Poetry speaks

by Rebecca Guyon

“My name is GO and I am a poetry-holic,” admitted performance poet GO to a crowd of about 20 other poetry addicts at the Century House last Sunday. No, this was not a meeting for a new support group, but part of the ongoing Century House Reading series, organized by Pleasanton Poet Laureate Cynthia Bryant. The October reading also featured a slam poet, and Amanda Monyhan, a spoken word poet.

“I really admire and appreciate the work that goes into their craft, even more so than regular poetry because they memorize it and perform it,” Bryant said.

Performance poetry is generally defined as poetry that is written to be performed for an audience, rather than read on the page. Given the broad meaning of performance, the door is wide open for how a poet chooses to interpret the style. Spoken word and slam fall under the umbrella of performance poetry.

Definitions cannot fully express the range in a performance poetry reading—it is something that must be experienced. Monyhan, who went first, started the reading by singing a poem titled “Little Girl Lost.” Although she did not sing the rest of her poems, this piece set the tone of her set, which included many poems that addressed her childhood traumas and her adult self trying to make sense of it all. In fact, in the second poem, titled “Co-dependent Poet,” Monyhan asks herself how will she continue to write when she starts directly dealing with her problems. “I’m just a co-dependent poet, like every poet before me,” she muses.

Although Monyhan is dealing with weighty issues, she avoids the trap of becoming repetitive by undercutting the more intense moments with humor. She calls it a “coping mechanism,” but from a literary standpoint it is effective in bringing a fresh voice to emotional terrain that has been traversed by many poets before her. This is best seen in her poem “Growing Up on the Highway” where she recounts childhood memories of her father’s alcoholism and domestic violence, but tempers the intense images with wry and clever commentary.

Monyhan truly brings a performance element to each of her poems, reading them as if they are coming from a character, but which is ultimately herself. It is no wonder since Monyhan’s background is actually in theatre. She earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in theatre and acting from Northern Kentucky University. After graduating, she performed in the comedy troupe Friends of Lucy and wrote a one-woman show titled, “I Got Feathers, But I’m Not a Chicken.”

“With spoken word poetry and theatre, there is a real natural overlap, ... They both address the need to communicate through voice, vocal tenor and emoting. But, what’s unique about spoken word is that it’s stripped of the theatrics in terms of set, lighting and a script, and gets to the bare bones of experience.”

—Amanda Monyhan
Soothing with words

Local child psychologist discusses the power of storytelling at Towne Center Books

Every parent knows it is important to read to children for them to succeed academically, but few realize that bearing stories can also have an impact on children’s emotional well being. Local child psychologist Jacqueline Golding realized this early in her career, and after years of recommending children’s books to help families through a variety of situations, she has assembled all her recommendations in one book, titled “Healing Stories: Picture Books for the Big and Small Changes in a Child’s Life.” She will share these insights during a reading Oct. 11 at Towne Center Books.

In the book, Golding recommends 500 picture books to help parents get their children through issues that range from growing up to family changes to dealing with traumatic situations, such as death, illness and abuse. The book also includes explanations for why each story can help children with the specific situations.

Although Golding officially started working on the book in 2003, it was really a project she had explored since the beginning of her career, starting with her residency at the Central Contra Costa County Child, Adolescent and Family Clinic.

“When doing my post-doc, I used stories with some of the kids I worked with and my supervisors were impressed with the stories I found, so when the time came to leave, they asked if I would make a list of books they could use or recommend,” Golding explained. “I made a list, it was about two-thirds of a page, and the list after that grew. I would sometimes be at the library and see a book or read a review and think it should be on the list.”

Learn about ‘Healing Stories’
Jacqueline Golding will read from her book “Healing Stories” and answer audience questions at 7:30 p.m., on Oct. 11 at Towne Center Books, 555 Main Street. Visit www.healing-stories.com for more information on the book.
Movie Times

Note: Screenings are for Friday through Tuesday only.

All The King’s Men (PG-13)
Century 14: Fri & Sat 4:30, 10:30 p.m.

Black Dahlia (R)
Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 11:15 a.m. Tues 2:15, 5:15, 7:30, 10:15 p.m. Sun-Tues No 9:45 p.m. Showing
Employee of the Month (PG-13)
Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 12:20, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:20 p.m. Sun-Tues No 10:20 p.m. Showing
Century 14: Fri & Sat 12:15, 2:35, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10 p.m.
Crow Canyon 6: Fri-Tues 12:30, 2:30, 5:10, 7:40, 10 p.m. Sun-Tues No 10 p.m. Showing
Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 11:45 a.m. 12:15, 2:15, 4:25, 4:50, 6:20, 7:30, 8, 10:05, 10:45 p.m.

Flyboys (PG-13)
Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 10:10, 1:10, 7:10, 10:15 p.m. Sun-Tues No 10:15 p.m. Showing
Century 14: Fri & Sat 1:25, 7:25 p.m.
Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 12:50, 7:10, 10:20 p.m.

Grindhouse Gang (PG-13)
Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 4:35, 7:20, 9:40 p.m.

Illusionist (PG-13)

Jackass: Number Two (R)
Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 12:40, 3:05, 5:30, 7:55, 10:30 p.m. Sun-Tues No 10:30 p.m. Showing
Century 14: Fri & Sat 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:15 p.m.
Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 11:05, 13:30 a.m. 1:15, 4:55, 5:40, 6:10, 6:35, 8:15, 9:10, 10:15 p.m. Tues No 145, 9:10 p.m. Showing

Jesus Camp (PG-13)
CinéArts: Fri & Sat 2:15, 4:35, 7 p.m.

Jet Li’s Fearless (PG-13)
Century 14: Fri & Sat 7:30, 10:20 p.m.
Regal Imax Theatres: Fri-Tues 11:55 a.m. 2:35, 6:15, 7:50, 10:30 p.m.

Keeping Mum (R)
CinéArts: Fri & Sat 12:15, 2:45, 4:45, 7:45, 9:40 p.m.

Last Kiss (R)
CinéArts: Fri & Sat 11:30 a.m. 6:35, 9:25 p.m.

