

11-year-old Taylor Sirset heats up the ice

A Skating Star

Taylor Sirset, 11, competes at the 44th Annual Arrowhead Open. There she took first in the juvenile dramatic and free skate.



Taylor Sirset was given the Geneva Lichlyter Artistic Award for the most artistic free skate at the Arrowhead Open.



Her performances at the Central Pacific Regionals in Utah earned her a spot on the Central Pacific Junior National Team.

by Emily Atwood

“I like competing because I like to feel the pressure and like to feel nervous,” Taylor Sirset said.

The 11-year-old figure skater, who hails from Pleasanton, competed in the Central Pacific Regionals in Bountiful, Utah in October. After placing second in qualifying rounds, she was one of four girls to earn a spot on the Central Pacific Junior National Team. Her mother, Teri, said she “skated her heart out” to place third in the region.

Competing in Junior Nationals brought her back to Utah in late November to compete with 41 other girls who also qualified.

“I got seventh in my group and was sick,” she said. “It was fun, but I didn’t have my best skate.”

As Taylor eyes a return to the national competition next year and a top four finish, she’s working on her triple Salchow, triple loop, double axle, Beilman and donuts. While she likes all of her tricks, her favorite move is the spiral because “people go ‘wow!’ when I do it.”

“I like jumping because I like the feeling when I go in the air,” she said. “[Skating] makes me feel like I’m flying. It’s just a lot of fun, something that I love to do and it’s a part of me.”

She has now moved up to the intermediate level and is also working on choreographing two new programs.

Her love of skating began early, as she has been skating since she was 4 years old. Near her old house in Palos Verdes, Calif., Taylor recalls seeing an ice rink in the mall while shopping when she was little.

“I saw the ice rink and I fell in love with it,” she said.

Teri Sirset said while Taylor has tried ballet and soccer, skating is deeply seeded in her. Even the coach of Sascha Cohen, Olympic silver medalist, said he hadn’t seen a child with so much passion, drive and determination in a long time.

That fated trip to the mall has now led the rising skating star to practicing four hours a day, six days a week. That’s just ice time, her mother said,

adding that there’s still other conditioning involved. Taylor has several early morning practices, some of which are at Sharks Ice in Fremont and some are in Orange County with Olympic medalists for coaches.

Her sister Teagan, 9, also skates and plans to begin competing soon. The traveling means the girls are under independent study. While she enjoys it, Taylor says she does miss seeing her friends at school.

Even with all the traveling, she said she enjoys calling Pleasanton home. She loves its historical character, shopping downtown and the nearby vineyards.

“It’s a quaint little town that’s not very big,” she said. “Everybody is really nice and friendly.”

When she’s not skating, the straight-A student is hitting the sixth-grade school books, playing with her sister and friends, and playing with her three dogs. She also enjoys painting, drawing and designing outfits, knitting and sewing.

Taylor was also recently invited to do a charity fundraiser called Project Joy Skateathon. While she was unable to go because it interfered with Nationals, she said that community work is something else she likes to fill her free time with.

Teri Sirset said she never expected to be spending the majority of her time at the ice rink, it just happened.

“Taylor’s a really great kid,” she said. “She’s always wanting to help people. She has a big heart.”

Adding that the sport can be tough with jealousies and the fierce competition, Teri Sirset said that the sport may be beautiful, but it can be vicious. The Sirset family keeps at it, because as they seem to agree, skating is a part of Taylor. ■

“I like jumping because I like the feeling when I go in the air. [Skating] makes me feel like I’m flying. It’s just a lot of fun, something that I love to do and it’s a part of me.”

—Taylor Sirset



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Now Showing

The Golden Compass

★★★

Rating: PG-13 for fantasy violence and intensity.
 1 hour, 57 minutes.

New Line Cinema is betting the bank on this ambitious franchise based on Philip Pullman's fanciful novels ("His Dark Materials") that will turn trilogy quicker than you can say "Lord of the Rings." But the comparison ends there.

The action centers on precocious Lyra Belacqua (Dakota Blue Richards), the 12-year-old niece of handsome adventurer Lord Asriel (Daniel Craig), who has been secretly gifted with the sixth golden compass.

The compass is a magical Alethiometer, a truth compass that reads the past and future with startling accuracy. Lyra's mission is clear—sort of. She's the youthful voice of reason straddling a rational scientific field and that of the oppressive Magisterium, an evil hierarchal order intent on claiming young souls.

Determined to rescue a missing friend, Lyra sets out for an Arctic universe. Mixed into notions of Ice Bear Kingdoms and child-stealing Gobblers are whispers of Lord Asriel's discovery of a special golden dust that may provide a supernatural connection between analogous worlds.

No one can be trusted in what ultimately becomes an imaginative cat-and-mouse game, or so it appears.

Nicole Kidman is deliciously ghoulish—yet utterly radiant—as the mysterious Mrs. Coulter, who may or may not have Lyra's best interests at heart. Stately master bear lorek's (voice of Ian McKellan, natch) loyalties, however, are crystal clear; he has Lyra's back and is one of a myriad of talking animals that include entertaining, shape-shifting alter egos known as daemons.



It sounds complex, and it is: stuffed to the gills with metaphysical concepts and myriads of witches and hobgoblins that are introduced but spend long stretches off-screen, most notably Eva Green as the sorceress Serafina.

The furious debate over the film's religious undertones, or lack thereof, is gaining steam. In early October the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights launched a boycott of the film, accusing it of "selling atheism to kids." Secularists complain that the movie soft-sells Pullman's religious critique. "The Chronicles of Narnia" redux.

The bluescreen tech is commendable, as are the compass graphics and my personal favorite, the Spy Fly: a golden cousin to the spindly super-spiders of "Minority Report." An icy bear war between lorek and the North's bear king is particularly thrilling.

Fortunately, it isn't all about the effects. Craig, Kidman and Richards deliver affecting performances that lend heft and humanity to the overriding whimsy.

But "Compass" has that slick, packaged feeling, a calculating aura that screams bottom line. The folks at New Line needn't worry; this one's destined to be a cash cow.

—Jeanne Aufmuth

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Handmade holiday

Crafty student shares her secrets to creating unique gifts

by Katie Lyness

For the holidays, kids want to give gifts but often don't know what to get. So they make things. That is what I like to do when it is time to give a gift and I'm not sure what to give. Giving a handmade gift to someone is a good way to show the person you care a lot about them because you spent part of your life doing something nice for them. When you take time and effort to make something for someone they appreciate it much more because you're not just using your money on them. (Not that there's anything wrong with just spending money.) There are lots of different kinds of gifts I like to make.

Some are just decorative, like Christmas tree ornaments. I am making those for some families in my neighborhood and for some of my friends. Handmade Christmas tree ornaments make great gifts because they get re-used every single year until they break, but if they are sturdily made (I use glass beads and wire because they are not fragile), they'll never break and will get reused forever! Or at least for as long as the person I make them for has a Christmas tree. I am Jewish and don't celebrate Christmas but when I help people set up their trees and put ornaments on it, I love coming across past ornaments I made for them. It makes me feel good to see they are still being used.

Other handmade gifts are not just decorative, but really useful, too. For example, I'm making some watches to give as gifts, because it helps people to be on time for wherever they have to be if they can look down at their wrist at any moment of the day and know what time it is. I don't actually make the watch itself. I just make a band with several



Katie Lyness uses beads and .7 millimeter elastic cord to make watches as holiday gifts. This is just one of many handmade holiday gift ideas that she shared.

rows of glass beads, and weave a watch face right into it with .7 millimeter elastic cord. I am also making some beaded eyeglass cords to give as gifts. These are useful, too, because they keep people from losing or misplacing their reading glasses or sunglasses. Useful items are great because people think about you in a nice

way when they use them.

My favorite gifts to make, and the ones which are the most useful of all, are glow in the dark safety collars for dogs and cats. I make these with glow in the dark beads and glow in the dark lanyard, or with bandanas and

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Ready to Rent

Halloween

The Weinstein Company DVD
2 hours, 1 minute
Director: Rob Zombie

Who could have thought that director/performer Rob Zombie, the man who practically owes his career to lovingly annoying '90s icons "Beavis and Butthead," would become not only a movie director one day, but a talent that may even be embraced as one to be reckoned with, and who raised the art of what's considered trash to ,ber-trash. It is his remake of "Halloween" that I'm referring to which takes the original John Carpenter movie, which has such an intense cult following to the point of mania, and filters it through Zombie's own '70s horror-fueled brain whose been feasting on exploitation movies of one kind or another for the last thirty years. What comes out is a type of nightmarish carnival ride that Ray Bradbury may have written about; whose Midwestern iconography of October shadows, distorted physiognomies and ritualized violence and pathos stays with you long after its all-too-familiar plot has been digested.

