Court is in session

New Dublin courthouse aims to improve efficiency, reduce costs

Page 12
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**VIEW THE COMPLETE LIST OF WINNERS AT pleasantonweekly.com/best_of/2017**
I’m just back from a one-week trip to Washington, D.C. For me, it was a chance to revisit K Street and the Capitol where I worked in the 1970s and ’80s, as well as to drive by my old neighborhood where we lived in Fairfax Station, Va.

If you haven’t been to Washington or taken your kids there, it’s a fun, educational and memorable trip. Repeat trips as mine always add new visions, with ever-changing venues at the Smithsonian to restorations at the National Cathedral, the Washington Monument and the Capitol building itself.

This was my first look at the Korean War Veterans Memorial. As an Army veteran who served in Korea after the war, I took special interest in the realistic figures “moving” across the lawn. The memorial, designed by American sculptor Frank Gaylord, honors those who sacrificed during the three years of conflict.

For the early evening visit, I had the company of my grandson Jordan Nally, an Amador Valley High graduate who is working this summer during a college break as a Capitol Hill intern for Idaho Congressman Raúl Labrador. He’s immersed in Washington highlights and described the details of Gaylord’s stainless-steel images as we circled the platoon.

The first soldier, stone-faced with his helmet unbuckled (see photo), leads his squadron forward. Behind is a square-faced soldier, looking apprehensively off to the side as he watches for snipers. His partner holds a giant-sized phone with a rifle at his right side.

Behind these two, a soldier wears a heavy Russian-styled hat to protect from the cold. Another looks back, shouting and pointing his rifle at something to the side. Even so, another soldier appears disinterested, staring off to the distance.

Another soldier, possibly the squad’s medic, has no rifle but carries a large bag. Then comes a soldier with a mustache, wearing a furry hat with ear flaps, but no helmet in the cold. He looks ahead, eyebrows raised, eyes wide open, astonished at something he sees.

Behind him, two soldiers talk to each other, one carrying a machine gun, the other the gun’s tripod. Alongside, a soldier glares at them with an angry look on his face. His rifle is raised at the ready and he appears frightened by something he sees.

In the last row, the men all move forward except for one who is standing still, perhaps an officer making sure everyone is falling in line.

At the front of the squadron, there’s a “Pool of Remembrance” and a plaque, with the message: “Freedom is not free. Our nation honors her sons and daughters who answered the call to defend the country they never knew and a people they never met.”

Editor’s note: Jeb Bing is editor emeritus for the Pleasanton Weekly. His “Around Pleasanton” columns run on the second and fourth Fridays of every month.
How old were you when you stopped being embarrassed to be seen with your parents on a Saturday night?

Chris Colzani
Wine educator
I’d say once I graduated from high school and left behind all of the immaturity, the desire to fit in and the peer pressure that goes along with that time in life. Honestly, it was so liberating to get that behind me because I love to spend time with my parents, whenever and wherever.

Lou Colzani
Insurance broker
I was actually never embarrassed to be seen with my parents. My mom was so cool and funny. She always had my friends in stitches. And my dad was the most fun-loving guy. I even asked my parents to chaperone my senior prom.

Mia Ziegler
Middle school student
I’m probably not the best person to ask that question to. I’m still embarrassed to be seen out with my parents on a Saturday night. Not because they are old, but because they sometimes forget the very important lesson that they were so careful to teach me, which is to always think before you speak.

Mike Kozuch
Seismologist
Probably around 18, when I stopped caring so much about other people’s impression of me and developed my own sense of self and became more confident.

Kristy Colzani
Field representative, ministry
As soon as they didn’t insist that I be with them. They were very strict while I was growing up and made me stay home with them on Saturday nights. As an adult, I absolutely adore spending time with my parents. They live in Arizona and are still happily married after more than 50 years.

—Compiled by Nancy Lewis and Jenny Lyness
Pleasanton poised for annual road maintenance program

$6.18M project includes dozens of neighborhood streets, Old Vineyard trail

By Jeremy Walsh

Pleasanton city officials are ready to move forward with their annual street resurfacing and preventative maintenance program later this summer after the City Council last week approved contracts and other items related to the estimated $6.18 million project.

This year’s repair effort focuses on neighborhood street segments and courts throughout Pleasanton, mainly around the central, northwestern and eastern parts of the city. It also includes the first phase of the long-planned Old Vineyard Avenue trail.

“Preventative maintenance is key to keeping our streets and roads in the outstanding condition they are in,” city engineering director Steve Kirkpatrick said in a statement. “Even though we realize there will be inconveniences, we also know that the long-term gain will be worth the short-term disruptions.”

The work is expected to occur between mid-August and mid-March, with the city contracting with Concord-based Bay Cities Paving and Grading, Inc., for almost $5.5 million, plus approximately $546,000 in construction contingencies.

The project includes more than 4.5 million square feet of pavement on nearly 170 street sections across Pleasanton, poised for either resurfacing or slurry sealing.

This year’s effort is a combination of regular roadway repairs scheduled for 2016 and 2017, with city officials playing some catch-up after the annual street improvements were deferred last year while the city focused on other key public projects, most notably the probable pipes recycled water infrastructure, Kirkpatrick said.

Most of the work will be done on residential streets, with exceptions including Old Foothill Road, Ber- nal Avenue from Kottinger Drive to Vineyard Avenue, and parts of Stanley Boulevard and Valley Avenue.

Pleasanton’s Carmen Rivera-Hendrickson is seeking city grant funding to replace the standard bathtub with a roll-in unit in her accessibility-adaptable apartment in Antion Hacienda. She said she used to be able to lift her paralyzed left leg into the tub and sit on the edge, until she broke both ankles in a fall while bathing at home in March.

Accessibility standards

Council wants to review city rules, inspired by disabled resident’s apartment

By Jeremy Walsh

The Pleasanton City Council is set to have a debate in the coming months about the city’s standards for making new developments accessible to physically disabled residents.

Council members called for the future public discussion at the end of their regular meeting last week, most saying they were inspired by the situation of a wheelchair-dependent resident whose apartment they expected would be fully accommodating, but in key areas appears anything but.

“I personally thought I was approving a housing unit that would be compliant with ADA needs (which can be hearing or sight impaired or other disabilities), in addition to a full wheelchair compatible and accessible unit,” Councilwoman Karla Brown said in an email interview this week.

Carmen Rivera-Hendrickson, 54, said during an interview last week in her one-bedroom unit in Antion Hacienda. Opened in 2015, the apartment complex at 5723 West Las Positas Blvd., between Stoneridge and Hacienda drives, features 168 units in three- and four-story buildings.

When the council debated approving the development in 2013, the complex was billed to include three units designed as accessible, seen by City Manager Don Toy as a “good faith effort” to comply with standards. At the time, however, the city standards weren’t clear about who would pay for modifications.

Downtown set for final 1st Wednesday Street Party of summer

Downtown Pleasanton is going to the dogs — literally — next week when the 20th annual Pooch Parade trots down Main Street to close out this year’s 1st Wednesday Street Parties series.

Organized by the Pleasanton Downtown Association, the celebration from 6-9 p.m. next Wednesday also features live music from rock band Public Eye, kids’ activities, food trucks, a beer and wine garden and nearly 200 vendors.

Drawing thousands of participants and spectators each summer, the Pooch Parade will take place at 7 p.m. on Main Street as dogs of all ages strut their stuff.