Lizzie Me Sunshine (R)
Century 14: Fri & Sat 11:10 a.m. 2:25, 4:20, 7:30, 9:45 p.m.
CinéArts: Fri & Sat Noon, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40 p.m.
Crow Canyon 6: Fri-Tues 2:20, 4:10, 7:10, 9:40 p.m. Sun-Tues No 9:40 p.m. Showing
Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 11:35 a.m. 2:10, 4:55, 7:20, 10 p.m.

Monster House (PG)
Hacienda 20: Fri-Tues 11:25 a.m. 2:40, 6:55, 9:25 p.m.

Open Season (PG)
Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 12:30, 2:10, 4:15, 7:20, 9:30 p.m. Sun-Tues No 9:30 p.m. Showing
Crow Canyon 6: Fri-Tues 12:20, 4:30, 7:30, 9:30 p.m. Sun-Tues No 9:30 p.m. Showing

Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man’s Chest (PG-13)
Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 2:50, 9:20 p.m.

School For Scoundrels (PG-13)
Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 12:35, 3:25, 7:30, 10:25 p.m. Sun-Tues No 10:25 p.m. Showing
Century 14: Fri & Sat 11:35 a.m. 2:15, 4:30, 7:20, 9:30 p.m. Showing
Crow Canyon 6: Fri-Tues 12:10, 2:45, 5:20, 7:30, 9:50 p.m. Sun-Tues No 9:50 p.m. Showing
Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 4:30, 5:35, 8:15, 10:45 p.m. Sun-Tues 5:35, 8:15, 10:45 p.m. Mon 3:35, 5:35, 10:45 p.m.; Tue 12:25, 3:35, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 p.m.

Science of Sleep (R)
CinéArts: Fri & Sat 11:20 a.m. 1:15, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15 p.m.
Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 4:25

The Departed (R)
Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 12:40, 3:50, 7, 10:10 p.m. Sun-Tues No 10:10 p.m. Showing
Century 14: Fri & Sat 11:30 a.m. 12:25, 1:35, 4:20, 6:55, 8, 8:15, 10:10 p.m. Showing
Crow Canyon 6: Fri-Tues 12:40, 3:50, 7, 10:10 p.m. Sun-Tues No 10:10 p.m. Showing
Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 12:15, 1:40, 3:35, 5:10, 7, 8:45, 10:25 p.m.

The Guardian (PG-13)
Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 10:05, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05 p.m. Sun-Tues No 10:05 p.m. Showing
Century 14: Fri & Sat 11:40 a.m. 11:00, 2:50, 4:05, 5:55, 8, 10:15 p.m. Showing
Crow Canyon 6: Fri-Tues 12:45, 4:35, 6:45, 9:45 p.m. Sun-Tues No 9:45 p.m. Showing

The Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning (R)
Century 14: Fri & Sat 12:00, 3:00, 5:40, 7:10, 10:00 p.m. Sun-Tues No 10:00 p.m. Showing
Hacienda Crossing 20: Fri-Tues 11:20 a.m. 12:25, 2:40, 4, 5, 6:15, 7:15, 8, 9:30,10:45 p.m.

The U.S. vs. John Lennon (PG-13)
CinéArts: Fri & Sat 11:40 a.m. 2, 4:20, 7:25, 9:45 p.m.

Internet address: For show times, visit the Pleasanton Weekly Online Edition at http://www.PleasantonWeekly.com
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cate through voice, vocal tenor and emoting. But, what’s unique
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of set, lighting and a script, and gets to the bare bones of experi-
ce.”

GO followed Monyhan’s reading, stepping away from the micro-
phone and getting up close with the audience. As a slam poet, GO
memorizes and performs his work, but, due to some nerves, he for-
got part of his first poem midway through. However, the audience
was quite forgiving, even as he continued to refer back to his T-
Mobile Sidekick for lines.

Slam poetry is actually a sub-set of spoken word poetry that first
grew out of poetry competitions in Chicago and New York, called
“slams,” that have since spread to venues across the country. At a
slam, poets perform three-minute poems and the winners are chosen
by judges picked from the audi-
ence at random. Since its inception, slam has also been greatly influ-
enced by hip hop culture and has become its own genre, not just a
combination of poetry and rap.

In many of GO’s poems, he
steps outside of his point of view
and explores the lives of someone
entirely other than himself, again
using wit to express weighty ideas.
In his first poem he writes, “Like
serving French fries in a Mexican
restaurant, it’s just not what you
want,” as he explores the life of a
woman who consistently choos-
es unhealthy romantic relation-
ships. “Sometimes, even sections
of the Bay Bridge fall,” he writes
in another poem, dramatizing the
struggles of a single mother.

“I myself am not a single mother, but I have friends in that situation, so I try to write outside myself and see what someone else is going through,” GO said.

As part of her duties as poet laureate, Bryant books poets for
the Century House Reading series, aiming to bring a diversity of
poets to the Pleasanton commu-
nity. Bryant met both Monyhan
and GO at the Second Sunday
Reading in Crockett, Calif. and
thought their poetry would be a
great addition.

[“Performance poetry] is just
inspiring to be around,” Bryant
said. “It’s more energetic than a
normal poetry reading and a won-
derful thing to behold ... To share
the energy makes you feel excited
and you leave with warm glow.”

Century House Reading series
The Century House Reading
series is held on the first Sunday
of all even-numbered months. The
next reading is Dec. 3. Contact
Cynthia Bryant at poetslane@com-
cast.net or visit her Web site, www.
poetslane.com, for more informa-
tion.
Transitions

Anniversary

Nino and Rose Pompilio

On Sept. 2, Nino and Rose Pompilio celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Their three children, four grandchildren (with one more on the way) and two great-grandchildren gathered for a family dinner to commemorate the special milestone. Patrick, their grandson, surprised them by flying in from Florida, where he is serving in the U.S. Navy. Nino and Rose were married in New York in 1956 and made their home in Pleasanton by 1968.

Obituaries

Jenny Lou Doehle

Jenny Lou Doehle, business and special projects manager for the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce and loyal member of the community, died Sept. 28 at the age of 47 after bravely fighting advanced leukemia.

