

DISTRICT 5 E-GRAM

315 East Leland Road, Pittsburg 94565
Antioch * Bay Point * Bethel Island * Oakley * Pittsburg

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Facing the loss of your home or related eviction because of foreclosure?

Contact the members of the Contra Costa County Home Equity Preservation Alliance (HEPA) at 510-412-9290 or click on [http://ccreach.org/ccc housing/HEPA%](http://ccreach.org/ccc_housing/HEPA%20)

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FROM SUPERVISOR GLOVER

Hunger haunts the holidays



HUNGER is far more prevalent in our communities than many of us realize, and in the last 2 years it has significantly increased. In July of 2008 there were approximately 16,000 households receiving supplemental food assistance (formerly known as ³food stamps²). Now there are over 28,000 households receiving food assistance- an increase of 67% in just two years and Caseloads continue to grow each month. Many of the families now turning to us for help have never received social services before. Like all of you they held jobs, paid mortgages, etc. Almost overnight, many of them suddenly found themselves destitute.

The average monthly allotment of supplemental food assistance rarely lasts until the end of month, and the use of food banks is an essential

part of a family's food survival strategy. Our Food Bank has clearly seen the impact of the recession on the same scale that we have. Over 89,000 Contra Costa residents a month must now use the Food Bank- an increase of 63 percent in 3 years, and 28 percent of those being helped are children. The Food Bank has struggled to keep up with the demand and distribution over 12 million pounds of food last year in Contra Costa and Solano counties, but it's still not enough.

Please join me in my efforts to assist those who are hungry as Contra Costa County challenges Solano County to the "County Cares, Food Fight," a competition to determine which County and which county department can raise the most funds to address this calamitous matter. The County food drive competition will run through December 31, 2010 however the food bank accepts donations all year long as distribution occurs continuously.

Every dollar makes a difference, 95 cents out of every dollar goes directly to providing food and the food Bank can turn every \$1 donation into \$3 worth of nutritious food. If you donate even \$5, then you're helping provide \$15 in food to a hungry household.

The art of governing: Listen, learn, compromise

WITH the midterm elections behind us, I want to congratulate the victors in their respective races in District 5.

These are not easy times to be an elected official. More than likely, any decision you make will displease some person or group just as likely that it will please a person or organization.

After the first few heady days after election wears off, reality will set in. In these financially constrained times, when many of

Checks should be made out to the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano and will simply pass through our office to be tabulated on behalf of our County and department. Donations made in excess of \$10 will receive a tax donation letter.

Is your agency conducting it's own food drive? Consider forwarding your financial donations in the form of a check made out to the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano to Supervisor Glover's office so we can forward it to the food bank for you and it will count in the ³Food Fight² challenge, an opportunity to increase your effectiveness.

Looking for another way to help? The residents of CCC Juvenile Hall created artwork for an incredible set of notecards that are available in packs of 10 (2 each of 5 different designs) for a donation of \$10. These are really wonderful cards and thanks to a contribution from Chevron for the printing service, the entire \$10 per pack will go directly to the Food Bank. You will find a file of the five designs attached.

Your consideration of even a small donation would be extremely appreciated. If we all give a little it will go a long way.

your decisions will center around money matters, you will have fewer options to choose from.

In these times when it would be easier to walk away and leave the problems to the other guy, I congratulate you for putting yourselves in the front lines by wanting to serve your fellow citizens. In this regard, I extend my congratulations to all the candidates – the winners and their opponents.

It is popular to use the broad brushstroke when describing political leaders as “out of touch” or as “career politicians.” The public perception of politicians rank them near the bottom of jobs along with journalists and lawyers.

However, I believe public service – especially at the local level -- is one of the greatest avocations one can choose: to put one’s self on the line for little reward except for the small satisfaction of helping an individual or a cause with the belief that life for the entire community will be improved.

To the unsuccessful candidates, I hope your efforts to better the community continue. While there may be disagreement on some issues, in the end we strive for same objective: A better community and a better life for all. Democracy is not for bystanders. Democracy demands participation by as many individuals as possible.

To the victors, a bit of advice: Remember that politics is the art of compromise. In recent times, that aspect of governing, has been set aside by some who believe only they have the correct answer.

eBART: Rail transit is no longer just a dream

EAST COUNTY residents have long awaited BART’s tracks to extend deep into East County. It has been almost 50 years since BART was formed and I need to remind by fellow commissioners at the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the BART board and the Contra Costa Transit Authority that if not for East County, BART might never have come into existence.



