

# Pleasanton Weekly

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**Mom makeover:** Woman finds outer beauty with free help from experts **PAGE 12**

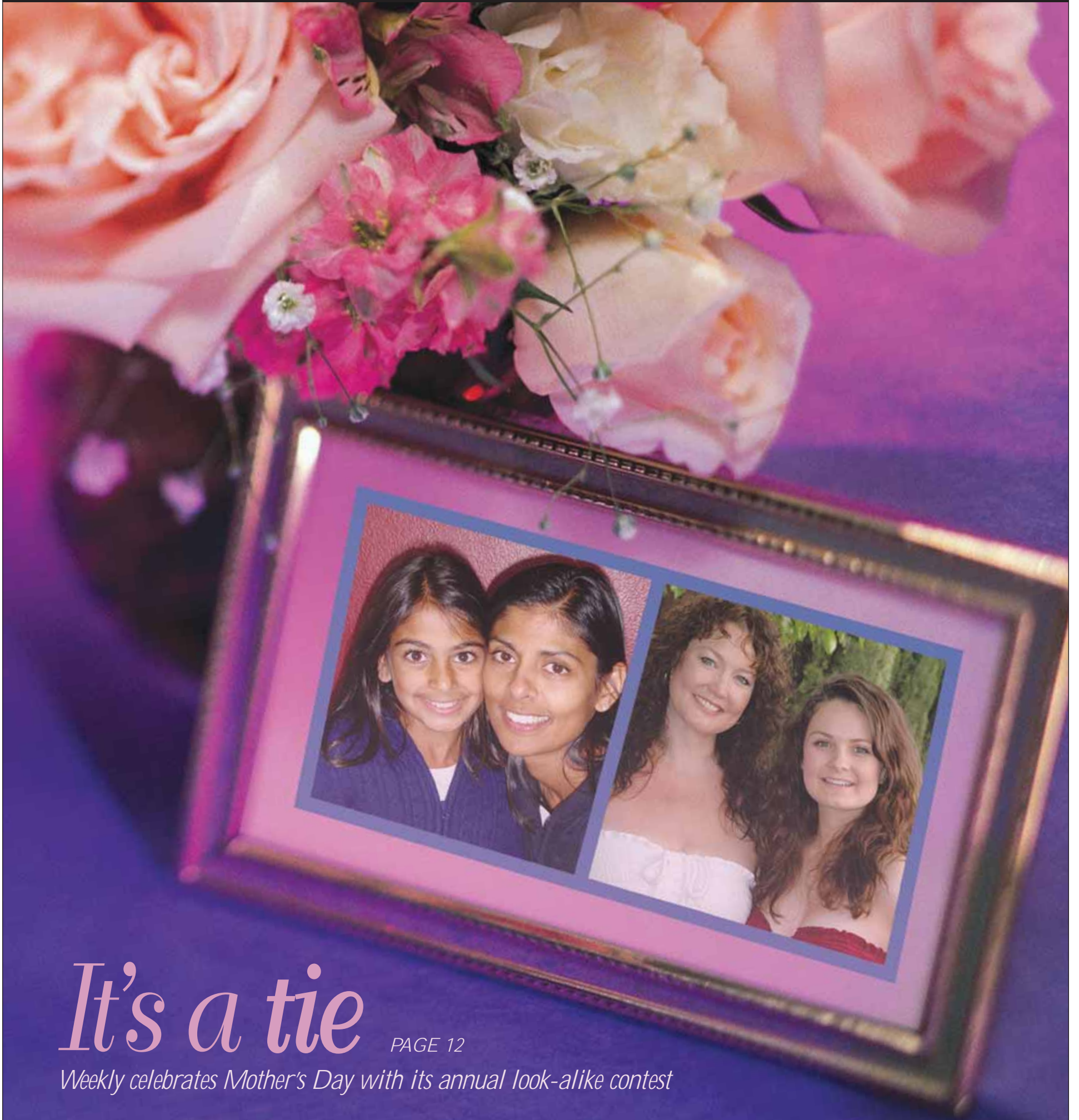
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## *It's a tie*

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*Weekly celebrates Mother's Day with its annual look-alike contest*



# A 496-ACRE PARK TO PROTECT THE RIDGELINE

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- DOLORES BENGTON  
Open Space & Trails Advocate



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# AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

## What they're saying about our town

In back-to-back presentations to the Valley Real Estate Network, a Tri-Valley real estate group, City Manager Nelson Fialho and Economic Development Manager Pamela Ott said recent signs of an economic recovery bode well for both the city's retail and restaurant sectors and city finances as well. Several downtown stores are expanding, a new and different fish and meat market is about to open at Spring and Main streets, a new restaurant will take over the old Mahalo Grill. In other words, business is picking up.

More on the downtown: The vacancy rate is about 7 percent when not counting the large and vacant Domus store. A new survey shows shoppers want more women's and children's stores and activities, which could be on the way along with a new executive director of the Pleasanton Downtown Association. Shoppers also want Peet's Coffee, which is fine with Ott who says there's no restriction on chain businesses downtown. Larger chains, such as Gap Jr., which some want, probably won't move downtown for lack of building space to accommodate them and a lower-than-mall shopper density.

More surveys and promotions are under way by the city, with questions also being asked of those who say they go elsewhere for what they need. Those results will be tabulated and used in a Shop Pleasanton campaign to be financed by the city shortly. Along with the survey, Ott's department also will launch a series of seminars starting May 25 that will be open free of charge to all retailers. The discussions will be geared toward marketing with experts in the field talking about how businesses large and small can make their promotions more powerful and proactive.

Fialho said that while he saw the retail market still shrinking just a few months ago, he sees pent-up demand now swinging the other way. Investors with cash in hand are searching for available locations to move their businesses from other cities. Several hotels have recently changed hands and a potential investor is looking at the Washington Mutual operations complex on Franklin Drive that's been vacant since that banking institution was sold. Investors, according to Fialho, consider Pleasanton a top location with great amenities which also has a "uniquely Pleasanton people" participation that elevates



JEB BING

City Manager Nelson Fialho chats with Will Doerlich, president of the Valley Real Estate Network

the city every time a business surveys its advantages.

Fialho also talked about Pleasanton's 29,000-unit housing cap and a recent court ruling that declared the 1996 voter-mandated law illegal. With 25,500 housing units now built, and a total allocation by the state for sufficiently zoned land to accommodate at least another 3,500, Urban Habitat won a court order based on the city's inability to meet its state obligations under the cap. The City Council has agreed to negotiate a settlement with Urban Habitat and Attorney General Jerry Brown that will end further, costly litigation, settle other outstanding suits and allow the city to continue restraining future development through its growth management laws which have not been contested.

In response to questions from the VREN audience, Fialho said that when the state's allocation of 3,500 new housing units are built, about 1,200 would be earmarked for those with low to very low-income levels, units likely to range in size from 800-1,000 square feet. Pleasanton's requirement under the court order is to rezone enough land to allow residential densities that accommodate those units, land that will typically be zoned for 30 units per acre. That's slightly more than Archstone and other apartment complexes that offer affordable rentals, but far less than the much-higher densities that have been built across I-580 in Dublin.

Asked about municipal finances, Fialho said Pleasanton's budget is balanced although the state continues to "shift" \$4 million to \$5 million each year out of city property tax revenue to help pay down California's debt. That "robbing Peter to pay Paul," as Fialho put it, started in 1992 and has now cost Pleasanton \$100 million in tax revenue. At the start, the money was to be used to help the state pay its education obligations, but we know not a dime of it ever found its way back to the Pleasanton school district. ■

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## About the Cover

It's a tie! The winners of the Pleasanton Weekly Mother's Day Look-Alike Contest are Sangita Patel and her daughter Avni, 10, a student at Hearst Elementary; and Sheila Cross and her daughter Cassie, 14, a freshman at Foothill High School. Congratulations! and happy Mother's Day.

Vol. XI, Number 17



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# Streetwise

ASKED DOWNTOWN

## What do you think is your mother's best quality?



### Leeanna Sands

Barista

She's got so many! She endeavors to be very understanding. She identifies as an independent and always tries to see both sides of an argument. Even things that she and I don't agree on, she always tries to see my side and we can talk about it. I feel very lucky to have grown up with a mom like that.

### Arturo Navarro

Student

She always remembers to get things. She keeps me on schedule and makes sure I do my homework. When we go on trips she's the one that brings everything.



### Douglas Bright

Architectural Historian

Patience. Because if you knew me, you'd know why.

### Victor Karpenko

Student

My mom is very caring and understanding. She has always looked out for my best interests, and I'd say that's one of her best qualities. And she's always been there for me.



### Sarah Wicht

Registered Nurse

I think mothers are a blessing. My mother is a heaven sent blessing, because she puts others before herself. She's the best mother, and she's full of love.

—Compiled by Elyssa Thome



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

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## DIGEST

### Get prepared for emergencies

Pleasanton will host a free lecture on Emergency Preparedness at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., aimed at seniors. It will share simple things people can do to be prepared and teach response skills to help stay safe in case of an emergency.

The lecture will be presented by Ana-Marie Jones of Collaborating Agencies Responding to Disasters (CARD) and Genevieve Pastor-Cohen, Emergency Preparedness Manager for the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department.

The talk will include Pleasanton's emergency plan; information about the agencies the city partners with to prepare for an emergency; and a question-and-answer period. Call 931-5365.

### Grant for Axis Health

Axis Community Health, the Tri-Valley's provider of medical, mental health, substance abuse counseling and health education services to the uninsured and underinsured, has received a \$75,000 grant from Sutter Health. Axis is one of the 18 community clinics in Northern California that have received a total of \$1.5 million.

"The grant will enable us to provide 483 additional medical visits for residents who otherwise would not be able to access medical care," says Axis CEO Sue Compton. "At our rate of 300 new patients each month, it will make a significant difference in our ability to deliver care."

Axis Community Health operates three facilities in Pleasanton and two in Livermore and is supported by local, state and federal funding, foundation grants, client revenues and community donations.

### Check out nutrition

Iron Horse Nutrition will hold a grand opening celebration in conjunction with its neighbor Express Fitness gym from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. tomorrow in Rose Pavilion. This is a chance to meet with supplement manufacturers and receive samples. Free drawings will be held for supplement products, gym memberships and training sessions, with a grand prize drawing for a Smart Car from Express Fitness.

### See travel photos on page 19

### Corrections

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

## Pleasanton school board picks new superintendent

Fremont educator to succeed retiring John Casey

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

The Pleasanton school board has chosen Parvin Ahmadi as the new superintendent of the Pleasanton Unified School District pending final approval by the board at its next regularly scheduled public meeting.

Ahmadi, who has extensive background in education and for the last two years has been Assistant Superintendent of Instruction for the Fremont Unified School District, will succeed Superintendent John Casey, effective with his retirement June 30 after eight years at the helm of the city's schools.

In Fremont, Ahmadi supervised assessment, elementary and secondary education, special education, student services and the selection of instructional materials as

well as federal- and state-related projects. She and her husband live in Fremont.

In an interview with the Pleasanton Weekly, Ahmadi said she worked with school principals and school directors throughout the district in all matters related to curriculum and instruction.

Before that, she was Fremont schools' director of elementary education.

"In that position I worked with all K-12 school plans, new teacher training, beginning teacher support and



Parvin Ahmadi  
New School  
Superintendent

development, professional development for teachers and principals in K-12, and overseeing elementary schools and evaluating elementary school principals," Ahmadi said.

The Pleasanton school board is negotiating a final salary contract with Ahmadi.

School Board President Chris Grant said that given the economy and financial belt-tightening in the school district, Ahmadi's base salary and other benefits will be less than Casey's current base salary, which is \$227,000.

Ahmadi began her career as a teacher, which she said has given her some insights.

"I've been fortunate to be in Fremont not only as an administrator, but as a teacher, because what really matters is in the classroom,"

she said. "It gives me a good lens to look through to meet the needs of students."

"It also really helps me as an administrator to appreciate the work that's done at the class level," she added. "Even at the district office, you want to make sure you're connected with schools so I made it a point to visit schools all the time, all through the year, so I can support students and teachers."

She said Fremont and Pleasanton have many of the same successes and challenges.

"I am looking forward to working with Pleasanton administrators, teachers and students to see where we want to go next," she said. "I think we always want to strive for better, to look at students aca-

See **SUPERINTENDENT** on Page 9



## Winning art to hang in D.C.

Congressional competition finds student art

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Winnie Chang, a sophomore at California High School in San Ramon, has been named the winner in the 11th Congressional District art competition for her oil painting entitled "Oh California Poppies! Our State Flower."

She was the second-place winner in last year's competition, an annual event sponsored by U.S. Rep. Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton).

Chang's artwork will hang in the busy corridor that connects the Cannon House Office Building with the Capitol, used daily by members of Congress and visitors to Washington, D.C. In addition, she is being offered a free trip with a guest of her choice to Washington, D.C., to attend an awards ceremony June 17.

