

# Pleasanton Weekly

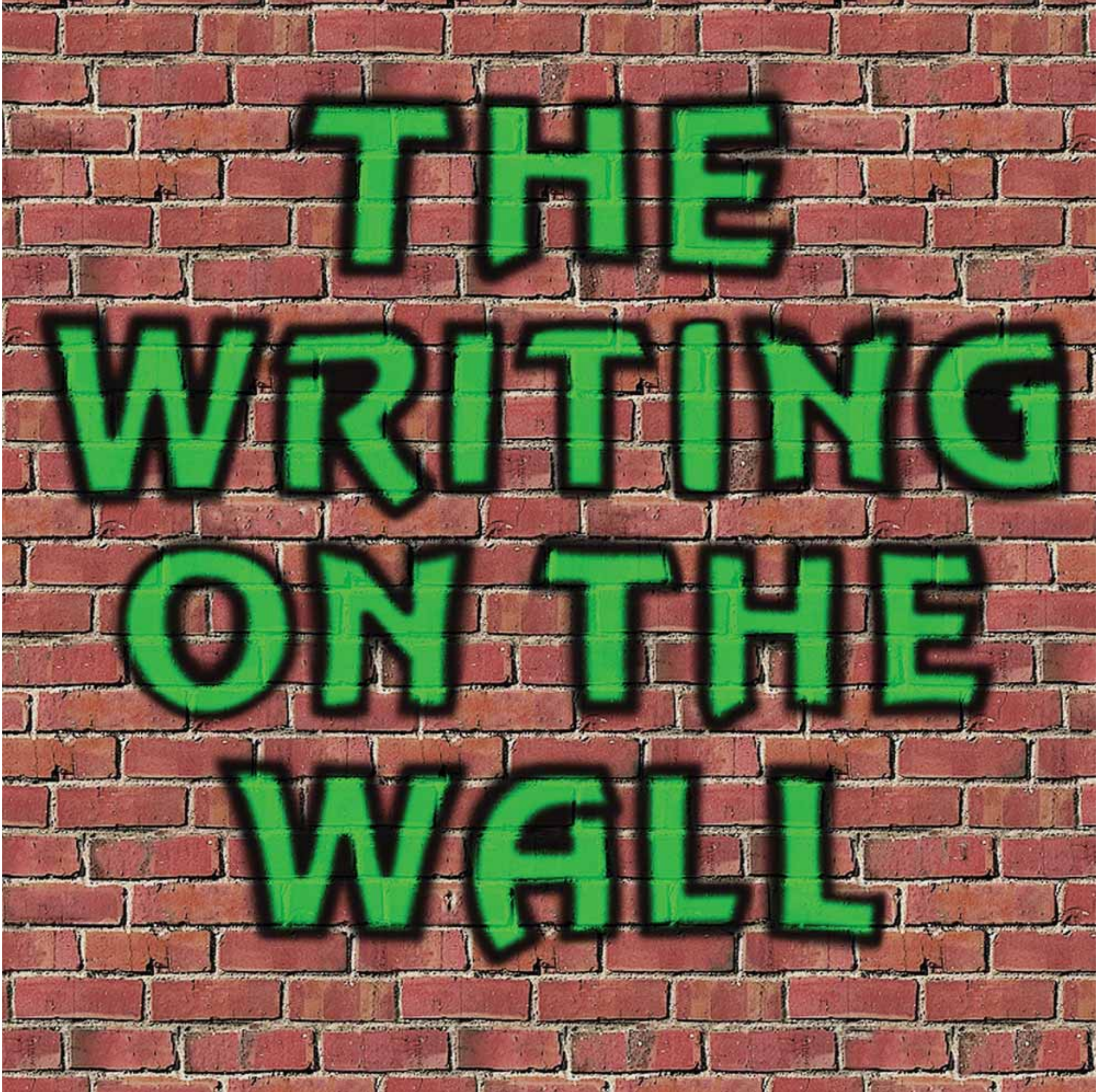
**Holidays on ice:** The City Council approves plan for downtown ice rink this winter **PAGE 5**

**Artful variety:** Worldwide mixed media art group hosts convention at the fairgrounds **PAGE 25**

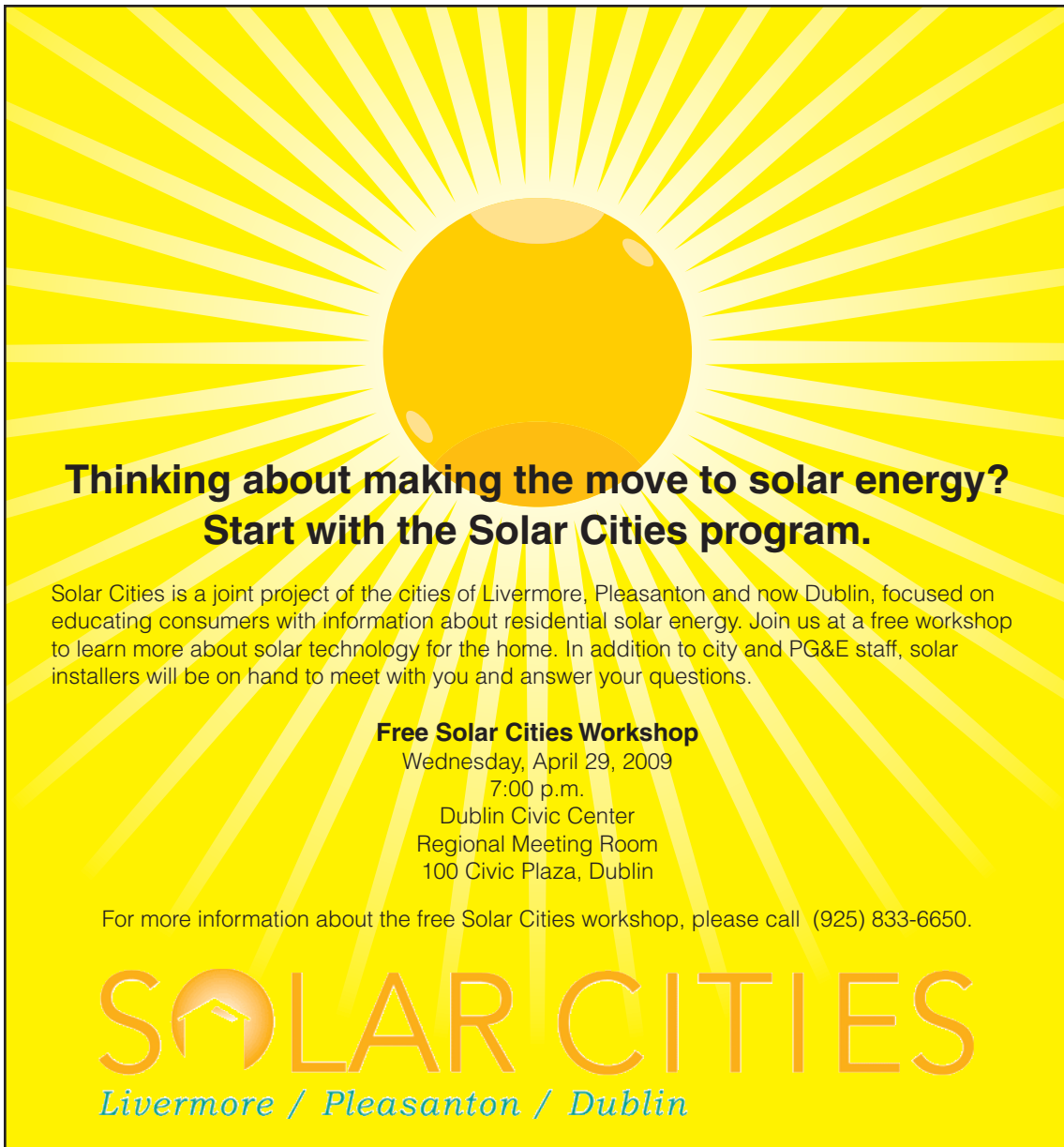
INSIDE

VOL. X, NUMBER 15 • APRIL 24, 2009

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How much does Pleasanton spend on removing graffiti, tags from public places? **PAGE 12**



**Thinking about making the move to solar energy?  
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# AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

## Lifetime achievement award goes to Ben Fernandez



MELANIE JAMES

Ben Fernandez thanks Chamber luncheon guests for special award.

Ben Fernandez won the Pleasanton Chamber's "Lifetime Achievement Award" earlier this year, and with good reason. At 78, he's still as active as ever, traveling the world with his wife Donna, 75. They've been married 52 years, have three daughters—Torri Savoff, Susan Beans and Julie Cooper, all graduates of Amador Valley High School—and seven grandchildren, including one starting college this fall.

Although still young at heart, Ben is regarded as one of Pleasanton's old-timers, moving here in the early 1970s when the city was still small, when Hopyard was a two-lane road leading to Hwy. 50, before the interstate was built. Ben and Donna moved into Birdland when the Morrison tract was new, and moved to a condominium in Jack London Square eight years ago when they decided to downsize their home.

Donna was born and raised in Oakland, Ben in Emeryville, so it was like going back home, although both spend much of their time with friends in Pleasanton. Even their doctors and dentists are here.

Ben was a longtime member of the Pleasanton Lions Club and served as its president for a time. He also was active with the Pleasanton Chamber and was its president in 1975. He also served on the Downtown Committee of the Chamber before there was a Pleasanton Downtown Association, and served on two general plan review committees in 1986 and 1993. BART to Dublin/Pleasanton had a champion in Ben in the 1970s before it came to the Tri-Valley. He also was a major force in the defeat of a referendum in 1980 against the development of Hacienda Business Park.

A friend of George A. Spiliotopolous, owner of the Cheese Factory who was killed in a traffic accident on Main Street, Ben help establish GASIT, the George A. Spiliotopolous Invitational Tournament, formed in memory of George, an organization that today is the largest contributor of scholarships to the Pleasanton Unified School District.

Growing up, Ben became a bleacher fan of the old Oakland Oaks baseball team and, over the years, has become a national

expert on the sport. That and his uncanny interest in old movies have made him a trivia expert on both topics.

Former mayor and now ValleyCare Health System vice president Ken Mercer, one of Ben's close associates, recalls having lunch with Fernandez at the Pleasanton Hotel when a long-since retired Oakland player came in and Ben identified him on sight, even telling him the teams he had played for and his batting averages.

His interest in trivia led him to assembling a team in Pleasanton to enter a national competition. The group went on to win the national championship. Another time, while visiting Cooperstown, he recognized another obscure player who had played only for the Oakland Oaks. Ben told him he was his favorite player and the two became friends. When the friend died, the Oaks player's widow asked Ben to deliver the eulogy. Sports Illustrated heard him speak and asked him to write about his recollections of baseball.

