Help for health
Axis receives $1.3M stimulus grant
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Denied
No condo conversion at Vineyard Villa > page 5

ON A ROLL
Pleasanton, Livermore women off to Italy March 28 to compete in world bocce championships PAGE 14
Is What You Put in Your Mouth, Good for Your Heart?

A Senior Health tip from Rosewood Gardens Assisted Living

Healthy Food Tips

Fibrous foods. Fiber helps the digestive system and lowers cholesterol. Look for food with “high in fiber” or “excellent source of fiber,” as these products have at least 5 grams of fiber per serving.

Omega-3 fats. Omega-3 fats have been shown to benefit the heart. Fish such as salmon, tuna, mackerel and trout are good sources of omega fats and are low in saturated fat. Sterols and stanols. Plant sterols and stanols are cholesterol-lowering substances often added to products like margarine and salad dressings.

Sodium. Look for “low sodium” or “reduced sodium.” This is especially important in processed and canned foods. If a food is labeled as “reduced” in sodium, it has 25 percent less salt than the regular product.

Trans fats. Eat trans fats sparingly, as they raise your bad cholesterol and lower your good cholesterol. Fried foods and processed foods that have a long shelf life are often loaded with them. The term “partially hydrogenated oil” on an ingredient’s list indicates the food contains trans fats.

Saturated fat. Butter, fatty cuts of red meat, and cheese are among foods with the highest amount of saturated fat—a main dietary cause of high blood cholesterol. Go for low-fat or non-fat dairy products, lean meats such as loin or round cuts, and margarine instead of butter.

Did you know Rosewood Gardens offers our seniors a delicious and balanced, low-sodium diet? If you are considering assisted living for yourself or a loved one, call us today for a complimentary lunch and tour.

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March 25, 2009 at 6pm
“Depression, Compassion, Delirium and Dementia” presented by Theresa Cleaver; Community Educator for Valley Care Health Systems, The Legends Program

April 1, 2009 at 6pm
“How to Work Through Loss, Grief and Bereavement,” sponsored by Vitas Innovative Hospice Care

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THE PERFECT BLEND
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From bars to spas, downtown looks better

Twenty-five downtown property owners, retailers, and other business boosters filed the conference room of the Pleasanton Downtown Association last week, each with their own ideas for helping stressed-out shopkeepers and making Main Street more appealing to shoppers and restaurant diners during these tough economic times. Suggestions ranged from walking minis and accordion players on Friday and Saturday nights to lower rents to renting to another look at a First Floor Retail Only ordinance to keep banks and others from leasing valuable space.

Chris Beratlis, a lifelong Pleasanton resident, rancher and businessman, was at this meeting of the PDA’s Downtown Vitality Committee and said he’s heard most of the recommendations before. In fact, it was the city’s and PDA’s work on the Downtown Specific Plan that energized him to become involved in the PDA in the late 1990s. He was against the First Floor Retail Only proposal then, a proposal that failed, and he still is. As a property owner, he believes they’re the ones to decide who rents their buildings and, for years, he has championed putting restaurants and shops downtown. Beratlis owns many of the buildings along the west side of Main Street starting with Café Main and heading north to Alberto’s. He also owns the building just north of the pottery bridge that is a Mexican restaurant and another that serves Thai food, which replaced a savings and loan association that used to be there.

Beratlis agrees that downtown entertainment would help lift the spirits in this troubled economy. It was a proposal of his when he was on the PDA board, but wasn’t endorsed. He also agrees that rents should be lower. He’s between $1.43 per square foot and $2 max on the rents he charges his tenants, compared to $4 and $4.50 that others rents charge. At $4 a square foot, Beratlis believes property owners are just soaking their tenants dry, which is why there’s been a high volume of turnover and now vacant storefronts downtown. The antique stores fled to cheaper sites on Stanley Boulevard; the empty Domus store has no prospects with one of the highest rents in the business district; new businesses that would like to move to downtown Pleasanton can’t afford it. That’s why Beratlis also doesn’t favor opening the downtown to corporate chains, such as Crate & Barrel or a junior GAP, as some have suggested. They pay higher rents and force many of the mom and pop shops to close.

Beratlis also points out that our downtown is pretty good considering the “old” days when downtown businesses were mostly carpet shops, a car dealer, more gas stations and, going way back, even a funeral home. Domus was a grocery store and Beratlis said small grocers are coming back. They might look at Domus if the rent could be reduced. Café Main was a linoleum store when Beratlis bought that property. Later it was a furniture store and then a real estate office before he decided that its best use would be a coffee shop. Roman took over and opened Coffee Beans and Bistro, with Baci’s opening Café Main and offering more food late last year.

Of course, if downtown merchants really wantizzle on the street they could bring back the 13 or more bars that made downtown Pleasanton a “strip club” consisting of barroom brawls and music and, in the early 2000s, a minstrels and accordion players on Friday and Saturday nights to downtown.

Pleasanton resident, rancher and owner, he believes they’re the ones to decide who rents their buildings and, for years, he has championed putting restaurants and shops downtown.

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Streetwise

Q: At what age do you think a child should receive their first cell phone?

Lisa Cole
We gave our oldest son a cell phone when he turned 11 because he wanted to ride his bike to school. I wanted him to know that he could reach me at anytime. You have to look your child and your families’ needs and base it upon that.

Hannah Bennett
I think it should be about the time when they start going out with friends alone or doing other things that don’t involve their parents. I got my first phone for my 12th birthday. I was able to call (my parents) so they were able to know exactly where I was and what time I needed to be picked up.

Darcy Van Valkenburg
I think once they reach high school, they should receive one because that is the time when they’re more independent. They’re not with their parents as much since they may be driving, so it’s important to know where your children are at all times. I don’t think teens are irresponsible, but I know this would be the criteria for my family once my children reach high school.

Allison Okurowski
Thirteen or 14. This is a hectic time because of carpools, sports and other activities. If I couldn’t find one of my parents, I didn’t worry because I could just call to see where they were or I could make other arrangements. I didn’t get the texting plan on my phone until high school.

Tiffany Schmidt
I want to say 13, but it’s tough for me to gauge because I don’t think kids are responsible enough to handle a cell phone. It worries me because I’ve seen too many of them not looking when they cross the street because they are looking down at their phones as they text away. I think it just depends on how responsible your child can be to handle a phone, so it should be up to the parents to decide.

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Scholarships for seniors
Amador Valley Scholarships, a community-based nonprofit, is awarding scholarships to graduating seniors from Amador Valley, Foothill and Village high schools. Last year the group awarded $30,000 in scholarships to students attending college, universities, technical or vocational schools. Guidelines and applications are available at www.amadorvalley-scholarshipsinc.org. Completed applications are due to the scholarship coordinator by March 13.

Seeking jewelry donations
The American Cancer Society Discovery Shop is requesting donations of jewelry for their annual jewelry event, “Razzle Dazzle” on March 13 and 14. Donations are accepted from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays or 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. The event will feature themed pieces, precious and semi-precious gems and more. All proceeds benefit ACS programs of research, education, service and advocacy. The Discovery Shop is located in the Mission Plaza Shopping Center at 1987A Santa Rita Road. Contact Monda Wiseman at 462-7374 for more information.

Concert to benefit OHK
Eagle Scout and Foothill High School senior Julian Reisenthel is putting on a rock concert to help feed the hungry in the Tri-Valley through Open Heart Kitchen. The evening will include performances from Picture me Broken, featuring Layla Brooklyn; Dance My Heart, the Hillpeople and Availed. The concert will be from 7 to 10 p.m. Saturday at Valley Community Church, located at 4455 Del Valle Pkwy.

Civil War lecture
The next installment of the Ed Kinney Lecture Series will look at how America was transformed by the Civil War. Presented by Gerald S. Henig, the lecture will take place at 7 p.m., March 19 at Lynnewood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave. Admission is $5 for museum members, $10 for non-members, $5 for teachers and $3 for students. Call 462-2766.

Corrections
The Weekly desires to correct all significant errors. To request a correction, call the editor at (925) 600-0840 or e-mail editor@PleasantonWeekly.com.
A billboard near University Avenue on U.S. Highway 101 criticizes state Sen. Joe Simitian (D-Palo Alto) for authoring the law requiring California drivers to be hands-free with their cell phones while driving.

Simitian said the billboard gave him “a passing smile.”

“The only worry I have is someone will be rear-ended while slowing down trying to read it, because of the small type,” Simitian said.

The hands-free cell-phone law was passed to increase driver safety.

—Don Kazak

A billboard on the Peninsula, financed by a Pleasanton man, criticizes state Sen. Joe Simitian, D-Palo Alto, for authorizing the law requiring California drivers to be hands-free with their cell phones while driving.

The billboard message, from Pleasanton resident Grant Paulson, reportedly cost $10,000.

“Let’s overturn this law in the next election and protect what rights we still have left,” part of the billboard message reads, and includes a phone number to call.

Paulson, who runs a Pleasanton fire protection company, said he would like people to be free to choose to be hands-free while driving.

“You’ll have the same accident by the same idiot if he can’t drive,” Paulson said of the hands-free law.