Foothill High School junior



Above: "Mood" by Nari Kim of Foothill High School placed second in the 11th Congressional District Student Art Competition. Left: "Oh California Poppies! — Our State Flower" by Winnie Chang.

Nari Kim placed second in the competition for her pastel painting entitled "Mood," while Caroline Kim, a junior at Foothill, took third place for her acrylic painting entitled "American Hero at Haiti."

"The Art Competition is a great opportunity for talented high school students in our community to showcase their work in an art gallery and meet other young artists from the area," McNerney said. "I'm always impressed by the talent and creativity of our students, and this year was no exception."

The art competition was held Saturday at the Grand Theatre Center for the Arts in Tracy. The competition is part of the nationwide annual Congressional Art Competition intended to showcase the artistic talents and abilities of students in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. territories. Members of Congress host competitions among high school students in their districts.

The winning entries are then displayed in the Capitol for a year.

"My congratulations to all the students who participated and especially to the winner of this year's competition, Winnie Chang," said McNerney. "I look forward to seeing her piece hanging in the U.S. Capitol."

Honorable mentions were awarded to Youjin An of Dublin and a sophomore at Dublin High School for a watercolor painting entitled "Mister Rooster," and to Julia Ye Rim Park, of Pleasanton and a junior at Amador Valley High School, for a watercolor painting entitled "Fairyland With Horses."

Judges included Pleasanton artist Tricia Leonard; Tracy Arts Commissioner Michael Hays; Lucinda Kasser, associate professor in the Visual Arts department at the University of the Pacific; and Amy Whelan, a Library, Arts and Culture commissioner in Morgan Hill. ■

## Planning Commissioners OK homes near Foothill High

Owner changes development from six lots to four

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

The Pleasanton Planning Commission voted unanimously at its meeting April 28 to approve development of four custom home lots on Foothill Road, across the street from Foothill High School.

The commission already had recommended approval for six lots on the same 29.8-acre site in August 2008 pending the installation of a 6-foot bicycle lane along the entire frontage of the lot along Foothill Road, which is 1,200 feet.

The applicants, William and Lydia Yee, and their consultants found that for 200 of these feet along Foothill Road, installing the bike lane would necessitate filling a drainage channel. Because the waterway is open, it comes under the jurisdictions of the Army Corps of Engineers, the state Department of Fish and Game, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

"The commission said they wanted to see a bike lane and the preservation of trees but we found they couldn't have both," Associate Planner Marion Pavan told the commissioners. "We chose to exclude the bike lane from this proposal."

"That's the most critical 200 feet," commented Commissioner Jerry Pentin.

"There are other stretches of Foothill Road that do not have a bike lane," answered Brian Dolan, director of Community Development. "We looked at every feasible option except the moving of the ditch. There were

See **FOOTHILL** on Page 9

# Mother's Day Brunch

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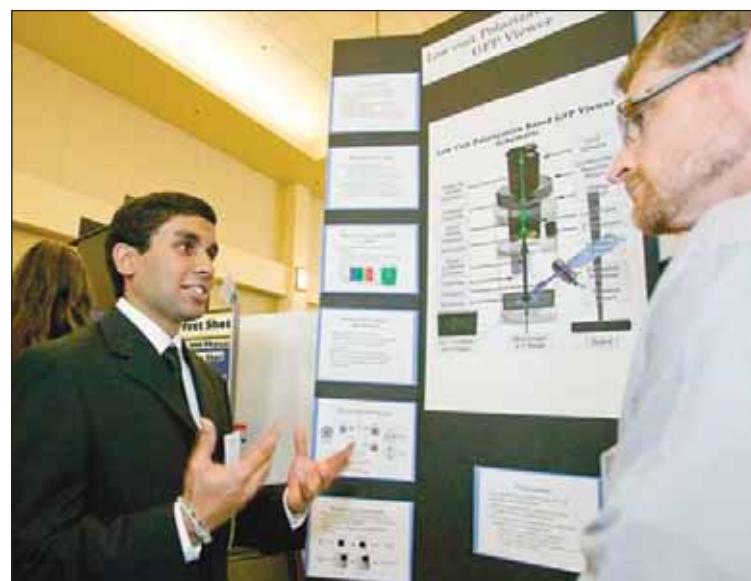
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Harikrishna Rallapalli explains his science fair project to a listener. The Amador Valley senior is headed to the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in San Jose on May 9-14 as is Rahul Doraiswami, below.

## Two teens competing in Intel's international science fair

Both exploring ways of fighting cancer  
as their projects

BY GLENN WOHLTMANN

Two Pleasanton high school students are hoping their projects designed to help in the fight against cancer will bring them awards at this year's Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF).

In separate projects, Rahul Doraiswami, an 11th-grade student at Foothill High School, and Harikrishna Rallapalli, a 12th-grader at Amador Valley High, used high-tech bio-tech to win locally, giving them each a chance to compete on the national stage.

This is Rallapalli's third win at Amador Valley. He took home the top prize for a project called "Low-Cost Polarization Based GFP Viewer."

He came up with the idea as an intern last summer at Stanford University. His idea is to track the cells that eventually grow into a tumor.

"What you can do is try and trace which stem cell it comes from," Rallapalli explained. "The problem is there isn't a really successful tracking method."

Using a fluorescent gene that stays with cancer cells as they divide, Rallapalli found a way to view it with a polarized filter.

Doraiswami came up with a diagnostic tool for prostate cancer using a computer model, called an artificial neural network, that "learns." Over time, like a doctor learns to spot the symptoms of a disease, Doraiswami's project can learn to diagnose prostate cancer.

"ANN is a type of computer software that simulates how our brain works," Doraiswami said. "I think this can be used in a clinical setting."

He said he was motivated to explore prostate cancer after his



grandfather was diagnosed with it.

Both teens are looking forward to Intel ISEF 2010, which is set for May 9-14.

For Doraiswami, Intel ISEF is about "meeting people from around the world, (and) making new connections as well as seeing the different ideas that people have."

Rallapalli is glad the fair is being held locally.

"It's going to be a lot more fun. The San Jose fair is expected to be the biggest Intel ISEF in history," he said.

Both are hopeful but cautious. Doraiswami, for example, was reluctant to talk too much about his chance for winning because he didn't want to jinx himself.

Rallapalli — competing for the third time — said he didn't even think his project would win the local competition.

Even if they don't take home the top prize, both say they're excited about the practical applications of their projects. Both are planning careers in biotechnology. ■

# Fighting against the war on drugs

Prohibition is a failure, says former undercover cop

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

The war on drugs is not working, former DEA Task Force Officer Robert "Russ" Jones told Rotary North members at their meeting Friday. Criminals are getting rich, and drug use has not gone down in the last 40 years.

"For 37 years I was involved in the war on drugs," said Jones, 63, who was raised in Los Gatos.

He was a helicopter pilot in Vietnam, then joined the San Jose Police Department in 1970, the year after President Nixon declared the war on drugs.

"As police officers on the streets, we didn't see any problems with drugs," he recalled.

But as the federal government gave grants to enforce drug prohibition, police forces signed up. Jones joined the Narcotics Division in 1974 and worked undercover, infiltrating the drug world with results that made headlines and took the local dealers off the streets.

"We knew someone would take over," Jones said. "And the Nuestra Familia moved into the void in San Jose."

The fight was frustrating, he said. "When I arrested a robber or a rapist I made it safer. With a drug arrest, I just made a job opening."

Jones worked at Santa Rita Jail for five years, as a deputy at Greystone, its maximum security facility. He joined the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency in the late 1970s, and worked in Central America during the Iran-Contra affair in the 1980s.

He visited China and the U.S.S.R. in 1988-89, where he accompanied Moscow narcotics officers on a methamphetamine lab bust. He said that there, too, as quickly as they arrest dealers, others replace them.

"If the Soviet Union — a repressive regime — is unable to control its drugs, how can the United States, with all its freedoms?" he asked.

When the United States launched its war, it pressured other nations to join in. Now, internationally \$400 billion is spent each year on the war on drugs, said Jones, although other countries are rethinking their policies.

"Switzerland has begun treating heroin addiction with heroin," he said. "There has been a 50 percent decline in overdose deaths, a reduction in AIDS and hepatitis, crime has been cut 60 percent, and there has been an 82 percent decline in the number of addicts."

In the U.S., the rate of addiction is now 1.3 percent of the population, the same as it was in 1970 when the war on drugs began, Jones noted. Since the war began, the U.S. has spent \$1 trillion on the fight; there have been 38 million non-violent drug arrests; and the prison population is now at 2.2 million, a higher percentage than any other country in the world.

"We need to fight smarter; we need to reframe the debate," Jones said. "It isn't a 'left' or a 'right' issue — it isn't a Republican or Democrat issue."



DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI



Robert "Russ" Jones from Law Enforcement Against Prohibition speaks to Rotary North about the failed war on drugs, saying they should be regulated, not prohibited. Left, Jones during his undercover days with the San Jose Police Department Narcotics Squad.

He quoted Albert Einstein: "Insanity is doing the same thing, over and over again, but expecting different results."

"You can be anti-drug and still be anti-prohibition," he said, adding that forcing abstinence or regulating pleasure has never worked. "I use the word 'regulate.'"

"We can collapse the drug cartels as easily as we did Al Capone," he said, by ending prohibition. "Street gangs aren't distilling alcohol and selling it to teens."

Doctors should be able to write prescriptions for drugs, and addiction should be treated as a health problem, he said. "We have to get the Department of Justice out of the doctor's office and remove the street dealers."

"The use of tobacco has been decreased from 42 percent to 17 percent — without arresting and jailing tobacco users," he said. The key has been education.

After the speech, several Rotarians had questions.

"How can this change come about?" asked Ron Sutton.

Jones said it will have to be a grassroots effort, and it will be incremental.

"Leaders don't lead, they follow," he said, so they must hear what

their constituents want.

"How has medical marijuana worked?" asked someone else.

Jones said the problem is putting dispensaries into communities. "It should be sold at Walgreen's." Thirteen states have legalized medical marijuana but federal laws still prohibit it.

Someone else asked whether putting doctors in charge of now illegal drugs would put them into a difficult position.

"Ritalin is a methamphetamine," Jones noted, plus doctors now prescribe pain pills.

"How do you spread this knowledge?" was the last question.

Jones said that's why he has joined Law Enforcement Against Prohibition, and he suggested people find out more at [www.leap.cc](http://www.leap.cc).

After the speech former Judge Ron Hyde said he is not convinced that marijuana is not a gateway drug to harder substances since drug addicts that came through his court said they'd begun with alcohol and marijuana.

Jones said that statistics don't support this point: 41 percent of U.S. residents ages 12 and over say they have used marijuana while hard drug addiction remains at 1.3 percent. ■

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## Memorial run for slain officers Saturday

Transplant recipient from Richmond officer to take part

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

Every one of the 1,000 to 1,500 participants expected at the California Peace Officers Association (CPOA) Memorial Run on Saturday has a unique story, but for one man, it's a matter of life and death.

The life of Livermore resident Michael Lause was saved by Richmond officer Brad Moody in 2008. While that in itself isn't unusual, Moody saved Lause from beyond the grave. Lause would have died if not for a lung transplant; Moody, who'd signed up to be an organ donor, not only saved Lause but five others, too, donating his lungs, heart, pancreas, kidneys and liver.

Lause, a marathon runner, contracted a lung disease that left him bedridden and on oxygen. For him, the CPOA event is about honoring Moody. Last year, without telling any of the organizers, Lause walked the route, just months after his transplant.

"I read about it in the paper. I said this was a memorial walk (and) Brad had fallen in the line of duty," Lause said. "I just wanted to walk it for him, to show that I was trying to keep his lungs in good shape. I felt it was a tribute to him to do that."

He walked with his teenage daughter, Kathryn, and along the way, they ran into some officers from the Richmond Police Department, and asked if they knew Moody. They were told the officers worked with him every day, and they walked the rest of the route together.

Lause is especially grateful to have received his lung from Moody, whom he described as a hero.

"It's such a miracle that it happened — not only that it happened



COURTESY OF PLEASANTON POLICE LT. MIKE ELERICK

Runners in the 2009 California Peace Officers Association Memorial Run and Barbecue. The event this year is set for May 8 and could draw as many as 1,500 people to raise money for the families of slain police officers

to me, but the donor, that I got his lung," Lause said.

An occasional marathon runner and frequent 10K runner, Lause said he started to get out of breath on hill climbs a few years ago, and his wife, Marilyn, finally convinced him to see a doctor. He was diagnosed with a degenerative lung disease that ultimately would have been fatal.

This year, Lause plans to run rather than walk. He's also setting up a table with information to help convince others to become organ donors.

"I said, 'What a great way to recognize the California Donor Network,'" Lause said.

This year's event is set for Saturday at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park in Pleasanton. Runners can choose a 5K or 10K course, and there's a fun run for children. Proceeds go to Northern California Concerns of Police Survi-

vors (NorCal COPS), which assists in the rebuilding of lives for survivors of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty.

Pleasanton Lt. Mike Elerick said the run this year will be especially poignant, given that four officers from Oakland died in a gun battle last year.

