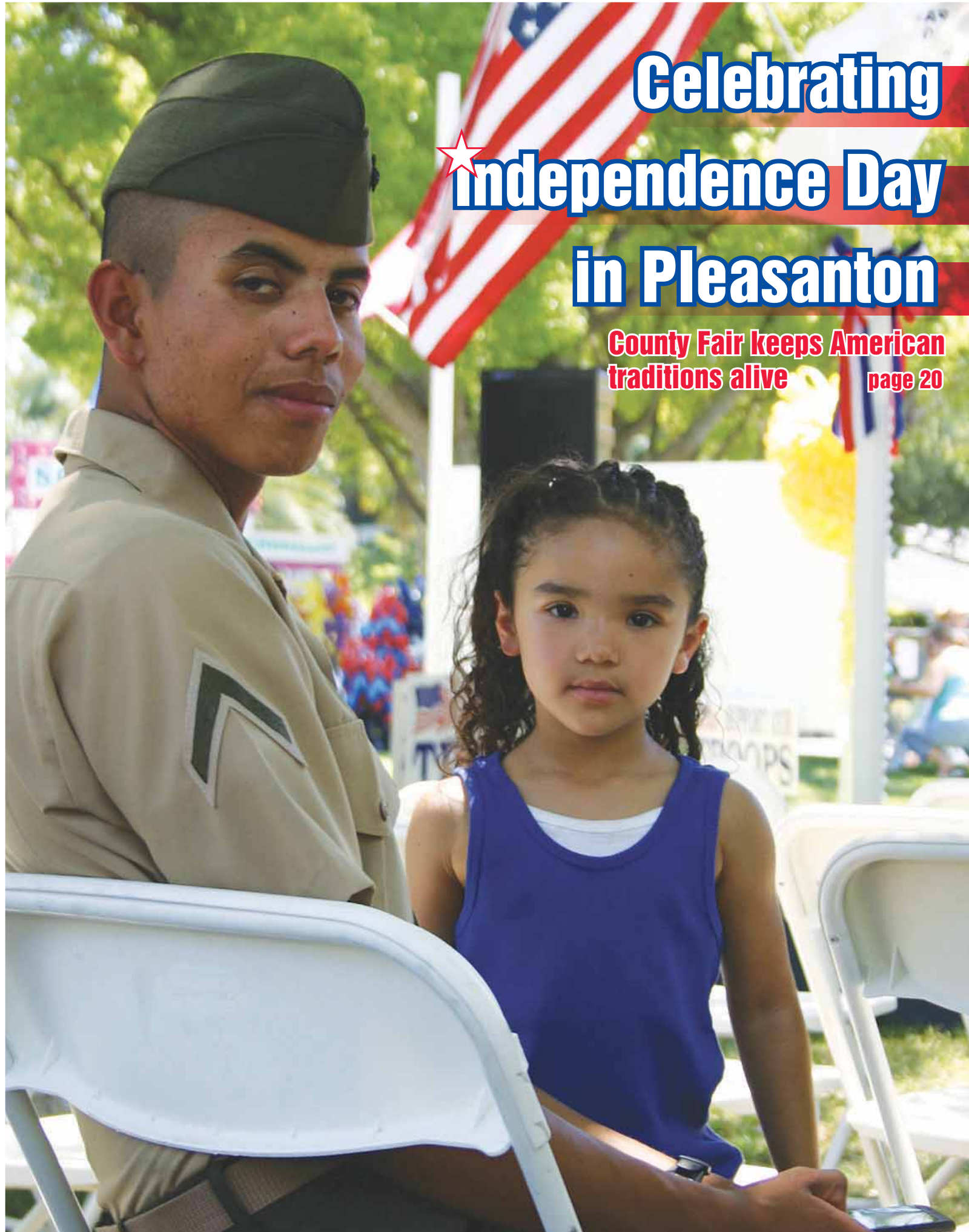


PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Vol. VII, Number 23 • June 30, 2006

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It's all about Pleasanton



Celebrating ★ Independence Day in Pleasanton

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more than
20 percent
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OPEN SUN 1-4

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OPEN SUN 1-4

LIVERMORE

378 JEANNIE WAY \$799,000
 4 bed, 3 bath, fireplace, New carpet, Remodeled kitchen with granite counters, Vaulted ceilings, Option for side yard access, Spacious back yard with fabulous deck.
GLORIA GRIEVE 925.251.2515



OPEN SUN 1-4

PLEASANTON

5738 BELLEZA DRIVE \$599,000
 2bd/2ba, 1,294 +/- sq ft townhome, Bright End Unit, Cozy Fireplace in the Livingroom, Lovely Patio Deck, Vaulted Ceiling, Indoor Laundry.
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OPEN SUN 1-4

DUBLIN

5228 CHARLTON COURT, \$765,000
 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, +/- 1,634 square feet, tile entryway, kitchen and master baths, wall to wall carpeting throughout, no rear neighbors, built in 2000.
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SAN RAMON

35 ELMWOOD DRIVE \$814,500
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Around Pleasanton

by Jeb Bing

Celebrate freedom at Tuesday's 'down home' festivities

“Let Freedom Ring” is the theme of this year’s eighth annual Fourth of July community picnic and Independence Day celebration in Lions Wayside park at Neal and First streets, traditionally one of the best family events in the Bay Area. Still the work of a small, but distinguished all-volunteer committee, it’s a chance for all age groups to grab a blanket or folding chair and enjoy 1-1/2 hours of non-stop patriotic band music, songs and special entertainment. This year, the event starts at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, an hour later than last year, with sign-off at 2:30, giving everyone a chance to head for holiday barbecues or night-time fireworks in Livermore, San Ramon, or on the San Francisco waterfront.

Adding local color to this year’s celebration will be vocalist Warren Belding, wearing the same Uncle Sam costume he wore in high school a few decades ago; Poet Laureate Emeritus Kirk Ridgeway, to be dressed in Colonial garb; and Ormond Eckley, in costume as General Pleasanton, the 19th Century military leader whose name with its unorthodox spelling might have been name of our town except for an error by a Western Union dispatcher, who spelled it the way it is today.

A highlight of the event will be the Pleasanton Community Concert Band under the direction of Bob Williams, whose music has thrilled thousands since the country’s bicentennial celebration 30 years ago. Williams, recovering from surgery on his right shoulder, has learned to use his left arm to swing the baton as well as to search through his storage chest of patriotic music for any occasion. With the Liberty Bell as this year’s theme, a few of his selections will include music popular to the Colonists as well as the Tories at a time when the Declaration of Independence was signed. Joining him will be four families performing their bell choir accompaniments. Again this year, two community leaders will be

recognized as recipients of the Ed Kinney Community Patriot Award: the late Hank Gomez and School Board member Juanita Haugen. The two were selected by the Fourth of July Celebration committee of volunteers, who also included in their selection process the two winners from last year, Roger McLain and Jack Dove. Corporal Gomez, who served in World War II and Korea, moved to Pleasanton in 1966 with his wife Dorothy and their children Frank and Debra. Hank Gomez served on the Parks and Recreation Commission for nine years and was a leader in both the Pleasanton Lions Club and local Post 6298 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The award to Gomez, who died at the age of 75 in 2002, will be accepted by his widow.

Haugen, a graduate of the University of Southern California, moved to Pleasanton in 1970 with her husband Gil, where they raised four daughters. First elected to the school board in 1979, she is the longest serving trustee, where she has also served as board president several times. She has also served on education, strategy, policy and political committees throughout the country and was elected president of the California School Boards Association in 1996.

When local businessman Ron Sutton started the uniquely Pleasanton Independence Day program in 1998, he called the event “Celebrating Freedom and its Evolution since the Revolution.” At the start, there were more volunteers and presenters on stage than in the audience. That’s changed. This year, with July 4 on a Tuesday, shortened hours at the Fairgrounds and parking fees, gasoline and tickets to other Fourth of July events at an all-time high, Sutton looks for 600 or more at the Lions Wayside Park festivities. Besides the free entertainment, the Lions Club also will be offering a hot dog and a beverage for just \$1, and hand-held flags to the first 400 to arrive. It’s a mid-day celebration you won’t want to miss. See you there. ■

About the Cover

Private First Class Jonathan Maltez and Arianna Rubiacio, 3, spend the day at the Fair during Military Appreciation Weekend, which was last weekend. Rubiacio was at the Fair with her mother, who is sergeant in the military. In addition to checking out the fun Fair events, the two also spent time with the Hummer memorial made by a mother whose son died in Iraq. Cover photo by Jason Lind.

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Streetwise

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Asked at the Alameda County Fair

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Dan Foster
San Francisco Chronicle Circulation Department

I like that the Fair is family oriented. There's something for everyone. Kids love the rides, and the adults enjoy the horse racing.

Anne Longmuir
Software Sales

I love the concerts. I also enter a lot of things for judging, so I come on opening night to see if I have won any prizes. The fireworks are a great way to end the evening.



Alan Longmuir
Golf Pro

I enjoy the concerts. I like to visit the livestock, cows, pigs and sheep. I think sometimes folks forget what those critters look like, so we have to remind ourselves. But I hate all the food at the Fair.

Ashley Strasburg
Customer Service

I love the Fair. There's awesome food, fun rides and great concerts. I visit a couple of times while the Fair is in town.



Lisa Faria
District attorney

I like to visit the Young California Building. I love to see what people have cooked, sewn or created. My Girl Scout Troop enters something every year, so we come to the Fair together to check out the competition.

Have a Streetwise question? E-mail: editor@PleasantonWeekly.com
Compiled by Cybele Ryan

Newsfront

News Digest

Graduation DVD available

The school district is selling DVDs of the 2006 Amador Valley and Foothill high school graduation ceremonies. Each DVD is \$10. They can be purchased through the district office. Order forms are available at the district's Web site, www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us.

LPC Foundation appoints new director

The Las Positas College Foundation recently appointed Jeff Manchester to its board of directors. Manchester, a Pleasanton resident, has worked at Sandia National Laboratories for 25 years and currently manages public relations and strategic communication for the lab. He joins 19 other directors on the panel. The Foundation was established in 2003 to provide funding support for Las Positas, as well as educate the community about opportunities at the college. Funds generated by the Foundation go to scholarships, staff development, technology upgrades and performing arts.

Retired teachers give awards

The Tri-Valley California Retired Teachers Association awarded five \$100 stipends to Tri-Valley classroom teachers. The awardees are Donna Adkins of Vintage Hills Elementary School, Anne Warner of Village High School, Monica Berryhill of Dublin Elementary School, Patti Belleci of Emma C. Smith School in Livermore and Nancy Brazil of Sunol Glen School. Teachers submitted applications, and the committee based its decision on the school district, grade level, subject matter and individual needs.

Donate for 'Dignity'

Bob and Deb Cilk of United California Brokers in collaboration with Operation Dignity, an outreach organization serving veterans who are facing homelessness and addiction, are currently collecting donations. The organization is looking to receive men's t-shirts, socks and underwear, and "gently used" bedding for twin beds. Donations can be delivered to the Cilk's office, located at 351 St. Mary St., during business hours. Contact the Cilks at 417-7129 or pleasantonhomes@gmail.com for more information.

Roundabouts coming off Vineyard

Two-mile stretch to be free of speed controls

by Jeb Bing

Work will get under way next month to tear out two controversial traffic roundabouts on Vineyard Avenue, located approximately mid-way between Montevino Drive and Ruby Hill on Pleasanton's east side.

The council voted 3-1 to approve a low bid of \$544,660 by Granite Construction Co. of Santa Clara to handle the project. Granite,

which also owns and operates the asphalt manufacturing plant on county land just north of Vineyard, will remove the roundabouts and replace them with regular 12-foot travel lanes. The company also will widen Vineyard where the roundabouts are located to allow turning and merging lanes in and out of Thiessen Street, and to add six-foot-wide bicycle lanes.

The decision, with Mayor

Jennifer Hosterman opposed and Councilman Matt Sullivan absent, ends the public debate that started two years ago when the newly aligned Vineyard Avenue, with the roundabouts, opened to traffic. The new roadway replaced the narrow, winding old Vineyard Avenue, which is scheduled to be turned into an equestrian and pedestrian pathway that would also be able to accommodate

emergency vehicles.

Public Works Director Rob Wilson said that because the reconstruction work on old Vineyard has not started, that street can again be used temporarily while Granite Construction works on the roundabout removal project. Because Granite must get its permit and insurance papers approved, it could

(continued on page 9)



Staff photo

Where's the mayor?

Several thousand turned out for the annual Alameda County Fair parade on Main Street last Saturday, with floats, marching bands and scores of convertibles carrying city, county and business notables that made it the largest ever.

Conveying the spirit of the parade are (from left) Pleasanton City Council members Steve Brozosky (partially hidden), Cindy McGovern and Jerry Thorne. Despite the sign, Mayor Jennifer Hosterman was in Vancouver at a world peace conference. Vice Mayor Matt Sullivan had another commitment and also missed the show. On seeing the three council members, spectators along the route were heard to ask: "Which one's the mayor?"

Leading the parade as Grand Marshal was Marc Meadors of Pleasanton-based Goodguys Rod & Custom Association, a fitting tribute to the Fair's theme this year: Cars.

Amador VP named principal of Village

District loses assessment director to Long Beach

by Rebecca Guyon

This upcoming school year will bring several staffing changes to the school district. Amador Valley High School Vice Principal Greg Giglio will be leaving Amador to take over as principal of Village High School. In the district office, Director of Assessment and Evaluation James Gulek is leaving at the end of August to take a position as assistant superintendent of research, planning and evaluation for the Long Beach Unified School District. The district has yet to replace Giglio

or Gulek, but plans on having the positions filled before the start of the school year, said Superintendent John Casey.

Giglio first began working in the district as an English teacher at Amador, where he helped organize the academy program and served as the lead teacher for the media arts communication academy.

"Working with the academy and being the lead teacher, I was doing things like developing curriculum, working with students outside of the classroom, and developing programs and processes," Giglio said. "It was a different way to approach

teaching and working with students that energized me. I enjoyed the challenge."

The experience inspired Giglio to apply for the vice principal position at Amador when it opened. He has held that post for the past two years.

"Amador has been a great place," Giglio said. "It's been wonderful to me, and it's hard to leave here. I think I've learned a lot from Bill Coupe (principal of Amador) and the other vice principals on how to deal with students and address parents to make win-win situations."

Looking for a good fit for Village,

the district went through an extensive application process, soliciting applicants from inside and outside the district, before it whittled down the pool to eight eligible candidates, Casey said.

"Greg brought forth the ability to connect very well with students," Casey said. "He's somebody very visible on the campus and understands curriculum and instruction very well."

Giglio will replace Kale Alderson who was hired as principal of Village last year.

(continued on page 8)

Wi-Fi could make downtown laptop friendly

City searching for vendors to provide free service

by Jeb Bing

Keeping in step with a national trend, the Pleasanton business and government leaders are now shopping for a wireless network provider who can provide free wireless (Wi-Fi) service throughout the downtown district.

Steve Bocian, Deputy City Manager, said the proposed downtown network would enable those with laptop computers and wireless access to search the Internet for free from anywhere downtown. The service would be available in

(continued on page 8)



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**Teen Academy
starts next week**

*Pleasanton police open its doors
to community's youth*

by Rebecca Guyon

Teens looking for something to do this summer might want to check out the Pleasanton Police Department's Teen Academy, which starts Thursday, July 6. This is the fourth year the police department has held the academy for youth ages 14-17.

"I think students in the program, for one, get the experience of learning about the police department and get to see if police work is something they're really interested in," said Detective Penelope Tamm, who is coordinating the academy this year. "They get an inside view of the police department and get to meet and interact with the police officers."

The academy lasts for seven weeks and is held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-5 p.m. During the session, students will learn about all aspects of police work through hands-on demonstrations.

"One day we'll have a class on the SWAT team where they'll learn about what the team does and see the equipment," Tamm explained. "They'll also get a tour of the station, and in one class we'll set up a crime scene where they'll learn about how evidence is processed."

Students will also meet the canine unit, learn about traffic stop procedures and find out more about the D.A.R.E program (Drug Abuse Resistance Education.) Most of the students in the program are those who are interested in pursuing

law enforcement as a career, said Tamm.

To be eligible for the program, students must first fill out an application where they explain why they are interested. Students must also be Pleasanton residents and cannot have had any problems with law enforcement in the past.

"One day we'll have a class on the SWAT team where they'll learn about what the team does and see the equipment."

—Detective Penelope Tamm

"We're just looking for a kid who is going to be interested, respectful, enthusiastic and looking to have a good time," Tamm said.

So far, 10 students are enrolled in the program, and there is space left for two to three more.

The Teen Academy was started four years ago in an effort to reach out and develop partnerships with the youth in the community, Tamm said. Several students who have gone through the Teen Academy have later enrolled in the department's Police Explorer Program, a year-long program where students can get an in-depth look at police work and also help with community events.

"It's almost a continuation of really getting that hands-on experience," Tamm said of the Explorers program. "It is good experience when you go out in the world, whether you are going to work or college after school."

Students interested in enrolling in the Teen Academy can get an application by calling Tamm at 931-5233. ■

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Schools get solar power

Alternative energy could save district millions

by Rebecca Guyon

The district will begin installing photovoltaic solar panels at seven schools this year in an effort to save money and promote the use of alternative energy. The board of trustees unanimously approved the project during its last meeting of the school year on June 20. The district projects that the new system could save it more than \$3 million over the course of 25 years.

"As a banker, I'm thrilled to see the savings, and as a community member, I'm excited to see the use of alternative energy," said Trustee Jim Ott.

The panels will be installed at Walnut Grove Elementary, Lydiksen Elementary, Harvest Park Middle, Pleasanton Middle, Hart Middle and Foothill High schools. It will take one year for the panels to be installed, said Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Sandra Lepley. Once installed, the new system will provide approximately 30 percent of the existing energy consumption at these sites, according to the staff report.

Purchasing the panels was made possible by the California Public Utilities Commission, which recently made funds available to public agencies through the Self-Generation Incentive Program. With the help of Chevron, the district applied for and received \$2.1 million in funds for the project, according to the staff report.

The district will enter into a 20-year contract with Honeywell Building Solutions, and it is expect-

ed that at the end of that period, the systems will have sufficient life expectancy to provide free energy for a minimum of five additional years. Adding to the savings, when the panels generate more energy than is needed at the school sites, the energy will be routed back into the "grid" and credited against the district's energy bill. Due to the long nature of the contract, Trustee Pat Kernan asked that the board receive annual updates on the savings and how the panels are being used.

"As a banker, I'm thrilled to see the savings, and as a community member, I'm excited to see the use of alternative energy,"

—Jim Ott,
School Board Trustee

Finding alternative energy sources and conserving existing fossil fuels are two of the goals in the district's Strategic Plan, and the trustees said this new project shows how committed the district is to reaching these goals.

"I think we are modeling the kind of behavior we want our students to see, and hopefully we will get this to all the schools in the near future," said Trustee Juanita Haugen. ■

Scouts honored

Eagle Scouts named at ceremony

Pleasanton Boy Scouts John Caldeira, Kevin Holt, Galen Hoxie, Paul O'Neill and David Reynolds were awarded the rank of Eagle Scout May 19 during a ceremony held at the Specialty Sales showroom. The Scouts had to complete extensive community service projects to qualify for the award, in addition to completing all the required ranks within the Boy Scout program.

The community service projects addressed a variety of needs in the Tri-Valley. Holt organized the production of 100 blankets to go in "stuff bags" that are given by the police department to children that are neglected

or abused. Hoxie salvaged, restored and erected an historic, wooden, antique flag pole at Sunol Park. O'Neill planned a blood drive for the Red Cross that 50 people attended, donating 36 units of blood. Caldeira led an effort to collect toys for the children of Tri-Valley Haven and, with a donation from the Leap Frog toy company, collected \$4,000 worth of toys. Reynolds managed a project to install lighting, shelving, paint and organize storage space at a local church.

—Rebecca Guyon

Your hometown newspaper away from home.



7 Deadly mistakes that will cost you thousands when selling your home this summer

A new report has just been released which reveals seven costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a nine-step system that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today's market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of home sellers don't get

what they want for their home and become disillusioned and – worse – financially disadvantaged when they put their home on the market.

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School changes

(continued from page 5)

"He (Alderson) took a job in Contra Costa County, and that's all I can really say about it," Casey said.

