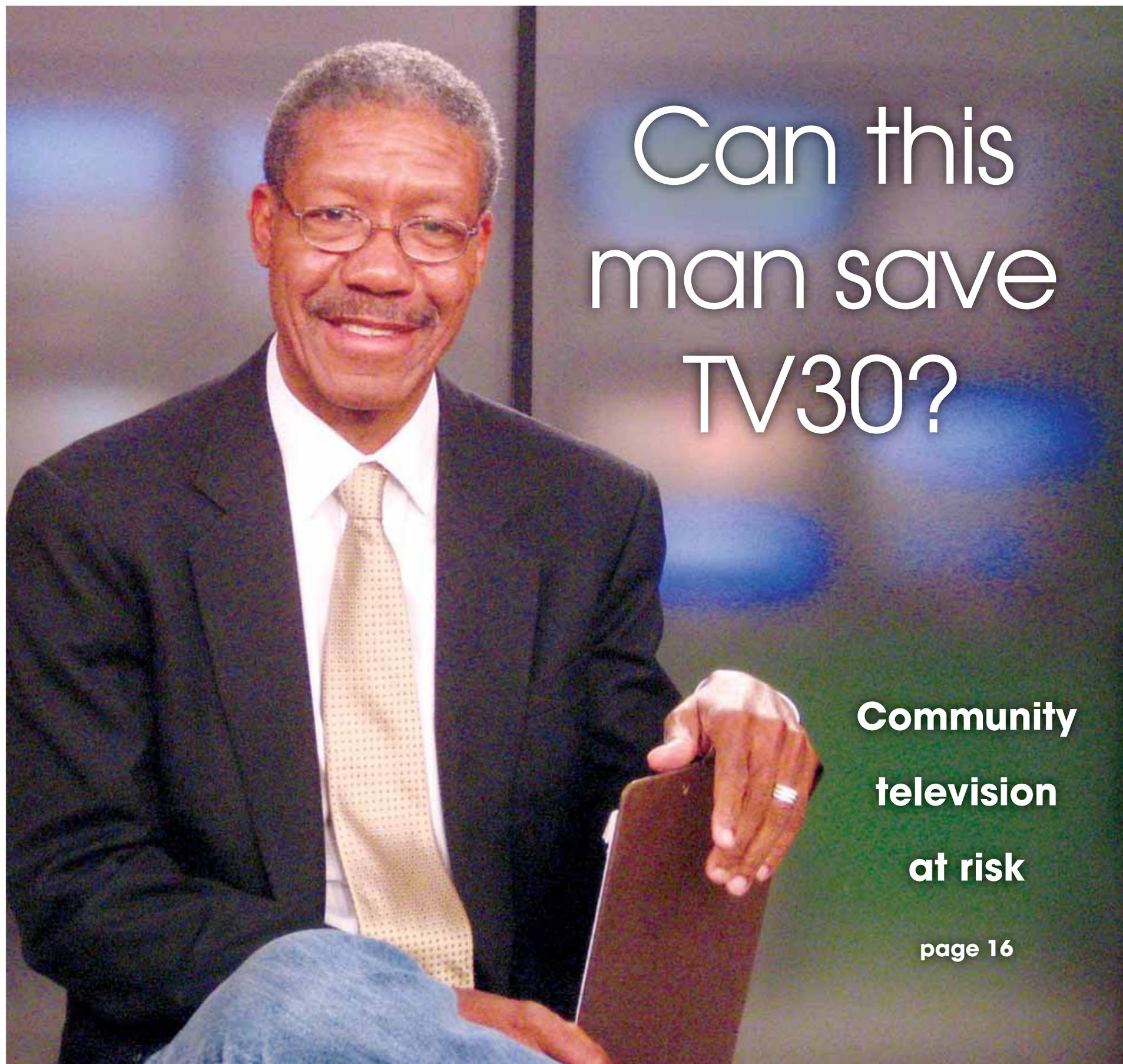


PLEASANTON WEEKLY

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It's all about Pleasanton



Can this man save TV30?

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Learn how to be a foster
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Rough and tough

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places third in tourney
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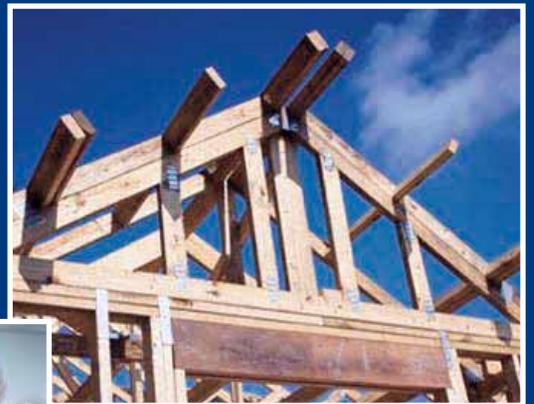
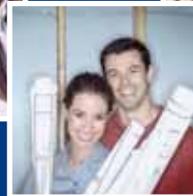
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Around Pleasanton

by Jeb Bing

Living better—with Oprah's help

If you haven't read the June issue of "O," Oprah Winfrey's magazine that's now on the stands, don't miss it. There's a photo on page 197 of Joanne McColm, who is a Pleasanton mother of six (including 9-year old quadruplets) and a church volunteer and teenage activities leader. She's also the wife of Larry McColm of McColm Commercial Real Estate, whose prominent two-story building at Angela and Main streets is topped with a third floor cupola that includes a back lighted American flag in a window facing north on Main.

Joanne is featured in the magazine as part of its coverage of a five-day, all-expense-paid trip she and 59 other women from throughout the country won in a contest sponsored by Oprah. They joined the TV talk show celebrity at the famed Miraval Resort and Spa just outside of Tucson, one of Oprah's favorites.

The trip went to women who have extraordinary backgrounds or heart-rending experiences and was aimed at helping each of them—all confident, intelligent women such as Joanne—to live even more fulfilling lives. On board at the spa was an A-team of fitness and life coaches who worked with each contest winner to make lasting transformations. From the start, the group realized they were special, with their names and brief testimonies having been selected from more than 50,000 entries.

Joanne said that although some of the women had been through very traumatic experiences, including one whose husband had been killed in Iraq and another whose 26-year-old son had been murdered, many others were there because of community and personal accomplishments. Joanne's not sure why she was chosen, although she cleverly noted on the registration card she sent that her quads' were born on Jan. 29, which just happened to be (as she

knew) the same date as Oprah's birthday. Joanne's work with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints on Paseo Santa Cruz is also extensive, including handling summer camp each year in the High Sierras where the girls have a chance to try their skills at repelling. Joanne found that Miraval offered a similar "life's challenges" program, this one called a Swing & a Prayer. As explained in the "O" magazine, participants are strapped into a harness and attached to a cable. They're hoisted 40 feet in the air and then it's up to them to let go of the rope and drop in a dramatic arc to the ground. Joanne had another activity, so missed the fun, but Oprah's best friend Gayle King tried it, and nearly had a nervous breakdown.

Joanne found among her biggest thrills during her days at Miraval were the time she had to spend with Dr. Mehmet Oz, who dealt with the diversity of modern-day stresses; Oprah's personal trainer Bob Greene, and a 15-minute one-on-one chat with Oprah, who remembered the quads and their matching birthdays. Another highlight was food preparation, cooking and how to add flavor and color to make healthy food even more appealing. Joanne brought back dozens of new recipes that the quads, Kayla and Larry are now enjoying, or so Joanne says. What she is serving is really not all that different from the healthy lifestyle that's always been part of the McColm household, but it tastes and looks better. Joanne, a true fan of Oprah, even prepares tasty snacks and fast food so that she can watch Oprah every day without taking kitchen breaks.

By the way, you can watch, too, when Oprah talks about the trip and Miraval next Friday, May 25. In the meantime, be sure to read about Joanne McColm and the trip of a lifetime in the June issue of "O," pages 196-203. ■

About the Cover

Executive Director Glenn Davis of the Tri-Valley's award winning TV30 community television service, is now working with the mayors of the four cities the station serves to save the system. The station is more than half-a-million dollars in the red with still six weeks to go in the current fiscal year. Photo by Jeb Bing. Cover design by Ben Ho.

Vol. VIII, Number 16

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Streetwise

Q: What are you looking forward to doing this summer?

Asked at the Farmers' Market



Karen Pico
Retired

I plan on taking advantage of every travel opportunity that comes my way. I keep looking for wonderful hot springs. That is my quest. I am always eager to experience a hot spring that I have not visited. I will also be working busily to restore my garden.

Becky Randal

Housewife

I am looking forward to going boating with the family and laying around by the pool. We love to go to Lake Don Pedro to water ski and wakeboard.



Kathleen O'Leary

Sales

I am going to Ireland this summer. We are bringing my dad Pat's ashes back to Ireland and we are going to scatter them at the golf course where he was a member. All of his family and friends will be there. It will be a wonderful tribute.



Dale Lee

Massage Therapist

We are taking a trip to Tahoe. It's a beautiful place to hang on the beach, go running and enjoy the nightlife.



Bill Xenakis

Marketing Engineer

I am looking forward to the longer daylight hours. I enjoy spending time downtown at the restaurants and the Farmers' Market. We may have dinner out or bring a picnic and listen to music in the park, dance and drink some nice wine. Hopefully we won't have a heat wave like last year!



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

Compiled by Cybele Ryan

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Newsfront

News Digest

Oak Grove postponed

The Planning Commission public hearing on the Oak Grove project has been continued again, this time to June 13. It was scheduled to be heard May 23.

Wal-Mart awards schools for recycling

Through its Kids Recycling Challenge program, Wal-Mart awarded three local elementary schools for students' efforts to become responsible stewards of their environment. Fairlands Elementary came in fourth, earning \$1,930 for 336 collected plastic bags. Lydiksen Elementary came in eighth place with 207 bags collected and \$1,285 earned, and Valley View Elementary was close behind in ninth place with 202 bags collected and \$1,260 earned. A total of \$36,830 was given to 90 northern Bay Area schools.

Diablo Ballet to present 'The Mirror'

Diablo Ballet, under Artistic Director Lauren Jonas, presents the premiere of Diablo's acclaimed principal dancer Tina Kay Bohnstedt's debut as a choreographer with "The Mirror" May 18 and 19 at the Leshner Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek. The program will include revivals of two critically-acclaimed audience favorites--Nikolai Kabaniaev's "The Legend of Taj Mahal" and KT Nelson's "It's Not What You Think." Also this weekend, Diablo will present a special matinee to showcase local teenage dancers from Diablo Ballet's Apprentice and Professional Intermediate Programs. For times and tickets visit www.dlra.org or call 943-7469.

Muscle car, hot rods and art fair set

Hats Off America presents the fourth annual muscle car, hot rods and art fair from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 19 and 20. Along with the car and art exhibits, there will be children's activities, live bands, vendor booths, non-profit organization booths, a beer and wine garden, and more. Diane Layfield, mother of Lt. Cpl. Travis Layfield who was killed in action on April 6, 2004, will be a special guest. The event takes place on the grass field at Bollinger Canyon Road and Camino Ramon in San Ramon. Admission is free. Families are welcome, pets are not.

Apartments proposed near new Pleasanton BART station

Planning commissioners review initial design, concept and make suggestions

by Janet Pelletier

They call it TOD—transit-oriented development, and if built, it would be the first of its kind in Pleasanton.

Windstar Communities is proposing to build a 350-unit apartment complex near the new BART station on 7 acres north of Stoneridge Mall Road.

Planning Commissioners got their first look at the project May 9, reviewing artist's drawings and poring through details surrounding

the development, and were asked to give their critiques.

Construction is expected to begin on the BART station in the next few weeks, with completion in early 2009. Windstar is eager to build its TOD and wants to open phases of it to coincide with the opening of the new transit center.

"As more and more people take mass transit, this is going to be the gateway into Pleasanton," said Eric Heffner, senior vice president of

Windstar.

The plans call for the units to coexist with retail stores in a live-work type of use. The buildings would be four to five stories high. Ranging from one to three bedrooms, the apartments are designed in three pods with communal spaces in the middle.

Commissioners praised the project, saying transit-oriented development is needed in

(continued on page 10)



Crowds who came to hear the council's decision on the Home Depot project filled the Council Chambers, even spilling out into the hallway.

City Council OKs 2nd Pleasanton store for Home Depot

Work on new 14.7-acre retail center could start this summer

by Jeb Bing

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

Representatives of Home Depot, which has a 15-year-old store on Johnson Drive in west Pleasanton near the Interstate 580-680 interchange, said the new store will be larger and more upscale, although it will carry most of the same merchandise. It will also be architecturally different from any other Home Depot in the country. It will feature a softer design required

by Pleasanton that architect Dave Johnson said has already attracted inquiries from other cities where Home Depot is planning stores.

Pete Knoedler of Regency Centers, a commercial center development firm, said Home Depot will be the anchor store on the 14.7-acre site that has been commercially zoned but lacking a development plan for years. Safeway, Whole Foods and Trader Joe's turned down offers by Regency to build there with Home Depot's marketing team later determining that it would be a good site for expansion in a growing market.

(continued on page 8)

Local teens raise money for local families in need

Some put prom savings towards towels, toys

by Emily Atwood

For many high school juniors and seniors, mounting prom costs can put quite a dent into saved earnings. Limousines, tickets, dresses and tuxedos, flowers and picture packages can add up to several hundred dollars. For one student, his idea of a good time with that kind of price tag didn't include this rite of passage.

"I'm not boycotting prom or the school," Alex Theobald said, and added that he was in the leadership class. "For me, personally, three was no desire to go. Instead, something that I felt good doing and would still be able to have a memorable experience is service, which has always been fun for me and my friends."

The idea caught on with his friends and soon a group of 16 students from Foothill, Amador Valley, Dublin and Granada high schools came together to form Smiles for the Future. Joining with CAPE, a government regulated preschool in Livermore, they were linked up with two families: one family of six with children ages four months, 18 months, 1, 4 and 5; and the other family of five with children ages 3, 4 and 13.

While not all of the group's members are foregoing the prom experience, many of them are donating their own money in addition to looking for others who will do the same. Through these donations the students want to be able to buy items the families need—including towels, blankets, food and underwear—but also provide children toys.

"The biggest thing we were excited about was the toys," Theobald said. "They'll remember when high school students came over and they got to play with toys."

The feelings that come with the gifts of toys are just what the group is going for. The group hopes remembering these feelings of joy brought by unknown high school students will propel the children to do service acts like these when they're given the opportunity, thus creating a future of smiles.

Even though many of the group's members will go off to college in a few months, Theobald said the group doesn't mean this to be a one-time donation. ■



Janet Pelletier

Motorists driving along Stanley Boulevard Wednesday morning may have wondered what a number of law enforcement members were up to pulling over trucks.

Check, please

County cities join together in eastern Pleasanton for truck inspections

Drivers along Stanley Boulevard near the eastern border where Pleasanton meets Livermore may have wondered what law enforcement authorities were up to for three hours Wednesday morning.

It turns out that (COSAC), Community Officers of Southern Alameda County, were conducting their regular checks on trucks carrying loads.

According to Dublin sheriff's deputy Steve Suchon, the officers

hold the inspections two times a month, picking a different city and location each time.

This time, they chose the east-bound side of Stanley Boulevard, in front of the Cemex cement plant and the Pleasanton Asphalt Plant.

In all, from 8 to 11 a.m., officers pulled over 15 trucks and conducted thorough inspections. The types of things they check, Suchon said, are the truck's brakes, light-

ing, loads, tires, steering and the motorist's driver's license.

They chose Stanley Boulevard because it's a high volume truck route, he said.

At Wednesday's inspection, participating cities included Newark, Oakland, Dublin, Pleasanton and Fremont. The cities of Hayward, San Leandro and Union City also participate in the checks, but weren't part of the one Wednesday.

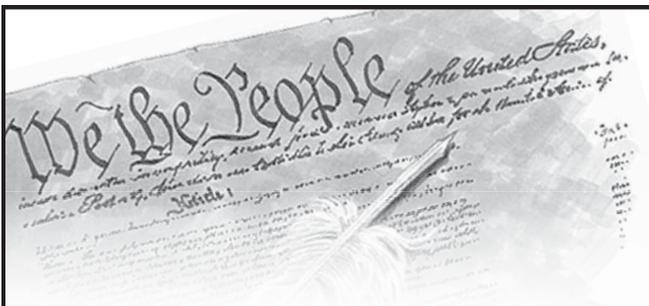
—Janet Pelletier



Emily Anwood

Students depict springtime in Pleasanton

In an effort to encourage creativity, parents of Walnut Grove Elementary School students organized the first ever spring art festival, called "Springtime in Pleasanton," May 1. Instead of competing in the annual Reflections art contest, the school chose to hold the festival, which garnered one third of the schools students instead of a handful that participates in the competition. The quilt was a part of the sister school project called Hands Across the Water, which links the school to one in Liberia. Students drew pictures of what Liberian students do. Surrounding that art on the quilt were squares, which could be purchased for \$10 with proceeds going to help the school, that students could decorate with the theme of compassion.