At this point, a short history lesson is necessary.

In the beginning, BART was billed as the train of the future with its electric third rail, wider tracks and computer-run train system. It would move noiselessly and smoothly barely noticed by the adjoining neighborhoods. The system would encircle the bay easing congestion on the region’s roads and bridges.

The local funding for BART went to the six Bay Area counties for a vote. One by one, the counties opted out. Only in San Francisco and Alameda counties was the vote certain to pass. In order to make it a viable transit system, it was felt Contra Costa County needed to buy in.

In the end, just hours before the Board of Supervisors was supposed to decide whether or not to put BART on the ballot, a deal was



AS A MEMBER of the Metropolitan Transit Commission's executive board, Supervisor Glover (far right) helped break ground for the eBART transfer station at the Pittsburg/Bay Point BART station.

made over a handshake and a promise that Contra Costa County would be the first to get additional service as the transit system grew. Silva voted yes.

In other words, without a promise of extending the Concord line further eastward, BART might never have been built.

Even then, after BART began operating, it took another 25 years of ferocious lobbying by Nello Bianco, one of the county's representatives on the BART board, to get the tracks to go over the Willow Pass.

Back in the 60s, decision makers saw East County as a far away part of the county with a few small towns, a shuttered military base

When BART was extended to the San Francisco airport, San Mateo County helped

and a bunch of ranches and orchards. They didn't think East County could ever support a BART station. Nobody believed population projections that predicted a boom in East County.

The eastward extension was put off ... and put off. It took 25 years but BART finally opened the Pittsburg-Bay Point BART station in December, 1996. But we have to think making rail transit accessible to a greater number of East County residents. That means looking eastward.

As East County continues to grow by leaps and bounds, the cost to build BART grows even faster.

pay for the extensions to Pittsburg and Dublin/Pleasanton. The extension to Santa

Clara County is being paid by that county and federal dollars. It is not costing East

Extending conventional BART any further into East County is cost prohibitive.

The \$462 million it cost to build eBART the 10 miles to Antioch will be 60 percent less expensive than to build conventional BART that distance. Waiting to build conventional BART to Antioch would mean no rail service for who knows how long it would take to raise the money.

When I was put in a position to influence transit policy by joining the Metropolitan Transit Commission's executive committee, my colleagues from Marin and San Francisco and San Mateo didn't know where East County was. They didn't know about the needs of Highway 4 and the need to extend BART to Antioch and points eastward.

County residents any extra taxes.

They had to be convinced that there was a need for the widening of Highway 4 and building a rail alternative to East County. It took many meetings, public and private, phone calls and conferences to convince them to allocate federal transportation funds for East County transit needs.

In the meantime, Antioch has become the county's second largest city and East County houses a third of the county's residents. The need to get a rail line into Antioch is more urgent to ease the burden on our roads.

For its role in making BART a reality, East County deserves the eBART line. East County needs eBART.

(A longer version of this article appeared in the Contra Costa Times.)

Gang Summit draws wide participation

The 2010 Gang Summit brought together parents, educators, law officers, the faith community, politicians, policymakers, nonprofit agencies, students and former gang members to familiarize themselves with the alternatives to gangs.

It was held at Deer Valley High School in Antioch last Oct. 9.

The impressive array of resource tables representing government and community based organizations informed the participants of programs and places to go to seek help for after-school activities, drug rehab, educational opportunities and more.

A young person who looked like a gang member started the first presentation featuring Susie Vanderlip of Legacy of Hope. The "gang member" evolved into a series of "characters" that presented some of the problems and dilemmas facing young people today.

"Gangs," said Vanderlip, "are just a symptom of something else that's wrong in a young person's life. It could be an abusive parent, a drug problem, peer pressure, poor self-image or something else."



FORMER GANG MEMBERS told their stories and how they turned their lives around during one of the workshops of the Gang Summit.

“Joining a gang is just a way some youngsters think might provide a solution to those problems,” said Vanderlip, a nationally recognized motivational speaker and performer.

“She had the audience in the palm of her hand,” said one school administrator.

The participants then broke up into two sessions of workshops that gave the young people a chance to “sample” some of the local gang or drug diversion programs available to them in East County.

“Gangs 101,” a workshop presented by the Antioch Police Department, attracted the

most attention in the first session. The workshop gave a list of active gangs in the area, what neighborhoods they congregated in, criminal activities, colors and gang fashions.

One public official said, “That was an eye-opener” to the extent some gangs have operated in East County.

