

No cuts, for now

School board to consider parcel tax ► **page 5**

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Honoring David Ryan

Resident remembered as family, community man ► **page 5**

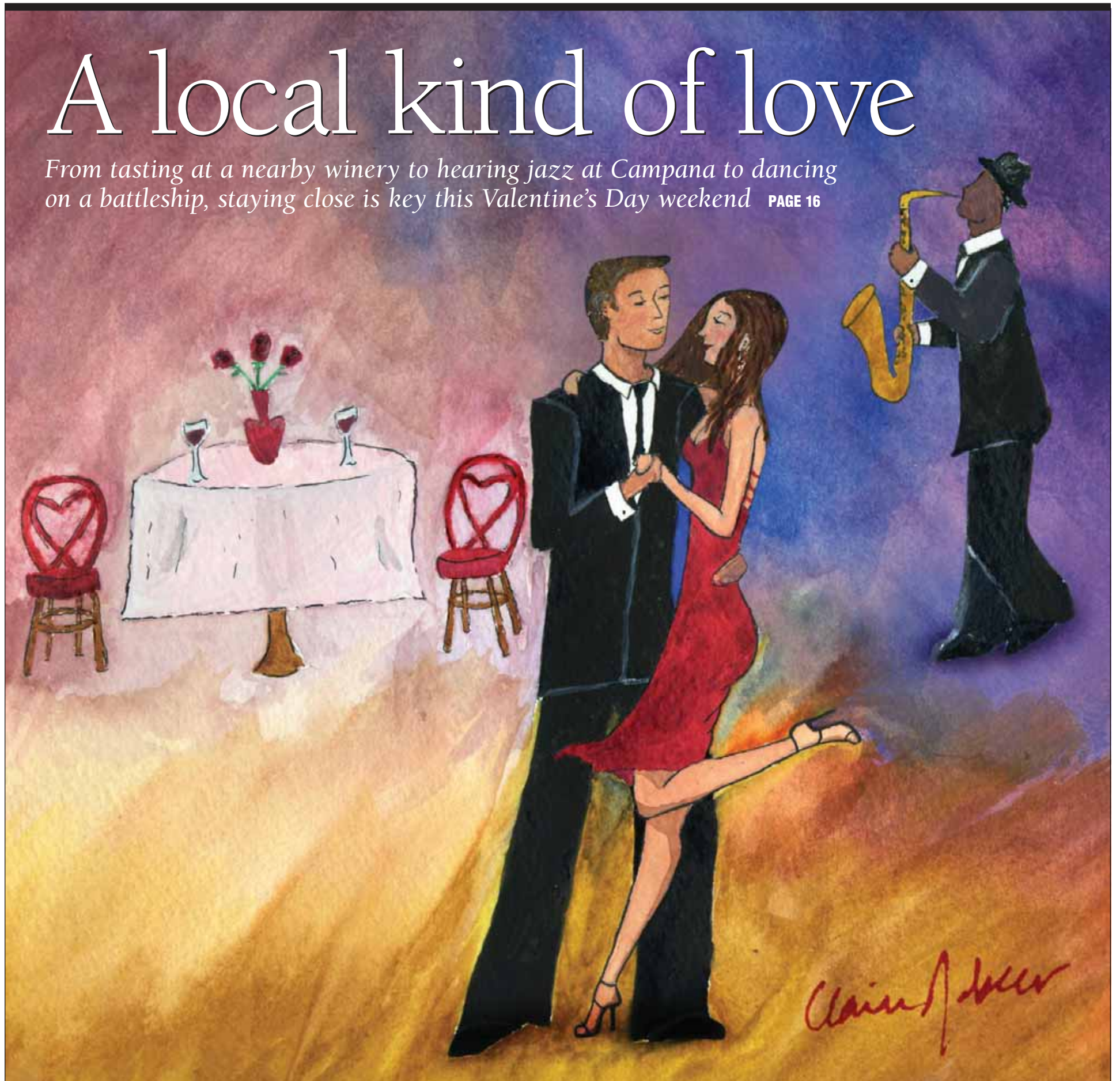
PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Going for gold

Girl Scout has a heart for foster kids ► **page 20**

A local kind of love

From tasting at a nearby winery to hearing jazz at Campana to dancing on a battleship, staying close is key this Valentine's Day weekend **PAGE 16**



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Around Pleasanton

by Jeb Bing

District's HR leader faces challenge

When Bill Faraghan joined the Pleasanton school district 22 years ago, he welcomed the chance to teach English, history and journalism to seventh and eighth grade students at Harvest Park Middle School, an age group that all parents know offers many challenges. Today, as assistant superintendent of human resources, his challenges are significantly greater and more personal. This week he is preparing lists of up to 100 teachers, administrators, secretaries, custodians and others who will possibly lose their jobs at the end of the current school year because of an \$8.7-million budget shortfall in the district's 2008-09 and 2009-10 budgets. Major and popular academic programs, including classroom reductions for the kindergarten through third grades and high school freshmen English and mathematics classes, are also on the potential chopping block. Unless state legislators and the governor can come to terms on a budget that can restore school funds that he is cutting—or one-time rescue funds from the \$800-billion federal stimulus measure approved by Congress this week can reach California schools in time—teachers and others on Faraghan's discharge list will be notified May 15 of their dismissals.

It's a tough task for the affable and well-liked Faraghan, who taught at Harvest Park for eight years, served as vice principal at Pleasanton Middle School for two, and then was principal at Fairlands Elementary School for another eight. He was appointed deputy human resources director four years ago and has held the top post since 2007. Since the education code and school district policy determine the pecking order in which seniority is established, based not only on years of service but also other factors such as credentials acquired, Faraghan can commiserate with employees who desperately need to keep their jobs, but he can't change their number on the list that determines who is cut. It's especially hard since some of the

district's youngest and bright new hires, whom Faraghan recruited on college campuses and has helped train in the classroom, will also be first among those laid off.

Faraghan is well-prepared for the challenge. After obtaining his teaching credential and bachelor's degree in English at UC Berkeley, he took a leave of absence after eight years at Harvest Park to obtain a master's degree in school administration at Chapman University. As vice principal and especially as principal, Faraghan handled many responsibilities that in the private sector would be delegated to human resource departments, including teacher and staff evaluations, recruitment and ongoing training programs. A member of the teacher's union from the start of his Pleasanton career, he now is the lead negotiator with both the teachers' and classified employees' unions. He meets weekly with the leaders of both unions and also sits with the school board at its regular meetings to address issues affecting the district's 800 teachers, 500 classified employees and 65 management employees. The Pleasanton district has 14,800 students.

In his position, Faraghan stays out of politics, although he's quick to point out that revenue from a parcel tax, which the board is now considering, could save many of the programs and reduce the number of layoffs. Yet, even with the parcel tax, only a quick turnaround in Sacramento on state school funding could spare the reductions in staff and programs the school board must address at its Feb. 24 meeting. By March 15, the education code requires districts to send notices of possible layoff to those on lists like Faraghan has compiled. On May 15, actual termination notices also must be issued. Faraghan's worry is that the even with state or federal funds or tax revenue coming in later, it may be too late to recall the cream of the crop he helped recruit as Pleasanton teachers who may have already found positions in other districts or left the profession for related careers. That's another challenge Faraghan is facing. ■

About the Cover

Illustrator Claire Nobles artfully depicts the many options available to lovers this Valentine's Day weekend. You don't have to travel far to taste fine wines at nearby wineries, dance aboard a historic aircraft carrier or even hear live jazz.

Vol. X, Number 3

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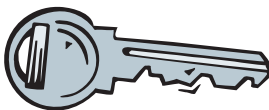
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Streetwise

Q: How did you or your spouse propose?

Asked Around Town

Julie Hoefler



My husband blindfolded me and started to drive to an undisclosed location. I was sitting inside the Otis Spunkmeyer DC3 plane and we were taking off for a flight around the San Francisco Bay. The pilot announced over the intercom, "Julie, will you take Bret's hand in marriage?" I was so airsick that I ran to the bathroom and vomited and everybody was still waiting for my answer! I'm happy to say we're still married.

Kurt Ludwigsen

I proposed to my wife in front of her entire family. Her annual family reunion is traditionally on the same day as Thanksgiving, so I stood up after dinner, calmly addressed everyone at the table and said, "In an effort to ensure that I don't have to tell this story over and over again (nor does my wife) I'm just going to propose in front of all of you." I pulled out a small box with a large diamond ring and threw it across the table to her. We've been happily married for 12 years.



Hilary Kauffman



In 1994, we planned a trip to Maui and about a month before we were leaving for the trip, my husband suggested we get married while we were over there. We called my brother-in-law and his wife to join us in the celebration and we got married in Lahaina at the courthouse overlooking the ocean. We have been happily married since.

Maelene Brunelli

My husband and I were dining at Le Virage in Walnut Creek in June of 1992 and we were having a conversation about moving in together and I said to him, "I have to be engaged if I am going to live with you." So he asked me, "Well, if that's the case will you marry me?" He immediately ordered champagne and we had a big celebration. The running joke is that I made him propose to me.



Kim Beland



I was up in Tahoe in the summer-time and my husband and I went for a bike ride around the lake. I could sense that he was nervous about something and I kept asking him what was wrong. When we rode out to Emerald Bay he stopped, got off his bike and proposed to me at sunset. We have been married for 15 years and have three boys.

Have a Streetwise question? E-mail: editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

Compiled by Hillary Bessiere

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Negative stories about real estate often miss the mark

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

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Hope for the hungry

Pleasanton chiropractor David De Bonis will sponsor the third annual Valentine's HOPE (helping other people eat) Day on Saturday. De Bonis will donate his services in exchange for donation of non-perishable food that will be donated to the Alameda County Community Food Bank. Accepted food includes canned fruit, vegetables and meat, pasta and canned sauce, rice, beans, peanut butter, nutritious cereal and powdered milk. De Bonis' office is located at 4625 First St., Ste. 100. Donations can be made through Feb. 20. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 223-7143.

Class helps caregivers

The winter/spring series of Parenting Your Aging Parent classes will start from 7 to 9 p.m. Feb. 18. The free classes are facilitated by Ruth Gasten, a parent educator for over 35 years, and are held at the Amador Valley High School library, located at 1155 Santa Rita Road. The topic will be "Depression Takes Its Toll—Among the aged and among the caregivers." Register by calling 426-4280 or visiting www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/adulted.

McNerney to meet with residents

Congressman Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton) will host Congress at your Corner from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Feb. 21 at Big Apple Bagel, 4555 Hopyard Road, Ste. 13. The meetings are part of McNerney's effort to reach out to and hear from citizens in the 11th District.

VFW holds Valentine's Day brunch

The Veterans of Foreign Wars post 6298 hosts the Valentine's Day brunch from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday at the Veteran's Memorial Building, 301 Main St. The VFW put on the event to thank spouses, significant others and friends for the support during the past year. For more information, call Doug Miller at 998-9905.

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

School board delays cuts, for now

Trustees suggest \$197 per parcel rate, ask for draft of tax ballot language

by Emily West

While no reductions were made at Tuesday night's school board meeting, the deadline to make cuts and put a parcel tax on the ballot are nearing.

The Pleasanton Unified School District has identified \$9.7 million in potential budget cuts. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposed budget calls for \$8.7 million in reductions, however, it has yet to be finalized and the district's shortfall could change.

Since the reductions directly impact staff, the board would need to identify what is on the chopping block in order to hand out potential layoff notices by March 15. Final pink slips would be given by May 15.

Several members of the public spoke out in support of PUSD programs and services at the budget workshop as well as the regular board meeting that followed. Parents and educators especially showed concern over losing reading specialists and counselors, which was similar to the comments made last year when the board had to make \$2 million in cuts. The audience also seemed to overwhelmingly support a parcel tax.

Despite the pleas to save programs and positions, the outlook isn't good.

"We have fought and fought for everything on the [potential cut] list," board member Pat Kernan said. "At the end of the day, we're going to have to make these cuts to balance the budget. We have no choice."

Kernan also added that PUSD has reason to be grateful amidst the budget crisis affecting California schools.

"As weak as it is, we're still fortunate that we can balance a budget," he said, adding that about 200 districts are unable to balance the budget and could be assumed by the county.

To help the board gain perspective, the Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) ranked the list on what items to cut before others. The committee—comprised of two board members, two business community members, a representative from the Parent Teacher Association Council and the Parent Faculty Association/Parent Faculty Club, four California School Employees Association

(continued on page 8)



Class of 2013

Twenty-one girls playing for the Pleasanton Rage signed national letters of intent last week, a staggering and proud figure for the soccer club. For more on the college-bound Rage players and the Foothill varsity girls soccer team, turn to sports on page 15.

Services held for Wachovia executive David Ryan

Scores pay tribute to Pleasanton coach, community nonprofit booster

by Janet Pelletier and Jeb Bing

Services were held Thursday in Pleasanton for Wachovia exec David Patrick Ryan, who was tragically killed in a house fire outside Boulder, Colo. Feb. 6.

Hundreds gathered at Valley Community Church Thursday night to remember a man who was well known here as a coach, nonprofit booster, financial advisor and friend.

Ryan, 49, had flown from California to Colorado Feb. 5 to begin the process of selling his father's estate in Louisville, a small town of 25,000 outside of Boulder. His father, Pat Ryan, a former superintendent for Boulder County



David Ryan

schools for 13 years beginning in the 1970s, died Jan. 16. David Ryan was last seen at 9:30 p.m. after reaching Louisville when he picked up a key to his father's home from a neighbor, Don and Hannah Harper, according to the Boulder Daily Camera newspaper. They visited for half an hour before Ryan headed home to go through mail before heading to bed, Don Harper told

the paper.

Around 2 a.m., the Harpers awoke to the sound of police banging on their door and ringing the bell to get them out of the house, Hannah Harper said. Police had noticed flames at the

(continued on page 7)

General Plan delayed again by housing cap dispute

Atty. Gen. Brown, lawsuit contend cap blocks affordable units

by Jeb Bing

Community and city leaders started updating the Pleasanton General Plan in 2003, a hoped-for three-year process that is now completed and waiting for final approval by the Planning Commission and City Council within the next few weeks. But now everyone may have to wait a bit longer.

State Attorney General Edmund G. (Jerry) Brown, in a letter to Janice Stern, the city's principal planner, has questioned the parts of the Environmental Impact Report that accompanies the draft General Plan and, in effect, the plan, itself.

Of particular concern to Brown is the city's imposition of a 29,000-unit housing cap, a measure approved by voters when the last General Plan was adopted in 1996. At the time, with plenty of vacant land zoned for apartment and home construction, the limit wasn't a problem for state housing authorities.

Since then, however, new housing numbers imposed by the state and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) has raised the zoning requirements for more housing, particularly affordable housing for low-to-moderate income families, as the state's population has grown. The state doesn't require that homes be built to accommodate those numbers, only that sufficient land be designated so that the housing can be constructed if developers and market conditions comply.

"By relying on the Housing Cap as justification for preventing more residential units," Brown states in his letter, "the city ignores its obligation to provide for sufficient housing for the region's growing population. No California locality is immune from the legal and practical necessity to expand housing due to increasing

(continued on page 8)

Towne Center Books owner named PDA president

by Jeb Bing

Judy Ditter Wheeler, owner of Towne Center Books on Main Street, was sworn in last week as president of the Pleasanton Downtown Association at the organization's annual dinner meeting at the Pleasanton Marriott Hotel.

Mayor Jennifer Hosterman conducted the ceremony, which included the seating of the PDA's eight-member board of directors for 2009.

Wheeler and the directors take the helm at a time when many downtown businesses and restaurants are facing critical economic challenges. The PDA, along with the city of Pleasanton which financially supports the organization, are intensifying marketing programs to encourage more Pleasanton and Tri-Valley residents to dine and shop locally.