Those four — Sgt. Ervin Romans, Sgt. Mark Dunakin, Sgt. Daniel Sakai and Officer John Hege — will be remembered, along with Sgt. Steven May of Modesto, Sgt. Greg Hernandez of the Tulare County Sheriffs Department and Sgt. Curtis Massey of Culver City.

Elerick said the event, which will be catered by Outback Steakhouse, is not simply a fundraiser.

"It brings families together, it raises awareness, and just raises money for a good cause," he said. ■

## Fairground's Rick Pickering earns top Scouting award

Distinguished Eagle Scout status goes to limited number of Americans

By JEB BING

Rick Pickering, the chief executive officer of the Alameda County Agricultural Fair Association — which operates the Alameda County Fair — has been named a Distinguished Eagle Scout.

This national award is granted to a limited number of Eagle Scouts who have distinguished themselves in their life work and who have shared their talents with their community as active volunteers. Of the 2 million Eagle Scouts in the U.S., only one in a thousand has been presented with the national Distinguished Eagle Scout Award.

The Western Fairs Association, in concert with the San Francisco Bay Area Scout Council and the Boy Scouts of America, nominated Pickering for the award.

Pickering has served as president of the Western Fairs Association, the California Fairs Service Authority and the California Authority of Racing Fairs. He is also a board member of the California Construction Authority, and chairman of the Cali-

formia Fairs Alliance. He was named by Amusement Business Magazine as "One of the Most Creative CEOs in America" and is Pickering is a top leader in California's billion-dollar fair horse racing industry.

"Rick Pickering is the 'go-to' guy in our industry," said Stephen Chambers, executive director of the Western Fairs Association. "He is regularly called upon to help address the most complex financial, legal and political issues in our very complicated industry."

"As we approach the 200th anniversary of fairs in America, we are proud that fair management has become recognized as a valuable profession, and that Rick Pickering is being nationally recognized as one of our most talented leaders — a CEO that leads with exemplary character," Chambers added.

Pickering was a 1st Class Scout at Maxwell Park elementary school in Oakland. He obtained the rank of Eagle Scout with Crossed Palms while attending Pittsburg High School, where he also served as

student body president. As an adult Scout, he serves as an assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 941, assistant advisor for Crew 940 and backpacks every six weeks with older Scouts.

He has received numerous Scouting awards including the National Vigil Honor, Silver Beaver Award, District Award of Merit, God and Country Award, and more. He is currently the president elect of the board for the San Francisco Bay Area Scout Council, which has more than 40,000 members.

He holds a master's degree from the University of Southern California and a bachelor's degree from Biola University in La Mirada, Calif. He and his wife Dawn have three sons: Chris and Nick, who are also Eagle Scouts, and Josh, a Life Scout.

Pickering will be presented with the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award at a dinner at the Airport Hilton in Oakland on June 2, where more than 200 Bay Area Scouts will be honored for reaching the ranks of Eagle Scout. ■

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## Texas firm wins Alameda County contract for ambulance service

Supervisors oust American Medical Response (AMR) after 40 years

By JEB BING

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors voted 4-0 to replace the county's current ambulance service provider with a company from Texas.

The board's vote to negotiate a contract with Paramedics Plus of Tyler, Texas, came at the end of a four-hour hearing at which most speakers, including many paramedics, urged the county to continue to contract with American Medical Response, which is located in Greenwood Village, Colo., and has been operating in the county for nearly 40 years.

But county Health Care Services Agency Director Alex Briscoe recommended that the new five-year contract be awarded to Paramedics Plus because it submitted a lower bid and scored better in

an analysis conducted by outside experts.

The contract is to work with the county's Emergency Medical Services division to provide emergency ambulance service throughout the county, except for the cities of Albany, Berkeley, Piedmont and Alameda, where local fire departments provide ambulance services.

Paramedics that work for AMR told the Board of Supervisors that they fear for their jobs and also are concerned that the quality of care will decline under Paramedics Plus.

But Paramedics Plus chief executive Tony Myers said that he would hire locally and would retain all the paramedics who currently work for AMR, as long as they pass a drug test.

Supervisor Scott Haggerty said, "I don't want to see one of them (current AMR paramedics) unemployed."

Haggerty said he would "hold their feet to the fire" and would be "really p...ed off if I'm deceived."

Myers said, "We'll keep our promises and our commitments."

He said Paramedics Plus is "very labor-friendly" and has been endorsed by the Alameda County Central Labor Council, the machinists' union and the local fire chiefs association.

The Health Care Services Agency will return to the board in a month or two to get final approval of the new contract for Paramedics Plus. The contract is for five years plus a possible five-year extension. ■



DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

This existing access gate to the property off Foothill Road will be pushed back 75-80 feet.

### FOOTHILL

Continued from Page 5

compromises — they ended up losing two lots."

The reduction in the number of home lots from six to four reduced the number of trees impacted, from 168 to 67. Dolan also noted that a silt fence would be installed around construction sites when the homes are built to protect the Alameda whipsnake, which could exist farther up on the Pleasanton Ridge.

Planning Commissioner Phil Blank said he was surprised that the disclosures did not include the proximity of Foothill High School or the railroad tracks.

"When we were standing on the site the train went by and it didn't seem worth disclosing," said Pavan. "We can add it."

He also remarked that the high school is right across the street and that people are aware of the noise and traffic that would come with it. The railroad, he added, leaves Foothill Road several miles south

to go under the freeway and toward downtown.

Commissioner Kathy Narum said she wanted to make sure that construction was mandated to work around the morning traffic on Foothill Road and was assured this was included in the development plans.

The site is accessed from Foothill Road via a private road, which already exists. Plans call for a gate at the road to be moved farther onto the property about 75-80 feet. Residents want the safety and privacy the gate affords, according to the staff report, and have had problems with trespassing on their property and a number of burglaries.

The city of Pleasanton discourages more gated communities, said planners, since they inhibit a sense of community and make services more difficult to provide. But planning staff agreed it was justified to maintain the gate.

The Foothill Road development is tentatively scheduled to go before the City Council for approval June 1. ■

### SUPERINTENDENT

Continued from Page 5

demically, but also the social and emotional needs of the students. Student achievement is critical, but we also have to make sure that the social and emotional needs of the students are being met."

Ahmadi wants to ensure what she called wraparound services for all students.

"If a student has academic needs, we need to look at academic needs," she explained. "If the student has needs for other services, how do we provide that for the students? What are some of the things we can put in as safety nets for our students that are at risk? I think it is critical that the student is involved and also the parents."

Ahmadi isn't planning any big changes in the district, at least for now.

"I'm going to enjoy getting to know everybody," she said. "I'm going to visit all the school sites and meet with staff and principals. I think my first few months will be

to wrap my arms around Pleasanton and go from there."

Grant said he's very pleased that the school board will be working with Ahmadi.

"She's an ideal choice for Pleasanton, given her background in K-12 curriculum, her experience working in a diverse community, her focus on academic excellence, her commitment to working on the whole child, their well being and character development. Her demeanor and her communication style are going to fit very well with the management team that we have."

Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates, Ltd. (HYA) was hired at a base cost of \$30,000 to conduct the PUSD's search. An initial pool of 30 candidates was narrowed to six, then four.

The final four were interviewed in a series of closed-door sessions April 16-18. Those candidates met with a community panel of administrators, parents, community leaders and teachers union representatives. ■

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## EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

### Be sure to read sample ballot, information pamphlet before voting

Nearly 200 pages of ballot information no doubt has landed in your mailbox as it has ours this week, about evenly divided between the California statewide direct primary information booklet and the sample ballot and voter information pamphlet from Alameda County. Even if you've decided on a candidate or how you'll vote on the five statewide propositions or on Measure D on Oak Grove it's worth your while to carefully peruse each candidate's statement as well as arguments for and against the measures to make sure you're making an informed decision. Also, since you can cast absentee ballots starting Monday, nearly a month before the June 8 primary, your vote won't be counted before Election Day so you might wait a bit to see and hear the candidates and the measure promotions. Remember, too, there have been numerous times when voters have cast their ballots well ahead of the actual election to find their favorite candidate has dropped out of the race, or that new information has been disclosed that would have changed how they voted.

Leafing through the statewide ballot information, the June 8 primary has its usual long lists of candidates for key state posts. A total of 23 names are listed for the Governor's race, 13 for Lieutenant Governor, seven for Secretary of State and 14 for Attorney General. Some candidate's names are familiar, such as Steve Poizner and Meg Whitman, who are battling it out for the Republican nomination for governor, and Attorney General Edmund G. "Jerry" Brown who is the leading candidate for that office on the Democratic ticket. Here in Pleasanton, which is split into three State Assembly districts, Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan, a Democrat, and San Ramon Mayor Abram Wilson, a Republican, are repeating their primary bids which sent them head-to-head in 2008 for the 15th District seat, which Buchanan won. Assemblywoman Mary Hayashi is unchallenged in her bid for re-nomination on the Democratic ticket to seek re-election in the 18th District. The only contest for Assembly is in the 20th District, where Alberto Torrico is stepping down because of term limits to run for Attorney General on the Democratic ticket. Fremont Councilman Bob Weickowski is running against Ohlone Community College trustee Garrett Yee for Torrico's seat, with Adnan Shahab the only candidate on the Republican Party ticket.

While the five statewide propositions deserve careful reading, we especially hope you'll turn to the middle of the Alameda County pamphlet. That's the start of 58 pages of detailed information on Measure D. A Yes vote would allow Jennifer and Frederic Lin to build 51 homes on property they own at the end of Kottlinger Ranch's Hearst Drive. They also signed a development agreement when their project was approved in 2007 by the Pleasanton City Council to contribute free of charge 496 acres of wooded land they own adjacent to the homes. The land will be available for use by the public in perpetuity as open space and parkland. The referendum is the result of an appeal of the council's decision by a group opposed to the development. Its points are well stated in the lengthy assessment of Measure D, which makes for detailed reading but also a better informed voter before casting the ballot. ■



Visit Town Square at [PleasantonWeekly.com](http://PleasantonWeekly.com)  
to comment on the editorial.

## GUEST OPINION



By KATHLEEN HART-HINEK

### 'Planned progress' continues with Oak Grove

**M**y name is Kathleen Hart-Hinek. I'm a 44-year resident of Pleasanton. I will be voting Yes on Measure D at the June 8 election. Before I tell you why I am voting Yes on Measure D, I'd like to share my Pleasanton story:

My dad, Thomas Hart, got his first teaching job in Pleasanton in 1950 and commuted from Castro Valley to Pleasanton until 1965 when my Mom, Mary, and he decided Pleasanton was the town where they wanted to establish their roots and raise their family. My parents left our Castro Valley home and, with seven kids, moved into our family home on Gerard Court in the Pleasanton Heights neighborhood.

My best memories of growing up in Pleasanton were in the 1970s when we were free to roam the hills and ridges and explore this great city on foot. I can remember my friends and I would go to the end of Concord Street in the Vintage Hills neighborhood, slip through the barbed wire fence, and spend the day in the hills. Nothing but rolling hills, nature and fishing at Otis' pond. These hills I used to explore as a child are now called Kottlinger Ranch. In 1996, my husband, Bronco, and I were fortunate enough to purchase a lot in Kottlinger Ranch and build our dream home. We now raise our family of three in the hills I used to explore as a child.

Smart growth entered Pleasanton in the 1970s, '80s and '90s, and the hills and ridges I explored while growing up are now known as Vintage Hills 2, Grey

Eagle, Pleasanton Hills, Bonde Ranch and Ventana Hills, just to name a few developments built in the Pleasanton hills. Behind the motto, City of Planned Progress, the hills came alive with great developments, wonderful families moved to town, and the city began a revitalization. Development meant property tax money to fund programs, parks and schools. Pleasanton thrived and our schools became nationally recognized. This small town grew without losing its small-town feel.

Oak Grove is much like every neighborhood that I previously mentioned. What sets this development apart, however, is what Oak Grove is giving back to our city:

1. Millions of dollars to our schools.
2. One million dollars to traffic improvements.
3. Yearly property taxes to fund vital services.
4. A permanent block against future development to the southeast.

And most importantly, a 496-acre park to be used by all Pleasanton residents. No need to climb under a barbed wire fence to explore the hills like my friends and I did in the 1970s. The 496-acre park will allow all of us to actually experience the ridges, live them, explore them and enjoy them. Oak Grove is not only important to Pleasanton today, but future generations will benefit from this development.

Pleasanton is such a great city and I know there is a temptation to say you don't want it to change. I have the experience to say, Pleasanton became the great city it is today by change or what we call smart growth. We are the City of Planned Progress. I urge you to vote Yes on Measure D.

*Kathleen Hart-Hinek enjoys spending time with her family and friends and entertaining at her home. She is proud to be raising her family in her hometown of Pleasanton.*

## LETTERS

### Newspaper vs. Internet

Dear Editor,

I assume most of us own and operate a computer, though I have friends who do not. I subscribe to newspapers and magazines because I like to read newspapers and magazines. I do not like to read a partial article that ends by telling me if I would like to read more on the subject, I need to log onto "whatever."