Amador Valley High School (California) We the People Nationals' Championship Contributors

On behalf of the Amador Valley High School "We the People..." Competition Civics team, we would like to thank the greater Tri-Valley Community for all of their support and generosity this year. We are very proud to have represented Pleasanton and the State of California at the National "We the People..." competition in Washington, D.C.

We would like to thank the following community members for their generous help throughout the year in our preparations.

Lary Aladeen
Alp Bayramoglu
Sebastian Bull
Keldon Clegg
Candace Cole
Cheryl Cook-Kalio
Angela Ramirez Holmes
Katie Kaplan
Jim McKeenan
Susan Piekarski
Heidi Stepp
Brian Swift
Mairi Wohlgenuth

We would also like to thank the following for their generous financial contributions, which enabled all of the students to attend the national competition.

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Ruby Hill restaurant project moves on to City Council

Residential sales office to become two-story fine dining restaurant

by Janet Pelletier

Visitors to Livermore wine country may soon have one more restaurant to dine at.

Plans to convert a Ruby Hill sales office into a fine dining restaurant off Vineyard Avenue in Pleasanton were approved by the Planning Commission at its meeting May 9.

The project will be forwarded to the City Council for final approval.

Plans have been changed substantially since the proposal was first put forward late last year.

The applicants, Barnabas and Arpad Nagy, plan to take the sales office originally used for selling homes in the tony community of Ruby Hill and convert it into a restaurant to be named Liliom. While Ruby Hill residents didn't oppose the restaurant; they took issue with its close proximity to their homes, citing concerns of noise, traffic and aesthetics. But after the Nagys met with homeowners, they decided to move the two-story, 4,200-square-foot building further away from the neighborhood towards Vineyard Avenue and reorient it.

Where the sales office was located would now be the site where a custom home for the family would be built. The home would act as a buffer between Ruby Hill and the restaurant.

Also to accommodate residents' concerns, the restaurant will only be open for dinner, from 6 to 10 p.m. on weekdays and until 11 p.m. on weekends and before national holidays. Special events such as anniversary parties and weddings would be allowed during the hours of 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. to help the restaurant make up any revenue that may be lost with limited dinner hours.

"The project you see now is a very different project," Arpad Nagy said. "This will be a five-star dining experience. There are a number of steps we've taken. It's, I think, a



This 4,200-square-foot sales office, previously used for the Ruby Hill community, will be moved further towards Vineyard Avenue and converted into a restaurant under a proposal by Arpad and Barnabas Nagy.

much better project."

The Nagy's lawyer Peter MacDonald added that the family came to the United States from Hungary looking for opportunity and with the addition of the restaurant to the area, they would be making an important contribution to the wine country.

Ruby Hill resident Kerry Lamson, who has been working with the Nagys on reworking the project to appease the neighborhood said he supports the project.

"We have a lot of trust now in what they're trying to do," he said of the Nagys. "We've got a project we think we can support. I think the compromises are acceptable in that we live in a wine destination."

The site is 36 acres, and it is a vineyard property with vines planted by Signature Properties, which built Ruby Hill. Patrons would access the restaurant from Vineyard Avenue. Turn lanes will be created in both east and west directions.

A new driveway will be created off of Vineyard and a parking lot with about 100 spaces will be provided exclusively for restaurant use.

Outside the restaurant, there will be a terrace for dining as well as a courtyard that would be used for private functions. The two floors

and outdoor seating will accommodate 230 people and an elevator would be installed for those in need.

A condition of the projects approval is that if the restaurant closes and the building becomes vacant, the property or building owner must remove the structure within one year from the date it becomes unoccupied.

While other commissioners approved the project, Chairwoman Anne Fox said she couldn't support it because she felt the zoning for the custom home is too lenient. The zoning that was approved allows the Nagys to build up to 40 percent of the lot size, meaning they could build an 8,000-square-foot house, which the Nagys indicated they wished to do. Ruby Hill residents had asked for another zoning—30 percent of the lot size, which Fox said she supported.

"The houses at the front of Ruby Hill are around 4,200-square-feet according to Mr. Lamson and the neighbors," she said Tuesday. "I felt that an 8,000-square-foot house replacing the 4,200-square-foot house (the sales office) would be completely out of scale with the surrounding neighbors in that section of Ruby Hill right near the front." ■

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Tea party

The tea was flowing at the Pleasanton Hotel last Friday afternoon, two days before Mother's Day. The Tri-Valley Rotary Club took 14 local senior women to the historic hotel for tea and dessert as part of their senior outreach program. Called ELFS (Elderly Living Friendship Services), the program was started last year to develop ways to support seniors in Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore. The program has already assisted seniors with spring house cleaning, yard maintenance and minor repairs, according to Rotary President Evonne Hopkins.



Home Depot

(continued from page 5)

Besides attracting customers south and east of Pleasanton's downtown, the company's research showed that many homes in the Vintage Hills and adjacent neighborhoods are 20-30 years old and just now undergoing major repair upgrades. Homeowners told the council that they would welcome a Home Depot closer to their community, which would spare them the 4-mile drive across town for materials.

In addition to Home Depot, the Regency Center will also have a Longs Drugs, which will have the city's first drive-up pharmacy window, and a Starbucks coffee shop. That could change after Mayor Jennifer Hosterman, in casting her vote to approve the project, told Knoedler that she doesn't like Starbucks.

She also asked Knoedler to consider offering two of the unclaimed retail stores at the center, possibly at a discount, to Vintage Hills Cleaners and Cutco hair salon in the otherwise empty Vintage Hills Shopping Center in her neighborhood. That center has failed to attract a grocery store tenant since the once-popular Romley's Supermarket closed in the 1990s.

Hosterman joined council members Jerry Thorne, Cindy McGovern and Cheryl Cook-Kallio in approving the project. The move came after Regency agreed to city planning staff requirements that were made part of a conditional use approval to pay \$2 million in traffic "mitigation" fees, which will provide new traffic lights, additional left turn and merger lanes and other improvements to Bernal, Stanley and Valley Avenue.

Regency and Home Depot also agreed to require vendors and their own supply trucks to reach the site by using Hwy. 84 (Isabel Road) from I-580 to Stanley, and then traveling west to the Regency Center. They would then be required to retrace those routes, staying off Valley Avenue and Stanley Boulevard to the west.

Complaints about truck traffic and noise on Valley dominated many of the comments from those opposed to the Home Depot project.

Both in her comments Tuesday night and in emails sent to community leaders earlier, Nancy Allen

of citizens' group Stop Pleasanton Gridlock argued that a "big box" store like Home Depot "doesn't belong in the middle of residential area, three miles from freeway access."

"We do not need 20 semi-trucks a day delivering propane tanks and lumber barreling through inner city streets, creating noise and safety concerns while we are sleeping."

She also said she had talked to Pleasanton police officers who said they are "powerless" to stop trucks from traveling on local streets. Drivers told her that they take the shortest route between their destinations, which often means using city streets, not the freeways.

Knoedler said he had met with Allen and that his firm as well as Home Depot would have monitors watch for truckers who use city streets to reach their center. They plan to alert delivery trucks at the start to use Isabel, not Valley.

"It won't happen overnight, but it will happen," he said.

In agreeing to support the Home Depot motion, McGovern also won assurances from City Manager Nelson Fialho to move forward on a scheduled plan to repave Valley Avenue with noise-reducing asphalt, to repair the sound walls that separate Valley Avenue from residential neighborhoods, and improve the landscaping on the street.

Knoedler and Home Depot representatives also promised to build the center using only environmentally-approved green materials, including softer and reduced light-

ing in the parking lots. This came after comments from Hosterman who said she was concerned about bright lights in commercial centers.

"I have a huge issue with lighting problems in the Valley," Hosterman said. "We are lighting up our night sky and destroying our starscape."

Planning Director Jerry Iserson said that a condition of the Regency Center approval was that light standards would be no higher than 20-25 feet, and that most would be turned off late at night after the businesses have closed.

But Knoedler and architect Dave Johnson stopped short of promising to use photovoltaic roofing panels, saying that although Home Depot and other buildings would be built to accommodate them, they would not be installed now.

Although Knoedler referred to his new development as Pleasanton Gateway, that name is already used to identify an office building plan at Bernal and Valley Avenue near I-680, a project belonging to South Bay Construction.

With the council's approval, Regency is expected to move quickly in leasing other retail spaces in the site, and then to start construction work.

Home Depot, meanwhile, was reported to have already completed detailed design work on the new store, although delays in gaining council approval may have dashed hopes of opening the store before Christmas. ■



The Pleasanton City Council approved a second Home Depot store Tuesday, across town from this 15-year-old store on Johnson Drive.



Janet Petro (left) and her husband Doug arrange items for early Saturday garage sale in front of their home on Knollbrook Drive with help from neighbors Nanny Rivera (holding Chihuahua terrier Vina) and Rochelle Dean.

It's garage sale season again

Toys, jewelry, even an old guitar snapped up by buyers

by Jeb Bing

It's garage sale season again, the time of year when householders carry what they can no longer use to their driveway to sell to passersby.

"We open the garage door and start selling at 8 a.m., but there are already people coming by as early as 6 a.m. to see if we're ready to deal," said Janet Petro of Knollbrook Drive.

This year, Petro had to dismantle the households of two elderly relatives, people who were married more than 50 years. Her driveway and garage were filled with "collectibles" that included long out-of-stock dinner plates and dishes. Much of this was what Petro generously called "one of a kind" dinnerware, with cups but not enough saucers and broken sets of English china.

Petro was part of the semi-annual "Stoneridge Neighborhood Garage Sale," with more than 50 residents in an area south of Stoneridge Drive between Foothill Road and I-680 participating.

Directional signs and good promotions in the media are important in attracting buyers.

Besides cleaning out "old things," Petro said it's nice to find people paying to buy clothing, toys and pots and pans that otherwise might be tossed.

Petro said her customers came from as far as Hayward although most were from Pleasanton and the Tri-Valley. Along with the dinnerware, her husband Doug sold an old Spanish-style guitar, a dining room table and chairs and a set of golf clubs.

Rochelle Dean, who lives on Chestnut Way, said she specializes in selling off jewelry, including earrings and necklaces.

"To be successful at this, you have to be willing to negotiate, but first set the bottom price offer you'll accept and stick to it," she said. "My jewelry cost a lot so I'm not about to give it away."

Other hot items for a garage sale are baby clothes, children's books, linens and towels and ceramics, she added. ■



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Foothill's Linda Gullick named 'Teacher of Year'

Former nurse has been health teacher here since 1999

Linda Gullick, a health teacher at Foothill High School since 1999, has been selected as the Pleasanton school district's "Teacher of the Year for 2007-08.

Before entering the field of education, she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from UC San Francisco and worked as a registered nurse in areas such as surgery, oncology and newborn

nurseries.

In 1998, she received her teaching credential from Chapman University and was a student teacher in the San Ramon Valley Unified School District before taking the position at Foothill the following year as a health teacher.

During her time at Foothill, Linda was instrumental in developing the Health and Bioscience Academy, and has been a leader of the character program, and a member of the School Site Council. She also interacts with others through TEC, the Tri-Valley Education

Collaborative, and has worked with teachers at Amador Valley High School on the joint Health Faire.

In announcing the award, school Supt. John Casey cited Gullick's "passion for her students and for teaching."

"She is committed to providing authentic experiences that challenge students as learners and as people," he said.

As Pleasanton's Teacher of the Year, Gullick will also be eligible for countywide consideration in its similar award program later this year.

—Jeb Bing



Linda Gullick, "Teacher of the Year."

Lydiksen teacher 1 of 4,000 Wal-Mart teachers of the year

Linda Boveda receives \$1,000 grant, \$100 gift card for supplies

by Emily Atwood

Linda Boveda, a fifth-grade teacher at Lydiksen Elementary School was one of 4,000 teachers nationwide to be named a Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year. Along with the honor, she received a \$1,000 grant for the school, a \$100 gift card for classroom supplies, a Teacher of the Year polo shirt and a personalized certificate.

She was nominated in February and then selected by a committee of store associates. When it came time to receive the award, Boveda was completely surprised. Each Friday

morning the school shows a video they put together, and she thought she was going to be a part of the video. Then quickly the room filled with people, including representatives from Wal-Mart. The school was also given five boxes of school supplies from Wal-Mart.

"It's a great honor," she said. "It's really easy to be a good teacher when you're at a great school with amazing kids, staff, parents and support staff."

This is Boveda's ninth year in the district and 10th year of teaching. Previously she worked in retail

merchandising for 15 years.

"I love my job and I love the kids," she said. "It's so much fun, it's the best job in the world. The surprises, the laughter, seeing the kids every day—every day is different."

Fifth grade is a special time, Boveda said. While starting to study big ideas like matter, algebra and U.S. history, they still have the spirit of young children.

"They're still innocent," she said. "They still like to take chances and have fun, so it's a great year. Next year they'll be in sixth grade and they're going to be more aware of

what other people think of them."

She asked them what teaching a fifth grader these days is like and her students helped her by saying they make the job easy because they are all so good at technology. Since technology is a big part of learning, Boveda said the school hopes the grant would go towards a Lumens camera and LCD projector, which projects textbooks to an overhead. The cost is about \$2,000, so she said the school would have to raise some more money before the items could be purchased.

Boveda may also apply for the

state honors to have a chance at winning a \$10,000 grant for the school. From there, state winners are automatically nominated for the national competition, with one teacher receiving an additional \$25,000 education grant for the school. In its 12th year with the Teacher of the Year program, Wal-Mart Stores Inc. has given \$18.5 million to schools, with more than \$4 million given just this year.

"We're very grateful to Wal-Mart," she said, adding that she'd like to use the gift card towards drama and art in her classroom. ■



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BART

(continued from page 5)

Pleasanton because the city is bordered by two major freeways.

Commissioner Jennifer Pearce said she'd like to see service-type businesses in the retail portion of the project such as dry cleaners and a pharmacy. Chairwoman Anne Fox agreed, adding that a postal center would be a nice addition.

Included in Windstar's plans is an 'urban' grocery store that would comprise part of 11,000 square feet of retail space to serve both apartment dwellers and those who work in nearby office parks.

"I'm not really sure how to say this, but it looks like Dublin."

—Commissioner Kathy Narum

Most commissioners agreed that 350 units sounded like a good number that was both economically viable for the developer and feasible for the land use.

Commissioner Arne Olson went a step further, saying he thought "the units should be exempt from the city's housing cap."

The housing cap of 29,000 units that Pleasanton is mandated by voters to adhere to is nearing the limit, causing the city to closely evaluate what projects with housing units it will approve.

Fox and Commissioner Kathy Narum said 350 apartments may be too much and wanted Windstar to see if having less units would



In this artist's rendering provided by Oakland architectural firm MVE & Partners, a 350-unit apartment complex is shown just north of Stoneridge Mall Road with a BART parking lot to the west.

allow more space for a tot lot and other public open spaces.

A total of 423 parking spaces are allotted

for the apartments. Another 117 will serve residents' guests and roughly 100 more will be provided for retail and leasing office uses.

The parking will be housed in a two-level garage and a surface lot.

A separate four-story, five-level parking garage will be constructed by BART adjacent to the proposed TOD on 1.2 acres for train users. Pedestrian walkways on both the Pleasanton side of Interstate 580 and the Dublin side will connect to the freeway median where the BART station will be located. Another parking garage will be located on the Dublin side, where transit-oriented development plans there include a 150-room hotel, a 210-unit condo complex and a 7,500-square-foot commercial building.

Some commissioners felt the parking situation for the Pleasanton side was appropriate while others felt it may be inadequate. Narum suggested the developers show the commission research on other transit-oriented developments and the amount of parking that was used.

"You're going to have young families moving in and they're going to need to drive their kids to school because Pleasanton doesn't have a bus system," Pearce said.

One aspect of the development all commissioners were in agreement about was their distaste for the urban-style architecture.

"I'm not really sure how to say this, but it looks like Dublin," Narum said.

"I agree," said Commissioner Phil Blank. "It just doesn't look like Pleasanton."

Olson suggested replacing stucco with brick and others added that the yellow and red color scheme reminded them of developments of their neighbors to the north.

