

Pleasanton Ponzi?

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Around Pleasanton

by Jeb Bing

For some, Little League season never ends

There's more to Little League than just playing baseball. Ask Kevin Wrenn, a Fujitsu Corp. executive and longtime Pleasanton homeowner who, with his wife Eleanor (Elli), have three sons who have been involved in Little League. So have Kevin and Elli. He started coaching in 2000, served as president of the Pleasanton National LL for five years and just stepped down this season to remain vice president as Mark Naylor takes over the top post. Along the way, Elli has done all of the things Little League mothers do, from preparing team snacks for the games to running the leagues fundraising snack bar in Sports Park, seeking team sponsors and, over the last nine years, holding about every volunteer positions where parents are needed to ensure that the teams, players and the organization play out every season trouble-free.

For Kevin, the baseball season that opened last Saturday starts in September with the National League's first board meeting for the new season. That's where board members do the basic planning, to determine how many fields will be available the next year and which ones will be closed during the winter months for restoration work. Team tryouts begin in December, which means some cold and often rainy days on the fields to make sure every team gets its fair share of top players and those who could use some help. After sizing them up, team coaches draft those players who are eligible to play in January and by February, Wrenn and other board members have the final say in how each team is formed. Practice starts then and in mid-March the season opens. For Wrenn and other board members that means long Saturdays, with the first teams batting at 8 a.m. through 4 p.m., when the last teams take the field. Most teams usually practice after school on weekdays from now through June and play games on one of those afternoons.

Besides planning, organizing

and scheduling each team every season, Wrenn also spends time meeting with parents to talk about the league, snack bar responsibilities and the whole structure of coaching. If the chemistry between parents and their son and the coach of the team aren't good, the player can be moved to another team without any public conflict. Wrenn also leads discussions with parents who may be too exuberant in supporting their player, but most of the time he finds good sportsmanship both on and off the fields.

Wrenn's primary concern each season is to make sure any child who wants to play ball gets a chance. He's had fathers approach him with their 5-year-olds at T-ball games to ask if they can play. More than once, he's found a shirt and helmet for the little guy and put him in the lineup; usually he finds the new player coming back for every game and continuing on through Little League.

In June, when the regular season ends, the top teams from the three Pleasanton Little Leagues compete in District 57 competitions for five straight days with the winners going to Western region championship contests in San Bernardino. A Pleasanton American Little League team made it last year, but lost to a team from Hawaii.

Besides making sure every Pleasanton youngster who wants to play has a chance, Wrenn's National league also sponsors District 57's Challenger Baseball program for handicapped children. Challenger opens its season at 1 p.m. this Sunday on Dublin's Little League fields near the Civic Center. Other coaches, teams and high school volunteers work with the Challengers, bringing smiles and high-fives from young players who are mentally and physically challenged, even in wheelchairs, as they pitch, hit and catch baseballs, getting help as they make it to first base and beyond. If you haven't seen Challenger baseball, Wrenn invites you to come by this Sunday. See you there. ■

About the Cover

Dressed in pink, these Donlon Elementary School teachers, special education assistants and aides received notices last week that they'll likely be terminated May 15 because of Pleasanton school district budget shortfalls for the coming year. Those dressed in black will stay on. Photo by Jeb Bing. Cover design by Rick Nobles.

Vol. X, Number 8

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Streetwise

Q: What are your thoughts on Measure G?

Asked around town



Karen Tincher

If the parcel tax passes, the money will go towards maintaining smaller class sizes in K-3, ninth-grade math, music and language arts programs, counselors, maintaining safe clean schools, and much more. I think the key question that Pleasanton residents need to ask themselves is what do you want your community to look like in five-10 years?

Pam Jetter

I hope it passes because it would maintain our small class sizes and it would allow us to keep the great teachers that have made Pleasanton schools so excellent throughout the years. I think it would also keep our property values up. We've lived here since 1995 and the school system was a key reason why we decided to move here.



Jeff Kersh

We would have a better school district, which would ultimately result in a better community that everybody lives in and benefits from. Our children are the future of our community, which is why we need to put money into our district. If it doesn't pass, there will be a good number of teachers who will lose their jobs which will result in a decline in the quality of our children's education.



John Clatworthy

The biggest benefit is that we won't have to increase class sizes for K-3 grades. If the parcel tax doesn't pass, those classes will almost double in size. Data in the statewide tests have proven that smaller class sizes in these grades is vital to the learning patterns amongst children. Property values have also stayed high in Pleasanton because the outstanding schools are what draw people to live here.



Susane Head

I think it's a win-win for everybody because it will maintain good quality schools and it will keep our home values up. Pleasanton is a wonderful place to live because of the community it's founded upon, which includes great schools and great families.



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

Compiled by Hillary Bessiere



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News Digest

Irish dance at the library

Members of the award-winning McGrath School of Irish Dance will perform at 2 p.m. Saturday at the library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. The free program will include a display of traditional and competitive solo as well as group Irish dances. To learn more, visit www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/library or call the children's desk at 931-3400, ext. 8.

Foothill hosts band show

The Foothill High School winter guard and percussion show will be from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. March 28 in the school's large gym. The event will draw more than 55 groups from all over Northern California to compete. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors, with food and souvenirs being sold all day. Companies looking to sponsor trophies can contact Holly Higgins at hrosebud@comcast.net.

Sign up to meet the author

Booklockerbooks.com is sponsoring book signings March 26 with authors Lynette Pierce, Len Harris and Linda Meckler. The first is at 4 p.m. at You Be's Pizza, 6280 W. Las Positas Blvd. The second is at 5 p.m. at Pakmail, 5424 Sunol Blvd. Ste. 10. The event is free, but by appointment. The group is also hosting a canned food drive for people and pets. Call 510-796-4364 for details.

Eat pasta, support Village

Pasta, pasta and more pasta is on the menu March 26 at Village High School. The pasta feed, which will be served from 4 to 7 p.m., will support Village's student incentive program that encourages and rewards good attendance and improved achievement in school. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors, and \$3 for children under 8. Take-out is also available if ordered in advance. The meal will be served in the school's multipurpose room, located on Bernal Avenue near the Pleasanton Unified School District offices. For advance orders or questions, call 436-4260 or email klittle@pleasanton.k12.ca.us.

SEC alleges Pleasanton man involved in \$40M Ponzi scheme

Agency says Kenneth Kenitzer, 66, worked with former Foothill grad Anthony Vassallo to bilk 150 investors

by Janet Pelletier

A Pleasanton man has been implicated in a \$40-million Ponzi scheme by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

In court documents filed last week, the commission alleges that Kenneth Kenitzer, 66, of Pleasanton, worked with Anthony Vassallo, 29, of Folsom, Calif. to orchestrate the fraud. The SEC said in a complaint that the two men, who are president and vice president of Folsom-based Equity Investment Management and Trading, Inc., raised more than \$40 million from 150 investors between May 2004 and November 2008.

The commission said Vassallo told investors, many of whom he met through in his religious community, that he had a proprietary computer software program that allowed him

to buy and sell stock options and generate returns of 3.5 percent per month with little risk of loss. Kenitzer reportedly posted false trading results on EIMT's website and distributed phony investment reports to investors leading them to believe the company was achieving consistent, positive returns, according to the SEC complaint.

Local businessman Larry McColm, who said he's known Kenitzer for some time, said he's surprised at the allegations.

"I've known him for 15 years and I never knew him to be a fraud or

anything like that," McColm said. "That's really shocking because he's been an upstanding guy for a long time around here."

The SEC said many of the investors in the scheme were members of Vassallo's religious community. Representatives with the SEC said they couldn't comment on the religious affiliation.

Vassallo grew up in Pleasanton, one of five children in his family. He was a star athlete at Foothill High School, where he graduated in 1997, according to school records. ABC 7 News has reported that Vassallo graduated from Brigham Young University. Kenitzer is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Pleasanton, McColm said.

Court documents paint Vassallo as the leader in the scheme and Kenitzer

as the one aiding and abetting.

The complaint alleges that the two men went above and beyond to disguise their actions, even when EIMT executives began asking questions.

Kenitzer has lived in Pleasanton for over 30 years and raised six sons with his wife here, McColm said, adding that he wonders if Kenitzer got swindled himself. He said he didn't appear to have any financial troubles.

"I've never known him to be involved in anything shady like that, so that's why I'm wondering if he got snookered by this kid (Vassallo)," he said.

McColm said he's had little contact with Kenitzer since 2004, when Kenitzer left McColm's commercial brokerage company, Sperry



Kenneth Kenitzer

(continued on page 8)



Graduates stand as their names are called during a ceremony March 11 at Santa Rita Jail in Dublin. Approximately 80 inmates finished their vocational and educational programs.

Graduating back into society

Santa Rita jail inmates finish vocational, educational programs

by Janet Pelletier

Steven Taylor knows all too well that breaking the law will most certainly land you behind bars.

Taylor, 21, will be set free from Santa Rita Jail, where he's been serving a one-year sentence, in two months. He was congratulated with 80 others at the Alameda County jail in Dublin March 11 for graduating from vocational and educational programs. Through these programs, inmates can achieve high school efficiency, acquire food service skills or complete English as a Second Language.

Asked how he feels about getting out, Taylor said he's

not nervous, but is aware of the uphill battle that lies ahead.

A commercial burglary in Hayward is what put the then-Oakland resident in custody.

"I made the wrong decision," he said. "I wanted some fast money."

There are roughly 4,500 inmates at Santa Rita, 800-900 of them women, according to Lt. Robert Burnham, who is the inmate services manager at the jail. Inmates in the county jail system are serving time for misdemeanors and felonies with sentences of one year or less. Most of the crimes committed are drug and alcohol-related.

