

# Health for life

Preparing for his second Iron Man race, Ralph Rajs was nominated for fitness award

by Emily Atwood

**H**ealth is a way of life for Ralph Rajs. Vice President of Operations and Wellness for Leisure Sports Inc., owner of five ClubSport health clubs including the one on Johnson Drive, the family man and Pleasanton resident was recently nominated for an award honoring healthy men in the health club industry.

Being on the cover of CLUBSolutions magazine's January issue and nominated for CLUBSolutions Most Fit Health Club Professional in America contest has given him a little recognition among his work associates, but he still maintains a humble approach to life and health.

For him, the two can hardly be separated as healthy living has always been a priority. In college, studying nutrition seemed a natural fit as he enjoyed athletics and fitness.

"I've always been fascinated with what food does within the body and how it makes you feel," he said. "It's miraculous how foods you eat become a part of you in your body."

Good food fuels Rajs' workouts, which include running three days a week, biking two days a week and swimming once a week.

"I love to use our arroyo systems in town," he said about his favorite running routes. "I run the arroyo trail, down around the Sports Park. I can get into the Sports Park without crossing the street."

"A new trail that I just discovered is the trail around Callippe Golf Course," he added. "It's three miles and beautifully designed. Hopefully more people will utilize it."

Right now his training is getting more intense as his second Iron Man race is in June.

"I've done 24-hour adventure races with a

(continued on page 26)



Photo - Jay Flachsbarth

Health

(continued from page 25)

team," he said. "It's not a relay, but you stay together and race 24 hours straight. It's physically demanding. Iron Man is different because you race at a higher rate and for a shorter time."

All in all, he said completing the race is an "awesome and very emotional experience." With everyone supporting and cheering for athletes, he said it's easy to be overwhelmed with it all.

"There's so much love and sup-

port by all the family and friends that are out there," he said. "It's overwhelming and moving."

Whether it's staying active or eating a nutritious meal, Rajs' healthy habits have been adopted by the whole family.

The running bug has bit his son, 15-year-old Davis, who currently runs cross country and track at Foothill High School. He and his dad ran the Bay to Breakers this year and have ran in the Spirit Run for the last five years.

"We've done 5K and 10K races; last year he beat me in the 10K for the first time," he said.

His wife, Elizabeth, has also

competed in the Nike women's half marathon in San Francisco for the past three years.

While daughter Hannah, a 13-year-old student at Hart Middle School, would rather dance and cheer, he is glad she is finding a way to be active.

Embracing good health and an active lifestyle is something he hopes will catch on beyond his family. Whether it's completing an Iron Man race or walking around the block, Rajs encourages people to start small.

"Set goals," he said. "Start small and build and be kind to yourself. If you miss a day, the next day is a new day. Have some kind of reward system not based on weight loss. For example, if in the month of January you worked out three times a week every week, buy a new blouse or something like that. It helps you be nice to yourself."

When it comes down to it, all the hard work of being fit at the age of 45 is about being able to enjoy life.

"I value the gift of health and being able to do a lot of things in life," Rajs said. "For me, a perfect day is cramming a day-and-a-half worth of activity into one day. Working out, yard work, errands, time with family—I get fired up by getting a lot of stuff done."

"Being physically active makes me a better father and a better husband," he added. "I'm able to handle stress and issues much better because I exercise." ■

Ready to Rent

Across the Universe

Sony Home Video DVD  
2 hours, 13 minutes  
Director: Julie Taymor



As the camera snakes slowly towards a distant black clad figure on a desolate beach, we notice the soundtrack is a distant jumble of familiar tunes that seem to be a maelstrom of every radio wave tuned into 40 years of the same aural effect. As the camera gets closer, the lonely figure turns towards the audience and stares intently into the camera; it's a 20ish boy who opens his mouth and sweetly belts: "Is there anybody out there to listen to my story; all about the girl who came to stay?" We will because he knows we're the audience and witnesses to director Julie Taymor's haunting, bombastic and almost successful "Across the Universe" which is the sixth cinematic attempt at wrapping The Beatles' music around some tangible story that tries to appeal to both rabid Beatles fans and modern moviegoers.

The Beatles have long been an elusive property in terms of cinematic viability. Richard Lester's "A Hard Day's Night" still is (in my opinion) the most perfect of these attempts, being both a great commercial vehicle for the band and, a pretty cool movie, evoking the best of the collective memories that now generations of fans share. "Help," however, stinks of its time, with romanticized grooviness so thick that now you expect Austin Powers to make an appearance with his frilly lace cravat. 1968's "The Yellow Submarine" really depends on your taste, with its almost nightmarish hallucinatory imagery laid over the Fab Four's songs and 1970's "Let It Be" is a fascinating scramble of a documentary that is essentially the filmed record of the band's death knell (and some say the end of the '60s). Let's also not forget 1978's "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band," which seems to be the official defamation of The Beatles, with poor Peter Frampton and The Bee Gees looking lost and surly (along with the audience).

Taymor, however, is mad enough (and I mean that in good way) to shape a jumble of songs about finding love,

losing love, growing older and reflective with a song or two about altered states of consciousness thrown in and, mold them into a story that plays like an Oliver Stone movie sans his misogyny. It's Jude (Jim Sturgess) who leaves his '60s Liverpool home to find his father in America. His quest brings him to Harvard and into the company of Max (Joe Anderson—who partly steals the movie), a blue-blooded Fagin who introduces Jude to drugs and his sister Lucy (Evan Rachel Wood) with whom Jude instantly falls in love. However, it's the movie version of the '60s, and the story would not be complete without Vietnam, violent student protests, hallucinations and love, which we're told, is all that's needed.

I like but even more so admire "Across the Universe." The soundtrack, foremost, is not a convoluted, overproduced mess which usually befalls most rock musicals. Here the performances are stripped down so that the feeling by all the actors (who can all carry a tune) is shared so that we are not cringing at the music that's established in our own internal Beatles catalogs. The movie is mixed, losing steam halfway through when the psychedelics creeps in; but, its numbers like the Jim Sturgess' vigorous "I've Just Seen A Face" and the especially poignant "Let It Be" sung by Carol Woods and Timothy Mitchum that are like a joyous slap in the face because after 40-plus years, it's comforting to know that The Beatles still know how to move us.

—Joe Ramirez

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## Comedy stars in the making

*Second City improv gurus take on the headlines Saturday night*

Amador Theater is making way for comedic heavyweights to hit the stage tomorrow night.

Chicago-based Second City comedy group is quite the comedic genius machine, putting out much loved alumni like John Belushi, Dan Aykroyd, Bill Murray, Joan Rivers, Gilda Radner, Steve Carell, Tina Fey, Stephen Colbert, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Chris Farley, Mike Meyers, Bonnie Hunt and many more.

The show, "One Nation, Under Blog" starts at 8 p.m. and aims to spoof headlines from the worlds of politics, entertainment and media. Appropriate for adults, the audience is promised to "see comedy stars in the making" as well as experience no holds barred innovative improvisations.

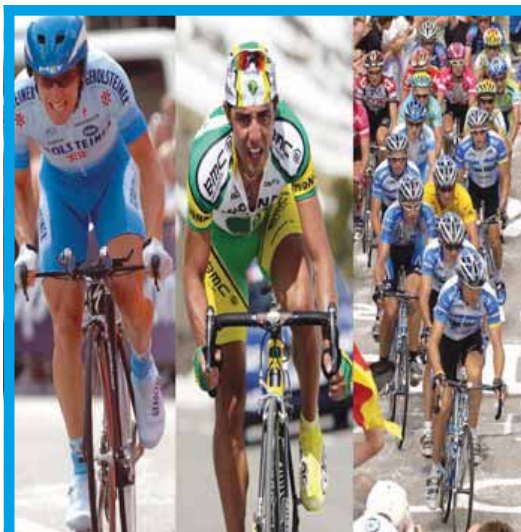
Parents looking for a night of entertainment without the kids

need not call the babysitter, as Civic Arts introduces Parents' Date Night. Children can enjoy Kids Create Improv as they learn comedy, play games and have fun. Teen improvisational group Creatures of Impulse will also be performing.

It's the first of two date nights in the 2008 theater season. The fee for Kids Create Improv is \$25 per child or \$35 per child at the door. Reservations can be made by calling 931-5340.