Looking toward next year, Giglio said he hopes to continue providing students with a strong alternative to the comprehensive high schools and maintain a collaborative environment among the staff.

"We want a principal who will maintain a very safe environment and work well with teachers to provide the best curriculum for students," Casey said.

Leaving the district entirely, Gulek will start his new position in Long Beach on August 14, right after he completes his annual meetings with principals and teachers where he reviews student data from the previous year and helps them prepare lesson plans for the upcoming year. In fact, Gulek's work connecting data analysis to real changes in curriculum has been the hallmark of his five-year tenure in Pleasanton, Casey said.

"We're proud of what he's done here," Casey said. "He has an ability to take data and cipher it into a form that teachers and principals can grasp onto and then change their instruction and the curriculum because of that data."



Rebecca Guyon

Greg Giglio will be leaving his position at Amador Valley High School as vice principal to take on the role of principal at Village High School.

Gulek's new position in Long Beach will afford him the opportunity to apply this same tactic on a much larger scale. The Long Beach school district is comprised of more than 90 schools and 93,000 students, and Gulek will oversee the work of six support staff and four managers, whereas in Pleasanton he was an office of one.

"In Long Beach, I will be doing a lot more visionary supervision," Gulek said. "Long Beach has a very diverse student population, not like Pleasanton. It has schools with API scores of 900 and schools with scores of 650, or even some program improvement schools, so there will never be a dull moment there. There are a variety of things that will utilize my skills, and I'm looking forward to providing services to a diverse group of schools."

Seeking new challenges is a trademark of Gulek's career. He initially came to Pleasanton after working for a much smaller district near Madison, Wis., where he was the director of assessment, data and accountability.

"Pleasanton is a wonderful community and it's been great working and living here," Gulek said. "I'll miss the personal connection I had in Pleasanton and all the great staff I've worked with and learned from."

"We are happy for him and sad for us," Casey said. "James will be a hard person to replace." ■



Rebecca Guyon

James Gulek has spent the past five years as the district's director of assessment and evaluation, but will be leaving in August to take on the role of assistant superintendent for the Long Beach Unified School District.

Downtown Wi-Fi

(continued from page 5)

coffee shops such as Tully's and Coffee Bean & Bistro, which now charge users as much as \$3.95 a month to connect to their service provider.

Bocian said the wireless network creates a "hot zone" that allows not only laptops, but also personal digital assistants such as Palm Pilots, to access printers, share files, servers and Internet connections without any wires between them.

In a recent survey, The Wall Street Journal reported that more than 500 municipalities around the country have already built such systems, and a similar number are at some stage in the process. By 2010, ABI Research forecasts a \$1.2 billion market for the wireless technology used in the city systems.

Bocian said the service would be offered in the downtown district first and then expanded to include public parks and other parts of the city. Over the last few months, the city's Information Technology staff has met with Wi-Fi vendors with the goal of identifying the most appropriate technology for the project.

Initially the coverage area would include the downtown, Civic Center complex, and the area bounded by the Arroyo Del Valle on the north, First Street on the east, the Senior Center to the south and the ACE train station near the Fairgrounds administrative office

building on the west.

At a meeting with the Pleasanton Downtown Association, Bocian said the service would be free to users, but it's uncertain how the vendor would recoup his expenses. Most vendors allow advertisers to "broadcast" into the system, much the same way as found on popular Web sites.

One downtown Pleasanton merchant asked if a customer using a laptop in his store could also be watching ads promoting competing businesses in other cities. He was told that could happen.

With an ad-free Wi-Fi system, the city would have to pay the costs of the service and maintenance fees, Bocian said.

Bocian said the Wi-Fi system now being considered by the city government would be primarily focused on municipal workers and departments, including police.

"While the network will not be designed specifically for public use, staff is recommending it be available free of charge to the general public as a means of promoting economic development in the downtown," Bocian said.

If this use is available and approved, the primary public benefit would result from being able to access the Internet at city parks located in the downtown area, and while dining outdoors at downtown restaurants or while conducting business in the Civic Center. ■

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Roundabout

(continued from page 5)

be mid-July when the work actually gets started.

"Since they'll have the roadway to themselves with no traffic to interrupt work crews," Wilson said, "I expect this project can be completed fairly soon. I hope that's before school opens on Tuesday, Aug. 29. Vineyard is heavily used on school days by Ruby Hill residents to reach elementary, middle and high schools that are located west of Montevino."

The council's action was not unexpected. Council members Steve Brozosky, Cindy McGovern and Jerry Thorne had voted together earlier to seek bids to remove the roundabouts, with Hosterman and Sullivan opposed. The three said they were not on the council when the decision was made to realign Vineyard Avenue and install the roundabouts.

At the time, the school district was planning to build Neal Elementary School on property it owns just south of the roundabouts. These traffic circles were considered the fastest and safest way to move school-bound traffic into the school site, with traffic engineers arguing that conventional traffic signals would delay traffic on Vineyard in both direc-



Drivers navigate a roundabout on Vineyard Avenue. Soon, this will be a thing of the past as the roundabouts will be removed next month.

tions at those times.

The roundabouts also were seen as a way to slow vehicle speeds on Vineyard.

Because the cost of the roundabouts was included in the \$6-million Vineyard realignment project, which the school district approved and agreed to help finance, the total costs of first installing them and then, two years later, taking them out are

not known.

Once removed, Vineyard Avenue will include a two-mile-long stretch from West Ruby Hill Drive to Montevino without any traffic controls. Wilson said traffic engineers will survey motorists' speeds at that time to determine what the speed limit should be or if another traffic light should be installed. Traffic lights generally cost \$200,000. ■

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Take Us Along



Weekly gets wet

When not dodging rapids, Chuck Hazen and Ann Gabor find time to read the Weekly during a seven-day rafting trip through the Grand Canyon.



Good hearted Girl Scouts

Girl Scout Troop 3991 read the Weekly while cruising down to Ensenada, Mexico, to deliver 60 backpacks filled with school supplies they were donating to an orphanage in the area.



Austrian Adventure

Kim and Ron Possehl read the Weekly while visiting Salzburg, Austria. Here they are at Lake Wolfgang, surrounded by the Bavarian Alps.



Former French colonies read the Weekly

No, Will and Rachael Loewenhardt (center) of Pleasanton did not travel back in time, but rather the two celebrated the 400th anniversary of Port Royal, a former French colony in Nova Scotia, Canada. They were joined by their grandparents Peter (left) and Valerie (right) Davies, who live in Nova Scotia. Will and Rachael made sure to bring some 21st century news from Pleasanton along on their travels.



Even Rangers read the Weekly

Norman, Jeanne and Carolyn Spahr, Greg, Victoria and Jordan Braharey and Elizabeth Bolin shared their Weekly with Park Ranger Sean Quinn during their trip to Yosemite.



Pass the peace pipe

Jacque and Carl Holder and Sandra Hirst brought the Weekly with them as a peace offering while visiting the Lewis and Clark Trail at the site of the explorers' first council with the Native Americans living there at the time in Fort Atkinson, Neb.



Gondola, please

Torin, Karlina, Shelby and Shaneese Fischer read the Weekly while waiting for a gondola in Venice.



Crusin' the Baltic

Current and former Pleasanton residents enjoyed reading the Weekly while they traveled around the Baltic on a Vikings and Czars cruise, escorted by Bob Athenour, one of the founders of the Pleasanton-Tulancingo Sister City Association. The voyagers are: (First row, l-r) Pete Bailey, Anthenour, Marge Bailey, Barbara Hartsell. (Second row) Richard and Barbara Anderson, Sue Henderson, Willie Webb. (Third row) Ernie Dohner, Carol Arnold, Kris Swanson. (Fourth row) Jan and Terrill Brown, Gary Arnold, Steve Stebbins and Bob Burton.



Under the Eiffel Tower

Turner and Ellie Wiley stayed in touch with Pleasanton by taking the Weekly with them on their family vacation through Europe. The girls read the Weekly while at the Eiffel Tower in Paris and later traveled to London and Venice, as well.



Nebraska's one monument

Chuck and Diane Wiedel don't read the Weekly on any regular porch swing. No, they read it on the world's largest porch swing, which they found in Hebron, Neb., during a family reunion. The swing holds at least 30 people.

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Opinion

Editorial

Ripping out the roundabouts; it's only money

The City Council was at it again last week, appropriating nearly \$600,000—an amount that's sure to grow—to rip out two traffic roundabouts on Vineyard Avenue that a previous council had voted unanimously to install just two years ago. Bowing to pressure from those annoyed by having to negotiate the circles at 15 mph, council members Steve Brozosky, Cindy McGovern and Jerry Thorne voted to accept a low bid from Granite Construction Company to do the work for \$544,660. Only Mayor Jennifer Hosterman stood her ground, calling their action “premature,” “irresponsible,” and a “mistake.” We agree. We've said before that nothing has changed in the two years since the new 1-1/2 mile, \$6 million realigned Vineyard Avenue opened June 18, 2004. Neal Elementary School, which the traffic circles were designed to serve at the Thiessen Street connections to the school site, has yet to be built. It has been delayed both by a slump in elementary school enrollment and by litigation between the school district and two developers, but its construction has not been canceled. The speed controls that the roundabouts were meant to impose on Vineyard Avenue traffic also have worked, reducing police patrols and radar enforcement on this long stretch of open roadway.

A survey of traffic accidents at the roundabouts, prepared by city staff and cited by Ruby Hill resident Dan Carl as reason enough to tear out the circles, beg the question as to just how dangerous these roundabouts are. The document lists 10 “collisions” between July 8, 2004 and last Feb. 17, with most of the motorists hitting one of the traffic circles at speeds between 35 and 55 mph, although another driver ran the curb while traveling only 5 mph. As emotional as Carl was in talking about these accidents and as dramatic McGovern, Brozosky and Thorne were in citing them as their reasons to rip them out, we wonder what they would like to see done at the truly troubled high-accident intersections in Pleasanton, such as Valley and Santa Rita and Stoneridge Drive and the I-680 exit ramp. Unfortunately, city staff offered no rebuttal to the accident report. Traffic Engineer Jeff Knowles, whose expert advice once was to install the circles and to keep them in place, was long ago muzzled by his superiors and last week quit his job at City Hall.

Hosterman talked about a report that the mayor of Carmel, Ind., had made at a recent U.S. Conference of Mayors in Las Vegas. With a population of 80,000, slightly bigger than Pleasanton, he said Carmel has “fallen in love” with traffic circles and roundabouts, which have replaced a number of signalized intersections in the city. Traffic moves continuously, no one has to wait for red lights, motorists save on gasoline and the city on maintenance. Hosterman had hoped Pleasanton could move in a similar direction, but the 3-1 vote has dashed those hopes. That drew criticism from Brozosky who said that Californians don't like traffic circles and have trouble negotiating them, even back east where they're more common. Still, we would have preferred the \$600,000 in gasoline tax receipts now going to Granite Construction be used for downtown restrooms or traffic upgrades at more dangerous intersections. As it is, Vineyard will soon become a 2-mile-long thoroughfare with no controls whatever between Ruby Hill and Montevino Drive, a speeder's paradise. Already, McGovern is calling for a traffic light where one of the roundabouts stands to curb speeding before it starts. That would cost \$200,000 to do what we thought the roundabouts were doing quite effectively all along.

Letters

City needs a cemetery

Dear Editor,

We sure live in a wonderful city and are so blessed to have the many amenities the city provides. We are fortunate that our city has funds to provide us with a great senior center, a very expensive municipal golf course, great parks and our very own library. We will soon be looking to spend a great deal of money to remove two circular roads that are causing concern on Vineyard Avenue.

Although we live very well here, having a nice cemetery for our family to consider when we pass is currently not an option (News, “Council rejects cemetery ownership bid,” May 5, 2006). Many of us have family members of friends that are buried there and can attest to the fact that the cemetery in its present condition is an embarrassment.

I want to urge our citizens and our city leaders to support the efforts currently underway to make the cemetery a municipal priority. We spend millions of dollars on local projects. Providing funding for this worthwhile project can't be a financial burden for a city that has so much. We need to make it a priority.

*Bob Philcox
Malaga Court*

Take care of cemetery

Dear Editor,

My understanding is that the Pleasanton City Council is now reviewing the possibility of assuming ownership of the Odd Fellows Cemetery for \$1. The Odd Fellows are very close to ending their maintenance of this un-endowed cemetery, leaving this historical Pleasanton asset to deteriorate and go un-kept.

On a recent walk through the cemetery, I saw many graves of people who have played a prominent place in Pleasanton's history. I also saw several graves of veterans dating back to the Civil War. It is my hope that the city staff and City Council will recognize that the cemetery needs a permanent plan put in place that will see it properly taken care of once and for all. Through minimal annual budgeting, and phasing of improvements, this need not be a big item in the annual city budget.

The City Council has done much for Pleasanton in facilities and serves. The proposal to take over the cemetery is a good one. I hope the City Council will see fit to adopt it.

*Helen Gaeckle
Cornerstone Court*

Support Peace

Dear Editor,

In response to “Hosterman Embarrasses” (Letters to the Editor, June 23, 2006), her message is that war is not the answer. That seems plain enough to me. I'd really like to know how that is embarrassing to Mr. Miller? My goodness, what is Ms. Hosterman thinking, promoting peace! Oh the shame! I'm sure Mr. Miller thinks we should've put our nuclear weapons to use and just bombed the entire Middle East out of existence. Mr. Miller should turn off Fox News and try to educate himself on the truth of what really happened on 9/11 rather than eating up that big bowl of White House propaganda for

breakfast every morning. He might actually learn something instead of wasting time berating our Mayor for her good work. I'm proud that Ms. Hosterman is involving herself in the peace movement in this way. If more of our leaders showed humanitarian and diplomatic qualities, rather than promoting an eye for an eye, the world would be a more peaceful place.

*Janna Collins
Mission Drive*

Texan weighs in on Hosterman

Dear Editor,

As a former resident of Pleasanton (1966-1996) I read with interest the Pleasanton Weekly Online Edition. I grew up appreciating the city as a place of social, intellectual and spiritual stimulation—a charmed and unique place to be.

Amador during the sixties welcomed a phenomenon called the “hippie.” Interesting kids infiltrated the halls and classrooms while some of us held onto our a-line skirts and patent leather shoes. These classmates were often the best and brightest, freely expressing opinions, dressing in wild, lovely colors and yes, many were the children of Pleasanton educators, scientists at the Lab and Sandia, and of clergy. These offspring were not a threat to their professional and equally as opinionated parents. There was a wide berth for expression. Little did they know that rather than being non-conformist they were very mainline, expressing basics tenets of our Constitution. At this time, Pleasanton churches were very active in an ecumenical movement promoting better understanding of other faiths, posing no threat to anyone but yielding better understanding and compassionate, exciting diversity.

I appreciate the points that Brian Cavanaugh expressed in his letter of June 16 (Letters to the Editor, “Hosterman should withdraw”). I believe though that we live in an ideally inclusive society where the child can be wild, the parent can work within the defense industry or be the school principal and that Mayor Hosterman can speak not as a mayor, but as a person. Most of all, the soldier can fight for all of the above to preserve their rights to do so. Somehow it works and probably will for a very long time. As the soldier might say, and as Voltaire did, “I wholly disapprove of what you say but will defend to the death your right to say it.” We do not to simply tolerate people who disagree with us, but must applaud them. Everyone's freedom and opinion is vital to our own. While we continue to form actions against those who do not respect personal liberty and non-violence, we will constantly and sadly be challenged with our conscience and methods of what it takes to reach for peace, something that has challenged us since earliest civilization. Perhaps, it's as simple as “Different strokes for different folks,” made popular in the sixties by Rowan and Martin's “Laugh In.” No matter what it is, I will never forget Pleasanton and the foundation it gave me, though I now live in this foreign country of Texas with its own unique charm and many issues! Believe me though, there's no place like home.

*Jan Miller-Lewis
Austin, TX, formerly Gerard Court*

Calendar

Book Clubs

Great Books of Pleasanton

This book club meets at 7:30 p.m., the fourth Monday of each month at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Call Sadie, 846-1658.

Summertime Stories

Enjoy special stories told by library staff and guest storytellers at 2 p.m., Wed., July 5, 19, 26 and Aug. 2 at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Call the Children's Desk, 931-3400, ext. 8 or visit www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/library/programs-and-events.html.

Civic Meetings

City Council

The council meets 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday monthly at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave. The meeting scheduled for July 4 is cancelled. The next meeting is July 18.

Civic Arts Commission

The Civic Arts Commission will meet at 7 p.m., Mon., July 10 at the City Council Chambers, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

Housing Commission

The commission meets 7:30 p.m. on the third Thursday monthly at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave. The next meeting is July 20.

Human Services Commission

The commission meets 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday monthly at City

Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave. The next meeting is July 5.

Library Commission

The commission meets 7 p.m. on the second Thursday monthly at Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. The next meeting is July 13.

Parks & Recreation Commission

The commission meets 7 p.m. the second Thursday monthly at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave. The next meeting is July 13.

Planning Commission

The commission meets 7 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesday monthly at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave. The next meeting is July 12.

School Board

The Pleasanton Unified School District Board meets 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday monthly in the district office board room 4665 Bernal Ave. The school board will not meet during the summer months. The next meeting is Aug. 22.

Youth Commission

The commission meets 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday monthly at Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. The next meeting is July 12.

Classes

Hands-on Cooking

Learn about summer vegetables 5 p.m., Mon., July 10 at the Pleasanton Hotel, 855 Main St. Cost is \$85 per person for the class, dinner and wine, and \$35 per person for guests and includes dinner and wine. Guests arrive at 7 p.m. Reservations required. Call 846-8106.

Self-Defense for Teen Girls

Self-defense class for teen girls will be held from 1-5 p.m., Tues., July 18 at Las Positas College, 3033 Collier Canyon, Livermore. Cost is \$5. Call 424-1467 or visit www.laspositascollege.edu/communityed.

Clubs

Amador Valley Quilt Guild

Amador Valley Quilt Guild is hosting a Lemonade Special at noon, Sat., July 8 at Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave. Cookies and lemonade will be provided. Call Debra, 454-1971.

Amador Valley Quilters

The Quilt Guild Club meets 1:30 p.m. on the second Saturday monthly at Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave. Call Debra, 454-1971 or visit <http://amadorvalleyquilters.org>

Del Valle Folk Dancers

Join beginning and experienced Balkan,

Israeli and other world dancers from 7:45-9:30 p.m. every Tuesday at the Livermore Academy of Performing Arts, 315 Wright Brothers Ave., Livermore. Cost is \$4. Dress casual. Call George, 447-8020.

Diablo Valley Soaring Society

This radio control glider club meets to fly their planes on Saturdays from 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. Call Wayne, 846-8617.

East Bay I.T. Group

East Bay I.T. Group presents, "Win More Market Share: Seven Steps to Positioning" from 6:30-9 p.m., Mon., July 10 at Crowne Plaza Hotel, 11950 Dublin Canyon Rd. Cost is \$20 at the door, \$10 pre-registration and free for members. Call Nancy, (650) 704-7844 or visit www.ebig.org to register.

Fly Fishers

Fly Fishers Club meets 7 p.m. the first Thursday monthly at Livermore Road and Gun Club, 40000 Dagnino Rd., Livermore. Call Bob, 989-2358 or visit www.tri-valleyflyfishers.org.

Hacienda Park Toastmasters

Hacienda Park Toastmasters meets noon-1 p.m. every Thursday at Tyco, 4280 Hacienda Dr. Call Kevin, 598-5442 or e-mail kevin@kevdo.com.

Concerts

Concerts in the Park

Join the Pleasanton Downtown Association for its 2006 Concerts in the Park series from 7-8:30 p.m., every Friday from June 2 through Sept. 1 at Lion's Wayside Park, First and Neal St. Call Nickie, 484-2199 or visit www.pleasantondowntown.net. Night Fever Band - disco, R&B are slated to appear June 16.

Wente Vineyards Concerts

Wente Vineyards hosts concerts at 8 p.m. starting off with Kenny Loggins on Tues., July 11; Four Tops & Temptations on Thurs., July 13; Blues Traveler on Mon., July 17; and Gipsy Kings on Wed., July 19 and Sun., July 23 at Wente Vineyards, 5050 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. Call 456-2400.