In Pleasanton, Fernandez campaigned for scores of political candidates he liked, but chose to stay out of politics himself. Instead, he devoted his days to selling insurance for the old firm of Cooper, McKenzie and Murphy.

A devoted father and husband, Ben sometimes forgets household duties. A regular sports commentator on a Monday night talk and call-in show on KNBR radio in San Francisco, he fielded a call from one woman who asked what day garbage was picked up in his neighborhood. Puzzled, he answered Tuesday mornings.

"Well, be sure to put the can out when you get home," said the caller, who was obviously Donna.

It's great when you're highly regarded as Pleasanton's best funny man to have a partner who can occasionally beat you to the punch line. ■

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## 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. Richard Patrick 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."

Richard would know, because his group has worked with over 1400 families in the last 11 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 Richard speak.

He is teaching his class 'How to Give Your Kid a 4-Year College Education Without Going Broke!' on Thursday April 30th at Round Table Pizza located at 3203 Crow Canyon Place, San Ramon, CA 94583 from 7:15 PM – 8:45 PM and Wednesday May 6th at Round Table Pizza located at 530 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566 from 7:15PM- 8:30PM .

"We'll discuss everything from the greatest myths about the college process, how to send your student to a fancy private school for less than the cost of a junior college plus how not to get punished for putting money away for college.

Topics will also include why private scholarships and 529 plans, UGMA's and UTMA's MAY be 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 May calendar is already filling up, so come on out and see us." You can reserve a seat online at [PayForCollegeNow.com/PW](http://PayForCollegeNow.com/PW) or by calling our 24 hour reservation line at (800) 676-0496 ext. 925

## About the Cover

In 2008, the city of Pleasanton spent \$50,000 to cover up graffiti on freeway soundwalls, buildings, signs and in public restrooms. Abatement can at times be a full-time job for police, the city's operations services center and code enforcement.

# Streetwise

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**In celebration of Earth Week, what should our government or communities do to address global warming?**



**Carlos Kozlowski**

We need to stop relying on the government and take matters into our own hands. Something as simple as recycling, using less water and turning the lights off is a good start for everybody to practice.

**Kelly Groth**

I think the current presidential administration is doing a better job than the last administration did in addressing global warming, however I don't like the fact that we're investing money in hybrids v. solar cars. We need to focus on going full green if we're going to make an impact in reducing global warming.



**Thomas Dorn**

Market Manager, City of Pleasanton

We need to promote buying our produce locally to help maintain the local economy and keep our California farmers in business. We are also urging people to bring their own bags when shopping versus using plastic bags. We have a booth at the Pleasanton Farmers' Market every weekend and we offer free bags.

**Rudy Vasquez**

I sell freshly picked strawberries at the Farmers' Market and I think people should buy locally grown produce in order to reduce fuel emissions. I also don't fumigate my crops, which helps the environment as well.



**Boni Brewer**

Public Relations Director, Zone 7 Water Agency

Global warming is causing our sea levels to rise which has an impact on our Delta levy system. The system is at risk of fracturing, which can harm our water supply due to the mixture of water coming from the Sierra and the salt water. People can help by being supportive to general fixes by backing the Bay Delta Conservation Plan, which addresses improvements.

—Compiled by Hillary Bessiere

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

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## DIGEST

### Cast your vote

In light of Mother's Day on May 10, the Pleasanton Weekly is hosting a mother-daughter look-alike contest. The editorial staff narrowed the submissions down to eight finalists and now readers can pick the winner at [www.pleasantonweekly.com](http://www.pleasantonweekly.com). The deadline to vote is midnight April 30 and the winners the May 8 print edition. The first and second place winners will receive gift certificates to local restaurants.

### Haugen award deadline

The Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative seeks nominations for the Juanita Haugen Community of Character Award by May 1. Established last year in honor of the late, longtime school board member, it recognizes residents who model high ethical and moral standards included in the character program: responsibility, compassion, self-discipline, honesty, respect and integrity. Nomination forms are available at the school district, 4665 Bernal Ave., the Chamber of Commerce, 777 Peters Ave., or at [www.communityofcharacter.org](http://www.communityofcharacter.org). Last year's winners include Lori Rice and Diana and Howard Mendenhall.

### Senior career help

Job Fair Plus, a free job fair focused on those ages 50 and older, will be held from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., May 1, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. It will include a keynote speaker and exhibitor hall for visitors to meet with area employers and volunteer agencies. For more information, call 931-5365.

### Lark in Orloff Park

Learn more about Orloff Park from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday with the Museum On Main's docent-led "Lark in the Park" program. Each month a different park is featured and participants can explore the local history of the area. The event includes snacks, a walk around the park, and crafts for children. Donations are accepted and photos of the park are \$5 for a glossy or \$1 for a photocopy. Yearly membership to the program is \$25 and includes a passport, binder and a photo of each park. Next month, the group will head to Kottinger Park. To learn more, call 462-2766 or visit [www.museumonmain.org](http://www.museumonmain.org).

### Corrections

In an April 17 letter to the editor, "Axis thanks community for Holiday Fund support," Carol Bedomme's title was misidentified. Bedomme is Axis' Development Director. Sue Compton is Axis' CEO.

## Council sets up \$1.2-million fund to help schools

By JEB BING

The City Council agreed Tuesday to loan up to \$1.2 million to the Pleasanton Unified School District. The revolving line of credit agreement was approved in a 4-0 vote, with Councilman Matt Sullivan recusing himself from the discussion and council vote because his wife is a school teacher in the district.

Emily Wagner, the city's fiscal officer, said the loan amount will come from excess funds currently in the city's investment portfolio. The agreement with the Pleasanton school district calls for these funds to continue to earn interest throughout the four-year duration of the revolving line of credit agreement.

She said that in 2002 and 2003, the school district issued approximately \$20 million in certificates of participation for the acquisition and construction of land and school improvements "for the betterment of the PUSD school facilities."

### 4-year agreement will cover downturn in developer fees used to fund annual debt service

The annual debt payments for these COPs are approximately \$1.2 million, and funds collected from development impact fees are used to fund the annual debt service on them.

"Over the past year, a downturn in the economy has impacted the amount of funds collected by the PUSD," Wagner said in a report to the council.

Former City Councilwoman Kay Ayala objected to the loan, arguing that the district's shortfall is the result of poor financial planning. She said that when money was coming into the district, it chose to build new facilities instead of paying off the COPs.

Ayala was the only speaker at the council's public hearing on its loan proposal.

The school district recently put an initiative on

the June 2 ballot, called Measure G, that would bring in just over \$4.5 million to the school district. The funds collected from the parcel tax, however, would not be able to pay off the debt service.

Instead, the ballot language states that only the following would be funded by a \$233 per parcel tax: class size reduction, reading and math support programs, libraries, music, counselors, technology instruction, music, and maintaining safe and clean schools.

Mayor Jennifer Hosterman said the loan would not negatively affect city services and offerings.

"It's one-time monies that the council identified and can be made available without dipping into city coffers," she said. "It's the city's opportunity to show people that we want to be supportive of our school district."

—Emily West contributed to this report.

Jeb Bing's wife works for the Pleasanton school district.



JANET PELLETIER

### Schwarzenegger visits Shaklee for Earth Day

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger paid a visit to nutritional supplement producer Shaklee Corp. Wednesday on a three-stop schedule for Earth Day festivities. The governor was joined by Dr. Wangari Maathai, a Nobel Peace Prize winner for her environmental work, and Shaklee CEO Robert Barnett. The three ceremoniously planted the one millionth tree as part of the Million Dreams Million Trees Campaign to raise awareness of global climate change by planting trees across North America. Mayor Jennifer Hosterman and her daughter Megan were in attendance.

## Golden Eagle wants Foothill lights back

It's taken nearly 20 years, but residents of the gated Golden Eagle community want their street lights back along Foothill Road.

The lights were first installed by the developer in the late 1980s when the subdivision was built. But homeowners complained that the lights were not in character with the rural nature of the development and, at the city's expense, they were removed.

Now the Golden Eagle Luxury Homeowners' Association reports that its members want the lights back to make Foothill Road safer

### Project will cost taxpayers \$40,000

and the roadway better lighted in front of their community. At a meeting requested by city representatives to determine that need, only 11 residents showed up in response to postcards mailed to 763 residents. In addition, city staff received seven emails and one phone call on the issue. Ten of those who attended the meeting favored putting the lights back up. Four who sent emails also favored

the plan; three opposed it. Most of the comments in favor of the street lights were concerned with animals crossing Foothill and cars nearly missing them in the darkness.

Most recently, however, city staff received a petition from one of the homeowners with 162 residents that signed the petition in favor of reinstalling the street lights.

The City Council agreed that lights are needed along this stretch of Foothill, where several nighttime accidents have occurred. It authorized \$40,000 for the rein-

See **LIGHTS** on Page 8

## Council OKs downtown ice rink for holidays

Skating to start Nov. 19 on facility near library

The City Council Tuesday night approved a five-year contract with a subsidiary of the San Jose Sharks to operate an outdoor ice skating rink near downtown during the Christmas holiday season, starting this November.

The agreement with San Jose Arena Management calls for the sports firm to design, build and operate the 14,000-square-foot rink, which for this year would be located in a section of the Pleasanton Library parking lot closest to Old Bernal Avenue.

Other sites are under consideration for subsequent years, including parking lots next to Round Table Pizza and the former, now-empty Domus store, both on Main Street. But so far, the owners of those properties have not agreed to allow the ice rink on those parcels.

Downtown merchants, led by Towne Center Books owner Judy Wheeler of the Pleasanton Downtown Association and Murphy's Paw on Main Street owner Melanie Sadek of the recently-organized Pleasanton downtown merchants' group, praised the council's action. They said the 20,000-30,000 skaters and their families who are projected to use the rink during the holiday season would help boost business at downtown restaurants, shops and services.

"We're committed to making this work," Sadek told the council. "As a business owner and mother, bringing the Sharks rink to downtown Pleasanton will be fantastic. The merchants will help make the

See **ICE RINK** on Page 6

## Shaklee bombing suspect named to FBI most wanted list

A North Bay man has been named to the FBI's most wanted terrorists list for the alleged animal rights-related bombings of two East Bay companies in 2003, including Pleasanton's Shaklee Corp.

Daniel Andreas San Diego, now 31, disappeared following the bombings on Aug. 28, 2003, of the Emeryville biotechnology firm Chiron Inc., and on Sept. 26, 2003, of the Pleasanton health and beauty products company Shaklee Corp.