The City Council earlier this month also approved a study of measures the city government could take to attract new businesses to the downtown district and help those already here with incentives to stay and marketing efforts to improve their profitability.

Elected as directors for 2009 are Leslie Braga, owner of Leslie Marie Body & Skin Care; Mike Carey, Investment Real Estate Company; Amy Fitzsimons, Bibiane Bakery; Alexis Glass, Clover Creek; and Brent Alverson, Zippies of Pleasanton.

Also chosen as this year's directors are Michael Hosterman, an attorney in the Law Offices of J. Michael Hosterman; Melanie Sadek, Murphy's Paw; Vera Revelli, owner of the Civic Center Station office building, and Sandi Bohner, Little Valley Winery.

Officers chosen to work with the PDA's new president are Bernie Billen, Valley Community Bank, who will serve as secretary; Doug Linman, Performers Studio, treasurer, and Janet Yarbrough, a certified public accountant who is the organization's president-elect for 2010.

Along with the officers, others also serving on the PDA board are Christine Saldivar, executive director, and Pamela Ott, Pleasanton's economic development director.

The Pleasanton Weekly, which is sponsoring all of the PDA's events this year, donated a full page color advertisement valued at \$1,400. That gift was won by Vic Malatesta, owner of Vic's All Star Kitchen.

At the dinner, Saldivar led a rousing farewell applause to Nickie Hoppe, the organization's well-known event coordinator who is stepping down Feb. 18 to retire. ■



Getting a head start on spring cleaning

Fifth graders from Ms. Ferreira's Walnut Grove Elementary School class recently took part in a service learning assignment. Teams of five students partnered to perform a project which would benefit the community and instill a sense of civic duty and community service.

Last Saturday Paige Sellick, Brett Walsh, Jacob Prado, Sloan Liu and Ricky Howell met under the Main Street bridge to cover graffiti. It took about an hour and they also picked up trash in the area.

The students were required to research the project, write a paper about the topic, and then make an oral presentation about what they learned.

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County assessor may reduce taxes on 100,000 properties

Still, most Prop. 13 indexed parcels lower than now-depressed values

The Alameda County Assessor's office is reminding property owners that it can reassess property at no charge to owners.

The agency said some property taxpayers have received solicitations from private companies promising to secure a reduction in assessed value for a fee.

"This is a service that the County Assessor performs for free," Russ Hall of the Assessor's office said in a statement. "However, taxpayers are encouraged to wait until they receive their annual notification of assessed value from the assessor in July 2009 before deciding if they wish to challenge their 2009-10 assessment or to pay a fee to a third party for assistance."

The assessor is required to assess real estate at the property's Proposition 13 indexed base year value, or at the property's Jan. 1 market value, whichever is less, according to Assessor Ron Thomsen.

Most properties purchased over seven years ago have Proposition 13 base year values well below current market value, even considering the added effect of the 2 percent annual state-mandated inflation index.

Due to the decline in residential real estate values over the last few years, Thomsen said homeowners who purchased their property since Jan. 1, 2002 will be having their properties reviewed before their 2009-10 Proposition 13 assessments are made

to determine if a temporary reduction can be provided. Thomsen estimated that from his staff's early review, as many as 100,000 properties will receive reductions in assessment without any intervention or the need for costly assistance from outside parties.

All property owners will receive a pre-tax bill notification in July, detailing their 2009-10 assessment and indicating any reduction provided, he said.

In his statement, Hall said that, "Paying a private company as much as \$100 for an opinion of value at this time is unnecessary. If the market value of your property has declined below its indexed base year assessed value, you will be assessed at that lower value by the assessor at no charge when he finalizes the assessment roll in late June."

If property taxpayers wish to request an individual informal review of their property's 2009-10 assessed value after receiving the July 2009 notification, they may do so by returning a simple, printable form available on the assessor's website: www.acgov.org/assessor/decline-in-value-forms.htm.

Property owners not in agreement with their 2009-10 assessment, who still wish to formally file an assessment appeal for the 2009-10 tax year will have from July 2, 2009 until Sept. 15, 2009 to file an application with the assessment appeals board.

—Jeb Bing



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Amador moves on to D.C. in 'We the People' civics competition

Foothill trails by 5 points, garnering second place in statewide level last Friday

by Jeb Bing

Amador Valley High School's competition civics team will be competing at the nationwide level of the "We the People" competition after an impressive win last Friday.

Pleasanton's two high schools garnered first and second-place finishes in the competition. Amador won the California state championship, the tenth time that the school topped all other California teams, giving them another chance to

compete in the national competition scheduled for April.

Foothill High School finished second, with Arcadia High taking third. There was only a 5-point spread between Amador and Foothill's score. Centennial High School in Bakersfield finished fourth among 12 teams from high schools in the state that competed.

After two days of simulated hearings, during which students were required to apply constitutional principles and historical facts to

contemporary situations, the class from Amador emerged as the state champion.

According to Attorney Ben Glickman, a former "We the People" participant, this is the eighth year that Amador competition civics teams have won state championships and competed in the national contest. He said the school fielded teams in the nationals in 1994, 1996, 2000, 2004, 2006, 2007 and 2008. In 1995, Amador won the national championship. ■

Student infection not dangerous

by Jeb Bing

Further testing has revealed that what was initially believed by health professionals to be a MRSA infection in an Amador student has determined that it was not that strain of resistant bacteria.

A student at Amador Valley High School was under a medical quarantine early last week after testing positive for a Staph infection, according to school district officials. At the time, the infection was believed to be a highly communicable strain, clinically called Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA). Further tests showed, however, it was a non-communicable strain.

Myla Y. Grasso, the district's public information officer, said district staff cleaned areas including the gym and locker room with hospital-grade disinfectant.

"Usually, an affected person is no longer communicable after being on antibiotics for 24 hours," she said. "The student will return to school only after being cleared by a physician. There have been previous occurrences of MRSA in our district, but to the best of our knowledge, there has never been a case that has spread from student to student," she added.

The infection is commonly found on the nose and on skin surfaces. To most, it's not serious and can be treated by antibiotics, but can be harmful if it gets into an open wound and reaches the bloodstream. ■

Ryan

(continued from page 5)

Ryan house while patrolling the neighborhood, and firefighters arrived shortly afterward, discovering Ryan's body near the front door.

Louisville fire investigators believe the fire began in the kitchen, possibly from a gas range. The cause of the house fire will be ruled accidental. No evidence of arson was found at the scene of the fire, which took firefighters 45 minutes to get under control. It's not clear when the fire began.

Ryan was born July 17, 1959 in Greeley, Colo. to Barnard D. Pat and Mary Ryan. He grew up in Boulder and graduated from Fairview High School in 1977. In 1984, he graduated from Abilene Christian University in Texas with a bachelor's degree in business administration.

Soon after completing his education, he married Lynn Schrader on Aug. 11, 1984. For the next three years, he worked for the Church of Christ in Boulder and Oakland, specifically working with campus students. He began his financial career at Shearson Lehman Hutton in 1987 and had most recently worked with Wachovia Securities in Pleasanton.

A spokeswoman for Wachovia said in a statement, "Our thoughts and condolences are with David's family and friends. He will be very much missed by his colleagues at Wachovia and Wells Fargo."

Because of his admiration and appreciation for those willing to put themselves in harm's way to protect the public, he

devoted himself to the 100 Club of Alameda and Contra Costa County. He was the proud father of three: Trevor, 20, a student at UC Santa Barbara; Stone, 17, a junior at Amador Valley High School; and Malia, 14, a freshman at Amador. He enjoyed coaching many of their soccer, football and basketball teams. He also loved boating and would take friends and family of all ages on a tour around the bay and under the Golden Gate Bridge. In addition to his wife and three children, he is also survived by his sister, Candy Burgard of Lake Havasu City, Ariz.

Family and friends described him as an exceptionally outgoing and inclusive person, always with a smile, a wave, or a kind word of encouragement. He was known to cherish every one of his relationships, new and old and he had a positive personality, always initiating in supporting and uplifting his friends and family.

Ryan was well known in Pleasanton where he was a member of the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce and the Martin C. Kauffman 100 Club of Alameda County, where he was a member of the board of directors. He was often remembered for driving his Ford Bronco with a convertible top around town.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the 100 Club of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties at www.100clubalamedacounty.org or by mail: 781 McKean Place, Concord, CA 94518-2835.

Many who knew Ryan have left messages of their condolences and memories on the Pleasanton Weekly's Town Square forum, available at www.pleasanton-weekly.com. ■

Angela Street fire probe winding down

Police sergeant says an outcome possible in next couple weeks

by Janet Pelletier

Without getting into details, a Pleasanton police sergeant said this week that investigators expect to wrap up their examination into a house fire on Angela Street in the next couple of weeks.

Sgt. Jim Knox said police plan to interview Deonna Zuffa, who was the only person in the home at the time of the Dec. 8 fire, soon and expect to have an outcome shortly after that.

Zuffa, 40, has been recovering from second- and third-degree burns she sustained after an explo-

sion and fire damaged her home, located in the 800 block of East Angela Street across from St. Augustine Catholic Church.

Police have classified the incident as "suspicious," but have said little else, other than to eliminate a natural gas line leak as a cause. ■

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Take Us Along

Saluting the Weekly

United States Marine Pfc. Andrew Bowen catches up on the latest news from home he's missed during 13 weeks of basic training at MCRD and Camp Pendleton in San Diego. Here he is pictured on Family Day with parents Jane and George and friend Jen Moog.



School

(continued from page 5)

members, four Association of Pleasanton Teachers members, three site administrators from each elementary, middle and high school levels, two students from each comprehensive high school, and three district office administrators--has discussed the list at meetings on Jan. 8, 22, Feb. 5 and 12.

The process, according to BAC member Peggy Carpenter who spoke at Tuesday's meeting, has been overwhelming because there isn't "fat" to trim.

"We're not cutting fluff," she said. "We're cutting the guts of our school to some degree."

While the board hasn't decided to put the parcel tax on the ballot,

Upcoming school board meetings

Budget workshop: 5 p.m. Feb. 17

Regular meeting: 7 p.m. Feb. 24

All meetings are at the district office, located at 4665 Bernal Ave.

they did request a sample ballot language. The language would be discussed and reviewed at the Feb. 17 meeting. It was also decided that board president Chris Grant and trustee Jim Ott would form a subcommittee to look into details regarding a parcel tax.

Previously the board had made general statements regarding a per-parcel rate would be, but Tuesday

Grant suggested a \$197 rate, which would cover about half of the \$8.7 million shortfall.

The decision to go ahead with the parcel tax would be made by Feb. 24, in order to meet the county's deadline. Superintendent John Casey estimated that a special election could cost \$150,000, however, it may be a shared burden as the state may put an item on the June ballot.

Trustees continued to encourage the community to contact legislators regarding the budget crisis. The PTA Council has put together an online petition to legislatures to oppose cuts to education funding. To sign, visit www.pleasantonpta.org by Feb. 15.

Resources about the district budget, including a frequently asked questions page, can be found at www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us. ■

General Plan

(continued from page 5)

population pressures."

Brown's letter comes as the city is engaged in a lawsuit filed by Urban Habitat and Sandra De Gregorio, a low-income Latina mother and Pleasanton resident. The suit, filed in 2006 and heading to court April 8, states that Pleasanton is "an affluent regional job center that has imposed rigid growth control policies that block residential development, particularly the development of affordable family housing."

The suit is being heard in Alameda County Superior Court with a long list of demurrers, continuances and objections already heard by Judge Frank Roesch. The state Court of Appeal recently rejected Pleasanton's plea to dismiss the lower court case. City Atty. Michael Roush and outside counsel Thomas B. Brown are preparing for a case management con-

ference on April 8.

The Urban Habitat suit challenges Pleasanton's policies and practices that it claims exclude housing for low-income families. It focuses in particular on the city's failure to implement a program in its Housing Element that committed the city to rezone 30-40 acres of commercial land for high-density affordable housing, and the city's housing cap.

Public Advocates, an organization that has joined Urban Habitat in its suit against Pleasanton, claimed that it served a 14-page demand letter on the city in 2006 and, in August of that year, met with city officials, inviting the city to propose a concrete and meaningful proposal for addressing the issues raised in the letter.

The city did not respond to this invitation, according to Richard Marcantonio, managing attorney at Public Advocates, and so the plaintiffs moved ahead with the suit.

The City Council, at the rec-

ommendation of Roush and City Manager Nelson Fialho, decided to contest Public Advocates' bid to overturn the city's housing cap. Pleasanton is one of only a few cities in California with a housing cap, although others are interested in adopting their own, so the case is expected to draw widespread attention throughout the state.

Even so, Brown's objections to the housing cap and his concerns that the General Plan's EIR might not meet all of the provisions in new state measures could delay final approval of the General Plan update. The measures include provisions now required of California cities and counties for climate protection rules on greenhouse gas emissions and a requirement that high density housing be built along transportation corridors, such as BART.

"We are working with the attorney general's office on these issues to work out a solution that is suitable to both the city of Pleasanton and the state," Fialho said. ■

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Opinion

Editorial

‘It saddens me’

Those were the words of school board president Chris Grant Tuesday night as he reviewed a long list of possible program cuts and teacher and administrative layoffs brought on by the state’s looming \$41.6-billion deficit. Grant and fellow board member Jim Ott will now research the language and parameters of a parcel tax that the five-member board indicated it will ask voters to approve in June. This is good. The tax is needed because the state’s financial woes mean that our school district will have to reduce its budget by \$8.7 million during the current and the 2009-10 fiscal years. The proposed parcel tax, likely to be around \$200, could spare up to 50 percent of the cutbacks, if it passes. With the tax measure requiring a two-thirds majority vote of those voting in a special election in June, its approval is by no means certain.

Commentators on the Pleasanton Weekly’s Town Square forum have been arguing the merits of the parcel tax and recommending savings in school district expenditures for more than a month. While most of them are anonymous postings, many are quite thoughtful and worthy of consideration. Here’s one posted a few days ago by a resident of the Golden Eagle neighborhood:

“It is obviously a difficult time for everyone, and it is pretty clear that those who have chosen education as their source of employment are now stunned to find themselves subject to the changing winds of our economic meltdown... You will never see either extreme end of the salary bell curve, but you will make a comfortable living and enjoy the union negotiated benefits of a managed health care plan and full retirement. You may argue amongst yourselves (politely please) where these two items fall on the curve, but this discussion usually digresses to a ‘grass is always greener’ stalemate fairly quickly...

“Now here is where the discomfort starts to intensify. Virtually everyone agrees that our government must spend in accordance with revenues, but no one seems to be able to stay elected and deliver a responsible plan for achieving this goal. In good times and bad our state and our nation has always managed to spend more than it generates... Passing a hasty tax to solve a miniscule portion of this problem will not do much to alleviate the ongoing discourse, but it will likely create another obligation that will never expire. Unfortunately funding derived from taxation becomes such a muddled mess that it becomes virtually impossible for the taxpaying public to decipher what they are paying for and, consequently, are backed into renewing any dated tax under the guise of averting the next service cut crisis.

“The unfortunate fact is that some people are going to lose their jobs because of the current financial climate. Just as with the millions who are facing a similar fate in the private sector, whether this fate is deserved is not really a productive discussion. And while an additional property tax assessment would, optimistically, cover as much as 50 percent of the current proposed cuts, it would do little to solve the ongoing source of the dilemma and add additional burden to the community at a time when financial hardship abounds.

“The school board has stated that they have entered into contracts with the various unions and individuals that are employed by the Pleasanton Unified School District. And thus they are reticent to ask any contracted individual or group to reduce their own pay. And I agree with that. But the unfortunate truth is that a substantial dollar amount will be cut from the personnel budget. How many people those cuts affect is entirely in the hands of the employed group, as a whole.”

