

Pleasanton Weekly

Good, but not enough: Federal funding may not cover school district's budget shortfall **PAGE 5**

Discover the undiscovered: Hidden Gardens of the Valley tour to benefit Valley Humane Society **PAGE 18**

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SPRUCING UP SHADOW CLIFFS

Interpretive center, pavilion, dog park among suggestions made at recent park scoping meeting **PAGE 14**



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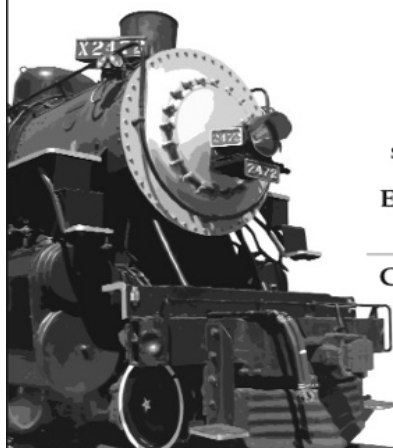
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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

Golf course bypass road fading into history

Happy Valley residents who have long waited at least 10 years for a bypass road that would keep golfers heading to Callippe Preserve Golf Course off Alisal Street that runs through their neighborhood may have to wait another 10 years if the bypass is built at all.

A housing market downturn and political changes on the City Council are making construction of the \$10-million to \$15-million bypass less certain. A few weeks ago, the council voted 4-1 to allow Dutra Trust to build five large estate homes on a 10-acre vacant parcel it owns in Happy Valley with no requirement that Dutra help pay the cost of the bypass if and when it is built.

Councilman Matt Sullivan cast the lone negative vote, partly because he opposes large homes in town that are far from public transit, but also because he believes the city and developers should commit to building the bypass before more housing permits are issued there. Last month, in considering its priorities for the next two years, the bypass dropped down a notch with Mayor Jennifer Hosterman arguing that complaints over speeding golf course traffic have abated since the city installed speed bumps on Alisal to slow vehicles to about 30 mph.

The bypass, for readers who haven't followed this decade-old story, would connect Sycamore Creek Way across ranchland owned by Al Spotorno to Westbridge Lane on the golf course, closing the entryway to Callippe now at Alisal and Happy Valley Road. In return for allowing a roadway to go through his property, Spotorno would be allowed to subdivide part of his acreage for homesites.

At the time, long before there were homes on Sycamore Creek or even a golf course, everyone liked the plan. Spotorno would turn a profit, Happy Valley residents would finally get their country-like

Alisal Street back for their exclusive use and the city would benefit by having a tree-lined gateway to its multi-million-dollar championship golf course, instead of a narrow road with speed bumps.

But times have changed. Greenbriar Homes and Summerfield Homes built homes on Sycamore Creek and the homeowners there now don't want golf course traffic zipping by, even though their street was built wider and landscaped to accommodate them. Greenbriar, which had a deal with Spotorno to build 75 homes on the flatland near Alisal and to pay much of the cost of building the bypass, just withdrew its option. It's unlikely Spotorno will find another developer soon.

Happy Valley property owners, who are in unincorporated Alameda County, also have themselves to blame. They rejected by a narrow margin a Pleasanton-supported vote to annex into the city, with the result that city planners worked a deal to annex Spotorno's property on the other side of Alisal and eventually acquired the open space that is now Callippe. Then Happy Valley's homeowners association, the Alisal Improvement Club, sued Pleasanton to block construction of the golf course. It lost the suit, appealed, and lost again. City Atty. Michael Roush believes the court agreed that the city has a commitment to provide a bypass road, although perhaps not a legally binding one that a modification of the Happy Valley Specific Plan couldn't change.

Although miffed by Happy Valley's vote to reject annexation, members of the City Council at the time continued to support the bypass road if someone else paid for it. With each election, fewer councilmembers remember those testy public arguments and, without the money, are increasingly reluctant to commit public funds to a bypass road that (1) has become controversial in newer neighborhoods and (2) would cost millions of dollars in taxpayer funds that no one in still-unincorporated Happy Valley would have to pay.

Maybe times will change again, but for now I'd plan on driving to the golf course on Alisal Road for years to come.

Correction

A photograph of Pleasanton traveler Nancy Pennell in last week's column ("Back to Vietnam for an ex-flight attendant") should have stated that she was standing front of the Angkor Wat temple complex in Cambodia.

About the Cover

A group of men fish off the dock at Shadow Cliffs lake on a recent weekday; children ride on the Rapids Waterslides and a group of women walk their dogs along a trail at the popular recreation park. East Bay Regional Park District officials held a scoping meeting recently to gauge public opinion and input on future improvements to the park, at the same time emphasizing that any work would be a long time off and the district would need to secure funding.

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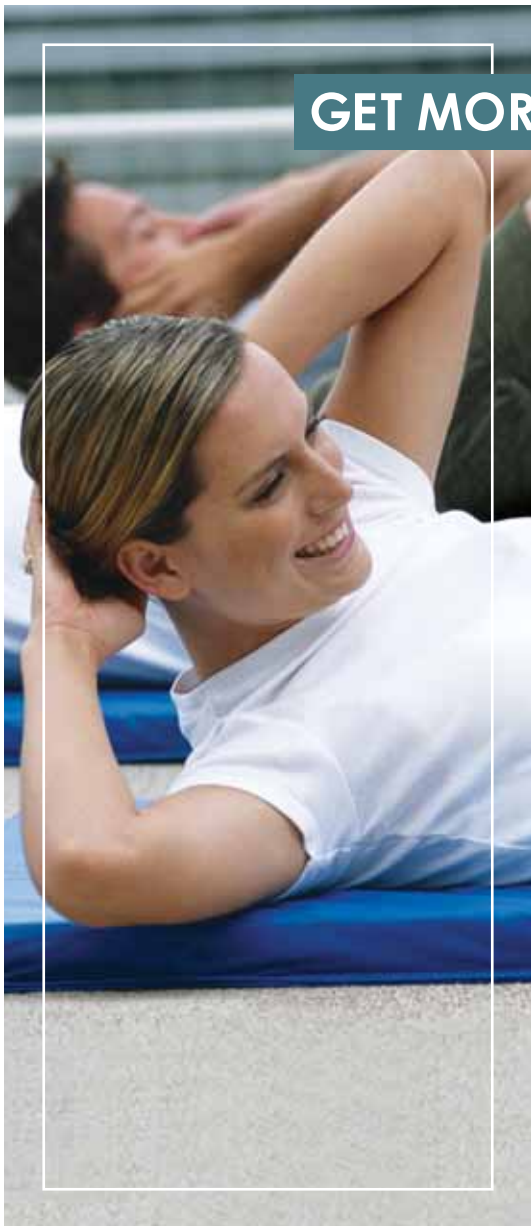
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Streetwise

ASKED AT THE FIRST WEDNESDAY STREET PARTY

Should Pleasanton bring back the downtown car show that used to attract thousands from the Bay Area every August?



Rick Davis

Yes, because it brings back nostalgia with the old cars that are lined up and down Main Street like they did when I was a kid. It's a lot of fun for my entire family, including my kids. My parents are in their 70s and they used to look forward to it, but now it's gone.

Leo Gross

Member of P-Town Push-Rods

I think it needs to come back, but it should be separate from the actual Goodguys car show. It's great for the local economy, great for our club and nobody really gave us a reason why it was cancelled. The P-Town Push-Rods used to raise a lot of money for local charities, but we aren't able to donate as much because the event has been cancelled.



Karen Aldrich

I think it should come back because it's good for the local economy. I used to attend and I liked the music, the food and the cars.

Joan Marie Waters

I just moved to Pleasanton from Connecticut two months ago, so I'm not familiar with the car show. However, I just attended my first First Wednesday Street Party and it was wonderful. I really enjoyed the family atmosphere of the street party, so if the car show is anything like the street party I would attend.



George Ostergard

Yes, because it was a nice event that gathered a lot of people from all over and it generated a lot of money for downtown. I think they cancelled it because of all of the politics involved. The organizer of the Goodguys car show probably felt that it was taking away revenue from the actual show that was held at the fairgrounds so they got together with local officials and lobbied to cancel it.

—Compiled by Hillary Bessiere

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

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Newsfront

DIGEST

Pasta for peace

The Tri-Valley Haven Board of Directors hosts Pasta for Peace, a family spaghetti feed at 5 p.m. Saturday at the Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main St. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children if purchased in advance, or \$15 at the door. In addition to dinner, there will be entertainment, crafts and a silent auction. To learn more about Tri-Valley Haven and this event, call 449-5845 or visit www.trivalleyhaven.org.

Musical thanks

The Tri-Valley YMCA presents "Songs of Gratitude," a night of family-friendly music where local artists perform music inspired by appreciation and thanks. It will be held at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road. Performers include harpist Dominique Piana, solo handbell artist Lisa Arnold, and singer/songwriter Lara Marriott. Proceeds benefit Tri-Valley YMCA scholarship programs. For tickets, call 931-3444.

Supporting the military

Operation SAM (Supporting All Military) is having its spring donation drive from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at the Livermore Wal-Mart, 2700 Las Positas Road. Organizers say they know times are difficult, but hope that people can stop by and at least send a message of appreciation for the efforts of the men and women in the service. Soldiers are facing extreme heat and are requesting eye wash, nasal saline spray, deodorant, razors, white tube socks, washcloths, bug repellent, Tylenol, sunblock, cough drops, Tums, trail mix and more. For more information, call 443-7620 or visit www.operationsam.org.

Movie memorabilia

The Museum On Main is preparing an exhibit about Hollywood moviemaking in Pleasanton, which is scheduled to open in September. Anyone with stories and/or memorabilia, or who was involved in the 1943 filming of "That Ain't Hay" with Abbot and Costello should call 462-2766 by July 17.

Correction

One of the websites listed in "Ending the cycle of poverty" (May 1, Living section, page 25) was incorrect. To learn more about how Kenyans in the Kilisa Village are building their own economy, visit www.kvdcblog.blogspot.com.

School district to get \$8M in federal funds

By EMILY WEST

The Pleasanton Unified School District is slated to receive about \$8 million from the federal government, but it may not be enough to tackle a \$9.7-million shortfall.

The money would come from the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, through the federal government's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, also known as the stimulus package signed by President Obama. It includes \$4.2 million to compensate for the cut to the revenue limit in February; \$2.5 million would be for special education and \$1.4 million for categorical program reductions.

At Tuesday night's school board meeting, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Luz Cazares said these are "one-time dollars."

"Once they're spent, they're gone," she said.

Superintendent says it may not be enough to bring back jobs or break even

"They're not coming back per year."

While the district said there are no categorical restrictions on how the \$4.2 million is spent, it is intended to save jobs and provide new and innovative programs.

The special education funding, however, does have restrictions. Cazares said it would be paid in two parts over two years. The first 50 percent could be used to offset encroachment, while the district would need to meet special requirements to use the second half on something other

than special education.

On the California's Department of Education website, it reads that PUSD is receiving \$5.9 million in special education funding. Cazares said that money will "travel through" the district, and the district will only get to keep \$2.5 million.

Myla Grasso, spokeswoman for PUSD, said the district is unsure when the money would arrive, since the state is running behind. Funds for special education were supposed to have been received in March and it's still not available. The second half of the special education money is scheduled to come in late July or early August.

Cazares said the funding was good news, but it appears that the state budget situation could bring more bad news. This Tuesday's election

See **SCHOOL FUNDS** on Page 8



JAY FLACHSBARTH

Sporting bras for the cause

Scores of women and men donning self-decorated bras walked along Main Street Saturday night in the fourth annual Bras for the Cause breast cancer walk, hosted by Tri-Valley SOCKS. Participants in the 10-kilometer walk raised funds to benefit Axis Community Health, which has offices and clinics in Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore, and the San Francisco affiliate of the Susan G. Komen for the Cure.

Pleasanton braces for \$4-million takeaway by state to pay down deficit

By JEB BING

Pleasanton officials are bracing for another takeaway of municipal revenues aimed at paying down the state's rapidly-rising budget deficit, a move that could cost Pleasanton nearly \$4 million in general revenue and gasoline tax funds.

The threat has come from Gov. Schwarzenegger who would first need to declare a fiscal emergency for California, which is expected if voters reject key revenue producing propositions on Tuesday's special election.

The state proposal calls for the governor to suspend 2004's

Schwarzenegger could make move if voters reject measures

Proposition 1A, which protects local funds from being used by the state, and to borrow 8 percent of local property-tax revenues, or \$3.7 million based on this year's property assessments, plus another \$640,000 from Proposition 42 local sales taxes on gasoline, which Pleasanton uses for capital projects. Under Prop. 1A guidelines, the state would have to pay back

the borrowed money within three years, with 7 percent interest.

Prop. 1A also allowed the state to "borrow" twice from cities, counties and special taxing districts within a 10 year period, but any money borrowed must be repaid before a second takeaway could occur.

Prop. 1A and its constitutional rules were written by the League of California Cities and the California Association of Counties and approved by voters in 2004.

It followed years of takeaways by the state that started in 1993 when Pete Wilson was governor,

See **DEFICIT** on Page 6

Open Heart Kitchen on solid ground

Nonprofit serves free hot meals to less fortunate

By JANET PELLETIER

It's been six months since Open Heart Kitchen was facing closure due to lack of funds. And while the economy has sunk deeper since then, the nonprofit, which is the only hot food service in the Tri-Valley, is thriving.