Another work session will be scheduled with the Planning Commission before it will be presented to the commission for approval. ■

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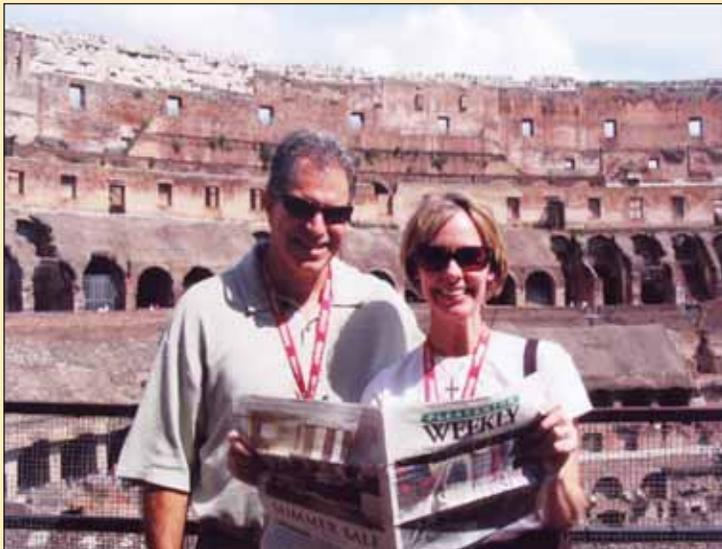
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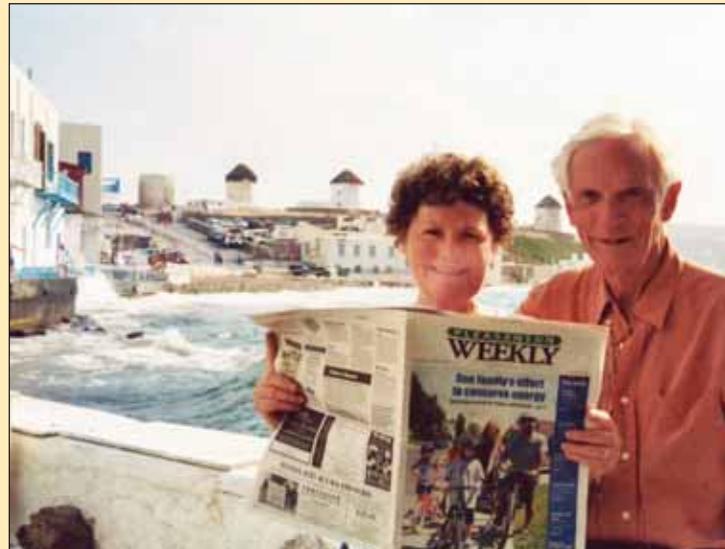
Roman reading

Colossal news needs a colossal home, which is why Alan and Lorna Belluomini brought the Weekly with them while visiting the Roman Coliseum.



More exciting than a glacier

Sarah and Claire Williams read the Weekly while passing the Hubbard Glacier during an Alaskan cruise. The sisters were in Alaska with the rest of their family to celebrate their Nana's 80th birthday.



'Greece' lighting

Marilyn Foreman and Franklin Williams read the Weekly while visiting Mykonos, Greece.



Lending a hand in Louisiana

Members of Pleasanton's Lynnwood United Church read the Weekly after a week of volunteering in Slidell, La., rebuilding homes damaged by Hurricane Katrina. The group included (L-R) Lynne Blackburn, Rhona Sherrill, Roger Everett, Lisa Rigge, Joanne Rankin, Jeanne Shaw, Sarah Silva, Nancy Anderson, Raeanne Passantino, Chuck Shaw, Ron Rigge, Jamie Rankin, Steve Elliott, Anne Anderson, Cynthia DeLand, Jackie Shurtleff and Peggy Smith.



Canal cruise

Peter and Marge Bailey read the Weekly while cruising through the Panama Canal.

Fire season under way, early this year

Officials predict possible severe season due to lack of rain, dry vegetation

Area fire chiefs are sounding the alarm that fire season is under way much earlier than normal due to low rainfall totals and resulting dry vegetation.

Alameda and Contra Costa county fire chiefs and the East Bay Regional Park District, in cooperation with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), formerly called CDF, declared the 2007 wildland fire season open last Monday.

While the conditions could make for an especially severe firefighting season, there are steps residents can take to protect themselves, the fire chiefs said.

• Be extra careful with fire. An estimated 90 percent of wildfires are caused by people. Equipment use is the most

common cause.

• Create a defensible space around all structures by clearing flammable vegetation to a minimum of 100 feet or to the property line.

• Remove tree limbs within 10 feet of any chimneys or stovepipes; remove pine needles and leaves from roofs, eaves and rain gutters.

• Remember lawn mowers are for lawns. They can cause fires if used on dry grass. Always mow before 10 a.m. Dry grass has the highest amount of moisture in the morning hours.

• Have a plan for gathering family members, pets and valuable in case an approaching wildfire requires evacuation.

—Janet Pelletier

A gala time for a good cause

Winegrowers foundation throws auction event to raise funds for children's charities

The Livermore Valley Winegrowers Foundation is hosting "The Wine Auction Experience," an event to raise funds for several East Bay children-oriented charities, this Saturday from 5 p.m. to midnight at the Wente Vineyards Event Center, 5050 Arroyo Road, Livermore.

The evening starts with a reception and silent auction featuring 38 Livermore Valley wineries offering their best wines in three-liter, hand-decorated bottles. Guests will also enjoy tastes from the winemakers' classic and new vintages. Following the silent auction, guests will enjoy a gala dinner with live music, dancing and a live auction. The 44 live auction lots include rare wine selections; wine country adventures in Livermore Valley, Sonoma, and Napa; a progressive dinner for 20 with the Wente family; Los Lonely Boys Concert and pre-dinner at Murrieta's Well for 10; a winemaking evening for 18 at Page Mill Winery; a Hawaiian luau for 28 at Mitchell Katz Winery; sunset picnic

and treasure hunt for 16 with Red Skye Winery; Roman-style dinner for eight at Livermore Valley Cellars; an evening of bocce and Italian food for six with Olympic champion Peggy Fleming and husband Greg Jenkins; and more.

Tickets to the event are \$250. Proceeds will be donated to The Taylor Family Foundation, Kaleidoscope After School Program affiliated with Easter Seals Bay Area, the Oakland East Bay Symphony and the ValleyCare Foundation.

The Livermore Valley Winegrowers Foundation, a nonprofit organization that raises funds for local charities and promotes awareness of the Livermore Valley Wine Country, has donated more than \$2.5 million to Bay Area children's charities. Auction events are produced in conjunction with the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association.

Contact The Livermore Valley Winegrowers Foundation, 447-WINE (9463) or visit www.livermorewine.com for tickets.

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Opinion

Editorial

Era of neighborhood feuding may be ending

We agree with Councilwoman Cheryl Cook-Kallio who praised the City Council and public Tuesday for deciding issues on the basis of what's good for the entire community, not just one neighborhood. Her comments came on the second packed public hearing in as many weeks on proposals that earlier had torn neighborhoods apart but were resolved in peaceful, statesmanlike fashion. The first on May 1 was the council's agreement to extend Stoneridge Drive to El Charro Road and Livermore. There were no fist-a-cuffs, no shouting down a speaker (as happened a year ago), no meanness or boos. As council members stated their views, both sides listened quietly. When it was over, those who had vigorously opposed the extension left with those who want it, some even shaking hands as if to close a long and troubling chapter in neighborhood relations.

Last Tuesday, it was much the same as the council voted 4-1 to allow a second Home Depot to be built in Pleasanton. The new one, which will anchor a 14.7-acre retail development planned for the corner of Bernal and Stanley, had been fiercely opposed by neighborhoods mainly along Valley Avenue who are already concerned by the high volume of truck traffic using the street, often in the early morning hours when the noise of the vehicles shatters their sleep. Unlike other developers—and this is a textbook lesson for others—Don MacKenzie and Pete Knoedler of Regency Centers, the commercial development group that will build and operate the Home Depot and other retail site, spent weeks in attending neighborhood meetings and talking to homeowners one-on-one to explain their development plan and how they would work tirelessly to keep delivery trucks off Valley. Some weren't convinced, although most were placated. Nancy Allen, the head of the Stop Pleasanton Gridlock citizens' group, acknowledged the sincerity of the developers and their willingness to talk, although she remain opposed to the project because of her feat that the trucks would still travel on Valley. Worse, she said, would be a decision by Home Depot once their new store is built to close the 15-year-old Johnson Drive store, which would mean more shoppers traveling across town and an empty store on Johnson Drive. Later, Mayor Jennifer Hosterman pointed out that with commercial property in Pleasanton so scarce, a site such as the one Home Depot now occupies would be grabbed in a minute by another developer, possibly a Home Depot competitor. It's hard to believe the home improvement company would ever give up that choice location. Allen and others opposed to the project left quietly after the council vote, chatting amicably with the developers and other project advocates.

Cook-Kallio said the results of the two back-to-back meetings not only ended years of controversy over the Stoneridge extension and how to develop the Bernal-Stanley commercial site, but may also have ended the era of neighborhood feuding. That would be a good move for all of Pleasanton and would help shorten the long council meetings which have lasted close to the midnight hour for at least three in a row.

Letters

Facts, not fuss impacted extension vote

Dear Editor,

Two weeks ago, the City Council unanimously voted to keep the Stoneridge Drive extension in the General Plan. Pleasanton citizens on both sides of this issue spent countless hours trying to influence our leadership as to the importance of the decision before them. Neighborhood meetings, speeches, emails, letters to the editor, Web site creation, and even T-shirts were made in efforts to compel our council to vote one way or the other. At the end of the day, it was the traffic study that gave clarity as to the worthiness of Stoneridge Drive's inclusion in the General Plan.

So what's the lesson learned here? My hope is that our leadership has realized that before uninformed campaign promises or proposals are put forth, get the facts first. Had our local legislators acted responsibly in the first place, I believe that we all could have been spared this grief. As to certain council members encouraging a referendum, they can't be serious. We need to get back to business of restoring our credibility with our regional partners, as well as seek additional solutions to our local traffic issues. How could any responsible leader suggest that this local heartache be perpetuated?

Kudos to those leaders that had the backbone to recognize that this legislative body was elected to make the tough decisions for the community as a whole.

We've had enough; please get back to the business you were elected to fulfill.

*Ellen Hanna
Pleasanton*

Skateboarding is not a crime

Dear Editor,

In an effort to do my part to reduce global warming, reduce car traffic and get exercise, I skateboarded from my office to Baja Fresh in the Stoneridge Shopping Center to get lunch for my co-workers and myself. I do not do tricks on my skateboard and only use it as a transportation device. I skateboarded through an almost empty portion of the parking lot, climbed some stairs and skated down an empty sidewalk for about 100 yards to Baja Fresh. I picked up my to-go order and left.

With my big Baja Fresh bag in hand, I happily retraced my tracks and skated back to the stairs, walked down them and proceeded to exit the parking lot whereupon a Stoneridge security SUV driven by a young man drove unnecessarily and recklessly fast straight at me, which was quite frightening. His actions seemed to suggest he was using his two-ton vehicle as a weapon of intimidation, which ruined my morale for the

day, ruined my appetite and made me question my good intentions/motives for skateboarding to the mall instead of driving.

The hot-headed young man then began to interrogate me as to where I worked and threatened me with arrest if he saw me at the mall. I hope that the Simon Property Group, Inc., and the Stoneridge Mall does not believe that these draconian actions are justified or warranted. I pray that Stoneridge mall security temper their responses and act more reasonably and appropriately in their evaluation of threats and/or abuses.

*David Kam
Pleasanton*

"We the People" thanks the Weekly

Dear Editor,

Thank you for all of the publicity for our team! We are very appreciative. The students eagerly looked up what was written each morning about the team on the Weekly's Web site. You are very generous to give us so many column inches! Thank you for all the support you and the paper have given us over the past three years!

*Brian Ladd
"We the People" Coach,
Amador Valley High School*

Livermore wine festival prices too high

Dear Editor,

Each year we go to the Livermore wine festival and enjoy the wine tasting. We did not mind paying \$10 or so for a glass and trying some varieties of Livermore wine, but this year the fees were ridiculous. All signs read \$30 for the glass and this price included two glasses of wine. Big deal!

Whoever had the idea to increase the prices to this level did not think things through and did a true disservice to the local Livermore winemakers. For us, the \$30 was a ridiculous price to pay for two glasses of wine and we ended up not purchasing any wines and leaving the event early. This is truly price gouging, much like the oil companies are doing at the gas pump.

This is unfortunate as we did not get to try any of this year's local wines, something we've done since at this event since it was called the Honey and Wine Festival and something that allows us the opportunity to learn what wine varieties to buy each year. If prices remain this high next year, it's unlikely we'll return. We can have dinner with wine at those prices. And believe me the event glass is not a selling point.

*Peter Kotsinadelis
Pleasanton*

Thank you from Tri-Valley Senior Support

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, the staff and especial-

ly the clients we serve, I would like to thank you and Elizabeth Campos Rajs for the wonderful article than ran in the Weekly April 6 ("Connecting with Seniors," Living).

We are always thankful when we can reach seniors in our community about the services that are available to them. Elizabeth's article not only reached our seniors, but reached out to community members who we constantly need to help us serve our seniors. Since the release of this article we have had contact from three potential new volunteers. We also have had five new seniors/or their families call in who were in need of services but did not know where to go to find help. All were a result of reading the article.

Thanks again for all of your support.

*Marlene Petersen
Director, Tri-Valley Senior
Support Program*

Alcohol-related accidents more deadly than Iraq

Dear Editor,

Mr. Fred Norman is certainly upset over the lack of action by the Pleasanton, state or national government to stop the Iraq war to save American lives ("Pleasanton under a 'cloud of silence' in supporting troops," Letters to the Editor, May 4). The loss of over 3,000 lives in the past four years is tragic we would all agree. However, perhaps he could direct his venom toward a far greater tragedy the loss of over 4,5000 American lives per year from motor vehicle "accidents," more

(continued on page 14)

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Letters

(continued from page 13)

than 40 percent of which involved someone who had been drinking. Think of it: over five times as many Americans are killed in a year from alcohol related accidents than have been killed in the Iraq war in four years.

When it comes to saving lives (which is what Mr. Norman indicates he is concerned with) I suggest he tackle a much larger, closer-to-home problem that could yield far greater results in terms of lives saved.

*Carl E. Olsen
Scottsdale, AZ.*

Lived in Pleasanton until last August. He is a retired professional engineer and executive, as well as a war veteran.

Chamber likes council's extension vote

Dear Editor,

Recently the Pleasanton City Council voted unanimously to retain the Stoneridge Drive extension in the city's general plan. This was a big victory for the businesses and residents of Pleasanton, and I want to thank everyone who sent messages to the City Council at the Chamber's urging. Council members received hundreds of messages on this one issue, and the results were an overwhelming 70 percent

in favor of leaving the extension in the general plan.

It is still possible the City Council's decision will be challenged by referendum before the general plan update is finalized in January. Whether or not this occurs, the Chamber will remain attentive and proactive to ensure that Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore and the county follow through on their commitment to improve our regional traffic infrastructure in a timely manner.

If you have the opportunity, please take time to thank Mayor Jennifer Hosterman and council members Matt Sullivan, Cindy McGovern, Jerry Thorne and Cheryl Cook-Kallio for their courage and leadership in voting to retain the Stoneridge Drive extension in the General Plan. Again, the email address is: citycouncil@ci.pleasanton.ca.us.

*David Bouchard
President and CEO Pleasanton
Chamber of Commerce*

Perhaps residents don't know facts about Iraq

Dear Editor,

In response to Mr. Fred Norman's letter ("Pleasanton under a 'cloud of silence' in supporting troops," Letters to the Editor, May 4), I wholeheartedly agree and wonder also. Unfortunately, I think many in Pleasanton suffer from the notion that the war has nothing to do with them since we're "fighting them

over there so we don't have to fight them over here."

Perhaps it is outrage fatigue? Perhaps it's a lack of awareness about the facts of our occupation of Iraq. They may not know that many of the reasons we are over there were falsified and cherry-picked by the administration. Perhaps they've not heard of PNAC or the Downing Street Memos? Perhaps they do not know that there were never WMDs; nor that Iraq had anything to do with 9/11? Perhaps they're unaware of the billions of dollars in no-bid contracts granted to Halliburton and it's subsidiaries to support this war, while still our troops go without necessities? Perhaps they're unaware of the billions of dollars spent on this war while citizens of our country suffer and our democracy is in crisis? Perhaps they watch Fox news and so they cannot possibly know? Perhaps they believe that the almost 3,400 dead soldiers, tens of thousands of people disabled for life, and 655,000-plus Iraqi civilians killed are justified in this horrible occupation? Perhaps they really believe the propaganda being "catapulted" by this administration? Sadly, those who are not paying attention will never ask any of these questions.

Mr. Norman, I just wanted you to know you are not the only one outraged in Pleasanton.

*Janna Collins
Pleasanton*



Your Turn

The Pleasanton Weekly encourages comments on our coverage or on issues of local interest. No anonymous letters or "open letters" to other organizations or individuals will be printed. Please provide your name, street address and daytime telephone number. Please keep length to 250 words or less. We reserve the right to edit contributions for length and style and for factual errors known to us.

