

## Hero of the Hudson

Danville will welcome pilot home Saturday > **page 6**

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### Tee's up

Girls golf club gives back on the green

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# PLEASANTON WEEKLY

### Inside this edition

The city of Pleasanton's newsletter

# 'We all awoke with hope'



Pleasanton Vice-Mayor reports on her trip to inauguration **PAGE 16**



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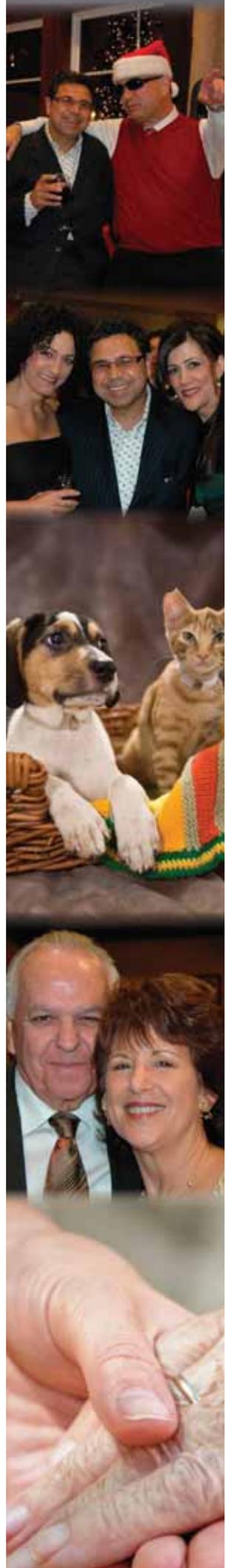
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*'Tis the season for sharing love and life...*



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# Around Pleasanton

by Jeb Bing

## 2nd-graders comment on the inauguration

Tuesday's historic events were center stage in teacher Renee Vernon's second-grade classroom at Walnut Grove Elementary School. "Ms. V," as she is affectionately called by her roomful of 7- and 8-year-olds, shelved her lessons for inauguration day and leveraged the moment for its momentous learning opportunities. A bright, personable second-year teacher, who is a product of Pleasanton schools, Vernon represents the new generation of community leaders. President Barack Obama talked about in his inaugural address, which Ms. V's kids watched. Then she engaged them in a discussion about what they heard, saw and thought, assembling the 20 youngsters in a community circle to share their feelings. Their responses brought home the fact that not only was it history in the making for the country on Tuesday but that these second-grade students showed that they really understood the significance of what we experienced together yesterday, as well as their role in the future.

She typed up a brief synopsis and sent it home to the parents as a packet on Obama and the inauguration so that they could further discuss it with their child. According to Ms. V's report, the second-graders' feelings on the inauguration were:

- Good because it is teaching me a lot of things.
- Happy because Obama is the first African-American president.
- Happy for Obama because he gets to move into the White House.
- Ecstatic because Obama is going to be a good president and it is the dawning of 4 or 8 years of light.
- Ecstatic because we have a

brand new president.

- Happy because he may help us get out of this recession.
- Good because Obama is a responsible person that will take care of our country.
- Brave and proud because we have a new president.
- Curious if Obama will stop the war or keep it going.
- Nervous because I don't know if he will stop the war but happy because I think he will.
- Happy because it was the first time seeing the inauguration.

Particularly relevant was Obama's comment that "children are our future," and what he meant by that. Several of the students answered:

- As we get older, we can try to make better choices.
- We are little now and when we get older we can change the world and the way things are with our choices.
- When we get older, others will pass away, so it's us kids that can change the world.
- We know what has happened when we are children so we know what not to do as we get older.

Bill Radulovich, who is the principal at Walnut Grove, a California Distinguished and National Blue Ribbon school, sent me Renee Vernon's summary, saying she is a wonderful example of the generation that sits on the historical continuum, midway between older folks and the kids. That this happened in a second-grade classroom speaks to the magic that can be produced when a masterful teacher marries relevant, timely content with engaging methodology. "It elevates the cognitive processes that make our species so unique," Radulovich told me. It also demonstrates how bright our future may be if we teach our children well. ■

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#### About the Cover

Pleasanton Vice-Mayor and City Councilwoman Cheryl Cook-Kallio joins friend Gloria Dyer on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. during pre-inauguration festivities. Crowds estimated at 1-2 million made sightseeing difficult, but Cook-Kallio, who reported on her trip for the Weekly, called it an unforgettable experience. Cover photo by Peggy Herndon.

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# Streetwise

**Q:** Should we pay higher fees and taxes to solve the state's \$41-billion budget crisis?

Asked around town



**Bill Radulovich**

Yes, because we need to keep our money in education. We don't have much more that we can cut in that area. It either has to come through revenues, which is taxes, or through educational cuts, which is going to reduce the quality of education for our kids. At the end of 13 years, we're going to turn them out into a global economy for which they won't be prepared to compete in.

**Alicia Shaffer**

No. I am a small business owner in Pleasanton and if my taxes are raised significantly, we may have to cut employees, which results in more unemployment. I think the budget should be looked at more efficiently and the state government needs to cut in areas or programs that aren't making a difference or that aren't benefitting anybody.



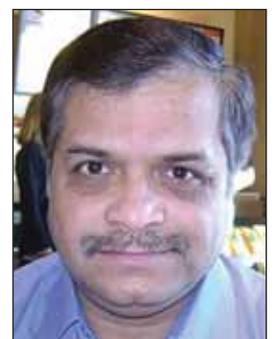
**John Garrity**

No. The state is all about threats and intimidation. They claim to cut in areas that intimidate people like the local police force and schools. They are lying because there is enough money in other areas where they can start to cut first. Our governor needs to look at his staff and how overpaid they are and consider trimming in that area.



**Sridhar Harnur**

No. The economy isn't doing well and people have recently lost their jobs. In the month of December alone, 500,000 jobs were lost and this is not the time the state should be increasing taxes for any purpose.



**Melissa Klopatek**

I think we're between a rock and hard place and in order to take better care of the people and children in California, we will have to pay more in taxes.



Have a Streetwise question? E-mail: [editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:editor@PleasantonWeekly.com)

Compiled by Hillary Bessiere

## Thinking about making the move to solar energy? Start with the Solar Cities program.

Solar Cities is a joint project of the cities of Livermore, Pleasanton and now Dublin, focused on educating consumers with information about residential solar energy. Join us at a free workshop to learn more about solar technology for the home. In addition to city and PG&E staff, solar installers will be on hand to meet with you and answer your questions.

### Free Solar Cities Workshop

Thursday, January 29, 2009  
7:00 p.m.

Robert Livermore Community Center  
Larkspur Room  
4444 East Avenue, Livermore

For more information about the free Solar Cities workshop, please call (925) 960-4413.

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# Newsfront

## News Digest

### LPC advances financial aid

The delay of an approved state budget will not slow the influx of Cal Grant funds for Chabot and Las Positas College students. The college district prepared an advance payment for about 500 students for the second semester in a row. Dr. Hal Gin, president of the district's board, said this was possible through "continued fiscal responsibility and conservative budgeting." To contact the schools' financial aid offices, call 510-723-6748 (Chabot) or 424-1580 (Las Positas).

### Go for the gold, purple gala

Tickets are on sale for the annual Purple and Gold Gala, slated for March 14 at the Palm Event Center. The event, called "Sky's the Limit," benefits Amador Valley High School athletics. Tickets are \$100 for general seating, and first class seating will be offered at \$1,000 for a table of 10 and \$1,200 for a table of 12. Tickets can be purchased online at [amadorsports.olinesports.com](http://amadorsports.olinesports.com) or by emailing Suzy Graham at [suzyquez@comcast.net](mailto:suzyquez@comcast.net).

### Visit Meadowlark

The Museum On Main's "Lark in the Park" program heads to Meadowlark Park Saturday. From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., a museum docent will share about the local history surrounding the area. Photos of each park are available, as well as a \$25 yearly membership to the Lark in the Park programs. Learn more by calling 462-2766 or visiting [www.museumonmain.org](http://www.museumonmain.org).

### Learn to 'co-parent'

Amador Valley Adult School presents a class about "Co-Parenting: Living Apart, Parenting Together." The no-fee, eight-session class is for separated, divorced and single parent sharing custody of their children. The first session runs Feb. 5 to March 26 and the second is from April 2 to June 4. It meets at 7 p.m. at Pleasanton Middle School. For details, call 426-4280 or visit [www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/adult.ed](http://www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/adult.ed). Learn more about the instructors at [www.4creativeliving.com](http://www.4creativeliving.com).

### Corrections

The Weekly desires to correct all significant errors. To request a correction, call the editor at (925) 600-0840 or e-mail: [editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:editor@PleasantonWeekly.com)

## Council urges quick action to aid downtown

Move comes after warnings that 50,000 square feet of available retail space now vacant, more to come

by Jeb Bing

The Pleasanton City Council Tuesday night turned its attention to creating a local economic stimulus package to help its struggling downtown retailers and to work with business and property owners to strengthen shopping locally.

By one estimate, more than 50,000 square feet of available retail space is now vacant downtown and one merchant warned that three more retailers may close within the next three months.

City Manager Nelson Fialho and

the city's Economic Development Director Pamela Ott said they are working with a downtown merchants' group and the Pleasanton Downtown Association to promote the downtown and to encourage property owners to reduce rents, even on a temporary basis, to help businesses whose profits have been significantly reduced in the current recession.

"It's my understanding that the owner of the building which Domus recently vacated has doubled the rent for any prospective tenants," said Melanie Sadek, owner of

Murphy's Paw on Main Street and one of more than 20 retailers in the newly-formed merchants group. "I can tell you that three more retailers are in trouble and could close within three months."

Developer Michael O'Callaghan, who was hired by the owners of a now empty lot where the Union Jack Pub was torn down, said it has taken him a year to obtain approval for a new building. He said the property owners pulled a permit to build the new structure which means they have only six months to construct the building and find

a tenant or face having to do it all over again.

He asked the city to relax its requirements by providing lower fees for new businesses that want to come to the downtown and the time restriction on building permits.

Fialho told the council that the city recognizes that many businesses may be facing financial challenges due to the current economic downturn. He suggested that a "Business Assistance Package" be established to provide local

(continued on page 9)



L-R: Chelsea Browers, a Chico State freshman; Eliza Lamson, a senior at Amador; Asher Bantock, a senior at Foothill and Zach Lamson, a freshman at Amador, hoist a moldy shopping cart from the Arroyo Creek up a hillside as Linda Lamson, right, looks on.

Janet Pelletier

## Day of service

Group tackles trash in Arroyo Creek as part of Obama's call to action

by Janet Pelletier

Linda Lamson's home abuts the Centennial Trail that runs along Arroyo Creek. The trail is not only frequented by her family but many others who live in Del Prado. Tired of looking at one particular piece of trash—a moldy shopping cart with two of its wheels protruding from the creek waters—Lamson decided she'd had enough and was going to do something about it.

"It actually looks a lot worse in the summer time because the water recedes," Lamson said as

she stood Monday on a hillside embankment. "I just thought, I've looked at it so many times when I've been walking my dog."

She, her two children and their friends donned kitchen gloves and successfully retrieved the metal cart from the creek, pushing it up the hillside where it would later be taken away to the dump.

All in one morning's worth of work.

It was the first time Lamson had participated in a local cleanup, going nearly waist-deep into the cold, stagnant water, but not the first time

she's volunteered. She spent two years in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the Peace Corps.

Lamson recruited at least a dozen other people to help her in a creek cleanup as part of President Barack Obama's call to action on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, honoring the civil rights leader's passion for community service. Obama, who spent Monday participating in various service events, including visiting a homeless shelter for teens in Washington, D.C., has

(continued on page 9)

## First school budget forum set for Monday

Superintendent, senior staff to discuss funding shortfall at Amador Valley High School

by Emily West

Informative meetings about the budget crisis and its impact to the school district have been scheduled for this coming Monday and Feb. 4.

Superintendent John Casey and senior staff will discuss the current budget proposal from Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, according to district spokeswoman Myla Grasso.

The forums are an attempt to educate the community on the issues facing the district, which was a goal brought up at the Jan. 13 school board meeting. Casey had referenced comments by readers on the Pleasanton Weekly's website, saying there is "a disconnect from what they're saying to reality."

Both forums will begin at 7 p.m., with the first meeting in Amador Valley High School's multipurpose room, 1155 Santa Rita Road. The second will be held in Foothill High School's multipurpose room, 4375 Foothill Road.

In addition to the forums, the budget will be discussed at the following school board meetings, which meets the second and fourth Tuesdays at the district board room, 4665 Bernal Ave. By the end of February, the board will need to make decisions on the impact to staff, so pink slips can be sent by March 15.

For more information on the forums, call 426-4304 or visit [www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us](http://www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us).

## Pleasanton joins Dublin, Livermore to offer solar workshop

*Free event designed to educate residents on technology for residential use*

The cities of Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin will jointly host a free workshop Thursday designed to provide people with an overview of solar technology for residential use.

The workshop is scheduled for 7-9 p.m. at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave. in Livermore. The meeting will be held in the Larkspur Room of the community center.

The presentation will include an overview about residential solar energy—how it works, average costs, how to determine if a home is best situated for its use and how state and federal incentives work. A question and answer session will follow the presentation and a number of solar installers will also be available to speak to the public and answer questions in an informal setting. Building inspectors from Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin will also be on hand to engage with homeowners about the inspection process for solar installations.

Research indicates that the solar power industry is expected to see triple-digit growth as it approach-

es \$12 billion by 2012. Locally, in 2007, prior to the implementation of the Solar Cities program, Livermore issued 43 permits for residential solar energy systems. The number of permits more than doubled to 91 in 2008. Pleasanton also identified an increase in solar energy permits during the year in which the Solar Cities program was implemented. The number of permits in 2007 was 37, jumping to 67 in 2008.

The workshop is the second such event hosted by the Solar Cities program. One held Sept. 24 at the Veteran's Memorial Building in Pleasanton was attended by a sizeable audience of 60 people.

For more information about the free Solar Cities workshop, call 960-4413 or visit [www.solar-citiesnow.com](http://www.solar-citiesnow.com). The Solar Cities program is currently just focusing on residential projects, but those interested in getting information for business purposes can visit [www.pge.com/mybusiness/energysavingsrebates/solar](http://www.pge.com/mybusiness/energysavingsrebates/solar).

—Janet Pelletier

## Homecoming for pilot is Saturday

*Sullenberger and family to accept accolades from mayor, council, McNerney*

by Geoff Gillette

The town of Danville will hold a rousing homecoming celebration for its most famous resident, Capt. Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger, at 1 p.m. Saturday on the Town Green, 400 Front St., in Danville.

Sullenberger, who piloted US Airways Flight 1549 for a water landing in the Hudson River in New York, saving all 155 people on board, will be honored by Danville Mayor Newell Americh, the Danville Town Council, Congressman Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton) and other dignitaries. He will be there with his wife Lorrie and their two teenage daughters.

On Wednesday, McNerney introduced a resolution to the House of Representatives honoring the pilot and the rest of the crew for their "quick thinking and deft actions."

"Captain Sully did something extraordinary and unprecedented on Jan. 15, 2009," Arnerich said. "I can think of at least 155 reasons why our town should join together to celebrate our neighbor and friend, and his family."

Sullenberger was flying a US Airways Airbus, which had just taken off from LaGuardia Airport on its way to Charlotte, N.C. The crash occurred at 3:26 p.m. eastern time, going down in the river near

48th street in midtown Manhattan. The plane struck a flock of geese, a hazard which is known to have been responsible for several plane crashes over the years. Ferries were able to reach the plane quickly and offload the passengers before the plane sank into the freezing waters. Only minor injuries were reported in the crash landing, with victims treated for hypothermia, bruises and abrasions.

One of the plane's two engines was found intact in the aircraft and investigators are still locating the other in the Hudson.

It will cap a whirlwind two weeks for Sullenberger, who was invited to attend the inauguration of Barack Obama by the president himself. Ever since the crash, the incident has received national and even worldwide coverage, with Sullenberger becoming a media darling. Within a couple hours, a Facebook page was created for the pilot, who has been dubbed the Hero of the Hudson, and reporters from newspapers, TV stations and magazines spent several days camped outside the family's Danville home.

"Captain Sullenberger has said that he, his crew, and the New York City emergency responders were just doing their jobs—but what they did was an inspiration to every American," Arnerich said.

Sullenberger has more than 40 years of flying experience, 29 of those years with US Airways. He is a former U.S. Air Force fighter pilot and has served as an instructor and Air Line Pilots Association Safety Chairman, accident investigator and national technical committee

member. He is currently the CEO and president of Safety Reliability Methods Inc. in Danville. On the company's website, it reads "Safety Reliability Methods, Inc. (SRM) was created to apply the latest advances in safety and high performance and high reliability processes to organizations in a variety of fields."

Neighbors were impressed with Sullenberger's achievement, but not surprised.

Jane Garcia, who is also a friend of the family and has known them for five years, said, "It's not surprising—he's a great guy. He's extremely intelligent, very conscientious; his whole family is like that."

Another neighbor, Frank Salzmann, said Sullenberger has a solid

character and is calm and controlled.

"He's just the kind of person you'd think could pull something like that off," Salzmann said.

The mayor is encouraging the public to attend the celebration, where the Sullenbergers are not expected to make extensive statements nor take questions from the press. The United States Airline Pilots Association has asked the Sullenbergers to not grant interviews until the investigation is completed.