It's all thanks to the local community, which executive director Linda McKeever said has been the organization's saving grace.

"We're really pleased," she said. "The community has really stepped up to the plate and we're looking good through 2009, so we're very happy about that."

Open Heart runs free hot meal programs in Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin five days a week, serving food to people who are down and out. With the current economic situation, McKeever said the demographics of people in need are changing.

"We're seeing a lot more seniors in the program and we're also seeing a lot more families, where one or two have become extremely underemployed because of the amount of hours cut back or have become unemployed," she said. "We're seeing a lot more meals go home with people than in the past."

Even with an increase in those needing a free meal, Open Heart hasn't expanded its programs.

"That's truly going to depend on community need, when people see that need, we ask them to contact us and we can look at the demographics and see if that's practical or not," McKeever said of possibly adding more meal service. "We are looking at that possibly with the schools in Dublin to see if they see an increase in need in their area."

Community members who have stepped up recently to help the nonprofit include local businesses, people who volunteer their time

See **OPEN HEART** on Page 7



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RV show opens Saturday at fairgrounds

BY JEB BING

Despite a troubled economy, organizers of Pleasanton's 21st annual Manufacturers' RV Show aren't worried about attendance numbers at this year's show, which starts Saturday.

Last year's attendance figures topped 20,000.

Show manager Mike Nohr said that a combination of dealers offering steep discounts, buyers eager to take advantage of the deals and the long-term cost savings of an RV vacation has created an environment he believes will prove to be a boon for his show.

"It's no secret that dealers are willing to wheel and deal to move product," he said. "But what's most encouraging is what we're hearing about the number of people looking to the future. They want to make a modest investment on an RV now so they can recoup those costs in the coming years by not having to spend money on plane tickets, hotel rooms and rental cars."

Dealers expected to offer deep discounts

Nohr said that a survey conducted by the Recreation Vehicle Industry Association found that 45 percent of RV owners are considering purchasing another RV this year "because they appreciate the value they get compared to the more traditional vacations."

"Who knows where the economy is going," said Scotts Valley resident Anthony Leimas, who plans on attending the May show. "I've heard it's supposed to get better soon, but I'm not going to bet my vacations on it. With an RV, I know we'll always be able to afford to go on a nice vacation, recession or not."

Consumers can expect to choose from hundreds of new and used models at the show, which runs at the Alameda County Fairgrounds from May 15-25.

"This year, I expect to see more

serious buyers and less looky-loos," Nohr said. "Consumers know they won't see these kinds of prices probably ever again in their lifetime."

The RV show will be held at the fairgrounds from May 15 to 25 starting at 11 a.m. on weekdays and 10 a.m. on weekends and closing at 7 p.m. every day except May 25, when the show will end at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors, and free for those 16 years old and younger. Parking is extra.

DEFICIT

Continued from Page 5

with money being taken by Sacramento on an as-needed basis for the Education Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF). Those funds are still being siphoned off from cities and counties, with more than \$100 million so far stripped from Pleasanton's General Fund.

Although the funds were designated to help the state meet its obligation to finance education throughout the state, there's never been any accounting of how the money is disbursed based on city and county contributions, Culver said.

"If the \$100 million Pleasanton has paid into this fund have actually gone to the Pleasanton school district, I wouldn't complain," said City Manager Nelson Fialho. "But clearly, our school district has not gotten the benefit of that money."

Actually, Pleasanton appears to be in better financial shape than many other local agencies that will have to give up 8 percent of the property tax revenue to the state. Anticipating a state grab for local revenue, Culver recommended last fall that \$3 million sitting in the city's capital improvement fund be added to the \$7.9 million already in a temporary recession reserve, boosting it to \$10.9 million. If Schwarzenegger seizes \$3.7 million from Pleasanton, the money will be disbursed from these reserves. If that never happens, the \$3 million or more will be transferred out of the temporary reserve back to the capital projects fund.

"Right now, we have completed most of our capital projects and can wait a few years before needing the funds," Culver said.

Besides the possible takeaways, which would occur next January and April, when the city receives its property tax payments, Pleasanton is also losing vehicle license fees gradually as the Department of Motor Vehicles takes more to pay increased administrative expenses.

Culver said the city received \$400,000 in those fees in 2006-07, then just \$300,000 the following fiscal year, and projects receipts to total only \$160,000 this year.

"Fortunately, we anticipated the state's financial problems and put money aside to prepare for it rather than spend it," Culver said. "Many other cities are not in such good shape and I'm afraid the governor's demand for 8 percent in property taxes could put many of them over the edge." ■

How does the federal stimulus money affect Pleasanton Unified School District?

Pleasanton is projected to receive two types of one-time federal dollars as a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA):

- \$2.5 million in Special Education funding, half of which can be used to offset what we already spend for special education and half of which must be used for new student program costs.
- \$4.24 million in State Fiscal Stabilization Funding, which is intended to backfill cuts the state made mid-year, as announced by the California Department of Education on May 8th.

It is important to note that these funds, while very welcome, are one-time monies that do not address the ongoing reduced level of education revenue to our school district from the state.

Further, the State Budget Act of February 2009 assumes passage of all of the statewide propositions on the May 19th ballot:

- If the propositions fail, as are projected at the time of this writing, the independent Legislative Analyst's Office is predicting a state budget shortfall of \$6 billion.
- This comes on top of a state budget deficit that has grown by an estimated \$9.8 billion since February.
- The legislators will have to go back to the drawing board and come up with further cuts in order to balance the state's budget. **School districts are being told to prepare for additional cuts to education in the state's May & June budget revise, as well as to expect delays in cash payments from the state due to the state's cashflow problems.**

Measure G will provide \$4.58 million annually for 4 years - a local, reliable source of revenue to save 7 critical programs here in Pleasanton for our children's education. Many other local communities around us have taken matters into their own hands to save programs by passing parcel taxes; it is time for Pleasanton to do the same.

Vote Yes on Measure G on the June 2nd ballot to provide stable, local control of the education of our community's children. At \$233 per parcel per year for 4 years, we will be supporting the exemplary public schools in Pleasanton that contribute to our high and stable property values.



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OPEN HEART

Continued from Page 5

and children, McKeever said.

"The kids in the community have really reached out to help others in these economic times," she said. "It's amazing to see—the amount of fundraisers the high school kids are doing and the amount of food drives."

A couple months ago, Lynnewood United Methodist Church raised nearly \$45,000 for Open Heart, donations that came from the church's congregation. Youth church members organized a talent show and dinner, setting up a donation station in the church lobby. Their efforts were capped by iSouper Bowl Sunday when they wore football apparel and collected buckets of coins and bills at Sunday worship.

"Lynnewood has a special connection with Open Heart Kitchen," Steve Elliott, outreach leader for the church, said. "Our congregation helped found Open Heart and they operated out of our church kitchen as their home base for many years."

And businesses who once donated to more national and international causes have elected to instead donate locally, she added.

"Now, what a lot of businesses are doing is pulling back into serving locally," McKeever said. "People are wanting more to help their own neighbors because they can see the impact it's having. They're also donating personal hours, coming down to get to know the program."

And that's not to forget the many people who volunteer on a regular basis, with whom McKeever said Open Heart Kitchen would not be possible without.

Now back on solid financial footing, McKeever said the organization is looking to acquire some reserves so Open Heart doesn't face the danger of closing again.

"Because we don't know what the economic times are, we're trying to build a buffer so that we have working capital if we go through more difficult times," she said. "That's what we did not have in the past. That buffer will help in case we need to expand programs, just depending on the need."

For more information, visit www.openheartkitchen.org.

OF NOTE

Middle schools earn top awards at music festival

Pleasanton and Harvest Park middle schools knew just the right notes to play to earn overall top awards at the Music in the Parks Festival held at Disneyland on April 24-26.

The PMS Jazz Band won overall top jazz band and first place in their division. The school's eighth grade Symphonic Band also won the overall top award and first place in that division. The seventh grade concert band won first place, with the orchestra winning first place and the chorus winning second place in their divisions.

Harvest Park Middle School also won top awards. The jazz band won third place and its orchestra won third place. The chorus won second place.

The Music in the Parks Festival is a national competition that featured over 20 middle and junior high schools.

PMS Music Director Jason Ravina brought 150 students and chaperones to the competition. HPMS Music Director Paul Perazzo and Choir Director Ana Hartwick brought a team of 153 students and chaperones to the competition as well.

—Ellen Pensky

Girl Scouts make dresses for African orphans

Abby Prynn, Charli Faris, Kelsey Dunn, (middle) Kate Chase, Gabriella Hughey, Sarah Fletcher, Abby Prynn, Abbie O'Brien (bottom) Jennifer D'Addabbo, Kelly McQuade-Weingarten and Kaylee Vandagriff-Kirk have been busy laying out patterns on floral fabric and sewing dresses. Yet, these dresses won't be worn by the 10- and 11-year-old girls putting them together. Instead, Girl Scout Troop 30983 made 65 special dresses to send to orphans in Africa through the nonprofit organization Little Dresses for Africa.

"These orphaned girls have probably never had a dress made with love. The smiles on their faces when they get the dresses will show that all Girl Scouts can really make a difference," Abby Prynn, 11, said.

Each dress will be boxed with a handmade card put together by the Junior Girl Scouts, with help from some younger Daisy and Brownie



Troop 30983 made 65 special dresses for African orphans.

Scouts. During this project, the Junior Girl Scouts stayed after school at Vintage Hills Elementary and used sewing machines brought into the school's library. In previous achievements, the girls learned sewing basics, such as pinning fabric and cutting patterns. The dresses are simply designed and surprisingly made from pillow cases, with the finished product looking like a sundress that could be found at most department stores.

This project was taken on as part of Troop 30983's quest to earn their Bronze Award, the highest award achievable for Junior Girl Scouts. They hope other Girl Scouts or other organizations will consider taking part in Little Dresses for Africa. For more information, go to www.littledressesforafrica.org.

National Charity League recognizes seniors

On April 5, the class of 2009 of the Pleasanton chapter of National Charity League, Inc. held their Senior Recognition event at Wente Vineyards in Livermore. Together with their mothers, the 19 girls in the 2009 class have performed over 8,000 hours of community service during their 6 years in NCL with the various philanthropies the Pleasanton Chapter supports.

The class of 2009 includes (top row) Kate Gerstenberger, Kelsie Lofland, Avery Williams, Mollie McPherson, Christine Homan, Paula Capilla; (middle row) Jill Blandino, Claire Kennedy, Kacia Hoppper, Gioia Tornaghi, Katie Woolley, Nicole Recupero; (front row) Olivia Klei, Nicole Hope, Sarah Sparks, Megan Moore, Kristin McNeil, Alexa Deutschman and Lauren Bayly.

National Charity League is a national organization whose mission is to foster mother-daughter relationships in a philanthropic organization committed to community service, leadership development,

and cultural experiences. There are currently 150 chapters of NCL in 15 states.

Lydiksen student gets a lesson in leadership

Matthew Villena, a student at Lydiksen Elementary School, was accepted into the People to People World Leadership Forum. He was nominated and accepted for the honor based on outstanding scholastic merit, civic involvement and leadership potential.

Matthew recently joined a select group of students in Washington, D.C. to study leadership and explore some of the United States' most prominent monuments and institutions. Forum delegates will also participate in small-group discussion and exercises to experience first-hand how successful leaders develop strategies, make decisions, build consensus and foster change.

The program is designed to fulfill the vision of President Dwight D. Eisenhower to foster world citizenship. For more information, visit www.wlfleaders.org.

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N.E.A.T Award

Neighborhood Environment Attractiveness Team



The "NEAT" Neighborhood Environment Attractiveness Team award is designed to highlight a particular downtown building or property that has been improved or that is considered unique in design, architecture or style.



This quarter's Pleasanton Downtown Association NEAT award is presented to Meadowlark Dairy, located at 57 W. Neal St. A new mural, by artist Al Meadows, was recently painted on the wall, depicting the original (c.1920) Meadowlark Dairy overlooking the Tri-Valley. Located on Foothill Road (now the site of the Alviso Adobe Community Park), it was California's first Certified Dairy. The Takens family welcomes you to stop by their nostalgic downtown drive-thru store any day from 8am-9pm, for your cereal, bacon, bread or dairy needs. And don't forget to try their famous frosty ice cream cones...they're the BEST in "Cowifornia"!

Tri-Valley Conservancy: a legacy 15 years in the making

Land trust looks to acquire property connecting Shadow Cliffs, Del Valle

BY JANET PELLETIER

Fifteen years ago, a land trust was formed in the Livermore Valley and much of the land where grapes grow, plants flourish and animals call home will remain preserved in perpetuity.

That forethought was championed by what's now known as the Tri-Valley Conservancy. Take a drive through the valley, along Tesla Road in Livermore where vineyards reside, or Doolan Canyon in Dublin, and this is what was seen as an investment in agriculture and viticulture for future generations to enjoy.

The conservancy was organized in 1994 through the South Livermore Valley Agricultural Land Trust. A few years earlier, in 1987, a steering committee recognized the rapid growth in the Bay Area and the resulting pressure for development, and began efforts on a South Livermore Valley Area Plan. After the plan was adopted by Alameda County, the land trust was completed.

In 2003, the conservancy's reach was expanded beyond Livermore as the board recognized the need to preserve land across the Tri-Valley region. Today, more than 4,100 acres of land encompassing Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin,

Sunol and San Ramon are under the umbrella of the conservancy.