Letters: Mail or hand deliver to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566

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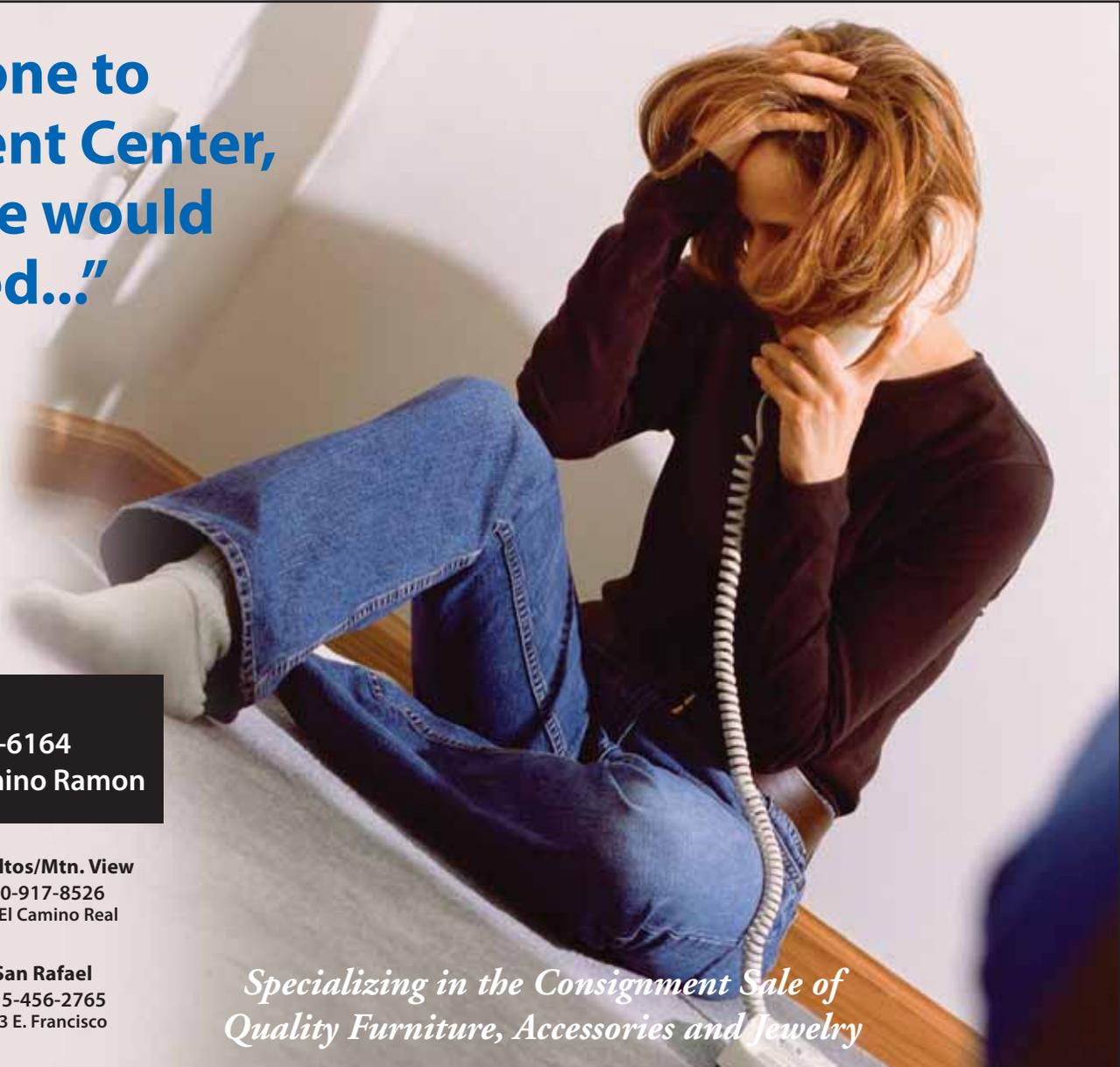
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Community Pulse



WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

Planning Commission

Wednesday, May 23, 2007 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

• **PAUP 4, Jennifer A. Hosterman**

Application for an animal use permit to allow a red tailed hawk to be kept in the rear yard accessory structure of an existing residence located at 2922 Chardonnay Drive.

• **PDR-599, Chun Kim**

Application for design review approval to construct a two story home consisting of 3,089 square foot upper level, 2,079 square foot lower level, and 1,078 square-foot garage, at the property located at 9900 Longview Lane.

• **PTR 7813, Charles Austin and Scott Austin**

Application for a Tentative Subdivision Tract Map to subdivide the 30.15-acre Austin property into eight single-family custom home lots with the remaining land dedicated to the City of Pleasanton for open space purposes. The subdivision map is submitted in conformance to the previously approved applications PGPA-11 and PUD-58. The property is located at 3459 Old Foothill Road.

The Planning Commission continued the Oak Grove item as described below to May 23; this item was noticed publicly but has since been continued to June 13.

• **PUD-33, James Tong/Charter Properties; Jennifer Lin, Frederic Lin, and Kevin Lin**

Consideration of: (1) an application for a PUD development plan for the Oak Grove development to subdivide an approximately 562 acre site into 51 custom home sites and to designate the remaining area for permanent open space; (2) the Final Environmental Impact Report for the proposal; and (3) the Development Agreement to vest the entitlements covered by this application. The property is located at 1400 Hearst Drive, near the present terminus of Hearst Drive on the southerly sides of the Vintage Hills and the Grey Eagle Estates developments.

Trails Ad Hoc Committee

- The May 28, 2007 Trails Ad Hoc Committee meeting has been cancelled. The next committee meeting will be held on June 25, 2007.

Future Meeting Information

- The Trails Ad Hoc Committee will not meet in the month of July
- The Youth Commission will not meet during the months of July and August
- A special Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for May 30th

**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

Police Bulletin

Pleasanton man arrested in Dublin assault

Paolo Lacson, 25, of Pleasanton and Marcus Bryant, 19, of Dublin were arrested May 4 in connection with a robbery and assault of a man in front of Regal Cinemas April 16. A plainclothes detective with the suspects' pictures spotted them in front of the theater. Police said they will probably be charged with robbery and assault with a deadly weapon.

Locked cars burglarized, electronics stolen

Officer Penelope Tamm reported several vehicular burglaries over the past two weeks. All cars were reportedly locked. Two cars in the 5000 block of Owens Drive were burglarized sometime between May 4 and 7. A window on one of the vehicles was smashed and stereo and video equipment was taken.

Between May 6 and 7 a car in the 3000 block of Appian Street was pried open and stereo and video

equipment was also stolen. In the 11000 block of Dublin Canyon Road during the night of May 7, a car window was smashed in order to take electronic equipment. Paperwork and a briefcase were stolen from a car parked in the 5000 block of Black Avenue between May 5 and 7.

Wheelchair stolen from Kaiser

A wheelchair was stolen from Kaiser Permanente's east parking lot, 7601 Stoneridge Drive, sometime between 5:30 p.m. May 4 and 9:05 a.m. May 7, according to police reports. The chair was valued at \$750.

GPS unit stolen from rental car

A 2007 Lincoln MKZ was parked at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 11950 Dublin Canyon Road, from 12:30 to 5:30 a.m. May 7. During that time a victim reported a GPS unit stolen from the vehicle. The GPS unit was valued at \$1,000 while the damage to the vehicle was valued at \$250.

Police Report

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

May 4

- Stolen vehicles:
 - 1:30 p.m. in the 5600 block of Sunol Boulevard
 - 10:40 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- Domestic animal bites:
 - 2:00 p.m. in the 3100 block of Boardwalk Street

May 5

- Stolen vehicle:
 - 10:07 a.m. in the 4300 block of Valley Avenue
- Vehicular vandalism:
 - 12:15 p.m. in the 400 block of Adams Way; worth \$1,000 or less
- Vehicular burglary:
 - 2:37 p.m. in the 5600 block of Owens Drive; worth \$50-199
- Unauthorized residential entry:
 - 2:45 a.m. in the 3600 block of Andrews Drive
- Alcohol violation:
 - 11:21 p.m. in the 5800 block of Laurel Creek Drive

May 6

- Vehicular burglary:
 - 12:15 p.m. in the 5200 block of Riverdale Court
- Assault:
 - 12:49 a.m. in the 7300 block of Johnson Drive

May 7

- DUI: 1
- Robbery:
 - 1:49 a.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- Vehicular burglary:
 - 5:53 a.m. in the 11000 block of Dublin Canyon Road

- 7:40 a.m. in the 3800 block of Appian Street
- 7:56 a.m. in the 5600 block of Owens Drive
- 9:25 a.m. in the 5700 block of Owens Drive
- 12:35 p.m. in the 5600 block of Owens Drive
- 7:40 p.m. in the 5300 block of Black Avenue

• Theft:

- 4:34 p.m. in the 4400 block of Hacienda Drive; worth over \$400
- 9:41 a.m. in the 3800 block of Casadero Court; stolen vehicle

• Truant:

- 9:34 a.m. at the intersection of First and Abbie streets

• Graffiti:

- 6:29 a.m. in the 7300 block of Johnson Drive

May 8

• Graffiti:

- 1:13 a.m. in the 5800 block of Laurel Creek Drive

• Public drunkenness:

- 6:23 p.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and Black Avenue

• Assault:

- 8:25 p.m. in the 2700 block of Longspur Way

• Stolen vehicle:

- 8:39 p.m. in the 300 block of St. Mary Street

May 9

• Theft:

- 8:43 a.m. in the 4300 block of Hacienda Drive; forged checks
- 5:44 p.m. in the 6800 block of Inglewood Court; petty theft
- 11:57 p.m. in the 5800 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; forgery

• Burglary:

- 1:42 a.m. in the 43000 block of Addison Way
- 9:04 a.m. in the 1400 block of Harvest Road

• Drug/alcohol violations:

- 9:22 a.m. in the 3400 block of Andrews Drive; marijuana possession
- 9:29 p.m. in the 6100 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard; public drunkenness

May 10

• Theft:

- 2:46 p.m. in the 6000 block of Stoneridge Drive; grand theft
- 8:17 p.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue; identity theft
- 10:44 p.m. in the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road; false pretenses

• Drug/alcohol violations:

- 11:33 a.m. in the 5200 block of Hopyard Road; paraphernalia possession
- 8:55 p.m. in the 800 block of Main Street; public drunkenness

• Assault:

- 5:54 a.m. in the 1400 block of Whispering Oaks Way

ACCIDENTS

May 4

- 3:20 p.m. - Injury accident at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and Sutter Gate Avenue

- 4:11 p.m. - Non-injury accident at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Busch Road

May 5

- 9:02 p.m. - Non-injury accident with private property damage in the 4200 block of Valley Avenue

May 7

- 2:07 a.m. - DUI-related accident with injury at the intersection of First and Ardent streets

Can this man save TV30



TV30 Executive Director Glenn Davis talks to station's part-time public relations director Susan Astbury about new marketing and promotion efforts to bring more sponsor and underwriter fees to financially beleaguered station.

photos and story by Jeb Bing

Veteran television producer and TV30's Executive Director Glenn Davis has brought the Tri-Valley's award-winning community television station into the digital age with quality programming and broadcasts. Now he faces an even more daunting challenge: fix the financial bleeding that has brought the station to the brink of bankruptcy and save TV30.

Already the station is more than a half-million dollars in the hole in its current fiscal year that ends June 30. The city councils of the four cities TV30 serves—Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore and San Ramon—made emergency appropriations of \$65,000 from their General Funds earlier this month so that the station could meet its payroll and stay on the air.

The station has an annual budget of \$650,000, with several funding sources, including program production income, donations, underwriting (commercials) and local government funding. Currently, 62 percent of the funding income for TV30 comes from the four cities through a pass-through arrangement with Comcast Cable, that charges each of its Tri-Valley subscribers 50 cents a month, which it then send to the cities each year. In the current fiscal year that amounted to \$403,668.

Not only has the revenue failed to keep pace with rising expenses at the station, the Comcast contribution has been fixed ever since it was assessed more than seven years ago. It was never indexed to inflation or pegged to the rising consumer rates charged by Comcast, which Davis blames as a major cause for the growing differential between TV30 revenues and costs.

Late last month, the four mayors of the sponsoring cit-

ies ousted the station's long-time independent Board of Directors, changed the bylaws and took the board seats themselves. While some former board members called the move long overdue, others viewed it as a power grab that could make TV30, which is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a nonprofit, as more government controlled than independent.

But Mayor Janet Lockhart of Dublin said that's not true. "I don't see the four mayors sitting on this board forever," she said. "We just want to get the things in place that we need to do to better understand how the station will operate in the future and to get that model up and running. Then my goal would be to welcome community members back on the board."

Besides Lockhart, the other mayors now on the TV30 board are Mayors Jennifer Hosterman of Pleasanton, Marshall Kamena of Livermore and H. Abram Wilson of San Ramon.

Starting with TV30's new fiscal year on July 1, Lockhart and the city of Dublin will assume city oversight for the station, which is now a two-year commitment that will include financial and direct liaison help from Dublin. Joni Pattillo, Dublin's assistant city manager, will take over for Pamela Ott, Pleasanton's economic development director, who has held that post for the past 12 months.

Davis said he looks forward to the move, which will give him more Human Resources support from the cities so that he can focus on adding more sponsorships and underwriting. The term underwriting is a public/nonprofit television euphemism for commercial, with the UNCLE Credit Union, Splashes car wash and Big O Tires as some of the major underwriters for TV30. ValleyCare Health System, San Ramon Regional Medical Center, the Livermore

Downtown Association, Pleasanton Police Department and the Pleasanton School District also pay sponsorship and production fees for programs they air on TV30. Davis wants to expand these fee-based programs to add more revenue.

Davis also wants to hold more fundraisers, a concept advanced by TV30 boards over the years but only recently held with some degree of success. Davis led the fundraiser last month held at Tommy T's Comedy Club, which raised about \$20,000 after expenses.

Davis also takes credit for turning TV30 around when he was picked two years ago as executive director. He followed a recently-fired director who had turned the station upside down with multiple dismissals of skilled production workers and news reporters, including summary oustings of long-time veteran station workers whose services dated back to 1983 when the community television station was founded. Those dismissals also resulted in several lawsuits which the four cities have agreed to handle.

Davis focused on team-building from the start, adding experienced professionals for production, news gathering and on-air positions while keeping those already well-known in the community. These include George Baljevich (Dr. B) and Ian Bartholomew in sports, Tom Morrison as the news anchor and Robin Fahr, Bob Elliott, Kathy Cordova, Patty Powers, Rocky Robinson and Carolyn Siegfried, most of them work part-time. Kevin Wing, an experienced newsman, was recently hired to run the newsroom.

"But I have to say that my first priority when I arrived at the station was simply keeping it on the air," Davis said. "It was off the air at least 15 percent of the time and I was fielding calls on those early days from peers, board mem-

bers and when t

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Community television at risk

city officials, asking why they saw a blank screen when they tuned into Channel 30."

second priority was simply to clean out all the clutter that had been allowed to accumulate in the small room we have behind the school district's headquarters," he said. "We actually filled Dumpsters with all sorts of hazardous materials just to improve the environment."

Davis headed out on the speaking circuit, talking to city councils in the four cities the station serves, to the chambers of commerce and at other public events.

Over the years, people had lost faith in TV30," he said. "Often we were not on the air and we had very public problems with people who worked here. My job was to talk to the communities and get viewers to come back to TV30."

His accomplishments are most apparent to viewers. Upgrading digital equipment, the station's broadcast quality is as good as any commercial station. Even the sets that were the backdrops for the news and other shows have been rebuilt or purchased, ending an era where much of the equipment was held together with Scotch tape and staples. When we started broadcasting digitally, you could see the flaws, including the tape," Davis recalls. "We had to buy new sets."

The station also spent \$50,000 to buy and equip a new broadcast van, which gives the station on-air remote capabilities it never had before. The van parks outside the San Ramon City Hall to receive direct video from inside and relay it to the station's Pleasanton headquarters. Other stations have direct broadcast wiring. Pleasanton is hard-to-reach to TV30's headquarters and also owns the camera truck that operates to cover council meetings.

These same cameras also are used now to provide live streaming video services in Pleasanton, which enables viewers to watch the meetings on their computers, bypassing the TV30 cable broadcasts. As streaming video becomes more popular, there's some question if fewer viewers will watch TV30, where council meetings are broadcast on Channel 29 and school board meetings on Channel 28.

Competing for viewer attention is Direct TV and satellite receiving services that don't offer TV30 in the area. Unlike Comcast, they also don't have a direct line and pass through to TV30 the monthly 50-cent fee that supports the community television system. A through the hundreds of homes already built or under construction in San Ramon's Dougherty Valley shows about to have rooftop dishes for satellite feed. It's assumed that satellite subscribers do not also subscribe to Comcast, though those homes are wired for cable.

The digital revolution at TV30, late in coming but nevertheless offering quality broadcasts, also requires costly software, servers and monitoring equipment. Although budgeted on this year's budget, Davis said he needs even more. The station still operates with hand-held video cameras. Production crews view and edit programs on 20-year-old boards, watching their work on television sets instead of production monitors, which means that no two screens show exactly the same picture. The server that handles all of the editing is also old and in danger of crashing, which would halt TV30 programming.

"I can't remember the last time I worked with some of the cameras we are using here today," Davis, an El Cerrito commercial video program producer, said. "Frankly, our equipment in this station is so old that no one would want to use it here and use any of it to produce a show."

"Well, I'm proud of what we have been able to accomplish on such a bare-bones budget," he added. "This town has TV30 and we now have a staff of professionals who are serving the communities we serve the best—and really providing broadcast television news and features in the Tri-Valley."