No one was injured in the early-morning explosion at Chiron. A second bomb set to detonate an hour later was found and the area was cleared before it went off, according to the FBI. At Shaklee, a bomb wrapped in nails exploded but there were also no injuries. The FBI accused San Diego of planting all three bombs.

An animal rights group called the Revolutionary Cells took responsibility for both bombings at the time, claiming both companies

### Daniel Andreas San Diego, 31, not believed to be living in Bay Area

had business ties with another firm that tested product on animals. In a statement released this week, Shaklee said the nutritional products company has never done animal testing nor worked with other companies who have.

According to the FBI, San Diego professed to be active in the animal rights movement and had expressed extreme views about the use of violence in achieving the goals of the movement.

Charlene Thornton, special agent in charge of the FBI's San Francisco office, said San Diego's alleged actions had set an example to others in the animal rights movement, noting two August 2008 fire bombings in Santa Cruz by "individuals espousing similar beliefs."

A federal grand jury in 2004 indicted San Diego—who grew up in San Rafael and is the son of retired Belvedere City Manager Edmund San Diego—on two counts of destroying or attempting to destroy property with explosives and two counts of use of a destructive device in a crime of violence.

The FBI offered a \$250,000 reward in 2006

for information leading to his arrest. San Diego is only the second American to be named to the FBI's most wanted terrorists list, which includes Osama Bin Laden. The only other U.S. citizen is Adam Yahiyeh Gadahn, 30, also indicted in California for allegedly providing material support to Al Qaeda. Schadler said the decision to name San Diego a most wanted terrorist was intended to heighten the visibility of the case in order to locate him.

"We don't have any reason to believe he's still in the Bay Area," Schadler said.

The FBI said San Diego travels internationally and should be considered armed and dangerous. He wears eyeglasses and has several distinctive tattoos, including a circular one on his chest featuring burning hillsides and the words, "It only takes a spark." He is also a committed vegan, eschewing either eating or wearing animal products, the FBI said.

According to the FBI, San Diego graduated from San Rafael's Terra Linda High School, briefly attended Los Medanos College in Brentwood, lost a job at a high-tech company in February 2003, and later tried to launch a vegan bakery in Schellville in Sonoma County, but the business failed.

—Ari Burack, Bay City News



**Daniel Andreas San Diego** was indicted in 2004 on charges related to two East Bay bombings

## ICE RINK

Continued from Page 5

downtown part of the rink, possibly even using horse drawn carriages to transport families back and forth."

The agreement with SJAM was approved in a 4-1 vote with Councilman Matt Sullivan dissenting. He said that the proposed name of the rink--Sharks Holiday Ice--could sway public opinion when the firm's proposed two-story, four-rink ice arena on Staples Ranch comes before the council for approval.

"There's an inherent conflict of interest here," Sullivan said. "At the same time we're negotiating this ice rink downtown, which we want very much for our businesses, we are also negotiating an agreement for Staples Ranch. I can't keep them separate and this could, and probably will have a mitigating impact."

"While there are a lot of people who support it (the Staples Ranch ice rink), there are a lot of people who do not want the Sharks rink built on Staples and are very concerned about it. If we (the city) want to put this facility downtown on our own, I'd be willing to talk about it."

But Mayor Jennifer Hosterman and the three other councilmembers disagreed, calling the holiday outdoor ice skating rink good for Pleasanton residents and downtown businesses, especially at a time when restaurants and stores are feeling the effects of a slow economy.

City Manager Nelson Fialho said the nearest holiday season outdoor rinks are in Walnut Creek, which attracts as many as 40,000 skaters and their families each year, and in San Francisco and San Jose.

As proposed, the rink would open in mid-November and stay open through early January, with skating available from noon to 10 p.m. weekdays, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturdays, and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays.

The city will pay an estimated \$15,000 in up-front costs for electrical power, water and voice/data lines, including temporary signage, to be reimbursed by ticket sales and sponsorships arranged by SJAM.

—Jeb Bing



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## Debut on MLB mound

Foothill High grad Bradley Bergeson earns first win in start for Orioles

By JANET PELLETIER

Former Pleasanton resident Brad Bergeson made his first trip to the Major League Baseball mound Tuesday night, only allowing one earned run in 5-2/3 innings, elevating the Baltimore Orioles to a 10-3 win.

It was a shining moment for the 2004 Foothill High School graduate. The 6'2" right-hander may be pitching in the rotation for a while, replacing pitcher Alfredo Simon, who is out with an elbow injury.

Bergeson, 23, was drafted in 2004 in the fourth round by the Orioles.

Among those who watched the game was Kim Eppard, who coached Bergeson in pitching at Foothill and at The Pitching Center in Pleasanton, where Bergeson taught for two years.



Brad Bergeson

"He's a better person than he is a player, and he's a tremendous player," Eppard said. "On one level, he's very humble, very mannerly, gets along with everybody. On a second level, he's a very fierce competitor."

"With his talents, he outworked everyone in this area in high school," said Eppard, adding that Bergeson went 12-0 his senior year and hit in the .400 range as a lefty batter.

He'll likely have more competition in the major-leagues, Eppard said, but he does have tricks up his sleeve.

"He throws in the 80s and low 90s and really what makes it work for him is he's got good movement on his fastball," he said. "He's got a tremendous changeup and he's got a unique grip that he got from my fellow coach Jason Sekany, who also played pro ball."

Eppard said Bergeson married his wife Shea last October and the couple lives in Maryland.

"Now he's back East, so we're going to miss seeing him all the time, but it's a great story," Eppard said. "We've all got our fingers crossed that he's going to have himself a nice, long career in the major-leagues because it just couldn't happen to a nicer guy."

Angelo Scavone, who is head coach of Foothill's varsity baseball team, said he remembers Bergeson from his high school days fondly.

"It's pretty exciting," Scavone said. "I think it's the first big leaguer in the history of Pleasanton."

Scavone said he still talks to Bergeson, most recently seeing him a couple of times this past winter.

"He is the only player that I have coached that thanked the coaching staff after every practice before he left the field," Scavone said. "His dad built our snack bar for us on our varsity baseball field."

## John Madden retires, coming home to Pleasanton

Famed coach and sportscaster calls career in the NFL 'a great ride'

By JEB BING

Famed sportscaster and football coach John Madden will soon be coming home to Pleasanton to stay after his announcement Thursday that he plans to retire.

In a statement made to NBC Sports, Madden said:

"It's time. I'm 73 years old. My 50th wedding anniversary is this fall. I have two great sons and their families and my five grandchildren are at an age now when they know when I'm home and, more importantly, when I'm not.

"It's been such a great ride. The NFL has been my life for more than 40 years, it has been my passion, it still is.

"I appreciate all of the people who are and were such an important part of the most enjoyable, most fun anyone could have, that great life with the teams, the players, the coaches, the owners, the League, my broadcasting partners Pat (longtime broadcast partner Pat Summerall) and Al (game analyst Al Michaels), the production people and the fan is still great, it's still fun and that's what makes it hard and that's why it took me a few months to make a decision.

"I still love every part of it, the travel, the practices, the game film, the games, seeing old friends and meeting new people, but I know this is the right time."

It's not the first time Madden has announced his retirement. Madden led the Oakland Raiders to their first Super Bowl victory and retired in 1979, joining CBS later that year. Since then, he has won 16 Emmy Awards and became one of the most recognizable voices in television.

Madden and his wife Virginia are perhaps Pleasanton's most fa-

mous couple, due to his coaching of the Oakland Raiders and NFL broadcasting, not to mention his sports talk on KCBS and, of course, his "Madden NFL Football," the top-selling sports video game of all time.

The Maddens have contributed to the community in many ways since making it their home in 1967 and recently put much energy toward preserving an important piece of Pleasanton's past, the Augustine Bernal Adobe, an historic adobe against the foothills that has been a relaxing estate when he returns from grueling trips to the south, Midwest and East Coast during football season.

Madden traveled by bus to these locations because of a fear of flying. With San Francisco and Oakland often not hosting any Sunday night games, he can on the road and away from his family the entire season.

Virginia Madden discovered Pleasanton when they moved to the East Bay from San Diego when her husband began his pro career as a linebacker coach at Oakland. Two years later, he was named head coach at age 33, the youngest coach in what was then the American Football League.

"I got on the freeway in Hayward, went past Castro Valley and couldn't turn around," she recalled. She finally got off at Foothill Road.

"It's warmer over here," she realized.

Back then, their two sons Joe and Mike, now 45 and 43, were their main consideration in buying a home.

"We were looking at two houses," she said, and they chose the neighborhood with the most children. "I noticed tricycles that matched the size of ours."

After Joe and Mike were on their own, John and Virginia lived in Blackhawk for a few years, but when their sons returned to Pleasanton, they knew that was also where they wanted to be.

Now, with five grandchildren, the Maddens have a house to accommodate plenty of family, friends or fundraisers. They have hosted as many as 300 guests to benefit Pacific Vascular Research Foundation, a special cause of Virginia's. Their home also has been on tours to benefit local charities.

Madden told sports reporters that this will be his first season away from football since he was a freshman in high school.

Madden guided the Raiders to an overall record of 103-32-7, leading the team to seven AFC Western Division titles and a victory over the Minnesota Vikings in Super Bowl XI. His .750 winning percentage is the best of any head coach in NFL history.

Before coaching in Oakland, Madden was the defensive coord-

inator at San Diego State from 1964-66, where the Aztecs were ranked first among small colleges with a 26-4 record. From 1960-64, Madden coached at Hancock Junior College in Santa Maria, Calif.

Madden started on both the offensive and defensive lines as a player for California Polytechnic College at San Luis Obispo in 1957 and 1958 and was voted to the All-Conference team. He was also a catcher on the school's baseball team.

Madden earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 1959 and a Master of Arts degree in 1961, both from Cal Poly. The Philadelphia Eagles selected him in the 21st round of the 1958 NFL draft, but a knee injury in his rookie season prematurely ended his career.

Madden is the author of several New York Times best-selling books: "Hey, Wait a Minute! (I Wrote a Book!)," "One Knee Equals Two Feet (and Everything Else You Need To Know About Football)," "One Size Doesn't Fit All," and "All Madden," each written with New York Times sports columnist Dave Anderson. He also has written a cookbook titled "John Madden's Ultimate Tailgating."