Events

California State Fair

The California State Fair runs from Fri., Aug. 11 through Mon., Sept. 4 at Cal Expo, 1600 Exposition Blvd., Sacramento. Call (916) 263-3000 or visit www.bigfun.org for ticket information and hours of operation.

Dr. Lynne Sullivan

Celebrate 20 years with chiropractor Dr. Lynne Sullivan 6 p.m., Wed., July 19 at the Sullivian Chiropractor Center, 268 Main St. Call 484-1070.

John Christopher Cellars

John Christopher Cellars will be pairing its newest spice rub, Howlin' Coyote, with a 2002 Petite Sirah. Samples of the spice will be served on grilled pork ribs and available to taste from noon-5 p.m., July 1-3. Live music by Stone's Throw will be from 12:30-4:30 p.m., Sat., July 1 at John Christopher Cellars, 25 S. Livermore Ave., Ste. 103, Livermore. Admission is free. Call 456-WINE.

Nation's Largest Wine-Tasting

The California State Fair is hosting the 10th annual California Grape & Gourmet from 5:30-8:30 p.m., Thurs., July 13 at Cal Expo's Building A and B, 1600 Exposition Blvd., Sacramento. Tickets \$50 in advanced, \$60 at the door. Parking is \$7. Discounted group rates are available for parties of 10 or more. Call 263-FAIR.

Summer Wine Stroll

Shop, dine, discover business and services while enjoying a variety of

Weekend Preview



Art exhibit at Wente Vineyards

This work, titled "Surprise," by artist Vanessa Barrett is one example of the works she'll have on display at Wente Vineyards July 1-30. The exhibit will be on display daily from 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. An artist reception will be held 1-3 p.m., Sunday, July 2. Wente Vineyards is located at 5565 Tesla Rd., Livermore. Call 456-2305. Visit www.wentevineyards.com for more information.

wines at the Pleasanton Downtown Association's Sixth Annual Downtown Summer Wine Stroll from 6-9 p.m., Thurs., July 20. Only 1,000 tickets available for \$20 and will be sold from June 20-July 19. Call Nickie, 484-2199.

Take Your Daughter to the Course

The Bridges Golf Club will offer a free clinic and golf to girls during "Take Your Daughter to the Course Week" from Mon., July 10 through Sun., July 16 at 9000 S. Gale Ridge Rd., San Ramon. Call 735-4253 or visit www.thebridgesgolf.com.

Exhibits

Charlotte Severin

Artist and member of the Pleasanton Art League, Charlotte Severin, will display her paintings until July 31 at Jim's Country Style Restaurant, 5400 Sunol Blvd.

Heidi Mann

Artist and member of the Pleasanton Art League, Heidi Mann, will display her oil paintings through Thurs., Aug. 31 at Washington Mutual Bank, 561 Main St.

Vanessa Barrett's Solo Art Exhibit

View portraits in acrylic, pastel, collage and wood by Vanessa Barrett from July 1-30 at 5565 Tesla Rd., Livermore. Opening reception will be held from 1-3 p.m., Sun., July 2 at Wente Vineyards Tasting Room. Visit www.WenteVineyards.com.

Film

Black and White

The Pleasanton Library and Las Positas College presents a series of classic black and white films 7 p.m. on the first Thursday monthly at Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Admission is free. Call Penny, 931-3405.

Fundraisers

Bingo

Choice for Children Education Foundation hosts Bingo at 4 p.m. every Sunday at Bingo Ranch, 3070 Pacific Ave., Livermore. All proceeds benefit Livermore Valley Charter School. Call Maria, 201-3422 or e-mail ccef@lvcs.org.

Blankets for Babies

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at ValleyCare and Lucile Packard are collecting sewn, knitted, and crocheted 24- or 36-inch blankets. Call 426-4307 or 426-9635.

Dictionary Project

Bay East Association of Realtors partners with a national non-profit, The Dictionary Project, to provide dictionaries for third graders in local schools. There are more than 200 classes waiting to be adopted. One call per Realtor member. Call Marla, 730-3269 or e-mail marlak@bayeast.org.

Entertainment Books

Entertainment books are on sale for \$25 available at the Apoption Center, 273 Spring St. Proceeds go to Valley Humane Society programs. Call 426-8656.

Operation SAM

Stop by Museum On Main, 603 Main St., and donate items or cash to Operation SAM, a nonprofit volunteer organization that sends packages to American troops that are deployed all over the world. Hours are 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Wed-Sat. and from 1-4 p.m. on Sun. Call 462-2766 or e-mail operationsam@comcast.net.

Recycle for Breast Cancer

Recycle electronics, empty ink jet and toner cartridges to support the fight against breast cancer. Free pick up, drop off, or prepaid envelopes and shipping labels available. Call Larry, 735-7203 or e-mail larry@recycleforbreastcancer.org.

Relay for Life

The American Cancer Society is hosting "Relay for Life," at 9 a.m., Sat.,

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July 29 until 9 a.m., Sun., July 30 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. Gather in teams of 12-15 for \$150 per team. Each member is asked to help raise a minimum of \$100 in donations to help fight cancer. Call (800) ACS-2345 or visit www.cancer.org.

Health

Exercise Class

The Pleasanton Department of Parks and Community Services offers a month-to-month 50 Fitness Plus class for seniors in the morning and Exercitement Fitness class for those ages 13 and over in the evening at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost varies from \$3 to \$4.50 per class. Registration required. Call 931-5365 for 50 Fitness Plus and 931-5340 for Exercitement Fitness.

Summer Immunization

Axis Community Health offers drop-in immunization clinics for low-income and uninsured families from 9-11:30 a.m., Saturdays July 1, Aug. 5 and Sept. 9 at 4361 Railroad Ave. Immunizations for children are also provided during regular weekday clinic hours at the Pleasanton and Livermore locations by appointment only. Call 462-1755.

Yoga

The Art of Living Foundation presents a free yoga and breath workshop at 7 p.m., Mondays, July 31 and Aug. 14 at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Bring a yoga mat and blanket and dress in loose, comfortable clothing. Admission is free. Call Penny, 931-3405.

Kids & Teens

AAU Track & Field Sign Ups

Youths between 6-18 years of age are welcome to join the Tri-Valley Track Club. Practices are held 4 p.m. every Wednesday and 3 p.m. every Sunday at Sunset Park, 1040 Florence Rd., Livermore. Call 862-085 or 518-9356.

Artic Edge Vacation Bible School

Artic Edge Vacation Bible School for children grades 1-5 is held from 9 a.m.-noon, Mon., July 10 through Fri., July 14 at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Pkwy. Learn about life in the Artic and stories of courage. Pick up a brochure and registration form at the church. Call 846-6622.

California Spirit Elite

CSE is looking for preschoolers to high school students for their newest cheerleading program, The All Star Team, and offering private skill assessments throughout the summer. No experience is necessary to be a California Spirit All Star cheerleader. Call 462-5877 or visit www.californiaspiritelite.com.

Lacrosse Club Summer Program

Programs are available for girls entering grades 3-8, boys entering grades 1-8 and high school boys entering grades 9-12 and runs from Tues., July 11 through Sat., Aug. 19. Registration fee is \$50, \$60 after June 20 for grades 1-8 and \$55, \$65 after June 20 for high school boys. Call Byron, 998-5550 or visit www.pleasantonlacrosse.com.

Movies for Preschoolers

Movies for Preschoolers starts at 11 a.m., Fri., June 30, July 7, 21, 28, and Aug. 4 at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Admission is free. Call the children's desk, 931-3400, ext. 8.

Summer Space Odyssey

Pick up a Space Odyssey logbook and join the new summer reading program from Sat., June 17 through Sat., August 5 at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Call Sandy, 931-3412.

Teen Citizen's Police Academy

Pleasanton Police Department is hosting the Teen Academy, running from 3-5 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, July 6-July 27. The academy is open to Pleasanton residents ages 14-17. Call 931-5100, or 931-5233.

Ten Star All Star Basketball Camp

Boys and girls age 10-19 are eligible to apply for the Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp in Thousand Oaks, Calif. College basketball scholarships available for players selected to the All-American team. Call (704) 373-0873 for a free brochure.

Vacation Bible School

This year, the theme is "Fiesta," where kids are fired up about Jesus from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., July 10-14 at Faith Chapel Assembly of God, 6656 Alisal St. Registration is required. Call 846-8650.

YMCA Day Camps

Tri-Valley YMCA is accepting enrollment for a variety of day camps for varied ages and interests running from June 19-Aug. 25. Call 475-6108 or visit www.ymcaeastbay.org/trivalley.

Young Actors' Theatre Camp

The YATC is an overnight intensive theatre training program that is held several times throughout the year for students age 9-18. The first program is the Hollywood Experience Camp from July 18-21 in Hollywood and Camp Jones Gulch from August 14-19 in Santa Cruz. Call Shawn, 858-3548 or visit www.JohnAinsworth.net.

Lectures/ Workshops

Avoiding Costly Hiring Mistakes

Roberts Management Group, Inc. presents a management training seminar, "Avoiding Costly Hiring Mistakes," from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Mon., July 10 at Bishop Ranch 6, 2410 Camino Ramon, Ste. 164, San Ramon. Cost is \$499 with lunch included. Call 355-9300, e-mail melodie@robertsmanagementgroup.com or visit www.robertsmanagementgroup.com.

Boutique Textile Art

Create home accessories, wearable art or soft sculpture. Learn how to piece, applique and embroider ideas into art from 10 a.m.-noon every Tuesday at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Class is free. Bring fabric scraps, a yard of unbleached muslin, sharp scissors and dressmaker pins. Call 935-8972.

Challenges in the Sales Organization

Roberts Management Group, Inc.

presents "An Executive View of Challenges in the Sales Organization" from 8-10:30 a.m., Thurs., July 13 at Bishop Ranch 6, 2410 Camino Ramon, Ste. 164, San Ramon. Admission is free. Breakfast will be provided. Call 355-9300, e-mail melodie@robertsmanagementgroup.com or visit www.robertsmanagementgroup.com to RSVP.

Child Care Initiative Project

Licensed and license-exempt child care providers are encouraged to participate in the CCIP project to receive technical assistance and support, free training and support materials, and more. No cost for this workshop. Call Donnamarie at 249-3923.

Healing Power of Dreams and Nightmares

This workshop offers ways to understand dreams and use them as a healing process and will be facilitated by Michio Ambrosius, PhD. from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Sat., July 8 at the Wellness Community, 3276 McNutt Ave., Walnut Creek. Admission is free. Reservations required. Call 933-0107.

Papier-Mache Wimpsy

Learn techniques that spark your imagination and encourage creativity 2-4 p.m. every Tuesday at Village High School, 4645 Bernal Ave., room 207. Bring newspaper, roll of 1" masking tape, and two wire coat hangers. Call 935-8972.

Ten Secrets of Business Communications

Carmine Gallo will discuss the "10 Simple Secrets of Business Communications" from 2-3 p.m., Sun., July 16 at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Admission is free. Call Penny, 931-3405.

Together We Prepare

Learn how to be prepared if a major crisis occurs from 10:30 a.m.-noon, Tues., July 11 at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$1.25 for residents, \$1.75 non-residents. Call 931-5365.

Treatment Options for Male Incontinence

San Ramon Regional Medical Center and its Prostate Cancer Support Group is hosting a free seminar, "Life After Prostate Cancer" from 7-8:30 p.m., Tues., July 11 in the East Day Room in San Ramon Regional's South Building, 7777 Norris Canyon Rd. Reservations required. Call (800) 284-2878 or visit www.sanramon-medctr.com.

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Your realtor should be your trusted ally. Part of your agent's job is to protect you by screening inquiries about your house, identifying serious buyers and pre-qualifying those who have the resources to make a sound

offer. Realtors are trained to handle the transaction professionally and to protect the privacy of your home.

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Diana Korpi is a multi-national award winner. She specializes in residential sales and is a Certified Relocation Specialist and holds the prestigious Re/Max Luxury Homes Designation.

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Neighborhood Environment Attractiveness Team



350 Main, the lovely two-story building at the corner of Main and Angela, is a prime example of good design and involved management. The owner, Larry McCole has owned the building for quite some time but it was only about three years ago that the second story was added.

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Live Music

Dave Rocha Jazz Group

Trumpeter Dave Rocha will be playing "straight ahead" jazz 2 p.m., Sun., July 9 at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Admission is free. Call Penny, 931-3405.

Festival Opera

Festival Opera's opening season begins Sat., July 8 with Tosca and debut of soprano Othallie Graham, tenor Robert Breaud and stage director Stephanie Leigh Smith. Shows begin 8 p.m., July 8, 11, 14 and 2 p.m., July 16 at Dean Leshner Regional Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. Cost ranges from \$35-\$100. Call 943-SHOW.

Family Read Night

Read stories and craft with the family at Family Read Night, offered in English and Spanish. Admission is free. Space is limited so registration is required. Call Donnamarie, 249-3923 for dates and locations.

Famous Cooks

The Famous Cooking Club is awarding more than \$3,000 in cash and prizes in the 2006 Old Family Recipe contest. The deadline for entry is Sun., July 30. Send one recipe handwritten or typed with the category type such as dessert, holiday or snack to Famous Cooks Cooking Club, P.O. Box 26, Pittsburg, KS 66762. Call (866) 576-5464 or visit www.famous-contest.com.

Farmers Market

Shop for fresh produce, flowers, and baked goods from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. every Saturday on West Angela Street between Main and First streets. Call 825-9090.

Happy Valley Blue Ribbon Committee

Meeting of the Happy Valley Blue Ribbon Committee on the need and best location for an alternate route to the Callippe Preserve Golf Course to keep traffic off Alisal St. meets 7 p.m., Thurs., July 13 at the Pleasanton Tennis Center, 5801 Valley Ave. Following meetings are Thurs., Aug. 10 and Sept. 14 at Faith Chapel, 6656 Alisal St. Meetings are open to the public. Call Lorie, 931-5006.

Mystery Dinner Theatre Shows

Enjoy a 3-course dinner and a show at 7 p.m., Fridays July 7 and 21 at the Pleasanton Hotel, 855 Main St. Cost is \$60. Call 846-8106 or visit www.pleasantonhotel.com.

Open Heart Kitchen

Open Heart Kitchen provides hot meals to the underprivileged from 4:30-6 p.m. every Friday at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Rd., noon-6 p.m.; every Tuesday and Wednesday at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore; and 4-6 p.m. every Thursday at Vineyard Christian Fellowship, 460 N. Livermore St., Livermore. Call Carol, 580-1616.

Patio Barbeque & Blues

Enjoy food cooked on an outdoor barbeque and a full bar while listening to blues music from 5:30-9:30 p.m. every Thurs. at the Pleasanton Hotel, 855 Main St. Admission is free. Call 846-8106.

Poetry Open Mic

Beginners and long-time writers bring up to 10 minutes of poetry to share for the open mic or listen to poetry from 7-9 p.m. every third Thursday monthly at Used and Rare Bookstore, 2911 Hopyard Rd. Call Michelle, 931-5350 or e-mail mrusso@ci.pleasanton.ca.us.

Puppets in Space

Supporting 2006: A Summer Space Odyssey, Puppet Art Theater returns with "Tommy's Space Adventure" 7 p.m., Thurs., July 6 at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd. Call 931-3400, ext. 23.

On Stage

Comedy Wednesday

John DeKoven's Comedy Showcase is every second and fourth Wednesday monthly at Main Street Brewery, 830 Main St. Cover charge is \$7 with a two drink minimum. Call 264-4413 or visit www.trivalleycomedy.com.

Shakespeare in the Park

City of Pleasanton Civic Arts will host the annual "Shakespeare in the Park" at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays from June 24-July 9 at Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave. Admission is free. Call 931-5340.

Recreation

African Drumming Circle

Drumming has been shown to boost immune system functions and metabolism. Join Patricia Frame from 5:30-6:30 p.m., Thurs., July 13 at the Wellness Community, 3276 McNutt Ave., Walnut Creek. Admission is free. Call 933-0107.

Enrichment Classes

Pleasanton Parks and Recreation offers enrichment classes ranging from art, aquatics, sports, health and cooking at 200 Old Bernal Ave. Call 931-5340 or visit www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/parks.html.

Seniors

Bingo

Play Bingo 12:30-3 p.m. on the first, third, and fifth Monday monthly and 1-3 p.m. every Friday at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$1.25 for residents, \$1.75 non-residents. Game cards are 50 cents. Call 931-5365.

Emotional Wellness Group

Learn more about depression, anxiety, and how medications and alcohol may affect emotional well-being 2 p.m. every other Thursday at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Call Charlene or Jode, 931-5382.

Friday Night Dance

Join the crowd for ballroom dancing once a month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Tickets are \$7 for residents, \$8 non-residents. Singles welcome. Reservations required. Call 931-5365.

Internet Access Workstation

The internet workstation is available 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Mon-Fri. and 9 a.m.-noon most Saturdays. Cost is \$1.25 for residents, \$1.75 non-residents. Call 931-5365.

Luncheons

The Dublin Senior Center hosts special luncheons on the second Thursday monthly at the Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin. Call 556-4511 or visit www.ci.dublin.ca.us. Reservations needed by the Friday prior to the luncheon.

Movie Madness

Seniors are invited to watch free movies on the big screen 1 p.m. on the first and third Monday monthly at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Popcorn and refreshments available. Call 931-5365.

Paratransit Service

The paratransit service provides door-to-door bus service to seniors 65 and older, and individuals with disabilities of any age and is available 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Mon-Fri., and 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sat. Call 931-5376.

Personal Computers Group

Meets 10 a.m.-noon the fourth Thursday monthly at Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$1.25 for residents, \$1.75 non-residents. Call 931-5365 or e-mail please-nior@yahoo.com.

Senior Dinner

Open Heart Kitchen provides seniors 60 years and older with an evening meal from 4-6 p.m., Mon-Fri. at Ridgeview Commons, 4200 Case Ave. Suggested donation is \$3. Call 484-5131 for reservations.

Senior Lunch

Spectrum Community Services provides seniors 60 years and older with a noon meal at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Suggested donation is \$3.25. Call 931-5385 for reservations.

V.I.P. Senior Club

Meets from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. the second and fourth Mondays monthly at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Call 931-5385.

Sports

Dodgeball Tournament

The Dodgeball Tournament will be held at 5:30 p.m., Fri., June 30. Cost is \$15 and includes a Baja Fresh Buffet. Sign up at the activities desk at ClubSport, 7090 Johnson Dr. Call 463-2822, ext. 570.

Support Groups

Auto Immune Support

The group meets from 6:30-7:30 p.m. the second Thursday monthly at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr. Call 848-5020.

Bereavement Support Group

This group of the Catholic Community of Pleasanton meets at 7:30 p.m., the second and fourth Thursdays monthly, and is for anyone of any faith at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive. Call Mary, 846-5377.

Bipolar Support Group

The Tri-Valley Bipolar Support Group, which provides peer support for people with mood disorders, meets 7:15-8:45 p.m. every Wednesday at St. Claire's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road. Call 560-0842, e-mail trivalleybipolar@hotmail.com., or visit www.namitrivalley.org.

Breast Cancer

This 12-week workshop is for women who have just been diagnosed and are either in treatment or starting treatment. This series will help address the emotional and physical issues that surface after diagnosis. Join medical experts from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesdays July 5-Oct. 25 at the Wellness Community, 3276 McNutt Ave., Walnut Creek. Admission is free but space is limited. Call 933-0107 to register.

Cancer Support Group

The Cancer Support Group meets from 2-4 p.m., every Tuesday at the ValleyCare Health Library and Ryan Comer Cancer Resource Center, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Ste. 270. Call 933-0107.

ClutterLess Self Help Group

If clutter is stressing you out, come to the Presbyterian Church from 7-8:30 p.m. every Monday, except May 29, at 4300 Mirador Dr., room 7. Call 297-9246 or 426-5311.

Pleasanton Real Estate News



by Gerarda Stocking

THE SECRET TO A HEALTHY MARKET

First-time buyers. This may not exactly be a secret, but it is indeed the key.

If a substantial percentage of all residential real estate purchases involve first-time buyers, the market is assured of remaining healthy for months, perhaps years, to come. It's a simple matter. If a first-time buyer purchases an existing home, the former owners of that home, now move-up buyers, need to buy. When they purchase their next home, the former owners of that home need to buy. In each case, the resulting buyers very often purchase a more expensive home. And so it goes, all the way up to the high-priced home market.