Tickets for "One Nation, Under Blog" are \$20, \$25 and \$30 and can be purchased online at [www.civictartickets.org](http://www.civictartickets.org), by phone at 931-3444 or in person at the Amador Theater box office, 1155 Santa Rita Road. Box office hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, and two hours prior to each performance.

—Emily Atwood

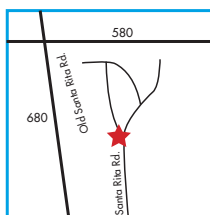


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## Now Showing

### Untraceable

★★

**Rated: R for language, violence and disturbing images**  
**1 hour, 45 minutes**

I fall somewhere between disturbed and offended by this gruesome techno-thriller that speaks far more to the disquieting roots of "Se7en" than to the sinister superhighway of "The Net."

Diane Lane pays her dues as FBI cyber crimes agent Jennifer Marsh, a struggling single mom who routinely busts hackers specializing in high-end tech and low-end porn. Exploited servers, black hole IPs, mirrors and botnets are all in a day's work for this frazzled professional femme.

Things take a nasty turn when Marsh and dogged co-worker Griffin Dowd (Colin Hanks) uncover KillWithMe.com, complete with live streaming video of a kitten tortured to death by starvation. And it doesn't stop there: the sicko's next victim is seen bound and shackled with the Web site's name carved on his chest. Each hit on the site ups a super dose of anti-coagulant, virtually assuring a fatal bleed-out as online gawkers clamor for their gory fix.

Marsh and Dowd rush to dismantle the sophisticated and seemingly untraceable site while the perpetrator invites the whole world to help him



execute more unwitting prey in unspeakable fashion.

"Untraceable" unsettles on so many levels, most notably the aura of reality that pervades the killer's ability to manipulate the Internet and hack into confidential files to suit his deadly needs. And squirm-worthy cyber-rubbernecking, the guilty but irresistible urge to tap into pain and suffering at another's expense. Too close to home for the average reality-TV junkie.

Gregory Hoblit ("Fracture") knows how to craft a solid thriller with the help of the moody washed-out colors of rainy Portland, Ore. and a steady beat of palpable dread. Lane plays it smart until the last act, pulling an uncharacteristically stupid and risky move that places her in harm's way as dictated by the strictures of a conventional plotline.

The killer's motivations are crystal-clear, cloaked in psychological hurts and social commentary on online jurisdiction and on a limitless ebb and flow of dramatic and potentially harmful web exchanges.

When it's all said and done, "Untraceable" hits its mark with unforgettable visuals laden with potential for undesirable nightmares. Life is too short for long-term exposure to relentless agony and distress, even in the guise of entertainment.

—Jeanne Aufmuth

### Cassandra's Dream

★★

**Rated: PG-13 for thematic material, some sexual material and some sexuality**  
**1 hour, 45 minutes**

"Ain't she a beauty?" remarks one brother to another, as they admire the sailboat bearing the title of Woody Allen's latest venture into Greek tragedy. They think the vessel has a lucky name. But viewers know that anything named after Cassandra, the seer who entangles men, is the first portent that things will go very, very badly for this pair of dreamers.

Writer-director Allen's third feature shot in London is "Match Point" without the suspense and sexual tension. He revisits the same destination points with characters seeking to reinvent themselves and find their fortune. The ladies—particularly Lady Luck—figure prominently in the listless drama.

The overwritten screenplay layers bad omen upon bad omen, symbol on top of symbol. Allusions abound to Euripedes and Medea. Characters relate their disturbing dreams that warn of future gloom and doom. The lifeless narrative, a series of constructs more at home on the page than played out on screen, features British siblings Terry (Colin Farrell) and Ian (Ewan McGregor). A gambler believing that luck comes in streaks, Terry won enough money at the dog races to buy the sailboat that he names for the long shot that first crossed the finishing line. His luck runs out at the card table, and he needs to

find a big sum of money fast.

Ian hopes to escape from the family restaurant business by investing in California property-development deals. His father (John Benfield) predicts the only ship to come in for certain has black sails. No kidding. Wealthy Uncle Howard (Tom Wilkinson), the siblings' solution to their financial problems, seems to be captain of that ominous pirate ship. He needs his nephews to do him a favor in exchange. Murder, anyone?

Although all the performances are remarkable, the actors can't break free from the too neat-and-tidy script. The dialogue-heavy movie does raise moral questions that you won't find in the recent deluge of male-heart-of-darkness films. "Before the Devil Knows You're Dead," "No Country for Old Men" and "There Will Be Blood" hinge on greed and the violence it begets.

These films don't ask you to ponder philosophical questions.

Allen continues to ruminate about crime and punishment in a cruel world. Is there any difference between killing a stranger for a family member or killing a stranger for your country during a war? Ethical issues extend to Ian's actress girlfriend (Hayley Atwell): Would you sleep with a director to get a part? Individuals have choices. At what point does one break God's law?

Although Allen navigates familiar waters, seduced by money and sultry female sirens, "Cassandra's Dream" may lull you to sleep instead of inducing nightmares.

—Susan Tavernetti



# Sports

## Pleasanton Rage battles it out at Las Vegas tourney

*Wins one, ties one, loses in finals*

The Pleasanton Rage U13 advanced soccer team traveled to Las Vegas and participated in the Vegas Cup Tournament over the three-day holiday weekend last week.

Games were played at the Bettye Wilson Soccer complex.

The Rage opened play on a very cold Saturday evening with temperatures in the mid 30s. First up was host team FC Las Vegas. Rage held the advantage for most of the game and scored on a cross into the 6-yard box that Krista Williams

drilled into the back of the net.

Rage went on to win 1-0.

Next up on Sunday afternoon was a highly touted team from Mission Viejo, the MVSC Elite. Both teams played a physical game, but were unable to score and battled to a scoreless tie.

Sunday night, the Rage met up with LV Premiere. Both teams had multiple scoring opportunities, with the Premiers seizing a field opportunity to score the only—and winning—run, with the final score 1-0.

Overall for the tournament, Rage was led by Krista Williams, Jenel Firreno and Kayla Hanscomb on offense. Outstanding midfield play came from Alaina Urban, Chidi Onwuegbu, Karly Duval and Claire Berkley. The rock solid back line of Merdith Jaeger, Nicole Bardakos, Nicole Powers and Kayla Bouchard turned away mostly scoring threats and Madison Beatty in the net had several bold saves in all three games. ■

—Gary Bardakos



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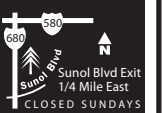


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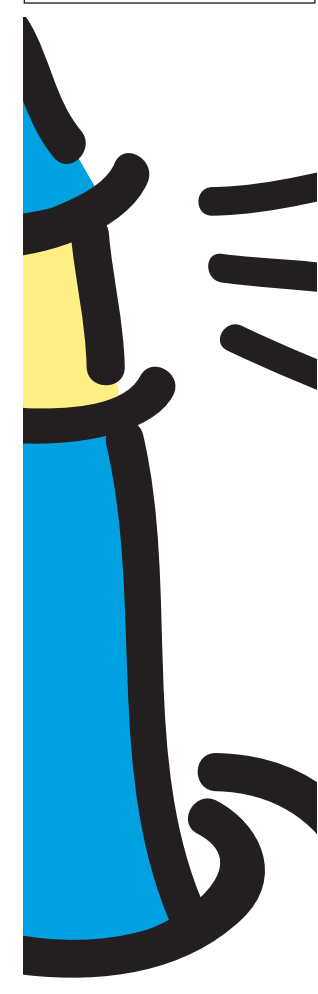


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# Real Estate

## Realtors say stimulus bill could 'jumpstart' housing market

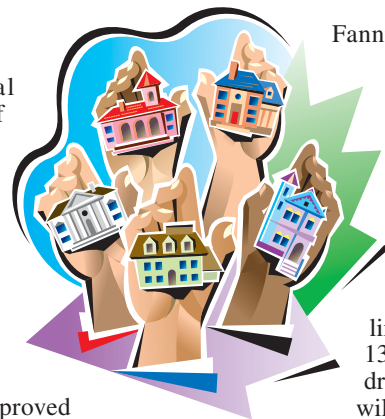
*Group cites increased loan limits as way to open door to more buyers*

by Jeb Bing

The National Association of Realtors congratulated the U.S. House of Representatives and President Bush this week for their bipartisan actions to help families in need, the housing market and the U.S. economy.