There are many more position statements and commentaries of interest to school district employees, parents, students and Pleasanton taxpayers in general. Check it out at www.PleasantonWeekly.com. ■

Code of ethics

The Pleasanton Weekly seeks to adhere to the highest level of ethical standards in journalism, including the Code of Ethics adopted Sept. 21, 1996, by the Society of Professional Journalists. To review the text of the Code, please visit our web site at www.PleasantonWeekly.com

Letters

Let’s find some common ground

Dear Editor,

This letter is to Mike Duarte who wrote in last week, “Obama lovefest will come to an end” (Letters, Jan. 30, page 9) painting a picture of bad times ahead due to the election of Barack Obama to president. Others who feel the same as Mike, please read on.

After reading Mike’s letter, I pulled out my copy of Obama’s 2006 book, “The Audacity of Hope,” to look for a particular passage that defines why I voted for this man. On page 68, you’ll find the following words on empathy from Obama: “I am obligated to try to see the world through George Bush’s eyes, no matter how much I may disagree with him. That’s what empathy does—it calls us all to task, the conservative and the liberal, the powerful and the powerless, the oppressed and the oppressor. We are all shaken out of our complacency. We are all forced beyond our limited vision. No one is exempt from the call to find common ground.”

So, in this spirit, how about looking for common ground, Mike? And we can start here in our own community as neighbors. I may disagree with your views on our new president and I confess my first instinct after reading your letter was to take a polarizing stance for the pro-Obama camp. But I can’t let your dislike for Obama define you, Mike. You’re also a teacher, and a very good one at that, to one of my children. Thank you for this. There’s some common ground. I urge you to search for more.

Ward Kanowsky

Fix 580, 84 first, then extend Stoneridge

Dear Editor,

Well, I guess everyone can be “bought” for a price. In this case, the Pleasanton City Council is willing to compromise the safety and quality of life in our city for Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggarty’s bribe of the Staples Ranch approval.

Desperate to reduce regional traffic by creating a I-580 No. 2, he’s dangled the carrot for the City Council to grab prior to fixing the regional traffic problems including the parking lot on Eastbound 580 every afternoon. So what is our price tag? Why don’t we just put the on-ramp/off-ramp to West Las Positas back in the general plan? How much will you give us for that?

This city rallied around residents and fought hard for the quality of life during those discussions. You know who’s rallying now? The City

of Commerce who want hundreds of 580 commuters to plow straight through our town and stop for gas on their way home to Tracy. Is that the kind of town you want to live in?

And you think we have cut-through traffic via Valley now, when they have to wind around Airway to get to the freeway? Wait until you give them a straight path that leads to within 200 feet of the freeway. It will be a nightmare. Bottom line is this: fix 580 and 84 and we’d be happy to open Stoneridge Drive.

Tom and Tracey Miller

Our teacher lets us make our own choices

Dear Editor,

When I read Mr. Schwaninger’s letter, I felt unhappy that he was saying mean things about our great teacher (“Teachers should remain balanced,” Letters, Feb. 6, page 10).

Ms. Vernon was not telling us to vote for Barack Obama. In fact, I was hoping John McCain would win, but I’m happy with President Obama because I think he’s going to be a very good president. Ms. V wants us to have our own thoughts and ideas and always listens to our opinions. I think that if there is less hate in the world and more forgiveness and understanding, then there might not be any more wars or fighting.

There are so many things that make Ms. Vernon the best teacher ever. She lets us make our own choices and even lets us vote in the class. She even went to our sports games on a Saturday. She helps us a lot and loves us and we are lucky to have her. I was sad that someone wrote such mean things about my nice teacher.

*Christopher Nally
a second-grader in Ms. Vernon’s class*

Where’s the transparency?

Dear Editor,

I watched the council meeting on Feb. 3. I was shocked by the lack of transparency in the process. There seems to be a lot of money at stake for a few people. Where did the \$6 million suddenly come from? Is there corruption involved? I thought the government was broke? I’d like to see the conversation transcripts of what went on to get that kind of money. After the Blagojevich nightmare, I don’t trust any politician when it comes to money.

I’m not making any accusations, but there is a smell factor here. Just curious.

Barry Cass

Stanley improvements not that outrageous

Dear Editor,

Thanks for your recent editorial

(continued on page 10)

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

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Guest Opinion

This downtown resident sees opportunity for change

by Martina Harrison

To Robert W. Byrd: With great interest I read your advertisement in the Pleasanton Weekly, "Downtown" Pleasanton Part II. We did move downtown eight years ago, lured by the prospect of having a useful area of shops, stores and restaurants in walking distance. Since then, Kolln Hardware and the little grocery store closed to make room for more spas and eateries. Sadly there are also a growing number of unoccupied buildings.



There seems to be an array of problems:

- Extremely high rents for often very old buildings in dire need of renovation.
- A somewhat limited variety of stores.
- The fact that we have "a one main street" situation is a problem because if you do not have a place to walk to or fro, the desire to walk

at all diminishes.

- We are missing places where people can gather, like in front of the Tully's building you mentioned. And it is very obvious by how many people take to that area how important it is for a functioning town to have depth.

- We have no parking structure, which would allow for the shopping street and the restaurant business to be less congested with cars in the peak hours. This would also allow the widening of the pedestrian areas for outdoor seating and better "strolling." I do see that as a disadvantage compared to cities like our neighbor Livermore, Santa Cruz and San Luis Obispo.

On a personal note, so far, I also noticed that there is little room for the next generation. My teenager cannot wait to get out of Pleasanton. I can't see that happening so much in Walnut Creek, which has, like Livermore, a movie house in downtown. It saddens me that I seem to live in a typical small town with no place to go for somebody who is young and has a small budget.

I'd like to make a couple of sug-

gestions:

- If the Pleasanton Hotel gets rented out again, it would be very nice if the fence would come down and allow for a place like in front of Tully's.

- A workshop for the general public, so that we can formulate our desires and proposals and what we think our city might need to hold us to it and hold us living here.

- Furthermore I'd like to see schools involved. Ask the kids in middle and high schools what they would like to see happen so that they too can enjoy our town. Even if they might want a fun park in the middle of town, it might be food for thought.

- Have the students at art/tech schools compete for the best ideas as a semester project.

- Have renowned architects compete for an award in what could be a very attractive city revival project.

Thank you Mr. Byrd for having taken on "Project Pleasanton."

Martina Harrison is a graduate from a German art college with a major in architecture and city planning. She has a small family business and lives with her husband and children in Pleasanton.

Letters

(continued from page 9)

about the beautification project on Stanley Boulevard, ("Let's beautify Stanley Boulevard some other time," Editorial, Jan. 30, page 9). A couple of thoughts for you to consider:

- By the standards of the Tri-Valley, Stanley Boulevard is probably the most visually unappealing and heavily traveled road in the area;

- The City of Pleasanton spends lots of money on beautification projects (Vineyard Avenue, for example) so they might be a good source of additional funds for the schools;

- On the topic of school funding, let's take extraordinary steps in these difficult financial times and ask the parents to make up the shortfall with direct fees, assessments and other charges; increased consumerism by parents and their kids might boost

test scores.

Thanks for taking the time to read my letter.

John Vashon, Livermore

Don't stir pot of hysteria

Dear Editor,

Do you realize just how many cases of MRSA are out there right now? ("Amador student tests positive for staph infection," News, Feb. 6, page 7) Why in the world would you write about one student from Amador? Merely to create hysteria based on ignorance? People in the grocery store, library, gym, every other school in the district has cases of MRSA, and chicken pox and the flu and other communicable diseases.

It is non-medically educated people such as yourself who stir the pot of hysteria when it is so unnecessary. Try talking to a physician before you spread this kind of "news."

Lina Miller

Your Turn

The Pleasanton Weekly encourages comments on our coverage or issues of local interest.

Submit letters to the editor of up to 250 words and guest opinion pieces up to 500 words with a short bio to editor@PleasantonWeekly.com. Include your name, address and daytime phone number so we can reach you. We reserve the right to edit contributions for length, objectionable content, libel and factual errors known to us. Anonymous letters will generally not be accepted.

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Continuing Life Communities Pleasanton LLC, dba Stoneridge Creek Pleasanton, has received authorization to accept deposits from the California Department of Social Services.



Community Pulse

Police Bulletin

Help for parents

The Pleasanton Unified School District, Amador Valley Adult & Community Education and the Pleasanton Police Department are partnering to offer the spring class of the Parent Project. The nationally recognized program is for parents of strong-willed or out-of-control adolescent teens. It teaches concrete prevention, identification and effective intervention strategies for the most destructive behaviors. Parents will learn:

- How to improve school attendance and performance;

- How to prevent alcohol and other drug use;
- How to provide effective interventions for violent or out of control teens;
- How to improve communication between parents and teens.

Classes will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Tuesdays starting Feb. 17 through May 5 at the Pleasanton Police Department, 4833 Bernal Ave. The cost for the class is \$95 per parent which includes class costs and a workbook. There is a discount for couples and financial assistance is available.

Register by contacting the Amador Adult School at 426-4280 or online at www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/adulted, following the link to new classes and then clicking on Parent Education.

Police Report

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

Jan. 31

- 1:38 p.m. in the 9000 block of Longview Drive; petty theft
- Burglary:
 - 10:43 a.m. in the 6200 block of Roslin Court; vehicular
 - 3:45 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Feb. 1

- Theft:
 - 1:18 p.m. in the 1700 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft
 - 5:31 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft
- Vehicular burglary:
 - 12:05 p.m. in the 7900 block of Paragon Circle; vehicle break-in
- Drug/alcohol violations:
 - 1:20 a.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and Sutter Gate Avenue; under the influence of a controlled substance
 - 3:57 p.m. in the 1 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; public drunkenness
 - 5:35 p.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Hopyard Road; DUI
 - 8:50 p.m. in the 3200 block of Santa Rita Road; DUI

Feb. 2

- Theft:
 - 8:49 a.m. in the 3300 block of Prairie Drive; grand theft
 - 2:07 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft
- Vehicular burglary:
 - 8:08 a.m. in the 11900 block of Dublin Canyon Road
 - 9:53 a.m. in the 4800 block of Muirwood Drive
 - 1:51 p.m. in the 4200 block of Rosewood Drive
- Burglary:
 - 11:19 a.m. in the 2900 block of Moreno Avenue
- Vandalism:
 - 10:04 a.m. in the 4200 block of Rosewood Drive; worth more than \$400

Feb. 3

- Theft:
 - 7:16 p.m. in the 7200 block of Hickorywood Lane; identity theft
 - 7:56 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; stolen property possession
- Burglary:
 - 10:01 a.m. in the 3200 block of

- Vineyard Avenue
 - 9:44 p.m. in the 11900 block of Dublin Canyon Road; vehicular
- Vandalism:
 - 2:57 p.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue
- Underage alcohol possession:
 - 3:02 a.m. at the intersection of Kolln Street and Dundalk Court
- Battery:
 - 7:31 a.m. in the 4400 block of Clovewood Lane

Feb. 4

- Theft:
 - 12:20 a.m. in the 5500 block of Paseo Navarro; grand theft
 - 8:42 a.m. in the 1000 block of Crellin Road; grand theft
 - 10:35 a.m. in the 4000 block of Alderwood Court; identity theft
 - 3:33 p.m. in the 1700 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
 - 6:26 p.m. in the 4100 block of Las Positas Boulevard; petty theft
- Vehicular burglary:
 - 2:54 p.m. in the 4400 block of Muirwood Drive
- Driving with marijuana:
 - 1:40 a.m. in the 3900 block of Santa Rita Road
- Assault with a deadly weapon:
 - 7:38 p.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue; disturbing the peace

Feb. 5

- Theft:
 - 12:25 a.m. in the 200 block of Abbie Street; identity theft
 - 12:39 a.m. in the 1200 block of

- Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft
- 12:48 a.m. in the 800 block of East Angela Street; forgery
- 11:04 a.m. in the 4600 block of Willow Road; grand theft
- 3:28 p.m. in the 5900 block of Corte Cerritos; grand theft, identity theft
- 4:38 p.m. in the 2300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft
- Vandalism:
 - 9:19 a.m. in the 7300 block of Johnson Drive; worth less than \$400
 - 8:20 p.m. in the 2000 block of Eilene Drive
- Public drunkenness:
 - 9:20 p.m. in the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard
- Battery:
 - 9:39 p.m. in the 4400 block of Fairlands Drive

Feb. 6

- Theft:
 - 11:50 a.m. in the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road; forgery
 - 3:30 p.m. in the 800 block of Rose Avenue; identity theft
- Burglary:
 - 9:07 a.m. in the 4900 block of Owens Drive; vehicular
 - 9:48 p.m. in the 5100 block of Independence Drive
- Loitering on school grounds:
 - 5:47 p.m. in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road



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WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

City Council

Tuesday, February 17, 2009 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Continued from January 6, 2009 – Public Hearing: PUD-74, Ponderosa Homes - Consider an application for Planned Unit Development (PUD) development plan approval to construct 110 detached single-family homes for residents aged 55 and older at 1 Reimers Drive in the Ironwood Development; and consider the Negative Declaration
- Continued from January 20, 2009 – Public Hearing: PUD-76, Nathaniel Morales/Cody White Consider an application to rezone an approximately 7,500 square foot parcel located at 344 and 346 West Angela Street from the RM-1,500 (Multiple Family Residential) District to the PUD HDR (Planned Unit Development – High Density Residential) District and for Planned Unit Development plan approval to remodel and convert the existing duplex unit into one single family residential home and to construct two new attached single-family units in the rear of the property
- Continued from February 3, 2009 – Public Hearing: PAP-131 (PCUP 224), Little Ivy League School – Consider an appeal of the Planning Commission's approval of a conditional use permit to operate a tutorial school with a maximum of 90 students at 5925 West Las Positas Boulevard, Suite 200

City Council – Special Meeting

Tuesday, February 24, 2009 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Continued from February 3, 2009 – Public Hearing: PSP-11 and PRZ-44, Stoneridge Drive Specific Plan Amendment/Staples Ranch Project:
 - a) Consider approval of Staples Ranch Development related documents including the Environmental Impact Report (EIR), Environmental Findings, Statement of Overriding Considerations, Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan, the Stoneridge Drive Specific Plan Amendment (Staples Ranch Project), Rezoning/Pre-zoning of Staples Ranch Property to the Planned Unit Development (PUD) District.
 - b) Consider whether the full extension of Stoneridge Drive should be a part of the Stoneridge Drive Specific Plan Amendment/Staples Ranch Project.

Housing Commission

Thursday, February 19, 2009 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Review of Affordable Housing Proposal for a 12-Unit Addition to Civic Square Apartments (4800 Bernal Avenue)
- Administrative Policy to Prioritize Water and Sewer Service for Residential Developments Serving Low Income Households
- Summary of CDBG Applications Received by February 2 Deadline

Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Wednesday, February 18, 2009 @ 6:30 p.m.
Council Chamber Conference Room, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

- Update on Pedestrian & Bicycle Master Plan
- Bicycle Detection at Traffic Signals

GENERAL INFORMATION

Callippe Preserve Golf Course Hosts Free Junior Clinic for Kids
Callippe Preserve Golf Course in Pleasanton will host a 'Free Junior Clinic' for youth ages 7 to 17 on **Saturday, February 21, 2008, at 2:00 p.m.** Golf professionals from the Callippe staff will be on hand to provide instruction on full swing at the course driving range in this one-hour free clinic. Golf clubs and balls will be provided, or participants may bring their own clubs if they prefer. For more information or to register for this free clinic, please contact Doug or Jake at (925) 426-6666, or visit the Callippe Preserve Golf Shop. Callippe Preserve Golf Course is located at 8500 Clubhouse Drive in Pleasanton.

**ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
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The above represents a sampling of upcoming meeting items.
For complete information, please visit
www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/community/calendar



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Transitions

Obituaries

Homer Hughes

Homer Hughes died Jan. 29 at the age of 80.