There are a variety of ways that new pieces of land are attained for preservation: the sale of a property, transfer of a title, land donations, retaining ownership and acquiring conservation easements. The Tri-Valley Conservancy receives funding from mitigation monies—which developers pay to offset for the construction of homes. For example, Ruby Hill in Pleasanton, a master planned community of 850 homes, is where the conservancy got a large chunk of funding.

Even in depressing economic times, Executive Director Sharon Burnham said the conservancy has a healthy operating budget. Currently, the conservancy has \$10 million, \$5 million of which is set aside for land stewardship. But looks can be deceiving, Burnham said, because while the nonprofit has funds, where they come from determines where they can be used. And a majority of the funds is limited to the South Livermore region. The conservancy began a fundraising campaign last year to drum up funds for other areas in the Tri-Valley.

"The land trust is an important organization for any area to have,"

Burnham said. "People just don't understand that. Just because we're healthy, we need to raise money for anything outside of South Livermore."

And while they work on fundraising, the conservancy will soon add a significant notch in its belt—a prestigious distinction from the Washington, D.C.-based Land Trust Alliance. A year ago, the conservancy board branched out, forming a three-member team to assemble documentation to the federal organization for accreditation. Burnham said the conservancy is the second agency or land trust in the nation to apply. After a tedious process of compiling all the appropriate paperwork, the conservancy expects to get their seal this October.

So what's next? The conservancy also has goals in acquiring property that will link two local East Bay Regional Park District parks—Shadow Cliffs in Pleasanton to Del Valle Regional Park in Livermore. Another future, long-term goal is to link the Bay Trail and the Pleasanton Ridge.

To learn more about the Tri-Valley Conservancy or to donate, call Burnham, at 449-8709 or visit www.trivalleyconservancy.org.

SCHOOL FUNDS

Continued from Page 5

will have voters decide on state propositions 1A to 1F. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's budget from February assumes these have passed and would give the state \$6 billion. In addition, the Legislative Analyst's Office has said the state shortfall could be up to \$20 billion for this year and next.

"We're expecting additional cuts to come in," Cazares said. "When we started this process, the state deficit was \$41.6 billion and was presumably resolved with the proposed budget. We're now back at a \$20-billion deficit estimated for next year."

Superintendent John Casey said the federal dollars are positive, as would \$4.5 million in Measure G funding and \$1 million in employee contributions if it were to pass in the June 2 special election. Yet, there are too many "negatives" keeping the district from definitively saying if they can save employee jobs. One "blessing in disguise," Casey said, was an extension for the deadline to hand out pink slips to employees. A final date hasn't been set, but is believed to be in early June.

"If propositions A to F fail, we stand to lose \$5.22 million for PUSD," Casey said.

He also calculated that a \$150-billion loss from a sour state economy could equal \$13 million, or \$900 per student, in losses for the local district.

During public comment at Tuesday's meeting, former councilmem-

ber Kay Ayala was not optimistic about the state propositions passing and said it could mean the state would make more cuts, including the \$4 million for class-size reduction. She said the board would disappoint the public if Measure G were to pass and cuts were made to the programs the parcel tax was supposed to save.

Save Pleasanton Schools co-chair Joan Laursen countered, saying there is no indication that the state would cut class-size reduction, and that it's protected. She also added that the state cash flow situation is even worse, with the state likely to delay payments to districts.

Former school board trustee and city councilman Steve Brozovsky also spoke at Tuesday's meeting. He claimed to have been personally attacked by a Save Pleasanton Schools advertisement that ran in the May 1 edition of the Pleasanton Weekly. Instead of sticking to the points, he said they went after him. It's no wonder many who oppose the tax are afraid to speak out, he said.

The ad, which responded to a guest opinion he had authored, made several references to him, including that he voted on the teacher contracts in May 2007 and chose not to publish accurate data in his ballot argument.

"You have no idea how many people contacted me and say they are afraid to publicly take a stand against the parcel tax because of retribution to their families," he said. "Nobody in a community of character should feel like that." ■

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GUEST OPINION



By Dave Abelman

Joan Buchanan— resign your Assembly seat

Quoting from your campaign for the State Assembly, “California’s budget is a mess! Performance Not Politics. Joan Buchanan is ready to go to work.”

After only months on the job as the District 15 Assemblymember, you announced your campaign for the District 10 Congressional seat. Congresswoman Tauscher’s congressional district does not even include your current District 15 cities of Pleasanton, San Ramon, Danville, Elk Grove and Stockton, to name a few—so you would be abandoning thousands who voted for you and put their trust in you and contributed to your campaign.

The 15th Assembly District deserves a representative, who is committed 100 percent to doing an outstanding job for the district, not someone who has let us down and would be accepting her second best opportunity. Your failure to understand the incredible honor, importance and responsibility of being elected as a leader of our district is peculiar.

In the business world in which you profess to have honed your organizational and budgeting skills, if you join a company with commitments to that company and its organization and within 4 months you start looking for a new job, you would likely be fired. In such a short time you would have accomplished nothing other than perhaps putting the company’s name on your resume.

In a recent public forum at the San Ramon Valley Education Foundation dinner honoring you, you stated, “the best part of going to Sacramento is leaving Sacramento.”

You have not accomplished much

in your brief tenure in Sacramento. Your office was hard-pressed to name one accomplishment. We expect you to execute on your commitments. To play back your own words “Performance not Politics.” In your case, that should now read “Politics before Performance.”

And if you lose, which is likely, your current constituents will know that they have an assemblywoman, who was not committed to the job, and is in Sacramento only because she failed to get elected for a congressional office. In a recent interview with the Danville Weekly, you state that many issues you care about are decided at the federal level; a convenient and different message this time around.

While elected officials frequently pursue higher office, you should work hard to develop a track record of your own, accomplishing something, anything, for the District 15 constituents. You have a lot to learn in the Assembly and it is clear you are out of touch with your constituency. As you work to get out of Sacramento with only months on the job, what kind of political capital do you think you’ll now have with your colleagues in Sacramento? You currently have little support from those currently in Congress. State Senator Mark DeSaulnier (D-Concord) is endorsed by Congressman George Miller (D-Martinez) and Congresswoman Tauscher (D-Alamo). Congresswoman. Lt. Governor Garraza has also entered the race.

Resign now; let a committed candidate assume your seat in Sacramento; and you can pursue your personal political ambitions. If you are elected, good luck. If not, your insurance policy seems to be a fall back into the Assembly.

Dave Abelman is a Danville resident who runs a China consulting and import business. He majored in political science and economics at UC Davis.

LETTERS

Recycling changes should make process easier

Dear Editor,

Two letters to the editor published in the last two weeks have amazed me. The first stated there was no way she would consider separating garbage, and the second stated he knew no one who used the food scrap containers for their intended purpose. Both were opposed to the proposed changes to the Pleasanton Garbage Service.

While I must admit that dealing with waste is not my favorite activity, I welcome the changes. I

use the food scrap container; I use the blue bags to separate plastic and paper. Both are relatively easy things to do in an effort to help the environment. I think the new proposal will make the process even easier, by eliminating the difficult task of trying to get a blue bag full of paper into the trash can.

What we are being asked to do is take some responsibility for the enormous amount of waste we generate. We keep our own homes clean and orderly. Surely, each of us can do no less for our planetary home.

Barbara Norton

EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

At last, a General Plan that shows off our community

After five years of public meetings, hundreds of hours of staff time and detailed reviews by city, civic, business and neighborhood groups, Pleasanton’s updated General Plan is ready for adoption. An economic group of the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce and the city’s Planning Commission gave the bound, more than 200-page report a thumbs up Wednesday. The plan should go to the City Council for final public comments and approval next month and, barring any surprises, become the new constitution for all future development within Pleasanton by mid-summer. That will be no small achievement. Work started on updating the 1996 General Plan in 2003 with a series of neighborhood meetings conducted by the Planning Commission. Changes, delays, objections, new ideas surfaced along the way with each new City Council needing to review the suggested changes all over again. Even key staff responsible for putting the plan together changed, including the city manager, city clerk, planning director, traffic engineer and principal planners. Concerns such as global warming, green building, water conservation and air quality became more important as work on the new plan continued, so much so that these are now key elements of the plan that now carries an expiration date of 2025.

The General Plan is the official document used by decision makers and citizens to guide Pleasanton’s long-range development of land and the conservation of resources. This splendidly written, very graphic document is easier to read and follow than earlier plans with an abundance of maps, clearly presented policies and supporting information adequate for making informed decisions concerning Pleasanton’s future. Gone is the plan for building an interchange at West Las Positas Boulevard and I-680, although the 5-10 acres of vacant land on all four corners where freeway ramps were planned are still there, meaning the interchange plan could be revived in the years ahead if needs change. Still in the new document is the long-standing plan to extend Stoneridge Drive through Staples Ranch, which is also part of this plan, to El Charro Road and Livermore. El Charro now shows as a through street, from I-580 and Dublin to Stanley Boulevard, extending across quarry properties that for the first time show as part of Pleasanton’s East Side development. This will encourage the development of an East Side Specific Plan that will eventually determine if that part of town should include housing, more industrial, offices or parks. Even the Chain of Lakes in that area will be part of future studies to determine their importance in water storage and recreational resources.

The new General Plan meets all the requirements for general plans stipulated by state law, including the seven mandatory elements: land use, circulation, housing, public safety, conservation, open space and noise. It also retains the city’s 29,000-housing unit cap, approved by voters at the time the 1996 General Plan was adopted. That cap is currently being challenged in court, but even if it is ruled illegal, the new plan’s emphasis on providing more high density, affordable, worker-friendly housing would not be in conflict with whatever ruling is rendered.

Besides leafing through this colorful new General Plan, residents should read the “Vision Statement” on the introductory pages, which states: “Pleasanton is a well-planned, balanced community with desirable neighborhoods an award-winning downtown with its small-town character a diversified economic base, excellent schools and a wide variety of community facilities. Pleasanton is a great place to live, raise a family, work and do business.”

We agree. ■

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Transitions

WEDDINGS • OBITUARIES • BIRTHS

OBITUARIES

Esther Marie Pessano

Esther Marie Pessano died April 26 in Sacramento at the age of 63.

She was born Nov. 10, 1945 and will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

She is survived by her son, Brian and his wife Rena; son, Mark; long-time companion, Bruce; brothers, Jimmy and Larry; sisters, Peggy and Shawna; grandchildren, Matthew and Samuel; nephews, Michael and Larry; nieces, Michelle and Shannon; and lifelong friends, Sheila Scarborough and Joni Gilbertson. She was also the great-aunt of Lauren, Alex and Hannah.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Paul; parents, Vernon and Muriel; and brother, Roy.

Family and friends gathered for a memorial service May 4 at Valley Community Church.



Donald D. Bevard,

Donald D. Bevard died April 28 at home at the age of 80.

Mr. Bevard was a native of Denver, Colo., and a longtime Pleasanton resident. A veteran of World War II, Korea and Vietnam, he served in the U.S. Army, Navy and Merchant Marines. He was a lifetime member of the Pleasanton and Orinda Masonic Lodges F&A.M., VFW Post 6298, American Legion and NARFE.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 60 years, Dorothy Horn-Bevard; children, Christina Bevard-Mateosian of Berkeley, Gregory Bevard of Lincoln and Jay Bevard of Germany; and grandchildren, William Bevard and Esther Joi Mateosian. He was preceded in death by his grandson, Gregory Bevard, Jr.; four brothers; and one sister.

Private family services were held at the Pleasanton Pioneer Cemetery.

Alice Kohler D'Arcy Marsh

Alice Kohler D'Arcy Marsh died April 26 in Pleasanton at the age of 95 with her children and grandchildren by her side.

Mrs. Marsh was a California native born in San Francisco. She met and married William Tyler Marsh in 1936. She was a resident of Pleasanton for over 50 years.

She was also an active member for many years in the Mulberry Branch of Children's Hospital and a longtime member of the Auxiliary for Valley-Care Health System. She was known to her friends and anyone who met her as a gracious lady.

Mrs. Marsh is survived by her devoted children, George (Rita) Marsh of Roseville, Calif. and Audrey (Bill) Sears of Pleasanton; four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, Bill in 1998.

The family is grateful for all the care Pleasanton Nursing & Rehabilitation Center and ValleyCare Medical Center bestowed on her. According to her wishes, no services will be held. Donations in her name may be sent to ValleyCare Foundation, 1111 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore, CA 94550 or Children's Hospital Branches, Inc., 5700 Martin Luther King Jr. Way T-2, Oakland, CA 94609.

Audrey Blanche Bidwell Pimentel

Audrey Blanche Bidwell Pimentel died May 4 at the age of 94.

Mrs. Pimentel was born Dec. 7, 1914. She was a beautiful, gracious woman. Four years ago, she was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, became legally blind, lost her hearing and ability to walk. As humble as she was, she never complained.

She started the first antique shop in Oakland named Lolly's Folly, from then on she attained the name Lolly. She had three antique shops, the last one being in Sunol, which she started with four other people called The Whistle Stop. She traveled extensively, hosted many fashion shows at Castlewood Country Club, played golf, was a great cook and hostess.

She is survived by her loving, grieving family, who miss her dearly and will always be in their hearts: husband of 60 years, David Pimentel of Pleasanton; adored and devoted daughter, Marilyn Audrey of Pleasanton; three grandchildren; one step-grandchild; 12 great grandchildren; and three great grandchildren.