A perfect example is the mother-daughter lookalike contest. I enjoy seeing the pictures in print. I do not particularly enjoy having to log on to the website to see the photos, or read whatever it is that is contin-

ued, whether it's from your paper, any other paper, a magazine or the TV news.

I hope for all of our sakes that newsprint does not disappear from our world.

Kay Ivins

### Reasonable compromise

Dear Editor,

Be sensible about Oak Grove.

Oak Grove will add 51 home sites to approximately 200 homes in Kottlinger Ranch. The city will receive school fees and property taxes as with all new development, and 496 acres of open space which is unique to Oak Grove. Anyone who builds a home in Pleasanton pays \$8.63 per square foot to the Pleasanton Uni-

See **LETTERS** on Page 11

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**LETTERS**

Continued from Page 10

fied School District. Assuming an average 5,000-square-foot home in Oak Grove, that is over \$2 million and likely much more. There is almost zero chance there will ever be a single 12,500-square-foot home, even if such an unprecedented monstrosity were proposed.

Kottinger Ranch homes average somewhere between 3,000 square foot and 4,000 square foot. Perhaps homes in Oak Grove may be larger on average: 4,000 square feet to 6,000 square feet? The land is both zoned residential and included in the General Plan for up to 98 homes. A compromise to allow 51 vs. 98 homes with nearly 500 acres of open space in return seems to me to be the sensible thing to do. I am voting Yes on D, not because I want 51 more large homes but because I believe it is a reasonable compromise for the greater community.

**Jon Harvey, 13-year resident of Kottinger Ranch**

**No on Measure D**

Dear Editor,

I am voting No on Measure D. As Pleasanton residents we already voted to protect our ridgelines from development. Now, another developer push to mar the ridgelines is called Measure D. The promises in their fliers are very misleading. Our schools will not be saved. Fees paid by the proposed ridgeline homeowners cannot be used for classroom programs, reduction of class size or salaries. What would Measure D provide? It will allow wealthy landowners to bulldoze the ridgelines and erect huge mansions that will blight our beautiful view! These big box houses will be visible from all parts of the city. Let's not make the same mistakes made in other cities. Protect Pleasanton's ridgeline by voting No on measure D.

**Linda Garbarino**

**Sewer, water rate hikes do not make sense**

Dear Editor,

I strongly disagree with your opinion that raising sewer and water rates make sense (April 23 Editorial: "Proposed water/sewer rate increase makes sense.")

My hometown is Exeter, Calif. It is a small farming community in the Central Valley at the base of the Sierra Nevada. Let us compare the utility rates between Exeter and Pleasanton.

■ Sewer: Exeter, \$18 per month; Pleasanton, \$60.61

■ Water: Exeter, \$20 per month; Pleasanton, \$54.45

Pleasanton's rates are about three times higher than Exeter's and you propose that a rate hike makes sense? What makes sense here? Exeter has to pump the water, pump the sewage, treat the sewage and maintain the system just as Pleasanton does.

With a large portion of the population out of work or working for less, the emphasis should be on how to provide more for less, not less for more.

You can confirm what I have stated by going to www.cityofex-

eter.com. Exeter's population has been growing over the years with people from Los Angeles and the Bay Area fed up with this type of abuse. Exeter is looking more and more attractive to me but with one exception. It still resides in California, a state more concerned about protecting the Delta smelt than providing its citizens with water, and a state not capable of providing a reasonable balanced budget.

**Ken McNees**

**Homes would be huge**

Dear Editor,

To Pleasanton voters: Vote No on Measure D. Did you ever shop at the now-empty Domus store? The one which was Pleasanton's largest grocery store in the 1960s? It's about 8,400 square feet, which is the average size of the 51 homes authorized for the Oak Grove property. The largest homes could go to 12,500 square feet, so add another 50 percent to the Domus building. Of course, that does not count the multi-car garage, cabana house, or second unit.

A yard of dirt would be a good-sized load for a full-sized pickup truck. To build those 51 homes, it would take 620,000 such loads to move the dirt that the Oak Grove developers plan to cut off Pleasanton's southern ridges. To cut 43 feet off a hill top, a lot of dirt needs to be moved. Add a mile-long road on the just flattened ridge to service the 51 houses.

I have other concerns — the visibility of many homes from the valley floor, habitat destruction, fire danger to homes on hilltops surrounded by grasslands, significant distances and time delays for fire trucks, a truncated city hearing process before the approval, a developer lawsuit to invalidate this referendum, big money trying to buy this election.

Lastly, this project violates ridgeline protection (Measure PP) just passed by the voters in the last election.

Vote to preserve our ridgeline. Vote to protect the environment. Vote No on Measure D.

**Brian Arkin**

**Yes for future of Pleasanton**

Dear Editor,

I would like to share my thoughts on Oak Grove and Measure D.

While I am happy that Pleasanton voters will have the opportunity to vote on the Oak Grove plan, I'm disappointed that it has taken this long to approve a plan that clearly brings great benefits to our community with very little impact. What more can we possibly ask for than a plan that asks for nearly half of what the landowners are allowed to do on the property (only 51 home sites instead of 98) while also giving the city of Pleasanton 496 acres of open space to help protect against future growth to the south-east. With so much open space, Pleasanton residents will benefit with trails for hiking, biking and equestrian with a parking and staging area.

If you still need more reasons to vote Yes on Measure D, think

about the property tax revenue that will be generated for the city as a result of 51 homes. It is estimated the city will receive approximately \$200,000 annually to help pay for vital city services. Lastly, and maybe most importantly, our treasured schools will receive much needed revenue from property taxes estimated at \$300,000 every year, as well as a one-time direct fee of \$2 million.

For the future of Pleasanton, vote Yes on D.

**Dick Quigley**

**Sierra Club says No on D**

Dear Editor,

The San Francisco Bay Chapter of the Sierra Club recommends No on the Oak Grove subdivision because of its unsound environmental impact. Oak Grove has been a troubled project from the beginning. Not even the Planning Commission would approve the Environmental Impact Report because it's that bad.

Ridgetops would be scraped off for a ridgeline road and building

pads, with around 700,000 cubic yards of excavated dirt being deposited in valleys. If you think "mountaintop removal," you'll understand why so many of us know this project is so very wrong.

Also, 950 blue oak trees could disappear, some a century old, because the project design has them within or adjacent to the area of grading.

The footprint of the proposed 8,000- to 12,500-square-foot residences is incredible. With a planet climate emergency right in our face, how does anyone in all conscience justify old discredited building practices with supersized use of materials and consumption of energy?

Insensitive housing developments disfigure scenic views, destroy centennial oaks, fill in creeks, and damage habitat. The current project design just makes no sense.

Visit //sanfranciscobay.sierraclub.org/. Send this flawed project back for rework by voting No on Measure D.


**Richard Pugh, Sierra Club Tri-Valley Group Executive Committee**

**Thinking long term**

Dear Editor,

Oak Grove is a win-win for the city, residents, trail and open space advocates, schools and future generations. I have lived in Pleasanton for 42 years and have always felt that it is critical for us to think long term about what is best for Pleasanton now and for years ahead. Over the years we have worked hard to maintain our small-town character by planning for smart growth and new developments. With Oak Grove we have the chance to protect Pleasanton's ridgeline by approving a plan with only 51 home sites and 496 acres of permanently preserved open space. The property owner worked closely with environmental leaders plus trail and park advocates to assure the open space was available and accessible to the public. I strongly urge residents to vote for the future of Pleasanton by voting Yes on D.

**Karen Toms**




**VALLEYCARE NURSES PROVIDE**  
*a Culture of Caring*

**ValleyCare nurses make a difference.** Our nurses combine their exceptional skills with personalized care and compassion creating a hallmark for ValleyCare Health System.

In honor of **National Nurses Week**, we wish to thank every one of our nurses for their commitment to excellence and continued dedication to promoting health and wellness to all who come under their care.

**EXCELLENCE YOU CAN EXPECT.**



**Serving the Tri-Valley with Medical Facilities in Livermore and Pleasanton.**  
[www.valleycare.com](http://www.valleycare.com)

THE FINALISTS



Avni and Sangita Patel



Sheila and Cassie Cross



Leslie and Kealy Morissey



Samantha Voss and Laurie Latronica



Linda Bourland with Marlo and McKenna



Madalyn and Kimberly Warren



Kellie and Jackie Cheves



Ann and Christine Morrissey



Kottinge

Oak Grove proposes 40 ma

**Don't Mess with this Ridge**  
[www.savepleasantonhills.com](http://www.savepleasantonhills.com)

paid by Save Pleasanton Hills Co



Malea and Carina Cortez



Mindy and Emma Garman



Katie, Nancy and Jenny Lyness



Holly and Kate Sanders



Janel and Brittney Fowler



Saira Fattah and Raniya, Inny and Zara



Erica and Anne Haas



Emily Daniels Lange and Marty Daniels

# Like mother, like daughter



*Weekly celebrates Mother's Day with its annual look-alike contest*

**“Y**ou look just like your mother!” All women love to hear someone say that to their daughters. And many daughters like it, too.

To celebrate mothers in Pleasanton, the Weekly once again held its annual Mother-Daughter Look-Alike contest, which drew 16 entries. We had our readers vote online for the winners, and this year there was a tie, with the honors going to:

- Sangita Patel and Avni, 10, who attends Hearst Elementary
- Sheila Cross and her daughter Cassie, 14, who is a freshman at Foothill High

They will enjoy \$100 gift certificates to Strizzi's restaurant.

Close runner-ups were Leslie Morissey and her daughter Kealy, who is in the second grade at Frederiksen Elementary in Dublin.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the contest. And thank you to the 970 people who voted.

Happy Mother's Day! ■



er Ridge

nsions atop this 2 mile ridge

# Vote NO on D

Committee FPPC #1307557

# ON THE TOWN



## AMERICAN

### 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)

## BARBECUE

### Red Smoke Grill

4501 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 734-0307. Home of the Tri Tip and Blue, Red Smoke Grill was Voted Reader's Choice Best 2006, 2007, 2008. Dine in or take out rotisserie chicken, ribs, prawns, salads and tri tip, or pulled pork sandwiches. Relax with a beer or a bottle of wine. Visit [www.redsmokegrill.com](http://www.redsmokegrill.com).

## BREW PUB/ALEHOUSE

### The Hop Yard American Alehouse and Grill

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

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

## ITALIAN

### Pastas Trattoria

405 Main St., Pleasanton, 417-2222. Pastas Trattoria has an elegant atmosphere and a one-of-a-kind menu. We feature steaks, seafood and our famous pasta, plus a superb selection of spirits and fine wines. Reserve our banquet facilities for large parties, up to 70 guests.

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

**Pleasanton Weekly**  
PRINT & ONLINE

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**Pleasanton Weekly READERS CHOICE 2009**

### Best Sushi/Japanese Restaurant

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Best Thai Food in the Bay Area Since 1996

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www.littlehomethai.com  
Mon-Sun • Lunch 11am-3pm  
Dinner 5-9:30pm

**Dinner Special**  
**15% Off**

2 entree minimum. Not valid with any other offer or on take out. One coupon per table. Expires 6/6/10

Voted "Best Thai Restaurant" **Pleasanton Weekly READERS CHOICE 2009**

## Mother's Day BRUNCH

Sunday, May 9th, 2010

Adults 35 Seniors 30 Children age 6-12 15 Children Under age 5 Free

FRESHLY SQUEEZED JUICES  
CHEF'S CARVING STATION  
ICED SEAFOOD DISPLAY  
HOT ENTREES  
BREAKFAST ITEMS  
BRICK OVEN PIZZA STATION  
SALADS  
ARTISAN CHEESE TRAY  
DESSERT DISPLAY

925 460 0444 • 5121 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton  
Available 10:30 am - 3:30 pm

925 838 1320 • 600 Hartz Avenue, Danville  
Available 10:00 am - 3:30 pm

# Mother's Day

Call To Make Your Reservations Today!

[www.fazrestaurants.com](http://www.fazrestaurants.com)

## Jiou Yuan Mandarin Bistro

10% discount coupon. Valid on 5/09/10

Open for Mother's Day, Sunday  
5/09/2010 11:30am - 10:00pm

**LUNCH**  
MON - FRI 11:30 - 2:00

**DINNER**  
MON - THURS 5:00 - 9:30  
FRI & SAT 5:00 - 10:00  
Sunday Closed

**(925) 484-4880**

30 W Angela St - Downtown Pleasanton  
(Between Main St & 1st St)

Lunch Specials Start at \$6.25 Private Banquet Room Available

## Mother's Day Brunch

(Dinner also available)  
Sunday, May 9th • 10:00 AM - 3:30 PM

# BOSCO'S BONES & BREW

PASTA • CHICKEN • VEAL • SEAFOOD • STEAK

### MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

ADULTS \$25.95 • CHILDREN (12 & UNDER) \$13.95

Prime Rib • Smoked Ham • Roasted Turkey  
Poached Sole with Champagne Sauce  
Chicken Chaucer • Eggs Benedict • Rice Pilaf  
Ratatouille • Calamari Salad • Chocolate Mousse  
Creme Caramel and MUCH MORE!