Mr. Hughes was a native of Oklahoma and a resident of Pleasanton since 1954.

He was very athletic and in his youth, played semi-pro baseball. In later years, he played lob ball and was president of the league and rounded out his career in sports by playing bocci ball. He passed on his love of sports to his children and grandsons who all played sports and whenever possible, he was there to watch them play.

Mr. Hughes looked forward to his family vacations in Lake Tahoe and on the coast. He was generous and giving, a man for whom his family always came first, but he also enjoyed visiting with friends and neighbors.

He is survived by his loving wife, Cecilia, his "doll" of 56 years; daughters, Ricki (Frank) Coryell and Vickie Hughes and

partner Erma; son, David (Susie) Hughes; grandsons, Brian (Katie) Coryell, Daryl (Chrystal) Coryell, Aron Hughes and Adam Hughes; great-grandson, Chayce Coryell; and many nieces and nephews, especially Phil Lang and George Oxsen.

Michael James McDonald

Michael James McDonald died Feb. 5 at the age of 46.

Mr. McDonald, a Pleasanton resident, was born Oct. 30, 1962. He grew up in San Leandro and graduated from San Leandro High School, Class of 1980.

Mr. McDonald loved "The Simpsons," classic TV, rock and roll music and going to concerts.

He was preceded in death by Edwin and Charlescie McDonald and his niece, Jenny. He is survived by his sister, Susan Murphy and her husband, Chuck of Modesto; brother, Richard McDonald and his wife, Gloria, also from Modesto; brother, David McDonald and his wife, Ann from Tennessee; nieces and nephews, Chris, Paula, Sara, Nikki, Kim, Stephanie, Juleon,

Alex, Kalli, Lucky and Chance and FCT.

Family and friends are invited to attend a memorial service at 2 p.m. Feb. 13 at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First St. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a cancer society.

Births

The following information on Pleasanton births was provided by ValleyCare Medical Center.

Dec. 29

Jee-Yeun and Wallace Wong, a boy

Marymae Ingles and Michael Martinetti, a boy

Jan. 6

Swathy and Venkat Natala, a girl

Jan. 7

Rachel Yoon and Sewuk Chang, a boy

Jan. 8

Stella and Sameer Advani, a girl

Jan. 22

Emily and Daniel Genzale, a girl

Engagements

Amy Hogan & David Buitenhek

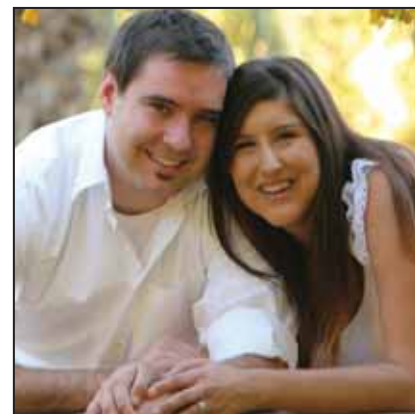
Amy Hogan, daughter of Tom and Tracy Hogan of Pleasanton, is engaged to marry David Buitenhek June 6 in San Diego.

Amy is a graduate of Amador Valley High School, class of 2002. She is the human resource and operations manager for two Hilton Hotels in Del Mar, Calif.

The couple met at San Diego State University, where they graduated in 2006, both with Bachelor of Science degrees.

David Buitenhek of San Diego, son of Peter and Kristine Buitenhek, also of San Diego, graduated from Mount Carmel High School in 2002. David is a senior applications specialist for ActiveNetwork in San Diego.

The couple resides in San Diego, where they plan to make their home after a honeymoon in the Caribbean.



Deaths, Weddings and Births

are a free editorial service. Information should be submitted, typewritten or emailed no later than Monday at 5 p.m. Send to:

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 5506 Sunol Blvd., Ste. 100
 Pleasanton, CA 94566

Or fax: (925) 600-9559

Or e-mail:
 editor@PleasantonWeekly.com (subject: Transitions)

Please include a contact name and telephone number. Not responsible for lost photos. Information how to send a photo digitally can be found on the Weekly's website: www.PleasantonWeekly.com.

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Calendar

Auditions

'A Summer Carnival' Male

Auditions Valley Dance Theatre will host male auditions for "A Summer Carnival" at 8:15 p.m., Wednesday, March 4, at Valley Dance Theatre (studio), 2247 Second St., Suite B, Livermore. No experience necessary. Call 243-0925 or visit www.valleydance theatre.com.

Author Visits

Adventures of Eddie Fung Judy Yung, author of "The Adventures of Eddie Fung," will be speaking at 2 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 22, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Eddie Fung was the Chinese American soldier to be captured by the Japanese during World War II and put to work on the Burma-Siam railroad. This event is free. Call 931-3405.

B. Lynn Goodwin Towne Center Books will host B. Lynn Goodwin author of, "You Want Me to Do What? Journaling for Caregivers," at 11 a.m., Wednesday, Feb. 18, at the book store, 555 Main St. This event is free. Call 846-8826.

Read It and Eat with Tiffany Baker Towne Center Books will host Tiffany Baker author of, "The Little Giant of Aberdeen," at 11:30 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 26, at the book store, 555 Main St. Cost is \$30 for both lunch and the book; \$15 for lunch only. Reservations are required; call 846-8826.

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.

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.

'Parenting Your Aging Parent' The winter/spring series of "Parenting Your Aging Parent" classes will start at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 18, at Amador Valley High School, Library Conference Room B, 1155 Santa Rita Rd. The topic of the February class will be "Depression Takes its Toll-Among the Aged and Among the Caregivers." Call 426-4280 or visit www.pleasanton.k12.us/adulted.

Astronomy Class Learn to identify bright stars and constellations with astronomer Rob Drew from 7-9 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 26 and March 5, at Village High School, 4645 Bernal Ave. Cost is \$45, including a handout. Call 426-4280.

Basic Yoga Class Beth Fox instructs this yoga class that meets from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Mondays at Lynnewood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave. No previous yoga experience necessary. Limited class supplies available. Fees are \$12 for drop-in or \$10 for

pre-paid series. Inquire about seniors or students rates. Call 200-4060.

Clubs

Amador Valley Quilters Meeting

This club will host Karen Flamme who will talk about "Cultivating Creativity: Don't Hem Me In" from 1:30-4:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 14, at Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave. All are welcome.

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

Pleasanton Mothers Club The Pleasanton Mothers Club provides a social, supportive and educational outlet for moms and their families in the local community. They meet at 7 p.m. the third Tuesday monthly. Call 927-2444 or visit www.pleasanton-mothersclub.org.

Tri-Valley Holistic Moms Network Tri-Valley Holistic Moms Network presents "Toxins in Beauty Products" at 7 p.m., Monday, Feb. 16, at Living Vine Fellowship, 4100 First St. Stacy Malkan author of, "Not Just a Pretty Face: The Ugly Side of the Beauty Industry" will speak. This event is free for members and first time visitors. Contact Tri-ValleyHMN@hotmail.com.

Concerts

34th Annual Campana Jazz Festival Annual all-day educational jazz festival featuring 43 ensembles, 25 schools and over 800 students from 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 14, at Amador Valley High School, 1155 Santa Rita Rd. Admission is \$6; children under 5 years old are free. Call 426-7223 or visit www.amadorband.org.

Broadway Chorus Registration The Broadway Chorus is looking for new,

enthusiastic singers. Come and sing from 6-8 p.m., Sundays, until March 8, at 5200 Case St. Prior musical experience is not necessary and auditions are not required. Cost is \$50. Call 462-2121 or visit www.broadwaychorus.org. Registration Sunday, Feb. 8 at 5200 Case St. Pleasanton.

Brubeck Brothers Quartet The Brubeck Brothers Quartet will perform at 8 p.m., Friday, Feb. 13, at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd. The group has performed at concert series, colleges and jazz festivals across North America. Tickets are \$20, \$25 and \$30 for adults; \$15, \$18 and \$21 for students. Visit www.civcartstickets.org.

Schubert and Stravinsky Come hear Schubert's exquisite serenade for strings and winds and Stravinsky's evocative Soldier's Tale at 8 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 19, at Bankhead Theater, 2400 1st St., Livermore. Tickets are \$38, \$32 and \$26 for adults; \$7 for students. Call 373-6800.

Seventh Annual Youth Music Festival Solo vocalists, instrumentalists, and vocal and instrumental ensembles, ages 18 and under, will perform at 8 p.m., Friday, Feb. 20, at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Tickets are \$7 in advance; \$10 at the door. Call 931-3444.

Events

Barrel Tasting Get a taste of the future by sampling un-released wines right from the barrel from noon-5 p.m., Saturday-Monday, Feb. 14-16, at Fenestra Winery, 83 Vallecitos Rd., Livermore. Winemaker Brent Amos and owner Lanny Replogle will share interesting tid-bits and facts. This event is free. Call (800) 789-WINE (789-9463) or visit www.fenestrawinery.com.

Hometown Teen Talent Contest Performers Studio, in concert with KKIQ radio and other hometown supporters, are holding a Teen Talent Contest for individual singers, actors and musicians from 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 21, at 3450 Conerstone

Ct. Participants should have one performance piece ready. Cost is \$5 per contestant. Call 548-4036 or visit www.performersstudio.org.

Exhibits

'Treasures of the Tri-Valley II: Tri-Valley on the Move' Museum on Main will host the exhibit "Treasures of the Tri-Valley II: Tri-Valley on the Move" until March 7. The exhibit will feature items relating to transportation from local collectors. The museum is open from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Wednesday-Saturday and 1-4 p.m., Sunday. Admission is a \$2 donation. Call 462-2766 or visit www.museumonmain.org.

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.

Film

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

Bingo Bash Italian Catholic Federation Branch #285 will host a Bingo Bash at 7 p.m., Friday, Feb. 20, at St. Michael's Parish Hall, 372 Maple St., Livermore. Cost is \$10 per person, including one bingo packet for 10 games. Proceeds

benefit Children's Hospital-Oakland, Cooley Anemia Research and Tri-Valley Scholarship. Reservations are due by Feb. 17; call Rose at 846-4227 or Helen at 462-3798.

Book Locker Books Fundraiser BookLockerBooks.com sponsors several local charities including Amador Valley High School. During February 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 or call You-Be's at 462-3500.

Monte Carlo Casino Night A fun evening of gaming, food, dancing and fun with live and silent auctions will start at 7 p.m., Friday, Feb. 27, at Castlewood Country Club, 707 Country Club Dr. Cost is \$50, including \$15 in gaming tokens and appetizers. Proceeds benefit Vintage Hills Elementary's technology, art and literacy programs. Call 216-4863.

Health

Boost Your Brain Typical signs of brain aging aren't inevitable and are actually preventable. A free interactive talk will teach you about specific brain disorders and how lifestyle choices affect your mental health from 6:30-7:15 p.m., Monday, Feb. 23, at Amador Valley Chiropractic, 148 Ray St., Suite A. Call 484-0191.

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

'Expanding Your Horizons' Conference Sandia National Laboratory, Diablo Valley College, American Association of University Women and Lawrence Livermore

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National Security present "Expanding Your Horizons" conference for girls in grades 6-9. The conference starts at 8:30 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 28, at Diablo Valley College, San Ramon Campus, 1690 Watermill Rd. Cost is \$20. Call 422-2453 or visit <http://tveyh.org>.

Chinese Dance at the Pleasanton Library Experience traditional Chinese dances as Chinese Performing Artists of America perform at 2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 21, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. This event is free and is open to everyone. Call 931-3400, ext. 8.

Cool Science for Kids at the Library The Chabot Space and Science Center brings their traveling science fair to the Pleasanton Public Library with Chabot To Go! from 2-4 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 28. The fair will feature tables of hands-on activities for children kindergarten through 8th grade. No registration required. Call 931-3400, ext. 8.

Storytime Kids five years and older will enjoy a morning of imagination, learning, laughter and old-fashioned fun with master African-American storyteller Diane Ferlatte at 11 a.m., Friday, Feb. 27, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. This event is free. Call 931-3400, ext. 8.

Reflections On Your Future This event is for Tri-Valley 7th and 8th grade female students interested

in math, science, engineering and technology and will meet from 7-8:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 18, at Livermore High School, 600 Maple St. Students will participate in a hands-on workshop of their choosing. This event is free. Call 606-4812, ext. 2330.

Lectures/Workshops

'A Modest PMBOK(R) Proposal' eBig will host "Project Management SIG: 'A Modest PMBOK(R) Proposal: Project Blame Management'" from 6:30-9 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 26, at Sybase, One Sybase Center, Building A, Dublin. Cost is \$10 for guests if they are pre-registered; \$20 at the door. Visit www.ebig.org.

Betty Marvin as Julia Morgan Betty Marvin as Hearst Castle architect Julia Morgan will give a re-enactment at 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 19, at Lynnwood Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave. The lecture is sponsored by the Museum On Main Street. Admission is \$5-\$10. No reservations needed. Call 462-2766.

Make Money with Recession Proof Cashflow Learn how to make loads of money with Laundromats and how to turn your regular tap water into anti-aging, antioxidant and high-alkaline healing water from 6-9 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 18, at the Radisson Hotel, 6680 Regional St., Dublin. This event is free, but registration is required; call 272-4667 or visit <http://feb18.eventbrite.com>.

Science on Saturday Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory will host its popular lecture series "Science on Saturday" at 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m., Saturdays, until Feb. 28, at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Future presentations include "Avoiding Armageddon: Diverting Asteroids With Nuclear Explosives" on Feb. 14; "Star Power on Earth: The Path to a Limitless Clean Energy Future" on Feb. 21; and "It's a Breeze: Using the Wind to Power Our Future" on Feb. 28. Admission is free and is limited on a first-come, first-served basis. Call 422-5059.

Speaker on Jewish Orphanages Speaker from Livermore will discuss living in Jewish orphanage from 4:15-6:15 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 28, at the Bothwell Center, 2466 Eighth St., Livermore. Everyone is welcome

and families may bring activities and snacks for children to enjoy in a near-by room while program is going. This event is free. Call 485-1049.

What Writing and Wishing Have in Common California Writers Club, Tri-Valley Branch, will host Noelle Oxenhandler, author of "The Wishing Year" and professor at Sonoma State, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 21, at Oasis Grille, 780 Main St. Cost is \$21 for members; \$27 for non-members, including lunch. For reservations, call 462-7495.

Live Music

Dessert Dance Dance to the sounds of "Nightlife" from 6:30-9 p.m., Friday, Feb. 20, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$7 for residents; \$8 for non-residents, including dessert. Adults 18 and over are welcome. Advance reservations are recommended. Call 931-5365.

On Stage

'Seussical' Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre (formerly Pleasanton Playhouse) presents "Seussical" at 8 p.m., Friday-Saturday and at 2 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 20-March 15, at Studio Theatre, 1048 Serpentine Lane, Suite 309. For ticket information, call 462-2121 or visit www.trivalleyrep.com.

Tango Fire Founded in 1996 by the distinguished Argentine ballerina and choreographer, Carolina Soler, Buenos Aires' Estampas Portenas is a tango company performing at 8 p.m. Feb. 18 at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets are \$30-\$55 or \$12 for students. Call 373-6800 or visit www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

Political Notes

Joan Buchanan to Speak on the Budget Crisis Assemblymember Joan Buchanan will speak about the California budget crisis, the 2/3 requirement for passing the budget and changing tax policy at 7 p.m., Monday, Feb. 16, at IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy., Dublin. Members will vote on a resolution to support legislation and ballot measure(s). This event is free and everyone is welcome. Call 831-8355.

Recreation

Planting for the Future Join Eric Nicholas, City Naturalist, to learn about the local flora and then help plant some garden favorites from 1-2:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 21, at Alviso Adobe Community Park. Cost is \$16 for residents; \$19 for non-residents. Children under the age of 7 must be accompanied by an adult during the entire class. Call 931-3483.