Madden was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2006. ■



John Madden

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## Downtown

"it's a partnership - Part II"

Although solutions on how best to get there may differ, I appreciate the downtown property owner for entering into the debate regarding what's best for downtown Pleasanton (Letter to the Editor, 4-17-09). Regardless of one's view, citizen involvement is vital to success. The owner's argument against rules and regulations downtown appear built upon the premise that individual owners should make their own decisions and that wealth is the measure of success. On the other hand, New York Planner, Norman Mitz wrote "A downtown is only the synergy of its parts. The parts cannot be isolated. The whole is enhanced by each of its parts, and those parts must relate and connect to make a downtown a whole."

Personally, I look at it this way. History has shown that when individuals unite as one group or one state or one country, rewards and wealth usually follow. Therefore in a real sense, both the planner and the property owner are correct—it's a partnership! And any path leading towards success—and value in this three-way partnership for both the downtown property owners and the downtown business owners should lead to the wants and wishes of the third partner—which are the citizens of Pleasanton and the one with the money. And, history has also shown that individuals work better together when there are clear rules and a firm belief that all those affected will be treated equally and with respect—two pieces of a puzzle that are essential to any partnership yet appears to be missing from downtown's recent history.

—Robert W. Byrd

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# TAKE US ALONG



**Run for the border:** Kyra, Richard, Reinhard, Elsa and Barbara Schwaninger visited family in Austria and went on this eight-hour hike in the southern part of Karinthia, a trail that goes up to the highest peak in the Karawanken Mountains, Hochstuhl. They're standing at the Slovenian border crossing.



**Weekly lineage:** Maya and Alexander Cobb, 12 and 10, traveled with their parents to Ireland to learn where some of their relatives came from. Here they are—with the Weekly of course—in front of the Kilkenny Castle.



## Do you know these people?

A family treasure chest may have accidentally been donated to the Hospice Thrift Shoppe in Dublin. While it may not be filled with gold or gemstones, its contents are likely very valuable to someone. Robin Noble works at the shop in Dublin and said she found a suitcase filled with photos of a Jewish family, many that date before the Holocaust and even back to the 1800s. Noble said the couple looks familiar to her and the staff, but they can't seem to make a connection. She hopes that the photo of an elderly couple could lead a family member back to the Dublin Hope Hospice store and claim the visual family history. Anyone knows the couple or has more information is encouraged to call Noble at 875-9976 or visit the Hospice Boutique Thrift Shoppe at 7381 Amador Valley Blvd. in Dublin.

## LIGHTS

Continued from Page 5

stallation. Since the electrical work and concrete standards were left in place, only the poles and lights must be replaced.

Some residents and council members suggested lowering the standard illumination to soften the glow, but state standards require regular lights similar to those at other locations.

A total of 18 street lights will be installed, although three at the southern end of the Foothill frontage may be kept off the list as the request of homeowners whose properties actually front on Foothill.

The street lights will be similar in spacing, height and wattage to the existing street lights on Foothill Road between Bernal Avenue and Raccoon Hollow Court.

—Jeb Bing

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# Police officers association to hold memorial run

Shadow Cliffs run, barbecue to aid survivors of slain law enforcement members

By JANET PELLETIER

The California Peace Officers Association will hold an inaugural memorial run and barbecue May 9 at Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area to honor the more than 150 officers who are killed in the line of duty each year and their survivors.

It was just an unfortunate coincidence that the run was being planned as four Oakland police officers were gunned down last month in the deadliest police shooting in California history. Among those slain was Sgt. Mark Dunakin, 40, who grew up in Pleasanton and graduated from Foothill High School in 1987.

The family-oriented event is being held during National Police Memorial Week to honor peace officers who have fallen in the line of duty. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Northern California Chapter of COPS (Concerns of Police Survivors), an organization whose sole mission is to assist with rebuilding the lives of surviving family members and affected co-workers of law enforcement officers killed.

"(The Oakland incident) truly underscores the need for the resources COPS provides these families," said Lt. Mike Elerick, a Pleasanton police officer and chair of CPOA Region II.

COPS' Northern California chairwoman is Tammy Monego, who knows first-hand what it's like to be a survivor. She is the wife of John Monego, who was an Alameda County Sheriff's deputy killed at the Dublin Outback Steakhouse in 1998. Dunakin's widow, Angela Schwab, was held hostage at the Outback robbery.

Elerick said Outback has been a large supporter of law enforcement since the incident and will be catering the barbecue at the May 9 event, following the run. Several local restaurants such as Redcoats, Cold Stone Creamery, spas and the Callippe Preserve Golf Course have donated items for the raffle. Members of the Pleasanton Police Department will be running in the event, including Officer Joe Leonardo and his three kids, who asked to race in honor of the two

Oakland SWAT officers killed last month.

The event will feature a 5K, 10K, and a Kid's Fun Run and all participants receive a t-shirt, as well as a chance to win raffle prizes. Trophies will be awarded to the top overall male and female runners, with medals to the top three runners in each age division. Run entrants will receive one meal ticket and additional meals may be purchased for \$10 for adults and \$7 for children ages 12 and under.

The deadline to pre-register is May 6 and forms are available on line at [www.onyourmarkevents.com](http://www.onyourmarkevents.com). Local businesses who would like to donate a raffle prize or those looking for more information can call Elerick at 353-0406. ■

## Woman dies after crash injury

3-car collision caused by Danville teen, CHP says

By EMILY WEST

Margarita Ghavami, a 68-year-old Pleasanton resident, died April 10 after being injured in a three-car collision April 5 in San Ramon.

California Highway Patrol Officer Steve Creel said Ghavami was a passenger in the rear driver's side of a 2001 BMW that was struck when a 16-year-old Danville boy allegedly lost control of a 2009 Ford Mustang turning right on a two-lane country road in San Ramon near Windemere Parkway. The Mustang then crossed the double-yellow line and hit the BMW as well as a 1997 Ford Expedition.

Ghavami was said to have fallen out of the car and was not wearing

a seat belt, according to Creel. She was transported to Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley where she reportedly died of head trauma.

Investigators said drugs and alcohol were not involved in the crash, but Creel said the death has caused them to reopen the investigation, which may lead to charges for the driver of the Mustang.

Passengers in the BMW and Expedition were taken to Eden, Highland Hospital in Oakland and ValleyCare Medical Center in Pleasanton for complaints of pain. The Mustang's driver, as well as a 15-year-old passenger, were transported by helicopter to John Muir Medical Center in Walnut Creek. ■



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# Opinion

## EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

### Is commercial zoning losing out to private schools, music studios?

Pleasanton's zoning and land use controls apparently aren't keeping up with changes in the city's mix of commerce, industry, private schools and the arts. In February, the City Council denied an appeal of a Planning Commission decision and allowed the Little Ivy League School to continue its operations at a new location in the Hacienda Business Park. School founder and Principal Jennifer Zheng said the school, which has 90 students, had lost its lease on a Stoneridge Drive location where it had been permitted to operate since opening in 2005. The new location, approved in a 3-2 vote by the council, is at 5925 W. Las Positas Blvd., in a former commercial building that has since become the home of the Korean Presbyterian Church. Little Ivy provides tutoring on a variety of English and mathematics subjects but with a special focus on Chinese language and culture.

Councilmembers Cindy McGovern and Matt Sullivan voted against granting Little Ivy a conditional use permit to open at the new location. Calling Little Ivy a school, not just a tutorial center, McGovern said she would reconsider the application once the school had a child care license, apparently not required of tutors. Sullivan said the city needs to rewrite its guidelines for tutorial schools of this type that are really functioning as child care centers. Former Planning Commissioner Anne Fox, who appealed the commission's approval, said preschools and day care centers of this type need to meet the state licensing requirements that include thorough background checks. Others questioned the wisdom of adding yet another school, day care center or cultural center in Hacienda Business Park, facilities that pay no business taxes or generate other revenue for the city of Pleasanton.

This past Tuesday, again in a 3-2 vote with McGovern and Sullivan dissenting, the council voted to reject another appeal of a Planning Commission decision, this one by Chris Studzinski, owner of Progressive Concepts Machining at 1236 Quarry Lane in the Valley Business Park. Studzinski had objected without success to a conditional use permit requested by Rimma Radayeva to expand the music studio she owns and operates in the building next door at 1228 Quarry Lane. Radayeva, a career music professional, opened her studio three years ago, with a permit for one-on-one piano lessons. Over time, she has increased the number of instructors from one to five, purchased five baby grand pianos for her studio, and has added half an hour to her studio time, now offering instruction from 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Studzinski said that when he moved his machining business to Valley Business Park years ago, it was primarily an industrial/manufacturing district with each building site required to have ample off-street parking for its customers and employees. He said the park's own requirements prohibit on-street parking, although he's now often confronted with cars parked in front of his building, sometimes at the end of a driveway and even in his own parking lot. Besides Radayeva's studio patrons, at least one other music studio—Mark Anderson's New World Music Academy—as well as Quarry Lane School and the Pump It Up children's activity center are nearby. Studzinski says his firm contributes significantly to the local economy. But now when prospective tenants look at the area, they see unsupervised children running through parking lots and parents waiting in cars. Some prospects, he told the council, look for other sites more suitable for small manufacturing businesses.

With new business park opportunities increasingly limited as Pleasanton nears buildout, it's time for city planners to take a fresh look at commercial and other uses in these special districts to clarify who can operate in them, making a special effort to keep and attract tax revenue generating businesses while gradually weaning out non-profits and private schools to sites that offer better compatibility to the arts.

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By STEVE BROZOSKY

# LETTERS

## Thanks for mommy jewelry column

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the amazing article, ("Mommy jewelry? Now I know!") Around Pleasanton, April 3, page 3).

It was funny and informative and we appreciate the endorsement. My grandma was brought to tears by the mention of her late husband as support to our success and says, "Thank you for such a sweet article." We here at Swank will be sure to frame it in our offices/playrooms. Thanks, again, Jeb. It was great talking to you.

**Erin Costello-Buck**

## Why is it that only the left can be offended?

Dear Editor,

How can we renounce Nazism or communism without offending Nazis and commies?

Ahmadinejad advocates wiping Israel off the map. Renounce him and you are branded Islamophobic.

Criticize a woefully unprepared novice-president, who ignorantly criticizes our country on foreign soil, and you'll be labeled as bigots. Place any blame on Barney Frank for Freddie and Fannie and you are homophobic. Criticism of Hillary, Nancy, Barbara, Janet or Michelle makes you misogynistic pig.

I can't come to grips with the phenomenon that only the left can be offended, when it is the left that denigrates Judeo-Christian-American values.

Liberal (progressive?) leaders live to be offended victims. But, it is their attempt to subvert our Constitution that is offensive. Republican leaders have failed to live up to party principles. We are facing an unprecedented assault on our values, economy and institutions. Open your windows and shout, "I'm mad as hell and I'm not going to take it anymore!" as Peter Finch did in Network.