"We believe the economic stimulus bill approved by the House today is good legislation in that it can quickly be signed into law, quickly be implemented, and therefore, would quickly have an impact on families and the nation's economy," said Richard Gaylord, NAR president.

"We are pleased that both the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) and the



Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac (GSEs) loan limits have been increased, even if only temporarily," he added.

NAR has been actively engaged in promoting an increase to the loan limits for FHA and the GSEs for many months.

"Our research highlights that increasing FHA loan limits will help an additional 138,000 Americans achieve the dream of home ownership and will allow nearly 200,000 hom-

owners to refinance and potentially keep their home," Gaylord said.

"In addition," he added, "NAR believes that increasing the loan limits for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac will bolster the housing finance market, which continues to be severely stressed, by providing an

(continued on page 36)

## State home sales decrease 33.4% in December

*Realtors' group also reports median home price drop of 16.5% statewide*

Home sales decreased 33.4 percent in December in California compared with the same period a year ago, while the median price of an existing home fell 16.5 percent, the California Association of Realtors (CAR).

"December is typically one of the slower months for sales, and the liquidity crunch continued to dampen sales beyond the normal seasonal decrease," said CAR President William E. Brown. "Even so, seasonally adjusted sales edged above 300,000 homes for the first time since August 2007."

"The liquidity crunch also contributed to the significant decline in the median price due to the lack of financing options for loans above the conforming loan limit of \$417,000," he added. "It is imperative that the proposed increase to conforming loan limits that is part of the economic stimulus package receive swift approval by both houses of Congress."

Closed escrow sales of existing, single-family detached homes in California totaled 301,040 in December at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate, according to information collected by CAR from more than 90 local Realtor associations statewide. Statewide home resale activity decreased 33.4 percent from the 452,060 sales pace recorded in

December 2006.

The statewide sales figure represents what the total number of homes sold during 2007 would be if sales maintained the December pace throughout the year. It is adjusted to account for seasonal factors that typically influence home sales.

The median price of an existing, single-family detached home in California during December 2007 was \$475,460, a 16.5 percent decrease from the revised \$569,350 median for December 2006, CAR reported. The December 2007 median price fell 2.9 percent compared with November's revised \$489,570 median price.

The statewide median price for 2007 was \$558,100, a 0.3 percent increase from 2006. Annual sales for 2007 were 353,290, a 26 percent decrease compared with 2006.

Regional price and sales data for last year will be released on Feb. 22.

"It will take some time for the Federal Reserve Bank's recent reduction of the federal funds rate to have an effect on the housing market, but should result in more favorable real estate finance rates as we move through the year," said CAR Vice President and Chief Economist Leslie Appleton-Young. "Jumbo loan financing

(continued on page 36)



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Newark charmer at The Lake Great neighborhood, charming home with granite counters, dual pane windows, deck and pond in back. Easy commute—near Dumbarton bridge.

**OPEN SAT 1-4**



**1743 SPUMANTE PLACE, RUBY HILL**

**Just Listed**

Gorgeous custom home on the golf course, with master on the main level. First weekend open. View this home and search the MLS free at [www.FabulousProperties.net](http://www.FabulousProperties.net)



**Donna Garrison & Susan Schall 397-4165 & 397-4244**

*Buyers don't miss out on this great time to buy with the #1 Production Office in Pleasanton!*



**KELLER WILLIAMS®**  
R E A L T Y



**REDUCED**

**5539 SAN JUAN WAY, PLEASANTON**

**Offered at \$819,000**

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**



**238 PRATO WAY, LIVERMORE**

**Offered at \$1,125,000**

Enjoy 4 bedrooms plus built-in office and 3 full baths! Formal dining and living room with gas fireplace. Totally private backyard with 2 huge side yards, spa, garden and lots more to see! Don't miss this one!!



**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**

*"Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty's 'Susan Schall' has been named the 2007 Bay East Association of REALTORS® Rookie of the Year. Congratulations Susan for a job well done!"*



**Susan SCHALL**



**PENDING**

**68 PETERS AVE., PLEASANTON**

**Offered at \$308,000**

Adorable & Affordable 1 bdrm 1 bath condo upper unit in the heart of downtown Pleasanton! Newly updated kitchen with granite counters and new appliances. New laminate & carpet flooring. New paint, new furnace. Indoor laundry. Private covered balcony. Low HOA dues 135\$ month!.



**Dennis & Stella Serrao 398-0234**



**4677 HELPERT COURT, PLEASANTON**

**Offered at \$689,950**

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.

**COMING SOON**

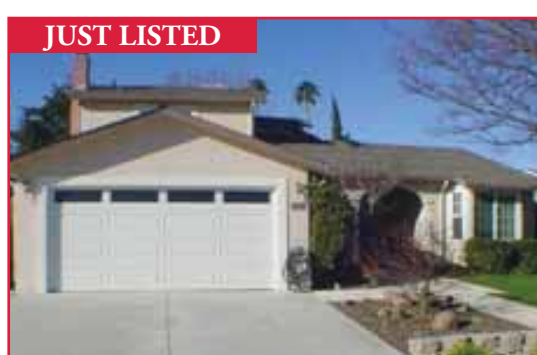


**Priced in the high \$500's.**

Golden Opportunity in Pleasanton. 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch style home with almost 1600 sq ft. Located on a wonderful court, this wonderful home offers instant sweat equity for a owner contractor. Call us today for a sneak peak.



**Dave & Sue Flashberger 463-0436**



**JUST LISTED**

**3737 ROCKY MOUNTAIN CT., PLEASANTON**

**Offered at \$749,950**

Valley Trails Charmer! 5 bedrooms, 3 baths. 2101+ sq. ft. 6000 sq. ft. lot. Remodeled throughout, move in ready. Flexible floor plan for varied lifestyles. Kitchen/family room combo, formal living and dining rooms. Downstairs master suite w/ retreat and pool access. Pool/deck ideal for entertaining. Mature landscaping in front/rear. Close to parks, top schools, shopping.



**Roy Dronkers 484-5200**



**REDUCED**

**4656 BLACK AVENUE, PLEASANTON**

**Offered at \$700,000**

Great Pleasanton Valley home boasts remodeled kitchen with new tile. Dual pane windows w/security & fire alarm systems. All new cut Berber carpet throughout, 40+ yr roof. Professionally landscaped with sprinkler system. Walk to K-12 schools, shopping and 1 block to Aquatic Center.



**Melissa Pederson 397-4326**

**Keller Williams Realty is Proud to be the Fourth Largest Real Estate Firm in North America**

Two Pleasanton locations to serve you. New Livermore location coming soon!

5994 W. Las Positas, Suite 101

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459 Main Street



# J. Rockcliff



REALTORS

THE EAST BAY'S PREMIER  
REAL ESTATE COMPANY.

**NEW PRICE**



**SAN LEANDRO**

**15375 BAYPORT COURT \$599,950**  
Beautiful new homes with 4bd/3bas. Hardwood and stone flooring, granite in kit and ba, spacious mstr suite with jetted tub, inline heater. Highly upgraded throughout and quality workmanship make this a perfect 12!  
**SHEILA CUNHA 925.855.4037**

**OPEN SAT 1-4**



**CASTRO VALLEY**

**22759 RANCHO PALOMARES PLACE \$819,000**  
Gorgeous heavily upgraded 5 cysn home. Crown throughout, travertine, walnut floors, plantation shutters, granite, Italian marble shower & tub surround w/ custom spa door in master, nickel faucets, custom vanities, slate entry, & more!  
**JANE MYRENGET 510.886.0400**

**NEW PRICE OPEN SUN 1:30-4**



**DUBLIN**

**7765 DUBLIN GREEN COURT \$659,950**  
Upgrades Galore! Excellent Court Location with Views! Beautiful Fully Landscaped Rear Yard with Privacy & Sparkling Pool. Brand New Upgraded Neutral Carpet & Pad, Bright Kitchen w/Granite Counter Tops, & more!  
**KELLY PATTERSON 925.200.2525**

**OPEN SAT 1-4**



**LIVERMORE**

**3120 ARCADIA CMN, UNIT 404 \$374,900**  
A homey and desirable CopperHill. Very convenient location with views of the hills and close access to Hwy 580. This end unit offers lovely move in condition with a very private entrance. Refrigerator, washer/dryer are included.  
**SHARON WILLIAMS 925.583.2181**