"Can we do better? Sure," Davis said. "We just need to get the financing and tools to get the job done." Davis has brought in some outside programming from other community stations, including LA36 in Los Angeles and WNYC in New York, which are nonprofit community stations much like TV30. Other so-called community stations are usually owned and operated by local govern-

ments, including stations in Palo Alto, Tracy and Channel 27 which is owned by Contra Costa County. Channel 26 is a public service station, a government-mandated public access station that must air programs sent to it, whether they have a political or religious theme or are more amateur in nature. The station also covers and tapes for later broadcasts most Chamber of Commerce and other community luncheons that TV30 skips.

(continued on page 18)



Producers and editors work on dated equipment to merge programs and on-air features at TV30 studios behind the Pleasanton school district's headquarters on Bernal Avenue.



TV30 Executive Director Glenn Davis meets with Glen Sparks, head of Pleasanton's Adult Education services, which sponsors programs aired on TV30.

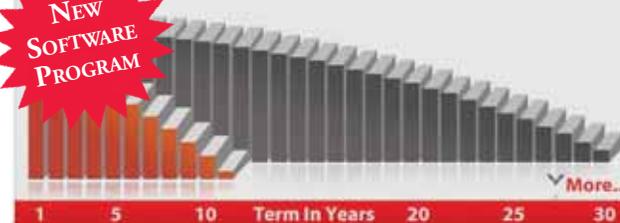


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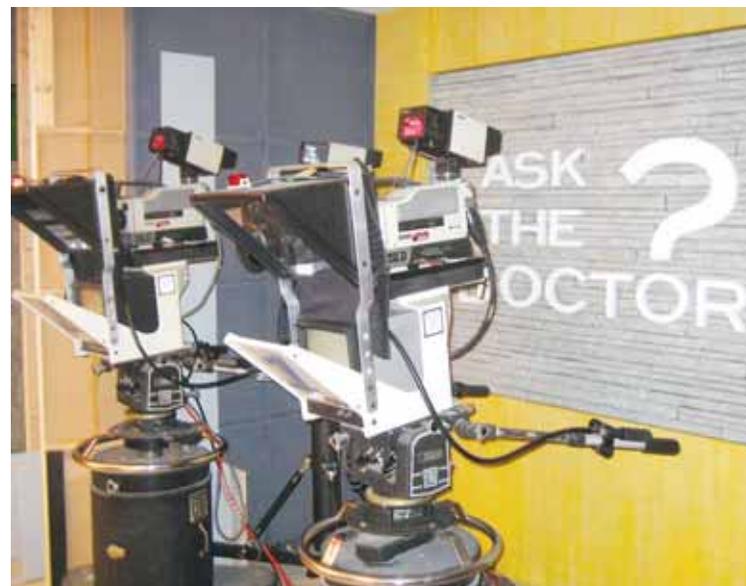
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"Ask the Doctor," where TV30 viewers can call in and ask medical questions to a doctor, runs once a month.

TV30

(continued from page 17)

TV30 recently aired "White House Chronicles," a Washington D.C.-produced show that cost the station nothing. Another show, a PBS program called "Growing Old in a New Age," cost several hundred dollars.

"That may seem like not a lot of money, but we have no line item for buying outside programming at any cost," Davis said. "We don't even have office supplies budgeted, which means we have to beg, borrow and supply personally such things as staples and paper."

"Our budget is fixed and yet our costs keep going up," he added. "So does our employees' cost of living. We thought we can't pay them more. So what happens? They quit and move on to better paying jobs, taking the skills that we need with them. I lost four good professionals in January, alone."

Dublin Mayor Lockhart agrees that TV30's budget must be increased or the station's expenses cut back.

"We all agree that it's very valuable to our Valley to have community television," she said. "It serves a great need in our communities and makes people aware of what's going on. So we are very interested in retaining it and making it financially sound. We just need to figure out how to get it back on track."

At the board's next meeting on May 24, Davis and the mayors will consider a new budget for fiscal 2007-08. At the same time, they are expected to consider hiring consultants, one to conduct a financial audit of the station and another to make a management audit, exploring how other public service and community television systems conduct their business.

"All four cities are committed to keeping TV30 on the air and keeping it reasonably independent."

And, they are looking to Davis to fix the problems and save TV30. ■

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Obituaries

Carmen Marie Manning

Carmen Marie Manning died May 5 in Pleasanton at the age of 92.

Mrs. Manning was born January 1, 1915 in Quebec, Canada. Before moving to Pleasanton 10 years ago, she spent 69 years in Southern California. A homemaker for 62 years, she enjoyed dancing, music, bowling and tennis. Her family said that until her death she maintained a sharp wit and sense of humor and was a delight to visit by all her children and grandchildren.

She is survived by daughters Denise Franklin-Haynes of Pleasanton and Carol Cowan of Anchorage, Alaska; sons Roger Manning of Pleasanton and Don Manning of Henderson, Nev.; 10 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 62 years, Joseph Manning; two sisters; and two brothers.

A memorial mass will be held at St. Elizabeth Seton Chapel at 3 p.m. May 19. The burial service will take place at St. Michael's Cemetery in Livermore.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be sent to United Cerebral Palsy, 1660 L Street N.W., Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20036. The organization can be contacted by visiting www.ucp.org or by calling (800) 872-5827.

Richard O. Brierly

Richard O. Brierly died April 19 at the age of 66.

Born and raised in Oakland, Mr. Brierly was a 35-year Pleasanton resident. He served his country proudly in the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne. He received his bachelor's degree from California State University Sacramento, then pursued his career with the Oakland Police Department for 21 years, retiring as a lieutenant.

After retiring from the OPD, he worked at the Alameda County District Attorney's office as an inspector for 12 years. He was affiliated with Le Soceite de Camraderie and the Oakland Police Officer's Golf Association. Mr. Brierly enjoyed golf and traveling in his free time away from the force.

He is survived by beloved wife of 39 years, Marilyn Brierly of Pleasanton; daughter Stephanie England of Pleasanton; son and daughter-in-law John and Denise Brierly of Manteca; sister Jackie Lindberg of Idaho; he was brother-in-law to Barbara and Tom Kugler of Alameda; he is also survived by grandchildren Jack, Emma and Stella Brierly, Haley England, and Kaela and Sydnee Canales; and many nieces and nephews.

Wil Sprowl

Wil Sprowl died April 22 at the Stanford Medical Center at the age of 70.

A resident of Pleasanton for 38 years, he was born in Tompkinsville, Ky. March 4, 1937. After high

school, Mr. Sprowl joined the U.S. Air Force. He then became a manager government programmer for 40 years with Ampex Corporation. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and car restoration, and was a member of the Ford F-100 Elites.

Mr. Sprowl is survived by his wife of 49 years, Ellie; sons Brent and Vince; brothers Willard and Charles; and grandchildren Haley, Krista, Kaitlin, Taylor; Karlee and Kendall.

He was preceded in death by parents Millard and Madie Sprowl. Services were scheduled for April 30 at Graham-Hitch Mortuary. Donations can be made to the Shriner's Hospital and the Make-A-Wish foundation, in lieu of flowers.

Venceslau C. Mendonsa

Venceslau C. Mendonsa died April 28 at the age of 76.

Born in Azores, Portugal, Mr. Mendonsa called Pleasanton home for 19 years. He was a longtime parishioner of St. Augustine Catholic Church.

He is survived by wife of 51 years, Argentina Mendonsa; daughter Filomena Mendonsa of Campbell; sons Antonia Mendonsa of San Jose and Joseph Mendonsa of San Jose; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by son Charles Mendonsa.

A funeral service was scheduled for May 3 at St. Augustine Catholic Church.

(continued on page 20)

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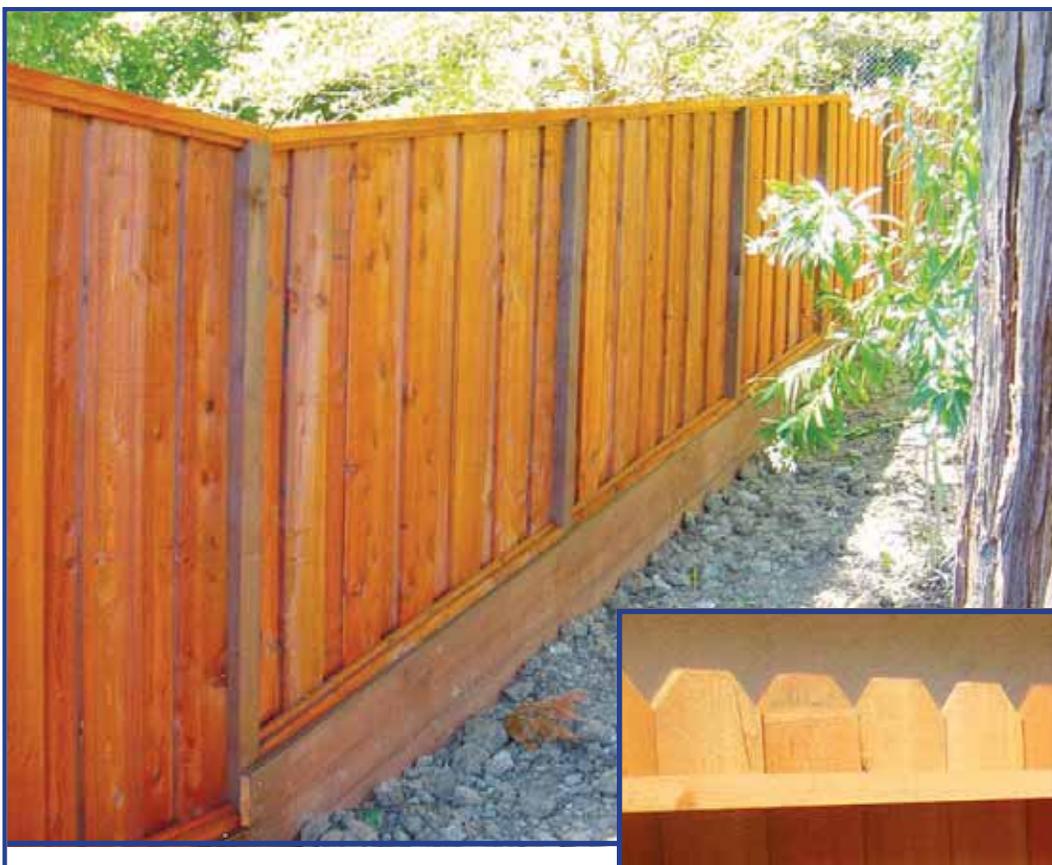
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Obituaries

(continued from page 19)

Marilyn Frances Bowe

Marilyn Frances Bowe died April 28 at the age of 71.

Mrs. Bowe, or "Muggs," was born Aug. 20, 1935 in the Mission District in San Francisco to the late John and Alice Haley. She was the daughter everyone wishes for, full of love for her parents and siblings, and a fine student. After attending St. Peter's Elementary school and Presentation High School, a girls' Catholic School, she commuted to the College of Notre Dame (now Notre Dame University) in Belmont.

Muggs, the nickname bestowed somehow by her dad, made sure that everyone felt welcome when they came to her door. Her cooking was gourmet, and a place to stay was always available at her home even when she was very sick. She always thought of others before herself.

Mrs. Bowe had a wonderful love of gardening and all things Irish. She affectionately referred to her four children as her Four Green Fields (a reference to a favorite Clancy Brothers song). Everything in the garden grew and flourished under her green thumb. She was our "Laura Burbank," kindred soul to Luther Burbank.

Her passion for entertaining and hosting celebrations was second only to her love of decorating for all to enjoy at the holidays. At Halloween, despite her illness, she still made a point of personally greeting each of the 200 or more costumed children coming to her door. She always remembered her grandchildren, family and friends with cards and greetings at holidays, birthdays, graduations, good times and tough times. You knew she was there for you.

Starting with a bout with a rare disease in 1983, Mrs. Bowe's health started a gradual but persistent decline. A medical textbook could probably be written about the lung problems she endured. Each breath was incredibly difficult, due to COPD and complicated by uncontrollable infections, breast cancer, a heart attack, a stroke and finally liver cancer. While some would consider her ability to live to almost a miracle of stamina, the true testimony of her strength was the constant giving in the midst of her suffering. Rare was the complaint she uttered, even until the very end. If you called, she always wanted to know how you felt and were doing. She was as fine a human being as you ever met.

Her husband, James, will always remember "Muggs" as his hero, best friend, lover, Devil's advocate, frank realist, beautiful lady, partner through thick and thin, sweet baboo, and wife of 51 years. They met and fell in love in 1954 while

representing the Bay Area at a college conference in Chicago. After their wedding in Daly City, she was an army wife for two years in Baltimore and Washington, D.C., before returning to California. Up and down the coast, raising four beautiful children, the family was blessed by her loving, caring nature. She did everything; taught at and then directed the children's Sunday religious program, led fund-raisers, band-boosted, and cheered from every sideline. She was behind us and there for us in every crisis and achievement. We couldn't have done it without her.

"Muggs" family misses her and says she is now the wind beneath their wings.

She was the devoted sister of Thomas Haley of Concord, and the late Irene Wells of Lakeport, Calif., and the late Jack Haley of Daly City; loving niece of Lincoln Mers of Rossmoor, Calif.; proud mother to Colleen (and Tom) Davalos of Sunnyvale, Daniel Bowe of Palm Springs; Celeste (and Joe) Earnshaw of Placerville; Matthew (and Annette) Bowe of Highlands Ranch, Colo.; proud grandmother of Devin and Sean Diaz, Joseph and Kaleigh Earnshaw, and Christian and Lauren Bowe. And her love will continue to touch numerous nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews, each of whom she cared for deeply.

The family would appreciate remembrances in the name of Marilyn Bowe, in care of The Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley, Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton, CA 94566.

A memorial celebration of her life is scheduled from 2 to 5 p.m. July 1 at the Senior Center.

Robert Gill

Robert Gill died May 7 at the age of 80.

Mr. Gill was born May 31, 1926 in Kingston, N.Y. and lived in Pleasanton for the past 36 years. He served his country proudly in the U.S. Navy. He received his bachelor's degree in business from Rider College in New Jersey, then went on to pursue his career as a labor relationship manager. He enjoyed working in his garden, maintaining its beauty and fragrance.

Mr. Gill is survived by his loving family: beloved wife and best friend of 52 years, Eugenie Gill of Pleasanton; daughter Maryann Martinez of Livermore; sons Mike of Salida, Calif., Jim of Pleasanton, Richard of Camarillo, Calif., and Tom of Pleasanton; Ellanor of Kingston, N.Y. and Lillian of Wallkill, N.Y.; brothers Edge of Louisville, Colo., Dan of Oxford, Conn., Art of Kingstone, N.Y., and Terry of Holly Springs, N.C.; adored grandchildren Morgyne of Livermore, Alexa of Pleasanton, Adam of Livermore, Vanessa of Camarillo, Calif., Troy of Livermore, Jessica of Camarillo, Calif., and Nolan of Pleasanton; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by parents Anthony and Frances Gill.

A memorial mass was scheduled

for May 11 at St. Augustine Catholic Church. The family has requested donations in lieu of flowers to the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Attn: Director of Planned Giving, 3300 East Sunrise Drive, Tucson, AZ 85718.

Joseph Richard DiBari

Joseph Richard DiBari died May 7 at the age of 64.

Born in Oakland Jan. 28, 1943, Mr. DiBari lived in Livermore for 30 years before moving to Pleasanton 10 years ago. A high school graduate, he joined the U.S. Navy and was a submarine vet, a sonar technician on the USS Razorback. For more than 30 years he was employed in sales/merchandising in the food service industry for a Livermore/Alameda company. He enjoyed movies, music, computers and the Navy Vet Association.

He is survived by his wife of 8 years, Veronica DiBari; mother Dalia DiBari; daughters Juliet Fitch of Oakley and Lisa Ehlert of Las Vegas; sons Douglas DiBari of Livermore and Richard DiBari of Oakland; sister Geri Wvelting of Pioneer, Calif.; brothers Chuck DiBari of Fremont and Robert DiBari of Twaine Hart, Calif.; six grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father Joseph DiBari.

A memorial service was scheduled for May 15 at Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

The family requests that donations be made to a favorite charity.

Jesse Paul Foster

Jesse Paul Foster died March 11 at the age of 87.

Mr. Foster taught and coached at Longfellow and Encinal High School in Alameda for 31 years. He touched the lives of his family, friends and students.

He is survived by his wife, Marilyn; daughter and son-in-law Paula and Rich Rollins of Pleasanton; three grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

A memorial celebration is scheduled for May 19 at Crosswinds Church in Dublin. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Encinal High School Boosters or the Library in Alameda.

Births

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

April 12

Stephanie & Rick MacKirdy, a boy

April 16

Cheryl & Robert Ways, a boy

April 18

Sara & Dion Campbell, a boy
Denise & Rob Reyes, a boy and a girl

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Calendar

Auditions

Join the County Fair's Annual Parade The Alameda County Fair's annual parade is calling for entries for the event June 23. Entrants for the one-mile parade are encouraged to keep with the theme of "The Sounds of Summer." Last year's parade hosted a record of 92 entries, 10 bands, oversized balloons, floats and entertainers. Applications are available at www.alamedacountyfair.com or by calling Nicole at 426-7511.

