040 or 989-7722

Pool Services

**PLEASANTON
POOL CENTER**

10% OFF

Next Purchase

Some restrictions apply. Exp 7-5-09.

5513 Sunol Blvd.

925.846.2789

PleasantonPoolCenter.com

REAL ESTATE



**Tony
Leavens**

REALTOR®

Hometown

GMAC Real

Estate

direct: 925-426-3886

cell: 925-487-1427

e-mail: mrtonyleavens@msn.com

www.tonyleavens.com

INVESTMENT REAL ESTATE COMPANY

Residential Sales
Income Properties • 1031 Exchanges
Land & Development

Mike Carey, Broker

925.963.0569 Cell



Mike Fracisco

REALTOR®

Fracisco Realty & Investments

Residential, Commercial

& Property Management

direct: 925-998-8131

www.MikeFracisco.com

Fresh news delivered
directly to your inbox



This week's top stories & hot picks

Get your news delivered
directly to your inbox

introducing



Top stories & hot picks

express is a weekly update from the Pleasanton Weekly delivered via e-mail every
weekday morning.

express provides the perfect quick-read digest of local news and events in Pleasanton from
the last week to the next. And all without any environmental impact.

You will want **express** in your e-mail inbox every Wednesday
and Friday morning.

**Pleasanton Weekly.com offers 24/7 coverage
of everything local:**

- breaking news
- searchable restaurant and movie reviews
- conversations among community members on Town Square
- and much more.

Sign up to try **express** at
www.PleasantonWeekly.com



Call (925) 600-0840 to learn
about advertising options
in Express.



751 General



Contracting

MAHDevelopment.com
Remodeling/Room Additions/Custom
Homes/Outdoor Kitchens/Sunrooms/
Retractable Screens/Windows/Doors/
Garage Improvements - Calif Licensed
General Contractor (Lic #913049). 20
years experience. Member BBB, NARI &
NKBA. Free estimates!
Call 925-580-1673

757 Handyman/ Repairs

Calhoun Construction

759 Hauling

Hauling & Tree Service
Yard & Garage Clean-Up, Dump Runs
Appl & Furn Removal, Tree & Shrub
Trim And Removal
Tree Experts! Low Rates/Free Est
925-899-5655

761 Masonry/Brick



**BRIAN KELLER CONCRETE/
MASONRY**
Concrete, Brick, Block, Stone. Beautiful
Workmanship Licensed
925-846-1193

771 Painting/ Wallpaper

JOE'S PAINTING & HANDYMAN
Free Est. / Reasonable Prices
No Job Too Small!!!
925-200-7333 Lic#624542

801 Apartments/ Condos/Studios

Dublin, 2 BR/2 BA - \$1675
Dublin, 2 BR/2 BA - \$1550
Dublin, 2 BR/2 BA - \$1555
Pleasanton, 1 BR/1 BA - \$719-928
Pleasanton, 1 BR/1 BA - \$995
Pleasanton, 2 BR/1 BA - \$1300/mont
Pleasanton, 2 BR/2 BA - \$1195
San Ramon, 1 BR/1 BA - \$972/month

805 Homes for Rent

Pleasanton, 4 BR/2.5 BA - \$2195
Pleasanton, 4 BR/2.5 BA - \$2195

809 Shared Housing/ Rooms

ALL AREAS - RENTMATES.COM
Browse hundreds of online listings with
photos and maps. Find
your roommate with a click of the
mouse! Visit: http://www.Rentmates.
com. (AAN CAN)

Room for Rent
Great Location
Looking for F to share 3 Bd rm
2 bath w/ pool & housekeeper
1/3 utilities
925-735-1985

825 Homes/Condos for Sale

Foreclosed Home Auction
Northern California. 1000 Homes Must
Be Sold! REDC / Free Brochure: 1-800-
653-7072. www.USHomeAuction.com
(Cal-SCAN)

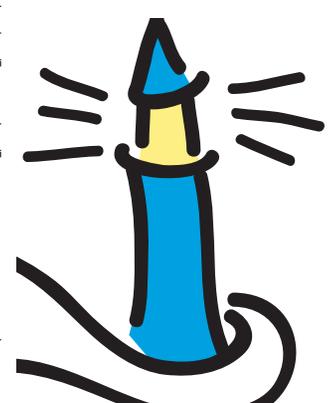
Danville, 5+ BR/3 BA - \$999,000
Pleasanton, 5+ BR/4+ BA -
\$2,995,000

850 Acreage/Lots/ Storage

Arizona Land
Big Lots. \$0 Down, \$0 Interest. Best
Land, Best Terms Nationwide. Guaranteed
Financing. Starting \$129/mth. Total
\$14,995. www.sunsiteslandrush.com
Pre-Recorded Message 1-800-631-8164
mention code CALPRESS. (Cal-SCAN)

New Mexico - Buyer's Market
Ranch Dispersal. 140 acres - \$89,900.
River Access. Northern New Mexico.
Cool 6,000' elevation with stunning
views. Great tree cover including
Ponderosa, rolling grassland and rock
outcroppings. Abundant wildlife, great
hunting. EZ terms. Call NML&R, Inc.
1-866-360-5263. (Cal-SCAN)

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



ON THE TOWN



AMERICAN

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.