Registration and judging will occur beforehand from 5:30-7 p.m. with trick dogs performing at 6:30 p.m. at Lions Wayside Park. Dogs and owners can compete for prizes in seven categories, including Most Creative Costume, Best Team Outfit, Best Trick and Cute Enough As Is.

For full details and registration forms, visit www.trivalleyguide.com.

As for the rest of the street party, Public Eye will rock the entertainment garden all evening with its high-energy rock ‘n’ roll repertoire. Local bands and artists will also be performing throughout Main Street.

See POOCH PARADE on Page 7
Some new BART cars expected to be in service by September

Operator: Updated cars like upgrading from Model T to Tesla

New BART cars are expected to start carrying passengers in late September following final testing this summer, BART officials said Monday. Last week, crews began another phase of testing when they started running 10 new cars on the main tracks during business hours and today brought members of the media for a ride.

Before the latest phase of testing, crews ran tests on the main tracks between midnight and 4 a.m. and before that on test tracks at the Hayward Maintenance Facility.

Earlier this week crews were set to run the new cars between the Bay Fair and Warm Springs stations.

“We’ve made significant progress in the past few months,” new car project manager John Garnham said. Crews have 301 tests to perform on items like the brakes, lighting, propulsion and the passenger information system.

The testing has prompted officials with BART and manufacturer Bombardier Transportation to make 3,000 modifications, most of which are software-related.

Train operator Kirk Paulson, who has been operating a train made up of older cars, said he would give the train an A for operation, up from an F when the modifications began.

“You have to make sure it’s right,” Garnham said. He added that he appreciates the patience of passengers awaiting the new cars.

Thirty-five new cars are expected to be in BART’s possession by the end of the year. BART has 669 cars now and 775 will make up the new fleet.

BART officials are replacing the cars because they are at the end of their 40-year useful life. Paulson said operating the new train is “like driving a Tesla,” compared with the old ones, which he described as a Model T.

“It’s smoother,” Paulson said. “It’s quieter.”

BART spokeswoman Alicia Trost attributed the quieter ride to a different wheel interface and the doors, which should seal out the noise better than the doors on the older cars.

Crews are in the process of measuring the noise and the results will be made available to the public. Paulson also said the visibility is better in the new cars, especially at night.

Trost said other improvements include a digital passenger information system, a modern public address system so passengers can hear announcements better, and the signs on the outside of the trains, which will make it easier for passengers to know the train’s destination.

BART officials hope to have all 775 new cars in service by 2023.

—Keith Burbank, Bay City News

Zone 7 board elects new president, VP

LIVERMORE —

Livermore residents named to top posts

By JAY ALBERTS

The Zone 7 Water Agency Board of Directors last week selected a new president and vice president for fiscal year 2017-18.

Livermore resident John Greci was named president after serving on the board as vice president for the past year. He has been on the board since 1994, and this will be his fifth stint as president.

He takes the seat that was held by Pleasanton resident Dick Quigley last year.

Greci is a retired Livermore Livernore National Laboratory supervisor who was responsible for overseeing groundwater cleanup projects and environmental quality. He is also an active past director of the Livermore Stockmen’s Rodeo Association.

The board also elected member Jim McGrail vice president.

A Livermore resident, attorney and vineyard owner, McGrail has served on the Zone 7 board since 2014. He has lived in the Bay Area his entire life and previously worked for the Alameda County Sheriff’s Office and Alameda County District Attorneys Office.

McGrail also sits on the Alameda County Fair Association board and Livermore Rodeo Association board.

The Zone 7 board is made up of seven directors who serve four-year terms elected by residents.

Electric bike pilot program approved for Iron Horse Trail

Among three East Bay Parks trails selected for yearlong study

By JULIA REIS

The East Bay Regional Park District Board of Directors voted earlier this month to allow electric bikes on the Iron Horse Regional Trail and two other district trails as part of a one-year pilot program.

The program, which runs through July 2018, is being implemented on the Iron Horse Trail running from Pleasanton up to Concord, the Alameda Creek Trail from Niles Canyon to the San Francisco Bay and the Contra Costa Canal Regional Trail, a horseshoe-shaped trail in central Contra Costa County.

The one-year pilot covers only Class 1 and 2 electric bikes, which include bikes with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts, according to EBRPD spokesman Dave Mason.

All existing regional trail rules, including the current 15 mph speed limit, will remain in effect during the pilot program.

As part of the program, park officials will conduct outreach on affected trails, monitoring usage and gathering feedback about patrons’ experiences.

In a statement, park officials said electric bikes help reduce traffic congestion and improve access for those with physical limitations.

For more information about the program or the park district, visit www.ebparks.org.
**TV30 airing new episode of ‘Tri-Valley Youth View’**

Program produced as part of annual summer camp

**By JULIA REIS**

“Tri-Valley Youth View,” an hour-long television program produced by middle and high school students, is now airing on TV30 and available through the station’s website.

The premiere episode of “Tri-Valley Youth View” was put together by eight students from throughout the area who participated in a five-day Tri-Valley Community TV summer camp last month.

This was the ninth summer camp offered by TV30.

“In the last nine years students have kept in touch with us and due to their TVCTV experience, have decided to make media their career,” TVCTV executive director Melissa Trench-Stevens said in a statement. “We truly appreciate the time that Tri-Valley professionals extend to be interviewed and interact with the students.”

For “Tri-Valley Youth View,” campers did research and compiled questions, served as crew for all production positions and as talent for the program.

Guests on this new episode include Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne; Mike Alvarez, outreach specialist from Las Positas College; Heather McGrail, president of McGrail Vineyards and Winery; Doug Horner, vice chancellor for the Chabot/Las Positas College District; Jeff Kaskey, Livermore Heritage Guild and History Center president; Shea Homes community development director Dave Best; and Alameda County Fair marketing and communications director Angel Moore.

The program is currently airing every day of the week at varying times, and is also available via video on demand on TV30’s website. For more information go to www.tri-valleytv.org.

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**POOCH PARADE**

Continued from Page 5

The beer and wine garden, also in the entertainment garden in the Inklings parking lot, will feature wines from Wente Vineyards and Cellar Door along with craft beers poured by Handles on Main — for adults 21 years of age and older.

Food Truck Mafia is providing food trucks including 333, Southern Comfort Kitchen, Big City Country Boy and Sam’s Chowder Mobile.

The kid zone is returning at the corner of St. Mary and Main streets, with teacup rides from Fun Streets, with teacup rides from Fun and Game Rentals and an arts-and-crafts experience presented by the Alameda County Fair.

And with back to school starting to be on the brain, 1st Wednesday will host a “Stuff the Bus” drive supporting Pleasanton families in need.

The Pleasanton Unified School District will park a school bus on the 700 block of Main Street to collect donated school supplies such as backpacks, colored pencils, crayons, pens, spiral notebooks, glue sticks, binders, binder paper and pencils. The drive is hosted by The Hanger, a donation center located on the Village High School campus.

Four more information on Wednesday’s event, visit www.pleasantondowntown.net.

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Livermore's historic train depot was moved earlier this month to the city's transit center, where it will be rehabilitated to federal historic standards, according to a consultant for the city.

The depot, which was built in 1872, was moved between midnight and 5 a.m. July 16 from South 1st Street to 2300 Railroad Ave.

The $3.07 million construction project will rehabilitate the depot to the condition it was between 1892 and 1941 when it contributed greatly to the development of Livermore.

During that period, the depot was used to sell tickets mainly for the transportation of cattle and other agricultural goods, city consultant Rosy Ehrlert said.