Winter Warmer Come experience a study of the teas of winter from noon-1 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 14, at Alviso Adobe Community Park. Hear the history of the classic warming refreshment while tasting different teas. Cost is \$16 for residents; \$19 for non-residents. Call 931-3483.

Scholarships

Educators' Scholarship Four scholarships, each worth \$1,250, will be offered to high school graduating seniors and college students. Requirements are applicants must be residents in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin or Sunol who are planning a career in education; must be planning to attend college in the fall of 2009; and college applicants must be sophomores who will continue as juniors in the fall of 2009. Deadline for applications is March 6. Call 443-6097 or visit www.tvrt.info.

Seniors

Intermediate West Coast Swing Class Polish your West Coast Swing dance techniques and routines with instructor Lois Hilton Wednesdays, Feb. 4-18, at Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd. At lease one year of ballroom training is recommended; dance shoes are required. Cost is \$15 for three classes. Call 556-4511.

Nintendo Wii for Seniors Pleasanton Senior Center offers Wii bowling, tennis and baseball with instruction provided by students from Amador High School Leadership from 3:30-4:30 p.m., every Wednesday, until April 8, at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. These classes are free. Call 931-5365.

Senior Center VIP Club This club is offering three trips during the spring including a trip to the Jackson Casino from 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Wednesday, March 18 (cost is \$27 for members; \$29 for non-members); Monterey Movie Tour including lunch at Pebble Beach from 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Wednesday, April 22 (cost is \$123; reservations are due by March 20); and a trip to the Ironstone Vineyards and Murphy's from 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Wednesday, May 13 (cost is \$79 for members; \$81 for non-members). Reservations are required for all; call 931-5365 or visit the Travel Desk at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd.

Spiritual

'Enlightening Up: the Roadmap of Spiritual Enlightenment' Rev. Steve Maynard of Tri-Valley Unity Church will apply concepts from "The Third Jesus" in his Sunday morning talk at 10 a.m., Sunday, Feb. 15, at the Radisson, 6680 Regional St., Dublin. Ongoing classes and groups are available. Call 829-2733 or visit www.trivalleyunity.com.

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

A Quick Journey Through the Bible CCOP Evangelization Committee presents a Catholic Bible learning system that makes the complex simple by teaching the story of the Bible. Meet from 7-9 p.m., every Monday

until April 27, at St. Elizabeth Seton Chapel, 4001 Stoneridge Dr. Cost is a suggested donation of \$20 to cover cost of materials. Call 352-8447.

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.

Faith Chapel Assembly of God Faith Chapel Assembly of God, 6656 Alisal St., has Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 a.m. and worship at 10:30 a.m., with nursery for both services. Children's church, ages 3-12, meets at 11:15 a.m. Women's Bible study meets at 10 a.m. Wednesdays. A prayer at 6 p.m. is held the first and third Monday of the month. Call 846-8650 for more programs.

Meditation and Yoga Groups People of all faiths are welcome to enrich your spirituality through guided meditation and yoga classes. The meditation group meets at 5 p.m., Sundays; the Yoga with Meditation group meets at 7 p.m., Wednesday. This event is free. For more information, contact Kathy at 416-0205 or waterfall0529@att.net.

Sports

Pleasanton Foothill Little League Sign-Ups Pleasanton Foothill Little League is accepting enrollment for boys and girls for most ages. All Pony players are welcome. Opening Day is March 14. Visit www.pfllonline.org.

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.

Youth Track and Field Catholic Community of Pleasanton will hold a parent/athlete information and registration meeting at 1:30 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 22, at St. Augustine's Hall, 3999 Bernal Ave. The program is open to children in grades K-8th from Pleasanton, Dublin or Sunol. Information available at www.eteamz.com/ccop.

Support Groups

Crohns and Ulcerative Colitis Support Group This support groups meets at 6:30 p.m. the third Thursday of every month at the ValleyCare Health Library, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Ste. 270. Walk-ins are welcome. Feel free to bring a guest. Call 462-6764 or 846-4653.

Deaf Counseling Advocacy and Referral Agency This group will host a meeting of the Hearing Loss Association of America at 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 19, at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Pkwy. Guest speaker will be Linda Drattell, a Hard of Hearing/Late Deafened Support Specialist. The meeting is open to the public. Call Hiram at 455-6591.

Vision Support Group Individuals with low vision, and their loved ones, are invited to join us on the third Tuesday of each month from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Join us for low vision information, speakers, resources, discussions, and day trips. No reservations are required. Nominal fees may apply. Call 931-5369.

TV30

Let's Talk Sports TV30's legendary sports authority, George "Dr. B" Baljevich, Oakland As special: the 40th anniversary team show with Vida Blue, Dave Stewart and more will broadcast at 9:30 a.m., 3 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., Monday-Friday; 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., Saturday; and noon, 6:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m., Sunday.

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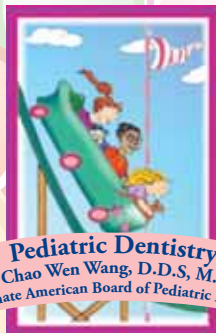
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Sports

Parent photographers

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

Falcons face Amador on home turf tonight

A standing room-only crowd of family and friends overwhelmed the Livermore-Danville rooms at the Pleasanton Marriott Feb. 5 as 21 Pleasanton Rage players signed national letters of intent to continue their soccer careers at the college and university level.

Guest speakers included Judy Coffman (Rage 2003, University of Michigan), Kendra Perry (Rage 2007, Santa Clara University), Katie Mahoney (Rage 2003, Arizona State) and Erica Carlson from Excellence in Sports Performance and Rage consulting psychologist.

Players signing letter of intent were: Megan Barrett, UC Davis; Krista Bormann, Southern Oregon University; Rachel Clark, UC

Berkeley; Samantha Cloutier, George Washington University; Maddie Fox, Notre Dame; Marisa Fraticelli, SDSU; Caitlin Harper, Cal Poly; Megan Jurado, SDSU; Olivia Klei, Santa Clara; Raylene Larot, University of Nevada Reno; Esther Leon, University of Nevada Reno; Shelby Lewis, UC Riverside; Ashley Loughmiller, Washington State University; Amanda Luxford, Arizona State; Ashlyn Mazur, USF; Rachael McGlinchy, SDSU; Sophie Metz, UCLA; Carlee Payne, BYU; Maddie Payne, Boston College; Amanda Simat, SJSU and Ahsha Smith, UCLA.

Rage Technical Director Philippe Blin commended the girls on their outstanding achievements and suc-

cess both on and off the field. The Pleasanton Rage Girls Soccer Club is a community based girls club with 2000 girls in programs ranging from recreational to elite soccer. Since 2001 the Rage club has graduated 133 players who have gone on to play soccer for colleges and universities. For more information about the Rage and its programs visit the club's website at www.pleasantonrage.org.

Twelve senior Rage girls who are on the Foothill varsity soccer team, will soon be headed to the playoffs in what has been an astonishing season. As of press time, the team was 17-0 after edging out San Ramon Valley 3-2 last Friday. They face Amador tonight at 6 p.m. at Foothill High School.

Sweet victory for Rage U11 AC White

The U11 Division 1, AC (White) team from Pleasanton Rage was on fire during the NorCal State Cup games in Manteca last weekend, taking both games. They'll play in the State Cup final Saturday.

In the quarterfinal game Saturday against Mustang Courage, Rage had the ball at the opposing end of the field for most of the game, however Courage managed to score on a breakaway. With just minutes left in regulation play, Monica Martinez passed to Julia Densmore who scored the tying goal. Shortly after overtime began, Densmore received the ball on passes connected by Lisa DeFeo and Madison Avery and blasted the ball into the corner of the net for the game-winning goal, winning 2-1.

In the semifinal game Sunday, Rage played like a well-oiled machine against the Marin Rockers with notable performances by Madison



The Rage U11 AC girls celebrate their winning goal in overtime after Feb. 7's game against Mustang Courage. No. 17, Julia Densmore, lifts Sadie Moore.

Avery, Taylor Campbell, Jenna Crawford, Darcy Kron and Sadie Moore. Goalies Juliet Allen and Bryanna Schreiber kept the ball out of the net to hold the Rockers scoreless, including a magnificent

save by Schreiber on a penalty kick. Shots on goal were taken by Avery, Moore and DeFeo. Rage won the game 2-0 on two goals by Densmore, with assists by Makenna Elias and Moore.

Aura takes wrestling tournament

Foothill senior Chase Aura took the 119-pound championship at the Mission San Jose Invitational Tournament last weekend.

Entering as the No. 1 seeded wrestler at 119 pounds, Aura got two quick pins on the first day to qualify for the second day. Day two began with a major victory in the quarter finals against San Marin to bring up a semi-final bout against Waldren of Granada. Aura pinned Waldren, who wrestled tough, in the semis to set up a championship final against the No. 2 seed, Eric Perez, from James Logan.

Aura took the title with a late push to defeat Perez by a score of 5-1.

Amador boys stun Mustangs 2-1, clinch NCS

Amador successfully fought off Monte Vista Tuesday night for a playoff berth in the NCS.

The boys' varsity soccer team, which includes 12 seniors, played some stiff competition, stunning Monte Vista in the final 12 minutes of the game.

After attaining a 1-0 lead, Monte Vista continued to pressure the Dons, but Amador was up to the challenge. At 67:30, John Torquato took the throw and sent a long ball. The ball hit the turf and bounced long to a waiting George Mayer who unleashed a laser that beat the Mustang keeper to tie the match at 1-1. The Dons kept the pressure on the Mustang goal and at 70:14,

scored the tie breaker on a crazy sequence.

The win moved the Dons EBAL record to 8-3-2 and 13-6-4 overall. Amador finished the EBAL season against Foothill Thursday night.

Sign-ups for Little League

Pleasanton Foothill Little League is still accepting enrollment for most ages. Sign up your son or daughter by visiting www.pflonline.org. Currently, the Major Division is full to all 12-year-olds who wish to play Majors. Players interested will be put on a wait list and if there are any spots that open up, they will be filled first come first served from the wait list. The AAA division is still open to registration for 12-year-olds. Opening Day is March 14.

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Staying close is key this long Valentine

A LOCAL KIND

by Emily West

Staycation—one of the latest buzzwords in these times of trimmed budgets—may be the key for the extended Valentine's Day and President's Day weekend. Whether it's checking out some local wineries or dancing the night away on the USS Hornet, there are plenty of ways to celebrate the season of love locally.

Visit a local winery

The Livermore Valley wine country has produced world-class wines and many will be poured over the long weekend. Even with the growing popularity and award-winning wines, the local wineries remain humble.

Chris Chandler, executive director of the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association, said the intimate experience at Livermore Valley is unmatched in other regions.

"Often, the person behind the counter is the winemaker," she said. "There is a high probability you will get to meet them. There are so many personalities and stories, everyone has a different reason they came to be a winemaker."

The wineries, many of them boutique wineries which produce less than 5,000 cases each year, are very close together and have tastings at little or no cost. Even if residents have gone to a few, with more than 40 wineries spanning from Livermore to Castro Valley, there are always more to discover.

"Part of having a weekend or a day off is to pamper yourself," Chandler said. "[This weekend's event] allows you to do that and still be back at home for dinner. Or you can stay in downtown Livermore or Pleasanton and go out."

Listed below are a few participating wineries, and more can be found at LVwine.org. There is also a feature to pre-select wineries to visit and it will create a map with directions to each destination.

Sounds sweet

Pleasanton is going to be bursting with talent as the second annual Campana Jazz Weekend comes to town, presented by Amador Friends of Music, the Pleasanton Public Library and Civic Arts.

It begins tonight at 8 when the Brubeck Brothers Quartet takes the Amador Theater. The group features two members of one of America's

A sampling of the weekend's winery events

McGrail Vineyards: From noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, McGrail will pair chocolate-dipped treats and cabernets from 2004, 2005 and 2006, all made from estate vineyard grapes. Live jazz will be performed by TankHalfFull. They are located at 5600 Greenville Road in Livermore and the cost is \$20.

Wente Vineyards: Touted as a "sensual experience," Wente offers five wine and chocolate pairings from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the tasting facility at 5565 Tesla Road in Livermore. The cost is \$35, or \$30 for club members, and space is limited. Call 456-2400 for reservations.

Concannon Vineyard: The newly renovated tasting room, 4590 Tesla Road in Livermore, is open from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday through Monday for their Valentine's Day weekend open house. The cost is \$5 and wines will be paired with chocolate.

Chouinard Vineyards: The Castro Valley winery will be having red wine barrel tastings paired with homemade bread and Amish cheeses from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday. Roger Kardinal will also perform classic folk and rock. The cost is \$10 and



's Day weekend

OF LOVE



most accomplished musical families, Dan Brubeck on drums and Chris Brubeck on bass and trombone. Other members include guitarist Mike DeMicco and pianist Chuck Lamb.

Tickets for the show are \$20-\$30 for adults and \$15-\$21 for students. They may be purchased online at www.civcartstickets.org, by calling 931-3444 or at the theater's box office, located at 1155 Santa Rita Road.

The music continues Saturday with the 34th annual Campana Jazz Festival, named after longtime Amador Valley High School music director Jim Campana. Over 40 ensembles from 25 middle and high schools will compete in big band, combo and jazz choir divisions. The 800-plus participating students will also take part in instrumental workshops and master classes. More than \$13,000 in scholarships to regional and state summer jazz camps and schools will be awarded at two concerts at the end of the day.

To commemorate Valentine's Day, there will also be special awards given in the big band and jazz choir divisions for Most Romantic Song.

Performances are open to the public and a \$6 entrance fee provides admission and a festival program.

To learn more about the Campana Jazz Festival, visit www.amadorband.org.

Dance aboard the USS Hornet

If your heart skips a beat for a special someone, consider getting the beat back on track to the sounds of big band. The USS Hornet hosts a Valentine's Dance from 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday.

Partygoers can enjoy the "frolicking jazz" sounds of Stompy Jones and other big band classics performed by the Romano Marchetti Orchestra. These songs were chart toppers in the '40s and '50s. And as always, period attire is welcomed. There will be three dance floors set up on the enclosed, heated hangar deck. Don't worry about having all the right moves, because former Fred Astaire instructor Jim Truesdale will give lessons throughout the evening.

Tickets range from \$40 to \$75 and parking is free. Doors open at 7:15 and cash bars and dinner concessions will also be available.

This is a fundraiser for the Aircraft Carrier Hornet Foundation, a non-profit organization that supports the preservation of the historic aircraft carrier, which is permanently docked in Alameda, and educational programs through its museum. ■

they are located at 33853 Palomares Road.

Little Valley Winery: From noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Little Valley will have sweets for you and your sweetie: California champagne with wild hibiscus, truffles, port in chocolate cups and more. The cost is \$20, and wearing red can save you 10 percent on a wine purchase. They are located at 5700 Greenville Road in Livermore.

Thomas Coyne Winery: The historical tasting room, 51 E. Vallecitos Road in Livermore, is the home of their popular Bottle Your Own Wine event Saturday and Sunday. It is \$5, or \$4.50 if you bring an empty bottle. They will also release four new wines to taste from noon to 5 Saturday through Monday.

Red Feather Winery: Sweet wines will be poured at Red Feather, 5700 Greenville Road in Livermore, from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The cost is \$10.

John Christopher Cellars: Quixotic feelings are in the air at John Christopher Cellars, 25 S. Livermore Ave., Ste. 103 in Livermore. From noon to 6 p.m. Saturday through Monday, they will release a new wine that will be paired with food and locally crafted fudge made with wine.

more wineries as well as a map, visit LVwine.org.

Valentine's Day by the numbers

Love is sweet

1,170: Number of locations producing chocolate and cocoa products in 2006. California led the nation in the number of such establishments with 128, followed by Pennsylvania with 116.