**Live Band Fri & Sat**

NO COVER CHARGE 8pm - midnight

Apr 30 The Four Trak Band

May 1 Bay Area Heat

May 7 Sonny at the Toll Booth

May 8 Blues Bottle Band

925.862.0821 • 11922 MAIN ST., SUNOL

[WWW.BOSCOSBONESANDBREW.COM](http://WWW.BOSCOSBONESANDBREW.COM)

## Mother's Day Champagne Brunch • May 9

10:30 am - 2:30 pm

Please join us for one of Sunol's most popular events of the year. Our Executive Chef will prepare a wide variety of buffet items that will keep you coming back for more!

Adults	\$32.00
Seniors (60 and over)	\$28.00
Children (5-12)	\$13.00
Children 4 and under	FREE

(prices do not include tax and gratuity)

**Call Today for Reservations!**  
**(925) 862-2408**

For more details visit [www.sunolvalley.com](http://www.sunolvalley.com) **Sunol Valley Golf Club**

## Chinese Szechuan RESTAURANT

Szechuan & Mandarin Cuisine

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NO MSG • TAKEOUT & CATERING

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846-5251 • [www.chineseszr.biz](http://www.chineseszr.biz)

BANQUET ROOM AVAILABLE • CLOSED ON MONDAYS

# IN THE SPOTLIGHT



**Chorus to serenade mothers and others:** Broadway Chorus, a Tri-Valley community choral group, will perform "The Great Choruses of Broadway 2" this weekend at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road. Performances will take place at 8 p.m. tonight and Saturday; and at 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$18 for ages 18 and over; \$15 for seniors; \$10 for 18 and under. Call 462-2121 or go to [www.broadwaychorus.org](http://www.broadwaychorus.org).

## Auditions

**JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT** Auditions for adults are at 7:30 p.m. May 10 and May 11 at 315 Wright Brothers Ave., Livermore, for this Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre production. Children's auditions are at 9 a.m. May 15. Visit [www.trivalleyrep.com](http://www.trivalleyrep.com) for details.

tickets at the door. Tickets are \$35 by June 11 or \$40 by Sept. 1. Call 916-768-5734 or visit [www.amadorvalley1990.com](http://www.amadorvalley1990.com).

**AVHS CLASS OF 1980 30TH REUNION** The reunion is scheduled for the weekend of Sept. 17. Fri. night BBQ meet & greet; Sat. night will be held at the Pleasanton Hilton. Call 453-7673 or email [minsmith@aerosurf.net](mailto:minsmith@aerosurf.net).

**EAST BAY EXECUTIVES ASSOCIATION** The East Bay Executives Association is a non-profit organization for helping businesses network with other businesses. It meets at 7:15 a.m. on the first and third Tuesdays monthly at Shari's, 3360 Castro Valley Blvd., Castro Valley. Call 600-7342.

**KIWANIS CLUB** The Kiwanis Club meets at 11:45 a.m. Fridays at Vic's

## Book Clubs

**BRAIN LEARNING BOOK CLUB** The club meets from 7-8:30 p.m. the third Wednesday of every month at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Non-fiction book club for folks interested in reading about neuroscience and learning. Call 872-8728 or email [kathryn@bellamenti.com](mailto:kathryn@bellamenti.com).

**GREAT BOOKS OF PLEASANTON** The Great Books of Pleasanton book club meets at 7:30 p.m. the fourth Monday monthly at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Call Sadie at 846-1658.

**PLEASANTON LIBRARY BOOK CLUB** The Pleasanton Library's Adult Book Club meets from 7 to 8 p.m. the fourth Monday of every month except December at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. If you enjoy reading and talking about books, join our group. For more information visit [www.pleasantonlibrarybookclub.wordpress.com](http://www.pleasantonlibrarybookclub.wordpress.com). Call 931-3400 ext. 7.

**TOWNE CENTER BOOKCLUB** The club meets at 7 p.m. the second Wednesday the month at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Call 846-8826 or visit [www.townecenterbooks.com](http://www.townecenterbooks.com) for the current selection.

## Class Reunions

**AMADOR VALLEY CLASS OF 1990** This private party reunion is from 7:45 p.m.-midnight. Sept. 11 at Redcoats, 336 St Mary St. No

## Classes

**PLEASANTON LIBRARY ENGLISH CONVERSATION** The Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., offers free English conversations classes from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays, noon to 1 p.m. Wednesdays, and 10 to 11 a.m. Thursdays. Call 931-3411.

**YOGA BASICS COMMUNITY CLASS** Beth Fox, certified yoga instructor, teaches Yoga Basics, a yoga class that is open to the public and meets from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Mondays at Lynnewood Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave. Supplies are available for class. Cost is \$12. Call 200-4060.

## Clubs

**BOOST YOUR CAREER AT TOASTMASTERS** Grow professionally at Chamber Chatters, a Toastmasters club that meets from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesdays at the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, 777 Peters Ave. Toastmasters International is a nonprofit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills. Visit [www.chamberchatters.wordpress.com](http://www.chamberchatters.wordpress.com).

**DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION DAR**, Daughters of the American Revolution, Jose Maria Amador Chapter meets the second Saturday of the month. It is a time for social gathering and to discuss the history of our American roots. We are descended from Patriots who won the American Revolutionary War. For meeting time and location, call Susan, 699-4147.

**30 BEERS ON TAP**

Most Menu Items Under \$10

**Join us for the "Beer Drinker Bailout Hour!"**

**\$1.50 Off ALL Beers!**

Sunday-Thursday  
3:30pm to 5:30pm

**PLEASANTON**  
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# Open Mother's Day

Please join us for an elegant sit-down brunch or a very special dinner.

Brunch 10am-2:00pm  
Dinner 4pm-8pm  
Call for Reservations

"Most Romantic Restaurant"

- Banquets • Full Bar
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*Barone's Restaurant*  
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**We Deliver!!**  
**Serving Dim Sum All Day Long**

**Best Chinese Cuisine & Dim Sum**

Something to crow about!

**THE FARMER RESTAURANT**  
At The Historic Pleasanton Hotel

**Mother's Day May 9th!**

**Make Your Reservations Now!**

- Breakfast Buffet/Brunch 10-3pm
- Dinner Buffet 3-8pm

\$29.95 Adults • \$12.95 Kids 4-12 yrs  
3 yrs and under FREE!

**It's ALWAYS fun... at the Farmer!**

Daily Happy Hour! 3-6pm

- \$3 Beer Specials
- \$3-\$6 Appetizers
- Drink Specials

Thursdays Only...  
**FREE Appetizers**

**LIVE MUSIC & DANCING AT 8PM**

FRI 5/7	★	Michael Paul Band.....	COUNTRY
SAT 5/8	★	TNT.....	ROCK
FRI 5/14	★	Bell Brothers.....	COUNTRY
SAT 5/15	★	Billy Martini Band.....	70's TRIBUTE

**855 Main Street, Downtown Pleasanton**  
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# Blessing Chinese Cuisine

Remember *Blessing* Restaurant?  
We're back in Pleasanton  
after being gone for 3 years.  
Come taste our premiere Chinese cuisine.  
Mission Plaza Shopping Center  
(next to Uncle Credit Union).

OPEN 7 days a week  
11am - 3pm  
4:30pm - 9:30pm  
Fri & Sat-open till 10pm

★ ★ ★ ★  
OUT OF 4  
BY THE TRI-VALLEY HERALD

(925) 846-6745

1989-D Santa Rita Road  
Premier Restaurant in Pleasanton Since 1983 [www.blessingasia.com](http://www.blessingasia.com)



# FONTINA *Ristorante*

THE TASTE OF ITALY IN BAY AREA

*Enjoy your favorite Italian dishes with our  
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**AWARD-WINNING  
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Kids eat free Mon & Tues
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Pleasanton Weekly's  
**BEST OF  
PLEASANTON**  
2007

**NEW WINE LIST  
AND  
COCKTAIL LIST COMING!**

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349 MAIN ST., DOWNTOWN PLEASANTON  
[WWW.FONTINAS.COM](http://WWW.FONTINAS.COM)

All Star Kitchen, 201 A Main St. For information, call 1-800-Kiwanis.

**LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY GARDEN CLUB (LAVGC)** The club will meet from 7-9 p.m. May 13 at Harvest Park Middle School, 4900 Valley Blvd. Topic "Garden Friends and Garden Pests." Guest speaker, Emma Connery, will discuss pest identification; are they friend or foe? Call 461-1725 or visit [www.orgsites.com/ca/lavgc](http://www.orgsites.com/ca/lavgc).

**PLEASANTON NEWCOMERS CLUB** This club is a great way for new and established residents to make new friends. It meets for coffee on the first Wednesday of every month and for lunch on the second Wednesday of every month. The group has activities like hiking, walking, Bunco and more. For more information, visit [www.pleasantonnewcomers.com](http://www.pleasantonnewcomers.com) or call Ruby M. at 462-6404.

**ROTARY CLUB OF PLEASANTON** The Rotary Club of Pleasanton since 1965 has been a leader in the community in helping make Pleasanton a great place to live. It has a luncheon meeting from 12:15-1:30 p.m., every Thursday, at Hap's Restaurant, 122

W. Neal St., Pleasanton. Cost for lunch is \$17. For information, visit [www.PleasantonRotary.org](http://www.PleasantonRotary.org).

**TOASTMASTERS AT CLUBSPORT OPEN TO ALL** The club meets from 7:30-8:30 p.m. every Tuesday April 13-June 29 at ClubSport Pleasanton, 7090 Johnson Dr. Professionals, become the speaker and leader you want to be with Toastmasters International. Drop by the next meeting to find out more. ClubSport members and non-members welcome. Call 225-2433 or visit [www.clubsports.com/pleasanton](http://www.clubsports.com/pleasanton).

## Concerts

**'STRINGS, TUBA AND MAHLER'** The Livermore-Amador Symphony will present "Strings, Tuba and Mahler" at 8 p.m., Saturday, May 15, at Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. The performance will feature Mahler's "Symphony No.1," "Concerto for Tuba" by Arutiunian featuring the Symphony Silicon Valley's principal tubist Tony Clements and Holst's "St. Paul's Suite" for strings. Tickets are \$20-\$28; \$8 for students; and

seniors get a \$2 discount. Call 373-6800 or visit [www.livamsymph.org](http://www.livamsymph.org).

**BROADWAY CHORUS PRESENTS "THE GREAT CHORUSES OF BROADWAY 2"** The concert is at 8 p.m. May 7 and May and at 2 p.m. on May 9 at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd. Broadway Chorus, a Tri-Valley community chorus, will perform "The Great Choruses of Broadway 2" on Mother's Day weekend. Cost \$18 for 18 and over, \$15 for seniors and \$10 for under 18 and under. Call 462-2121 or visit [www.trivalleyrep.org/season20092010/broadwaychorus/mothers\\_day.php](http://www.trivalleyrep.org/season20092010/broadwaychorus/mothers_day.php).

## Events

**70TH ANNUAL PLEASANTON ROSE SHOW** The event is from 1-5 p.m. May 8 at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Come and see the beautiful roses on their 70th annual display. Cost \$5 for wine tasting. Call Joyce Jones 398-6706, Leslie Faught 784-7979, Marti Gilbert 216-4063 or visit [www.PleasantonRoseShow.com](http://www.PleasantonRoseShow.com).

**A GENERAL MEETING OF THE WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA** The Widows and Widowers of Northern California wish to invite you to join them for a General Meeting at 10:30 a.m. May 11 at the Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin.

**ART AS SOULFUL INSPIRATION** Renowned artist, Julie Hutslar, will exhibit her newest works in watercolor and acrylic that inspire the soul and feed the heart at Studio 7 Fine Arts. There will be a reception from 5-9 p.m., May 7; and an open house from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, May 8; both at the studio, 400 Main St. This event is free. Visit [www.jrhutslar.com](http://www.jrhutslar.com).

**CALIFORNIA RETIRED TEACHERS LUNCHEON** California Retired Teachers Association, tri-Valley Division 85 will hold a luncheon

GET READY FOR FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS AT CAFE GARRE

Start Your Summer off in Style!  
Our First Friday Night  
Dinner & Concert Series  
Starts on May 28th

Featuring Garre's Award Winning  
Wines & Cuisine accompanied by a  
fabulous musical atmosphere created  
by:  
*Rene Escovedo & The Fuse*  
(A High Energy Phat Funky Jazz Fusion  
with Barrio Chicano Soul!)

Taking Reservations Now!



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# MOM

*Celebrate Mother's Day  
AT PASTAS!*

**Join us for Our Fabulous Champagne Brunch Buffet!**  
Sunday, May 9 10am-2pm  
ADULT \$29.95 SENIORS \$24.95 CHILDREN \$15.95

OR  
**A Special Mother's Day Dinner...**  
Make your reservations NOW — You don't want to disappoint MOM...