Burnham spoke at the ceremony, reminding the graduates

that they need to be accountable for themselves.

"It's what you do when you go home that matters," he said. "Nobody wants you in jail. Nobody wants you in prison. The community doesn't want you here."

Burnham said those being released back into society have to be proactive, picking up the phone and using all the services available to them to be successful. Seventy percent of jail inmates will return to custody within three years' time, he said.

"What happens is there are barriers they face," Burnham explained after the graduation. "You have to have the ability

(continued on page 8)

Holiday Fund awards \$138K to 7 nonprofits

Donations include \$50,000 in matching funds by Tri-Valley Community Foundation

by Jeb Bing

Checks totaling \$138,715 were distributed this week to seven local nonprofits that were beneficiaries of the 2008 Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund, an annual community fundraiser that also included \$50,000 in matching funds by the Tri-Valley Community Foundation.

Each of six of the organizations received checks of \$19,245 with Open Heart Kitchen receiving \$23,245 because of additional contributions specifically earmarked for this nonprofit. The other six are Axis Community Health, Hope Hospice, Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley, Tri-Valley Haven, Valley Humane Society and the Emergency Room expansion program at ValleyCare Medical Center.

The checks were distributed at a reception by the Weekly's president Gina Channell-Allen and Dave Rice, president and chief executive of the Community Foundation. The event was held at the Weekly's offices at 5506 Sunol Blvd.

"We all know how difficult the economy is, which makes these contributions from our readers and others in the Tri-Valley very impressive, indeed," said Channell-Allen. "I'm sure the beneficiaries of these contributions appreciate that so many stepped to the plate to help those who need our support more than ever, and so do we."

(continued on page 6)

Of Note

Foothill sophomore earns Eagle Scout

Andres Oswill, a sophomore at Foothill High School, has attained the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest in the Boy Scouts of America.

The 15-year-old started his scout journey in 1999 as a cub scout in Pack 934 and advanced in ranks from tiger cub to Webelos scout, where he also received the Arrow of Light award in 2004. The same year, Andres crossed over from cub scouts to Boy Scouts and after hard work, he earned Eagle Scout.

To reach that ranking, he had to earn at least 21 merit badges (he earned 34) and hold various leadership positions in Troop 941. Among his accomplishments, he organized and led a service project for St. Augustine Catholic Church, landscaping the area around the front entrance sign on Bernal Avenue. The project covered more than 500 square feet, took more than 330 hours and cost nearly \$2,000.

Andres attended Brownsea Junior Leader Training, Wentle and Catalina Summer camps, spent 50 nights camping and completed BSA Lifeguard, BSA SCUBA and BSA Snorklerling awards. To honor his Eagle ranking, an Eagle Court of Honor was held recently at Valley Community Church.



Helping furry friends

Fifth-graders from Ms. Ferreira's class at Walnut Grove Elementary School continue to do good for the community. Recently Megan Martin, Chelsea Burke, Siena Moca and Lauren Possehl were all involved in a service learning project at the SPCA.



The group chose to help the cats and dogs by buying things they need and donating money. The girls sold Go Green grocery bags and cookies to raise \$89 in two days. They bought food and toys and donated the difference. The girls delivered the donations and played with the cats and dogs.

Red, white and blue—and green

Dublin ended its three-day celebration of St. Patrick's Day Sunday with music, food, vendor booths, Irish dancers and more filling the Civic Center plaza. At right, Blue Star Moms sing patriotic songs from their float in Saturday's 26th annual Dublin St. Patrick's Day parade.

In addition to sheep-herding demonstrations and a Village Blacksmith stage show, Sunday's festivities included the 11th annual Shamrock 5K Fun Run & Walk.



Jay Flachsbart

Holiday Fund

(continued from page 5)

Rice agreed, adding: "These are truly desperate times for organizations that serve the needy—those with fixed incomes, with little or no health insurance and without jobs or whose employers have significantly reduced their working hours," Rice said. "A number of these individuals and families were among those who contributed to the

Holiday Fund in years past and now they need our help, too."

"Although Pleasanton is ranked as one of the wealthiest cities its size in the nation, there are thousands in our area who rely on these seven organizations for individual and family assistance, emergency aid when they're suddenly without jobs and health care," Rice said. "Not everyone is wealthy here, not everyone has a job, not everyone has health insurance. These are the peo-

ple who need our help." Unlike most other fundraising drives by individual organizations, the Holiday Fund has no administrative expenses or other overhead. The Pleasanton Weekly donates all the support services so all money raised can support local non profit groups. Under the umbrella of the Tri-Valley Community Foundation, which handles and audits donations as they are received, all contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. ■

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Taylor Family Foundation cancels big fundraiser

Group stretches dollars to ensure children's programs stay intact

by Emily West

The largest annual fundraiser for the Taylor Family Foundation, Day in the Park, which was scheduled for August, has been cancelled this year.

In past years, several restaurants would offer free food and auction packages to support the organization that serves Northern California children with life-threatening and chronic diseases, developmental disabilities and at-risk youth. Other past supporters include local and regional wineries and chefs. TTFF president Elaine Taylor said 14 participating restaurants have gone out of business since the last Day in the Park.

"We trying to be respectful and considerate as well as grateful," Taylor said. "We had a good year last year. We will stretch those dollars and be really careful."

They realize the next 15 to 20 months, at least, will be challenging for them as well. Taylor also

reports that they have had to reduce staff in order to not reduce any of the program offerings. Buying two years worth of T-shirts last year has saved her for this year, as well as searching for more affordable prices for camp staples like ice cream.

Since it was founded in 1990, the Taylor Family Foundation continues to see a strong demand for its offerings. Camp Arroyo started in 2000, in partnership with the East Bay Regional Park District, which takes place over the summer and is co-operated by the YMCA of the East Bay. The demand has even led them to start a new camp this year.

"Our camp calendar is booked through 2011," Taylor said. "We will make it possible for the nearly 3,000 campers who will attend camp this year to experience the magic that camp has to offer."

Day in the Park is planned for 2010. Those wishing to donate or sponsor a camper can visit www.ttff.org or call the offices at 575-

1640.

"Anyone is welcome to call and chat with us to hear what we're doing and why," Taylor added. "We have a lot of ideas of thinking outside the box to raise money."

Foundation names new director

Angie Carmignani was recently named the executive director of The Taylor Family Foundation. In the new role, she will lead and support the foundation in all organizational management, community awareness, camp program development and continuation of successful fundraising.

Carmignani is a Bay Area native who started her management experience in her 10 years at A.G. Ferrari Foods. She has also helped in the development and management of TTFF's Camp Arroyo construction, maintenance, financials, legal documentation, office management, event coordination and community and vendor relations. ■

Season opener

Several thousand players, coaches and parents turned out for opening day of Little League baseball on Pleasanton Sports Park fields Saturday.

"Play Ball" cheers rang out across the park as the city's three leagues—American, Foothill and National—started spring play. Opening day ceremonies were separate but all included recognition of past award-winning teams, new coaches and league board members and American flags and team banners waving in the brisk, cold winds.

Pleasanton police also had a field day, issuing tickets for vehicles illegally parked along Parkside Drive corner sidewalks and in areas of Sports Park not specifically marked for parking. Motorists, frustrated by the lack of parking spaces for the opening day ceremonies for all three Little League teams, left their cars and rushed to the fields, returning a half hour later to find the tickets. For more sports coverage, visit page 20 and www.pleasantonweekly.com.



John Bing

Take Us Along



Illi-nose Weekly

Rohin, Chhaya and Deryl Sequeira rub former President Abraham Lincoln's nose in Springfield, Ill. According to local legend, rubbing the nose of sculptor Gutzon Borglum's bust of Lincoln conveys good luck.



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Barbara, Michael, David and Kevin Brooks pose with the Weekly at the famous Trevi Fountain in Rome, Italy

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Santa Rita

(continued from page 5)

to overcome it. These people have a criminal history, no driver's license, social security card, birth certificate—they either don't have access to it or don't have it. They have to find housing, employment, feed their kids."

Taylor, who has three children to support, is aware of the hurdles in his path, but is determined. He said his grandmother, who works at San Quentin prison, is helping him get into Laney College.

The graduation's keynote speaker was Otis Ward, who is a social service advocate credited by the Alameda County Sheriff's Office with expanding educational opportunities for inmates as well as low-income families through the Alameda County Associated Community Action Program and his nonprofit ROCK (Restoring Our Communities through Knowledge).

"Everybody gets second chances," Taylor said. "It's up to the person to take that chance and make it happen." ■

Ponzi

(continued from page 5)

Van Ness.

"He's had a good career in the high tech world in Silicon Valley," McColm said, adding that he retired from the industry in 2003.

"He worked with me for two years," he said. "His license was with me, up until 2004. He was approved to the Department of Real Estate. He had no criminal record. It's just out of character."

Tracy Davis, a spokeswoman with the SEC, said she can't comment on exactly when the investigation into the alleged Ponzi scheme began.

"We can't comment on when our investigation began, but what I can say is we did receive information at least by last month, by February," she said. "We did receive a tip."

The SEC has sought relief from the court system, Davis said, including a temporary restrain-

ing order against Vassallo, Kenitzer and EIMT as well as a preliminary injunction against Vassallo and Kenitzer. With his consent, Vassallo's assets have been frozen, she added.

So far, the SEC has located one bank account in Redding, Calif., managed by Vassallo, containing \$1.2 million, but the commission continues to investigate where the rest of the money is, said Attorney Monique Winkler.