What is interesting and somewhat comforting about Zombie (a.k.a. Robert Cummings) is his love for an era that has long passed into American folklore. His are the adolescent sentiments of the '50s, '60s and '70s, when monster and sci-fi movies looked back further still to the movies thirties and forties and influenced generations of kids (especially boys--naturally) up until the early '70s. Zombie (along with Carpenter in his original) infuses them all into "Halloween" so as you feel the layers of the decades all surfacing within the movie, and its style is almost mesmerizing to both the audience and even the characters. It's so that one point there may be a killer behind

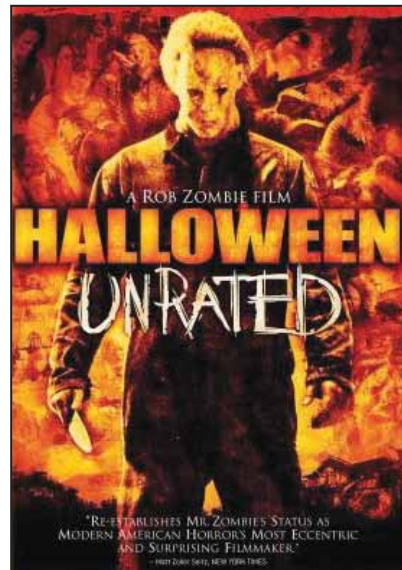
a possible victim, but like director Zombie, he's too entranced by Bela Lugosi's eyes from 1931's "White Zombie" which flickers on the TV in order to register danger.

If you haven't seen the original, or its legions of rip-offs from around the world, I admire your monk-ish zeal. "Halloween" takes place in Haddonfield, Ill. in what looks like the '70s or early '80s where young Michael Myers festers with the pain of an unbearable family life which is causing some unnerving behavior. Finally, on Halloween, he adorns a ghoulish mask (it's actually a William Shatner mask turned inside out) and lashes out, killing a school bully and continuing with his drunken step-father and abusive sister. This leads him to immediate incarceration and into the care of Dr. Loomis (the much underrated Malcolm McDowell) who watches Michael change throughout the years from a tortured teen to a hulking "shape" whose only motivations are escape for a warped family reunion.

My thoughts when I heard that Zombie was remaking "Halloween" were (and I'm paraphrasing) "that's stupid" and "leave well enough alone." I take those things back, however, because what makes Zombie's "Halloween" so successful is the ardor of the director himself. He takes what has now become almost embarrassingly passé, the faceless killer and the screaming teenager, and has made something spookily refreshing.

We know what is going to happen, but it's how we get there, with Zombie adding a strange sense of tragedy to the movie of how a boy becomes a monster, that hooks us. Think what you will, I say "Halloween" is Zombie's major step towards expressing a sincere passion for the American Grand Guignol.

—Joe Ramirez



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Handmade

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glow in the dark fabric paint. I know a lot of dogs and cats, and I love to make and give these collars as gifts for them because the collars help keep them visible in the dark.

There are many reasons why I like to make gifts for people. It is not because I don't have to spend much money on a handmade gift (but of course that is a positive thing about handmade gifts for people on a budget who can't spend much money).

I like to make handmade gifts because no one likes to receive doubles of the same gift. Since handmade gifts are one-of-a-kind, making a gift instead of buying one is the only way I can be absolutely sure the person I'm giving the gift to doesn't already have it.

Finally, I like to make gifts because they keep me busy and are directly from my heart. Expensive gifts can be good to receive, but it really shouldn't matter about how much money a gift costs. Any gift that takes lots of effort and time and thought is a valuable gift.

Katie Lyness is a youth contributor who makes her own crafts along with her mom and sister. The Weekly asked her to share her ideas and process in time for holiday gift-giving.

"Negative stories about real estate often miss the mark"

On April 12, there was an article in the Wall Street Journal entitled, "Hot Homes Get Cold,"

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Hope Hospice

As part of a new partnership with Valley Humane Society, Valley Humane staff provides volunteers to visit a patient's home to help care for their pet. The pets have proven to be a source of needed therapy for patients. Here, Jennie Olivero (left) and Socorro Peebles (right) from Hope Hospice assist patient Chuck Stockley and his dog Todi.

Helping those in their final days

Hope Hospice provides quality end-of-life care, bereavement support for families

by Janet Pelletier

When it becomes evident that a person's days on this earth are numbered, a range of emotions come into play—shock, anger and sadness. And when both the people facing that fate as well as their family members prepare for it, they can turn to an outside source for loving care and support.

In the Tri-Valley area, that support system has long been Hope Hospice in Dublin. Operating since 1980, Hope Hospice provides end-of-life care and bereavement support. It is one of the only organizations of this type in the East Bay area. They are a helping hand and a concerned friend and that so many families desperately need when they are at the end of their ropes.

In fiscal year 2006-07, the nonprofit served more than 379 patients and a total of 820 people when including family members, according to Carol Chalberg, director of development for Hope Hospice.

A lot of the services Hope Hospice provides to the public wouldn't be possible without a wealth of volunteers, who lend a hand when there's either no time or resources.

"We have many different kinds of volunteers," Chalberg said. "We have bereavement volunteers, volunteers that go out with the patients, and then we have special in-office volunteers and special event volunteers. You really rely on volun-

teers to fill the spaces that cannot be filled in any other way."

The nonprofit also has 40 paid part time and full time staff members.

Not everyone can afford hospice care, and Hope Hospice will not turn a patient away because of that.

"You'd be surprised how many people in this economy are struggling," Chalberg said. "Why we need funds as an organiza-

tion is because Medicare, Medi-Cal and most third-party insurances cover for our patients, but there are instances when people don't have insurance and also when it doesn't cover, then we provide for most of the needs for the health care without charge."

Hospice care, often called comfort care or palliative care, is provided in the patient's home setting so that they can live their life as fully as possible—with dignity and surrounded by loved ones. The patient and the family receive support and education from the a Hope Hospice team (doctor, nurse, home health aide, social worker, chaplain and homecare volunteer) to help them face the challenges that lied ahead. Working with the patient's doctor, the team develops a personal plan of care. Throughout their care, the patient remains in control of their personal health care decisions. As

Money donated to the Holiday Fund will help Hope Hospice pay for its hospice care and bereavement support program.

patient and the family receive support and education from the a Hope Hospice team (doctor, nurse, home health aide, social worker, chaplain and homecare volunteer) to help them face the challenges that lied ahead. Working with the patient's doctor, the team develops a personal plan of care. Throughout their care, the patient remains in control of their personal health care decisions. As

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How to Give

Your gift helps seniors, children and others in need

Contributions to the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund will be increased by the Tri-Valley Community Foundation. For every \$1 contributed, \$2 total will be donated to these local organizations. All contributions will go directly to programs that benefit Pleasanton and Tri-Valley residents. Contributions will be distributed by the Tri-Valley Community Foundation to the eight agencies listed below. No administrative costs will be deducted from the gifts, which are tax-deductible as permitted by law.

This year, due to the tremendous need of all nonprofits, donations will be shared equally among the eight recipient agencies.

For more information call us at 600-0840 or e-mail editor@pleasantonweekly.com.

The following agencies will be supported by the Holiday Fund:

- **Axis Community Health:** Provides medical, mental health, addiction counseling and health education services to more than 20,000 patients and clients each year, regardless of their ability to pay. An estimated 70 percent have no medical insurance or are underinsured, including some that have recently lost their jobs and health benefits. Call 201-6017 or visit www.axishealth.org.

- **Emergency Room Expansion at ValleyCare Medical Center:** ValleyCare, a nonprofit health system, needs funds to expand its emergency room, built in 1991 to accommodate 13,000 patients a year and now handles more than 26,000. It will cost \$6.7 million to replace the facility and upgrade equipment, and the Holiday Fund will help get that started. For more information, contact Ken Mercer at 373-4566.

- **Hope Hospice:** Hospice care is unique because it works to not only meet the needs of those at the end of life but also supports the emotional and spiritual needs of the family as well. Hope Hospice care is provided regardless of the ability to pay and relies on contributions such as those raised by the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund. Visit www.hopehospice.com.

- **Open Heart Kitchen:** As the only nonprofit free soup kitchen in the Tri-Valley area, this service provides nutritious meals for low-income people in the Pleasanton-Livermore area at Trinity Lutheran Church in Pleasanton and Asbury United Methodist Church in Livermore. Visit www.openheartkitchen.org or call 580-1616.