Her precious daughter, Carolyn Jean passed away in 1991 of cancer; and her brother, Wayne Lester Bidwell also preceded her in death.

A memorial service was scheduled for May 14 at Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

BIRTHS

March 9

Shirley and Joshua White, a girl

March 10

Lydia Moore, a boy

March 11

Christina and Srikant Mantha, a boy

March 19

Gwendolyn and Colin Drain, a girl

March 24

Kimberly and Scott Riley, boy
Savitha Mangalore and Sharath Gundurao, a boy

March 28

Angela and Frederick Reibin, a boy

April 13

Colleen Jordan, a girl

April 16

Erika and Juan Figueroa, a girl

April 17

Robin Rivera, a girl

WEDDINGS

Marisa Bolander & Brian Gan

Marisa Joanne Bolander and Brian Dennis Gan were married March 21 in the Wine Garden at the Pleasanton Fairgrounds. A reception followed.

Marisa is the daughter of Karla Weymouth. She graduated in 1999 from Amador Valley High School and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in environmental policy from UC Davis in 2004. She now works as a solid waste consultant.

Brian is the son of Dennis and Rachel Gan of San Ramon. He graduated from San Ramon Valley High School in 1998 and now works as a foreman for a local general contractor.

Julie Hawkins of Danville was Marisa's maid of honor; Brian's dad Dennis was best man. The other four bridesmaids included Gretchen Rhoades; Tasha Fitzpatrick and Lisa Temple, sister of the groom (all



of Pleasanton) and Lauren Anderson of Fremont, who introduced the couple.

The couple spent their honeymoon in Italy. They live in Pleasanton.

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Three face charges in robbery, beating on Vineyard

Three of the five men arrested May 4 will face charges of robbery and beating a man and threatening to beat up another man on Vineyard Avenue, according to Pleasanton Police.

Stephen Castillo and Daniel Meola, both 22-year-old residents of Pleasanton, as well as Livermore resident Andrew Barlow, 23, are being held

in Santa Rita Jail with \$20,000 bail each.

Police said Tyler Koopman, 20, and Naeem McGee, 18, of Pleasanton were released at the request of the District Attorney's office at their arraignment and will not face charges.

Castillo, Meola and Barlow all have prior records, with Barlow currently on probation for battery and grand theft, according to police.

—Emily West

POLICE REPORT

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

May 5

Theft:

- 9:28 a.m. in the 1500 block of Loganberry Way; identity theft
- 10:59 a.m. in the 400 block of Mavis Drive; grand theft
- 12:17 p.m. in the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road; petty theft
- 3:02 p.m. in the 5400 block of Sunol Boulevard; petty theft
- 6:22 p.m. in the 2300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft
- 6:56 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft
- 7:21 p.m. in the 5800 block of Laurel Creek Drive; petty theft
- 11:17 p.m. at the intersection of Birch Creek Drive and Vineyard Avenue; stolen vehicle

Vehicular burglary:

- 3:59 p.m. in the 7200 block of Johnson Drive

Vandalism:

- 12:22 p.m. in the 6100 block of Hansen Drive

May 6

Stolen vehicle:

- 4:36 p.m. in the 5100 block of Golden Road

Vehicular burglary:

- 10:43 a.m. in the 3900 block of Santa Rita Road
- 2:36 p.m. in the 5600 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Vandalism:

- 11:31 a.m. in the 500 block of Gerard Court
- 12:10 p.m. in the 4400 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Drug/alcohol violations:

- 1:14 a.m. in the 4100 block of Remillard Court; DUI
- 4:25 a.m. at the intersection of Sunol Boulevard and Riddell Street; public drunkenness

Battery:

- 10:24 p.m. in the 4400 block of Fairlands Drive

Public urination:

- 8:28 p.m. in the 500 block of Main Street

May 7

Theft:

- 4:56 a.m. in the 5100 block of Hoypard Road; grand theft
- 7:07 a.m. in the 4800 block of Treewood Court; grand theft
- 7:22 a.m. in the 5300 block of Case Avenue; grand theft
- 9:25 a.m. in the 4800 block of 4800 block of Bernal Avenue; identity theft

Burglary:

- 7:06 p.m. in the 1400 block of Whispering Oaks Way

Public drunkenness:

- 12:51 a.m. at the intersection of Peters Avenue and St. Mary Street
- 8:03 p.m. in the 4600 block of Klamath Court

May 8

Theft:

- 8:27 a.m. in the 7700 block of Forsythia Court; petty theft
- 11:09 a.m. in the 3700 block of Crofters Court; identity theft
- 11:18 a.m. in the 6100 block of West Las Positas Boulevard; forgery
- 11:23 a.m. in the 7800 block of Marigold Court; grand theft
- 1:17 p.m. in the 3900 block of Vineyard Avenue; petty theft
- 2:06 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft

Vehicular burglary:

- 8:14 a.m. in the 7700 block of Oak Creek Court
- 11:26 a.m. in the 5800 block of Valley Avenue

Vandalism:

- 9:39 a.m. in the 4900 block of Valley Avenue

Drug/alcohol violations:

- 1:08 p.m. at the intersection of Vineyard and Bernal avenues; under the influence of a controlled substance, DUI



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WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

City Council

Tuesday, May 19, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Public Hearing: PUD-84-21-4M, Braddock and Logan – Consideration an application for a PUD major modification to add 12 new units in three buildings and miscellaneous site modifications at the Civic Square apartments located at 4800 Bernal Avenue and a draft Affordable Housing Agreement
- Consideration of a resolution establishing an irrevocable trust, related documents and an interim investment strategy, for the purpose of pre-funding retiree medical benefits
- Adopt a resolution accepting the 3rd Quarter Financial Status Report and amending the 2008-09 Operating Budget
- Adopt a resolution accepting the Midyear 2008-09 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget update and amending the FY 2008-09 CIP Budget

Housing Commission

Thursday, May 21, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Annual Survey of Apartment Rents and Vacancy Rates (2009)
- Final Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Allocation for Fiscal Year 2009-10
- Discussion Regarding Agenda and Information for Housing Commission Orientation Workshop

Economic Vitality Committee

Thursday, May 21, 2009 at 7:30 a.m.

Operations Service Center, 3333 Busch Road

- Capital Improvement Project Program Update
- Economic Development Strategic Plan Implementation Update

Energy & Environment Committee

Wednesday, May 20, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Operations Service Center, 3333 Busch Road

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

GENERAL INFORMATION

The City of Pleasanton invites you to apply for vacancies on the following commissions and committees:

Civic Arts Commission — 1 member, 1 alternate

Housing Commission — No current vacancies

Human Services Commission — 1 member, 1 alternate

Library Commission — 1 alternate

Parks & Recreation Commission — 1 member, 1 alternate

Planning Commission — No current vacancies

Youth Commission — 3 youth members, 2 youth alternates

Committee on Energy & the Environment — 1 youth member

Economic Vitality Committee — 1 representative from each of the

following categories:

- Business At-large
- Commercial Services Firm
- Environmental Industry
- Infrastructure
- Medical Services
- Medical Technology
- Residential Real Estate Broker

Alameda County Paratransit Advisory Committee -- 1 member

Youth Master Plan Implementation Committee (YMPIC)

Adult Seats

Senior Citizen Representative

Youth Seats

Five seats open to any high school or middle school student

Young Adult Seats

One seat is open to represent young adults ages 18-22

Applications are available at the City Clerk's Office, 123 Main Street, or on the City's web site at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us. For additional information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at (925) 931-5027.

Applications must be received no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, May 22, 2009. Postmarks are not accepted.

If you are interested in serving on a commission or committee that has no current vacancies listed, you may register your interest in future vacancies by contacting the Office of the City Clerk at (925) 931-5027 or by completing an interest card on our website at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us.

**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**

Calendar

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY • POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT WWW.PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

Author Visits

SANDRA KAY A book release party honoring local author Sandra Kay's new book "Eat, Write and Exercise" will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, May 23, at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Call 846-8826.

Clubs

CAREER NETWORKING EVENT FOR EXECUTIVES Executives are invited to a Breakfast Career Networking meeting for mid- and senior-management from 7:30-9:30 a.m., on the third Tuesday of every month, at Mimi's Cafe, 4775 Hacienda Dr., Dublin. Cost is \$25 for members; \$30 for non-members if pre-registered; \$35 at the door. Call 218-1868.

TRI-VALLEY DEMS TO MEET GARAMENDI Tri Valley Dems Meet Garamendi Meet Lt. Governor of California John Garamendi, Assembly Member Joan Buchanan and State Senator Mark DeSaunier, Adriel Hampton and Anthony Bothwell Monday, May 18, at IBEW 595 Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy., Dublin. Call 831-8355.

Events

ANTIQUE AND COLLECTIBLE STREET FAIRE Pleasanton Downtown Association will host an Antique and

Collectible Street Faire from 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, May 24, in downtown Pleasanton. Admission is free. Visit www.pleasantondowntown.net.

ATTEND KGO LIVE BROADCAST The Widowed Men and Women of Northern California plan to attend a live TV show (View from the Bay) from 2:15-4 p.m., Wednesday, May 20, via Bart with an optional lunch in SF at Il Fomio restaurant. There are 20 tickets available. Guests are welcome. Call 462-9636.

COME PARTY WITH GEORGE The Widowed Men and Women of Northern California are planning a party at 4:30 p.m., Saturday, May 23, at 765 Grace Court, Livermore. Cost is \$8 per person or a dish to share; pasta and beverages will be provided. Visitors are welcome. Reservations are due by May 19 to Patti; call 371-2612.

ELLISTON MYSTERY DINNER THEATRE Join us for an evening of fabulous food and wine and watch the mystery unfold from 7-9:30 p.m., Friday, May 29, at Elliston Vineyards, 463 Kilkare Rd., Sunol. Tickets are \$69. Call 862-2377 or visit www.elliston.com.

FAMILY FUN DAY Enjoy Pleasanton Foothill Little League's Family Fun Day from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, May 16, at Pleasanton Sports Park. There will be a BBQ, games, a silent auction, raffle, cotton candy, face painting, Dunk "Da" Coach,

and more. This event is free, but BBQ tickets will be pre-sold. If you want to join in the fun, e-mail hud-saw27@gmail.com.

HAPPY ENDINGS REUNION Have you adopted pets through Tri-Valley Animal Rescue during the past 17 years? If so, you are invited to a Happy Endings Reunion from 1-4 p.m., Sunday, May 17, at Memorial Dog Park, at Bollinger Canyon Road and San Ramon Valley Blvd. Enjoy food, drinks and a raffle. Prepaid tickets are \$5. First 25 dogs will receive a free gift bag. Visit www.tvlar.org.

INTERNATIONAL PICNIC Cultural CareAupair is hosting an international picnic at 4 p.m., Sunday, May 17, at Emerald Glen Park, Dublin. Visit with host families and au pairs while eating tasty dishes from around the world. For information, visit <http://hbrewer.aupairnews.com>.

LARK IN THE PARK Museum on Main Street will host "Lark in the Park" where participants will explore Kottinger Park and learn about its history from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, May 23, at 1000 Kottinger Dr. This event is free. Call 462-2766 or visit www.museumonmain.org.

MUSLIM WOMEN TO SPEAK AAUW LPD will host a panel discussion with four Muslim women from Bay Area mosques about their experiences as Muslim women in the USA

from 7-8 p.m., Saturday, May 16, at Lynnewood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave. This event is free. Call 846-2092.

TRI-VALLEY TRAVEL, FOOD AND WINE PAIRING Enjoy good food, great wine and interesting travel destinations from 1-4:30 p.m., Sunday, May 17, at Stoney Ridge Winery, 4948 Tesla Rd., Livermore. Travel experts will be available to answer questions and provide up-to-date travel information. Cost is \$25. Call 271-4585.

TRI-VALLEY VEGETARIAN SOCIETY POTLUCK Tri-Valley residents are welcome to share and enjoy delicious plant-based foods from 1-4 p.m., Saturday, May 16, at the San Ramon Library, Meeting Room, 100 Montgomery St. A guest speaker will talk about the relationship between food, health and the environment. Cost is \$2 with a side dish; \$10 without a side dish. Call 989-1811 or visit www.thriveholistic.com.

Exhibits

ART IN THE VINEYARD The Livermore Art Association presents the 37th Art in the Vineyard from 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, May 24, at Wente Vineyards, 5565 Tesla Rd., Livermore. A group of 42 multimedia artists will provide a day of beautiful art, music and fine wines. This event is free. Visit www.livermoreartassociation.org.

moreartassociation.org.

Film

FREE HEALTH DOCUMENTARY Sick and tired of being sick and tired? View a health documentary at 6 p.m., Tuesday, May 26, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Call 209-9871.

Fundraisers

'THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT' GALA Pleasanton Cultural Arts Foundation will sponsor "That's Entertainment: A Gala Benefiting the Firehouse Arts Center" from 6-10 p.m., Saturday, May 16, at the Castlewood Country Club. Tickets are \$140. Call 846-1007 or visit www.pleasantonartsfoundation.org.

LAUREL ALICE WILLIAMS FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER The launch of the Laurel Alice Williams (LAW) Foundation and the winner of the LAW scholarship will be held at 6:30 p.m., Friday, June 5, at Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Dr., Danville. Tickets are \$75, including dinner. Auction items can be viewed online at www.laurelalicefoundation.com.

LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY GARDEN CLUB This club will host a Yard Plant Sale from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, May 16, at 336 Sycamore Rd. (off of

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Sunol Blvd.) Proceeds from the sale will benefit the club's community projects. Call Bev at 485-7812.

WATCH A MOVIE—SUPPORT A CAT OR A DOG! Snuggle up to watch Madagascar 2 from 7-9 p.m., Friday, May 22, in Hart Middle School's Multipurpose Room, 4433 Willow Rd. Bring a blanket to sit on. This event is free, but donations to benefit the Valley Humane Society will be requested. A raffle will be held; each ticket is \$1. Visit www.valleyhumaneociety.org.

Kids & Teens

FREE TEEN WORKSHOP Teens will talk about ways to keep busy, have fun and be safe over the summer from 2-4 p.m., Saturday, May 16, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Teens will have opportunity to share and participate in creative project and will receive a free Jamba Juice gift card. Call 600-9762, ext. 7.

KIDS OTTER READ DAY AROUND THE BAY Four area authors will lead a program of free activities from 1-3 p.m., Saturday, May 16, at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Visit www.kidsoftherread.com.

NEW SCUBA CREW Boy Scouts is starting a new unit for students ages 14-20 who are interested in scuba diving and marine biology. The first meeting will be held at 7 p.m., Wednesday, May 20, at 1032 Serpentine Dr., Suite 108.

Lectures/ Workshops

'MINDFULNESS, WITNESSING AND THE ONLY FREEDOM WORTH LIVING' Will Joel Friedman, Ph.D. will speak on "Mindfulness, Witnessing and the Only Freedom Worth Living" at 7 p.m., Thursday, May 28, at the Pleasanton Public Library, Meeting Room, 400 Old Bernal Ave. This event is free. Call 931-3405.

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS 101 Hear about the top ten college admissions myths from 7-8:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 27, at the Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Learn how colleges really evaluate applicants, how to find "best fit" colleges and how to prepare for the college application process. This event is free. Call 963-2392.

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FREE VOICE LESSONS Pride of the Pacific, a women's cappella chorus, will offer free voice lessons from 6:15-7:30 p.m., Wednesday, beginning May 27 for four weeks, at Aahmes Event Center, 170 Lindbergh Ave., Livermore. Call 426-0266 or visit www.prideofthepacificchorus.org.

FREELANCER'S LIFE AND WRITING SHORT STORIES California Writers Club Tri-Valley Branch will host a double program by author Margaret Lucke with a luncheon presentation from 11:30 a.m.-1:45 p.m., Saturday, May 16 followed by an optional workshop from 2-4 p.m. on writing great short stories, at Oasis Grille, 780 Main St., Pleasanton. Cost for the lunch pre-

sentation is \$21 for members; \$27 for non-members; workshop is \$25 for non-members. To register for either or both, call 462-7495.

Seniors

CAMP 55—ALVISO ADOBE COMMUNITY PARK A week long educational camp for ages 55 and over will be from 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, May 18-22, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Advance reservations are required. Cost is \$110R/\$121N all week; \$25R/\$28N daily. Call 931-5365.

DAY TRIPPERS TRIP TO CAPITOLA Join the group for a visit to Capitola

by touring the Capitola Historical Museum, browse many shops and enjoy lunch beachside from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Thursday, June 4, meeting at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. There will be wine tasting at Bargetto Winery. Cost is \$56 for residents; \$60 for non-residents. Pre-registration is required; call 931-5365.

LAUGHTER YOGA Contribute to your well-being with Laughter Yoga which combines unconditional laughter with yogic breathing from 9:30-11 a.m., Monday, May 4 and May 18, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$1.50 for residents; \$2 for non-residents. Call 931-5365.

LOW VISION SUPPORT GROUP Join the Low Vision Support Group at its monthly meeting from 10-10:30 a.m., Tuesday, May 19, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. This month the group will host the Tri-Valley Puppy Raising Club. Call 931-5365.

Spiritual

ECKANKAR WORSHIP SERVICE An Eckankar Worship Service will be held from 11 a.m.-noon, Sunday, May 17, at Four Points Sheraton, 5115 Hopyard Rd. The service will be on "How to live a spiritual life." A children's program runs concurrent to adult worship service. Call 944-0118.

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A heron wades in the shallow waters of the Shadow Cliffs lake. Parks officials expressed their desire to preserve the natural resources of the recreation area for all of the plant and animal specials who call it home.



A kiosk along the Levee Trail directs the many joggers and dog walkers who use Shadow Cliffs. Members of Friends of Shadow Cliffs said they'd like to see a dog park built with an agility course, washing station and concession stand.



California poppies sprout up among the tall grass at Shadow Cliffs. At a recent scoping meeting, parks officials and residents discussed more trails that connect as well as longer routes.

SPRUCING UP SHADOW CLIFFS

Interpretive center, pavilion, dog park among suggestions made at recent park scoping meeting



A flock of Canada geese, commonly seen at Shadow Cliffs, feed on the grass in the picnic area of the park. At a recent scoping meeting, East Bay Regional Park District officials heard lots of ideas from residents about what they like to see, including an interpretive center to educate the public about replenishing the lake and the ecological resources available as well as adding more trails, a pavilion and a dog park.



PHOTOS BY JANET PELLETIER
sses on a trail in Shadow Cliffs.
residents said they'd like to see

CLIFFS

meeting



out what improvements they'd

By JANET PELLETIER

An interpretive center to educate children and adults about the ecological system and how the lake is replenished. A dog park that would offer pet owners another place to take their pooches in town complete with a dog wash, agility course and swimming hole. A pavilion where families could hold anniversary or birthday parties and businesses could host company picnics. These were among the suggestions made for improving Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area at a recent scoping meeting hosted by the East Bay Regional Park District.

The park district, which owns and manages the 90-acre lake, picnic areas and hiking trails, is in the process of updating a land use plan for Shadow Cliffs. In a presentation May 4 at the Pleasanton Library, park planners said the district has a number of ideas for taking the popular recreation spot into the future, but emphasized at the same time that "future" was the keyword.

"There's no specific funding for Shadow Cliffs," said senior park planner Brian Wiese. "The land use plan is long-term. The sky is almost the limit."

But that didn't put a damper on any discussion of what could be in store down the road.

"We want it to be a more attractive park to use," said park planner Anne Rivoire.

Planners cited a number of areas the district could improve at Shadow Cliffs, which comprises 266 acres. A large priority could be focused on protecting the natural resources and ecosystem, which includes a number of native plant and animal species.

Last summer, the boat launch was closed earlier than normal due to the low lake level after a deal with an area cement plant to pump water into the body of water fell through. Zone 7 Water Agency has said it can't commit to replenishing the lake's supply since the state is in a drought and still dealing with issues in the Delta region. Water quality is also a priority, Rivoire, with the vast number of Canada geese that call Shadow Cliffs home.

While parking is adequate at most times during the year, park district officials acknowledged that on summer days and particularly holidays such as July 4, traffic can back up all along Stanley Boulevard with people trying to find parking spots. Another issue that needs attention, park officials said, are the staff buildings. Lifeguards are currently cramped in a one-room building.

Rivoire said an expansion to the waterslides, which was abandoned in 2007, is one particular area the district needs to put a special focus on. The partially-built structures seen off of Stanley Boulevard will be torn down, Rivoire said, but it's not clear when, how and at whose expense.

Glenn Kierstead, owner of the Rapids Waterslides, said he was sorry the expansion didn't occur. Once estimated at \$6 million, the project doubled in cost over time and Kierstead said it would have been impossible to obtain funding from investors.

After a series of heated debates, the City Council granted Kierstead a conditional use permit for the expansion in 2004, which was to include four additional slides to the existing four, a children's wading pool, larger swimming pools, a lazy river and a wave pool. Mayor Tom Pico cast the tie-breaking vote in favor and the approval

was structured so that it could not be referended. Opponents, many of whom were part of citizens' group Friends of Shadow Cliffs, cited increased traffic, particularly during the summer months when Kierstead estimated as many as 2,000 patrons a day would visit the slides, and noise for neighborhoods to the south from those using the four-story high slides much of the day and into the early evening hours. At the time, the project was also backed by the East Bay Regional Park District, which saw the waterpark as a revenue generator.

At the scoping meeting last week, Kierstead said he'd like to add some features to the waterslides that would cater to very young children and older adults—populations that often get left out of the fun at the slides.

"I would like to add a spray zone for older people to enjoy," Kierstead said, adding that he's also looking into incorporating shade structures this summer season.

For younger children who don't meet the 42-inch height requirement to ride the waterslides, a children's pool could be installed, he said.

"We believe we have the capital and partnerships to do it," he said.

The cost would be between \$450,000 and \$650,000, Kierstead estimated, adding that he would need a longer-term lease agreement to make it work. Currently, Rapids Waterslides operates on a yearly lease with East Bay Parks. As he wrapped up his comments, Kierstead said he wanted to work with Friends of Shadow Cliffs on those plans.

Members of the Friends of Shadow Cliffs group, who were also in attendance at the scoping meeting, had mostly positive things to say about their experiences at the park.

Their suggestions included expanding trails so they could eventually connect with other regional trails like Iron Horse and Del Valle, adding sign markers and benches along pathways and the addition of a staging area. An event pavilion could be the perfect gathering place for families celebrating a birthday or for businesses hosting a company picnic. An interpretive center was mentioned by a handful of speakers, who said it could educate children about the environment and be the site for school-sponsored camps. An off-leash dog park would be an asset at Shadow Cliffs because there is only one dog park in the city, one resident said. It could include an agility course, a dog wash station, cafe and concession stand and swimming hole.

Dolores Bengtson, a former Pleasanton parks director, said the key is finding activities that can be employed year-round. Currently, summer is the peak period when crowds flock to the park, but the interpretive center and pavilion would spread park use out to different areas.

East Bay Regional Park District acquired the land which would become Shadow Cliffs in 1968 and started the first land use process in 1980. The land use plan was updated in the 1990s and this will be the second modification. A draft of the updated plan is expected to be released late this summer for public review. A second meeting to gain public input will be held in September and the park district board could vote on the plan as soon as December or by early 2010, Rivoire said.

For information about Friends of Shadow Cliffs, visit <http://friendsofshadowcliffs.com>. For information about the East Bay Regional Park District, visit www.ebparks.org.



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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

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

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Discover hidden gardens

Sunday tour features unique Pleasanton yards, benefits Valley Humane Society

By EMILY WEST

Sook Hong doesn't have to go far to find solace. Whether it's watering plants or sitting under the shelter of a gazebo, she is quite content in her own backyard.

The Pleasanton resident and avid gardener is one of 11 homeowners throughout the city opening up her yard to visitors for Sunday's "Hidden Gardens of the Valley Tour." Benefiting the Valley Humane Society, the annual event takes place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or shine.

The highlight of Hong's garden, she says, is a waterfall. She is also proud of her organic garden and year-round blooms.

"I love everything about gardening," she said. "I do everything from planting soil to selecting the plants. I research and understand different types of plants, making sure they're compatible with each other. I want to make sure we have a shady area and an ornamental area, with enough flowering throughout the year."

The Hong family inherited their garden from the previous owners, but most weekends Sook Hong says she is out there caring for and adding to the yard. Her most recent addition is an organic garden, complete with strawberries, an apple tree, tomatoes, thyme and sage, to name a few. Soon, she and her kids will be able to pick and enjoy the fruits—as well as vegetables and herbs—of her labor.

The Webers consider their yard to be serene as well, but it's also a place for fun and games. Tracy Weber transformed the yard from an open area surrounded by redwood trees to a haven that family friends often refer to as a resort.

Called Coco's Cabana on the Hidden Garden tour, the yard is in honor of their Doberman, who likely gets more use out of the space than anyone else.

"Coco loves it," Tracy Weber said. "It's large so she can run and chase everything she sees—bees, birds, planes. She thinks everything's a game."

It would seem the whole family loves



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY PHOTOS

Frog's Frolic is one of 11 homes featured on the Hidden Gardens of the Valley tour. Sunday's event benefits the Valley Humane Society and each garden is named after the family pet.

games as well. In addition to tropical plants and a rose garden, it features a barbecue island and a sport court.

"It can be peaceful and quiet, but there's also a slide and pool, and a large grass area where we set up a volleyball net," Tracy Weber said. "Upstairs, there's a putting green in the top corner."

One time Tracy's husband John Weber hosted an Olympic competition for a work team-building exercise in their backyard.

"The garden is not necessarily the focal point, but it enhances the overall feeling of the yard," Tracy Weber said.

Irving and Laura Alameda are the proud owners of Samantha's Sanctuary. The view of the Pleasanton foothills is framed by a small orchard and planters of varying heights.

One of their most attractive features, according to Irving Alameda, is the use of stonework around the barbecue, cabana and lanai. With lights adorning the yard, it's reminiscent of Las Vegas, he said.

The space is often loved by family and friends, and of course, Samantha the family dog.

"She enjoys the yard and everyone who comes in it," Irving Alameda said.

Other gardens on the tour include Zen for Von Zinfandel, Larry's Lair and Molly and Abby Road. Tour participants are encouraged to take inspiration from the designs, which incorporate fountains, barbecues, fireplaces and gazebos, as well as lush landscapes.

Buzz Bertolero, the "Dirt Gardener" from KRON4 will be available for questions and conversation at one of the gardens.