Mrs. Doehle’s strong, yet quiet spirit deeply touched the lives of those around her. She had a beautiful voice and words that gave those who knew her deep insight into her courageous and sweet spirit. In her church family, she consistently amazed people with her deep wisdom and care.

A treasured wife and beloved mother, Doehle’s passion and abiding love for her family were only matched by her love for God. Those close to her said she is where she has always wanted to be. Doehle was a great woman and those who knew her say they rise up and call her blessed.

She is survived by her loving husband, Mark, and devoted children Jessica, 20, and James, 17.

A celebration of life ceremony was held at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Parkway, on Oct. 2. Arrangements were made by Graham-Hitch Mortuary of Pleasanton.

Virginia Elizabeth Sickels

Virginia “Ginny” Elizabeth Sickels died Sept. 16 of breast cancer at the age of 69.

Mrs. Sickels lived all over the state of California by the time she was 10. Born in Eureka, she moved to Arcata, San Francisco and then to Sacramento. She graduated from St. Francis High School and met her future husband at McClatchey Pool where they both worked. After several years of courtship, she proposed (or delivered an ultimatum one might say) She continued her travels and her husband’s occupation took them to Washington, Montana and Idaho.

She will be remembered for “legendary” thoughtfulness towards others and her many talents—cooking, encouraging, origami crane making and sewing. Sickels loved nature and reading. At the Pleasanton Post Office, she was “without a doubt” the most faithful customers.

Sickels is survived by husband of 47 years Charles Jens Sickels; daughters Dawn Ackerman (and husband Aaron) and Kristin Sickels; son Robert Sickels (and wife Becky); sisters Lee and Ro; brothers Dave and Tom; and six grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her brother Skippy.

A memorial service was planned for Sept. 28 at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Parkway. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in her memory to WellSpring Women’s Center, 3414 Fourth Ave., Sacramento, CA, 94121; and to Hope Hospice, 6500 Dublin Blvd., Dublin, CA 94568.

Births

The following birth information was provided by ValleyCare Health System.

August 25
Leslie and Jose Ramirez, a girl

August 26
Amber and Brian Ross, a girl

Heather Strutton and Douglass Man, a boy

August 29
Shannon and Scott Shapiro, a girl

August 30
Heather Ramsay-Mascata and Robert Mascata, a boy

August 31
Jennifer and Daryn Oxe, a girl

Alesia and Craig Bonsignore, a boy

September 9

Deaths, Weddings and Births are a free editorial service. Information should be submitted, typed or emailed no later than Monday at 5 p.m. 3rd to

Pleasanton Weekly 5506 Sunol Blvd, Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94562

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Q: “Are Pilates and Yoga the best ways to lose weight?”

A: TriValleyTrainer.com
Home sales here drop 18% as downward trend continues

Realtor see market strengthening in early 2007

by Jeb Bing

ome sales in Pleasanton dropped 18 percent during the first nine months of 2006 compared to the same period a year ago, and the downward trend line appears to be continuing.

Sales of single family homes here totaled 487 between Jan. 1 and Sept. 30, down from the 597 homes sold in the same nine-month period in 2005. In 2004, a total of 1,007 homes were sold in the same nine-month period.

Mike Peel, co-owner with Steve Fast of Hometown GMAC Real Estate, said the sales decline started in mid-2005 and is continuing. Projected out to Dec. 31, Peel estimates that total sales at the year’s end could reach 649, compared to 796 homes sold last year.

Even so, sales prices are holding, but just barely.

Peel said the average home sale price last year was $1,033,000. According to statistics from Bay East Association of Realtors, the average price as of July 1 was $1,089,532, with Peel reporting a steady decline in prices since then.

A study of Pleasanton home sales since 1983 showed only one year—1991—when the average sales price declined. In that year, the price drop averaged 2 percent.

“Based on current sales, I think this will be the second year we will see a price drop in the last 21 years,” Peel said. “In all other years since 1983, the average price has increased from the previous year’s average.”

Peel said the market for resales has turned dramatically across the country from what used to be a strong sellers’ market to one that is now controlled by buyers.

“And they’re skittish because they see a large number of homes on the market and prices fluctuating,” Peel said. “They’re concerned that if they buy now, that same home may be worth $20,000 to $30,000 less by next year, so they’re holding off. The demand is still there, but buyers are waiting as long as they can.

Peel said that’s because they are probably better off locking in a fixed-rate mortgage that can still be obtained at 6.5 percent or so with only a marginal price variation likely over the coming months. As interest rates rise, which Peel believes they will, their payments could be much higher even if the home price stays the same or drops a little.

“Frankly, I’d look for the market to start turning around early next year with a much more competitive buyers-sellers market in 2007,” he said. “There are many prospective buyers who want to buy in the Valley.”

For those who already own homes in Pleasanton and want to move up, these market fluctuations have no effect.

“If you are selling a house here and [are] also buying one in Pleasanton, it really doesn’t matter what type of market you’re in,” Peel said. “If it’s a sellers’ market, you sell high and buy high. In a buyers’ market like we have now, you sell low and buy low.”

The switch over recent months to a strong buyers’ market has also changed the requirements for sellers. Buyers want all of the inspections done before they consider a home, providing proof that it’s termite-free. Homes must be perfectly clean and show well, which is why Peel recommends that agents have professional “stagers” prepare the home for sale.

“For the fastest sale, your home should look like no one lives in it, just as model homes look in new home towns,” Peel said.

The slower sales market has also had an impact on what once was a booming job opportunity for new agents. Some, laid-off from their jobs or eyeing high commissions for selling million-dollar homes, took the real estate license exams in Sacramento and then joined organizations such as the Bay East Association in Pleasanton, where membership also confers the prestigious title of Realtor, with an uppercase “R.”

“The problem is that we have 784 Realtors in Pleasanton today, with only 649 homes expected to be sold during the entire year,” Peel said.