- **Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation:** The PPIE is a community-based organization whose mission is to enhance learning experiences for Pleasanton students through a partnership of business, educations and the community. Its foundation offers education grants which will now benefit by Holiday Fund contributions. For information, call Debi Covello at 846-5620.

- **Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley:** This independent, nonprofit organization offers a variety of services at no cost to seniors or to their families. Programs include health maintenance, nutrition, fitness, disease prevention, partners-in-safety, in-home counseling, friendly visiting programs and nurses on staff who regularly visit clients. Call 931-5379.

- **Tri-Valley Haven:** Runs a domestic violence shelter as well as a homeless shelter for families and a rape crisis center. Its mission is to aid those who have experienced abuse and offers counseling, a legal clinic and other practical advice. Call 449-5845; 24-hour hotline: 800-884-8119 or visit www.trivalleyhaven.org.

- **Valley Humane Society:** This nonprofit group is all volunteers, with the mission to educate on responsible pet ownership. It assists in rescuing and placing abandoned or injured animals and operates an adoption center on Nevada Street in Pleasanton. It does not euthanize unless health problems dictate. Call 426-8656.

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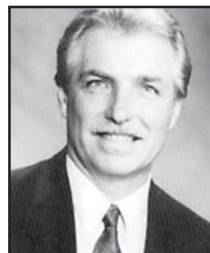
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Hope Hospice

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death nears, telephone advice and emergency is available 24 hours a day.

Hope Hospice will also support the family with funeral plans and for up to 18 months after the patient's death with bereavement support.

Chalberg said the bereavement program is not covered by Medicare or any other agencies, so Hope Hospice covers those fees

that would be passed down to the family.

To help afford these costs, Hope Hospice hosts two major golf tournaments each year—High Hopes Golf tournament for the past 13 years, and the North American Transportation Golf Tournament for the last two years.

“Other avenues we receive money through are by direct mail solicitations,” Chalberg said.

For more information about Hope Hospice, visit www.hopehospice.com. ■

The Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund

The Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund was created to provide financial support from our readers for a select group of local nonprofit organizations to help alleviate the needs that exist, despite our community's prosperity. This marks the fifth year of the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund. It provides an opportunity to aid local groups at a time when the numbers of those without jobs or with low-paying jobs and few if any health benefits have increased.

The Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund drive could not exist without the help of the Tri-Valley Community Foundation and its generous donors. This will enable us to double your donation and allow your gift of \$1 to total \$2 to the nonprofits. An added benefit: Neither the Pleasanton Weekly nor the Tri-Valley Community Foundation will take any fees or expenses for administering the fund. One hundred percent of donations go to the intended grantees.

We appreciate your support of the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund and these worthy nonprofits.

Holiday Safety Tips...

- Stay alert to your surroundings, especially in crowded areas and don't let your guard down.
- Park in well-lighted areas, close to store entrances.
- Close all windows and lock all car doors.
- Put packages in the trunk or under the seats, do not leave them in plain view.
- Never leave your purse or wallet unattended or out of your sight.
- Carry your purse close to your body and put your wallet in an inside coat or front pants pocket.
- Do not carry large amounts of cash or multiple credit cards.

By working together,
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A reminder from the Pleasanton Police Department.



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Sports

Amador JV girls top Liberty High 45-27

Lady Dons face Pittsburg tonight on home turf

The Amador Valley JV girls team traveled to Liberty High School Tuesday and came home with a big win, beating the Lions by a score of 45-27.

The Lady Dons were a bit sluggish in the first half but held a small lead of 17-12 at the end of the half. Coach Namoca had the Dons apply some full court pressure in the second half and the Dons were able to capitalize, extending their lead to

34-22 by the end of the third quarter and finally winning the game 45-27.

Every Lady Don played for Amador and contributed to the win. Britannia Bloom was high scorer for Amador with 10 points and Christine Homan and Courtney Wagner each added 7 a piece. Scarlett Dante and Ariana Flynn each had 6 points and Chelsea Luther had 4 points for the Lady Dons. Haley Douglas added 3 and Mikayla Swinkles added a bucket to round out the Dons scoring.

Amador faces Pittsburg tonight on their home court. ■

Seahawks finish in top spots in Pacifica swim meet

Breakthrough performances by local 'superstars'

by Jeb Bing

The Pleasanton Seahawks, represented by 23 swimmers, ranked second place overall in team standing at the recent Pacific Swimming Winter Junior Olympic Championship in Pacifica. It was the best result for the Seahawks for many years.

"The Seahawks achieved this feat by winning a tight battle over the third and fourth place teams—Mission San Jose Aquatics and De Anza Cupertino Aquatics—two swimming powers in Pacific Swimming," said Yi Zhang.

"Superstars" of the meet, Yi Zhang added, were Rachel Knowles, 10 and under Girls High Point champion; Andrew Seitz, 13-14 Boys High Point champion and Nick Silverthorn, 11-12 Boys Pacific Swimming record breaker in the 200 Free.

Breakthrough performances were attained by the following swimmers: Maxime Rooney, Katie Woods, Elise Cox, Bernadine Martin, Eva Chung, Brandon Chandler, Jonathon Ong (First Far Western Time), Lillian Sun (First Far Western Time), Alex Wang (First Far Western Time) and Tim McLaughlin (First Far Western Time).

Additional Far Westerns times were also attained by Kyle Lindsay, Roshni Nair, Maggie Woods, Natalie Wong and Chris Dourov.

"Danielle Stickler and Tory Houston also swam wonderfully," Zhang said. "Danielle got a New Far Westerns time and Tory Houston almost made a nationally ranked time in the 200 Breaststroke."

In addition, Iris Chang, Anthony

Shen, Bernadine Martin, Elise Cox, Mary Woods, and Eva Chung all achieved excellent results.

CCOP 8th graders suffer first loss

The Catholic Community of Pleasanton (CCOP) 8th grade girls team 8001 was defeated by SM/SC (team 8005) for their first league loss.

CCOP had a two-point lead at the half but was outscored 14-6 in the third quarter and could not generate enough offense to overcome a six point deficit.

Both teams scored 13 points in the fourth with a final score of 29-35.

The game was aggressively played by Jessica Woodruff, who commanded the boards with 16 rebounds and Ellen Freitas with eight. Nicole Torquato contributed defensively with the press. Kelly Parsons, Lauren MacDonnell and Jessica Morosoli all scored six points. Morosoli went four for four at the line. Adding to the score were Woodruff (four points), Sydney Okumura (three points), Nicole Ponzini and Lyndsay Godwin (two points).

—Dalice Godwin

Harvest Park basketball teams wins league championship

The Harvest Park Middle School seventh grade basketball team won the Tri-Valley League Championship cumulating a 13-3 season with three impressive play-off victories over Mendenhall and East Avenue middle schools of Livermore and Wells Middle School of Dublin.

All 15 players remained academically eligible throughout the season, working extra hours on homework, as well as on the court.

—Coach Patrick Greenan

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To learn more about this exciting trip, attend an **Orientation Meeting** Tuesday, December 18, 5:30 to 6:30 at the Chamber office, 777 Peters Avenue.

For more information, itinerary, and registration form, visit www.pleasanton.org and click on CHINA TRIP on the home page. Direct questions to Kate D'Or, 846-5858 ext. 203 or kate@pleasanton.org.

WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

City Council

Tuesday, December 18, 2007 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Consider an ordinance to require electronic filing of campaign statements, and review and discuss information regarding voluntary expenditure limits and contribution limits for individuals, businesses and committees to candidates or their committees

Housing Commission

Thursday, December 20, 2007 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Follow-up discussion regarding the special resident meetings held at Ridge View Commons on October 4, 2007 and at Kottinger Place on November 1, 2007
- Update regarding the Kottinger Place Redevelopment Project
- Update regarding the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application process

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Monday, December 17, 2007 @ 6:30 p.m.
Chamber Conference Room, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Goals of Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Overview

Planning Commission

- The regularly scheduled meeting of the Planning Commission on December 26, 2007 has been cancelled.

Library Commission

- The regularly scheduled meeting of the Library Commission on December 13, 2007 has been cancelled. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on January 10, 2008.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Notice of Pleasanton City Grant

Application Availability

Nonprofit, community-based organizations providing human services, youth programs and services, or promoting culture/arts.

Civic Arts, Human Services and Youth

Commissions

Welcome Applications

Application Packets will be available to the public Beginning December 5, 2007.

- Pick-up packets - Department of Parks and Community Services Main Office 200 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton
- Request packets to be mailed by calling (925) 931-5346
- Packets available through the City website: www.ci.Pleasanton.ca.us.

Application Deadline Wednesday, March 5, 2008

- Completed applications must be received by 5:00 p.m.
- No postmarks/Fax/emails.