Author Visits

Coach Tom Morin at the Pleasanton Library At 2 p.m. May 20 author and coach Tom Morin will discuss his book "No More Broken Eggs" at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. This book aims to help clinicians, parents, coaches and young athletes optimize the sports experience. Morin focuses on what we need to do to nurture young athletes, not burn them out. Call 931-3405 or visit www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/library.

Yosemite's Half Dome by Rick Deutsch Author Rick Deutsch will discuss his book "One Best Hike: Yosemite's Half Dome" at 7 p.m. May 24 at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Deutsch will give hints on how fit you should be, what preparations do you need and what should you bring for this hike. He will also present a slideshow. Call 931-3405 or visit www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/library.

Book Clubs

Conservatives Without Conscience by John Dean In "Conservatives Without Conscience," John Dean employs his distinctive knowledge and understanding of Washington politics and process to examine the conservative movement's current inner circle of radical Republican leaders from Capitol Hill to Pennsylvania Avenue

to K Street and beyond. This club is open to the public and meets from 7 to 9 p.m. May 22 at the Livermore Library, 1188 South Livermore Ave. A few dollars are requested to help cover costs. Call Ellis at 451-4303 or visit www.trivalleydems.com/Calendar.htm.

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.

Times Book Club Towne Center Books Columnist and Valley Times book editor Lynn Carey will facilitate a book club discussion featuring the Madonnas of Leningrad at 7:00 p.m. May 24 at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. The club is free and open to the public. Call 846-8826 or visit www.townecenterbooks.com.

Careers

2007 Northern California Career and Leadership Summit Three outstanding speakers will discuss how to achieve and recognize leadership potential, network with professionals and meet recruiters/representatives from area companies. This free conference is from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 19 at Community Presbyterian Church, 222 W. El Pintado Road, Danville. Continental breakfast included. Registration and additional information can be found at www.JobConnections.org.

Civic Meetings

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

Housing Commission The Pleasanton Housing Commission meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

Human Services Commission The Human Services Commission meets

at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

Parks & Recreation Commission The Pleasanton Parks & Recreation Commission meets at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

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

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

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

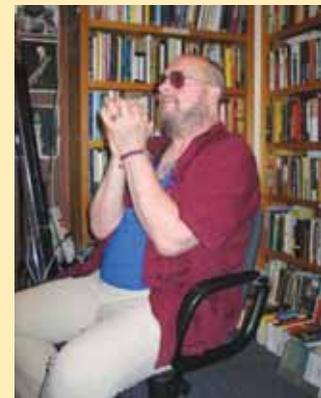
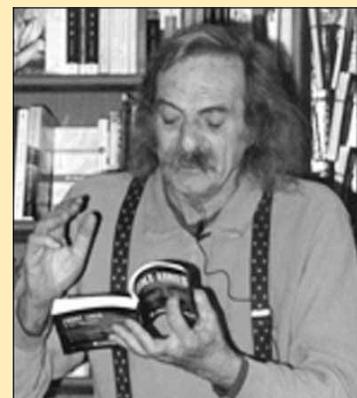
Classes

Acting Training Professional, in-depth training in acting for adults ages 15 and up will be offered by The Playhouse West Academy, 1345 Locust St. in Walnut Creek, Saturdays from 10 to 1 p.m. through May 26. Classes are for beginning, intermediate and advanced students. There will also be an on camera commercial class offered this quarter. Classes taught by artistic director Lois Grandi. The cost is \$235. Email playhousewest@sbcglobal.net, call 943-6464 or visit www.playhousewest.org.

Investing During Turbulent Times Find out if the volatile markets will adversely affect your financial future at this Pleasanton Adult Education class from 7 to 9 p.m. May 22 at Village High School, Room 701, 4645 Bernal Ave. Get some insight on today's market and develop a strategy that will help you survive its volatility. Course No. 256111. Instructor: Christina Ahlstrand, CFP. The cost is \$25. Call 426-4280 or visit <http://pleasanton.k12.trivalley.com>.

Love and Logic: Early Childhood Valley Christian Center, 7500

Weekend Preview



Beat Poets read in Pleasanton

San Francisco Poet Laureate Jack Hirschman and Bay Area poet Latif Harris, both active in the 1960s Beat school of poetry, will read their works at the June Century House Poetry Reading series, sponsored by the city of Pleasanton Civic Arts and hosted by Pleasanton's Poet Laureate. Following the guest reading, attendees may participate in an open mike. The reading takes place from 1 to 3 p.m. June 3 at the Century House, 2401 Santa Rita Road. Call 931-5361 for more information.

Inspiration Drive in Dublin, presents a class called Love and Logic's Early Childhood Parenting Made Fun: Creating happy families and responsible kids from birth to six with practical tips, powerful tools and immediate results. It runs from 7 to 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday through June 7. It is \$25 per person. For more information and to register online, visit www.dublinvcc.org. Childcare provided.

Diana McClun and Laura Nownes, who will present "Shared Stitches and Stories." Anyone interested in quilting is invited to attend the meeting held at 1:30 June 9 at Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave. Visit www.amadorvalleyquilters.org.

Author: The War At Home The public is invited by the Tri Valley Democratic Club to its meeting 7 p.m. May 21 at IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin, to hear Dr. Jack Rasmus discuss his book "The War At Home: The Corporate Offensive From Ronald Reagan to George W. Bush" about an income shift of more than a \$1 trillion a year from 90 million of us to the 10 million wealthiest 10

Clubs

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Boutique Textile Art Create home accessories, wearable art or soft sculpture. Learn how to piece, applique and embroider ideas into art from 10 a.m. to noon every Tuesday at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Class is free. Bring fabric scraps, a yard of unbleached muslin, sharp scissors and dressmaker pins.

Retired Public Employees' Association The Tri-Valley Area, chapter 075, of the Retired Public Employees' Association presents a presentation about the Tahoe Rim Trail at 10:45 a.m. June 7 at Emil Villa's Hickory Pit, 3064 Pacific Ave., Livermore. A slide show and speaker Dale Schauer will talk about 60 miles of the 165 mile circuit. This section is the southern part of the trail starting in the vicinity of Caron's Pass, hiking through

the Desolation Wilderness and ending at Barker Pass. RSVP by June 5 to Bob at 846-6563 or June at 461-0315.

Women's Stock Investment Club Women's Stock Investment club meets at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of every month in Livermore. The club follows Better Investing principles for studying stocks and investing for the long term while having fun. For details, call Eleanor at 846-6911 or Barbara at 484-1319.

Concerts

8th Annual Concerto Festival Concert The Holy Names University preparatory music department presents this concert featuring the music of Mozart, Vivaldi, Haydn and Shostakovich performed by the win-

ners of its Concerto Competition with the Concerto Festival Orchestra under the musical direction of Steve Hoffer, conductor. It starts at 4 p.m. May 20 at Regents Theatre at the Valley Center for the Performing Arts, 3500 Mountain Blvd. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for ages 3 to 18. Call (510) 436-1224. 4 p.m.

Cantabella Children's Chorus Spring Concert Cantabella Children's Chorus announces its 15th anniversary season with their Spring Concert, "15 years of Beautiful Singing" from 2 to 4 p.m. May 19 at Our Savior's Lutheran Ministry, 1385 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore. All alumni are specially invited to return and help celebrate and have the opportunity to share the stage with our two performing choirs. A \$5 donation is suggested. Contact Bee Chow at director@cantabella.org or 292-2663. Visit www.Cantabella.org.

Indian Classical Music—at the Pleasanton Library The Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., presents Indian Classical Music "East Beguiles West with Sounds of Music" at 2 p.m. May 19. Enjoy a rich combination of vocal and instrumental music by premier artists: Mahesh Kale, Prasad Jogalekar, Madan Oak, Prasad Bhandarkar, Abhinay Padhye and Naren Joshi. Call 931-3405.

Ira Stein Jazz Trio The Unitarian Universalist Church, 1893 N. Vasco Road, Livermore, hosts the Ira Stein Jazz Trio at 7:30 p.m. May 19. All three musicians have extensive backgrounds in both jazz and classical music. The suggested donation is \$12, seniors and students are \$10. Children under 17 are free.

Mike Vax Jazz Orchestra At 2 p.m. May 20, the Mike Vax Jazz Orchestra will perform with the Foothill High School jazz ensemble at the school's multi-purpose room, 4375 Foothill Road. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$10 for students at the door. Visit www.bigbandjazz.net.

Peter Fletcher—Classical Guitar Recital At 7 p.m. May 21 the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., presents a classical guitar recital by award winning guitarist Peter Fletcher. The program includes works by Couperin, Bach and Erik Satie. Call 931-3405 or visit www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/library.

Events

"Celebrating Byrd and the B's" with Valley Concert Choral From 8 to 11 p.m. May 19, Valley Concert Choral will perform Bernstein's "Chichester Psalms," Britten's "Rejoice In the Lamb;" Badings' "Trois Chansons" and pieces by William Byrd at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Road. Tickets at the door are \$20 adults, \$17 seniors; students 18 and under free when accompanied by an adult. Call 866-4003 or visit www.valleyconcertchorale.org.

4th Annual Livermore Scottish Games Come and see all the color

and excitement of Scottish culture from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. May 19 and 20 at Robertson Park, Livermore. Activities include pipe bands, dancing, caber tossing, jousting, musical groups, re-enactors, clans, children's glen, shinty, sheepdogs, ethnic food and Celtic vendors. Sponsored by LARPD and the Tri-Valley Scotian League. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors/children, and \$5 for parking. Call 373-5700 or visit www.livermoregames.com.

Acc'sentials—Grand Opening Celebrate with Acc'sentials the grand opening of their new facility from 6 to 9 p.m. May 19 at 520 Main St. Music will be provided by La Ventana Band. There also will be hors d'oeuvres and special discounts.

Affordable Housing, Home Resource Fair The 2007 Affordable Housing and Home Resource Fair, hosted by Assemblymember Alberto Torrico, will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 19 at the Ruggieri Senior Center, 33997 Alvarado-Niles Road, Union City. The fair will feature a number of Alameda and Santa Clara county agencies, providing a variety of information focusing on homebuyers, renters and seniors. Call (510) 440-9030 or visit www.assembly.ca.gov/torrico.

American Red Cross: A Glimpse Into Africa Join the American Red Cross's free discussion on its visit to Kenya to witness programs on measles, malaria, HIV/AIDS, water sanitation, and Somali refugee camps. This event will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. May 24 at the American Red Cross Bay Area, 85 2nd St., 8th Floor, San Francisco. Call (415) 427-8064 or visit www.redcrossbayarea.org.

American Red Cross: A Glimpse Into Africa The American Red Cross invites you to join a free discussion regarding their recent visit to Kenya to witness programs focusing on measles, malaria, AIDS, sanitation, and refugee camps. The discussion will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. May 24 at American Red Cross Bay Area Headquarters, 85 2nd St., San Francisco. Call (415) 427-8064 or visit www.redcrossbayarea.org.

Armed Forces Day Remembrance From 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Armed Forces day, May 19, see one of the largest naval ships in action while being surrounded by the exciting sights and sounds of the working aircraft carrier, the USS Hornet in Alameda. In recognition of their service, current military personnel and their families receive free admission to the museum on this day. The cost is \$20 per family. Call (510) 521-8448 or visit www.hornetevents.com.

Blast to the Past Vintage and collectible items such as china, toys, jewelry, clothes, hats, furniture, plates, linens, and knick knacks are for sale to benefit The American Cancer Society. The sale will take place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 18 to 20 at 1987 A Santa Rita Road. Call Monda at 462-7374 or email her at [Monda.Wiseman@cancer.org](mailto:Wiseman@cancer.org).

Cancer Survivor Celebration at the Ranch All cancer survivors and their families are invited to a celebration from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 3 at Little Hills Ranch, 18013 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon. Activities will include: special door prizes, live music, dancing, games, swimming, ball games for children and adults. Bring your own lunch; dessert and drinks provided. Co-sponsored by several local health care organizations. Call 947-4447.

Daylighting Showroom Special Event Experience "The Dawn of a New Daylighting System" at Solatube. There will be prizes, give-aways and a drawing for a free 160 DS Solatube Daylighting System. This event will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 18 and 19, and from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 20 at 5729 Sonoma Drive, Ste. H. Call 600-1400 or visit www.solabrite.com.

Downtown Pleasanton Antique Faire From 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 27, over a mile of antiques and collectibles will be displayed by more than 300 professional dealers from all over the West. This is the 16th year for this Downtown Pleasanton event that is one of the largest antique faires in the 11 Western states. Visit www.pleasantondowntown.net.

Father's Day at Garre Winery Bring the family and give Dad a treat by heading to the wine country for Garre Winery's Father's Day Rockin' in the Vines BBQ with live blues by The Blue Truth from noon to 3 p.m. June 17. Relax outdoors surrounded by vineyards and enjoy an all-you-can-eat BBQ Buffet, wine tasting and bocce ball. Garre's wine tasting room will be open for tasting its newest release, Pinot Grigio, and more Garre favorites. The outdoor bocce courts will be open for guests to play free of charge. Tickets are \$39.99 for adults, \$18.50 for children 3-12, and under 3 are free. Reservations are required. Call 371-8200 or visit www.garrewinery.com.

Father's Day on the USS Hornet The historic USS Hornet Museum in Alameda hosts "Living Shop Day," Father's Day June 17. Family activities and ship tours will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visitors will have the opportunity to participate in mission briefings, see airplanes lifted to the flight deck and sit in a fighter jet cockpit. There is ample free parking and a food concession. Admission is adults \$14, seniors (65 and older) \$12, Military ID and students \$12, youth 5-17 \$6, under 5 years free with paying adult. Call (510) 521-8448 or visit www.uss-hornet.org.

Knit This, Purl That! Sock Contest Through May 31 Knit This, Purl That! will be sponsoring a sock contest. Participants can enter one pair of socks per category in any or all of the following categories: softest, wackiest, most colorful, and most beautiful. Socks will be judged by the Pleasanton Downtown Association and the Pleasanton Chamber. Prizes will be awarded. Call Beth at 249-9276 or visit www.yourknittingplace.com.

Memorial Day Remembrance A Memorial Day ceremony will be held from 1-2 p.m. May 28 at the USS Hornet in Alameda. Veterans of past and present wars will be honored during a special Memorial Day service. Call (510) 521-8448 or visit www.hornetevents.com.

Muscle Cars, Hot Rods and Art Fair Hats Off America presents the fourth annual Muscle Cars, Hot Rods and Art Fair from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 19 and 20 at the grass fields at the corner of Bollinger Canyon Road

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and Camino Ramon in San Ramon. This event is free and families, but not pets, are welcome. Proceeds benefit families of US troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. For car display, booth prices or more information call Sparky at 855-1950 or email thebearflagrunner@yahoo.com.

Saturday Salon Fourth Street Studio, 2235 Fourth Street in Livermore, hosts a Saturday Salon every Saturday from 7:30 to 10 p.m. Everyone's a featured writer and has up to 10 minutes to present their work. Call 456-3100.

Sunday Stroll The Pleasanton Kiwanis Club presents the Sunday Stroll at 1:30 p.m. May 20. The restaurant and wine tasting walking tour features six Main Street restaurants, starting with Gay 90s Pizzeria at 288 Main St. and ending at Vic's All Star Cafe. Only 125 tickets will be sold, at \$30 per person, and will not be available on the event day. For tickets call Dawn at 846-5858 or Vic at 844-0789.

Yarn Tasting From 7 to 9 p.m. May 23 Knit This, Purl That! will host a Yarn Tasting at 205A Main St. Each attendee will receive a selection of yarn in one line (this month, Louisa Harding), and the group will make a small bag with the yarn while enjoying champagne and chocolate. Reservations are required and the cost is \$20. Call Beth at 249-9276 or visit www.yourknittingplace.com.

Exhibits

A Spring Celebration Celebrate Spring at Alexander's Main St. Gallery, 610 Main St. The theme of this show is flowers and runs through May 28. Also featured is artwork from nationally acclaimed artists Brian Davis and Leon Roulette. Call 846-6015 or visit www.alexandersmainstgallery.com.

Art in the Vineyard 2007 The Livermore Art Association invites

everyone to the 35th Art in the Vineyard from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 27 at Wente Vineyards, 5565 Tesla Road. Forty talented artists will be featured. Enjoy the art, music and fine wines. Visit www.livermoreartassociation.com.

Bay Area Women Artists Artists Vanessa Barrett, Joanna Crawshaw, Toby Tover Krein, Cynthia Lait, Linda Ryan, Gail Ruvalcaba join for an art show dedicated to the lives of women of all ages. The show runs through June 2 at Worthington Gallery West, 739 J Main St., with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. May 5. Call 485-1183 or visit www.worthingtongallerywest.com.

Fremont Art Association Showcase Reception Seventeen years ago, Rose Sexton was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, but she found a way to make the tremors work for her art, and is our featured artist for the Second Quarter Showcase through May 20 at the Fremont Art Association, 37659 Niles Blvd., Fremont. The reception is from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. May 6. Call (510) 792-0905.