The Internal Revenue Service, the U.S. Attorney's Office and the Federal Bureau of Investigation are all working on the case, in assistance with the SEC. Representatives with the IRS and the U.S. Attorney's Office said they couldn't comment on the criminal investigation. FBI agent Steve Dupre, based out of the bureau's Sacramento office, said two search warrants have been filed—one for EIMT in Folsom and one for Kenitzer's home in Pleasanton. The affidavit which specifies the cause for the warrants has been sealed by a judge. ■




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Opinion

Editorial

Gaining an edge on stimulus funds

Pleasanton has scored big when it comes to latching on to federal stimulus funds thanks to the strong efforts of Congressmen Jerry McNerney (D-11th), Pete Stark (D-13th) and California Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein, who are advancing projects worth hundreds of millions of dollars to this state, the Tri-Valley and Pleasanton. McNerney has even taken the lead in appointing Eric Halstrom, a member of his staff, as economic recovery advisor to make sure that this area gets its fair share of funding for projects that will create jobs, invest in roads and bridges and help our schools. We agree that during these tough times, it's more important than ever to invest in the local economy and get people back to work. McNerney has even assembled a guidebook as a starting point for organizations and government officials (available at <http://mcnerney.house.gov/pdf/mcnerneystimulusguide.pdf>) that have questions about how to apply for funding from the stimulus package. He is positioning himself as an advocate for local projects to receive funding and his office will continue to serve as a resource.

City Manager Nelson Fialho was even a step ahead when it came to recognizing opportunities in the first wave of stimulus funds. When President Obama signed into law Feb. 17 the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), Fialho already had key department managers in place to watch for opportunities to bring some of the funds to Pleasanton. On Feb. 19, two days after the president signed the bill, the League of California Cities issued a 42-page booklet about municipal funding opportunities in the ARRA. The book is a directory of stimulus funds available for shovel ready projects now and for the rest of the year, funds running into the billions of dollars for cities, counties, transit districts and others that can make the dirt fly quickly to stimulate the economy. Almost before the ink had dried on the league's compilation, City Engineer James Kelcourse and Traffic Engineer Michael Tassano, with the help of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, had identified a \$1.6-million allocation available for street resurfacing. By March 3, they had the city's application ready for review by the City Council, which quickly dispatched it to Washington. It's expected the money will be here late this spring to be added to the \$2 million already budgeted for this summer's projects. Talk about dirt flying. By nearly doubling the funds available, Pleasanton will be able to significantly increase the number of contracts to be awarded to local firms and put nearly twice the number of laborers to work.

Other opportunities are also under review, with Fialho's copy of the League of California Cities booklet filled with notations by different department heads as to projects they believe qualify for stimulus funds. These include \$1.5 million in community development block grants, \$150 million in economic development funds that could go for downtown and other business-related projects nearly set to go; funds to help pay most of the \$4 million still needed to build the Bernal Avenue bridge over the Arroyo de la Laguna near Foothill Road, where engineering plans and the design work are already approved; federal funds available under the Clean Energy and the Environment category that could give Pleasanton the \$2.5 million it needs to convert the Operations Service Center to solar; and even more to pay for the solar rooftop system already designed for the new Firehouse Arts Center that is under construction on Railroad Avenue.

Other cities may bemoan the fact that they'll get less or none of the stimulus funds announced in the president's Feb. 17 bill. By acting fast and having shovel-ready projects ready to go, funds that Washington are making available to those paying attention will be coming home to help our local economy. ■

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.

Submitting a letter to the editor or guest opinion constitutes a granting of permission to the Pleasanton Weekly and Embarcadero Publishing Company to also publish it online, including in our online archives and as a post on Town Square.

For more information contact Editor Jeb Bing at (925) 600-0840.

Guest Opinion

Drop the housing cap now

by Jon Harvey

Here in the Bay Area, many of us realize that achieving true sustainability takes more than protecting our hills and open space. It also takes wise development within our cities and towns, so people of all incomes can live in walkable neighborhoods near jobs and services.



In Pleasanton, we made a good start toward sustainability in our 1996 General Plan, which included an urban growth boundary to preserve precious open space. But another policy adopted at the same time is now proving to have been a step backward: our housing cap.

Unique in all of California, Pleasanton's housing cap sets a limit of 29,000 homes, prohibiting even one additional new house or apartment from being built. In 1996, that seemed a long way off. But today, we're just 2,000 homes away from hitting that ceiling.

The city is about to adopt a new General Plan for the next 15 years. Still, the proposed new plan includes the housing cap.

This is a serious problem. Already, Pleasanton does not have enough homes for the people who work here. In 15 years, the new General Plan will add almost 45,000 more jobs. But the housing cap limits us to only 2,000 more homes.

If we don't fix this imbalance, we'll see a lot more driving as people commute here from far-off bedroom communities in the Central Valley and elsewhere. That means much worse traffic and more greenhouse gases.

California is leading a charge to reduce greenhouse gas pollution. In the Bay Area, almost half of that pollution comes from our tailpipes. To reduce our pollution,

we need to drive less.

But Pleasanton's proposed General Plan goes in exactly the wrong direction. Instead of reducing driving, it anticipates a whopping 46 percent increase in driving over the next 15 years as people commute in from far away.

The proposed General Plan also misses the opportunity to build the homes we need close to transit. Studies have repeatedly shown that people living in neighborhoods close to transit drive less. But the proposed plan calls for building very few new homes around regional transit centers such as the BART and ACE stations.

This is attracting notice. In fact, California Attorney General Jerry Brown is calling on Pleasanton to change the proposed General Plan. The state Attorney General recently wrote to Pleasanton's mayor to say that, if the housing cap is not changed, "the city will be in violation of state law." He also said the city's environmental analysis of the proposed General Plan "shirks its responsibility to fully analyze and address the greenhouse gas emissions stemming from its proposed development plans and is therefore legally inadequate."

Urban Habitat has already sued Pleasanton because the housing cap could prevent people with lower incomes from finding the homes they need. A court ruling against the city would take the power to plan out of our hands. A separate suit by the attorney general would be even worse.

Let's not let it get to that point. It's time for our City Council to show leadership. It's time to drop the housing cap and plan for more new homes around transit.

Jon Harvey is a resident of Pleasanton and a board member of Greenbelt Alliance (www.greenbelt.org), which protects open space and promotes vibrant urban places around the San Francisco Bay Area.

Letters

Forums fuel anger about parcel tax issue

Dear Editor,

I hope that I am incorrect, but I feel that the Weekly isn't representing a balanced view of the budget crisis at the local level. Since you are a small town paper, it seems like you should explain the jeopardized programs and how their loss will impact our children and our community. The PW can stay away from the controversy of the parcel tax, but still educate our community and encourage them find ways to be heard in Sacramento.

But, instead, the PW blogs have fueled anger, resentment

and are full of slanderous statements. I don't know if I will be a PW fan much longer.

Candace Cease

Stoneridge decision a good one

Dear Editor,

City Council: thank you very much for making the right decision. We are disappointed that the decision was not unanimous.

Without the extension, only Pleasanton residents would be living without direct access to Staples Ranch (Livermore and Dublin are building their connections).

Based on the comments from our community, everyone wants

(continued on page 10)

Tri-Valley
Wellness.com

An Open Challenge to
the Pleasanton Wellness
Service Provider
Community:

Help Save Our Teachers' Jobs!

The Challenge ~

On **Saturday, April 4**, All the Pleasanton wellness provider businesses (Gym*, Trainers, Massage Therapists, Spas, Chiropractors, Acupuncturists, Yoga and Pilates studios, any other wellness service providers who are interested in participating) **are challenged to donate 100%** of their receipts to PUSD to help reduce the budget shortfall that has led to the layoffs of our teachers. Checks for services rendered on that day will be written directly to the school district, rather than to the practitioners themselves.

Those businesses who agree to participate in this "Day for the Teachers" will be listed in a quarter page ad in next week's Pleasanton Weekly, and on the **TriValleyWellness.com** website.

I personally will be training as many clients as I can book from 6:00am to 8:00pm on that day (I normally do not take clients on Saturdays) and my wife, donating her final unemployment check to the cause as well.

Please join us, Pleasanton wellness services providers in this critically important cause.

Thank You.

Dan Taylor
ACE-Certified Fitness Trainer, NASM-CPT
Principal, **TriValleyWellness.com**

***(Gyms and studios who charge a monthly membership will be asked to donate 1/30th of their monthly membership revenue).**



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reserve your place by April 6th.



Ravinder Sood, Ted Simos, David Persin, Scott Edington, Amber Strock

Letters

(continued from page 9)

the extension. Those "opposed" only wanted to postpone the extension until Highway 84 and 580 and neighboring improvements were in place. Some of these road improvements will be in place when our road goes through.

The county has historically proven that they mean what they say—they only make an offer to pay for something one time. Without the county money, who knows when we would have enough revenues to pay for the infrastructure and other improvements. Hopefully we can now move forward without further delays and "roadblocks." Everyone has waited long enough.

Lisa and Dave Osterman

Thank councilmembers who voted for extension

Dear Editor,

To all who made a phone call, sent an email, wrote a letter and/or attended the Pleasanton City Council meeting in support of completing Stoneridge Drive to El Charro Road with the development of the Staples Ranch, we say thank you.

On Feb. 24, a majority comprised of Mayor Jennifer Hosterman and councilmembers Cheryl Cook-Kallio and Jerry Thorne responded decisively to changing economic times with prudent, fiscally-minded leadership and voted to move Stoneridge Drive and Staples Ranch forward, together. As a result, millions of dollars in Stoneridge Drive construction costs will be saved and a much needed traffic improvement project will be built sooner rather than later; our tax base will receive a boost and hundreds of new jobs

will be created despite challenging economic times; new senior housing and the Sharks Ice facility will move forward, thereby enhancing quality of life at the same time that we strengthen the local economy. It's a true win-win.