Family spokesperson Libby Smiley said the family is "grateful for and humbled by the expressions of support from their neighbors and friends."

The mayor emphasized that planning for the event remains fluid. Gov. Schwarzenegger and other dignitaries have been invited, but have not confirmed whether they'll attend. ■



Capt. Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger

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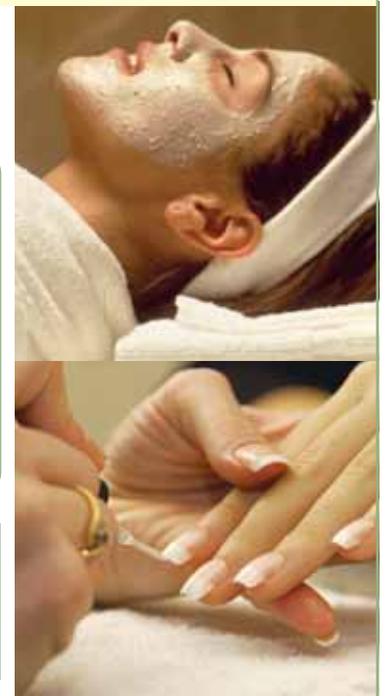
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# Utility, streetscape improvements planned for Stanley Boulevard

County will hold public hearing on formation of utility district Feb. 10 in Oakland

by Janet Pelletier

Alameda County has big plans for a stretch of Stanley Boulevard between the Pleasanton and Livermore city limits—to the tune of \$15.5 million.

The unincorporated east-west roadway that parallels the train tracks between Bernal and Isabel avenues is planned to undergo “beautification” improvements—widening the current bicycle/pedestrian pathway on the south side of Stanley to two lanes separating cyclists from walkers and the addition of trees and median landscaping.

But before any of that can happen, the county wants to underground the power poles. To do that, they must form an underground utility district for that region. At its Jan. 13 meeting, the County Board of Supervisors approved and adopted a resolution of intent to establish the district, but the county will need the public’s consent before they can act. A public hearing will be held at 11 a.m. Feb. 10 at the regular meeting location of the Board of Supervisors, 1221 Oak St., Fifth Floor, Oakland. During the hearing, the public can express any objections to the project they may have. A second public hearing will be held two to three weeks after that and, if no



Sawhorses planted along Stanley advertise the public hearing, but they’re hard to see.

and therefore allow recovery room for the vehicle to get back on the road,” Ng said.

The estimated costs for undergrounding the utilities—which include PG&E, Comcast and AT&T lines—is \$5.5 million, which Ng said is a rough estimate. More will be known if the project is approved and when engineers begin drawing up more detailed construction plans.

The cost will be paid for through the California Public Utilities Commission’s Rule 20A funds. The funds are used for projects in community areas where there is a high volume of vehicular and pedestrian traffic and where the street, road or right-of-way passes through a civic or public recreation area. The stretch of Stanley Boulevard includes Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area. The money is regularly collected in a pot on an annual basis to pay for these types of projects, Ng said.

The streetscape beautification portion of the project is estimated to cost \$10 million and is in only its preliminary stage.

The utility work is anticipated to be completed no later than June 2010. The streetscape improvements are slated to start in early 2010, with completion in June 2010. ■

objections are made, the project will be approved by the board at a later meeting date.

Bond Ng, an associate engineer for the Alameda County Public Works Department, said the county wants to underground utilities for both safety and aesthetic reasons.

“By removing the poles, we eliminate an obstacle that’s in the roadway—if a car were to run off the road, there would be no pole to hit

# Granting special education wishes

Par 4 Kids’ Sake funds teacher programs for Exceptional Needs Network

Par 4 Kids’ Sake, a 7-year-old charity that raises funds for autism research, has recently funded projects for 77 special education teachers throughout the East Bay. To date, the group has donated over \$650,000 to the UC Davis MIND Institute in Sacramento.

This is the third year that PAR 4 Kids’ Sake has given fund to the Exception Needs Network, specifically for the camps and teacher grants. Both organizations were founded by parents of special education children. The money will

also go towards ENN’s overnight camps at Camp Arroyo.

Kaisa Weathers, a special education teacher at Vintage Hills Elementary School said the grant will help cover what the teacher stipend can’t. Chris Lee, a teacher at Pleasanton Middle School, plans to use his grant for a Smartboard Interactive System, which he believes will enhance the children’s ability to learn.

“These grants would not be possible without the tremendous support we receive from individuals and

businesses throughout our community,” said Cindy Everson, mother of 2 autistic children and co-founder of PAR 4 Kids’ Sake. “We are so thankful to everybody who helped make this happen. Our goal is not only to help find a cure but to also help the kids who have special needs and the teachers who work so hard to help them reach their potential.”

The organization also hosts an annual fundraiser golf tournament. For more information, visit [www.par4kidsake.org](http://www.par4kidsake.org).

—Emily West

# Tackling tough topics

Teen health education club hosts depression awareness event Jan. 29

by Emily West

Depression and suicide continue to be a rising concern for teens and Foothill High School students are organizing a peer-to-peer forum to learn how to help.

Nidhi Mastey, a junior, started the Health Education Club that is hosting the event from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Over the summer, the club received a \$1,000 grant from the Youth Venture Organization to help teens in the community.

While the school district has held similar town hall events on the same subject, Mastey said she hopes they can create a “relaxing, age-friendly discussion” where teens can feel comfortable talking about what is often considered a taboo topic.

“Depression and suicide is one topic we have decided to focus on this month,” she said. “As this topic has personally affected many students at Foothill as well as Amador and Village within the past year, we want to provide teens of the community a way to learn more about this rising problem and help

out those who are currently dealing with this issue.”

Targeting students ages 13 to 18, the event will also include snacks, door prizes and games.

Mercedes Coleman, a coordinator at Teens4Life of the Alameda County Crisis Support Services, will provide a presentation on how to deal with the signs of depression and make students aware of the issue. Mayor Jennifer Hosterman will also be there to open the evening.

For more information, contact Teen Services Librarian Teresa Parham at 931-3404. ■

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## Downtown and Greed

“Pleasanton Hotel Closure, a product of greed.” In this January 9th letter the writer talks about downtown’s changing face and identifies greed as the sculpture. Maybe, but greed seldom travels alone. For instance, the Kollns building investor hired a retired city official as consultant and I understand his development agreement went something like this. The investor was allowed to count the original building’s never finished, never used second floor, or attic (depends on interpretation) as existing commercial space, to eliminate “all” existing on-site parking spaces and to cover the property with about 11,500 sq. ft. of un-parked buildings. The city even loaned him your money to buy his In-lieu Parking Fees with, and at an interest rate that would make a banker cry.

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**Now, here comes the mystery part.** If Greed was driving the bus, who were the passengers? Were they Arrogance and Favoritism, Ego and Incompetence, or Innocence and Indifference? You decide? Hey locals, as soon as I save up some more money, I’ll tell you the story about the Pleasanton Downtown Association board member and the investor who rode into Old Town wearing a white hat singing “I’m not in it for the money” and rode out with saddlebags stuffed with “green backs.” You can decide for your self who should be strung up to the nearest black walnut tree.

—Robert W. Byrd

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Heather Haugen Rizzoli, who is the education and volunteer manager for the Museum On Main, stands in front of the museum in this file photo. The museum let its executive director go two weeks ago in an effort to cut costs.

Museum feels pinch of economy, but is optimistic

by Janet Pelletier

The Museum On Main, the keeper of a number of treasured Pleasanton relics, recently fired its executive director in a move to cut costs in a down economy.

Executive Director Julia Bussinger, who began as the head of the museum in January 2008, was let go two weeks ago, and the position will not be replaced to save costs.

"We looked at the economy here and we decided that we had to eliminate the position of executive director," said Roz Wright, who took over last week as interim president of the Livermore-Amador Valley Historical Society, which runs the museum. "Essentially, the executive board is pretty much it. We are continuing to retain what I call the meat and potato people—the education director, part-time curator and volunteer coordinator and our part-time office manager—so we've had to cut down to bare bones."

Wright is filling in as president while current president Rebecca Bruner, a local Realtor, is taking a family-related leave.

The Museum On Main, located at 603 Main St., is a nonprofit and receives the money to run its various education programs through fundraising events and memberships. One such fundraiser had to be cancelled recently.

The abrupt Pleasanton Hotel restaurant closure on New Year's Day forced the museum to cancel its popular Wines and Valentine's dinner, to be held there on Feb. 7. The event featured a visiting wine-maker, pairing different wines with dishes.

"It was a very nice event and well-attended," Wright said. "We just weren't able to scramble fast enough to revive that in another location and so we're planning another event for April or May."

That event will have the theme of "Saloons, brothels and gambling," and is planned to feature gaming and possibly volunteers dressed up

in period costume.

Despite having to trim costs, Wright said the museum hasn't seen a decline in donations from memberships. There are approximately 300 museum members.

Other events will go on as planned, including a new one suggested by board member Sandy Thorne called Paint the Town, to be held in May.

"We're hoping to get artists from around town painting local scenes and coming back to the museum and having an auction of their paintings, with a percentage of their sales going to the artists," Wright said.

Hollywood in Pleasanton will be held again in August or September and the immensely popular Ghost Walk will return just before Halloween in October.

"We make good money on that; people come from all over the nine counties," Wright said.

Wright said the museum is always looking for volunteers. In fact, that's how she got her start.

She and her husband Dave were docents at the Oakland Museum of California before it opened, working in the natural history department. A Pleasanton resident since 1970, Wright remembers a different town—one where seeing people traveling on horses by her home wasn't an uncommon occurrence.

Already, the museum has 30 volunteers, including high school students who receive course credit for their time. There are also docents and weekend volunteers.

Another bright spot is the recent opening of the Alviso Adobe Community Park on Foothill Road, which chronicles the city's past through the time of the Ohlone Indians and dairies like Meadowlark.

"It gives us another avenue to show our stuff," Wright said. "We're looking forward to the Firehouse Arts Center and we'd like to bring out lectures down to the Firehouse. We could have that cultural corridor."

So, despite having some financial pains, Wright stressed that "we're alive and well." ■

Take Us Along

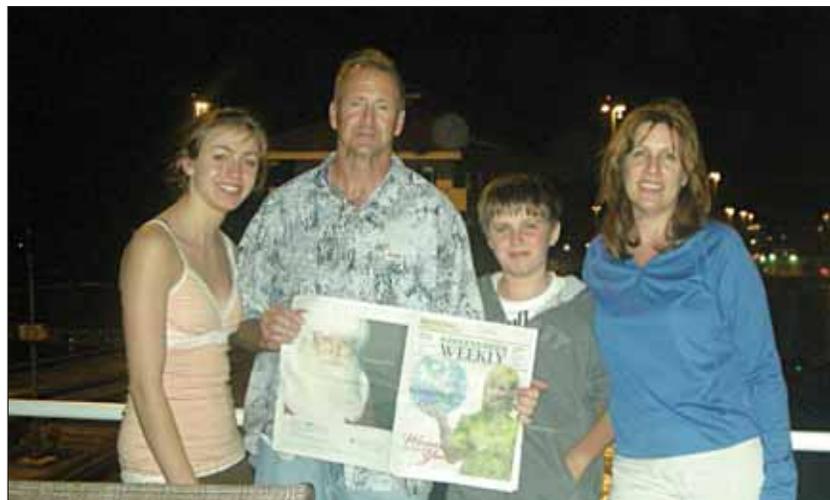


Voyage of the Weekly

The Weekly was brought along as a guest of Doris George's on the maiden voyage of the Queen Victoria. On her voyage, she went to Southhampton, Rotterdam, Copenhagen, Oslo, Hamburg and Brussels. George said it was a "cold, but wonderful trip."

Weekly waterway

Casey, Mark, Jesse and Robin Heidohrn took a break from their voyage through the Panama Canal to read the Weekly. They spent two weeks exploring locations in Panama and Costa Rica.



Downtown

(continued from page 5)

stimulus to both downtown and other struggling retail businesses in the city, including financial assistance with sewer connections fees and interior and exterior building design and retrofitting work.

More recently, he said, the city has focused additional attention on supporting the work of the PDA and, more directly, downtown merchants. These efforts included a holiday marketing campaign financed by the city to encourage Tri-Valley residents to patronize downtown stores. Fialho said the city plans to initiate broader marketing campaigns using the print media, television promotions and possibly even Internet advertising to promote Pleasanton businesses.

Other efforts under consider-

ations include:

**Development Loan Program**—A loan program for building renovations (structural building renovations to improve or stabilize properties) to encourage commercial real estate improvements.

**Interior Rehabilitation Program**—Assistance for interior rehabilitation work limited to retail, restaurant and entertainment uses in the downtown in the form of rebates of fixed city fees following the completion of the work.

**Broker's Bonus Program**—Bonuses to real estate brokers earning a professional commission for a lease or sale of commercial space in the downtown for a retail, restaurant or entertainment use.

**Relocation Assistance Program**—To assist desired retail, restaurant and entertainment businesses to locate in the downtown, with grants for costs such as moving a company, trans-

ferring utilities, temporary signage and other assistance within a limited range of \$1,500 to \$10,000 rebated once the business is in operation.

**Marketing Match Program**—Would increase assessment fee matching funds with additional funding allocated specifically to marketing the downtown district.

**First Floor Retail**—Enact a first floor retail only restriction within the downtown district for a limited term.

Councilwoman Cindy McGovern urged Fialho, the PDA and Ott's Economic Vitality Committee to review the proposals and return to the council with a list of recommendations within a month or two.

"At almost every social event or business meeting, the issue of what the City Council is doing to help downtown Pleasanton is the most frequently asked question," she said. "The public is concerned and so am I." ■

Cleanup

(continued from page 5)

said he wants public service to be a theme of his presidency.

"I think people are really ready to step up and help," Lamson said. "I felt Obama's call to action."

She was joined by Karen Pico, whose husband, former mayor Tom Pico hauled the shopping cart into

his truck. Karen Pico said she supported the president's call for citizens to be a part of a national effort to help heal the fallout from the country's crippled economy.

"There was this overwhelming need to contribute in any way we can," Karen Pico said. "We're in such a challenge right now. If we're going to get out of this mess, this is the way to do it."

Also part of the group cleanup

were Art Tenbrink and Pat Griffin, who were members of Friends of Kottinger Creek, which advocated for the restoration and preservation of the creek.

One of Tenbrink's first pieces of trash was a partially filled beer can, which he fished out of the bushes, emptied and tossed in Griffin's awaiting plastic bag.

The event was organized through [usaservice.org](http://usaservice.org). ■

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# Opinion

## Editorial

### Steps we can take to keep our schools great

With the current economic crisis greatly impacting California, public schools, which are dependent on state funds, are facing serious budget cut-backs with even greater uncertainties that funding will improve in years to come. In Pleasanton, the school district is facing a proposed mid-fiscal year reduction of an additional \$4 million on top of the \$2 million reduction made prior to the start of FY 2008-09 last July 1. Under Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's current proposal, the total deficit grows to \$8.7 million over the next two years—this fiscal year and FY 2009-10—which is now being drafted. These reductions in actual funds will have to come at the expense of staff and programs in our district. Although no one wants to take this step, the district will be forced to lay off teachers, administrators and classified personnel, as well as possibly reduce or eliminate programs that also are of significant value to the district and its students. Although school districts throughout California are equally affected, any reduction in per pupil spending will move the state farther back in its already dismal status for funding public schools.

Superintendent John Casey, his staff and the newly-constituted school board deserve credit for making these funding woes and their possible impact as transparent as possible. The list of possible cuts, which includes eliminating class-size reduction (going back from 20 to 32 students in kindergarten through third-grade classes) and less student support services such as counseling and reading specialists, has been sent to all district employees and posted by this newspaper and at school sites. Principals are sending more details to parents about what the proposed cuts could mean for their students, whether in elementary, middle or high school.

Michael Kufahl, principal at Hearst Elementary School, for one, has sent letters to the parents of his 650 students asking for their support of efforts to block further state funding reductions and to become informed about the steps they can take to spare Pleasanton schools the loss of teachers, programs and scholastic improvements. Here are some of his suggestions:

- Attend PTA or PSTA meetings where school and district representatives will discuss the budget dilemma.
- Attend the Pleasanton school district board meetings, which are held starting at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at the District Office, located at 4665 Bernal Ave.
- Log onto the district's budget webpage at [www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/BusinessServices/Budget](http://www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/BusinessServices/Budget) for weekly updates about how the budget is affecting schools in Pleasanton.
- Ask questions at [publicinfo@pleasanton.k12.ca.us](mailto:publicinfo@pleasanton.k12.ca.us); accurate information is important during these challenging times.
- Visit the budget FAQ page on the PUSD website at [www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/BusinessServices/Budget/BudgetFAQs.cfm](http://www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/BusinessServices/Budget/BudgetFAQs.cfm).
- Become an advocate for schools. Contact your state legislators regarding the way California's education is funded and your concerns about how this impacts our schools. Pleasanton's State Senator is Ellen Corbett. Our three State Assemblymembers are Joan Buchanan (15th), Mary Hayashi (18th) and Alberto Torrico (20th). You can locate and email your legislators via <http://capwiz.com/nea/ca> and click on the "elected officials" tab.
- Contact the Pleasanton school board with your thoughts. Its contact information is available on the district website at [www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/BoardofTrustees/Trustees.cfm](http://www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/BoardofTrustees/Trustees.cfm). Again, attend board meetings to show support. If you can't attend, be sure to watch the meetings that are broadcast on Community Television's Channel 28. But remember, board members can't see you if you're just sitting in front of a television set. Go to the meetings in person so they know you're concerned.
- Our school board has discussed the possibility of pursuing a parcel tax in June. Any parcel tax measure must be led and funded by the leadership of the community. Joan Laursen, PTA Council president, has indicated early interest in taking this on, and she can be contacted at 462-7994 or [joan@laursens.com](mailto:joan@laursens.com). Let your views be heard.
- Special district-wide informative meetings about the budget crisis have also been scheduled for 7 p.m. next Monday at Amador Valley High School's multipurpose room, with a second meeting to be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4, at Foothill High School's multipurpose room. Casey and the district's senior staff will make presentations and answer questions at each of these upcoming meetings.