Pieces In Time: 90 Years of Quilts "Pieces In Time: 90 years of Quilts," at the Museum on Main, 603 Main St., runs through Sept. 30. The display of 24 quilts made from 1885 to 1975 includes historic and patterned quilts owned by local residents. Museum hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tues. through Sat. and 1 to 4 p.m. Sun. Tickets are \$2 per person. Call 462-2766 or visit www.museumonmain.org.

Film

The Revolution Will Not Be Televised At 7 p.m. May 19, "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised," a documentary of Hugo Chavez with live, inside-the-palace footage of the coup d'tat, will be shown at the

IBEW Hall; 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. This event is open to the public, wheelchair accessible and refreshments are provided. †Free or \$2.00 donation. Meet and greet starts at 6:30 p.m., and a short discussion follows the film. Call 462-3459.

Fundraisers

Bay Area VisionWalk The Bay Area VisionWalk benefits the Foundation Fighting Blindness. The 5-kilometer (approx. 3 mile) walk will raise money in support of cut-

ting-edge research. It takes place June 3 at Golden Gate Park's Music Concourse Bandshell, 501 Stanyan St., San Francisco. Registration is at 10 a.m., the walk begins at 11 a.m. To register or for more information visit www.fightblindness.org or call (408) 739-1846.



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600-2010

Joan Leavitt
600-2022

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600-2021

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Dana Mesarchik
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David Mladinich
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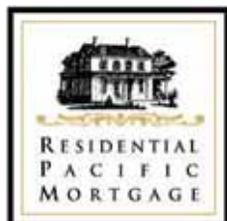
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Kids & Teens

Children's Arts Festival Children will be invited to participate in interactive arts activities such as painting, origami and jewelry making from 12 to 4 p.m. June 3 at the Children's Art Festival, at Centennial Park, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Musical entertainment will be provided by young performers from this year's Youth Music Festival. Call 931-5340.

Mother/Daughter Spa Event Bond and enjoy the Pure Girls Mother/ Daughter Spa Event on from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 26 or 2 to 4 p.m. May 27 at 660 Main St. Teens get a spa etiquette overview then both of you receive a free skin care review and spa escape before either a manicure or a pedicure. The cost is \$59 per pair. Call 485-4380 or visit www.pure-girlsclub.com.

Pure Girls Doll Drive Thanks to the girls that donated over 100 dresses to Pure Girls for the Princess Project. Pure Girls is now sponsoring a doll drive for the month of May. Girls can bring in their new or gently used dolls into Pure Girls, 660 Main St., and at the end of the month they will be distributed to Bay Area girls in need. Call Tracy at 485-4380 or visit www.puregirlsclub.com.

Storytelling Nationally renowned, Parents' Choice Award-winning storyteller Motoko makes an exclusive pre-Bay Area Storytelling Festival appearance at 3:30 p.m. May 18 at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. "Sumo Mice & Power Rice: Tales and Games from Japan" will be about 45 minutes, and is for the entire family. Call 931-3400 ext. 8 or visit www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/library.

**Lectures/
Workshops**

'Creating a Closed-Loop Project Portfolio' On May 24 Project Management SIG presents "Creating a Closed-Loop Project Portfolio" 6:30 p.m. May 24 at Sybase, One Sybase Center Building A, Dublin. Learn about how organizations must close the gap between the business analyst, the program manager, and CIO by creating a closed loop portfolio infrastructure. Email info@ebig.org.

Operations Start-Up, Monitoring, and Human Resources Join us from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. May 23 at the Carr America Conference Center, 4400 Rosewood Drive, to discuss process and the essential legal, accounting, taxation and record keeping processes. Call 960-1600 or visit www.techventures.org.

Miscellaneous

American Red Cross Annual Meeting The American Red Cross Bay Area is holding its Annual Meeting 5 p.m. June 8 at the San Francisco Marriott, 55 Fourth St., to elect directors and officers for the Chapter's Board of Directors. Visit www.red-crossbayarea.org.

Kittens Seek Foster Homes The East Bay SPCA's Foster Care Program seeks foster homes for the upcoming kitten season. For more information, contact the East Bay SPCA at (510) 563-4632 or visit www.eastbayspca.org/foster.

On Stage

AVHS Drama's One Act Play Festival Amador Valley High School Drama Presents the third annual, student-written and student-directed One Acts Play Festival. Six new plays will have their world premiere at 7:30 p.m. May 17 and 18 at Amador's Second Stage, 1155 Santa Rita Road. There promises to be a captivating combination of comedy and drama; something for everyone! Tickets are \$3 for stu-

Carden West School's Annual Fundraising Dinner/Auction Carden West School, committed to success for every child, every day, will host its annual fundraising dinner/auction at 5 p.m. June 1 at Castlewood Country Club. A new addition this year is an afternoon golf outing that will precede the evening event at noon. The public is welcome. Auction items include a weekend at Lake Tahoe, tickets to sporting events, collectibles, electronics, a Vespa scooter and many personalized items made by Carden West students. Call 463-6060 or visit www.cardenwest.org.

Empty Bowls Join us for an evening of nourishment as we help fill empty bowls in our community from 5 to 8 June 5 at the Alameda County Community Food Bank, 7900 Edgewater Drive, Oakland. This fundraising event is held in conjunction with National Hunger Awareness Day. Enjoy delicious soup, take home a hand-decorated ceramic bowl and bid in the silent auction. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$40 for families up to two adults and two children under 18. Contact Pam Gidwani at pgidwani@accfb.org or (510) 635-3663 ext. 328. Visit www.accfb.org.

Free Throws for Charity Las Positas College's annual Free Throws for Charity event takes place at 1 p.m. May 18 at the school's gym, 3033 Collier Canyon Road, Livermore. The men's and women's basketball teams join with bare necessities.org to help support those at Virginia Tech who lost friends and family. Call Lisa at 424-1284.

Golf Tournament The School of Imagination and Happy Talkers presents the first Golf Tournament Fundraiser June 25 at Poppy Ridge Golf Course in Livermore. It costs \$175 per player and \$30 for non-golfers attending the dinner and auction. For more information visit www.scho-lofimagination.org/events or call (877) KIDS-TLC.

Good Medicine 7 Piece Band at Westover Winery At 4:30 p.m. June 3, Good Medicine, a 7-piece band, is playing at Westover Vineyards, 34329 Palomares Road, Castro Valley. Tickets are \$50 per car load (10 people max). Armadillo Willy's BBQ dinner is available for \$20 per person and three ribs, 1/4 chicken, BBQ beans, green salad, muffin and 1 non-alcoholic drink. Taste any five ports with glass for \$10. Call 426-0929 for more info.

Health

Care and Treatment of Your Hands Physicians will discuss advanced treatments for arthritis in the hands and Carpal Tunnel Syndrome at 7 p.m. May 22 at San Ramon Regional Medical Center's South Conference Room, 7777 Norris Canyon Road, San Ramon. They will discuss causes of these conditions, when you should see a surgeon, what to do to reduce the risk of hand injuries, and minimally invasive techniques and finger joint replacement surgeries. Call 275-8230 or visit www.sanramonmedctr.com.

Kundalini Yoga and Meditation with Ilahi Yoga Priestesses of the Bay Area present an eight-week introductory series of Kundalini Yoga and Meditation with ilahi at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays from May 17 through July 5 at World School, 699 Peters Ave. The course is free for World School Staff and students otherwise \$12 drop-in fee or \$30.00 for the series. Call 461-2533 or visit www.world-schoolmassage.com.

World School Free Seminar World School of Massage, 699 Peters Ave., will offer a free seminar for the general public at 4:30 p.m. May 23 called "Breast Health: Lymph Loving!" This stand-alone seminar will teach self massage and other exercises to foster overall health. Participants will leave with self-care techniques to use at home. Call Nick at 461-2533 or visit www.worldschoolmassage.com,

dents and \$5 for adults. Email khartman@pleasanton.k12.ca.us.

Comedian Mark Lundholm Sober comedian Mark Lundholm details his battles with addiction in a clever manner that is sometimes shocking, often heartwarming and unceasingly honest. This is a fast-paced show that never fails to leave audiences thinking differently. He'll perform at 7 p.m. June 24 at El Campanil, 602 W 2nd St., Antioch. Tickets are from \$22 to \$50. Call (510) 589-3432 or visit cfralumni.org.

Comedy of Errors The Livermore Shakespeare Festival presents "Comedy of Errors" July 12 to August 4 at the Retzlaff Estate Winery, 1356 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. The Comedy of Errors is a robust comedy with two pairs of mix-matched twins, entwining desire with hi-jinks and past loss with present laughter. Tickets go on sale May 15; call (800) 838-3006. Visit www.LivermoreShakes.org.

Raising The Barre Valley Dance Theatre presents a mixed repertory at 7 p.m. May 26 and 2 p.m. May 27 at Livermore HS Performing Arts Center, 600 Maple St., Livermore. It's sure to delight audiences of all ages featuring two full-length ballets, The Firebird, a magical creature captured by a prince; and La Boutique Fantasque, a magical toyshop that comes to life. Also featuring scenes from Romeo & Juliet. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$15 for seniors and ages 13 and over, free for children under 12. Call 243-0927 or visit www.valleydancetheatre.com.

Recreation

Bocce Ball and Italian Dinner Night Beginning May 16 and running every Wednesday through the fall, Garre Winery begins their "Bocce Ball and Italian Dinner Night" series. The price is \$34.95 per person and includes two glasses of wine, a four-course Italian meal, group instruction and play. Reservations are required. Call 371-8200 or visit www.garrewinery.com.

Seniors

Computer Classes for Seniors 55+ The Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., offers computer classes from 9 to 10 a.m. for mature adults. Join us to learn to surf the Internet and send email. Absolute beginners welcome. The second Tuesday of month is Beginning Internet, the third Tuesday of month is Beginning Email, and the fourth Tuesday of month is Advanced Email. Email mcorporaci@pleasanton.ca.us or call 931-3400 ext. 21 for details.

Learn Information For Empowerment Resource Fair The Learn Information For Empowerment (L.I.F.E.) information and resource fair is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 19 at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin. Receive valuable safety tips and emergency related items from each participating community service agency. This event is free and open to the public. Pre-registration for the workshops is encouraged. Prizes raffled hourly. Giveaway items and free refreshments while supplies last. Call 556-4511 or visit www.dublinrecguide.com.

National Senior Health & Fitness Day Get ready to shape up and learn all about fitness and health during the National Senior Health and Fitness Day from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 30 at Salem Lutheran Home, 2361 East 29th St., Oakland. The highlights include informational booths featuring health and fitness experts, a quarter mile walking path lined with water and snacks, and speakers and presentations. Call Arta at (510) 534-3637.

Pleasanton PC Users Group The PC User Group meets monthly at 10 a.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. You don't need to be an expert to attend, we have all skills levels in our meetings. The usual Senior Center charges apply, \$1.25 for Pleasanton Residents, \$1.75 for all

others. Call 931-5365 or email pleasenor@yahoo.com for details.

Transitions Support Group Are you or someone you know: 60 or older and living in Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore or Sunol? Looking for a warm and supportive environment to connect with others? In need of a place to share, support and reminisce? Join the Transitions Support Group meeting 2:30 to 4 p.m. every Wednesday at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Call 931-5379 for info.

Spiritual

Christian 12 Step Discover how much comfort there is in the journey of recovery walking with the Good Shepherd every STEP of the way!

This group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Pkwy. Call 426-0501.

Dinah Chapman Performs Tri-Valley Unity Church welcomes inspirational singer/songwriter Dinah Chapman to their 10 a.m. May 20 service at the Radisson Hotel, 6680 Regional St., Dublin. All are welcome. Rev. Mary Anne Harris, minister. Call 829-2733 or visit www.trivalleyunity.com.

Mata Amritanandamayi (AMMA) Mata Amritanandamayi—Amma—will be at the M.A. Center, 10200 Crow Canyon Road, Castro Valley, from June 5 to 12. Free programs are held in the morning at 10 and in the evenings at 7:30. Free Devi Bhava program with Amma (a celebration devoted to world peace) will be held at 7 p.m. June 10 at June 15. Retreat

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Fax form to: 925.846.9697 or mail check to: The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, 777 Peters Ave. Pleasanton, 94566 by June 1, 2007.
Payment is required at the time of your reservation. A 24-hour cancellation notice is required for a refund or credit.

Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative is a group of Pleasanton community volunteers working together to create a community culture that is built on values, goodwill and community-accepted character traits of responsibility, compassion, self-discipline, honesty, respect and integrity.

For more information about Community of Character, go to www.communityofcharacter.org or contact ELLEN PENSKY MCGRAW AT 925.699.7921

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with Amma will be June 13 to 15. Registration is required. Call (510) 537-9417 or visit www.amma.org.

Open Christian 12 Step Discover how much comfort there is in the journey of recovery walking with the Good Shepherd every STEP of the way! This group meets at 5 p.m. every Thursday at 40 California Ave., Ste. B. Call 426-0501 or visit www.rquest.org.

Tri-Valley Unity Church Tri-Valley Unity Church meets for Sunday service and children's school 10 a.m. at the Radisson Hotel, 6680 Regional St., Dublin. There are ongoing classes and groups with Rev. Mary Anne Harris, minister. Call 829-2733 or visit www.trivalleyunity.com.

Women's Christian 12 Step Discover how much comfort there is in the journey of recovery walking with the Good Shepherd every STEP of the way! This group meets at noon every Friday and Saturday at Shepherd's Gate, 1660 Portola Ave., Livermore. Call 443-4283.

meets from 2 to 4 p.m. every Tuesday at the Valley Care Health Library, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd. Call 933-0107 or visit www.twc-bayarea.org.

Choosing to Heal Discover the 10 choices you can make and the 10 lies you must reject to open the door for healing. This life-changing small group will be given practical, Biblical counsel on how to move forward in life. The small group meets for eight weeks starting April 25 at Valley Christian Center, 7500 Inspiration Drive in Dublin. Childcare is provided. Led by a trained counselor, the group is \$25 per person. Register online at www.dublinvcc.org.

Domestic Violence A Domestic Violence support group is held 5 to 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday at Tri-Valley Haven, 3663 Pacific Ave., Livermore, for Women in Livermore every Wednesday evening. Survivors will be able to address issues of abuse in relationships. The cost is \$40 for every eight weeks, or based on a sliding scale. Call 449-5845 ext. 202 for details.

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

Grief Share Are you looking for community, understanding and support? If you have lost a spouse, child, family member or friend, you've probably found that there are not many people who understand the deep hurt you feel. The grief support group meets from 7 to 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday at Valley Christian Center, 7500 Inspiration Drive, Dublin. It is \$35.00, with scholarships available. Call 560-6202 or register at www.dublinvcc.org.

Sports

15th Annual Summer Baseball Camp At the 15 annual summer baseball camp, Foothill High School varsity baseball coach, Angelo Scavone, and his staff will instruct on the fundamentals of offense, defense and pitching. All campers will receive individual attention with an 8:1 instructor ratio. The camp is for boy and girl youth baseball players ages 7-14, and is limited to the first 120 players to sign up. The camp will be held at Foothill's varsity baseball field from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. June 25 to 27. The cost is \$125 for all three days. Go to www.pleasantonpony.com for sign-up forms. If you have any questions, please contact Coach Scavone at 461-7515 ext. 3.

Ten Star All Star Basketball Camp Final applications are now being evaluated for the Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp. By invitation only, boys and girls ages 10 to 19 are eligible to apply. Players from 50 states and 17 countries attended the 2006 camp. There is also a summer camp for boys and girls ages 6 to 18 of all skill levels. Call (704) 373-0873.

TV30

Tri-Valley Sports Final This weekly show covers team and individual high school sports in the Tri-Valley. It airs on Channel 30 at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Fri. Sat. and Sun. Hosts: Ian Bartholomew, Dr. B, and Dennis Miller.

TV30 News Tune in to TV30 for community news focusing on the Tri-Valley. It airs live Monday to Thursday at 4 p.m. and repeats at 7 p.m., 9 p.m. and 11 p.m.

Support Groups

Cancer Support Group A free support group for people with cancer and their loved ones. Facilitated by The Wellness Community. The group

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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

Considering Adoption?

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

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Classified Advertising
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Huge Monthly SINGLES Parties
Get invited to huge, elegant singles dance party/mixers in the East Bay. Call for special offer. 925-888-4392

KPA Bazaar

Make History This Summer

National campaign to end Iraq War recruiting career-minded organizers. Valuable skills/experience! Resumes to demcampaigns@aol.com. Stipend, housing, training. Car/relocation necessary. <http://www.noiraqescalation.org>. (AAN CAN)

Model Casting Call

Pain Mgmt Betty Runnels, MA

Pregnant?

Considering Adoption? Talk with caring people specializing in matching birthmothers with families nationwide. EXPENSES PAID. Toll free 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions 1-866-413-6293. (AAN CAN)

Pregnant?