Thanks again for your support, and the next time you get the chance, please let Mayor Hosterman and councilmembers Cheryl Cook-Kallio and Jerry Thorne know that you appreciate their work.

Scott Raty
President/CEO

Pleasanton Chamber of
Commerce

Isn't it time for all of us to cut back?

Dear Editor,

Another tax increase. Boy is this an emotional call.

I'm thinking of the parcel tax to support our schools. Schools are good, good schools are great. We have good schools here, and I hope it stays that way. However, whilst most of us have a need today to cut back, be frugal, and try to squeeze the most out of what money we still have left or available to us, our school board is asking for more.

The money is needed for good programs, programs we want to keep. That's for sure, but let's think back a year or so. Didn't the school board vote for salary increases then? Even though reserve funds were needed to cover the increase. What are the salaries of the executives of our school board? Remember, taxes never decrease or go away. I, too, want good schools but isn't it time for us all to cut back, be frugal and stop sipping from the taxpayer fountain?

Richard Schwaninger



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Community Pulse

Police Report

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

March 10

- Theft:
 - 4:19 p.m. in the 7300 block of Joshua Circle; identity theft
 - 4:38 p.m. in the 5600 block of Owens Drive; petty theft, lock picking
- Burglary:
 - 10:41 a.m. in the 6600 block of Koll Center Parkway; vehicular
 - 11:52 p.m. in the 4400 block of Sierrawood Lane
 - 9:43 p.m. in the 5800 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- Vandalism:
 - 6:43 a.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Greenwood Road
- Drug/alcohol violations:
 - 2:19 p.m. in the 1100 block of Santa Rita Road; marijuana possession
 - 4:19 p.m. at the intersection of Boulder Street and Valley Avenue; under the influence of a controlled substance

March 11

- Theft:

- 2:35 a.m. in the 7400 block of Ironwood Court; grand theft
- 9:05 a.m. in the 5400 block of Sunol Boulevard; petty theft
- 9:41 a.m. in the 4500 block of Mirador Drive; petty theft
- 11:54 a.m. in the 600 block of Acadia Court; identity theft
- 3:13 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft
- 4:26 p.m. in the 7000 block of Koll Center Parkway; identity theft
- 9:09 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft

•Burglary:

- 5:27 a.m. in the 200 block of Main Street

•Vandalism:

- 2:44 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

•Battery:

- 4:54 a.m. in the 6100 block of Hansen Drive

•Truant:

- 9:28 a.m. in the 4700 block of Muirwood Drive

March 12

•Theft:

- 8:24 a.m. in the 600 block of Concord Place
- 12:52 p.m. in the 3200 block of Northampton Court; identity theft

- 4:43 p.m. in the 4500 block of Harper Court; grand theft
- 6:13 p.m. at the intersection of Pimlico and Brockton drives; identity theft

•Vehicular burglary:

- 7:22 a.m. in the 6800 block of Inglewood Drive

•Vandalism:

- 8:32 a.m. in the 7300 block of Johnson Drive

•Public drunkenness:

- 11:21 p.m. in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

March 13

•Theft:

- 1:36 a.m. in the 2100 block of Rheem Drive; petty theft
- 5:27 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft
- 6:14 p.m. in the 3700 block of Eastwood Way; stolen vehicle

•Burglary:

- 4:10 p.m. in the 3600 block of Bernal Avenue

•Public drunkenness:

- 10:53 p.m. in the 300 block of St. Mary Street

•Battery:

- 3:03 a.m. in the 4400 block of Yuma Court

Obituaries

Paul J. Laborde

Paul Laborde, a 37-year resident of Pleasanton, died peacefully at home March 3 with his loved ones by his side. He was 71.

Mr. Laborde was born Jan. 25, 1938 in Oakland. He served his country proudly in the U.S. Army from 1960-1966. He was a pressman for the Oakland Tribune for 38 years. Mr. Laborde was affiliated with the SIRS and the Knights of Columbus.

He is survived by his loving family: beloved wife of 47 years, Eileen Laborde of Pleasanton; children, Patrick Laborde (Michelle) of Duvall, Wash. and Lisa Hill (Aaron) of Livermore; brother, Henri P. Laborde of Rio Vista, Calif.; and cherished grandchildren, Jessica and Brandon Laborde, Allison and Christopher Hill. He is also survived by several in-laws and many nieces and nephews.

Services were held March 9 at St. Isidore Catholic Church in Danville. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to St. Jude Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Geraldine Nerton

Geraldine Nerton died March 3 at the age of 91.

Mrs. Nerton was born Nov. 30, 1917 in Oakland. She attended McClymonds High School.

She moved to Pleasanton some years later and worked at Sandia National Laboratories in Livermore. Mrs. Nerton enjoyed reading, sleeping, traveling and gambling, but her passion was entertainment. She sang for the GIs at Mare Island often. You could find her entering singing contests in Oakland, and going to the Sweets Ballroom, where she remembered watching the 10-cent dancers dance with guys from the USO. Even in to her 90s you could see her watching entertainment at the brewery, Fridays in the Park and Pleasanton Hotel, singing and clapping along. She finished out her travels with a trip to Disneyland Jan. 1 to watch her grand niece Alexe entertain.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John "Tillman" Nerton. She is survived by her nieces and nephews, Jim Amaral, Lee Amaral, Donna Theodore Martin, Beverly Kingsley, Joe Theodore and Ted Theodore.

The family would also like to acknowledge her caregivers Dawn, and Jing Jing for their kindness and care.

A memorial mass was scheduled to be held March 12 at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church. Burial followed at St. Augustine's Cemetery.

Kenneth James Furrer

Kenneth James Furrer died March 11 at the age of 48.

Mr. Furrer, a Pleasanton resident, was born Aug. 4, 1960.

His gentle nature and patience was well known as was his great sense of humor. A journeyman carpenter by trade, he was also a home mechanic to his much loved Ford Ranchero and Ford Mustang Fastback. He loved to work on his cars and hang out in the garage "puttering around," as he liked to say. Mr. Furrer was a wonderful and loving father to two beautiful girls. He loved to take his girls camping, fishing, to Disneyland and also just to play out in the yard with them. He also passed along his love of trains to his girls.

He is survived by his wife, Sarah; daughters, Elizabeth Boyd (step-daughter) and Amanda Furrer; dad, Robert Furrer; sister, JoAnne Watson; brother-in-law, David Milne; sister-in-law, Kathy Milne; nephew, Kevin; niece, Alison; and many aunts, uncles and cousins. He was preceded in death by his mother, Clara Furrer and brother, Mark Furrer.

A memorial service was scheduled to be held March 17 at St. Augustine Catholic Church.



THE CITY OF PLEASANTON

WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

City Council and PUSD Joint Meeting

Monday, March 23, 2009 @ 7:00 p.m.
PUSD Offices, 4665 Bernal Avenue

- Please visit our website at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us to view the agenda for this meeting.

Planning Commission

Wednesday, March 25, 2009 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

•UP-77-13, City of Pleasanton

Review and consider the revocation of UP-77-13, an approved conditional use permit granted to the Pleasanton Lodge located at 3370 Hopyard Road.

•PSDR 388, Steve Peterson

Application for sign design review approval for a master sign program and new "Comerica Bank" tenant signage for a commercial building located at 600 Main Street.

•PUD 84 21 4M, Braddock & Logan

Application for a PUD major modification to add 12 new apartment units in three buildings and miscellaneous site modifications at the Civic Square apartments located at 4800 Bernal Avenue.

Trails Ad Hoc Committee

Monday, March 23, 2009 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Conference Room, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Please visit our website at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us to view the agenda for this meeting.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department (LPFD) invites the public to the following informational events:

"Together We Prepare: Emergency Preparedness" Presenters Training

March 14, 2009 – 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

LPFD - Station #6, 4550 East Ave., Chianti Room, Livermore

Cost: Free – To Enroll Call (925)454-2361 or email

TogetherWePrepare@lpfire.org

LPFD seeks community volunteers interested in emergency preparedness to help present basic emergency preparedness training to 25% of our community. The 1-day presenters training session will provide "how-to" tips to effectively present the class. If you are a member of a business association, club, non-profit, or faith-based organization and enjoy giving presentations, you would be an ideal candidate.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training

April 1, 2009 through May 6, 2009 - 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

LPFD - Training Tower, 3301 Busch Rd., Pleasanton

Enrollment Fee: \$50.00 Enroll at Livermore Adult Education, Call (925)606-4722 or www.livermoreadulted.org;

Learn how to help your neighborhood when disasters strike. Enroll in Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. Training includes: Disaster Basics, Disaster Medical, Hazards Materials Awareness, Fire Suppression, Utilities Shutoff, Light Search & Rescue, CERT organization, Disaster Psychology and a drill. Registration is required. For more information about the CERT Program, please email CERT@lpfire.org

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

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

ON THE TOWN



AMERICAN

Bridges

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CONTINENTAL

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MEDITERRANEAN

Oasis Grille

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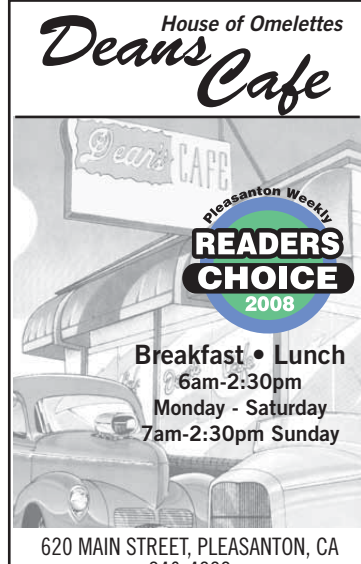


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FACING LAYOFFS

Donlon School teachers cope with losing their jobs because of state, school district budget shortfalls

by Jeb Bing

School photos are usually memorable snapshots of the good times on campus. They are not like these shown on this issue's cover and these pages of teachers wearing pink because they've just received notices of possible layoffs.