With the rehabilitation, the part of the depot used for selling tickets then will be used to sell tickets for Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority buses and Altamont Corridor Express trains, which can take people from Stockton to San Jose.

The rehabilitated depot will also have displays, a waiting room, space for LAVTA operations, a meeting room and second-floor office space.

Ehrlert said construction is underway.

To move the depot, the building had to be cut in two because it was too long to move as one building.

Then it was brought down Railroad Avenue, where movers snaked through two traffic signals — because the building was higher than the signals — over a curb and under power lines that PG&E propped up, Ehrlert said.

"It was quite a little production," she said.

About 100 people came out to watch, according to Ehrlert.

The depot in the recent past had many uses including a restaurant, real estate office and dance studio, and additions were made to the building to accommodate those uses.

Before the move, the additions were removed carefully, Ehrlert said.

In 1973, the depot was closed and then had no depot and the depot's railroad tracks had been moved.

The rehabilitation started July 28, 2017.

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For more information, visit SunrisePleasanton.com/Weekly.
Continued from Page 5


ewspartname

specifically with tenants with severe mobility issues in mind.

Now, council members like Brown and Mayor Jerry Thorne said they don’t think the final product — in the case of Rivera-Hendrickson’s unit — matches what their approval intended to do. After recently touring her apartment, Thorne said he was a concern there, including her standard bathtub (not a roll-in), kitchen counter and cabinet heights, access to appliances and a patio gate like other first-floor units.

Riversa-Hendrickson moved back to Pleasanton, Rivera-Hendrickson is the right height to use the countertops and stove — when turned to the side — but she can’t reach the sink to turn on the faucet or the switches on the wall to control the garbage disposal or certain lights because of the counter depth. That’s on her own, anyway, she can work the devices by stretching out with a long spoon, potato masher or other utensil in hand. She is too short in her manual wheelchair to use the countertops or sink.

Riviera-Hendrickson points out, too, that her apartment is one of only two on her building's ground floor that doesn’t have a patio gate creating a second entrance or exit. Hers has a fence.

Address the shower concerns, city staff is now working with Rivera-Hendrickson on an application for grants funding through a city program to cover the costs of converting her standard bathtub into a roll-in.

Dolan said. Anton Hacienda’s owners have approved of the project, and the city has a bid pending. As for the council’s upcoming accessibility discussion, it is expected to take place in early fall though a date hasn’t been finalized, according to Dolan.

The mayor said he hopes the debate will answer some key questions still outstanding to him. “If our standards comply with current ADA requirements? If not, what do we need to do to update them? If they do, does Carmen’s apartment comply with both? If not, why and what can the city do to correct the situation?” Thorne asked.

“If our standards comply with ADA requirements and Carmen’s apartment complies with both then do we need to change our standards to be more stringent than ADA?” he added.

For her part, Rivera-Hendrickson said she wants the city accessibility rules to match modern federal guidelines and universal design principles so all future developments are fully accessible. She also hopes officials will consider retroactively requiring those standards for any recently approved projects.

“Way of working with the city is: This is the problem; this needs to be fixed; people can get hurt,” she added. “I don’t want this just for me. I want this for the Pleasanton citizens.”

Continued from Page 6


ewspartname

Rivera-Hendrickson said she can’t comfortably reach her kitchen sink faucet in her electric wheelchair, so she uses a utensil, like a spatula, to turn the water on.

She moved in that November, without having inspected the unit first, and soon noticed issues — some inconveniences and other accessibility concerns.

The apartment’s custom spot is the bathroom, she said.

There’s not enough room for Rivera-Hendrickson to use her electric wheelchair in there, and she can barely fit herself inside and shut the door while in her manual wheelchair, noting she can’t make an easy 360-turn.

And then there’s the tub. Her apartment has a standard bathtub, which she said she could use with extra effort by lifting her legs over the front and sitting on the rim. She hasn’t been able to sit in the bath without the strength to lift herself up.

That was before the new injuries in March. She said she was taking a bath and fell forward into the tub, ultimately breaking both ankles and sustaining nerve damage. Still recovering from the fractures, she now washes herself using a small garbage can and 4-gallon plastic tub in the bathroom, unable to use the bathtub. After the broken ankles and stroke, she can still move from the electric wheelchair down to the manual, but she can’t get back up into the electric wheelchair without someone’s help.

She also has problems using some kitchen amenities. Sitting in her larger electric wheelchair, Rivera-Hendrickson is the right height to use the countertops and stove — when turned to the side — but she can’t reach the sink to turn on the faucet or the switches on the wall to control the garbage disposal or certain lights because of the counter depth. That’s on her own, anyway, she can work the devices by stretching out with a long spoon, potato masher or other utensil in hand. She is too short in her manual wheelchair to use the countertops or sink.

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Continued from Page 5

Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Report for the BART to Livermore Extension Project and Public Meetings

The Draft Environmental Impact Report for the BART to Livermore Extension Project proposed by the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) will be available on July 31, 2017. The Proposed Project consists of a 5.5-mile BART extension along Interstate 580 from the Dublin/Pleasanton Station to a new station at the Isabel Avenue/I-580 interchange. The Proposed Project includes new and modified bus services linking BART to the Alameda County Transportation Commission’s (A.C.T.C.) stations and activity centers in Livermore.

The DEIR evaluates alternatives to the Proposed Project, including a No Project alternative, a Diesel Multiple Unit (D.M.U.) alternative, an Express Bus/Bus Rapid Transit alternative, and an Enhanced Bus alternative.

The DEIR also is available at the Livermore, Dublin and Pleasanton City halls, as well as on the BART website at www.bart.gov/ about/projects/ liverenviro. For more information, please call the information request number to arrange an appointment.

The DEIR is available for public review at 5 p.m. on the last day of the meeting.

Applying for a Copy of the DEIR: To obtain a copy of the DEIR, send an email or a letter to DEIR@ bart.gov with the subject line “BART DEIR” and the requestor’s name and contact information. The DEIR can also be viewed at the BART website at www.bart.gov/services.

Public Meetings. Comments may also be made at two public meetings:

• Thursday, August 3, 2017, Robert Livermore Community Center, 4448 Loyola Way, Livermore, CA 94550, 6:00 pm Open House/7:00 pm Meeting.

• Thursday, August 24, 2017, Shannon Community Center, 11600 Shannon Avenue, Dublin, CA 94568, 6:00 pm Open House/7:00 pm Meeting.

To obtain a Copy of the DEIR: The DEIR is available via download from the BART website at www.bart.gov/about/projects/livenviro. To request a copy of the DEIR on CD-ROM, email the web address or call the information number below.

For more information, please call bartlivermore@ bart.gov or call the information request line at BART 441-0343 or 1-800-446-0811 and leave a message. However, comments cannot be accepted by phone.

For additional information contact the Office of the City Clerk at (925) 931-5027; 123 Main Street, Pleasanton

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Gary Hilton Palmatier  
March 26, 1948 – July 21, 2017  

Parents: Win J. & Hilton Audrey Palmatier  
He is survived by his wife of 31 years, Penny D. Palmatier; Son, Seth Hilton;  
Nephew, Mark Watanabe. Gary was born 3/26/48 in West  
Tyler Hilton Palmatier; Sister, Wendy & Reuben Watanabe;  
Parents: Wm J. & Hilton Audrey Palmatier  
He is survived  
by Wif e of 31 years, P enny D. P alm a ti e r;  
S on, Seth H ilton  

Gary was happily married to  
her beloved husband Bob and her daughter Vicki Rosas.  