**OPEN SUN 11-3**



**LIVERMORE**

**1836 HEIDELBERG DR \$749,000**  
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. NEW PRICE!  
**SHARON WILLIAMS 925.583.2181**

**OPEN SAT 2-5**



**LIVERMORE**

**2752 CHABLIS WAY \$1,138,000**  
This beauty is located in one of Livermore's few custom built home locations. Quiet, very private and just a 10 min. walk to town. There is beautiful curb appeal, warmth when you walk in, lots of beautiful wood.  
**SHARON WILLIAMS 925.583.2181**

**OPEN SUN 1-4**



**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**

**OPEN SAT 1-4**



**CASTRO VALLEY**

**25339 GOLD HILLS DR \$839,000**  
3 Beds, 2 1/2 Baths, 2,357 Sq. Ft., Shows like a model! Pro Home Theatre to be sold separately, call for details. www.25339goldhillsdr.com  
**JANE MYRENGET 510.886.0400**

**OPEN SAT 12:30-3:30**



**LIVERMORE**

**1579 FRANKFURT WAY \$769,000**  
Sited 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.  
**MICHAEL J. DUFFY 925.251.2523**

**OPEN SAT 1-4**



**DISCOVERY BAY**

**6383 CRYSTAL SPRINGS CIRCLE \$523,000**  
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 1-4**



**LIVERMORE**

**5525 HAGGIN OAKS AVE \$514,999**  
Beautiful maintained 1 story home in desirable neighborhood. Fresh paint, New carpet, New water heater, Newer Air conditioning system, Dual pane windows, Brick Fireplace, & more!  
**MAX DE VRIES 925.525.0116**

**OPEN SUN 1:30-3:30**



**DUBLIN**

**11474 SILVERGATE DR \$649,950**  
Briar Hill beauty! 3 Beds, 2 Baths, Bamboo flooring throughout, Stainless Steel appliances, Granite counter tops, Custom faux painting, Travertine floors, &more! Open House Courtesy of Susette Clark-Walker 925.570.0717  
**TODD MARTINEZ 925.784.7000**

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

Orinda  
89 Davis Rd., Ste. 100  
Orinda, CA 94563  
925.253.7000

Danville  
15 Railroad Ave.  
Danville, CA 94526  
925.855.4000

Blackhawk  
4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir.  
Danville, CA 94506  
925.648.5300

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

Livermore  
1983 Second Stree  
Livermore, CA 94550  
925.667.2100

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



www.rockcliff.com

**PLEASANTON**



**GREAT FLOOR PLAN** 5BD/3½BA, backs to open space, 3 bedrooms on first level, master has walk-in closet & slider to deck, large open kitchen.

925.426.3800 \$1,599,000

**PLEASANTON**



**SO MANY UPGRADES** 3BD/2BA, refinished hardwood floors, new furnace, custom kitchen remodel, maple cabinets, natural stone counters, and much more.

925.426.3800 \$783,500

**DUBLIN**



**DESIRABLE DUBLIN LOCATION** 4BD/3BA, kitchen remodeled in 2006, w/granite counter tops & stainless steel appliances. Brand new carpet and paint.

925.426.3800 \$779,000

**PLEASANTON**



**BEAUTIFULLY UPGRADED & PRICED TO SELL.** 3BD/2½BA, w/decorator touches throughout. Custom paint w/crown moldings. Granite counter-tops.

925.426.3800 \$690,000

**PLEASANTON**



**BEAUTIFUL COURTYARD HOME** 3BD/2½BA, freshly painted, new carpet throughout, dual pane windows, close to shopping, BART, parks and schools.

925.426.3800 \$674,500

**LIVERMORE**



**EXQUISITE HOME** 4BD/3BA, formal dining room with patio door, living room with hardwood floors, upstairs bedrooms offer walk-in closets & ceiling fans.

925.426.3800 \$645,000

**PLEASANTON**



**DESIRABLE SHADOW CLIFFS HOME** 3BD/2BA, open & bright, newer kitchen with granite, newer appliances and tile floor, crown moulding.

925.426.3800 \$525,000

**LIVERMORE**



**SPACIOUS HOME** 3BD/2BA, including bonus rooms, gourmet kitchen with granite slab, newer appliances, walking distance to shopping.

925.426.3800 \$399,950

*Hometown GMAC Real Estate is an Independently Owned and Operated Firm*



**RE/MAX ACCORD**

VISIT WWW.REMAX.COM 5870 Stoneridge Mall Rd, Suite 150 925-847-8900



**7138 W. Woodbury Court, Pleasanton**

**PRICE REDUCED!!!** Spectacular approximately 4,000 sf single story in prestigious Pheasant Ridge. Features an award-winning floor plan offering 5 spacious bdrms, 4 full ba and an entertainment size gourmet kitchen/family room combo. You will love the large, gorgeous bkyd with spa, firepit, views and beautiful landscaping. In the kitchen you will find hdwd floors, granite countertops w/full backsplash, Wolf 6-burner gas cooktop and built-in stainless steel refrigerator plus much more. The home also includes 2 gas log frplcs, spacious master suite w/private bath that includes jetted spa tub. This truly is a must see. **Offered at \$1,569,000**

**JoAnne Durso**  
(925) 730-4006



**475 Abbie Street, Pleasanton**

**LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION** - Enjoy fabulous views/privacy from this quaint 3 bd/1 ba home located in one of Pleasanton's most historical neighborhoods. Walking distance to downtown, Farmer's Market and concerts in the park. Fabulous opportunity and potential for first time home buyer or investor. Generous 5,000 square foot lot with plenty of room for addition. Home features hardwood floors, fresh interior wall/ceiling texture and paint, new furnace, newer roof and new roll-up garage door. **Price to be determined.** Call JoAnne Durso at 925.730.4006 for information.

**JoAnne Durso**  
(925) 730-4006



**2163 Goldcrest, Pleasanton**

The best house for the money-this lovely, single story, detached and remodeled 2 bd/2 bath home features a new kitchen w/granite counters, beau. hardwood floors, decorator baths, 2 car garage, fireplace, your own backyd w/a patio to BBQ and entertain as well as an inground pool, and a quaint enclosed brick courtyard in the front. Absolutely no HOA dues!! An absolute delight and ready to move into. **Only \$580,000.** Call Rebecca Bruner, Remax/Accord, 577-8802 or email at Rebecca@remaxaccord.com

**Rebecca Bruner**  
(925) 577-8802



**RE/MAX...NOBODY in the World sells more Real Estate!!**

OFFICES IN PLEASANTON - MONTCLAIR - DANVILLE - LAFAYETTE - SAN RAMON - FREMONT - BLACKHAWK

## Home Sales

This week's data represents homes sold during December 2007

### Pleasanton

**1107 Baur Court** Ponderosa Homes to O. & S. Korshak for \$1,058,500  
**1110 Baur Court** Ponderosa Homes to D. & M. Seth for \$1,100,000  
**1131 Baur Court** Ponderosa Homes to T. Chu for \$1,040,000  
**232 Birch Creek Drive** Birch Terrace Pleasanton to M. Meschitehrani for \$538,000  
**248 Birch Creek Drive** Birch Terrace Pleasanton to M. Miller for \$205,000  
**4694 Carson Court** J. Lucas to S. Hussain for \$654,000  
**3436 Gravina Place** Cal State 9 Credit Union to N. & K. Palapati for \$1,125,000  
**5072 Porta Rossa Circle** Relocation Advantage to A. & S. Khatri for \$835,000  
**3380 Sandstone Court** Ponderosa Homes to R. Lai for \$1,603,000  
**2558 Skylark Way** A. Jermome to L. Seto for \$810,000