Donlon Elementary School principal Marc Schweitzer gave out the notices last week to 20 teachers and special education aides. They were among about 150 in the Pleasanton school district that are facing termination May 15, the date teachers are required to be notified if they won't keep their jobs in the coming school year. Classified employees, including administrative aides, clerical, custodial and other hourly workers, must be notified 45 days before their supposed to return to work for the 2009-10 school year.

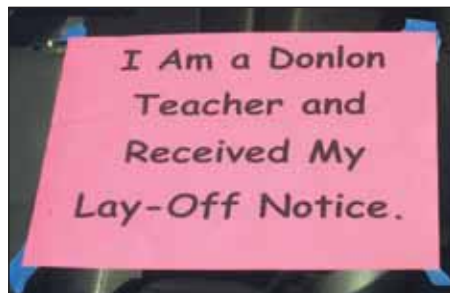
"It was my job to deliver these notices to each of the 20 certificated teachers at Donlon," Schweitzer said. "I met with teachers individually and discussed it and then handed them the information. In my 20 years as a school principal, these last two days of delivering notices of possible layoffs have been the most difficult in my career. I have never had to do this before."

The layoffs, along with possible cuts of reading specialists, librarians and even the scrapping of Pleasanton's class size reduction program, which limits kindergarten through third grades and ninth grade English and math classes to no more than 20 students, are the result of severe reductions in state education funds. The Pleasanton district alone faces a shortfall of \$8.7 million and the school board, worried that the state's ongoing fiscal crisis could worsen, has pledged to reduce its budget by nearly \$10 million.

Some relief could come May 19 when voters will decide on a series of bonds, new taxes and other funding measures that could help close part of the state's \$41.6-billion budget deficit. If approved, those measures could add more funds for education, although it's unclear how much would be made available to Pleasanton or other school districts, many which face far greater shortfalls going into the new school year.

The Pleasanton district also is expected to receive \$2.1 million in federal stimulus funds that Congress and President Obama have recently approved. These funds will be earmarked for special education programs. Because Pleasanton funds special education out of its general fund, there would be a corresponding freeing up of \$2.1 million for general fund uses, which could ease the number of program and personnel cuts now being planned.

However, as Superintendent John Casey pointed out last week, "these stimulus funds are one-time monies only, so we wouldn't



Cars in the staff parking lot sport window signs letting passersby know the driver received a pink slip.

be able to count on them again next year."

Some cuts could be spared with a \$233-a-year parcel tax, which is now called Measure G, that the school board is asking voters to approve in a special election June 2. To pass, two-thirds plus one of those voting in the election must approve the measure. If it passes, the tax, which would expire after four years, would raise \$4.5 million, enough to keep class size reductions both at the elementary and high school levels.

Counselors, music programs, librarians and reading and math support programs also would continue unchanged. Other administrative and teaching positions that already are being cut and are not part of these specific programs would not be saved through the tax.

That's a concern to the 20 teachers at Donlon who, because of their low seniority, could still lose their jobs.

"I got my notice a week ago Monday at 8 a.m.," said Britni Miller, a fourth-grade teacher at Donlon. "I expected it since this is only my second year as a teacher. I live in Pleasanton so obviously I am going to be voting for the parcel tax. I'll just have to wait to see if the tax passes and then to find out if the district will be hiring any of us back."

"I'm married and we just bought a house," she added. "My husband went back to school so we are both kind of living on my income right now. Teaching is what I want to do and love to do, but there aren't a whole lot of choices to look at."

Miller was born and raised in Pleasanton, attended Walnut Grove Elementary and Harvest Park Middle schools and graduated from Foothill High in 2003. She holds a bachelor's degree from UC Davis and received her teaching credential from Cal State East Bay before being hired by the Pleasanton district.

First grade teacher Jessica Posson is also facing termination May 15, after seven years as a teacher at Donlon. Like Miller, she was also born and raised in Pleasanton, attending Alisal Elementary and Pleasanton Middle schools before graduating from Foothill in 1997. She received her bachelor's degree and teaching credential at Cal

State East Bay.

"This notice of possible layoff that I received was totally unexpected," Posson said, who is expecting her first child May 6. "We were told that 2002 hires would not be affected and then Monday morning we got the possible layoff notices."

"I've been told that my salary is based on the success of the measures being voted on May 19 in the state election and that if the district budget gets any worse, I'll be cut," she added.

Married and living in Livermore, Posson said her husband is working part-time while completing his master's degree at UC Berkeley.

Also facing layoff May 15 is Stephanie Kernan, now in her first year at Donlon as a kindergarten teacher. She's also Pleasanton-born and attended Walnut Grove and Harvest Park before graduating from Amador Valley High School. Her sister Brittany Kernan, who is in her third year as a teacher at Alisal, also has been notified that she could be terminated May 15. Both women are the daughters of school board trustee Pat Kernan.

"We're not finding any teaching opportunities anywhere in the state," Stephanie Kernan said. "I'm looking into teaching abroad or possibly moving back to Colorado, where I received my degree at Colorado College."

Also affected by the school district's budget shortfall is Nancy Marks, a longtime special education teaching aide at Donlon. Although not faced with a layoff, at least not yet, she has been told her hours will be reduced by 45 minutes a day starting April 3.

"There are 12 of us here who have been told to reduce our hours," Marks said. "That means that we will meet the buses when they arrive with our students in the morning and then take them to the buses in the afternoon at the same time we have been told to quit working. That will give us little time to prepare our classrooms for the day or clean up and get ready for the next day in the afternoon."

Marks said the reduction in hours, along with an increase in medical insurance, will cost her \$400 a month.

Donlon is designated to handle some of the most severely handicapped and mentally challenged youngsters among the district's nine elementary schools, including children with Down syndrome, autism and other conditions.

Adding to Marks' woes is the fact that her husband, who is self-employed, is faced with a downturn in his business that has reduced his income, too.

But it's not all gloom, Marks was quick to add.

"We make a special effort to kick back a little on the weekends and have a good time," she said. "Life goes on and we'll make the best of it." ■



Stephanie Kernan, Jessica Posson and Britni Miller are three



Longtime special education teaching aide Nancy Marks was told to reduce her hours, leaving little preparation time.



Photos by Jeb Bing

of several teachers at Donlon Elementary School and throughout the district who received potential layoff notices.

Getting 'pinked'

Donlon Elementary School teachers facing layoffs:

- Melissa Schussel**, 4th-5th grade
- Eryn Neidle**, 4th grade
- Angela Serrano**, 2nd grade
- Lisa Taw**, reading specialist
- Britni Miller**, 4th grade
- Stephanie Kernan**, kindergarten
- Kelly Munson**, special needs aide
- Chely George**, special needs aide
- Debbie Hsu**, special education assistant
- Darlyn Johnson**, special education assistant
- Nancy Marks**, special education assistant
- Vinitha Ravindran**, special education aide
- Kobra Salmibakhsh**, special education aide
- Kim Kozuch**, 1st grade
- Cindy Vance**, kindergarten
- Jessica Posson**, 1st grade
- Christy Verbeck**, 1st grade
- Jeniffer Heid**, 1st grade
- Mary Ouelette**, 2nd grade
- Chris MacChesney**, 2nd grade
- Jenny Eisenbies**, 2nd grade
- Denicia Erickson**, kindergarten
- Melanie Wilcox**, 2nd-3rd grade
- Connie Weaver**, 2nd grade
- Tina Wise**, 1st grade



Donlon principal Marc Schweitzer said handing out pink slips has been the hardest part of his 20 years as a school principal.

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Living



Emily West

Juniors Lena Lane and Avahi Jariwala (center) host a meeting to prepare for their role in UNICEF's Tap Project from March 22-28.

QUENCHING A NEED

Amador students linking community with UNICEF

by Emily West

Even during a time of drought, there is little thought given to accessing clean water. It freely flows from Pleasanton faucets, sometimes through a fancy filtration system, to make it to a drinking glass. Even thirsting lawns are easily hydrated by sprinklers.

This is something that Avahi Jariwala, a junior at Amador Valley High School, says she takes for granted. After learning about the needs of many young people in developing countries, such as clean water, Jariwala and three other students founded a UNICEF club at Amador. The United Nations Children's Fund was established in 1946 as a way to help children and mothers in developing countries.

Next week, the club will partner with the organization's Tap Project, which raises money to improve access to safe water and sanitation facilities in schools and communities, as well as promote safe hygiene.

The project started in New York in 2007 and this marks the second year it has been a nationwide effort. The club members have recruited area restaurants to participate by asking patrons to consider donating \$1 for the glass of tap water that is usually free. All tap water donations would be used to bring clean water to millions of children around the world. Last year's donations funded water and sanitation programs in Nicaragua, Iraq, Cote d'Ivoire and Belize. According to TapProject.org, \$1 will provide a child with clean water for 40 days.

"We were looking for ways to get the community connected with UNICEF," Jariwala said. "The best step was to help our peers, then we would reach Pleasanton and then the Bay Area."