Graduation is right around corner—make your reservations NOW..  
Call today for Reservations (925) 417-2222  
405 Main Street, Pleasanton



**PASTAS**  
Trattoria

# Mother's Day Champagne Brunch Buffet

at




**8am — 1:30pm**

**Eggs Benedict • Joe's Special • Carved Honey Baked Ham  
Sliced Tri Tip • Cheese Blintzes • Crepes a Loraine • Smoked Bacon  
Club Sausage • Scrambled Eggs • Country All Star Potatoes  
Texas French Toast • Fresh Seasonal Fruit & Salads  
Assorted Baked Breakfast Pastries • Coffee, Tea & Soft Drinks Included**

**Adults \$18.75 • Seniors 62 Yrs \$15.25  
Children 10 Yrs & Under \$10.50 • Child 4 Yrs & Under FREE!**

*Reservations Encouraged 484-0789*

**Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner Banquets  
Catering • Patio Dining**

**201 Main Street, Downtown Pleasanton  
Open 7 days a week, 7am-2pm • [www.vicallstar.com](http://www.vicallstar.com)**

meeting at 11:15 a.m. May 18 at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Union Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. Local students will receive awards from the Scholarship Foundation. Cost \$11. Call 443-9913.

**FAMILY FUN DAY** Pleasanton Foothill Little League would like to invite everyone to its second Family Fun Day at 11 a.m. May 15 at Bernal Community Park. There will be carnival games, bounce house, cotton candy, face painting, silent auction, drawing with prizes and more. Support the league and local baseball.

**FARMERS MARKET** Island Earth's farmers market is open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fridays in the parking lot between Macy's and Sears at Stoneridge Shopping Center. It features organic produce, artisan wares, fresh flowers and more. Call 510-769-1525 or visit [islandearth-farmersmarket.org](http://islandearth-farmersmarket.org).

**GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION: IRON HORSE NUTRITION** Come to Iron Horse Nutrition's grand opening celebration from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, May 8, at the store, 4270 Rosewood Dr. Suite D. Its new neighbor Express Fitness is also celebrating its relocation within Rose Pavilion. Tour the store, the gym, meet with product vendors, and enter for prizes, giveaways and more. Call 373-0398 or visit [www.ironhorsenutrition.com](http://www.ironhorsenutrition.com).

**HAPPY HOUR IN PLEASANTON** The Widows and Widowers of Northern California wish to invite you to join them for happy hour from 5:30-7:30 p.m. May 20 at the Sheraton Hotel, 5990 Stoneridge Mall Rd. Cost your choice of food and beverage. Call 398-8005.

**HAWAIIAN DAY FESTIVAL** The event is from 9-6 p.m. May 8 and May 9 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave. Presented by Kumu Hula Association of Northern California. All day entertainment in the Amphitheater, Hawaiian food booths, arts and crafts, and bounce houses. Cost \$10, children 5 and under free. Call 650-355-6451 or visit [www.kumuhulaassociation.com](http://www.kumuhulaassociation.com).

**LADIES SPA AND HEALTH DAY** Bring your girlfriends for a day of food, wine, spa treatments, shopping and cooking demonstrations from noon-4 p.m., Sunday, May 23, at Elliston Vineyards, 463 Kilkare Rd., Sunol. Cost is \$15 per person, plus the cost of spa treatments. Contact Elliston for appointments at 862-2377.

**LUNCH WITH THOMAS STEINBECK** Thomas Steinbeck is the featured guest at the Read It and Eat Luncheon from 11:30-1 p.m. May 13 at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Thom's newest book is "In the Shadow of the Cypress." Lunch is served at noon and reservations are required. Cost \$30 for lunch and book; \$15 lunch only. Call 846-8826 or visit [www.pleasantonweekly.com](http://www.pleasantonweekly.com).

**MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH** Annual Mother's Day Champagne Brunch is from noon-2 p.m. May 9 at Elliston Vineyards, 463 Kilkare Rd., Sunol. Treat mom, grandmother, aunt, daughter or any special lady in your life to a delicious brunch prepared by our amazing in-house chef Jeff

Schulz. Advance reservation is required. Cost \$40 for adult and \$15 for children. Call 862-2377 or visit [www.elliston.com](http://www.elliston.com).

**PEACEFUL WAR PROTEST**

Pleasantonians 4 Peace has an ongoing peaceful war protest from 5 to 6 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the month, at First and Neal streets. Call Cathe Norman at 462-7495; Matt Sullivan at [mjs7882@gmail.com](mailto:mjs7882@gmail.com); or [kdowling@pacbell.net](mailto:kdowling@pacbell.net). Visit [www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org](http://www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org).

**SHREDDING EVENT** Free Shredding from 9 a.m. to noon May 15 at 5870 Stoneridge Mall Rd. On site shredding for all your paperwork. Call 200-3616 or email [margenrivara@comcast.net](mailto:margenrivara@comcast.net).

**SUNDAY STROLL** Pleasanton Kiwanis Club proudly presents its 2010 "Sunday Stroll," a restaurant and wine tasting walking tour at 2 p.m. May 16 at Gay 90's Pizza, 288 Main St. Tour includes Oasis Grille, Pastas, Amarones, Vic's All Star Cafe, Gay 90s Pizza, Little Valley Winery and Gourmet Works. Enjoy a leisure Sunday afternoon of wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres at seven great restaurants and ending with a dinner at Vic's All Star Cafe. Cost \$35 if pre-paid by May 10 or \$40. Space is limited to 125 tourists. Call 846-5858 or 484-0789.

**THE 2ND ANNUAL CALIFORNIA PEACE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION'S MEMORIAL RUN & BARBECUE** The event starts at 9 a.m. May 8 at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park, 2500 Stanley Blvd. There will also be a special course for children. Cost \$30 per adult preregistered or \$35 day of event and \$10 for children. Entry fee will include T-shirt, beverages, drawing ticket, and barbecue lunch. For barbecue only cost is \$10 for adults and \$7 for children. Call 209-795-7832 or visit [www.onyourmarkevents.com](http://www.onyourmarkevents.com).

Exhibits

**APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS** Alexander's Fine Art will present the renewal of spring represented in a showcase from the art of Marjorie Barta Atkins, Linda Beach, Susan Helmer, HeSi, Beverly Hoey, Denise Oyama Miller, Lina Liu, Lucy Liew, Simon Bull, Brian Davis and Leon Roulette. The exhibit will be on display from Friday-Sunday, May 14-16, at the gallery, 608 Main St. Call 846-6015 or visit [www.alexanders-fineart.com](http://www.alexanders-fineart.com).

**SEWARD JOHNSON SCULPTURES IN DOWNTOWN PLEASANTON** Pleasanton is hosting an interactive art exhibit by internationally known sculptor J. Seward Johnson to sidewalk locations in downtown Pleasanton from April 1 through June 30. Eleven life-size, three-dimensional bronze sculptures depict the everyday activities of people who may be found anywhere. Call 931-5355 or email [jfinegan@ci.pleasanton.ca.us](mailto:jfinegan@ci.pleasanton.ca.us).

Film

**'ENDANGERED SPECIES: CA FISH & GAME WARDENS'** Author James Swan and Warden Roxanne Bowers with her K-9 detection dog, Connor, will appear at the screening of this film, which explores California's wildlife and the wardens who strive to pro-

tect it from 6:30-7 p.m. May 15 at IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. This event is open to the public, refreshments provided, and the hall is wheelchair accessible. Cost \$3. Call 462-3459.

**'MISS POTTER'** The movie is at 1 p.m. May 18 at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Beatrix Potter has delighted generations of children with her books. However, she kept her own private life locked carefully away. Oscar-winning Renee Zellweger brings her secret story to the screen in "Miss Potter." Call 931-3405. 1-3 p.m.

Fundraisers

**'DIAPERS TO DIAPERS'** The circle of life will be revealed by beautiful underwear models of all ages at "Diapers to Diapers" from 6:30-9 p.m., Saturday, May 22, at Vogue Hair Studio, 5410-4 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$3 at the door. There will be live music, gourmet appetizers, and art. Proceeds benefit Tri Valley Haven.

**A TASTE OF SUMMER** Charity BBQ to benefit "Hacienda Helping Hands" from 4-8 p.m. May 21 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave. Call 510-393-9903.

**GIANT HIDDEN TREASURES RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE** The fundraiser is from 7-1 p.m. May 15 at Fairlands Elementary School, 4151 West Las Positas Blvd. Come and find Hidden Treasures at the annual Fairlands Sale and enjoy some yummy treats. All proceeds benefit the Fairlands Elementary School's Technology Fund. Donations also welcome. Call 417-0866 or visit [www.fairlandspca.com/hiddentreasures.html](http://www.fairlandspca.com/hiddentreasures.html).

**HIDDEN GARDENS OF THE VALLEY TOUR** The tour will take participants to 10 unique gardens at private Pleasanton homes from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, May 16. Enjoy the fragrant spring gardens, most of which are named after the homeowner's pet, like "Brad's Pit Stop" or "Willie's Wildlife Preserve." Tickets are \$35. Proceeds benefit Valley Humane Society. Call 426-8656 or visit [www.valleyhumane.org](http://www.valleyhumane.org).

**LIVERMORE ROTARY NILES CANYON WINE TRAIN** The fundraiser is from 5-8 p.m. May 8 at the Sunol Depot - Niles Canyon Railroad, 6 Kilkare Rd., Sunol. Proceeds benefit Livermore schools and community organizations. Ticket includes appetizers, deserts and one free wine tasting

for adults, sodas and water for kids. Wild West show preceding boarding and on the train. Strolling musicians. Cost \$25 for adults and \$10 for children. Call 606-7564 or visit [www.livermore-rotary.org](http://www.livermore-rotary.org).

**LIVERMORE SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL'S SPRING FUNDRAISER** The fundraiser is from 6-10 p.m. May 8 at Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. Learn about the rehearsal process of the 2010 Livermore Shakespeare Festival's Romeo and Juliet. Enjoy dinner, dessert and wine (donated by Rodrigue Molyneux Winery), as you learn what we do and how we do it. Cost \$135. Call 443-2273 or visit [www.LivermoreShakes.org](http://www.LivermoreShakes.org).

**LVCS GOLF TOURNAMENT AND DINNER** Support a good cause with this golf tournament and dinner from 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m., Friday, May 21, at Poppy Ridge Golf Course, 4280 Greenville Rd., Livermore. Cost is \$175; \$55 for dinner only. Proceeds benefit Livermore Valley Charter School, Livermore Valley Charter Preparatory and Tassajara Preparatory High School. Call 443-1690 or visit [www.around-dublinblog.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/04/LVCS-2010-Golf-Tournament.pdf](http://www.around-dublinblog.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/04/LVCS-2010-Golf-Tournament.pdf).

**ROAD WARRIORS 2010 KICK OFF** Take a hike, grab a cookie and learn how you can support our wounded warriors by logging 100 sponsored miles of walk, run, hike or bike between Memorial Day and Veterans' Day from 9:30-2:30 p.m., Sunday, May 23, at Pleasanton Ridge Park Staging Area on Foothill Road. Proceeds benefit the Wounded Warrior Project and Freedom Alliance. Call 600-0664 or visit [www.roadwarriors2010.blogspot.com](http://www.roadwarriors2010.blogspot.com).

**WALK FOR LIFE** This fundraiser starts at 8:30 a.m.-noon May 15 at The Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave. VPC sponsors a walkathon every spring with a goal of raising \$100,000 to support its services. There will be a pancake breakfast, live music, drawings, carnival, games and prizes. Call 828-4458 or visit [www.valleypregnancycenter.org](http://www.valleypregnancycenter.org).

Health

**FOOD CHOICES TO REDUCE YOUR RISK OF BREAST CANCER** ValleyCare Health System in conjunction with Komen SF for the Cure is hosting a free learn at lunch event for breast cancer awareness from 11:30

a.m.-12:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 11, at ValleyCare Health System Women's Center, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Conference Room 240. RD Saima Chaudhry will be discussing foods to reduce your risk of breast cancer. This event is free, including lunch, but registration is required; call 734-3319.

**HMN — BEYOND FOOD & EXERCISE** The event is from 7-9 p.m. May 17 at Harvest Park Middle School, 4900 Valley Ave. Fitness consultant, Mark Rogers, will tell us about the powerful yet seemingly invisible ways people sabotage their efforts to eat right and exercise and steps they can take to eliminate these behaviors which keep them from achieving real positive change. Call 519-3003 or visit [www.markrogersfitness.com](http://www.markrogersfitness.com).

**MURPHY'S WAG & WALK** The event is from 9-10 a.m. May 15 at Murphy's Paw, 410 Main St. The first Murphy's Paw-sponsored dog walk was a hit! Time for round two!! First, we will "embark" on an hour-long dog walk in downtown Pleasanton. Then it is back to Murphy's Paw free Peet's coffee, just in time for a beautiful Farmer's Market Saturday. WOOF!! Call 600-8925 or visit [www.murphys-paw.com](http://www.murphys-paw.com).