Crack the sound-proof dome shrouding elected officials and insist upon sending limits, no new taxes, no revocation of past reductions, a definition and elimination of earmarks, enforcement of immigration laws and a commitment to the defeat of fascist Muslim terrorists everywhere.

**Bill Eastman**

(Pleasanton Police Chief 1981-2000)

## Garbage service was better before

Dear Editor,

The customers of Pleasanton Garbage Service (PGS) should be outraged that the Pleasanton City Council should try to impose a change in our garbage service and the way a private company is operated.

The company provides a service to its customers and I for one want the existing recycling program. Yes, maybe it could be improved, but you don't start some-

thing new without first working with what you have. Does anyone use that little green plastic container (it was intended for food scraps) that Pleasanton's mayor is so proud to bring to our city? No. I don't know anyone who ever used it. It made great pail for the kids.

The Pleasanton City Council needs to solve city problems and stop imposing itself on the private citizens and their garbage company PGS. We all just need to more mindful of what we use and reduce the amount of disposables.

**Michelle Seabrook**

## Bravo to new yogurt shop

Dear Editor,

It is not a bank, beauty parlor or Italian restaurant. Pleasanton takes a step in the right direction. At least to my understanding, and I need to say something positive sometimes.

The new yogurt/ice cream parlor is my favorite place. It is affordable, it is hospitable and you can actually enjoy a \$2 treat sitting in a place with a very nice ambience. Thank you city of Pleasanton for allowing something this pleasant to move into our downtown.

**Martina Harrison**

## Educate our future workforce, support

Dear Editor,

For a second, let's get beyond local politics (and the need to get elected), blogs that border on the asinine (where did all the vicious anger come from?), distorting facts and numbers, and attempting to criticize current administration and teachers for factors out of their control.

Any surprise that many other East Bay districts are being forced to cut millions from their budgets as well? In Time Magazine the U.S. ranked 25th in math performance by 15-year olds, 15th in reading—not exactly leading the pack nor creating a workforce prepared for that new global economy (it's already here).

It's our choice people; we can let our excellent schools, after years of building programs and competencies, take a huge step back in terms of delivering a quality education to our children or pay a small price (\$233) to ensure seven critical initiatives that directly benefit our students including class size reduction, reading specialists, technology, library and counseling remain in place (while maintaining our kids global competitiveness).

Seriously Pleasanton, see the bigger picture and get past issue distortion and petty sniping about car allowances and cell phones. The educational community is making sacrifices—it's time for our community to support them as well.

**Ennis Pipe**

# GUEST OPINION

## Wrong tax, wrong time

During the 17 years my daughters have attended Pleasanton schools, I have volunteered over 1,000 hours in classrooms, computer labs, sports, dances and senior activities. I spent 18 months on the school board and four years on the city/school district liaison committee. I believe this demonstrates my commitment to the Pleasanton school system.

I have spent a lot of time looking at the school parcel tax on the June 2 ballot and I regret to say that I cannot support this tax at this time. While I am dedicated to our schools, I believe adding a tax should be a last resort. The school board's first objective should be to curtail expenses. The top items of concern to me are:

1. The district will be giving \$15 million in raises during the four years of this proposed tax. The economy is in bad shape. Many in our own community are taking pay cuts or losing their jobs. That is reality. It does not seem reasonable for the district to ask taxpayers for \$18 million over four years and during that same time give out \$15 million in raises.

2. The district is rushing the community toward a parcel tax before knowing how much local support, if any, may be needed. We will be receiving \$2.1 million from the federal stimulus package, and we are also eligible for additional federal money intended to prevent layoffs caused by state cuts.

3. PUSD's management team is the only local district to have enjoyed the luxury of raises in these difficult times. Two years ago, the

PUSD board (myself included) was asked to approve a pay increase for the management team between 4.12 percent and 5.12 percent in order to keep PUSD salaries competitive with surrounding districts. Although the economy was starting to show signs of trouble, the raises were approved. A few weeks later, the state announced that raises were to be frozen unless required by contract. Other districts had not raised salaries. PUSD's management raises should be rolled back before other budget cuts.

4. The PUSD management team's auto allowances should be eliminated. While most companies have cut fringe benefits entirely, PUSD's management team continues to enjoy individual car allowances as large as \$1,000 per month. This \$120,000 per year budget item could pay the salary of two starting teachers. Which do you think is more important for your child's education?

While times are tough, the Pleasanton school district continues to receive significantly more money per student than San Ramon (a comparable, high-performing district), even after accounting for their parcel tax.

I find it disturbing that the district is holding a special election in June instead of the already scheduled election in May. This special, single-item election will cost the taxpayers around \$300,000, enough to pay the salary of five teachers.

I support Pleasanton schools and our teachers, but I cannot support this parcel tax. It is the wrong tax, at the wrong time. For more information on the parcel tax, visit [www.PleasantonParcelTaxInfo.com](http://www.PleasantonParcelTaxInfo.com).

*Steve Brozosky, a local businessman, stepped down last year as a member of the Pleasanton school board. Previously, he served for four years on the Pleasanton City Council.*



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Sam Morris, a maintenance worker for the city of Pleasanton, uses an airless spray rig, the same rig used to paint curbs, stripe streets and parking lots, to cover up fresh graffiti along the Alamo Canal Trail last Friday.

# THE WRITING ON THE WALL

How much does Pleasanton spend on removing graffiti, tags from public places?



An airless spray rig is the tool workers at the city's operations services center use to cover up taggings. The rig uses reclaimed paint, shown above with the rig, which costs \$35 for five gallons as opposed to \$130 for new paint.

By JANET PELLETIER

Not a day goes by in Pleasanton that someone doesn't discover graffiti scribed on a freeway underpass, stop sign, railroad boxcar or the side of a building. This city has nowhere near the amount of tags as San Jose or Oakland, but did you know that last calendar year, Pleasanton spent \$50,000 covering up graffiti?

The markings are the work of what Chris Rizzoli describes as "gangs and wannabe gangs." Rizzoli is supervisor at the city support services department, which handles everything from sign installation to curb painting on city streets.

The city has a 48-hour policy on tagging: meaning crews will try in earnest to remove it in two days or less.

Residents may or may not believe these spray-painted markings are really a nuisance in town. It's not uncommon for the city to clean up graffiti before much of the public has seen it.

"It's hopefully seamless, so it's gone before people even notice it," Rizzoli said.

There's a system in place for tackling the vandalism and it includes teamwork between the city streets crew, the Pleasanton Police Department and sometimes, the city's code enforcement team. It typically starts with the Graffiti Hotline—phone number 931-5245. Residents can leave messages detailing the time and a detailed location of the markings. The messages are checked at the police department, where reports are generated. The reports go out to different agencies depending on where the vandalism occurred.

On a building? It goes to the city facilities maintenance crew, where any of 10 people can be called for the cleanup. On street signs, bridges or freeway overpasses? It goes to the city sign and marketing division, which has a crew of five people who can respond. On park play structures? The city's parks and community services department is dispatched. On businesses? In the case of private property, such as buildings owned by businesses, the reports are forwarded to each property owner, who is held responsible for cleaning it up. The city will also forward reports on other private property owned by the railroad, homeowners' associations and Zone 7 Water Agency. Jurisdictional issues are sometimes why people may see taggings linger longer than usual. Any graffiti on school property is handled by the Pleasanton Unified School District's maintenance department.

Shannon Revel, a community services officer in the police department's crime prevention office, said private property owners are required to eradicate the graffiti within 10 days, unless they are granted a hardship.

Police chronicle every step in the process. They take pictures of the markings and keep a running log, paying special attention to similar markings that contain monikers of group or gang names. That's how police were recently able to nab a young man for a number of tags, which shall remain nameless so as not to encourage the "artists" who often graffiti for recognition. But even when someone is implicated in the vandalism, cases can take months to play out in the court system and it's uncommon for ones with low damage estimates to ever be prosecuted on the county level.

There is no general trend to graffiti in Pleasanton. It seems to ebb and flow and is usually done by a small handful of people at a time who are believed to be local, making it more manageable for city staff which outnumbers them, Rizzoli said.

"We do graffiti abatement every night,"

Rizzoli said. "Not a day goes by that graffiti isn't made. People don't realize what a big problem it is. We're fortunate that we're not like Stockton, though."

The hotline system appears to be effective, mainly because many residents are vigilant about reporting it.

"There's a core group of people, I'd say 150-200 people who are walkers, joggers, runners who are out and about and often see it and then they call the hotline from their cell phones," Rizzoli said.

There isn't likely to be a prominent sign, freeway soundwall, fence on a major thoroughfare or public restroom that's gone unscathed. Everything from the Welcome to Pleasanton sign, stop signs, speed limit signs, locations up and down Hopyard, Santa Rita and Valley avenues have been hit. A couple weeks ago, someone threw silver paint on the side of buildings at the Pleasanton Tennis Complex.

Last Friday, city crews covered up markings along the Alamo Canal Trail which parallels I-680, a popular tagging spot. Caltrans is responsible for graffiti that's done less than 250 feet from on- and off-ramps.

Though masking vandalism comes at the expense of taxpayer dollars, the city has worked to reduce the cost. Last year, Pleasanton began using reclaimed paint—paint that's been reformulated solely for graffiti abatement.

"That's saved us a great deal of money," Rizzoli said.

The paint is purchased from companies who have leftovers that were either the wrong mix or they had extra of a particular type. So, instead of paying \$130 for five gallons of regular paint, the city is able to purchase the same amount of reclaimed paint for \$35.

While paint is usually the cover-up tool of choice, there are many other forms of graffiti abatement. When the new public restrooms on First Street downtown are hit, for example, sprays, chemicals and "goos" are used to remove writing made out of permanent marker. There are also special products that are used on hard surfaces such as stone. Crew members carry a kit at all times.

The city works with other agencies and cities on a graffiti task force, where ideas, tips and reports are shared.

Covering it up time and time again is not a lost cause, Rizzoli said, adding that the alternative of doing nothing would be worse.

"We do the abatement multiple times in the same places and they'll eventually give up," he said. "They're looking for canvasses with a great big view so a lot of people can see it. It's a mark of pride for them, but there are more of us than them, and we'll eventually win."

When people think of graffiti, they think spray paint defacing, but Revel said there are also many other forms.

"Graffiti is definitely evolving," she said. "It's also scratching on acrylics and glass or flap tagging with stickers, which you'll see on stop signs, benches, bus stops."

Revel said one thing the community can do besides calling the hotline is to watch out for warning signs of a potential graffiti artist. Parents, especially, she said, should pay attention.