Tap Project

The Tap Project is taking place during World Water Week, March 22-28. For details and to find local participating restaurants, visit www.taproject.org. The program will be collecting funds through April. To learn more about how to donate, email amadorunicef-club@gmail.com or volunteer@unicefusa.org.

Interested in J8?

UNICEF is now accepting essay applications to send a team to the J8 Summit. Teams of four must be affiliated with a school or another community organization. To learn more information, visit www.unicefusa.org/j8.

The idea to form a club came after Jariwala, three other Amador students and world history teacher Chris Murphy represented the United States at the Junior 8 Summit in Japan in July. They were selected to attend based on an essay contest. The J8 Summit allows teens ages 13-17 to be involved in topics concerning G8 countries and the global community. There they met with leaders of eight countries and presented solutions to issues such as global warming, child poverty and infectious diseases.

Students are encouraged to bring the J8 Summit experience back to the community. While there are other high school clubs across the country, UNICEF only formally recognizes the college groups, called Campus Initiative. It's the work of high school students, however, that has UNICEF hoping to

eventually expand to include high school programs.

"[The Amador students] are a talented group of exceptional young people," said Rachael Swanson, program manager for the U.S. Fund for UNICEF. "Their commitment to service and UNICEF is remarkable. They've gone above and beyond. It's a nice example of how a group of high school students can educate, advocate and fundraise for UNICEF programs."

Already, the group's first efforts have raised over \$400 for the organization by showing a screening of "Invisible Children." The documentary depicting child soldiers in Uganda has even moved students to take action through the club.

Lauren Morton, also a junior at Amador, said she is grateful for the club because it helps her see what she can do, instead of merely conjuring up ideas.

It was these statistics that urged junior Lena Lane to become involved. Many of the young people benefiting from UNICEF programs are her peers, which helped the numbers go beyond figures and form a connection. Later this year, the group will present what they've learned to eighth-grade classes, in hopes that they will get involved as freshmen.

Another water-related program the club has created involved mimicking how the children in developing countries must walk to get water each day. Students at Amador carried around 1 liter of water all day.

"They are forced to do things they shouldn't have to," Jariwala said, adding that some of the repercussions for these young people is missing out on school.

"They've done their best to educate their members and their community about the 25,000 children who die every day from preventable causes," Swanson said. "Every day we're working to get that number to zero." ■



Emily West

Rock 'n' roll star Conrad Birdie (Chris Chu) causes his young fans to scream and faint in "Bye, Bye Birdie."

Say hello to Birdie

Amador and Foothill students team up for the annual musical

by Emily West

Don't panic if high-pitched screams resonate from the Amador Theater over the next two week-ends. Conrad Birdie just has that affect on the ladies.

After weeks of rehearsals, Amador Valley and Foothill high school students present "Bye, Bye Birdie" March 20, 21, 26, 27 and 28.

The rock 'n' roll superstar causes a ruckus when he comes to small-town America as a publicity stunt to kiss a lucky girl on "The Ed Sullivan Show" before he is drafted into the Army.

Jovanna Ponco, a junior at Foothill, said the audience can expect a lively and colorful show that is full of energy.

This is the first year that Amador junior Courtney Freitas, who is in the ensemble, has participated in the musical.

"I love it," she said. "It's fun to combine both schools and even meet people I didn't know at Amador."

Michael O'Brien is in his fourth and final year of the musical production. The Amador senior plays a lead of Albert Peterson, Birdie's agent. All the experience has led him to pursue theater at Champan University in the fall.

Each show is at 7:30 p.m. at the Amador Theater, located at 1155 Santa Rita Road. Tickets are \$10 for students and \$12 for adults, and often they sell out. Purchase them at the box office or online at www.civicartstickets.org. ■

A HOPEFUL 2009 ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

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Foods That Increase Memory Retention and Sharpen Your Thinking

By Dr. Don Colbert

Fatty fish, such as mackerel, salmon, herring, sardines, and tuna, are rich sources of DHA, which is a fish oil that helps to create healthier brain cells.

The healthiest nuts for the brain are walnuts, which actually look like miniature brains, and almonds.

Foods with the greatest antioxidant capacity are the healthiest for the brain. These include fruits such as prunes, raisins, blueberries, blackberries, strawberries, and raspberries. Vegetables with the highest antioxidant capacity include garlic, kale, spinach, Brussels sprouts, alfalfa sprouts, and broccoli. Olive oil, avocados, macadamia nuts, and other monounsaturated fats help to prevent memory loss.

Used with permission. The author of several books, Dr. Colbert is in private practice in central Florida, where he lives with his family. A graduate of Oral Roberts School of Medicine, he has also received extensive training in nutritional and preventative medicine.

Food with the greatest antioxidant capacity are the healthiest for the brain. These include fruits such as:

- Prunes
- Raisins
- Blueberries
- Blackberries
- Strawberries
- Raspberries

Vegetables with the highest antioxidant capacity include:

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Classes

Free Photography Outing in Sunol

Spring is in full bloom in March. This group will take off to Sunol Regional Park and walk out towards Little Yosemite from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, March 21. Bring your camera, tripod, water bottle, lunch, hat and walking shoes. Call (510) 792-0905.

Concerts

Litany of Thorns A meditation on suffering and salvation by the Royal School of Church Music from 4-6 p.m., Sunday, March 22, at St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Rd. Cost is a \$5 suggested donation. Call 462-4802.

Winter Guard/Percussion Show Foothill's world-renowned band is hosting a winter guard and percussion show from 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Saturday, March 28, in the large gym. The competition will feature more than 55 groups from all over Northern California. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors. Visit www.foothill-band.org/events.

Events

American Girl Fashion Show

American Girl Fashion Show is a fun-filled event for girls and their families, friends and favorite dolls from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, March 21-22, at Castlewood Country Club, 707 Country Club Circle. Cost is \$45 for adults; \$40 for children. Enjoy tea party refreshments and enter to win door prizes. Visit www.eastbay-fashionshow.com.

Art Reception and Open Mic An Artist's Reception and Open Mic will be

held from 6-8 p.m., Thursday, March 26, at Me & My Friend's Cafe, 4713 First St. Local writers are invited to read works that emphasize dialogue; recommendations are short poems, flash fiction (300 words max), or a single page of dialog from a play. Call 518-4436.

Barrel Tasting Weekend Come and enjoy Livermore Valley's first Barrel Tasting Weekend from noon-5 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, March 28-29, at various Livermore wineries. Taste wines right out of the barrel, meet winemakers, and more. Cost is \$20 in advance; \$25 day of event. Visit www.LVwine.org.

Goodguys 27th All American Get-

Together Car Show & Swap Meet

The Goodguys 27th All-American Get-Together features indoor and outdoor car shows with over 3,000 hot rods, custom cars, classics, trucks, muscle cars and street machines. The show is from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, March 28-29, at Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave. Tickets are \$15. Visit www.good-guys.com.

LAV-LWV Spring Fling Livermore Amador Valley League of Women Voters will host its second annual Spring Fling from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 25, at Heritage Estates, 900 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore. Cost is \$20. Call 846-5001.

Pleasanton Ridge Fun Run The Pleasanton Ridge Fun Run will have both a 5K and 10K starting at 8:30 a.m., Saturday, March 21, at the Foothill Road Staging Area. Walkers are welcome in the 5K. Cost is \$27 for 5K; \$30 for 10K, including a T-shirt. To register, visit www.ebtrailrunners.com.

Fundraisers

Lacrosse March Madness The fourth annual Lacrosse March Madness for Foothill boys and girls lacrosse will be held on Saturday, March 21, at the Veteran's Hall, 301 Main St. Enjoy a great Italian dinner catered by Girasole, dancing, Martini bar and lots of fun. Cost is \$35. Limited seating and attire is casual. Call 846-3593.

Pasta Feed and Silent Auction Job's Daughters Bethel #14 Pleasanton will be having a Pasta Feed and Silent Auction from 6-8 p.m., Friday, March 27, at Pleasanton Masonic Lodge, 3370 Hopyard Rd. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children under 5 years old. Advance tickets are required; call 913-0163.

Sisters in Service Fourth Annual Indian Dinner A family-oriented fundraiser event to benefit marginalized women and children in India is from 5:30-8 p.m., Sunday March 29, at Valley Christian Center, 7500 Inspiration Dr., Dublin. Cost is \$10 for adults; \$3 for children. Call Gloria at 998-3785.

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Health

Stress and Your Health Stress is a normal part of life and some stress is good and healthy. Join this group for a free class to learn how stress affects your body and health and how to reduce stress in your life from 6:30-7:15 p.m., Monday, March 30. The class is free. Call 484-0191.

Lectures/ Workshops

Discovering the Grace in Chaos Join Jim Curtan on April 18-19 to explore the tension between our perception of chaos and the presence of grace through the Three Columns of Caroline Myss's work, "Sacred Contracts" at San Damiano, 710 Highland Dr., Danville. Cost is \$250; reservations are due by March 30. Call 208-1559.

Free Cisco VOIP Seminar Cisco Systems, and SoftNet Solutions, a Cisco Business Partner, present a free lunchtime seminar on how to cut costs in these tough economic times from noon-1:30 p.m., Thursday, April 9, at Cisco's Pleasanton office, 5890 Owens Dr., 4th Floor. Space is limited and reservations are required by calling (408) 542-0888.

Prevent Heart Disease, Obesity, and Chronic Illness Lose weight, reduce chronic illness and improve health with the body's DNA and the correct diet from 6-8:30 p.m., Thursday, March 26, at Nordstrom's Cafe in Stoneridge Mall, Pleasanton. Pam McDonald, PCP, NP, author of, "The APOE Gene Diet" will speak. Cost is \$20 for dinner and program; call Mona Dunlop at 828-3006.