Time is of the essence. Given the current budget deficit outlook, the board will need to make decisions on its impact to district employees so that pink slips can be sent by March 15 as required. These decisions affect the community as a whole, not just residents with children in the public school system. Many of us moved to Pleasanton because of its great schools. Everyone's help is needed to keep them great. ■

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# Talking Points

by Gina Channell-Allen



## Was it a killer headline, or too blithe for a grave subject?

A few folks took issue with a recent headline about Pioneer Cemetery burial plots. The headline, "Don't die yet!" was on a story about a City Council vote to allow sales of burial plots at the cemetery, but not until March. Some of the posts on the Town Square forum were:

"The Pleasanton Weekly should be ashamed of this headline. It shows a lack of maturity and respect."

"Very unprofessional headline."

"What a disturbing name for a headline! geeze..."

It wasn't until I read a post from "Ellen" that said, "A particularly tacky headline in an edition with a story on Hope Hospice. Shame" did I realize, to my dismay, that the "teaser" at the top of the Dec. 19 edition read "Final resting—Pioneer Cemetery burial plots available in March" and the main story was about Hope Hospice. But, in my humble opinion, the wording was not disrespectful. Also, in my humble opinion, I don't find anything shameful about the "Don't die yet!" headline that accompanied the story on page 5 in that edition. Actually I thought it added a little levity to a rather somber topic that we will all face at some point or another.

What do you think?

### Flummoxed by the Facebook phenomenon?

Another recent headline (not on our site or in the newspaper) read, "Woman worries Facebook is making her a bad mom."

Facebook, a free-access social networking website, has become popular with people across the world and across generations. It's also becoming a time-consuming obsession for some. The woman referenced in the headline is a Boston Globe reporter named Erica Noon who outted herself as a

Facebook addict in a column earlier this month. She realized she had a "problem" when her 2-year-old grabbed her hand that was grasping the mouse and said, "Me!"

I empathize. I, too, have to watch my daily intake of Facebook. I begrudgingly joined last year because a friend from Illinois was diagnosed with cancer and he used his Facebook page to update his friends on his situation. However, I started finding people, and people started finding me, and now I'm back in contact with former coworkers from Illinois, people I went to college with and even my best friend from high school who I lost touch with decades ago.

And I, of course, am a fan of the Pleasanton Weekly, among other groups. It's an interesting concept that businesses, nonprofits, families, causes, food items—actually any kind of group big or small—can have a page and people can become fans. I've seen pages for restaurants, rental stores, dance clubs, and even stranger groups. For example, I have a cousin who joined a group called "People in Waiting Rooms" and another called "I so need a glass of wine or I'm going to sell my kids." Both groups had members!

While MySpace is cool for the 'twens and teens, and LinkedIn and Plaxo are more business-oriented, Facebook caters to folks around the world and just about every age group. That said, you are welcome to join the Weekly's site and get to know all the staffers and other members better.

### Bob Butler, come on down!

Bob Butler from Dublin was the only reader who pointed out the "typo" in the Jan. 9 "The year's most regrettable of the regrettable" Talking Points column.

A former Pleasanton city councilmember, Bob wrote in an email, "I'm sure you knew, but some copy editor didn't, that when you said "...editors pour over text..." that you really meant to say "...pore over..." So it was a good laugh, given its placement in a piece about regrettable errors."

So, Bob, I owe you a Starbucks card.

I love to hear from readers. Keep the cards and letters (and emails and Town Square posts and Facebook comments) coming!

Send questions and comments to [gallen@pleasantonweekly.com](mailto:gallen@pleasantonweekly.com).

## Letters

### New transportation district should be formed

Dear Editor,

Seamless, frequent BART around the Bay—joint with high speed rail—in place of local Caltrain. Bullet trains along the Peninsula and in the East Bay. Passenger and most freight tracks rid of grade crossing hazards, noise and traffic delays. Pollution-free electric trains. Widened freeways I-580, SR-84 and I-80 for median at-grade BART to Livermore, Brentwood and Crockett—without costly trackway structures or earthwork. Plans for future BART over the Altamont and to the North Bay.

The first step? Create a five-

county SF BayRail District (like for BART in 1957) of the present BART and Caltrain counties. With nearly 6 million people, the five counties (Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco and San Mateo) house about 82 percent of Bay Area residents and harbor 83 percent of Bay Area jobs.

Let the voters decide, as they did for the Golden Gate Bridge in Depression 1930 and for BART 32 years later. Adjusted for population and inflation, a bond measure equal to BART's in 1962 would raise about \$16 billion today. Such serious funding should guarantee future generations a legacy like our ancestors left us.

Let's get an SF BayRail District formed now and get regional rail done right.

Robert S. Allen

BART director (1974-1988)

## Join us for Valentine's Day

### First Course

Beef Carpaccio or Frisee & Radicchio Salad

### Second Course

Lobster Bisque or Wild Mushroom & Madiera Wine Soup

### Entrée

Choice of...

Grilled Petite Filet Mignon  
Pancetta Wrapped Fillet of Salmon  
Portobello Mushroom Tower

### Dessert

Warm Chocolate Lava Cake or  
Warm Apple-Raisin Crisp, ala mode

### Wine

Select the bottle of your choice from our  
Livermore Valley Valentine's Selections

**\$68.95 per Couple, \$35.95 per Person**  
**Weekend Packages from \$149.95**

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(925) 847-6000

# HIP AND KNEE PAIN

## FREE EDUCATION SEMINARS



### Presented by:

Aaron Salyapongse, MD  
Medical Director of the Joint Replacement  
Institute at ValleyCare  
Fellowship Trained in the Treatment of  
Hip and Knee Pain  
Orthopedic Surgeon

### Date

January 29, 2009

### Topic

Causes of Hip/Knee Pain  
and Options for Treatment

February 5, 2009

Hip Replacement: Advances  
in Surgical Techniques and  
Current Technology

February 12, 2009

Knee Replacement: Advances  
in Pain Control, Surgical  
Techniques, and Implants.  
Customized Surgery, Rotating  
Knees, and Partial Knees:  
No longer just one option.

**Time:** 7:00PM

**Location:** ValleyCare Medical Plaza  
5725 W. Las Positas Blvd  
2nd floor Conference Room  
Pleasanton  
two blocks west of hospital

We invite you to register for these seminars by calling our Health Information and Physician Referral Line at 1-800-719-9111 or visit our website at [www.valleycare.com](http://www.valleycare.com) — go to the Education/Events tab and click on the education/support link.



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**WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES**

**Planning Commission**

Wednesday, January 28, 2009 @ 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- **PMCC-2, Vineyard Villa**  
Application for a Vesting Tentative Map converting a 208 unit mobile home park located at 3263 Vineyard Avenue into residential condominium units.
- **Consideration of Planning Commission Priorities to Process Various Code Amendments**  
by the City Council for Placement on the Annual Work Plan/Priorities for 2009-2010

**Trails Ad-Hoc Committee**

Monday, January 26, 2008 @ 6:30 p.m.  
Council Conference Room, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Please visit our website at [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us) to view the agenda for this meeting.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Learn About Solar Energy for Your Home**

The cities of Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin developed the Solar Cities program to serve as an educational resource and a networking link to the solar industry. This free program features educational workshops, web resources, and targeted information to assist owners in making a decision about investing in a photovoltaic solar system. Residents of all three cities are invited to attend a Solar Cities workshop scheduled on Thursday, January 29 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Larkspur Room of the Robert Livermore Community Center at 4444 East Avenue in Livermore. Peter Shoemaker from PG&E will present an overview about residential solar energy and rebate programs, followed by a Q & A session with staff from all three cities, and the opportunity to meet with solar installers. Please call (925) 960-4413 for more information.

**Annual Leaf Pick and New 24/7 Hotline for Residents to Learn Schedule**

The Operations Service Center will commence its annual leaf pick up services starting in early November through mid-January of next year. During this time, the City's leaf crew will be busy clearing the path for the street sweeper who sweeps the residential neighborhoods once a month. In order to give residents as much advanced notice as possible regarding their leaf pick up date, the City will advertise the start of the program in a variety of ways. A-frames will be placed in strategic designated areas of the City notifying the residents of their specific leaf pick up date for that area. A new telephone number has been introduced this year which allows residents to call and hear the leaf pickup schedule for that week. Signs will be posted on select City vehicles advertising this new phone number. Residents can call 931-5550 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to hear when their street sweeper and leaf pick up services will be provided.

**City of Pleasanton Introduces Residential Battery Recycling Program**

The City of Pleasanton has implemented a new residential battery recycling program. Pleasanton residents can drop batteries off at one of five sites located throughout the city. Each site has been outfitted with a battery recycling station featuring three color-coded containers with posted instructions and appropriate supplies to collect the following: alkaline and carbon zinc (heavy duty) batteries, rechargeable batteries and disposable lithium batteries. The five designated drop off sites are:

1. City of Pleasanton Operations Service Center – 3333 Busch Road
2. Pleasanton City Hall Lobby – 200 Old Bernal Avenue
3. Pleasanton Senior Center – 5353 Sunol Boulevard
4. Pleasanton Public Library – 400 Old Bernal Avenue
5. Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Station # 2 – 6300 Stoneridge Mall

For more information, the public can contact the Support Services Division of the City of Pleasanton at (925) 931-5580.

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

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

# Community Pulse

## Police Bulletin

### Body found near Livermore homeless encampment

Livermore police found a badly decomposed body in a field near a homeless encampment last Friday, a police lieutenant said.

As of press time, the Alameda County Coroner's Office said the man was listed as "John Doe" and declined to release the cause of death.

Police received a call from someone who found the

body while walking near Arroyo Vista and Los Positas Road just after 1 p.m., Lt. Lance Bye said. The body had been there for at least a few days, making it nearly impossible to identify the man with a picture because his face had deteriorated, Bye said.

He also said the cause of death was unapparent because of the body's condition.

"There's no evidence to point us in one direction or the other," he said.

Police also found several bags of trash, but Bye said he did not know who left them there. He also said police did an area search in the field today for evidence that might help identify the man or his cause of death, but he could not comment on the results.

—Bay City News

### Police Report

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

**Jan. 10**

- Vehicular burglary:  
-7:16 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- Vandalism:  
-12:13 p.m. in the 3900 block of Alma Court
- Drug/alcohol violations:  
-2:45 a.m. in the 4000 block of Vineyard Avenue; public drunkenness  
-11:19 p.m. at the intersection of First Street and Bernal Avenue; DUI
- Assault with a deadly weapon:  
-2:51 a.m. in the 4200 block of Valley Avenue
- Lost property:  
-1:20 p.m. in the 1100 block of Santa Rita Road
- Battery:  
-11:51 p.m. in the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

**Jan. 11**

- Burglary:  
-4:38 p.m. in the 5600 block of Owens Drive; vehicular  
-4:42 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- Vandalism:  
-1:07 a.m. in the 7000 block of Johnson Drive; worth over \$400  
-5:18 p.m. in the 4100 block of School Street  
-10:19 p.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue

- Drug violations:  
-1:58 p.m. in the 5500 block of Springdale Avenue; narcotics possession for sale, sale of a controlled substance, under the influence of a controlled substance
- Lost property:  
-3:13 p.m. in the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road

**Jan. 12**

- Theft:  
-1:57 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft  
-2:55 p.m. in the 4200 block of Rosewood Drive; forgery  
-3:37 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; forgery  
-4:28 p.m. in the 4200 block of Sheldon Circle; grand theft  
-7:44 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft
- DUI:  
-3:14 a.m. in the 4300 block of Foothill Road

**Jan. 13**

- Grand theft:  
-10:31 a.m. in the 900 block of Roselma Place  
-7:52 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- Vandalism:  
-7:40 a.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and Stoneridge Drive; worth less than \$400  
-7:07 p.m. in the 4600 block of West Las Positas Boulevard
- Under the influence of a controlled substance:  
-8:51 p.m. at the intersection of Main and Spring streets
- Battery:  
-12:49 a.m. at the intersection

of Santa Rita Road and Navajo Court

- Threats:  
-9:59 p.m. in the 4700 block of Woodthrus Court

**Jan. 14**

- Theft:  
-11:28 a.m. in the 1800 block of Harvest Road; identity theft  
-1:19 p.m. in the 11900 block of Dublin Canyon Road; grand theft  
-3:42 p.m. in the 5700 block of West Las Positas Boulevard; petty theft  
-10:40 p.m. in the 6400 block of Owens Drive
- Vandalism:  
-2:12 p.m. in the 3700 block of Mohr Avenue; worth over \$400  
-8:34 p.m. in the 300 block of Main Street; worth over \$400
- Public drunkenness:  
-2:02 a.m. at the intersection of Bernal and Valley avenues

**Jan. 15**

- Theft:  
-9:55 a.m. in the 8000 block of Ensenada Drive; stolen vehicle  
-8:13 p.m. in the 3800 block of Hopyard Road; petty theft
- Burglary:  
-11:58 p.m. in the 6600 block of Owens Drive  
-3:24 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; lock picking
- Vandalism:  
-8:13 p.m. in the 3800 block of Hopyard Road
- DUI:  
-12:03 a.m. at the intersection of Foothill Road and Bernal Avenue

**Jan. 16**

- Petty theft:  
-10:59 p.m. in the 6100 block of West Las Positas Boulevard
- Vehicular burglary:  
-8:08 a.m. in the 7000 block of Commerce Circle
- Vandalism:  
-11:59 a.m. at the intersection of Division Street and Del Valle Parkway  
-1:19 p.m. at the intersection of Pimlico Drive and Keneland Way  
-10:59 p.m. in the 6100 block of West Las Positas Boulevard; worth less than \$400
- Truant:  
-1:16 p.m. at the intersection of Holland Drive and Payne Road
- Battery:  
-10:59 p.m. in the 6100 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

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# Transitions

## Obituaries

### Susan Sarah Reckas

Susan Sarah Reckas died Jan. 4 after a lengthy battle with Alzheimer's with her family at her side. She was 97.

Mrs. Reckas was born Jan. 31, 1911 in Salt Lake City, Utah to Jasper E. Searles and Gertrude Koontz Searles.

She and her husband, Nicholas Peter Reckas, owned and operated Hi Fashion Fabric and Sewing Machine Store in Albany and she taught sewing in Albany Adult Education for 30 years. The pair retired to Pleasanton in 1973.

Aside from being a business owner, Mrs. Reckas was an artist, a mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, teacher and animal lover. She was a member of the Order of the Easter Star, a Past Worthy Matron, 1000 Oaks Chapter, Berkeley.

She was preceded in death by her husband of more than 50 years in 1995; brother, Jasper Eugene Searles; sisters, Nina Searles Thomas, Marcia Searles Core, Margaret Searles Collins and sister-in-law, Edith Walkup Searles.

She is survived by her daughters, Stephanie R. Morgan, Jackie Reckas-Retelas (Sam) and "Mama Reckas" to Robbie Ebey-Bush. She is also survived by five granddaughters, Becky M. Meyer (Scott), Grace M. Flores (Russ), Sarah Nicole (Eric), Emily C. and Ali Conner (Roger); and six great-grandchildren, Aaron and Linsey Meyer, Morgan Angel Flores, Nicholas Brown, Evan Samuel Kramar and Carter Samuel Brown.

The family gives special thanks to Terry and Grace and the staff at Pleasanton Guest Home for their devoted care of Mrs. Reckas for more than seven years, and to Angels of Hope Hospice and the caregivers of Silver Oak Manor.

A service was held Jan. 7. Donations may be made to Hope Hospice in Dublin or the Alzheimer's Association.

### Troy L. Cooper

Troy L. Cooper died Dec. 20 due to complications association with pneumonia at Stanford Medical Center. He was 72.

Mr. Cooper was a successful businessman who held several high-level executive positions, including ownership of a chemical business. For the



past 25 years and up to his passing, he was general manager for Hayward Color, an auto paint and supply business.

Mr. Cooper was a dedicated family man who enjoyed gardening, sports and visiting with his many friends and business associates. He has had a significant impact on his family, friends, co-workers, customers and students. He will be greatly missed.

He is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Eve; sons, Troy II and Chris; daughter-in-law, Lisa; and grandsons, Troy III and Colin.

A celebration of life was held Dec. 27 by Father William Rosario. A private family interment will take place at Holy Sepulchre in Hayward.

### Brent Bradley Sr.

Brent Bradley Sr. died Jan. 17 at the age of 86.

Mr. Bradley was born June 18, 1922 to Ora Niegel and Ed Bradley in Waukena, Calif.

He was a loving husband and father. Mr. Bradley grew up in Fort Bragg and lived there until his high school graduation. He worked for Bank of America in Danville, where he met and fell in love with his wife, Josephine. He joined the Marine Corps during World War II and was very proud of being a Marine. Afterward, he attended UC Berkeley and graduated with a degree in business administration. He was employed at General Motors for 31 years, most of the time in labor relations. He enjoyed spending time at the many family gatherings and his favorite things to do were playing golf, traveling, playing bridge and reading. He served as lector at St. Augustine Catholic Church. During his retirement, he and his wife traveled extensively. He was also a member of the SIRS and Pleasant Living Trailer Club.