### Dublin

**8890 Bellina Commons** Braddock & Logan to R. & D. Cavanagh for \$480,000  
**8896 Bellina Commons** Braddock & Logan to C. & C. Yee for \$476,000  
**8898 Bellina Commons** Braddock & Logan to G. & C. Fong for \$453,000  
**3778 Branding Iron Place** Silvera Investors to J. McCoy for \$120,500  
**8552 Briarwood Lane** S. & S. Wilhite to M. Wright for \$715,000  
**5501 De Marcus Boulevard #327** Western Pacific Housing to J. Sun for \$435,000  
**5501 De Marcus Boulevard #423** Western Pacific Housing to V. & H. Mehta for \$187,000  
**5501 Demarcus Boulevard #218** Western Pacific Housing to R. & M. Deoliveira for \$468,000  
**5501 Demarcus Boulevard #233** Western Pacific Housing to R. Baratiak for \$509,500  
**5501 Demarcus Boulevard #263** Western Pacific Housing to C. White for \$182,000  
**5501 Demarcus Boulevard #310** Western Pacific Housing to J. Johnson for \$411,000  
**5501 Demarcus Boulevard #371** H. Wang to B. Wang for \$420,000  
**5501 Demarcus Boulevard #421** Western Pacific Housing to B. Roberts for \$530,000  
**5501 Demarcus Boulevard #439** Western Pacific Housing to S. Dunn for \$500,500  
**5501 Demarcus Boulevard #621** Western Pacific Housing to R. & D. Katsma for \$425,000  
**5501 Demarcus Boulevard #624** Western Pacific Housing to T. Chen for \$422,000  
**5501 Demarcus Boulevard #633** Western Pacific Housing to N. Qasimi for \$417,000  
**8905 San Ramon Road** Braddock & Logan to J. & D. Dsouza for \$480,000  
**8907 San Ramon Road** Braddock & Logan to R. & L. Guinto for \$495,000

**8911 San Ramon Road** Braddock & Logan to C. Eastin for \$445,000  
**5038 Shapleigh Court** CitiBank to A. Nguyen for \$995,000  
**4925 Thorndike Lane** Lennar Homes to J. Yip for \$750,000

### Livermore

**1364 Arroyo Road** Arroyo Crossing to Wright Trust for \$874,500  
**2573 Chablis Way** J. McCollough to R. & K. Swayne for \$490,000  
**1297 Deep Creek Road** Arroyo Crossing to D. & S. Martinez for \$868,000  
**588 Dovecote Lane #3** Shea Homes to R. Ekborn for \$566,000  
**2789 Elston Street** C. & A. Mangrum to D. & S. Bliss for \$950,000  
**573 Heligan Lane #4** Shea Homes to M. & S. O'Brien for \$607,500  
**2828 Lemon Common** Shea Homes to Tanner Trust for \$519,000  
**2865 Lemon Common** Shea Homes to E. Salabor for \$638,000  
**1321 Lillian Street** L. Watt to B. & I. Love for \$550,000

**1312 Melanie Way** H. Chapman to R. Tiago for \$635,000  
**3844 Pestana Way** A. & M. Potts to E. Zentner for \$410,000  
**2857 Salvia Common** Shea Homes to D. Xia for \$614,000  
**1227 Spring Valley Common** E. Rodriguez to D. Ramirez for \$398,000  
**5614 Stockton Loop** South Livermore Development to P. & L. Kish for \$1,050,000  
**6418 Tiffany Common** R. Flauta to J. & M. Natividad for \$525,000  
**2795 Vernazza Drive** Albright Trust to J. & M. Bueza for \$1,050,000

### San Ramon

**9965 Alcosta Boulevard** J. & D. Quinonez to B. Babakan for \$670,000  
**7512 Balmoral Way** Brookfield Campton to A. Rajan for \$1,069,500  
**3203 Barons Lane** Brookfield Emory to A. & S. Rastogi for \$790,000  
**3206 Barons Lane** Brookfield Emory to V. Surakanti for \$800,500  
**3209 Barons Lane** Brookfield Emory to P. Vallabhaneni for \$750,500  
**8075 Briar Oaks Drive** V. Nguyen to J. & N. Carey for \$820,000  
**3006 Browntail Way** Shapell Homes to S. Shikaripur for \$760,000  
**6353 Byron Lane** Centex Homes to B. & T. Ginn for \$600,000  
**6355 Byron Lane** Centex Homes to G. & F. Tsutsui for \$600,000  
**9635 Camassia Way** R. Desmarteau to S. & M. Bennett for \$710,000  
**9675 Camassia Way** D. Richardson to M. Derenzi for \$650,000  
**5006 Campion Drive** Shapell Homes to P. & S. Chin for \$975,000

**5009 Campion Drive** Shapell Homes to Finnegan Trust for \$865,000  
**610 Canyon Woods Court #B** Galli Trust to R. Seto for \$420,000  
**3011 Cedarwood Loop** Shapell Industries to N. Amin for \$580,500

**3137 Cedarwood Loop** Shapell Industries to C. & K. Lee for \$565,500  
**2951 Enfield Street** GMAC Model Home Finance to J. Shen for \$936,000  
**602 Fallen Leaf Circle** R. & T. Bea to V. & A. Pietroforte for \$701,000

**5115 Holborn Way** Centex Homes to X. Wang for \$941,000  
**5118 Holborn Way** Centex Homes to H. Shim for \$1,010,000  
**5200 Kenilworth Way** Shapell Homes to C. Esteves for \$876,500  
**3010 Lakemont Drive #5** SoundView Home Loan to W. Cheng for \$490,000  
**102 London Court** Centex Homes to J. Yoon for \$985,000

**110 London Court** Centex Homes to S. Raj for \$1,054,000  
**118 London Court** Centex Homes to A. Johansen for \$1,095,000

**5552 London Way** Centex Homes to W. Chen for \$1,000,000

**112 Lucy Lane** Shapell Homes to B. & K. Gandhi for \$876,000

**136 Paddington Court** Brookfield Campton to R. & H. Patel for \$801,500

**2656 Paige Way** Centex Homes to B. Yu for \$995,500  
**127 Pearlgrass Court** H. Yee to F. O'Connor for \$830,000

**421 Pinenut Court** L. & M. White to K. Wolken for \$639,000  
**135 Reflections Drive #17** San Ramon Reflections to B. & L. Lipscomb for \$425,000

**3612 Sandalford Way** T. Poh to D. Xie for \$808,000  
**5301 Sherwood Way** Centex Homes to A. & S. Jackson for \$645,000

**260 Terrazzo Circle** HSI Assets to Y. Sun for \$888,500  
**5528 Thayer Lane** Centex Homes to L. Kotecha for \$850,000

**5536 Thayer Lane** Centex Homes to Y. Wang for \$1,080,000  
**3250 Vera Cruz Drive** R. Perry to E. & S. Lin for \$778,000

**401 Watsonia Court** Shapell Homes to E. & S. Aquino for \$980,000  
**425 Watsonia Court** Shapell Homes to E. Katz for \$1,100,000

**431 Watsonia Court** Shapell Homes to W. Kam for \$975,000  
**5709 Wells Lane** Brookfield Hawthorne to A. & N. Shan for \$1,003,000

## Sales at a Glance

Source: California REsource

Pleasanton	Dublin	Livermore	San Ramon
Total sales reported: 10	Total sales reported: 22	Total sales reported: 16	Total sales reported: 42
Lowest sale reported: \$205,000	Lowest sale reported: \$120,500	Lowest sale reported: \$398,000	Lowest sale reported: \$420,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,603,000	Highest sale reported: \$995,000	Highest sale reported: \$1,050,000	Highest sale reported: \$1,100,000
Average sales reported: \$896,850	Average sales reported: \$468,932	Average sales reported: \$671,563	Average sales reported: \$818,798

## Jumpstart

(continued from page 32)

immediate infusion of much needed liquidity to the nation's mortgage market. While such an increase will not solve the full range of housing challenges, it will play an important role in improving the nation's economy."

An economic impact study conducted by NAR earlier this month estimated that increasing the GSEs' conforming loan limits would result in as many as 500,000 refinanced loans and could help reduce foreclosures by as much as 210,000. In addition, over 300,000 additional home sales could be generated.

"These are real results and can have an immediate and sustainable impact for families across our country," said Gaylord.

"We are also pleased that the House made the GSE limits retroactive to July 1, 2007," he said. "This, too, will provide greater

liquidity to the market by allowing Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to purchase more mortgages."

Additionally, NAR recognized the favorable tax treatment in the bill for certain commercial building improvements and noted the immediate positive impact this could have on cash flow.

While pleased with the quick action to pass the economic stimulus package, NAR urged Congress to complete broader FHA reform legislation. These reforms, including reducing down payment requirements and streamlining certain FHA processes, would make FHA more accessible to more American families and further jumpstart the housing market, according to the NAR.

"We would also like to see the increase to the loan limits made permanent and we will continue to work with Congress and the administration to pass legislation that modernizes the FHA making it a more viable alternative, and permanently increases the loan limits for both FHA and the GSEs," Gaylord said. ■

## Sales decrease

(continued from page 32)

remains a serious problem. Just under half of the California market relies on jumbo loans, but funds are limited because of the liquidity crunch and because the rate spread between jumbos and conforming loans is three to four times greater than normal."