It's a "trickle-up" process. It isn't a theory; it's an actuality. It is crucial, therefore, to keep the first-time buyer market alive locally - to make sure that there is housing that is appropriate to first-time buyers (many of them starting families as well as homeownership) and, of course, housing they can afford.

It is also meaningful to keep an eye on the health and vigor of the local first-time buyer market, because its quality and vitality will provide a good indicator of where the overall market is going. Market direction, after all, starts at the first time buyer level. (The only occasional exception is the luxury home market, which often dances to a different drummer than does the rest of the real estate market.) For insight into the local first-timers market or the luxury real estate market call Gerarda Stocking at 846-4000 or visit her website at www.gerardastocking.com.

Gerarda Stocking is the Owner/Broker of Stocking Realty.

Miscellaneous

Animal Adoption

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue hosts dog and cat adoptions 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturdays at Farmers Market at First St., noon-4 p.m., Dublin PetsMart. Cats are available noon-4 p.m., Saturdays excluding the 4th Sat. at Dublin Pet Food Express and excluding the 2nd and 4th Sat. at Livemore Pet Extreme. Cats are available 1-4 p.m., Sundays at Dublin PetsMart and Dublin Pet Food Express. Call 803-7043 or visit www.tvrar.org.

Diplomats Who Made a Difference

John Paul Abranches, son of Dr. Aristides De Sousa Mednes, will talk about his father's experiences as a diplomat for the Portuguese government during WWII at 1:30 p.m., Wed., July 19 at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Admission is free.

Donate to Help Fight Cancer

Help fight cancer by donating new or gently used clothing and accessories, household items and furniture to the American Cancer Discovery Shop, 1987-A Santa Rita Rd. Call 462-7374.

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Meet other men and women in their early stages of alzheimer's disease or any other memory loss related diseases from 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Tues., Wed., and Thurs. at Grace Presbyterian Church, 2100 Tice Valley Blvd., Walnut Creek. For women, call Angie and for men, call Norman at 210-6196.

Military Group

Pleasanton Military Families, a support group for families of service members, meets 7 p.m. the second Tuesday monthly, held at different group member's home. Call Chris, 730-1604.

Parents of Children with Autism

For parents of children with autism in the East Bay, this group uses e-mail-based discussions for parent-to-parent support. Visit <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/eastbayautism> to join. E-mail autismtrivalley@yahoo.com for questions.

Parents of Special Needs Children

Receive and give support with other Pleasanton parents in an e-mail-based discussion. Visit <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/pleasantonspecial> to join. E-mail pleasantonspecial@yahoo.com for questions.

Temporary Restraining Order Clinic

This clinic is for victims of domestic violence and/or sexual assault and meets 5:30-7:30 p.m., Mondays at 4471 Stoneridge Dr., Suite A and 2-4 p.m., Thursdays at 3663 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Call Michael, 449-5845, ext. 110.

TV30

COPPS in Pleasanton

Join Mike and Mike for another edition of COPPS in Pleasanton at 9 a.m. and 8 p.m., Sat., July 1 on channel 30. The topic will be on the First Wednesday Street Fair.

In a Word

Join Jim Ott and Kathy Cordova interview authors and the TV30 Bookclub at 9:30 a.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 10 p.m., Sun., July 2 on channel 30.

ValleyCare

Dr. Christy Boyd, Joe Carluccia and Kim Conners talk about high school and middle school athletes in terms of pre-season and mid-season injury prevention, preparedness, general health and performance. The partnership between ValleyCare and local high school sports programs will be explained and outlined at 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., Sat., July 1 on channel 30.

Your Schools

Join Myla Grasso for a look into Pleasanton schools at noon, Sun., July 2 on channel 30.

Volunteering

PUSD Barton Reading Program

PUSD Barton Reading Program needs volunteers to help at-risk readers. No experience required, and materials and training will be provided. Call Christina, 426-4231 or e-mail Christina.clark2@comcast.net.

Tri-Valley Haven

Tri-Valley Haven provides services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and homelessness in the Tri-Valley and needs volunteers to help with childcare, answer the crisis line and assist clients with restraining order paperwork. Training starts at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday. Must be at least 21 years old. Call Melissa, 449-5845, ext. 111 or e-mail melissa@trivalleyhaven.org.

Volunteers Needed at RCJL

The Reutlinger Community for Jewish Living provides assisted living, Alzheimer's and skilled nursing care to its residents. Volunteers play a key role. RCJL has a wide range of opportunities matching volunteer's interests while ensuring the needs of residents. To apply, call Irma, 964-2098.

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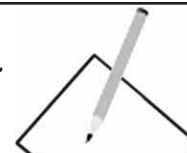
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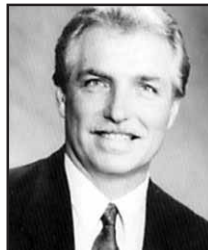
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PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Notice of Vacancies on Trails Ad Hoc Committee Recruitment Extended

The Parks and Recreation Commission is seeking four (4) volunteers to serve as members of the Trails Ad Hoc Committee. The Committee advises the Commission on trails and trail-related issues, and generally meets on the fourth Monday of each month, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Conference Room, 200 Old Bernal Avenue (adjacent to the City Council Chamber).

Three positions will be vacant due to term expirations, and the fourth position is new. Appointments are three-year terms (September 2006 to August 2009). The Commission is seeking the following:

- 1 Person to represent regional trails interests
- 2 Persons to represent the community-at-large
- 1 Person to serve as an alternate committee member.

For additional information about Committee's purpose, or to see its list of 2006 priority projects, visit our website at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/government/representatives/city-commissions.html#tah

If you are interested in serving, please complete an "Application to Serve on a Commission, Committee or Board which can be obtained by visiting the City Clerks Office, 123 Main Street, or by visiting our website at the address indicated above.

Please indicate the position for which you are applying (regional trails, community-at-large, alternate) on the application and submit to the City of Pleasanton, City Clerk's Office 123 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566. **The deadline to submit applications has been extended to Friday, June 30, 2006 at 5:00 p.m.**

Interviews, if required, will be scheduled after all applications have been reviewed.

If you have any questions regarding the application process or you need additional assistance, please contact Fan Ventura, Management Analyst at (925) 931-5348 or by email at fventura@ci.pleasanton.ca.us

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Sports

Parent photographers

Send a jpeg to Editor@PleasantonWeekly.com of the best action shot from your child's game for consideration for our Sports page. Remember to include caption information: who, what, when, where—and the score.

Pleasanton Rage takes show on the road

Loses heartbreaker to Washington state

by Michael Miller

In Boise, Idaho, for the Far Western Youth Soccer Championship games, the under-15 Pleasanton Rage girls' soccer team defeated the Hawaii state champions 5-3 to earn their berth in the championship game, but then lost to the Washington state champions 2-1 in the final, hard-fought defensive battle.

The Rage Premier Team opened the Region IV Regional tournament by defeating the Oregon State champs 5-0. Asha Smith had two goals in the victory over Oregon. Ashley Loughmiller, Megan Jurado and Carlee Payne, who also had an assist in the game, scored the other goals.

In their second game, U15 girls fought back from a one-goal deficit to defeat the Nevada state champions, the Las Vegas Tabagators. After being held scoreless in the first half, the Rage swarmed over the Tabagators in securing their 5-1 victory and a place in the second round of the tournament.

Against the team from Vegas, Jurado scored the first goal unassisted while Olivia Klie added two goals of her own. Forwards Smith and Payne padded the lead by adding a goal each. Sophie Metz played another solid game, assisting on two of the goals. Smith and Payne also added an assist each.

The Rage moved to the semi-final game with a decisive 3-0 victory over the Arizona state champions, the Sereno Eagles. Unlike the Nevada game, the Rage jumped on top early in the first half when Smith found an open Jurado for the first goal of the game. Only minutes later, Payne was credited with a goal when a crossing pass she made was deflected in by the Sereno goalkeeper. The third goal for the Rage was also scored by Smith on an assist from Racheal Mcglinchy just before the end of the first half.

In one of the most exciting games of the tournament, the Rage defeated Hawaii 5-3 in a game that required two 15-minute overtime periods. The Rage scored two goals in the first 20 minutes of play against Hawaii. Loughmiller scored from an assist from Amanda Luxford. Metz then scored from an assist from Klie. The Rage scored their third goal of the first half off a wild play that started when Luxford served a long ball to Payne. Payne then pounded a blast off the Hawaii goalkeeper, which provided a rebound opportunity to Jurado who put her shot off the cross bar. Loughmiller collected the rebound, passed to Metz who put the ball in the back of the net.

Hawaii did not give up, scoring two goals before the first half was finished and scoring the tying goal in the second half of play. The Rage charged into overtime by scoring two quick goals, one from Payne in the first minute and minutes later from Smith, who collected a loose ball and scored from 25 yards out. The Rage defense stiffened and did not allow any real Hawaiian scoring threats the rest of overtime.

The Rage defense was exceptional throughout the tournament, with exceptional play from Mcglinchy and Sam Cloutier.

Pleasanton National Little League summertime classic

The tournament takes place from July 15 to July 21, featuring 16 teams, each guaranteed four games.

Play starts with a round-robin on Saturday and Sunday. After the round-robin, teams will be divided into brackets based on their win-loss records. All teams have a chance at the Championship round regardless of round-robin record.

There is a single game elimination format beginning on Monday or Tuesday, depending on your bracket. Games on Friday will be for first, second, third and fourth place finishes. Trophies will be awarded to the first and second place finishers, with medals presented to those in third and fourth.

Contact Jim Phillips at jmpmphil-

lips@comcast.net to secure a spot in the tournament.

Roller Hockey camps

This camp includes scrimmages, drills and fun games that focus on a strong base of fundamentals, as well as advanced skills. Players of all skill levels are welcome. This program is designed to help build confidence, self-discipline and a "team player" attitude. These camps will be held from 9-11 a.m. weekdays at Val Vista Community Park's Roller Hockey Arena as follows:

- Ages 6-13: July 10-14
- Ages 6-13: Aug. 7-11
- Ages 6-13: Aug. 14-18

Cost for each camp is \$72.

Fall Bocce League for adults 18 and over

The 2006 Fall Adult Bocce League will begin Tuesday, Sept. 5. Team registration information is available at the Tennis and Community Park, 5801 Valley Avenue. Co-ed leagues will be offered in both the Beginner Division and Advanced Division. League play is scheduled for 6-10 p.m. from Sept. 5 through Oct. 10. The cost is \$72, plus an additional \$3 for non-residents.

For more information, contact Ian Anderson at 931-3447. League fees and rosters are due at the time of registration. Games will be played at Centennial Community Park, 5353 Sunol Blvd. ■

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Keith Peters

Making a splash

Jennifer Narum of the Pleasanton Seahawks kept herself busy last weekend with numerous events at the 39th annual Santa Clara International Invitational swim meet at the Santa Clara International Swim Center. Narum's best finish was eighth in the 1,500-meter freestyle, where she clocked 16:56.02.



Living

No really,
we met the
Queen
of England

*Pleasanton family recounts
their brush with royalty*

by Rebecca Guyon

Few people can say they met the Queen of England. Even fewer can say they gave her a statue of a Welsh corgi. Actually, there are probably only two people who can say that: Claire and Sarah Williams, ages 11 and 13, of Pleasanton.

The sisters met the Queen at Windsor Castle on April 21, the Queen's 80th birthday, during the Queen's walkabout with the public. They were in the country on a two-week family vacation with their parents, Cindy and George, traveling through England and Paris.

"We were very excited to see her, and she was very shocked that we had a Welsh corgi for her," Sarah said. Welsh corgis are medium-size dogs known for their stubby legs that are out of proportion with the rest of their body. The sisters have a Welsh corgi of their own named Blossom Bella, and they knew the Queen also loved Welsh corgis, owning five of her own, which was why they wanted to give her something to acknowledge that connection.

It was actually by a great deal of luck that the Williams family was able to meet the Queen and have this exchange. They were visiting Windsor Castle as the first stop on their trip, and after touring the grounds, Cindy and George stopped in a café to get their daughters some snacks for the train ride back to London. While waiting for their order, Cindy struck up a conversation with a woman who turned out to be a "royalist"—a person who follows the activities of the royal family—and she told them that the Queen would be at Windsor on her 80th birthday to meet with members of the public. Thinking this would be a great event and a fun opportunity to meet the Queen, the Williams family decided to come back to Windsor that day, which would be one of the last days of their vacation.

Initially, they thought they would bring the Queen flowers like most people do, but it was on the train ride home that they thought of a different plan.

"On the train back to London, the two girls were laughing and said, 'We're not bringing her flowers. We're bringing her a corgi, of course.' Because what do you give a Queen who has everything, but a corgi, of course?" Cindy said. Although it was a joke at the time, the more

they thought of it, the better the idea sounded, and so they started their quest to find a corgi for the Queen.

"We were in these little towns looking for a corgi," Cindy remembered. At this point, the family was on the Paris leg of their trip and would pop into every little store they found searching for a corgi statue, but with no luck. It was when they returned to England that Sarah at long last found their Holy Grail, so to speak, before starting a tour of the Canterbury Cathedral.

"I was shocked when I found it," Sarah said. "It was just two days before we were going to see her, and we had already looked through hundreds of stores." To give it an extra royal touch, the girls put the corgi statue in a purple satchel.

On the day of the meeting, the family lined up at Windsor Castle early in the morning with throngs of other people waiting for her arrival. A car pulled up and out stepped the Queen, dressed in a fuchsia suit and high heels.

"She looked better in real life," Claire said. "At 80 she looked good."

The Queen walked over to the crowd, shaking hands and accepting gifts. It was then the girls offered their gift.

"I had always dreamed of what it would be like to meet the Queen, but I didn't know we would get a reaction like that," Cindy said. "She's walking around and pauses in front of Sarah, who has a purple bag dangling out, and she goes to take the bag from Sarah. She glances over to me and my youngest daughter is next to me and they both say, 'Happy birthday, your majesty.' She looks up at me and I say, 'We brought you this statue of a Welsh corgi. We have one waiting at home.' Then she paused—it seemed like she wasn't sure if we were giving it to her—so Sarah held it out to her to take. The smile on her face was priceless."

The Queen then moved on to greet her other well-wishers, but the Williams family was ecstatic to have their brush with royalty. After the meet-and-greet, the Williamses went around Windsor and looked at the displays on the Queen's life, satisfied to end their trip on such a high note.

"It was so neat to see her have that connection with the girls," Cindy said. ■



Courtesy Williams Family

Above: Claire (left) and Sarah (right) Williams toured Windsor Castle after meeting the Queen.

Left: The Queen of England accepts a little statue of a Welsh Corgi from Sarah Williams, 13, of Pleasanton during a walkabout at Windsor Castle on her 80th birthday.



The Williams family's dog, Blossom Bella, a Welsh corgi, was their connection with the Queen of England, who owns five Welsh corgis of her own.

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Walnut Grove outdoor club takes kids to places they never imagined

by Cybele Ryan

There's nothing quite like venturing into the wilderness with belongings strapped to your back and miles of unexplored trails ahead to truly test what you're made of. John Taylor and Candace Aderman, teachers at Walnut Grove Elementary School, offer just that opportunity to fifth grade students through the Outdoor Adventure Club.

"Our goal is to encourage self-reliance, personal growth and confidence through experiencing the great outdoors," explained Taylor.

Developed three years ago, "The Club" offers a three-day, end-of-the-year backpacking experience in the Sierras for 12 students. The students just got back from their trip, which was June 6-9. This year 63 children wanted to go. To show how sincere their interest was, students submitted essays describing why they wanted to go, what they felt they could contribute to the group, and what the benefit would be. Twelve lucky students were then chosen by lottery to go on the trip.

"This is much more than a backpacking trip," Aderman said. "The students come from different backgrounds and classrooms. They grow to trust and depend on each other, to work as a cohesive group, yet honor each individual."

Students meet weekly to practice all of the skills needed for a successful trip, such as fire-building, filtering water, pitching a tent, and team-building exercises. They learn about wilderness etiquette and respect.

Mame Wisniewski's daughter, Madelyn Glasco, has participated in the program.

"This is an incredibly valuable experience," Wisniewski said. "Not only does it tie into the Character Education curriculum adopted by the district, but it gives fifth graders, moving on to middle school, a chance to overcome personal obstacles and gain confidence."

The final destination for the group is Levitt Meadows, over the Sonora Pass on the east side of the Sierras. It is a grueling, strenuous hike that is intensified by the



Courtesy Walnut Grove Elementary School

Students in the Walnut Grove Elementary School's Outdoor Adventure Club get ready for a three-day hike in the Sierras.

20 pounds the students carry on their backs. In the end, the reward is sweet: a mountain lake, fishing, stargazing, and an undeniable sense of accomplishment.

"The kids all worked together," said Taylor. "The hike was tough. There were tears and laughter. The best things in life aren't easy!"

Students carried their own food and belongings. Being completely self-reliant was a new experience for most of the kids. If they forgot something at home, they needed to improvise. One evening the students used all of the matches to start the camp fire. Alone, the kids solved the problem of lighting the camp stove and preparing dinner.

"We want to emphasize what the group can do," said Aderman "We trust they can make their own choices and experience the negative and positive consequences of those choices."

At the last meeting of the Outdoor Adventure Club, students reminisced about their three-day excursion. The kids were eager to share their feelings and appreciations. There were a few scraped-knees and bug bites, but mostly happy, smiling faces and the common sentiment expressed by one weary hiker.

"I loved the whole experience. I'd do it again in a second, but I would definitely stay longer next time." ■

Ready to Rent

The Hills Have Eyes

Fox Home Video DVD

1hr 41mins

Director: Alexandre Aja

A desert breakdown! Skimpily dressed teenage daughters! Uptight dads! Mutant cannibals! No, as asinine as it sounds, this is not a new John Waters comedy (well, depends on your sense of humor) or the latest stupid reality show. It's Alexandre Aja's amusing remake of Wes Craven's so-so 1978 original "The Hills Have Eyes," but, with a little more polish and gory panache thrown in to whet the appetites of teenage boys and men alike (and, if they're lucky, their girls and wives, as well). Aja, the French director who made a titanic first impression on me with his "Haute Tension," seems to tone down his hypnotically frantic style here, but never leaves his audience hanging for what they expect: suspense and violence in large portions.

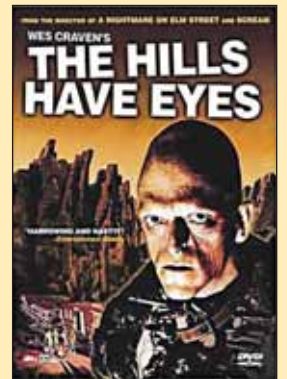
The film, however, is not the depressing kind of experience that sometimes plagues the genre. A bad horror film, one that is nihilistic in tone, is perceived as even more brutal in nature and can leave you feeling empty and depressed, as if crashing from an immense sugar high. A good one, or maybe I'm saying a satisfying one, especially the modern kind, is now a hybrid of a Spielberg-styled pacing along with some of his sentiments as well, with family or friends tested (Joe Dante's "Gremlins" comes to mind as the first of this type) but, with a lot of violence thrown in for good measure. Aja's "The Hills Have Eyes" follows this commercial formula but with some of its own surprises left over from the original film, which makes it a curio-hybrid of sorts.

The film is the classic stranded story, which saves us any type of emotional involvement and lands us right into the visceral thrills. The Carters are on the typical family vacation, driving through the deserts of New Mexico to get to California. Like all family vacations, everyone is at each others' throats until, after

some bad advice about a shortcut through the desert and a mysterious tire blowout, they really want to kill each other. The characters split up into respective sexual roles: ex-police officer Dad (the very underrated Ted Levine) decides to walk back to the creepy gas station where he thinks he can get help from the equally creepy attendant, while the women stay behind and wait for him and his whiny son-in-law Doug (Aaron Stanford). There is something, however, out in the bleached hills that is watching mom (the equally underrated Kathleen Quinlan) and daughters Brenda (Emilie de Ravin) and Lynn (Vinessa Shaw) sunbathe and prepare dinner that does not make its presence known until nightfall.