On Stage

'Working' Las Positas College presents a musical production, "Working," which is based on the book by Studs Terkel March 27-April 19, at 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. For information, call 424-1100.

Seniors

Senior Center VIP Club This club is offering three trips during the spring including a trip to the 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.

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Sports

Parent photographers

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Stoneridge Water Polo takes second in tourney

The Stoneridge Water Polo Club 16 and under boys placed second in the A division of the 2009 Winterfest Water Polo Tournament recently in Southern California. The Winterfest team roster included: Bram Sciammas, Leo Colbert, Matt Beadle, Ian McNair, Michael Hawkins, Jeremy Blandino, Matt Jacobe, Conner Sharpe, Tyler Sharpe, Daniel Usedom, Jase Roessler, Chris Dotson. Head coach Dale Shephard and assistant coaches Randy Usedom and Kurt Roessler.

Ballistic U11 handed loss in championship

The Ballistic United U-11 boys concluded their season recently with a 3-1 loss in the championship game of the Norcal Cup Bronze Division. Coach Todd Higley said he is proud of his players and season.

"This game the Tigers capitalized on our mistakes and we were unable to capitalize on theirs, they are a very good team and deserved it today," he said.

Players include: Chudi Atuegbu, Jackson Still, Max Gershman, Sam Molz, Jeffrey Klei, Jack Traube,

Cameron Owens, Coach Todd Higley; Bryce Veit, Cameron Ritchie, Ryan Racer, Jacob Guzman, Sebby Perry, Mitchell Wilson and Tylor Silva.

Lacrosse club celebrates achievements

The Pleasanton Lacrosse Club had seven players selected to represent the club on Northern California Junior Lacrosse Association All-Star teams following tryouts recently.

Connor Veit (defender) and Jamirr (midfielder) Holland were selected to the Under-13 all-star team who will compete in Vail, Colorado this summer, while Josh Miller was picked as the goalie for the team who will travel to the U.S. Lacrosse Festival in Ohio, also this summer.

In the under-15 tryouts, Steven Patrick and Mike Barbier were tabbed for the team who will travel to the U.S. National Championships in Baltimore this summer, with Jerome Rigor and George Curtis being selected for the U-15 Vail team.

Amador Dons tennis are victorious in final

The Amador Dons recently competed at the James Logan High School Tennis Tournament. After four rounds of team tennis, the Dons came out of top, the third time in four years running.

The first round was a clean sweep, 7-0 as the Dons four singles positions and three double positions won handily allowing their competitor Salesian High School a game or two in each position.

The second round brought James Logan High School, a team with some fabulous players, but the Dons tamed the Colts 5-2. Feeling the momentum of the first set victory Arjun powered ahead to 5-2 in the second set. In the third round, it was Amador over Drake High School from Marin. The Pirates walked the plank 6-1. Saturday afternoon found the Dons victorious over Moreau Catholic. The Dons sank the Mariners 5-2.

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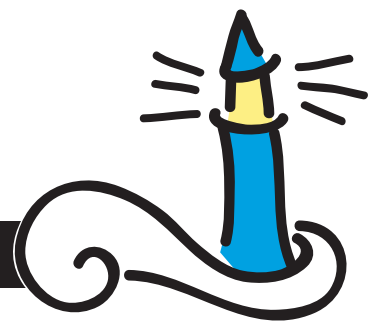


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3831 Antonini Wy., Pleasanton



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1735 Terra Ct., Pleasanton



Gorgeous Luxury in 6,755 sq.ft., 4 BD, bonus, office, 4½ BA, pool, views. Come see this stunning home.
Offered at \$3,200,000 OPEN SUN 1-4

ADDITIONAL OPEN HOMES

- **2130 Alexander Wy., Pleasanton** — Offered at \$430,000. 1,071 sq. ft., adorable 2 BD/2 BA
- **5855 San Juan Wy., Pleasanton** — Offered at \$925,000. 2,536 sq. ft., 4 BD, 2½ BA, close to town
- **836 Piemonte Dr., Ruby Hill** — Offered at \$1,599,000. 3,485 sq. ft., 4 BD, 3½ BA, golf course views
- **1988 Via di Salerno, Ruby Hill** — Offered at \$1,777,000. 4,616 sq. ft., 4 BD, 3½ BA, bonus room

Please visit www.rubyhill.net or www.fabulousproperties.net to view the details of these homes and other listings.

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Donna Garrison
925-397-4165

Debby Johnson-Abarta
925-989-6844

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925-397-4244

Real Estate

For open home listings visit our website at PleasantonWeekly.com/real_estate

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

DUBLIN

4 Bedrooms

7157 Hansen Drive \$589,000
Sat/Sun 1:30-4 J Rockcliff Realtors 251-2547

LIVERMORE

3 Bedrooms

620 Anna Maria \$469,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 621-4064

3300 Dyer Road \$998,000
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

PLEASANTON

2 Bedrooms

2130 Alexander Way \$430,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty 397-4244

3 Bedrooms

2558 Secretariat Drive \$499,000
Sat/Sun 12-5 J Rockcliff Realtors 251-2526

4040 Jensen Street \$529,000
Sat 10-12 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

4020 Nice Court \$535,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Prudential CA Realty 858-4198

2860 El Capitan Drive \$549,500
Sat 2-5 Alain Pinel Realtors 846-6500

6038 Corte Encinas \$610,000
Sun 1-4 Prudential CA Realty 858-4198

4576 Del Valle \$995,000
Sat 12-3 Alain Pinel Realtors 519-9080

4 Bedrooms

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

21 Castledown Road \$1,249,900
Sat 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

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

836 Piemonte Drive \$1,599,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty 980-0273

1988 Via di Salerno \$1,777,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty 980-0273

1735 Terra Court \$3,200,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty 980-0273

2320 Crestline \$625,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 519-9080

3733 Crofters Ct \$640,000
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

2274 Via Espada \$759,950
Sun 1:30-4 J Rockcliff Realtors 251-2535

3724 Angus Way \$785,000
Sun 1-4 ReMax Accord 730-1604

2586 Skimmer Court \$835,000
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 462-7653

5855 San Juan Way \$925,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty 397-4244

3844 Mohr Avenue \$995,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Northern CA Brokers 931-1600

5 Bedrooms

1342 West Lagoon Road \$1,189,950
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 963-8871

616 Windmill Lane \$1,249,000
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 216-0454

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

9459 Blessing Drive \$1,749,500
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 785-7777

5682 Sunset Creek Court \$1,999,000
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 785-7777

3831 Antonini Way \$2,099,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty 980-0273

6918 Corte Mateo \$779,000
Sun 1-4 Remax Accord 209-7644

5179 Muirwood Drive \$929,000
Sun 2-5 Alain Pinel Realtors 785-7777

6 Bedrooms

1368 Royal Creek Court \$1,195,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Realty 260-2508

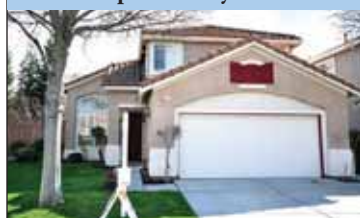


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Apricot Model
3724 Angus Way, Pleasanton
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Beautiful upgraded 4 BD, 3 BA, 2 car garage 1945 sq. ft. home located in a popular section of Pleasanton. Close to an award winning elementary school and neighborhood parks. Updated and modernized kitchen. Formal living and dining rooms. Spacious upstairs master suite with a master bath. Downstairs guest bedroom—could be an in-home office. 2 other upstairs bedrooms that share a Jack and Jill bathroom. Neutral carpet throughout. Cozy family room with a fireplace. Pride of home ownership prevails throughout this lovely home.

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1812 Paseo Del Cajon, Pleasanton

Offered at \$719,000

Fabulous 3 BD, 2 BA single level home in Del Prado. Upgraded gourmet kitchen, open living space, upgraded bathrooms, inside laundry. Pool and SYA access. Close to downtown and schools. Easy access to major freeways.

www.1812PaseoDelCajon.com

Open Sunday 1-4



6918 Corte Mateo, Pleasanton

Offered at \$779,000

Bright and neutral 5 BD, 3 BA home in Country Fair. 1 BD/BA downstairs. Court location. Home has new HVAC, carpet and fresh paint. Also includes outside office area complete with electricity, A/C & phone line. 5th BD currently bonus room. Great home, minutes to major freeways.

www.6918CorteMateo.com



868 Bonita Avenue, Pleasanton

Offered at \$799,000

Upgraded 3 BD, 2 BA single level home in Pleasanton Heights. Crown molding, hardwood floors, gas burning fireplace, plantation shutters. Home has great curb appeal in this popular neighborhood. Close to downtown, schools and easy access to major freeways.

www.868BonitaAve.com



Janice and Joanne

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This week's top stories & hot picks



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BERKELEY—Sophisticated newer modern contemp.
home, built in 2005. Spacious and gracious, sunlight floods
throughout with light filled spaces and skylights. Large
inviting Master w/ private sitting area & views of bay. Many
custom features throughout with a two car attached garage.

901 SANTA BARBARA RD

\$1,099,000



PLEASANTON—NEW LOOK with new interior paint,
ceilings retextured and all new flooring makes this classic
Birdland property a "must see". Ideal location within walk-
ing distance to Sports Park. Open, updated kitchen-family
room combination leads to a gorgeous rear patio and lush
gardens. Don't miss this one!