If you have any questions regarding the City Grant process, please contact Kathleen Yurchak, Community Services Manager at (925) 931-5346

**ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
AND PUBLIC COMMENT IS WELCOME**

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

Community Pulse

Police Bulletin

Criminals targeted cars last weekend

Officer Penelope Tamm of the Pleasanton Police Department notified residents in the neighborhood watch program of various crimes that occurred over last weekend, each involving thefts from cars.

Last Friday, a catalytic converter was removed from a parked vehicle in the 5000 block of Forest Hill. A front passenger window of a vehicle parked at Sport Chalet on Rosewood Drive was smashed. A purse covered by a jacket was taken along with

other items.

On Saturday, a suspect entered two vehicles parked by Sears at Stoneridge Shopping Center and took stereo equipment. A rear passenger window of a car parked at Pleasanton Middle School was smashed. A purse, reportedly left in plain sight, and various items were taken. Police said a possible suspect is described as a Hispanic male in his 20s driving a gray Honda or Acura sedan.

There were three incidents on Hopkins Way Sunday. A rear driver's side window was smashed and computer equipment was taken. A suspect took computer equipment out of an unlocked vehicle. Another rear window was smashed and a purse and contents were taken.

Also on Sunday, on Bartlett Place, a suspect took a cell phone out of an unlocked, parked vehicle.

Police Report

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

Dec. 2

- DUI:
 - 1:34 a.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Paseo Santa Cruz
 - 2:10 a.m. at the intersection of Chabot and Stoneridge drives
- Assault:
 - 12:39 a.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Road
 - 4:22 p.m. in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

Dec. 3

- Theft:
 - 1:16 p.m. in the 3300 block of Prairie Drive; forgery
 - 1:30 p.m. in the 1000 block of Serpentine Lane; identity theft
- Vandalism:
 - 7:16 a.m. in the 5800 block of Laurel Creek Drive; worth less than \$400
 - 9:41 a.m. at the intersection of

West Las Positas Boulevard and Hopyard Road; worth less than \$400

-3:19 p.m. in the 4700 block of Wingate Drive; worth less than \$400

• Drug/alcohol violations:

-12:30 a.m. in the 200 block of Main Street; DUI
-3:05 p.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and West Las Positas Boulevard; marijuana possession

• Mental health danger:

-4:47 p.m. in the 3900 block of Stoneridge Drive

Dec. 4

- Theft:
 - 7:00 a.m. in the 400 block of Junipero Street; grand theft
 - 7:02 a.m. in the 4100 block of Morganfield Court; grand theft
 - 8:39 a.m. in the 2000 block of Palmer Drive; petty theft
 - 9:54 a.m. in the 1200 block of Quarry Lane; identity theft
 - 11:14 a.m. in the 3100 block of Lansdown Court; identity theft

-11:22 a.m. in the 3400 block of Bernal Avenue; identity theft

-12:25 p.m. in the 4600 block of Chabot Drive; petty theft

-5:22 p.m. in the 5400 block of Black Avenue; identity theft

• Vandalism:

-9:00 a.m. at the intersection of Valley and Bernal Avenues; worth less than \$400
-9:25 a.m. in the 2000 block of Palmer Drive; worth less than \$400
-9:39 a.m. in the 4700 block of Amanda Place; worth over \$400

• Vehicular burglary:

-6:27 a.m. in the 3500 block of Milleford Court

• Mental health danger:

-3:36 p.m. in the 4300 block of Foothill Road
-5:55 p.m. in the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

• Assault:

-12:31 p.m. in the 1500 block of East Gate Way

Dec. 5

- Theft:
 - 2:03 p.m. in the 6900 block of Via Quito
 - 8:34 p.m. in the 4400 block of Sandalwood Drive; forgery
 - 8:39 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; identity theft
 - 8:54 p.m. in the 1600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; identity theft
- Burglary:
 - 2:35 a.m. in the 4200 block of First Street
- Other:
 - 2:47 a.m. at the intersection of Washington Street and California Avenue; lock picking
 - 6:20 p.m. in the 500 block of Main Street; disturbing the peace, mental health danger

Dec. 6

- Petty theft:
 - 8:51 p.m. in the 400 block of Los Rios Court
- Vandalism:
 - 10:46 a.m. in the 2000 block of Santa Rita Road; worth less than \$400
- Drug/alcohol violations:
 - 12:06 a.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Road; controlled substance possession
 - 12:39 a.m. at the intersection of Division Street and Railroad Avenue; DUI
 - 2:58 a.m. at the intersection of Inglewood Drive and Hopyard Road; DUI

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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

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The Academy for Alternative Journalism, established by papers like this one to promote diversity in the alternative press, seeks talented journalists and students (college seniors and up) for a paid summer writing program at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. The eight-week program (June 22 - August 17, 2008) aims to recruit talented candidates from diverse backgrounds and train them in alt-weekly style feature writing. Ten participants will be chosen and paid \$3,000 plus housing and travel allowances. For information and an application visit <http://aaj.aan.org>. You may also email us at altacademy@northwestern.edu. Applications must be postmarked by February 8, 2008. Northwestern University is an equal opportunity educator and employer. (AAN CAN)

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809 Shared Housing/Rooms

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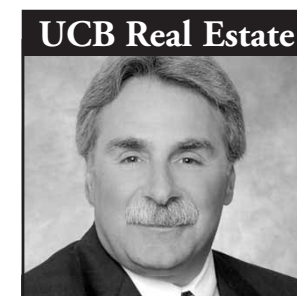
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Real Estate

State's housing affordability index stays at 24%

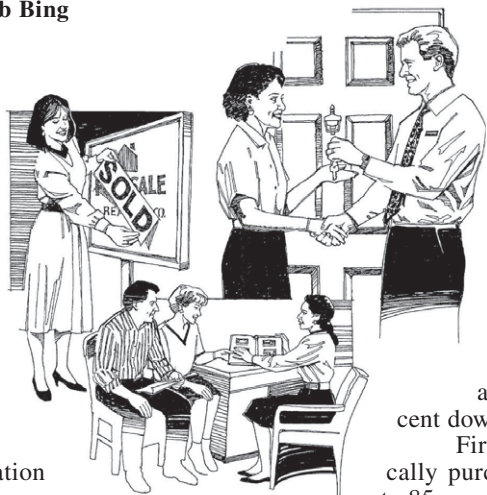
High desert region is 'most affordable,' Realtor group says

By Jeb Bing

The percentage of households that could afford to buy an entry-level home in California stood at 24 percent in the third quarter of 2007, unchanged from the same period a year ago, according to a report released by the California Association of Realtors.

CAR's First-time Buyer Housing Affordability Index measured the percentage of households that could afford to purchase an entry-level home in the state. CAR also reported first-time buyer indexes for regions and select counties within the state.

The Index is considered one of the best measures of housing well-being for first-time buyers in the state.



According to CAR, the minimum household income needed to purchase an entry-level home at \$482,910 in California in the third quarter of 2007 was \$99,590, based on an adjustable interest rate of 6.56 percent and assuming a 10 percent down payment.

First-time buyers typically purchase a home equal to 85 percent of the prevailing median price. The monthly payment including taxes and insurance was \$3,320 for the third quarter of 2007.

At 48 percent, the High Desert region was the most affordable in the state, followed by the Sacramento region at 46 percent. Santa Barbara was the least affordable region in the state at 11 percent, followed by the Monterey region at 16 percent. ■

Mortgage applications increase in latest MBA survey

Average 30-year fixed rates climb to 6.07% from 5.82%

The Mortgage Bankers Association this week reported that mortgage loan application volume was 811.8 for the week ending Dec. 7, an increase of 2.5 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis from 791.8 one week earlier.

On an unadjusted basis, its Market Composite Index increased 1.4 percent compared with the previous week and was up 14.2 percent compared with the same week one year earlier. The index is a measure of mortgage loan application volume.

The MBA's Refinance Index increased 4.3 percent to 2879.8 from 2761.3 the previous week and the seasonally adjusted Purchase Index increased 1.7 percent to 472 from 464.3 one week earlier.

The MBA's four week moving average for the seasonally adjusted Market Index is up 3.7 percent to 732.9 from 706.8. The four week moving average is up 2.3 percent to 440.9 from 431.0 for the Purchase Index, while this average is up 6.0 percent to 2483.5 from 2342.5 for the Refinance Index.

The refinance share of mortgage activity increased to 57.6 percent of total applications from 56.0 percent the previous week. The adjustable-rate mortgage (ARM) share of activity decreased to 9.4 from 11.6 percent of total applications from the previous week.