Tickets are \$35 and may be purchased at the Valley Humane Society, located at 3670 Nevada St.; Feline Medical Center, 3160 Santa Rita Road; Western Garden Nursery, 2765 Vineyard Ave.; Towne Center Books, 555 Main St.; Armstrong Garden Center, 7360 San Ramon Road, Dublin; Wild Birds Unlimited, 7182 Regional St., Dublin; and Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Lane, Livermore.

For more information, call VHS at 426-8656 or visit www.valleyhumane.org. ■

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REVIEWS OF NEW MOVIES

By PETER CANAVESE

Star Trek

★★★★

Rated PG-13 for violence, sci-fi action and brief sexual content
Two hours, seven minutes

Unless you've been living under a rock, you've at least heard of "Star Trek." You probably recognize the odd phrase ("Beam me up," "Set phasers on stun" or perhaps "Live long and prosper") and the guy with the pointy ears.

Some of you recognize quite a bit more, and director J.J. Abrams and screenwriters Alex Kurtzman and Roberto Orci have effectively served both masters: The rebooted "Star Trek" will please the lion's share of fans while reaching out to what may be the biggest audience the 43-year-old series has ever enjoyed.

Abrams has taken essentially the same tack here as he did with Paramount's other big TV-derived franchise, "Mission: Impossible." Like "Mission: Impossible III," "Star Trek" runs mostly on fast-paced, big-budgeted, explosive action, fuel-injected with melodrama. The bravura opening sequence immediately thrills and tugs at the heartstrings, but brush that tear from your eye, as Abrams is about to hurdle through and hurdle over enough scrapes for dozens of cliffhanger serials.

Abrams and company have achieved quite a bit in reframing the future adventures of the explorers of Starfleet (a "peacekeeping and humanitarian armada"). The crew of the Enterprise includes Capt. Christopher Pike

(Bruce Greenwood), first officer Spock (Zachary Quinto), communications officer Uhura (Zoe Saldana), Dr. Leonard "Bones" McCoy (Karl Urban), helmsman Hikaru Sulu (John Cho), 17-year-old navigator Chekov (Anton Yelchin), and the brash and unwelcome James T. Kirk (Chris Pine), destined to follow in his father's footsteps to become a Starfleet captain (also on the fringes: Simon Pegg's Scottish starship engineer Montgomery Scott).

Before the Enterprise takes its maiden voyage in response to a mysterious threat (involving Eric Bana's Romulan "war criminal" Nero), Abrams gets to work with some surprisingly rich and certified-fresh myth-building. It's a stroke of genius to conceive of Kirk and Spock as two rebels looking for a cause, who butt heads on the way to becoming lifelong friends. The filmmakers fill the film with spectacular special effects and fan-pleasing in-jokes and references, including walking reference Leonard Nimoy reprising the role he created as the elder Spock (referred to in the credits as "Spock Prime").

No fair telling how or when he turns up, but I will say this: He comes along with one mother of a plot hole that's close to inexcusable (and definitely illogical). Abrams hopes he's got the film moving too fast for viewers to notice or care, and he's probably right. Those wanting to excuse the plot hole can tie it into the film's strong sense of destiny, despite the villain's largely successful attempts to disrupt the timeline.

Speaking of quibbles, here are three others: the unearned, campy touch of putting some kind of space sword in Sulu's hand; the hellishly spiky and impractically designed Romulan tech ("Star Trek" bad guys never met a cat-walk they didn't like); and, after a while, that relentlessly manic action-movie pace. At times, you may wish, as I did, that this most dizzyingly hyperactive of movies would calm down just a little.

The rest of the strenuous plot gymnastics pretty much work, and by pressing the continuity-reset button, Abrams and company are able to make some bold—in fact, downright apocalyptic—changes to the "Star Trek" universe. But change is good for the soul, so they say, and the new cast members acquit themselves admirably by channeling their forebears without suffocating their own personalities.

Going for gold

Senior Girl Scouts put on
Latin American Awareness Fair Saturday

Families are invited to celebrate Latin-American culture Saturday at Lydiksen Elementary School.

Girl Scouts Casey Mensinger and Ellen Wilson of Troop 32314, sophomores at Foothill High School, are hosting "Chicos Latinos!" as a part of their Gold Award, which is as significant as an Eagle Award for Boy Scouts.

The fair will spread community awareness of the Latin American culture and will feature crafts, games, food samples, dancing and more.

A portion of the event proceeds will help a Guatemalan orphanage, Hogar Miguel Magone, purchase an industrial-size pressure cooker. This would allow orphanage volunteers to spend less time in the kitchen and more time helping the orphans.

Casey and Ellen will volunteer at the orphanage this summer. In preparation for their visit, they are also making more than 100 sling bags for the orphans, to supplement their small school backpacks, as well



COURTESY LAURA WILSON

Girl Scouts Ellen Wilson and Casey Mensinger of Troop 32314 host "Chicos Latinos!" this Saturday.

as collecting new T-shirts and new socks for the boys this summer.

"Chicos Latinos!" is from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Lydiksen Elementary School, located at 7700 Highland Oaks Drive. Admission is \$5 per person.

—Emily West

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Sports

SPORTS DIGEST

Amador boys JV and Varsity diving and swimming team results

It was a day for record breaking performances as six Amador Valley JV boys swim team records fell at the EBAL Championship meet. After finishing fourth in the dual meets, the Dons surpassed that performance, taking third place at Championships, narrowly edging out San Ramon Valley 274-262.5.

The Amador Valley Varsity boys Swimming and Diving team finished off the EBAL Championship meet in a big way, breaking the

meet record in the 400 free relay. The team of Krish Rajagoplan, Kyle Surber, Andrew Seitz, and Scott Arellano finished second in the event (De La Salle also broke the meet record) to lead the Dons to a fourth place finish overall.

Three MVPs emerge from T-Ball game

In the T-Ball Division of the Pleasanton National Little League the Braves played the Mets last weekend. There was great fielding by the entire team as they chased down ball after ball. All the Mets had big hits, some off the tee and some off of coach pitches. There had to be three MVPs this game including Michael Priscaro, Jeffrey Priscaro and Austin Nicolas.



ANNE-MARIE HARRISON

The Pleasanton Cavaliers finished their first season on a high note.

Cavaliers wrap up season with strong showing

The Pleasanton Cavaliers Rugby Club won third place in Varsity Silver at the Pacific Coast Invitational Rugby Tournament, which was held at San Jose State University on April 25 and 26. The team won two out of three games played and

ended their season with a strong finish.

The Cavaliers won the first game on April 25 against the Vacaville Rugby Club, 24-19. James Raynel sent the team off with a try within the first two minutes of the game and Ryan Maples followed up with a conversion, 7-0. Nearing the end of the second half, Vacaville seemed uncoordinated and lacked organization, but scored later on, 17-7.

After a three-hour rest period, the Cavaliers had a difficult time getting their heads back in the game and lost to the Sacramento Islanders Rugby Club, 31-20.

Overcoming the Sacramento loss, the Cavaliers dominated 42-14 in their last game of the season against the San Mateo Rugby Football Club.

With this successful season now over, the Cavaliers bid adieu to departing seniors Alex Herzfeldt, Michael Young, Teddy Gatanis, Charles Jones, Estavan Ibarra, James Raynel, Kingston Cameron, Michael Bailey and Scott McEtchin.

—Anne-Marie Harrison

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Pleasanton, 1454 Santa Rita Rd., May 16th, 8-4
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Pleasanton, 1956 Palmer Drive, Sat May 16 from 8am-2pm
The garage sale many of my neighbors and friends have been waiting for! Lots of household items including furniture, tools, toys, decorative from staged home, and much much more. No Early Birds.

Pleasanton, 3234 Marilyn Ct., May 16, 8 - 2
Sat. 8-2. Furn., hsehold items, HO train items, doll house furn., old cameras & access., clothes, etc. Don't miss this one! No early birds please!

Pleasanton, 4235 Hayford Court, May 16th, 8-2
Multi family garage sale. Off Santa Rita & Mohr & Morganfield. Men, women, and girls clothes, oak child's desk w/ hutch & dresser, dryer, pictures, aquarium, window rods, fountain, etc.

Pleasanton, 4433 - 4499 Fairlands Dr., May 17, 8-3
Huge Multi-Families Garage Sale, too many to list. Everything must go.

Pleasanton, 4433 - 4499 Fairlands Dr., May 17, 8-3

Pleasanton, 4433 - 4499 Fairlands Dr., Saturday May 16, 8am - 3pm
Huge Multi-Families Sale, lot of incredible wonderful stuffs! Include almost everything, too many to list, everything must go.

Pleasanton, 4433 - 4499 Fairlands Dr., Saturday, May 16th, 8:00am - 3:00pm

Pleasanton, 4499 - 4433 Fairlands Dr., Saturday May 16 & Sunday May 17, 8am - 3pm

Pleasanton, 5656 San Antonio Street, May 15 & 16 8am-4pm

215 Collectibles & Antiques

Royal Doulton figurine - \$45

220 Computers/ Electronics

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245 Miscellaneous

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LEVANT Stairlift - \$2495

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Power Wheelchair - \$1800.00

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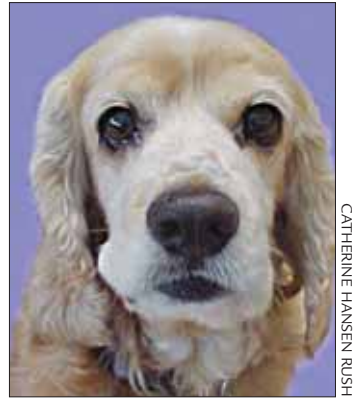


Tropical Weekly: While shopping in Hong Kong, Laura Garske-Elmore of Burlingame and her mother Ann Garske of Pleasanton flew to the beautiful island of Sanya to relax and catch up on local news before flying home. Garske said Sanya, often called the "Hawaii of Asia," is a popular tourist destination on the southern tip of the Chinese tropical island Hainan.

PET OF THE WEEK

Sweet Kylie

Do you want a loyal friend to run beside you in the race for the cure? Meet Kylie, a cancer survivor herself who would love to do just that. Kylie is a 3-year-old, spayed female blonde Cocker Spaniel who was rescued from a central valley animal shelter by Tri-Valley Animal Rescue. Her severely infected ears had been neglected by her owner for so long that surgical intervention was necessary. A cancerous mass was removed from one of Kylie's ears and she lost her hearing in both ears. Kylie's foster mother describes Kylie as "the sweetest dog on the planet" and she invites you to read Kylie's story at www.tvr.org. Follow the link to adoptable dogs and you will see Kylie and numerous other available dogs currently in foster care with TVAR. Kylie gets along well with other dogs and she has unwaveringly maintained a sweet disposition through it all. For more information about Kylie, call her foster mother Terri at 417-1180.



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Marketplace

Pleasanton Weekly

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Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

HOME SALE OF THE WEEK

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This charming single-story custom Castlewood home sits on a premium corner lot with a pool, valley views and expansive off-street parking. In addition to its private and wooded location, this home features an updated kitchen, wood-beamed vaulted ceilings, bay windows, and multiple fireplaces. Sold by Mike Carey of Investment Real Estate. (925) 846-0506

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

Danville

5 BEDROOMS
447 Shana Court **\$1,186,000**
Sun 11:30-5:30 Northern CA Brokers 426-2566

Dublin

3 BEDROOMS
11695 Harlan Road **\$649,900**
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 426-3800

4 BEDROOMS
7157 Hansen Drive **\$589,000**
Sun 1:30-4 J Rockcliff 855-4112
11395 Marwick Drive **\$649,950**
Sun 1:30-4 J Rockcliff 251-2554
11175 Brittney Lane **\$759,000**
Sun 1:30-4:30 J Rockcliff 323-6735

Livermore

5 BEDROOMS
655 East Vinyard **\$4,695,000**
Sun 1:30-4 J Rockcliff 683-0488
1312 Carlton Place **\$899,500**
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 846-6500

Pleasanton

2 BEDROOMS
4371 2nd Street **\$759,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Investment Real Estate Co. 963-0569

3 BEDROOMS
3181 Tonopah Court **\$375,000**
Sun 2-4:30 J Rockcliff 855-4109
4040 Jensen **\$529,000**
Sun 2-5 Alain Pinel Realtors 216-4063
4852 Drywood Street **\$699,950**
Sun 1-4 Allied Brokers 846-3755
6923 Corte Barcelona **\$719,900**
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 426-3889

4 BEDROOMS
1122 Baur Court **\$1,149,000**
Sun 1-4 Prudential Ruby Hill 417-2250
1608 Cindy Way **\$1,179,000**
Sun 12-5 Alain Pinel Realtors 785-7777
6557 Hanover Court **\$1,199,000**
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 462-7653
2333 Romano Circle **\$1,265,000**
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty 202-6298
2397 Romano Circle **\$1,275,000**
Sun 1-4 Prudential Ruby Hill 417-2250
1624 Cindy Way **\$1,329,000**
Sun 12-5 Alain Pinel Realtors 785-7777
1640 Cindy Way **\$1,349,000**
Sun 12-5 Alain Pinel Realtors 785-7777
3602 Fieldview Court **\$1,499,000**
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty 397-4244
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
5281 Northway Road **\$650,000**
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 426-3858
2562 Glen Isle **\$659,000**
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 426-3826