\$13.9 billion: Total value of shipments in 2006 for firms producing chocolate and cocoa products. Nonchocolate confectionery product manufacturing, meanwhile, was a \$7.2-billion industry.

3,563: Number of confectionery and nut stores in the United States in 2006.

24.5 pounds: Per capita consumption of candy by Americans in 2007.

Flora and fauna

\$416 million: The combined wholesale value of domestically produced cut flowers in 2007 for all flower-producing operations with \$100,000 or more in sales. Among states, California was the leading producer, alone accounting for about three-quarters of this amount (\$320 million).

\$29 million: The combined wholesale value of domestically produced cut roses in 2007 for all operations with \$100,000 or more in sales.

20,227: The number of florists nationwide in 2006. These businesses employed 98,373 people.

Sparkle and shine

28,300: Number of jewelry stores in the United States in 2006. Jewelry stores offer engagement, wedding and other rings to lovers of all ages. In February 2008, these stores sold \$2.6 billion in merchandise.

Be mine

2.2 million: The number of marriages that took place in the United States in 2007. That breaks down to a little more than 6,000 a day.

126,354: The number of marriages performed in Nevada during 2007. So many couples tie the knot in the Silver State that it ranked fifth nationally in marriages, even though its total population that year among states was 35th. California ranked first in marriages.

57 and 60: The percentages of American women and men, respectively, who are 18 or older and married (includes those who are separated).

72: Percentage of people 30 to 34 in 2007 who had been married at some point in their lives—either currently or formerly.

73: Among women who married for the first time between 1985 and 1989, the percentage who marked their 10th anniversary. This compares with 87 percent of women who married for the first time between 1955 and 1959.

6: The percentage of currently married women who have been married for at least 50 years. A little more than half of currently married women have been married for at least 15 years.

Single and ready to mingle

904: The number of dating service establishments nationwide as of 2002. These establishments, which include Internet dating services, employed nearly 4,300 people and pulled in \$489 million in revenue.

A second chance

8: Average length, in years, of first marriages ending in divorce.

3½: The median time in years between divorce and a second marriage.

12 and 13: Percentage of men and women, respectively, 15 and older who have married twice. Three percent each have married three or more times. By comparison, 54 percent of men and 58 percent of women have made only one trip down the aisle.

52 and 44: Among adults 25 and older who have ever divorced, the percentage of men and women, respectively, who were currently married.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

ON THE TOWN



AMERICAN

Bridges

44 Church St., Danville, 820-7200. Executive Chef Kevin Gin interprets California-American cuisine with European and Asian influences with expansive lunch and dinner menus. Add dessert, wine and cocktails and you have Bridges' casual fine dining experience. Visit www.bridgesdanville.com for event and private party details.

Eddie Papa's American Hangout

4889 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 469-6266. Winner of The Pleasanton Weekly's Reader Choice Awards for "Best American Food Restaurant" and "Best Meal under \$20", Eddie Papa's American Hangout celebrates the regional food and beverage cultures of America. Bring the whole family to enjoy iconic dishes from across the United States, Old World Hospitality, and hand crafted artisan cocktails.

www.eddiepapas.com

Vic's All Star Kitchen

201 Main St., Pleasanton, (925) 484-0789. Vic's delivers a starry mix of American food, fast service and a cheery atmosphere. Owner Vic Malatesta teamed his love of sports with his passion for good food to create a solid dining experience. Vic's is open daily 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Evening banquets and daytime catering are available.

BARBECUE

Red Smoke Grill

4501 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 734-0307. Home of the Tri Tip and Blue, Red Smoke Grill was Voted Reader's Choice Best 2006, 2007, 2008. Dine in or take out rotisserie chicken, ribs, prawns, salads and tri tip, or pulled pork sandwiches. Relax with a beer or a bottle of wine. Visit www.redsmokegrill.com.

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3015H Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 426-9600. Voted Best Watering Hole in Pleasanton, The Hop Yard offers 30 craft beers on tap as well as great food. The full-service menu includes appetizers, salads and grilled fare that will bring you back time and again. Banquet facilities available. On the web at www.hopyard.com.

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.

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Panda Mandarin Cuisine

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

Chinese cuisine such a delight. Open for lunch Monday through Friday, dinner Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday. A private banquet room is available. Visit www.pandapleasanton.com.

CONTINENTAL

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ON THE TOWN



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349 Main St., Pleasanton, 462-9299.

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3037-G Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 485-4500. La Vite Ristorante was rated "A" by the Contra Costa Times restaurant critic and voted the best Italian restaurant by the readers of the Tri-Valley Herald. We're located off the beaten path of downtown Pleasanton in the Hopyard Village Shopping Center.

JAPANESE

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3105-K Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 462-3131. Makoto Sato, Owner

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288 Main St., Pleasanton, 846-2520. Gay Nineties is family-oriented with an extensive menu, including our renowned pizza, Italian dishes, salads and sandwiches. We also have wine, beer, patio dining and games for kids. Come for groups, take out and call-ahead lunch orders. We're open seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

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Living

by Janet Pelletier

Sarah Williams first noticed “Hope’s Boy,” about an author’s experiences growing up as a foster child, on her mother’s dresser.

It wasn’t the type of book the 16-year-old would typically read, but the title piqued her curiosity, and she soon found she couldn’t put it down. By the time she’d finished it, she was left with a lasting impression of the struggles the boy endured.

Author Andrew Bridge’s New York Times bestselling memoir about his 11 years spent in the foster care system, his often heartbreaking relationship with his mother and subsequent treatment in a foster family, spoke to her. She recalled one passage where Bridge visits a foster care facility as an adult.

“It was a part in the book where he was talking to the warden, and saw a boy, and he asked the warden to give that little boy a blanket and the warden said no,” Sarah said. “I thought that was ridiculous. That was really sad.”

It was at that same time she was looking for a project for the Girl Scout Gold Award, the organization’s highest honor and equivalent to the Boy Scout Eagle Scout Award.

In the Girl Scouts organization for 11 years, Sarah began as a daisy. Last year, only 5 percent of Girl Scouts eligible received the Gold Award and Sarah is on pace to have one of the top 10 projects nationwide. She said she’s continued her role in the scouts because she likes helping people and making the community aware of issues that often go ignored.

“I went to sleep that night after I read it and was thinking about a way that I could give back and help these children because at that time, I was certain that that was what I was going to do for my Gold Award,” she said. “I thought as I lay under seven blankets on my bed, what better than to give a gift of a blanket?”

So, armed with “Hope’s Boy” as inspiration, the Valley Christian High School sophomore began and formed Creative Kindness last April, which makes fleece blankets for foster kids through the nonprofit Foster a Dream.

Developing an action plan, Sarah contacted local service clubs such as the Pleasanton Lions Club and the Danville Rotary Club to ask for funding, which she received. She also was given donations from Wal-Mart, Kohl’s, Raley’s, Target, Safeway, Lucky Stores, Nordstrom and Tap Plastic.

Valley Christian’s vice principal gave her the OK to have students in K-12th grades craft more than 800 blankets with knotted borders. So far, more than 1,300 blankets have been made.

She didn’t stop there. After getting in touch with representatives for Bridge, the author agreed to both host a book signing (and waive his speaking fee) at the Pleasanton



Sarah Williams, a sophomore at Valley Christian High School, speaks about her Creative Kindness project, making fleece blankets for foster children. Andrew Bridge, author of national bestseller “Hope’s Boy,” agreed to attend an author signing, meeting Sarah, at the Pleasanton Border’s Books.

Photos by Kathy Gerdis

GOLD AMBITION

Pleasanton teen, going for the Girl Scout Gold Award, on a mission to help foster children



Sarah, Bridge, and Girl Scouts make fleece blankets by tying knots to their borders.

Border’s Books and read to classes at Valley Christian Jan. 9.

It was that day that she began another step in obtaining the Gold Award by “paying it forward.” Called legacy kits, a jumbo-sized plastic bag filled with a yard of fleece material, scissors, a pattern and instructions were given out, with the object for the recipients to make a blanket and replenish the materials, passing it on to another person.

“I wanted to do something really big and I wanted it to be remembered,” she said.

“She’s just an awesome individual,” said Laura Heston, a teacher at Harvest Park Middle School and a volunteer for Foster a Dream. “She’s an inspiration to all of us because as young as she is, her goals and her attitude about getting things done are so grounded. It never ceases to amaze me.”

Sarah first got in contact with Heston and Foster a Dream two years ago and volunteered with the nonprofit’s Wonderland event over the Christmas holiday.

Heston, who has volunteered for four years along with her fiancé Juan Castro, who also works for the Pleasanton school district, said foster youth are often overlooked by the community.

“A lot of people don’t realize that

Learn more

Foster a Dream: www.fosteradream.org

“Hope’s Boy,” by Andrew Bridge: www.hopesboy.com

Legacy blanket kits: Groups interested in participating or funding can call Sarah Williams at 462-5667

children who are being raised by family members, by grandparents, by aunts, by uncles, are actually foster youth,” she said. “A lot of the foster children that we have in our area—in Pleasanton and the Valley area—may be that type of foster child.”

“It’s just sad how many different schools they end up going to and it’s no wonder they have trouble achieving and then once they’re 18, they’re on their own,” she added. “There’s no support for them.”

Sarah plans speak at Harvest Park to the eighth-grade service and leadership classes about her Gold Award project and the legacy kits in the near future. She’s also working on the next portion of her project to collect 1,500 pairs of shoes.

“A lot of kids come up with ideas and they’ll do one project like the Gold Project, and they’ll leave that and move on with their lives,” Heston said. “Her spirit of giving, I just feel it’s a life-long mission for Sarah.” ■

Of Note

Duman's 'fishing' for success

David Duman, a 2000 graduate of Foothill High School, is seeing his dream of being a writer come to fruition. Through March 8 his play "Fishing" is showing at Periscope Cellars at 1410 62nd St. in Emeryville.

Duman, who also graduated from UC Berkeley and received a master's degree from San Francisco State, was well known in Pleasanton for his writing ability, sharp wit, and societal perceptions of the interplay of individuals and their environment.

David Duman's "Fishing," like the restaurants that served as inspiration, is full of larger-than-life personalities: the lacking-in-people-skills but immensely talented chef (Rik Lopes), the cheerfully uninhibited waitress (Jenni Gebhardt), the obsessive and buttoned-down gay waiter (John Russell), and the manager who presides over it all with a growing sense of uneasy ennui (Kendra Arimoto). Then throw a couple of cluelessly kinky hipster foodies (Rana Weber and Matt Gunnison) into the mix.

To learn more about the show, visit periscopecellars.com/fishing.



David Duman

them onto a canvas. To see her work, visit www.mandyberglund.com.

Amador DECA sweeps competition

The Amador Valley High School DECA class recently swept the competition at the Northern California Career Development conference in San Ramon. Ninety-seven Amador students attended the conference, which had more than 700 student competing in role playing and written projects in multiple industry areas.

Amador Valley now moves on to the State Competition in March at the Santa Clara Marriott.

Photographer Sue Evans named Woman of the Year

The Pleasanton-based chapter of the American Business Women's Association (ABWA) Express to Success Network (E2S), a women's business development and networking group, recently named Sue Evans of Sue Evans Photography as their 2009 Woman of the Year.

Evans has been a member of E2S since its inception in 2004. She was member of the board of directors and was in charge of member communications, a position she held for three years. Evans was a nominee for the 2008 Alameda County Art Award and her photography and creative products have been shown and are sold in Pleasanton's Worthington Gallery West, and various retail stores in Pleasanton and Livermore. Her work, which highlights nature and historic locations in the Tri-Valley, can also be seen in a local corporate lobby.

A 27-year resident of Pleasanton, Evans believes in giving back to the community. She has organized many fundraisers for local nonprofit groups. Most recently, she created a custom recycle grocery bag and led a hike for U-11 Rage soccer girls to benefit the Pleasanton Firehouse Art Project. She and the Rage U-15 girls raised over \$6,200 for Open Heart Kitchen, an organization that provides nutritious meals free of charge or qualification to the needy people of the Tri-Valley area.



Sue Evans

Berglund recreates hometown memories

Artwork by Amador Valley High School alumna Mandy Berglund is being featured at Gallery 79 in San Francisco during the month of February.

Wanting to pursue her long-held interest in art, Berglund recently graduated from the Academy of Arts in San Francisco with a degree in fine arts, painting and drawing. Prior to this, she earned a degree in music from UC Santa Barbara.

The subject of her art work is childhood memories, many of which are from growing up in Pleasanton, and others are from family vacations. She copied old photos to the computer and then digitally manipulated before painting



Mandy Berglund

Now Showing

He's Just Not That Into You

★★★

Rated: PG-13 for language and sexual situations
2 hours, 7 minutes

Is he into you or not? That's the perennial question nagging this pithy romantic comedy that keeps its troubles airy and close to the surface.

A cast of familiar faces pepper the action, each with his or her own cross to bear in the dating game. Beth (Jennifer Aniston) is a long-suffering live-in who wants a ring, but isn't getting it, from dependable Neil (Ben Affleck), who doesn't believe in that particular kind of "I do."

Neil pals around with Ben (Bradley Cooper) who's making a play for ingénue singer Anna (Scarlett Johansson) while also remodeling a duplex with college sweetheart-cum-spouse Janine (Jennifer Connelly).

The saga's crux is the quixotic life and times of Gigi (Ginnifer Goodwin), a hopeless idealist who starts taking tips from playboy bar owner Alex (Justin Long—far more than a Mac pitchman) once his buddy Conor (cute-as-a-button Kevin Connolly) turns a blind eye.

The girls offer all kinds of excuses for the calls that never come ("He's afraid of your emotional maturity," "He lost your number") while the guys cut to the chase—if he doesn't call back, he's just not that into you.

The romantic roundelay winds a wiggly path to its inevitable non-conclusion, peppered with amusing tenets of the dating game and humor both stale and smart. A string of newcomers offer dos and don'ts for how to play it: know if you're being

dumped, surefire signs that there's no future, and the like. Add to that the lingering lament of juggling contemporary technology (Text his phone? Message him on Facebook or MySpace his BlackBerry?) and you've got yourself a thoroughly modern mix.

Based on the best-selling relationship book of the same name, "Just Not Into You" tangles its large cast of characters and storylines into virtual knots, then tries to unravel them with advice swapping and a kind of misery-loves-company pleasure. An if-beautiful-people-aren't-working-it-no-wonder-I'm-suffering-too kind of vibe.

With more six degrees of separation than ensemble, there are nonetheless some shining stars. Goodwin is a keeper, a surprising spark amidst the bountiful bevy of A-listers. She carries the film on her slight shoulders with vivacious charm and a never-say-die essence that's infectious from start to finish. Her pitch is sassy ("I'm on the precipice of staging a casual drive-by") and she so believes in love that you're hard-pressed not to believe along with her.

—Jeanne Aufmuth



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Youth in music

Jazzinators, 18 other acts take the stage Feb. 20

Pleasanton will be the center of young East Bay talent as it hosts the seventh annual Youth Music Festival Feb. 20. Nineteen acts feature solo vocalists, instrumentalists, and vocal and instrumental ensembles from the Tri-Valley to Fremont to Stockton. The Jazzinators (pictured) are a youth jazz band from the Eastbay Traditional Jazz Society.

"Once again, many incredibly-talented young musicians auditioned for our Festival," Youth Program Coordinator Mark Duncanson said. "Among them are The Jazzinators, a youth jazz band from the Eastbay Traditional Jazz Society; Elias Heffan, an excellent 11-year-old male vocalist; Kristen Anderson, a 17-year-old opera singer; Matt Vance, an accomplished electric guitarist, and sisters Grace Ann (age 5) and Micah Gregorio (age 11), a vocal duo. We are looking forward to a wonderful evening of music and fun on the 20th as all the young artists exhibit their talent."