Highlights of C.A.R.'s resale housing figures for December 2007:

- C.A.R.'s Unsold Inventory Index for existing, single-family detached homes in December 2007 was 14.5 months, compared with 5.9 months (revised) for the same period a year ago. The index indicates the number of months needed to deplete the supply of homes on the market at the current sales rate.
- Thirty-year fixed-mortgage interest rates averaged 6.10 percent during December 2007, compared with 6.14 percent in December 2006, according to Freddie Mac. Adjustable-mortgage interest rates averaged 5.50 percent in December 2007 compared with 5.45 percent in December 2006.
- The median number of days it took to sell a single-family home was 67.2 days in December 2007, compared with 72.1 (revised) for the same period a year ago.
- Regional MLS sales and price information is contained in the tables that accompany this press release. Regional sales data are not adjusted to account for seasonal factors that can influence home sales. The MLS median price and sales data for detached homes are generated from a survey of more than 90 associations of Realtors throughout

the state. MLS median price and sales data for condominiums are based on a survey of more than 60 associations. The median price for both detached homes and condominiums represents closed escrow sales.

In a separate report covering more localized statistics generated by CAR and DataQuick Information Systems, 8.8 percent, or 25 out of 285 cities and communities, showed an increase in their respective median home prices from a year ago. DataQuick statistics are based on county records data rather than MLS information. DataQuick Information Systems is a subsidiary of Vancouver-based MacDonald Dettwiler and Associates. The top 10 lists are generated for incorporated cities with a minimum of 30 recorded sales in the month.

Statewide, the 10 cities and communities with the highest median home prices in California during December 2007 were: Burlingame, \$1,590,000; Los Gatos, \$1,400,000; San Juan Capistrano, \$1,125,000; San Clemente, \$1,007,000; Santa Monica, \$950,000; Danville, \$949,000; Encinitas \$900,000; Redwood City, \$837,500; Santa Barbara, \$835,000; and San Ramon, \$750,500.

Statewide, the 10 cities and communities with the greatest median home price increases in December 2007 compared with the same period a year ago were: Los Gatos, 44.3 percent; Encinitas, 23.8 percent; Burlingame, 20 percent; Chino Hills, 16.4 percent; Mountain View, 14.1 percent; Redwood City, 10.9 percent; San Clemente, 9.9 percent; Moorpark, 7.2 percent; Santa Cruz, 5 percent; and South Lake Tahoe, 4.8 percent.

—Jeb Bing

# 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](http://www.PleasantonWeekly.com/real_estate)

## PLEASANTON

2 Bedrooms		
<b>2163 Goldcrest Cir.</b>	<b>\$580,000</b>	
Sun 1-4 Remax	730-1628	
3 Bedrooms		
<b>1770 Magnolia Cir.</b>	<b>\$629,900</b>	
Sat 12-3 Fracisco Realty	337-3750	
<b>3590 Florian St.</b>	<b>\$652,000</b>	
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC	426-3889	
<b>1037 Hometown Wy.</b>	<b>\$749,900</b>	
Sat 1-4 Alain Pinel	447-2723	
4 Bedrooms		
<b>1397 Whispering Oaks Wy.</b>	<b>\$1,029,000</b>	
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel	846-6500	
<b>26 Castlewood Dr.</b>	<b>\$1,249,000</b>	
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC	426-3833	
<b>1743 Spumante Pl.</b>	<b>\$1,850,000</b>	
Sat 1-4 Keller Williams	216-7082	
<b>964 Piemonte Dr.</b>	<b>\$2,099,950</b>	
Sat 1-4 Alain Pinel	251-1111	
<b>72 Castlewood Dr.</b>	<b>\$2,350,000</b>	
Sun 1-4 Sotheby's	484-2045	
<b>6056 Sequoia Ct.</b>	<b>\$759,000</b>	
Sun 1-4 Byerly Properties Inc.	846-1234	
<b>2630 Minton Ct.</b>	<b>\$825,000</b>	
Sat 1-4 Coldwell Banker	847-2200	
5 Bedrooms		
<b>7914 Paragon Cir.</b>	<b>\$1,899,000</b>	
Sat 1-4/Sun 12-3 Alain Pinel	846-6500	

## LIVERMORE

2 Bedrooms		
<b>3120 Arcadia Cmn. Unit 404</b>	<b>\$374,900</b>	
Sat 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors	583-2181	
3 Bedrooms		
<b>5525 Haggin Oaks Ave.</b>	<b>\$514,999</b>	
Sat 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors	525-0116	
<b>562 Caliente</b>	<b>\$599,900</b>	
Sat 1-4 Hometown GMAC-Louise Davis	426-3834	
4 Bedrooms		
<b>2752 Chablis Wy.</b>	<b>\$1,138,000</b>	
Sat 2-5 J. Rockcliff Realtors	580-4513	
<b>6608 Tiffany Cmn.</b>	<b>\$549,000</b>	
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC	963-8322	
<b>1119 Madison Ave.</b>	<b>\$599,000</b>	
Sat/Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors	525-0116	
<b>1836 Heidelberg Dr.</b>	<b>\$749,000</b>	
Sun 11-3 J. Rockcliff Realtors	518-6094	
<b>1579 Frankfurt Wy.</b>	<b>\$769,000</b>	
Sat 12:30-3:30 J. Rockcliff	251-2523	
<b>4293 Bellmawr Dr.</b>	<b>\$799,900</b>	
Sat 1-4 Alain Pinel	583-1121	
5 Bedrooms		
<b>1642 Feldspar Ct.</b>	<b>\$939,000</b>	
Sat 1-4 Alain Pinel	583-1121	

## DUBLIN

3 Bedrooms		
<b>11474 Silvergate Dr.</b>	<b>\$649,000</b>	
Sun 1:30-3:30 J. Rockcliff Realtors	570-0717	
4 Bedrooms		
<b>10762 Inspiration Cir.</b>	<b>\$1,028,000</b>	
Sat 1-4 Alain Pinel	583-1121	
<b>7795 Bloomfield Terrace</b>	<b>\$1,385,000</b>	
Sat 1-4 Hometown GMAC	800-362-6257	
<b>7765 Dublin Green Ct.</b>	<b>\$659,950</b>	
Sun 1:30-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors	200-2525	
<b>6023 Hillbrook Pl.</b>	<b>\$699,000</b>	
Sun 12-3 Coldwell Banker	784-3068	

## SAN RAMON

3 Bedrooms		
<b>4601 Fountainhead Dr.</b>	<b>\$435,000</b>	
Sun 12-3 Hometown GMAC	858-5400	

## DANVILLE

4 Bedrooms		
<b>842 Matadera Cir.</b>	<b>\$1,199,888</b>	
Sat/Sun 1-4 Keller Williams	260-2508	

## CASTRO VALLEY

4 Bedrooms		
<b>22759 Rancho Palomares Pl.</b>	<b>\$819,000</b>	
Sat 1-4 J. Rockcliff	510-886-0400	

<b>25339 Gold Hills Dr.</b>	<b>\$839,000</b>	
Sat 1-4 J. Rockcliff	510-886-0400	

## SAN LEANDRO

3 Bedrooms		
<b>14261 Ivy Ct.</b>	<b>\$474,000</b>	
Sat/Sun 1-4 Prudential CA	876-6575	

## DISCOVERY BAY

6 Bedrooms		
<b>6383 Crystal Springs Cir.</b>	<b>\$523,000</b>	
Sat 1-4 J. Rockcliff	510-886-0400	

## FREMONT

3 Bedrooms		
<b>32411 Lake Ree St.</b>	<b>\$529,000</b>	
Sun 1-4 Re/Max Accord	577-2600	
<b>5448 Alamo Terrace</b>	<b>\$838,888</b>	
Sat/Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors	251-2580	

## SAN JOSE

3 Bedrooms		
<b>4094 Forestbrook Wy.</b>	<b>\$588,000</b>	
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker	847-2200	

## Featured Properties



**Livermore**- You'll love this charming 3 BR 2 BA home with 1198 square feet. This home features new carpet & interior paint, a cozy family room with fireplace, inside laundry, large backyard, & a 2 car garage with a mechanic's office/bath combo. Conveniently located to shopping, schools & seconds from May Nissen swim/park. Priced to sell!