The average contract interest rate for 30-year fixed-rate mortgages increased to 6.07 percent from 5.82 percent, with points increasing to 1.17 from 1.07 (including the origination fee) for 80 percent loan-to-value (LTV) ratio loans.

The average contract interest rate for 15-year fixed-rate mortgages increased to 5.72 percent from 5.38 percent, with points decreasing to 1.01 from 1.12 (including the origination fee) for 80 percent LTV loans.

The average contract interest rate for one-year ARMs increased to 6.31 percent from 6.28 percent, with points decreasing to 0.97 from 0.99 (including the origination fee) for 80 percent LTV loans.

— Jeb Bing

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Home Sales

This week's data represents homes sold during November 2007

Pleasanton

4355 2nd Street Milley Trust to K. Winslow for \$980,000
3966 Churchill Drive GRP Loan to S. Kulkarni for \$740,000
4698 Cope Court Perez Trust to S. Nie for \$813,500
4327 Denker Drive B. Moran to H. Ahrens for \$230,000
2952 Garden Creek Circle Y. Wang to E. Gnanasekaran for \$729,000
4535 Gatetree Circle M. & K. Blume to G. Sobers for \$930,000
3869 Mammoth Cave Court Tudor Trust to J. & C. Maehr for \$815,000
3831 Newton Way O. & N. Jerez to S. Subramaniam for \$820,000
2347 Raven Road C. & E. Hynes to D. Marazzito for \$910,000
1282 Ridgewood Road D. & C. Churchill to H. Chavez for \$825,000
1530 Ridgewood Road J. & C. Nunes to L. Wood for \$796,500
5993 Sterling Greens Circle M. & S. Seech to K. Meurrens for \$228,000
762 Sylvaner Drive Beck Trust to X. Huang for \$750,000
4856 Wingate Drive Vanhorn Trust to J. & S. Walker for \$960,000

Dublin

6824 Amador Valley Boulevard Ownit Mortgage to Lemr Trust for \$453,000
5627 Applegate Way D. & M. Lewandowski to M. & S. McMillan for \$855,000
6833 Cedar Lane B. Moran to H. Ahrens for \$270,000
11672 Manzanita Lane Jones Trust to H. & C. Spencer for \$730,000
6136 Shadow Hill Drive C. & S. Kim to I. Swain for \$685,000
7615 Shady Creek Road N. Gonzales to D. & A. Ditlevsen for \$770,000
3712 Silvera Ranch Drive Pfeiffer Ranch Investors to E. & C. Deleon for \$840,000

Livermore

2676 3rd Street Bank of New York to W. Halleck for \$428,000
1364 Arroyo Road Arroyo Crossing to J. & P. Villarreal for \$888,000
1282 Balboa Way Pocha Trust to J. Brannon for \$450,000
754 Berryessa Street D. Saki to M. Dinnen for \$600,000
2863 Carmen Avenue Ace Securities to B. & E. Garcia for \$600,000
1768 Cheryl Drive E. & A. Perez to Petersen Trust for \$775,000
849 Comanche Court D. & J. Genung to B. Garrett for \$635,000

5646 Crestmont Avenue K. Brown to DM & Associates for \$365,000
1881 De Vaca Way M. Kuki to G. Baker for \$463,000
5758 Edelweiss Way G. & F. Raffan to K. & M. Suoniemi for \$755,000
5808 Elder Circle J. & Y. Campbell to P. Jarrett for \$795,000
1349 Evans Place L. Fratus to R. & J. Haywood for \$740,000
2640 Gelding Lane Home Equity Asset to M. & L. Parrington for \$539,000
1026 Larkspur Drive US Bank to A. & R. Lacanglacang for \$490,000
1436 Naples Way Huppler Trust to Tennyson Trust for \$769,000
6187 St. Andrews Way Bank of New York to R. Lapoint for \$480,000

San Ramon

7338 Balmoral Way Lennar Homes to V. Sundaresan for \$1,023,000
7339 Balmoral Way Lennar Homes to R. & B. Perez for \$960,000
7403 Briza Loop R. Servetnick to K. Griffin for \$630,000
3132 Browntail Way Shapell Homes to P. & G. Prabhu for \$770,000
3216 Browntail Way Shapell Homes to H. & B. Gandhi for \$694,500

6335 Byron Lane Centex Homes to G. Thankappan for \$610,500
6337 Byron Lane Centex Homes to M. & E. Jao for \$650,000
2210 Canyon Crest Avenue B. McAleer to D. Pickett for \$937,500
3136 Cedarwood Loop Shapell Industries to S. Lu for \$565,000
3347 Chartwell Street Richmond American Homes to O. Khan for \$601,000
125 Cobblestone Lane P. & G. Jung to M. & S. Strand for \$695,000
214 Eastridge Drive Pacifica 235 East Ridge to A. Harbour for \$420,000
107 Edgeware Court S. & M. Lum to H. Chen for \$790,000

3110 Enfield Street Brookfield Emory to W. Lee for \$808,500
1016 Hoskins Lane Lennar Homes to S. & H. Lee for \$885,000
6174 Lakeview Circle Critchlow Trust to E. Fisher for \$659,000
1971 Lambeth Way Brookfield Saville to R. Kura for \$787,500
131 Landsdowne Loop Aurora Loan Services to N. & J. Modi for \$590,000
5500 London Way Centex Homes to J. & N. Delacruz for \$1,000,000
5522 London Way Centex Homes to M. McFarland for \$982,000
5530 London Way Centex Homes to T. & Y. Wu for \$965,000
2481 Milford Drive A. Choi to J. Kumar for \$677,000

108 Norris Canyon Place #A T. & I. Dailey to J. Francisco for \$395,000
3087 Sorrelwood Drive J. & J. Alegre to A. Wong for \$1,186,000
3622 Stonehenge Way V. Luu to S. Vaidyanathan for \$1,005,000
12 Terraced Hills Circle N. & V. Nguyen to S. & S. Burra for \$635,000
2065 Watermill Road World Savings Bank to N. Gonzales for \$634,000
408 Watsonia Court Shapell Industries to H. Steve for \$986,000
440 Watsonia Court Shapell Homes to N. & E. Patel for \$977,500
5732 Wells Lane Brookfield Hawthorne to S. La for \$1,001,000

Sales at a Glance

Source: California REsource

Pleasanton	Dublin	Livermore	San Ramon
Total sales reported: 14	Total sales reported: 7	Total sales reported: 16	Total sales reported: 30
Lowest sale reported: \$228,000	Lowest sale reported: \$270,000	Lowest sale reported: \$365,000	Lowest sale reported: \$395,000
Highest sale reported: \$980,000	Highest sale reported: \$855,000	Highest sale reported: \$888,000	Highest sale reported: \$1,186,000
Average sales reported: \$751,929	Average sales reported: \$657,571	Average sales reported: \$610,750	Average sales reported: \$784,000

PLEASANTON WEEKLY OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

For an online version with mapping or to list your open home go to: www.PleasantonWeekly.com/real_estate

DUBLIN

4 Bedrooms

7823 Crossridge Rd. \$779,000
 Sun 12:30-3:30 Hometown GMAC 997-2411

5 Bedrooms

4939 Sequoia Ave. \$834,900
 Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 417-8603

LIVERMORE

3 Bedrooms

5525 Haggin Oaks Ave. \$514,999
 Sat/Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 525-0116

1135 Baltusrol Ct. \$569,950
 Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 426-3859

4 Bedrooms

2551 Vintage Ln. \$1,365,000
 Sat/Sun 10-1 / 2-5 Valley Brokers 437-5830

819 Wall St. \$598,999
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 583-1121

1657 3rd St. \$625,000
 Sat 1-4 Alain Pinel 583-1121

PLEASANTON

3 Bedrooms

2911 Liberty Dr. \$614,500
 Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 963-8322

1037 Hometown Wy. \$749,900
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 447-2723

4 Bedrooms

1397 Whispering Oaks Wy. \$1,049,000
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 846-6500

3302 Prairie Dr. \$1,098,000
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 463-0436

844 Division St. \$1,195,000
 Sat 1-4 Investment RE 963-0569

307 Brianne Ct. \$1,249,000
 Sat 1-4/Sun 1-4:30 J. Rockcliff 699-9508

4677 Helpert Ct. \$729,000
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 463-0436

5539 San Juan Wy. \$848,950
 Sun 1-3 Keller Williams 397-4326

2518 Larrikeet Ct. \$919,000
 Sun 1-4 Allied Brokers 872-8286

5 Bedrooms

5725 Ohana Pl. \$1,999,995
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 846-6500

SAN RAMON

2 Bedrooms

9024 Craydon Cir. \$265,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 UCB / Brian Wright 417-7138

2557 Twin Creeks Dr. \$349,000
 Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 785-9373

4 Bedrooms

3012 Kittery Ave. \$649,000
 Sat/Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker 785-9373

2748 Mohawk Cir. \$829,000
 Sat 1-4/Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker 785-9373

5 Bedrooms

3526 Sandalford Wy. \$999,999
 Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 785-9373

DANVILLE

4 Bedrooms

842 Matadera Cir. \$1,282,888
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 260-2508

5 Bedrooms

104 Parkhaven Dr. \$1,200,000
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 260-8883

DISCOVERY BAY

6 Bedrooms

6383 Crystal Spring Cir. \$523,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff 510-386-2065

J. Rockcliff



REALTORS

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REAL ESTATE COMPANY.

OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4



DISCOVERY BAY
6383 CRYSTAL SPRING CIRCLE **\$523,000**
NEW PRICE! 6 bed + Den, Family room Clipper @ The Lakes. Many upgrades. RV parking, Spa, custom covered patio, tiled luxury gas grill island, ceiling fans throughout, partial view of lake...beautiful, & more! Assumable Financing
JANE MYRENGET **510.386.2065**

OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4



LIVERMORE
5525 HAGGIN OAKS AVE **\$514,999**
JUST LISTED! Built in 1972, 1,524+/- SQ FT, 3 Bed 2 Bath, New Paint, New Carpet, Walk to middle school. Visit www.maxdevries.com for additional information.
MAX DE VRIES **925.525.0116**

www.DianeSass.com



PLEASANTON
307 BRIANNE CT **\$1,249,000**
Amazing ridge views; custom Carriage Gardens home! Sparkling pool & spa w/waterfall. Gleaming hardwood floors. Newly painted inside & out. Tandem 3 car garage. Large patio & deck area w/views of the hills. 4 Bed 2.5 Bath.
DIANE SASS **925.462.2068**

www.SavvySalesTeam.com



LIVERMORE
648 SWALLOW DR **\$499,950**
Perfect starter home! Newly painted interior & front exterior, newer heater & A/C, with much more to see! Visit www.SavvySalesTeam.com for more info.
STEVEN R. LLOYD **925.251.2550**

HISTORIC VICTORIAN



LIVERMORE
309 N K ST **\$780,000**
Updated and gorgeous, with detached garage just blocks from new performing arts center and renovated Downtown. RM zoned possible B&B. 4 Bed 3 Bath.
REBECCA LYNN EVANS **925.784.2870**

NEW PRICE



TRACY
420 LIERLY ST **\$299,000**
Pride of ownership abounds with all the tasteful amenities desired. Awesome corner location. Fresh paint, Cathedral ceilings, Newer Spanish tile flooring, Separate family room w/fireplace. 3 bdrms 2.5 bath.
KRISTIN AURE **925.456.5072**

GREAT CURB APPEAL



LIVERMORE
3719 OREGON WAY **\$525,000**
Briar Hill beauty! 4 Bed, 2 Bath: Pristine condition with new paint inside and outside. New carpets, New Baseboards, Corner lot with large side access.
CAROLYN FORSBERG **925.583.2166**

www.maxdevries.com



LIVERMORE
670 SYCAMORE COURT **Call for Price**
Charming Amber Ridge Home w/ pool. Cul de sac; walk to park, shopping & dining. 2,872+/- SQ FT 4 Bed 3 Bath. Short Sale.
MAX DE VRIES **925.525.0116**

www.RockCliffHomeSales.com



LIVERMORE
1579 FRANKFURT WAY **\$769,000**
Situated in the Sunset East area of Livermore, this complete remodel is ready for a new owner. With 4 large bedrooms and 3 full baths on 7500+ sq ft corner lot, and 2000+/- sq ft of living. Open Sun. 12:30-3:30PM
MICHAEL J. DUFFY **925.251.2523**

www.toddmartinez.com



DUBLIN
11474 SILVERGATE DR **\$689,950**
Briar Hill beauty! 3 Beds, 2 Baths, Bamboo flooring throughout, Stainless Steel appliances, Granite counter tops, Custom faux painting, Travertine floors, Remodeled in 2003 with permits!
TODD MARTINEZ **925.784.7000**

JUST LISTED



LIVERMORE
1836 HEIDELBERG DR **\$785,000**
Close to the heart of town for a short walk to stores and restaurants. You'll be proud to host a gathering in this gracious home. Large living rm features a tastefully designed kit. that doubles as a dining room. 4 Bed/ 2 Bath.
SHARON WILLIAMS **925.583.2181**

www.860divisionst.com



MEDITERRANEAN VILLA
860 Division Street **\$2,395,000**
One of a Kind Downtown Pleasanton Mediterranean Villa 4,500+/- SQ FT Visit www.860divisionst.com for photos, features, and more!
TODD MARTINEZ **925.784.7000**

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1700 N. Main St.
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925.280.8500

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925.253.7000

Danville
15 Railroad Ave.
Danville, CA 94526
925.855.4000

Blackhawk
4105 Blackhawk Plaza Circle
Danville, CA 94506
925.648.5300

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



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3176 Caramello Ct.
Pleasanton



Offered at \$558,000

Single Story!
2 Bedrooms & 2 Baths

4159 Torino Ct.
Pleasanton



Offered at \$589,000

Beautiful Upgrades!
3 Bedrooms & 2.5 Baths



If you are interested in viewing these fine properties, come by the **open house this Sunday 1-4** or give **Gina** a call today.

925-462-9175



Gina Piper
YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SPECIALIST

Merry Christmas to all!



Grandeur in Private Park



OPEN FRI 10-1 & SUN 2-5

2551 Vintage Lane

Livermore wine country home features 4 bedrooms and 4 full baths on a nearly 1/2 acre lot. Lush and private with nearly 3700 square feet of celestory light spaces. Large bonus room or 5th bedroom off bedrooms. Private master suite with fireplace, retreat and private patio. Home theater system. Nearly 1000 square feet of covered porch areas overlooking a private redwood grove. And much more! \$1,365,000 Call Fred for more information.

Rick Hemy
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Fred Hemy
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COLDWELL BANKER



BENICA
SAT/SUN 1 - 4
SPECTACULAR END UNIT
350 BLANCHARD LN.
\$349,950
2 BR 2 BA 1 car garage. Upgraded thru-out, partially furnished w/ views, parks, shopping & HWY 925.847.2200



DUBLIN
7448 BRIGADOON WAY
NESTLED IN THE HILLS
\$484,900
2 BR 2 BA apx.1103 Sqft. Vaulted ceilings, attchd gar, comm pl/spa, Shpping/restaurants minutes away 925.847.2200



LIVERMORE
SUN 1 - 4
NEWER SINGLE STORY
6490 ASPENWOOD WAY
\$624,950
3 BR 2 BA vaulted ceilings/plan shutters/tile/berber & faux paint. Corner lot w/porch/patio/new sod 925.847.2200



PLEASANTON
SUN 1 - 4
WHAT'S NOT TO LOVE?!
2630 MINTON COURT
\$840,000
4 BR 3 BA cathedral ceilings, eat-in kit/nook. Fm rm w/frplc, spcious mst suite/bth, awesome hill views 925.847.2200

BRENTWOOD
2007 GRANT ST
GORGEOUS HOME
\$569,000
5 BR 3 BA w/"park-like" sttng, loft/bnus area, apx.3150 sqft.Over 10000 sqft.lot, www.MLStrivalley.com 925.847.2200

697 CANMORE CT
UPGRADED IN & OUT
\$550,000
4 BR 3 BA w/Pl/Spa w/Wtrfls, No Rear Neighbors, Granite Slab Kit Cntrs, Slate Flrs, Sep Formal Liv/ Din 925.847.2200

CASTRO VALLEY
2209 CAMINO DELORES
GORGEOUS CUSTOM HOME
\$799,900
4 BR 3 BA bonus room/game room/home off, 2 master suites, too much to list! Visit www.MLStrivalley.com 925.847.2200

DUBLIN
5892 KINGSMILL TER
VIEWS VIEWS VIEWS
\$1,859,000
5 BR 5.5 BA, 4 car gar, apx.5400 sq.ft.w/ dual strcs, lrg kit. Guest bd w/full bth. 3 frplcs 925.847.2200

8633 BRIARWOOD LN
CLOSE TO EVERYTHING!
\$674,000
4 BR 2 BA Gorgeous home; remodeled bths,huge bonus rm.w/tons of storage spc.huge bkyrd. Great area! 925.847.2200