Eddie Papa's American Hangout
4889 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 469-6266. Winner of The Pleasanton Weekly's Reader Choice Awards for "Best American Food Restaurant" and "Best Meal under \$20", Eddie Papa's American Hangout celebrates the regional food and beverage cultures of America. Bring the whole family to enjoy iconic dishes from across the United States, Old World Hospitality, and hand crafted artisan cocktails.

www.eddiepapas.com
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.

BARBECUE

Red Smoke Grill
4501 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 734-0307. Home of the Tri Tip and Blue, Red Smoke Grill was Voted Reader's Choice Best 2006, 2007, 2008. 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.

BREW PUB/ALEHOUSE

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

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

CATERING

Fontina's Catering
349 Main St., Downtown Pleasanton,

462-9299. Fontina Ristorante's award-winning menu can now be delivered to your home or office. Our lunch and dinner specialties feature homemade soups and pastas, premium seafood and meats, and a vegetarian menu. Now accepting reservations for holiday parties.

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.

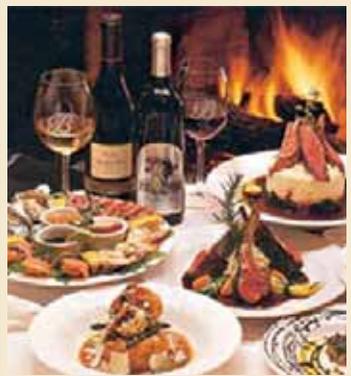
CONTINENTAL

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

MEDITERRANEAN

Oasis Grille
780 Main St., Pleasanton, 417-8438. Visit downtown Pleasanton's exotic dining destination. Oasis features kabobs,

Barone's Restaurant



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



BEST OF PLEASANTON 2007



READERS CHOICE 2008

"Most Romantic Restaurant"

Come Taste Our New Lunch & Dinner Entrees

475 Saint John | Pleasanton | 426-0987

\$5 FRIDAYS

- \$5 Selected Appetizers
- \$5 Super-sized Beers
- \$5 Well Drinks

\$2 Tuesdays!

\$2 Tacos and \$3 House Beers



PLEASANTON'S ONLY BREW-PUB!

LIVE MUSIC...Every Friday & Saturday

462-8218 • 830 Main St. • www.mainstbrewery.com

Hopyard! Give me the Diablo

Now this is a true winner of Best of Pleasanton! Burgers like the Diablo (beef) are where it's at!

[READ MORE/COMMENT](#)

Town Square Forum

PLEASANTON WEEKLY .COM

RED SMOKE GRILL





READERS CHOICE 2008



BEST OF PLEASANTON 2007



BEST OF PLEASANTON 2006

Family Meals To Go

Meals include four corn muffins and two large sides.

Rotisserie Chicken	\$16.99
Tri-Tip	
1 1/2 pound	\$25.99
2 pound	\$29.99
Slab-and-a-Half of Ribs	\$28.99
One Pound Tri-Tip and Whole Chicken	\$32.99
Full Slab of Ribs & Whole Chicken	\$32.99
One Pound Tri-Tip and Whole Slab	\$36.99

Sides

Small Side Salad	
French Fries	
Roasted Corn Salad	
Potato Salad	
Creamy Cole Slaw	
Santa Maria Style Beans	
Chicken Tortilla Soup	
Mashed Potatoes	

4501 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton
734-0307
Open daily from 11am
www.redsmokegrill.com





- Catering Service
- Take Out Menu

La Vite

RESTORANTE



READERS CHOICE 2008

Open for Lunch and Dinner Best Italian Restaurant!

With combination of an elegant Banquet room and charming wine bar ideal for rehearsal dinners, bridal showers, company parties or special occasion you are celebrating.

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

925-485-4500
www.LaViteRestaurant.com

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



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

ON THE TOWN



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

ITALIAN

Amarone Ristorante

680 Main St, Downtown Pleasanton, 270-0500. Cucina Italiana! Freshly prepared authentic Italian specials on a full-course menu that changes often! A special Vegetarian and Vegan menu also. Owner Matteo Pasotto is from Verona and he wanted to name his restaurant after the famous Amarone wines from the Valpolicella region. Amarone is a very peculiar wine, not easy to produce. The final result is a very ripe, big-bodied wine with very little acid. Come and experience unique dining at Amarone Ristorante. Buon Appetito!
www.amaronepleasanton.com

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.

PIZZA

Gay Nineties Pizza Co.