4898 WOODTHRUSH RD

\$725,000



PLEASANTON—Beautiful single story home on large lot.
Upgraded open kitchen with designer tile countertops and
upgraded appliances. New carpet and newly refinished wood
floors. Beautifully landscaped yard. Located in one of the
most desirable neighborhoods in Pleasanton.

1808 ROSETREE CT

\$705,000



PLEASANTON—Expanded Val Vista REO! 4 bedrooms,
3 baths and loft. Great for growing or large family. Lots of
room to roam around! Updated Kitchen with breakfast bar.
Hardwood floors. Tucked away on court location and close to
Val Vista Park.

6788 MELODY CT

\$639,900



PLEASANT HILL—Spacious four bedroom with master
and den/office on the first floor. Huge family room with ad-
joining kitchen. New roof and newer dual pane windows and
just painted. Private backyard with lush landscaping, lawn
area and patios. Walk to Sequoia Elementary and Middle
Schools.

12 HORTEN CT

\$599,000



PLEASANTON—Gorgeous end, corner unit, only 1
attached wall, 1 story. No one above or below living space.
No stairs. Granite kitchen, wood floorin. This is the popular
floor plan that rarely comes on the market. Huge master
suite. Inside laundry room. Huge family room.

3254 VERDE CT

\$449,000



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\$1,275,000



5517 Corte Sonora ~Pleasanton
 Spacious 3 Bedroom 2.5 Bath home located in the popular Del Prado neighborhood. Light and bright kitchen with breakfast nook area. Lovely formal dining and living rooms. Large backyard with side yard access and covered patio. Great value for Pleasanton.
\$649,000



5508 London Way ~San Ramon
 Gorgeous home in Windemere with upgrades galore! This 4 Bedroom 3.5 Bath home has it all. Beautiful kitchen with granite counters, large center island & stainless steel appliances & opens to a spacious family room. Amazing backyard for entertaining with backyard BBQ, stunning pool/spa & fire pit. Views of the foothills.
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PLEASANTON
Open SAT 1-4 **21 CASTLEDOWN RD**
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PLEASANTON

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Open SUN 11-4 **34773 COMSTOCK COMMON**
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I am a full time Realtor. I specialize in REOs, short sales and residential Real Estate in the East Bay. For more information please contact my website www.maxdevries.com.

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Your Preferred REALTOR®

925.525.0116
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ALAIN PINEL
REALTORS



**616 Windmill Lane, Pleasanton
Olde Towne at its Finest!**

5 bedrooms, 3 full bath extensively remodeled 3,100 square foot home on quiet 18,000 sq. ft. cul-de-sac lot. Large master suite with fireplace on main level, a 2,500 bottle thermostatically controlled wine room. 3-car garage, large back yard, complete with custom pool, separate spa and covered palapa. Home does not back up to Bernal Ave.

Offered at \$1,249,000

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Forest Hill Drive ~ Pleasanton
Open Sunday 1-4



To submit offers or to get more information call:
Call (925) 989-6500



Located on the desirable Westside of Pleasanton. This exceptional home is one to see. Built in 1996 this home is beautifully upgraded on a premium lot with views of the valley and foothills. It features 5 bedrooms 3 baths and approx. 3440 sq. ft. The beautiful hardwood and travertine floors throughout, and custom built-ins, and 3 fireplaces are just a few of the special features. Excellent location, large 10,700 sqft flat lot.

OFFERED AT
\$1,225,000

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Beyond Full Service—A Concierge Approach to Real Estate



OPEN SUN 1-4

2586 Skimmer Ct., Pleasanton
 Beautifully remodeled 4bd/2.5ba, 2164+/-sq.ft. home with custom kitchen, hardwood floors, and pebble tech pool. Offered at \$835,000



9146 Longview Dr., Pleasanton
 4bd/3.5ba colonial home nestled along the Pleasanton Ridge w/ views, privacy, a wine closet, and in-law suite w/ separate entry & driveway. Call for showing. Offered at \$1,250,000



COMING SOON

Pleasanton
 Beautiful Holiday model on a large lot in a court. Recently renovated throughout. Offered at \$799,000



COMING SOON

Court location with views in Rosepoint
 5bd/3ba, 3200+/-sq.ft. completely remodeled with pool and spa. Call for private showing.

COMING SOON...NEW LISTINGS IN BIRDLAND

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BLAISE LOFLAND



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 blaise@blaiselofland.com

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GREY EAGLE



8 GREY EAGLE COURT, PLEASANTON

Experience breathtaking panoramic views from every room of this secluded hilltop home, located in the gated community of Grey Eagle. This beautiful immaculate private estate (.60 acre lot), features professionally landscaped manicured grounds, backing to open land. This custom home has approximately 4,058 sq. ft. of living space w/ 5 bd + bonus room/office (5th) w/ private entrance. Gourmet kitchen includes granite, custom cabinetry & stainless steel appliances. Custom wine room w/ temperature controlled storage option. This mainly one story home is open & bright with 2 large skylights. The private rear grounds are great for entertaining with in-ground swimming pool, elevated spa & waterfall. Extensive patio area includes built-in natural gas BBQ. Three car garage w/ 4th car option. **OFFERED AT \$1,649,000**

SHADOW CLIFF



JUST REDUCED!

OPEN SAT 2-5

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 \$529,500**

PLEASANTON HEIGHTS



JUST REDUCED!

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 \$1,189,000**

SILVER OAKS PREMIUM LOTS

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

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**

SILVER OAKS ESTATES



SOLD

2474 SILVER OAKS LANE, PLEASANTON

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**

PLEASANTON 900 Main Street

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



UWE MAERCZ BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$2,399,000
Cul de Sac lot, large backyard private sport court, great view. 5719+/-sf, 5bd, 4.5ba, 2 staircases, hardwood floors, granite counters & more!

DOUG BUENZ OPEN SUN 1-4



PLEASANTON \$1,749,500
Elegant 4bd/4.5ba w/office & bonus room. 3 fireplaces, granite & stainless kitchen, resort like private yard w/pool & waterfall! 9459 Blessing Dr.

STASIA POIESZ BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$1,688,888
Gorgeous contemporary 5bd plus custom home. Over 4400+/-sf, 4 car garage, 1+/- acre lot. Maple kitchen, stainless steel appliances, updated baths. Showing by appointment only.

UWE MAERCZ BY APPOINTMENT



LIVERMORE \$1,375,000
5bd/2.5ba on 11,354+/-sf lot. 3916+/-sf home w.pool & guest house. Absolutely beautiful! Must See!!

MARK JAMES OPEN SUN 1-4



PLEASANTON \$1,249,000
Absolutely Gorgeous! 5bd/3ba/3car. Over 3000+/-sf home. Extensively remodeled. Sunset Magazine rear yard. Pool, spa, palapa. Just 2 blocks from downtown. 18,000+/-sf lot. 616 Windmill Ln.

DOUG BUENZ OPEN SUN 1-4



PLEASANTON \$1,199,000
Elegant 2 story custom over 5400 +/-sf on 1/2 acre corner lot. 5bd/5ba w/office & bonus room. Dramatic upgrades, beautiful views. 5682 Sunset Creek Ct.

ANDY PORYES OPEN SUN 1-4



PLEASANTON \$1,189,500
New Price! Luxury 5 year old home. 3265+/-sf w/5bd/4ba. Pool, waterfalls, outdoor kitchen, high ceilings/lots of light. Go to www.w-lagoon.com for tour. 1342 W. Lagoon Rd.

BLAISE LOFLAND BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$1,189,000
Private upgraded Custom Single story. Large Private grounds, Solar powered home. 4bd downstairs/bonus room. 3437+/-sf including separate guest unit/cabana.

LINDA FUTRAL OPEN SUN 1-4



LIVERMORE \$1,099,000
Gorgeous custom estate, large custom suite on 1st level. Custom rock pool/spa/granite kitchen/stainless steel appliances/huge backyard/private lot. 820 Old Oak Rd.

MARK KOCH OPEN SUN 1-4



DANVILLE \$1,005,500
Beautiful 5bd/4.5ba, 3813+/-sf home. Granite counters/cherry cabinets in kitchen. Computer run home w/solar panels. 8472+/-sf corner lot. 2402 Marsanne St.

MOXLEY TEAM OPEN SAT 12-3



PLEASANTON \$995,000
Updated/expanded/remodeled dark wood floors. Kitchen has prep area.island/double ovens/vaulted ceilings. Master w/fireplace. Must See! 4576 Del Valle Pkwy.

LINDA FUTRAL OPEN SUN 1-4



LIVERMORE \$849,950
Enjoy single story living with this beautiful open floor plan. Custom pool with sheer descends and 8 person spa. Great backyard for entertaining! 1005 Lexington Wy.

TIM MCGUIRE OPEN SUN 1-4



PLEASANTON \$835,000
4bd/2.5ba, 2164+/-sf home on a court. Remodeled custom kitchen, 3car garage, maple wood floors, updated baths. 9000+/-sf lot w/pool. 2586 Skimmer Ct.

JOYCE JONES BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$699,000
Westside 4bd/2.5ba, granite slab kitchen, newer appliances, wood flooring, 2 fireplaces, no HOA, close to parks, must see!

MARYJANE DEERING BY APPT



DUBLIN \$510,000
3bd/2.5ba + loft/bdrm. Solar produces electricity. Travertine floors, fresh paint, steel frame construction. 2car garage, care-free yard. Gorgeous!

MOXLEY TEAM OPEN SUN 1:30-4:30



LIVERMORE \$469,000
3bd/2ba, updated throughout 2008, spacious & open floor plan. Granite counters, tile floors, breakfast bar w/prep area in kitchen. Sideyard access. 620 Anna Maria St.