That has hit the least experienced, least established Realtors hard in a profession that depends on referrals from past sales. Agencies such as Hometown GMAC that are long-established in Pleasanton also have more experienced agents, but even Peel and his partner Steve Fast are reminding agents to work the crowds every day, at coffee shops, Pleasanton Chamber mixers, social organizations, wherever, wearing their name and Hometown GMAC badges. Open houses, which had lost their popularity a few years ago when the market was hot, are back with Realtors adding refreshments as well as literature about the home they’re selling to the weekend event.

Even agents are offering lunches and other refreshments to encourage their colleagues to attend. “I’d look for Fridays when they show the homes they are listing.

Even commissions are bouncing back as the sellers become more concerned about
Stunning Remodeled Home with large Park-like Backyard!

This spacious 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home is located on a quiet court directly across from the Pleasanton sports complex. This home features 3 spacious bedrooms and one extensively remodeled bonus room—perfect for a nursery, office, and more! This home also boasts Hardwood and Tile floors, remodeled spacious kitchen with Corian counters, Remodeled master Bathroom, as well as newer carpet and paint throughout! Enjoy time in either the open kitchen & family room combo or entertain in the separate formal dining and living rooms. The oversized lot (approx. 7,700 square feet) creates a large backyard with room for a swimming pool or enjoy the current deck, spa, and large lawn area, great for entertaining or having family and friends over. Not on MLS.

Priced to sell in the Mid $800’s

Desirable “Pleasanton Valley” Home

The “Monterey” model with a gorgeous new kitchen is across from Walnut Grove Park & close to schools, shopping and beautiful Downtown Pleasanton. Featuring 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, over 2100 sq.ft., new kitchen with cherry wood cabinetry, granite slab counter tops, & top line appliances, vinyl dual pane windows, Andersen sliders, ceramic tile flooring with tumbled marble accents, side yard access and a large park like backyard.

5167 Northway Road, Pleasanton • Offered at $888,888

For a private showing call
Tom or Kathy
www.1Team4U.com
COLDWELL BANKER

Kathy McNichols
925-200-7200

Tom Ivarson
925-200-3600
**Home sale of the week**

4918 Suttergate Ave. Pleasanton — $929,000

Sculpted 4bd/2.5ba home in “The Gates” with upgraded kitchen and stainless steel appliances plus solar heated pool. Listed and Sold by Tim McGuire of Alain Pinel Realtors, Pleasanton.

**Sales at a Glance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pleasanton</th>
<th>Total sales reported: 21</th>
<th>Lowest sale reported: $410,000</th>
<th>Highest sale reported: $3,500,000</th>
<th>Average sales reported: $1,005,357</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dublin</td>
<td>Total sales reported: 5</td>
<td>Lowest sale reported: $779,000</td>
<td>Highest sale reported: $829,000</td>
<td>Average sales reported: $829,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livermore</td>
<td>Total sales reported: 20</td>
<td>Lowest sale reported: $275,000</td>
<td>Highest sale reported: $922,000</td>
<td>Average sales reported: $477,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Ramon</td>
<td>Total sales reported: 39</td>
<td>Lowest sale reported: $300,000</td>
<td>Highest sale reported: $2,499,000</td>
<td>Average sales reported: $812,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Home Sales**

This week’s data represents homes sold during September 2006

**Pleasanton**

- 8075 Bethel Lane M. Shahl to B. Convey for $2,160,000
- 5345 Black Avenue #2 M. & C. Bosisi to K. Cruz for $515,000
- 7875 Canyon Meadow Circle #8 M. Albers to R. & R. Villarino for $260,000
- 6167 Corte Padre K. Han to S. Rolf for $760,000
- 5719 Dakin Court Summithill Sycamore to P. & S. Yang for $805,000
- 4252 West Ruby Hill Drive P. Laurence to A. M. Lawrence to A. & H. Wolff for $760,000
- 34 Golf Road T. & C. Boster to K. Cruz for $300,000
- 2604 Ingrid Court Mariel Limited to B. Luther for $1,360,000
- 876 Madeira Court K. Han to J. & M. Marsh to J. & B. Bergeron for $655,000
- 2633 Maria Street R. Xu to D. Wei for $685,000
- 1107 Mills Court Ponderosa Homes to W. Kim for $764,000
- 6567 Muirwood Drive M. & J. McKinnon to T. Munir for $1,837,500
- 596 Real Street Soutza Trust to M. Garcia for $899,000
- 3615 North Olympic Court Group Trust to M. Toric for $715,000
- 3451 Park Place W. & L. Fellers to A. & H. Wolff for $859,000
- 4166 Peregrine Way J. & R. Goodrich to K. Kester for $605,000
- 3399 Smokeyee Commons Drive P. Lawrence to A. & Capuro for $410,000
- 2725 Solandra Court G. Grant to Y. Kang for $450,000
- 3099 Tonopah Circle M. Mezinski to T. Tso for $450,000
- 3285 Touriga Drive S. & T. Simon to Samuil Trust for $910,000
- 4252 West Ruby Hill Drive Lane Oak Development to Taghloff Trust for $2,499,000
- 2539 Willowen Way R. & D. Stewart to C. & S. Mondello for $829,000

**Dublin**

- 8239 Aldea Street D. Kay to J. Day for $986,000
- 7652 Buckersey Court Marston Trust to R. Christiansen for $922,000
- 7008 Lancaster Court R. Graham to V. & T. Hukari for $585,000
- 3240 Maguire Way #400 Nininger Trust to J. & F. Misra for $587,000
- 7323 Starward Drive #9 Greenwood North to A. & B. Estabaya for $279,000