"A lot of times, we kind of turn our cheek when we see paint on their hands or marker on their hands," Revel said. "If you're seeing them tag their notebooks, their backpacks, look into that type of stuff. People should understand that they're on the hook for what their kids do as juveniles—that they could very well become financially responsible for any destruction their child imposes." ■



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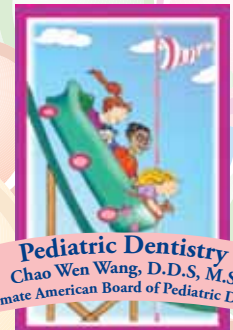
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# Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN & LOG

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Munayer promoted to sergeant

Pleasanton police officer Maria "Mia" Munayer was recently promoted to sergeant, according to Police Chief Michael Fraser. In her new position as one of 13 sergeants, she will be responsible for the supervision and leadership of a team of police officers assigned to patrol.

Munayer has been with the Pleasanton department since 2003 and has 10 years of law enforcement experience around the Bay Area. She lives in Pleasanton

with her husband Ted Young, who is also a Pleasanton police officer, and children Trevor, 9, and Sara, 5.

### Bicyclist, car collide on Main Street

Pleasanton police are investigating a collision between a bicyclist and a car that happened at 8 a.m. Monday in front of the Rose Hotel. Officer Aaron Ackerman said the cyclist was taken to Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley on precautionary measures, adding that the man may have broken some ribs. The collision occurred at St. John and Main streets and investigators are still piecing together information on how it happened and who may be at fault.

## POLICE REPORT

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

### April 11

- Theft:
  - 7:54 a.m. at the intersection of Case and Bernal avenues; grand theft
- Vandalism:
  - 9:03 a.m. in the 3700 block of West Las Positas Boulevard
- Drug/alcohol violations:
  - 12:26 a.m. at the intersection of Chabot Drive and St. Mary Street; DUI
  - 8:33 p.m. in the 1600 block of Calle Santiago; under the influence of a controlled substance
- Battery:
  - 12:12 a.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Road

### April 12

- Stolen vehicle:
  - 5:27 p.m. in the 5600 block of Sunol Boulevard
- Burglary:
  - 10:48 a.m. in the 6100 block of Johnson Drive; vehicular
  - 11:39 a.m. in the 6300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- Vandalism:
  - 12:16 p.m. in the 900 block of Rose Avenue
- Drug/alcohol violations:
  - 1:00 a.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Road; public drunkenness
  - 10:16 p.m. in the 5200 block of Hopyard Road; marijuana possession

### April 13

- Theft:
  - 11:58 a.m. in the 7300 block of Johnson Drive; grand theft

### Burglary:

- 10:19 a.m. in the 7000 block of Johnson Drive; vehicular
- 11:16 a.m. in the 3000 block of Staples Ranch Drive
- 1:33 p.m. in the 1200 block of Quarry Lane; vehicular

### Vandalism:

- 8:00 p.m. at the intersection of Bernal Avenue and Foothill Road

### Drug/alcohol violations:

- 3:08 p.m. at the intersection of Black Avenue and Santa Rita Road; minor transporting alcohol
- 3:29 p.m. at the intersection of Orloff Drive and Balcow Court; marijuana possession
- 5:11 p.m. at the intersection of Oak Vista Way and Bernal Avenue; DUI
- 7:46 p.m. at the intersection of West Las Positas Boulevard and Owens Drive; under the influence of a controlled substance

### April 14

- Stolen vehicle:
  - 7:37 a.m. in the 7200 block of Johnson Drive
- Vandalism:
  - 9:15 a.m. in the 4200 block of First Street
- Marijuana possession:
  - 6:16 p.m. in the 5000 block of Case Avenue

### April 15

- Theft:
  - 10:00 a.m. in the 4300 block of Valley Avenue; petty theft
  - 2:25 p.m. in the 6100 block of Stoneridge Drive; grand theft
  - 8:12 p.m. in the 6100 block of West Las Positas Boulevard; petty theft
- Burglary:
  - 5:39 p.m. in the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road; vehicular

- 6:10 p.m. in the 3900 block of Santa Rita Road; vehicular
- 3:10 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- Vandalism:
  - 7:19 a.m. in the 2200 block of Greenwood Road
  - 8:29 a.m. in the 1600 block of Via di Salerno
  - 10:44 a.m. in the 2900 block of West Ruby Hill Drive
- Lock picking:
  - 3:10 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

### April 16

- Theft:
  - 4:41 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; petty theft
  - 6:05 p.m. in the 2900 block of Lethbridge Court; identity theft
- Vehicular burglary:
  - 2:32 p.m. in the 5600 block of West Las Positas Boulevard
  - 9:32 p.m. in the 1300 block of Hearst Drive
  - 10:07 p.m. in the 4000 block of Stoneridge Drive
- Vandalism:
  - 8:22 p.m. in the 4500 block of First St.
  - 11:33 p.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue
- Drug violations:
  - 3:04 a.m. in the 6100 block of Canyon Meadows Circle; paraphernalia possession, non-narcotic controlled substance possession

### April 17

- Theft:
  - 12:44 a.m. in the 400 block of Junipero Drive; petty theft, stolen property possession
  - 9:15 p.m. in the 6000 block of Gibraltar Drive; forgery
- Burglary:
  - 2:43 a.m. in the 700 block of Rose Avenue; vehicular
  - 7:23 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- Vandalism:
  - 2:43 a.m. in the 700 block of Rose Avenue
  - 8:47 a.m. at the intersection of Corte Monterey and Calle Atamira
  - 12:00 p.m. at the intersection of Bernal Avenue and Kottinger Drive
  - 12:46 p.m. in the 4500 block of Pleasanton Avenue
  - 1:33 p.m. in the 6700 block of Hansen Drive
  - 4:21 p.m. in the 3100 block of Bernal Avenue
- Drug/alcohol violations:
  - 12:44 a.m. in the 400 block of Junipero Drive; controlled substance possession, public drunkenness
  - 7:56 p.m. in the 5600 block of San Carlos Way; public drunkenness



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## THE CITY OF PLEASANTON

### WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

#### Planning Commission

Wednesday, April 29, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- PCUP-239; Valley Community Church

Application for a Conditional Use Permit to increase the number of students at an existing pre school and to add a summer pre school program at Valley Community Church located at 4455 Del Valle Parkway.

#### Trails Ad-Hoc Committee

Monday, April 27, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.  
Large Conference Room 200 Old Bernal Avenue

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

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

The City of Pleasanton invites you to apply for vacancies on the following commissions and committees:

- Civic Arts Commission — 1 member, 1 alternate
- Housing Commission — No current vacancies
- Human Services Commission — 1 alternate
- Library Commission — 1 alternate
- Parks & Recreation Commission — 1 member, 1 alternate
- Planning Commission — No current vacancies
- Youth Commission — 3 youth members, 2 youth alternates
- Committee on Energy & the Environment — 1 youth member
- Economic Vitality Committee — 1 representative from each of the following categories:
  - Business At-large
  - Commercial Real Estate Development
  - Commercial Services Firm
  - Environmental Industry
  - Infrastructure
  - Medical Services
  - Medical Technology
  - Residential Real Estate Broker
- Alameda County Paratransit Advisory Committee — 1 member

#### Youth Master Plan Implementation Committee (YMPIC)

##### Adult Seats

Senior Citizen Representative

##### Youth Seats

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##### Young Adult Seats

One seat is open to represent young adults ages 18-22

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

**Applications must be received no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, May 22, 2009. Postmarks are not accepted.**

**If you are interested in serving on a commission or committee that has no current vacancies listed, you may register your interest in future vacancies by contacting the Office of the City Clerk at (925) 931-5027 or by completing an interest card on our website at [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us).**

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

# Transitions

OBITUARIES • BIRTHS

## OBITUARIES

### Richard Armond Shotwell

Richard (Dick) Armond Shotwell, a lifelong Pleasanton resident, died April 15 after a battle with cancer. He was 78.

His wife of 56 years, Beverly, was a pillar of strength throughout his struggle with cancer. Mr. Shotwell was born Feb. 5, 1931 in Modesto, Calif. and moved with his family to Pleasanton in August 1931.

He graduated from Amador Valley High School in 1948. He then joined the United States Marine Corp and served until 1952. Upon leaving the Marine Corps,



he signed to play professional baseball with the Albuquerque Dukes. He returned to Pleasanton to start a family. He became a member of the

Operating Engineers Local 3 and worked for 35 years before retiring in 1988. His last 15 years of employment was with Oliver de Silva (DeSilva Gates).

Mr. Shotwell was one of the founders of Pleasanton American Little League and was one of many who spent hundreds of hours constructing the original Sports Park which opened in 1971. He was the manager of the first Babe Ruth team to win District Title and advance to the State Championships.

He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He loved going to his cabin in Lake Tahoe and fish the surrounding lakes. He enjoyed taking his 1952 Willy's into the backcountry for some 4-wheeling.

He lived in the same house for the last 45 years and was always quick to point out that he and three other families moved in on the same day in 1964 and thus, became the first residents of Pleasanton Valley. He enjoyed attending Amador sporting events. Perhaps

his greatest pleasure was attending sporting events and activities of his children and grandchildren. He could always find a way to get the day off to support his kids. He traveled the country watching baseball in Long Beach, basketball in Iowa and golf in South Carolina.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Archie and Jewel Shotwell; brothers, Alton Shotwell and NL Shotwell; sister, Dorothy Andrade; and brother in law, Walter Andrade. He is survived by his wife, Beverly; daughters, Debbie Ballard

(husband Richard Ballard) and Sheri Harris (husband Jeff Harris); son, Dean (wife Debbie Shotwell); grandchildren, Meredith Harris, Gretchen Harris, Samantha Harris, Nick Harris, Tyler Shotwell, Justin Shotwell and Kelly Shotwell; and great-granddaughter, Ciera Harris. He is also survived by nephews, Alton Harris Shotwell Jr., James Shotwell, Gary Andrade and Mark Andrade. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hope Hospice, 6500 Dublin Blvd., Dublin, CA 94568.

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- You must agree to stop using all current acne medications while you are in the study.
- You will be paid \$25 for the first screening visit, and \$50 for each evaluation visit for your time and travel. Including the bonus, you may receive up to \$475.
- Minors need to get permission of a parent or guardian to participate in the study.