3150 Paseo Robles **\$775,000**
Sun 1-4:30 Sheehan Real Estate 415-302-2500
2927 Lethbridge Court **\$799,950**
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 336-1108
5631 Highcrest Court **\$849,888**
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 426-3839
3568 Vine Street **\$895,000**
Sun 1-4 Valley Brokers 719-0160
1130 Mataro Court **\$949,950**
Sun 1-4 Allied Brokers 846-3755
3303 Camillo Court **\$999,000**
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty 202-6298
506 Trebbiano Place **\$999,000**
Sat 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 462-7653

5 BEDROOMS
1026 Hearst Drive **\$1,099,900**
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 426-3888
7152 Moss Tree Way **\$1,128,000**
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty 397-4244
6736 Riddell Street **\$1,349,000**
Sun 2-5 Alain Pinel Realtors 846-6500
1632 Cindy Way **\$1,449,000**
Sun 12-5 Alain Pinel Realtors 785-7777
4156 Grant Court **\$1,595,000**
Sun 1-4 J Rockcliff Realtors 251-2535
5682 Sunset Creek Court **\$1,769,900**
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 785-7777
1735 Spumante Place **\$1,799,000**
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty 202-6298
4141 W Ruby Hill Drive **\$2,599,000**
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty 202-6298
3314 Arbor Drive **\$989,000**
Sat 1-4 Valley Brokers 437-5830
1436 Irongate Court **\$1,389,000**
Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 519-9080
9116 Olson Court **\$2,195,000**
Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 519-9080

San Ramon

3 BEDROOMS
6178 Lakeview Circle **\$499,900**
Sun 1-4 J Rockcliff 683-5165
27 Palamos Court **\$569,000**
Sun 1:30-4 J Rockcliff 360-1423
434 Constantine Court **\$575,000**
Sun 1:30-4:30 J Rockcliff 323-6735
6215 Lakeview Circle **\$639,500**
Sun 1-4 J Rockcliff 683-5165
712-7 Lakemont Place **\$649,000**
Sun 1:30-4:30 J Rockcliff 366-9555
792-9 Lakemont Place **\$798,000**
Sun 1:30-4:30 J Rockcliff 683-5689

4 BEDROOMS
26 Diamond Ranch Court **\$1,095,000**
Sun 1-4 J Rockcliff 833-1822
83 Dos Rios Place **\$629,000**
Sun 2-5 J Rockcliff 997-8379
1050 Vista Point Circle **\$665,000**
Sun 1-4 J Rockcliff 984-3932
2453 Camino De Jugar **\$849,000**
Sun 1-4 J Rockcliff 997-1585

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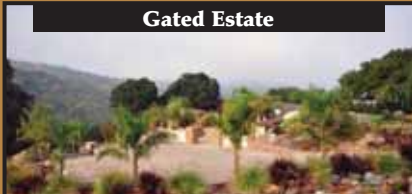
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PLEASANTON

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Beautiful custom home in gated Golden Eagle Estates. Designer features throughout w/ extensive use of cherry wood, stone & more. Wine cellar, exercise room, workshop, main flr master, Heritage Oak trees, large rooms- Truly elegant.
PEGGY CORTEZ 925.648-5454

www.phyllisandcarolyn.com



PLEASANTON

2801 GRAY FOX COURT \$2,995,000
Gorgeous gated Hilltop Estate with panoramic views on 1.91 acres of privacy. Custom Mediterranean single level home with quality and character. Resort-like backyard with pool, spa, swim up bar, barbeque, palm trees.
PHYLLIS WEINER 925.251.2585

www.rubihillliving.com



PLEASANTON

2156 CANOSA CT \$2,649,000
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.
ANJU BHATIA 925.577.2658

www.sheilacunha.com



CASTRO VALLEY

21600 EDEN CANYON RD \$2,199,950
Beautiful 4 bedroom 4 bath creek side estate secluded on a landscaped 6 1/2 acres hillside. The home boasts a beautiful 16 ft cobble stone fireplace in the living room with hardwood flooring, vaulted wood ceilings and views.
SHEILA CUNHA 925.251.2561

Beautiful Custom Home



PLEASANTON

860 CASTLEWOOD PL \$1,995,000
Beautiful custom home built in 1996 by Sterling Builders! Incredible views & location, above the 18th Green and 10th Fairway of the hill course! Huge gourmet Island kitchen with granite! Large master suite with fireplace & walk in closet.
BRYAN CRAFT 925.855.4141

108 Acres



LIVERMORE

11625 MORGAN TERRITORY RD \$1,850,000
Fenced Ranch Property-Picturesque Setting-Panoramic Views. 3 Bedroom Home W/ 20x20 Bonus Room-Six Stall Barn-Tack Room-120'x300' Arena-Wells & Springs-1/4 Mile Road to Poss. Building Site. Private.
THE NAGLE TEAM 925.736.4155

Spectacular Home



DUBLIN

6036 KINGSMILL TERRACE \$1,700,000
Spectacular home with hundreds of thousands in upgrades, including a PREMIUM lot in a desirable gated golf community! Cherry cabinetry, moldings, and upgraded stone and tiles throughout! Professional designer landscaping.
DAVE BAUER 925.855.4040

www.estatesandranches.com



CASTRO VALLEY

9232 CROW CANYON ROAD \$1,595,000
Fantastic sports enthusiast property. Executive style home. fantastic land over 10+ acres. Beautiful bridge crossing, serenity of a creek, 4 large bd, 3 nice ba, 2 half ba.
KRISTY PEIXOTO 925.251.2536
OPEN SAT & SUN 1 - 3

www.phyllisandcarolyn.com



PLEASANTON

4156 GRANT CT \$1,595,000
Custom French Country Home with Amazing Views, 4,200 sq. ft. on 1/3+ Manicured Acre. 5 Bedroom 3.5 Baths.
PHYLLIS WEINER 925.872.1416
OPEN SUN 1 - 4

Elegant Country Style Home



LIVERMORE

3267 DERBY CT \$1,549,000
Pristine condition home with premium upgrades featuring: spectacular views on spacious lot, separate den/office & bonus room, plantation shutters and 18in slate style tile flooring. Includes a 1bed, 1 bath guest house.
CATHERINE KAUFER 925.855.4068

www.tonnichandler.com



PLEASANTON

3249 ARBOR DRIVE \$1,018,950
Premium location above Vintage Hills Park. Rarely available! Custom 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home on a huge lot of almost 13,000 sq ft! Completely updated with granite counters, designer lighting, 2 stone fireplaces, hardwood floors.
TONNI CHANDLER 925.788.7788

www.toddmartinez.com



PLEASANTON

4524 2ND ST \$999,000
Gorgeous home built in 1910 and restored to its current grandeur in 2004. Shows like a designer show place. All the bells and whistles. Custom cherry wood Cab. Granite Slab counters. S/S appliances. Hardwood flooring thru-out.
TODD MARTINEZ 925.784.7000

www.emilyhunter.net



PLEASANTON

850 CONCORD ST \$799,000
Entertain Pool-Side at this Gorgeous Vintage Hills CUSTOM Home situated on almost 1/4 acre. Park-like yard with beautiful pool and spa. Granite kitchen, new windows throughout, meticulous landscape designed by local nursery.
EMILY HUNTER 925.785.3795

www.susetteclarkwalker.com



DUBLIN

11395 MARWICK DRIVE \$649,950
4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2052 square feet, 12,500+ square foot lot. Professionally landscaped backyard, expansive decking, wonderful views of the hills and valley.
SUSETTE CLARK-WALKER 925.251.2540
OPEN SUN 1:30 - 4

Blackhawk

4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir.
Danville, CA 94506
925.648.5300

Blackhawk West

3880 Blackhawk Rd.
Danville, CA 94506
925.736.6000

Danville

15 Railroad Ave.
Danville, CA 94526
925.855.4000

Lafayette

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

Livermore

1983 Second Street
Livermore, CA 94550
925.667.2100

Orinda

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

Pleasanton

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

Walnut Creek

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

www.rockcliff.com

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3303 Camillo Ct., Ruby Hill, Pleasanton



Single story home in Premia at Ruby Hill. 4 BR, 2½ BA, 2,296 sq. ft. **Offered at \$999,000 OPEN SUN 1-4**

2333 Romano Cir., Ruby Hill, Pleasanton



4 BR, 3 full BA, approx. 3,250 sq. ft., and backyard w/built-in BBQ in a private lush setting. **Offered at \$1,265,000 OPEN SUN 1-4**

836 Piemonte Dr., Ruby Hill, Pleasanton



4 BR, 3½ BA + Bonus, 3,845 sq. ft. with golf course views. **Offered at \$1,599,000 OPEN SUN 1-4**

1988 Via di Salerno, Ruby Hill, Pleasanton



4,616 sq. ft., 4 BD, 3½ BA, bonus room, and expansive views. **Offered at \$1,777,000 OPEN SUN 1-4**

1735 Spumante Pl., Ruby Hill, Pleasanton



Single story custom on premium golf course lot w/panoramic views. 5 BR, 4 BA, 4,110 sq. ft. **Offered at \$1,799,000 OPEN SUN 1-4**

4141 W. Ruby Hill Dr., Pleasanton



Estate home with 5 BR, 5½ BA, office & 6,800 sq. ft. Backs to open space, amazing views. **Offered at \$2,599,000 OPEN SUN 1-4**

7152 Moss Tree Wy., Pleasanton



5 BR, 4 BA, 3,265 sq. ft. home located across from park in Carlton Oaks. **Offered at \$1,128,000 OPEN SUN 1-4**

3602 Fieldview Ct., Pleasanton



4,396 sq. ft. home with 4 BR, 4½ BA + den and loft in Ironwood Estates. **Offered at \$1,499,000 OPEN SUN 1-4**

Call us about Ruby Hill homes currently for lease. Please visit our websites to view the details of these homes and other listings.

Fran & Dave Cunningham
925-202-6898

Donna Garrison
925-980-0273

Debby Johnson-Abarta
925-989-6844

Susan Schall
925-397-4244

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DUBLIN
7270 PROW WAY
GORGEOUS VIEWS! **\$635,000**
3 BR 2 BA Arx 2270 sf, Corner Lot Over 1/4 Acre, Hrdwd Flrs, Bth Bths Upgrd/Rem, Frplcs in Fam Rm/Mstr 925.847.2200



PLEASANTON
558 SANTEL COURT
GORGEOUS SINGLE STORY **\$1,799,000**
4 BR 2 BA office + bonus rm, upgrd kit/opens to family room, pl/spa in backyard, court loc, hrdwd flrs 925.847.2200



SAN RAMON
407 PINE RIDGE DR
FANTASTIC LOCATION! **\$365,000**
2 BR 2.5 BA slate entry, hrdwd flrs, maple cabs w/ granite slab counters, upgrd carpet, vaulted ceilings 925.847.2200



SAN RAMON
Open FRI/SAT/SUN 11 - 5 145 COPPER RIDGE RD.
CONDOS/TOWNHOUSES PRICES START IN HIGH \$200s
1 & 2 bd condos/2 bd townhouses, vaulted ceilings avail, w/garages, gated, renovated/upgraded 925.847.2200

DANVILLE

59 ST. TIMOTHY
GORGEOUS REMODELED HOME **\$920,000**
4 BR 3 BA on quiet court in Greenbrook, 2389 sf/10400 sf lot w/pl/spa, gourmet kitchen, 1 bd/1 ba down 925.847.2200

DUBLIN

8653 FENWICK
MODEL PERFECT **\$688,000**
3 BR 3 BA + office, 2034 sq.ft., single story, corner lot. Glass sun rm, 3 car garage, side access, RV pad 925.847.2200
7086 DUBLIN MEADOWS ST. E, UNIT E
GORGEOUS CONDO **\$197,000**
1 BR 1 BA Living Room w/Fireplace. Approx. 805' w/ VIEWS. Washer/Dryer/Fridge/Micro/Dishwasher Stay 925.847.2200

HAYWARD

27917 PUEBLO SERENA
GREAT HOME! **\$82,000**
2 BR 2 BA Separate liv/fam, indr laundry, includes washer/dryer/kitchen appl, covered patio 925.847.2200

LIVERMORE

3300 DYER RD.
PRICE REDUCTION! **\$948,000**
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
1271 SPRING VALLEY COMMON
BEAUTIFUL HOME! **\$175,000**
2 BR 1 BA American cherry "Mohawk" flooring, shutters, ceiling fan AC, across from community pool 925.847.2200

PLEASANTON

21 CASTLEDOWN ROAD
MUST SEE INSIDE! **\$1,090,000**
4 BR 2.5 BA views of Mt. Diablo! Kit opens to fam room/balcony. Formal dining & large master suite 925.847.2200
446 SYCAMORE ROAD
FABULOUS HOME! **\$985,000**
7 BR 4 BA multi-unit, fabulous property for income rental or family living on approx 1/2 acre 925.847.2200
Open SUN 1-4
2927 LETHBRIDGE COURT
FABULOUS IN PLEASANTON! **\$799,950**
4 BR 2.5 BA Apx. 2165 sf, w/huge private bckyrd, lot apx 7150 sf, lrg deck! Great school district, gr8 loc 925.847.2200

6729 RANCHO CT.
GREAT HOME! **\$529,000**

4 BR 2 BA Hrdwd Flrs, Remodeled Kit, Sep Formal Living rm, Frplc, Rem Hall Bth, Cul-De-Sac Location 925.847.2200

3263 VINEYARD AVE., UNIT 178
SENIOR PARK **\$52,000**

2 BR 2 BA Senior Park w/Pl, Spa, Club House, Lrg Living rm, Sep Fam rm, Laundry rm w/ Cabs; Kit w/ Island, 925.847.2200

SAN RAMON

135 CORALFLOWER LN
BEAUTIFUL HOME **\$509,900**
3 BR 2.5 BA backs to pathway greenbelts, nice size bckyrd w/decorative patio, lots of natural light 925.847.2200

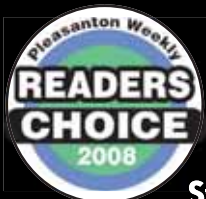
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Pleasanton 925.847.2200 | 5980 Stoneridge Drive, Ste. 122



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Stop by any of the OPEN HOMES for a list and map to all our OPEN HOMES.