The festival starts at 8 p.m. and will be held at the Amador Theater, located at 1155 Santa Rita Road. Tickets are \$7 in advance or \$10 at the door and may be purchased at www.civictartickets.org, by calling 931-3444 or visiting the theater's box office.

—Emily West

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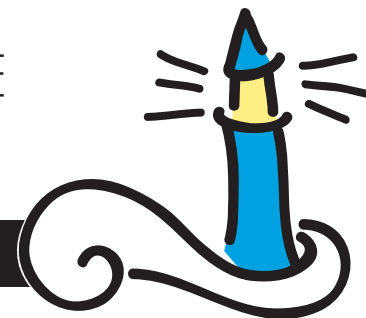
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Pleasanton, 3 BR/2 BA
Darling, private, quiet condo in the heart of Pleasanton.
One-story 3BR, 2 BA, covered 2-car garage connected to home.
Front and rear patios.
New paint, new carpet, new heating, air conditioning unit.
Equipped with refrigerator, stove, washer, and dryer.
Walking distance to Downtown Pleasanton and Sports Park.
No smoking, no pets.
First and last plus \$500.00 cleaning deposit.
6-month or 1-year lease only
Photos upon request.
Serious inquiries only, please.
(925)426-1349 after 5 p.m.

805 Homes for Rent

Pleasanton, 3 BR/1 BA
Remodel, walk to Downtown. Large yard, gardener included, \$2,195/Month

809 Shared Housing/ Rooms

ALL AREAS - ROOMMATES.COM
Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: <http://www.Roommates.com>. (AAN CAN)

Danville, 2 BR/1 BA - \$800 per m

825 Homes/Condos for Sale

Danville, 5+ BR/4+ BA
Milano Homesite 130, 2304 Genoa St., Danville, Approx. 3,833 sq. ft., Call to schedule an appointment: 888-216-2306. Lennar Sales Corp. - Broker.

Danville: 4BR/3BA

Home for sale in Tassajara Ranch. Former model, Seller must move. Call for a showing call Dana Freitas \$800,000 (510)701-4922

Pleasanton, 5+ BR/4+ BA - \$1,825,000

850 Acreage/Lots/ Storage

Buyer's Market - New Mexico
Ranch Dispersal. 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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PET OF THE WEEK



CATHERINE HANSEN RUSH

Looking for love

Buster says, "Happy Valentine's Day!" Looking for that special someone who likes leisurely walks in the park and snuggle sessions on the couch? Meet Buster, a 7-month-old male Pit Bull mix puppy with a sweet temperament and adorable markings. Buster is mostly white except for a chocolate-colored rump, two big chocolate spots on his torso and a handsome chocolate and white face. Buster is a smart cookie too. He sits nicely for treats and he has learned to fetch and release a tennis ball to the TVAR volunteers who take him out for play sessions. Let's see, Buster is well-mannered, smart, affectionate, cute, and loyal! What more could you want from that special valentine? Visit Buster (pet #83722) 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. The animal shelter will be closed on Monday, Feb. 16, for the President's Day holiday.

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Real Estate

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

DUBLIN

3 Bedrooms

7472 Starward Drive \$510,000
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 918-2425

LIVERMORE

4 Bedrooms

1061 El Caminito \$530,000
Sun 2-5 J Rockcliff Realtors 580-4513

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

5 Bedrooms

2318 Peregrine Street \$790,000
Sat 1-4 Remax Accord 640-8824

PLEASANTON

2 Bedrooms

2022 Alexander Way \$429,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 J Rockcliff Realtors 699-9508

7335 Stonedale Drive \$429,950
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Realty 918-0986

2130 Alexander Way \$442,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty 397-4244

3 Bedrooms

620 Anna Maria Street \$495,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 621-4064

2860 El Capitan Drive \$549,500
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 846-6500

7748 Creekside Drive \$549,999
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 989-5695

6045 Acadia Court \$562,425
Sun 1:30-4:30 J Rockcliff Realtors 200-4130

3193 Montpelier Court \$635,000
Sun 1-4 RE/MAX Accord 922-1575

6038 Corte Encinas \$639,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Prudential CA Realty 858-4198

4 Bedrooms

4576 Del Valle Pkwy \$1,099,000
Sat 12-3 Alain Pinel Realtors 621-46064

532 Rosso Court \$1,099,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty 202-6298

7828 Meadowbrook Court \$1,165,000
Sat 2-4 Coldwell Banker 362-2018

1608 Cindy Way \$1,229,000
Sat/Sun 12-5 Alain Pinel Realtors 785-7777

1624 Cindy Way \$1,329,000
Sat/Sun 12-5 Alain Pinel Realtors 785-7777

1640 Cindy Way \$1,349,000
Sat/Sun 12-5 Alain Pinel Realtors 785-7777

4914 Middleton Place \$1,475,000
Sun 1-4 Prudential CA Realty 462-9175

18 Golf Road \$1,675,000
Sun 1-4 J Rockcliff Realtors 484-2045

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

1988 Via de Salerno \$1,899,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty 980-0273

2320 Crestline Road \$630,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 621-4064

4277 Garibaldi Place \$674,999
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 998-9692

1766 Orchard Way \$699,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 621-4064

1898 Halcyon Court \$699,850
Sun 1-4:30 Remax Accord 998-5312

2274 Via Espada \$774,950
Sun 1-4 J Rockcliff Realtors 200-2525

3150 Paseo Robles \$829,000
Sun 1-4 Vince Sheehon Real Estate 415-302-2500

5 Bedrooms

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

862 Summit Creek Lane \$1,439,000
Sun 1:30-4 J Rockcliff Realtors 200-0426

1632 Cindy Way \$1,449,000
Sat/Sun 12-5 Alain Pinel Realtors 785-7777

241 Napier Court \$1,469,000
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 362-2018

Sales at a Glance

Source: California REsource

Dublin

Total sales reported: 7
Lowest sale reported: \$385,000
Highest sale reported: \$830,000
Average sales reported: \$496,857

Livermore

Total sales reported: 16
Lowest sale reported: \$292,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,030,000
Average sales reported: \$447,125

Pleasanton

Total sales reported: 8
Lowest sale reported: \$390,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,235,000
Average sales reported: \$792,500

San Ramon

Total sales reported: 12
Lowest sale reported: \$196,000
Highest sale reported: \$915,500
Average sales reported: \$575,792



Jim Walker
Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty
(925) 397-4300



2602 CALLE MORELIA, PLEASANTON

JUST LISTED! This home is located in one of Pleasanton's most desirable neighborhoods and will be open this weekend Saturday & Sunday from 1-4. Don't miss the opportunity to own a beautiful home with a gorgeous large backyard and views of the Pleasanton Ridge! More details at www.DiscoverPleasanton.com



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1691 Orvieto Ct., Ruby Hill, Pleasanton



QUALITY, CRAFTSMANSHIP & VIEWS! Exquisite European estate home features 4 BR/ 4 full, 3 half BA, bonus room, office, 5,803 sq. ft. **NEW PRICE \$2,499,000**

4141 W. Ruby Hill Drive, Pleasanton



Beautiful Italian estate home offers 5 BR, 5.5 BA, office & 6,800 sq. ft. Backs to private, open space with amazing views of the hills! **Offered at \$2,700,000**

1988 Via Di Salerno, Ruby Hill, Pleasanton



Beautiful 4,616, sq. ft. home with 4 BR, 3.5 BA, bonus room, study, and expansive views of Mt. Diablo and Tri-Valley, located on 1/2 acre lot. **Offered at \$1,899,000 OPEN SUN 1-4**

OPEN SUN 1-4: 2130 Alexander Wy., Pleasanton • 836 Piemonte Dr. & 532 Rosso Ct. in Ruby Hill

Fran & Dave Cunningham
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Just Listed!



7554 Rosedale Court, Pleasanton. 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom in move in condition. \$524,900



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DANVILLE

4407 FLEETWOOD RD \$939,000
Gated comm in Bettencourt Ranch w/approx 3400 sqft + 3 car gar. Gour kit w/granite slab, SS appl, hardwd flrs & 1 bdrm 1 ba downstr. Huge mstr ste w/retreat + F/P.

CATHY DEAN 925.200.4130

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. Enjoy the privacy of pool-sized yard with covered patio nestled among sloping hills

ANJU BHATIA 925.577.2658

www.KristyandCompany.com



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KRISTY PEIXOTO 925.251.2536

www.KellyPatterson.com



PLEASANTON

2274 VIA ESPADA \$774,950
Fabulous Home in Del Prado Loaded with Upgrades! 4 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths, approx. 2124 SQFT. Excellent Location, Great Schools, Easy Freeway Access. Enjoy being close to Downtown Pleasanton, the Sports Park, Hansen Park and the Fairgrounds. OPEN HOUSE this Sunday 1:00pm-4:00pm

KELLY PATTERSON 925.200.2525

www.StaciArmario.com



PLEASANTON

5648 BELLEZA DRIVE \$389,000
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.

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PLEASANTON

862 SUMMIT CREEK LANE \$1,499,000
Great price reduction! Gorgeous Bridle Creek property, 3300+/-sf "one story" Greenbriar home, 5bd, 4ba, 3-car garage on 15,000sf level view lot. Many, many upgrades. Visit www.billshanley.com for virtual tour/slide show.

BILL SHANLEY 925.200.0426

www.TonniChandler.com



PLEASANTON

6045 ACADIA CT \$562,425
Great value! 3 bedrooms, 2 bath single family home in Pleasanton. Beautifully maintained! Updated kitchen, newer carpet, paint and much more! Additional bonus room great for family entertaining! Lovingly maintained yards with blooms year round!

TONNI CHANDLER 925.788.7788

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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. Owner Financing for Lot.

COREY GREEN 925.899.6011

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. Crown molding. Huge yard. Don't miss it!!

GAIL HENDERSON 925.980.5648

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. Dual-pane windows. New patio & walkways. Mini vineyard - make wine with the neighbors!

MADELINE WALKER 1.800.319.8991

Gorgeous Home



LIVERMORE

3634 THORNHILL DR \$699,000
Located in Desirable neighborhood. Very spacious, beautiful hardwood floors, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, Maple cabinets, nicely painted throughout, plantation shutters, his/her walk-in closets, close to neighborhood park & shopping ctrs.

ELIA VALENCIA 925.583.2176

Incredible upgraded home!



SAN RAMON

771 PRADERA WAY \$765,000
3 bedrooms, plus loft which could be converted into 4th bedroom, 2 1/2 baths, indoor laundry. Brazilian hardware flooring downstairs, stairs and upstairs hall way. Granite countertops, designer paint, fully landscaped backyard with pavers. Stunning slate tile porch/ walkway.

PENNY CHRISTENSEN 925.730.5262

www.DavidAzimi.com



SAN RAMON

2024 FEATHERMINT DR \$1,000,999
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.

DAVID AZIMI 925.251.2580

Open Sunday 1-4



PLEASANTON

18 GOLF RD \$1,675,000
Come Join the Fun At Castlewood. Custom Home, Fabulous Views, on 2 fairway of hill course. Upgraded/Remodeled/Mediterranean. Great Floor Plan/in-law, Au pair quarters. Media Room.

MARTY SBOROV 925.484.2045

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, Andersen Windows & More. Close to all conveniences: Parks, Shopping, Labs, Schools.

TOM E. CHANCE 925.487.6360

www.KellyPatterson.com



DANVILLE

166 BLACKSTONE DRIVE \$799,950
Fabulous Home in Tassajara Ranch Loaded with Upgrades! 4 Bedrooms + Spectacular Bonus Room Addition with Upgraded Neutral Carpet, 2.5 Baths, approx. 2,228 SQFT. Community Jr. Olympic & Tot Pools & Clubhouse only \$60 a month.

KELLY PATTERSON 925.200.2525

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

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100 N. Main St.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
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- Located on 2nd Fairway of Hill Course
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- 4BR, 4BA (In-Law, Au Pair QTRs)

- 4550 sq. ft. on 1/3 Acre
- Outdoor BBQ/Trellises
- Great for Entertaining
- Upgraded Throughout

Open Sunday 1-4

Offered at \$1,675,000



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www.MartySborov.com



5075 Hopyard Rd., Ste. 110
Pleasanton, CA 94588



Gated Danville Estate Open Saturday & Sunday 12-4 16 Hermosa Court



Offering more than a beautiful home...features a fully functional 30' X 40' shop, a separate office or cabana, and a guest house with kitchen, fireplace, separate entrance and parking. This unique Danville estate is secluded yet is within walking distance of downtown Danville. Enjoy the beautiful 5 BR/4 ½ BA estate home with slate and hardwood throughout, updated kitchen, wine cellar and loft. Enjoy the pool and custom patio amidst park-like setting. **Offered at \$2,100,000**



Hilda Elmore

925.577.4911

hilda.elmore@prurealty.com



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Concierge Real Estate OPEN THE DOOR TO FULL SERVICE



4332 2ND ST.~PLEASANTON

Absolutely charming remodeled bungalow just one block from historic downtown. Gorgeous hardwood floors, crown molding granite and many custom details throughout. Double French doors open to an expansive rear yard. Walk-in basement for storage or wine cellar.

Offered at \$989,000



JUST LISTED!

OPEN SAT. 2-4

7828 MEADOWBROOK CT.~PLEASANTON

This home has it all! Amazing upgrades throughout. Gorgeous hardwood floors, large kitchen/great room, 4 bedrooms + bonus room, and a spacious downstairs master suite. An entertainer's paradise with pool outdoor rock fireplace and BBQ & fridge.

Offered at \$1,165,000



3552 VINE ST.~PLEASANTON

Absolutely stunning custom home on a large lot close to historic downtown with upgrades galore! 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Approx. 2780 sq. ft. of comfortable living space. 2-car attached garage plus a 1200 +/- sq. ft. workshop garage. Fabulous beach entrance Pool and spa.

Offered at \$1,275,000



OPEN SUN. 1-4

241 NAPIER CT.~PLEASANTON

Stunning Castlewood Heights Home. 5 Bedrooms, 4 Baths, + a spacious bonus room. Huge great room with vaulted ceilings, and lots of natural light. Gorgeous kitchen. Bed/Bath down. Amazing Foothill views from front porch Large resort like backyard with pool & spa.