There will be a Memorial Service at Graham-Hitch  
Mortuary on Sunday, July 30, 2017 at 1:30pm.  
A reception will follow.

Anne Zelpha Turner  
January 4, 1923 - July 15, 2017  

Anne was born in Spring  
Glenn, Utah to Antone and Mitzie Smolic. She was  
happily married to  
Robert Turner for 70 years. They began their married  
life in Oakland, CA and  
spent about 15 of their  
child rearing years in San  
Pleasanton where they lived  
approximately the last half  
century. Anne was loved  
and is survived by four of  
her children; Mitzie Gadd,  
Robynn Turner, Robert Turner and James Turner and  
their families.  

She and Bob were blessed with 13 grandchildren and  
15 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by  
her beloved husband Bob and her daughter Vicki Rosas.  

There will be a Memorial Service at Graham-Hitch  
Mortuary on Sunday, July 30, 2017 at 1:30pm.  
A reception will follow.
EDITORIAL

Tacos, anyone?

We're encouraged to hear that Nelly's taco truck owner Nelly Ramirez and representatives of Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery are working on a possible agreement that will allow both businesses to continue to thrive. Ramirez's taco truck has been offered a new home on a gravel plot on Piemonte Drive, the private road off Vineyard Avenue that leads to the event center and winery, according to Ruby Hill Winery officials, who said Ramirez has indicated she needs time to think about their offer. She wasn't at the truck when our reporter went to Nelly's at lunchtime Wednesday.

The proposal comes almost a month after the food truck re-located across Vineyard Avenue, the opposite side of the street from where they had operated since the 1990s, near the Casa Real property.

Nelly's had to move June 30 after Pleasanton city officials, investigating a traffic compliant lodged by Casa Real officials, ultimately determined the long-standing food truck was indeed now creating traffic hazards for Vineyard Avenue drivers and truck patrons. The Mexican food truck had been granted permission to park in city-owned right-of-way along Vineyard Avenue so long as it was off the road and not creating any traffic issues.

If Nelly's management agrees to Casa Real's proposal, the truck will be able to park in a more desirable location than the turnabout — officially in Alameda County jurisdiction — where it has moved to. Plus, the Piemonte Drive site would likely resolve the reasonable traffic concerns raised by city officials.

The pending offer would bring a welcome compromise, a far cry from what seemed possible based on the original tale we heard about why the truck was forced to relocate. It had all the elements of a juicy story — undue influence, discrimination, big guy vs little guy, etc.

The main thing missing: a show of proof.

Pleasanton resident Randall Frost first alerted us to Nelly's move by writing on the Pleasanton Weekly Town Square July 15 and submitting a long letter to the editor in which he stated he had a source who said the winery was pressuring the city to relocate a taco truck because the winery was pressuring the city to relocate. Frost said he was working on a possible agreement with Casa Real that would allow both businesses to continue to thrive.

To "seek truth and report it," we contacted city officials, Casa Real representatives and Frost, in addition to Ramirez whom we haven't been able to interview.

Melody O'Shea, COO of Beets Hospitality, the management company that operates Casa Real, said, "We're so upset about that. Our culture, who we are, our employees, and our values are all about accepting diversity. We patronize the taco truck. We've used them for our holiday parties and our employees have used them personally. This has always been about congestion."

To "be accountable and transparent," and so you better understand our being very leery of villainizing Casa Real based on claims from one unverified source, we have posted our email questions to Frost, and his responses, with the online version of this editorial.

We asked for original documentation confirming his assertions and sourcing, information about his background as a freelance writer with pieces on marketing and branding, what he thought of the traffic safety concerns and his reaction to Casa Real's new proposal to Nelly's.

The responses:

• "Lo siento pero no hablo con periodistas" (I'm sorry, I don't talk to reporters.)

• "Lo siento, pero no te conozco. No hablo con extranjeros." (I'm sorry, I don't know you. I don't talk to strangers.)

• After being told the questions were asked by professional journalists from the Pleasanton Weekly: "Ya veo. Sin embargo, no considero que Pleasanton Weekly sea una fuente de noticias profesional." (I see. However, I do not consider Pleasanton Weekly to be a professional news source.)

These responses, or lack thereof, speak for themselves in terms of credibility of source and proof, or the lack thereof. They also speak of a need to ask questions and think critically before accepting statements as fact. A good lesson for us all these days.
After 20 years, $147 million and touch-and-go construction progress, Dublin’s new East County Hall of Justice is finally open for business.

“It’s beautiful,” said Alameda County Superior Court Presiding Judge Morris Jacobson. “It’s a very good facility.”

The courthouse — dubbed by frequent users as ECHOJ (pronounced “echo-jay”) — is a five-story, 146,000-square-foot building, plastered with turquoise windows looking out over the city. It’s located on an expansive parcel of land at 5151 Gleason Drive, Dublin, right down the street from the Santa Rita Jail.

Officials estimate the new courthouse will see about 3,000 criminal and 54,000 traffic cases per year. And more importantly for the superior court, the building’s opening last month marks a consolidation and reorganization of courtrooms countywide.

“It’s going to make us a lot more efficient,” said Chad Finke, court executive officer of the Alameda County Superior Court.

The new courthouse is LEED silver certified, a designation assigned based on environmental and sustainable design. It contains 13 courtrooms, jury deliberation and waiting rooms and attorney/client conference rooms. Trial schedules are posted for viewing on screens in cavernous hallways, and the elevators’ walls feature wavy designs that are intended to disguise potential graffiti.

The state-owned courthouse connects to a two-story Alameda County building housing offices for the District Attorney’s Office, Public Defender’s Office and Probation Department. A common entryway, lobby and elevator atrium connect the two buildings.

“This is really unique in that you have a county building and a state building side-by-side, sharing a function,” assistant district attorney Ken Ryken said.

District Attorney Nancy O’Malley said their offices were constructed purposefully, with the people they serve in mind: “We built our space in the new Dublin courthouse to accommodate the victims, children and witnesses who come to see us.”

Right now, the courthouse is a bit “in flux” operationally, according to Judge Jacob Blea III, who serves in the arraignment department, the first step in a criminal court case in which a defendant is informed of the charges against them and asked to enter a plea.

“They want a preliminary hearing — where do I send that? Which department do I send that? On what day do I send that?” Blea said. “Those little things all get worked out, but we’re in that process right now.”

The judge said it took him only a few days to completely settle into his new chambers, and his walls are already adorned with photos of his family, basketball and baseball figurines and other sports memorabilia.

Blea has spent 20 years on the bench, bouncing around somewhat between courthouses as Alameda County judges are wont to do.

“You can ask where you’d like to go, but it doesn’t always happen necessarily,” he said.

He likes how the new courthouse consolidates the various departments. Previously, a felony case might be initially arraigned in Pleasanton, and then travel to Hayward or Oakland after preliminary hearings. But now, a criminal case can see completion from beginning to end, all within the confines of ECHOJ.

“To have a case here where it can be arraigned, pre-tried, PX
The Santa Rita Jail can be seen from the windows of the new courthouse. The close proximity will save costs and prevent traffic delays, since inmates won’t need to travel far distances for their initial arraignments, court officials said.

Tenants also had expressed concern in the midst of a business park.

At one point, Blea said, most of the courts around the county were “a hub for everything.” The county used to have both municipal and superior courts, with municipal courts in Pleasanton, Fremont and Berkeley handling misdemeanors and civil cases up to $25,000.