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

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

SHISH KABOBS . EXOTIC CHAMPAGNE COCKTAILS . PATIO DINING

Tempt your palate with our juicy kabobs, rice dishes, & vegetarian dishes!

fiery
hot
exotic

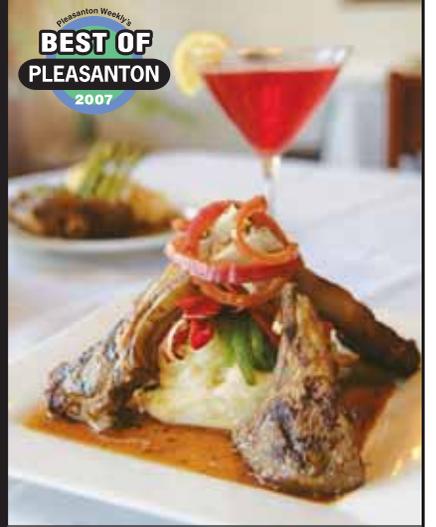
Venture to the Exotic Mediterranean

Oasis
grille & wine lounge

50% OFF 2nd Entree
Exp. 4-19-09

925. 417. 8438

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



AMBER BISTRO

NEW! Bar Menu & House Infused Cocktails
Large Selection of Wines by the Glass or Flight

Lunch Monday — Friday

Make a Reservation at amberbistro.com

500 Hartz Avenue | 925.552.5238

Check out

PLEASANTON
WEEKLY
.COM

every day

yolatea
frozen yogurt • gelato • pearl tea

Small treats, big choices!

Now Open

Downtown Pleasanton!
(Main Street and Division Street)

600 Main St. #F, Pleasanton
925-271-7708

www.yolatea.com

The Basil Leaf Café
Our favorite place.

Spaghetti & Meatballs Sunday

\$11 Adults / \$7 Kids

Includes House Salad, Bottomless Basket
of Homemade Bread and Kids Gelato

The Basil Leaf Café –
Dining Value in Danville

Make a Reservation at www.TheBasilLeafCafe.com

501 Hartz Ave., Danville
(925) 831-2828



THE
HOPYARD
AMERICAN ALEHOUSE & GRILL

30 BEERS ON TAP
Patio Now Open!

Most Menu Items
Under \$10

Join us for the
"Beer Drinker
Bailout Hour!"

\$1.50 Off
ALL Beers!

Sun-Thurs 4pm to 5pm

Pleasanton Weekly
READERS
CHOICE
2008

PLEASANTON
(925) 426-9600
3015-H Hopyard Road
www.hopyard.com

Easter Branch

 at


Sunday, April 12, 2009 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

- Fresh Squeezed Juice Station
- Fine Meat Carving Station
- Iced Seafood Station
- Specialty Brunch Items
- Seasonal Salad Station
- Housemade Dessert Station



Adults \$35 Seniors \$30 Children 6 - 12 \$15 Ages 5 & Under FREE
5121 hopyard road, pleasanton • 925.460.0444

www.fazrestaurants.com

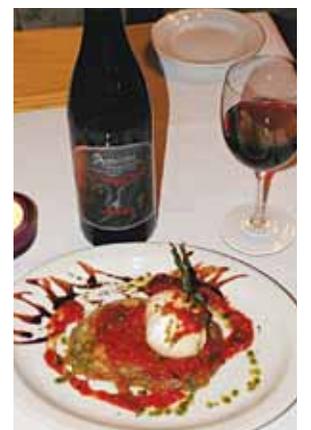
AUTHENTIC HOME-STYLE
ITALIAN REGIONAL CUISINE
WITH A REFINED FLAIR

AMARONE
cucina italiana

Amarone, in the finest tradition of Italian Trattorias, invites you to come and try our hand-made ravioli, slow braised osso buco on saffron risotto, home-made focaccia and all the offerings from our Florentine chef, Gianni.

270-0500 • 425-0099 • 680 Main St., Downtown Pleasanton

www.amaronepleasanton.com



Downtown Pleasanton
 55 West Angela #105
 925-484-1993
www.thrivingink.com

Bring this
 AD & get
15% off
 entire
 purchase
 (exp: 04-15-09)



THRIVING INK & CO.

Thriving Ink Tees
 Independent Brands
 Jewelry and Accessories
 Apparel - Art - Accessories

**Grand
 Opening**
 Friday, April 3rd - 10 a.m.

“We love coming to swim class...”

It's smiles all around at American Swim Academy where kids and adults of all ages and abilities come to improve their swim skills. Classes are available year-round, 7 days a week, in comfortable indoor pools where the water's a cozy 92 degrees.



Our Aqua Babies program for infants 6 months and older is a fun parent-participation class designed to make your child comfortable in the water and safe at pool-side.



We keep class sizes small - usually no more than 4 students per class - so every student receives personal attention. And our instructors are all fully trained and CPR certified!



LIVERMORE • DUBLIN
 FREMONT • NEWARK



From beginners to competitive swimmers, there's a perfect class for any ability.



Call or log-on today for more information!

New customers!
 Bring in this ad for a
FREE TRIAL CLASS

Some restrictions apply.
 Limited time offer.

1.800.810.SWIM www.AmericanSwimAcademy.com