He is survived by his loving wife, Josephine; sister, Aloha Adams of Cool, Calif.; seven children, Brent Jr. of Mt. Shasta, Calif., Sharon Clarke and husband Michael of Reno, Nev., Mark and wife Debi of Concord, Scott and wife Lisa of Pleasanton, Glen of Los Angeles, Barbara Flores and husband Ron of Livermore and Dave and wife Carrie of Livermore; 16 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

A service will be held at noon today at St. Augustine Catholic Church, followed by burial at St. Augustine's Cemetery, 5750 Sunol Blvd.

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2008



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A FREE Community Seminar

## MINIMALLY INVASIVE TREATMENTS FOR VARICOSE VEINS

Tuesday, February 3, 2009 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Varicose veins and spider veins can be more than a cosmetic concern. They can lead to night cramps, leg swelling, itching, fatigue, and even ulcers. An estimated one in 10 people has varicose veins. Most are women, particularly those who sit or stand for long periods of time, have been pregnant, or do anything else that places pressure on the veins and restricts blood flow. In the past, vein stripping surgery was the only solution. Today we perform minimally invasive laser treatments that usually result in mild discomfort and fast recovery. Vascular Specialist Dr. Soohyun Kim will discuss surgical and non-surgical treatments for varicose veins and how to reduce pain and discomfort. She will be available for your questions.



#### SPEAKER

Soohyun Kim, M.D., R.V.T.  
Vascular and Endovascular  
Specialist

#### SEMINAR LOCATION

San Ramon Regional Medical Center  
South Conference Room  
South Building  
7777 Norris Canyon Road  
San Ramon, CA 94583



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# Calendar

## Author Visits

**Century House Poetry Readings**  
Century House hosts ongoing poetry readings from 1-3 p.m., one Sunday during even numbered months, year-round, at the Century House, 2401 Santa Rita Rd. Cost is \$5. The Feb. 1 reading will feature Sam Pierstorff, the Modesto Poet Laureate. For information, call 931-5350 or visit [www.civcartsliteracy.org](http://www.civcartsliteracy.org).

## Book Clubs

**Deepak Chopra's 'The Third Jesus'**  
Rev. Steve Maynard of Tri-Valley Unity will lead this study group that will review and discuss both the book and the DVD interviews between Dr. Chopra and Rev. Wendy Craig-Purcell of "The Third Jesus" at 10 a.m., Tuesdays, or alternately at 7 p.m., Wednesdays, Jan. 21-Feb. 25, at TVU's Gathering Place, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., Ste. 120, Dublin. The book is available at Towne Center Book Store or in class. Call 998-0038 or visit [www.trivalleyunity.com](http://www.trivalleyunity.com).

## Classes

**'Co-Parenting'** Pleasanton Unified School District and Amador Valley Adult and Community Education presents "Co-Parenting, Living Apart-Parenting Together" from 7-9 p.m., Thursdays, Feb. 5-March 26 and April 2-June 4, at Pleasanton Middle School, Room 801, 5001 Case Ave. These classes are free, but registration is required by calling 426-4280.

**Kaplan's ACT/SAT Workshop**  
Pleasanton Public Library is hosting Kaplan ACT/SAT combo test free from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 31, at the library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Register at [www.kaptest.com/practicetest](http://www.kaptest.com/practicetest).

## Clubs

**AAUW Educational Foundation Lunch**  
Sister Pat Davis, Executive Director of Learning and Loving Education Center, and recipient of an AAUW 2007-08 Community Action Grant, will speak at the Tri-Branch Educational Foundation Lunch at 11:30 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 7, at Sunol Valley Golf Club, 6900 Mission Rd. Cost is \$32, including lunch. Reservations are required; call Anne at 454-1763.

**Dive Trippers Dive Club Meeting**  
Come join us for the November meeting of the Dive Trippers Dive Club, the Tri-Valley's newest dive club. They meet at 7 p.m. the second Thursday monthly at Dive N Trips Dive Center,

1032 Serpentine Lane, Ste. 108. Call 462-7234 or visit [www.diventrips.com](http://www.diventrips.com).

**Pleasanton Job's Daughters**  
Job's Daughters International is an organization for young ladies (minimum age 10 for full membership) who enjoy dances, sleepovers, parties, social events, snow trips and more. The girls develop confidence, good character, life-long friendships, moral and spiritual values, and leadership abilities. The group meets at 7 p.m., on the fourth Monday of every month, at Pleasanton Masonic Center, 3370 Hopyard Rd. Visit [www.bethel14.com](http://www.bethel14.com).

## Concerts

**Civic Arts Presents to Host Jazz Vocalist Sophie Milman**  
Civic Arts will host Jazz vocalist Sophie Milman at 8 p.m., Friday, Feb. 6, at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd. The night will also feature Parents' Date Night. Tickets are \$20, \$25 and \$30. Call 931-5340.

## Events

**ClubSport Super Saturday**  
Join ClubSport for Group Fitness Super Saturday from 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 24, at ClubSport Pleasanton, 7090 Johnson Dr. Sample over 25 mini-classes taught by ClubSport instructors. This event is free for ClubSport members; guests can get a free guest pass at [www.clubsports.com/pleasanton/upcoming-events](http://www.clubsports.com/pleasanton/upcoming-events). Call 463-2822.

**Fenestra Winery's Soup and Wine SOUPerbowl Weekend**  
Fenestra kicks off the New Year by pairing some warm and tasty soups with our award-winning wines Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 24-25, at Fenestra Winery, 83 Vallecitos Rd., Livermore. Cost is \$10; \$5 for non-drinkers and children, including a glass, buffet plate, soup samples and recipes. Call (800) 789-WINE (789-9463) or visit [www.fenestrawinery.com](http://www.fenestrawinery.com).

**Friday Night Funnies**  
The headliner for Friday Night Funnies will be Tim Lee, one of the Top 100 subscribed comedians on You Tube, from 8-9:30 p.m., Friday, Jan. 30, at Willow Tree Restaurant, 6513 Regional St., Dublin. Cost is \$15, plus two item minimum. Visit [www.laughalotproductions.com](http://www.laughalotproductions.com).

**Martin Luther King Jr. Fellowship Breakfast**  
Tri-Valley YMCA will host a celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. at a Fellowship Breakfast on Jan. 26, at the Radisson Hotel, 6680 Regional St., Dublin. Winners of essay contests will be announced. Call 475-6107 or e-mail [tsier@ymcaeastbay.org](mailto:tsier@ymcaeastbay.org).

**Tri-Valley Chinese Culture Day Celebration**  
Chinese American Cooperation Council presents the sixth annual Tri-Valley Chinese Culture Day Celebration at 7 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 24, at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd. Visit [www.cacusa.org](http://www.cacusa.org).

**Truffles, Tidbits and Wine Tasting**  
Pleasanton Downtown Association presents "Truffles, Tidbits and Wine Tasting" from 6-9 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 5, in downtown Pleasanton. Call 484-2199.

## Exhibits

**PAL Artist Exhibits**  
Pleasanton Art League presents a series of different art exhibits from members including: Heidi Mann and Tricia Leonard's paintings until Jan. 15, at Jim's Country Restaurant, 5400 Sunol Blvd., Suite 1; Nova Starling's "The Vineyards and the Valley" until Jan. 28, at Vineyards Estate Winery, 5565 Tesla Rd., Livermore; "East Meets West" exhibit until Jan. 31, at the Art Gallery in the Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 South Livermore Ave.; Dorothy Maestas' watercolors until the end

of January, at Me & Mai Friend's Deli Cafe, 4713 First St.; Karen Fleschler's watercolors and prints until Jan. 31 at the LAA Gallery, 2155 3rd St., Livermore; and Norma Webb's oil paintings during January and February at Garre, 7986 Tesla Rd., Livermore.

## Film

**'Epic Recession and Global Financial Crisis'**  
This public event opens with a potluck and meet and greet at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 24, at IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy., Dublin. At 7 p.m., an one hour filmed lecture will be given by Dr. Jack Rasmus with a Q&A afterwards. This event is free, but donations of \$3 are accepted. Call 462-3459.

**Classic Film Series**  
Las Positas College and Pleasanton Public Library present "Great Performances: A Classic Film Series" at 7 p.m., on the first Thursday of every month, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. The films include: "Now, Voyager" Feb. 5; "Stella Dallas" March 5; "The Westerner" April 2; "Kitty Foyle" May 7; and "Sullivan's Travels" June 4. These events are free. Call 931-3405.

## Fundraisers

**Book Locker Books Fundraiser**  
BookLockerBooks.com sponsors several local charities including Amador Valley High School. During January from 3-7 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, if you order a pizza from You-Be's Pizza, 6280 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suite C, 20% of your purchase will go to the school. Visit [www.booklockerbooks.com](http://www.booklockerbooks.com) or call You-Be's at 462-3500.

## Health

**Being Healthy Can Make You Wealthy**  
Learn about America's healthcare crisis and how to avoid becoming a part of it from 6:30-7:15 p.m., Monday, Jan. 26, at Amador Valley Chiropractic, 148 Ray St., Suite A. Discover how living a healthy life can make you wealthy. This event is free. Call 484-0191.

**Minimally Invasive Treatments for Varicose Veins Free Seminar**  
Soohyun Kim, M.D., will discuss surgical and non-surgical treatments for varicose veins, and how to reduce pain and discomfort from 7:30-8:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 3, at San Ramon Regional Medical Center, south building conference room, 7777 Norris Canyon Rd. This event is free. Call 275-8230.

**Pet Nutrition**  
If you truly love your pet, then you will take another look at what you feed them. Come to a free seminar by Cynthia Easton, DVM, from 6-7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 10, at Bishop Ranch Veterinary Center, 2000 Bishop Dr., San Ramon. Learn how proper diet for your pet can help prevent diabetes, cancer, obesity, kidney disease and more. Call 866-8387.

**Take Charge of Your Health**  
Do you know how to properly take the medication the doctor prescribed for you? Pleasanton Senior Center will host a series of four free classes from 1-2 p.m., every Wednesday, Feb. 4-25, at 5353 Sunol Blvd. Call 931-5379.

## Kids & Teens

**'Music and Movement'**  
Andrea Gaspari kicks off the new year with rollicking movement and music fun for pre-schoolers (18 months-4 years old) from 3:30-4:15 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 14, Feb. 11 and March 11, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. These events are free, but registration is required by calling 931-3400, ext. 8.

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**The Sippy Cups to Entertain at SaturYAY! Season Finale** The Sippy Cups are inspired by children and will feature their pop-rock band, a circus performer and large-scale puppets from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 7, at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd. Tickets are \$10, \$14 and \$18 for adults; \$6, \$10 and \$14 for children. Purchase online at [www.civcartstickets.org](http://www.civcartstickets.org) or by calling 931-3444.

**The Zoo Drives to the Library!** Children from Pre-K through 1st grade are invited to meet and learn about various small animals as the Oakland Zoo's ZooMobile from 10:30 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Jan. 24, at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Free tickets will be issued a half an hour before each session at the Children's Desk. Attendance limited to 100 per show. Call 931-3400, ext. 8.

## Lectures/ Workshops

**Consumer Affairs Clinic** Department of Consumer Affairs presents a Consumer Affairs Clinic from 10 a.m.-noon, on the first Tuesday of every month beginning Feb. 3, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. These clinics are free. Call 931-5365.

**Health, Healing and Happiness: A Guide to Optimal Health & Weight Loss** Pamela McDonald will host a workshop on "Health, Healing and Happiness: Optimal health and Weight Loss" at 7 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 22, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave.; and at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 27, at Girasole Restaurant, 3180 Santa Rita Rd.; cost is \$20, including dinner. Call 931-3405 or visit [www.apoegenediet.com](http://www.apoegenediet.com).

## Live Music

**Civic Arts Presents ScrapArts Music** Five athletic musicians will play 140 instruments fashioned from industrial scrap to entertain in a high-energy performance at 8 p.m., Friday, Jan. 23, at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd. Tickets are \$25, \$30 and \$35 for adults; \$15, \$20 and \$25 for students; purchase online at [www.pleasantoncivarts.org](http://www.pleasantoncivarts.org), by phone (925) 931-3444 or at the box office.

**Wicker Vault at Bosco's** Come out for an evening of classic rock and other listening and dancing favorites

from 8 p.m.-midnight, Friday, Jan. 30, at the Saloon at Bosco's Bones and Brew, 11922 Main St., Sunol. Admission is free. Call 862-0821.

## Miscellaneous

**Blood Drives** American Red Cross will host blood drives from 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 4, at Safeway, Employee Gym, 5858 Stoneridge Mall Rd and from 1-7 p.m., Friday, Feb. 13, at the Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave. For an appointment, call (800) 448-3543 or visit [www.beadonor.com](http://www.beadonor.com).

**St. Philip Lutheran School Open House** St. Philip Lutheran School will host an Open House from noon-3 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 8, at 8850 Davona Dr., Dublin. The school has a well-rounded curriculum, small classes, Spanish program and more. Call 829-3857 or visit [www.stphiliplutheranschool.com](http://www.stphiliplutheranschool.com).

## On Stage

**'Guys and Dolls'** Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre (formerly Pleasanton Playhouse) presents "Guys and Dolls" at 8 p.m., Friday-Saturday and at 2 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 23-Feb. 8, at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Call 373-6800 or visit [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org).

## Recreation

**Family Hiking Club** Come join the hiking club as it explores the many hidden trails to be discovered in Pleasanton at 10 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 7, meeting at Kottinger Creek. Learn about the plants and animals that share the area. Cost is \$9 for residents; \$12 for non-residents. Bring water and a camera; wear appropriate clothes and footwear. Call 931-3483.

## Seniors

**DancEscape Social Dance** Lady K and the Kings of Swing present will create the sounds of Duke Ellington, Cole Porter, Count Basie, Sinatra, Miles Davis and more from 7-10 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 31, at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd. Cost is \$8 for residents; \$9 for non-residents; \$10 at the door. Call 556-4511 or visit [www.ci.dublin.ca.us](http://www.ci.dublin.ca.us).

**Day Trippers** Come and enjoy an out-

ing to the Great Mall in Milpitas from 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 28, meeting at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$20 for residents; \$23 for non-residents. Call 931-5365.

**Dessert Dance** "Put on your dancing shoes" and dance the night away at the Friday Night Dessert Dance featuring the "Treblemakers" from 6:30-9 p.m., Friday, Jan. 23, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Advance tickets are \$7 for residents and \$8 for non-residents; \$8 for residents and \$9 for non-residents at the door. Advance reservations are recommended; call 931-5365.

## Spiritual

**'The Third Jesus' Sermon Series** Rev. Steve Maynard of Tri-Valley Unity

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### Pleasanton Real Estate News



by Gerarda Stocking

#### ARE YOU AT HOME?

Increasingly, we've realized that there is something magical about looking at a house that you may want to buy and make your own. When a home looks right, when it strikes you from the first moment you enter the door, your mind almost inevitably begins to imagine how your belongings, your furniture—indeed, your life—would look in this house.

There are several things that can pop the imaginative bubble in which potential buyers tour a home. If a home looks neat and clean to the point of sterility, for example, it is difficult to imagine living in it. No one wants to live in a hospital ward. A home should look inviting, like comfortable clothing. On the other hand, it shouldn't look messy, dark or full of other people's paraphernalia or memories.

Thus, the best preparation of a home for a showing involves making it bright, spacious, livable, and—for lack of a better word—free of history. Free of the presence of its actual owners. This can be very subtle. Too many photos of family members, for example, simply remind a potential buyer that this is not their home. And the bubble bursts.

And if photos can pop the bubble, the physical presence of those who live in the house can demolish all the potential buyers' imaginings of what it would be like to live there. After the first viewing, perhaps, it can work to make the seller available to answer questions and make suggestions about the house. But before that—do all you can to allow the potential buyers' imaginations to soar... and their buying decisions to firm. For help with your real estate call Gerarda Stocking at 846-4000 or visit her website at [www.gerardastocking.com](http://www.gerardastocking.com).

*Gerarda Stocking is the Owner/Broker of Stocking Realty.*

Church will apply concepts from Dr. Deepak Chopra's book, "The Third Jesus" in his Sunday morning talks at 10 a.m., Sundays, at the Dublin Radisson, 6680 Regional St. Ongoing classes and groups are available. Call 829-2733 or visit [www.trivalleyunity.com](http://www.trivalleyunity.com).

**Artist Way Group** Start out your year on the path to higher creativity at an Artist Way Group meeting from 7-8:30 p.m., Wednesdays, starting Jan. 14, at UCC Livermore, 1886 College Ave. For a complete schedule, call Jen at 449-6820.

**Compline with Taize Music** St. Clare's Episcopal Church invites you to a traditional Compline service with songs and prayers from the Taize community at 5:15 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 8, at St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Rd. End the day with candlelight, choral song and contemplation, then stay for a potluck supper.

This event is free, but donations are welcome. Call 462-4802 or visit [www.stclarespleasanton.org](http://www.stclarespleasanton.org).