“Then we consolidated and so that got confusing,” Blea said. “And the courts started branching out into bigger stuff.”

Now, there are specific places to go for particular types of cases. Hayward will be a civil courthouse — hearing family law cases and a variety of civil litigation, but no criminal suits. Fremont and Oakland’s Wiley W. Manuel will be misdemeanor courthouses, while the Rene C. Davidson courthouse, also in Oakland, will be for felony trials.

Traffic cases will be heard in Berkeley, Hayward, Oakland and Dublin.

And so now, ECHOJ will hear felony and traffic cases. The first juries are set to be called by early August, said Donna Linton, who served as the superior court’s representative on the ECHOJ project team.

The lease for the former Pleasanton courthouse, the Gale-Schemone Hall of Justice — which began in 1987 and cost nearly $1 million a year — will be terminated by the end of October, allowing for move-out time. Cost-cutting measures aside, moving out of this location is a welcome relief for court officials and neighbors of the rented courthouse at 5672 Stoneridge Drive, considering that the courtrooms were situated in the midst of a business park.

“For one thing, the building is not designed to be a courthouse,” Finke said. “It’s certainly not designed to be a high-volume courthouse.”

The building’s landlord and other tenants also had expressed concerns about sharing the space with in-custody defendants, according to Finke.

He said residents of East County would benefit too by having “a new, modern building where they can deal with their traffic tickets.”

The final product is the culmination of a prolonged, arduous process. The idea was first conceived in the mid-90s, in response to the growing population of east Alameda County and to the opening of the Santa Rita Jail in 1989.

“The seat of the justice system was coming into bigger stuff,” Finke said. “So I think having a modern courthouse is always that happy to be there,” she said. “They’re just running the buses to Oakland.”

Presiding Judge Jacobson agrees that it would be good for Oakland residents to have their arraignments held in Oakland. But, in line with state law, it’s most important to have inmates arraigned as close to their detention center as possible. Two or three times a week, Jacobson said, something happens in-transit from Dublin to Oakland that delays arraignment proceedings and leads to overtime costs.

Additionally, one of the main problems he sees is that the local Oakland jail — the Glenn E. Dyer Detention Facility — takes in a lot of local inmates, instead housing mostly federal detainees. If more space were available there, he said, then local inmates wouldn’t be held at Santa Rita, but rather in Oakland, where they could be arraigned at the Wiley W. Manuel courthouse a block away.

Time will tell how the new courthouse, which has been in use only a month since opening the week of June 26, will truly function and the impact it will have on those who frequent it.

“A lot of the people who walk in the courthouse doors are not always that happy to be there,” Finke said. “So I think having a nice, new, modern, well-designed space for them to be in — maybe it will help them.”

**Judge Jacob Blea III has settled into his new chambers at ECHOJ.**

**Judge Michael Gaffey is the supervising judge at the new courthouse.**

For years, Pleasanton hosted courts in the Gale-Schemone Hall of Justice, a leased two-story office building on Stoneridge Drive. Court officials moved out in June, and their lease in Pleasanton officially ends in October. (Photo by Jeremy Walsh)
Legends and award-winning productions are all headed to the Firehouse Arts Center for the 2017-18 season, its eighth.

Firehouse supervisor Rob Vogt said it is a “season of firsts” for the theater:
• First Country Music Association Hall of Famer — Lacy J. Dalton
• First non-musical by Firehouse’s professional Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre — “Noises Off”
• First ventriloquist — Kevin Johnson of “America’s Got Talent” and “Late Show with David Letterman” fame
• First female guitarist on Rolling Stone’s list of “Guitar Gods” — Kaki King
• First male Fado concert — world-renowned Antonio Zambrano with his entire band from Portugal

Vogt also noted that the upcoming season includes a number of other top-notch performers he has been chasing for ages and has finally snagged.

T Sisters, a sassy folk group from Oakland, kicks off the season at 8 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 2. The three-sister band has “great energy, great songs, and amazing sibling harmonies,” said recreation coordinator Mark Duncanson, who helped facilitate their appearance after attending a recent CD-release party.

On Sept. 9, “Party with the Riccardis” is a cabaret and comedy show that has had more than 12 million views on YouTube. Also September will see Pleasanton Civic Arts Theater’s production of “James & The Giant Peach Jr.” and a “Heart by Heart” tribute concert with original Heart band members Sept. 29-30.

Country music legend Lacy J. Dalton hits the stage Oct. 8. “Lacy is just a real coup for us,” Vogt said, “plus she is our first CMA Hall of Famer, just inducted this March.”

“Every Season 8, Rob has really out-done himself, grabbing loads of new (and returning) top-tier performers and productions, with something for literally every audience,” Firehouse publicist Jane Onojafe said. “Returning special-mentions have to include the flamboyant We Banjo 3 from last season, the Special Consensus with their superb bluegrass, and of course the inimitable, irascible Will Durst and gang with their 25th anniversary ‘Big Fat Year End Kiss Off!’”

October shows also include “Godzilla Theater” ventriloquist Kevin Johnson on Oct. 13; DLUX Puppet Theater’s “Alice in Wonderland,” a magical life-sized puppetry production Oct. 20-21; and Broadway dynamo Franc D’Ambrosio’s long-anticipated return Oct. 22.

The new season includes tributes in its “firsts,” including Fleetwood Mask, endorsed by Mick Fleetwood himself; “This One’s for You” Barry Manilow tribute in the award-winning Firehouse Cabaret Series; and Forejour, celebrating the ’80s mega bands Foreigner and Journey.

Dec. 3 is Scottish fiddler Alasdair Fraser and cellist Natalie Haas.

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“I have been working with Alasdair’s agent for years to see if we could get him on the Firehouse stage, and we finally made it happen this season,” Vogt said.

Holiday shows include “December People” on Dec. 15-16, with tunes of the season in the style of the great rock ‘n’ roll anthems, including light shows. Performances benefit local food banks.

Firehouse’s professional theater company, Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre, has signed up for two rousing musicals, “42nd Street” and “Rock of Ages,” in addition to its first non-musical, “Noises Off,” a Tony Award-winning farce.

Civic Arts Stage Company, the city’s youth theater program, in collaboration with Bay Area Children’s Theatre will present “James and the Giant Peach Jr.” in September, plus “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” in December and “The Music Man Jr.” in March.

Creatures of Impulse, Pleasanton’s teen improv troupe, celebrates its 10th anniversary season all year, bringing back teaching artists and musicians who have been influential, plus a full slate of new programming and guests.

And HSMC (High School Music Collaborative), now in its second season, will present a thrilling concert, collaborating with Grammy Award-winning “kid-hop” artist Secret Agent 23 Skidoo. HSMC teens also will hit the Hyde Street
Zydeco concert to benefit fifth-grade music

Instrumental program costs $150,000 per year

By Dolores Fox Ciarrelli

When Pleasanton resident Alex Watson was looking for a worthy cause, his love of music inspired him.

Months later, his efforts are coming to fruition — a concert by Black Cat Carrier & the Ro’ Doggs at the Firehouse Arts Center next week to benefit the fifth-grade instrumental music program in the Pleasanton Unified School District.

“Most of these school music programs are not funded,” said Watson, an associate realtor with Keller Williams Realty. A Pleasanton Schools Education Enrichment (PSEE) Foundation endowment funds half of the $150,000 needed each year for the fifth-grade program but the rest must be raised, Watson explained.

“This leaves a big burden to the nonprofit,” he recalled realizing — so he stepped in.