**Livermore**

- 1584 5th Street #106 H. & S. Homes to P. & M. Fullana for $1,837,500
- 1137 Apache Street A. Hamidi to E. Nabil for $585,000
- 51 Bellingham Common #505 Herley Trust to J. Tague for $422,000
- 2547 Cowan Way Meritage Homes to D. & R. Stephenson for $1,217,500
- 1018 El Caminito K. Wilczynski to J. Loe for $555,000
- 4026 Emerson Drive J. & M. McEvoy to J. & S. Haskins for $915,000
- 546 Leona Drive R. & C. Stansby to B. & K. Emery for $682,000
- 1085 Murrieta Boulevard #106 M. & L. Neel to S. Neel for $300,000
- 1085 Murrieta Boulevard #22 R. & J. Montibello to K. Abbott for $325,000
- 975 Murrieta Boulevard Cal-Mart Trust to C. & D. Ocampo for $275,000
- 6332 Owl Way M. Tilly to J. & D. Ocampo for $874,000
- 4845 Primrose Lane T. & L. Correa to C. Shadruck for $510,000
- 715 Sandpiper Common B. & R. Kraus to S. Candoza for $423,000
- 1846 Spruce Street Home Plus Real Estate Investors to P. Campbell for $600,000
- 613 Sycamore Court RE Max Relocation to M. Espijo for $857,000
- 10125 Tesla Road C. & M. Sweet to D. Somers for $1,165,000

**San Ramon**

- 776 Traverso Circle Cartus Financial to S. Sanchez for $1,250,000
- 266 Turnstone Drive S. & S. Homes to R. Cramm for $864,000
- 1392 Windsor Way L. & T. Mauch to R. Matig for $823,500
- 755 Yolo Way M. Humphrey to M. Wilson for $497,000

**Sales in Dublin, Livermore & San Ramon**

- 2525 Harlow Lane #216 P. & S. Yang for $748,000
- 1018 El Caminito R. & J. Moreland to K. & R. Kraus to S. Cardoza for $300,000
- 715 Sandpiper Common B. & R. Kraus to S. Candoza for $423,000
- 1846 Spruce Street Home Plus Real Estate Investors to P. Campbell for $600,000
- 613 Sycamore Court RE Max Relocation to M. Espijo for $857,000
- 10125 Tesla Road C. & M. Sweet to D. Somers for $1,165,000

**Columbus Day Special This Weekend Only**

OFFERS MUST BE PRESENTED BY OCT. 12, 06
LAST CHANCE TO PURCHASE THIS STUNNING HOME

Home unavailable for sale after Oct. 13, 06

**Gorgeous Custom Home!**

Built in 1999, this 3,430 sq. ft. home is located in Prestigious Vintage Heights and has views of Mt. Diablo and Shadow Cliffs Regional Park. The home includes 4 spacious bedrooms (one mini-suite downstairs), plus an office, and 3.5 baths. Soaring 10’ ceilings, slab granite kitchen with adjacent family room, hardwood flooring, custom paint throughout, 3 fireplaces, a master suite featuring a retreat and a stunning master bath with marble surround jacuzzi tub. All situated on approx. 9,300 sq. ft. of property. Too many features to list.

Price to sell for today’s market $1,329,900

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Security Pacific Real Estate 925.974.7651 kbmz@securitypacific.com

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NorthPoint Real Estate Investment Services Welcomes

Ali Krebs
Managing Director

Ali Krebs, who has an extensive sales and marketing background including real estate, has joined NorthPoint Real Estate Investment Services as a Managing Director.

Ali received her bachelor of arts in Business Administration from Saint Mary’s College in Moraga, California. She has been a licensed realtor for two years and has helped many of her clients invest in real estate. Ali and her husband have been investing in real estate since 2002, and own several properties throughout Northern California.

Ali’s continued success can be attributed to her focus on client care, integrity, professionalism and commitment to providing exceptional service - the foundation on which NorthPoint’s model was built.

Ali resides in San Ramon with her husband Brian and she loves spending time with her son Tanner (22 months) and daughter Taylr (3 months).

Cell: 925.963.2554
Toll-Free: 1.866.784.7646
E-mail: ali@northpointgroup.com

NorthPoint Real Estate Investment Services • 6200 Stoneridge Mall Rd., Suite 210 • Pleasanton, CA 94588

$50K PRICE REDUCTION!

3 Bedroom, 2 bath home on large 9230 sq.ft. lot 1385 square feet home completely remodeled all tile bathrooms with tile floors, new kitchen cabinets with all stainless steel appliances and custom granite counter tops. Hardwood floors recently refinished, stone fireplace with built-in plasma TV above. Detached 2 car garage with shop. Offered at $820,000

Exclusive with Rick Hempy call 484-0506 for appointment

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Are You Taking Advantage of This Market???

I invite you to call my team today and discuss the opportunities of this market!

Also, learn the strategies of selling or buying homes in the current market. Don’t forget! We are always here to serve you and our community with your best interest in mind!

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List your Open Home here (please print):

City

# of Bedrooms Street Address Price of property

Day, Date & Time Open Agent Name Real Estate Agency Phone Number

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Deadline is Tuesday 5 p.m.

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Limited Space available. Fax your Open Home Listing today!!

Name: ___________________________ Daytime Phone Number: ___________________________

RE/MAX Accord

“Outstanding Agents - Outstanding Results”

RE/MAX Accord is proud to announce the association of Sharon Nickison, formerly with Hometown GMAC Real Estate to their Pleasanton Office.

With over 27 years of experience in the Tri-Valley area, Sharon has received many top producer awards. However, one of her greatest rewards has been repeat business with past clients and the opportunity to sell homes to the children and grandchildren of people to whom she provided real estate service early in her career.

Sharon’s always attentive to her clients and willing to go the extra mile with knowledge that only experience brings.