## Sports

**PASS Adult Soccer League Registration** Registration for the Pleasanton Adult Sunday Soccer League has begun for the spring season. Teams must submit their registration materials by Feb. 11. For more information, visit [www.pleasantonadultsoccer.com](http://www.pleasantonadultsoccer.com)

**Water Polo Sign-Ups** Registration is open for Stoneridge Water Polo's spring season for girls and boys ages 9-14. The season is from March 2-April 29 and practices will be held at the Dolores Bengston Aquatic Center, 4455 Black Ave. Call 484-0172 or visit [www.stoneridgewaterpolo.com](http://www.stoneridgewaterpolo.com).



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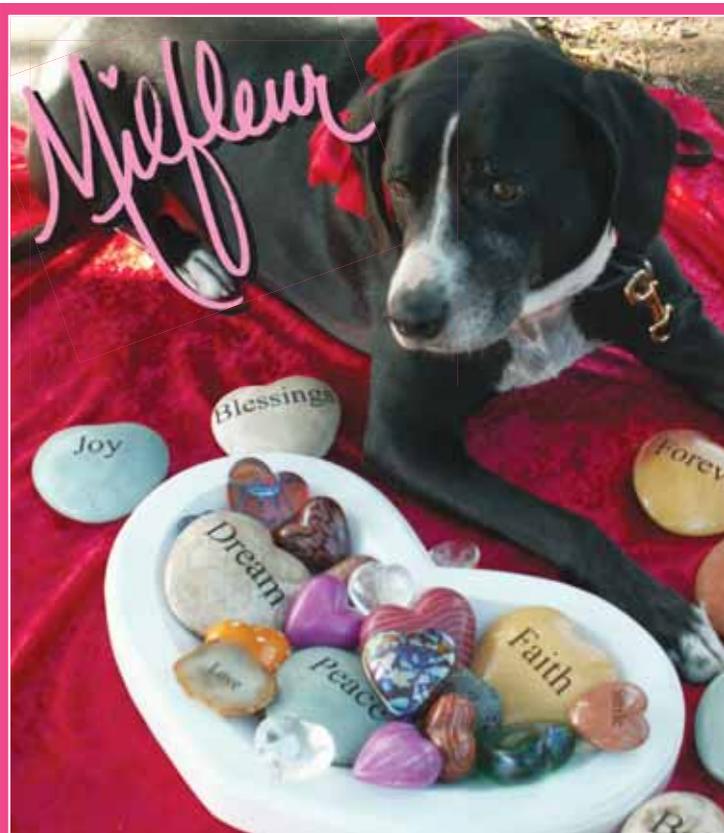
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# 'WE ALL AWOK

## Pleasanton Vice-Mayor reports on her trip to the inauguration

by Jeb Bing

**P**leasanton Vice-Mayor and Councilwoman Cheryl Cook-Kallio joined friends in traveling to Washington, D.C. last weekend for inaugural festivities and Tuesday's swearing-in of Barack Obama as the country's 44th president.

Equipped with her laptop, a Blackberry phone and tickets for a choice position in the National Mall from Congressman Pete Stark (Democrat-13th), her group spent much of the time waiting in lines for transportation, meals, events and warm places to freshen up as temperatures dipped into the low 30s.

In the end, because the metal detectors in the shoulder-to-shoulder crowd they were in failed to work, Cook-Kallio and the others joined Stark and some of his other constituents watching the swearing-in on his office television just a block from the actual event.

"That was all right," Cook-Kallio said Wednesday on her return. "Every dollar and every mile (of the 6,000-mile round-trip flight) was worth it. It was an experience like none I've ever had; joining with more than a million others in a piece of history we'll all remember."

Cook-Kallio, who filed the following reports for the Pleasanton Weekly's online editions for three days, headed back to Irvington High School in Fremont yesterday, where she teaches Advanced Placement U.S. History and Government.

### Day 1, Sunday, Jan. 18

Washington, D.C.—I love the Constitution. I love election years. As a teacher there are so many opportunities to make history alive for students. So this election year, I find myself traveling to Washington, D.C., to witness history. It doesn't get better than this for an historian.

I am traveling with six other women, spanning a little more than three decades in age. Most of the women I have traveled with before, as teachers, as political cohorts, as lifelong friends, all of us have come together to be a part of this transition.

We left San Francisco on Saturday and our travel day was uneventful. Even Reagan National Airport in Washington was quiet. We knew that we must be just a little bit early for the festivities.

We have varied backgrounds and the conversations were interesting. We didn't all start out as Obama fans. One is a Republican and crossed the line this time to vote for our president-elect. One had started political life as a Republican and over the last decade or so, found herself a die-hard Democrat. Many of us did not support Obama in the primary and at least one of us could have spent much of the time saying, "I told you so," instead basked in the spirit of coming together under a new administration. Like this new president, she didn't think it a time to gloat.

This morning, we woke up and bundled up for the trip to the mall to position ourselves for the HBO concert filmed this afternoon. We went early enough but not too early. The air was electric. Hoards of people, moving as one, smiled, laughed and discussed whether it was colder or warmer back home. For us, it was definitely warmer.

The area was filling up quickly and it was all standing room. We positioned ourselves on a

slight slope about halfway between the Lincoln Memorial and the World War II Memorial where security was located. The capacity of that area, according to the District of Columbia police, is 500,000 people and it was at capacity.

We got there about 11:30 a.m. and the concert started at 2:30 p.m. We stood for a long time. No one minded. The people were cooperative, polite and extremely happy to share the experience. All around us individuals were sharing their stories of their journey through this long election cycle and their decision, in the words of a woman from Florida, to share this with 10 million of her newfound friends.

That is really what it felt like. There were no strangers. This fit in with the theme of the concert: "We are One!" The music was great. Many selections were songs that called up feelings of togetherness through difficulty. Many reminded us of the songs we learned as kids. My best friend of 50 years stood with her arm through mine as we sang "America the Beautiful," a shared experience once again.

The speakers peppered throughout the concert encouraged us to remember the great words of previous Presidents, Thomas Jefferson, Franklin Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy and Ronald Reagan. None more called to our memory than Abraham Lincoln and his strength through our country's most difficult time. Martin Luther King III reminded us of his father's words and President-elect Obama's call to service by designating a national service day on the day we honor the works of Dr. Martin Luther King and other civil rights leaders.

The most profound feeling was one of togetherness and respect. While we heard the words of each American as he or she stood at the podium, the crowd was quiet and thoughtful. Cheering and shouts of pure delight rose from the crowd regularly, too. The mood was hopeful and enthusiastic.

I tried to see how far the crowd extended and it was people as far as we could see. As we left, it was clear that the crowd extended past the Washington Monument and onto the National Mall in front of the Smithsonian. I can't see how it could have been less than a million people.

However, the crowd dispersed quickly and the mood continued as groups moved toward different parts of the city. We actually walked right into a restaurant in Georgetown, got warm and had a wonderful dinner. We pick up our inauguration tickets tomorrow.

### Day 2, Monday, Jan. 19

Washington, D.C.—Today we were to pick up our tickets. We arrived at the Metro and stood with others who were also on their way to pick up tickets and anticipating the great event tomorrow. On the train people again spoke with enthusiasm and talked of the events they had planned for the day. We were no different. Once we picked up our tickets, what would we do then? Visit the Supreme Court, Library of Congress, and then head down the Mall to the American History Museum.

To put it in perspective, I must tell you how special we all feel. There were only 240,000 tickets distributed. The rest of the Mall will be first come, first served. Constituents needed to request tickets from Congress members. Senators and Members of the House of Representatives were



# KE WITH HOPE'



Andy Stone

inundated with requests. Some members held a lottery, some asked for an essay and most limited it to people living within their district. I know large numbers of people who were scrambling to get whatever tickets were available. This ensured that you would be close enough to at least see the speck at the podium. Again we all share the experience of being here.

Tickets come in colors: green you get to sit, (don't even think about it); yellow or orange tickets for family and close friends of Congress and the administration allowed for standing room behind the seats; blue for House of Representatives tickets; and purple for Senate tickets, each forming an apron behind the green, yellow and orange areas and allowed for more standing only within the semi-circle on the West side of the Capitol. Silver tickets provided space behind the reflecting pool and the first segment of the National Mall. The rest of the public area reserved for millions of our closest friends. The lines to pick up tickets circled the buildings.

We put our name on every list available. The first person to receive tickets was maybe thought to be the most unlikely. My childhood friend requested tickets from the Hon. Wally Herger. She had to write an essay, which talked of our pilgrimage. She mentioned that we were women traveling together, some of us teachers who would put this first-hand knowledge to immediate use. She was rewarded early. We were thrilled.

The next set of tickets came from the Hon. Pete Stark and the third set of tickets came from the Hon. Jerry McNerney. We held our breath, what color would they be? Consistent with the ship called Karma in which we all are traveling, they were blue. We were ecstatic. We came thinking we would be happy to just be here and now we would be close enough to actually see the new president take his oath. Incredible.

Incredible too were the stories. As we were standing in line I noticed an African-American woman who has seen it all, sitting on the steps, waiting. She was just sitting there smiling. I had to speak to her. I approached and she was free with her opinion of the festivities and happy to share. I sat to talk and we started to laugh. A photographer came by and asked if he could take our picture. Her son exclaimed, let me get a picture of you two sisters also. Wow! Her name is Clara Haynes from Daly City and she said she has been waiting a long time for this.

In her words, Barack Obama shows signs of true leadership and she is hopeful and ready for change. It felt like one of those moments you want to cling to. This 80-year-old woman said she had stayed up until 2 a.m. dancing last night. I hope I am doing that when I am 80.

We didn't make it into the Supreme Court or the Library of Congress. This is Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday and a federal holiday. They were closed. But we did get to sit and have a celebratory lunch and get down to the newly refurbished American History Museum. The new Lincoln exhibit celebrating the bicentennial of his birth is worth the wait in line. It was a wonderful day to reflect. I want you to know just how special we feel.

### Day 3, Tuesday, Jan. 20

Washington, D.C.—Today we all awoke with hope. We jumped out of bed, gathered our things and headed out to the Metro. Even with an early start it was already packed. We boarded at the Van Dorn Station, the second stop from the end of the Blue line in Virginia. We thought we were packed in like sardines. However, we learned that lesson a bit later.

A ride to Capitol South would normally

take 40 minutes; it took an hour and a half. Some of the Metro stops along the way were closed so we all exited at Capitol South. The Metro employees did an outstanding job. They made frequent announcements and explained procedure in such a way that they had all of us chanting, "Keep on moving!" When capacity was reached at the exit, the operator would stop the crowd by exclaiming "Red light, stop light," and the crowd would stop and wait. People were euphoric just to be there.

Capitol police directed us to an area around Washington and C St. This was the very long line to get through security. It did not seem to be moving. We wandered back and forth to check it out, and according to everyone this was the blue line. We later found out that this was one of two lines to get through the blue checkpoint, not a good sign. We were stuffed together and that situation could have certainly turned dangerous. People were just too happy to be pushy. The only time we saw much of it was by someone who identified himself as "undercover." People in line used calm voices to alleviate the issue.

It was frustrating to be so close and yet know we would not make it through security. However, we were all here for the experience. We all talked of coming, whether we had tickets or not, and chose to enjoy history in the making. At about 11:50 a.m., we left the line and went over to the Cannon House Office building to Congressman Pete Stark's office and we saw the swearing in and the speech there. The congressman and his family welcomed all of us into the office and had coffee and snacks out and about.

We spent most of the morning looking at the back of people's heads. We were not prepared for what we saw when we left the building. We did not want to go in the direction of the parade so we headed south. This is what an evacuation during a disaster would look like except everyone was still smiling. Kindness and graciousness was apparent everywhere we looked. In this big crowd, people would pass by and immediately say, "I beg your pardon!" Someone would stumble and people would run to help the person up. Someone would drop something and another would run to catch up and make sure they had their missing glove or scarf. It was absolutely uplifting.

We continued down the road (away from the National Mall), looking for a restaurant, a place to sit and get warm and it became apparent we needed to just keep moving. That is just what we did. We moved west and then turned south across the 14th Street Bridge into Virginia. We even passed a couple walking to Reagan National Airport! The sea of people just kept smiling. People started spontaneous conversations ending them with, "You are part of my Obama experience." We walked from the Capitol to Pentagon City Mall. For those of you who don't know the area, that is a very long way, especially after standing in the cold for three and a half hours.

We still feel very special. This is a special time for a variety of reasons. The Rev. Gene Robinson's invocation on Sunday reminded us that even though we are all filled with hope, we need to remember that we are human. His words remind us that we have hard times ahead and in part said, "Bless us with patience and the knowledge that none of what ails us will be fixed anytime soon, and the understanding that our new president is a human being, not a messiah."

It really felt like we united as a people today. I can't explain the experience in a way that will give it justice. It is a heavy burden for the new president, but one with which we each can help if we truly answer his call to service. ■

**Above:** These lucky "blue" ticket holders had seats for the noon-time inauguration Tuesday while a million more stood behind for the festivities.

**Left:** Crowds fill both banks of escalators and stairs as they make their way between Metro stations in Washington, D.C. during pre-inaugural festivities Monday.

**Below:** Pleasanton Councilwoman and Vice-Mayor Cheryl Cook-Kallio walks with friend Peggy Herndon across Washington, D.C.'s 14th Street bridge to Virginia side of the Potomac River after President Barack Obama's inauguration.



Cheryl Cook-Kallio

# ON THE TOWN



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470 Market Place, San Ramon, 277-9600. Featuring a giant 8-foot projection screen for major sporting events, they also feature 30 beers on tap and a great grill. Go in for the beer, go back for the food. More at [www.hopyard.com](http://www.hopyard.com).

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## CHINESE

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30 W. Angela St., Pleasanton, 484-4880. Panda offers several delicious specials using fresh ingredients and spices that make traditional northern

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## CONTINENTAL

### Barone's

475 St. John St., Pleasanton, 426-0987. Pleasanton's most romantic continental cuisine restaurant features innovative pasta, seafood and meat entrees, outdoor dining, and a full bar. Barone's is open for dinner seven nights and lunch Monday through Friday, with live music on Friday and Saturday evenings. Ask about our banquet facilities and special events.

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# Living



Earl Amnas

Four golf-loving mentors joined in the The Tee Party Girls' Golf Club for a 9-hole scramble game at Callippe Preserve Golf Course last Sunday. In addition to playing area courses, the group also helps grow the sport by teaching RADD athletes and Girl Scouts.

## Goodwill on the green

*Girls give back by sharing their love of golf*

by Emily West

A group of Pleasanton girls are shaking things up in the golf world. Donning pink and black, the Tee Party Girls Golf Club hits the green to play hard and share the sport they love.

The group started about three years ago by Patti Bodnar and Anna Reali, golfing moms with daughters who played as well. Word spread and soon the club was traveling to and competing on Bay Area courses. Members range in age from 12 to 17 and meet up about once a month. In addition to learning more about the game, the club's goal was to grow in character and leadership development as well as build friendships.

While this routine was fun, some of the seasoned young players were looking to give back and help other girls become interested in the sport.

"We've evolved into something really cool," Bodnar said. "The girls started out with the club being about them, but now it's about giving back."

Partnering with Tom Morelli, a coach for RADD (Recreational Activities for the Developmentally Disabled) athletes and founder of Tri-Valley Special Needs Fund, the club welcomes the RADD athletes.

"It's become a huge hit," Bodnar said, adding that the girls bond over the game, as well as clothes and "American Idol."

The RADD athletes practice weekly at the Pleasanton Golf Center and will often meet up with a fellow Tee Party member, Bodnar said.

Natalie Bodnar, a freshman at Amador



Earl Amnas

Kay Cockerill, left, a Golf Channel commentator, was the mentor playing with Tee Party members Natalie Bodnar, 14, and Janelle Reali, 13.

Valley High School, is glad to combine helping people with her favorite sport.

"It's actually really fun to give back," she said. "The RADD girls are really fun and you get to help them and they really appreciate it."

When it comes to club events, it is all fun and games. Last Sunday, it was the girls learned from some leading female golfers at the second annual Mentor Day Scramble at Callippe Preserve Golf Course.

Special guests at the scramble included

Jenny Park-Choi, a former LPGA and UCLA golf team player who teaches golf. There were two other LPGA alumna Dana Dorman, who has earned several titles and is an assistant coach at San Jose State University, and Jean Zedlitz, who won the 1985 PGA National title and played for UCLA. Kay Cockerill, winner of back-to-back U.S. Women's Amateurs titles (1986-87) and Golf Channel commentator, and Syndie Kohara, a golf enthusiast and co-anchor for CBS Channel 5 news, also played.

Wearing hot pink and black—the club's signature colors—the young golfers stand out on the green.

Kelly Shotwell, an eighth grader at Pleasanton Middle School, began playing golf when she was 5. At Sunday's game she not only won the closest to the pin on hole six, short by only 5 feet, 2 inches, her team of Dormann and Jennifer Dreisbach won the day with six under par for nine holes.

"The mentors said they didn't have programs like this [growing up]," Shotwell said. "I'm really fortunate they have these programs."

In addition to fun prizes at each monthly tournament, she said she enjoys golfing with friends.

