



## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **City of Pleasanton Seeks Literacy Tutors for Library Program** *Give the Gift of English through Project Read*

*Pleasanton, CA*—The City of Pleasanton is seeking volunteers for its “Share the Gift of English” new volunteer tutor training, to be held at the Pleasanton Library on Saturday, October 3, 2015 from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

*Project Read*, a literacy program funded with a grant from the State of California, provides all the necessary workbooks, study guides and training so that anyone can be a tutor and give the gift of English. Staff will help tutors develop teaching skills, craft curriculum and gain exposure to teaching small or large groups of English language learners.

Students come to the Pleasanton Library from all over the world. Most English language learners possess basic English skills and many have studied English in their home country. Most of the students, all of whom are adults, are highly motivated to learn English. What many lack, however, is conversational practice in a safe environment.

California has approximately 3.4 million adults with below basic literacy skills. Library volunteers throughout the state help adults with reading and writing so they can reach their potential as workers, parents and community members. These adults are becoming citizens, voting for the first time, reading newspapers, reading aloud to their children, participating in their community and securing jobs.

#### What it means to be a tutor:

- Should be at least 18 years old, and fluent in American English

- Should be able to devote a consistent hour or two weekly to your student for a semester

What are the rewards?

- Help someone with English who is eager and grateful for your assistance
- Establish a relationship with someone from the community you might never have met before and learn about a new culture
- Learn to look at the richness of your own country, language and culture in a different way, through different eyes and ears

Please call 931.3405 or email [pjohnson@cityofpleasantonca.gov](mailto:pjohnson@cityofpleasantonca.gov) to register for the Project Read training.

The Pleasanton Public Library is located at 400 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton.

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**About Pleasanton**

*The City of Pleasanton is a vibrant Northern California community of 71,000 residents situated at the crossroads of Interstates 580 and 680, in close proximity to the San Francisco and San Jose metropolitan areas. The city's location has historical significance as a major trading route of early Native Americans and later along the route of the First Transcontinental Railroad. Pleasanton is a major suburb identified by the U.S. Census as one of the wealthiest middle-sized cities in the nation and was included on Money Magazine's list of the 'Best Cities to Live 2014' and on 24/7 Wall Street's list of 'America's 50 Best Cities to Live'. Among Pleasanton's many attractions are an excellent school system, a highly educated workforce, 1,200 acres of parkland and recreational open space, a nationally recognized business park, a regional retail shopping mall, and a historic downtown district. For more information, please visit [www.cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov).*

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