If you desire the very best, please contact Sharon at 925-200-9891

Sharon Nickison
For your real estate needs, call Sharon at 925-200-9891

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581 MARYTEN DR., LIVERMORE
BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED
3 BR 2 BA cozy fplc in fam rm, AC, neutral decor, 2 car gar, kit w/ granite counters & lam flooring 925,847,2200

$955,000

2240 DEWBERRY DR., SAN RAMON SAT 2 - 5
BEAUTIFUL BRIDGES HOME
3 BR 2.5 BA Pool,spa w/ waterfall, upgraded kit w/ Italian tile, vaulted ceilings, HW fl, full bd/bhds dwndrs 925,847,2200

$1,025,000

DUBLIN
BEAUTIFULLY DECORATED
685,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Tile floors entry, kit & dining. Inside laundry, All bedrooms w/ceiling fans. Spacious patio 925,847,2200

INCREDIBLE LOCATION
615,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Kit w/granite bkfst bar. Neutral carpets & upgraded tile flrs,frplc,Comm pl & spa,fitness rm 925,847,2200

DESIRABLE TERRY PINES
$89,950
2 BR 2 BA vaulted ceiling, laminate flrs, 2 balcony patios. Ask about closing costs being offered 925,847,2200

A GLENMOOR VALUE!
625,000
4 BR 2 BA Great location close to Glenmoor Elem., shopping, parks & freeways. 925,847,2200

LIVERMORE
CHARMING DUET IN LIV!
700,000
4 BR 3 BA Duet w/ endless possibilities. 3/2 main house, 1/1 In-law or rental. Fantastic location 925,847,2200

PRICE REDUCTION
759,000
4 BR 2.5 BA loc on quiet court. Spacious loft or 4th bedroom.Hrdwd flrs,open flplan & parklike bkysd 925,847,2200

NEW LISTING
578,500
3 BR 2 BA w/new windows, floors & hardwood flrs under carpet. Newer roof & furnace,spacious corner lot 925,847,2200

6 YEARS OLD
539,900
2 BR 2 BA Gated community, beautiful pego flooring,1 car garage, pool/tennis courts. Popular Copperhill 925,847,2200

PLEASANTON
GORGEOUS CUSTOM HOME
5 BR 2.5 BA Luxury meets Old Wld charm in this absolutely stunning custom dream home,lg lot,great loc 925,847,2200

$2,295,000

ENGLISH MANOR HOME
5 BR 5.5 BA cherrywood,marble, gourmet kit,famlm din rm w/view,formal liv rm w/wet bar,car gar 925,847,2200

$2,090,000

GORGEOUS!
$1,475,000
4 BR 3 BA Updated kitchen, granite counters, new carpets, hardwood flooring, beautifully landscaped! 925,847,2200

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Peel said, “good City Councils, “But the opportunity to provide affordable housing on unused public lands is almost gone. The last good chance was on the Bernal property where the city should have allowed 5 acres for low-income housing and another 5 acres for senior housing, but that didn’t happen. Now, a developer wanting to build a lower-cost home is faced with acquiring private property where even a small, dinky lot is going to cost $600,000,” Peel said.

Peel moved to Pleasanton in 1975 and has been selling homes and properties here ever since. His house in Oak Hill cost him $40,300. Houses here were only priced well into the 1980s, with prices averaging $166,000 in 1985 and $198,000 in 1987, before they started spiraling upward.

Peel joined Fast and six other partners to buy the Larry Osborne real estate office, renaming it Hometown Better Homes & Gardens. The group later signed up with GMAC Real Estate, which now has offices on First Street and Main Street in Pleasanton and in Livermore. Recently, Fast and Peel acquired the interest of the last two remaining partners to become co-owners. Peel and his wife Darlene Crane, a mortgage broker, have five children, including Danielle Peel, who is a Realtor. Their children graduated of the last two remaining partners to become co-owners.

Peel and his wife Darlene Crane, a mortgage broker, have five children, including Danielle Peel, who is a Realtor. Their children graduated

“Outstanding Agents - Outstanding Results”

MARTA MIRANDA JOINS RE/MAX ACCORD

Re/Max Accord proudly announces the association with Marta Miranda, formerly with Alain Pinel Realtors. Marta has over 13 years of real estate experience and a vast amount of knowledge in cutting edge marketing and technology to service her clients with superb skills. Her motto is “Clients for Life.”

Marta specializes in the Tri-Valley cities of Pleasanton, Livermore, and Dublin as well as servicing the San Ramon, Castro Valley, and Fremont areas.

She has acquired the CRS, SRES, ABR, and QSC designations. Marta has a BA from the University of A&I in Texas and has done graduate work at Cal State. She is a graduate of level 3 (real estate advanced studies) and a marketing and relocation specialist. Marta is fluent in English and Spanish.

Visit Marta at martamiranda@comcast.net or call her at 600-0698 for all of your real estate needs.

(continued from page 37)

(continued from page 39)
Perfectly charming home in Stoneridge Place!

2554 GLENN ISLE DRIVE

2,295 sq. ft. with 4 bedrooms and 2.5 baths. Vaulted ceiling for a open spacious feeling! Situated in a quiet neighborhood and perfect for a walk to award winning Mohr School and neighborhood parks!!

Offered at $769,000

Please contact

DEBBY JOHNSON-ABARTA
925.989.6844
homes@debbj-johnson.com

2701 Tuborco Court, Pleasanton - Located in ‘Stoneridge Place’. This home offers 1,635 sq. ft. featuring a living room, formal dining, family room, 3 large upstairs bedrooms & 2.5 baths. Spacious kitchen features large eating area, maple cabinetry and white appliances. Laminate floors downstairs and extensive window treatments. Across from a community pool & Spa, and in walking distance to a neighborhood park and Mohr Elementary. OFFERED AT $725,000

2723 Laursen Court, Pleasanton - Desirable "Stoneridge Place" community. This home offers 2,196 sq. ft. Living room with dramatic volume ceiling, formal dining, a large loft & 2.5 baths. Kitchen features eating area & island counter. Master suite features large walk-in closet, tub & separate shower. Granite slab counters, hardwood floors in kitchen & maple cabinets throughout. Professionally landscaped backyard with concrete patio, patio cover, and low voltage lights. Close to community pool and Mohr Elementary. OFFERED AT $849,000

2633 Maria Street, Pleasanton - Located in "Stoneridge Square" and within walking distance to community park, pool and award-winning Mohr Elementary School. This home offers 2,043 sq.ft. of living space featuring living room, formal dining, large family room, 4 upstairs bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2 car garage with extra long driveway. Professionally landscaped kitchen features large eating area. Beautiful beech hardwood floors downstairs, upgraded bathrooms and new interior paint. OFFERED AT $805,000