Offered at \$1,469,000

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DUBLIN
6052 KINGSMILL TER
STUNNING VIEWS **\$1,598,000**
5 BR 5.5 BA Prof designed bckyrd,priv setting,4 car gar/custom upgrades,gated development with comm pl 925.847.2200



DUBLIN
Open SAT/SUN 1 - 4 **7627 TURQUOISE ST.**
ACROSS FROM PARK! **\$629,000**
4 BR 2.5 BA Aprx.2253,fam rm w/brick frplc/wt br,kit w/eating area,sep dining rm w/built-in wine closet 925.847.2200



PLEASANTON
2149 RHEEM DRIVE
A TASTE OF TUSCANY **\$475,000**
3 BR 2.5 BA 1490sq.ft.,upgrd/rem,granite slab kit/bth,bmboo wd flr,mrbl tiled frplc,vaulted ceilings 925.847.2200



SAN RAMON
Open SAT/SUN 11 - 6 **145 COPPER RIDGE RD.**
CONDOS/TOWNHOUSES PRICES START IN LOW \$300'S
1 & 2 bd condos/2 bd townhouses,vaulted ceilings avail,w/garages,gated,renovated/upgraded 925.847.2200

BRENTWOOD

1203 SILVERTON WAY
BEAUTIFUL HOME **\$369,000**
4 BR 3 BA granite cntrs,frplc in living & mstr,3 car tandem gar,bonus rm. www.RomarProperties.net 925.847.2200

DUBLIN

7086 DUBLIN MEADOWS ST. E, UNIT E
GORGEOUS CONDO **\$299,500**
1 BR 1 BA Living Room w/Fireplace.Approx. 805' w/ VIEWS. Washer/Dryer/Fridge/Micro/Dishwasher Stay 925.847.2200

FREMONT

38117 CAMBRIDGE CT
GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD! **\$799,000**
4 BR 2.5 BA cul-de-sac,hrdwd flrs,wd plnttton

shtrrs,maple kit cbs,Indscpd yrd www.RomarProperties.net 925.847.2200

FREMONT/ARDENWOOD

SAT/SUN 11 - 4 **34773 COMSTOCK COMMON**
DESIRABLE CORNER LOT **\$580,000**
3 BR 2.5 BA Brand new kitchen w/granite counter-tops.Brand new laminate wd flring thru out main level 925.847.2200

SAT/SUN 11 - 4 **5008 CRANDALWOOD**
ARDENWOOD BEAUTY **\$600,000**
3 BR 2.5 BA Walk to Forest Park Elementary- Lots Of Custom Amenities and 1589 SF. 925.847.2200

LIVERMORE

3300 DYER RD.
PRICE REDUCTION! **\$1,195,000**
3 BR 2 BA 29.25 acre parcel w/2000+sq. ft.home,dutch barn w/2 flrs,steel framed shop w/2 rll-up drs 925.847.2200

765 ALDEN LN
HIGHLY UPGRADED **\$799,900**
4 BR 3.5 BA aprx.2900 sf,each bedroom priv bath,kit opens to fam rm.Prof Indscpd bckyrd,built in bb-q 925.847.2200

MARTINEZ

1140 ARREBA ST
BUNGALOW/LA SALLE HEIGHTS **\$395,000**
2 BR 1 BA Wsh/Dry/frige/Gas Range-Oven/Micro stay,kit w/Corian cntrs/dual pne wndws,gas frplc in liv 925.847.2200

PLEASANTON

5847 SAN JUAN
NEW LISTING **\$850,000**
4 BR 2.5 BA aprx 2414 sf,gourmet kit w/60" prof stove,master bath w/walk in closet.Hrdwd flrs thruout 925.847.2200

SAN RAMON

518 KINGSBRIDGE CT
NORRIS CANYON ELEGANCE **\$2,500,000**
5 BR 5.5 BA Menlo Manor w/Canyon Views! Hrdwd Flrs,Gourmet Kit,Wine frige,Mstr w/Retreat/views 925.847.2200

4270 CANYON CREST RD W
CHARMING HOME **\$725,000**
3 BR 2 BA living/family rms w/vaulted ceilings & fireplaces, bckyrd ovrlks greenbelt w/cov patio/pa 925.847.2200

VALLEJO

1819 OHIO ST
GREAT HOME **\$199,000**
3 BR 2 BA Frplc,Laminate flrs thru-out,1130 sf,3049 sf lot,dual pane windows,granite counters in kit 925.847.2200



Pleasanton 925.847.2200 | 5980 Stoneridge Drive, Ste. 122



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Featured Properties



Livermore - You don't want to miss the New Price on this clean and ready 3 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom condo with over 1300 square feet of living space. Located in the gated Community of Copper Hill, you'll enjoy the community pool, spa, tennis courts and playground. Relax by the gas fireplace while enjoying the Crown molding and custom paint.

276 Wildrose Common Unit 4 \$340,000



Livermore - Immaculate 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home with a large Living Room plus step-down Family Room with brick fireplace. Updated kitchen with newer appliances and tile flooring, updated bathrooms, dual pane windows and a newer roof. Attached two car garage plus a separate 1 car garage is perfect for the car buff or handyman's workshop. There's even a cement side yard that is great for an RV.

4024 Pomona Way \$469,000



Livermore - Very open and spacious 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom home with approximately 2004 square feet and a large 8000+ square foot lot. Nice kitchen with granite slab counters, stainless steel appliances and a center island. Tile flooring, decorator paint, new lighting and ceiling fans, custom window coverings, wood blinds and a 3rd car parking added. Large yard with great privacy.

6299 Owl Way \$559,000



Livermore - Lowest priced listing in the Portola Glen neighborhood. Four bedroom, three bathroom, former model home offers many upgrades not seen in other properties. Beautiful two story home with one bedroom and one full bath downstairs and a Gourmet kitchen featuring Viking stainless steel appliances. Enjoy the awesome hilltop view of the Livermore Valley and the custom spa.

3653 Glasgow Circle \$669,900



Pleasanton - Beautiful French Country Chateau with a court location. With 4 bedrooms, 4.5 bathrooms and almost 3400 square feet, this beauty has plenty of room for entertaining and family living. First floor Master Suite with retreat and a spacious loft/media room on the second floor. Downstairs office/den with cherry, built-in, two person workstation and bookcases.

2560 Grappa Place \$1,599,000



Pleasanton - A Quality, Custom-Built, 5 Bedroom, 3.5 Bathroom, Single Story Home in the Gated Community of Ruby Hill. Located on an Elevated Lot Above the 15th Green with Breathtaking Views of the Vineyards, Hills and Golf Course, a Peaceful, Private Setting, a Beautiful Yard with a Built-in Pool, Spa and Barbecue and a Fantastic Floor Plan That is Bright, Airy and Open. This Home is a Real Winner!

1713 Via Di Salerno \$1,995,000



Pleasanton - A touch of New England elegance sets this distinctive custom residence apart and combines exquisite décor, superior construction and all of the heart warming comforts of home. Stunning interior appointments, including a beautiful gourmet kitchen, a downstairs Master Suite and a light filled great room. An incredible court location that backs to the golf course.

1642 Orvieto Court \$2,595,000



Pleasanton - The best Ruby Hill has to offer! Located on the 18th hole, this unbelievable home has 6 bedrooms, 6 full bathrooms, 2 half bathrooms, approximately 10,000 sq ft, almost ¼ of an acre lot, 5 car garage, an RV garage, a 12+ seat theater with top of the line components and a full wet bar, a Billiards room, Exercise room, a gourmet kitchen, built-in pool and spa, a separate guest house and so much more!

3768 W Ruby Hill Drive \$6,900,000



Prudential
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Ruby Hill Division - 101 E. Vineyard Ave., Suite 103, Livermore, CA 94550

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JUST REDUCED STUNNING GOLDEN EAGLE ESTATE WITH VIEWS OF THE VALLEY!



1531 Honeysuckle Court, Pleasanton

This is the one you have been waiting for! Truly one of the best view lots and locations in Golden Eagle Estates. This gorgeous completely remodeled 5 bedroom, 3 full, 2 half bathroom, 5200 sq.ft. +/- custom home nestled on a flat court on over 1 acre +/- is complete with a bonus room overlooking a serene pool that is absolutely breathtaking! Stunning decorator touches abound throughout the house from the brand new classic gourmet kitchen to the relaxing spa-like master bathroom. This custom is sure to delight you! Go to www.1531honeysucklect.com for more information about this beautiful home! Priced at \$2,489,000

Brokers Tour Open House
Today Friday 10-1pm



Susie Steele

925.413.9306
925.621.4062
susiesteele@apr.com

Whether you are looking to sell your Luxury Estate or purchase your first Dream Home, I strive to satisfy your Real Estate Needs!

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PLEASANTON HEIGHTS



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 (5th 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**

SHADOW CLIFF



OPEN SUN 1-4

2860 EL CAPITAN DRIVE, PLEASANTON

Check out this updated single story home with three bedrooms, two baths, and approximately 1,140 square feet. Great starter home or investment property! Excellent condition! Lots of additional features including, new interior paint, new carpet and blinds throughout. Wilsonart wood flooring. New kitchen appliances. Central heat/air. Tile Roof. Private rear yard. Neighborhood park. **OFFERED AT \$549,500**

OLDE TOWNE



SOLD

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**



925.846.6500
www.blaiselofland.com
blaise@blaiselofland.com

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 ESTATES LOT 3



SOLD

30,030 SQ. FT.

OFFERED AT \$649,000

SOLD FOR \$640,000

VENTANA HILLS



SOLD

1161 HOPKINS WAY, PLEASANTON

Beautiful Carmel Model in desirable Ventana Hills. Four bedrooms (4th bonus room), 3.5 Baths. approximately 3000 square feet. Premium location. Walk to neighborhood park and downtown! Downstairs master suite, extensive hardwood flooring, new carpet, plantation shutters, new exterior paint. Professionally landscaped. **OFFERED AT \$1,049,000**



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- Wine Country Location
- Expansive Views
- Build Your Dream Home

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LOT	SIZE	HOME STYLE	PRICE
1	34,400	Single Story	\$599,000
2	23,670	Two Story	\$599,000
3	30,030	Two Story	SOLD!
4	20,300	Single Story	\$599,000

680Homes.com Featured Properties



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The latest from The 680 Blog

January Pleasanton Market Update – Some Signs of Life

After a dismal November and a somewhat better December, the Pleasanton real estate market showed some gains in activity in January. The new administration at least marked a turning of the page, and perhaps a new perspective on our economic problems (here's hoping anyway). However, the continued downward pressure on the median home price stats in both the Bay Area and the State kept the bad news in the headlines, even though sales activity was up across the board. And dismal job loss data took >>> **Go to www.680Homes.com to read the rest of this article.**



STUNNING!

Fabulous 1 story with 4 BR + bonus room, 3½ BTH, 1/3 acre lot with pool & spa, custom outdoor kitchen, over \$300k in upgrades!
\$1,499,000



OPEN SAT/SUN 12-5

Walk to Downtown! New semi-custom 5 BR, 3½ BTH home with cherry/granite/stainless kitchen, hardwood flrs, 10k lot, & more.
\$1,449,000 1632 Cindy Way



COMING SOON!

Bridle Creek Area. 5 BR + Office, 5½ BTH, gourmet granite/cherry/stainless kitchen, .47 acre lot, luxurious master suite, & more!
\$1,729,000



OPEN SAT/SUN 12-5

New construction! 1 story 4 BR, 3 BTH on flat 10k lot in downtown Pleasanton area! Granite & stainless kitchen, hardwood flrs, and more!
\$1,229,000 1608 Cindy Way



COMING SOON!

West Side Pleasanton! 5BR, 3 BTH, 3 car garage, large private .23 acre lot, granite & stainless kitchen, and more!
Low \$900,000's



OPEN SAT/SUN 12-5

Incredible Styling! Downtown Pleasanton 4 BR plus loft, 3½ BTH, new construction, flat 10,000 sq ft lot, hardwood, granite, & more!
\$1,329,000 1624 Cindy Way



ALMOST 1 ACRE!

Stunning Mediterranean with 5 BR + office, 4½ BTH, gourmet granite & maple kitchen, 3 fireplaces, and large private .92 acre creekside lot!
\$1,645,000



OPEN SAT/SUN 12-5

Upgrades galore! Fabulous home with 4 BR + loft, 3½ BTH, 3 car garage, almost ¼ acre lot, & more!
\$1,349,000 1640 Cindy Way



JUST LISTED!

Shadow Cliffs fixer! 3 BR, 2 BTH single story on private .20 acre lot backs to open space with trails! A steal at this price!
\$559,000

Go to 680Homes.com for more information on these homes and other properties.



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9116 OLSON CT., PLS.
LOCATED IN THE PRESERVE



5BD / 5.5BA 5,200+/- SF. 20,968 SF. LOT.
500 SF. GUEST HOUSE, AMAZING VIEWS
\$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

1436 IRONGATE CT., PLS.
LOCATED IN IRONWOOD ESTATES



COMING SOON

5BD / 4.5BA 4,205 SF. 10,722 SF. LOT.
COURT LOCATION W/ MANY UPGRADES
\$1,485,000

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



OPEN SAT 12-3

4BD / 2.5BA 3,357 SF. 9,541 SF. LOT.
CAR LOVERS HOME W/ HIGH END UPGRADES
\$1,099,000

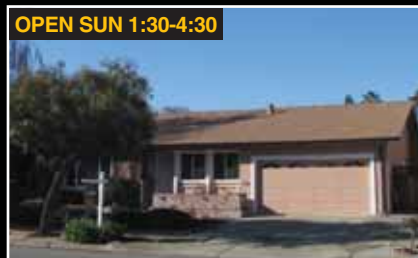
1766 ORCHARD WY., PLS.
LOCATED IN PLEASANTON VALLEY



OPEN SUN 1:30-4:30

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

2320 CRESTLINE RD., PLS.
LOCATED IN PLEASANTON VALLEY



OPEN SUN 1:30-4:30

4BD / 2BA 1,854 SF. 6,800 SF. LOT.
SINGLE STORY COUNTRY MODEL
\$630,000

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



3BD / 2BA 1,159 SF. 6,575 SF. LOT.
ROOM TO EXPAND, WOOD FLOORS
\$548,000

620 ANNA MARIA ST.
LOCATED IN LIVERMORE



OPEN SUN 1:30-4:30

3BD / 2BA 1,414 SF. 7,200 SF. LOT.
UPDATED IN 2008, SIDE YARD ACCESS
\$495,000



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MOXLEY TEAM BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$2,395,000
Views of Pleasanton and backs to open space. Open floorplan, 4.5 car garage, 500+/-sf. Guest house, private cul-de-sac. Amazing entertaining home with high end finishes. Media room and office.

SYLVIA DESIN BY APPOINTMENT



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.

DOUG BUENZ BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$1,645,000
Beautiful semi custom on the Westside. 5bd 4.5ba. Fantastic floorplan. Pristine condition large open kitchen. Huge flat yard.

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 BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$1,189,950
New price. Luxury 5 year old home offers 3265+/-sf with 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, pool/waterfalls, outdoor kitchen, high ceilings/lots of light.

TIFFANY ROSE BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$1,100,000
Unbelievable single story in South Pleasanton. Private gate, huge 1/2+/- acre lot with huge possibilities! 4bd/2ba, 2167+/-sf. Separate guest unit.

M. GILBERT/J. JONES BY APPT



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!

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.

SUE MCKINLEY BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$729,000
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.

MOXLEY TEAM OPEN SUN 1:30-4:30



PLEASANTON \$699,000
Near Pleasanton's award winning schools. Updated home with 4 spacious bedrooms, updated baths, refinished wood floors, central air, private-spacious yard. 1766 Orchard Way

JOYCE JONES BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$699,000
Updates galore! 4bd/2.5ba, upstairs bonus room, updated kitchen with granite counters, Brazilian Cherry wood floors, Cherry cabinets, Plantation shutters, surround sound, plush yards and pool.

SUE MCKINLEY BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$690,000
Completely updated; court location, 3-car garage; side access. 4bd/3ba. 2 master bed; 1 up and 1 down. Detached in-law unit with permits. Close to award-winning schools, 580/680 freeways.

BLAISE LOFLAND OPEN SUNDAY 1-4



PLEASANTON \$549,500
Updated single story. 3bd/2ba 1,140+/-sf. Excellent condition! New interior paint, new carpet/blinds. New appliances. Central heat/air. Tile roof. 2860 El Capitan Drive

MARK LAFFERTY BY APPOINTMENT



LIVERMORE \$519,950
Beautiful 3bd/2ba Rhonewood property. Features include: Professionally landscaped yards/swimming pool/dual pane windows/newer 50 year roof and much more.

MARY JANE DEERING OPEN SUN 1-4



DUBLIN \$510,000
3 bd and loft is 4th bd in this floor plan, 2.5 ba, 1590+/-sf built in 2000. Travertine floors in entry, kitchen, powder BA and laundry. 2 kilo-watt solar panel system generates your own electricity! 7472 Starward Drive

MARK LAFFERTY BY APPOINTMENT



LIVERMORE \$499,950
This single story property is absolutely beautiful. Features include dual pane windows, newer roof, custom 2-tone paint.

PLEASANTON | 900 Main Street 925.251.1111

LIVERMORE | 2300 First Street 925.583.1111