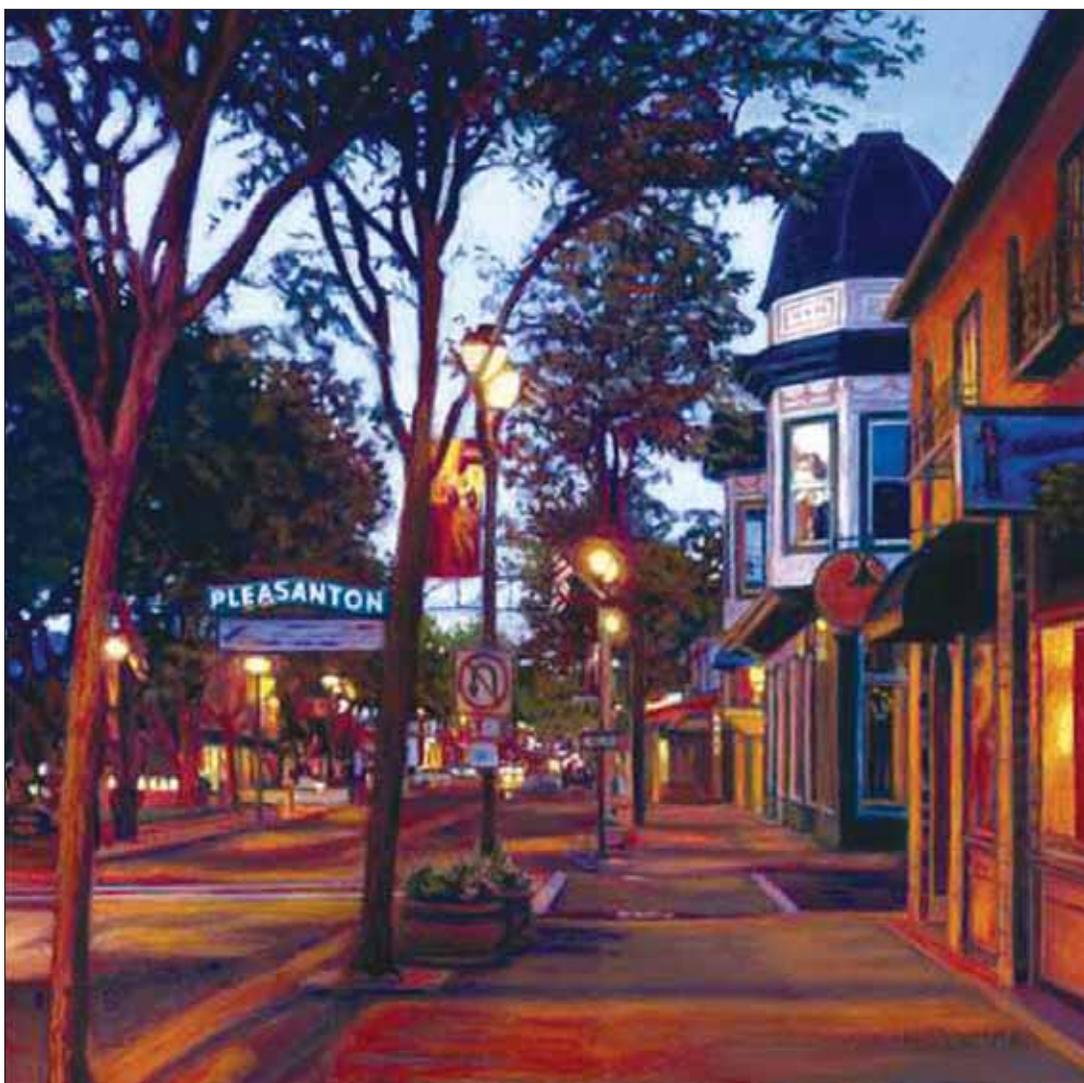
Wanting to do more, the girls started putting clinics for Girl Scouts. With funding from The First Tee of the Tri-Valley to pay for equipment, whose goal is to positively impact young people through golf, the young golfers teach other girls in hopes of getting more girls on the green.

Rachelle Reali, a junior at Granada High School in Livermore, said she enjoys teaching the sport she loves with other girls.

Natalie Bodnar agreed, saying the more girl golfers, the better.

"[Tee Party] is really great, especially to get more girls involved," she said. "Not too long ago, they didn't have girls golf teams."

To learn more about the Tee Party Girls Golf Club, visit [www.golftteeparty.com](http://www.golftteeparty.com). Details on their partner organizations can be found at [www.tvnsf.org](http://www.tvnsf.org) and [www.thefirstteetrivalley.org](http://www.thefirstteetrivalley.org). ■



Debbie Wardrope

"Pleasanton City Lights" is just one of artist Debbie Wardrope's works featuring downtown at night.

## Twilight magic

Artist Debbie Wardrope captures downtown at dusk

by Emily West

Living in Pleasanton since she was four, resident artist Debbie Wardrope has long known the romanticism that settles over Main Street as day fades into night.

"The evening is when the downtown comes alive for me," she said. "When the sun is setting and the street and neon signs come on, there's

almost a magical quality there that I love to capture in my work."

Wardrope's striking pastels bring out the glowing quality in her portrayal of the Pleasanton arch and shops. She also works with oil and acrylic to show the sun hitting the valley's vineyards.

People seem to be attracted the hometown feeling that is emulated in the images.

Anyone curious about how it's done can sit in on a demonstration at the Pleasanton Art Association meeting at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 16 at the Cultural Arts Building on Black Avenue. Both originals and prints of her downtown works can also be seen at Studio 7 Fine Arts, located at 400 Main St.

To learn more about Wardrope, visit [www.debbiewardrope.com](http://www.debbiewardrope.com). ■

## Sing for a spot

Skip Simon and the rest of the "American Idol" judges and tryout for Valley Concert Chorale.

Touted as the Tri-Valley's premier chorus, VCC is in its 45th season and are holding the second round of auditions Jan. 26 at the First Presbyterian Church, located at the corner of 4th and L streets in Livermore.

The group seeks experienced singers with sight reading skills who enjoy exciting and challenging music. Performances include a wide variety of music ranging from classical to contemporary, folk to jazz.

Auditions are by appointment, which can be reserved by calling 462-4205. To learn more about VCC, visit [www.valleyconcertchorale.org](http://www.valleyconcertchorale.org) or call the general information line at 866-4003.

—Emily West

### Weekend Preview



### Picturing the Constellations

Pleasanton Artist Elaine Drew is showing a collection of illustrations inspired by astronomy until Feb. 27, at Washington Mutual, 561 Main St. The illustrations are from an upcoming book by her and her husband, local astronomy teacher Rob Drew. The bank is open from 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Saturday. Call 461-9871.

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Defiance

★★★

Rated: R for violence and language  
2 hours, 16 minutes

In 1941, three brothers started a Jewish community in the Belarussian forest in eastern Poland to flee the Nazis at the height of the Holocaust. The brothers' valiant effort saved hundreds of lives. Their tale of survival in the thick and often frigid forest is harrowing and wearisome.

So it's fitting that the film about their experience evokes the same sensations—prepare to be inspired and tired by the end of it.

Daniel Craig shakes his James Bond persona to play Tuvia Bielski, the confident leader of the community that would later be known as the Bielski partisans. Tuvia and his younger brothers Zus (Liev Schreiber) and Asael (Jamie Bell) take to the forest after the murder of their parents, determined to endure and battle back. Slowly more Jews join their camp as Tuvia and Zus struggle with the means to provide for the group's growing numbers.

All three brothers have a different way of dealing with the Nazi onslaught. Tuvia puts his focus on the community and survival while Zus prefers the proactive approach and joins up with a group of Russian resistance fighters. Asael, meanwhile, is quiet and reserved, thinking more about love and cooperation than vengeance. Tuvia and Asael desperately try to keep the fragile camp from unraveling amidst a harsh winter, illness and shortages of food as Zus continues to fight alongside the Russians.

Director Edward Zwick ("Blood Diamond," "The Last Samurai") puts his familiar stamp on "Defiance" and helms with a steady hand. Production values are excellent, especially the costuming and cinematography. Craig is impressive as the stoic Tuvia and his piercing stare—which sometimes feels like the dramatic equivalent of Derek Zoolander's "Blue Steel"—is enough to chill even the most hardened Nazi.

Bell, who cine-fanatics will remember as the

young ballet dancer in "Billy Elliot" (2000), steps into his mature role admirably. And the supporting actors (including Alexa Davalos of "The Mist," Mark Feuerstein of TV's "The West Wing" and Iben Hjejle of "High Fidelity") are well cast and perform with solemn sincerity.

But the real spark comes from Schreiber. The San Francisco native slated to play Sabretooth in the upcoming "X-Men Origins: Wolverine" film is exceptional as Zus. Schreiber brings an authenticity and intensity to his difficult role. His accent is flawless and his tough exterior perfectly masks a sensitive and noble core.

The trailers for "Defiance" seem to promise an action- and emotion-packed experience. But adrenaline junkies should be wary—the pacing is frequently broken by long, dull expanses of plodding through the forest. The film is about 30 minutes too long at an unnecessary 136-minute runtime, with several scenes drawing audible yawns from the audience.

The script is decent but uninspired, including one scene in which Tuvia pointlessly sits atop a horse for a motivational speech a la "Braveheart." The scene comes across as too familiar, even comical, when it becomes obvious that there is no reason for Tuvia to be on the horse. It's almost as if an unimaginative producer demanded: "We need to have him deliver a speech while on a horse. Every good drama has a speech on a horse."

"Defiance" is an extraordinary story and the production is admirable—if you have the time and patience to trudge through.



—Tyler Hanley

Ready to Rent

Stairway to Heaven  
(a.k.a. A Matter of Life and Death)

Sony DVD

1 hour, 44 minutes

Directors: Michael Powell and Eric Pressburger

"Stairway to Heaven" (a.k.a. "A Matter of Life and Death" in America), new to DVD in the United States this month, is gem of a movie whose experience is probably tucked away in baby-boomers memories as being shown regularly on TV during the '50s and '60s. It's one of those forgotten classics whose half-remembered highlights are a collective experience, ready to be sparked into life by the infamous "do you remember that movie as a kid?" and whose memories will probably live up to the genuine deal. It's also a highlight in the world of fantasy with images more powerful than any computer can generate: a black and white celestial cloud theater where an angelic audience looks down upon our earthly struggles; the shot of a giant eyelid closing, somnambulated before a surgery; and an escalator to heaven's upper echelons flanked by statues of humanity's great thinkers.

Directors Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger almost dominated the post-war British movie system with their operatic stylings combined with uncanny melodrama, creating a generation of fans who may know their company moniker, the archers symbol, but whose names themselves leave casual fans clueless. Their most famous movie, I would say, would have to be "The Red Shoes," which left a generation of girls aching to become tragic ballerinas. That movie is seminal, mention it and you either get the reply, "I wanted to dance so badly after seeing it" or "that move really disturbed me as a kid." (I think if a poll was conducted as to the most distressing movie for a kid, only "Snow White" or "Bambi" may win out.)

The movie starts as potential tragedy. In a last act of courageousness (or desperation) RAF pilot Peter Carter (appropriately dapper David Niven) radios to

base that his fiery plane has been hit and is going down. In what he thinks will be his final moments, Peter chats with dispatcher June (Kim Hunter), if only to relay a message of hope, as he's going to bail out, searching for some comforting words in the face of doom. However, the next day he finds himself very much alive, intact and on the foggy English coast; more so, he runs into June who, along with everyone on base, is both puzzled and elated that he's alive. Peter rightfully feels that his luck may be extraterrestrial, which later he finds out it is, when he's visited by his pompous guardian angel, Conductor 71 (unearthly Marius Goring), who tells Peter he was supposed to die, but due to the thick English fog, he could not locate Peter in order to escort him to heaven. The question of whether Peter should die becomes a matter for heaven to decide in a heated celestial courtroom, where love is the only defense in order to acquit the charges.

The feel of "Stairway to Heaven" is one of cheeky sadness. It was made in 1946, with the world of course still reeling from the war, and the thought of having your mates looking down upon to cheer you on is a poignant one. Like all of Powell and Pressburger's movies, the English Technicolor photography (by Jack Cardiff) is one of a fairy-tale palette, where every shade is tinged with heady, mystic hues; stuff only of the movies. More important, the droll delivery of the script balanced with such ethereal stuff is example of what the BFI did best during this time, delivering polished material with that certain enchanted sobriety.



—Joe Ramirez

# 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.



## Ballistic Black soccer on top

Out of a starting field of 33 teams, the Pleasanton U13 Boys Division 3 Ballistic Black soccer team, coached by Pablo Espinosa, advanced to the final four of the CYSA Northern California Association Cup Tournament Jan. 17-18 at the Morgan Hill Soccer Complex. In second round play on Saturday Jan. 17 versus Los Gatos FC, regular time ended in a 1-1 tie but Ballistic Black scored five consecutive goals in the penalty kick tie-breaker to win the game with an official final score of 2-1. In Sunday's quarter-finals, Ballistic Black defeated the Mission SF Chivas Rayadas 3-0.

During the first two weekends of tournament play, the team has so far out-scored its opponents by 12 goals for to only one against, a tribute to a well-organized offense and tenacious defense. Ballistic Black next meets the Rohnert Park Cougars in the semi-finals at 8:30 a.m., Jan. 24, at the Mustang Soccer Complex in Danville, with the winner playing in the Association Cup finals on January.



## Triple Threat winners

Triple Threat Lacrosse Club took first place at the Sandstorm Tournament held in Palm Springs Jan. 10-11, following a second-place finish in November at the Mid-Atlantic Tournament in Maryland. Triple Threat demonstrated that lacrosse is a West Coast sport. The club is comprised of players from Acalanes, Miramonte, Campolindo, Monte Vista, San Ramon Valley, Foothill, and Amador Valley High schools.

Pictured: Maddie Saxton, Katie Mitchell, Aimee Dewan, Alex Seclow, Jillian Bush, Casey Bowles, Caroline Federighi, Katherine Herzog, Coach Dearborn David, Jessie Esteban, Erin McGillivray, Devon Frazor, Jenna Alberts, Melissa Trisko, Rachel Ozer, Coach Noemi Hites and Amanda Cross.

## Rugby club seeks high school-age players for new team

A new high school team formed by the Pleasanton Cavaliers Rugby Football Club will start its inaugural season next month and the club is looking for a few good players.

All male athletes in Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin schools are encouraged to apply. The team practices at the Cabernet Indoor Sports Complex in Livermore from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays.

The club is in the process of securing nonprofit status as a charity organization. Coach Paul Bretz, who is a national panel referee for USA Rugby, said while rugby is a rough sport, it is one that helps players develop positive character traits.

"I was fortunate enough to start playing rugby in the Marine Corps and the same traits the Marine Corps stresses—esprit de corps, self-sacrifice and team first—are the same traits that win championships in rugby and develop champions in society," he said.

The club currently has 30 students from Amador, Foothill, Granada and Livermore high schools who compete in a Northern California Rugby League. Additionally, the club has a group of about 40-50 adults that play touch rugby on Sundays at Harvest Park Middle School. Bretz said the club hopes to create a middle school-aged program by introducing the sport of rugby through a series of one-week camps. Dates are to be determined but will be in the August timeframe.

Visit the club website at [www.pleasantonrugbyclub.com](http://www.pleasantonrugbyclub.com) or contact Bretz at 640-6779.

## CCOP boys come from behind to win

After a tough season, the fourth grade CCOP boys team 422 came from behind to beat undefeated St. Raymonds 23-22. The team had a Cinderella story, with injuries and heartbreaking losses, but their hard work and effort finally paid off. Audrik Antonio, Adam Jue, Jared Wilson, Nick Wisgo, Brandon Fung, Anish Sangari and Esteban Kovacs sinking phenomenal shots brought the score to a tie. The extra free throw point came courtesy of Kovacs. Offensive and defensive support came from all quarters, with consistent rebounding from Wilson, Fung, Sangari and Antonio. Aaron Enslar, Kovacs and Jue provided excellent defensive blocking and steals. A special nod from the team goes out to Drew Kobayashi, who broke his foot pre-season but hasn't missed a game or practice in support of his team.

## Sign-ups for basketball

Sportstrong Youth Basketball Foundation is kicking off its spring and spring/summer season with evaluations starting Jan. 31. It offers 23 experienced coaches and

multiple teams per grade. Some teams play AAU and others MVP league. This offers various levels of play so athletes are placed at the correct level. For more information, visit [www.sportstrong.com](http://www.sportstrong.com).

## Water polo registration is now open

Registration is now open for Stoneridge Water Polo's spring season. They are accepting both

experienced and beginner girls and boys ages 9-14. This is a fun opportunity for returning players as well as those brand new to the game to learn new skills and compete in this exciting youth sport. The season is from March 2-April 29. Practices will be held at the Dolores Bengston Aquatic Center. For more information, visit [www.stoneridgewaterpolo.com](http://www.stoneridgewaterpolo.com) or call 484-0172. ■

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13inch 5 Bolt WHEEL 1986 Camry - others? - \$12  
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**Pleasanton, 4611 Helpert Court, Jan 24, 8am-4pm**  
Huge Moving Sale. Everything must go! Tools, Furniture, Pictures, Clothes, Toys, Electronics and more!

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Seeking full/part-time help for a family daycare. Hours are 2-6pm. Someone with prior childcare experience preferred, but open to those who truly love working with children and energetic. Must be TB tested and fingerprinted if possible, hopefully you can begin this week. Email us your resume....  
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**805 Homes for Rent**

**Pleasanton, 3 BR/1 BA**  
Remodel, walk to Downtown. Large yard, gardener included.

Pleasanton, 3 BR/2 BA - \$2250./mon

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Great location near bart, mall, quiet location, avail. now.