Paulson said that the billboard, located off University Avenue and Highway 101 in Palo Alto, has generated both pro and con caller responses. He said he’s exploring doing a petition drive to qualify a ballot measure to attempt to overturn the hands-free cell-phone law.

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Schools (continued from page 5)

opponents could be intimidated to publicly say they don’t support a tax.

A gauge of how many would be for or against the issue is tough to call, as the school board decided not to spend the money to survey the community on how they would vote.

“The two-thirds threshold is difficult,” Laursen said. “It is difficult to convince the many people who maybe aren’t as aware in the community.”

To learn more about Save Pleasanton Schools, visit www.savepleasontonschools.org. Check PleasantonWeekly.com for updates on the parcel tax measure.

Germain case continued again; next court date March 25

Former tennis pro has pleaded not guilty to 16 charges of child molestation

by Emily West

Accused child molester Henry Germain was in court again Feb. 26, only to have the case be continued to March 25.

This is the second time the 62-year-old former tennis pro at Castlewood Country Club had a continuance granted by Alameda County Superior Court Judge Christine Moruza. He remains free on $1.14 million bail since he was first arrested Sept. 2. He pleaded not guilty June 9 to 16 charges of sex crimes against six female victims.

Attorney Elizabeth Grossman, who represents Germain, had previously said she would file a formal demurrer, which would challenge the legitimacy of the charges.

Deputy District Attorney Susan Torrance said cases like these can take some time. While additional investigation details have not been released, she said this is a “very strong case.”

There have been questions regarding the statute of limitations for the victims. In previous hearings, Grossman had said the alleged victims came forward with their information after the time allowed in the state of California, which is currently 10 years.

Sgt. Ray Kelly of the Alameda County Sheriff’s Department, which handled the investigation into Germain, said no more victims have come forward. Prior to December, about a half dozen alleged victims came forward, according to Kelly, saying they were abused by Germain back to the early 1980s when he worked as a tennis pro at the now closed Desert Club of La Quinta in Palm Desert, Calif.

While Germain can’t be charged from these alleged incidents, the victims can testify in court.

The next hearing will be at 9 a.m. March 25 in Department 704 at the Pleasanton courthouse on Stoneridge Drive.

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Downtown
“it’s a partnership”

Citizens of Pleasanton! The next time you walk down Main Street think about this. Downtown’s business district always has and always will rely mostly on Pleasanton citizens for success. Therefore, in the grand scheme of things, downtown really belongs to everyone: “It’s a partnership.”

And with partnerships comes responsibilities. In a recent letter to the Editor, real estate attorney and “free market” advocate Mr. Peter McDonald congratulates the Kolln building’s new owner “for a splendid restoration.” Now I certainly agree, and I’ve been a builder for forty years. And I certainly mean no disrespect to anyone, but partners, picture this. Lining Main Street with splendid buildings and then leasing them to 5 day, 9 to 5 automobile-oriented businesses might make Main Street a splendid backdrop for staged events, but it is a losing game plan if the partnership’s goal is pedestrian vitality.

“It’s like Billy Crystal impersonating Fernando Lamas, “It’s not how you feel da-ling, it’s how you look and da-ling you look maw-va-lus, simple maw-va-las.”

In the real world, once a revitalizing downtown (like ours) demonstrates solid signs of success (like ours did), without clear restrictions in place, low vitality automobile-oriented businesses (like banks) are likely to move in with offers to downtown property owners (like Kolln) of higher rents (like 4.25 vs. 2.00) than retail can “yet” support. Often the results are that low vitality automobile-oriented businesses locate along prime pedestrian routes, driving retailers out, interrupting the pedestrian environment continuum and diminishing downtown’s draw to the community as a vibrant and competitive pedestrian retail center and social gathering place.

So partners, before free market policies and the next real estate run up turn Main Street into a Norman Rockwell painting (only without the people), as you walk down Main Street think about this. You own the place! Do you want your downtown to look good, or to feel good? (So to speak). Then tell the partnership management team (City – 931-5001, PDA – 484-2199). It’s simple.

Now I’ve always believed that it’s not a real discussion without differing views. So I respectively request that Mr. McDonald share with the partnership his views as to why free market policies are best for downtown’s long-term pedestrian vitality and the partnership “as a whole” As PDA’s Vitality Chairperson, and a member of the “Downtown Partnership”s management teams, and single most driving force behind PDA’s “official” free market policies over the years, Mr. McDonald’s opinion would be most helpful to the partnership. And finally, I would like to thank Ms. Martina Harrison for stepping forward with her recent opinion letter regarding downtown. The entire partnership benefited from Ms. Harrison’s time, knowledge, and insight.

—Robert W. Byrd

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Friday March 13, 6:30pm

Parade
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Saturday March 14, 9:30am

Pancake Breakfast
Sponsored by Alameda County Firefighters—Local 55
Saturday March 14, 7–10am

Shamrock 5K Fun Run & Walk
Sunday March 15, 8:30am

www.DublinStPats.com or call 556-4500

—Robert W. Byrd

Pleasanton Weekly • March 6, 2009 • Page 7
Granting justice around the world
Mark Kirchgestner to report on mission work

Mark Kirchgestner works with International Justice Mission (IJM) to help secure justice for victims of slavery, sexual exploitation and other violent oppression. Kirchgestner will report on the organization’s work around the world at 9 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday, March 8 at Centerpointe Presbyterian Church, 3410 Cornerstone Drive. A more detailed presentation, “Release to the Captives,” will be at noon. The public is welcome and there will be light refreshments at the noon session.

In 14 countries, IJM lawyers, investigators and other professionals partner with local officials to help rescue victims and ensure they receive care after being removed from the situation. The mission then helps prosecute the perpetrators and supports a functioning system of public justice.

IJM was founded in 1977 by former U.S. Justice Dept. lawyer Gary Haugen, who led the team investigating the genocide in Rwanda in 1994. The organization seeks to engender hope and transformation for those it serves and restore a witness of courage in places of oppressive violence. They help victims of oppression regardless of religion, ethnicity or gender.

For more information or directions, call 846-4436 or visit www.centerpointechurch.info. To learn more about the International Justice Mission, visit www.ijm.org.

—Emily West

Axis Health receives $1.3M in federal funds

Money will allow health clinic to serve more patients

Axis Community Health has been awarded $1.3 million in federal economic stimulus funds, joining 125 other community health centers in the country as recipients of the funding from the $787-billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The grant provides medical, mental health, substance abuse counseling and health education services to low-income residents, is receiving the money in the form of New Access Point grants, which is expected to create 5,500 jobs and provide services to 750,000 people.

The grants are worth a total of $155 million nationwide.

In California, Axis is among 12 community clinics to receive the grants. It is projected that the funding will enable the clinics to provide 80,890 additional people with medical care and create 600 new jobs.

“This is huge for us,” said Axis CEO Sue Compton. “We have attempted to obtain federal funding in the past, but were disqualified because previous priorities were on clinics that were located in rural and border areas.”

Compton said the funds couldn’t come at a more crucial time. “Clinics are bursting and we have a one month waiting list for most of our services,” she said. “Because we are the only provider of primary care medical services in eastern Alameda County and the Tri-Valley area, more than 200 new residents are turning to us each month now for their medical care.”

Over the next 24 months, Axis expects to serve an additional 4,000 patients and provide 21,000 more medical visits each year. This will also increase its capacity to provide mental health counseling (250 new clients, 6,000 more visits) and substance abuse services (500 clients, 15,000 visits). The current staff of 110 will be increased to approximately 175, Compton said.

Although details have yet to be finalized, Compton said she anticipates that Axis’ clinics will be open six-to-seven days a week and at least five evenings per week. Additional hours will be available in behavioral health services as well.

Axis, which operates facilities in Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin, celebrated the opening of its new behavioral health center on Owens Drive just two weeks ago and will open a women’s clinic in Pleasanton this spring.

For more information about Axis, visit www.axishealth.org.

—Janet Pellerier

Relax ... Keep the lifestyle you love in this slow economy ... We have unique one-of-a-kind designer furniture & accessories at lower than warehouse prices.
About 1,000 youth volunteers from 80 Girl Scout troops, two 4-H clubs and eight youth ministry groups expect to collect 12 to 14 tons of food to feed hungry people in the area.

The seventh annual Youth Food Drive will be held—rain or shine—from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday in Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore, Sunol, San Ramon, Alamo, Danville and Concord. Youth volunteers will distribute bags to about 30,000 homes in addition to staffing drop-off stations.

David Bahr, director of the drive, said the group started because several non-Boy Scout youth organizations wanted to take part in collecting food. Accepted non-perishable items include canned food, dry food in boxes, items in glass containers, rice, nuts, beans, flour, soup mixes, sugar, peanut butter, dried fruit, pasta, drink mixes, coffee and boxed food.

Donations will benefit Tri-Valley Haven, Livermore; Church of Christ, Livermore; Interfaith Sharing, Tri-Valley; Valley Bible Church, Pleasanton; Showers of Blessings Ministries, Dublin; St. Vincent De Paul Society, Livermore and Dublin; and Monument Crisis Center, Concord.