4631 SANDYFORD CT
WONDERFUL TOWNHOUSE
\$549,000
3 BR 2.5 BA 2 car gar, kit w/lots of cabinets, nice balcony off master bdrm/roomy patio off living rm 925.847.2200

LATHROP
235 E WARREN AVE.
PRICED TO SELL
\$310,000
4 BR 2 BA new carpet/paint, remodeled, move-in condition, easy commute location. Includes covered patio 925.847.2200

LIVERMORE
657 S. M STREET
QUEEN ANNE VICTORIAN
\$895,000
3 BR 2 BA Beautifully restored built in 1885 in old downtown, 11,700 sq.ft. lot w/2 car detached gar 925.847.2200
139 WINDWARD CMN # 1
7 YEARS OLD
\$377,000
2 BR 2 BA Gated community, beautiful pergo flrng, 1 car garage, pl/tennis courts 925.847.2200 garage, pl/tennis courts 925.847.2200

PLEASANTON
1633 LAGUNA CREEK LANE
AN ABSOLUTE MASTERPIECE
\$1,990,000
5 BR 5.5 BA Stunning 5,329 sf, w/2 Masters/Li-brary.Distressed cherry HW flr,European kithen w/ Sub Zero 925.847.2200

1167 LAGUNA CREEK LANE
EXQUISITE HOME
\$1,700,000
5 BR 4 BA 3992 sq. ft.+ salt water pool/spa, 12700 sq.ft. lot,unobstructed views of Pleasanton Ridge 925.847.2200
7730B CANYON MEADOW CIR, UNIT B
GORGEOUS VIEWS!
\$435,000
2 BR 2 BA vaulted ceilings/kit w/new cabs/slab granite cntrs/bths remodld w/tile flrs/pedestal sinks 925.847.2200

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RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE



**1768 VETTA DRIVE,
LIVERMORE**
Offered at \$935,000

Great Prima Single-Story Home!
Lovely 4 bedroom, 3 baths, 3-car garage
with side-yard access. Lots of interesting
upgrades. Best location in So. Livermore!



Gene & Cindy Williams 918-2045

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this great time to buy...*

EVERY HERO NEEDS A HOME

I'm proud to be affiliated with Herocare, a network of professionals providing specialized home buying assistance to government employees, military, teachers, nurses, firefighters, police, paramedics, and all of the support staff that help these vital service personnel thrive.

Herocare recognizes that the housing needs of so many of our community heroes go unnoticed and largely unmet. Herocare is committed to helping our heroes achieve the dream of home ownership.

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Roy Dronkers 484-5200



**3459 PARK PLACE
PLEASANTON**
Offered at \$879,000

This 4 Bedroom, 2 1/2 Bath and almost 2200 sq. ft. of Living Space. This Home Has Hardwood Floors & a Beautiful Remodeled Kitchen. Wonderful Neighborhood & Walking Distance to a Park.



Williams Witters Team 918-2045



Hiroshi and I had been married for two days when we started looking for our home. DeAnna welcomed us to Pleasanton and immediately began searching within our parameters. Her professionalism, expertise and warmth were much appreciated during our search and in less than a month we moved into our dream home. She was always willing to pick us up to view a property, drop off or pick up paperwork and introduced us to a wealth of people who have made our house-buying such a positive experience. Thank you DeAnna!

—Ann and Hiroshi Chavez



DeAnna Armario 260-2220

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www.Search4RE.com

Jim Walker 397-4300



**4677 HELPERT CT.,
PLEASANTON**
Priced in the low \$700's

Pleasanton- Wonderful one level ranch style with 4 bedrooms, 2 updated baths and over 1800 sq ft. Beautifully updated kitchen overlooking large yard and sparkling pool. Great court location with a two car garage.



**3302 PRAIRIE DRIVE,
PLEASANTON**
Offered at \$1,098,000

Rare opportunity in Foothill Knolls... 4 bdms, 3 baths, over 2300 sq ft on a large 11,277 sq ft lot. Vaulted ceilings, new carpet & paint. Hardwood floor entry, elegantly wide stair case. 1 bdrm & full bath downstairs. 2 fireplaces. 3 car garage. Master bdrm w/ beautiful views of the ridge. Stunning picturesque neighborhood.



Dave & Sue Flashberger 463-0436



**5539 SAN JUAN WAY,
PLEASANTON**
Offered at \$848,950

Outstanding home in Mission Park. 4 Bedrooms plus office, 2 1/2 baths with newer windows and doors, newer roof, hardwood floors, updated kitchen/baths and private yard. Best location with easy commute access, close to schools and shopping.



Melissa Pederson 397-4326



3516 HELEN DRIVE, PLEASANTON
New Price \$699,950

Gorgeous and remodeled from head to toe! An unbelievable master bath! Bamboo wood floors downstairs, new carpet elsewhere. Granite counters in kitchen, stainless appliances, lovely garden window! Extra large backyard. Expand up to 2340 sq. ft. Plans are available! Or add a bedroom downstairs and watch the value of your home go up! This home has been reduced over \$80,000 and is ready for a new buyer. Please call if you would like more information or to see this lovely home!



Gail Boal 577-5787



**1717 COURTNEY AVE.
CHAIN OF LAKES, PLEASANTON**
Offered at: \$1,950,000

Absolutely gorgeous home in highly sought after neighborhood located near award-winning Mohr Elementary School. Completely remodeled in 2006, home offers 3 BR (can be convert to 4), 3 BA, in 3338 sq. ft, large corner lot, pool/spa and showcase garage!



Dave & Fran Cunningham 426-7957



**2172 POMEZIA CT.
RUBY HILL,
PLEASANTON**
Offered at: \$1,299,000

This gorgeous French Country 4 BR/3.5 BA in Ascona at Ruby Hill offers 3,447 sq. ft, cul-de-sac location, & a sizeable rear yard!



Dave & Fran Cunningham 426-7957



**532 ROSSO COURT
RUBY HILL, PLEASANTON**
Price Reduced \$1,219,000

A very popular floor plan, in Premia of Ruby Hill, which offers 4BR, and 3BA, with one bedroom/bath located downstairs, and can be used as an office or den. Lush, gorgeous rear yard, features built in BBQ and patios, also available for lease \$3600 a month.



Dave & Fran Cunningham 426-7957

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BRAND NEW CUSTOM HOME

OPEN SUN 1-4



5725 OHANA PLACE, PLEASANTON

Just completed! Brand new custom home with all the features you would expect in a custom home and not see in a production home. Located on a private drive with a premium +/- half acre lot. Built by Ohana Homes, which means quality throughout. This high tech home is owner friendly. Beautiful views of Pleasanton Ridge. Five bedrooms plus formal office. Six bathrooms. Approximately 4,500 square feet. Large gourmet kitchen with granite slab countertops, cherry cabinets and stainless steel appliances. Large master suite with retreat area. Andersen French doors to covered lanai from formal living, master, and family rooms. Distressed wide plank wood flooring. Custom crown molding and baseboards throughout. Minutes from Downtown Pleasanton. **OFFERED AT \$1,999,995**

WALNUT HILLS

OPEN SUN 1-4



1397 WHISPERING OAK WAY, PLEASANTON

Beautiful newer four bedroom, three and a half bath home, built in 2003. Approximately 3,364 square feet, includes carriage house. Gourmet kitchen with granite countertops, center island with stainless steel sink, custom cherry cabinetry, and built-in sub zero refrigerator. Large master suite with walk-in closet. Custom tile flooring, dual pane windows. Cherry built-ins throughout. Carriage house can be nice guest quarters, or has been rented out for as much as \$1350/month. Beautifully landscaped. Just minutes to Downtown Pleasanton. **OFFERED AT \$1,049,000**

PLEASANTON VALLEY

JUST SOLD!



4856 WINGATE DRIVE, PLEASANTON

"JUST SOLD BY BLAISE LOFLAND"
Sold for \$960,000

PLEASANTON 900 Main Street



The latest from The 680 Blog

The 680 Blog >> Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Real Estate
www.The680Blog.com

Home for the Holidays

So here's the deal. It's the holidays. You know, the season of rushing around in 10 different directions, worrying about office parties, shopping, Holiday cards, finding a parking space at the mall, and all the other assorted stresses that send most of us into overload. And if you are trying to sell your home, certainly the last thing you want is to have some Realtor calling you 2 days before Christmas wanting to show your home when you have your whole family coming in from Colorado, and you're trying to find that recipe for candied yams that you saw on Emerile Live! So you do what most sellers do this time of year... take your home off the market. But is that really the smartest thing to do? I know, the holidays are already stressful enough without adding the pressure of showing your home. But before you take your home off the market, there are several compelling reasons to consider leaving your home on the market this holiday season:

1. Decorations. Few things add to the emotional appeal of a home like holiday decorations. For many, your home never looks better than it does during the holidays. You know, the Christmas tree, the lights, the stockings by the warm fire, Harry Connick playing carols... you get the picture. Your home will often have extraordinary emotional appeal this time of year, and it is appeal that sells homes.