Kids & Teens

**JOB'S DAUGHTERS BETHEL No.14** This group meets at 7 p.m., on the second and fourth Monday of every month, at Pleasanton Masonic Lodge, 3370 Hopyard Rd. The group is for girls between the ages

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of 10 and 20 years old who have a Masonic relationship. It teaches the girls team work, leadership and public speaking. Call 683-5401.

**M.O.M.'s READING TIME**

Preschoolers and their parents are invited to meet at the Museum on

Main for the free monthly reading program from 10-11 a.m., Wednesday, May 12, at the museum, 603 Main St. Introduce your preschooler to books and activities about the unique people, places and events in our community. The book and activity theme for May is "Cowboys and Cowgirls!" This event is free. Call 462-2766.

**Lectures/ Workshops**

**HAVING A BABY IN 2010?** Attend this free education seminar where ValleyCare physicians will discuss important issues regarding having a baby in 2010 from 7:30-9 p.m., Tuesday, May 11, at ValleyCare Medical Plaza, Conference Room 2, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd. Learn about fetal monitoring, labor anesthesia and role of the labor coach. Your questions about your baby's needs and what you can expect in his/her first few days of life will also be discussed. This seminar is free, but registration is required by calling (800) 719-9111 or visiting [www.valleycare.com/education](http://www.valleycare.com/education).

**HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA** Tri-Valley Chapter meeting at 7:30 p.m. May 20 at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Parkway. Meetings are open to the public, are free, and refreshments are served. Call 455-6591 or email [hvanblarigan@hotmail.com](mailto:hvanblarigan@hotmail.com)

**NAVIGATING MEDICAL LEAVES MANAGEMENT** The lecture is from 1-9 a.m. May 12 at ADP, 4125 Hopyard Rd. Learn to apply the right medical leave to your employee's situation and derive strategies to avoid litigation and keep your company compliant. Cost General: \$35 / NCHRA Members: \$25. Call 415-291-1992 or visit [www.nchra.org](http://www.nchra.org).

**SPECIAL MAY WEEKLY GARDEN TOURS** The Master Gardener Earth Friendly Demonstration Garden will host garden tours from 10 a.m.-noon, Saturdays, May 1, 8, 15 and 22, at the gardens, 3575 Greenville Rd., Livermore. Master Gardeners will give tours and talks on drought tolerant and low maintenance gardening. This event is free. Call (510) 639-1275 or visit [http://groups.ucanr.org/ACMG/East\\_County\\_Demonstration\\_Garden](http://groups.ucanr.org/ACMG/East_County_Demonstration_Garden).

**Live Music**

**CHRIS BRADLEY'S JAZZ BAND** Enjoy live jazz music from the 20s, 30s and 40s from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at the Sunol Jazz Cafe, 11986 Main St. Cover is \$5.

**On Stage**

**THE PRODUCERS** Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre presents, "The Producers." at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays through May 9 at the Bankhead Theatre, 2400 1st St., Livermore. The Producers is directed by John Maio and produced by Kathleen Breedveld. Cost \$25-\$35. Call 462-2121 or visit [www.trivalleyrep.com](http://www.trivalleyrep.com).

**Political Notes**

**CANDIDATE FORUM** Voters in the upcoming Republican primary are invited to a candidate forum at the next Tri-Valley Republican Women dinner meeting from 6:30-9 p.m., Thursday, May 13, at Cattlemen's Restaurant, 2882 Kitty Hawk Rd., Livermore. Meet Republican candidates for national and state offices and learn more about propositions on the June 8 ballot. Cost is \$26 for members; \$30 for non-members. Reservations are due by May 10; call 462-4931 or visit [www.trivalleyrepublicanwomen.org](http://www.trivalleyrepublicanwomen.org).

**Scholarships**

**TRI-VALLEY REPUBLICAN WOMEN COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS** Tri-Valley Republican Women is offering two scholarships of \$1,000 and \$500 each to eligible high school seniors who submit winning essays about the changes in the Federal student loan program. Deadline is May 15. For complete rules, contact [jmpersico@comcast.net](mailto:jmpersico@comcast.net) or visit [www.trivalleyrepublicanwomen.org](http://www.trivalleyrepublicanwomen.org).

**Seniors**

**CAMP 55 - WINE BOOT CAMP** The event is from 10-3 p.m. May 11 and May 12 at Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. A two-day program for ages 55+. Explore the rich history of winemaking in the Tri-Valley

region. Lectures, tours of local wineries, wine tastings. Includes gourmet lunch daily. Cost \$125 for residents and \$135 for non-residents. Call 931-5365 or visit [www.pleasantonseiorcenter.org](http://www.pleasantonseiorcenter.org).

**PLEASE VIP TRAVEL** American Stage Tours will host a trip for Pleasanton VIP Travel to the Culinary Institute of America and Rachel Dunn Chocolates on Wednesday, May 26. The bus will leave at 7:45 a.m. and return to/from the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$88 for VIP members; \$89 for non-members. For reservations, call 931-5365 or sign-up at the travel desk inside the Senior Center.

**Spiritual**

**MEDITATION STUDY GROUP** Practice new meditation methods, based on teachings of Shinzen Young, using audio, video and handouts from 7:15-8:30 p.m., on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, at Tri-Valley Unity's gathering place, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., #120, Dublin. Contact Gayle at [gstaehle@comcast.net](mailto:gstaehle@comcast.net).

**PRAYER CIRCLE** Tri-Valley Unity Church will host prayer, meditation, study and sharing from 7:15-8:30 p.m., on the first, third and fifth Tuesdays of every month, at the church's gathering place, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., #120, Dublin. For information, e-mail Bob at [hardyco1@comcast.net](mailto:hardyco1@comcast.net).

**Support Groups**

**CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP** Caring for a loved one is challenging physically and emotionally. Join this support group to explore resources and generate problem-solving ideas from 1-3 p.m., on the second Monday of every month, and from 7-9 p.m., on the second Wednesday of every month, at 5353 Sunol Blvd. Get the support you deserve at the Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley. Call 931-5389.

**EAST BAY ESSENTIAL TREMOR SUPPORT GROUP** This group meets from 10 a.m.-noon, on the third Saturday of each month, in the Blackhawk A and B conference rooms at San Ramon Regional Medical Center, 6001 Norris Canyon

Rd. If you have recently been diagnosed with ET or would like to learn more about the most common movement disorder in a safe and supportive environment, please join us. Call 487-5706 or e-mail [galexplor@comcast.net](mailto:galexplor@comcast.net).

**FIBROMYALGIA 'PLUS' SUPPORT GROUP** The Fibromyalgia-"Plus" Support Group holds informational meetings for those who suffer from FMS as well as similar conditions and are desiring knowledge, understanding, support, sharing and caring. Meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at the ValleyCare Health Library, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Ste 270. Sufferers and caregivers are encouraged to attend. Call 443-5707.

**GRIEF JOURNEYS PARENT LOSS SUPPORT** This 8-part Parent Loss Support Group will meet from 7-8:30 p.m., Tuesdays, May 11-June 29, at Hope Hospice, 6377 Clark Ave., Dublin. The program highlights include sharing stories, models of grieving process, exploring memories, coping with sadness and depression and more. Cost is \$40 for eight sessions; free to family members of former Hope Hospice patients; hardship scholarships available. Call 829-8770 or visit [www.hopehospice.com](http://www.hopehospice.com).

**GRIEF JOURNEYS SPOUSAL LOSS SUPPORT** This 8-part Spousal Loss Support Group will meet from 7-8:30 p.m., Wednesdays, May 5-June 23, at Hope Hospice, 6377 Clark Ave., Dublin. Program highlights include sharing stories, models of grieving process, exploring memories, coping with sadness and depression and discovering hope and feeling better. Cost is \$40 for eight sessions; free for family members of former Hope Hospice patients; hardship scholarships available. Call 829-8770 or visit [www.hopehospice.com](http://www.hopehospice.com).

**Volunteering**

**VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION** The class is 1-2:30 p.m. May 8 at the East County Animal Shelter, 4595 Gleason Dr., Dublin. Do you love animals and have an interest in volunteering? Tri-Valley Animal Rescue will be holding an orientation for new volunteers. Come & learn about current volunteer opportunities. Cost \$10. Call 829-6660 or visit [www.tv-ar.org](http://www.tv-ar.org).

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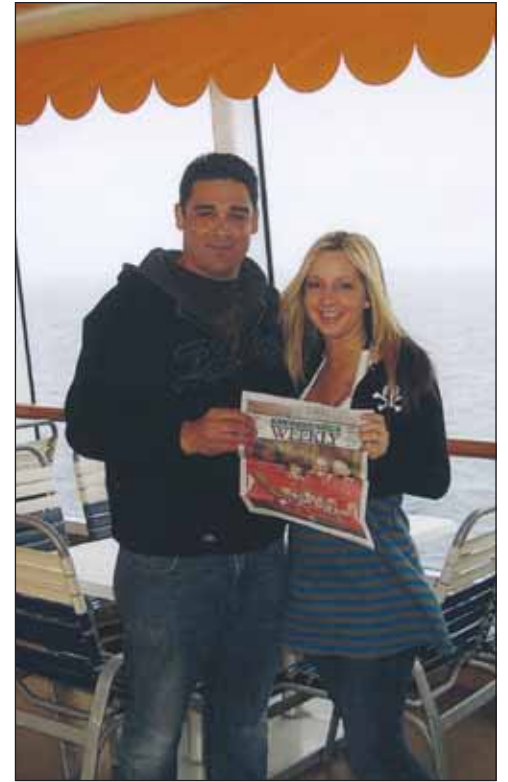
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**Reading break:** Members of the Pleasanton Lynnewood United Methodist Church, along with UMC members from Modesto and San Ramon, take a break to read their Weekly while on a mission trip to Tonga in the South Pacific. The group painted, tiled and built bookcases for a local school. But, said Mary Behrendt, they came away with much more than they gave.



**Sailing, sailing:** Jeff and Stephanie Silva didn't forget their Weekly while cruising on the Norwegian Star on the Mexican Riviera.

# TAKE US ALONG



**Happy Anniversary:** Fran and Dick Migliore and their Weekly stop at Sidney Harbour while celebrating their 25th anniversary with a cruise to Australia and New Zealand.



**French views:** While on a bike ride through the south of France, Jean Shoemake pauses on top of Mount Ventoux, one of the best panoramas in all of Europe, to enjoy the views — and her Weekly.



**Desert dwellers:** Doris George reads her Weekly within sight of a Bedouin encampment in the Arabian Desert between Dubai and Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates. The camels in the background are difficult to see in the sunset.



**Weekly helps celebrate:** Kathie Carr, Sue Connolly, Cleo Foster and Lil Quiros traveled to Cabo to celebrate Kathie's birthday. "The big thing about this trip was actually remembering to bring the Pleasanton Weekly along!!!" wrote Sue. "At our ages, that was an accomplishment in itself!!!!"

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ALAMEDA COUNTY ORDINANCE O-2009-9 THAT ESTABLISHED UNDERGROUND UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 18 ALONG STANLEY BOULEVARD BETWEEN THE CITY LIMITS OF PLEASANTON AND LIVERMORE IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF ALAMEDA COUNTY

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Alameda ordains as follows:

SECTION I

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Alameda hereby ordains that Alameda County Ordinance O-2009-9 shall be amended, as follows:

§ Section IV is amended to read as follows:

The electric and communication companies which underground their facilities pursuant to this Ordinance shall use Rule 20 funds for the purpose of providing to each premise in Underground Utility District No. 18 requiring it, electric and communication service trenching and conductor, as well as backfill paving and conduit, if required.

§ Section V is amended to read as follows:

All costs associated with the undergrounding and conversion of utility service for properties included within said District, from aerial to underground, will be paid out of the PUC Rule 20 funds and/or by other entities.

SECTION II

This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty (30) days from and after the date of passage and before the expiration of fifteen (15) days after its passage it shall be published once with the names of the members voting for and against the same in the Inter-City Express, a newspaper published in the County of Alameda.

ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Alameda, State of California, on the 20th day April, 2010, by the following called vote:

AYES: Supervisors Carson, Haggerty, Miley, Steele and President Lai-Bitker - 5

NOES: None

EXCUSED: None

*Olivia Lai-Bitker*

President of the Board of Supervisors  
County of Alameda, State of California

ATTEST:

*Elizabeth H. Graft*

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
County of Alameda, State of California

Approved as to Form

RICHARD E. WINNIE, County Counsel

By: *Richard E. Winnie*



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# TAKE US ALONG



**Love the hats:** The Hirth family – Greg, Joni, Brian and Tori – took a two-week trip traveling all over Peru last year. They ended with hiking four days into Machu Picchu on a very rainy day. “We were all wet but very glad that our Pleasanton Weekly was still dry!!” wrote Joni.



**Aloha, golfers:** Helen and Tom Changras look over the 9th Green and Fairway from their lanai while vacationing with their Weekly in Waikoloa, Hawaii.