After a lunch provided by Outback Steakhouse, the attendees moved back into the theater to listen to a panel of former gang members, gathered by Johnny Rodriguez of One Day At A Time.



THOSE WHO ATTENDED the Gang Summit were spanned a wide age range and came from all over East County. The faith community was heavily represented and teachers and students came from all the East County school districts.

One of the messages repeated over and over by the panelists was that parents should be involved in their children’s lives and to care enough to know their friends and whereabouts.

Speakers Iris Archuleta of the Youth Intervention Network and Bishop Carl Smith of New Birth Church challenged the

participants to work beyond the summit by using the knowledge and resources presented at the summit.

I need to point out that this summit could not have taken place without the cooperation of so many agencies, especially the Antioch School District and the Antioch Police Department.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Animal Services provides help for pets and their owners

The county’s Animal Services Department provides a lot of tips to help you care for your pet: from finding a lost dog or cat to licensing requirements to references to train your pet.

Here are few hints and tips that they offer:

LICENSE YOUR PET



Dogs and cats with a current license tag attached to their collars are being held at Contra Costa Animal Services shelters for 10 days.

Unlicensed strays are held three days. Owners are notified by telephone and letter. Be sure to keep the Animal Services Department informed of any address or telephone number changes after you have applied for your pet's license.

IDENTIFICATION TAG

Although many people are reluctant to assume a loose dog may be lost, a message such as "Help me, I'm lost," with your current phone number and/or address on a tag can be helpful.

CONFINEMENT

There is no better protection for your pet than a secure fenced yard or enclosed kennel area. Do not let your pet run loose. It is against the law (see County Code, Chapter 416-402, Animals at Large).

OBEDIENCE

Many local organizations offer low-cost training classes. If you are interested in obedience classes for your pet, a shelter volunteer will be happy to give you the telephone numbers of organizations in your area. Call the Volunteer Program at 925-335-8330.

SPAY AND NEUTER

Decrease your animal's urge to wander to find a mate. Spaying and neutering eliminates or reduces the attraction of male animals to the female.

For more information about the services provided by Animal Services, click on the website at: <http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=59>

OUT & ABOUT

Supervisor Federal Glover met with Antioch Police Commissioner Hans Ho (center) and Antioch resident Bea Hollander during the National Night Out observance in that city last August.





Supervisor Federal Glover spoke at the groundbreaking of Habitat for Humanity's nine-home project in Bay Point late last summer.



Antioch's Youth Intervention Network was honored by the Board of Supervisors for being nationally recognized by the Department of Justice and Project Safe Neighborhoods.



The keynote address was given by Supervisor Glover, an alum of Pittsburg High School, during dedication ceremonies last August when about 2,000 people attended the public unveiling of the new Pittsburg High School campus last August.



Antioch resident Alphonso Guerrero, who operates a program helping at-risk youngsters, was among the 100 participants at the September grant application writing workshop sponsored by Supervisor Glover.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Dec. 4, 2 p.m – 6 p.m.

Holiday Parade & Tree Lighting

Downtown Pittsburg

Dec. 4, 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Rivertown Jamboree Holiday Expressions

301 West 10th St., Antioch

Dec. 4, 6 p.m.

Antioch Lighted Boat Parade

Antioch riverfront

Dec. 11, 6 p.m.

Lighted Boat Parade & Shoreline Decorations

Pittsburg Marina

Dec. 16, Dusk



Rev. Martin L. King

Holiday Tree Lighting

Ambrose Center, 3105 Willow Pass Road, Bay Point

Dec. 23-24, Supervisor's Office closed

Holidays

Dec. 30- 31, Supervisor's Office closed

New Years Eve

Jan. 17, Supervisor's Office closed

Martin Luther King Day

Jan. 17, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Contra Costa Faith-Based Disaster Preparedness Conference

Hilton Concord, 1970 Diamond Blvd., Concord

Register at www.drc11.org

Contra Costa Faith-Based Disaster Readiness Conference 2011

Saturday, January 22, 2011
8:30 a.m. Breakfast and Registration
9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Program and Lunch

Hilton Concord
1970 Diamond Boulevard
Concord, CA 94520

TOGETHER WE CAN STRENGTHEN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY'S RESILIENCE TO DISASTER

The Contra Costa Faith-Based Disaster Readiness Conference is a full-day event that is designed to provide faith-based communities with preparedness education, planning tools, response partnership and networking opportunities. Sessions will cover both the basics of disaster planning and collaboration and more advanced topics, such as assessing the community's resources and managing the intake of spontaneous volunteers during a disaster relief operation.