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# ON THE TOWN



## AMERICAN

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### 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](http://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

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

470 Market Place, San Ramon, 277-9600. Featuring a giant 8-foot projection screen for major sporting events, they also feature 30 beers on tap

**Mother's Day** at **Faz**

Sunday, May 10, 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](http://www.fazrestaurants.com)

**Barone's Restaurant**

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

**Pleasanton Weekly's BEST OF PLEASANTON 2007** **Pleasanton Weekly's READERS CHOICE 2008**

"Most Romantic Restaurant"

Come Taste Our New Lunch & Dinner Entrees

475 Saint John | Pleasanton | 426-0987

**Town Square**  
Discuss community issues, review a restaurant, and more!

**Pleasanton Weekly**  
PRINT & ONLINE

**Lunch Special**

**2 for \$22\***

with coupon until 3:30pm daily  
Includes soft drink, or house beer, or house wine each.  
\*Plus tax and gratuity. Expires 5-8-09

**PLEASANTON MAIN ST. BREWERY**

PLEASANTON'S ONLY BREW-PUB!

**LIVE MUSIC...Every Friday & Saturday**  
462-8218 • 830 Main St. • [www.mainstbrewery.com](http://www.mainstbrewery.com)

**RED SMOKE GRILL**

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

**Pleasanton Weekly's READERS CHOICE 2008** **Pleasanton Weekly's BEST OF PLEASANTON 2007** **Pleasanton Weekly's BEST OF PLEASANTON 2006**

**THE HOP YARD**  
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's READERS CHOICE 2008**

**PLEASANTON**  
(925) 426-9600  
3015-H Hopyard Road  
[www.hopyard.com](http://www.hopyard.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](http://www.amaronepleasanton.com)

# ON THE TOWN



and a great grill. Go in for the beer, go back for the food. More at [www.hopyard.com](http://www.hopyard.com).

## CHINESE

### Chinese Szechuan

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

### Panda Mandarin Cuisine

30 W. Angela St., Pleasanton, 484-4880. Panda offers several delicious specials using fresh ingredients and spices that make traditional northern Chinese cuisine such a delight. Open for lunch Monday through Friday,

dinner Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday. A private banquet room is available. Visit [www.panda-pleasanton.com](http://www.panda-pleasanton.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, rice and vegetarian dishes, to name a few. Check out our updated wine and exotic cocktail menus. We also cater! Visit [www.OasisGrille.com](http://www.OasisGrille.com).

## ITALIAN

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

### 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



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

Lunch • Dinner • Catering  
Open Tuesday-Sunday  
Closed Monday



**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



- Catering Service
- Take Out Menu



**Best Italian Restaurant!**

**Mother's Day Lunch Buffet**  
11:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Adults \$15 Children half price  
Please call for reservations.

3037-G Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton (At Valley Ave in Hopyard Village)  
**925-485-4500**  
[www.LaViteRestaurant.com](http://www.LaViteRestaurant.com)

**CELEBRATE MOM**  
*Treat her to an unforgettable meal*

at  
**Oasis**  
grille & wine lounge  
*Full Bar Now Open!*



**Mother's Day Champagne Brunch Buffet**  
11 am - 4 pm

**Reservations Recommended**  
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**AWARD-WINNING RESTAURANT**  
**FEATURING:**

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- Seasonal & Vegetarian Menus
- Full Bar - Featuring Premium Cocktails
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- Weekend Champagne Brunch
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Kids eat free Mon & Tues
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**APRIL THROUGH MAY DINNER SPECIAL**  
**50% OFF ON HOUSE WINE**  
**WITH PURCHASE OF ENTRÉE**

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**Best of Pleasanton 2007**

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Board Certified in Orthopedic Surgery  
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5000 Pleasanton Ave., Suite 200  
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Come visit our sister restaurant in Concord  
**925.521.9010**  
2151 Salvio Street, Downtown Concord  
[www.ToscanaofConcord.net](http://www.ToscanaofConcord.net)

## OUR SCHOOLS



## OUR COMMUNITY

[www.SavePleasantonSchools.org](http://www.SavePleasantonSchools.org)

# Thank you!

## TO THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO HAVE ENDORSED MEASURE G

(as of 4/19)

### ORGANIZATIONS

AABC Foothill High School  
Alisal PTA  
Amador Valley High School  
PTSA  
American Association of  
University Women (AAUW)  
Donlon PFC  
Fairlands Elementary PTA  
Hart PFA

Harvest Park Middle PTA  
League of Women Voters of  
Livermore-Amador Valley  
Lydiksen PFC  
Mohr PTA  
Phoebe Apperson Hearst  
Elementary PTA  
Pleasanton Chamber of  
Commerce  
Pleasanton Middle School  
Parent Faculty Association

Pleasanton Partnerships In  
Education  
Pleasanton PTA Council  
Pleasanton Schools Educational  
Enrichment Foundation  
(PSEE)  
Valley View PFC  
Walnut Grove Elementary PTA  
Windsor Home Owners  
Association Board of  
Directors

### ELECTED OFFICIALS

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Honorable Joan Buchanan,  
Assemblymember, 15th  
District  
Honorable Mary Hayashi,  
Assemblymember, 18th district  
Alberto Torrico, Assembly  
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City of Pleasanton

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Councilmember  
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School Board Trustee  
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Mike Urban  
Tracy Vaeth  
Cindy Vallar  
Carl Van Epps  
Darcy Van Valkenburgh  
Diane Van Wagner  
Cindy Vance  
Andrea Vanderhorst  
Kim Vandiver  
Randy Vandiver  
Greg Vanwagoner  
Judith Vargas  
Linda Varner  
Atul Vashistha  
Jodi Vashistha  
Gordon Vaughan  
Fred Vella  
Lorene Vella  
Celesia Ventura  
Bertha Vera  
Christina Verbeck  
Marbry Verga  
Monica Vernay  
Camille Vernick  
Renee Vernon  
Judith Vidal  
John Vieira  
David Vieler  
Erika Vieler  
Joan Vierra  
Diane Viola  
Kim Visscher  
Argie Vlamis  
Kit Voit  
Sharon Voorhies  
Carol Vranesh  
Katy Wade  
Christine Walden  
Brian Walder  
Christine Walder  
Laurie Walker-Whiteland  
Heather Walsh  
Sarah Walsh  
Iris Wang  
Yucheng Wang  
Melanie Ward  
Nicole Ward  
Marissa Ware  
Annette Warner  
Denise Watkins,  
President, Pleasanton  
Schools Educational  
Enrichment Foundation  
Annette Watson

Bob Watson  
Kevin Watson  
Nanci Watson  
Morgan Watts  
Tara Wayne  
Jill Weaver  
Connie Weaver  
Sam Weaver  
Kris Weaver,  
Former School  
Board Trustee  
Michelle Weeks  
Andre Weiglein  
Barry Weiss  
Ann Weiss  
Michael Welch  
Andrea Wells  
Melissa Wen  
Lanette Wessel  
Kimberly West  
Edward Westmoreland  
Amy Weston  
Cristina Wetklow  
Ronald Wetmore  
Monica Wharton  
Judy Wheeler  
Bill Wheeler  
Tracy Whelar  
Cyndi White  
Stephen White  
Mike White  
Laurie Whiteland  
John Whitney  
Regina Wiedel  
Kelly Wiest  
Nancy Wiest  
Melanie Wilcox  
Richard Wilcox  
Lisa Wilcox  
George William  
Christine Williams  
Ellen Williams  
Michael Williams  
Michelle Williams  
Sherry Williams  
Stephen Williams  
Teresa Williams  
John Williams  
Lisa Willis  
Howard Wilner  
Andrew Wilson  
Jill Wilson  
Sue Wilson  
Ranny Wilson  
Renee Winter  
Tina Wise  
Mame Wisniewski  
Mellisa Witaschek  
Muriel Withoft  
Shannon Witters  
Carol Wolfe  
Andrian Wolff  
Holly Wolff  
Vaughn Wolffe  
Wesley Wolford  
Brad Wong  
Frank Wong  
Jane Wong  
Linda Wong  
Wendy Wong  
Jeannette Woo  
Kristen Woodruff  
Mike Woodruff  
Ben Woodward  
Doug Wright  
Paige Wright Henry  
Christine Wu  
Cliff Wu  
Linda Wu  
Benjamin Ww  
Frans Xavier  
Khim Yang  
Anna Yee  
James Yee  
Katherine Yeffa  
Helen Yelkes  
Amy Yetso  
Laurie Yoon-Park  
Cindy York  
James A. Yost  
Eric Young  
Kathy Young  
Suzanne Young  
Caroline Yu Yespi  
Stacy Zaballos  
Donna Zarrillo  
Jim Zarrillo  
Donald Zeigler  
Victoria Zeigler  
Brad Zetterlund  
Lei Zhao  
Jeffrey Zheng  
Tajalli Ziaulli  
Harold Zosel  
Cynthia Zuanich  
Tracy Zuehlsdorf  
Esther Zuiran

# Calendar

POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT [WWW.PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM](http://WWW.PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM)

## Book Clubs

**BRAIN BOOK CLUB** The Brain Book Club meets from 7-8:30 p.m., on the first Wednesday of every month, at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St., Pleasanton. Steven Johnson will speak on May 6 discussing "Mind Wide Open." If you'd like to order the book, it's available at Towne Center Books. Call 846-8826.

## Classes

**FREE BICYCLE SAFETY CLASSES** A course about Street Skills will be held from 6-9:30 p.m., Monday, April 25, at the Cultural Arts Building at the Amador Recreation Center. Learn the basics of safe cycling, riding in traffic, equipment, crash avoidance, rights and responsibilities. This class is free and is for adults 14 and over. No bike needed. Call (510) 701-5971 or visit [www.ebbc.org/safety](http://www.ebbc.org/safety).

## Clubs

**AMADOR VALLEY QUILTERS MEETING** There will be a silent auction of quilt related items from 1:30-3 p.m., Saturday, May 9, at Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave. Proceeds benefit the guild.

**PLEASANTON JOB'S DAUGHTERS** Job's Daughters International is an organization for young ladies (minimum age 10 for full membership) who enjoy dances, sleepovers, parties, social events, snow trips and more. The girls develop confidence, good character, life-long friendships, moral and spiritual values, and leadership abilities. The group meets at 7 p.m., on the fourth Monday of every month, at Pleasanton Masonic Center, 3370 Hopyard Rd. Visit [www.bethel14.com](http://www.bethel14.com).

**QUARTERLY BUSINESS NETWORKING SOCIAL** Join ClubSport and Tri-Valley Connection will meet and

mingle with local business professionals from 5:30-7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 30, at ClubSport Pleasanton, 7090 Johnson Dr. This event is free for ClubSport members; \$5 for guests. For reservations, call 463-2822, x570.