Considering Adoption? A childless couple seeks to adopt. Will provide full-time parent and financial security. Expenses paid. Call Steven and Christian, (ask for Erin/Adam). 1-800-923-6781. (AAN CAN)

Singles Mixer

133 Music Lessons

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~ located in Danville ~

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135 Group Activities

Self-Defense & Kung Fu
Stress and Pain Management

150 Volunteers

Host Families needed

155 Pets

AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTON

Buddy is a healthy, beautiful, gray and white ten-month old, neutered male cat. He has a playful, friendly, affectionate disposition. He really wants to be your "buddy!" Buddy has received all his shots and a clean bill of health from his vet. If interested, please call (925) 997-1046 or (925) 846-2515 after 6:00 p.m.

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For Sale

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Cars from \$500! Tax Repos, US Marshal and IRS Sales! Cars, Trucks, SUVs, Toyotas, Hondas, Chevys, more! For Listings Call 1-800-298-4150 ext. C107. (AAN CAN)

2002 Expedition
2WD, 56kmi, Premium Wheels, 3rd Row Seat, Exc Cond,\$12,000/OBO Call 925-462-2817

Acura 2002 RSX Type-S - \$12500

BMW 1990 525i - 5 Speed - \$3,800

Cadillac 2004 ESCALADE ESV PLATINUM AWD NAVI
anton.pann99@gmail.com

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Toyota 2003 4 Runner - \$18,000 ob

Toyota 1990 4-Runner - \$2600

210 Garage/Estate Sales

ANNUAL FLEA MARKET

Saturday, May 19, 9am-2pm
Ridge View Commons Senior Complex
5200 Case Ave
Many misc items and food! All sales benefit Activities Fund for Seniors.

Pleasanton, 4433-4499 Fairlands Dr., Saturday, May 19th, 8:00am -3:30pm

Pleasanton, 2289 Camino Brazos, may 19, 8-12

Pleasanton, 2623 Corte Vida Ct., 9-4
Household items, furniture, accessories, teen girl clothing, electronic equip.

Pleasanton, 4433 Fairlands Dr. Saturday, May 19th, 8:00am -3:30pm

A big multi-families garage sale. More than 10 families & lots of stuffs, the address is 4499 Fairlands Dr. to 4433 Fairlands Dr. Pleasanton, CA 94588. Come & have a great fun!

Pleasanton, 4687 Gatetree Circle, Sat. May 19, 8-12

Moving out of state! Everything must go...all quality items. Furniture, linens, toys, baby items, and the list goes on! Must see to believe. See you on Saturday!

Pleasanton, 5069 Carducci Dr, May 19, 9-2.30

Redecorating Sale: Furniture, Home DA@cor and Accessories, Women's Clothing and Accessories, bicycles and much more.

Pleasanton, 5656 San Luis Court, Sat, May 19th, 9am-12noon.

Pleasanton, Community-wide 2255 Segundo Ct, May 19, 8am-3pm
Laguna Vista Community-Wide Yard Sale. May 19th @ 8am to 3pm. Reference address 2255 Segundo Ct. In Pleasanton. DO NOT miss out on lots of great items.

215 Collectibles & Antiques

Coffee Mill, Pepper Mill & Spice - \$89

Football posters - \$8

Garantied Forged Grinder - \$39

Hood's Sarsaparilla bottle - \$28

LLADRO ALLEGORY OF LIBERTY
\$1,500. Retail for \$2,400. Excellent condition. 925-820-7914

MINATURE HOUSE COLLECTION - \$150.00

Olympic Pins - \$3

220 Computers/ Electronics

DIGITAL CAMERA (Brand New!) - \$75.00

NEW Sony Ericsson Z710i Twilight - \$250

240 Furnishings/ Household items

AREA RUG

Handmade 10 x 14 100% wool area rug. Bokhara. NEVER USED. Rich deep red colors 9254875697

Area Rug

Beautiful 10 x 14 handmade 100% wool Bokhara rug. Never used. Rich deep red tones. \$1900. 925-487-5697

Candles - \$15

Crystal Bowl - \$12

DESIGNER PHONE - \$25.00

Desk/file/shelves - \$800

Estate Sale 925/846-4299

POUTING CHILD - \$22.00

Power Walk Plus Treadmill - \$75

QUEEN COMFORTER SET - \$100.00

round dinner table - 20

Salton Toaster SandwichMaker - \$6

Signed Print - \$7

245 Miscellaneous

\$9 Prescription Eyeglasses

Custom made to your prescription, stylish plastic or metal frame, Highindex, UV protection, antiscratch lens, case, lenscloth for only \$9. Also available: Rimless, Titanium, Children's, Bifocals, Progressives, Suntints, ARCoating, etc. <http://ZENNOPTICAL.COM> (AAN CAN)

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CORDLESS PHONE - \$25.00

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260 Sports & Exercise Equipment

Golf Shoes - \$15

Sport patches - \$5

Kid's Stuff

330 Child Care Offered

Nanny/Babby Sitter Seeking Work

340 Child Care Wanted

Honest Loving Nanny Needed

345 Tutoring/ Lessons

Math Tutor

355 Items for Sale

BEANIE BABIES

BEANIE BABY BEARS

booster &step, potty, potty seat - \$5-\$10

Fisher Price Sporty Vehicle

Pink, 12 vlt Barbie car \$125 obo

Huffy Seastar 12.5 inches bike, - 20

Ikea youth pine bed

Little Tykes playhouse, more

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Mind & Body

425 Health Services

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455 Personal Training

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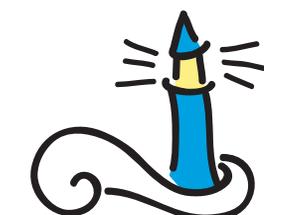
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position at local women's Fitness Center. Sales experience a plus. Call Cindy 925-855-3855

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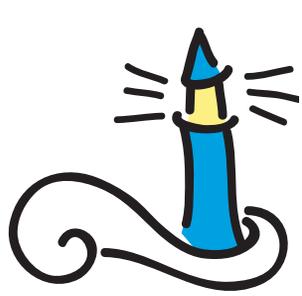
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Real Estate

801 Apartments/Condos/Studios

Danville, 3 BR/2.5 BA - \$2100.00

803 Duplex

Pleasanton, 2 BR/1 BA - \$1400/mont

805 Homes for Rent

Dublin, 1 BR/1 BA - \$1,300.00

Livermore, 4 BR/2.5 BA - \$2400

825 Homes/Condos for Sale



Danville, 4 BR/2.5 BA
www.ClassicalClutter.com
(925) 736-8423

Pleasanton, 3 BR/2.5 BA
Go to www.5328brookside.com to "see and hear" a 39-photo interactive slide tour of this incredible, fully-remodeled townhome in Pleasanton's premier townhome community. You can also download a detailed pdf-formatted sales flyer at that web page. Open Sat-Sun, 1-4 PM. Perfect location next to trails, greenbelt, close to HOA pools & tennis courts. Large private yard. Call Jackie at (925) 846-1234 for information & assistance.

Pleasanton, 4 BR/4+ BA
Open Sun. 1-4 PM. Go to www.871grayfox.com to "see and hear" a 49-image slide show and print a 2-page sales flyer. 4 oversized bedrooms incl. cabana bath & sauna. Quiet, secluded, prestigious Foxbrough Estates. Contact Jackie at (925) 846-1234.

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23 acre estate w/ 9 acre meadow, mixed forest, creek, trails, glens, swimming pool. Call Rob at: 831 469 0551; or Tom Breznsy, Realtor at 831 464 5231. Please visit Website: 389robson.com

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36AC - \$159,900. Saddle Creek Ranch. Stunning ranch with amazing views. Diverse topography, good ground water area. ADWR report available. Ideal year round climate. E-Z terms. Offered by AZLR 1-888-246-1914. (Cal-SCAN)

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10 Acres - \$99,900. 980' Shoreline. Wooded property, rolling to lake w/ beautiful water views. Ideal location on 53,000 acre lake. Private lake docks, directly adjoins to 1.5 million acre Nat'l Forest. Short drive to Branson, MO. Great terms. 1-of-a-Kind! Call now 1-800-319-3967 x654, www.OaksLanding.com (Cal-SCAN)

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20 acres \$49,990. Scenic region, tall trees, views, wildlife, borders BLM, electricity. Horseback riding, hiking, hunting. Perfect for ranch, getaway, or retirement. 100% financing. Call 1-866-365-4122. (Cal-SCAN)

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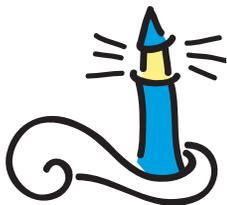
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Pet of the Week



CATHERINE RUSH

Meet Gonzo

This 1-year-old, neutered male housecat is enjoying a little R and R while he's in "Kitty City" at Valley Humane Society. Gonzo is a sweet housecat and he's fun, fun, fun! Gonzo is house-trained and he gets along well with other cats. Visit Gonzo, and his friends, at Valley Humane Society's new facility, 3670 Nevada Street. The adoption center is open Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 426-8656 or visit www.valleyhumanesociety.org.

Pleasanton's online neighborhood
www.PleasantonWeekly.com

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- Restaurant Reviews
- Interactive Community
- Local Weather Calendar
- Local Blogs
- Movie Showtimes
- Viewer Polls
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An online forum to

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- Report a sports score**
- Review a movie or restaurant**



Dining Out

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

American

Vic's All Star Kitchen

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

Bridges

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

Asian-Pacific

Mahalo Grille

425 Main St., Pleasanton, 462-2800. Treat yourself to a taste sensation at Mahalo Grille featuring a variety of Pacific seafood, Hawaiian fresh fish and shell fish, and "Mahalo" signature selections. Also try our various vegetarian-friendly offerings, California wines and island cocktails. Visit www.mahalogrille.com.

beer or a bottle of wine. Visit www.redsmokegrill.com.

on tap and a great grill. Go in for the beer, go back for the food. More at www.hopyard.com.

Brewpub/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.

California Cuisine

Stacey's at Waterford

4500 Tassajara Road, Ste. C., Dublin, 551-8325. We serve seasonal California cuisine using the freshest ingredients, with delicious dishes including seafood, pasta, meat, wood fired pizza and even vegetarian choices. Available for special events on Sundays. Visit www.staceysatwaterford.com.

Stacey's Cafe

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

Savory Delights of Northern China

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

DINNER: Monday-Thursday 5:00-9:30
Friday & Saturday 5:00-10:00
Closed Sunday

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30 West Angela St., Downtown Pleasanton
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THE PANDA

Barbecue

Red Smoke Grill

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

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

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- Seasonal Menu

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

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- Take Out Menu

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

925-485-4500
www.LaViteRestaurant.com

Catering

Fontina's Catering

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

Chinese

Chinese Szechuan

3059 Hopyard Road #G,

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Pastas is your OFFICIAL HEADQUARTERS for all things for Dad & for the Graduate!

Make your BRUNCH, LUNCH or DINNER reservations for Father's Day today! Each reservation will be entered to win **GIANTS Baseball Tickets!** AND call for info on Graduation Parties & Catering!



Free Giants Tickets!

PASTAS

T r a t t o r i a

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FOR RESERVATIONS DIAL (925) 417-2222
OR VISIT OpenTable.com

Pleasanton, 846-5251. Chinese Szechuan is Pleasanton's best-loved Chinese restaurant. Family owned and run since 1987, it has friendly service, delicious food and great prices, including lunch specials from only \$5.25.

Panda Mandarin Cuisine

30 W. Angela St., Pleasanton, 484-4880. Panda offers several delicious specials using fresh ingredients and spices that make traditional northern Chinese cuisine such a delight. Open for lunch Monday through Friday, dinner Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday. A private banquet room is available. Visit www.pandapleasanton.com.

Willow Tree Chinese Cuisine

6512 Regional St., Dublin, 828-9111. Since 1978 Willow Tree has offered authentic Dim-Sum and banquet buffet cuisine. We prepare each dish with the freshest ingredients and are dedicated to hospitality. View our complete menu at www.willowtreerestaurant.com

Continental

Barone's

475 St. John St., Pleasanton, 426-

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

Fusion

Oasis Grille

780 Main St., Pleasanton, 417-8438. Visit downtown Pleasanton's exotic dining destination. Oasis features kabobs, rice and vegetarian dishes, to name a few. Check out our updated wine and exotic cocktail menus. We also cater! Visit www.OasisGrille.com.

Italian

Fontina Ristorante

349 Main St., Pleasanton, 462-9299. This popular downtown restaurant gets rave reviews from both locals and visitors. Fontina offers a changing, seasonal menu and

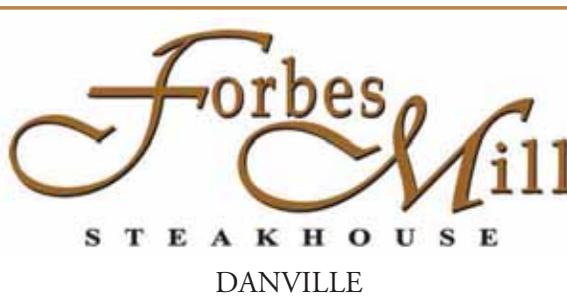
(continued on page 32)

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Pleasanton Real Estate News



by
Gerarda
Stocking

EFFECT OF REFINANCING AN OLDER LOAN

There is one element to a home loan refinancing that most of us don't think about very much. We look at the lower interest rate that's available to us and the resulting lower monthly payment we'll have to fork over to the lender, and we rejoice that lower interest rates allow us to refinance our existing loan. We can usually even take a bit of money out of the house and invest it in home improvements, a new business, or the education of a child.

If we've been paying a home loan down for quite a few years, though, the effect of refinancing that loan is precisely the same as what would happen if we were buying a new home. The end result is that we have a new 30-year loan, and maybe it won't be entirely to our benefit to tack on another ten years or fifteen years to our payment schedule.

Remember this odd fact about home loan amortization schedules. The way they work mathematically is to front-load the interest portion of the loan, so that we pay far more interest and less toward the principal balance in the first years of the loan and the reverse in the last years. If you're pretty far into paying off your home loan, this is something you may want to consider—and your existing loan may gain a certain luster as a result. If you need help with real estate call Gerarda Stocking at 846-4000 or visit her website at www.gerardastocking.com.

Gerarda Stocking is the Owner/Broker of Stocking Realty.

daily specials—including homemade soups, pastas, seafood, chicken and veal—served in a comfortably elegant atmosphere. We have indoor and outdoor seating. Join us for Saturday and Sunday champagne brunch.

Frankie, Johnnie & Luigi Too!
11891 Dublin Blvd., Dublin, 828-9380. Lively chatter and the aroma of garlic fill this warm and friendly, classically "Italian" restaurant. Watch cooks hand toss dough at this Tri-Valley pizza Mecca. It's perfect for romantic couples and the entire family. Authentic Southern Italian cooking includes traditional dishes such as Veal Scaloppini, Lamb Osso Bucco and Scampi.

La Vite Ristorante
3037-G Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 485-4500. La Vite Ristorante was rated "A" by the Contra Costa Times restaurant critic and voted the best Italian restaurant by the readers of the Tri-Valley Herald. We're located off the beaten path of downtown Pleasanton in the Hopyard Village Shopping Center.

Girasole Grill
3180 Santa Rita Road at West Las Positas Boulevard, Pleasanton, 484-1001. Girasole, a locally owned family business, is an award winning California style Italian restaurant. We feature signature cuisine such as Scoozzi, Absolut! prawns, chicken gorgi, spinach for Veronica, Tuscan pork and signature fresh seafood... just to name a few. †We are upscale, but California casual with friendly prices.

Pastas Trattoria
405 Main St., Pleasanton, 417-2222. Pastas Trattoria has an elegant atmosphere and a one-of-a-kind menu. We feature steaks, seafood and our famous pasta, plus a superb selection of spirits and fine wines. Live music will jazz up

your Friday and Saturday evenings. The banquet facilities have wireless Internet for large parties, up to 70 guests.

Japanese

Ume Sushi
4855 Hopyard Road #7 in Gateway Square, 734-0996. Acclaimed chef David Win brings delicious Japanese cuisine to Pleasanton at an affordable price! We have a daily fresh fish delivery, teriyaki and tempura. We are open Monday-Saturday, with lunch from 11:30-2:30 and dinner from 4:30-9:30, Saturday until 10 p.m. Party platters are available. Visit our Web site: www.umesushi.com.

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

Lunch • Dinner • Catering
Open Tuesday-Sunday
Closed Monday

JAPANESE CUISINE

OWNER OPERATED FOR 25 YEARS
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Teriyaki Sushi

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3015-K Hopyard Rd.
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3015-H Hopyard Road
www.hopyard.com

Dining Out

Mexican

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

Pizza

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

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

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Pleasanton Weekly's **BEST OF PLEASANTON 2006**

Voted Pleasanton Best Takeout

Family Meals To Go
Meals include four corn muffins and two large sides.

Rotisserie Chicken	\$16.99
Tri-Tip	
1 1/2 pound	\$24.99
2 pound	\$29.99
Slab-and-a-Half of Ribs	\$25.99
One Pound Tri-Tip and Whole Chicken	\$31.99
Full Slab of Ribs & Whole Chicken	\$31.99
One Pound Tri-Tip and Whole Slab	\$36.99

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

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

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Share your dining experiences

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