**Grandma goes to Austria:** Judy Fenton stands with her Weekly in front of artworks in Strasburg, Austria. Her fifth grandchild was born two days before she sent in this photo. How old is he/she now?



**Canal crossing:** The Silveiras, Vargases, Spauldings and Yamamotos were sure to Take Us Along as they cruised the Panama Canal.

# Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN & LOG

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Teen charged with felony afterschool fight

What started as an afterschool fight between “five or six kids” led to a felony charge of assault with a deadly weapon against a 17-year-old Village High student, according to Pleasanton police Sgt. Mike Tryphonas.

“There were some Village High kids that came onto the Amador campus after school,” Tryphonas said, adding one Amador Valley High student was hit with an object and received minor injuries.

Tryphonas would not say what the object was because the investigation is continuing.

The teens scattered when police arrived, but one was caught and charged. His name is being withheld because of his age.

Tryphonas downplayed the idea that the fight was gang related, describing the fight as a personality conflict.

“These are people who don’t like each other, he said.

—Glenn Wohltmann

### Pleasanton man pleads not guilty to attempted rape charge

Pierce Hunter, a 19-year-old UC Davis sophomore

charged last month with attempted rape and forced oral copulation, has pleaded not guilty to the charges, according to Yolo County Court documents

Hunter, who lives in Pleasanton, was arraigned April 27 and has been freed on bond.

The charges stem from an incident more than two months ago at a residence on the UC campus. The alleged victim came forward after what UC Police Capt. Joyce Souza described as “escalated aggressive behavior” and “threats.”

Souza said in a previous interview that Hunter and the alleged victim, a fellow student, knew each other but were not in a dating relationship.

Hunter is a member of the UC Davis swim team. He graduated from San Ramon Valley High School in 2008, and was a member of that swim team as well.

A preliminary hearing has been set for May 27.

—Glenn Wohltmann

### Smoking tree raises suspicions

Pleasanton police are investigating what may be a case of arson after part of a tree was burned May 1.

Firefighters were called out to 8200 Regency Drive at around 2 a.m., where they found the tree smoking, said Sgt. Jim Knox.

He noted that he could not say for certain what happened to the tree.

“It’s been assigned to the arson investigator for follow up,” Knox said. “Firefighters indicated it possibly was. There was a can of accelerant there.”

No structures were damaged, and Knox said firefighters found only smoke and no actual fire. ■

## POLICE REPORT

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

### April 26

#### Theft

- 10:32 a.m. in the 700 of Palomino Drive; petty theft
- 9:54 p.m. in the 100 block of Mission Drive; petty theft

### April 27

#### Theft

- 8:32 a.m. in the 7000 block of Commerce Circle; auto theft
- 9:24 a.m. in the 2700 block of Crellin Road; grand theft
- 3:29 p.m. in the 6800 block of Knoll Center Parkway; grand theft

#### Prank calls

- 5:28 p.m. in the 6200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Public Drunkenness

- 12:03 a.m. in the 1800 block of Valley Avenue
- 6:58 p.m. in the 30th block of W. Neal Street

### April 27

#### Theft

- 12:48 a.m. in the 600 block of Johnson Drive; identity theft
- 12:56 a.m. in the 6100 block of W. Las Positas; shoplifting, resisting arrest
- 6:47 p.m. in the 4400 block of Hacienda Drive; auto theft
- 7:58 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft

#### Vehicular burglary

- 10:59 a.m. in the 6800 block of Knoll Drive Center Parkway

#### Prank calls

- 4:04 p.m. in the 7700 block of Olive Drive

#### Alcohol/drug violations

- 1:49 a.m. at the intersection of

Franklin Drive and Johnson Drive; possession of a non-narcotic controlled substance, paraphernalia possession

- 5:22 p.m. in the 4300 block of Black Avenue; under the influence of drugs in public

- 9:09 p.m. at the intersection of Applewood Way and Desertwood Lane; DUI

- 11:25 p.m. in the 1800 block of Santa Rita Road; public drunkenness

### April 29

#### Theft

- 12:47 a.m. in the 7300 block of Tulipwood Circle; identity theft
- 5:13 p.m. in the 4300 block of Rosewood Court; auto theft

- 6:28 p.m. in the 3100 block of Cranwood Court; petty theft

- 10:13 p.m. in the 4800 block of Del Valle Parkway; theft

#### Burglary

- 8:40 p.m. in the 5300 block of Black Avenue

#### DUI

- 11:10 p.m. at the intersection of Foothill Knoll Road and Foothill Road

### April 30

#### Theft

- 7:49 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft, possession of marijuana

- 6:18 p.m. in the 5400 block of Sunol Road; grand theft

- 10:14 p.m. in the 1200 block of Quarry Lane; grand theft

#### Burglary

- 3:15 p.m. in the 5300 block of Black Avenue

#### Battery

- 2:49 a.m. in the 100 block of Ray Street

#### Alcohol/drug violations

- 6:57 a.m. at the intersection of Owens Drive and Owens Court; possession of a hypodermic needle

- 8:45 p.m. in the 4400 block of Del Valle Parkway; driving with marijuana, driving while on a cellular telephone

### May 1

#### Theft

- 10:10 a.m. in the 7300 block of Lemonwood Way; grand theft

- 4:46 p.m. in the 400 block of San Gabriel Court; grand theft

- 7:56 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; auto theft

#### Burglary

- 8:09 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; burglary, lock picking and possession of marijuana

#### Alcohol/drug violations

- 12:21 a.m. in the 100 block of Kottinger Road; DUI

- 1:53 a.m. in the 3000 block of Hopyard Road; public drunkenness

- 3:12 a.m. at the intersection of Neal Street and Third Street; public drunkenness

- 6:57 a.m. at the intersection of Stanley Boulevard and First St.; DUI

- 9:35 p.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and Pimlico Drive; DUI

- 9:48 p.m. in the 5400 block of Sunol Boulevard; possession of a controlled substance with intent to sell

### May 2

#### Theft

- 2:21 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft

- 10:14 p.m. in the 1200 block of Quarry Lane; grand theft

#### Vandalism

- 6:07 a.m. at the intersection of Main Street and Vervais Avenue

#### Alcohol/drug violations

- 7:32 p.m. in the 5800 block of Valley Avenue; possession of a non-narcotic controlled substance

- 8:34 p.m. at the intersection of Greenwood Road and Alameda Drive; DUI



## WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

### Planning Commission

Wednesday, May 12, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

#### • PCUP-266, Robert Byrd

Application for a Conditional Use Permit to operate a bar/lounge and a restaurant with alcohol service after 10:00 p.m. on the second floor of the existing building located at 328 St. Mary Street.

#### • PCUP-263, Brenda Dronkers

Application for a Conditional Use Permit to hold outdoor events and functions in the rear yard area of the existing building located at 520 Main Street.

#### • PDAM 03, Pleasanton Gateway, L. L. C. (Scott Trobbe)

Application to extend the Development Agreement between the City and Pleasanton Gateway L.L.C., successor in interest to GHC Bernal Investors, L.L.C., for five years, with a right to extend the term for an additional five years, regarding an eight-building office development totaling 745,000 square feet located on the southwest corner of Bernal Avenue and Valley Avenue, between Valley Avenue and I-680, in the Bernal Property Specific Plan Area.

### Parks & Recreation Commission

Thursday, May 13, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Acceptance of a gift from the Friends of Gingerbread of a mosaic wall, titled “Inhabited Waterways,” by artist Susan Dannenfelser

- Community Services Report – Contract Classes

### Youth Commission

Wednesday, May 12, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Gingerbread Preschool, 4333 Black Avenue

- Amendment of Youth Commission representation on the Youth Master Plan Implementation Committee

- Election of Vice-Chair for Youth Commission 2010-2011

- Third Quarter Review of FY 2009/10 City Grant Projects

### Library Commission

Thursday, May 13, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Library Conference Room, 400 Old Bernal Avenue

- Children’s Summer Reading program 2010

- Commission Goals – Outreach.

### Youth Master Plan Implementation Committee

Monday, May 10, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Library Conference Room, 400 Old Bernal Avenue

- Review Summer JamFest plans and responsibilities.

- Review and discuss the Draft Update Youth Master Plan content.

Pleasanton residents are encouraged to view the Draft Youth Master Plan on the City of Pleasanton website at [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us). Comments about the document can be submitted to [youthmasterplanupdate@ci.pleasanton.ca.us](mailto:youthmasterplanupdate@ci.pleasanton.ca.us) until Friday, May 28.

### May Tips-Bring on the Heat!

In this May series of weekly tips presented to you by the City of Pleasanton’s Committee on Energy and the Environment, we offer some ideas to help you make smart spring choices that contribute to a cleaner environment and sustainable energy future.

As things heat up, take a little extra time to think about how your warm-weather habits impact the environment.

**Taking a trip? Think twice before you spray and lather on the sunscreen.** Most of the concerns around sunscreens have to do with the chemical UV absorbers. The same chemicals that interfere with human hormones were recently found to cause bleaching and death of corals. Seventy-eight million tourists visit areas with coral reefs every year, leaving behind 4,000 to 6,000 tons of sunscreen—and because many sunscreens are petroleum-based, they don’t break down quickly in water. An April 2008 study published in Environmental Health Perspectives revealed that, when exposed to benzophenone or cinnamate-based sunscreens, coral developed viral infections that led to bleaching. The same happened when coral were exposed to paraben preservatives. If you’re swimming in the ocean, choose sunscreens with plant-based ingredients to avoid damaging coral.

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

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



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

## 2010 Special Olympics needs volunteers

BY JEB BING

Volunteers are needed to help with the 2010 Special Olympics to be held Saturday, May 22 at Amador Valley High School.

Ken Mano, volunteer coordinator for the group, said help is needed as team escorts to assist coaches and teams during the day; for staging to assist athletes and help set up the events and to serve

as track timers.

Volunteers are also needed to help with field Events, during the awards programs, at lunch, to set up the programs starting at 6:30 a.m. and to serve as gate monitors.

"This is a great opportunity to experience competitive athletics at their purist and most inspiring level," Mano said. "You will find that this is a volunteer activity that

will change your life and attitude. This is a great opportunity for our athletes to 'give back.'"

To register, send an email to avboosters@comcast.net with your name, address, phone number and age, if under 18.

This is the seventh consecutive year that the Amador Valley High Athletic Boosters is hosting the event.

## SPORTS DIGEST

### PJFL signs with national group

The Pleasanton Junior Football League (PJFL) has enrolled its 24 contact division head coaches for USA Football's certified coaching education program.

The PJFL serves 550 contact football players, 500 flag football players and 100 cheerleaders living in Pleasanton, Castro Valley, Dublin, Fremont, Livermore, San Ramon and Tracy.

USA Football, the sport's national governing body on youth and amateur levels, has trained more than 30,000 youth football coaches in all 50 states and Washington, D.C., since 2007. USA Football is the official youth football development partner of the NFL, as well as each of its 32 teams and the NFL Players Association.

For its players' benefit, the PJFL will require head coaches to complete USA Football's standard tackle coaching course at usafootball.com. To advance through the curriculum, which takes approximately two hours to complete, a coach must receive a cumulative score of at least 80 percent on the 11 course quizzes. The computer-animated course with audio narration covers coaching philosophy, practice planning and communicating with young players and parents.

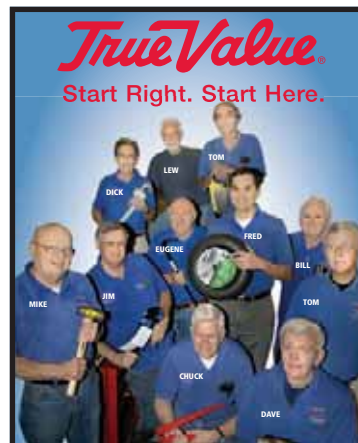
In addition, the league's head coaches have become USA Foot-

ball coaching members, providing them innovative resources including coaching insurance, a 3-D on-line computer-animated drills library with more than 150 drills, an online practice planner, USA Football's "Click 'n Create" online playbook and more.

Upon completing USA Football's CCEP, each coach receives a USA Football coaching certificate and has his or her name added to usafootball.com national coaches' registry.

Background checks for all head coaches will be performed by the National Center for Safety Initiatives (NCSI), the official check screening company of the United States Olympic Committee. NCSI performs searches in two national criminal databases as well as all state sex offender registries and county records. A 2007 study showed that 83 percent of parents say background checks on youth sports head coaches are important and 69 percent said they were more likely to enroll their kids into a league that conducts background checks on its volunteers.

USA Football's coaching education is important to our program in order to get information to teach the coaches on how to be better in their positions to help the kids in their development and understanding of the game, PJFL President and Dublin resident Dale Hazen said. "The subsidized background check program also provides safety for the kids and makes sure that our environment is safe." ■



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Jake Davidson, 7th grader at Pleasanton Middle School (12 years old)  
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All youth ages 7 to 17 invited to create a **Life Skills Art Tile Mural** on June 6th at ClubSport!  
Log on for details...  
[www.thefirstteetrivalley.org](http://www.thefirstteetrivalley.org)

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