Households that receive bags are instructed to put the donations on the curb by 9 a.m. Saturday in order to be collected. Otherwise, there are several places to drop off non-perishable items at:

- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz, Pleasanton
- Valley Bible Church, 7106 Johnson Drive, Pleasanton
- Tri-Valley Haven, 3663 Pacific Ave., Livermore
- St. Vincent De Paul, 1817 2nd St., Livermore
- St. Michael’s Church, 458 Maple St., Livermore
- Showers of Blessings, 6930 Village Parkway, Dublin
- St. Raymond’s Church, 11555 Shannon Ave., Dublin
- Greenbrook Elementary School, Harlan Ave. and St. Helena, Danville

To contact the Youth Food Drive, call 998-6513 or email youthfooddrive@comcast.net.

—Emily West

Feed the hungry without leaving home

Youth volunteers to pick up food donations

Vineyard Villa

(continued from page 5)

purchase the lot, their rent could be raised to market levels, estimated at 20 percent a year for four years, the staff report states.

The commission voted 5-0 Feb. 25 to deny the proposal after the two and a half hour hearing. Much of their reasoning harkened back to a survey that was conducted by the owners’ legal representation, Gilchrist & Rutter, to assess residents’ level of support for the conversion.

The survey was conducted early last year in the form of a questionnaire sent to residents, asking them to respond with one of three options: support the conversion, decline to respond or not support. The city received 119 responses from the 208 units. Of those, 41 residents said they supported the switch to ownership, while 38 said they did not support it and 40 declined to respond.

Commissioner Anne Fox led the commission’s discussion on the merits of the survey, saying she felt it left out important information such as the worth of the homes and homeowners’ dues, had persuasive language and shouldn’t be considered valid.

“I have some issues on whether it was a bonafide survey and also, whether there was support,” Fox said. “If you look at the law, it says you should obtain a survey of support of residents and I don’t consider 20 percent of 208 units to be a survey of support.

“My view is it doesn’t take an awful lot to comply with the law and based on that, isn’t this whole hearing tonight a sham?” said commissioner Arne Olson, eliciting applause from seniors in the Council Chambers.

Commissioners said they felt it would be difficult for a resident to say now whether they would support the sale of the lots in 10 or more years. Attorneys for Gilchrist & Rutter countered that the survey was required by the state to be conducted before any approval was made.

Six people spoke during the public comment portion of the hearing, four of them in support of the conversion and two against. The commission also received a number of letters and emails on the topic.

Gloria Robertson, who said she’s lived in Vineyard Villa for 20 years, supported the proposal. said she thought the owner has been more than fair.

“It’s a good opportunity to buy land if we want and when the time comes,” she said. “I’m all in favor of it.”

Art Moniz, a newer resident to the park, said the conversion is a bad idea.

“There will be residents who won’t be able to get loans,” Moniz said.

He added that residents who don’t fall into the lower-income bracket that affords them state assistance will have a hard time purchasing the land. Qualifications for low-income status are $46,000 or less for one individual, $53,000 for two and $66,000 for three.

Commissioner Jennifer Pearce said she didn’t want to eliminate affordable rental housing for seniors.

“It’s an important section of our community,” she said. “By taking this away and making it an ownership situation, you’re potentially doing a real disservice to not only these residents but the town as a whole.”

The property owner has 15 days to appeal the commission’s decision to the City Council.
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Prescription and non prescription designer sun
Alameda cop arrested in Pleasanton

A sergeant with the Alameda Police Department was arrested in Pleasanton recently after allegedly fraudulently obtaining prescription medication from the family of a deceased person, according to police.

Ronald R. Jones, 48, an administrative sergeant and a 26-year veteran of the department, was taken into custody this morning by agents from the California Department of Justice’s Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement. He was arrested on charges of fraud, deceit and misrepresentation to obtain a controlled substance, according to Alameda police.

In January, following the death of a terminally ill Alameda resident, Jones allegedly told the resident’s family that Alameda police offered a disposal service for unwanted prescription medications, according to police. The department does not provide such a service, police said.

According to the internal police investigation, Jones removed the medications from the home without following proper procedures for evidence collection or disposal. There is no record of the medications being placed into evidence for destruction, police said.

Special Agent Michelle Gregory with the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement said the case could be part of a pattern by Jones.

Gregory said she does not yet know how many other such incidents Jones might have been involved in. Police said there is no indication any other members of the Alameda Police Department participated.

The investigation is being led by Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement to guarantee transparency, police said. Alameda police Lt. Bill Scott said that he was unable to discuss the department’s internal investigation.

Jones has been placed on paid administrative leave.

—Bay City News

Police Bulletin

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

Feb. 23
• Drug/alcohol violations: 11:48 p.m. at the intersection of Hopland Road and Valley Avenue; public drunkenness

Feb. 24
• Theft: 3:53 p.m. in the 4300 block of Fairsfield Drive; grand theft

Vehicular burglary: 7:26 a.m. in the 6100 block of Las Positas Boulevard; 9:27 a.m. in the 4000 block of Vineyard Avenue; 6:21 p.m. in the 7200 block of Johnson Drive; 9:16 p.m. in the 11900 block of Dublin Canyon Road; Vandalism: 10:46 a.m. in the 5500 block of Pleasant Hill Road; worth more than $400;

• Drug/alcohol violations: 12:41 p.m. at the intersection of Bernal and Pleasanton avenues; DUI;

• 1:43 p.m. in the 4600 block of Bernal Avenue; controlled substance possession;

• 2:21 p.m. at the intersection of Vineyard and Bernal avenues; DUI;

• 9:36 p.m. at the intersection of Hacienda and Owens drives; marijuana possession

Feb. 25
• Theft: 10:27 a.m. in the 5100 block of Joanne Court; petty theft;

• 11:07 a.m. in the 4800 block of Hopland Road; petty theft;

• 1:25 p.m. in the 3400 block of Gravina Place; grand theft

Vehicular burglary: 6:21 p.m. in the 4400 block of Cloverwood Lane

Vandalism: 9:15 p.m. in the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Public drunkenness: 2:10 a.m. at the intersection of Spring and First streets

Feb. 26
• Theft: 8:55 a.m. in the 5000 block of Case Avenue; petty theft;

• 10:05 a.m. in the 3500 block of Milford Court; identity theft

Vehicular burglary: 7:20 a.m. in the 3400 block of 260 Canyon Court;

• 7:44 a.m. in the 3400 block of Andrews Drive

Vandalism: 2:24 a.m. in the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard;

• 8:22 a.m. at the intersection of Hopland Road and Black Avenue;

• 8:29 a.m. at the intersection of Hopland Road and Valley Trails Drive;

• 8:38 a.m. at the intersection of Valley Trails Drive and National Park Road;

• 8:46 a.m. at the intersection of Hopland Road and Kllgwood Drive;

• 9:46 a.m. at the intersection of Hopland Road and Kllgwood Drive;

• 12:29 p.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Northway Road;

• 1:12 p.m. at the intersection of West Las Positas Boulevard and Rockingham Road;

• 3:04 p.m. in the 5800 block of Valley Avenue;

• 9:27 p.m. in the 3900 block of Stoneridge Drive

Drunkenness: 9:34 p.m. in the 100 block of East Angela Street; paraphernalia possession, under the influence of a controlled substance, non-narcotic controlled substance possession

Feb. 27
• Theft: 9:42 a.m. in the 3400 block of Gravina Place; grand theft;

• 12:12 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft;

• 2:48 p.m. in the 1700 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; embezzlement;

• 3:05 p.m. in the 5700 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; stolen vehicle

Burglary: 4:27 a.m. in the 800 block of Rose Avenue

Battery: 12:45 a.m. in the 4800 block of Hopland Road;

• 4:27 a.m. in the 800 block of Rose Avenue

The above represents a sampling of upcoming meeting items. For complete information, please visit www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/community/calendar
Opinion

Letters

When is it our job to tell D.C. what to do?

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your Feb. 6 article (“Coorting Washington,” Cover Story, page 16) about our Tri-Valley mayors going to Washington “...to make sure this area gets its slice of the (stimulus) package.”

This is exactly what they should be doing to support and help their constituents. This is why we elected them to office.

It brought to mind, however, the time I spoke at a City Council meeting in 2006 to ask them “to do something about the war in Iraq.” What they were to do was up to them, but one of the options was to petition our federal government. My goodness, how the council objected to that. It wasn’t their job to tell Washington what to do, they said. Apparently, though, when it comes to money, it is. And there’s just no money in a dead Marine. It’s a shame that the local government in our country doesn’t take the lives of the thousands of Americans who were killed in Iraq as seriously as they take the money flowing into their coffers. If they did, more of our brothers and sisters would be alive today to get their slice of that package.

Fred Norman

Preserve Pleasanton from cut-through traffic

On Feb. 24, our council was asked to decide whether to uphold its current promise to the residents of Pleasanton, or give in to the blackmail of Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty. Currently, the city and the county have an agreement (Memorandum of Understanding) that the connection of Stoneridge Drive to 580/El Charro Road will only occur after regional traffic mitigations are in place.

Without regional traffic mitigations that will keep freeway commuter traffic on 580, Pleasanton’s local arterials (Stoneridge Drive, West Las Positas Boulevard, Valley Avenue, Hopfyl Road, Santa Rita Road, Foothill Boulevard and Dublin-Canyon Road) will all become cut-through options for Central Valley commuters making their way to Silicon Valley and Oakland.