The school district put Watson in touch with Mark Aubel, a music teacher at Amador Valley High School.

“He was the guy working with the nonprofit that has this huge challenge of raising $75,000 every year,” Watson said.

Watson has the skill set to do fundraisers, he noted, after years with Livermore Rotary and Keller Williams, which encourages projects that give back to the community.

“When I told our agents about this project, we all kicked in money so we could pay for all of the expenses of the concert — they were paid by all 17 agents,” Watson said. “Every ticket sold will go directly to the school.”

He raved about the five-piece band, Dwight “Black Cat” Carrier & the Ro’ Doggs.

“They play zydeco music, a type of blues that involves blues and rhythm and blues,” Watson said. “Put them together and you have music where you can’t stay in your seat.”

He said he hopes to raise $5,000 with this endeavor but plans to make it an annual event that will eventually earn $15,000 to make sure the band and strings program continues in Pleasanton fifth grades.

“Introducing students to music in elementary school is critical to maintaining the strong music departments that exist in the middle and high schools,” Aubel said. “In addition to the joy of creating and experiencing music, students learn team work, discipline and leadership.”

“Additionally, there is a strong proven linkage between student academic performance and participation in the study of music.”

Amador grad in classical-fusion duo

Montreal’s Duo Lémonart — guitarist Gabriel Hotier and violinist Julia Reddy — will bring fresh arrangements of their modern classical-fusion ensemble to the Firehouse Arts Center Theater at 2 p.m. Aug. 6. Reddy, an Amador Valley High grad, was also busy in the Tri-Valley this summer, directing Pleasanton’s first brass and strings music camps at the Firehouse. Her sisters, Emma and Chloé, have been involved with the city’s teen improv troupe, Creatures of Impulse. This will be the final show of Duo Lémonart’s 2017 season, which included other performances around California as well as in Quebec and France. Tickets are $12; students, $8. Go to www.firehousearts.org.

The regular Firehouse season will wrap up May 20 with the James Hunter Six, fronted by Grammy-nominee and blues chart-topper James Hunter, the British soul powerhouse with a fan-base on both sides of the Atlantic.

The full schedule for Season 8, plus ticket and membership information, is available at www.firehousearts.org, by calling 931-4848, and at the Firehouse Arts Center box office, 4444 Railroad Ave.

Brochures also will be at tonight’s Concert in the Park, which is sponsored by the Firehouse and features Crawdad Republic, performing bluegrass/folk.
Golf tourney raises $93,000+ for Hope Hospice

Inaugural Toll Brothers fundraiser more than triples initial goal

BY JEREMY WALSH

Tri-Valley nonprofit Hope Hospice recently received $93,747 thanks to an inaugural golf tournament fundraiser organized by home developer Toll Brothers Northern California Division.

Drawing over 180 golfers to Castlewood Country Club in May, the Toll Brothers tournament more than tripled its original fundraising goal of $30,000. Hope Hospice officials said in announcing the donation total last week.

“Thank you to Toll Brothers for their generosity and hard work in putting on an event of this size,” Hope Hospice CEO Bob Boehm said. “This amazing donation makes it possible for us to carry out our mission to provide quality care, comfort and compassion to patients and their families at life’s end.”

Key fundraising during the tournament came from sponsorships, donations and a silent auction, according to Hope Hospice officials.

“We could not have done this without our great sponsors who helped us exceed our goal,” said Toll Brothers’ Deny Bart, who organized the event. “Hope Hospice’s staff members are angels dedicated to helping patients and their loved ones live each day to the fullest by providing compassionate care and helping them navigate their way through the end of life with dignity.”

In addition to Bart, the Toll Brothers committee organizing the golf tournament included Andrew Gunson, Joel McMillan, Brian Therrin and Dan Masterson.

Based in Dublin, Hope Hospice is a community-led nonprofit that provides personalized end-of-life care to families in the Tri-Valley and surrounding communities, including hospice and home health care, bereavement and community education. It offers services regardless of insurance, income status or nation of origin or religion.

For more information, visit www.HopeHospice.com or call 829-8770.

Aces ready to represent Tri-Valley in World Series

Livermore hosts Little League Intermediate Division showcase starting Sunday

Getting to any level of Little League World Series action takes a special group of players and coaches.

To make it to three straight World Series tournaments is an incredible accomplishment, and perhaps a little far-fetched. But that’s right where the Danville Little League Intermediate All-Stars (better known as the Danville Aces) have found themselves.

The local team captured the District 57 title again this year, and with nearby Livermore hosting the Little League Intermediate World Series, Danville will make its third trip in a row to the series as the host district’s representative.

The tournament starts this Sunday and runs through Aug. 6 at Max Baer Park in Livermore.

Both the United States Championship and the International Championship, as well as the World Series Championship game on Aug. 6, will be telecast on ESPN. Danville opens play on July 30 at 6 p.m. against the East representative from the United States.

The players have changed each year — each team has aged out — but the coaching staff has stayed the same. That gives Danville, if not an edge, at least a step-up on most other teams.

“I do think it is easier as a coach,” Danville skipper Jim Grant said. “Heading in, you know what kind of team you need to get there, and then when you are there, you have a better idea how to prepare them.”

The Aces did have an easier road to the tournament by just having to win their district tournament — a fact they readily admit — and it’s something Grant and his coaches reinforce with their team.

“It’s a very difficult thing for the kids to understand,” Grant said. “They think they are good because they qualified, but they don’t get that it’s one district against teams that have qualified from regions, states or countries. The best pitcher we have faced so far would probably be the worst pitcher for these teams.”

That doesn’t mean Danville can’t compete. In 2015, the team lost 8-7 to the East representative from New York in the first game, then came back with a 10-8 win the Central representative from Minnesota in their second game. Their tournament ended with another one-run loss to New York, but the appearance set the stage for the next year.

Danville came out and won its first two games last year, getting one step from the U.S. Championship game before falling to a team from Florida and then to the eventual World Series winners from Hawaii.

The coaches have stored away the lessons from their first two trips and have imparted their wisdom to this year’s team.

“They think they are good because they qualified,” Grant said, “and if we score seven runs, we deserve to win.”

Instead of changing their approach because the stakes have increased, Grant and his staff keep it simple.

“There are four basic things we tell the kids,” he said. “Throw strikes, play catch, have a good mental approach at the plate and run the bases. Our deal is to score one run per inning and if we score seven runs, we deserve to win.”

What making the tournament for three straight years has done is galvanize the Danville community in supporting the team.

“The kids and the community are getting a chance to see what the experience is all about,” Grant said. “We have five families where little brothers of former players are now playing with us.”


Dolphins repeat as league champs

Pleasanton Valley swimmers shatter 3 records at final meet

The Pleasanton Valley Club Dolphins captured their third straight Valley Swim League championship meet title last weekend, breaking three league records in the process.

The Dolphins’ 9-10-year-old boys 100-yard medley relay team set a new best mark with a time of 1:12.17.

The 11-12 girls 200 freestyle relay team of Nora Dooley, Sarah Baer, Marta Wilbrink and Alyssa Ottaway smashed the league record with their time of 2:01.45.

And in the 11-12 girls freestyle individual race, Franny Hawkins set a new league best touching in at 27.98.

The Valley Swim League is comprised of local swim clubs from Pleasanton, Livermore and San Ramon.

— Jeremy Walsh
**Entertainment**

**CONCERTS IN THE PARK** Crawdad Republic will play music from the folk and bluegrass genres tonight at Lions Wayside Park from 7-8:30 p.m. for this week’s Concert in the Park presented by the Pleasanton Downtown Association.