"The Hills Have Eyes" is an example of a great director making a formula film whose limitations can be felt by the pedestrian script itself. The film is properly scary and gory in its respective moments. The thrills arrive like clockwork, but never was I bored because of director Aja's and his cinematographer Maxime Alexandre's weird sense of landscape. It is not the monsters that are terrifying, but the endless desert itself, whose cracks and fissures threaten to swallow up its trespassers and whose baked earth looks properly tortured. Aja also understands the proper sense of masochistic fun, as with any horror film, of torturing oneself for the effect, and he provides many moments to jump and shout at the characters' pre-destined stupidity, which is a type of catharsis especially after a long week at the office.

—Joe Ramirez



Movie Times

Note: Screenings are for Friday through Tuesday only.

A Prairie Home Companion (PG-13)	CinéArts: Fri-Tues 12:30, 2:55, 5:20, 7:40, 10 p.m.
An Inconvenient Truth (PG)	Cent. 14: Fri-Tues Noon, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10 p.m. CinéArts: Fri-Tues Noon, 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:30 p.m. Hac. Cross. 20: Fri-Tues 10:40 a.m., 1, 3:25, 5:50, 8:25, 10:45 p.m.
Break-Up (PG-13)	Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 7:30, 9:55 p.m. Cent. 14: Fri-Tues 11:10 a.m., 1:40, 4:25, 7, 9:30 p.m. Hac. Cross. 20: Fri-Tues 10:55 a.m., 1:35, 4:15, 6:55, 9:30 p.m.
Cars (G)	Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 9:05, 11:45 a.m., 2:25, 5:05, 7:45, 10:25 p.m. Cent. 14: Fri-Tues 11:05 a.m., 1:50, 4:45, 7:35, 10:20 p.m. Crow Canyon 6: Fri-Tues 12:15, 3:45, 6:30, 9:15 p.m. Hac. Cross. 20: Fri-Tues 10:10, 11:10 a.m., 1:10, 2:05, 4, 5:10, 6:55, 8:15, 9:50 p.m. Vine Cinema: Fri-Tues 11:40 a.m., 2:10, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40 p.m.
Click (PG-13)	Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 9:10, 11:40 a.m., 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40 p.m. Cent. 14: Fri-Tues 11:25 a.m., 12:20, 1:55, 2:55, 4:30, 5:30, 7:05, 8:05, 9:40 p.m. Crow Canyon 6: Fri-Tues 11 a.m., 1:30, 4, 7:30, 10 p.m. Hac. Cross. 20: Fri-Tues 11:15, 11:45 a.m., 1:55, 2:25, 4:35, 4:55, 7:15, 7:45, 9:55, 10:20 p.m.; No show Tues 11:15 a.m.
Da Vinci Code (PG-13)	Cent. 14: Fri-Tues 11:50 a.m., 3:10, 6:50, 10:10 p.m. CinéArts: Fri-Tues 12:25, 3:35, 6:45, 9:50 p.m. Hac. Cross. 20: Fri-Tues 10:55 a.m., 3, 6:20, 10:05 p.m.
Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift (PG-13)	Hac. Cross. 20: Fri-Tues 10:50 a.m., 1:30, 4:10, 6:50, 9:35 p.m.
Garfield: A Tail of Two Kitties (PG)	Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 9:30, 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 3:30, 5:30 p.m. Hac. Cross. 20: Fri-Tues 12:35, 2:40, 4:45 p.m.
Lake House (PG)	Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 9:20, 11:50 a.m., 2:15, 4:35, 7:05, 9:25 p.m. Cent. 14: Fri-Tues 11:55 a.m., 2:20, 5, 7:30, 9:55 p.m. Crow Canyon 6: Fri-Tues 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30, 6:45, 9:20 p.m. Hac. Cross. 20: Fri-Tues 11:35 a.m., 2:20, 4:50, 7:25, 7:55, 10:10, 10:40 p.m.
Nacho Libre (PG)	Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 9:15, 11:25 a.m., 1:35, 3:45, 5:55, 8:05, 10:15 p.m. Cent. 14: Fri-Tues 11:45 a.m., 2:15, 4:50, 7:20, 9:35 p.m. Crow Canyon 6: Fri-Tues 11:45 a.m., 2:15, 4:45, 7:45, 10:10 p.m. Hac. Cross. 20: Fri-Tues 10:05, 10:20 a.m., 12:35, 3:10, 5:40, 6:55, 8:05, 9:20, 10:35 p.m.; No show Tues 10:05, 10:20 a.m.
Over the Hedge (PG)	Cent. 14: Fri-Tues 11 a.m., 1:15, 3:20, 5:35, 7:55 p.m. Hac. Cross. 20: Fri-Tues 10:25 a.m., 12:30, 2:55, 5:15 p.m.
Proposition (R)	CinéArts: Fri-Tues 12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55 p.m.
Superman Returns (PG-13)	Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 9 a.m., 12:20, 3:40, 7, 10:20 p.m. Cent. 14: Fri-Tues 11:15 a.m., 12:15, 1:20, 2:30, 3:35, 4:40, 5:45, 6:55, 8, 9:05, 10:15 p.m. Crow Canyon 6: Fri-Tues Noon, 3:30, 7, 10:15 p.m. Hac. Cross. 20: Fri-Tues 10:15, 11:40 a.m., 12:10, 12:40, 1:40, 3:05, 3:35, 4:05, 5:05, 6:30, 7, 8, 8:30, 9:55, 10:25, 11:10, 11:40 p.m.; No show Sat 11:40 p.m. Regal Imax Theaters: Fri-Tues 10 a.m., 1:10, 4:20, 7:30, 10:40 p.m. Vine Cinema: Fri-Tues Noon, 3:30, 7, 10:10 p.m.
The Devil Wears Prada (PG-13)	Blackhawk Movies 7: Fri-Tues 9:25, 10:05, 11:55 a.m., 2:30, 5, 7:35 p.m. Cent. 14: Fri-Tues 11:30 a.m., 12:40, 2, 3:15, 4:35, 5:50, 7:10, 8:25, 9:45 p.m. Crow Canyon 6: Fri-Tues 11:15 a.m., 1:45, 4:15, 7:15, 9:45 p.m. Hac. Cross. 20: Fri-Tues 11, 11:30 a.m., 1:45, 2:15, 4:30, 5, 7:10, 7:50, 9:50, 10:30 p.m.; No show Tues 11 a.m.
The Omen (R)	Hac. Cross. 20: Fri-Tues 7:40, 10:20 p.m.
Waist Deep (R)	Hac. Cross. 20: Fri-Tues 10:50 a.m., 1:30, 4, 6:45, 9:20 p.m.
Wordplay (PG)	CinéArts: Fri-Tues 1, 3:05, 5:10, 7:20, 9:35 p.m.
X-Men: The Last Stand (PG-13)	Cent. 14: Fri-Tues 10:05 p.m. Hac. Cross. 20: Fri-Tues 10:30 a.m., 1:50, 5:30, 8:20, 10:50 p.m.; No show Tues 10:30 a.m.

Blackhawk Movie 7: 4175 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville (736-0368)
Crow Canyon 6: 2525 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon (820-4831)
Hacienda Crossings 20/ Regal Imax Theater: 5000 Dublin Blvd., Dublin (560-9600)
Vine Cinema: Corner of First and South O streets, Livermore (447-2545)
Internet address: For show times, visit the Pleasanton Weekly Online Edition at <http://www.PleasantonWeekly.com/>

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Join the Pleasanton Downtown Association on Thursday, July 20 for our 6th Annual Summer

Wine & Stroll

6 pm-9 pm

TICKETS:

**\$20 In Advance
(through July 19)
sold at:**

**Clover Creek 670 Main
Pleasanton
Downtown Association
830-A Main**

**Studio 7 Fine Arts
77 W. Angela**

**The Rose Hotel 807 Main
(Available Beginning 6/26)**

**\$25 at Event
if not sold out**

GET STARTED HERE:

Under the Arch
in front of the
Museum on Main Street.
Redeem or purchase your
tickets (if available) and
pick up your wine glass
and event map between
5:45-7:30pm

**Glasses and event
maps must be picked up
by 7:30pm**

Price includes wine
glass, event map
and tastings

**Not responsible for lost,
misplaced or stolen tickets**

**Rain or shine.
No Refunds.**

Over 25 members of the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association will showcase their wines in over 30 Downtown Pleasanton shops and businesses. Hors d'oeuvres and alternative beverages will also be available.

Participating Businesses

Featured Wineries

A Touch of Health	Little Valley Winery
Acc'sentials	Murrieta's Well
Aldrin Adamos, DDS	Stony Ridge Winery
Alexander's Main Street Gallery	Big White House
All About Me	Westover Winery
Aloha Island Trading Co.	The Steven Kent Winery
Apparel & Co.	Retzlaff Vineyards
Bibiane	Singing Winemaker
BICYCLES!Pleasanton	Elliston Vineyards
Cazinha Portrait Design	Winery 21
Chic & Younique	Retzlaff Vineyards
Clover Creek	Bodegas Aguirre Winery
Divine Skin & Body Care	Bent Creek Winery
Domus of Pleasanton	Wente Vineyards
Fresh Squeeze	Palomares Vineyards
Gaia's Reflection	Westover Winery
Gourmet Works	Armida
Gregory Frame Shoppe	Livermore Valley Cellars
J'aime Bridal	BoaVentura de Caires Winery
Jewelers Gallery	Page Mill Winery
Keller Williams	Mitchell Katz Winery
MD Spa	Wood Family Vineyards
Michele Malone Design Gallery	La Rochelle
Pleasanton Antiques	Bent Creek Winery
Remedy Skin Care Center	Fenestra
San Francisco Cigar & Gifts	Concannon Vineyard
Sincerely Yours Cards & Gifts	Fenestra
Studio 7 Fine Arts	el Sol Winery
The Berry Patch	Chouinard Vineyards
Touch of Elegance	Tamas Estates
Towne Center Books	Eckert Estate Winery
Valley Community Bank	Crooked Vine Winery
Valley Plumbing & Home Center	John Christopher Cellars
Worthington Gallery West	White Crane Winery

Alternative Beverages & Hors d'oeuvres locations

Mesa Trading Company & Washington Mutual Bank

Event sponsored by

the Pleasanton Downtown Association, the Pleasanton Weekly, and the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association



For more information visit: www.pleasantondowntown.net or contact Nickie Hoppe at events@pleasantondowntown.net or PDA at (925) 484-2199

Celebrating Independence Day in Pleasanton

County Fair keeps American traditions alive

Photos by Jason Lind and story by Rebecca Guyon

The Alameda County Fair opened last Friday, and people from around the county flocked to Pleasanton for the fun. Despite the hot weather, families and friends were out in full force checking out exhibits, playing with the animals and eating funnel cake.

"It's a good place for the kids to come, see and learn," said Ray Noyce of Rodeo. Noyce was at the Fair with his son, Alex, who is 2 years old, and his father, Dale.

"I come every year," said Dale, who used to be in the cattle ranching business. In fact, he raised his son Ray on a ranch, but had to leave it as he got older and could not care for it anymore. "It's too bad because my grandson doesn't get a chance to learn about animals," Dale said. That's why Ray and Dale brought Alex to the animal stalls, so he could see real animals up close.

Many people enjoy the Fair because it brings them back to the farming and ranching traditions of this area. Going to the Fair has become an annual event for many people, whether they are in Pleasanton or elsewhere.

Patti and Bert Robarts have lived in Pleasanton for

35 years, and they said they go to the Fair at least three times when it's in town.

"I love shopping here and I love the exhibitions," Patti said. The couple plan on coming back to watch Pat Boone perform on July 5. "It's great entertainment," Patti added.

Spencer Miller, 14, and Sam Smith, 13, were interested in one thing and one thing only.

"Rides!" they shouted when asked what part of the Fair they're looking forward to.

While many people come for the fun, Karla Comfort was there for a different reason. Comfort's son Lance Corporal John Holmason died in the Iraq War when the Hummer he was riding in was hit by an improvised explosive device, killing nine of the marines on board. As a tribute to her son, Comfort had a Hummer airbrushed with the faces of the 10 marines in the vehicle at the time, one of which was Pleasanton resident Ian Dollard who survived the attack. Dollard drove the Hummer in the Fair's opening parade last Friday and Comfort walked along side it. After the parade, the Hummer was on display during the weekend before

Comfort drove it back to her home in Portland.

"It's more of a memorial to John," Comfort said. "I didn't do it to make an impression on anyone else."

Comfort got the idea after she saw a Ford Mustang decorated to honor veterans of the Vietnam War. She asked her younger sons, Joshua, 17, and Jake, 15, what they thought of the idea to do the same thing for John. Thinking it was a nice idea, the family got to work and commissioned the living memorial.

Fourth of July will be particularly difficult for Comfort this year because that was the day her son shipped to Iraq. While the family doesn't have any specific plans, they will be together.

Fairgoers who may have missed the Hummer can still express their support for the troops in Iraq and Afghanistan by signing several giant postcards that will be sent after the Fair closes.

The Fair will continue its run through July 9. For a complete list of acts and events, visit www.alameda-countyfair.com. ■



This girl from Just For Kids Day Care enjoys a Fair lunch with friends in the shade.



Livestock shows are a big part of the Fair and its tradition. This cow was judged in one of the many cattle events.



This Hummer is a living memorial to Karla Comfort's son, John Holmason, who died in Iraq.



Tamara Broxton on the Fairgrounds



Ray Noyce (left) h



The H
Pleas



Karla Co
patrons



man and Tim Musial stroll down a shaded path
nds.



Many roses are on display in the Amateur Gardening exhibit.



helps his son Alex (right) pet some baby goats.



Patti and Bert Roberts take a break from the heat in the art exhibition hall.



ummer is painted with faces of all the Marines who died in the attack, including
anton's Ian Dollard, represented on the far left, who was the only survivor.



Dale Noyce, a retired cattle rancher, still enjoys coming to the Fair.



omfort was at the Fair last weekend showing
the Hummer dedicated to her son.



Musical group Suave performs for Fair visitors.

Where to go on July 4th

'Let Freedom Ring!'

Pleasanton's traditional July 4 free picnic and concert will happen again, like always, at Lions Wayside Park, 4401 First St., from 1-2:30 p.m. This year's theme is "Let Freedom Ring!" Keeping with the theme, the Pleasanton Family Bells will perform as a bell choir with the Pleasanton Community Concert Band. The Pleasanton Lions Club will provide free hand-held American flags to the first 400 who arrive and will be selling hot dogs with water or soda for \$1. Free patriotic tattoos for children will also be offered.

Alameda County Fairgrounds

While the Fair has not put on fireworks displays for more than 10 years now, that doesn't mean there aren't things to do there on July 4. From 1-6 p.m., the Fair is putting on the "Red, White and Blue Festival" featuring Cleveland Jones and the Temptation Review, as well as other Bay Area blues acts. The program is free with Fair admission. The Alameda County Fairgrounds is located at 4501 Pleasanton Ave. Call (510) 836-2227.

Livermore Old Fashioned Fourth of July

Just down the street, Livermore is hosting its annual Fourth of July picnic and party. The event includes live music, family games, food and an aerial fireworks show from 4-10:30 p.m. at Robertson Park, 3200 Robertson Park Rd. Cost is \$10 per car load, \$2 per walk-in.

San Ramon Star Spangled Spectacular

Spend July 4 at San Ramon Central Park, 12501 Alcosta Blvd., where the city of San Ramon is hosting its "Fourth of July Star Spangled Spectacular!" The event starts at 5 p.m. with games and activities for children and a Red, White and Business Expo. There will also be food booths and entertainment. When the sun sets, there will be an aerial fireworks display.

Danville Parade

The annual Danville July 4th Parade will take place along Hartz Ave. and San Ramon Valley Blvd. from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. This year's theme is "Honoring Teachers and Educators—Unsung Heroes." The event is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of San Ramon and features patriotic floats, marching bands, dance troupes and horses. Commemorative pins designed by school-children will be sold to raise money for the Kiwanis' annual grants program benefiting East Bay charitable organizations.

USS Hornet Party

The USS Hornet Museum is hosting its annual July 4th party from 10 a.m.-9:30 p.m. The party features live music on the flight deck, plus interactive games for all ages and a bounce house for kids. There will also be tours of the famous aircraft carrier throughout the day. In the evening, guests can watch fireworks displays across the Bay Area from the flight deck. Tours begin at 10 a.m., games and activities begin at 2 p.m. Admission is \$15 in advance for adults, \$20 at the door. Admission for children 5-17 is \$5. Children 4 and younger are free. Call (510) 521-8448 to purchase tickets. The USS Hornet is located at 707 W. Hornet Ave., Alameda.

Berkeley Marina Fireworks Display

As long as there is no fog, people can view the annual Berkeley Marina Fourth of July Fireworks starting at 9:30 p.m. Fireworks are launched from the Berkeley Pier and are visible from the Marina and elsewhere.

Jack London Square Fireworks Display

Jack London Square in Oakland offers July 4th festivities starting at 1 p.m. with live music, international foods, arts and crafts, and children's activities. The fireworks show begins at 9:15 p.m.

San Francisco Fireworks

Pier 39 is hosting its annual Fourth of July party during the afternoon and evening, followed by a fireworks display. Double Funk Crunch and Tainted Love will perform. The festivities start at 1:30 p.m. and last until 10 p.m.

WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

Civic Arts Commission

- The July 3 Civic Arts Commission meeting has been cancelled. The next regularly scheduled Commission meeting will be held on July 10.

Human Services Commission

- The July 5 Human Services Commission meeting has been cancelled. The next regularly scheduled Commission meeting will be held on August 2.

Library Commission

- The July 13 Library Commission meeting has been cancelled. The next regularly scheduled Commission meeting will be held on August 10.

Library Commission Special

Session Agenda

Thursday, July 27, 2006 @ 6:00 p.m.

Pleasanton Library Community Room
400 Old Bernal Avenue

- Interviews of finalists of RFQ responses. Interviews will be held in the Library's Large meeting room

Parks & Recreation Commission

- The next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting is scheduled for July 13.

Youth Commission

- The Youth Commission does not meet during the months of July and August. The next regularly scheduled Commission meeting will be held on September 13.

Future Meeting Information

- The City Council meetings on July 4 and August 1 have been canceled

GENERAL INFORMATION

- As a reminder for the upcoming 4th of July Holiday - ALL fireworks are illegal in the City of Pleasanton. For more information regarding illegal fireworks, please contact the Livermore Pleasanton Fire Department or the Pleasanton Police Department.

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

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

Community Pulse

Police Bulletin

Armed robbery of Blockbuster Video store

A clerk at Blockbuster Video, 4747 Hopyard Road, was robbed at gunpoint June 22 at 10:02 p.m., police said. Two suspects entered the store and wandered around looking at items for approximately 30 minutes before one walked up to the register and pulled out a black, semi-automatic handgun, according to the clerk. The suspect placed it on the counter, pointing it at the clerk, and then covered the weapon with his hand as if to hide it from others in the store, police said. He then demanded the cash from two registers, and the second suspect joined him at the counter, holding 10-15 DVDs and video games. After the clerk gave the suspect the cash, the pair walked out the front door and fled toward Stoneridge Drive, according to police. Anyone with information regarding this incident should contact the Pleasanton Police Department at 931-5100.

Armed robbery of Hallmark store

The Hallmark Creations store at 1795 Santa Rita Road was robbed by an armed man carrying a knife on June 26 at 7:48 p.m., police said. The suspect entered the store and first purchased a greeting card, the clerk said. When the clerk opened the cash register, the robber ran around the counter and placed a knife against the clerk's chest, police said. The suspect took several bills from the cash register and fled the store saying "Sorry, I have a family to feed," according to police.

The suspect is described as a white male, 40-50 years old, about five feet seven inches tall, 250 pounds, dark hair and balding. He was wearing a plaid long-sleeved shirt and dark slacks. The weapon was a steak knife with a light colored wooden handle. The blade was five inches long.

Anyone with information about the robbery is asked to contact the Lt. Darrin Davis at the Pleasanton Police Department, 931-5100. Refer to case number 06-3809.