Haggerty is under pressure to solve 580 congestion and is willing to sacrifice Pleasanton’s air quality and neighborhood quality of life. In an effort to punish Pleasanton, he has halted regional improvements to fits our needs, and threatens to give the Staples Ranch property to either Dublin or Livermore. The lack of an Environmental Impact Report notwithstanding, Haggerty is attempting to force our council to vote to extend Stoneridge now. He is supported in this by the mayors of Dublin and Livermore, and some big money factions within our own city. Haggerty expects Pleasanton to bear this traffic burden alone; he expects no such sacrifice from either Dublin or Livermore.

Cindy Cook

Ponderosa project a benefit to city

Ponderosa Homes is “shovel-ready”—the current buzzword—to start construction in the next few months of its multi-million-dollar, 110-home gated residential community for seniors in the Ironwood community. If the final mapping and permitting process goes smoothly in City Hall, Ponderosa will have contractors and hundreds of workers preparing the 23-acre site and building the one- and two-story homes in July, a welcome sign in these troubling times when most new home construction has come to a halt. The first group of homes should be ready for buyers in late 2010. The project, which won the approval of the City Council in a 3-2 vote Feb. 17, has been in the planning stage for about nine years and was made possible when the Pleasanton school district, which had an option to buy the site, decided it no longer needed it nor could afford more property. It also will be Alameda County’s first privately developed project of homes to be available at market price and restricted to at least one of the buyers being 55 years old or older. No children will be allowed to live in the development except in special cases and access will be limited to owners with a magnetic card to open the gate.

Besides bringing more senior housing to Pleasanton, Ponderosa also is filling a long-standing demand for market rate homes for seniors that offer more security. Those seeking homes at the site say they travel more frequently now that they’re empty nesters and will appreciate having a security team to check on their homes while they’re away. The project also includes a centrally-located recreational facility with a swimming pool and other outdoor activities and a community meeting room. Because those expected to move into the development have no school-age children and will travel occasionally, traffic flow into and out of the development will be one-tenth of what city traffic engineers had projected if a school had been built on the site, as once was proposed.

Just as significantly, this latest project wraps up Ponderosa’s development of the Busch property, a development now largely completed on what was used to be called the “Pumpkin Patch,” a favorite place for kids to go when the Busch family opened up their farm to school children to pick the pumpkins the family had planted. Ponderosa, which originally asked to build 300 homes on the site, trimmed the number to the 175 single family homes now built, along with 16 duplexes and a 172-unit senior apartment project. Centerpoint Presbyterian Church recently completed the first phase of its major new church facility on a six-acre site at the corner of Busch Road and Valley Avenue, which is also a part of the Ironwood community.

It was rough sledding for Ponderosa during the early days of its development application. Neighbors objected to the size of the development and the traffic it might bring to their local streets. Protests grew angry at times and there was a wide-spread effort by those groups to force a referendum after the City Council approved the development. The City Council withdrew its approval, canceling the need for a referendum and, with the help of former mayors Ben Terhar and Tom Pico, Ponderosa executives and a new marketing team began holding a series of neighborhood meetings to develop a new plan that all could accept. In the end, at a council meeting in 2002, Ponderosa’s current development plan was approved to the applause of city officials, neighbors and the home building firm. Today, that team effort to resolve differences over a proposed development is the model for other negotiations in Pleasanton and beyond.

(continued on page 13)
Guest Opinion

The bank as a utility company
by Gary Alt

The local impact from the breakdown of the financial system is painfully obvious. Our outstanding schools are facing a 9 percent budget cut next year. Domus and the Pleasanton Hotel were longtime downtown anchors, and have recently vanished. Big companies in the Tri-Valley are laying off people or closing, such as Washington Mutual, Dublin Ford, EXPO Design Center and many others. Our idyllic community is bearing the brunt of a failed banking system that needs fixing. The recent fallout highlights two distinct banking types: I call them utility banks and investment banks. Utility banks are a reliable and predictable source of money for consumers and businesses that drive economic growth. These banks provide consumer loans, business loans, construction loans, checking and savings accounts. Investment banks are a source of money for complex and higher risk needs such as mergers and acquisitions, hedge funds and other speculative ventures. Utility banks need to be safe and predictable, and we should be able to rely on them as we do our public utilities. Just as electricity and water are essential services for the health and welfare of our community, a reliable source of money is crucial for a stable economy. A stable banking system benefits more than businesses and schools: nonprofits such as Shepherd’s Gate, Tri-Valley Haven, Rotary Club and the Museum on Main Street rely heavily on financial donations from individuals. The reach of these nonprofits throughout our community is profound.

By allowing utility banks to also act as investment banks, congressional leaders from both parties failed to protect the underpinnings of our economy. We learned this lesson during the Great Depression; fixed the problem, and then decades later we removed this safety net. After bank failures fueled the Great Depression, the Glass-Steagall Act of 1933 outlawed commercial banks from engaging in investment banking. One benefit was that customer deposits weren’t at risk of loss due to bad ventures of the investment banks, thereby increasing consumer confidence. In 1999, Glass-Steagall was repealed by the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act. Since then we’ve seen an expansion craze by large banks. To continually boost profits, Citibank expanded into hedge funds, brokerage services, insurance, investment banking, credit cards, and loan underwriting standards were lost.

Had we separated utility banks from investment banks, and maintained quality banking standards, we wouldn’t be facing these problems. It’s time to structure commercial banks so they can be as reliable as electricity and water, to help fuel a healthy, growing economy.

Letters

(continued from page 12)

5-0 vote—agreed to go back on their promise to the community on Feb. 24, I wish someone would report that.

Matt Sullivan
(Pleasanton City Councilman)

Counselors are important, support parcel tax
Dear Editor,

My husband and I have lived in Pleasanton for 21 years. Two years ago we transferred our sons into PUSD. We expected transition challenges. Yet the worst was a personal challenge. Halfway through the year, my husband was diagnosed with cancer.

I reached out to my son’s counselor at Amador to discuss his academic transition. I’m not sure she will ever know how helpful she was. She provided support on various levels and when we were spending all our time at UCSF’s cancer center she even offered to tell each of his teachers about my husband’s diagnosis. It’s tough enough to talk about this to one person but to have explained it to six or seven teachers would have been gut-wrenching.

During this past semester while his counselor was on maternity leave the school psychologist just jumped in and helped in a variety of ways. I recognize that both of these individuals went well beyond my job description. I understand layoffs, salary reductions, furloughs, etc. I’m having to implement them myself. Yet education is an area where our decisions have an everlasting impact. Short-sighted decisions are not acceptable. The purpose of my letter is to relay how important I feel the counselors are at the high school level. They do so much more than just academic counseling and without their support the last year has been even more difficult. I support the parcel tax and will do all I can to ensure it passes.

Chris Peters

Socialism won’t lift people out of poverty

Dear Editor,

I read Ward Kanovsky’s commendable and provoking letter to Mike Duarte, (“Let’s find some common ground,” Letters, Feb. 13, page 9) and I also read both of Obama’s books. Instead of the lofty, empty rhetoric of Obama’s speeches, I would quote the parts where he tells us that in college his friends of choice were Marxists, socialists, and black power leaders. I also remember a television interview in 2001 where Obama laments that the civil rights movement did not go far enough; that African-Americans needed to be cared for under a socialist system. I thought this was demeaning to those millions of African-Americans who have worked hard to get ahead and provide a better life for themselves and their children.

With a $250-billion welfare package (handouts) in the stimulus bill, all the reforms that Clinton and the Republicans initiated in the 1990s will be rolled back, and once again generations of people, and their children will find it easier be on welfare than to try to move up in the world. This dooms many to a life of poverty and lost potential. Does this also mean we will return to the welfare policy of paying people on welfare for each baby they have?

In response to Mr. Kanovsky’s snub comments about finding “common ground,” I have to say that the only common ground will be when people who are concerned about the left turn of our country just weeks after the inaugural, and who believe that socialism never worked, get together to keep us from becoming mediocrity as much of the rest of the world.

Susanna Gordon

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ON A ROLL!

Pleasanton, Livermore women off to Italy March 28 for world bocce championships

by Janet Pelletier

Meet Navina Bernardi, Salinna Grant, Tiffany Garland-Martini and Megan Wiseman. These four young women from Pleasanton and Livermore will be representing the United States March 28 in the World Bocce Championships in Bavagna, Italy.

They are the youngest women’s team to ever represent the country for the ancient Italian sport. Practices are held twice a week at Campo di Bocce in Livermore, the unofficial mecca for bocce enthusiasts. The team is coached by Ben Musolf, who co-owns the restaurant and is an avid player himself.

“This is really the first time that the U.S. has had a women’s youth group who will be competing on a youthful, athletic level, so it’s really exciting,” Musolf said.

The women earned their spots on the team after a grueling singles tryout held in November.

For Bernardi, the experience is one she knows she will never forget. At 14 years old, the Carondelet Catholic High School freshman is the youngest on the team. “I come from an Italian family and remember lawn bowling growing up,” she said. “What I like about the sport is that my 79-year-old grandpa and my 4-year-old cousin can play. Anybody can play this game.”