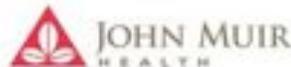
What You Will Get Out of the Conference:

- An informative program with opportunities to learn from and network with the experts
- Customizable toolkits and templates that you can use to jumpstart your disaster planning process
- An overview of public response efforts and management systems and how agencies can and work together to help communities recover from disaster
- Insight into the unique roles the faith community holds in any disaster relief response

FREE for representatives of nonprofit and faith-based organizations, government entities and the private sector who are stakeholders in a disaster response effort in Contra Costa County.

Register now at www.drc11.org.

Brought to you by:



GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

ANTIOCH

Antioch Unified School
District: 7 p.m., second and
fourth Wednesdays, district
offices, 510 G St. 925-706-
4100.

Antioch Area Public Facilities
Financing Agency (Mello-
Roos District): 7 p.m., Antioch Unified School District boardroom, 510 G Street.
776-2030. Meets every other month, first Monday. Call to confirm meeting date.

City Council: 7 p.m., second and fourth Tuesdays, City Hall, Third and H streets.
Parks and Recreation Commission: 7 p.m., second Thursday, City Hall, Third and
H streets. 925-779-7070, Ext. 0.

Board of Supervisors meetings

9:30 a.m., First four Tuesdays
of each month

651 Pine Street, 1st Floor, Martinez

View Agenda here <http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/index.asp?nid=2225>

BAY POINT

Municipal Advisory Council: 7 p.m., first Tuesday, Ambrose Community Center,
3105 Willow Pass Road. 925-458-1601.

Ambrose Park and Recreation District, 6:30 p.m., second Thursday, Ambrose
Center: 3105 Willow Pass Road, Bay Point. 925-458-1601 or
www.ambroserec.org

BETHEL ISLAND

Bethel Island Municipal Improvement District, 7 p.m., third Thursday, 3085
Stone Road

Municipal Advisory Council, 6 p.m. second Tuesday, Scout Hall, 3090 Ranch
Lane.

OAKLEY

City Council: 7:30 p.m., second and fourth Tuesdays, 3231 Main St., Oakley.
925-625-7000.

Liberty Union High School District, 7:30 p.m., second and fourth Wednesdays,
District Offices, 20 Oak St., Brentwood. 925-634-2166

Oakley Unified School District, 7 p.m., third Wednesday, District offices, 91 Mercedes Lane, Oakley, 925-625-0700

Ironhouse Sanitary District: 7:30 p.m., first Tuesday, district offices, 450 Walnut Meadows Drive, Oakley. 925-625-2279.

PITTSBURG

City Council: 7 p.m., first and third Mondays, council chamber, third floor, City Hall, 65 Civic Ave, 925-252-4850.

Planning Commission: 7 p.m., second and fourth Tuesdays, City Hall, 65 Civic Ave. 925-252-4920.

Pittsburg Unified School District, 7:30 p.m., second and fourth Wednesdays, 2000 Railroad Ave.

COUNTY & REGIONAL

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors: 9 a.m., first four Tuesdays, Room 107, County Administration Building, 651 Pine St., Martinez. 925-646-2371.

Delta Diablo Sanitation District: 5:30 p.m., second Wednesday, district offices, 2500 Pittsburg-Antioch Highway, Antioch, 925-778-4040.

Contra Costa County Local Agency Formation Commission: 1:30 p.m., second Wednesday, room 107, County Administration Building, 651 Pine St., Martinez. 925-646-4090.

State Route 4 Bypass Authority: second Thursday, Tri Delta Transit building, 801 Wilbur Ave., Antioch. Call for starting time. 925-686-0619.

East County Transportation Improvement: second Thursday, second Thursday, 801 Wilbur Ave., Antioch. Call for starting time. 925-686-0619.

East Contra Costa Fee & Financing Authority: second Thursday, Tri Delta Transit building, 801 Wilbur Ave., Antioch. Call for starting time. 925-686-0619.

Transplan: 6:30 p.m. second Thursday, Tri Delta Transit building, 801 Wilbur Ave., Antioch. 925-335-1201.

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ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

- If you would like to receive this newsletter via e-mail, please click [here](#), provide necessary information and send.
- Find the latest news on gang prevention and gang activities in East County. Sign up at: www.myspace.com/gangsummit
- Check out all press releases, news stories, editorials, videos and all the latest events at Supervisor Glover's county website: www.cccounty.us/supervisorglover
- More pictures and activities of Supervisor Glover at:
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Federal-D-Glover/103356261388>