Police Report

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

June 19

- Theft: 6
- Vandalism: 4
- Burglary: 2
- Found property: 1
- Sexual perversion with a child:
 - 7:25 p.m. in the 3500 block of Bernal Avenue
- Arson:
 - 6:46 p.m. in the 6700 block of Hansen Drive
- Public drunkenness:
 - 8:51 p.m. in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road
 - 9:03 p.m. in the 2100 block of Rheem Drive
- Possession of cocaine:
 - 10:51 p.m. in the 5400 block of Sunol Boulevard

June 20

- Theft: 1
- Vandalism: 2
- Burglary: 1
- Assault:
 - 5:50 p.m. at the intersection of Peters Avenue and W. Angela Street
- Animal Bite:
 - 9:20 p.m. in the 3900 block of Stoneridge Drive
 - 10:11 p.m. in the 2000 block of Crestline Road
- Public drunkenness:
 - 10:49 p.m. in the 2700 block of Lylewood Drive

June 21

- Theft: 6
- Vandalism: 1
- Found property: 1
- Annoying phone calls: 3
- Assault:
 - 2:44 a.m. in the 4500 block of Pleasanton Avenue
- Child abuse:
 - 10:01 a.m. in the 6700 block of Paseo San Leon
- Possession of alcohol by a minor:

- 5:08 p.m. at the intersection of Pleasanton and Rose avenues
- 11:29 p.m. in the 5300 block of Hopyard Road

June 22

- Theft: 4
- Vandalism: 1
- Burglary: 3
- DUI: 1
- Found property: 2
- Animal nuisance:
 - 1 p.m. in the 2700 block of Solandra Court
- Assault:
 - 5:26 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
 - 7:57 p.m. in the 1200 block of Summer Court
- Robbery at gunpoint:
 - 10:04 p.m. at the 4700 block of Hopyard Road

June 23

- Theft: 2
- Burglary: 2
- Found property: 1
- Sexually explicit phone calls: 1
- Littering:
 - 8:21 a.m. in the 4200 block of Hacienda Drive
- Assault:
 - 1:15 p.m. in the 5600 block of Owens Drive
 - 7:44 p.m. in the 2800 block of Daylily Court
- Dog bite:
 - 10:28 p.m. in the 8000 block of Bethel Lane

June 24

- Theft: 1
- Vandalism: 1
- DUI: 1
- Found property: 2
- Assault:
 - 8:30 a.m. in the Stoneridge Mall parking lot
- Public drunkenness:
 - 9:18 p.m. at the intersection of First Street and Stanley Boulevard

June 25

- Burglary: 1
- Battery:

- 12:13 a.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue

- Disturbing the peace:
 - 1:19 a.m. at the intersection of St. Mary and Main streets

ACCIDENTS

June 19

- 7:27 a.m. - Injury accident at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Inglewood Drive
- 12:11 p.m. - Non-injury accident at the intersection of Denker and Stoneridge drives

June 20

- 5:15 p.m. - Injury accident at the intersection of Third and Neal streets

June 21

- 2:40 p.m. - Non-injury accident at the intersection of I-680 and Sunol Boulevard
- 4:36 p.m. - Non-injury accident in the 6300 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard
- 8:39 p.m. - Non-injury accident in the 5300 block of Hopyard Road

June 22

- 11:37 a.m. - Injury accident at the intersection of Hacienda and Stoneridge drives
- 11:54 a.m. - Non-injury accident at the intersection of I-580 and Hacienda Drive
- 6:12 p.m. - Injury accident at the intersection of Independence Drive and Bernal Avenue
- 6:43 p.m. - Injury accident at the intersection of Willow Road and Stoneridge Drive
- 6:45 p.m. - Injury accident in the 4300 block of Rosewood Drive

June 24

- 3:47 p.m. - Injury accident at the intersection of Hacienda and Gibraltar drives
- 6:12 p.m. - Non-injury accident in the 3700 block of Stanley Boulevard

June 25

- 6:23 a.m. - Non-injury accident at the intersection of Stanley Boulevard and Reflections Drive

Dining Out

To have your restaurant listed in this dining directory, please call the Pleasanton Weekly Advertising Department at (925) 600-0840

American

Chicago's Metropolitan Deli

6003 W. Las Positas Blvd. & Hopyard, Pleasanton, (925) 462-1678. A new Rockin' Restaurant that features: Italian Beef, Chi-Dogs, Gyros, and more. We have over 50 menu items that are hot, juicy, fun and flavorful. Recently remodeled to create a festive atmosphere with a new bar, beers on tap and three sport TVs. We are family friendly with a nice Kids Menu, soft serve ice cream, shakes and sundaes. Come check out the flavors of Chicago right in Pleasanton's back yard!

Jim's Country Style Restaurant

5400 Sunol Blvd., next to Raley's, Pleasanton, (925) 426-7019. Loved by locals and famous for its ranch-style omelets and large portions, Jim's serves up the country-style fixings from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. So if you're in the mood for chicken-fried steak, an omelet, a stack of pancakes, a deluxe sandwich or just a good old-fashioned burger, you won't be disappointed. Jim's friendly staff invites you to drop in and say, "Howdy!"

Pleasanton Hotel

855 Main St., Pleasanton, (925) 846-8106. This restored Victorian "hotel" combines the ambiance of the past with the exciting contemporary cooking of Chef Neil Marquis. Also offering Mystery Dinner Theater and Winemaker Dinners, live music every Thursday, Friday and Saturday, some Sundays. Open for lunch, dinner and Sunday Champagne Buffet Brunch, patio dining, banquets and weddings to 200.

Red Smoke Grill

4501 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, (925) 734-0307. The place to go for great tri-tip, rotisserie chicken and baby back ribs. The wonderful staff serves up sandwiches, salads and family dinner meals. So come by for a glass of wine and a great meal. Crossroads Shopping Center on Hopyard just one block south of Stoneridge.

Swensen's

1991-A Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton, (925) 426-1266. Swensen's Ice Cream has called the Bay Area its home since 1948. Known for its delicious ice cream, smoothies, burgers, sandwiches, pho beef noodle soup and BBQ chicken, beef and pork over rice. Open 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. Closed Monday.

Vic's All Star Kitchen

201 Main St., Pleasanton, (925) 484-0789. Located in the heart of downtown Pleasanton on Main Street, Vic's delivers a starry mix of American food, fast service and a bustling, cheery atmosphere. Owner Vic Malatesta has teamed his love of sports with his pas-

sion for good food to create a solid dining experience with a local sports theme. Open daily 7 a.m.-2 p.m. Evening banquets/daytime catering.

Brewpub/Alehouse

The Hop Yard American Alehouse and Grill

3015H Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, (925) 426-9600. Voted Best Watering Hole in Pleasanton, the Hop Yard offers 30 beers on tap and a variety of great food, everything from finger food to full blown meals. Ask about new banquet menu.

California Cuisine

Silver Palate Restaurant

680 Main St., Downtown Pleasanton, (925) 417-5900. Silver Palate's menu is based on a concept of whole-some cooking, using the most natural ingredients available. The ambiance of this restaurant evokes the light-filled expanse of a European marketplace, while the outdoor patio captures the best in al fresco dining. Choose from a wide selection of flavorful entrees and side accompaniments ... among them risottos, specialty soups, Kobe beef burgers, wild salmon, Organic Sonoma Mix salads and handcrafted desserts. Country Brunch Buffet every Sunday. Open seven days a week.

Catering

Fontina's Catering

349 Main St., Downtown Pleasanton, (925) 462-9299. The seasonal tastes of Fontina's award-winning menu can now be custom delivered to you—direct to your home or office. Our lunch and dinner specialties feature homemade soups and pastas, premium seafood and meats, and a newly expanded vegetarian menu. Let Fontina's Ristorante bring "the taste of Italy" home to you soon. For parties of 10 or more, we'll include free dessert, or we'll take 10 percent off your total bill (excluding tax).

Chinese

Chinese Szechuan

3059 Hopyard Road #G, Pleasanton, (925) 846-5251. Pleasanton's best-loved Chinese restaurant. Family owned and run since 1987. Friendly service, delicious food, great prices. Lunch specials from only \$5.25.

Continental

Barone's

475 St. John St., Pleasanton, (925) 426-0987. Pleasanton's most romantic continental cuisine restaurant. Innovative pasta, seafood and meat entrees. Outdoor dining. Open for dinner seven nights, lunch Monday-Friday. Live music Friday and Saturday evenings. Full bar. Banquet facilities, rehearsal dinners, special events.

Indian

Chef India Cuisine

5100 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton, (925) 463-8773. Newly arrived in Pleasanton, its lunch buffet features over 25 items on every week day. They have a special Brunch buffet on every Sat. and Sun. which features more than 30 items. The dinner menu is extensive with many authentic

Indian dishes to choose from, along with a full bar and large dining facility. Chef India invites you to hold your banquet with them. Conveniently located near the corner of Hopyard and Owens (next to Chevron) with plenty of parking. Check their website www.chefindia.com for details.

Gold Indian Cuisine

824 Main St., Pleasanton, (925) 600-0202. Popular Livermore restaurant has opened a second location in downtown Pleasanton, presenting delicious North Indian food, seasoned to your taste: mild, medium or hot. Fresh menu daily. Parking in rear. Patio dining. Open for lunch 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Dinner seven days a week, 5-10 p.m.

Italian

Fontina Ristorante

349 Main St., Pleasanton, (925) 462-9299. This popular downtown restaurant gets rave reviews from both


locals and visitors. Offering a changing, seasonal menu and daily specials, including homemade soups, pastas, seafood, chicken and veal served in a comfortably elegant atmosphere. Indoor or outdoor seating. Saturday and Sunday champagne brunch.

Frankie, Johnnie & Luigi Too!

11891 Dublin Blvd., Dublin, (925) 828-9380. Lively chatter and the aroma of garlic are the first things you notice in this warm and friendly classically "Italian" restaurant, complete with red checked tablecloths. It has an open kitchen where patrons can watch the cooks "hand toss" the dough for this pizza mecca of the Tri-Valley. It is perfect for romantic couples as well as the entire family, and the authentic Southern Italian cooking includes traditional dishes such as Veal Scaloppini and Lasagna as well as Lamb Osso Bucco and Scampi.

Garlic di Pasta

3037-G Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, (925) 485-4500. Rated "A" by the Contra Costa Times restaurant critic.



Fresh Squeeze
smoothies • coffee • juice • espresso

Complimentary
gourmet coffee (12oz.)

10am-3pm
ALL WEEK

780 MAIN ST. SUITE 102, PLEASANTON
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ONE PER PERSON





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Please join us for our
3 course Chef's Pre Fix menu
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925.314.0974
2416 San Ramon Valley Blvd.



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"High-end" Mexican Cuisine

casual lunches • fine dining
unsurpassed margaritas
over 200 premium tequilas

625 Main Street • Downtown Pleasanton
Reservations: 925.417.1224
www.blueagaveclub.com

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of Livermore, Ca

**The Ball Is Rolling
Grand Opening Open House
July 8th 10AM-4PM**

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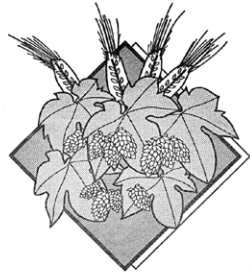
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3120-D Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton, (925) 846-8646; 5556-A Springdale Ave., Pleasanton, (925) 463-3090. Togo's has been voted "Pleasanton's Best Sandwich" for five consecutive years. Conveniently open seven days a week, Togo's features its popular "Endless Combo" (1/2 sandwich, 1/2 salad or small soup) ... choose any two for only \$5.19 plus tax. Everyday favorites include the Hot Pastrami #9 and the tasty Turkey-Avocado #24. Togo's also features specialty soups for winter.

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Transitions

Weddings

Kristen Summer Keeney and Simon Edward Kurth



Kristen Keeney and Simon Kurth were married April 22 at Cayucos Beach on the central coast of California, with a reception at the Cayucos Veterans Hall.

Kristen, who goes by Krissy, is the daughter of James and Patricia Keeney, who have been Pleasanton residents for 30 years. She graduated from Amador Valley High School in 1993. She earned her bachelor's degree in English from California State University, Sacramento, in 1998

and her master's degree in reading and literacy from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo in 2002. She teaches at Righetti High School in Santa Monica, Calif.

Simon is the son of Colin and Yvonne Kurth of Stafford, Taranaki, New Zealand. He received his bachelor's degree in education from Lincoln University, where he was also a rugby player. He taught elementary school in New Zealand and now teaches in Santa Monica, coaching rugby whenever possible.

Both avid surfers, the couple honeymooned in Punta Mita, Mexico. They make their home in Oceano, Calif.

Laura Kathryn Cheney and Daniel Alexander Beltramo, Jr.

Laura Cheney and Daniel Beltramo Jr. were married on June 17 at St. Mary Magdalen's Catholic Church in Berkeley, the same church where the bride's parents and maternal grandparents were married. A small reception followed at the Pleasanton home of Laura's parents, Leonard and Suellen Cheney.

Laura graduated from Amador Valley High School in 1991. She earned a bachelor's degree from UC Davis and received a master's degree in physical therapy from UC San Francisco. She is a physical therapist at the Eden Out-Patient Rehabilitation Facility in San Leandro.

Daniel is the son of Daniel and Margaret Beltramo of Atherton, Calif. Daniel graduated from Menlo School in Atherton. He is a graduate of Stanford University and received a master's degree in business administration from the Stanford Graduate School of Business in 1994. He is the founder of Vizu, and interactive Web-based public opinion polling service.

The couple honeymooned in Fiji and Sydney, Australia. They currently reside in San Francisco.

Anniversary

Jack and Pauline Dove

John R. "Jack" and Pauline "Polly" (Moyer) Dove recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with their daughter Suzanne Dove of Berkeley and sons Jay Dove of Guerneville and William Dove of Concord.

Although Jack and Polly both originally came from Pennsylvania, they did not meet until they were stationed at the U.S. Army's Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland where Jack was in charge of the Station Hospital Laboratory (1943-46) and Polly was a second lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps (1945-46).

Jack also served in the Army and Armed Forces security agencies as a first lieutenant during the Korean War (1951-52). Pleasanton residents since Jack's retirement in 1986, the Doves moved 14 times during his career with a variety of paint manufacturers. They crisscrossed the country from their first home in Connecticut, moving to California (three times), Illinois (three times) and Kentucky (twice), even living for part of one year in England, where Jack was managing director of British Paints, which had affiliates in 18 countries. He was president and owner of Morwear Paint Co. in Oakland from 1972-86.

During his so-called retirement, Jack has been active in a variety of community service roles, including the East Bay Regional Parks' Park Advisory Committee; Pleasanton's 1996 General Plan Committee; Pleasanton Unified School District's Excellence Committee; and the planning committee for the Pleasanton community Fourth of July celebration at Lions Wayside Park. For many years, he was the unofficial town "greeter" at the Lions' Ticket Office, formerly located in the park. Jack and Polly reside at Ridgeview Commons.



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Obituaries

Alma Dorothy Koester

Alma Koester died June 2 at the age of 87 in San Ramon.

She was born January 25, 1919, in Elizabeth, N.J. She first moved to Pleasanton in 1966. After living elsewhere, she returned in 1974 and made Pleasanton her home for the past 35 years. She graduated from Baton High School in 1936. She was employed by Hoepfel's Market, her father's butcher shop, and Simmons Co. in Elizabeth as a secretary. She loved animals, especially her dogs, taking photos and traveling. She was gracious, friendly, humble, considerate, cooperative, humorous and mostly devoted to God and her family.

She is survived by her daughter, Nancy Meadows of Oakley, Calif.; brother and sister-in-law William and Peg of New Jersey; and a niece and a nephew.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Conrad and Ida Hoepfel; her husband of 50 years, John, who died in 1998; son Jack, who died in 1977; and brother, Conrad.

Funeral services took place at Graham-Hitch Mortuary and burial followed at St. Augustine Catholic Cemetery, both in Pleasanton.

Thomas E. Wilson

Thomas Wilson died June 18 in Fremont from the effects of cancer.

He was born May 22, 1962, in Pennsylvania. He was raised in Pleasanton and graduated from Amador Valley High School. He worked for Norcal Swim Shop in Walnut Creek for the past six years. He was an avid swimmer his entire life, earning a swimming scholarship to the University of the Pacific. He also coached swimming for several years. He was a fan of the Oakland Raiders, Oakland A's and Fantasy Football.

He is survived by his parents, Gene and Mary Lou Wilson of Pleasanton; brother Jeffrey Wilson and his wife Janette of Livermore; one niece and one nephew.

Funeral services were held as Callaghan Mortuary, and burial took place at Memory Gardens Cemetery, both in Livermore.

Memorial gifts may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Robert Patterson

Robert Patterson died June 19 after a short illness.

He was born August 21, 1925, in San Francisco and lived in Pleasanton for the past 30 years. He served in the U.S. Navy in WWII as

a PT boat radioman. Following the war he worked for Pan American Airlines in Guam, Hawaii and Palo Alto. He worked for the Federal Aviation Administration as an air traffic controller and retired from the Oakland Center as acting assistant chief after 39 years of service.

He was passionate about all things aviation. He loved to share stories, play golf, listen to big band music, watch John Wayne films, travel the world and work crossword puzzles.

He is survived by his six children.

His wife Evelyn preceded him in death in 1996.

Services were held at Graham-Hitch Mortuary in Pleasanton. Burial took place at Memory Gardens Cemetery in Livermore.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Kathleen Grace Guyette

Kathleen Guyette, a 38-year Pleasanton resident, died June 21 in her Pleasanton home.

She was born on May 16, 1941, in Merced. She played several instruments and sang with the Camarata Singers in Salinas, the San Francisco Bach Choir and the San Francisco Choral Society, as well as the Las Positas Concert Choir and the Valley Choral Society, both in Livermore. She also participated in the Valley Choral Society Educational Outreach Program of Music in the Schools. For several summers, she also participated in the Berkshire Choral Festivals in Massachusetts, Ashland, Ore. and Santa Fe, N.M.

She is survived by her brother James Cline and his wife Arlene; six nieces and nephews; and 12 great-nieces and nephews.

Her husband John preceded her in death.

A celebration of her life will be held at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to Hope Hospice, the American Cancer Society or the Valley Concert Chorale.

Carl Herbert Stahlnecker

Carl Stahlnecker died June 16 at his home in Pleasanton.

He was born March 2, 1952, in Livermore. At the age of two he moved with his family to Pleasanton. He served in the U.S. Navy and was a sports car enthusiast.

He is survived by his mother, Gloria Stahlnecker of Pleasanton; brothers Paul Stahlnecker and Brian Stahlnecker; sister Annette Stahlnecker and nephew Scott Stahlnecker.

His father Elwood Stahlnecker preceded him in death.

Services and burial were private. Memorial contributions may be made to the Valley Humane Society, 273 Spring St., Pleasanton 94566.

Angelo Fanucchi

Angelo Fanucchi, a 42-year resident of Livermore, died June 12 at the age of 93.

He was born April 9, 1913, in Arcada, Calif. He started his business career in 1936, owning Golden Gate Supply Company in San Francisco. In 1954, he was the first to develop cardboard boxes for fruits and vegetables that are now used world-wide. He purchased the Granada Bowl in Livermore in 1964 to start his children up in business careers. The family has owned and operated Granada Bowl for 42 years. Until recently he also owned

thoroughbred horses and went to the winners' circle 37 times. He enjoyed going to the racetrack and fine dining.

He is survived by sons Dennis Fanucchi of Livermore and Robert Fanucchi of Oregon; daughter Sandy Crane and her husband Tom of Livermore; six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 66 years, Edna.

Mass was celebrated at St. Michael Catholic Church and burial took place at St. Michael Cemetery, both in Livermore.

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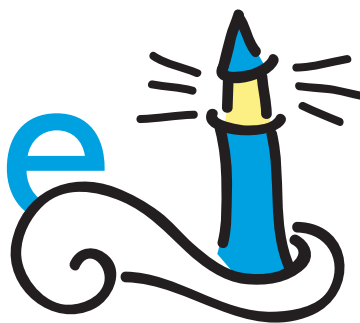


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Real Estate

Appreciation lowest since 2001 with sales also down

by Jeb Bing

The median price of an existing home in California increased 8 percent in May and sales decreased 21.1 percent compared with the same period a year ago, the California Association of Realtors (C.A.R.) reported this week.

"The median price of a home continued to increase in May, but at a more sustainable 8 percent rate," said C.A.R. President Vince Malta. "This is the first time since November 2001 that the median price did not increase by double digits, reflecting the return to the more balanced market that we have anticipated."

"Interest rates, while still historically low, continue to impact sales as did the inventory of homes for sale, which reached nearly a six-month supply in May," he said. "It's important that consumers work with their Realtors to ensure that their home is competitively priced in today's changing market."