Bernardi’s entire family—mother, father and brother—plays the sport. Her brother Joey, 20, holds the record for shooting. “I cannot wait to go to Italy,” said her dad Dario Bernardi. “Our family is 100 percent Italian; my wife and I are both from northern Italy. We’re hoping that some of our family members who live there are able to make the drive to watch the competition.”

Also hoping for some support is Garland-Martini, whose family also originates from Italy. “It’s a shock,” Garland-Martini said of her reaction to being named to the team. “You always dream about playing for the U.S. and now I’m doing it.”

A Pleasant native, the 32-year-old said she got her start playing in leagues at Campo di Bocce over two years ago. “My mom had a stroke and bocce for her was a great rehab,” she said. She started playing more intensely soon after.

“My mom had a stroke and bocce for her was a great rehab,” she said. She started playing more intensely soon after.

“What I really like about bocce is it’s a sport where you can relax, drink wine and hang out with family and friends. I still play with my parents all the time.”

And bocce truly is a sport for all ages. Coach Musolf said he can’t really pinpoint a typical customer because it ranges, but if he had to narrow it down, it would be 25-55 years old.

“We have corporate team-building groups from major companies playing here, families, youths, people who come here for date night—it really is everybody,” he said.

That may be surprising to those who aren’t avid players. History shows that bocce was first documented in a painting in 5200 B.C. and grew in popularity in the Italian region. Bocce is now the second most popular ball sport in the world.

Bocce popularity in Pleasanton is pretty apparent. There are two courts in Ruby Hill’s clubhouse where tournaments are frequently played, the Pleasanton Senior Center has courts and offers games for senior citizens and a court is even planned for the recently approved senior housing community at Ironwood off Valley Avenue and Busch Road.

But bocce is not just a sport for the “mature.” “People usually don’t know a lot about bocce,” Garland-Martini said. “Most people stereotype it as just an older-person game.”

It’s an image the team is hoping they can debunk in Italy, when they compete March 28-April 5.

During the multiple-days competition, the women will compete in four events, including speed shooting, doubles speed shooting, precision shooting and doubles Volo. The four will also be joined by four other Bay Area women who play on the Punto, Raffa, Volo team: Rena Harel, Maria Narayan, Debbie O’Sullivan and Colleen Randazzo, coached by John Ross. The American team is one of 16, among the likes of Italy, France, China and Algeria.

Those interested in seeing the women in action before they cross the Atlantic can stop by from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 3 to 5 p.m. Thursdays at Campo di Bocce, 175 E. Vineyard Ave., Livermore. A sponsorship dinner for both teams will be held from 6-9 p.m. March 17. Cost is $25. Email Musolf at benjamin@campodibocce.com.

Cover Story

Did you know?

■ Bocce was first documented playing, which was disco Petral, in an Egyptian tomb.

■ Bocce has evolved from playing with skittles and pentagonal rule changes.

■ The popularity of bocce has swept California in 1987.

■ Bocce has been known for being played on structured courts.

Source: World Bocce League
Profiles of the U.S. Women’s Volo team

Navina Bernardi, 14, Pleasanton
Bernardi is relatively new to the game and is the youngest player on the team. Her family is from Italy and her father and brother both have competed on the national and international level. She was first introduced to bocce by her grandparents. Tennis is her first love.

Salinna Grant, 24, Livermore
Grant’s athletic career began with basketball at age 9. She then used her quickness and agility in track and field and softball. While playing collegiate basketball at Ohlone College in Fremont, she has received honorable mention and other player awards. She started playing bocce after she started working at Campo di Bocce in 2006. Since then, she has competed regionally and nationally, earning the bronze medal at the 2008 National Bocce Championships in Illinois. She attends Cal State East Bay.

Tiffany Garland-Martini, 32, Pleasanton
As captain of the women’s team representing the U.S., Garland-Martini plays a multitude of sports. She first played bocce two years ago and was on the team with Grant that won the bronze at the national championships.

Megan Wiseman, 24, Livermore
Wiseman also won bronze at the national championships and has been an athlete all her life, excelling at soccer, softball, basketball and now bocce. She started playing bocce when she worked at Campo di Bocce. Her performance on the national level escalated her to the international level where she competed in the North American Bocce Championships in Toronto, Ontario, where her team earned the silver medal. She attends Cal State East Bay.

Coach Ben Musolf
Musolf co-owns Campo di Bocce and has been an athlete all his life, playing soccer and hockey. He started playing bocce 11 years ago at Campo di Bocce in Los Gatos. The need for athleticism and a chess-like strategy appealed to him about the sport. Musolf has played host to the national and international events and has coached the men’s Volo team in Nice, France in 2003, earning a fifth-place finish in the world.
ON THE TOWN

AMERICAN

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.

Eddie Papa’s American Hangout
4889 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 469-6266. Winner of The Pleasanton Weekly’s Reader Choice Awards for “Best American Food Restaurant” and “Best Meal under $20”, Eddie Papa’s American Hangout celebrates the regional food and beverage cultures of America. Bring the whole family to enjoy iconic dishes from across the United States, Old World Hospitality, and hand crafted artisan cocktails.

BREW/PUB/ALEHOUSE

The Hop Yard American Alehouse and Grill
3015 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.

470 Market Place, San Ramon, 777-9600. Featuring a giant 8-foot projection screen for major sporting events, they also feature 30 beers on tap and a great grill. Go in for the beer, go back for the food. More at www.hopyard.com.

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. Now accepting reservations for holiday parties.

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.

MEDITERRANEAN

Oasis Grille
780 Main St., Pleasanton, 417-8438. Visit downtown Pleasanton’s exotic dining destination. Oasis features kabobs, steaks, seafood, pastas, salads and grilled fare using fresh ingredients and spices.

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.
ON THE TOWN

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

Amarone Ristorante
680 Main St, Downtown Pleasanton, 270-0500. Cucina Italiana — freshly prepared authentic Italian specials on a full-course menu that changes often! A special Vegetarian and Vegan menu also. Owner MatteoPasotto is from Verona and he wanted to name his restaurant after the famous Amarone wines from the Valpolicella region. Amarone is a very peculiar wine, not easy to produce. The result is a very ripe, big-bodied wine with very little acid. Come and experience unique dining at Amarone Ristorante. Buon Appetito!

Fontina Ristorante
349 Main St, Pleasanton, 462-9299. Owner Matteo Pasotto is from Verona and he wanted to name his restaurant after the famous Amarone wines from the Valpolicella region. Amarone is a very peculiar wine, not easy to produce. The result is a very ripe, big-bodied wine with very little acid. Come and experience unique dining at Fontina Ristorante. Buon Appetito!

Experience unique dining at Amarone Ristorante. Buon Appetito!

La Vite Ristorante
3037 G. Hayward 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 Hoppyard Village Shopping Center.

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.

Panda Express
3059 Hopyard Road #G, Pleasanton, 846-4222. We’re open seven days a week for lunch and dinner. We also do catering.

Shish Kabobs
3509 Hopyard Road #G, Pleasanton. We serve traditional Japanese sushi. We are open for lunch and dinner. We also do catering.

Chinese Szechuan
Szechuan Mandarin — No MSG —
LUNCH SPECIALS
ONE IN FOOD TO GO
Banquet Room
Available
Closed Mondays

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SRV stuns Falcons in soccer loss

In a stunning upset, the Foothill girls varsity soccer team’s Cinderella season ended Saturday night. San Ramon Valley High School clinched its fourth consecutive North Coast Section 3A (NCS) title (a record) when it beat the Lady Falcons in sudden death overtime, 4-3, at Dublin High School. Foothill’s record is 21-1, 14-0 in East Bay Athletic League play. All season, the team only allowed five goals from opponents.

Through most of the game, the lead was maintained by Foothill. But San Ramon brought the game back to a tie, and in overtime, Foothill’s season was finished when the Wolves’ Allie Begin scored.

Foothill coach Ron Lambert said while he’s proud of his team’s accomplishments, he can’t shake the feeling from Saturday’s game that they got robbed.

Lambert said a goal the team scored early on was really was a dream team.” “They had a hell of a year,” he said. “We won league, which hasn’t been done since ’93, ’94. It really was a dream team.”

“On videos from the game, you can even hear the fans counting down five, four, three, two, one and the game is still going on. It was like a momentum shift,” Lambert said after the game ended, the referee left without answering questions and was booed, which he said he didn’t approve of, but couldn’t control.

“I’m still trying to pinch myself over what happened,” Lambert said. “We dominated the game hands-down, from start to regulation finish.”

“I’m not discrediting San Ramon,” he added. “They played hard. The referees are there to keep the game intact, not to take it away from anybody.

Lambert said while the loss will sting for a while, he is still very proud of the team.

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Auditions

“Songs of Gratitude” Tri-Valley YMCA is seeking performers for the “Songs of Gratitude” concert that will be held Saturday, May 16, at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd. For an application, contact Krist Farn at kmfarn@ymcaeastbay.org or 475-6110.

Classes

“Passion for Creation: Ancient Wisdom for Today’s World” Rev. Steve Maynard will host a 4-week class based on Matthew Fox’s “Passion for Creation: Ancient Wisdom for Today’s World” from 10 a.m.-noon, Tuesdays starting March 10 or from 7-9 p.m., Wednesdays, both at Tri-Valley Unitarian’s gathering place, 7587 Amador Valley Blvd., #120, Dublin. These classes are free. Call 598-0038.