## Events

**'IT'S A SPRING FLING'** Pleasanton Downtown Association presents "It's a Spring Fling" event from 5-9 p.m., Friday, May 8, in downtown Pleasanton. Admission is free. Rain or shine. Shops, restaurants and businesses will celebrate spring with appetizers, drinks and live entertainment. Call 600-8295 or visit [www.pleasantondowntown.net](http://www.pleasantondowntown.net).

**ADOPTION EVENT** Tri-Valley Animal Rescue is hosting an Adoption Event from noon-3 p.m., Sunday, May 3, at the East County Animal Shelter, 4595 Gleason Dr., Dublin. Dog adopters will receive three free

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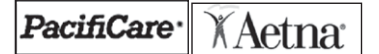
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Saturday May 9, 2009

1-4 pm

\$20.00 per person in advance

\$25.00 per person the day of

event at check-in 4625 Second St.

### Purchase Advance Tickets

- Online at [SavePleasantonSchools.org](http://SavePleasantonSchools.org)
- Mail check to CSPS PO Box 1312 Pleasanton 94566
- At Farmers Market 4/25, 5/2 and 1st Wednesday Street Party 5/6



private sessions with a professional dog trainer (\$180 Value), leash, collar, bed and dog food. Cat adopters will receive a free cat blanket, toys and more. Visit [www.tvr.org](http://www.tvr.org).

**FIREFIGHTER RECRUITMENT FAIR** Meet fire department recruiters and find out if you've got what it takes from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, May 2, at Livermore CPAT Center, 526 Commerce Way. The event is open to women and men interested in a future in the fire service. Call (916) 648-1717 or visit [www.becomingafirefighter.org](http://www.becomingafirefighter.org).

**FIRST WEDNESDAY STREET PARTY** Pleasanton Downtown Association will host a Cinco De Mayo Celebration from 6-9 p.m., Wednesday, May 6, on Main Street in downtown Pleasanton. Visit [www.pleasantondowntown.net](http://www.pleasantondowntown.net).

**PUBLIC INPUT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING MEETING** East Bay Regional Park District will host a Public Input and Environmental Scoping Meeting from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Monday, May 4, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Residents are invited to help plan the future of

Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area. Visit [www.friendsofshadowcliffs.com](http://www.friendsofshadowcliffs.com).

**VALLEYCARE MEDICAL CENTER BOOK SALE** ValleyCare Medical Center Auxiliary is having a book sale in the lobby of the hospital from 7 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday, April 24, at ValleyCare Medical Center, 5555 W. Las Positas Blvd., Pleasanton; and from 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday, April 27, at LifeStyle Rx, 1119 East Stanley Blvd., Livermore. The public is invited. Proceeds benefit ValleyCare Health System.

## Exhibits

**'THE ESSENTIAL NUDE' LAA ART SHOW** An opening reception for figurative art by local artists will be from 7-9 p.m., Thursday, April 30, at the Bothwell Art Center, 2466 Eighth St., Livermore. Show hours are from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., May 1-3. Call 449-9927 or visit [www.livermoreartassociation.org](http://www.livermoreartassociation.org).

**CELEBRATING ART MADE EASY** A community reception will take place from 7-9 p.m., Monday, May 4, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353

Sunol Blvd. The art exhibit will be open from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday, May 5-7; and from 9 a.m.-noon, Friday, May 8. Call 931-5340.

## Fundraisers

**20TH ANNUAL WALK FOR LIFE** The Valley Pregnancy Center sponsors a walkathon every spring with a goal of raising \$100,000 to support its services and the next one will be from 8:30 a.m.-noon, Saturday, May 2, at Amador Community Park (Behind Aquatic Center), 4455 Black Ave. This event is free and will include a BBQ, live bluegrass band, raffle prizes, games and prizes for kids and great fellowship. Call 828-4458 or visit [www.valleypregnancycenter.org](http://www.valleypregnancycenter.org).

**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](http://www.trivalleysocks.org).

**CARDEN WEST SCHOOL DINNER AND AUCTION** Come and support the Carden West School Dinner and Auction at 6:30 p.m., Friday, May 1, at Castlewood Country Club, 707 Country Club Circle, Pleasanton. Afternoon golf will be offered. Cost is \$175 for golf and dinner; \$45 for dinner only. Proceeds benefit Carden West educational projects and classroom improvements. Call 463-6060.

**GARAGE SALE** Donations are needed for a garage sale with proceeds going directly to an all-girls sister school in Muhuru Bay, Kenya. For drop-off information, call Beena 989-6819. The garage sale will be from 7 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, May 2, at Foothill High School, 4375 Foothill Rd.

**HART BEAT DINNER** Hart Middle Schools annual band fundraiser will start at 7 p.m., Friday, May 8, at the Veterans Memorial Building, 30 Main St. Cost is \$20, including a pasta dinner including salad, bread and dessert; a wine bar will be available. Proceeds benefit Hart Middle School activities. Visit [www.hartmiddleschool.org](http://www.hartmiddleschool.org).

**MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY** Come to the Mad Hatter's Tea Party hosted by Assistance League of Amador Valley from noon-4 p.m., Saturday, April 25, at Aames Shrine Event Center, 170 Lindbergh Ave., Livermore. Cost is \$45. Proceeds fund local programs. Call 371-4566 or visit [www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org](http://www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org).

**PLEASANTON FRIENDS SPRING BOOK SALE** The book sale will run from 6-9

p.m., Friday, April 24 (for members only), then the sale is open to everyone from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, April 25 and from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Sunday, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Call 462-4368. More than 40,000 donated books \$.50 to \$1.00.

**PRIMAVERA DINNER DANCE** Italian Catholic Federation will host a Primavera Dinner Dance at 6 p.m., Saturday, May 2, at St. Michael's Parish Hall, 372 Maple St., Livermore. Cost is \$30 per person, including wine with a full course dinner. Proceeds benefit Tri-Valley Scholarship Program and other ICF charities. Reservations are due by April 27; call Don at 846-8435 or Anna or Mike at 484-1523.

**SECOND ANNUAL WINE TASTING FUNDRAISER** Tri-Valley HIKE Team and White Crane Winery present its second annual Wine Tasting Fundraiser from noon-4 p.m., Sunday, April 26, at White Crane Winery, 5405 Greenville Rd., Livermore. Tickets are \$25, including five tastes. Proceeds benefit LLS Blood Cancer Research. Call 413-7788 or visit [www.winehike.org](http://www.winehike.org).

**SUNOL 4-H PANCAKE BREAKFAST** The 43rd annual 4-H Pancake Breakfast will be held from 8 a.m.-noon, Sunday, April 26, at Sunol Glen Elementary School, 11601 Main St. Cost is \$6 for adults; \$4 for children. Proceeds benefit individual 4H project groups and community event support. Call (510) 360-2020.

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Dr. Shah joins Dr. Anamika Sharma in the ValleyCare Medical Foundation — Pediatric practice at 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suite 110 in Pleasanton. **For an appointment, please call (925) 416-6767.**



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healthier you by walking, running, cycling or hiking with The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team In Training. A meeting is scheduled at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 5, at Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave. Visit [www.teamintraining.org/sf](http://www.teamintraining.org/sf). Free

**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 \$250 after April 1. Proceeds benefit kids and families in Y programs. Call 475-6108 or visit [www.trivalleyymca.org](http://www.trivalleyymca.org).

**WINETASTING SILENT AUCTION** Enjoy a wine tasting and silent auction to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society from noon-4 p.m., Sunday, April 26, at White Crane Winery, 5405 Greenville Rd., Livermore. Tickets are \$25. Call 413-7788 or visit [www.winehike.org](http://www.winehike.org).

## Health

**SPRING IMMUNIZATION CLINICS FOR CHILDREN** 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., 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.

## Kids & Teens

**CELEBRATE DIA DE LOS LIBROS Y NIÑOS** In observance of Dia de los Libros y Niños (the Day of the Books & Children), the folk duo Colibri, will present an interactive musical journey through Latin America from 7-8 p.m., Wednesday, April 29, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. This event is free. Call 931-3400, ext. 8.

**NAVIGATING LIFE'S CHANGES** A free teen workshop on navigating life's changes such as economic and family changes, parental divorce, changing schools and going to college will be held from teens from 2-4 p.m., Saturday, May 2, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Snacks and Jamba Juice gift cards will be given for attendance. Call 600-9762, ext. 7.

## Lectures

**TURNOFF CHRONIC ILLNESS WITH YOUR OWN DNA AND INTEGRATIVE MEDICINE** Learn how to lose weight, reduce chronic illness and improve health with Pam McDonald from 12:15-1:30 p.m., Thursday, April 30, at Haps Original Steaks & Seafood, 122 West Neal St. Call 735-3296 or visit [www.pleasantonrotary.org](http://www.pleasantonrotary.org).

## Miscellaneous

**ARTISTS' FLEA MARKET** Pleasanton Art League will host this flea market as a great place to buy paints, frames and supplies from

8 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, April 25, at DeLucchi Park, at First St. and Neal. Admission is free; sellers cost for a booth is \$25.

## Seniors

**50+ JOB FAIR** Job Fair Plus, a free job fair focused on those ages 50+, will be held from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Friday, May 1, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. A keynote speaker will speak at 9:15 a.m.; an Exhibitor Hall will be open from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. to provide visitors with the opportunity to meet with area employers and volunteer agencies. For more information, call 931-5365.

**CAMP 55—ALVISO ADOBE COMMUNITY PARK** A week-long educational program for seniors ages 55 and older will be held from 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, May 18-22, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Lectures on Pleasanton history, Ohlone period, Spanish era, Dairy Farm era, cheese-making and crafts. Cost per day is \$25 for residents, \$28 for non-residents; for the week it is \$110 for residents, \$121 for non-residents. Call 931-5365.

**LAUGHTER YOGA** Contribute to your well-being with Laughter Yoga which combines unconditional laughter with yogic breathing from 9:30-11 a.m., Monday, May 4 and May 18, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$1.50 for residents; \$2 for non-residents. Call 931-5365.

**SENIOR CENTER VIP CLUB** This club is offering three trips during the spring including a trip to the Ironstone Vineyards and Murphy's from 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Wednesday, May 13 (cost is \$79 for members; \$81 for non-members). Reservations are required for all; call 931-5365 or visit the Travel Desk at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd.

## Sports

**DEMO DAY** The public is invited to "hit with the pros" and try out the latest tennis rackets at Pleasanton Golf & Tennis' Demo Day from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, April 25, at Amador High School. Call 426-7207.

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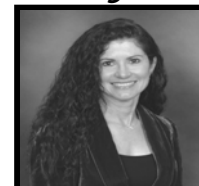
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