2779 Chocolate Street, Pleasanton - Located in ‘Stoneridge Square’ and backs to open space with views of hills. 1,779 sq. ft. of living area featuring living room, formal dining, large family room with fireplace, 3 upstairs bedrooms, a study & 2.5 baths. Kitchen featured eating area & island counter. Beautiful hardwood floors downstairs, tile counter tops with full backsplash. Professionally landscaped backyard. Walking distance to community pool, park and Mohr Elementary. OFFERED AT $785,000

ABSOLUTELY THE BEST PRICED HOME IN RUBY HILL

1382 VIA DI SALERNO, PLEASANTON

Enjoy your very own boutique vineyard, luxury living at its finest with casual elegance in this 6 bedroom, 6 full bath, 2 half bath, custom home in prestigious Ruby Hill gated community. Great architectural details and custom amenities include approx. 6600 sq. ft living space on a 30,000 sq. ft. lot., private in law/au-pair quarters, multi purpose bonus room, 4 car garage, etc. Offered at $2,255,000

RE-LOCATION, SELLER MOTIVATED

3647 KIRKCALDY CT, PLEASANTON

Desirably located in a cul-de-sac close to top-rated schools, shops, & BART with easy access to I-580/680/880. This charming 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom, 2-car garage single-story home has upgrades galore including a remodeled kitchen with granite slab countertops, recessed lighting, laminate wood flooring, tile flooring in bathrooms, light fixtures, & more. Enjoy relaxing in the Cal Spas hot tub, large deck, & Bayside panoramic views along with other amenities.

Virtual tour available at www.StonebergerTeam.com. Offered at $769,999

Wayside Park Realty

4277 First Street, Ste. A
Pleasanton, CA 94566-7125

BIG LOT WITH A GORGEOUS POOL

Delightful 3 bedroom 2 bath single family home on a large lot. Large pool and side yard access. Updated kitchen and a court location.

Walk to downtown and all school levels. Call Roy for details.

Asking $879,950

CLOSE TO EVERYTHING

This 4 bedroom 2 bath home is close to schools, shopping and freeways. Fresh paint inside and out, new carpet and many other upgrades.

Asking $679,950

SAN LORENZO VILLAGE

Completely updated 3 bedroom 1 bath home on a corner lot. New carpet and paint. 1 car garage with side access for extra parking.

Asking $534,990.

Wayside Park Realty

www.waysideparkrealty.com

Roy Cavellini
Realtor/Broker/Owner
925.600.9351
www.roycavellini.com

Joe & Glorian Crosslin
Fremont/Bay Area
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Brokers Lic#00961275
Brokers Lic#00762315
www.jgcrosslin.com
Private Country Estate

547 SYCAMORE ROAD, PLEASANTON • OFFERED AT $1,879,000

One acre plus estate, within walking distance to Downtown. Rare opportunity to enjoy the best of both worlds. You will be living in the country in a beautiful custom home that is great for entertaining, with five bedrooms, three and a half bathrooms and over 3000 square feet, yet close to everything. This property includes a four car garage and an inground swimming pool and spa on a 1.05 acre parcel. You can feed your own horses in the morning and then walk to Main Street for breakfast or a cup of coffee. You will appreciate the privacy and rural feel. You are within the city limits, so you have all the services including City Sewer and Water. The premium location is also convenient to Castlewod Country Club and access to Interstate 680.

Ruby Hill

PENDING SALE - PRE-MLS

4355 CAMPINIA PLACE, PLEASANTON • OFFERED AT $1,719,000

Beautiful single level in Ruby Hill. Priced on a 60 acre beautifully landscaped estate lot. Four bedrooms, plus office, three and a half baths. Approximately 3480 square feet. Gourmet kitchen with granite countertops and backsplash, stainless steel appliances, extensive Brazilian Cherry flooring and crown molding. Expansive covered patio with built in BBQ.

Sycamore Grove Estates

OPEN SUN 1-4

835 TOLENTINO CT, LIVERMORE • OFFERED AT $1,749,950

Beautiful custom home in the wine country with court location on large lot. Views of surrounding vinyards and rolling hills. 5 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, 4260 square feet. Newer in ground swimming pool and spa included in this private 25 acre lot. Completely remodeled kitchen with granite slab countertops, custom cabinets, stainless steel appliances and hardwood floors. Never dual pane windows throughout. New carpeting. Recently professionally re-landscaped. VIEWING BALCONIES: 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 3475 square feet, bonus room/2nd master option (4th). Beautiful exterior with extensive brickwork. Adjacent to Livermore Valley wine country and just a few minutes to Ruby Hill Country Club. Memberships available.

Bridle Creek

OPEN SUN 1-4

576 SYCAMORE CREEK WAY, PLEASANTON • OFFERED AT $1,899,000

Beautiful Bridle Creek home on .34 acre lot with professional landscaping and in-ground pool/spa. Popular large Ashton model with five bedrooms, formal office, 5.5 bathrooms, 5475 square feet plus guest house/casita. Gourmet kitchen with gas range, double ovens, luxurious master with walk-in closet and private lot with no rear neighbors! Offered at $780,000. OPEN SUN 1-4 • 5913 Arthur Dr.

PENDING SALE - PRE-MLS

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blaise@blaiselofland.com

Private Country Estate

VINTAGE HEIGHTS

833 UPPER MONTEVINO DR, PLEASANTON • OFFERED AT $1,499,000

Panoramic views and several in-ground swimming pool/spas included in this private 25 acre lot. Completely remodeled kitchen with granite slab countertops, custom cabinets, stainless steel appliances and hardwood floors. Never dual pane windows throughout. New carpeting. Recently professionally re-landscaped. VIEWING BALCONIES: 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 3475 square feet, bonus room/2nd master option (4th). Beautiful exterior with extensive brickwork. Adjacent to Livermore Valley wine country and just a few minutes to Ruby Hill Country Club. Memberships available.