Clubs

‘How to Brand Your Small Business’ Communication Arts Network will host Maria Niles of Consumer Pop Marketing at 11:45 a.m., Tuesday, March 10, at Forlì Ristorante, 3161 Danville Blvd., Alamo. Tickets are $22, including lunch. Call 462-8036.

Amador Valley Quilters Meeting This club will host Cindy Needham from Superior Threads talking about “Thread Fast and Fiction” at 1:30 p.m., Saturday, March 14, at Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave.

March Meeting of the LAVGC Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club will host Bill Grant, founder of the CA Garden Landscape Society, at 7 p.m., Thursday, March 12, at Altal School, 1454 Santa Rita Rd. He will talk about “Why You Should Grow Tea Roses.” Call 478-4869.

Tri-Valley Democratic Club Nancy O’Malley, Chief Assistant District Attorney for Alameda County, will speak about her efforts to fight human trafficking, domestic violence, and to provide community services to victims of crime from 7-9 p.m., Monday, March 16, IBEW 595 Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy., Dublin. The public is invited. Call 931-9335.

Widowed Men and Women of Northern California The Widowed Men and Women of Northern California are planning meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m., Saturday, March 7, at Agora Bistro, 443 Main St. Guests are welcome. Call 628-4465.

Concerts

Jazzed About Pets for VHS An evening of music featuring award-winning artist Craig Chaquico and guest comedian Mark Pitta will perform at Jazzed About Pets at 8 p.m., Friday, March 13, at the Bankhead Theater, 2460 First St., Livermore. Tickets are $40-$45. Call 373-8805.

Pleasanton Chamber Players Annual Concert Pleasanton Chamber Players presents “The Rise of German Romanticism” at 3 p.m., Sunday, March 8, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Rd. Tickets are $15 in advance available at Towne Center Books and Ingram & Braun in Pleasanton; $18 at the door; children are free. Call 453-5333.

Exhibits

‘Treasures of the Tri-Valley II: Tri-Valley on the Move’ Museum on Main will host the exhibit “Treasures of the Tri-Valley II: Tri-Valley on the Move” until March 7. The exhibit will feature items relating to transportation from local collectors. The museum is open from 11 a.m.—5 p.m., Wednesday; Saturday and 1-4 p.m., Sunday. Admission is $2. Call 452-2765 or visit www.museumonmain.org.

Film

“Health, Money, and Fear” and “Mom’s Rising” Two short documentaries will be shown from 7-9 p.m., Saturday, March 7, at IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy., Dublin. A short chat will follow the films. Cost is $3 donation. Call 462-3459.

Holiday

Family Purim Party Tri-Valley Cultural Jewish’s Kids Purim Party from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Sunday, March 8, at R.B. Red Center, 2468th St., Livermore. The party will feature games and crafts, baking of the traditional three-cornered cookies, and a costume parade for everyone, people of all ages. Non-traditional and dual-culture families are welcome. Cost is $5 per household for non-members. Call 485-1049.

Kids & Teens

‘Music and Movement’ Andrea Gaspari kicks off the new year with rollicking movement and music fun for pre-schoolers (18 months-4 years old) from 3:30-4:15 p.m., Wednesday, March 11, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. These events are free, but registration is required by calling 931-3400, ext. 8.

Horray for Herps at the Library Meet an array of reptiles and amphibians as the Oakland ZooMobile presents “Horray for Herps” at 11 a.m., Saturday, March 7, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Children from grades 2-6 will learn facts and dispel common myths about these creatures. Free tickets will be distributed at the Children’s Desk a half an hour before the show.

“Video Games at the Library Teens in grades 6-12 are invited to play Wii Sports and DDR, Guitar Hero and Rock Band from 6-8:30 p.m., Monday, March 9, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. This event is free. Call 931-3404.

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—Megan

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—Sharon

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Calendar

Virtual Coffee & Tea Talk: ‘Women in Business: The Power of Networking’ will be held from 3:30-4:30 p.m., Thursday, March 12, at the Pleasanton Area Chamber of Commerce, 7575 Hopyard Rd. For reservations, visit Pleasantonchamber.org.

20th annual Gem Faire The 20th annual Gem Faire is set for March 13-15, at Alameda County Fairgrounds. Hours are from noon-7 p.m., Friday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, and 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday. General admission is $5, valid for the entire weekend. Visit www.gemfaires.com or call (903) 252-8300.

Pleasanton Ridge Fun Run The Pleasanton Ridge Fun Run will have both a 5K and 10K starting at 8:30 a.m., Saturday, March 21, at the Foodixi Rock Sliding Area. Walkers are welcome in the 5K. Cost is $27 for 5K, $30 for 10K, including a T-shirt. To register, visit www.ebtrailrunners.com.

Pleasonton’s 4 Peace Pleasonton’s 4 Peace sponsors a candlelight vigil in front of the Museum on Main, 603 Main St., the second Wednesday of the month. They will reflect on the human and monetary costs of the war, honor veterans who have sacrificed and visualize ways of moving beyond this conflict to a more peaceful world. Following the vigil is a peaceful march to City Hall. Contact Cathe Norman, 462-7465; Matt Sullivan, mjs7822@gmail.com; or kooldog97@pacbell.net.

Poetry, Prose and Arts Festival Early Registration Early registration and all contest entries must be postmarked by Saturday, March 7, for the Poetry, Prose and Arts Festival taking place April 4-5, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. The festival will include workshops, contest, tests, awards banquet, literary row, reception and fine arts exhibit. Call 931-5302.

Seventh Annual Youth Food Drive The seventh annual Youth Food Drive, rain or shine, will be from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, March 7, in Pleasanton, Sunol, Dublin, San Ramon, Danville and Alamo. Donations of non-perishable items go to local food pantries. Call 988-6513 or e-mail youthfooddrive@comcast.net.

Twin’s Club Clothing and Equipment sale Twin Valley Mother of Twins’ Club will host a semi-annual children’s clothing and equipment sale from 9 a.m.-2:45 p.m., Saturday, March 14, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. Buying and selling is open to the public. Admission is $1. Visit www.tvmotc.org/cesale.

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—Megan

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—Sharon

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Valley Concert Chorale to Perform

Valley Concert Chorale to Perform Rossi's Petite Messe Solennelle at 8 p.m., Saturday, March 14, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Pleasanton and at 3 p.m., Sunday, March 15, at First Presbyterian Church, Livermore. Tickets are $18 in advance, $20 at the door.

On Stage

‘MacHomeer’ ‘MacHomeer’ is a comedy melding of William Shakespeare’s Macbeth with the television series, The Simpsons. It will show at 8 p.m., Saturday, March 7, at Amador Theater, 1135 Santa Rita Rd. Tickets are $25, $30 and $35 for adults; $15, $20 and $25 for students. Call 931-3444 or visit www.civicartstickets.org.

‘Seussical’ ‘Seussical’ Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre (formerly Pleasanton Playhouse) presents ‘Seussical’ at 8 p.m., Friday-Saturday and at 2 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 22-March 15, at Studio Theatre, 1048 Serpentine Lane, Suite 309. For ticket information, call 462-2121 or visit www.trivalleynp.com.

Political Notes

Tri-Valley Republican Women Luncheon Tri-Valley Republican Women Federated will host its annual membership luncheon from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, March 14, at Castlewood Country Club. Guest speakers include Lynne Leach and Lori Brandes. Cost is $28. Reservations are required by March 6; call 846-0914.

Scholarships

Amador Valley Scholarships Amador Valley Scholarships Inc. is awarding scholarships to graduating seniors from Amador, Foothill and Village high schools. Guidelines and applications are available at www.amadorvalleyscholarships.org. Completed applications are due back to the scholarship coordinator at on or before March 13.

DHSAA Scholarship Drive Dublin High alumni are invited to join the DHS Alumni Association for its St. Patty’s Day Scholarship Drive from 4-10 p.m., Saturday, March 14, at the Dublin Sports Pub, 7294 San Ramon Rd. Visit www.dublinhighalums.org or www.myspace.com/dshsalums. Facebook: dhsalums.

Educators’ Scholarship Four scholarships, each worth $1,250, will be offered to high school graduating seniors of the Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin or Sunol who are planning a career in education; must be planning to attend college in the fall of 2009; and college applicants must be sophomores who will continue as Juniors in the fall of 2009. Deadline for applications is March 6. Call 443-6097 or visit www.tvf.info.

Recruitment Grant Delta Kappa Gamma will award a recruitment grant to a woman student pursuing a career in education for $500. The student must be a graduate of high school in Livermore, Pleasanton or Dublin; full-time student of upper division or graduate standing as of Fall 2009; and must have a good GPA. Application deadline is May 20. For information, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Kathy Brooks, 1581 Oslo Court, Livermore, CA 94550.

Senior Center VIP Club This club is offering three trips during the spring including a trip to the Jackson Casino from 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Wednesday, March 18 (cost is $27 for members; $29 for non-members); Monterey Movie Tour including lunch at Pebble Beach from 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Wednesday, April 22 (cost is $123; reservations are due by March 20); and a trip to the Ironstone Vineyards and Murphy’s from 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Wednesday, May 13 (cost is $79 for members; $81 for non-members). Reservations are required for all; call 931-5365 or visit the Travel Desk at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd.