Closed escrow sales of existing, single-family detached homes in California totaled 488,260 in May at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate, according to information collected by C.A.R. from more than 90 local Realtor associations statewide. Statewide home resale activity decreased 21.1 percent from the 618,920 sales pace recorded in May 2005.

The statewide sales figure represents what the total number of homes sold during 2006 would be if sales maintained the May 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 May 2006 was \$564,430, an 8 percent increase over the revised \$522,530 median for May 2005, C.A.R. reported. The May 2006 median price increased 0.5 percent compared with April's revised \$561,750 median price.

"Year-to-date sales are down 19.5 percent, in line with our recently revised 2006 California Housing Market Forecast, which projected a 16.8 percent decrease in sales for this year to 520,000 units compared with 2005," said C.A.R. Vice President and Chief Economist Leslie Appleton-Young. "We expect the rate of home price appreciation to increase 8 percent to \$565,900 for the year as a whole, compared with the impressive double-digit gains we've witnessed over the past four years."

Highlights of C.A.R.'s resale housing figures for May 2006:

- C.A.R.'s Unsold Inventory Index for existing, single-family detached homes in May 2006 was 5.9 months, compared with 2.7 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 6.6 percent during May 2006, compared with 5.72 percent in May 2005, according to Freddie Mac. Adjustable mortgage interest rates averaged 5.63 percent in May 2006 compared with 4.23 percent in May 2005.



- The median number of days it took to sell a single-family home was 44 days in May 2006, compared with 27 days (revised) for the same period a year ago.

In a separate report covering more localized statistics generated by C.A.R. and DataQuick Information Systems, 84.4 percent, or 348 out of 405 California 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.)

Large changes in local median home price appreciation, and often, large shifts in the composition of housing market activity. Some of the variations in median home prices may be exaggerated due to compositional changes in housing demand.

Statewide, according to C.A.R., the 10 cities and communities with the highest median home prices in California during May 2006 were: Laguna Beach, \$1,692,500; Saratoga, \$1,500,000; Burlingame, \$1,371,000; Newport

Beach, \$1,336,000; Manhattan Beach, \$1,241,500; Los Gatos, \$1,180,000; Santa Monica, \$1,162,500; Rancho Palos Verdes, \$1,144,000; Lafayette, \$1,142,500; Calabasas, \$1,130,000; and Santa Barbara, \$1,130,000.

Statewide, the 10 cities and communities with the greatest median home price increases in May 2006 compared with the same period a year ago were: Santa Monica, 60.3 percent; Ridgecrest, 56.3 percent; Adelanto, 42.5 percent; Loma Linda, 36.7 percent; Barstow, 36 percent; Laguna Beach, 33.8 percent; Delano, 33.3 percent; Tustin, 32.8 percent; Campbell, 32 percent; and California City, 30.6 percent. ■

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



3350 MORGAN COURT
PLEASANTON –
Parkside/Court location.
Huge 1/3± acre with
2,158± sf home. 3
fireplaces, and side
yard access. Floor plan
includes separate Family
Room, Living Room,
Dining Room, and indoor
Laundry. Master Suite
with fireplace, larger

vanity area, and walk-in closet. Kitchen has granite slab counters, new appliances, pantry closet, and eat-in area. Other features include hardwood flooring, newer carpet, and 50 year comp shingle roof (2 years new). Landscaped backyard featuring large (partially shaded) deck with newer hot tub and paved side yard. This is a must see home, call Brad for a private showing. **Offered at \$949,500**

BRAD SLABAUGH

Realtor, ABR, SRES
Alain Pinel Realtors
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www.tri-valleyrealestate.com



PLEASANTON | 187 S. J Street



Open Homes this weekend

Call the Ad Services Department at the Weekly
to list your open home (925) 690-0840

Home sale of the week

Weekly.com



1590 Calle Enrique, Pleasanton – \$525,000

Two Bedrooms, Two Baths
Approx. 941 Sq. Ft Backyard
with: Including Gas fire pit
and New patio with beautiful
custom-built trellis. Listed
by Angela Ochs and sold by
Louise Davis of Hometown
GMAC Agents.

Sales at a Glance

Source: California REsource

Pleasanton	Dublin	Livermore	San Ramon
Total sales reported: 29	Total sales reported: 15	Total sales reported: 28	Total sales reported: 50
Lowest sale reported: \$431,000	Lowest sale reported: \$306,000	Lowest sale reported: \$345,000	Lowest sale reported: \$360,000
Highest sale reported: \$3,250,000	Highest sale reported: \$1,930,000	Highest sale reported: \$1,369,000	Highest sale reported: \$2,390,000
Average sales reported: \$1,048,672	Average sales reported: \$800,967	Average sales reported: \$697,339	Average sales reported: \$840,970

Home Sales

This week's data represents homes sold during May 2006

Pleasanton

- 4653 3rd Street** J. & J. Morgenroth to D. Nagler for \$1,075,000
- 3730 Angus Way #42** H. Tung to Vigil Trust for \$830,000
- 1437 Calle Enrique** R. & P. Donaldson to J. & D. Gant for \$492,000
- 4320 Chapman Way** Breilh Trust to J. Grilli for \$705,000
- 653 Concord Place** S. Camozzi to S. Bhadra for \$460,000
- 6817 Corte Munras** R. Adamson to S. Martin for \$1,010,000
- 4973 Dolores Drive** Thomas Trust to B. & J. Gubner for \$1,190,000
- 4575 El Dorado Court** T. & F. Blackwell to K. Connolly for \$855,000
- 5474 Greenfield Way** Fraser Trust to S. Otvos for \$830,000
- 2621 Ingrid Court** Mardel Limited to S. & L. Detrane for \$1,604,000
- 348 Junipero Street** B. & J. Gubner to J. Jiang for \$840,000
- 2547 Larricket Court** Marguet Trust to K. & A. Cahill for \$1,060,000
- 5422 Montalvo Court** Hyden Trust to K. Vincent for \$680,000
- 8165 Mountain View Drive #D** R. Schperberg to Y. Yang for \$465,000
- 5120 Mt. Tam Circle** Lindholm Trust to C. & P. Thomas for \$1,429,500
- 1400 Oak Vista Way** P. & J. Rocha to B. Howard for \$1,182,000
- 1582 Poppybank Court** S. & L. Detrane to K. Delaney for \$745,000

8250 Regency Drive P. Kingsfather to J. Scholhamer for \$1,827,000

3312 Smoketree Commons Drive C. Carvalho to K. & R. Brockett for \$431,000

4097 Stanley Boulevard N. Chagnon to A. & S. Varshney for \$571,500

2318 Tanager Drive Manos Trust to M. & S. Padilla for \$832,500

1734 Terra Court Erbert Construction to S. & S. Drake for \$2,750,000

3276 Touriga Drive J. & L. Lammers to C. & B. Cady for \$835,000

7077 Valley Trails Drive F. & S. Lindsay to M. Ramachandran for \$800,000

7155 Valley Trails Drive Crost Investments to D. Gozum for \$755,000

3464 Vermont Place X. Zhou to K. Wolfe for \$845,000

1473 Via Di Salerno Clawson Construction to Nicholas Trust for \$3,250,000

1153 Wenig Court Ponderosa Homes to A. Shan for \$1,002,500

1156 Wenig Court Ponderosa Homes to V. & T. Malatesta for \$1,059,500

Dublin

8779 Bandon Drive K. & M. Bowles to W. & G. Anderson for \$695,000

4438 Bangor Court L. & D. Hom to P. & E. Prestosa for \$975,000

3991 Branding Iron Court Pfeiffer Ranch Investors to V. & M. Matarlo for \$829,500

7564 Burnham Way D. Hotovec to G. & M. Mills for \$574,000

7374 Cronin Circle #39 K. & L. Kramer to K. & K. Datwyler for \$485,000

2725 East Cog Hill Terrace J. Tong to Lee Trust for \$1,930,000

7978 Elgin Lane D. & C. Niven to D. Guzman for \$605,000

4738 Mangrove Drive J. & P. Zhang to T. Noguchi for \$885,000

7280 Newcastle Lane A. & K. Herrington to A. Cockledge for \$585,000

5149 San Vicente Loop J. Ledergerber to A. Parthasarathy for \$782,000

5439 Signal Hill Drive T. & A. Phuong to P. & D. Javier for \$1,375,000

7408 Stagecoach Road B. Friedman to E. Crane for \$703,000

7315 Starward Drive #59 Greenwood North Limited to R. Young for \$306,000

7648 Tuscany Drive L. Clements to C. Dileria for \$555,000

3625 Whitworth Drive R. & Y. Ayres to N. Cruz for \$730,000

Livermore

132 Acorn Way B. Howard to A. Mashriqi for \$1,158,000

1622 Altamont Circle R. & P. Dixon to R. & M. Estrada for \$870,000

1773 Calle Del Rey L. Logoteta to W. & C. Massung for \$620,000

1737 Corte Sueno Koll Trust to S. & C. Frost for \$606,000

2480 Cowan Way Meritage Homes to G. & M. Segui for \$1,189,000

3892 Dartmouth Way R. & N. Lehw to J. Gerber for \$560,000

720 Del Mar Avenue T. & E. Johnson to M. Anaya for \$595,000

1473 El Dorado Drive D. Rutz to B. Onstad for \$579,000

1146 Florence Road A. & K. Vandiggelen to W. & E. Asay for \$712,000

2237 French Street South Livermore Development to Holbrook Trust for \$1,128,500

BEAUTIFUL HOME IN VINTAGE HILLS



3285 TOURIGA DRIVE, PLEASANTON

4 bedrooms 2.5 baths Located in desirable Vintage Hills this home offers 2050 square feet of living space. It has been totally remodeled. Spacious kitchen features large eat in area with Cherrywood cabinets, new s/s appliances, seamless granite countertops and tumbled stone backsplash with granite inlays, Tile flooring with granite accents. Mahogany hardwood floors in family, living and formal dining rooms plus all new carpeting. Upgraded crown molding and baseboards and all new solid core 6 panel doors. Newer Anderson windows and window coverings. Bathrooms with granite countertops. Professionally landscaped backyard with swimming pool and spa with a peaceful waterfall. **OFFERED AT \$969,950**

JOANN WHEELER, Realtor

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Open Homes this weekend

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or email: openhomes@PleasantonWeekly.com

Dublin

3 Bedrooms

- 8364 Cavalier Ln.** **\$620,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Help-U-Sell PV 462-5950
- 7822 Hillrose Dr.** **\$649,950**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Hometown GMAC 699-3122
- 5228 Charlton Ct.** **\$765,000**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Intero 251-2553
- 4503 Peacock Ct.** **\$779,999**
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Prudential CA 463-9500

4 Bedrooms

- 7652 Buckeye Ct.** **\$1,024,000**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Prudential CA 963-1984
- 4005 Mt. Vernon Pl.** **\$794,900**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Prudential CA 463-9500
- 5210 San Vicente Loop** **\$799,900**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Prudential CA 463-9500
- 7774 Woodrun Ct.** **\$820,000**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Re/Max 719-0513

Livermore

2 Bedrooms

- 1324 Chateau Cmn.** **\$440,000**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Better Homes 862-0922
- 139 Windward Cmn. #1** **\$462,777**
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Coldwell Banker 367-7414

3 Bedrooms

- 3690 Madeira Wy.** **\$548,000**
Sat 11-2 p.m. Hometown GMAC 980-3938

- 869 Seminole Dr.** **\$589,999**
Sat/Sun 2-5 p.m. HT GMAC 1-800-362-6257

- 568 Alameda Dr.** **\$639,950**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Re/Max 577-2600

- 6347 Altamar Cir.** **\$669,000**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Re/Max 784-1243

- 786 Moraga Dr.** **\$679,950**
Sat 1-4 p.m. Valley Properties 998-5312

- 2194 Elsa Cmn.** **\$749,000**
Sat 1-4 p.m. Re/Max 784-1243

4 Bedrooms

- 948 Kern Ct.** **\$615,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Alain Pinel 215-1676

- 1134 Saddleview Ct.** **\$772,900**
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Prudential CA 366-8275

- 378 Jeannie Wy.** **\$799,000**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Intero 251-2515

- 980 So. G St.** **\$799,950**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Coldwell Banker 847-7355

- 1731 Cheryl Dr.** **\$939,000**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Prudential CA 463-6113

- 2090 Hall Cir.** **\$949,000**
Sat 1-4 p.m. Alain Pinel 583-1121

5 Bedrooms

- 202 Tourmaline Ave.** **\$1,049,000**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Intero 251-2553

Pleasanton

1 Bedrooms

- 823 Division St.** **\$369,900**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Intero 788-7788

2 Bedrooms

- 5736 Belleza Dr.** **\$599,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Keller Williams 397-4229

- 5738 Belleza Dr.** **\$599,000**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Intero 251-2555

- 7467 Stonedale Dr.** **\$599,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Keller Williams 397-4229

3 Bedrooms

- 4431 Seminole Wy.** **\$464,500**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Help-U-Sell PV 462-5950

- 2347 Bay Meadows Cir.** **\$648,500**
Sat 1-4 p.m. Hometown GMAC 426-3850

- 5173 Willowview Ct.** **\$648,500**
Sat 1-4 p.m. Hometown GMAC 426-3850

- 5791 Northway Rd.** **\$662,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Help-U-Sell PV 462-5950

- 4024 Fairlands Dr.** **\$699,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Keller Williams 594-0357

- 1533 Trimmingham Dr.** **\$729,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Coldwell Banker 367-7414

- 4597 Carver Ct.** **\$739,950**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Keller Williams 463-0436

- 3684 Carlsbad Wy.** **\$749,000**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Prudential CA 463-9500

- 5001 Muirwood Dr.** **\$849,000**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Alain Pinel 251-1111

- 2173 Corte Ricardo** **\$875,000**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Intero 984-3195

- 4719 Golden Rd.** **\$879,500**
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Assist 2 Sell 200-2602

- 1350 Orloff Dr.** **\$924,300**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Assist 2 Sell 339-3500

- 2644 Camino Segura** **\$968,000**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Re/Max 737-1000

4 Bedrooms

- 827 Genevieve Pl.** **\$1,399,000**
Sat 1-4 p.m. Asante RE 200-6648

- 3025 Bolero Ct.** **\$699,500**
Sat 1-4 p.m. Intero 251-2555

- 7381 Tulipwood Cir.** **\$749,950**
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Prudential CA 734-5000

- 3647 Kirkcaldy Ct.** **\$784,950**
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Re/Max 510-578-1036

- 2469 Via Espada** **\$799,950**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Hometown GMAC 426-3844

- 6042 Acadia** **\$799,950**
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Prudential CA 734-5000

- 3955 Churchill Dr.** **\$817,750**
Sat/Sun 1-4 p.m. Keller Williams 397-4301

- 5081 Pebblewood Ct.** **\$865,000**
Sat 1-4 p.m. Help-U-Sell PV 462-5950

- 414 Mavis Dr.** **\$897,000**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Keller Williams 398-0234

- 2253 Via Espada** **\$925,000**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Windermere WH 200-1454

5 Bedrooms

- 4379 Clovewood Ln.** **\$827,000**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Re/Max 462-0728

- 7821 Marigold Ct.** **\$959,900**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Prudential CA 249-6831

- 5550 Paseo Navarro** **\$975,000**
Sun 1-4 p.m. Alain Pinel 583-1121



2701 TUBEROSE COURT, PLEASANTON

Located in "Stoneridge Place", a desirable Pleasanton neighborhood, this bright home offers 1,635 square feet of living area featuring living room and formal dining with vaulted ceilings, comfortable family room with view of private yard, 3 large upstairs bedrooms, 2 full baths and a downstairs powder room with pedestal sink. Lovely master suite features walk-in closet and dual sink vanity, tub and separate stall shower. Spacious kitchen features large eating area, abundance of maple cabinetry and white appliances. Laminate floors downstairs and extensive window treatments are just some of the upgrades. It is across from a community pool & Spa, and in walking distance to a neighborhood park and award-winning Mohr Elementary School.

OFFERED AT \$744,000



2779 CHOCOLATE STREET, PLEASANTON

This bright home is located at one of the best lots in Stoneridge Square community. It backs to open space and with beautiful views of hills. Built in 2003, it offers 1,879 square feet of living area featuring living room, formal dining, large family room with fireplace, 3 upstairs bedrooms, a study, 2 full baths and a downstairs powder room. Spacious kitchen features large eating area, island counter, abundance of cabinets and white appliances. Lovely master suite features large walk-in closet, dual sink vanity, tub and separate stall shower. Beautiful hardwood floors downstairs, tile counter tops with full backsplash and beautiful inlays, designer paints, Hunter Douglas Blinds & Plantation Shutters are just some of the many upgrades. Professionally landscaped backyard with automatic sprinklers and low voltage lighting. Walking distance to community pool, park and Mohr Elementary School.

OFFERED AT \$785,000



2691 CURRY STREET, PLEASANTON

Located in the desirable "Stoneridge Square" community, this bright home offers 2,014 square feet of living area featuring living room with high ceiling, formal dining, large family room, 4 upstairs bedrooms (4th bedroom is a loft), 2 full baths and a downstairs powder room. Spacious kitchen features large eating area, island counter, abundance of cabinets and white appliances. Lovely master suite features large walk-in closet, dual sink vanity, tub and separate stall shower. Marble entry, beautiful tile floors, tile counters with full backsplash and decorative inlays, extensive window treatments... Professionally landscaped backyard with automatic sprinklers and low voltage lightings. Walking distance to community pool, park and award winning Mohr Elementary School.

OFFERED AT \$819,000



2633 MARIA STREET, PLEASANTON

This beautiful home is located at the desirable "Stoneridge Square" community. It is within walking distance to community park, pool and award-winning Mohr Elementary School. Built by Standard Pacific, this home offers 2043 sq.ft. living space featuring living room, formal dining, large family room, 4 upstairs bedrooms, 2 full baths and a downstairs powder room. 2 car garage with extra long driveway. Spacious kitchen features large eating area, abundant cabinetry and white appliances. Lovely master suite features large walk-in closet, dual sink vanity, bath tub and separate shower stall. Beautiful beech hardwood floors downstairs, upgraded bathrooms and new interior paint.

OFFERED AT \$827,000.

RE/MAX ACCORD



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4444 First Street, Pleasanton
1910 vintage downtown home. 4 bed, 2 1/2 bath. Approx. 1900 sq. ft. Hardwood floors, granite, built ins. Must see!
Open, Sat 1-4 \$1,229,000



3451 Park Place, Pleasanton
4 bedroom, 3 bath., 3 car garage, 2200 sq. ft., Vaulted ceilings. Near parks & school.
\$869,000



1067 Nolan Court Pleasanton
3 bedroom plus office, 2.5 bath. Approx. 2200 sq.ft. Granite, stainless, hardwoods, built-ins. \$135,000 in upgrades. Quality throughout! Must see!
\$1,169,000



480 Amaral Circle
3 Bedroom, 2 Bath approx. 1300 sq. ft. Hardwood floors, Granite, stainless appliances. New everything. Unlimited possibilities to add Guest House, Shop or Additional garages. Backs to creek, Awesome property! Must see!
Open Sat 1-4 \$1,118,000

- **Pleasanton Downtown Condo**
Price slashed to sell immediately. 1 bedroom 1 bath. Newer 1 BR unit in prime location!!
54 Peters Ave Open Sat 1-4 \$369,000

For further details on any of these and other properties call:

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Pleasanton, CA 94566-7125



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www.jgcrosslin.com



FOR RENT

Two great properties in Pleasanton

Single family home with 2 bedrooms and a loft, 2 car garage, close to park and easy freeway access. Excellent condition asking \$1,795.00. No pets and no smoking

Delightful town home 2 bedrooms plus a den, 2 car garage walk to downtown. Located on a quiet court. Asking \$1,800. No pets and no smoking.

Both properties available July 15th.

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OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

414 Mavis Dr. Pleasanton

Rare Vineyard Terrace Single Story Home available. This 4 bed 2 bath fully updated and remodeled 1971 square foot home sits on almost 8000sq. Dual Pane

Windows, Very Large Rooms, Pecan Hardwood Flooring,

New Carpet, New Exterior and Interior Paints, Very Private rear yard with New Trex Deck, Arbor and Patio. Walk to School, Downtown and Parks!! Amazing Home!