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Danville, 5+ BR/3.5 BA - \$800/month

Pleasanton, 1 BR/1 BA - \$625.00

Pleasanton, 1 BR/1 BA - \$650.00/mo

Pleasanton, 1 BR/1 BA - 600/Month

Pleasanton, 1 BR/1 BA - 600.00/Mon

**825 Homes/Condos for Sale**

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and Manufactured Homes. Wholesale Prices. Brand New starting at \$18,900. Free Floor Plans and Prices. 1-800-504-3315. (Cal-SCAN)

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**Cozy Comfy Condo N.Shore Tahoe**  
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**850 Acreage/Lots/Storage**

**Colorado - Bank Foreclosure**  
35 AC \$29,900. Enjoy 300 days of sunshine. Rocky mountain views, utilities. Excellent financing. 1st come, 1st serve!! Call Today 1-866-696-5263 x4938. (Cal-SCAN)

**New Mexico Ranch Dispersal**  
Buyer's Market. 140 acres - \$89,900. River Access. Northern New Mexico. Cool 6,000' elevation with stunning views. Great tree cover including Ponderosa, rolling grassland and rock outcroppings. Abundant wildlife, great hunting. EZ terms. Call NML&R, Inc. 1-866-360-5263. (Cal-SCAN)

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Home Staging, Marketing

**PET OF THE WEEK**



CATHERINE HANSEN RUSH

**Snuggle with Minnie**

Meet Minnie, a 6-year-old spayed female housecat with a pretty white bib and light green eyes beautifully rimmed in black. Minnie loves to be brushed and petted. She is a quiet cat who hopes to be a loving companion to someone in an indoor-only home. Minnie thinks a lap is a terrible thing to waste and she looks forward to occupying one in a loving family soon. Visit Minnie (pet #82862), and her many friends, at the East County Animal Shelter, 4595 Gleason Drive in Dublin, open daily from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Call 803-7040.

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532 Rosso Ct., Ruby Hill, Pleasanton



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2130 Alexander Wy., Pleasanton



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**Donna  
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925-397-4165

**Debby  
Johnson-Abarta**  
925-989-6844

**Susan  
Schall**  
925-397-4244

# Real Estate

## Home sale of the week



**4148 Grant Court  
Pleasanton –  
\$1,305,000**

This 5 bedroom, 3 bathroom, 3500 square foot custom home has new cherry hardwood floors throughout, crown molding, and an updated gourmet kitchen. It is a perfect home for entertaining with a large butler's pantry off the kitchen. The backyard offers decks and matured landscaping. Sold by Julia Murtagh of Alain Pinel Realtors. (925) 997-2411

## National real estate group 'welcomes' new president

*Hopes Congress, administration will help prevent foreclosures*

by Jeb Bing

Charles McMillan, president of the National Association of Realtor, called Tuesday's inauguration of President Barack Obama "an historic day for our country" and pledged to work with him to stabilize the U.S. housing market and set the economy on the road to recovery.

"President Obama has pledged to work with Congress to immediately implement aggressive policies to decrease the number of preventable foreclosures by helping to reduce mortgage payments for responsible homeowners," McMillan said. "We welcome President Obama's efforts on foreclosure prevention and agree that addressing ris-

ing foreclosures and strengthening existing home sales and housing initiatives are critical components to a housing and economic recovery."

"NAR will also continue to focus on policies that will help bring buyers back to the market to reduce inventory and stabilize home prices," he added. "This is the only way to successfully improve and sustain the housing market and the nation's economy."

"The president has a tough job ahead of him with many hurdles," he said. "The NAR looks forward to working with President Obama and his team, and to quickly move forward with meaningful legislation and policies to help make homeownership once again a part of the great American dream." ■

## Realtors gain new foreclosure information

*Statewide data a help in search of homes*

Real estate agents in California will now have easily-accessed computer information to help them find foreclosed properties in their sales markets.

The new service by Real Estate Business Services Inc. and ForeclosureRadar is being offered to agents who are also members of the California Association of Realtors at a discounted price. That will give them detailed information on foreclosed homes for their clients who are in the market to buy.

"With foreclosures in some counties representing approximately 50 percent of the listings, ForeclosureRadar is an invaluable tool to help Realtors thrive in the current marketplace," said Liz Fitzgerald, chairwoman of the REBS board of directors.

She said the new service allows Realtors to

search, track and analyze foreclosures, providing up-to-date information on the California foreclosure market "with granular detail, including transaction history, loan amounts, dates for notices and lending institutions."

"ForeclosureRadar was created to help real estate agents participate in the opportunities found in the foreclosure market and provide the tools and intelligence to significantly help consumers through the process," said Sean O'Toole, founder and CEO of ForeclosureRadar. "This arrangement with CAR now affords all agents the chance only some have had up until now."

ForeclosureRadar is headquartered in Discovery Bay, one of the state's hardest-hit communities for foreclosed properties.

—Jeb Bing

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Bank-owned and  
ready to move in.

Information Deemed Reliable but NOT Guaranteed

## Sales at a Glance

Source: California REsource

Dublin	Livermore	Pleasanton	San Ramon
Total sales reported: 2	Total sales reported: 4	Total sales reported: 3	Total sales reported: 25
Lowest sale reported: \$465,000	Lowest sale reported: \$340,000	Lowest sale reported: \$757,500	Lowest sale reported: \$295,000
Highest sale reported: \$605,000	Highest sale reported: \$750,000	Highest sale reported: \$1,383,000	Highest sale reported: \$1,641,000
Average sales reported: \$535,000	Average sales reported: \$500,750	Average sales reported: \$1,061,833	Average sales reported: \$704,200



**LIVERMORE** - Live in your own private resort! Toland Sports Pool w/fountains & lights, 12 person spa & solar panels. 3200sf-5 Hole Putting/Chipping Green. Movie Room w/145" screen & 8 electric seats. Top quality upgrades. Custom crown molding, baseboards & cased windows. Travertine flooring & SO MUCH MORE!

**683 SHADOW MIST CT \$1,690,000**



**PLEASANTON** - Incredible home with many unique features throughout. Located on a private street on approximately 1/2 acre. Brazilian Cherry Wood floors, slate, tile, thermadore appliances, steam shower, and MORE! Spacious & open floor plan with views of Ridge. MUST SEE!

**6068 SYCAMORE TER \$1,699,000**



**LAFAYETTE** - This beautiful, immaculate, single-level home has been extensively remodeled. Located in stunning Lafayette, with an open layout and 4 beds/2.5 baths. Numerous windows and doors allow natural light to stream through the home as well as give views to the 17,000+ lot. Don't miss out!!!

**3100 LA PLAYA CT \$959,000**



**PLEASANT HILL** - Exceptional end unit in desirable Cresthill. Private back yard with lovely landscaping and stone patio. Spacious open and light living space with larger master, including sitting area. Master bath with soaking tub and separate shower.

**267 HILLCREST CIRCLE \$602,000**



**PLEASANTON** - Great location for this classic Birdland home - rich new flooring, open updated kitchen, perfect for entertaining, kitchen- family combination that open onto a gorgeous rear patio and lush gardens. Ideally located, minutes from Pleasanton Sports Park. Great house in a great neighborhood!

**4898 WOODTHRUSH RD \$745,000**



**FREMONT** - Short sale. Nice 3 bed/2 bath home that just needs a little sprucing and elbow grease. Large bedrooms, eat-in kitchen, huge backyard perfect for kids or entertaining. Please be considerate of tenants.

**40446 DAVIS ST \$369,000**



**HAYWARD** - Darling home ready to move it. Clean and beautiful. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to own this sweet home. Curb Appeal!!! Wood floors and granite in kitchen. Lots of updating and HUGE Backyard!

**24780 JOYCE ST \$239,900**



**PLEASANTON** - Gorgeous custom one-story home w/ detached pool house (approx. 700 sq ft). Lg. lot with picturesque pool, perfect for entertaining. Main house features 3 beds/2 baths. Gourmet Kitchen w/ breakfast bar and nook. Rich hardwood flooring, upgraded carpet and tile thru-out. Close proximity to downtown.

**455 LINDEN WAY \$950,000**

6111 Johnson Ct., Suite 110 - Pleasanton Hopyard

925.463.9500



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**PRICES ARE DOWN, MORTGAGE RATES UNDER 5%, BUYER'S MARKET**

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**603 Romeo Court, Pleasanton \$1,395,000**

Quality custom home. Great location. Spacious one story with 4 bedrooms, 3 full bathrooms, 3 car garage. Huge family room with a stone fireplace. Updated and modernized kitchen. Half acre lot size. Close to golf course and freeway access.

Open Sunday 1-4



**Chris Miller**  
(925) 730-1604



**1139 Mataro Court Pleasanton \$1,049,000**

Incredible Value! Fabulous Location! Vintage Hills II beauty with no rear neighbors! Newly remodeled kitchen with beautiful granite counters, custom cabinets, state of the art appliances, elegant hardwood floors and eating area. 2,837 square feet of living area with vaulted living room, formal dining, large family room and 2 fireplaces. A bonus room or fifth bedroom, third full bath and inside laundry complete the downstairs. large vaulted master bedroom suite adjoins a newly remodeled bathroom including roman tub and separate stall shower. You must see this home!

Open Sunday 1-4



**Jeff Clyma**  
(925) 918-3395  
(925) 462-0728  
www.JeffClyma.com



**321 Diamond \$1,125,000**

Beautiful 4 Bedroom, 2.5 Bathroom 3,208 sq ft Custom home built in 1995. Newly remodeled master bath with travertine and new fixtures. Entertain in the sparkling solar heated sport pool with waterfall or the 8 person Hot Springs Spa. The kitchen features a double oven, built in refrigerator and built in wine cooler. Country Living in Town!



**John Rocha**  
924-484-0700  
Cell 925-200-9400





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## LIVERMORE



**14 ACRE PRIVATE COUNTRY ESTATE**  
Panoramic Views of Livermore Valley.  
3BD/3BA+ office in main house, + 2nd  
home & 10 horse stall barn. **\$2,999,000**  
925.337.2989 **Kim Buerke**

## SAN RAMON



**PRESTIGIOUS CANYON LAKES 5BD/3BA**  
backs to 16th fairway w/views, open floor  
plan, newer carpet/flooring, updated  
kitchen w/granite counters. **\$949,000**  
925.858.5400 **Sheri Platter**

## PLEASANTON



**BIRDLAND 4BD/3BA, 2,128 sq. ft.,**  
sought after location near Blue Ribbon  
Schools. Custom upgrades, vaulted entry  
& kitchen, custom white cabinets, and  
corian countertops. **\$835,000**  
925.580.5793 **Wendy Washburn**

## PLEASANTON



**GARDEN HOUSE 4BD/2BA w/new paint**  
inside & out, refinished hardwood floors,  
updated baths, new front door, inground  
pool, covered patio. **\$700,000**  
925.426.3888 **Steve Fast**

## PLEASANTON



**KOTTINGER RANCH 4BD/2½BA, 1,875**  
sq.ft. and spacious yard w/patio, grass area  
and side yard. Granite counters, gas stove  
and stainless steel appliances. **\$695,000**  
925.998.9692 **Danielle Peel**

## PLEASANTON



**SINGLE STORY IN DEL PRADO. 3BD/**  
2BA, 1,673 sq.ft. w/remodeled kitchen,  
maple cabinets, center island. Private  
backyard w/fruit trees. **\$619,900**  
925.426.3826 **Tom Fox**

## PLEASANTON



**LARGE & ELEGANT TOWNHOME**  
2BD/2½BA bathed in light all day long  
with high windows and open floor plan.  
Excelent upscale location. **\$479,000**  
925.200.1909 **Karla Brown**

## DUBLIN



**BANK OWNED** Great price on a single  
family detached 3BD/2BA home on a  
corner lot. Great potential, needs some  
TLC. No kitchen appliances. **\$469,900**  
925.426.3888 **Steve Fast**

Hometown GMAC Real Estate is an Independently Owned and Operated Firm

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**SOLD**

### PLEASANTON

**3491 PARK PLACE \$780,000**  
Love this location right across from beautiful Meadows  
Park. Home has been lovingly maintained, remodeled  
kitchen with granite, new appliances, fresh paint inside  
and out, plantation shutters, light bright and ready to  
move in! Great neighborhood, kids can ride bikes to  
Fairlands School.

PHYLLIS WEINER

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**SOLD**

### PLEASANTON

**PRAIRIE DR \$1,198,000**  
NEW PRICE! Rarely available Foothill Knolls in  
Westside Pleasanton! This is the one you've been  
waiting for! Four bedrooms, 3 baths, all beautifully  
updated and decorated by a designer with every amenity  
imaginable. Gorgeous large, private lot with saline  
pool and spa.

PHYLLIS WEINER

925.872.1416

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**SOLD**

### PLEASANTON

**5580 PASEO NAVARRO \$1,172,000**  
Absolutely gorgeous completely remodeled and  
customized home in the heart of Pleasanton! Every detail  
and amenity is top quality, with excellent 5 bedrm.  
floorplan, Master + 2 bedrms. downstairs. Gourmet  
kitchen, granite, stainless steel appl., hardwood floors.  
No rear neighbors! Backs to beautiful park.

PHYLLIS WEINER

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Ruby Hill



**AVAILABLE**

### PLEASANTON

**2156 CANOSA CT \$2,799,000**  
Experience vineyard living in this gorgeous  
Mediterranean home on a premium cul-de-  
sac located on the "top of Ruby Hill" with  
expansive city views. Grand marble foyer with  
wrought iron stairway.

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# J. Rockcliff



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REAL ESTATE COMPANY.

[www.DeniseIvaldi.com](http://www.DeniseIvaldi.com)



### FREMONT

**44763 AGUILA TER \$3,100,000**  
Gorgeous custom home! Awesome views!! Lots of upgrades, exclusive neighborhood, top rated schools, perfect home for entertaining, large gourmet kitchen, full wet bar, built in bbq, inground pool/spa, formal dining room.  
**DENISEIVALDI 925.846.7997**

[www.RubyHillLiving.com](http://www.RubyHillLiving.com)



### PLEASANTON

**2156 CANOSA CT \$2,799,000**  
Experience vineyard living in this gorgeous Mediterranean home. Premium cul-de-sac location with expansive city views from the front and hills in the back. Grand marble foyer with wrought iron stairway.  
**ANJUBHATIA 925.577.2658**

[www.KristyandCompany.com](http://www.KristyandCompany.com)



### CASTRO VALLEY

**32777 PALOMARES RD \$1,110,000**  
Bay Area Canyon Living at its Best.. This property is nestled in Beautiful Palomares Canyon, Dreams can come true. This nice home offers a large living room , Views from every window, Privacy, Nice peaceful setting.  
**KRISTY PEIXOTO 925.251.2536**

[www.DavidAzimi.com](http://www.DavidAzimi.com)



### SAN RAMON

**2024 FEATHERMINT DR \$1,299,999**  
Previous Model Home in Gale Ranch, Beautiful Kitchen, Amazing Views of Dougherty Valley, In-Law Quarters with Separate Kitchen! The home is missing various elements and will require work.  
**DAVIDAZIMI 925.251.2580**

[www.StaciArmario.com](http://www.StaciArmario.com)



### PLEASANTON

**5648 BELLEZA DRIVE \$400,000**  
You have to see it to believe it. Corner unit with decorator touches. Perfect condition. Attached 1 car garage. Upstairs unit with patio. Community pool and spa and club house. This is resort living at its finest.  
**STACI ARMARIO 925.251.2526**

Wine Country Unique Opportunity



### LIVERMORE

**0 HANSEN ROAD \$1,499,000**  
Under the South Livermore Valley Specific Plan this site is designated for a "Wine Country Retail". Conceptual drawings for 25,000 SF conservatory/retail/event center are available. Owners interested in joint-venture or partnership.  
**THOMAS BRAMELL 925.583.2180**

[www.RebeccaLEvans.com](http://www.RebeccaLEvans.com)



### LIVERMORE

**5665 VICTORIA LN \$1,299,950**  
Sharp horse property located on a private road nestled amongst custom estates in the heart of the Livermore wine country Almost 6 flat acres with 4 barns & fenced pastures Updated Kitchen w hickory cabinets, newer s/s app.  
**REBECCA L. EVANS 925.583.2183**

RUBY HILL LAND



### PLEASANTON

**3748 SELVANTE ST \$868,000**  
Incredible Views of Mt. Diablo and Pleasanton Hills. Located on a Quiet St. with Complete Approved Building Plans for a 6300+ Sq Ft Mediterranean Style Dream Home. Bldg Prmit Pd. New Retaining Wall is Securely in Place.  
**COREY GREEN 925.899.6011**

[www.GailHenderson.com](http://www.GailHenderson.com)



### LIVERMORE

**776 TRAVISO CIR \$899,000**  
Gorgeous, stunning, it has it all and at a great price! 5 BR/4.5 Baths, GAME ROOM/home gym, den, formal dining, formal living, LARGE family room. SYA. Slab granite, stainless steel 2bl ovens, WOLF cook top, blt in refrigerator.  
**GAIL HENDERSON 925.980.5648**

[www.MadelineWalker.com](http://www.MadelineWalker.com)



### LIVERMORE

**937 VIA SEVILLE \$499,000**  
Unbelievable 5-bedroom, 3 bath home for the price. Like new inside. Remodeled & updated in 2004. 50-yr roof. Energy efficient - solar electric powered. Almost no PG&E bill! A/C plus attic fan + whole house fan.  
**MADELINE WALKER 1.800.319.8991**

REO/Bank Owned



### BRENTWOOD

**1231 EXETER WAY \$352,900**  
Great One Story Home in an Established Neighborhood! Walk to the park and expanded Greenbelt! Open Floor Plan. Fully Landscaped, 3 car garage. THIS IS A MUST SEE!  
**VERONICA CLYATT 925.989.4968**