Stress-Free Travel Spring and summer bring an opportunity to travel and relax in new surroundings. Learn about ways to make travel safe and enjoyable from 10-11:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 10, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is $1.50 for residents; $2 for non-residents. Call 907-5365.

Volunteering

American Red Cross Volunteer Orientation A volunteer orientation for the American Red Cross will be held from 4-6 p.m., Thursday, March 12, at 8556-68 Springdale Ave, Tour the center and learn about ways you can help. Call (510) 594-5165 or e-mail blackstone@usa.redcross.org.

Animal Disaster Rescue Training Noah’s Wish will host a two-day animal disaster rescue training Saturday-Sunday, March 7-8, at East County Animal Shelter, 4595 Gleason Dr., Dublin. Cost is $125 for new volunteers; $85 for volunteers, students and seniors. Call (916) 839-9474 or visit www.noahswish.info.

Emergency Preparedness Trainers Needed Pleasanton-Livermore Fire Department needs volunteer trainers interested in emergency preparedness to help deliver presentations to 25% of our community. The 1-day presenter training provides “how to” tips and is from 9:30-4:30 p.m., Saturday, March 14, at Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Dept., Fire Station #6, 4520 East Ave., Chantil Court, Livermore. Registration is required; call 454-2361.
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3303 Camillo Ct., Ruby Hill, Pleasanton

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4141 W. Ruby Hill Dr., Pleasanton

Stunning estate home! 7 BR/6 + 2 ½ BA, 7,765 sq. ft., 9 seat home theater, home elevator, 650 sq. ft. cabana & resort-style backyard on 8th hole and 9th fairway of Ruby Hill Golf Course. Offered at $3,799,000

1809 Spumante Pl., Ruby Hill, Pleasanton

Beautiful Italian estate home offers 5 BR, 5.5 BA, office & 6,800 sq. ft. Backs to private, open space with amazing views of the hills! Offered at $2,700,000

241 Napier Court-Pleasanton

Stunning Castlewood Heights home with 5 Bedrooms, 4 baths, plus a spacious bonus room. Huge great room with vaulted ceilings and lots of natural light. Gorgeous gourmet kitchen with slab granite, walk-in pantry, wine refrigerator and hardwood floors. Full bed/bath downstairs. Amazing views of the Foot Hills from the front porch. Large resort like backyard with pool and spa that is perfect for entertaining. Approx. 3500 sq. ft. on a 17,500 sq. ft. lot. Reduced to $1,419,000

5517 Corte Sonora, Pleasanton

Spacious 3 Bedroom 2.5 bath home located in the popular Del Prado neighborhood with approx. 1886 sq. ft. of living space. Light & bright kitchen with breakfast nook area. Lovely formal dining and living rooms. Large backyard with side yard access and covered patio. Amazing value for Pleasanton. Offered at $664,000

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4371 2nd St., Pleasanton

Vintage downtown home located on Pleasanton’s most desirable street! Charming original details throughout, hardwoods, det. 2-car garage & basement. Approx. 1200 sq. ft. with 2br, 1.5ba. Walk to Main Street fine dining, cafes, shopping and more! $795,000

15 Benjamin Ct., Pleasanton

This large 4br, 2.5ba home is newly finished just 1 block to Main St! Upgraded and just 10 years old. Approx. $899,000

4128 Pleasanton Ave., Pleasanton

10-year-old downtown home with 2700 sq. ft. of living space, 4br, 3ba w/ custom loft addition. Extensive millwork and built-in cabinetry. 3 blocks to Main St! $1,030,000

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Neal Street - Designed by Santa Cruz Architects Thatcher and Thompson

Lot #2 - 11,269 sq. ft. with fully-approved plans for single-story 2300 sq. ft. Craftsman-style home. $799,000

Lot #3 - 9,947 sq. ft. with fully-approved plans for 3000 sq. ft. Craftsman-style home with elevator. $799,000

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2022 ALEXANDER CT
$429,000
This updated downtown townhome in perfect location to schools, shopping, and dining. 1 Level, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, indoor laundry. Brazilian hardwood floors, granite counter/backsplash & tile floors. Crisp and clean with lots of light, soaring ceilings. Don’t miss the amazingly huge back yard w/ large patio & deck! If you are looking for a great buy, this is it!

DIANE SASS
925.462.2068

LIVERMORE
7039 CHERRY AVE
$459,900
Popular Tiffany model in desirable Portola Glen. Brand new carpet & some fresh paint. 3 spacious bedrooms/ 2.5 baths/ 2 Car Attached Garage. Prime location - Close to All Conveniences: Schools, parks, shopping & easy freeway access.

TOM CHANCE
925.487.6360

PLEASANTON
9104 ACADIA CT
$562,425
Great value! 3 bedrooms, 2 bath single family home in Pleasanton. Beautifully maintained! Updated kitchen, newer carpet, paint and much more! Additional bonus room great for family entertaining! Lovingly maintained yards with blooms year round!

TONNI CHANDLER
925.788.7788

LIVERMORE
564 ANDREA CIR
$564,000
Recently updated baths 3bed/2bath, fireplace, warm and inviting home, on a quiet street. 2 1/2 Baths/2 Car Attached Garage. Prime location - Popular LaJolla model in desirable Portola Glen. Brand new carpet & some fresh paint. 3 spacious bedrooms/ 2.5 baths/ 2 Car Attached Garage. Prime location - Close to All Conveniences: Schools, parks, shopping & easy freeway access.

PHYLLIS WEINER
925.872.1416

LIVERMORE
2274 VIA ESPADA
$744,900
Fabulous home in Del Prado Loaded with Upgrades 4 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths approx. 2150 SQFT. Luxurious master bade with jetted tub & separate shower. Side by side 2 car garage. Location, Great Schools, Easy Freeway Access. Enjoy short drive to Downtown Pleasanton, the Sports Park, Hansen Park, and the Fairgrounds. OPEN HOUSE this Sunday 1pm-4pm.

KELLY PATTERSON
925.200.0426

DANVILLE
564 ANDREA CIR
$564,000
Simply Beautiful! Quality built and impeccably maintained. Move right into this 4 bedroom 2 bath home on private circle. Loaded with upgrades including New Roof 06; New Furnace/AC in 07; Hickory Laminate Flooring, Andersen Windows & More. Close to all conveniences: Parks, Shopping, Labs, Schools.

SUSETTE CLARK-WALKER
925.583.2180

LIVERMORE
3889 INVERNESS CIR
$459,900
Popular Tiffany model in desirable Portola Glen. Brand new carpet & some fresh paint. 3 spacious bedrooms/ 2.5 baths/ 2 Car Attached Garage. Prime location - Close to All Conveniences: Schools, parks, shopping & easy freeway access.

TOM CHANCE
925.487.6360

OPEN SUN 1-4PM

PLEASANTON
277 PRADERA WAY
$765,000
5 bedrooms, plus loft which could be converted into 6th bedroom, 2/1/2 baths, indoor laundry. Brazilian hardwood flooring, downstair stairs and upstairs half w/b. Granite countertops, designer paint, fully landscaped backyard with Davis. Stunning slate tile pool/walkway. PENNY CHRISTENSON
925.730.5262

www.KellyPatterson.com
www.CoreyGreen4u.com
www.StaciArmario.com
www.DianeSass.com
www.FllyisandCarolyn.com
www.ToniChandler.com

Pleasanton
227 BIRCH CREEK DR
$589,950
Estate featuring private living with sweeping views of breathtaking rolling hills. Open floor plan. High ceilings. granite countertops. large island kitchen. 3 car garage. Inviting master suite. Pool/spa. Large master bath. hardwood floors. Enjoy the privacy of this Picturesque 2.5 Acre lot.

SUSETTE CLARK-WALKER
925.667.2100

www.RubyHillLiving.com
www.ToniChandler.com
www.FllyisandCarolyn.com

Pleasanton
562 SUMMIT CREEK LANE
$1,439,000
Great price reduction! Gorgeous Brickle Creek property. 356ac w/ "true story" Governors home, 5bd, 4ba, 3-car garage on 15,000sf level lot. Many, many upgrades. Visit www.billshalan.com for virtual tour/slde show.

BILL SHANLEY
925.200.0426

www.MikeArmario.com
www.KellyPatterson.com
www.CoreyGreen4u.com
www.StaciArmario.com
www.DianeSass.com
www.FllyisandCarolyn.com

Pleasanton
2558 SECREATMAT DR COMING SOON
Warm and inviting home, on a quiet street Recently updated baths/bed/Bath, fireplace, 1421 sq ft living space, on a 4752 sq ft lot, attached 2 car garage. Prime location - Popular LaJolla model in desirable Portola Glen. Brand new carpet & some fresh paint. 3 spacious bedrooms/ 2.5 baths/ 2 Car Attached Garage. Prime location - Close to All Conveniences: Schools, parks, shopping & easy freeway access.