A Must See @ 897,000 Call The Serrao Team Today. 925-398-0234



7734 Bloomfield Terrace, Dublin - 4 bed 4 bath with amazing views, spa and court location. Offered @ 1,269,000

10894 Inspiration, Dublin - 5bed 4 bath on almost 1/2 acre, private setting with one of a kind views. Offered @ 1,569,000

3415 Pestana Way, Livermore - 4bed 1 bath on a 1/4 acre with Pool and completely remodeled in and out. Offered @ 596,000

8040 Mountain View Dr., Pleasanton - 2 bed 2 bath Condo with 2 private patios and view of the hills. Offered @ 479,000

5994 W. Las Positas Ste. 101
Pleasanton, CA 94588
(925) 398-0234
www.SerraoTeam.com

KELLER WILLIAMS
REALTY



2628 Calistoga Court, Livermore

Beautiful Vineyard Gate home on quiet cul-de-sac in South Livermore is situated on a 12,800 Sq. Ft. lot. This single story home has over 3800 square feet of living space featuring five bedrooms, four and one half baths including a separate guest house located above detached two car garage. Features include a great room with wide plank hardwood floors, soaring ceilings throughout, and double French doors leading to a covered porch, spacious gourmet kitchen with slab granite, breakfast nook, Jack & Jill bathroom, and a private master suite. Professionally landscaped front yard, an in-ground pool with spa plus a 3rd garage...a must see!
Offered at \$1,219,950



4072 Rosehill Place, Dublin

Beautifully appointed Dublin Ranch home with no rear neighbors. Built in 2003, approx. 3080 sq. ft. of living space, plus landscaped back featuring a covered patio, an area for play and a soothing fountain to relax by. This warm, spacious home features 5 large bedrooms and 3 baths. Some amenities include a marble entry, beautiful maple hardwood cabinets and floors, volume ceilings, slab granite countertops and brushed stainless steel appliances. A full bedroom and bath downstairs makes a perfect guest room for visiting friends and relatives.
Offered at \$1,039,000



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3647 KIRKCALDY COURT, PLEASANTON

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

Offered at \$784,950



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SherriRE@aol.com



RE/MAX Executive
41111 Mission Blvd.
Fremont, CA 94539

Just Listed!

Rebuilt in 1993 from the ground up, this elegant home offers an exceptional opportunity for the expanded family.

550 San Miguel Court, Pleasanton



Featuring a complete permitted "Granny Unit" with its own entry, kitchen and living area, it offers the security of being nearby, yet the privacy of one's own apartment. Approx 3300sq.ft(+/-), 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, pool & spa. \$1,285,000.



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**3301 E RUBY HILL
REDUCED TO \$2,499,000**

Wonderful ITALIAN VILLA featuring 6 bedrooms and a BONUS ROOM. All bedrooms are suites with walk in closet, tile flooring, surround and trim. Master Suite is beyond big and features an outdoor balcony with views of Diablo. Wide hallways, huge butler's pantry, TWO downstairs suites!



**879 OAK MANOR WAY
REDUCED TO \$2,399,000**

This CUSTOM home is truly a CUSTOM, not just big. Carousel in Master closet, tinted UV protected windows, 4 car garage with extra storage, tons of privacy and views from everywhere. Wood floors throughout the home, downstairs guest suite, and formal office and the kitchen you always wanted!-



**1180 PALADIN WAY
\$2,995,000**

New construction, completed late Jun '06. office, bonus room, exercise room, 4 car garage, 1/2 acre lot, cooled wine storage and much much more.

**SHANE
BOHEN**



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1111 COUNTRY LANE, DANVILLE OPEN SUN 1-4
HIDDEN TASSAJARA BEAUTY \$1,545,000
4 BR 2 BA 2573 sqft.yard frs blk bottom
pl&spa,cabana,playhse Upstrs aprtmnt w/kit,1
bd,1 ba **925.847.2200**



6867 GARAVENTA RANCH ROAD LIVERMORE
BEAUTIFUL HOME \$778,000
4 BR 3 BA Maple flrs.liv.&din.rms.,gourmet
kit.1 bd/ba downstairs French doors to patio
area. **925.371.2100**

BERKLEY

CLAREMONT LUXURY HOME \$1,300,000
4 BR 4 BA Vaulted ceiling in fam.rm,grnte kit
cntrtp. Apx.3759 sq/ft.Mstr suite inc. ba w/
spa tub. **925.847.2200**

DUBLIN

YOUR DREAM HOME! \$939,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Loft has window & closet,could
be 4th bdrm.w/ frnch drs,grnit,chrty cabs &
plntatn shuttrs **925.847.2200**

LAFAYETTE

3254 MARLENE DR. OPEN SUN 1-4
2 STORY HIDE AWAY \$543,000
3 BR 1.5 BA This is a 10+ 2 story hide away.
Great for entertaining. Large dining area.
Remodeled **925.847.2200**

LIVERMORE

BUYER INCENTIVES AVAIL \$1,248,900
5 BR 4 BA Estates home,near the Livermore
vineyards!Full bed&ba dwnstrs. Lease to own
option avail! **925.847.2200**

LIFE IN THE VINEYARDS \$1,055,000
5 BR 3 BA Beautifully Appointed 5 bdrm +
study Entertainment ctr,F Dining & LR Shws
like a model **925.847.2200**

PICTURE PERFECT END UNIT \$569,500
3 BR 2.5 BA Upgraded w/ Granite Kit. Coun-
ters, Tile Flooring, 2-Car Attached Garage &
Open Floor Plan. **925.847.2200**

DESIRABLE COPPERHILL \$462,777
2 BR 2 BA Gated community,beautiful pergo
flooring,1 car garage, community pool & ten-
nis courts **925.847.2200**

LIGHT/BRIGHT END UNIT \$425,000
3 BR 1.5 BA Priv.patio/garden,upgraded
thruout,new carpet,recessed lighting,tile flrs.
wash/dryer stay **925.371.2100**

BEAUTIFUL SETTING \$335,800
1 BR 1 BA Darling condo,3 years new w/ air &
1 car attached garage. **925.847.2200**

MARTINEZ

1120 MAYWOOD LANE OPEN SUN 2-5
BEST MAINTAINED HOME \$399,000
2 BR 2 BA 2story, 2parking end unit.New
appliances,wood floors, kitchen
counter,sink,carpet.Must see **925.847.2200**

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SUMMER SIZZLER \$899,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Aprx.2100 sq.ft.Covered front
porch,hrdwd,tile floors.Mastr bath w/lrg tub.
Fam rm w/frplc **925.847.2200**

PRISTINE HOME \$729,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Swimming pool and a beautiful
garden, freshly painted, new carpets + bonus
room! **925.847.2200**

GORGEOUS HOME \$689,888
2 BR 2 BA + loft.Apx.1478sq.ft. Liv/din rm
w/vaulted ceiling.New roof & ext/int paint
w/sdyrd&bkyrd **925.847.2200**

SAN RAMON

BEAUTIFUL BRIDGES HOME \$1,109,900
4 BR 3 BA Pool&spa w/waterfall,upgrd kit
w/Italian tile,vaultd ceilings,HW flr,full bd/bth
dwnstrs **925.847.2200**

CEDAR BRIDGE ELEGANCE LOW \$700,000'S
3 BR 2.5 BA Twnhs,move-in cond w/beautiful
frs incl.upgrded kit,spacious mstr suite &
Indscpd yrd **925.847.2200**

TRACY

NICE AREA \$379,500
3 BR 1 BA Cute/clean,open kit.hrdwd.flrs,sep.
ldry rm,corner lot,det.gar.rm.for RV,priv.rear
yard **925.371.2100**

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and a
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Livermore

Beautiful 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath, Pergo floor, fireplace and vaulted ceilings. 1 car garage and much more. Community Pool, Tennis Court, Security Gate and Playground.

\$462,777



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891 Sunny Brook Way, Pleasanton



BRIDLE CREEK

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6153 St Andrews Way, Livermore



LIVERMORE

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Offered at \$639,950

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Real Estate



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PENDING!

886 Cherry Glen Circle, Fremont
ELEGANT FREMONT TOWNHOUSE
Lovely 2 bedroom, 2 bath upper end unit with 1 car attached garage. Cozy fireplace & designer touches thru-out! Close to shopping, Central Park and BART! Low HOA fees include pool, sauna, clubhouse, haz. ins, water & trash
\$440,000



OPEN SUN 1-4

1324 Chateau Common, Livermore
SOUTHSIDE LIVERMORE CONDO
Stay home and enjoy your pool, tennis ct & playground or walk to bike & hiking trails, downtown, vineyards and more! This is the highly sought after southside! 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths. Large living/dining area. Balcony overlooking pool.
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1512 OAK VISTA WAY, PLEASANTON



Gorgeous 4 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath 2,780 sq. ft. Excellent Location across from Future Bernal Community Space, Private Back Yard.
Offered at \$1,136,000

648 CONCORD PLACE, PLEASANTON



2 Bedroom, 1.5 Bath Darling Townhome, Spacious Living Room and Dining Area, Eat-in Kitchen, And Approx. 1096 Sq. Ft. of Comfortable Living Space. Upgrades including new carpet, Tile, Crown Molding, Custom Light Fixtures, No Rear Neighbor, Walk to Elementary School. **Offered at \$449,000**

691 CONCORD PLACE, PLEASANTON



Gorgeous Upgraded End-Unit Townhome Looks Like New! 2 Bedrooms, 1.5 Baths and 1,096 Approximate Sq. Ft. of Elegant Living Space. Upgraded Top to Bottom and includes a Built-In Home Office, Lots of Added Storage Cabinets, & Upstairs Laundry.
Sold for \$460,000

1828 RHEEM COURT, PLEASANTON



Wonderful Home in a Quiet Court Location with HUGE Yard. It is Rare to find Such a Large Lot in this Highly Desired Neighborhood Area. Walking distance to Mohr Elementary and Several Parks.
\$699,000

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- Hayward Home & Studio Plus 4-Plex **\$1,050,000**

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COMING SOON



4871 Woodthrush Rd

Charming "Lakeside" model in Birdland just a block to Woodthrush park or the Sports complex. This 4bd/2ba home features many new improvements including a newer Granite kitchen and appliances, New carpet, deco paint, six panel doors, nickel hardware, fencing, and tile entry. Plus a large lot and peaceful back yard with redwood deck and hot tub. **Price upon request or call for a private showing**

COMING SOON



Great starter home with all the improvements! This spacious 3bd/2.5ba Town home with a one car garage and storage boasts New carpet, Ralph Loren paint, WilsonArt Floors, new windows, AC, doors, hardware, Maytag washer/dryer and side by side refrigerator with water/ice. The back patio is a private oasis with new paver stones, redwood fencing with privacy screen and new landscaping front and back. **Price upon request or call for a private showing**



8157 Fairway Ct, Newark

Spacious 2300+/-sf, 4bd/3ba home in Tamara neighborhood. Completely remodeled with New Granite/Oak kitchen, Marble mater bath with dual vanity and raised spa tub, Pool/Poker room addition with separate entry & bath plus a large backyard and patio with basketball court and 2 story playhouse!! **\$879,000**

REDUCED



2253 Tanager Dr.

Charming 4bd/2ba home in Willow West with a newer island kitchen that opens to family room, new carpet and paint and a lush, private backyard with newer patio, landscaping, outdoor lighting and also RV parking. **\$809,000**

SOLD IN 1 DAY



4459 Shearwater Ct, Pleasanton

Beautiful Birdland Gallery model completely remodeled inside and out!! This wonderful 4bd/3ba home features a full bed/bath downstairs, New Granite/maple kitchen with travertine tile floor, Granite baths, sculpted berber carpet and hardwood flooring in the entry and a spacious backyard and patio for outdoor entertaining. **\$895,000**



842 Sylvaner Dr, Pleasanton

Lovely Vintage Hills Home on private .27 acre lot with gated pool & spa and redwood decking off the dining room and kitchen! 4bd/2.5ba with many upgrades including new maple/Silestone kitchen with JennAir appliances, Anderson French doors, WilsonArt Floors and updated baths. **\$969,000**



PLEASANTON | 900 Main Street 925.251.1111



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- ♦ 4 BR / 2 Bath
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- ♦ 3955 Churchill Drive, Pleasanton

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Desirable single level home. Skylights throughout the home bring in lots of light. Updated appliances & water filter in the kitchen. Whole house water softener. Landscaped private backyard is sure to become your family's favorite spot. It's also in an unbeatable location. Close to 13.8 acre Fairlands Park, Cabana Club, tennis courts, Trader Joe's & Freeway access.

PENDING



- ♦ 4 BR + Den / 2.5 Bath
- ♦ 2,631 SqFt
- ♦ Pleasanton

This desirable Birdland home sits on a huge lot with a salt water pool, pond & deck. Over-sized family room addition enjoys great backyard and pool views. Ideal setup for those who love to entertain! Downstairs den could be used as a fifth bedroom. Built-in buffet and writing desk in the kitchen. 12' x 16' workshop in the side yard is every handy person's dream. **Call us for more homes like this great property!**

SOLD



- ♦ 4 BR/3.5 Bath; 3,425 SqFt
- ♦ \$1,350,000
- ♦ Hayward Hills

SOLD



- ♦ 4 BR/2.5 Bath; 3,100 SqFt
- ♦ \$1,280,000
- ♦ Pleasanton

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Oak Manor



819 OAK MANOR CT, PLEASANTON • OFFERED AT \$2,395,000
As soon as you enter you will be impressed with the unique elegance. Gorgeous custom home on private .62 acre lot. Approximately 4904 square feet, four bedrooms (two master suites) plus wine room and bonus loft area and 5.5 bathrooms. Quality, high end equipment and finishes throughout. Gourmet kitchen with granite slab counters and stainless steel appliances. Hardwood floors. Oversized four car garage with car hoist (5 car capability). Beautifully landscaped Tahoe-like grounds with mature trees. Two minutes to Castlewood Country Club.

Ponderosa Estates



1364 BRIONES COURT, PLEASANTON • OFFERED AT \$1,469,500
Wow! Highly upgraded new single level Ponderosa Estates home on approximately .25 acre lot. This 4 bedroom 3.5 bath home has 3182 square feet and just about every upgrade you can imagine. Gourmet kitchen with granite slab countertops/custom backsplash, Viking stainless steel appliances, and upgraded alder cabinets. Hardwood floors, home theater package, security system. Includes three car garage. Professionally landscaped!! "Zero energy home" That's right - with solar roof tiles from the builder, you can sell power to PG&E and keep your energy bills real low.

Downtown Pleasanton



Sale Pending
4105 PLEASANTON AVE, PLEASANTON • OFFERED AT \$899,500
Newer three bedroom, 2.5 bath home in Downtown Pleasanton. Approximately 1926 square feet of living space including a large family room and formal living and dining rooms. New carpets and interior paint. Professionally landscaped. Enjoy community park and Arroyo Del Valle walking trails. It's a short walk to shopping and dining on Main Street.

Sycamore Grove Estates



835 TOLENTINO CT, LIVERMORE • OFFERED AT \$1,795,000
Beautiful custom home in the wine country with court location on large lot. Views of surrounding vineyards and rolling hills. 5 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, game/bonus room, 2 flex areas. 5,057 Square Feet plus Guest House (640 sq. ft). Gourmet kitchen with granite slab countertops, and stainless steel appliances. Cherry wood floors, crown molding, wainscoting, and more. Quality craftsmanship throughout. Don't miss this stunning wine country home.

San Michelle



230 LYON COURT, DANVILLE • OFFERED AT \$1,399,000
Wow! Highly upgraded 5 year old home in quiet court location. Five bedrooms plus loft computer work station area, 3 baths with 3464 square feet. Granite slab counters, stainless steel appliances, large master suite with large spa tub and marble surrounds. Gas BBQ room for a pool, and large side yard with pavers patio. Conveniently located near Blackhawk Plaza and Tassajara Crossing Shopping Centers. Close to Blackhawk Country Club, Diablo Vista Middle School, and the future Mustang Soccer Club Complex with Club House, Two Synthetic Fields and Running Track.

San Ramon



7595 MAY WAY, SAN RAMON • OFFERED AT \$679,500
Upgraded three bedroom, two bath home on corner lot in San Ramon. Updated kitchen. Newer roof, dual pane windows, laminate floors, tile flooring, newer carpeting, wood burning fireplace, side yard access. Deck with built in spa. Walking distance to all levels of school.



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The 680 Team

Incredible Setting!

Fabulous custom West Pleasanton home at end of a quiet street with 5 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, gourmet kitchen, bonus room, marble foyer, luxurious master, designer finishes, and wooded setting.
Offered at \$2,199,000



Upgraded Charmer with Sparkling Pool!

Gorgeous 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home featuring sunny gourmet kitchen with cherry cabinets, slab granite counters, and stainless appliances, dual-pane windows, new roof, spacious family room with wet bar/utility area, large master suite with dual walk-in closets, pergo flooring and designer carpeting, and a large private yard with sparkling pool, patio, and possible side access.
5001 Muirwood Dr. Offered at \$849,000



Walk to Downtown!

Charming upgraded 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home with sunny granite kitchen, hardwood floors, new designer carpeting, huge family room with granite fireplace, luxurious master suite with retreat and walk-in closet, dual-pane windows, 3 car garage, and large private yard with sparkling pool and spa, and view of the ridge.
Offered at \$1,099,000.



Charming Single Story!

Sharp 4 bedroom, 2 bath upgraded home with new pergo flooring, dual pane windows, large sunny kitchen, formal living room & dining room, and private yard with patio and ample lawn area. Across the street from fabulous city park. Centrally located close to schools, shopping, and transportation.
Offered at \$849,000



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STUNNING HOME 4BD/3BA, light & bright, high ceilings, newer carpet, gourmet kitchen with island & walk-in pantry, plantation shutters

925.426.3880 \$969,500

DUBLIN



GORGEOUS! 4BD/2BA, highly upgraded home with new dual pane windows, heating & AC, lighting, interior paint, newer tile floors, roof

925.426.3880 \$870,000

HAYWARD



INCREDIBLE PANORAMIC VIEWS 4BD/2½BA, stainless appliances, inlaid tile counters, updated baths, new carpet and paint and much more

925.426.3800 \$839,500

DUBLIN



BETTER THAN NEW 4BD/2½BA, open floorplan with great room, upgraded tile floors, stainless kitchen, ceiling fans, window treatments and much more

925.426.3800 \$809,950

HOMETOWN **GMAC** Real Estate

GMAC Real Estate Ranks Second Best for Luxury Home Buyers and Sellers

In a recent survey of high-net-worth luxury home buyers and sellers, GMAC Real Estate ranked second in the nation as the real estate brokerage brand that delivers the best customer experience.

The national "Luxury Customer Experience Index" survey, or LCEI, was conducted by the independent New York-based Luxury Institute, an independent research institution known as the trusted voice of the high-net-worth consumer. The survey evaluated four major areas: effectiveness of meeting customer needs, perceived price worthiness, customer retention/loyalty and customer referral.

GMAC Real Estate earned a score of 68.4%, exceeded only by Sotheby's score of 73%.

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PLEASANTON MEADOWS!! 3BD/2BA, court location, family room opens to kitchen/breakfast nook, tile counters, dual pane windows, new paint and more

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TRACY



GORGEOUS SAXONY HOME 3BD/2½BA, option for 4th and 5th bedrooms, custom pool and spa, tile entry, kitchen and bathrooms

925.426.3880 \$659,900

LIVERMORE



ADORABLE SINGLE FAMILY HOME 4BD/2½BA, vaulted ceilings, separate living & family rooms, eat-in kitchen, freshly painted with an open floor plan

925.426.3800 \$639,950

FREMONT



BEAUTIFUL TURN-KEY 3BD/1BA, totally remodeled, updated kitchen w/ stainless appliances, updated bath w/ cultured marble shower & vanity, new carpet

925.443.7000 \$599,000

LIVERMORE



PICTURE PERFECT 3BD/2BA, new roof, newer windows, newer kitchen with Corian counters, remodeled baths with granite

925.426.3800 \$589,999

DUBLIN



GREAT VIEW OF HILLS 1BD/1BA, slab granite countertops with full backsplash in kitchen, gas range, upgraded carpet, tile and laminate flooring

925.426.3800 \$549,500

FREMONT



EXCELLENT WARM SPRINGS AREA LOCATION 2BD/1BA, quiet end unit with 1 car garage and carport, 1070 sqft of living space, walk to schools & shopping

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