‘5, 6, 7, 8 ...’ THE GOLDEN FOLLIES 2017! The Golden Follies variety show returns for the sixth year in a row to the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton with two big matinees at 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. The sparkling Las Vegas-style dance revue features a large 25-member cast of seasoned performers ages 55-90 from all over Northern California. “5, 6, 7, 8...The Golden Follies 2017!” does not disappoint, with the trademark lavish costumes, high energy delivery, stylish choreography and radiant smiles.

**SUMMER MUSIC SERIES** Wombo Combo is set for a jazz performance Saturday at 4 p.m. as the San Francisco Premium Outlets in Livermore hosts its Summer Music Series. The summer event features a lineup of regional talent sponsored by Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center for nine performances throughout the summer.

**Talks & Lessons**

**KURUKULA EMPOWERMENT AND SELF-DEFENSE** Tonight at 6 p.m., Kurukula is holding Empowerment and Self-Defense for girls ages 10 to adult women in Pleasanton, specializing in build healthy relationships with peers (mean girls), dating and sexual assault prevention in the East Bay. Offers girls only classes or moms and girls together or adult women alone. Visit the full schedule at www.kurukula.org.

**Community Groups**

**AL-ANON AND ALATEEN** Have you been affected by someone’s drinking? Al-Anon and Alateen offer hope and strength for families and friends of problem drinkers. Contact 277-7661 or help@AlanonTriValley.org. Go to www.alanonTriValley.org.

**PLEASANTON LIONS CLUB** The Pleasanton Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at Inklings, 530 Main St. For more information, visit pleasantonlionsclub.org. Dinner available for $10 Inklings, 530 Main St.

**STEPPING STONES ON YOUR GRIEF JOURNEY** The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Join us on your grief journey at 7:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday of the month, May 25-Aug. 24 at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive. Sessions open to all, regardless of religious affiliation. Call 846-8708.

**PLEASANTON NEWCOMERS CLUB** Meet your Tri-Valley neighbors, have fun and learn more about our beautiful community. Open to new and established residents of the Tri-Valley. Activities include monthly coffees and lunches, day trips, games, book club, wine club, shared interest groups, community service, outdoor activities such as hiking, bocce, walking, and golf. For dates and times contact 215-8405 or pnewcomers@gmail.com.

**CLUTTERLESS (CL) SELF HELP SUPPORT GROUP** ClutterLess (CL) Self Help Support Group, for people with difficulty discarding unwanted possessions, meets at 7 p.m. every Monday at The Parkview, 100 Valley Ave.
LIVERMORE

**5414 Blackbird Way**

Comes w/ 4 BR, 2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, Pvt Backyard. *Sold by Susan Burckhalter 650-837-1133* for $1,099,000.

**2454 Sycamore Way**

3 BR/2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, Blvd Lot. *Sold by Sean Leggat 847-2204* for $1,035,000.

**2950 Heather Court**

3 BR/2.5 BA with 2 Car Garage. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $1,025,000.

**2997 Heather Court**

3 BR/2.5 BA, Newer Home, 2 Car Garage. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $975,000.

**5654 Summerfield Drive**

3 BR/2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, Pvt Backyard. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $699,000.

**4038 Sunnyside Drive**

4 BD/2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, Pvt Backyard. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $695,000.

**3333 Old Mill Drive**

3 BD/2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, Pvt Backyard. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $595,000.

**4183 Larkspur Drive**

3 BD/2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, Pvt Backyard. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $635,000.

**3161 Sycamore Court**

3 BD/2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, Pvt Backyard. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $625,000.

**2725 Blackbird Way**

3 BD/2 BA, 2 Car Garage, Pvt Backyard. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $600,000.

**4136 Sycamore Court**

3 BD/2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, Pvt Backyard. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $520,000.

**4114 Sycamore Court**

3 BD/2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, Pvt Backyard. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $580,000.

**4120 Sycamore Court**

3 BD/2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, Pvt Backyard. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $575,000.

**3458 Sycamore Court**

3 BD/2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, Pvt Backyard. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $575,000.

**4125 Sycamore Court**

3 BD/2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, Pvt Backyard. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $565,000.

**3444 Sycamore Court**

3 BD/2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, Pvt Backyard. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $565,000.

**4130 Sycamore Court**

3 BD/2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, Pvt Backyard. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $560,000.

**3450 Sycamore Court**

3 BD/2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, Pvt Backyard. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $550,000.

**3448 Sycamore Court**

3 BD/2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, Pvt Backyard. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $550,000.

**3446 Sycamore Court**

3 BD/2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, Pvt Backyard. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $550,000.

**3442 Sycamore Court**

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**3438 Sycamore Court**

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**3434 Sycamore Court**

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**3430 Sycamore Court**

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**3426 Sycamore Court**

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**3422 Sycamore Court**

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**3418 Sycamore Court**

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**3414 Sycamore Court**

3 BD/2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, Pvt Backyard. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $550,000.

**3410 Sycamore Court**

3 BD/2.5 BA, 2 Car Garage, Pvt Backyard. *Sold by Traci van der Molen 415-707-9046* for $550,000.
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Appliances. Large windows open to lovely park-island and gleaming granite counters, and stainless-steel home has it all including updated interior with Brazilian Laguna Oaks-Resort Style Living. This gorgeous executive 2784 Lylewood Dr.

This stylish turnkey home is ready for you to move right in! Brand new roof and gutters, new landscaping, new flooring, new carpet, fresh interior & exterior paint and design finishes throughout. Everything was thoughtfully designed and taken care of so you don’t have to stress!

2784 Lylewood Dr. – Pleasanton $1,830,000

This gorgeous home has it all! Updated and ready to move in with extended kitchen including large island, stainless appliances, and park-like yard view! Approx. 2,100 sq. ft. on .9,100 sq. ft. lot with side yard access, a cozy fireplace in the living room and formal dining room that opens to sliding door garden. The home has a large balcony off the master bedroom with views of the ridge. It’s close to shopping, schools, BART & the freeway—a must see!

4909 Forest Hill – Pleasanton $1,266,000

This gorgeous home has it all! Updated and ready to move in with extended kitchen including large island, stainless appliances, and park-like yard view! Approx. 2,100 sq. ft. on .9,100 sq. ft. lot with side yard access, a cozy fireplace in the living room and formal dining room that opens to sliding door garden. The home has a large balcony off the master bedroom with views of the ridge. It’s close to shopping, schools, BART & the freeway—a must see!

2787 San Minette Dr. – Livermore $1,149,990

This move-in ready, single-story home is located in the desirable South Livermore Vinasio neighborhood surrounded by vineyards and in the preferred school district with 4 bedrooms, 3 full bath at approx. 2,900 sq. ft.

3565 Rimini Lane – Dublin $1,070,990

This home is in the Sorrento at Dublin Ranch neighborhood on a corner lot location for privacy and abundant windows for natural light. It has modern kitchen feature upgrades, wood flooring throughout, luxurious & spacious master bedroom suite with upgraded elements, an oversized living room wired for surround sound & recessed lighting & fireplace and low maintenance yard & patio. Neighborhood grounds feature clubhouse, gym, pool, spa and park!

3244 Flemington Ct. – Pleasanton $1,074,900

Pleasanton Meadows Court location. 4 bedroom 3 bath-townhome with 4 bedrooms, 3 full bath at approx. 2,900 sq. ft.