STACI ARMARIO
925.251.2526

www.TheDeansofRealEstate.com
www.925.648.5300

www.RubyHillLiving.com
www.925.855.4000

www.Jrockcliff.com
www.925.253.7000

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Blackhawk
4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir.
Danville, CA 94506
925.648.5300

Blackhawk West
3880 Blackhawk Rd.
Danville, CA 94506
925.736.6000

Danville
15 Railroad Ave.
Danville, CA 94526
925.855.4000

Lafayette
3799 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Ste. 100
Lafayette, CA 94549
925.253.7001

Livermore
1983 Second Street
Livermore, CA 94550
925.667.2100

Orinda
89 Davis Rd., Ste. 100
Livermore, CA 94550
925.253.7000

Pleasanton
5075 Hopyard Rd., #110
Pleasanton, CA 94588
925.251.2500

Walnut Creek
100 N. Main St.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
925.280.8500

www.rockcliff.com

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Buyers and investors are purchasing homes at great prices...are you? Check out our reo-eastbay.com site for information on the foreclosure properties now available, visit Re/Max.com to view properties in the Bay area and all over the world, or call 847-8900 to speak to one of our professional agents. There is so much to know in this market!! We have the training and expertise to make your sale and/or purchase happen. Call 847-8900 today.

Livermore

MINIMIZE YOUR MONTHLY PAYMENT AND BUILD EQUITY.

Live in one unit and rent the other three. Well maintained fourplex with two 2-bedroom, 1 bath units and two 1-bedroom, 1 bath units. Easy walk to downtown. $799,950. Call Belva Mayfield today for a private showing. (925) 872-1323

Livermore

359 Kottinger Drive, Pleasanton
Cash in on first-time homebuyer tax credit!
Affordable 3 bedroom, 2 bath within walking distance of Farmers Market, downtown and 3 schools. $599,863. Call Belva Mayfield today for a private showing. (925) 872-1323


Belva Mayfield
Broker, CRS, SRES
direct: (925) 454-2416
cell: (925) 872-1323
www.BelvaMayfield.com
Belva@BelvaMayfield.com

LIVERMORE – Great Westside location for this 4 bedroom/2 1/2 bath home w/ outstanding views of the Pleasanton Ridge. This home is beautifully maintained and decorated. Lots of upgrades including 18’ tile flooring, updated carpet and pad, custom window coverings, and gem of a backyard. This home is a must see!!

927 Marcella St., Livermore
Carb appeal plus! This 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home is in move in condition with beautiful large yards. Convenient location near dining and shopping. Put it on your weekend shopping list. Asking $650,000. For more info, call Margarita Cavalieri at (925) 918-1103.

LIVERMORE – 33737 Welk Terrace, Fremont

If you love to cook, this is YOUR home!! The kitchen has been remodeled with all the extras to delight the gourmet. This 4 bed, 2 1/2 bath home is located next to a hiking trail in a small, secluded area of Fremont. At $689,500, check it out this weekend. For a private viewing, call Margarita Cavalieri at (925) 918-1103.

PRIMATIVE CHARMER. Largest model 1,610 sq. ft. End unit. Super size windows. Vaulted ceilings plus two closets (one is a walk-in). Master bedroom w/ full bath. Light/bright and decorated & painted like a model home. 

6038 CORTE ENCINAS

$610,000

DUBLIN – Gorgeous home in The Courtyards at Dublin Ranch. This home is beautifully maintained and decorated. Lots of upgrades including 18’ tile flooring, upgraded carpet and pad, custom window coverings, and gem of a backyard. This home is a must see!!

3969 DERRYFIELD CT

$569,000

LIVERMORE – You won’t believe this home. Lovely 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom in a very desirable family park. This home looks practically new. Large kitchen, vaulted ceilings, AC, custom window valances, walk-in closet, dbl sink, washer/dryer, community pool/p&l & much more. Washer/Dryer & Refrigerator are included.

828 SUNGOLD CIR

$119,950

San Ramon

Single level home in great San Ramon location. Newer kitchen, hardwood flooring, tile, updated baths, great stone work and newer driveway out front. Don’t miss the finished attic play room. Rear yard has extensive deck, fruit trees, lawn and play area. Possible side yard access.

10033 SANTA ROSA AVE

$629,000

6111 Johnson Ct., Suite 110 - Pleasanton Hopyard

925.463.9500

Prudential California Realty
PLEASANTON
900 Main Street | 925.251.1111 | www.susiesteele.com

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High End Service...Real People Attitude!

PLEASANTON
925.847.2200 | 5980 Stoneridge Drive, Ste. 122

GOLDEN EAGLE ESTATE WITH VIEWS OF THE VALLEY
OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

1531 Honeysuckle Court,
Pleasanton
This gorgeous completely remodeled 5 bedroom, 3 full, 2 half bathroom, 5220 sq. ft. +/- custom home sits on one of the best view lots in Golden Eagle Estates. Cul-de-sac location, approximately 1 acre lot which includes a beautiful serene pool with breathtaking views of the valley. For more information visit www.1531honey sucklect.com. Offered at $2,489,000
PLEASANTON HEIGHTS

OLDE TOWNE

SILVER OAKS PREMIUM LOTS

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673 ABBIE STREET, PLEASANTON

Premium secluded location in desirable Olde Towne on .30 acre lot. Walk to Downtown Pleasanton! Professionally landscaped, private rear yard with elevated decks and your own personal vineyard! Three bedrooms, two and a half baths. Approximately 2,000 square feet. Hardwood flooring. Newer roof. Three car garage. Excellent condition! OFFERED AT $899,500

SILVER OAKS ESTATES

2474 SILVER OAKS LANE, PLEASANTON

Brand new single level custom home. This premium .45 acre lot is surrounded by oak-studded open space. At the gateway to the Wine Country. Panoramic views of Mt. Diablo/the Valley, 4 bd/3.5 ba, formal office, plus bonus room. Approx. 4,716 sq ft. Expensive kitchen with granite slab/stainless steel appliances. Master suite with fireplace. Hardwood and marble flooring. Photos (5 kto) solar system. Professionally landscaped front yard. OFFERED AT $1,899,000

925.846.6500
www.blaiselofland.com
blaise@blaiselofland.com
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900 Main Street

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

apr.com


PLEASANTON $3,499,000 8400+ sf of luxury on golf course. 6bd/6.5ba, library, media room, spa retreat, tech room, gourmet kitchen. 1687 Via di Salorno

PLEASANTON $3,499,000 French Country Custom, 5719 +/- sf, 6bd/4.5 ba, 2 staircases, hardwood floors, granite counters. Private Sport Court. Great view. 3477 Tofiano Place

PLEASANTON $2,399,000 French Country Custom, 5719 +/- sf, 6bd/4.5 ba, 2 staircases, hardwood floors, granite counters. Private Sport Court. Great view. 3477 Tofiano Place

PLEASANTON $1,749,500 Elegant 4bd, plus office & bonus room. 4.5 ba/2fp. Granite & stainless kitchen. Resort like private yard w/pool & waterfall. 9459 Blessing Drive

PLEASANTON $1,729,000 Bridle Creek Area. 5 BR + Office, 5.5 BTH, gourmet granite/cherry/stainless kitchen, .47 acre lot, luxurious master suite, & more! 5746 Hamifen Way

PLEASANTON $1,675,000 Sub dividable 1.67+/- acre lot. 3bd/2.5ba, 4196+/-sf main house. Lot splits 43,866sf & 27642 sf. Rare opportunity. 2215 Martin Ave

PLEASANTON $1,649,000 Breathtaking panoramic views. 60acres+/- lot. 4568+/-sf home, 5bd + bonus/office. Gourmet kitchen, pool, outdoor BBQ, spa, waterfall. 8 Grey Eagle

PLEASANTON $1,329,000 1 of 4 New Homes Downtown Pleasanton. Stunning semi-custom 4bd + loft. Gourmet kitchen, old time covered front porch. Over $62k in designer upgrades. 1624 Cindy Way

PLEASANTON $929,000 Convenient to Bart & Freeway! 3bd/2.5ba. 2 car garage, Flagstone private patio. Eating area in kitchen. Formal dining. 3840 Florian

PLEASANTON $599,999

LIVERMORE $949,950 Gorgeous custom 4bd/2.5ba, fabulous schools in southside location. Large gourmet kitchen, over 300+/-sf living space. 2371 Vintage Lane

LIVERMORE $549,950 Cozy 4bd/2ba, slate entry/large LR, built in FP/3sky lights. Granite counters, gas stove. 129 El Portal

LIVERMORE $499,950 Darling 3bd/2ba home in Livermore desirable Somerset neighborhood. 1266+/-sf on 7714+/-sf corner lot. Plantation shutters, side yard access. 419 Tanager Rd

LIVERMORE $779,950 Beautiful 5bd/3ba home with granite slab counter tops, cherry cabinets, new carpets & custom tile flooring. Go to www.570firenza.com. 570 Firenza St

SAN RAMON $349,950 Beautifully upgraded 3bd/1.5ba. newer kitchen, granite countertops, maple cabinets, crown molding, dual pane windows, hdwd flooring. 2908 Fountainhead Dr

DANVILLE $549,950

MARK LAFFERTY BY APPOINTMENT

PLEASANTON $875,000

PLEASANTON $857,000

KIM OTT BY APPOINTMENT

SYLVIA DESIN BY APPOINTMENT