**311 Rincon Avenue \$499,000**



**Livermore** - Cute 3 bedroom 2 bath home with over 1400 square feet of living space, a large rear yard, and a newer roof and air conditioning unit. Large formal living area, dining area with hardwood floors, and a family room with fireplace. Walk to park and schools.

**1360 Wilton Road \$519,900**



**Castro Valley** - Ready to build your dream home on this rarely available .92 acre lot down a country lane! Architectural renderings and Hydrology report available. Easy commute to San Francisco and/or Silicon Valley. Adjoining lot is also available!

**A Madison Common \$699,000**



**San Ramon** - Wow! Beautiful former model home with incredible upgrades! Stainless Steel appliances, Cherry spice cabinets, Granite slab counters, built in refrigerator, and a wine refrigerator. Home theatre package in family room, great woodwork and built-ins throughout. Slate, Stone, Travertine and upgraded carpet, plus upstairs laundry room and a large lot! A Must See!

**2557 McLaren Lane \$749,900**



**Livermore** - Lushly landscaped 1/3 acre on a court! Updated throughout: granite, marble, stainless steel appliances, maple cabinets and floors. Downstairs office could be bedroom #5. 3 fireplaces, balcony to view the sunsets, salt water pool with a waterfall and a beach entry. Library/computer room off big family room.

**1461 Sauvignon Court \$1,265,000**



**Livermore** - Beautiful 5 BR 4.5 BA home within the vineyards! Granite slab counters with upgraded stainless steel appliances, wine refrigerator, Butlers pantry, two tone paint, newer carpet, crown molding, large master suite with marble flooring & counter tops, gleaming hardwood flooring, and a large lot with sport court backing to the vineyards!

**2294 Minerva Court \$1,372,900**



**Pleasanton** - An invitation to live your best life is extended from the moment you step across the stunning entry foyer and into this sumptuously appointed custom estate. The incredible 5 bedroom floor plan has all that you desire, a great room with game area and bar, a home theater, fine study, a spacious master suite and a true gourmet kitchen.

**3916 Vierra Street \$2,699,000**



**Pleasanton** - Remarkable construction and style in this Italian beauty! This Ruby Hill home sits on a 1/2 acre lot with views of Livermore and Mt. Diablo. The court location will please even the most discriminating buyer. The features include 4 bedrooms, 5.5 baths, a huge billiards room with media nook, a bonus room, and a huge formal office off the master suite.

**3630 Pontina Court \$3,000,000**



Ruby Hill Division - 101 East Vineyard Ave, Suite 103  
Livermore, CA 94550

925.417.2250



# COLDWELL BANKER



**BLACKHAWK**  
44 TENNIS CLUB DR.  
**TOTALLY REMODELED!** \$1,299,995  
4 BR 2 BA over 3,000 sqft, semi-custom hme. Remodeled top to bottom! Premium lot w/ breathtaking views 925.847.2200



**DUBLIN**  
8081 CROSSRIDGE ROAD  
**GREAT HOME** CALL FOR PRICE  
3 BR 2 BA backs to open space, lrg mstr suite, upgrdd/int paint/crpt/tile flrs, www.Romar-Properties.net 925.847.2200



**LIVERMORE**  
1161 CENTRAL AVE  
**BEAUTIFULLY UPGRADED HOME** \$674,000  
4 BR 3 BA granite kit cntrs w/Island/Brazilian cherry wd flrs, upgrdd neutr crpt, 1bd/1 full ba down 925.847.2200



**PLEASANTON**  
SAT 1 - 4 2630 MINTON COURT  
**WHAT'S NOT TO LOVE?!** \$825,000  
4 BR 3 BA cathedral ceilings, eat-in kit/nook. Fm rm w/frplc, spcious mst suite/bth, awesome hill views 925.847.2200

## BENICIA

350 BLANCHARD LN.  
**SPECTACULAR END UNIT** \$349,950  
2 BR 2 BA Upgraded end unit w/views! Paint/flr/crown mldng/+ 1 car gar. Greenbelt, prks/shppng nearby 925.847.2200

## DUBLIN

5700 KINGSMILL TER  
**DUBLIN RANCH GOLF CLUB** \$2,100,000  
5 BR 5.5 BA w/library, kit w/Maple Raised Panel cabs, Grnite Slb Cntrtps, dual stircse, dramatic ceilings 925.847.2200  
7448 BRIGADOON WAY  
**NESTLED IN THE HILLS** \$474,900  
2 BR 2 BA apx. 1103 Sqft. Vaulted ceilings, attchd gar, comm pl/spa, Shpping/restaurants minutes away 925.847.2200

## LIVERMORE

657 S. M STREET  
**QUEEN ANNE VICTORIAN** \$830,000  
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

519 CALIENTE AVE  
**BEAUTIFUL SUNSET HOME** \$699,000  
4 BR 2 BA remodeled completely, new kit w/ granite, lush rear yard w/pool, new baths, hard wd flooring 925.847.2200

1866 CORTE CAVA  
**NEWER TOWN HOME** \$520,000  
3 BR 3 BA +loft, new crpt, paint, town home on cul-de-sac, loft adds extra bonus rm, prof landscp bckyard 925.847.2200

1634 3RD ST  
**QUAINT SOUTHSIDE RETREAT** \$599,500  
2 BR 1 BA Walk to downtown/shppg, Lrg Liv

Rm, Custom Kit w/SS Jenn Air appl/Dual pane wndws, Hrdwd flrs 925.847.2200

## PLEASANTON

1633 LAGUNA CREEK LANE  
**AN ABSOLUTE MASTERPIECE** \$1,888,000  
5 BR 5.5 BA Stunning 5,329 sf, w/2 Masters/Li-brary. Distressed cherry HW flr, European kitchen w/ Sub Zero 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

3231 VINEYARD AVE. #120  
**SENIOR LIVING** \$89,000  
2 BR 2 BA open floor plan w/newer dual pane win/plush carpet, sun porch/storage + 2 space carport 925.847.2200

## SAN JOSE

SAT/SUN 1 - 4 4094 FORESTBROOK WAY  
**BEAUTIFUL HOME** \$588,000  
3 BR 2 BA newer crpet, paint, flooring, copper repipe within a year, dual pane wibdows, roof 3 years 925.847.2200

## SAN RAMON

3063 SORRELWOOD DRIVE  
**BEYOND BEAUTY** \$1,121,000  
4 BR 2.5 BA 2518 sqft, 10,100 sqft lot Hrdwd, tile flrng Downstairs Mstr Bdrm Suite w/access to bckyard 925.847.2200

"If you are a licensed realtor interested in joining our real estate office please contact Wraijeane Crane, Manager at 925-847-2222. We look forward to welcoming you to Coldwell Banker!"

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Pleasanton 925.847.2200 5980 Stoneridge Drive, Ste. 122

Established 1906

**COLDWELL BANKER**

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## The latest from The 680 Blog

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

### A Guide to "RealtorSpeak"

We've all seen them. And if we REALTORS are honest, we have written some of them as well. I'm talking about the real estate clichés that are seemingly in every ad, sign, and description of homes for sale. Lest you be confused, I have decided to take some of the mystery out of the most commonly used phrases and tell you what they really mean in plain English. Please understand that I am not in any way suggesting that Realtors are prone to exaggeration. It's just that sometimes our definition of a word or phrase is somewhat different from what a consumer's definition would be. Here are some examples.

- "I'm Gorgeous Inside" = I know the house isn't that great on the outside, and neither is the inside, but I have to put something on the sign for crying out loud. Seems as good a choice as any.
- "Hurry, won't last!" = There is nothing about this house that will generate any excitement or enthusiasm on the part of buyers, so maybe if I put this phrase in there, a buyer will feel some sense of urgency to see it.
- "Honey Stop the Car!" = This house is really boring, and the only way to get you to notice it is to physically pull the car over and look at it.
- "Bring Your Paintbrush" = House has major issues, and probably has thousands in termite and other damage.
- "Contractor's Special!" = House basically needs to be rebuilt from the ground up.
- "Motivated Sellers" = Sellers are really motivated to sell at that price. Their motivation, however, dissipates quickly as your offering price drops.
- "Seller says make an offer" = House is overpriced, and rather than reduce the price like most smart sellers, seller wants to hedge his bet in case someone with more money than brains wants to pay him too much for the house. And this is smart, because there are so many of those buyers out there.
- "Updated Kitchen" = The seller replaced the leaky faucet with a new one, or has painted the cabinets, but has otherwise not touched the kitchen in 20 years. >> **Go to The680Blog.com to read the rest of this article.**

Visit [www.The680Blog.com](http://www.The680Blog.com) for more insights, commentary, and news about Pleasanton & the Tri Valley Area!