Are you looking for new career opportunities in Real Estate?

At Better Homes & Gardens Real Estate Tri-Valley Realty, we want to invest in YOU. We are committed to providing you with training, direction and wide array of company resources to support you in helping your clients buy and sell a home. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Jennifer Branchini, Manager, at 925-463-6113 or at jennifer.branchini@bhgtrivalley.com.
5682 SUNSET CREEK CT., PLEASANTON

Beautiful Custom Home Built in 2008 with Guest Court Location! Located Adjacent to Desirable Bridle Creek and Sunnyslope Heights Neighborhoods. This 5 Bedroom, 5 Bathroom Home includes a Private Office and Game Room Area and is Approximately 3,500 Square Feet. This Half-acre (.46) Lot Includes a newer in-ground Pool and Spa, Large Covered Patio, Outdoor Kitchen Entertainment Area, Fire Pit and Beautiful Landscaping. Enjoy Views of The Surrounding Hills and Pleasanton Ridge from the Front and Rear Grounds, as well as From inside the House and Multiple Balconies. Upstairs and Downstairs Master Suites. This Desirable Location is Sought After, Minutes to Bart Station, Shopping, Schools, and Walking Distance to Downtown Pleasanton. For More Information and Photos go to 5682sunsetcreek.com. For a Private Showing Call the Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group.

OFFERED AT $2,395,000

5853 LAS LOMITAS DRIVE, PLEASANTON

Rare Opportunity to Purchase a New Single Level Custom Home in Downtown Pleasanton! This is What Everyone Has Been Asking For. One of the Last, If Not the Last New Construction in Downtown Pleasanton. This 5 Bedroom, 3 ½ Bathroom, 2,800 Square Feet Home is Perfect for Farmhouse Designer Finishes Throughout. Fully Loaded with Custom Lighting, Ring Doorbell, Whole House Water Filtration, and More. For More Information and Photos go to 5853laslomitas.com and for a Private Showing call the Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group.

SOLD AT $1,650,000

1234 HEARST DRIVE, PLEASANTON


SOLD AT $1,569,500

1557 MAPLE LEAF DRIVE, PLEASANTON


SOLD AT $1,550,000

8525 LUPINE COURT, PLEASANTON

Rare Opportunity for Serenity! All the Conveniences of City Living while Immersed in Nature! Beautiful Custom Home in Golden Eagle with Stunning Panoramic Views of the Valley. Surrounding Hills and Ridgetops from Every Window! Enjoy an Approximately 1.5 Acre Wooded Lot with Exceptional Privacy! Convenient Access to Downtown and to Silicon Valley via 680 from this Exclusive Gated Community with Pool, Tennis Courts, Generous Open Space and Direct Access to East Bay Regional Parkland. This 4 Bedroom, 4½ Bath Home is in Excellent Condition and Has Many Upgrades including a Completely Remodeled Large Gourmet Kitchen. Included is a 4 Car Plus Garage, Expansive Driveway for Guest Parking and Privacy to Award Winning Schools. For a Private Showing Contact the Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group. For More Information or Photos go to 8525lupine.com.

OFFERED AT $1,500,000

424 JUNIPERO STREET, PLEASANTON

Single Level Rancher in Mission Hills. Four Bedroom, 2 Bathroom in Excellent Location Near Downtown. Includes Private Large Rear Yard with In-Ground Pebble Tech Swimming Pool. New Carpet & Paint, Upgraded Kitchen with Stainless Steel Appliances, Brick Fireplace, Central Air Conditioning, Awesome Neighborhood Park, Great Schools, Commute Friendly Location, Walk to Main Street and Oak Hills Shopping Center. For a Private Showing Call The Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group and For More Information Go to 424junipero.com.

SOLD AT $975,000

Experience the Difference

Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group

Professional Real Estate Services Connecting People and Property

Expertise  |  Teamwork  |  Reliability  |  Integrity  |  Satisfaction
“Tim McGuire was an excellent choice for us when looking to sell and buy a house in Pleasanton. He and his team invested a great deal of time and effort to personally meet the needs for finding our forever home. We took our time looking for the perfect home and Tim was patient and always making sure we were completely satisfied. We highly recommend “Team McGuire” because of their long history of successful realty transactions. Tim also has a great reputation and is well respected among his peers and his clients throughout the area.”

— Jeff & Lori Wreden, Pleasanton
FEATURED LISTING
4508 Mirano Court, Dublin
Offered at $939,888

NEW LISTING
285 W Adoncia Drive, Mountain House
Call For Pricing

NEW PRICE
3218 Novara Way, Ruby Hill
Offered at $2,249,000

FOR SALE
370 Oak Lane, Pleasanton
Offered at $1,799,000

FOR SALE
3839 Antonini Way, Ruby Hill
Offered at $2,899,000

Thank You For Nominating Us!

“DeAnna and Liz have cultivated a flourishing team, skillfully navigating one of the country’s most competitive real estate markets.”

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DeAnna@ArmarioHomes.com
CA BRE#01363180
ArmarioVenemaHomes.com

Liz 925.413.6544
Liz@VenemaHomes.com
CA BRE#01922957
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Luxury Living & Real Estate Specialists in the East Bay
PLEASANTON LIVERMORE DUBLIN SAN RAMON
DANVILLE BLACKHAWK ALAMO WALNUT CREEK
Support Musical Education for Your Kids

Join Us at a Benefit Concert to Raise Funds to Support Elementary Instrumental Music in Pleasanton Schools

Benefits of a Musical Education for Kids:
- It’s fun, and keeps kids engaged in school
- Stimulates many areas of the brain, improving memory, coordination and even test scores!
- Kids learn social skills, teamwork and confidence

Performance by Dwight Black Cat Carrier & The Ro Doggs (Blues Band)
Firehouse Art Center
4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton
Saturday August 5th at 7pm
$25 donation
Support a Brighter Future for your children!
PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS NOW
www.MusicForOurKids.org

SOLD
3780 MOHR AVENUE, PLEASANTON
Over 2600 sq ft, 4 bed/3 bath home. 1 bed/ 1 bath downstairs. Beautifully upgraded. Gorgeous backyard with glistening pool.

SOLD
18631 VINEYARD ROAD, CASTRO VALLEY
LOCATION! VIEWS! LOCATION! Beautiful custom remodeled 4 BD/ 2.5 BA home on over 1/2 acre in Parsons Estates. This lot is sub-dividable! Build a 2nd home! Over 1400 sq ft of deck, Private and serene. One of a kind property! Offered at $1,049,000

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Call me for a no obligation market analysis on your home!

SOLD
321 MARIE COMMON, LIVERMORE
Beautiful Townhouse. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2 car garage with 1516 sq ft of living space. Kick your feet up in the living room, dining area with a RMGI½VITPEGI7TEGMSYW kitchen with lots of storage space. Upstairs to the 3 bedrooms and newly remodeled 2 full bath. Nothing left out. Large master with walk in closet. Relax on the patio overlooking the greenbelt. Call for private showing.

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SOLD
2431 CRESTLINE ROAD, PLEASANTON
Great home in desired Birdland neighborhood. Beautifully remodeled inside out, highly sought after Heritage model, high end finishes throughout, nothing left undone, featuring hardwood floors throughout main level, all new kitchen and baths, 5 bedroom with master retreat or 6 bedroom option. Great backyard, fully landscaped with nice patio. Walking distance to Walnut Grove Elementary, Harvest Park Middle and Ken Mercer sports park.

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