2. Competition. When other sellers take their homes off the market, it improves the chances of your home selling. From the standpoint of supply, it makes sense to have your home for sale when there are fewer homes to compete with.

3. Motivated buyers. While it is true that there are generally fewer buyers out during the holiday season, the buyers who are out looking are generally more motivated than the typical spring market buyers, many of whom tend to be exploring their options. Not many buyers who are willing to make it a priority to see houses this time of year are simply out exploring options. Rather, they tend to be serious buyers with some pressing motivation to find a home NOW. >>Go to The680Blog.com to read the rest of this article.

Visit www.The680Blog.com for more insights, commentary, and news about Pleasanton & the Tri Valley Area!



Exquisite hilltop custom home on +/- 2.4 acres with views and privacy galore! 4 bed, 3 bath with 4 car garage. \$2,149,999.



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

UWE MAERCZ BY APPOINTMENT



Pleasanton \$2,799,000
Custom estate built by Doble and Son. Impressive views, open space and exceptional architectural design and quality craftsmanship at this private 1.18+/-acre estate. 6bd/5.5ba on a 6100+/-sf lot.

ANDY PORYES BY APPOINTMENT



Pleasanton \$2,099,950
Beautiful Ruby Hill 4bd/4ba, 4578+/-sf home located on a flat .62+/-acre premium lot with no rear neighbors. Featuring office, master retreat, outdoor kitchen, large lawn, pool/spa. Circular driveway.

BLAISE LOFLAND BY APPOINTMENT



Pleasanton \$1,999,995
Just completed! Quality throughout. 5bd/6ba plus office, 4500+/-sf home. On 1/2+/-acre. Gourmet kitchen. Hardwood floors. Vaulted ceilings. Views of Pleasanton Ridge. Located on private drive.

PETER MCDOWELL BY APPOINTMENT



Pleasanton \$1,379,000
Rare find in desirable Ventana Hills. Beautifully updated with granite, silestone, cherrywood and slate. Home backs to permanent open space. Pool, patio area and lawn. Incredibly quiet and private!

MOXLEY TEAM BY APPOINTMENT



Pleasanton \$998,500
3bd/3ba, 2493+/-sf, single story home in a gated community with an open floor plan offering an open kitchen with bar and dinette area, family room, living room, dining room, 2 master suites.

SALLY MARTIN BY APPOINTMENT



Pleasanton \$990,000
Birdland charmer. 4 bd/2.5 ba, 2,253+/-sf tri-level home. Remodeled gourmet kitchen with slab granite and high end appliances. Updated baths. Open floorplan.

DEAN WAGERMAN BY APPOINTMENT



Pleasanton \$944,950
Great 4bd/3ba, 2302+/-sf home almost completely redone! New kitchen has gas range, granite countertops and pantry. Bathrooms have been redone. Great yard with possible side yard access.

JOYCE JONES BY APPOINTMENT



Livermore \$879,000
5 bd(possible 6th bd)/4ba. Kitchen features granite slab, Wolf cooktop, double ovens, large island with breakfast bar, soaking tub in master bath. Alarm system, automatic security gate, 3-car garage.

MOXLEY TEAM BY APPOINTMENT



Pleasanton \$869,000
5bd/3ba, 2538+/-sf. 2 master suites. Baths recently remodeled. Hardwood flooring, recessed lighting. Kitchen with eat in area. Walk-in closet in master.

BARRACLOUGH & DAVIS OPEN SUN 1-4



Pleasanton \$799,950
Stunning 4 bd/2 ba home in the Mission Park neighborhood. Nice yard with pool and spa. The home has been completely updated throughout. Updated kitchen with stainless appliances. A must see! 5703 San Antonio St.

MARK JAMES BY APPOINTMENT



Pleasanton \$793,000
Absolutely gorgeous 2040+/-sf home with 4bd/2ba, plus bonus room. Private cul-de-sac location. Recently upgraded.

BRAD SLABAUGH OPEN SUNDAY 1-4



Pleasanton \$749,900
This 2029+/-sf home has 3bd/2.5ba. Newer, close to downtown Pleasanton. No rear neighbors, end of cul-de-sac, very private. Indoor laundry and 2-car garage. 1037 Hometown Way

TIM MCGUIRE BY APPOINTMENT



Pleasanton \$685,000
This beautiful 4bd/2.5ba home has been extensively remodeled within the past year and is located on a tree lined street in one of Pleasanton's most sought after neighborhood.

STASIA POIESZ BY APPOINTMENT



Pleasanton \$625,000
This Pleasanton home offers 4bd/2ba and 1684+/-sf of living space. No HOA! Air conditioner, furnace, electrical subpanel, stove, and water heater have been replaced in the last 2 years.

MAUREEN NOKES BY APPOINTMENT



Dublin \$589,999
Start '08 in this lovely 3bd/2b single level home. Remodeled kitchen, cozy F/P, Berber carpet, off street fenced RV parking.

MOXLEY TEAM BY APPOINTMENT



Dublin \$499,000
2bd/2ba, 1320+/-sf luxury home. Attached garage, granite counters, gas cooking, 2 patios. Walk in closets in both bedrooms, recessed lighting, custom paint, indoor laundry. Single story, no stairs!

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Pleasanton Weekly's
BEST OF PLEASANTON
2007

PLEASANTON



SPECTACULAR 4BD/4½BA, fully upgraded new custom home, sits on over ½ acre, fabulous views of valley, hills & sunsets over the golf course.

925.426.3800 \$2,099,000

PLEASANTON



HOME ON THE GREEN 4BD/3½BA, lovely galley kitchen, hardwood floors in living, dining and kitchen, walk to the country club, 1/2 acre lot with views.

925.426.3800 \$1,265,000

DUBLIN



GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD 4BD/3BA, brazilian hardwood floors, cherry cabinets, onyx slab counters, newer berber carpet, travertine entry, corner lot.

925.426.3800 \$950,000

PLEASANTON



WESTSIDE BEAUTY 4BD/2BA, recently painted, it's perfect for entertaining with gunite pool and gazebo, remodeled kitchen with tile counters and island.

925.426.3800 \$859,950

DUBLIN



SUMMERGLEN EMERALD PARK HOME! 5BD/3BA, spacious and bright, professional decor & landscaping, open Formal Living and Dining areas.

925.426.3800 \$834,900

LIVERMORE



ABSOLUTELY LOVELY CUSTOM 4BD/2½BA, home with beautifully remodeled gourmet kitchen. Park like backyard is HUGE with multi-level decking.

925.426.3800 \$825,000

DUBLIN



SPACIOUS WESTSIDE HOME 3BD/2½BA, plus office, two fireplaces, dual pane windows, master suite has tub, shower and walk-in closet

925.426.3800 \$795,000

CASTRO VALLEY



PALOMARES HILLS W/ GREAT VIEW 4BD/2½BA, beautiful hardwood floors, shutters, master with jetted tub, tennis courts, pool and spa

925.426.3800 \$769,000

DUBLIN



EXCELLENT CT LOCATION W/ VIEWS! 4BD/2½BA, upgrades galore and beautifully landscaped rear yard with privacy and sparkling pool, easy commute.

925.426.3800 \$679,950

LIVERMORE



EXQUISITE HOME 3BD/2BA, vaulted ceilings, entry with tile floor and new carpet throughout, dual pane windows, side yard access.

925.426.3800 \$649,000

TRACY



ELEGANT SPANISH STYLE HOME 3BD/2½BA, vaulted ceilings, custom window designs, gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors, decorative spanish tiles

925.4426.3800 \$634,900

WALNUT CREEK



BEAUTIFUL & PEACEFUL 3BD/2½BA, walk to parks, school and BART, crown moulding, newer kitchen appliances and furnace, landscaped private yard.

925.426.3800 \$619,900

LIVERMORE



GORGEOUS SINGLE STORY 3BD/2BA, home with high ceilings, stunning hardwood floors galore, huge living room w/media niche and gas fireplace

925.426.3800 \$569,950

PLEASANTON



BEAUTIFUL CAPE COD 2BD/2½BA, new granite slab counters, new tile floors & carpet, vaulted ceilings, private brick patio, vines over front gate.

925.426.3800 \$550,000

PLEASANTON



POTTERY BARN FRESH 2BD/2BA, new paint & carpet, across from pool & park, private balcony and patio breakfast nook, attached garage.

925.426.3800 \$459,950

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