[www.wilson-fontaine.com](http://www.wilson-fontaine.com)



### LIVERMORE

**878 WAVERLY CMN \$585,958**  
Serene sanctuary in the rolling hills! It is also the perfect home for entertaining with high ceilings, a flowing floor plan, a gourmet A&K with a hardwood floor and open living-dining room with a private glassed atrium.  
**KAREN WILSON-FONTAINE 925.583.2171**

Single Story



### LIVERMORE

**2752 CHABLIS WAY \$855,000**  
This beauty is located in one of Livermore's few custom built home locations. Quiet, very private, and just a ten minute walk to town. There is beautiful curb appeal, warmth when you walk in, and lots of beautiful wood.  
**ANGELA ADAMS 925.580.4513**

[www.MadelineWalker.com](http://www.MadelineWalker.com)



### LIVERMORE

**302 ALDEN LN \$1,100,000**  
Former Model home with many custom extras by builder. Fam. Rm w/surround sound. Soft water system. Backyard re-landscaped in 2006 w/custom self-maintained free-form pool. Outdoor kitchen w/BBQ, 2 refrig's, wine kegger.  
**MADELINE WALKER 1.800.319.8991**

[www.TomChance.com](http://www.TomChance.com)



### LIVERMORE

**564 ANDREA CIR \$675,000**  
Simply Beautiful! Quality built and impeccably maintained. Move right into this 4 bedroom 2 bath home on private circle. Loaded with upgrades including New Roof 06; New Furnace/AC in 07; Hickory Laminate Flooring.  
**TOM E. CHANCE 925.487.6360**

[www.StaciArmario.com](http://www.StaciArmario.com)



### FREMONT

**4561 BIANCA DR \$400,000**  
Great Fremont home at a great price with newer landscaped front and back yard, newer Roof, double pane windows, and central heat, in a quiet neighborhood.  
**STACI ARMARIO 925.251.2526**

Blackhawk  
4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir.  
Danville, CA 94506  
925.648.5300

Blackhawk West  
3880 Blackhawk Rd.  
Danville, CA 94506  
925.736.6000

Danville  
15 Railroad Ave.  
Danville, CA 94526  
925.855.4000

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

Livermore  
1983 Second Street  
Livermore, CA 94550  
925.667.2100

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

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

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

[www.rockcliff.com](http://www.rockcliff.com)

# OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

## ALAMO

**4 Bedrooms**  
**70 Zand Lane \$1,165,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Remax Accord 895-2804

## DUBLIN

**4 Bedrooms**  
**4917 Redwood Avenue \$678,888**  
 Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 858-5400

## LIVERMORE

**4 Bedrooms**  
**1823 Vancouver Way \$599,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 339-3077

**5 Bedrooms**  
**3166 Belmont Court \$1,499,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Realty 596-1918

## PLEASANTON

**2 Bedrooms**  
**2130 Alexander Way \$442,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Realty 397-4244

**3 Bedrooms**  
**4576 Del Valle \$1,099,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 621-4064

**2283 Camino Brazos \$619,900**  
 Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 872-1275

**2822 Jones Gate Court \$719,000**  
 Sun 2-5 Alain Pinel Realtors 462-7653

**4 Bedrooms**  
**4128 Pleasanton Avenue \$1,036,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Investment Real Estate Co. 963-0569

**532 Rosso Court \$1,099,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Realty 426-7957

**836 Piemonte Drive \$1,699,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Realty 980-0273

**611 Merlot Court \$600,000**  
 Sat 1-4 Allied Brokers 846-3755

**2320 Crestline \$645,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 621-4064

**4277 Garibaldi Place \$695,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 998-9692

**1898 Halcyon Court \$699,850**  
 Sun 1-4:30 Remax Accord 847-8900

**1831 Halcyon Court \$818,900**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 462-7653

**2586 Skimmer Court \$875,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 462-7653

**5114 Mount Tam Circle \$949,000**  
 Sun 2-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

**5 Bedrooms**  
**1342 W. Lagoon Road \$1,224,950**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 963-8871

**1368 Royal Creek Ct \$1,238,888**  
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Realty 260-2508

**9116 Olson Court \$2,395,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 621-4064

**4141 W. Ruby Hill Drive \$2,700,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Realty 202-6298

**6 Bedrooms**  
**9451 Blessing Drive \$1,695,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 413-1912

## SAN RAMON

**2 Bedrooms**  
**3799 Crow Canyon Road \$349,000**  
 Sat 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 339-3077



**Andy Poryes**  
**925.963.8871**  
**andyp@apr.com**



### OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 www.W-Lagoon.com

This quality Greenbriar home offers 3265 sq.ft. of luxury with soaring volume ceilings, lots of light, 5 bedrms & 4 full baths. Enjoy the large outside kitchen with refrigerator, then jump in the pool! Cook's kitchen includes double ovens, large center island and granite counters. This neighborhood has a massive public park and no HOA dues.  
**New price! \$1,224,950**



**1342 W. LAGOON ROAD, PLEASANTON**



**40720 ROBIN ST., FREMONT**

### NEW LISTING!

**www.RobinStr.com**

Designer remodel in Fremont's Irvington District offers 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, hardwood floors, granite fireplace, covered patio, front porch, pool, built in BBQ, oversized lot with no rear neighbors and lots more!

**Offered at \$549,950**

### SOLD IN PLEASANTON

\$1,725,000.....4549 Mirador Dr.  
 \$1,690,000.....8045 Oak Creek Ct.  
 \$859,000.....2724 Laramine Gate Cir.

\$819,950.....4496 Desertwood Pl.  
 \$817,000.....4031 Schween Ct.  
 \$715,000.....4502 Lakewood Ct.  
 \$599,000.....6337 Shorewood Ct.

apr.com | PLEASANTON | 900 Main Street 925.251.1111 | AndyPoryes.com



### 9116 OLSON CT., PLS. LOCATED IN THE PRESERVE



5BD / 5.5BA 5,200+/- SF. 20,968 SF. LOT.  
 IN-LAW UNIT, STUNNING VIEWS, BACKS  
 TO OPEN SPACE \$2,395,000

### 2215 MARTIN AVE., PLS. LOCATED IN MOHR ESTATES



5BD / 3.5BA 4,196 SF. MAIN HOUSE.  
 SUBDIVIDABLE 1.67 ACRE LOT  
 \$1,675,000

### 4576 DEL VALLE PKWY., PLS. LOCATED IN PLEASANTON VALLEY



4BD / 2.5BA 3,357 SF. 9,541 SF. LOT.  
 UPGRADED & REMODELED  
 \$1,099,000

### 3641 HUFF CT., PLS. LOCATED IN STONERIDGE PARK



5BD + LOFT / 3BA 2,913 SF. POOL/SPA  
 OPEN FLOOR PLAN, UPDATED KITCHEN  
 \$925,000

### 1766 ORCHARD WY., PLS. LOCATED IN PLEASANTON VALLEY



4BD / 2BA 1,862 SF. 7,650 SF. LOT.  
 WOOD FLOORING, UPDATED BATHS &  
 KITCHEN \$699,000

### 2320 CRESTLINE RD., PLS. LOCATED IN PLEASANTON VALLEY



4BD / 2BA 1,854 SF. 6,800 SF. LOT.  
 SINGLE STORY COUNTRY MODEL  
 \$645,000

### 3375 HARPERS FERRY CT., PLS. LOCATED IN VALLEY TRAILS



3BD / 2BA 1,411 SF. 7,713 SF. LOT.  
 UPDATED KITCHEN AND BATH IN 2000  
 \$610,000

### 4010 FRANCISCO ST., PLS. LOCATED IN JENSEN/AMADOR



3BD / 2BA 1,159 SF. 6,575 SF. LOT.  
 ROOM TO EXPAND, WOOD FLOORS  
 \$568,000



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**MOXLEYTEAM.COM**



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 Tyler, 2008, Top 30 Realtor Under 30 in Nation  
 -REALTOR Magazine





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 925-462-SOLD  
 WWW.TIMMCGUIRE.NET

**Tim McGuire Team**

**ALAIN PINEL**  
 REALTORS

**COMING SOON**



**Coming Soon in Pleasanton**  
 4bd/3.5 ba colonial home nestled along the Pleasanton Ridge w/ views, privacy, a wine closet, and in-law suite w/ separate entry & driveway. Call for showing. Offered at \$1,250,000

**OPEN SUN 1-4**



**1831 Halcyon Court, Pleasanton**  
 Seller says bring **ALL** offers! 4bd/3ba, 2146+/- sq.ft. with full bd/ba downstairs, blocks from schools and parks. Offered at \$819,000

**OPEN SUN 1-4**



**2586 Skimmer Court, Pleasanton**  
 Beautifully remodeled 4bd/2.5ba, 2164+/-sq.ft. home w/ custom kitchen, hardwood floors, and pebble tech pool. Offered at \$875,000

**OPEN SUN 2-5**



**2822 Jones Gate Court, Pleasanton**  
 Extensively remodeled 3bd/2ba, 1800+/-sq.ft. home located on a secluded court in the "Gates" Offered at \$729,000



**18747 Sandy Road, Castro Valley**  
 3bd/2ba, 1374+/-sq.ft., oak cabinet kitchen with tile counter, updated baths, new carpets and paint throughout. Offered at \$449,000

**SOLD**



**4031 Schween Court, Pleasanton**  
 5bd/3ba, 2304+/-sq.ft., updated granite kitchen, renovated baths w/ solid counters and tile flooring, dual pane windows, tile roof and pool. Sold for \$817,000



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 blaise@blaiselofland.com

apr.com

**PLEASANTON HEIGHTS**

**NEW LISTING**



**857 (UPPER) ABBIE STREET, PLEASANTON**  
 Private upgraded custom single story home on the crest of a hill with floor to ceiling windows to take in panoramic views of Pleasanton Ridge, oak studded hills and gorgeous sunsets. You are secluded yet in the heart of Pleasanton. Walk to Main Street and enjoy downtown Pleasanton. Large private grounds (16,308 sq. ft.) with exceptional views, guest unit/cabana, large patio areas with spa, and sitting/viewing deck for relaxing or entertaining! Save money in your solar powered home. 4 bd, downstairs bonus room (5<sup>th</sup> bd option). Approx. 3,437 sq. ft. including separate guest unit/cabana. Option to expand lower level within existing house footprint! Don't miss it! **OFFERED AT \$1,295,000**

**PRIVATE CUSTOM ESTATE**



**3752 TRENERY DRIVE, PLEASANTON**  
 Gorgeous Mediterranean custom home on premium +/- one acre estate lot. Private secluded location. This home has approximately 8,402 square feet (6,141 on main level), seven bedrooms plus private office, and seven and a half bathrooms. Expansive gourmet kitchen. Antique marble, and Brazilian cherry hardwood floors. Extremely private rear grounds—great for entertaining with in-ground swimming pool. Expansive lawn area and beautiful mature landscaping. Circular driveway and oversized four plus car garage. Conveniently located in town near services, activities, and walking distance to desirable Mohr Elementary! **OFFERED AT \$3,795,000**

**OLDE TOWNE**

**PENDING**



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

**PLEASANTON VALLEY (BIRDLAND)**

**SOLD**



**5058 BLACKBIRD WAY, PLEASANTON**  
 Highly upgraded customized home in the heart of Birdland. New remodeled gourmet kitchen with granite countertops, hardwood flooring, and appliances. Five bedrooms, two and a half bathrooms. Approximately 2,745 square feet. Extensive new interior paint. Tile roof. Professionally landscaped, private rear yard with mature trees. Super location! Walking distance to all levels of school, neighborhood park, and aquatic center. Many upgrades... must see!  
**OFFERED AT \$899,500**

*Silver Oaks Estates*

**SOLD**



**BRAND NEW SINGLE LEVEL CUSTOM HOME**  
 Brand new single level custom home. This premium .45 acre lot is surrounded by Oak studded open space. At the gateway to the Wine Country. Panoramic views of Mt. Diablo/the Valley. 4 bd/4.5 ba, formal office, plus/bonus room. Approx. 4,716 sq ft. Lg gourmet kitchen with granite slab/stainless steel appliances. Lg master suite with fireplace. Hardwood and marble flooring. Photovoltaic (5 kw) solar system. Professionally landscaped front yard. **OFFERED AT \$1,899,000**

**SILVER OAKS PREMIUM LOTS ALSO AVAILABLE**

- Wine Country Location
- Premium Level Lots
- Expansive Views
- Build Your Dream Home!

LOT	SIZE	HOME STYLE	PRICE
1	34,400	Single Story	\$649,000
2	23,670	Two Story	\$649,000
3	30,030	Two Story	SOLD!
4	20,300	Single Story	\$649,000
6	19,547	Single Story	SOLD!
7	22,494	Single Story	PENDING!

Visit [www.SilverOaksEstates.com](http://www.SilverOaksEstates.com) for more information



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



**BLAISE LOFLAND BY APPOINTMENT**



**PLEASANTON \$3,795,000**  
Gorgeous Mediterranean custom home. Private secluded location. Gourmet kitchen. Antique marble/hardwood floors. Private rear grounds - great for entertaining. In-ground pool/spa. Beautiful landscaping.

**SYLVIA DESIN OPEN SUNDAY 1-4**



**PLEASANTON \$1,695,000**  
Immaculate 6bd/5.5ba home, 4689+/-sf on a 18,708+/-sf lot. Solar pool/spa. Detached guest cottage. 4 car garage. Gourmet kitchen, stainless steel appliances. 1bd/1ba downstairs. Backs to open space. 9451 Blessing Dr

**BLAISE LOFLAND BY APPOINTMENT**



**PLEASANTON \$1,295,000**  
Private upgraded custom single story. Large Private grounds (16,308+/-sf). Solar powered home. 4bd, downstairs bonus room (5th bed opt). 3,437+/-sf including separate guest unit/cabana.

**ANDY PORYES OPEN SUNDAY 1-4**



**PLEASANTON \$1,224,950**  
New Price. Luxury 5 year old home offers 3265+/-sf with 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, pool/waterfalls, outdoor kitchen, high ceilings/lots of light. 1342 W Lagoon Road

**MARY JANE DEERING BY APPT**



**PLEASANTON \$1,175,000**  
4bd/2.5ba built in 1991, 2800+/-sf. 3 car garage, one story. Hardwood floors, slab granite in kitchen, .48+/-acre lot with private backyard. Master with fireplace. Kottinger Ranch. Gorgeous!

**MOXLEY TEAM OPEN SUNDAY 1-4**



**PLEASANTON \$1,099,000**  
Close to Downtown and schools. High end remodel throughout with an expanded living area, wide plank wood flooring, built in cherry entertainment center and tile floors. Expanded master suite. 4576 Del Valle Pkwy

**MARTI GILBERT OPEN SUNDAY 2-4**



**PLEASANTON \$949,000**  
Westside 4bd/2.5ba updated kitchen with granite slab, newer appliances, wood flooring, crown modeling, 3 car garage, 2 fireplaces, no HOA, close to neighborhood parks. Must see! 5114 Mount Tam Cir

**TIM MCGUIRE BY APPOINTMENT**



**PLEASANTON \$875,000**  
4bd/2.5ba, 2164+/-sf home on a court. Remodeled custom kitchen with granite, maple wood floors, updated baths. 9000+/-sf lot with pool.

**TIM MCGUIRE BY APPOINTMENT**



**PLEASANTON \$819,000**  
4bd/3ba 2146+/-sf in Pleasanton Valley. Maple kitchen cabinets with corian counters. New dual pane windows and French doors.

**SUE MCKINLEY BY APPOINTMENT**



**PLEASANTON \$755,000**  
Look at this 5bd/3ba, 2471+/-sf home. Court location. Custom crown moulding/lighting and paint. Updated kitchen, bath, flooring, A/C, roof. Pool with removable child safe fence. Award winning schools.

**MARK LAFFERTY BY APPOINTMENT**



**PLEASANTON \$729,950**  
This Del Prado home is absolutely gorgeous. Features include dual pane windows/plantation shutters/beautiful swimming pool/downstairs master has walk-in closet/formal LR/DR/central heat and air.

**TIM MCGUIRE BY APPOINTMENT**



**PLEASANTON \$729,000**  
3bd 2ba 1815+/-sf home on a court one block from the sports park. New Island Kitchen with Quartz counters, maple cabinets.

**JOYCE JONES OPEN SATURDAY 2-4**



**PLEASANTON \$675,000**  
4bd/3ba plus family/bonus room with pellet burning stove, kitchen features; granite slab counter tops, tumble stone backsplash, stainless appliances, alarm, indoor laundry, updated baths, side yard. 7341 Joshua Circle

**MOXLEY TEAM OPEN SUNDAY 1-4**



**PLEASANTON \$645,000**  
Country Model, 1854+/-sf, 4bd/2ba, finished floors, new windows, newer roof, fresh paint with side yard access. Close to schools and shopping. 2320 Crestline Rd

**MOXLEY TEAM BY APPOINTMENT**



**PLEASANTON \$568,000**  
3bd/2ba, 1159+/-sf on a 6575+/-sf lot. Wood flooring throughout and dual pane windows. Corner lot location offering privacy and room to expand.

**MARY JANE DEERING BY APPT**



**DUBLIN \$357,000**  
2bd/2ba, built in 1991, one car attached garage, unique travertine staircase, lots of windows, stone-adorned FP, mahogany hardwood floor, slab granite, stainless appliances, view, gorgeous!