Kottinger Ranch

8210 REMILLARD COURT, PLEASANTON • OFFERED AT $2,095,000

The best of Kottinger Ranch! This gorgeous custom home is located near the top of Remillard with a flat court location. Panoramic views of the Tri-Valley, Mount Diablo, and Pleasanton Ridge. Open space behind and in front of this exquisite, highly upgraded property. Five bedrooms, three baths (bonus room 5th). Private in-ground pool and spa with cascading waterfall. Beautifully landscaped, including Bocce Court. Remodeled gourmet kitchen and baths/rooms (2). Community pool, tennis and park. A walk to state distinguished Vintage Hills Elementary School. Its exquisite... don't miss it!

833 TOLENTINO CT, LIVERMORE • OFFERED AT $1,749,950

Beautiful custom home in the wine country with court location on large lot. Views of surrounding vinyards and rolling hills. 5 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, 4260 square feet. Newer in ground swimming pool and spa included in this private 25 acre lot. Completely remodeled kitchen with granite slab countertops, custom cabinets, stainless steel appliances and hardwood floors. Never dual pane windows throughout. New carpeting. Recently professionally re-landscaped. VIEWING BALCONIES: 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 3475 square feet, bonus room/2nd master option (4th). Beautiful exterior with extensive brickwork. Adjacent to Livermore Valley wine country and just a few minutes to Ruby Hill Country Club. Memberships available.

Kottinger Ranch

8210 REMILLARD COURT, PLEASANTON • OFFERED AT $2,095,000

The best of Kottinger Ranch! This gorgeous custom home is located near the top of Remillard with a flat court location. Panoramic views of the Tri-Valley, Mount Diablo, and Pleasanton Ridge. Open space behind and in front of this exquisite, highly upgraded property. Five bedrooms, three baths (bonus room 5th). Private in-ground pool and spa with cascading waterfall. Beautifully landscaped, including Bocce Court. Remodeled gourmet kitchen and baths/rooms (2). Community pool, tennis and park. A walk to state distinguished Vintage Hills Elementary School. Its exquisite... don't miss it!

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Thinking of selling your home? Let Alain Pinel Realtors list your property. We have qualified buyers. Contact us today.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pleasanton</td>
<td>900 Main Street</td>
<td>$1,879,000</td>
<td>Beautiful farm house, 5bd/3.5ba. Over 1 acre lot. 3692+/-sf. 4 car garage. Wrap around porch. Horse pasture. Inground pool/spa. Close to downtown. Very private.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pleasanton</td>
<td>187 S. J Street</td>
<td>$1,575,000</td>
<td>Picturesque Country Setting. Custom 3bd/2.5ba, 3111+/-sf on a 0.9+/-ac lot. Expansive great room. Gourmet kitchen. Detached studio/office and pool.</td>
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<td>Pleasanton</td>
<td>900 Main Street</td>
<td>$888,000</td>
<td>Beautiful 3bd/2.5ba, 2378+/-sf home. New paint and carpet. Most dual pane windows. Updated kitchen with oak cabinets, granite counters, and new tile floors. New in-ground pool/spa. 5550 Paseo Navarro.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pleasanton</td>
<td>187 S. J Street</td>
<td>$859,000</td>
<td>Prime 5 bedroom, 3 bath home with remodeled kitchen, upgraded baths, hardwood floors, dual-pane windows, vaulted ceilings, private cul-de-sac lot with brick patio and deck, and community pool.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pleasanton</td>
<td>900 Main Street</td>
<td>$659,000</td>
<td>This popular &quot;Fuchsia&quot; has it all. It features 2bd/2ba with spiral staircase leading to large spacious loft (possible 3rd bedroom). Premium corner lot, with beautifully landscaped yards. NO HOA.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pleasanton</td>
<td>900 Main Street</td>
<td>$605,000</td>
<td>Immaculate 4bd/2.5ba, 2080+/-sf home upgraded throughout. New granite tile in master bath, remodeled kitchen. Trex deck. Backs to ironhorse trail. Views and no rear neighbors. 7920 Sagecoach Rd.</td>
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<td>Pleasanton</td>
<td>187 S. J Street</td>
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<td>Recently renovated Woodhaven model in Birdland. This 4bd/2ba home has been renovated inside and out with Granite kitchen, remodeled baths, newer windows, tile roof, hardscape, landscape and pool.</td>
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DUBLIN

BEAUTIFULLY UPGRADED 5BD/4½BA, upgraded chef style kitchen appliances, Corian counters, butlers pantry, vaulted ceilings, beautiful landscaping
925.426.3880 $1,150,000

SAN JOSE

OVER 1/2 ACRE 4BD/3BA, new carpet, paint, hardwood floors, large master with walk-in closet & views, pool & spa, gazebo with plenty of room
925.426.3880 $879,950

SAN RAMON

ONE YEAR NEW HOME 3BD/2½BA, gourmet kitchen with island, granite countertops, maple floors & cabinetry, master has dual walk-in closets
925.426.3880 $769,800

DUBLIN

READY TO MOVE IN! 3BD/2½BA, vaulted ceilings, new carpet, laminate wood floors, stained concrete patio, near shopping, schools and freeway access
925.426.3880 $712,000

PLEASANTON

PLEASANTON VILLAGE 3BD/2BA, remodeled kitchen is a chef’s delight, maple cabinets, hardwood floors, upgraded pool
925.426.3880 $699,950

SAN RAMON

LIGHT AND BRIGHT 3BD/2BA, dual pane windows, large open kitchen, indoor laundry, light and bright, nice size front and back yards
925.426.3880 $627,500

PLEASANTON

GREAT LOCATION 2BD/2½BA, plus loft, new appliances, new carpets & laminate floors, cathedral ceilings, large master with walk-in closet & double sinks
925.426.3880 $584,500

LIVERMORE

TRUE PRIDE IN OWNERSHIP 2BD/2BA, upgrades throughout, bright open floor plan, gorgeous & private balcony, extra window & storm door
925.443.7000 $399,900

GMAC MORTGAGE

FOR REAL ESTATE LOANS CALL KIM TISDALE 925.417.8609

PLEASANTON MORTGAGE

FOR REAL ESTATE LOANS CALL KURT KESSLAR 925.426.3827

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