Just Listed! Newer custom single story in the Sycamore Heights/Bridle Creek area. 5 bedrooms, 4 full baths, gorgeous cherry & granite kitchen, hardwood floors, elegant master suite with bath, and private cul-de-sac lot with views. Offered at \$1,849,000



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LOFLAND**



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**LAGUNA OAKS**



**OPEN SAT 1-4 & SUN 12-3**

**7914 PARAGON CIRCLE, PLEASANTON**  
Largest model in desirable Laguna Oaks. This expanded Laguna model on a premium .46 acre lot has panoramic views of Pleasanton Ridge and Mt. Diablo. Five large bedrooms, bonus/media room plus formal office. Approximately 4,592 square feet. Open kitchen with granite slab countertops. Large family room with extra billiard/gaming table area. Expansive rear yard with in ground pool and spa, built in BBQ entertainment area, extensive covered slate patios and fire pit area. Exceptional curb appeal. Oversized driveway, great when entertaining. A short walk to the community pool, park, and tennis courts. **OFFERED AT \$1,899,000**

**BRAND NEW CUSTOM HOME**



**PENDING SALE**

**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**



**JUST REDUCED**

**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 \$1,029,000**

**LAGUNA OAKS**



**SOLD**

**2565 ARLOTTA PLACE, PLEASANTON**  
Best location in Laguna Oaks! Desirable La Jolla model with downstairs master on premium .40 acre lot. Four bedrooms, bonus/media room plus formal office. Three and a half bathrooms. Approximately 3,886 square feet. Private, park-like rear yard with waterfall, Koi pond and meditation area. Expansive lawn area (pool site). Large kitchen with granite countertops. Spacious downstairs master with his/her walk in closets. New carpet throughout. A short walk to the community pool, park, and tennis courts.

**REMODELED DOWNTOWN HOME**



**SOLD**

**4355 2ND STREET, PLEASANTON**  
Remodeled home on desirable 2nd Street in Pleasanton. Sit back on your expansive front porch and enjoy this quiet Downtown location. Two and a half bedrooms, two baths, plus guest studio cottage with one bath and kitchenette. Remodeled kitchen with granite slab countertops, and stainless steel appliances. Remodeled bathrooms. Plantation shutters. Newer dual pane windows. Newer roof. Six panel doors with polished nickel hardware. Many upgrades include crown molding and baseboards throughout. Check it out!

**BONDE RANCH**



**SOLD**

**812 GENEVIEVE PLACE, PLEASANTON**  
Single level Shapell home with expansive panoramic views of Pleasanton Ridge. Three bedrooms, plus formal office. Two baths. Approximately 2,302 square feet. Approximately .25 acre lot. Upgraded kitchen with granite slab countertops, and brand new stainless steel appliances. Plantation shutters. Hardwood flooring throughout. New paint. Professionally landscaped. Walk to Main Street. Don't miss this one!

**PLEASANTON VALLEY**



**SOLD**

**4856 WINGATE DRIVE, PLEASANTON**

BLAISE REPRESENTED BUYER

**PHEASANT RIDGE MODEL**



**SOLD**

**PHEASANT RIDGE MODEL**

BLAISE REPRESENTED BUYER

**NOW, MORE THAN EVER,  
EXPERIENCE CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE...**

Blaise Lofland has been a resident of Pleasanton for 25 years, and a full-time realtor for more than 20 years. He has been Pleasanton's top producing residential resale realtor from 2000-2007\*.

Blaise has earned the respect of clients and colleagues alike by helping people maximize their buying and selling potential and providing the facts needed to make well informed decisions. His knowledge of the Tri-Valley market, available financing, genuine concern, follow-through, and straight forward approach has helped many families and investors fulfill their real estate needs.

*\*Cumulative per MLS.*

P-TOWN WEEKLY REAL ESTATE INVENTORY AND SALES ACTIVITY WATCH				
	Actives	**	New Pendings (past week)	**
Single Family Homes Under \$1,000,000	78	↑	2	↓
Single Family Homes Over \$1,000,000	74	↑	3	↑
Single Family Homes Over \$2,000,000	29	↑	0	same
Total # Of Single Family Homes In Pleasanton	152	↑	5	↓

*This is a weekly watch for Pleasanton Residents to monitor active inventory and pending sales overall or by price range.  
\*\* Arrows represent an increase or decrease in the units in a given category.*



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

**ANDY PORYES OPEN SATURDAY 1-4**



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. 964 Piemonte Dr

**BLAISE LOFLAND OPEN SAT 1-4 & SUN 12-3**



Pleasanton \$1,899,000  
Largest model in desirable Laguna Oaks. This expanded Laguna model on a premium .46+/-acre lot has panoramic views of Pleasanton Ridge and Mt. Diablo. Five large bedrooms, bonus/media room plus formal office. 7914 Paragon Cir

**UWE MAERCZ BY APPOINTMENT**



Pleasanton \$1,799,000  
Lowest price ever to own a custom home at Ruby Hills! Formal French home with 4112+/-sf, 4bd/3.5ba and 2 bonus rooms.

**PETER MCDOWELL BY APPOINTMENT**



Danville \$1,495,000  
Beautiful 4bd/3ba home set back from the street with a private driveway. No rear neighbors. Open entry, spacious floor plan. Two fireplaces. Great landscaping, fruit trees, gazebo, pool and spa.

**SUSIE STEELE BY APPOINTMENT**



Livermore \$990,000  
Gorgeous Savoy Model features 5bd/4ba, 3541+/-sf of living space on a 9398+/-sf lot near Livermore Wine Country. Highly upgraded with slab granite, GE Pro Series appliances.

**SALLY MARTIN BY APPOINTMENT**



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

**LINDA TRAURIG BY APPOINTMENT**



Pleasanton \$960,000  
Stunning 5bd/2.5ba home in wonderful Del Prado neighborhood. Very open kitchen/family room with addition to dining area. Large master/vaulted ceilings. Beautiful backyard.

**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.

**MOXLEY TEAM BY APPOINTMENT**



Pleasanton \$859,000  
3bd/2ba 2,156+/-sf of living space. Expanded family room, custom wood-working throughout. Corner location, breakfast nook in kitchen, and hardwood flooring.

**MOXLEY TEAM BY APPOINTMENT**



Pleasanton \$840,000  
4bd/3ba 1,977+/-sf. Hardwood flooring, kitchen opens to family room. Formal dining room and eat-in kitchen set up. Located across from Del Prado Park.

**MOXLEY TEAM BY APPOINTMENT**



Pleasanton \$822,000  
5bd/3ba, 2538+/-sf. 2 Master suites. Baths recently remodeled. Hardwood flooring, recessed lighting. Kitchen with eat in area. Walk in closet in master.

**MARK JAMES BY APPOINTMENT**



Pleasanton \$773,000  
Absolutely gorgeous 2040+/-sf home with 4bd/2ba, plus bonus room. Private cul-de-sac location. Recently upgraded.

**BRAD SLABAUGH OPEN SATURDAY 1-4**



Pleasanton \$749,900  
No rear neighbors! Detached single family home built in 1998. Contemporary features include "Great Room" concept, generous light, volume ceilings. 3bd/2.5ba, 2029+/-sf. Close to downtown Pleasanton. 1037 Hometown Way

**TIM MCGUIRE BY APPOINTMENT**



Pleasanton \$649,900  
Stunning 2+bd/2ba, 1400+/-sf, Danbury Park Townhome with bonus room/office. Remodeled granite/maple kitchen and granite/cherry baths, Cherry hardwood floors, all appliances included.

**MAUREEN NOKES BY APPOINTMENT**



Livermore \$444,950  
Single level duet 3bd/2ba home on a huge corner 5000+/-sf lot. Spacious eat in kitchen. A/C, dual pane windows. Close to neighborhood pool and park.

**LINDA TRAURIG BY APPOINTMENT**



Pleasanton \$330,000  
Cute as a button 2bd/1ba Townhouse nestled in the Foothills. Pleated shades throughout. Mirrored closet doors and built in shelves in Master. Great location in a quiet court. Close to pool/playground.