PLEASANTON

OPEN SUNDAY
1-4pm



RIVASCO AT RUBY HILL Gorgeous highly upgraded home features 4BR plus separate office/library. Approx. 3906 sq. ft. with circular drive. 4-car garage with storage. **\$1,475,000**

925.963.8800 Dorothy Broderson

PLEASANTON

OPEN SUNDAY
1-4pm



GARDEN HOUSE 4BD/2BA with new paint inside and out, refinished hardwood floors, updated baths, new front door, inground pool, and covered patio. **\$650,000**

925.426.3858 Mike Chandler

DUBLIN

OPEN SUNDAY
1-4pm



KOTTINGER RANCH Lakeside model 4BD/3 1/2 BA, plus bonus room, 3,291 sq. ft., 3-car garage. Light and bright with fabulous views from landscaped backyard. **\$1,099,900**

925.785.8239 Steve Fast

PLEASANTON

OPEN SUNDAY
1-4pm



VINTAGE HILLS II 4BR/3BA approx. 2700 sq. ft. with formal dining room. One BD downstairs. Custom pool, deck, island spa and waterfall. No rear neighbors. 3-car garage. **\$986,000**

925.899.4084 Ann Walker

DUBLIN

OPEN SUNDAY
1-4pm



GORGEOUS WESTSIDE BEAUTY 4BD/3BA and a spacious loft with 2,820 sq. ft. Kitchen is a culinary dream with new stainless steel appliances, granite & new tile. **\$899,000**

925.989.6500 Delores Gragg

PLEASANTON

OPEN SUNDAY
1-4pm



COURT LOCATION 3BD 2 1/2 BA home of a gardener. Flowering trees, shrubs and vines abound in the lush landscape of this well cared for, upscale home. **\$719,900**

925.339.1569 Connie Fross

PLEASANTON

OPEN SUNDAY
1-4pm



IMMACULATE 4BD/2 1/2 BA, 2,292 sq.ft. home with private, professionally landscaped backyard, 2-car garage, upgraded kitchen w/tile floors & newer appliances. **\$659,000**

925.426.3826 Tom Fox

DUBLIN

OPEN SUNDAY
1-4pm



WALK TO THE PARK 3BD/2BA with 1,913 sq.ft. on a 7,840 sq.ft. lot. Great views from large deck. Family room fireplace is a Pellet Stove. Extra storage in garage. **\$649,900**

925.426.3860 Jo Hunter

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Prudential California Realty / Pleasanton Hopyard



LIVERMORE - Live in Your Own Private Resort! Toland Sports Pool w/fountains, lights, & 12 person spa. 15 Solar Panels. 5 Hole Putting/Chipping Green. Outdoor BBQ w/2 Arbors. Movie Room w/145" screen & 8 electric seats. Triple crown molding, cased windows, travertine flooring w/inlays. TOP quality! WOW!
683 SHADOW MIST COURT \$1,475,000



LIVERMORE - Exquisite single story with views of the gorgeous yards (patio cover w/automatic sunscreen, spa, fountain & spectacular plants). Upgrades include extensive tile flooring, amazing tile detail in baths & kitchen, surround sound, & so much more. This home is beyond special!!
5832 ELDER CIR \$799,900



SAN RAMON - Highly upgraded 4 bedroom home with office/library, family room, bonus room/tech center and more! Garage oversized double (tandem). In addition to rear yard side patio with water feature, plantation shutters throughout, surround sound, Anderson doors and tons of built-ins. 2 pantries, security syst.
1469 ALLANMERE DRIVE \$799,000



PLEASANTON - Pristine single story on corner lot with great curb appeal. Updated kitchen with interior just painted. Shows very nicely. Enjoy the pool with those summer days approaching. Walk to schools and downtown. Open house
1577 RAMBLEWOOD WAY \$660,000



SAN RAMON - Pristine, updated single story on court. Neutral in decor with newer windows, roof, maple cabinets, and laminated flooring. Fresh paint with open floor plan with spacious family room and adjoining kitchen. Private backyard with patios and planting areas. Walk to schools.
82 RYEGATE PLACE \$645,000



DUBLIN - Great floorplan with 4 bedrooms and 2.5 baths. Open kitchen to family room. Kitchen has granite counter-tops and large island. Family room has built in entertainment center. Flagstone backyard with retaining wall. Perfect for entertaining.
5109 BORICA CT \$609,000



PLEASANTON - Walk to town, schools, & shopping from this single story garden home well-maintained by original owner. New master shower & floor, new 2nd bath floor, dual-pane windows, updated kitchen, large private patio, two car garage. Washer, dryer & refrigerator stay.
2142 GOLDCREST CIR \$399,900



LIVERMORE - REO Starter Home For First Time Buyer Or Investment. Dual Paned Windows, Large Sideyard Parking! Big Lot! Some TLC Needed To Get Home In Tip-Top Shape.
527 ADELLE ST \$245,000



6111 Johnson Ct., Suite 110

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NEW LISTING

OPEN SAT 1-4



506 Trebbiano Place, Pleasanton

Stunning single story 4bd/2.5ba, 2296+/-sf home on a corner lot in Ruby Hill with new carpet & hardwood floors, wine closet, 2 custom fireplaces, built-in office/study, plus built-in BBQ and water feature.

Offered at \$999,000

NEW LISTING

OPEN SUN 1-4



6557 Hanover Court, Pleasanton

Extensively renovated in '08 and all new! 5bd/3ba with office & bonus room, Features gourmet kitchen, granite baths, hardwood floors, quiet court location with views, side yard access & sparkling pool and spa.
 Offered at \$1,199,000



9146 Longview Drive, Pleasanton

Custom home built in 1971. 4bd/3.5ba, 3304+/-sf home on a 1.72+/- wooded acre. Newer granite kitchen, hardwood flooring, in-law/au-pair quarters.
 Offered at \$1,199,000



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



BLAISE LOFLAND



925.846.6500
 www.blaiselofland.com
 blaise@blaiselofland.com

apr.com

CARLTON PLACE

OPEN SUN 1-4



1312 CARLTON PLACE, LIVERMORE

Beautiful upgraded Livermore home located on premium .41 acre lot. Views of Mt. Diablo. Beautifully landscaped grounds, private rear yard with built in pool and spa. Four bedrooms, bonus area, private office, three bathrooms. Approximately 3,680 square feet. Upgraded kitchen with granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. Crown molding and plantation shutters. Bamboo wood floors and 20" custom tile flooring. Three car garage. Concrete tile roof. Minutes from Livermore Valley wineries. **OFFERED AT \$899,500**

PLEASANTON HEIGHTS

SALE PENDING



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**

CASTLEWOOD HEIGHTS

OPEN SUN 2-5



6736 RIDDELL STREET, PLEASANTON

WOW! Don't miss this beautiful home on premium view lot (.39 acre). Panoramic views of Pleasanton Ridge. Quality built in 2002. Beautifully landscaped private rear yard, backs to open space. Five bedrooms + bonus/game room, and lofi/TV area, and separate downstairs exercise room, four bathrooms. Approximately 4,100 sq. ft. Gourmet kitchen with granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. Crown molding, hickory wood flooring and upgraded carpet. Close to Downtown, Castlewood Country Club, Oak Hills Shopping Center, and Mission Hills Park. **OFFERED AT \$1,349,000**

BRIDLE CREEK

SALE PENDING



827 SUNNY BROOK WAY, PLEASANTON

Single level in Bridle Creek on .26 acre premium view lot. Built by Greenbriar Homes in 2001. Beautiful views of Pleasanton Ridge. Private rear yard with built in pool and spa. Beautifully landscaped. Five bedrooms, four bathrooms. Gourmet kitchen with granite countertops. Crown molding and plantation shutters. Close to Downtown, Castlewood Country Club, Oak Hills Shopping Center, and Mission Hills Park. **OFFERED AT \$1,329,000**

VENTANA HILLS



1141 LUND RANCH ROAD, PLEASANTON

Don't miss this beautiful Gibson model in desirable Ventana Hills. Premium (.34 acre) lot backs to open space. Five bedrooms, fifth bedroom can be bonus, three bathrooms. Approximately 3,179 square feet. Upgraded kitchen with granite. Custom travertine tile flooring, new carpet throughout. Beautiful professionally landscaped grounds with Heritage Oak tree. In-ground pool and spa. Walk to neighborhood park and downtown! **OFFERED AT \$1,259,000**

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 \$2,795,000**

PLEASANTON 900 Main Street



apr.com

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Let Alain Pinel Realtors list your property.
We have qualified buyers. Contact us today.



MOXLEY TEAM OPEN SUN 1:30-4:30



PLEASANTON **\$2,195,000**
5bd/4.5ba + guest house. Private home with views of City lights! Travertine/granite flooring, 4.5 garage. Backs to open space. 9116 Olson Ct.

ANNI HAGFELDT BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON **\$1,825,000**
Stunning views from this custom home in desirable Kottinger Ranch. 5bd/4.5ba, on over 1/2 acre. Pool, bonus room – there is no other home like this one!

MOXLEY TEAM OPEN SUN 1:30-4:30



PLEASANTON **\$1,389,000**
Ironwood Estates 2 story, 5bd/4.5ba. Nestled within a court, close to community pool. Spacious kitchen w/breakfast bar, opens to family room. 1 bd downstairs, bonus room upstairs. 1436 Irongate Ct

BLAISE LOFLAND OPEN SUN 2-5



PLEASANTON **\$1,349,000**
Spectacular Castlewood Heights home on premium lot w/panoramic views! 5bd+bonus game room & loft/4ba. Separate downstairs exercise room. Gourmet kitchen/granite/stainless. 6736 Riddell Street

BLAISE LOFLAND BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON **\$1,329,000**
Single level Bridle Creek. .26+/- acre premium view lot. Built by Greenbriar in 2001. 5bd/4ba, gourmet kitchen, granite, crown molding, plantation shutters. Beautifully landscaped.

BLAISE LOFLAND BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON **\$1,259,000**
Gorgeous Gibson Model in Ventana Hills! Premium lot backs to open space. 5bd/3ba/3179+/-sf. Upgraded kitchen/granite/travertine/new carpet throughout. Pool/spa.

TIMOTHY MCGUIRE OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4



PLEASANTON **\$1,199,000**
Completely remodeled home in Rosepointe with sparkling pool and spa. 4bd/3ba with over 3000+/-sf. Must See! 6557 Hanover Ct.

OTT/RICHARDS BY APPOINTMENT



LIVERMORE **\$1,150,000**
6bd/4.5ba home had \$100k in upgrades/over \$130k in backyard landscaping. Tropical setting with Travertine patio/pool/waterfall+spa. Vineyard Views.

LINDA FUTRAL OPEN SUN 2-6



LIVERMORE **\$1,099,000**
Live in your own private resort with this magnificent South Livermore estate! Incredible pool/spa + more. Home boasts 5bd/4ba plus den. 820 Old Oak Rd.

TIMOTHY MCGUIRE BY APPT



PLEASANTON **\$999,000**
Stunning single story on corner lot in gated golf course community of Ruby Hills. 4bd/2.5ba, 2296+/-sf with professionally landscaped yard. Must See!

MARY JANE DEERING BY APPT



CASTRO VALLEY **\$928,000**
5bd/3.5 ba in Five Canyons. Built in 1996, formal dining, Living Room & Family Room open to kitchen.

BLAISE LOFLAND OPEN SUN 1-4



PLEASANTON **\$899,500**
4bd+bonus/private office. 3680+/-sf. Upgraded kitchen with granite/stainless/crown molding/plantation shutters. Bamboo wood & custom tile floors. 1312 Carlton Place

GOVEIA/CELLMAN OPEN SAT 1:30-4:30



PLEASANTON **\$879,000**
Great family home on quiet street! 5bd/3ba, den/office, pool and spa. Heritage model. Close to schools, parks and shopping. 4507 Gatetree Cr.

MARK KOTCH BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON **\$660,000**
Close to downtown 4bd/2ba 1617+/-sf home. Updated kitchen, newer dual pane windows/newer roof, great back yard for entertaining. 6825+/-sf lot.

ANDY PORYES OPEN SAT 2-5



SUNOL **\$574,987**
Imagine listening to the water whisking down Sinbad Creek while sitting in your spa on private deck. Upgraded 3bd/2ba offers beautiful granite kitchen & .47+/- acre corner lot. 2559 Kilcare Rd.

DANIEL ALPHER OPEN SUN 1-4



DUBLIN **\$479,900**
Beautiful 3bd/2ba home, has remodeled kitchen with stainless steel appliances/granite counter tops/updated baths/hdwd floors/crown molding/designer paint/large back yard. 7743 Canterbury Ln.

PLEASANTON | 900 Main Street 925.251.1111

LIVERMORE | 2300 First Street 925.583.1111

